

# ET : Management

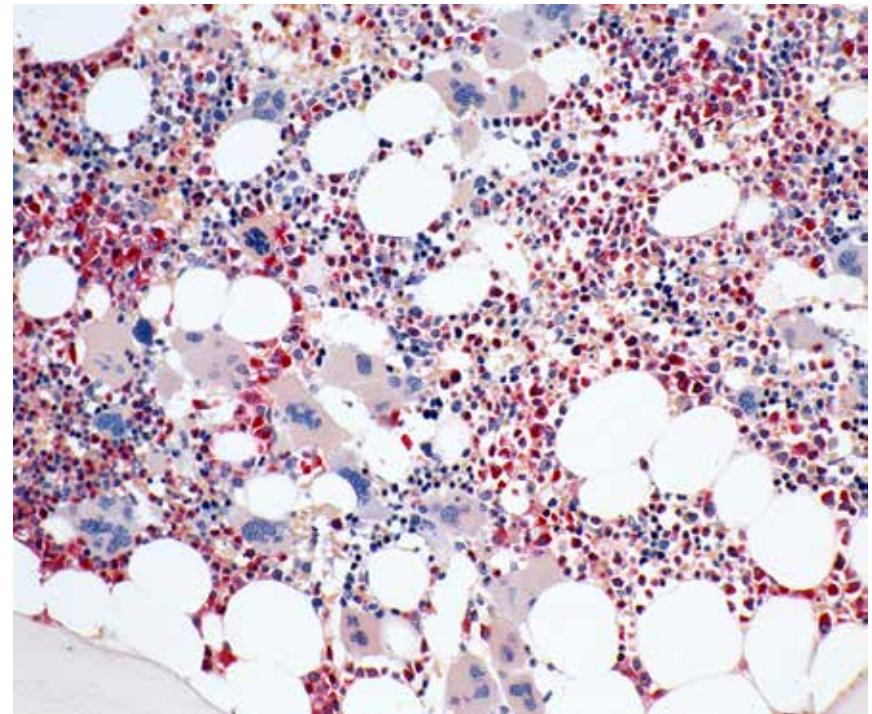
**Ruben A. Mesa, MD**

*Professor & Chairman, Division of Hematology & Medical Oncology  
Deputy Director, Mayo Clinic Cancer Center  
Mayo Clinic – Arizona, USA*

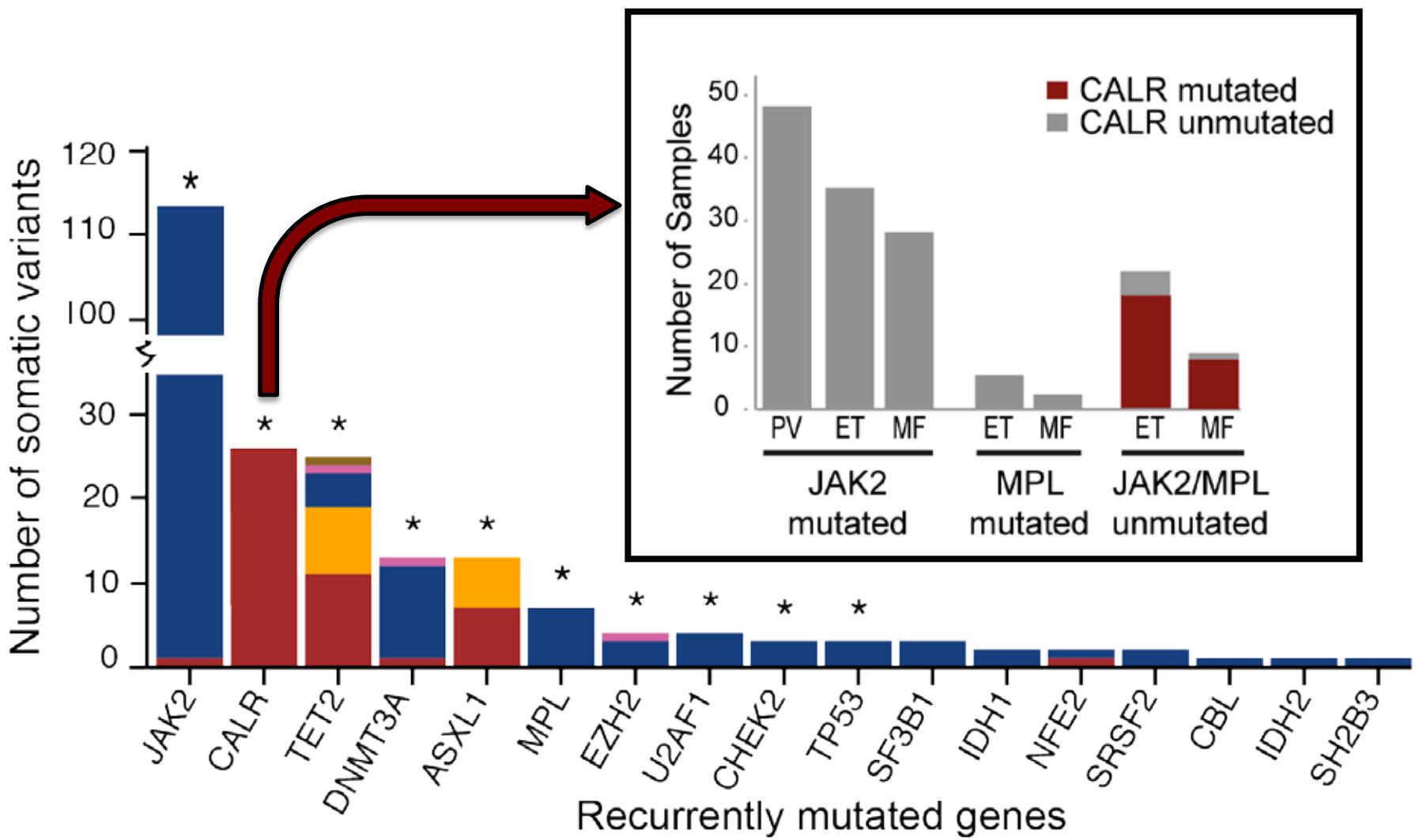
# WHO criteria for Essential Thrombocythemia

diagnosis requires meeting all four criteria

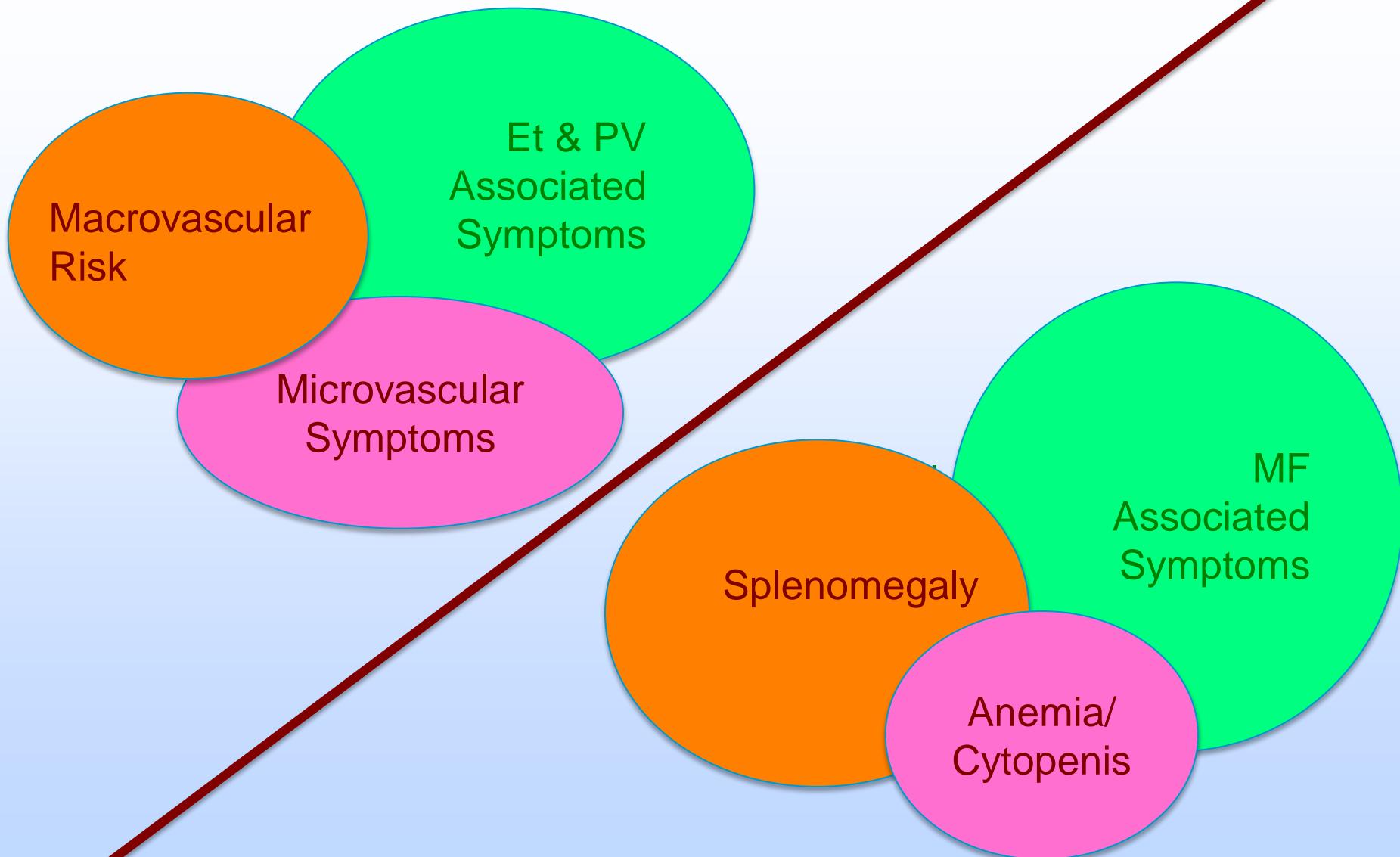
1. Sustained platelet count  $\geq 450 \times 10^9/L$
2. **Bone marrow biopsy** specimen showing proliferation mainly of megakaryocytic lineage with increased numbers of enlarged, mature megakaryocytes. No significant increase or left-shift of neutrophil granulopoiesis or erythropoiesis
3. Not meeting the WHO criteria for polycythemia vera, primary myelofibrosis, BCR-ABL1 positive chronic myelogenous leukemia or myelodysplastic syndrome or other myeloid neoplasm
4. Demonstration of JAK2 V612F or other clonal marker, or in the absence of JAK2 V612F, no evidence for reactive thrombocytosis



# *CALR* mutations in *JAK2* negative ET and MF



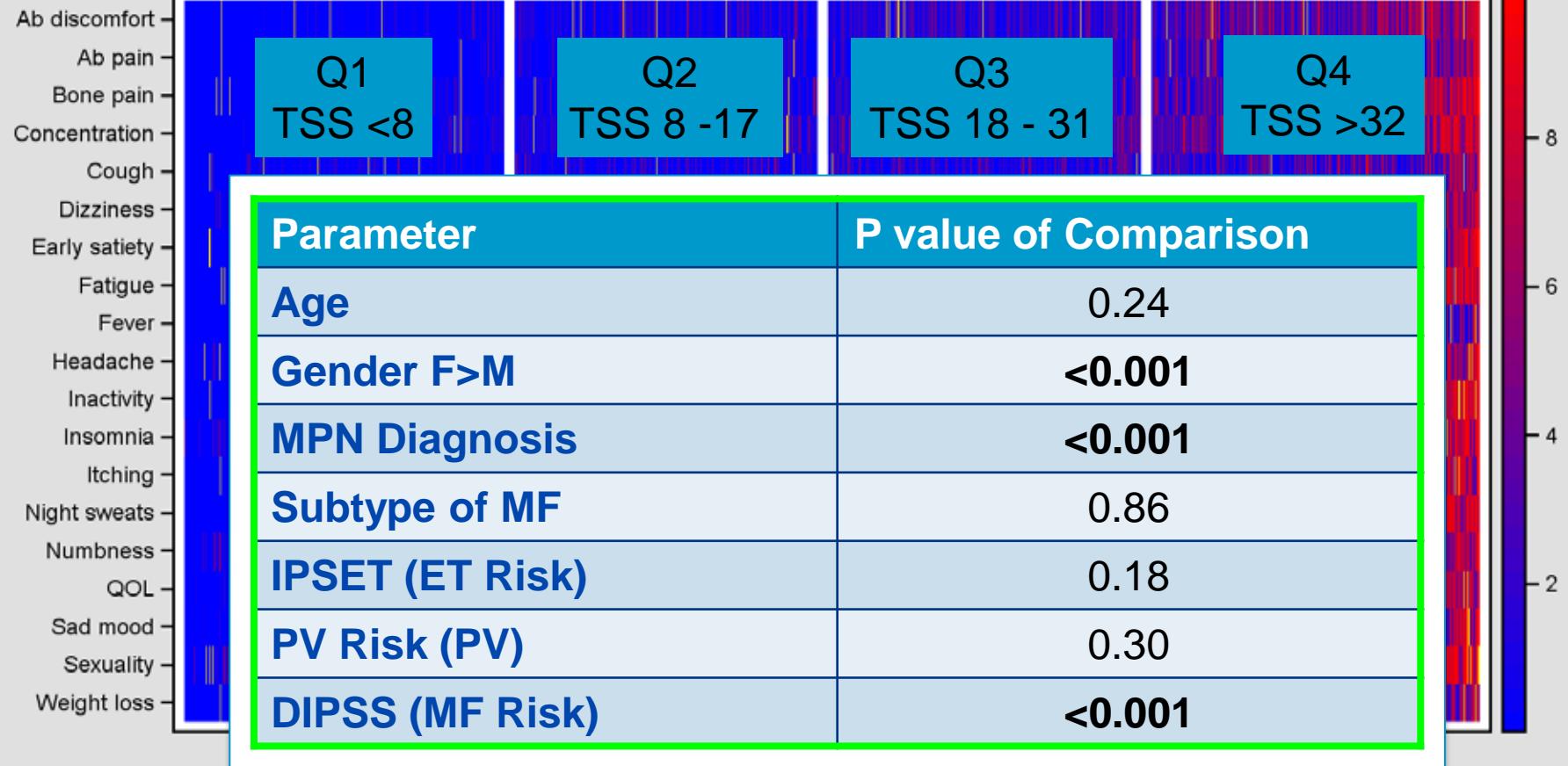
# Burden of ET/PV

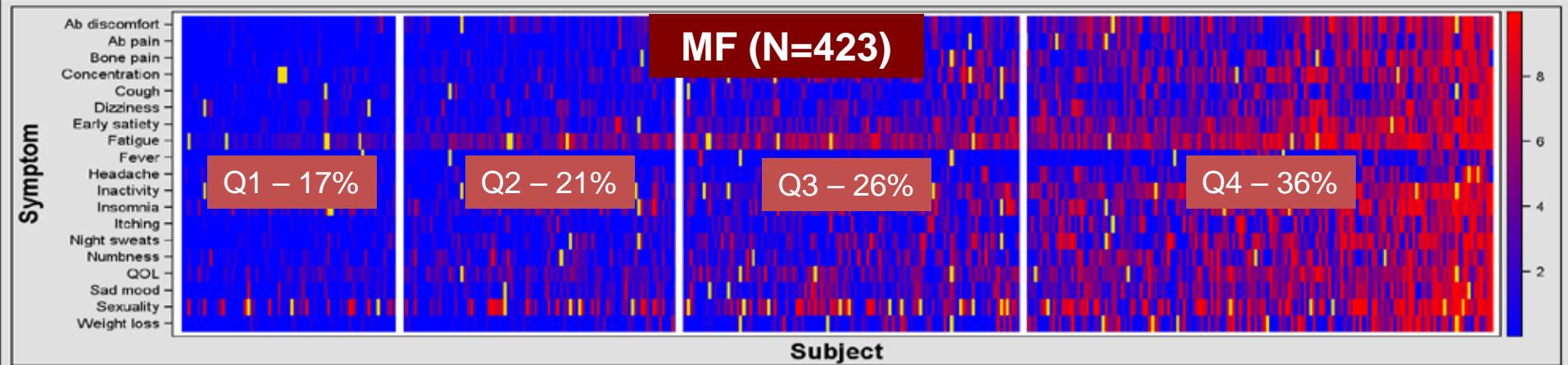
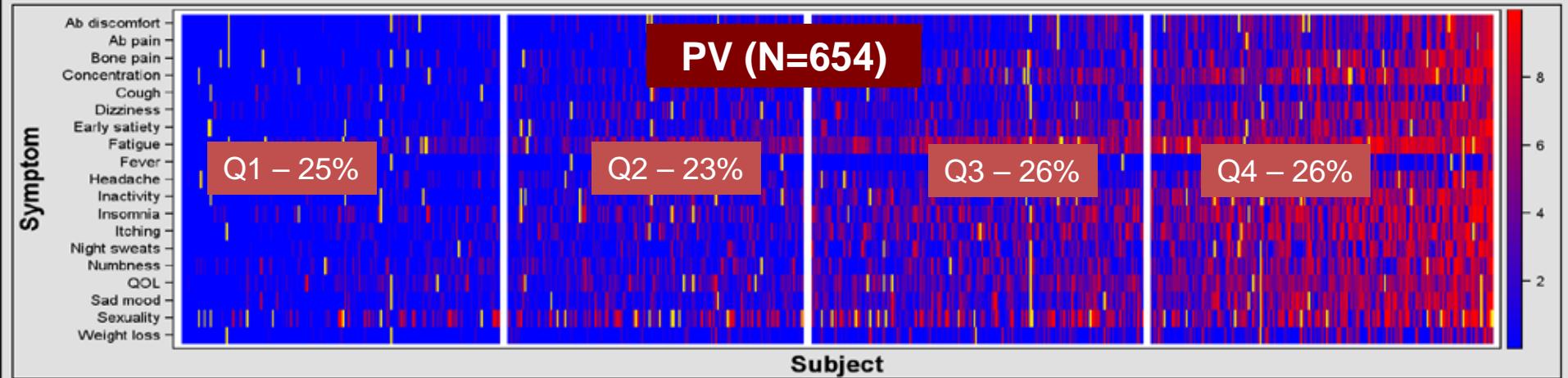
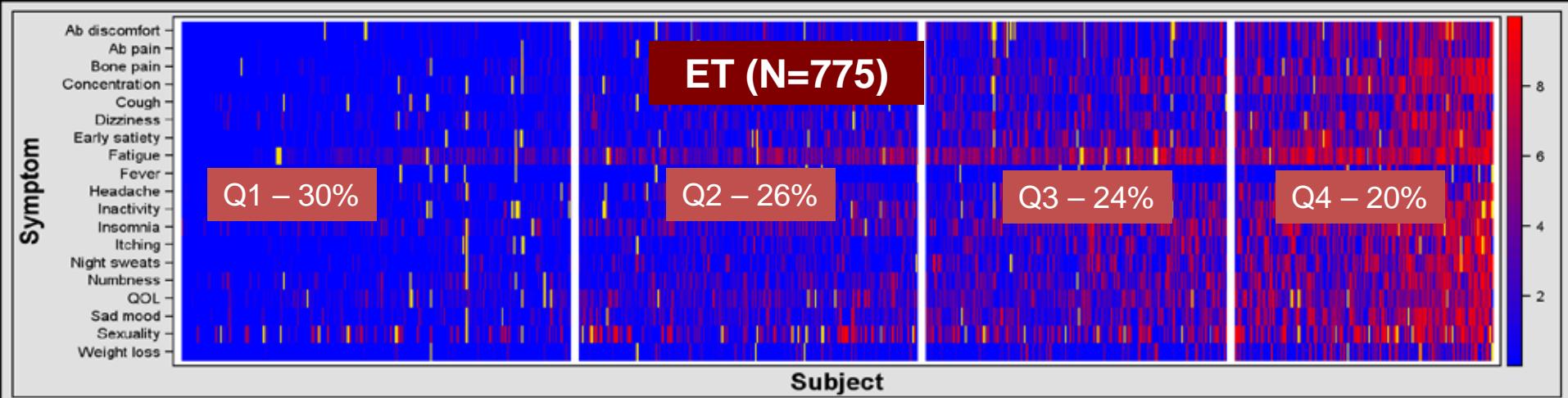


Burden of Myelofibrosis

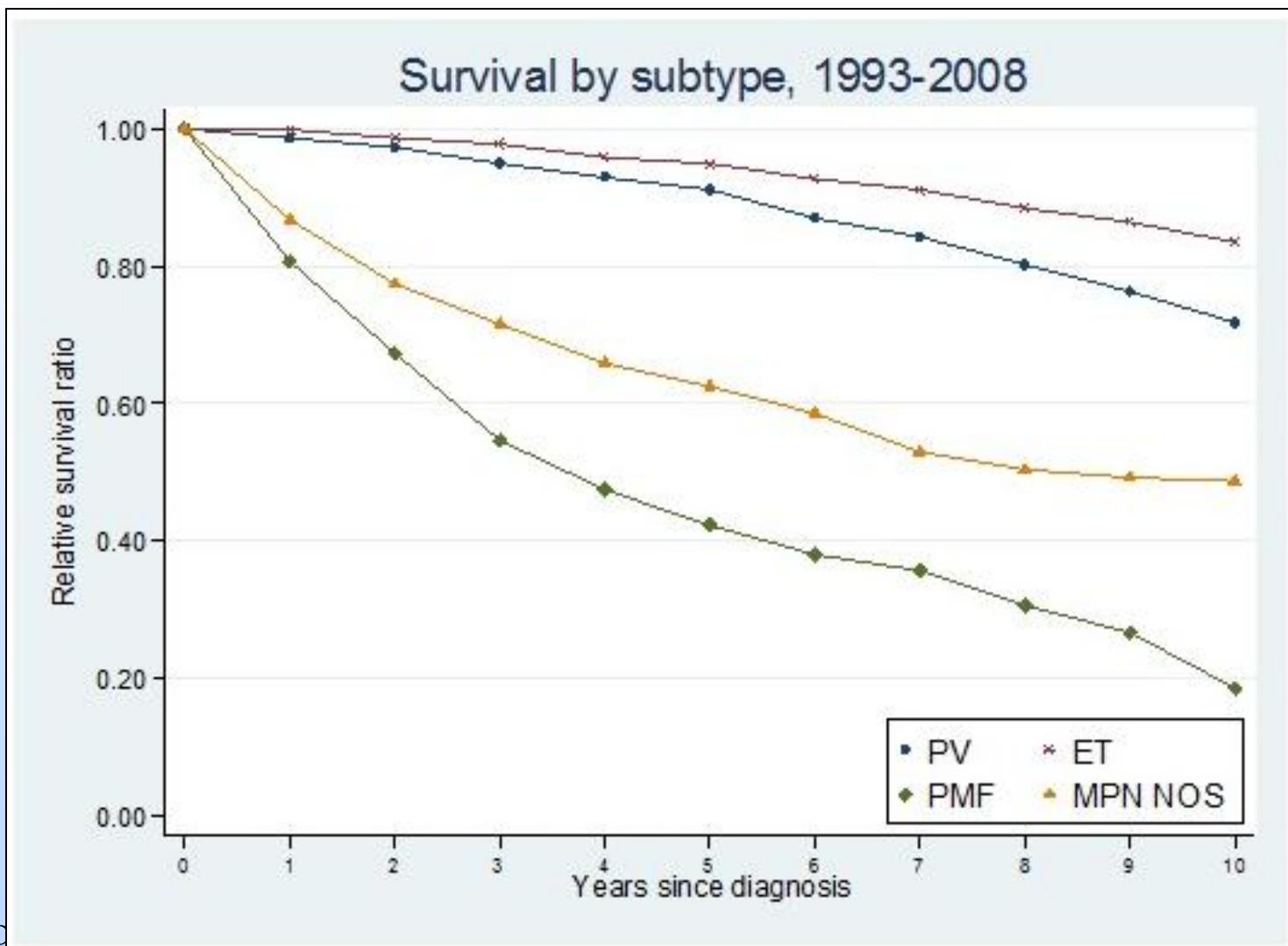
# MPN Symptom Burden by Quartiles

1858 MPN-SAF Respondents

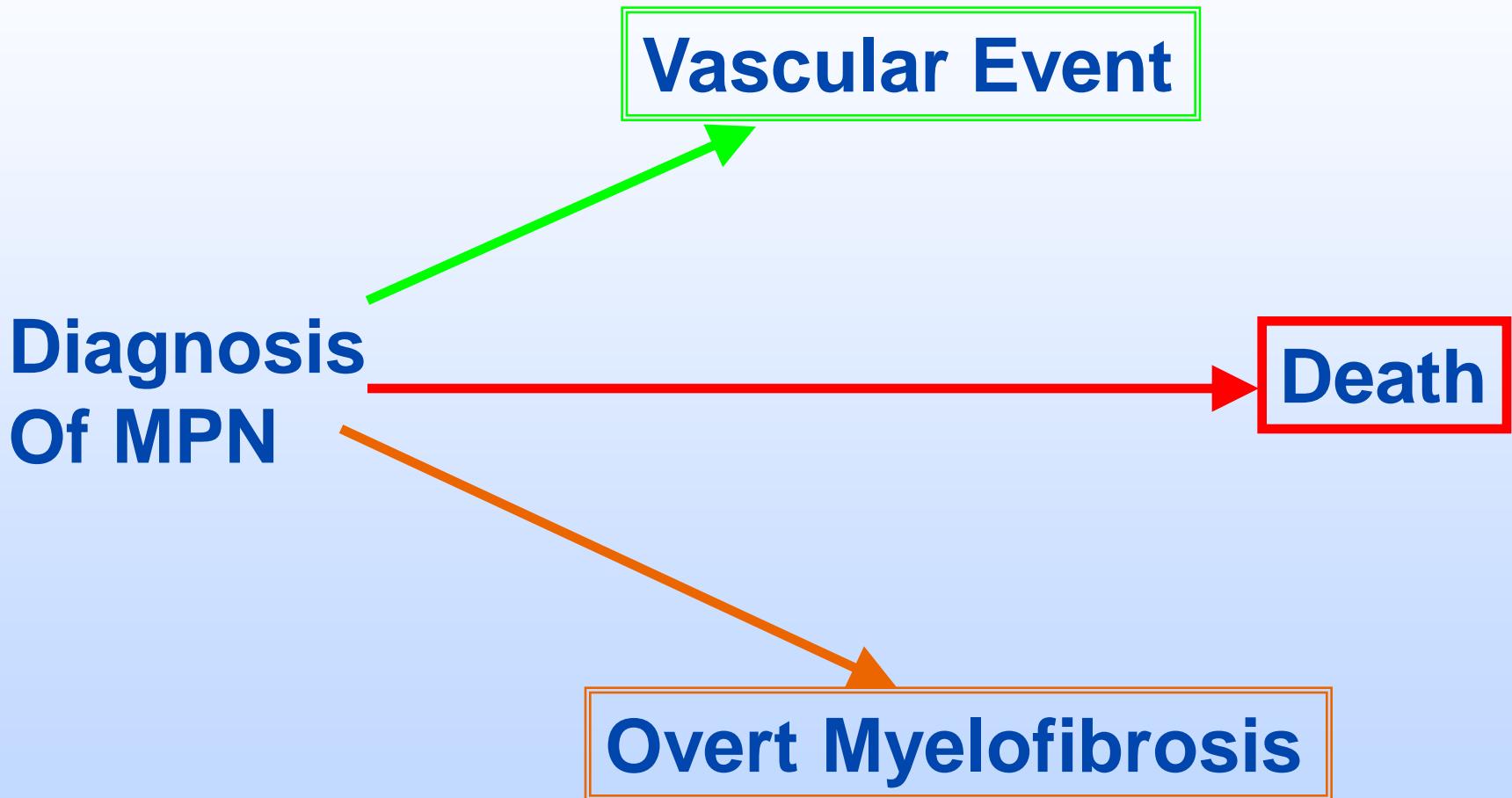




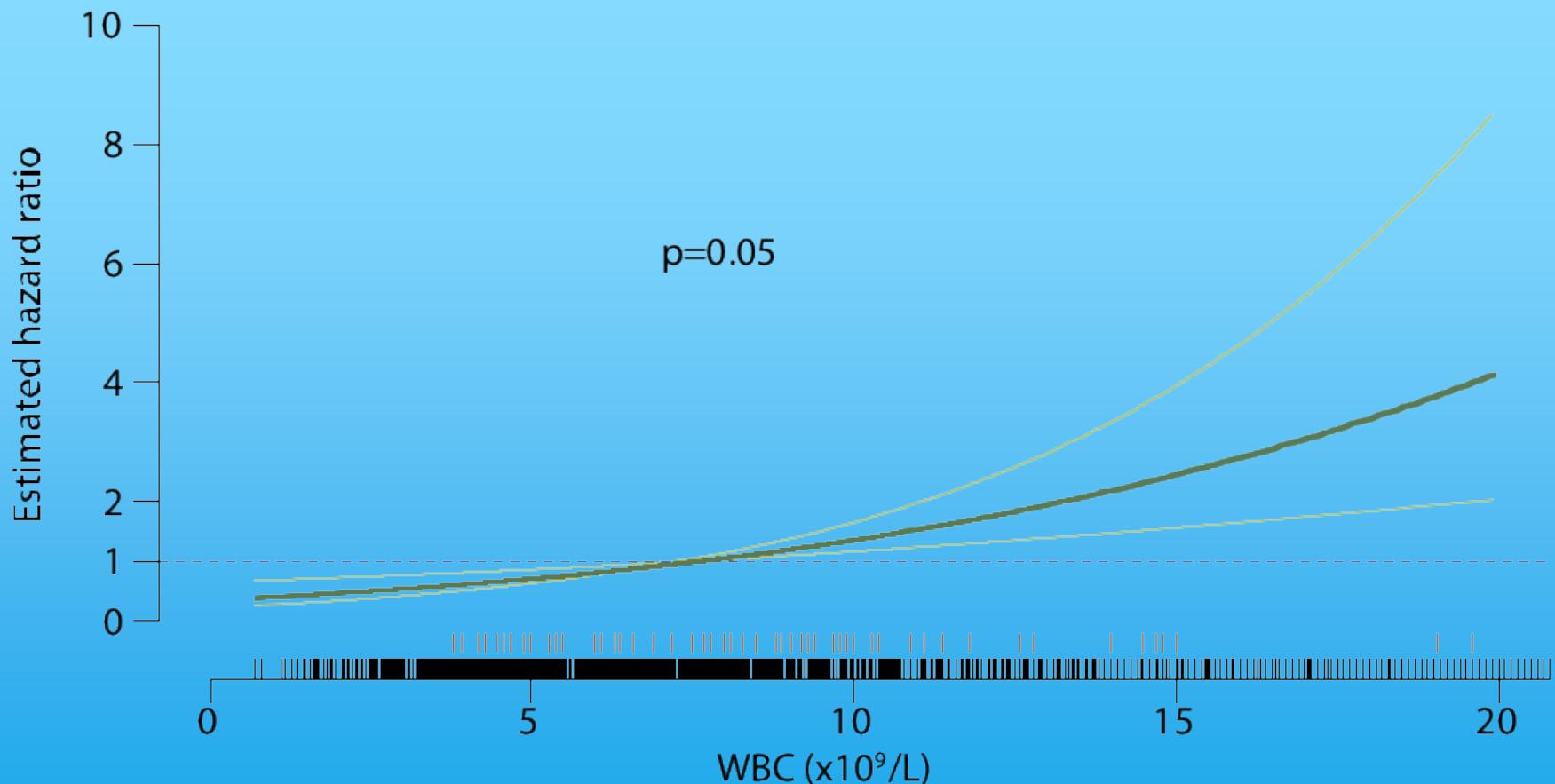
# Patterns of Survival and Causes of Death In 9,384 Patients with Myeloproliferative Neoplasms Diagnosed In Sweden Between 1973 and 2008



# Assessing Risk in MPNs

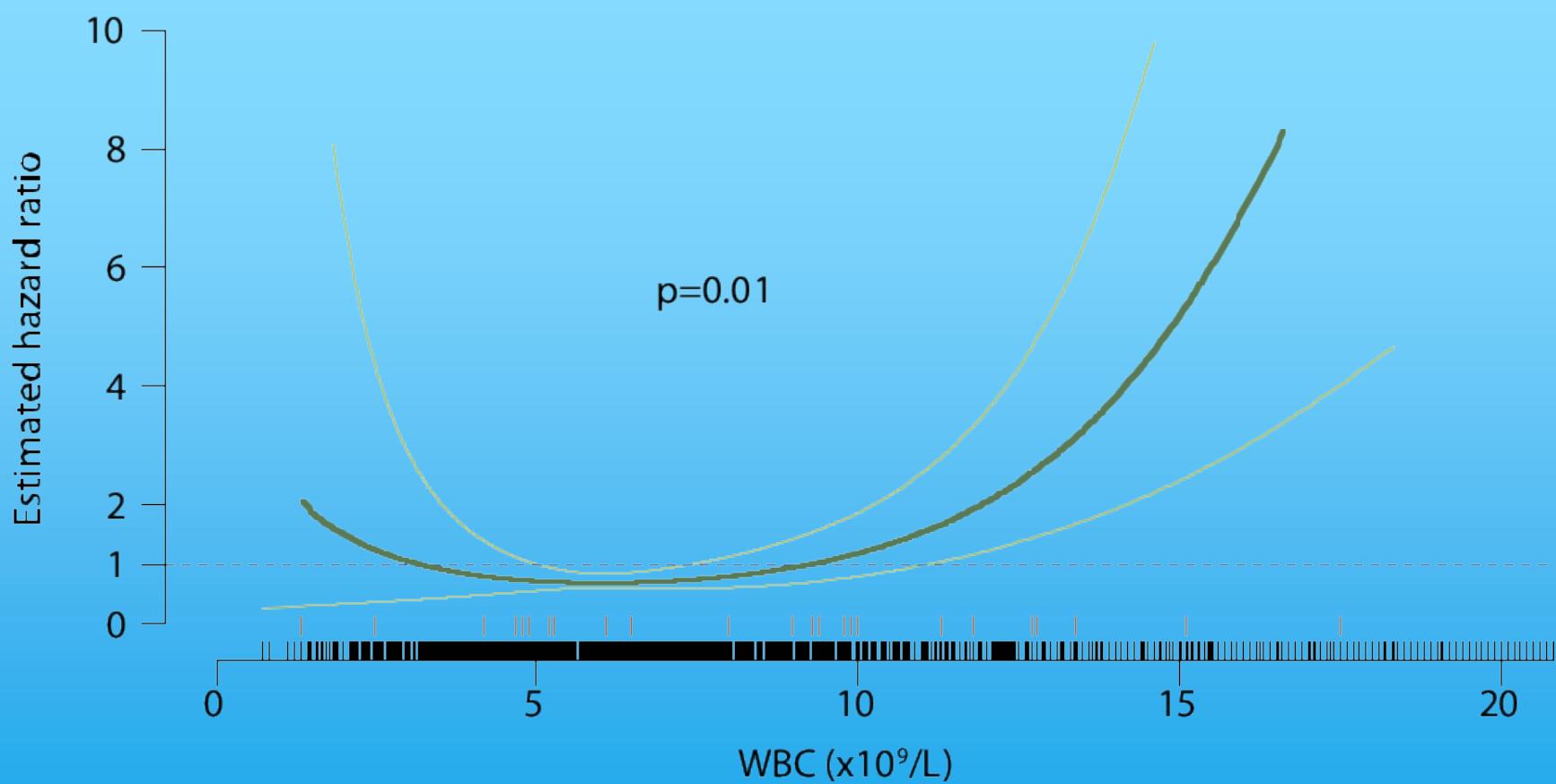


# White cell count & thrombosis



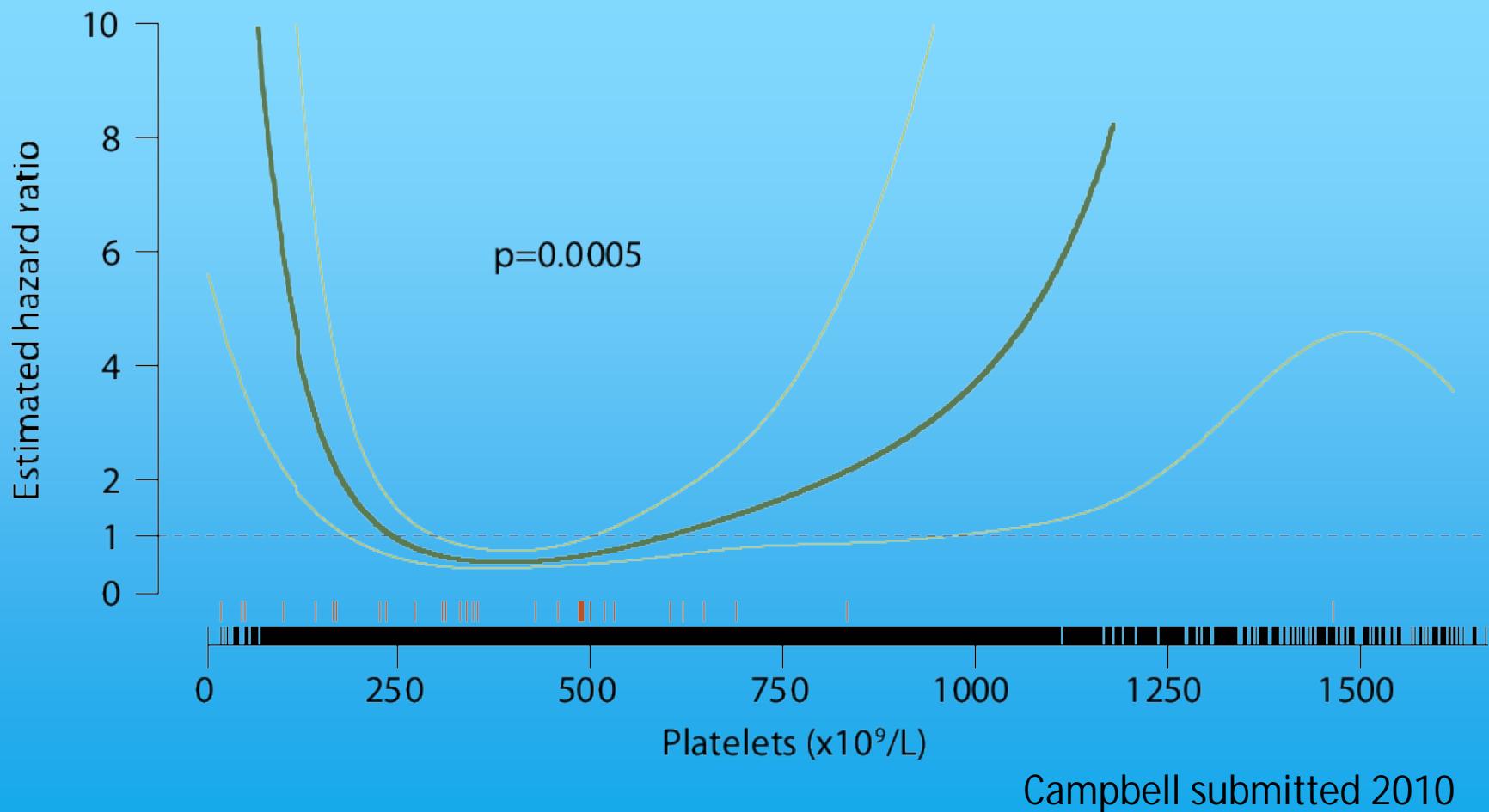
Campbell submitted 2010

# WCC & major hemorrhage

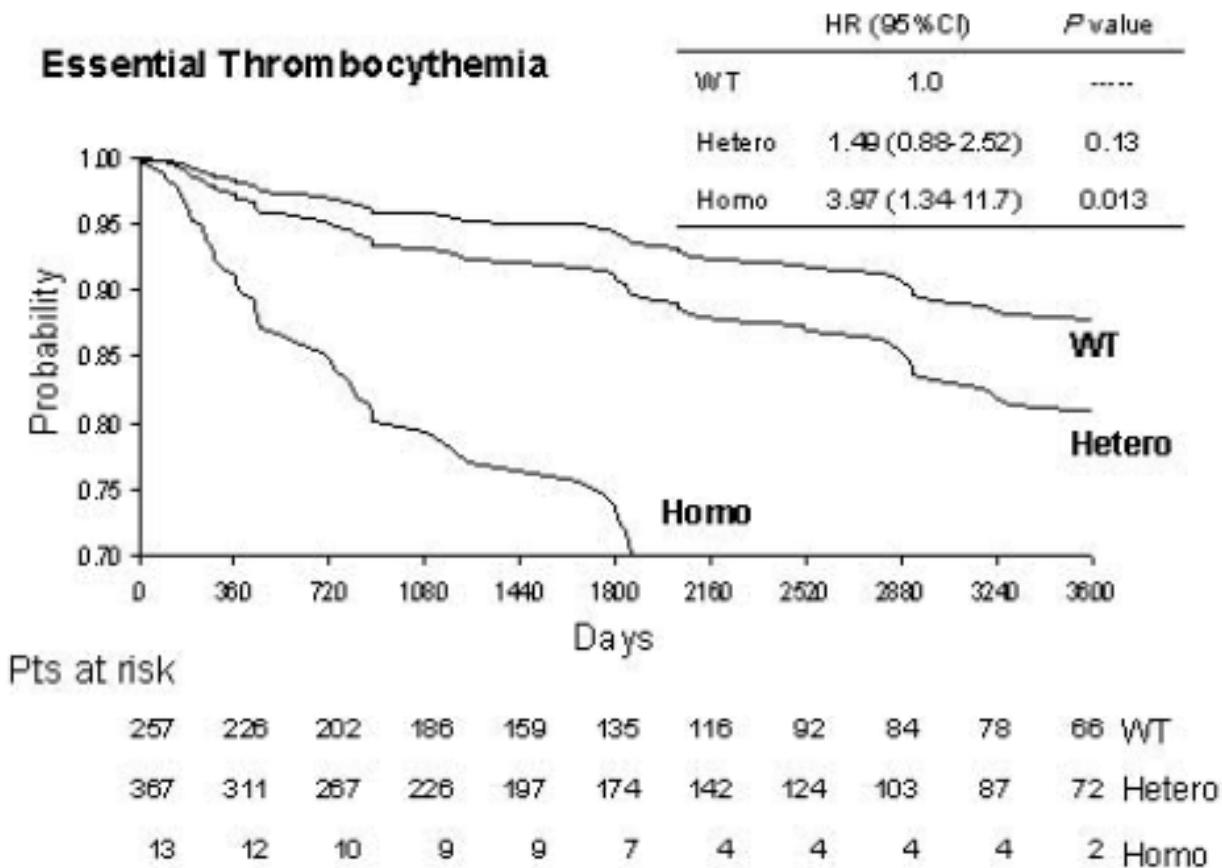


Campbell submitted 2010

# Platelets & major hemorrhage



# Significance of JAK2V617F homozygosity



# Monitoring MPNs

## Evolving MPN prognostic scales

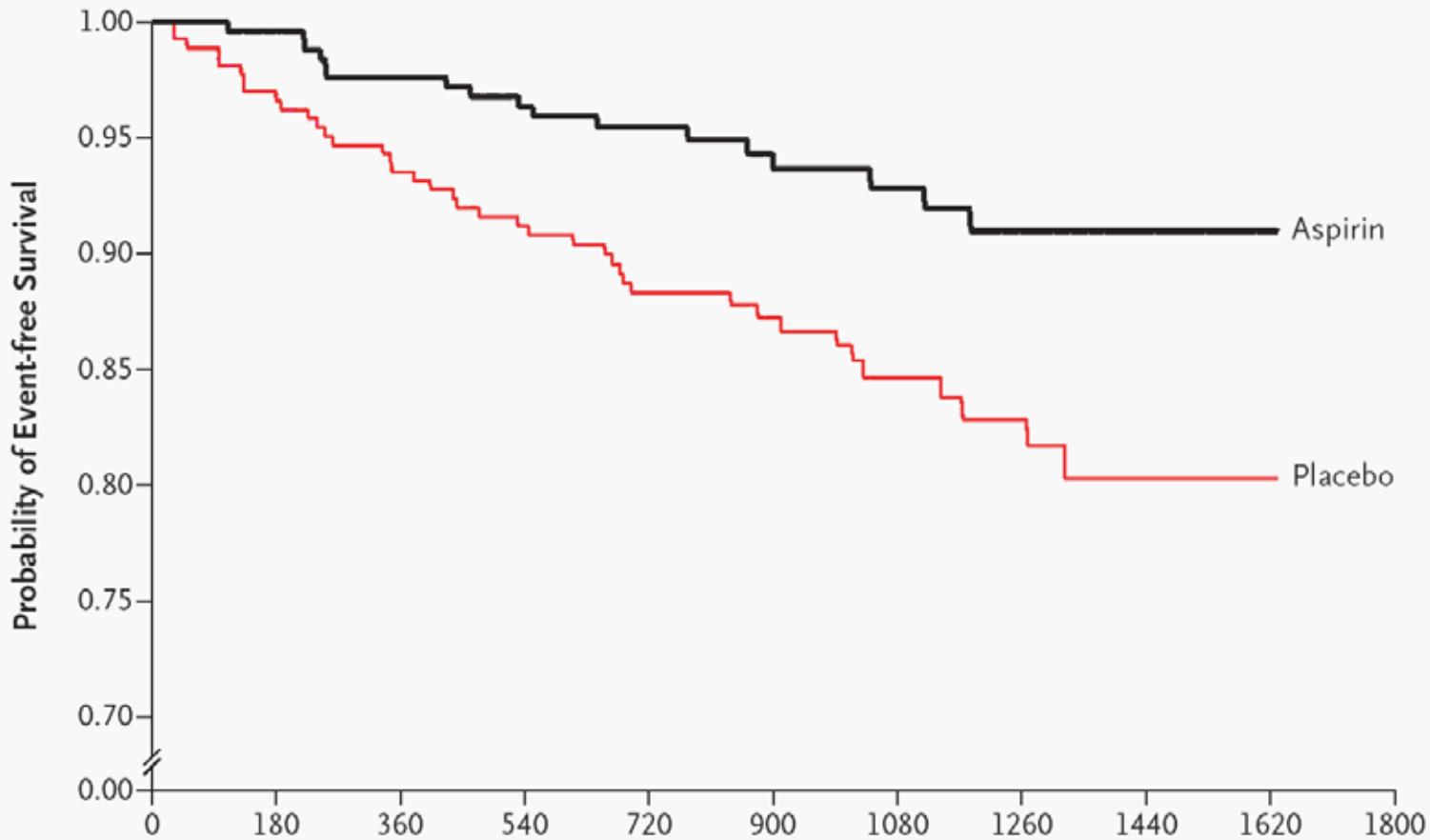
	IPSET (ET—3 groups) <i>Survival</i> <i>thrombosis risk</i>	PV Risk (4 groups) <i>Survival</i> <i>leukemia rates</i>	DIPSS (PMF—4 groups) <i>Survival</i>
<b>Age, years</b>	$\geq 60$ (2 pts) vs < 60	$\geq 67$ (5 pts) 57-66 (2 pts), < 60 (0)	$\geq 65$ (1 pt) vs < 65
<b>Leukocytes</b>	$\geq 11$ (1 pt) vs $< 11 \times 10^9/L$	$\geq 15$ (1 point) vs $< 15 \times 10^9/L$	$> 25$ (1 pt) vs $\leq 25 \times 10^9/L$
<b>Hemoglobin</b>			$< 10$ (2 pts) vs $\geq 10$ g/dL
<b>Constitutional symptoms</b>			Present <sup>a</sup> (1pt) vs absent
<b>Blasts</b>			$\geq 1\%$ (1pt) vs < 1%
<b>Prior thrombosis</b>	Yes (1 point) vs No	Yes (1 Point) vs No	
<b>Risk group point cutoffs</b>	0; 1-2; 3-4 pts	0; 1-2; 3; 4 pts	0; 1-2; 3-4; $\geq 4$ pts

Passamonti  
Blood 2012

Tefferi  
Leuk 2014

Passamonti  
Blood 2010

<sup>a</sup> 10% weight loss over prior 6 months, night sweats, unexplained fever.



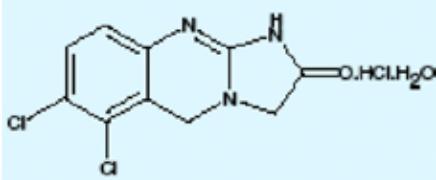
ECLAP analysis:

**Antiplatelet therapy was significantly associated with a lower risk of fatal and non-fatal cardiovascular events.**

**Marchioli 2005**

# HU-Treatment Effect in High-Risk ET





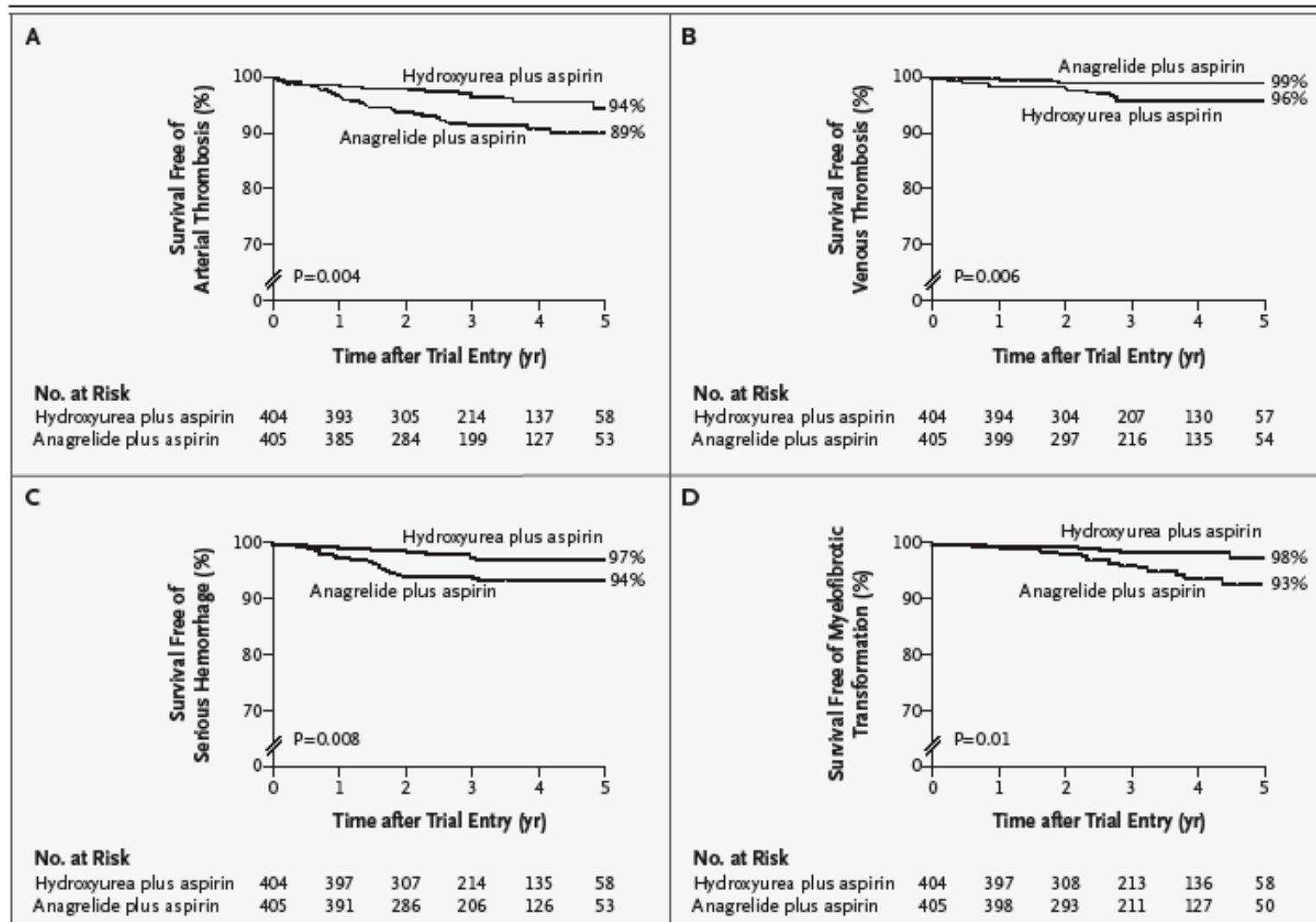
# Published Anagrelide Experience

<i>Study</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>ET</i>	<i>PV</i>	<i>CML</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Impact</i>
<b>Silverstein 1988</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Initial Trial</b>
<b>ASG 1992</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>Response rate 79%</b>
<b>Petit 1997</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>Basis for FDA Approval</b>
<b>Storen 2001</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Long Term Safety</b>
<b>Fruchtman 2005</b>	<b>3590</b>	<b>2425</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>Basis for EMEA License</b>
<b>Harrison 2005</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>PT 1 Trial</b>

# PT-1 Trial

## *Hydrea Vs. Anagrelide (Plus ASA)*

- 809 High Risk ET patients randomized
  - Hydrea plus ASA
  - Anagrelide plus ASA
- Composite Endpoints
  - Thrombosis (arterial or venous)
  - Hemorrhage
  - Death



**Figure 3.** Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Survival Free of the Secondary End Points of Arterial Thrombosis (Panel A), Venous Thrombosis (Panel B), Serious Hemorrhage (Panel C), and Myelofibrotic Transformation (Panel D).

# ANAHYDRET study vs. UK-PT1 study

	<b>ANAHYDRET*</b> (n=258)	<b>PT1**</b> (n=805)
<b>Diagnosis according to</b> (applied criteria)	<b>WHO criteria</b> mandatory <b>BM biopsy</b> with central review	<b>PVSG criteria</b>
<b>Pretreatment</b>	<b>only newly diagnosed</b> WHO-ET patients	pretreated PVSG-cohort
<b>Concomitant therapy</b>	preferred <b>monotherapy</b>	fixed combination with Asprin

\* Gisslinger et al., Blood 2008, ASH Abstract 661

\*\*Harrison et al., N Engl J Med 2005; 353:33-45

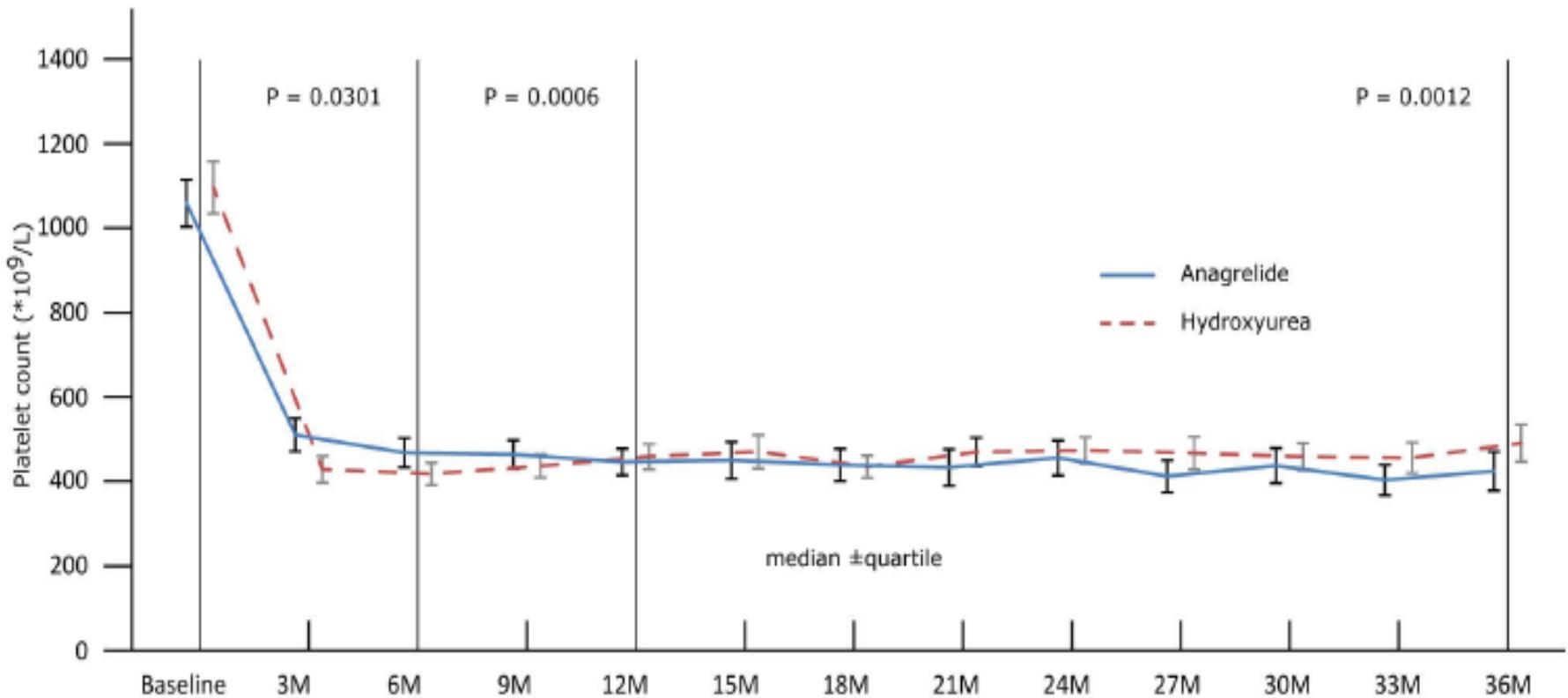
# Results of the central bone marrow histopathology and JAK2V617F analysis in 235 study patients

	n	%	JAK2 pos.	JAK2 allele burden Median (%)	JAK2 neg.
ET	194	82.5	79	8.7	73
PMF-0 (fiber grade 0)	16	6.8	10	11.7**	3
PMF-1 (fiber grade 1)	3	1.3	1	-	0
PV (PV-like pattern)	16	6.8	8	10.4	5
UC - unclassifiable	6	2.6	9*		11*

\* JAK2V617F analysis was performed in more patients than the bone marrow re-evaluation

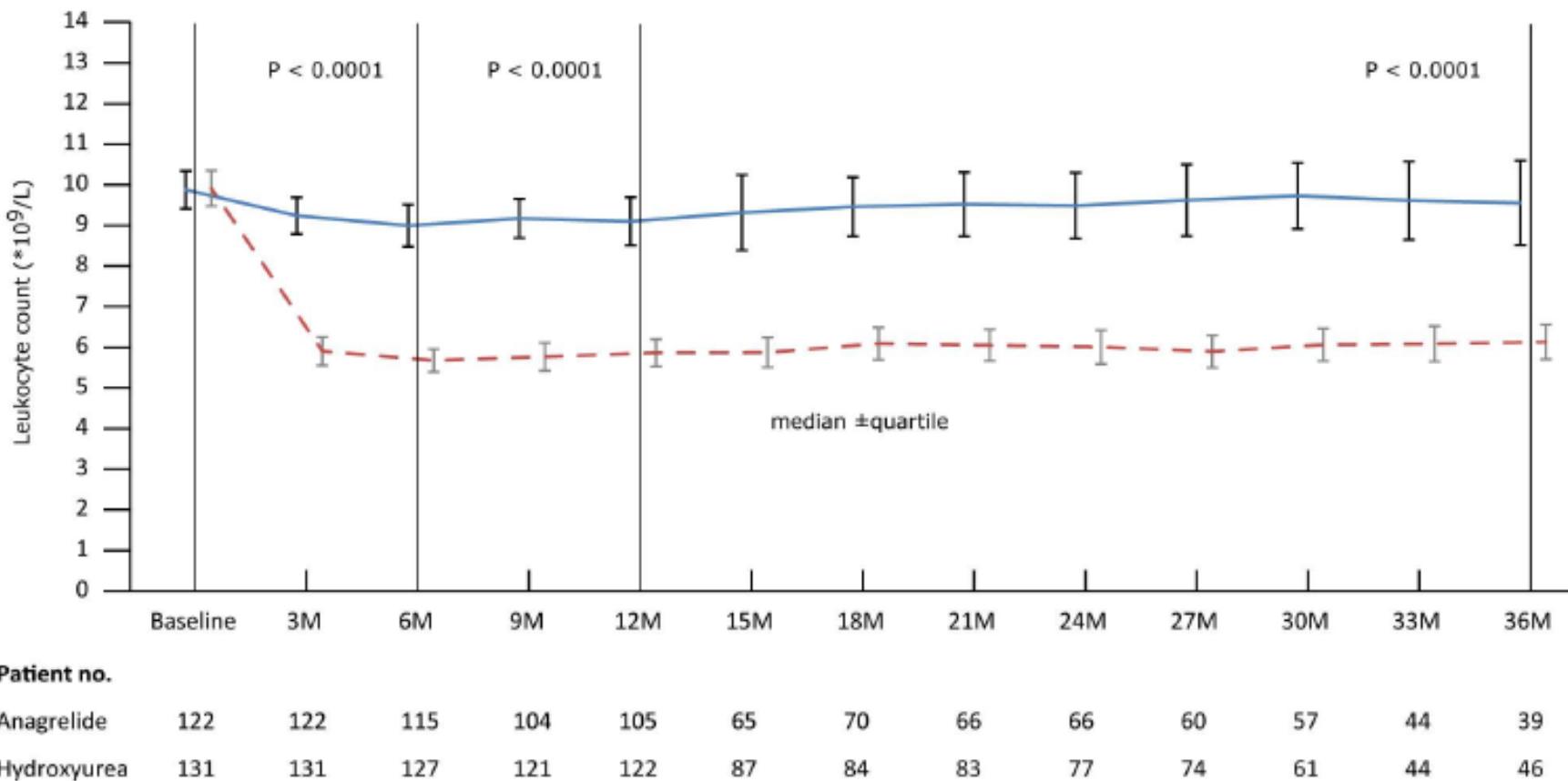
\*\* Value denotes pooled PMF-0 and PMF-1

# No difference in platelet lowering effect ANA vs. HU



Gisslinger et al, 2013

# Leukocyte counts remained unchanged in ANA treated patients



## Resistance/Intolerance to Hydroxycarbamide in ET

- Platelet count  $>600 \times 10^9/L$  after 3 months of at least 2 g/day of HU (2.5 g/day in patients  $>80$  kg)
- Platelets  $>400 \times 10^9/L$  and WBC count  $<2.5 \times 10^9/L$  or Hb  $<100$  g/L at any dose of HU
- Presence of leg ulcers or other unacceptable mucocutaneous manifestations at any dose of HU
- HU-related fever

P-32

Hydroxycarbamide  
(Hydroxyurea)

Anagrelide  
(Xagrid)

Busulfan

Interferon

Aspirin

## *Juggling ET Options*



# ACTIVITIES OF INTERFERONS IN MPN

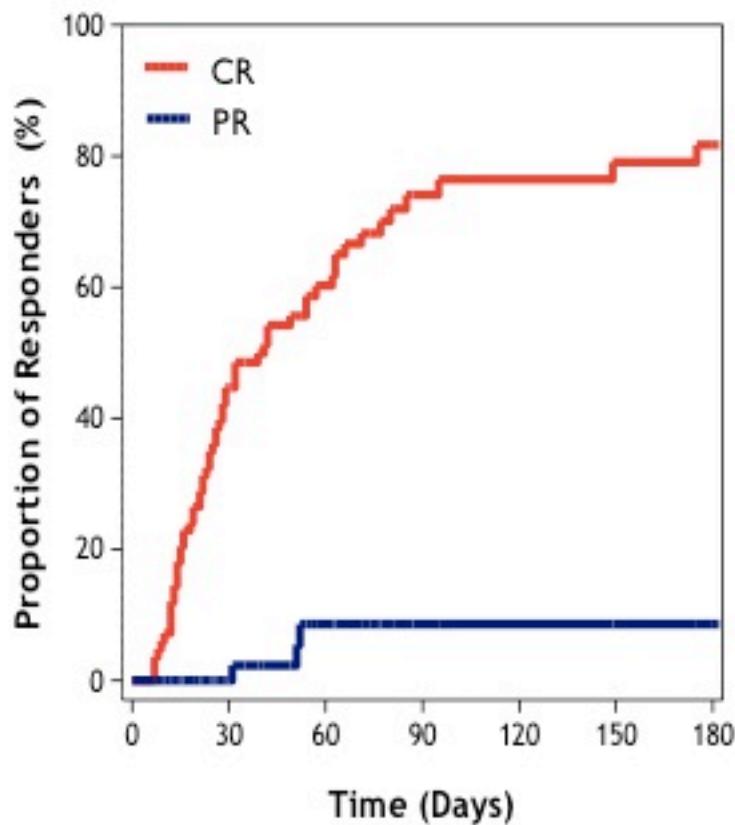
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- ü Inhibit MK proliferation and TPO-induced MPL signaling  
*Wang, Blood, 2000*
- ü Inhibit EEC and endogenous MK colony growth  
*Dudley, Br J H, 1990*  
*Castello, Br J H, 1994*
- ü Predominant activity against clonal BFU-E
- ü Antagonize PDGF, inhibit the growth of marrow-derived fibroblasts

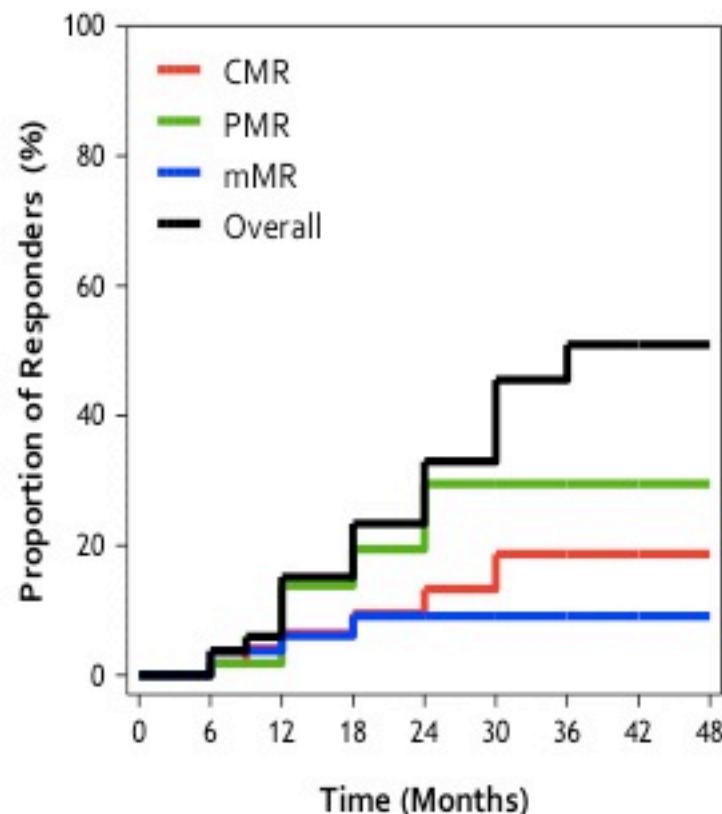
# Patient Characteristics

	PV (n=43)	ET (n=40)
Median Age (range)	54 (24-78)	53 (19-75)
Months Dx to Study entry	<b>50 (0-350)</b>	<b>34 (1-277)</b>
No. JAK2 <sup>V617F</sup> + (%)	40 (93)	19 (48)
Median % JAK2 <sup>V617F</sup> allele	65	23
Abnormal Karyotype (%)	<b>3 (7)</b>	<b>3 (7.5)</b>
No. Prior Therapies (range)	1 (0-4)	2 (0-4)
Phlebotomy (%)	<b>32 (74)</b>	Not Applicable
Hydroxyurea (%)	20 (47)	28 (70)
Anagrelide (%)	9 (21)	22 (55)
IFN $\alpha$ (%)	9 (21)	6 (15)
Untreated (except phlebotomy in PV)	<b>22 (51)</b>	<b>9 (23)</b>

# Cumulative Incidence of Response



Hematologic Response

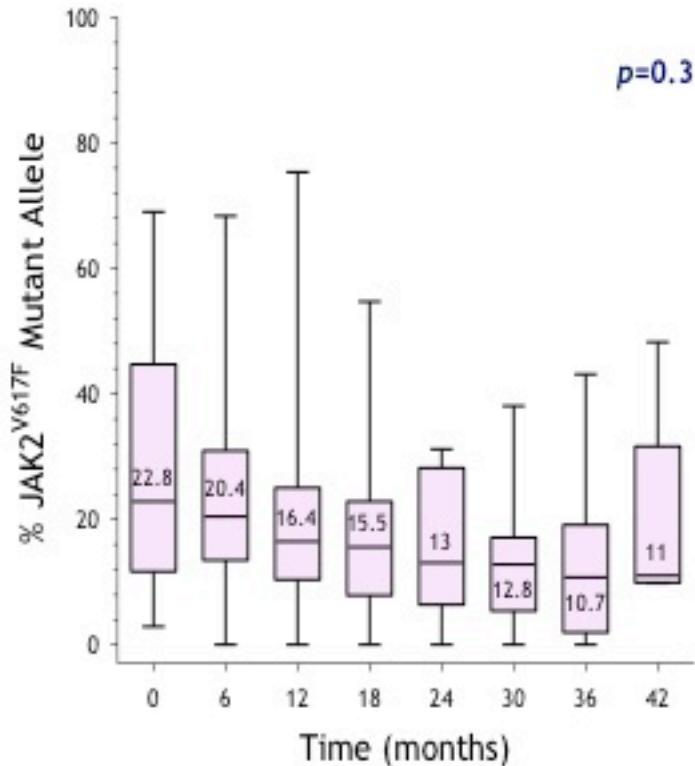
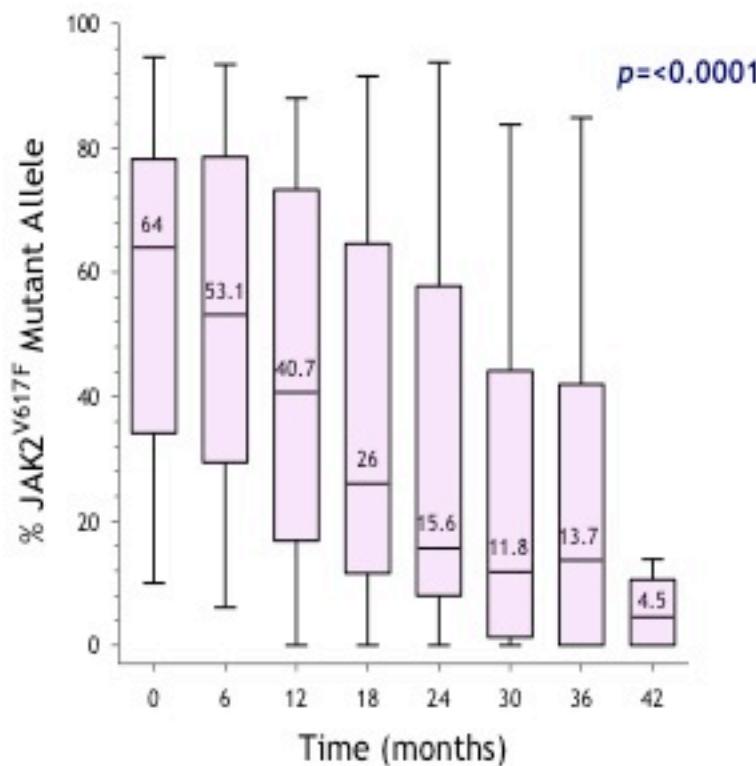


Molecular Response

# Dynamics of Molecular Response PV and ET Cohorts

No. Patients	42	32	30	28	26	19	18	8
CMR	0	0	1	2	4	4	5	4
PMR	0	3	8	10	10	8	7	4

No. Patients	19	13	14	13	12	10	8	5
CMR	0	1	2	2	2	1	2	0
PMR	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2



PV

Quintas-Cardama et. Al.  
. Blood 2010: a461

ET

# Myeloproliferative Disorders Research Consortium Trial

## Polycythemia Vera and Essential Thrombocythemia



### MPD-RC 112 (NCT01259856 – clinicaltrials.gov)

Randomized Trial of PEGylated Interferon Alfa-2a versus Hydroxyurea Therapy in the Treatment of High Risk Polycythemia Vera (PV) and High Risk Essential Thrombocythemia (ET)

Registered & Randomized  
High Risk ET and PV

- PEG INF Alfa-2a
- Target dose 90 mcg/week
  - Weekly Dosing
  - ≥2 years of therapy in responders

- HYDROXYUREA
- Titrated Dosing to Response
  - Daily Dosing
  - MPD-RC 111 in HYDROXYUREA Failures

#### ENDPOINTS

**Primary:** Complete response by ELN Criteria

**Secondary:** Partial response rate by ELN criteria, JAK2-V617F Allele Burden, Vascular Events, MPN Symptoms, Tolerability, Progression

#### Key Eligibility Criteria

- High risk PV or ET within 3 years from diagnosis
- No prior cytoreductive treatment (interferon or pegasys) other than hydroxyurea for up to 3 months (prior phlebotomy, aspirin, and/or anagrelide allowed)
- Age of 18 or older with relatively normal kidney and liver function
- No other serious medical problems

Questions contact MPD-RC ([www.mpd-rc.org](http://www.mpd-rc.org))  
John Mascarenhas, MD [john.mascarenhas@mssm.edu](mailto:john.mascarenhas@mssm.edu) Phone: 1 (212) 241-6756



# Phase II Study of INCB 18424 in Patients with Advanced ET and PV

## Eligibility Criteria:

- Refractory or intolerant to hydroxyurea (HU) or HU contraindicated
- PV: Hct > 45% OR phlebotomy 2 times in last 6 months, with at least one phlebotomy in last 3 months
- ET: Platelets >  $650 \times 10^9/L$  unless on therapy

### *Polycythemia vera (N=34)*

10 mg BID  
(n=7)

25 mg BID  
(n=8)

50 mg QD  
(n=7)



10 mg BID  
(n=12)

Part 1

Part 2

### *Essential Thrombocythemia (N=39)*

10 mg BID  
(n=8)

25 mg BID  
(n=8)

50 mg QD  
(n=8)



25 mg BID  
(n=15)

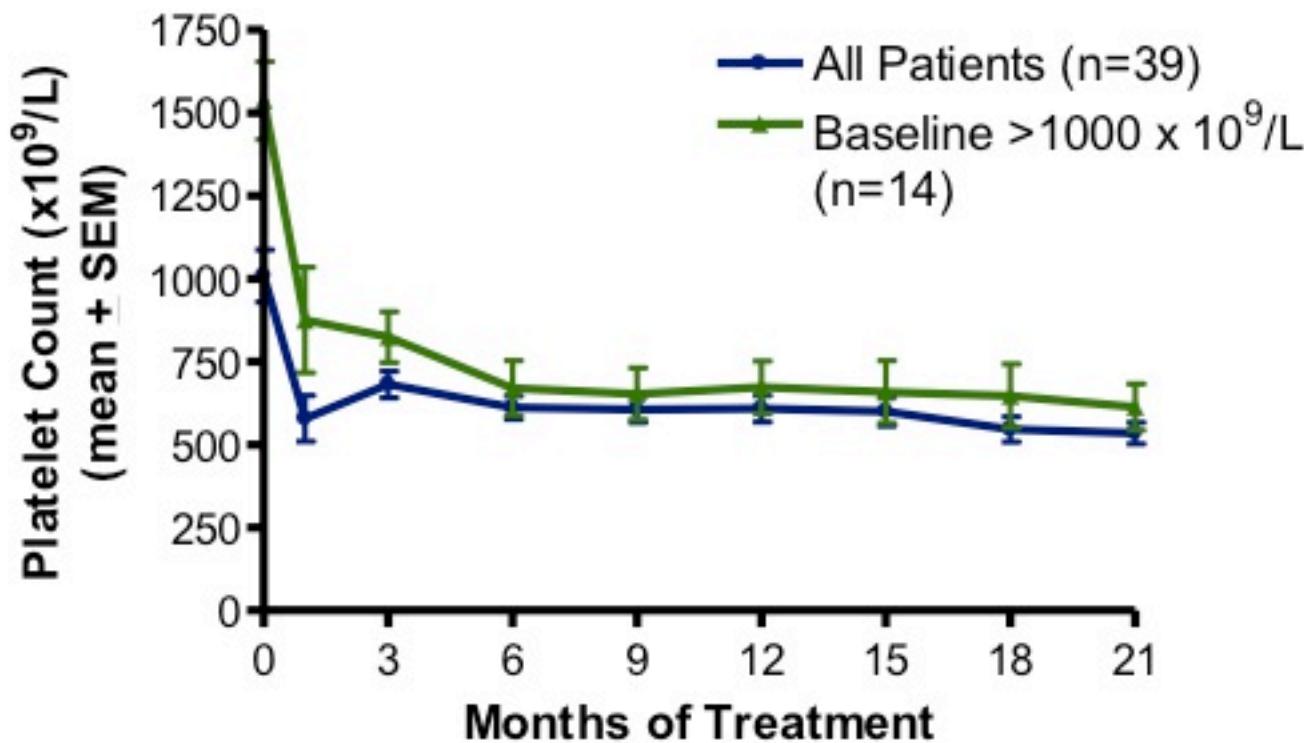
Part 1

Part 2

# Patient Characteristics

Characteristic (median)	ET (n = 39)	PV (n = 34)
Age, years	51	58
Female	64%	50%
Months from Diagnosis	88	115
Refractory to HU	87%	74%
No. Prior Therapies	1 (1-3)	1 (1-3)
Hct %	41.0	46.7
Platelets $\times 10^9/L$	849 (mean 1009)	76%
WBC $\times 10^9/L$	8.2	527
Splenomegaly Size, cm (range)	10% 5 (3-7)	13.2
JAK2 <sup>V617F</sup> positive	65%	74% 9 (1-21)
JAK2 <sup>V617F</sup> allele burden	16%	100%

# Platelet Count Reduction in ET

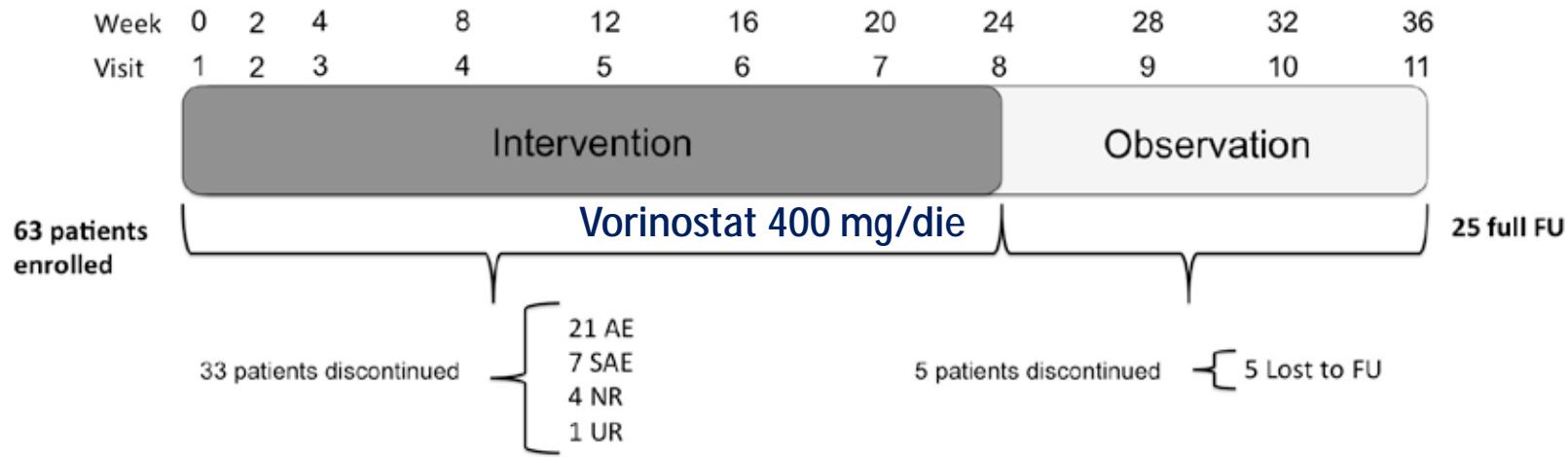


- 49% achieved normal platelet counts and 79% achieved <600,000 or a ≥50% reduction as of last follow-up visit
- 13 of 14 subjects with baseline platelet counts >1,000,000 have achieved a greater than 50% reduction

## Oral Session

# A Phase II Study of Vorinostat (MK-0683) in Patients with Polycythemia Vera and Essential Thrombocythemia

Christen Lykkegaard Andersen, On Behalf of The COSMYD Group and The Nordic MPN Group (A803)



- **Vorinostat** inhibits enzymes (histone deacetylases) that regulate the transcription of genes in proteins
- Approved for some cutaneous lymphomas

# RESULTS

- RESPONSES : 35% at the end of intervention phase, 9% at the end of observation phase
  - No effect on the amount of JAK2V617F mutation
  - High discontinuation rate with 52% during intervention phase due to side effects
- à at least at the dose employed, Vorinostat had minimal clinical activity and frequent side effects

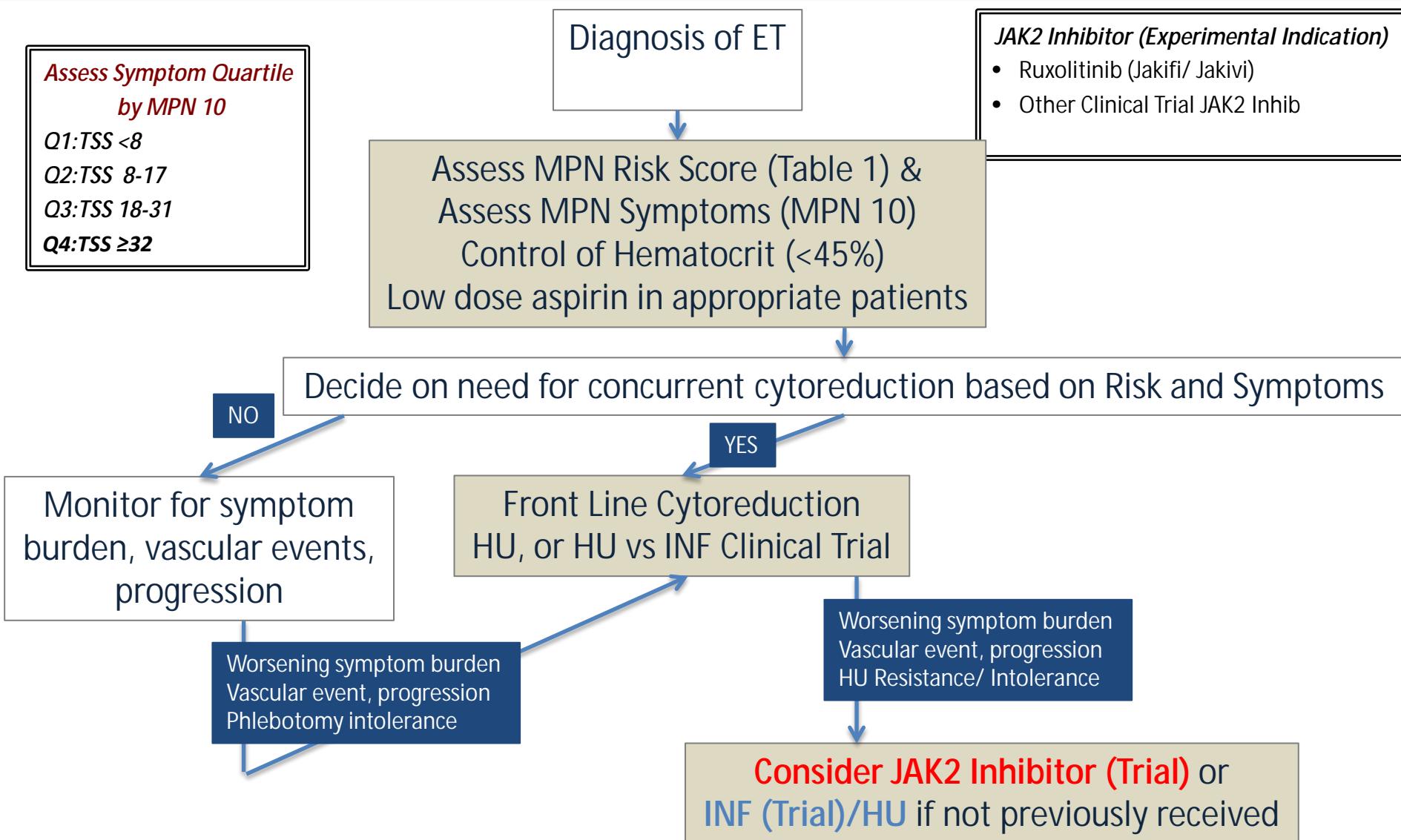
## Oral Session

### Imetelstat Rapidly Induces and Maintains Substantial Hematologic and Molecular Responses in Patients with Essential Thrombocythemia Who Are Refractory or Intolerant to Prior Therapy: Preliminary Phase II Results.

GM. Baerlocher, E Oppliger Leibundgut, C Ayran, M Blaney, B Burlington, D Morfeld, O Odenike, O Ottman, A Reddy, A Roeth, G Spitzer, M J. Stuart, S Verstovsek, D S. Snyder

- Abnormally high levels of **telomerase**, an enzyme that acts on DNA, are expressed by neoplastic progenitor cells
- There is evidence that Imetelstat can reduce the growth of abnormal megakaryocyte progenitors in ET more selectively compared with control subjects
- **IMETELSTAT** is the first specific telomerase inhibitor in clinical development

# Proposed Algorithm of Therapy of ET in 2015



# ET in 2015

- ET is also a heterogeneous MPN
- Amongst those with JAK2 mutations an overlapping phenotype with PV exists
- Management begins with anti-platelet therapy
- HU, anagrelide, and even interferon all have a role
- JAK inhibition for control of thrombocytosis, as single agent, not yet established