

# The Role of Surgeons in the Current Era of Molecular Therapy

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# An exciting multidisciplinary landscape

- *Multidisciplinary care of cancer patients is increasingly essential*
- Molecular testing and PD-L1 status will increasingly be used to make *a priori* surgical treatment decisions

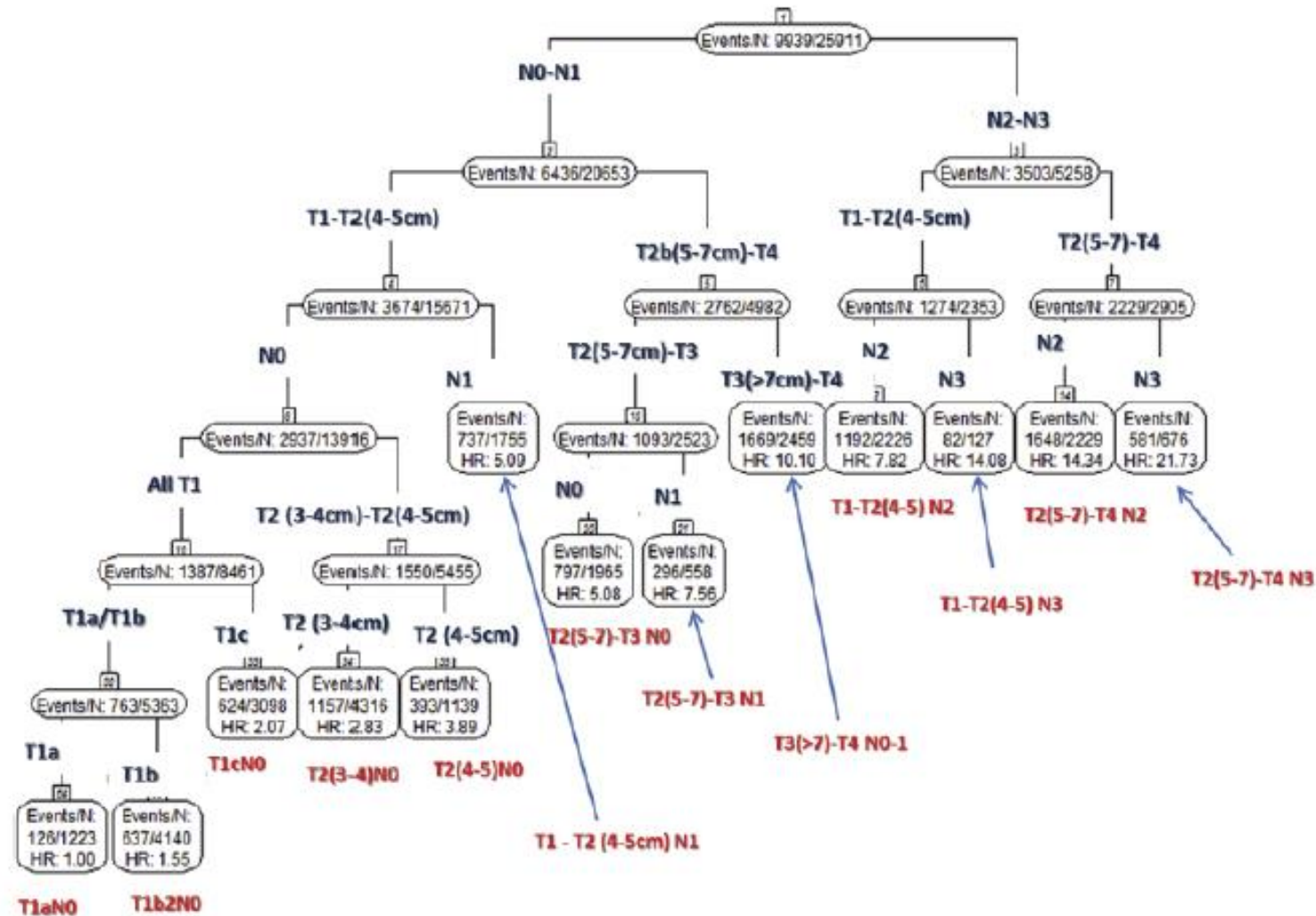


# What are we trying to achieve?

- Perfect oncologic result
  - Staging: as many lymph nodes assessed as possible
  - Negative margins with no tumor left
- Minimal physiologic result
  - Sparing lung
    - Segmentectomy for selected patients
  - Minimizing pain and suffering
    - Robotic surgery

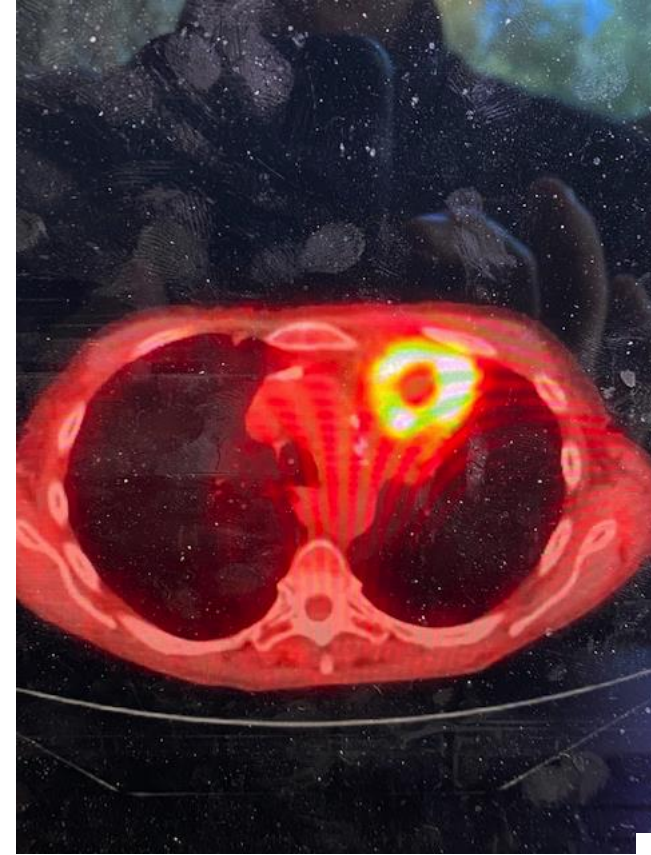


# IASLC 8th Edition Staging Proposals



# Case

- 77yo lady with large LUL lesion found on chest CT for pneumonia. She is active and can easily walk up 2 flights of stairs. Pulmonology saw her and diagnosed squamous cell cancer on bronchoscopic biopsy. EBUS-guided biopsies of 4L, 4R, and 7 were negative. PDL-1 TPS was 3%.



# Induction chemoimmunotherapy

- She underwent 3 cycles of cisplatin-based chemotherapy along with pembrolizumab, which she tolerated well. We performed a robotic left upper lobectomy with focal chest wall resection of intercostal muscle.
- Path: ypT3N2 (2 level 5 nodes positive)



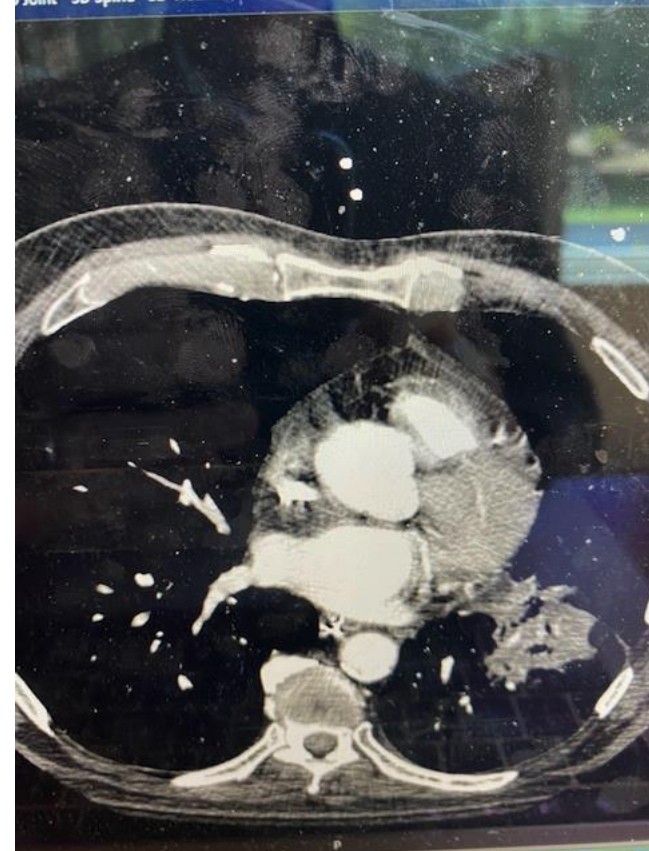
# Another case

- 75yo man with clinical stage II LLL squamous tumor. He is healthy and able to tolerate 4 METS. PDL-1 TPS 30%



# Induction Chemo/IO

- He received 3 cycles of carbo/pemetrexed and pembrolizumab, which he tolerated well. We performed a robotic L lower lobectomy, and he had a complete response.





# Basic NSCLC Treatment Strategies

<b>IA &amp; small IB</b> <i>Resection ± adjuvant treatment</i>	<b>II and non-N2 IIIA</b> <i>Resection + adjuvant treatment</i>	<b>IIIA N2</b> <i>Neoadjuvant treatment + resection, resection + adjuvant, definitive CRT</i>	<b>IIIB/C</b> <i>Definitive chemotherapy/RT + I/O</i>
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IA	IIA	IIIA	IIIB
IB   IIA	IIA/IIB	IIIA	IIIB
IIB	IIIA	IIIA	IIIC
IIIA	IIIA	IIIB	IIIC
IVA/B/C	IVA/B/C	IVA/B/C	IVA/B/C

**IVA/B/C**  
 I/O, Chemotherapy ± I/O, targeted therapy

**Non-N2 IIIA**  
 Resection + adjuvant tx

**IIIA N2**  
 Potential neoadjuvant + resection, determined by bulk of nodal dx

**IIIB/C**  
 Definitive chemo/XRT + I/O



# Outline

- Role of minimally-invasive techniques
- Role of sublobar resection
- Role of adjuvant/neoadjuvant therapy in surgical patients

# VATS/Minimally-invasive Definition

- ▶ Absence of rib spreading
- ▶ Visualization by camera

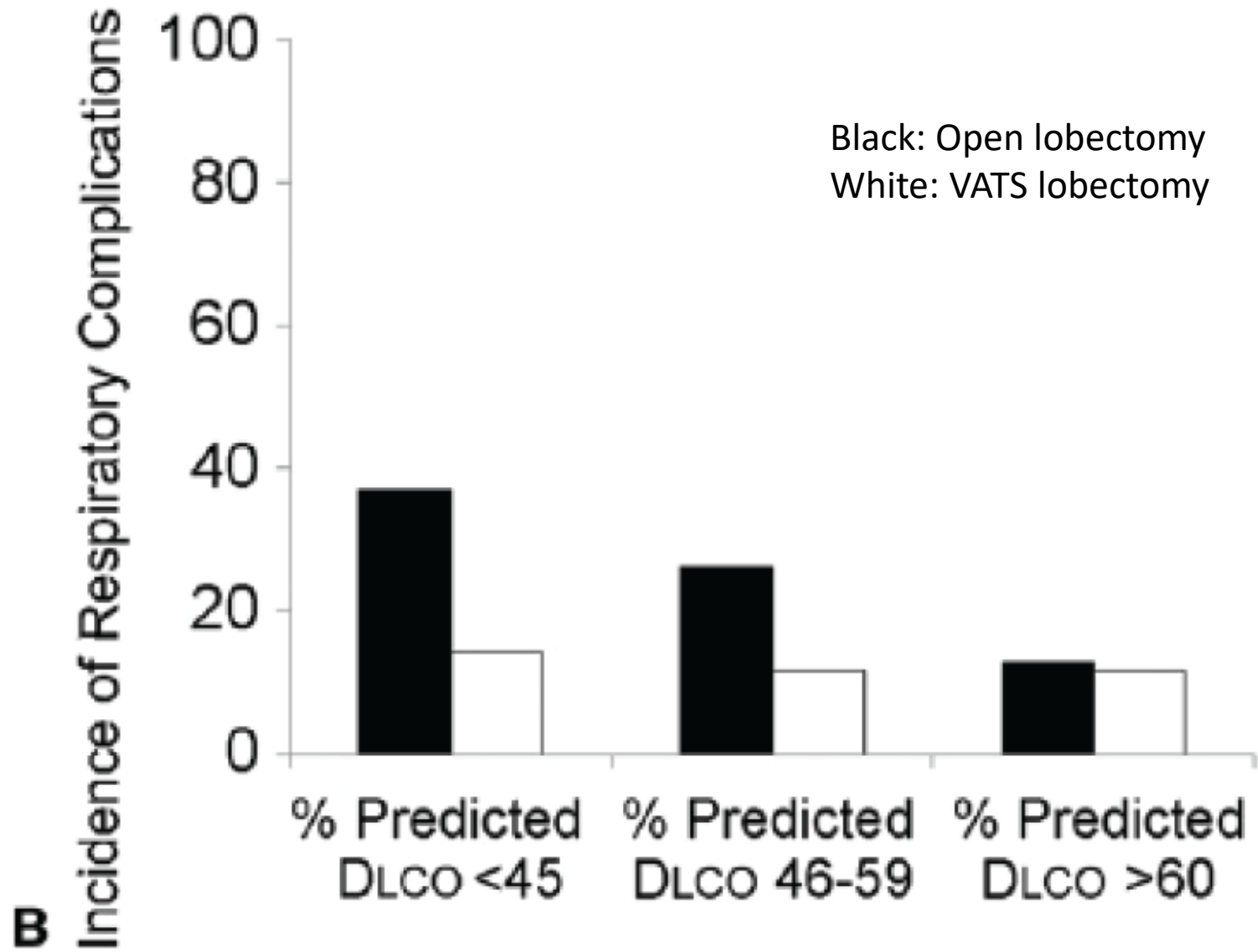


# Importance of minimally-invasive resection

- ▶ Less pain
- ▶ Decreased LOS
- ▶ Earlier return to work
- ▶ Better tolerance of adjuvant therapy



# Importance of Minimally-Invasive Approach

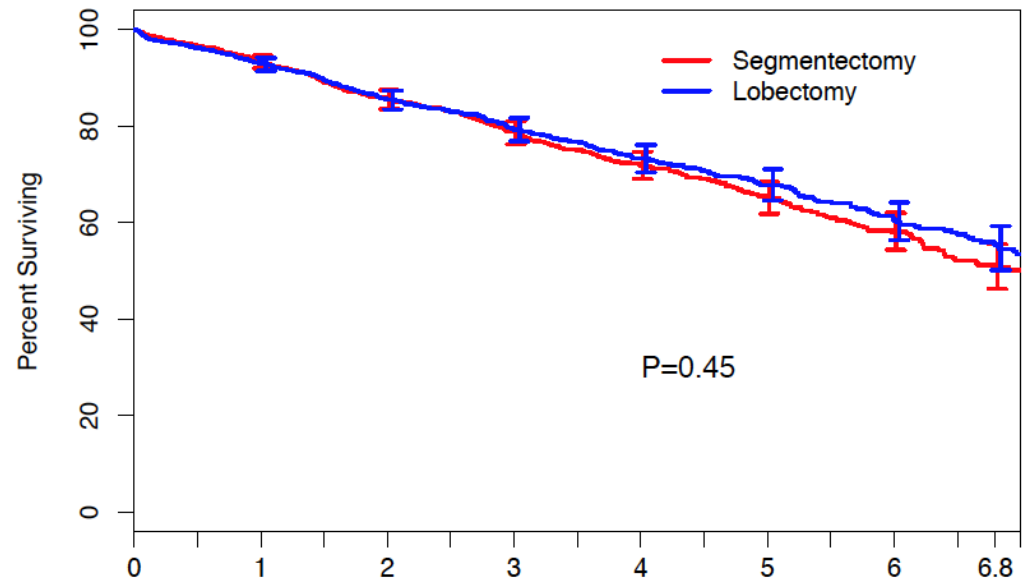


# STS-Medicare data

- Linked STS database to Medicare to explore long-term outcomes
- 14286 stage IA patients
  - 1654 segmentectomy, 12632 lobectomy
- 2 analyses: Cox survival model and propensity matched groups (1654 pairs)

Procedure		0.2361		0.6374
Lobectomy	1.00		1.00	
Segmentectomy	1.10 (0.94,1.28)		1.04 (0.89,1.20)	
Approach				
Open	1.00		1.00	
VATS	0.77 (0.71,0.83)	<.0001	0.86 (0.80,0.94)	0.0006

Propensity matched data. 2002–2015.



	No. of Patients / Percent Survival							
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	6.8
Segmentectomy	1476	1186/93.5	918/85.6	683/78.9	484/71.8	317/65.3	169/58.1	102/50.7
Lobectomy	1476	1168/93.1	888/85.5	649/79.3	466/73.4	321/67.8	187/60.5	119/55.5

CALGB 140503

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FEBRUARY 9, 2023

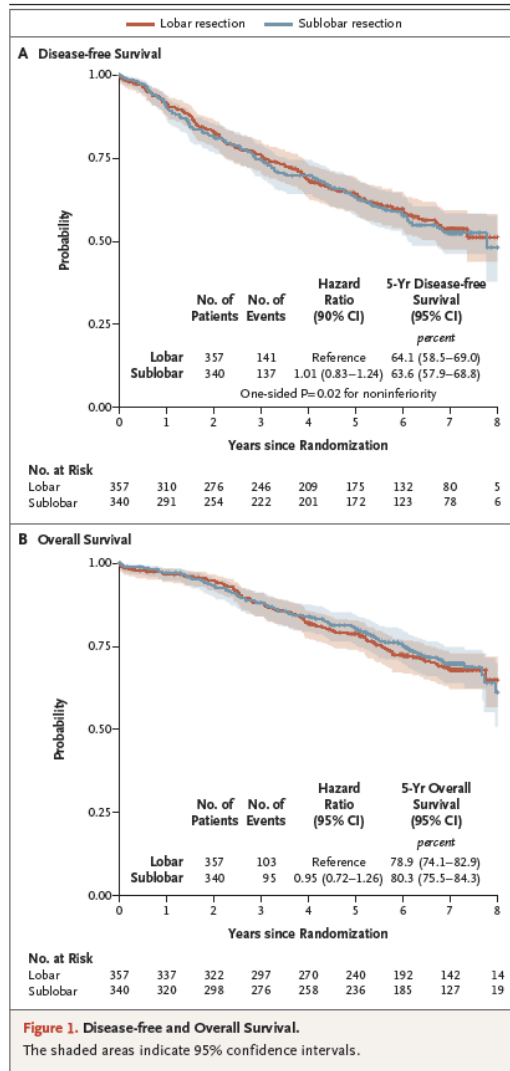
VOL. 388 NO. 6

Lobar or Sublobar Resection for Peripheral Stage IA  
Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer

Nasser Altorki, M.D., Xiaofei Wang, Ph.D., David Kozono, M.D., Ph.D., Colleen Watt, B.S.,  
Rodney Landrenau, M.D., Dennis Wigle, M.D., Ph.D., Jeffrey Port, M.D., David R. Jones, M.D.,  
Massimo Conti, M.D., Ahmad S. Ashrafi, M.D., Moishe Liberman, M.D., Ph.D., Kazuhiro Yasufuku, M.D., Ph.D.,  
Stephen Yang, M.D., John D. Mitchell, M.D., Harvey Pass, M.D., Robert Keenan, M.D., Thomas Bauer, M.D.,  
Daniel Miller, M.D., Leslie J. Kohman, M.D., Thomas E. Stinchcombe, M.D., and Everett Vokes, M.D.



# CALCB 140503

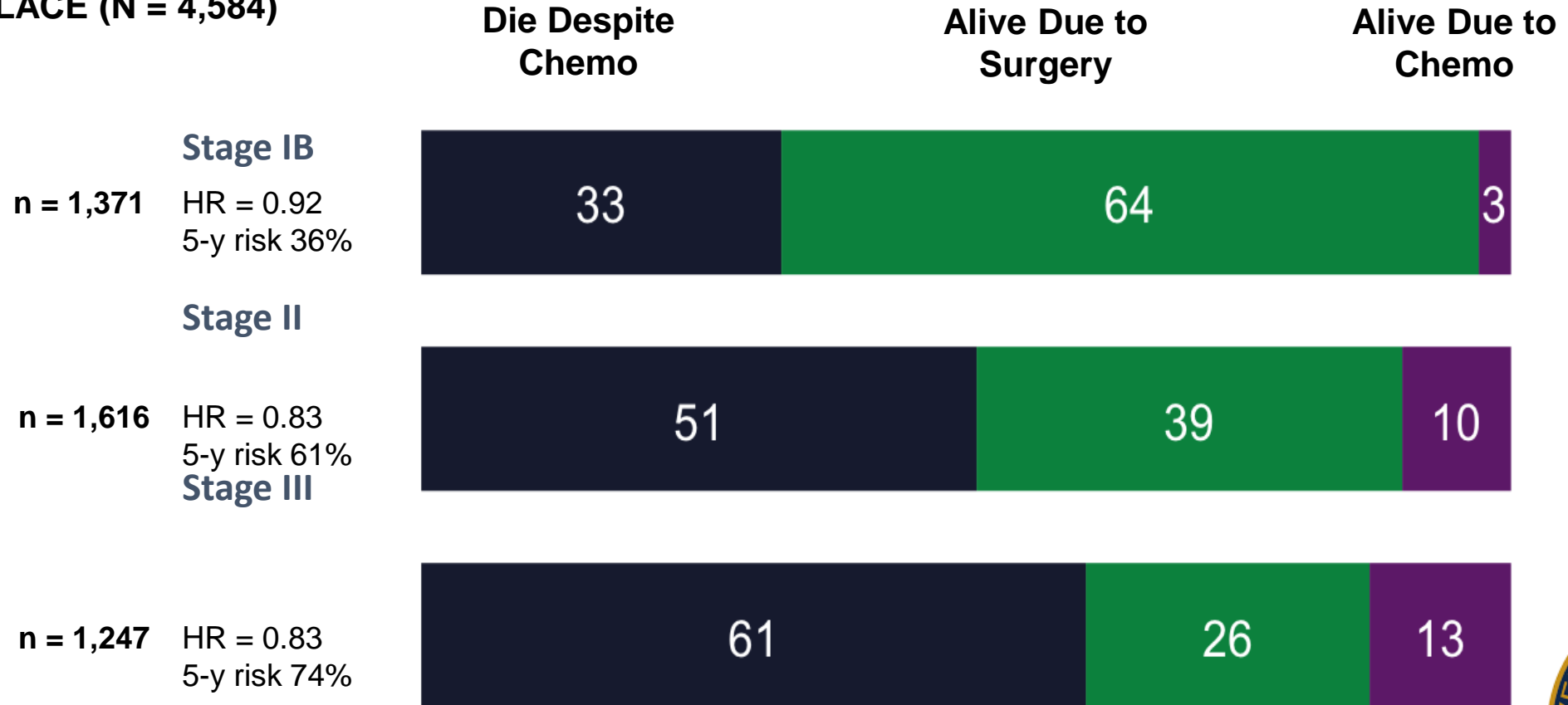


- T1aN0 patients
- Outer third of lung
- Intraoperative confirmation of N0 status

What about higher stages?

# Adjuvant Chemotherapy

LACE (N = 4,584)



Note: 6th TNM edition staging was used.



# Low rates of adjuvant therapy: VIOLET

Outcome	Randomised to VATS (n=247)	Randomised to open surgery (n=255)	HR (95% CI)	P value
Received adjuvant treatment	34/216 (15.7%)	39/216 (18.1%)		
Received adjuvant treatment (eligible subset <sup>a</sup> )	28/55 (50.9%)	28/61 (45.9%)		
Time to uptake of adjuvant treatment (months)	-	-	HR=0.90 (0.50, 1.61)	0.716
Time to uptake of adjuvant treatment (eligible subset <sup>a</sup> ) (months)	11.0 (2.1, -)	-(2.0, -)	HR=1.12 (0.62, 2.02)	0.716

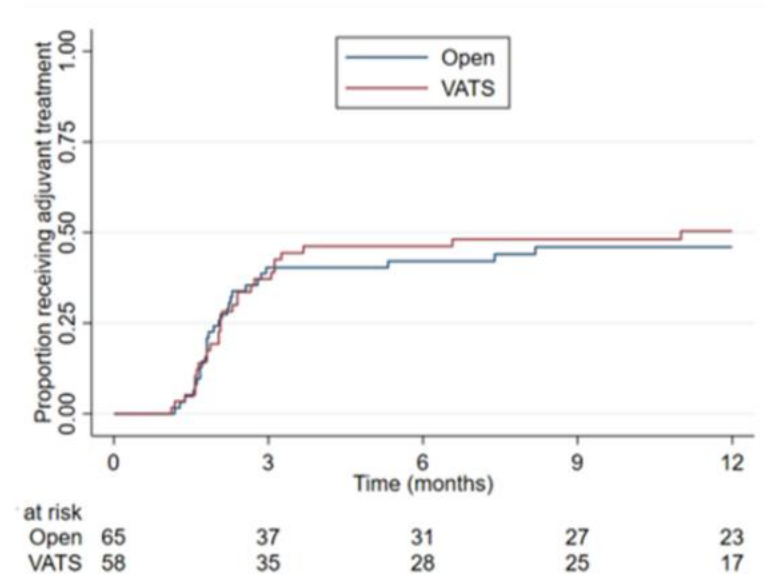
Data are n/N (%). Analyses are adjusted for operating surgeon.

<sup>a</sup> Eligible if i) N1-2 disease and M0 disease after surgery, or ii) T2b to 4, N0 and M0 after surgery.

Median (IQR) time to adjuvant treatment (months) for eligible:

Open: n=28, Median= 1.89, IQR=(1.68, 2.43)

VATS: n=28, Median= 2.07, IQR=(1.63, 2.89)

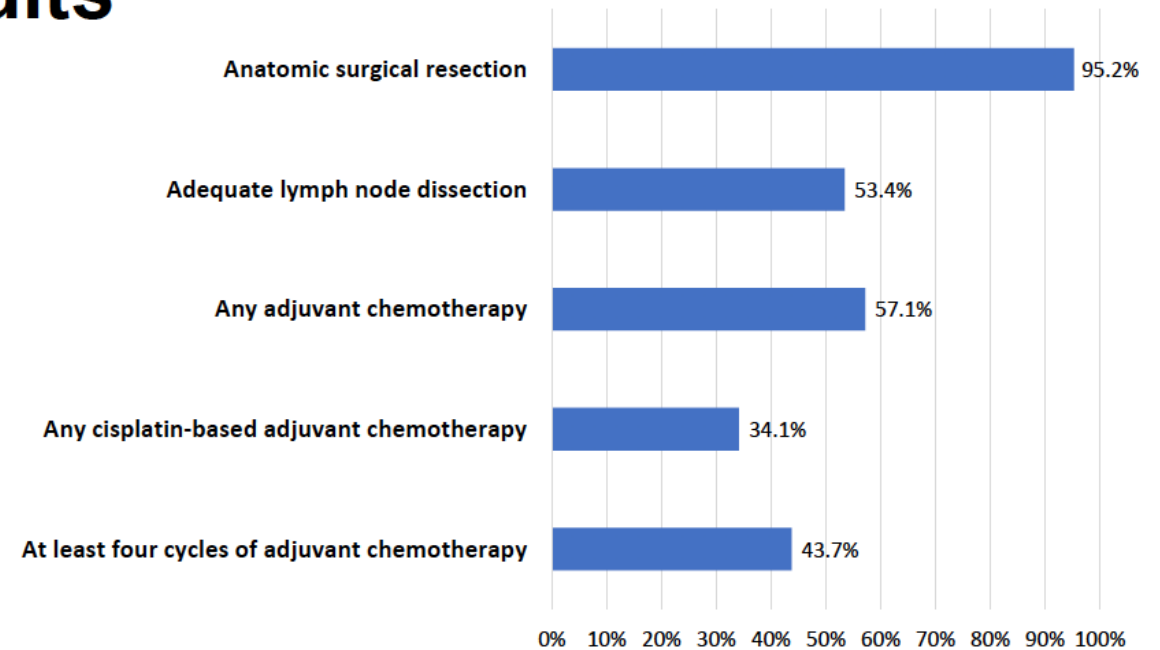


# More bad news

## Rates of Guideline-Concordant Surgery and Adjuvant Chemotherapy in the U.S. ALCHEMIST Study (ALLIANCE)

Presenter: Kenneth L. Kehl, MD, MPH  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
United States

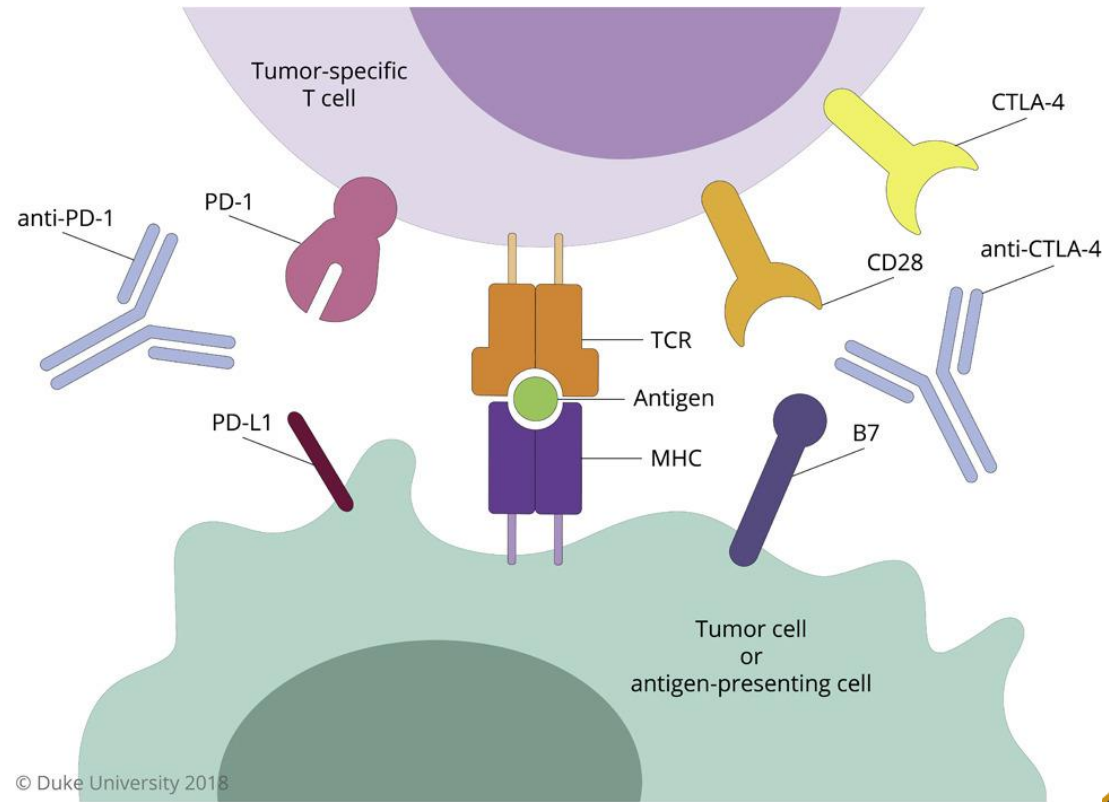
## Results

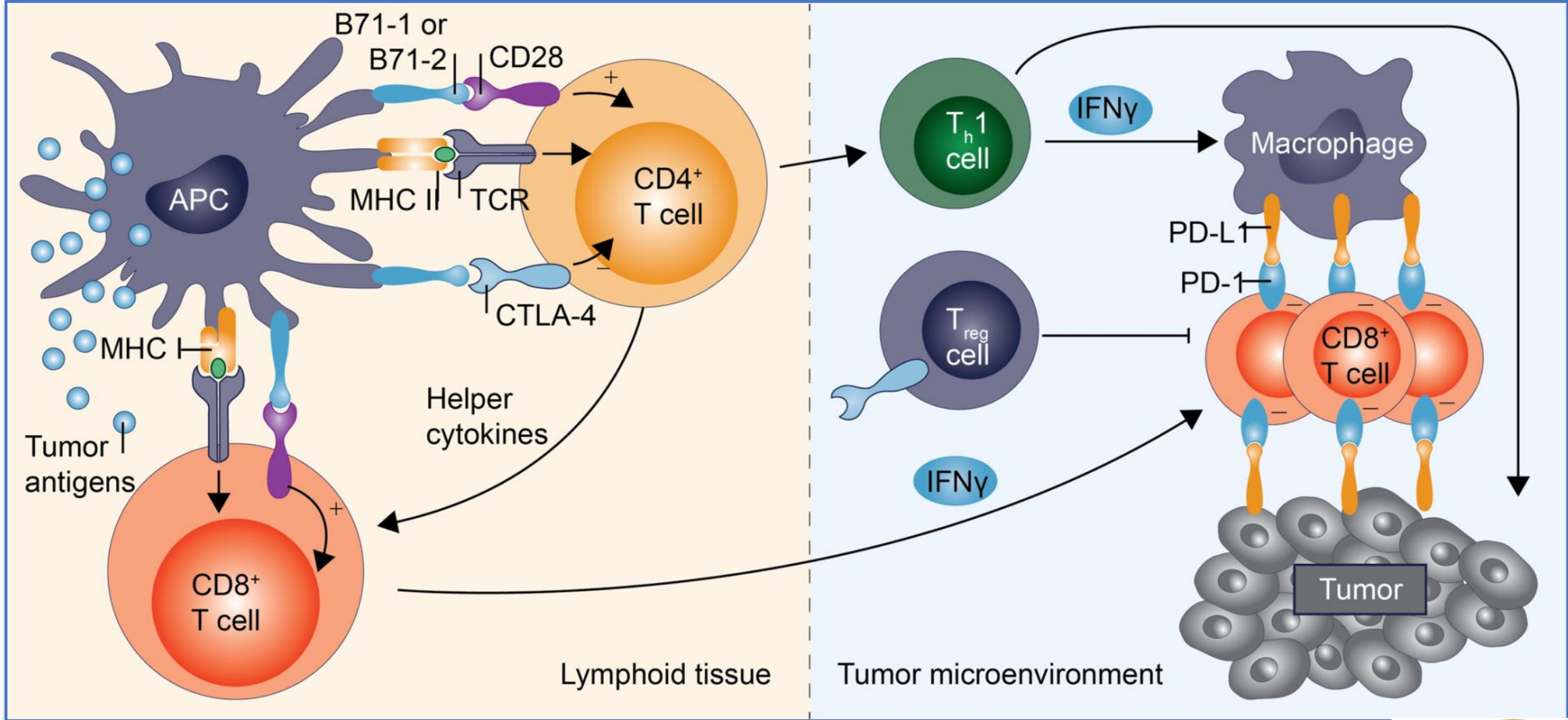


No association between socioeconomic factors and care process outcomes

# Ways to Enhance Anti-Tumor Immunity

- Vaccines
  - Peptide/Protein/Tumor cell lysates
  - Viral
  - Dendritic Cell
- Small molecule agonists and inhibitors
  - IDO
  - TGF-beta
- Cytokines
  - IL-2
- Immune checkpoint modulation
  - CTLA-4
  - PD-1, PD-L1
- Cellular therapy
  - CAR T cells





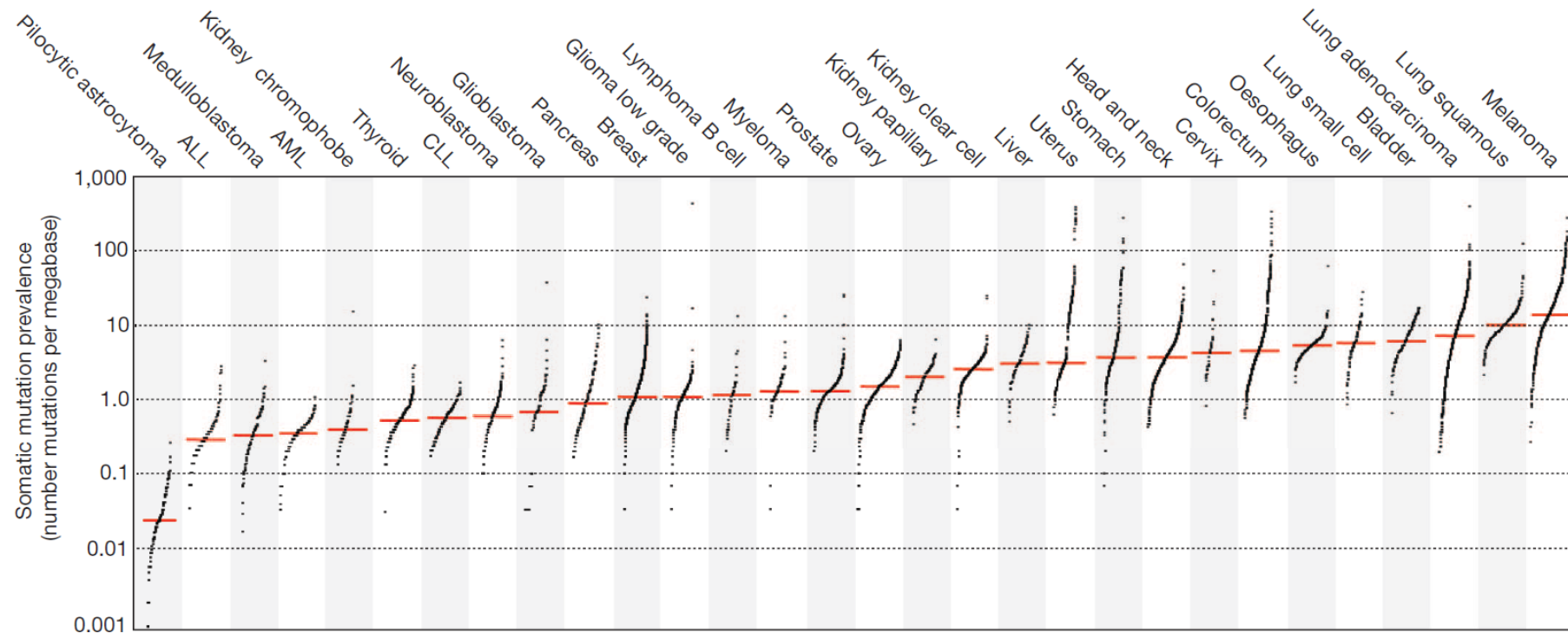
# Current Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

Drug	Mechanism
Ipilimumab	Anti-CTLA-4
Nivolumab	Anti-PD-1
Pembrolizumab	
Cemiplimab-rwlc	
Atezolizumab	Anti-PD-L1
Avelumab	
Durvalumab	





# Mutational Burden and Immunotherapy Response



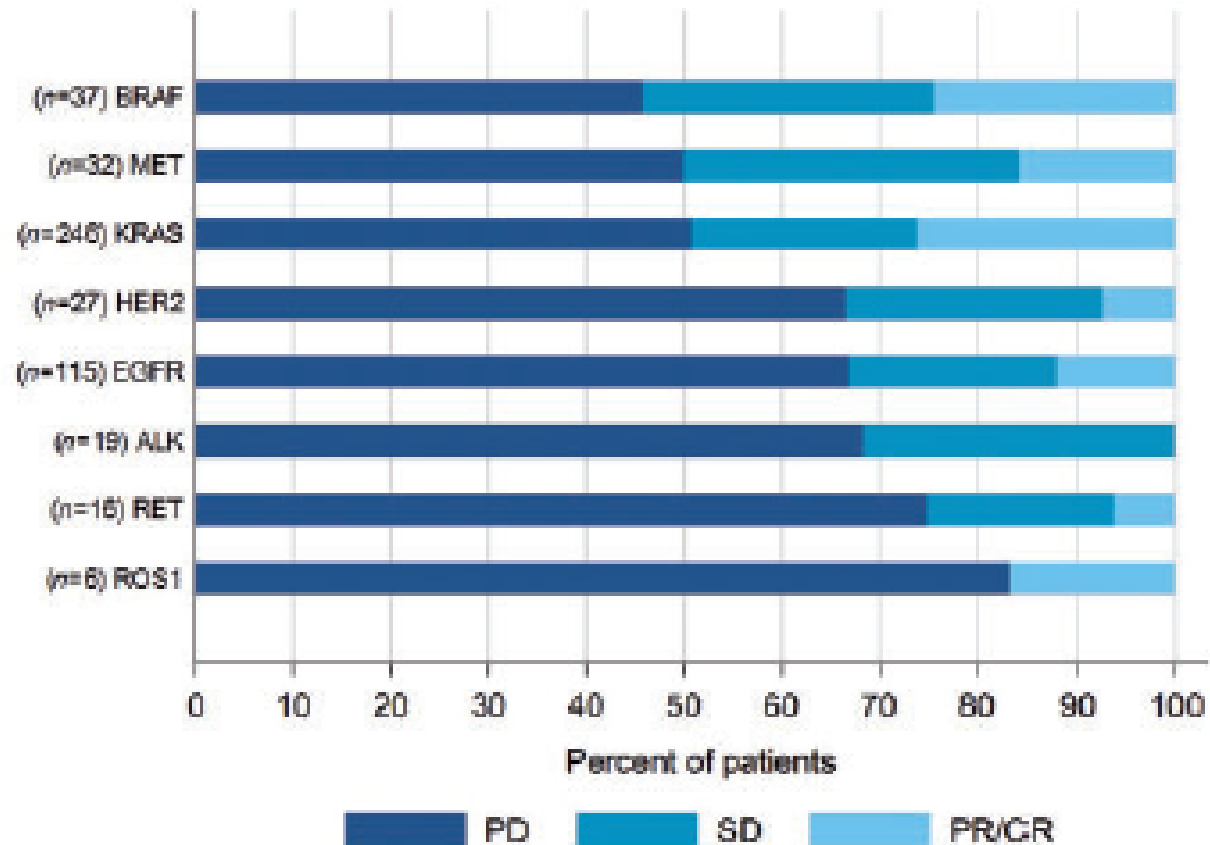
- Tumors with higher mutational burden tend to be more responsive to immunotherapy



# Immune checkpoint inhibitors for patients with advanced lung cancer and oncogenic driver alterations: results from the IMMUNOTARGET registry

Annals of Oncology 30: 1321–1328, 2019

J. Mazieres<sup>1\*</sup>, A. Drilon<sup>2</sup>, A. Lusque<sup>3</sup>, L. Mhanna<sup>1</sup>, A. B. Cortot<sup>4</sup>, L. Mezquita<sup>5</sup>, A. A. Thai<sup>6</sup>, C. Mascoux<sup>7</sup>, S. Couraud<sup>8</sup>, R. Veillon<sup>9</sup>, M. Van den Heuvel<sup>10</sup>, J. Neal<sup>11</sup>, N. Peled<sup>12</sup>, M. Früh<sup>13</sup>, T. L. Ng<sup>14</sup>, V. Gounant<sup>15</sup>, S. Popat<sup>16</sup>, J. Diebold<sup>17</sup>, J. Sabari<sup>2</sup>, V. W. Zhu<sup>18</sup>, S. I. Rothschild<sup>19</sup>, P. Bironzo<sup>20</sup>, A. Martinez-Marti<sup>21</sup>, A. Curioni-Fontecedro<sup>22</sup>, R. Rosell<sup>23,24</sup>, M. Lattuca-Truc<sup>25</sup>, M. Wiesweg<sup>26</sup>, B. Besse<sup>5</sup>, B. Solomon<sup>6</sup>, F. Barlesi<sup>7</sup>, R. D. Schouten<sup>10</sup>, H. Wakelee<sup>11</sup>, D. R. Camidge<sup>14</sup>, G. Zalcman<sup>15</sup>, S. Novello<sup>20</sup>, S. I. Ou<sup>18</sup>, J. Milia<sup>1</sup> & O. Gautschi<sup>27</sup>



# Adaura: adjuvant osimertinib

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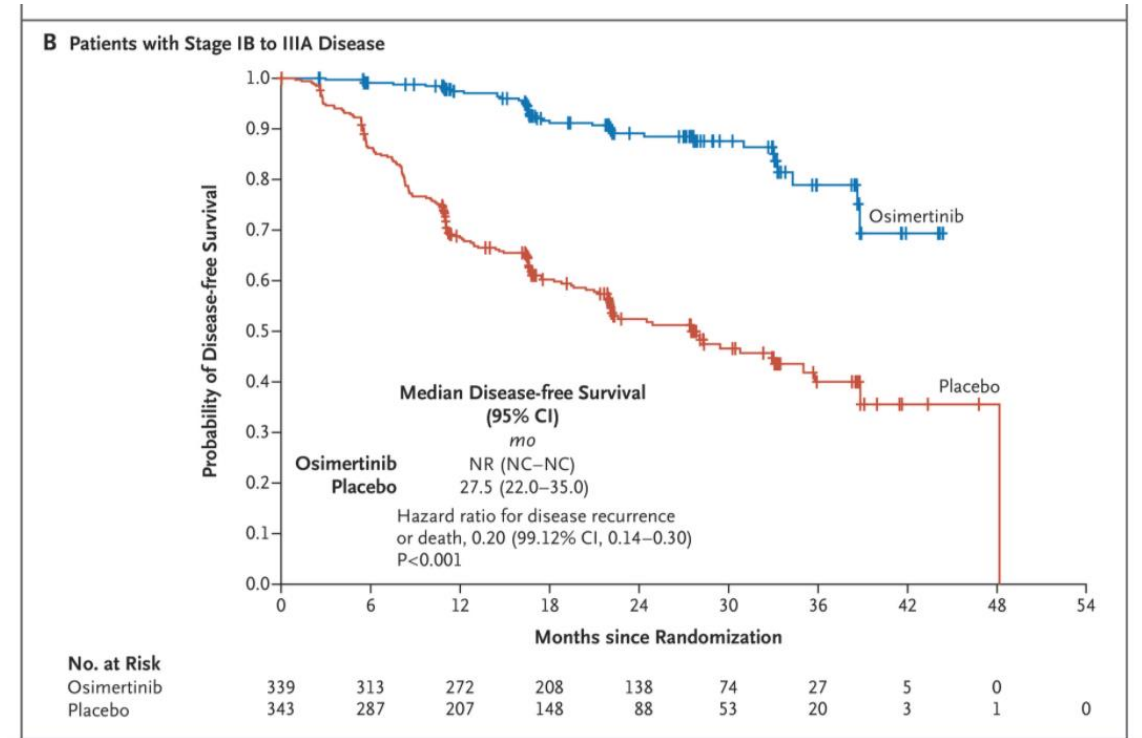
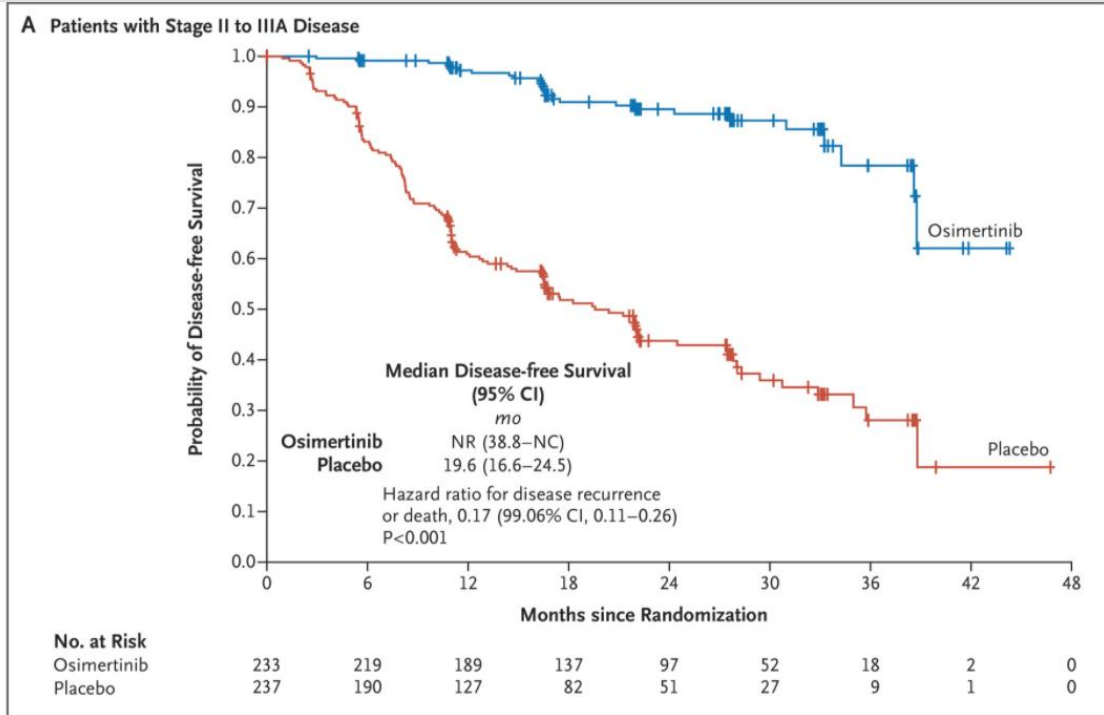
OCTOBER 29, 2020

VOL. 383 NO. 18

## Osimertinib in Resected *EGFR*-Mutated Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancer

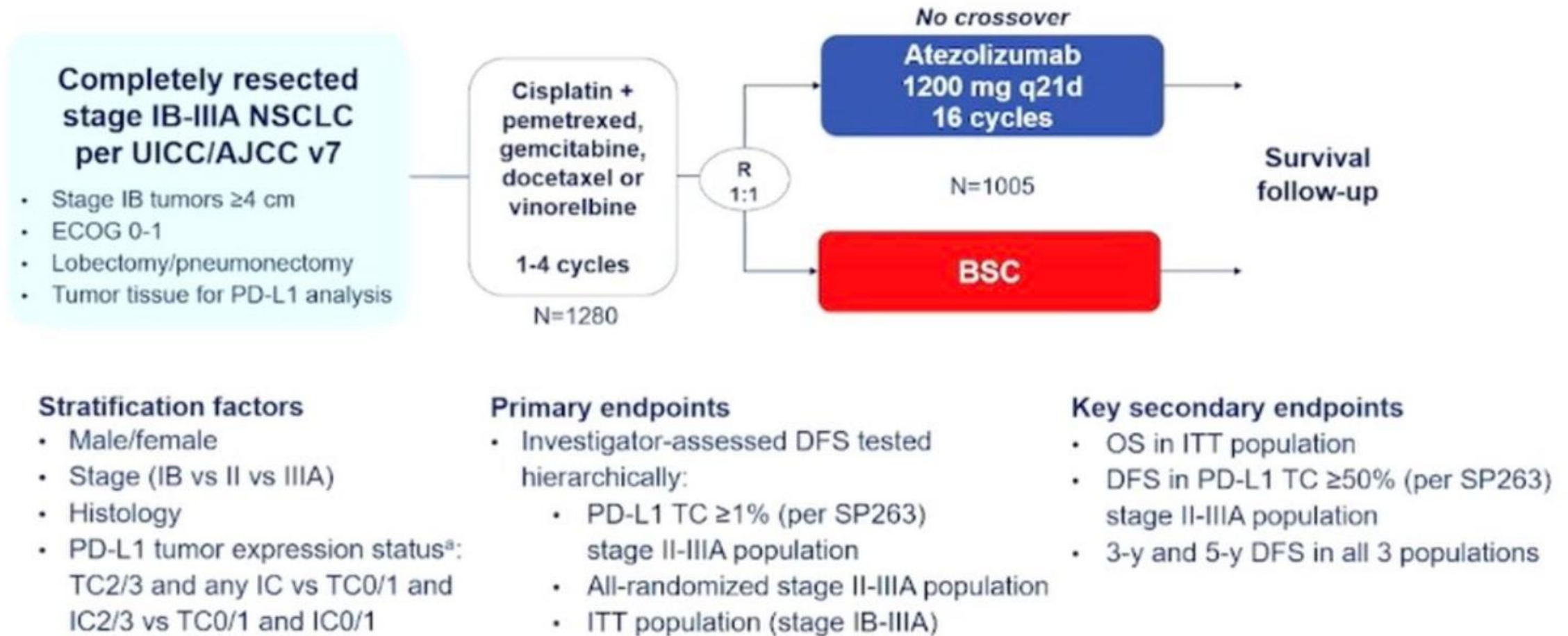
Yi-Long Wu, M.D., Masahiro Tsuboi, M.D., Jie He, M.D., Thomas John, Ph.D., Christian Grohe, M.D., Margarita Majem, M.D., Jonathan W. Goldman, M.D., Konstantin Laktionov, Ph.D., Sang-We Kim, M.D., Ph.D., Terufumi Kato, M.D., Huu-Vinh Vu, M.D., Ph.D., Shun Lu, M.D., Kye-Young Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Charuwan Akewanlop, M.D., Chong-Jen Yu, M.D., Ph.D., Filippo de Marinis, M.D., Laura Bonanno, M.D., Manuel Domine, M.D., Ph.D., Frances A. Shepherd, M.D., Lingmin Zeng, Ph.D., Rachel Hodge, M.Sc., Ajlan Atasoy, M.D., Yuri Rukazenzov, M.D., Ph.D., and Roy S. Herbst, M.D., Ph.D., for the ADAURA Investigators\*

# Adaura



# Adjuvant Immunotherapy in NSCLC?

## IMpower010: study design

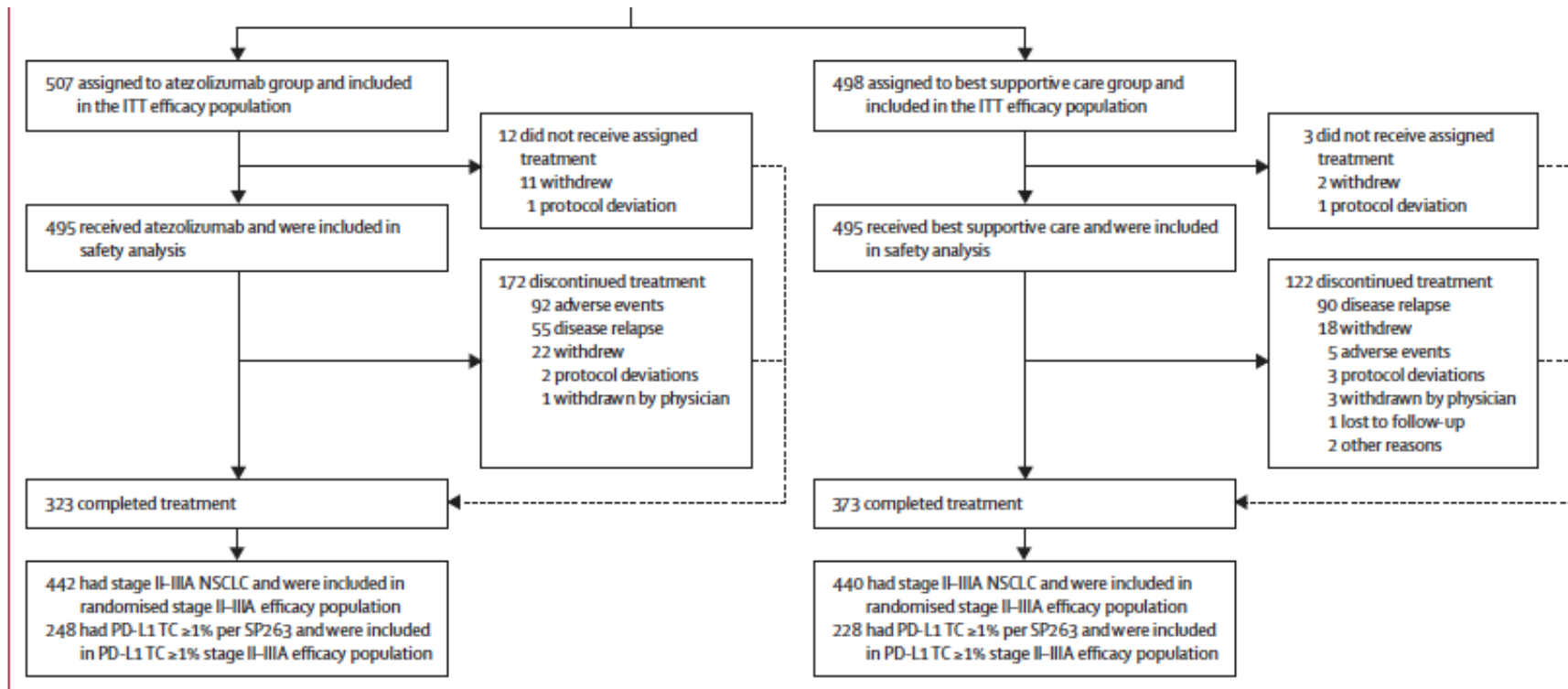


Felip E, et al. Lancet 2021;398:1344-1357.

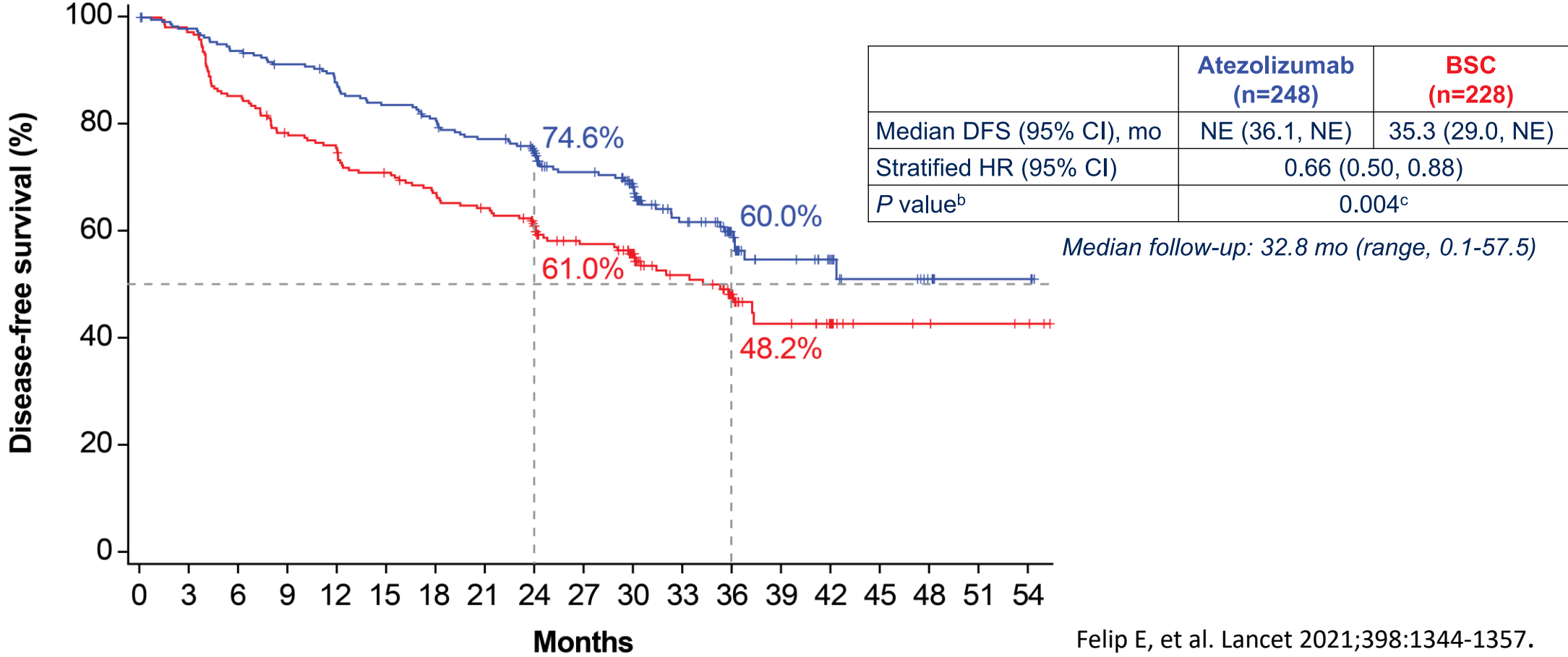
# Adjuvant atezolizumab after adjuvant chemotherapy in resected stage IB–IIIA non-small-cell lung cancer (IMpower010): a randomised, multicentre, open-label, phase 3 trial

Enriqueta Felip, Nasser Altorki, Caicun Zhou, Tibor Csőszi, Ihor Vynnychenko, Oleksandr Goloborodko, Alexander Luft, Andrey Akopov, Alex Martinez-Marti, Hirotsugu Kenmotsu, Yuh-Min Chen, Antonio Chella, Shunichi Sugawara, David Voong, Fan Wu, Jing Yi, Yu Deng, Mark McClelland, Elizabeth Bennett, Barbara Gitlitz, Heather Wakelee, for the IMpower010 Investigators\*

www.thelancet.com Vol 398 October 9, 2021



# IMpower010: DFS in the PD-L1 TC $\geq 1\%$ <sup>a</sup> stage II-III A population (primary endpoint)



No. at risk

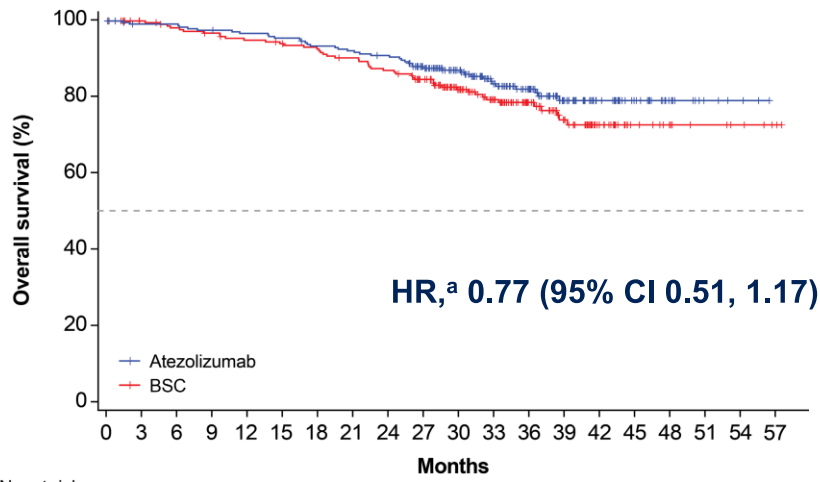
Months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54
Atezolizumab	248	235	225	217	206	198	190	181	159	134	111	76	54	31	22	12	8	3	3
BSC	228	212	186	169	160	151	142	135	117	97	80	59	38	21	14	7	6	4	3

Felip E, et al. Lancet 2021;398:1344-1357.

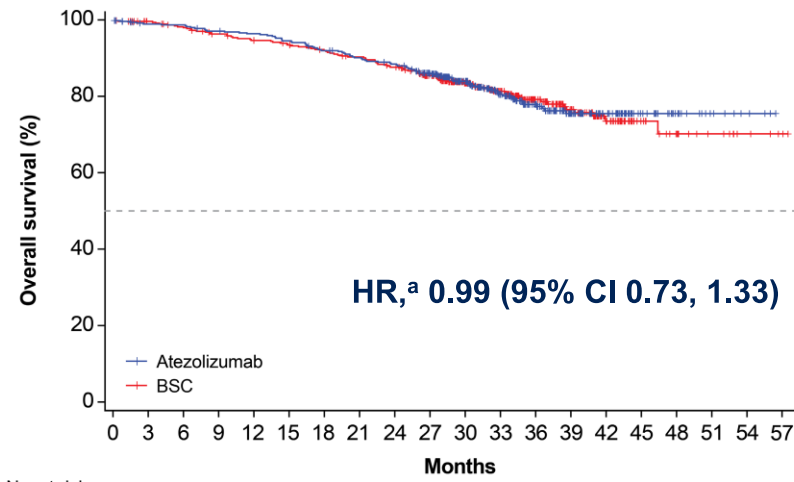
Clinical cutoff: January 21, 2021. CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; NE, not evaluable. <sup>a</sup> Per SP263 assay. <sup>b</sup> Stratified log-rank. <sup>c</sup> Crossed the significance boundary for DFS.

# IMpower010: early OS data at interim DFS analysis

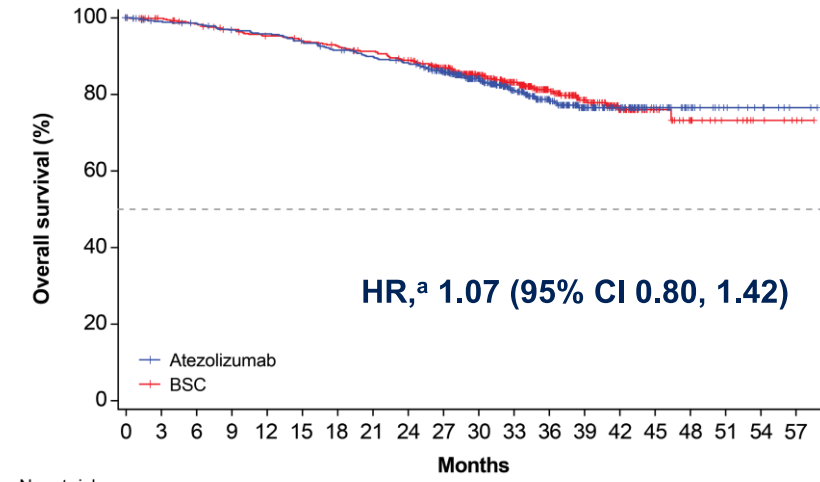
**PD-L1 TC ≥ 1% stage II-III A**



**All-randomized stage II-III A**



**ITT**



- OS data were immature at this pre-planned DFS interim analysis
  - OS in the ITT population was not formally tested
  - A trend toward OS improvement with atezolizumab was seen in the PD-L1 TC ≥1% stage II-III A population

Felip E, et al. Lancet 2021;398:1344-1357.



# IMpower010: immune-mediated AEs<sup>a</sup>

## imAEs occurring in ≥1% of patients

n (%)	Atezolizumab (n=495)		BSC (n=495)	
	Any grade	Grade 3-4	Any grade	Grade 3-4
Any immune-mediated AEs	256 (51.7) <sup>b</sup>	39 (7.9%)	47 (9.5)	5 (0.6)
Rash	91 (18.4)	7 (1.4)	11 (2.2)	0
Hepatitis (diagnosis and laboratory abnormalities)	86 (17.4)	20 (4.0)	22 (4.4)	1 (0.2)
Hepatitis (laboratory abnormalities)	81 (16.4)	16 (3.2)	21 (4.2)	1 (0.2)
Hepatitis (diagnosis)	7 (1.4)	4 (0.8)	1 (0.2)	0
Hypothyroidism	86 (17.4)	0	3 (0.6)	0
Hyperthyroidism	32 (6.5)	2 (0.4)	4 (0.8)	0
Pneumonitis	19 (3.8) <sup>c</sup>	4 (0.8)	3 (0.6)	0
Infusion-related reaction	7 (1.4)	1 (0.2)	0	0
Adrenal insufficiency	6 (1.2)	2 (0.4)	0	0

Felip E, et al. Lancet 2021;398:1344-1357.

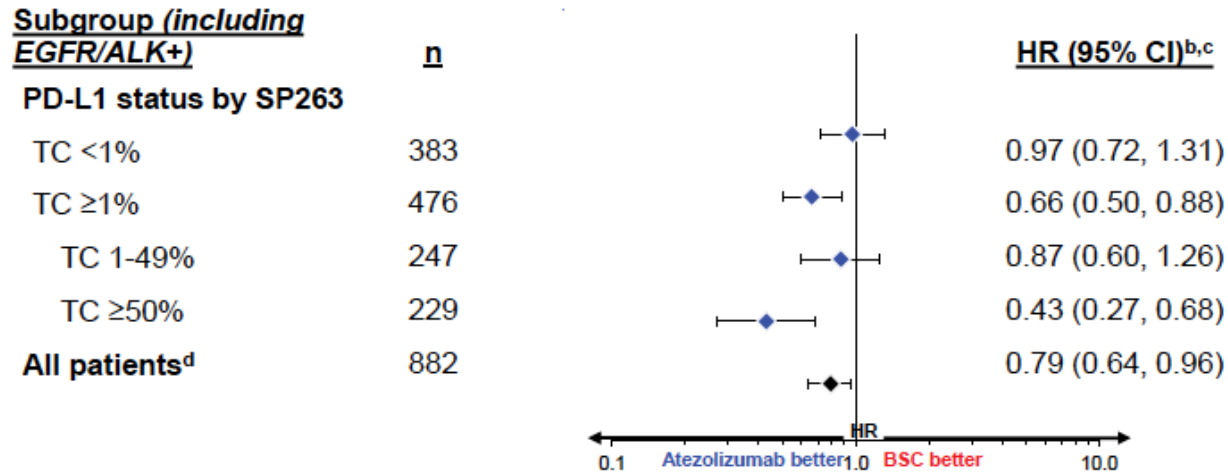
Clinical cutoff: January 21, 2021. <sup>a</sup> Data are from the safety population (all randomized patients who received ≥1 atezolizumab dose or for BSC, had ≥1 post-baseline assessment). <sup>b</sup> Includes 2 (0.4%) Grade 5 events. <sup>c</sup> Includes 1 (0.2%) Grade 5 event.

## imAEs occurring in <1% of patients

n (%)	Atezolizumab (n=495)		BSC (n=495)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3-4	Any grade	Grade 3-4
Meningoencephalitis	4 (0.8)	3 (0.6)	0	0
Colitis	4 (0.8)	2 (0.4)	1 (0.2)	0
Diabetes mellitus	4 (0.8)	0	1 (0.2)	0
Myositis (myositis and rhabdomyolysis)	4 (0.8)	0	1 (0.2)	0
Pancreatitis	2 (0.4)	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)
Encephalitis	2 (0.4)	2 (0.4)	0	0
Severe cutaneous adverse reaction	2 (0.4)	0	0	0
Autoimmune hemolytic anemia	2 (0.4)	0	0	0
Myocarditis	2 (0.4) <sup>c</sup>	0	0	0
Meningitis	2 (0.4)	1 (0.2)	0	0
Guillain-Barre syndrome	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	0	0
Ocular inflammatory toxicity	1 (0.2)	0	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)
Hypophysitis	1 (0.2)	0	0	0
Nephritis	1 (0.2)	0	0	0
Vasculitis	0	0	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)

# DFS by PD-L1 status<sup>a</sup>

All-randomised stage II-IIIa population (with and without known EGFR/ALK+ disease)



Clinical cutoff: 21 January 2021. \* Per SP263 assay.

<sup>b</sup> Stratified for all patients and PD-L1 TC ≥1%; unstratified for all other subgroups. <sup>c</sup> DFS analyses in the PD-L1 TC <1% and TC 1-49% subgroups were exploratory. <sup>d</sup> 23 patients had unknown PD-L1 status as assessed by SP263. <sup>e</sup> Excluding patients with known EGFR/ALK+ NSCLC. <sup>f</sup> Unstratified for all subgroups. <sup>g</sup> EGFR/ALK+ exclusion analyses were post hoc. <sup>h</sup> 21 patients had unknown PD-L1 status as assessed by SP263.

Felip ESMO2021



# Induction Therapy Rationale

- Patients presenting with advanced disease may be understaged
- More likely to experience systemic failure
- More likely to receive full-dose and -cycle chemotherapy when given preoperatively relative to adjuvant delivery
- Those who get “downstaged” have improved survival, lower distant metastasis
- Does not increase surgical complications

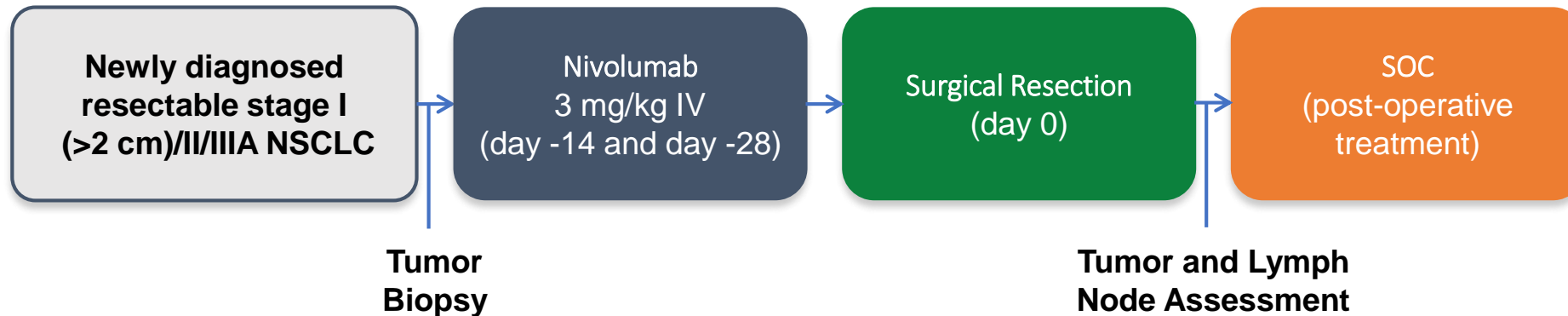


# Induction Therapy

- Intact tumor vasculature: enhances local chemotherapy delivery, oxygenation augments responsive to radiation therapy
- Radiation field: Smaller and more accurate, improved tolerance
- Tumor downstaging facilitates curative (R0) and parenchymal-sparing resections
- Identifies patients with biologically aggressive disease for whom surgery should be avoided



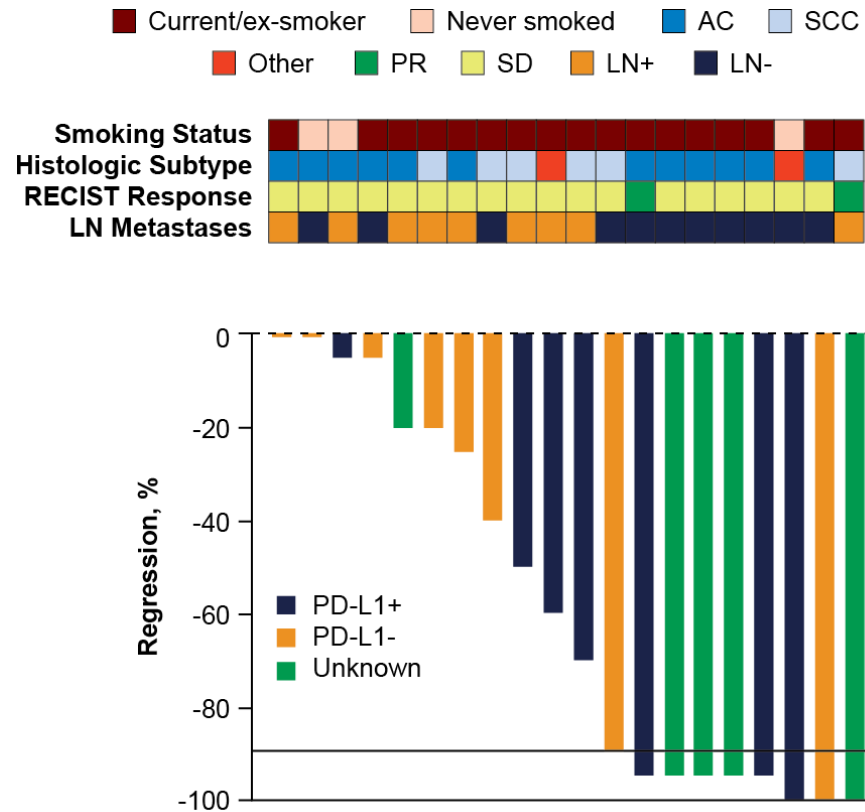
# Induction Nivolumab (Forde et al 2018)



- **Primary endpoints:** Safety and feasibility
- **Also evaluated:** Tumor pathological response; expression of PD-L1; mutational burden; and mutation-associated, neoantigen-specific T-cell responses



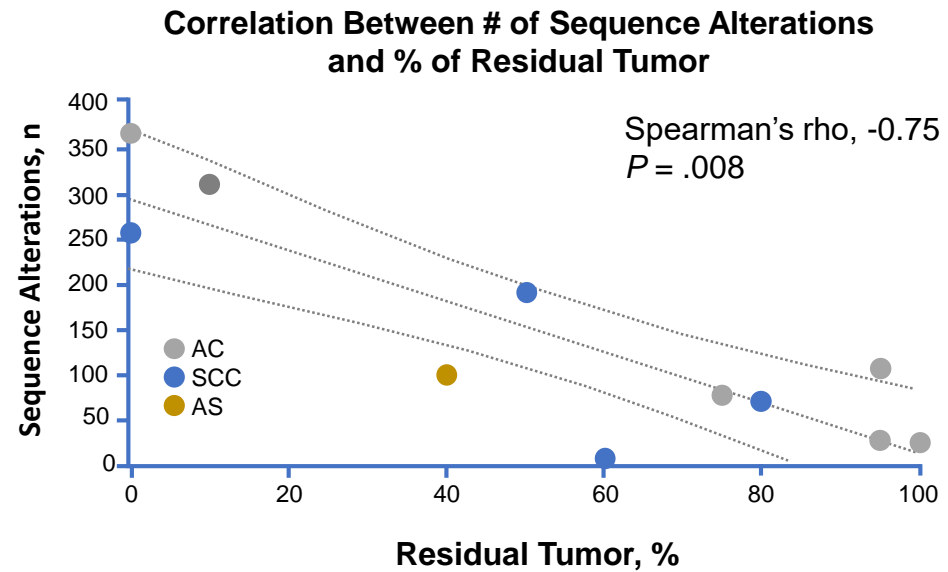
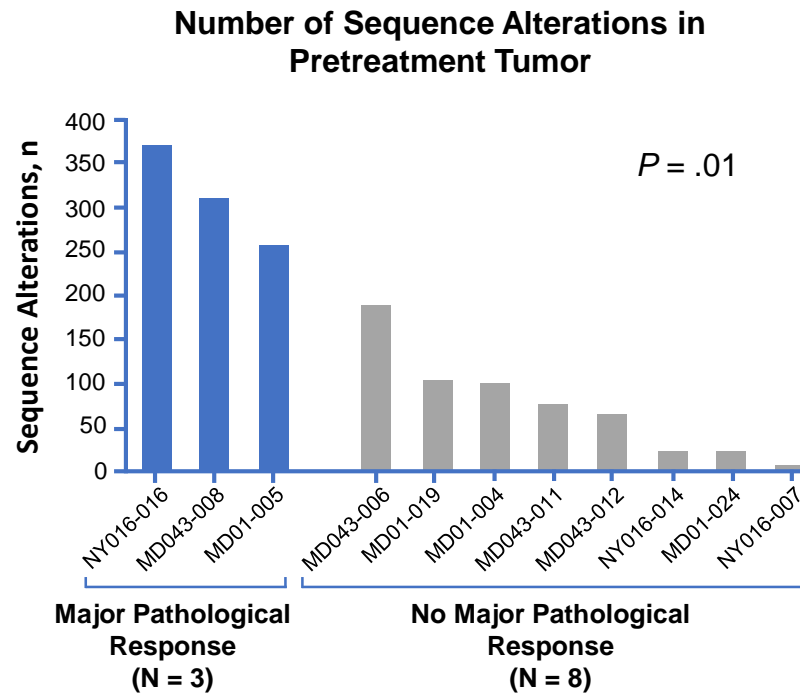
# Forde et al. 2018



- Major pathological response occurred in 9/20 resected tumors (45%; 95% CI, 23-68)
- Responses occurred in both PD-L1–positive/–negative tumors

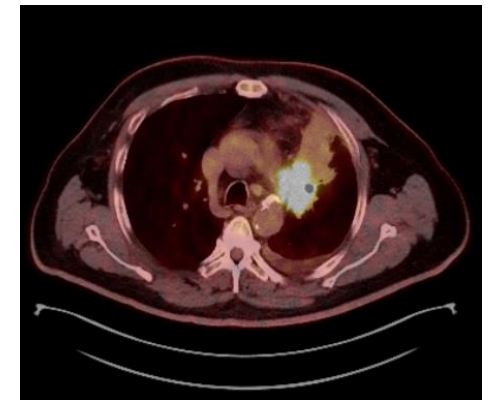
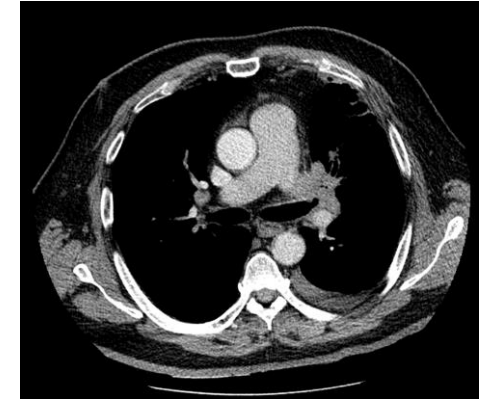


# Tumor Mutational Burden



# Neoadjuvant immunotherapy: The foundation trials

Study	Stage	N	Backbone	Published	MPR/CPR	Percent undergoing resection
JHU/MSKCC	IB-III A	21	Nivo x 2	NEJM 2018	45% / 15%	20 (95%)
NEOSTAR	I-III A	23 21	Nivo x 2 Nivo/Ipi	Nat Med 2021	17% / 9% 33% / 29%	39 (89%)
LCMC3	IB-III A	101	Atezo x 2	-	19% / 5%	90 (89%)
Weill Cornell	IB-III A	60	Durva x 2 Durva + SBRT x 2	Lancet Oncol 2021	6.7% / 0 53% / 31%	52 (87%)
Columbia / MGH	IB-III A	30	Atezo + carbo/tax	Lancet Oncol 2020	57% / 33%	29 (97%)
NADIM	III A	46	Nivo + carbo/tax	Lancet Oncol 2020	83% / 63%	41 (89%)





# Checkmate 816

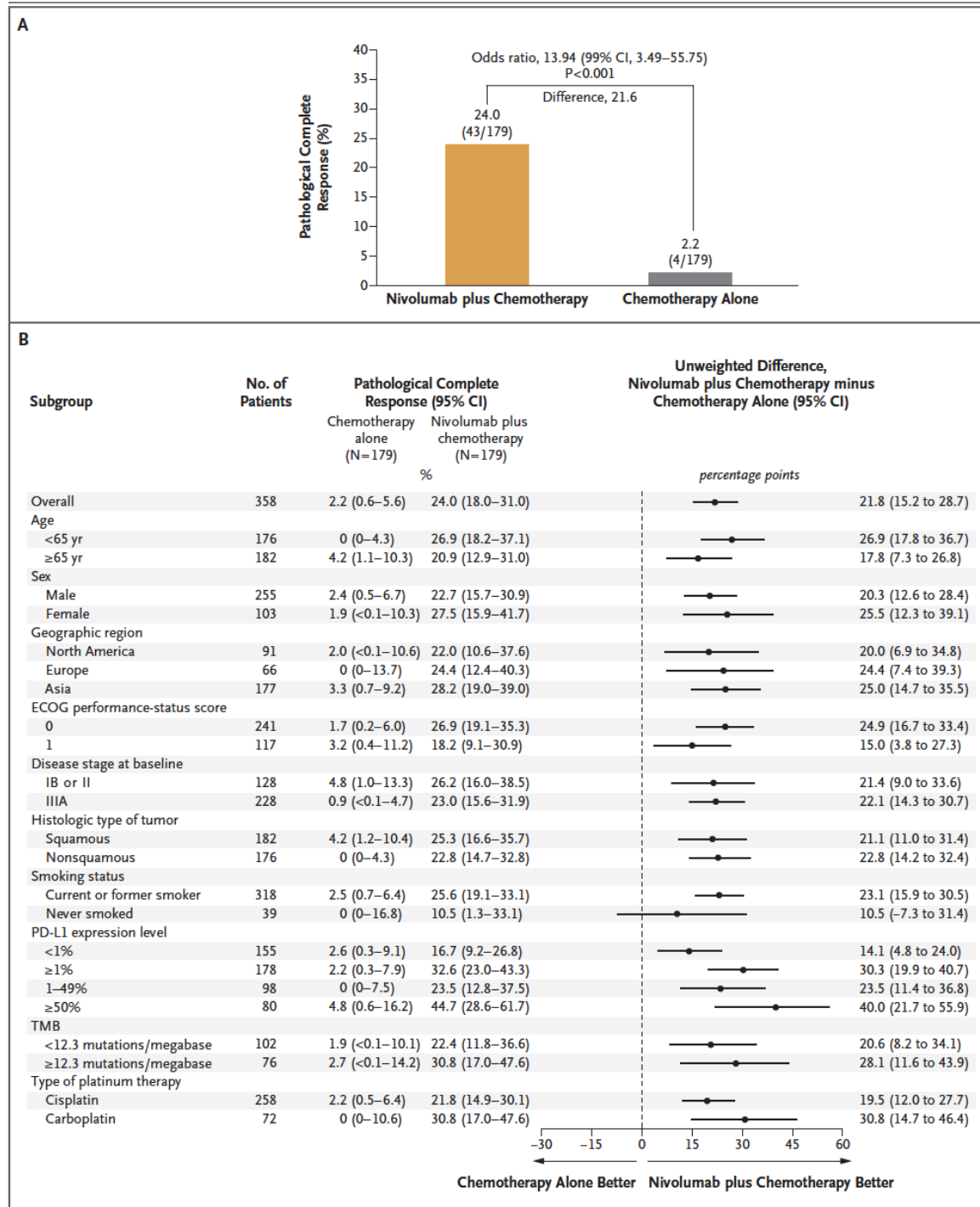
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Neoadjuvant Nivolumab plus Chemotherapy in Resectable Lung Cancer

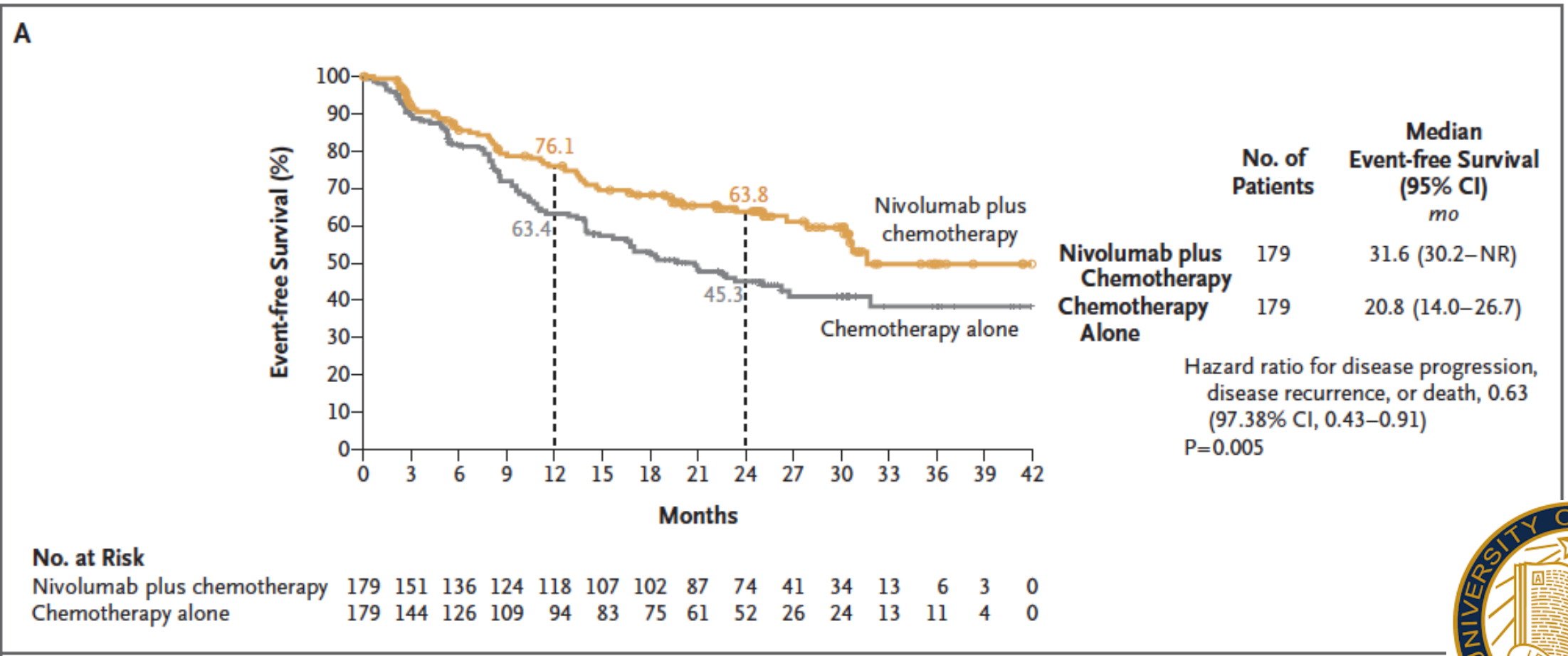
P.M. Forde, J. Spicer, S. Lu, M. Provencio, T. Mitsudomi, M.M. Awad, E. Felip, S.R. Broderick, J.R. Brahmer, S.J. Swanson, K. Kerr, C. Wang, T.-E. Ciuleanu, G.B. Saylor, F. Tanaka, H. Ito, K.-N. Chen, M. Liberman, E.E. Vokes, J.M. Taube, C. Dorange, J. Cai, J. Fiore, A. Jarkowski, D. Balli, M. Sausen, D. Pandya, C.Y. Calvet, and N. Girard, for the CheckMate 816 Investigators\*



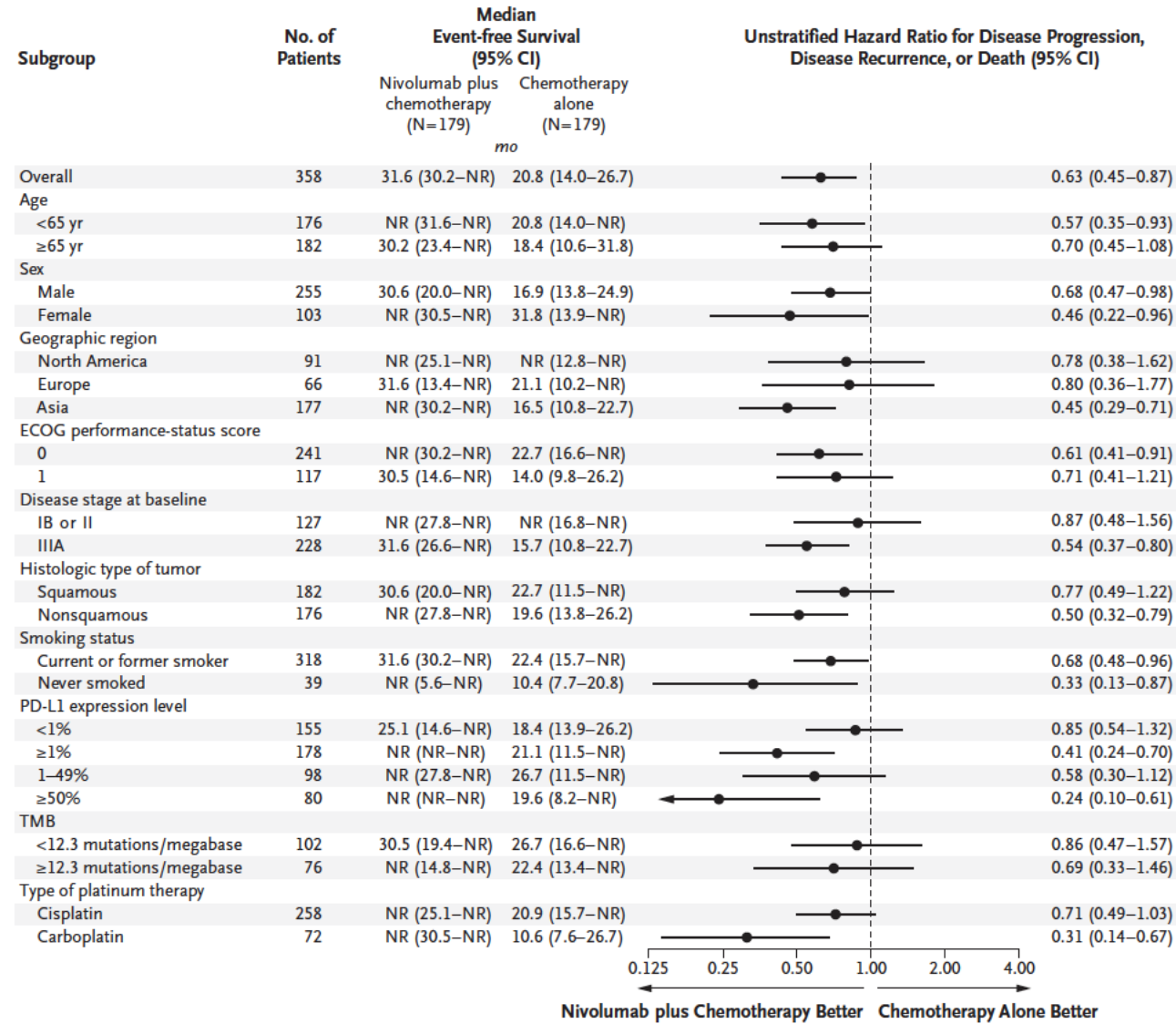
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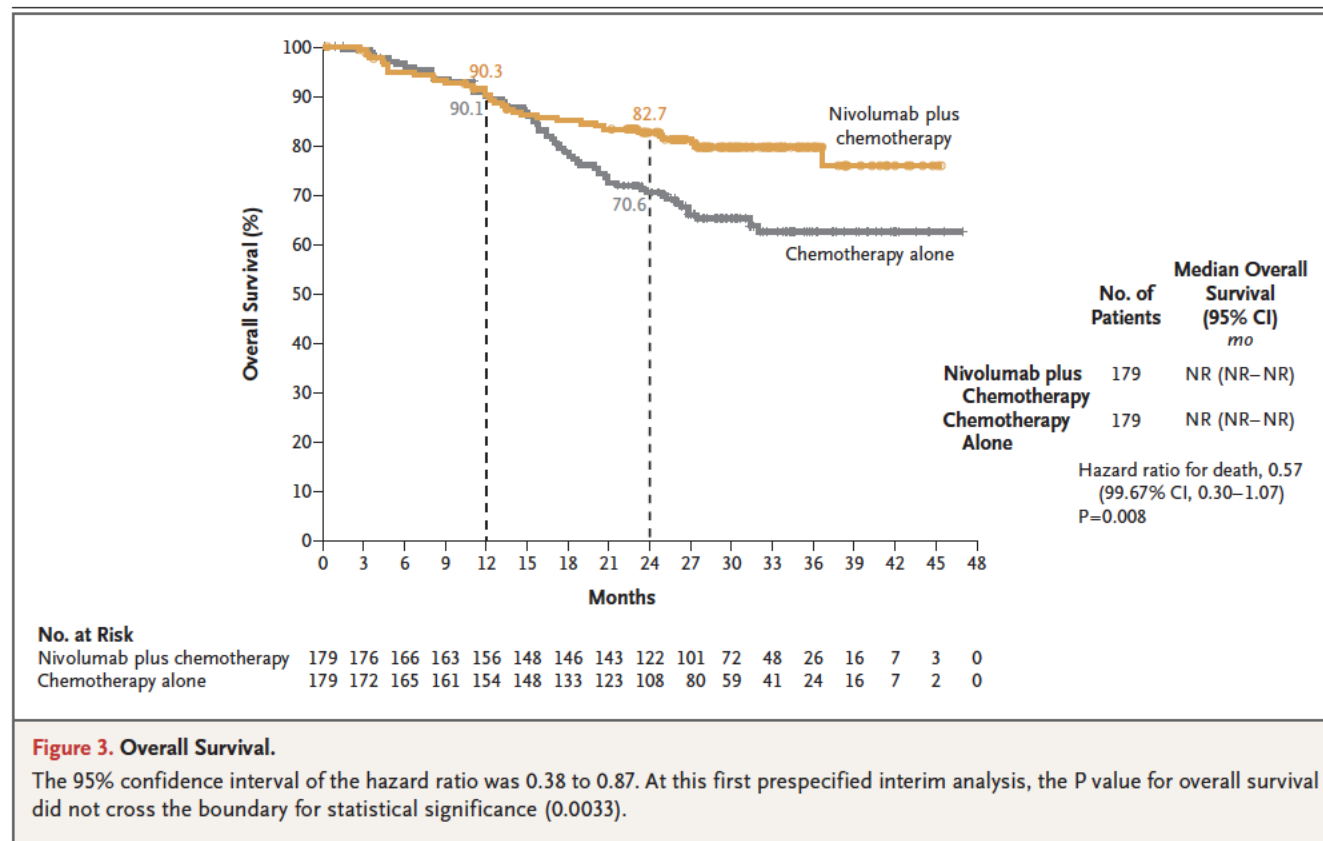
# Event-free Survival



**B**



# OS



**Table 2. Adverse Events.\***

Event	Nivolumab plus Chemotherapy (N= 176)		Chemotherapy Alone (N= 176)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4	Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4
Adverse events of any cause — no. (%)†				
All	163 (92.6)	72 (40.9)	171 (97.2)	77 (43.8)
Leading to discontinuation of treatment	18 (10.2)	10 (5.7)	20 (11.4)	7 (4.0)
Serious	30 (17.0)	19 (10.8)	24 (13.6)	17 (9.7)
Treatment-related adverse events — no. (%)†				
All	145 (82.4)	59 (33.5)	156 (88.6)	65 (36.9)
Leading to discontinuation of treatment	18 (10.2)	10 (5.7)	17 (9.7)	6 (3.4)
Serious	21 (11.9)	15 (8.5)	18 (10.2)	14 (8.0)
Death‡	0	—	3 (1.7)	—
Surgery-related adverse events — no./total no. (%)§				
	62/149 (41.6)	17/149 (11.4)	63/135 (46.7)	20/135 (14.8)

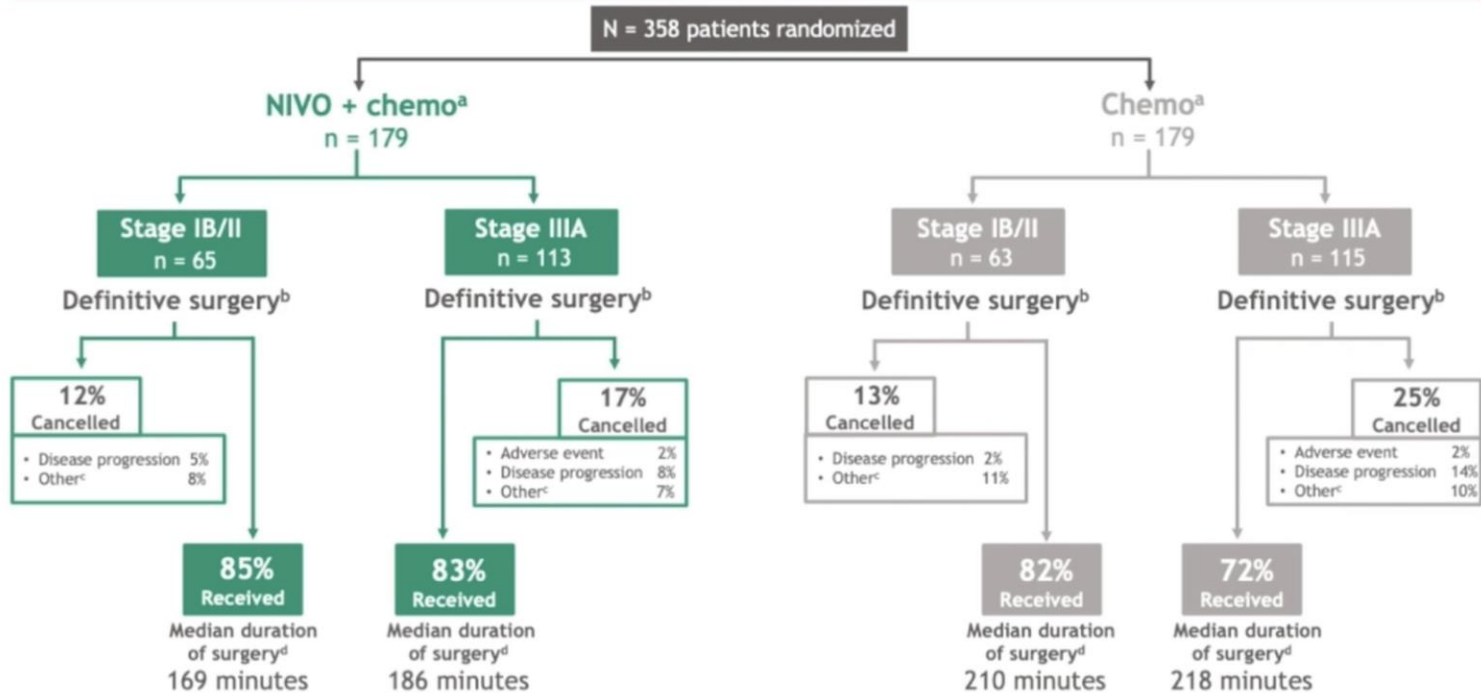
# What does that mean for us?

## IMPROVED surgical outcomes

Surgical outcomes from the phase 3 CheckMate 816 trial: nivolumab + platinum-doublet chemotherapy vs chemotherapy alone as neoadjuvant treatment for patients with resectable non-small cell lung cancer

CheckMate 816: surgical outcomes with neoadjuvant NIVO + chemo in resectable NSCLC

### Surgery summary: by baseline stage of disease



<sup>a</sup>1 patient with stage IV in each arm; <sup>b</sup>Patients with definitive surgery not reported: NIVO + chemo, 3% (stage IB/II), 0 (stage IIIA); chemo, 5% (stage IB/II), 3% (stage IIIA); <sup>c</sup>Other reasons included patient refusal, unresectability, and poor lung function; <sup>d</sup>Patients (n) with reported duration of surgery: NIVO + chemo, 46 (stage IB/II), 76 (stage IIIA); chemo, 47 (stage IB/II), 74 (stage IIIA); IQR for median duration of surgery: NIVO + chemo, 126.0-275.0 (stage IB/II) and 134.5-245.5 (stage IIIA); chemo, 150.0-267.0 (stage IB/II) and 147.0-290.0 (stage IIIA).



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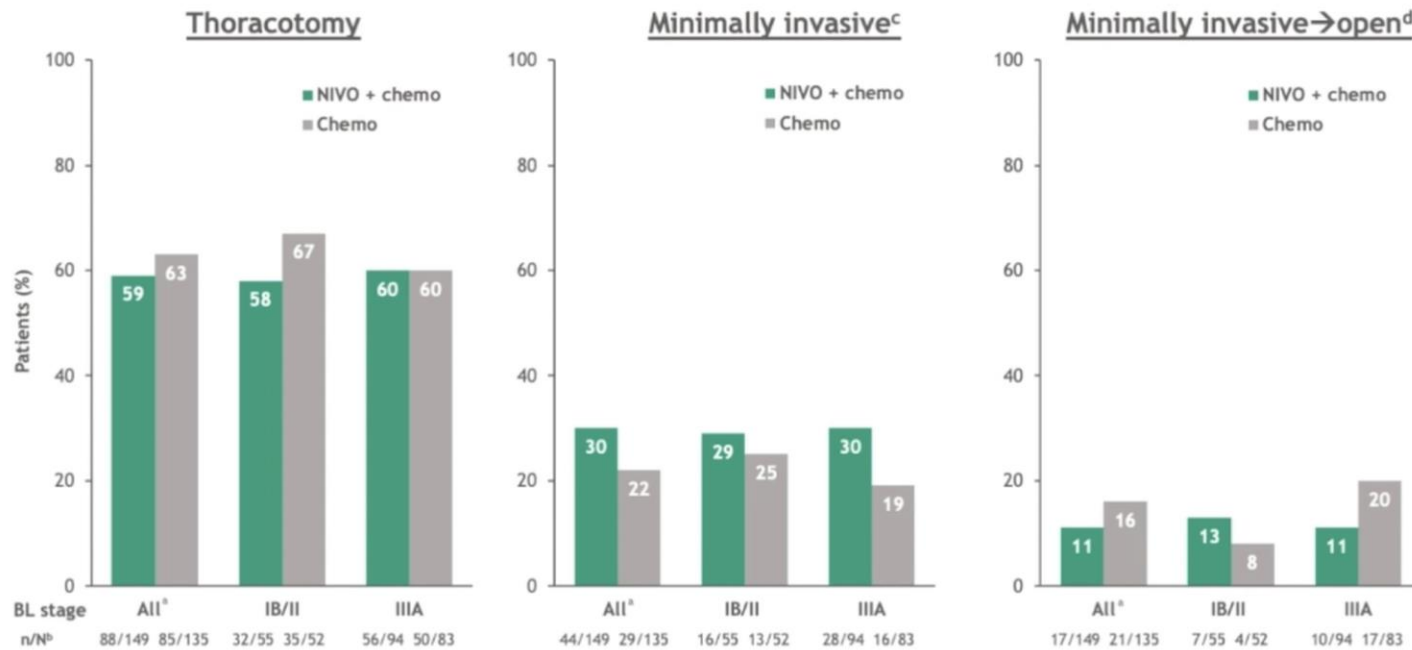
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# IMPROVED surgical outcomes

Surgical outcomes from the phase 3 CheckMate 816 trial: nivolumab + platinum-doublet chemotherapy vs chemotherapy alone as neoadjuvant treatment for patients with resectable non-small cell lung cancer

CheckMate 816: surgical outcomes with neoadjuvant NIVO + chemo in resectable NSCLC

## Surgical approach by baseline stage of disease



<sup>a</sup>Patients with all baseline stages of disease and definitive surgery; <sup>b</sup>Denominator based on patients with definitive surgery; <sup>c</sup>Thoracoscopic/robotic; <sup>d</sup>Minimally invasive to thoracotomy.



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# IMPROVED surgical outcomes

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CheckMate 816: surgical outcomes with neoadjuvant NIVO + chemo in resectable NSCLC

## Type of surgery by baseline stage of disease



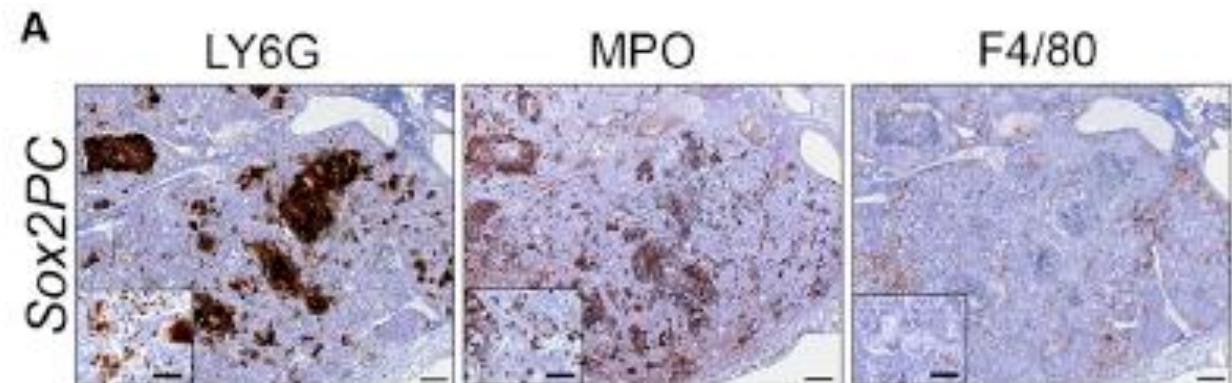
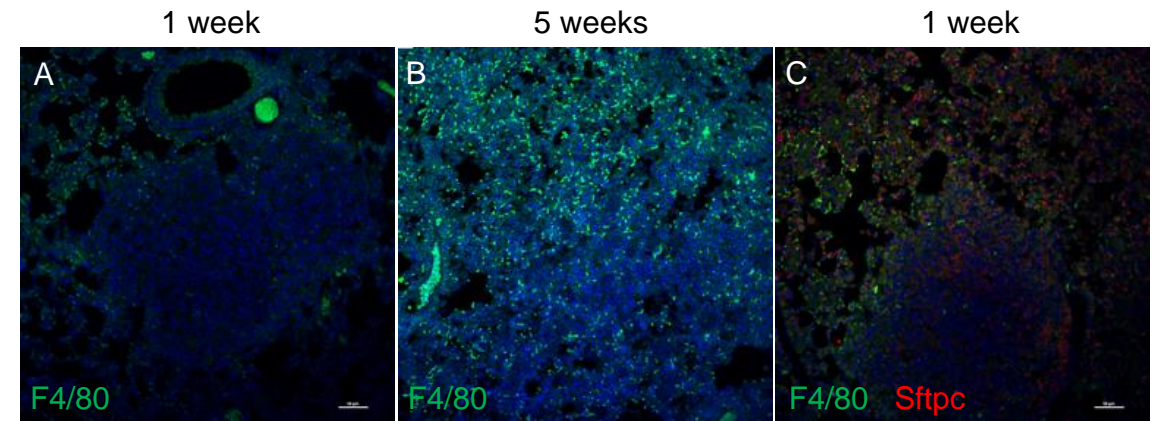
Patients may have had > 1 surgery type. Patient numbers (n/N) for stage IB/II and stage IIIA, respectively, for bilobectomy (NIVO + chemo: 1/55, 2/94; chemo: 2/52, 2/83), sleeve lobectomy (NIVO + chemo: 2/55, 0/94; chemo: 5/52, 5/83), and other (NIVO + chemo: 13/55, 11/94; chemo: 12/52, 9/83). <sup>a</sup>Patients with all baseline stages of disease with surgery.



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# Future

- Predictors of response: ctDNA, tertiary lymphoid structures
- Macrophage repolarization or inhibition for adenocarcinoma?
- Neutrophil inhibition in squamous cell cancer?



# Conclusions

- Neoadjuvant and adjuvant immunotherapy options are expanding
- Neoadjuvant chemo-immunotherapy does not appear to compromise (and may enhance) surgical safety
- We still await mature data on effect of these strategies on overall survival
- Identification of which patients are most likely to benefit and determination of appropriate duration of therapy remain key questions

