



Real-World Outcomes of Bendamustine & Rituximab With or Without Maintenance Rituximab: A TriNetX Analysis

Anuja Abhyankar, M.D.; Sangam Sangam, M.D.; Francisco Hernandez-Ilizaliturri, M.D.

BACKGROUND

Bendamustine plus rituximab (BR) is a commonly used frontline regimen for follicular lymphoma (FL), but the benefit of maintenance rituximab (MR) following BR remains unstudied.

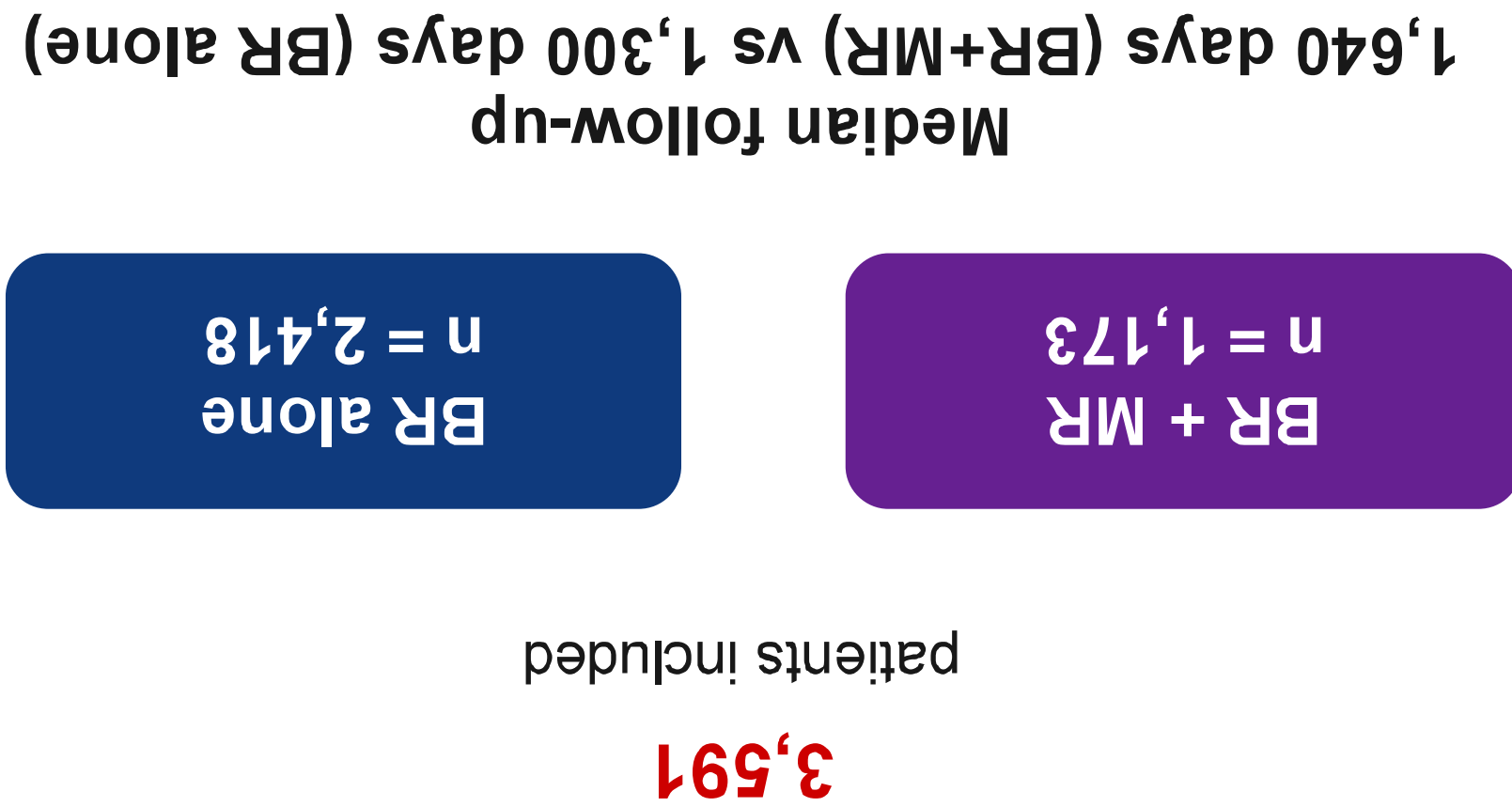
We evaluated real-world survival outcomes among patients with grade II-IIIa FL treated with BR with or without subsequent MR.

METHODS

We conducted a retrospective cohort study using the TriNetX Global Research Network, identifying adult patients with FL who received frontline BR and stratified based on receipt of MR vs observation alone.

Outcomes included overall survival (OS) and time to next treatment (TTNT). Propensity score matching (PSM) was performed and survival was estimated using Kaplan–Meier methods.

STUDY COHORT

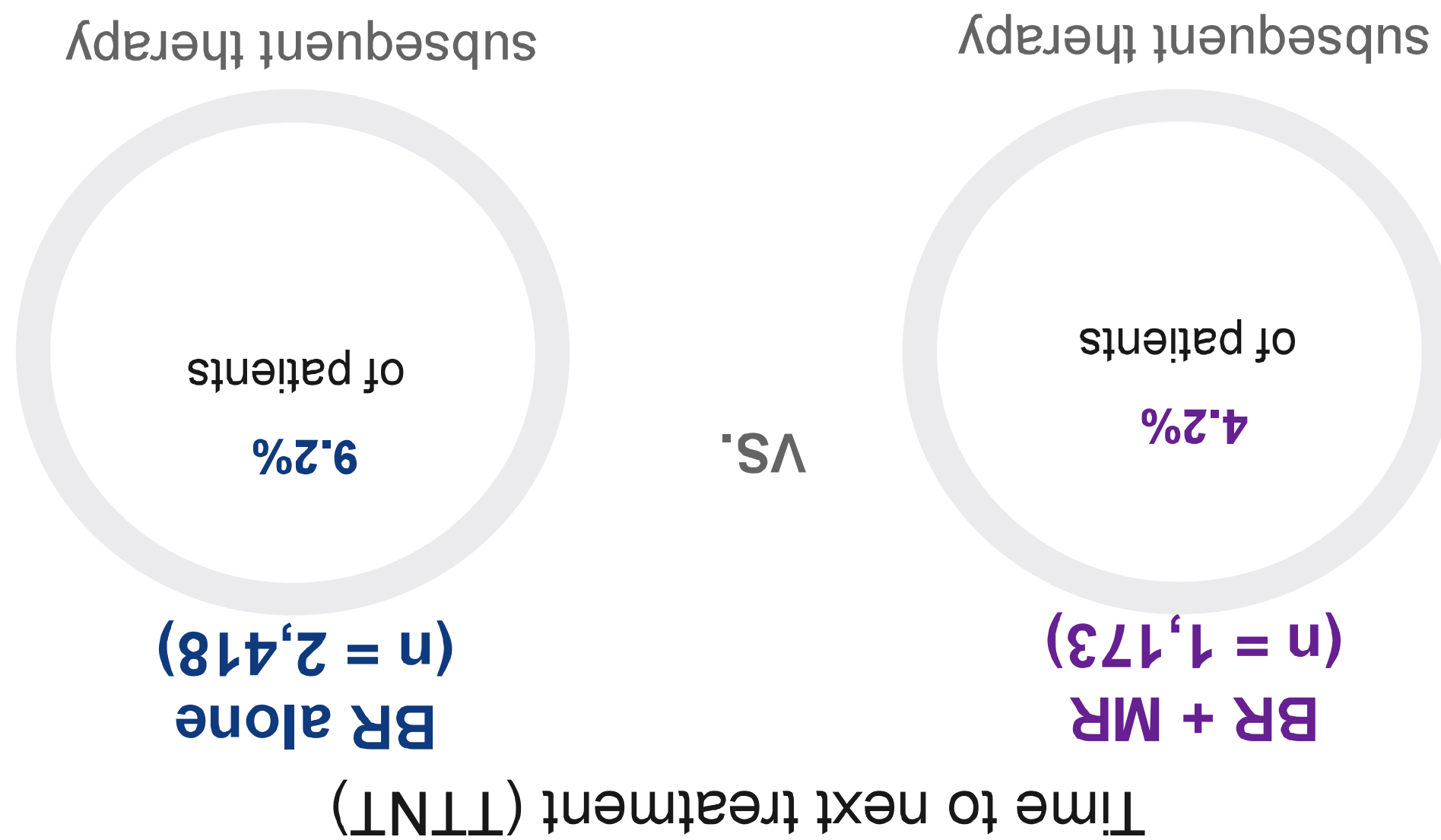


CONCLUSIONS

MR following BR induction in follicular lymphoma was associated with prolonged disease control and overall survival benefit. Statistical significance may not imply clinical significance and prospective studies are needed to identify patients who may benefit.

RESULTS

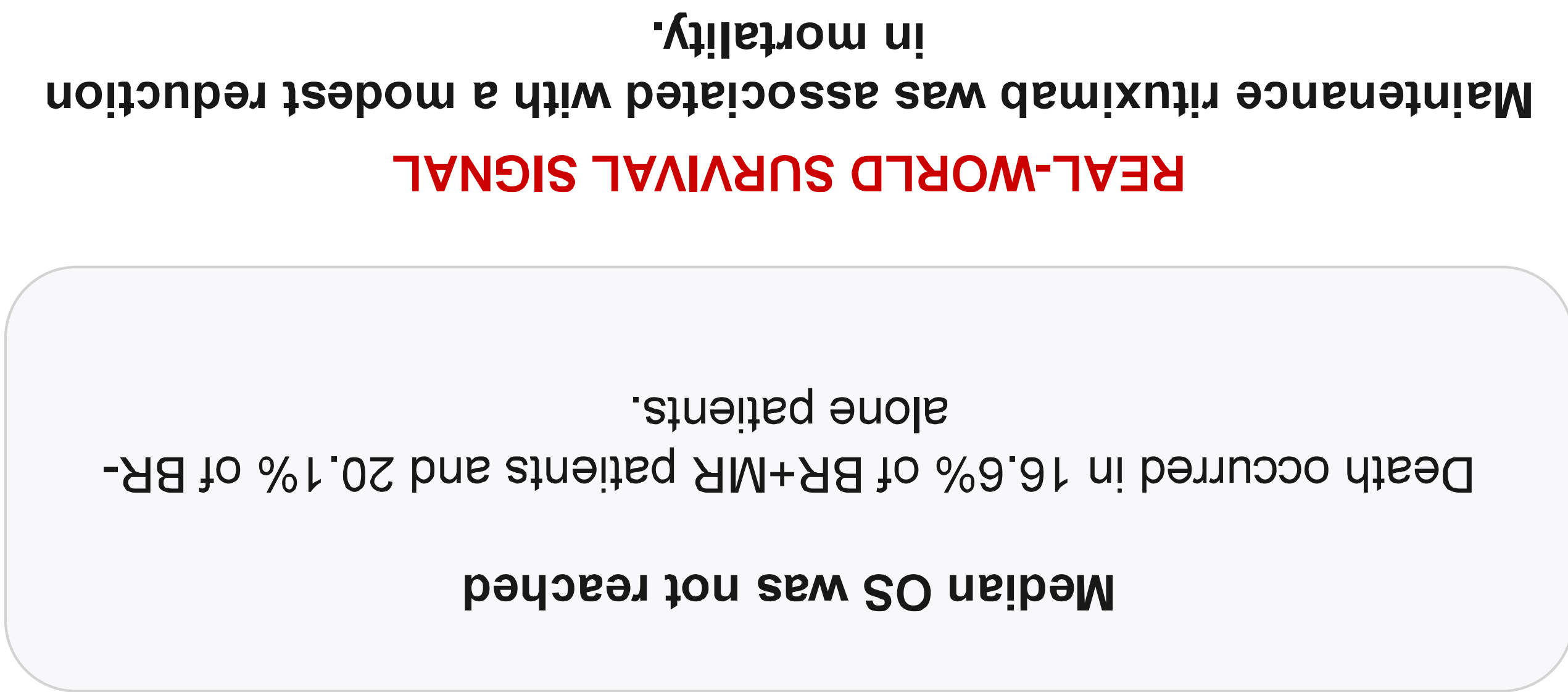
SUBSEQUENT SYSTEMIC THERAPY



Subsequent systemic therapy occurred in 4.2% of the BR+MR cohort versus 9.2% of the BR-alone cohort.

RR 0.46 (95% CI 0.33–0.64); p<0.001

OVERALL SURVIVAL



MORTALITY (ALL-CAUSE)



MR was associated with a modest reduction in mortality.

RR 0.83 (95% CI 0.70–0.98); p=0.031

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- MR after frontline BR was associated with fewer subsequent systemic therapies.
- Mortality was modestly lower with MR.
- Median overall survival was not reached.
- Prospective studies are needed to determine which patients derive clinically meaningful benefit.

STUDY DETAILS

Data source: TriNetX Global Research Network

Design: Retrospective cohort study

Population: Adults with grade II-IIIa FL

Exposure: BR + maintenance rituximab vs BR alone

Outcomes: OS and TTNT

Methods: PSM; Kaplan–Meier survival estimation

CONTACT

Anuja Abhyankar, M.D.

anujabhyanekar@gmail.com

REFERENCES

- Hill BT, Nastoupil L, Winter AM, et al. Maintenance rituximab or observation after frontline treatment with bendamustine-rituximab for follicular lymphoma. Br J Haematol. 2019;185(2):240-245. PMID: 30575016
- Nastoupil LJ, Sinha R, Byrtek M, et al. The use and effectiveness of rituximab maintenance in patients with follicular lymphoma diagnosed between 2004 and 2007 in the United States. Cancer. 2014;120(12):1830-1837. PMID: 2468580.
- Haiwani AS, Rasmussen KM, Patil V, et al. Maintenance rituximab in Veterans with follicular lymphoma. Cancer Med. 2020; 9: 7537–7547. PMID: 32860335