

Managing CMV risk in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant during COVID-19 pandemic

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DEGLI STUDI
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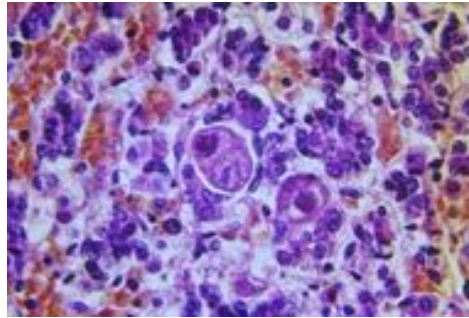
Sistema Socio Sanitario



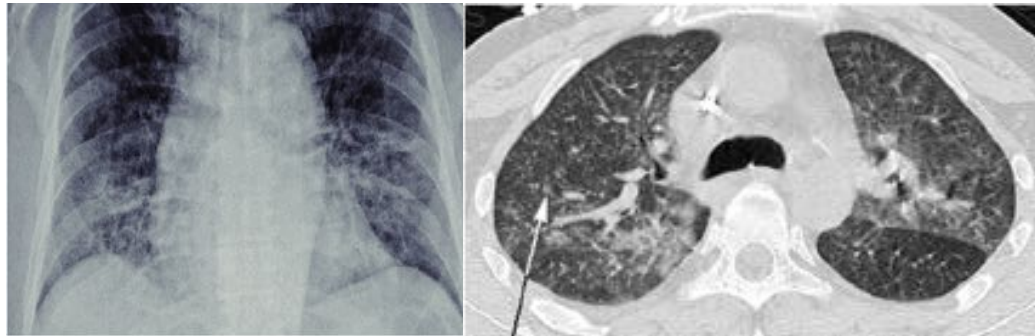
Regione
Lombardia

ASST Spedali Civili

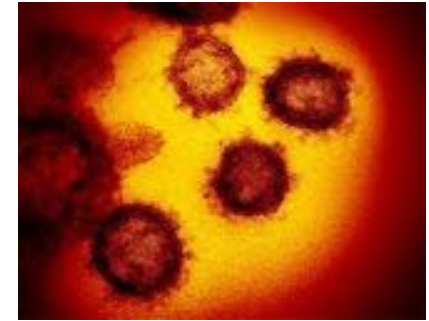
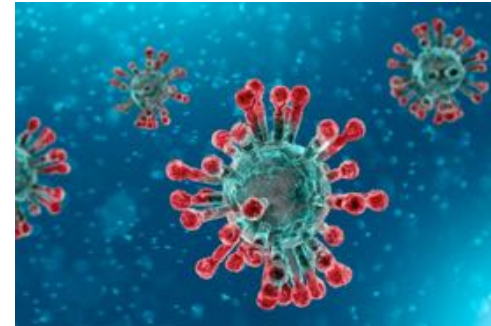
CMV



CMV Interstitial Pneumoniae



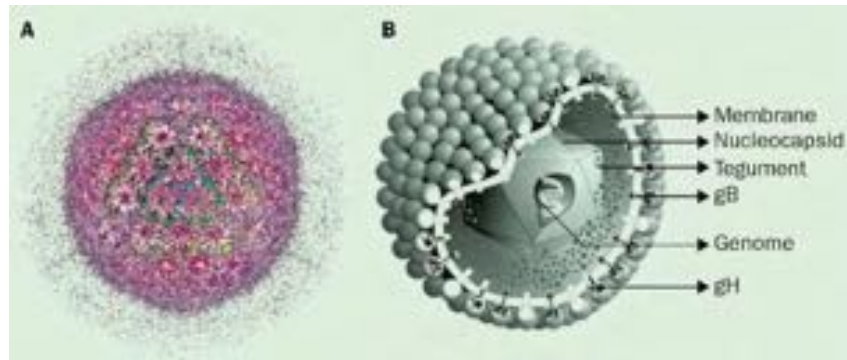
SARS CoV-2



SARS CoV-2 Interstitial Pneumoniae

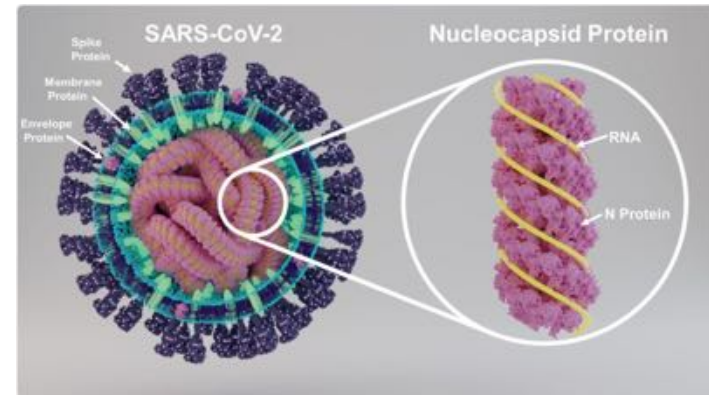


CMV



- ◆ **Human Herpesvirus 5**
- ◆ **Beta-HSV**
- ◆ **DNA Genome → 235 Kb**
- ◆ **Nucleocapsid with DNA encapsulated into a glyco-proteine membrane**
- ◆ **Cell invasion via ICAM-1 and surface integrins (CD11/18)**

SARS CoV-2

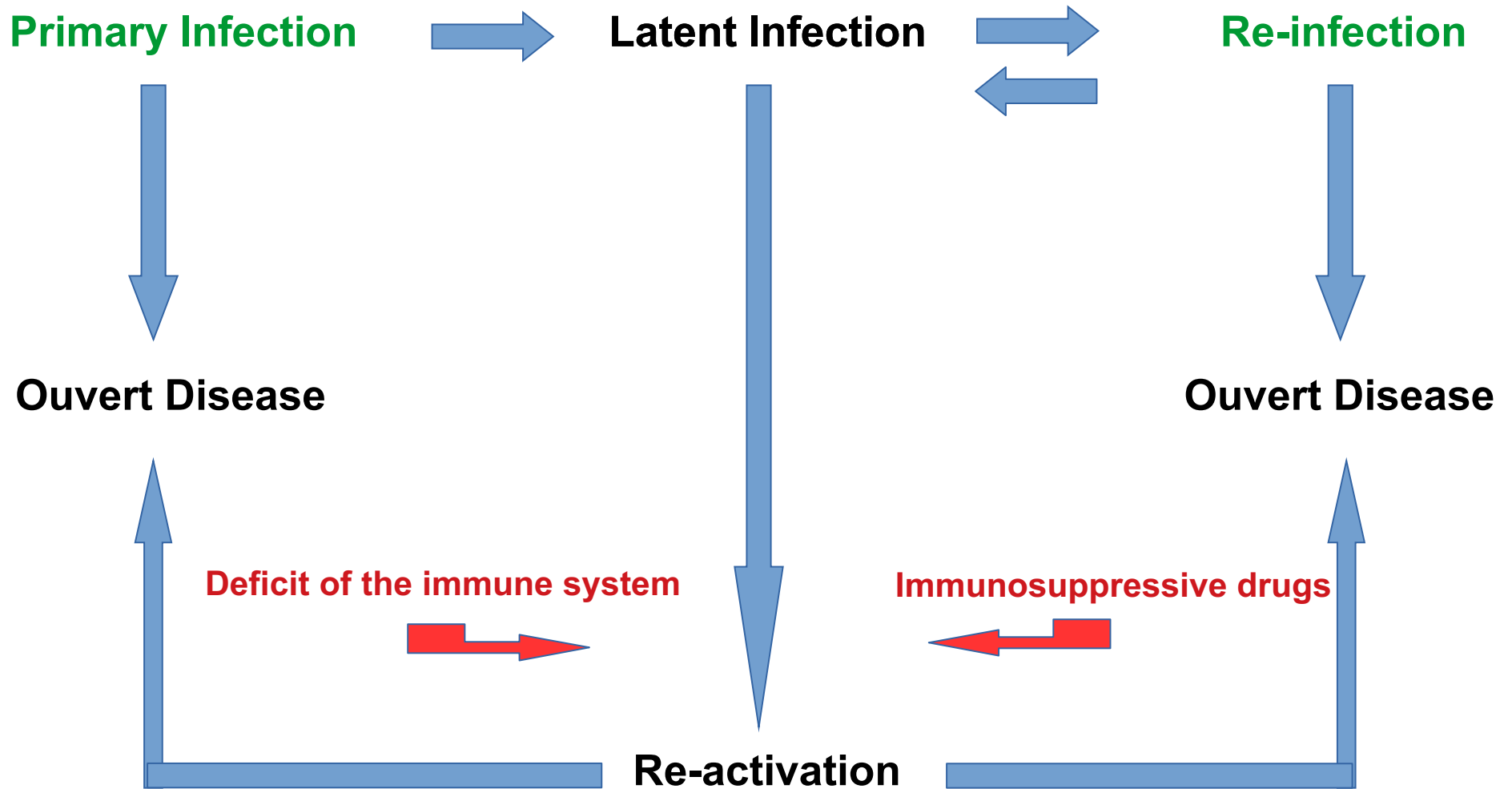


- ◆ **Betacoronavirus**
- ◆ **Single strand RNA genome → 29,9 Kb**
- ◆ **4 structural proteins**
 - S
 - E
 - M
 - N

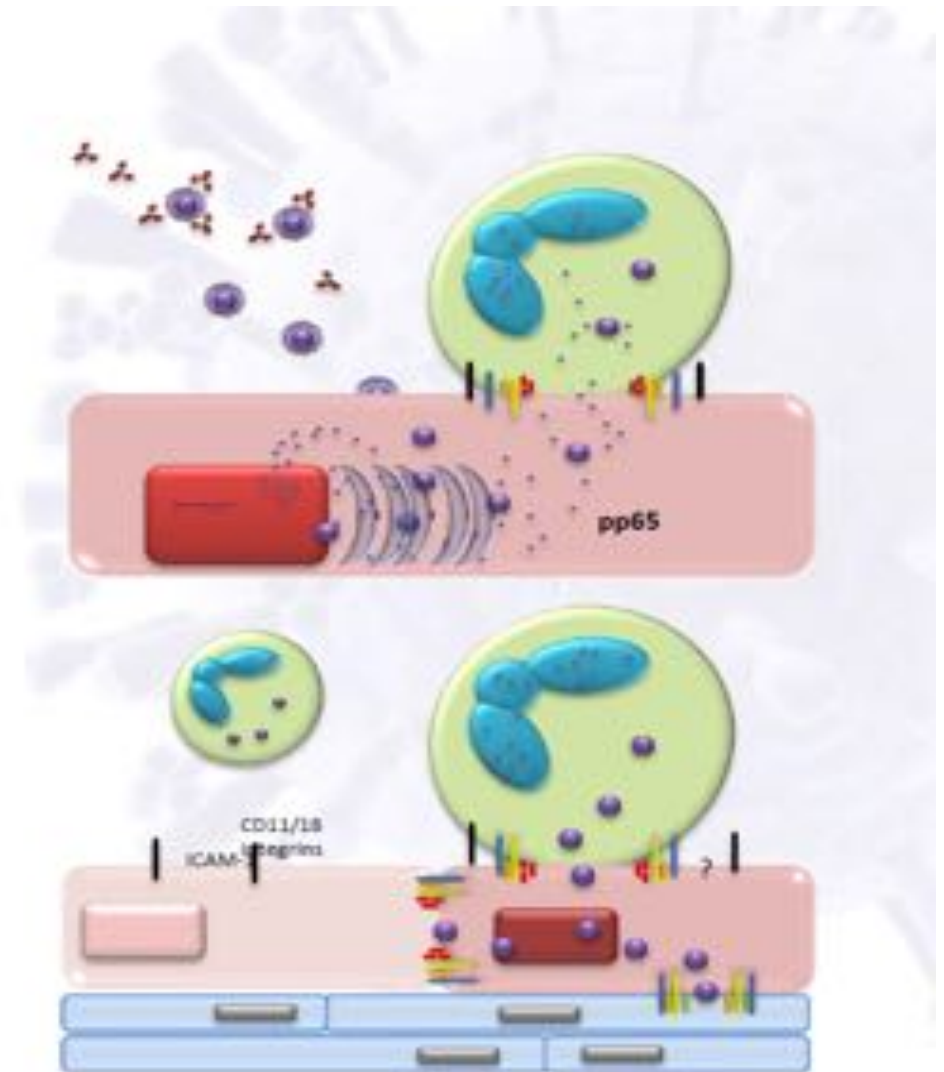
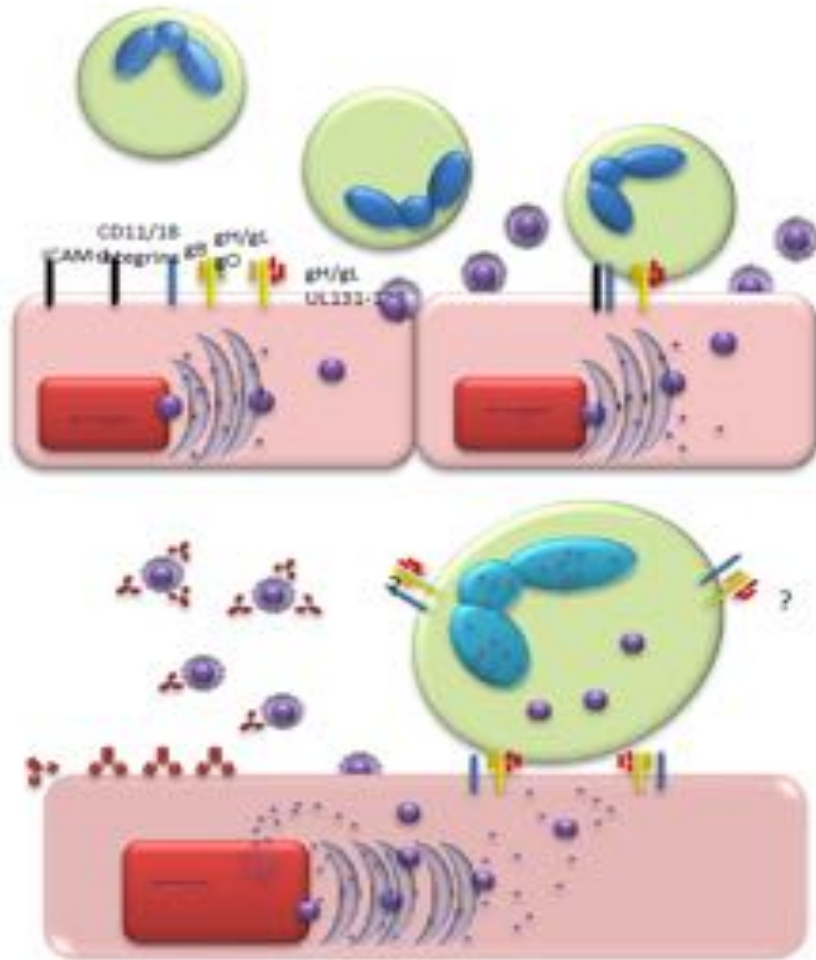
→ viral capsid

→ contains the genome
- ◆ **S protein → high affinity for ACE2-R**
→ **cell invasion**

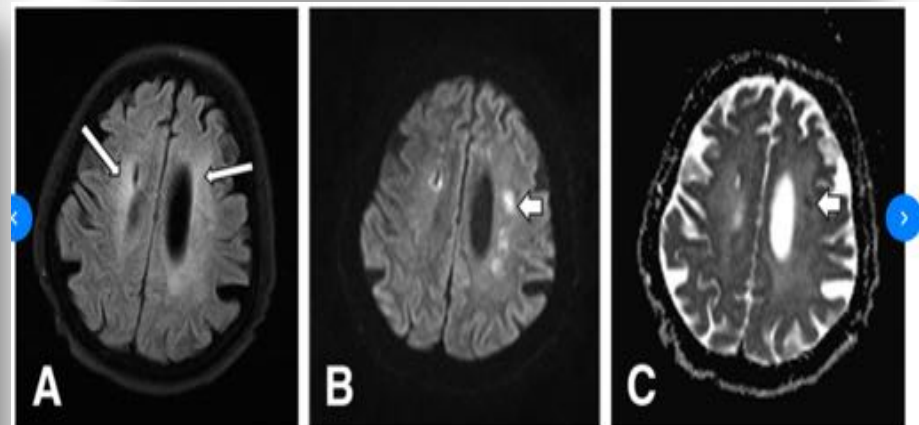
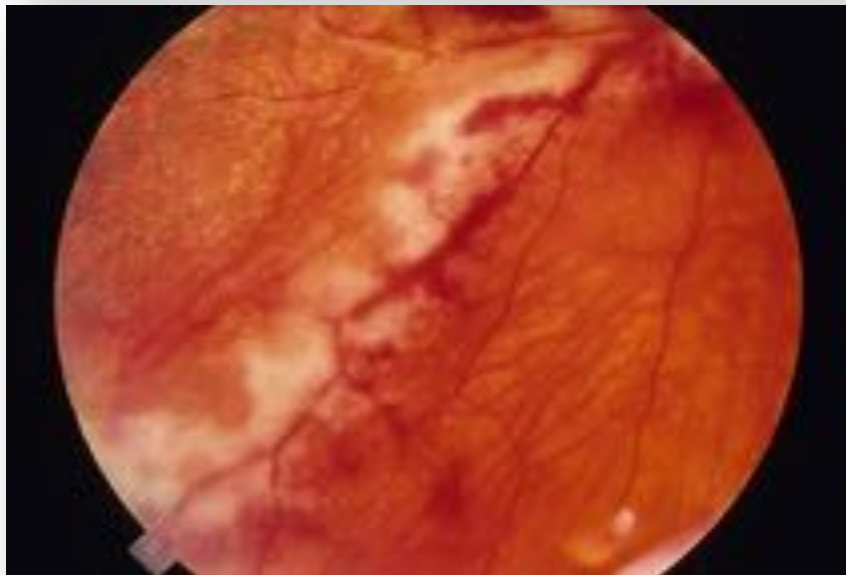
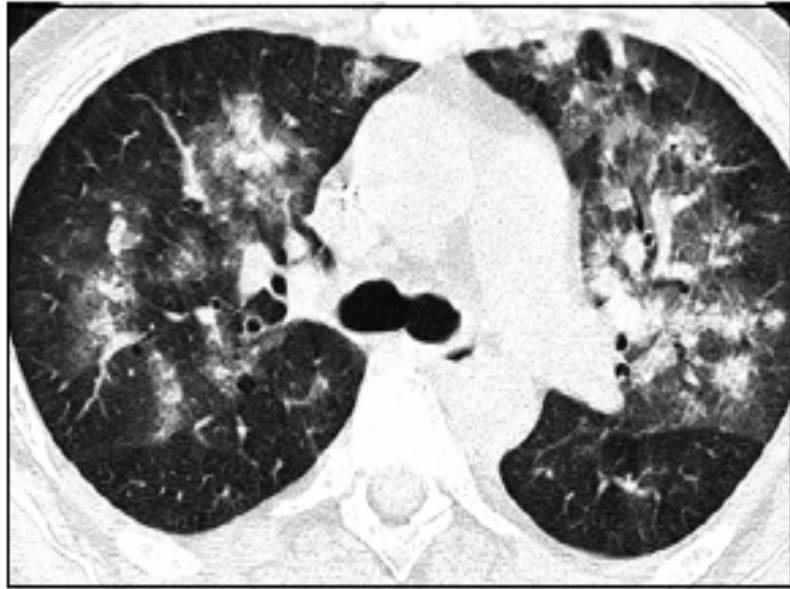
NATURAL HISTORY OF CMV INFECTION



CMV RESERVOIR AND INFECTION DISSEMINATION (2)

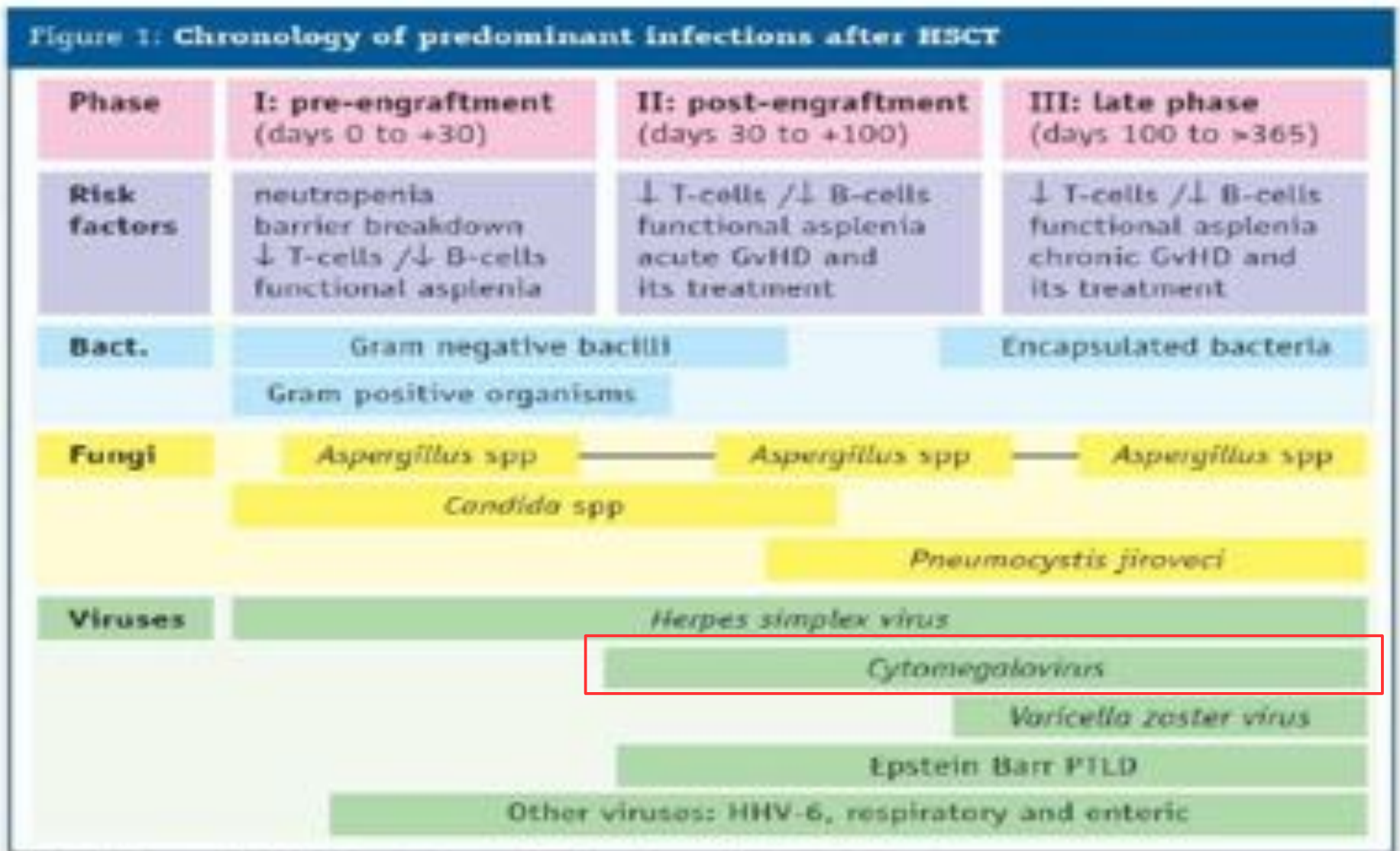


CMV Disease



Cytomegalovirus encephalitis: a 32-year-old man diagnosed with ALL presented with dizziness and headache. Axial FLAIR image (A) demonstrates abnormal ill defined lesions in the periventricular areas and corona radiata (long arrows, A), some of which were restricted on diffusion (short arrows, B, C). Lower images (not shown) demonstrate similar lesions in the basal ganglia and thalami. The polymerase chain reaction was high in the CSF (152 000 copies/mL).

INFECTIONS AFTER allo-SCT



Adapted from (2). PTLD: post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder



CMV & allo-SCT

Clinical Infectious Diseases

INVITED ARTICLE



IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOSTS: David R. Snydman, Section Editor

Definitions of Cytomegalovirus Infection and Disease in Transplant Patients for Use in Clinical Trials

Per Ljungman,^{1,2} Michael Boeckh,^{4,5} Hans H. Hirsch,⁶ Filip Josephson,³ Jens Lundgren,⁷ Garrett Nichols,⁸ Andreas Piskis,⁹ Raymond R. Razonable,¹⁰ Veronica Miller,¹¹ and Paul D. Griffiths¹², for the Disease Definitions Working Group of the Cytomegalovirus Drug Development Forum⁸

¹Departments of Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation and Hematology, Karolinska University Hospital, Solna, ²Division of Hematology, Department of Medicine, Huddinge, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, and ³Swedish Medical Products Agency, Uppsala, Sweden, ⁴Vaccine and Infectious Disease and Clinical Research Division, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and ⁵Department of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, ⁶Department of Biomedicine, University of Basel, Switzerland, ⁷Centre for Health and Infectious Disease Research (CHIP), Department of Infectious Diseases, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, ⁸Chimerix, Inc, Durham, North Carolina, ⁹Division of Arterial Products, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland, ¹⁰Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, William J. von Liebig Center for Transplantation and Clinical Regeneration, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, ¹¹Forum for Collaborative HIV Research, University of California, Berkeley, and ¹²Institute for Immunity and Transplantation, University College London Medical School, United Kingdom

CMV Infection & disease

- **Latent CMV infection** represents lifelong persistence of virus without replication in healthy seropositive host.
- **CMV active infection** : actively **replicating virus**, can be diagnosed by nucleic acid-based assays or antigenemia.
- **CMV disease** is defined by evidence of CMV infection with **attributable symptoms**, it can be :-
 - **CMV syndrome** (fever, fatigue, leukopenia and/or thrombocytopenia, and an increased CMV titer from a specific diagnostic assay)
 - **Invasive CMV disease** (e.g., pneumonitis, hepatitis, or gastrointestinal involvement such as colitis or enteritis, or involvement of the allograft itself).



- Multicentric (CIBMTR)
- Patients: 9469 allo-SCTs (1º) (2003-2010). PB / BM

CMV reactivation (0-100 days): Higher mortality	AML (Nº 5310)	ALL (Nº 1883)	CML (Nº 1079)	MDS (Nº 1197)
TRM (at 3 years) RR	1.65	1.95	1.90	1.61
OS (at 3 years) RR	1.27	1.46	1.49	1.31
Relapse (at 3 years)	N.S	N.S	N.S	N.S

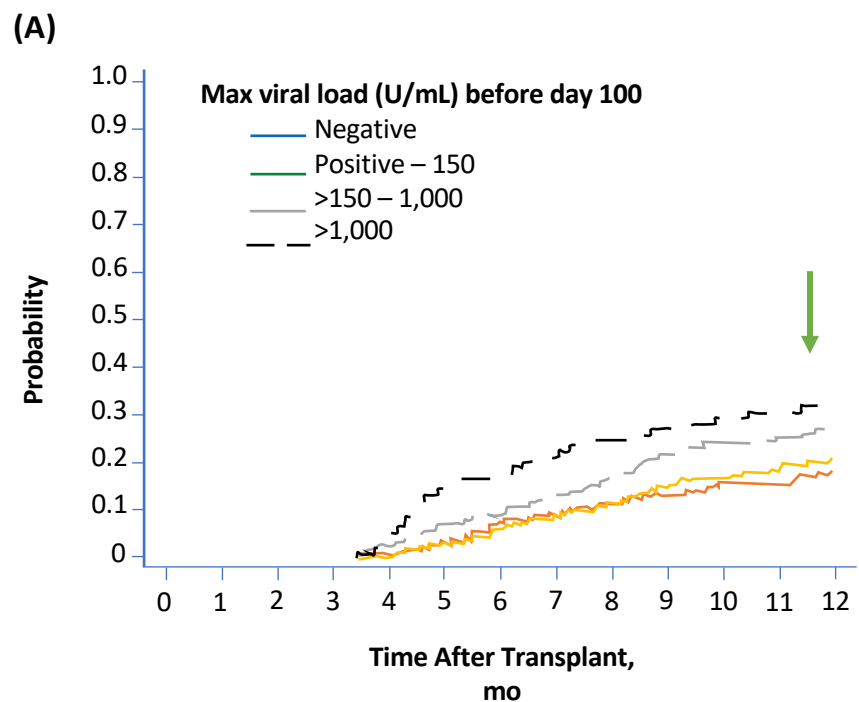
CMV reactivation:

- Does not protect against relapse
- Continues to be a risk factor for **poor post-HCT outcome** (more TRM, less OS)

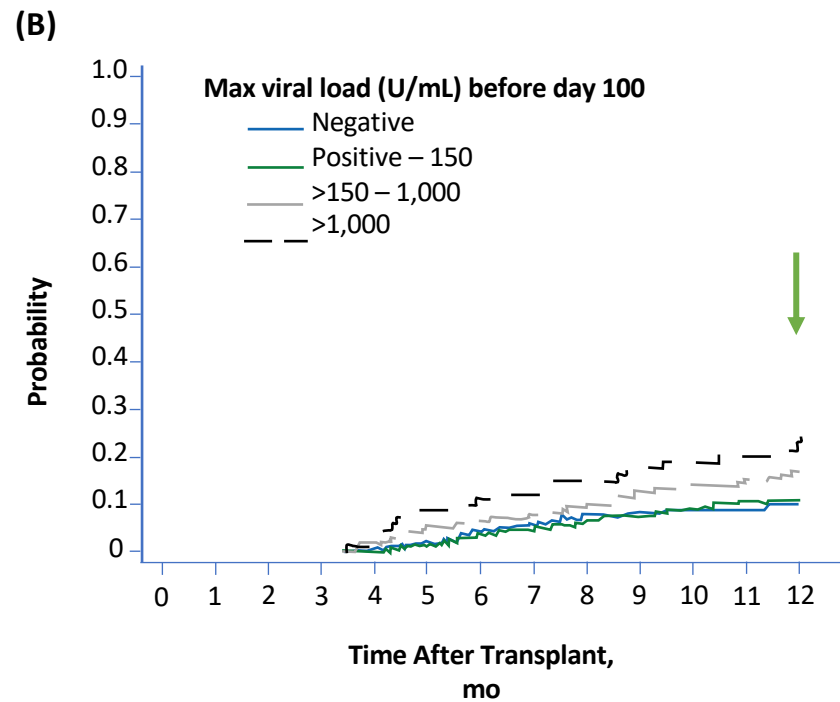


CMV Viral Load and Mortality After HCT in the Era of Preemptive Therapy

Cumulative Incidence of Overall Mortality (A) and Nonrelapse Mortality (B) at 1 Year After HCT in Survivors at Day 100 (n = 832) Stratified by Max CMV VL Before Day 100



Negative	290	287	277	262	246	237	227	217	211	203
Positive – 150	220	215	207	200	189	182	168	162	156	150
>150 – 1,000	218	210	197	191	175	162	152	146	142	132
>1,000	93	85	76	73	68	65	63	59	57	55



Negative	265	257	249	236	216	203	195	189	184	179
Positive – 150	198	192	184	177	165	158	150	145	136	130
>150 – 1,000	198	191	176	167	156	148	137	133	130	118
>1,000	84	76	69	67	63	61	59	57	55	52



Direct and Indirect Effects of CMV Infection/Disease



CMV Viral Syndrome

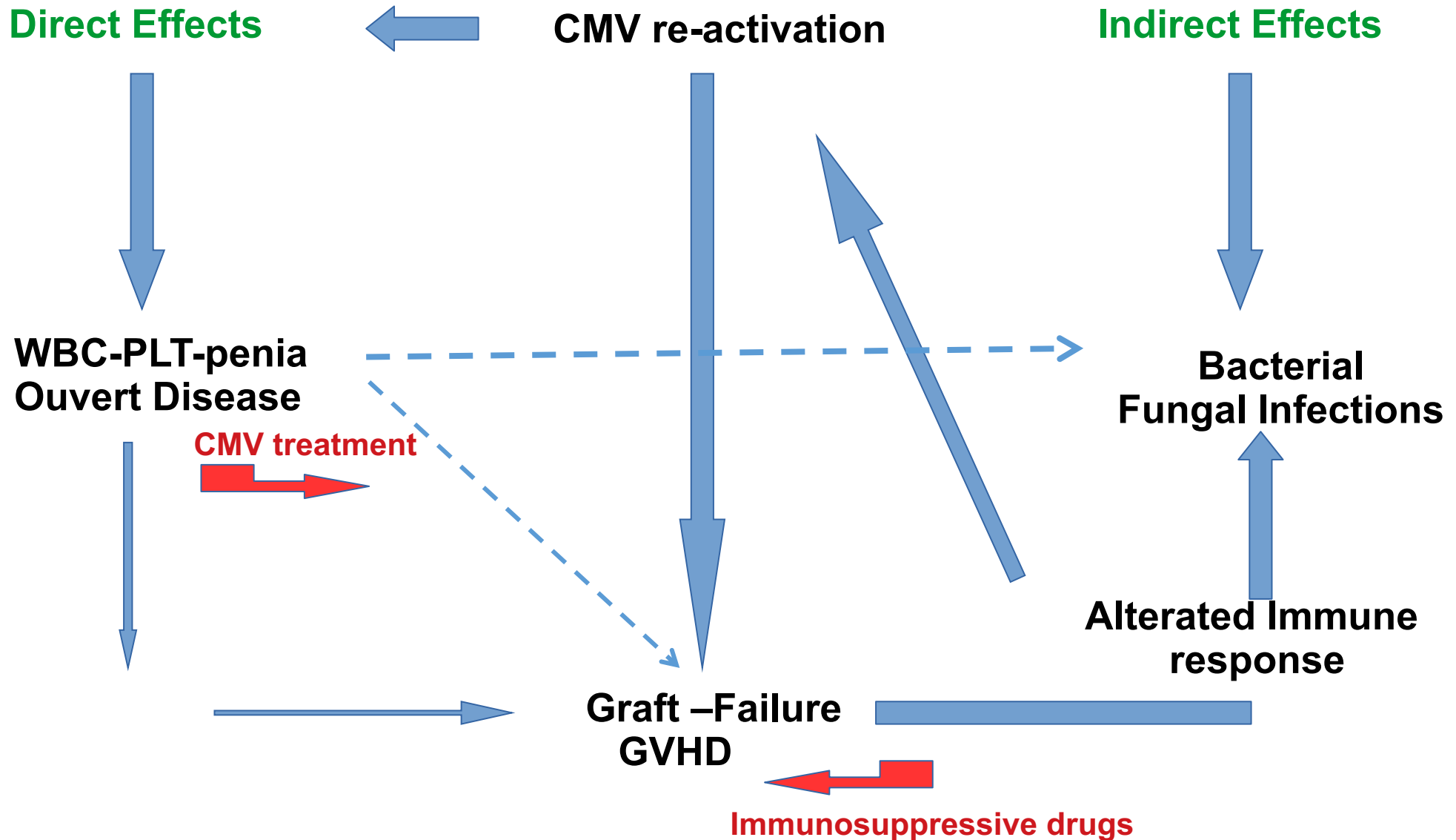
- Fever, malaise, myalgias
- Leukopenia, thrombocytopenia
- Tissue Invasive Disease

Altered host immune response

- Acute/chronic graft rejection
- Bacterial or fungal superinfection
- Decreased graft and/or patient survival
- Development of EBV related PTLD

*some are controversial

DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS OF CMV INFECTION



Cytomegalovirus Reactivation after Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation is Associated with a Reduced Risk of Relapse in Patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia Who Survived to Day 100 after Transplantation: The Japan Society for Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation Transplantation-related Complication Working Group



BBMT 2015

Katsuto Takenaka^{1*}, Tetsuya Nishida², Yuki Asano-Mori³, Kumi Oshima⁴, Kazuteru Ohashi⁵, Takehiko Mori⁶, Heiwa Kanamori⁷, Koichi Miyamura⁸, Chiaki Kato⁹, Naoki Kobayashi¹⁰, Naoyuki Uchida³, Hirohisa Nakamae¹¹, Tatsuo Ichinohe⁴, Yasuo Morishima¹², Ritsuro Suzuki¹³, Takuhiro Yamaguchi¹⁴, Takahiro Fukuda¹⁵

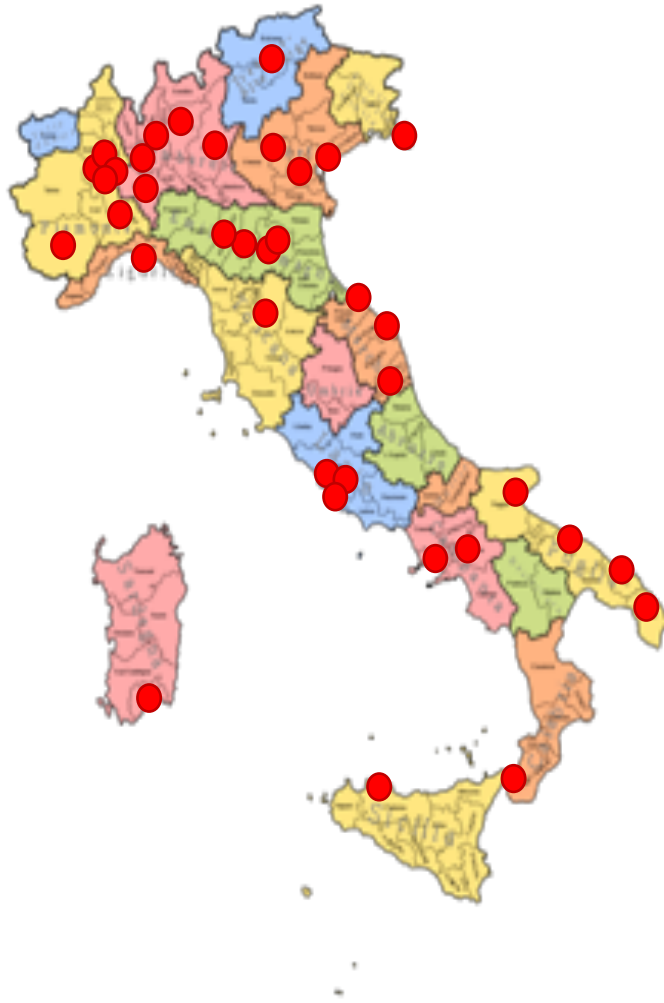
RISK FACTOR	CMV REACTIVATION	CMV DISEASE
D-/R+		
GVHD		
UD/MMD		
AGE (↑)		

Table 2 Patient Characteristics according to Post-transplantation CMV Reactivation

Characteristic	All Patients	Patients without CMV Reactivation	Patients with CMV Reactivation	P Value
No. of patients	3539	2021 (57%)	1518 (43%)	
Patient age				
Median (range)	43 (16-74)	40 (16-72)	47 (16-74)	
<50	1883 (53%)	1197 (60%)	686 (44%)	<.01
≥50	1656 (47%)	794 (40%)	862 (50%)	
Patient sex				
Male	2082 (59%)	1165 (59%)	917 (59%)	NS
Female	1457 (41%)	826 (41%)	631 (41%)	
Donor type				
Related	1930 (55%)	1215 (61%)	715 (46%)	<.01
Unrelated	1609 (46%)	776 (39%)	833 (54%)	
Donor/recipient sex				
Female/male	812 (23%)	466 (23%)	346 (23%)	NS
Other combination	2706 (77%)	1518 (77%)	1188 (77%)	
Stem cell source				
BM	2533 (72%)	1352 (68%)	1181 (76%)	<.01
PB	1006 (28%)	639 (32%)	367 (24%)	
Recipient/donor CMV serology				
Negative/negative	243 (8%)	175 (11%)	68 (5%)	<.01
Negative/positive	313 (11%)	230 (14%)	83 (6%)	
Positive/negative	481 (16%)	228 (14%)	253 (19%)	
Positive/positive	1909 (65%)	993 (61%)	916 (69%)	
Negative/negative	243 (8%)	175 (11%)	68 (5%)	<.01
Other combination	2703 (92%)	1451 (89%)	1252 (95%)	
Disease type				
AML	1836 (52%)	1041 (52%)	795 (51%)	NS
ALL	911 (26%)	533 (27%)	378 (24%)	
CML	223 (8%)	134 (7%)	89 (6%)	
MDS	589 (16%)	283 (14%)	286 (19%)	
Disease status				
Standard	2442 (69%)	1432 (72%)	1010 (66%)	<.01
Advanced	1082 (31%)	554 (28%)	528 (34%)	
Performance status				
0-1	3355 (95%)	1901 (96%)	1454 (95%)	NS
2-4	162 (5%)	80 (4%)	82 (5%)	
Preparative regimen				
MA	2726 (78%)	1561 (79%)	1165 (76%)	.01
Nonmyeloablative	791 (23%)	413 (21%)	378 (25%)	
GVHD prophylaxis				
CSP-based	2122 (61%)	1279 (65%)	843 (55%)	<.01
FK506-based	1363 (39%)	682 (35%)	681 (45%)	
Acute GVHD				
Grade 0-1	2272 (65%)	1525 (77%)	745 (49%)	<.01
Grade 2-4	1242 (35%)	455 (23%)	787 (51%)	



TransCOVID GITMO Survey

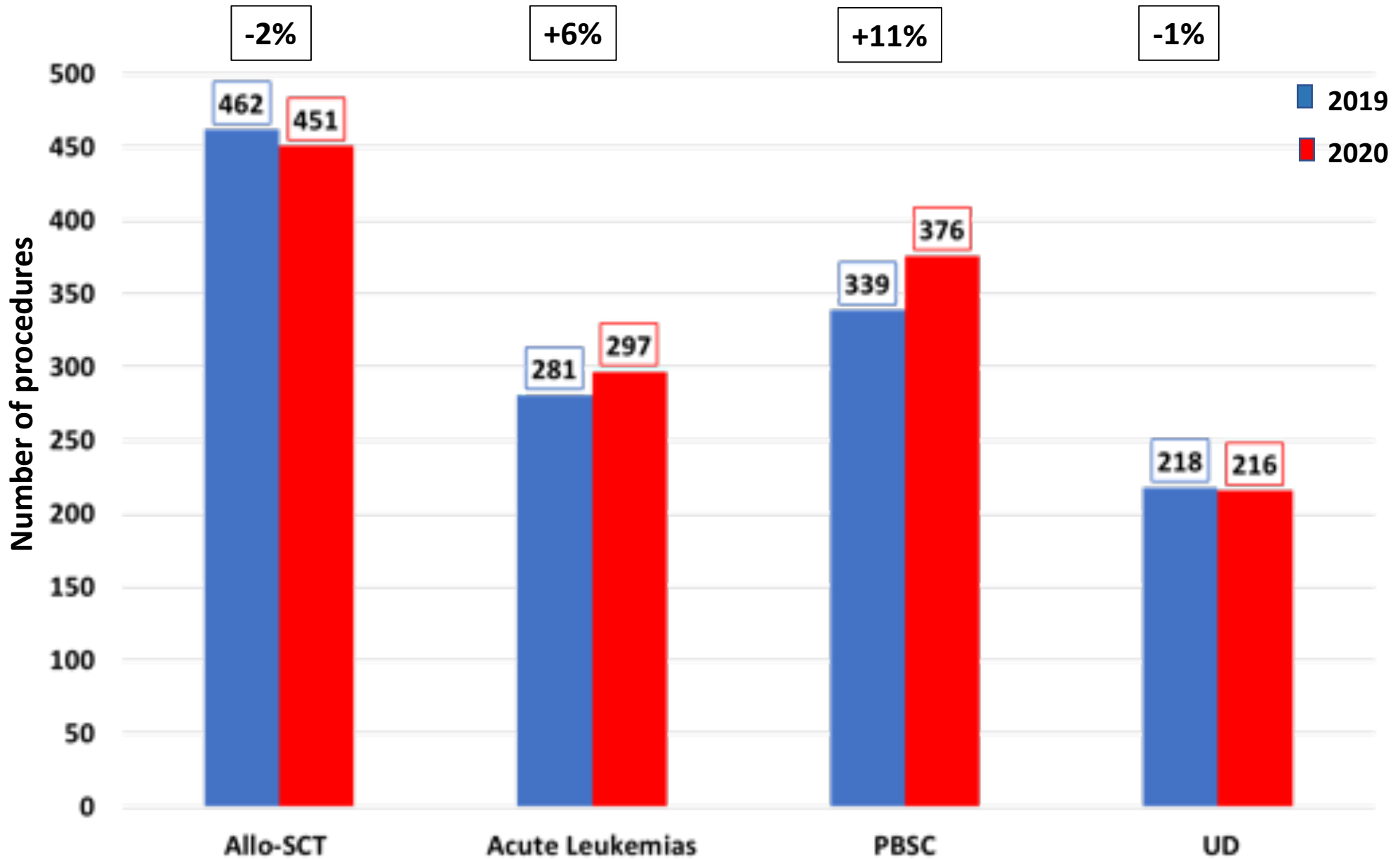


GITMO - Participating Centers (39)		
Alessandria	Candiolo (TO)	Palermo
Ancona	Cuneo	Pavia
Ascoli Piceno	Firenze	Pesaro
Avellino	Genova	Reggio Calabria
Bari	Lecce	Reggio Emilia
Bergamo	Mestre	Roma (Umberto I)
Bologna (Adulti)	Milano (Maggiore)	Roma (S. Camillo)
Bologna (Ped)	Milano (HSR)	Roma (Gemelli)
Bolzano	Modena	S. Giovanni Rotondo (FG)
Brescia (Adulti)	Monza	Torino (Molinette)
Brescia (Ped)	Napoli	Torino (Ped)
Brindisi	Orbassano (TO)	Trieste
Cagliari	Padova	Vicenza

Data unpublished

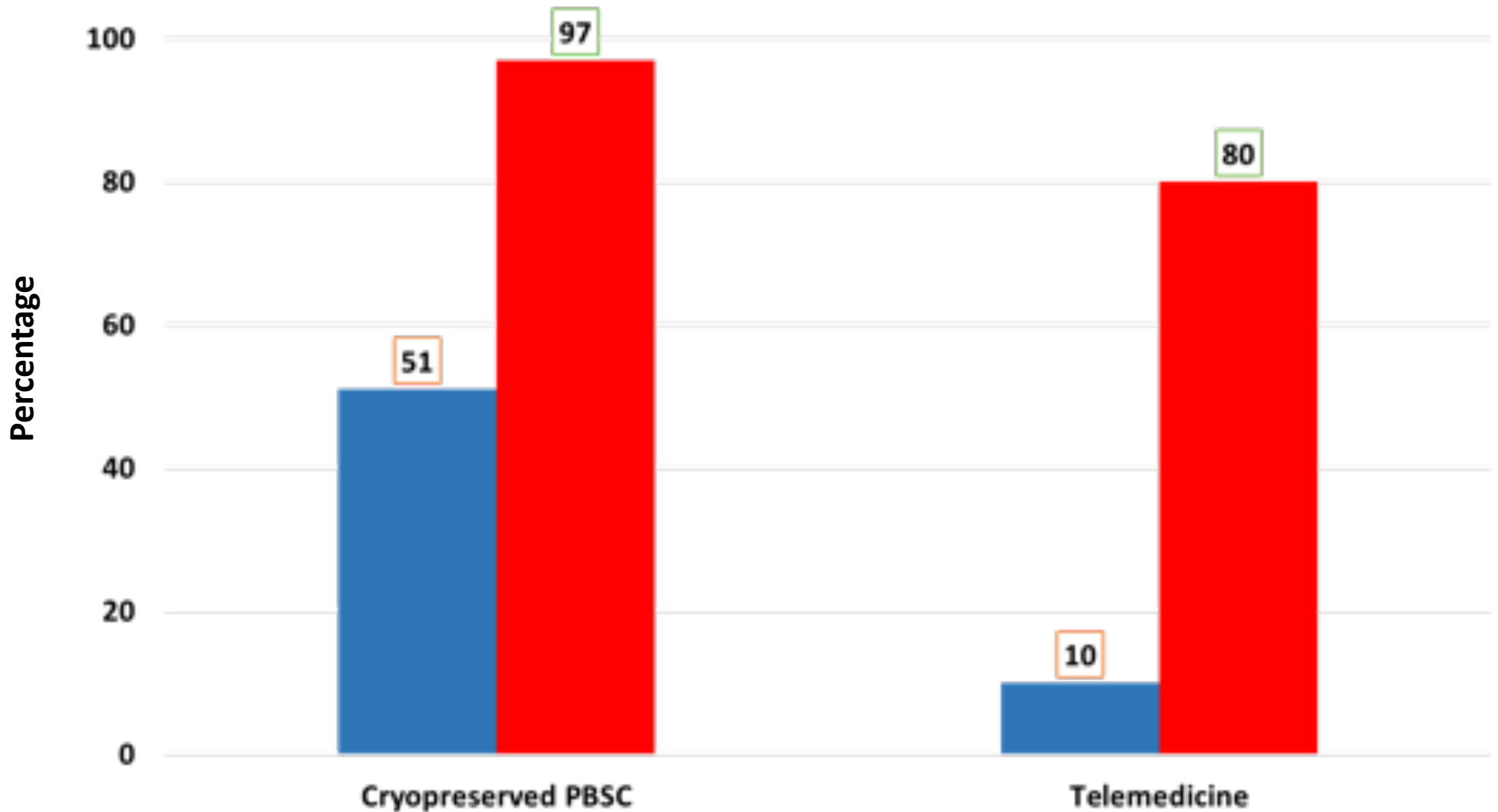
COVID-19 and Allo-SCT procedures in Italy

Comparison between Mar-July 2019 and Mar-July 2020



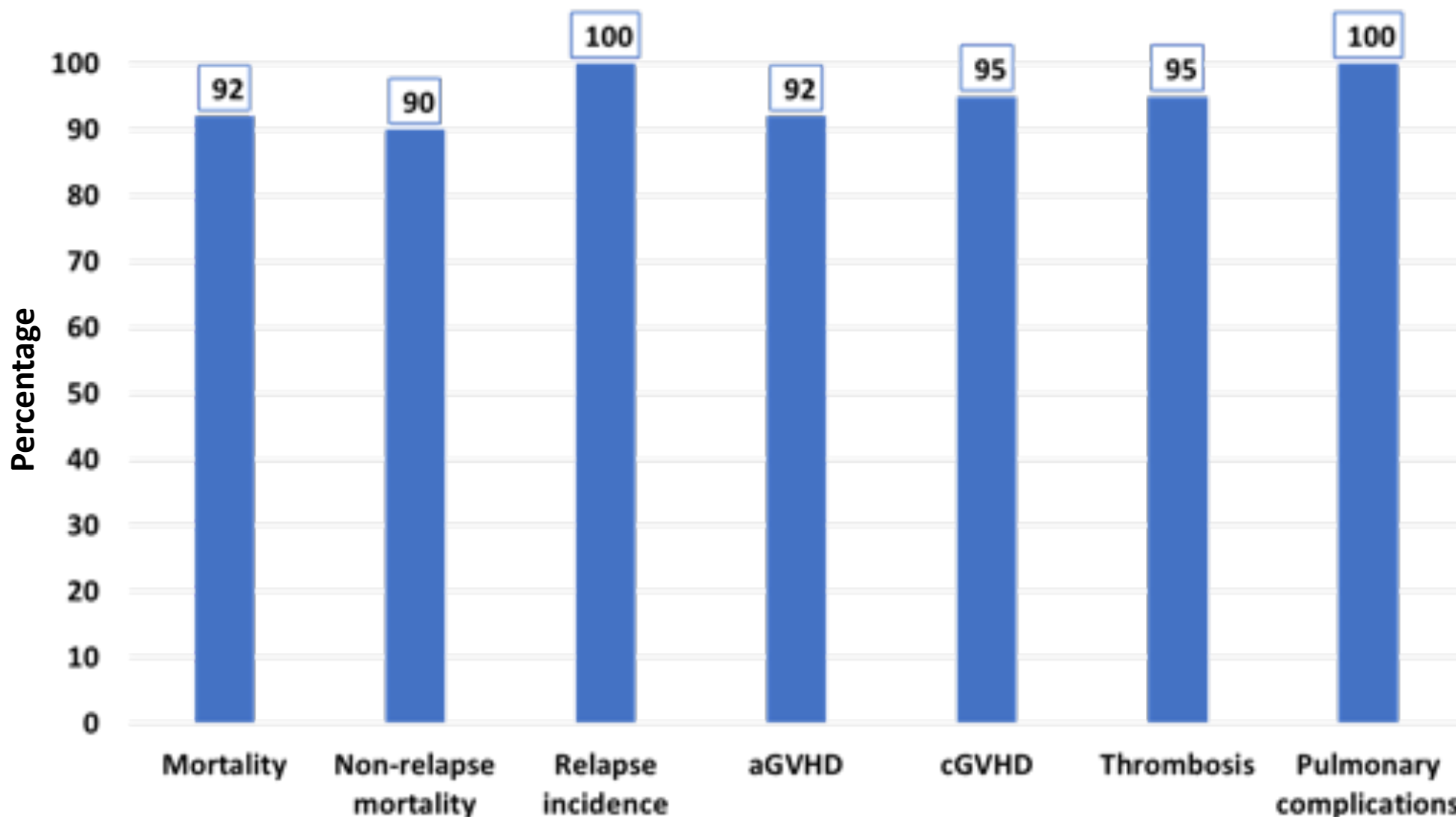
COVID-19 and Allo-SCT in Italy

■ 2019
■ 2020



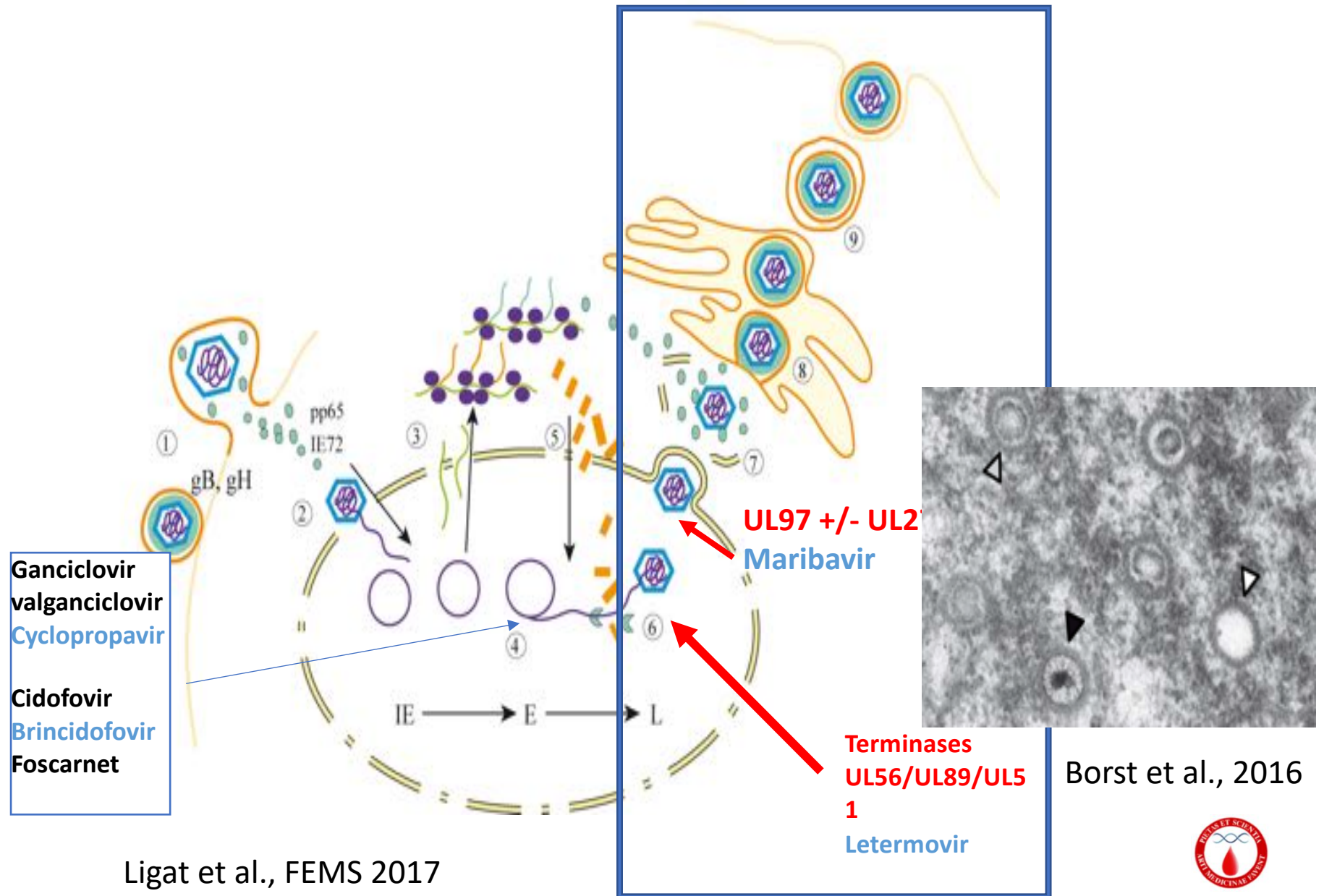
COVID-19 and Allo-SCT outcome

NO IMPACT of COVID-19 on Allo-SCT outcomes



OLD and NEW

Anti-CMV molecules target the late stages of viral replication

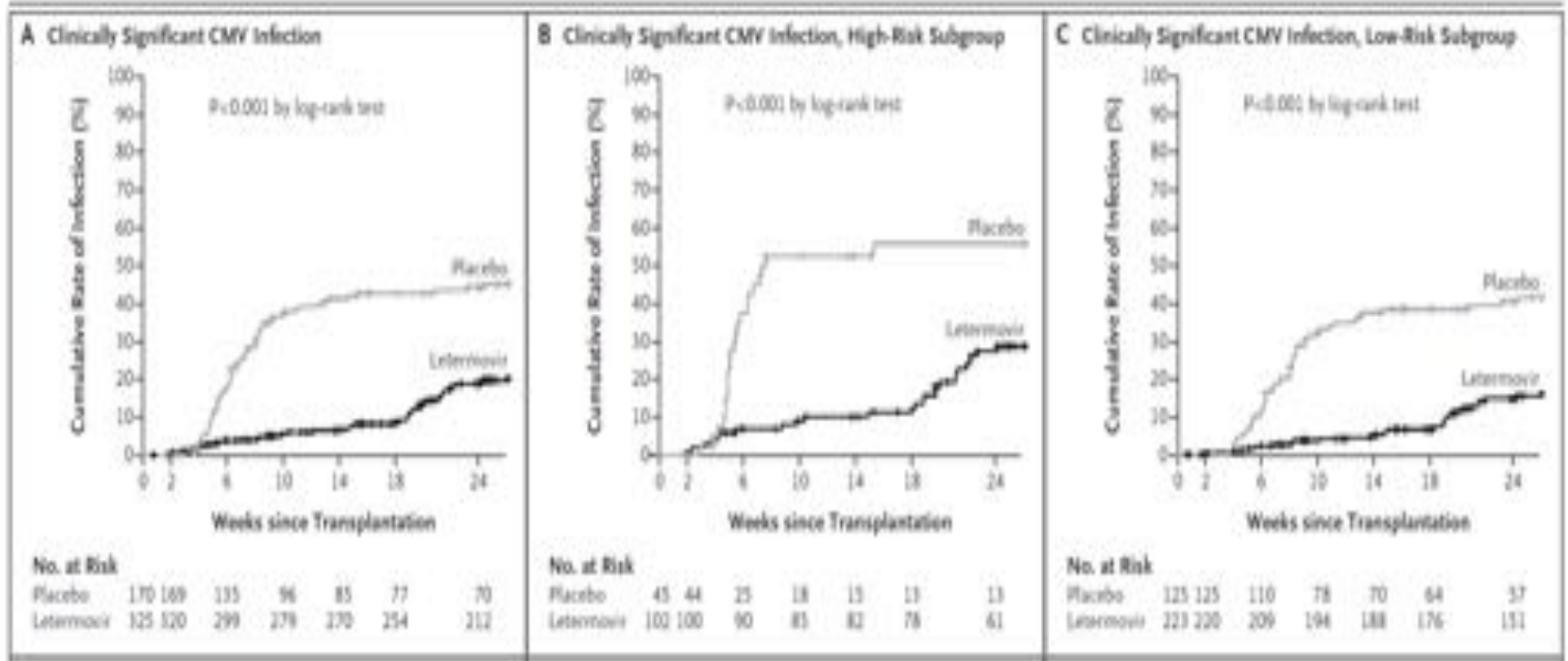


Ligat et al., FEMS 2017

Borst et al., 2016



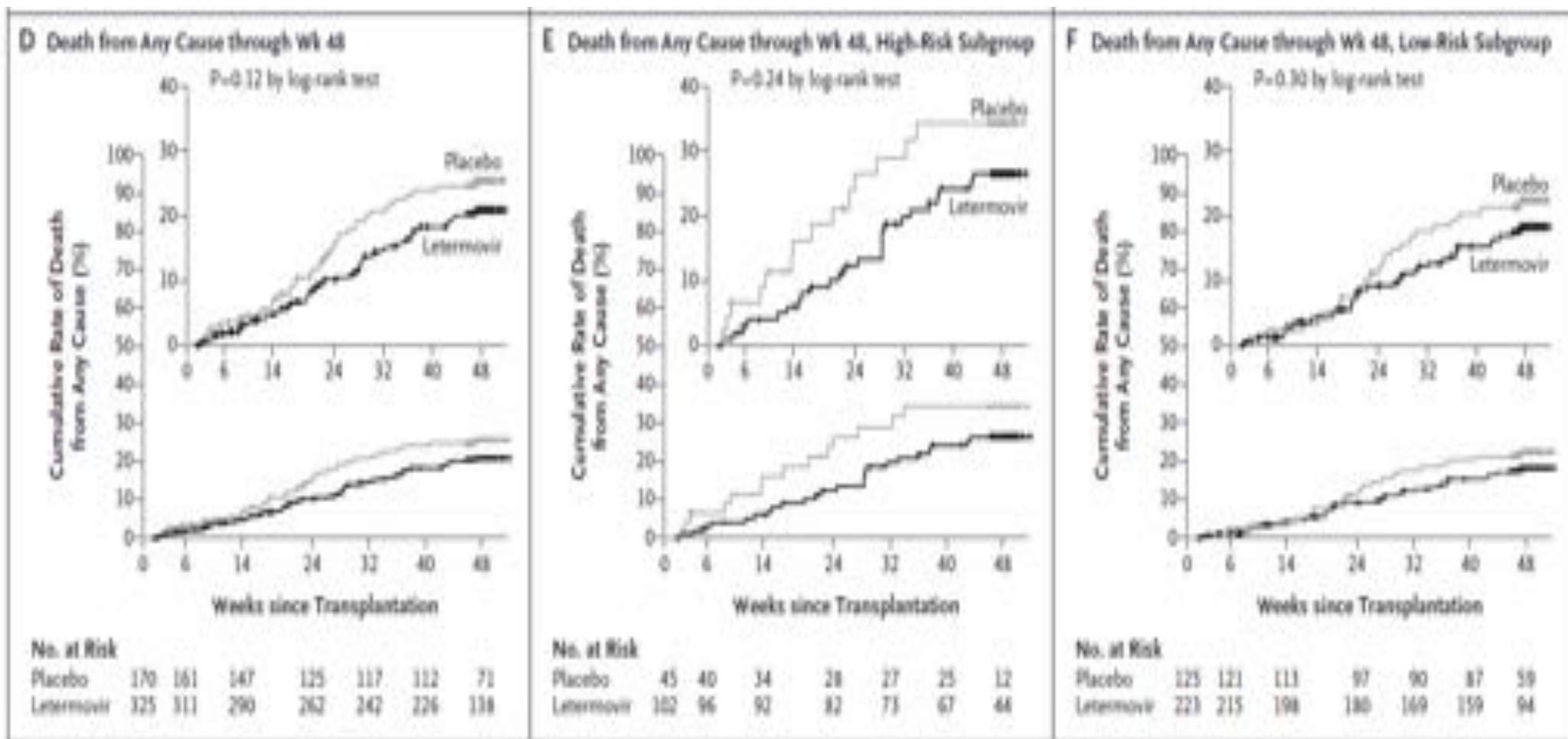
Time-to-Event Analyses of Clinically Significant CMV Infection



Marty FM, et al. N Eng J Med 2017;377:2433-44



Mortality in the Primary Efficacy Population and According to Risk Subgroup



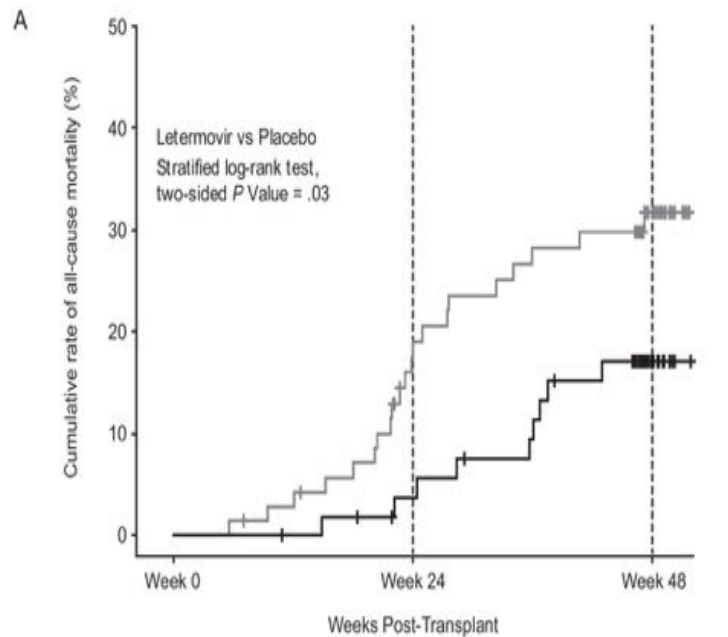
Marty FM, et al. N Eng J Med 2017;377:2433-44



Letermovir may reduce mortality by preventing or delaying clinically significant CMV infections in HCT recipients.

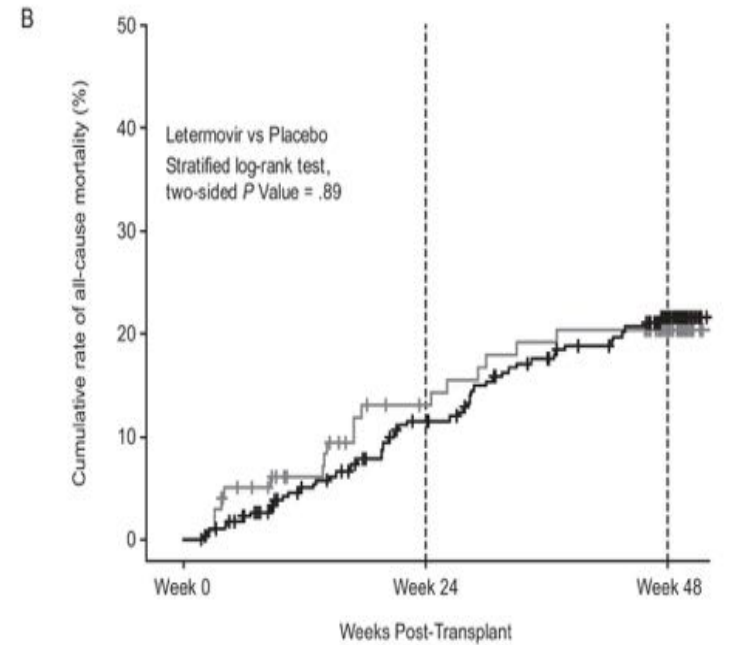
CS-CMVi

No CS-CMVi



No. at risk: KM estimates % (95% CI)

	Week 0	Week 24	Week 48
— Letermovir	57	51: 3.7 (0.0–8.7)	23: 17.2 (6.9–27.4)
— Placebo	71	54: 19.1 (9.7–28.4)	25: 31.8 (20.4–43.1)



No. at risk: KM estimates % (95% CI)

	Week 0	Week 24	Week 48
— Letermovir	268	211: 11.6 (7.6–15.6)	115: 21.7 (16.5–27.0)
— Placebo	99	71: 13.1 (6.1–20.0)	46: 20.4 (11.9–28.9)

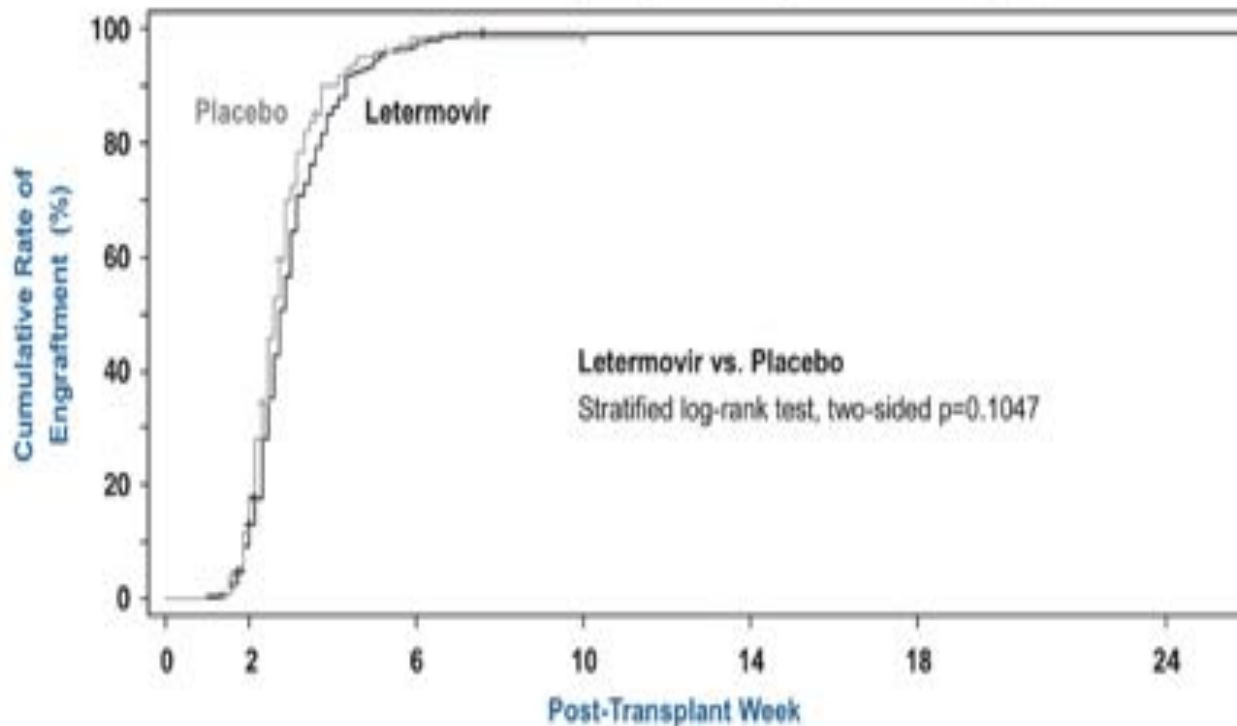
Ljungman P et al, Clinical Infectious Diseases 2019



Figure S6. Time to neutrophil engraftment through Week 24 post-HCT among patients who started study drug before engraftment, Safety Population.

Time to Engraftment through Week 24 post-HCT

Patients who started study drug before engraftment, Safety Population



Letermovir	235	210	7	1	1	1	1	Subjects at risk
Placebo	111	97	1	1	0	0	0	





Advances in CMV Management: A Single Center Real-Life Experience

Michele **Malagola**^{1*}, Caterina **Pollara**², Nicola **Polverelli**³, Tatiana **Zotner**¹,
Daria **Beffoni**², Lisa **Gandolfi**¹, Dorianna **Gramigna**², Enrico **Morello**², Alessandro **Turra**¹,
Silvia **Corbellini**¹, Liana **Signorini**⁴, Giovanni **Moioli**⁴, Simona **Bernardi**^{1,5},
Camilla **Zanaglio**^{1,5}, Mirko **Farina**¹, Tullio Elio **Testa**³, Arnaldo **Caruso**² and
Domenico **Russo**²

¹ Chair of Hematology, Bone Marrow Transplant Unit, ASST-Spedal Civili Brescia, Department of Clinical and Experimental Sciences, University of Brescia, Brescia, Italy, ² ASST-Spedal Civili, Section of Microbiology, Department of Experimental and Applied Medicine, University of Brescia, Brescia, Italy, ³ UO Farmacia Aziendale, ASST Spedal Civili of Brescia, Italy, ⁴ UOC Materie Infette, ASST Spedal Civili, Brescia, Italy, ⁵ CREA Laboratory (Hematological Research All. Centre), ASST-Spedal Civili Brescia, Brescia, Italy



NOVEMBER 2017 – APRIL 2020

101 allo-SCT

41 patients (41%)
NO LETERMОВIR ERA
 November 2017 – November 2018

60 patients (59%)
LETERMОВIR ERA
 December 2018 – April 2020



TABLE 1 | Clinical and transplant characteristics of the 101 patients transplanted from November 2017 to April 2020.

Characteristics	NO LETERMОВIR ERA		LETERMОВIR ERA		P
	Nov 2017–Nov 2018		Dec 2018–Apr 2020		
	N = 41		N = 60		
	N	%	N	%	
Patient age, median (range)	50 (19–71)	–	52 (21–71)	–	
Patient sex, female/male	19/22	46/54	27/33	45/55	0.89
Disease					
AL	27	66	32	53	0.20
MFL	4	10	9	15	0.43
NM	4	10/14	8	13	0.58
NHL	6	0	5	8	0.31
HL	0	0	2	3	n.a.
SAA	0	–	2	3	n.a.
Other	–	–	2	3	n.a.
Disease status at transplant					
CR	21	51	32	53	0.83
CMV serostatus (I +)	32	78	51	85	0.37
Donor type					
Sibling	11	27	11	18	0.07
MUD	24	58	32	53	0.69
Haplo	15	36	16	27	0.38
UCB	0	0	1	2	1
Stem cell source					
PBSC	34	83	42	70	0.16
BM	7	17	17	28	0.24
UCB	0	0	1	2	1
Conditioning intensity					
RIC	21	51	26	43	0.54
MAC	20	49	34	57	
aGVHD grade I–IV	12	29	14	23	0.64
rGVHD	3	7	2	3	0.39
Letemovir					
YES	0	0	45	75	< 0.0001
NO	41	100	15	25	
Letemovir duration					
Discontinued at day + 100	–	–	25	40	–
Ongoing	–	–	13	22	–
Discontinued before day + 100	–	–	7	12	–
Dose					
240 mg/day	–	–	36	60	–
480 mg/day	–	–	9	15	–

RESULTS (1)

TABLE 3 | Impact of letamovir on the management of patients undergoing allo-SCT.

	New 2017–Nov 2018 NO LET "ERA"	Dec 2018–APR 2020 LET "ERA"	P
No. of allo-SCT	41	60	–
Letamovir prophylaxis day 0 → + 100	0	45	–
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 100 days)	16 (41%)	57 (9%)	0.0006
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 180 days)	26 (63%)	10 (17%)	<0.00001
CMV disease (≤100 days)	5 (12%)	1* (2%)	0.02
CMV disease (≤180 days)	5 (12%)	1 (2%)	0.02
Bacterial infections (≤100 days)	23 (56%)	22 (37%)	0.06
Bacterial infections (≤180 days)	32 (78%)	27 (45%)	0.000
Fungal infections (probable/proven) (≤100 days)	8 (19%)	5 (8%)	0.09
Fungal infections (probable/proven) (≤180 days)	9 (22%)	5 (8%)	0.05
aGVHD grade ≥ 2	12 (29%)	14 (23%)	0.5
Hospital re-admission (≤100 days)	16 (39%)	14 (23%)	0.09
Hospital re-admission (≤180 days)	27 (66%)	24 (40%)	0.01
Cumulative cost for LET [†]	Euro 38,000	Euro 10,000	–
Letamovir costs			
–240 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 13,700/pt	–
–480 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 29,000/pt	–

Malagola M, et al. *Front. Cell Dev. Biol.* 8:534268. doi: 10.3389/fcell.2020.534268



RESULTS (2)

TABLE 3 | Impact of letamovir on the management of patients undergoing allo-SCT.

	Nov 2017–Nov 2018 NO LET "ERA"	Dec 2018–APR 2020 LET "ERA"	P
No. of allo-SCT	41	60	–
Letamovir prophylaxis day 0 → + 100	0	45	–
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 100 days)	16 (44%)	57 (9%)	0.0006
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 180 days)	26 (68%)	10 (17%)	<0.00001
CMV disease (≤100 days)	5 (12%)	1* (2%)	0.02
CMV disease (≤180 days)	5 (12%)	1 (2%)	0.02
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Letamovir costs			
–240 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 13,700/pt	–
–480 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 29,000/pt	–

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RESULTS (3)

TABLE 3 | Impact of letamovir on the management of patients undergoing allo-SCT.

	Nov 2017–Nov 2018 NO LET "ERA"	Dec 2018–APR 2020 LET "ERA"	P
No. of allo-SCT	41	60	–
Letamovir prophylaxis day 0 → + 100	0	45	–
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 100 days)	16 (44%)	57 (9%)	0.0006
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 180 days)	26 (68%)	10 (17%)	<0.00001
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Bacterial infections (≤180 days)	32 (78%)	27 (45%)	0.000
Fungal infections (probable/proven) (≤100 days)	8 (19%)	5 (8%)	0.09
Fungal infections (probable/proven) (≤180 days)	9 (22%)	5 (8%)	0.05
aGVHD grade ≥ 2	12 (29%)	14 (23%)	0.5
Hospital re-admission (≤100 days)	16 (39%)	14 (23%)	0.09
Hospital re-admission (≤180 days)	27 (66%)	24 (40%)	0.01
Cumulative cost for PET [†]	Euro 38,000	Euro 10,000	–
Letamovir costs			
–240 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 13,700/pf	–
–480 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 29,000/pf	–

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RESULTS (4)

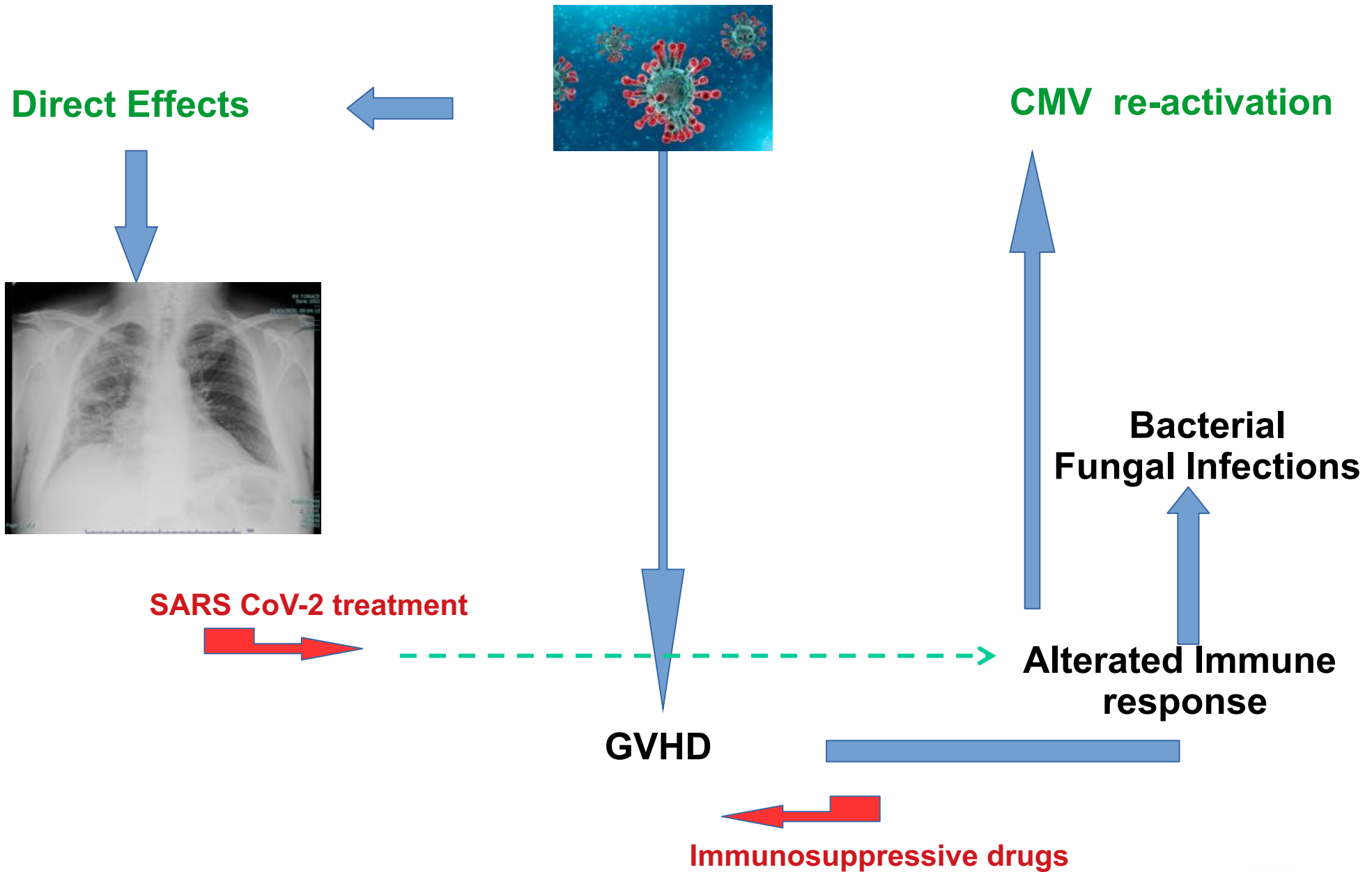
TABLE 3 | Impact of letamovir on the management of patients undergoing allo-SCT.

	Nov 2017–Nov 2018 NO LET "ERA"	Dec 2018–APR 2020 LET "ERA"	P
No. of allo-SCT	41	60	–
Letamovir prophylaxis day 0 → + 100	0	45	–
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 100 days)	16 (44%)	57 (9%)	0.0006
Clinically significant CMV infection (≤ 180 days)	26 (68%)	10 (17%)	<0.00001
CMV disease (≤100 days)	5 (12%)	1** (2%)	0.02
CMV disease (≤180 days)	5 (12%)	1 (2%)	0.02
Bacterial infections (≤100 days)	23 (56%)	22 (37%)	0.06
Bacterial infections (≤180 days)	32 (78%)	27 (45%)	0.000
Fungal infections (probable/proven) (≤100 days)	8 (19%)	5 (8%)	0.09
Fungal infections (probable/proven) (≤180 days)	9 (22%)	5 (8%)	0.06
aGVHD grade ≥ 2	12 (29%)	14 (23%)	0.5
Hospital re-admission (≤100 days)	16 (39%)	14 (23%)	0.09
Hospital re-admission (≤180 days)	27 (66%)	24 (40%)	0.01
Cumulative cost for PET [†]	Euro 38,000	Euro 10,000	–
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–240 mg day 0 → + 100	–	Euro 13,700/pf	–
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COVID-19 and Allo-SCT

