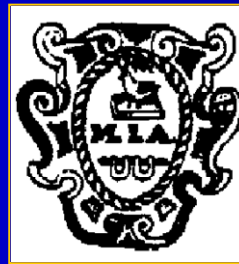


Incontri Bresciani di Radioterapia Oncologica  
**HODGKIN AND NON HODGKIN LYMPHOMAS: A NEW ROLE  
FOR RADIATION THERAPY**

# **Extranodal NHL: the Case of CNS**

## **The role of Chemotherapy**

**Brescia, 14 maggio 2010**

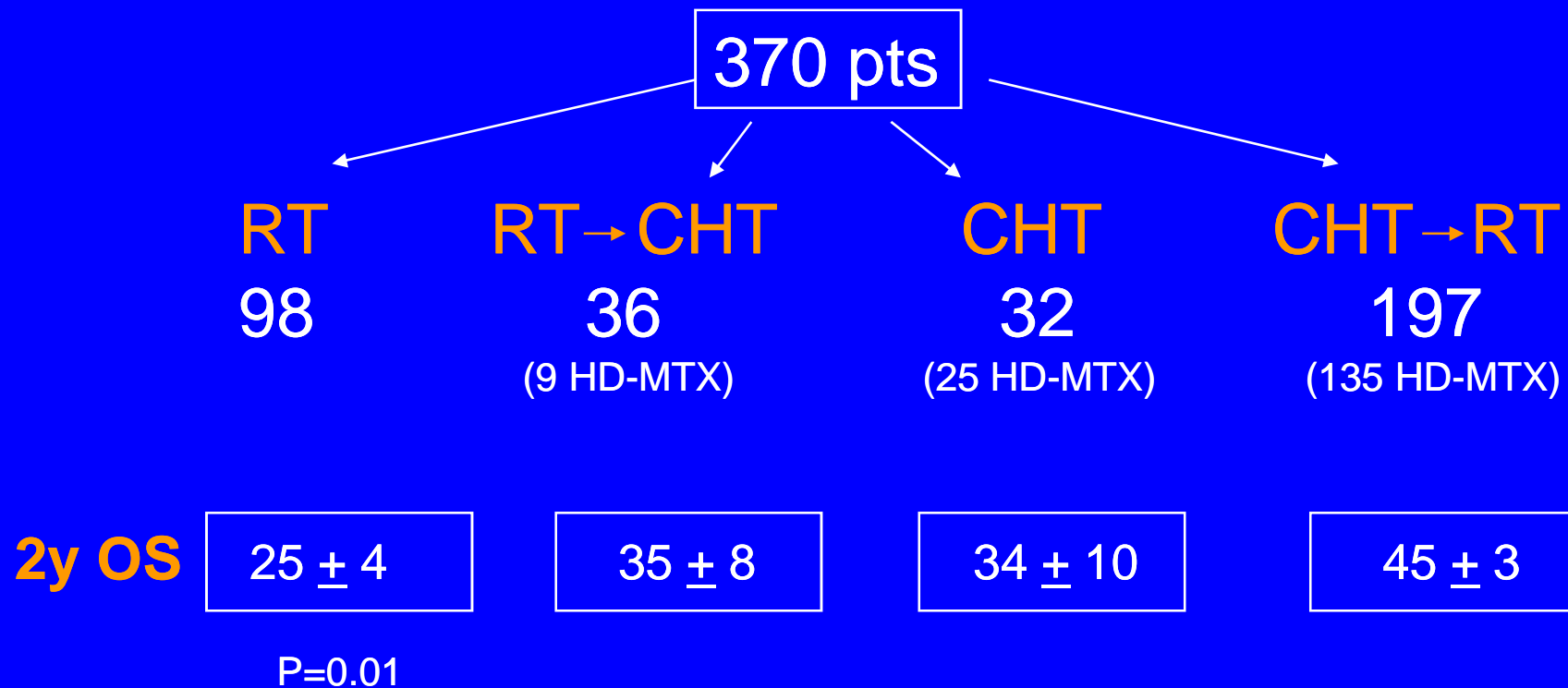


**Dott.ssa Tucci**  
**S.C. Ematologia**  
**Spedali Civili di Brescia**

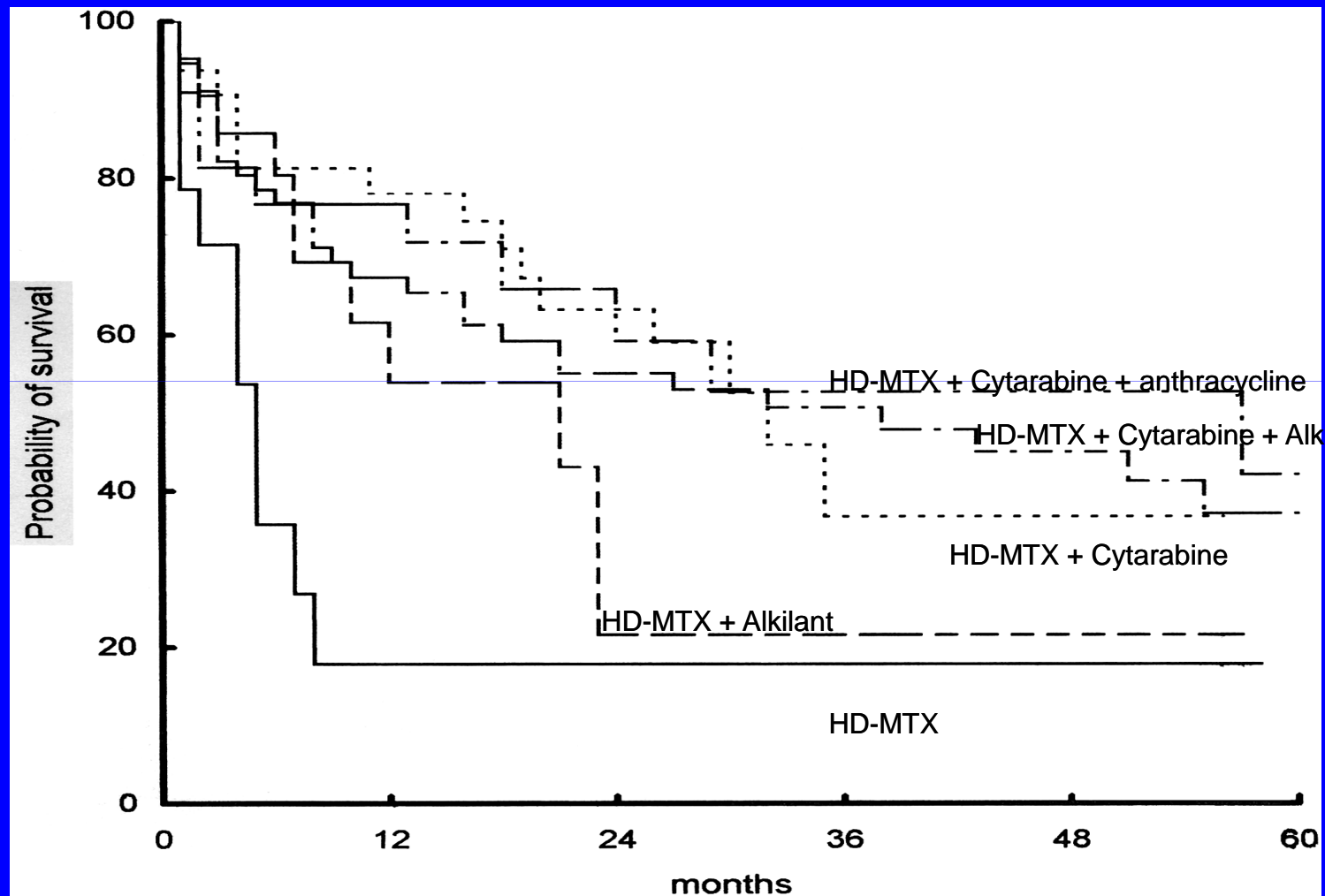
# **Trials and tribulations in PCNSL**

- Uncommon extranodal B cell lymphoma
- Poor drug penetration into the CNS
- Elderly age of the majority of patients

# A multicenter study of treatment of PCNSL



# A multicenter study of treatment of PCNSL



Ferreri AJM et al, Neurology 2002;58:1513



**Randomized phase II trial on primary chemotherapy with high-dose methotrexate, alone or associated with high-dose cytarabine, followed by response- and age-tailored radiotherapy for immunocompetent patients with newly diagnosed primary central nervous system lymphoma**



# PCNSL age 18-75

Ⓡ

4 c. MTX 3.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> d.1  
every 3 weeks

4 c. MTX 3.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> d.1  
araC 2 g/m<sup>2</sup> x 2/d, d. 2-3  
every 3 weeks

Two courses

Response assessment

CR – PR - SD

Two courses

PD

PR

CR

SD - PD

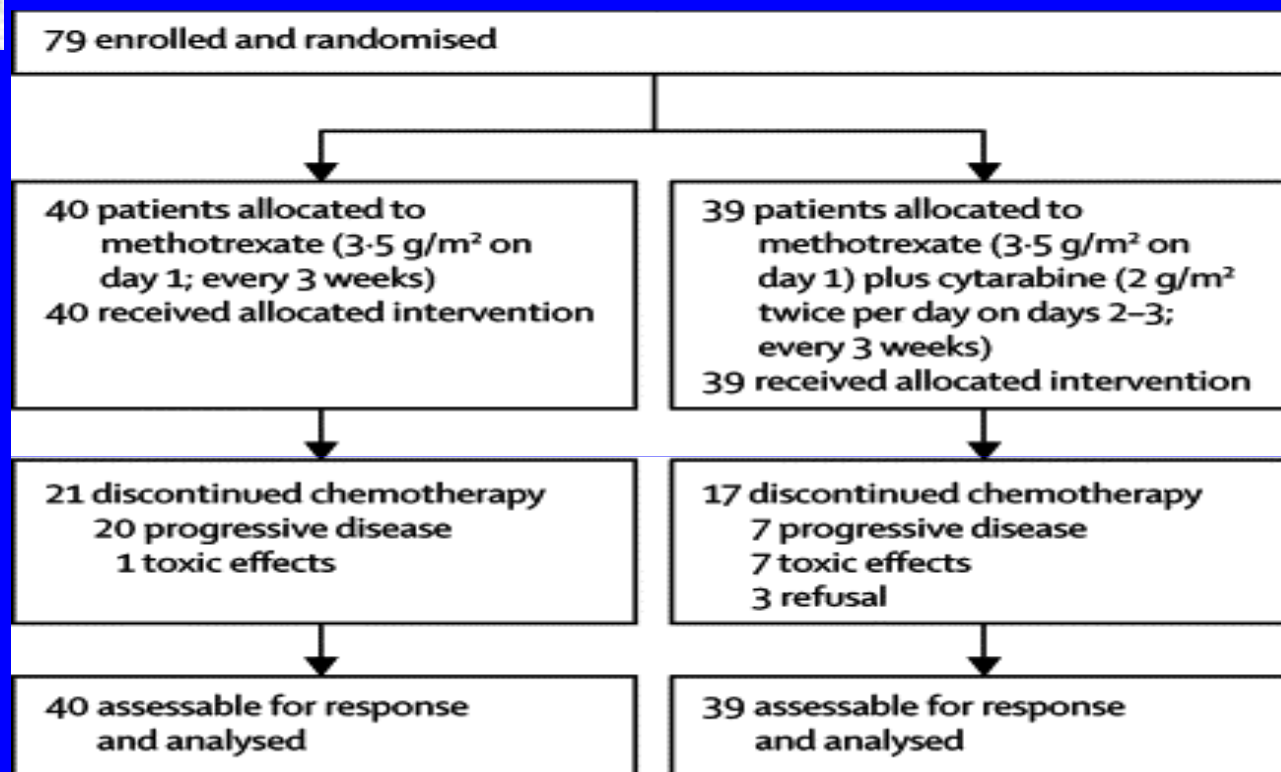
WBRT 36 Gy  
± boost 9 Gy

WBRT 36 Gy\*

Off study  
Salvage  
therapy

\* At the discretion of the participant center in patients older than 60 years

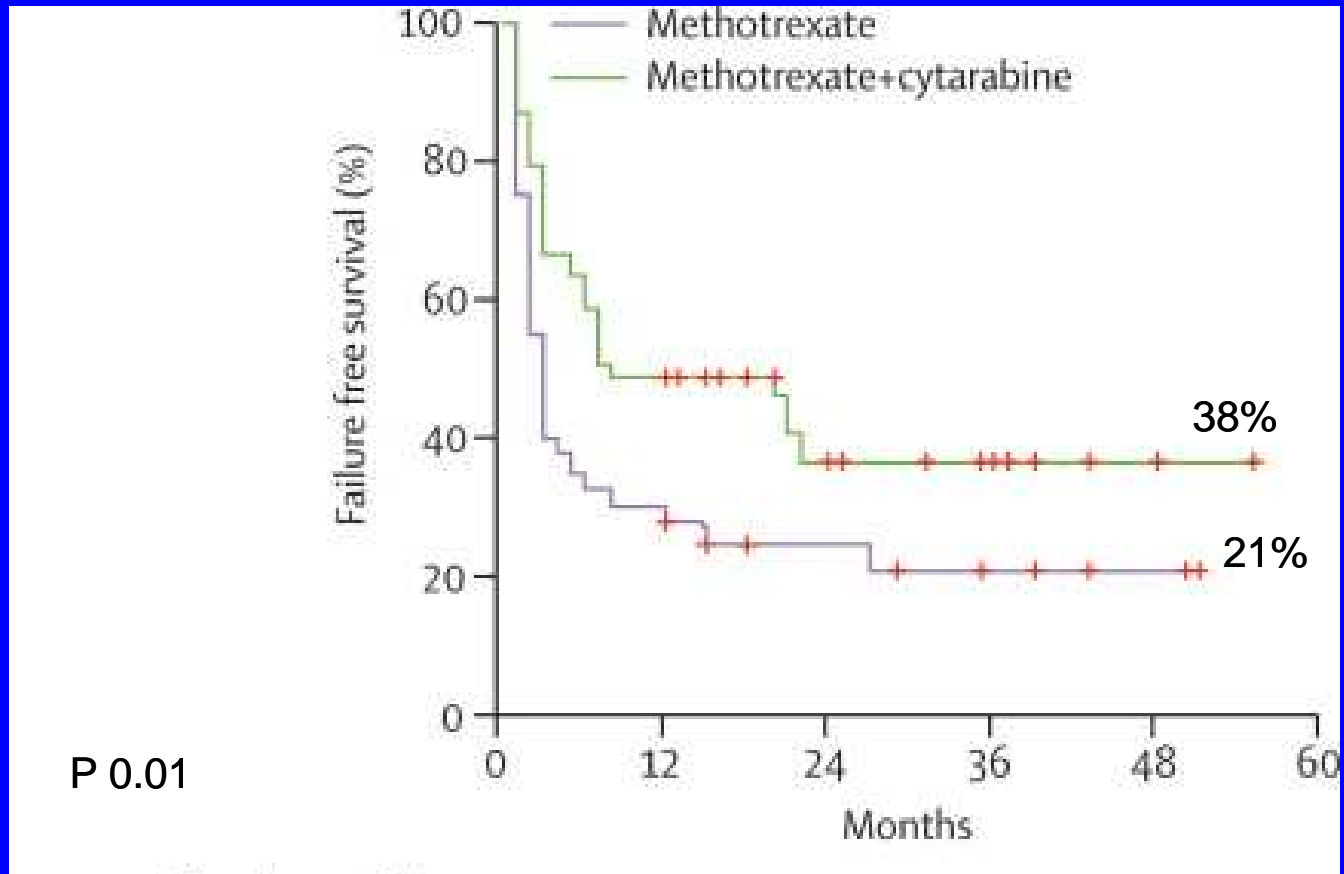
# Results



	Methotrexate (n=40)	Methotrexate+cytarabine (n=39)	p value
Complete remission	7 (18%)	18 (46%)	0.006
Partial response	9 (23%)	9 (23%)	..
Overall response	16 (40%)	27 (69%)	0.009
Stable disease	1 (3%)	2 (5%)	..
Progressive disease	22 (55%)	7 (18%)	..
Toxic deaths	1 (3%)	3 (8%)	0.35



# FFS



Ferreri et al, Lancet 2009;374:1512

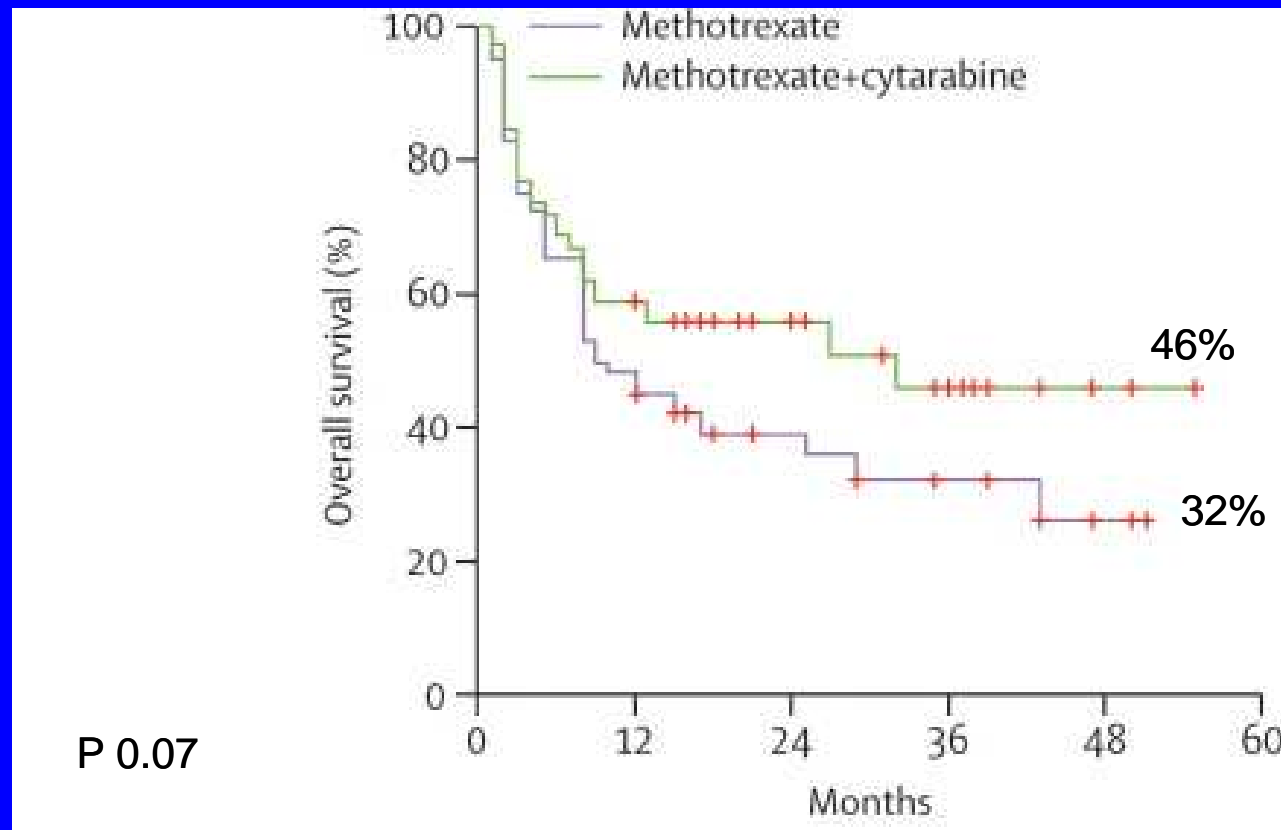


## Grade 3–4 toxic effects per treatment group

	Methotrexate (n=40)	Methotrexate+cytarabine (n=39)	p value
Toxic deaths	1 (3%)	3 (8%)	0.35
Neutropenia	6 (15%)	35 (90%)	0.00001
Thrombocytopenia	3 (8%)	36 (92%)	0.00001
Anaemia	4 (10%)	18 (46%)	0.00001
Infective complications	1 (3%)	9 (23%)	0.0002
Hepatotoxicity	1 (3%)	4 (10%)	0.05
Nephrotoxicity	2 (5%)	1 (3%)	0.31
GI/mucositis	2 (5%)	1 (3%)	0.31
Cardiotoxicity	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	0.87
Neurotoxicity	0	1 (3%)	0.29
Coagulation/DVT	4 (10%)	1 (3%)	0.002



# OS

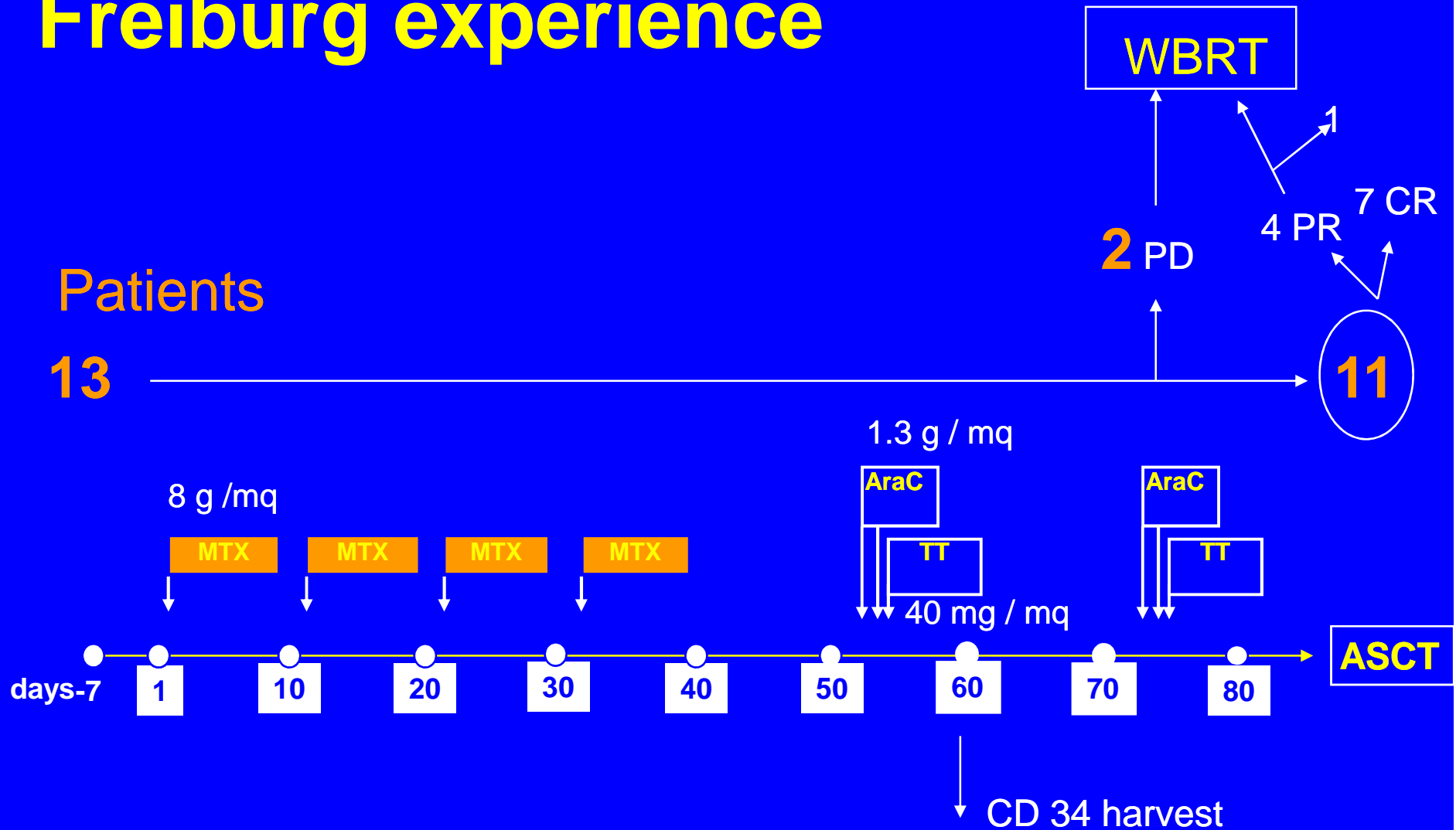


Ferreri et al, Lancet 2009;374:1512

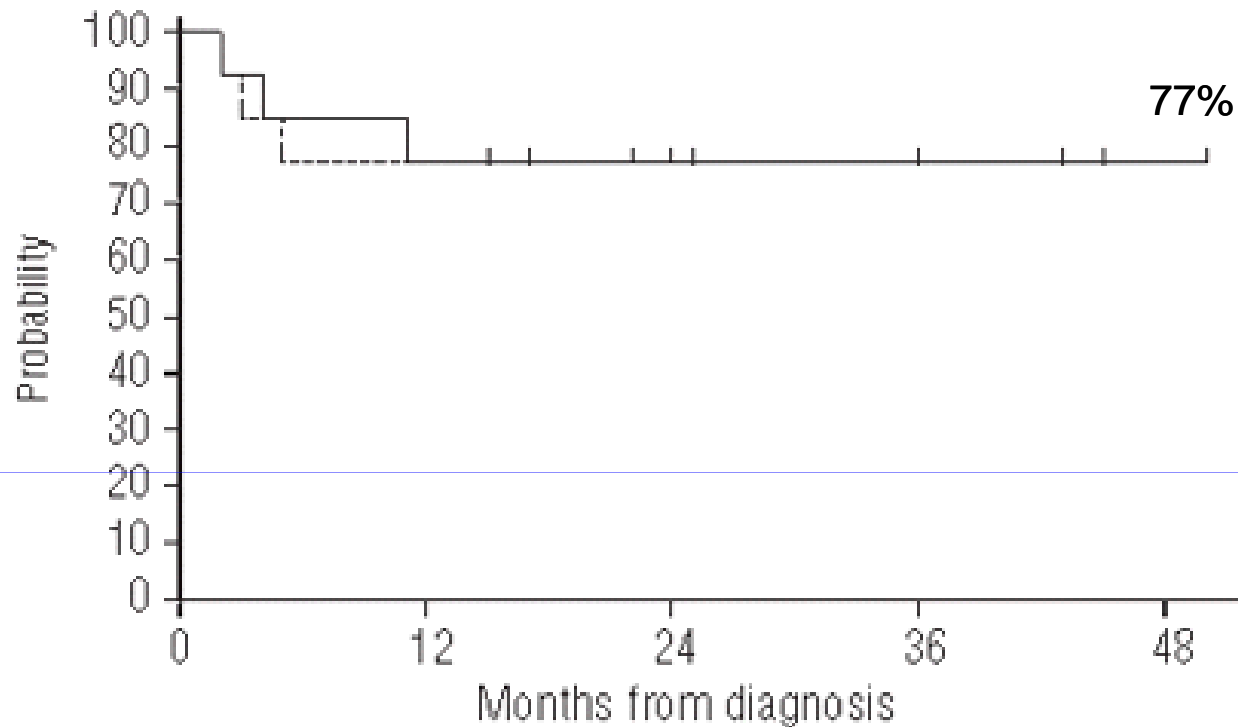
# Freiburg experience

Patients

13



# Freiburg experience



Median follow up of 25 months

**Figure 1.** Kaplan-Meier plot: disease-free survival (- -) and overall survival (-) from time of initial diagnosis of all patients.

# ASCT as first-line treatment in PCNSL

Authors	Induction treatment	Conditioning	2yrs OS	WBRT
Abrey et al. JCO 2003	HD-MTX	BEAM	55%	Only refractory
Cheng et al. BMT 2003	HD-MTX	Thiotepa Bus CTX	50%	Only refractory
Brevet et al. EJH 2005	MVPB	BEAM	50%	30 Gy +10boost
Illerhaus et al. JCO 2006	HD-MTX	BCNU Thiotepa	69%	Hyper fractionated
Colombat et al. BMT 2006	MVPB	BEAM	64%	30 Gy +10boost
Montemurro et al Ann Oncol 2007	HD-MTX	Thiotepa Bus	61%	Only PR

# A multicenter study of treatment of PCNSL

Outcome	All Patients (N=57)		Patients < 60 Chemo / WBRT* (n=19)		Patients ≥ 60 Chemo / WBRT (n=12)		Chemo Alone (n=26)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Median Survival (months)	51		NR		29		29	
PFS, months	129		NR		NR		7	
Relapse	25	44	7	27	3	25	15	58
Neurotoxicity	17	30	5	26	9	75	3*	
Alive	17	30	13	68	0		4	15

\*45 Gy

\*\* 2 pts developed neurotoxicity only after receiving WBRT for recurrent PCNSL

Gavrilovic et al, JCO 2006; 24:1470



**RANDOMIZED PHASE II TRIAL**  
**on primary chemotherapy with HD-MTX + HD-araC**  
**with or without THIOTEPA,**  
**and with or without RITUXIMAB,**  
**followed by BRAIN IRRADIATION versus**  
**HIGH-DOSE CHEMOTHERAPY supported by ASCT**  
**for IMMUNOCOMPETENT PATIENTS**  
**with NEWLY DIAGNOSED PCNSL**



PCNSL [ $\leq 65$  ys. + PS 0-3] or [65-70 ys. + PS  $\leq 2$ ]

(R)

4 c. MTX 3.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> d.1  
araC 2 g/m<sup>2</sup> x 2/d, d. 2-3  
every 3 weeks

4 c. rituximab 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d-5 & 0  
MTX 3.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> d.1  
araC 2 g/m<sup>2</sup> x 2/d, d. 2-3  
every 3 weeks

4 c. rituximab 375 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d-5 & 0  
MTX 3.5 g/m<sup>2</sup> d.1  
araC 2 g/m<sup>2</sup> x 2/d, d. 2-3  
Thiotepa 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d.4  
every 3 weeks

Response assessment

CR – PR - SD

PD – tox  
↓  
SC harvest

(R)

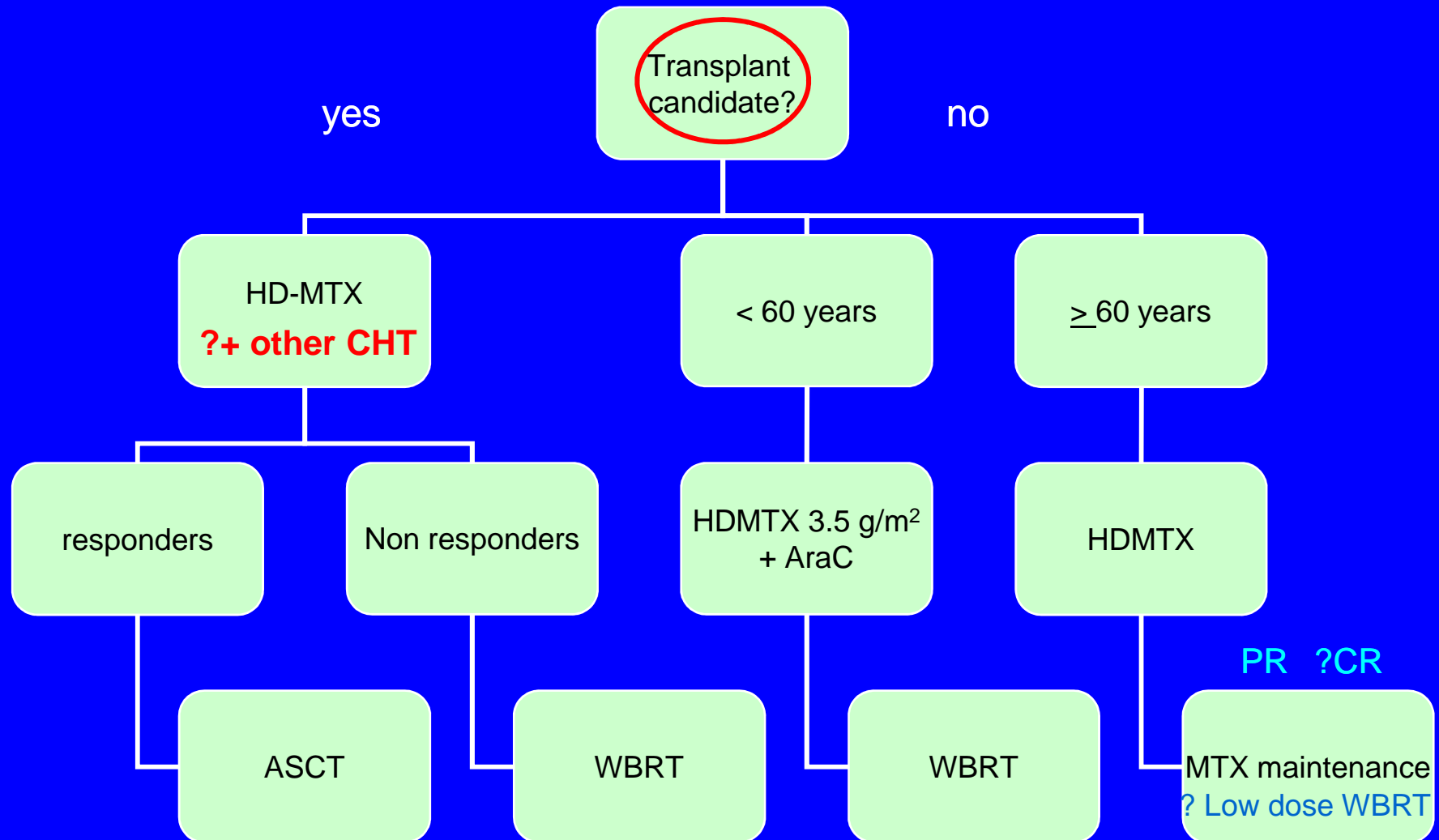
WBRT 36 Gy  
± boost 9 Gy

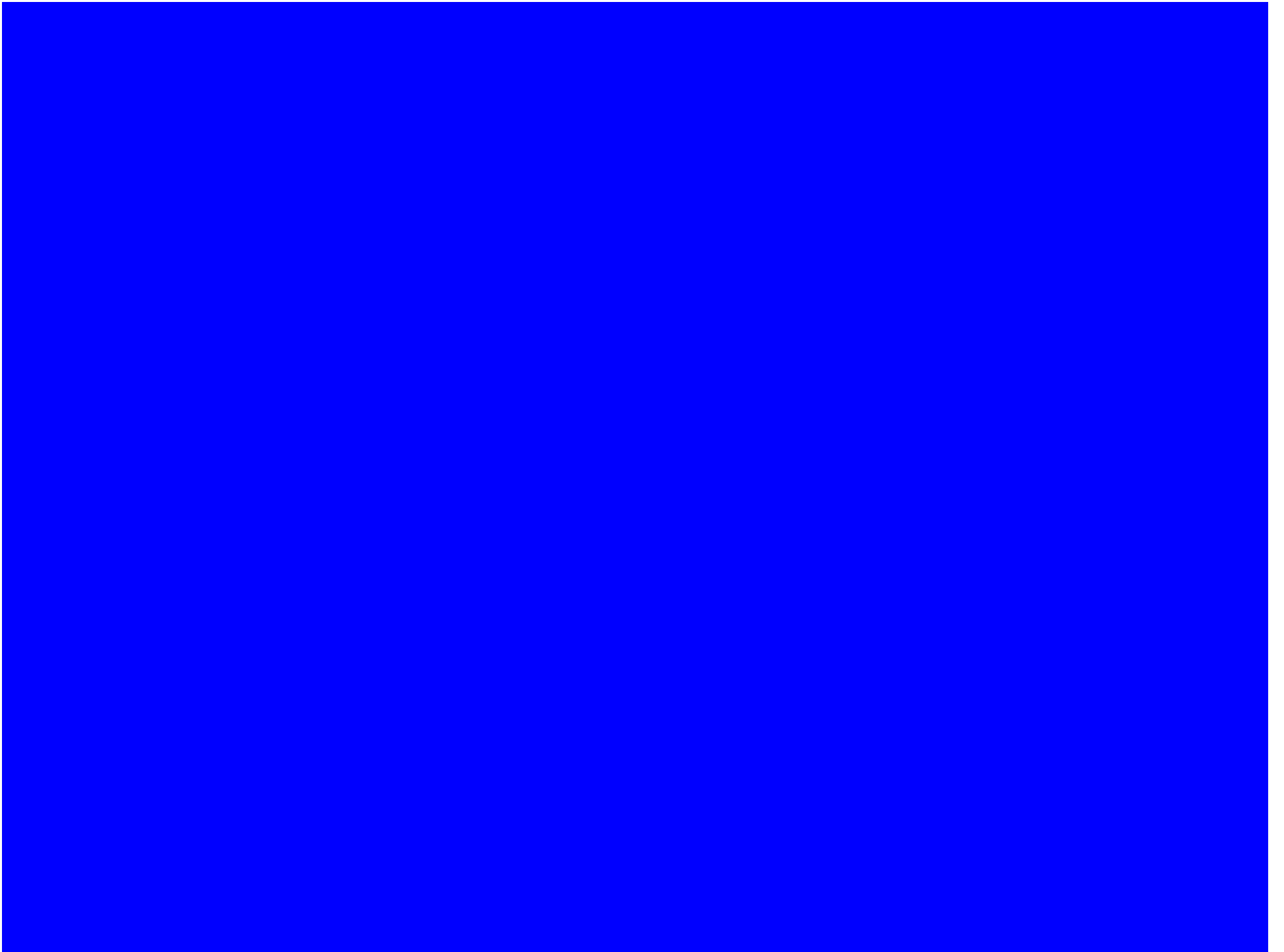
BCNU 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d.1  
Thiotepa 5 mg/Kg x 2/d; d.2-3  
+ APBSCT

WBRT 40 Gy  
± boost 9 Gy



# Approach to the treatment of PCNSL





## IPCG NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS (MODIFIED FROM REF 34)

Cognitive domain	Test	References
Attention/executive functions	Digit forward Digit backward	WAIS III
	Trail Making Test Brief Test of Attention WCST – Brief form	Reitan 1958 Schretlen 1997 Nelson 1976
Memory	Hopkins Verbal Learning-Revised Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test Rey complex figure delayed	Brandt 1991 Rey, 1964 Taylor, 1959 Rey 1968
Language	Token Test  Phonetic Verbal Fluency Semantic Verbal Fluency	De Renzi, Vignolo 1962; Spinnler e Tognoni 1987 Novelli 1986
Pre-morbid IQ estimation	NART Barona index	Nelson 1982 Barona 1984; 1996
Quality of Life	EORTC- QLQ	Fayers 1998
	BCM 20	Osoba 1996
Motor	Grooved pegboard Test	Heaton et al., 1991



# Aims of the study

## ➤ Primary objective at first randomisation

- To compare different CHT combinations

Endpoint: CR rate after CHT

## ➤ Primary objective at second randomisation

- To compare two different consolidation strategies (WBRT vs ASCT)

Primary endpoint: 2 years PFS

Secondary endpoints. OS, meningeal relapse rate and late neurotoxicity

# IPCG RESPONSE CRITERIA<sup>32</sup>

Abrey et al. JCO 2005

	Brain Imaging	Steroid Dose	Eye Exam	CSF Cytology
CR	No contrast enhancement	None	Normal	Negative
Cru	No contrast enhancement	Any	Normal	Negative
	Minimal abnormality	Any	Minor RPE abnormality	Negative
PR	50% decrease in enhancing tumor	Irrelevant	Minor RPE abnormality or normal	Negative
	No contrast enhancement	Irrelevant	Decrease in vitreous cells or retinal infiltrate	Persistent or suspicious
PD	25% increase in lesion	Irrelevant	Recurrent or new ocular disease	Recurrent or positive
	Any new site of disease: CNS or systemic			

**Study chairmen****Andrés J. M. Ferreri**

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**Gerald Illerhaus**

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# IELSG score

- Age ( $\leq 60$  vs  $> 60$  years)
- ECOG PS (0 to 1 vs 2 to 4)
- LDH serum level (normal vs elevated)
- Protein CSF concentration (normal vs elevated)
- Involvement of the deep structures of the brain (no vs yes)

0-1 low  
2-3 intermediate  
4-5 high

Why MTX + Ara-C?

**IELSG 20 trial**

Why MTX + araC + rituximab?

**R-MPV study** Abrey et al. JCO 2007

Why MTX + araC + rituximab + TTP?

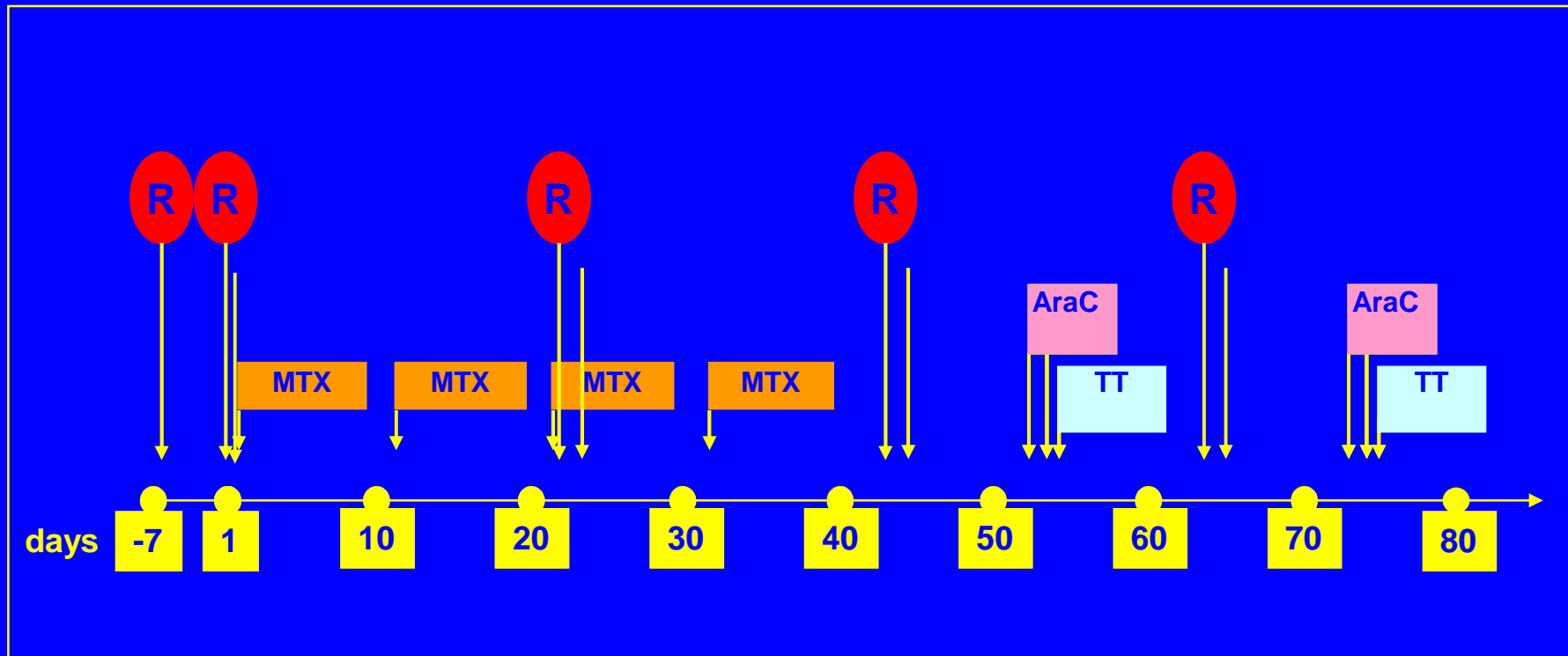
**MATILDE study and Freiburg experience**

Why ASCT vs WBRT

**Freiburg experience**



# Freiburg experience





PCNSL [ $\leq 65$  ys. + PS 0-3] or [65-70 ys. + PS  $\leq 2$ ]

R

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