

# Head and Neck Cancer

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Comprehensive Hematology and  
Oncology Review Course

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# Disclosures

	<b>Cristina Rodriguez(Presenter)</b>	<b>Stephen Smith (spouse)</b>
Institutional Research Funding	AstraZeneca Ayala Bristol Myers Squibb Cue Biopharma Kura Merck	AcertaPharma AstraZeneca Genentech Incyte Merck Pharmacyclics Portola Seattle Genetics
AdvisoryBoard/ Consultancy	Cue Biopharma	Astra Zeneca Merck

# **I. Mucosal Squamous Cell Carcinomas**

- epidemiology and pathogenesis
- staging
- treatment
  - locally advanced disease
    - unresectable/organ preservation
    - postoperative therapy
  - metastatic disease

## **II. Thyroid Cancer**

## **III. Salivary Gland Cancer**

# Part I

## Mucosal squamous cell carcinomas of the head and neck

# Pathogenesis

Causally linked to exposure to

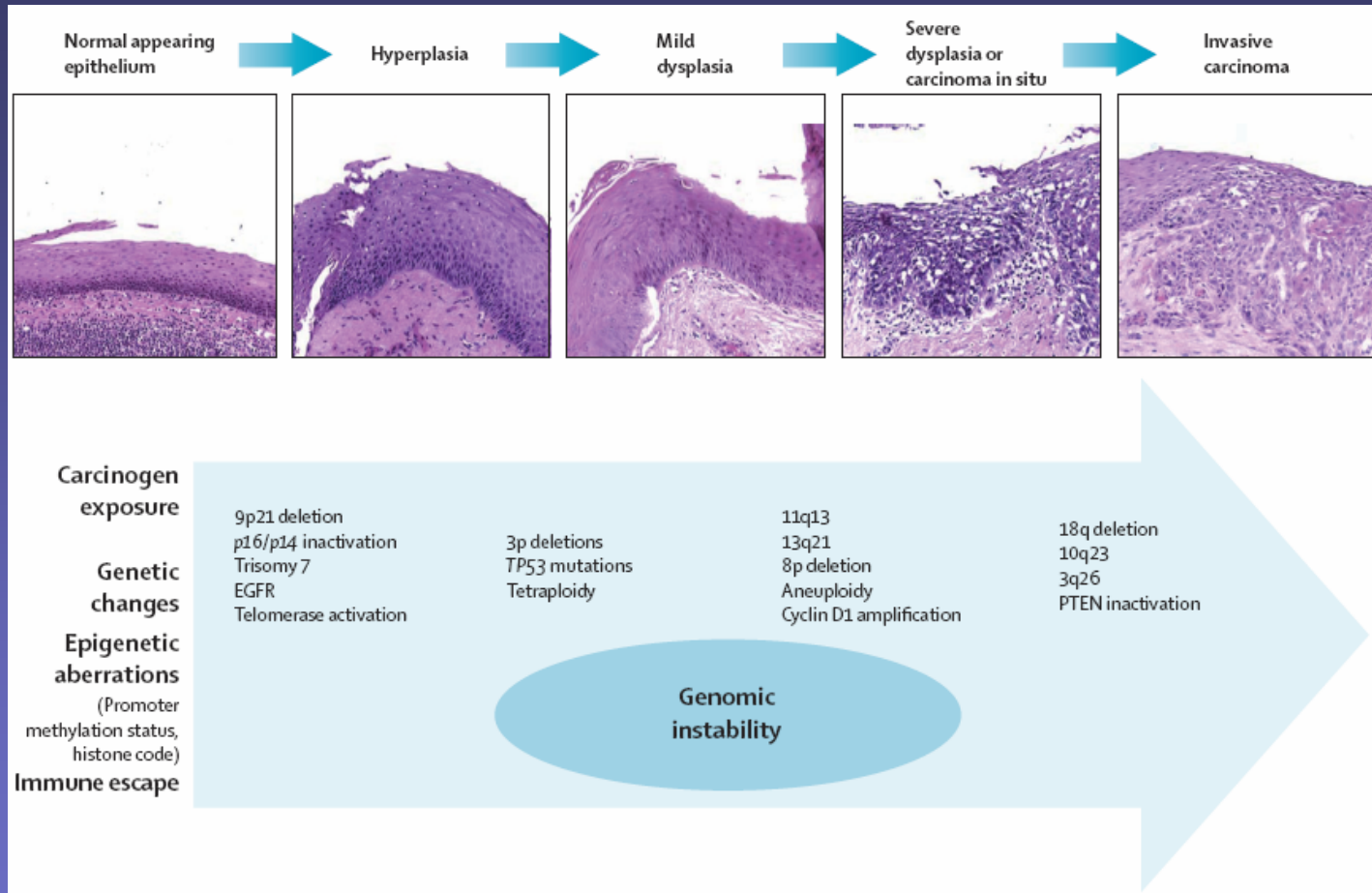
## 1. Tobacco and alcohol

- oral cavity, larynx, hypopharynx
- declining in incidence
- economic and racial disparity

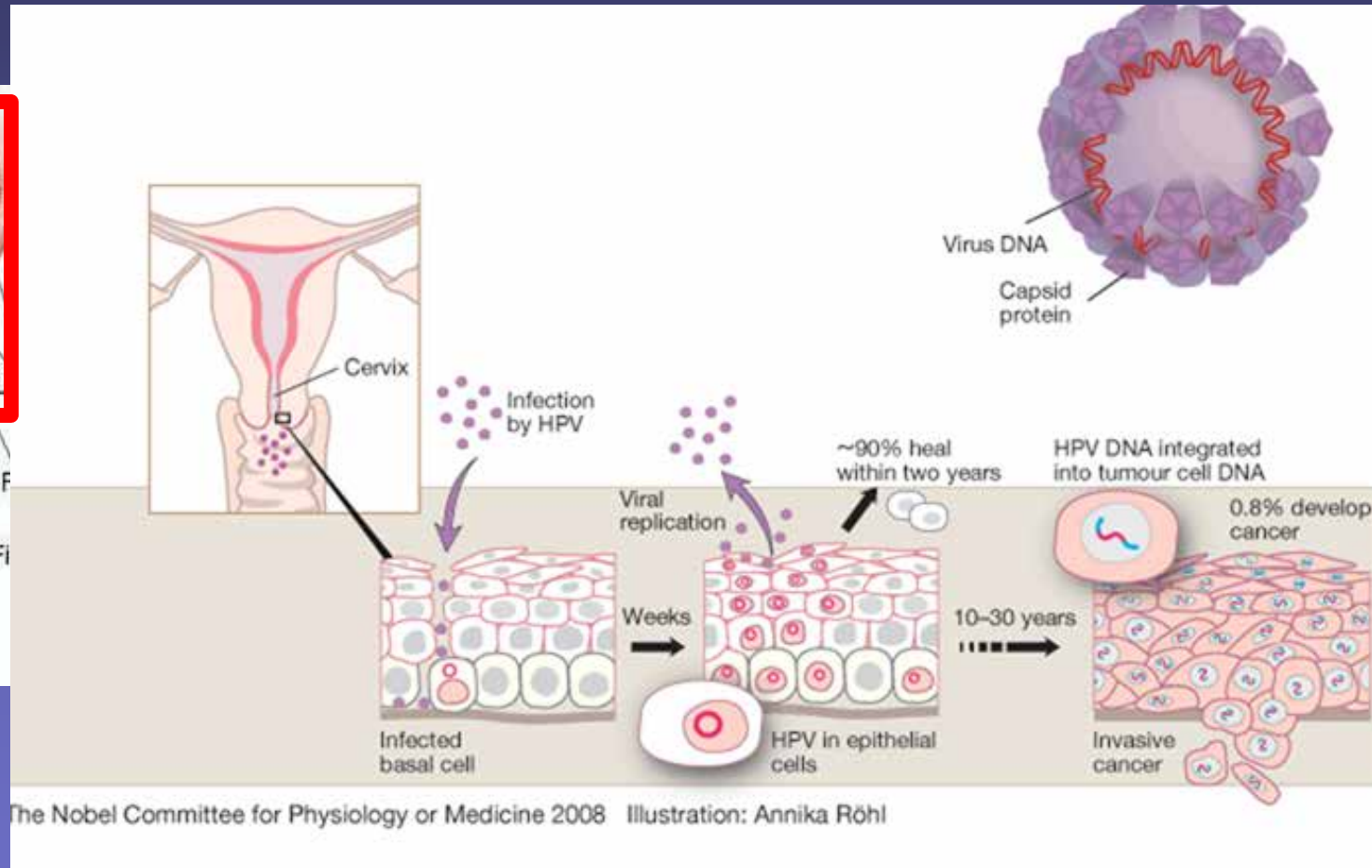
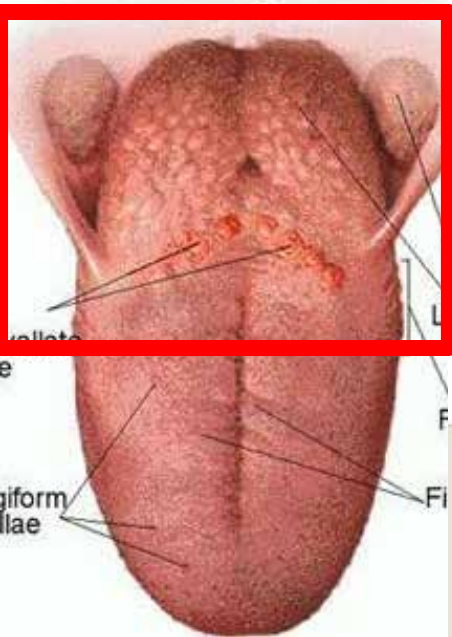
## 2. Viral infection

- HPV in oropharynx, increasing incidence
- EBV in nasopharynx

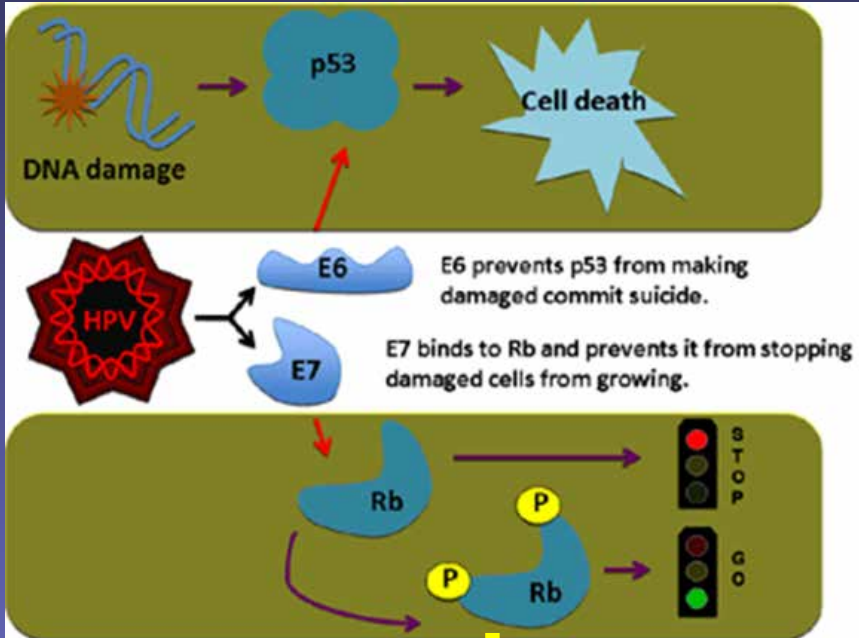
# Tobacco and Alcohol



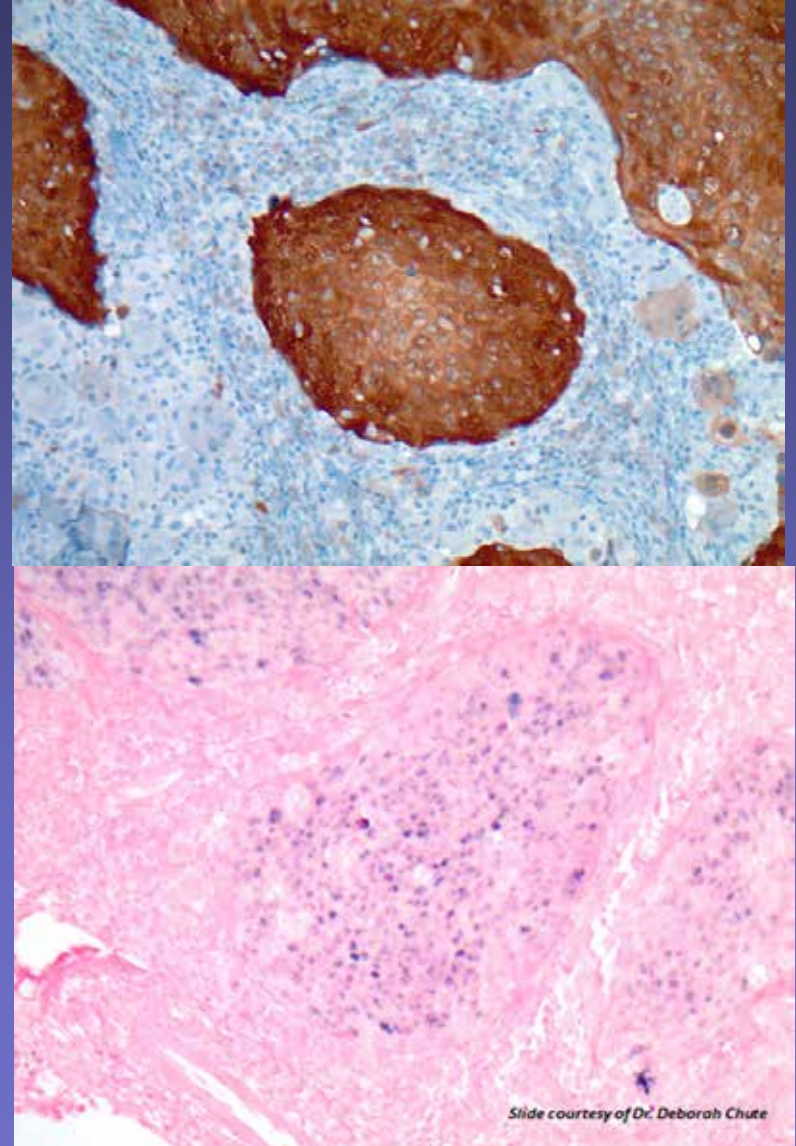
# The oropharynx and HPV16



# HPV and p16



**p16  
upregulation**





# Patient Characteristics

	<b>HPV related</b>	<b>Non HPV related</b>
Median age	58	68
Race	Caucasian	Higher proportion of African Americans and minorities
Sex	Male	Male
Risk Factors	Sexual activity	Tobacco Alcohol
Performance Status	Minimal comorbidity	Frequent vascular, cardiac, pulmonary comorbidity

# Tumor Characteristics

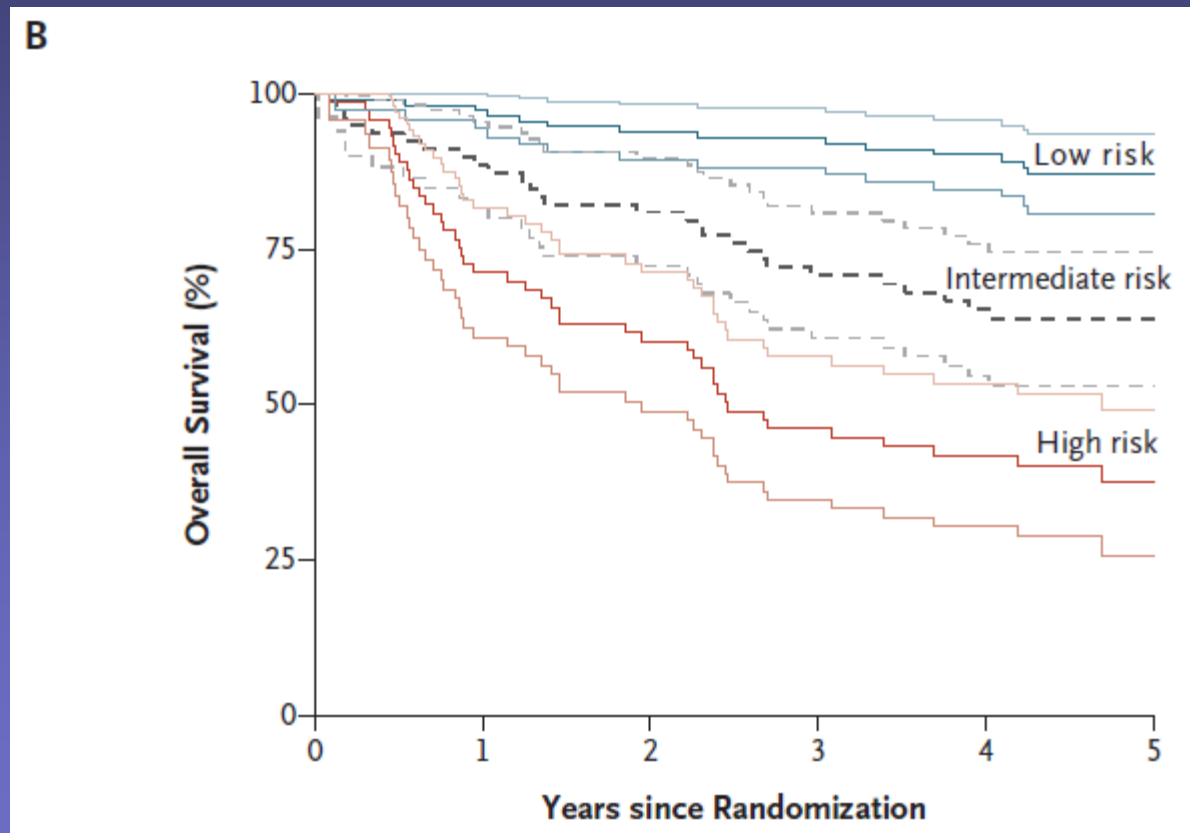
	<b>HPV related</b>	<b>Non HPV related</b>
Subsite	Tonsil Base of tongue	Oral tongue Larynx/Hypopharynx
T/N at presentation	Small T, large N Cystic lymph node appearance	Bulkier primary tumors
Tumor differentiation	Poorly differentiated, nonkeratinizing, basaloid	Well to poorly differentiated
P53, Rb status	Wild type	Mutant

# Clinical Behavior

	<b>HPV related</b>	<b>Non HPV related</b>
Chemotherapy responsiveness	High	Lower
Prognosis in curative setting	Excellent 5 year survival	Low rate of long term survivors
Survival expectation in R/M setting	~24 mos	~9mos
Failure patterns	Late recurrences Non pulmonary metastases	Distant, mostly lung Second primary tumors due to condemned mucosa

# HPV+ OPC is heterogeneous

RTOG 0129



# Key points on HPV+OPC

- IHC for p16 is highly correlated with HPV-positivity *in the oropharynx*
- Completion of HPV+ clinical trials have established standards of care
- Treatment deescalation remains a research question in active investigation

# Staging

- General Principles:
  - T1-2 lesions small
  - T4 lesions invade into surrounding structures
  - N3 >6cm nodes
- Unknown primaries (Tx)
  - Occur in 10-13% of cases
  - Curable
- HPV related OPC is now staged separately

# STAGING: AJCC v. 8

## NonHPV related

Stage I	T1	N0	M0	15% new diagnoses Surgery or XRT with curative intent 70% or greater 5 year Overall Survival
Stage II	T2	N0	M0	
Stage III	T3 T1-3	N0 N1	M0 M0	75% of new diagnoses Curable with multimodality therapy Usually chemotherapy + XRT 30-50% 5 year over all survival
Stage IVA	T4a T1-4a	N0-1 N2	M0 M0	
Stage IVB	T4b Any T	Any N N3	M0 M0	
Stage IVC	Any T	Any N	M1	10% new diagnoses Incurable, median survival <1 yr

*AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, Seventh Edition (2002)*

# STAGING: AJCC v. 8

## HPV related OP Cancer

T CATEGORY	N CATEGORY			
	N0	N1	N2	N3
T0	NA	I	II	III
T1	I	I	II	III
T2	I	I	II	III
T3	II	II	II	III
T4	III	III	III	III

<sup>a</sup>Any M1 is stage IV.



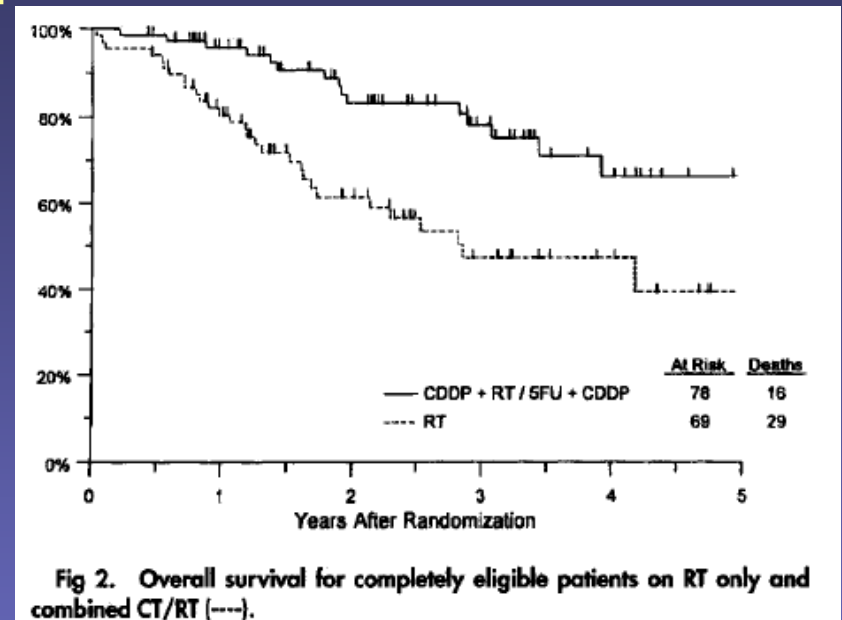
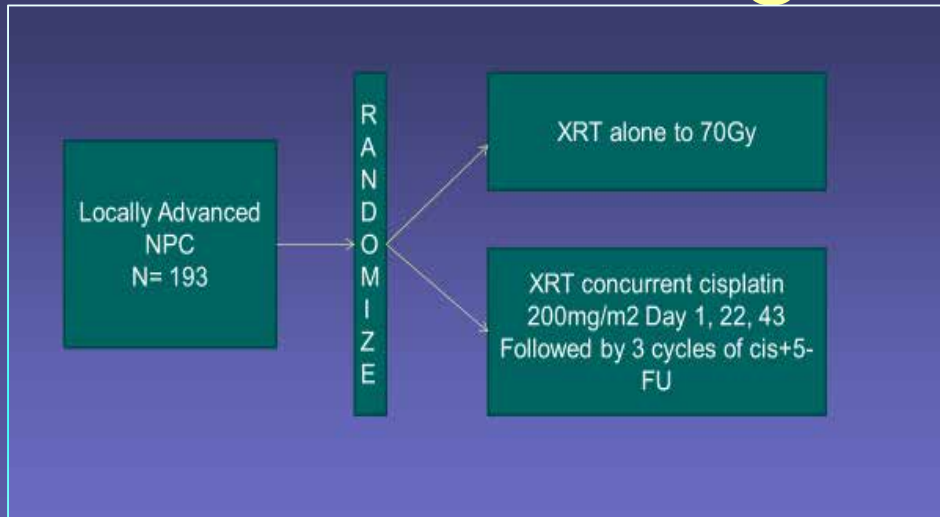
# Locally Advanced Disease

- Curative intent approach is possible
  - Surgery (preferred for oral cavity)
  - Radiation
  - Chemotherapy as a single modality: NOT curative
- Multidisciplinary assessment is critical
- Functional outcome/ long term QOL

# Organ Preservation: Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma

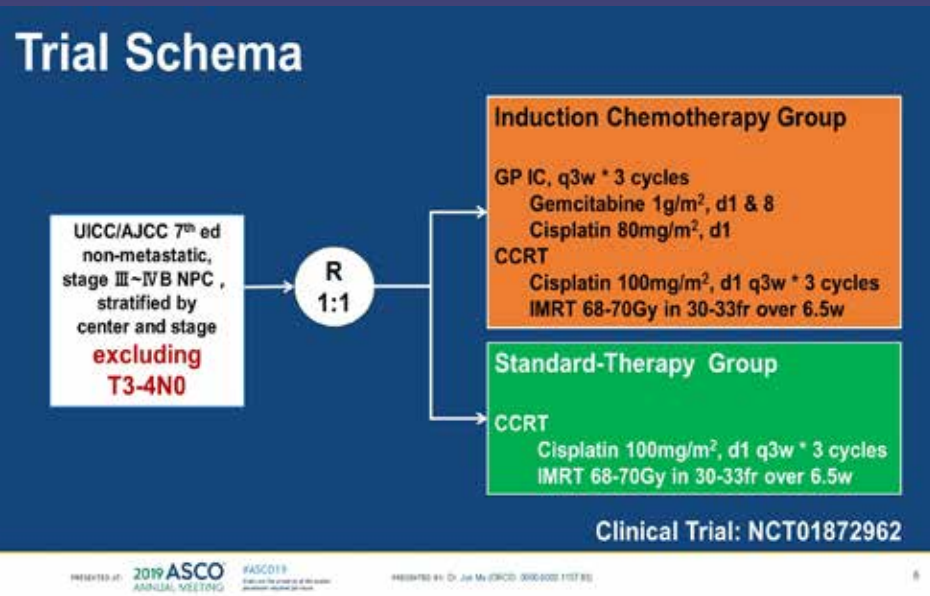
- Epidemiologically distinct
- EBV associated
- Unresectable at diagnosis
- Classic presentation:
  - Middle ear effusions in adults
  - Level V (post triangle) LAD
- Intuitive subset to explore nonsurgical, curative intent therapy

# Nasopharyngeal carcinoma: Intergroup 0099

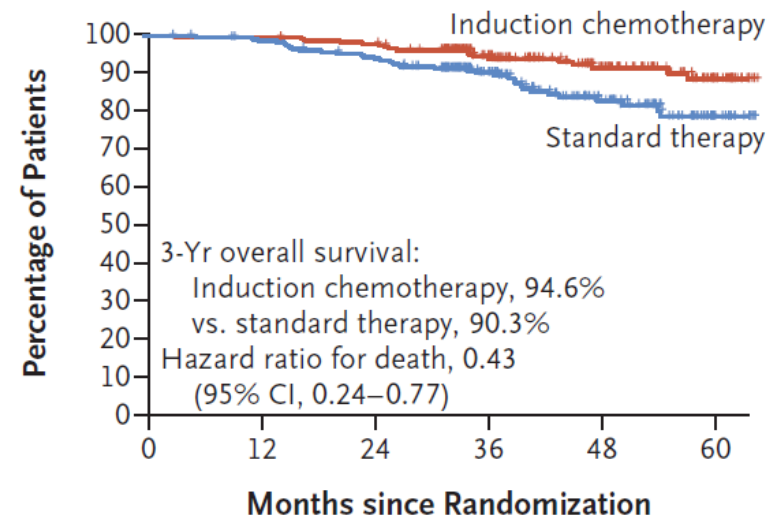


- PFS and OS advantage to experimental arm
- Subsequent RCTs in SE Asia have shown no advantage to adjuvant chemo

# Induction chemotherapy: Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma



## Overall Survival

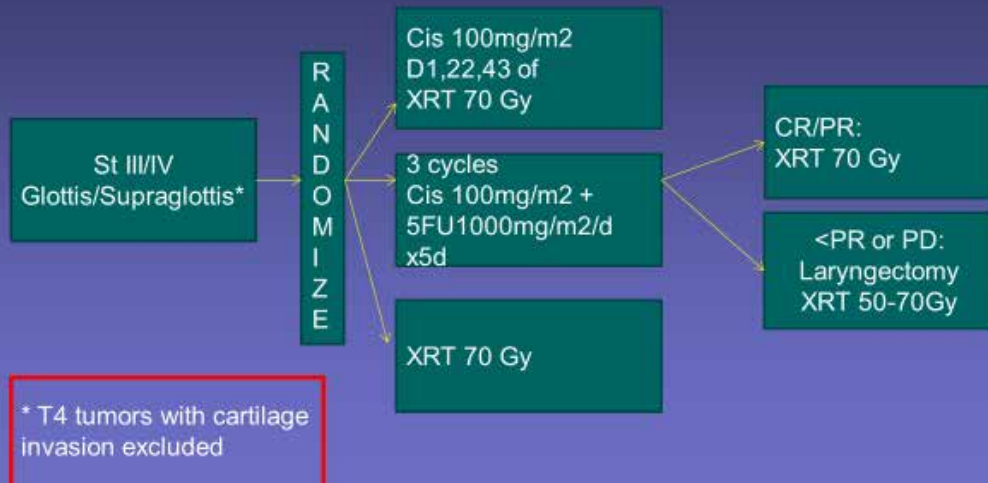


- RFS and distant FFS superior in Exp arm.

# Organ Preservation: Laryngeal Carcinoma

- Laryngectomy was historical standard of care
- VA Larynx Trial (NEJM 1991)
  - Randomized phase III larynx study
  - surgery vs. chemo followed by XRT for responders
  - 64% in experimental arm had successful organ preservation
  - OS similar, attributed to successful surgical salvage

# Landmark Studies in Organ Preservation: Larynx Ca RTOG 91-11



Forastiere AA et al. NEJM. 2003; 22(349) 2091-98.

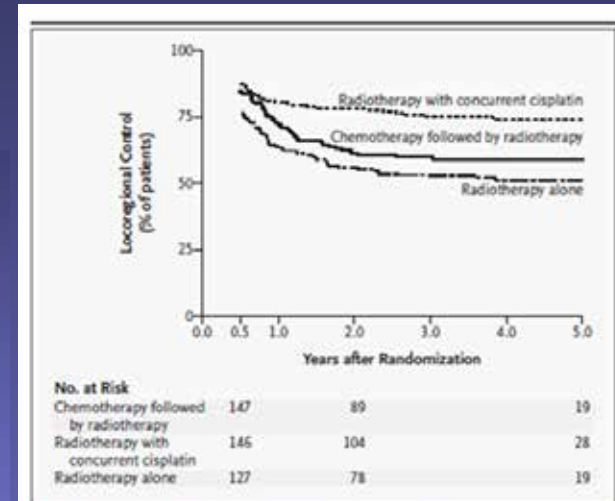


Figure 2. Rates of Locoregional Control According to the Treatment Group.

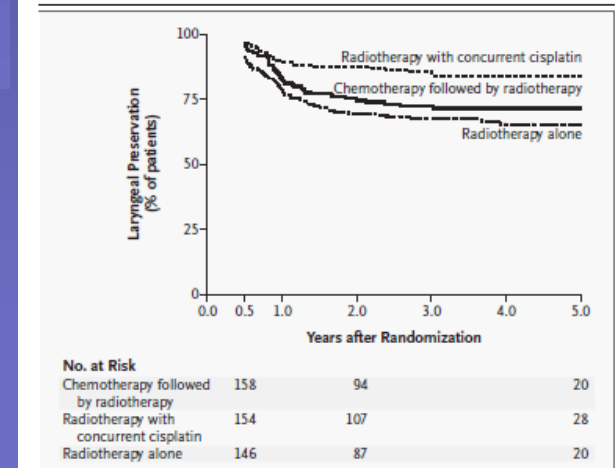


Figure 1. Rates of Laryngeal Preservation According to the Treatment Group.

# Organ Preservation: Larynx Cancer RTOG 91-11

**Table 2.** Grade 3 or 4 Acute Toxic Effects, According to the Treatment Group.\*

Toxic Effect	Cisplatin plus Fluorouracil Followed by Radiotherapy						Radiotherapy with Concurrent Cisplatin (N=171)			Radiotherapy Alone (N=171)		
	Chemotherapy Period (N=168)			Radiotherapy Period (N=156)			grade 3	grade 4	total	grade 3	grade 4	total
	grade 3	grade 4	total	grade 3	grade 4	total						
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>											
Hematologic	43	44	87 (52)	13	10	23 (15)	64	17	81 (47)	3	2	5 (3)
Infection	4	5	9 (5)	2	0	2 (1)	7	0	7 (4)	2	0	2 (1)
Mucosal (stomatitis)	27	7	34 (20)	36	2	38 (24)	64	9	73 (43)	40	1	41 (24)
Pharyngeal or esophageal	—	—	—	30	0	30 (19)	60	0	60 (35)	32	0	32 (19)
Laryngeal	—	—	—	20	1	21 (13)	29	2	31 (18)	23	5	28 (16)
Dermatologic (in radiation field)	—	—	—	16	0	16 (10)	10	2	12 (7)	15	0	15 (9)
Nausea or vomiting	20	3	23 (14)	0	0	0	28	7	35 (20)	0	0	0
Renal or genitourinary	3	0	3 (2)	2	0	2 (1)	6	1	7 (4)	0	0	0
Neurologic	5	1	6 (4)	0	0	0	8	1	9 (5)	0	0	0
Other	20	7	27 (16)	16	2	18 (12)	58	11	69 (40)	9	1	10 (6)
Overall maximal severity	62	49	111 (66)	66	13	79 (51)	99	32	131 (77)	71	9	80 (47)

# Landmark Studies in Organ Preservation: RTOG 91-11

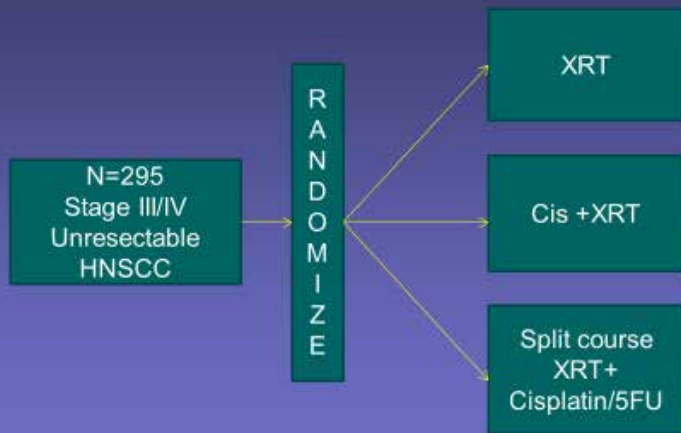
- Distant metastasis decreased in groups receiving chemotherapy
- Overall survival not significantly different among treatment groups
  - Success of salvage surgery
- Long term results reported in 2013
  - Results hold up with 6.9 years median F/U

*Forastiere AA et al. NEJM. 2003; 22(349) 2091-98.*

*Forastiere A et al. J Clin Oncol. 2013 Mar 1;31(7):845-52.*

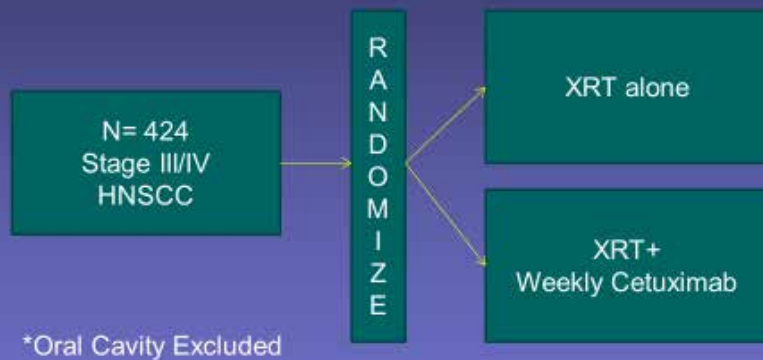


# Organ Preservation: Intergroup Study



	Arm A XRT	Arm B cisXRT	Arm C splitXRT
OS (3yr)	23%	<b>37%</b> <b>A vs B</b> <b>p=0.14</b>	27%
DSSurvival (3yr)	33%	<b>51%</b> <b>A vs B</b> <b>p=0.01</b>	41%
Distant Failure	17.9%	21.8%	19.1%
Toxicity	51%	<b>85%</b> <b>A vs B</b> <b>p&lt;.0001</b>	<b>72%</b> <b>A vs C</b> <b>P&lt;.0001</b>

# Organ Preservation with cetuximab: Bonner Study



	XRT alone	XRT+ Cetux	p Value
LRCl(3yr)	34%	<b>47%</b>	<b>p&lt;.01</b>
PFS(3yr)	31%	<b>37%</b>	<b>p=.04</b>
OS(3yr)	45%	<b>55%</b>	<b>p=.05</b>
Gr ≥3 toxicity	52%	56%	ND

# Landmark Studies in Organ Preservation: Bonner Study

- 60% had oropharynx primaries
  - Subsequent HPV testing shows lower (but present) magnitude of benefit in HPV negative OP pts
- No impact on distant metastatic failure rate
- No identifiable biomarker for response
- Control arm not regarded as standard of care
  - RTOG 1016 with published showing inferiority compared to cis+XRT in HPV+ population

*Bonner JA. NEJM 2006;354:567-78.*

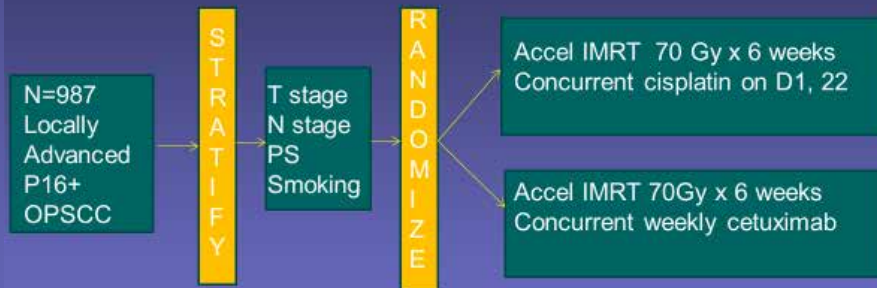
*Rosenthal et al. J Clin Oncol. 2016 Apr 20;34(12):1300-8*

# Organ Preservation: Oropharyngeal Carcinoma

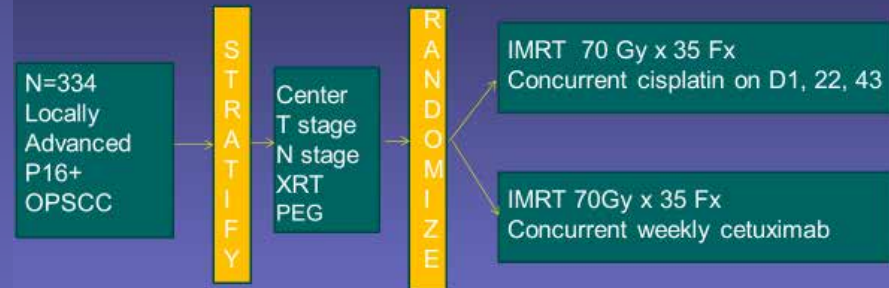
- Recognition of superior prognosis
- Therapeutic standards developed in preHPV era
  - Toxicities of concern, overtreatment
- Treatment deescalation an intuitive direction

# Organ Preservation: Oropharyngeal Carcinoma

## RTOG 1016



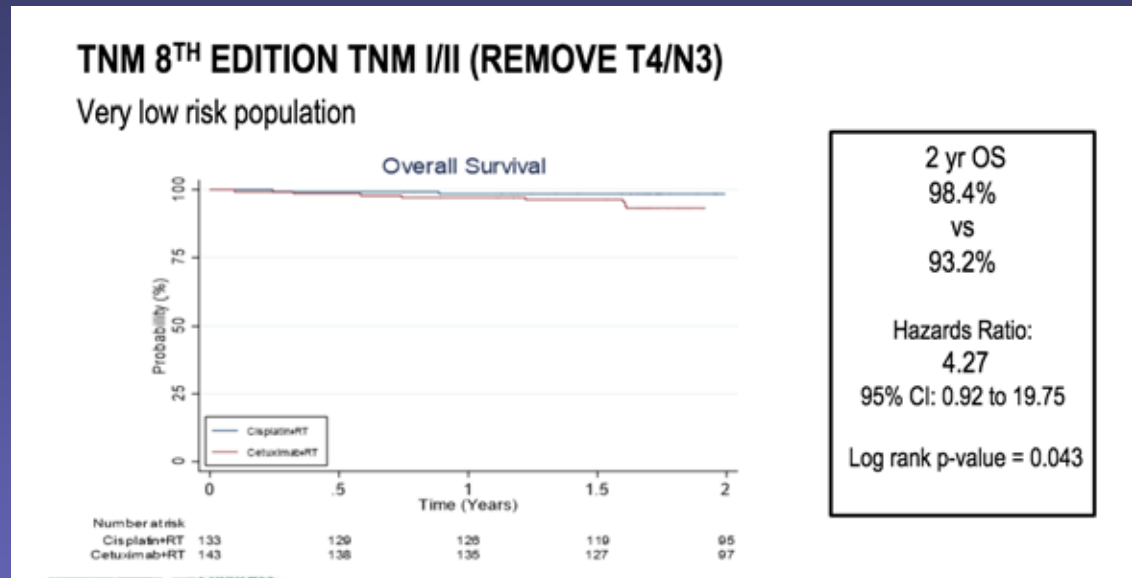
## De-ESCALaTE Study



*Gillison et al. Lancet. 2019 Jan 5;393(10166):40-50*  
*Mehanna et al. Lancet. 2019 Jan 5;393(10166):51-60*

# Phase III clinical trials in HPV + OPC

- RTOG 1016 and De-ESCALaTE
  - Superiority of cisplatinXRT vs. CetuxXRT in OS, LRC
  - No difference in acute/late tox
  - T score higher in cisXRT in 1016



**De-escalation remains a research question in HPV+ OPC**

Gillison et al. 2019 Jan 5;393(10166):40-50

Mehanna et al. Lancet. 2019 Jan 5;393(10166):51-

# Functional Imaging after definitive chemoradiation

- Planned neck dissections (ND) post chemoXRT was standard of care for N3 or bulky N2b disease
- PET-NECK randomized 564 pts to ND vs. surveillance with PET-CT at 12 weeks post CRT
- Necks with nonPETavid LNs <1cm observed in exp arm
- Less NDs done in exp arm, no difference in OS

# KEY POINTS:

## Locally advanced disease

- Organ preservation/unresectable disease
  - Concurrent bolus cisplatin based chemoradiation supported by RTOG 91-11, Intergroup, RTOG 1016, DE-ESCALaTE, Intergroup 099
  - CetuximabXRT is inferior to cisXRT in the HPV+OPC
  - Neoadjuvant gem/cis for locally advanced NPC with nodal burden
- PET-CT can be used after chemoXRT to guide need for neck dissection

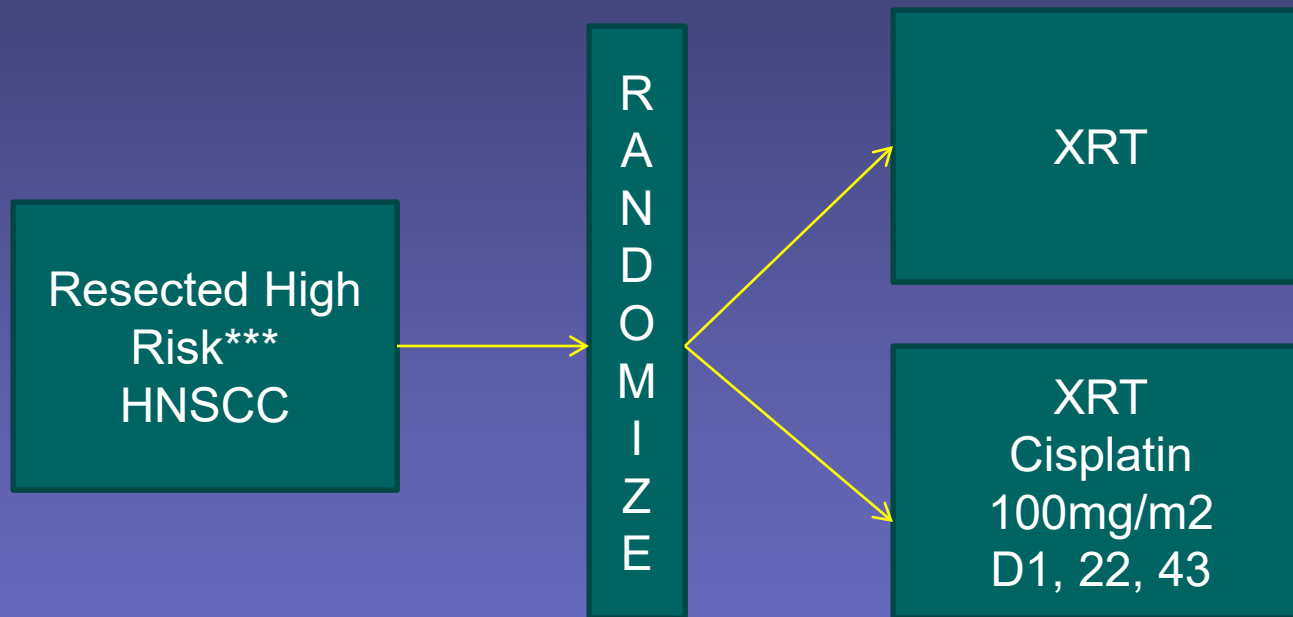


# KEY POINTS:

## Locally advanced disease

- A multidisciplinary approach is essential
- Patient selection is critical
  - Not everyone is meant for nonsurgical treatment approach
  - Remember exclusion criteria in organ preservation studies
- Deescalation in HPV+ remains a research question

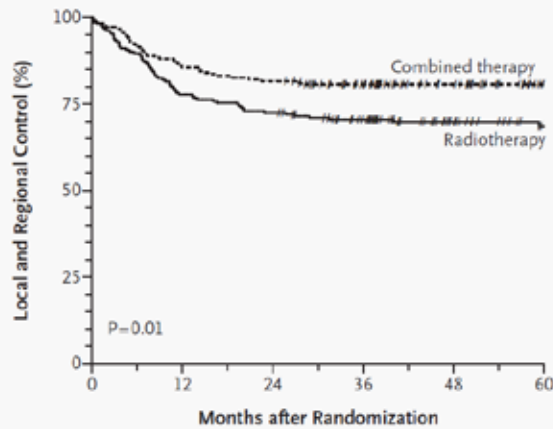
# Postoperative therapy RTOG and EORTC studies



\*\*\* Eligibility criteria varied in 2 studies

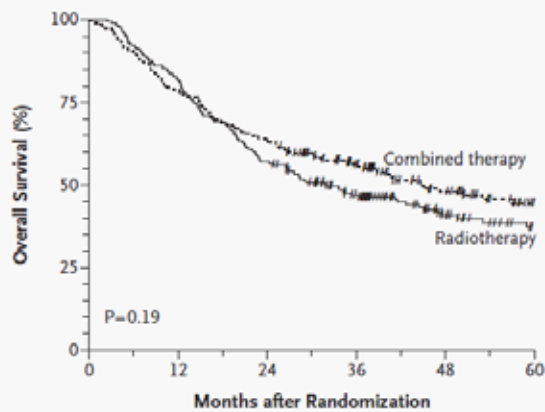
*Bernier et al. N Engl J Med. 2004;350(19):1945*  
*Cooper et al. N Engl J Med. 2004;350(19):1937*

# RTOG 9501



No. at Risk			
Combined therapy	206	123	26
Radiotherapy	210	108	24

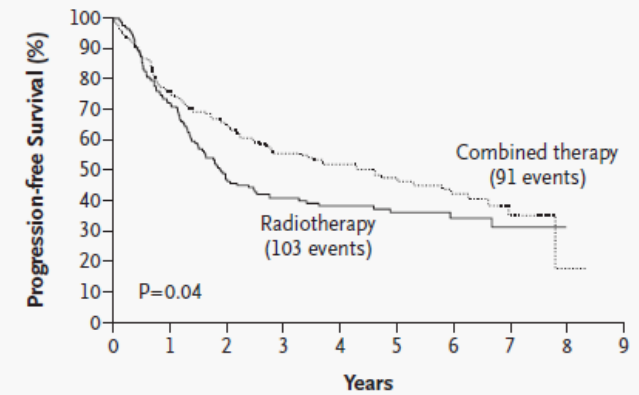
Figure 1. Rates of Local and Regional Control.



No. at Risk			
Combined therapy	206	132	27
Radiotherapy	210	120	26

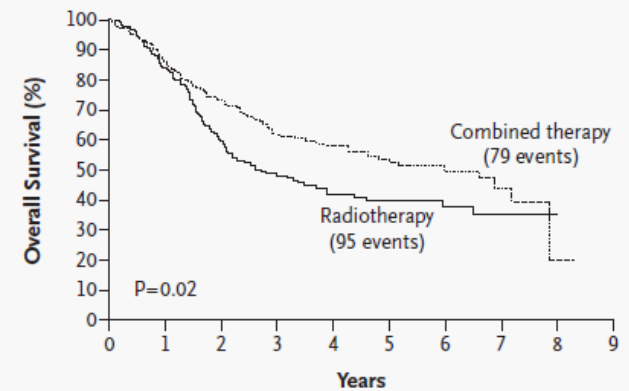
Figure 3. Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Overall Survival. Overall survival did not differ significantly between groups (P=0.19 by the log-

# EORTC 22931



No. at Risk									
Radiotherapy	167	119	73	57	45	30	18	9	0
Combined therapy	167	125	105	85	66	42	29	10	1

Figure 1. Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Progression-free Survival.



No. at Risk									
Radiotherapy	167	139	93	68	49	31	19	9	0
Combined therapy	167	141	118	93	72	47	33	11	1

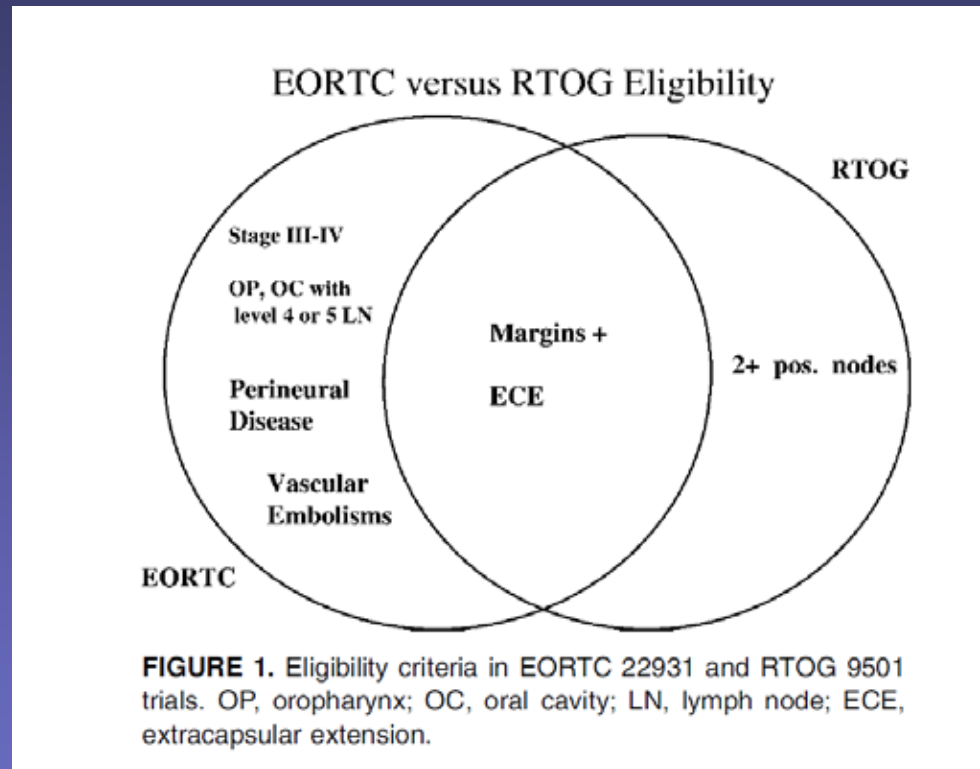
Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Overall Survival.

# Pooled Analysis

Overall survival advantage to  
Cisplatin + XRT for

- Positive surgical margin
- Extracapsular extension

LRC, PFS benefit confirmed



# Alternative cisplatin dosing + XRT in postoperative setting

- Randomized phase III study of 30mg/m<sup>2</sup> vs 100mg/m<sup>2</sup>
  - Indian population, mostly adjuvant post resection
  - Inferior LRC with weekly

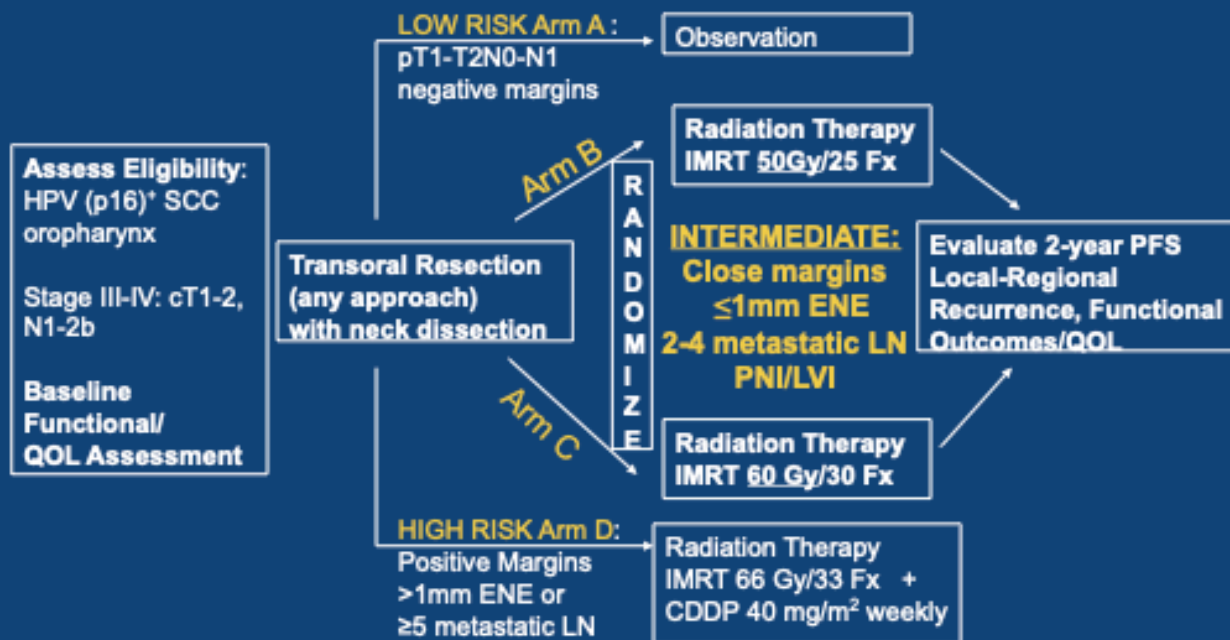
*Noronha, et al JCO 2018.*

- Randomized phase III study of 40mg/m<sup>2</sup> vs 100mg/m<sup>2</sup>
  - Japanese study in adjuvant setting for high risk disease
  - Weekly dosing non-inferior

*Kiyota et al. ASCO 2020 Abs 6502*

# Postop treatment in HPV+ OPC

## ECOG-ACRIN E3311 schema



- Arm B met 2 yr PFS threshold, will be compared to nonsurgical therapy

# KEY POINTS: postoperative therapy

- High Risk pathologic features that benefit from concurrent cis+XRT:
  - Positive margins
  - Extracapsular nodal extension
- Most data is with 100mg/m<sup>2</sup> on days 1,22, 43 of therapy
  - If weekly cisplatin given, use 40mg/m<sup>2</sup>

# The Cisplatin Ineligible Patient

- No randomized data specific to population
  - This is changing

Trial	Treatment Population	N	Intervention
REACH NCT02999087	Stage III/IVb HNSCC	688	Avel + cis + RT vs cis + RT Avel + cetux + RT vs cis + RT
NRG-HN004 NCT03258554	Cisplatin-unfit locally advanced HNSCC	523	Durva + RT vs cetux + RT

- No data in the postoperative setting



# Non bolus cisplatin XRT regimens in Phase III trials

Trial	N	N(%) p16+ OPSCC	Arms	Results
GORTEC 9401 <sup>1</sup>	226	Unknown	XRT vs Carbo+5FU XRT	OS DFS superior in carbo+F5u XRT
GORTEC 2007-01 <sup>2</sup>	406	41(21%) of 236 OPC	CetuxXRT vs Carbo5FUCetuxXRT	PFS and LRC superior in Carbo5FUCetuxXRT
Bonner IMCL9815 <sup>3,4</sup>	253	75(41%) of evaluable pts	XRT vs Cetux XRT	OS and LRC superior in CetuxXRT
TROG 12.01 NCT01855451	189	189 (100%)	Weekly cisplatin +70Gy Cetuximab +70Gy	Pending

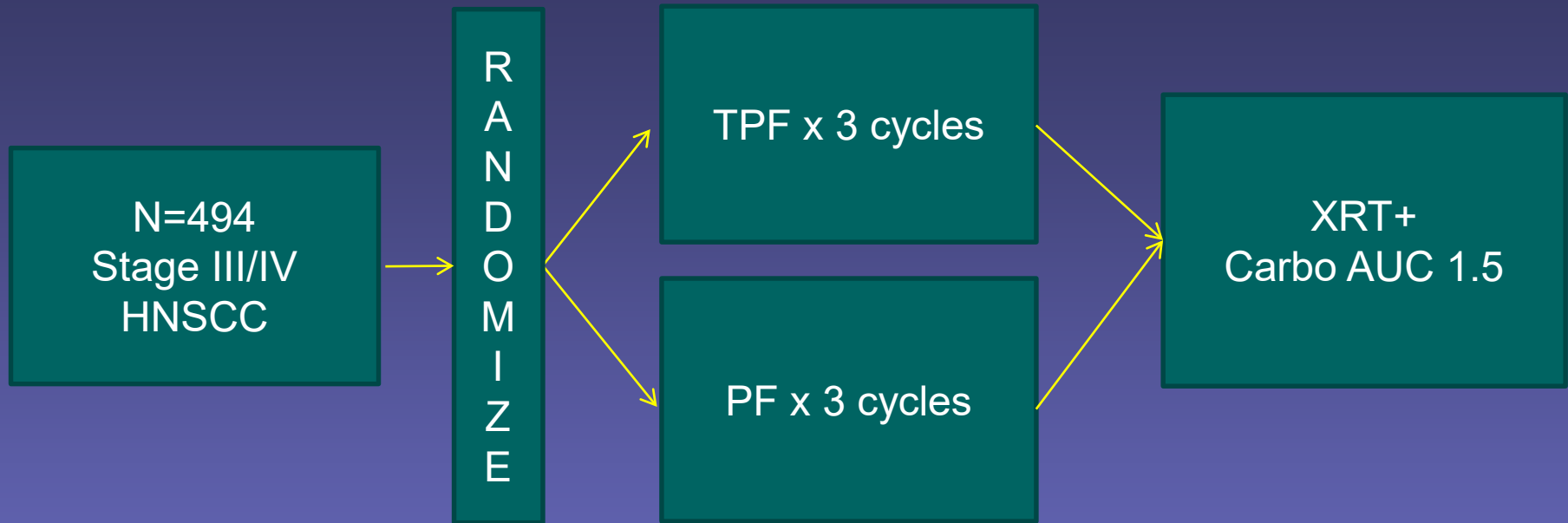
<sup>1</sup>Denis et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2004

<sup>2</sup>Tao et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2018

<sup>3</sup>Rosenthal et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2015

<sup>4</sup>Bonner et al. *N Eng J Med* 2006

# Induction Chemotherapy: TAX 324



## RESULTS:

- OS, CR rates statistically better in TPF Arm
- Higher rates of hematologic toxicities in TPF arm, with some pts unable to proceed with XRT
- Controversial design due to control arm

# Induction vs. ChemoXRT trials

Trial	Design	Accrual	OS/PFS	Other findings
PARADIGM <sup>1</sup>	R Phase III TPF chXRT vs Cis XRT	Planned: 330  Actual: 145	No difference in 3 yr PFS and OS	Higher rate of Neutropenic Fever in Induction Arm
DECIDE <sup>2</sup>	R Phase III UofC ChXRT Vs TPF chXRT	Actual: 285	No difference in ORR, OS, PFS	No difference in distant failure

In both studies: control arm performed better than historical controls

<sup>1</sup>Haddad R et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2013 Mar;14(3):257-64

<sup>2</sup>Cohen et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2014 Sep 1;32(25):2735-43.

# Ongoing Clinical Investigation: Themes

- Therapeutic intensification
  - Incorporation of IO agents into standard of care chemoXRT, including neoadjuvant and maintenance PD1
- Therapeutic deintensification for HPV+
  - Upfront surgical approaches
  - IO + XRT in NRG HN005
- Cisplatin ineligible pts
  - NRG HN004, Reach study

# Ongoing Clinical Investigation: definitive therapy

Trial	Treatment Population	N	Intervention
KEYNOTE-412 <sup>1</sup>	LAHNSCC (HPV+ for select stages/primary sites)	780	Pembro + cis + RT vs. placebo + cis + RT
JAVELIN HN100 <sup>2</sup>	LAHNSCC HPV- HNSCC (HPV+ for select stages/primary sites)	640	Avel + chemoRT vs chemoRT alone
IMSTAR-HN <sup>3</sup>	Stage III/IV p16- OPC, L, HP, OC	276	Neoadjuvant nivo, surgery, and adj chemoRT + adj nivo ± ipi vs SOC surgery + chemoRT
KEYNOTE-689 <sup>4</sup>	Resectable stage III/IVa L, HP, OC, p16-OPC Stage III p16+ OPC	600	Pembro prior to surgery/with adj chemoRT vs surgery
IMvoke010 <sup>5</sup>	LAHNSCC treated with curative-intent therapy	400	Atezo vs placebo after chemoRT
KEYCHAIN <sup>6</sup>	LAHNSCC p16+ OPC, L, OC	114	Cis + RT vs pembro + RT
HN005 <sup>7</sup>	Locally advanced good risk p16+ OPC	711	Cis 70GyRT vs Cis 60GyRT vs Nivo 60GyRT

# Ongoing clinical investigation: postoperative therapy

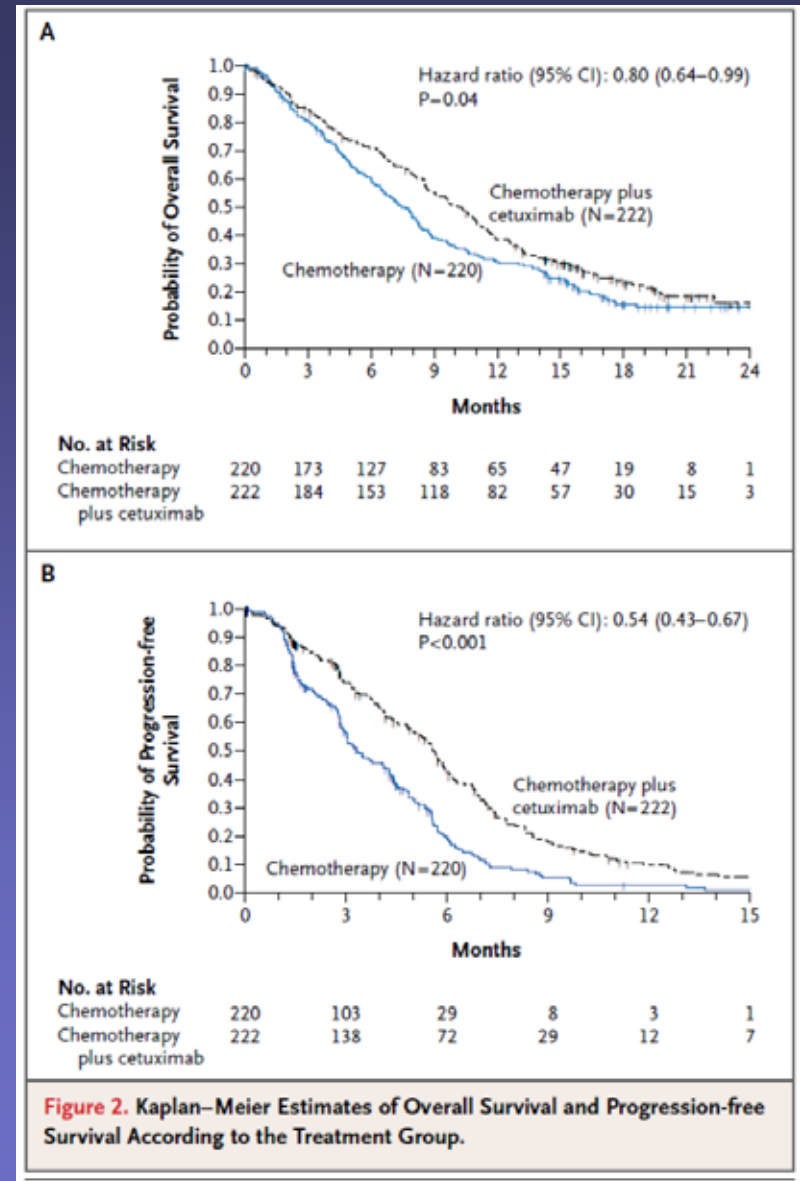
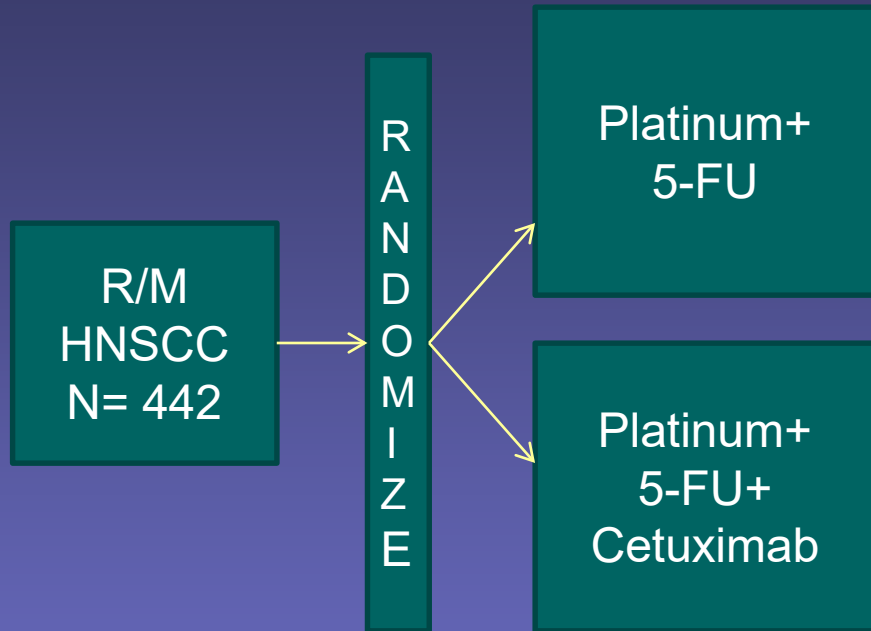
Trial (NCT Identifier)	Phase	N	Endpt	Intervention
PATHOS (NCT02215265)	III	242	QOL/OS	TORS followed by risk stratification. Low: observation Intermediate: randomized to 50 vs 60 Gy High: randomized between 60Gy +/- cisplatin
ORATOR2 (NCT03210103)	IIR	140	OS	Randomize XRT +/- chemotherapy vs TORS
SIRS (NCT02072148)	II	200	DFS LRC	TORS followed by risk stratification Low: observation Intermediate: 50 Gy XRT High: 60 Gy XRT + cisplatin
DELPHII (NCT03396718)	I	384	LRC	TORS followed by risk stratification. Low: observation; Intermediate: 50 Gy XRT High: 60 Gy XRT + cisplatin

# Metastatic Disease

- Poor prognosis, survival measured in months (longer for HPV+ patients)
- Multiple active single agents
- Combination vs. single agent chemotherapy trials reproducibly:

1. Improve response rates
2. Increase toxicity
3. Do not improve in survival

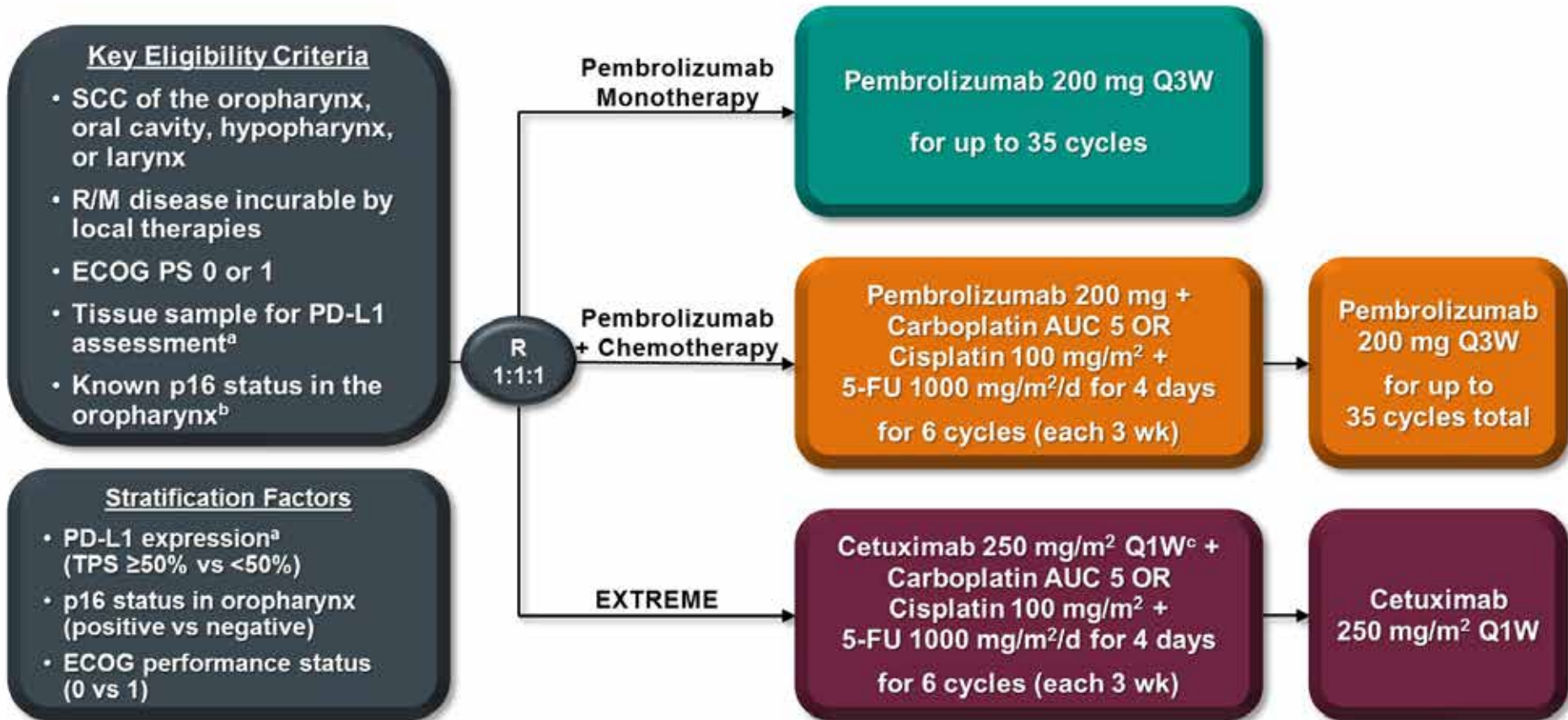
# Until 2008: EXTREME trial





# First Line Approval for Immune checkpoint inhibitor: Keynote 48

## KEYNOTE-048 Study Design (NCT02358031)



<sup>a</sup>Assessed using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay (Agilent). TPS = tumor proportion score = % of tumor cells with membranous PD-L1 expression.

<sup>b</sup>Assessed using the CINtec p16 Histology assay (Ventana); cutpoint for positivity = 70%. <sup>c</sup>Following a loading dose of 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

## Summary of Overall Su

Note:

Results for CPS <1 not reported

Pembro + chemo high rates of Gr 3 AE

Population	IA2 <sup>1</sup> HR (95% CI)	FA HR (95% CI)
<b>Pembrolizumab monotherapy vs EXTREME</b>		
PD-L1 CPS ≥20	0.61 (0.45–0.83); <i>P</i> = 0.0007 <sup>a</sup>	0.58 (0.44–0.78) <sup>c</sup>
PD-L1 CPS ≥1	0.78 (0.64–0.96); <i>P</i> = 0.0086 <sup>a</sup>	0.74 (0.61–0.90) <sup>c</sup>
Total	0.85 (0.71–1.03) <sup>b</sup>	0.83 (0.70–0.99); <i>P</i> = 0.0199 <sup>d</sup>
<b>Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy vs EXTREME</b>		
PD-L1 CPS ≥20	—	0.60 (0.45–0.82); <i>P</i> = 0.0004 <sup>a</sup>
PD-L1 CPS ≥1	—	0.65 (0.53–0.80); <i>P</i> < 0.0001 <sup>a</sup>
Total	0.77 (0.63–0.93); <i>P</i> = 0.0034 <sup>a,b</sup>	0.72 (0.60–0.87) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Superiority demonstrated. <sup>b</sup>Noninferiority demonstrated (boundary of 1.2). <sup>c</sup>No statistical testing performed. <sup>d</sup>Superiority not demonstrated.

1. Burtne B et al. *Ann Oncol* 2018;29(suppl 8):LBA8\_PR.

# Second line Immune checkpoint inhibitor

## Phase III CheckMate 141 Study Design

### *Nivolumab in R/M SCCHN After Platinum Therapy*

Randomized, global, phase III trial of the efficacy and safety of nivolumab vs investigator's choice in patients with R/M SCCHN

#### Key eligibility criteria:

- R/M SCCHN of the oral cavity, pharynx, or larynx
- Progression on or within 6 months of last dose of platinum-based therapy
- Irrespective of no. of prior lines of therapy
- Documentation of p16 to determine HPV status (oropharyngeal)
- Regardless of PD-L1 status<sup>a</sup>

#### Stratification factor:

- Prior cetuximab treatment

R  
2:1

**Nivolumab**  
3 mg/kg IV Q2W

**Investigator's choice**

- Methotrexate 40 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV weekly
- Docetaxel 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV weekly
- Cetuximab 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV once, then 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> weekly

**Primary end point:**

- OS

**Other end points:**

- PFS
- ORR
- Safety
- DOR
- Biomarkers
- Quality of life

<sup>a</sup>Tissue required for testing.

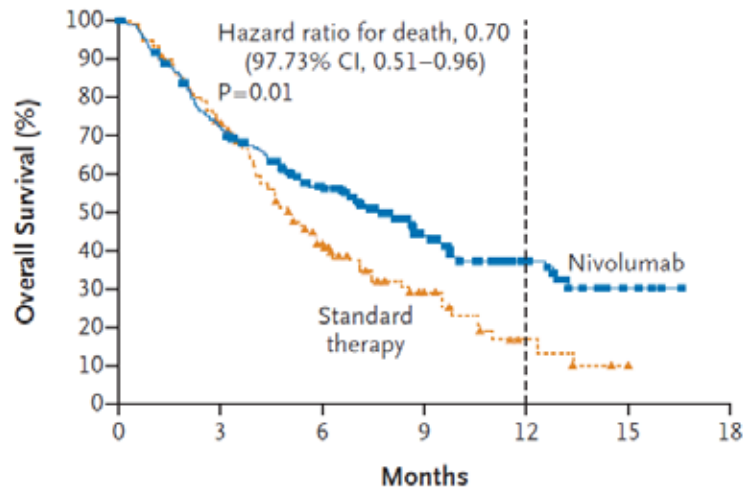
DOR = duration of response; IV = intravenous; ORR = objective response rate; PFS = progression-free survival; Q2W = once every 2 weeks; R = randomized.

Ferris et al, 2016.

# Checkmate 141 results

## A Overall Survival

	No. of Patients	No. of Deaths	1-Yr Overall Survival Rate % (95% CI)	Median Overall Survival mo (95% CI)
Nivolumab	240	133	36.0 (28.5–43.4)	7.5 (5.5–9.1)
Standard Therapy	121	85	16.6 (8.6–26.8)	5.1 (4.0–6.0)

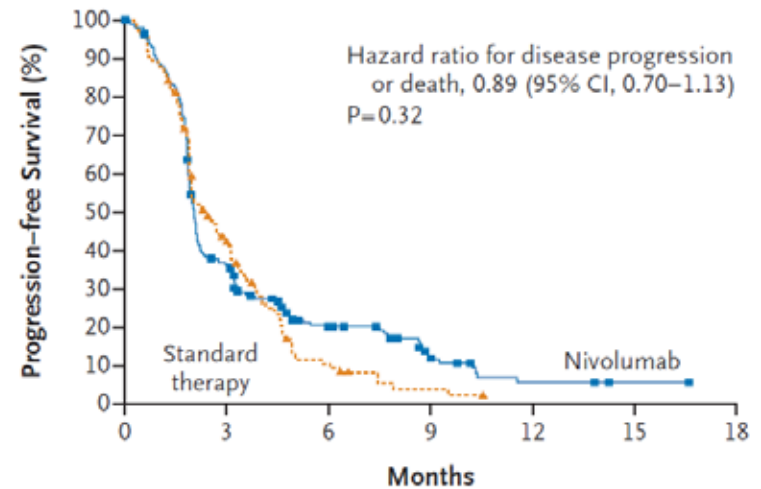


### No. at Risk

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18
Nivolumab	240	167	109	52	24	7	0
Standard therapy	121	87	42	17	5	1	0

## B Progression-free Survival

	No. of Patients	No. of Events	Median Progression-free Survival (95% CI) mo
Nivolumab	240	190	2.0 (1.9–2.1)
Standard Therapy	121	103	2.3 (1.9–3.1)



### No. at Risk

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18
Nivolumab	240	79	32	12	4	1	0
Standard therapy	121	43	9	2	0	0	0

Exploratory biomarker data: OS benefit independent of p16 status  
Higher magnitude of OS benefit in >1% PDL1 tumors

# Pembrolizumab

E Cohen\_ESMO 2017

## Phase 3 KEYNOTE-040 Study (NCT02252042)

### Key Eligibility Criteria

- SCC of the oral cavity, oropharynx, hypopharynx, or larynx
- PD after platinum-containing regimen for R/M HNSCC or recurrence or PD within 3-6 mo of multimodal therapy using platinum<sup>a</sup>
- ECOG PS 0 or 1
- Known p16 status (oropharynx)<sup>b</sup>
- Tissue sample<sup>c</sup> for PD-L1 assessment<sup>d</sup>

### Stratification Factors

- ECOG PS (0 vs 1)
- p16 status<sup>b</sup> (positive vs negative)
- PD-L1 TPS<sup>d</sup> ( $\geq 50\%$  vs  $< 50\%$ )

R  
1:1

**Pembrolizumab**  
200 mg IV Q3W  
for 2 y

**Methotrexate 40 mg/m<sup>2</sup> QW<sup>e</sup>**  
OR  
**Docetaxel 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W**  
OR  
**Cetuximab 250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> QW<sup>f</sup>**

- Clinically stable patients with radiologic PD could continue treatment until imaging performed  $\geq 4$  wk later confirmed PD
- Crossover not permitted

<sup>a</sup>Limit of 2 prior therapies for R/M HNSCC. <sup>b</sup>Assessed using the CINtec p16 Histology assay (Ventana); cutpoint for positivity = 70%.

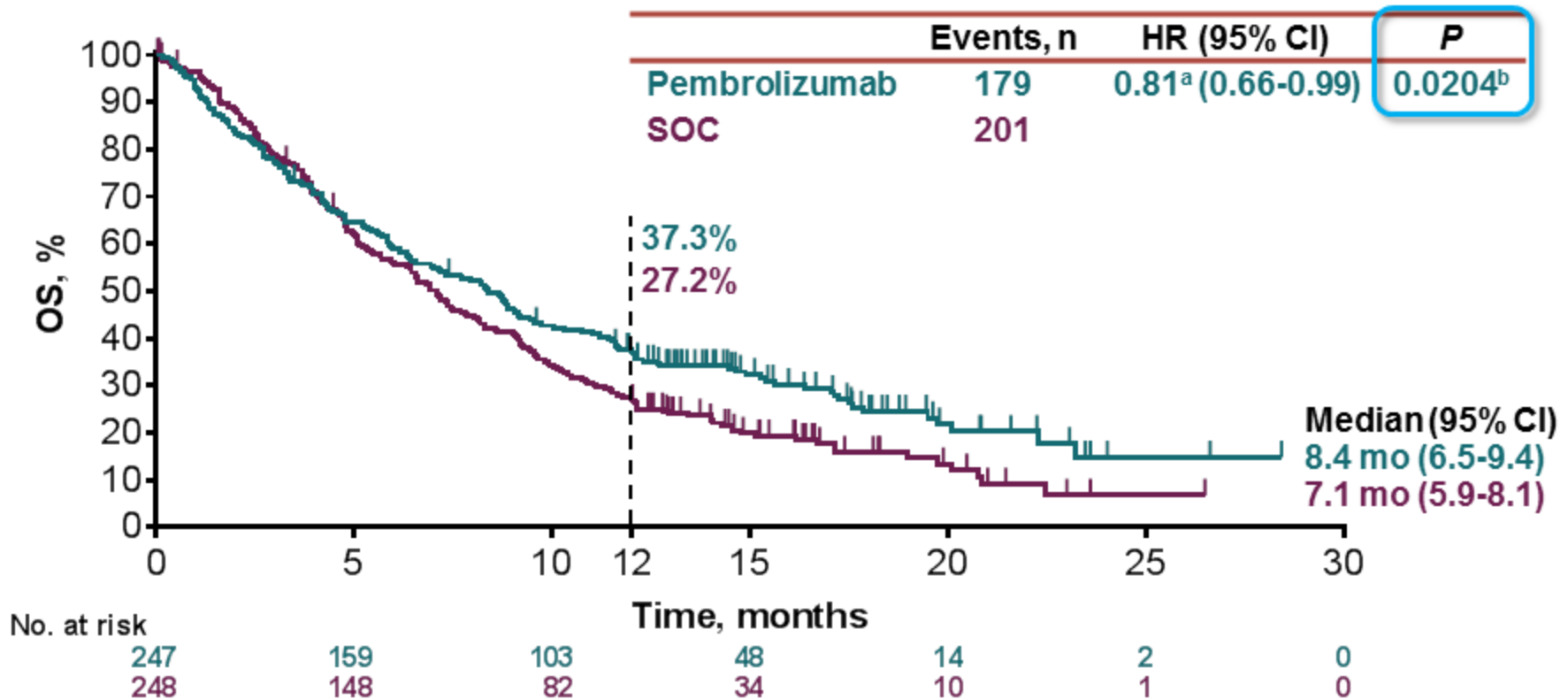
<sup>c</sup>Newly collected preferred. <sup>d</sup>Assessed using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay (Agilent Technologies). TPS = tumor proportion score = % of tumor cells with membranous PD-L1 expression.

<sup>e</sup>Could be increased to 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> QW in the absence of toxicity. <sup>f</sup>Following a loading dose of 400 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

# Keynote-40

E Cohen\_ESMO 2017

## Overall Survival in ITT Population

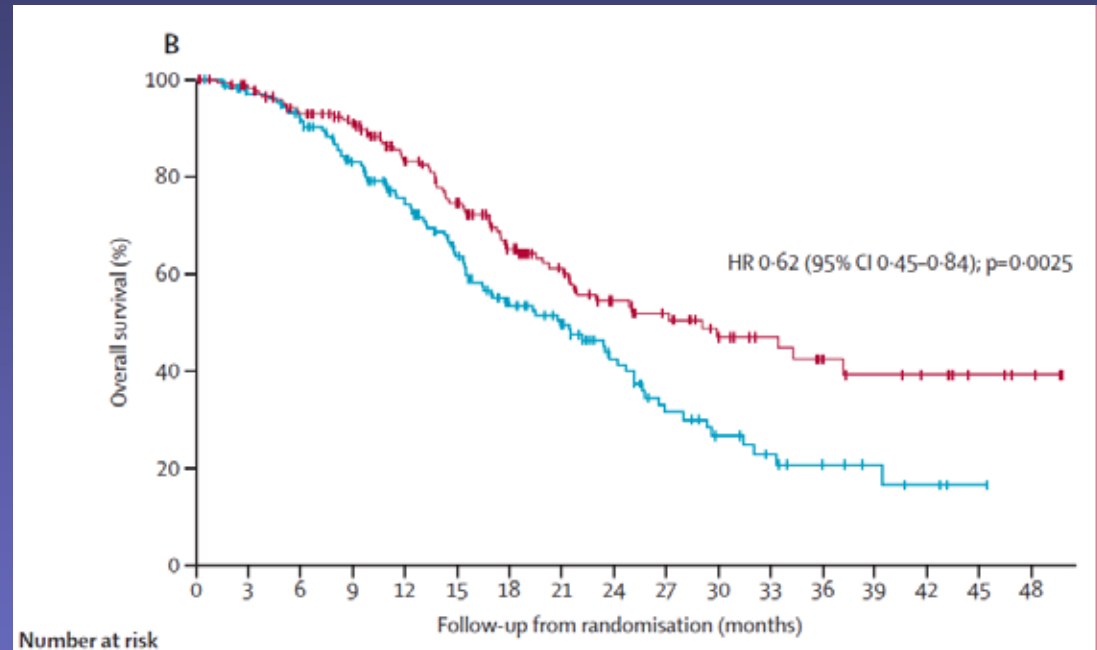


Median (95% CI)  
 8.4 mo (6.5-9.4)  
 7.1 mo (5.9-8.1)

<sup>a</sup>Cox proportional hazards model with treatment as a covariate stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Initially reported data: HR 0.82 (95% CI, 0.67-1.01),  $P = 0.0316$ . After the initial report, updated survival data were obtained for 4 patients. <sup>b</sup>One-sided  $P$  value based on the log-rank test stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Data cutoff date: May 15, 2017.

# Metastatic NPC

- Randomized Phase III
- N=362, first line R/M
- Gemcitabine + Cisplatin vs. 5-FU+ Cisplatin
- PFS advantage to GC
- Hematologic toxicities with GC compared to mucosal for FC



Zhang et al. [Lancet](#). 2016 Oct 15;388(10054):1883-1892.

# KEY POINTS:

## Metastatic Disease

- Non NPC
  - Pembro/Plat/5-FU prolongs OS compared EXTREME in R/M setting
  - Pembro monotherapy with OS benefit in CPS $\geq$ 1
  - Nivolumab and Pembrolizumab prolong OS in plat treated R/M disease compared to 2<sup>nd</sup> line systemic tx (independent of PDL1 or HPV status)
- NPC
  - Gem+Cis improves PFS compared to 5-FU Cis



# Future landscape of head and neck cancer therapy

- Deescalation studies in good risk HPV
  - Upfront surgery(robotic) vs lower dose XRT
- Immune checkpoint combinations in R/M
- Cellular therapeutics in R/M
- Integration of immune checkpoint inhibitors into curative intent therapy
- Epidemiologic changes with prophylactic vaccines

# Part II

# Thyroid Cancer

# Thyroid Cancer Review

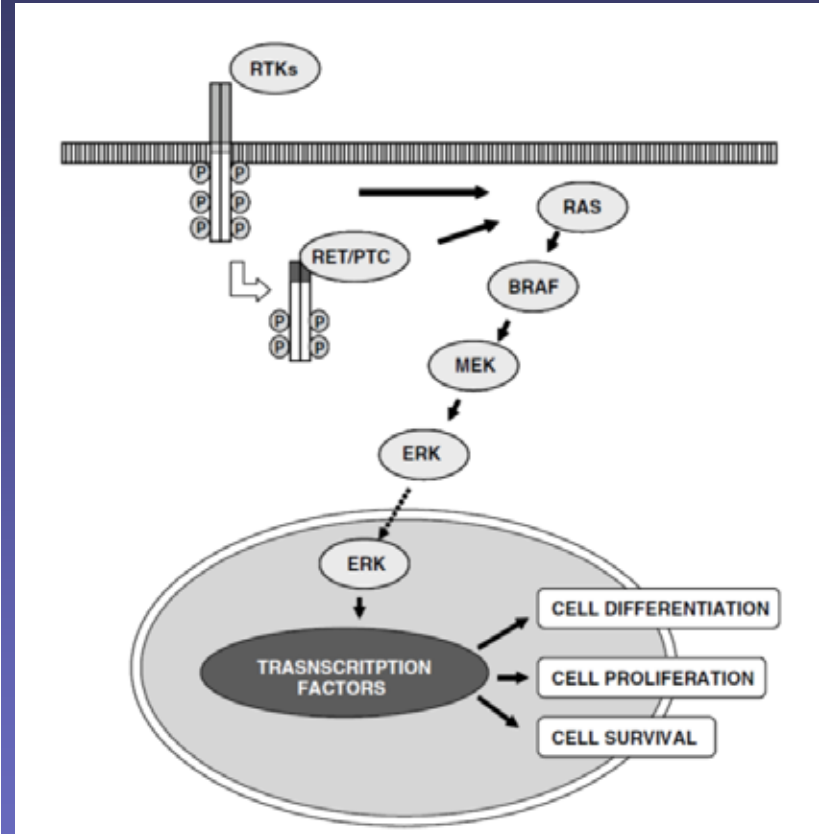
- **Differentiated Thyroid Cancer**
  - Papillary (85%) and Follicular (5%)
  - Familial in 3-9% (AFP, Cowden's, Werner's)
- **Medullary thyroid Cancer (5%)**
  - Parafollicular C cells, produce calcitonin
  - Familial (less common, MEN2) or Sporadic (majority)
  - RET
- **Anaplastic thyroid Cancer**
  - Elderly patients, rapid growth, airway compromise
  - Evolved from prior differentiated cancers

# The historical role of the medical oncologist

	Agent	N	Histology	Objective Response Rate	Overall Survival
Gottlieb, 1974	doxorubicin	30	All	11 (37%)	Responding patients: 11 months
Shimaoka, 1985	Doxorubicin vs cisplatin & doxorubicin	92	All	7 (17%) vs. 11 (26%)	< 24 months
Williams, 1986	Doxorubicin and cisplatin	22	All	2 (9%)	NR
Ain, 2000	Paclitaxel	20	ATC	10 (53%)	Median OS: 25 weeks

# Molecular targets in Thyroid Cancers

Tumor type	Prevalence (%)
<i>Papillary carcinoma</i>	
<i>BRAF</i>	45
<i>RET/PTC</i>	20
<i>RAS</i>	10
<i>TRK</i>	< 5
<i>Follicular carcinoma</i>	
<i>RAS</i>	45
<i>PAX8-PPAR<math>\gamma</math></i>	35
<i>PIK3CA</i>	< 10
<i>PTEN</i>	< 10
<i>Medullary carcinoma</i>	
Familial forms of <i>RET</i>	> 95
Sporadic <i>RET</i>	50
<i>Poorly differentiated carcinoma</i>	
<i>RAS</i>	35
$\beta$ -Catenin ( <i>CTNNB1</i> )	20
<i>TP53</i>	20
<i>BRAF</i>	15
<i>Anaplastic carcinoma</i>	
<i>TP53</i>	70
$\beta$ -Catenin ( <i>CTNNB1</i> )	65
<i>RAS</i>	55
<i>BRAF</i>	20



**MAPK signaling pathway**

# FDA approved TKIs in RAI refractory DTC

Agent	Target	Evidence	ORR	PFS	OS	AEs
Lenvatinib <sup>1</sup>	VEGF, BRAF, FGFR, RET, KIT	R Ph III vs. Placebo SELECT (N=392)	<b>64.8%</b> vs 1.5% (p<0.001)	18.3 vs 3m (p<0.001)	NS	75.9% vs 9.9%
Sorafenib <sup>2</sup>	VEGF, BRAF, RET, RAF, PDGFR	R Ph III vs. Placebo DECISION (N=417)	<b>12.2%</b> vs 0.5%	10.8 vs. 5.8m (p<0.0001)	NS	37.2 vs 26.3%
Selpercatinib <sup>3</sup>	RET	Ph1/2 N=27	<b>62%</b>	NR	NR	Mostly Gr1/2

\*\* Other multikinase inhibitors have activity in DTC, studied in nonrandomized phase II trials: axitinib, cabozantinib, pazopanib, sunitinib.

<sup>1</sup>Schlumberger et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2015 Feb 12;372(7):621-30.

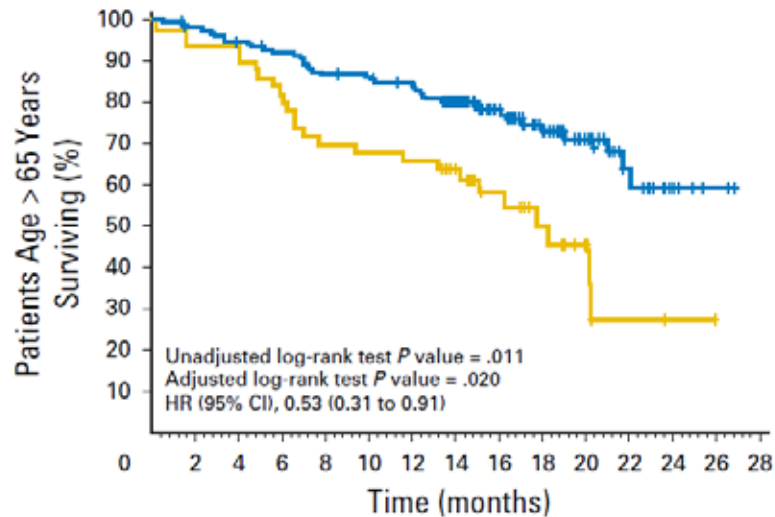
<sup>2</sup>Brose et al. *Lancet.* 2014 Jul 26;384(9940):319-28.

<sup>3</sup>Wirth et al. *ESMO* 2019

# SELECT Trial Update

**B**

Treatment	Total	Treatment Failure	Censored	Median, months (95% CI)
Lenvatinib	106	31	75	NE (22.1 to NE)
Placebo	50	25	25	18.4 (13.3 to 20.3)

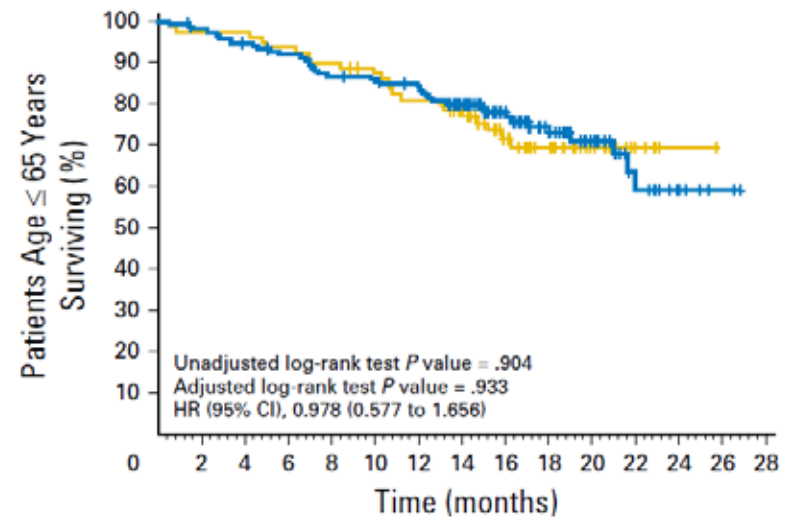


No. of patients at risk:

Lenvatinib	106	98	95	91	88	82	79	67	42	31	24	8	4	1	0
Placebo	50	47	47	42	35	34	33	26	16	11	7	2	1	1	0

**C**

Treatment	Total	Treatment Failure	Censored	Median, months (95% CI)
Lenvatinib	155	40	115	NE (22.0 to NE)
Placebo	81	22	59	NE (NE to NE)



No. of patients at risk:

Lenvatinib	155	150	144	139	131	129	124	102	70	47	31	14	6	2	0
Placebo	81	79	79	76	73	69	63	52	37	28	16	6	1	0	0

# FDA approved TKIs in MTC

Agent	Target	Evidence	Obj. Response Rate	PFS	OS	Adverse Events
Vandetanib <sup>1</sup>	RET VEGF EGFr	R Ph III vs.Plac ZETA (N=331)	45% vs 13% (p<0.01)	NR vs 19.3 m (p<0.01)	NR	GI: 56 vs 26%
Cabozantinib <sup>2</sup>	RET MET VEGF	R Ph III vs. Plac EXAM (N=330) noXover	28% vs 0%	11.2 vs. 4m (p<0.0001)	NS	Gr3 69% vs 33%
Selpercatinib <sup>3</sup>	RET	Phase I/2 Libretto N=226	56%	NR	NR	Most Gr1/2

<sup>1</sup>Wells, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2012 Jan 10;30(2):134-41.

<sup>2</sup>Elisei et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2013 Oct 10;31(29):3639-46.

<sup>3</sup>Wirth et al. *ESMO* 2019



# Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer

- Often unresectable and metastatic at diagnosis, very poor prognosis
- Controlling local disease and improving QOL are priorities of therapy
- Radiation often concurrent with chemotherapy often used to achieve treatment goals
- Paclitaxel has a response rate of ~50%
- Dual BRAF/MEK inh. For BRAF V600E+

# BRAF and MEK inhibition

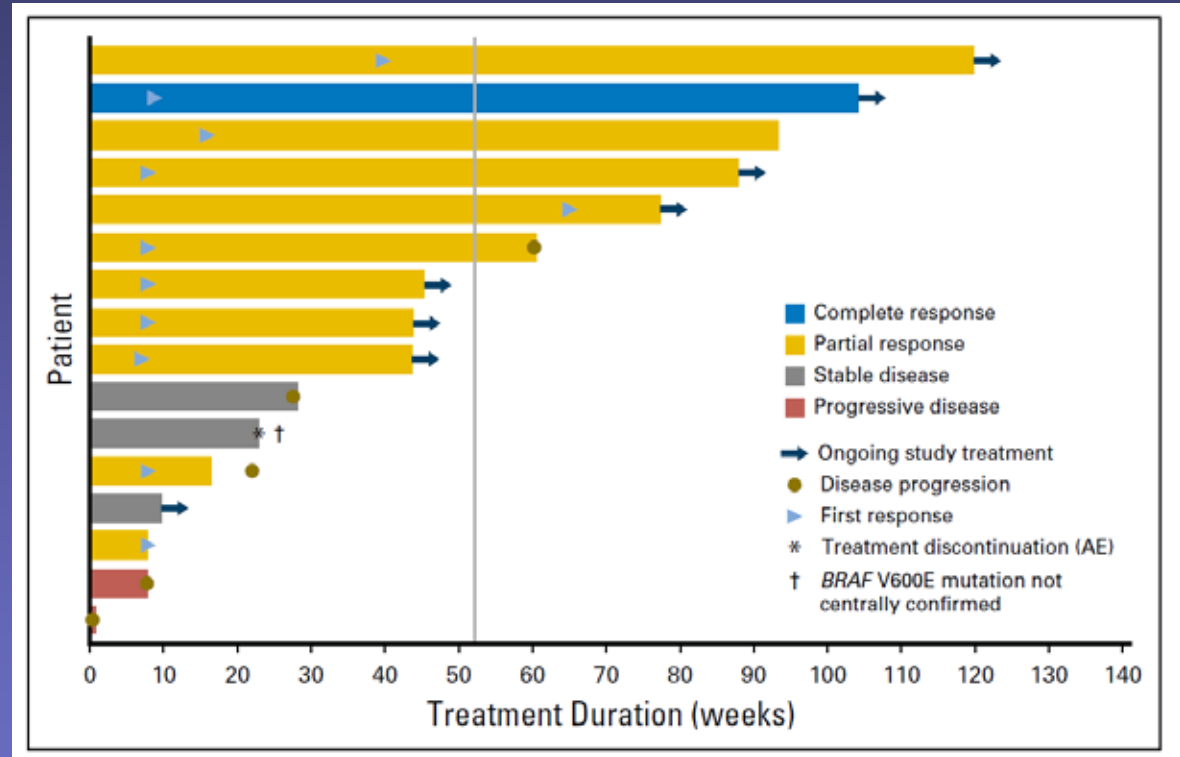
Phase I clinical  
experience with  
dabrafenib and  
trametinib

N= 16 pts with BRAF  
v600e mutations

Responses in 11 (69%)

80% previously treated  
with XRT

FDA approved



# Key Points: Thyroid Cancer

- Multikinase inhibitors are for thyroid cancer independent of mutational status
  - RAI refractory differentiated thyroid cancer
    - Lenvatinib and sorafenib
  - Medullary Thyroid Cancer
    - Vandetanib and cabozantinib
- Anaplastic thyroid cancer
  - Recognize and attempt local control
  - Test for BRAF V600E

**Part III**  
**Salivary Gland Cancer**

# Salivary Gland Cancers

- Uncommon (5% of head and neck CA)
- Diverse histology (2017 WHO)
  - Most common: adenoid cystic (ACC), mucoepidermoid carcinoma, adenocarcinoma
- Variable clinical behavior
  - Indolent subtypes such as ACC
- Molecular profiling
  - Secretory Carcinoma (*ETV6-NTRK3* fusion)

# Salivary Gland Cancer: Local or Locally advanced

- Surgical resection of localized disease
- Postoperative radiation therapy in high risk disease
  - Data to support Neutron Radiation
  - Photon radiation also extensively studied and reported in postoperative setting
  - Concurrent chemoradiation being studied in RTOG 1008

# Salivary Gland Cancer: Metastatic

- No current standard of care
  - Small trials with heterogeneous population
    - Low response rates, stable disease
    - Contemporary experience with single agent paclitaxel and gemcitabine-cisplatin
  - Recent reports/publications
    - Lenvatinib in adenoid cystic (15%ORR)
    - Entrectinib in NTRK mutant sal gland cancer
    - Trastuzumab+chemo and TDM1 in Her2+
    - Androgen deprivation in AR+ sal gland cancer
    - Pembro in PDL1>1% (10% ORR)
- Clinical trials preferred

Thank you!  
[rodrigcr@uw.edu](mailto:rodrigcr@uw.edu)





# SUMMARY TABLE 1

## Definitive XRT in Locally Advanced HNSCC

Disease	Standard/s of Care	Evidence
Locally advanced p16+ oropharynx cancer	cisplatin 100mg/m <sup>2</sup> bolus + XRT	<b>RTOG 1016 DE-ESCALaTE</b> OS, LRC benefit vs. cetuxXRT
Unresectable HNSCC of OC, OP, L, HP	cisplatin 100mg/m <sup>2</sup> day 1, 22, 43 of XRT	<b>Intergroup Study</b> OS, DSS and LRC advantage vs XRT or splitXRT
Unresectable HNSCC of OC, OP, L, HP	cetuximab weekly concurrent with XRT	<b>Bonner Study</b> OS, LRC and PFS advantage vs XRT
St III-IVB Larynx CA (supraglottis or subglottis)	cisplatin 100mg/m <sup>2</sup> day 1, 22, 43 of XRT	<b>RTOG 91-11</b> Larynx Preservation and LRC benefit vs XRT or ind.+ XRT

# SUMMARY TABLE 2

## Noncisplatin regimens Locally Advanced HNSCC

Disease	Standard/s of Care	Evidence
Unresectable HNSCC of OC, OP, L, HP	cetuximab weekly concurrent with XRT	<b>Bonner Study</b> OS, LRC and PFS advantage vs XRT
Locally advanced Oropharynx cancer	Carbo + inf 5FU days 1, 22 and 43 of XRT	<b>GORTEC 94-01</b> OS and LRC advantage vs. XRT alone

# SUMMARY TABLE 3

## Checkpoint inhibitors in Metastatic HNSCC

Line of therapy (biomarker)	Drug or Regimen	Evidence
1st line (CPS 1 or higher)	Pembrolizumab monotherapy	<sup>1</sup> Keynote-48 Phase III trial
1st line (any CPS)	Pembrolizumab + carboplatin + 5FU	<sup>1</sup> Keynote-48 Phase III trial
2nd line post cisplatin	Nivolumab	<sup>2</sup> Checkmate 141 Phase III trial
2nd line post cisplatin	Pembrolizumab	<sup>3</sup> Keynote-40 Phase III trial

<sup>1</sup>Rischin et al. ASCO 2019 abstract 6000

<sup>2</sup>Ferris, et al. NEJM 2016 Nov 10;375(19):1856-1867

<sup>3</sup>Cohen et al. Lancet 2019 Jan 12;393(10167):156-167

# SUMMARY TABLE 4

## Nasopharyngeal Cancer

Disease	Standard/s of Care	Evidence	Emerging Evidence
Locally Advanced NPC	Cisplatin + XRT (consider adjuvant cis+5FU)	Intergroup 0099 OS and PFS vs XRT alone	No adjuvant therapy after CRT noninferior in endemic studies
Node+ Locally advanced NPC	Gemcitabine cisplatin followed by cisXRT	Zhang et al NEJM Phase III study OS advantage vs. cisXRT	
1 <sup>st</sup> line R/M NPC	Cisplatin + gemcitabine x 6 cycles	<b>Zhang R Ph III</b> PFS adv. vs cis + 5- FU	PD1 inhibitors have activity (Keynote- 28)

# SUMMARY TABLE 5

## Thyroid Cancer

Disease	Standard/s of Care	Evidence
RAI refractory differentiated thyroid cancer	Sorafenib	Ph III DECISION trial PFS adv. vs placebo
	Lenvatinib	Ph III SELECT trial ORR, PFS adv. vs placebo ORR 64%, allowed prior TKI
Medullary Thyroid Cancer	Vandetanib	Ph III ZETA study PFS adv. vs. placebo
	Cabozantinib	Ph III EXAM study PFS adv. vs. placebo
RET mutated thyroid ca	Selpercatinib	Ph1/2 LIBRETTO study
Anaplastic Thyroid	Paclitaxel	Ph II data, 53% ORR
	Dabrafenib + Trametinib	Ph I data in BRAF V600E mutated pts

# SUMMARY TABLE 6

## Salivary Gland Cancer

Disease	Standard/s of Care	Evidence/Emerging Data
Local or locally advanced sal. gland cancer	Resection followed by postop XRT for high risk disease	Historical improvement with postop Adjuvant Concurrent chemoXRT under study
Metastatic sal. gland cancer	No treatment standard  Clinical trial preferred	Consider molecular profiling: NTRK, Her2/AR inhibitors have activity Trials for specific molecular aberrations available