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What is meant by the term high-risk myeloma?

1. Risk stratification in myeloma
 - a. Evaluation of biological, laboratory and cytogenetic factors to determine the patient's potential to achieve a positive outcome, in terms of overall and progression-free survival
 - b. Does not necessarily reflect how an individual patient will respond to therapy
2. Tools for risk stratification
 - a. mSMART.org by the Mayo Clinic includes factors such as early relapse following induction therapy
 - b. R-ISS, the Revised International Staging System, also incorporates high-risk cytogenetic factors; higher R-ISS stages have reduced survival
 - i. Five-year overall survival rate for R-ISS I is 82%, compared to 40% for R-ISS III
 - ii. Five-year progression-free survival rate for R-ISS I is 55%, compared to 24% for R-ISS III
3. High-risk myeloma refers to certain abnormalities (including genetic factors such as 17p deletion) and high-risk gene expression profiles that will predispose patients with these factors to shorter remissions and earlier relapse