

New IMS/IMWG Risk Criteria By Next-Generation Sequencing: Analysis of Daratumumab Benefit in Both High- and Standard-Risk Patients in the PERSEUS Study

Luca Bertamini¹, Carolina Terragna², Niccolò Bolli³, Philippe Moreau⁴, Paula Rodríguez-Otero⁵, Mario Boccardo⁶, Joan Blade⁷, Niels WCJ van de Donk⁸, Francesca Gay⁹, Roberto Mina¹⁰, Aurore Perrot¹¹, P. Joy Ho¹², Annemiek Broijl¹, Meral Beksac¹³, Mark van Duin¹, Diego Veyra¹⁴, Fredrik Borgsten¹⁵, Melissa Rowe¹⁶, Meletios A. Dimopoulos^{17,18}, Pieter Sonneveld¹

¹Department of Hematology, Erasmus MC Cancer Institute, Rotterdam, The Netherlands; ²IRCCS Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria di Bologna, Istituto di Ematologia "Seragnoli", Bologna, Italy; ³Hematology Unit, Fondazione IRCCS Ca' Grande Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, Department of Oncology and Hemato-Oncology, University of Milan, Milan, Italy; ⁴Hematology Department at the University Hospital of Nantes, Nantes, France; ⁵Cancer Center Clínica Universidad de Navarra, University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain; ⁶European Myeloma Network, EMN, Torino, Italy; ⁷Amyloidosis and Multiple Myeloma Unit, Hematology, Hospital Clinic of Barcelona August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), Barcelona, Spain; ⁸Department of Hematology, Cancer Center Amsterdam, Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; ⁹Division of Hematology, AOU Città della Salute e della Scienza di Torino, University of Torino and Department of Molecular Biotechnology and Health Sciences, University of Torino, Torino, Italy; ¹⁰Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA; ¹¹Université de Toulouse, CHU de Toulouse Hématologie, IUCT-Oncopole, Toulouse, France; ¹²Multiple Myeloma Research Unit and Thalassemia/Haemoglobinopathy Unit at the Institute of Hematology, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown, Australia; ¹³Department of Hematology, Ankara LV Hospital, Istinye University, Ankara, Türkiye; ¹⁴Johnson & Johnson, Spring House, PA, USA; ¹⁵Johnson & Johnson, Raritan, NJ, USA; ¹⁶Johnson & Johnson, High Wycombe, UK; ¹⁷Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA; ¹⁸Department of Medicine, Korea University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Key Takeaway

These data further support DVRd induction/consolidation and DR maintenance as standard of care for TE-NDMM, regardless of risk status

Conclusions

- DVRd improved PFS versus VRd, for both standard- and high-risk defined by PP-FISH or IMS/IMWG CGS, in patients with TE-NDMM
- In both standard- and high-risk patients according to the IMS/IMWG CGS, DVRd compared with VRd was associated with increased MRD-negativity rates (\geq CR; 10^{-5} and 10^{-6}), increased sustained MRD-negativity rates for \geq 12 months (\geq CR; 10^{-5} and 10^{-6}), and improved PFS
- The UMA-NGS panel successfully stratified cytogenetic risk according to the new IMS/IMWG CGS criteria in the PERSEUS study, improving risk stratification

Please scan QR code

Poster

<https://www.congresshub.com/EHA2026/Oncology/Daratumumab/Bertamini>

The QR code is intended to provide scientific information for individual reference and the information should not be altered or reproduced in any way.

Acknowledgments
The authors and Johnson & Johnson thank the patients who participated in this study, the staff members at the study sites, the data and safety monitoring committee, the staff members involved in data collection and analyses, the Rotterdam Myeloma Group from the Department of Hematology at Erasmus MC, and groups at IRCCS AOU di Bologna and University of Milan for UMA-NGS panel development. PERSEUS was sponsored by EMN in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson. The current analysis was a collaborative project between EMN and Johnson & Johnson. Medical writing support was provided by Catherine M. Cunningham, PhD, of Eloquent, part of Envision Spark, an Envision Medical Communications agency, a part of Envision Pharma Group, and funded by Johnson & Johnson. © 2026 American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. Reused with permission. This abstract was accepted and previously presented at the 2026 ASCO Annual Meeting. All rights reserved.

Disclosures
PS has served in a consulting/advisory role for Amgen, BMS, Celgene, Johnson & Johnson, Karyopharm Therapeutics, and Pfizer, and has received research funding from Amgen, BMS, Celgene, Johnson & Johnson, and Karyopharm Therapeutics.

Introduction

- International Myeloma Society/International Myeloma Working Group (IMS/IMWG) recently proposed Consensus Genomic Staging (CGS) risk criteria for NDMM including genetic alterations not identifiable by fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) by utilizing next-generation sequencing (NGS; eg, *TP53* mutations)¹
- This expanded post hoc analysis investigated clinical outcomes based on the presence of high-risk disease as defined by the new IMS/IMWG CGS risk criteria utilizing the recently developed NGS-based Unique Molecular Assay (UMA) target panel²

Risk subgroup	Definition
PP-FISH high risk	Defined per protocol as \geq 1 del17p, t(4;14), and/or t(14;16)
IMS/IMWG CGS high risk ¹	Defined as the presence of at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> del17p^a and/or <i>TP53</i> mutation^b t(4;14) or t(14;16) or t(14;20) with additional amp1q or biallelic del1p Monoallelic del1p with additional amp1q, or biallelic del1p^b High β2M with normal renal function

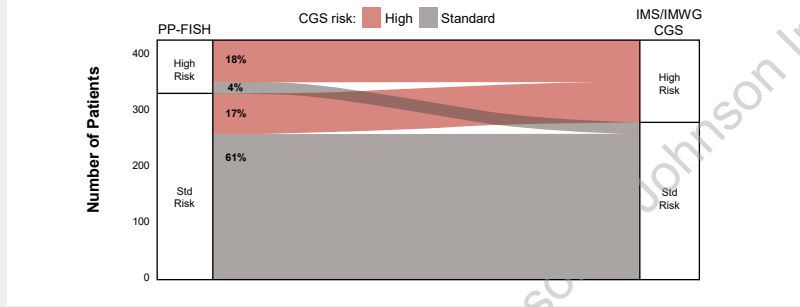
^aCCF \geq 20%, by analyses conducted on CD138+purified cells. ^bAssessed using an NGS-based method. β 2M, β 2 microglobulin; CCF, cancer cell fraction; PP-FISH, per-protocol FISH.

Results

Risk classification

- UMA-NGS panel successfully stratified risk according to CGS criteria, identifying at least 12% more high-risk patients in the PERSEUS study versus those identified using PP-FISH (Figure 1)
- The most common genetic lesions were del17p/*TP53* (n=59, 14%), IgH translocation with amp1q/del1p (12%), and del1p with amp1q (9%); 2% had biallelic focal del1p
- IMS/IMWG CGS reclassified 17% of patients from standard to high risk, with only 4% being reclassified from high to standard risk with improved risk classification (Figure 2)

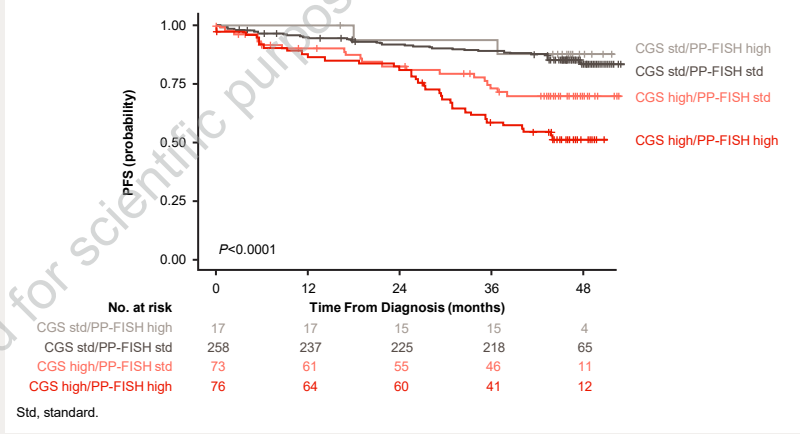
Figure 2: IMS/IMWG CGS – Risk classification results



IMS/IMWG CGS – PFS in re-classified patients

- In patients re-classified from PP-FISH high risk to IMS/IMWG CGS standard risk, PFS outcomes did not differ from those observed in patients classified as standard risk by both methods (Figure 3)

Figure 3: PFS in patients with re-classified risk status based on PP-FISH and IMS/IMWG CGS



MRD negativity and PFS

- DVRd was associated with increased overall (Figure 4A) and sustained (Figure 4B) MRD-negativity rates compared with VRd in both IMS/IMWG CGS standard-risk and high-risk patients at sensitivity thresholds of 10^{-5} and 10^{-6}

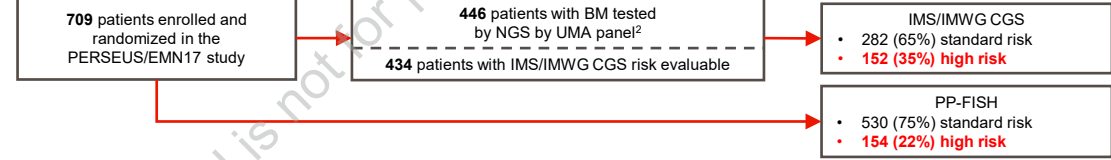
References

1. Avet-Loiseau H, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2025;43:2739-51. 2. Poletti A, et al. *Haematologica* 2025;110(10):2436-50. 3. Sonneveld P, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2024;390(4):301-13.

Methods

- PERSEUS is a phase 3, randomized clinical trial³
- The primary endpoint was progression-free survival (PFS); minimal residual disease (MRD)-negativity rate (defined as the proportion of patients who achieved both MRD negativity and \geq complete response (CR) in the intent-to-treat [ITT] population) was one of the key secondary endpoints. Bone marrow (BM) MRD was assessed using NGS (clonoSEQ[®])
- Sustained MRD negativity was defined as MRD negativity with \geq CR at least 12 months apart and without MRD positivity in between
- 709 patients with NDMM were randomized 1:1 to daratumumab, bortezomib, lenalidomide, and dexamethasone (DVRd) vs VRd. UMA-NGS target panel was used on DNA extracted from CD138+ BM cells (Figure 1)

Figure 1: PERSEUS cytogenetic/genomic analysis



MRD negativity and PFS (continued)

- DVRd led to improved PFS in both IMS/IMWG CGS standard- and high-risk patients (Figure 5A); notably, achieving 12-month sustained MRD-negativity removes the negative prognostic impact of an IMS/IMWG CGS high-risk classification at diagnosis (Figure 5B)
- DVRd improved PFS versus VRd, for both standard- and high-risk defined by PP-FISH or IMS/IMWG CGS, in patients with transplant-eligible (TE)-NDMM (Figure 6)

Figure 4: IMS/IMWG CGS – Overall and sustained (\geq 12 months) MRD-negative \geq CR rates (10^{-5} and 10^{-6})

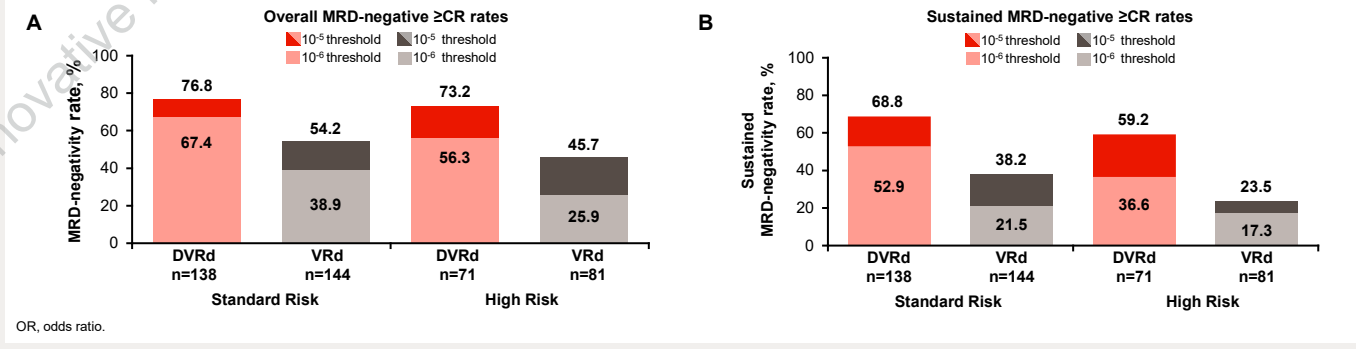


Figure 5: PFS Stratified by Risk and Treatment Arm and Sustained MRD Negativity (10^{-5})

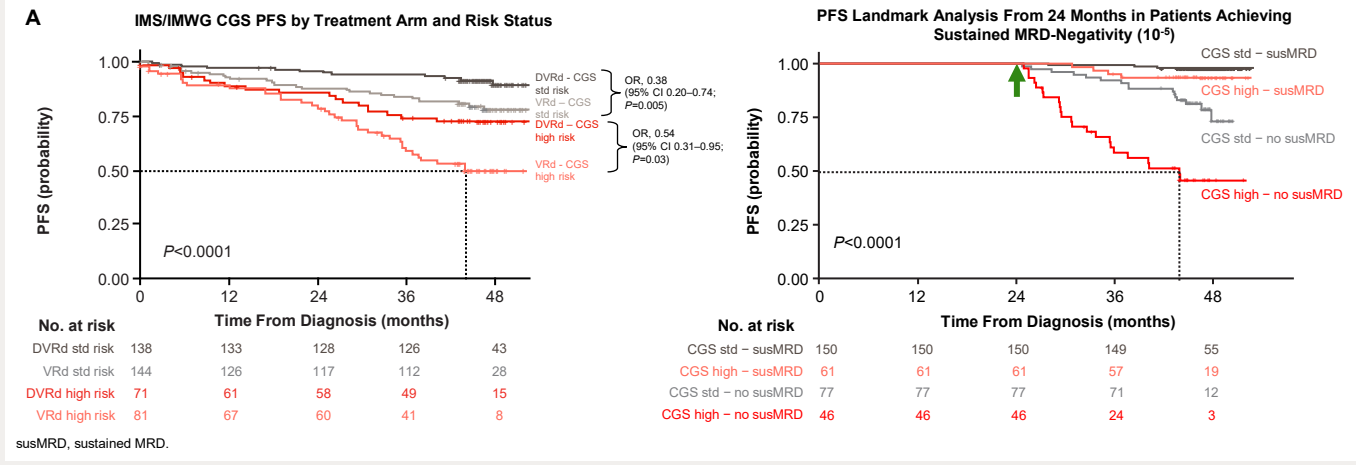


Figure 6: IMS/IMWG CGS – PFS based on cytogenetic risk by PP-FISH and IMS/IMWG CGS risk by UMA-NGS

Criteria		DVRd		VRd		OR (95% CI)	P value
		N/n	Median PFS (mo)	N/n	Median PFS (mo)		
PP-FISH	Standard risk	25/264	NE	62/266	NE	0.35 (0.22 to 0.56)	<0.0001
PP-FISH	High risk	24/76	NE	38/78	44.1	0.59 (0.36 to 0.99)	0.0439
IMS/IMWG	Standard risk	13/138	NE	29/144	NE	0.38 (0.20 to 0.74)	0.005
IMS/IMWG	High risk	19/71	NE	36/81	NE	0.54 (0.31 to 0.95)	0.03

