

Dissecting CLL Immunogenetics and Emerging B Cell Receptor Stereotypes

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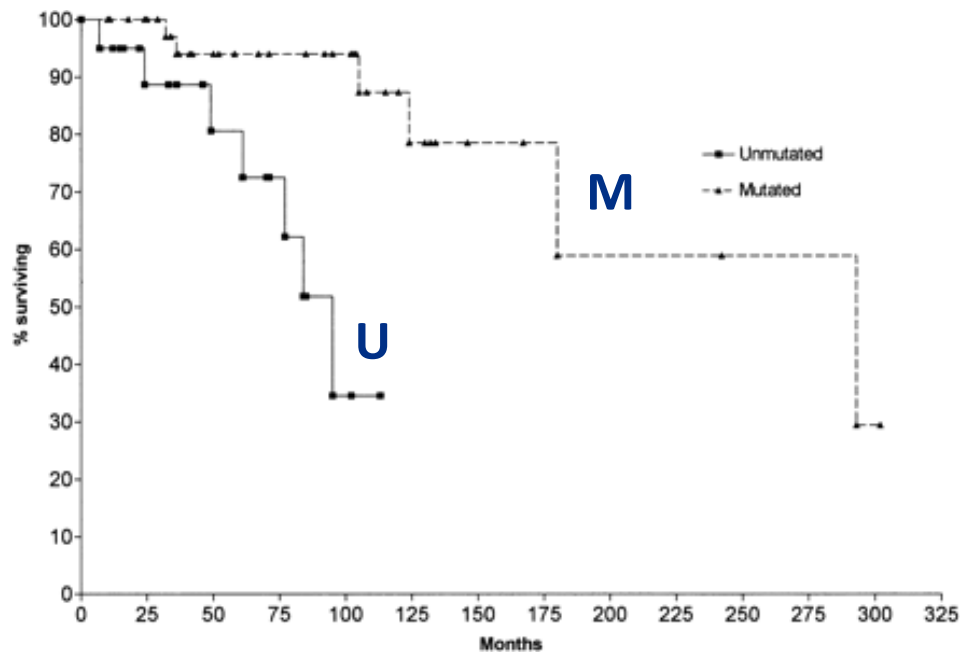
Disclosures

Janssen – research funding, honoraria

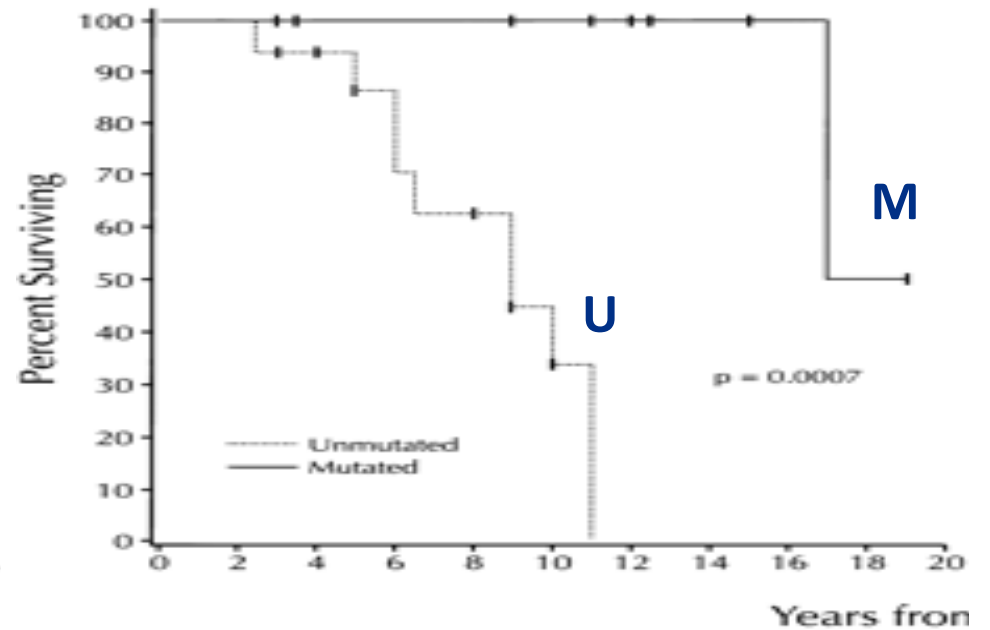
Abbvie – research funding, honoraria

Gilead Sciences – research funding, honoraria

CLL: better with mutated IG receptors



Hamblin et al, Blood 1999

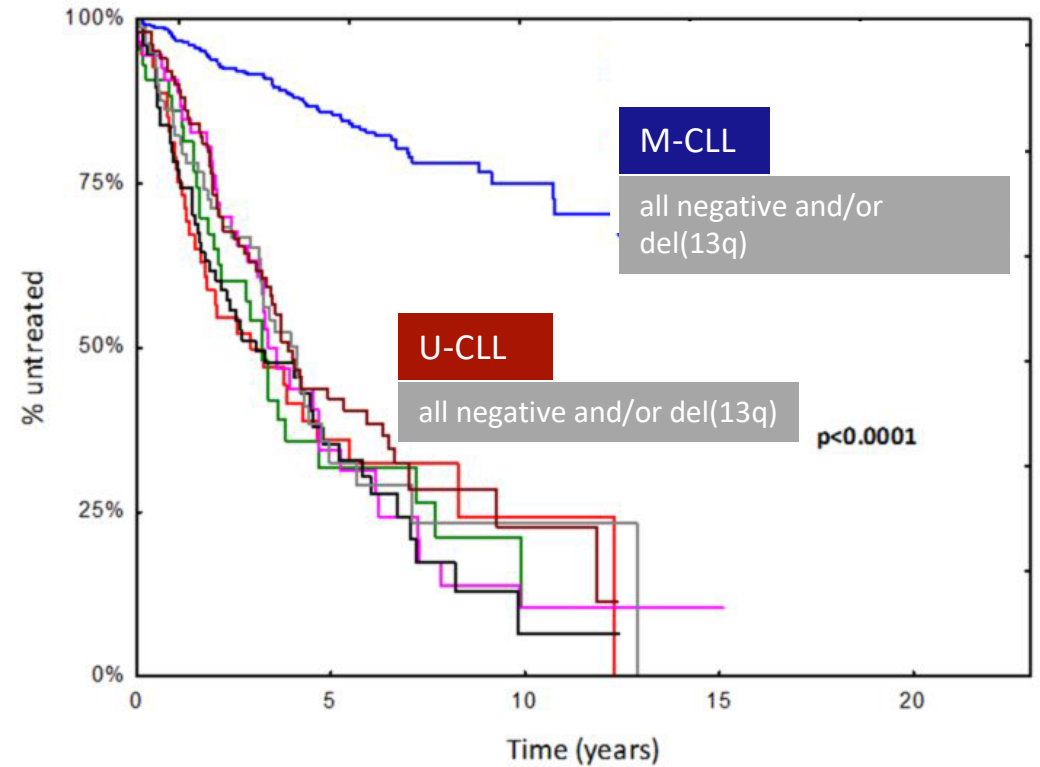


Damle et al., Blood 1999

immunogenetics in context

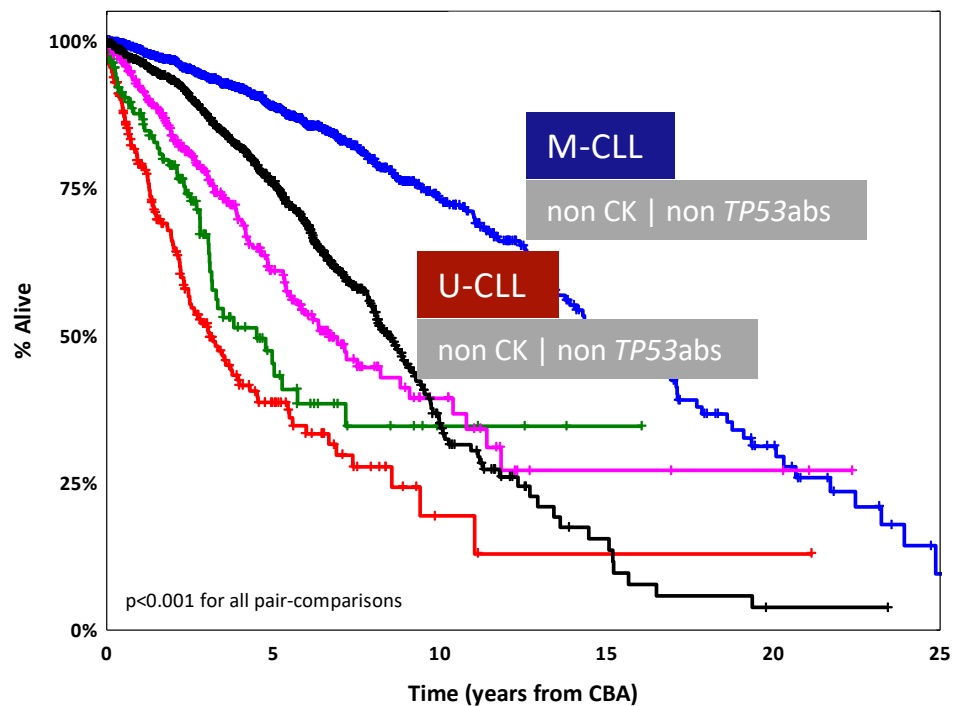
in the context of?
genomic aberrations

TP53, NOTCH1, SF3B1 mutations
del(11q), del(13q), del(17p), +12



in the context of?
genomic aberrations

TP53 mutations
complex karyotype



U-CLL: unmutated IGHV; M-CLL: mutated IGHV
CK: complex karyotype; TP53abs: del(17p) and/or TP53 mutation

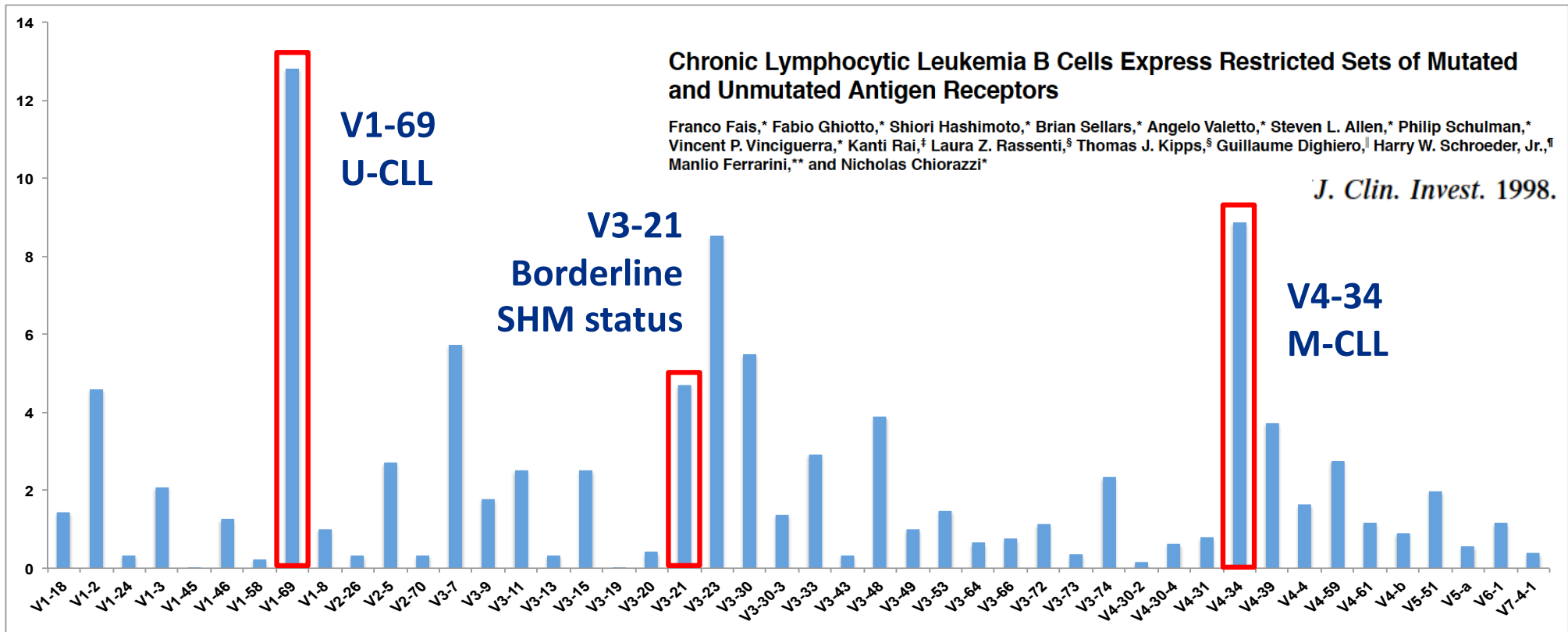
Baliakas et al. Blood 2019

BcR IG

the ultimate driver?

why?

CLL clones express a restricted IG gene repertoire



Fais et al. *J Clin Invest* 1998; Murray et al. *Blood* 2008; Agathangelidis et al. *Blood* 2012

Chronic lymphocytic leukemias utilizing the V_H3-21 gene display highly restricted V_λ2-14 gene use and homologous CDR3s: implicating recognition of a common antigen epitope

Gerard Tobin, Ulf Thunberg, Anna Johnson, Inger Eriksson, Ola Söderberg, Karin Karlsson, Mats Merup, Gunnar Juliusson, Juhani Vilpo, Gunilla Enblad, Christer Sundström, Göran Roos, and Richard Rosenquist

BLOOD, 15 JUNE 2003 • VOLUME 101

Multiple Distinct Sets of Stereotyped Antigen Receptors Indicate a Role for Antigen in Promoting Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

Bradley T. Messmer,¹ Emilia Albesiano,¹ Dimitar G. Efremov,⁴ Fabio Ghiotto,^{2,3,4} Steven L. Allen,^{1,2} Jonathan Kolitz,^{1,2} Robin Foa,⁸ Rajendra N. Damle,^{1,2} Franco Fais,⁵ Davorka Messmer,¹ Kanti R. Rai,^{1,9,10} Manlio Ferrarini,^{6,7} and Nicholas Chiorazzi^{1,2}

J. Exp. Med. © The Rockefeller University
Volume 200, Number 4, August 16, 2004

~50% of IGHV3-21 CLL
carry (quasi)identical
BcR IG

stereotyped

repeated with limited
or no variation

probability that *two different B cell*
clones carry identical BcR IG

1:10⁻¹²

CLL is not an unfortunate
stroke of serendipity

antigen selection in CLL ontogeny

BcR IG stereotypes in CLL

frequency?

relation to somatic hypermutation status?

distinctive features?

implications for disease pathogenesis?

clinical significance?

2012

Stereotyped B-cell receptors in one-third of chronic lymphocytic leukemia: a molecular classification with implications for targeted therapies

Andreas Agathangelidis,¹ Nikos Darzentas,¹ Anastasia Hadzidimitriou,¹ Xavier Brochet,² Fiona Murray,³ Xiao-Jie Yan,⁴ Zadie Davis,⁵ Ellen J. van Gastel-Mol,⁶ Cristina Tresoldi,⁷ Charles C. Chu,⁴ Nicola Cahill,⁸ Veronique Giudicelli,² Boris Tichy,⁹ Lone Bredo Pedersen,¹⁰ Letizia Foroni,¹¹ Lisa Bonello,¹² Agnieszka Janus,¹³ Karin Smedby,¹⁴ Achilles Anagnostopoulos,¹⁵ Helene Merle-Beral,¹⁶ Nikolaos Laoutaris,¹⁷ Gunnar Juliusson,¹⁸ Paola Francia di Celle,¹² Sarka Pospisilova,⁹ Jesper Jurlander,¹⁰ Christian Geisler,¹⁰ Athanasios Tsaftaris,¹ Marie-Paule Lefranc,² Anton W. Langerak,⁶ David Graham Oscier,⁵ Nicholas Chiorazzi,⁴ Chrysoula Belessi,¹⁷ Frederic Davi,¹⁶ Richard Rosenquist,⁸ Paolo Ghia,¹³ and Kostas Stamatopoulos^{1,15}



11 institutions

7424 patients

BcR stereotypy: 33%
'major' subsets

2019

New York

Bournemouth

London

Paris

Rotterdam

Brno

Thessaloniki

Milan

Montpellier

Athens

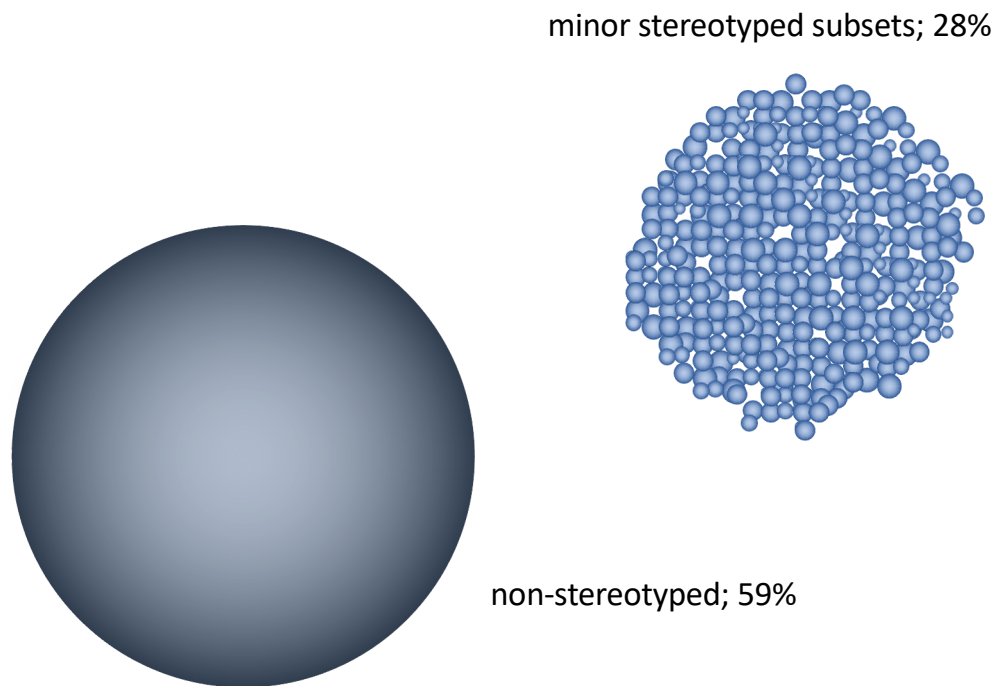
Uppsala

Copenhagen

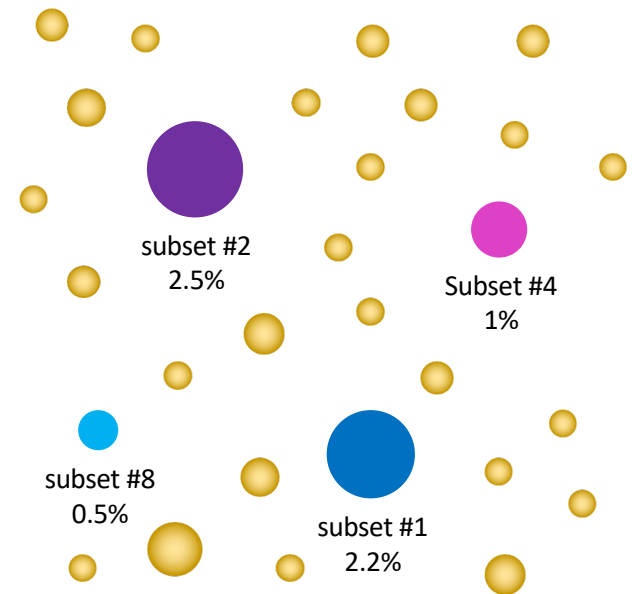
28 institutes
31000 patients

BcR stereotypy: **41%**

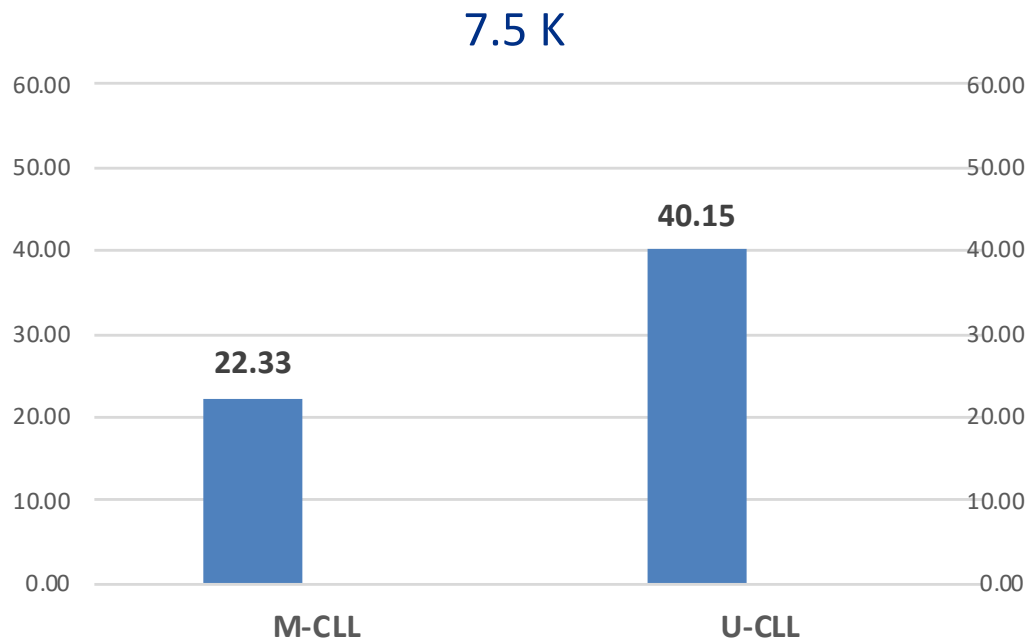
few stereotyped subsets account for a sizeable fraction of all CLL



4 major stereotyped subsets; ~7% of all CLL

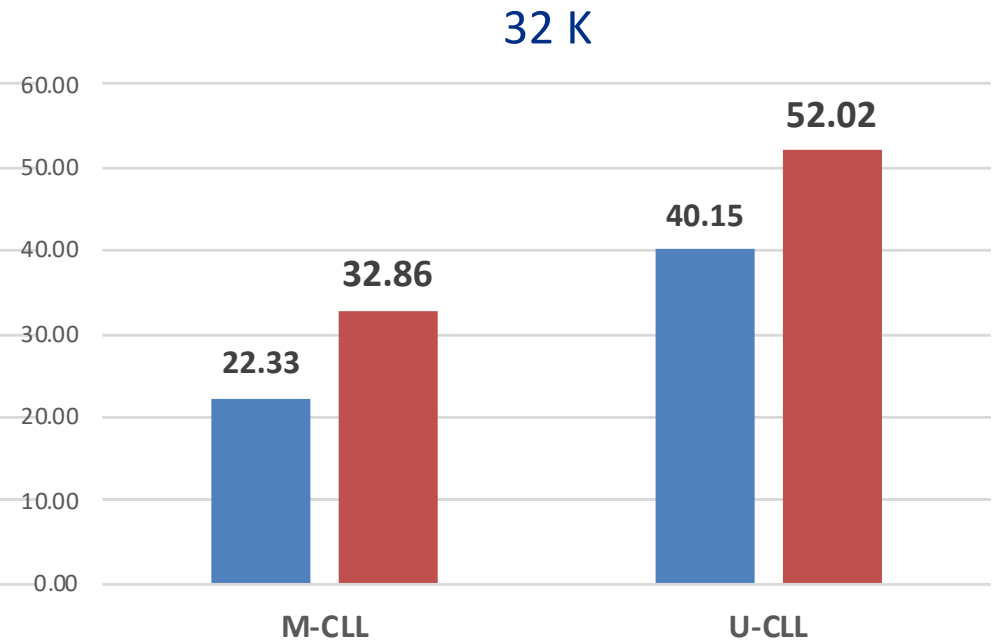


stereotypy is more frequent in U-CLL



Agathangelidis et al. Blood 2012

stereotypy is not infrequent in M-CLL



Agathangelidis et al. in preparation

speculation

with a relevant increase in numbers, perhaps all CLL may turn out stereotyped

question

did we previously miss
stereotypes in M-CLL?

M-CLL subsets often carry degenerate motifs

subset #63



IGHD gene	%
IGHD1-1*01 F	7,69
IGHD1-14*01 ORF	11,54
IGHD1-7*01 F	3,85
IGHD2-15*01 F	7,69
IGHD2-2*02 F	3,85
IGHD2-21*02 F	3,85
IGHD2-8*01 F	3,85
IGHD3-10*01 F	3,85
IGHD4-11*01 ORF	3,85
IGHD4-17*01 F	7,69
IGHD4-23*01 ORF	11,54
IGHD5-18*01 F	3,85
IGHD6-19*01 F	7,69
IGHD6-25*01 F	3,85
IGHD6-6*01 F	3,85
<u>IGHD7-27*01 F</u>	<u>11,54</u>

IGHJ gene	%
IGHJ1*01 F	15,38
IGHJ3*02 F	3,85
IGHJ4*02 F	26,92
IGHJ5*01 F	42,31
<u>IGHJ6*02 F</u>	<u>11,54</u>

M-CLL subsets often carry degenerate motifs

subset #123



IGHD gene	%
IGHD1-1*01 F	10,81
IGHD1-14*01 ORF	2,70
IGHD1-26*01 F	2,70
IGHD1-7*01 F	2,70
IGHD2-2*01 F	5,41
IGHD2-8*01 F	2,70
IGHD3-16*02 F	5,41
IGHD4-17*01 F	10,81
IGHD4-23*01 ORF	5,41
IGHD5-12*01 F	5,41
IGHD5-18*01 F	13,51
IGHD5-24*01 ORF	5,41
IGHD6-19*01 F	2,70
IGHD6-25*01 F	2,70
IGHD6-6*01 F	2,70
<u>IGHD7-27*01 F</u>	<u>18,92</u>

IGHJ gene	%
IGHJ1*01 F	16,33
IGHJ4*02 F	42,86
IGHJ5*01 F	38,78
<u>IGHJ6*02 F</u>	<u>2,04</u>

is there additional proof that
they are truly stereotyped?

stereotyped SHM

compelling evidence for

subset #63

```
QVQLQESGP.GLVKPSQTLSTCTVSGGSIS.SSGDYYSWIRQPPGKGLEWIGYIYYSD...GSTYYNPSLK.SRVTISVDTSKNQFSLKLSVTAADTAVYYC
V...A...G...V...G...H...I...N...H...T...V...
T...T...G...V...E...V...G...D...S...F...H...I...H...T...Q...T...V...
V...N...G...V...A...G...N...S...F...H...I...A...T...L...R...T...
NE...G...V...A...G...N...G...D...I...D...N...L...
V...G...L...G...N...G...D...I...D...N...L...
T...A...F...R...G...P...H...L...I...R...R...T...
S...V...T...A...G...V...G...N...H...S...L...I...R...Q...T...
Q...V...V...T...E...G...E...R...M...G...T...D...H...I...N...I...A...S...R...T...V...
E...E...G...M...M...F...G...A...H...L...I...T...T...
T...T...N...A...A...G...M...G...P...H...L...D...L...R...T...N...D...
R...K...S...A...P...V...T...N...E...F...G...R...G...G...S...G...H...L...I...R...T...N...D...M...
V...N...F...G...V...R...N...H...E...L...I...R...T...T...L...
A...V...N...G...V...G...T...S...S...S...A...H...I...D...T...D...
Q...E...A...V...N...T...F...G...S...R...T...G...N...P...H...L...A...I...S...F...T...D...
L...V...S...G...A...H...I...N...I...T...T...D...
R...A...V...D...G...G...A...H...I...I...R...M...T...T...I...
S...E...S...A...G...V...T...G...N...H...L...I...A...R...T...V...
S...E...S...V...A...G...V...V...G...S...H...L...N...I...K...R...T...I...
T...A...G...T...V...G...P...F...H...L...I...N...Q...T...S...
H...V...E...A...S...V...T...N...S...G...F...I...A...H...I...N...T...I...
V...T...L...G...V...A...M...G...A...R...G...H...L...D...I...T...Q...T...V...I...
V...T...N...T...A...S...R...Y...I...L...G...S...S...H...D...M...I...E...R...I...
E...S...D...V...T...T...G...R...L...F...G...N...S...L...A...T...H...
```

Agathangelidis et al. in preparation

stereotyped SHM

compelling evidence for

subset #123

```
QLQLQESGP.GLVKPSSETLSLTCTVSGGSI.S.S.S.YYWGWI.RQPPGK.GLEWIGSI.YYS...GSTYYNPSLK.SRVTI.SVDTSKNQFSLK.LS.SVTAADTAV.YYC
.....D.V.T.....D.....NF.G...I.S.S.....H.I.....Q.T.....I
.....V.G.....D.....S.....NV.G...N.F...A.H...I.....T.....M
.....A.V.....D.....A.....NV.G...D.S.....H.I.....I.....R.....S.T.....T.....L
.....N.....V.....D.F...V.S.....NM.G...S.S.....H.I.....I.....T.....T.....L
.....A.V.....R.D.F...V.S.E.R.....I.V.F.G...A.P.D...H.A.L.....I.....S.T.....I
.....A.V.....D.....V.S.E.R.....Y.V.F.G...T.S.D...H.....L.H.....L.S.T.....I
.....G.N.....T.....H.....I.....I.....V.T
.....A.P.V.....D.....V.S.....T.L.G...S.....H.....N
.....V.....N.V.D...R.....T.M.G...A.S.D...H.....M.I.....E...R...I.....I
.....P...C...V.....D.....A.....T.L.G...T.S.S...H.....I.....L.....T...T...M.....I
.....N.....V.A.V.....N.N.D...E.S.....T.....G...T.E...H.....T.....T.....G
.....N.F.N.Y.V.....T.D.F...V.S.....T.M.G...K.S.S...A.H.....I.....S.T...M...G
.....L.....T.V.....N.R.D...V.S.E.A.....T.V.F.G...A.S.S...H.....D.L...A...R...T.....L
.....V.N.N.G.D.F.....T.V.G...D.....I.H.....L.....Y...N.....L
.....N.....V.....N.D.....T.....G...S.....H.....I.....R.....L
.....A.....S.....P.V.....D.....T.E.....Y.....G...N.....H.....R.....T
```

Agathangelidis et al. in preparation

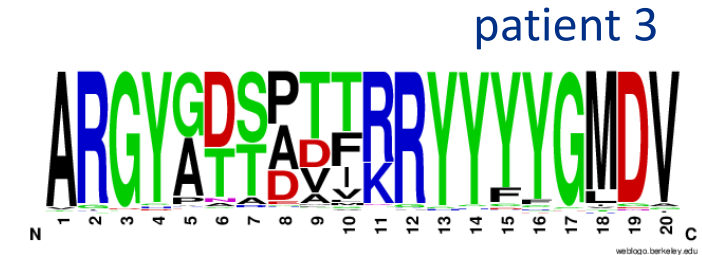
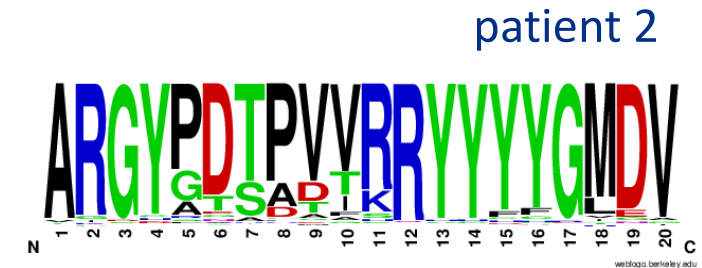
compelling evidence for

intra-subset heterogeneity reflected intraclonally

subset #4



VH CDR3s of
265 different cases
Sanger data



VH CDR3s of hundreds of subclones of
individual cases
NGS data

Gemenetzi et al. iwCLL 2019

stereotyped subsets can appear very similar

subset #7A1

VH CDR3 length: 22 amino acids



subset #7A2

VH CDR3 length: 22 amino acids



subset #N23-1-2

VH CDR3 length: 22 amino acids



subset #7B2

VH CDR3 length: 23 amino acids



subset #V1-2/23-1

VH CDR3 length: 23 amino acids



subset #7D2

VH CDR3 length: 25 amino acids



U-CLL

Agathangelidis et al. in preparation

stereotyped subsets can appear very similar

subset #148A

VH CDR3 length: 16 amino acids



subset #148B

VH CDR3 length: 17 amino acids



subset #148C

VH CDR3 length: 18 amino acids



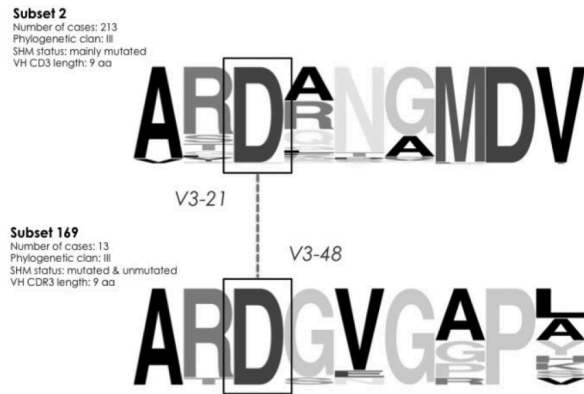
M-CLL

new concept

satellite subsets

the instructive case of subsets #2 and #169

9/acidic-3 VH CDR3



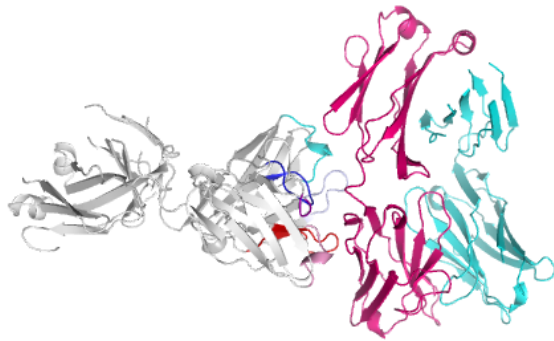
	Subset #2	Subset #169	
relative frequency	~3%	~0.2%	
IGHV gene	IGHV3-21	IGHV3-48	97% identical
Light chain	IGLV3-21	IGLV3-21	

Distinct homotypic B-cell receptor interactions
shape the outcome of chronic lymphocytic
leukaemia

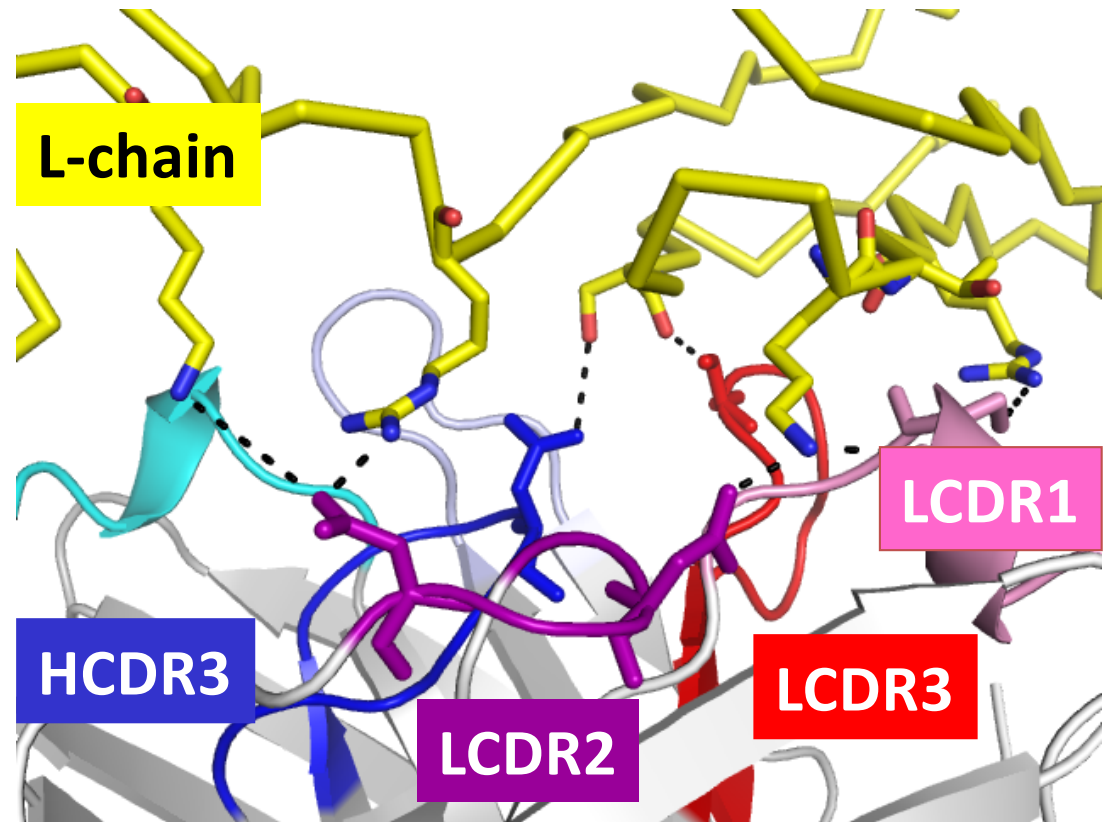
Claudia Minici^{1,2,*}, Maria Gounari^{3,*†}, Rudolf Übelhart⁴, Lydia Scarfo^{2,3,5}, Marcus Dühren-von Minden⁴,
Dunja Schneider⁶, Alpaslan Tasdogan⁴, Alabbas Alkhatib⁶, Andreas Agathangelidis³, Stavroula Ntoufa⁷, Nicholas
Chiorazzi⁸, Hassan Jumaa⁴, Kostas Stamatopoulos^{7,9}, Paolo Ghia^{2,3,5} & Massimo Degano¹

NATURE COMMUNICATIONS | 8:15746

subset #2 mAbs
homodimerize



interactions are CDR-mediated
mainly by the CDR2 of **IGLV3-21**



the instructive case of subsets #2 and #169

9/acidic-3 VH CDR3

Subset 2
 Number of cases: 213
 Phylogenetic clan: III
 SHM status: mainly mutated
 VH CDR3 length: 9 aa



Subset 169
 Number of cases: 13
 Phylogenetic clan: III
 SHM status: mutated & unmutated
 VH CDR3 length: 9 aa



SHM

Subset #2

Subset #169

M-CLL
 U-CLL

M-CLL
 U-CLL

borderline

Recurrent SHM

deletion
 in VH
 CDR2

?

present in all subset #169 cases at subclonal level
 NGS analysis | Gemenetzi et al. iwCLL 2019

the instructive case of subsets #2 and #169

9/acidic-3 VH CDR3

Recurrent SHM

Subset #2

R-to-G at the
VL-CL linker

Subset #169

?

critical for
self-association

Subset 2
Number of cases: 213
Phylogenetic clan: III
SHM status: mainly mutated
VH CDR3 length: 9 aa

ARD**D**ANGMDV
V3-21

Subset 169
Number of cases: 13
Phylogenetic clan: III
SHM status: mutated & unmutated
VH CDR3 length: 9 aa

ARDGV**G**APL
V3-48

present in all subset #169 cases at clonal level
NGS analysis | Gemenetzi et al. iwCLL 2019

the instructive case of subsets #2 and #169

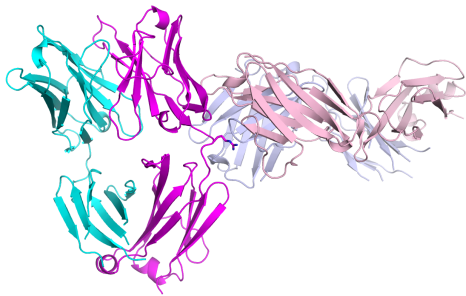
9/acidic-3 VH CDR3



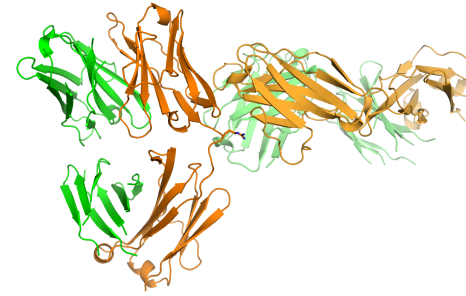
Subset #2	Subset #169
45%	43%
<i>SF3B1</i> mutations	<i>SF3B1</i> mutations

distinctive genomic background for a distinctive immunogenetic profile

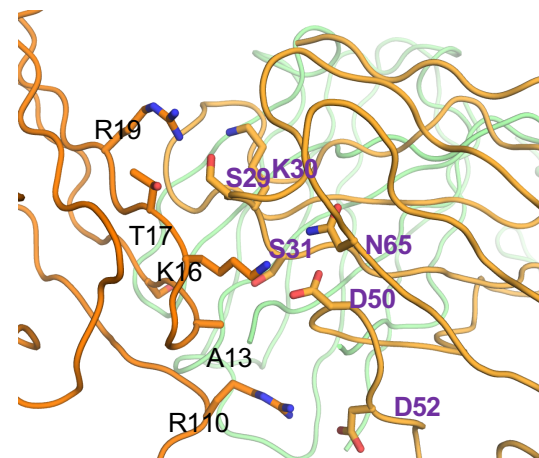
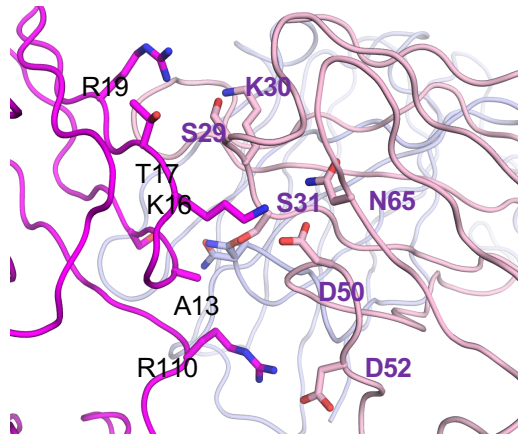
highly similar homotypic interactions in subsets #2 and #169



subset 2 BcR Fab



subset 169 BcR Fab



Confidential; courtesy Massimo Degano

reasonable
hypothesis

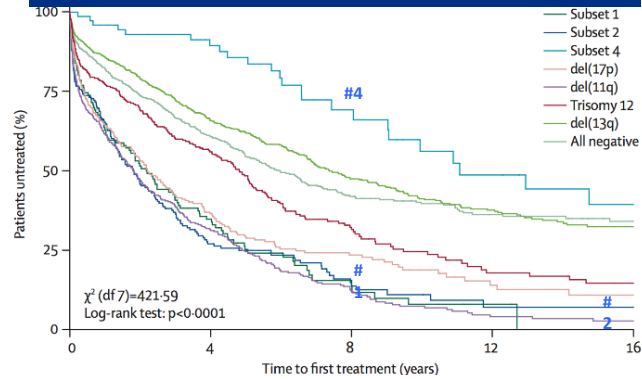
satellite subsets could share
similar pathophysiology

clinical question

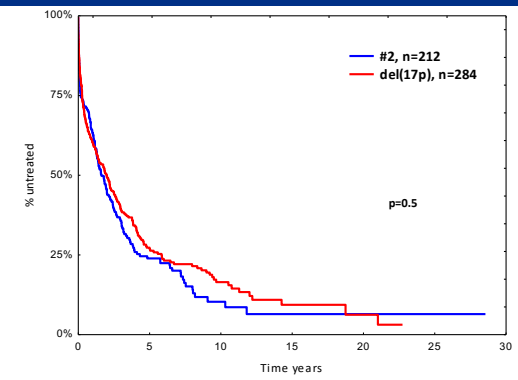
why care for subsets?

BcR stereotypy refines risk stratification

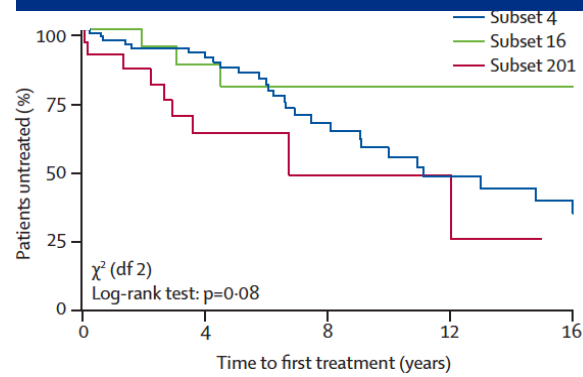
Distinct clinical outcomes for subsets #1, #2 and #4, independently of genomic aberrations or SHM status
Baliakas et al. Lancet Haematol. 2014



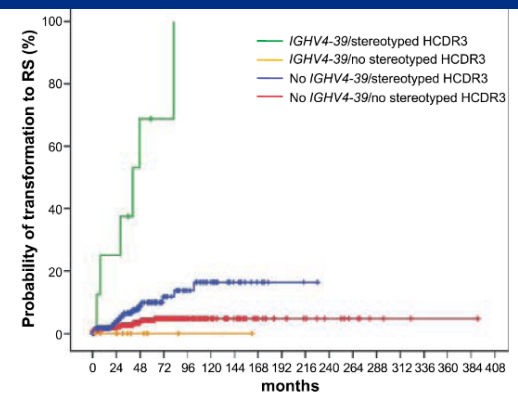
Subset #2 is as bad as CLL with TP53 aberrations though essentially devoid of such lesions
Baliakas et al. Blood 2015



All express IGHV4-34, all concern IG mutated CLL, yet the outcome is different
Xochelli et al. Clin Cancer Res 2017



Subset #8: the highest risk for Richter's transformation amongst all CLL
Rossi et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2009



Subset #2 is an independent marker for unfavorable prognosis

assessment within prospective GCLLSG clinical trials

Jaramillo et al. iwCLL 2019

**subset #2
should be
proposed for
risk
stratification of
patients**

**subset #2
patients do not
benefit from
chemo
immunotherapy**

the instructive case of subsets #2 and #169

9/acidic-3 VH CDR3

Subset 2

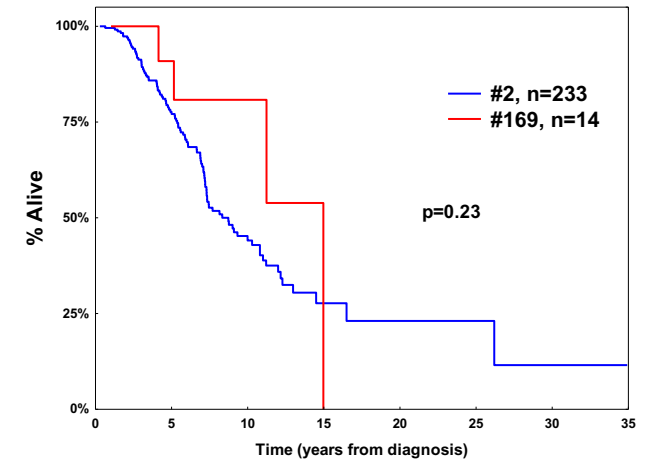
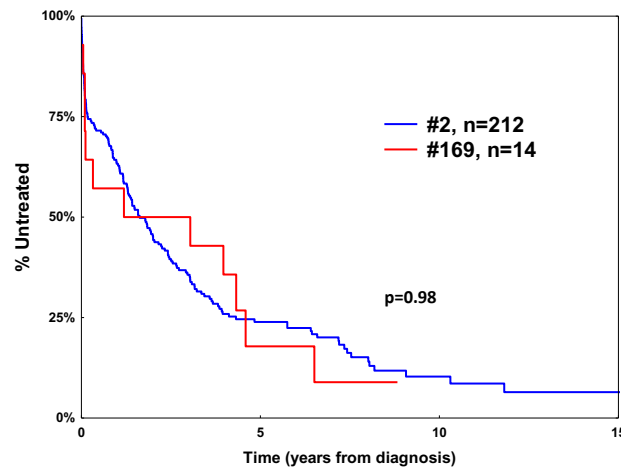
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ARD**D**ENGMDV
V3-21

Subset 169

Number of cases: 13
Phylogenetic clan: III
SHM status: mutated & unmutated
VH CDR3 length: 9 aa

ARDGVGAP**L**
V3-48



similar clinical courses and outcomes

argument

satellite subsets could share similar pathophysiology,
reflected in a **similar clonal behavior**

implications for risk stratification

*conclusions and (reasonable)
speculations*

BCR IG stereotypy...

is the strongest molecular evidence for antigen selection in CLL ontogeny

is a powerful means for breaking down CLL into subsets with homogeneous profiles

has contributed to the identification of distinct pathobiological mechanisms and processes shaping the clonal history in each subset

may prove key to overcoming the remarkable heterogeneity of CLL

emerges as relevant for implementing tailored therapeutic approaches in line with the principle of precision medicine

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