



*u*<sup>b</sup>

 INSEL SPITAL  
HOPITAL DE L'ILE

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*b*  
**UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN**



Prof. Martin Fey

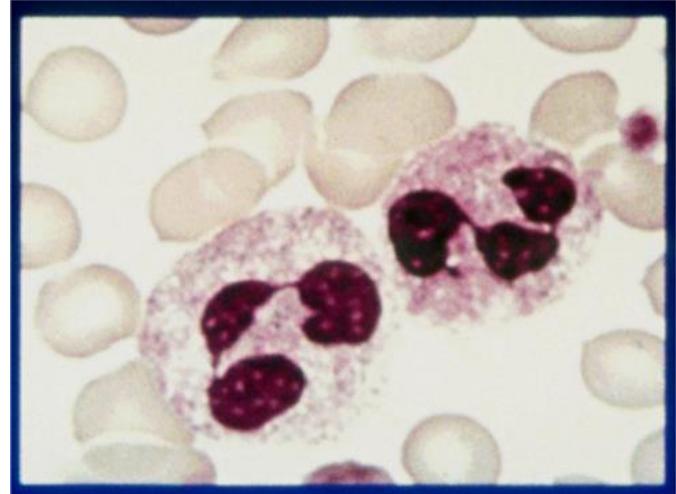
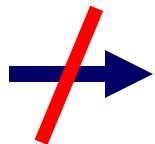
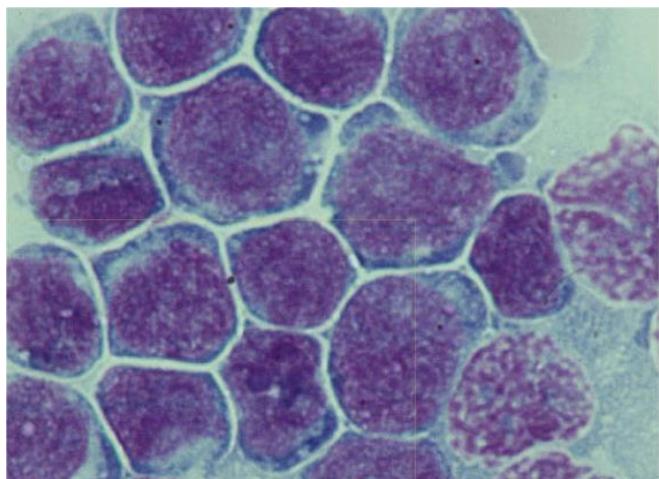


# Haematology Centre @ Tallinn

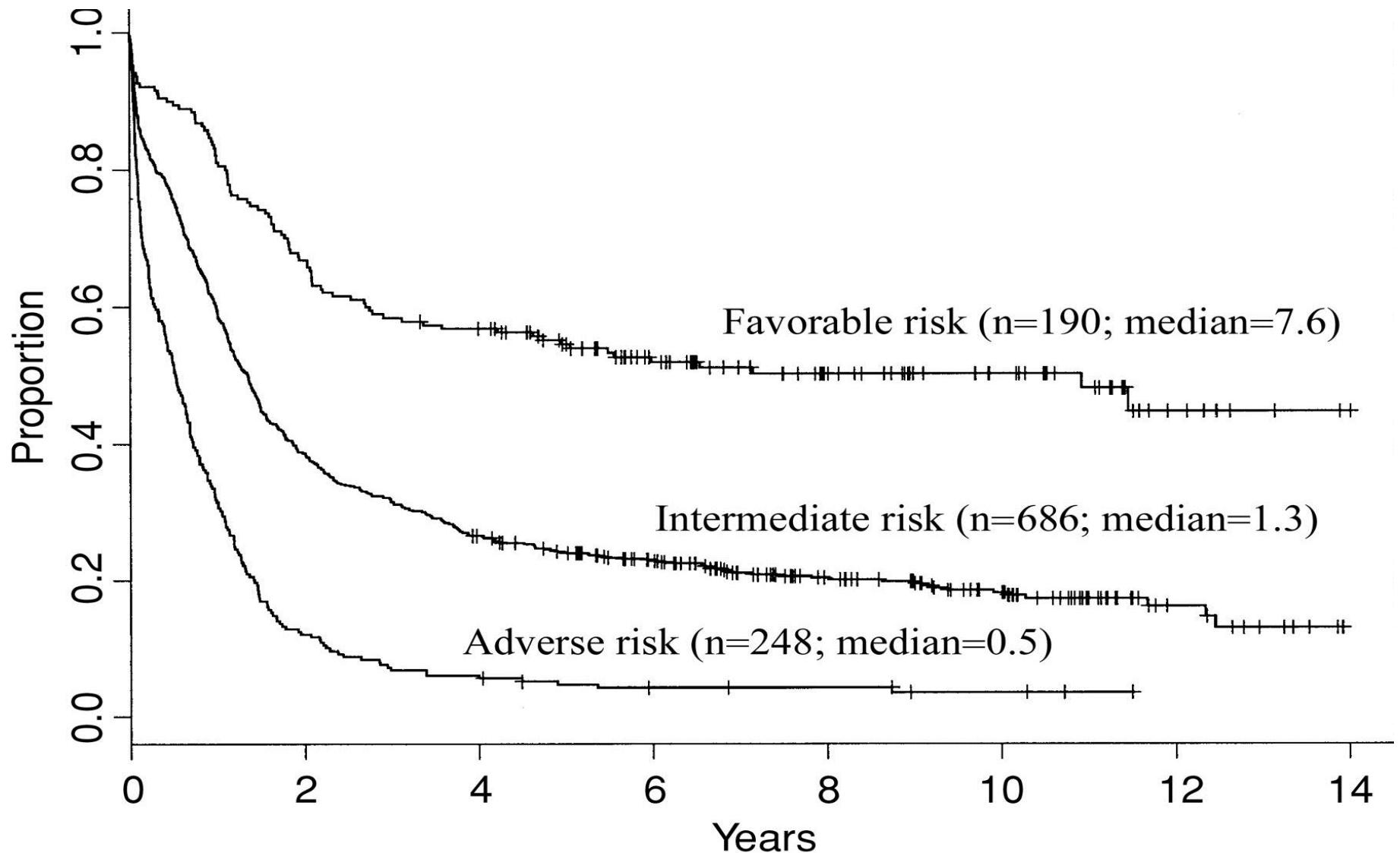


# Acute Myeloid Leukaemia Blasts

- fail to die
- fail to differentiate
- fail to function properly



# AML overall survival



# Leukaemia Ward „R Nord“

125

126a

126b

127a

127b

128

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

130

131

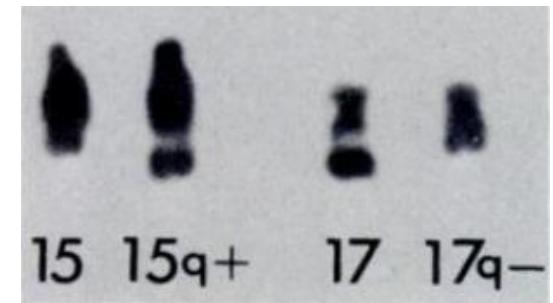
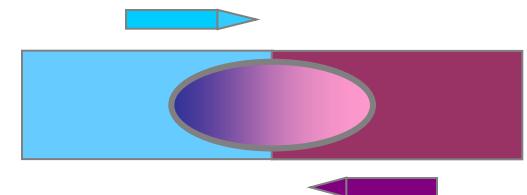
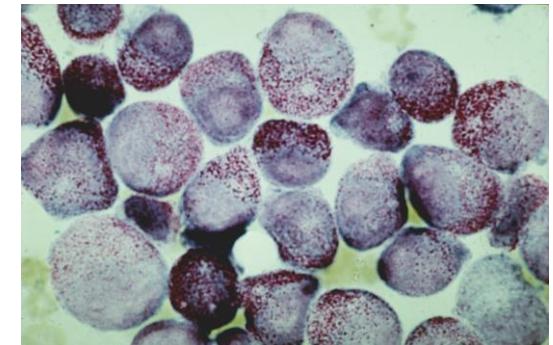


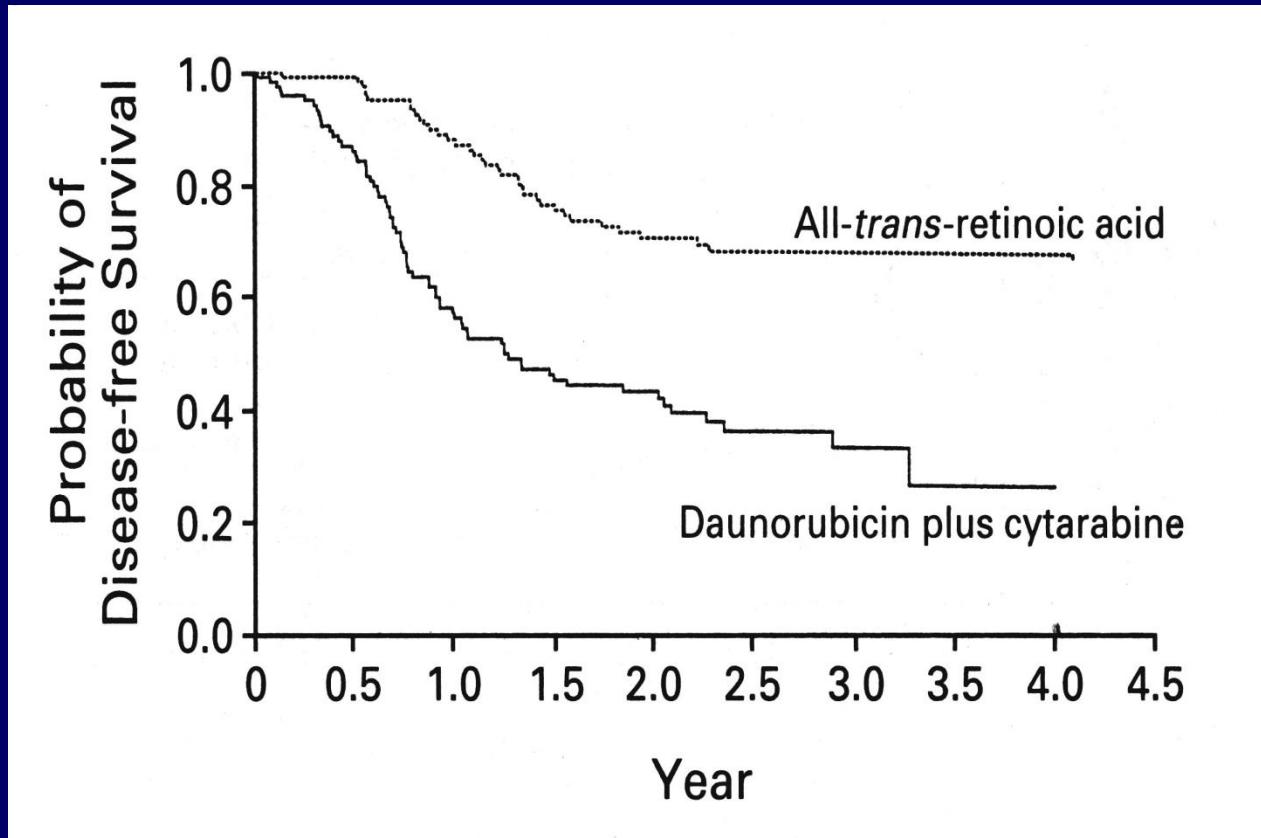
3+7  
AML

# **Acute promyelocytic leukaemia**

## **APL (FAB M3)**

- Distinct AML subtype
- Good prognosis
- **Translocation  $t(15;17)$**
- PML-RAR $\alpha$  fusion protein blocking RAR $\alpha$ -mediated gene transcription:  
= myeloid maturation block





ATRA as a treatment for APL NEJM 1997; 337: 1021

# Leukaemia Ward „R Nord“

125

126a

126b

127a

127b

128

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

3+7  
AML

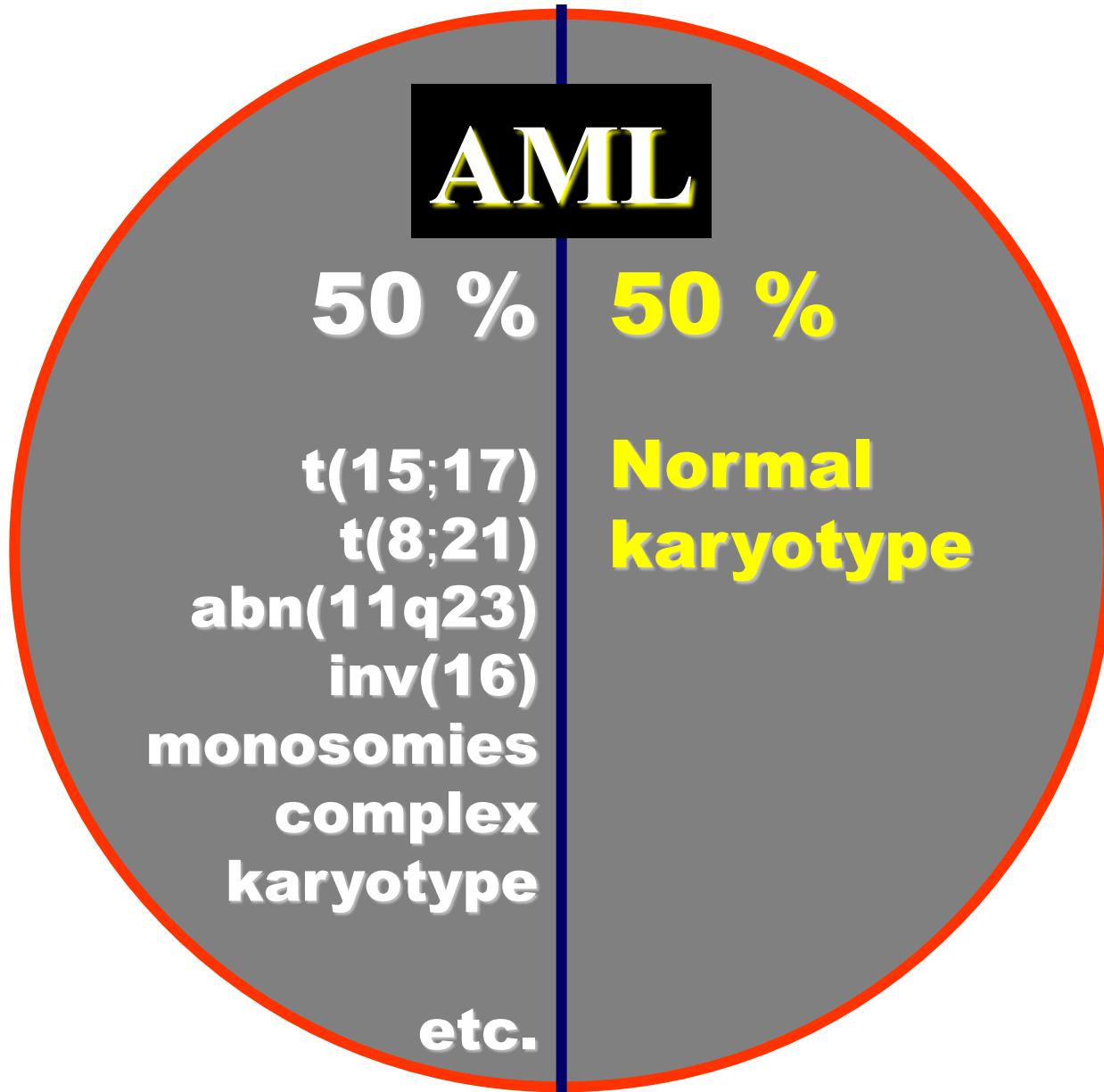
3+7 ATRA  
AML

130

131



3+7  
AML



125

AML

# Leukaemia ward

## „R Nord“

125

126a

126b

127a

127b

128

3+7  
AML3+7  
AML3+7  
AML3+7  
AML3+7 ATRA  
APL

**AML** with a normal karyotype  
and with a mutation in the  
**CCAAT / Enhancer Binding Protein  $\alpha$**  gene

CEBP $\alpha$  POS AML

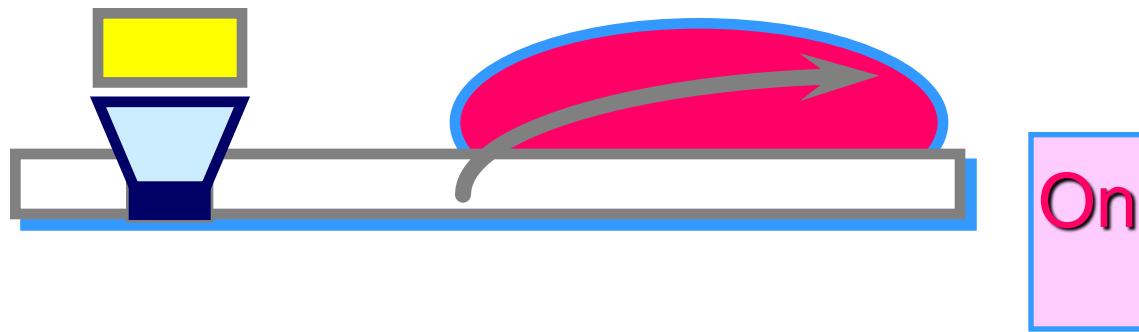
130

131

3+7  
AML

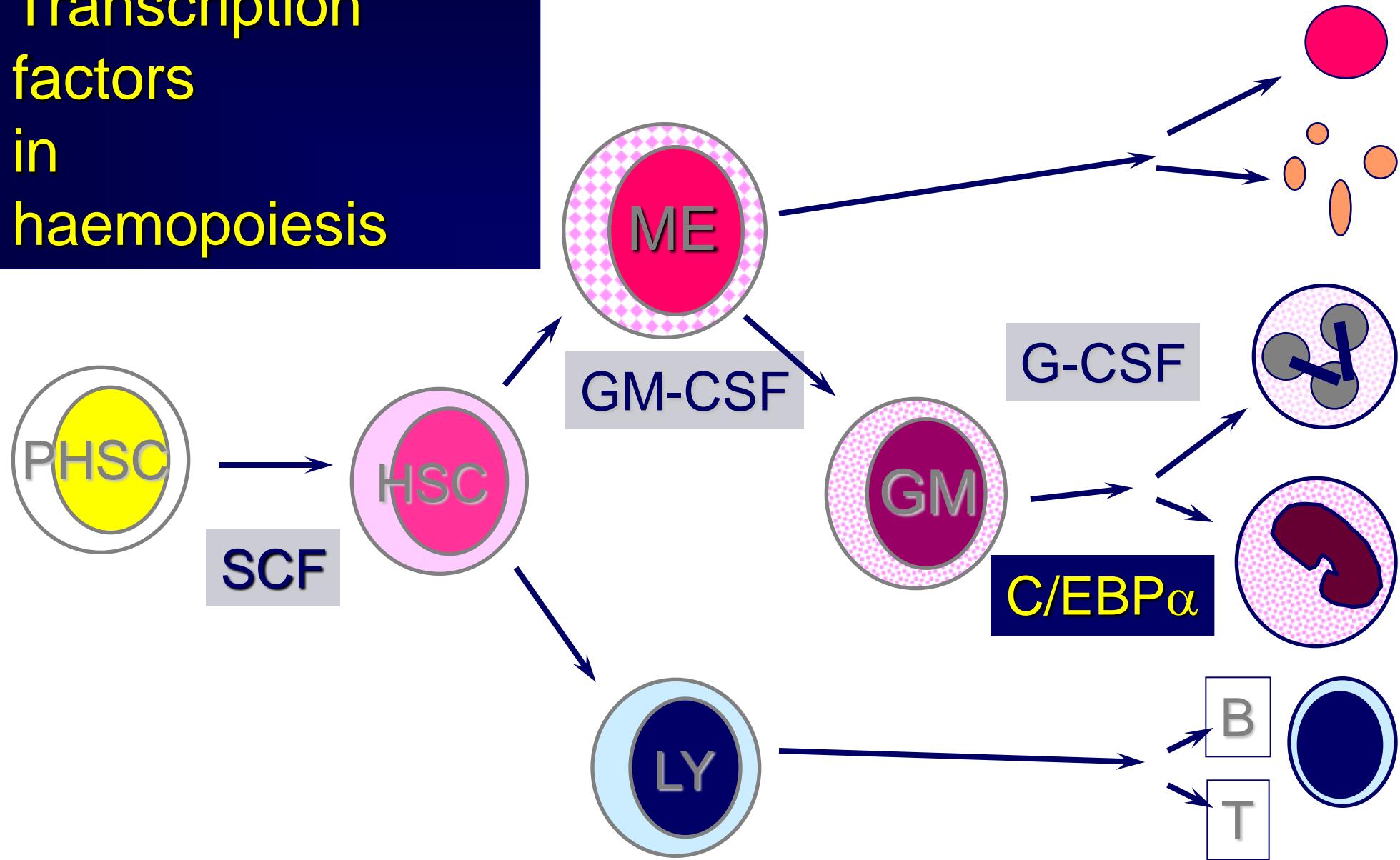
# Transcription factors

Gene

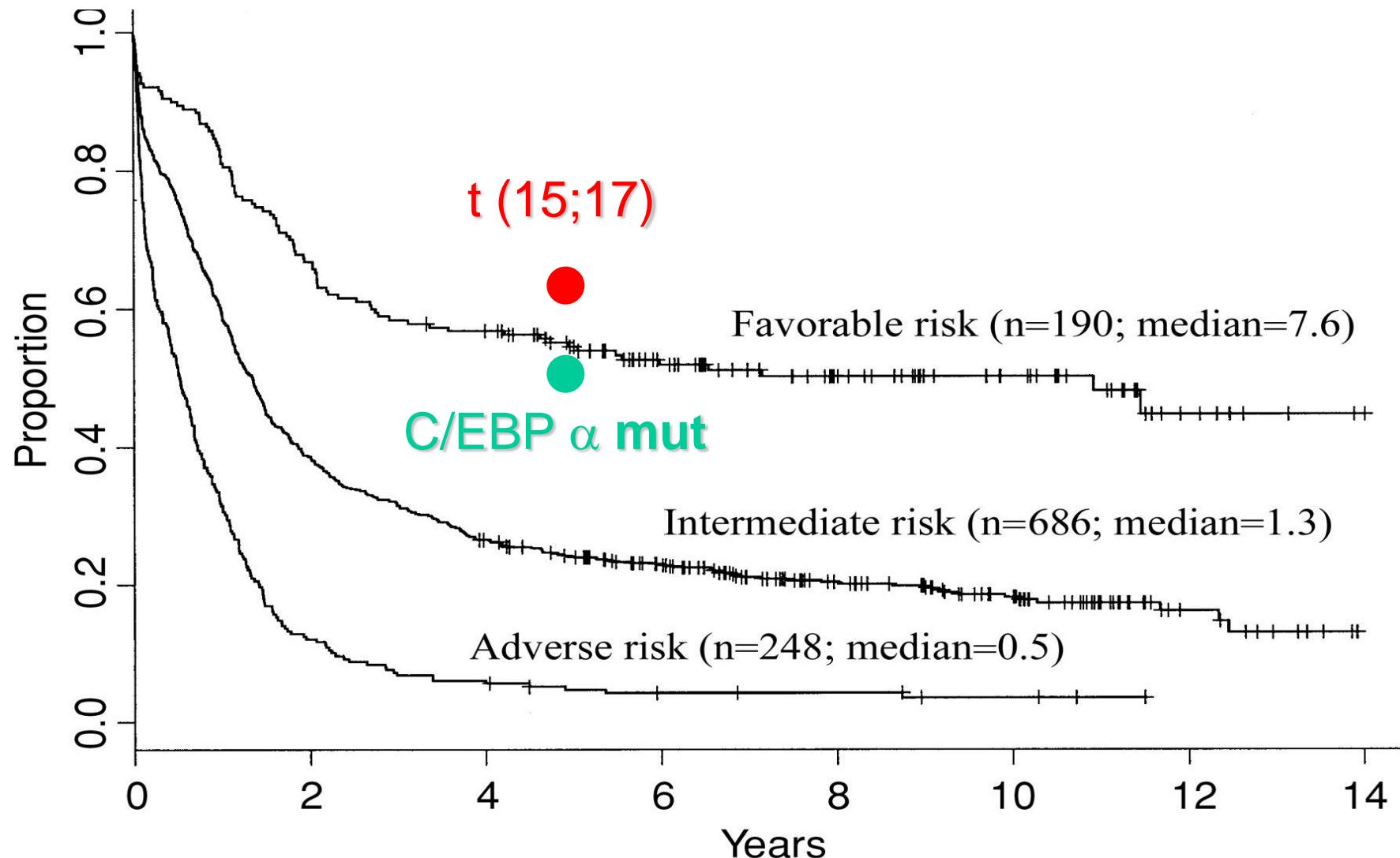


**Regulation of gene transcription**

# Transcription factors factors in haemopoiesis



# Prognosis of AML with C/EBP $\alpha$ mutations



# AML

50 %

t(15;17)  
t(8;21)  
abn(11q23)  
inv(16)  
**monosomies**  
**complex**  
**karyotype**  
etc.

50 %

**Normal**  
**karyotype**

**C/EBP $\alpha$  mut**

**NPMc+**

**FLT3 ITD**



UNIVERSITÄTSSPITAL BERN  
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BERN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

# Leukaemia ward „R Nord“

125

126a

126b

127a

127b

128

3+7  
No allo

3+7

3+7

3+7

3+7 ATRA  
APL

AML

Normal karyotype

C/EBP $\alpha$  - POS

130

131

3+7

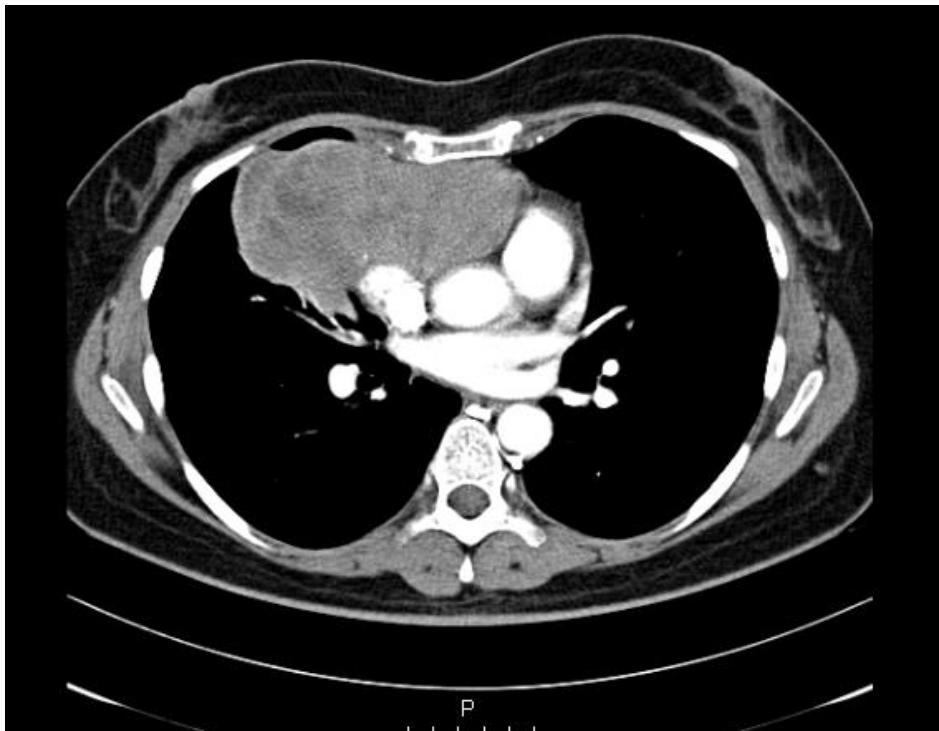
# Leukaemia molecular biology

- Molecular AML entities with distinct diagnostic features, clinical characteristics and predictive markers to select the best treatment options
- 3+7 is **no** longer a glove that fits all !



# Pat. D. J. \*1968 - 46 years old

2012      cough and dyspnoea  
CT scan of thorax



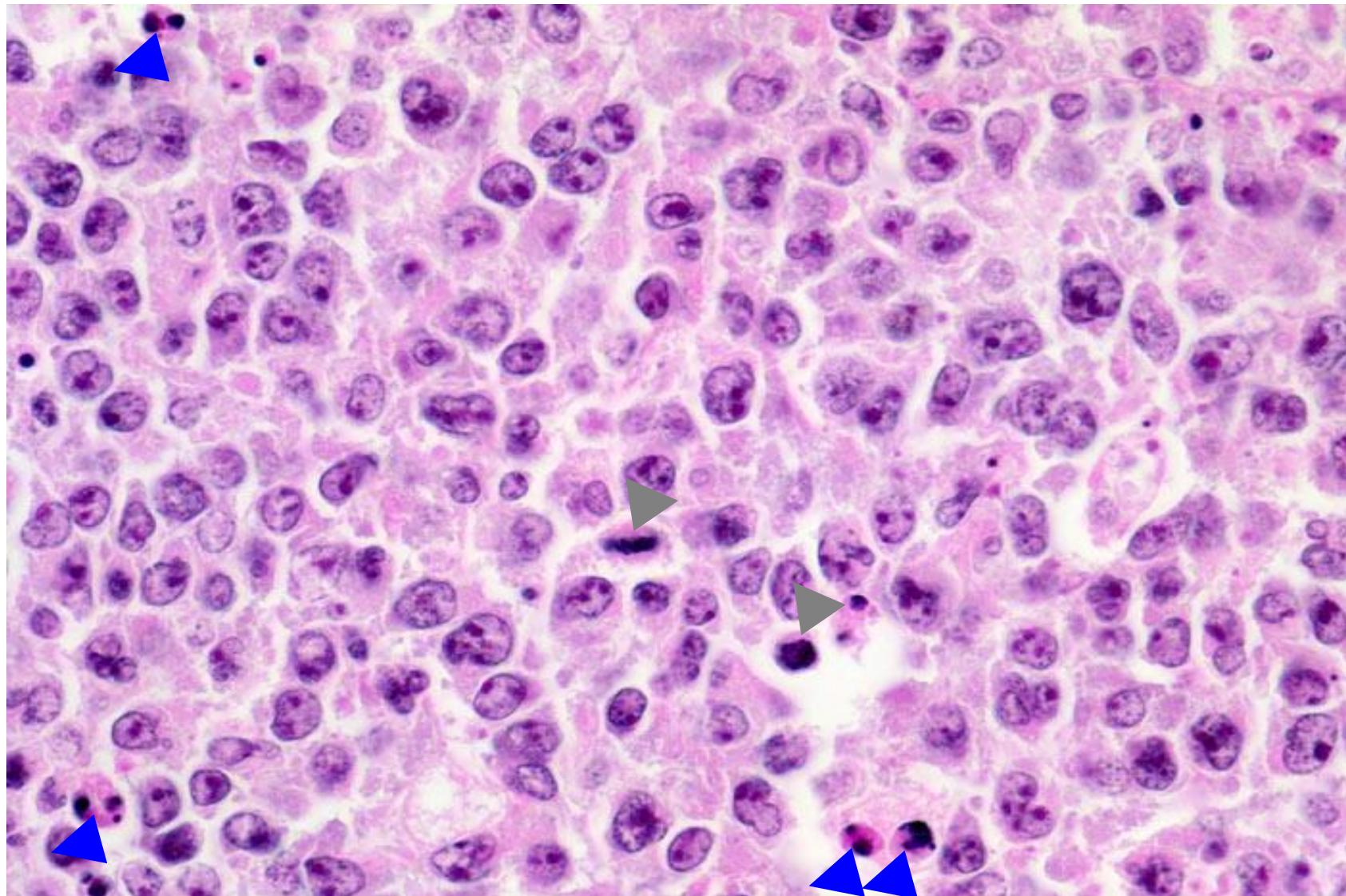
# She could have ...

- Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Diffuse large B-cell Non Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Primary mediastinal large B-cell lymphoma (sclerosing)
- ... another cancer ...

# Diffuse large B-cell Non Hodgkin's lymphoma

Apoptotic debris

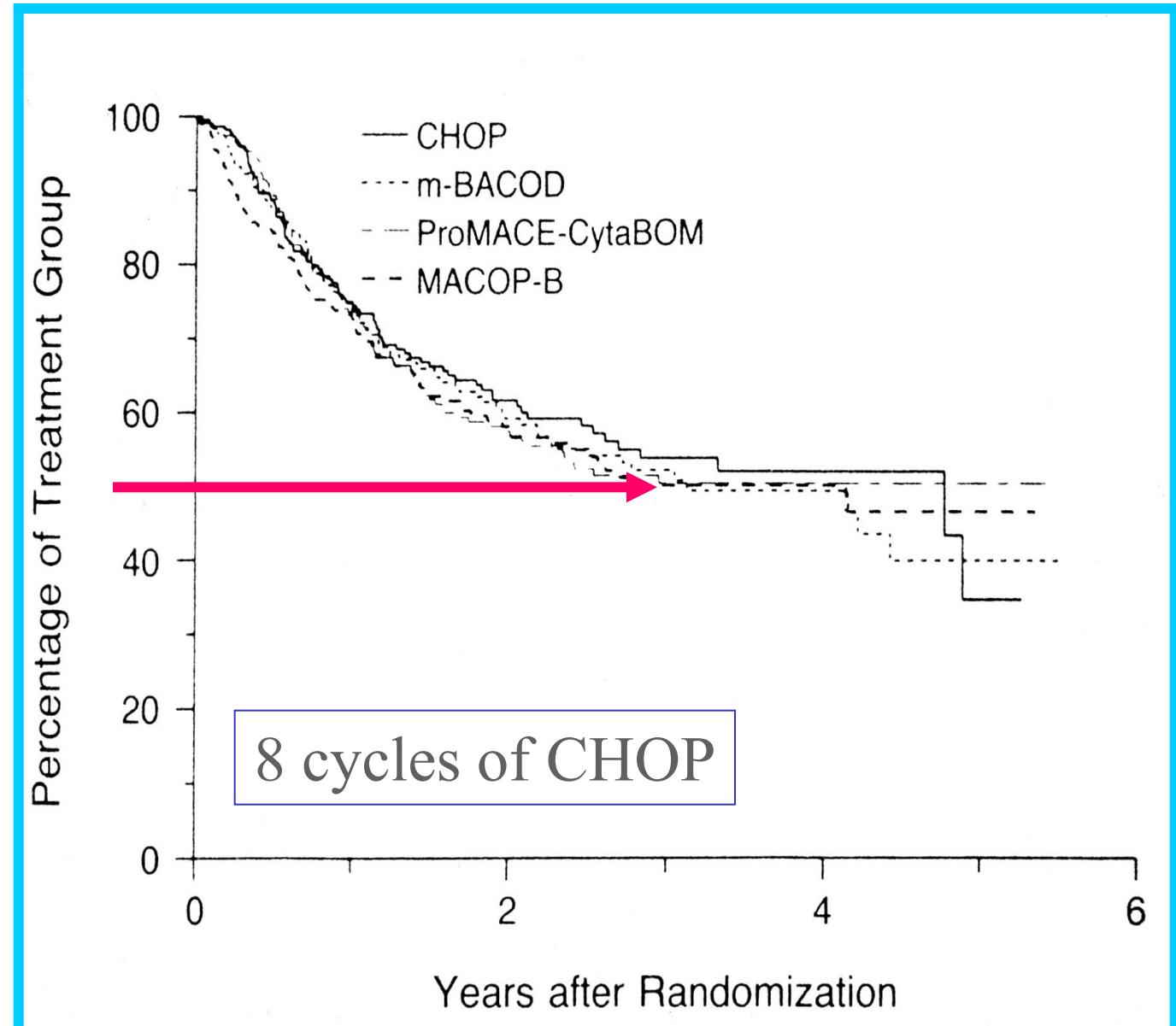
Mitotic figures



# Intergroup

NEJM 1993

„Diffuse  
large B-cell“  
Non Hodgkin  
Lymphom



# Tumour therapy with new drugs



**-mabs**

Monoclonal antibodies

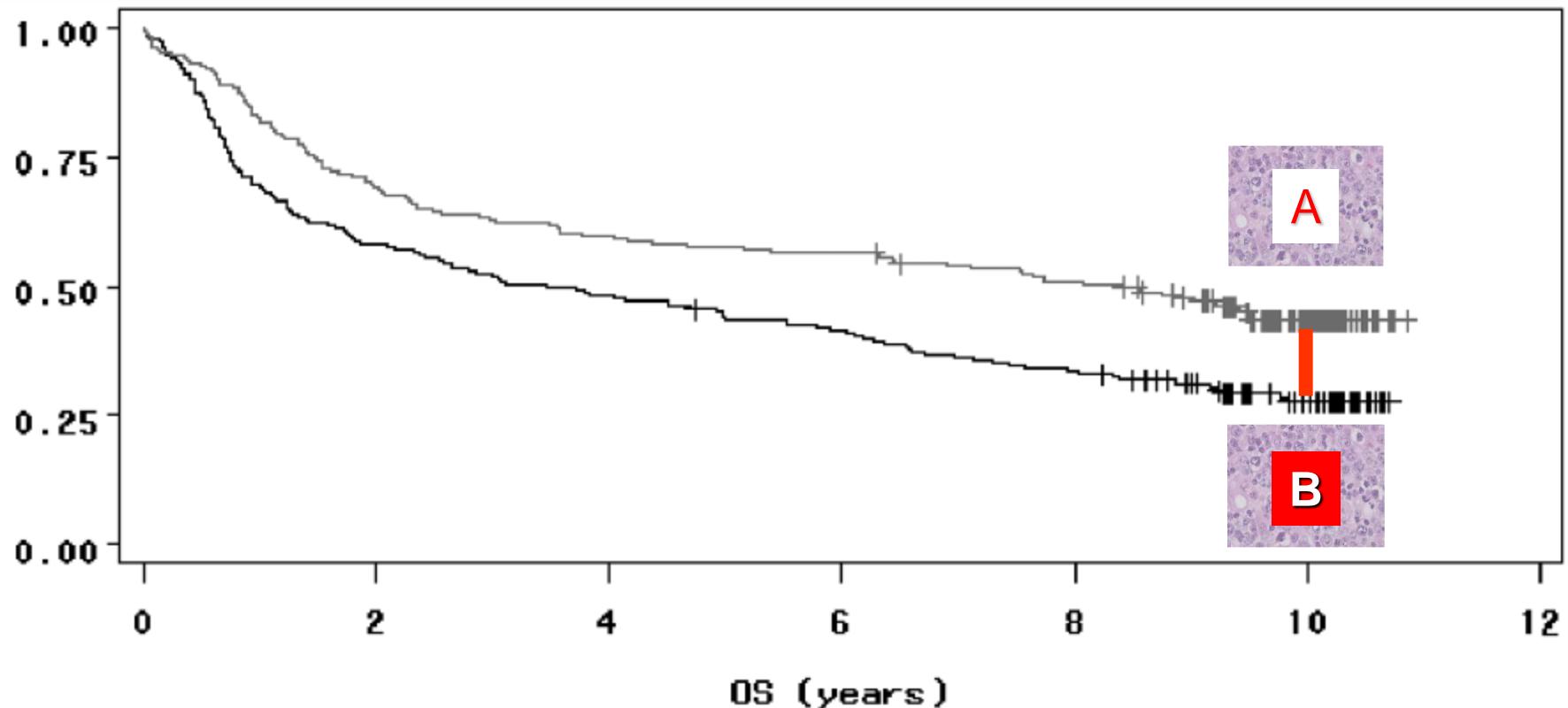
**-nibs**

„small molecules“  
mostly  
tyrosine kinase inhibitors

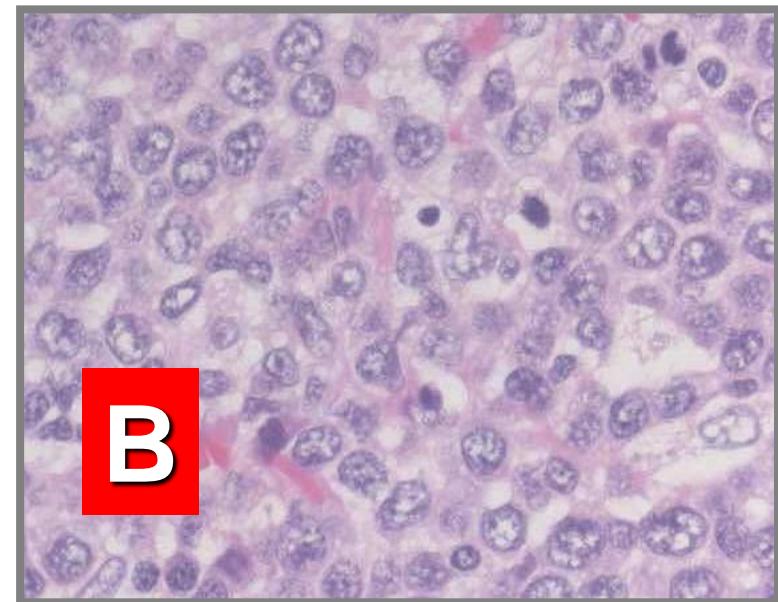
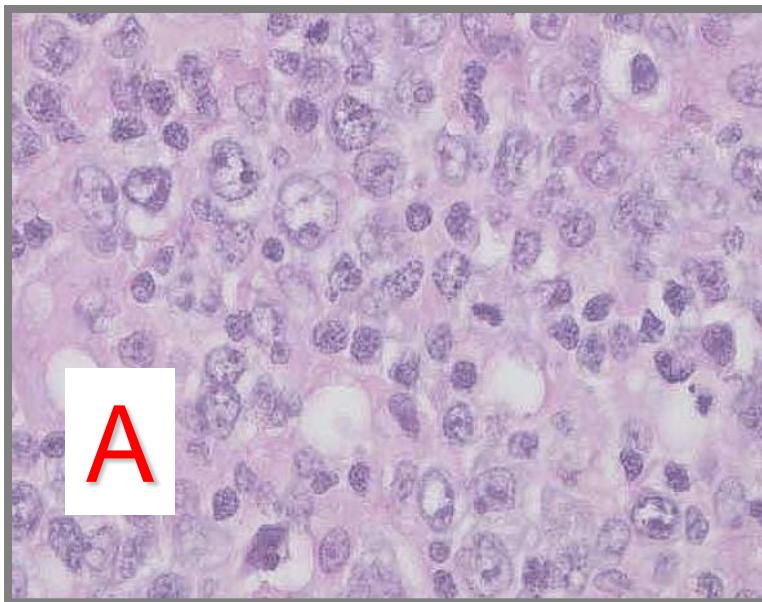


# Rituximab – an anti-CD20 mab - in diffuse large B-cell NHL

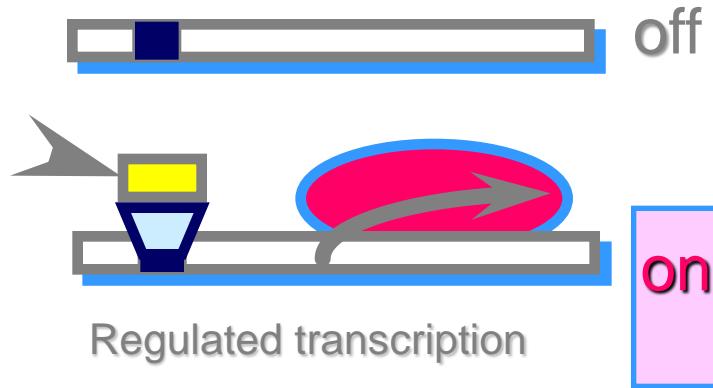
Patients aged 60 – 80 years. Blood 2010; 116: 2040



# **DLBCL? like is not like!**



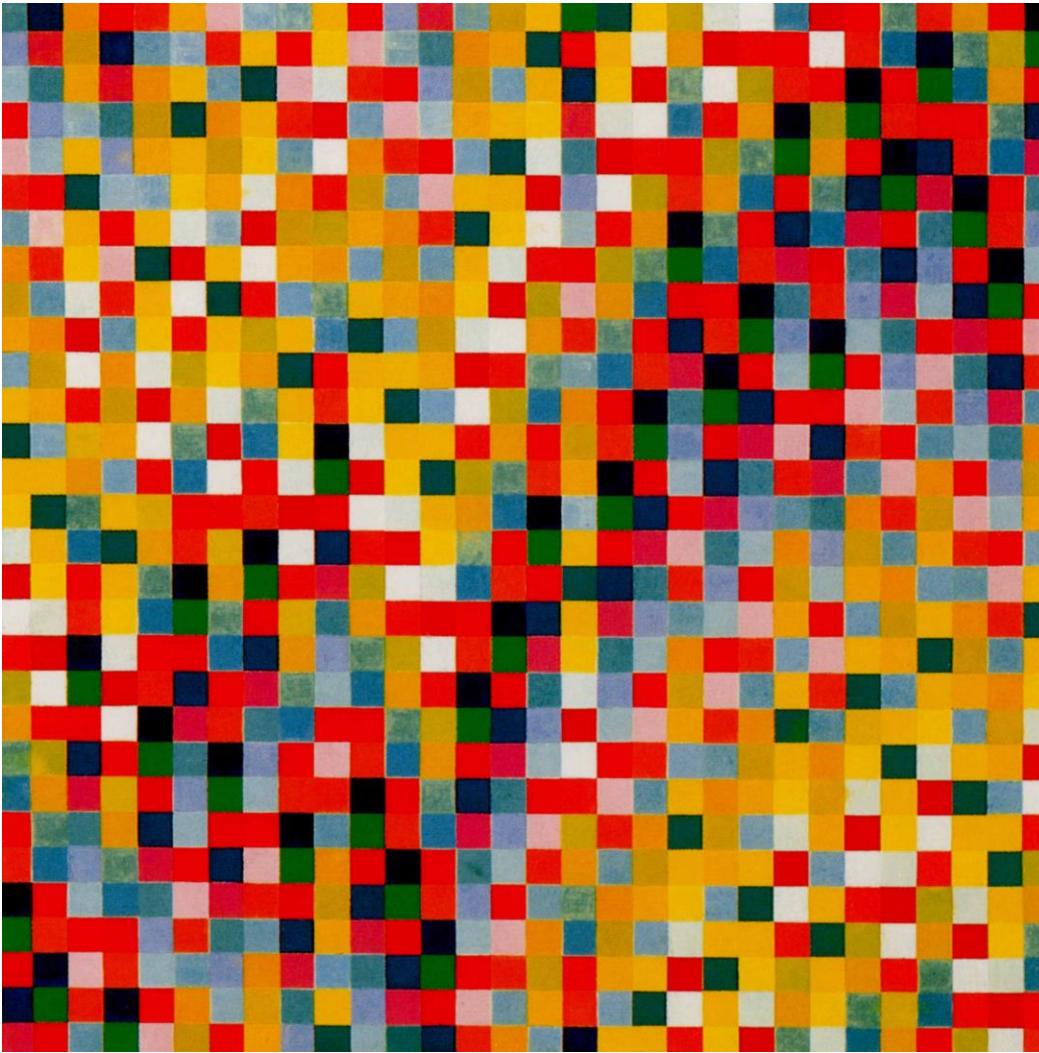
*Single* gene



## Gene expression profiling GEP

Comprehensive survey on  
gene expression in a  
cancer





each field = one expressed gene

# Richard Lohse

1902 – 1988

Swiss painter and graphic artist

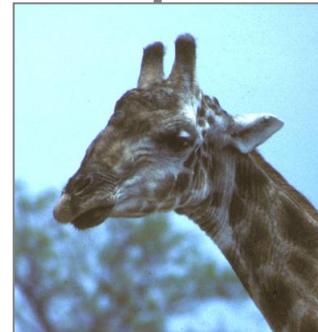
**Mammals**

**Order ?**  
**Species ?**  
**Subspecies ?**



Carnivora

Even-toed  
ungulates

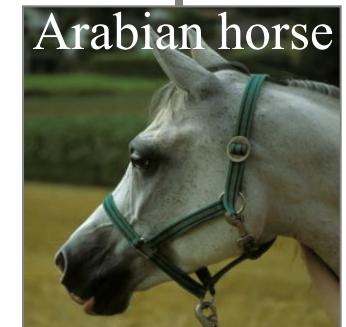


Ungulates

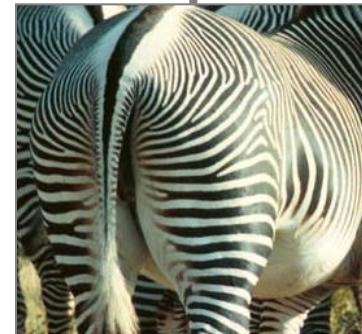
Odd-toed  
ungulates



Zebra



Arabian horse



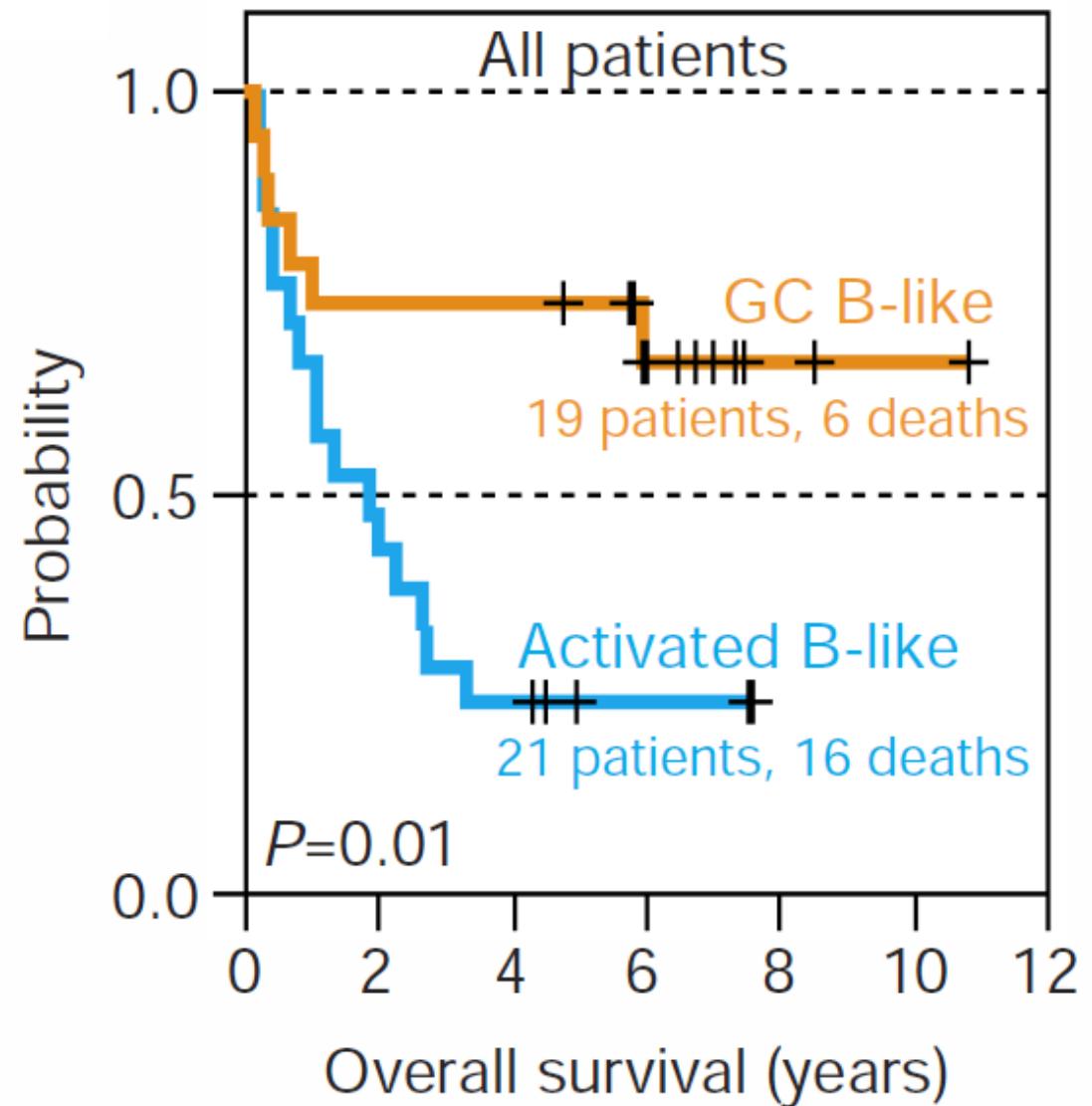
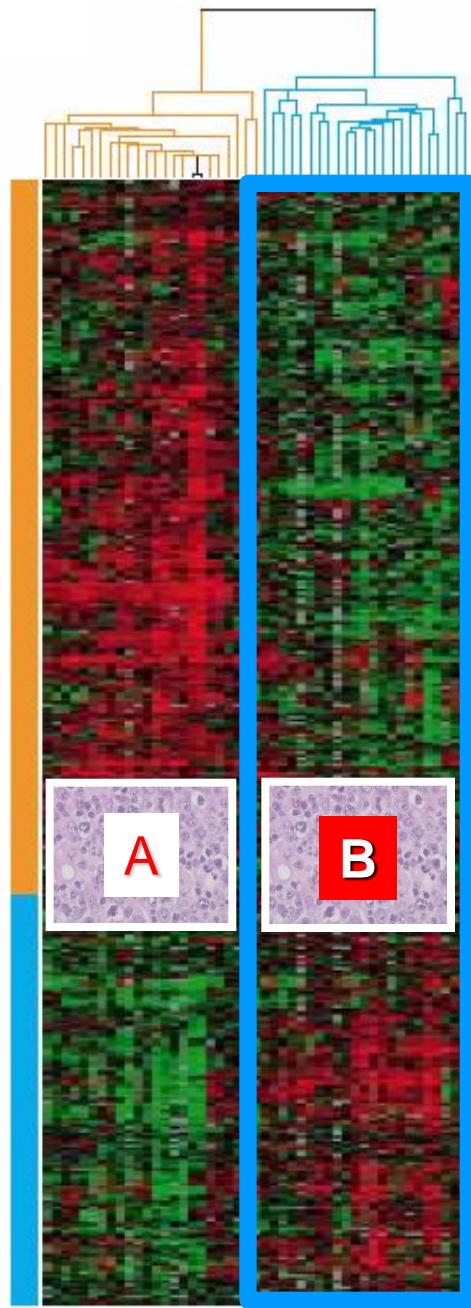
Grévy



Burchell

# Two types of DLBCL

NATURE 2000; 403: 503



# **Summary**

## **Molecular biology and «molecular» haem onc**

- Defines molecular disease entities
- Improves diagnostic precision
- Identifies targets/target pathways for therapy
- Permits selection of good candidates for a particular therapy
- Helps to improve outcome

