

**Nona Giornata Fiorentina  
dedicata ai pazienti con  
malattie mieloproliferative  
croniche**

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# **“Policitemia vera: 2 linea”**

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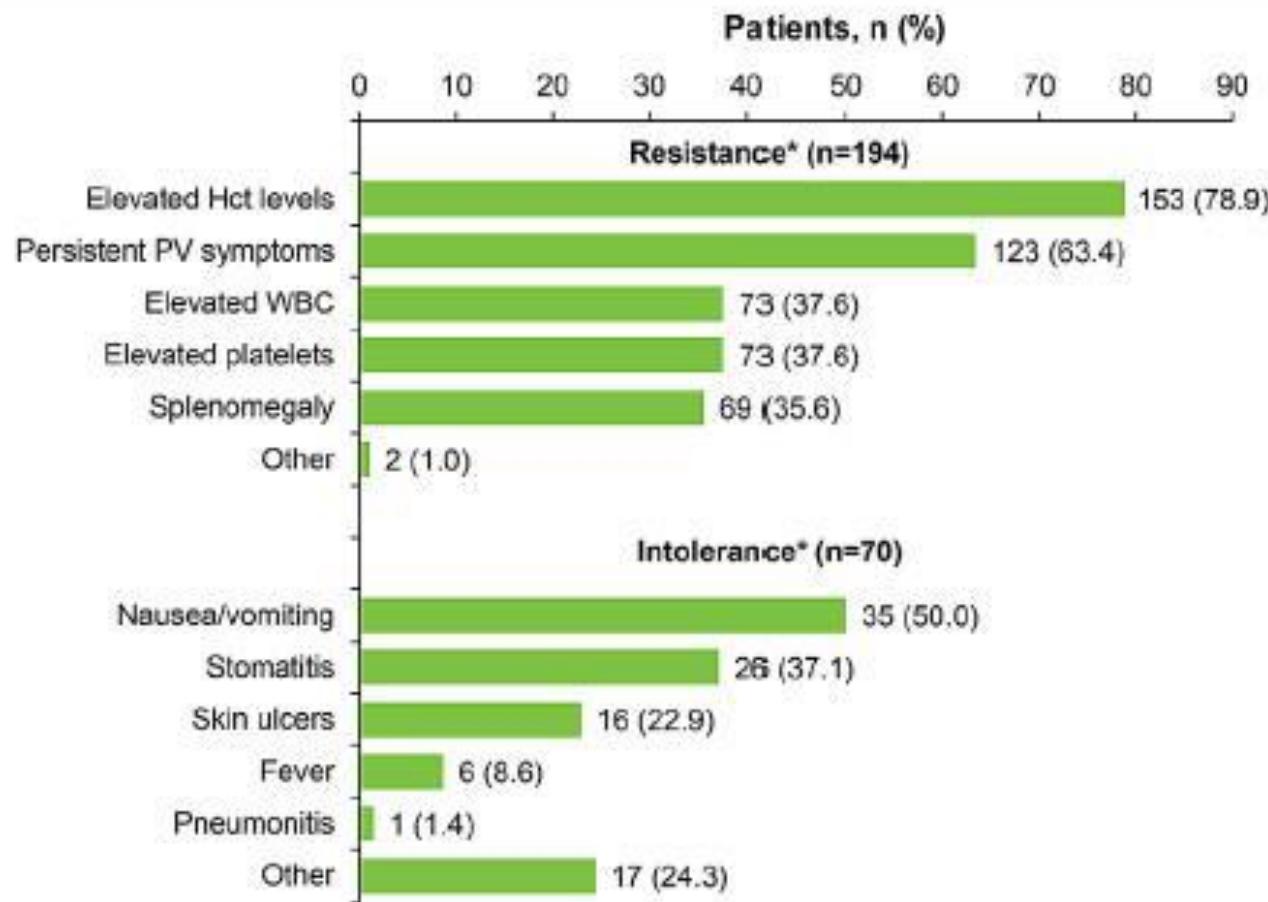
# Quando bisogna pensare ad una seconda linea: (ELN 2022): raccomandato

- Intolleranza all'HU per grado 3-4 o tossicità prolungata grado 2 (sintomi mucocutanei, gastrointestinali, febbre o polmonite) a qualsiasi dose di HU
- Intolleranza all'HU per anemia, piastrinopenia, leucopenia alla dose più bassa di HU per ottenere una risposta
- Sviluppo di tumori cutanei non melanoma
- Sviluppo di eventi vascolari: sanguinamento clinicamente rilevante, trombosi venosa o trombosi arteriosa

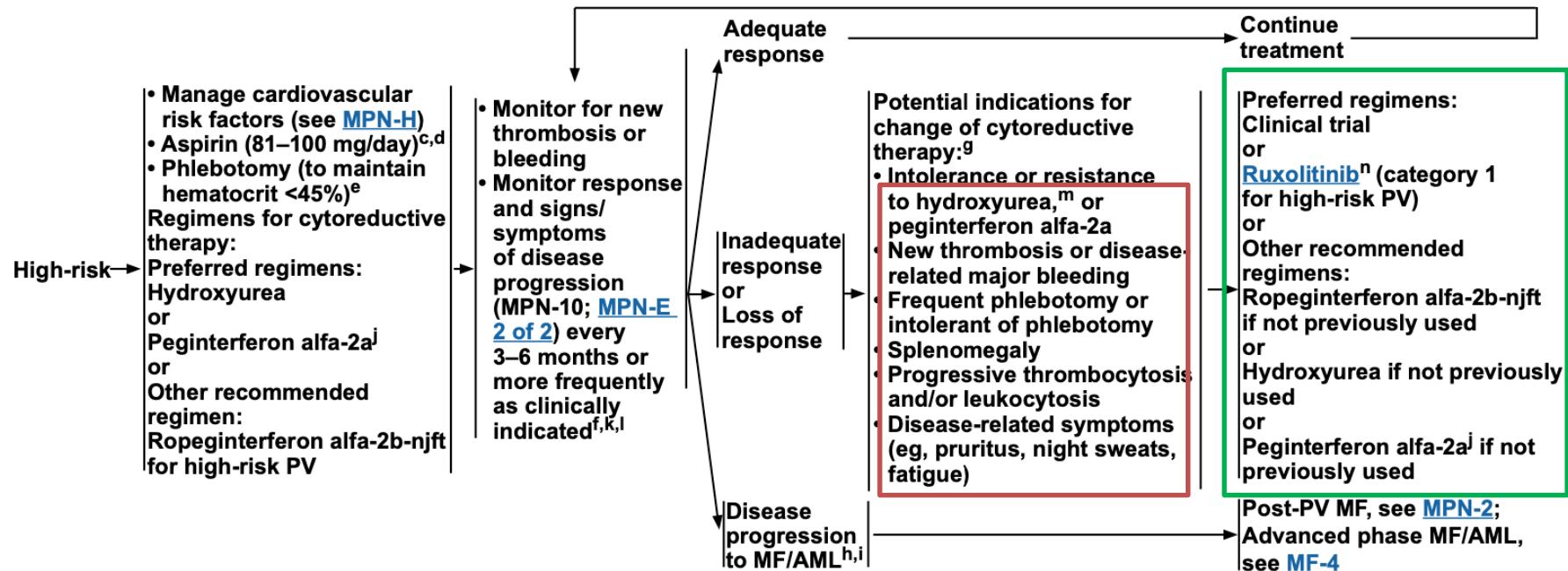
# Quando bisogna pensare ad una seconda linea: (ELN 2022): da considerare

- Trombocitosi persistente con PLT >1 milione/mmc, sintomi microvascolari, o entrambi, persistente per > 3 mesi
- Splenomegalia sintomatica o progressiva: aumento delle dimensioni della milza > 5 cm in 1 anno
- Aumento progressivo e leucocitosi persistente
- Controllo HCT insufficiente:  $\geq 6$  salassi/anno per mantenere HCT <45%
- Sintomi persistenti correlati al PV: TSS  $\geq 20$ ; Punteggio prurito  $\geq 10$  per almeno 6 mesi

# Cause di cambio terapia da HU a RUX



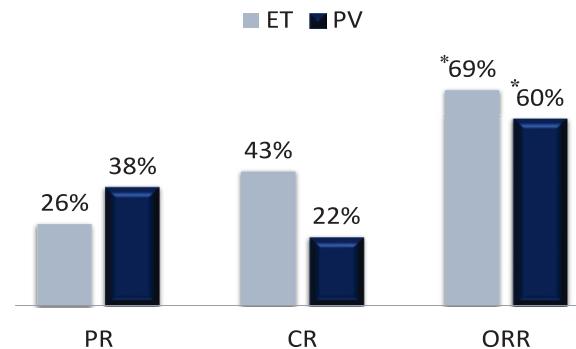
# Le lineeguida per PV dell'NCCN



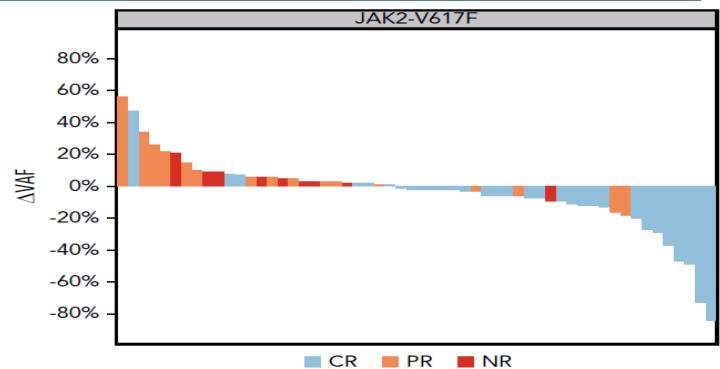
# 1-year results of Peg-interferon- $\alpha$ 2a as second-line therapy in 50 HR PV: the MPD-RC 111 phase 2 study

CR means:

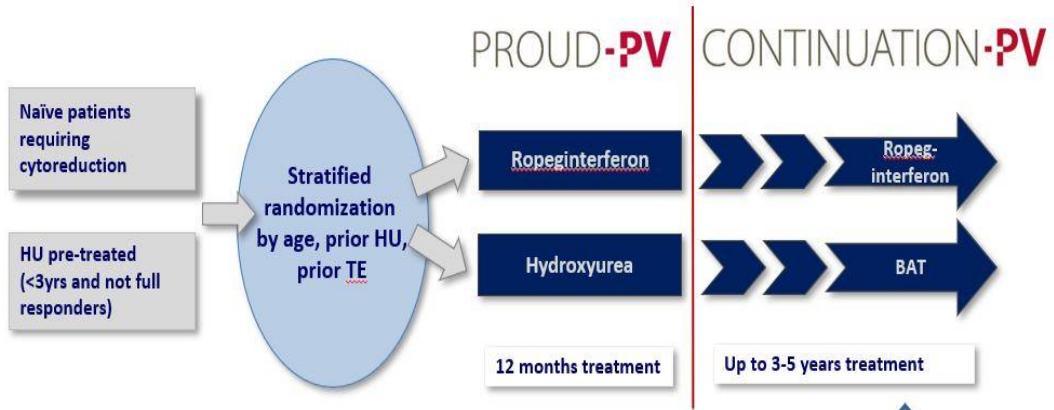
- PLT  $<400 \times 10^9/L$ , WBC  $<10 \times 10^9/L$
- HCT  $<45\%$  without phlebotomy
- Resolution of splenomegaly and of disease-related symptoms



- HCT  $<45\%$ : 46%
- Phlebotomy independency: 37%
- Splenomegaly normalization: 32%
- $>20\%$  VAF reduction 41.3%



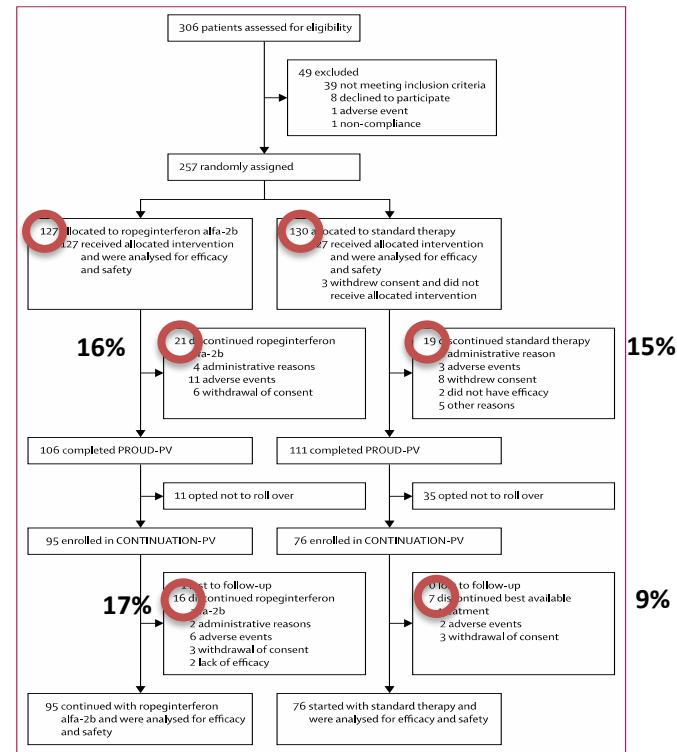
# RopeglIFN alfa-2b in HR-PV: the PROUD/CONTINUATION-PV phase 3 study



Aim was to recruit an  
“early PV” population.

Longitudinal interim analysis after 36 months of treatment (**PROUD-PV** and **CONTINUATION-PV**) in patients enrolled in **CONTINUATION-PV Study**:

- Efficacy data up to 36 months**
- All available safety data (mean 3.8 years)**



Gisslinger et al, Lancet Haematol. 2020 Mar;7(3):e196-e208.

# PROUD/CONTINUATION-PV: baseline characteristics

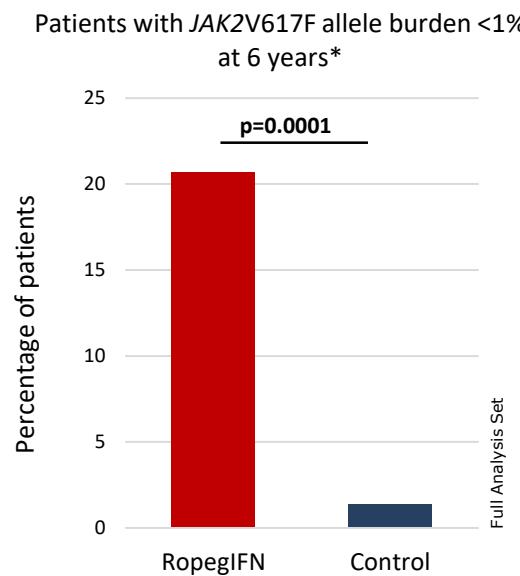
	PROUD-PV	CONTINUATION-PV*		
	Roperginterferon alfa-2b (n=127)	Hydroxyurea (n=127)	Roperginterferon alfa-2b (n=95)	Best available treatment (n=76)
Female	68 (54%)	67 (53%)	48 (51%)	40 (53%)
Male	59 (46%)	60 (47%)	47 (49%)	36 (47%)
Age, years				
Median	60.0 (52.0–66.0)	60.0 (48.0–67.0)	58.0 (50.0–64.0)	59.0 (49.0–65.5)
Range	30–85	21–81	30–85	32–79
Hydroxyurea pretreated	45 (35%)	37 (29%)	30 (32%)	20 (26%)
Median duration of previous hydroxyurea therapy, months†	10.2 (2.1–21.3)	7.9 (2.7–19.2)	9.5 (2.8–25.1)	8.2 (2.6–23.0)
Median duration of polycythaemia vera, months‡	1.9 (0.7–11.2)	3.6 (0.7–20.0)	1.8 (0.6–6.8)	1.6 (0.7–15.1)
Previous thromboembolic event	25 (20%)	23 (18%)	21 (22%)	14 (18%)
Positive status for JAK2 Val617Phe mutation§				
Number	126 (99%)	125 (98%)	94 (99%)	74 (97%)
Mean allele burden, %	41.9% (24)	42.8% (24)	42.8% (23)	42.9% (23)
Median haematocrit, %	47.1% (44.2–51.3)	48.0% (45.0–52.2)	47.7% (44.4–52.0)	49.9% (46.2–53.1)
Median platelet count, 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	485.0 (350.0–671.0)	452.0 (329.0–666.0)	488.0 (350.0–701.0)	451.0 (329.0–678.5)
Median leucocyte count, 10 <sup>9</sup> /L	10.6 (8.0–13.4)	10.5 (7.9–14.5)	10.9 (8.0–14.6)	11.3 (8.7–15.1)
Median spleen size, cm	13.1 (11.0–15.0)	13.0 (11.5–15.2)	13.5 (11.5–15.0)	12.8 (11.3–15.5)
Presence of splenomegaly¶	12 (9%)	15 (12%)	7 (7%)	8 (11%)

Data are n (%), mean (SD), median (IQR). \*Baseline in CONTINUATION-PV was defined as the end of treatment (month 12) in PROUD-PV. †Duration of previous hydroxyurea therapy was assessed from start of therapy until the time of screening in PROUD-PV. ‡Duration of polycythaemia vera was assessed from diagnosis until the time of screening in PROUD-PV. §Data were not available for one patient in the roperginterferon alfa-2b group, and for two patients in the control group in PROUD-PV at baseline. Positive status for JAK2 Val617Phe mutation was confirmed at subsequent visit. ¶Splenomegaly as assessed by investigator.

Gisslinger et al, Lancet Haematol. 2020 Mar;7(3):e196-e208.

## PROUD/CONTINUATION-PV: potential disease modification at 6 years

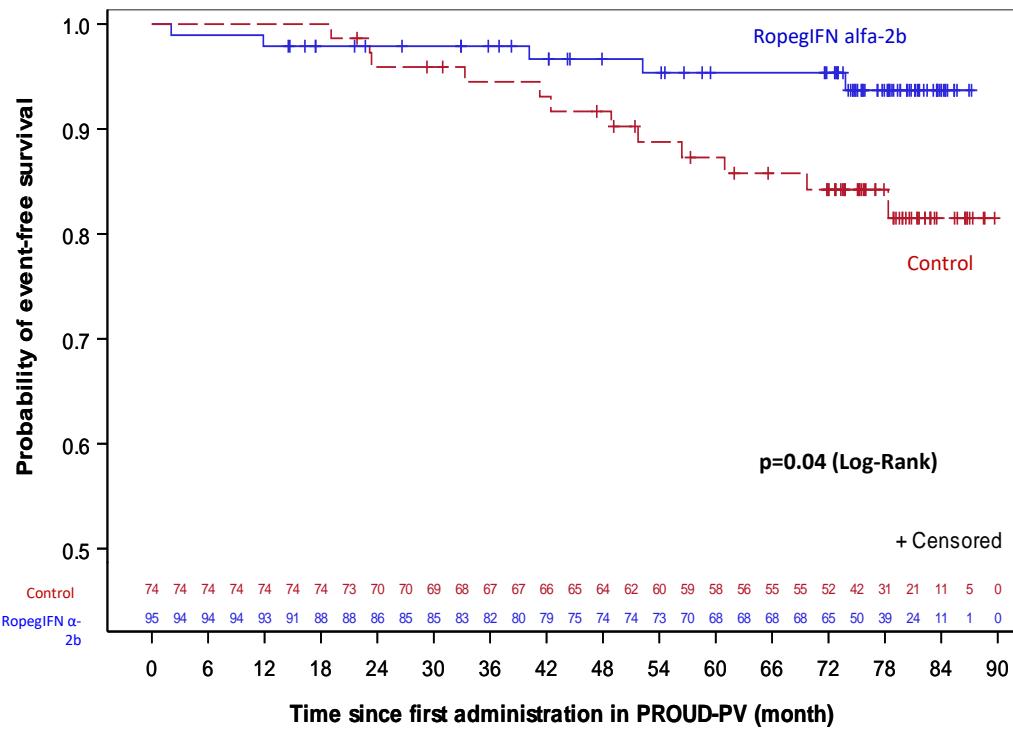
- After 6 years of treatment, the *JAK2* V617F allele burden decreased to <1% in 20.7% of patients in the ropeginterferon alfa-2b arm.
- In contrast, only 1.4% of patients in the control arm achieved an allele burden <1% at 6 years of treatment ( $p=0.0001$ ).



\*Analyzed in patients with baseline allele burden >10%; last observation carried forward

## PROUD/CONTINUATION-PV: Event-free survival

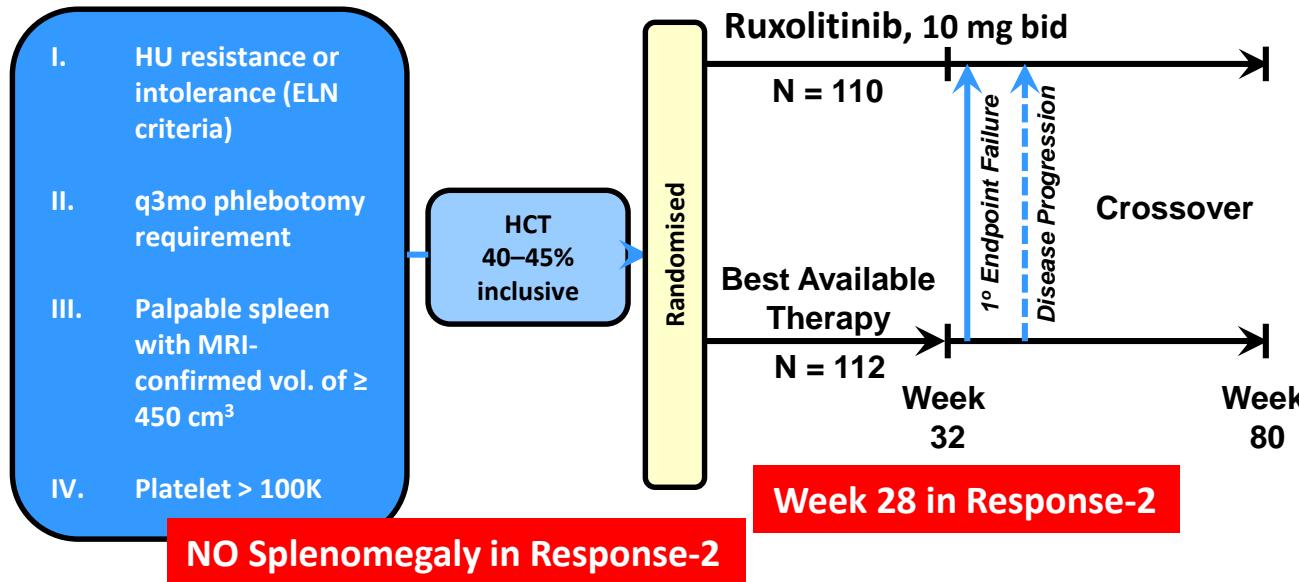
Risk events: death, disease progression and thromboembolic events



The probability of event-free survival was significantly higher among patients treated with ropeginterferon alfa-2b compared to the control arm (maximum treatment period 7.3 years)

Gisslinger et al. EHA 2022

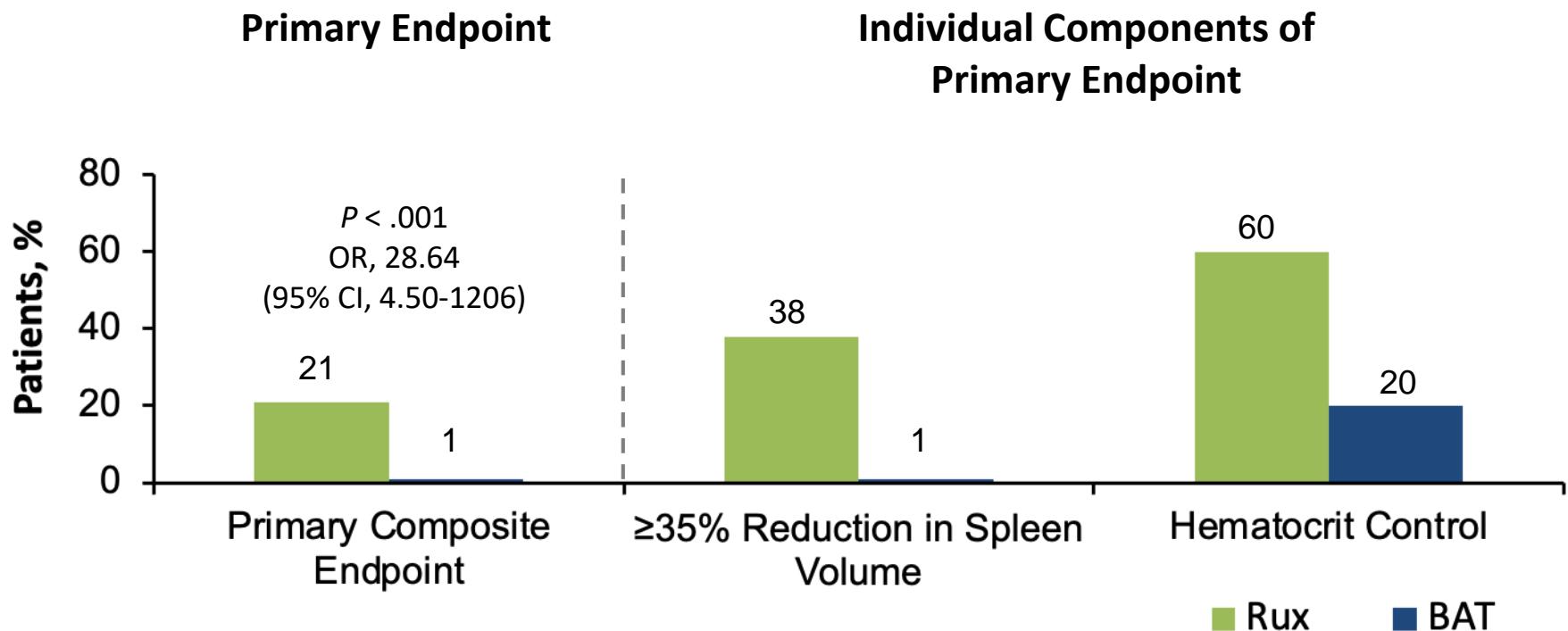
# Ruxolitinib as 2<sup>nd</sup> line in PV: the Response trials



- Primary composite endpoint: haematocrit control (phlebotomy independence from week 8 to 32, with  $\leq 1$  phlebotomy post randomization) in the absence of phlebotomy and 35% reduction in spleen volume at week 32 (this latter absent in Response 2)

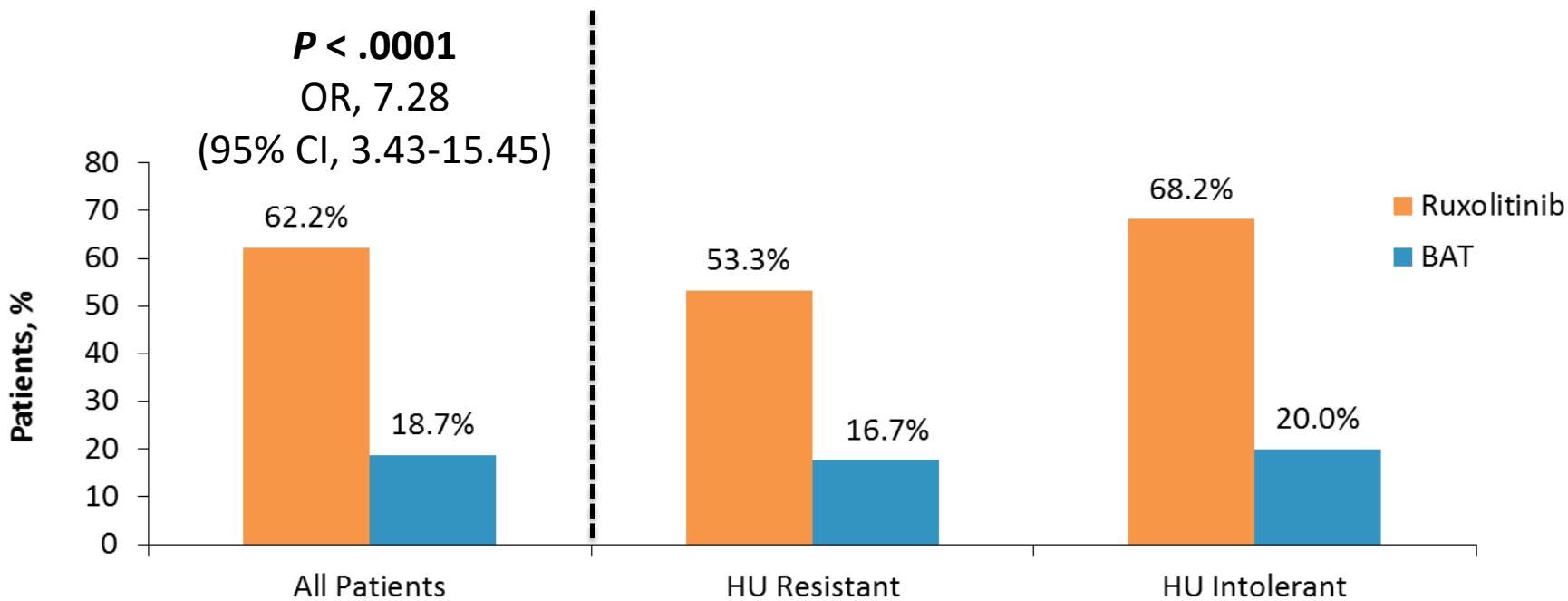
RUX induce il controllo HCT senza flebotomia e SVR35  
nel 21% dei pazienti PV che hanno fallito HU

The RESPONSE trial



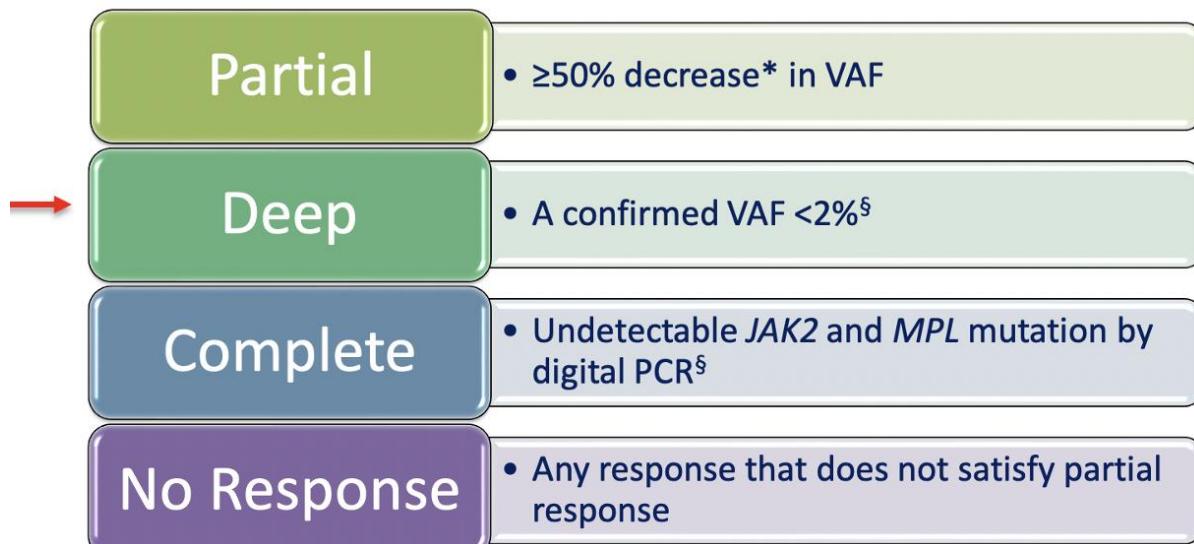
# RUX induce il controllo dell'HCT senza flebotomia nel 62% dei pazienti PV che hanno fallito l'HU senza splenomegalia

RESPONSE-2 trial

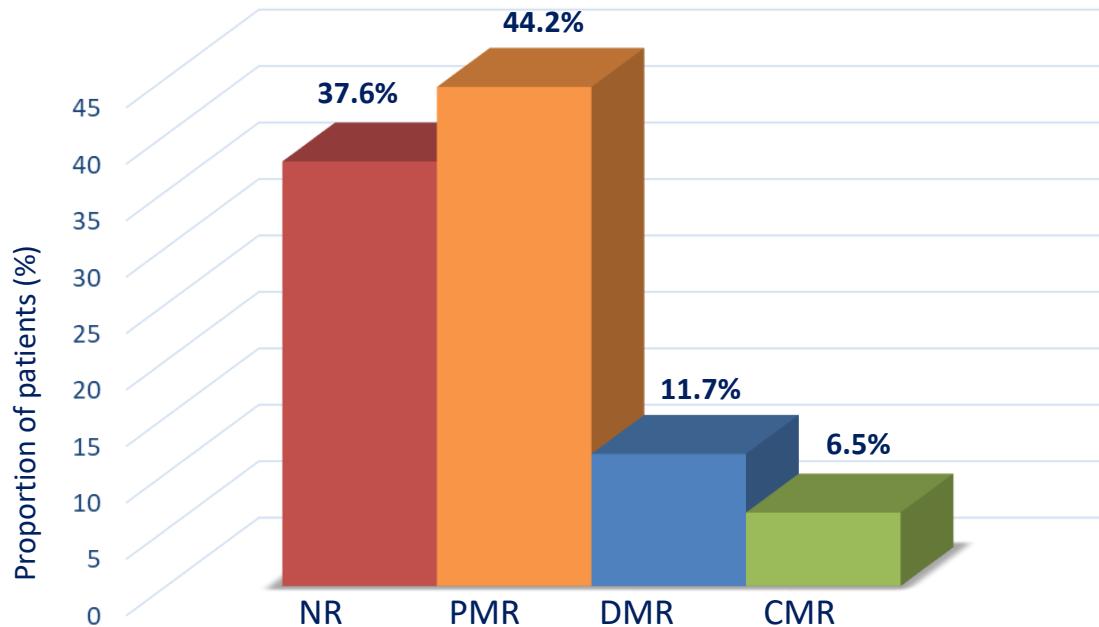


# Risposta molecolare di JAK2 in pazienti con PV & ET trattati con RUX

- Sono stati inclusi 77 pazienti, 65 PV (84,4%) e 12 ET (12,6%) con una valutazione dell'intervallo circa-annuale di JAK2 V617F VAF mediante PCR digitale o RTQ-PCR ad alta sensibilità

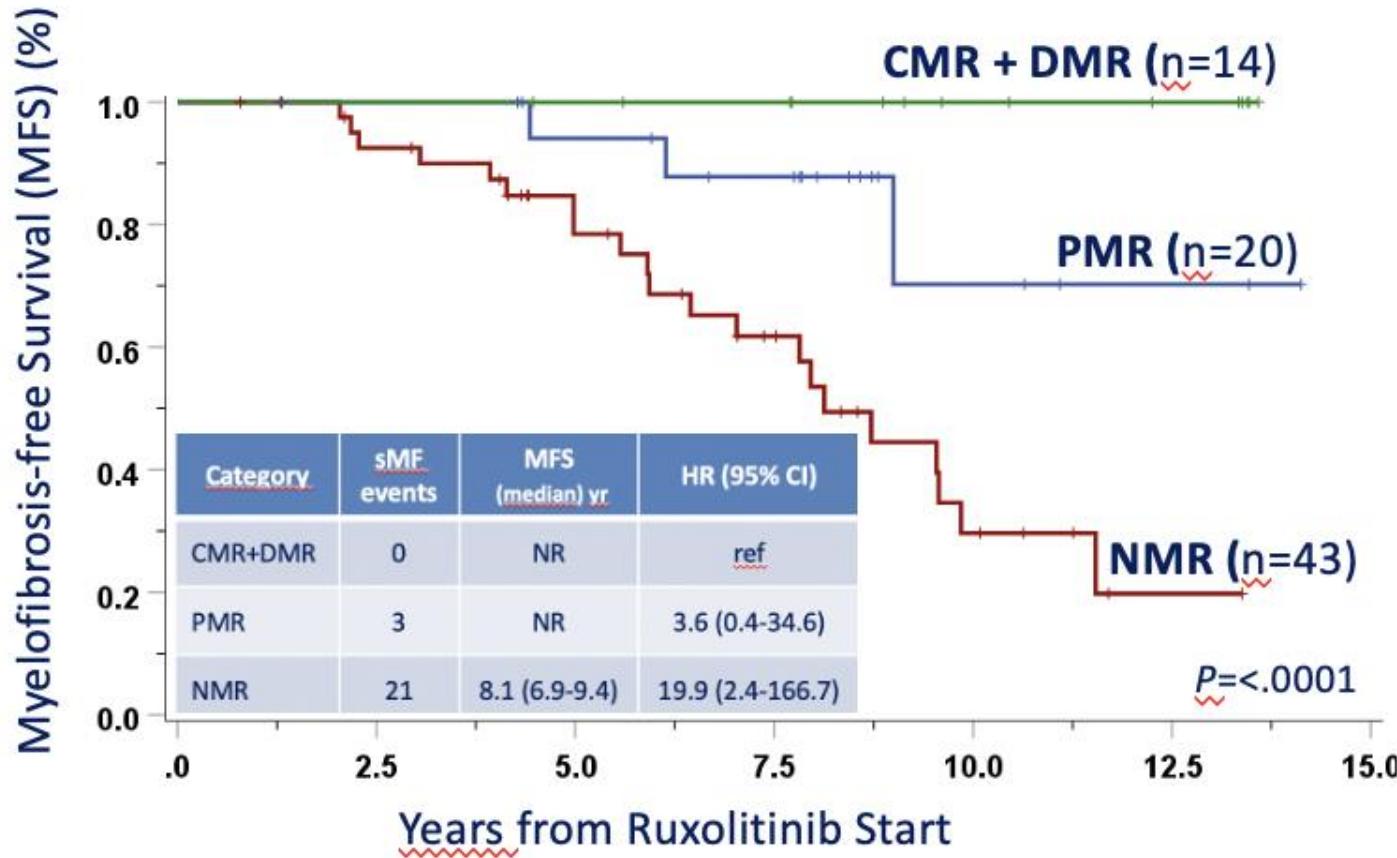


# Risposta molecolare di JAK2 V617F in PV & ET



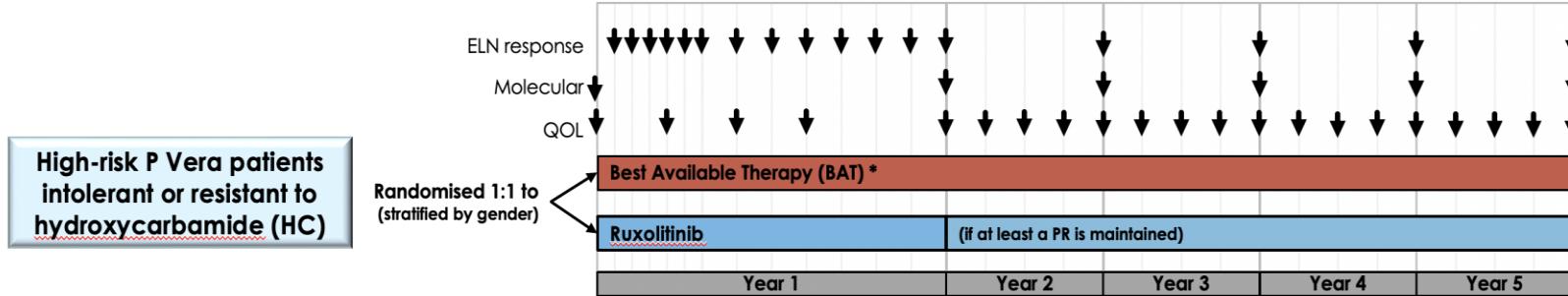
- Il tempo mediano a CMR e DMR è stato di 4,6 anni (1,1-7,6 anni) e 5,0 anni (2,1-12,1 anni).

# La risposta molecolare è associata a una sopravvivenza libera da MF più lunga



- 24 patients (31.1%) progressed to sMF after a median of 6.0y (2-11.5). 34% were PV and 16.6% ET.

# MAJIC-PV randomised trial: RUX vs. BAT for PV intolerant or resistant to HU



\*in common with the RESPONSE trials patients could receive HC on the BAT arm

BAT (n=87) RUXO (n=93)

## Primary outcome

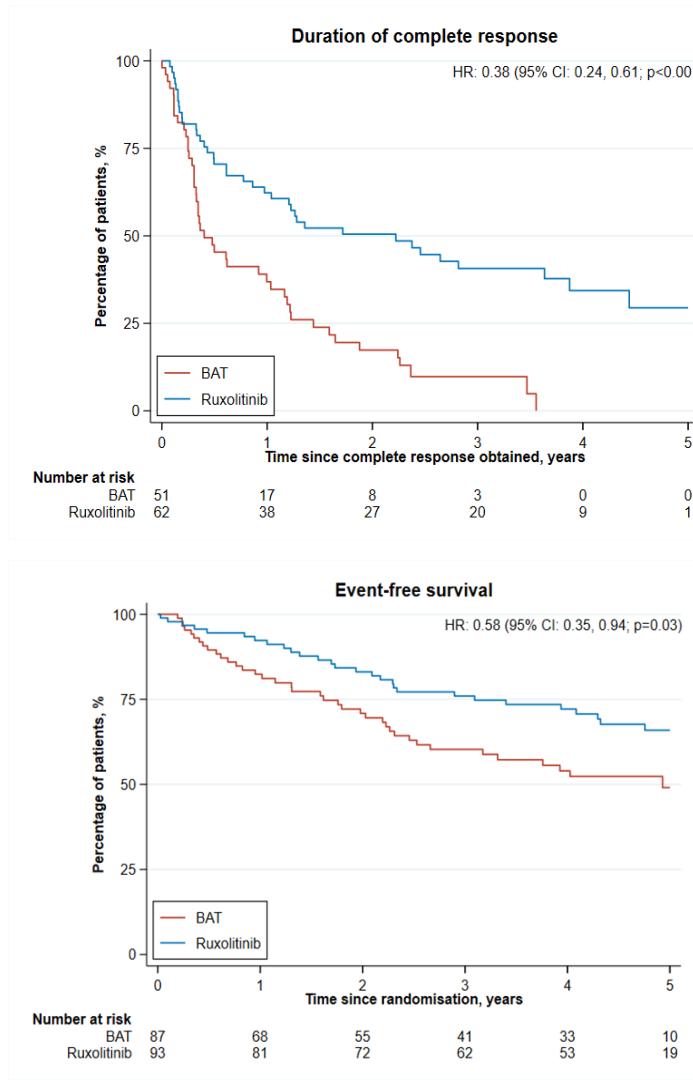
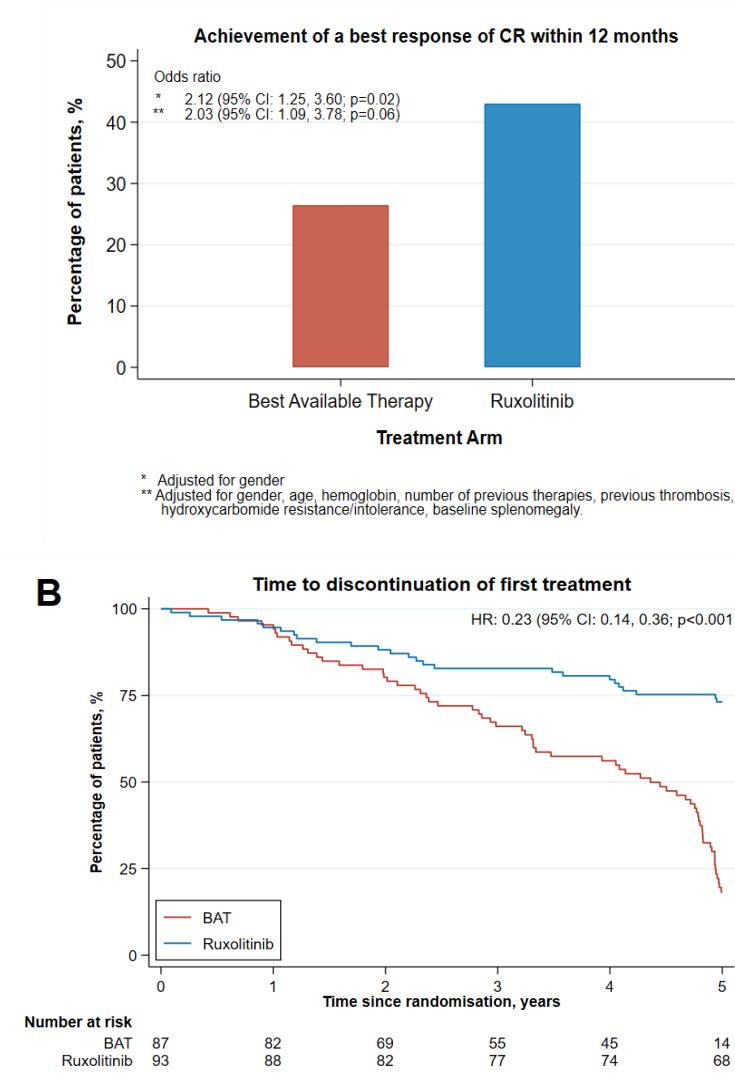
Complete response per ELN (WBC  $\leq 10$ , HCT  $\leq 0.45$ , Plt  $\leq 400$ ) rate within 1 year.

## Secondary outcomes

Duration of complete response  
Haemorrhagic and thromboembolic event rates  
Progression free and overall survival  
Responses (Histological, Molecular)  
Quality of life and disease symptom burden  
Safety and toxicity

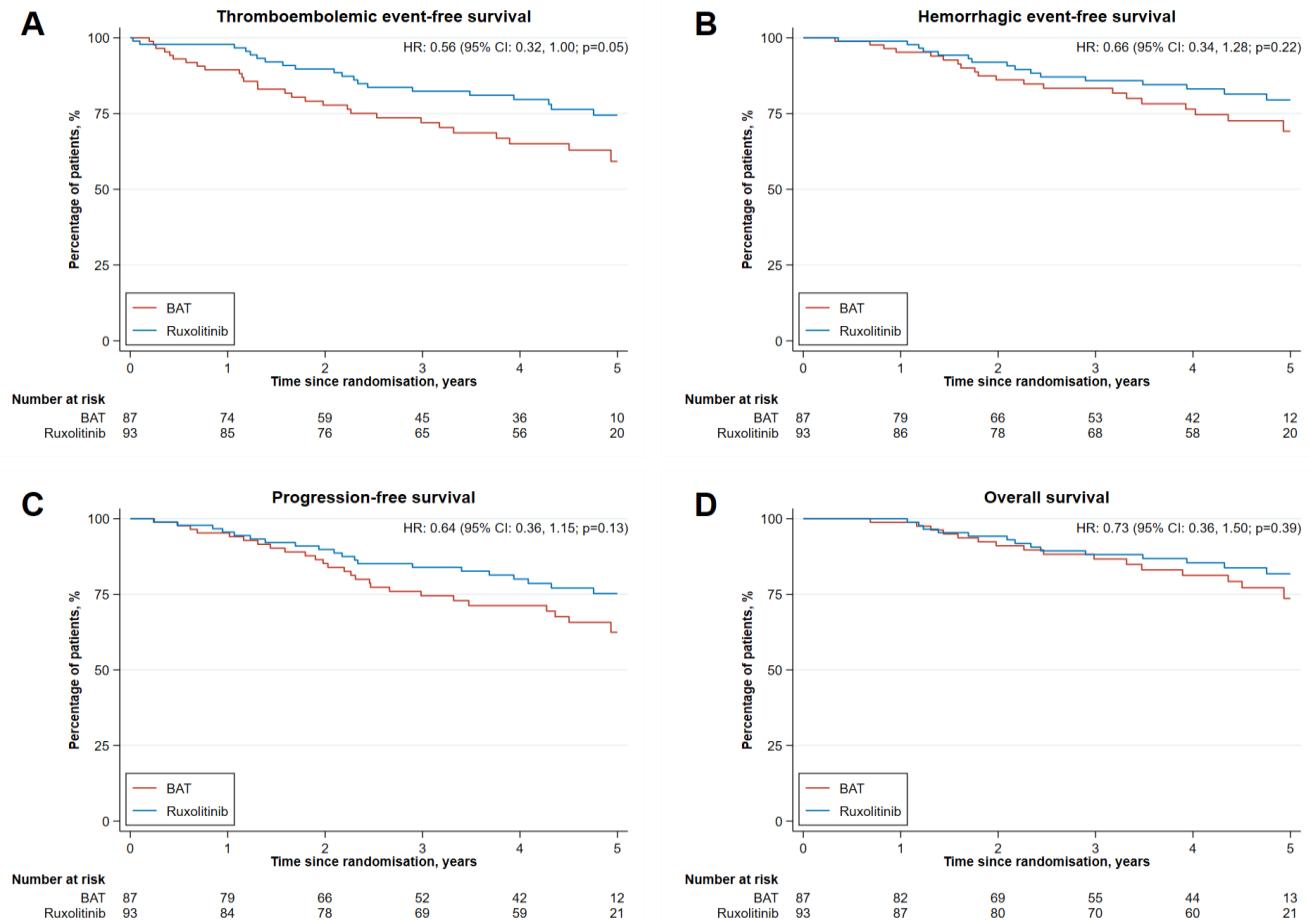
- Ruxolitinib is approved for HC resistant/intolerant PV but trials included cross-over of the control arm limiting knowledge of benefits over longer term clinically-relevant events.

# Ruxolitinib superior to BAT for CR, duration of CR, time to discontinuation and Event-Free-Survival (thrombosis, haemorrhage, transformation, death)



# Individual clinical endpoints by assigned treatment

Thromboembolic-free-survival was improved with ruxolitinib ( $p=0.05$ )



# Conclusions

- La resistenza/intolleranza dell'HU deve essere identificata precocemente.
- Roperg-interferone ha un effetto sul clone e un effetto sulla sopravvivenza libera da eventi
- Ruxolitinib è stato ampliamente studiato con un effetto sulla malattia, sulla carica allelica nel lungo termine e sulla trombosi.