

PRESCRIPTIONS FOR A RARE DISEASE.  
IS THERE A CURE?  
2023 PATIENT FAMILY GATHERING

JITHMA ABEYKOON, MD  
MAYO CLINIC



BIOMED VALLEY™  
DISCOVERIES



MAYO CLINIC  
LABORATORIES





# ERDHEIM CHESTER DISEASE TREATMENTS:



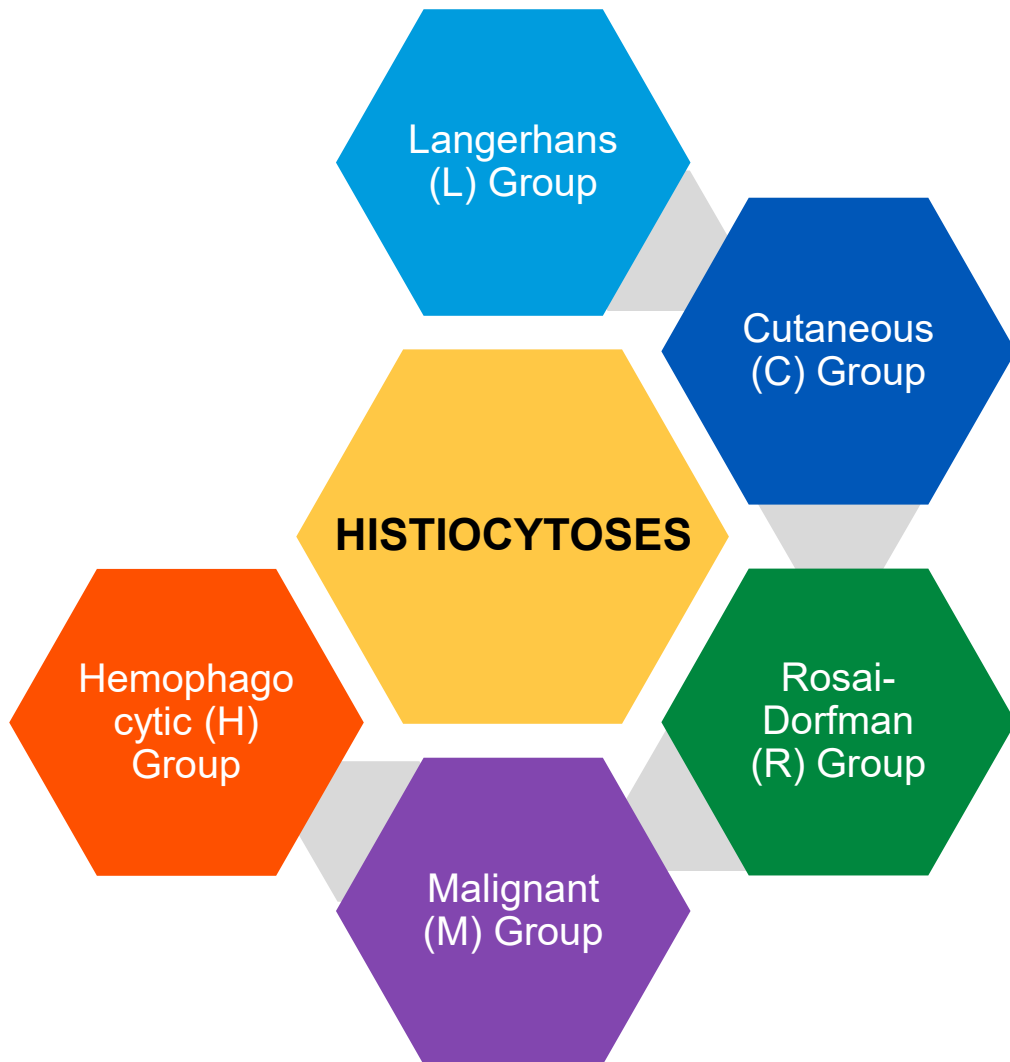
PRESCRIPTIONS FOR A RARE DISEASE. IS THERE A CURE?

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# OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Walk with a case
- Treatment options
- Definition of cure
- Is there a cure?
- Future directions



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## REVISED CLASSIFICATION OF HISTIOCYTOSES AND NEOPLASMS OF THE MACROPHAGE-DENDRITIC CELL LINEAGES

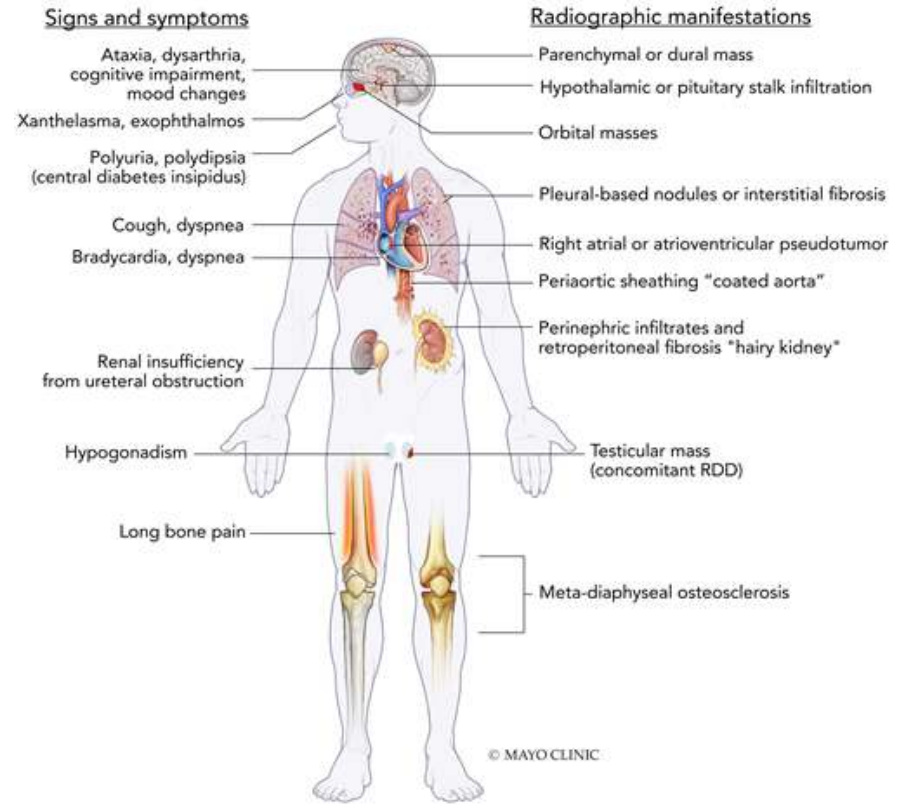
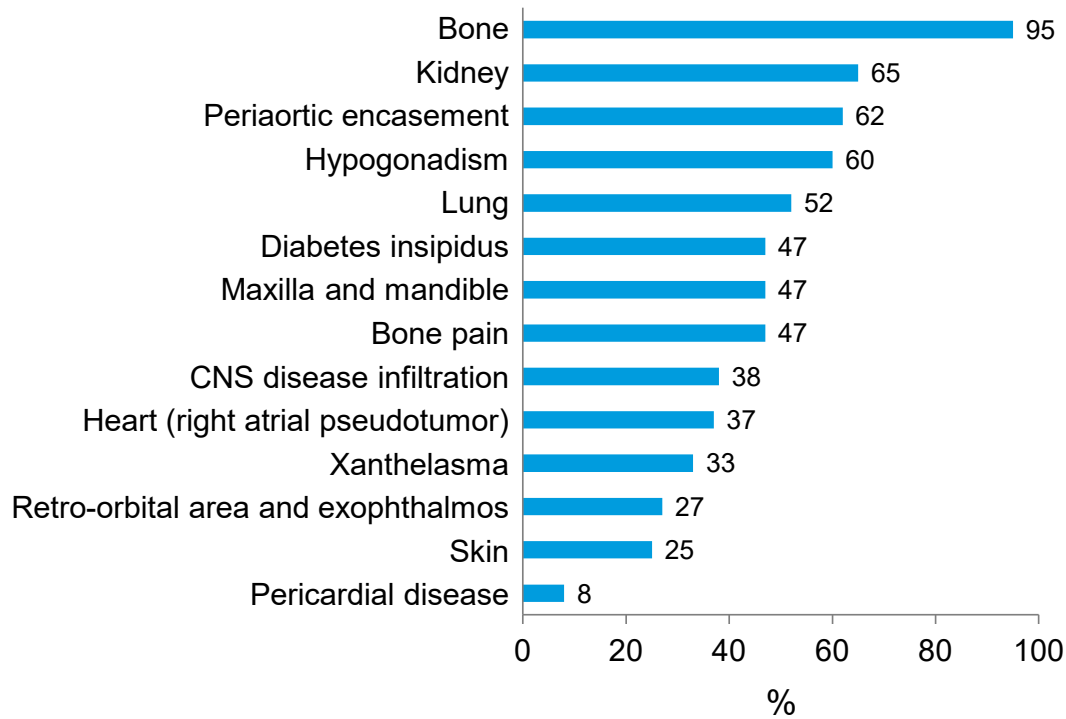
Redrawn from: Emile JF, et al. Blood 2016;127:2672-2681  
Slides from Dr. Go

# HISTIOCYTIC DISEASES

L Group	C Group	R Group	M Group	H Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Langerhans cell histiocytosis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single system no lung</li> <li>• SS lung</li> <li>• Multisystem w/o risk organ</li> <li>• Multisystem w/ risk organ</li> <li>• W/ MPN/MDS</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Erdheim-Chester disease</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classical</li> <li>• Non-classical</li> <li>• W/ MPN/MDS</li> <li>• Extracutaneous JXG</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Mixed LCH/ECD</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Xanthogranuloma family</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juvenile XG</li> <li>• Adult XG</li> <li>• Solitary reticulohistiocytoma</li> <li>• Benign cephalic histiocytosis</li> <li>• Generalized eruptive histiocytosis</li> <li>• Progressive nodular histiocytosis</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Non-XG family</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cutaneous RDD</li> <li>• Necrobiotic xanthogranuloma</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Familial RDD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faisalabad syndrome</li> <li>• FAS deficiency</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Classical RDD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W/ IgG4</li> <li>• W/o IgG4</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Extranodal RDD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bone RDD</li> <li>• CNS RDD</li> <li>• Other single-organ RDD</li> <li>• Disseminated RDD</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Neoplasia-associated RDD</b></li> <li>• <b>Immune disease-associated RDD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLE/HIV/AIHA/JA</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Histiocytic sarcoma</b></li> <li>• <b>Interdigitating dendritic cell sarcoma</b></li> <li>• <b>Langerhans cell sarcoma</b></li> <li>• <b>Indeterminate cell sarcoma</b></li> <li>• <b>Primary</b></li> <li>• <b>Secondary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALL</li> <li>• CLL</li> <li>• Follicular lymphoma</li> <li>• Hairy cell leukemia</li> <li>• Other histiocytoses</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Primary hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W/ lymphocyte cytotoxic defects</li> <li>• W/ inflammasome activation</li> <li>• W/Mendelian disorders affecting inflammation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Secondary HLH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection-associated</li> <li>• Malignancy-triggered</li> <li>• Rheumatologic</li> <li>• Transplant-related</li> <li>• Iatrogenic immune activation/suppression</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

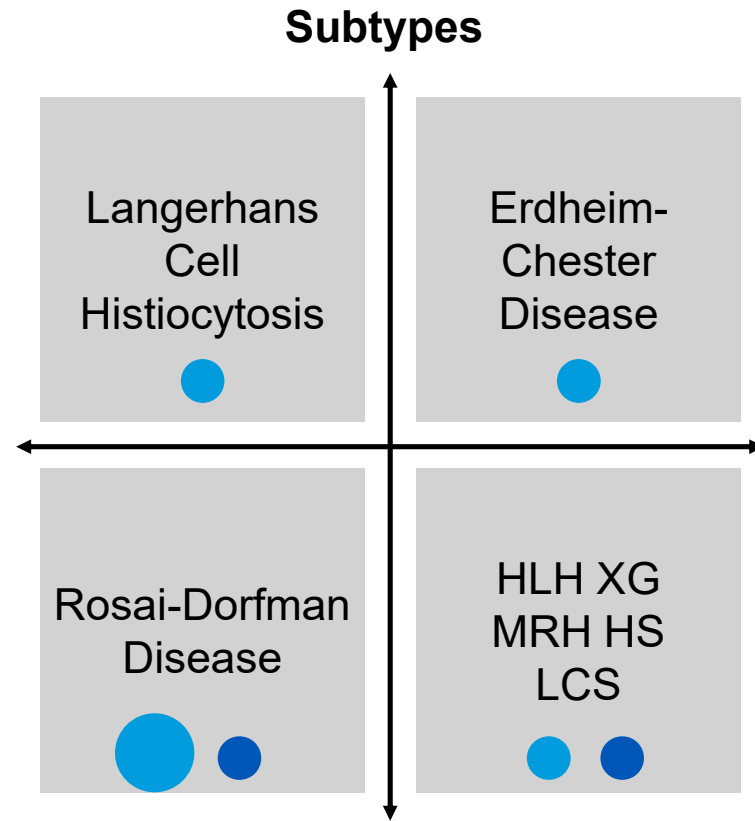
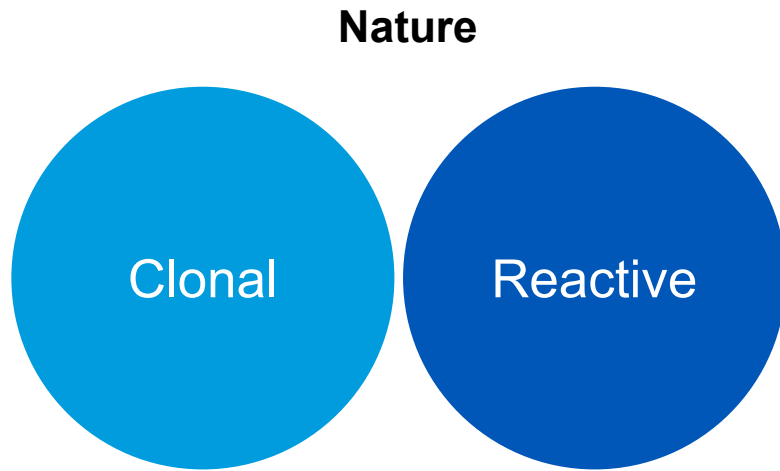
Redrawn from: Emile JF, et al. Blood 2016;127:2672-2681  
 Slides from Dr. Go

# Organ Involvement



Redrawn from: Goyal et al, Blood, 2020

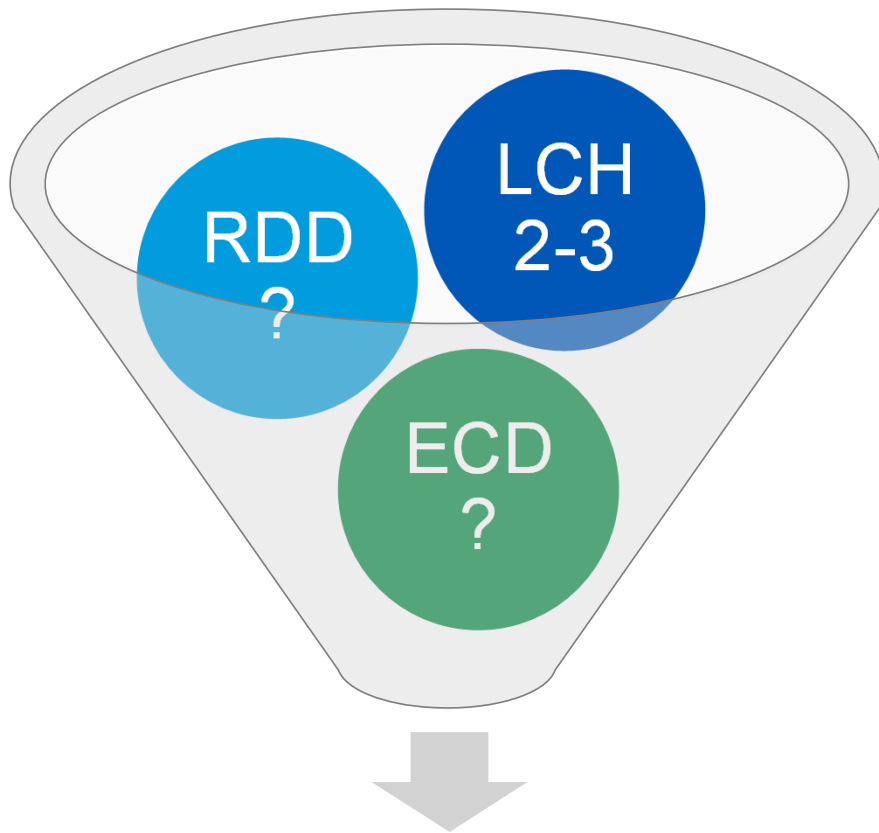
# HISTIOCYTIC DISEASES



Slides from Dr. Go

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## ANNUAL INCIDENCE/ 1,000,000 POPULATION



~1,000 per year in US

Stalemark H, et al. *Pediatr Blood Cancer* 2008;51:76-81  
Goyal G, et al. *Br J Haematol* 2018;182:579-581  
Makras P, et al. *Pediatr Blood Cancer* 2020;67:e28422  
Slides from Dr. Go



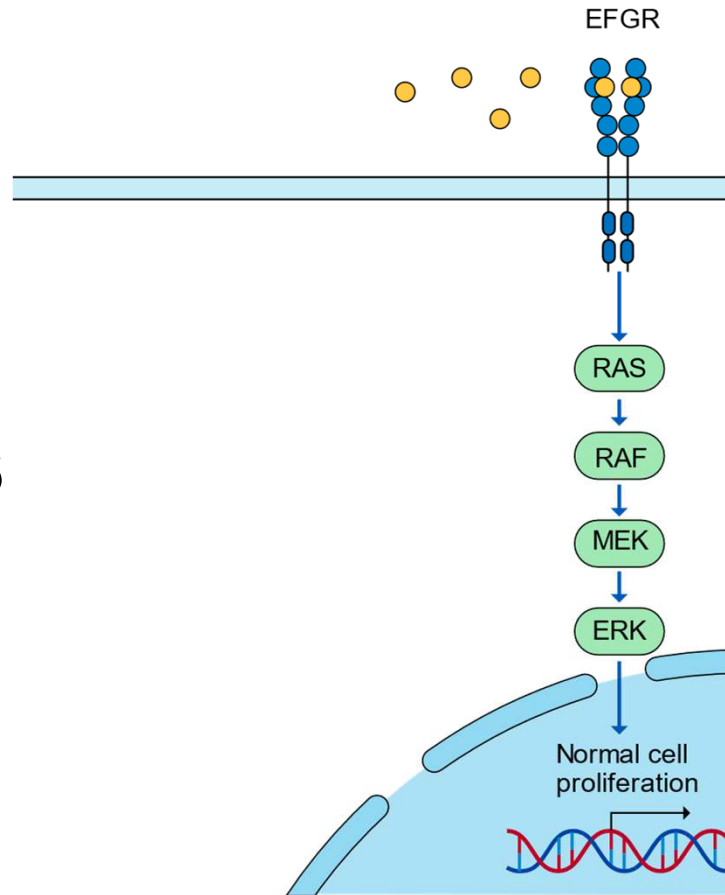
# HISTOPATHOLOGIC FEATURES

Tests		ECD	LCH	RDD
CD68	Monocyte/macrophage protein Binds to tissue lectin/selectin	+	+	+
CD163	Monocyte/macrophage protein Receptor for hgb-haptoglobin complex	+	+	+
CD1a	Related to MHC proteins Binds to b2-microglobulin	-	+	-
CD207	Langerin; C-type lectin Localized in Birbeck granules	-	+	-
S100	Homodimeric polypeptides Cell marker: neural crest, melanocyte	+/-	+	+
Factor XIIIa	Monocyte/macrophage protein AKA fibrin-stabilizing factor	+	-	-
Touton giant cells	Macrophage-derived multinucleated giant cells with high lipid content	+	-	-
Emperipolesis	Intact inflammatory cells within cytoplasm of histiocytes	-	-	+
BRAFV600E	Proto-oncogene; cell division	<b>50%</b>	60%	0%
MAPK/ERK	Cell growth and proliferation	<b>40%</b>	30%	40%

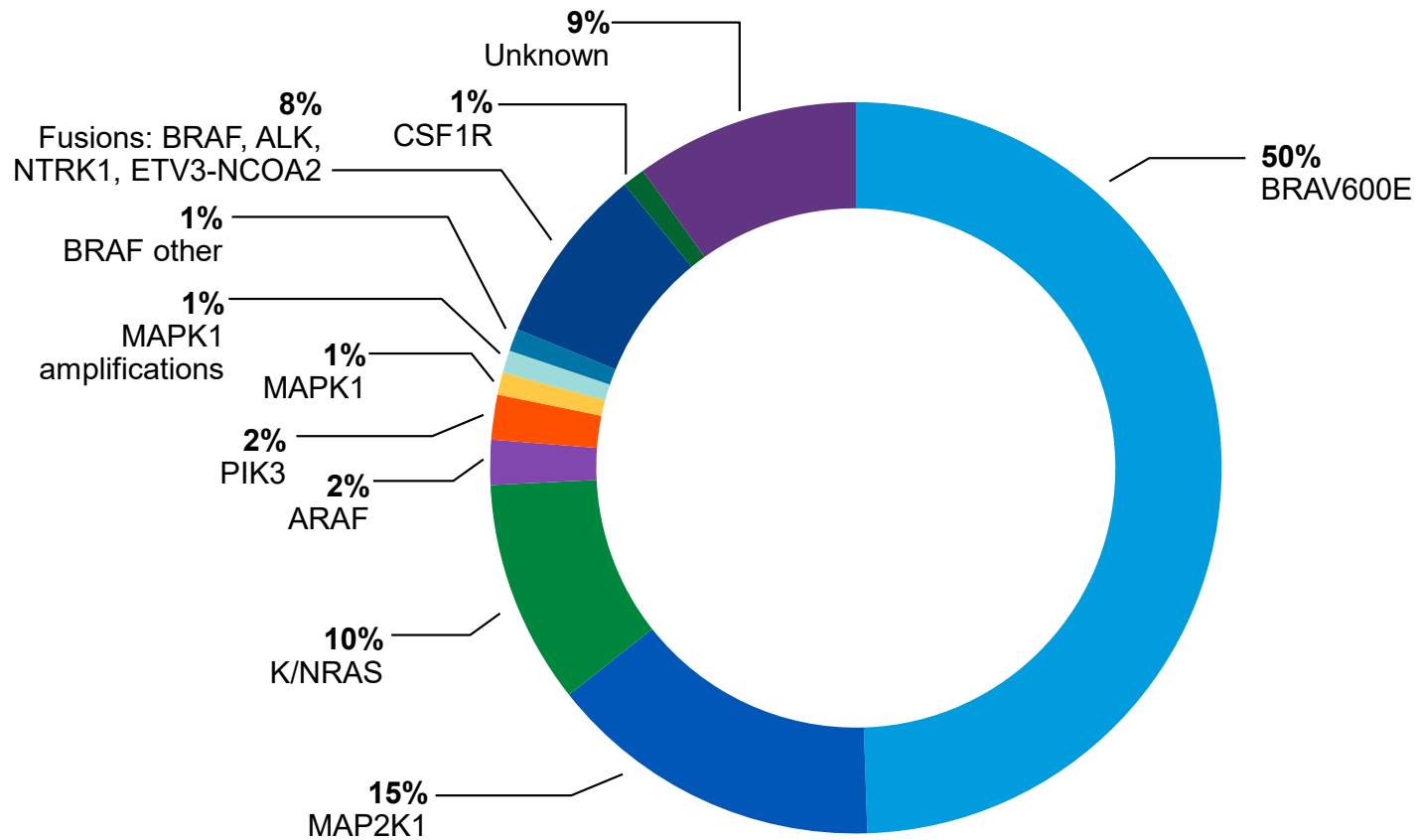
Diamond EL, et al. Blood 2014;124:483-492; Durham BH. Semin Cell Dev Biol 2019;86:62-76.

# RAS/RAF PATHWAY ALTERATIONS

Normal cell growth



# MOLECULAR ALTERATIONS IN HISTIOCYTOSIS



Redrawn from: Durham BH. Semin Cell Dev Biol 2019;86:62-76

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## MEET ANYA

Permission obtained from the patient



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## 22-YEAR-OLD FEMALE WITH CNS INVOLVED ECD

**November 2017**


New onset of headaches with increased intracranial pressure; placed VP shunt

**May 2, 2019**

MRI brain with leptomeningeal enhancement and enhancing nodularity along the entire spinal cord involving cord and nerve roots

**May 14, 2019**

L2-L3 laminectomy, durotomy and bx



- Pathology: atypical histiocytic infiltrate which was positive for **cyclin D1**, **factor XIIIa**, and **negative for CD1a and BRAF-V600E** on IHC.
- Final diagnosis was **Erdheim-Chester disease**

# Treatment Options for Symptomatic Patients

Clinical trial

Off-study

MAPK pathway mutation (+)

No MAPK alterations

BRAFV<sup>600E</sup>

MAPK-alterations – MAP2K

Immunotherapy

Chemotherapy

Anti-Cytokine

Other

Vemurafenib  
FDA approved

Dabrafenib

Cobimetinib  
FDA approved

Trametinib

Interferon

Peginterferon

Sirolimus

Cladribine

Vinblastine

Methotrexate

Cytarabine

Anakinra

Canakinumab

Infliximab

Tocilizumab

Prednisone

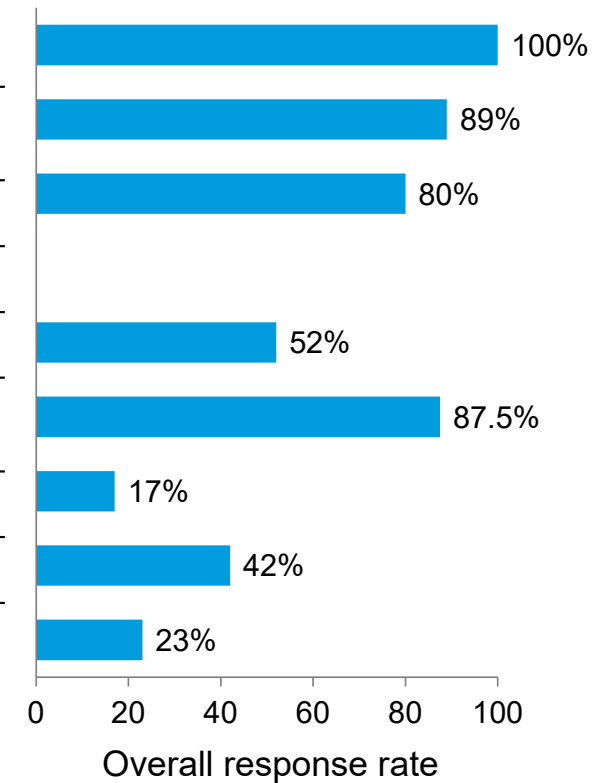
Imatinib

Radiation

Pexidartinib

# TREATMENT

Regimen	Study	No.	Response	Comments
★ Vemurafenib <sup>1</sup>	Phase II	22	100% by mod PERCIST	Newly diagnosed BRAFV600 mutant; 80% CR; no relapse at 29 month-FU; recommend starting at half-dose 480 mg PO BID; most relapsed w/ vemurafenib discontinuation <sup>2</sup>
★ Cobimetinib <sup>2,3</sup>	Phase 2	18	89% by PRC	Newly diagnosis and previously treated. 72% CR, 17% PR and 6% SD. All responses were durable during 1 year of follow-up
Sirolimus + prednisone <sup>4</sup>	Open label	10	80%	1 CR; Highest responses in retroperitoneal and cardiovascular areas
Interferon a <sup>5</sup>	Prospective cohort	46	Not reported	All w/ CNS involvement; interferon-treated group better than no interferon (HR: 0.32)
Cladribine <sup>6</sup>	Retrospective cohort	21	52%	1 CR; Median of 2.5 cycles; median duration of response: 9 months; all sites responded including CNS
Cytarabine <sup>7</sup>	Retrospective cohort	9	87.5% by PERCIST	1 CR; CNS response 91%; 2-year PFS and OS was 75% and 93.5%
Anakinra <sup>8</sup>	Retrospective cohort	12	17% by PERCIST	1 CR; median duration of rx: 22 months; 50% symptom improvement; 22% stable disease
Infliximab <sup>9</sup>	Retrospective cohort	12	42% by PERCIST	No CR; 25% stable disease; median duration of rx: 14 months; cardiac and CNS responses noted
Methotrexate <sup>10</sup>	Retrospective cohort	13	23%	No CR; 54% stable disease; median duration of rx: 4 months (FU incomplete); ophthalmologic responses noted



<sup>1</sup>Diamond EL, et al. JAMA Oncol 2018;4:384-388

<sup>2</sup>Diamond et al, Nature, 2019; 567(7749): 521-524

<sup>3</sup>Aubart FC, et al. Blood 2017;130:1377-1380.

<sup>4</sup>Gianfreda D, et al. Blood 2015;126:1163-1171

<sup>5</sup>Arnaud L, et al. Blood 2011;117:2778-2782

<sup>6</sup>Goyal G, et al. JAMA Oncol 2017;3:1253-1256

<sup>7</sup>Liu et al, Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2022; 17: 39

<sup>8</sup>Cohen-Aubart F, et al. Blood 2016;127:1509-1512.

<sup>9</sup>Cohen-Aubart F, et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2018; epub ahead

<sup>10</sup>Goyal G, et al. Blood Cancer J 2017;7:647



# TARGETED THERAPY AND ASSOCIATED ADVERSE EFFECTS (AES)

- In the phase II trial of vemurafenib, all patients required dose reductions below the 960mg twice daily dose due to intolerable AEs
- 29% discontinued the medication due to intolerable AEs
- 56% had dose reduction with cobimetinib due to AEs

## AEs

- Rash
- Diarrhea
- Electrolyte imbalance
- Cardiac dysfunction
- Abnormalities in red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets

1. Diamond E, Subbiah V, Lockhart A, et al. Vemurafenib for BRAF V600-Mutant Erdheim-Chester Disease and Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis: Analysis of Data From the Histology-Independent, Phase 2, Open-label VE-BASKET Study. *JAMA Oncol*, 2018, 4 (3): 384-388.
2. Gordon JR, Antonious H, Low-dose vemurafenib monotherapy in BRAFV600Emutated Erdheim-Chester disease. *Leuk Lymphoma*, 2020, 61(11):2733-2737.
3. Diamond et al, *Nature*, 2019; 567(7749): 521–524.



# ADVERSE EFFECTS

Continuous therapy (% total, % grade >3) (vemurafenib/cobimetinib)	Fixed duration therapy (% total, % grade >3) (cladribine/cytarabine)
Joint pain (82, 14)	Infection (20)
Rash (50-80, 10-18)	Hematologic (40-100, 100)
Fatigue (20-55, 5)	Nausea (20)
Hair loss (55)	Fatigue (80)
Diarrhea (50-60)	Diarrhea (50%)
Neuropathy (41)	Hair loss
Nausea and vomiting (20—30)	Itching (50)
Edema (22)	
Decrease white blood cell count (17)	

# CLINICAL TRIALS

Phase	Treatment	Institutions	Comments	Status
I	Anakinra or denosumab + everolimus (mTOR inhibitor)	MD Anderson (Houston)	NCT01624766; previously treated	completed
I	DCC-2618 (c-Kit inhibitor)	Multiple	NCT02571036 previously treated	completed
I	Ulixertinib or BVD-523 (ERK inhibitor)	Multiple	NCT01781429; newly diagnosed or previously treated	completed
I	Selinexor + choline salicylate	Mayo Clinic, MN	NCT04640779; previously treated	recruiting
I	Virotherapy	Mayo Clinic, MN	NCT03017820; previously treated	recruiting
I/II	PLX8394 (BRAF inhibitor)	Multiple (11 sites)	NCT02428712; previously treated BRAF mutated	active, not recruiting
I/II	HH2710 (ERK1/2 inhibitor)	Multiple	NCT04198818; previously treated MAPK mutated	terminated
II	Lenalidomide (immunomodulatory agent)	Dana Farber (Boston)	NCT02523040; newly diagnosed or previously treated	active, not recruiting
II	HLX208 (BRAF inhibitor)	China	NCT05092815; BRAF mutated; Newly diagnosed or previously treated	recruiting
II	Cobimetinib	NACHO (Baltimore, Dallas, DC, Houston, Madison, Memphis, Orange)	NCT04079179; previously treated patients	recruiting
II	Dabrafenib (BRAF inhibitor) or trametinib (MEK inhibitor)	National Institute of Health (Bethesda)	NCT02281760; BRAF mutated; Newly diagnosed or previously treated; study suspended	completed
II	Nivolumab (PD1 antibody)	Multiple (52 sites)	NCT02832167; previously treated	completed
II	LY3023414, selumetinib, ensartinib, olaparib, palbociclib, ulixertinib, selpercatinib	Children's Oncology Group: Pediatric MATCH trial; multiple US sites	NCT03155620; previously treated	recruiting
II/III	Vemurafenib and cobimetinib	Multiple (UK)	NCT05768178; BRAF mutated; Newly diagnose	recruiting

# BACK TO OUR PATIENT

## NGS TESTING ON 05/2019

### GENOMIC VARIANTS

#### Somatic - Potentially Actionable / Biologically Relevant

No reportable pathogenic variants were found.

#### Germline - Pathogenic / Likely Pathogenic

No pathogenic variants were found in the limited set of genes on which we report.

### IMMUNOTHERAPY MARKERS

#### Tumor Mutational Burden

0.8 m/MB 16th percentile

### TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS

No reportable treatment options found.

### CLINICAL TRIALS

Single-agent Cobimetinib for Adults With Histiocytic Disorders ([NCT02649972](#))

Phase II  
New York, NY - 970 mi

### VARIANTS OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE

Anya Magnuson | TL-19-B24BFC

#### Somatic

#### Mutation effect

#### Variant allele fraction

UGT1A8

c.1366G>A p.V456M Missense variant  
NM\_019076

17.0% 

NDUFC2-KCTD14

c.136\_138delinsGTG p.L46V Missense variant  
NM\_001203260

11.0% 

#### Germline

#### Mutation effect

#### Condition

APC

c.5335A>G p.I1779V Missense variant  
chr5:112176626 NM\_000038

Familial adenomatous polyposis

### LOW COVERAGE REGIONS

GFRA2  
ZNF3

GSTT1

HDAC4

NOTCH1

PDPK1

SEMA3C

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# TREATMENT

## Jul–Sep 2019

Cobimetinib; cycle 1 complicated by diarrhea and dose was decreased to 40 mg from 60 mg

Response: progressive disease in the lumbar spine and nerve roots

## Nov 2019 – Feb 2020

6 cycles of high-dose methotrexate

Response: clinical response with improvement of lower extremity numbness, tingling and motor strength as well as headaches

## Oct 2019

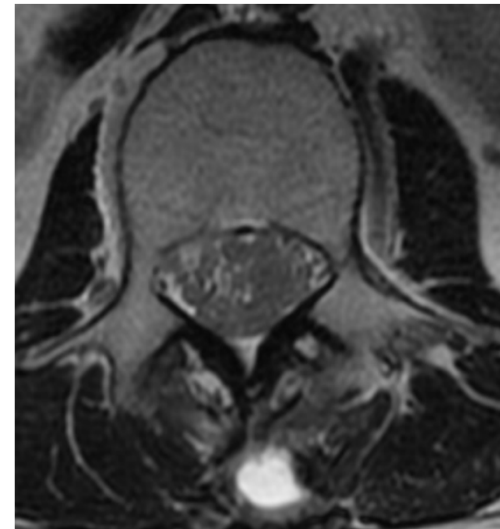
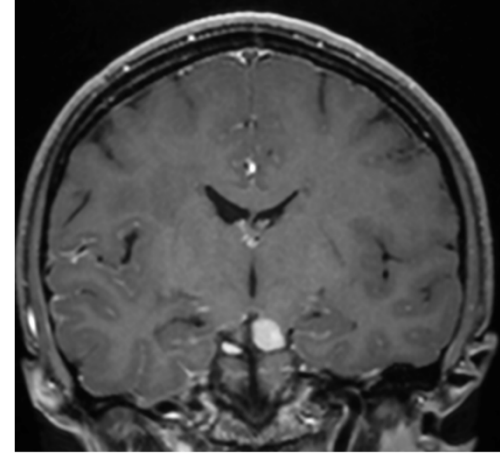
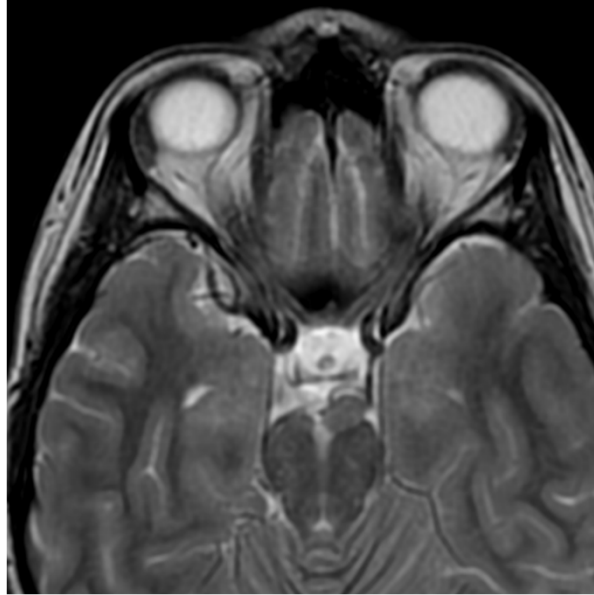
1 dose of interferon with poor tolerance; intractable headaches requiring hospital admission

## Mar 2020

Radiographic and clinical progression as well as clinical progression



A



## GENOMIC VARIANTS

### Somatic - Potentially Actionable / Biologically Relevant

No reportable pathogenic variants were found.

## IMMUNOTHERAPY MARKERS

### Tumor Mutational Burden

**3.7 m/MB** 60th percentile

## TREATMENT IMPLICATIONS

No reportable treatment options found.

## CLINICAL TRIALS

Single-agent Cobimetinib for Adults With Histiocytic Disorders ([NCT02649972](#))

**Phase II**  
New York, NY - 969 mi

## VARIANTS OF UNKNOWN SIGNIFICANCE

Anya Magnuson | TL-20-8B2AB9

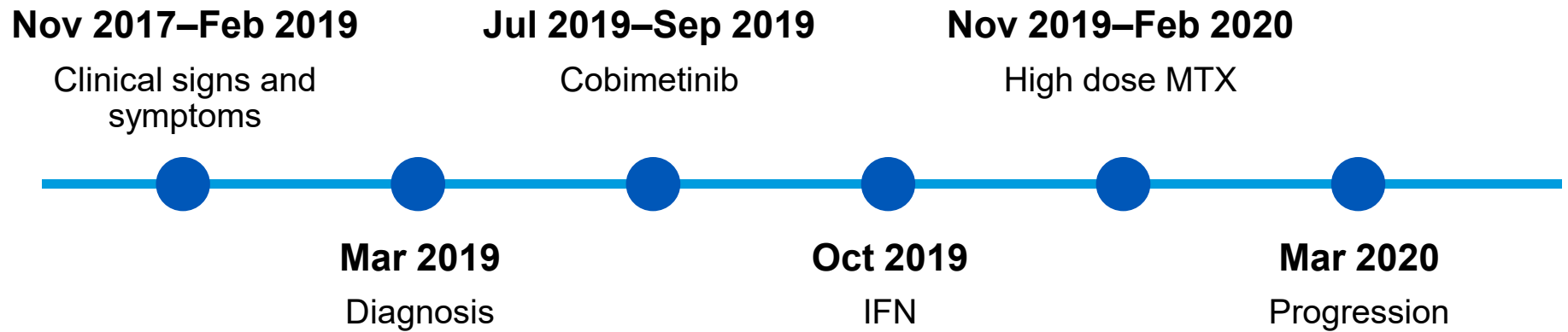
Somatic	Mutation effect	Variant allele fraction
APC	c.5335A>G p.I1779V Missense variant NM_000038	66.5%
ERBB3	c.316C>T p.R106* Stop gain NM_001982	44.4%
EGLN1	c.320C>G p.A107G Missense variant NM_022051	36.9%
LRP1B	c.11833G>A p.G3945R Missense variant NM_018557	34.7%
RANBP2	c.3278T>C p.I1093T Missense variant NM_006267	31.2%
CSF1R	c.1646_1660del p.R549_E554delinsQ Inframe deletion NM_005211	27.4%
UGT1A8	c.1366G>A p.V456M Missense variant NM_019076	20.0%
MAGI2	c.501G>T p.E167D Missense variant NM_012301	6.5%

## LOW COVERAGE REGIONS

KDM5D

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# TIMELINE





## NEXT-LINE OF THERAPY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

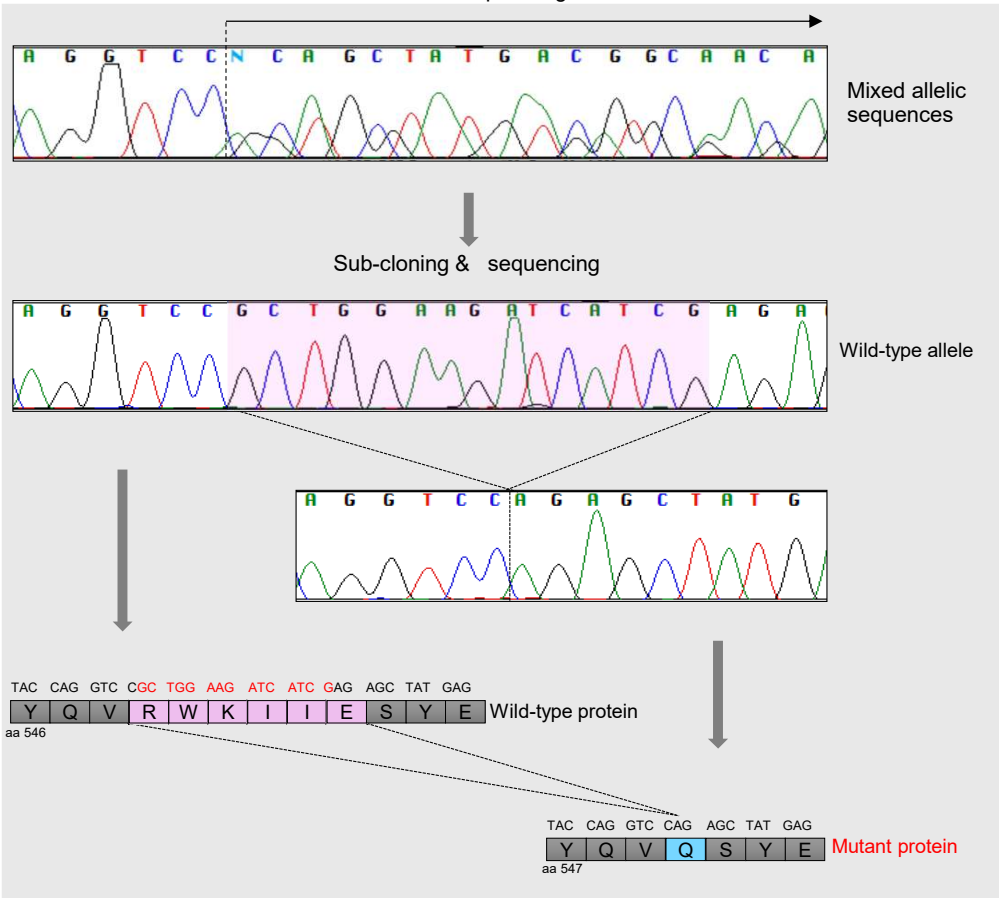
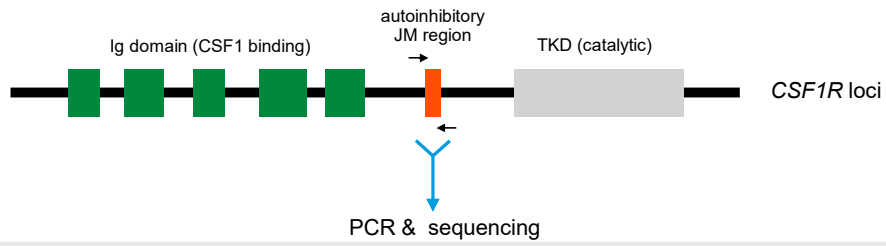
- Cladribine, or
- Cytarabine, or
- Pembrolizumab, or
- Autologous SCT, or...
- Pexidartinib, or palliative/hospice





## DECIDED TO ASSESS THE RELEVANCE OF CSF1R VUS

- Colony Stimulating Factor 1 Receptor
- Expressed in macrophages and monocytes
- Ligand: IL34, CSF1 (M-CSF1), and upon binding, cause homodimerization and subsequent activation of downstream pathways
- Overexpression, rearrangement and mutations are associated with pathology: tenosynovial giant cell tumor - a destructive synovial tumor associated with *CSF1-COL6A3* translocation leading to overexpression of CSF1



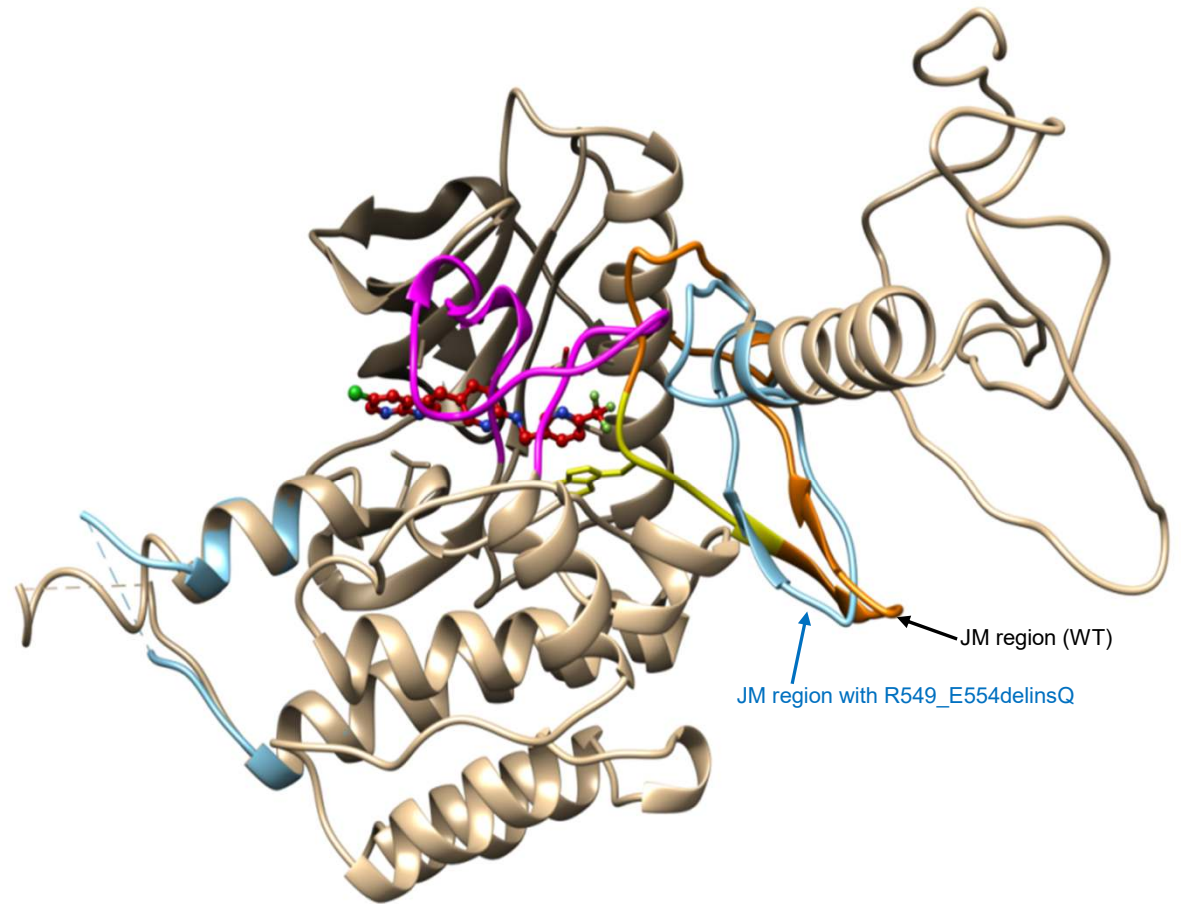
# TARGETING CSF1R



Abeykoon et al, AJH, 2022

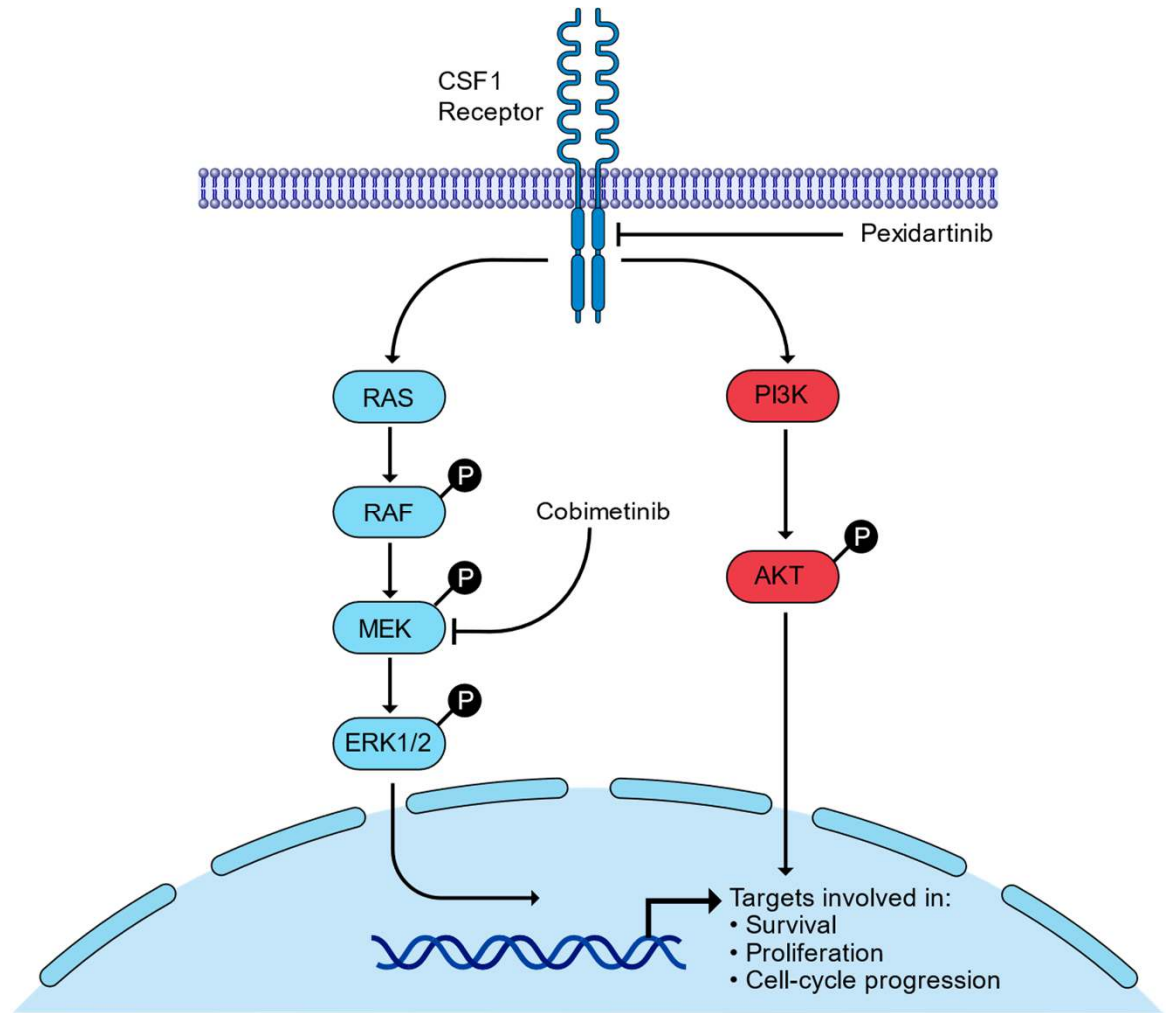
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**IS THIS MUTATION  
FUNCTIONAL  
(ACTIVATING) OR NOT?**



Abeykoon et al, AJH, 2022

# CSF1R SIGNALING PATHWAY



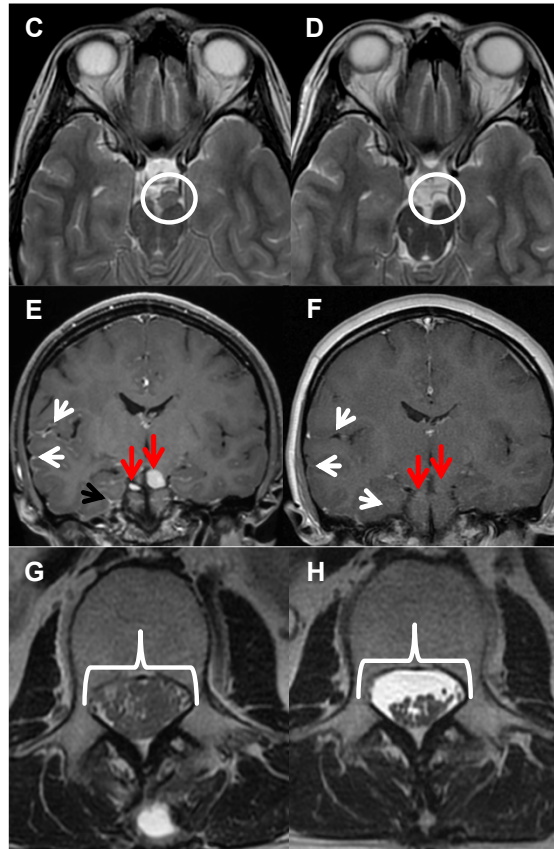
Redrawn from: Abeykoon et al, AJH, 2022



**03/2020**

- Patient was paraplegic, cachectic and dehydrated due to nausea and vomiting requiring frequent hospitalizations and emergency department visits
- We identified that this VUS in CSF1R (never reported) which could be possibly functional
- Commenced on pexidartinib

- Patient regained the lower extremity strength completely
- Tolerating oral diet well without nausea or vomiting
- All her brown hair turned white



Abeykoon et al, AJH, 2022



Patient's consent was obtained





**IS THERE A CURE?**

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## DEFINITION OF A CURE

- That there are no traces of your cancer after treatment and the cancer will never come back
- Cancer has gone away with treatment, no more treatment is needed, and the cancer is not expected to come back





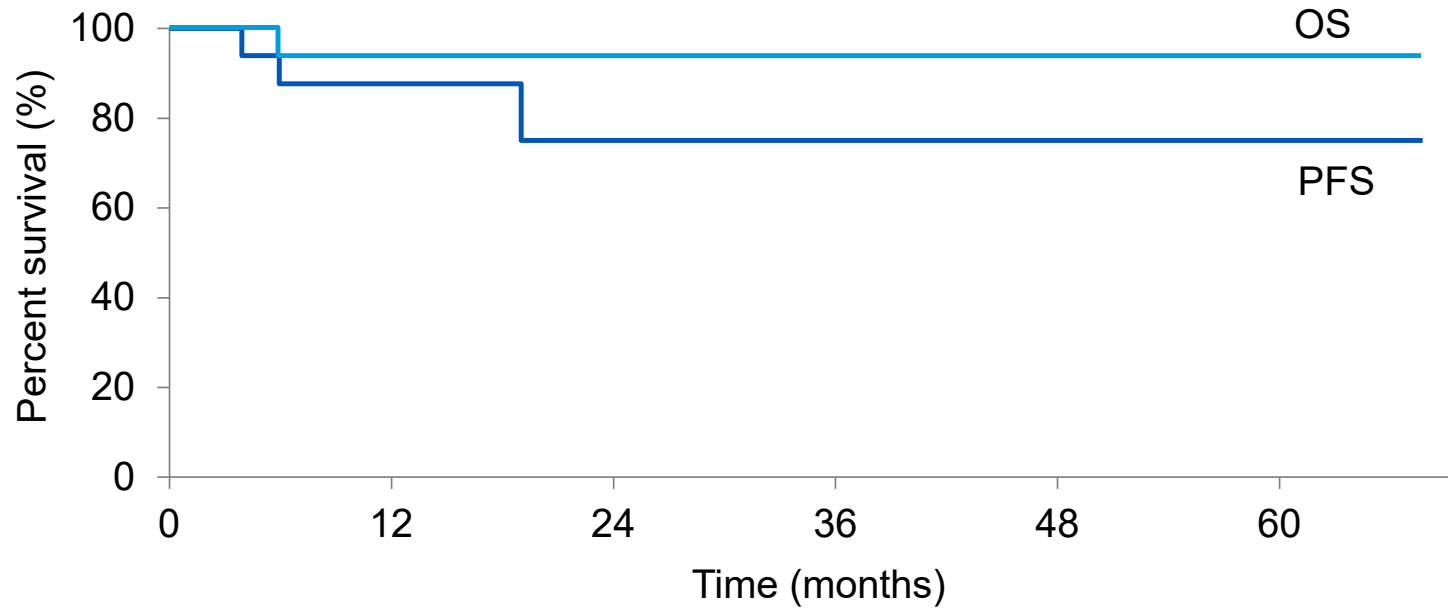
## IS THERE A CURE?

- Discontinuation of vemurafenib caused disease relapse in 75% of patients within 6 months
- Fixed duration treatment could have prolonged disease remission with cladribine – cure?
  - Two of the 17 responded patients maintained a response after 6 months of followup

Cohen, Blood, 2017  
Goyal, JAMA Onc, 2017

# IS THERE A CURE?

With cytarabine

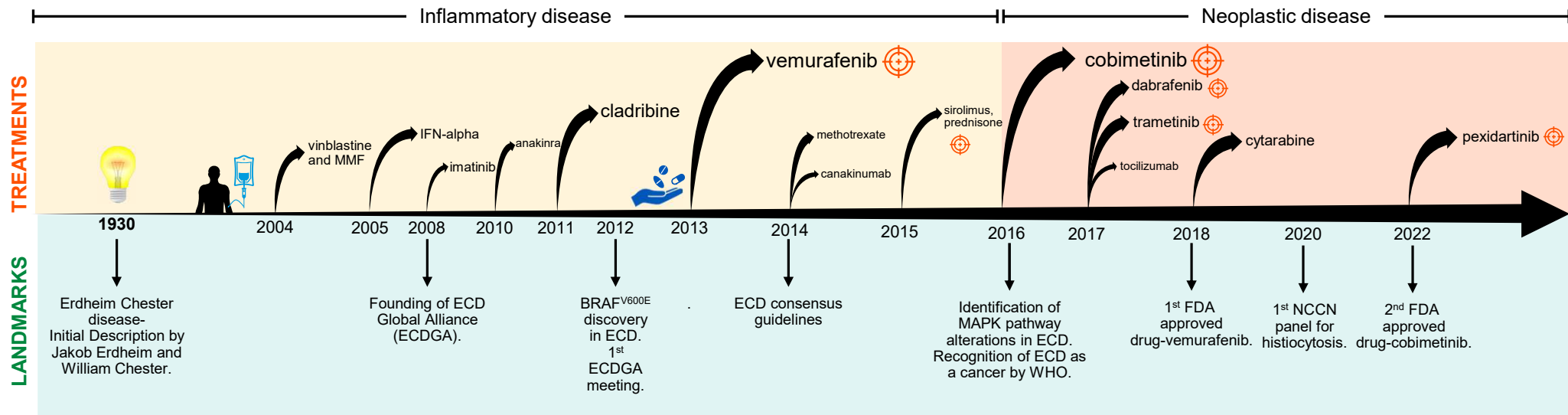


No. at risk


OS	16	12	7	6	4	3
PFS	16	11	6	5	4	3

Cytarabine responses; redrawn from: Liu et al, Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2022; 17: 39

# EVOLUTION OF ECD



Arrow width and font size depict the impact of the respective regimens in the treatment of Erdheim-Chester disease  
 Treatment year represents the reported year of the index case(s) or clinical trial(s)

 Targeted oncologic therapy



## SUMMARY

- ECD is a cancer with driver mutations.
- There could be other epiphenomenal alterations.
- Targeting genetic alterations (BRAF, MAPK, CSF1R) could lead to durable responses but is unlikely to achieve a cure.
- Chemotherapy could sometimes be beneficial and could achieve deep and durable responses – perhaps a cure in some patients.
- There is an unmet need to find new driver alterations in ECD and understand the mechanisms associated with resistance to targeted therapy.
- Practicing team science, and precision medicine is critical.



**PERHAPS?**

# Treatment Options for Symptomatic Patients

Clinical trial

Off-study

MAPK pathway mutation (+)

No MAPK alterations

BRAFV<sup>600E</sup>

MAPK-alterations – MAP2K

Immunotherapy

Chemotherapy

Anti-Cytokine

Other

Vemurafenib  
FDA approved

Dabrafenib

Cobimetinib  
FDA approved

Trametinib

Interferon

Peginterferon

Sirolimus

Cladribine

Vinblastine

Methotrexate

Cytarabine

Anakinra

Canakinumab

Infliximab

Tocilizumab

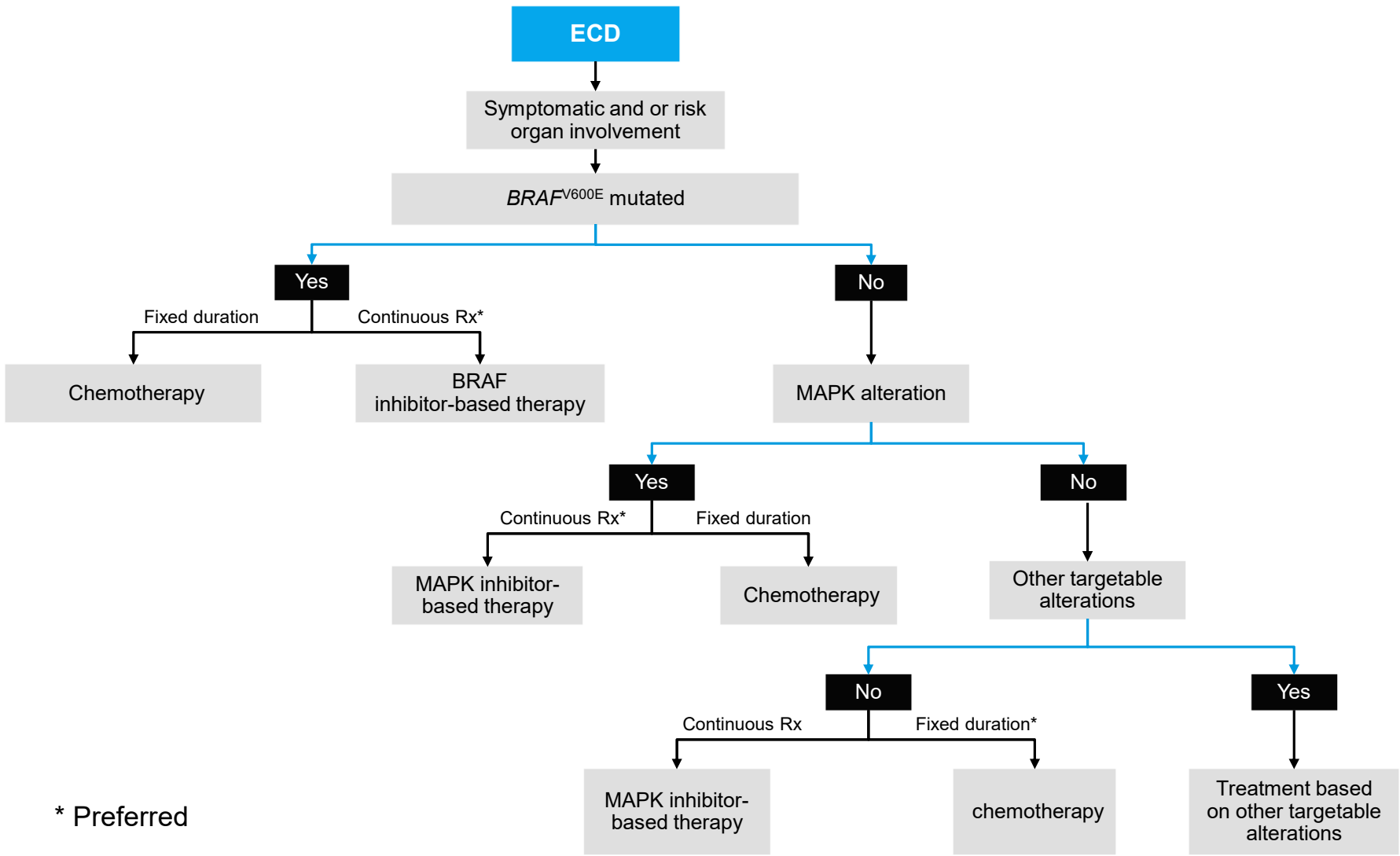
Prednisone

Imatinib

Radiation

Pexidartinib





\* Preferred



**THANK YOU FOR ALL THE  
PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS!**

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

