

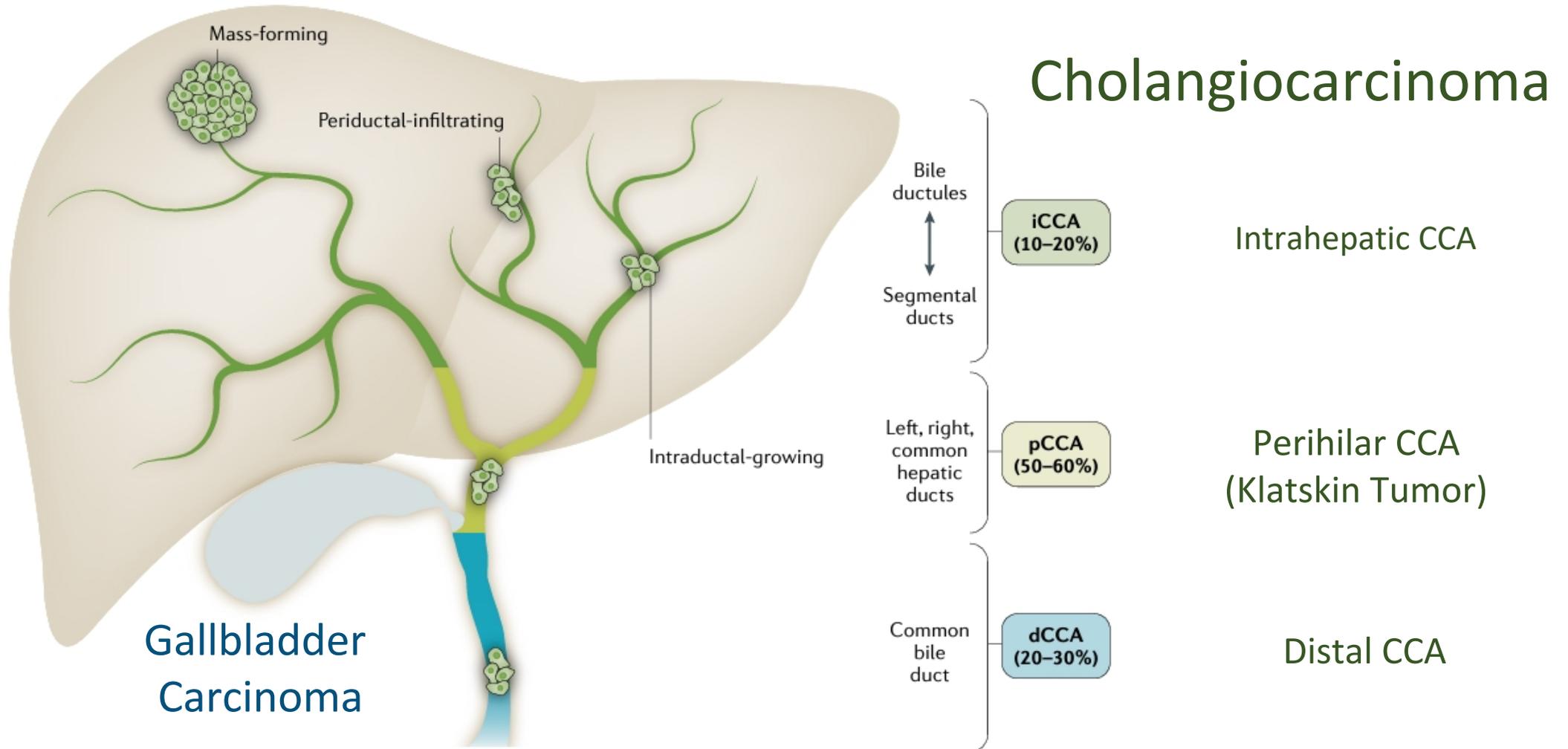
Oncology Review 2025: Biliary Tract Cancers

Gentry King, M.D.

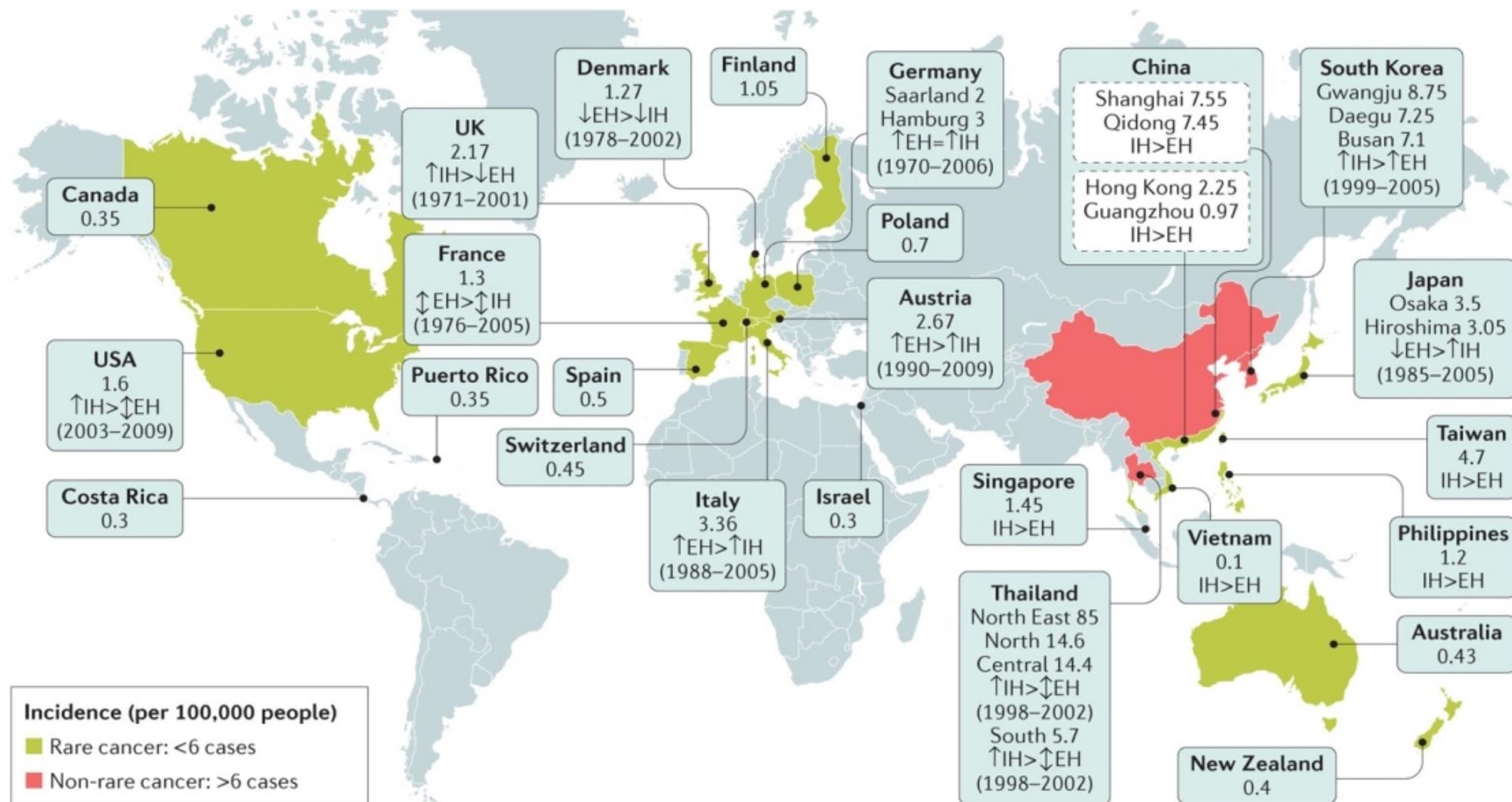
Associate Professor, Medical Oncology

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, University of Washington

Distinct Anatomic Subtypes



Cholangiocarcinoma: Low Incidence in West, Higher in East



Cholangiocarcinoma Risk Factors: East vs West

Great for clinical vignettes

West

Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (pCCA) (15% lifetime risk)
Congenital Fibropolycystic Disease (Caroli Syndrome, choledochal cyst) (pCCA) (15% lifetime risk)
Cirrhosis / Hepatitis, Obesity, DM, Etoh

East

Liver Fluke infestation * <i>Opisthorchis viverrini</i> * <i>Clonorchis sinensis</i> <i>Schistosoma japonicum</i>
Hepatolithiasis (SEA, Taiwan)
Recurrent Cholangitis

**Group 1: definite human carcinogen*

GBC Risk Factors: Chronic Inflammation

Chronic Cholecystitis

Chronic Salmonella Typhi

CCA Clinical Presentation: Depends on Location

- **Intrahepatic CCA:**

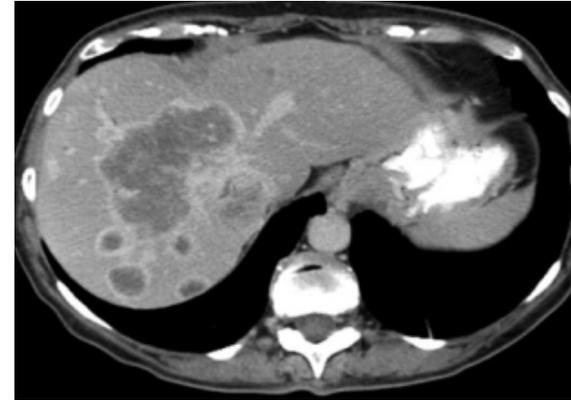
- **Mass-forming tumor**
- **Incidental finding, tumor of uncertain primary**
- Abd pain, anorexia, weight loss
- Alk Phos high, Bili often normal

- **Perihilar / Extrahepatic CCA:**

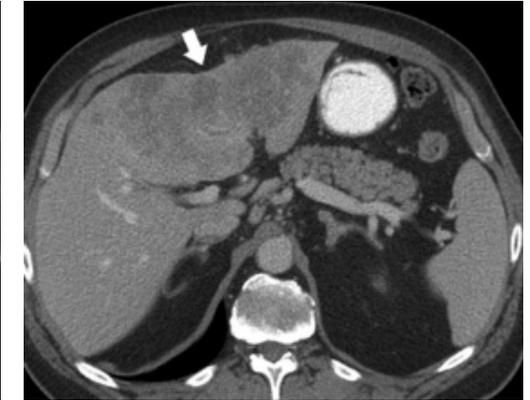
- **Biliary obstruction:** jaundice, cholangitis
- Perihilar mass or stricture (pCCA)
- Sometimes initially thought to be pancreas cancer (distal CCA)
- **PSC patients: rising CA 19-9**

One of the GI cancers that present as hypercalcemia of malignancy (hypercalcemia, hypophosphatemia, low parathyroid hormone levels, and low vitamin D levels)

Mass forming: fibrotic enhancement



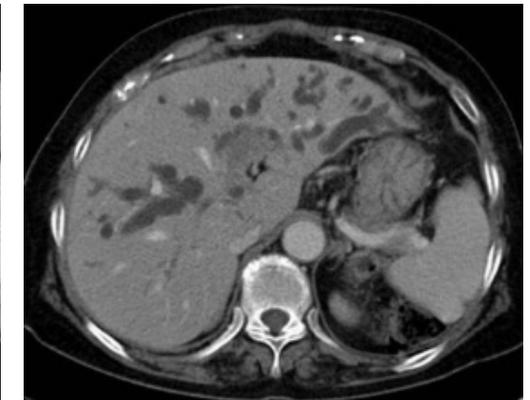
Capsular retraction



Klatskin tumor, bilateral bil dil

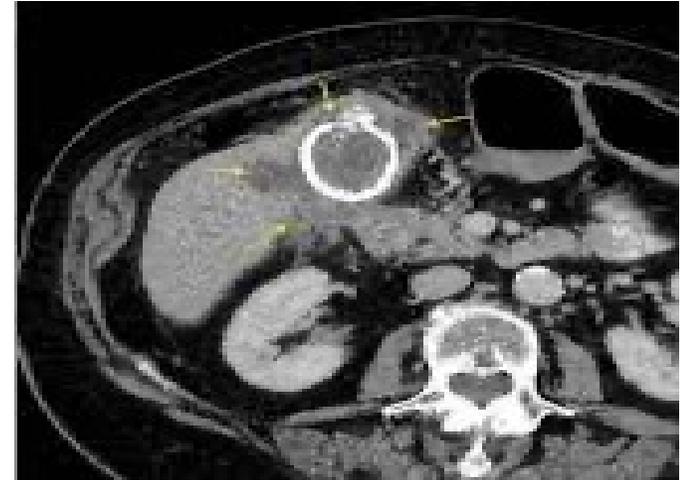


Intraductal growth



Clinical Presentation: Depends on Location

- **Gall Bladder Carcinoma:**
 - Most common presentation is **incidental** cancer found on routine cholecystectomy (1-2% of cholecystectomies)
 - Otherwise, typically advanced on presentation
 - **Porcelain gall bladder:** risk of GB CA



BTC Staging (AJCC 8th): Depends on type

	Intrahepatic	Perihilar	Extrahepatic	Gallbladder
T1	1 tumor w/o vascular invasion and is , T1a = ≤5 cm, T1b = ≥5 cm	Confined to bile duct	Bile duct wall invasion <5 mm	T1a: Invade lamina propria T1b: Invade muscularis propria
T2	One tumor w/ vascular invasion or Multiple tumors +/- vascular invasion	T2a/b: Invades adipose or liver tissue	Bile duct wall invasion 5-12 mm	T2a/b: Invades perimuscular connective tissue
T3	Any tumor perforating visceral peritoneum	Invades unilateral branches portal v or hepatic aa	Bile duct wall invasion >12 mm	Involvement of serosa or invasion of liver or adjacent organs
T4	Any tumor with direct invasion of local extrahepatic structures	Invades main PV or bilateral branches or CHA	Involves celiac axis, SMA, and/or CHA	Invades portal v, hepatic aa, or two or more extrahepatic organs
N1	Any + regional nodes	1-3	1-3	1-3
N2	N/A	≥4	≥4	≥4

Surgical Management

- **Intrahepatic:** Hepatic resection +/- portal LN dissection
- **Perihilar CCA:** Bile duct resection or **liver transplant**
- **Distal CCA:** Bile duct resection + cholecystectomy + **Whipple**
- **Gallbladder:** Cholecystectomy + **hepatic segmental resection (IVB/V), lymphadenectomy**, possible bile duct excision.

Resectable GBC: T1b and above is high risk

- **T1a:** no invasion of muscularis propria:
 - 75-100% long term survival
 - **Only simple cholecystectomy** needed, no adjuvant therapy
- **T1b:** muscle invasive disease
 - High risk of recurrence
 - **Cholecystectomy + hepatic segmental resection (segments IVB/V), lymphadenectomy, possible bile duct excision + adjuvant chemo**

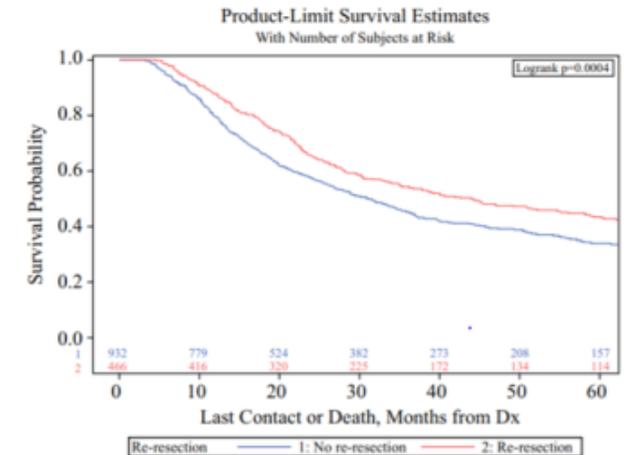
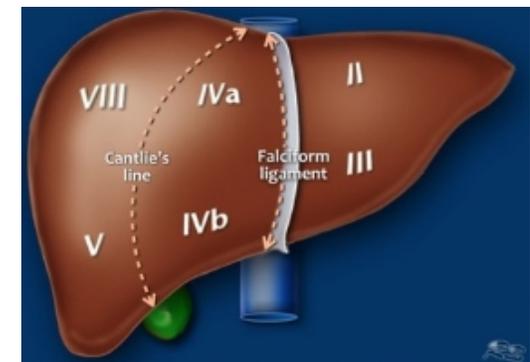


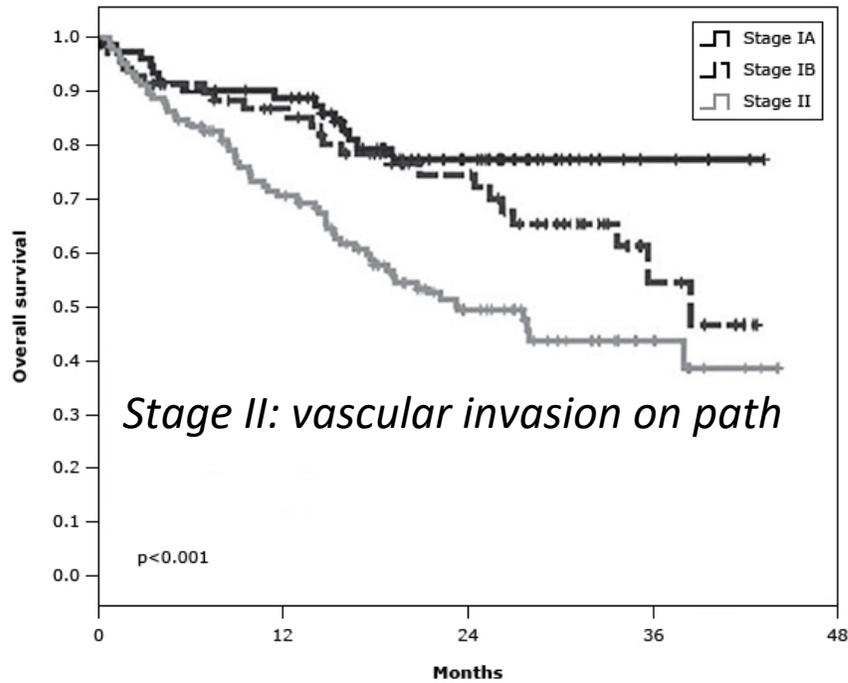
FIG. 5 Kaplan-Meier survival curves for gallbladder adenocarcinoma patients who did and did not undergo re-resection after matching



High Risk Features for Recurrence

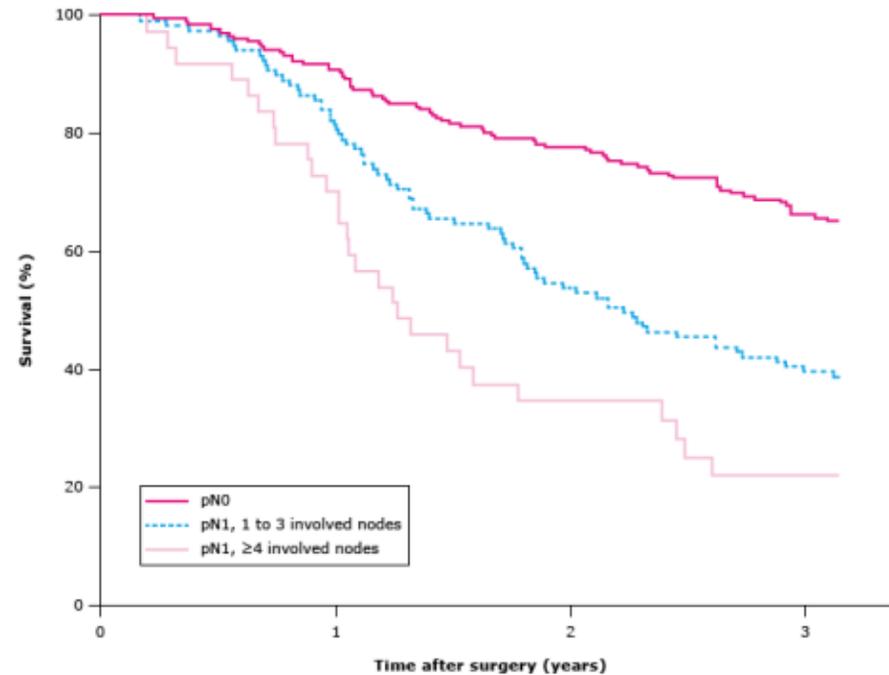
Main factors are stage, **nodal** involvement and **margin**

Stratification for survival in a series of 861 patients with intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma based on revised AJCC/UICC 8th edition definitions for stage IA, IB, and II disease



AJCC 8th Ed

Survival after potentially curative resection in a multi-institutional series of 370 patients undergoing pancreaticoduodenectomy for a distal bile duct cancer



Kiriya M, Ebata T, Aoba T, et al. Br J Surg 2015; 102:399.

Adjuvant Therapy: BILCAP

something is better than nothing

- Randomized open-label multi-center UK ph III trial: Cape vs Obs
- Took 10 years to complete

CCA or muscle-invasive GBC
cancer macroscopic complete
resection

ECOG 0-2

Within 16 weeks of surgery

R

N=447

Observation

Capecitabine 1250 mg/m² BID
D1-14q3 wk
8 cycles N=51

Primary: Overall survival (OS) by **intention-to-treat**

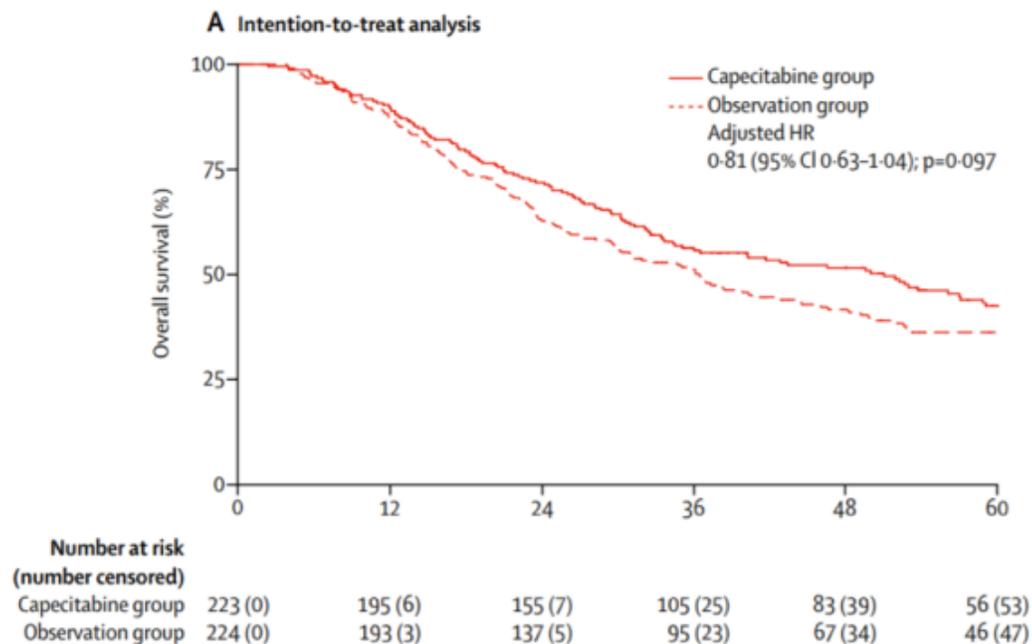
Secondary: Outcome by **per-protocol analysis**

Relapse free survival (RFS)

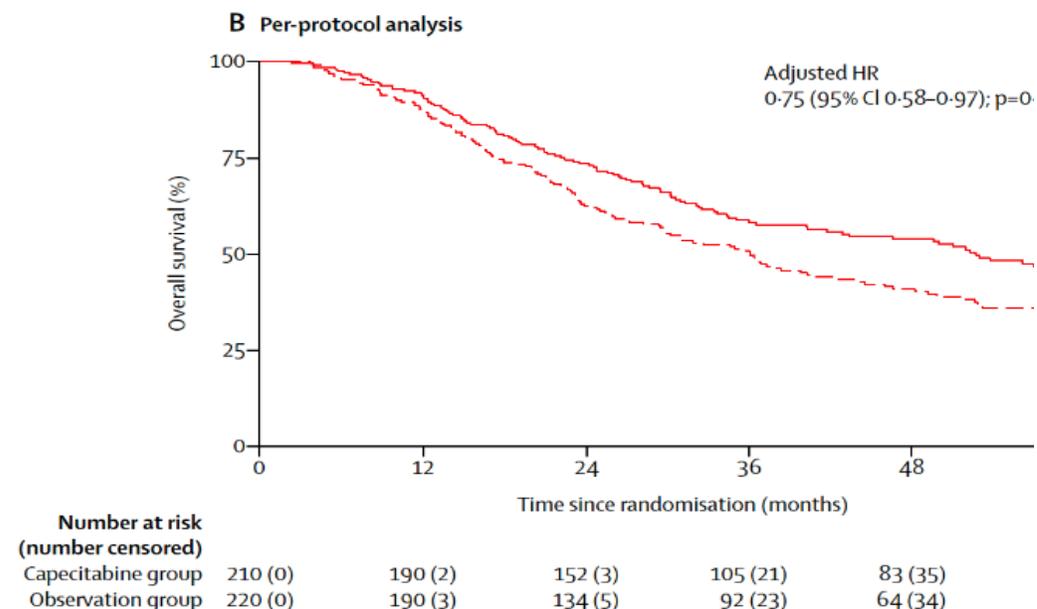
Toxicity, Quality of life, Health economics

BILCAP: Highest level of evidence in adjuvant tx

Intention-to-treat analysis

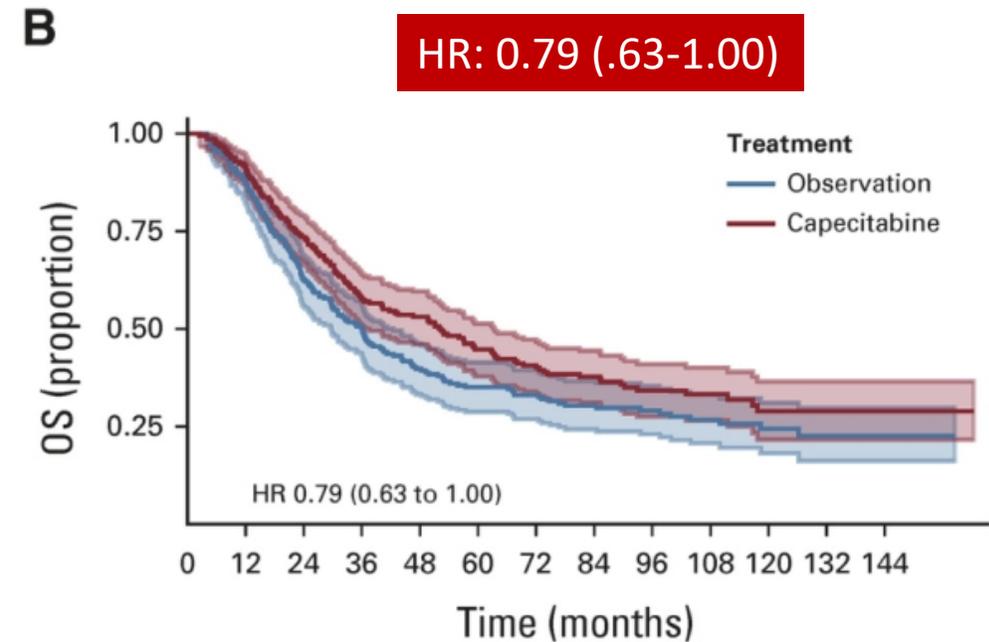
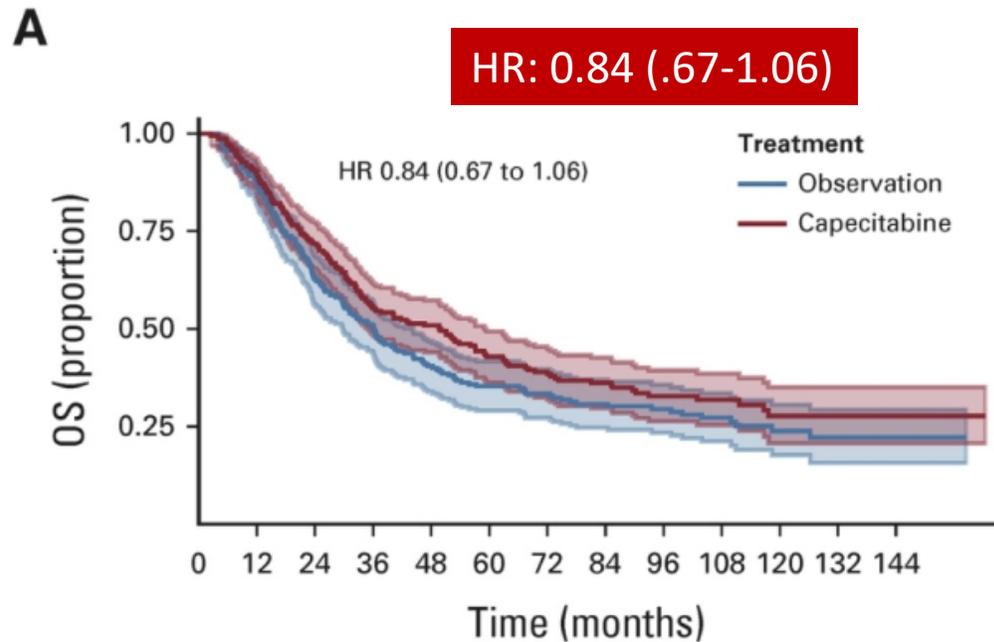


Per-protocol analysis



- No OS benefit in ITT analysis, but **OS benefit seen in Per-protocol Analysis**
- Difference of 17 patients ineligible/withdrawal of consent prior to starting treatment
- **Median OS: 53 mo vs 36 months**
- **Median RFS: 25.9 mo vs 17.5 mo (similar for both ITT and per-protocol analysis)**

BILCAP: 8 year follow up: still meh



- Planned sensitivity analyses in the ITT population showed an **OS HR for capecitabine of 0.74 (0.59 to 0.94), after ADJUSTING** for the effect of identified prognostic factors (nodal status, grade of disease, and sex, in addition to the minimization variables site of disease, resection status, and ECOGPS).

No OS benefit in ITT analysis, but **OS benefit seen in Per-protocol Analysis...but barely made the cut and the benefit mostly in the first 2 years**

STAMP: More Adjuvant Chemo not better for eCCA

Multicenter, open-label, randomized Ph II, 3 Korean centers

Extrahepatic CCA (pCCA,dCCA)
Adenocarcinoma histology
Macroscopic Resection (R0, R1)
≥1 regional LN met
ECOG 0-1

R

N=101

Gemcitabine 1000mg/m²
Cisplatin 25mg/m², D1,8
8 cycles N=50

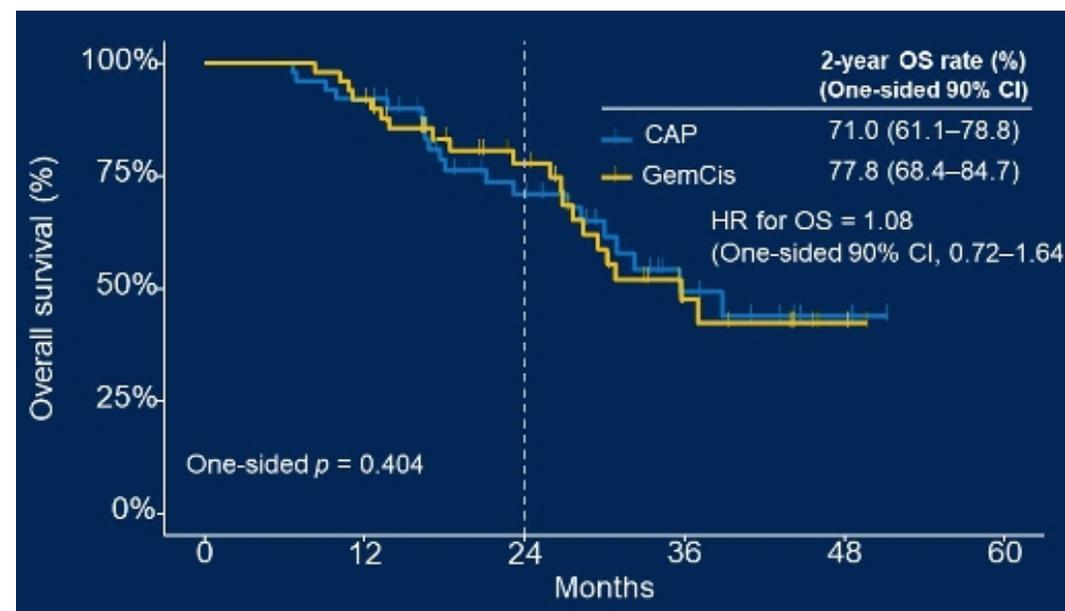
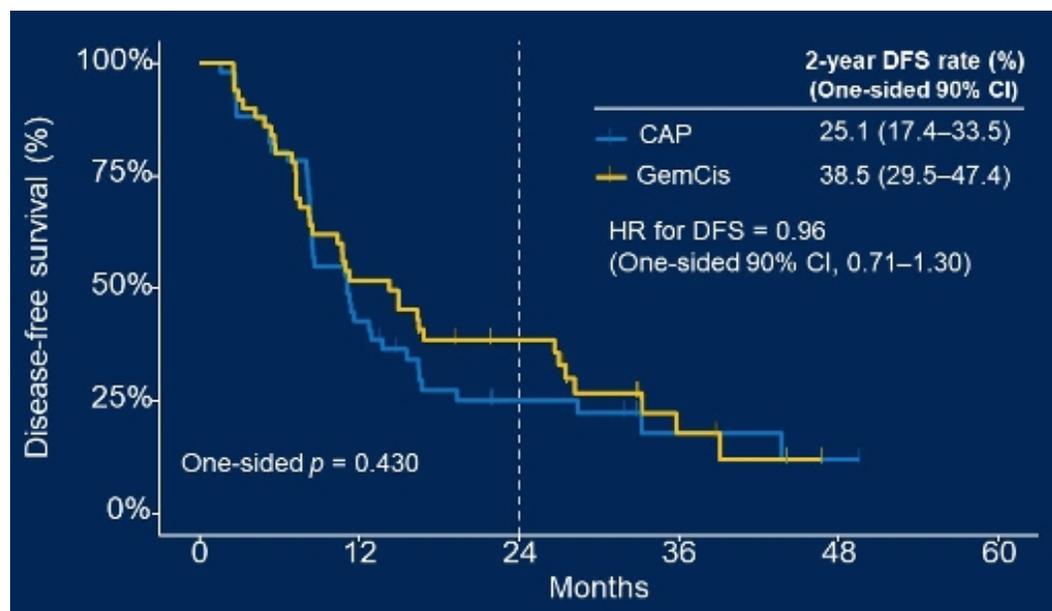
Capecitabine 1250 mg/m² BID
D1-14q3 wk
8 cycles N=51

Primary Endpoint: DFS

Secondary Endpoint OS, Safety, EORTC QLQ

Adjuvant Therapy: More not Better for eCCA

STAMP: Multicenter, open-label, randomized Ph II, 3 Korean centers



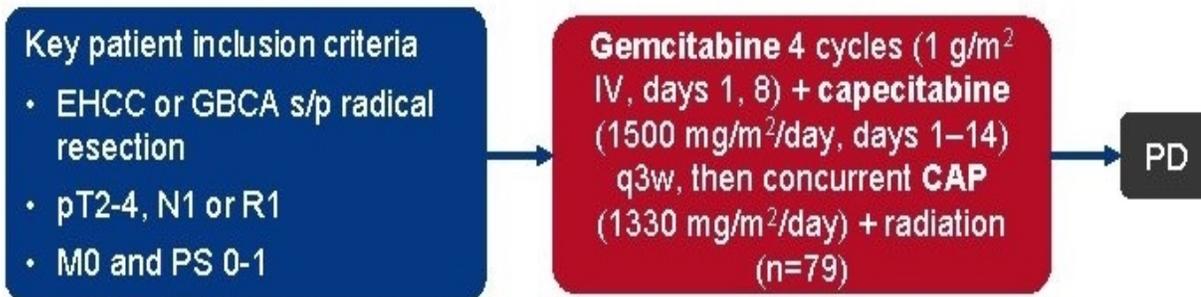
Negative study: no statistical difference in PFS or OS
No trends in subgroup analysis
More grade 3 AE with GemCis (42%) vs Cape (16%), mostly cytopenias

Unknown for iCCA

Prospective Data: SWOG 0809 for eCCA /GBC

Phase II trial, single arm trial attempted to establish a standard practice (2014) for adjuvant therapy of **eCCA & GBC**, N=79 pT2-4 AND either N+ or R1 resection

4 cycles Gem/Cape → cape chemoradiation 54-59 Gy



Primary endpoint: OS
Secondary Endpoints: DFS, Safety

	All pts (% , 95% CI)	Extrahepatic	Gallbladder
2-yr OS	65 (53-74)	68 (54-79)	56 (35-73)
2-yr DFS	54 (40-66)	54 (39-66)	48 (28-66)
2-yr LR	11 (4-18)	13 (4-22)	8 (0-19)

86% completed therapy
mOS 34 months
Applicability limited due to single arm

Systemic Therapy for BTC: Rapidly Evolving

First-line

Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 ABC-02 (included ampullary)
 ORR: 26% (vs 21%), mOS: 11mo

2010

**Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 Durvalumab**
 TOPAZ-1
 ORR: 26.7% (vs 18.7%), mOS 12.8mo

2022

**Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 Pembrolizumab**
 Keynote 966
 ORR: 29%, mOS 12.7mo

2023

*Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 Nab-Paclitaxel ? SWOG 1815 was negative*

Second-line

No Targets

FOLFOX
 ABC-06
 ORR: 5%, mOS 6.2mo

2018

5-FU NaI-IRI
 Nifty
 ORR: 14.8%, mOS 8.6mo

2021

FGFR2 fusion

***Pemigatinib**
 FIGHT-302
 ORR: 35.5%, mOS 21.2mo

2020

***Futibatinib**
 FOENIX-CCA2
 ORR: 42%, mOS 21.7mo

2022

IDH-1 mutation

Ivosidenib
 ClarIDHy
 ORR: 2%, mOS 10.3

2022

BRAF V600E

Dabrafenib/Trametinib
 ROAR tissue agnostic, ORR: 36%, DCR 76%

2022

ERBB2 amplification
 HER 2 "positive"

+Trastuzumab/Pertuzumab
 MyPathway, ORR: 40%

T-Dxd (Enhertu)
 DESTINY Pan-Tumor02 ORR:22%, mOS 7mo

MSI-H

Pembrolizumab
 KEYNOTE cohorts ORR:39.6%

2017

Dostarlimab-glyx
 GARNET ORR: 41.6%

2021

NTRK fusion

Larotrectinib
 LoxoTRK, SCOUT, NAVIGATE ORR: ~60-70%

2018

Entrectinib
 STARTRK1,2 ORR: 57%

2019

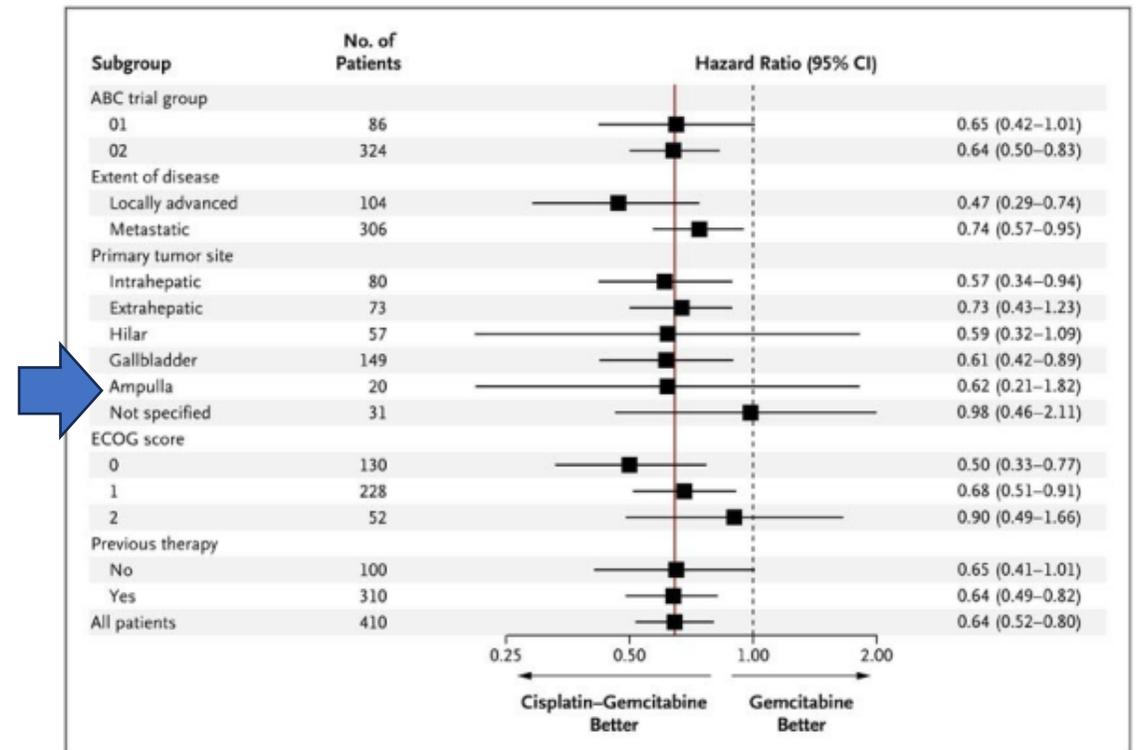
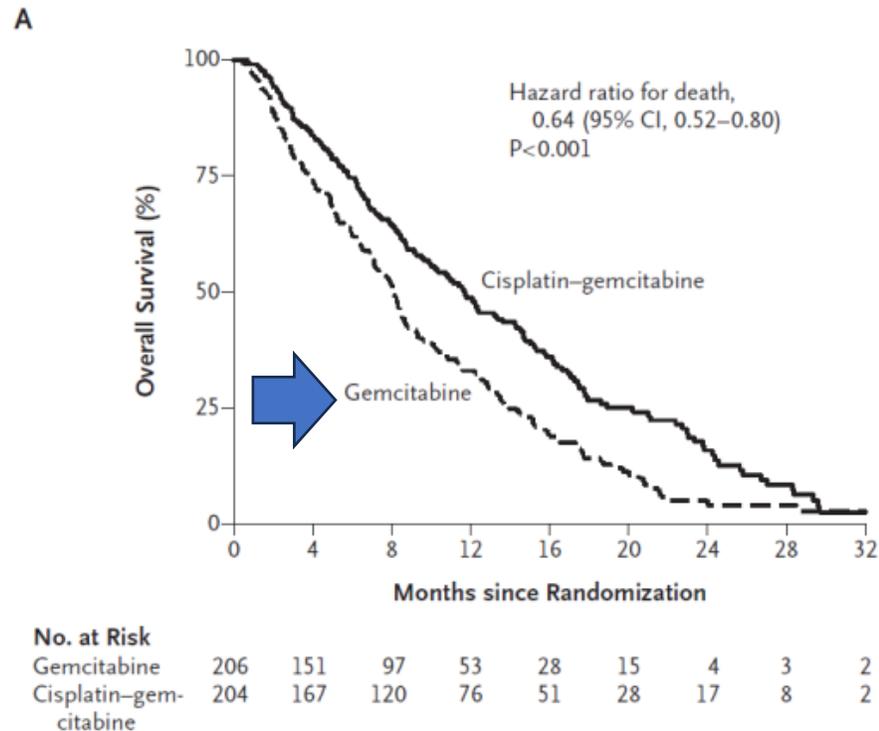
RET Fusion

+Pralsetinib
 BLU-667, tumor agnostic, 2B rec

2022

Systemic Therapy for BTC: The Early Days

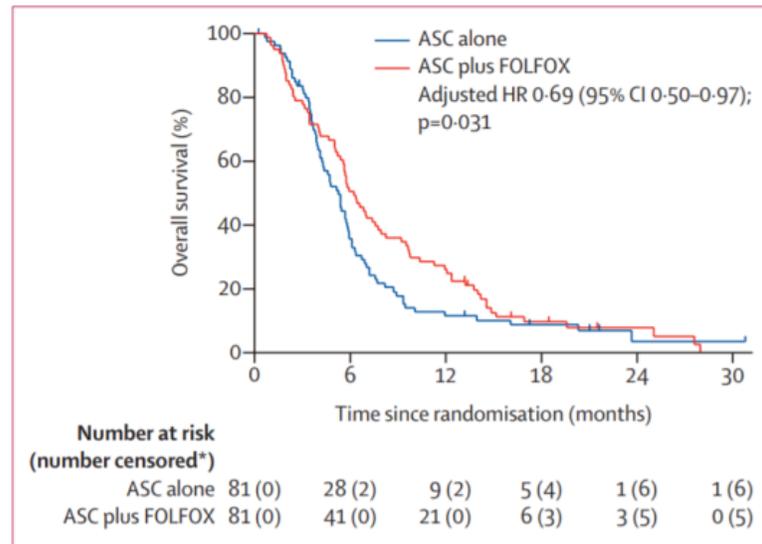
ABC-02 trial: Randomized Ph III trial Gemcitabine vs Gemcitabine + Cisplatin in **first-line BTC**



Improved DCR: 81.4% vs. 71.8% (p=0.049), ORR: 26% vs 21 %
mOS 11.7 vs. 8.1 months (p<0.001), Treatment compliance better with Gem Cis

Second-line: Options: which one?

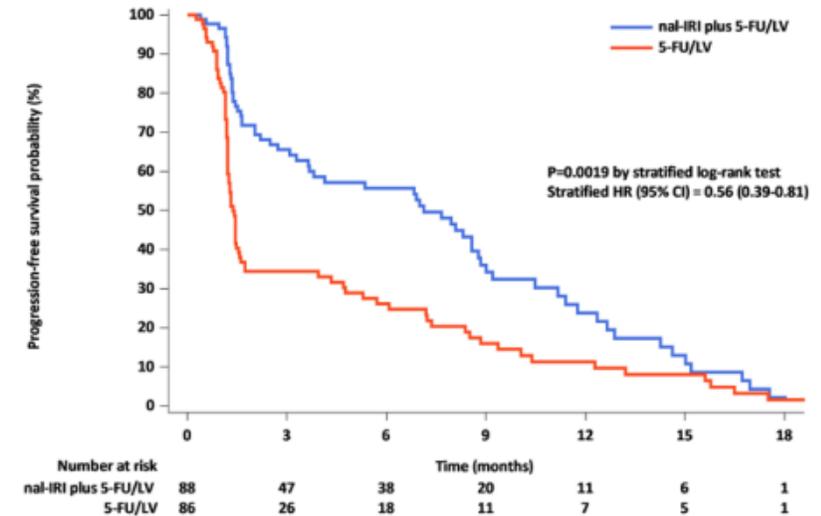
ABC-06: FOLFOX vs ASC (UK)



	FOLFOX	ASC
Median OS	6.2 mo	5.3 mo
Median PFS	4.0 mo	N/A
ORR	5%	N/A

Lamarca A, et al. *Lancet Oncol* 2021; 22:690-701.

NIFTY: 5-FU vs 5-FU+Nal-IRI (Korea)



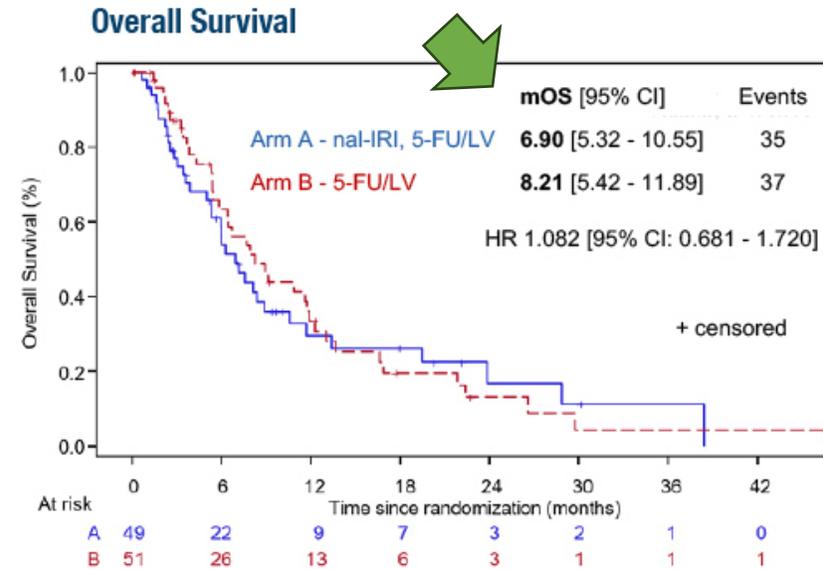
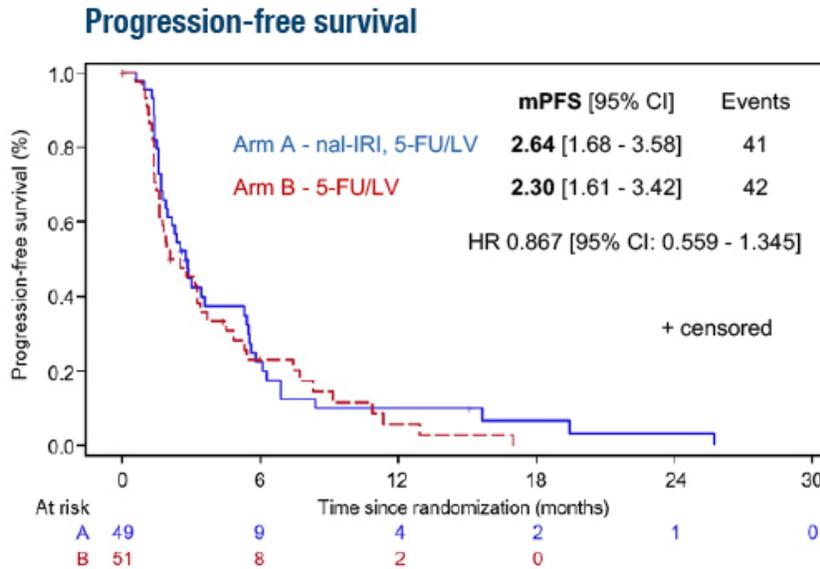
	Nal-IRI+ 5-FU/LV	5-FU-/LV
Median OS	8.6 mo	5.5 mo
Median PFS	3.9 mo	1.6 mo
ORR	14.8%	5.8%

Yoo C, et al. Abstract 4006. 2021 ASCO Annual Meeting

NALIRICC: Different results in Germany

NALIRICC I Efficacy Results

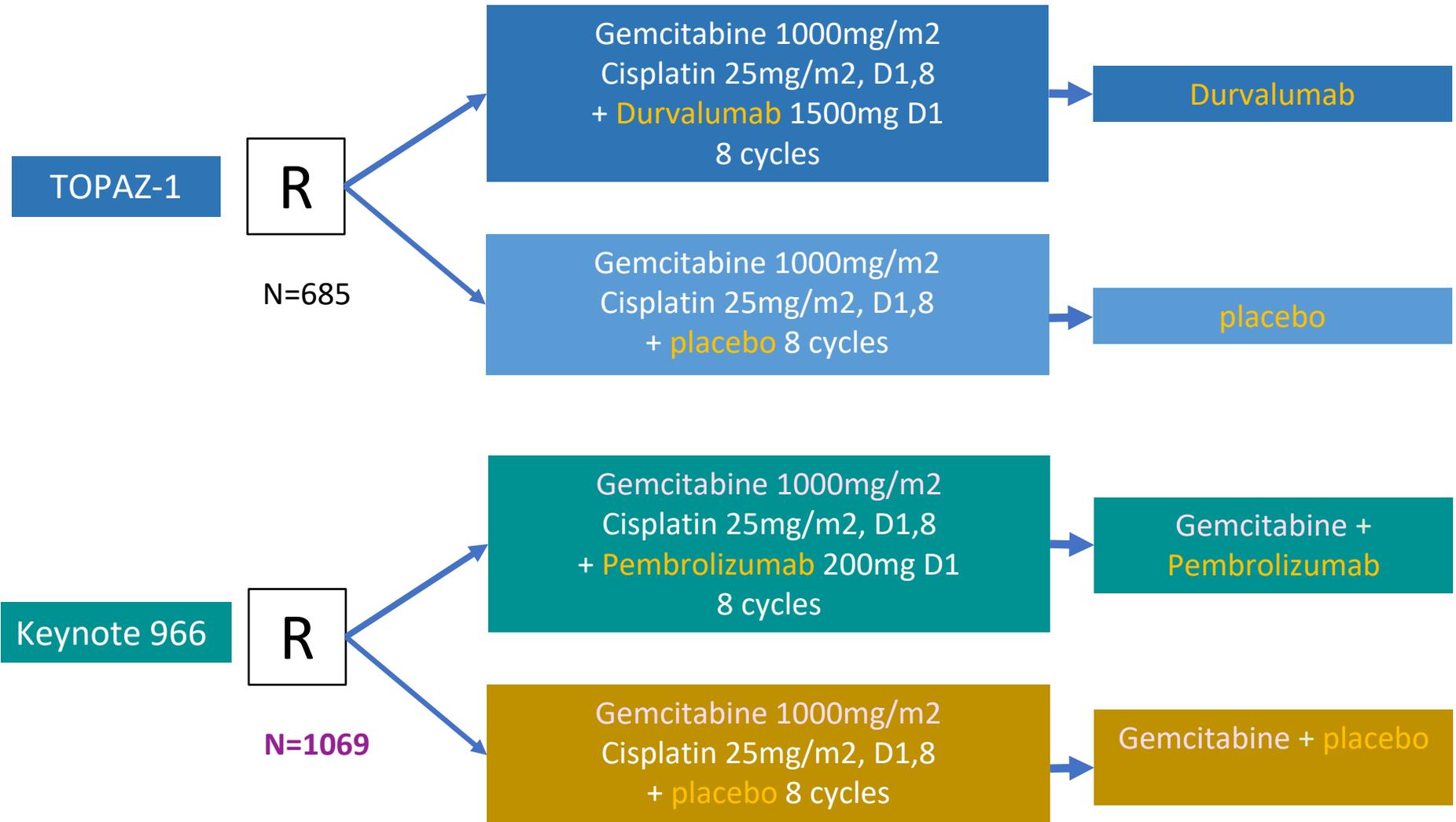
Response was evaluated per RECIST v1.1, every 6 weeks



		CR	PR	SD	PD	Missing value	ORR	DCR
		Complete remission	Partial remission	Stable disease	Progressive disease			
Arm A - Nal-IRI, 5-FU/LV	N = 49	1 (2.0%)	6 (12.2%)	18 (36.7%)	12 (24.5%)	12 (24.5%)	7 (14.3%)	25 (51.0%)
Arm B - 5-FU/LV	N = 51	1 (2.0%)	1 (2.0%)	21 (41.2%)	20 (39.2%)	8 (15.7%)	2 (3.9%)	23 (45.1%)

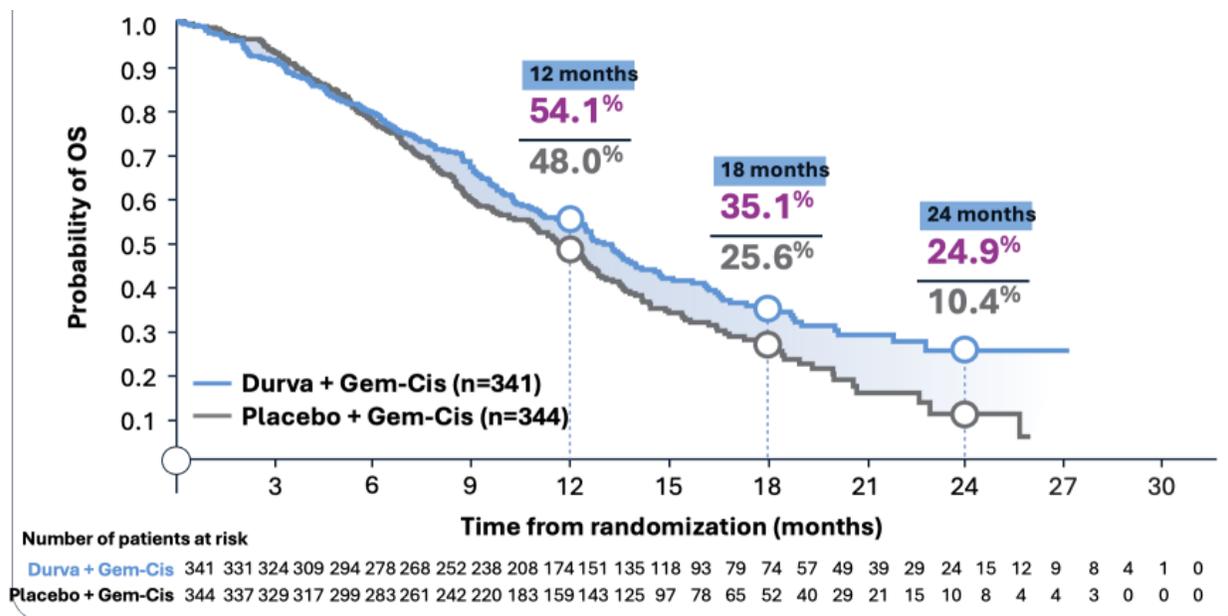
New First-line treatment : ICI + Chemo

Locally Advanced or Metastatic BTC (CCA, GBC)
Treatment Naïve or >6mo from curative intent surgery
ECOG 0-1



New First-line treatment : ICI + Chemo

TOPAZ-1



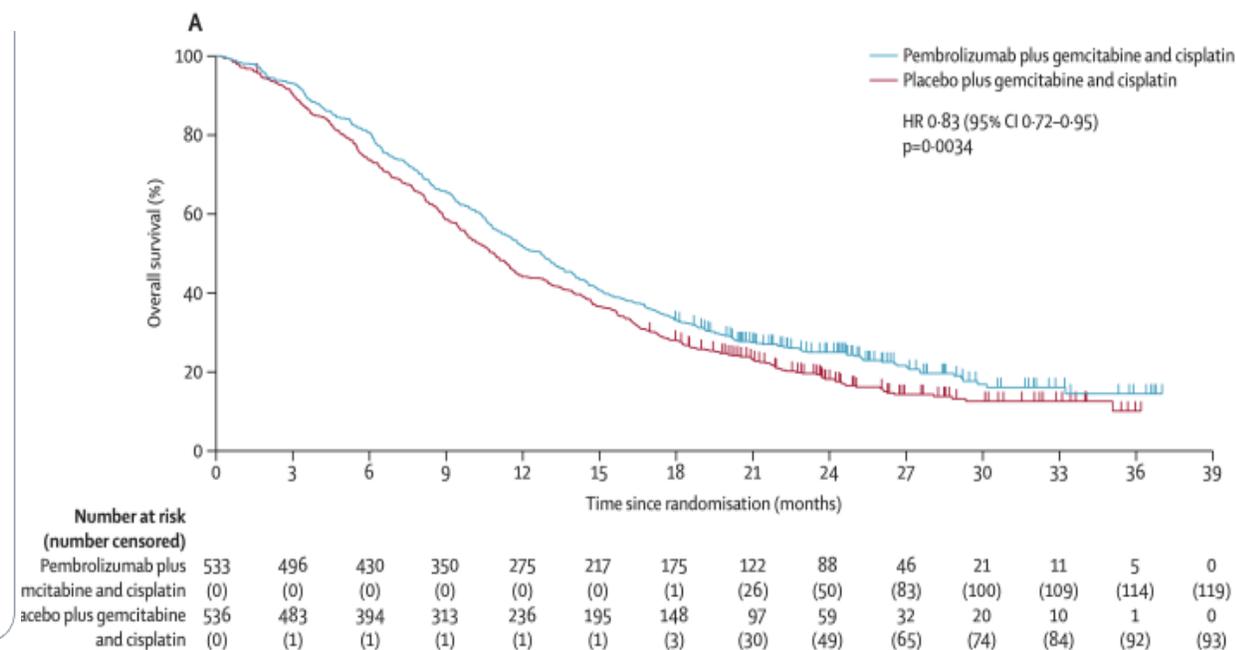
HR: 0.80 (95% CI 0.66-0.97), P=0.021 (sig)

GC+ Durva: mOS: 12.8

GC+ Placebo: mOS: 11.5

1.3mo diff

Keynote-966



HR: 0.83 (95% CI 0.72-0.95), P=0.0034 (sig)

GC+ Pembro: mOS: 12.7

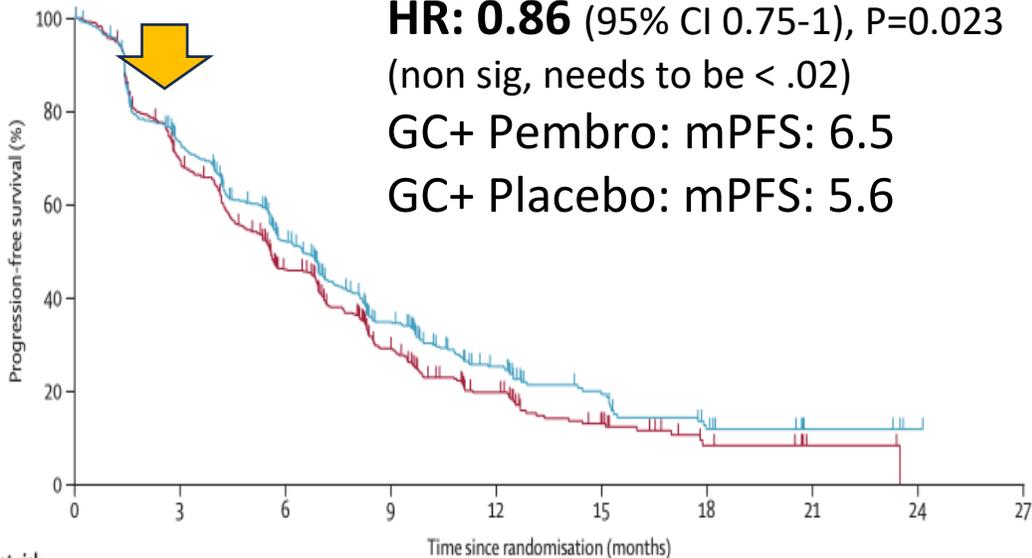
GC+ PemPlac: mOS: 10.9

1.8mo diff

Benefit for those with response

Keynote-966

PFS: not stat sig (-), trend, separated early, sustained



	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27
Number at risk										
(number censored)										
Pembrolizumab plus gemcitabine and cisplatin	533 (0)	368 (27)	238 (55)	121 (101)	62 (131)	29 (153)	14 (158)	5 (167)	1 (171)	0 (172)
Placebo plus gemcitabine and cisplatin	536 (0)	352 (25)	211 (50)	99 (94)	51 (113)	21 (130)	7 (139)	2 (144)	0 (145)	0 (145)

Keynote-966

Blinded central review

	GC + Pembro	GC + Placebo
ORR	29%	29%
DoR	9.7	6.9
24mo ongoing OR	18%	6%

TOPAZ-1

Investigator review

	GC + Durva	GC + Placebo
ORR	27%	19%
DoR	6.4	6.2
>12mo ongoing OR	26%	15%

Who benefits? Additive / Synergistic?

Experience with ICI monotherapy

Original Investigation

FREE

April 30, 2020

A Phase 2 Multi-institutional Study of Nivolumab for Patients With Advanced Refractory Biliary Tract Cancer

Richard D. Kim, MD¹; Vincent Chung, MD²; Olatunji B. Alese, MD³; et al

[» Author Affiliations](#) | [Article Information](#)

JAMA Oncol. 2020;6(6):888-894. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2020.0930

Meeting Abstract: 2023 ASCO Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium

FREE ACCESS | Hepatobiliary Cancer | January 24, 2023



A multicenter, single-arm, phase II study of nivolumab in patients with biliary tract cancer with a PD-L1 combined positive score ≥ 1 .

Authors: [Masayuki Furukawa](#), [Makoto Ueno](#), [Daisuke Sakai](#), [Kota Ouchi](#), [Yasuo Hamamoto](#), [Hiroshi Aika](#), [Masato Ozaka](#), ... [SHOW ALL](#) ..., and [Junji Furuse](#)

[Furuse](#) | [AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS](#)

Publication: *Journal of Clinical Oncology* • [Volume 41, Number 4 suppl](#) • https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2023.41.4_suppl.533

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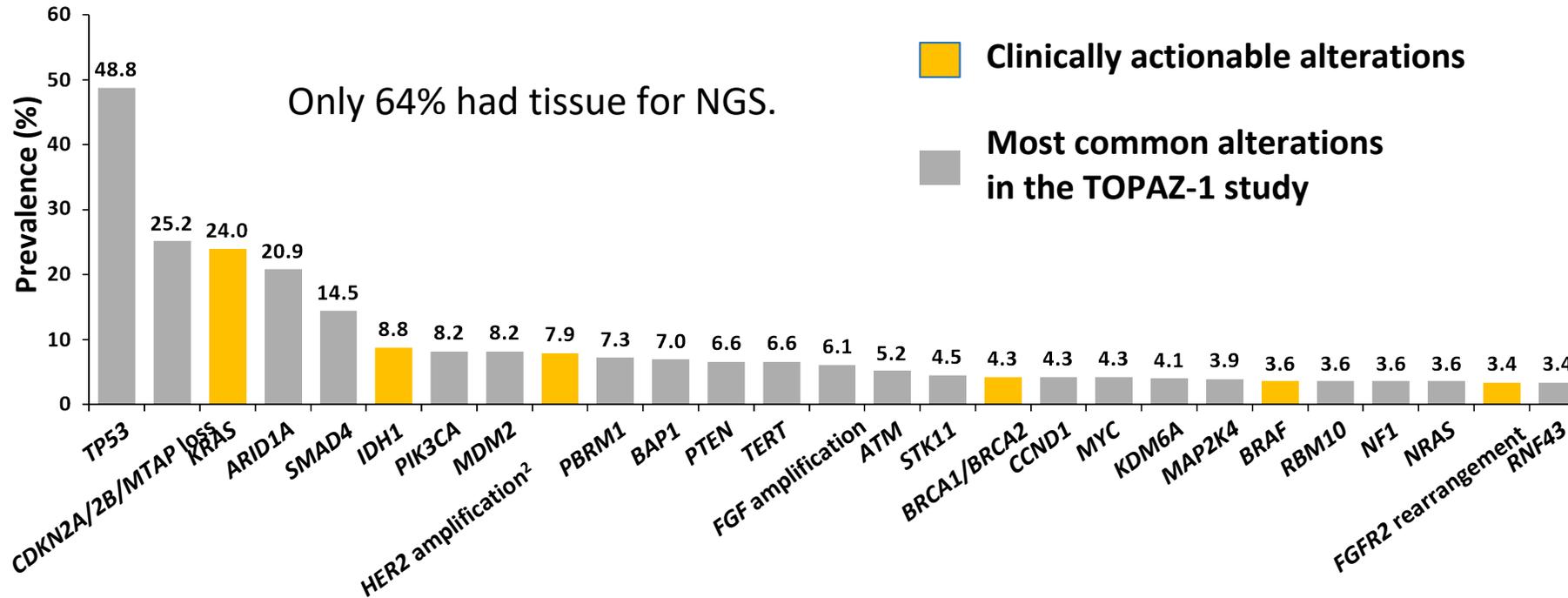
N = 54, central review **ORR = 11%**

N=82 central assessment **ORR: 11%**

* One vial of 200mg Pemrbolizumab is ~ \$23,000 Not including staff, infusion, overhead

Molecular subsets that benefit?

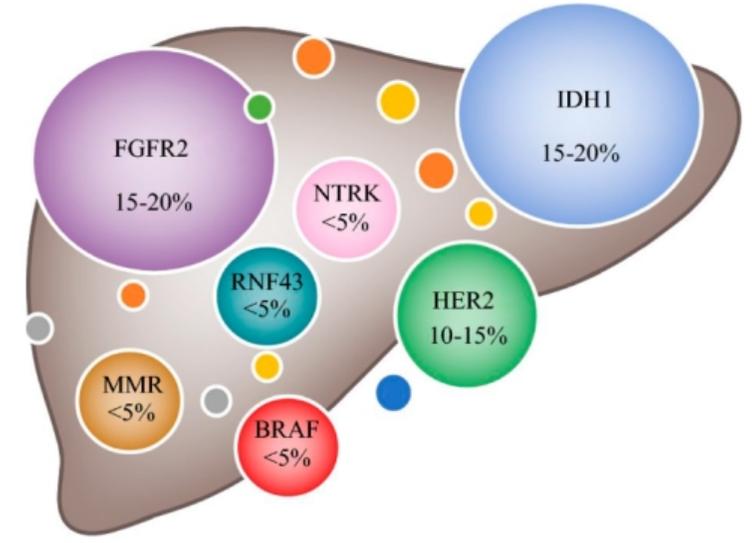
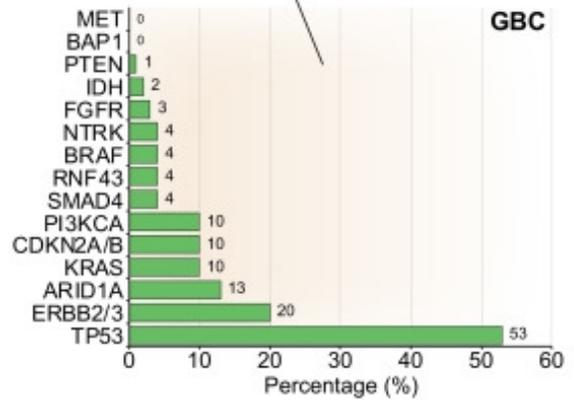
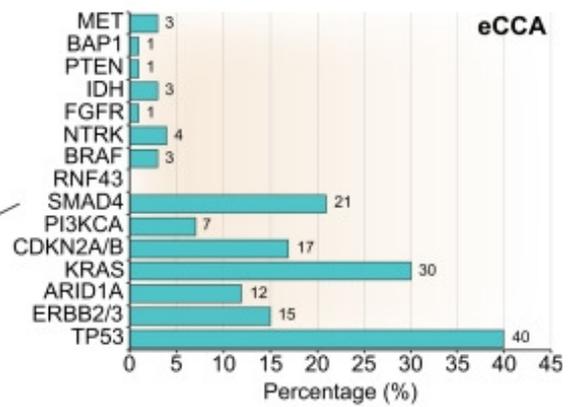
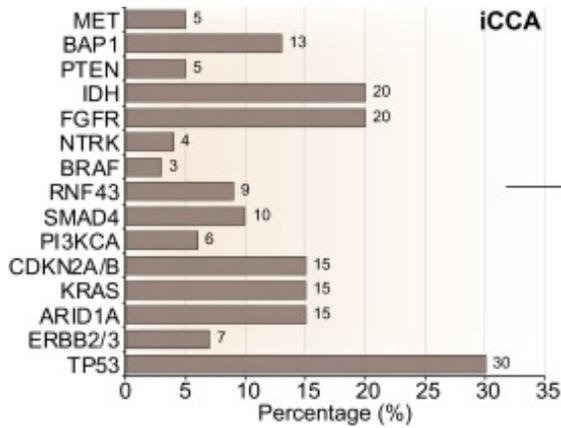
Exploratory Analysis of Prevalence of Genomic Alterations ($\geq 3\%$) in TOPAZ-1



Key point: We do not have biomarkers that predict benefit to the addition of ICI. We need them!

No significant correlation with outcomes for any subset
 PD-L1 % did not predict benefit or lack thereof

Molecular Targets for Therapy in BTC



Systemic Therapy for BTC: Rapidly Evolving

First-line

Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 ABC-02 (included ampullary)
 ORR: 26% (vs 21%), mOS: 11mo

2010

**Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 Durvalumab**
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2022

**Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 Pembrolizumab**
 Keynote 966
 ORR: 29%, mOS 12.7mo

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*Gemcitabine Cisplatin
 Nab-Paclitaxel ? SWOG 1815 was negative*

Second-line

No Targets

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 ABC-06
 ORR: 5%, mOS 6.2mo

2018

5-FU NaI-IRI
 Nifty
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2021

FGFR2 fusion

***Pemigatinib**
 FIGHT-302
 ORR: 35.5%, mOS 21.2mo

2020

***Futibatinib**
 FOENIX-CCA2
 ORR: 42%, mOS 21.7mo

2022

IDH-1 mutation

Ivosidenib
 ClarIDHy
 ORR: 2%, mOS 10.3

2022

BRAF V600E

Dabrafenib/Trametinib
 ROAR tissue agnostic, ORR: 36%, DCR 76%

2022

ERBB2 amplification
 HER 2 "positive"

+Trastuzumab/Pertuzumab
 MyPathway, ORR: 40%

T-Dxd (Enhertu)
 DESTINY Pan-Tumor02 ORR:22%, mOS 7mo

MSI-H

Pembrolizumab
 KEYNOTE cohorts ORR:39.6%

2017

Dostarlimab-glyx
 GARNET ORR: 41.6%

2021

NTRK fusion

Larotrectinib
 LoxoTRK, SCOUT, NAVIGATE ORR: ~60-70%

2018

Entrectinib
 STARTRK1,2 ORR: 57%

2019

RET Fusion

+Pralsetinib
 BLU-667, tumor agnostic, 2B rec

2022

Clinical FGFR2 Inhibitors for CCA

FGFR Inhibitor	Class, Isoform Selectivity	Study population	Trial Phase	ORR	mDOR	mPFS	mOS
Pemigatinib (INC054828)	Reversible FGFR1–3 inhibitor	FGFR2 fusions n = 107 other FGFR alteration n = 20	Ph II	Fusions: 35.5% Other: 0%	7.5 mos	Fusions: 6.9 mos Other: 2.1 mos	Fusions: 21.2 mos Other: 6.7 mos
Infigratinib (BGJ398)	Reversible FGFR1–3 inhibitor	N =108 FGFR2 fusion n= 83	Ph II	Overall : 23.1% 2 nd Line: 34% 3 rd line: 13.8%	5.0 mos	7.3 mos	19.2 mos
Futibatinib (TAS-120)	Irreversible FGFR1–4 inhibitor	N=103 FGFR2 fusion n= 80	Ph II	Overall 41.7 %	9.7 mos	9.0 mos	21.7 mos

***Pemigatinib**
FIGHT-302
ORR: 35.5%, mOS 21.2mo

Abou-Alfa et al, Lancet Oncol. 2020.

***Futibatinib**
FOENIX-CCA2
ORR: 34.3%, mOS 27.7

Goyal et al. AACR, 2021

****Inifgratinib**
PROOF
ORR: 27.3%, mOS 19.2mo

Javle et al, ASCO 2021

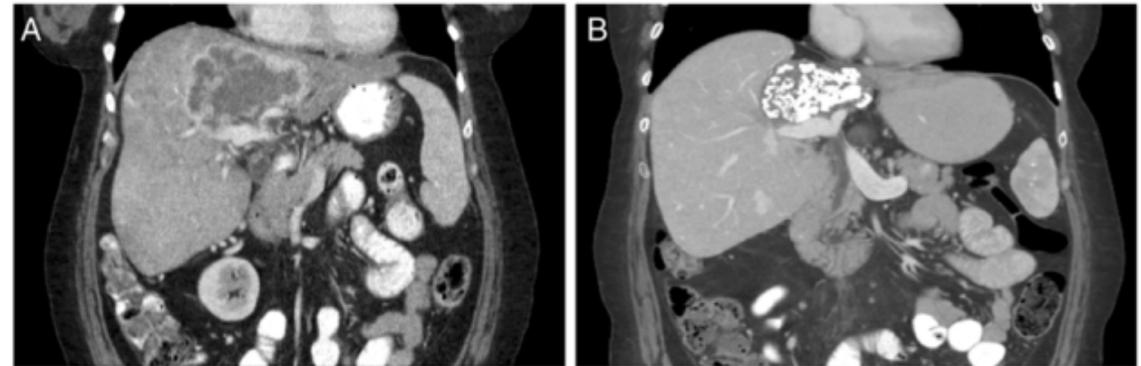
Key point: Benefit confined to FGFR2 fusions

*Conditional FDA approval pending confirmatory ph III

** QED did not file for approval

On/Off-Target Toxicity: these drugs aren't easy

	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Hyperphosphataemia†	81 (55%)	0	0
Alopecia	67 (46%)	0	0
Dysgeusia	55 (38%)	0	0
Diarrhoea	49 (34%)	4 (3%)	0
Fatigue	45 (31%)	2 (1%)	0
Stomatitis	39 (27%)	8 (5%)	0
Dry mouth	42 (29%)	0	0
Nausea	34 (23%)	2 (1%)	0
Decreased appetite	34 (23%)	1 (1%)	0
Dry eye	30 (21%)	1 (1%)	0
Dry skin	22 (15%)	1 (1%)	0
Arthralgia	16 (11%)	6 (4%)	0
Palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia	16 (11%)	6 (4%)	0
Constipation	20 (14%)	0	0
Hypophosphataemia*	8 (5%)	10 (7%)	0

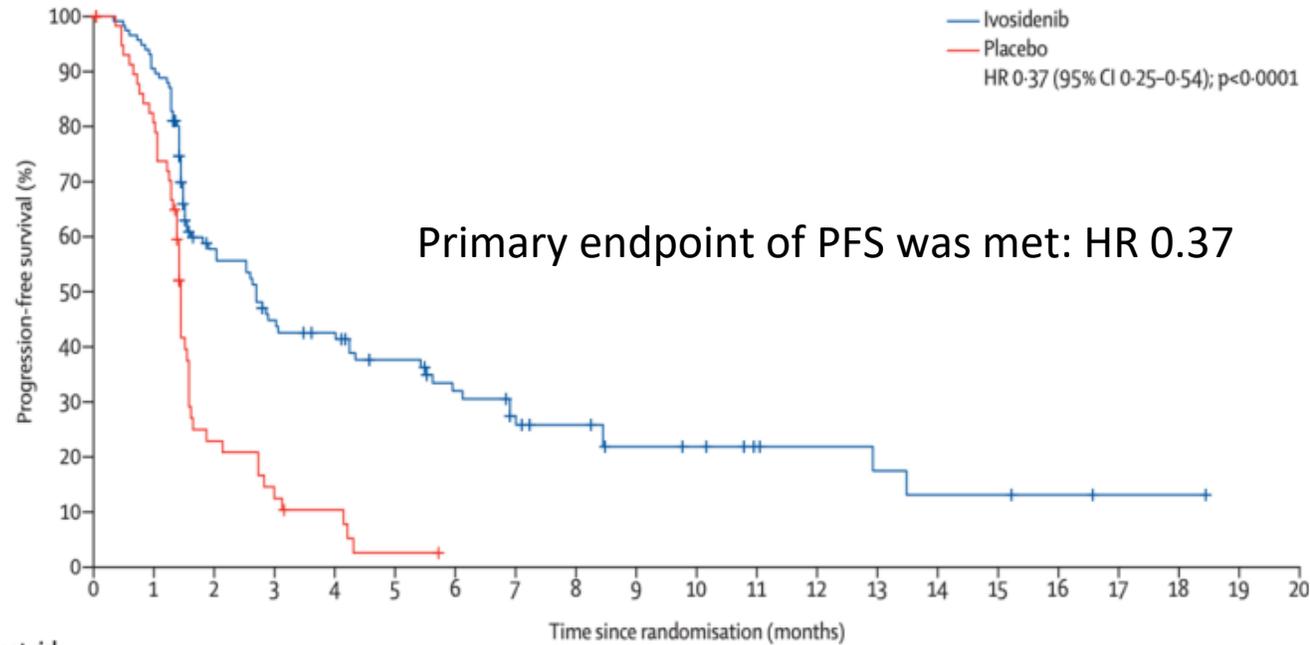


Ectopic tumor-related hepatic calcification on infigratinib. A. Before treatment B. On Treatment with response



Onycholysis and onychoclasia of the fingernails on a selective FGFR inhibitor

CLarIDHy: Mostly SD, PFS Benefit



Number at risk (number censored)		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Ivosidenib	124 (0)	105 (8)	54 (24)	40 (26)	36 (28)	28 (32)	22 (34)	16 (36)	14 (38)	10 (40)	9 (41)	6 (44)	5 (45)	4 (45)	3 (45)	3 (46)	2 (47)	1 (47)	1 (47)	0 (48)	..	..
Placebo	61 (0)	46 (4)	11 (9)	6 (9)	4 (10)	1 (10)	0 (11)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

	Ivosidenib	Placebo
Median PFS	2.7	1.4
6-mo PFS%	32%	NE
12-mo PFS%	22%	NE
Disease Control (PR+SD)	53% (2% PR, 51% SD)	28% (0% PR, 28% SD)

Low Hanging Fruit Board Questions/Tips

- **Peculiar Toxicities of targeted therapies**

- **FGFR2 Inhibitors (Pemigatinib, Futibatinib):** Hyperphosphatemia, Retinal (Central Serous Retinopathy / Retinal Pigment Epithelium Detachment CSR/RPED)
- **IDH inhibitors (Ivosidenib):** myositis, QT prolongation
- **Dabrafenib/Trametinib:** pyrexia, CSR/RPED
- **Pertuzumab:** diarrhea
- **Enhertu:** ILD
- What to avoid with liver dysfunction
 - Irinotecan
 - Targeted therapies (FGFR2i, IDHi, NTRKi): no data in severe liver dysfunction
- Avoid ICI: autoimmune disease
- Targeted therapies only indicated in 2nd line, chemo still 1st line

First-Line Trials of targeted therapy in BTC/CCA

Agent	Target	Phase	Arms	NCT	Status
<i>Pemigatinib</i>	<i>FGFR2 fus/rea</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>Pemigatinib vs GC</i>	<i>NCT03656536</i>	<i>Terminated (8/2025)</i>
<i>Infigratinib</i>	<i>FGFR2 fus/rea</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>Infigratinib vs GC</i>	<i>NCT03773302</i>	<i>Terminated (5/2024)</i>
<i>Futibatinib</i>	<i>FGFR2 fus/rea</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>Futibatinib vs GC</i>	<i>NCT04093362</i>	<i>Terminated (7/2024)</i>
Ivosidenib	IDH1mt	Ib/II	Ivo plus GCD	NCT06501625	Active
Zanidatamab	HER2 IHC+/Amp	III	Zani GC+ICI vs GC+ICI	NCT06282575	Active

Terminated ⓘ

The study was terminated due to lack of enrollment resulting from a change in the standard of care for the first-line treatment of patients with cholangiocarcinoma. There were no safety concerns that contributed to this decision.

A Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Pemigatinib Versus Chemotherapy in Unresectable or Metastatic Cholangiocarcinoma (FIGHT-302)

ClinicalTrials.gov ID ⓘ NCT03656536

Sponsor ⓘ Incyte Corporation

Information provided by ⓘ Incyte Corporation (Responsible Party)

Last Update Posted ⓘ 2025-08-24

Expanded Access ⓘ

⊕ **No longer available** outside the clinical trial.

See [expanded access record](#).

Study Start (Actual) ⓘ

2019-06-03

Primary Completion (Actual) ⓘ

2025-07-07

Low Hanging Fruit Board Questions/Tips

- Chemotherapy vignettes:
 - Avoid cisplatin in patients with significant kidney dysfunction
 - LATE Anaphylactic reactions can happen in patients who are receiving oxaliplatin or carboplatin for many months
 - 5-FU cardiac vasospasm
 - Gemcitabine associated HUS
 - All sorts of potential toxicity with cisplatin: kidney, hearing, hemorrhagic cystitis etc.

Good Luck!

Think like a question maker (not necessarily a clinician) for the boards