

Optum Health Education Program
May 6, 2021

Immunotherapy in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

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Masonic Cancer Center

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Comprehensive Cancer Center designated by the National Cancer Institute

Disclosures (Updated April 2021)

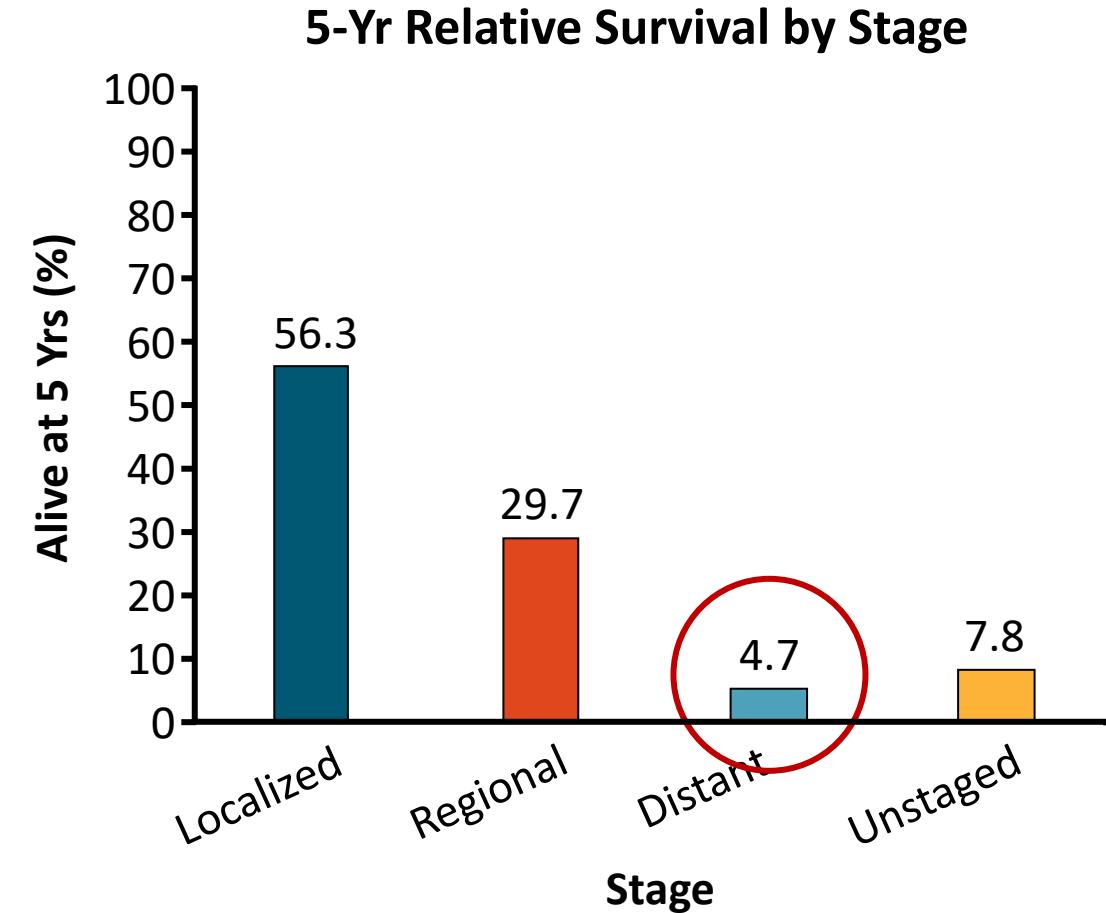
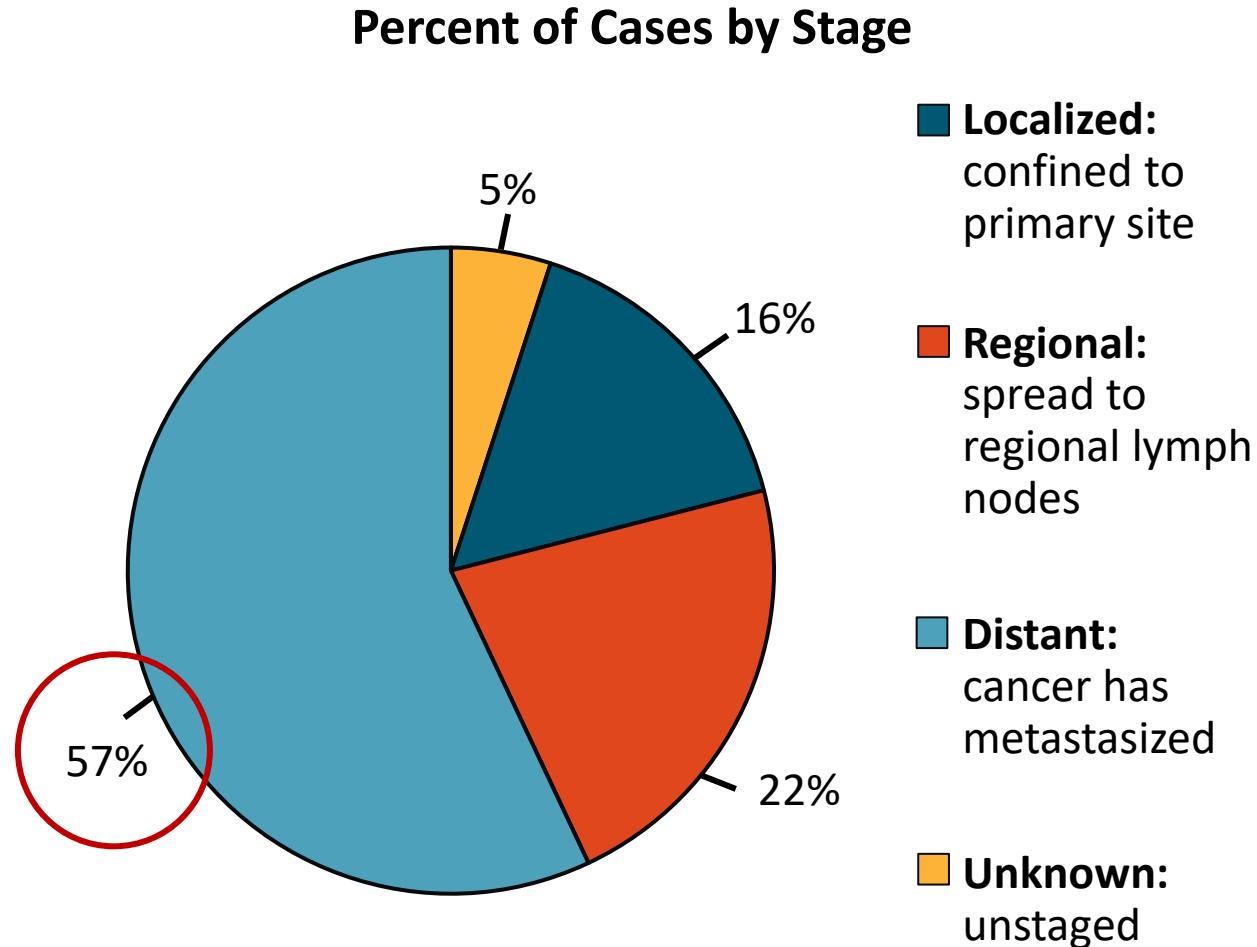
- Research Funding: Astra-Zeneca
- Stocks
 - Fate Therapeutics, Merck, Exact Sciences, Blueprint Medicine, Gilead, Astra Zeneca, Novamax

Learning Objectives

- Introduction
- Describe the principles of cancer immunotherapy
- Discuss the role of immunotherapy for the treatment of NSCLC
- Identify which lung cancer patients would benefit from the initial use of immunotherapy versus chemo-immunotherapy
- Immune related adverse events
- Summary



Lung Cancer: US Incidence and 5-Yr Relative Survival (2008-2014)



Types of lung cancer and staging

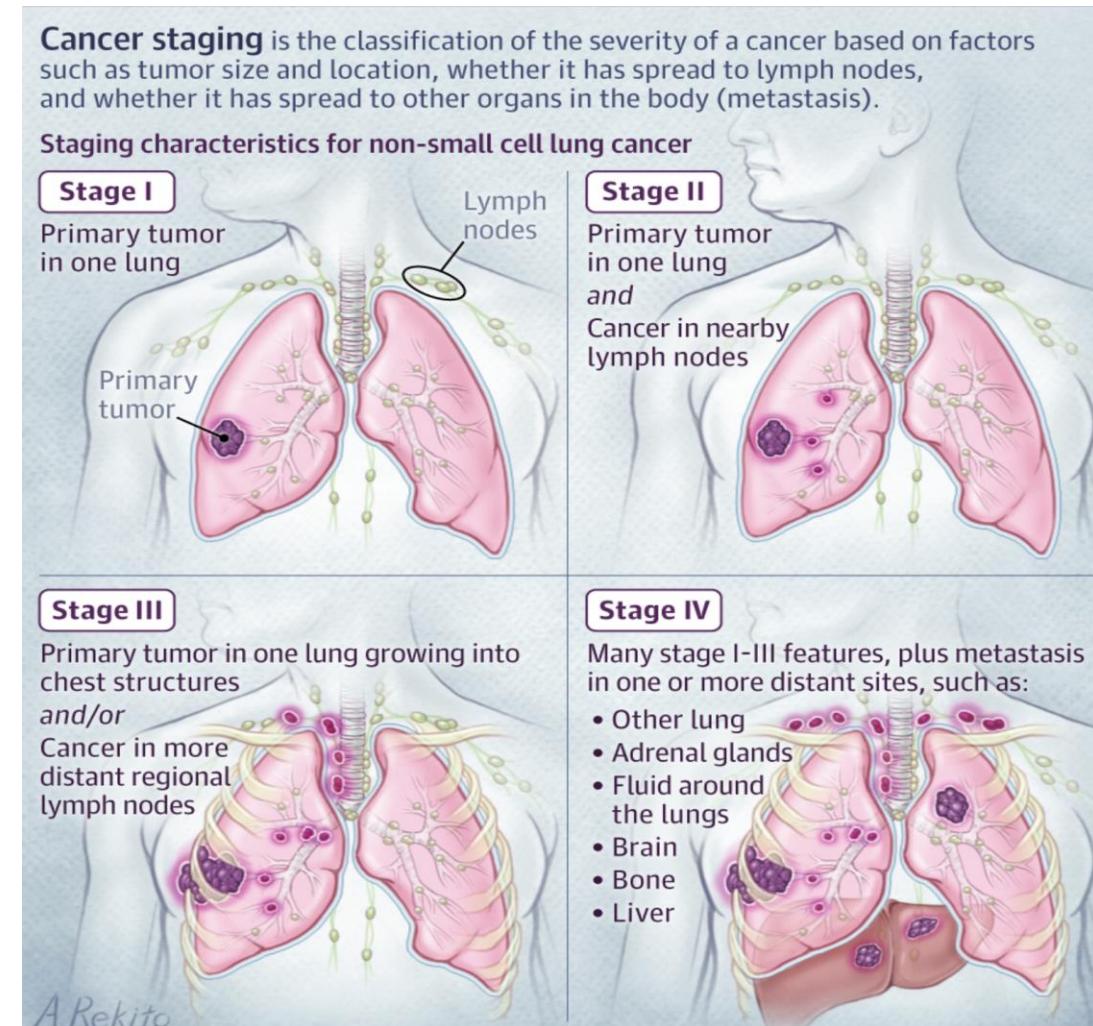
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

80% to 85% of lung cancers are NSCLC.

- Adenocarcinoma: Current or former smokers, or non-smokers, women > men, and younger people
- Squamous cell carcinoma: linked to a history of smoking
- Large cell (undifferentiated) carcinoma

Small cell lung cancer (SCLC)

~15% of lung cancer, strong smoking Hx and more aggressive



Current Standard for NSCLC

Menu

NCCN

National
Comprehensive
Cancer
Network®

NCCN Guidelines Version 4.2021 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)
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[Discussion](#)

CLINICAL PRESENTATION

Advanced
or
metastatic
disease

Key-

PD-L1 testing in all patients

Molecular testing (look for oncogenic driver mutations -all adenocarcinomas, select squamous cell)

HISTOLOGIC SUBTYPE^a

- Establish histologic subtype^a with adequate tissue for molecular testing (consider rebiopsy^{kk} if appropriate)
- Smoking cessation counseling
- Integrate palliative care^c ([See NCCN Guidelines for Palliative Care](#))

Squamous cell carcinoma

BIOMARKER TESTING^{ll}

- Adenocarcinoma
- Large cell
- NSCLC not otherwise specified (NOS)

- Molecular testing, including:
 - ▶ EGFR mutation (category 1), ALK (category 1), ROS1, BRAF, NTRK1/2/3, MET exon 14 skipping, RET
 - ▶ Testing should be conducted as part of broad molecular profiling^{mm}
 - PD-L1 testing (category 1)

[See Testing Results \(NSCL-19\)](#)

- Consider molecular testing, including:ⁿⁿ
 - ▶ EGFR mutation, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, NTRK1/2/3, MET exon 14 skipping, RET
 - ▶ Testing should be conducted as part of broad molecular profiling^{mm}
 - PD-L1 testing (category 1)

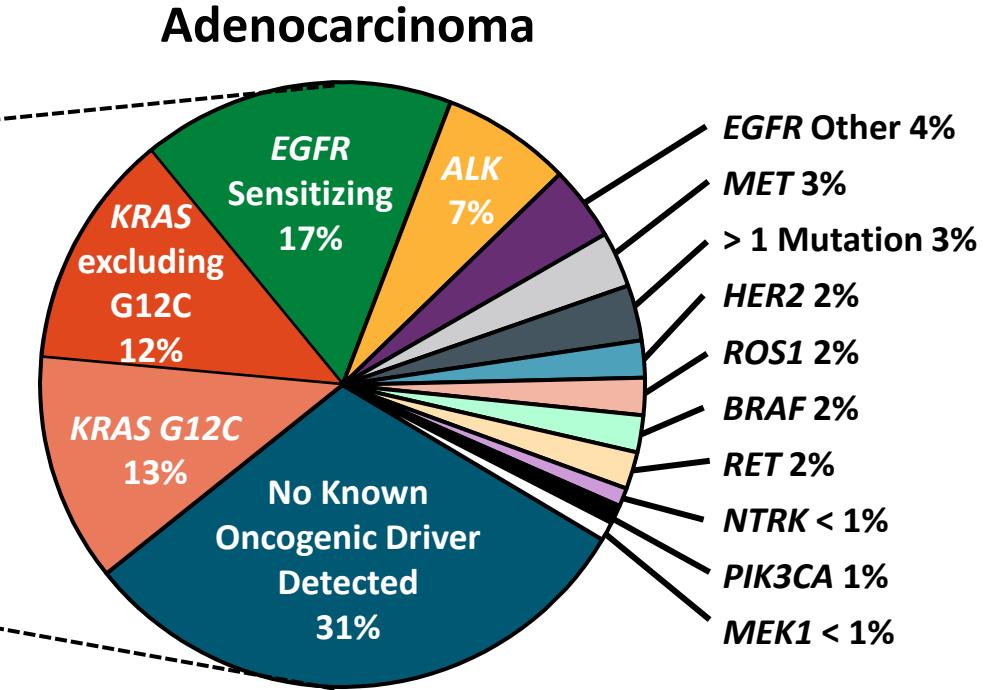
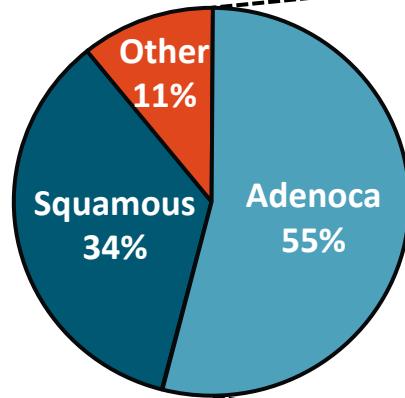
[See Testing Results \(NSCL-19\)](#)



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Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer: Not One Disease, but Many!

NSCLC as
one
disease

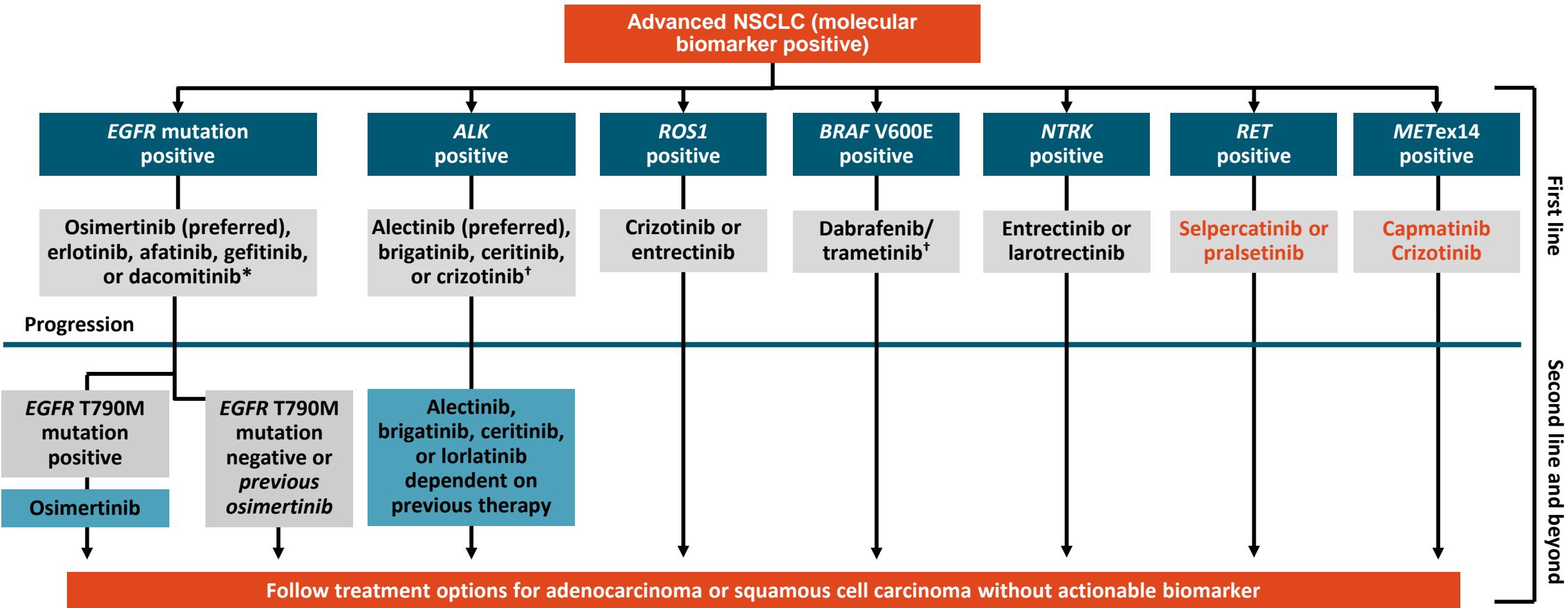


Then

Histology-Based Subtyping

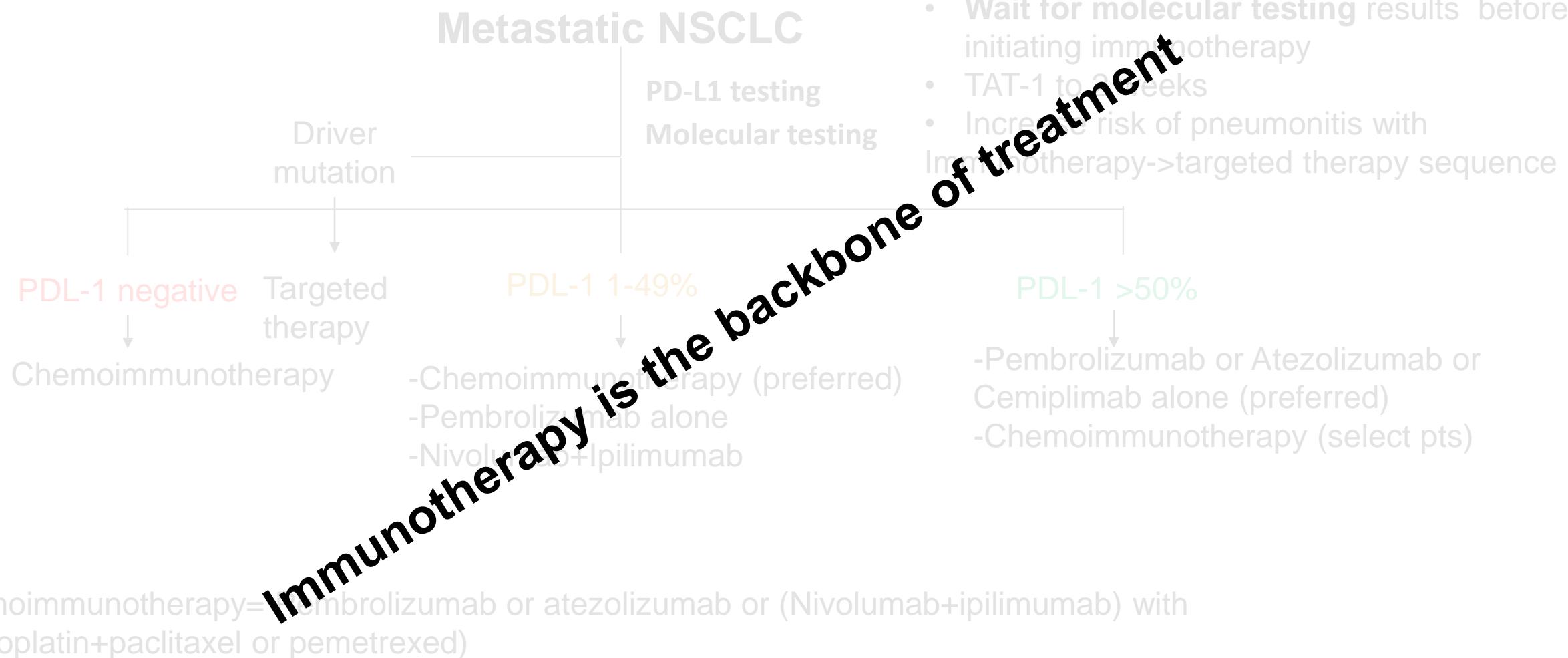
Now

Treatment Paradigm for Oncogenic mutation–Positive Advanced NSCLC



~ 35% of Patients With Advanced Nonsq NSCLC Have a Driver Mutation Targetable by an FDA-Approved Agent

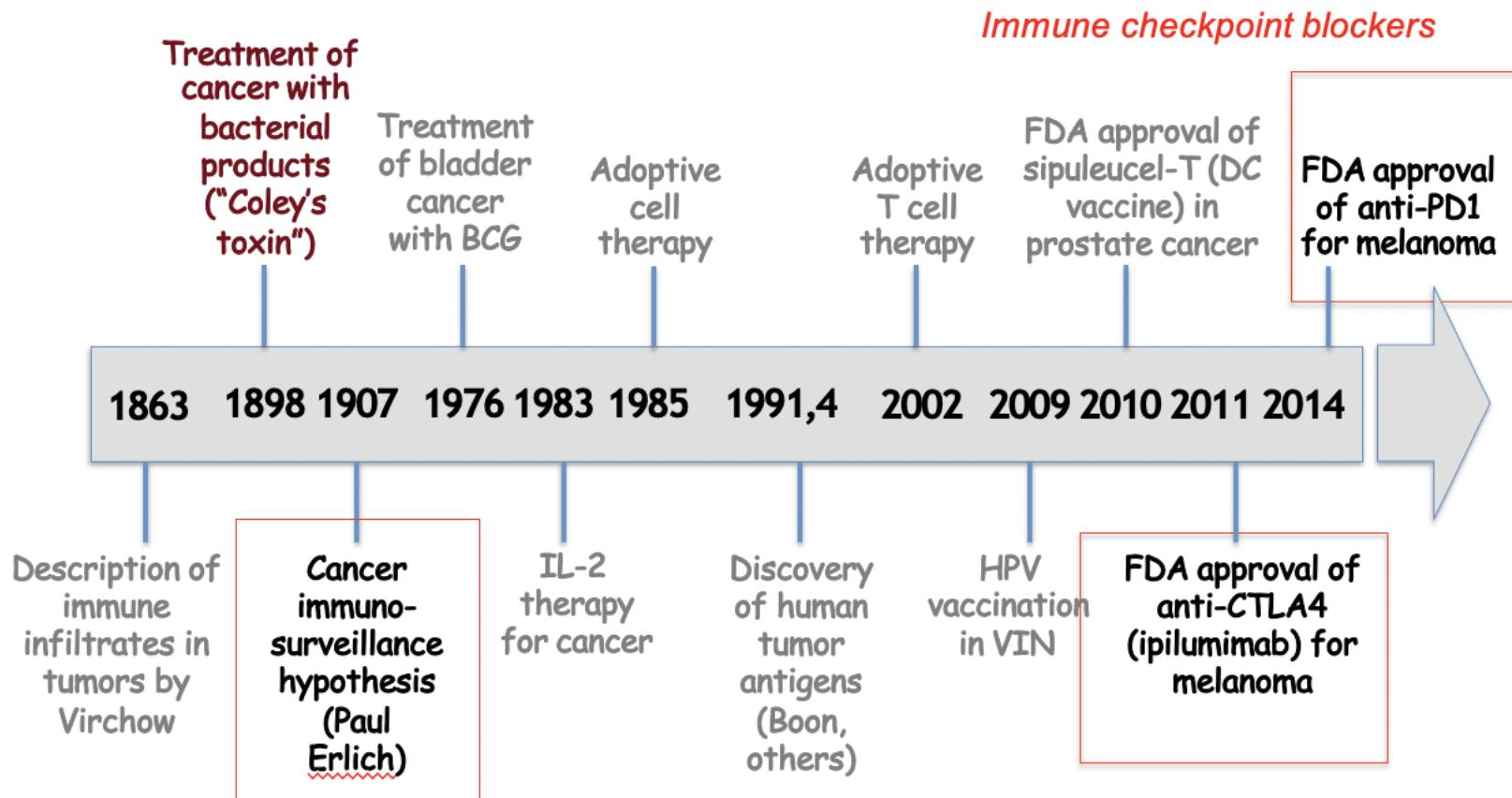
Treatment Paradigm for Advanced NSCLC with no oncogenic driver mutation



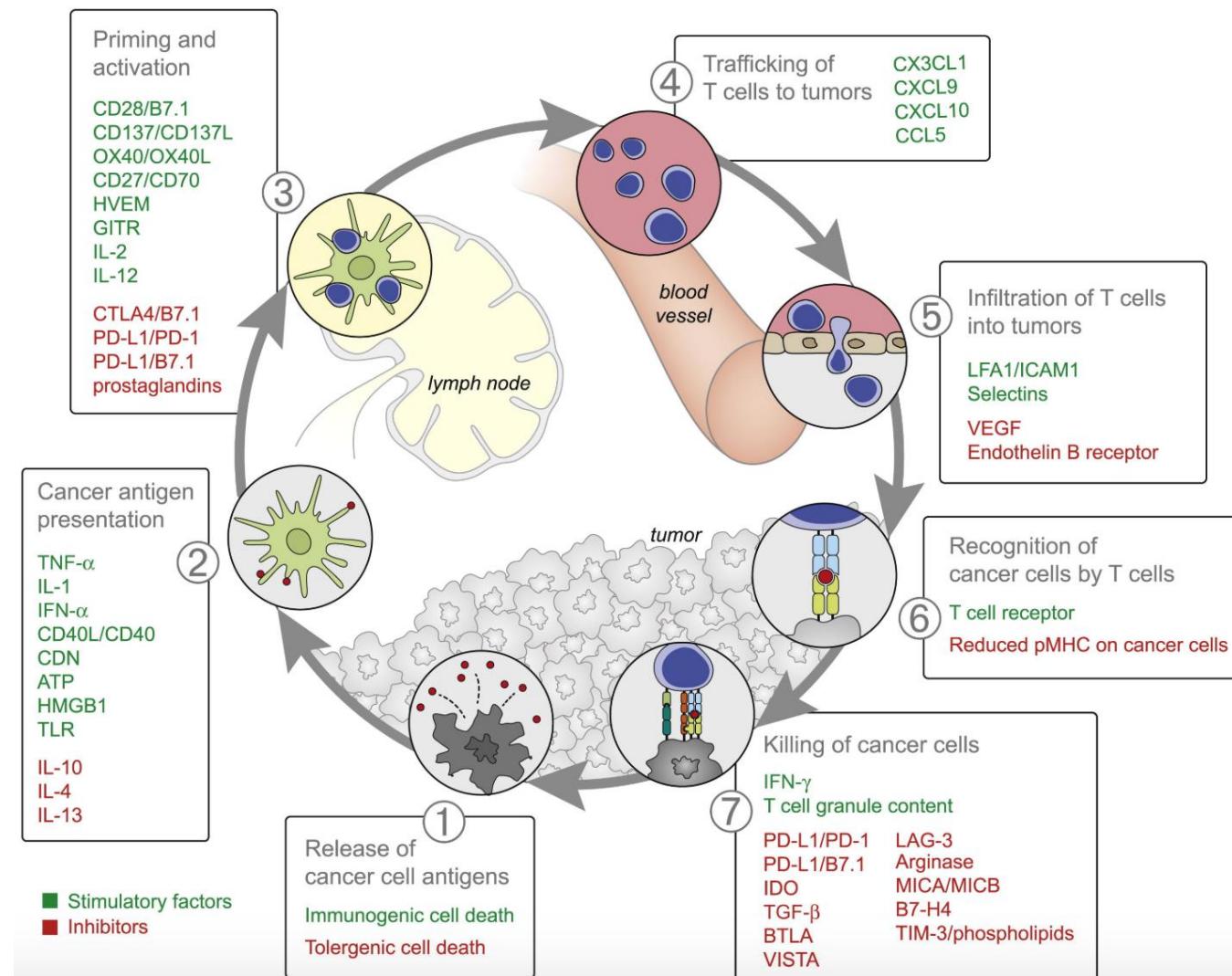
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Cancer Immunotherapy

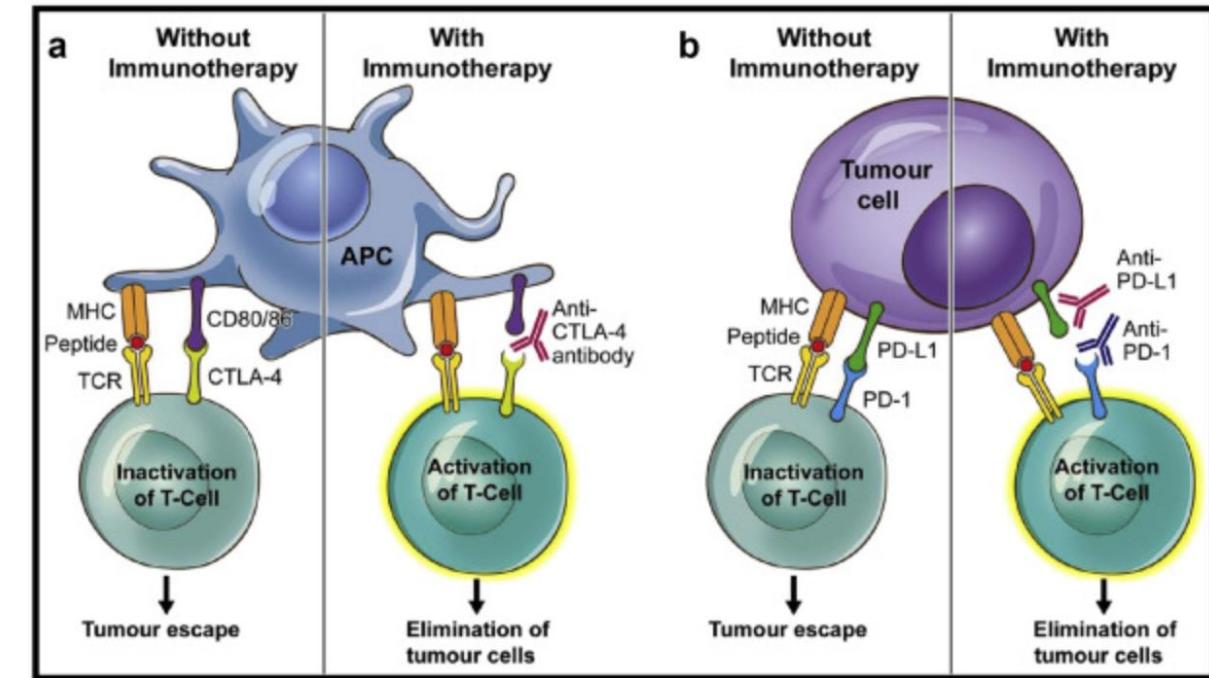
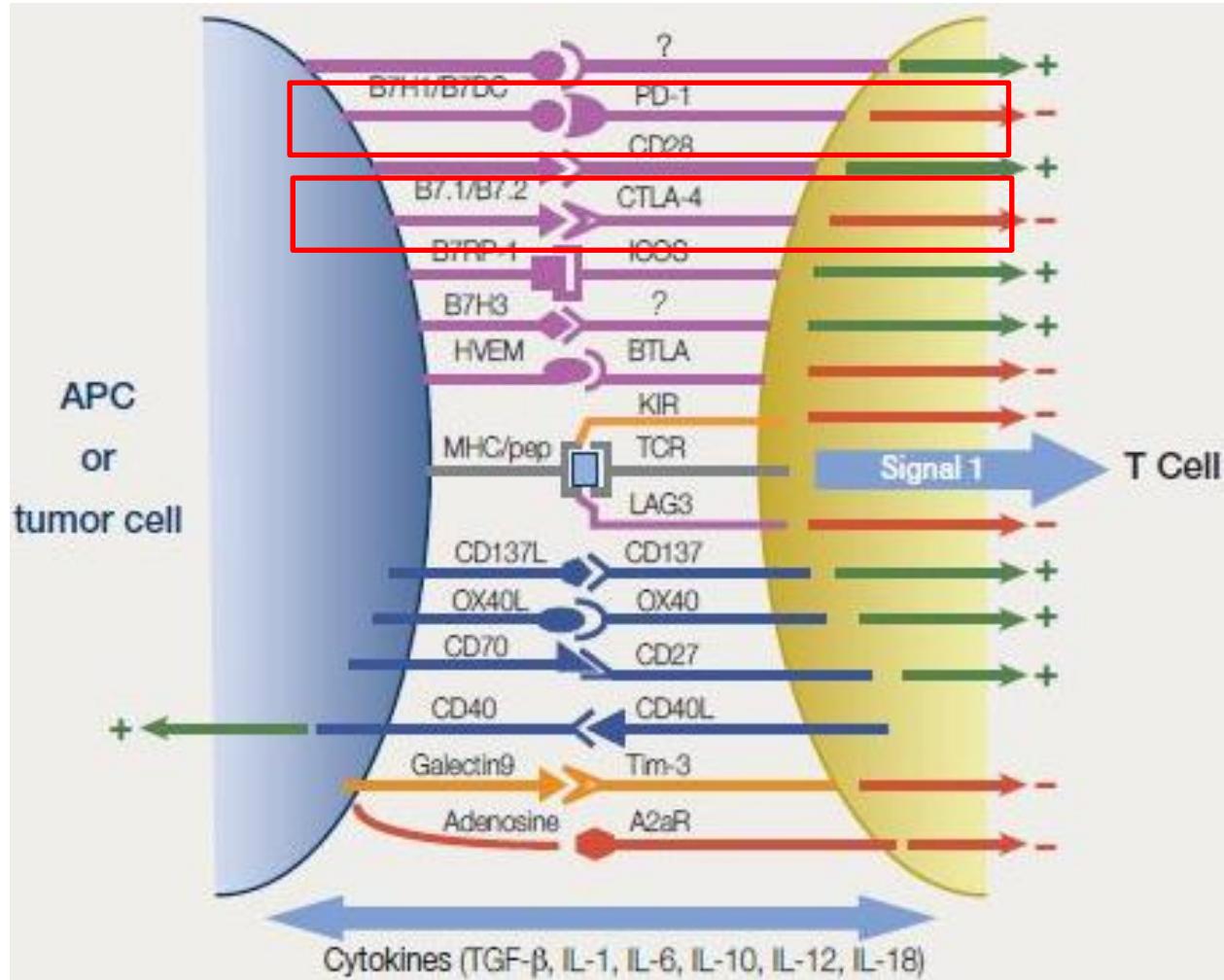
Cancer Immunotherapy is defined as the approach to treat the tumor by either inducing de novo or reactivating tumor specific immune responses



Cancer Immunosurveillance



Immune checkpoints



Ipilimumab,
tremelimumab

CTLA-4

atezolizumab
durvalumab
avelumab

PD-L1

nivolumab
pembrolizumab
cemiplimab



Discovery of immune checkpoints



Nobelförsamlingen

The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or
Medicine 2018

CTLA-4

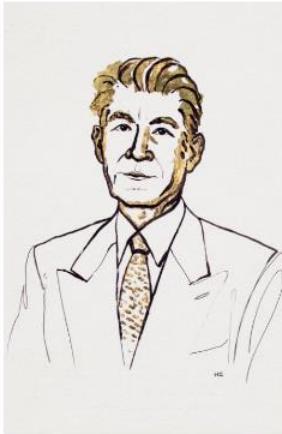


III. Niklas Elmehed, © Nobel Media

James P. Allison

Prize share: 1/2

PD-L1



III. Niklas Elmehed, © Nobel Media

Tasuku Honjo

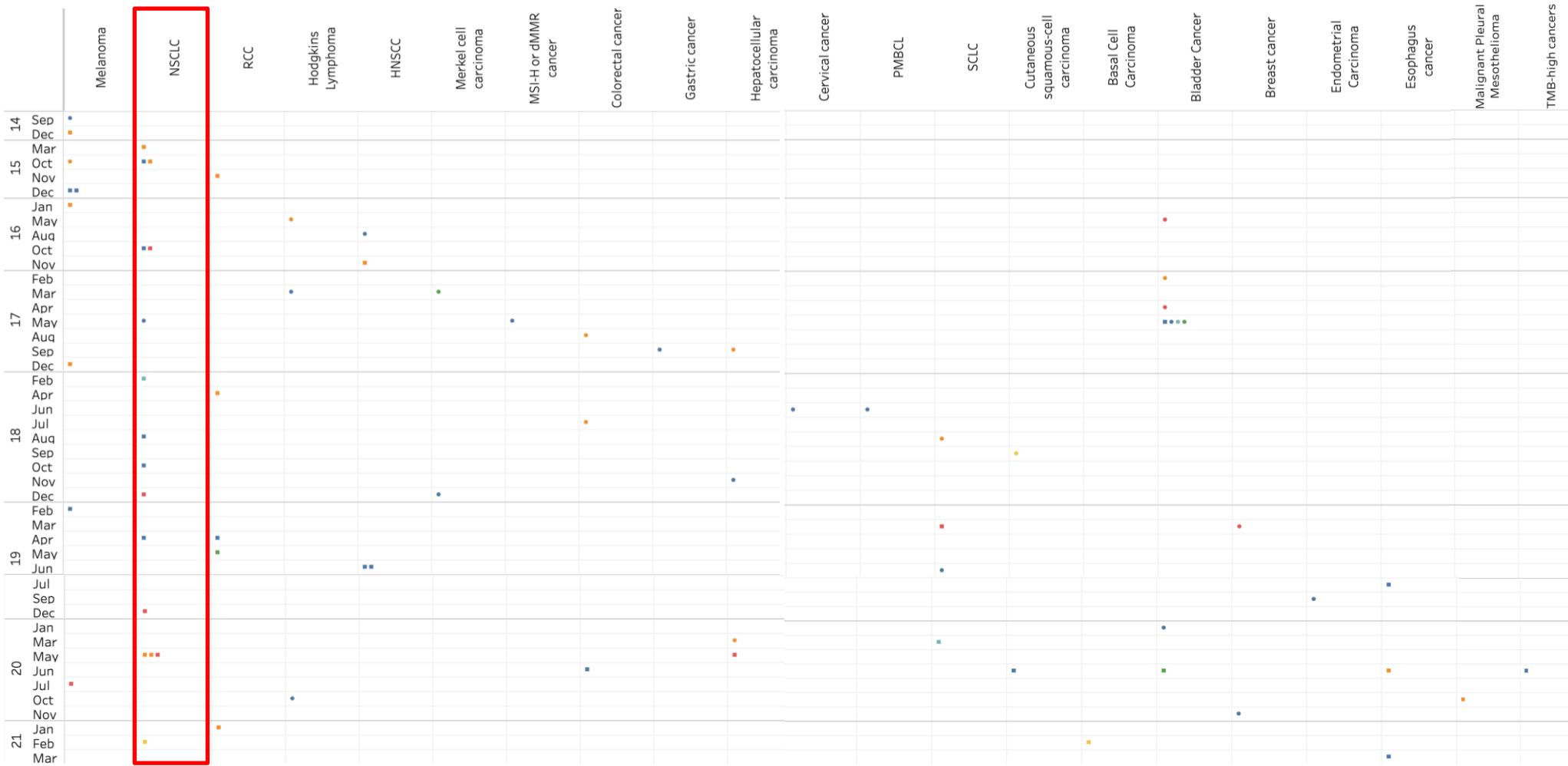
Prize share: 1/2

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2018 was awarded jointly to James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo "for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation."



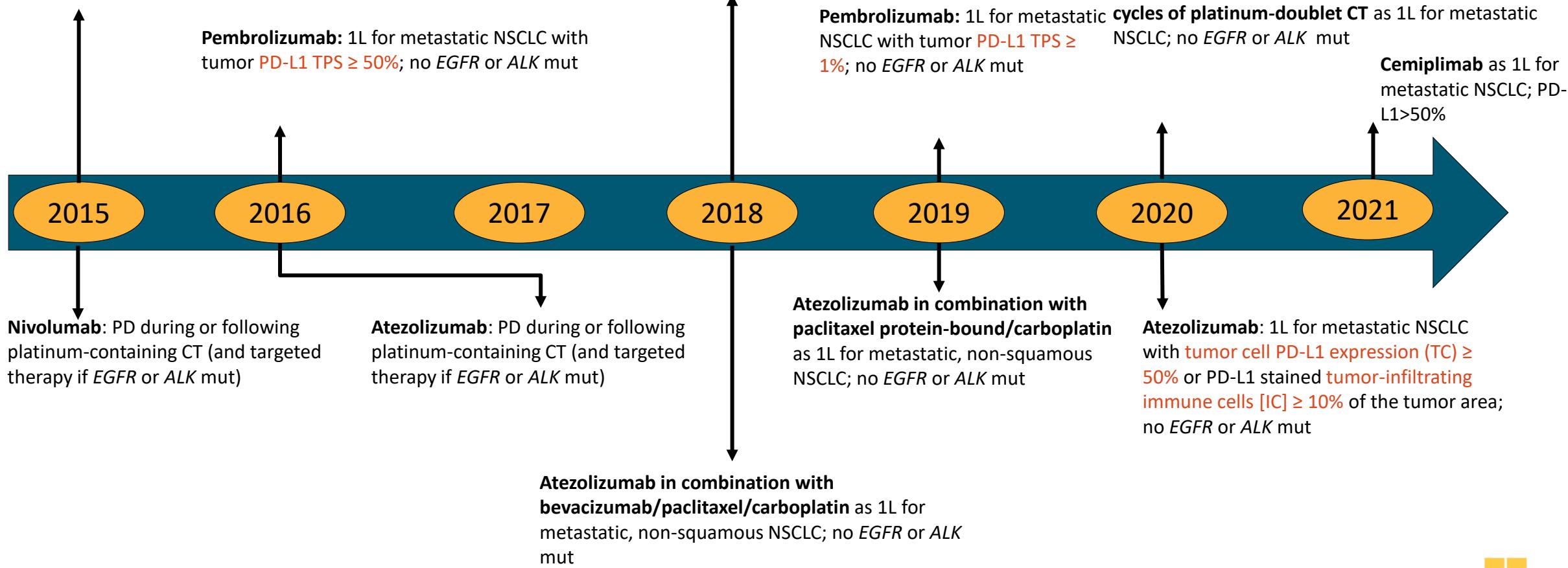
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Timeline of FDA approvals of immune checkpoint blockers



Current FDA Approvals of ICIs for Metastatic NSCLC

Pembrolizumab: PD during or following platinum-containing CT (and targeted therapy if EGFR or ALK positive) if PD-L1 TPS $\geq 1\%$

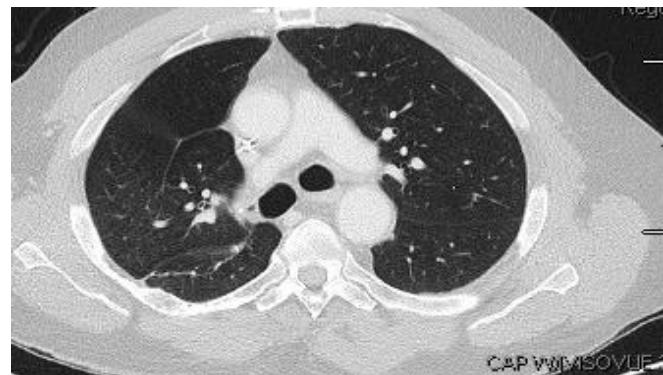


Patient example

2/2015



3/2015 -On trial with Atezolizumab



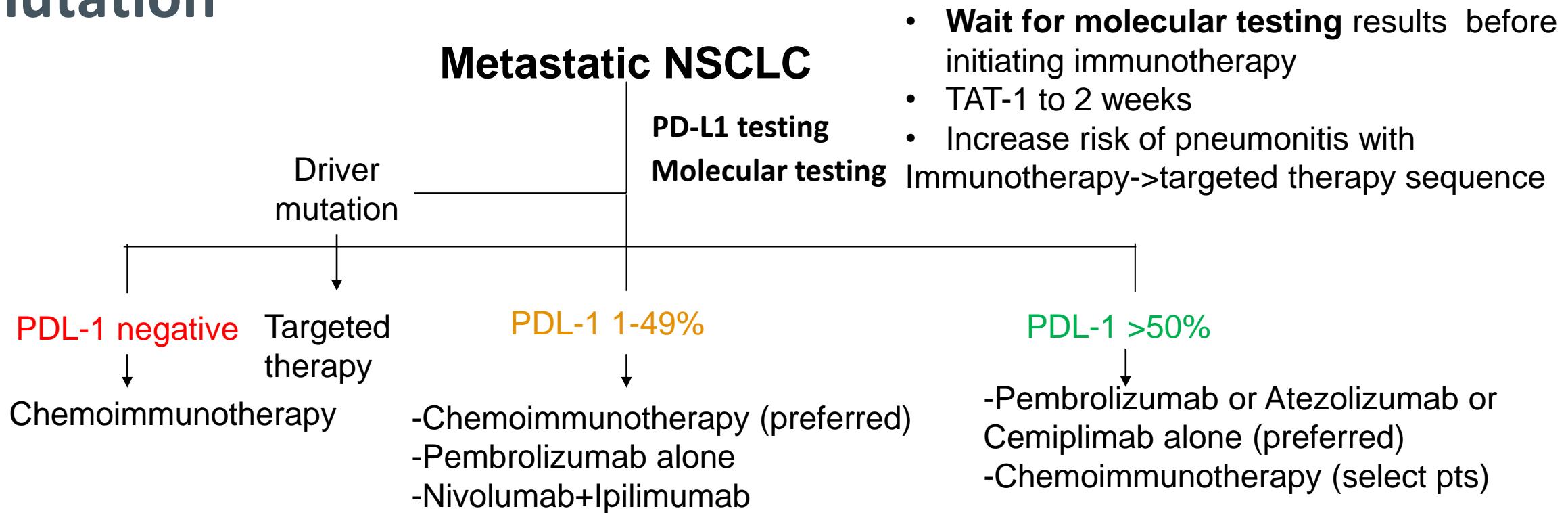
- 58 yo father of 4 girls under 16
- Had 3 prior lung cancer surgeries
- Radiation therapy
- 2 lines of prior chemotherapy for metastatic disease

- Complete response
- After 3 years, stopped therapy
- As of today, has no evidence of disease
- He has outlived his wife and now is the primary caregiver for his 4 daughters



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Treatment Paradigm for Advanced NSCLC with no driver mutation



Chemoimmunotherapy= Pembrolizumab or atezolizumab or (Nivolumab+ipilimumab) with (carboplatin+paclitaxel or pemetrexed)



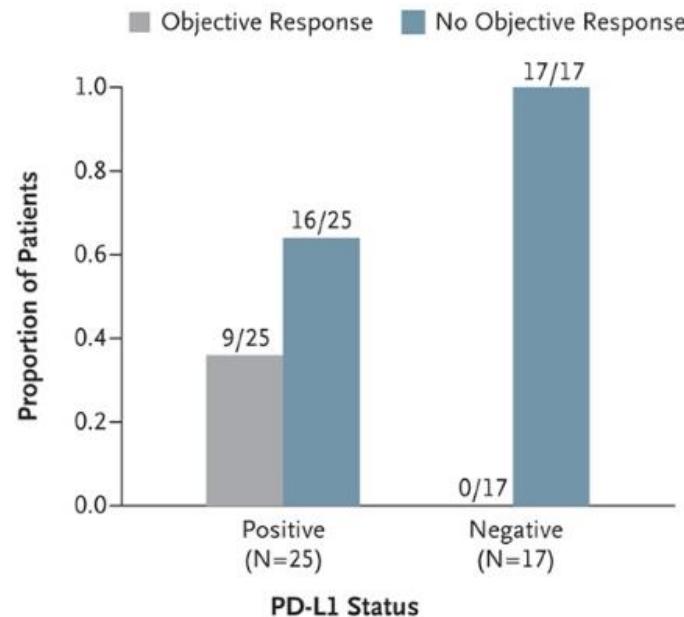
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Importance of level of PD-L1 expression

PDL-1 tumor proportion score (TPS)

Most robust biomarker

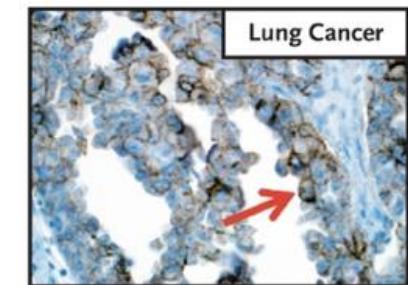
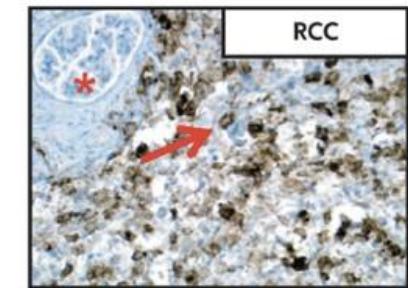
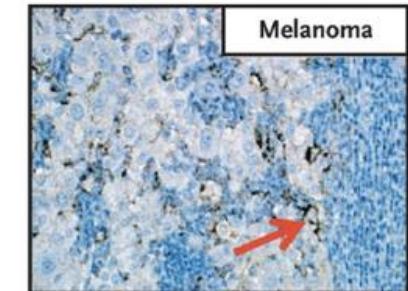
- By simple IHC
- PDL1 staining on tumor cells
- PD-L1 staining on immune cells used for atezolizumab



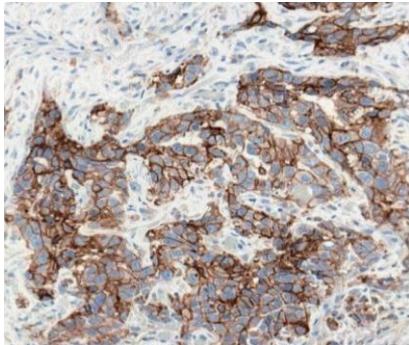
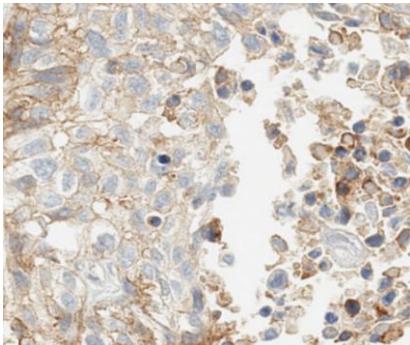
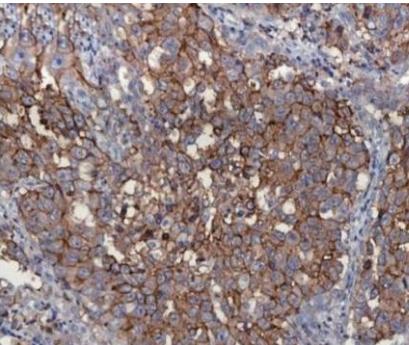
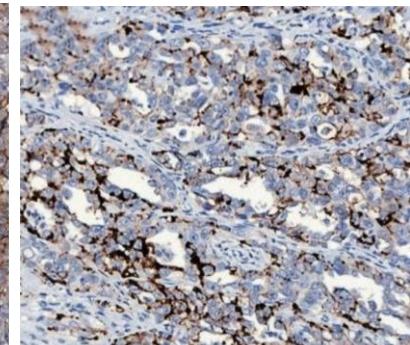
Association between Pretreatment Tumor PD-L1 Expression and Clinical Response

Response Status	PD-L1-Positive	PD-L1-Negative number (percent)	Total
Objective response	9 (36)	0	9 (21)
No objective response	16 (64)	17 (100)	33 (79)
All	25	17	42

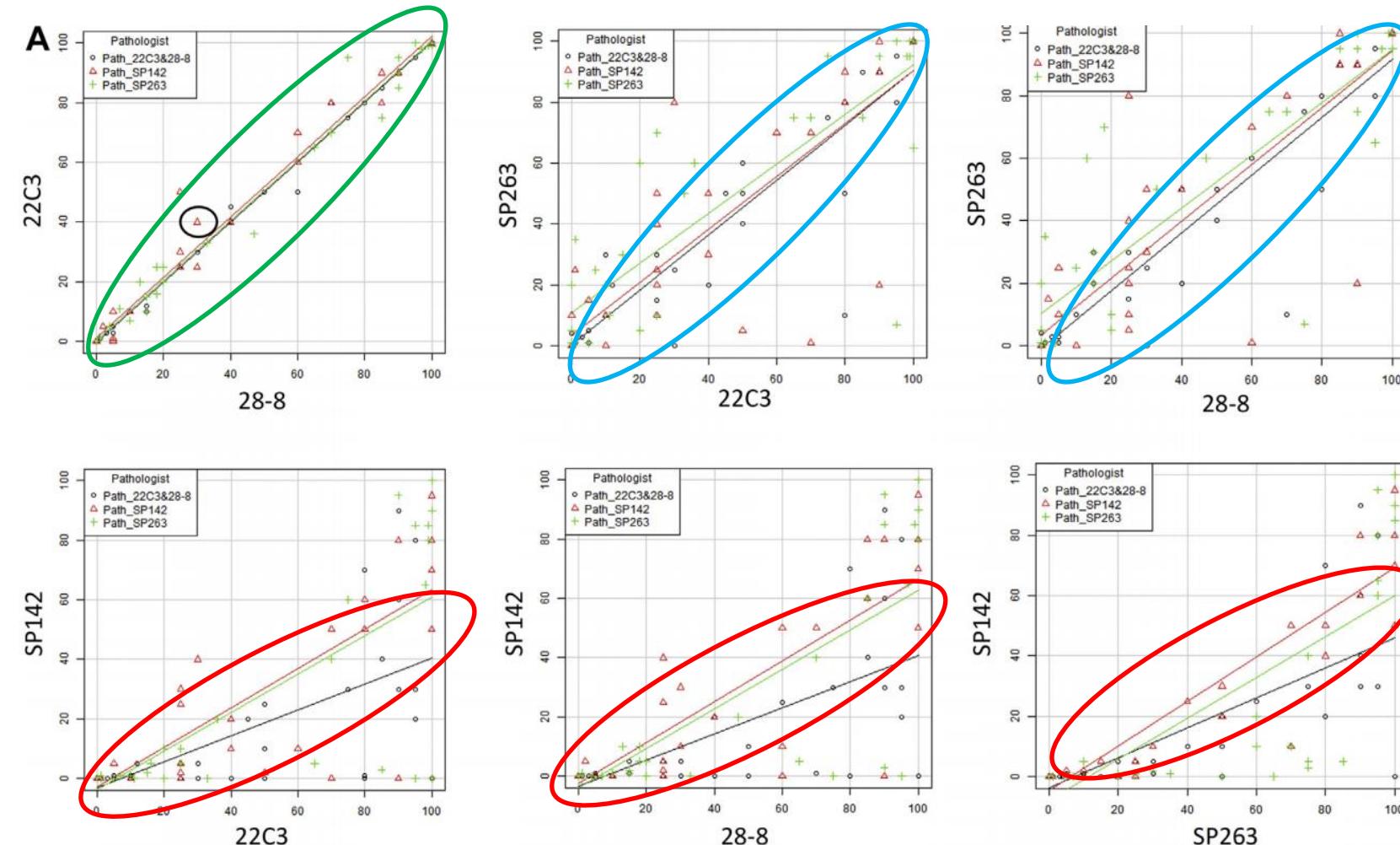
P=0.006 for association by Fisher's exact test



4 drug approvals and 4 PD-L1 tests

	Dako (22C3)	Dako (28-8)	Ventana SP263	Ventana SP 142
Drug	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pembrolizumab	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Nivolumab	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Durvalumab	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Atezolizumab
Staining pattern	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Membranous (TC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Membranous (TC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Membranous (TC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Membranous (TC & IC)
IHC Staining	<ul style="list-style-type: none">≥50% (High)1-49% (Low)<1% (Neg)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">≥1%≥5%≥10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">≥25% High - (Durvalumab)≥10% (Nivolumab)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">TC3/IC3 PD-L1 50% on TC or 10% IC (high)TC 1/2 or IC 1/2 PD-L1 1-50% on TC and 1-10% on IC (low)TC 1/2/3 or IC 1/2/3 PD-L1 ≥1% (positive)TC 0 or IC 0 PD-L1 <1% on TC or IC (negative)
				

Pairwise comparison between assays for PD-L1 expression



22C3, 28-8, and SP263 assays demonstrated a high correlation

All comparisons that include **SP142** show lower correlation between assays

4 drug approvals and 4 PD-L1 tests

Are there differences?



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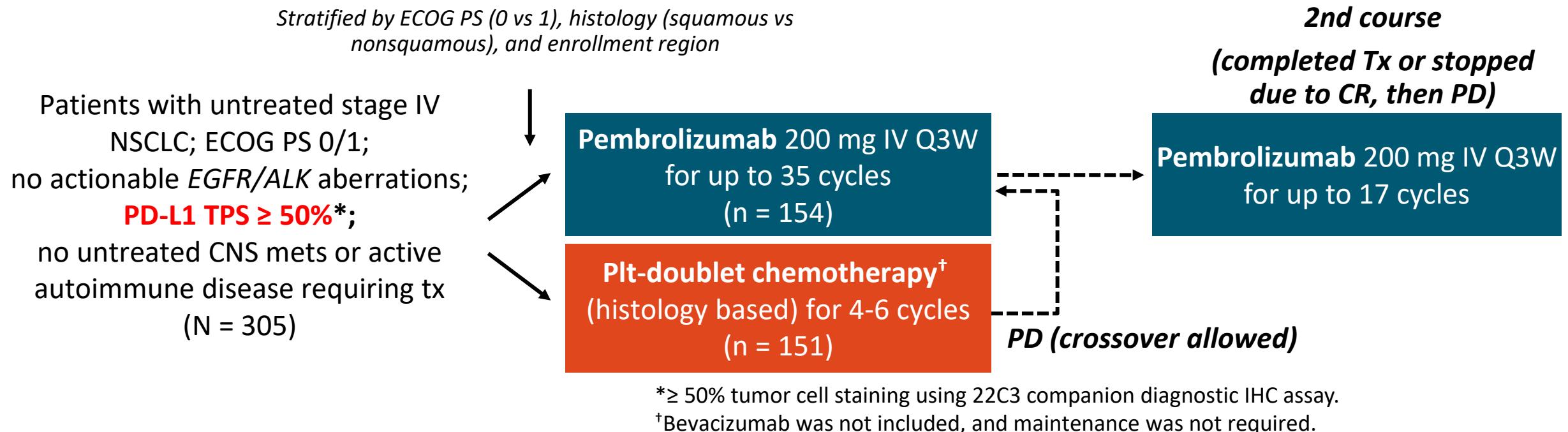
Pembrolizumab



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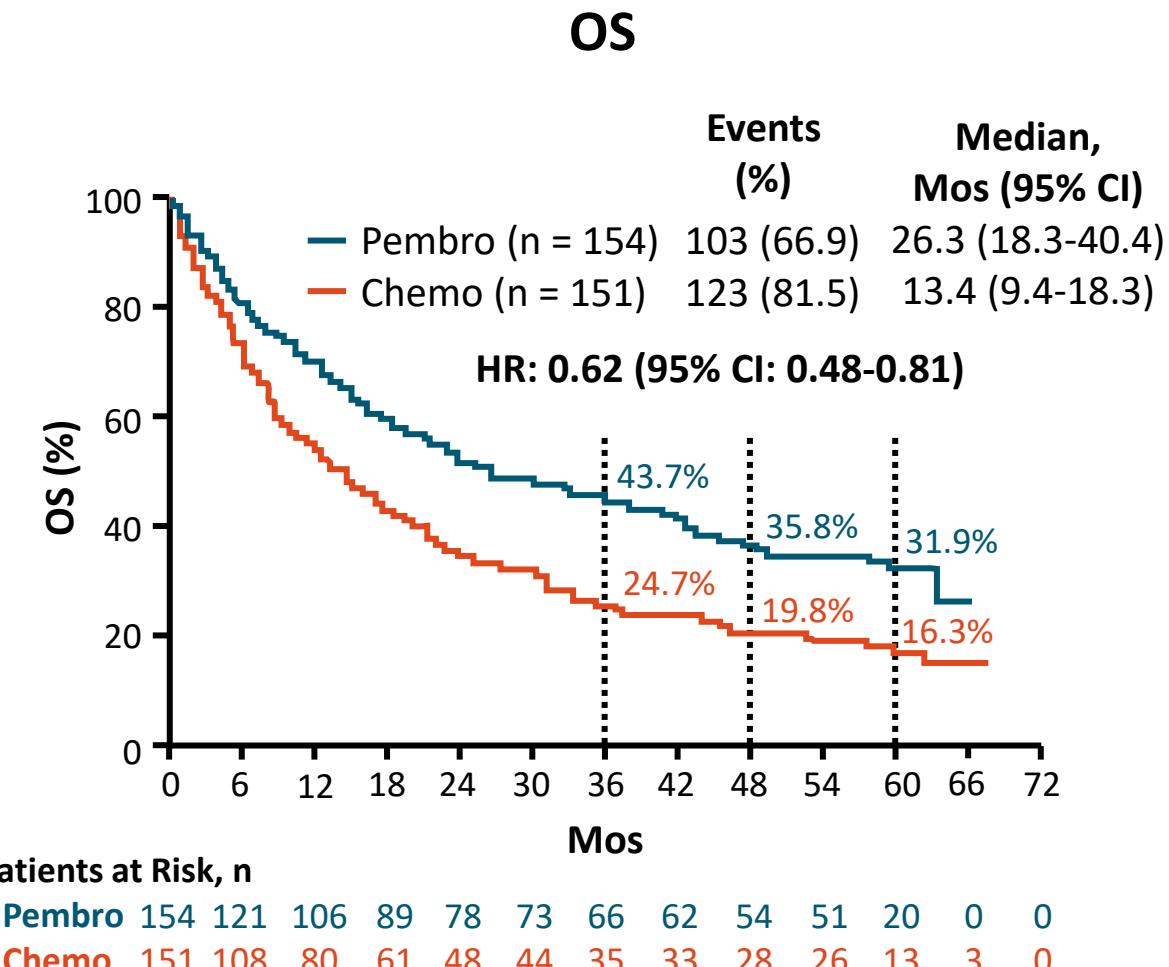
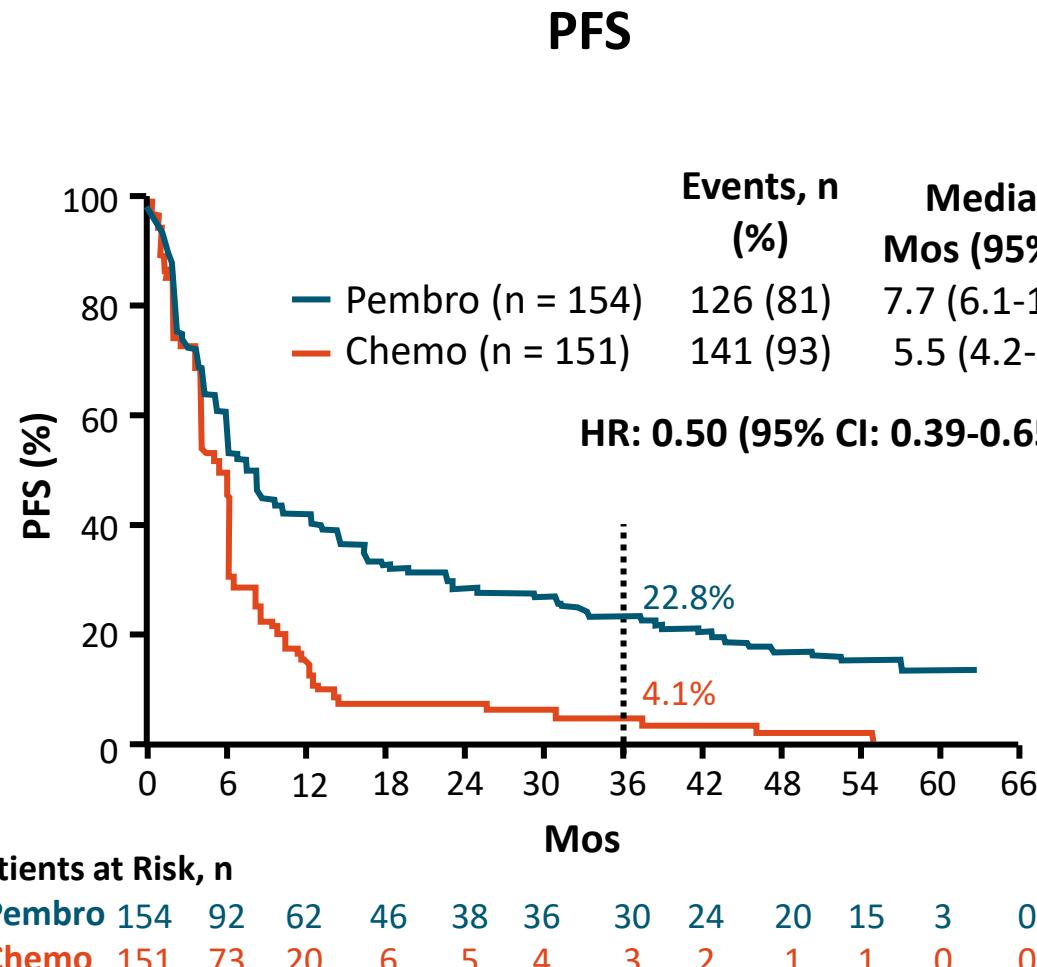
KEYNOTE-024: First-line Pembrolizumab vs Platinum Doublet Chemotherapy for Advanced NSCLC PD-L1>50%

- Open-label, randomized phase III study



- Primary endpoint: PFS by BICR
- Secondary endpoints: ORR, OS, and safety

KEYNOTE-024: Survival With First-line Pembrolizumab vs Platinum Doublet Chemotherapy



Reck. NEJM. 2016;375:1823. Reck. JCO. 2019;37:537.

FDA approval-2016

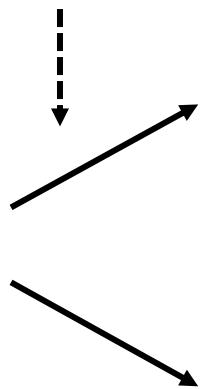


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KEYNOTE-042: Study Design

Stratified by region (East Asia vs rest of world, ECOG PS (0 vs 1), histology (squamous vs nonsquamous), PD-L1 TPS ($\geq 50\%$ vs 1% to 49%))

Patients with untreated, locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC (any histology); PD-L1 TPS $\geq 1\%$; EGFR/ALK neg; ECOG PS 0/1; no untreated/unstable CNS mets; no pneumonitis requiring steroids
(N = 1274)

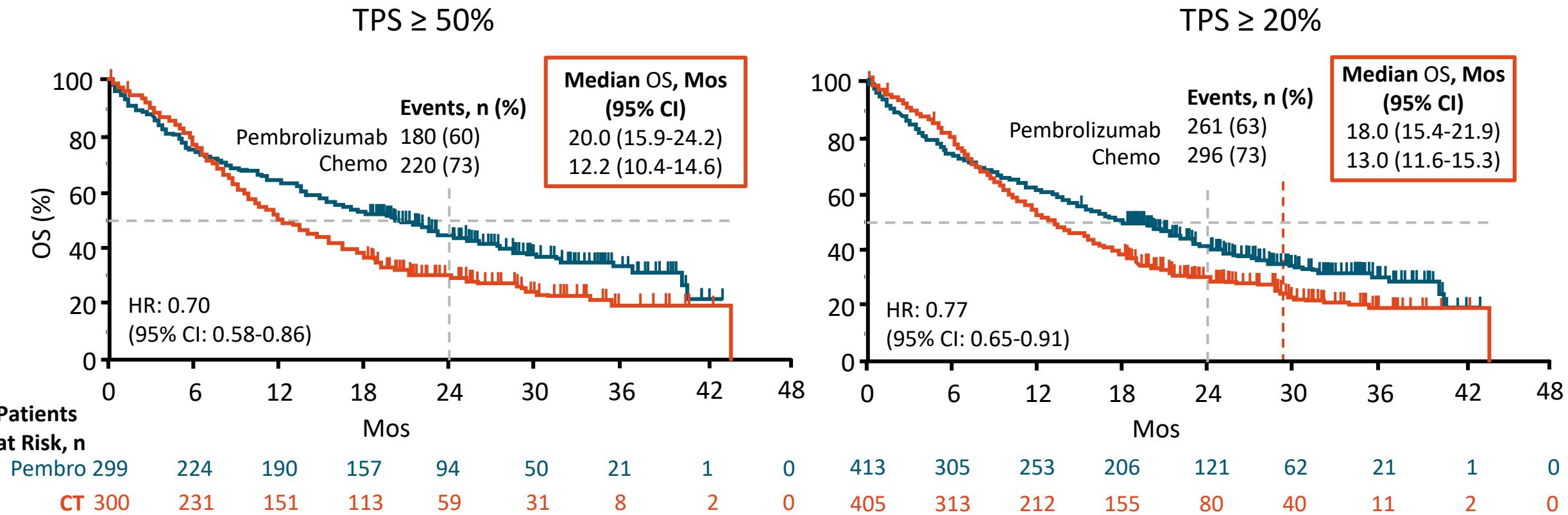


Pembrolizumab 200 mg Q3W up to 35 cycles (n = 637)

Carboplatin AUC 5 or 6 Q3W + Paclitaxel 200 mg/m² Q3W or Carboplatin AUC 5 or 6 Q3W + Pemetrexed 500 mg/m² Q3W up to 6 cycles (n = 637)

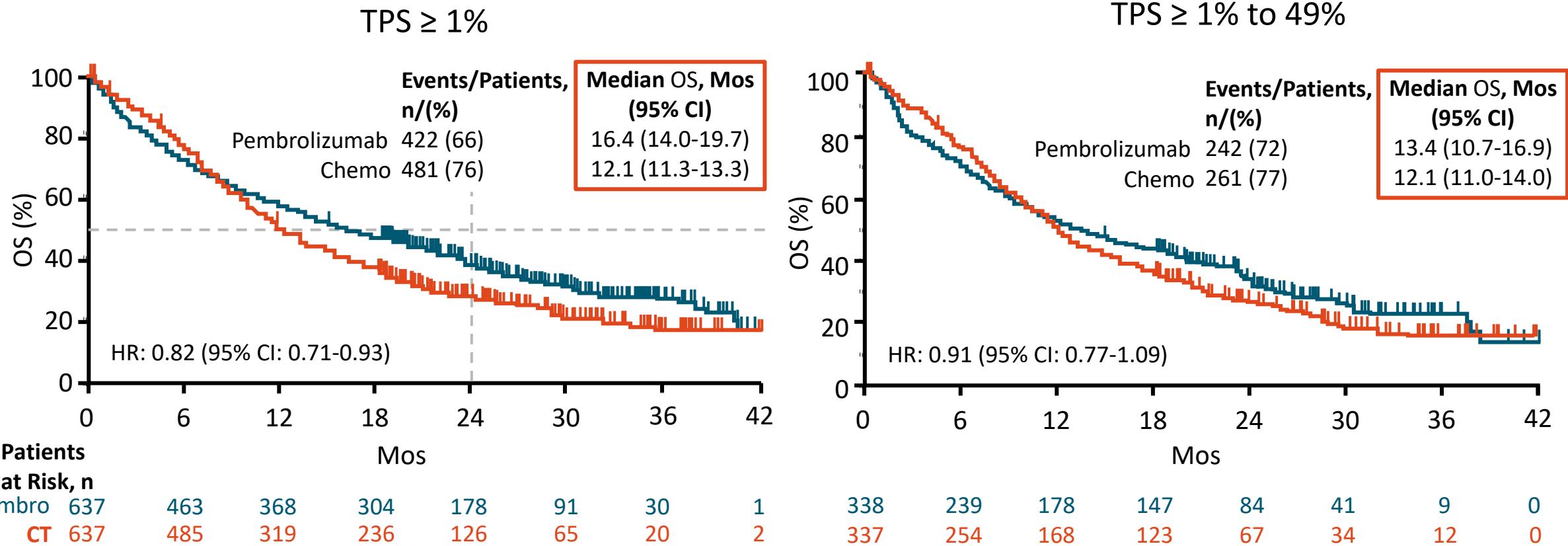
- Primary endpoint: OS in PD-L1 TPS $\geq 50\%$, $\geq 20\%$, and $\geq 1\%$
- Secondary endpoints: PFS and ORR in PD-L1 TPS $\geq 50\%$, $\geq 20\%$, and $\geq 1\%$; safety in $\geq 1\%$
- Current analysis planned for ~ 45 mos after study start

KEYNOTE-042: OS in TPS \geq 50% and TPS \geq 20% Patient Subgroups



KEYNOTE-042: OS in TPS \geq 1% and TPS \geq 1% to 49%

Patient Subgroups

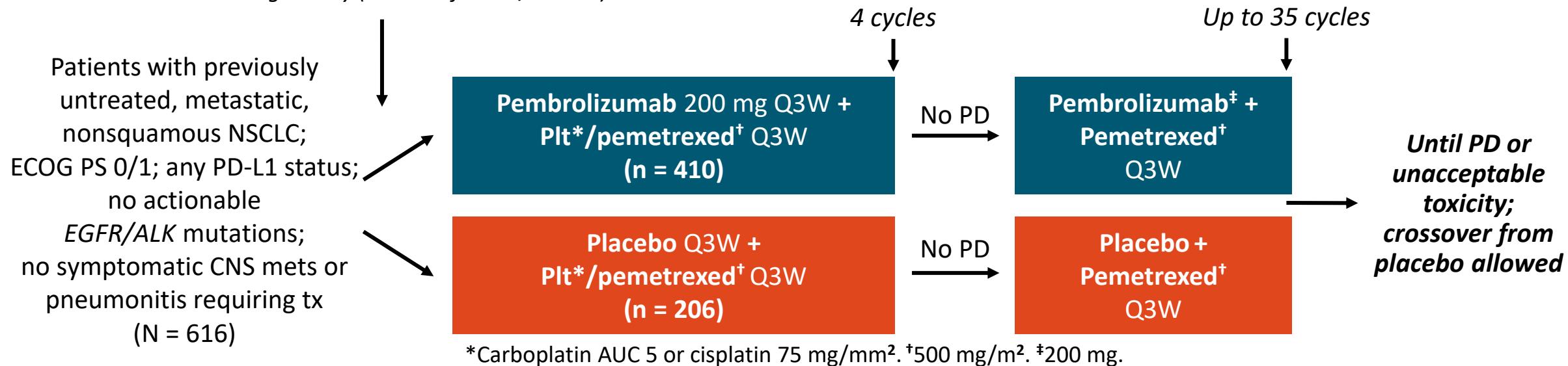


The benefit of pembrolizumab in the whole population was driven by patients with PD-L1 >50%

KEYNOTE-189: First-line Carboplatin/Pemetrexed ± Pembrolizumab in Stage IV Nonsquamous NSCLC

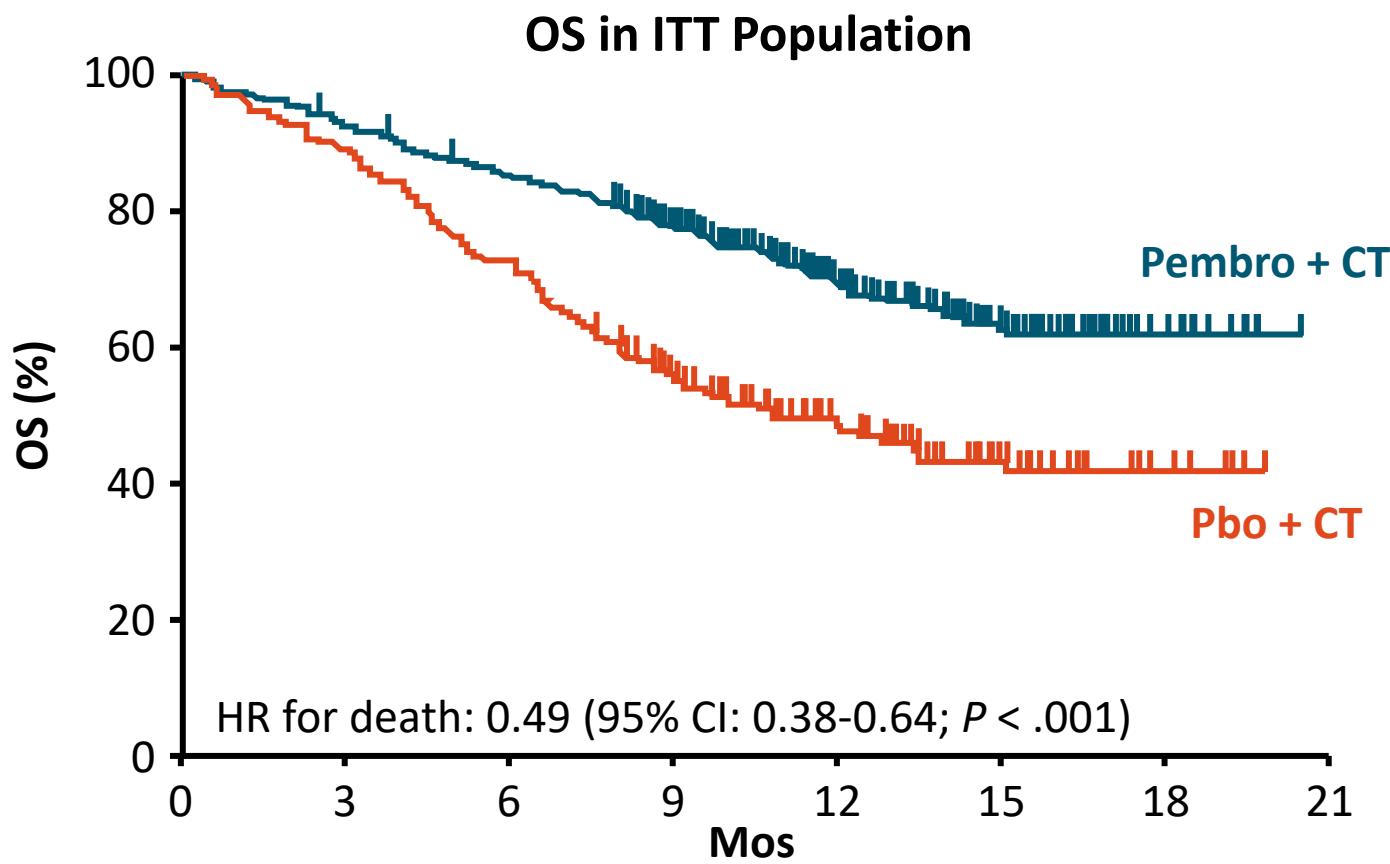
- Randomized, double-blind, international phase III study

Stratified by PD-L1 TPS ($\geq 1\%$ vs $< 1\%$), platinum agent (carboplatin vs cisplatin), smoking history (never vs former/current)



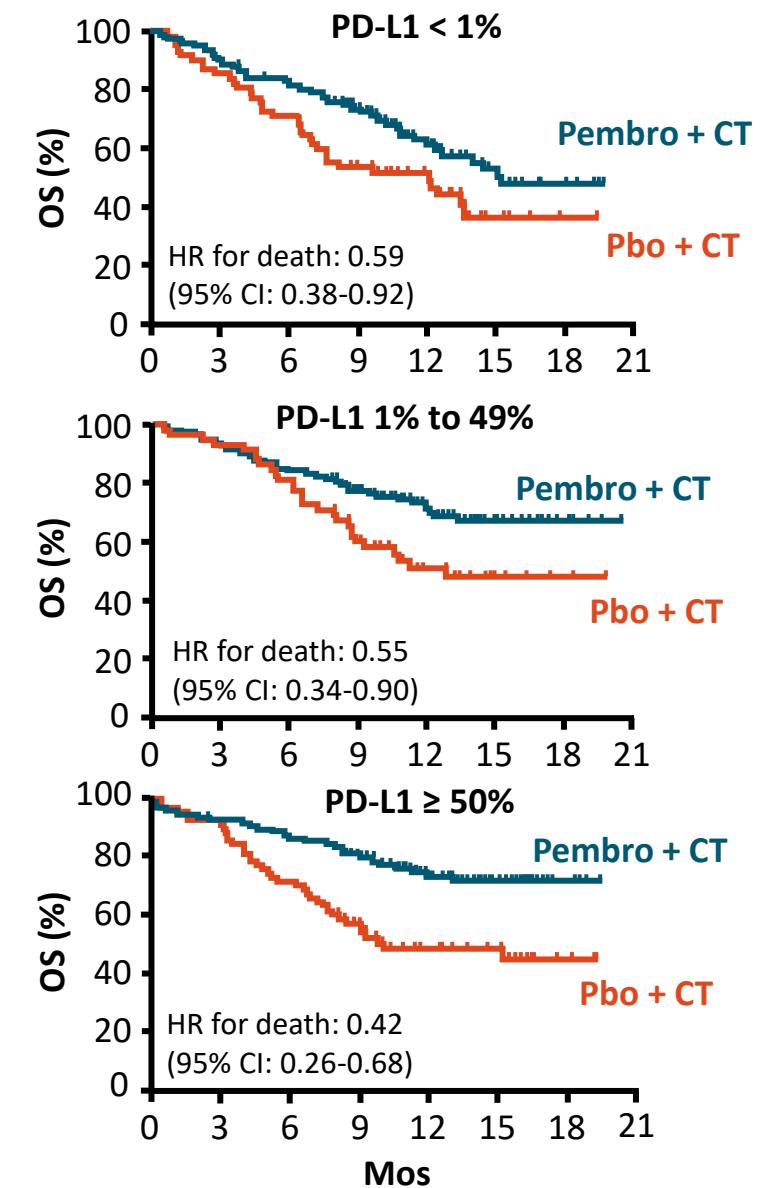
- Primary endpoints: OS, PFS by BICR
- Secondary endpoints: ORR, DoR, safety

KEYNOTE-189: OS



FDA approval-2018

Gandhi. NEJM. 2018;378:2078.

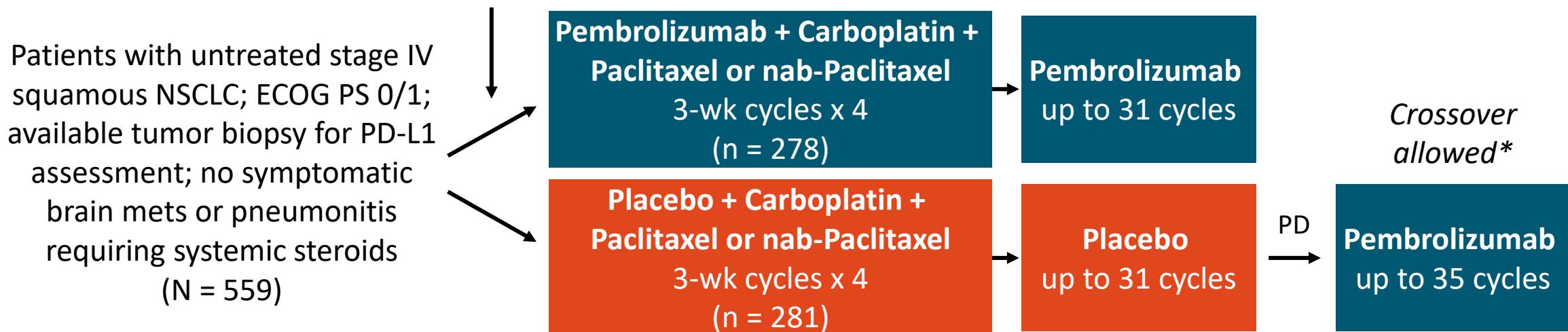


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KEYNOTE-407: Carboplatin + Paclitaxel/nab-Paclitaxel ± Pembrolizumab in Advanced Squamous NSCLC

- Randomized, double-blind phase III trial

Stratified by PD-L1 TPS (< 1% vs ≥ 1%), taxane (paclitaxel vs nab-paclitaxel), region (east Asia vs other)

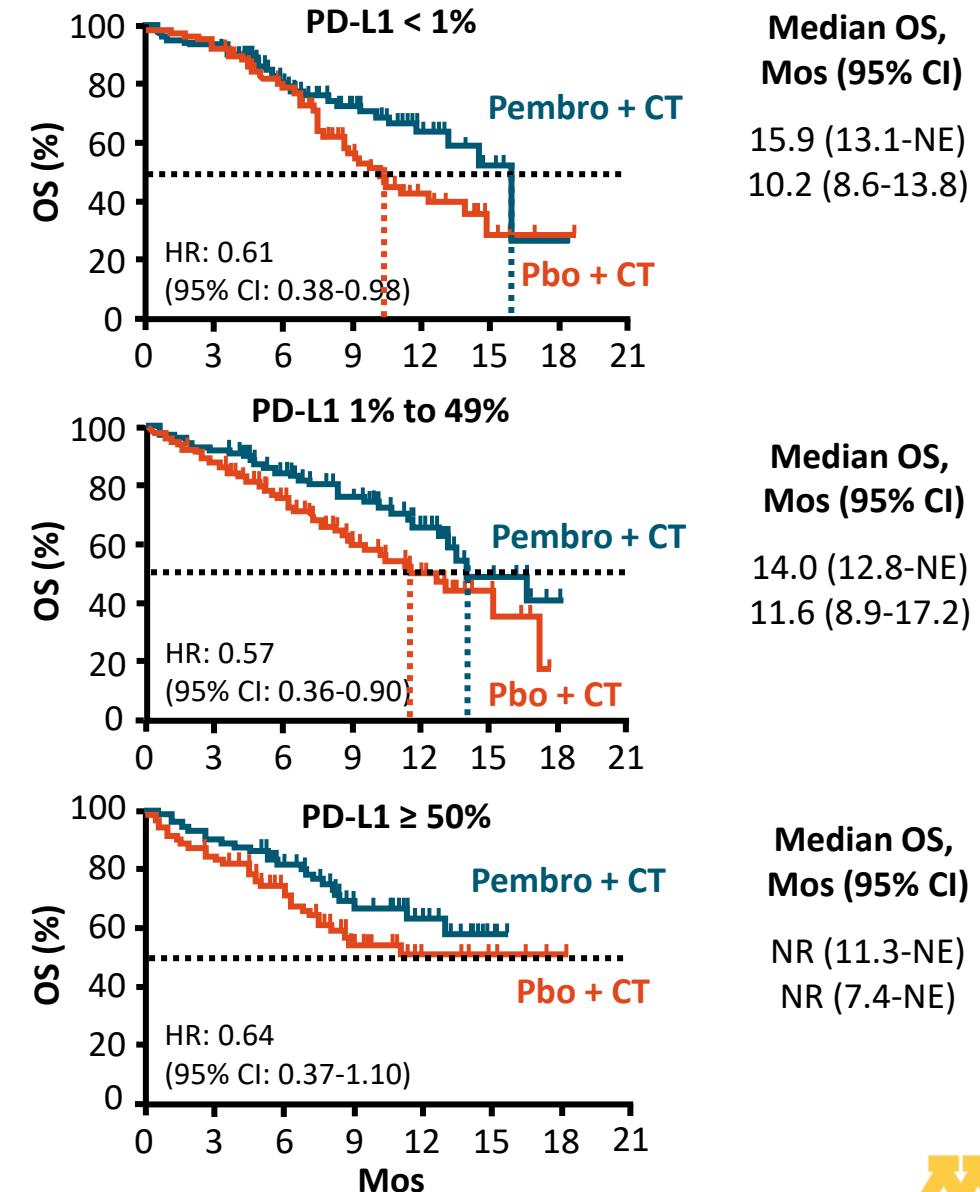
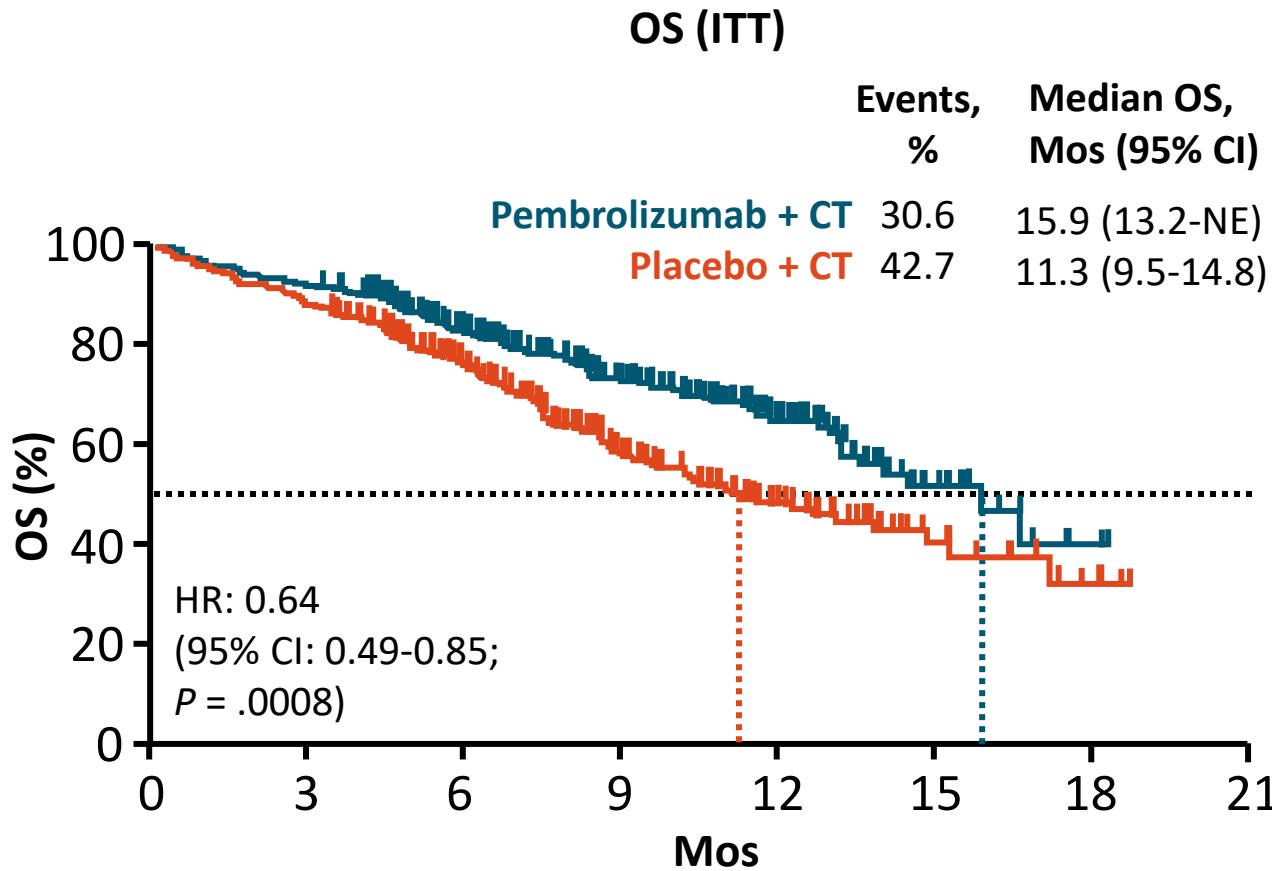


Carboplatin AUC 6 Q3W; nab-paclitaxel 100 mg/m² QW or paclitaxel 200 mg/m² Q3W; pembrolizumab 200 mg Q3W.

*Upon confirmation of PD and safety criteria by BICR, optional crossover could occur during combination or monotherapy.

- Primary endpoint: PFS by RECIST v1.1 (BICR), OS
- Secondary endpoints: ORR and DoR by RECIST v1.1 (BICR), safety

KEYNOTE 407: OS



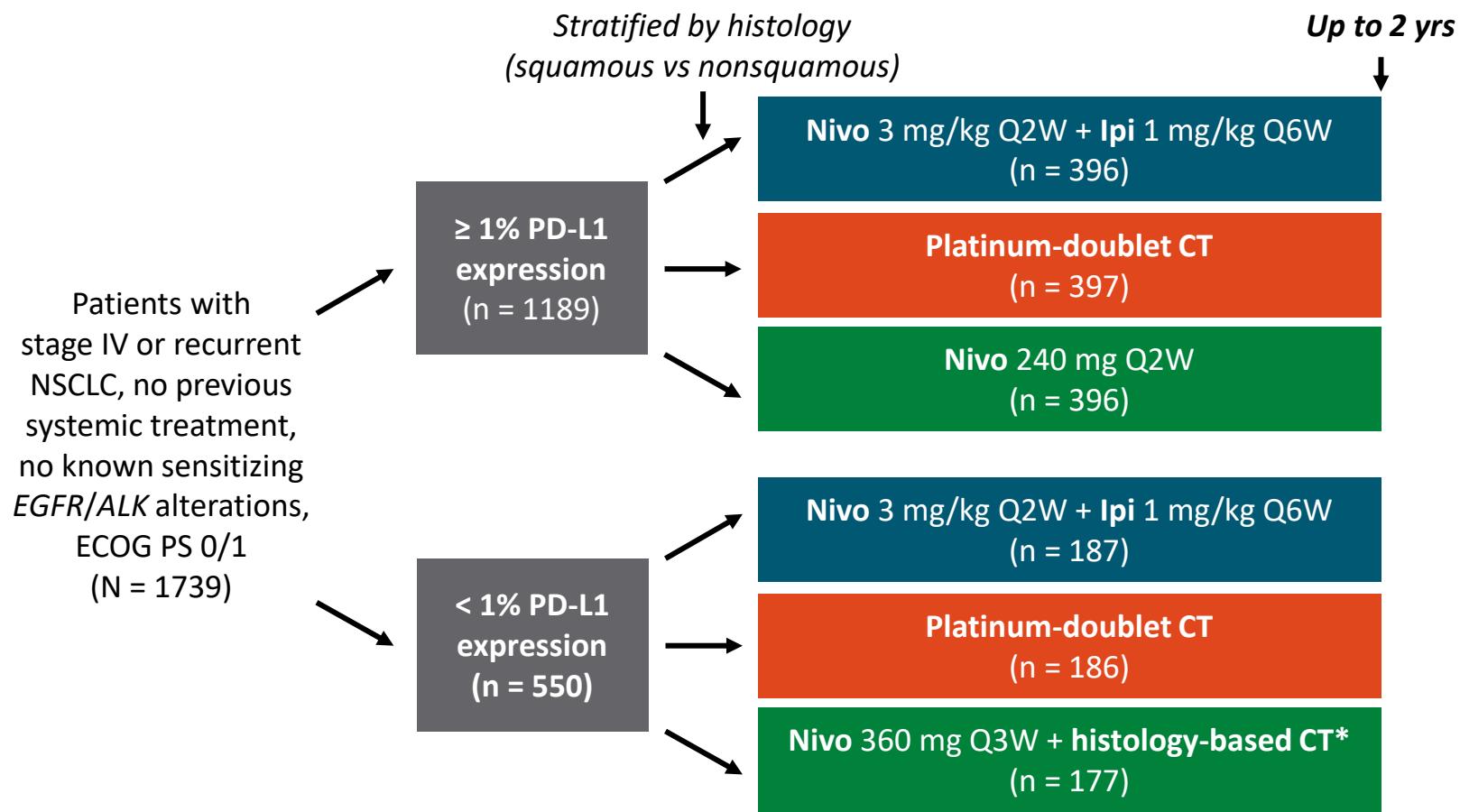
Nivolumab and ipilimumab



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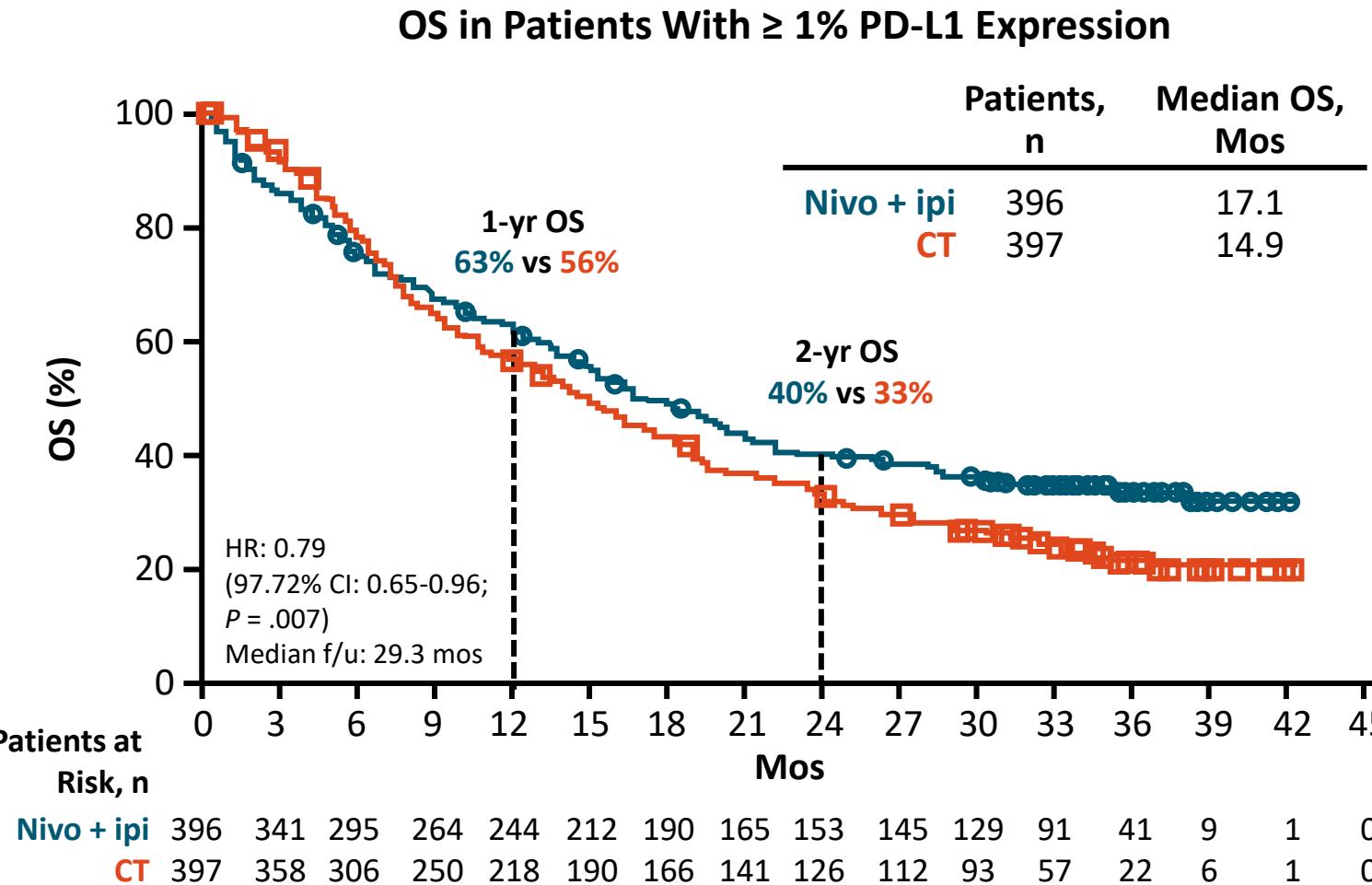
CheckMate 227: First-line Nivolumab + Low-Dose Ipilimumab for Advanced NSCLC

- Randomized, open-label, multipart phase III trial



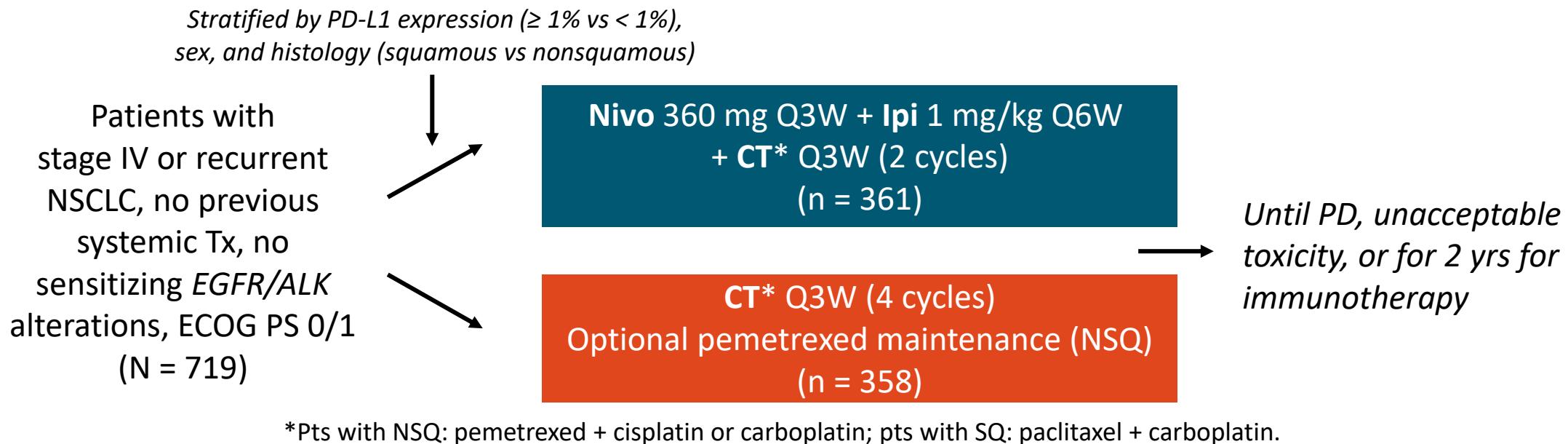
- **Coprimary endpoints for nivolumab + ipilimumab vs CT:**
 - OS in patients with $\geq 1\%$ PD-L1 expression
 - PFS in high TMB population
- Secondary endpoints: PFS and OS for nivolumab + CT vs CT in patients with PD-L1 $< 1\%$; OS for nivolumab vs CT in patients with PD-L1 $\geq 50\%$

CheckMate 227: OS by Biomarker Status



CheckMate 9LA: Study Design

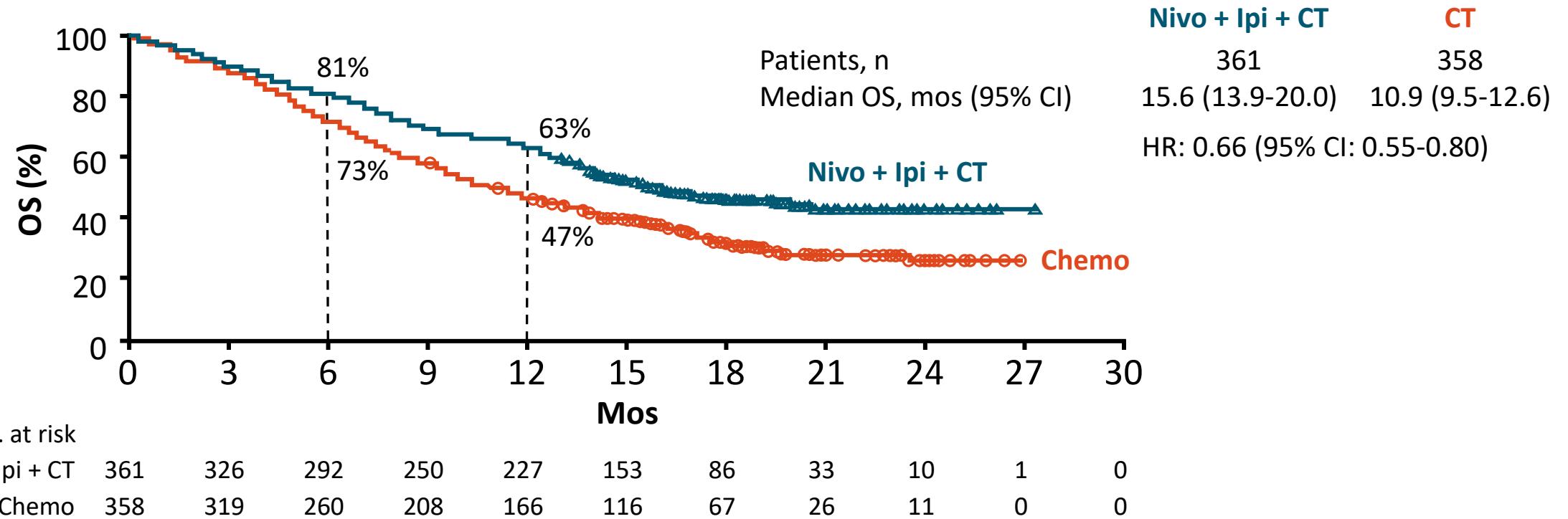
- Randomized, open-label, phase III study



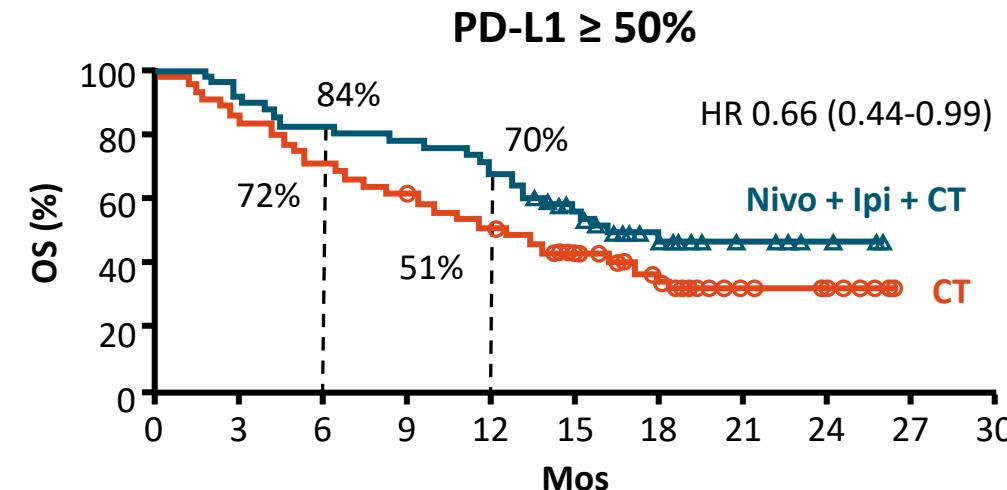
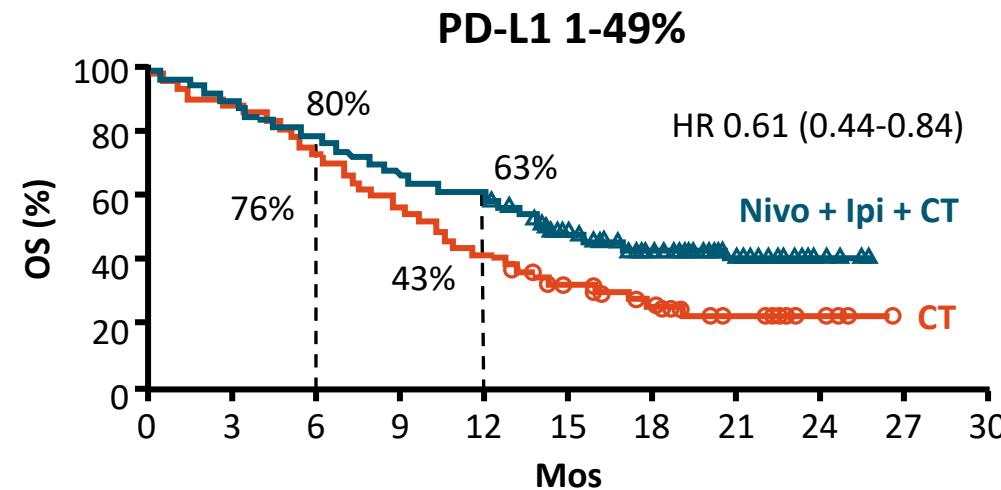
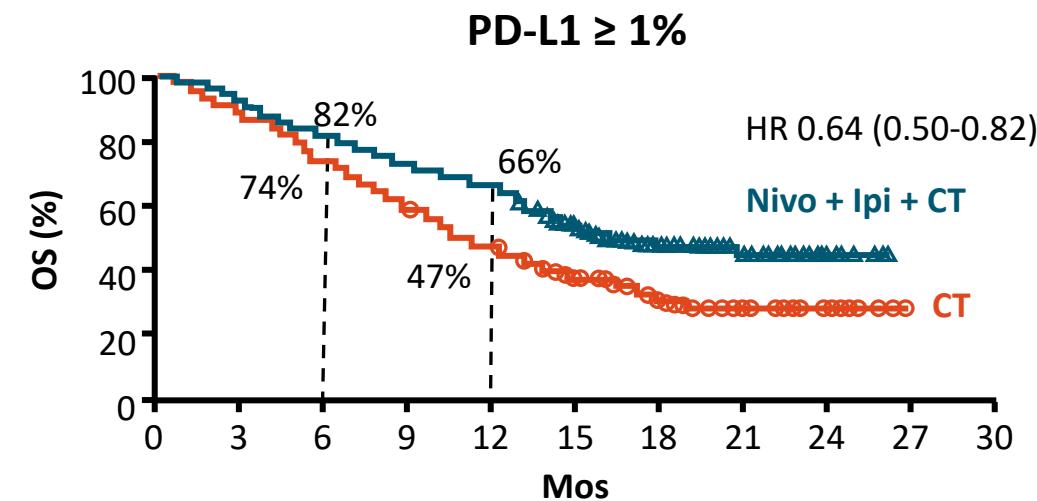
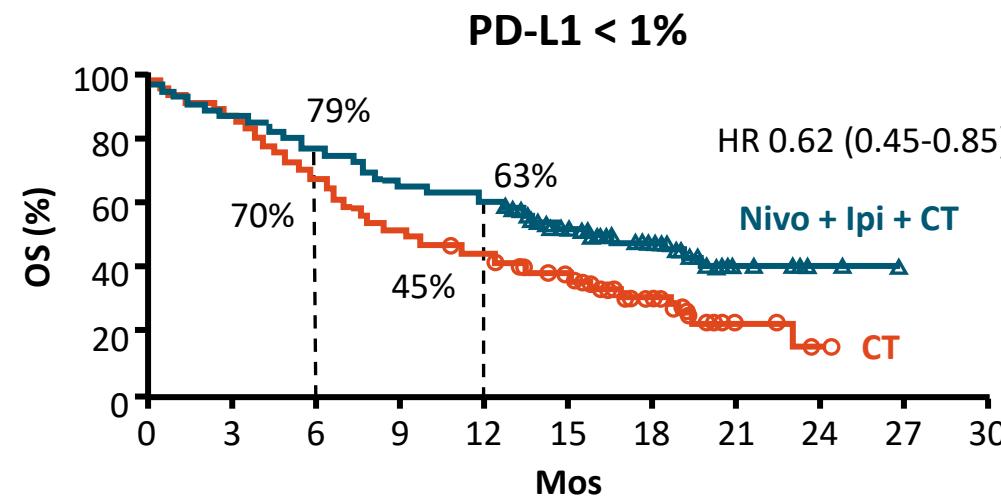
- Primary endpoint: OS
- Secondary endpoints: PFS, ORR, efficacy by tumor PD-L1 expression

CheckMate 9LA: Interim and Updated OS Results

- Interim analysis (minimum FU 8.1 mos) median OS, Nivo + Ipi + CT vs CT: 14.1 vs 10.7 mos; HR: 0.69 (95% CI: 0.55-0.87); $P = .0006$; met primary endpoint
- Updated results (minimum FU 12.7 mos)



CheckMate 9LA: OS By PD-L1 Expression



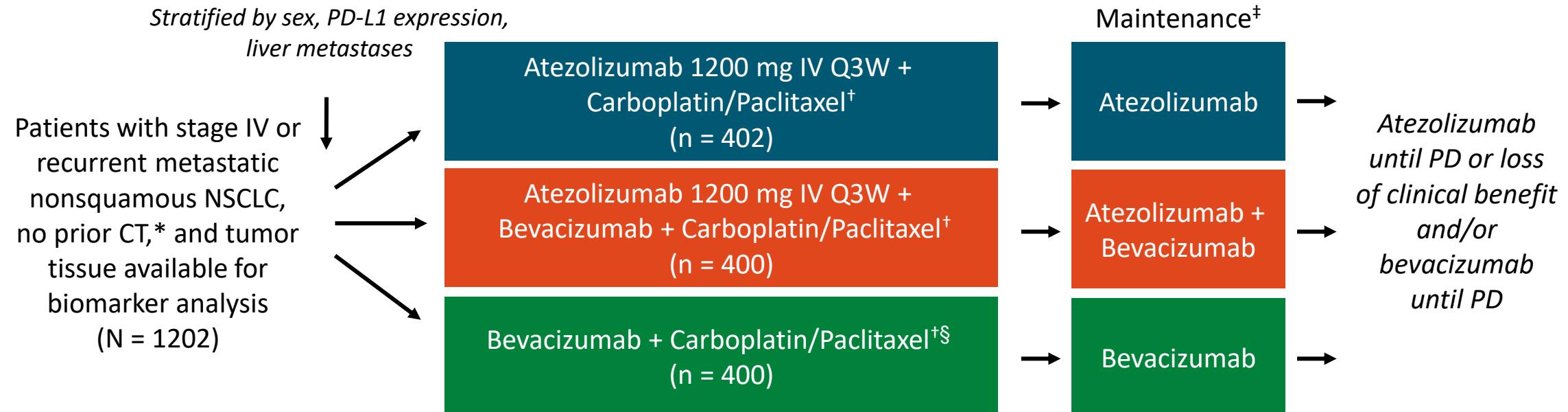
Atezolizumab



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IMpower150

- IMpower150: Multicenter, open-label, randomized phase III trial

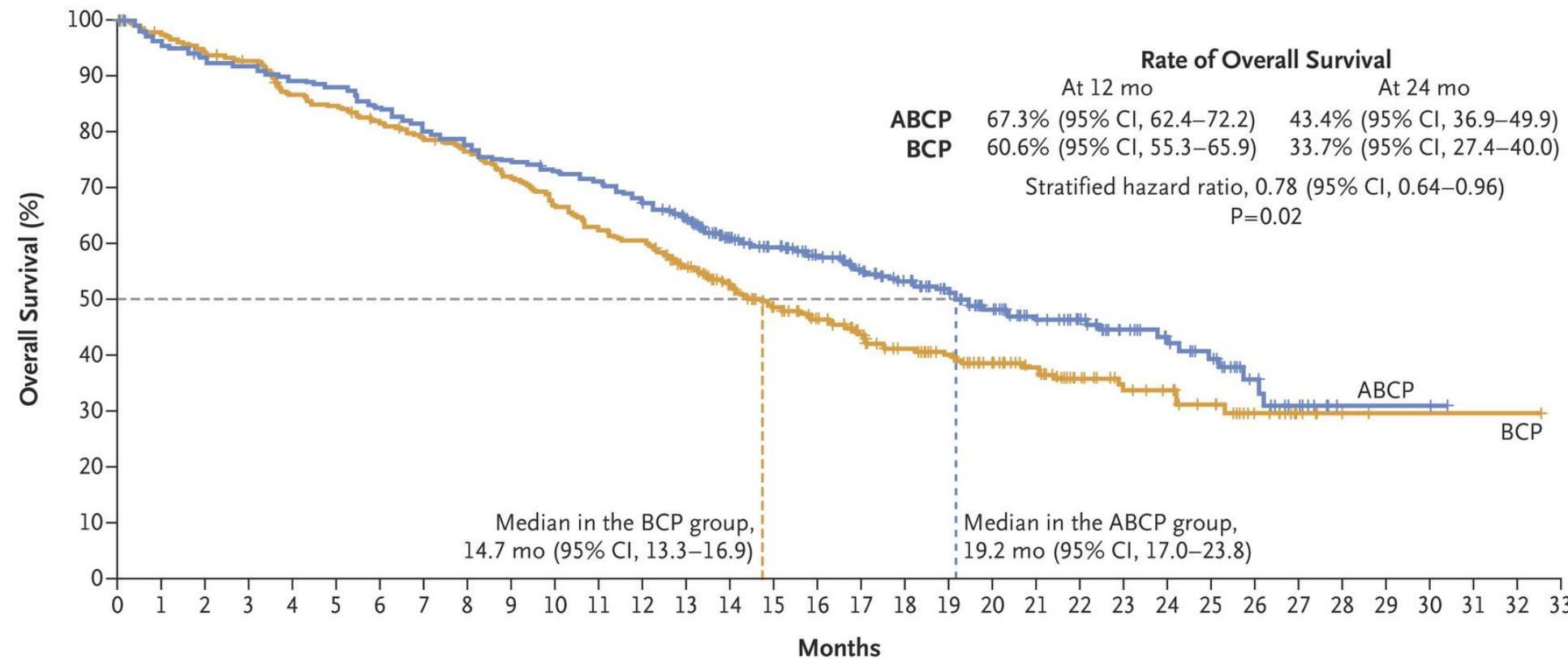


*If sensitizing EGFR mutation or ALK translocation present, must have PD on or intolerance to ≥ 1 approved targeted therapy. [†]Bevacizumab 15 mg/kg; carboplatin AUC 6; paclitaxel 200 mg/m²; all given IV Q3W for 4 or 6 cycles. [‡]No crossover permitted. [§]Control arm.

- Coprimary endpoints: investigator-assessed PFS in ITT WT, Teff-high WT; OS in ITT WT

- Secondary endpoints: investigator-assessed PFS, OS in ITT; investigator-assessed PFS in PD-L1 subgroups; IRF-assessed PFS; ORR, DoR per RECIST v1.1; safety in ITT

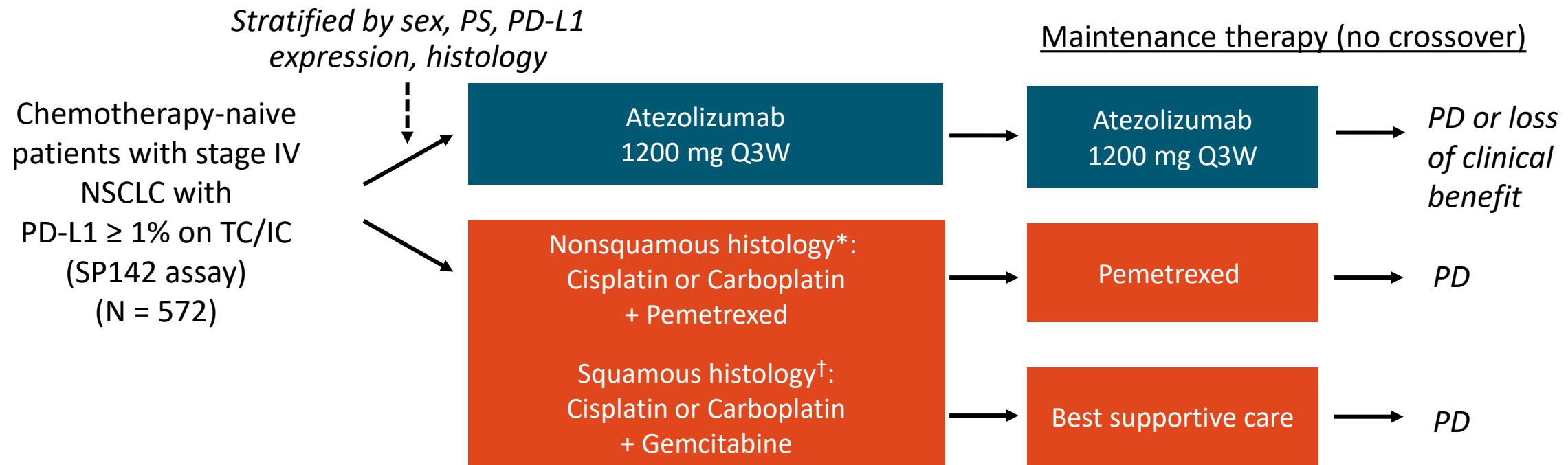
IMpower150



No. at Risk

ABCP	359	339	328	323	314	310	296	284	273	264	256	250	235	218	188	167	147	133	119	103	84	66	57	41	34	28	16	9	2	2	2	
BCP	337	326	315	308	287	280	268	255	247	233	216	203	196	174	152	129	115	101	87	77	66	56	40	32	29	22	13	6	3	1	1	1

Atezolizumab in Chemotherapy-Naive Metastatic NSCLC (IMpower110): Phase III Study Design

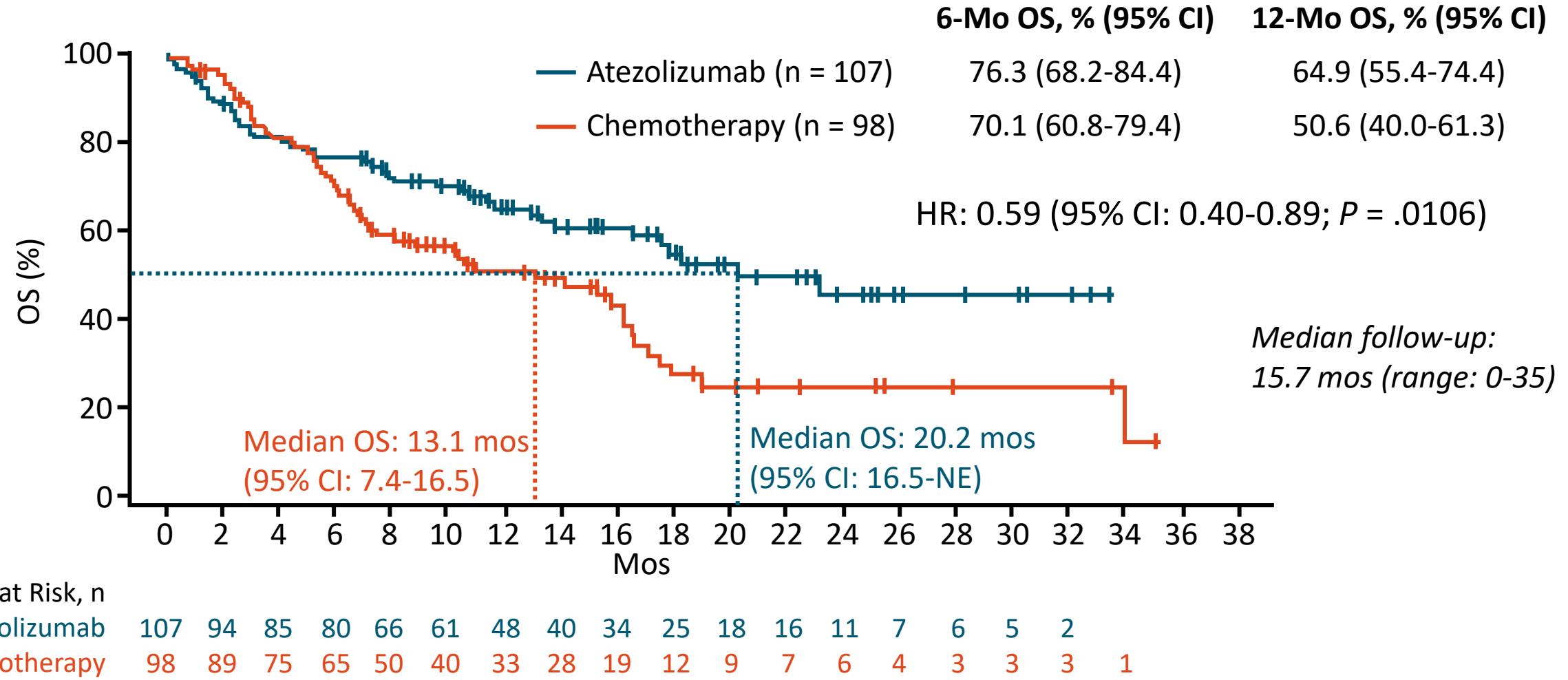


*Cisplatin 75 mg/m² or carboplatin AUC 6 + pemetrexed 500 mg/m² IV Q3W for 4 or 6 cycles.

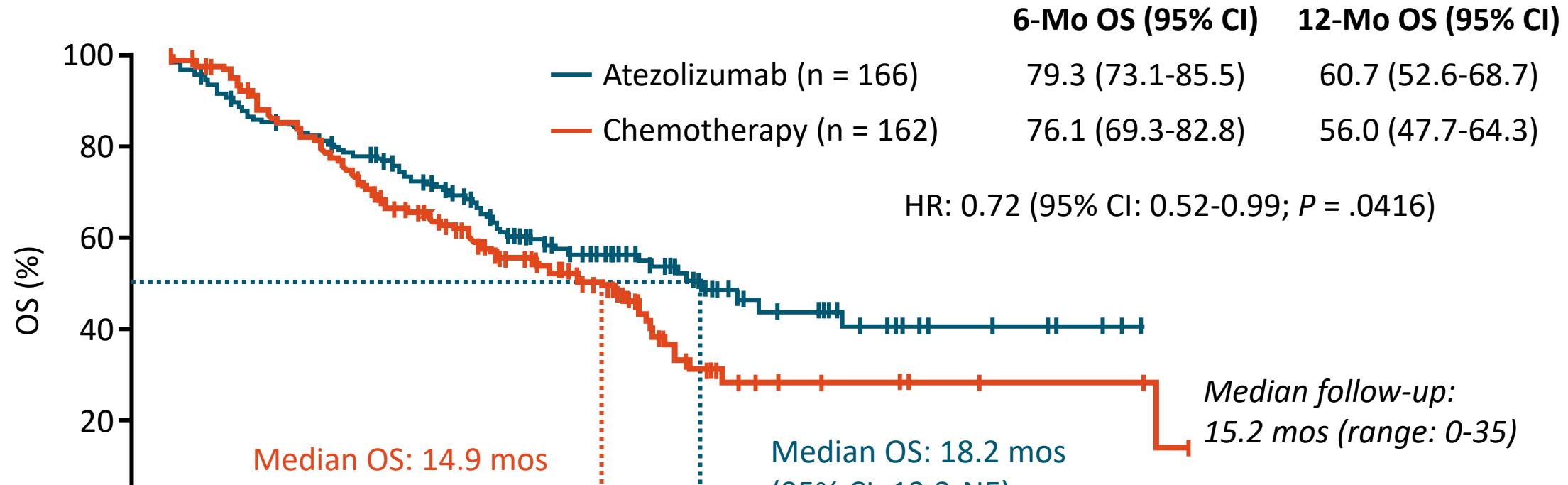
†Cisplatin 75mg/m² + gemcitabine 1250 mg/m² IV Q3W or carboplatin AUC5 + gemcitabine 1000 mg/m² IV Q3W for 4 or 6 cycles.

- Primary endpoint: OS in WT population (excluding patients with EGFR+ and/or ALK+ NSCLC)
- Secondary endpoints: investigator-assessed PFS, ORR and DoR (per RECIST v1.1)

IMpower110: OS for TC3 or IC3 WT Patients



IMpower110: OS for TC2/3 or IC2/3 WT Patients



Patients at Risk, n

Atezolizumab	166	151	139	128	108	92	66	54	42	30	19	17	11	7	6	5	2
Chemotherapy	162	150	131	117	95	75	57	46	32	17	9	7	6	4	3	3	1

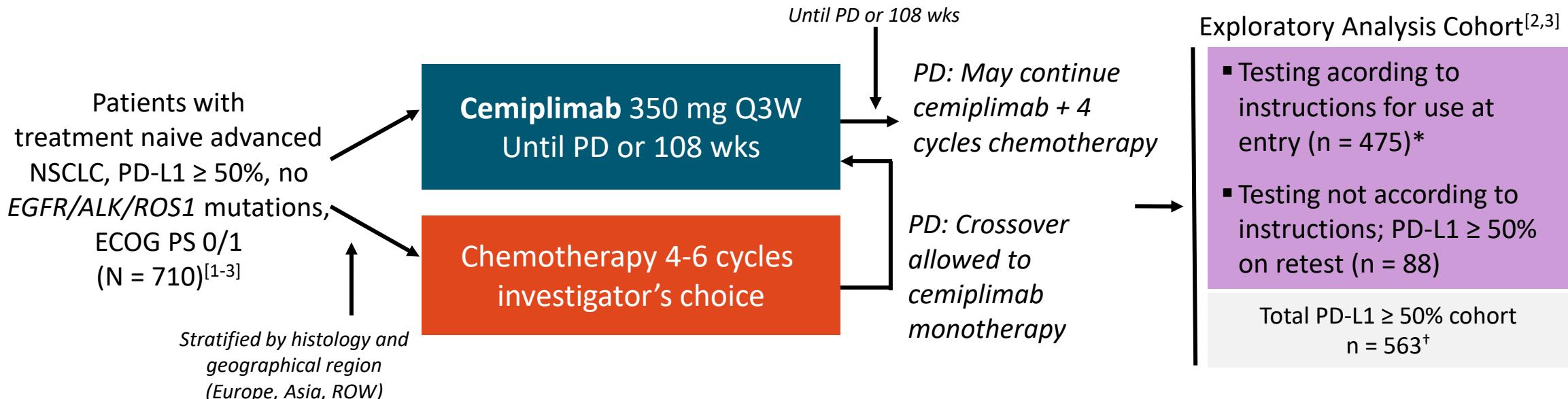
Cemiplimab



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EMPOWER-Lung 1: Exploratory Analysis of Outcomes by PD-L1 Expression

- In phase III EMPOWER-Lung 1 trial, first-line cemiplimab monotherapy showed superior median OS and PFS, higher ORR and longer DoR vs standard chemotherapy in advanced NSCLC patients with PD-L1 $\geq 50\%$ ^[1]
 - Exploratory analysis examined clinical outcomes by PD-L1 expression level in prespecified PD-L1 $\geq 50\%$ cohort^[2,3]



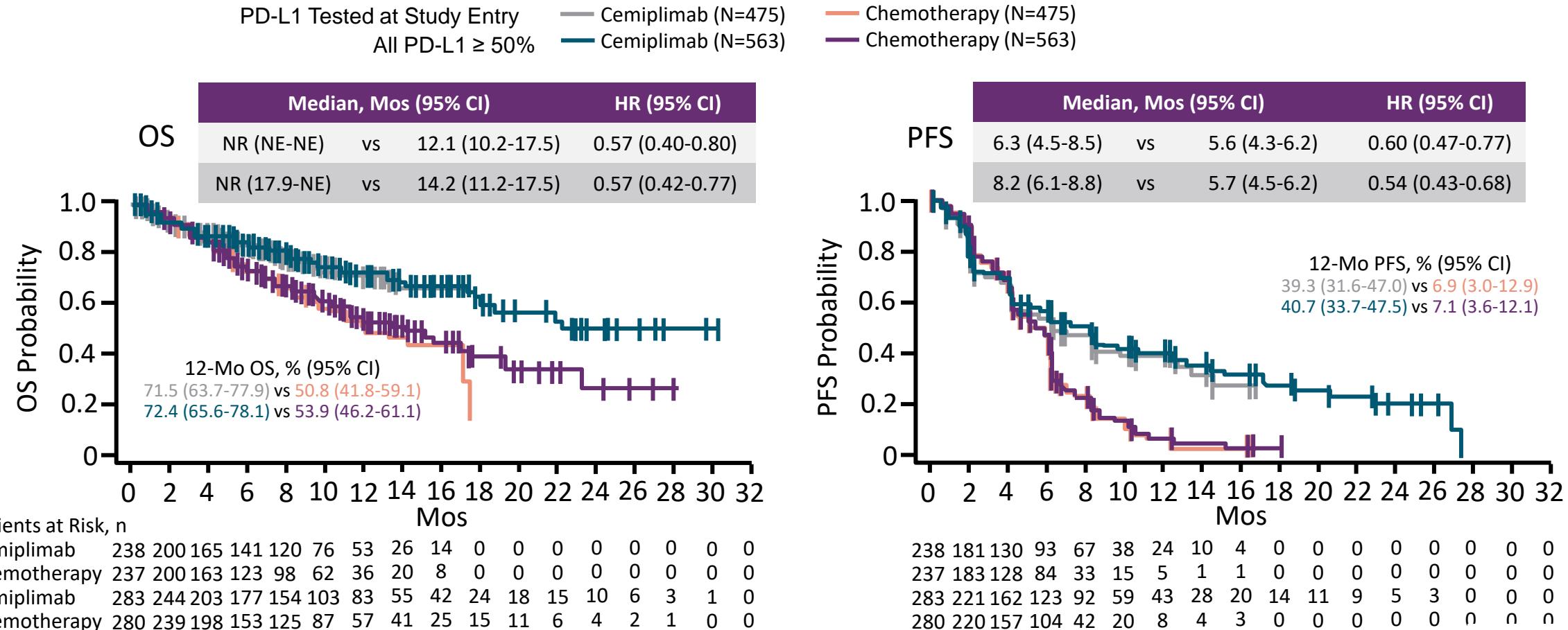
- Primary endpoints: OS and PFS^[1-3]
- Secondary endpoints: ORR, DoR, HRQoL, and safety^[1-3]

*Enrolled after August 2018 and not subject to PD-L1 retesting because initial test performed according to the assay's instructions for use.

[†]Prespecified cohort consisting of patients with testing according to instructions and patients with PD-L1 $\geq 50\%$ on retest.

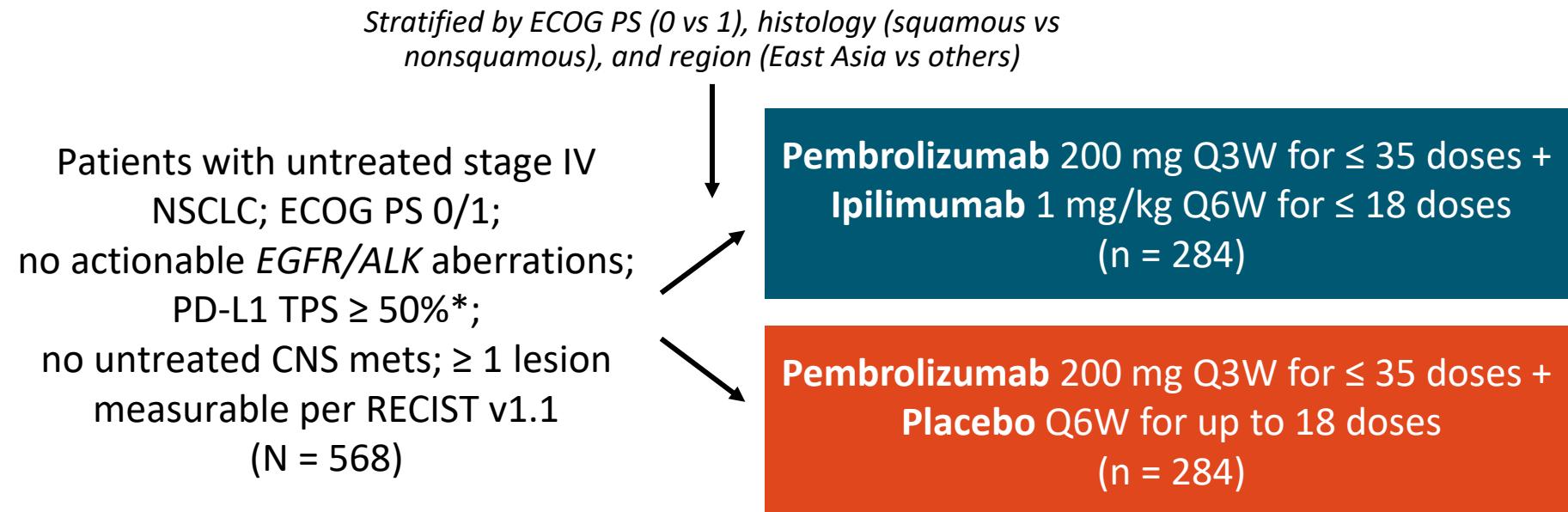
EMPOWER-Lung 1 in PD-L1 \geq 50% NSCLC: Efficacy

- Cemiplimab monotherapy: superior median OS/PFS vs chemotherapy in PD-L1 \geq 50% subpopulation



KEYNOTE-598: First-line Pembrolizumab ± Ipilimumab for Metastatic NSCLC With PD-L1 TPS \geq 50%

- Double-blind, randomized phase III study



*Assessed centrally using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay.

- **Primary endpoints:** OS and PFS per RECIST v1.1 by BICR
- **Key secondary endpoints:** ORR and DoR per RECIST v1.1 by BICR, safety

KEYNOTE-598: OS and PFS

Outcome	Pembrolizumab + Ipilimumab (n = 284)	Pembrolizumab + Placebo (n = 284)	HR (95% CI)
Median OS, mos	21.4	21.9	
▪ 12-mo rate, %	63.6	67.9	1.08 (0.85-1.37; <i>P</i> = .74)
▪ Patients with event, %	48.2	47.5	
▪ RMST at 24 mos, mos	16.09	16.61	
▪ RMST at maximum time, mos	18.76	19.32	
Median PFS, mos	8.2	8.4	
▪ 12-mo rate, %	41.3	42.1	1.06 (0.86-1.30; <i>P</i> = .72)
▪ Patients with event, %	66.2	64.8	

No benefit of adding ipilimumab to pembrolizumab in PD-L1 >50%

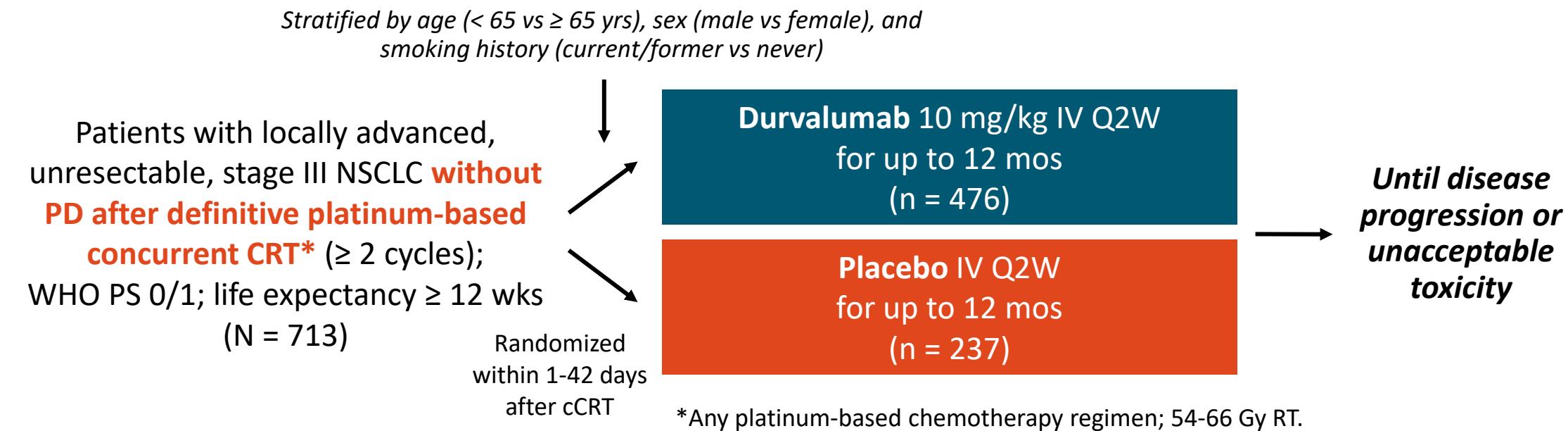
Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors in Stage III NSCLC



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PACIFIC: Consolidation Durvalumab After Concurrent CRT for Locally Advanced, Unresectable, Stage III NSCLC

- Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III trial

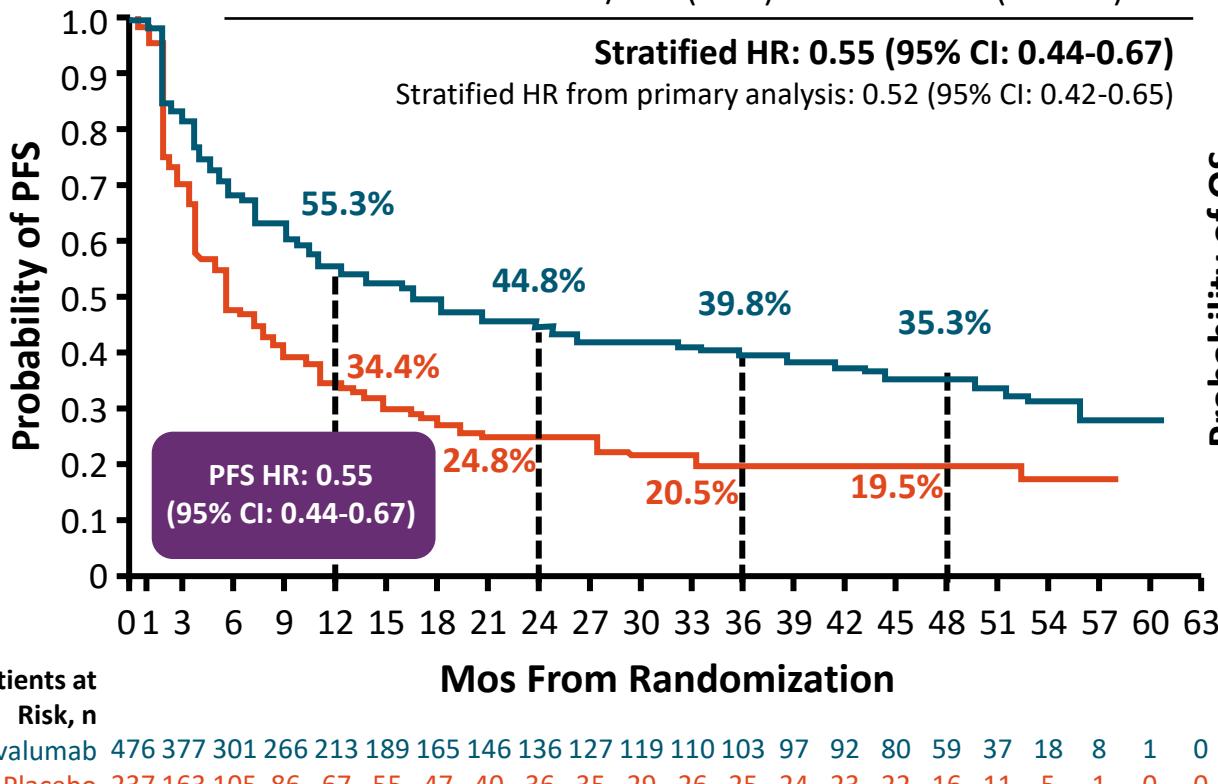


- Primary endpoints: PFS by BICR per RECIST v1.1, OS
- Secondary endpoints including ORR, DoR, TTDM, PFS2, safety/tolerability, PROs

PACIFIC: PFS and OS with Durvalumab at 4 Yrs

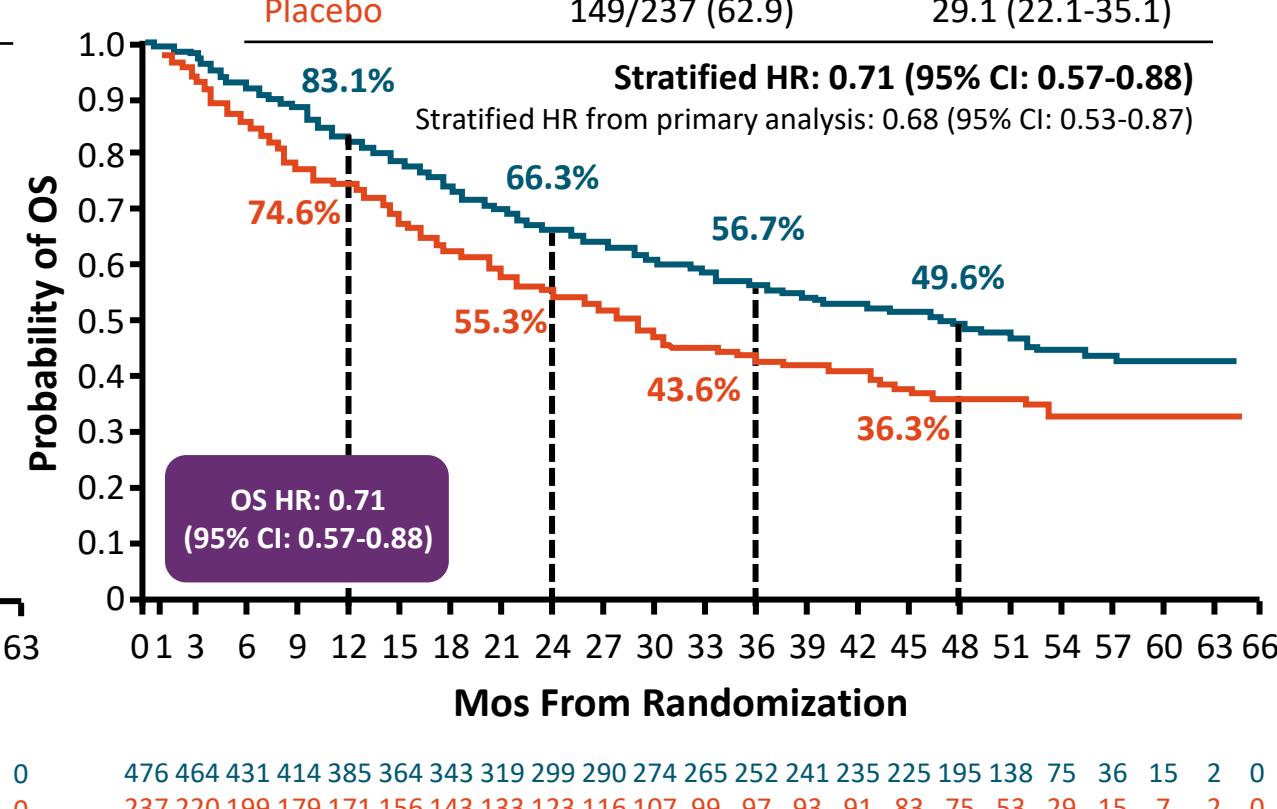
Updated PFS (BICR; ITT)

	No. of Events/Total No. of Patients (%)	Median PFS, Mos (95% CI)
Durvalumab	266/476 (55.9)	17.2 (12.3-23.8)
Placebo	174/237 (73.4)	5.6 (4.6-7.7)



Updated OS (ITT)

	No. of Events/Total No. of Patients (%)	Median OS, Mos (95% CI)
Durvalumab	247/476 (51.9)	47.5 (38.4-52.6)
Placebo	149/237 (62.9)	29.1 (22.1-35.1)



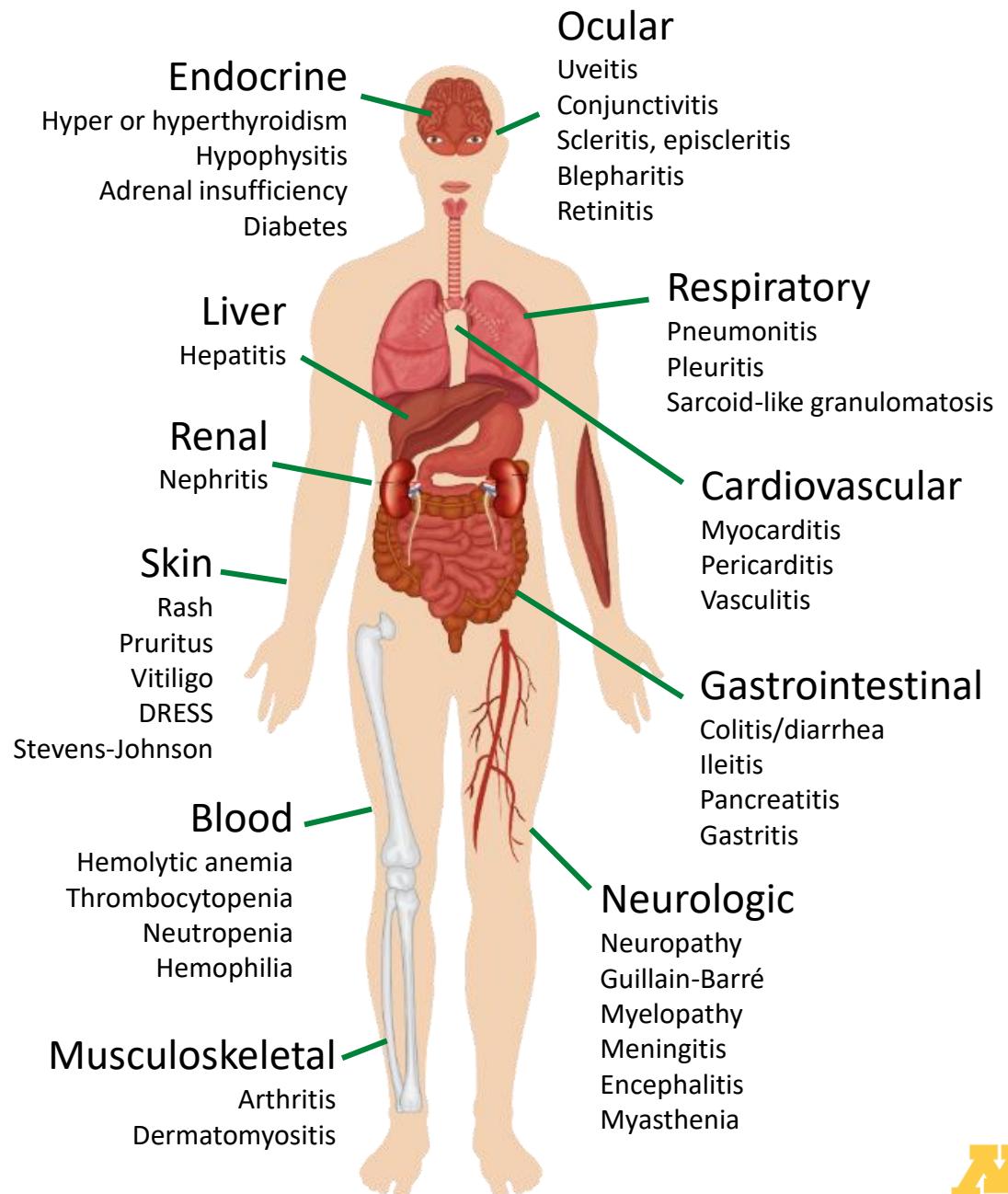
Immune related adverse events (irAE)



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Immune-Related AEs Throughout the Body

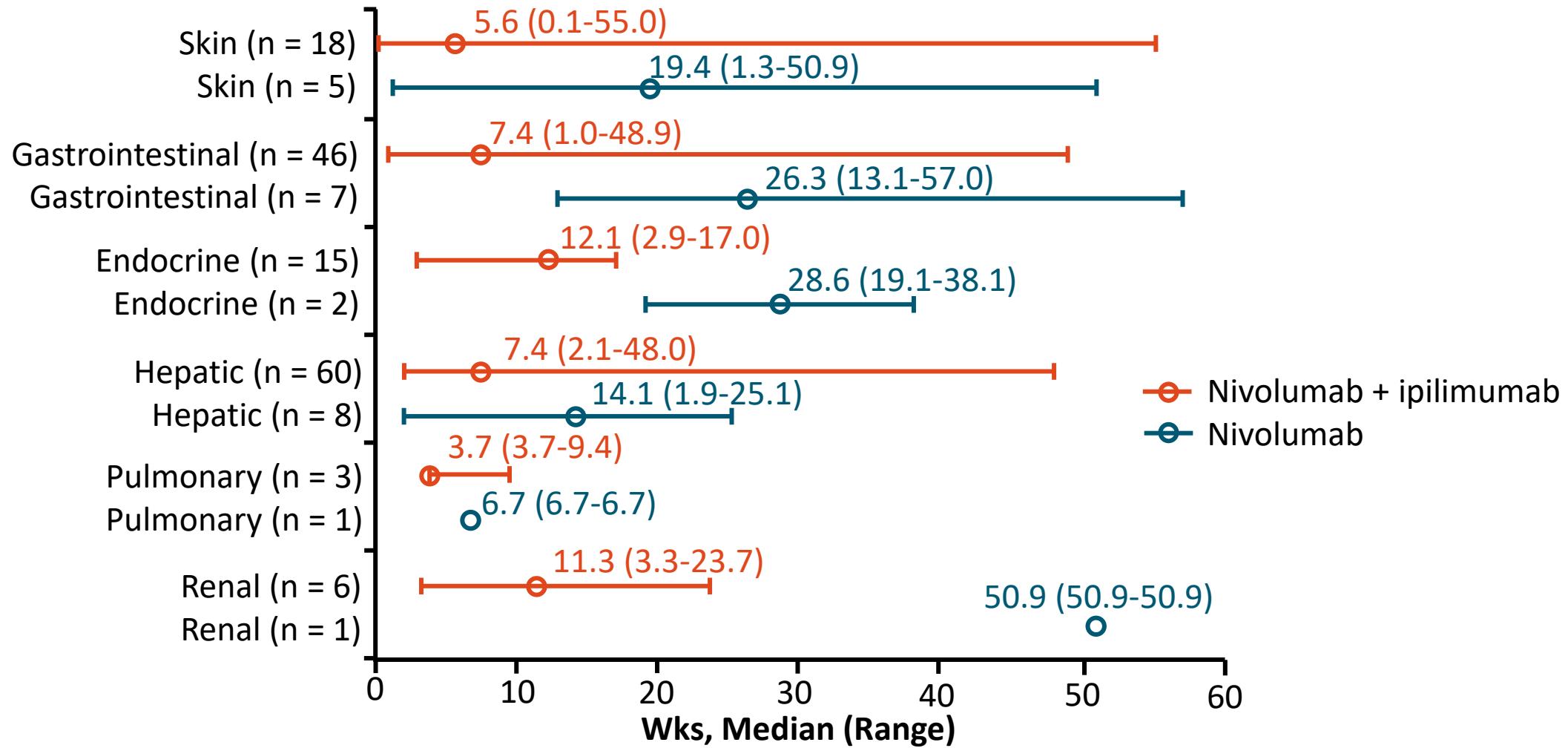
- There are unique AEs associated with immune checkpoint inhibitor therapy
- These represent a new spectrum of AEs that differ in important ways from those associated with chemotherapy and targeted agents
 - Immune-related AEs occur through an imbalance of tolerance and drug-induced immunity (auto-immunity)



ICI Treatment and irAEs: Basic Issues

- Most but not all irAEs occur during the first 12 wks of therapy (ie, during induction therapy)
- Early recognition and treatment is the key
- Steroids can be used to manage almost all irAEs
- Prolonged steroid tapers are usually required
- irAEs can wax and wane, particularly colitis or hepatitis
- Late irAEs can occur: even months after drug is stopped

Onset of Grade 3/4 Immune-Related AEs With Nivolumab + Ipilimumab vs Nivolumab



General Management of irAEs Associated With Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

Grade	Steroids	Treatment	Persistent/Recurring
1	▪ Treat symptomatically; no systemic steroids	▪ Can continue	
2	▪ Steroids for selected irAEs and for recurrent irAEs	▪ Continue ▪ Hold for selected irAEs	▪ Systemic steroids ▪ Consider withholding; discontinue if ≥ 12 wks
3	▪ Systemic steroids, prolonged tapers	▪ Withhold or discontinue*	▪ Systemic steroids and discontinue
4	▪ High-grade systemic steroids, prolonged tapers	▪ Discontinue (unless endocrine irAE)	▪ Add other immune suppressants

*Discontinue for grade 3 irAEs renal toxicity, pneumonitis, and infusion reactions; question for grade 3 hepatotoxicity.

Selected AEs: colitis, pneumonitis, liver/renal toxicity, hypophysitis, neurologic

Systemic steroids (PO or IV): 1-2 mg/kg/day prednisone or equivalent

- Slow taper over ≥ 4 wks recommended
- Several courses may be necessary if symptoms worsen when dose decreased

Immunotherapy in challenging populations

These patients are usually excluded from clinical trials

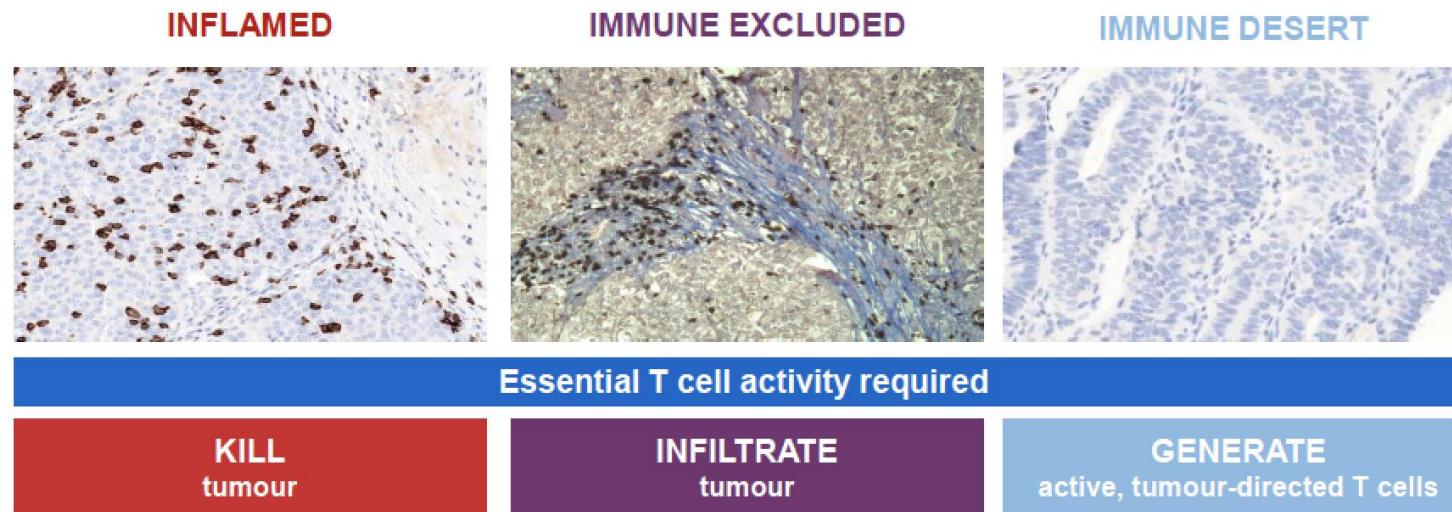
- Patients with oncogenic driver mutations (some data in EGFR/ALK+, IMPOWER 150)
- Patients with active auto-immune disorders
- Patients on chronic immunosuppressives (organ transplant patients)
- Poor performance status (ECOG PS 3, 4)
- Pregnancy (Category D)



What if immunotherapy does not work?

- Response rates can vary from 30% to 60%
- 75-80% of patients will ultimately progress
- How to stimulate/reinvigorate immune response?

Each immune phenotype requires a personalized immunotherapy approach
to initiate/re-initiate the antitumor immune response



Adapted from Chen and Mellman. Immunity 2013; Hegde, et al. Clin Cancer Res 2016; Kim and Chen. Ann Oncol 2016; Chen, Herbst et al Nature 2014, and Mellman. Nature 2017



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Summary

- Immunotherapy is the backbone of treatment in patients with advanced NSCLC with no oncogenic driver mutations
- PD-L1 \geq 50%- Single agent immunotherapy is appropriate
- PD-L1 1-49% or <1%- addition of chemotherapy has best outcomes
- Immune related side-effects are common, early recognition is the key
- Ongoing studies to integrate immunotherapy in localized NSCLC
- Resistance mechanisms to immunotherapy is an active area of research



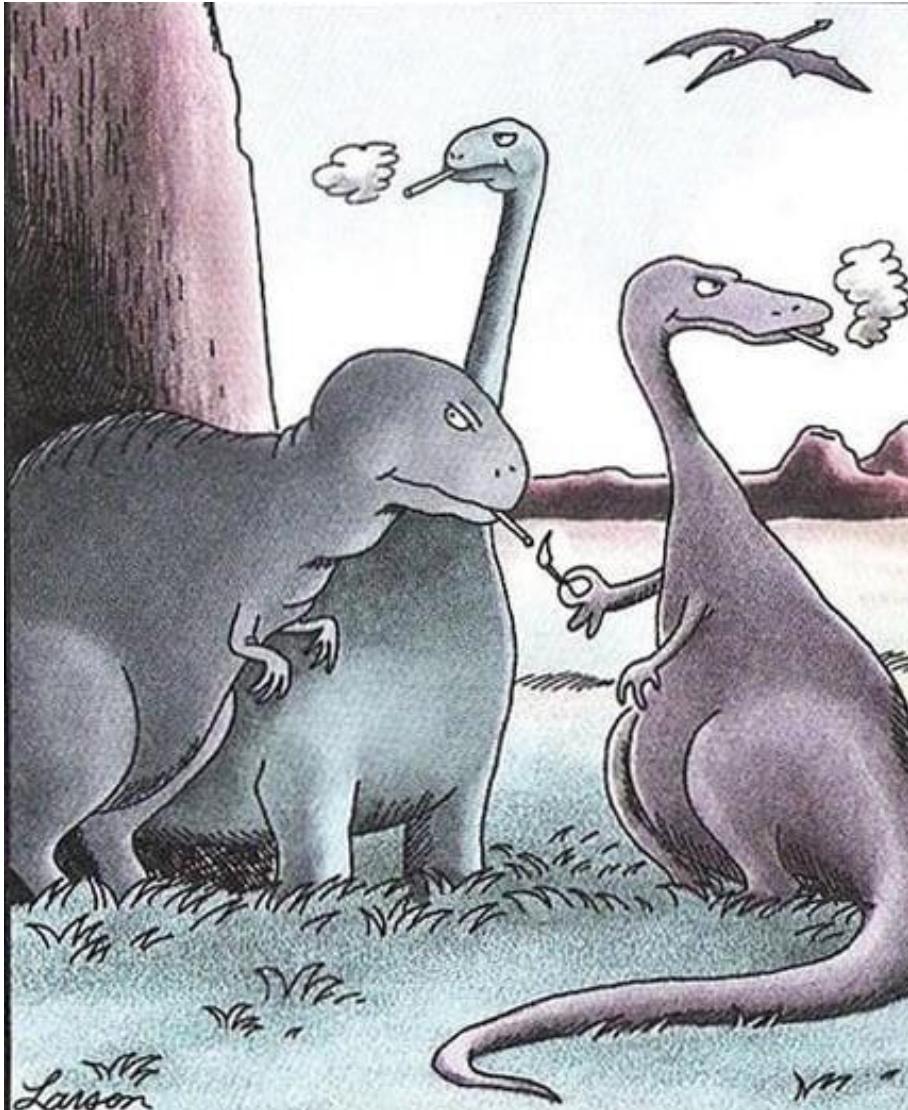
Thoracic Oncology at UMN



Bob Kratzke



Manish Patel



The real reason dinosaurs became extinct



Naomi Fujioka



Amit Kulkarni



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