



UMC Utrecht

Cause-specific hazard models with Markovian elements to quantify the fludarabine exposure-response relationship

from learning to confirming in allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation

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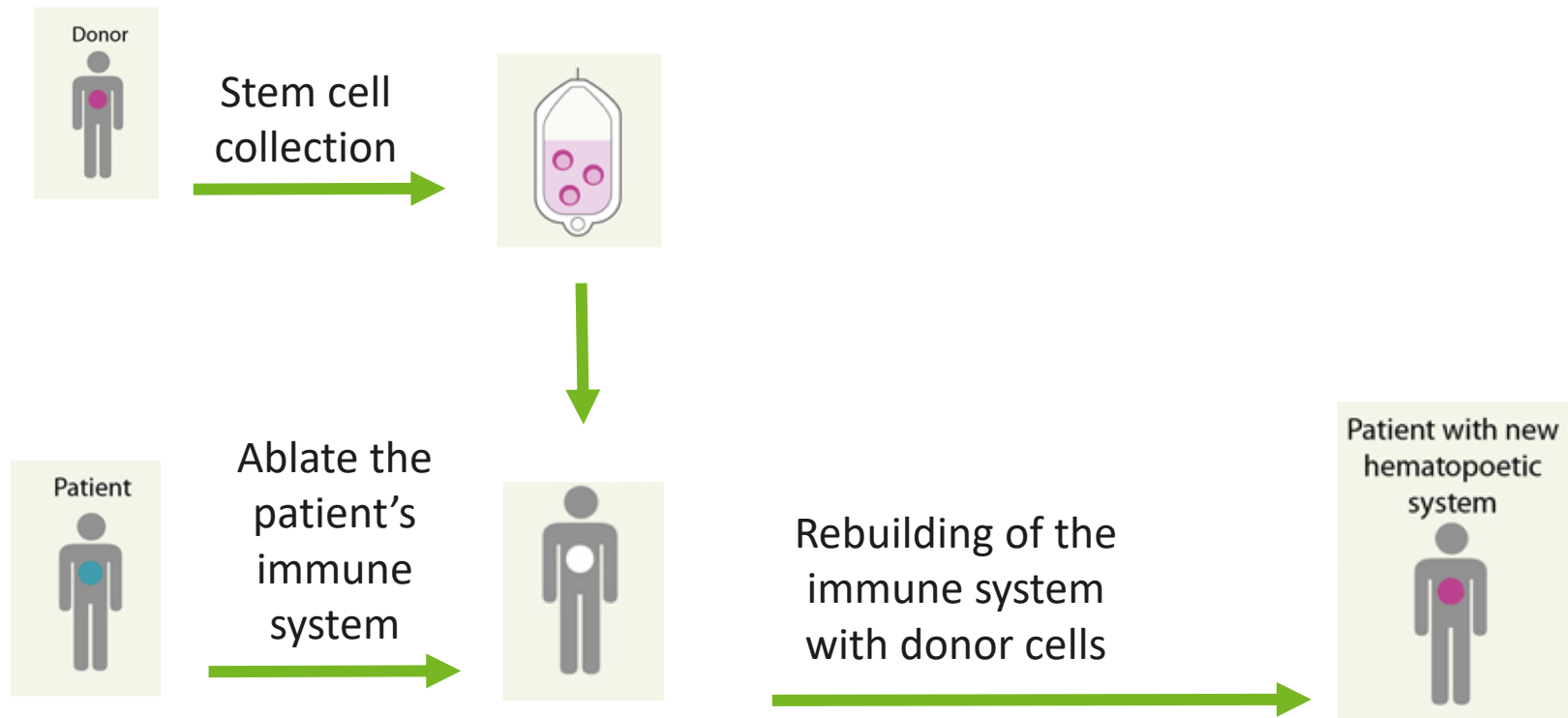
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Group Boelens-Nierkens



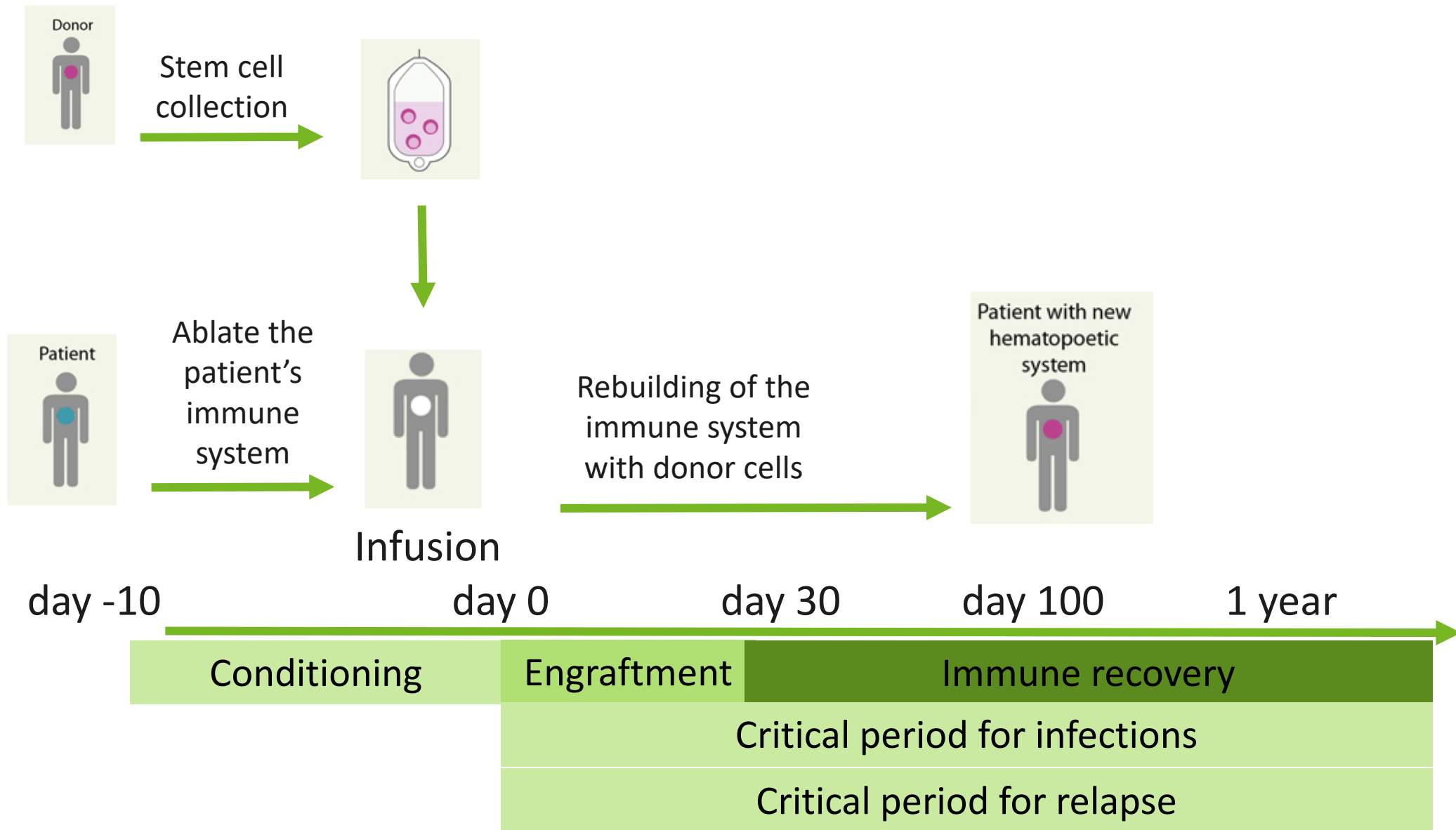
Allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT)



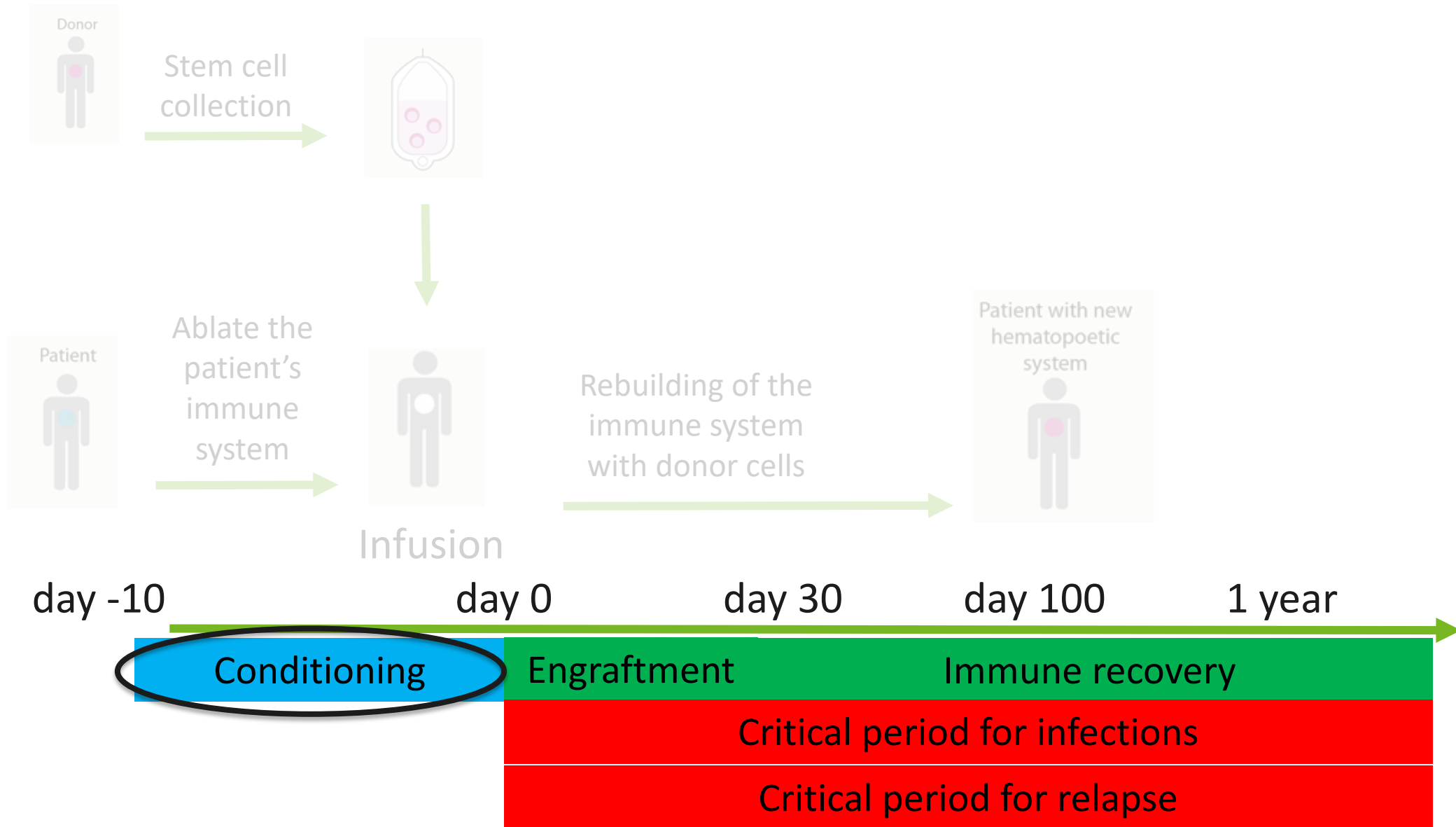
- Indications:**
- Malignancies
 - Immune deficiencies
 - Metabolic/inborn errors
 - Autoimmune disease
 - Bonemarrow failure



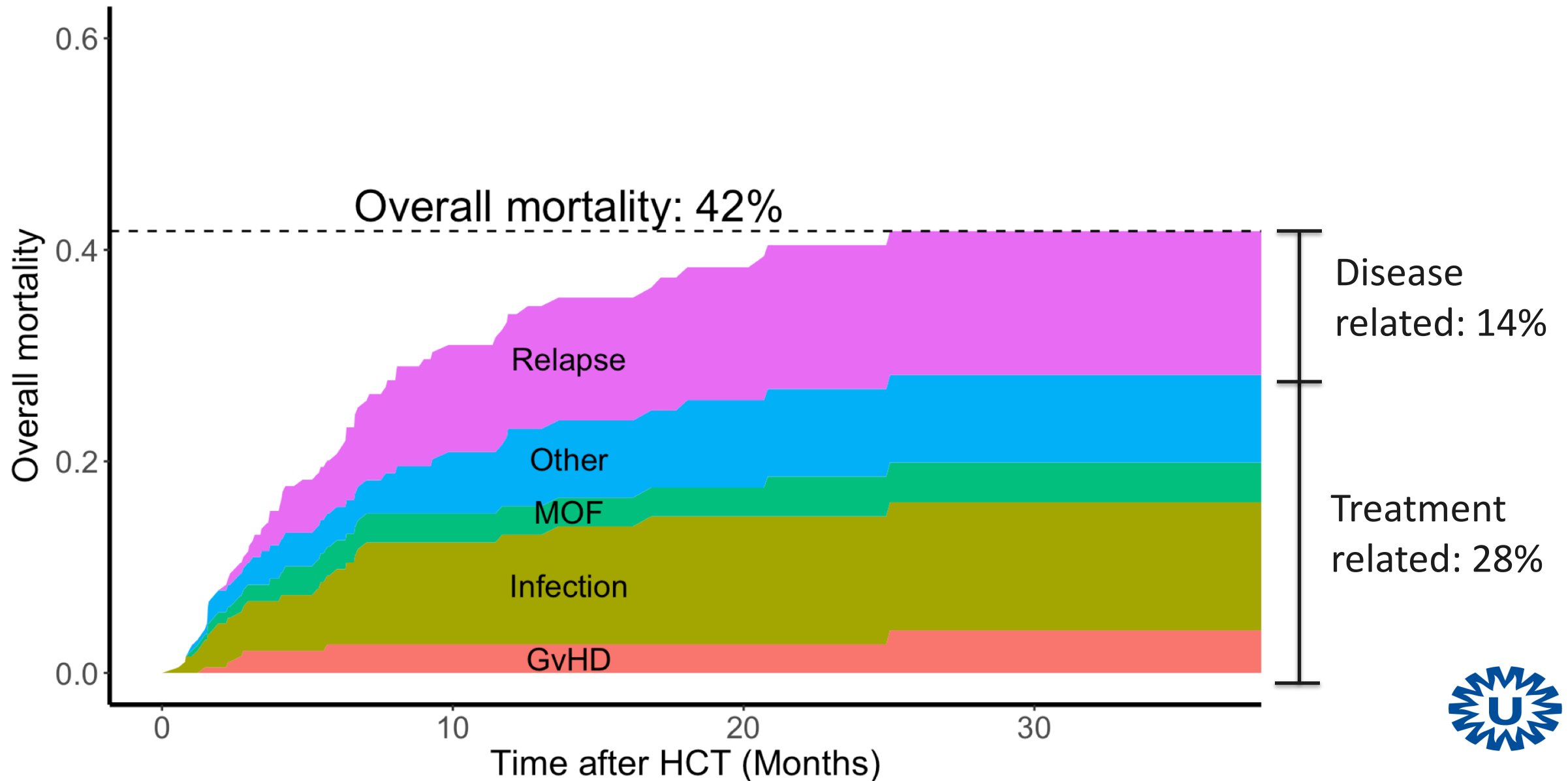
Allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT)



Allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT)



Clinical need: current HCT perspectives



ATG-FluBu as Standard Conditioning

Lympho-depletion

✓ **ATG: targeted**

**Bone marrow
depletion**

✓ **Busulfan: targeted**

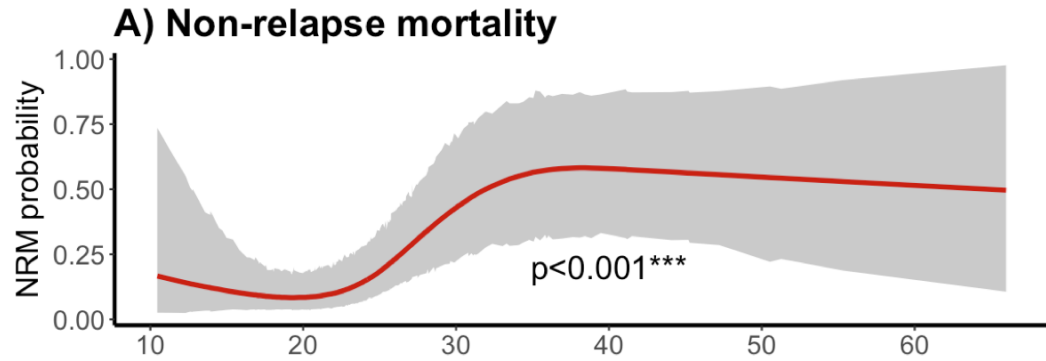
✗ **Fludarabine?**
❖ **160 mg/m²**

HCT

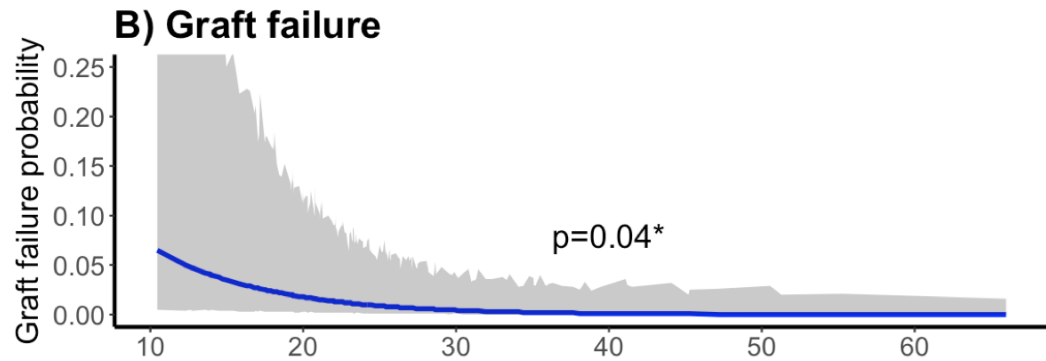
Day: -9 -8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 0



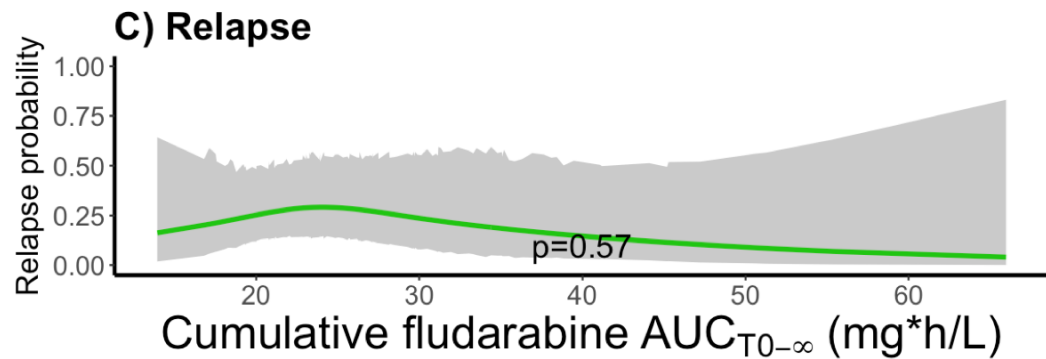
Effect of fludarabine exposure on events



Increased NRM at $AUC > 20 \text{ mg}^* \text{h/L}$



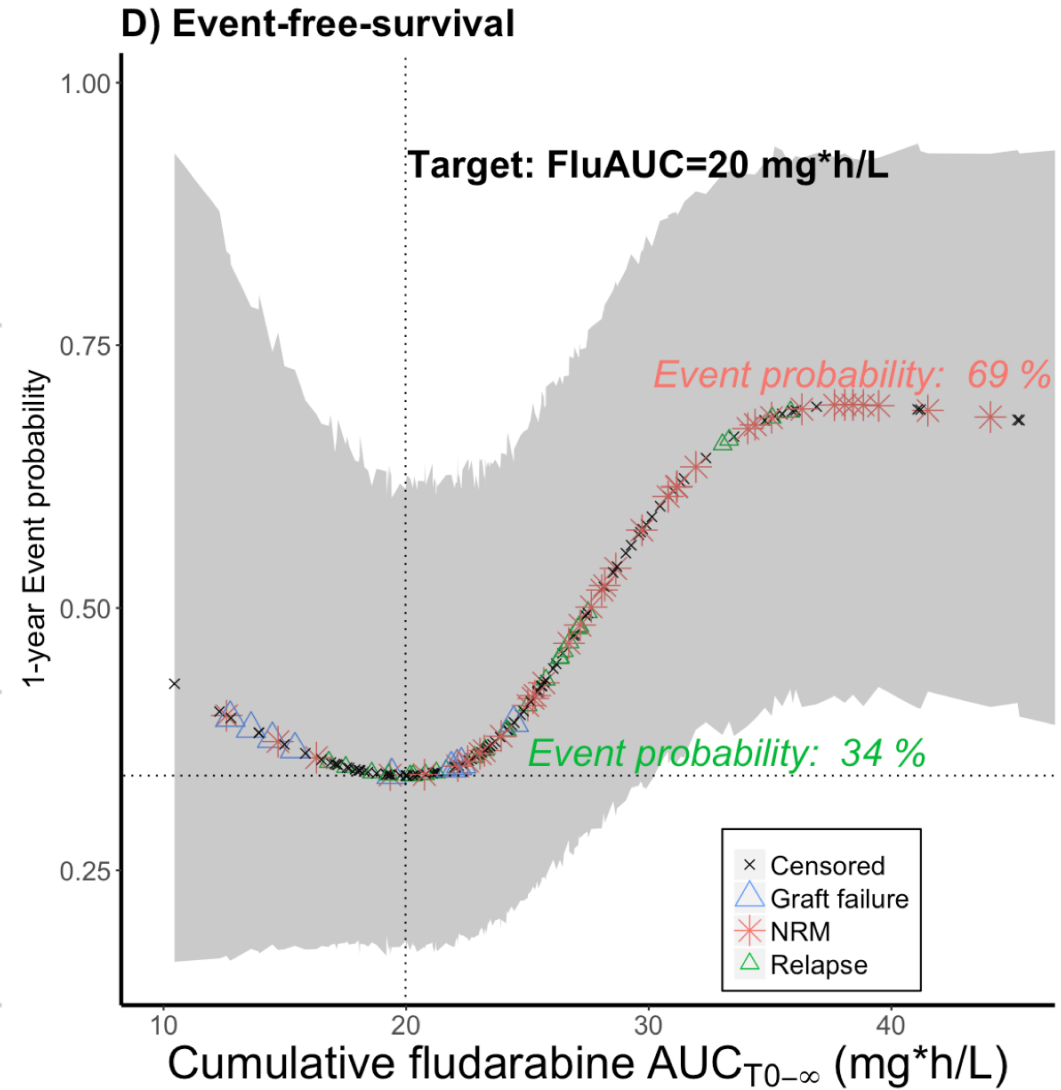
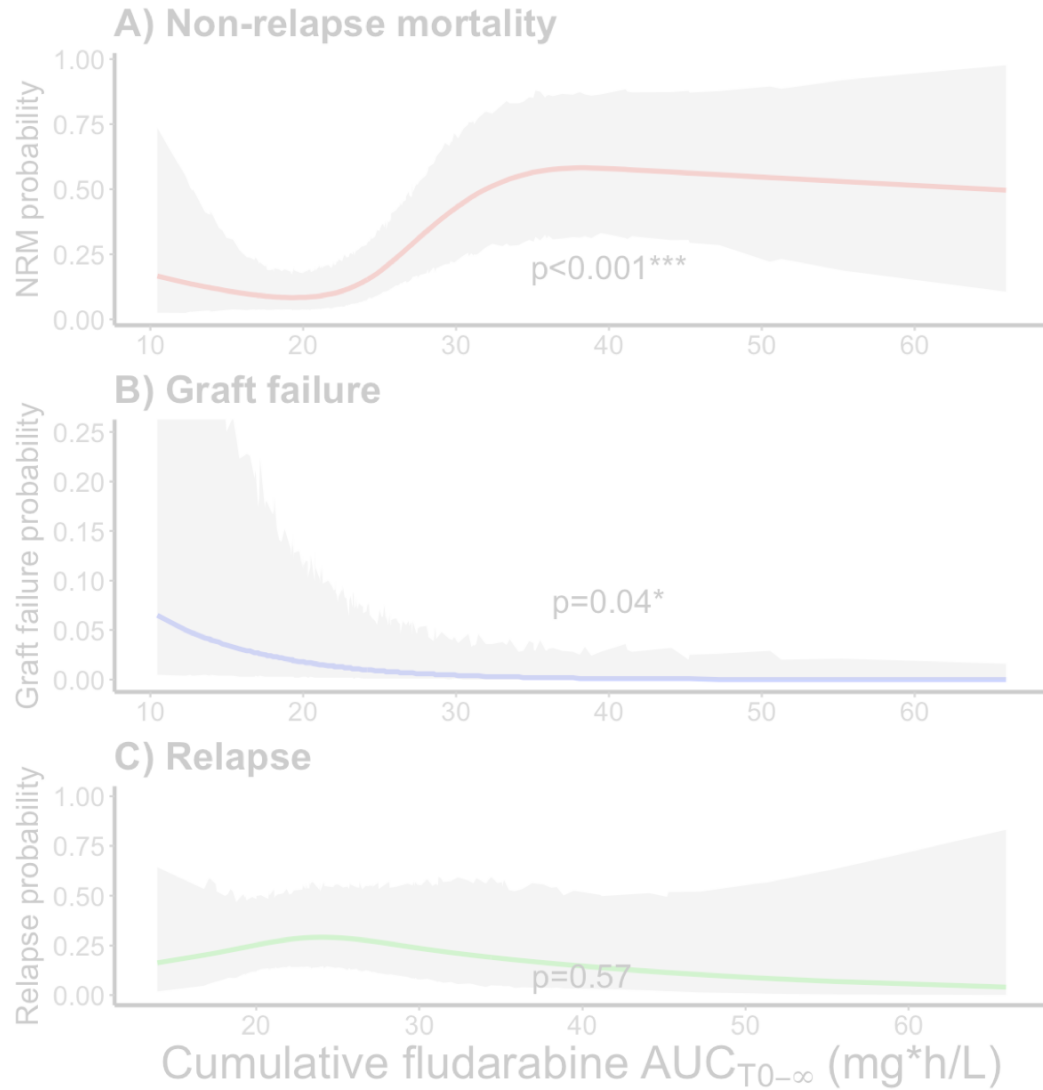
Lower AUC -> More graft failures



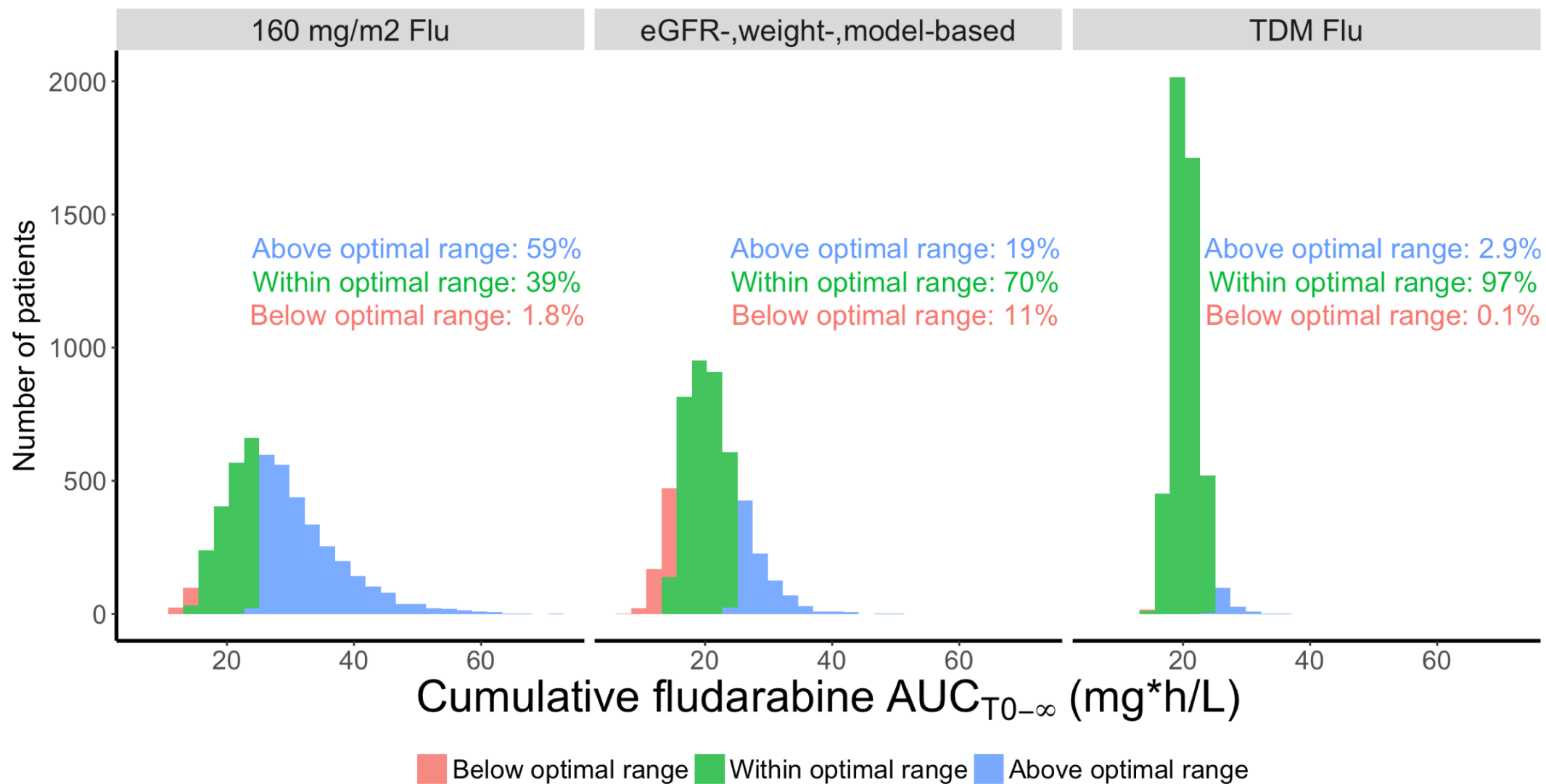
No relationship with relapse



Effect of fludarabine exposure on events



Alternative dosing regimens



What's next: *can we implement these findings?*

Retrospective study

- Risk for bias: are we missing a confounder?
- Not all clinicians are convinced: converting non-believers

✓ Possible major gains

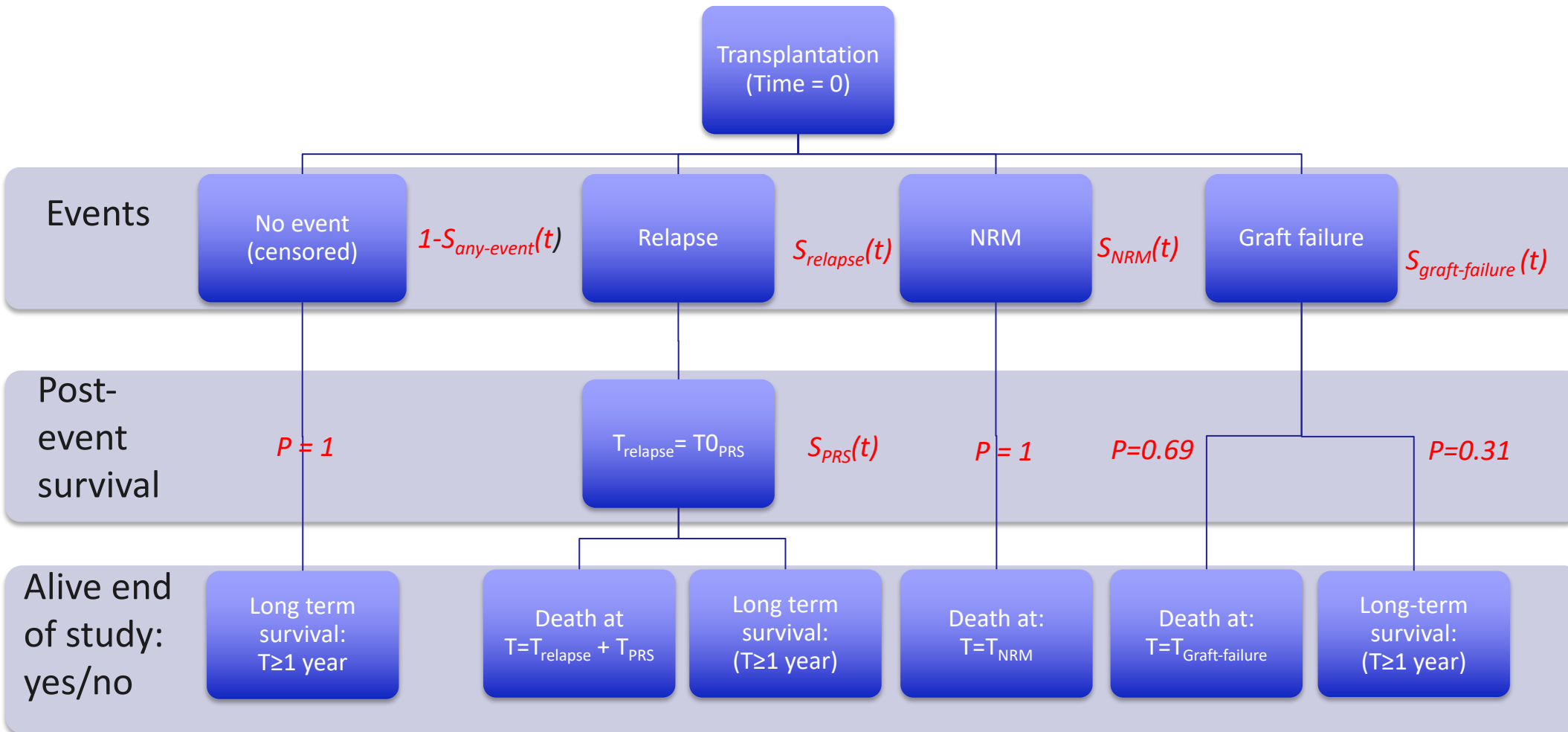
- Preventing unnecessary over-exposure with current dosing regimen
- Omitting part of the toxicity of current dosing

• How could we test this prospectively in a randomized controlled trial?

- Aim: **optimize trial size & estimate expected results**
- Simulations of RCT:
 - Current dosing ~ Model-based dosing
 - Current dosing ~ TDM



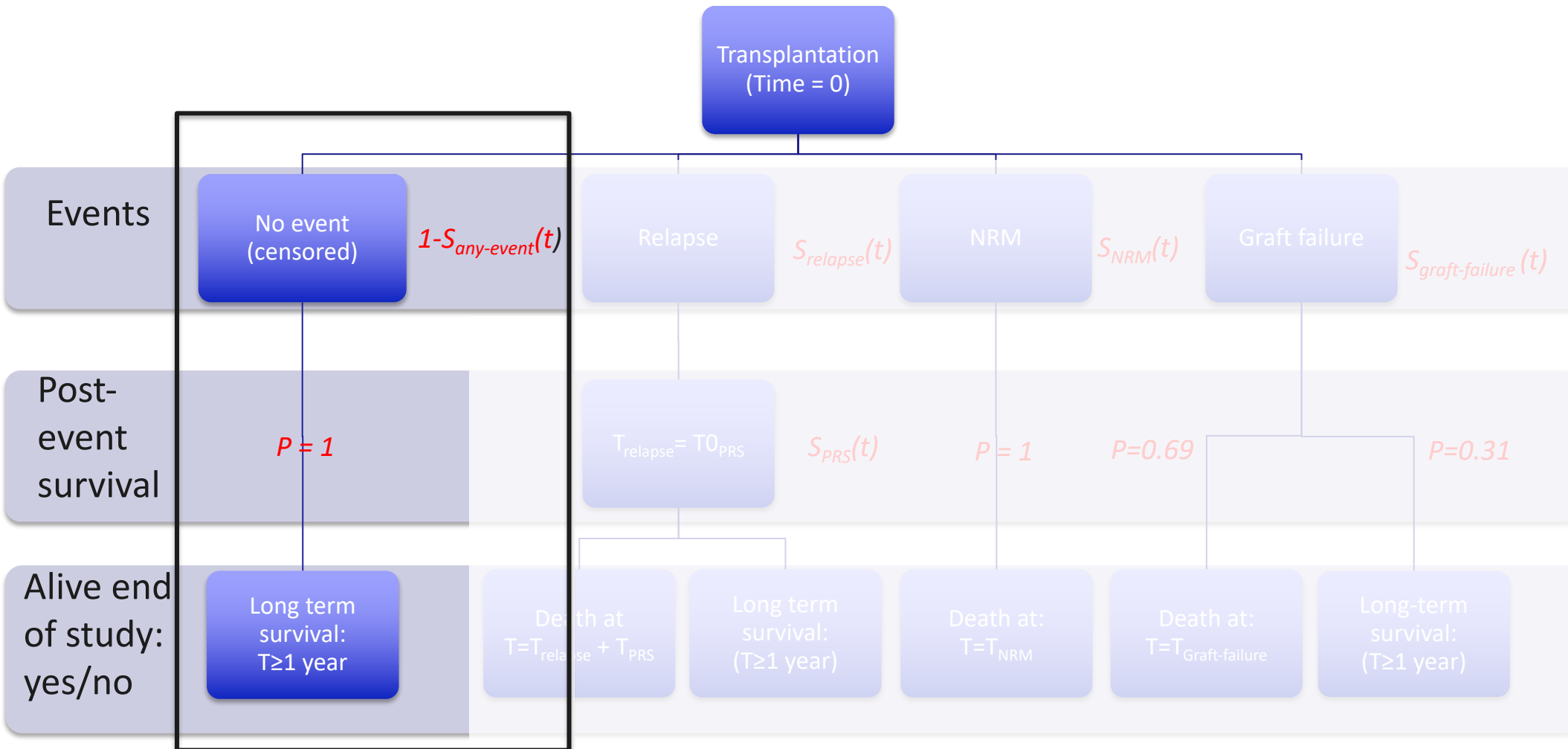
Survival simulation model



- PRS = post-relapse survival
- NRM = Non-relapse mortality



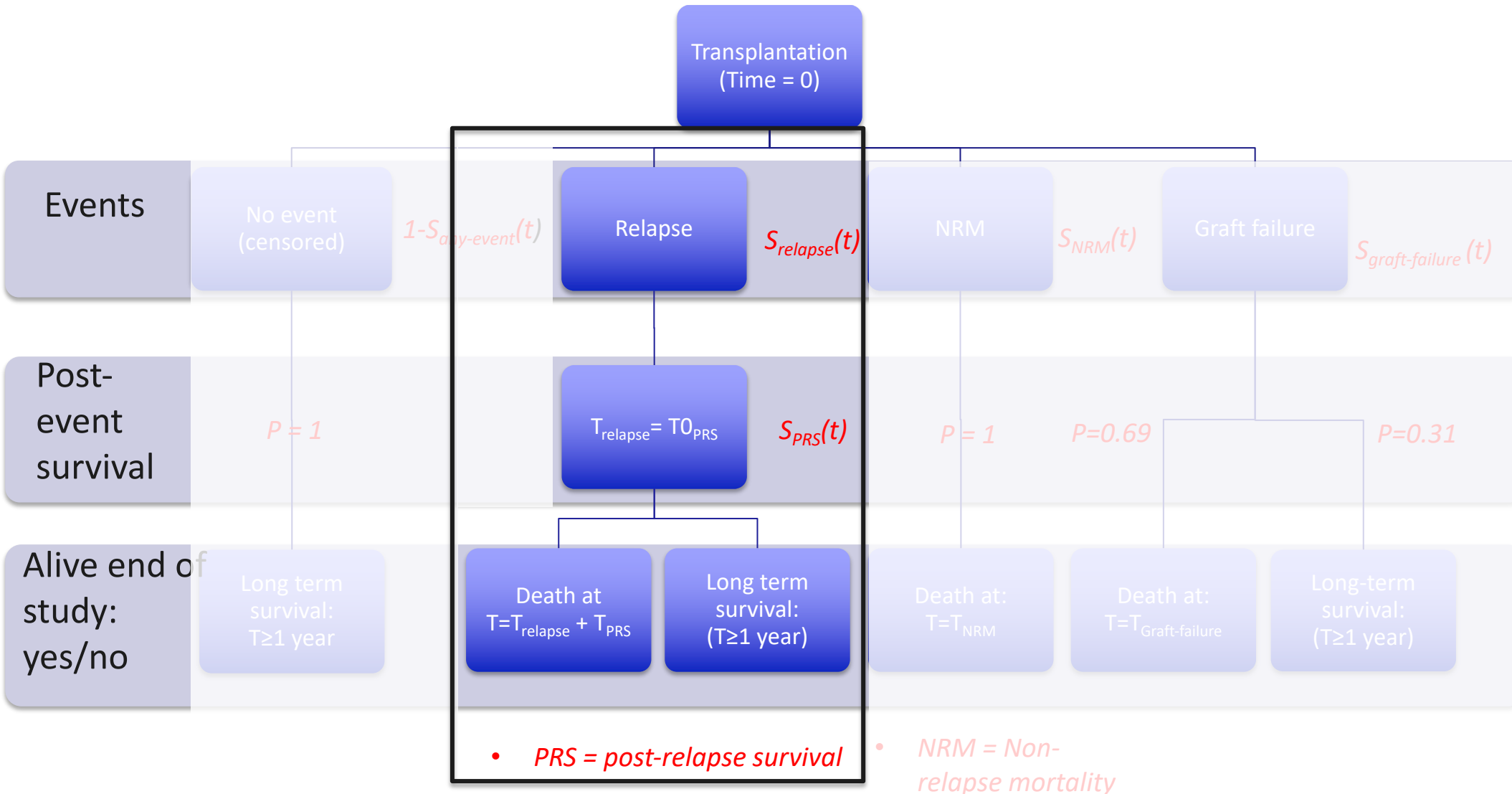
Survival simulation model



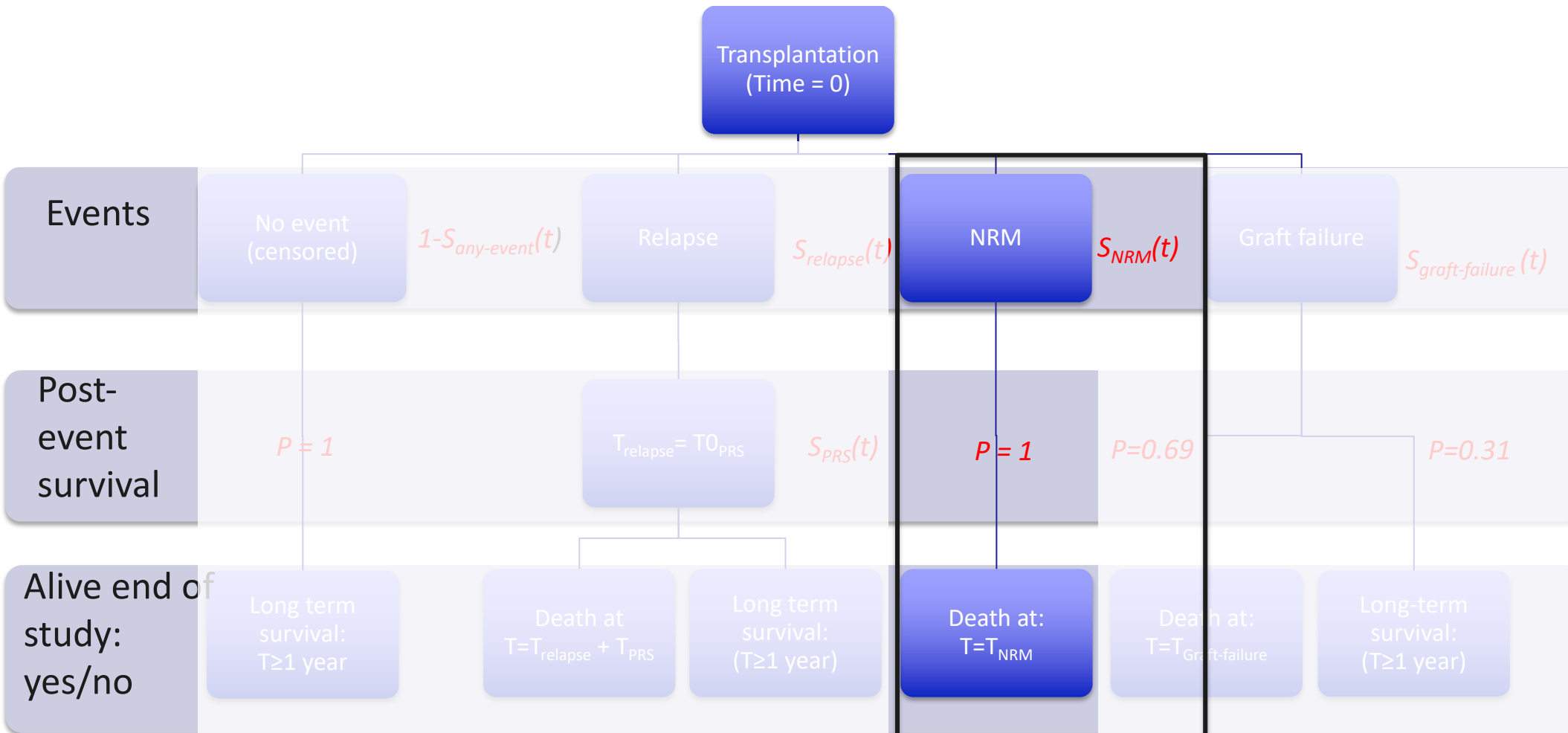
- PRS = post-relapse survival
- NRM = Non-relapse mortality



Survival simulation model



Survival simulation model

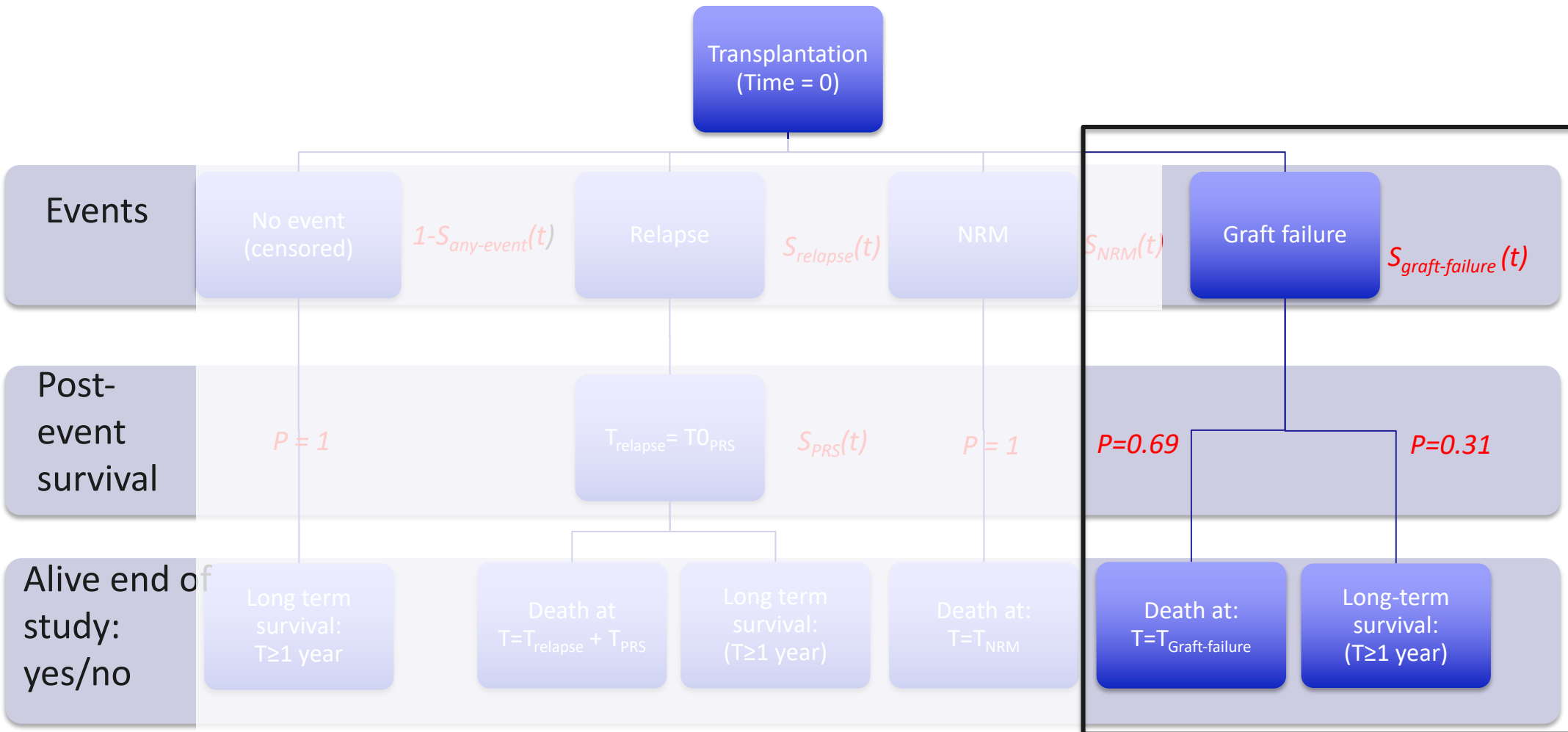


• $PRS = \text{post-relapse survival}$

• $NRM = \text{Non-relapse mortality}$



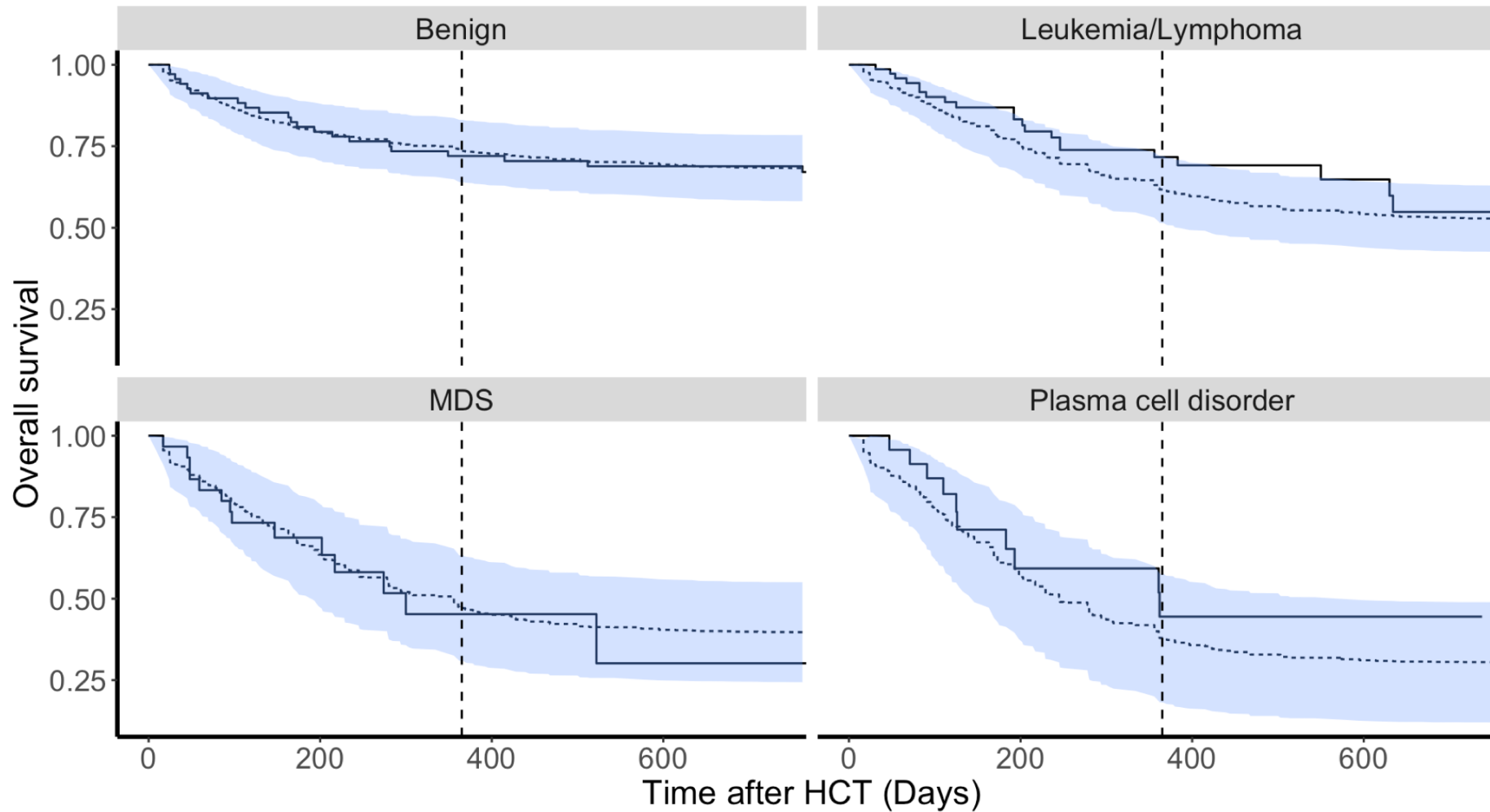
Survival simulation model



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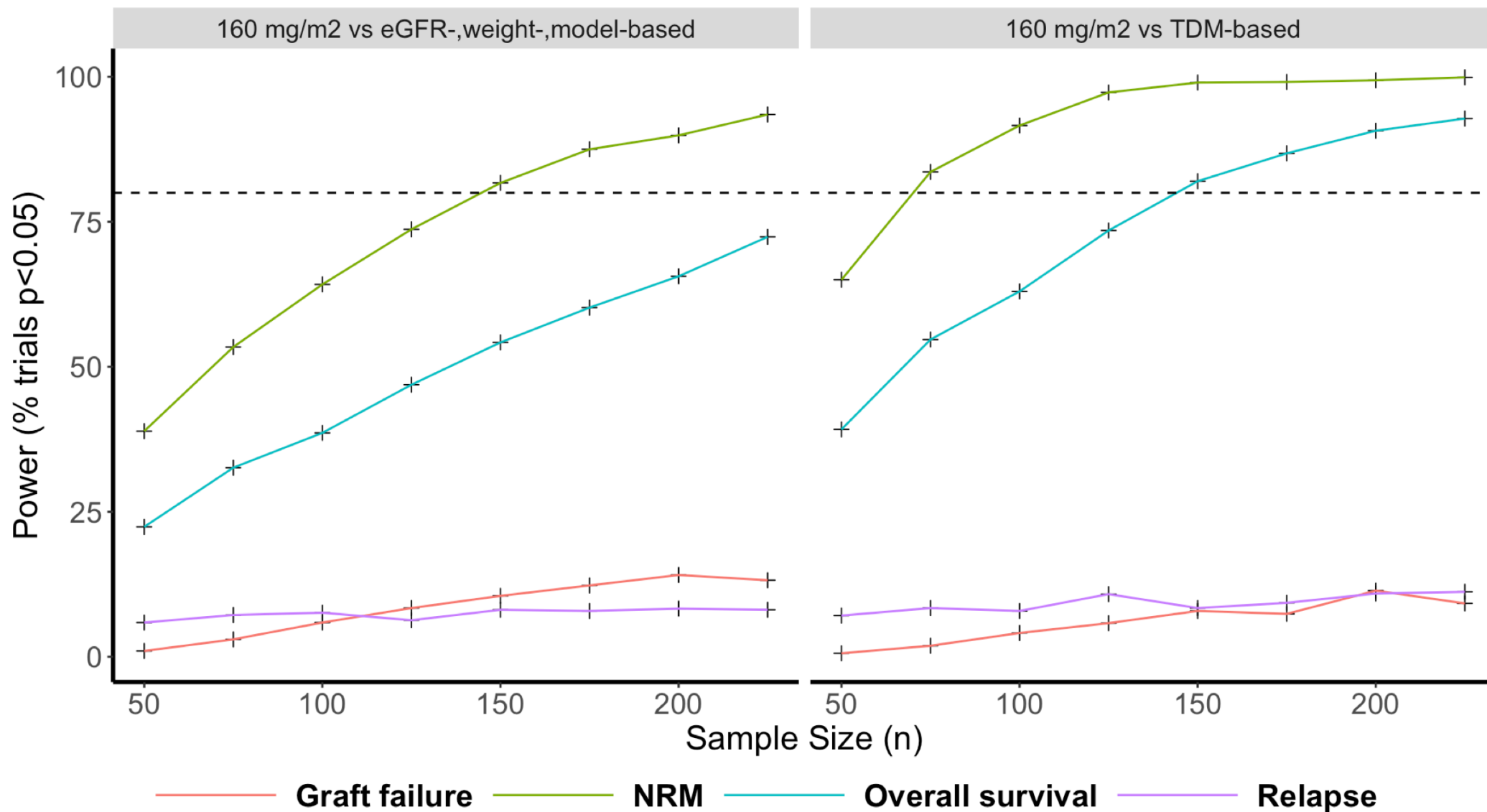
Visual predictive check: *full simulation model*



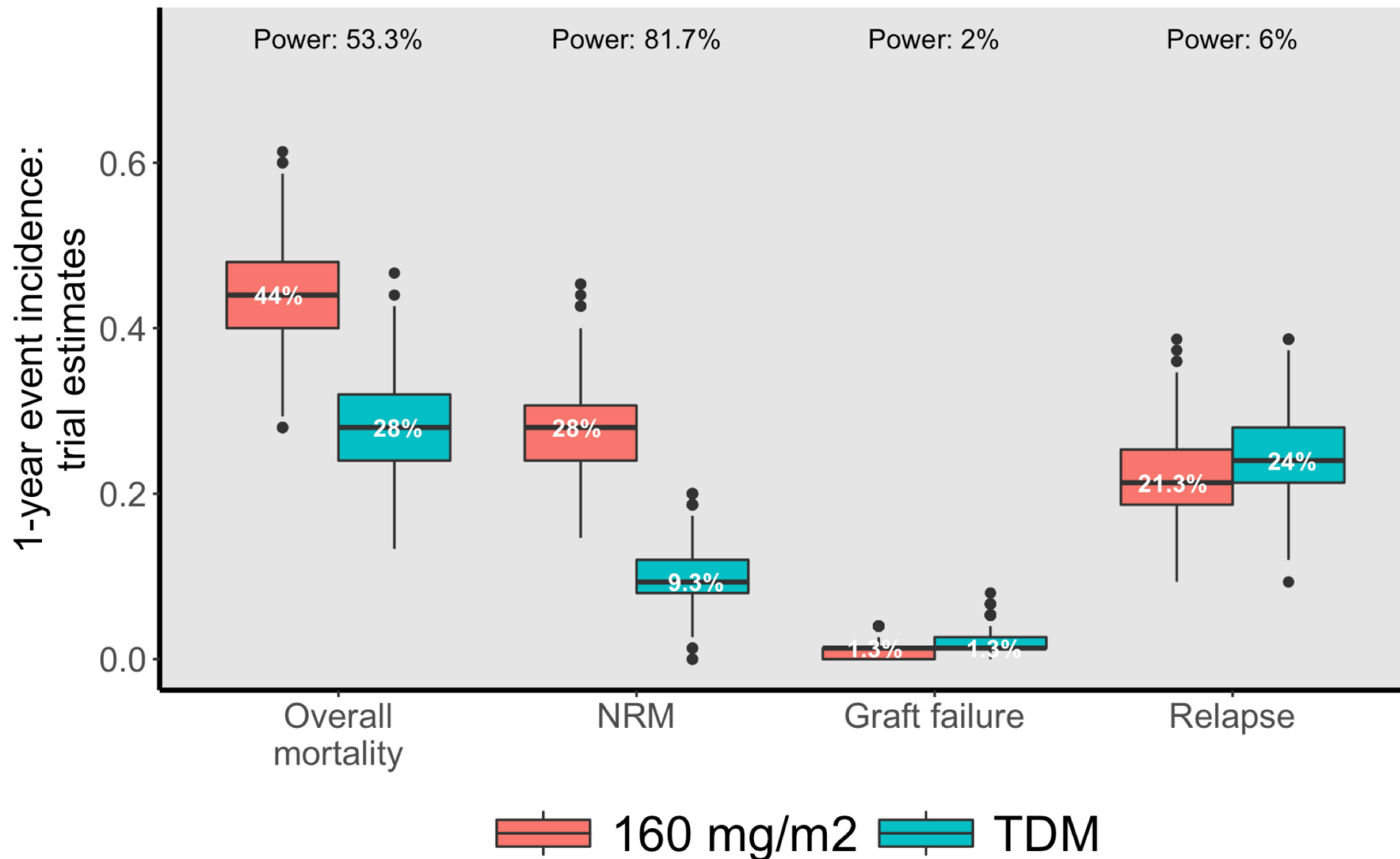
■ Simulations: 95% CI — Observed - - - Simulations: mean



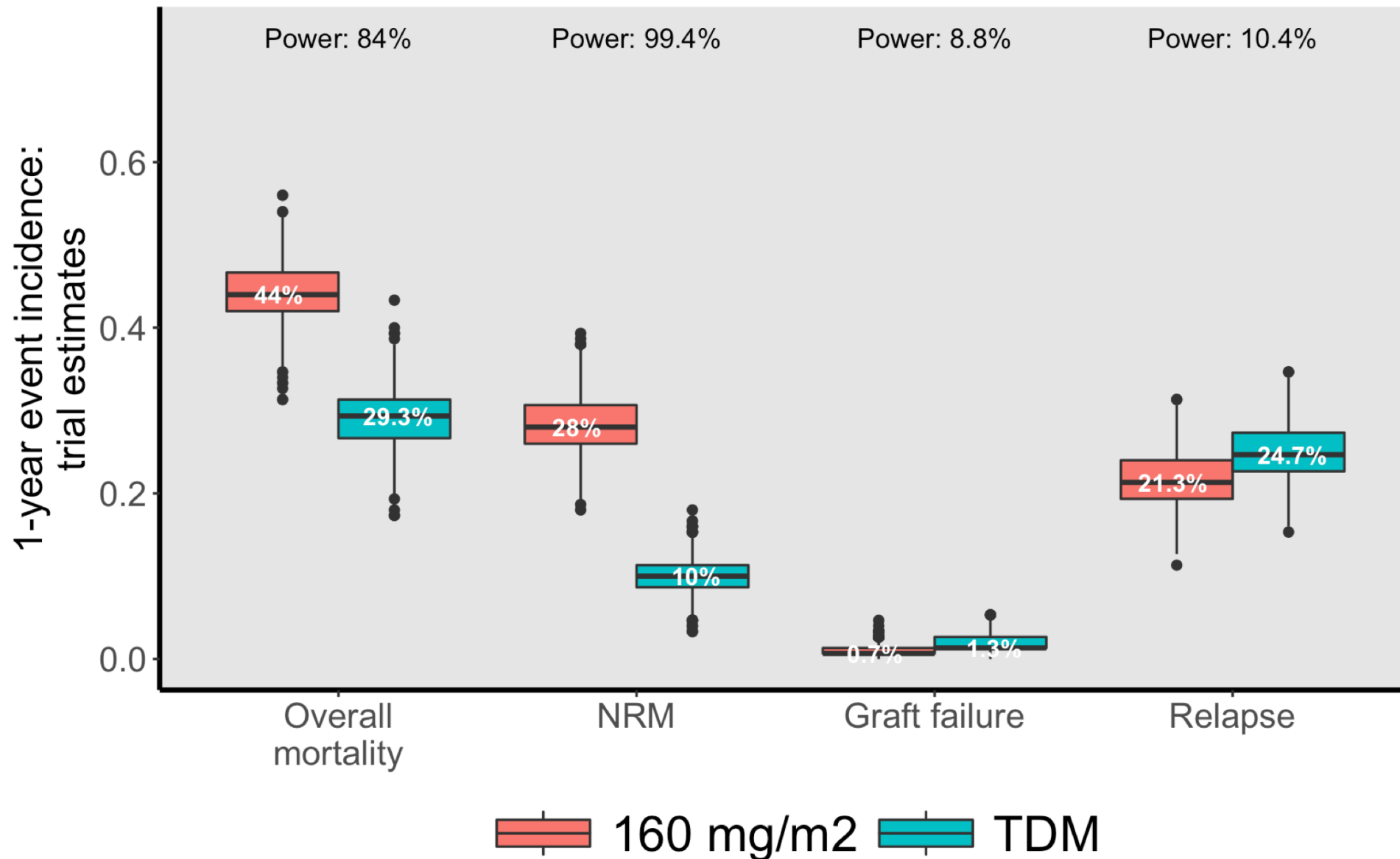
Sample size optimization



Optimal trials (1): NRM primary end-point, N=75 each arm



Optimal trials (2): OS primary end-point, N=150 each arm



Sensitivity analysis: testing uncertainty of assumptions

- Account for possible **failure of TDM** during the trial:
 - Arbitrary 90% success-rate of TDM
 - Remaining 10% get model-based dosing
- Take into account the **uncertainty** in the **fludarabine~event** relationship:
 - What if NRM probability for high exposures ($>20 \text{ mg}^* \text{h/L}$) is 10% lower than predicted
 - What if graft failure probability for low exposures ($<20 \text{ mg}^* \text{h/L}$) is 10% higher than predicted



Sensitivity analysis: results

	OS-trial (N=150 per arm)		NRM-trial (N=75 per arm)	
	Original power	Adjusted power	Original power	Adjusted power
TDM-failure	84%	81%	82%	79%
Model uncertainty: lower NRM effect		75%		81%
Model uncertainty: higher Graft failure effect		72%		83%



Summary

- Current simulation platform allows for simulation with various end-points (i.e. separate events, cumulative events, overall survival)
- To achieve sufficient power for a trial setting, TDM is recommended as individualized dosing arm with expected results being:
 - A decrease of NRM probability (from 28% to 10%)
 - Comparable graft failure (~1-2%)
 - An increase in relapse probability (from 21 to 24%)
 - Overall survival probability increase from 56% to 71%
- Overall survival as and end-point best reflects the overall benefit
- NRM necessitates half the patients for similar power and is less sensitive to survival model uncertainties



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