

1 **A clinical-molecular prognostic model to predict survival in patients with post polycythemia vera**
2 **and post essential thrombocythemia myelofibrosis**

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1 **Abstract**

2 Polycythemia vera (PV) and essential thrombocythemia (ET) are myeloproliferative neoplasms
3 with variable risk of evolution into post-PV and post-ET myelofibrosis, from now on referred to as
4 secondary myelofibrosis (SMF). No specific tools have been defined for risk stratification in SMF.
5 To develop a prognostic model for predicting survival, we studied 685 *JAK2*, *CALR*, and *MPL*
6 annotated patients with SMF. Median survival of the whole cohort was 9.3 years (95% CI: 8-not
7 reached-NR-). Through penalized Cox regressions we identified negative predictors of survival and
8 according to beta risk coefficients we assigned 2 points to hemoglobin level <11 g/dL, to
9 circulating blasts ≥3%, and to *CALR*-unmutated genotype, 1 point to platelet count <150 x 10⁹/L
10 and to constitutional symptoms, and 0.15 points to any year of age. MYSEC-PM (Myelofibrosis
11 Secondary to PV and ET-Prognostic Model) allocated SMF patients into four risk categories with
12 different survival ($P < 0.0001$): low (median survival NR; 133 patients), intermediate-1 (9.3 years,
13 95% CI: 8.1-NR; 245 patients), intermediate-2 (4.4 years, 95% CI: 3.2-7.9; 126 patients), and high
14 risk (2 years, 95% CI: 1.7-3.9; 75 patients). Finally, we found that the MYSEC-PM represents the
15 most appropriate tool for SMF decision-making to be used in clinical and trial settings.

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1 **INTRODUCTION**

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3 Polycythemia vera (PV), essential thrombocythemia (ET) and primary myelofibrosis (PMF) are the
4 classical BCR/ABL1-negative myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPN).^{1, 2} The two more indolent
5 diseases, PV and ET, nevertheless, can progress to secondary myelofibrosis (SMF), named post-PV
6 (PPV) MF and post-ET (PET) MF,³ and to blast phase (BP),⁴ that result in worsening survival.⁵

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8 Because of the lack of information on SMF, PMF and SMF are considered similar. The IPSS
9 (International Prognostic Scoring System)⁶ and its time-dependent variants (Dynamic IPSS –DIPSS
10 and DIPSS-plus)^{7, 8} are often used to predict survival and to plan therapy for SMF patients.

11 However, these models have been developed in patients with PMF and are suboptimal to predict
12 survival in SMF.⁹⁻¹¹ Recently, having acquired the prognostic implication of phenotype driver
13 mutations and of additional mutations, the prognostication in MPN is moving towards integrated
14 clinical-molecular models.¹²⁻¹⁶

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16 The MYSEC (MYelofibrosis SECondary to PV and ET) project recently disclosed genotype-
17 phenotype associations in the largest cohort of SMF patients published to date, including 685
18 patients.¹⁷ We found that at presentation *JAK2*-mutated patients had higher white blood cell
19 count and greater splenomegaly than *CALR*-mutated patients and that *CALR* type 1/type 1-like and
20 *CALR* type 2/type 2-like were similar in terms of clinical presentation and outcome. Blast phase
21 incidence was higher in *JAK2*-mutated PET MF and TN patients (triple negative, i.e. without *JAK2*,
22 *MPL*, *CALR* mutations) when compared with *CALR*-mutated patients.

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24 In this study, based on the MYSEC database, we developed an integrated clinical-molecular model
25 to predict survival of SMF. We call this the MYSEC-PM (Myelofibrosis Secondary to PV and ET-
26 Prognostic Model).

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1 **SUBJECTS AND METHODS**

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3 ***Study population***

4 This study includes 781 patients collected from 16 international centers (Table 1S). All patients
5 have demographic, clinical, and hematologic data at diagnosis and an adequate follow-up. No
6 differences in disease presentation (white blood cell count, hemoglobin level, platelet count) were
7 observed among centers applying the Kruskal Wallis and pairwise Wilcoxon rank-sum tests. Driver
8 mutation status was requested as secondary objective and available in 685 patients. Diagnoses of
9 PPV MF and PET MF were performed between 1981 to 2015 and were locally reviewed according
10 to the International Working Group on Myeloproliferative Neoplasm Research and Treatment
11 (IWG-MRT) criteria.³ Evolution to BP was defined when leukemic blast cells were more than 20%,
12 according to the World Health Organization (WHO) criteria.¹⁸ The study was approved by the
13 Institutional Review Board of each Institution and conducted in accordance with the principles of
14 the Declaration of Helsinki.

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16 ***Statistical analysis***

17 Descriptive summaries are reported as median and range for continuous covariates, and count
18 and relative frequency for categorical ones. Continuous baseline values were compared via non-
19 parametric Mann-Whitney U tests; categorical feature counts were compared with Fisher's exact
20 tests. Time-to-event analyses were performed via Kaplan-Meier curves, using log-rank tests for
21 comparisons and semi-parametric Cox models for regression. Events were assumed to be death
22 for any cause (censored at last follow-up or at the time of stem cell transplant), thrombosis and
23 leukemia. P values <.05 (2-tailed) were considered significant. To test impact on survival, we first
24 performed an exploratory univariate analysis developing Cox regression models considering each
25 covariate separately. To account for possible nonlinear effects, restricted cubic spline with 3 nodes
26 were considered for continuous predictors. To select a parsimonious set of covariates on which to
27 base the prediction algorithm, we fitted regularized regression models according to the least
28 absolute shrinkage selection operator (LASSO) method, entering all the available discretized
29 covariates. The selected value of the regularization parameter was $\lambda = 0.053$. LASSO fits a
30 sequence of models with varying degrees of penalization in order to shrink less-relevant
31 coefficients to zero, thus effectively performing a variable selection.¹⁹ The performance of the
32 models was evaluated with 10-fold cross-validation; the highest shrinkage factor providing

1 performance within one standard deviation of the optimal cross-validated one was selected.²⁰ The
2 ability of the final score to discriminate survival was verified via Harrell's concordance index C and
3 its cross-validation. Statistical analyses were performed using R version 3.3.2.

4 5 **RESULTS**

6 7 ***Presenting features at diagnosis of SMF, comparison of PET MF and PPV MF***

8 We developed the analyses on 685 (333 PET MF, 352 PPV MF) SMF patients with phenotype driver
9 mutations available. Demographics and clinical features of patients at onset of SMF are shown in
10 Table 1. Patients with PPV MF were older, had higher values of white blood cells and hemoglobin,
11 larger spleen size and lower platelet count than those with PET MF. Pearson pairwise test
12 demonstrated that at diagnosis patients with PPV MF had significantly higher frequency of
13 constitutional symptoms, abnormal karyotype and prior thrombosis than those with PET MF. A
14 significantly higher number of PPV MF patients had received cytoreductive treatments (231 with
15 PET MF, 287 PPV MF, $P < .001$).

16 17 ***Events occurring after diagnosis of SMF***

18 Incidence rates of events are reported in Table 2. For their calculation we took into account death
19 and stem cell transplant as competing risks with thrombosis and leukemia. In detail, thrombotic
20 events occurred in 67 SMF (12%; 29 PET MF and 38 PPV MF), blast phase in 52 SMF (7.5%, 30 PET
21 MF and 22 PPV MF) and death in 169 SMF (25%, 69 PET MF and 100 PPV MF). Cause of death was
22 known in 136 of the 169 patients who died: non-clonal disease progression in 52 (38%), blast
23 phase in 43 (32%), second malignancy in 10 (7%), infection in 12 (9%), heart failure in 11 (8%),
24 vascular complications in seven (5%), and other in one (1%). Median survival was 14.5 years (95%
25 CI: 8-NR) in PET MF and 8.1 years (95% CI: 7.2-10.1) in PPV MF, with a borderline difference
26 (Supplemental Figure 1, log-rank test, $P = .051$).

27 28 ***Analysis of survival and identification of risk factors***

29 Median survival of SMF was 9.3 years (95% CI: 8-NR), as illustrated in Figure 1. To ascertain
30 whether SMF survival has increased over calendar years, we performed a Cox regression including
31 calendar year of diagnosis (as a linear covariate), correcting for IPSS risk category. We found that
32 the trend of survival was not significantly changed ($P = .064$).

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Univariate Cox Proportional Hazards regression showed that advanced age, male gender, lower hemoglobin level, greater white blood cell count, lower platelet count, higher circulating blast count, bone marrow fibrosis grade 3 vs. grade 2, presence of constitutional symptoms (fever, weight loss, night sweats), history of thrombosis before SMF, longer time from ET/PV to SMF negatively affected survival (maximum P values = .004). Interestingly, a normal karyotype was associated with longer survival ($P = .001$), but, as cytogenetic data were available in only 340 patients (49%), we excluded this variable from the statistical analysis. Conversely, type of diagnosis (PET MF, PPV MF), centers, spleen and liver size were neutral for survival.

Analysis of cutpoints of continuous variables indicated marked differences for patients with white blood cell count higher than $25 \times 10^9/L$, hemoglobin value lower than 11 g/dL, platelet count lower than $150 \times 10^9/L$, circulating blast equal to or higher than 3% and time to SMF greater than 10 years ($P < .0001$ each). An exploratory multi-class regression showed that HRs (hazard ratios) for *CALR*-unmutated genotypes (i.e. *JAK2*-mutated, *MPL*-mutated and triple negative) had overlapping confidence intervals, and significantly different from *CALR*-mutated genotype ($P = .003$), thus determining a binary category (*CALR*-mutated vs. *CALR*-unmutated) for genotype. Multivariate models consistently showed age at diagnosis to be an important predictor for survival ($P < 0.0001$). In order to minimize information loss on this covariate, we retained age at diagnosis as a continuous covariate.

We then selected the significant covariates employing a LASSO Cox regression. Six covariates remained with non-null coefficients: advanced age, hemoglobin level below 11 g/dL, platelet count below $150 \times 10^9/L$, circulating blasts equal to or higher than 3%, *CALR*-unmutated genotype, presence of constitutional symptoms. We generated a final Cox regression model incorporating the identified covariates (Table 3). All coefficients remained highly significant ($P < .003$); a test for Schönfeld residuals revealed no deviations from the proportional hazards assumption, except for a minor departure for constitutional symptoms.²¹

1 ***Development of the prognostic model***

2 All factors shown in Table 3 were therefore included in the MYSEC-PM. To simplify the application
3 of the risk score, we rounded the risk coefficients as risk points (Table 3). Namely, we allocated
4 two points to hemoglobin level below 11 g/dL, to circulating blasts equal to or higher than 3% and
5 to *CALR*-unmutated genotype, one point to platelet count lower than $150 \times 10^9/L$ and to the
6 presence of constitutional symptoms. Age-related risk was rescaled accordingly, yielding
7 approximately 0.15 points per year.

8

9 We thus recoded the MYSEC-PM into four categories of adequate size by pooling consecutive
10 score values. The resulting risk categories were: low-risk (score less than 11, 133 patients),
11 intermediate-1 risk (score equal to or higher than 11 and lower than 14, 245 patients),
12 intermediate-2 risk (score equal to or higher than 14 and less than 16, 126 patients) and high risk
13 (score equal to or higher than 16, 75 patients). Survival was significantly different among the risk
14 groups (Figure 2A, log-rank test $P < 10^{-6}$). Median survival was not reached in the low risk, 9.3
15 years (95% CI: 8.1-NR) in the intermediate-1 risk, 4.4 (95% CI: 3.2-7.9) in the intermediate-2 risk
16 and 2 years (95% CI: 1.7-3.9) in the high risk category. Additional Figure 2 shows survival compared
17 to year-, age- and sex-matched U.S. population. Taking low risk as reference, the estimated
18 average HR for intermediate-1 risk was 3.6 (95% CI: 1.8-7.2), for intermediate-2 risk was 10.6 (95%
19 CI: 5.3-21.1) and that for high risk was 29.1 (95% CI: 14.1-59.8). When used to assign patients to
20 the four discrete risk categories, the test retained very good predictivity (cross-validated C
21 statistics 0.79) and calibration.

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23 We validated the MYSEC-PM risk score via the internal 40-fold cross-validation of Harrell's
24 concordance index, or C-statistic; the procedure re-trains the model multiple times on random
25 resamples of the original data, aggregating the corresponding values obtained for C. The resulting
26 cross-validated value of the C-statistics was $C = 0.78$ (cf. $C = 0.79$ of the full data set), confirming
27 the validity of the model.

28

29 ***How to use the prognostic model in clinical practice: the MYSEC PM nomogram***

30 Given the hybrid nature (continuous age, discrete points) of the risk prediction model, we provide
31 a discrete/continuous nomogram (Figure 2B) to interpolate the final score and assess the
32 individual patient's risk in an easy manner. The MYSEC PM nomogram provides an at-a-glance

1 diagram to combine the effect of age (continuous) and other covariates, at the same time
2 providing color-coded read-outs on the resulting risk category. To calculate the MYSEC-PM doctors
3 have to: 1) collect information on non-age prognostic variables (hemoglobin value, platelet count,
4 circulating blast counts, genotype, constitutional symptoms), thus refer to Table 3 to assign the
5 points and calculate their sum (score); 2) collect patient's age; 3) use the nomogram (Figure 2B) to
6 locate the combination of score (read on the vertical axis) and age (on the horizontal axis) – the
7 color at the location indicates the final risk category, 3) estimate the individual survival on the
8 Kaplan Mayer curve (Figure 2A). To further illustrate and expedite the use of the score, the
9 nomogram is also made available as an interactive web application for desktop and mobile use
10 (available online at https://mysec.shinyapps.io/prognostic_model/).

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12 ***Mutation status distribution in the MYSEC-PM risk categories***

13 Supplemental Figure 3 describes the distribution of the phenotype driver mutations in the four
14 MYSEC-PM risk groups. Of interest, *CALR* mutations were absent in high risk patients.

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16 ***Comparison of the MYSEC-PM with the IPSS***

17 We compared the quality on the risk stratification of the MYSEC-PM prognostic model with
18 respect to the previously used IPSS (developed in PMF). The MYSEC-PM risk categories had higher
19 predictive values than IPSS both in the original data set (C = 0.79 for MYSEC-PM and C = 0.70 for
20 IPSS) and the 40-fold validation (C = 0.78 for MYSEC-PM and C = 0.71 for IPSS). The same
21 conclusion has been obtained considering Akaike information criterion (AIC) values for the two
22 models, which amount to 1416 and 1485 respectively for MYSEC-PM and IPSS (preferable models
23 have lower AIC values). In summary, the predictive power of the MYSEC-PM is very high, and
24 significantly better than the IPSS model.

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26 In addition, we also checked whether it was possible, for the sake of simplicity, to integrate the
27 IPSS model with genotype, by fitting a Cox model including the IPSS risk factors augmented by the
28 “not-*CALR*” covariate. In this analysis, leukocyte count $> 25 \times 10^9/L$ ceases to be a significant
29 predictor, suggesting that its adoption would require further changes to scores and thresholds
30 with respect to the original IPSS.

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1 DISCUSSION

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3 Diagnosis of SMF is based on the IWG-MRT criteria, established in 2008: an antecedent WHO-
4 based diagnosis of PV or ET including appropriate mutations and a bone marrow fibrosis above
5 grade 1 are the two main criteria.³ The molecular anatomy of PV and ET has changed from 2008,
6 leading to the new WHO classification in 2016.¹ By enriching the MYSEC database with the
7 phenotype driver mutations of the *JAK2*, *CALR* and *MPL* genes,^{1,2} we provide a molecularly
8 updated diagnosis of PV and ET and consequently of SMF. Concerning the accompanying
9 mutations of MF,¹ no impact on SMF survival has been demonstrated,²² differently from their
10 effect in PMF.¹² The assessment of bone marrow myelofibrosis requires bone marrow biopsy. Our
11 study is representative of real-life in Europe and the United States: doctors perform bone marrow
12 biopsy when they suspect disease evolution, an approach that remains a mainstay in recent
13 recommendations.²³ Of note, the MYSEC database showed that the longer the span between
14 PV/ET diagnosis and SMF, the worse the survival. This suggests to carefully monitor PV/ET patients
15 in order to identify SMF evolution earlier, especially if disease-modifying treatments may be
16 envisaged. In our series, we cannot completely exclude that some ET are prefibrotic/early MF
17 (WHO, 2016).¹

18
19 The MYSEC study also characterized clinical phenotype and events of SMF. PPV MF and PET MF
20 had substantial differences in clinical presentation, with a more “proliferative” phenotype in PPV
21 MF, a pattern that is confirmed by the higher rate of PPV MF patients receiving cytoreductive
22 agents. Of interest, the incidence of thrombosis ranged from 2.4 to 3.1 / 100 patients-year in PET
23 MF and PPV MF, respectively, and accounted for 5% of deaths. These data clearly indicate that the
24 risk of vascular complications is still significant in SMF. Perhaps, thromboprophylaxis should be
25 considered in SMF, if not contraindicated because of a bleeding history or a low platelet count.

26
27 The median survival in SMF was 9.3 years without significant differences between PPV MF and PET
28 MF. The MYSEC dataset did not disclose any change of SMF survival over calendar years of
29 diagnosis. This seems to suggest that treatment strategies have not changed the disease history
30 yet. Modern approach to myelofibrosis treatment includes the use of JAK inhibition and allogenic
31 stem cell transplantation (ASCT).²⁴ In PMF, we demonstrated that ruxolitinib might modify life
32 expectancy in higher risk categories²⁵ with some criticisms²⁶⁻²⁸ and that ASCT improves survival in

1 higher risk categories, with the opposite effect in low risk patients,²⁹ when matched with a cohort
2 of conventionally treated individuals. To date, no information is available on survival effect of
3 these strategies in SMF.

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5 Concerning current risk stratification of patients with SMF, the IPSS⁶ and DIPSS⁸ prognostic models
6 are used in clinical practice²³ as well as in clinical trials.³⁰⁻³⁴ Introducing the MYSEC-PM instead of
7 the IPSS model in patients with SMF will provide strong advantages: 1) model development in the
8 correct setting of patients: IPSS/DIPSS were generated in PMF and not SMF, and, as a
9 consequence, their application outside that setting is arbitrary and not data-supported; 2) the
10 integrated clinical-molecular MYSEC-PM provides an excellent discrimination of survival (C=0.79),
11 much better than the clinical-based IPSS; 3) a tentative integrated approach we did combining IPSS
12 risk factors with mutational status failed in SMF.

13
14 Advanced age, hemoglobin level below 11 g/dL, platelet count below $150 \times 10^9/L$, circulating blast
15 cells equal to or greater than 3%, *CALR*-unmutated genotype and the presence of constitutional
16 symptoms are the risk factors composing the MYSEC-PM. Advanced age, anemia, circulating blast
17 cells and the presence of constitutional symptoms are both components of the MYSEC-PM and the
18 IPSS model,⁶ and advanced age and constitutional symptoms also stratify patients at the time of
19 ASCT for survival.³⁵ This indicates a role of these factors in myelofibrosis survival prediction in
20 general.

21
22 Myelofibrosis is an age-related disease and advanced age is the most powerful prognostic factor
23 for survival prediction. This is not surprising from a biological standpoint as hematopoietic stem
24 cells are modified during aging influencing disease development and eventually favoring clonal
25 hematopoiesis with selection of mutated cells.³⁶ It is noteworthy that the most frequently
26 involved age-related somatic mutations (*DNMT3A*, *TET2*, *ASXL1*, and *JAK2*)³⁷ are also implicated in
27 myelofibrosis development.¹²

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29 The extended study of the three phenotype driver mutations helped to recognize the favorable
30 impact on survival of *CALR* mutations,¹⁷ and in this latter analysis *CALR*-unmutated genotypes
31 (*JAK2*-mutated, *MPL*-mutated, triple negativity) are associated with a worse survival in
32 multivariable analysis. The association of *CALR* mutations with a benign outcome in SMF, also

1 highlighted by the absence of *CALR*-mutated patients within the MYSEC-PM high-risk group,
2 remains to be determined. Although all phenotype driver mutations activate the JAK/STAT
3 pathway, subtle changes in the activation mechanism have been described among mutants.³⁸ The
4 molecular profiling of SMF patients allows the MYSEC-PM to improve risk stratification in SMF, as
5 demonstrated by the superior accuracy in survival prediction of MYSEC-PM over IPSS.

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7 The MYSEC-PM identifies four risk categories with different survival: median survival was not
8 reached in the low risk, 9.3 years in the intermediate-1 risk, 4.5 years in the intermediate-2 risk
9 and 2 years in the high risk category. This information may be directly translated into clinical
10 practice to personalize treatment options. Young and fit patients with intermediate-2 and high risk
11 disease can be considered candidates for ASCT on the basis of the European LeukemiaNet
12 recommendations,²³ which give an indication for ASCT in MF patients with a life expectancy below
13 five years. On the opposite, patients at low risk have an indolent disease and a more conservative
14 approach seems reasonable. Patients at intermediate-1 risk should be discussed on an individual
15 basis in SMF. Ruxolitinib can be offered on the basis of the national indication/reimbursement
16 rules since it has been intensively studied in SMF patients with intermediate and high risk disease
17 according to clinical-based prognostic models.^{31, 32} Concerning investigative clinical trials, the use
18 of MYSEC-PM in the selection of SMF patients may help in the identification of patients at higher
19 risk who may be candidates for new treatment strategies or at lower risk who may be candidates
20 for preventive approaches targeting disease progression/survival.

21

22 In conclusion, the MYSEC-PM is an integrated clinical-molecular prognostic model uniquely
23 developed in SMF patients with a superior accuracy over IPSS. This clearly indicates that the
24 MYSEC-PM is appropriate to make a clinical decision or design new clinical trials for patients with
25 SMF.

26

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1 **Legend to Figures**

2

3 **Figure 1. Estimate of survival in 685 patients with post polycythemia vera and post essential**
4 **thrombocythemia myelofibrosis.** This represents the estimate of survival of the entire cohort of
5 patients with secondary myelofibrosis.

6

7 **Figure 2. The MYSEC-PM.** (A) The MYSEC-PM estimate of survival in patients with secondary
8 myelofibrosis molecularly annotated for *JAK2*, *CALR*, *MPL* mutations. Risk factors and relative
9 points composing the MYSEC-PM are patient's age (0.15 per patient's year of age), hemoglobin
10 level below 11 g/dL (2 points), platelet count lower than $150 \times 10^9/L$ (1 point), circulating blasts
11 equal to or higher than 3% (2 points), presence of constitutional symptoms (1 point) and *CALR*-
12 unmutated genotype (2 points). The final risk category is to be calculated with the MYSEC-PM
13 nomogram (Figure 2B). The four risk categories are: low-risk (median survival not reached; 133
14 patients), intermediate-1 risk (median survival 9.3 years, 95% CI: 8.0-NR; 245 patients),
15 intermediate-2 risk (median survival 4.5, 95% CI: 3.2-7.9; 126 patients) and high risk (median
16 survival 2.0 years, 95% CI: 1.7-3.9; 75 patients) (2). (B) The MYSEC-PM nomogram. The MYSEC PM
17 nomogram visually assigns the MYSEC-PM risk category starting from the non-age prognostic
18 variables (vertical axis) and the patient's age (horizontal axis) illustrated in Table 3. To determine
19 the risk category of an individual patient with hemoglobin value of 10 g/dL and circulating blast of
20 6%, for example, follow the horizontal line, starting from the non-age-parameter-sum of 4 on the
21 vertical axis (see Table 3 for points) to the age of the patient and record the color at that point. If
22 the patient is 40 years old, the 4-line and the vertical 40-year line cross in the green field,
23 corresponding to the low risk category, while if the patient is 70 years old, the 4-line and the
24 vertical 70-year line cross in the violet field, corresponding to the intermediate-2 risk category.

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26

Table 1. Hematological and clinical features of 685 patients with post essential thrombocythemia and post polycythemia vera myelofibrosis.

	SMF (n = 685)	PET MF (n = 333)	PPV MF (n = 352)	P value
Age, median (range), years	64 (25-96)	64 (25-93)	65 (34-96)	.02
Age older than 65 years, n. (%)	360 (53)	146 (44)	179 (51)	.08
Follow-up, median (range), years	3.0 (0.6-27.3)	3.1 (0.6-17.4),	2.9 (0.6-27.3)	.88
Time to SMF, years (range)	10.7 (0.6-41.4)	10.3 (0.7-34.8)	11.1 (0.6-41.4)	.36
History of cancer, n. (%)	87 (13)	36 (11)	51 (15)	.16
History of thrombosis, n. (%)	171 (26)	70 (22)	101 (29)	.03
Male gender, n. (%)	356 (52)	165 (50)	191 (54)	.23
WBC, median (range), x10 ⁹ /L	10.2 (1.1-98.4)	7.8 (1.1-97.3)	13.5 (1.7-98.4)	< .001
Hb, median (range), g/dL	11 (5-15.7)	10.7 (5-15.4)	12 (6.8-15.7)	< .001
PLT, median (range), x 10 ⁹ /L	336 (15-1908)	379 (40-1908)	294 (15-1689)	< .001
Circulating blast 3% or more (%)	55 (9)	24 (8)	31 (10)	.43
Spleen size,* median (range)	7 (0-34)	4 (0-27)	10 (0-34)	< .001
Constitutional symptoms, n. (%)	285 (44)	113 (37)	172 (51)	< .001
Normal karyotype,** n. (%)	223 (66)	118 (73)	105 (59)	.005
Favorable karyotype,** n. (%)	283 (87)	138 (88)	145 (85)	.58
JAK2 (V617F)	534 (78)	181 (54)	352(100)	< .001
CALR	102 (15)	102 (31)	-	
MPL	30 (4)	30 (9)	-	
Triple negative	19 (3)	19 (6)	-	

SMF: secondary myelofibrosis; PET MF: post essential thrombocythemia myelofibrosis; PPV MF: post polycythemia vera myelofibrosis; WBC: white blood cell count; Hb: hemoglobin level; PLT: platelet count.

*palpable from the left costal margin

**Karyotype was available in 340 patients

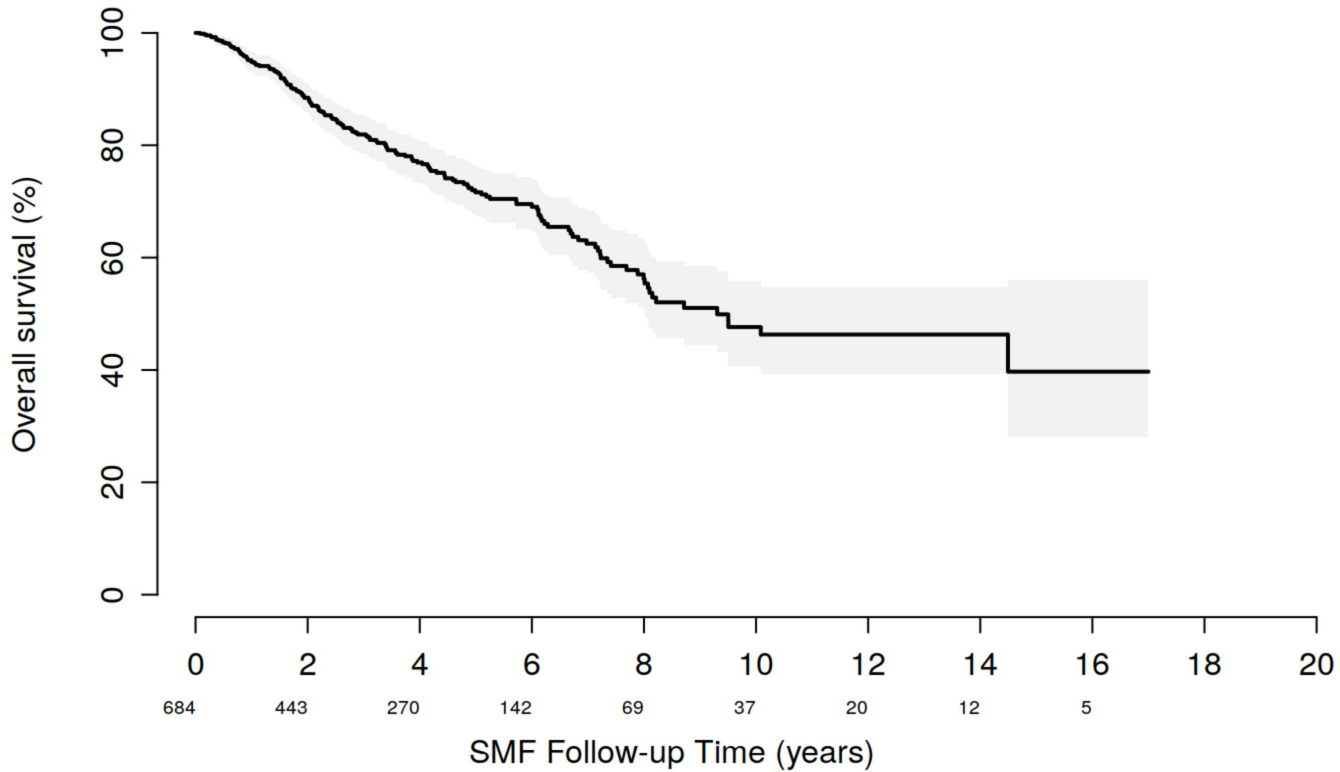
Table 2. Incidence of events during the follow-up of 685 patients with post essential thrombocythemia and post polycythemia vera myelofibrosis.

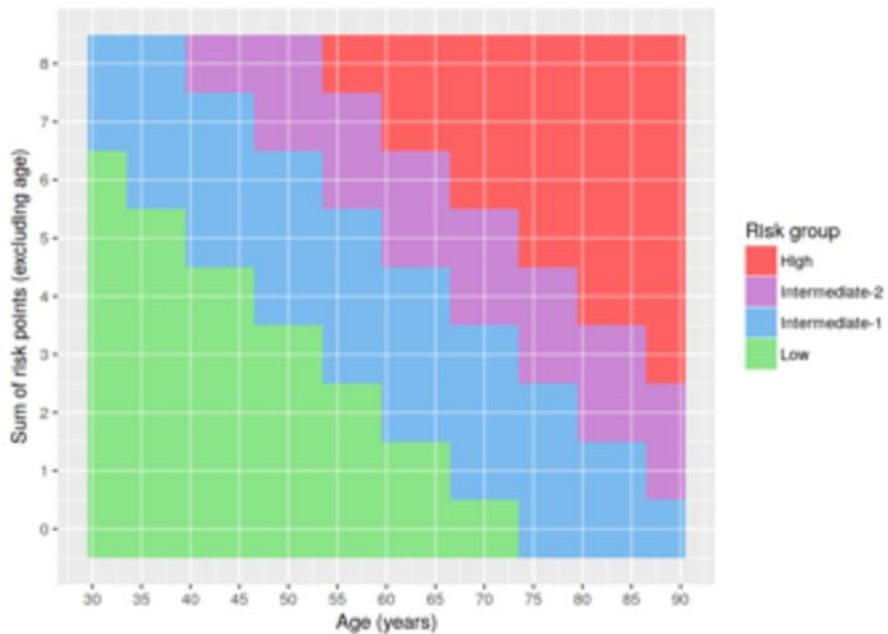
Incidence	PET MF	PPV MF	P value
/100 patients-year (95% CI)	(n = 333)	(n = 352)	
Thrombosis	2.4 (1.6-3.4)	3.1 (2.2-4.3)	.2
Blast phase	2.3 (1.6-3.4)	1.6 (1-2.5)	.2
Mortality	5.5 (4.3-7)	7.4 (6-8.9)	.06

Table 3. Results of the multivariable analysis to define predictors of inferior survival in 685 molecularly annotated patients with post essential thrombocythemia and post polycythemia vera myelofibrosis.

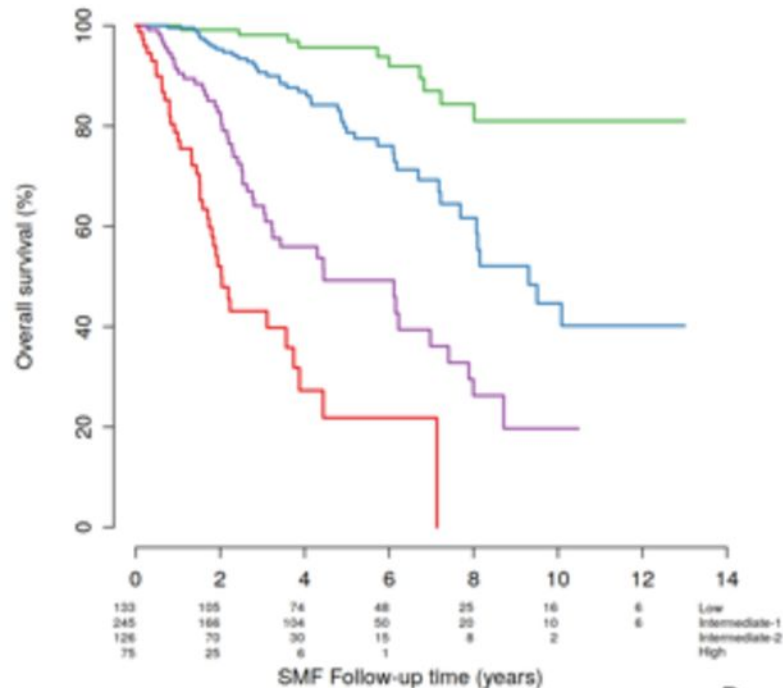
Covariates	HR	95% CI	P value	Risk coefficient	Points assigned in
				Beta	the MYSEC-PM
Age at diagnosis of SMF	1.07	1.05-1.09	<.0001	0.068	0.15
Hemoglobin < 11 g/dL	2.3	1.6-3.3	<.0001	0.8	2
Platelet < 150 x10 ⁹ /L	1.7	1.2-2.5	.006	0.5	1
Circulating blast cells ≥ 3%	2.9	1.8-4.8	<.0001	1.1	2
<i>CALR</i> -unmutated genotype	2.6	1.2-5.3	.001	0.9	2
Constitutional symptoms	1.5	1.0-2.0	.03	0.4	1

HR: Hazard Ratio; CI: confidence interval





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