

The use of the AML xenograft model to translate leukemia stem cell (LSC) biology to the clinic

Jean C.Y. Wang

Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

University Health Network

Toronto, Canada

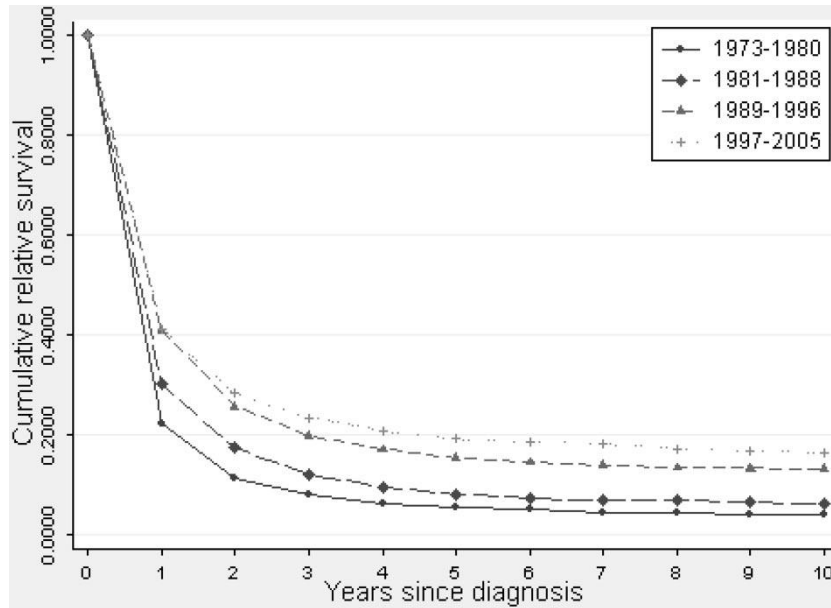
April 2017

MaRS



Patient survival in AML is poor

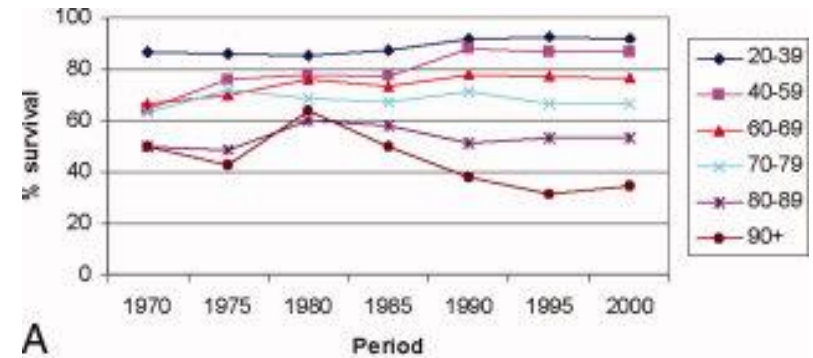
Cumulative relative survival in AML



Derolf et al, *Blood* 2009

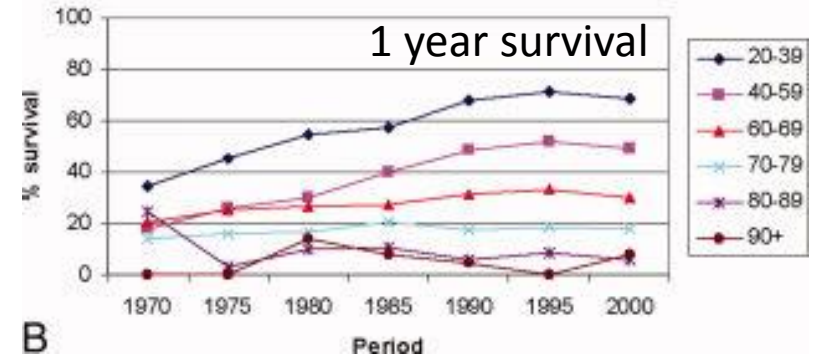
- survival is poor
- disease is complex (both inter- and intra-patient)
- basic treatment has not advanced for decades

30 day survival



A

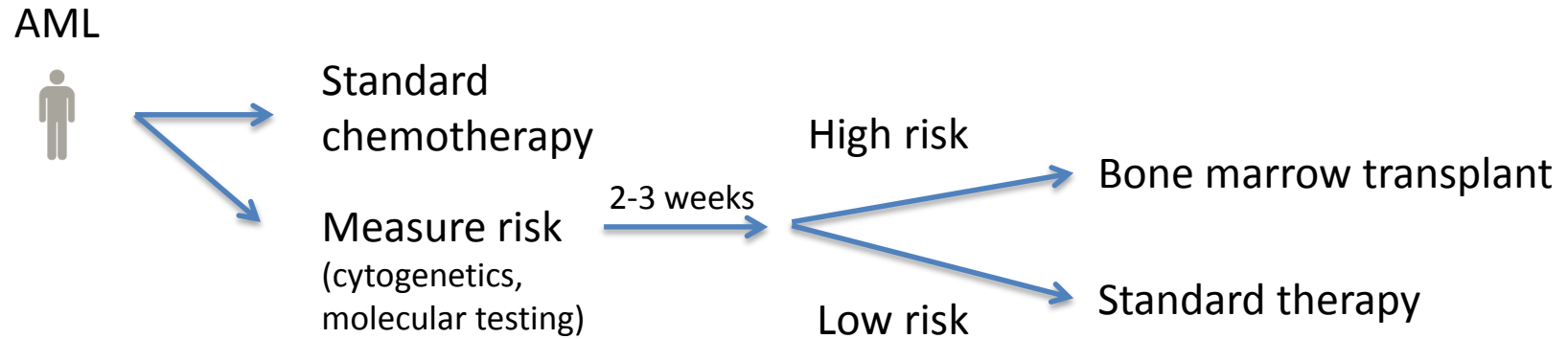
1 year survival



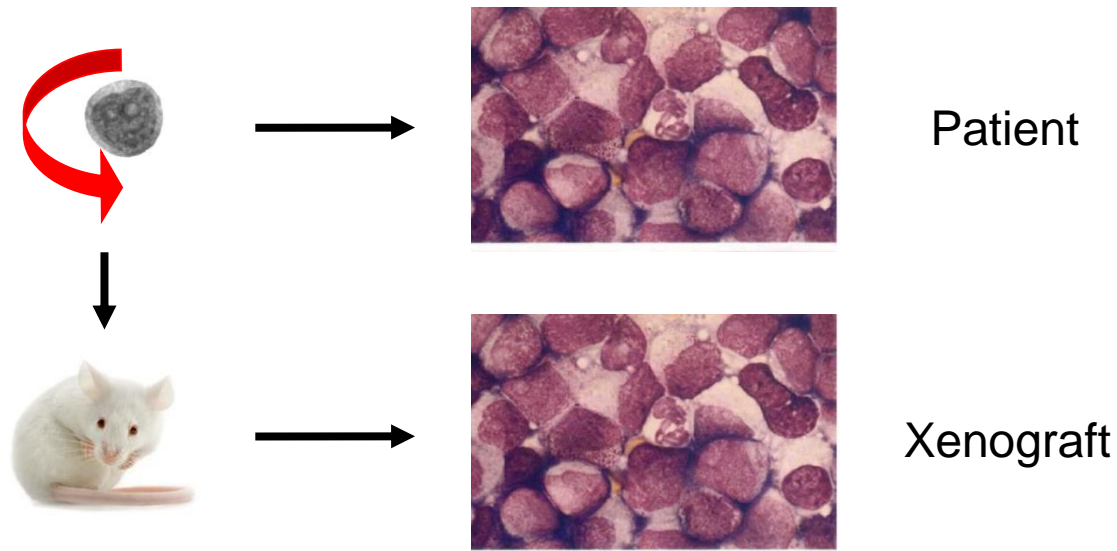
B

Alibhai et al, *Cancer* 2009

A new treatment strategy for AML patients based on risk

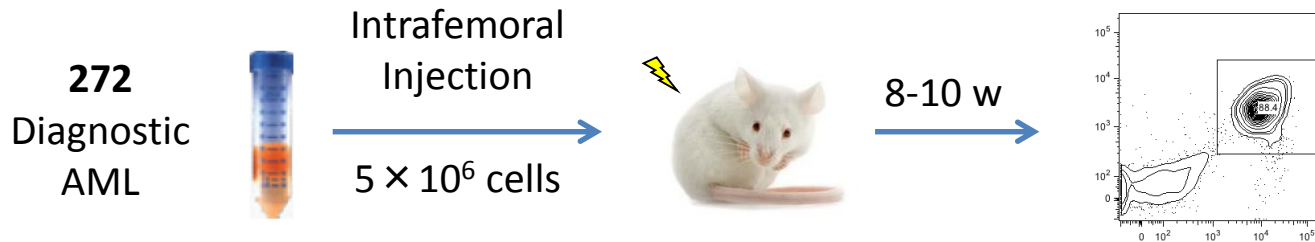


Are LSCs assayed by xenotransplantation clinically relevant?

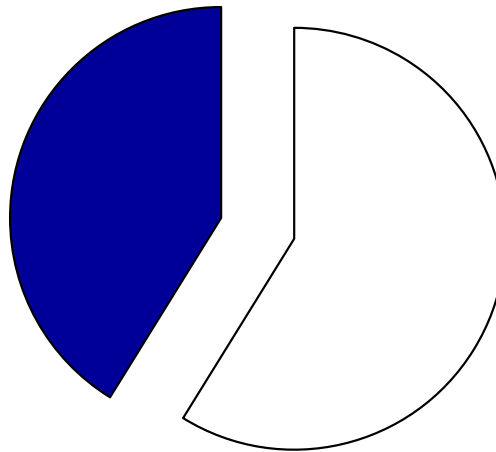


If LSCs are biologically important,
then patient outcome should be linked to LSC properties

Heterogeneous engraftment ability of LSCs from AML patients



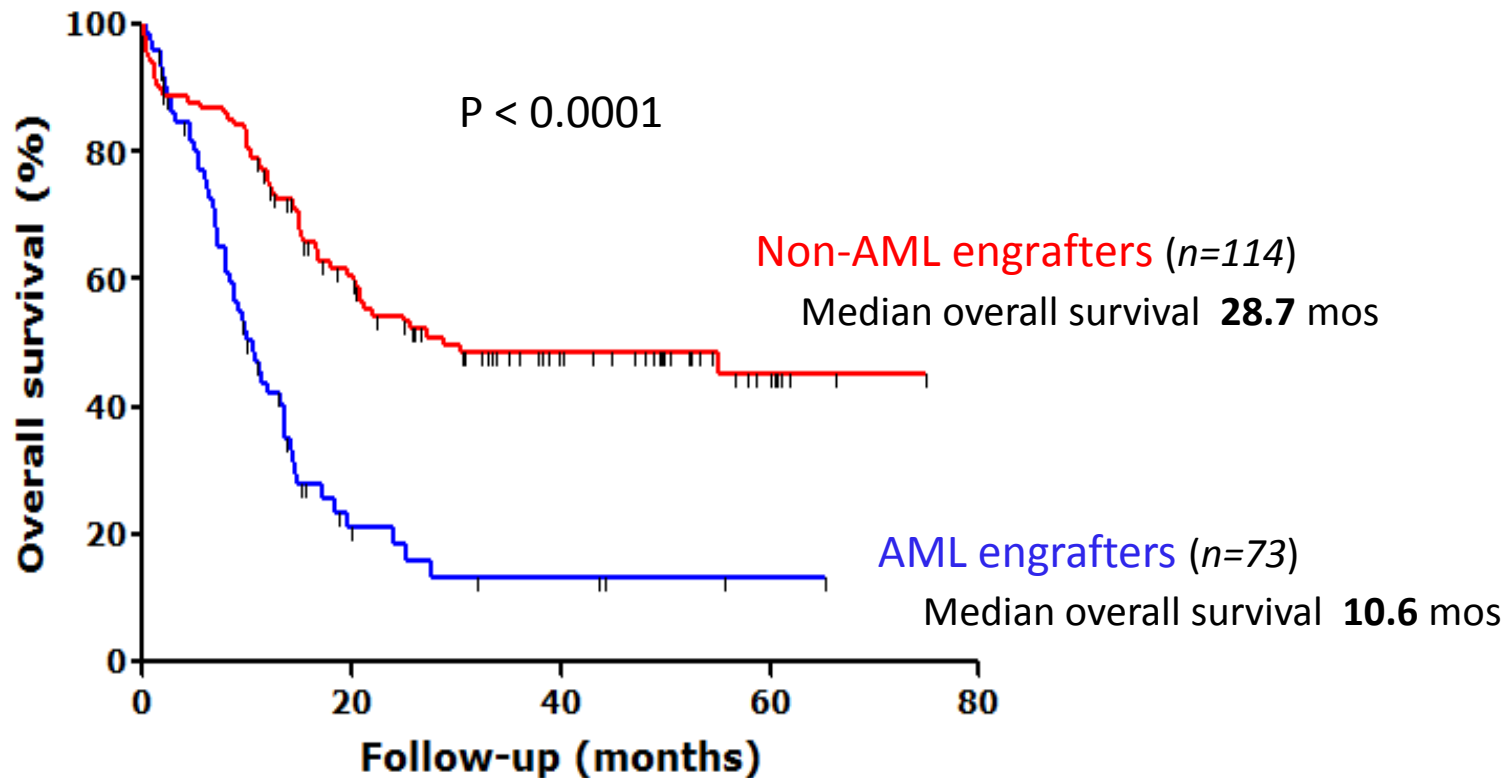
AML graft
112 (41%)



Non-AML graft
160 (59%)

AML engraftment in xenograft assay is associated with poorer survival following induction chemotherapy

Survival post-induction chemotherapy

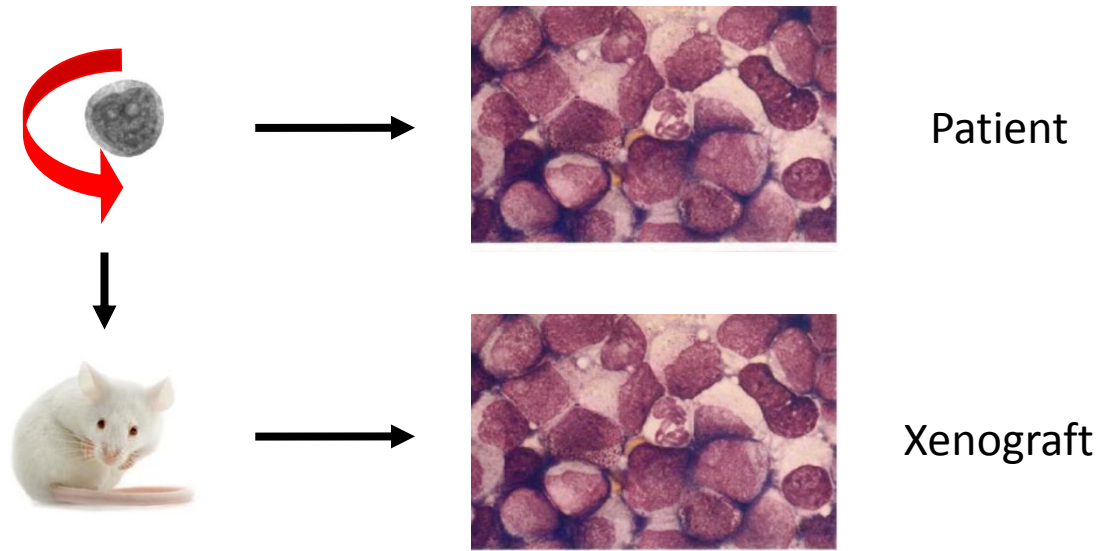


AML engraftment in xenograft assay is associated with poorer survival following induction chemotherapy

Multivariate analysis

<i>I. Overall survival</i>							
<i>Entire induction cohort (n = 179)</i>				<i>Normal Karyotype AML (n = 89)</i>			
Parameter	HR	95% CI	P-value	Parameter	HR	95% CI	P-value
Adverse cytogenetics†	3.89	(2.32-6.51)	P< 0.0001	AML engraftment	4.15	(2.21-7.80)	P< 0.0001
AML engraftment	2.51	(1.66-3.81)	P< 0.0001	WBC count	1.005	(1.0004-1.009)	P=0.032
WBC count	1.005	(1.002-1.007)	P= 0.001	<i>NPM1c</i> mutation	0.52	(0.27-0.97)	P=0.041
Secondary AML	1.74	(1.03-2.94)	P=0.040	Secondary AML	2.50	(1.02-6.15)	P=0.045
Age	1.014	(0.998-1.029)	NS*	<i>FLT3</i> -ITD	1.41	(0.76-2.62)	NS
Favorable cytogenetics†	0.93	(0.49-1.75)	NS	Age	1.005	(0.98-1.03)	NS

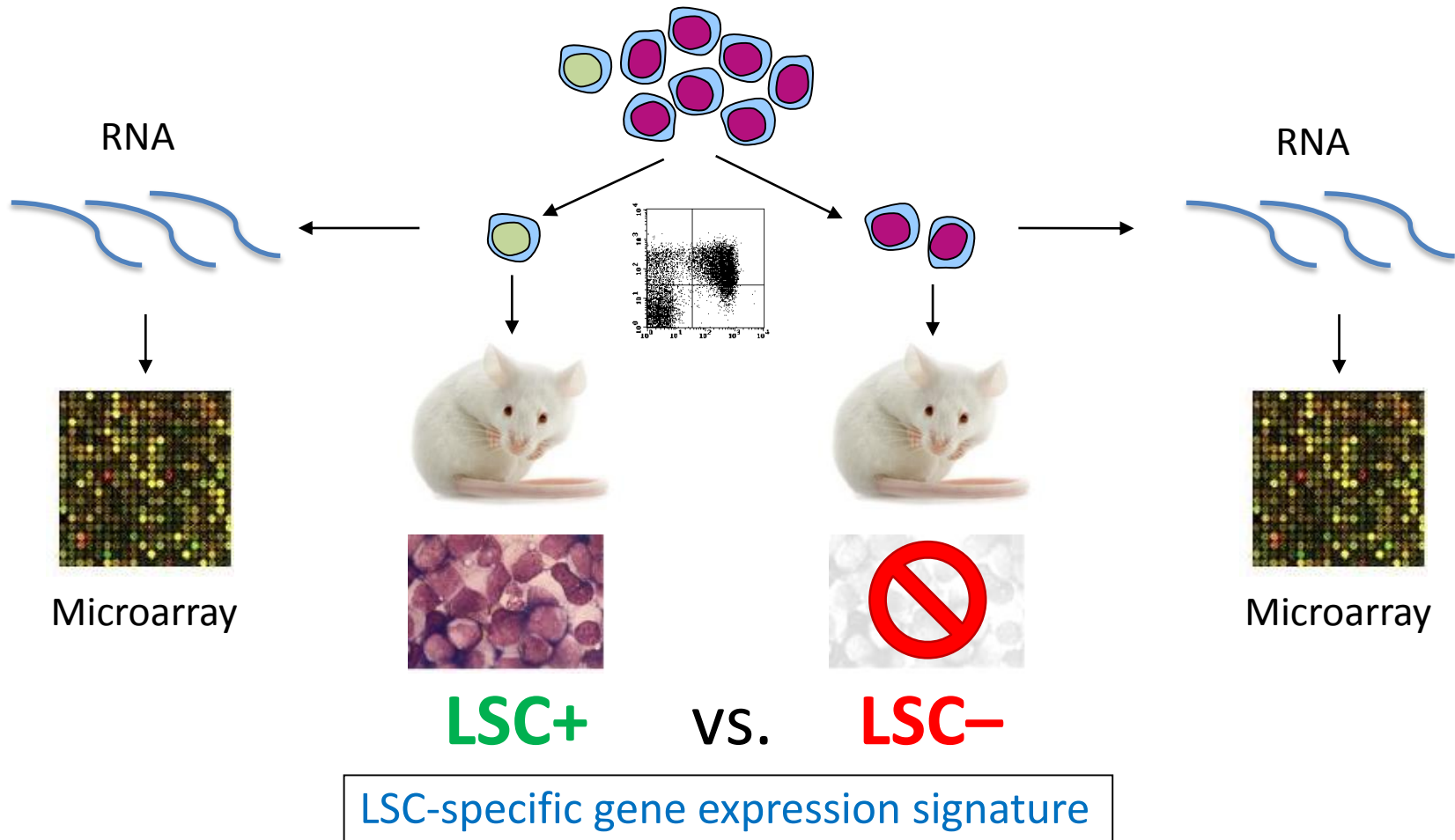
LSC properties are linked to outcome



LSCs are linked to therapy resistance and relapse

Analysis of LSC-specific molecular programs may identify prognostic biomarkers

An LSC gene expression profile generated from functionally validated cell populations

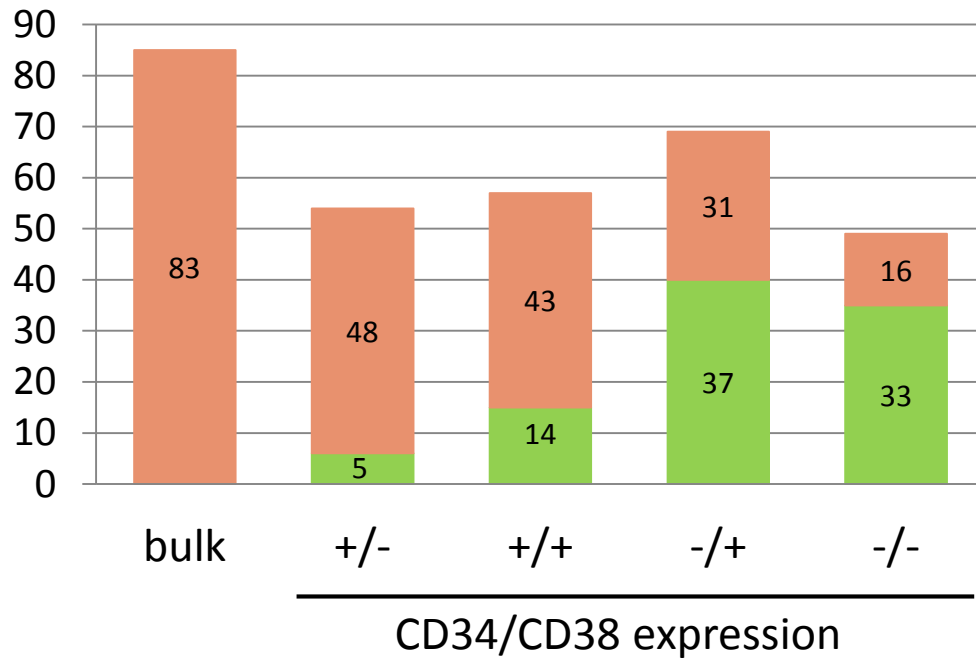


LSCs are found in multiple sorted fractions

78 AML patients
n=83



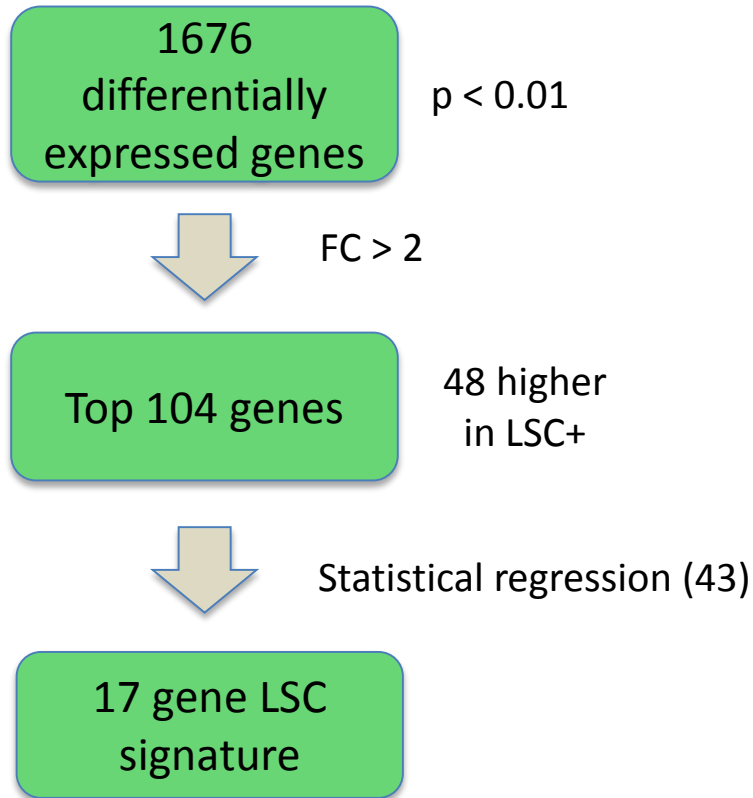
LSC+ 138
LSC- 89



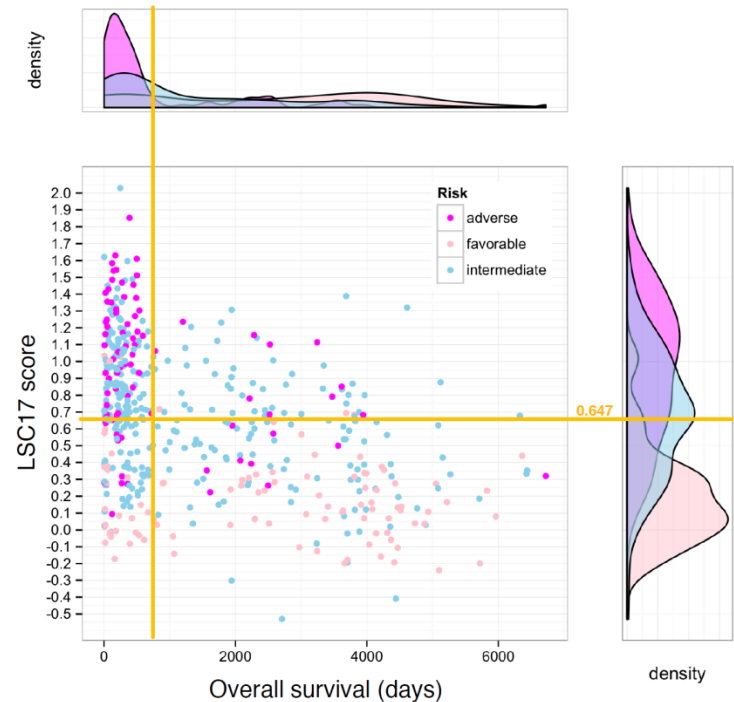
	+/-	+/+	-/+	-/-
512	N	N	N	N
590	Y	Y	Y	N
596	Y	Y	N	N
598	Y	Y	N	Y
618	N	N	N	N
636	Y	Y	N	N
646	Y	Y	N	N
698	Y	N	N	N
713	Y	Y	Y	Y
740	N	N	Y	N
840	Y	N	N	N
858	Y	N	N	N
874	Y	Y	Y	Y
9515	norm	N	N	N
9578	N	N	N	N
9601	N	N	N	N
9677	norm	N	Y	N
9700	Y	Y	N	N
80008	Y	Y	Y	N
80179	Y	Y	N	N
80185	N	N	N	N
80280	N	Y	Y	Y
80281	Y	Y	Y	N
80291	Y	Y	N	N
80408	Y	Y	Y	N
80488	?	?	Y	Y
80527	Y	N	N	N
80534	Y	Y	N	N
80561	Y	Y	N	Y
90077	Y	Y	N	N
90087	Y	Y	N	N
90135	Y	N	N	N
90147	Y	N	N	N
90156	N	N	N	N
90181	Y	Y	Y	Y
90184	Y	Y	Y	Y
90185	Y	N	Y	Y
90190	Y	N	Y	N
90191	Y	N	N	N
90239	Y	Y	Y	Y
90240	Y	Y	Y	Y
90295	Y	N	N	N
90365	Y	Y	Y	N
90392	Y	N	Y	N
90394	Y	Y	N	N

	+/-	+/+	-/+	-/-
90409	Y	Y	N	N
90428	Y	Y	Y	Y
90429	Y	N	N	N
90444	Y	N	N	Y
90454	Y	Y	N	N
90476	Y	Y	N	N
90481	Y	N	N	N
90521	Y	Y	N	Y
90543	N?	Y	N	N
90582	N	Y	N	N
90590	Y	Y	Y	Y
90668	Y	N	-	N
90686	Y	N	N	N
90716	Y	N	N	N
100006	Y	Y	N	N
100016	Y	Y	Y	N
100091	N	Y	Y	N
100176	Y	Y	N	N
100183	Y	Y	N	Y
100255	Y	Y	Y	Y
100274	Y	Y	Y	Y
100327	Y	Y	Y	Y
100348	Y	Y	N	N
100454	Y	Y	Y	Y
100474	N	N	Y	Y
100490	Y	N	N	N
100507	norm	Y	N	N
100565	Y	Y	N	N
100685	Y	N	N	N
100719	Y	Y	N	N
100770	N	N	Y	N
100818	Y	Y	N	N
100874	Y	Y	N	N
100885	Y	Y	N	N
110002	Y	N	N	N
110080	Y	Y	Y	Y
110102	Y	Y	N	Y
110120	Y	Y	Y	N
110180	Y	Y	N	N
110260	norm	N	N	Y
110283	N	Y	Y	N
110438	?	N	Y	Y
110484	Y	Y	N	N
110500	Y	Y	N	Y
33xxxx1	Y	Y	Y	Y

An LSC gene expression profile generated from functionally validated cell populations

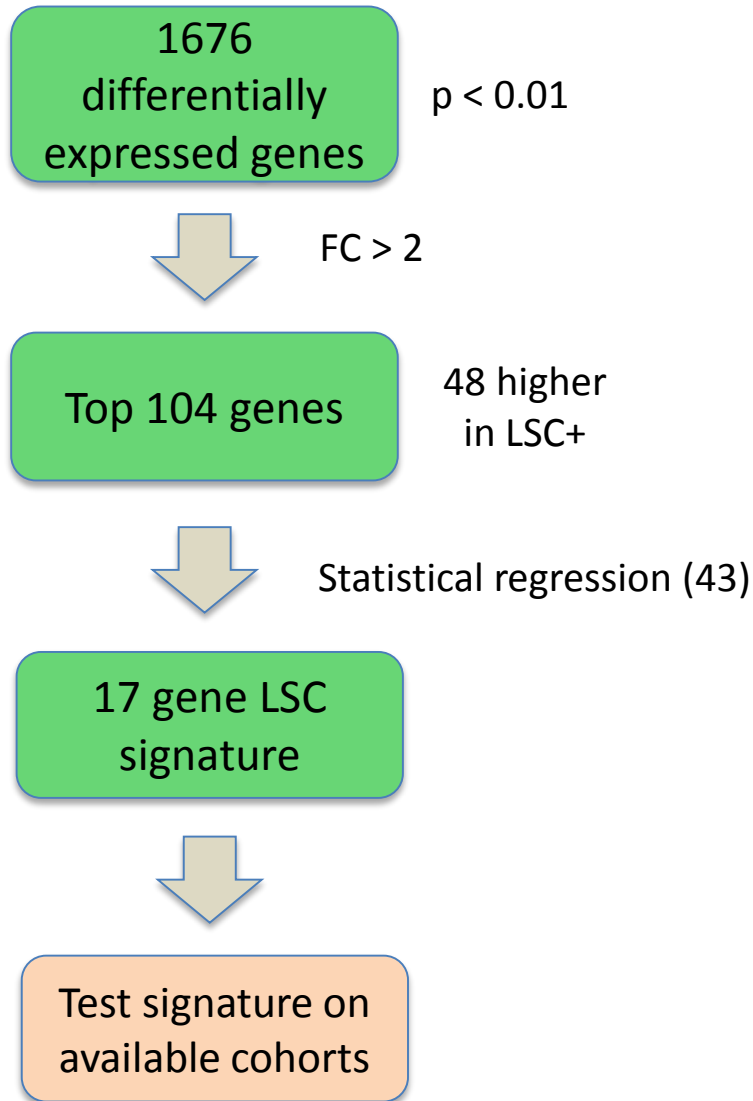


Adult AML		
Cohort	Source	#samples
Training	Valk (GSE6891) Affymetrix U133Plus2.0	495



Median LSC17 score splits the intermediate cytogenetic risk group

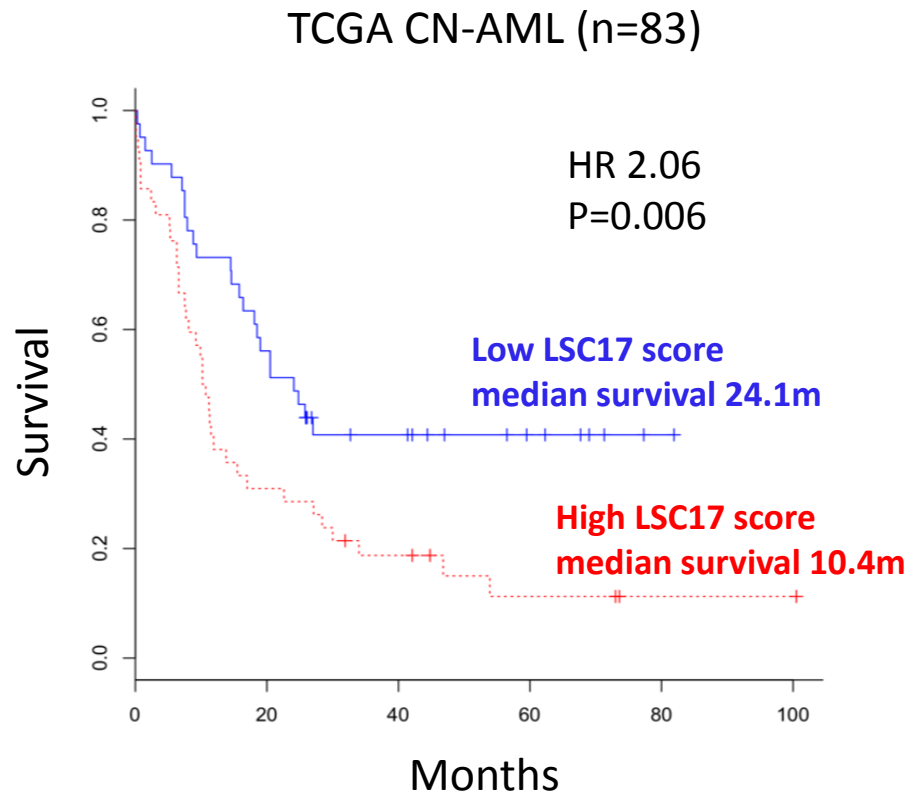
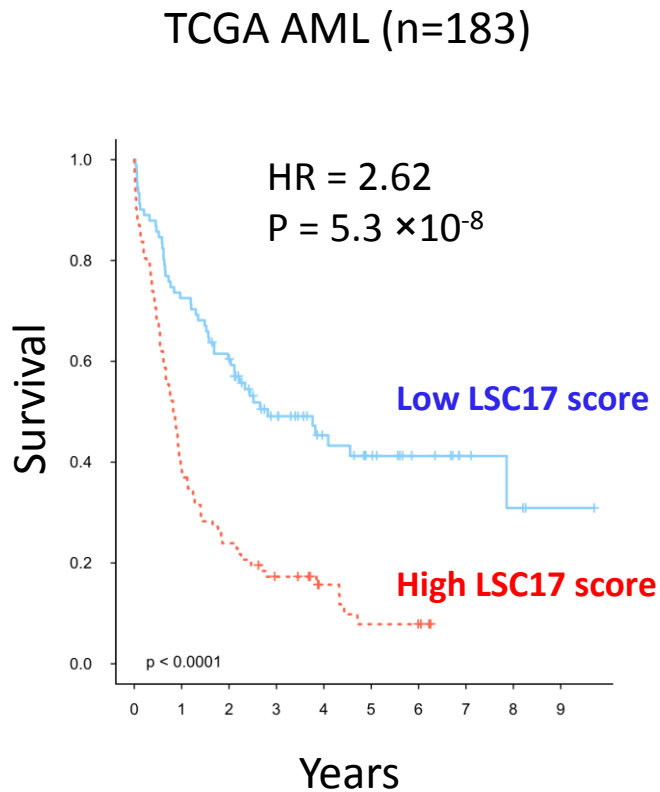
An LSC gene expression profile generated from functionally validated cell populations



		Adult AML
Cohort	Source	#samples
Training	Valk (GSE6891) Affymetrix U133Plus2.0	495
Testing #1	TCGA (GSE10358) Affymetrix U133Plus2.0	183
Testing #2	Metzeler (GSE12417) Affymetrix U133A/B	156
Testing #3	Metzeler (GSE12417) Affymetrix U133Plus2.0	70
Testing #4	Ulm (GSE15434) LMR Affymetrix U133Plus2.0	70

LSC17 score is prognostic in multiple independent AML cohorts

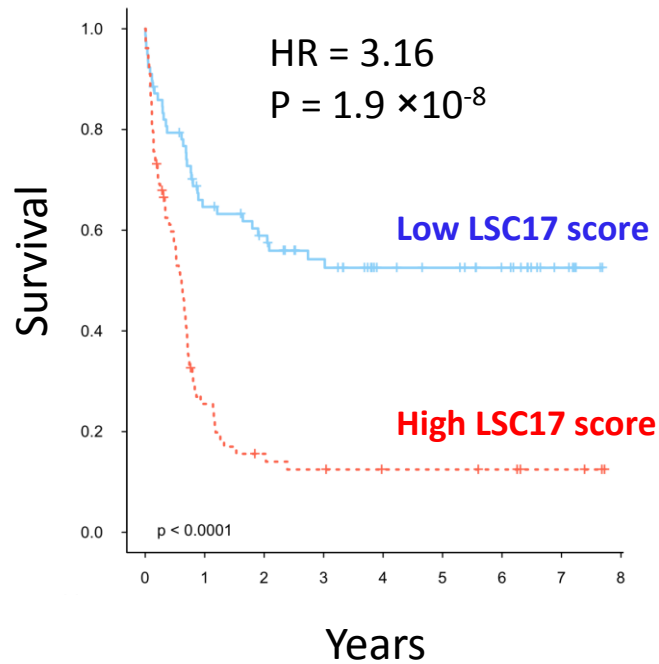
Affy array data



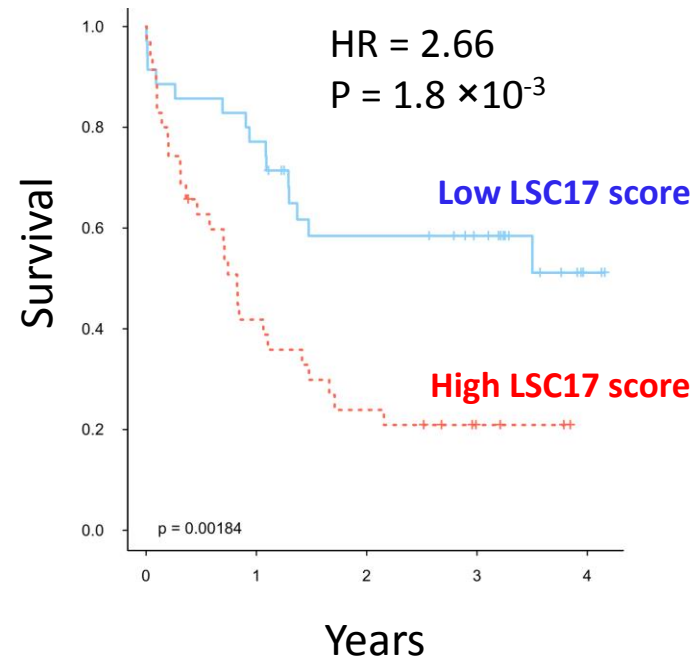
LSC17 score is prognostic in multiple independent AML cohorts

Affy array data

GSE12417 CN-AML #1 (n=156)



GSE12417 CN-AML #2 (n=70)



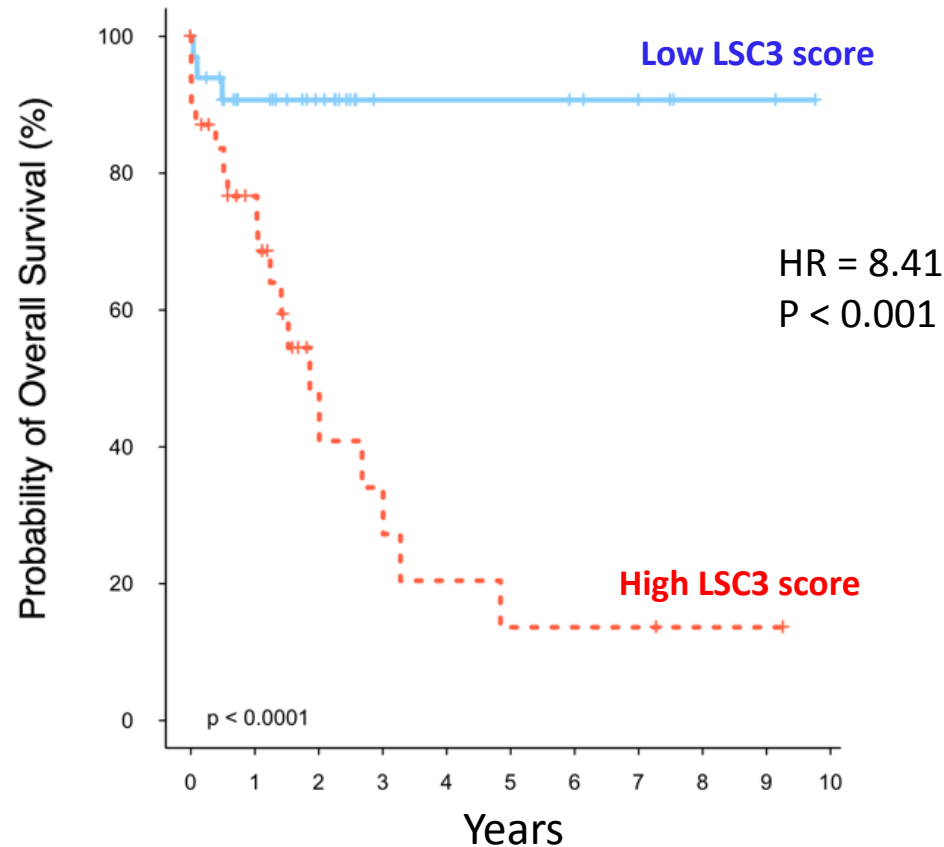
LSC3 score is prognostic in low molecular risk patients

LSC17 score re-weighted on LMR patients in GSE6891 training cohort (n=44) → **LSC3 score**

*NPM1*mut
FLT3-ITD neg

GSE15434 CN-LMR (n=70)

Test cohort (Ulm)



The LSC17 score refines genomic classification schemes

The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

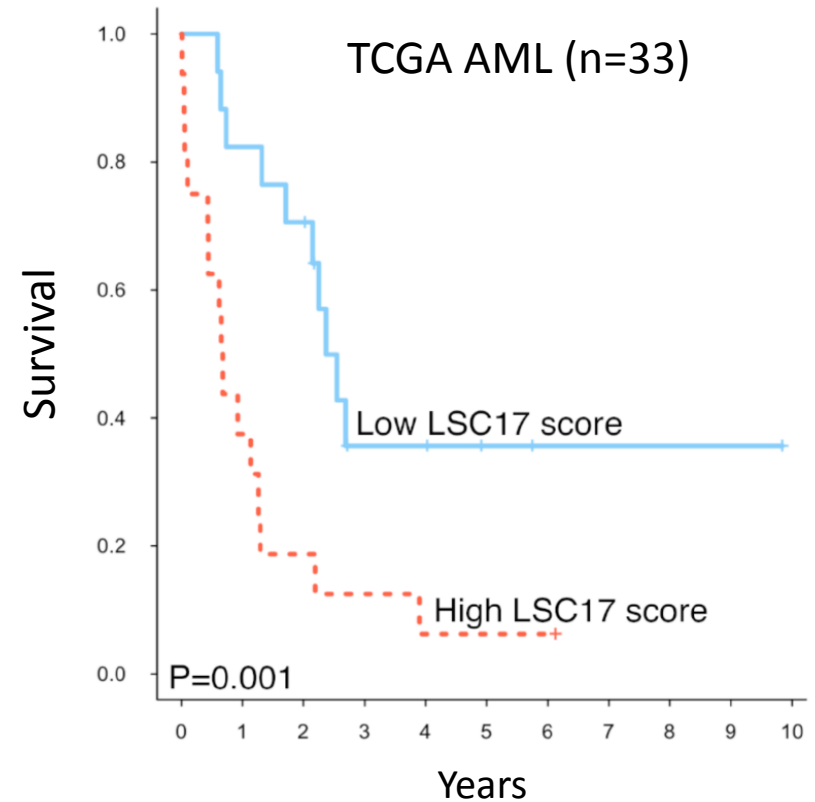
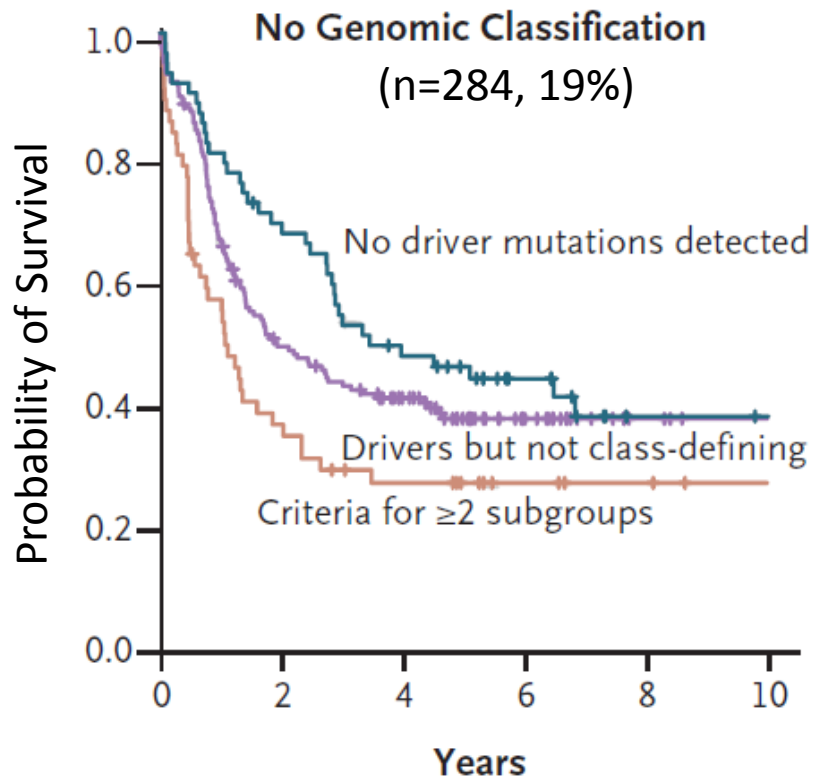
ESTABLISHED IN 1812

JUNE 9, 2016

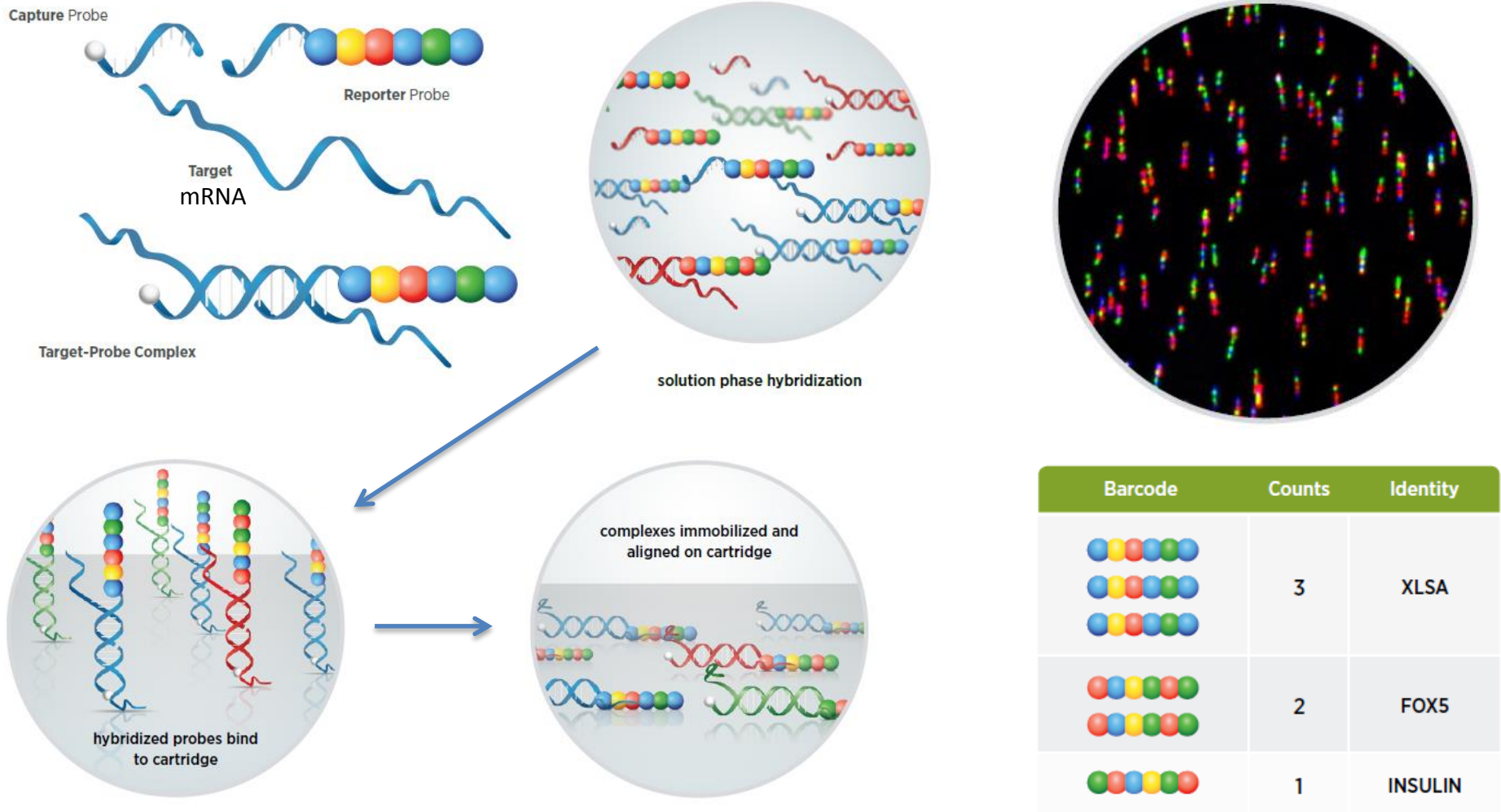
VOL. 374 NO. 23

Genomic Classification and Prognosis in Acute Myeloid
Leukemia

Papaemmanuil et al.



NanoString nCounter[®] Analysis System

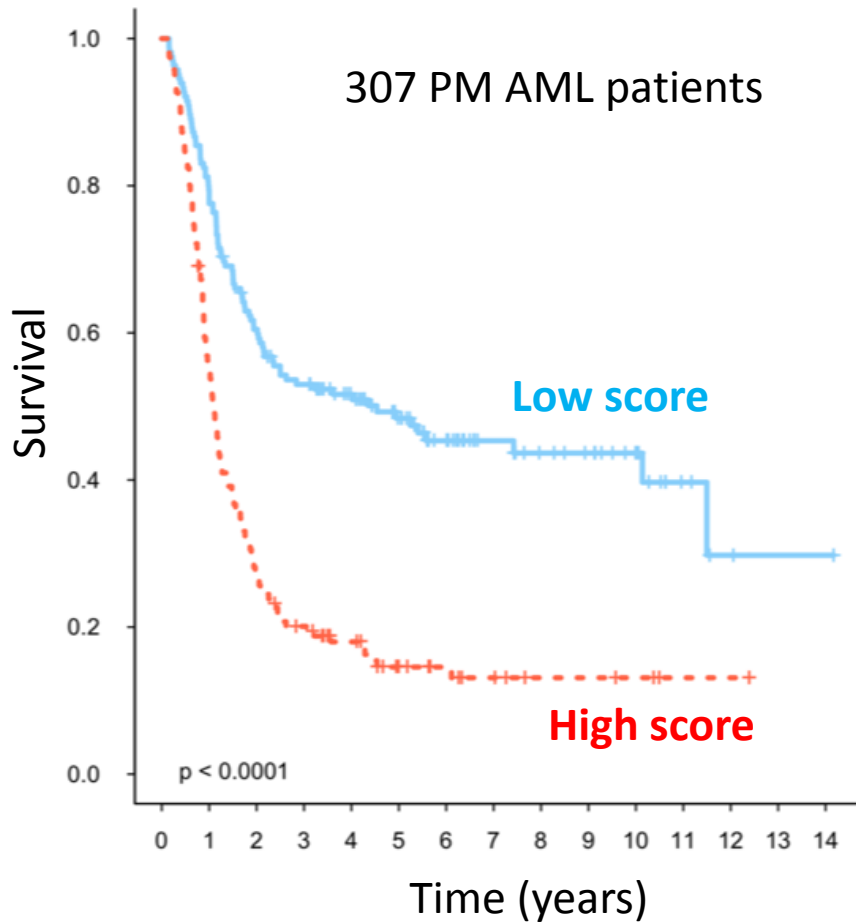


Sensitive
Reproducible
Cost-effective

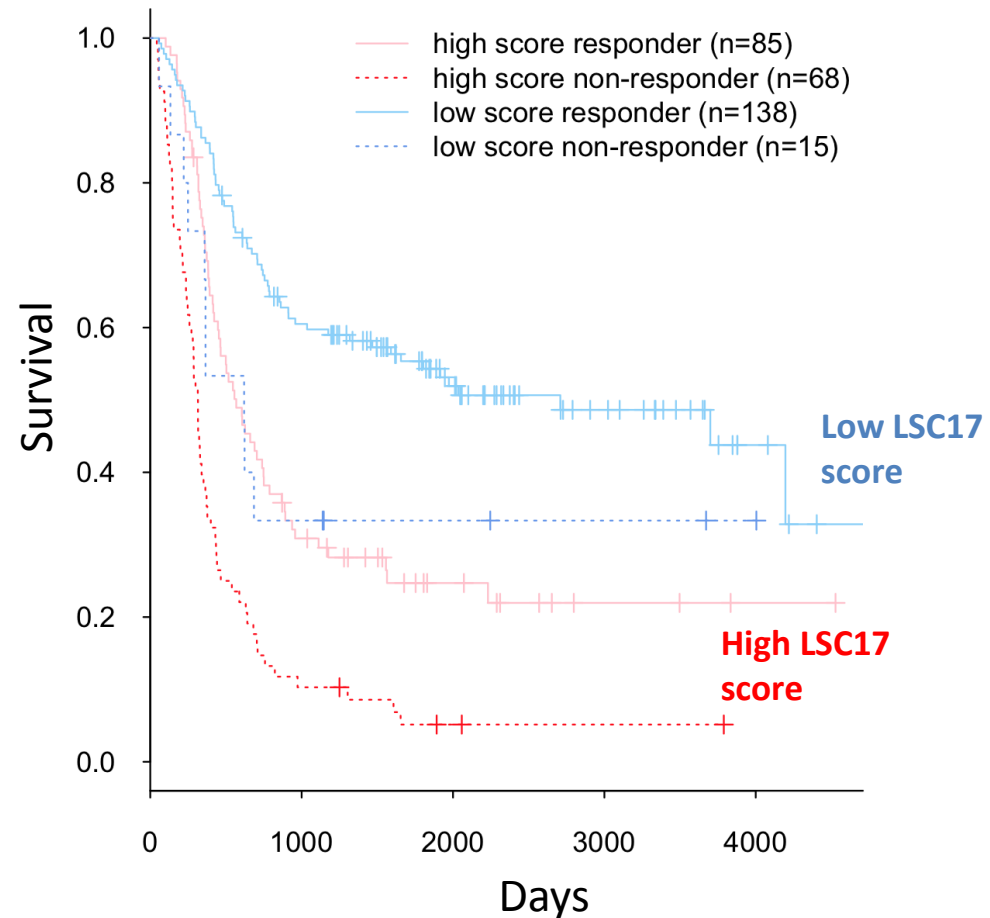
Barcodes are counted and tabulated for each target molecule.

LSC17 score predicts survival and therapy response in AML

NanoString data



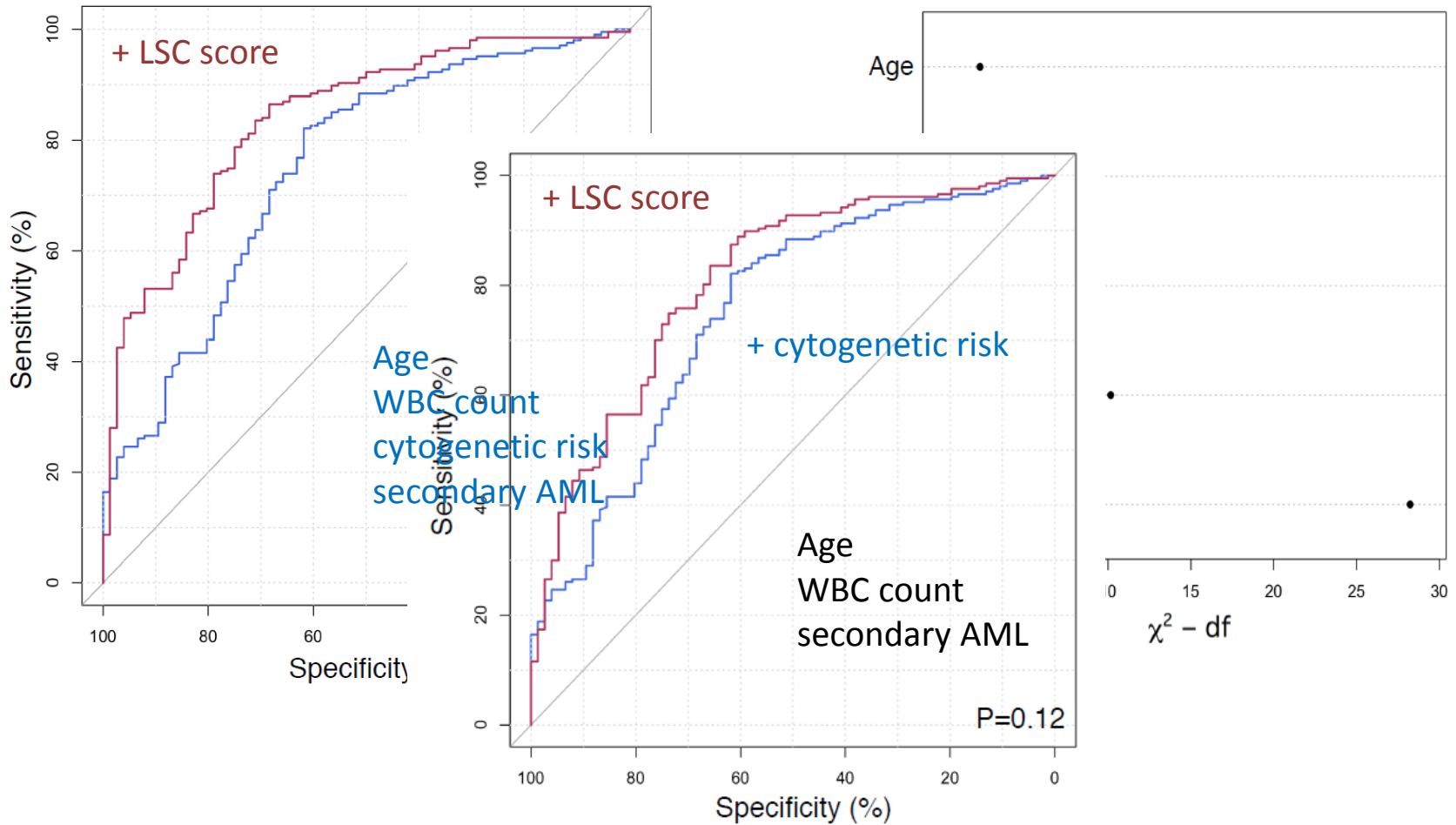
High score patients have worse survival regardless of whether or not remission was achieved



Better upfront therapies are needed for high score patients

LSC17 score predicts therapy resistance

Therapy resistance is a major barrier to cure

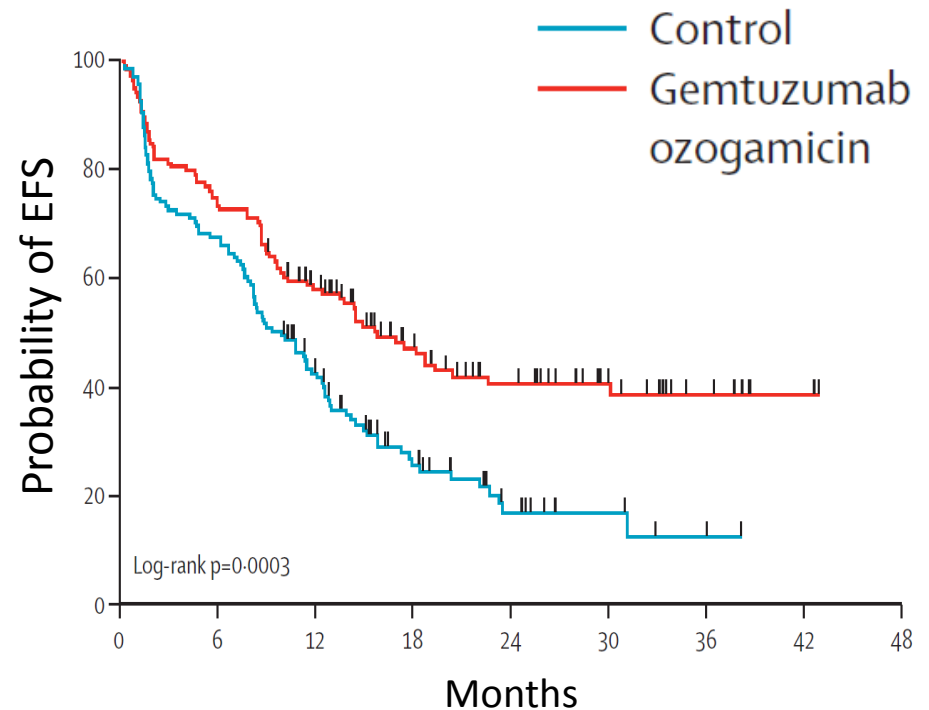
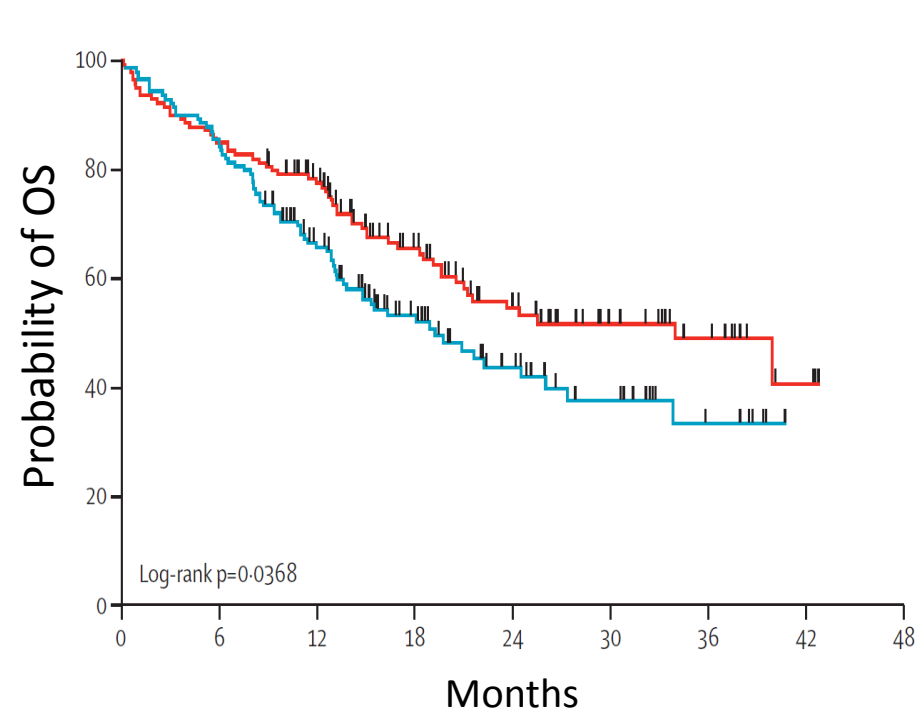


The LSC17 score predicts response to gemtuzumab ozogamicin (GO)

Lancet 2012; 379: 1508-16

Effect of gemtuzumab ozogamicin on survival of adult patients with de-novo acute myeloid leukaemia (ALFA-0701): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 study

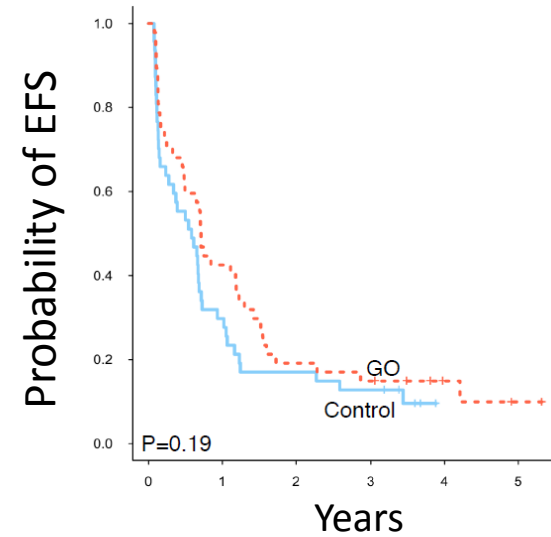
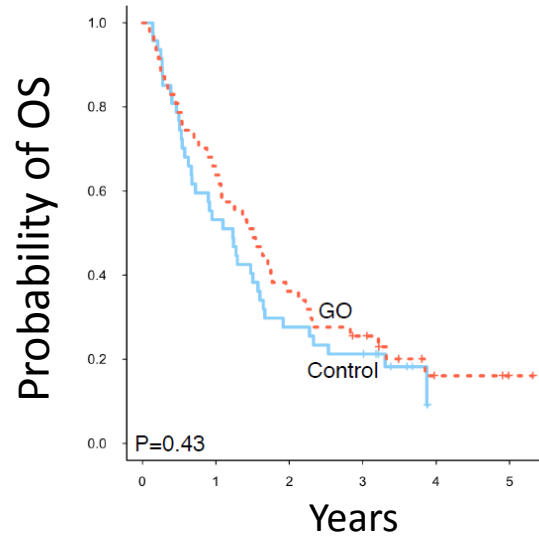
Sylvie Castaigne, Cécile Pautas, Christine Terré, Emmanuel Raffoux, Dominique Bordessoule, Jean-Noel Bastie, Ollivier Legrand, Xavier Thomas, Pascal Turlure, Oumedaly Reman, Thierry de Revel, Lauris Gastaud, Noémie de Gunzburg, Nathalie Contentin, Estelle Henry, Jean-Pierre Marolleau, Ahmad Aljijakli, Philippe Rousselot, Pierre Fenaux, Claude Preudhomme, Sylvie Chevret, Hervé Dombret, for the Acute Leukemia French Association



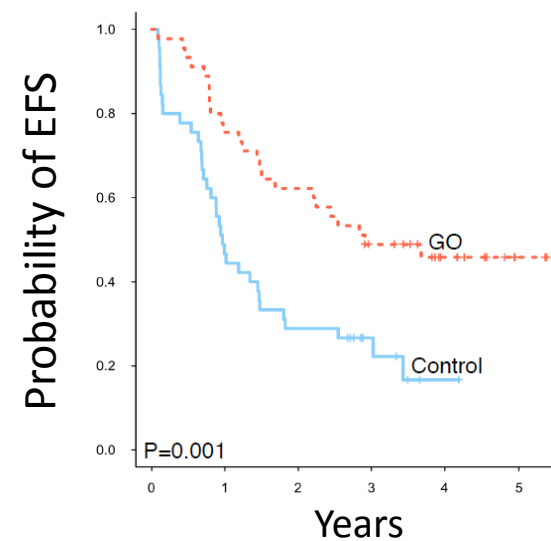
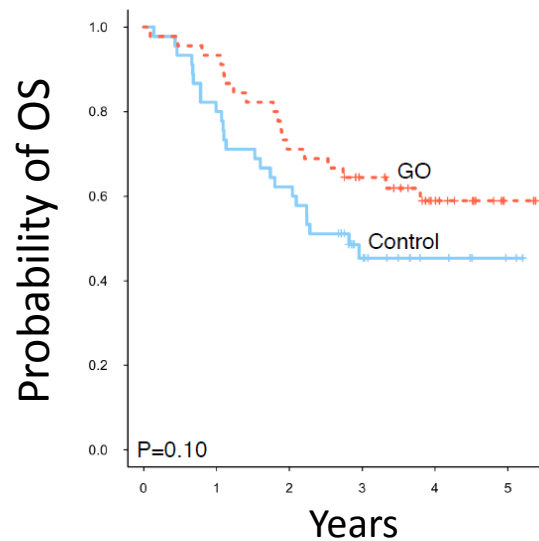
The LSC17 score predicts response to gemtuzumab ozogamicin

Patients surviving more than 30 days
ALFA-0701 trial

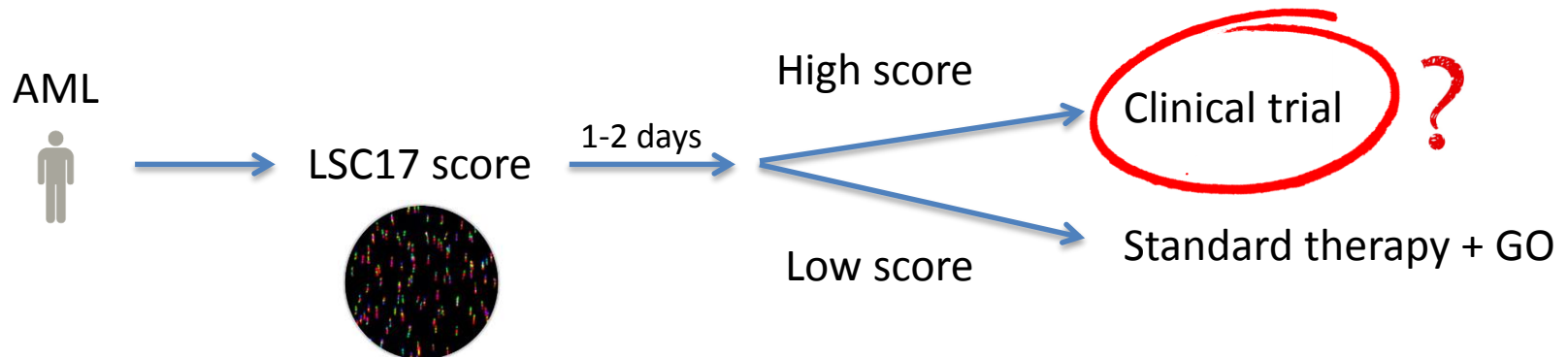
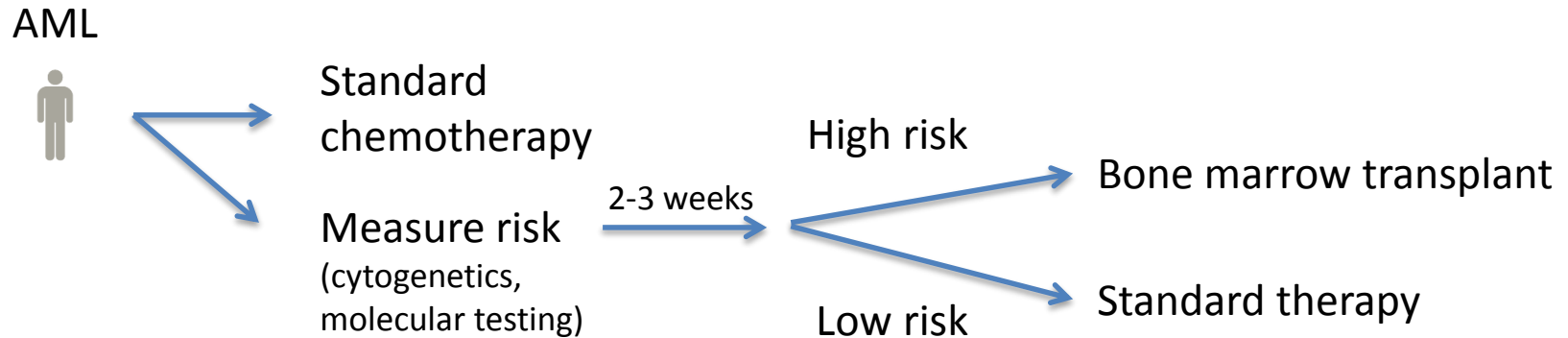
High LSC17 score
n=94



Low LSC17 score
n=90



A new treatment strategy for AML patients based on risk



A better strategy for anti-cancer drug development



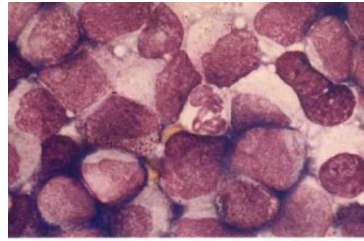
Cancer cell lines



Drug selected based on ability
kill cancer cell lines



LEUKEMIA
STEM CELLS



LEUKEMIA

A better strategy for anti-cancer drug development

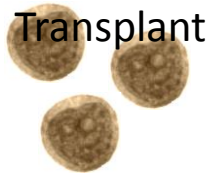


Cancer cell lines

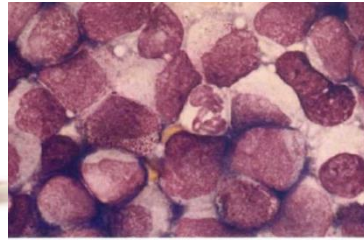


Drug selected based on ability
to kill cancer cell lines

Transplant



**LEUKEMIA
STEM CELLS**



LEUKEMIA

Test drugs for ability to
reduce leukemia in mice:
Capture heterogeneous
responses

AML cells
from patients



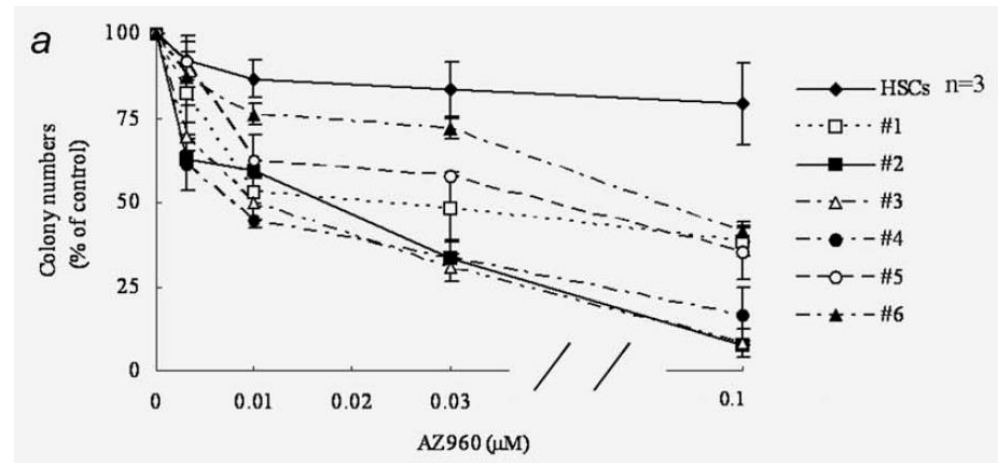
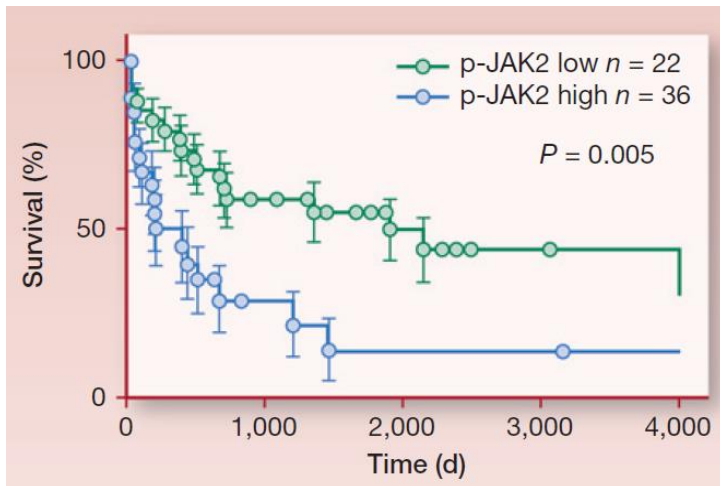
JAK2 inhibition in AML

Int. J. Cancer: 129, 2512–2521 (2011)

Expression of p-JAK2 predicts clinical outcome and is a potential molecular target of acute myelogenous leukemia

Takayuki Ikezoe¹, Shinsuke Kojima¹, Mutsuo Furihata², Jing Yang¹, Chie Nishioka^{1,3}, Asako Takeuchi¹, Mayuka Isaka¹, H. Phillip Koeffler^{4,5} and Akihito Yokoyama¹

de novo AML



AZ960 (JAK2 inhibitor) inhibits colony formation by CD34+ AML cells

Heterogeneous response to a JAK2 inhibitor in AML

Primary
AML
samples

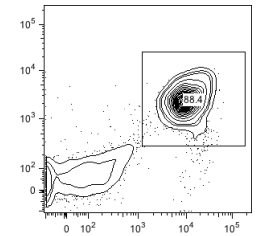


Intrafemoral
transplantation



2-3 wks

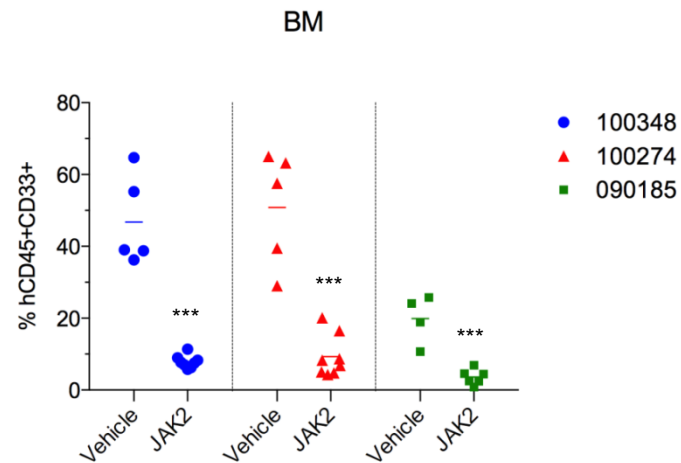
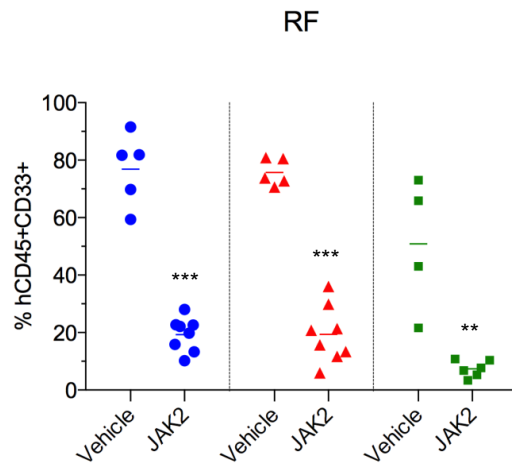
FED or VEH
oral gavage × 14d



Check engraftment

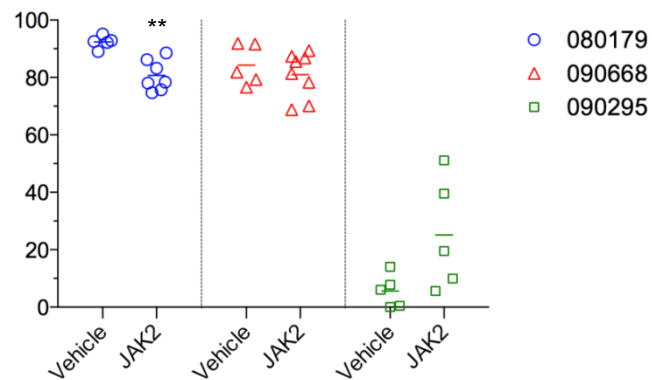
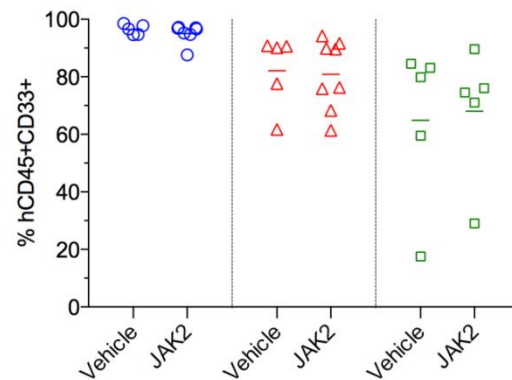
Secondary
transplantation

Responders



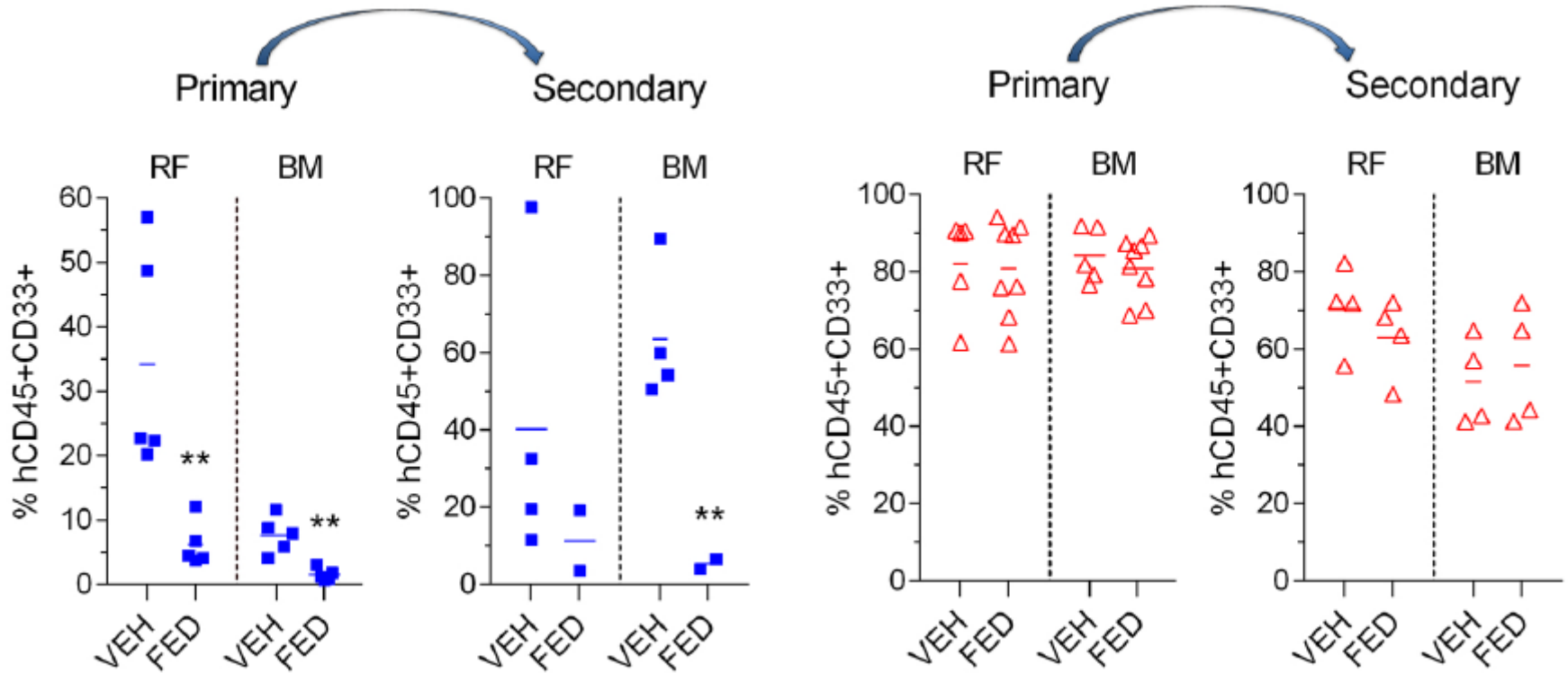
● 100348
▲ 100274
■ 090185

Non-Responders

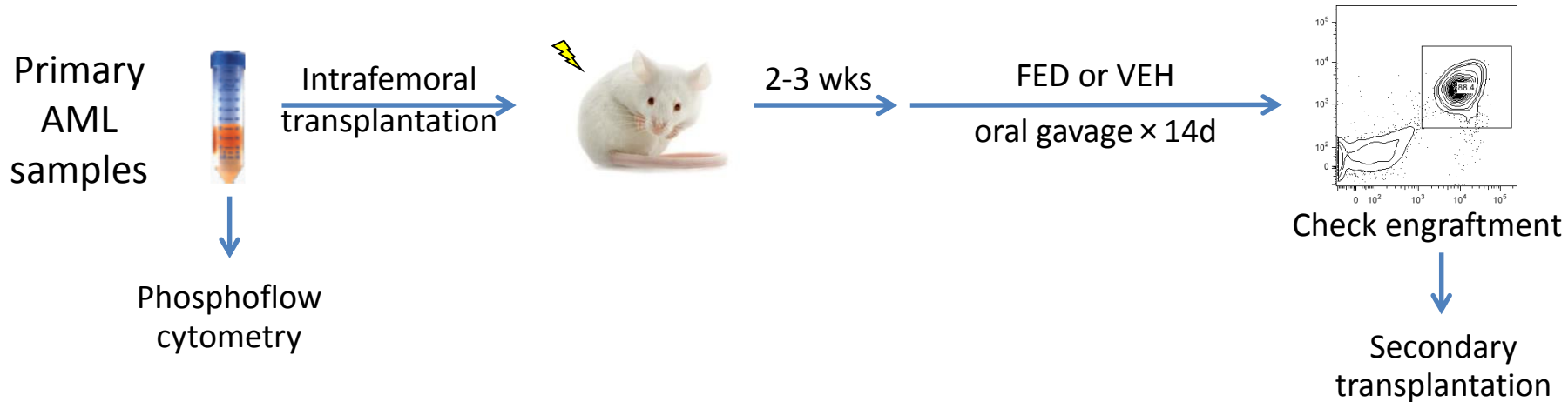


○ 080179
△ 090668
□ 090295

Heterogeneous response to a JAK2 inhibitor in AML



Heterogeneous response to a JAK2 inhibitor in AML



34 patient samples

“Model” Clinical Trial

Heterogeneous response

17/34 Responders (50%)



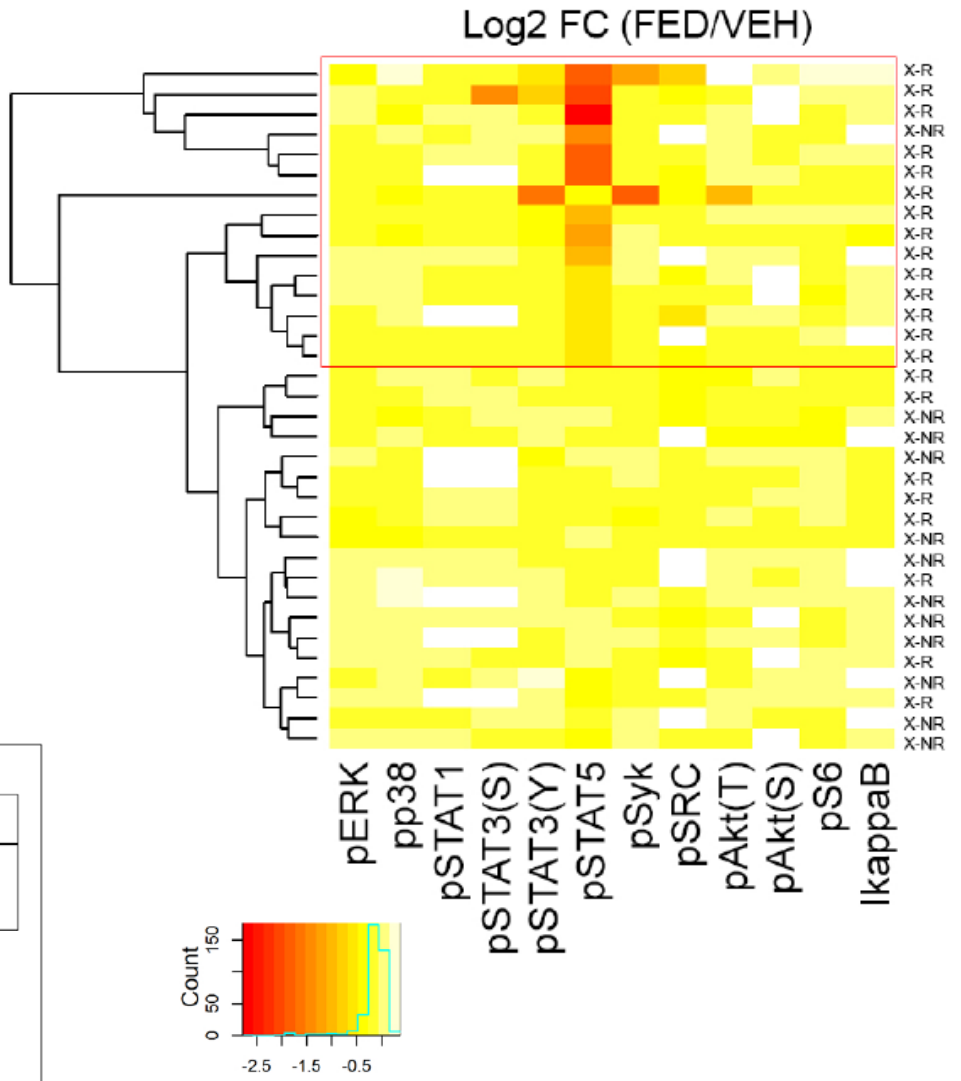
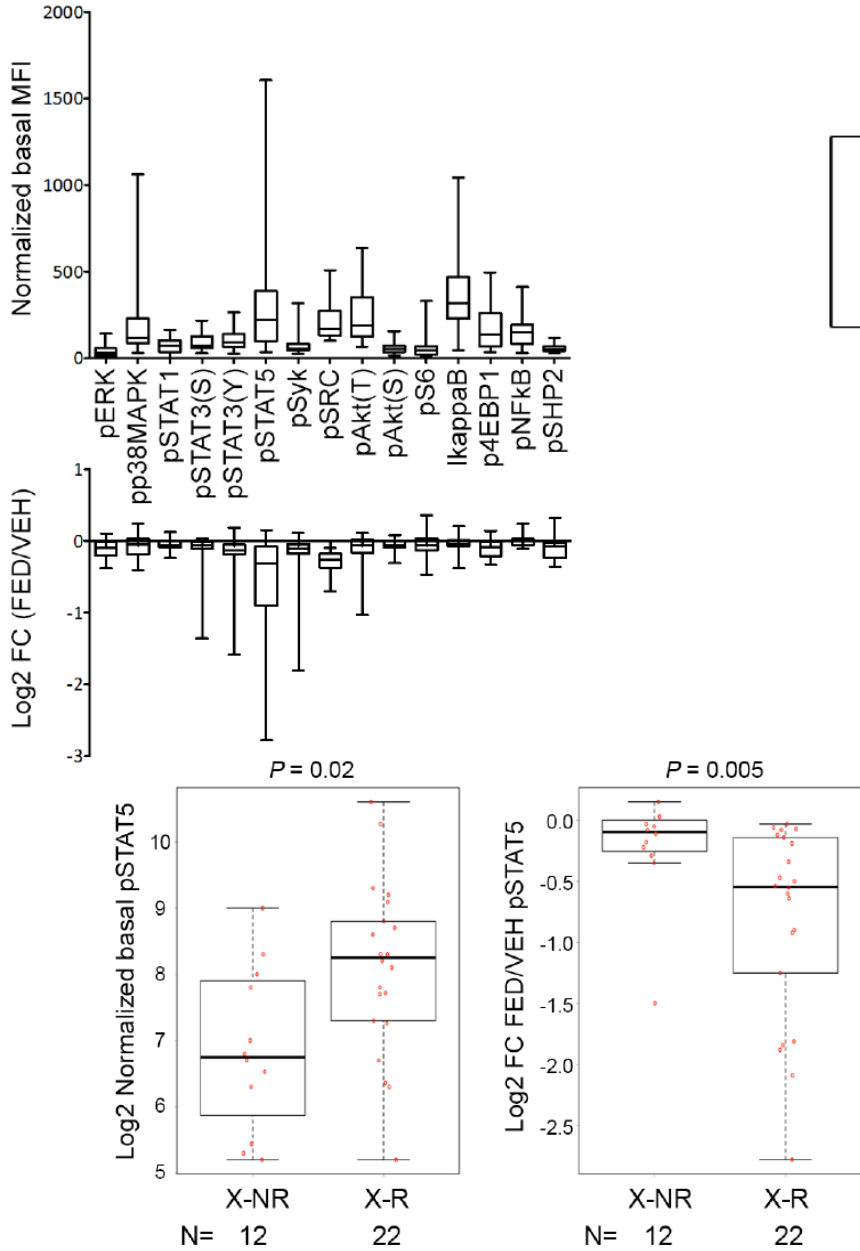
5/34 Partial Responders (15%)



12/34 Non-Responders (35%)



FED-sensitive pSTAT5 provides a biomarker of *in vivo* response to FED



FED-sensitive pSTAT5 provides a biomarker of *in vivo* response to FED

In vivo drug response

17/34 Responders (50%)



5/34 Partial Responders (15%)



12/34 Non-Responders (35%)



PF Responders



PF Non-Responders



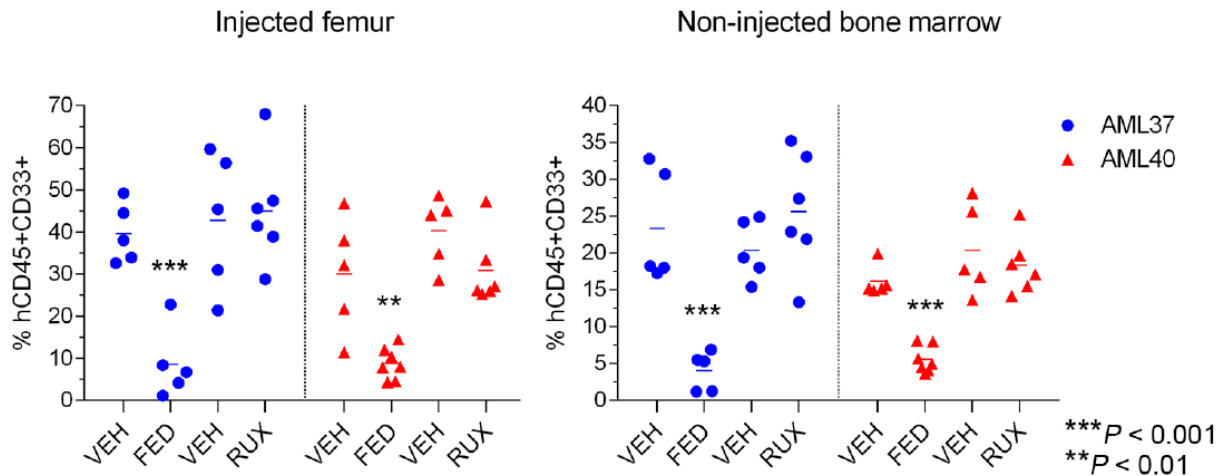
PF Response:
Log₂ FC ≥ 0.4

Sensitivity 64%

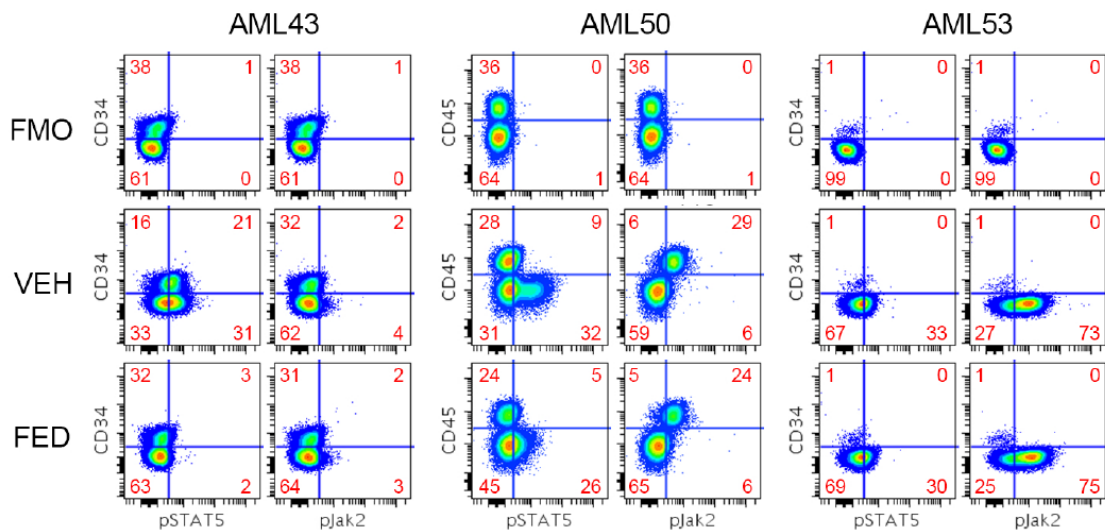
Specificity 92%

Positive predictive value 93%

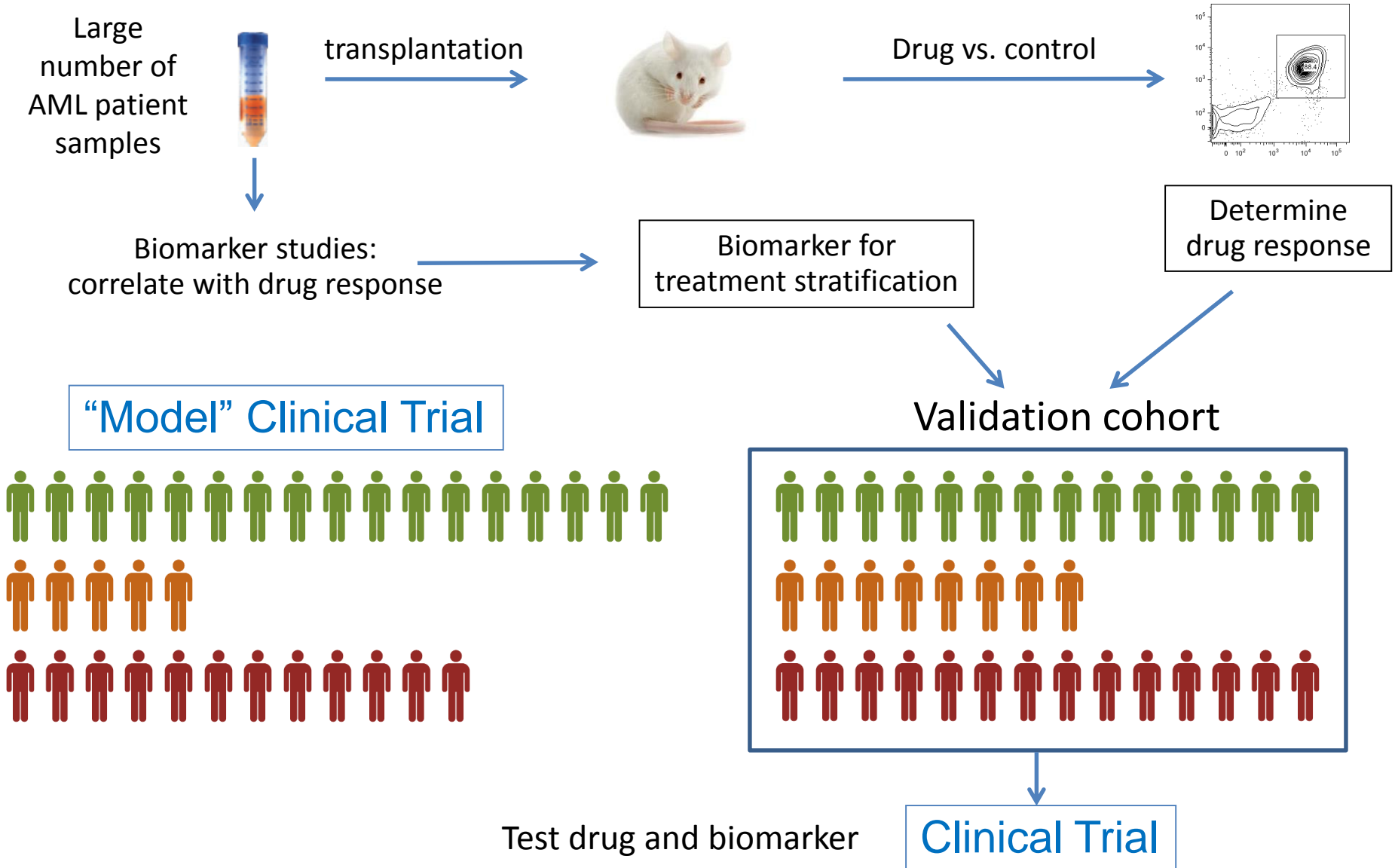
Discordant responses to FED and RUX – a non-JAK2-dependent mechanism



Sample ID	FLT3-ITD	In vivo response		Log2FC drug/veh pSTAT5	
		FED	RUX	FED	RUX
AML48	+	PR	NR	-1.22	-0.2
AML37	+	R	NR	-1.52	-0.48
AML38	+	R	PR	-0.52	-0.07
AML40	+	R	NR	-0.76	0.15
AML2	+	R	NR	-2.09	ND
AML12	+	PR	NR	-3.03	-0.44
AML43	+	R	NR	-1.6	-0.21
AML1	-	R	NR	-0.35	-0.01
AML36	-	R	NR	-0.03	0.04
AML7	-	R	PR	-0.56	-0.64



A better strategy for anti-cancer drug development



Acknowledgements



Cancer Stem Cell Program

Jean Wang
John Dick

Amanda Mitchell
Claire Chen

Jessica McLeod
Nathan Mbong
Andreea Popescu
Liqing Jin
Jenny Ho

Kolja Eppert
Eric Lechman
James Kennedy



Bioinformatics / Biostatistics

Peter Zandstra
Stanley Ng

PM Leukemia Bank

Mark Minden
Andrea Arruda
Narmin Ibrahimova
Jaime Claudio

PM Leukemia Group

Aaron Schimmer
Karen Yee
Vikas Gupta
Andre Schuh
Steve Chan
Tracy Murphy

The Princess Margaret
Cancer Foundation  UHN



UNIVERSITÄTSKLINIKUM ULM
Akademie für Gesundheitsberufe

Christian Buske
Lars Bullinger



Klaus Metzler
Tobias Herold



Alfa Leukemia French Association

0701 trial (GO)

Meyling Cheok
Claude Preudhomme
Hervé Dombret



BC Cancer Agency
CARE + RESEARCH

Donna Hogge
Yan Xing
Gitte Gerhard
Sophie Perdu
Yulia Merkulova
Amanda Kotzer



Phosphoflow cytometry

Cynthia Guidos
Julie Yuan
Stevan Lauriault
Goce Bogdanoski



LIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR REGENERATIVE MEDICINE



CIHR IRSC
Canadian Institutes of Health Research
Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada