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Daratumumab-Based Maintenance After ASCT in Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma: Real-World Outcomes From a Single-Center Cohort

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INTRODUCTION

- The integration of daratumumab into frontline therapy for newly diagnosed multiple myeloma (NDMM) has led to significant improvements in response depth and progression-free survival (PFS). Phase III trials such as CASSIOPEIA¹ and PERSEUS² demonstrated that daratumumab-based induction regimens, followed by maintenance with daratumumab alone or in combination with lenalidomide, provide superior disease control compared to conventional therapies. Based on these results, daratumumab-based maintenance has become a new standard of care post-autologous stem cell transplantation (ASCT).
- We present a **preliminary real-world analysis** of daratumumab-based maintenance—either as monotherapy or in combination with lenalidomide—in a group of NDMM patients undergoing ASCT, treated during a period when this approach was being progressively adopted into clinical practice based on emerging trial evidence.

RESULTS

Baseline Characteristics of NDMM Patients (n = 19)

A total of 19 patients with newly diagnosed multiple myeloma (NDMM) received daratumumab-based maintenance following autologous stem cell transplantation (ASCT).

The median age at diagnosis was 59 years (range 44–69), and 7 patients (36.8%) were female.

Subtype	n	(%)
IgG kappa	7	(36.8%)
IgG lambda	3	(15.8%)
IgA kappa	4	(21.1%)
IgA lambda	1	(5.3%)
Bence Jones kappa	2	(10.5%)
Bence Jones lambda	2	(10.5%)

ISS Stage	n	(%)
I	6	(31.6%)
II	10	(52.6%)
III	3	(15.8%)

R-ISS Stage	n	(%)
I	6	(31.6%)
II	10	(52.6%)
III	2	(10.5%)
Unknown	1	(5.3%)

High-risk cytogenetics were present in 2 patients (10.5%), one with del(17p) and one with t(4;14). Gain of 1q was detected in 4 patients (21.1%), 2 of whom also presented a complex karyotype.

Treatment and Response Outcomes

Treatment Overview

All patients received induction with daratumumab-based regimens:

- D-VTd**: 14 patients (73.7%)
- D-VRd**: 4 patients (21.1%)
- DVMP**: 1 patient (5.3%)

All patients underwent **ASCT with conditioning using melphalan**.

- 17 patients (89.5%) received melphalan at 200 mg/m²
- 2 patients (10.5%) received reduced-intensity melphalan

Post-transplant consolidation was administered to 18 patients (94.7%).

Maintenance therapy:

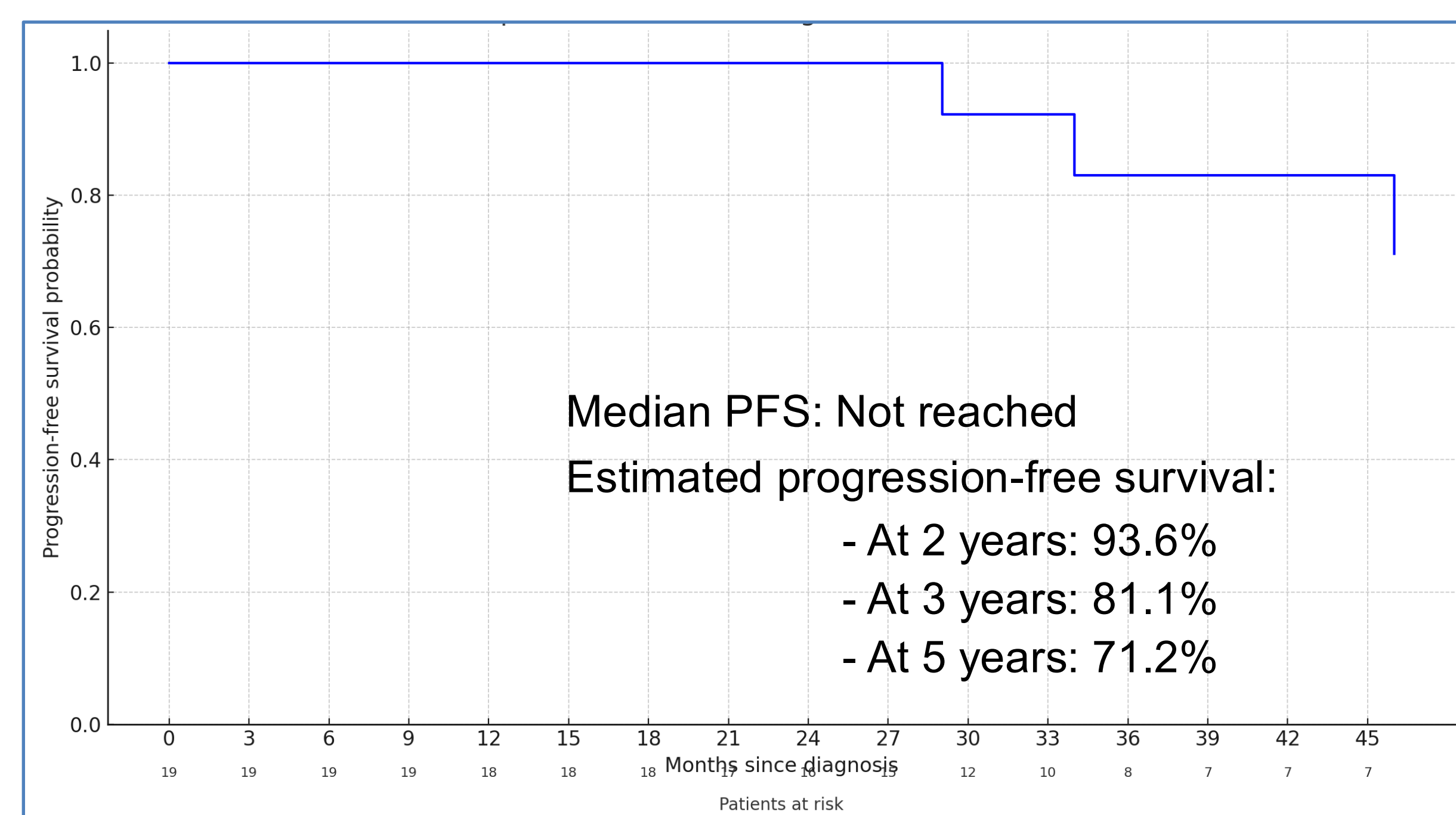
- Daratumumab monotherapy**: 12 patients (63.2%) → 4 discontinued without relapse
- Daratumumab + lenalidomide (D-R)**: 7 patients (36.8%) → 1 discontinued daratumumab without relapse

Response by Phase

Treatment Phase	sCR	CR	VGPR	PR
Post-induction (n=19)	2 (10.5%)	4 (21.1%)	10 (52.6%)	3 (15.8%)
Post-ASCT (n=19)	8 (42.1%)	4 (21.1%)	6 (31.6%)	1 (5.3%)
Post-consolidation (n=18)	10 (55.6%)	3 (16.7%)	5 (27.8%)	–
Best response during maintenance (n=19)	14 (73.7%)	3 (15.8%)	2 (10.5%)	–

Estimated Progression Free Survival

Two patients relapsed (1 on Dara, 1 on D-R); 1 additional progression without strict criteria managed by adding lenalidomide to Dara.



CONCLUSIONS

- In this real-world preliminary cohort of NDMM patients, daratumumab-based maintenance after ASCT—either as monotherapy or in combination with lenalidomide—was well tolerated and led to deep, sustained responses.
- The majority of patients achieved stringent complete response during maintenance, and estimated 3-year progression-free survival remained above 80%. These results are consistent with those reported in pivotal trials such as PERSEUS, supporting the use of daratumumab-based maintenance as a standard post-transplant strategy in clinical practice.

REFERENCES

¹Moreau P et al. *Lancet*, 2019; 394(10192):29-38.

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