

Day in Complement | 20 September 2025

Optimizing PNH Management

New Treatments, New Discussions, New Decisions

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Disclosures

Consultancy Honouraria: *Alexion, Apellis, BioCryst, Novartis, Roche, Sanofi, Sobi, Takeda*

Speaking Honouraria: *Alexion, Sobi*

Clinical Trial Involvement:

- *Alexion (ALXN1210-301, -302, -311, -HSCT-313, ALXN2040-301, ALXN2050)**
- *Apellis (APL2-302, -307)**
- *BioCryst (BCX9930 – REDEEM-1, REDEEM-2)**
- *Regeneron (ACCESS-1)**
- *Roche (COMMUTE-a)**
- *Amgen (ABP959)†*
- *Novartis (LNP023)†*

** Site Principal Investigator*

† Member, Data Monitoring Committee



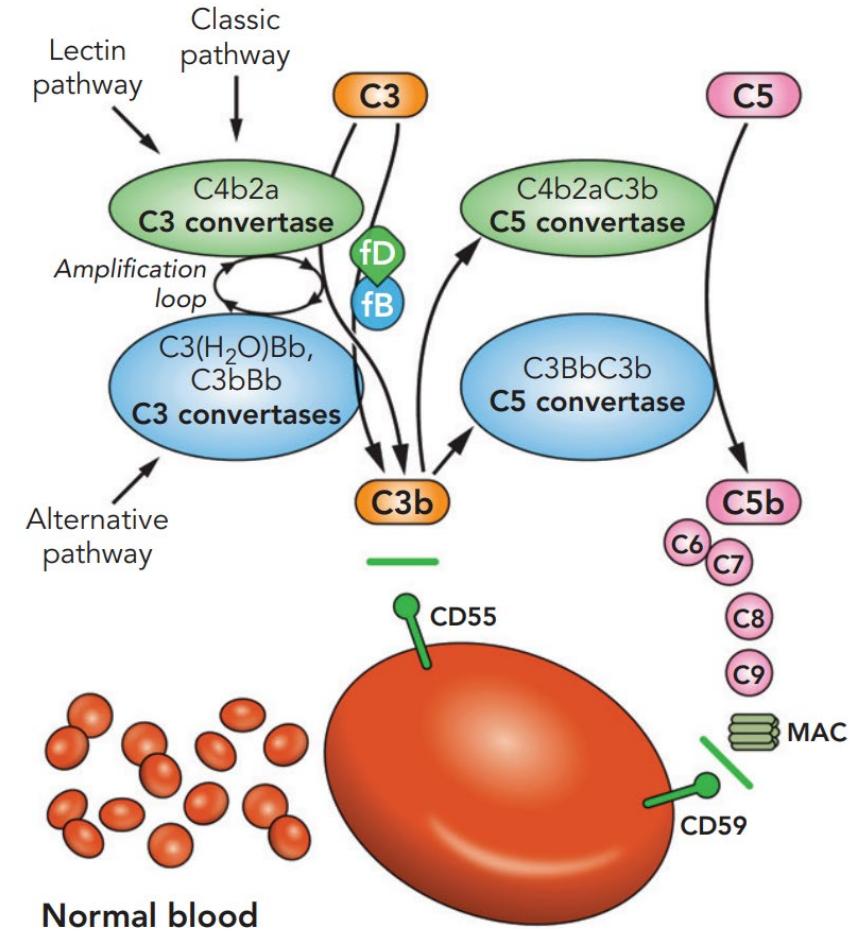
Objectives

- Review the pathophysiology of paroxysmal nocturnal hemoglobinuria (PNH)
- Explore the clinical presentation, recognition, and diagnosis of PNH
- Describe the impact of complement inhibition
- Present a treatment algorithm reflective of the Canadian landscape



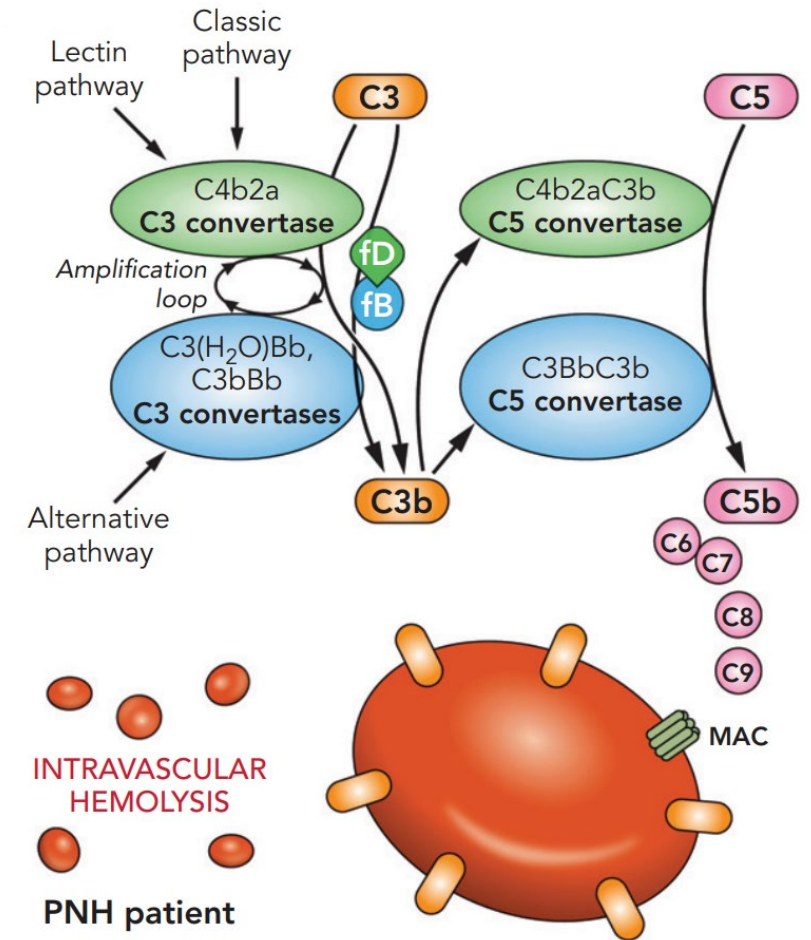
Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria

- Acquired clonal abnormality of HSCs (*PIGA*)
 - 1-5 per million/year, 15 per million population
 - Absent complement regulators CD55 & CD59
- Classical triad
 - DAT-negative hemolysis, thrombosis, BMF
- Common clinical features
 - Chest pain, dyspnea, abdominal pain, renal failure
 - Smooth muscle dystonia (ex. pHTN, dysphagia, ED)
 - Fatigue, impaired QoL



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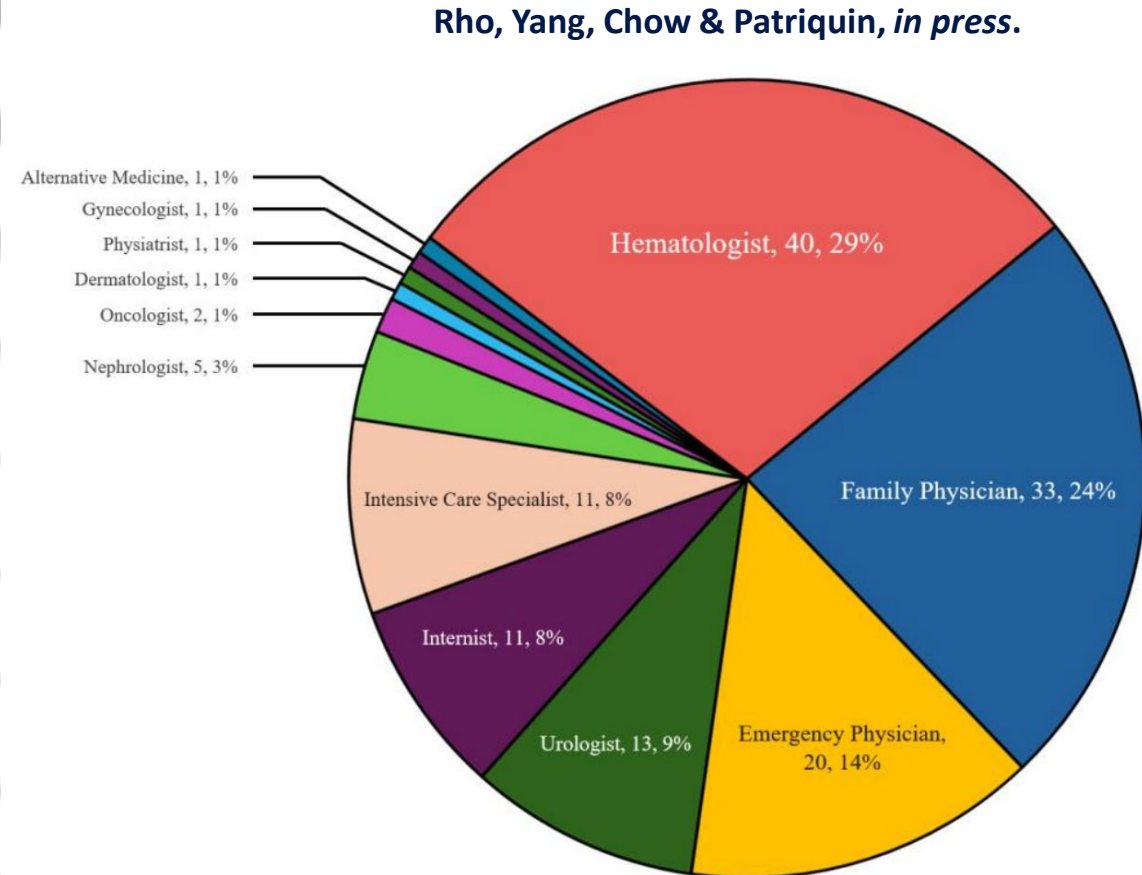
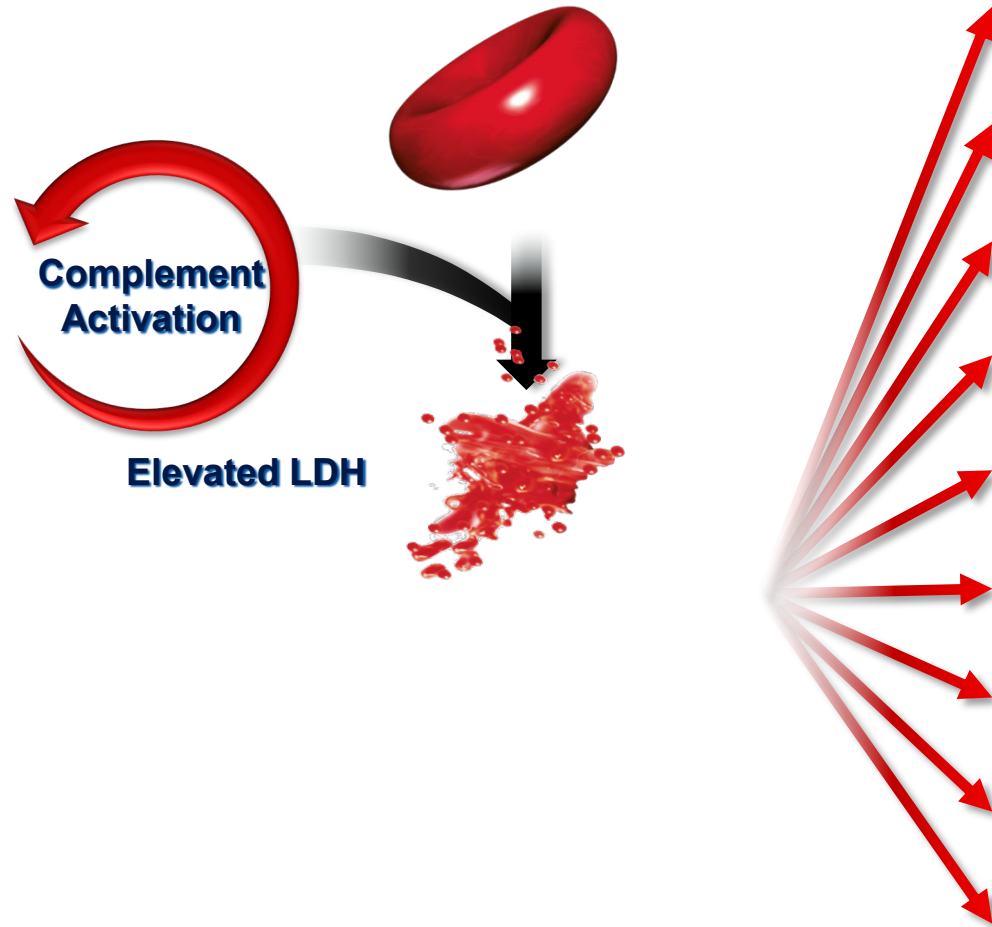
Uncontrolled Complement in PNH



Presenting symptom/sign ^b	All patients with PNH clone	Patients on eculizumab	Patients not on eculizumab
Elevated LDH $\geq 1.5 \times$ ULN	43/107 (40.2%)	33/37 (89.2%)	10/70 (14.3%)
LDH ratio $\times$ ULN, mean (SD)	2.9 (3.6)	5.9 (4.5)	1.2 (1.2)
Granulocyte clone			
<10%	45/97 (46.4%)	1/32 (3.1%)	44/65 (67.7%)
10% to <50%	19/97 (19.6%)	3/32 (9.4%)	16/65 (24.6%)
$\geq 50\%$	33/97 (34.0%)	28/32 (87.5%)	5/65 (7.7%)
Erythrocyte clone >10%	33/94 (35.1%)	25/31 (80.6%)	8/63 (12.7%)
Transfusion dependence	64/116 (55.2%)	21/24 (87.5%)	43/92 (46.7%)
BMF syndrome (%)			
AA	73/147 (49.7)	17/64 (26.6)	56/83 (67.5)
MDS	20/147 (13.6)	7/64 (10.9)	13/83 (15.7)
History of TE (%)			
Venous	16/144 (11.1)	12/65 (18.5)	4/79 (5.1)
Arterial	2/143 (1.4)	2/65 (3.1)	0/78 (0.0)
Abdominal pain	55/126 (43.7)	27/41 (65.9)	28/85 (32.9)
Dysphagia	22/126 (17.5)	11/41 (26.8)	11/85 (12.9)
Dyspnea	71/126 (56.3)	24/41 (58.5)	47/85 (55.3)
Pulmonary hypertension	3/140 (2.1)	2/66 (3.0)	1/74 (1.4)
Hemoglobinuria	49/125 (39.2)	31/41 (75.6)	18/84 (21.4)
Fatigue	111/126 (88.1)	40/41 (97.6)	71/85 (83.5)
ED in males	13/58 (22.4)	4/18 (22.2)	9/40 (22.5)



Uncontrolled Complement in PNH

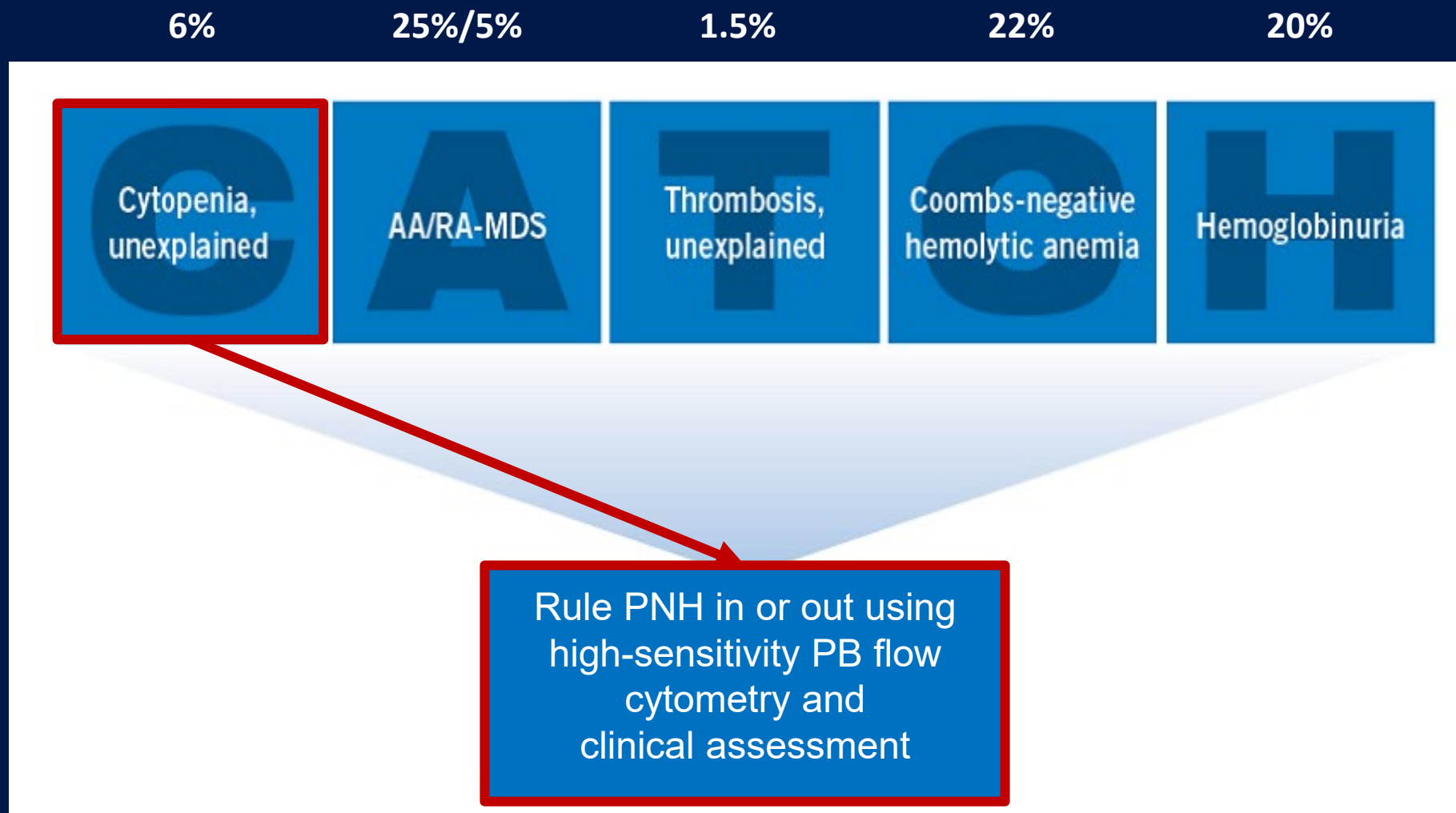


DIAGNOSIS OF PNH



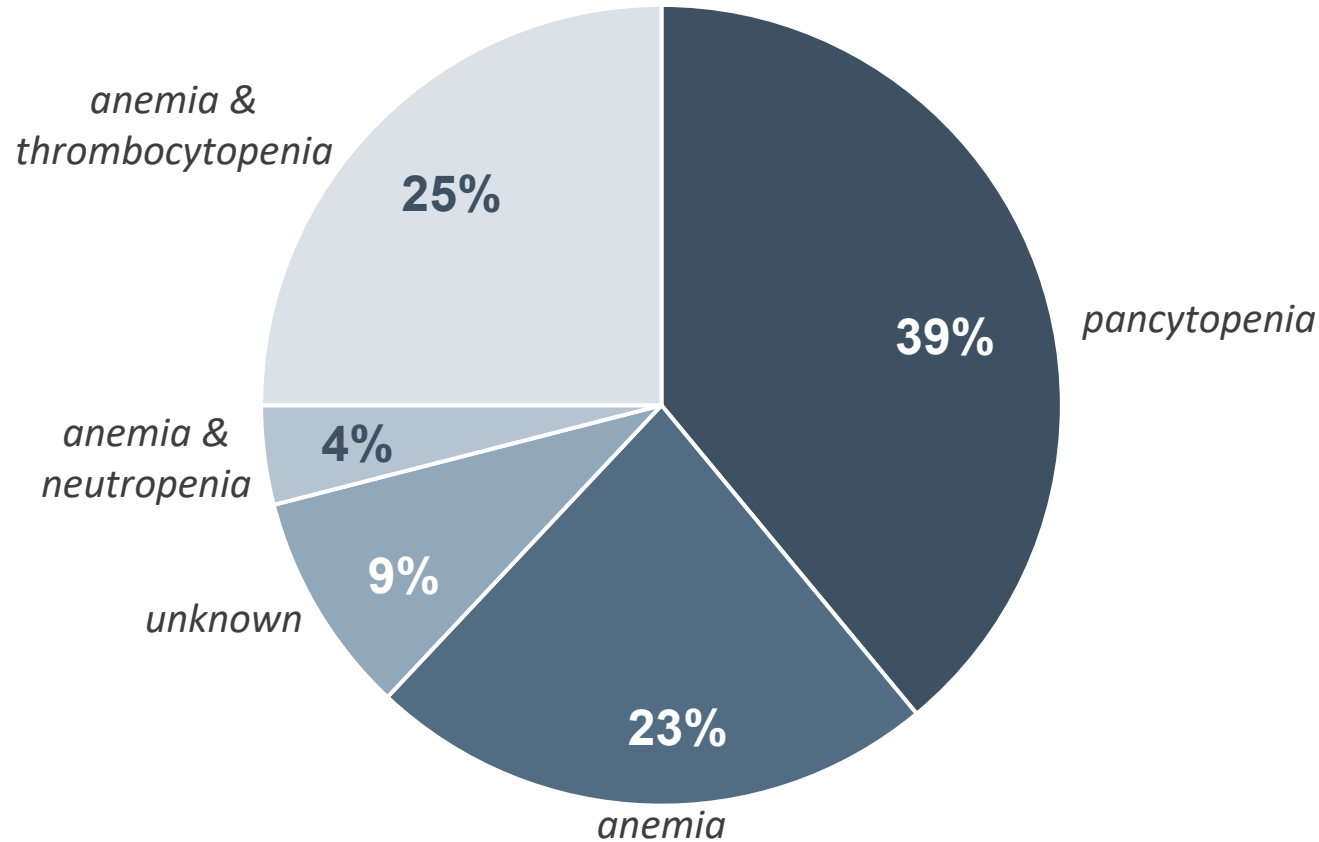
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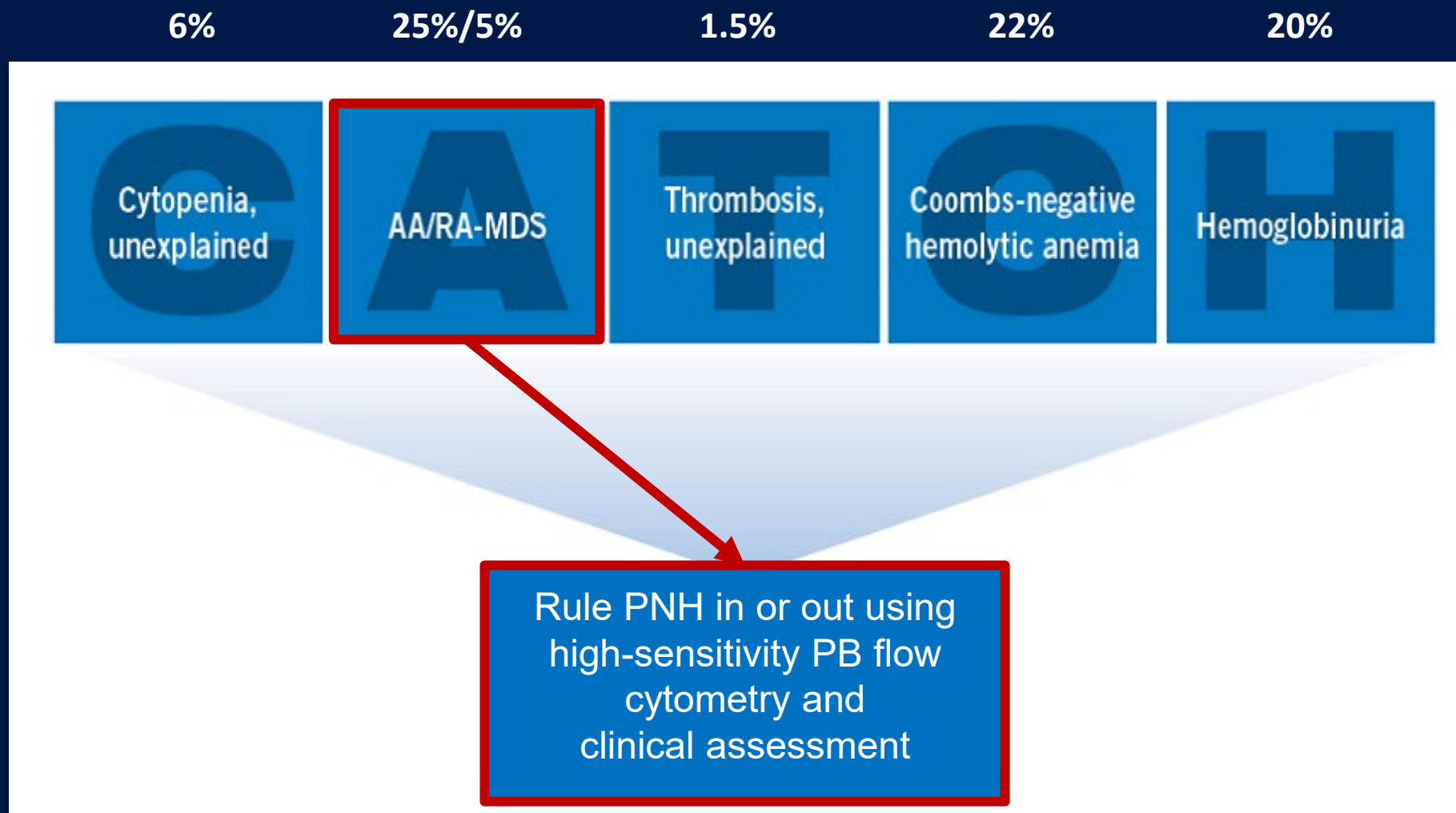
Cytopenias in PNH

91% of patients with PNH clones present with cytopenia(s)



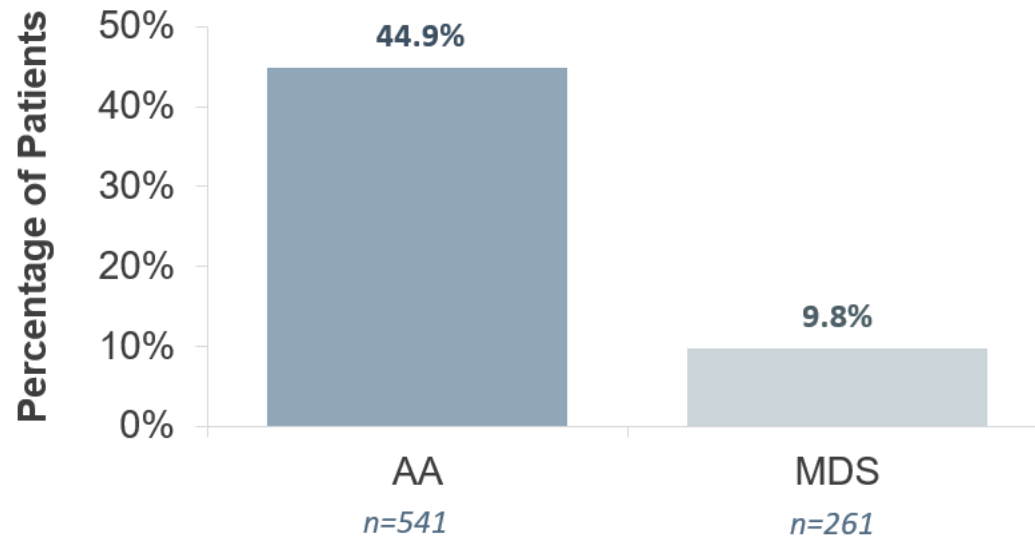
In a Canadian study only
10.4%
of patients with unexplained
cytopenias were tested for
PNH, despite potential
indicators of hemolysis in
24.2% of all cytopenic patients





Bone Marrow Failure & PNH

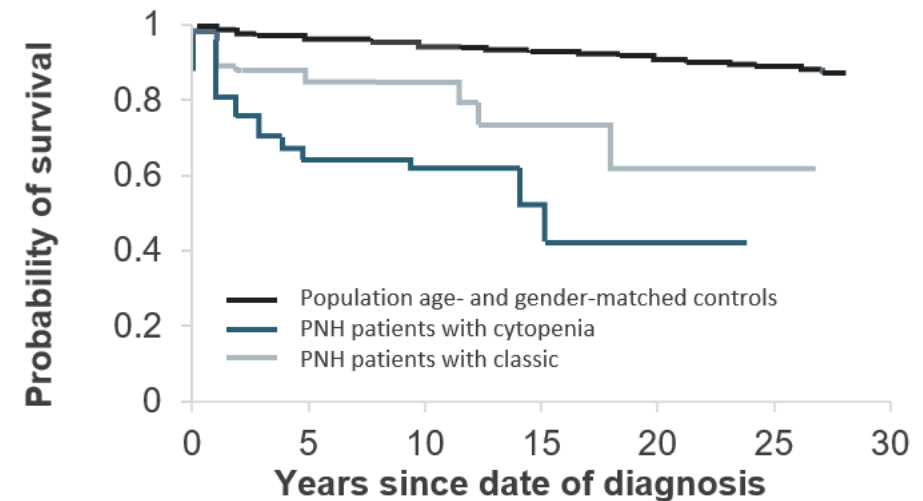
Percentage of Patients With >0.01% PNH Cells



MDS: In a Canadian center only **7% (11/152)** of patients diagnosed with MDS since 2009 have had PNH testing done

Presenting BMF in the International PNH registry

BMF syndrome %	International PNH registry	Canadian patients
AA	2206/4201 (52.5)	73/147 (49.7)
Other BMF (incl. MDS)	424/4201 (10.1)	20/147 (13.6)



Bone Marrow Failure & PNH

Testing for GPI-deficient cells by high-sensitivity flow cytometric analysis at diagnosis of AA is recommended by:

International PNH Interest Group

“Patients with aplastic anemia [should be screened] at diagnosis...”

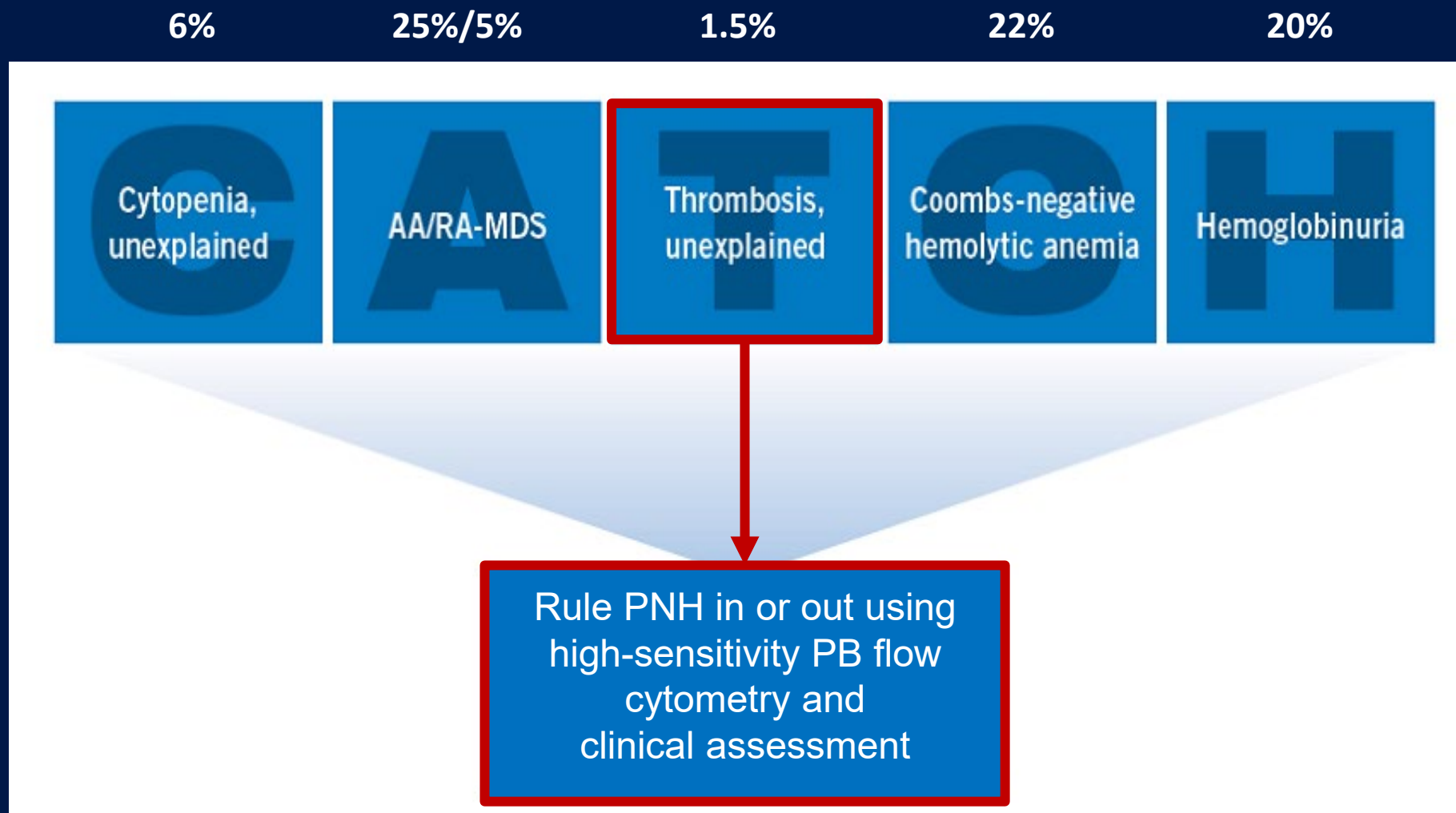
International Clinical Cytometry Society

Clinical indications for PNH include: “Evidence of bone marrow failure”, including “suspected or proven aplastic or hypoplastic anemia.”

British Committee for Standards in Haematology

“Patients should be screened for PNH at the diagnosis of AA.”

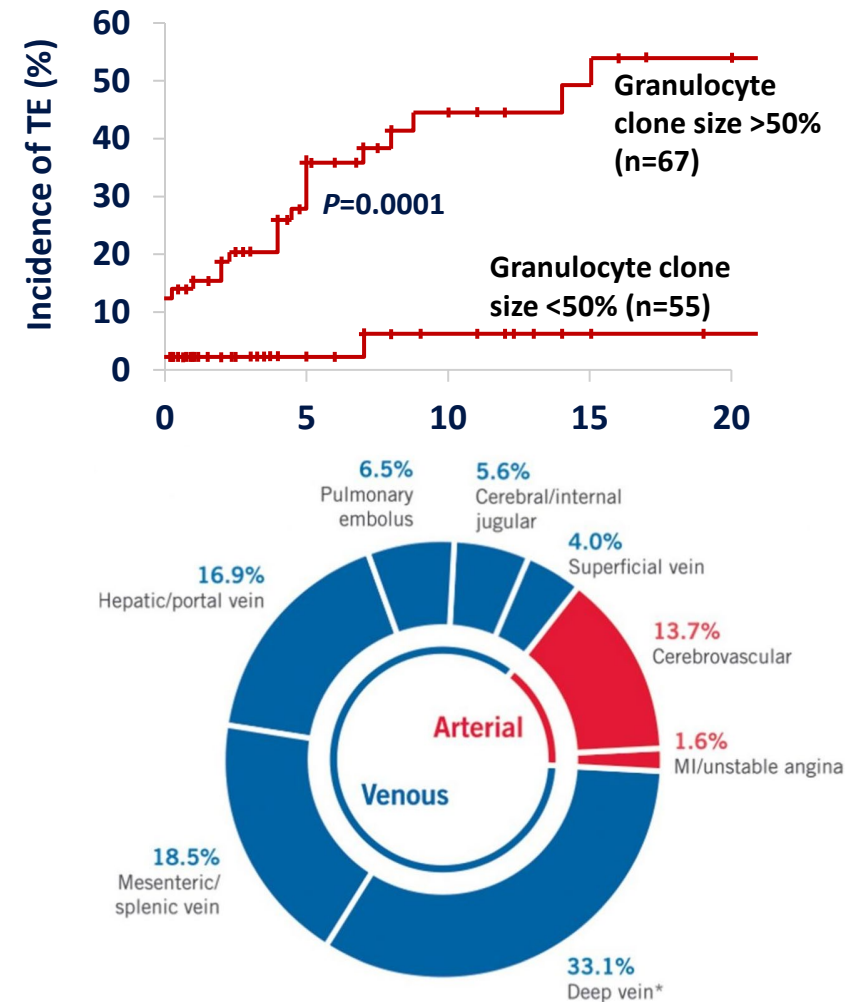




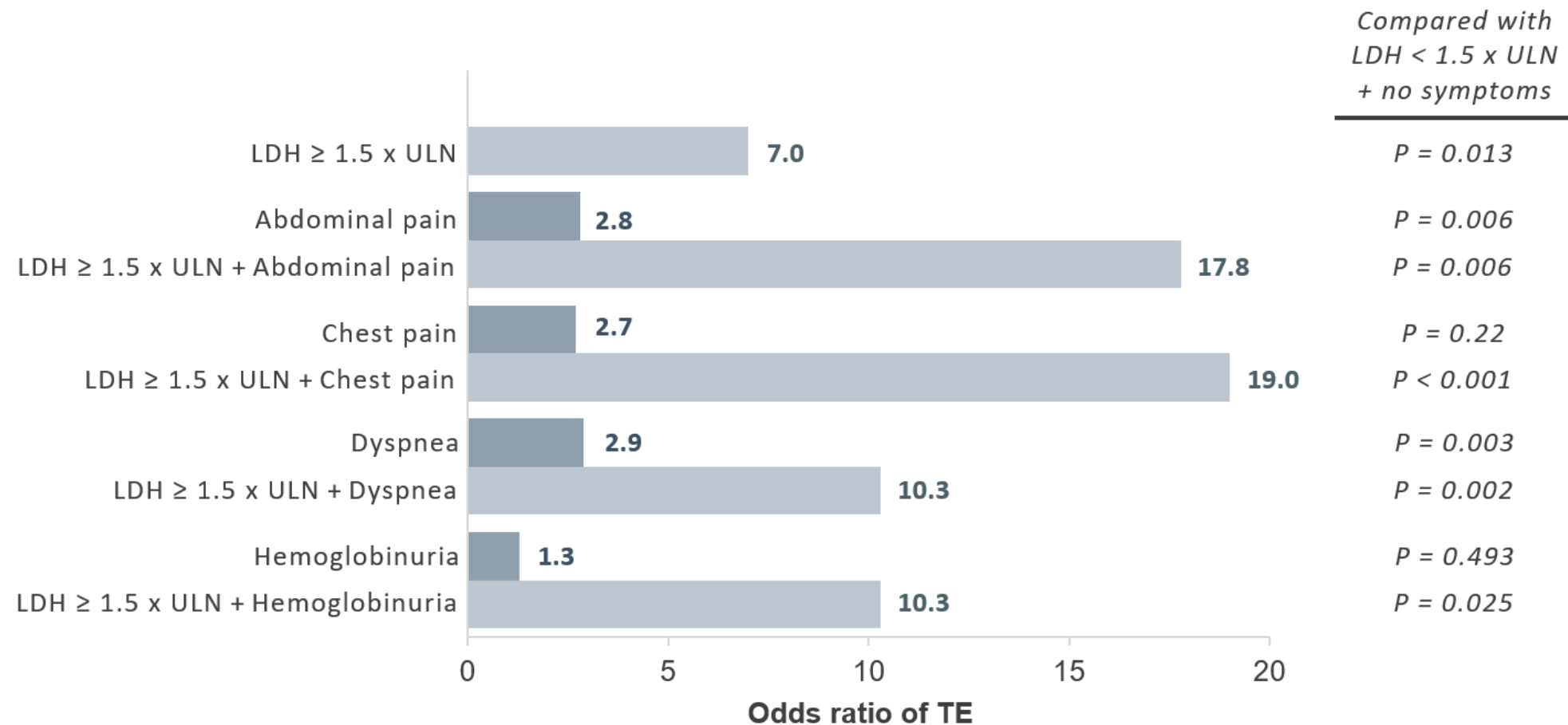
Clinical Presentation & Thromboembolism Risk

“We can safely say that PNH is the most vicious acquired thrombophilic state known in medicine” ~ L. Luzzatto

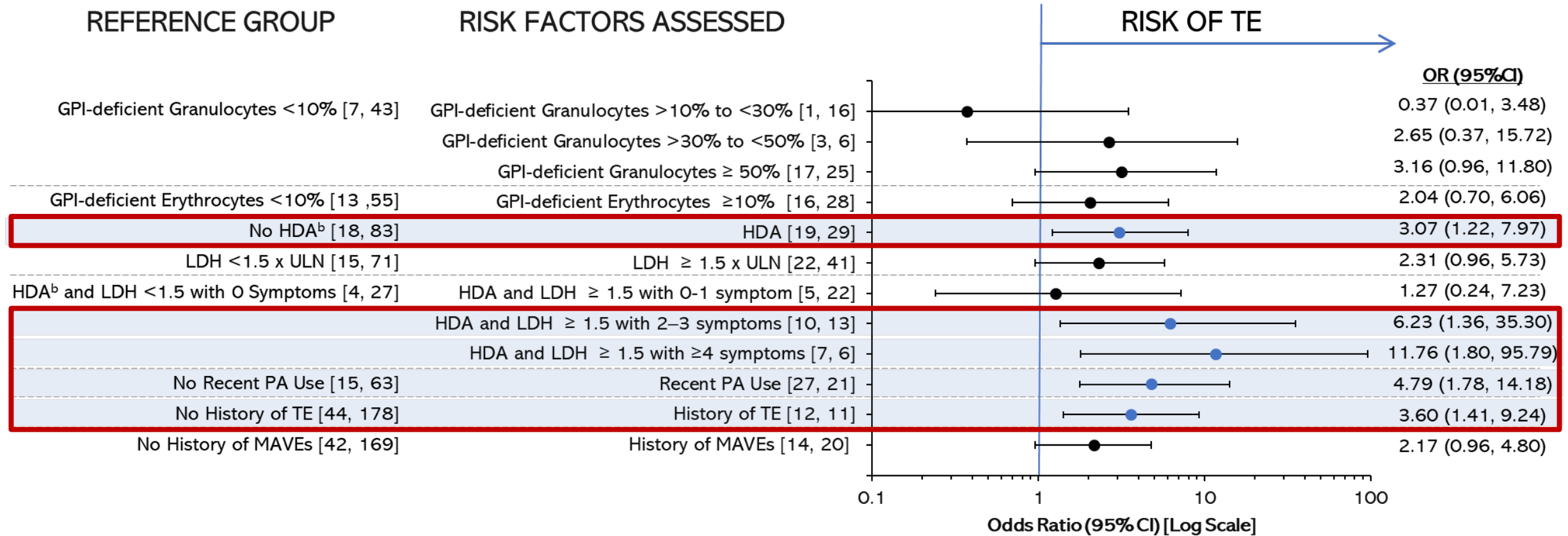
- Thrombosis in 30-45% (10% at diagnosis)
- Leading cause of mortality (40-67%)
- Atypical (visceral, CNS) & typical sites
- Multiple sites in 20% of patients



VTE Risk & LDH Elevation



Risk Factors – LDH, HDA, and Prior TE



**HDA = hemolysis (LDH ≥1.5 x ULN) plus one or more of: fatigue, hemoglobinuria, abdominal pain, dyspnea, anemia, thromboembolism (TE) or other major adverse vascular event (MAVE), dysphagia or erectile dysfunction.*



Algorithms

Anticoagulant Dosing In
Atrial Fibrillation

Perioperative Anticoagulant
Management Algorithm

**Thrombophilia Testing
Algorithm**

Diagnosing and Ruling Out
VIPIT/VITT

**Acute Management
Algorithms**

Atrial Fibrillation

Bleed Management

Deep Vein Thrombosis

Pulmonary Embolism

Checklists

Thrombophilia Testing Algorithm

PDF ↓

RECOMMENDATION

Consider thrombophilia testing* WITH specialist consultation if 1 or more of:

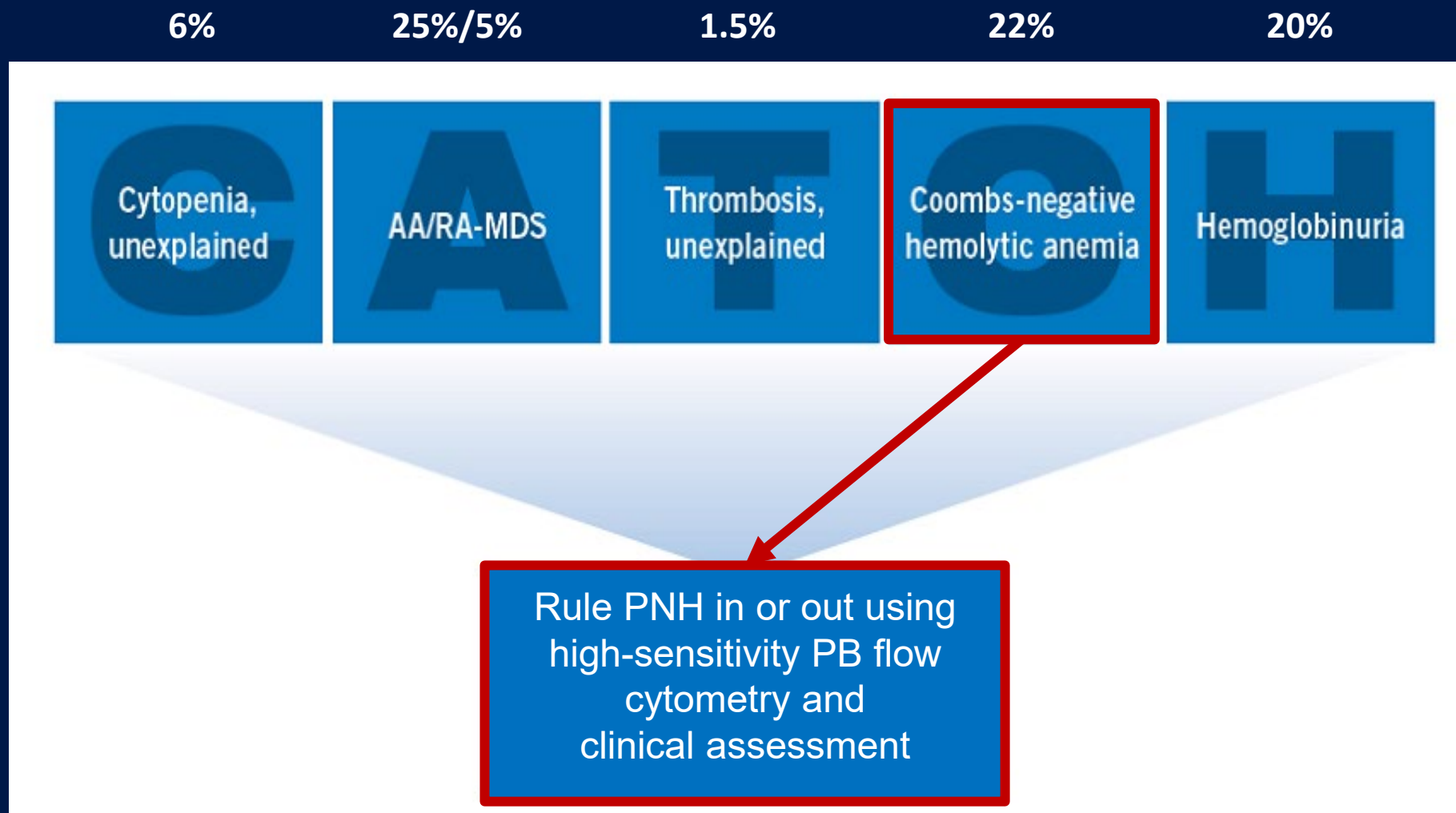
- Concomitant arterial disease
- Young age (<50 years old)
- Strong family history, i.e. first-degree family members affected at <50 years old
- CBC abnormalities (e.g. anemia, thrombocytopenia, thrombocytosis, polycythemia), consider [MPN](#) ? [APS](#) ? [PNH](#) ? [HIT](#) ?
- Autoimmune disease

Consider APS testing, especially in the case of arterial or recurrent events, and/or recurrent pregnancy loss. If abnormal results, repeat testing in 12 weeks, then refer.

Anticoagulants can interfere with many thrombophilia tests. Is your patient on anticoagulants?
[Click here for more information.](#)

** Only consider thrombophilia testing if the test results will make a difference in how you manage the patient.*





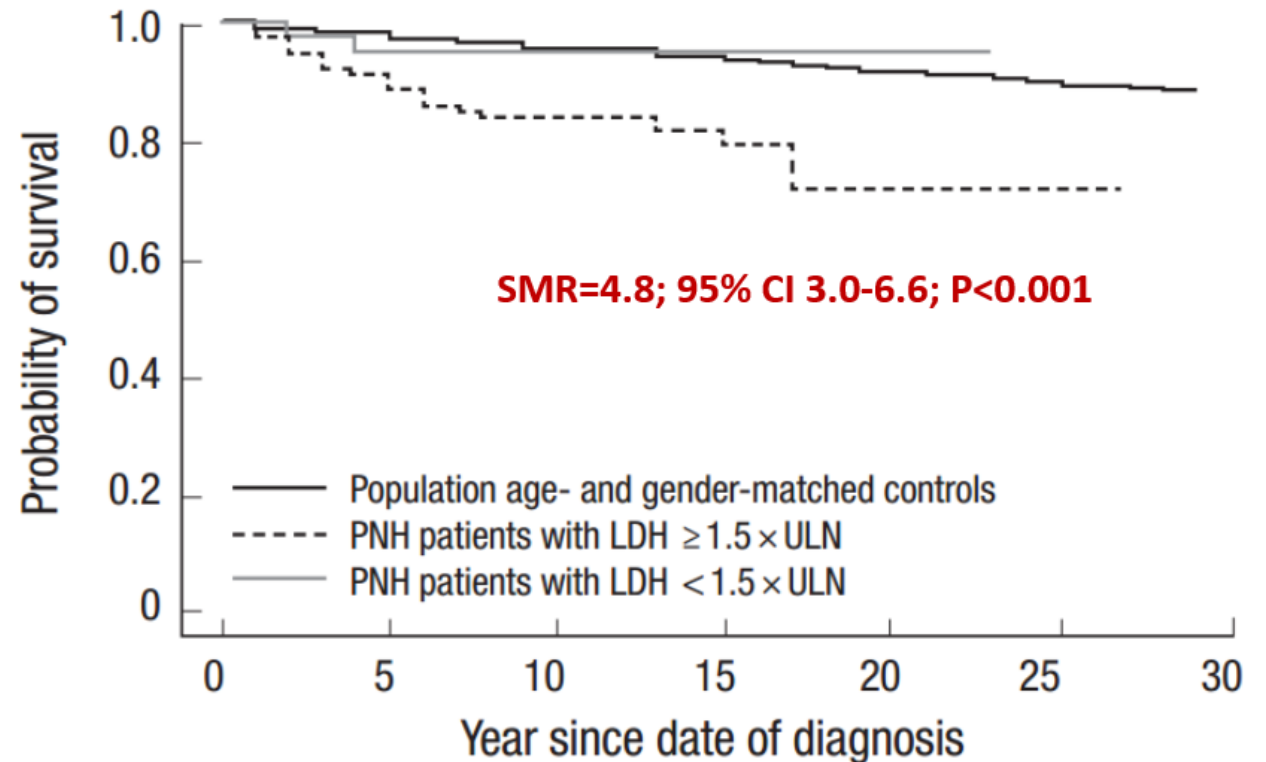
Intravascular Hemolysis Risk & PNH

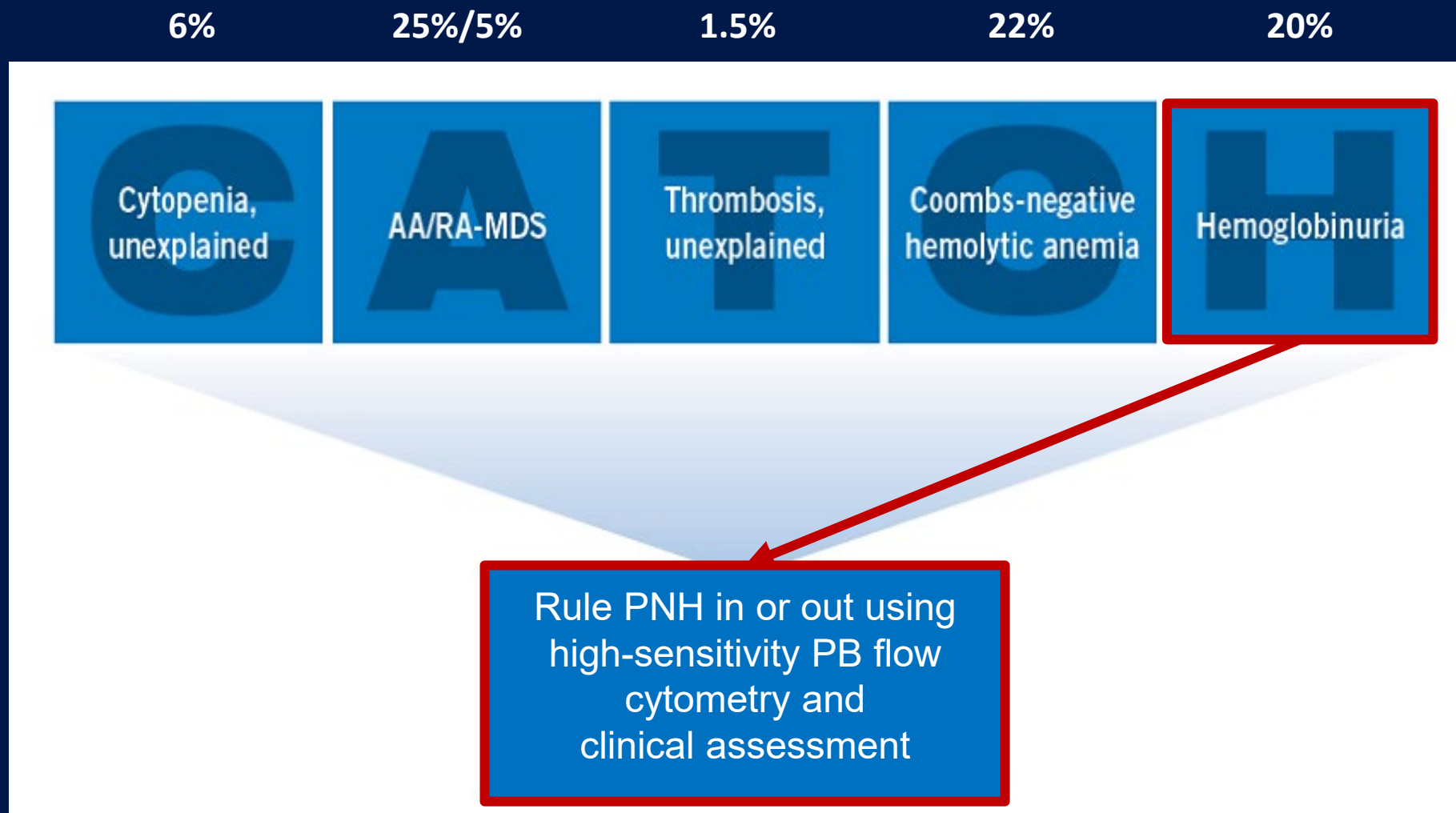
18.6%

(n=382)

of patients screened for PNH
because of hemolytic anemia
had a PNH clone of >0.01%

Elevated hemolysis significantly increases the risk of mortality

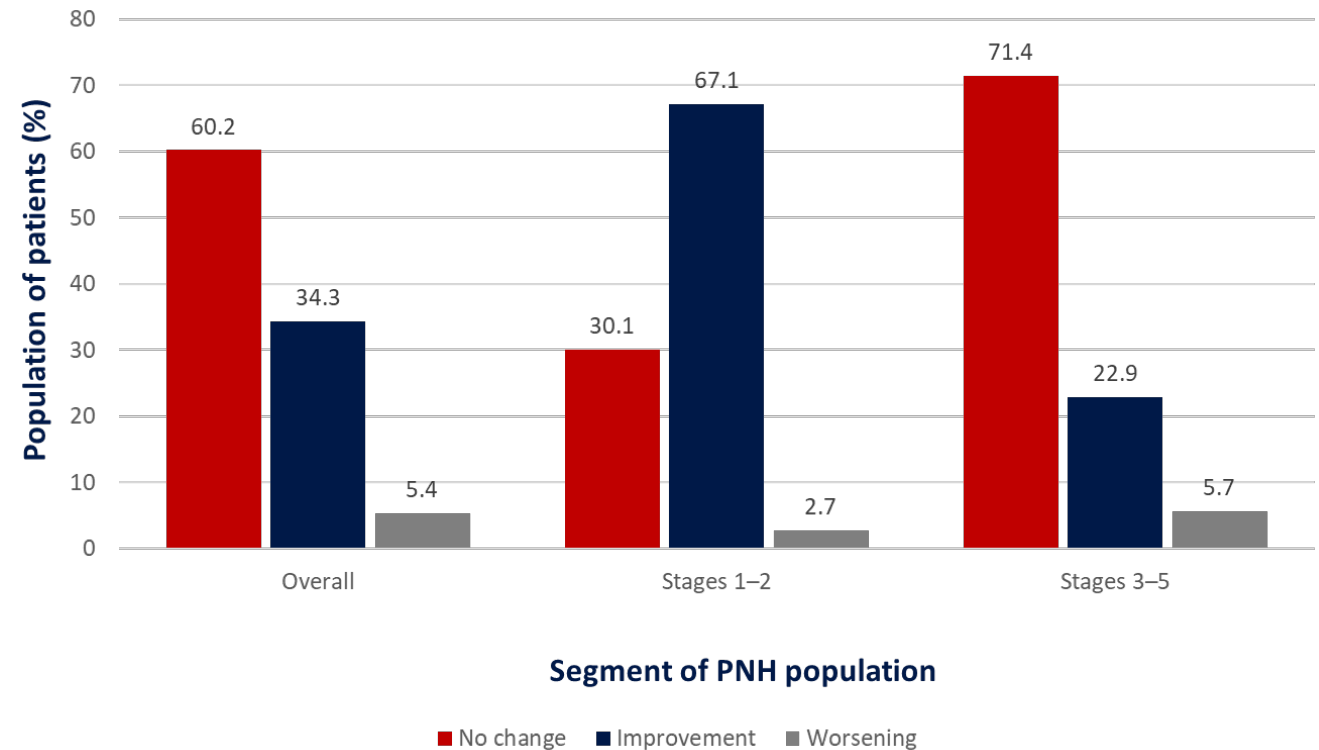
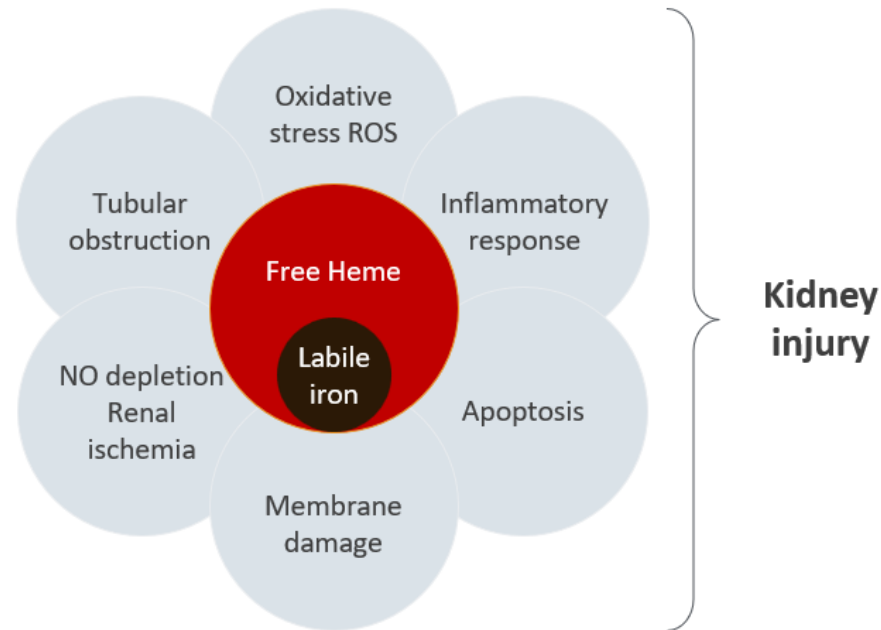




Hemoglobinuria & Renal Injury in PNH

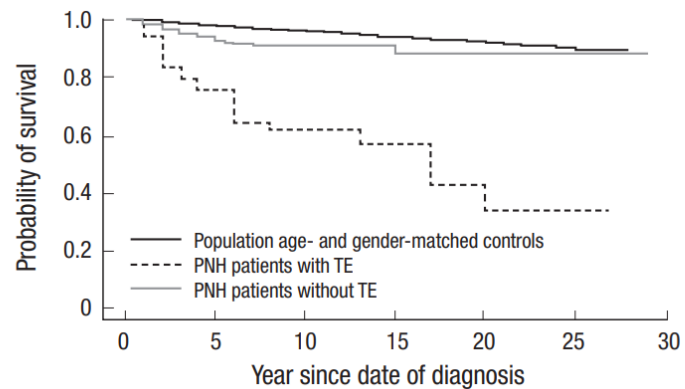
42.8% of patients in the international PNH registry had impaired renal function at baseline

Mechanisms of renal involvement in PNH

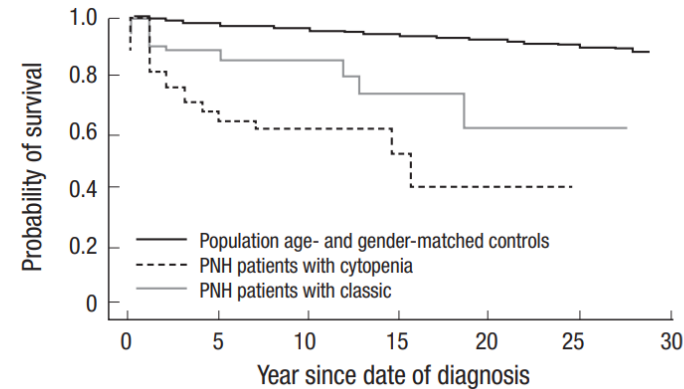


Factors Associated with Increased PNH Mortality

Thrombosis,
unexplained



A

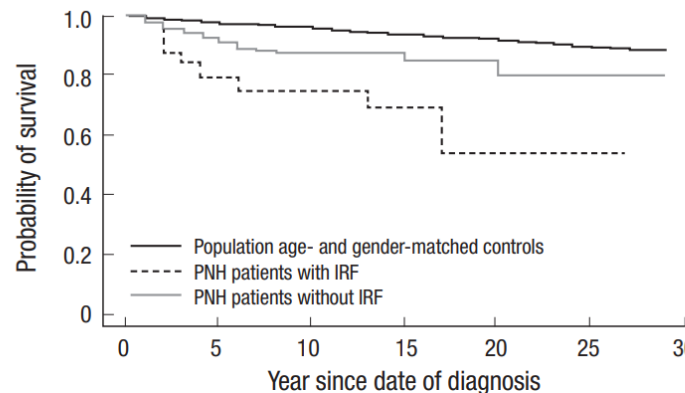


B

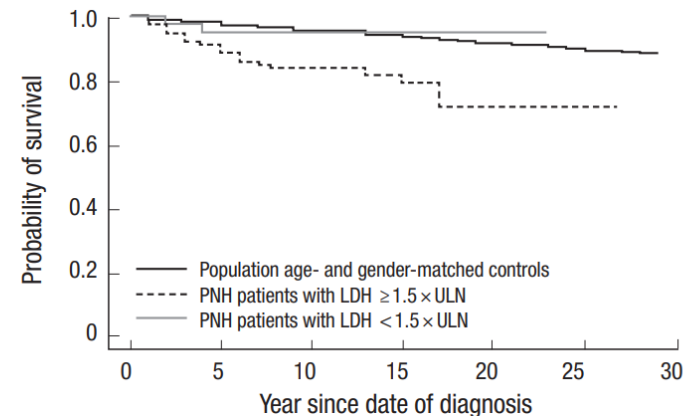
Cytopenia,
unexplained

AA/RA-MDS

Hemoglobinuria



C



D

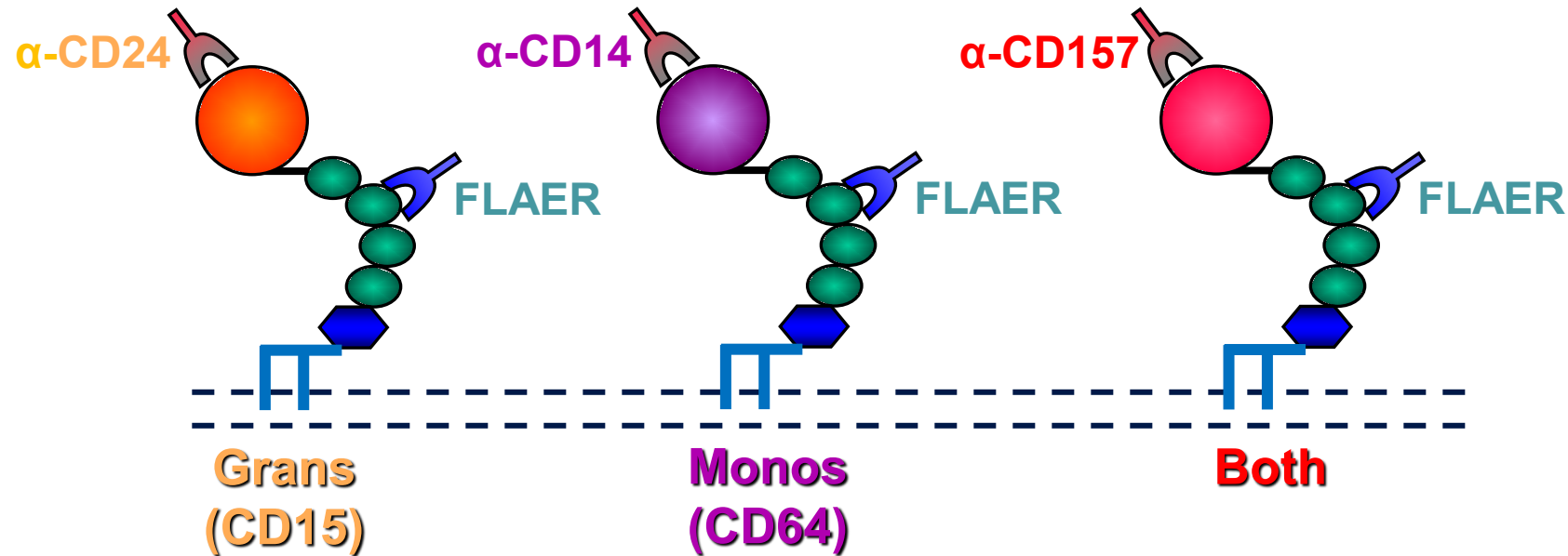
Coombs-negative
hemolytic anemia

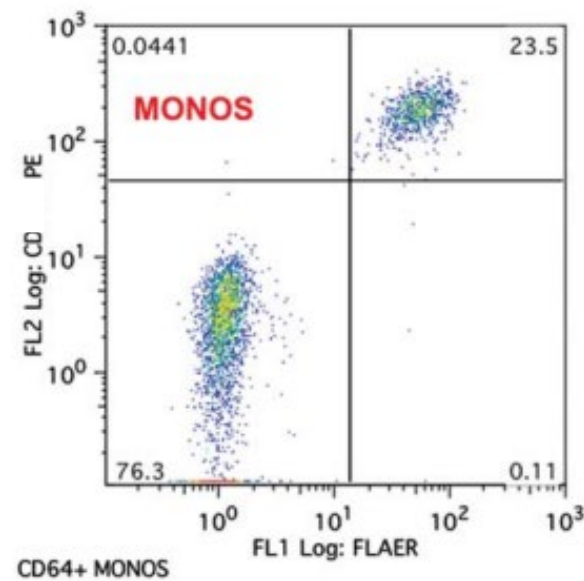
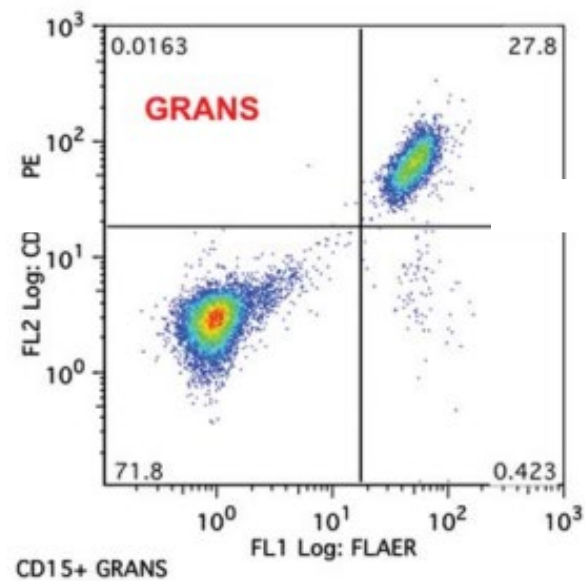
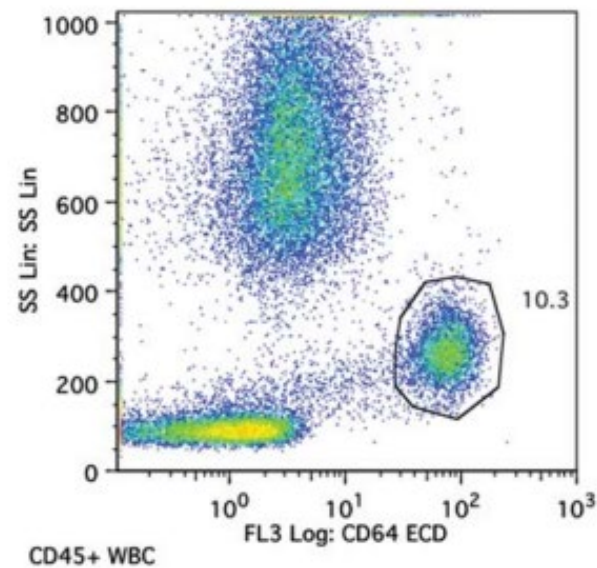
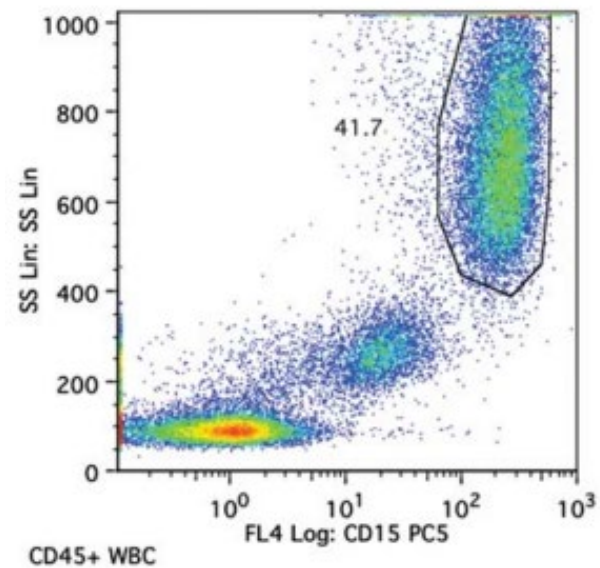
Fig. 2. Kaplan-Meier survival of PNH patients compared with age- and gender-matched general population. (A) Patients with TE had a 14-fold higher mortality rate compared with the general population (standard mortality ratio [SMR] = 13.9; 95% confidence interval [CI], 8.2-19.6; $P < 0.001$). (B) Patients with cytopenia had a mortality rate 6.2-fold greater than the age- and gender-matched general population (SMR = 6.2; 95% CI, 4.7-9.3; $P < 0.001$). (C) Patients with impaired renal function (IRF) had a mortality rate 7.8-fold greater than the age- and gender-matched general population (SMR = 7.8; 95% CI, 3.9-11.8; $P < 0.001$). (D) PNH patients with lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) ≥ 1.5 times the upper limit of normal (ULN) had a 5.0-fold greater risk for mortality compared with patients with LDH $< 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ (95% CI, 1.15-21.70; $P = 0.009$). PNH patients with LDH $\geq 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ had a 4.8-fold higher mortality rate compared with the general population (SMR = 4.8; 95% CI, 3.0-6.6; $P < 0.001$).



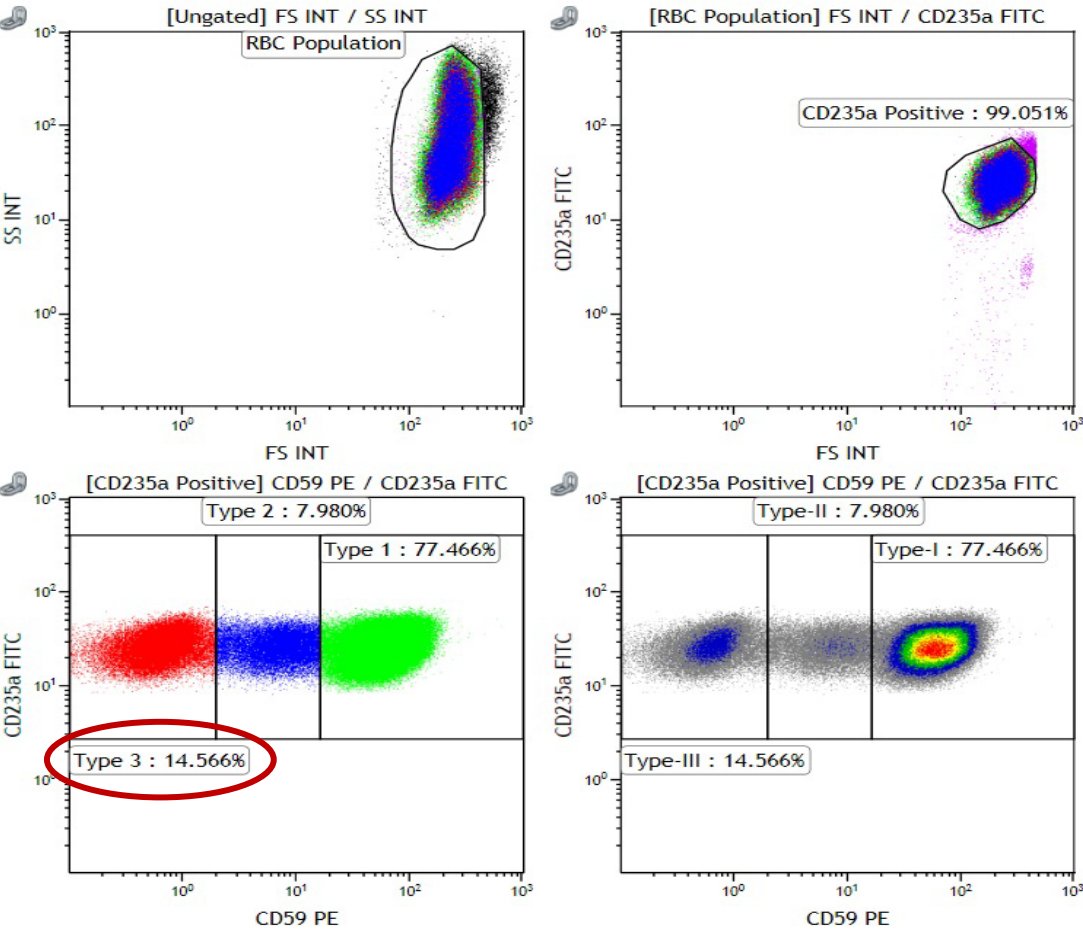
High Sensitivity Flow Cytometry

1. Identify relevant cell population(s)
2. Demonstrate GPI-negativity in ≥ 2 lineages

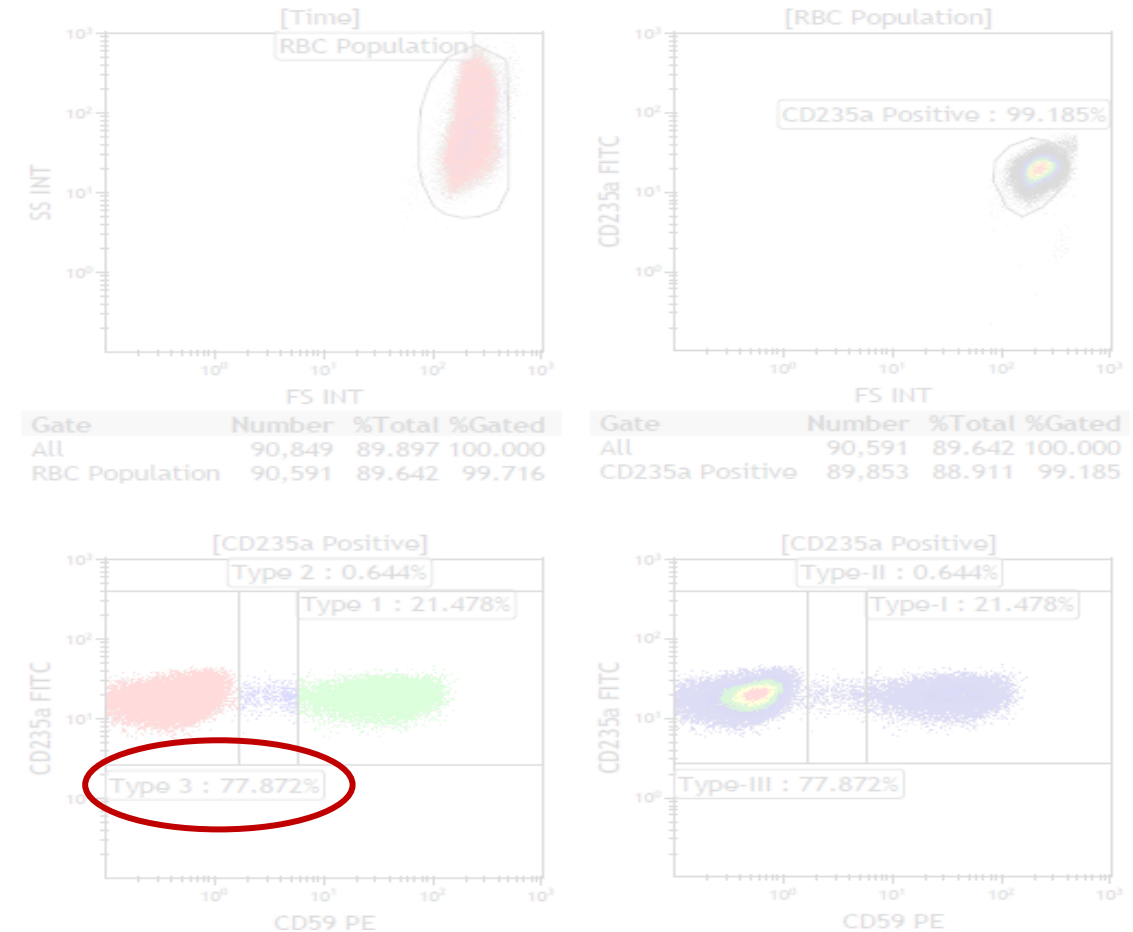




RBC Flow Cytometry (*naïve* → *treatment*)



Treatment



TREATMENT OF PNH

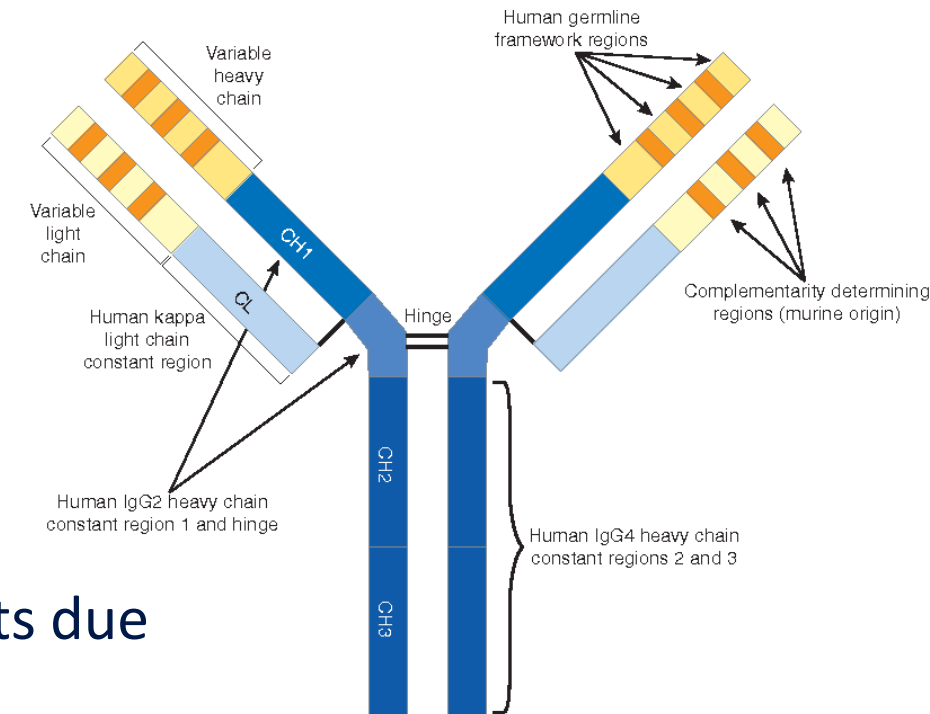


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Upfront Management of PNH

- Supportive Care
 - Transfusions, hematinics (folate, iron), analgesia
- Allogeneic stem cell transplant
 - Reserved for BMF-predominant presentations
 - Avoid HSCT for thrombotic patients
- **Complement inhibition**
 - Continuous protection required while PNH clone exists due to the chronic, persistent risks from hemolysis



Management of PNH with Eculizumab

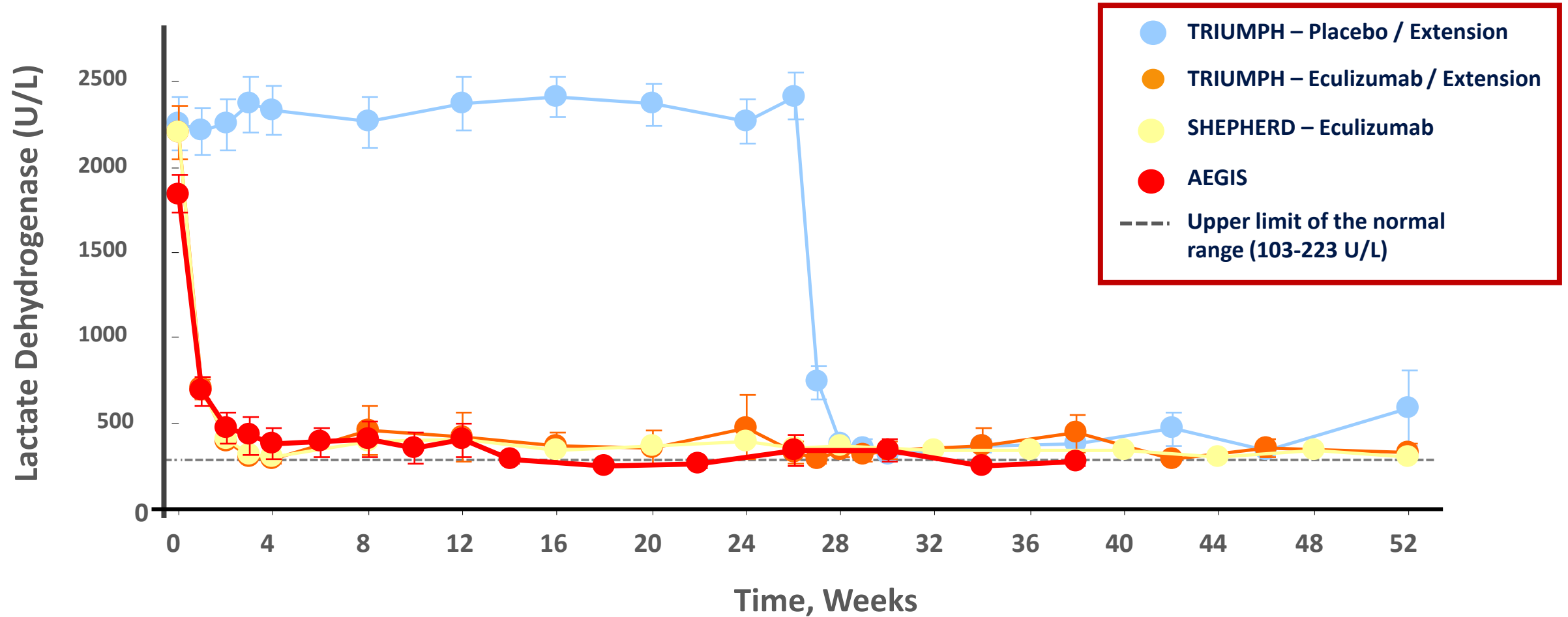
Eculizumab dosing schedule										
Pretreatment		Induction phase				Maintenance phase				
2 weeks before induction**	Week →	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> vaccination	Dose (mg)	600	600	600	600	900	X	900	X	900

q14d

- ***Meningococcal vaccination (ACWY + MenB) mandatory***
- *Anti-meningococcal antibiotics required until 14+ days post-vaccine*
- *May consider additional encapsulated bacteria vaccinations*

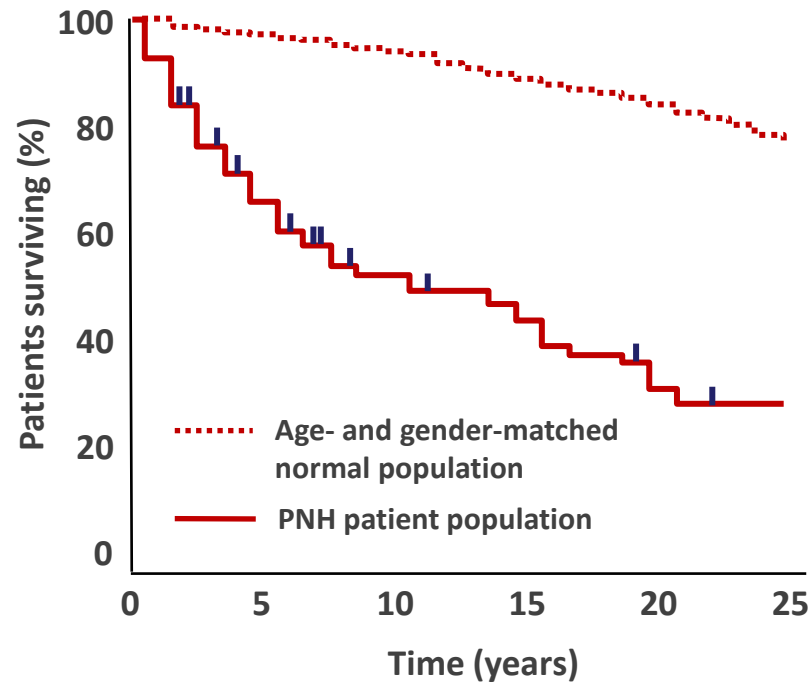


Reduced Intravascular Hemolysis with Eculizumab



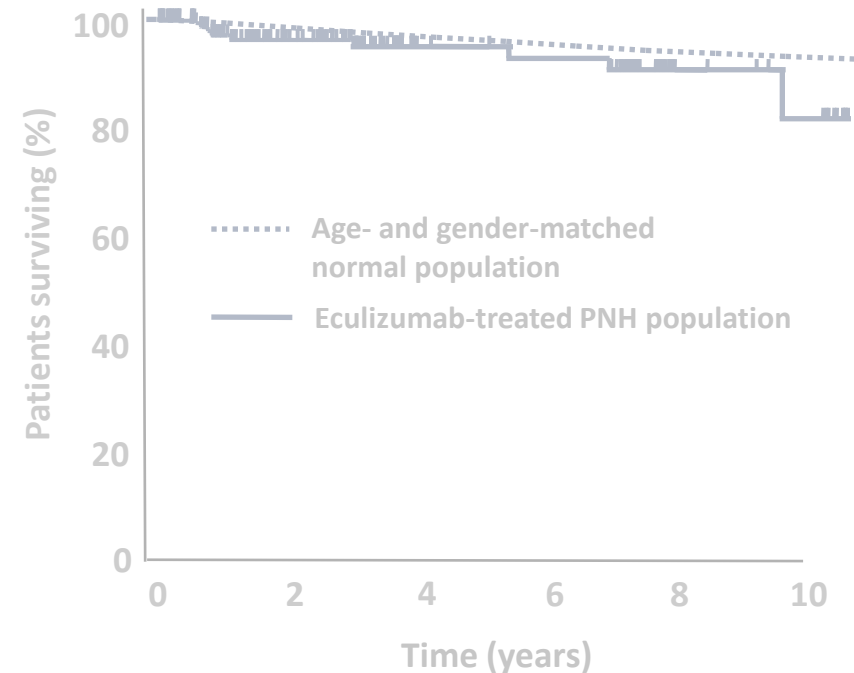
Eculizumab Improves Overall Survival

Pre-eculizumab from time of diagnosis in 80 patients with PNH



Despite best supportive care, 5-year mortality rate was 35%

PNH patients on eculizumab compared with age- and sex-matched controls



Overall survival >90% over 10 years, with deaths mostly due to BMF



Terminal Complement Blockade Reduces TE Risk

Table 3. Thromboembolism events in patients with and without eculizumab

85% RRR

TE events	Pilot*	TRIUMPH		SHEPHERD	Extension† (all studies)
		Placebo group	Eculizumab group		
Before treatment					
Patients, no.	11	44	43	97	195
TE events, no.	5	11	16	91	124
Patient-years, no.	161.7	470.4	309.0	718.3	1683.4
TE event rate, no. per 100 patient-years	3.09	2.34	5.18	12.67	7.37
Eculizumab treatment‡					
Patients, no.	11	44	43	97	195
TE events, no.	0	1	0	2	3§
Patient-years, no.	34.2	22.9	21.8	96.9	281.0
TE event rate, no. per 100 patient-years	0.00	4.38	0.00	2.06	1.07

*Includes a 1-year and a 2-year extension study.

†Includes TRIUMPH placebo-treated patients who transitioned to eculizumab treatment in the phase 3 extension study.

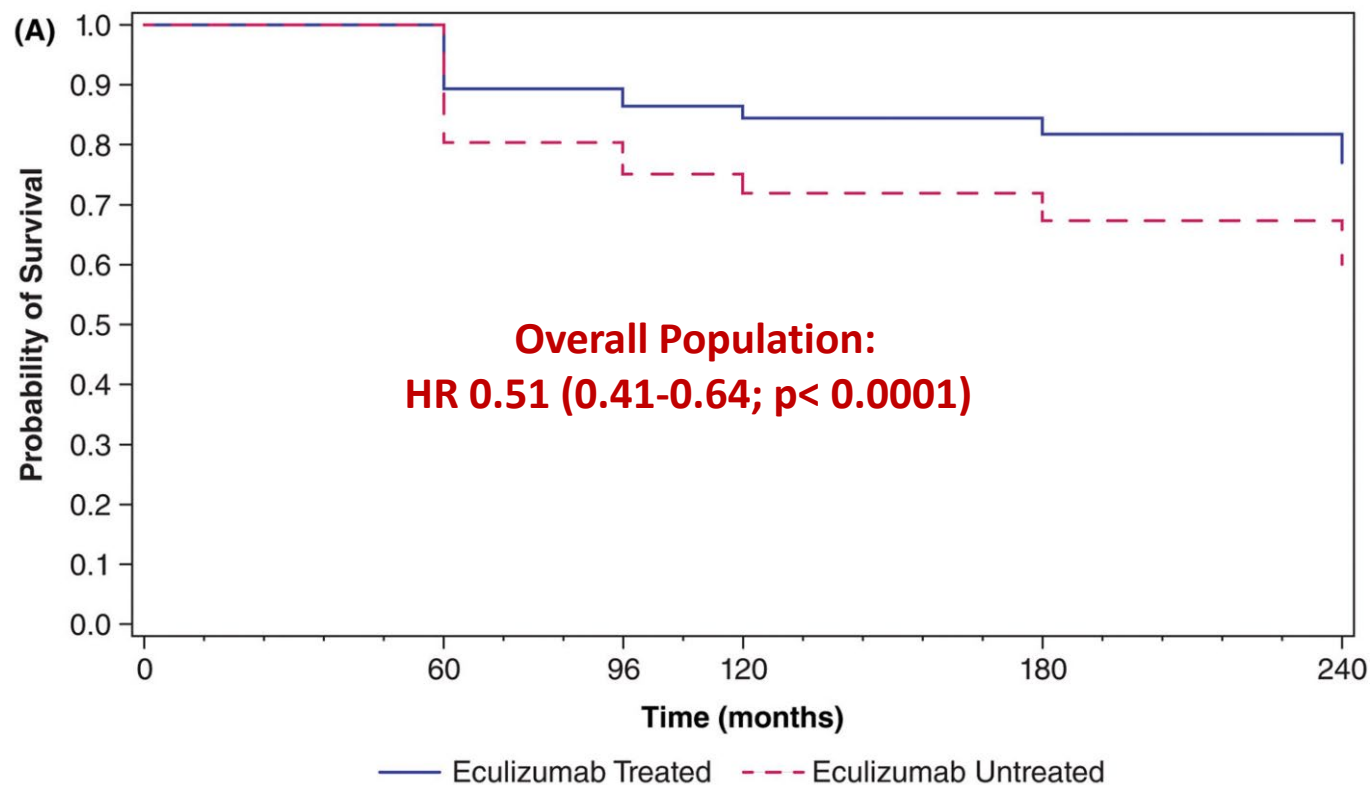
‡Three of 195 patients began anticoagulant treatment during eculizumab, 2 of whom started the treatment after a TE event.

§The 3 TE events occurring during eculizumab treatment included 2 events during SHEPHERD and 1 event during the extension.

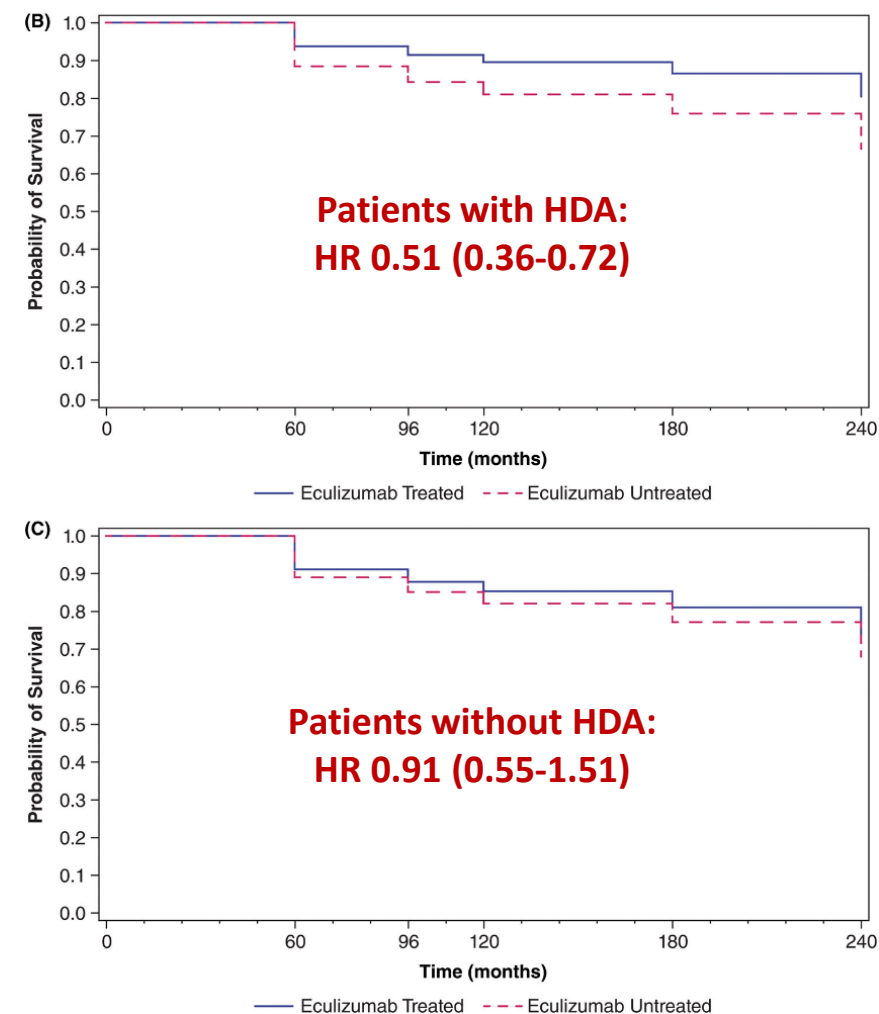
|| $P < .001$ for comparisons of eculizumab treatment versus before treatment, signed rank test.



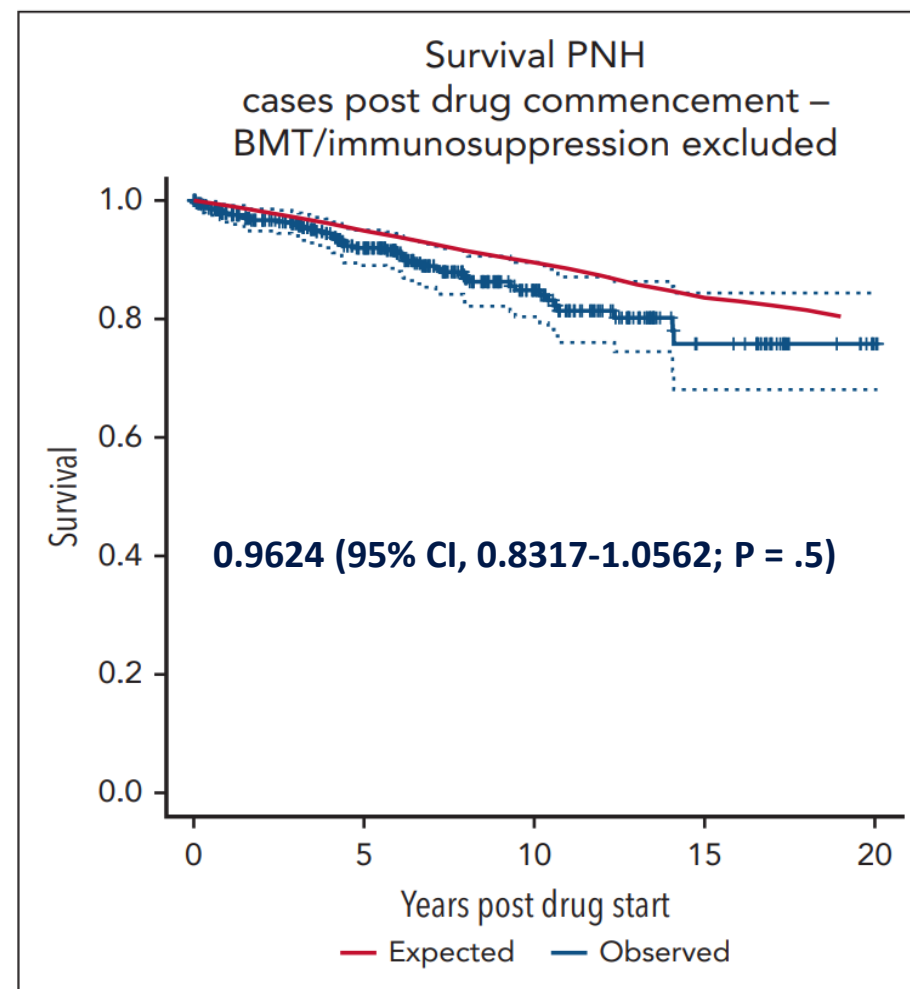
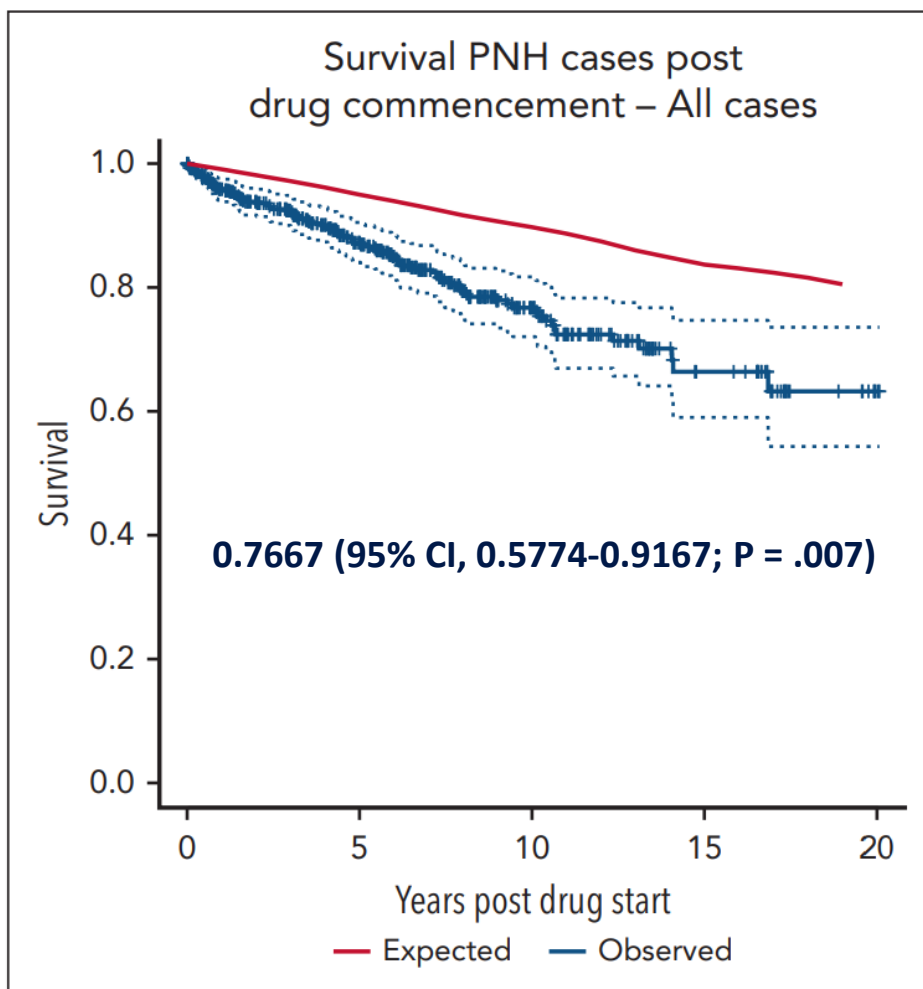
Eculizumab Improves Overall Survival



Treated vs. untreated time TE risk, HR 0.40 (0.26–0.62)



Overall Survival with C5 Inhibition



APPROVED THERAPIES BEYOND ECULIZUMAB



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Why Do We Need New Treatments?

Met Needs

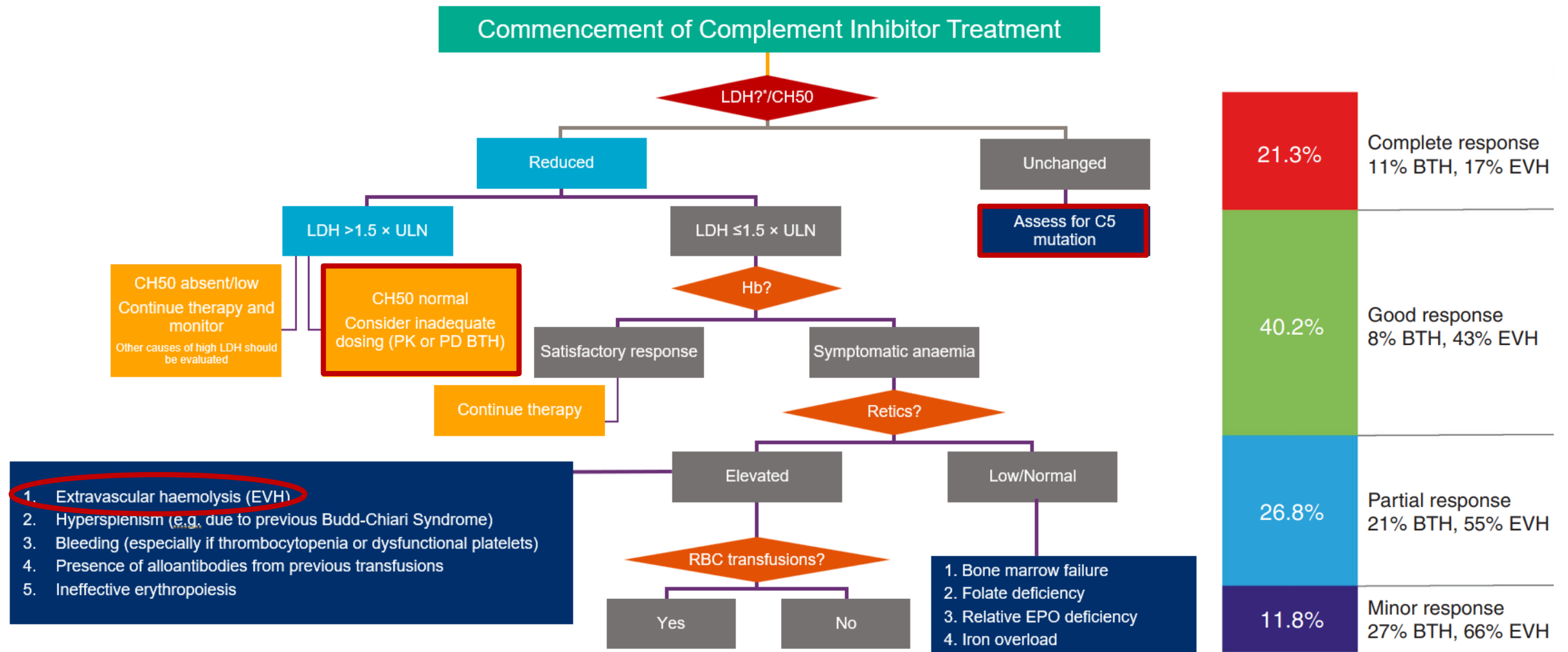
- ✓ IVH blockade
- ✓ Reduced thrombosis risk
- ✓ Minimised end-organ damage
- ✓ Increased overall survival
- ✓ Improved pregnancy outcomes

Unmet Needs

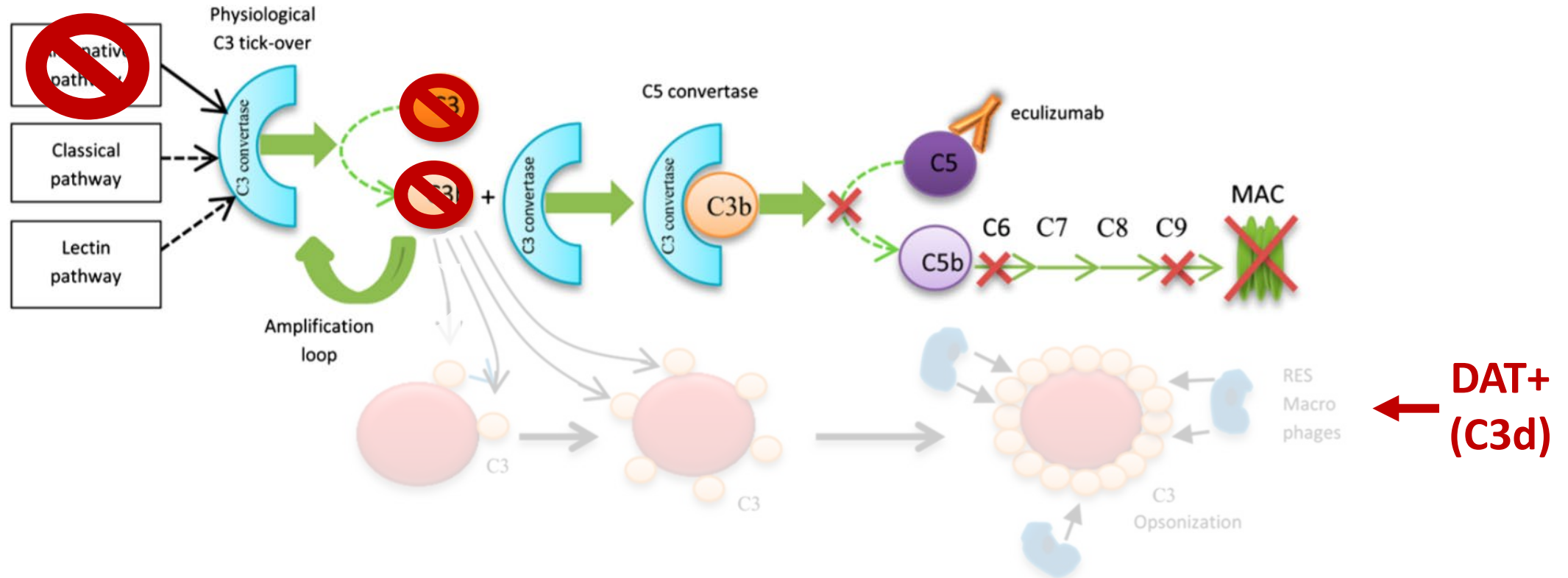
- ? Correct the anemia of EVH
- ? Improve quality of life
- ? Reduce treatment burden
- ? Biomarker availability
- ? Validate BTH management



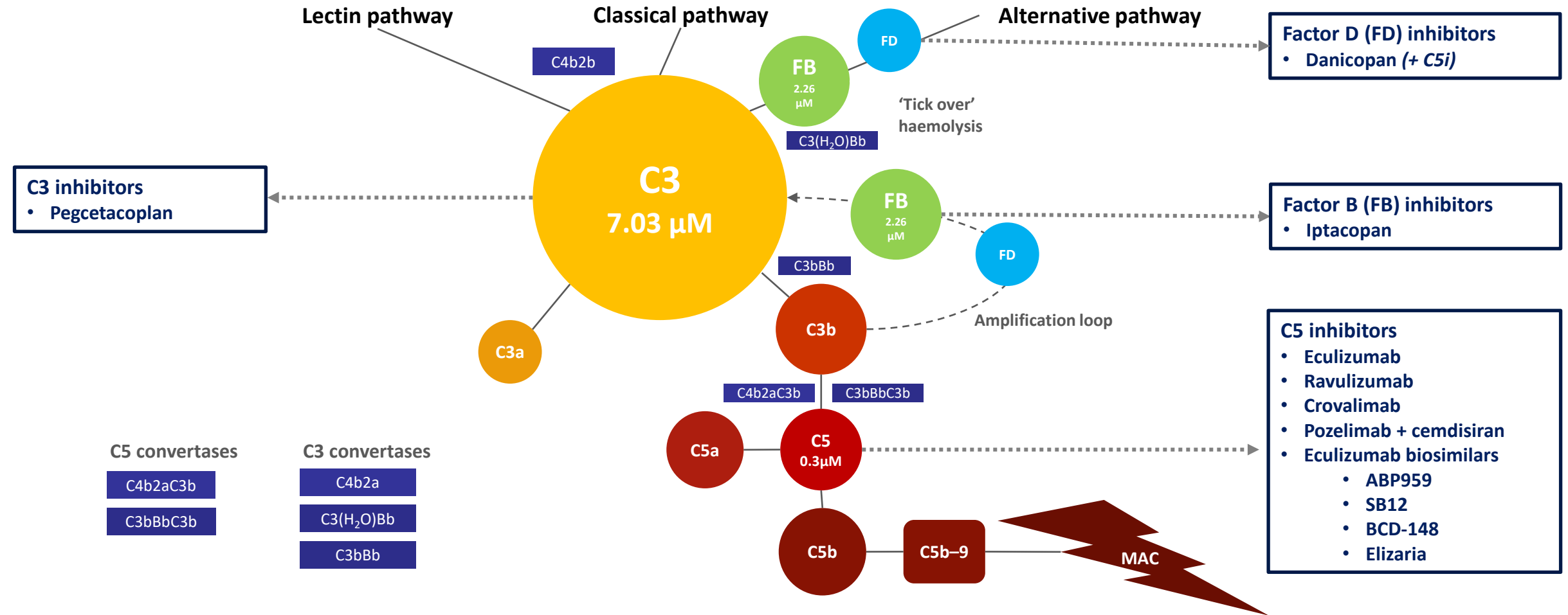
Evaluating a PNH Patient on C5 Inhibition



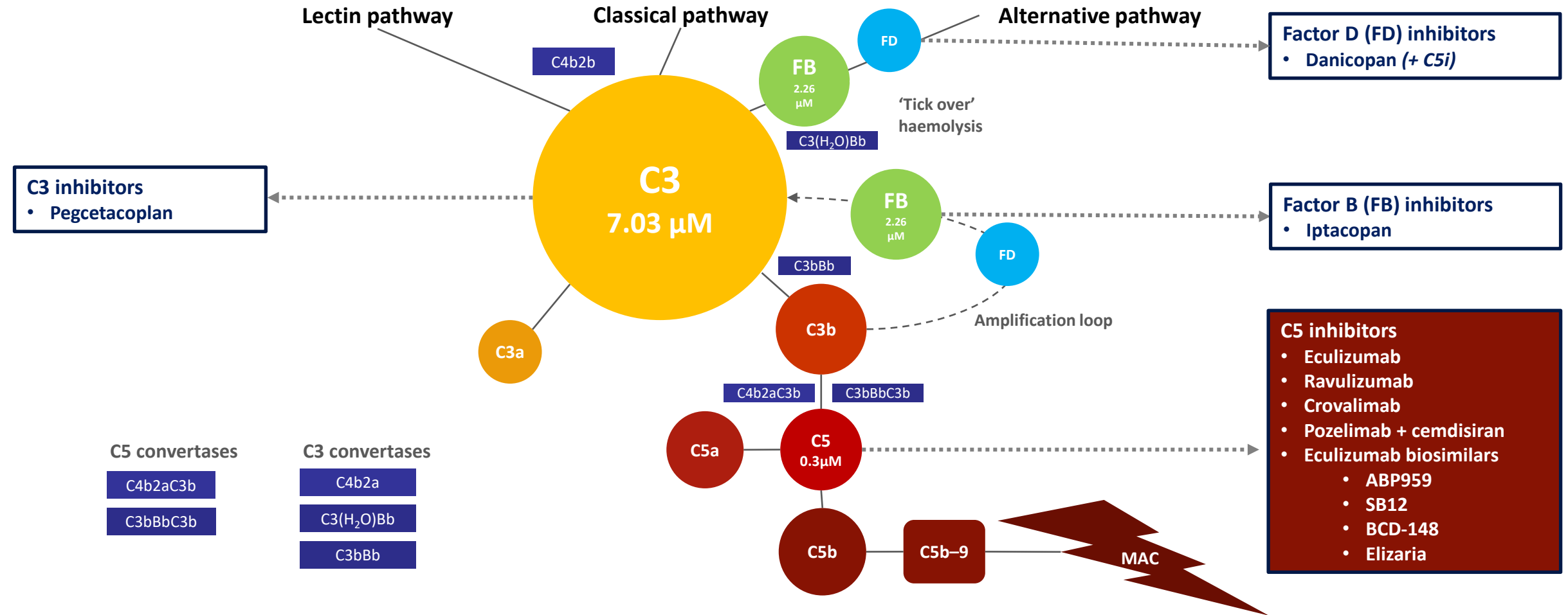
C5 Inhibition Drives Extravascular Escape



Complement Inhibitors for PNH Treatment

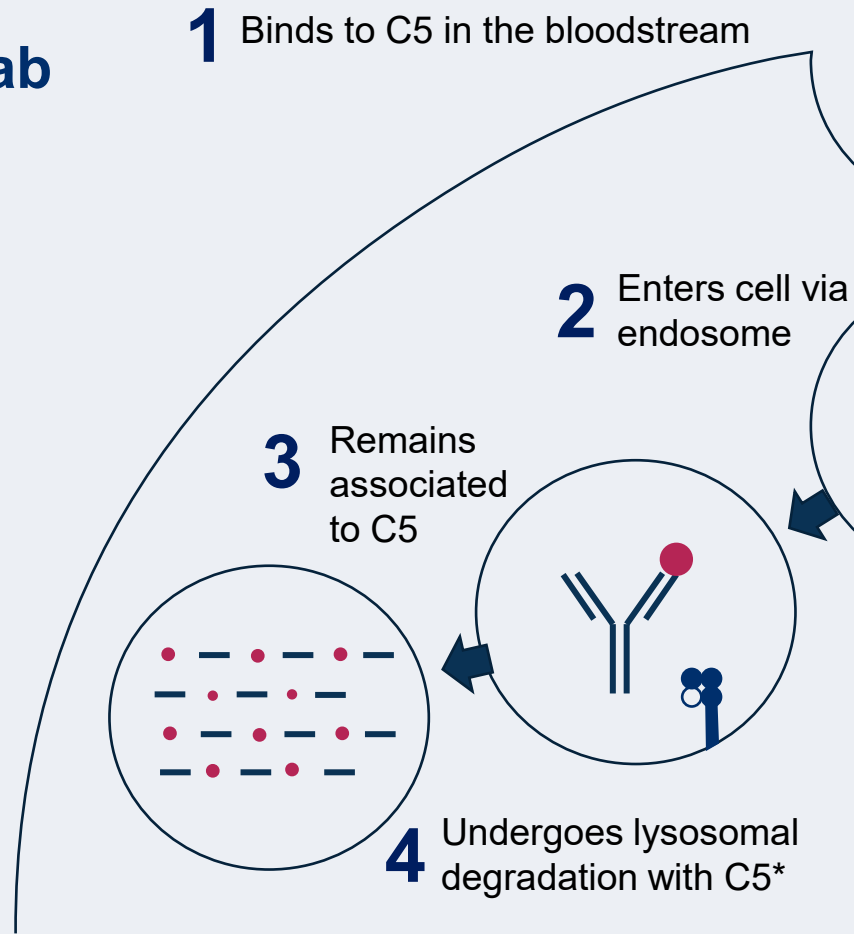


Complement Inhibitors for PNH Treatment

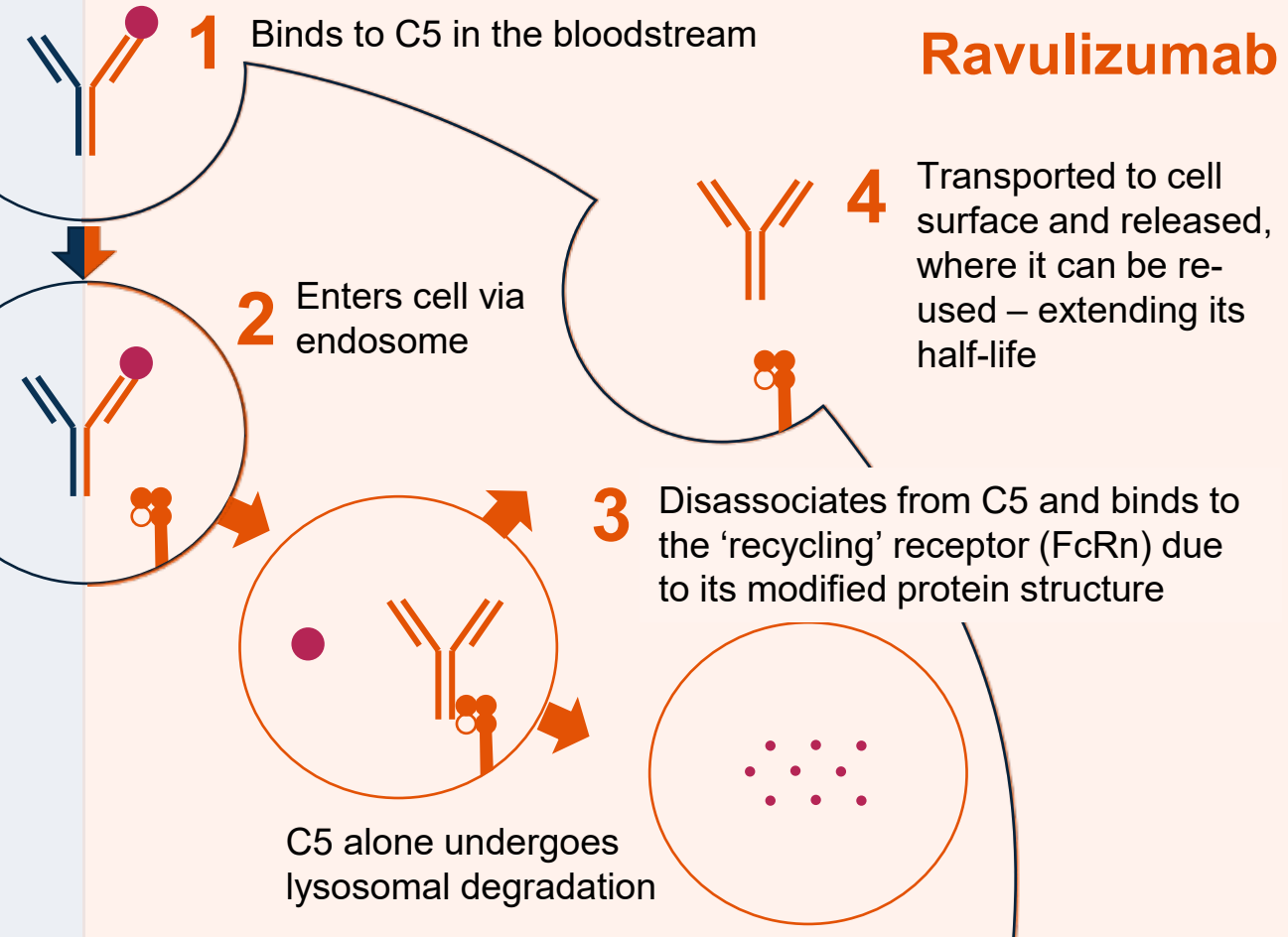


Eculizumab vs. Ravulizumab

Eculizumab

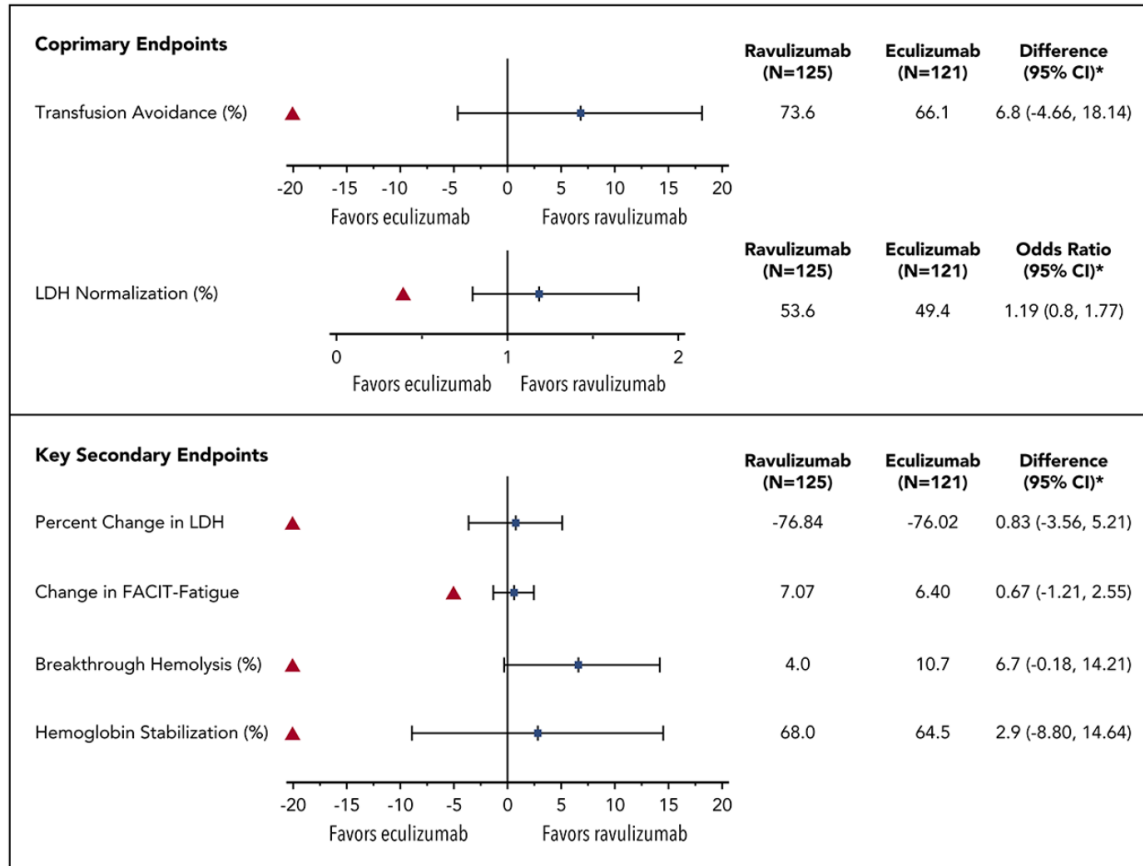


Ravulizumab

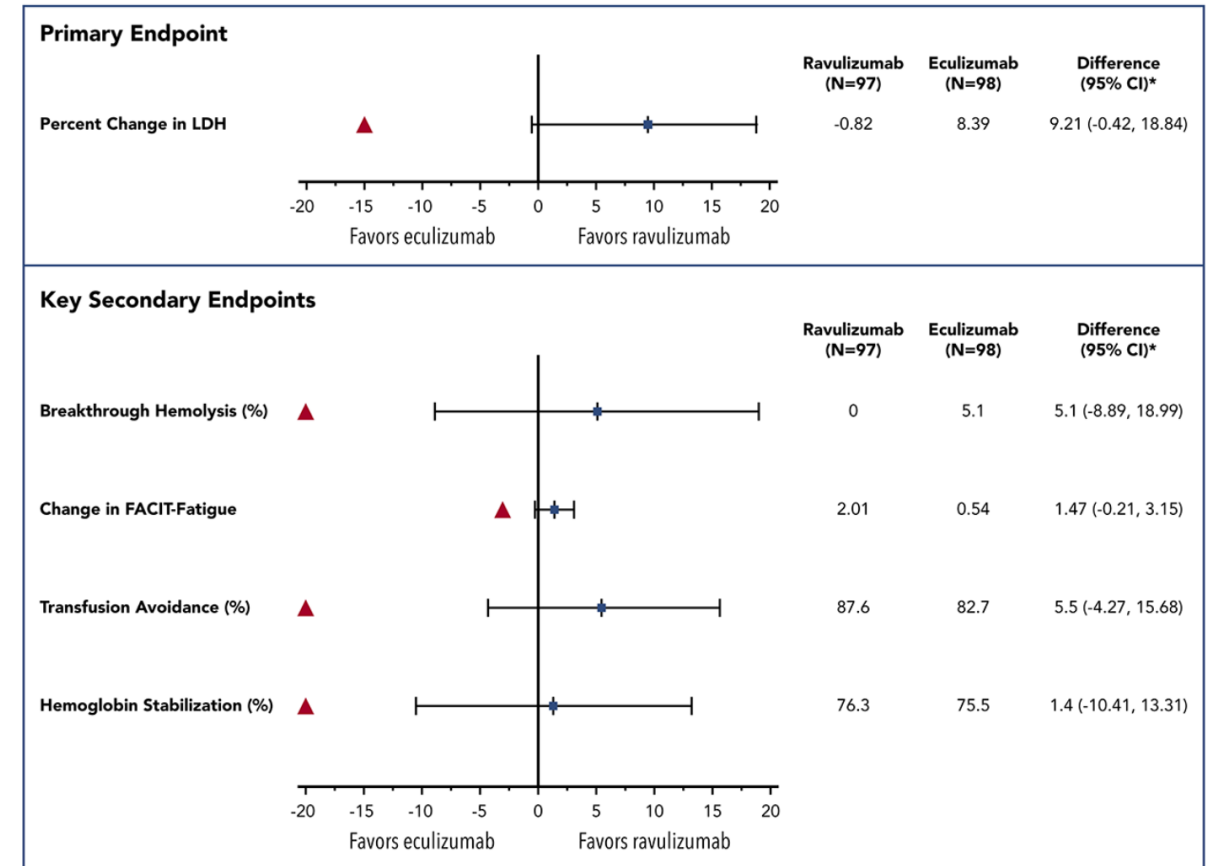


IVH Control Non-Inferior with Ravulizumab

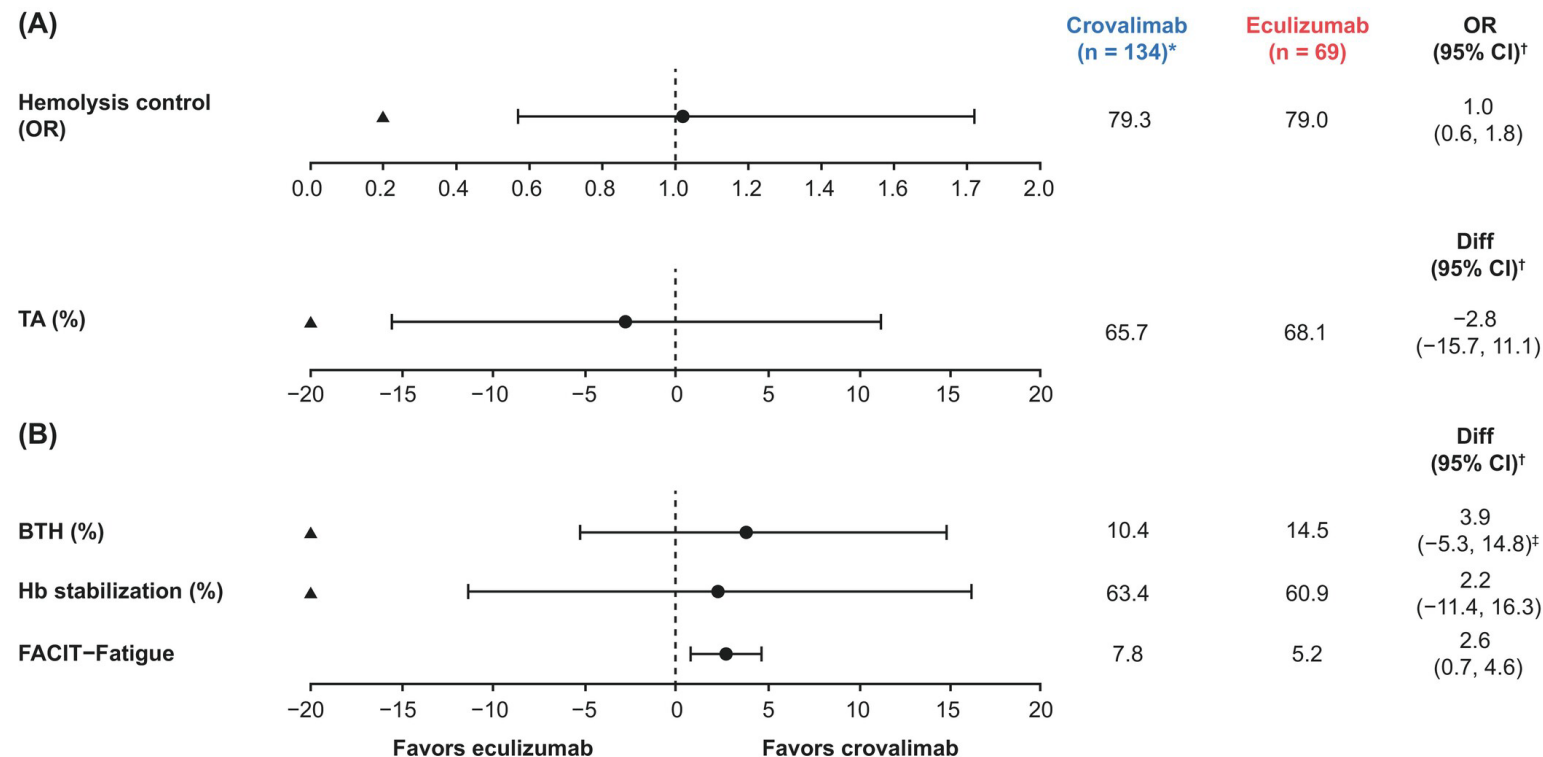
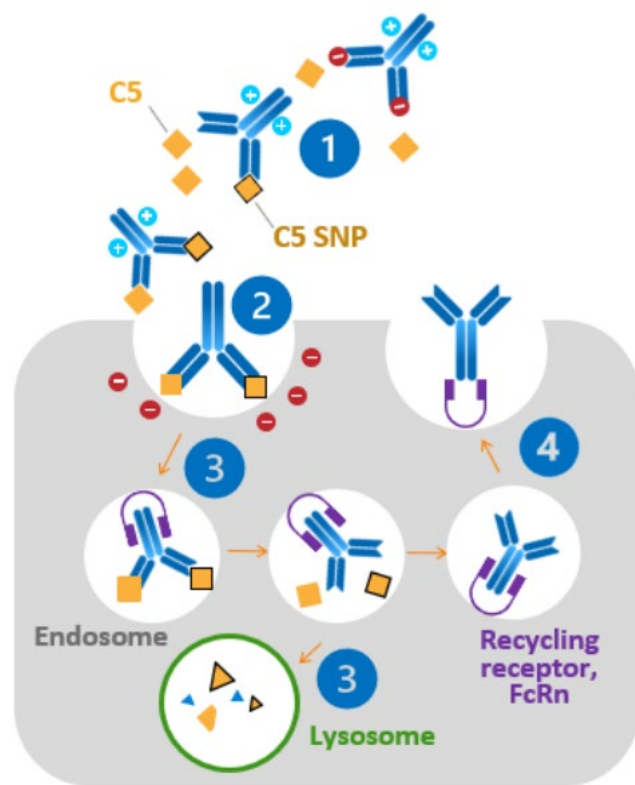
Efficacy of Ravulizumab and Eculizumab in Complement Inhibitor-Naïve PNH Patients



Efficacy of Ravulizumab and Eculizumab in PNH Patients Stable on Eculizumab

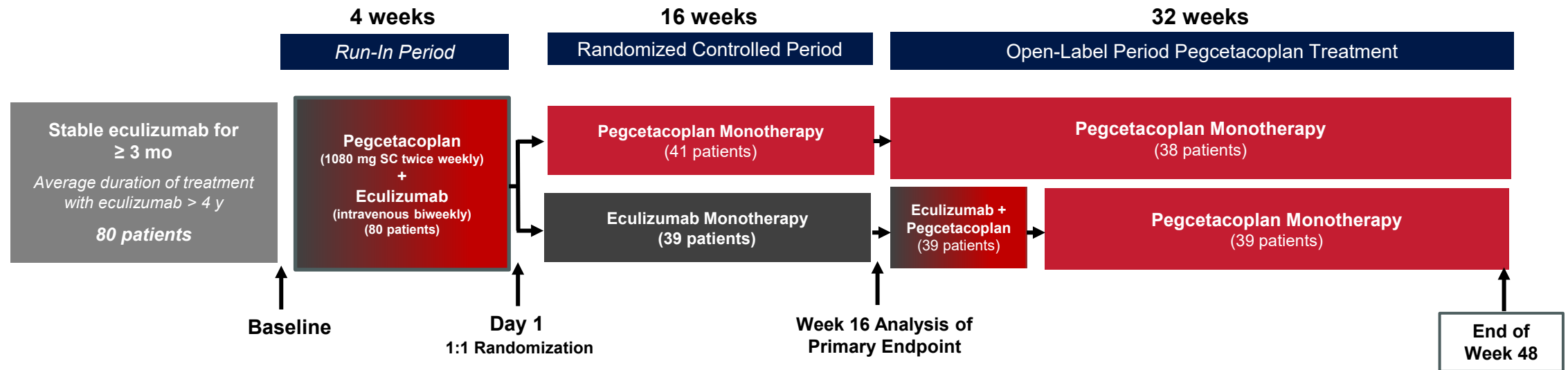


IVH Control Non-Inferior with Crovalimab





PEGASUS: Subcutaneous C3 Inhibition

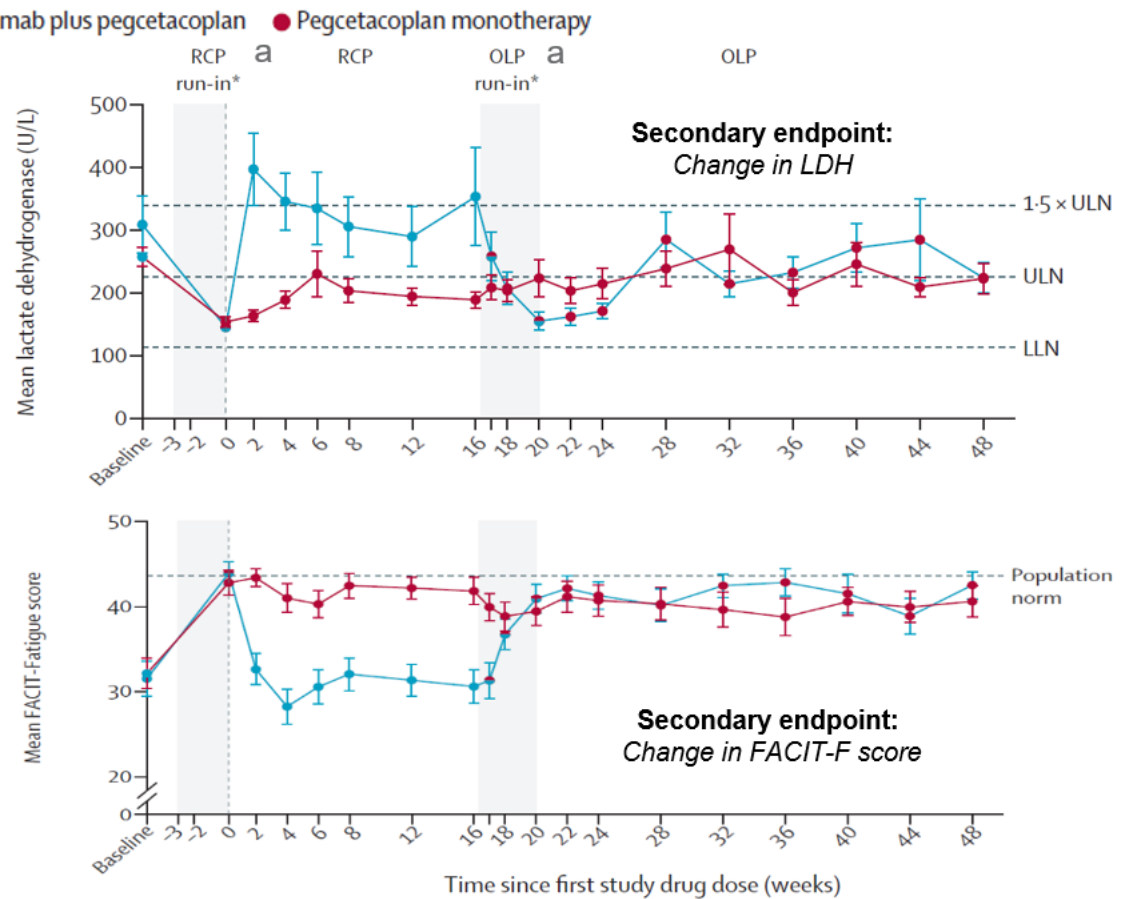
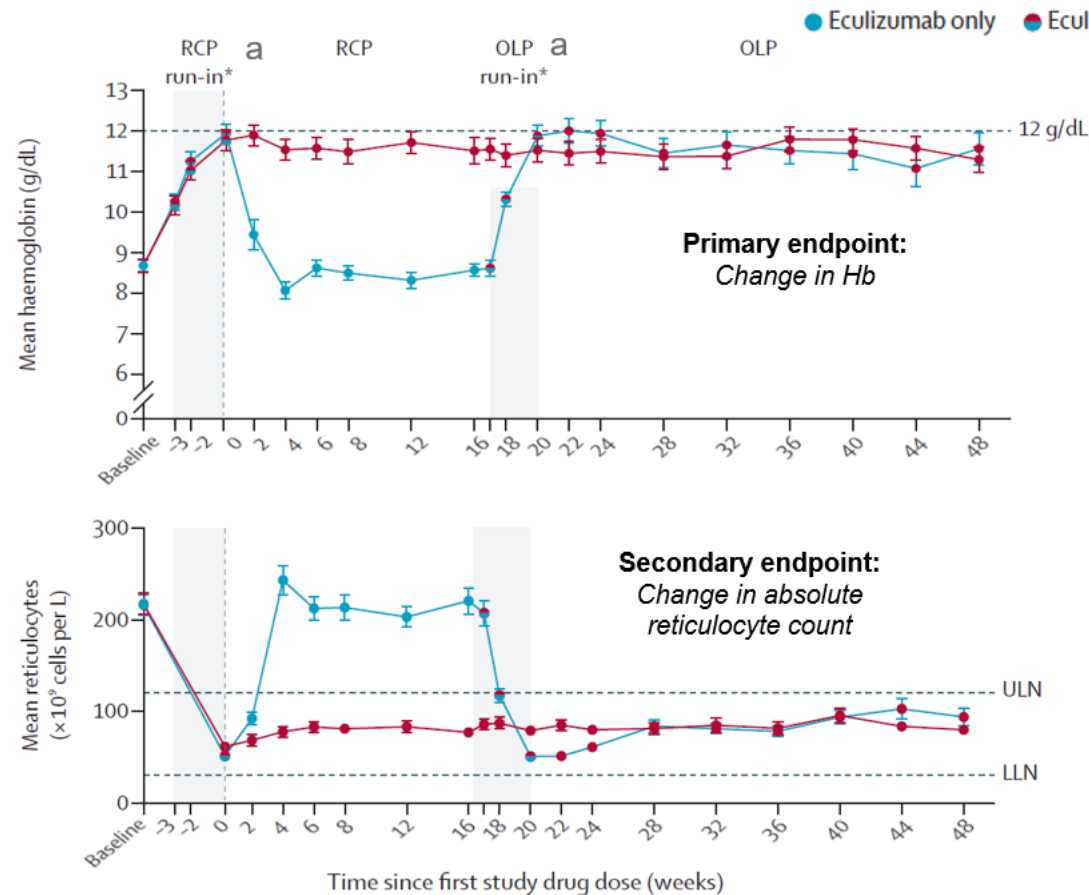


Study Design	
Population	Patients ≥ 18 years of age with PNH and Hb < 10.5 g/dL despite stable treatment with eculizumab (≥ 3 months)
Primary endpoint	Change from baseline in Hb level at week 16

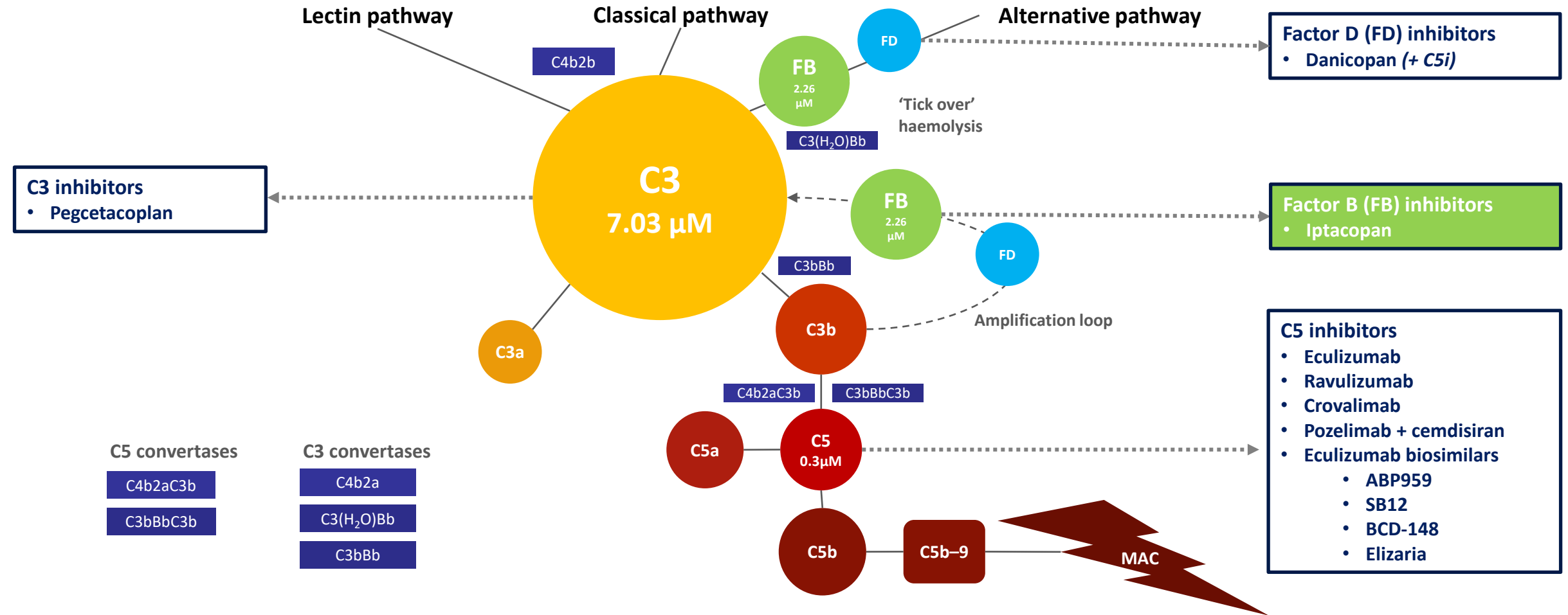
Week 48 Endpoints	
Secondary endpoints	• Change from baseline in Hb levels, LDH levels, ARC, and FACIT-F • Freedom from transfusions
Safety endpoints	Incidence and severity of TEAEs
Treatment groups	• Pegcetacoplan to pegcetacoplan: Patients received peg during the randomized period and continued through week 48 of the OLP • Eculizumab to pegcetacoplan: Patients received ecu during the randomized period and switched to peg during OLP after run-in



PEGASUS: Subcutaneous C3 Inhibition

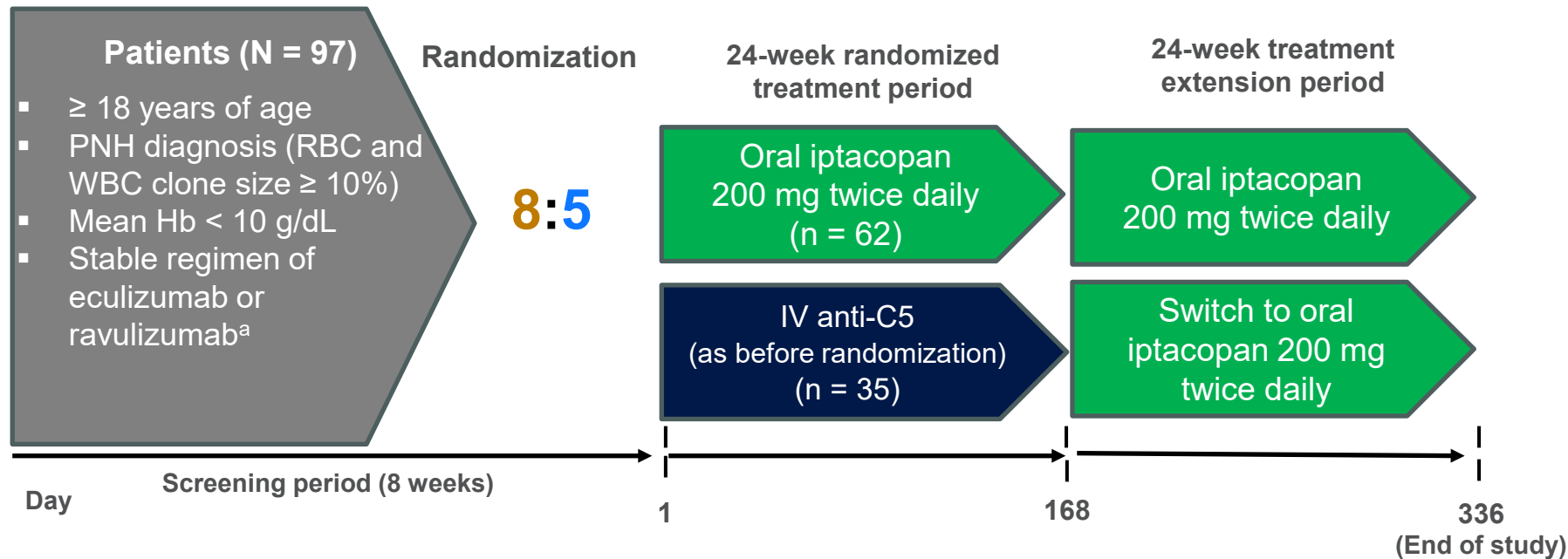


Complement Inhibitors for PNH Treatment



APPLY-PNH: Oral Factor B Inhibition

Open-label, Randomized, Active Comparator Controlled Multicenter, Phase III Trial
Investigating Iptacopan Monotherapy in Adult Patients With PNH and Residual
Anemia Despite SOC Therapy (NCT04558918)



Primary Endpoints

- Hematological response defined as an increase from baseline in Hb of ≥ 2 g/dL^c in the absence of RBC transfusions^d
- Hematological response defined as Hb ≥ 12 g/dL^c in the absence of RBC transfusions^d

Secondary Endpoints

- Transfusion avoidance^d
- Change from baseline^c:
 - Hb levels^e
 - FACIT-Fatigue scores
 - ARC
 - LDH levels
- Occurrences of clinical breakthrough hemolysis and MAVES^f
- Safety^f



APPLY-PNH: Oral Factor B Inhibition

Increase From Baseline in Hb of ≥ 2 g/dL
Between Days 126 and 168 of APPLY-PNH

Hb ≥ 12 g/dL Between Days 126
and 168 of APPLY-PNH

Observed:

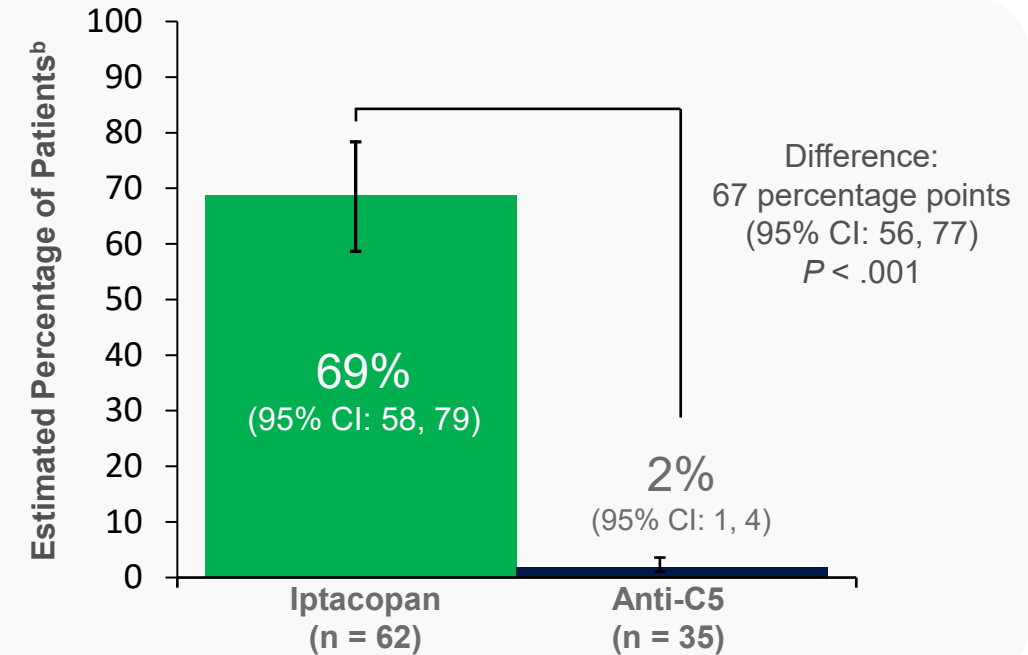
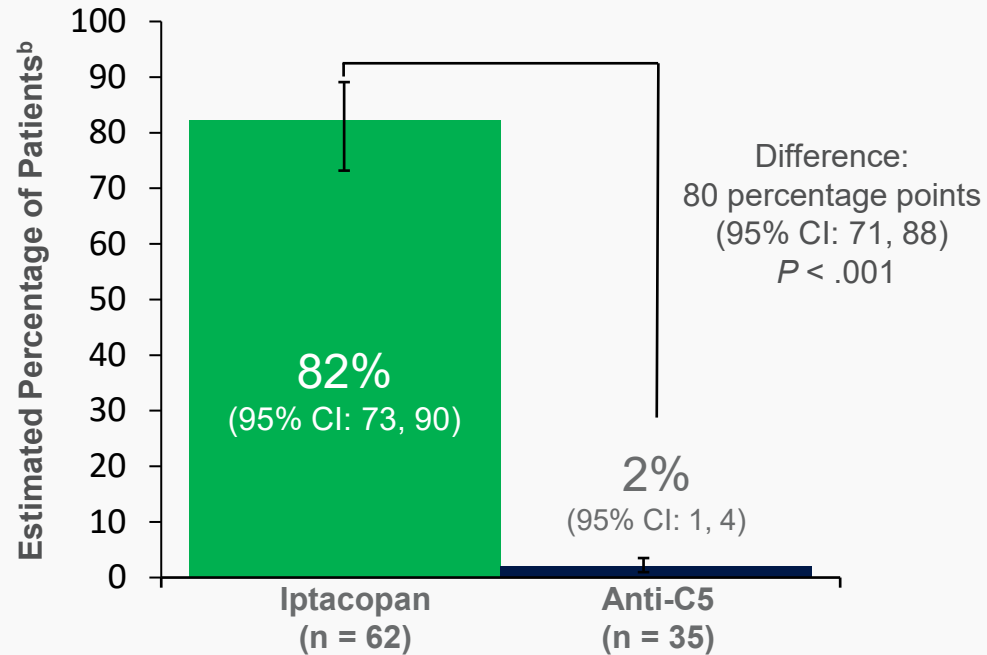
51/60
patients treated
with **iptacopan**

0/35
patients treated with
anti-C5 therapy

42/60
patients treated
with **iptacopan**

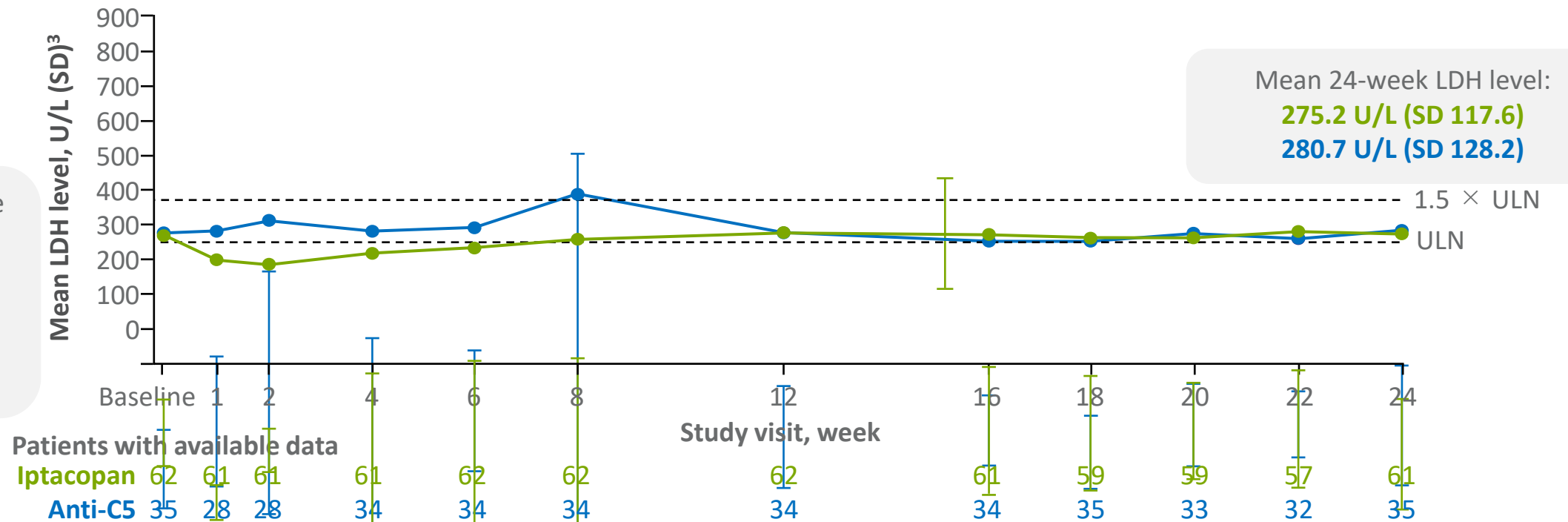
0/35
patients treated with
anti-C5 therapy

Population
estimate:

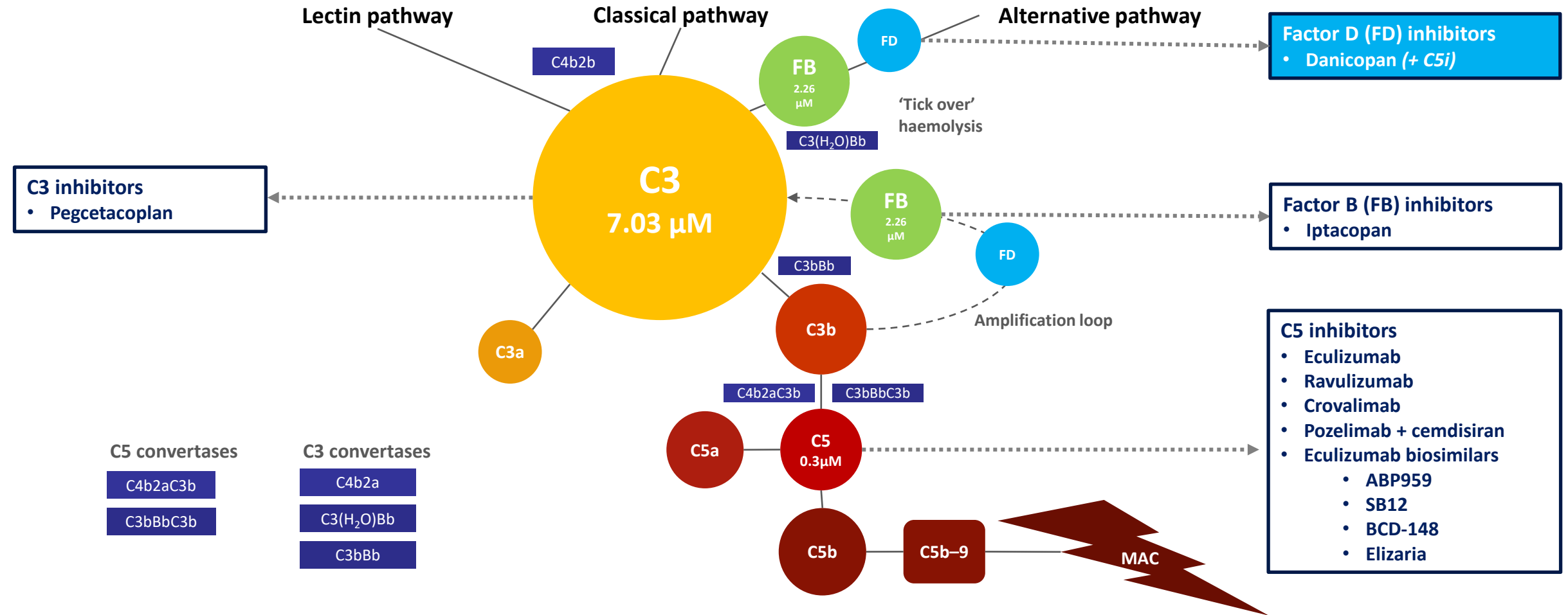


APPLY-PNH: Oral Factor B Inhibition

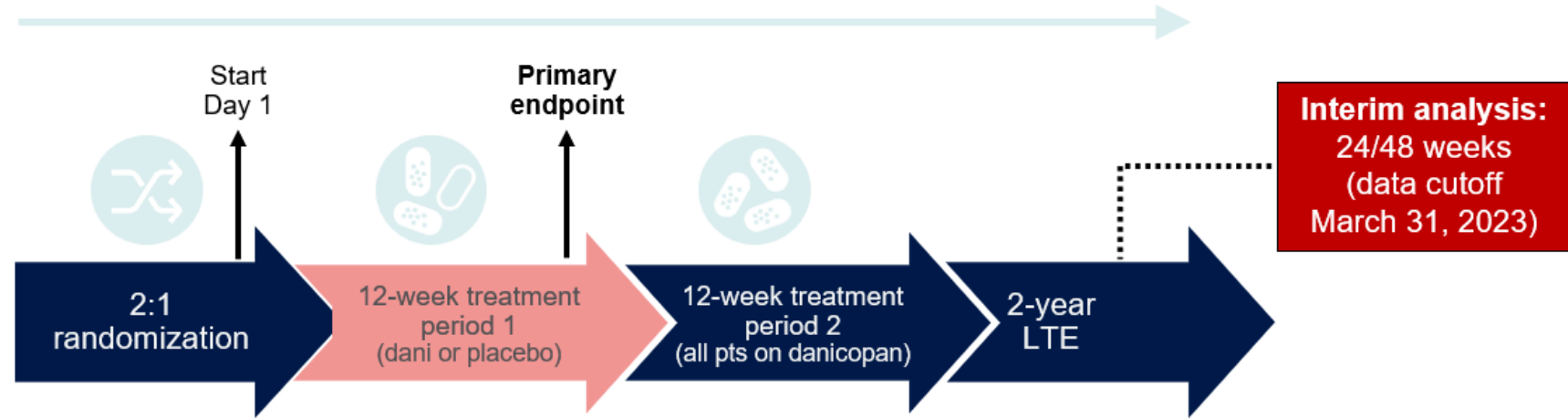
- Adjusted geometric mean ratio to baseline in LDH (95% CI) **0.96 (0.90, 1.03)** for **iptacopan** vs **0.98 (0.89, 1.07)** for **anti-C5**
- Most patients (92.8%) had $\text{LDH} \leq 1.5 \times \text{ULN}$ at baseline** because of control by anti-C5 therapy
- After switching to iptacopan monotherapy from anti-C5 therapy, **IVH control was maintained**



Complement Inhibitors for PNH Treatment



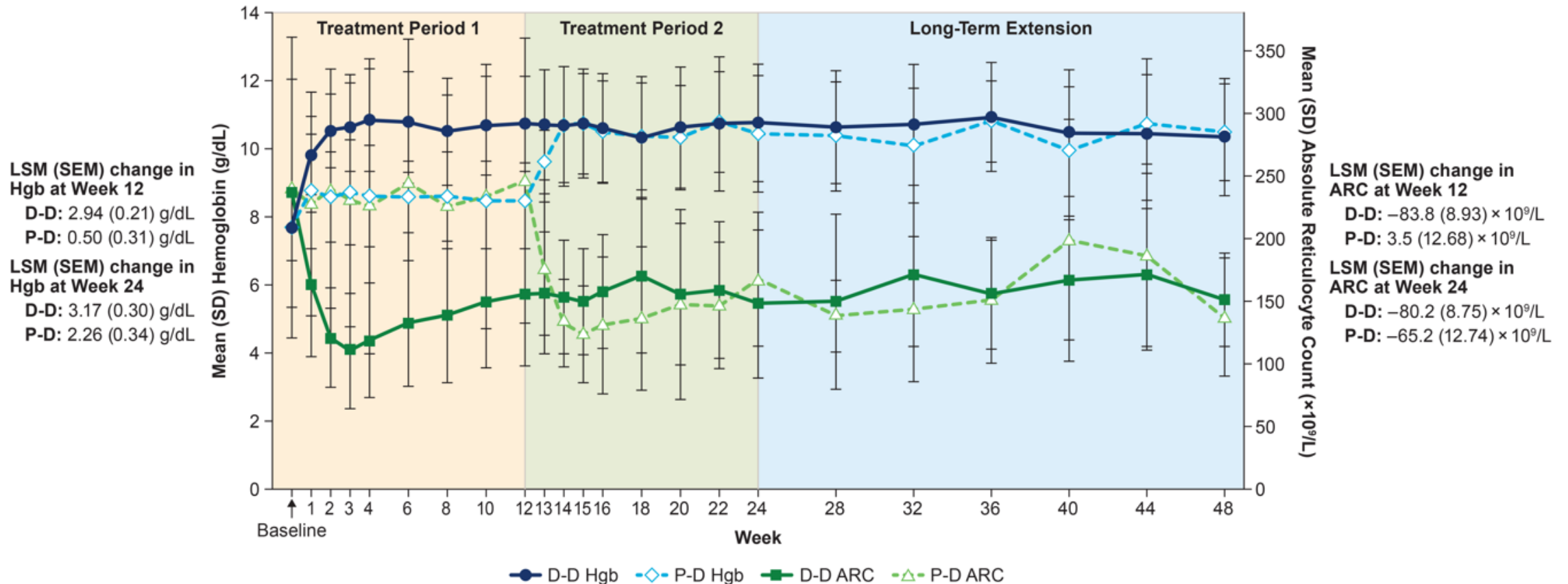
ALPHA Trial: Factor Inhibition + C5 Inhibition



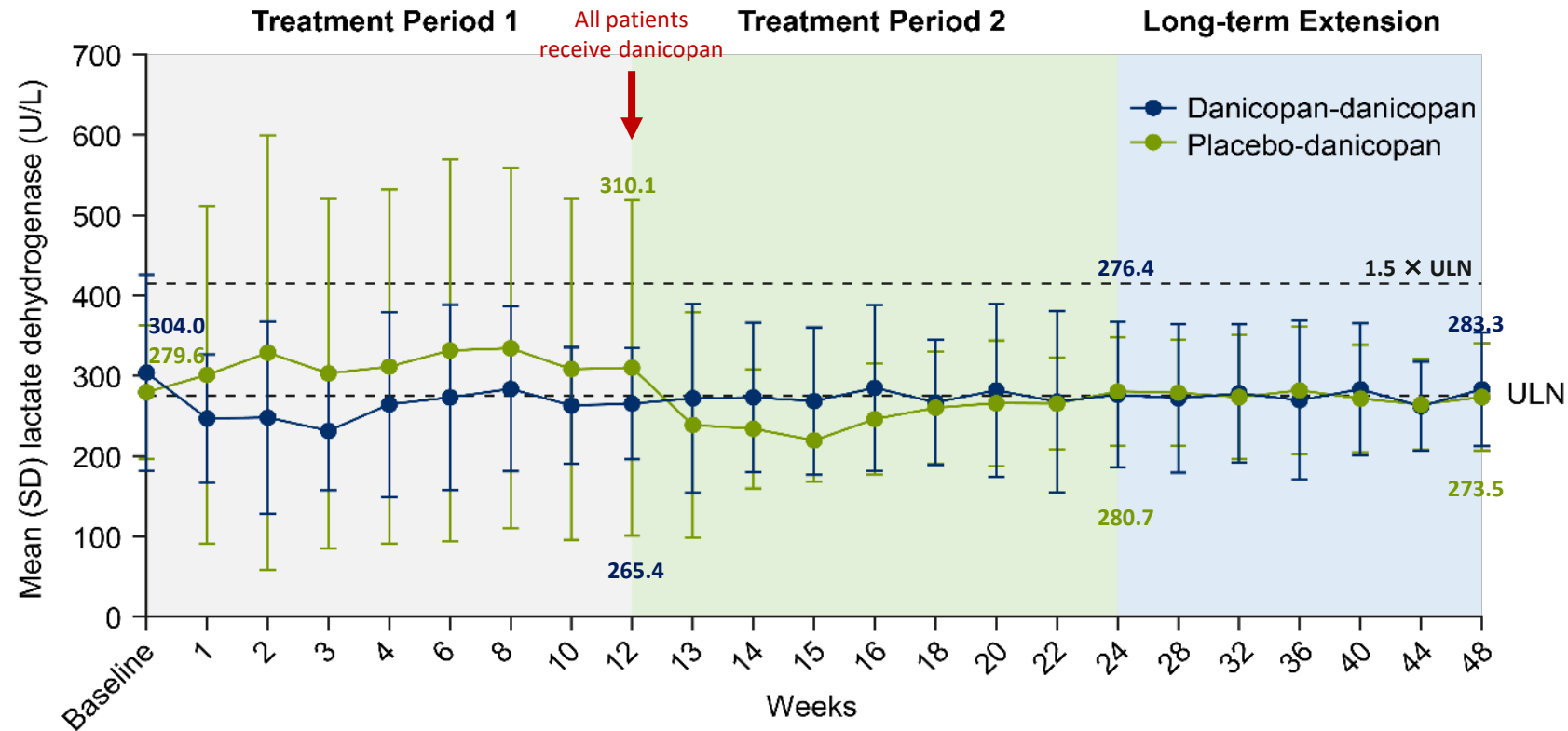
Key Inclusion Criteria	Efficacy Measures
▪ Aged ≥ 18 years with diagnosis of PNH ▪ csEVH (Hb ≤ 9.5 g/dL, ARC $\geq 120 \times 10^9/L$) ▪ ≥ 6 months of treatment with eculizumab or ravulizumab	▪ Change from baseline in Hb, ARC, and LDH (weeks 12, 24 and 48) ▪ Hb increase ≥ 2 g/dL in the absence of transfusion (week 24) ▪ Transfusion avoidance (weeks 12-24)
Dosing	Safety
▪ Danicopan 150 mg 3 times daily ▪ Dose escalation up to 200 mg 3 times daily was permitted based on clinical response (Hb levels and/or transfusion)	▪ TEAEs and laboratory abnormalities (throughout)



ALPHA Trial: Factor Inhibition + C5 Inhibition



ALPHA Trial: Factor Inhibition + C5 Inhibition



Mean LDH levels were **maintained** from week 12 to 48 and were **near normal** in both treatment groups



BREAKTHROUGH HEMOLYSIS



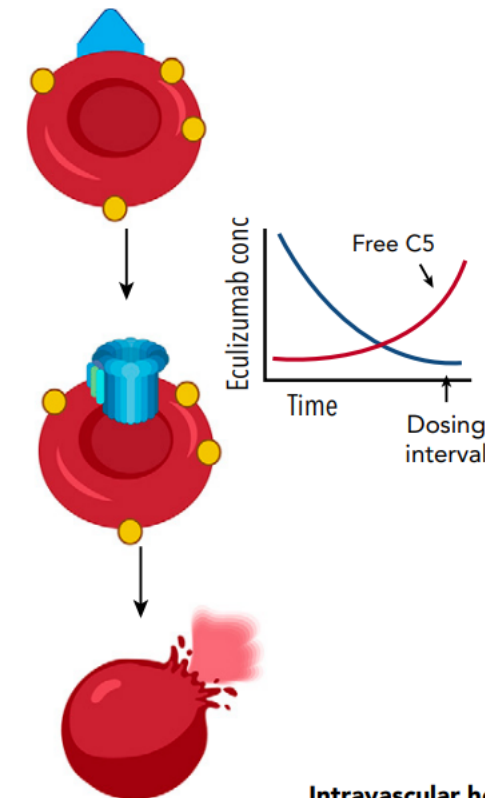
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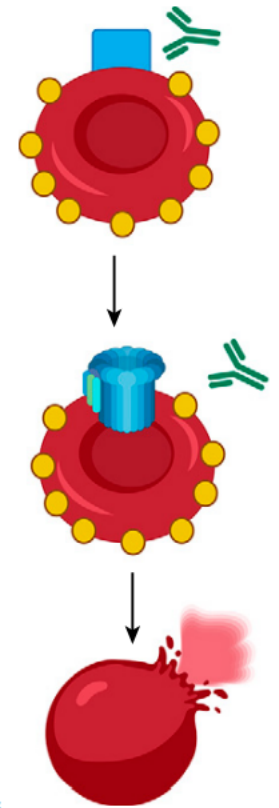
Breakthrough Hemolysis Definitions & Etiology

- Return of IVH and signs/symptoms of PNH
 - Anemia, fatigue, dark urine, abdo pain, etc.
 - Thrombosis, AKI, pancreatitis, pulmonary HTN
- Pharmacokinetic (PK) BTH
 - Insufficient dosing to inhibit complement
 - Nearing the end of each dosing cycle
- Pharmacodynamic (PD) BTH
 - Triggered by complement-amplifying conditions (e.g. infections, vaccines)
 - Rarely predictable (counselling is crucial)

Pharmacokinetic
breakthrough hemolysis

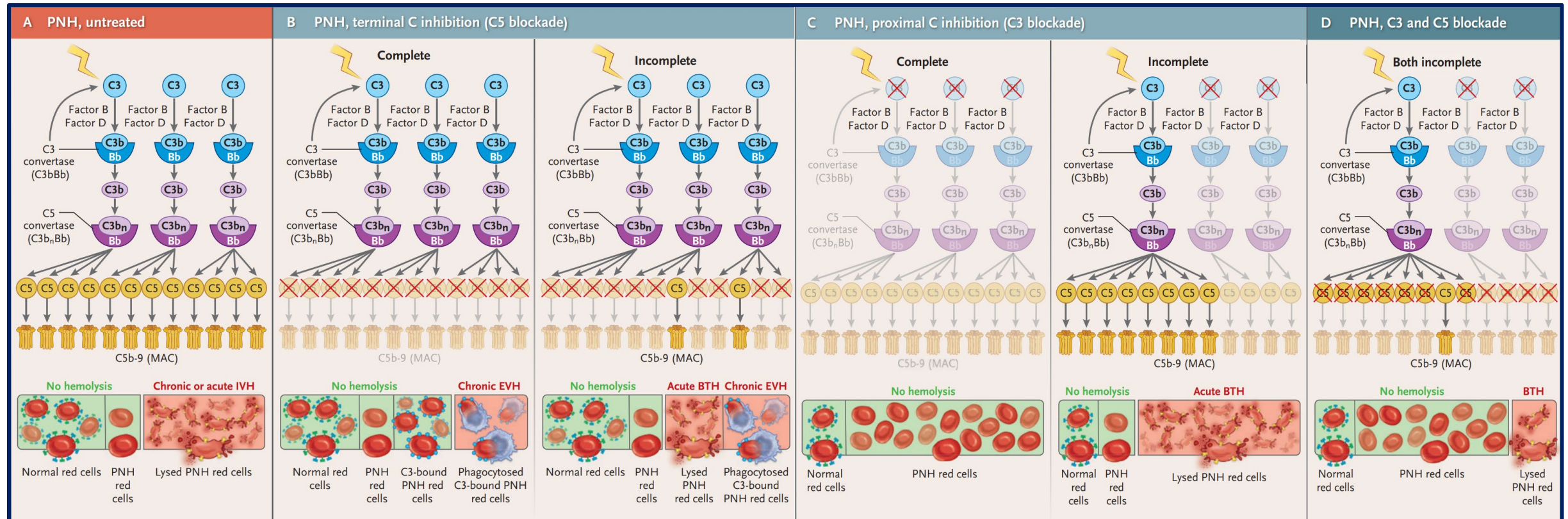


Pharmacodynamic
breakthrough hemolysis

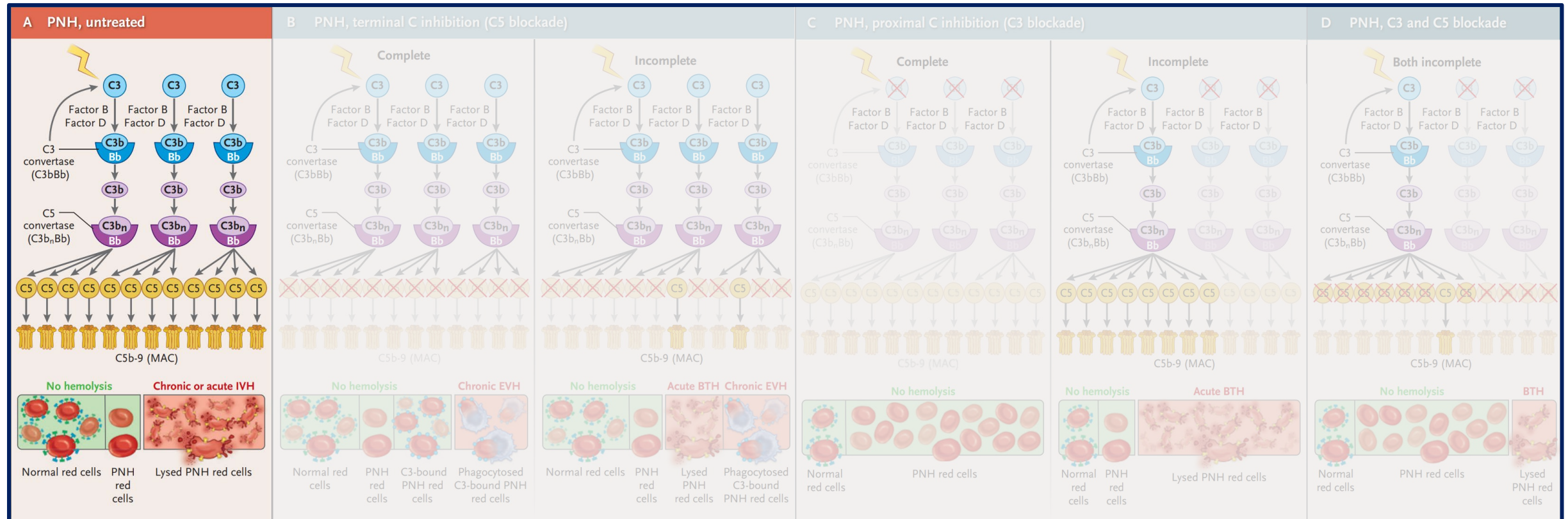


Intravascular hemolysis

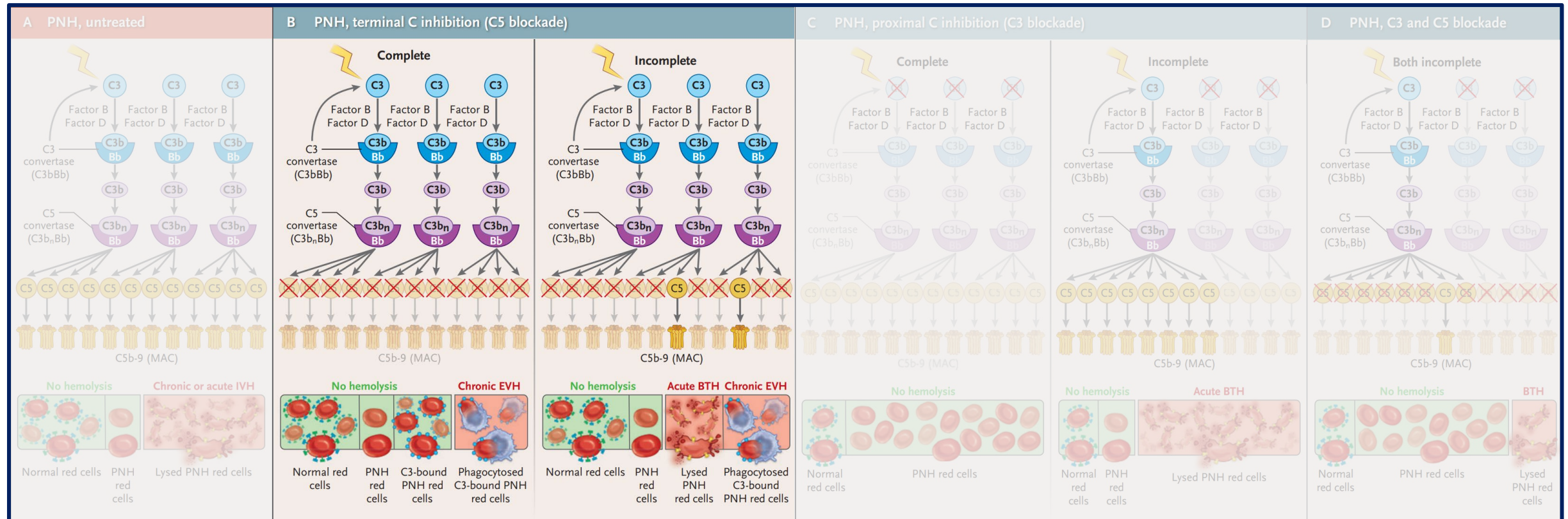
Variable Theoretical BTH Risk by Target



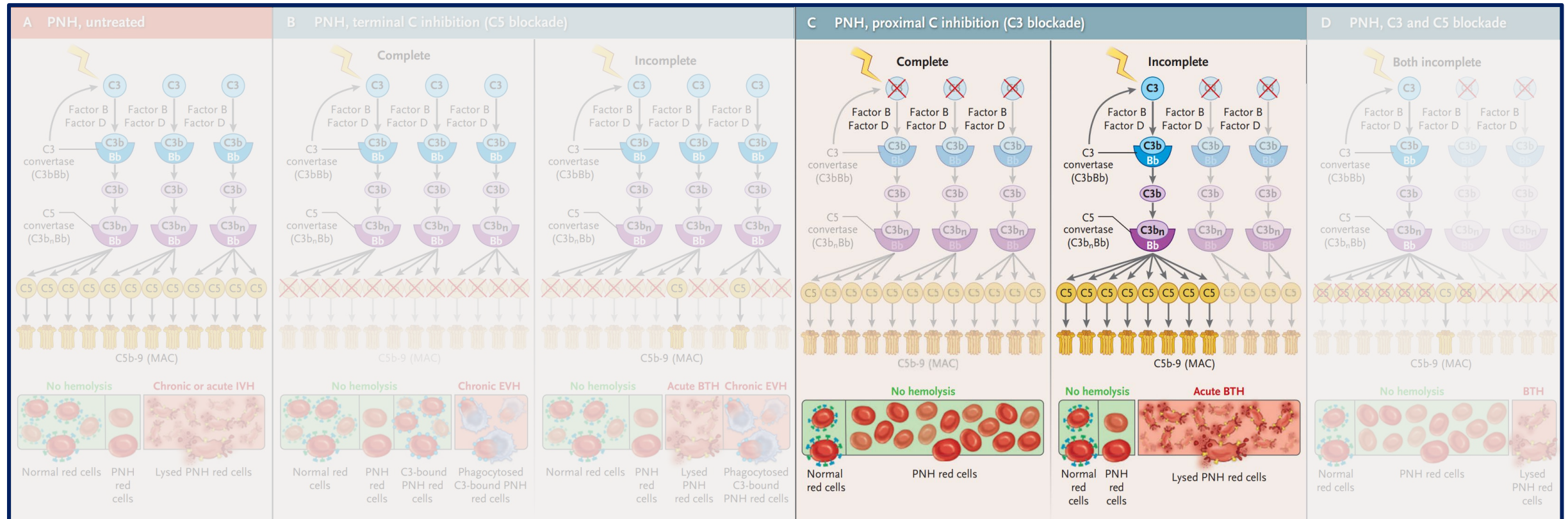
Variable Theoretical BTH Risk by Target



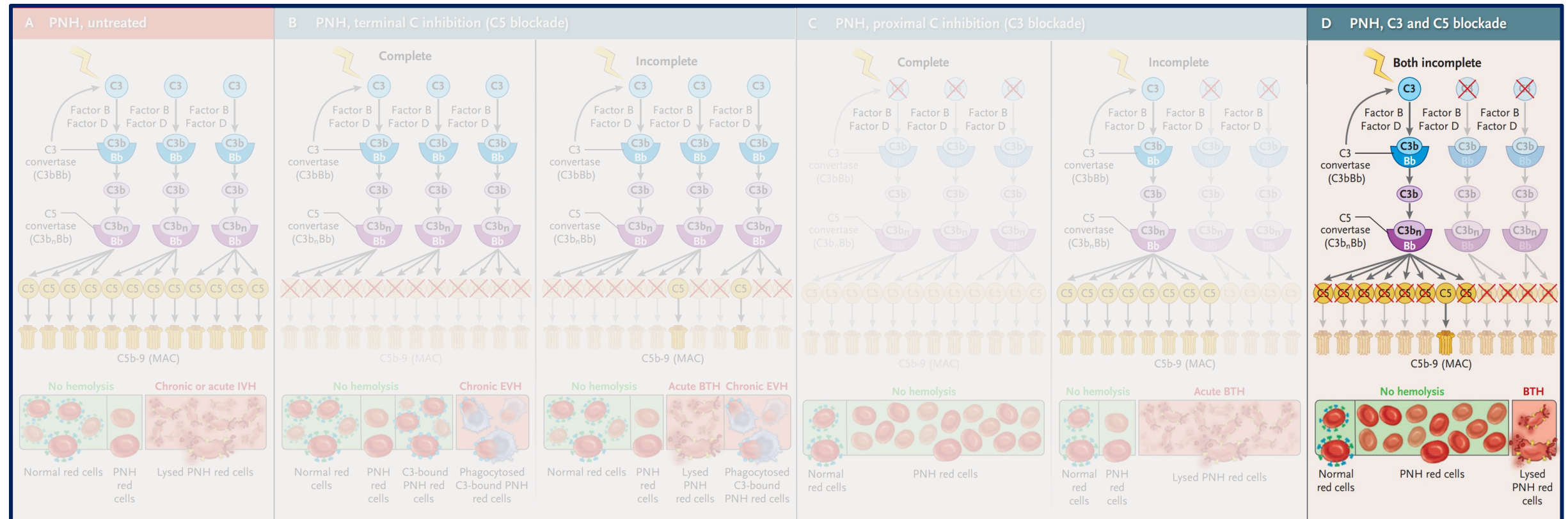
Variable Theoretical BTH Risk by Target



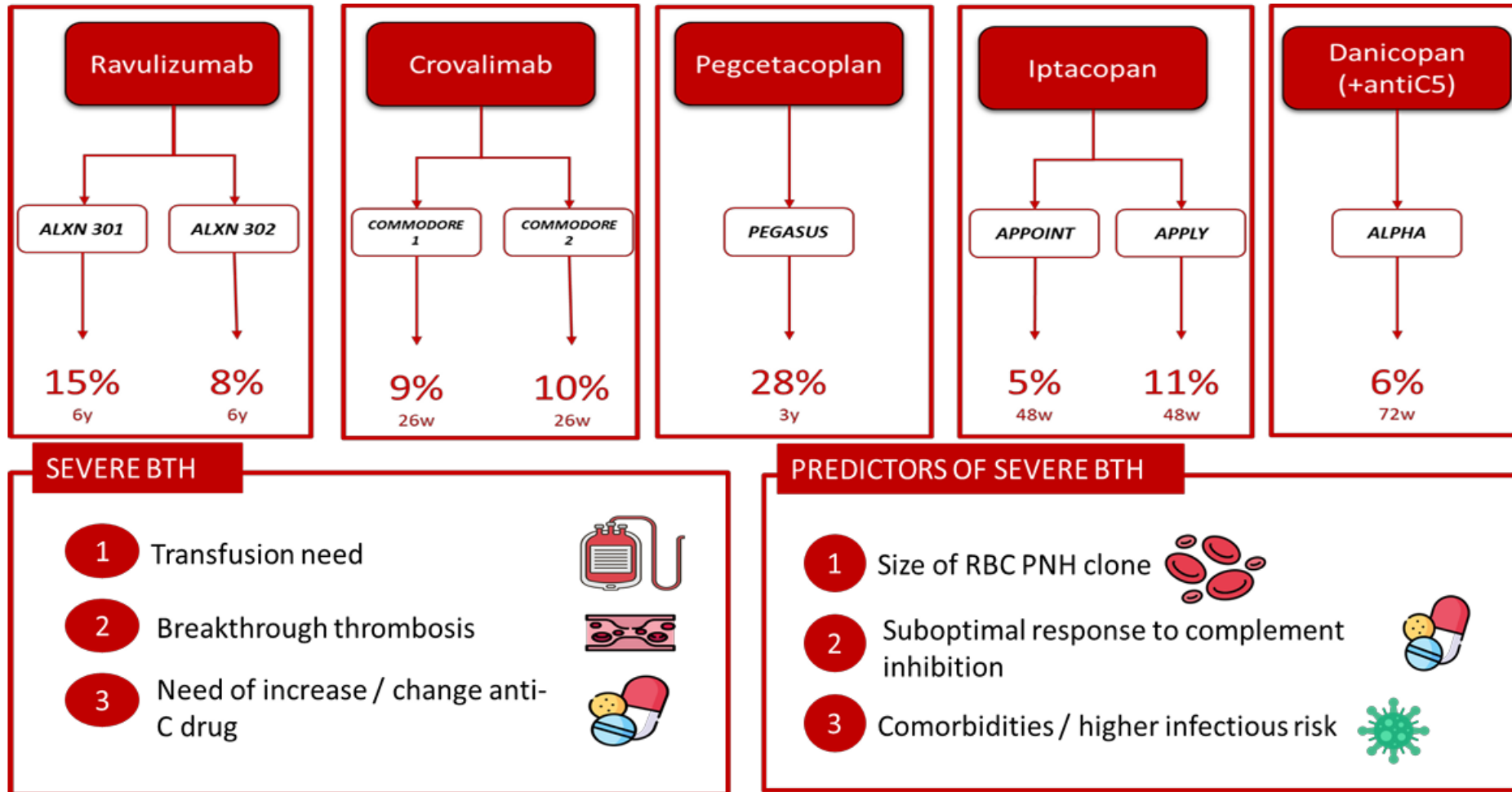
Variable Theoretical BTH Risk by Target



Variable Theoretical BTH Risk by Target

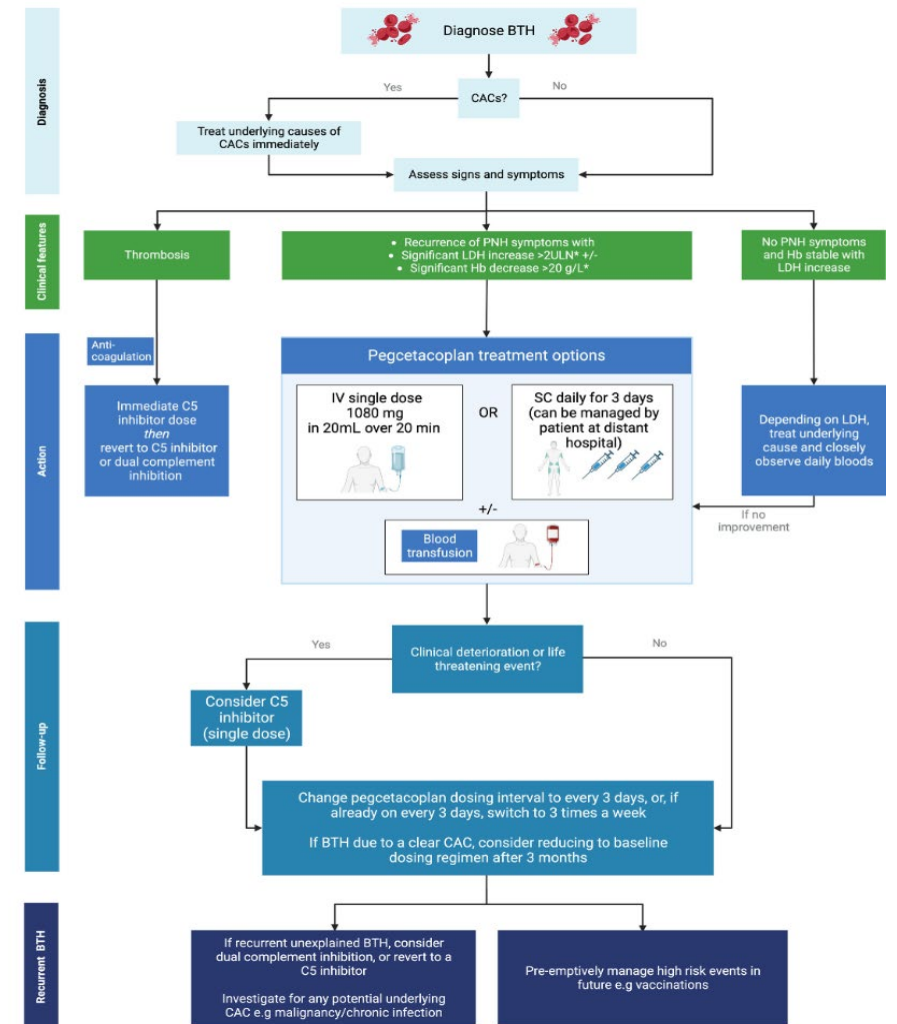


Breakthrough Hemolysis Across Therapies



Breakthrough Hemolysis Management

- A universal definition remains elusive
 - International consensus planned (IPIG, ASH)
- Severity Assessment
 - LDH increase (x ULN), manifestations, TE, etc.
- Unknowns
 - Risk factors (e.g. C5i dose, transfusions, LDH)
 - Funding of additional doses?
 - Utility of additional doses?
 - Availability of rescue C5i?



NEW DISCUSSIONS, NEW DECISIONS

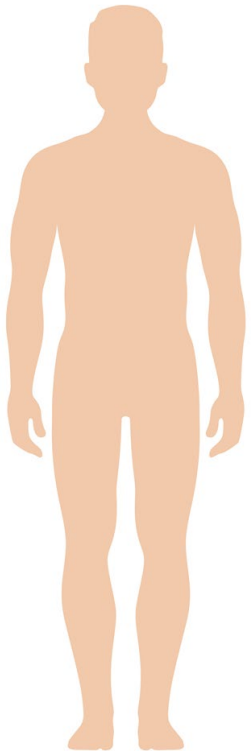


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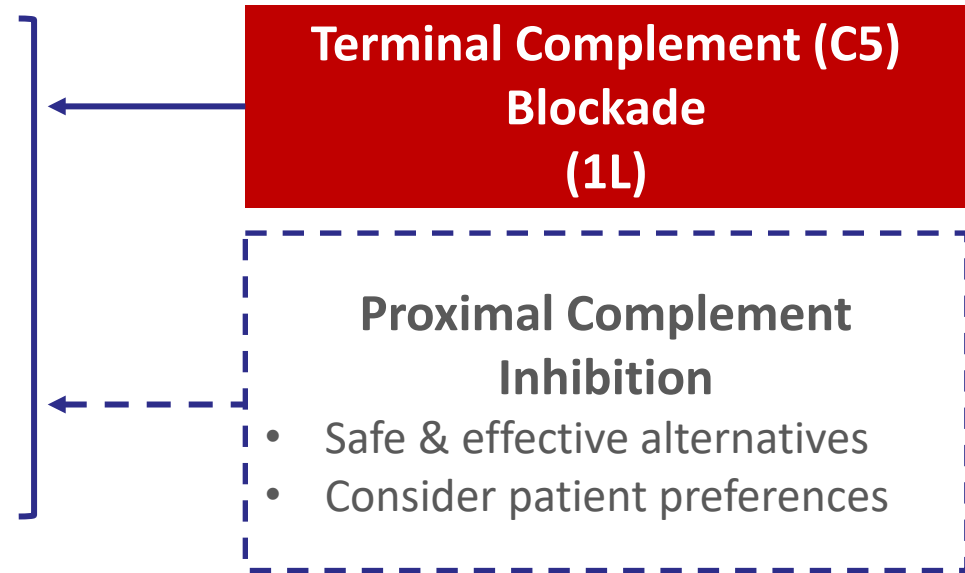


Treatment Pathways for PNH: Patient Selection

Complement inhibitor-naïve patients with at least of the following:

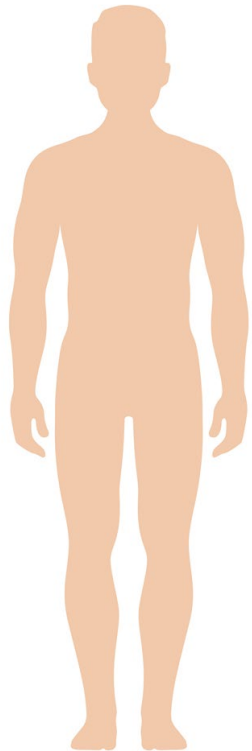


- Clinically significant intravascular hemolysis
- Pregnancy (even if naïve)
- New thrombosis
- Severe IVH with end-organ damage (e.g. AKI/CDK, PH)

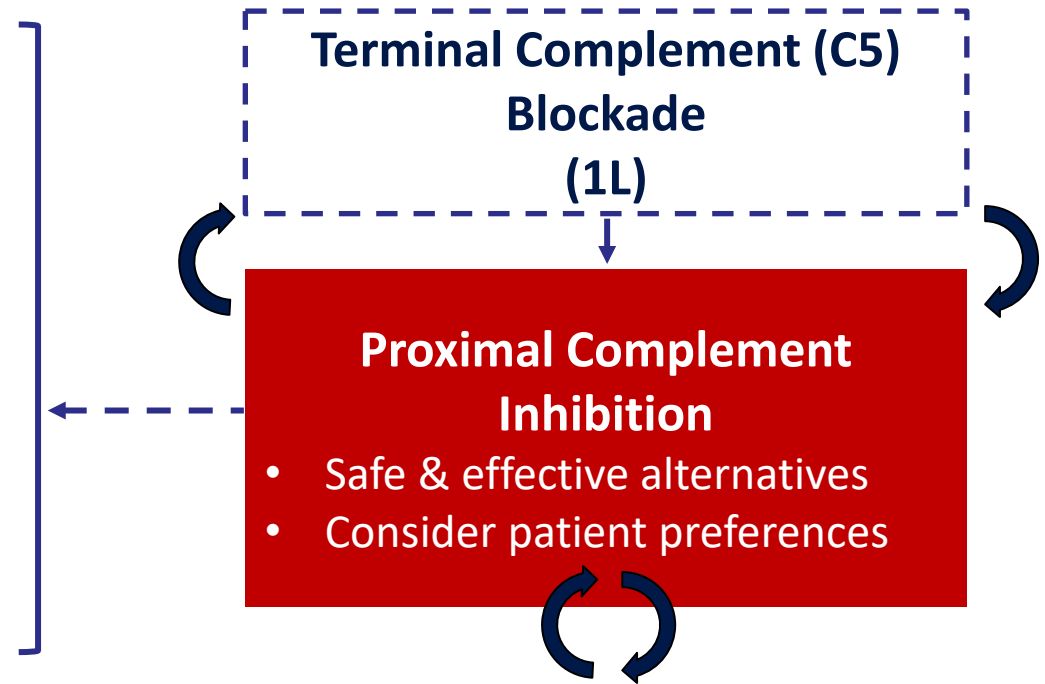


Treatment Pathways for PNH: Patient Selection

Proximal (dual) inhibition should be considered for the following:

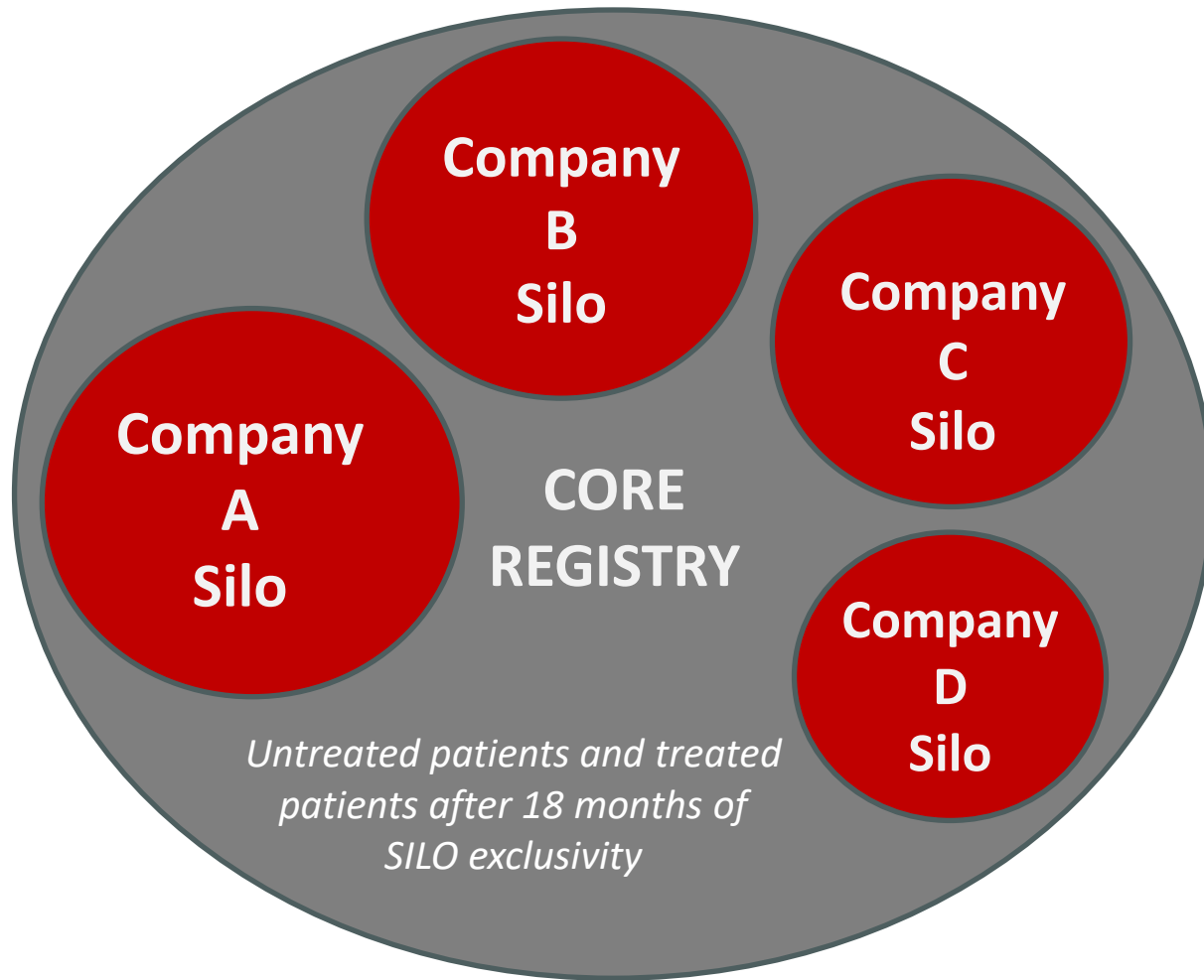


- Inadequate response to C5i after ≥ 3 -6 months
- Intolerance to C5 inhibition
- Route & frequency choice
- Breakthrough hemolysis risk
- Jurisdictional availability



**Criteria or parameters which would best reflect clinical response remain to be fully defined.*

A New Tool – The IPIG PNH Registry



- All PNH patients enter CORE Registry
- Industry supports CORE & SILO areas
- Common variables for patients in any SILO eventually enter the CORE
- Potential areas of inquiry:
 - *Drug changes & combinations*
 - *Infrequent events (rate, management, etc)*
 - *Breakthrough hemolysis*
 - *Outcomes in vulnerable groups*
 - *Role of biomarkers*

WRAPPING UP



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Take-Home Messages

- PNH is a rare hemolytic anemia presenting with common signs/symptoms
 - *Maintain a high index of suspicion and low threshold for testing (CATCH criteria)*
- Uncontrolled terminal complement activity drives natural history
 - *Thrombosis, renal failure, abdominal pain, and death associated with elevated LDH*
 - *Terminal inhibition may unmask clinically significant EVH, drive anemia, impair QoL*
- PNH is a chronic condition requiring long-term treatment and monitoring
 - *Newer treatment strategies must improve upon established efficacy and safety*
 - *Proximal/dual inhibition allows us to improve Hb, QoL, and align with lifestyle*
 - *Members of the Canadian PNH Network are always available to help (PNHnetwork.ca)*



SAVE THE DATE!



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The end.

Questions? Comments?

Christopher.Patriquin@uhn.ca

www.PNHnetwork.ca

Thrombosis Canada Thrombophilia Algorithm

<https://ThrombosisCanada.ca/tools/?calc=ThrombophiliaAlgorithm>



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