

LA MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN

CHE I GEIUNI

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SS Ematologia

16[°] EDIZIONE

**INCONTRI
PRATICI
DI
EMATOLOGIA**

SAVONA

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MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN:

- **CLASSIFICAZIONE CLINICA, EPIDEMIOLOGIA**
- **FISIOPATOGENESI**
- **CRITERI DIAGNOSTICI**
- **TERAPIA**





MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN: Classificazione clinica, epidemiologia

THE CASTLEMAN DISEASE SPECTRUM

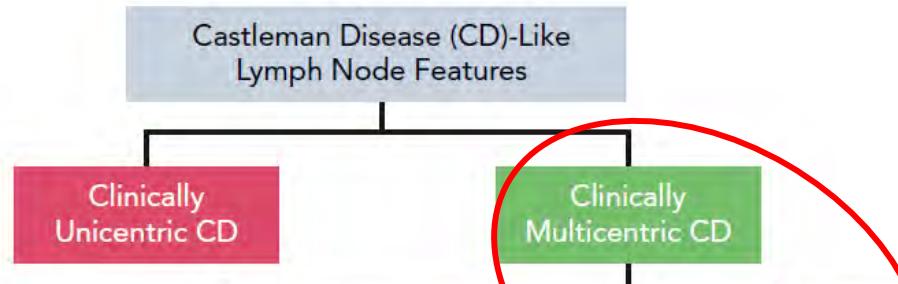
THE IMCD



Castleman disease describes a group of heterogeneous clinicopathological disorders now included in the **tumor-like lesions with B-cell predominance of the World Health Organization classification (5th edition)** that share common morphological features on lymph node biopsy

According to the clinical presentation and disease course, CD is divided into:

- **Unicentric CD (UCD)**, a localized and reversible disease involving a single lymph node, and
- **Multicentric CD (MCD)**, a systemic, progressive and often fatal disease with **lymphadenopathy in multiple nodes**.



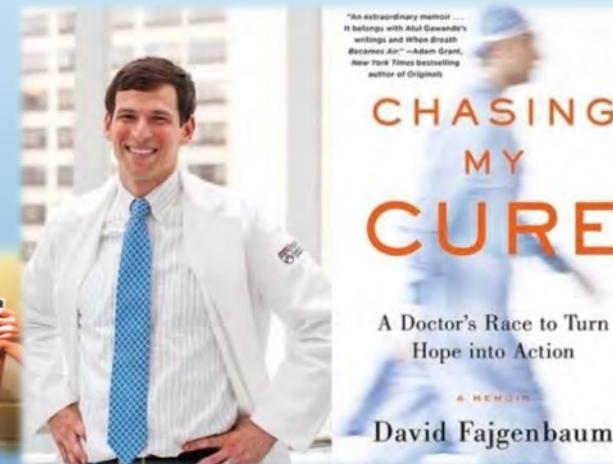
CD, Castleman disease; HHV-8, human herpesvirus 8; HIV, human immunodeficiency virus; iMCD, idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease; MCD, multicentric Castleman disease; NOS, not otherwise specified; POEMS, polyneuropathy, organomegaly, endocrinopathy, monoclonal gammopathy, skin changes; TAFRO, thrombocytopenia, anasarca, fever, reticulin fibrosis, organomegaly; UCD, unicentric Castleman disease

• CARBONE A. NAT REV DIS PRIM 2021
FAJGENBAUM DC. BLOOD 2018

DAL 1956AL 2024

Se Benjamin Castleman (1908-1982)
ha dato il proprio **nome** alla Malattia di Castleman

OGGI POSSIAMO FORSE DEFINIRE IL «PADRINO» DELLA MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN, IL PROF DAVID FAJGENBAUM CHE NEGLI ULTIMI 10 ANNI ANNI SI È DEDICATO ALL'IMponente LAVORO DI DARNE FINALMENTE UN INQUADRAMENTO DIAGNOSTICO, UNA CLASSIFICAZIONE E DELLE LINEE GUIDA DI TERAPIA



Blood, 2017 Mar 23; 129(12): 1646–1657.
Prepublished online 2017 Jan 13. doi: [\[10.1182/blood-2016-10-746933\]](https://doi.org/10.1182/blood-2016-10-746933)

PMCID: PMC5364342
PMID: [28087540](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28087540/)

International, **evidence-based consensus diagnostic criteria** for HHV-8-negative/idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease

David C. Fajgenbaum ¹ Thomas S. Uldrick ² Adam Ranno ³ Dale Frank ³ David Wu ⁴ Gordan Srkalovic ⁵



International, evidence-based consensus treatment guidelines for idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease

Frits van Rhee,¹ Peter Voorhees,² Angela Dispenzieri,³ Alexander Foss,⁴ Gordan Srkalovic,⁵ Makoto Ido,⁶ Nikhil Munshi,⁷ Stephen Schey,⁸ Matthew Streetly,⁹ Sheila K. Pierson,¹⁰ Helen L. Partridge,⁹ Sudipto Mukherjee,¹⁰ Dustin Shilling,⁹ Katie Stone,¹¹ Amy Greenway,¹ Jason Ruth,¹¹ Mary Jo Lechowicz,¹² Shanmuganathan Chandrasekaran,¹³ Raj Jayanthan,¹⁴ Elaine S. Jaffe,¹⁵ Heather Leitch,¹⁶ Naveen Pemmaraju,¹⁷ Amy Chadburn,¹⁸ Megan S. Lim,¹⁹ Kojo S. Elenitoba-Johnson,¹⁹ Vera Krymskaya,²⁰ Aaron Goodman,²¹ Christian Hoffmann,²² Pier Luigi Zinzani,²³ Simone Ferrero,²⁴ Louis Terriou,²⁵ Yasuharu Sato,²⁶ David Simpson,²⁷ Raymond Wong,²⁸ Jean-François Rossi,²⁹ Sunita Nasta,³⁰ Kazuyuki Yoshizaki,³¹ Razelle Kurzrock,³² Thomas S. Uldrick,³³ Corey Casper,³⁴ Eric Oksenhendler,³⁵ and Daniel J. Crowley,³⁶

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF CASTLEMAN DISEASE



The estimated incidence of **CD** is 6500 to 7700 cases/year in the United States

The estimated incidence of **UCD** is ~ 5000-6000 cases/year in the United States, and ~ 1650 cases of **MCD**¹

iMCD accounts for 33% to 58% of published MCD cases¹

iMCD can occur in individuals of any age with a range of 2–80 years; however, it tends to affect patients in their fourth to sixth decade of life^{1,3,4}

More commonly **females** (F 56.7% vs M 43.6%)²

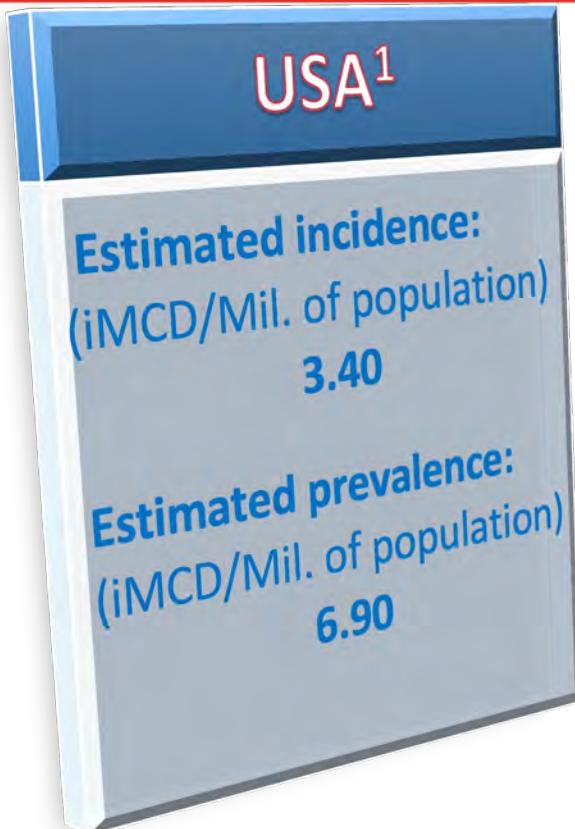
Historically, 35% die within 5 years of diagnosis, 60% die within 10 years¹

Patients have a **3-fold increase** in the **prevalence of malignancies**¹

IMCD, IDIOPATHIC MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE.

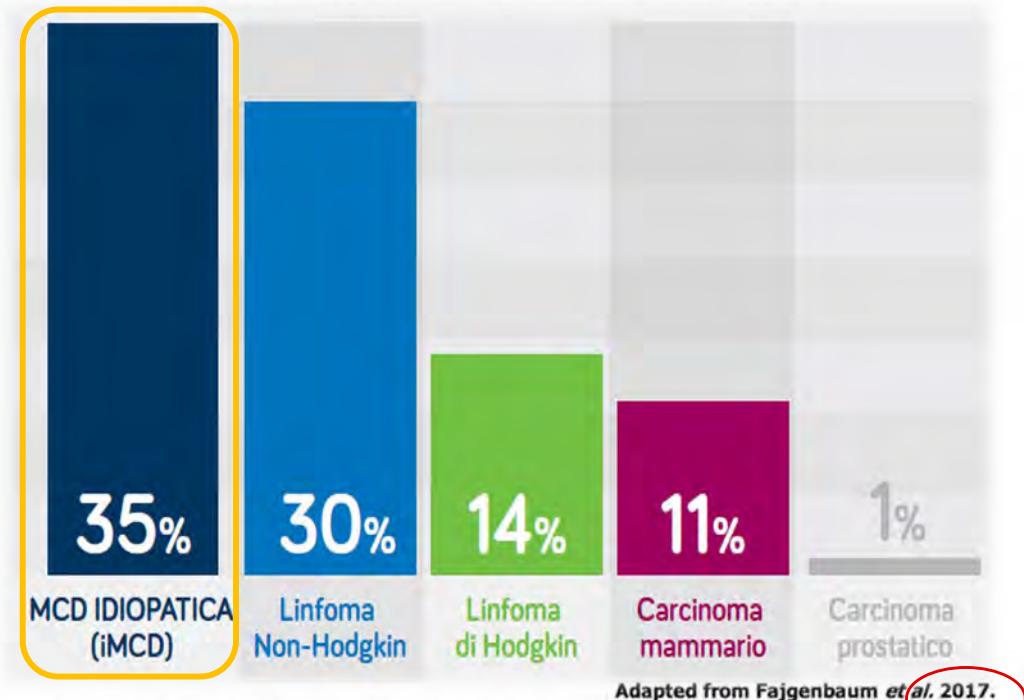
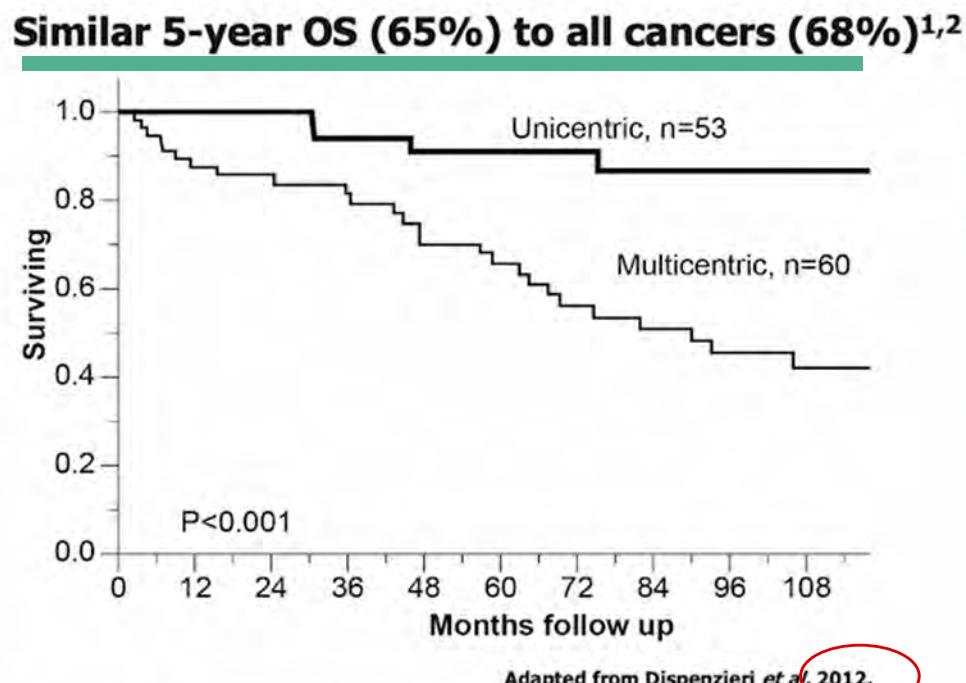
1. FAJGENBAUM DC ET AL. BLOOD 2017; 2. MUKHERJEE S ET AL. BLOOD ADV 2022; 3. FAJGENBAUM DC ET AL. BLOOD 2018; 4. DISPENZIERI A ET AL. BLOOD 2020

iMCD incidence and prevalence in Italy*



- 1.Mukherjee S, et al.: «Epidemiology and treatment patterns of idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease in the era of IL-6 directed therapy» BLOOD ADV. 2022 JAN 25;6(2):359-367*ESTIMATION FROM MUKHERJEE S, BLOOD ADV. 2022

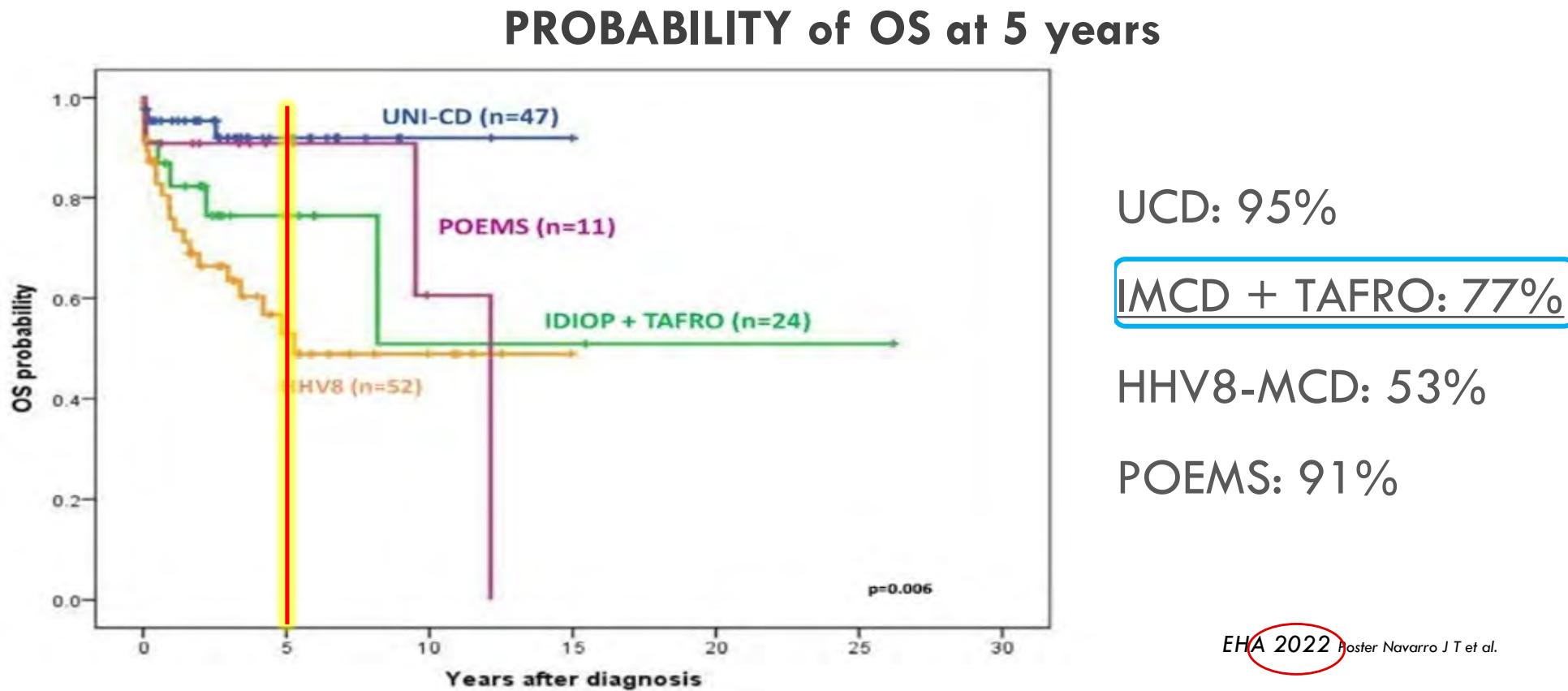
Characteristics of iMCD



ALPS, autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome; EBV, Epstein–Barr virus; FDC, follicular dendritic cell; HHV-8, human herpesvirus 8; HIV, human immunodeficiency virus; HLH-MAS, hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis–macrophage activation syndrome; IMCD, idiopathic multicentric Castleman's disease; MCD, multicentric Castleman's disease; OS, overall survival; POEMS, polyneuropathy, organomegaly, endocrinopathy, monoclonal gammopathy, skin changes; V-HLH, viral hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis.

1. 5-year Survival Rates, CSR 1975-2017. Available at: https://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2017/results_merged/topic_survival.pdf. Accessed June 2020. 2. Dispenzieri A *et al.* Am J Hemato/2012; 87: 997–1002. 3. Fajgenbaum DC *et al.* Blood 2017; 129 (12): 1646–1657.

OVERALL SURVIVAL NEWS FROM EHA 2022



LETTER

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Organ dysfunction, thrombotic events and malignancies in patients with idiopathic multicentric castleman disease: a population-level US health claims analysis

Sudipto Mukherjee¹✉, Karan Kanhai², David Kauffman³, Rabecka Martin⁴, Jeremy S. Paige³, Anirvan Ghosh³, Hannah Kannan³, Francis Shupo² and David C. Fajgenbaum¹

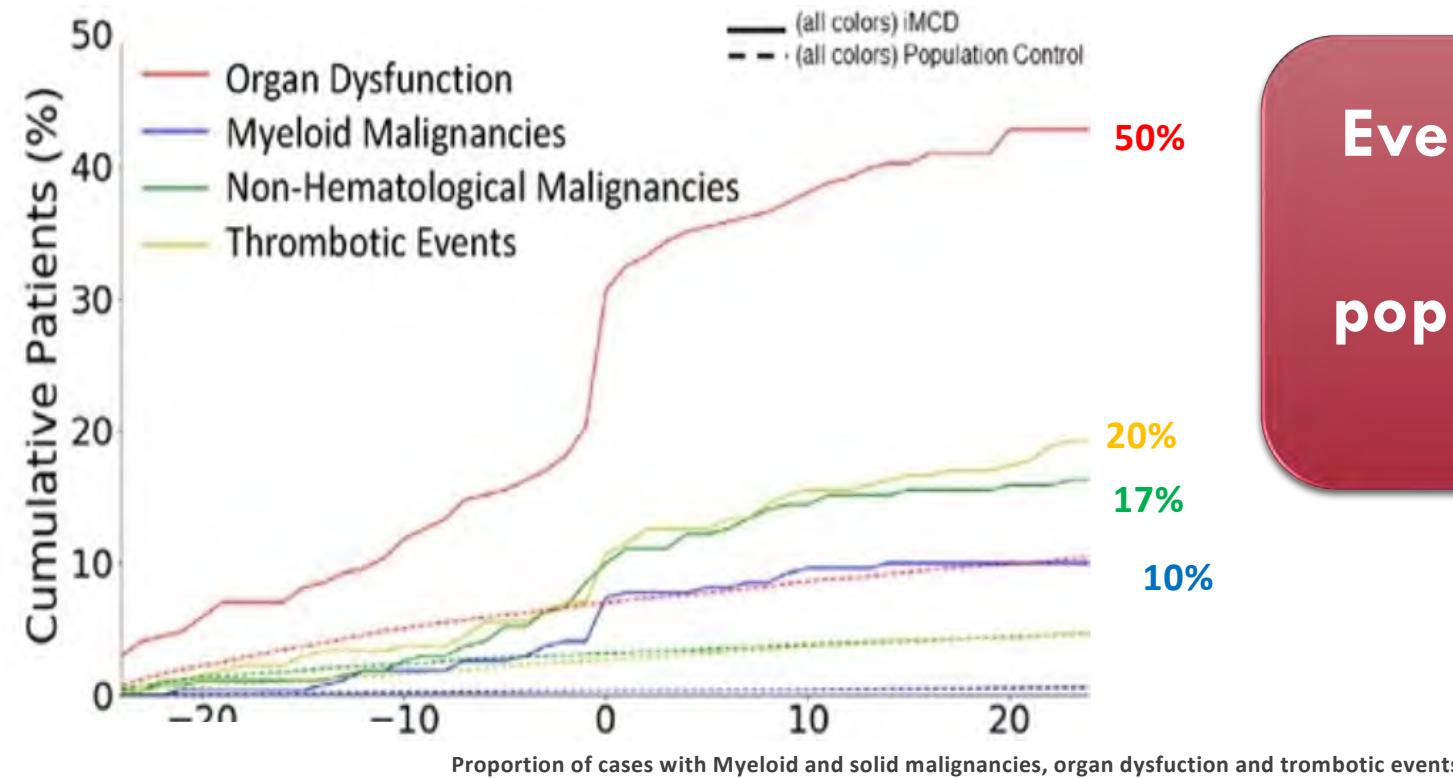
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Leukemia (2022) 36:2539–2543; <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41375-022-01690-2>

INCREASE IN THE PREVALENCE OF EVENTS



NON-HEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES IN IDIOPATHIC MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE
PATIENTS: A MATCHED COHORT ANALYSIS USING A HEALTH CLAIMS-BASED DATASET



Events are significantly higher in i-MCD population vs the non – iMCD control



EHA 2022 Poster Mukherjee s, Kanhai K et al.

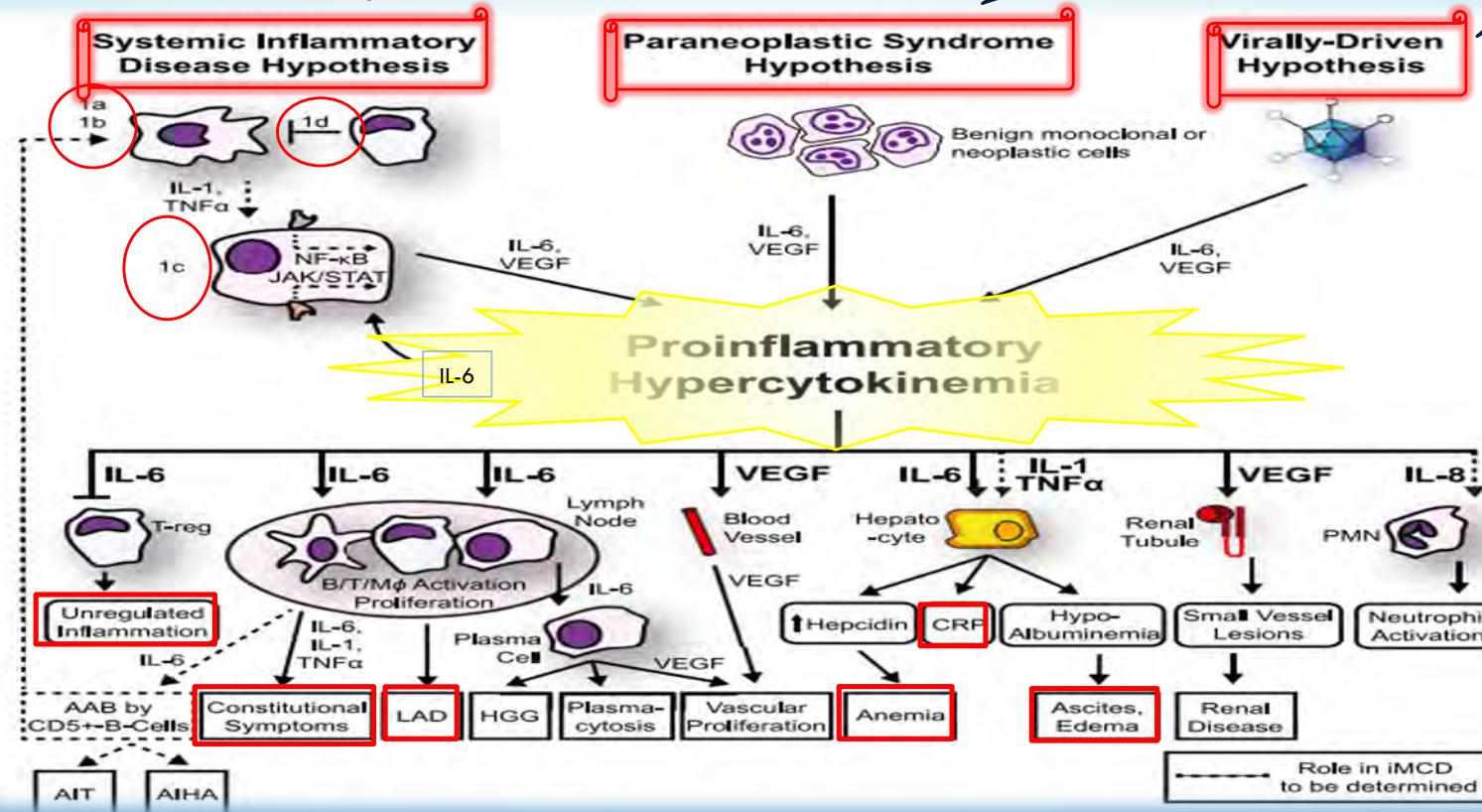


MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN MULTICENTRICA IDIOPATICA: FISIOPATOGENESI

1) **l'ipotesi della malattia infiammatoria sistemica** comprende (1a) autoanticorpi scatenanti il rilascio di citochine pro-infiammatorie da parte delle antigen presenting cell con ipersecrezione di citochine, tra cui l'IL6; (1b/c) un errore in un segnale kinasico o inhibitorio in una antigen presenting cell o in un'altra cellula ipersecrettore citochine con conseguente ipersecrezione di IL6 o, (1d) un difetto di regolazione delle cellule infiammatorie attivate. L'infiammazione sistemica è perpetuata dal feed-back positivo dell'IL6 o forse da ulteriori stimolazioni autoanticorpali

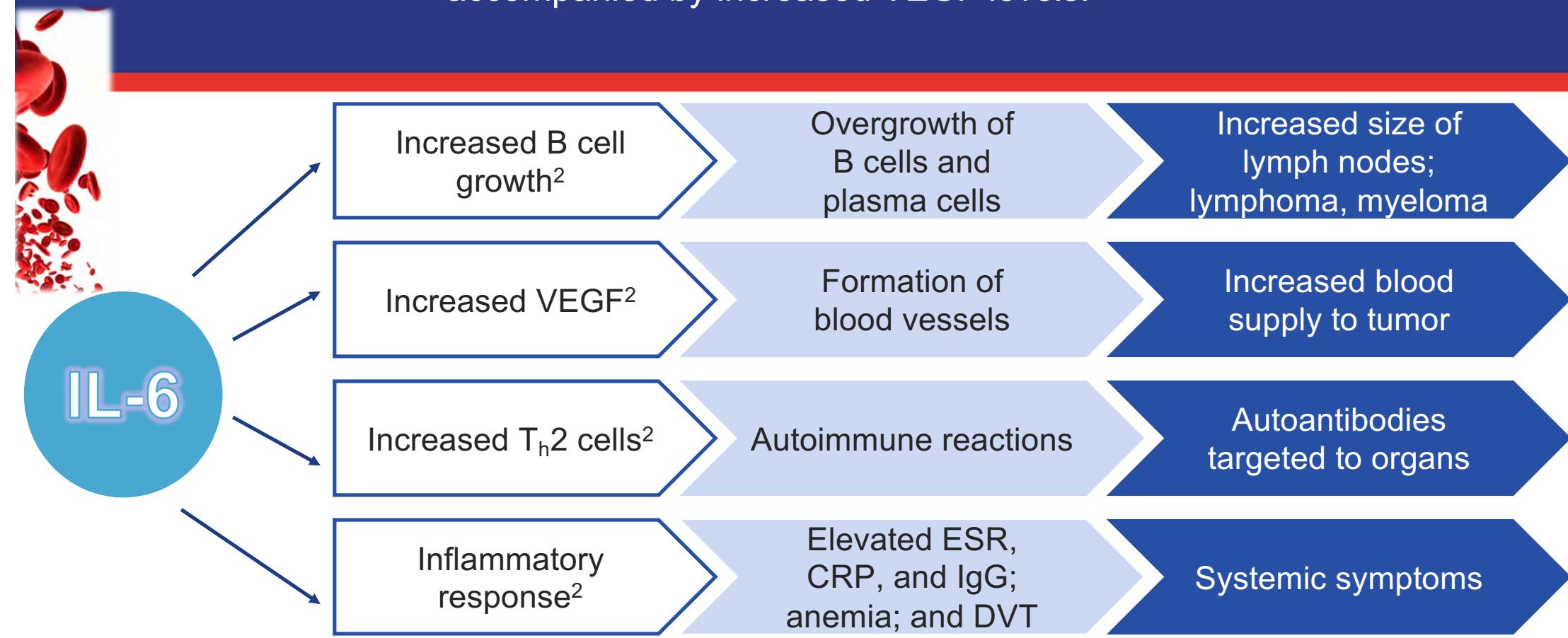
2) **l'ipotesi della sindrome (para)neoplastica** coinvolge una mutazione somatica in cellule benigne o maligne all'interno o all'esterno del linfonodo che causa un costitutivo rilascio di citochine pro-infiammatorie.

3) **l'ipotesi virale** implica un non HHV8 virus (es: EBV, HHV6) che porta al rilascio di citochine pro-infiammatorie.



PATHOGENESIS: THE ROLE OF IL-6 IN iMCD

In some patients with iMCD, increased IL-6 is a critical driver of disease and is often accompanied by increased VEGF levels:¹

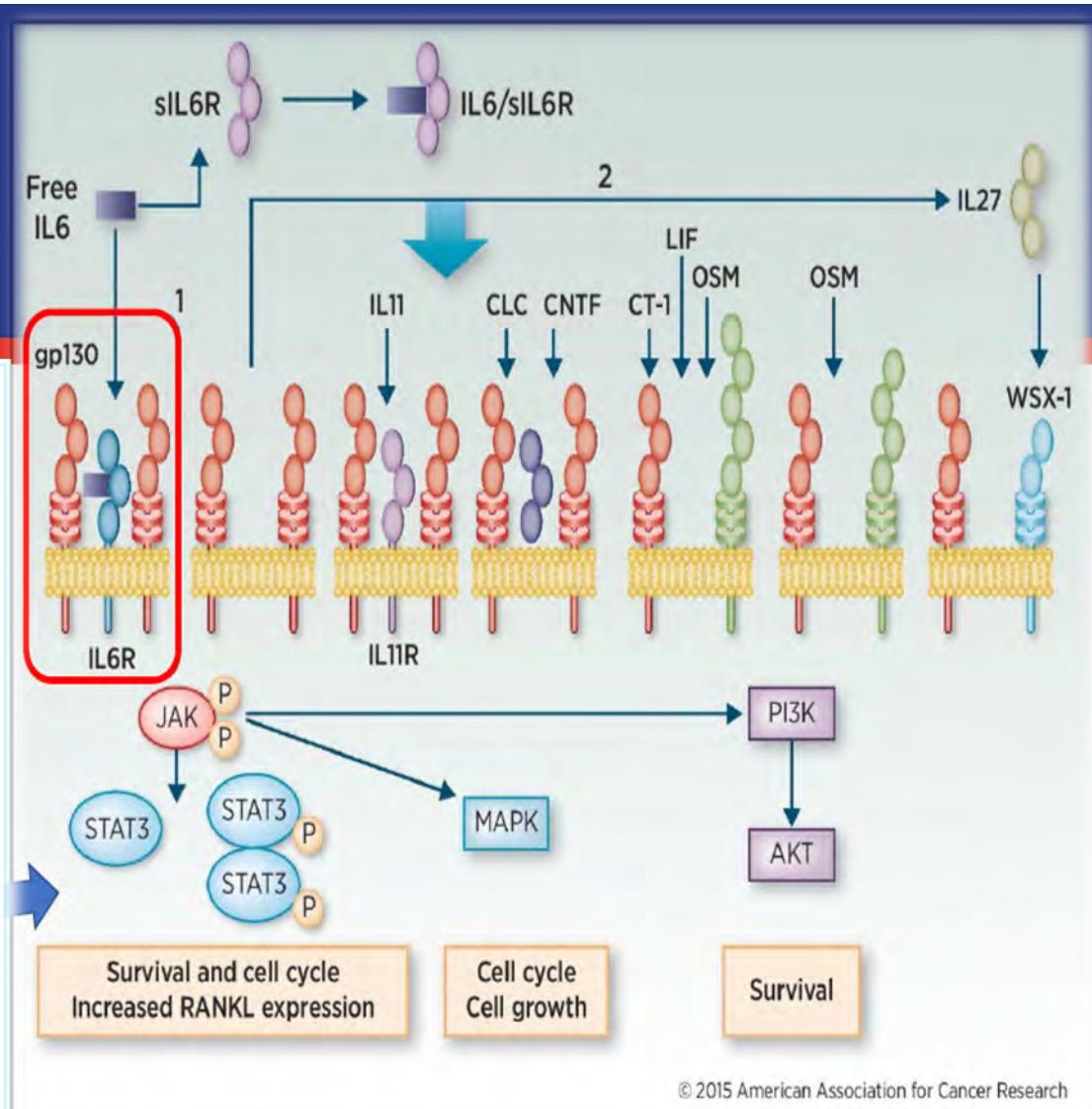


¹ thrombosis; ESR, erythrocyte sedimentation rate; IgG, immunoglobulin G; IL-6, interleukin 6; iMCD, idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease; T_h2, T helper type 2; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor.
16): 1353–1364. 2. van Rhee F et al. *Clin Adv Hematol Oncol* 2010; 8 (7): 486–498.

Adapted from van Rhee et al. 2010.

MECCANISMO D'AZIONE DELL'IL6

- L'IL6 È UNA CITOCHINA MULTIFUNZIONALE CHE HA MOLTEPLICI ATTIVITÀ BIOLOGICHE E VARIE CELLULE TARGET
- REGOLA LA RISPOSTA IMMUNE, LA REAZIONE DI FASE ACUTA, L'EMATOPOIESI E IL METABOLISMO OSSEO (ROSSI JF, INTERLEUKIN)
- IL SEGNALE DELL'IL-6 È MEDIATA DAL RECETTORE PER L'IL6 (IL-6R) (ROSSI JF, INTERLEUKIN)
- L'IL6 SI LEGA AL RECETTORE DI MEMBRANA O ALLA SUA FORMA SOLUBILE (SIL-6R)
- IL COMPLESSO IL6/ IL-6R O IL6/SIL6-R SI LEGA AL TRASDUTTORE DI IL6 GP130 (CD130)
- QUESTO LEGAME PORTA ALL'ATTIVAZIONE DI GP130 E ALL'ATTIVAZIONE DELLE KINASI RECETTORE ASSOCIATE (JAK1, JAK2 E TYK2)



© 2015 American Association for Cancer Research

CCR Reviews

AACR

Rossi JF. Interleukin-6 as a therapeutic target. Clin Cancer Res, 2015



MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN MULTICENTRICA IDIOPATICA: CRITERI DIAGNOSTICI

[Blood](#). 2017 Mar 23; 129(12): 1646–1657.

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International, evidence-based consensus diagnostic criteria for HHV-8–negative/idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease

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Key Points

An international panel of 34 experts established the first ever diagnostic criteria for iMCD based on review of 244 clinical cases and 88 tissue samples.

CONSENSUS DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA

Fajgenbaum Blood 2017

A patient must fulfil the **major**, **minor**, and **exclusion** criteria:

Major criteria

Both features must be present:

- ✓ Histopathological lymph node features consistent with the iMCD spectrum
- ✓ Enlarged lymph nodes (≥ 1 cm in short-axis diameter) in ≥ 2 lymph node stations

Minor Criteria:

≥ 2 of the following 11 features (including ≥ 1 laboratory condition) must be present:

LABORATORY
(6 FEATURES)

CLINICAL
(5 FEATURES)

Exclusion criteria

Each of the following diseases/disorders must be ruled out:

Infection-related disorders

Malignant/lymphoproliferative disorders

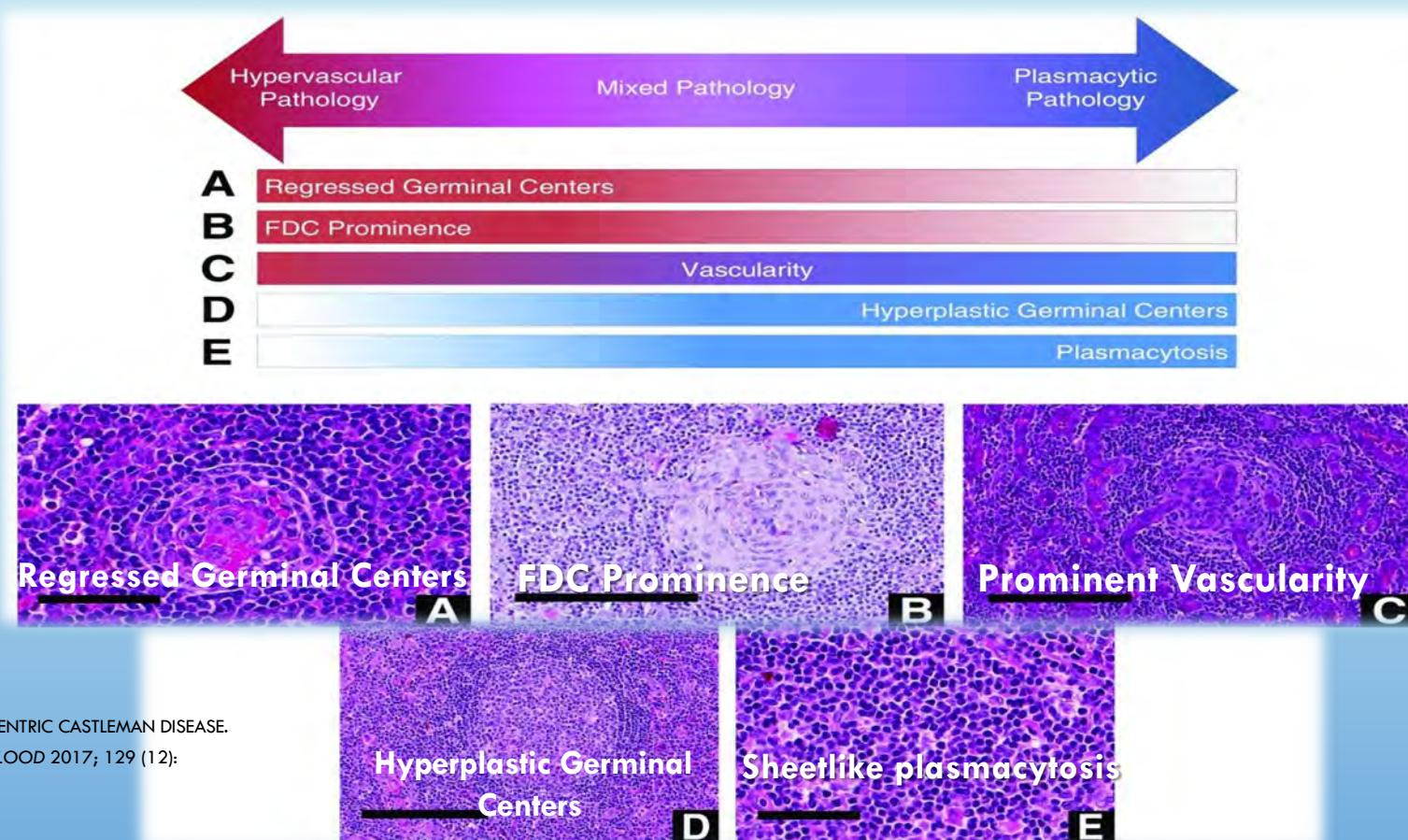
Autoimmune/autoinflammatory diseases

INTERNATIONAL DIAGNOSTIC GUIDELINES:

MAJOR CRITERIA:

both features must be present

- ✓ Histopathological lymph node features consistent with the iMCD spectrum
- ✓ Enlarged lymph nodes (≥ 1 cm in short-axis diameter) in ≥ 2 lymph node stations



IMCD, IDIOPATHIC MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE.
FAJGENBAUM DC ET AL. BLOOD 2017; 129 (12):
1646–1657.

INTERNATIONAL DIAGNOSTIC GUIDELINES: MINOR CRITERIA

≥2 of the following 11 features (including ≥1 laboratory condition) must be present:

LABORATORY

- Elevated CRP or ESR
- Anemia
- Thrombocytopenia or thrombocytosis
- Hypoalbuminemia
- Renal dysfunction or proteinuria
- Polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia

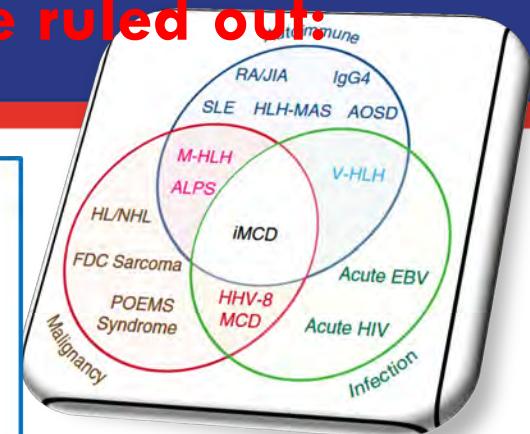
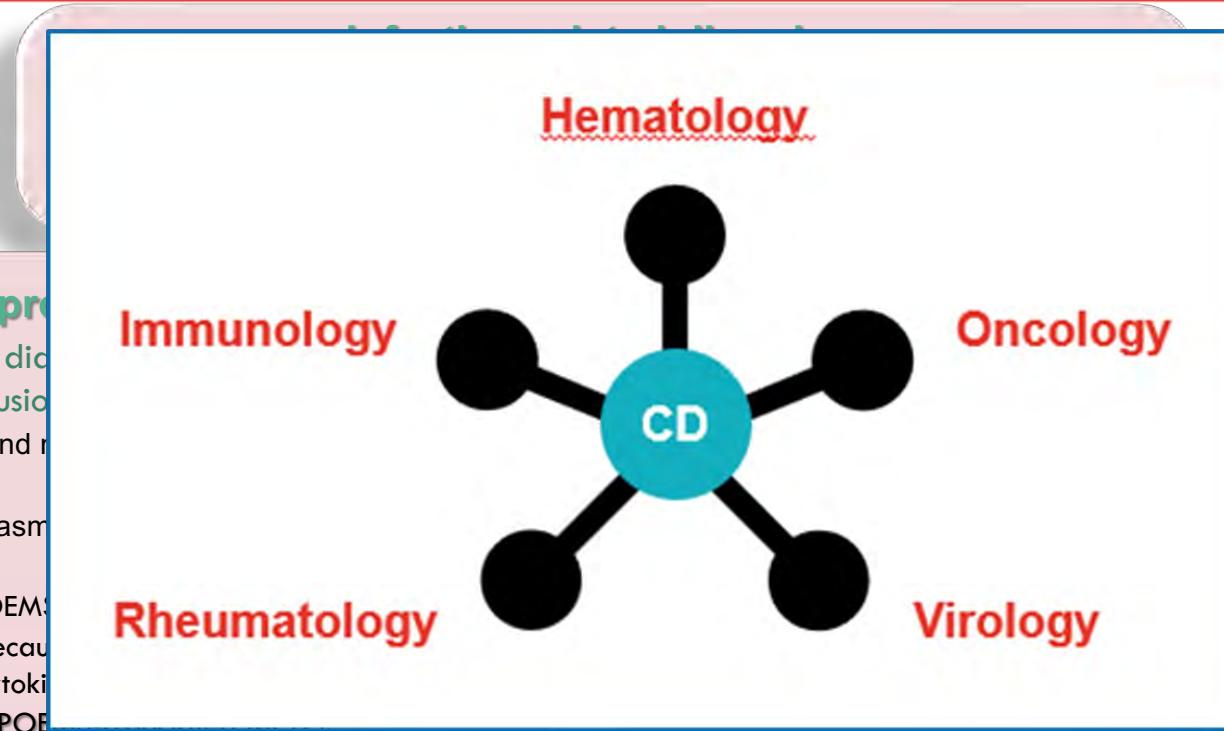
CLINICAL

- Constitutional symptoms such as night sweats, fever, weight loss or fatigue
- Hepatomegaly and/or splenomegaly
- Fluid accumulation: oedema, anasarca, ascites or pleural effusion
- Eruptive cherry hemangiomatosis or violaceous papules
- Lymphocytic interstitial pneumonitis



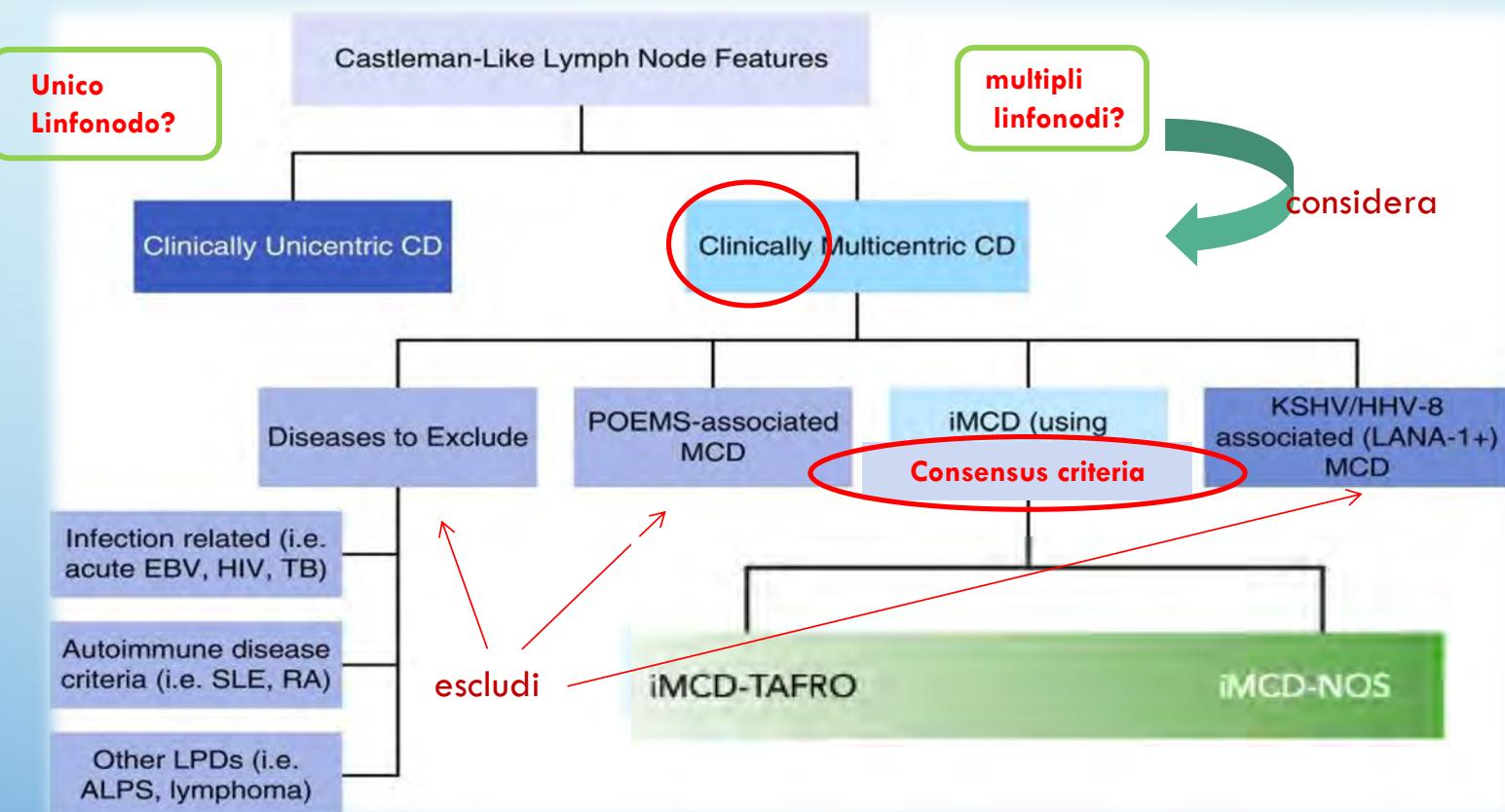
INTERNATIONAL DIAGNOSTIC GUIDELINES: EXCLUSION CRITERIA

each of the following diseases/disorders must be ruled out:



MUNICULAR LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE SYNDROME; AOSD, ADULT-ONSET STILL'S DISEASE; CD, CASTLEMAN DISEASE; EBV, EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS; FDC, FOLLICULAR DENDRITIC CELL;
HHV-8, HERPESVIRUS 8; IMCD, IDIOPATHIC MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE; MCD, MULTICENTRIC CASTLEMAN DISEASE; POEMS, POLYNEUROPATHY, ORGANOMEGLALY, ENDOCRINOPATHY,
L GAMMO PATHY, SKIN CHANGES; SLE, SYSTEMIC LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS.
DC ET AL. BLOOD 2017; 129 (12): 1646-1657.

ALGORITMO DELL'APPROCCIO PER L'INQUADRAMENTO DEL LINFONODO CON CARATTERISTICHE DI CD

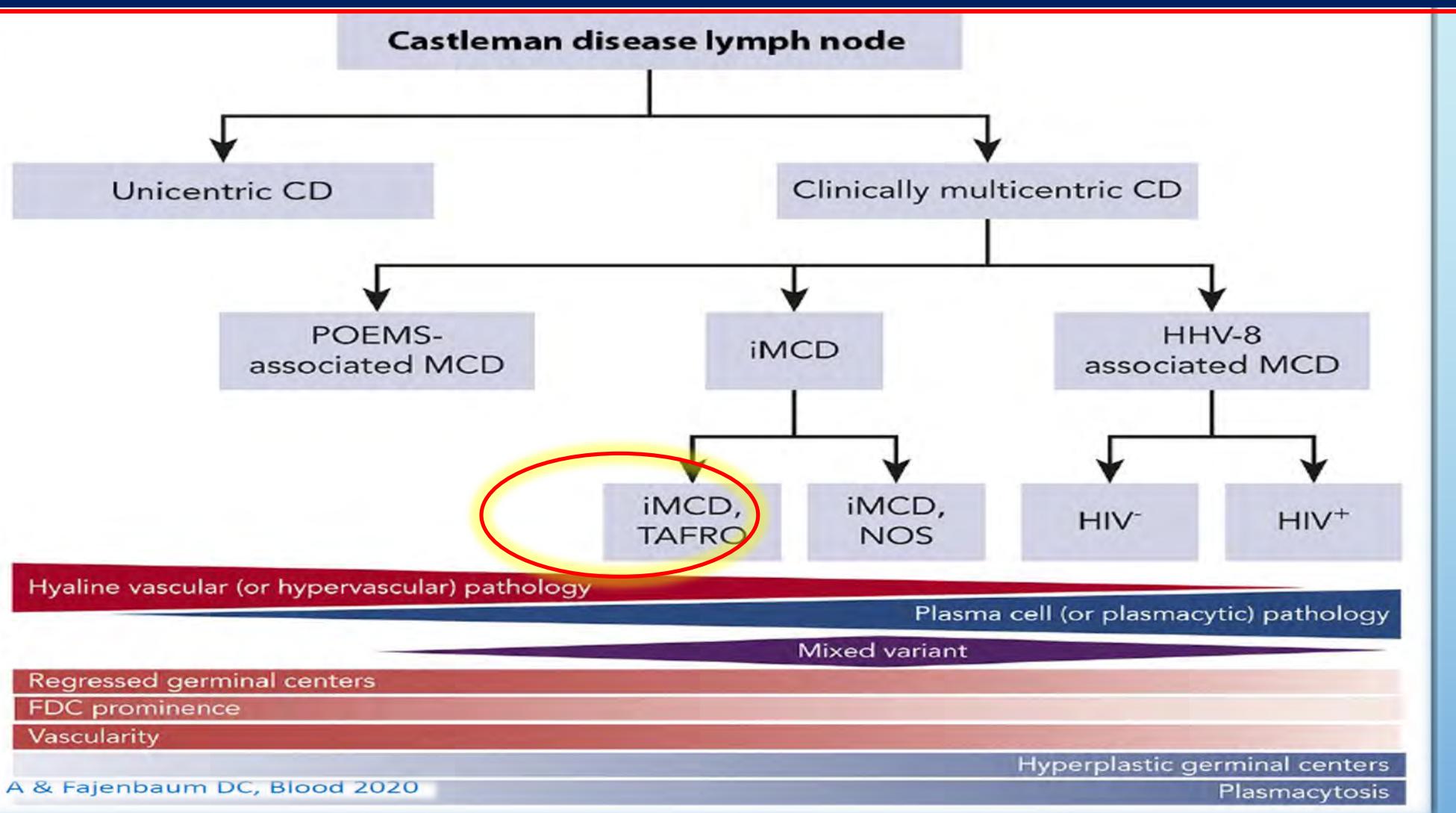




MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN MULTICENTRICA IDIOPATICA TAFRO

EMERGENZA EMATOLOGICA

The Castleman Disease spectrum



TAFRO syndrome

This heterogeneous clinical entity can occur in the context of:

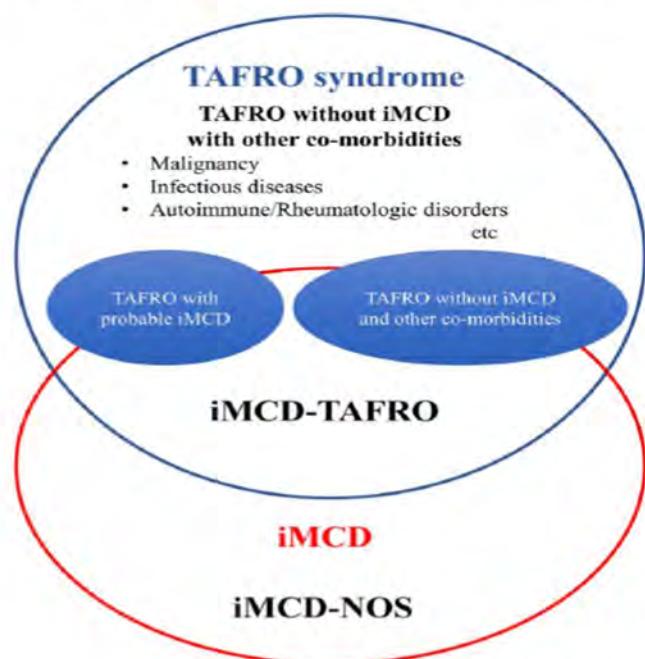
- Infectious diseases
- Malignancies
- Rheumatologic disorders
- Idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease (iMCD)

Iwaki et al. AJH 2016

Fajgenbaum et al. AJH 2018

TAFRO syndrome

Validated international definition of the thrombocytopenia, anasarca, fever, reticulin fibrosis, renal insufficiency, and organomegaly clinical subtype (TAFRO) of idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease



TAFRO syndrome is not idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease-TAFRO

IMCD-TAFRO

A distinct group of patients present with an **aggressive subtype** of iMCD; these patients have specific symptoms:¹

Thrombocytopenia

Anasarca

Fever

Reticulin fibrosis or Renal

Insufficiency

Organomegaly

1. Dispenzieri A et al. Blood 2020; 135 (16): 1353–1364

EAHP22-BMWS-1206: TAFRO Syndrome in a Patient with Multicentric Castleman Disease (Idiopathic, HHV8-Negative)
Clarissa E. Jordan, M.D.; Mazen Osman, M.B., B.Ch.; Prasuna Muppa, M.B.B.S.; Matthew Howard, M.D.; Rebecca L. King, M.D.
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA

VALIDATED INTERNATIONAL DEFINITION OF iMCD-TAFRO

(Nishimura et al)

- Clinical criteria (all 4 required)
 - Thrombocytopenia
 - Anasarca
 - Fever or hyperinflammatory status
 - Organomegaly
- Pathological criteria (required); lymph node consistent with idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease
- Exclusion of a variety of infectious diseases, autoimmune/rheumatologic diseases, and malignancy (required)
- Additional clinical and pathological criteria (at least one required)
 - Renal insufficiency or renal failure
 - TAFRO-consistent bone marrow, including reticulin fibrosis or megakaryocytic hyperplasia
- Additional clinical and pathological criteria (not required but contributory)
 - Absence of polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia
 - High alkaline phosphatase with mild to no increase in bilirubin and transaminases

Diagnostic Criteria of iMCD-TAFRO

TAFRO
Syndrome

[PL/
non-TAFRO]

Hyaline Vascular/Mixed Histopathology

Thrombocytopenia

Severe Anasarca

Myelofibrosis

Constitutional Symptoms

Renal dysfunction

Hepatosplenomegaly

Thrombocytosis

Hyper gammaglobulinemia

Plasmacytic/Mixed Histopathology

Definite iMCD-TAFRO Criteria

1. Clinical Criteria (all four required)

Thrombocytopenia (T): Pre-treatment nadir platelet level $\leq 100\text{--}103/\mu\text{l}$

Anasarca (A): Pleural effusion, ascites, or subcutaneous edema with CT scan

Fever or hyperinflammatory status (F): Fever $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ of unknown etiology or CRP $\geq 2.0\text{ mg/dl}$

Organomegaly (O): Small volume lymphadenopathy in two or more regions, hepatomegaly, or splenomegaly on CT scan

2. Pathological Criteria (required)

Lymph node consistent with iMCD: must be consistent with histopathologic features of the International iMCD Diagnostic Criteria

3. Additional Clinical and Pathological Criteria (at least one)

Renal insufficiency (R)

TAFRO-consistent bone marrow: Reticulin fibrosis (R) or megakaryocytic hyperplasia, without evidence of an alternative diagnosis

4. Exclusion Criteria (required)

5. Supportive Clinical Criteria (not required but strongly supportive)

Renal insufficiency (R)

TAFRO-consistent bone marrow: Reticulin fibrosis (R) or megakaryocytic hyperplasia, without evidence of an alternative diagnosis

Absence of polyclonal hypergammaglobulinemia

Elevated alkaline phosphatase with mild to no elevation in bilirubin and transaminases

Exclusion Criteria

Infectious diseases - including:

1. HHV-8
2. EBV-associated lymphoproliferative disorders
3. Acute HIV infection
4. Tuberculosis
5. Covid-19 cytokine storm syndrome

Autoimmune/rheumatologic diseases:

1. Systemic lupus erythematosus
2. Sjögren syndrome
3. Rheumatoid arthritis
4. Adult-onset Still disease
5. Juvenile idiopathic arthritis
6. IgG $\geq 3400\text{ mg/dl}$ (suggestive of autoimmune diseases or plasma cell dyscrasias)
7. Primary hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis

Malignancy - including:

1. Malignant lymphoma
2. Multiple myeloma
3. Metastatic cancer
4. POEMS syndrome

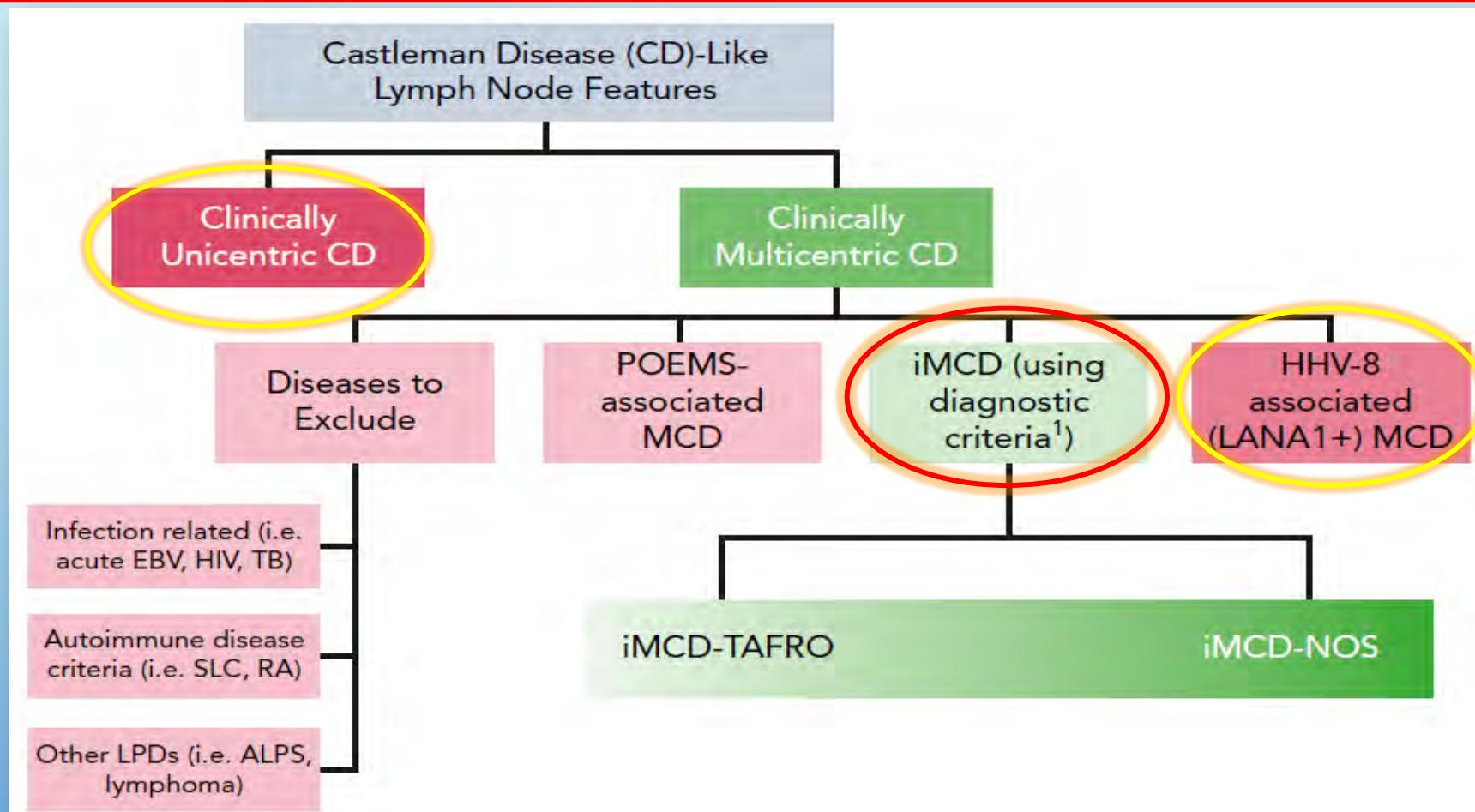
(adapted from Nishimura Y., American Journal of Hematology; 2021:1-12)



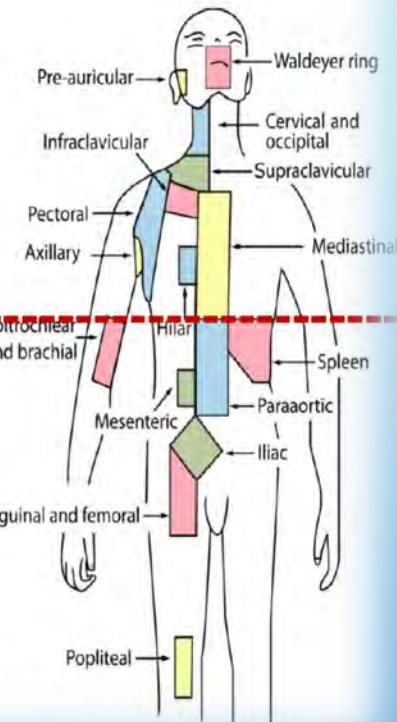
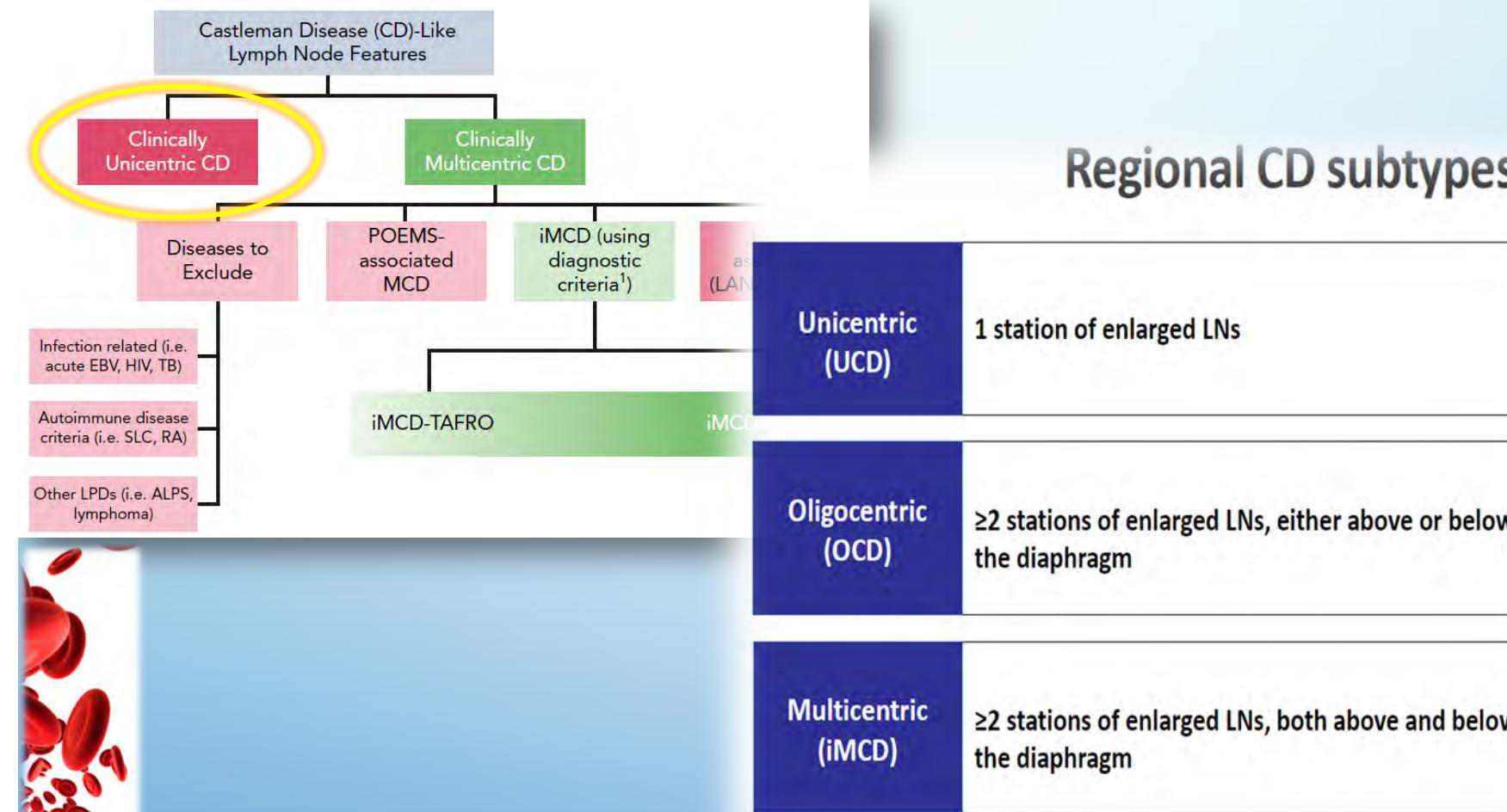
MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN

TERAPIA

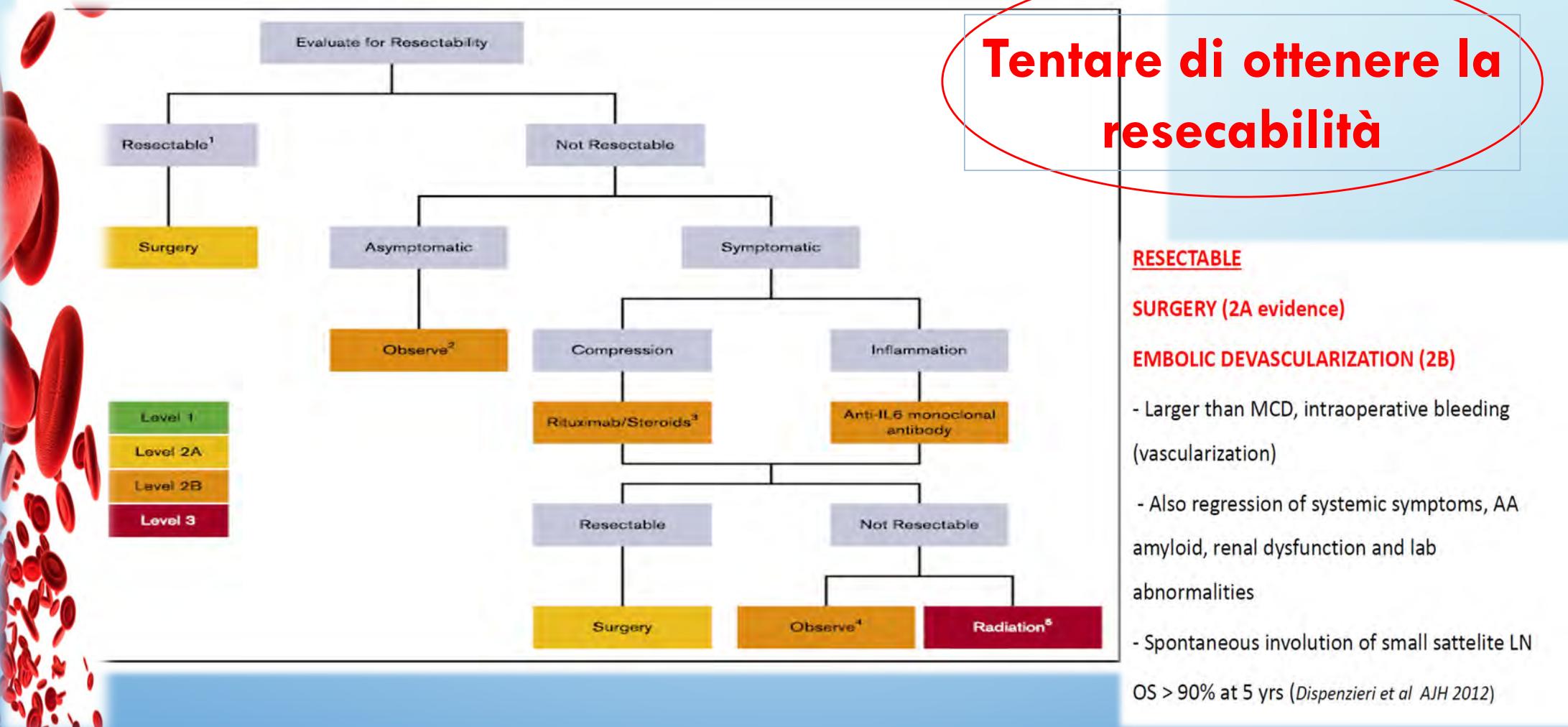
DIVERSA A SECONDA DEL TIPO DI CD



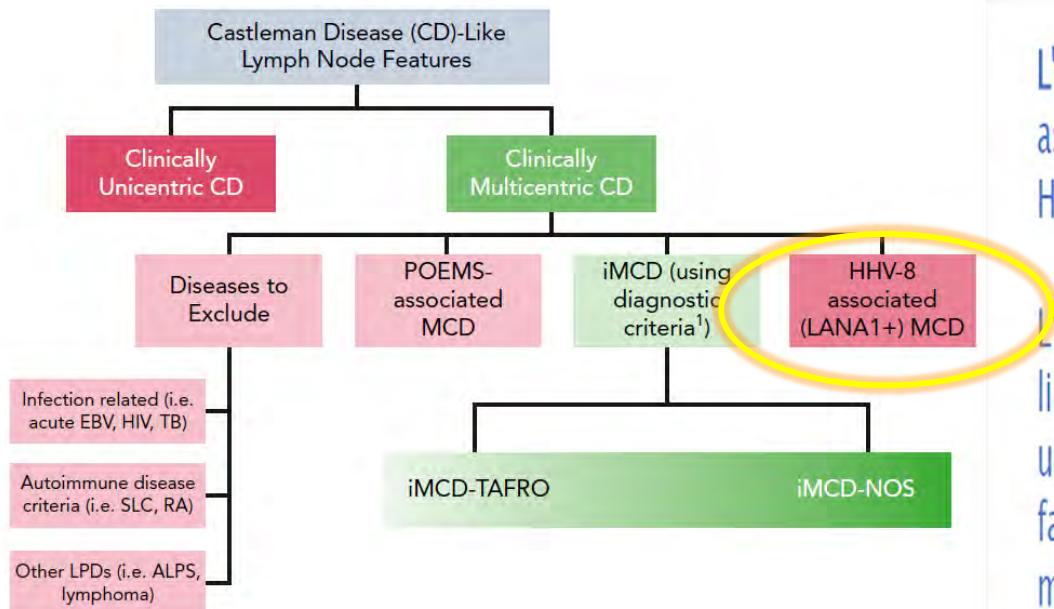
TERAPIA DELLA MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN UNICENTRICA UNICO LINFONODO O UN'UNICA STAZIONE LINFONODALE COINVOLTA



TERAPIA DELLA MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN UNICENTRICA RESEZIONE CHIRURGICA



TERAPIA DELLA MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN MULTICENTRICA HHV8 CORRELATA



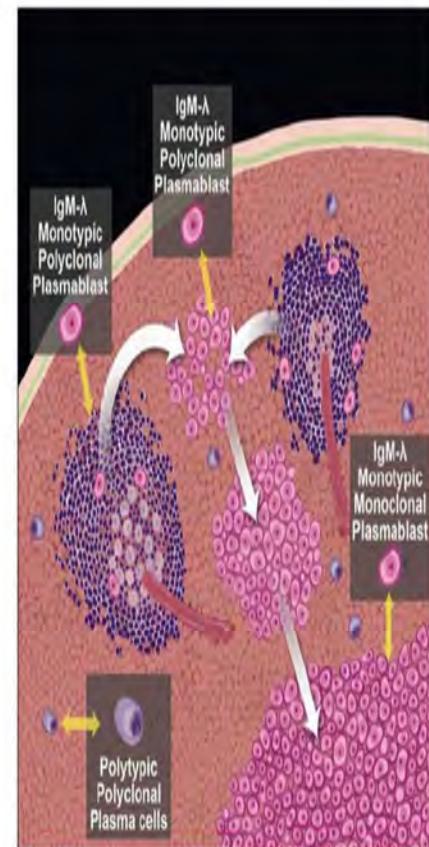
L'HHV8 si osserva nel 60-100% dei pazienti associata all'HIV, ma anche nel 20-40% dei pazienti HIV-negativi.

L'HHV8 si localizza negli immunoblasti e nei linfociti B CD20+. L'HHV8 induce la produzione di un omologo virale dell'interleuchina-6 (vIL6), che facilita la comparsa dei linfociti B con componente monoclonale o policlonale.

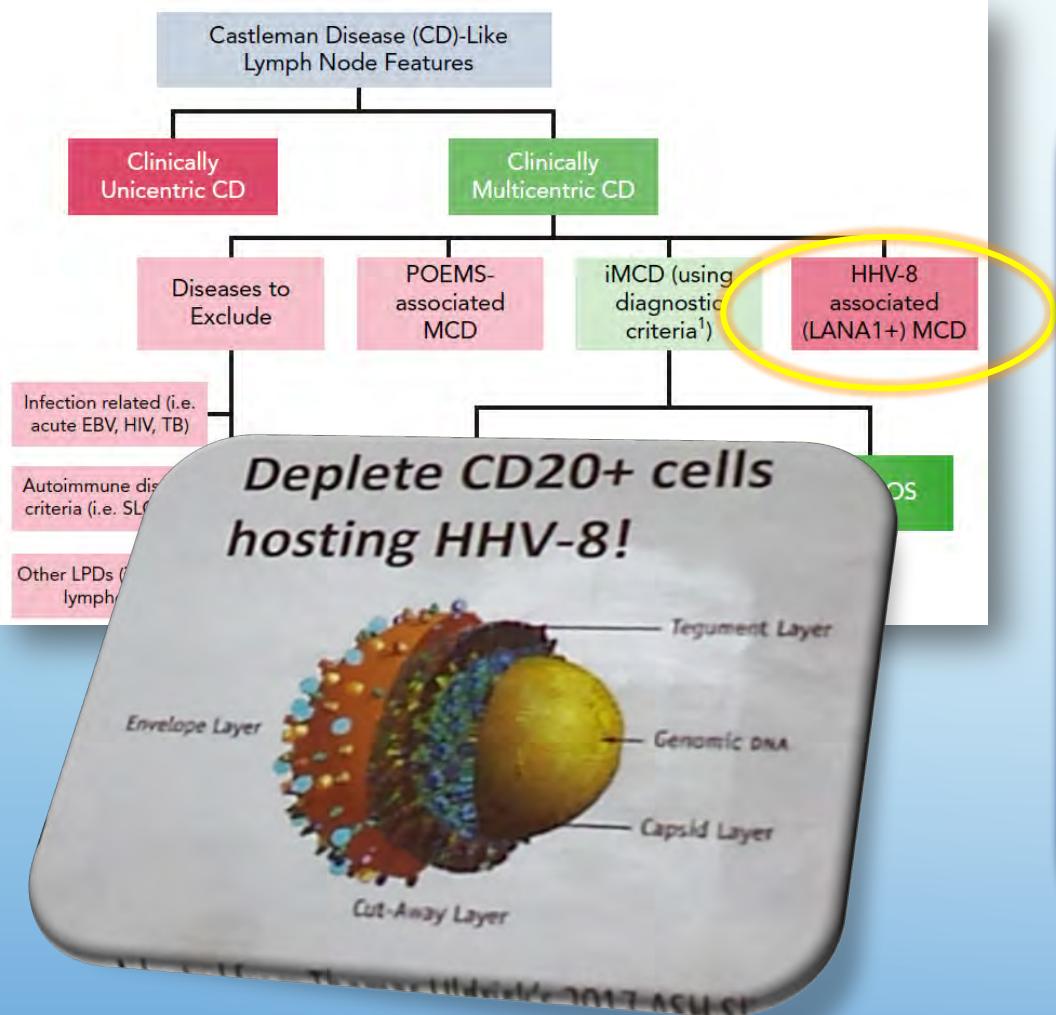
Il **meccanismo fisiopatologico** è chiaro. L'**immunocompromissione** secondaria all'infezione da HIV o ad altre cause permette una **incontrollata infezione e replicazione dell'HHV-8 all'interno dei plasmoblasti e delle cellule B** del linfonodo che porta all'increzione dell'IL-6 virale e di altre citochine pro-infiammatorie.

Si tratta di un'iperplasia dei B celli che produce altri antigeni di

© 2014 Multicentric Castleman Disease,



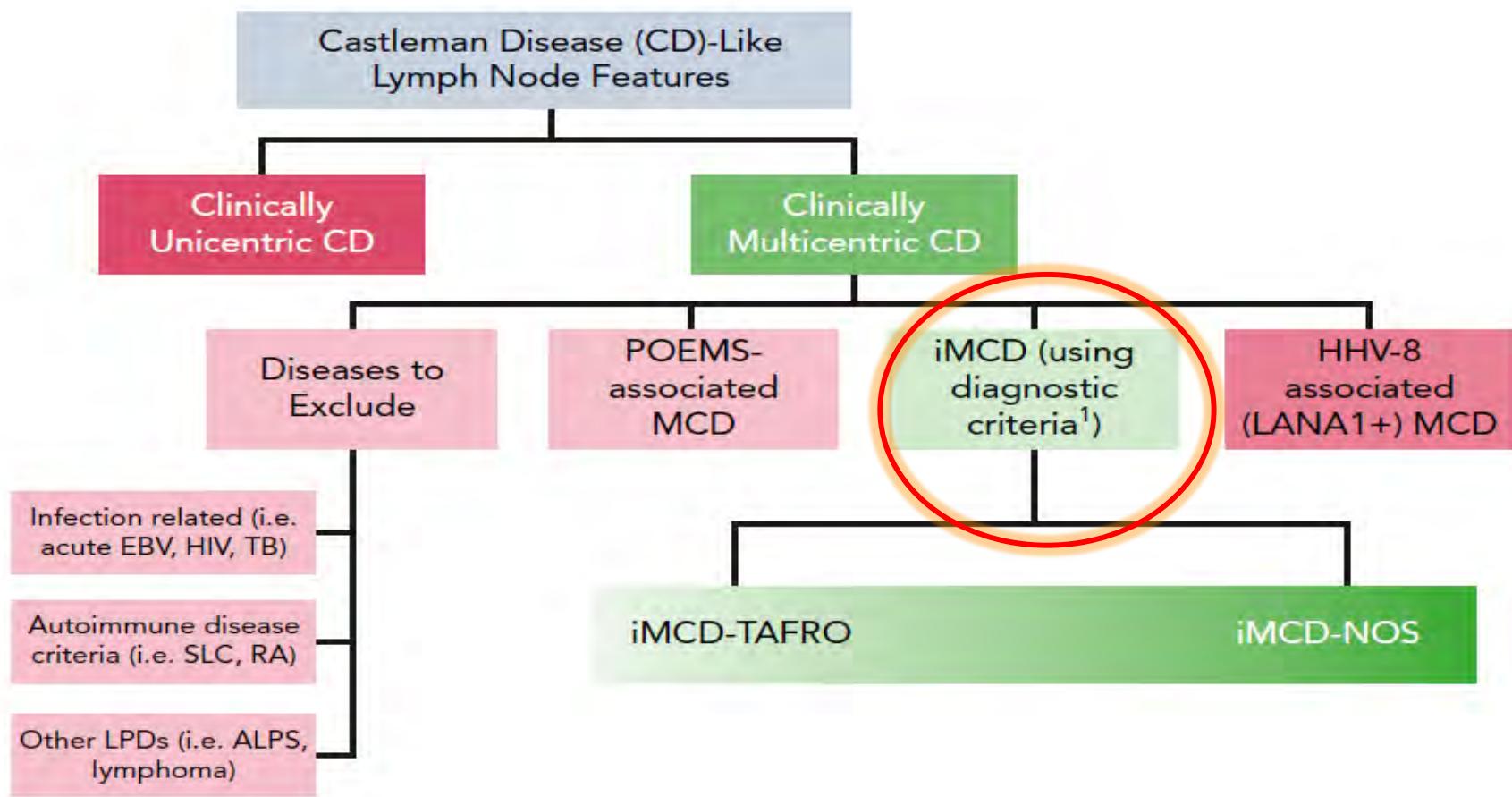
TERAPIA DELLA MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN MULTICENTRICA HHV8 CORRELATA



Da modulare in base alla severità dei sintomi e alle comorbidità

- **MCD HHV-8+ ASINTOMATICA**
monitoraggio ogni 3 mesi con visita, esami di laboratorio e pcr quantitativa per HHV-8
- **MCD HHV-8+ MODERATAMENTE SINTOMATICA**
Anti CD 20 settimanale
- **MCD HHV8+ SEVERAMENTE SINTOMATICA**
Anti CD20 + Etoposide/adriblastina liposomiale
- **MCD HHV-8+ +HIV**
Anti CD20 + HAART
- **MCD HHV8+ S. di Kaposi**
Anti CD20 + Adriblastina liposomiale
- **MCD HHV8+ + PEL**
Terapia della PEL

MALATTIA DI CASTLEMAN MULTICENTRICA IDIOPATICA: TERAPIA



SEVERITY: Criteria for defining **severe iMCD**

- Patients with non-severe iMCD typically have a good performance, without evidence of abnormal organ function
- Patients with severe iMCD usually have evidence of organ failure and are likely to require critical care; they often present as the TAFRO subtype

If a patient is suspected to have iMCD, an assessment of disease severity is also recommended



Severe iMCD

- ECOG PS ≥ 2
- Stage IV renal dysfunction (eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73 m²; creatinine >3.0 mg/dL)
- Anasarca and/or ascites and/or pleural/pericardial effusion (effects of hypercytokinemia/low albumin)
- Hemoglobin ≤ 8.0 g/dL
- Pulmonary involvement/interstitial pneumonitis with dyspnea

**Almeno 2
dei 5 criteri**

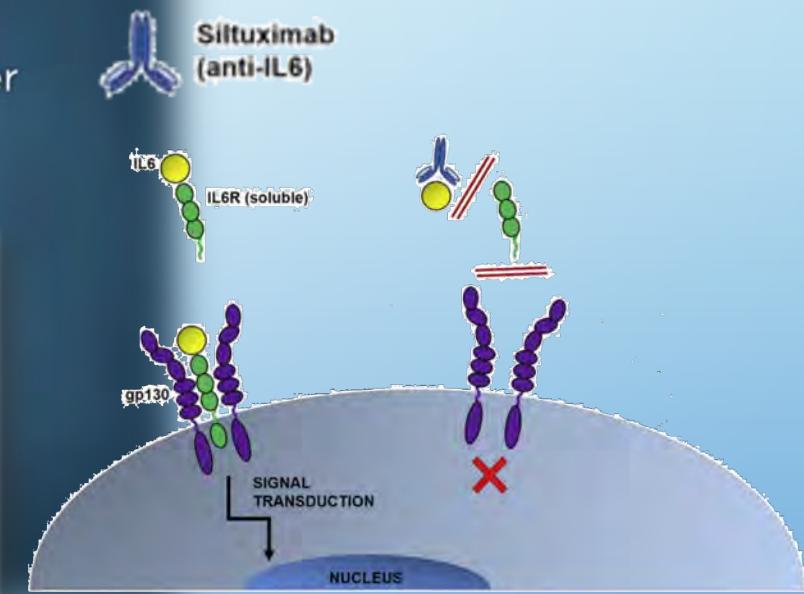
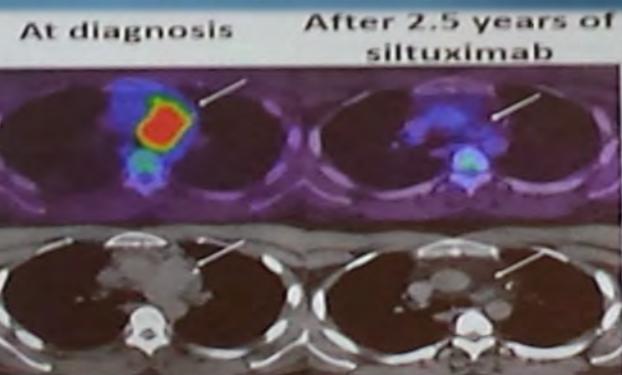
Castelman Disease Collaborative Network; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; iMCD, idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease; performance status.
Lee F et al. *Blood* 2018;132:2115–2124.

Come bloccare l'IL-6?

Siltuximab è un anticorpo monoclonale che si lega all'IL-6 impedendone il legame al recettore per l'IL6, sia alla forma solubile che a quella di membrana. Si lega solo all'IL-6 umano e non a quello virale, per cui non è indicato nelle forme di MCD HHV-8 +.



11 mg/kg of Siltuximab given over
1 hour as intravenous infusion
administered every 3 weeks



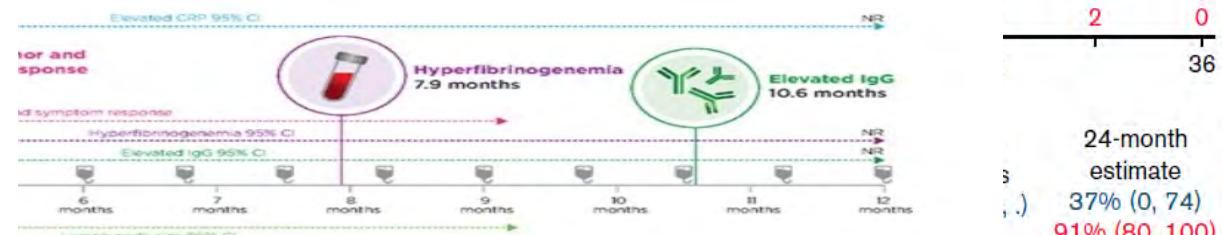
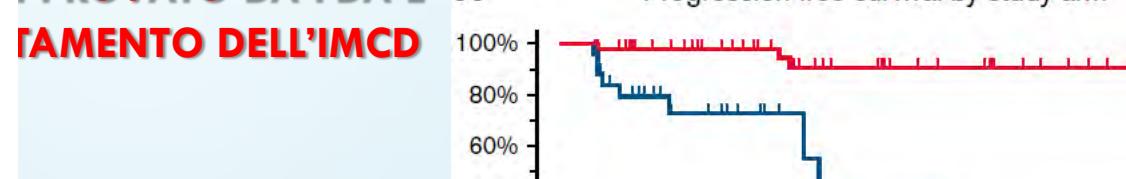
SILTUXIMAB PER IL TRATTAMENTO DELLA IMCD

Key Points

- Siltuximab leads to rapid normalization of symptomatology and most abnormal laboratory parameters and prolongs PFS in patients with iMCD.
- The findings in this study reinforce the use of siltuximab as the first iMCD treatment choice, as recommended by international guidelines.

PPROVATO DA FDA E
TAMENTO DELL'IMCD

A

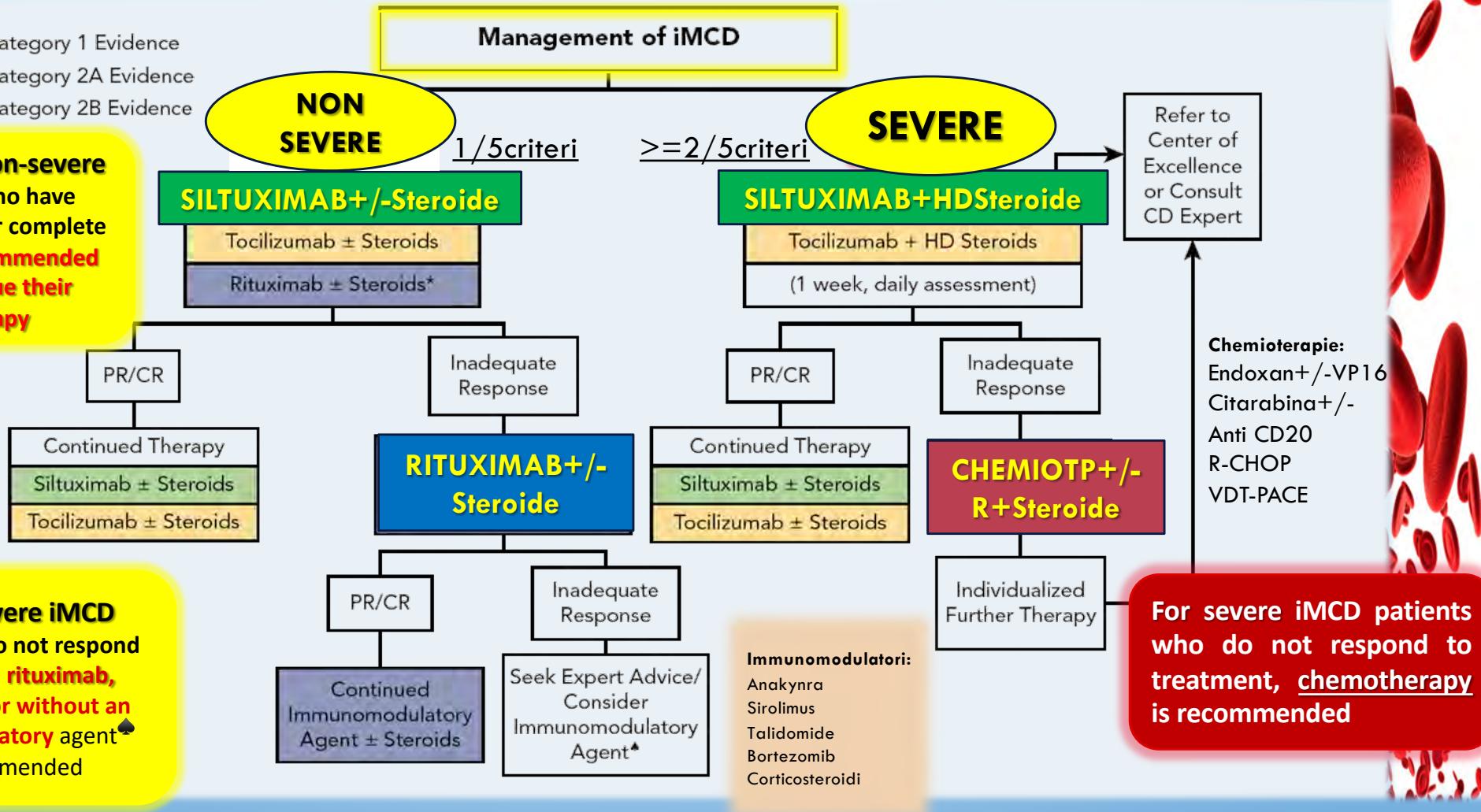


12. Poster Frits van Rhee et al.

CDCN international treatment algorithm for iMCD¹

- Category 1 Evidence
- Category 2A Evidence
- Category 2B Evidence

For severe and non-severe iMCD patients who have achieved a partial or complete response, it is recommended that they continue their current therapy



RISPOSTA ALLA TERAPIA

CDCN response criteria: How should response to treatment be evaluated?

- The CDCN response criteria is based on the evaluation of biochemical, lymph node, and symptom response

Overall response	Biochemical (CRP, Hb, albumin, GFR)	Lymph node	Symptoms (fatigue, anorexia, fever, weight)	Symptom	Improvement criteria
CR	All measures normal	CR	Normalization to baseline	Fatigue	Decrease of ≥ 1 CTCAE grade point relative to baseline
PR	>50% improvement in all measures	PR	Improvement in all 4 categories, but not to baseline	Anorexia	Decrease of ≥ 1 CTCAE grade point relative to baseline
SD	<50% improvement (or <25% worsening) in all measures	No PR or CR	Improvement in 1–3 categories	Fever	Decrease of $\geq 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ relative to baseline
PD	>25% worsening in any measure	>25% increase	Any symptoms worse on ≥ 2 assessments	Weight	Increase of $\geq 5\%$ relative to baseline

Adapted from van Rhee *et al.* 2018.

CDCN, Castleman Disease Collaborative Network; CR, complete response; CRP, C-reactive protein; CTCAE, Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events; GFR, glomerular filtration rate; Hb, hemoglobin; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease.
van Rhee F *et al.* *Blood* 2018; 132: 2115–2124.

Management of siltuximab therapy

HemaSphere

Guideline Article – Consensus based
Open Access

**Unmet Clinical Needs in the Management of
Idiopathic Multicentric Castleman Disease: A
Consensus-based Position Paper From an ad hoc
Expert Panel**

Pier Luigi Zinzani^{1,2}, Marco Paulli³, Luca Arcaini^{4,5}, Emanuel Della Torre^{6,7}, Simone Ferrero^{8,9}, Amalia Figuera¹⁰,
Ferdinando Frigeri¹¹, Maurizio Martelli¹², Elena Sabattini¹³, Riccardo Scarpa^{14,15}, Giovanni Barosi¹⁶

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EHA
EUROPEAN
HEMATOLOGY
ASSOCIATION

Management of Siltuximab therapy

TREATMENT GUIDELINES:

- 1) **Corticosteroid monotherapy is not recommended** in iMCD because of a response failure rate of over 50% and nonnegligible side effects.
- 2) **Anti-IL-6 siltuximab therapy (11 mg/kg every 3 weeks)** is recommended as **first-line therapy, with corticosteroids** as initial adjuvant therapy if necessary and with a **dosing regimen tailored to the severity of symptoms**.
- 3) Due to the side effects of corticosteroids, **anti-IL-6 siltuximab therapy should be initiated early to discontinue steroids as soon as possible.**
- 4) **Severe iMCD cases should be started immediately on siltuximab combined with high-dose corticosteroid (500 mg/daily) therapy to prevent deterioration and death.**
- 5) An aggressive treatment with **weekly doses of siltuximab may be used for the 1st month of therapy**; if a response is obtained, then siltuximab should be administered every 3 weeks indefinitely with gradual tapering of steroids.

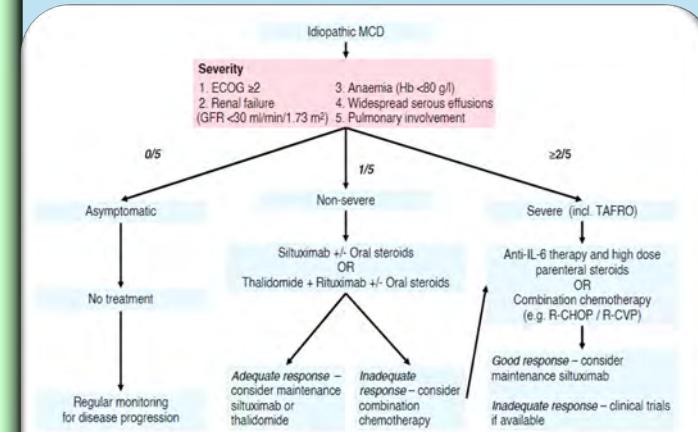
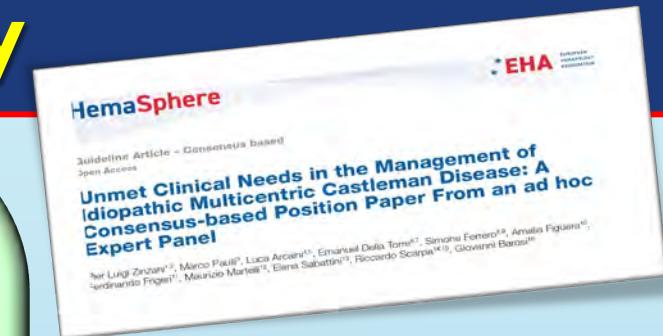


Fig 2. Suggested therapeutic algorithm in idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease. Severity scoring derived from the Castleman Disease Clinical Network. Anti IL-6 therapy, anti interleukin 6 therapy denotes siltuximab or tocilizumab; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Performance Status score; GFR, glomerular filtration rate; Hb, Haemoglobin; MCD, multicentric Castleman disease; R-CHOP, rituximab-cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine (Oncovin) and prednisone; R-CVP, rituximab, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and prednisone; TAFRO, Thrombocytopenia, Anaemia, myelofibrosis, Renal dysfunction and Organomegaly.

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British Journal of Haematology, 2021, 195, 328–337

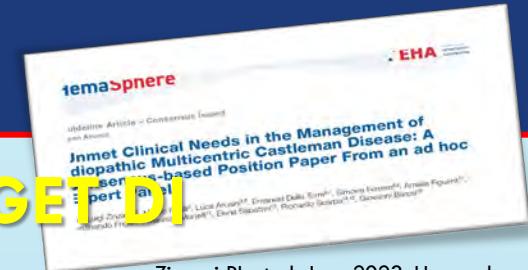
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British Journal of Haematology, 2021, 195, 328–337

Management Of Siltuximab Therapy

PATHWAYS CITOCHINICI POTENZIALMENTE TARGET DI TERAPIE MIRATE

The Panel agreed on

- It's possible to reduce the dose in responding patients? that is, de-escalating treatment intensity by switching siltuximab administration at 11 mg/kg every 6 weeks? retrospective registry-based clinical data on no severe iMCD
- The signature by **proteomics** represents a potential new clinical predictive tool for siltuximab therapy response
- **Recommending tocilizumab as a reasonable alternative** therapy to siltuximab if the latter is not readily available: 8 mg/kg IV every 2 weeks



Recommended Therapeutic Options	Unmet Clinical Needs Still to be Addressed
Therapy Siltuximab 11 mg/kg every 3 weeks (as first-line therapy)	De-escalating treatment intensity to 11 mg/kg every 6 weeks in responding patients
Accelerated weekly dosing of siltuximab in most severe cases for 1 month	None
Adjunctive corticosteroids (in highly symptomatic iMCD) tailored to disease severity Tocilizumab (if siltuximab is not available)	Considering gradual corticosteroid dose tapering Performing studies to establish the optimal regimen for iMCD

3M = bone marrow; FDG-PET/CT = fluorodeoxyglucose-positron emission tomography/computed tomography; HHV-8 = human herpesvirus-8; iMCD = idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease; LANA-1 = latency-associated nuclear antigen-1; SUVmax = maximum standardized uptake value; TAFRO = Thrombocytopenia, Anasarca, Fever, Reticulin myelofibrosis, Organomegaly; UCN = unmet clinical need.



CHOICE AND MANAGEMENT OF THERAPY IN PATIENTS RESISTANT/INTOLERANT TO SILTUXIMAB

PUBLISHED EVIDENCE:

- About 50%–66% of patients with iMCD do not obtain or lose their response during first-line siltuximab therapy.
- The consensus guidelines suggest
 - for NON SEVERE anti-IL-6 mAb refractory iMCD: **rituximab and corticosteroids with or without immunomodulatory/immunosuppressive agents**: cyclosporine A, sirolimus, thalidomide, lenalidomide, bortezomib, **anakinra**, derivatives of retinoic acid, and IFN- α (in this phisiopathogenesis)
 - for **SEVERE iMCD**

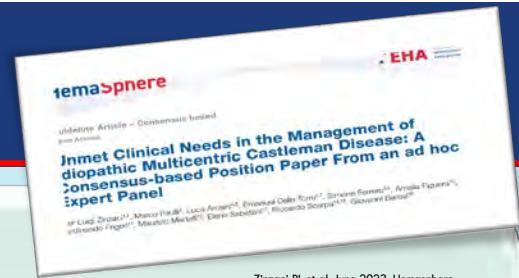
CONCLUSION

The management of severe iMCD that fails anti-IL-6 mAbs and cytotoxic chemotherapy is not well defined and should be considered for each patient, taking into account previous responses, comorbidities, performance status, and cytokine profile

mTOR inhibitor: Sirolimus: induced remission in iMCD patients and induced remission in iMCD with multiple relapses after chemotherapy. Increased PI3K/Akt activation may activate the IL-6-JAK-STAT3

has been observed in the lymph nodes of anti-IL-6 mAb refractory iMCD cases: A clinical trial on using sirolimus to treat iMCD is still ongoing. mTOR is a promising target pathway also for the therapy of IL-6 inhibitor-refractory iMCD-NOS

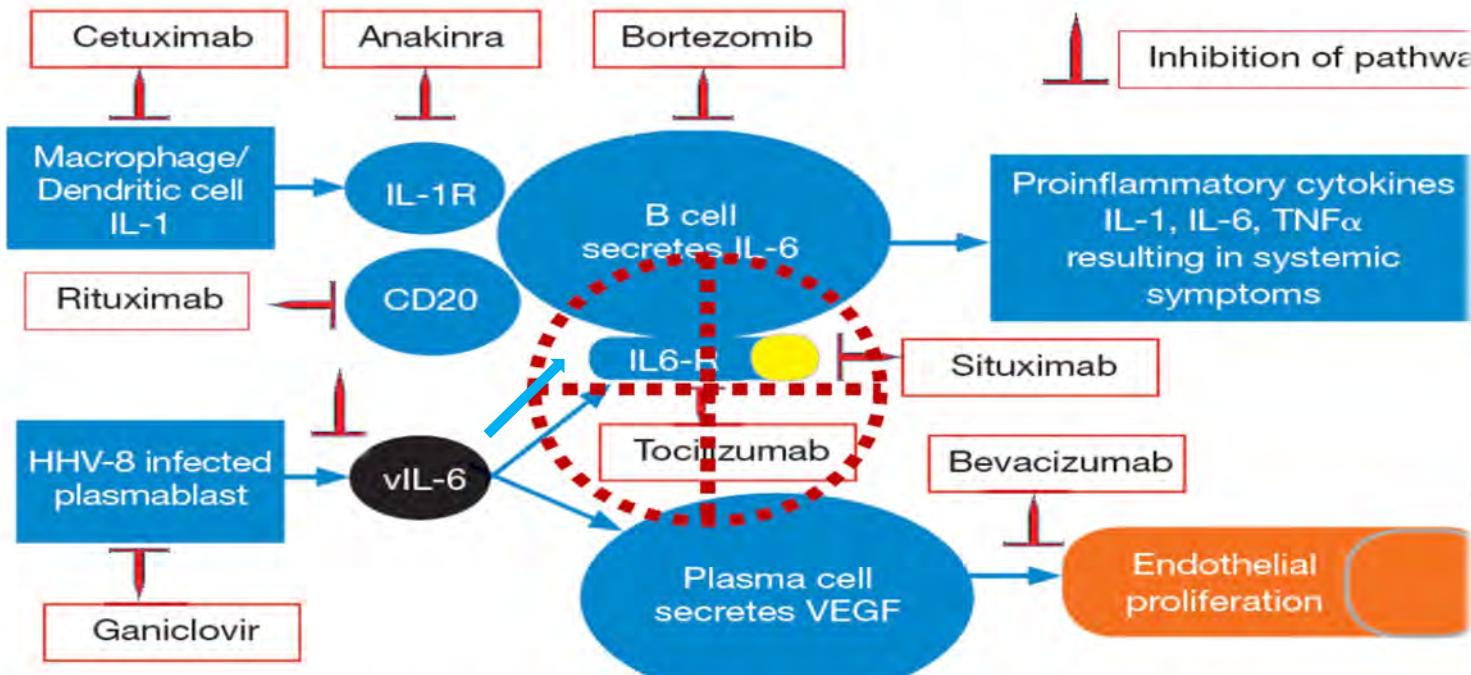
JAK-STAT3 pathway and that **JAK1/2 inhibitors** may represent a valuable therapeutic strategy for siltuximab non responders. **IFN-I** signalling seems involved in the JAK-mediated activation of mTOR in iMCD-TAFRO and **may represent another pharmacological target**.



Zinzani PL et al, June 2023, Hemisphere

PATHWAYS CITOCHINICI POTENZIALMENTE TARGET DI TERAPIE MIRATE

Figure 1. Pathophysiology of Castleman Disease



Pathways showing potential therapeutic targets and inhibition of pathway with drugs.

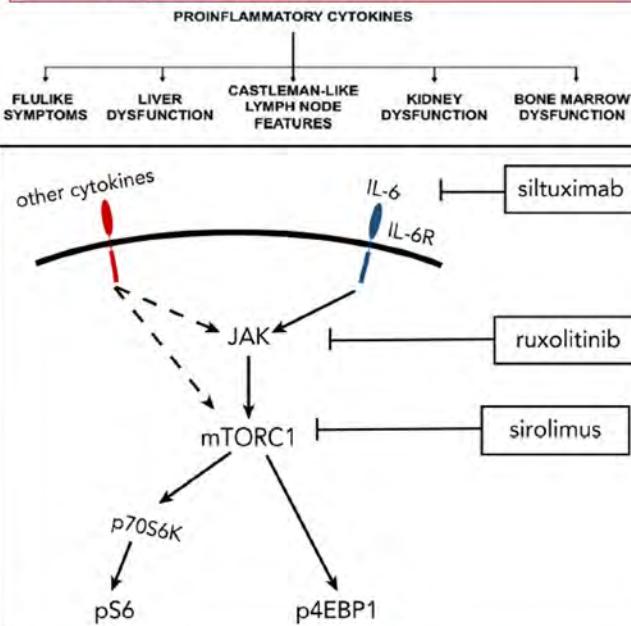
Castleman Disease | AVAHO

Abbreviations: HHV-8, human herpesvirus-8; IL-1, interleukin-1; IL-1R, interleukin-1 receptor; IL-6, interleukin-6; TNF, tumor necrosis factor; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor; vIL-6, viral analog of interleukin-6.

The Role of Interleukin-6 in Castleman Disease

Hematol Oncol Clin N Am 32 (2018) 23–36

Kazuyuki Yoshizaki, MD, PhD^{a,*}, Shinichi Murayama, PhD^a, Hiroki Ito^b, Tomohiro Koga, MD, PhD^{b,c}



Increased mTOR activation in idiopathic multicentric Castleman disease

Daniel J. Arenas,¹ Katherine Flores,¹ Dale Kobrin,¹ Ruth-Anne Langan Pai,¹ Maya B. Srkaloovic,¹ Mark-Avery Tamakloe,¹ Rosina Rasheed,¹ Jasira Ziglar,¹ Johnson Khor,¹ Sophia A. T. Pareme,¹ Sheila K. Pierson,¹ Daniel Martinez,² Gerald B. Wertheim,¹ Taku Kamabayashi,¹ Joseph Baur,¹ David T. Teachey,² and David C. Fagienbaum¹

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- La malattia di Castleman (CD) comprende un **gruppo eterogeneo di disturbi ematologici che condividono particolari caratteristiche istopatologiche dei linfonodi**
- La **iMCD**, è una malattia rara, potenzialmente fatale, che comporta **sintomi infiammatori sistematici, linfoproliferazione policlonale, citopenia, disfunzione multiorgano indotti da una «tempesta» di citochine che spesso include l'interleuchina-6.**
- La iMCD può verificarsi in individui di qualsiasi età e **la diagnosi precisa è impegnativa**, perché vi è una significativa sovrapposizione con disturbi e processi neoplastici, autoimmuni ed infettivi.

A photograph of a sunset over a calm sea. In the foreground, there is a dark, silhouetted area with some tropical foliage and a small garden bed filled with pink and orange flowers. The sky is a dramatic gradient from deep blue at the top to a bright orange and yellow at the horizon. The sun is partially visible on the right side of the frame.

**GRAZIE
DELL'ATTENZIONE**