

Improving AYA access and recruitment to trials of innovative therapies

Nathalie GASPAR, pediatric oncologist

Gustave Roussy Villejuif France
Head of the AYA Unit la montagne and SPIAJA team and program
ACCELERATE FAIR trial group co-chair

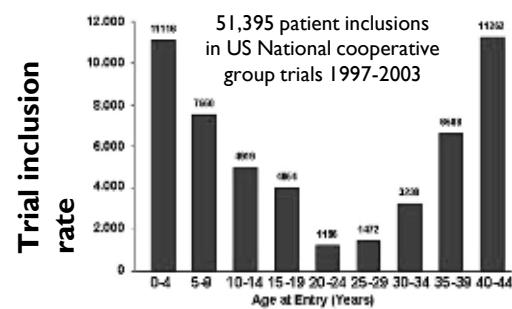
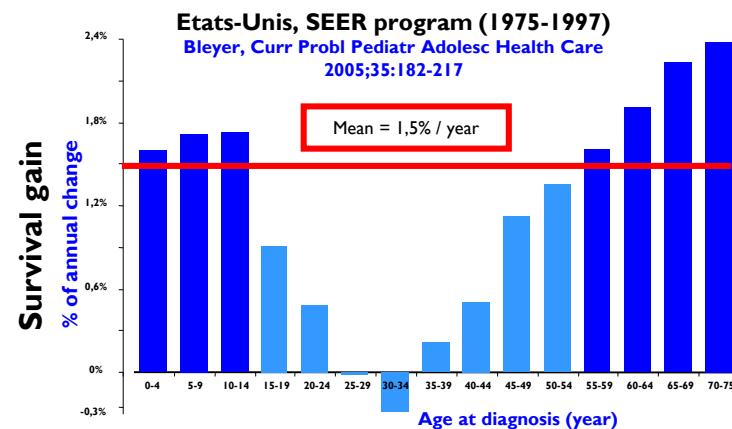
29th November 2022



Why access to clinical trial is important for AYA?

Cancer is the third cause of death in the adolescents and young adults

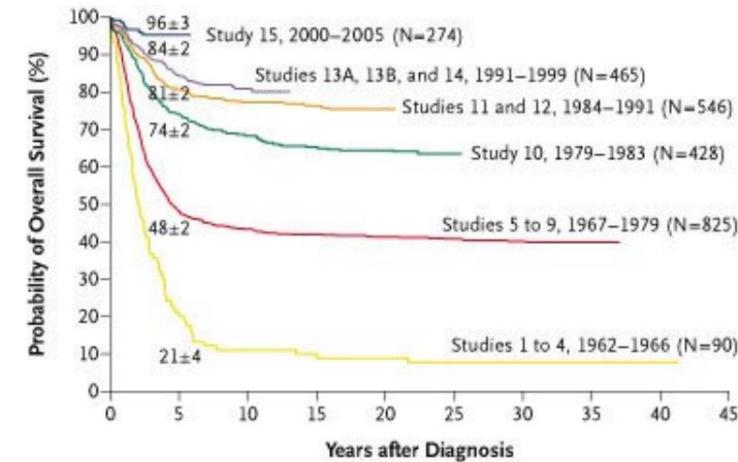
Lower AYA survival gains over years paralleled under-representation of AYA in therapeutic trials



Ferrari A and Bleyer A. Cancer Treat Rev 2007;33:603-608.

AYA survival might be improved by ...

Inclusion in therapeutic trials



Pui CH, et al. NEJM 2006;354:166-178.

Access to innovative therapies

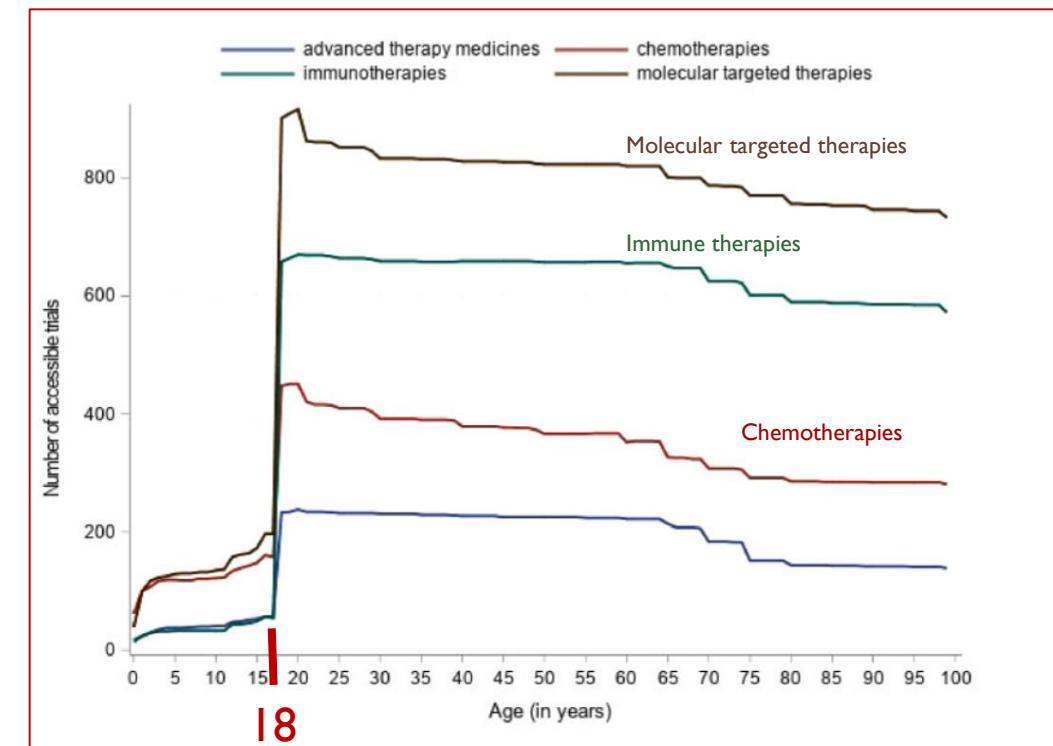
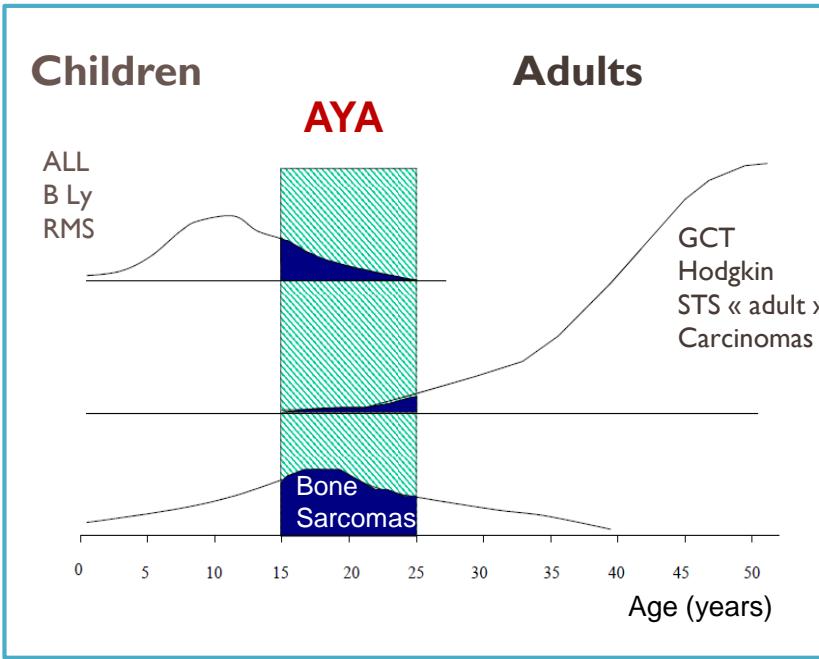
e.g. imatinib plus chemotherapy in Philadelphia chromosome-positive acute lymphoid leukaemia more often seen in AYA)

McNeer JL, et al. PBC 2018;65(6):e26989

The current landscape

Separate pediatric and adult new drug development

Cancers in AYA have NO age barrier ...



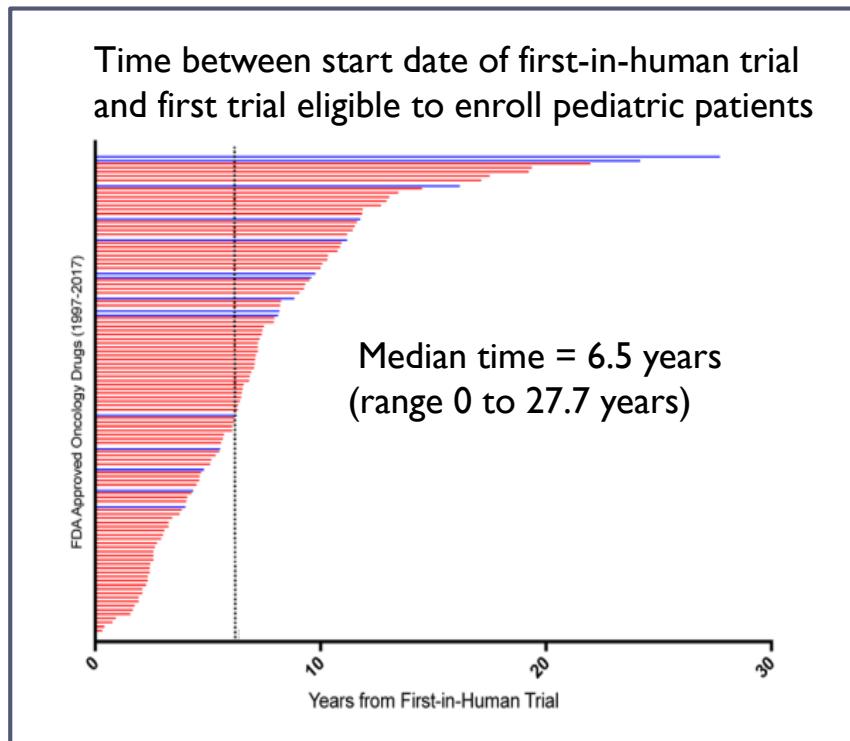
Meta-analysis
January 2007 to July 2018
10 malignancies relevant for AYAs
2176 phase 1, 2 and 3 trials
79% adult
19% transitional
2% pediatric
5 AYA specific

De Rojas et al. JNCI 2019

... therapeutic trials are still governed by an 18 year barrier

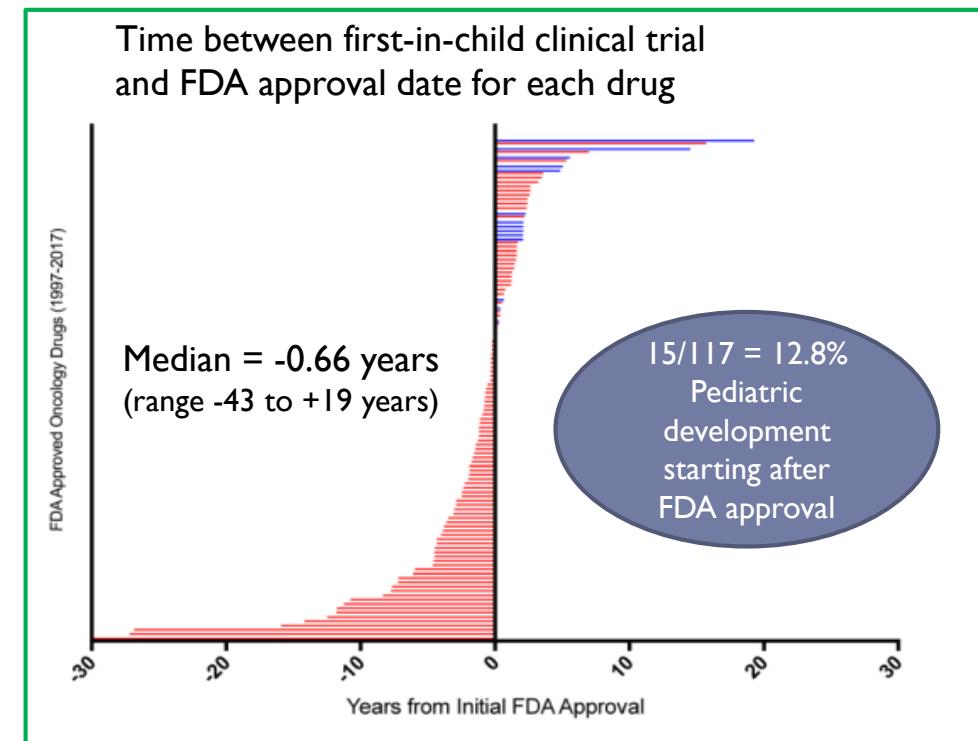
The current landscape

Delayed pediatric new drug development compared to adult



At the time of initial FDA approval for oncology indication

- 5% only included children in the initial FDA approval
- 13% did not yet have a pediatric trial open



From 1997-2017

126 drugs initial FDA approval for oncology indication
47% small molecules, 22% antibodies, 14% chemo, -9 hormonal

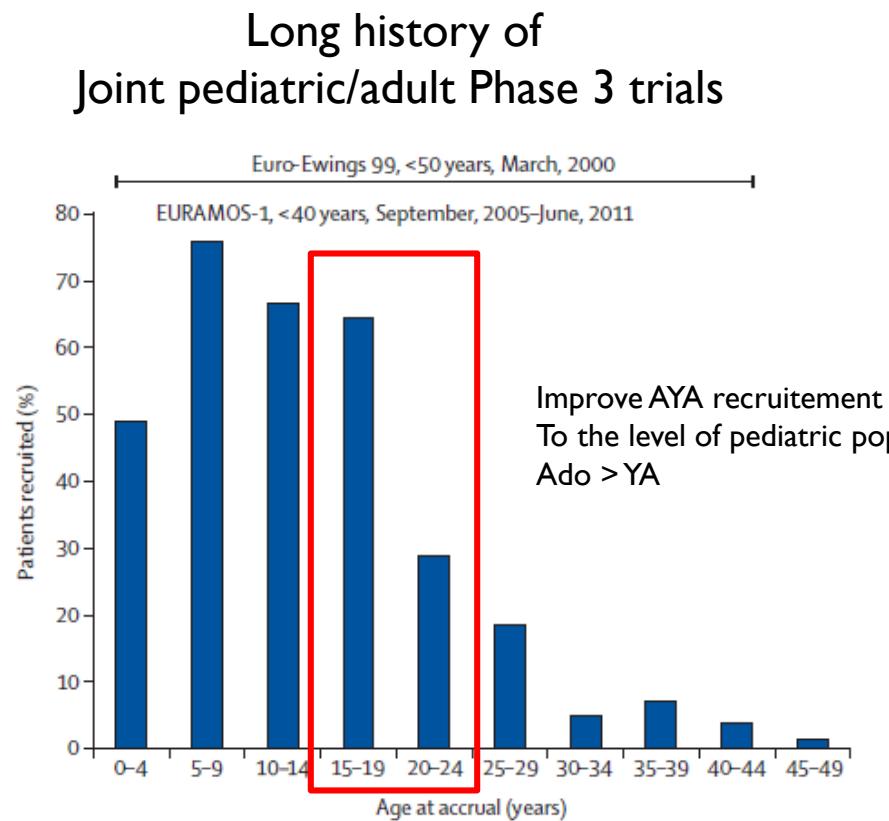


The current landscape

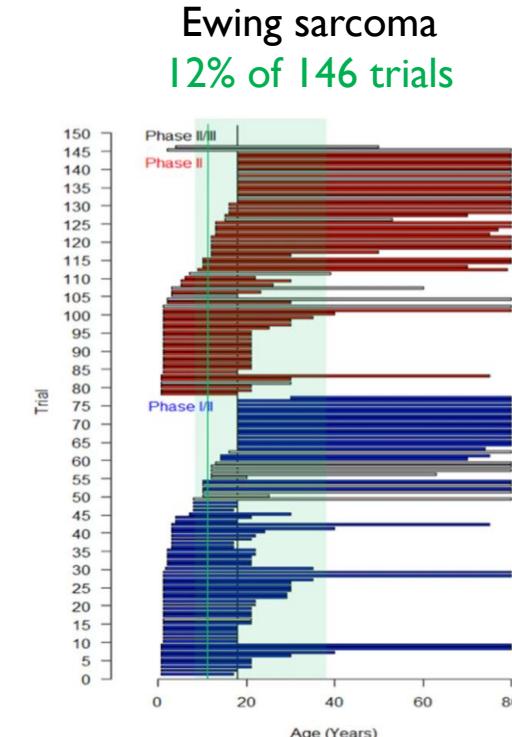
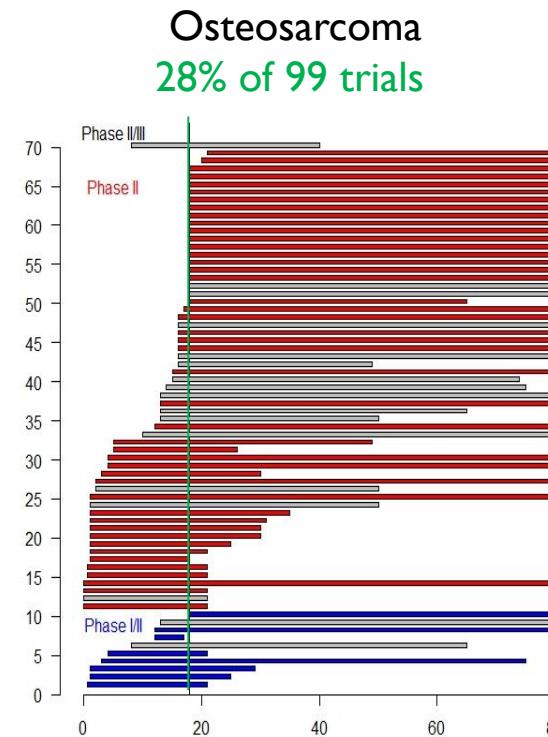
Delayed pediatric new drug development compared to adult

Even in AYA disease with strong medical and pediatric oncologists collaboration

Ex Bone sarcomas



Age adapted inclusion criteria in Phase 2 trials
Rarely cover age periode of recurrence



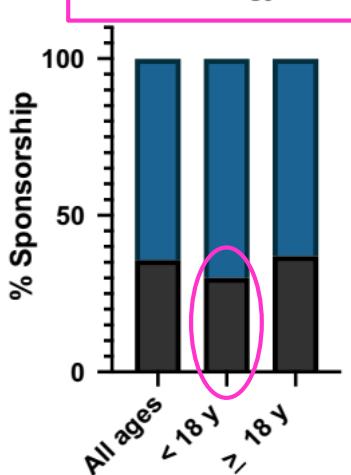
The current landscape

Role of the trial sponsorship

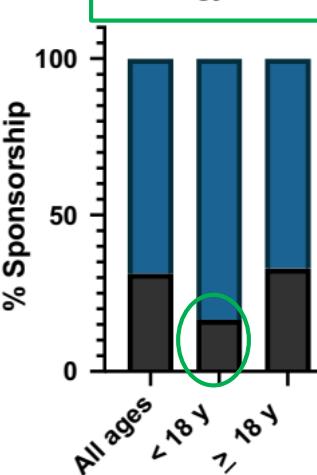
Industry-sponsored trials open to patients < 18 years ($P < .001$)

- in non-oncology disciplines 15.5%
- In oncology trials 5.2%

A Non-Oncology trials



B Oncology trials



Interventional trials
first opened in US
From 2007 to 2018

N = 51781 N = 9553 N = 42228

N = 18431 N = 1806 N = 16625

Neel et al. Cancer Medicine 2020

Academic sponsors are more prone to widen age inclusion criteria, with only 31% of transitional trials having industry sponsors or cosponsors

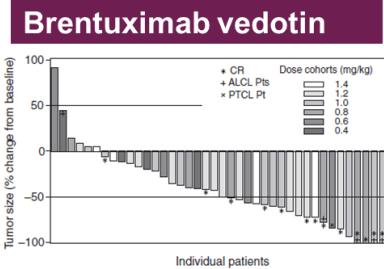
De Rojas et al. JNCI 2019

The current landscape

Delayed adolescent access to efficient drugs

Delayed pediatric development compared to adult
= **Delayed adolescent drug access to efficient drugs in common adolescent/adult diseases**
e.g. brentuximab in Hodgkin lymphoma

Fanale MA, et al. Clin Cancer Res 2012;18:248-255.



Adult Phase I trial ≥ 18 years
Relapsed or refractory CD30 positive HL
NCT00430846

Published Nov 2011

Approved for adult relapsed or refractory HL (2012)

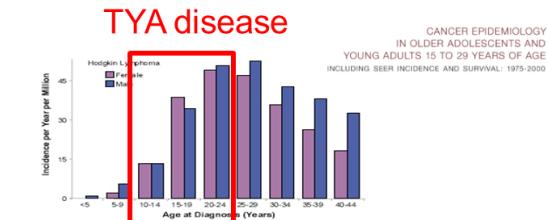
Successful trial of BV + Chemotherapy in Adults Stage II-IV HIV- HL, first line TT
NCT01771107
March 2013- 2017

Approved by FDA for front line t-t of high risk HL (2018)

April 2012

2018

Paediatric Phase-I/II trial of BV < 18 years for R/R HL NCT01492088
Randomized Phase 3 Study of BV for Newly Diagnosed High-Risk HL in Children and Young Adults (<21 y)

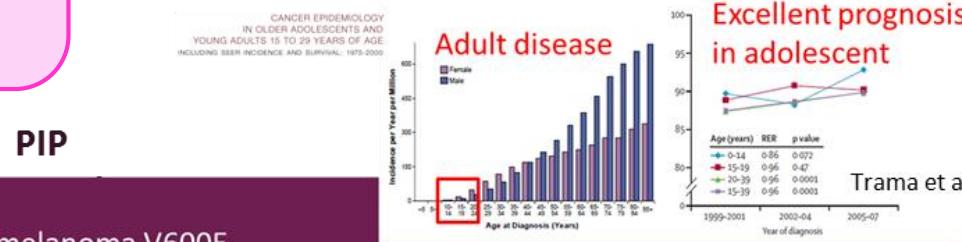


The current landscape

European Paediatric Regulation: Paediatric Investigation Plans (PIP)

Required pediatric trial for drug efficient in adult
= Unfeasible adolescent-specific phase I/II trials
required within PIP, while drug already demonstrated effective in adults with the same disease

e.g. Braf inhibitor in Melanoma



Trama et al. TLO 2016

PIP

Vemurafenib

- Approved for adult melanoma V600E
- PDCO request for Melanoma V600E trial for 12-18 years

Recruiting

[BRIM-P: A Study of Vemurafenib in Pediatric Patients With Stage IIIC or Stage IV Melanoma Harboring BRAFV600 Mutations](#)

Condition: Malignant Melanoma

Intervention: Drug: vemurafenib

12-17 years

Started Jan 2013

- Unsufficient accrual worldwide
- Drug prescribed off label to ado with no data collected
- Adult studies : combination of Vemurafenib with MEK inhibitors = better therapeutic option than single agent Vemurafenib

Ipilimumab, Same story

- Paediatric trial prematurely closed
- Standard care in adult are the combinations*

The current landscape

European Paediatric Regulation: Class waiver problem

Class waivers based on adult disease
= No drug development in pediatric disease with the same target than in adult disease

An issue for paediatric drug development ...

The European Paediatric Regulation (EC 1901/2006) allow paediatric class waivers for drugs developed for diseases only occurring in adults

From class waivers to precision medicine in paediatric oncology

www.thelancet.com/oncology Vol 18 July 2017

Andrew D J Pearson*, Stefan M Pfister, Andre Baruchel, Jean-Pierre Bourquin, Michela Casanova, Louis Chesler, François Doz, Angelika Eggert, Birgit Georger, David TW Jones, Pamela R Kearns, Jan J Molenaar, Bruce Morland, Gudrun Schleiermacher, Johannes H Schulte, Josef Vormoor, Lynley V Marshall, C Michel Zwaan, Gilles Vassal, on behalf of the Executive and Biology Committees of the Innovative Therapies for Children with Cancer European Consortium

48 (54%) of the 89 class-waivered drugs had a mechanisms of action warranting paediatric development

... but also for young adults with pediatric cancers

Restricted access of Young adults with pediatric disease to new innovative therapies, even approuved in adult cancer
e.g. ALK inhibitors in ALCL

The current landscape

Pitfalls of separate pediatric and adult drug development

Class waivers based on adult disease

= **No drug development in pediatric disease with the same target than in adult disease**

Delayed pediatric development compared to adult

= **Delayed adolescent drug access to efficient drugs in common adolescent/adult diseases**

e.g. brentuximab in Hodgkin lymphoma

+

Required pediatric trial for drug efficient in adult

= **Unfeasible adolescent-specific phase I/II trials required within PIP, while drug already demonstrated effective in adults with the same disease**

e.g. Braf inhibitor in Melanoma

=

Off-label use in adolescents of new efficient drugs approved in adult indications

Lost of useful information

- **For the AYA population on drug efficacy, safety and tumor biology**
- **For drug development : drug action/resistance**



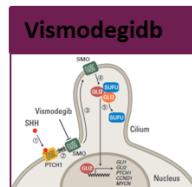
The current landscape

Risk of loss of biological information

Lost of useful information

- For the AYA population on drug efficacy, safety and tumor biology
- For drug development : drug action/resistance

Ex Medulloblastoma and SHH inhibitors



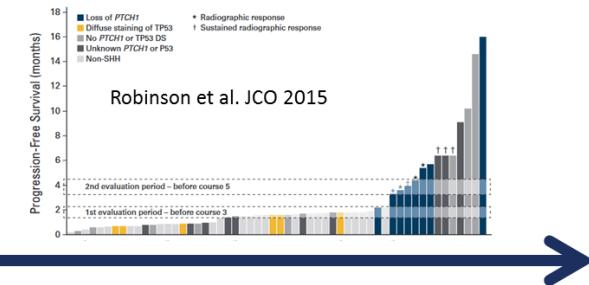
Adult Phase I trial ≥ 18 years
NCT00607724
run 01/2007-12/2008
Response in a 26y-old MB
Published Nov 2010

No efficacy of SHH inhibitors if TP53 mutation presents
Mutations are age-dependant
=> The drug development can not be done in adults only

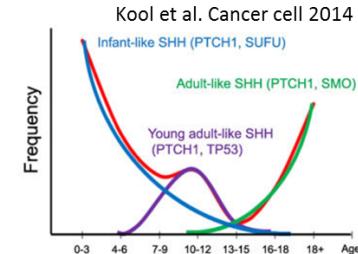
Adult Phase-II
NCT00939484
ended in Dec 2012
Published 2015

Paed Phase-I trial 3-21 years
NCT00822458
01/2009-09/2013
Published 2013

Paed Phase-II
NCT01239316
ended in March 2015
Published 2015



Good example of joint development from early phase trial



What do we need for change?

To change mind



To work together



To increase awarness



To be pragmatic



The changes needed Pragmatic solutions

An agreement of all multi-stakeholders involved in pediatric early drug development in Europe

Mechanism of action biology driven early drug development
Rather than disease driven

European Journal of Cancer 62 (2016) 124–131



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com
ScienceDirect
journal homepage: www.ejcancer.com

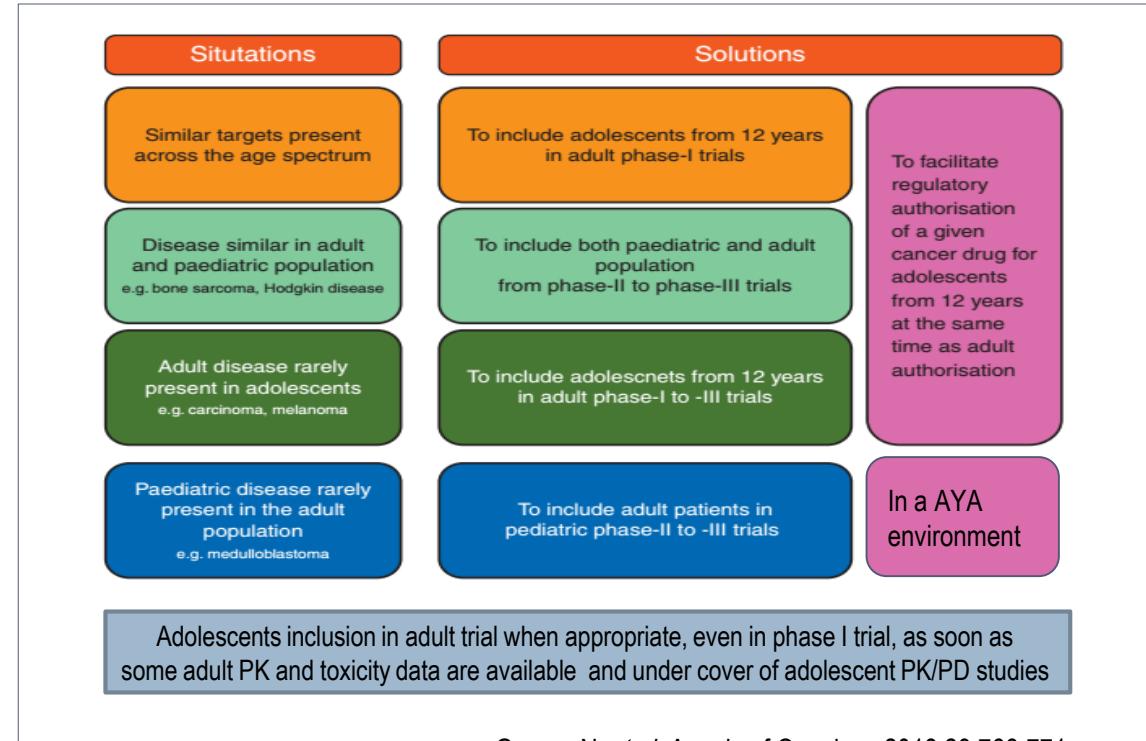
Current Perspective

Implementation of mechanism of action biology-driven early drug development for children with cancer

Andrew D.J. Pearson ^{a,*¹}, Ralf Herold ^b, Raphaël Rousseau ^c,
Chris Copland ^d, Brigid Bradley-Garelik ^e, Debbie Binner ^f,
Renaud Capdeville ^g, Hubert Caron ^{h,i}, Jacqueline Carleer ^j,
Louis Chesler ^k, Birgit Georger ^l, Pamela Kearns ^m,
Lynley V. Marshall ^{a,n}, Stefan M. Pfister ^o, Gudrun Schleiermacher ^p,
Jeffrey Skolnik ^q, Cesare Spadoni ^r, Jaroslav Sterba ^{s,t},
Hendrick van den Berg ^b, Martina Uttenreuther-Fischer ^u, Olaf Witt ^v,
Koen Norga ^w, Gilles Vassal ^x on behalf of Members of Working Group 1
of the Paediatric Platform of ACCELERATE²



To abolish the 18 year dogma from early drug development



Gaspar N, et al. Annals of Oncology 2018;29:766-771.

A rational, rapid and safe solution

To include adolescents in « adults » trials from early phases (phase I/II)

No increased risk for the adolescents

Comparison of pediatric and adult phase I trial showed for adolescents ≥ 12 years and adults

- Similar PK
- Similar recommended dose
- Less acute toxicity

No legal issue

If the prerequisites to protect children in research are respected



No opposition from the industry

How to do it in practice?

Patient and parents support

As trials are the safest way to access new drugs for the adolescents

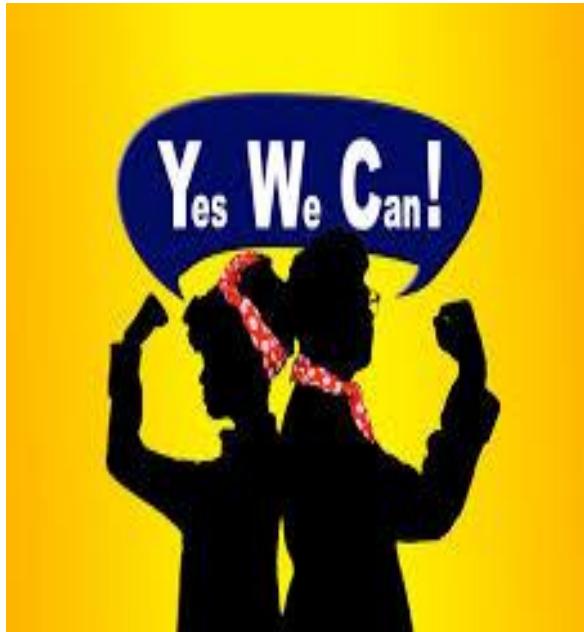
A rational, rapid and safe solution

To include adolescents in « adults » trials from early phases (phase I/II)

- ▶ **No real barrier**
- ▶ **But not all cost**
 - ▶ When scientifically and medically justified
 - ▶ Even for fisrt-in-human trial as long as the first patient is not an adolescent
 - ▶ Within the respect of the regulation for children in research
 - ▶ Under cover of PK, especially if no previous pediatric data
 - ▶ In an appropriate pediatric and/or AYA care environement

To abolish the 18 year dogma: Can we do it?

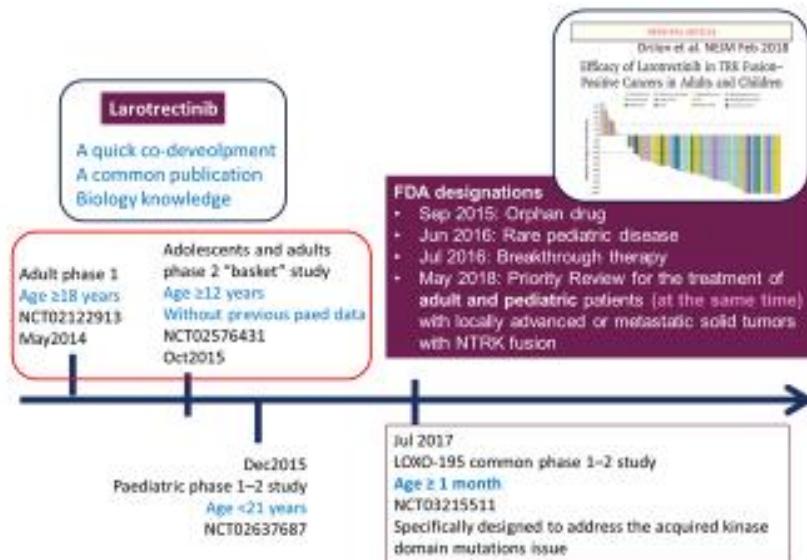
Increasing numbers of joint adolescent and adult early phase trials are opening



Already some successful examples

A SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLE

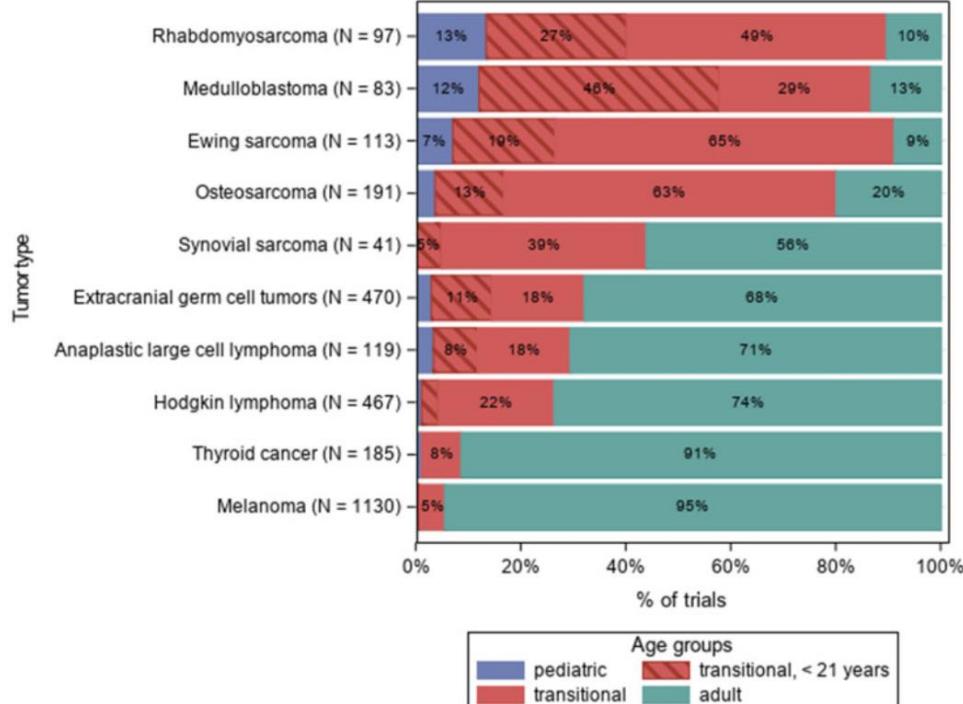
An "age- and tumour-agnostic" drug development e.g. rare NTRK fusion positive tumours (< 1% of all tumours)



The current landscape

Lack of joint trial from phase 1 to 3 in AYA cancers

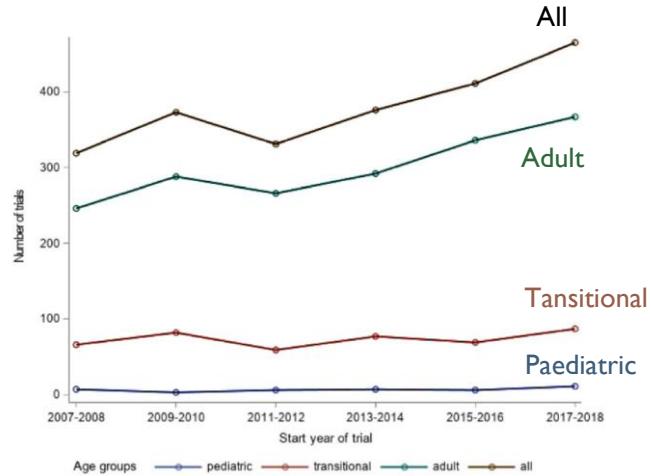
Tumors considered similar in adult and pediatric populations showed a disparate proportion of transitional trials



Trial definition according to age

- Pediatric : <18 years
- Adult: ≥18 years
- Transitional=joint: both pediatric and adult**
- AYA-specific: lower limit 12 to 18 years, upper limit < 40 years

The total number of new trials increased over the years
Whereas the number of new pediatric and transitional trials remained stable



Meta-analysis
January 2007 to July 2018
10 malignancies relevant for AYAs
2176 phase 1, 2 and 3 trials

79% adult

19% transitional

2% pediatric

5 AYA specific

ACCELERATE FAIR Trial working group



Fostering Age Inclusive Research created in 2017

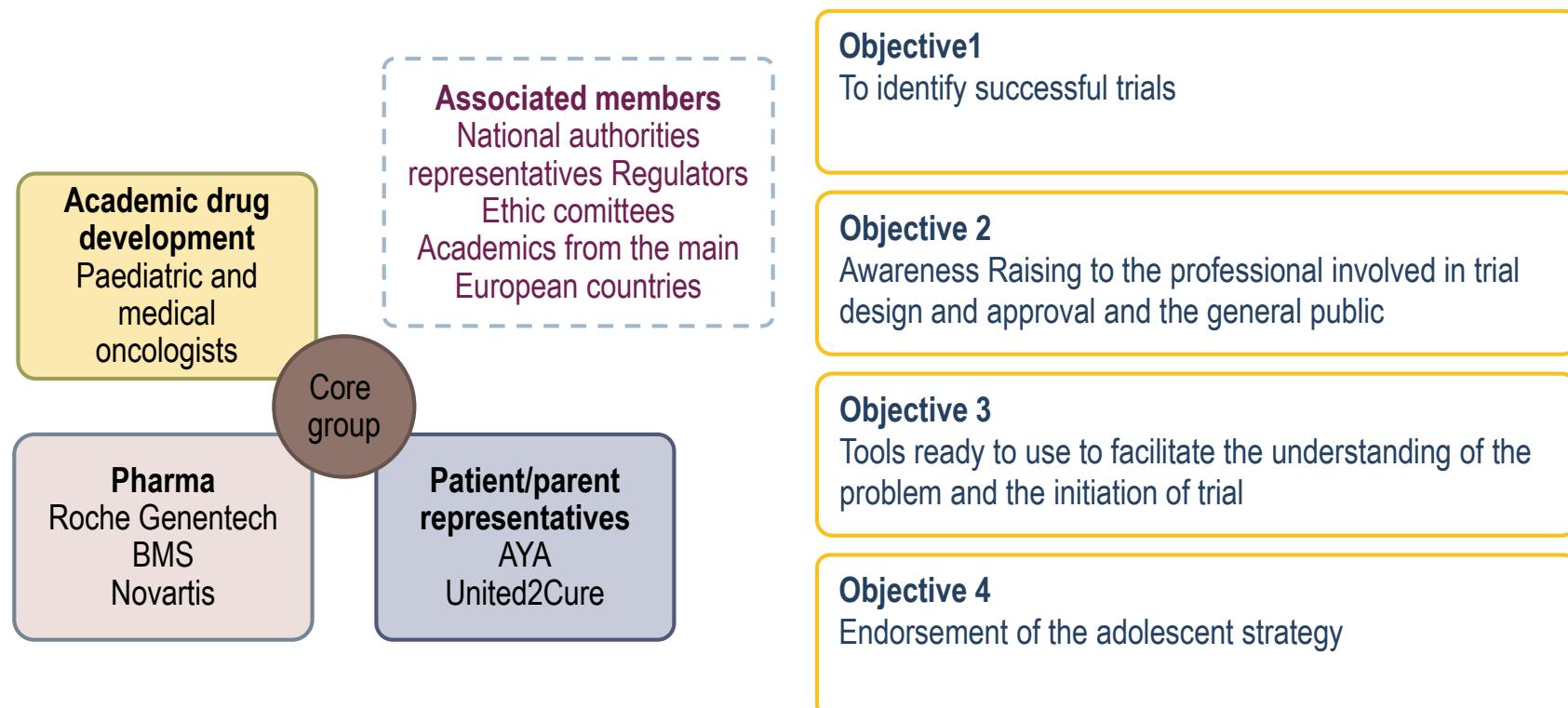
Coordination : N.Gaspar; C.Copland

<https://www.accelerate-platform.org/fair-trials/why-fair-trials/>



2019: A broader platform

All documents are freely accessible on the website



ACCELERATE FAIR trial group



<https://www.accelerate-platform.org/fair-trials/>

Pediatric and medical oncologist

National initiatives through ITCC contacts
Contact with paediatric oncologists involved in early drug development and AYA friendly

Paediatric and Medical Oncologists

Fostering Age Inclusive Research (FAIR) Trials for Adolescents & Young Adults

Paediatric and medical oncologists in Europe are transforming the ACCELERATE FAIR trials initiative into a country by country action plan. They are working together to break the 18 years dogma, despite the fact that countries have different health care structures, early drug development programs and approaches to AYA populations. Here are a few sentences about each country on what is being done and why it is important. Contact details are given, should you wish to promote the initiative.

ACCELERATE FAIR initiative – country by country Action Plan

FRANCE

CLIP 2019-2024 (Interprofessional Clinical Trials in Paediatric Oncology)

Paediatric oncologist involved in early drug development:
Dr. Nathalie Gaspard, Gustave Roussy

Medical oncologist involved in early drug development:
Dr. Nathalie Gaspard, Gustave Roussy

What does this mean for your country?
Paediatric Oncologist(s) and Medical Oncologist(s)

France have been pioneer in fostering age inclusive research for adolescent and young adult patients. The first clinical trials for adolescents and young adults were conducted in France. Governments are present. Paediatric and medical oncologists have started to work together to facilitate the inclusion of adolescents and young adults in clinical trials. The first international form of the FAIR trials initiative has been developed in France. The first international meeting of the FAIR trials initiative has been held in Paris, along with the entire European Society of Paediatric Hematology and Oncology (SPPHO). The French paediatric oncologists and medical oncologists are willing to join the initiative, along with the entire European Society of Paediatric Hematology and Oncology (SPPHO). The French paediatric oncologists and medical oncologists are willing to join the initiative, along with the entire European Society of Paediatric Hematology and Oncology (SPPHO). The French paediatric oncologists and medical oncologists are willing to join the initiative, along with the entire European Society of Paediatric Hematology and Oncology (SPPHO). The French paediatric oncologists and medical oncologists are willing to join the initiative, along with the entire European Society of Paediatric Hematology and Oncology (SPPHO).

Health authorities

FDA guidance

Considerations for the Inclusion of Adolescent Patients in Adult Oncology Clinical Trials Guidance for Industry

EMA letter of support

European Medicines Agency

EF GCP letter of support

Industry

Industry organisation letter of support

June 19, 2020

Professor Gilles Vassal, ACCELERATE Chair and Innovative Therapies for Children in Cancer in Europe (ITCC) President

Dr. Nathalie Gaspard, ACCELERATE Fostering Age Inclusive Research (FAIR) Working Group Co-Chair

Chris Copeland, ACCELERATE Fostering Age Inclusive Research (FAIR) Working Group Co-Chair

RE: Fostering Age-Inclusive Research (FAIR) Trials Initiative

Dear Professor Vassal, Dr. Gaspard, and Mr. Copland,

The Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO), European Confederation of Pharmaceutical Entrepreneurs (EUCOPE), European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), the European Association of Biopharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EBPMA), the European Research Network of the World's Major Biopharmaceutical Companies and their Affiliates (ERNBM), representing the world's leading biopharmaceutical companies and related organisations, we want to bring innovative medicines and medical technologies to assessment bodies to recognise its use in paediatric practice. We believe approaches to assessment bodies to recognise its use in paediatric practice should be as similar as possible to those for adults and adolescents as soon as possible. We encourage an open dialogue between authoritative bodies and the benefit-risk committee of a joint committee on pharmacovigilance, ethically justified and feasible

AYA Patients et parents

Patient and Parent advocates

Fostering Age Inclusive Research (FAIR) Trials for Adolescents & Young Adults

Patient and parent advocates play a fundamental role for the success of the FAIR trials initiative. Please find below some useful links.

- The patient voice – Clinical trials for adolescents and young adults – video (Institut Gustave Roussy)
- The power of the personal story in spreading our message – article by Debbie Binner
- Mixed media: Childhood and Adolescent Cancer in the UK Press by Max Williamson (09-07-2018)
- Unite2cure fully supports the ACCELERATE FAIR trials initiative – article by Patricia Blanc (Unite2cure)



ACCELERATE FAIR trial group

<https://www.accelerate-platform.org/fair-trials/>



Key elements that should be present in the protocol to assure safe enrolment of adolescents in adult trials

FAIR Investigations/ Sponsor Toolkit

Fostering Age Inclusive Research (FAIR) Trials for Adolescents & Young Adults

Colleagues from Pharma and Academia, involved in paediatric drug development, have put together a set of practical resources to assist in designing age inclusive clinical trials.

Table of contents:

- FDA Draft Guidance for Industry
- eCRF and Standard Analyses
- Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs)
- Assent templates for adolescents
- Protocol Elements
- Examples of HA/EC considerations on AYA
- List of AYA-clinical sites
- List of approved protocols including adolescents in adult trials

Patient / Parent tool kit

The FAIR Trials Advocacy ToolKit for Patients and Parents

The Problem

Clinical trials investigate how well treatments work. Almost all trials compare a new treatment to either something else or to no treatment at all. For a disease like cancer, they're an essential treatment. For a disease like cancer, they're an essential treatment. For a disease like cancer, they're an essential treatment.

In many clinical trials, age will be an exclusion criteria. For example, many adult trials exclude patients less than 18 years old. For teenagers and young people with cancer, this can be problematic.

For many young people with cancer, these age limits mean they can't be included in trials. This can make them otherwise be great candidates. whilst there are some exceptions, in general, no young person should be denied potentially life-saving treatment because of their age.

This toolkit is designed to inform you about the work that's going on across Europe to address these issues and how you can help.

The FAIR Trials Group

The FAIR trials group works to allow any young person with cancer to enter clinical trials if they are suitable for. We're a group of young cancer patients, parents, carers, doctors, researchers, and pharmaceutical companies and regulators. Working together, we tackle the issues that affect young people from all angles to ensure the best outcomes for young people with cancer.

Some of the projects we work on include:

- Endorsing clinical trials that support young people's entry.
- Supporting young patient groups in the pharmaceutical industry to include young people with cancer in their trials where appropriate.
- Encouraging young patient advocacy groups across the EU to work with regulators and trials.
- Lobbying regulators to make systems more flexible for young people.

FAIR for AYA STAMP offered for trials
which actively avoid unnecessary barriers based on age

Structure of confidentiality set up

FAIR for AYA Stamp

Fostering Age Inclusive Research (FAIR) Trials for Adolescents & Young Adults

2021

The First three STAMPS

- Roche : TAPISTRY (Phase II)
- Lilly : LIBRETTO-001 (Phase I –II)
- Lilly : LIBRETTO-531 (Phase III)

Aim

The FAIR Trials initiative aims to accelerate innovation in drug development for young people with cancer, through the removal of arbitrary age limits in clinical trials. To facilitate this, ACCELERATE is offering a 'Stamp' for trials which actively avoid unnecessary barriers based on the age of participants. Applications are invited from sponsors of multinational trials compatible with our six proposals – specifically, adult early phase trials offering adolescent accrual or paediatric trials with accrual for young adults.

Joint adolescent/adult trial from early drug development

Are all the problems solved?

ACCELERATE FAIR Trials Survey 2021

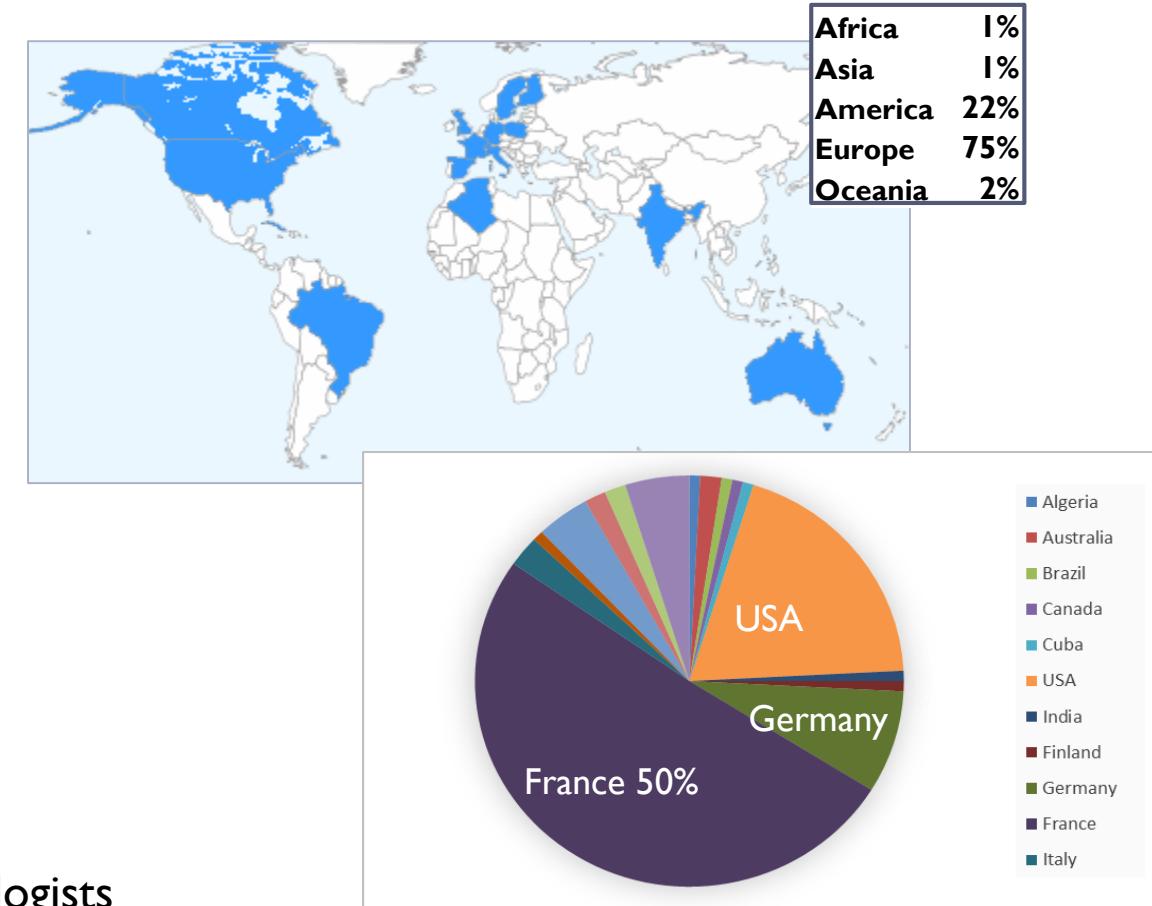
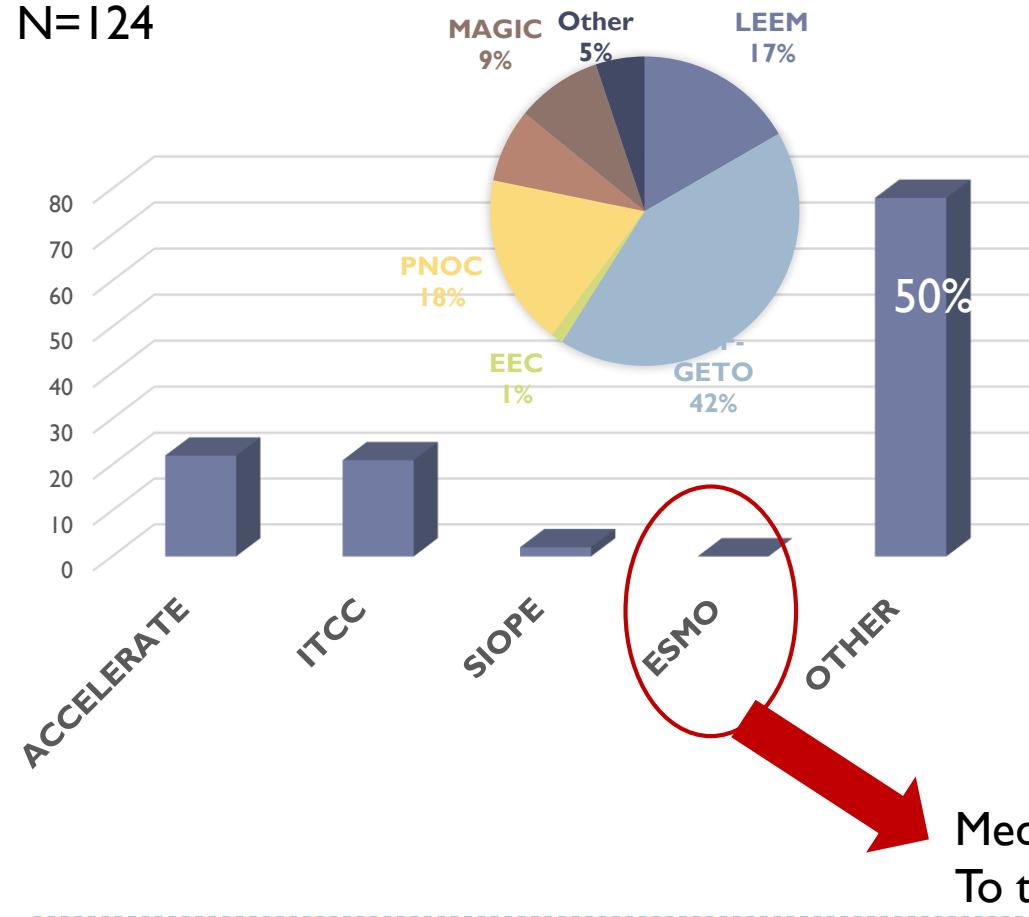
- ▶ Survey on the hurdles, real or though on including adolescents in adult trials or including young adults in pediatric trials.
- ▶ Contacts
 - ▶ Early drug development in paediatric cancers: ITCC, ACCELERATE
 - ▶ Oncology societies: SIOPE, ESMO
 - ▶ Disease/organ specific group for AYA
 - GCT: MAGIC
 - TG: PNOC, ANOCEF
 - Lymphoma: EURONET Group, EICNHL Group
 - Bone sarcomas: EEC, FOSTER
 - EORTC



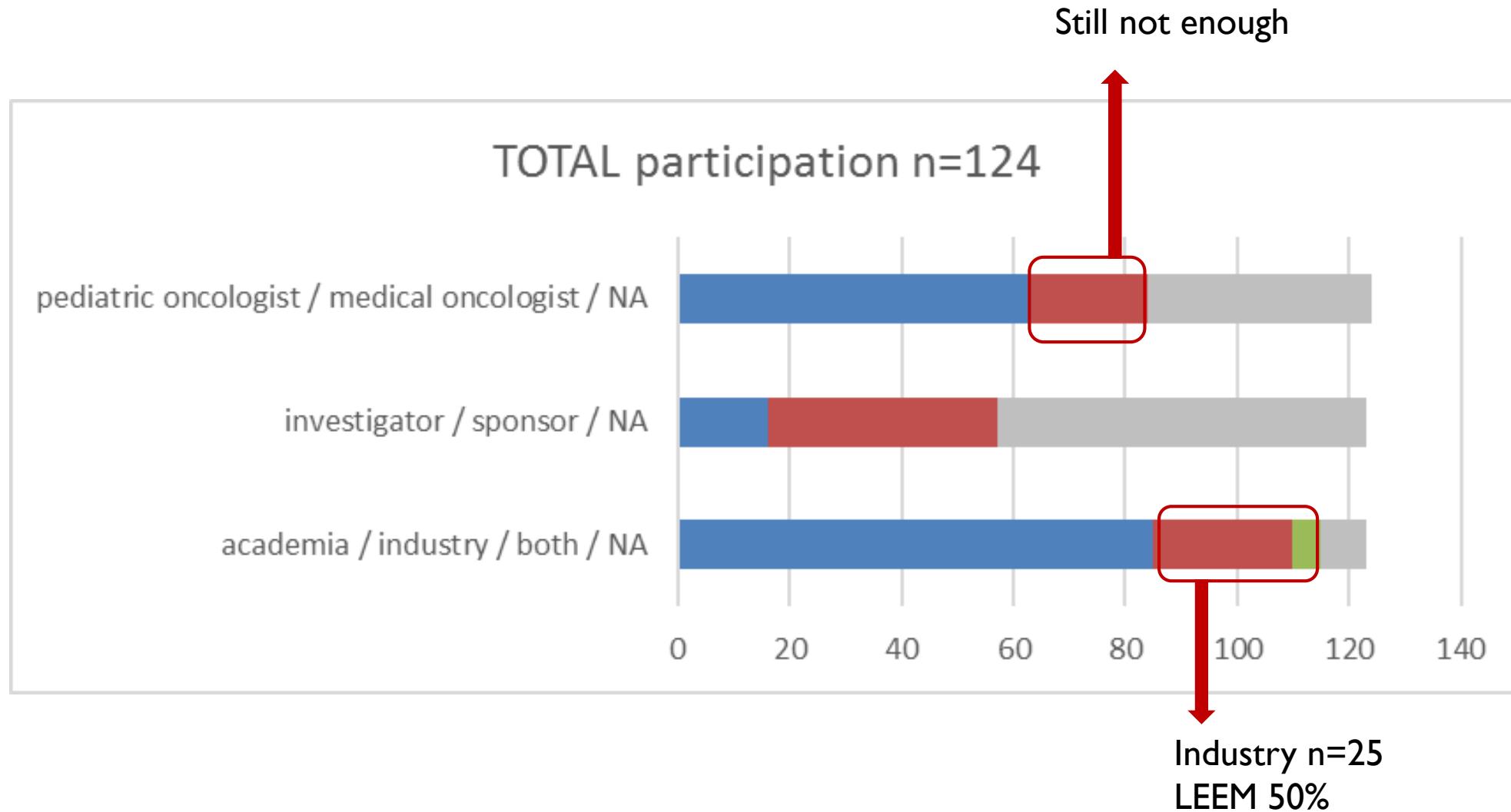
Who has answered the survey?

Disease specific cooperative groups

N=124

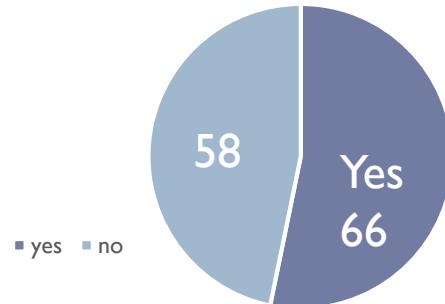


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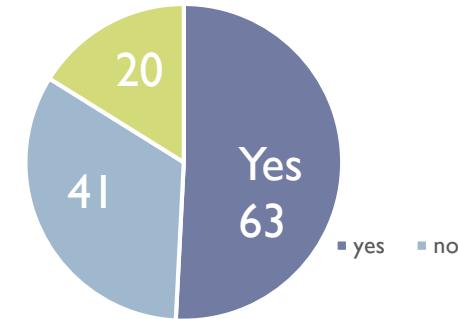


Over the last five years, have you opened ...

Any adult phase I/II early phase trials
which permitted inclusion of AYA patients?

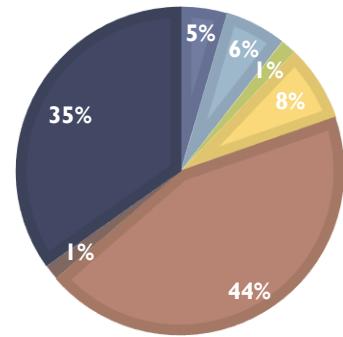


Any paediatric phase I/II early phase trials
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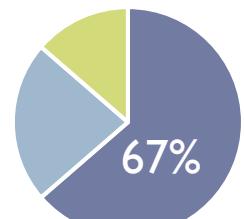


LOWER AGE LIMIT IN ADULT TRIALS

■ 6months ■ 2years ■ 6years ■ 12 years ■ 16 years ■ none ■ NA

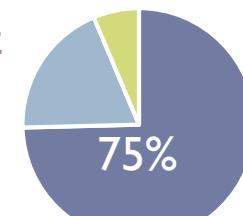


adolescents (12-17 years) enrolled



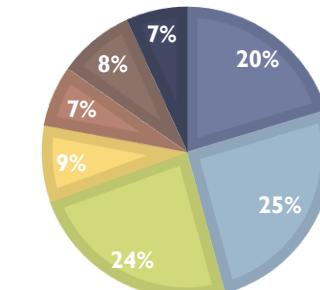
Is AYA recruitment
not a problem?

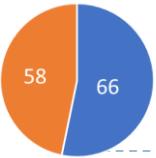
young adult (18-25 years) enrolled



UPPER AGE LIMIT IN PEDIATRIC TRIALS

■ 21 years ■ 25 years ■ 30 years ■ 39 years ■ 45 years ■ none ■ other





Inclusion of adolescents 12-18 years in « adult » trial

Hurdles to running joint adult-adolescent (ages 12 to 17) phase I/II early phase trials

Pharma refusal

remains a problem...

- CLEARLY for academia
- Not for Industry !!!



Not feasible in the European regulation of paediatric investigation...

Refusal by European Medical Agency (EMA)

Refusal by National Health Authorities

Refusal by Ethics Committees

Reluctance from paediatric oncologists

Reluctance from medical oncologists

Other (please specify)

Refusal by parents

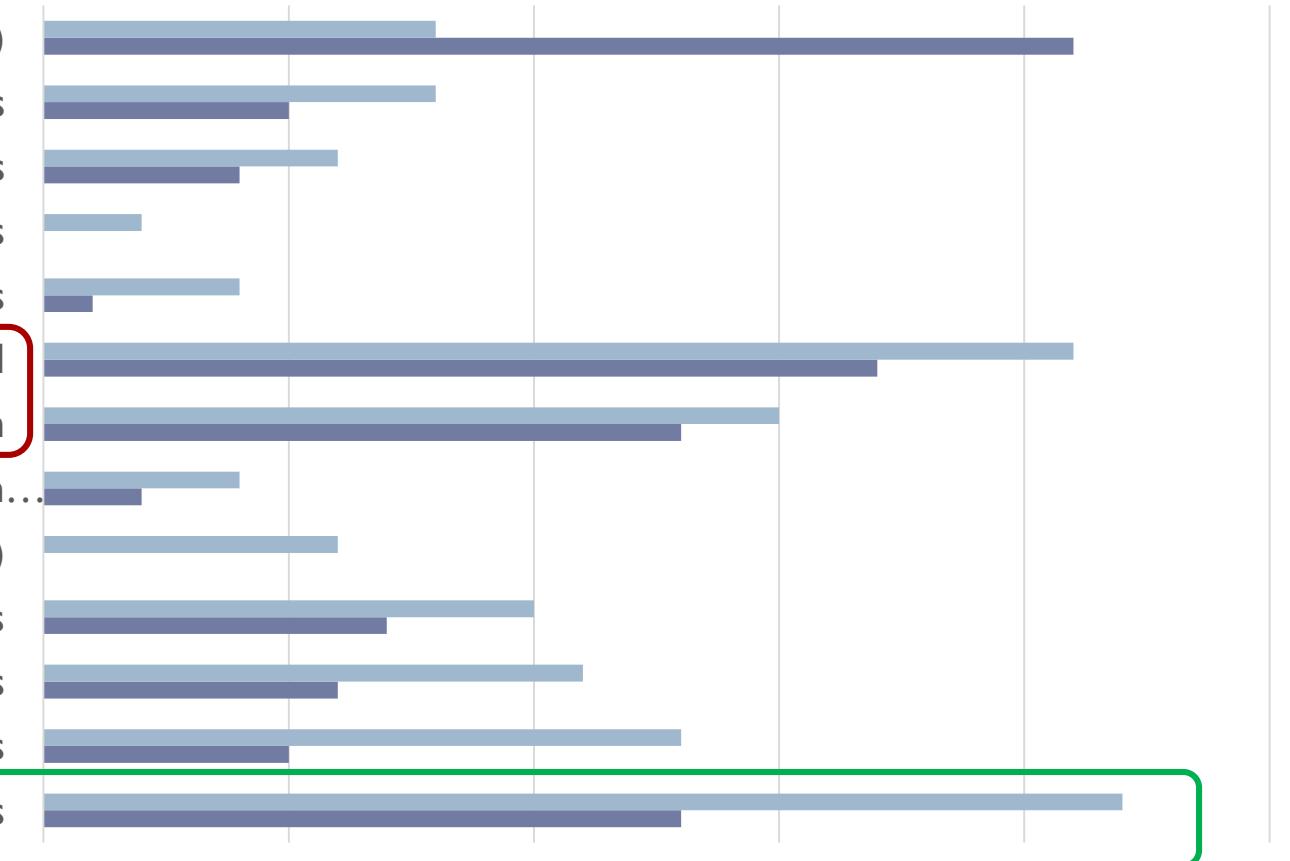
Refusal by adolescents

Refusal by National funders

Refusal by Private funders

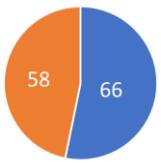
Refusal by Pharma company global

Refusal by Pharma company national branch



■ thought ■ real





Inclusion of adolescents 12-18 years in « adult » trial

Reasons why it could be difficult to enrol adolescents in joint adult-adolescent phase I/II early phase trials

Appropriate place of care

Opening of adequate ped center/ward

Other (please specify)

No appropriate paediatric referral network

Need to have two separate paediatric and adult centers

Absence of a paediatric ward or AYA (adolescents and young adults) ward/center open for accrual

Absence of paediatric investigators on the same site

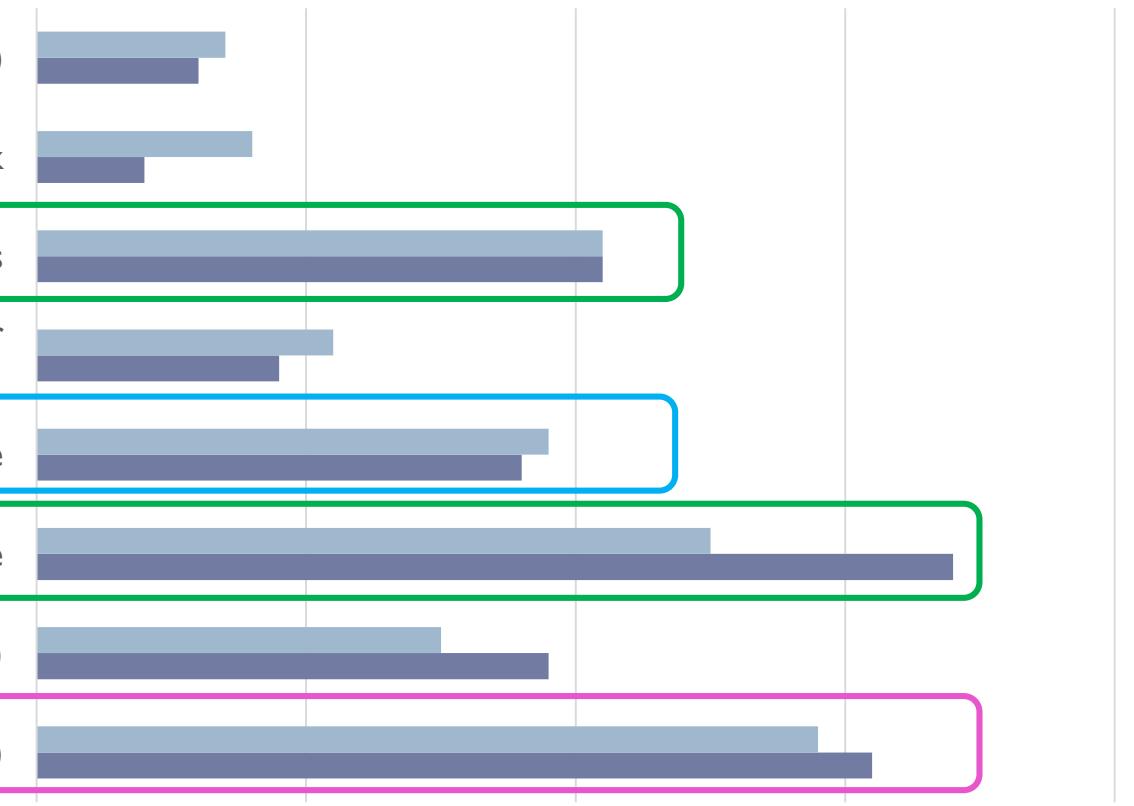
Trials approved in certain institutions or countries only for 18 years old and above

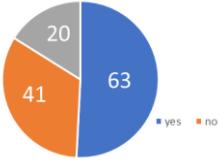
Paediatric trial competition for the same adolescent population (ages 12 to 17)

Limited incidence of the disease in adolescents (ages 12 to 17)

Epidemiology pb

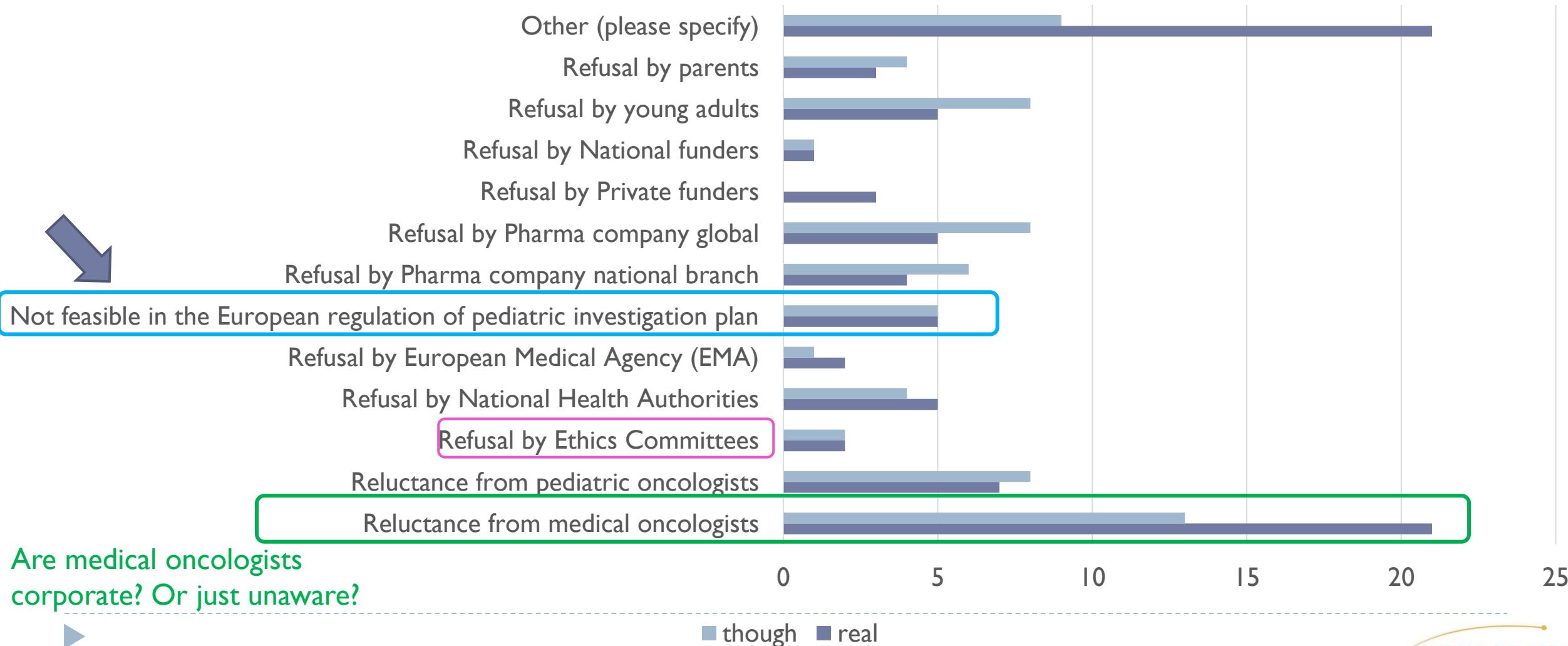
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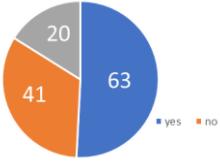




Inclusion of young adults in « pediatric » trial

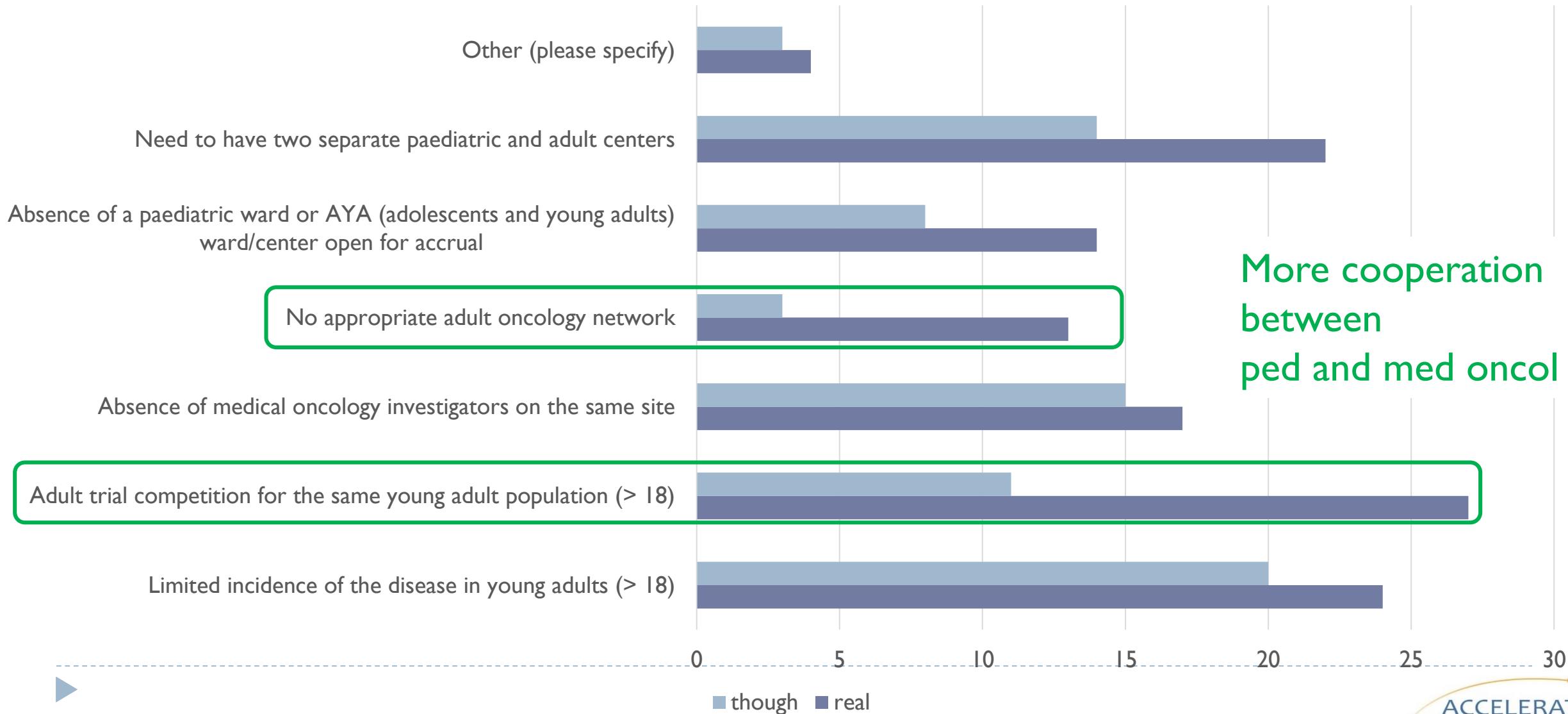
Hurdles to running phase I/II paediatric early phase trials that allow inclusion of young adults age 18 and above





Inclusion of young adults in « pediatric » trial

Reasons why it could be difficult to enrol young adults in phase I/II paediatric early phase trials

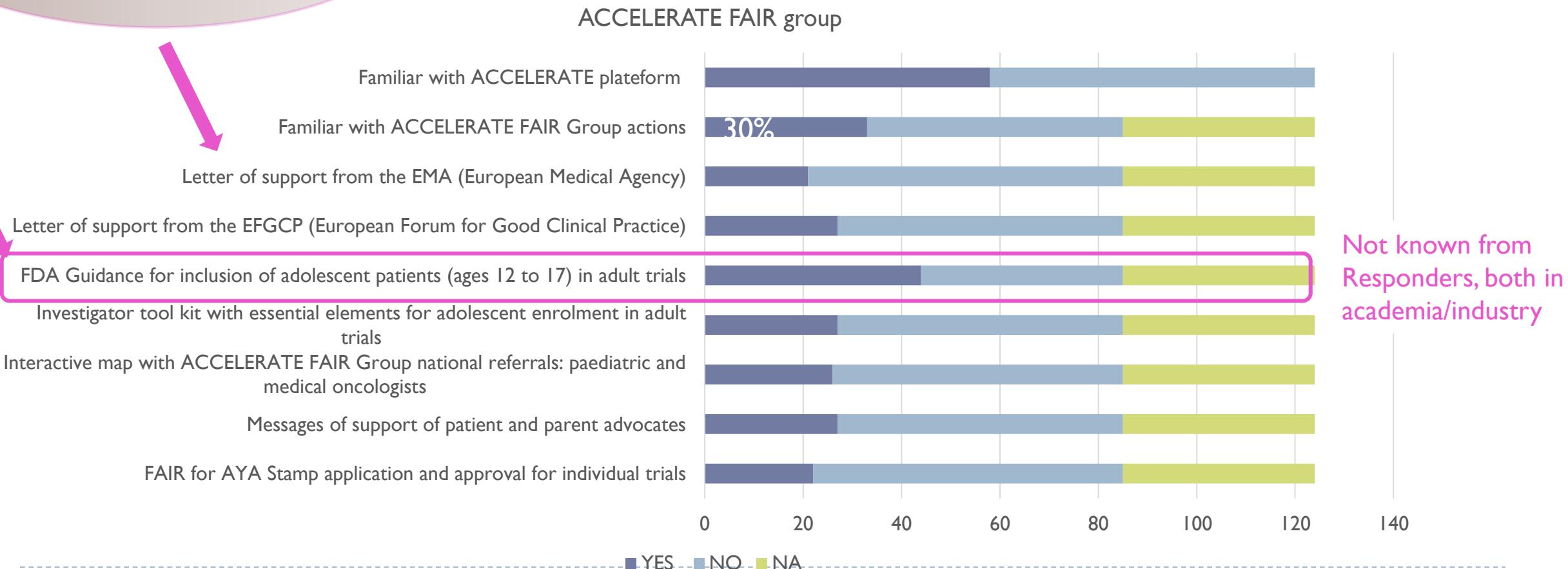


■ though ■ real

ACCELERATE FAIR trial group TOOLS

Diversify ways of communication in order to increase FAIR/ACCELERATE awareness

More communication from EMA and FDA?



Joint adolescent/adult trial from early drug development

Are all the problems solved?

Refusal of joint trial from different stakeholders

Biology knownledge of AYA tumours

Overlapping trials

Efficient recruitment of adolescents in adult trials

Difficulties to capture efficacy and toxicity information outside trials



But we all have to work on it !!!

Problems to be solved

Make medical/paediatric oncologists aware of existing solutions

ESMO/SIOP
Educational
Group
Consensus
Paper

Ferrari et al.
ESMO open 2021

REVIEW

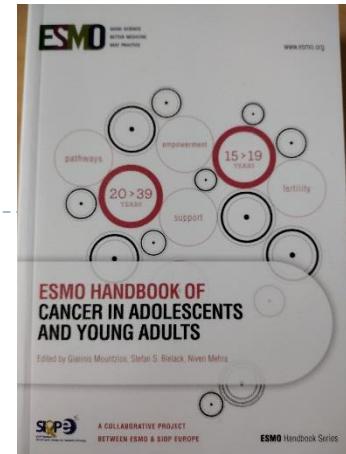
Adolescents and young adults (AYA) with cancer: a position paper from the AYA Working Group of the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) and the European Society for Paediatric Oncology (SIOP)

A. Ferrari^{1*},¹¹, D. Stark^{2**},¹¹, F. A. Peccatori³, L. Fern⁴, V. Laurence⁵, N. Gaspar⁶, I. Bozovic-Spasovic⁷, O. Smith⁸, J. De Munter⁹, K. Derwich¹⁰, L. Hjorth¹¹, W. T. A. van der Graaf¹², L. Soanes¹³, S. Jezdic¹⁴, A. Blondeel¹⁵, S. Bielack¹⁶, J.-Y. Douillard¹⁴, G. Mountzios¹⁷ & E. Saloustros¹⁸

Table 3. Existing areas of consensus and future actions to optimise AYA access to care and clinical trials					
	Areas of current consensus	Historical AYA challenges	Progress	Outstanding issues	Future actions
Availability of drugs and clinical trials	Improve early access to new anticancer drugs for AYA. Increase the number of early-phase trials. Simplify the process of PIPs. ^a Develop trials based on the molecular target and cancer type rather than age.	Small number of diverse cancer types. Clinical trials focused on tumour type mechanism-of-action trials, based on the biology of the disease. ACCELERATE initiative to suppress article 11b of the European Paediatric Regulation.	ACCELERATE ^b initiative to favour mechanism-of-action trials, based on the biology of the disease. ACCELERATE initiative to suppress article 11b of the European Paediatric Regulation.	Companies can still apply for PIPs and not develop a drug in the child/adolescent population if the disease under study is non-existent in this population. They do not consider potential similar targets. Drugs are being used off-label in adolescents with little safety or efficacy data. Limited information about the biology of cancer in AYA and drug resistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop drugs simultaneously across the whole age range of a disease or target pathway. Suppress article 11b. Do not issue waivers without scrutinising potential action in children and adolescents. Prospective data collection for off-label use. Identify new therapeutic targets for drug development.
Appropriateness of age eligibility criteria	Arbitrary eligibility criteria should only exist where there is a biological rationale or safety concerns/evidence. Improve access to drugs in early-phase trials.	Many AYA fall between adult and paediatric trials and are excluded based on age eligibility criteria. Pharmaceutical industry-sponsored trials predominately focus on older adults with a lower age limit of 18 years.	ACCELERATE initiative to support the inclusion of adolescents aged ≥12 years in early adult phase I/II trials including first-in-class trials. A number of joint paediatric/adult trials have been developed and have successfully recruited adolescents, and to some extent, young adults.	The number of joint paediatric/adult trials developed has been small. The lower age eligibility criterion of 18 years in trials has not been abolished, particularly in industry-sponsored registration trials. The upper age eligibility criterion in some paediatric trials remains. Trials initiated by paediatric and adult oncology researchers in the same cancer type may overlap, creating confusion for the AYA. Increased collaboration between adult and paediatric trialists is essential.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide guidance to support paediatric and adult oncologists to work together. Stop upper/lower age eligibility criteria being set in drug trials for cancers. Support AYA recruitment into clinical trials which span both paediatric and adult populations.
Access to trials	Relevant clinical trials should include AYA and AYA-appropriate care. Adolescents ≥12 years of age should not be excluded from adult trials, based only on age criteria.	Access to trials has been affected by the place of treatment (adult versus paediatric ward). Limited access to adult early-phase trials. Special skills required to obtain consent for AYA to participate in trials.	Development of dedicated AYA hospitals and/or care networks. Allows centralisation of care, AYA expertise and access to relevant trials.	Access to specialist AYA care is not equitable. No central AYA trials register. Researchers tend to be trained in either the paediatric or adult setting and are unfamiliar with the process for consenting AYA into clinical trials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a portal of available AYA trials and guidance on referrals to centres with open trials. Develop a cohort of researchers competent at consenting AYA into clinical trials.
Enrolment into clinical trials	Ensure young people and patient advocates are engaged in trial design. Ensure research questions and endpoints are relevant to AYA needs. Ensure patient information and consent processes are age appropriate.	Involving young people in trial design can be resource intensive. Traditional outcomes, such as survival, are required for regulatory approval. Some AYA cancers have excellent survival rates and trials on quality of life and late toxicities are paramount. Reducing treatment burden as primary endpoints.	Funding for patient and public involvement has been provided. A number of patient groups are involved in clinical trial design. Several studies have been successfully completed with quality of life and late toxicities as primary endpoints.	Limited awareness among patients and physicians regarding available clinical trials for AYA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate health care providers and other disciplines regarding the benefits of participating in clinical trials for AYA patients. Engage patient advocates.

Problems to be solved

Make medical/pediatric oncologists aware of existing solutions



Educational tools
More to come

<https://oncologypro.esmo.org/Education-Library/ESMO-E-Learning-and-V-Learning/Improving-AYA-Access-To-Innovative-Therapies-by-Breaking-the-18-Years-Dogma>

The screenshot shows the OncologyPRO website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Oncology News, Guidelines, Oncology in Practice, Education Library, Meeting Resources, and Tumour Sites. A 'SIGN IN' button is also present. Below the navigation, a search bar with a magnifying glass icon is visible. The main content area displays a session titled 'ESMO - SIOP-E Learning: Improving AYA Access To Innovative Therapies by Breaking the 18 Years Dogma'. The session details include: Title 'Improving AYA Access To Innovative Therapies by Breaking the 18 Years Dogma', Duration '26 min.', Content '32 slides', CME Points '1', and CME Test 'Take Test'. On the left sidebar, there's a vertical menu with categories like 'Discover ESMO journals', 'Essentials for Clinicians', 'Handbooks', 'ESMO E-Learning and V-Learning' (which is highlighted in green), 'Metastatic Urothelial Carcinoma Systemic Second-Line Therapy: The Platinum-Refractory Setting', 'Necoadjuvant Immunotherapy in Melanoma – The Pathway Towards Personalised Immunotherapy', and 'Open Questions in the ...'. The overall layout is clean and professional, typical of a medical educational platform.

The screenshot shows a session from the 'ESMO Virtual Congress 2020'. The title of the session is 'Research in AYA with cancer: Age-specific challenges and ways forward'. The details for the session include: Date '17 Oct 2020', Presenters 'Martin McCabe', Session 'Research in AYA with cancer: Age-specific challenges and ways forward', Authors 'M. McCabe', and Author affiliations 'More'. There's a 'Resources' section with a 'Login' button. Below this, there are sections for 'Q&A and live discussion' and 'Improving AYA access and recruitment to trials of innovative therapies'. Each of these sections has a 'Resources' link. The overall design is modern and user-friendly, with a pink and white color scheme.

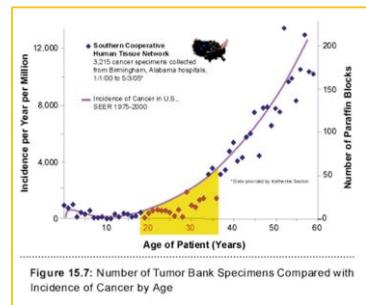
<https://oncologypro.esmo.org/meeting-resources/esmo-virtual-congress-2020/translational-research-is-cancer-in-aya-different>

Problems to be solved

Increase AYA tumour biology knowledge

AYA cancers might exhibit unique biologic characteristics, which may result in differences in treatment efficacy

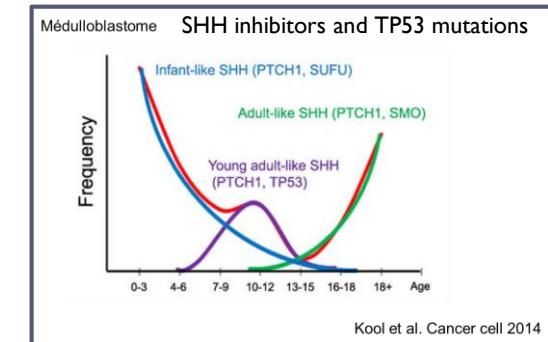
Past insufficient biobanking
of AYA tumours



Disease specific research

Trials with biology ancillary studies

Several programmes of
tumour molecular profiling
at diagnosis and relapse



Pediatric
All tumours



Adults
Tumour specific

Scattered
AYA data

EORTC SPECTA-AYA
De Rojas et al. IJC 2020

To increase molecularly driven trials
allowing the full age spectrum

BIOMEDE trial (NCT02233049)

A trial for DIPG, a very rare fatal paediatric tumour

BIOMEDE-2 trial

Enlarged inclusion criteria to mid line glioma, in AYA disease with the same mutations

PI J.Grill, GR

Problems to be solved

Favour patient access and enrolment in trial

[Lancet Oncol. 2014 Jul;15\(8\):e341-50. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045\(14\)70113-5.](#)

Available, accessible, aware, appropriate, and acceptable: a strategy to improve participation of teenagers and young adults in cancer trials.

Fern LA¹, Lewandowski JA², Coxon KM², Whelan J³; National Cancer Research Institute Teenage and Young Adult Clinical Studies Group, UK.

Adolescents define themselves as the ones who have to live with the disease without current chance of cure and thus claim to understand and freely choose whether or not to participate in a trial once they have had clear explanations of expected adverse effects and uncertainties about drug efficacy. They are more than willing to participate in adult trials to increase the chance of their own disease responding, as well as for altruistic reasons, as long as they can still be treated in an age-appropriate environment. These factors are crucial for trial compliance, and data quality.

Gaspar N, et al. Annals of Oncology 2018

Patient involvement

AYA care structure and support
AYA research network
Investigators trained for AYA care

Other factors to be addressed such as

- service configuration and/or place-of-care
- and recruitment methods (institutional and/or structural barriers),
- and developmental factors specific to young people, for instance, acceptability of studies (patient-related barriers).

Developing more AYA-driven trials will hopefully help overcome these obstacles.

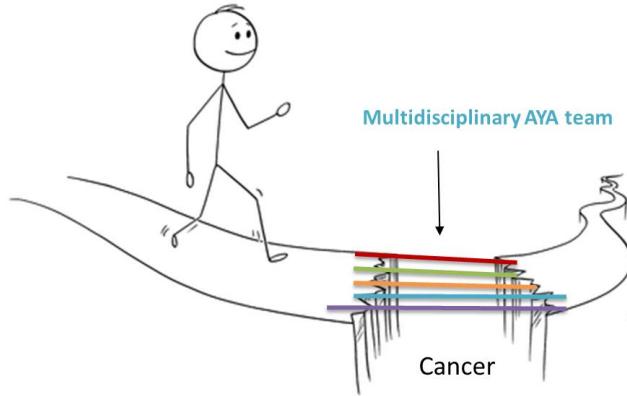
Pediatric Innovation Research Forum

Noel et al. Therapeutic Innovation & Regulatory Science 2021

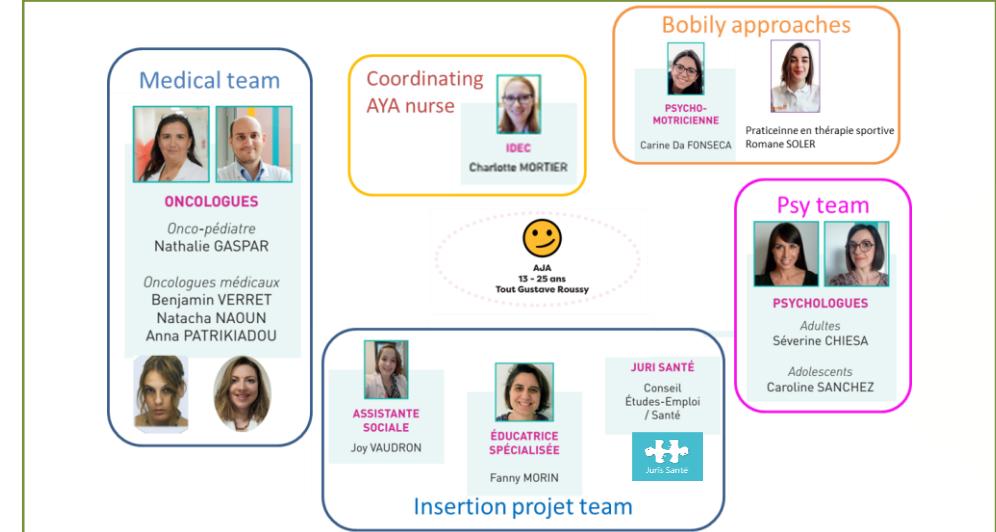
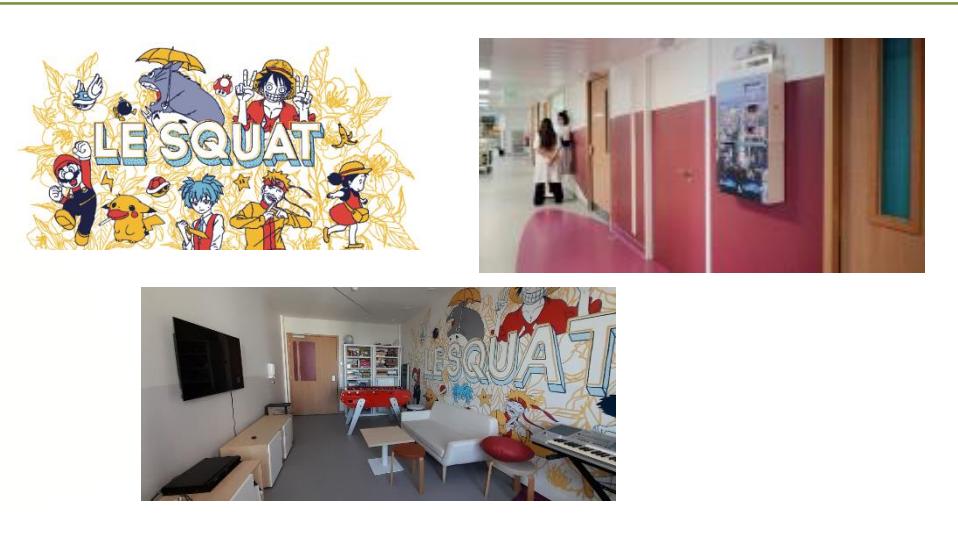


Gustave Roussy AYA care

Dedicated AYA Unit
La Montagne
Since 2002



Dedicated AYA interdisciplinary team
SPIAJA team
Since 2012



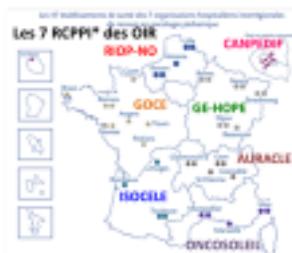
The changes needed To not loose information on drugs used Off label

PI: Pablo Berlanga, GR



Secured Access to innovative medicines for CHildren with cAncer (SACHA)

- French observational study, prospective collection of toxicity and efficacy data of innovative therapies administered to patients ≤ 25 years-old with pediatric tumors outside their marketing authorization and the frame of clinical trials (off-label/compassionate use)
- Patients will be identified through the interregional multidisciplinary tumor boards (RCPP) of the SFCE. Data will be collected by the validated pharmacovigilance tool VIGINOM.



SFCE New Drug Development Committee (Gustave Roussy sponsor):
Nicolas André, Emilie di Carli, Nadège Corradini, Stéphane Ducassou, Natacha Entz-Werle, Anne Sophie Defachelles, Salim Laghouati, Pablo Berlanga.

To be extended
In Europe



To accelerate early drug development
for adolescents and young adults with cancer



Be ready to jump !!!
Be ready to be the generation
of medical and pediatric oncologists that WILL DO IT

Thanks for your attention



The changes needed Joint adolescent/adult trials from early drug development

1. In adult early-phase anticancer drug studies, the age of entry into clinical trials should be lowered to 12 years where the agent has an MoA relevant to adolescents' unmet treatment needs, especially when the disease is rarely present in adolescents (making separate studies unlikely), unless there are well justifiable medical and/or scientific reasons not to do so.
2. For phases II and III trials, there should be no set upper or lower age limit criteria for adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancers that are present in both paediatric and adult populations with similar biology. Adolescents over 12 years of age should be included from the onset of the cancer drug development process in adults. Additional adolescent PK and toxicity studies should be undertaken in phase II studies. Children < 12 years should be studied as soon as the pRP2Dis determined.
3. Trials enrolling adolescents should always be conducted in an age-appropriate setting with clinical care provided by expert paediatric or AYA oncologists, to ensure best safety, care and compliance. This could be facilitated by having coprincipal investigators, with separate responsibilities for adults and adolescents.
4. Adolescents should be included in paediatric phase I, II and III trials where relevant (e.g. adolescents with paediatric cancers type or biological targets).
5. Young adult with paediatric cancer types should be offered to participate in paediatric phase II/III trials.
6. This approach should yield adequate data to support an adolescent indication at the time of the initial marketing authorisation application for a given anticancer drug, particularly where the disease crosses the age spectrum and has similar biological and clinical behaviour, or when diseases are histologically different but have similar targets present across the age spectrum. Adolescent PK/safety data collected in adult trials, even within trials for different diseases, might support extrapolation of activity between diseases if the targets are the same.

