

Navigating Higher-Risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes



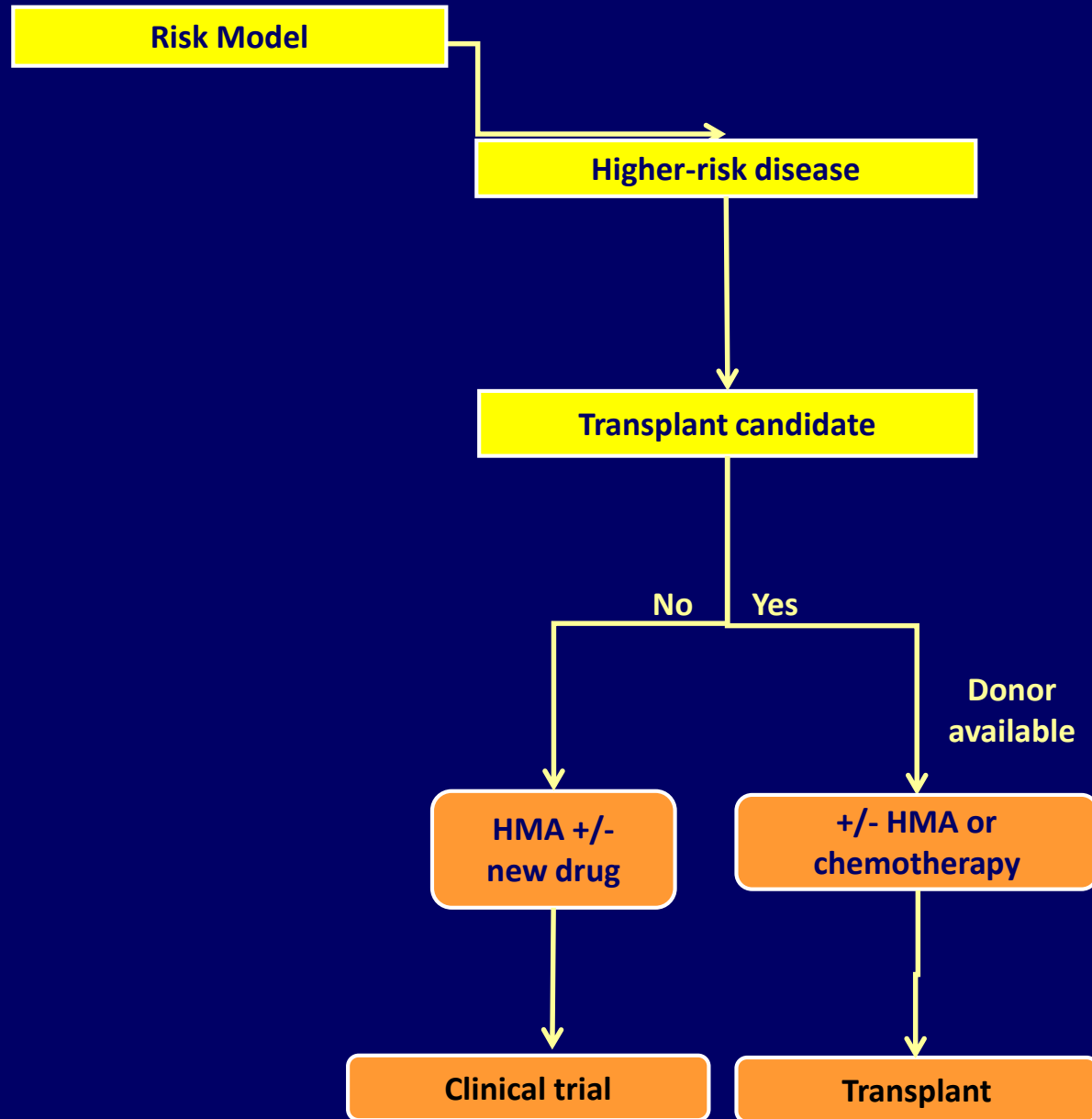
Maria R. Baer, M.D.
University of Maryland
Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center

MDS Goals of Treatment

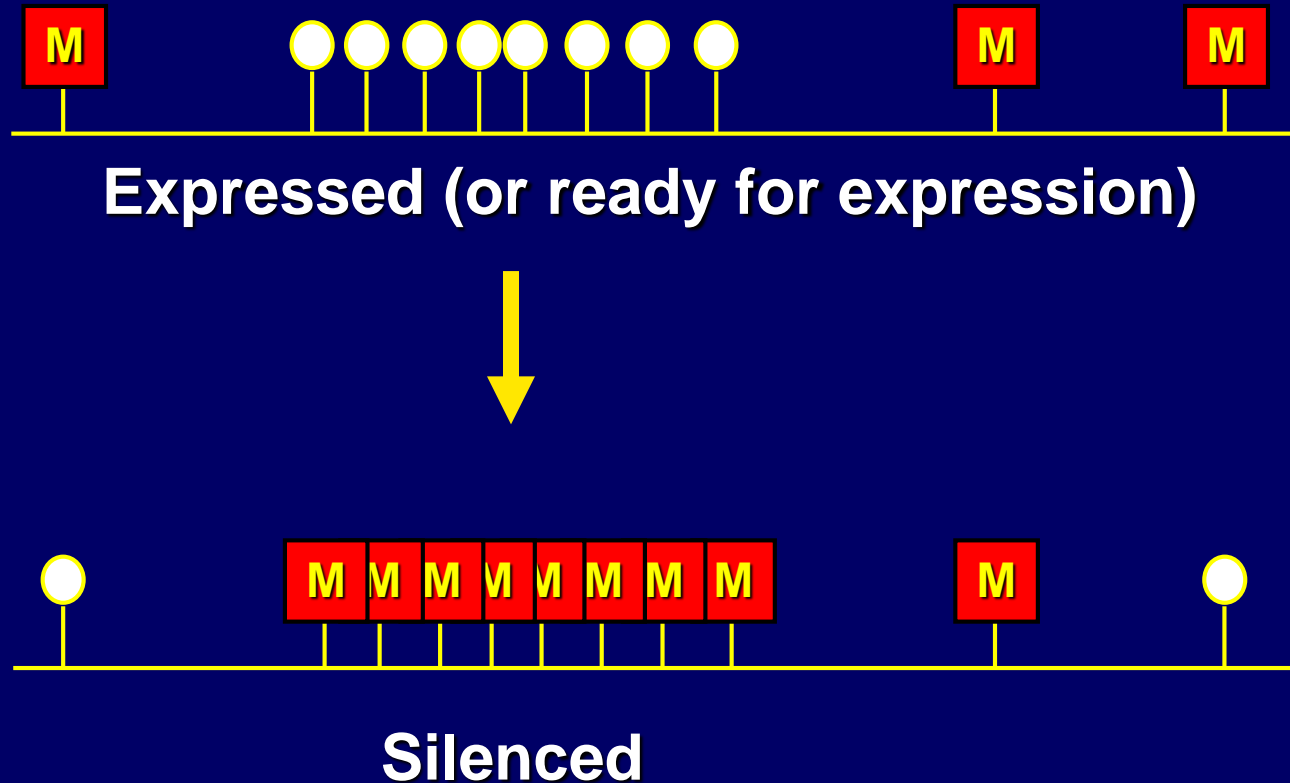


- Improve blood counts
- Decrease symptoms
- Improve quality of life
- Change natural history
- Prevent progression to AML
- Improve overall survival

Management of Higher-risk MDS



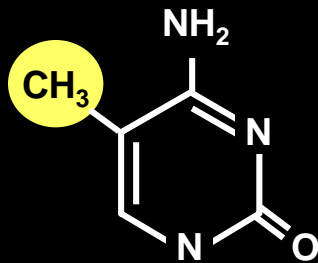
Gene hypermethylation in MDS



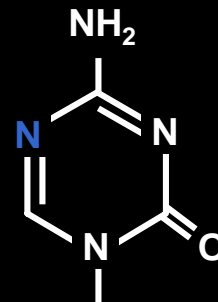
Hypomethylating cytosine analogs



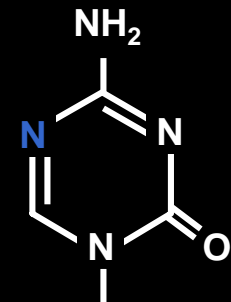
Cytosine



5-methyl-cytosine



Azacytidine



Decitabine

First randomized study of azacitidine in patients with MDS

75 mg/m²/d SC x 7 days every 4 weeks

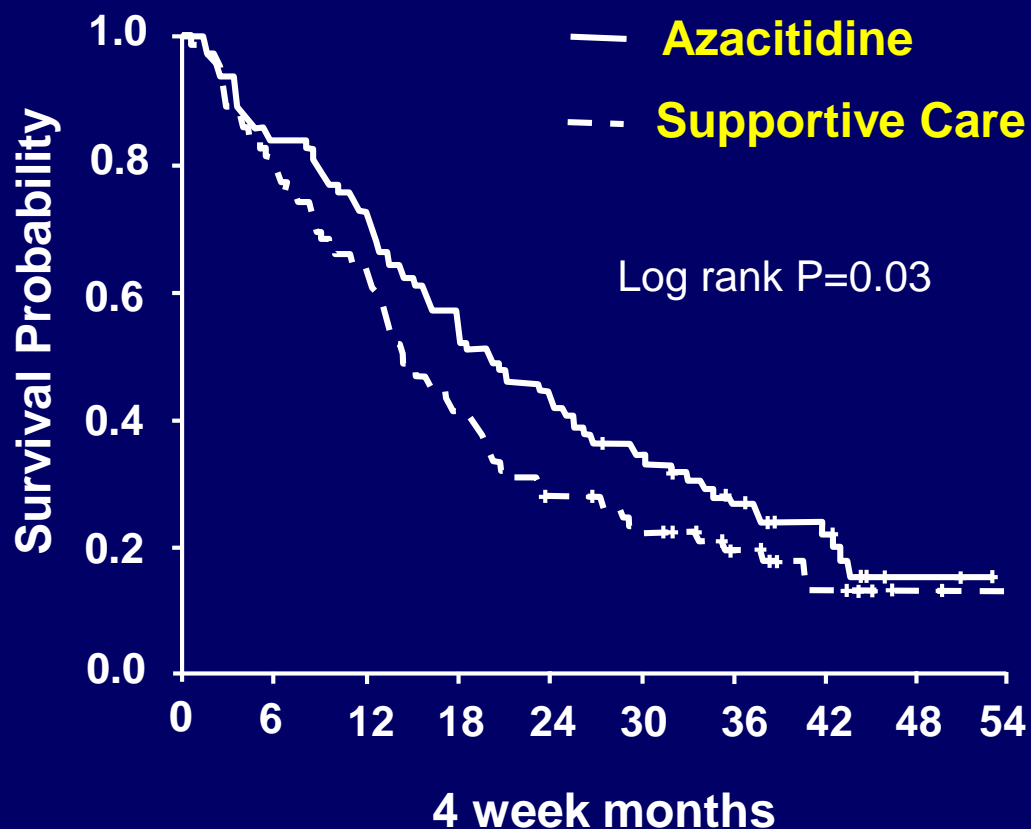
Responses (after 4 cycles)

Complete remission - 7%

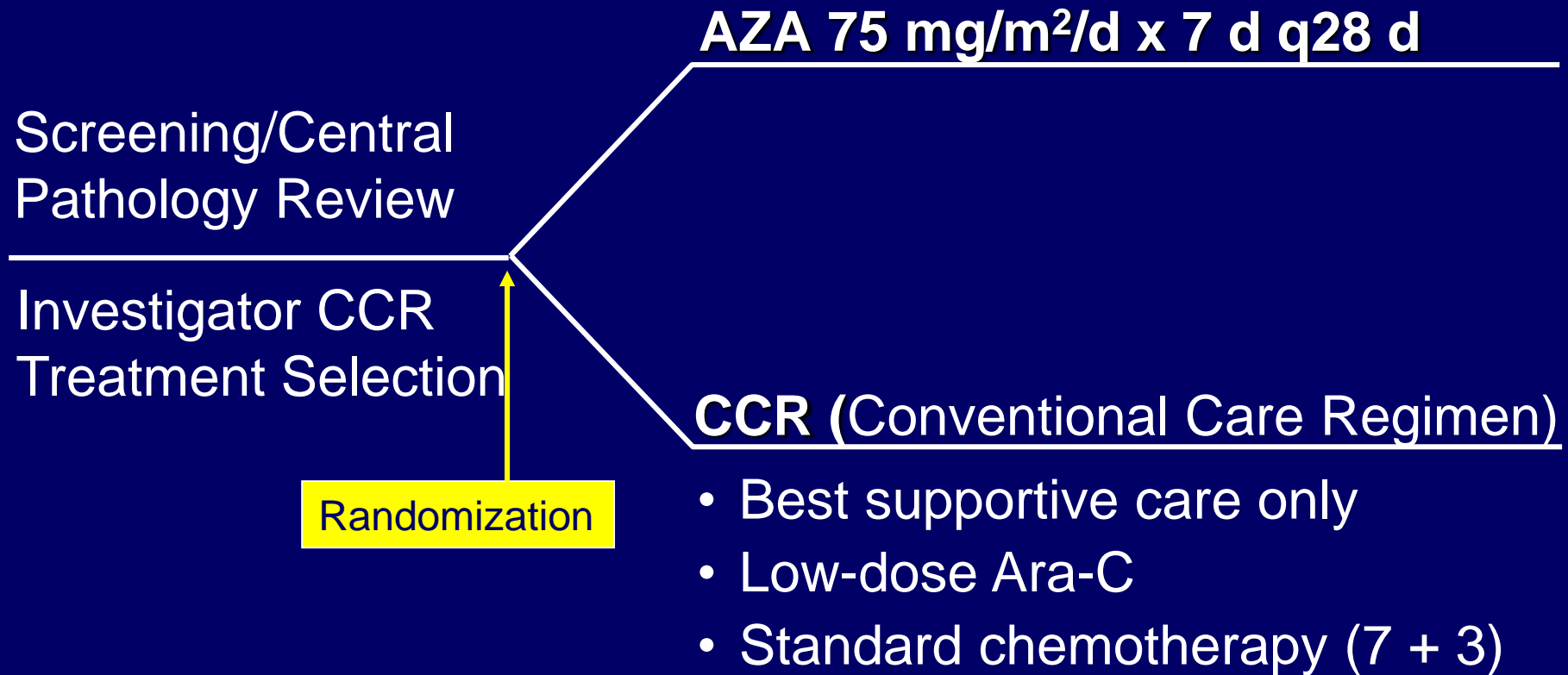
Partial remission - 16%

Improved - 37%

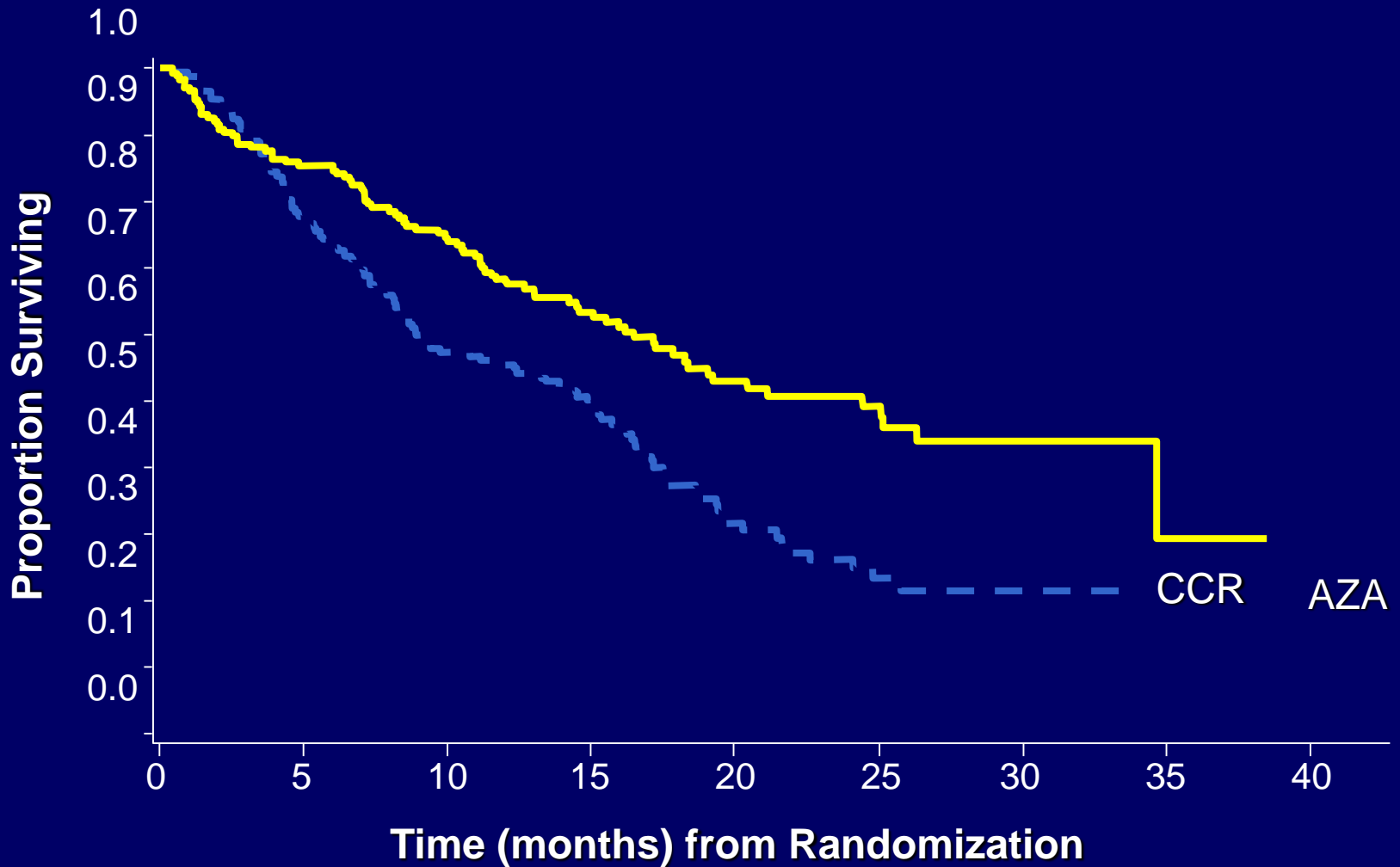
Total - 60%



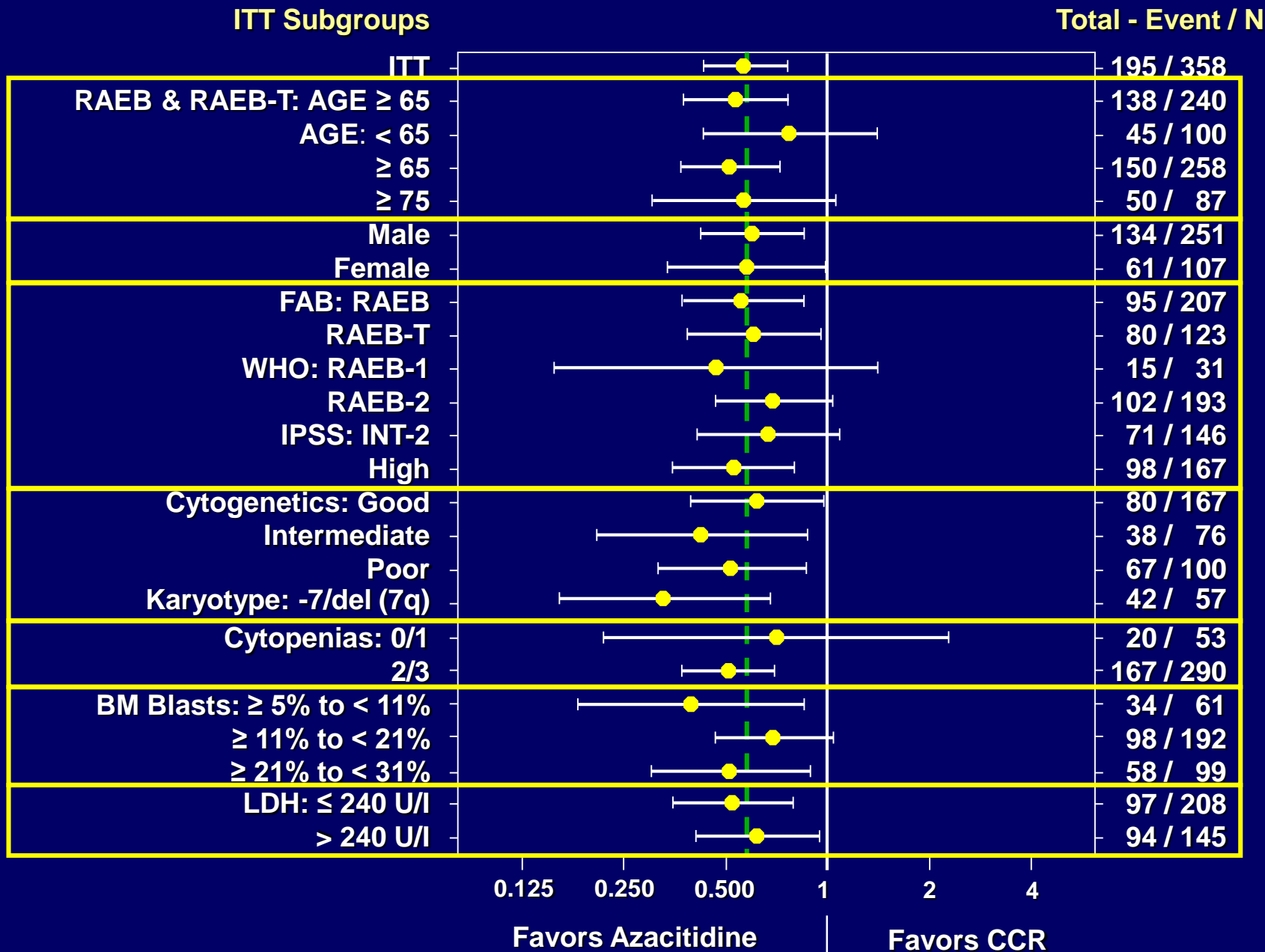
Azacitidine survival study in higher-risk MDS



Overall Survival in higher-risk: Azacitidine vs CCR



Azacitidine survival benefit by disease categories



Azacitidine treatment

- Subcutaneous or intravenous injections daily for 7 [or 5(+2)] days every 28 days
- Median cycles to first response: 2-3
- Response may require 4-6 cycles
- Do NOT need a complete response for benefit
- Responders need to continue treatment to sustain response.

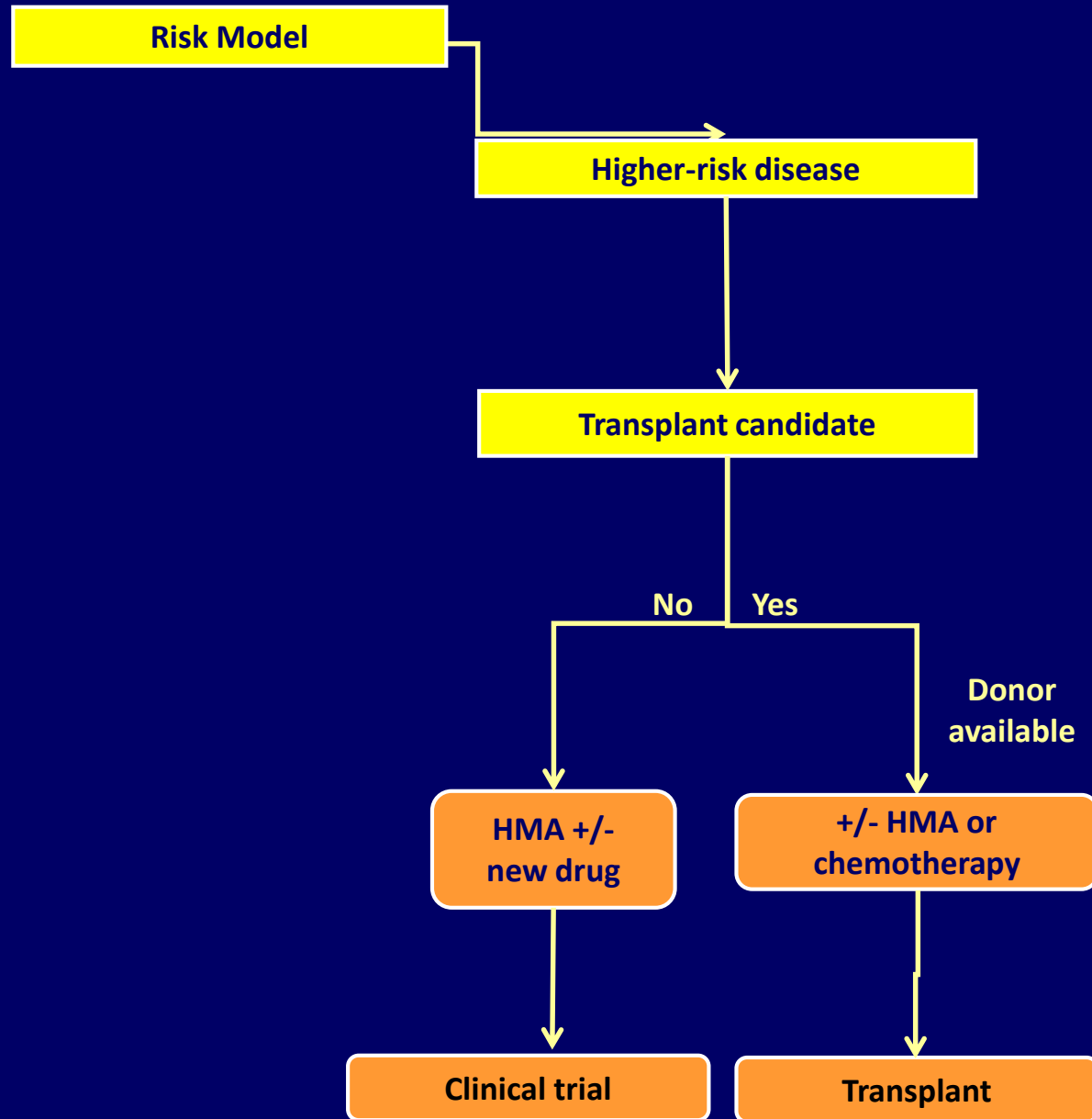
Decitabine- ADOPT study

- Decitabine 20 mg/m² IV daily x for 5 days; 28-day cycles
- Overall response rate 32% (17% complete remission and 15% marrow complete remission)
- Overall improvement rate 51%, including 18% improvement in blood counts.
- Similar response rates in all risk categories.
- 82% of patients who improved showed responses by the end of cycle two.
- Survival advantage not yet demonstrated for decitabine, likely due to inferior study designs.

Testing new treatments

- Test with azacitidine or decitabine to try to increase response rates and duration.
- Test in patients who do not respond to azacitidine or decitabine, or lose response to azacitidine or decitabine

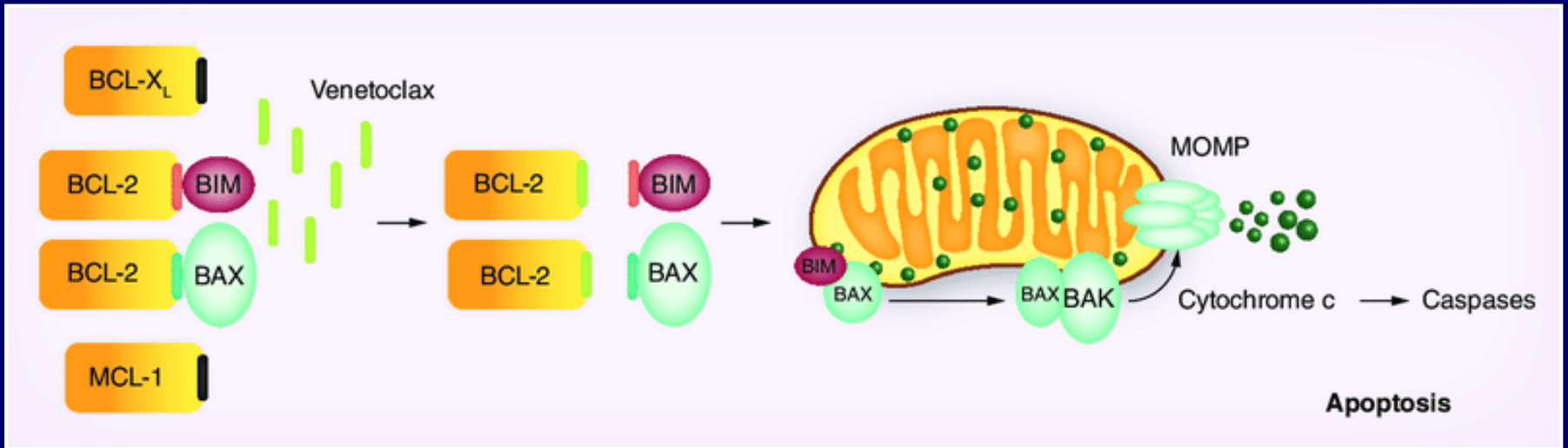
Management of Higher-risk MDS



New treatments for myelodysplastic syndromes

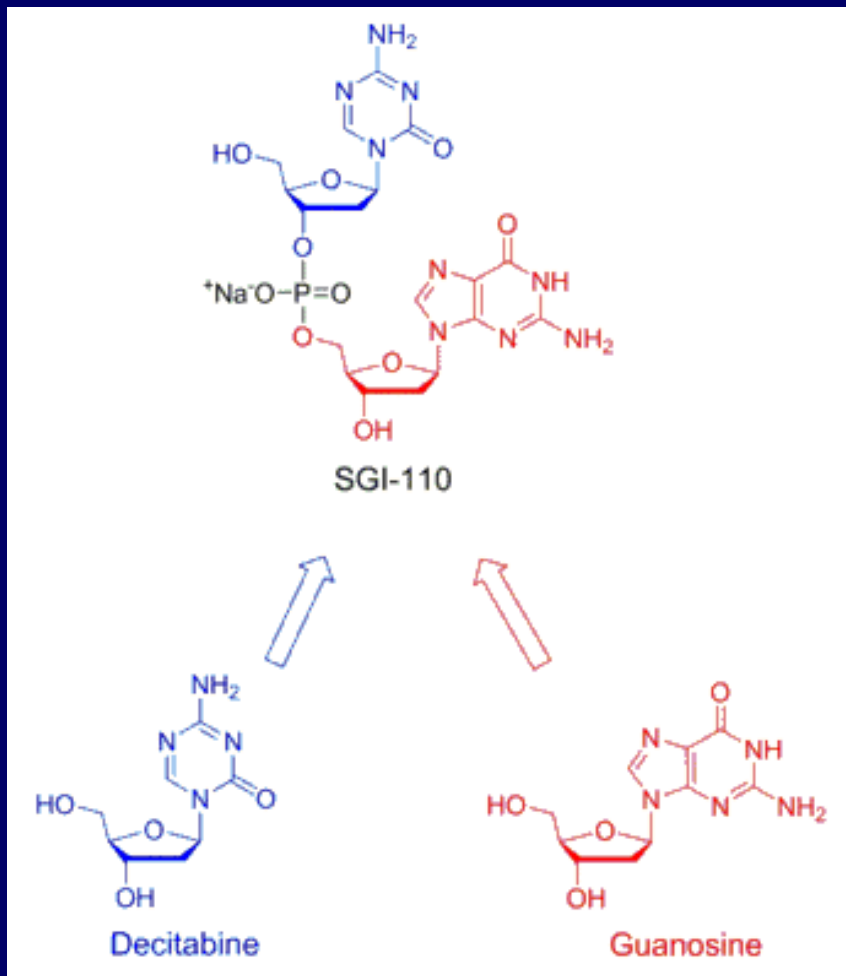
- Enhance programmed cell death
 - Venetoclax
- New hypomethylating agent
 - Guadecitabine (SGI-110)
- Inhibit cell signaling
 - Rigosertib
- Inhibit mutation signaling
 - IDH1, IDH2
 - Spliceosome
- Immunotherapy
 - Atezolizumab
 - BITE antibody

Venetoclax



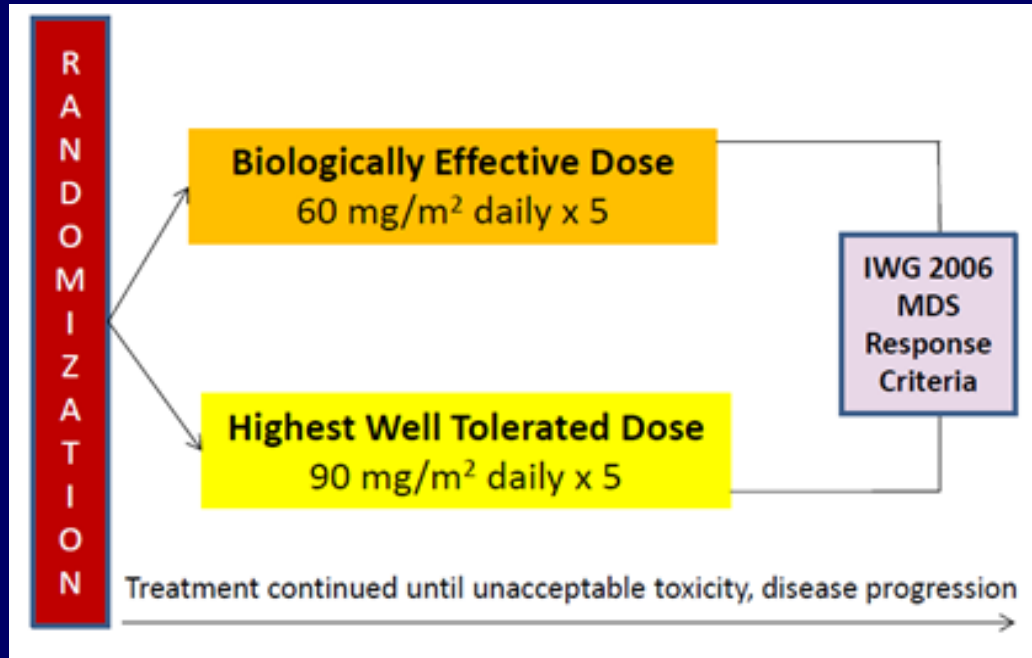
- Recently FDA-approved for use with azacitidine or decitabine in newly diagnosed AML patients who are older and/or unfit for chemotherapy, with significantly higher response rate.
- Clinical trial with azacitidine in higher-risk MDS – data analysis in progress.

Guadecitabine (SGI-110)



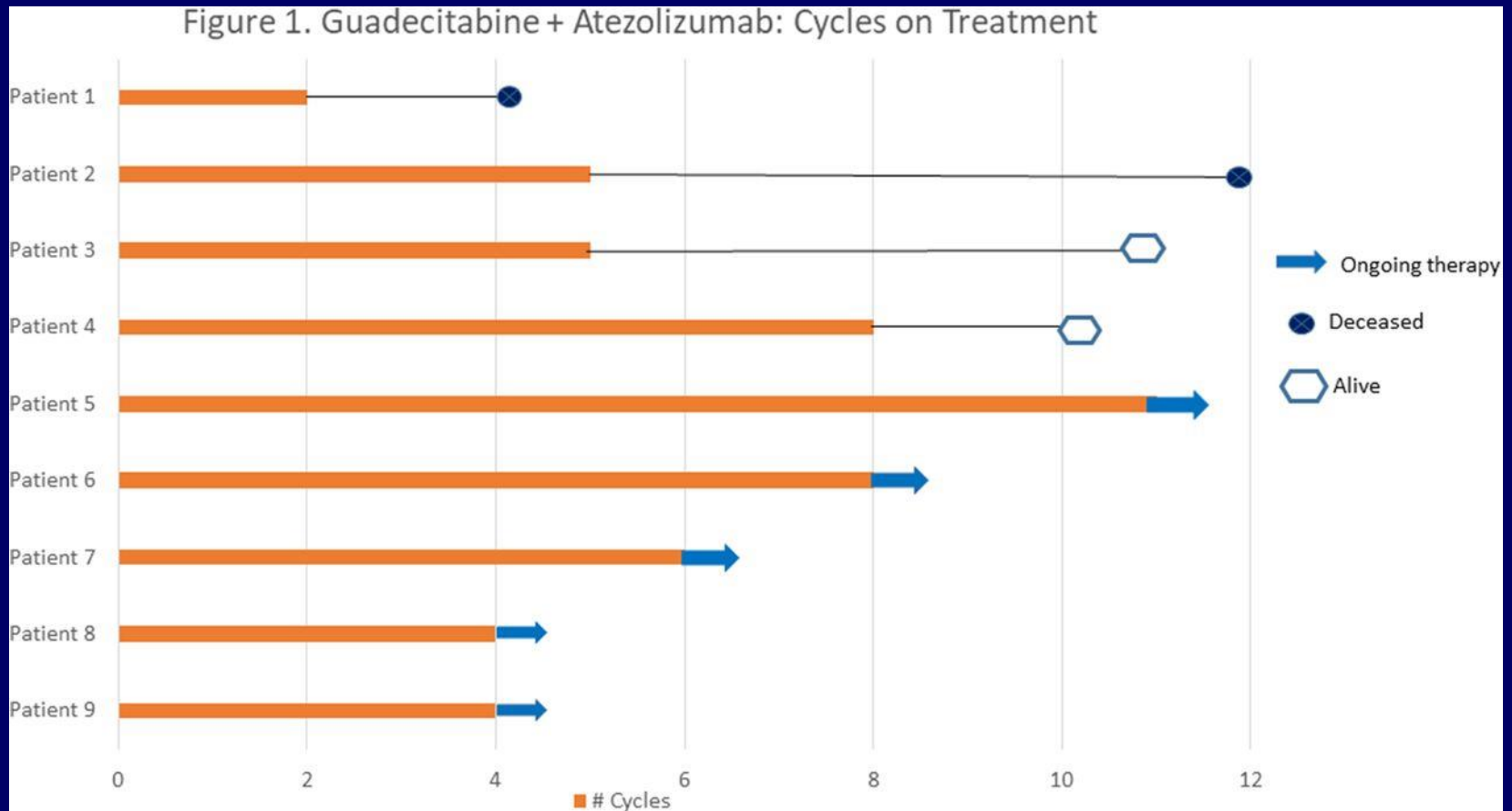
- Dinucleotide of decitabine and guanosine
- Longer half life
- Longer exposure
- Protection from degradation

Guadecitabine – Higher-risk and previously treated

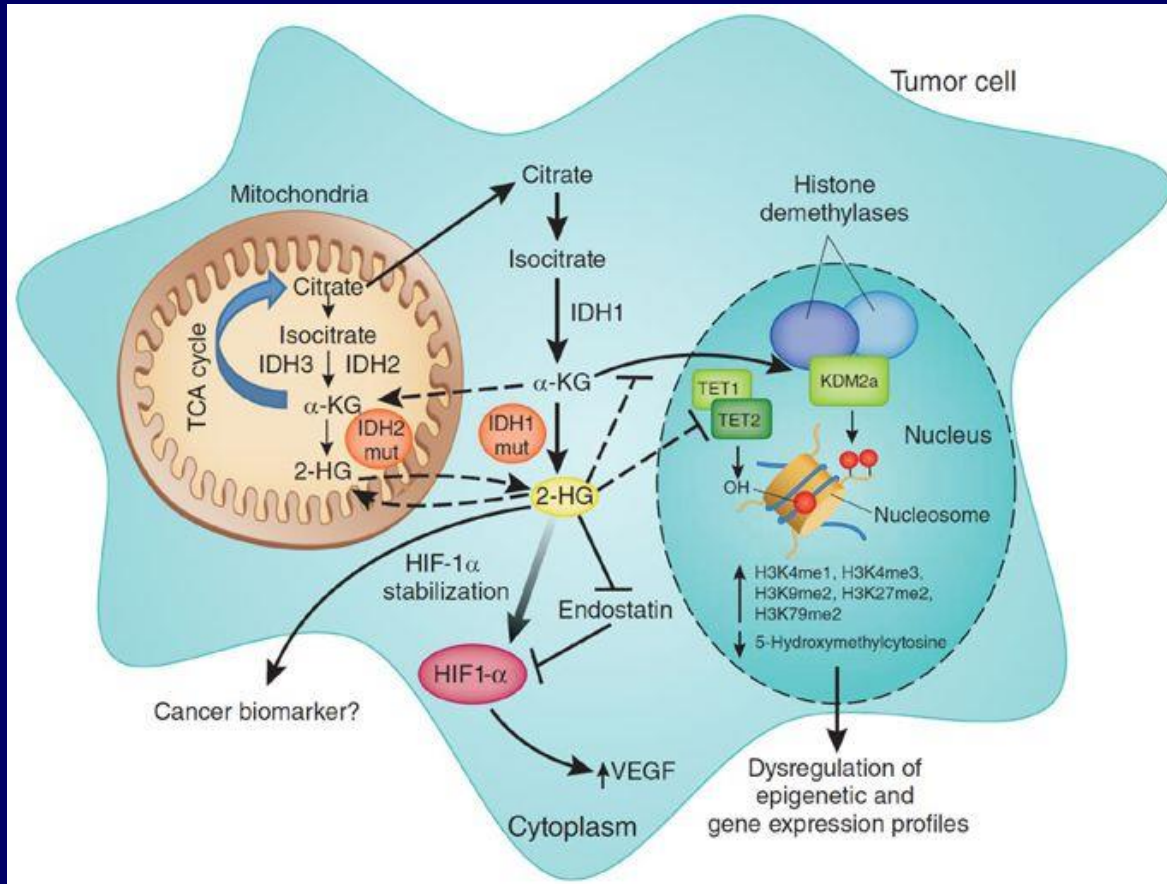


Response	Prev Treated (n=53)
CR	2 (3.8%)
Marrow CR	15/34 (44%)
HI	11 (20.8%)

Guadecitabine and Atezolizumab following azacitidine/deцитabine failure



IDH Inhibitors



Ivosidenib (AG-120) Induced Durable Remissions and Transfusion Independence in Patients with IDH1-Mutant Relapsed or Refractory Myelodysplastic Syndrome: Results from a Phase 1 Dose Escalation and Expansion Study – DiNardo et al. ASH 2018

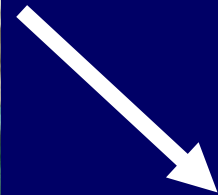
Allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation

- Only treatment currently known to be curative, but cure rate is <50%
- Has been applicable to only a minority of MDS patients because of age, other medical problems and donor availability, but non-myeloablative approach and alternative donors are increasing its applicability.

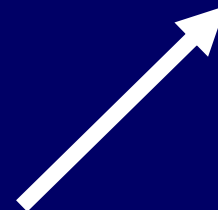
Allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation

- Procedure
 - High-dose chemotherapy/
radiation therapy
 - Transfusion of donor blood/
marrow stem cells
- Donor
 - Related - HLA-identical;
haploidentical
 - Unrelated
- Sources
 - Bone marrow
 - Peripheral blood
- Conditioning
 - Myeloablative
 - Non-myeloablative
- Immunologic effects
 - Graft vs. leukemia
 - Graft vs. host

Bone marrow harvest



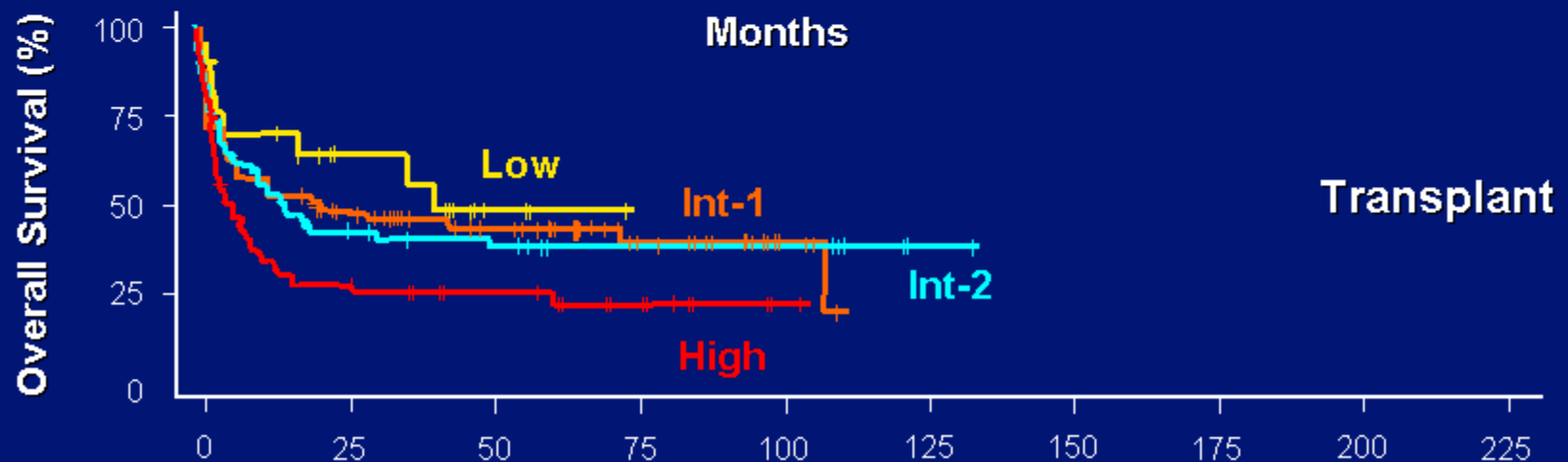
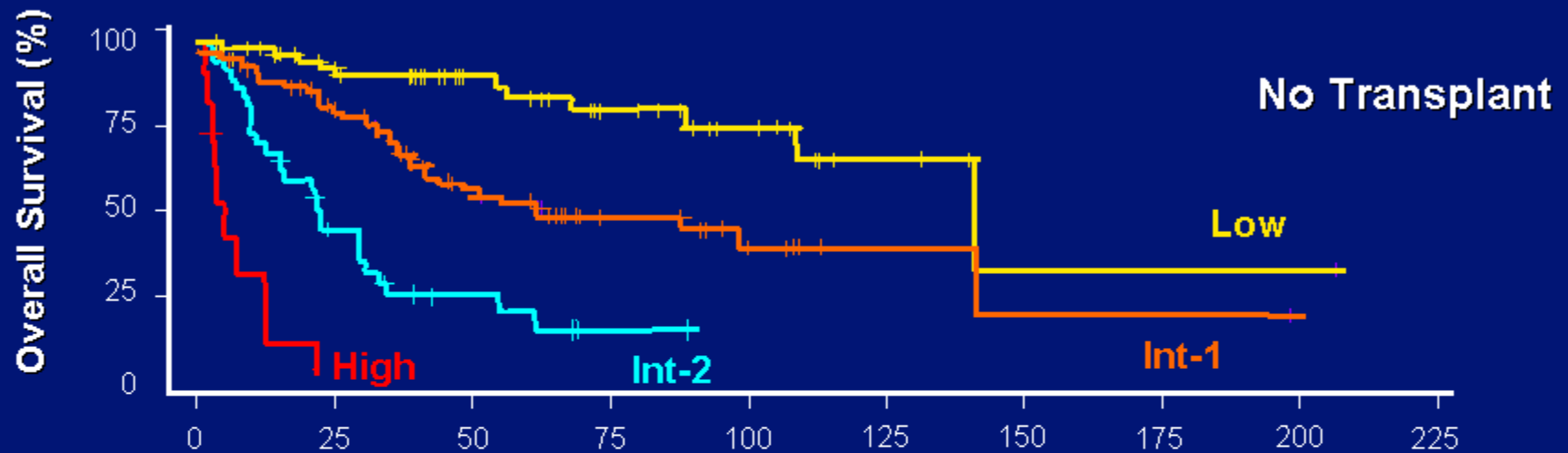
Leukapheresis



Allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation outcomes

- Acute complications
- Chronic complications
- Relapse
- Cure

Survival by IPSS risk in patients who did or did not undergo transplantation



Transplant decision

- Disease
 - Risk status
 - Chromosomes
 - Mutations
- Donor
 - Matched sibling
 - Matched unrelated donor
 - Half-matched related donor
- Patient
 - Age
 - Medical problems
 - “Performance status”
 - Support system
 - Personal choice

Myelodysplastic syndromes

- Treatable, and treatments change the course of disease.
- Treatment approach depends on presentation.
- Transplant can cure, but indication depends on presentation and on patient-specific factors.
- FDA-approved treatments, all approved in the last 15 years based on recent clinical trials
- Promising new drugs based on new biological insights
- **Ongoing importance of clinical trials!!!**