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# GIORNATE CARDIOLOGICHE TORINESI



***NO DISCLOSURE***

**Dr Giulia Benevolo**  
Dipartimento di Oncologia ed Ematologia  
S.C. Ematologia  
AO Città della Salute e della Scienza di Torino

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## *JANUS-FACED: MYELOMA AND AMYLOIDOSIS VARIOUS DISEASES, SAME ORIGIN*

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## MYELOMA AND AMYLOIDOSIS

**Multiple Myeloma** → malignant neoplasm characterized by plasma cell proliferation in bone marrow with monoclonal protein in the blood or urine or both.

Patients often present with anemia, renal insufficiency, bone lytic lesions, and hypercalcemia

**Amyloidosis** → abnormal protein, known as amyloid fibrils, builds up in tissue. There are about 30 different types of amyloidosis, each due to a specific protein misfolding. Some are genetic while others are acquired

**AL** → clonal population of bone marrow PC that produces a clonal light chain of  $\kappa$  or  $\lambda$  type as either an intact molecule or a fragment

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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN MM

MM is the third most common type of malignancy associated with cardiovascular disease.

The prevalence of coronary artery diseases (CADs) increases with age.

Around 62% of the patients with MM are  $\geq 65$  years at the time of diagnosis.

Elderly patients with CAD are more susceptible to adverse cardiac events with chemotherapeutic agents.

The mechanisms of cardiac dysfunction in multiple myeloma are varied



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## AGE-RELATED changes in cardiovascular system

**Table 1.** Age-related changes in cardiovascular system predisposing to side effects.

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- Atrial dilatation
  - Increased sinoatrial nodal disease
  - Cardiac muscle loss, disruption of normal atrial musculature, and age-related fibrosis
  - Focal deposition of amyloid
  - Mitral annular valve calcification
  - Cardiac remodeling with increasing left ventricular wall thickness, especially increased concentric remodeling in women and more eccentric remodeling in men
-

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AGE-RELATED  
changes in  
cardiovascular system

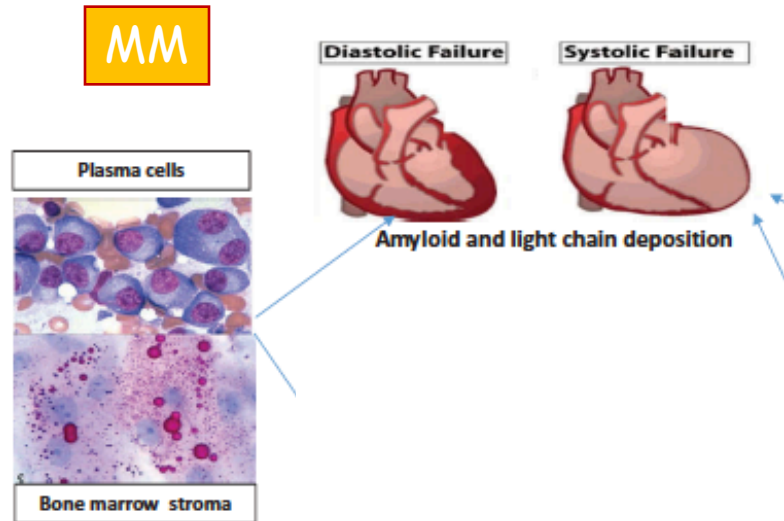


Figure 1. Mechanisms of cardiovascular complications in the elderly patients with multiple myeloma.

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AGE-  
chan  
cardi

## Table 3. Risk factors for venous thromboembolic events.

---

- Obesity (BMI > 30)
  - Previous history of venous thromboembolic events
  - Cigarette smoking
  - Use of immunomodulatory drugs such as thalidomide and lenalidomide
  - Combination of immunomodulatory drugs with high-dose dexamethasone/ doxorubicin-based regimen
  - High dose of dexamethasone (>480 mg/month)
  - History of erythropoietin use
  - Hyperviscosity
  - Immobilization/Surgery/Use of central venous catheter
- 

Figure 1. Mechanisms of cardiovascular complications in the elderly patients with multiple myeloma.

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AGE-RELATED  
 changes in  
 cardiovascular sy

**Table 2. Cardiac side effects of the commonly used chemotherapeutic agents used in patients with multiple myeloma.**

Chemotherapeutic agent	Risk factors	Side effects
Melphalan	Age >65 years, higher dose, previous administration of cyclophosphamide	Supraventricular arrhythmias, especially atrial fibrillation [32–35,37,38]
Thalidomide, Lenalidomide, Pomalidomide	Concurrent cardiac amyloidosis, age >65 years	Bradycardia [30,31], venous thromboembolism [43–46]
Bortezomib	coadministration decreases thromboembolism	Arterial thrombosis [46]
Doxorubicin	Decreased clearance of doxorubicin in elderly population	type I chemotherapy-related cardiac dysfunction [11]
Bortezomib Carfilzomib	Age >65 years, concurrent cardiac amyloidosis	Congestive heart failure Endothelial dysfunction with carfilzomib [18,19,47]
Cyclophosphamide	Concurrent doxorubicin, melphalan administration Age >65 years	Congestive heart failure, supraventricular arrhythmias [32–35]

Hypertension: Dr Milan

Bortezomib  
Carfilzomib

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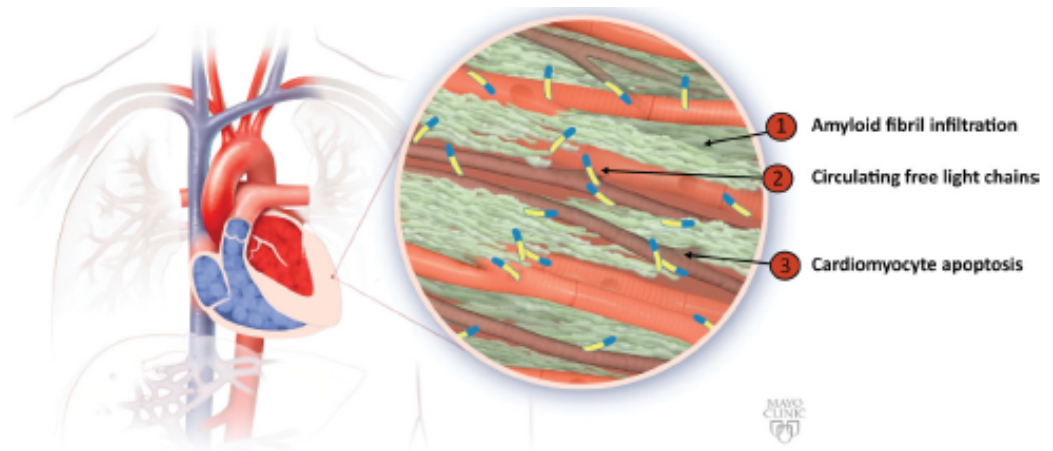
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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

AL amyloidosis may develop in patients with multiple myeloma (10%-15%) or may progress from monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) (9%).

Median age **63 years**



Reproduced with permission from the Mayo Clinic

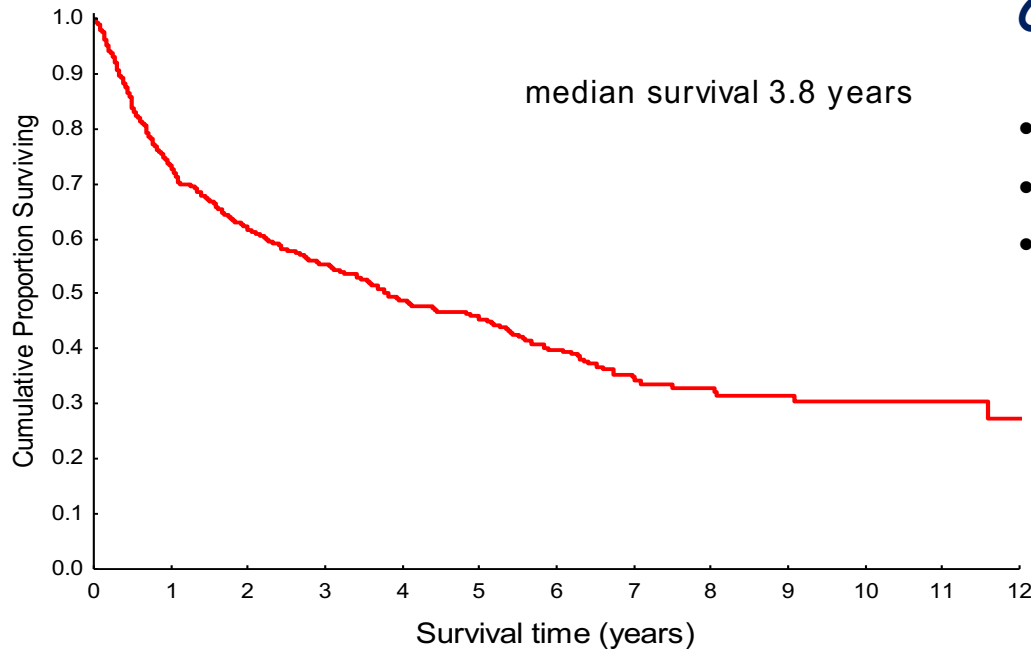
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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

Survival of 868 patients with AL amyloidosis



**Cumulative proportion surviving:**

- 1 year: 73%
- 5 years: 46%
- 10 years: 31%

Merlini G, et al JCO 2011 (29) 14: 1924-1933

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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

A clinician should suspect amyloidosis whenever a patient presents with:

- proteinuria  $>0.5$ /day with or without renal insufficiency
- congestive heart failure** from restrictive cardiomyopathy
- unexplained hepatomegaly, or functional hyposplenism with  $>ALP$
- progressive peripheral neuropathy
- orthostatic hypotension**, autonomic neuropathy
- weight loss, **edema, fatigue** and CM

**No single imaging, blood or urine test is diagnostic**

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Clinical Chemistry 51:5  
878–881 (2005)

Hematology

## Diagnostic Performance of Quantitative $\kappa$ and $\lambda$ Free Light Chain Assays in Clinical Practice

JERRY A. KATZMANN,<sup>\*</sup> ROSHINI S. ABRAHAM, ANGELA DISPENZIERI, JOHN A. LUST, and  
ROBERT A. KYLE

### Diagnostic performance in AL (n = 110)

Assay	% Positive (CI) <sup>a</sup>
FLC $\kappa/\lambda$ ratio	91 (84–96)
Serum IFE	69 (60–78)
Urine IFE	83 (74–89)
Serum IFE + urine IFE	95 (90–99)
FLC $\kappa/\lambda$ ratio + urine IFE	91 (84–96)
FLC $\kappa/\lambda$ ratio + serum IFE	99 (95–100)
All 3 assays	99 (95–100)

<sup>a</sup> CI, confidence interval determined by the exact binomial distribution.

**Bone marrow biopsy**  
**Abdominal subcutaneous fat**  
**aspiration**

**NEG → 15% AL**  
**LIKELIHOOD**  
**Biopsy of involved organ**



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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

**OUTCOME → CARDIAC INVOLVEMENT  
(75% death)**

**Troponin T <0.035 mcg/L  
NT-proBNP <332 pg/mL**

**3 stages:**

**Stage I (both low) 33%**

**Stage II (1 marker high) 37%**

**Stage III (both high) 30%**

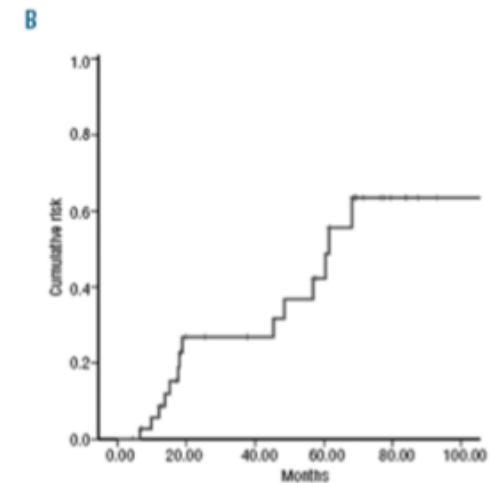
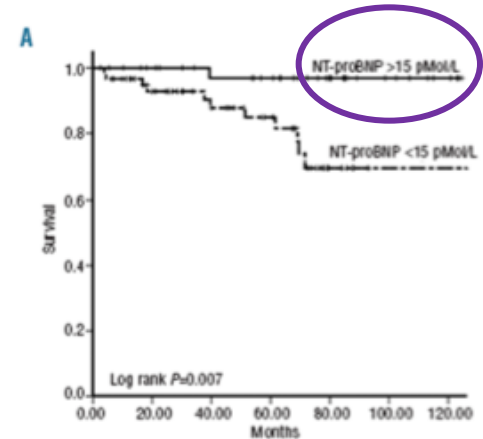
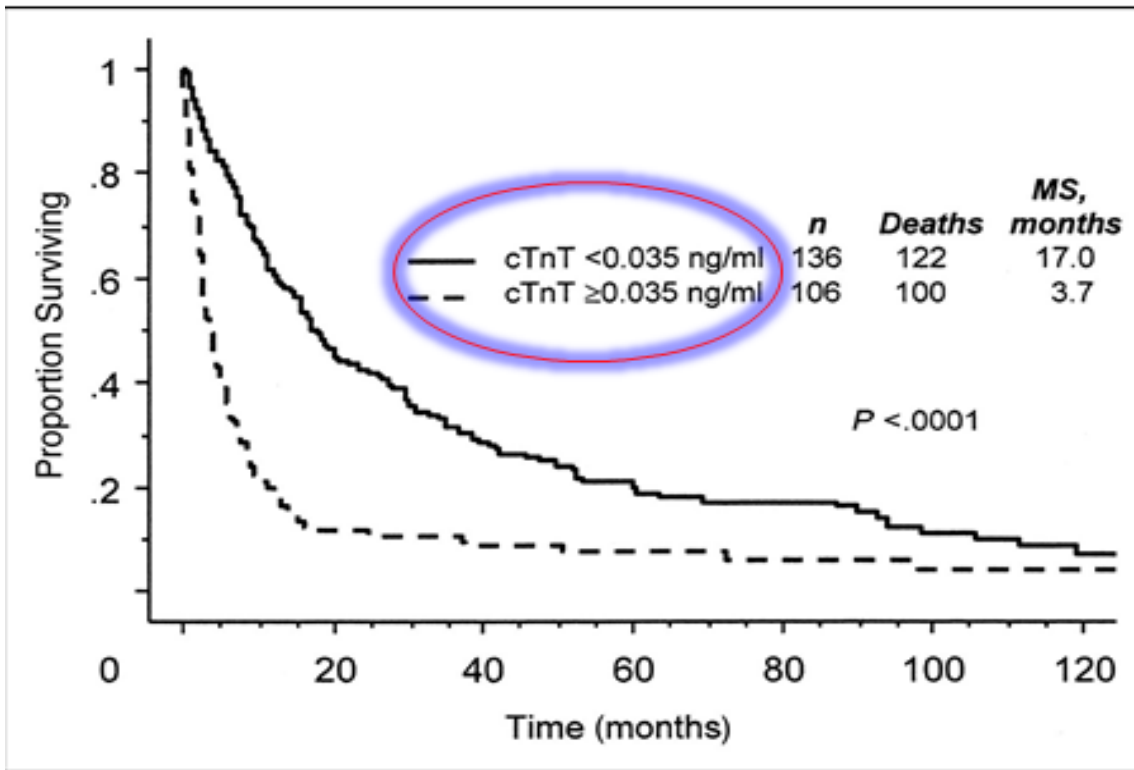
**DIFFERENT OS**

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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL



Dispenzieri A et al. *JCO* 2004;22:3751-3757

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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

A ECG



**ECG** → Amiloide= elettricamente inerte

45% bassi voltaggi QRS (derivazioni periferiche <5mm) → early stage, worse prognosis

Onde Q pseudoinfartuali (QS) in almeno 2 derivazioni precordiali consecutive

Blocchi di branca

BAV I-II-III grado

Allungamento QT

Tachiaritmie

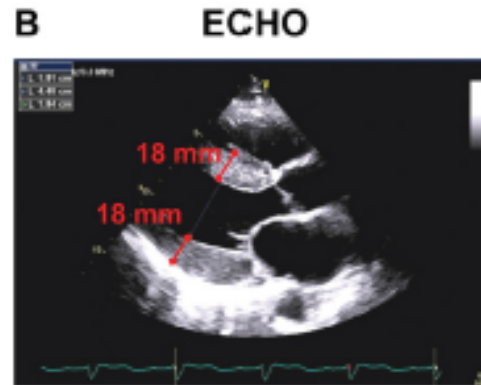
**ECG Holter**

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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL



**Echo** → Aumento spessore parietale del Vsx con distribuzione uniforme dell'ipertrofia e peculiare ecoriflettenza miocardica con aspetto «a vetro smerigliato» (**granular sparkling**)

Disfunzione diastolica di grado II-IV

Aumento dello spessore della parete libera del VDx

Dilatazione biatriale con presenza di trombi intracavitari (35%)

Aumento di spessore del setto interatriale

Ispessimento delle valvole atrio-ventricolari

Versamento pericardico e pleurico



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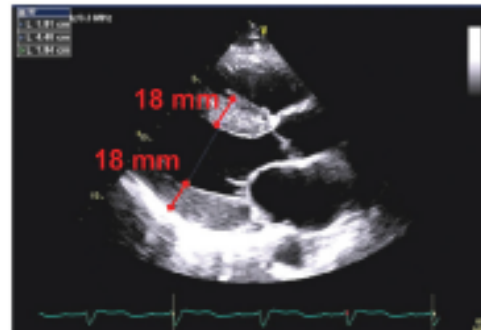


## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

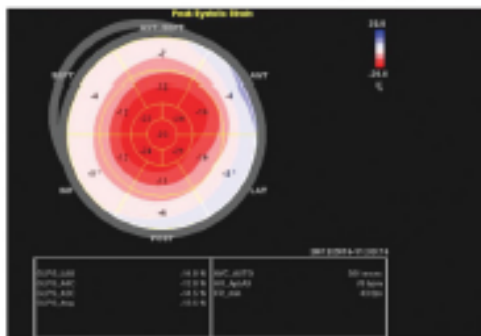
A ECG



B ECHO



C Strain Rate Imaging



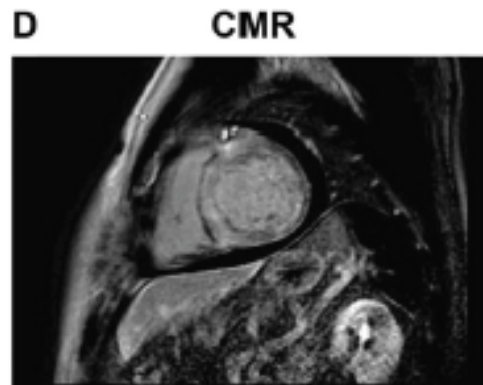
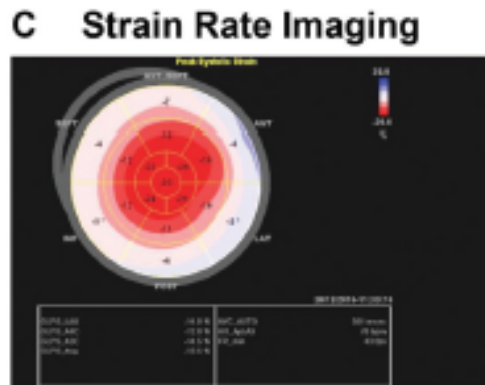
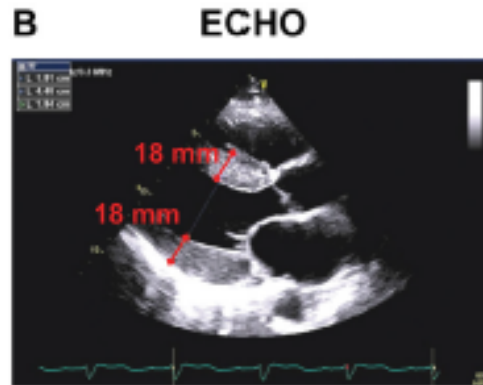
**STRAIN** → A characteristic LV strain pattern with preservation of the apex (**bull's eye**) is often an indication of the disease. Abnormalities of longitudinal ventricular function demonstrated by strain imaging are independent predictors of survival. Furthermore, abnormal right ventricular strain may be an early diagnostic clue. The severity of echocardiographic abnormalities and the rapidity at which they develop may correlate with worse prognosis.

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## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL



**RMN cardiaca** →

aumento globale del volume extracellulare

Immagine tipica di «late enhancement» del subendocardio del Vsx e del VDx (aspetto "a zebra" del SIV) ma spesso alterazione a tutto spessore; la misura dell'espansione dell'interstizio potrebbe quantificare l'entità del danno cardiaco

Le alterazioni RMN possono precedere le alterazioni eco e correlano con la prognosi

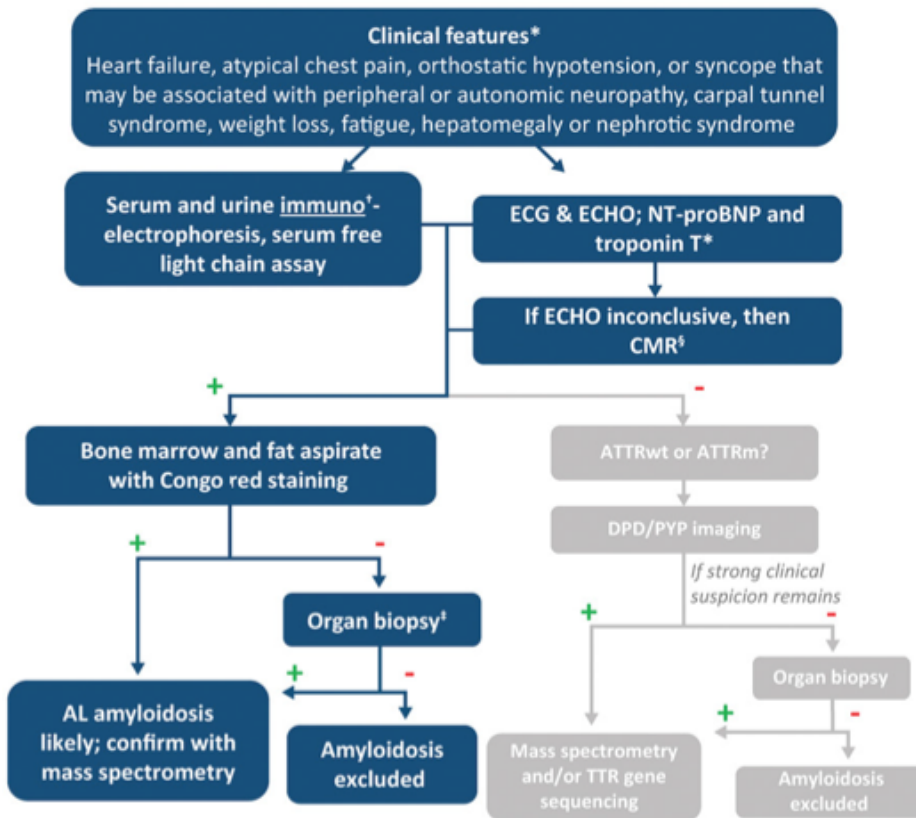
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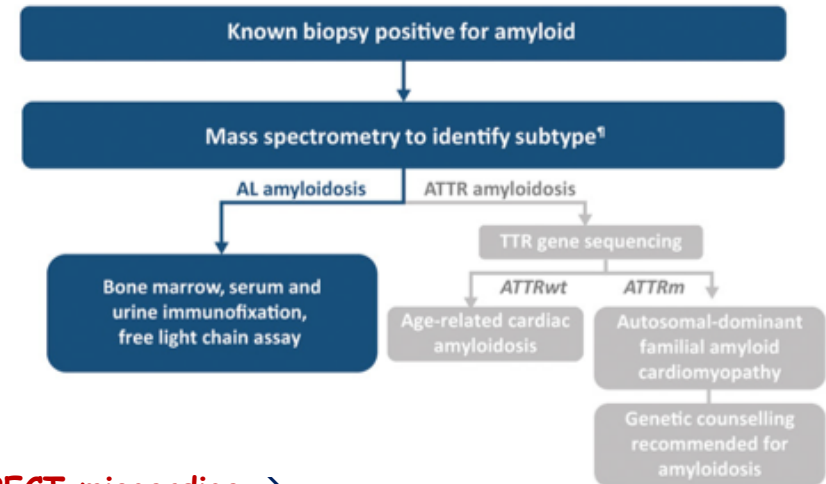


## CARDIOVASCULAR COMPLICATIONS IN AL

A Algorithm for diagnosis in patients with suspected cardiac amyloidosis\*



B Algorithm for diagnosis in patients with amyloidosis established by biopsy



### SPECT miocardica →

Ac.difosfono-propanodicarbossilico  
Si lega ai depositi di amiloide con elevata sensibilità nei pz con ATTR nelle fasi molto precoci quando eco, biomarkers e forse persino RMN sono normali.  
Il tracciante è captato debolmente in 1/3 di pz con AL. .

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## AL AMYLOIDOSIS A NEW PARADIGM FOR THERAPY

### AIM OF THERAPY

OBTAIN HEMATOLOGIC AND ORGAN  
RESPONSE → hematologist

OBTAIN DURABLE IMPROVEMENT OF  
ORGAN (HEART) FUNCTION → cardiologist



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## AL AMYLOIDOSIS A NEW PARADIGM FOR THERAPY

### BASSO RISCHIO

(tutte le condizioni seguenti)

età  $\leq$  65 anni  
cTnT nella norma  
FEV  $>$  45%  
PAO ortostatica  $>$  90 mmHg  
DLCO  $>$  50%  
PS ECOG  $<$  3  
eGFR  $>$  50ml/min

### ALTO RISCHIO

(una sola delle seguenti  
condizioni)

cTnT  $>$  0.035  
PS ECOG  $\geq$  3 (escluso SNP)

### RISCHIO INTERMEDIO

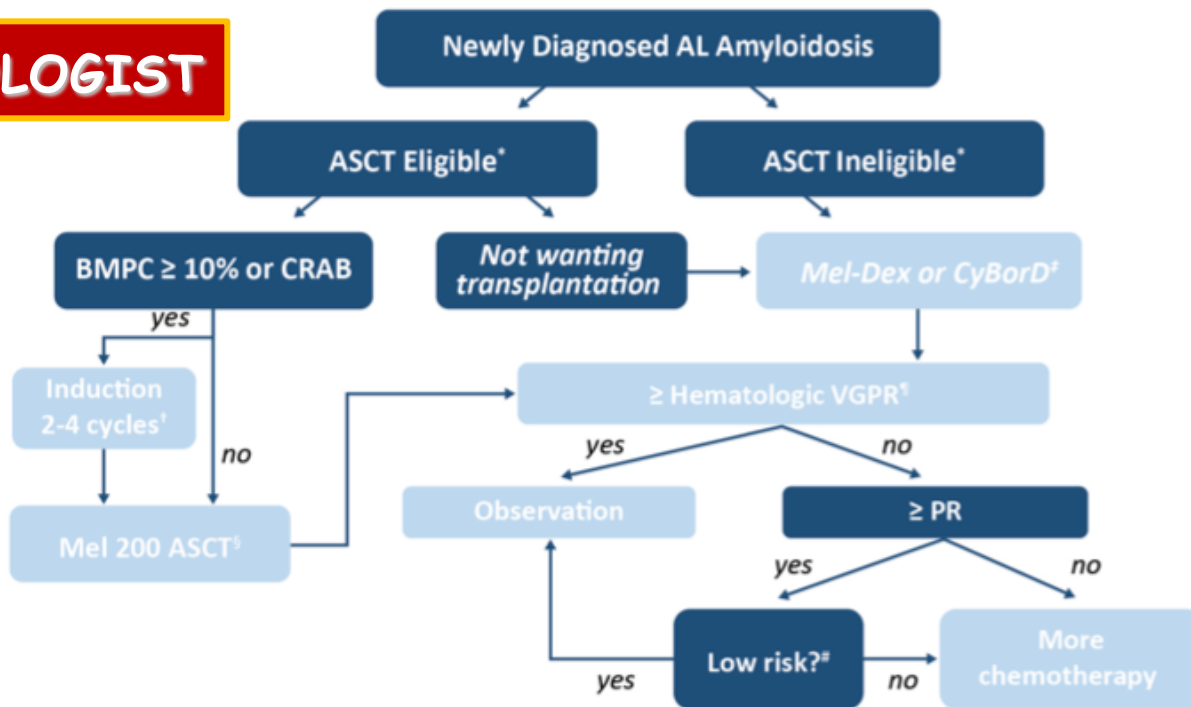
I pazienti non considerati a  
basso o alto rischio

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## HEMATOLOGIST



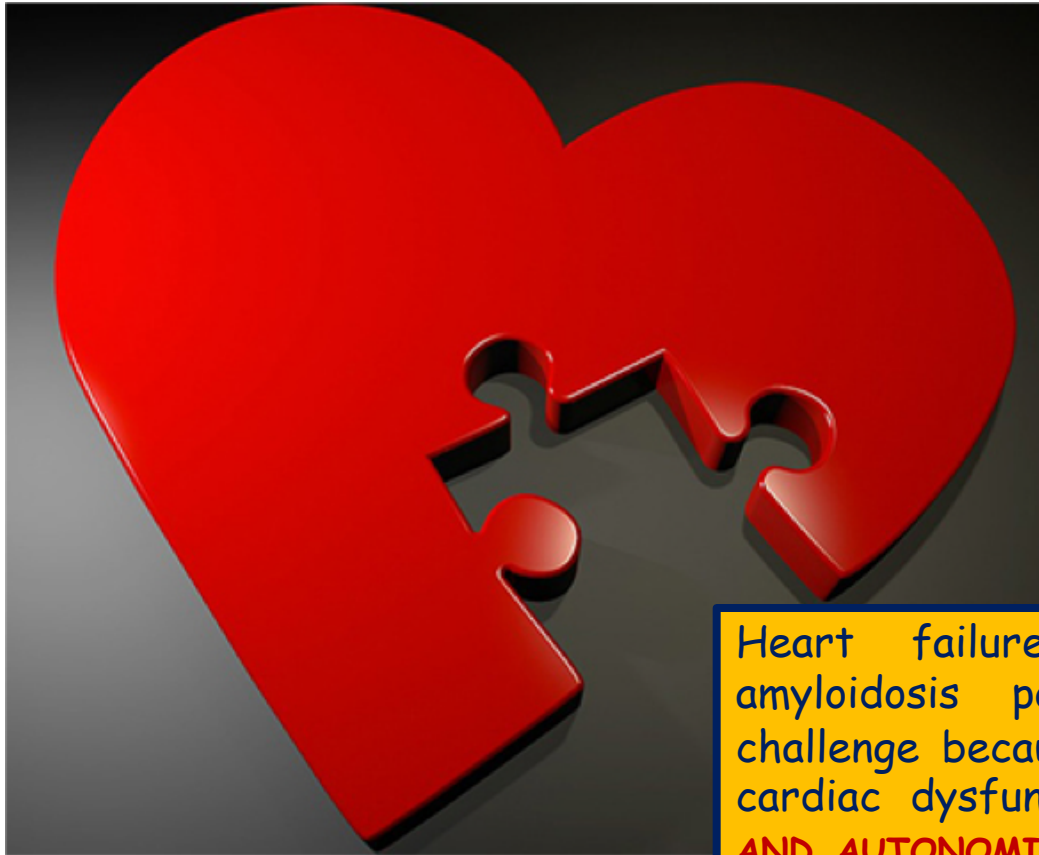
\*Criteria for ASCT: Troponin T <0.06 and blood pressure ≥90 mmHg  
 †Induction also used if delay in proceeding to ASCT, or as clinically indicated  
 ‡If < PR at 2 months, consider changing therapy  
 §For age >70 or creatine clearance <30 mg/mL, use Mel 140 mg/m<sup>2</sup>  
 ¶Day 100 ASCT or after 4-6 cycles of chemotherapy  
 #Mayo 2012 stage I or II

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**CARDIOLOGIST**



Heart failure caused by cardiac AL amyloidosis poses a unique therapeutic challenge because of the complex nature of cardiac dysfunction in patients with **RENAL AND AUTONOMIC COMORBIDITIES** and because typically used supportive measures are contraindicated.

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## HEART INVOLVEMENT IN AL: THERAPY

### Terapia di supporto (terapia delle scompenso cardiaco modificata) →

Mantenere adeguate pressioni di riempimento ventricolare.

Contrastare la ritenzione idrica e la congestione venosa bilanciando con precisione e continui adattamenti la ritenzione idrosalina e la terapia diuretica (educazione del pz e dei caregivers, supporto dietistico)

Attenzione all'assetto proteico (ipoalbuminemia)

Valutazione quotidiana del peso

Valutazione settimanale diuresi 24h

Norme igienico-comportamentali per contrastare l'ipotensione ortostatica, postminzionale e da ipertono vagale (sovradistensione gastrica, shave..)

Calze elastiche classe I

Alfa.I agonisti (midodrina): il mantenimento PA adeguata può permettere dosi più alte di diuretico dell'ansa, spt nei pz con neuropatia autonoma.



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## HEART INVOLVEMENT IN AL: THERAPY

**ACE-I:** possono causare severa ipotensione (la PA dei pz con AL è dipendente dall'angiotensina)

Andrebbero riservati per trattare la proteinuria nei pz con s.nefrosica

**BETA-BLOCCANTI:** nelle forme restrittive la GC dipende dalla FC (GC= GSxFC), per cui sono spesso mal tollerati.

Inoltre: beta-bloccante + talidomide (AL): bradicardia spiccata.

**CALCIO-ANTAGONISTI (verapamil):** abnorme legame con fibrille amiloidi, effetto intropo negativo

**DIGITALE:** aritmie pericolose anche a livelli di digossinemia apparentemente in range, per legame stretto e selettivo tra farmaco e fibrille. Non correlazione tra digossinemia e tossicità, che si esplica anche a dosaggi bassi.

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## HEART INVOLVEMENT IN AL: THERAPY

**TAO:** indipendentemente dalla presenza o meno del ritmo sinusale, l'infiltrazione degli atri porta a stasi e trombosi.

Valutare all'eco l'assenza o la spiccata riduzione di onda A.

I pz sono anche a rischio elevato di sanguinamento (alterazioni della coagulazione, fragilità vascolare...) e di traumi da sincope.

Mantenere mobilità ed evitare le cadute (deambulatori).

**ATTENZIONE AI CORTICOSTEROIDI!!!**

**AMIODARONE** 200 mg/die x 5 gg/sett se aritmie ventricolari sostenute all'Holter (valutare con attenzione!)

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## HEART INVOLVEMENT IN AL: THERAPY

### **ICD** →

Può non prevenire MCI perché spesso dovuta a dissociazione elettromeccanica.

Soglie elevate, benefici incerti.

PMD: sec guidelines, preferendo i PM bicamerali quando possibile

Trapianto cardiaco

### **EMERGING TREATMENTS: AMYLOID-DIRECTED THERAPIES** →

Antibody-mediated phagocytosis combined with the clearance of amyloid is a promising approach to reverse organ dysfunction.

Three antibodies are in clinical development.

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## AL AMYLOIDOSIS-RESPONSE CRITERIA

### Hematologic response:

CR → negative serum and urine IF, normal  $\kappa:\lambda$

VGPR → dFLC <40 mg/L

PR → dFLC reduction >50%

NR → other

### Organ response:

Heart → reduction by 2mm septal, 20% improvement FEV,  
>NYHA class, reduction NT-proBNP

Kidney → 50% decrease urinary protein excretion

Liver → 50% decrease ALP and decrease liver size >2 cm

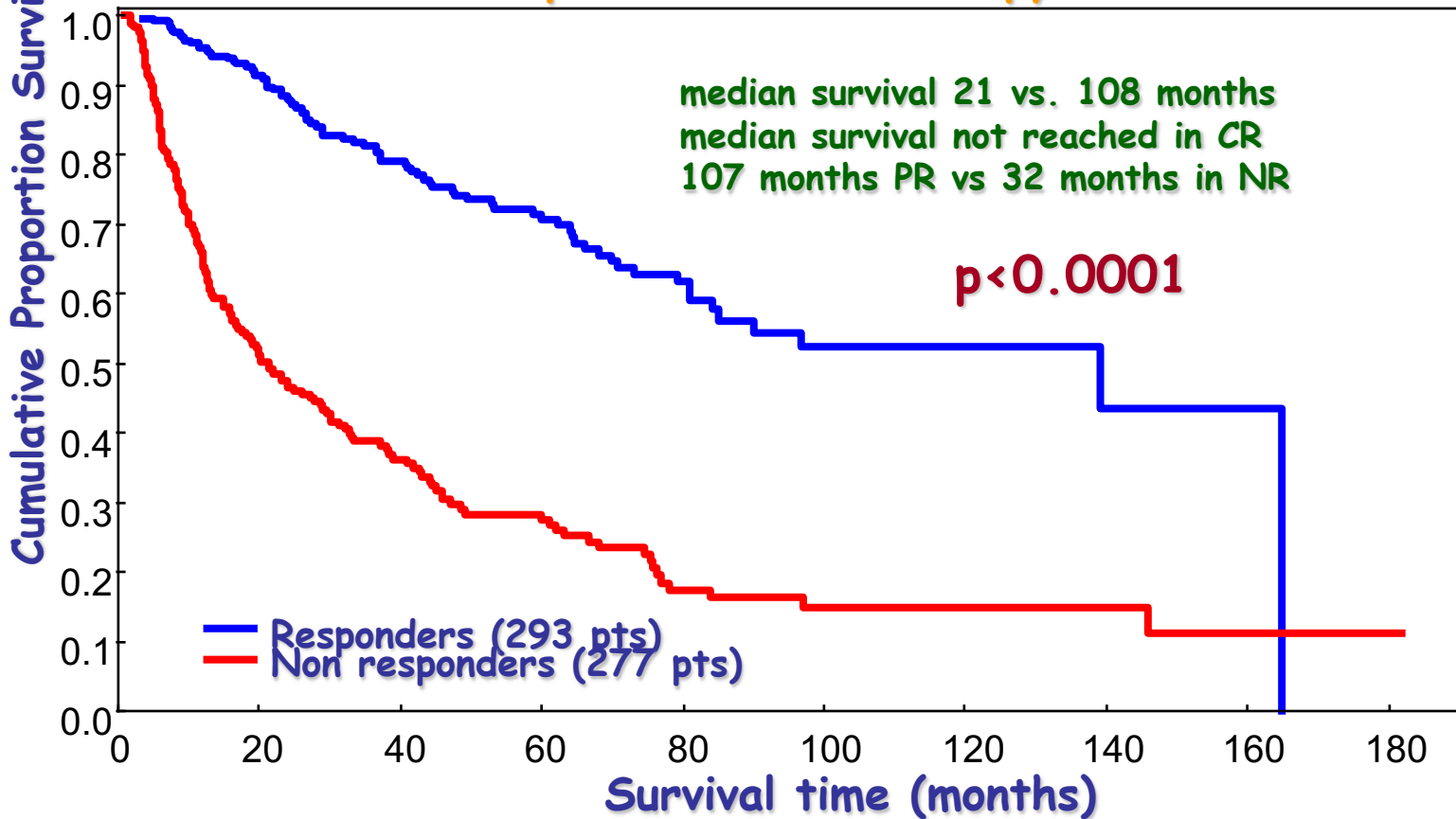


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## Survival of 570 patients with AL amyloidosis according to hematologic response to chemotherapy

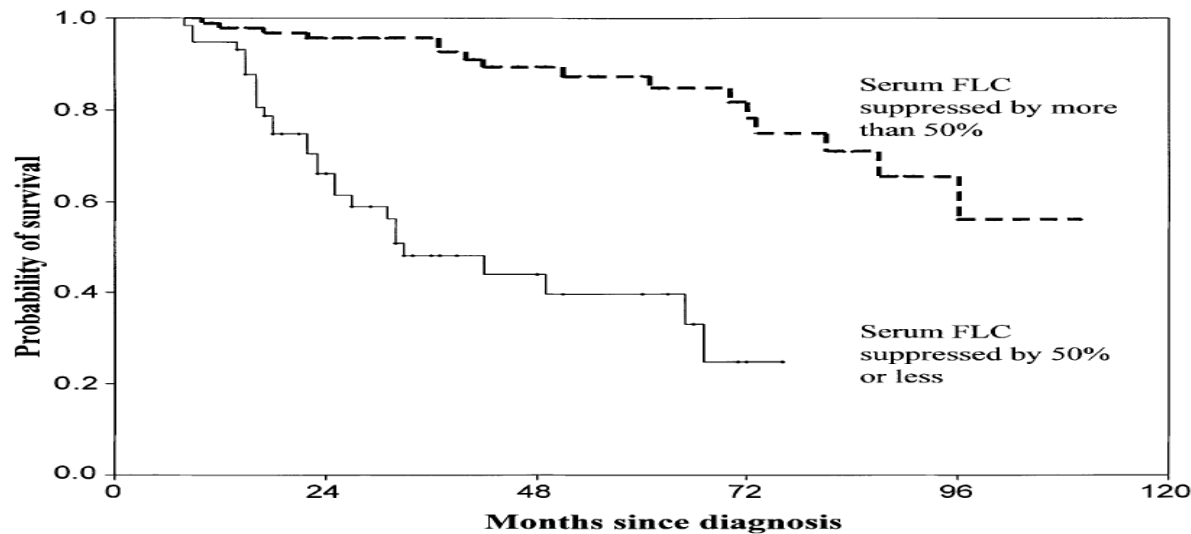


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## Outcome in systemic AL amyloidosis in relation to changes in concentration of circulating free immunoglobulin light chains following chemotherapy



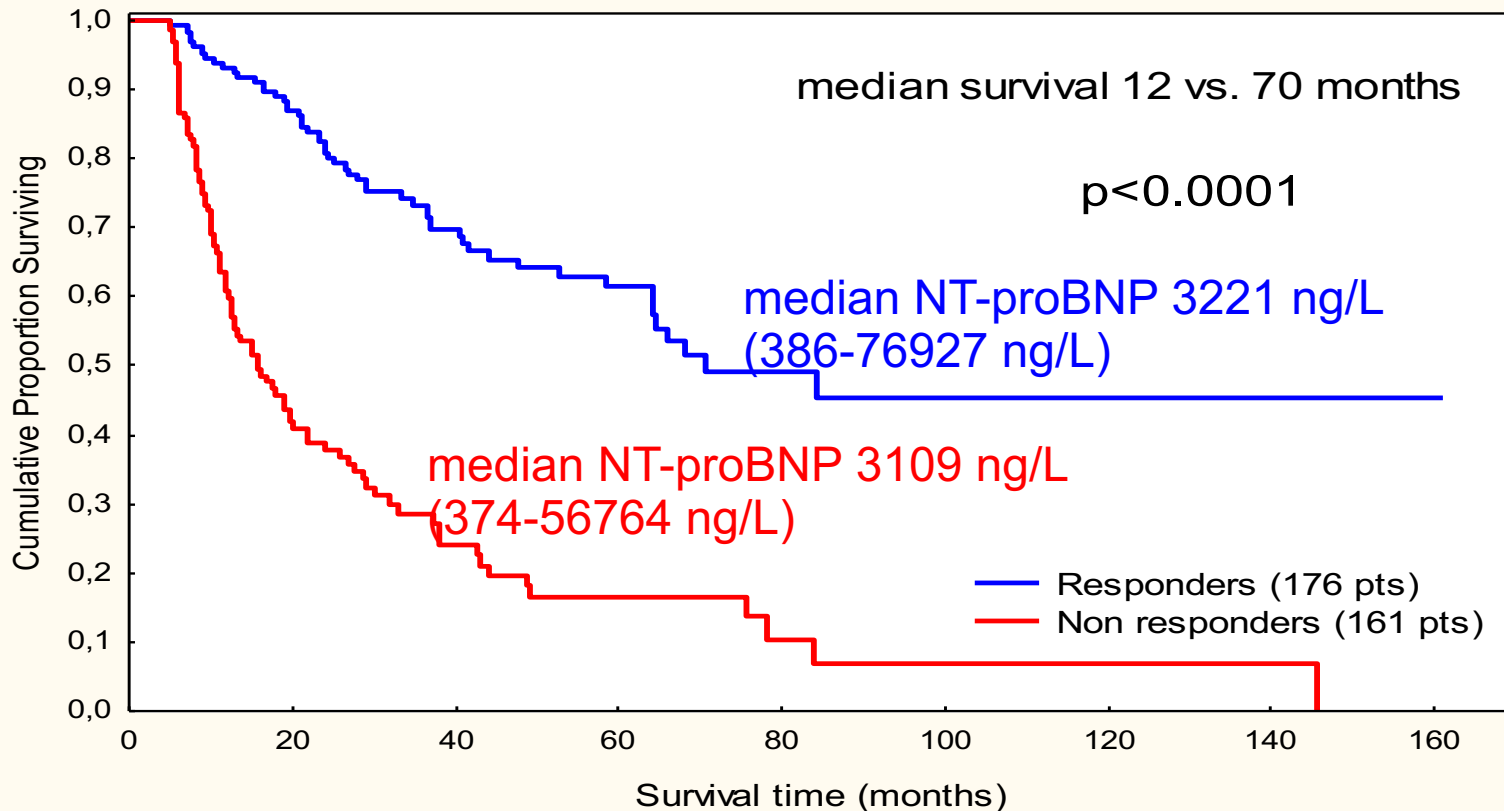
Lachmann et al, Br J Haematol. 2003;122:78-84.

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## Survival of 337 patients with **cardiac** AL amyloidosis according to hematologic response to chemotherapy







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*JANUS-FACED:  
MIELOMA AND AMYLOIDOSIS  
VARIOUS DISEASES,  
SAME ORIGIN*



**THANK YOU**