

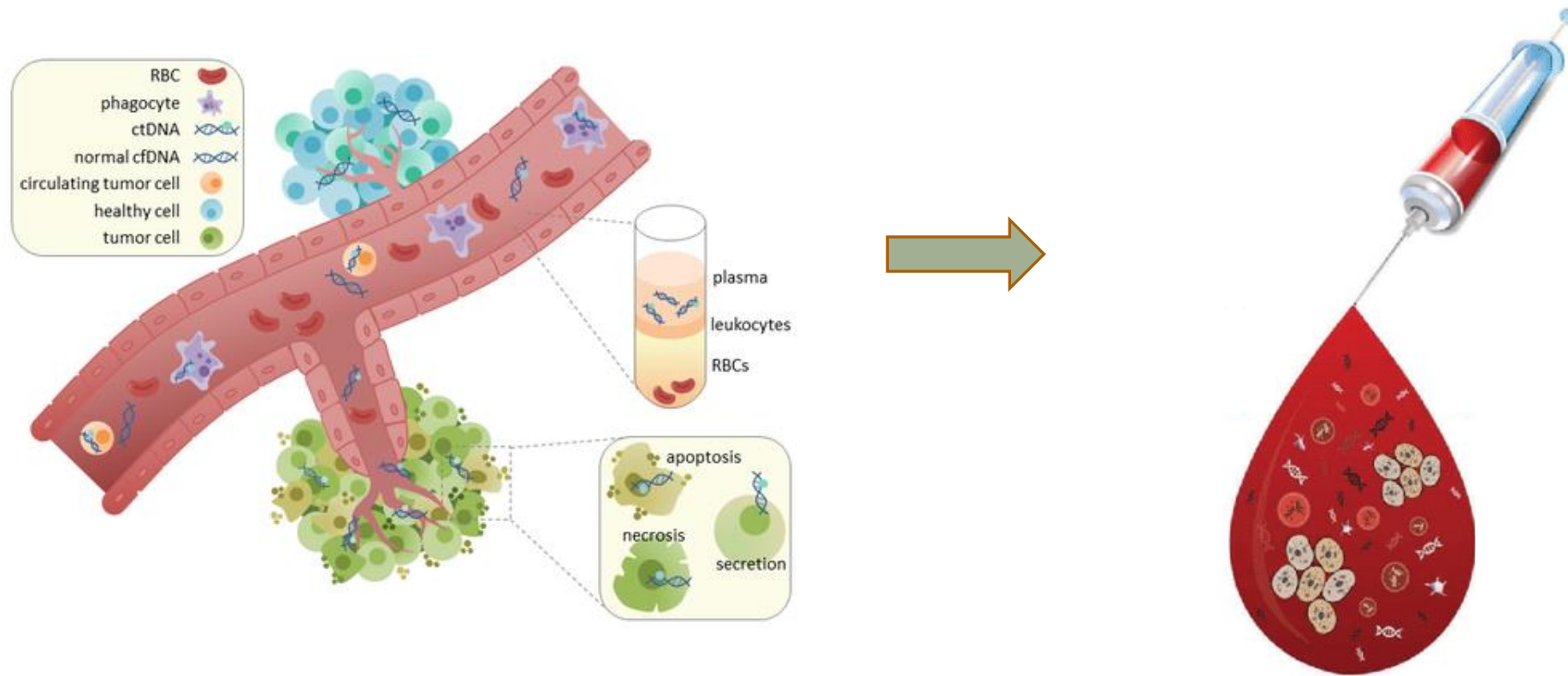
# La biopsia liquida in ematologia

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DR.SSA SIMONA BERNARDI

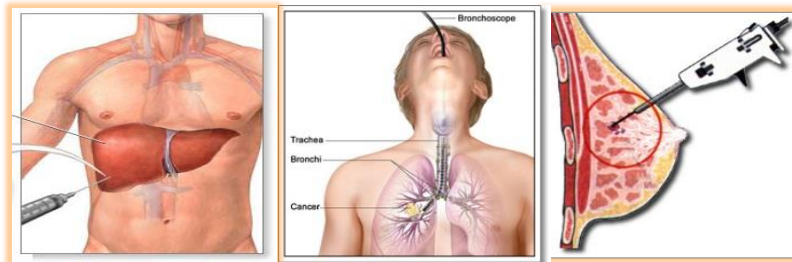
SIMONA.BERNARDI@UNIBS.IT

# LIQUID BIOPSY



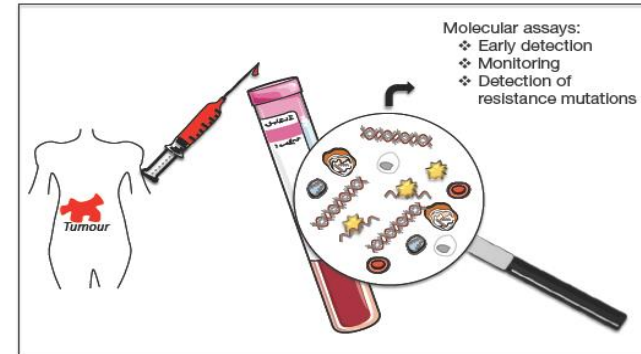
# CONVENTIONAL BIOPSY VS LIQUID BIOPSY

## *Tumor Biopsy*



- Invasive, painful
- Expensive & time consuming
- Re-biopsy often not possible or accepted
- Not suitable for cancer monitoring
- Does not address tumor heterogeneity

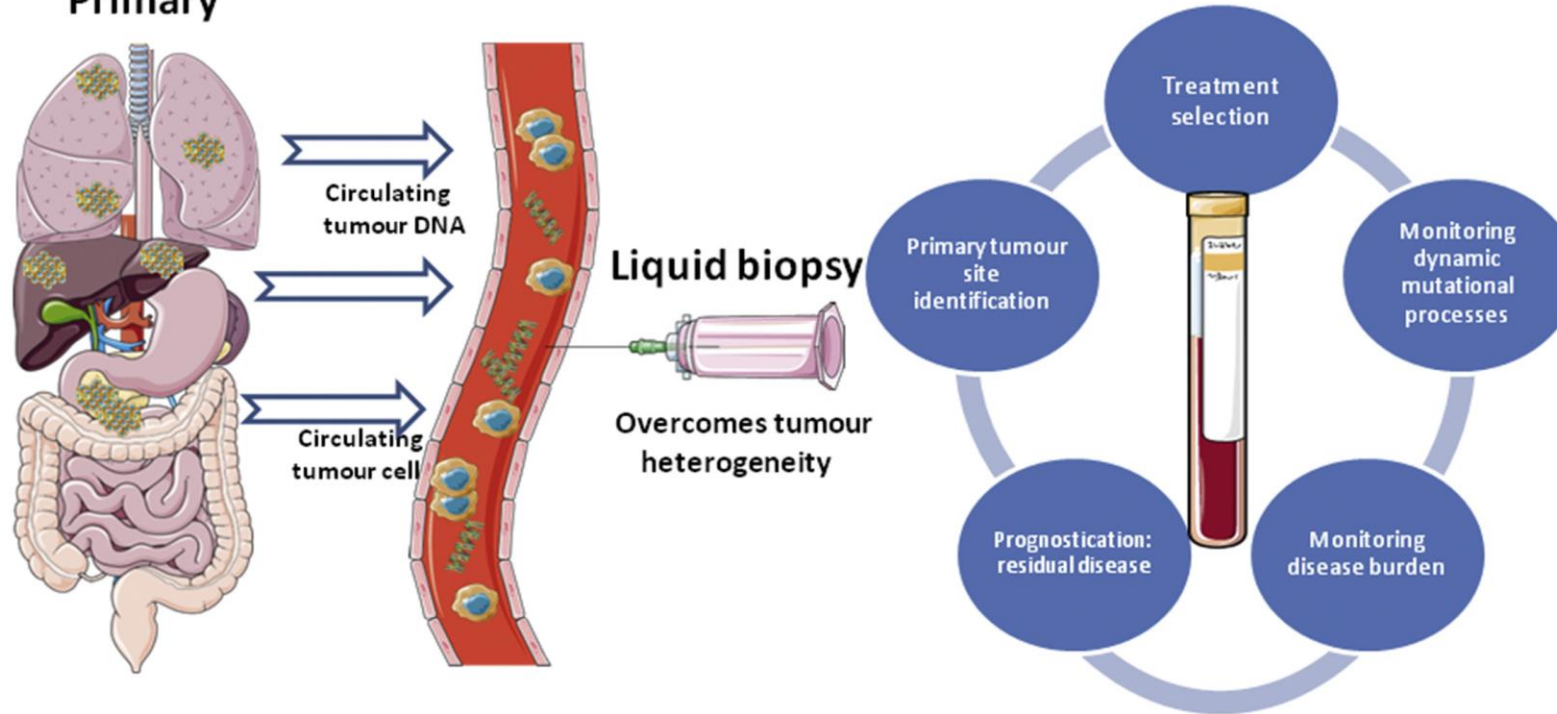
## *Liquid Biopsy*



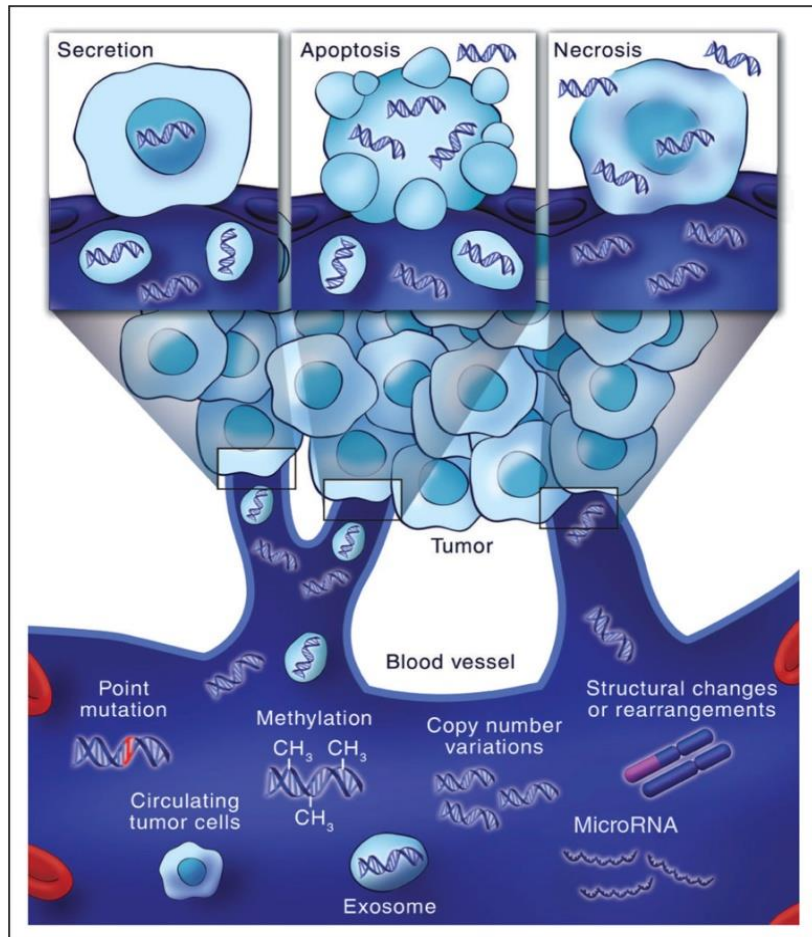
- Minimally invasive, no risk for patients
- Cheap and quick
- Re-biopsy is not a problem
- Suitable for cancer monitoring
- Addresses tumor heterogeneity

# CLINICAL APPLICATIONS FOR LIQUID BIOPSY

## Cancer of Unknown Primary



# BIOMARKERS SOURCES



## Circulating cell-free nucleic acids

DNA, but also RNA (mRNAs, microRNA and long non coding RNA)

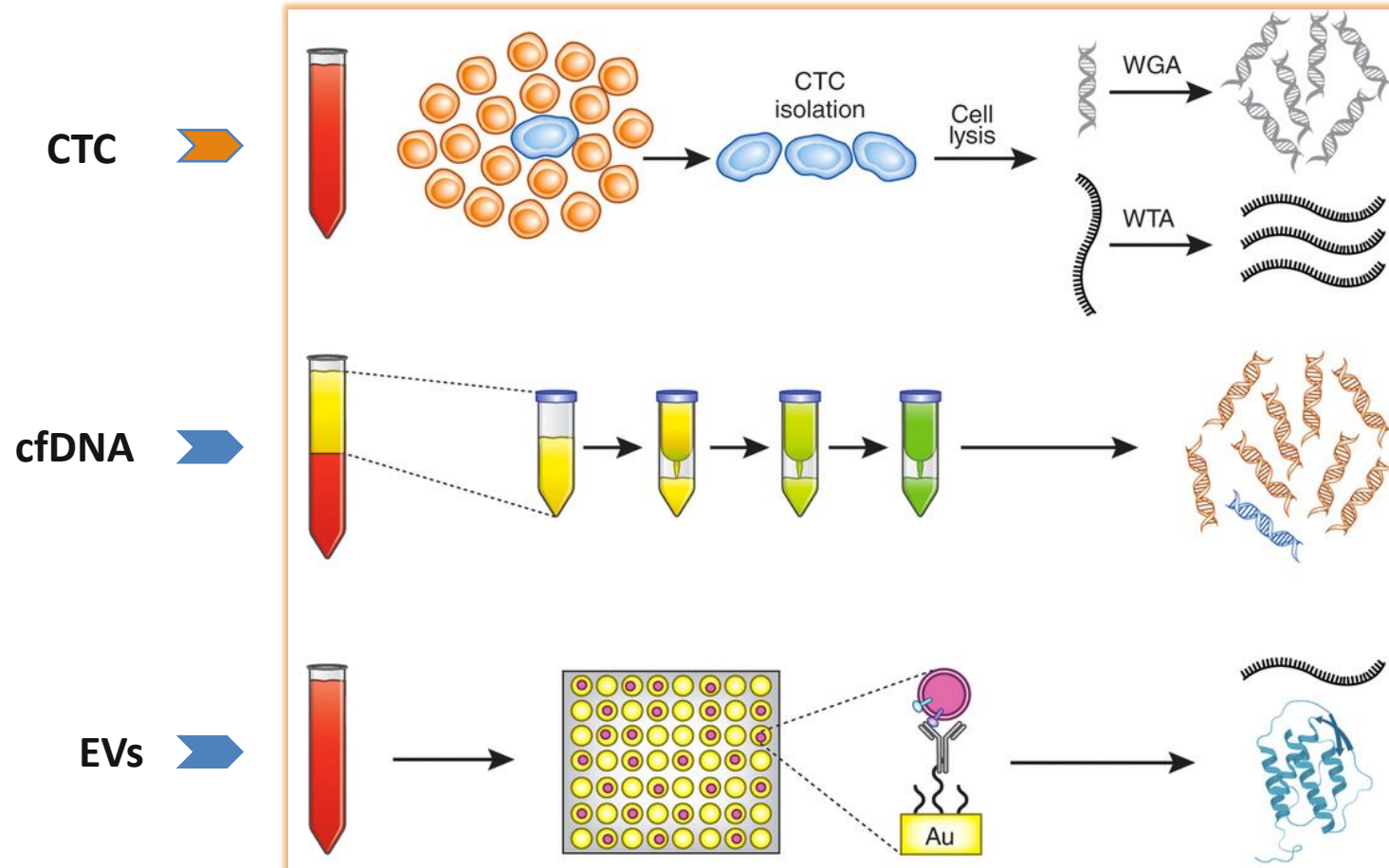
## Circulating tumor cells

Cancer cells released by the primary tumor in circulation to form metastases at peripheral sites

## Extracellular vesicles

Lipid vesicles containing proteins and nucleic acids (RNAs and DNA)

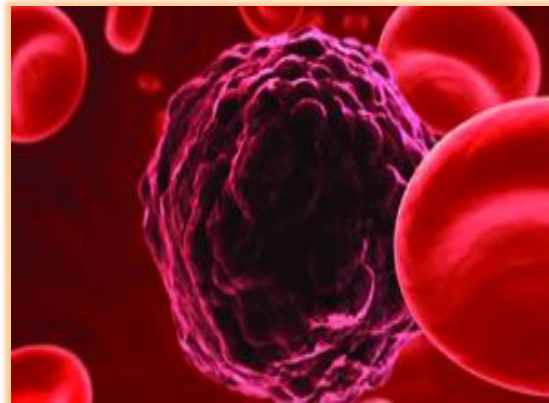
# BIOMARKERS SOURCES



# Circulating Tumor Cells (CTC)

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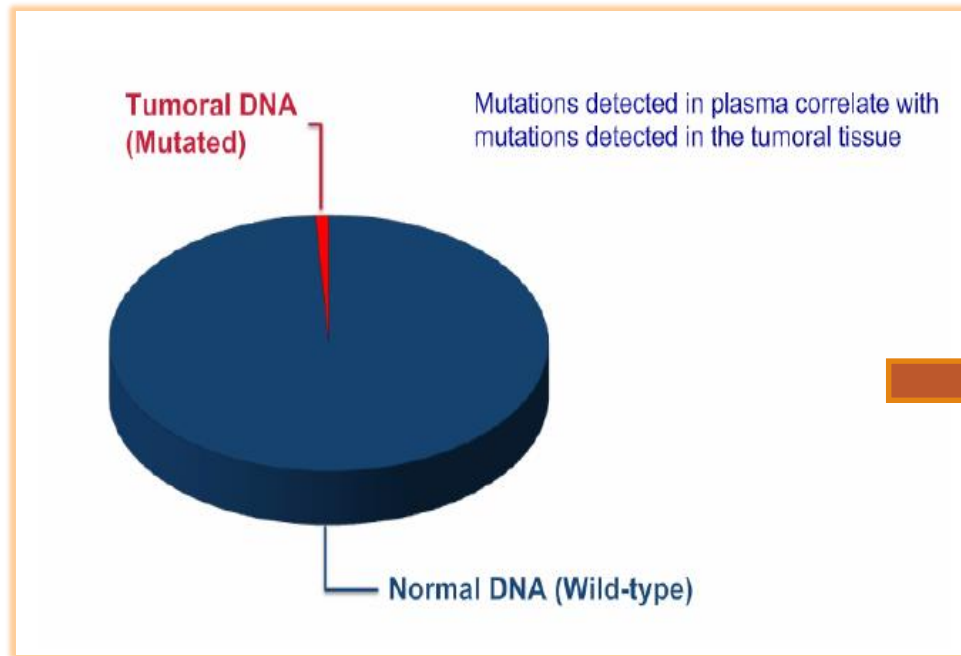
*Circulating tumor cells*



- ✓ Extremely rare (5-20 cells/ml of plasma)
- ✓ Low sample recovery
- ✓ Expensive and cumbersome analysis (up to 50 ml of plasma required)

# ctDNA

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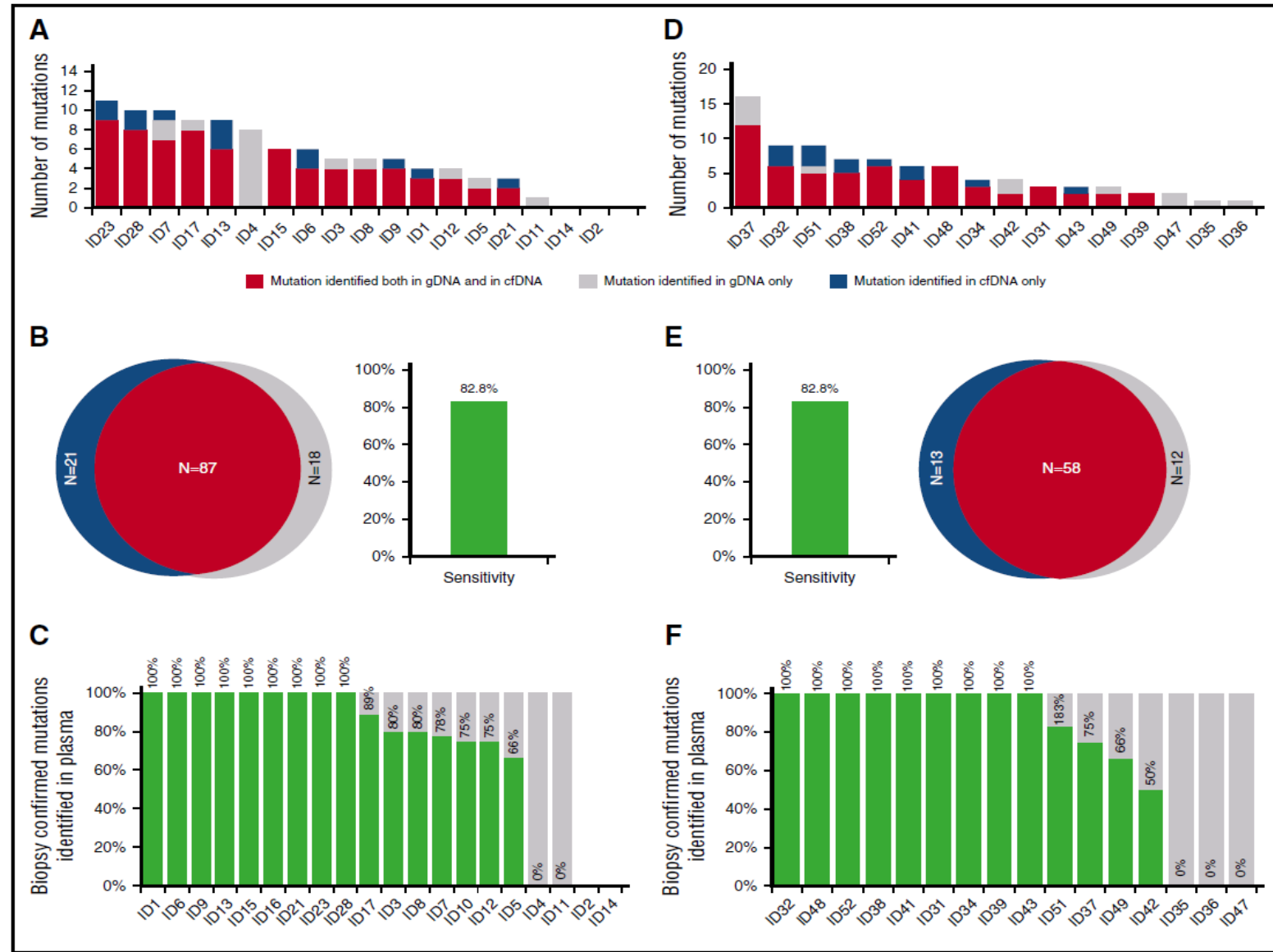


cfDNA is the vast majority (95% to 99%) of the total DNA extracted from blood

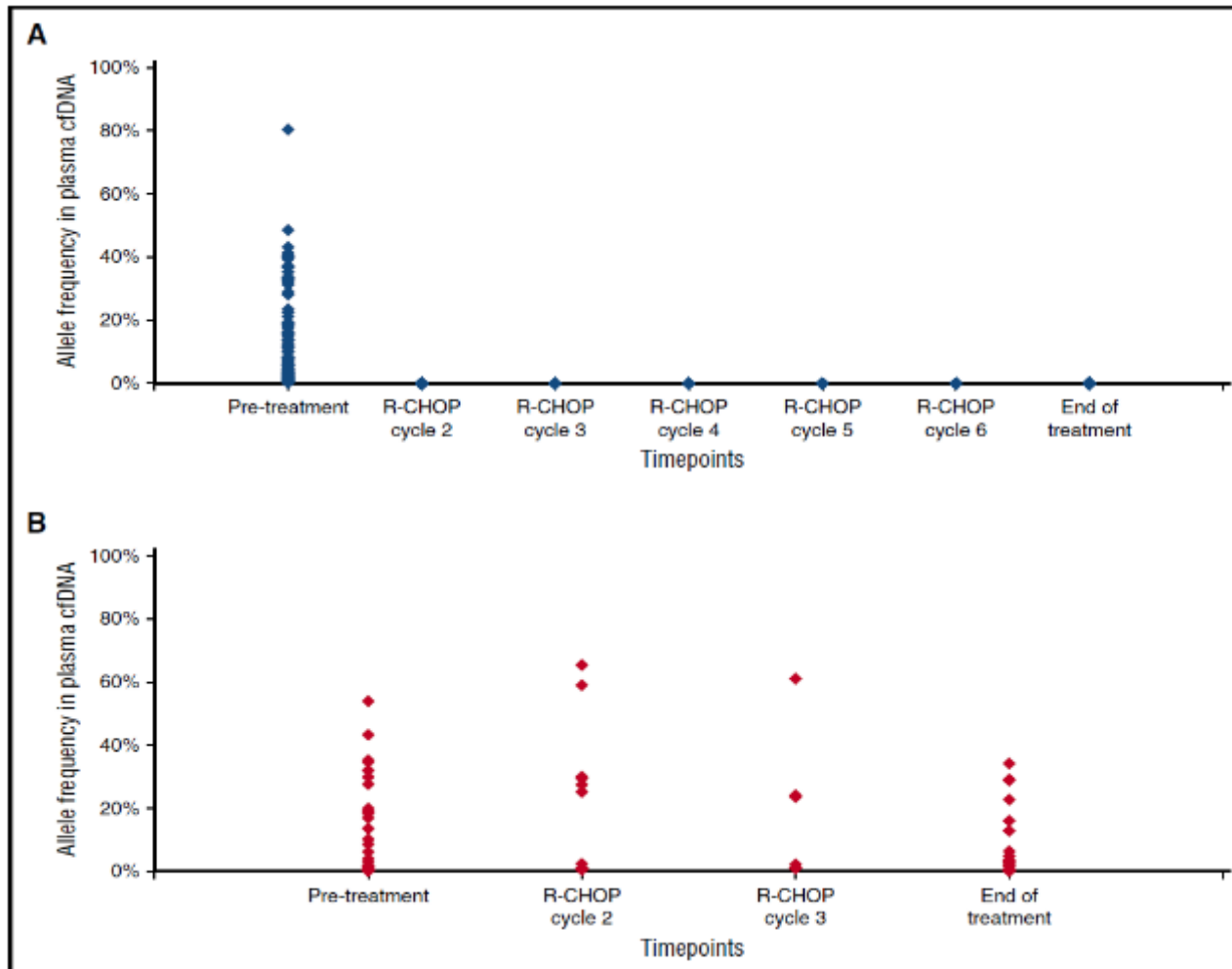
**ctDNA CANNOT BE SELECTIVELY ISOLATED**



# La Biopsia liquida nei linfomi



# La Biopsia liquida nei linfomi: il monitoraggio

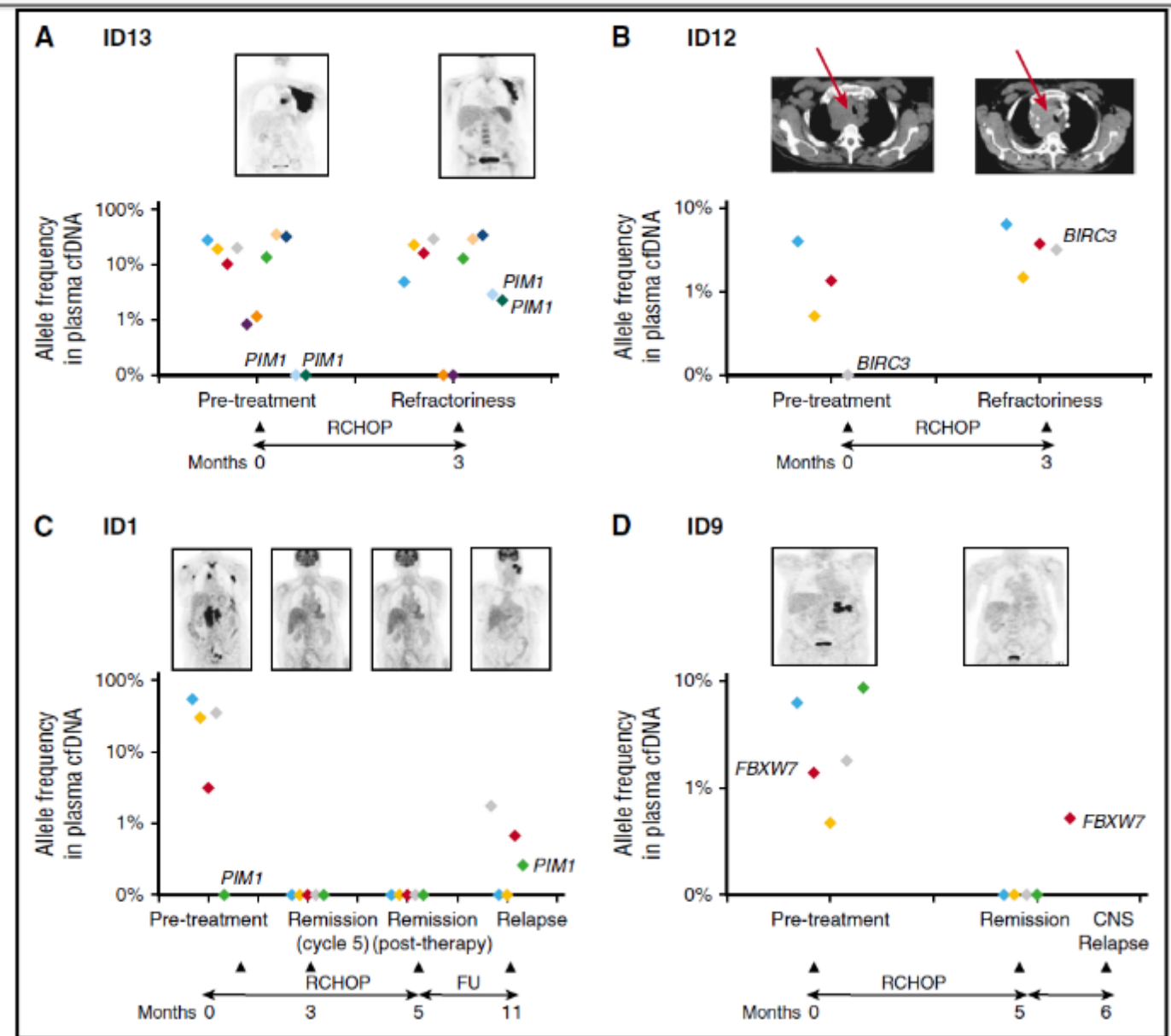


**GOOD RESPONDERS**

**REFRACTORY PATIENTS**

# La Biopsia liquida nei linfomi

CLONAL EVOLUTION  
MONITORING



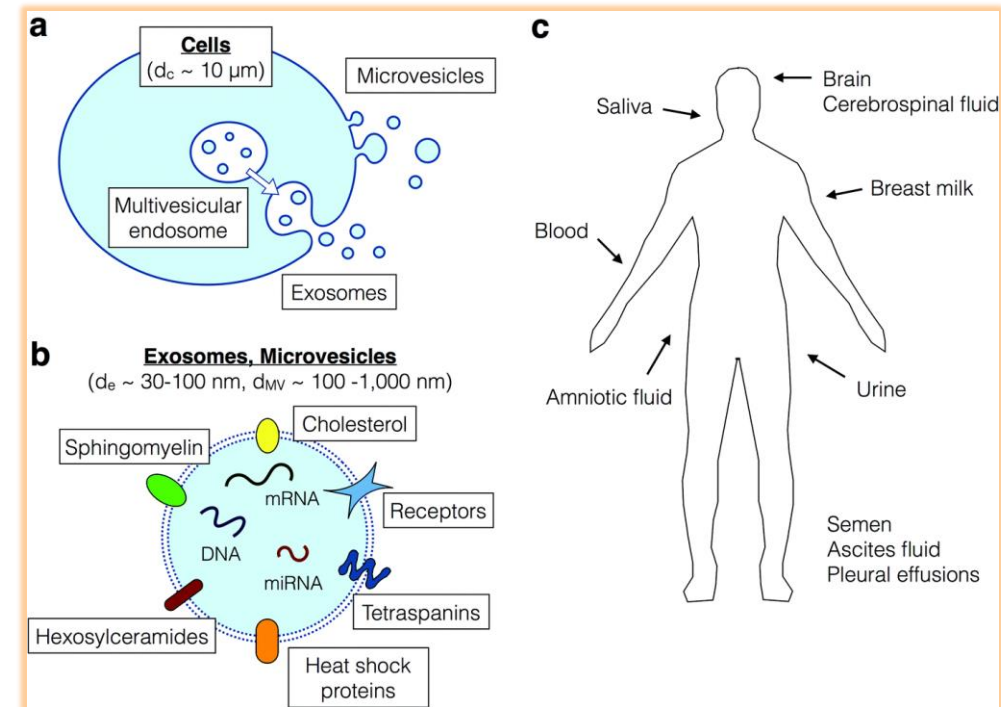
Rossi D., et al, Blood 2017

# Extracellular Vesicles (EVs)

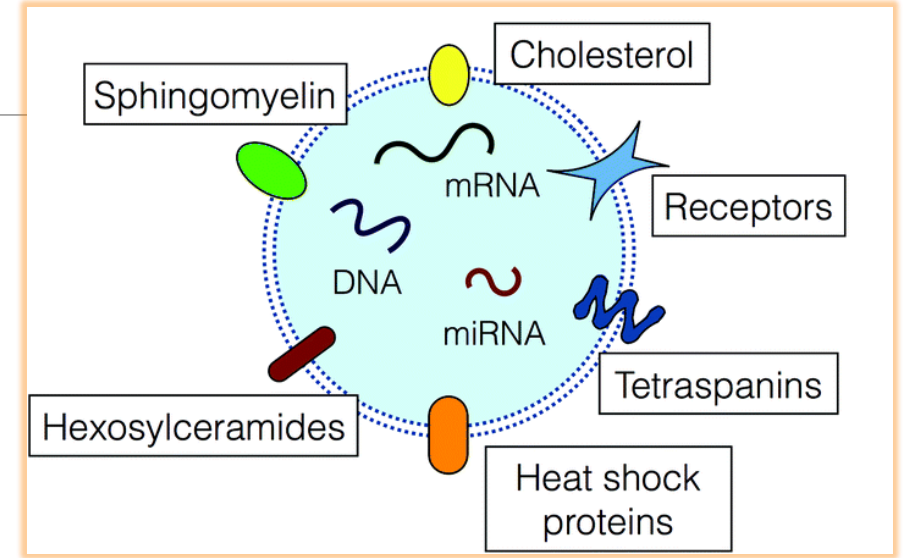
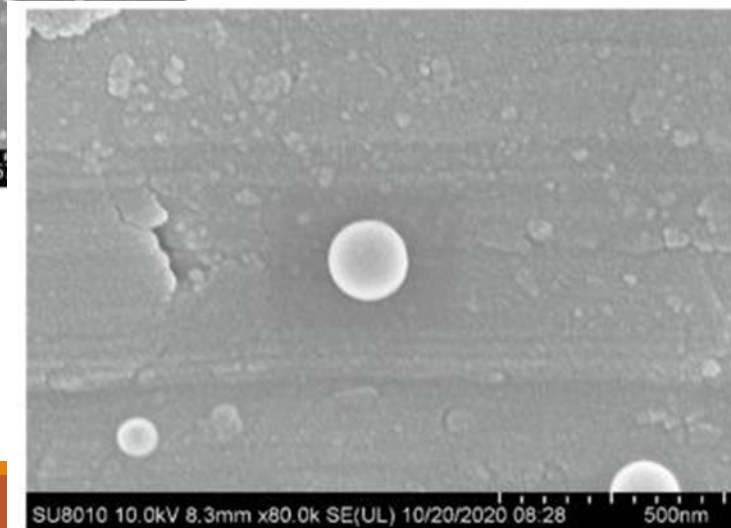
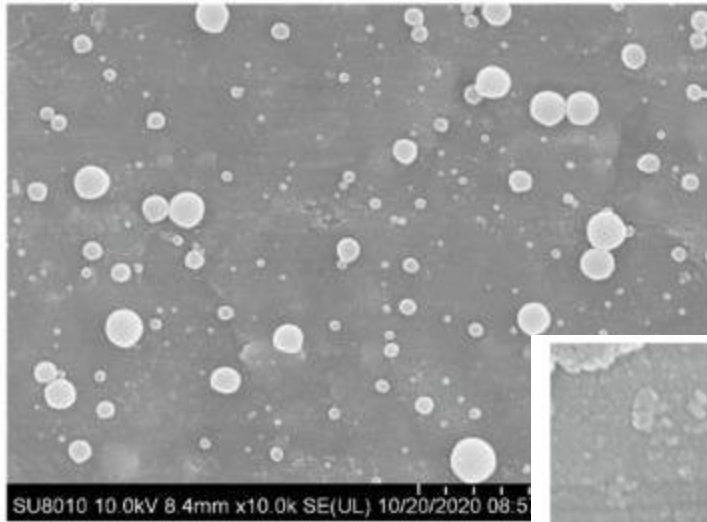
## EVs



- ✓ Total Evs are  $10^{7-8}/\text{ml}$ , tumor-Evs estimated  $10^{2-3}/\text{ml}$
- ✓ Easy to recover and analyzed from blood
- ✓ Heterogeneous population



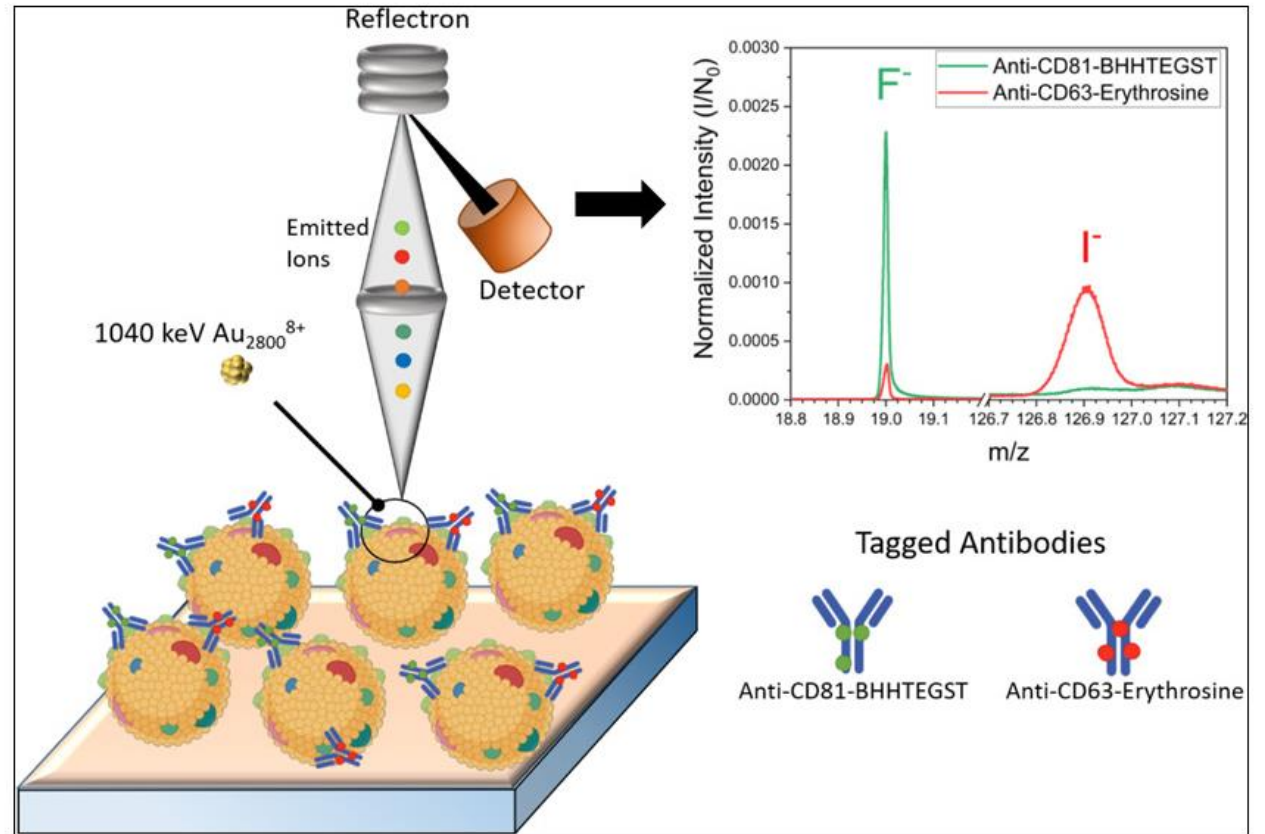
# EVs



# TECHNIQUES FOR LIQUID BIOPSY BIOMARKERS ANALYSIS

## Proteic markers

- **Western Blot:** CTC and vesicular biomarkers analysis
- **microBCA:** vesicular proteic biomarkers analysis
- **Mass spectrometry/Raman Technology:** CTC and vesicular proteomic analysis



# TECHNIQUES FOR LIQUID BIOPSY BIOMARKERS ANALYSIS

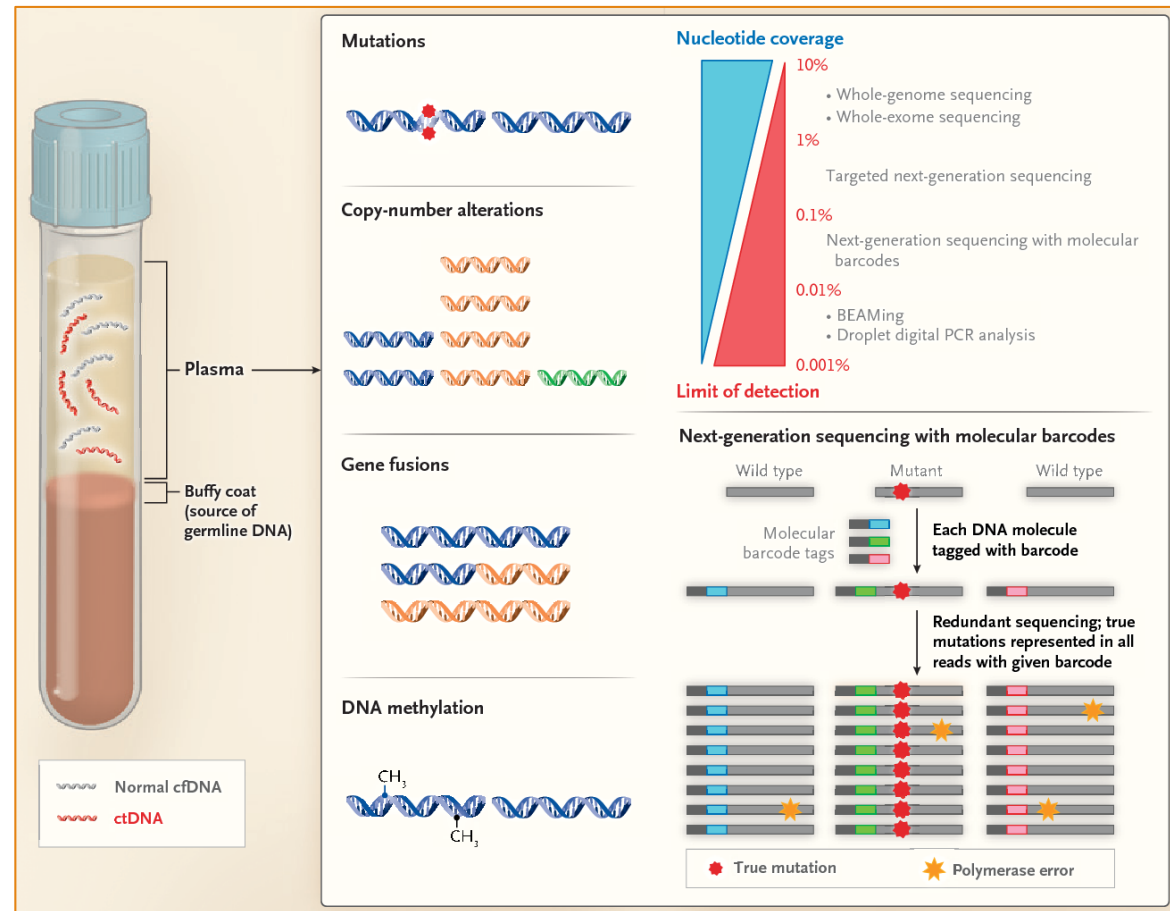
## Nucleic Acids markers

**Real-time PCR:** cfDNA analysis and vesicular biomarkers analysis

**Next Generation Sequencing:** cfDNA analysis and vesicles cargo sequencing

**Digital PCR:** cfDNA analysis and vesicular biomarkers analysis

**Microarrays:** cfDNA analysis and vesicular biomarkers analysis



# Gli esosomi nella biopsia liquida dei linfomi

Research Paper

## mRNA in exosomes as a liquid biopsy in non-Hodgkin Lymphoma: a multicentric study by the Spanish Lymphoma Oncology Group

Mariano Provencio<sup>1,\*</sup>, Marta Rodríguez<sup>1</sup>, Blanca Cantos<sup>1</sup>, Pilar Sabín<sup>2</sup>, Cristina Quero<sup>3</sup>, Francisco R. García-Arroyo<sup>4</sup>, Antonio Rueda<sup>5</sup>, Constanza Maximiano<sup>1</sup>, Delvys Rodríguez-Abreu<sup>6</sup>, Antonio Sánchez<sup>1</sup>, Javier Silva<sup>1</sup> and Vanesa García<sup>1,7,\*</sup>, on behalf of GOTEL (Spanish Lymphoma Oncology Group)

60 DLBCL  
38 FL  
68 Healthy Controls



Exosomes fraction  
isolation from plasma  
for mRNA evaluation.



Correlation between mRNA  
composition and:

- OS
- PFS
- Response to treatment



# Gli esosomi nella biopsia liquida dei linfomi

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## **BCL-6 and c-MYC**

The presence of BCL-6 and c-MYC transcript in exosomes samples of B-cell Lymphoma patients was associated with shorter survival and there were no differences in the other mRNAs analyzed. c-MYC remain an independent prognostic variable for OS when stratified by response.

# La biopsia liquida per il monitoraggio della MRD?

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**MINIMAL RESIDUAL DISEASE:** small residual quantity of tumor cells, detectable only by advanced and sensitive techniques. The number of the tumor cells is under the limit of detection of morphologic analysis. Small residual quantity of tumor cells may be present also at Complete Remission.

**Is the MRD assessment by LB possible in Lymphoma patients?**

# La biopsia liquida per il monitoraggio della MRD?

	<b>Advantage</b>	<b>Limitation</b>
Clinical exam only	Low cost	Clinical symptoms non-specific No opportunity for early intervention
CT scans	Readily available Interpretation standardized Identify lower-risk relapse	Radiation exposure Incidental findings Low sensitivity prior to symptoms No survival benefit <sup>a</sup>
FDG-PET scans	Readily available Improved sensitivity over CT scans	Radiation exposure Incidental findings High false positive rate
Circulating tumor DNA	NGS assays available Tumor-specific Non-invasive Avoid tissue biopsy Detect clonal evolution	Needs clinical validation Collection not standardized

# La biopsia liquida per il monitoraggio della MRD?

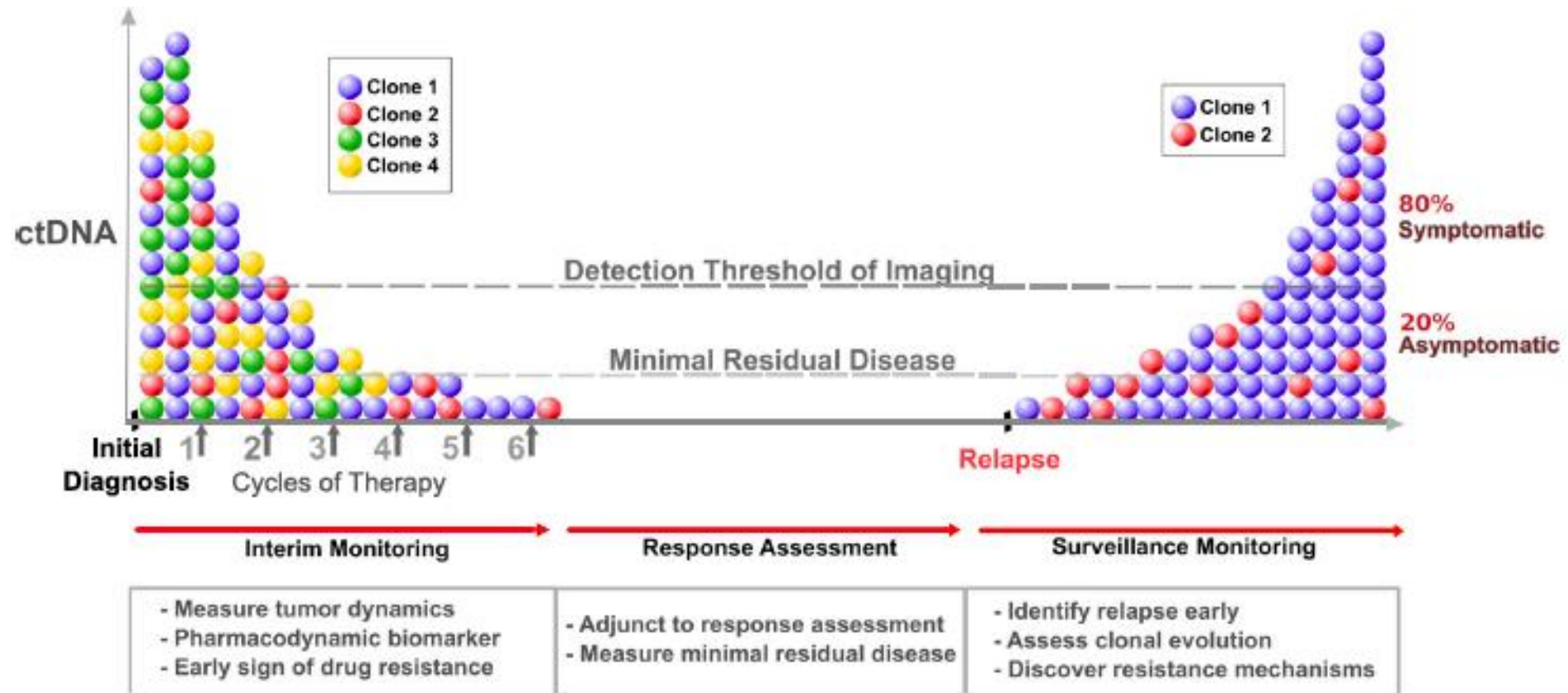
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- **VDJ molecular detection seems to be the best tool to assess an MRD monitoring by LB**
- **ctDNA monitoring has proven advantages over CT scans and may enhance the ability to manage patients with potential curable lymphoma**
- **No clinical impact has been yet demonstrated, no standard exists for treating patients with “ctDNA positivity only” relapse, the optimal timing and duration of monitoring.....**



**Future studies to investigate whether monitoring of ctDNA can be used to improve clinical outcomes are warranted!**

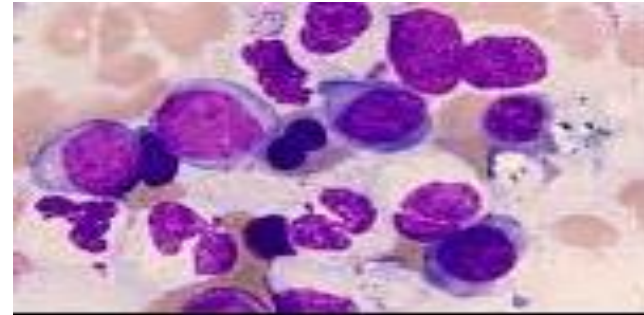
# La biopsia liquida per il monitoraggio della MRD?



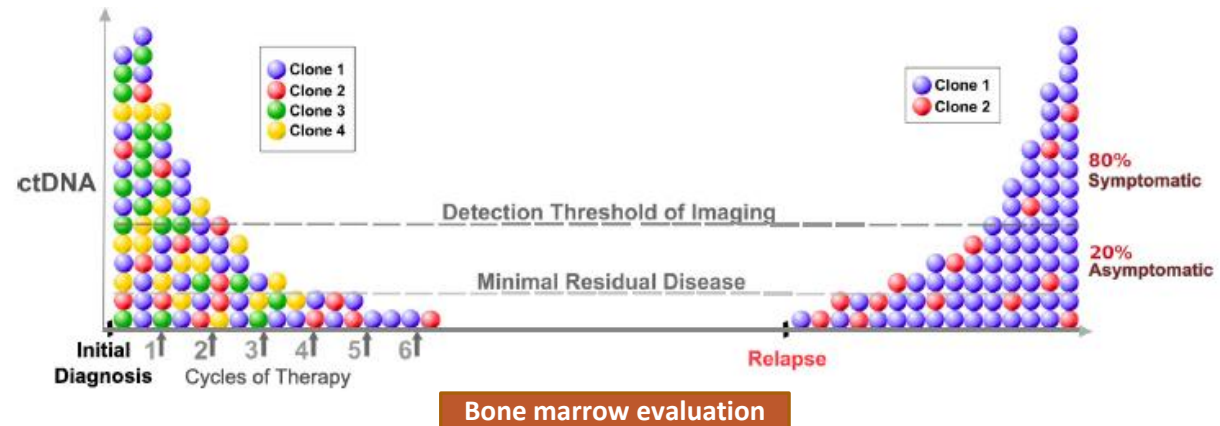
# LIQUID APPROACH FOR LIQUID DISEASES???



Punctio sicca



Myelodysplastic syndromes



# EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

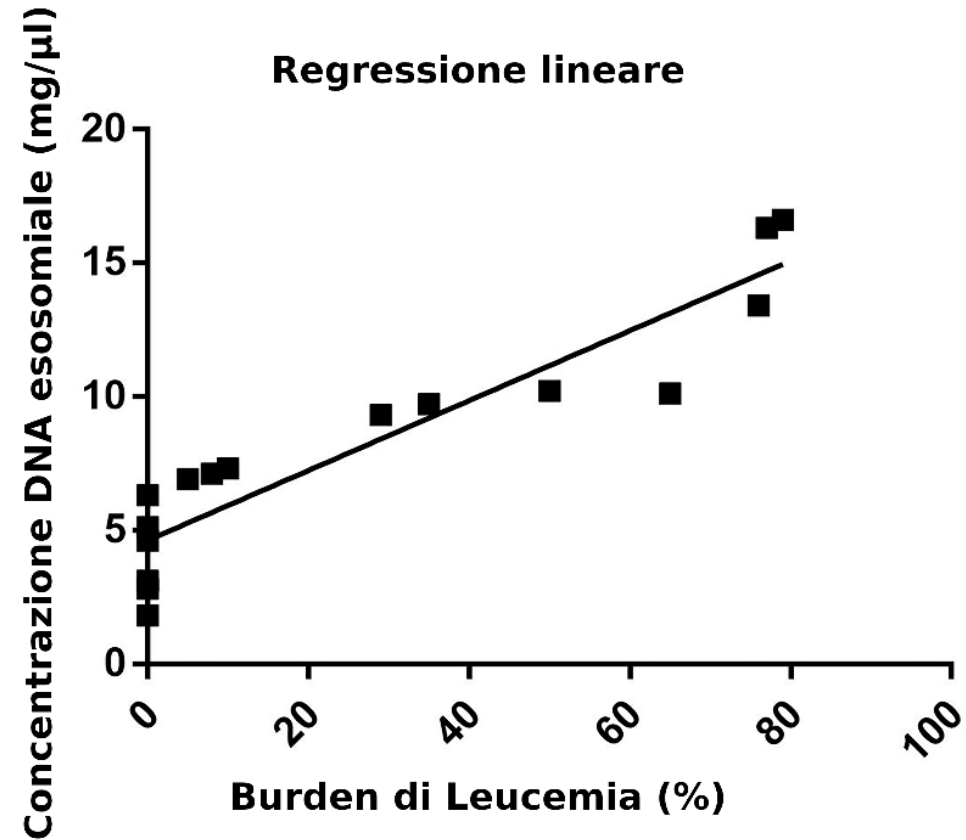
<i>Case</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Disease status at enrollment</i>
1	M	61y	Relapse post-alloSCT
2	F	47y	Relapse
3	F	30y	CR post-alloSCT
4	M	71y	Diagnosis of AML secondary to MDS
5	F	44y	Relapse
6	F	64y	Relapse post-alloSCT
7	M	44y	Relapse post-alloSCT
8	M	70y	CR post relapse post-alloSCT
9	M	41y	AML MRD+ pre-alloSCT
10	F	44y	Pre-alloSCT



- **10 ADULT AML PATIENTS (5 MALE AND 5 FEMALE)**
- **DIFFERENT DISEASE STATUS**
- **5 FOLLOWED UP**
- **NGS ANALYSIS ON CELLULAR AND EXOSOMAL DNA USING A CUSTOM PANEL**

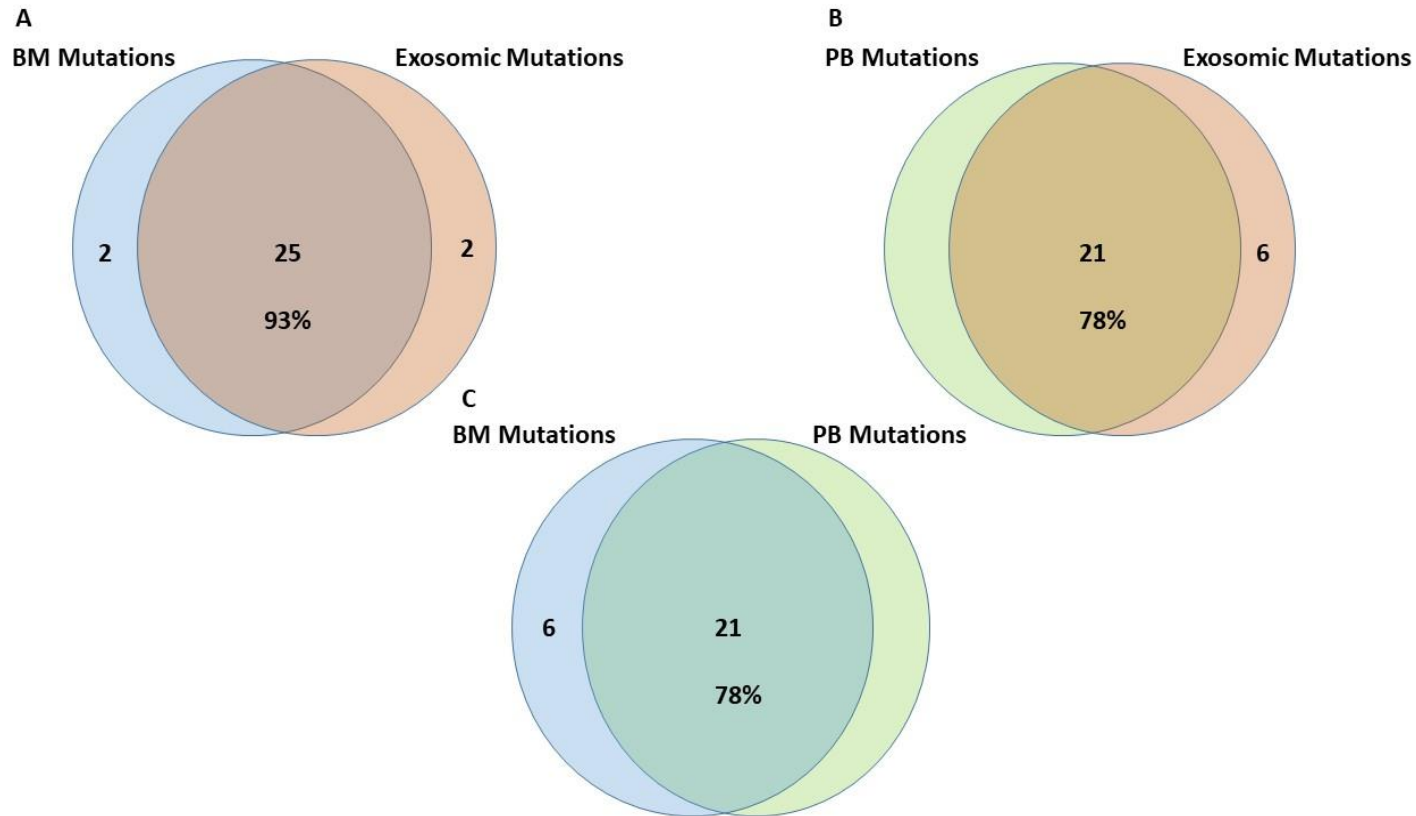
# CORRELAZIONE TRA dsDNA ESOSOMIALE E LEUKEMIA BURDEN

(R=0,86)





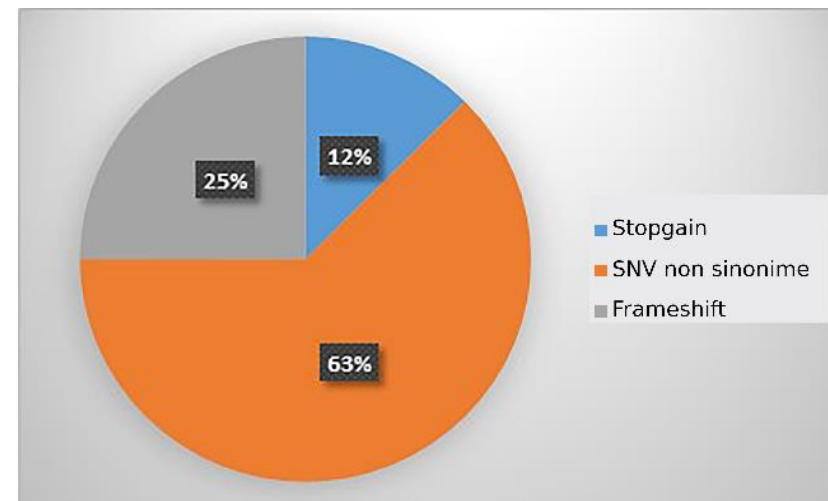
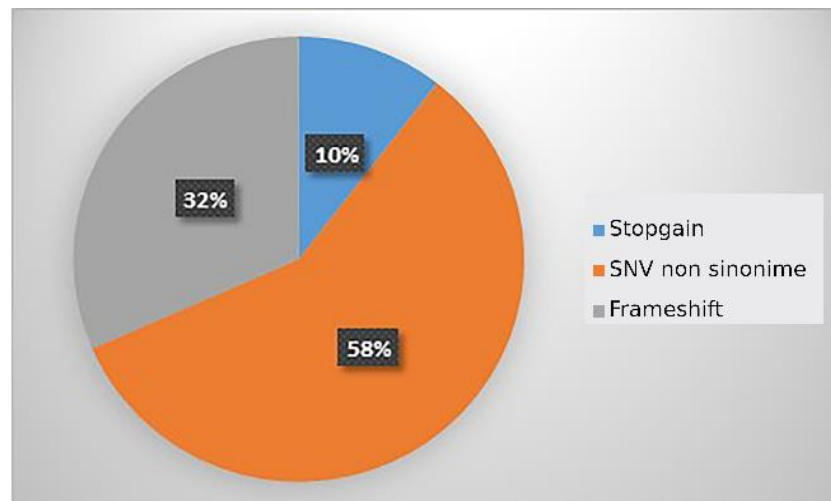
# OMOLOGIA TRA LE VARIANTI RILEVATE



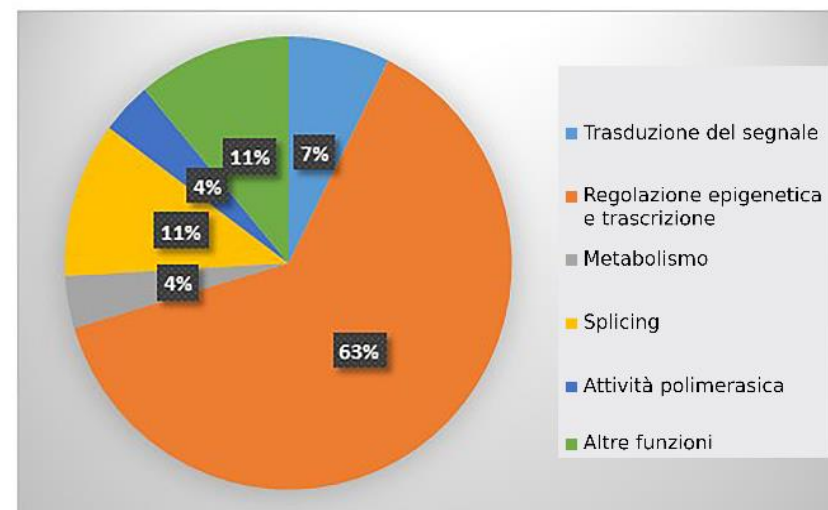
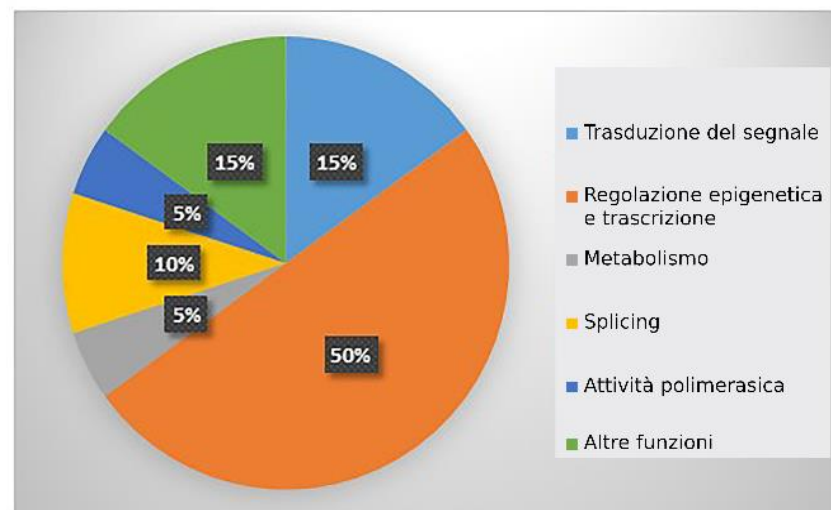
Il numero maggiore di mutazioni è stato rilevato nel dsDNA esosomiale (44 mutazioni), mentre il numero più basso in quello del dsDNA derivato da cellule del SP (30 mutazioni)

- Pari al 93% fra il dsDNA esosomiale e del MO
- Più bassa, ovvero 78%, l'omologia riscontrata fra dsDNA del SP e di origine esosomiale e fra quello del MO e del SP

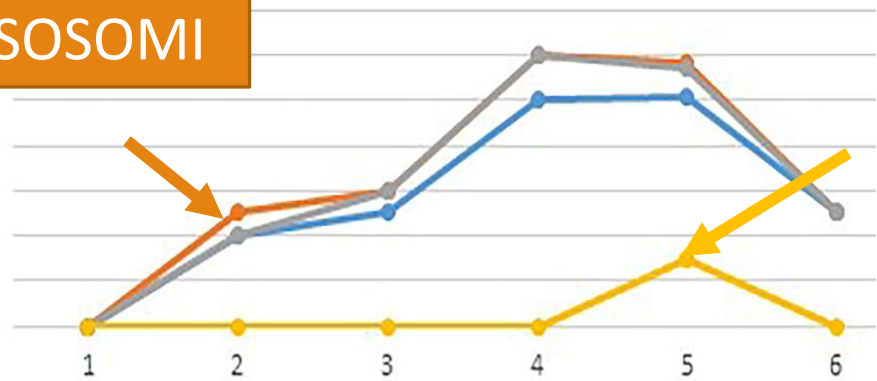
## Tipologia di mutazione



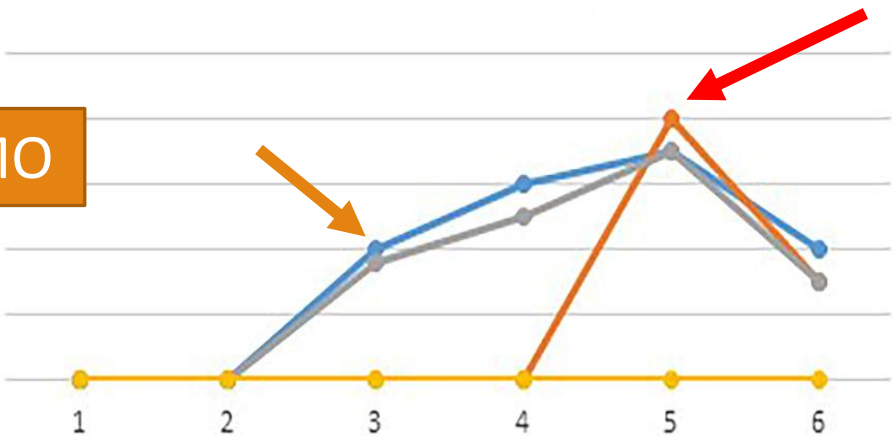
## Tipo di geni mutati



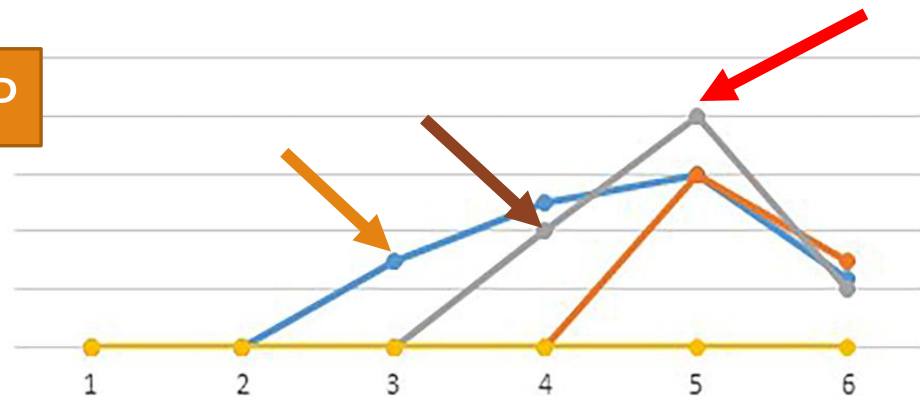
## ESOSOMI



## MO



## SP



## ANALISI DI FOLLOW UP

Tra i 10 pazienti arruolati nello studio, 5 sono stati monitorati durante il follow up.

Tra i pazienti monitorati è risultata particolarmente interessante la paziente del caso 10

## TIME POINT

1	2	3	4	5	6
Pre alloSCT	RC post alloSCT 30 giorni post-alloSCT	Recidiva 7 mesi post-alloSCT	Recidiva a 10 mesi post-alloSCT	Post terapia azacitidina	Post terapia azacitidina

## GENI MUTATI



# LIQUID BIOPSY IN HEMATOLOGY:

It is feasible

It is useful

It is different

It is innovative

It is reliable

