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NCI-MSK collaboration: a formal MRD meta analysis

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New York, June 24, 2016



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Background

- With older myeloma drugs only a smaller fraction of patients obtained a complete response (CR)
- Using modern combination therapies, 100% of patients achieve a treatment response (overall response) with up to 80% of these patients reaching a CR

Background (*cont.*)

- Necessary and logical step forward, studies on minimal residual disease (MRD) and its correlation with clinical outcomes
- Both progression-free survival and overall survival have been associated with MRD
- We have done a formal meta-analysis on MRD

Methods

- On December 22, 2015, we conducted a systematic search for clinical trials of newly diagnosed multiple myeloma patients with information on MRD and clinical outcomes
- We applied the following MEDLINE (via PubMed), EMBASE, and Cochrane's Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)



Methods (*cont.*)

- Total of 390 potential studies were first identified; however, after careful review of each individual abstract, we excluded 370 since they were not clinical trials with MRD assessment in multiple myeloma
- Thus, 20 studies clinical trials of newly diagnosed multiple myeloma patients with information on MRD and clinical outcomes

Methods (*cont.*)

- All the 20 published studies did not include all details required for our pre-planned statistical analysis so we contacted the corresponding authors to obtain hazard ratio (HR) estimates and corresponding confidence intervals (CI) for the association between MRD and clinical outcomes



Methods (*cont.*)

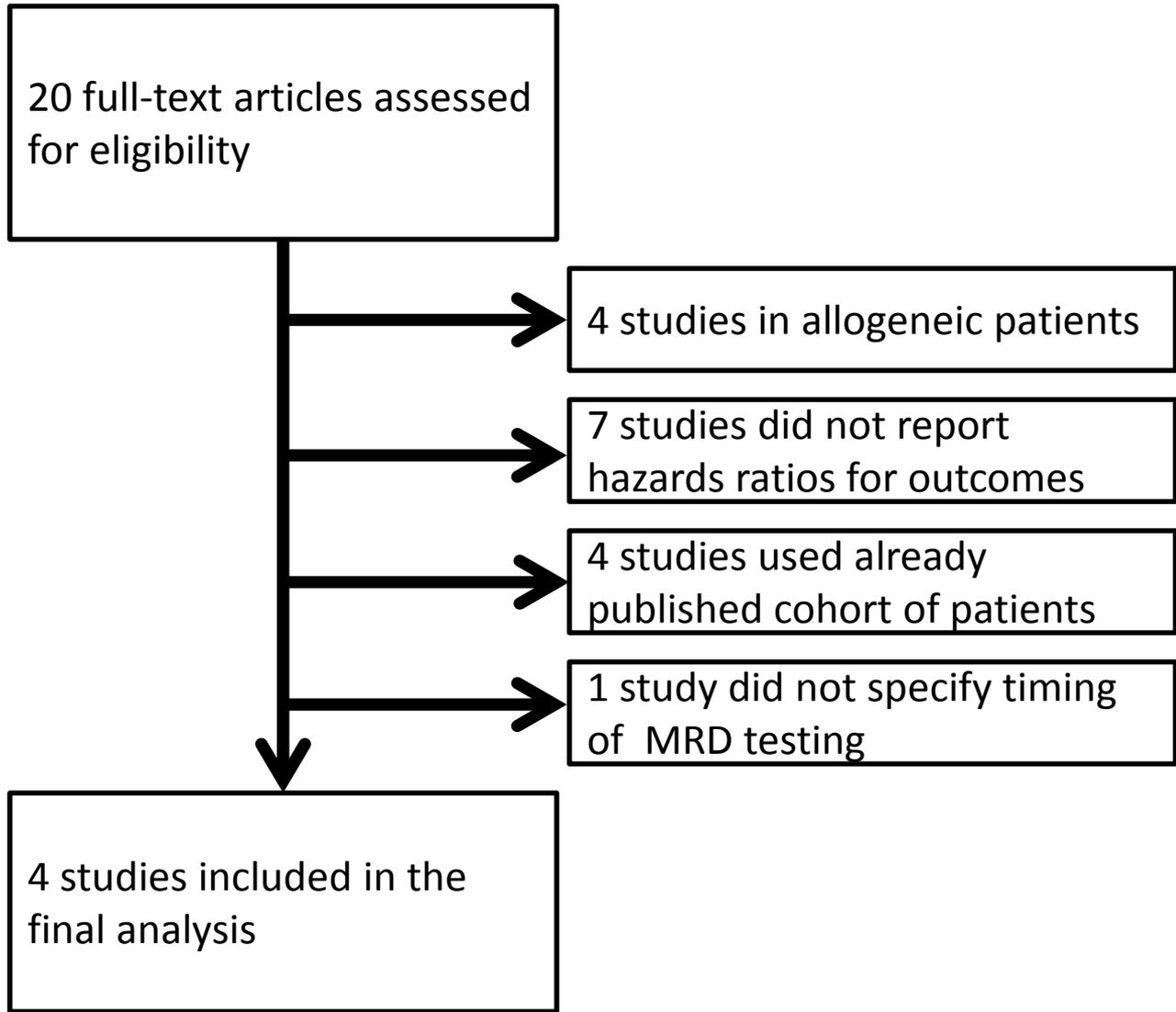
- The meta-analysis was conducted using a random effects model, which weighted studies using the inverse-variance method
- Studies were combined on the scale of the logarithm of the hazard ratio and the corresponding standard error. The analysis used the package 'metafor' in R Statistical Platform, v 3.2.3



Results

- Upon careful review of the 20 identified studies, 4 studies were excluded because they reported allogeneic transplantation; 7 were excluded because they did not evaluate the association between MRD status and PFS/OS; 4 were excluded because they analyzed overlapping cohorts of patients (duplicates); and 1 was excluded because the timing of MRD analysis was not specified





Results

- Four studies with information on MRD status and HR for progression-free survival were included in the final analysis; three studies had information on overall survival (however, one study had no deaths during the original follow-up window) so two studies provided hazards ratios for overall survival

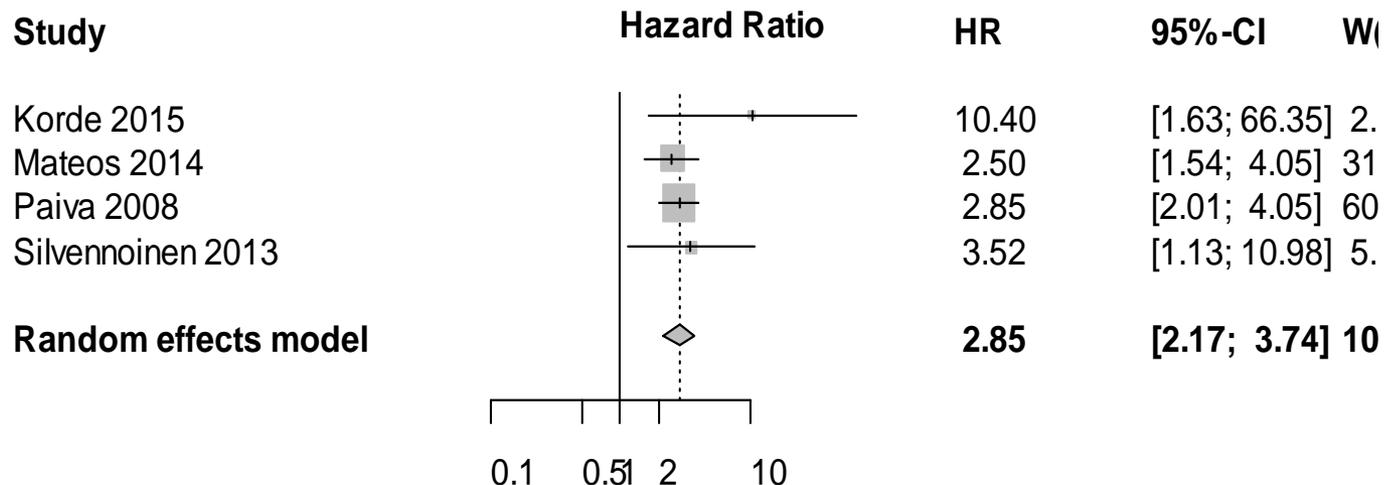


Results

- Three studies used multiparameter flow-cytometry and one study used allele-specific quantitative polymerase chain reaction, both with a sensitivity of at least 1 in 10,000 cells (10^{-4}) to determine MRD status
- The largest study (Paiva et al.) had the largest weight ($W_{\text{random}} = 60.4\%$) in the meta-analysis; and the smallest study (Korde et al.) had the smallest weight ($W_{\text{random}} = 2.2\%$)
- Overall, the meta-analysis show that, compared to who achieved MRD negativity, patients who remained MRD positive had worse progression-free survival (HR=2.85; 95% CI 2.17-3.74; $P < 0.001$)



MRD positivity (compared to MRD negativity) and progression-free survival*



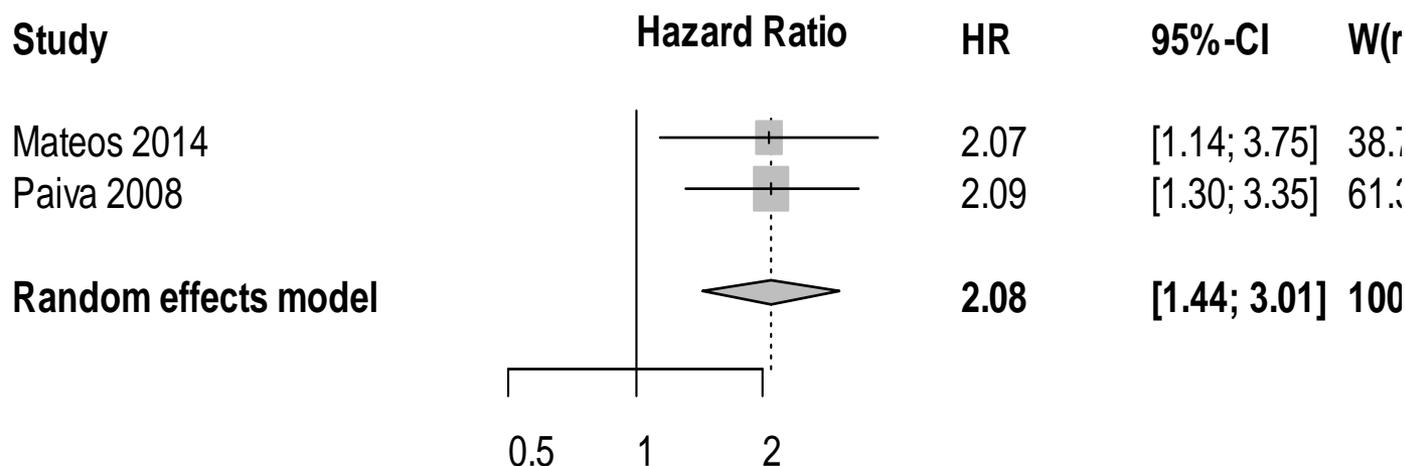
****A higher hazard ratio indicates increased risk for each survival endpoint (i.e. risk of progression)***

Results

- The studies by Paiva et al. and Mateos et al. were the only two that provided hazards ratios for overall survival
- Based on these two studies, our meta-analysis showed that remaining MRD positive was associated with a higher risk of death (HR=2.08; 95% CI 1.44-3.01; P<0.001)



MRD positivity (compared to MRD negativity) and overall survival*



****A higher hazard ratio indicates increased risk for each survival endpoint (i.e. risk of dying)***

Summary and conclusions

- This meta-analysis show that MRD negativity is associated with better progression-free survival and overall survival in newly diagnosed multiple myeloma.
- Supportive of MRD assessment becoming a surrogate clinical endpoint that could be used to support regulatory purposes for drug review in multiple myeloma





Thank you for your attention!

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