

# Aims of induction therapy in fit myeloma patients

Kwee Yong Professor of Haematology UCL

UK Myeloma Society Spring Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025













	Sanofi	Janssen	Amgen	Takeda	Pfizer	BMS
Consultancy	X	X				
Speaker fees	X		X	X	X	
Honoraria	X	X	X	X	X	
Research funding	X	X	X	X		X

# Maximize disease free survival, minimize treatment burden

- Highly effective induction regimens
- Longest PFS reported now >80 months
  - Cassiopeia 82m, Perseus 84m, Determination 68m
- What unanswered questions remain? How can we do better?
  - What is the cost: to payers, to the patients
  - Is this benefit seen in all patients?
  - Are we meeting patient goals?

Tailoring and individualizing therapy

# Talk outline: what are the key questions?

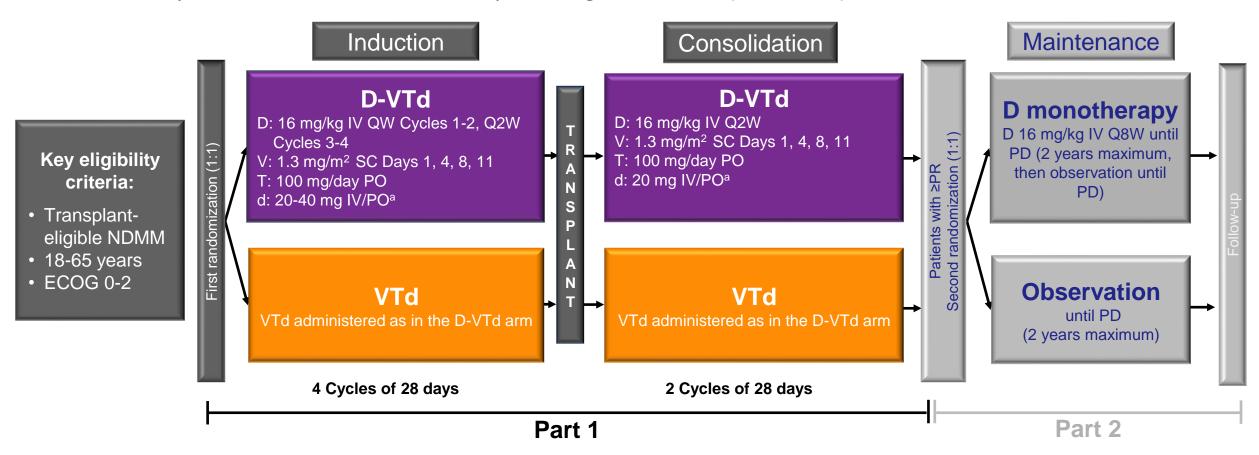
- CD38 antibody regimens: one size fits all?
- ASCT: one size fits all?
- Maintenance therapy: what is the future?
- Risk adapted therapy: how best to do this
- High risk disease: what is the best approach?
- Is the future immune therapies
  - Belantamab
  - BsAB
  - CAR-T

## **CASSIOPEIA Study Design**





Phase 3 study of D-VTd versus VTd in transplant-eligible NDMM (N = 1,085), 111 sites from 9/2015 to 8/2017



Moreau et al. The Lancet, 2019

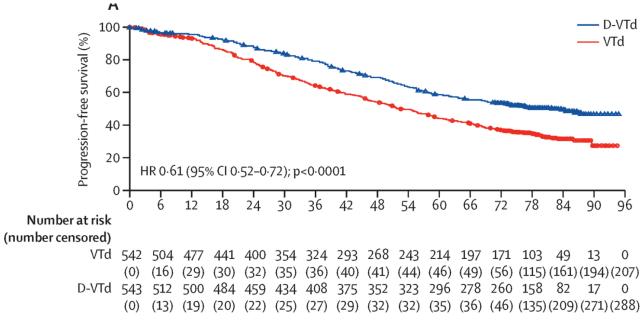
D-VTd, daratumumab/bortezomib/thalidomide/dexamethasone; VTd, bortezomib/thalidomide/dexamethasone; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; IV, intravenous; QW, weekly; Q2W, every 2 weeks;

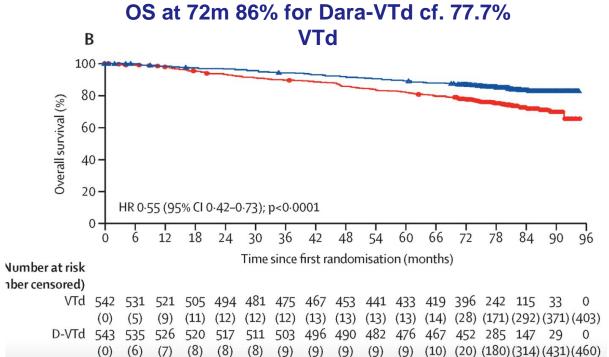
SC, subcutaneous; PO, oral; PR, partial response; Q8W, every 8 weeks; PD, progressive disease.

<sup>a</sup>Dexamethasone 40 mg on Days 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 of Cycles 1-2 and Days 1 & 2 of Cycles 3-4; 20 mg on Days 8, 9, 15, 16 of Cycles 3-4; 20 mg on Days 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16 of Cycles 5-6.

## **CASSIOPEIA study: Dara-VTd versus VTd**







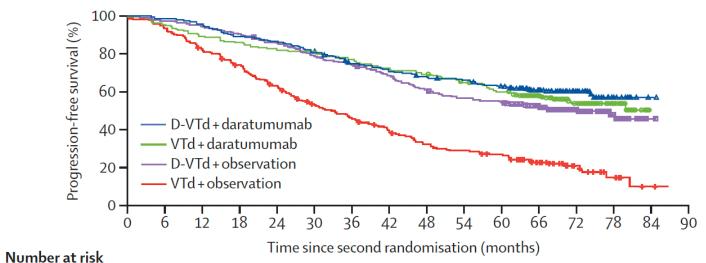
PFS in Dara-VTd arm 83·7 months [95% CI 70·2–not estimable (NE)]) cf. VTd (52·8 months [47·5–58·7]

72-month overall survival rates were 86·7% (95% CI 83·5–89·3) for the D-VTd group and 77·7% (73·9–81·0) for the VTd group

## Benefit of daratumumab either as pre- or post-ASCT therapy

#### PFS according to induction and maintenance

D-VTd + daratumumab vs D-VTd + observation: HR 0.76 (95% CI 0.58-1.00); p=0.048 VTd + daratumumab vs VTd + observation: HR 0.34 (95% CI 0.26-0.44); p<0.0001



137

(6)

(89) (119) (137) (138)

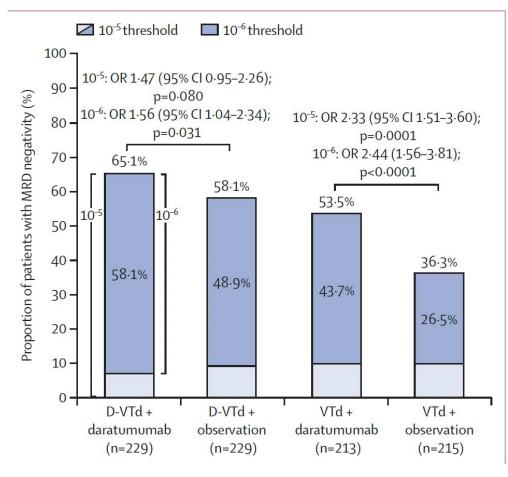
#### 

198

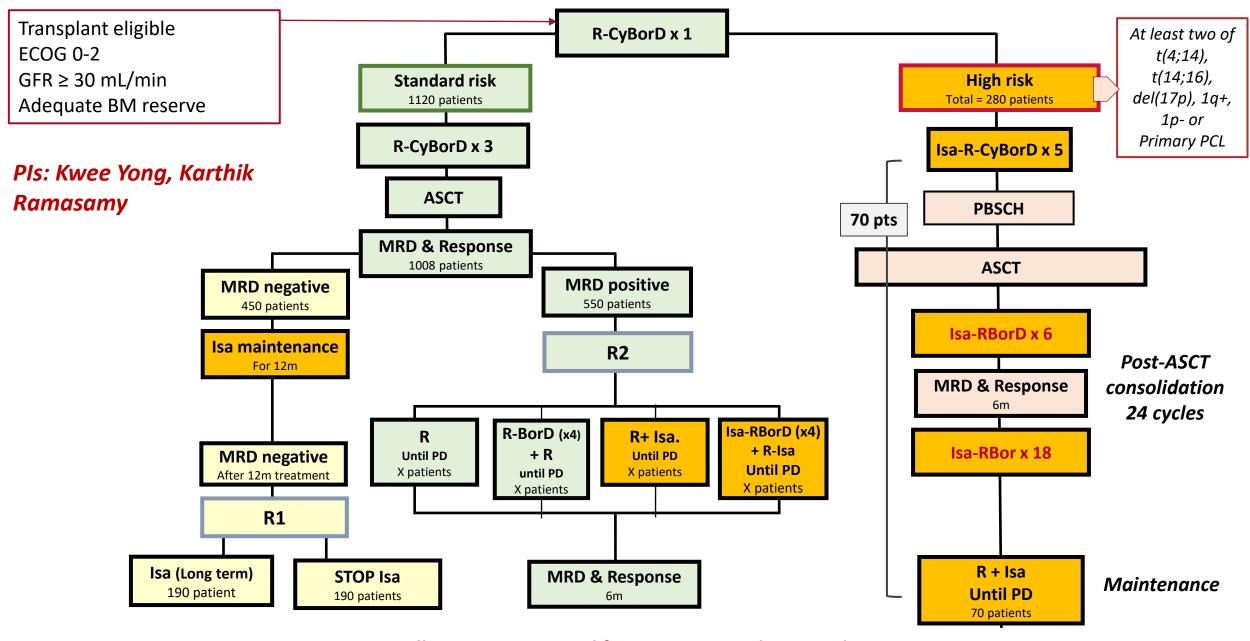
D-VTd + daratumumab

229

# CR and MRD negative rate at any point after consolidation



#### RADAR protocol 7.0: Extended induction and post-ASCT consolidation in HR arm



All patients are tested for MRD at 12 and 24 months

# Risk adapted therapy?

- Induction according to genetic / biological risk
  - Dedicated high risk trials
- Adapted according to
  - quality / depth of response
  - Toxicity and tolerability
- What do patients think?

## Trial therapy



**Bridging** Max 2 cycles

Induction Max 6 cycles (incl bridging)

Dara-CVRd

Consolidation 1 6 Cycles Start 100-120d post ASCT

Consolidation 2 12 Cycles

Maintenance Until progression

Daratumumab iv 16 mg/kg Cycle 1&2: Days 1, 8, 15 Cycle 3+: Day 1 Cyclophosphamide po 500 mg Days 1, 8 Bortezomib sc 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Days 1, 4, 8, 11\* Lenalidomide po 25 mg Days 1-14 Dexamethasone po 40 mg<sup>†</sup> Days 1, 4, 8, 11

21d cycles

V-HD-MEL **Cell Mobilisation** +ASCT

Stem (

Melphalan iv 200 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Day -1 Autologous Stem Cell Translantation Day 0

Bortezomib 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Days -1, +5, +14,\* Weekly after haematopoietic recovery Dara-VRd

Daratumumab sc 1800 mg Day 1 Bortezomib sc 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Days 1, 8, 15, 22\* Lenalidomide po 25 mg Days 1-21 Dexamethasone po 40 Day 1, 8, 15, 22

28d cycles

Dara-VR

Daratumumab sc 1800 mg Day 1 Bortezomib sc 1.3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Days 1, 8, 15\* Lenalidomide po 25 mg Days 1-21

28d cycles

Dara-R

Daratumumab sc 1800 mg Day 1 Lenalidomide po 25 mg Days 1-21

28d cycles

Central Response, Birmingham University (HydraShift)

\*Permissive bortezomib dose reduction schedule †20mg for elderly/frailer

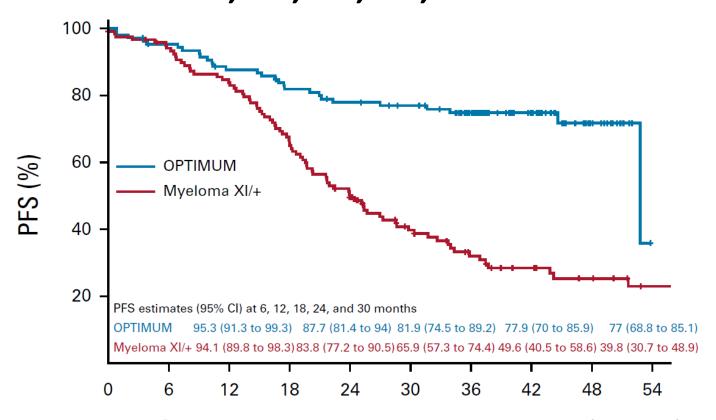


Day 100-120 post-ASCT



Central MRD, HMDS Leeds (Flow cytometry, 10<sup>-5</sup> sensitivity)

# PFS for OPTIMUM and the MMXI comparator data set with PFS estimates at 6, 12, 18, 24, and 30 months

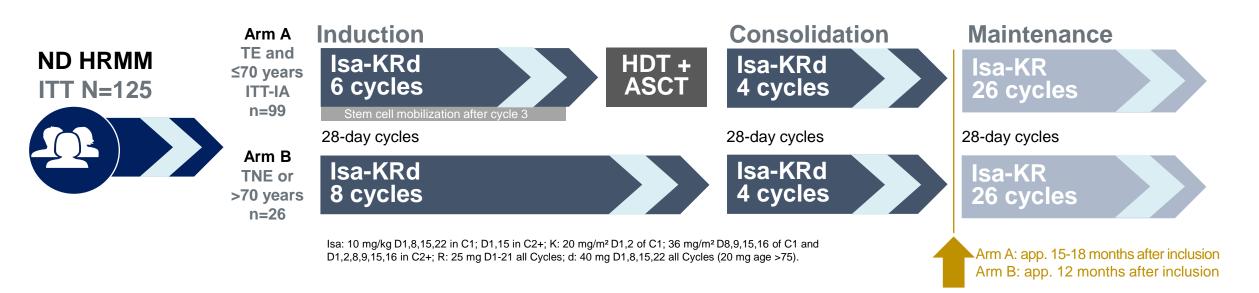


Time Since Registration/Random Assignment (months)

```
No. at risk (No. censored):
```

```
OPTIMUM 107 (0) 100 (2) 91 (3) 84 (4) 79 (5) 75 (8) 59 (22) 37 (44) 13 (67) 0 (79) Myeloma XI/+ 120 (1) 110 (3) 98 (3) 77 (3) 56 (5) 38 (13) 27 (17) 20 (21) 15 (24) 9 (29)
```

# **GMMG-CONCEPT** trial Design



**HRMM criteria:** ISS stage II or III **PLUS** ≥1 of: del(17p), t(4;14), t(14;16) and/or >3 copies 1q21 (amp1q21)

Primary objective: MRD negativity after consolidation (NGF, 10<sup>-5</sup>) Secondary objective: PFS; Key tertiary objectives: ORR, OS, safety

**Footnotes** 

## IFM 2018-04 Study design

#### Key inclusion criteria:

- Age < 66
- Newly diagnosed multiple myeloma
- Transplant-eligible
- **High-risk FISH**: t(4;14), 17p Del, t(14;16)
- ECOG 0-2

#### **Objectives:**

- Primary Objective : Feasability

primary endpoint: >70% patients receiving 2nd transplant

- Secondary Objectives: Safety, ORR, PFS, OS, stem-cell collection

#### Induction Dara-KRd x 6

Stem cell collection

ASCT#1

Mel 200

Consolidation Dara KRd x 4

ASCT#2

Maintenance Dara Len 2 years

Dara	:	16	mg/	/kg	IV
------	---	----	-----	-----	----

D1,8,15,22 (cycle 1 and 2) D1 D15 (Cycle 3 to 6)

K: (20)36 mg/m2 IV

D1-2, 8-9, 15-16

Len: 25 mg D1-21

Dex: 20 mg D1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23

28-day cycle

Cyclo

**GCSF** +/-

Plerix

Dara: 16 mg/kg IV D1 D15

K: 56 mg/m2 IV D1, 8, 15

Len: 15 mg D1-21

Dex: 40 mg D1, 8, 15, 22

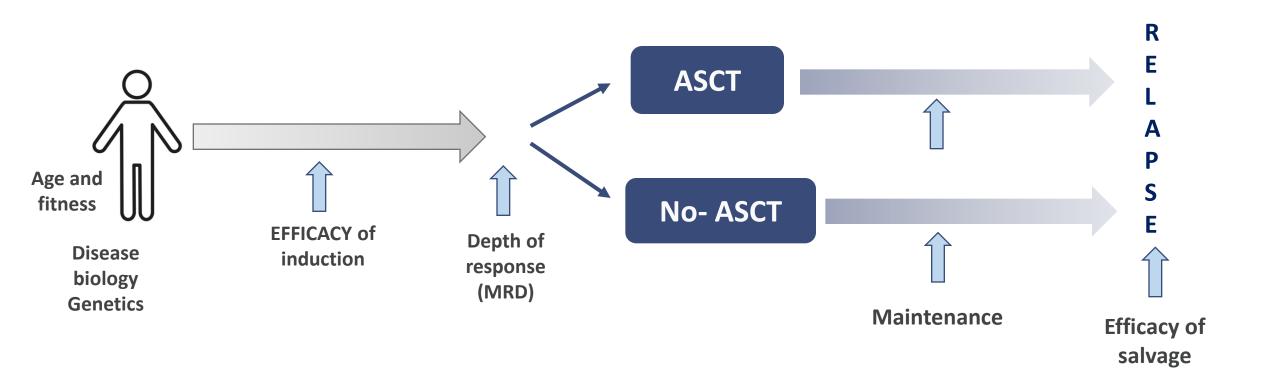
28-day cycle

Mel 200

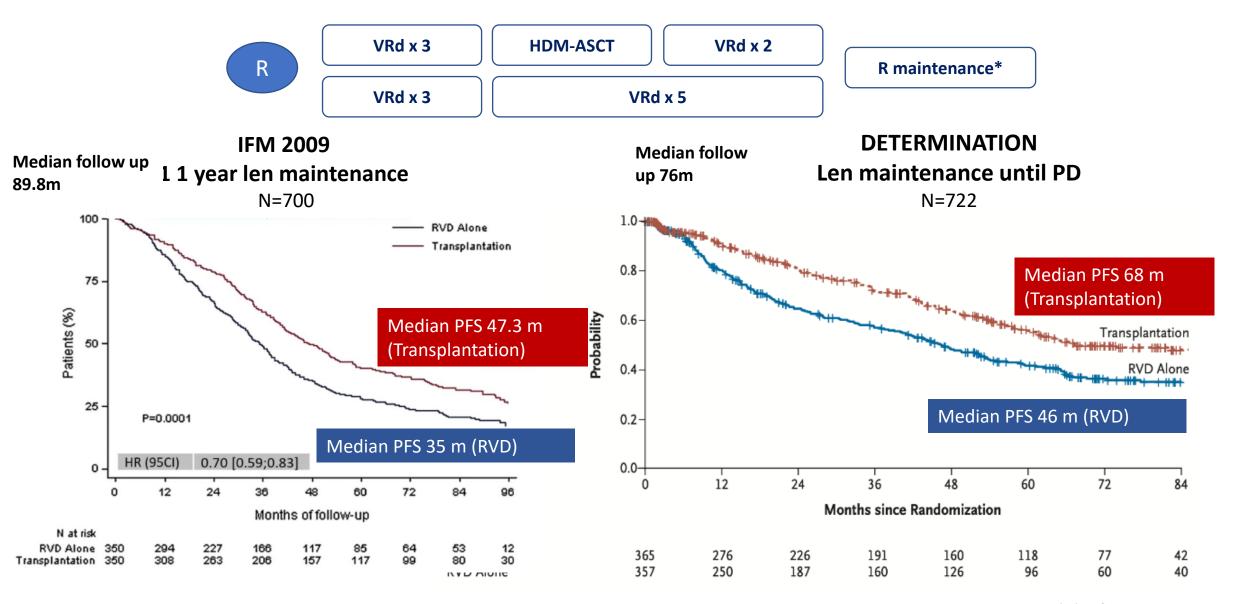
Dara: 16 mg/kg IV every 8 weeks

Len: 10 mg 21/28

## Benefit of frontline ASCT: Does one size fit all?



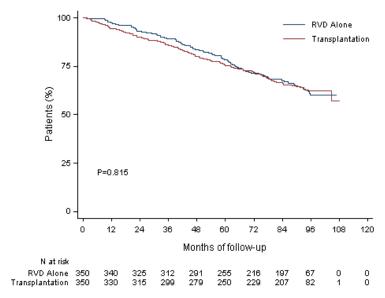
## **HDM-ASCT** vs VRd: progression-free survival



#### HDM-ASCT vs. VRd: OS in IFM 2009 and DETERMINATION

IFM 2009 8-year overall survival

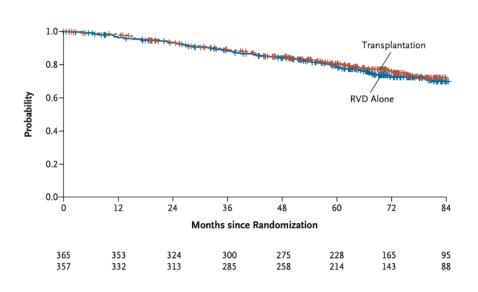




77% of relapsed patients in the RVd alone arm received salvage ASCT

# DETERMINATION 5-year overall survival

81% vs. 79%

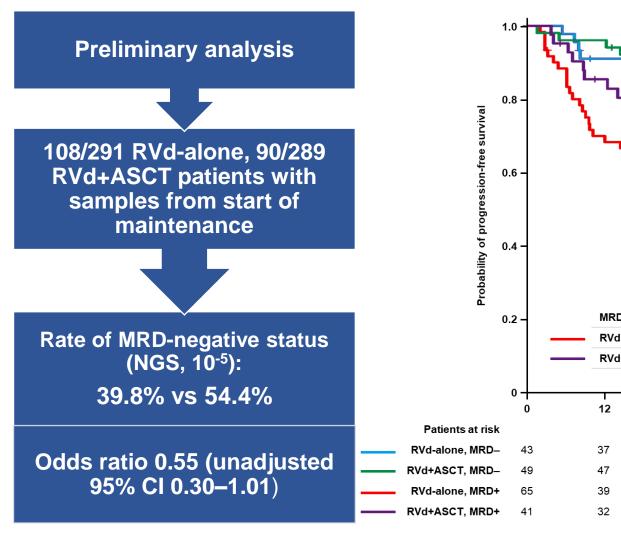


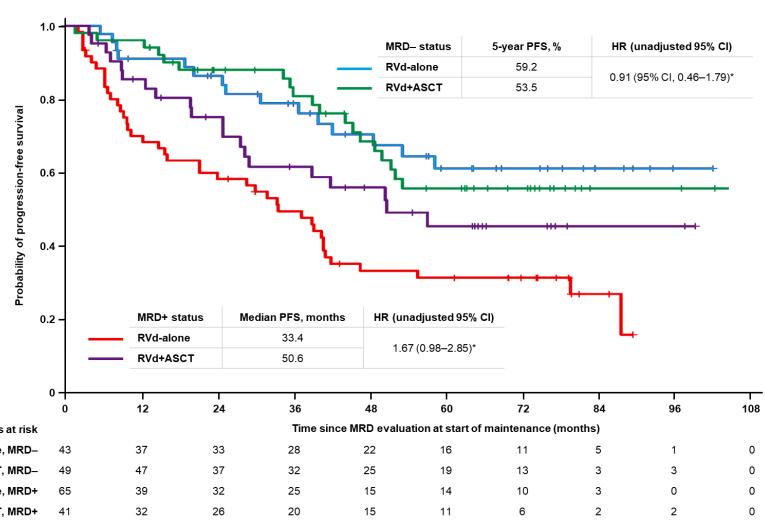
**No. at Risk** Transplantation RVD Alone

28% of relapsed patients in the RVd alone arm received salvage ASCT

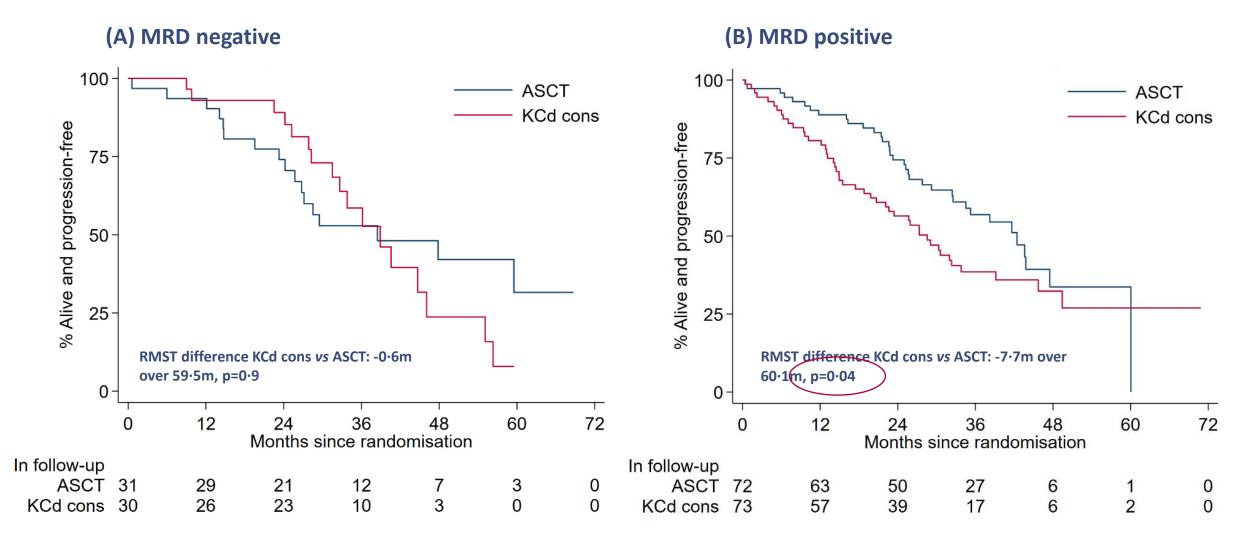
No difference in OS despite varying proportion of patients in RVd arm receiving salvage ASCT

### **DETERMINATION** study: PFS by MRD status and randomization arm





### **CARDAMON Study: Post-hoc analysis by MRD status post induction**



ASCT may be of greater benefit to patients who remained MRD positive post-KCd induction (B)

#### IsaKRd vs ASCT

- IsaKRd backbone
- IsaKRd as SOC following EMN24?

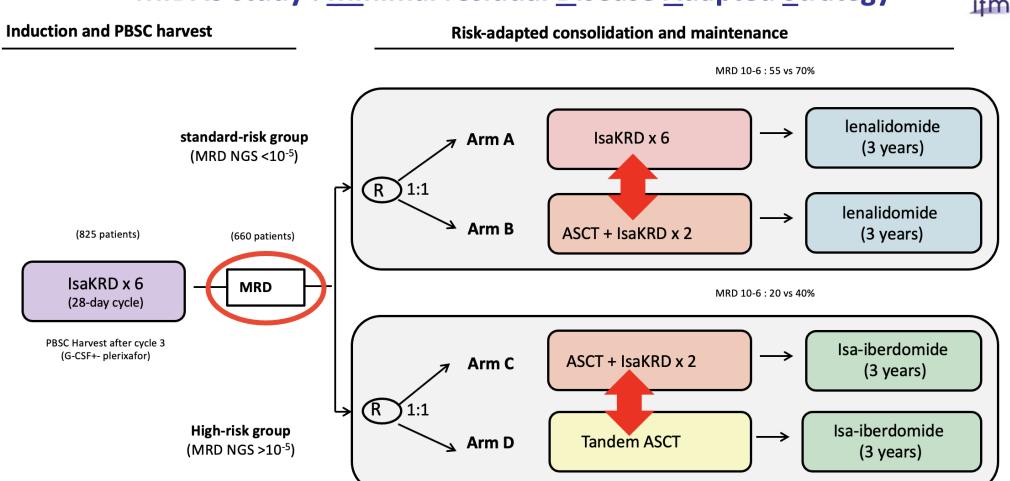
#### MRD ADAPTED DESIGN

- If MRD negative, do we still need ASCT?
- If MRD positive Tandem-ASCT?

## **IFM Trial**

### MIDAS study: MInimal residual Disease Adapted Strategy

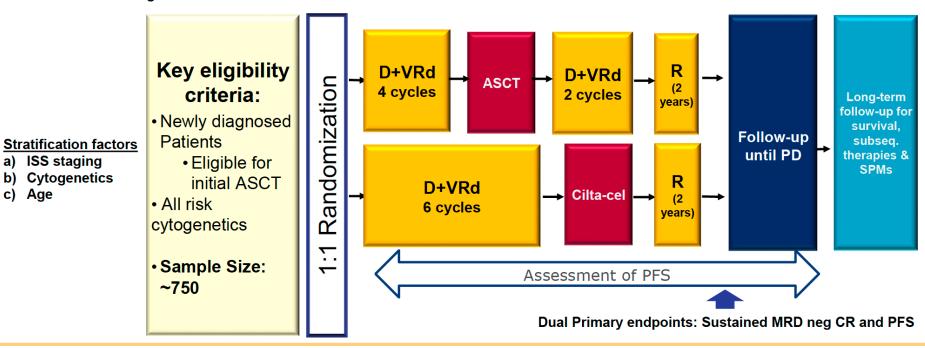




### **EMN-CARTITUDE 6**

#### **Dual primary endpoints:**

Sustained MRD-neg CR and PFS



#### MRD (BM aspirate) time-points:

c) Age

- Within 7 days prior to melphalan conditioning.
- After D+VRd consolidation, prior to initiating lenalidomide maintenance therapy.
- At time of suspected CR or sCR.
- After initial CR or sCR is confirmed, then once 3 months after, then every 6 months (+1 month) for 5y, then yearly until PD for participants that are in CR or sCR. MRD by PET/CT (optional, if locally available): At time of BM MRD-negative CR and every 12 months in BM MRD-negative participants.

Dara, daratumumab; V, bortezomib; R, lenalidomide; d, dexamethasone; ASCT, autologous stem-cell transplantation; PFS, progression-free survival; MRD, minimal residual disease; CR, complete response; sCR, stringent complete response; ISS, International Staging System; SPM, second primary malignancy; PD, progressive disease; BM, bone marrow.



## **DETERMINATION**: differential benefit of ASCT in specific subgroups

ASH 2023:<sup>5</sup> Subgroup analysis of PFS by race and BMI or sex suggest similar PFS, EFS, and OS with RVd-alone and RVd+ASCT in African American patients

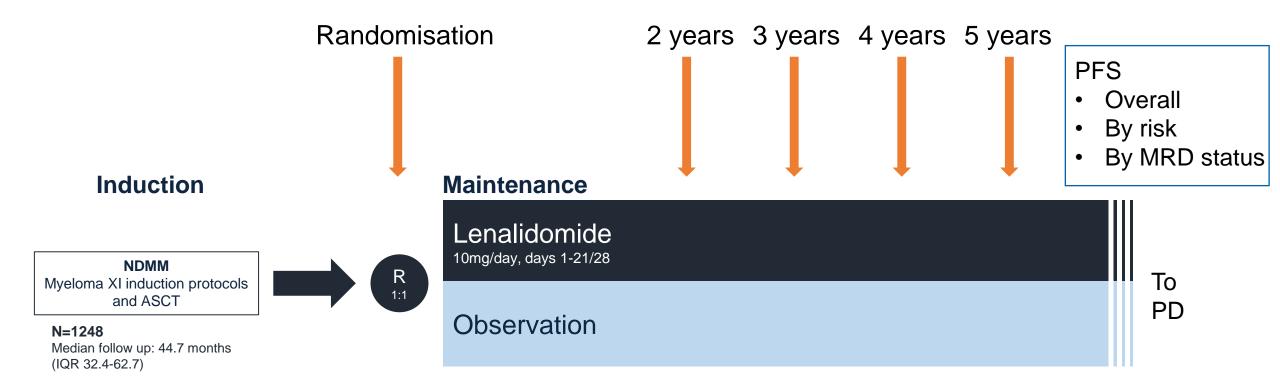
	AA patients			HR (95% CI)	White patients				
Subgroup	RVd-alone	RVd+ASCT	HR	RVd-alone vs RVd+ASCT	RVd-alone	RVd+ASCT	HR		
All	NR	61.4	1.07		44.3	67.2	1.67		
BMI≥30	NR	58.6	0.74		41.1	64.4	1.58		
BMI <30	66.4	NR	1.86		45.3	82.3	1.78		
Female	NR	58.6	0.90		42.0	NR	1.85		
Male	66.4	NR	1.28		46.2	64.3	1.47		
0.25 0.5 1 2 4  RVd-alone better RVd+ASCT better									

# Maintenance: what are the key questions?

- How long?
- Newer agents and regimens
- Risk adapted approaches



## Multiple landmark analyses in Myeloma XI

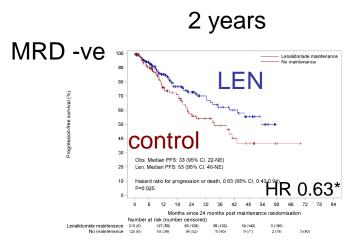


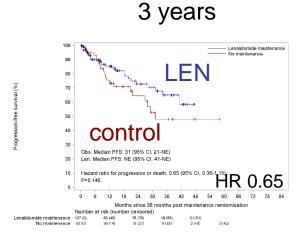
Median duration of lenalidomide therapy 28 cycles (range 1-96)

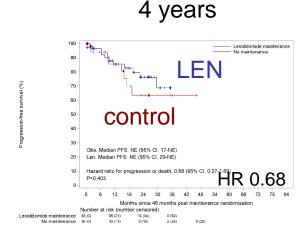
Patients still on therapy 330/730 (45%)

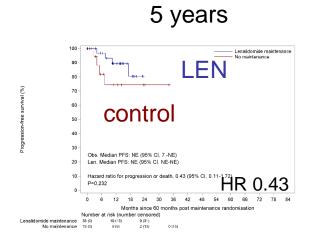
# What is the optimum duration of treatment for (1) MRD –ve (2) MRD +ve patients?

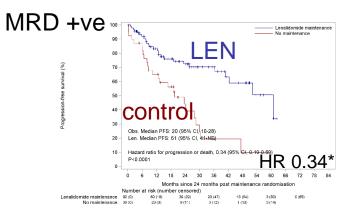


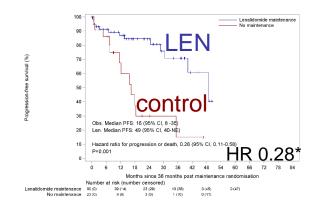


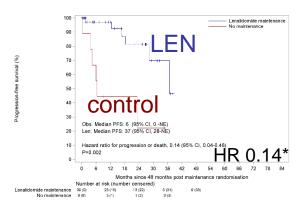












## Maintenance: newer agents and combinations

- CD38 antibody
  - Cassiopeia study (Daratumumab), RADAR (Isatuximab)
- Lenalidomide plus proteasome inhibitor
  - Ixa-R (FiTNEss), carfilzomib-R (FORTE)
- Lenalidomide plus CD38 antibody
  - PERSEUS (Dara-R), RADAR (Isa-R)

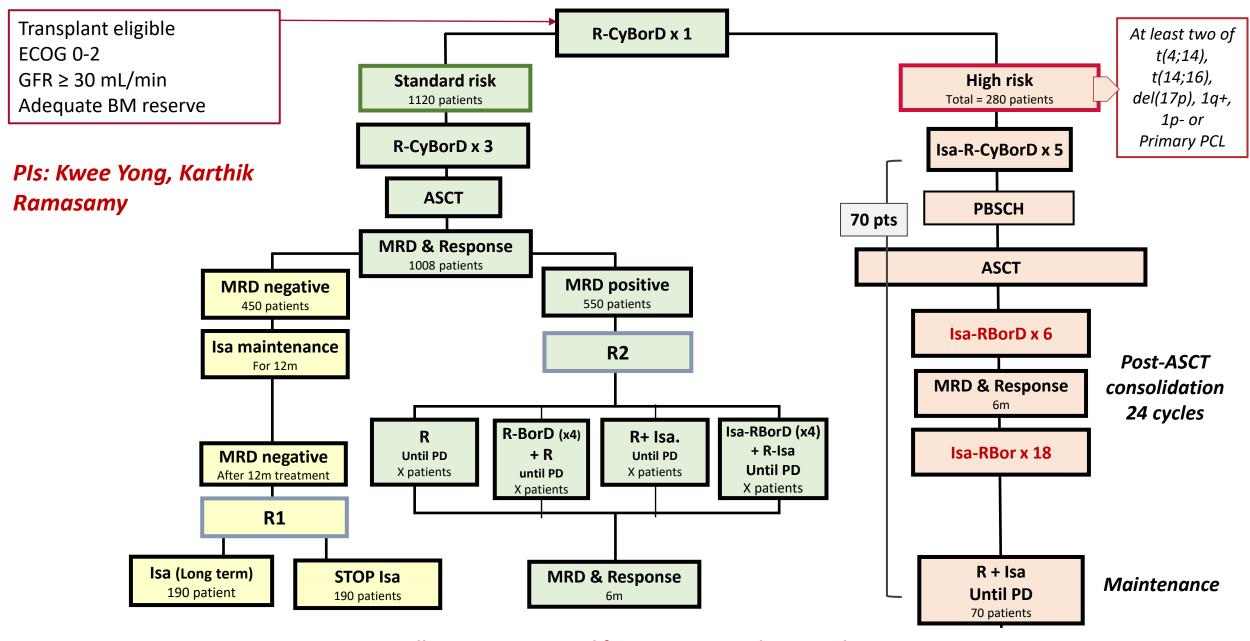
# Personalizing therapy for myeloma patients

#### We need to understand

- Disease and host biology
- Molecular and population basis for heterogeneity
- Effects of our therapies on disease and host features

 We need to run studies that are translationally rich, so we can design better studies based on disease biology

#### RADAR protocol 7.0: Extended induction and post-ASCT consolidation in HR arm



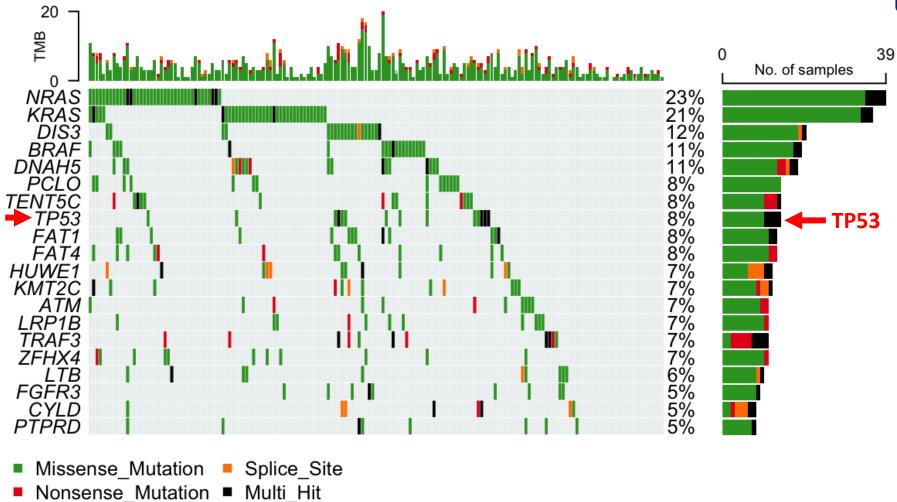
All patients are tested for MRD at 12 and 24 months

### Targeted sequencing of tumour samples from RADAR

Genetic variants detected in top 20 myeloma driver genes

Altered in 144 (85.21%) of 169 samples.

Sarah Gooding, Oxford Eileen Boyle Amatta Mirandari Ines Fethi UCL Myeloma lab

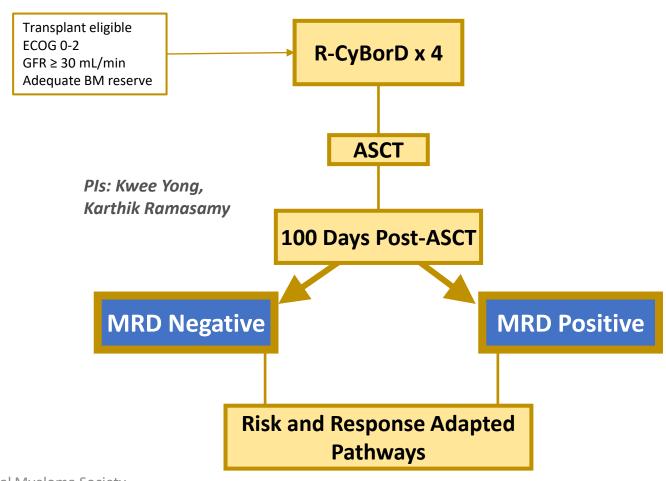


**85.21%** have at least one mutation in these 20 selected genes



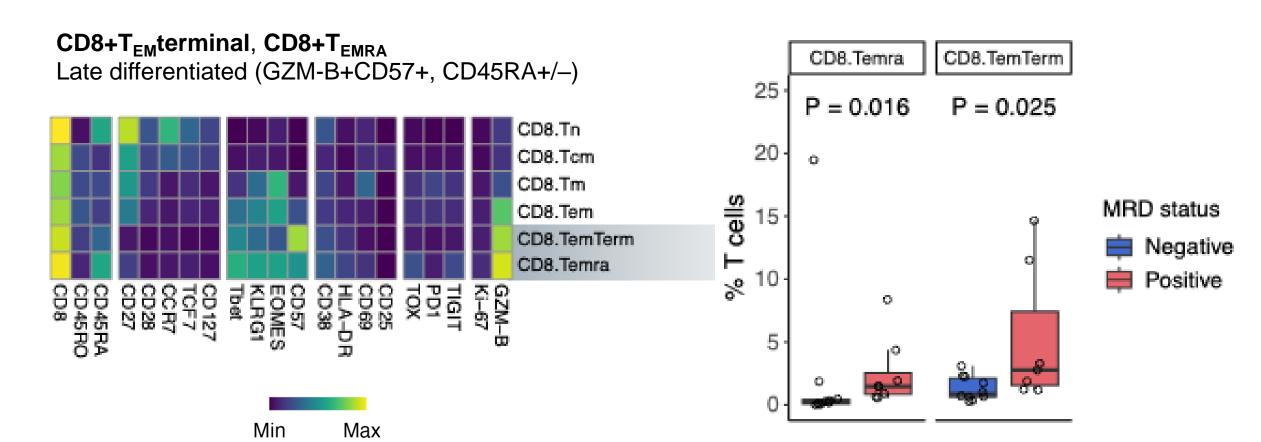


# **UKMRA RADAR Trial**



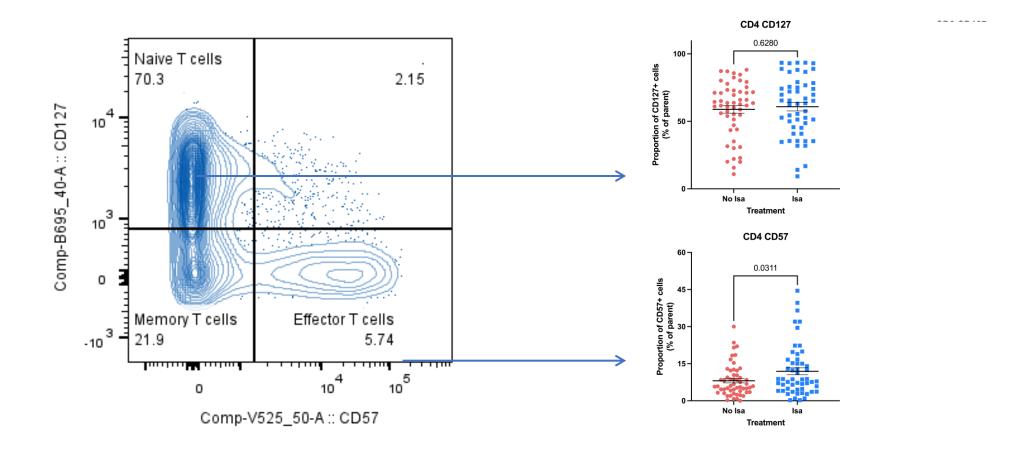
# Terminally differentiated CD8+ T-cells enriched in MRD+ patients







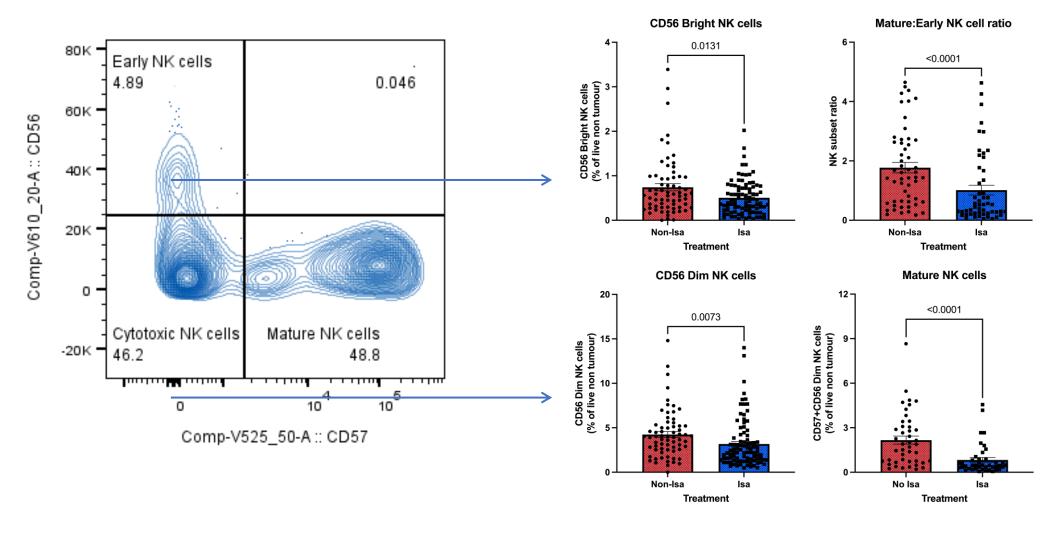




# Isatuximab therapy results in preferential loss of mature late differentiated NK cell subsets







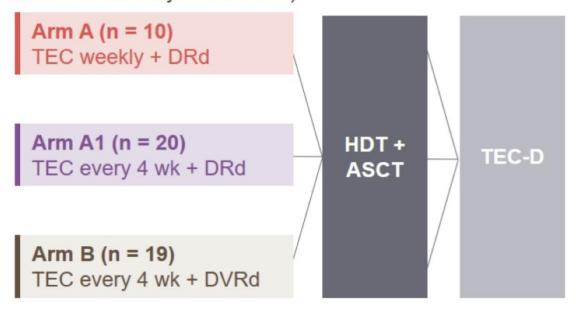
# Is the future immunotherapy?

## **GMMG-HD10/DSMM-XX/MajesTEC-5 study design**

Induction × 6 cycles (MRD assessed after cycles 3 and 6)

#### Key eligibility criteria

- Transplant-eligible NDMM
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Aged 18-70 y



#### **Primary endpoints**

AEs, SAEs

#### Secondary endpoints

- MRD negativity (10<sup>-5</sup>)
- ORR
- ≥ CR
- ≥ VGPR
- Stem cell yield
- DoR

# **Summary**

- Highly effective induction regimens extending disease free and overall survival, but
- How do we personalize therapy for our newly diagnosed patients?
- Specific subgroups for whom outcomes can be improved
- Continue to scrutinize the benefit of ASCT
- Treating all until progression reflects an un-enlightened approach
- Have we asked our patients?
- Carry out careful translational studies alongside our clinical trials in order to truly advance treatment and improve outcomes

## **Acknowledgments**









Sergio Quezada

James Reading

**UCL Immunology** 

Benny Chain









CANCER RESEARCH

























