

# Cancer Epidemiology in Fanconi Anemia

## FA Camp 2010

Blanche P Alter, MD, MPH, FAAP

Clinical Genetics Branch

Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics

Bethesda, MD

# Resources

---

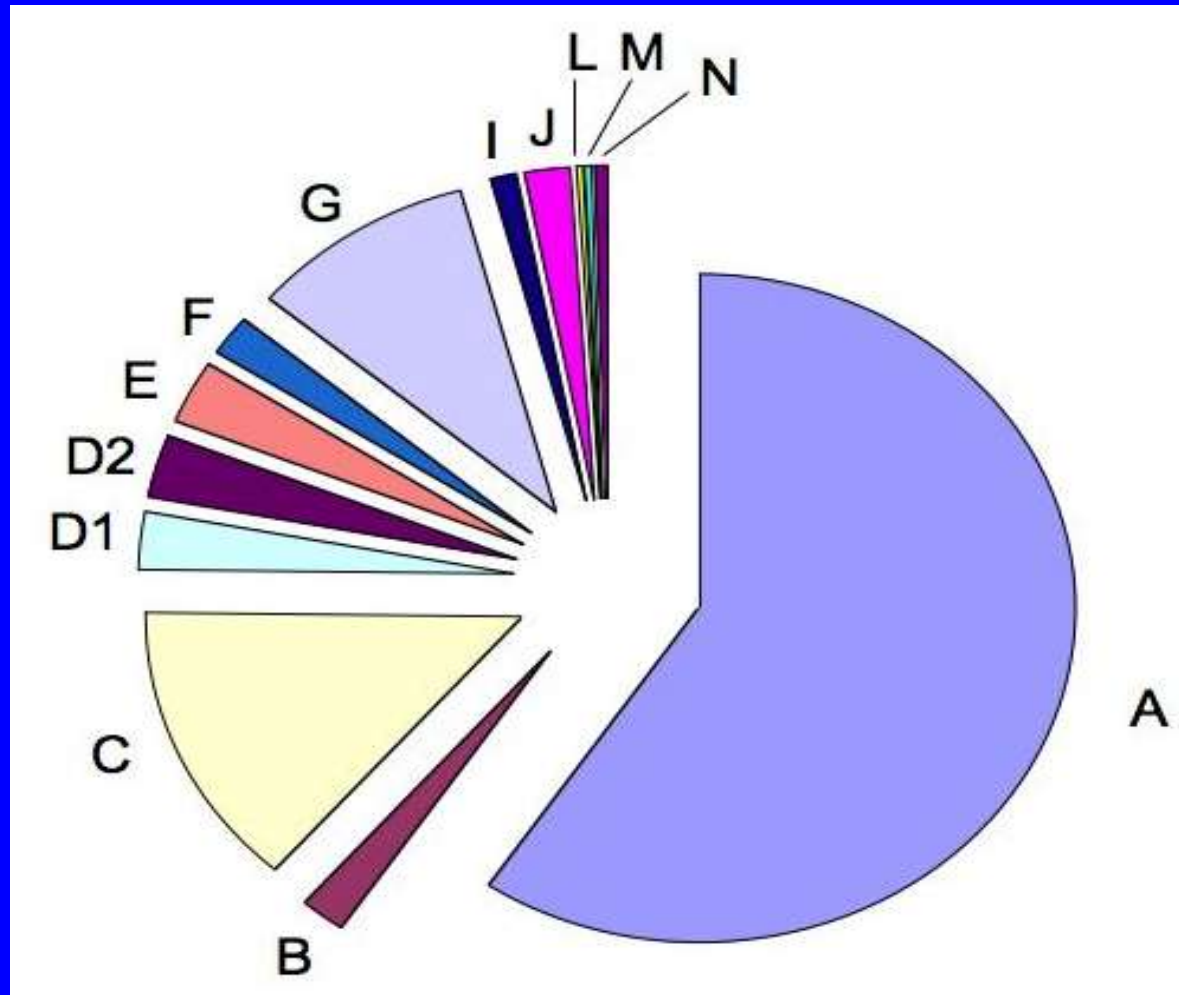
	Source	N
<i>Retrospective:</i>		
	Literature case reports	2000
<i>Retrospective/prospective:</i>		
	North American Survey (NAS)	145
	German FA Registry (GEFA)	182
	Israeli FA Registry (ISFAR)	66
	NCI FA Cohort (NCI)	66

# Biases

---

- Volunteerism
- Selection (publication, enrollment)
- Information (incomplete records, self-report)
- Survival

# 13 FA Genes



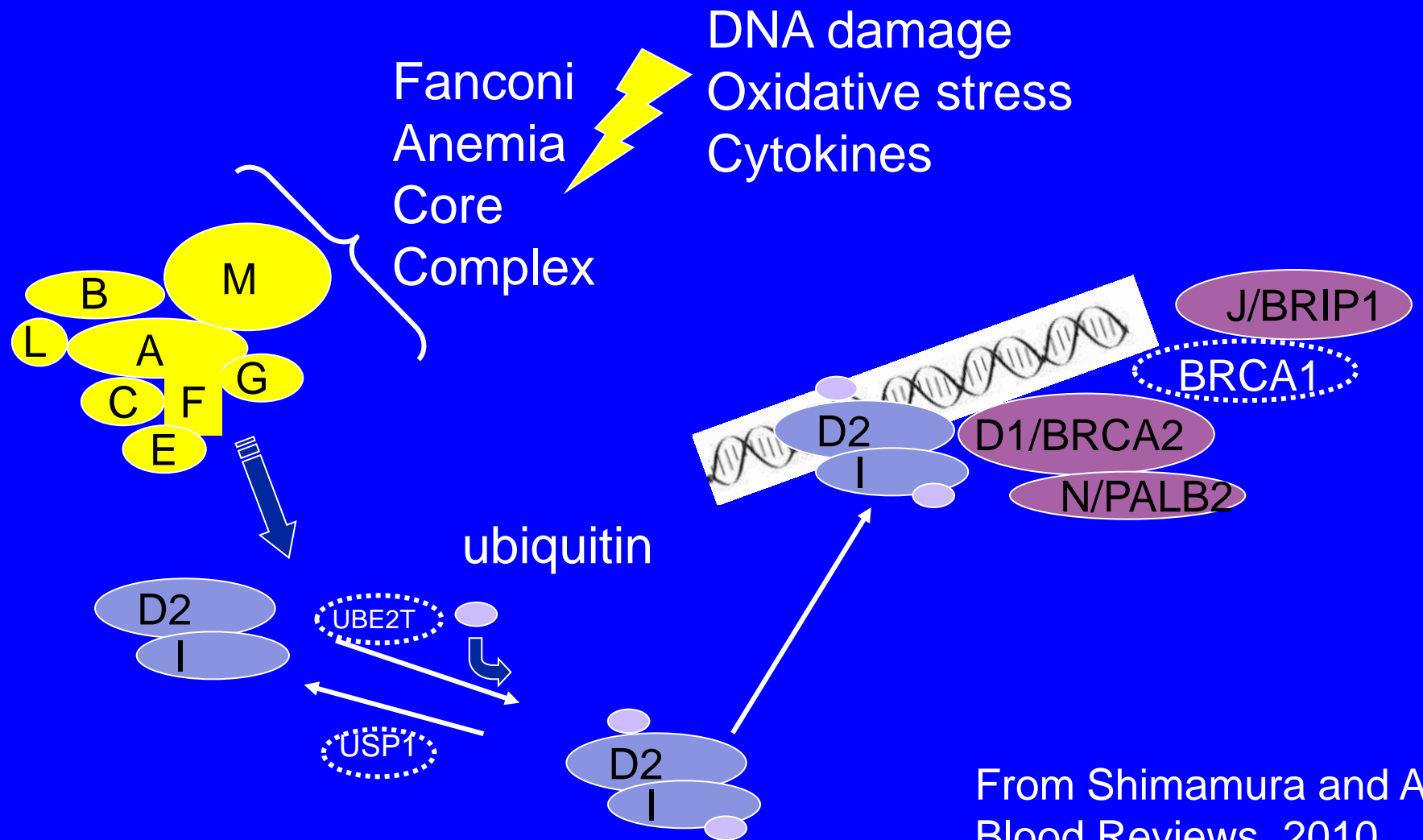
Data from Leiden Open Variation Database, <http://chromium.liacs.nl/LOVD2/FANC/home.php>

# FA Complementation Groups/Genes

Group	Locus	cDNA	Exons	AA	%
A	16q24.3	5.5	43	1455	~70
B	Xp22.31	2.8	10	859	Rare
C	9q22.3	4.6	14	558	~10
<b>D1/BRCA2</b>	<b>13q12.3</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3418</b>	<b>Rare</b>
D2	3p25.3	5	44	1451	Rare
E	6p21-22	2.5	10	536	~5
F	11p15	1.3	1	374	Rare
G/XRCC9	9p13	2.5	14	622	~10
I/KIAA1794	15q25-26	4.5	38	1328	Rare
<b>J/BACH1/BRIP1</b>	<b>17q22.3</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1249</b>	<b>Rare</b>
L/PHF9/POG	2p15-16.1	1.7	14	375	Rare
M/Hef	14q21.3	6.5	22	2014	Rare
<b>N/PALB2</b>	<b>16p12.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1186</b>	<b>Rare</b>

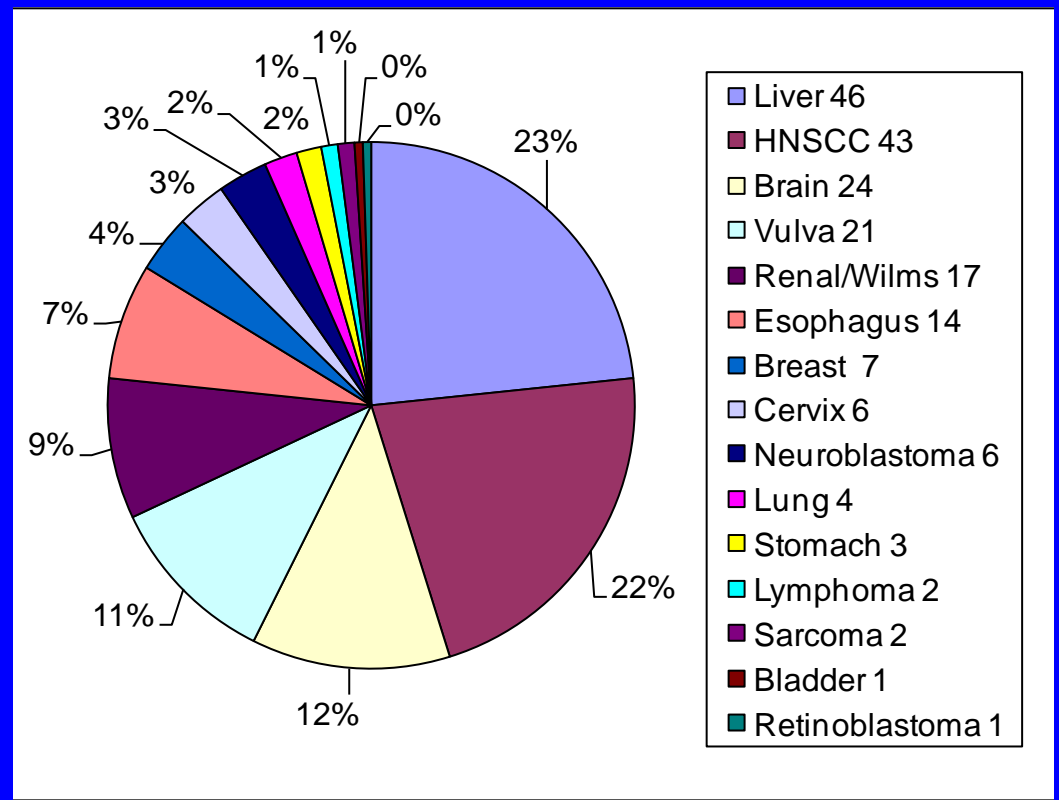
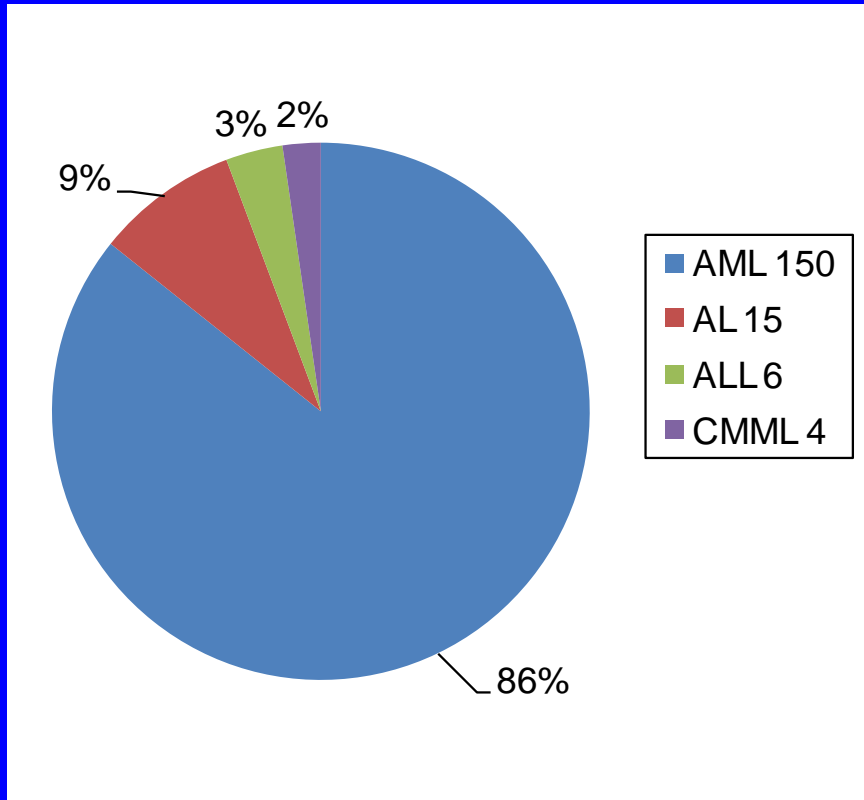
D1 = BRCA2; J = BRIP1, BRCA1 interacting protein; N = PALB2, partner and localizer of BRCA2

# FA/BRCA DNA Repair Pathway



From Shimamura and Alter,  
Blood Reviews, 2010

# FA Literature: Cancer Types 1927-2009



175 leukemias and 197 solid tumors in 320/2000 patients;  
26 had 2-4 cancers.

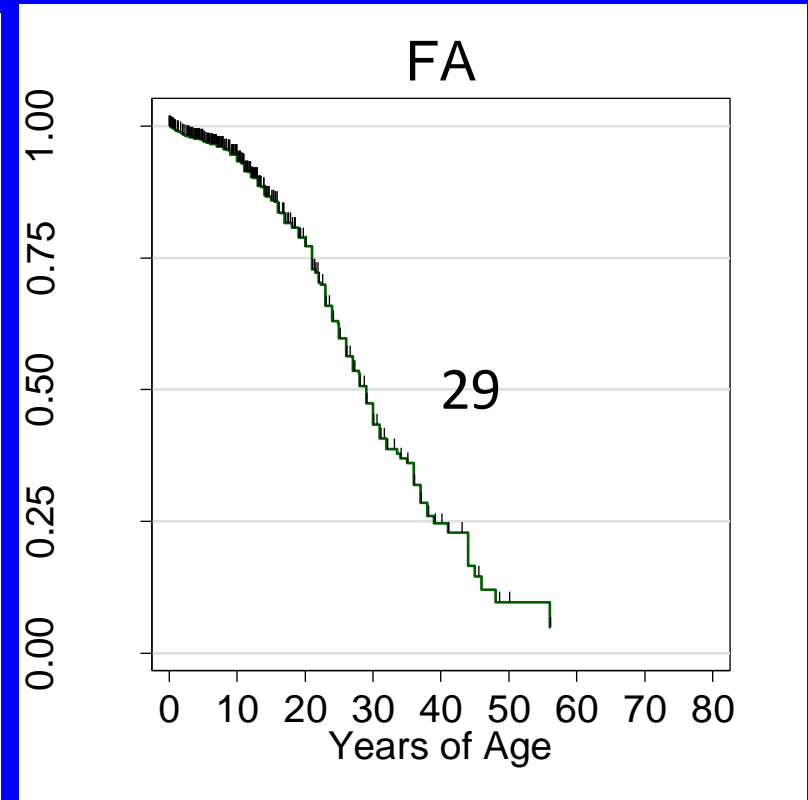
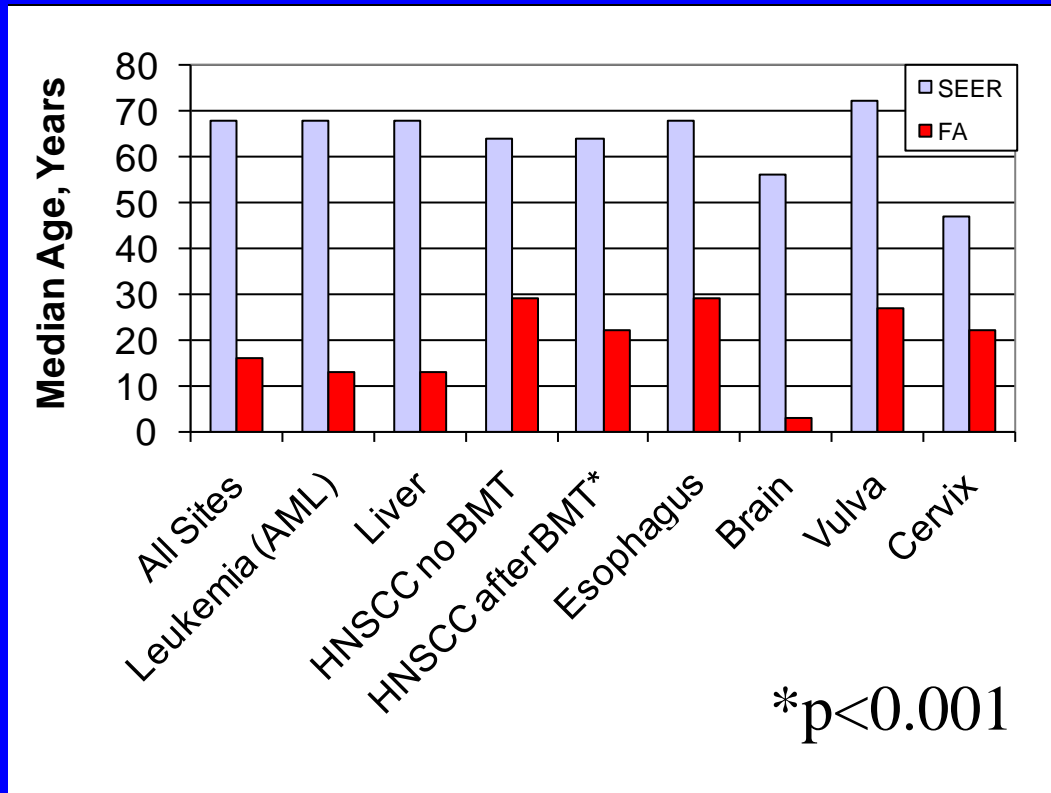
# Major Cancers in FA

---

- Leukemia: AML, ALL
- Liver: adenomas, carcinomas
- HNSCC: head and neck squamous cell carcinomas
- Brain Tumors: medulloblastoma
- Gynecologic: vulva, anus, vagina, cervix
- Kidney: Wilms, renal
- Esophagus: SCC
- Breast



# FA Literature: Cancer Sites, Median Ages



Cancers in FA are at very young ages

Median survival free of cancer = 29 years

# FA Literature: Multiple Solid Tumors

1 <sup>st</sup> Ca	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ca	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ca	N
Vulva	Cervix		3
Cervix	Vulva		1
Vulva	Tongue		1
Colon	Vulva		1
Tongue	Cervix	Breast	1
Sarcoma	Vulva	Liver Adenoma	1
Breast	Breast		1
Tongue	Liver HCC		1
Liver HCC	Esophagus		1

1 <sup>st</sup> Ca	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ca	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ca	N
Gingiva	Esophagus		1
Larynx	Bladder	Nasopharynx	1
Hypopharynx	Esophagus	Liver HCC	1
Tongue	Esophagus		1
Lip	Palate		1
Wilms*	Brain Medullo		4
Wilms*	Neuroblastoma	Brain	1
Neuroblastoma	Wilms		1
Neuroblastoma	Wilms	Brain	1

\*D1/BRCA2 or N/PALB2

# FA Literature: Solid Tumors + Leukemia

1 <sup>st</sup> Ca	Age	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ca	Age	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ca	Age	Gene
T-ALL	4.9	AML	6.3	Wilms	6.6	<i>D1/BRCA2</i>
Wilms	0.5	AML	1.5			<i>D1/BRCA2</i>
Wilms	0.6	Brain	6	ALL	10	<i>D1/BRCA2</i>
Neuroblastoma	1.4	AML	1.7			<i>D1/BRCA2</i>
AML	0.9	Wilms	0.9	Brain	1	<i>N/PALB2</i>
Neuroblastoma	0.7	AML	2			<i>N/PALB2</i>
AML	0.5	Brain	1.2			-
Retinoblastoma	1.3	AML	1.9			-
Wilms	0.5	AML	5			-
Cervix	22	AML	28			-
Breast	37	Breast	45	AML	50	A

# Combinations of Malignancies

---

- Vulva, cervix
- HNSCC, Gyn
- HNSCC, esophagus
- HNSCC, liver
- Cervix, AML
- Breast, AML
- Wilms; medulloblastoma; neuroblastoma; AML (*D1/BRCA2; N/PALB2*). All <6 yo

# Leukemia post-BMT

Indication	Type	Yrs	Patient	Sib Donor
AA	ALL	1.5		1
MDS	AML	2.4	1	
MDS	AML	3.3	1	
AA	AML	1.5	-	
AA	AML	10	1	
AA	AML	0.2	1	
MDS	AML	4	1	
AA	AML	2.8		1

# Tumors after SCT

---

- Tongue, buccal, lip, gingiva alone = 14
- Tongue + cheek = 2
- Tongue + vulva = 1
- Tongue + anus = 1

# Observed/Expected Ratio (O/E)

---

- O = number of cases observed
- E = number of cases expected in the general population, adjusted for age, sex, and birth cohort
- An estimate of the relative risk of cancer in untransplanted patients with FA

# Risk of Cancer by O/E Ratio

Parameter	FA Cohorts			
	NAS	GEFA	ISFAR	NCI
Number of Patients	145	182	66	66
Person-Years	2000	2818	814	1207
All Cancers	52x	44x	71x	39x
All Solid Tumors	51x	26x	50x	37x
Oral Cavity/Pharynx	706x	240x	986x	831x
Vulvar	4317x	2411x	3701x	2098x
AML	785x	868x	175x	326x
MDS	8559x	4559x	11683x	4910x

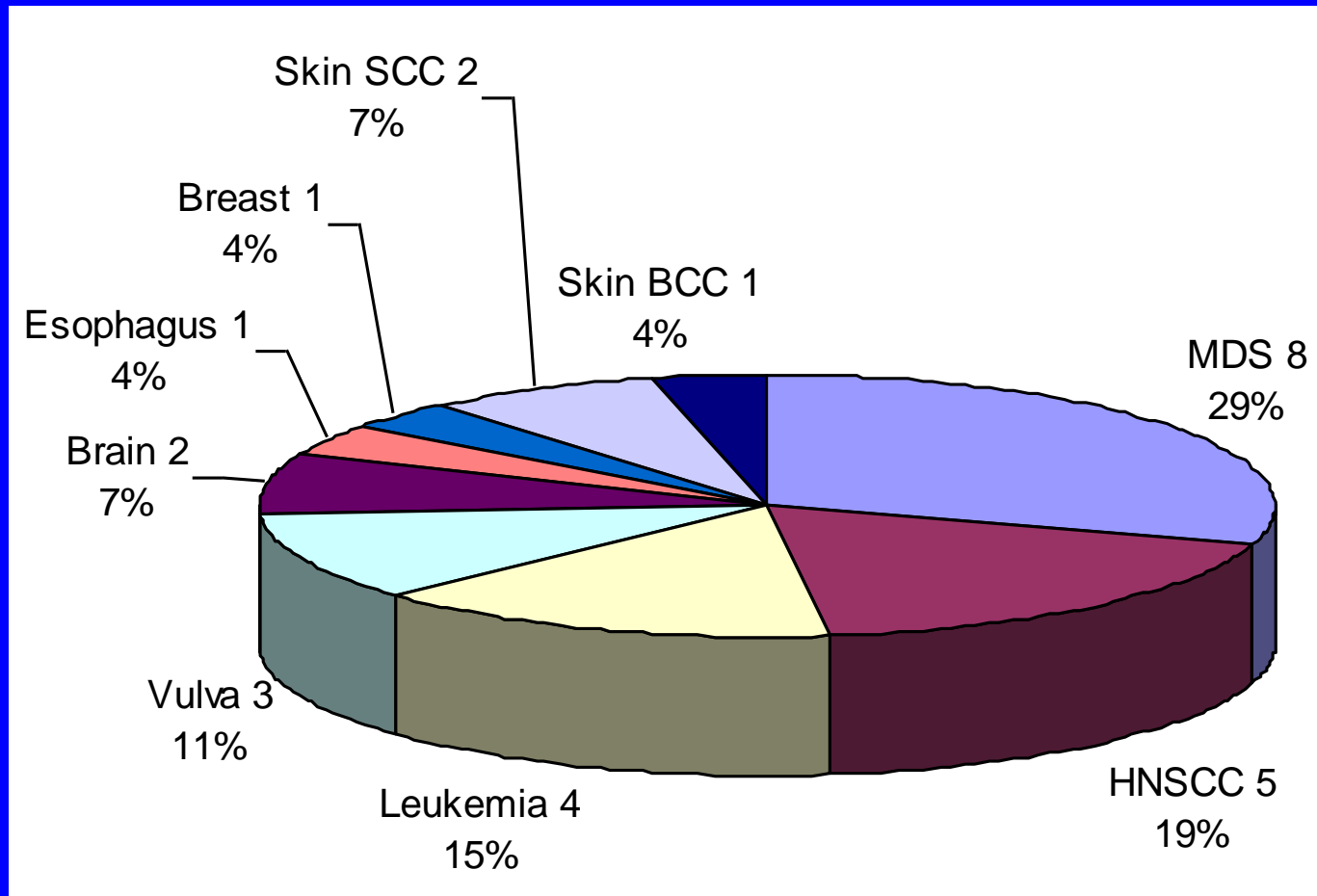
North American Survey;  
 German FA Registry;  
 Israeli FA Registry;  
 National Cancer Institute  
 Alter *et al*, BJH 2010



# Risk of Cancer by O/E Ratio

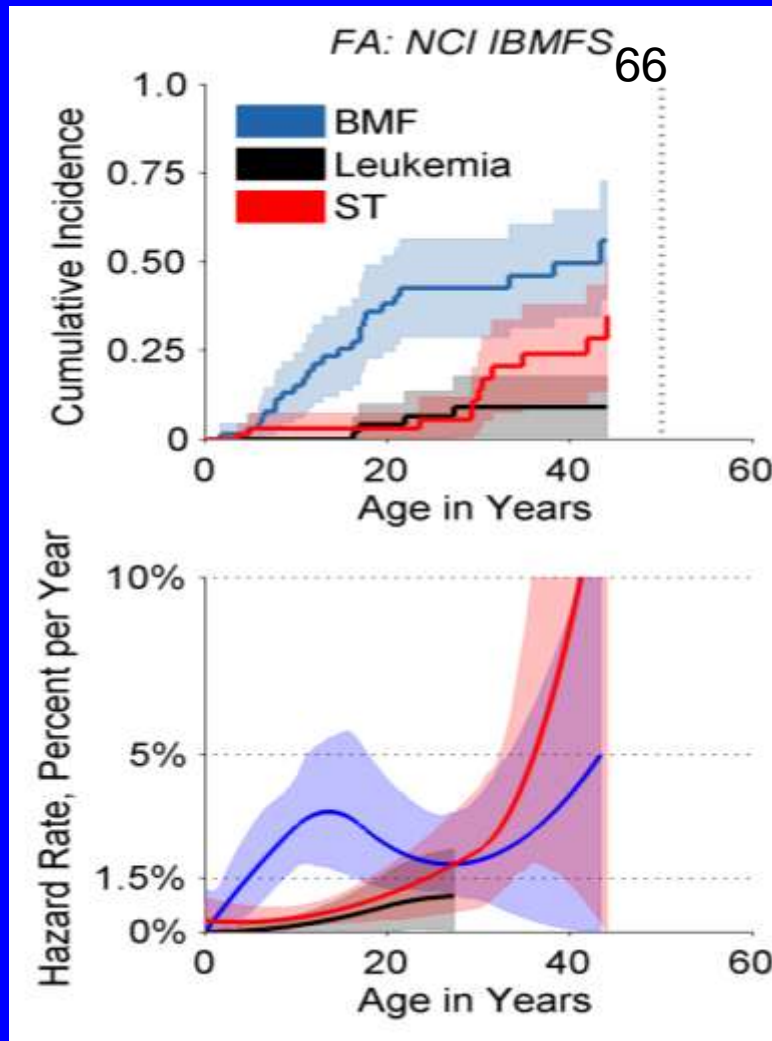
Parameter	FA Cohorts				Overall
	NAS	GEFA	ISFAR	NCI	
Number of Patients	145	182	66	66	<b>459</b>
Person-Years	2000	2818	814	1207	<b>6839</b>
All Cancers	52x	44x	71x	39x	<b>~50x</b>
All Solid Tumors	51x	26x	50x	37x	<b>~40x</b>
Oral Cavity/Pharynx	706x	240x	986x	831x	<b>~700x</b>
Vulvar	4317x	2411x	3701x	2098x	<b>~3000x</b>
AML	785x	868x	175x	326x	<b>~500x</b>
MDS	8559x	4559x	11683x	4910x	<b>~7000x</b>

# All Cancers in NCI Cohort

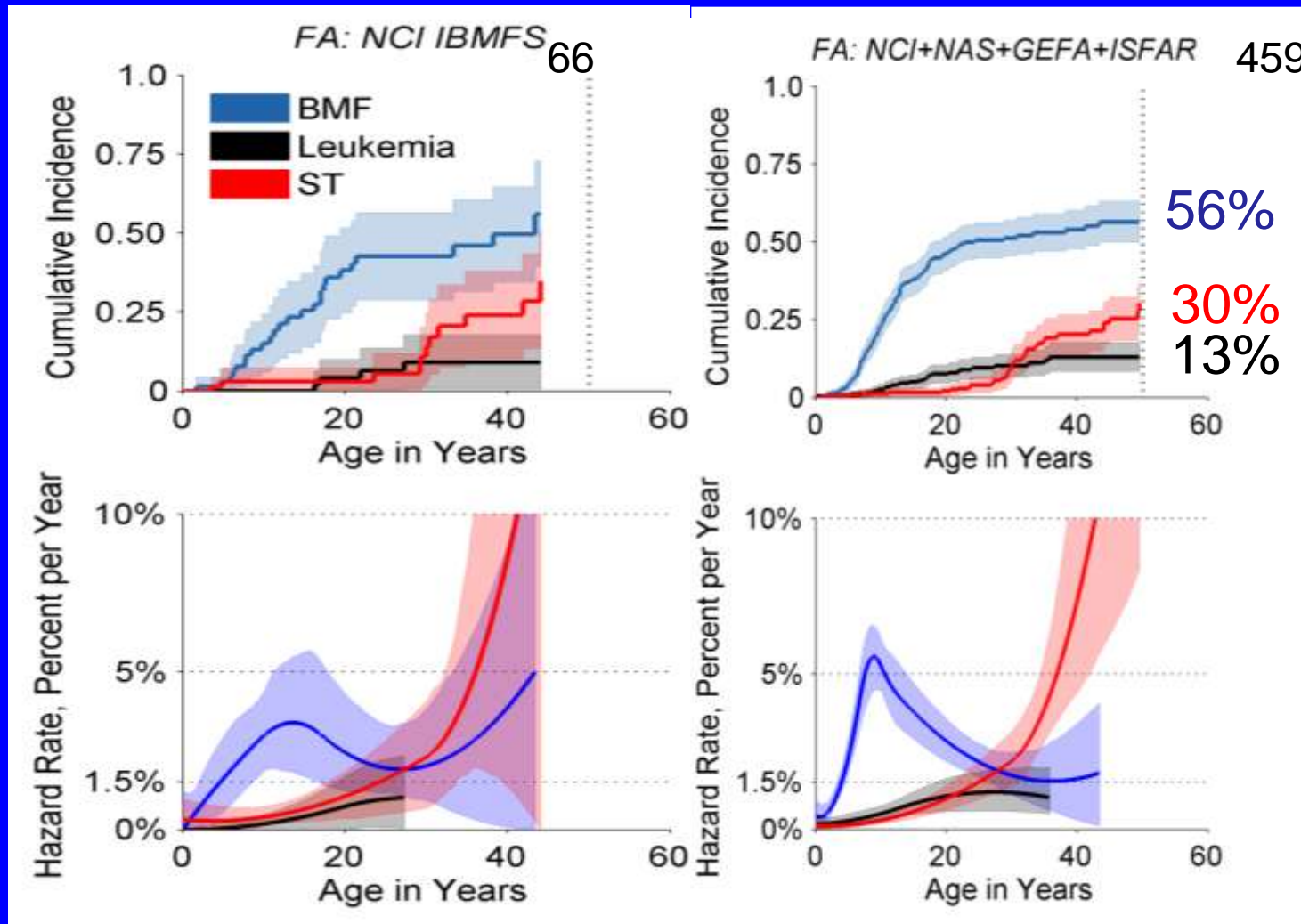


(MDS), HNSCC, AML, Gyn, Brain, Esophagus, Breast, Skin

# NCI FA Cohort: First Adverse Event



# All FA Cumulative Incidence and Cause-specific Hazards



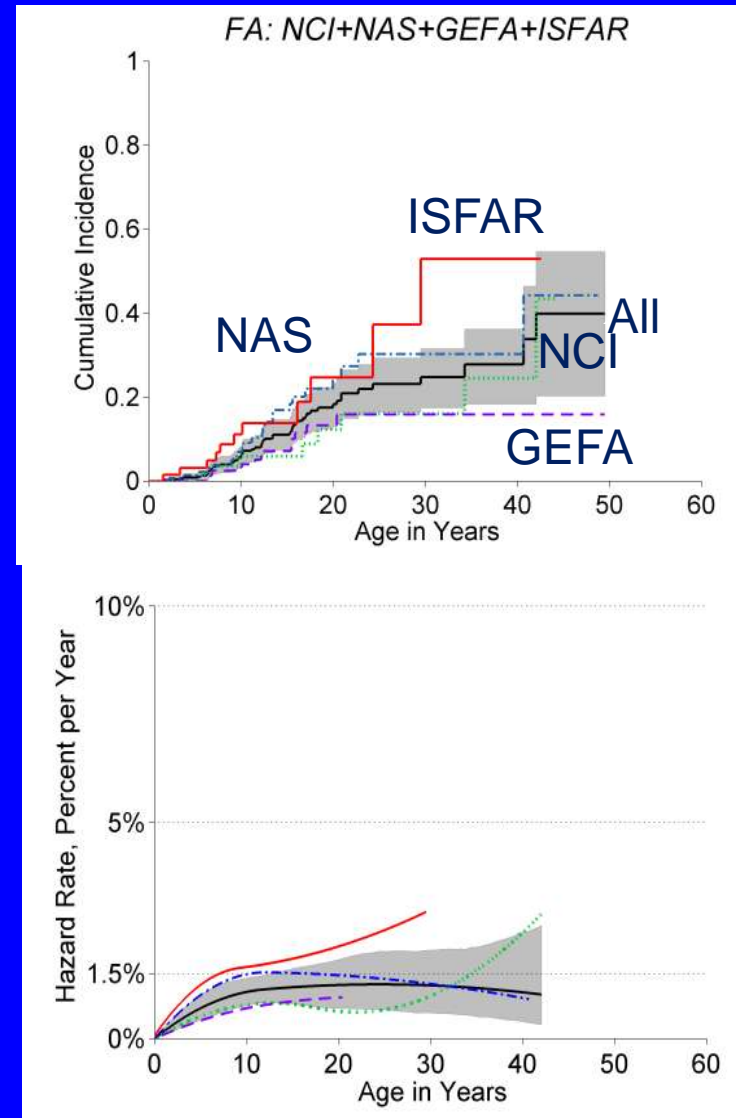
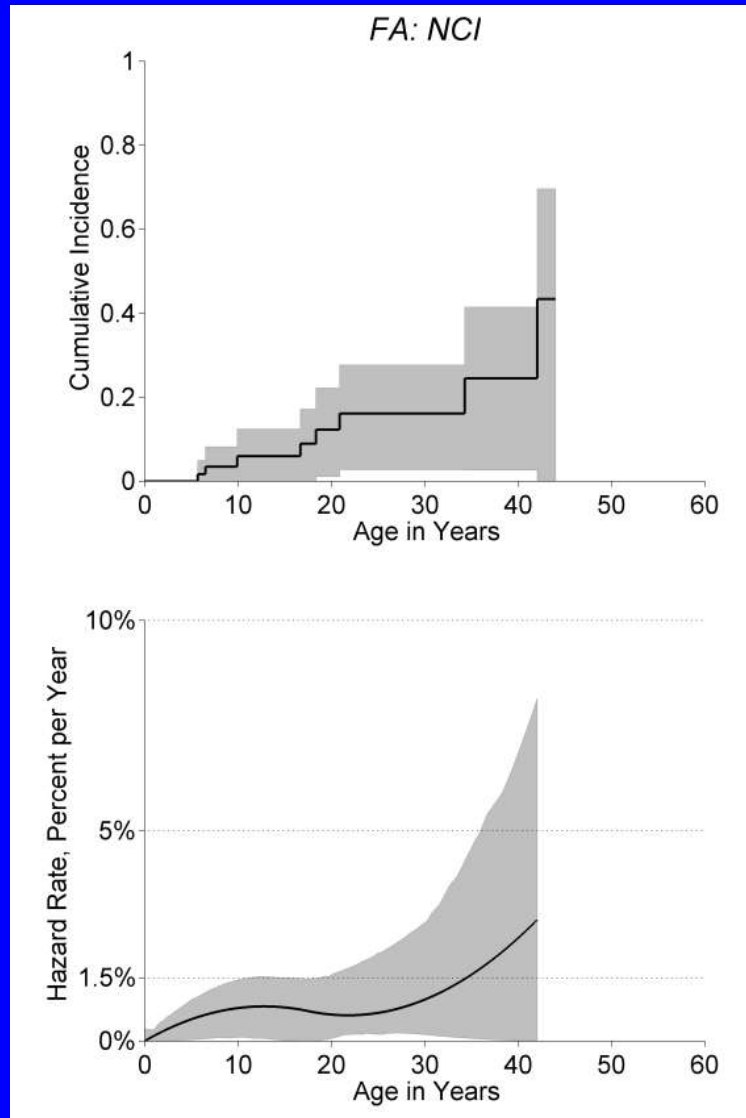
# Current Risk Estimates, Competing Risks for First Adverse Event

---

- Bone Marrow Failure: 50%
- Solid Tumors: 30%
- Leukemia (AML): 10-20%
- Total: 90-100%

*By about age 50*

# MDS in FA

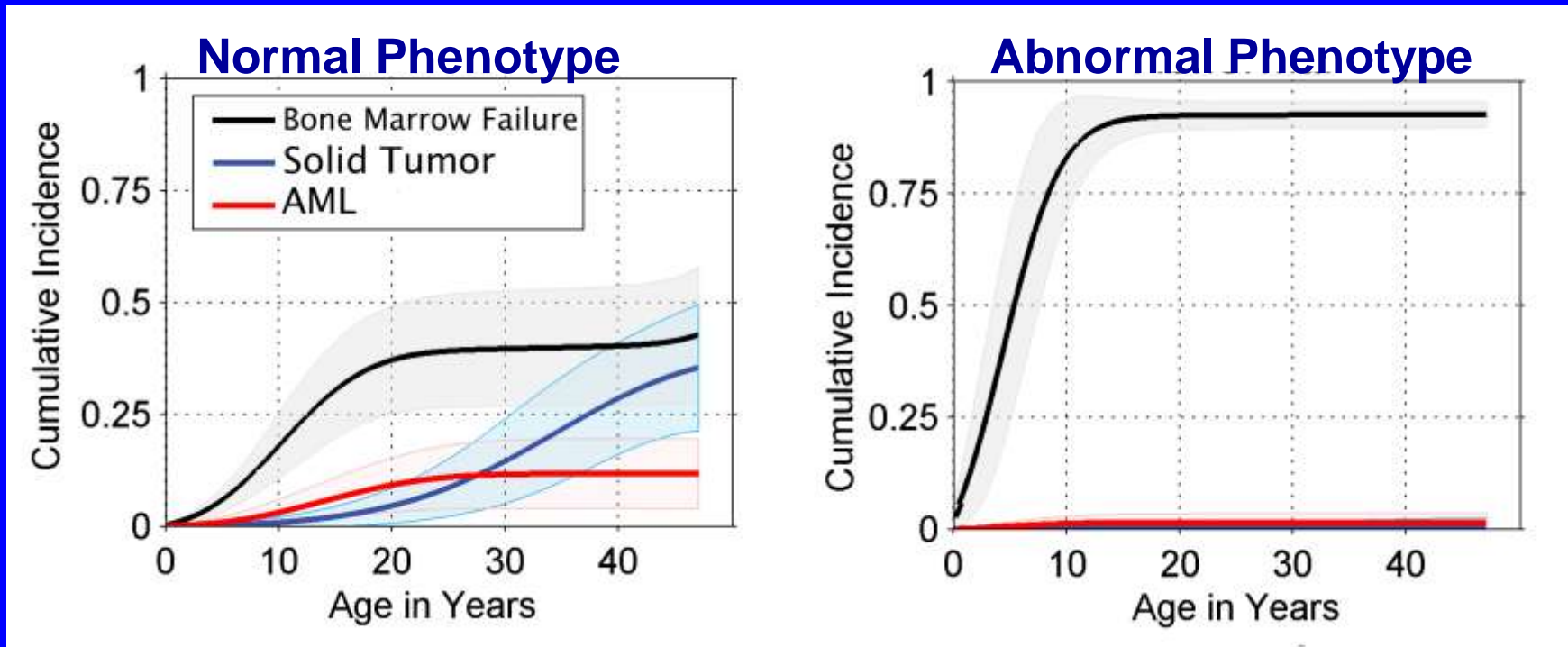


# Phenotype

---

- Does the physical appearance predict the first adverse outcome?

# Fanconi Anemia: Phenotype/Outcome



Components of abnormal phenotype = radii, development, heart/lung, renal, hearing, head.

Phenotype predicts age and incidence of marrow failure and solid tumors.

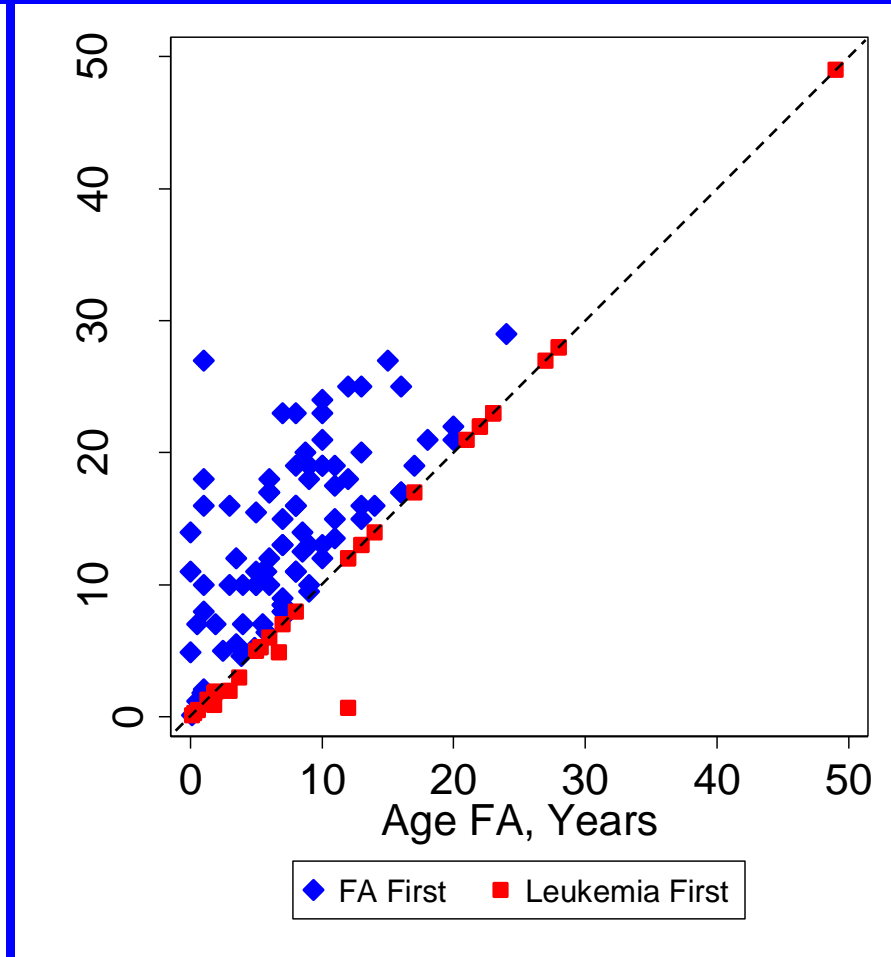
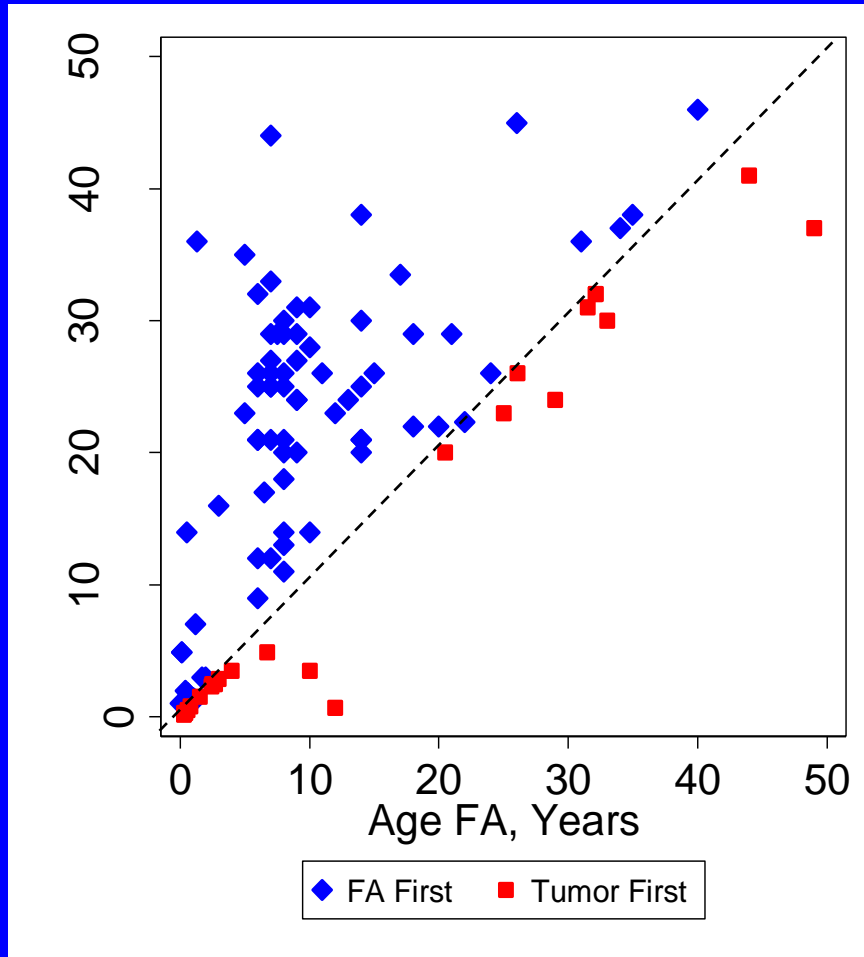


# Other Predictors

---

- Age?

# Cancer Diagnosis before FA



Solid tumor or leukemia preceded the diagnosis of FA in 35%.

# Diagnosis of FA before Cancer

---

- Aplastic anemia
- Birth defects
- Family history

# Diagnosis of FA after Cancer

---

- Clinical suspicion based on phenotype
- Family history
- FA-type cancers, atypically young, no risk factors
- Unrecognized marrow failure
- Absence of marrow involvement (e.g. somatic mosaicism)

# Conclusions

---

1. Mosaicism may occur from reversion of an FA mutation, with selective growth advantage from the revertant cell.
2. All siblings of an FA patient should be tested for FA, no matter their age or their potential roles as donors.
3. Affected individuals should not be stem cell donors for siblings with FA.
4. Asymptomatic “non-penetrant” persons with FA are at risk of late onset bone marrow failure, myelodysplastic syndrome, acute leukemia, and solid tumors.

# Possible Causal Factors for Cancer in FA

---

- Genetics
- Stem cell transplant - GVHD, XRT
- HPV
- Immunodeficiency
- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Dental XRays
- Oral trauma (braces)

---

# Genetics

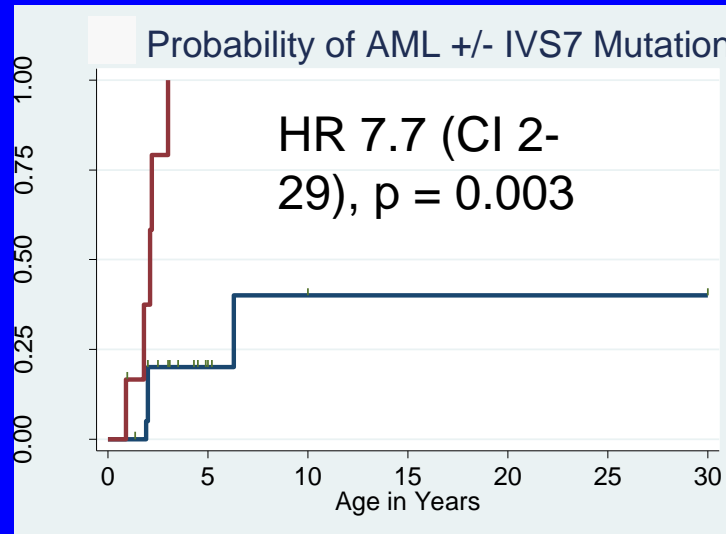
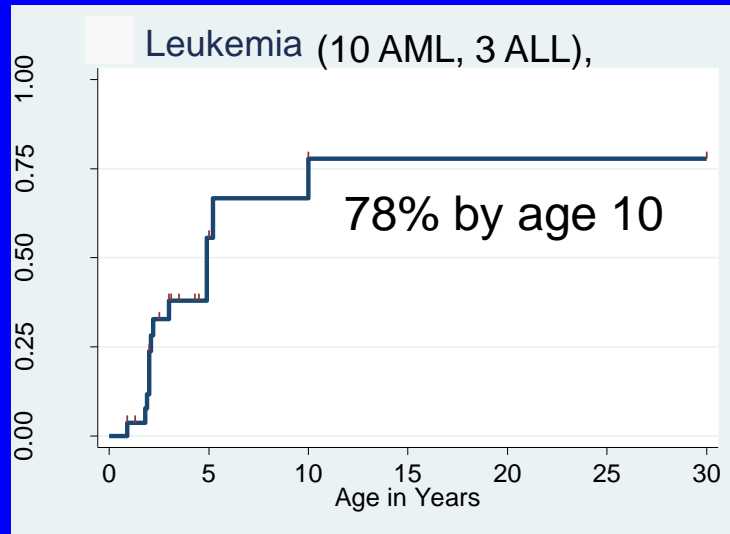
# VACTERL-H Association

---

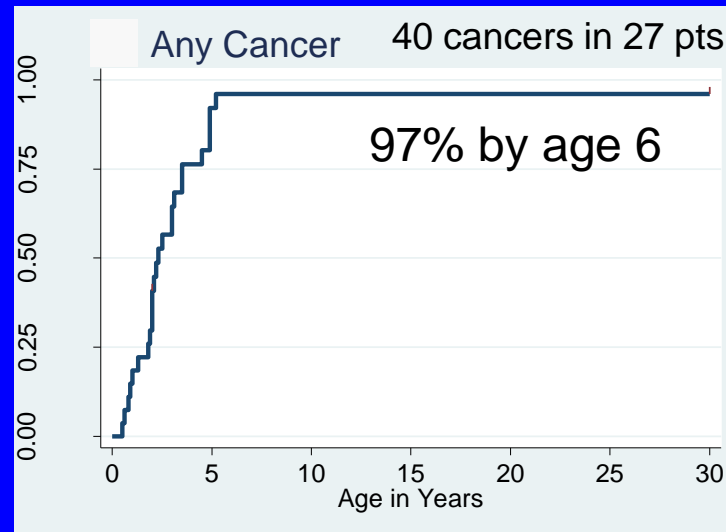
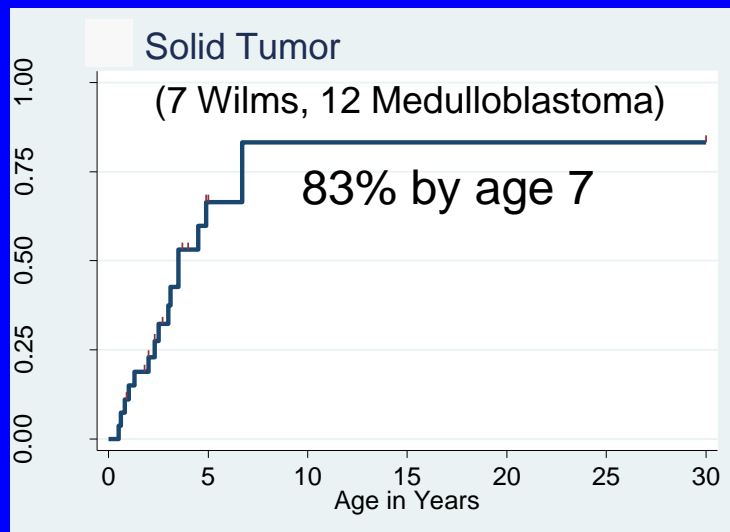
- At least three of:
  - vertebral anomalies
  - anal atresia
  - cardiac anomalies
  - tracheo-esophageal fistula
  - esophageal atresia
  - radial limb anomalies
  - renal anomalies
  - plus hydrocephalus



# Genotype/Phenotype/Outcome: 27 FA with Biallelic Mutations in *BRCA2*



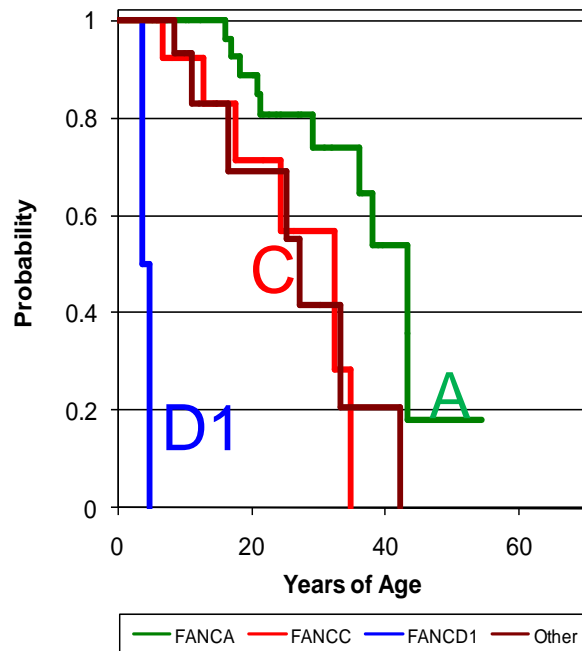
Alter: Br J Haematol, 2006



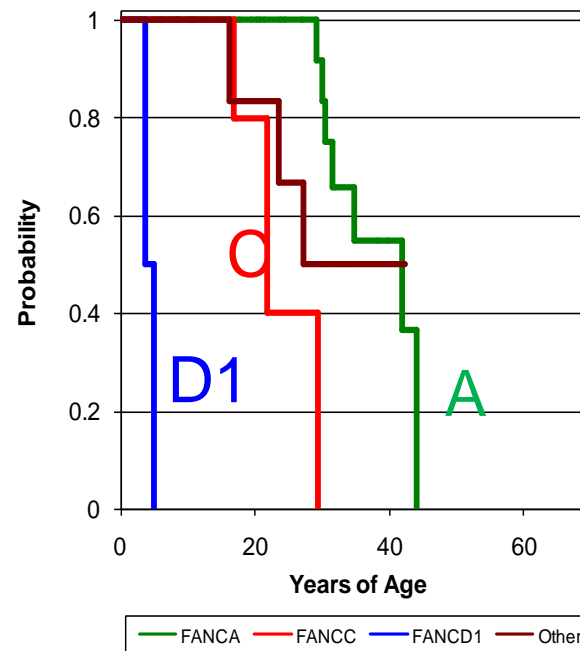
Alter, Brody, Rosenberg: J Med Genet, 2007

# Outcome by FA Genotype

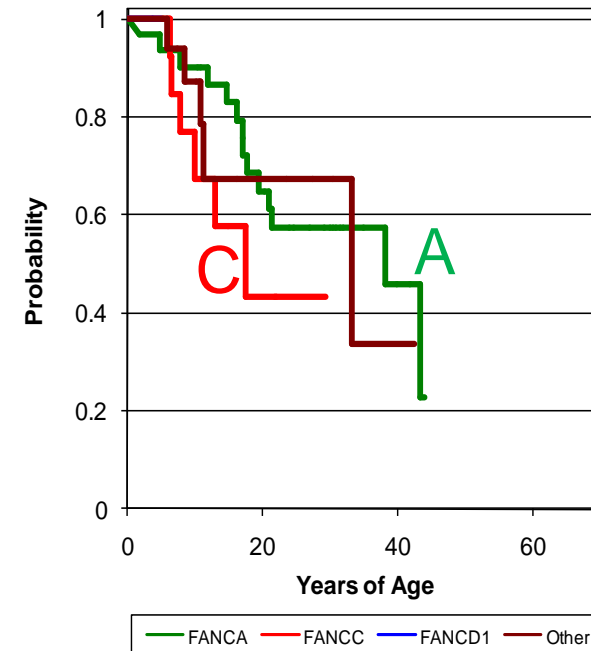
Overall Survival



Survival Free of Cancer



Survival Free of BMF



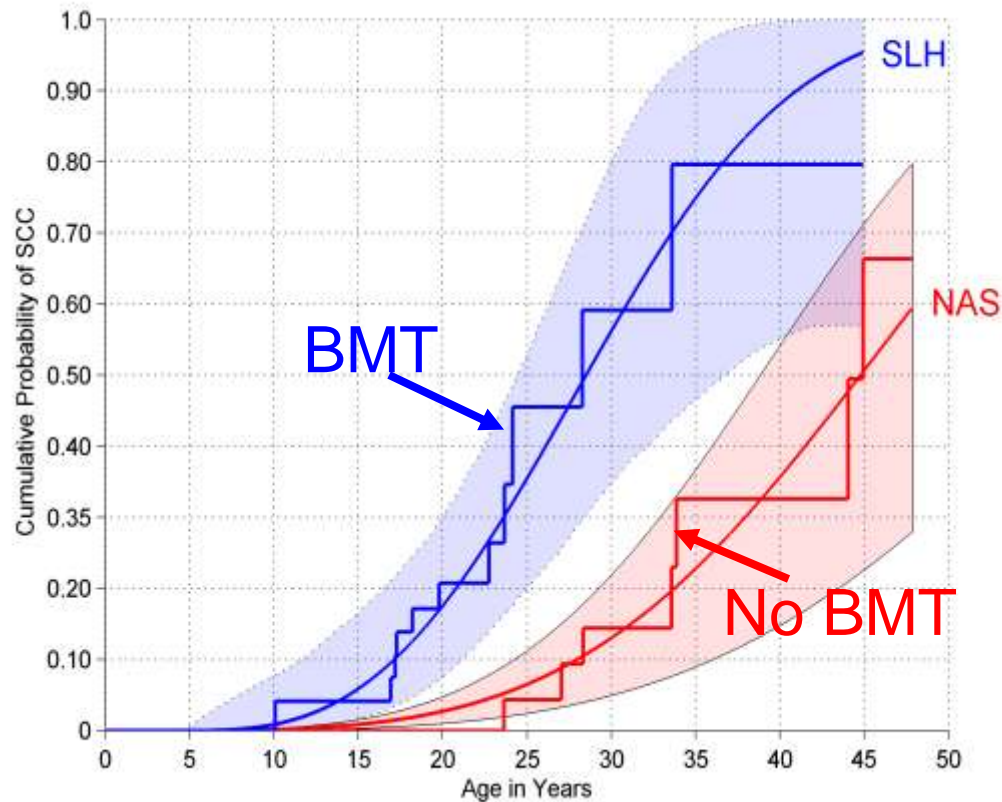
*FANCD1/BRCA2* is the most severe, followed by *FANCC* and Other/unknown; *FANCA* is the mildest ;  $p < 0.001$

---

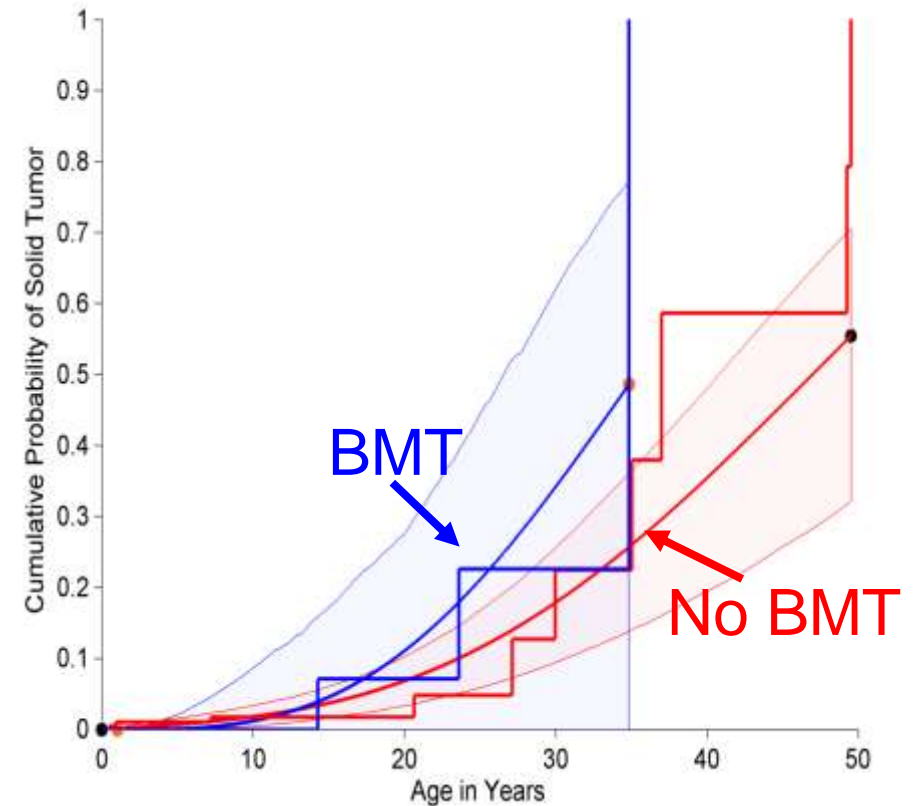
# Transplant

# Transplant and Head and Neck Cancer in Fanconi Anemia

NAS and Paris



GEFA



BMT increases risk of HNSCC 4-fold, and 16 years earlier. All had GVHD. (Other reports include patients without GVHD.)

---

# Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

# HPV Vaccine for General Population

---

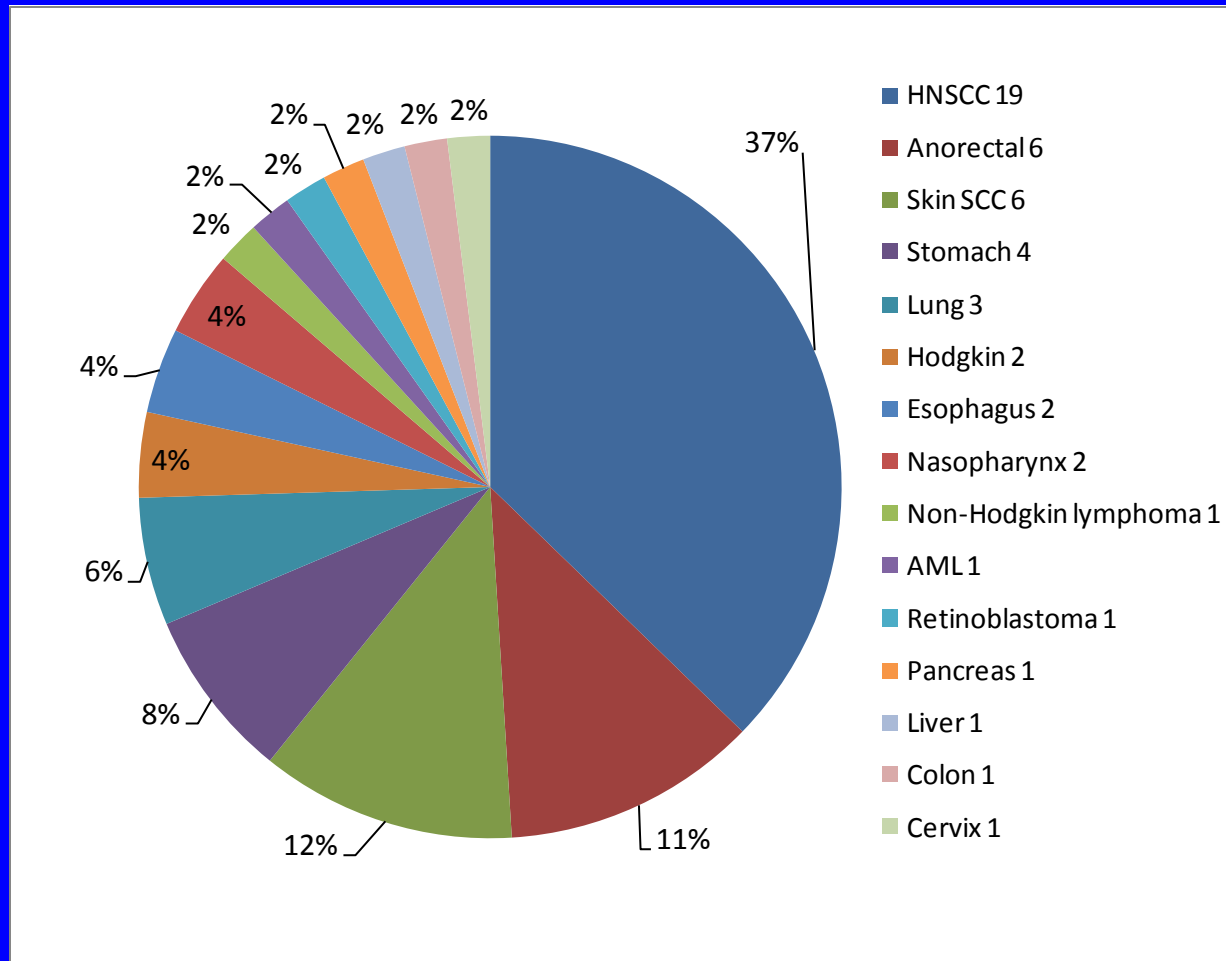
- FDA approved June 2006
- Age 9 to 26 years
- Females
- 16, 18, 6, 11 (Merck Gardasil)
- FDA approved for males WHEN?

---

Other Similar Syndromes?

# Dyskeratosis Congenita (DC)

## Literature: Cancer 1910-2009

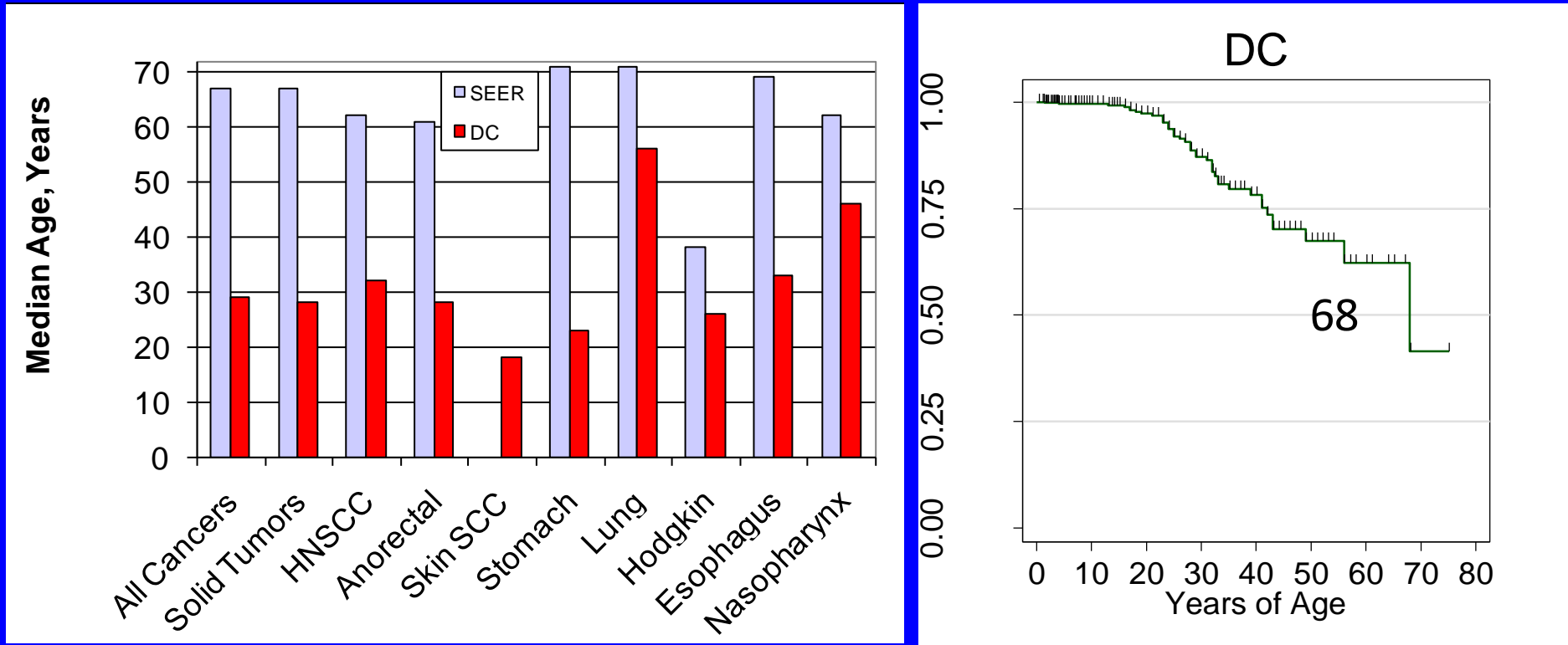


Spectrum of solid tumors in DC resembles that in FA.

51 cancers in 42/550 patients; 6 patients had 2-4 cancers

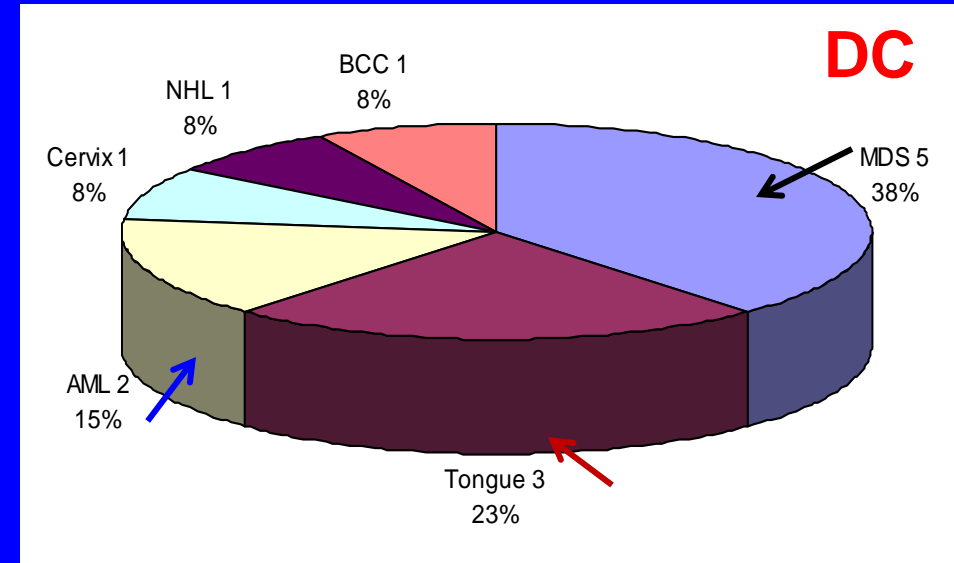
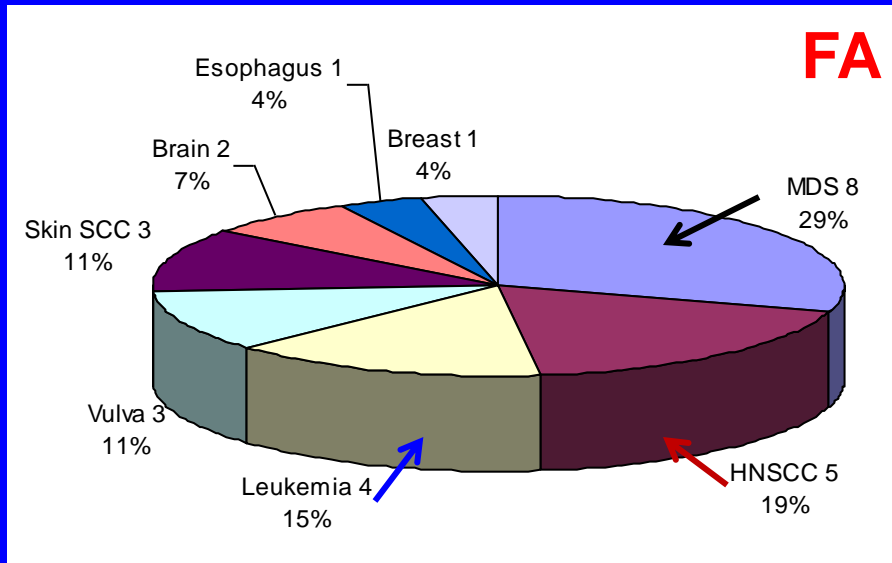


# DC Literature: Cancer 1910-2009



DC tumors occur slightly later than FA tumors.

# FA and DC Cancer in NCI IBMFS Cohorts



FA and DC share MDS, **HNSCC**, and **Leukemia**

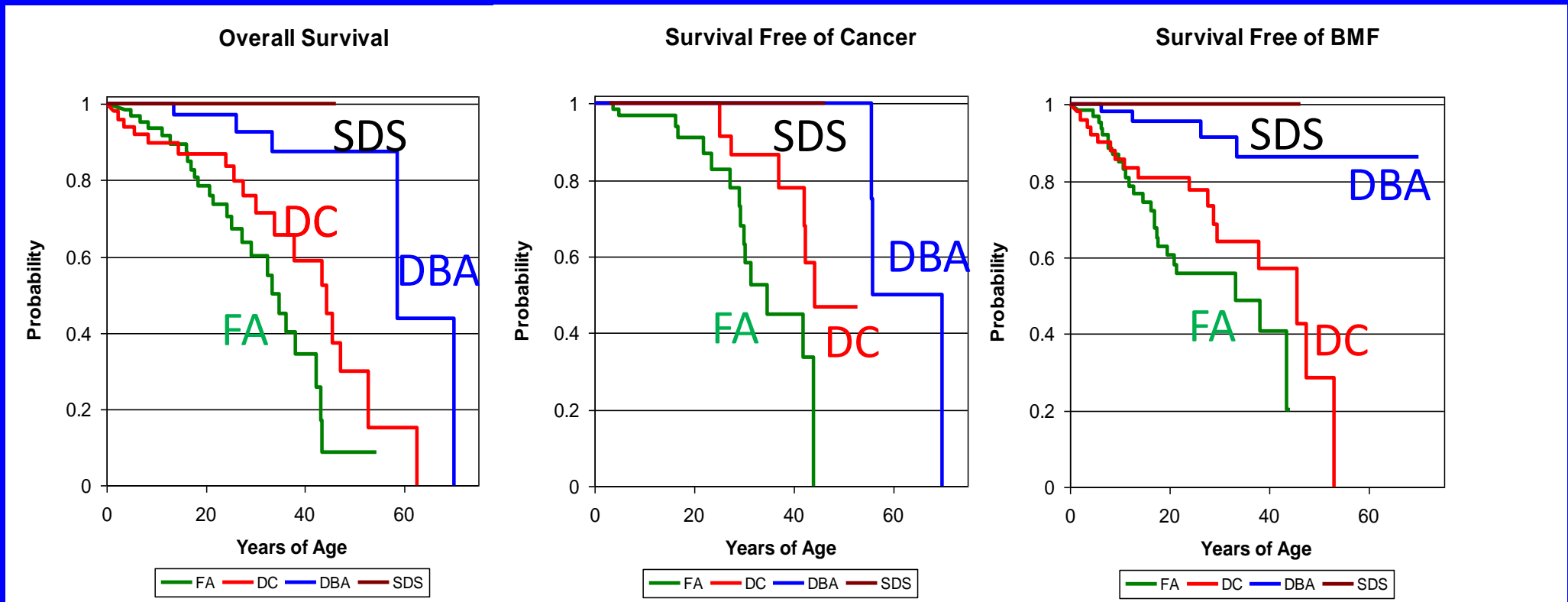
# NCI IBMFS Cohort: Relative Risk of Cancer

Parameter	FA*	DC*	DBA	SDS
Number	66	55	63	16
Person-Years	1207	1266	1387	253
All Cancers	39x	10x	3x	-
All Solid Tumors	37x	7x	4x	-
Tongue	589x	897x	-	-
AML	326x	188x	-	-
MDS	4,910x	2,362x	-	-

\*Significant

Alter *et al*, BJH 2010

# Outcome by Syndrome



FA is the most severe, followed by DC; DBA and SDS are milder ;  $p < 0.001$

# FA and DC

---

- The risk of SCC in FA and DC is extraordinarily high & tumors occur at very young or young ages.
- Epidemiologic patterns suggest the *hypothesis* that SCC in FA may resemble SCC in DC.
  - Laboratory studies are needed!
    - ◆ prove/disprove
    - ◆ explore molecular mechanisms
- Some “sporadic” cases may actually be undiagnosed FA or DC.

---

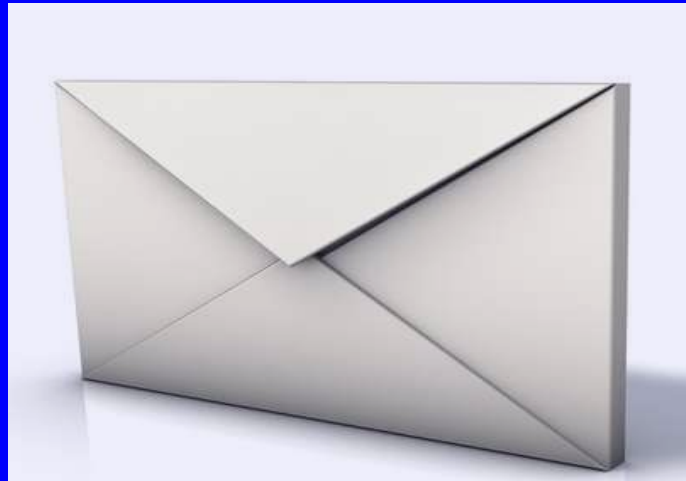
How many FA are there?

How many are at risk of cancer?

# Prevalence of FA in the USA

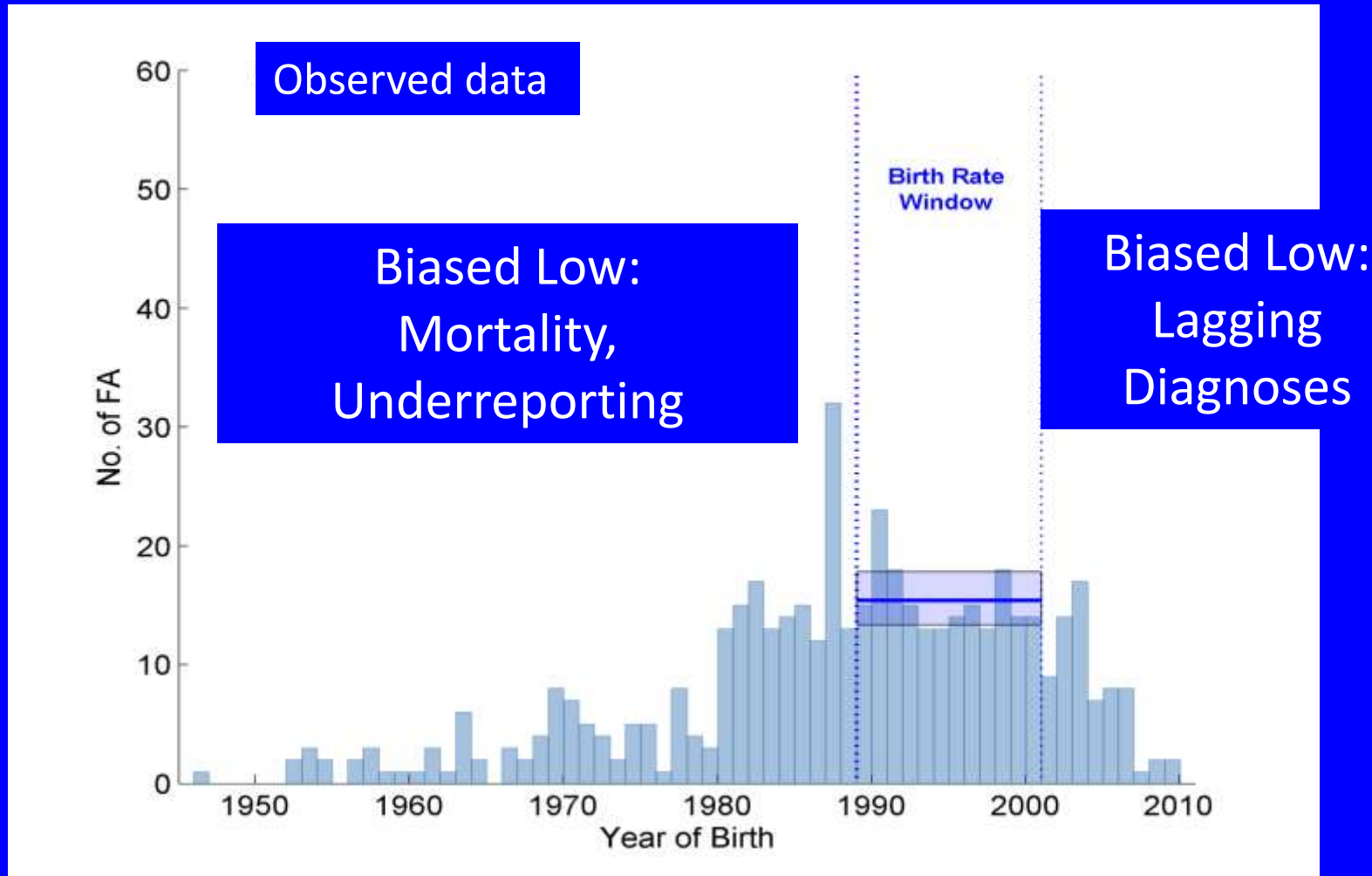
---

- Back-of-the-envelope calculation using FARF data:



- Given estimates of the FA *birth rate* and *survival curve*, calculate how many persons are living with FA in the US as of 2009, by age.

# Number of FA known to the FARF





# US FA Total and Cancer Risk

---

- Back-of-the-envelope approach:
  - ~600 persons with FA in the USA in 2010
    - Lower bound: ~360
    - Upper bound: ~900
  - ~55% of FA in 2010 are age >15 (160 – 400 persons)
- Conventional study designs have limited statistical power:
  - Joint studies of HNSCC in FA and DC may boost sample size.

# USA and Other Countries

---

# FA Adult Care Recommendations

---

- CBC q 4-6 mo
- BM aspirate/biopsy/chromosomes q yr
- Dental q yr
- Head and neck with laryngoscopy q yr
  - ***Self exam or mouth and neck, frequently***
- Gyn exam with Pap and HPV q yr
- Liver ultrasound q yr
- Consider esophageal endoscopy

# Summary/Conclusions

---

- Patients known to have FA have a high risk of neoplasia
- Patients with atypical presentations of neoplasms may have undiagnosed FA
- The specific risk may depend on the specific gene and mutation
- Be cautious with term “pre-transplant” – some may be “non-transplant”.

# www.marowfailure.cancer.gov

**cancer.gov**  
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

## Inherited Bone Marrow Failure Syndromes

Home Contact Us

**Etiologic Investigation of Cancer Susceptibility in Inherited Bone Marrow Failure Syndromes (IBMFS)**

**What is the NCI IBMFS Cohort and Who is Eligible**

**What are the IBMFS Disorders**

**How can I Participate and What can I Expect**

**What are "Gene Mutations"**

**Useful Links**

**More Information About the Research Team that is Responsible for the IBMFS Project**

**Glossary of Terms**

**Press Materials**

**What is the NCI IBMFS Cohort and Who is Eligible**

**What are the IBMFS Disorders**

**How can I Participate and What can I Expect**

**What are "Gene Mutations"**

**Useful Links**

**More Information About the Research Team that is Responsible for the IBMFS Project**

**Glossary of Terms**

**Press Materials**

**Etiologic Investigation of Cancer Susceptibility in Inherited Bone Marrow Failure Syndromes (IBMFS)**

**Inherited** bone marrow failure **syndromes** (IBMFS) are rare disorders in which there is usually some form of **aplastic anemia** (failure of the bone marrow to produce blood), associated with a family history of the same disorder. Some of these conditions have typical changes in physical appearance or in laboratory findings which suggest a specific diagnosis. There are several well-described **syndromes**, which can be recognized by health care experts. There are also patients who are harder to classify, but who appear to belong in this category.

Patients with these **syndromes** have a very high risk of development of **cancer** (either **leukemia** or certain solid tumors). At the moment we cannot predict which specific patient with an IBMFS is going to develop cancer. The NCI IBMFS **Cohort** Study will enroll North American families in which at least one member has or had an IBMFS. We plan to:

- include individuals known to have an IBMFS as well as their first degree relatives (brothers, sisters, parents, and children);
- collect clinical information from study participants and their physicians;
- perform detailed physical examinations, x-rays and routine laboratory tests on those who are interested in traveling to the NIH to be seen in person by our team;
- attempt (on a research basis) identification of the specific genetic **mutation** that is associated with each family's disease;
- screen participants for early changes related to the specific **cancers** that occur in each **syndrome**;
- perform detailed research laboratory studies on blood and tumors collected from study participants, in an effort to understand the process by which cancers develop;
- monitor study participants in an ongoing fashion to determine the rate at which complications develop related to each disease, and to identify those complications more precisely;
- provide suggestions to study participants and their physicians regarding how to best take care of family members who are affected with a particular IBMFS; and
- offer **genetic counseling**, and an opportunity to learn the results of mutation testing, for those persons who decide that this information will be of use to them.

The Principal Investigator responsible for this study is Blanche P. Ater, MD, MPH. For further information regarding her credentials and experience, please see: <http://fdccc.cancer.gov/biographies/Ater.html>.

Our overall goal is to reach a better understanding of how **cancers** develop in persons with IBMFS, so that we may improve the health care which can be offered to persons with these disorders.

Home | Cohort | Disorders | Participate | Gene Mutations | Links | Research Team | Glossary | Press Materials | Contact Us

**cancer.gov**  
1-800-4-CANCER

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

FIRSTGov  
Your First Click in the U.S. Government

