



# Enfermedad residual medible en LLC Realmente necesitamos medirla en LATAM?

Dra Victoria Irigoín  
Uruguay





# Conflictos de interes

Honorarios por conferencia: Abbvie, Roche

Honorarios advisory board: Abbvie, Roche



EMR

Concepto vs Utilidad clínica



# Concepto

ERM traduce profundidad de respuesta y por tanto de "potencia" del tratamiento

Predictor potente de resultados (PFS) en tratamientos de duración finita.

End point primario o secundario de varios ensayos clínicos.

No utilidad como predictor pronóstico en tratamientos prolongados basados en iBTK.



# Métodos para determinar EMR

**Table 1**  
**Currently applied methods for MRD assessment**

Method	Features	Advantages	Disadvantages
Flow cytometry	Detection of surface markers by established antibody panels, for example, CD5/CD19, CD20/CD38, CD81/CD22,CD79b/CD43 <sup>13</sup> Sensitivity with 4-color flow $10^{-4}$ , with 6-color flow $10^{-5}$	ERIC consensus guidelines available, widely accessible, relatively affordable, results with quantification relatively quick.	Fresh (<48 h) PB or BM samples necessary. Sufficient number of cells required to achieve sensitivity ( $\geq$ post-treatment cytopenia can be challenging). Sensitivity lower than PCR or NGS.
ASO PCR	Quantification based on allele- and patient-specific primers for hypervariable CDR3 of IgH. Sensitivity $10^{-5}$	Good sensitivity, usage of DNA (instead of fresh material). Quantitative results.	Patient-specific primers required, baseline reference sample necessary, relatively time and labor intensive.
NGS	Measurement of CLL-specific IgH sequences based on consensus primers. Sensitivity $10^{-6}$	High sensitivity, usage of DNA, tracking of clones possible, quantitative results.	Relatively expensive, baseline reference sample necessary, not widely used yet.

Método más frecuentemente utilizado  
Estandarizado. Panel (ERIC)  
Cutoff habitual  $1 \times 10^{-4}$

Requiere primers específicos para cada paciente  
Muestra inicial.

Costoso. Requiere muestra inicial





# Utilidad clínica

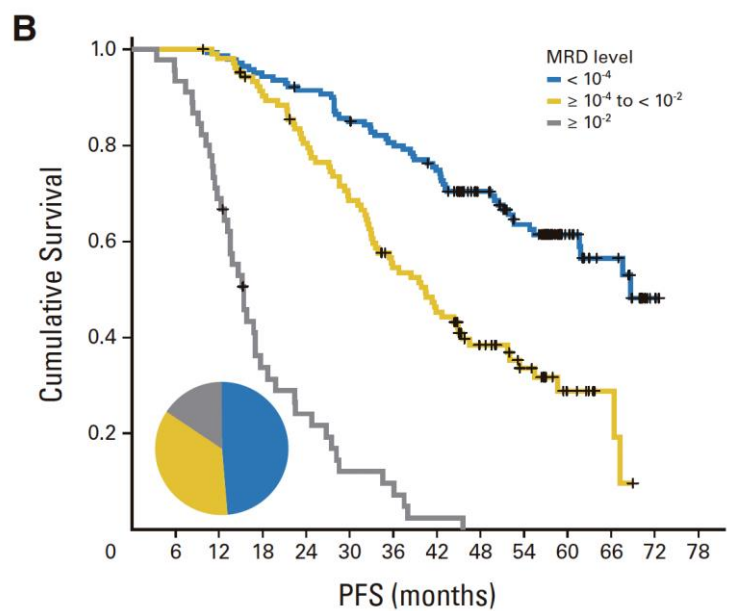
Para qué medir ERM?

Pronóstico

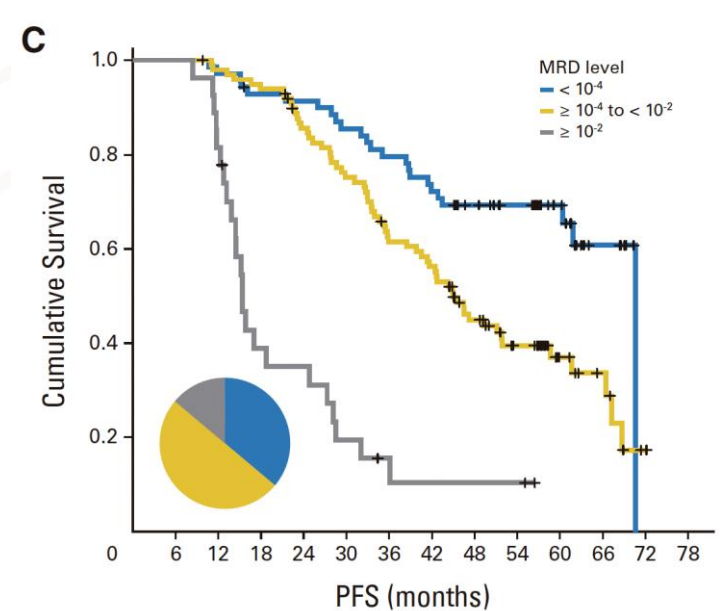
Guiar el  
tratamiento



## Valor pronóstico en la era QIT (CLL-8)



SP

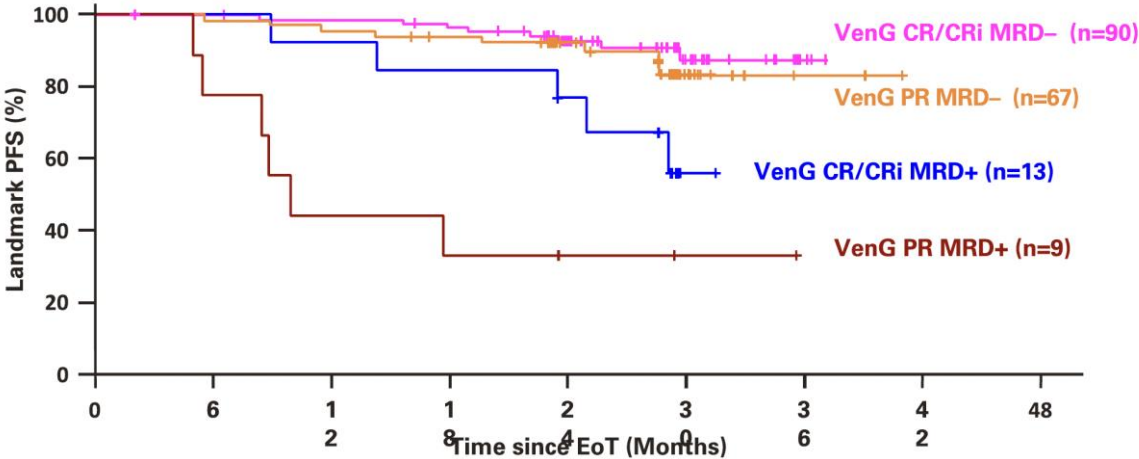
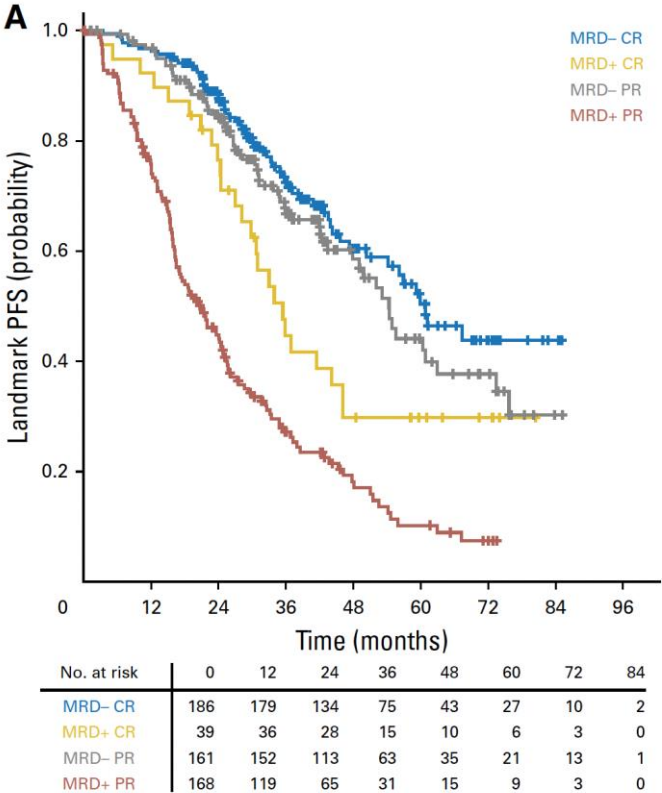


MO



# Relación entre uEMR y respuesta por iWCLL

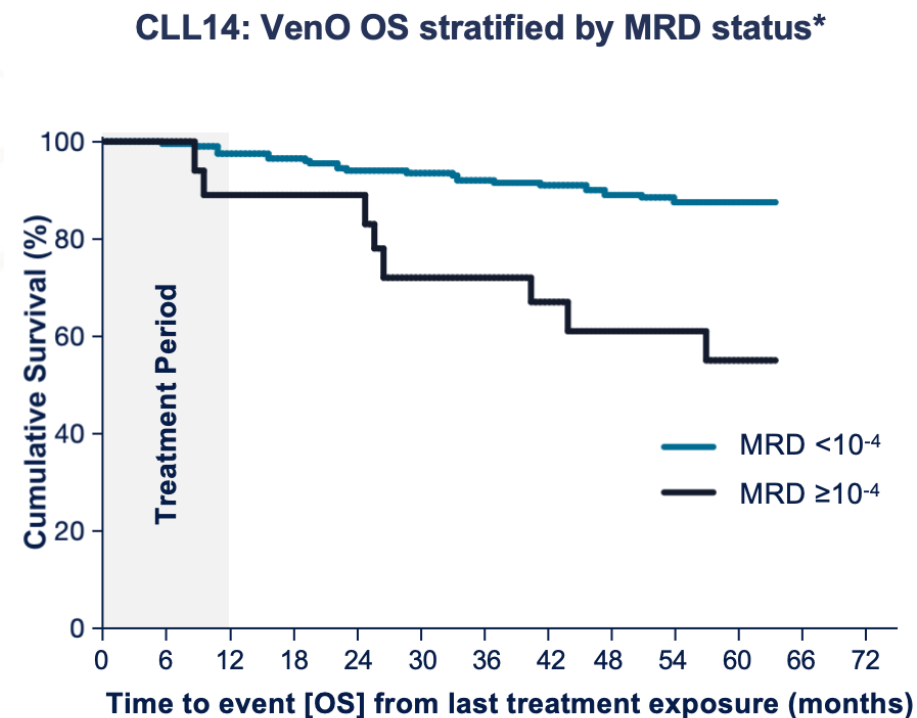
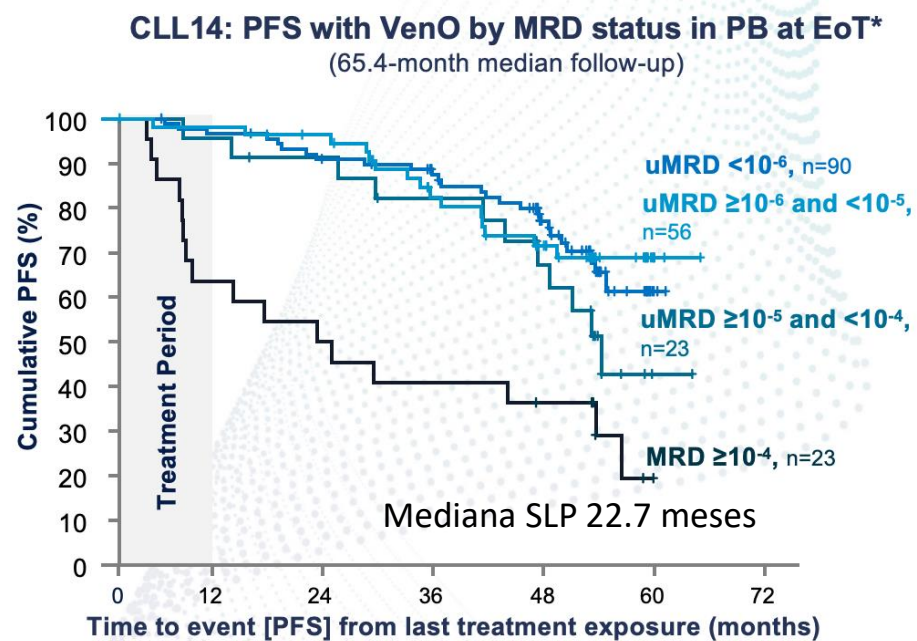
CLL-8 / CLL-10

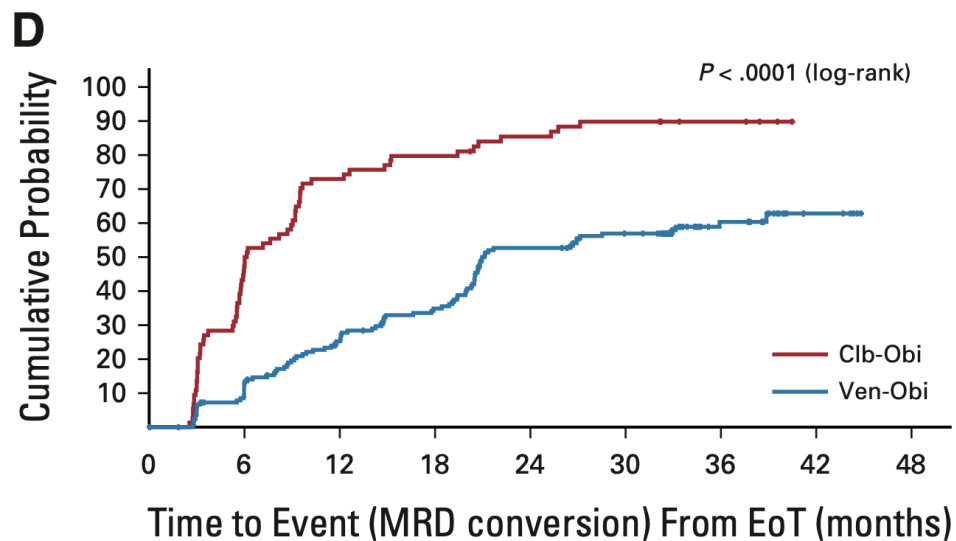






# Valor pronóstico en la era terapias dirigidas

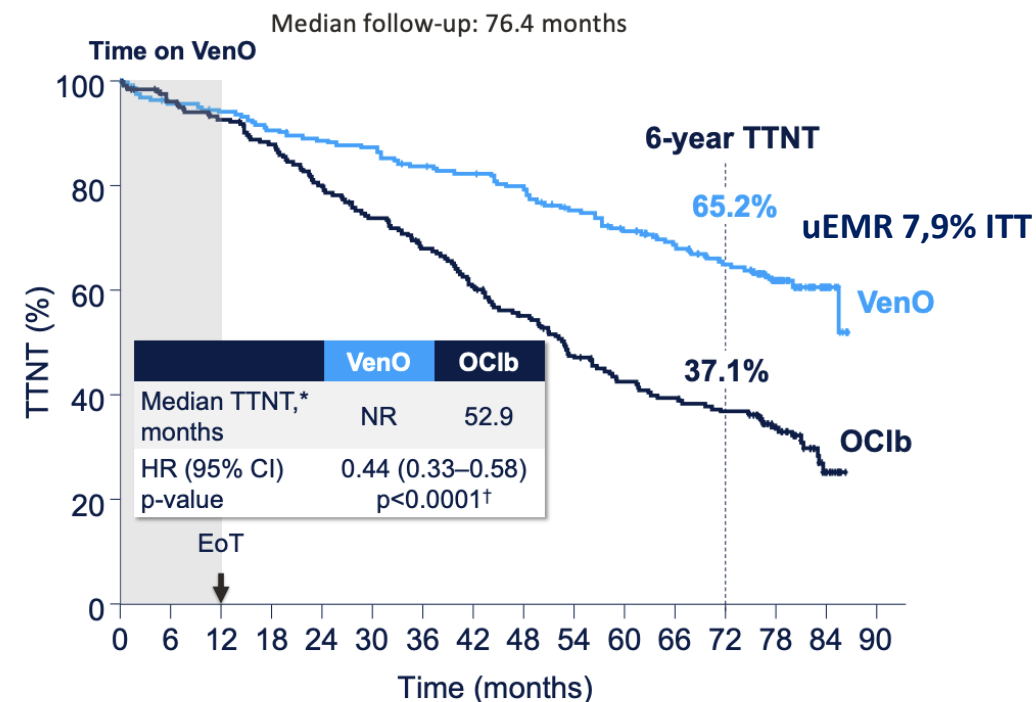




No. at risk:

Ven-Obi	169	142	118	100	71	59	28	5	0
Clb-Obi	74	39	20	15	10	7	4	0	0

Mediana de tiempo a la conversión de EMR por NGS  
(EMR  $< 10^{-4}$  EoT a  $> 10^{-4}$ ) 21 meses



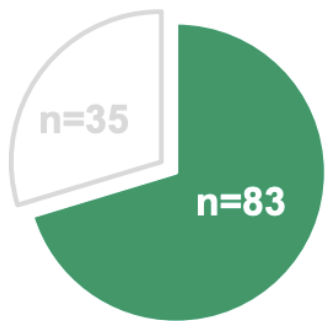
At risk:

VenO	216	198	195	188	183	180	172	168	161	150	140	130	118	73	20
OCib	216	203	194	183	166	153	140	125	111	94	83	77	70	46	10



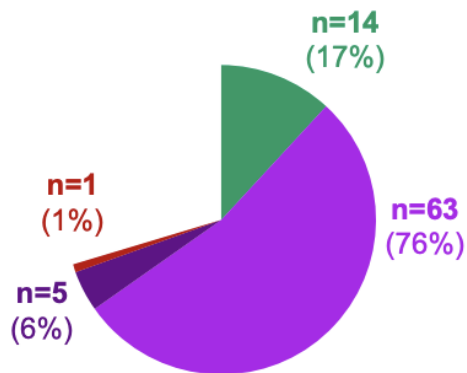
# Dinámica de la EMR

**MRD status at EOT**  
(n=118)



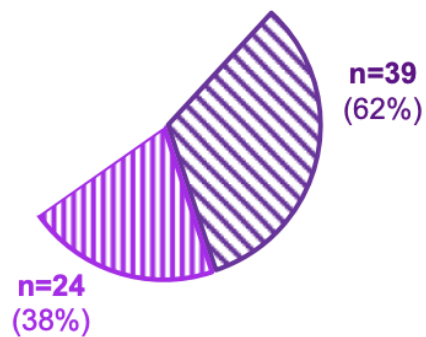
■ uMRD      □ MRD+

## MRD conversion after EOT



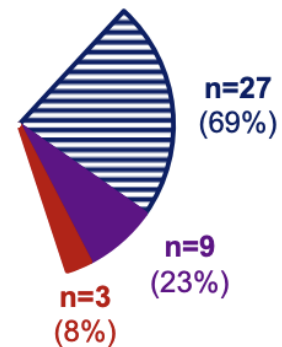
■ Sustained uMRD    ■ PD  
■ MRD conversion    ■ Death

### PD\* among patients with MRD conversion

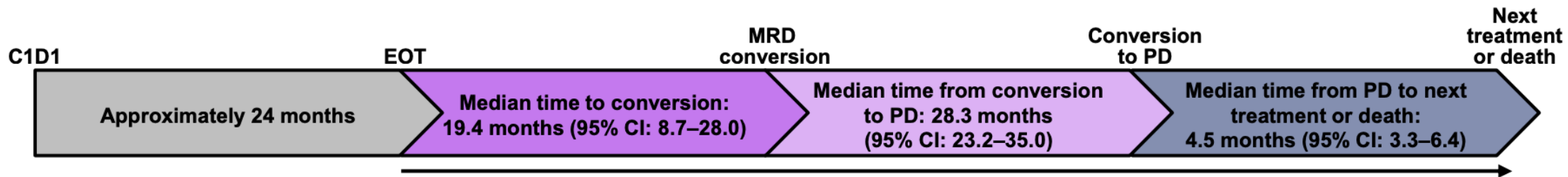


- MRD conversion with PD or death
- MRD conversion without PD or death

### Next treatment among patients with PD\*



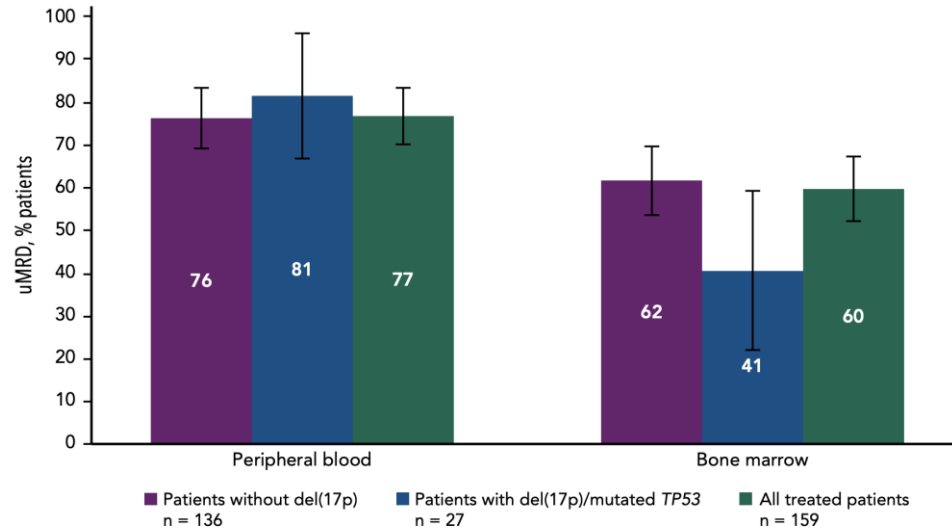
 New anti-leukemic treatment  
 PD       Death



## 4 años libres de tratamiento

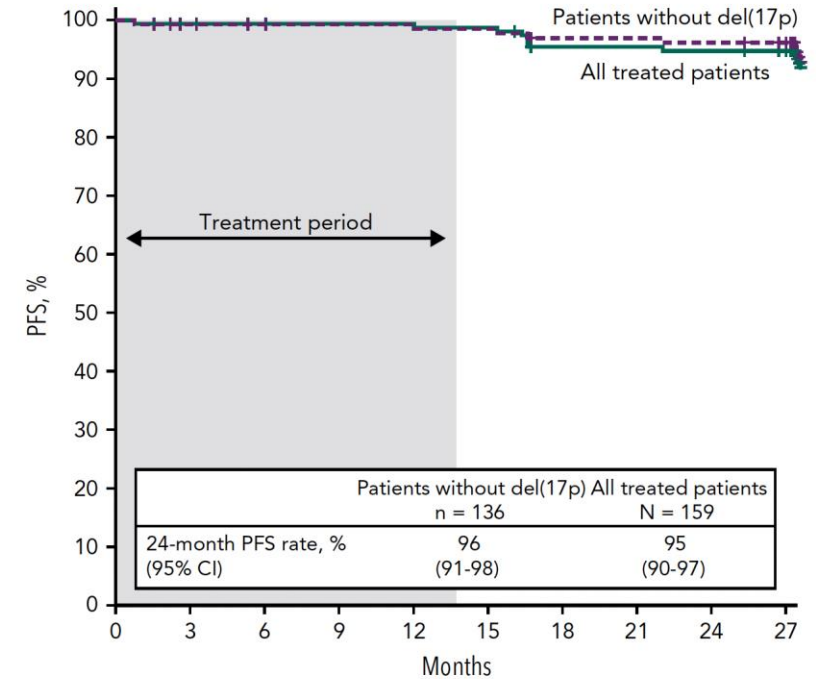


## CAPTIVATE: FD I + VEN



	CR*		PR†	
	uMRD in BM n = 51	Detectable MRD in BM n = 24	uMRD in BM n = 33	Detectable MRD in BM N = 29
24-month PFS rate, % (95% CI)	100 (100-100)	100 (100-100)	100 (100-100)	97 (78-99.5)

**A**



Patients at risk										
All treated patients	159	155	153	152	152	151	144	144	143	141
Patients without del(17p)	136	132	130	129	129	128	125	125	124	122

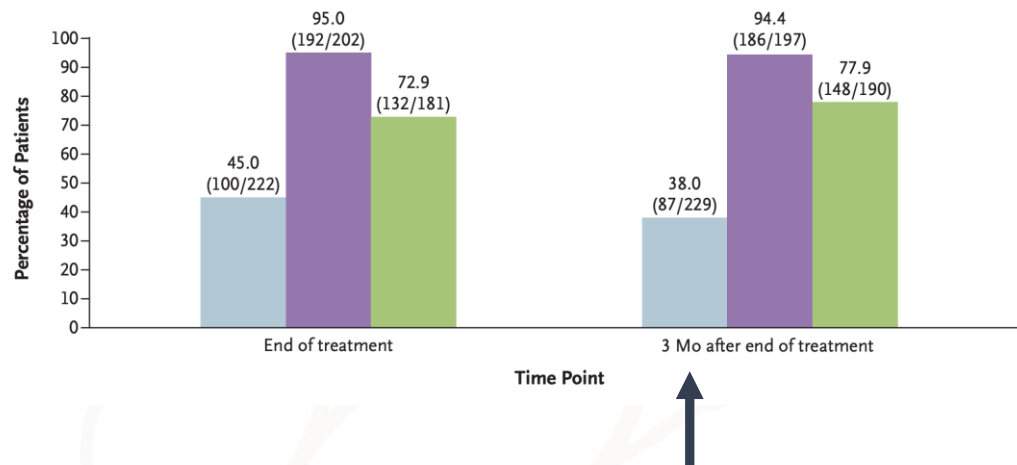
SLP estimada a 30 meses > 95%



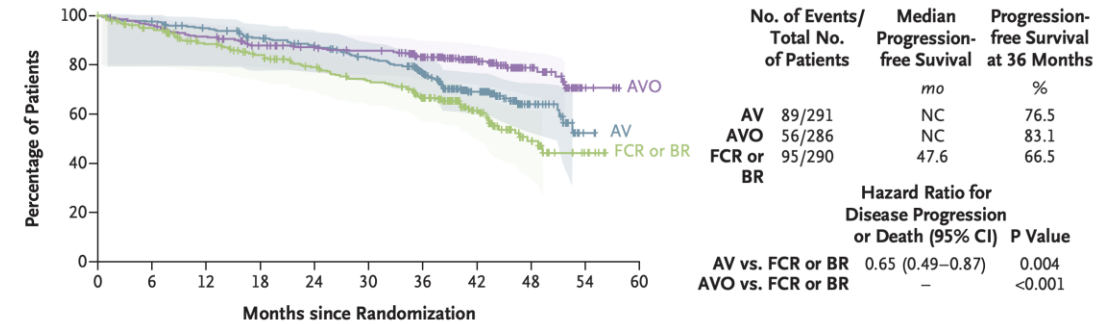


# AMPLIFY

**B** Undetectable MRD, Assessed by Flow Cytometry ( $<10^{-4}$ ) (evaluable patients)



**A** Progression-free Survival, Assessed by Blinded Independent Central Review



No. at Risk

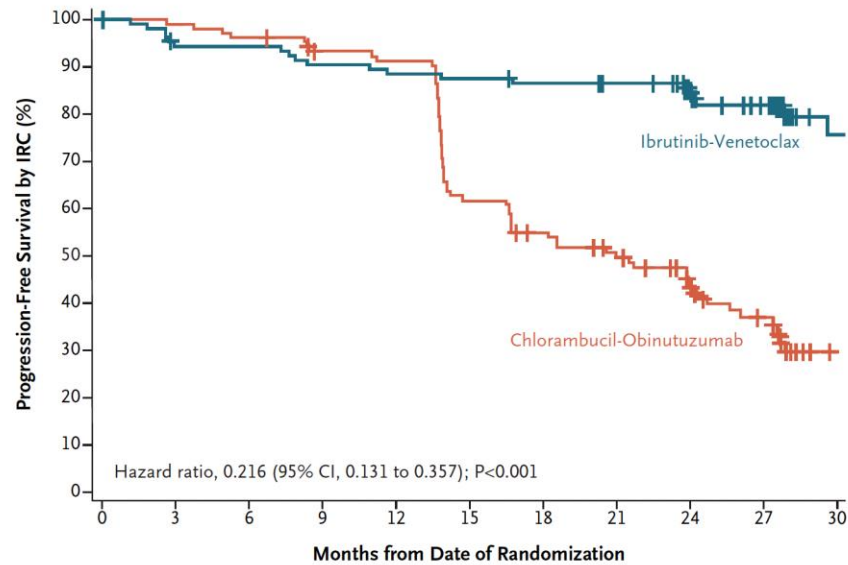
	291	282	269	251	237	219	177	102	35	3	0
AV											
AVO	286	272	258	237	225	219	191	116	51	7	0
FCR or BR	290	236	208	189	170	154	127	66	28	6	0





# GLOW

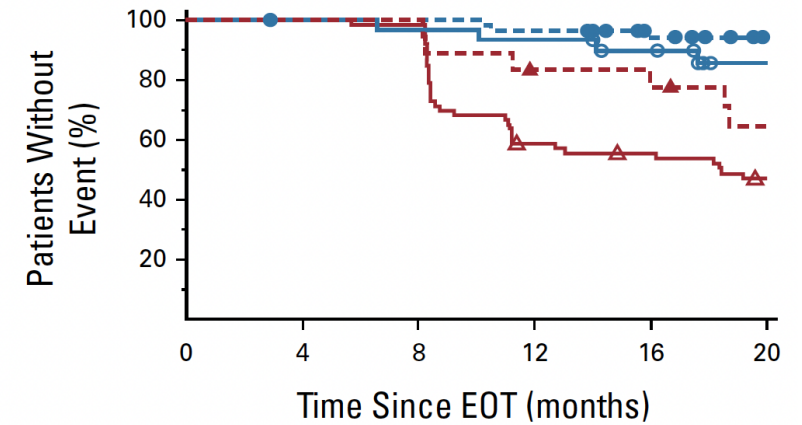
A



No. at Risk

Ibrutinib-Venetoclax	106	98	98	94	92	91	89	87	71	59	20
Chlorambucil-Obinutuzumab	105	104	101	95	93	63	54	47	36	25	6

A



No. at risk:

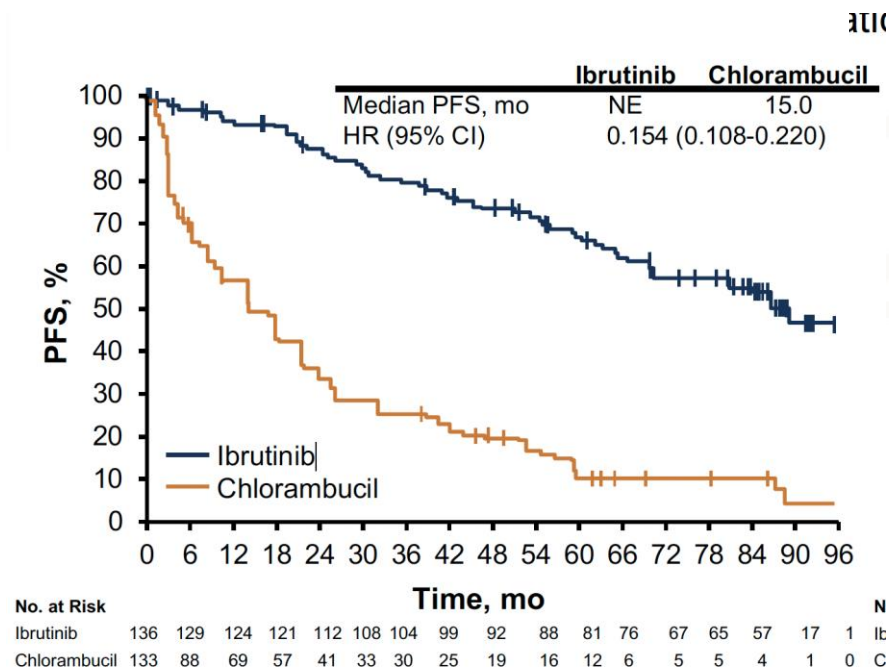
MRD $\geq 10^{-4}$ , ibrutinib + venetoclax	30	30	29	28	24	14
MRD $< 10^{-4}$ , ibrutinib + venetoclax	55	54	54	52	46	25
MRD $\geq 10^{-4}$ , chlorambucil + obinutuzumab	63	63	62	36	33	27
MRD $< 10^{-4}$ , chlorambucil + obinutuzumab	18	18	18	14	13	10

—●— MRD  $\geq 10^{-4}$ , ibrutinib + venetoclax      —●— MRD  $< 10^{-4}$ , ibrutinib + venetoclax  
—▲— MRD  $\geq 10^{-4}$ , chlorambucil + obinutuzumab      —▲— MRD  $< 10^{-4}$ , chlorambucil + obinutuzumab

No diferencia en SLP con Ven +I según EMR en MO a 3 meses pTTO

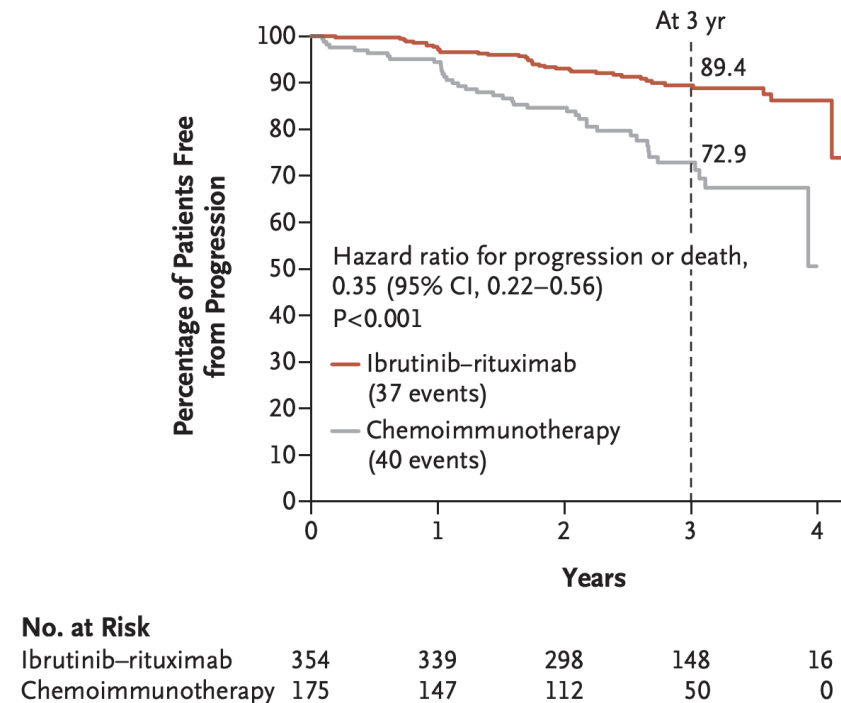


# Con terapias basadas en iBTK pronóstico independiente de EMR



20% RC a 3 años  
30% 8 años

## A Progression-free Survival among All Patients



uEMR 8,9% vs 58,9%



# Conclusiones 1

## uEMR valor pronóstico a fin de tratamiento en esquemas finitos

En todos? Parece claro en esquemas Ven + anti CD20

No tan claro en combinación Ven + iBTK

**Tiempo libre de tratamiento prolongado incluso en pacientes que han convertido a EMR +**

## Qué hacemos con esa información?

Adaptamos el tratamiento ?

Modificamos el seguimiento ?

**NO**

**Costo en LATAM  
Entre 180-500 USD**



# Utilidad clínica

Para qué medir ERM?

Pronóstico

Guiar el  
tratamiento



# EMR como guía terapéutica

Terapias finitas o terapias limitadas?  
Cuánto tiempo de tratamiento necesita CADA paciente??

Varias estrategias para usar EMR como guía para tto (individualizar tiempo de tratamiento de acuerdo a la respuesta alcanzada)

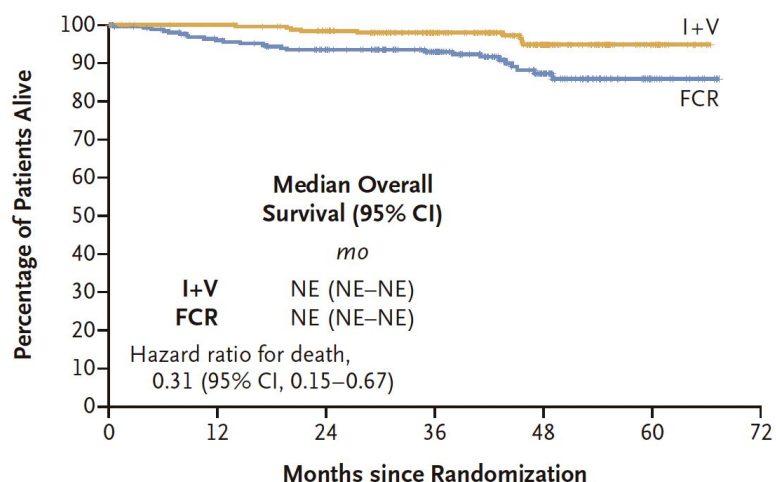
Ensayo				
FLAIR	Fase III 1L	IV	Tiempo a uEMR (duplicando)	CF SP (MO)
CAPTIVATE-mrd	Fase II 1L	IV	EMR fin de tto uEMR placebo vs IB EMR+ IV vs I	CF SP y MO
AMPLIFY (LLC alto riesgo)	Fase II 1L	AVO	Suspensión si uEMR en MO C16 o C24	CF en MO
CLL-2 GiVE	Fase II 1L del17p	Ven-Ib + O	Si EMR+ ciclo 15 IB hasta ciclo 36	CF en SP
CLL2-BAAG	Fase II R/R	Acala-Ven-Ob	Suspension si RC + uEMR en SP x 2	CF en SP





# FLAIR

A All Patients



No. at Risk (no. with  
data censored)

I+V	260 (1)	254 (6)	240 (16)	185 (70)	100 (153)	22 (229)	0 (251)
FCR	263 (2)	234 (19)	213 (34)	166 (80)	79 (162)	15 (223)	0 (238)

SLP estimada a 3 años 97%

## EMR por CF (cutoff $10^{-4}$ )

En SP a 12 meses

Cada 6 meses hasta uEMR

uEMR en SP → EMR en MO a 6 meses

Tiempo de tratamiento doble del requerido para uEMR



A 2 años 29% suspensión de tratamiento

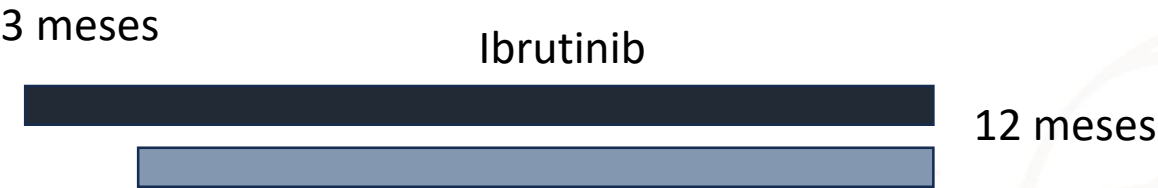
A 3 años 58% suspensión de tratamiento

A 6 años 78% suspensión

Mediana ciclos Ven-IB 25 (1-70)



# CAPTIVATE- MRD

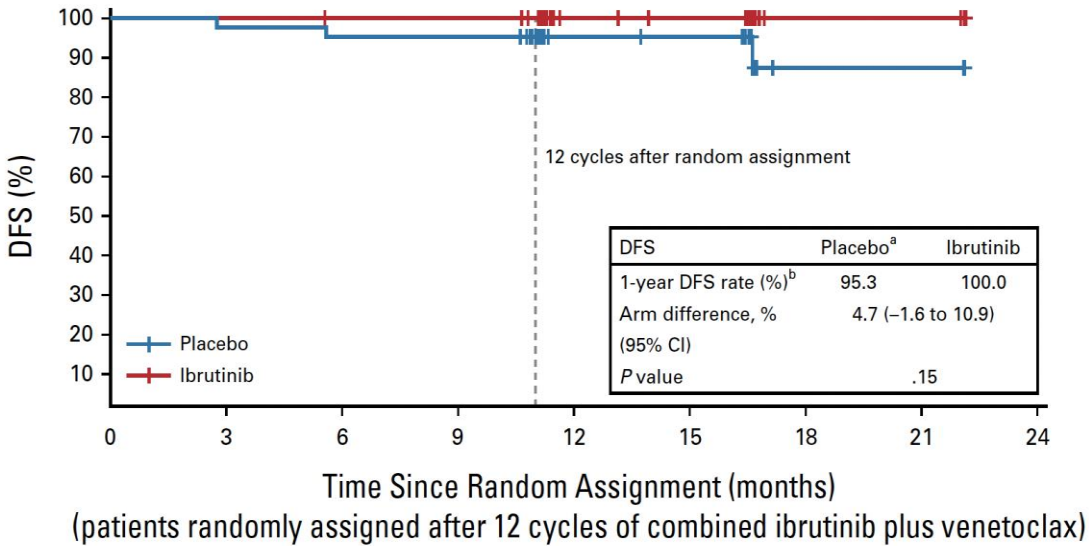


uEMR en SP y MO (2 determinaciones separadas 3 meses)



R: Placebo vs Ibrutinib (hasta conversión EMR o progresión)

End point: DFS a 12 meses (conversion a EMR+, progresión, muerte)

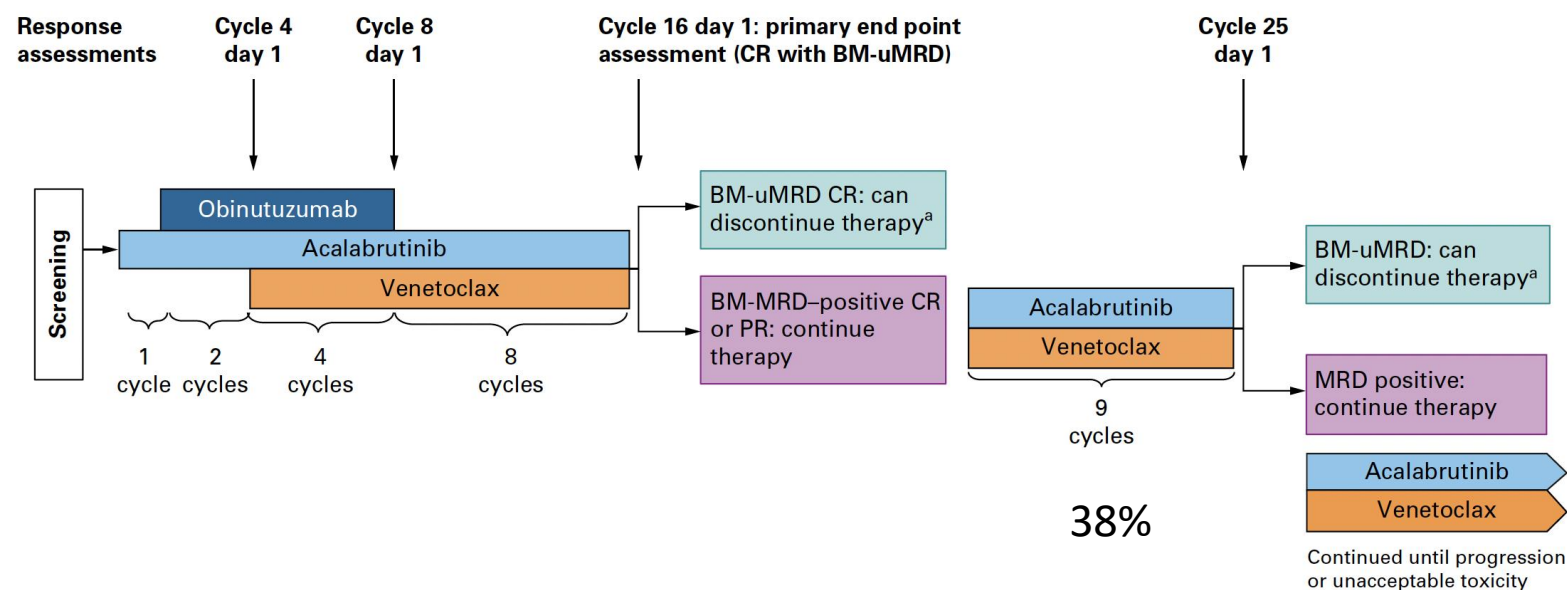


No. at risk:									
Placebo	43	42	41	41	22	21	3	3	0
Ibrutinib	43	43	42	42	25	23	5	5	0



## AVO (alto riesgo)

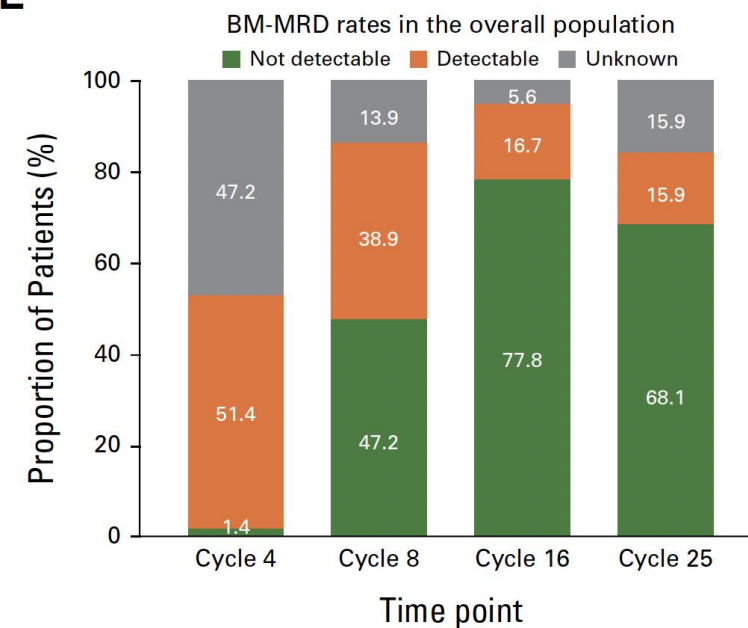
N=72 (45 mut p53, 28 CC, 72 IgVH NM)

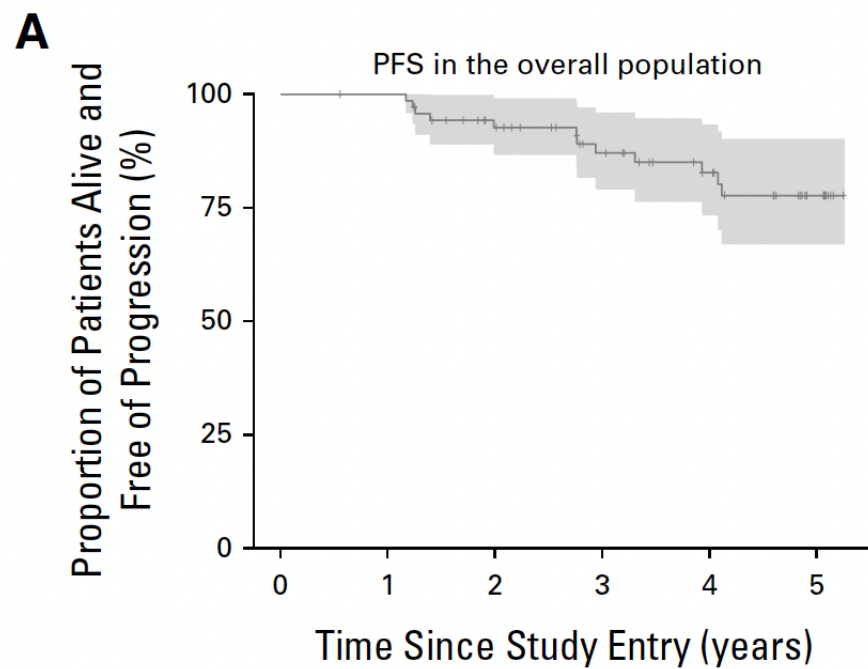


Mediana de ciclos de tratamiento 25

11%

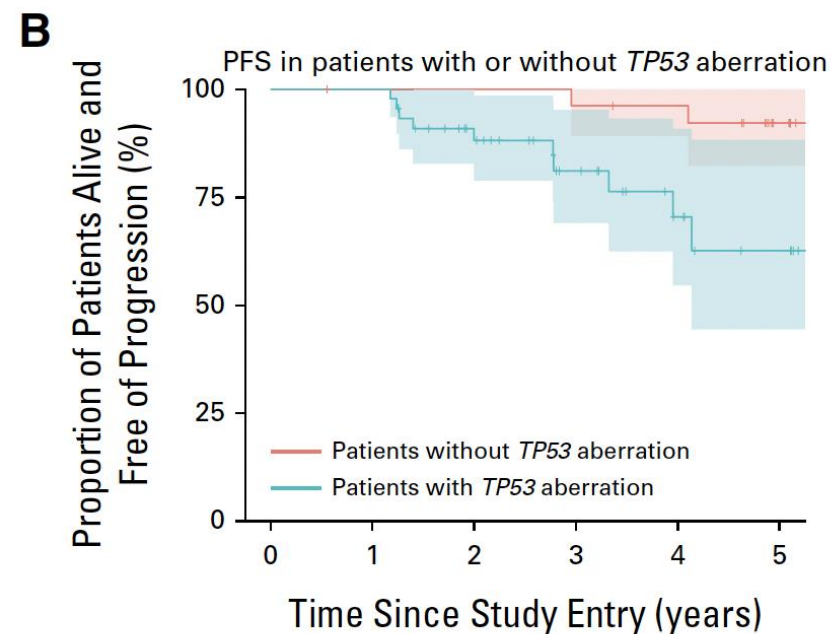
**E**





Number at risk:

	0	1	2	3	4	5
All	72	71	58	45	35	21



SLP 4 años  
96% vs 70%

Number at risk:

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Patients without <i>TP53</i> aberration	27	26	26	25	24	15
Patients with <i>TP53</i> aberration	45	45	32	20	11	6

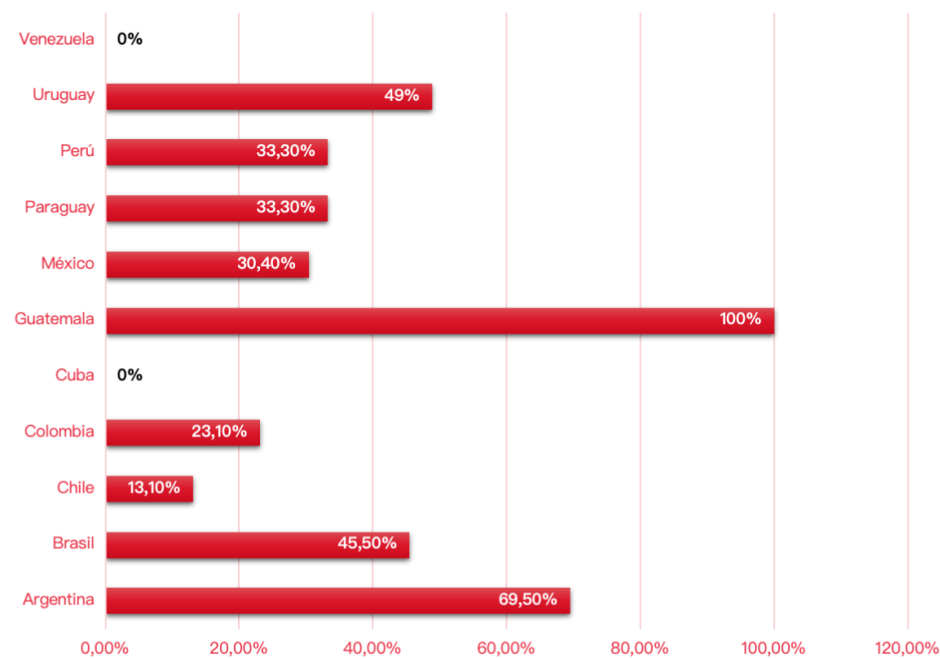




## Nuestra realidad en LATAM

- 910 (44%) patients who received treatment have a previous cytogenetic/FISH analysis
- According to country:
  - Argentina: 69.5%
  - Brasil: 45.5%
  - Chile: 13.1%
  - Colombia: 23.1%
  - Cuba 0%
  - Guatemala: 100%
  - México: 30.4%
  - Paraguay 33.3%
  - Perú: 33.3%
  - Uruguay: 48.9%
  - Venezuela: 0%

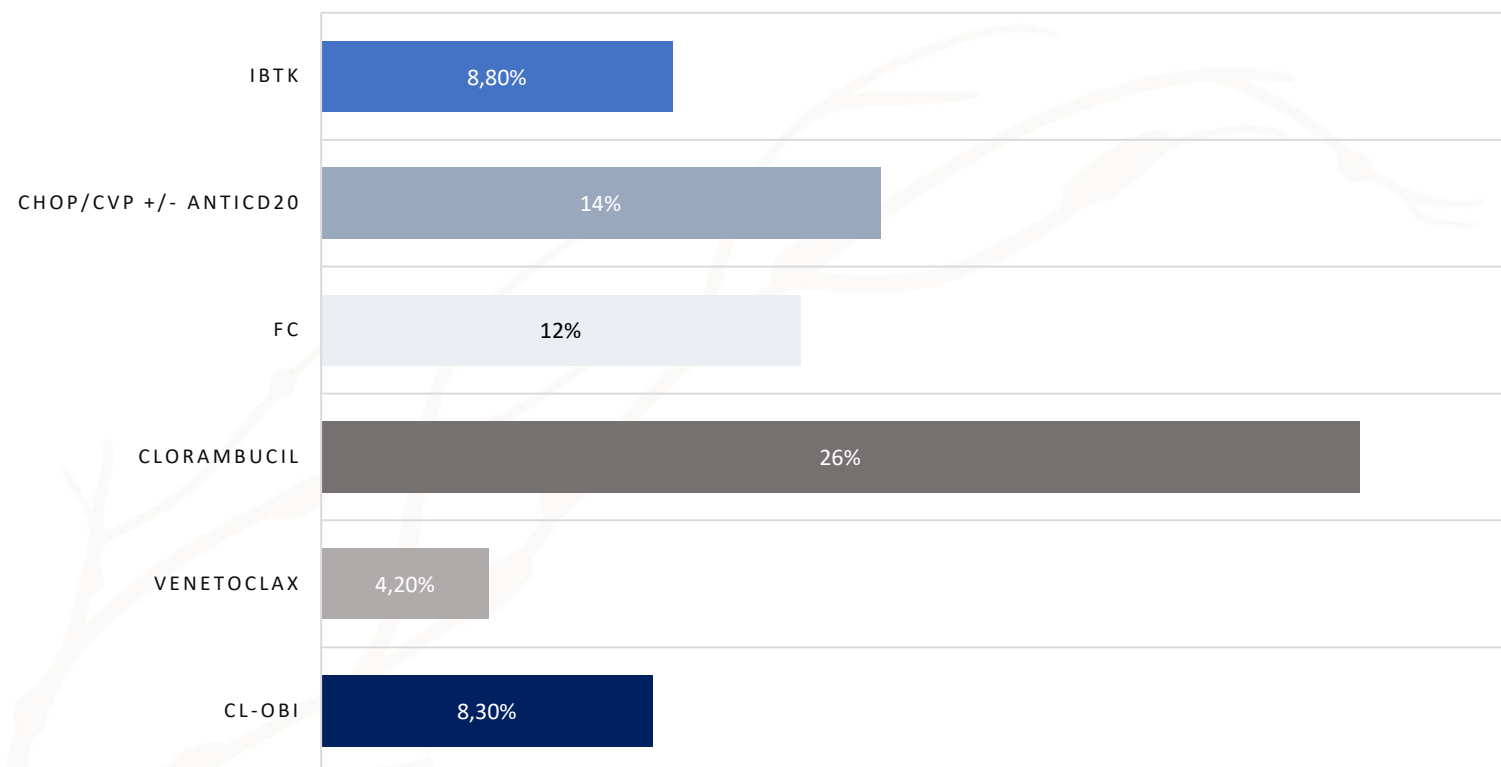
Estudio CG/FISH





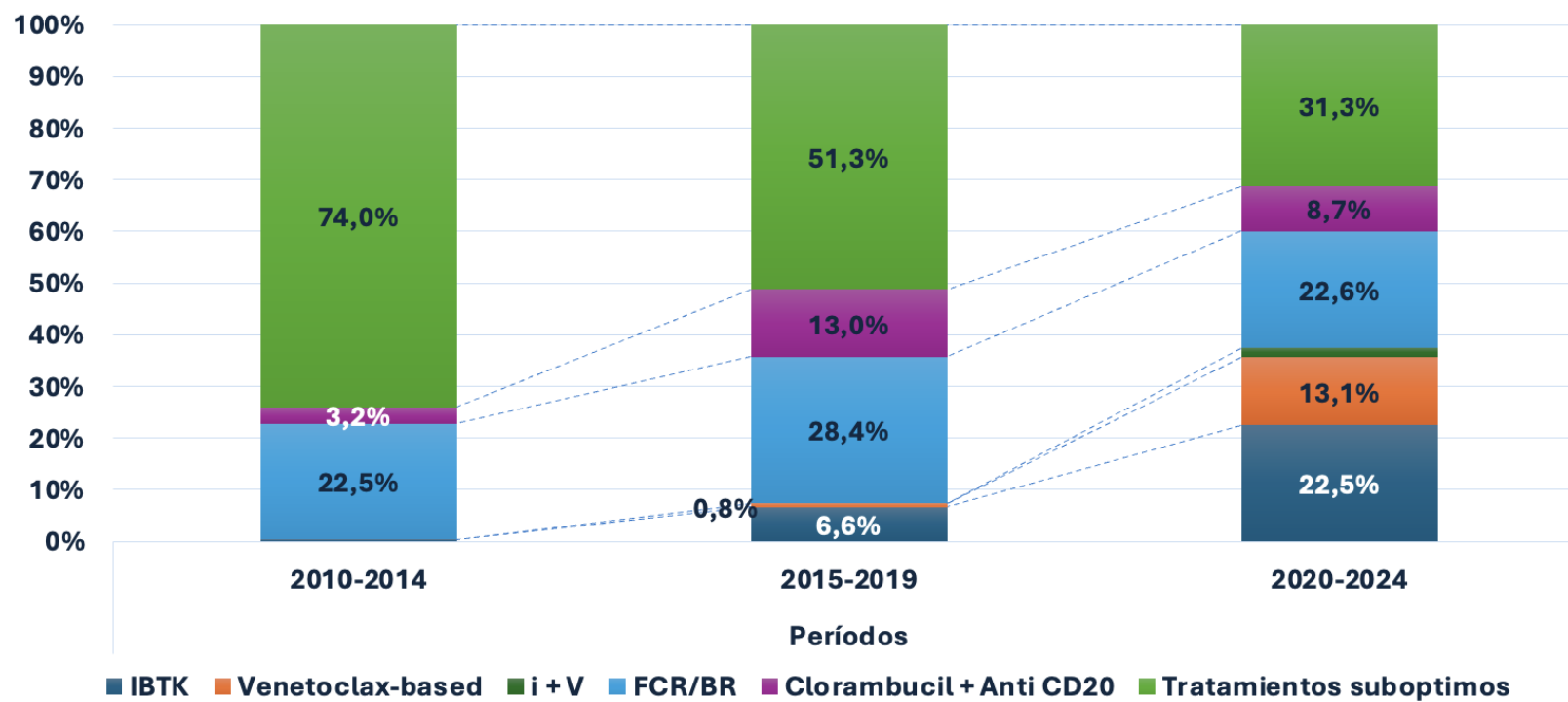


## TRATAMIENTO 1L (2010-2024) N=2133





## Evolución de los tratamientos de 1L en el tiempo





Current Oncology Reports (2024) 26:136–146

## Practical Implications of MRD

Given the large body of evidence demonstrating the correlation between end-of-treatment MRD and long-term clinical outcomes, MRD can be considered an informative biomarker in routine clinical care. Multiple studies have demonstrated that patients who remain MRD-positive  $> 10^{-4}$  in peripheral blood have a high risk of early relapses within 2–3 years after treatment [20••, 33••, 70]. Hence, testing of MRD in peripheral blood at the end of treatment by flow cytometry can provide valuable information in some patients for the sake of prognostication. Since so far there is no randomized evidence suggesting a benefit of MRD-guided treatment extension, the MRD status should not be used to modify treatment outside of clinical studies. Likewise, serial MRD assessments currently do not have clinical implications in routine clinical care, as the decision to treat a progressive CLL should be guided by iwCLL criteria for treatment indication [34].

Stumpf J, Al Sawaf O

## Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia: 2025 Update on the Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, and Therapy

Michael Hallek<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup> 

Collectively, there is overwhelming evidence to suggest that MRD quantification allows for improved PFS prediction in both patients who achieve a PR and CR, supporting its application in all responders. Although evaluation of MRD is still not generally recommended for routine clinical practice [5], I anticipate that MRD assessment will be highly relevant to guide the duration of therapies with novel inhibitors [82]. In my practice, I use MRD levels at increased frequency for the following treatment decisions: (A) Should I continue therapy in a high-risk patient? (B) Should I stop therapy with targeted inhibitors? These questions are also being addressed in trials such as the FLAIR and the CLL18 protocols. These studies use uMRD as guidance to determine treatment duration [76].

Am j Hematol 2025



## CONCLUSIONES 2

### Cuáles son las necesidades de los pacientes con LLC en LATAM ?

1. Valor pronóstico de medición de EMR al finalizar el tratamiento **NO** tiene implicancias terapéuticas  
**A MENOS** que se utilicen esquemas guiados por EMR.
2. Con esquemas finitos utilizando nuevos agentes, **EXCELENTES** tasas de SLP y tiempo libre de tratamiento independientemente de ERM
3. Priorizar acceso a agentes dirigidos, idealmente en **TODOS** los pacientes, como **MINIMO** en pacientes con IgVH NO o del17p. ➡ Mejorar el acceso a estudios (IgVH, FISH/molecular para mut p53)



Muchas gracias

