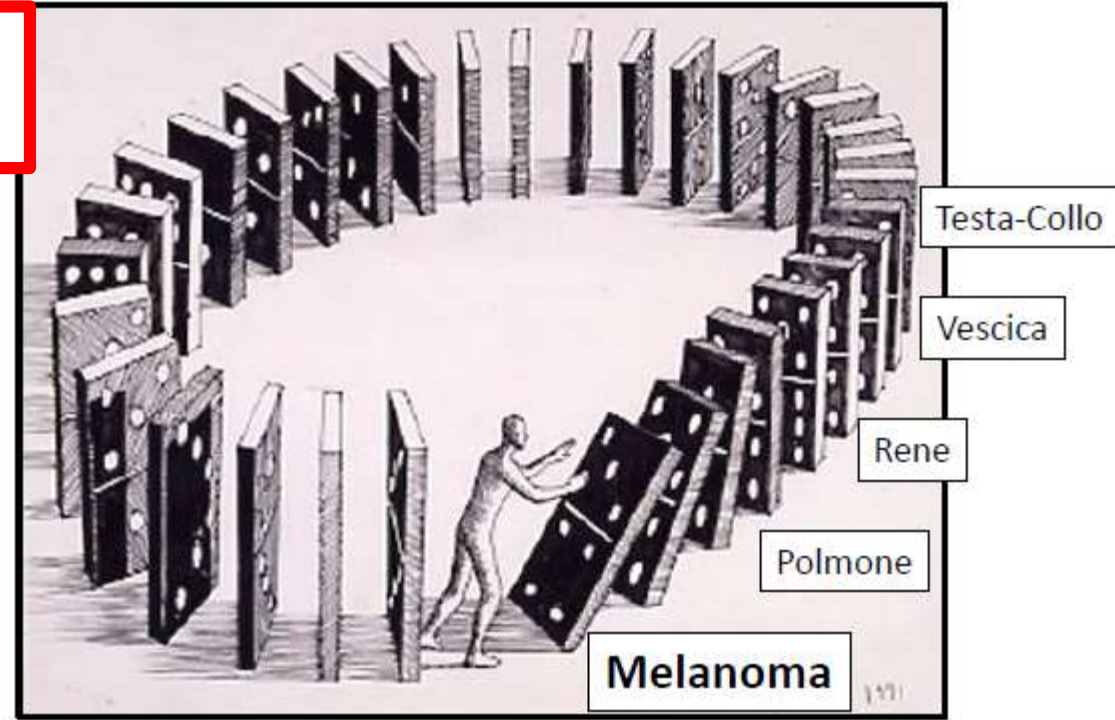




L'immunoterapia:  
una realtà anche nel carcinoma della mammella

**Zelmira Ballatore**  
**CLINICA ONCOLOGICA**  
**Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria**  
**Ospedali Riuniti-Ancona**  
**Direttore Prof.ssa Rossana Berardi**



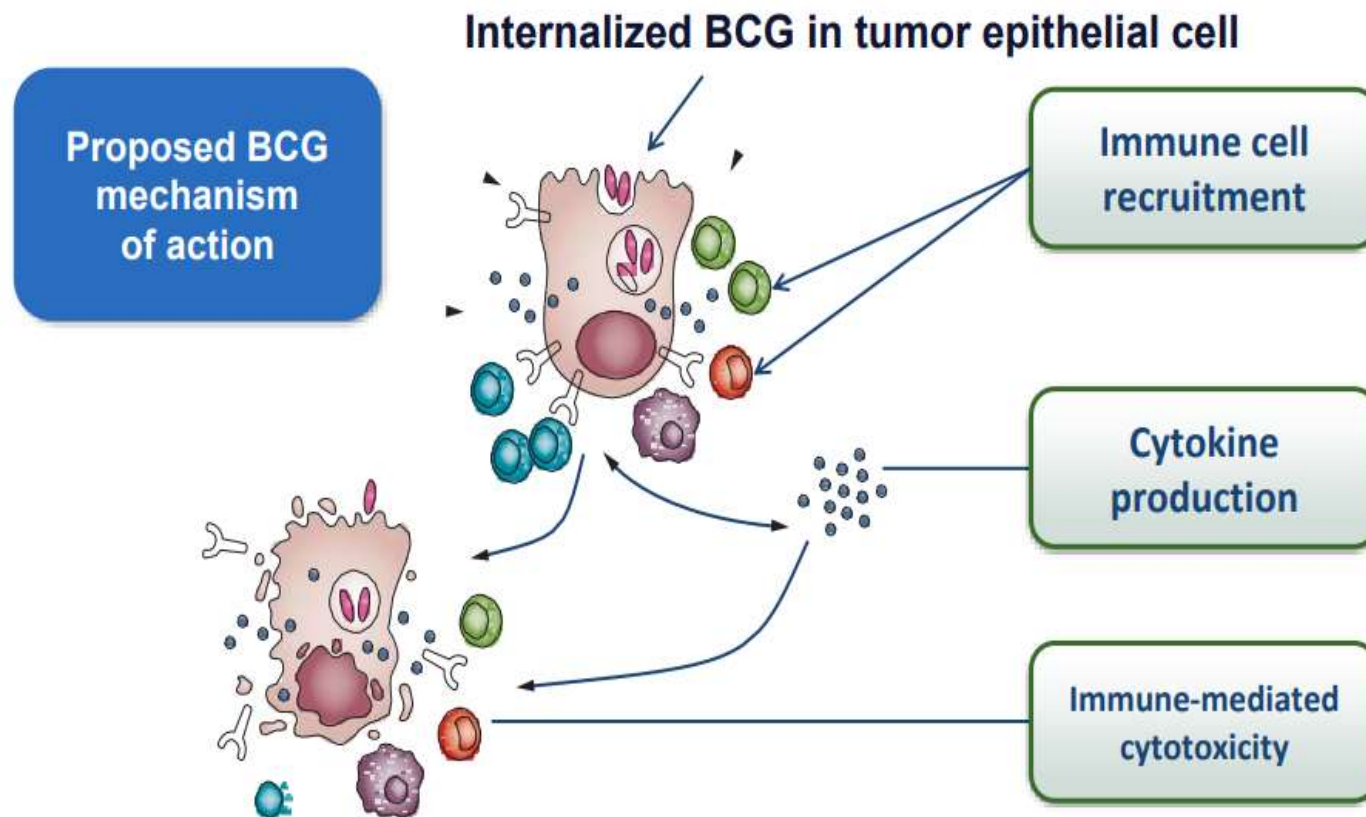
- ✓ What's immunotherapy?
- ✓ Breast cancer, mutational burden and TILs
- ✓ Data from clinical trials
- ✓ Looking at the Future: when, who and how?





# Immunotherapy in Cancer: Past, Present and Future

BLADDER  
CANCER

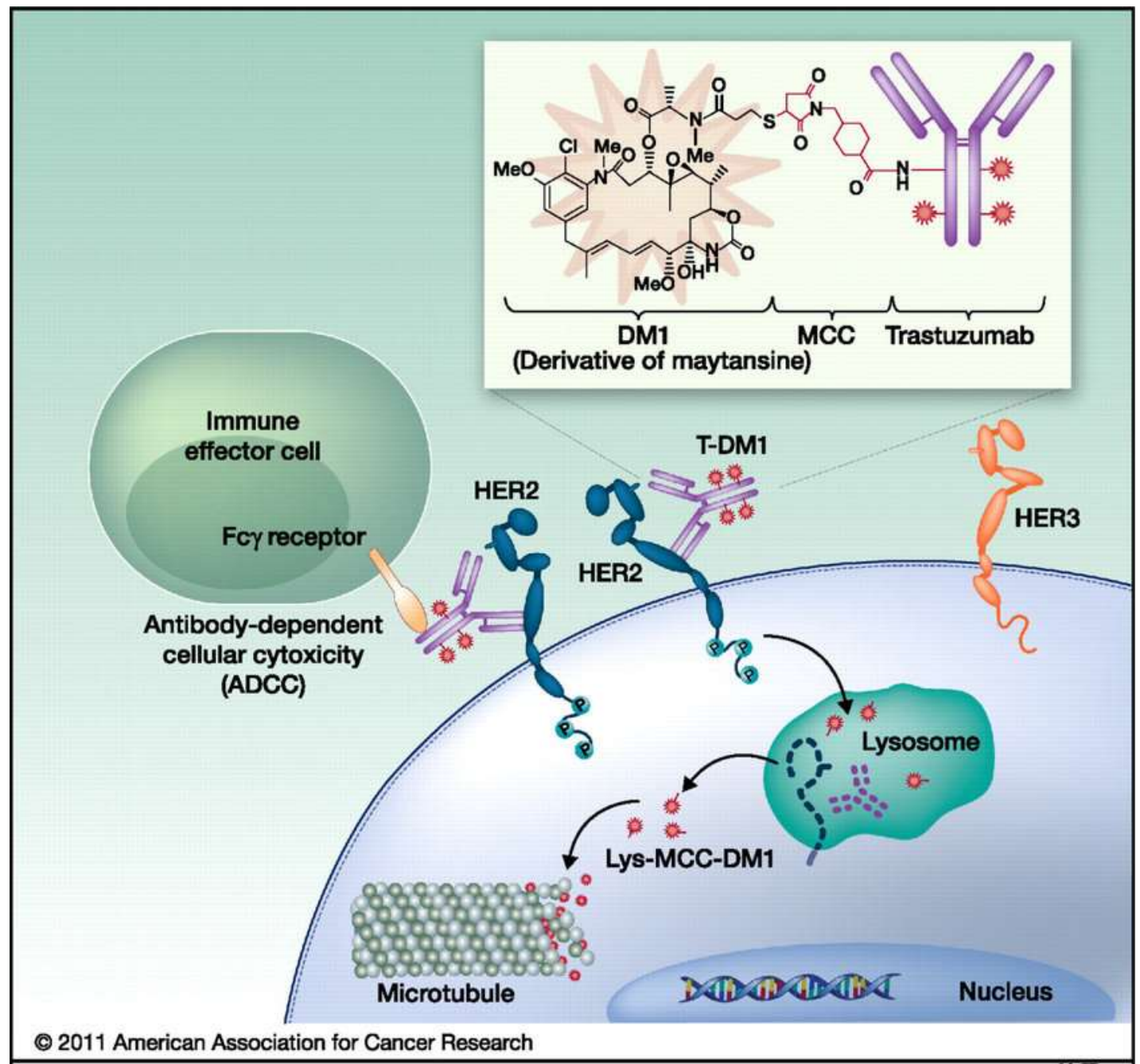


The rationale for immunotherapy in urothelial cancer stems from the breakthrough made with BCG for NMIBC → efficiency in preventing recurrence

*Redelman-Sidi G, et al. Nat Rev Urol. 2014;11:153-162.*

- ❖ Trastuzumab itself has intrinsic immune-modulating activity with the capacity to mediate antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) and promote Her2 specific T cell response.
- ❖ The emtansine moiety of TDM1 may further augment immune priming by modulating DC activity.

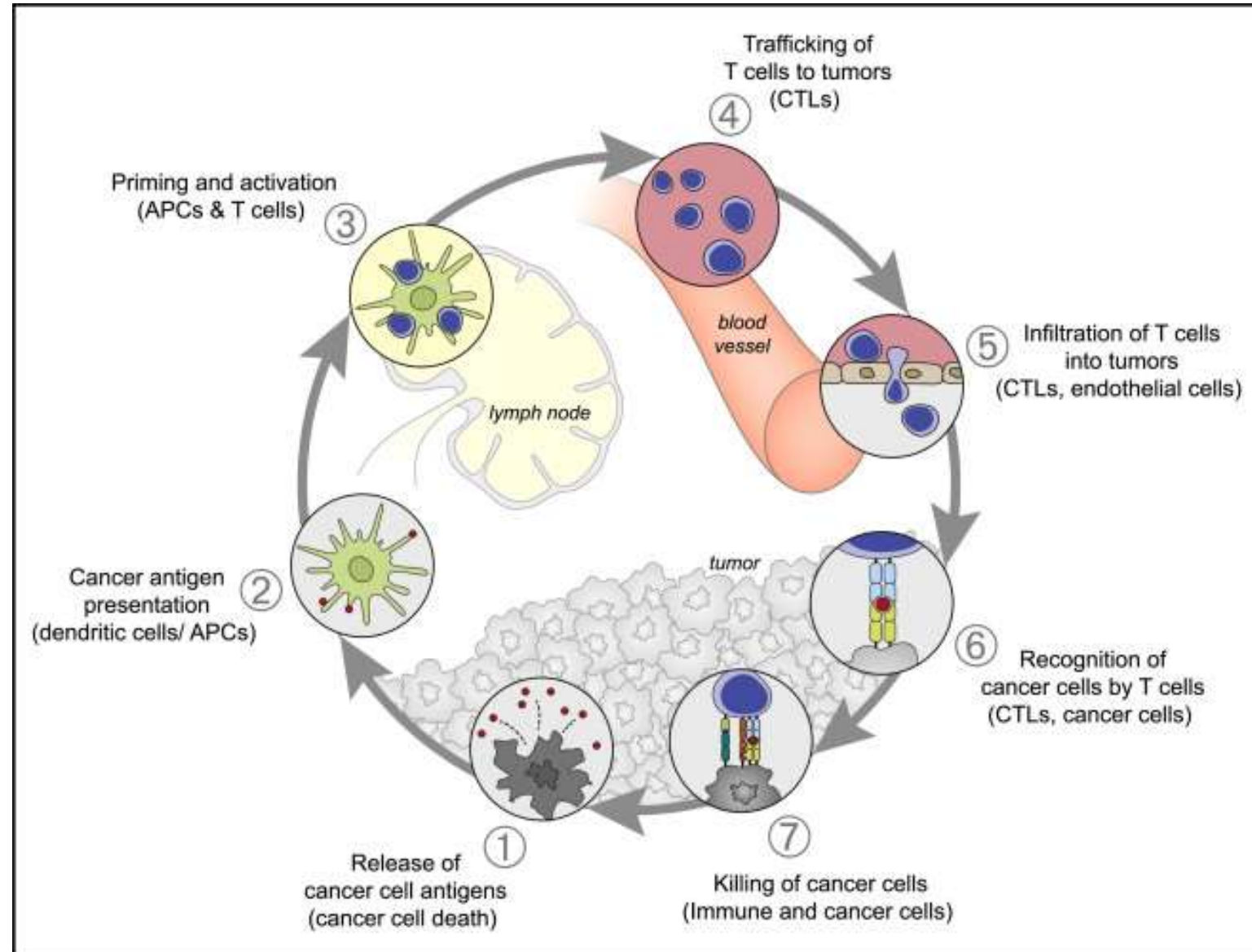
Leisha A. Emens. Breast Cancer immunotherapy: Facts and Hopes. Clin Canc Res 2017



# CANCER IMMUNITY CYCLE

- ❖ **PD-L1/PD1 interaction inhibits T cell activation, attenuates effector function, maintain immune homeostasis**
- ❖ **Tumors & surrounding cells up-regulate PD-L1 in response to T cell activity**

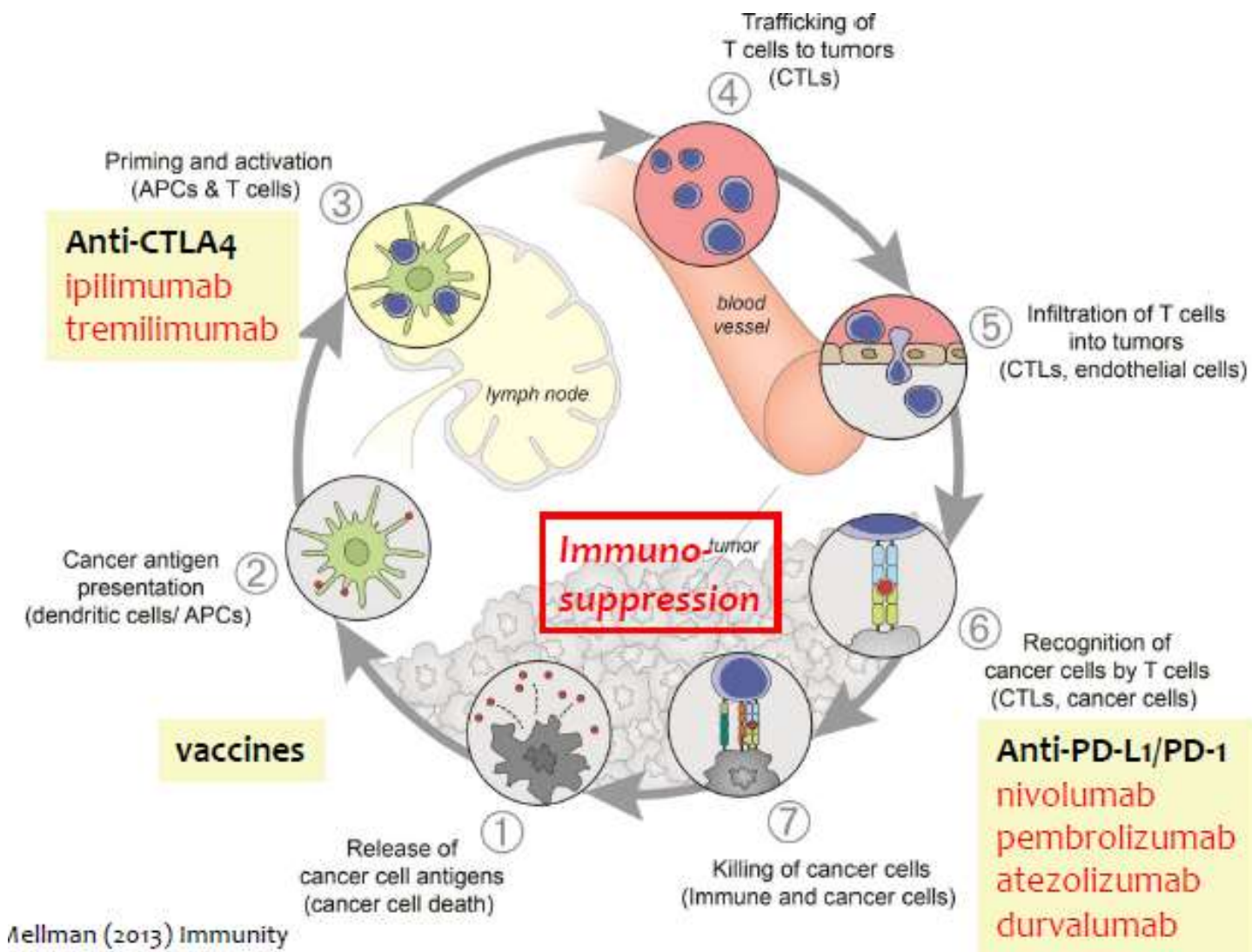
*Chen et al. Immunity Review 2013*





# What we have learned: immunosuppression is a rate limiting step to effective anti-tumor immunity... for some patients

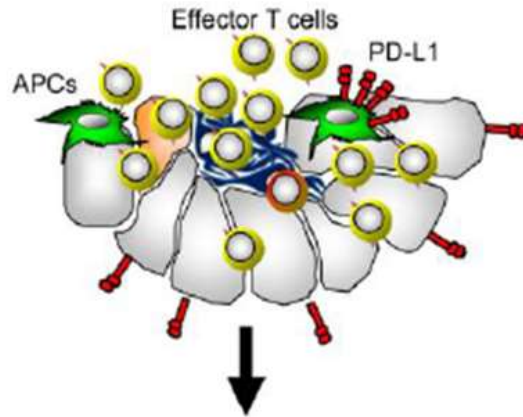
❖ **Blocking PD-L1/PD1 restores or prevents loss of T effector function**



# Targeting PD1-PDL1 pathway

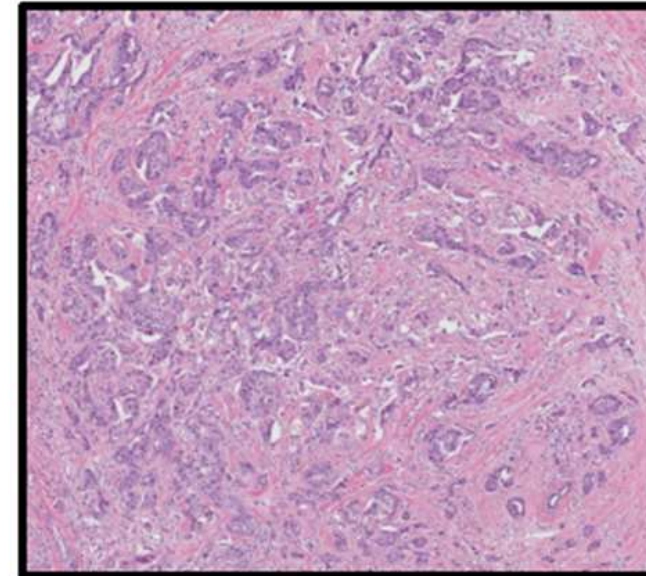
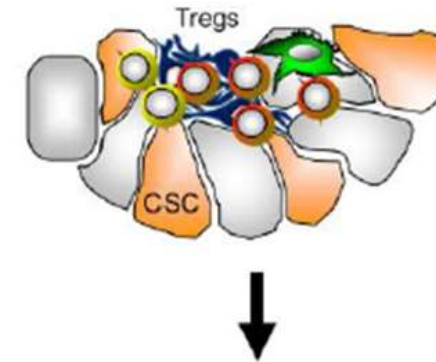
Active response to treatment

**"inflamed cancer"**

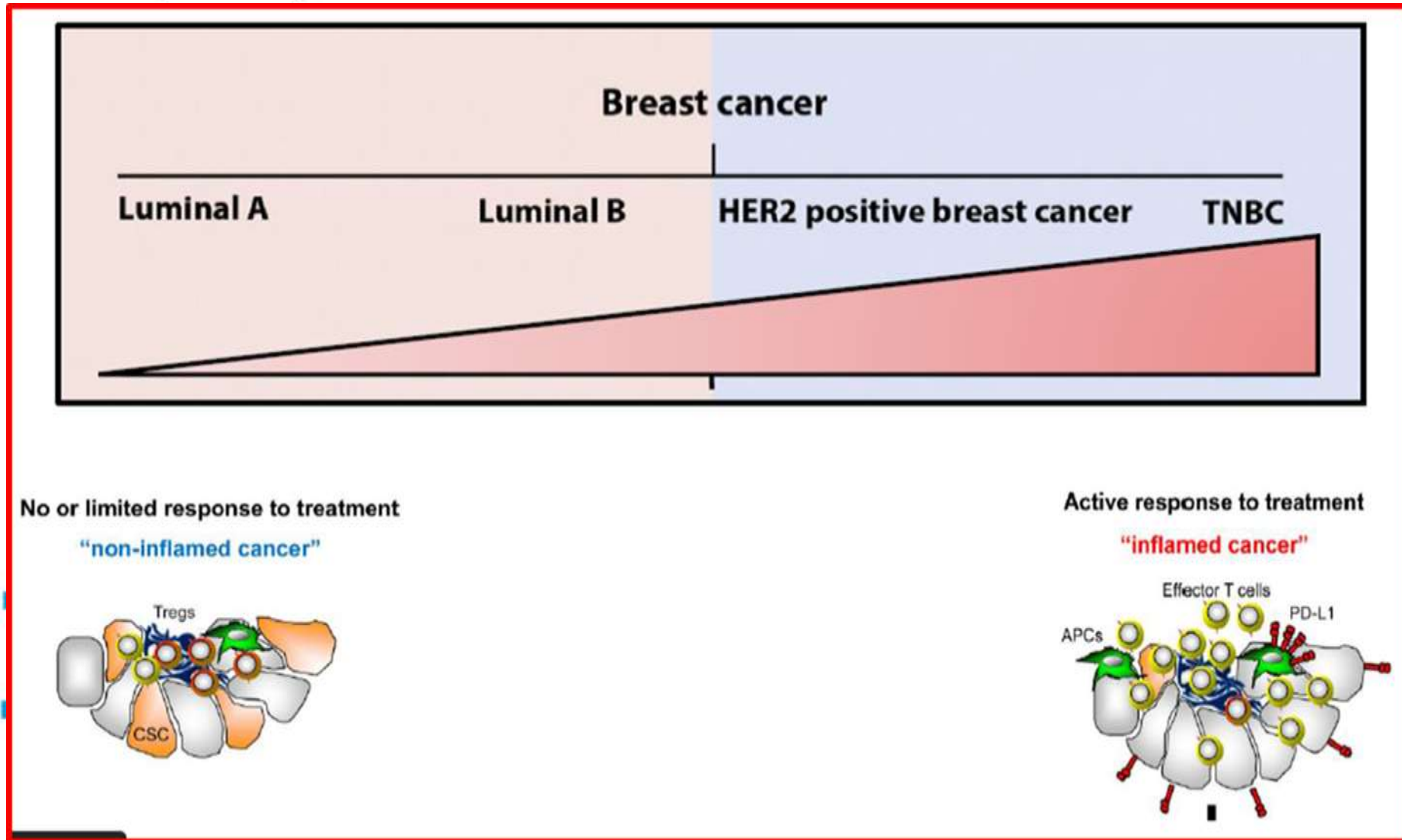


No or limited response to treatment

**"non-inflamed cancer"**



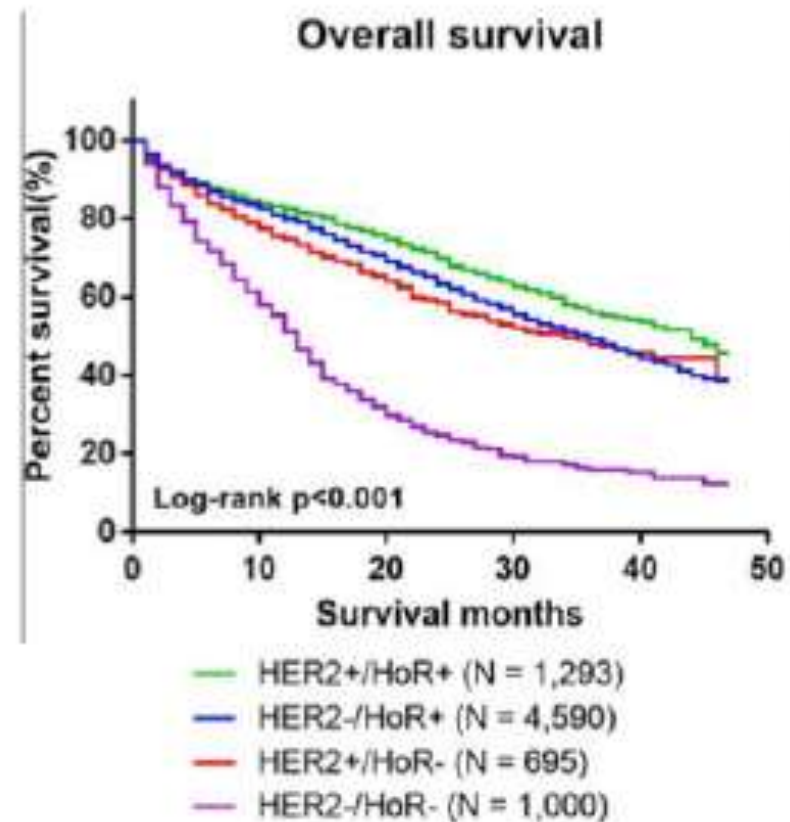
# Response Rate correlates with mutation frequency





# Behaviour of MBC according to subtype

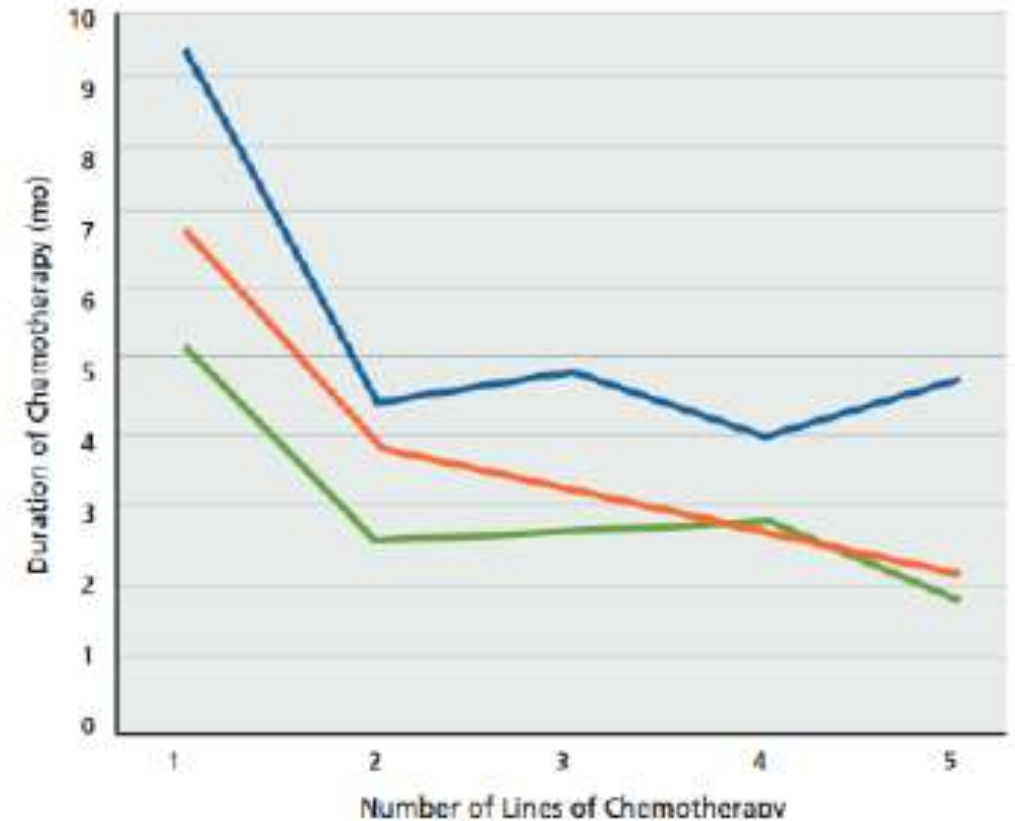
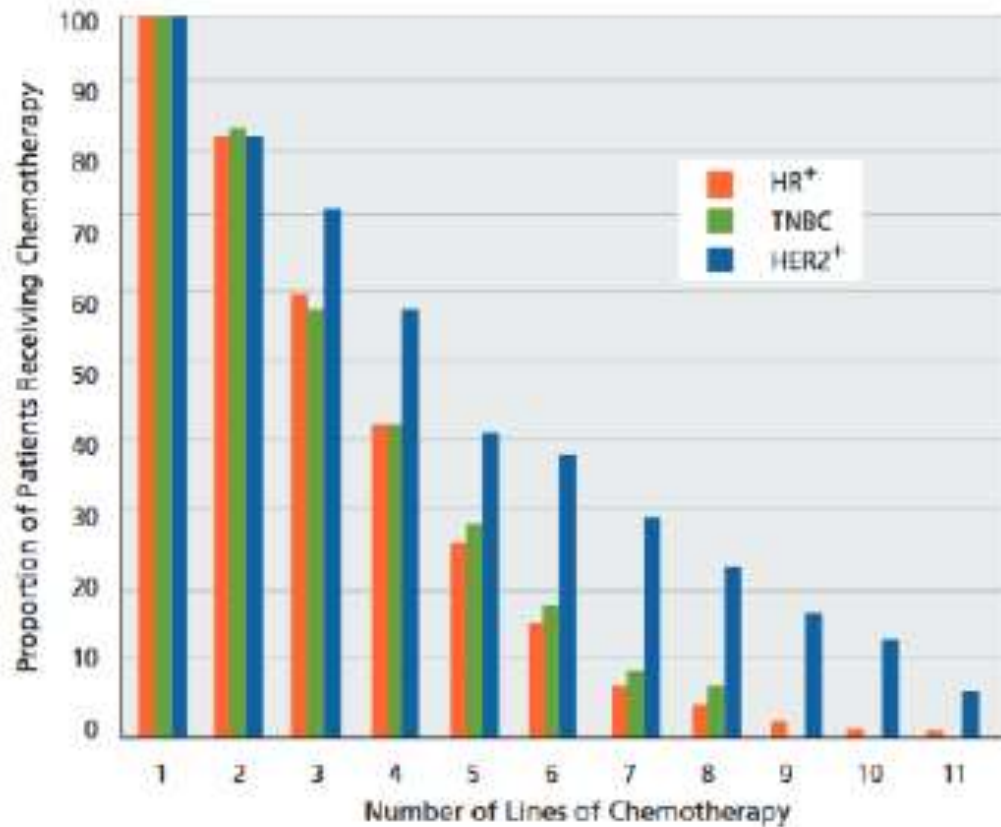
	n	Brain	Liver	Lung	Bone	Distant Nodal	Pleural/ peritoneal	Other
Luminal A	458	7.6	28.6	23.8	66.6	15.9	28.2	13.5
Luminal B	378	10.8	32.4	30.4	71.4	23.3	35.2	19.3
Luminal/HER2	117	15.4	4.4	36.8	65	22.2	34.2	13.7
HER2 enriched	136	28.7	45.6	47.1	59.6	25	31.6	16.9
<b>Basal Like</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>23.9</b>
<b>TN non basal</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>25.7</b>
<b>p</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.32	0.006



Kennecke H, JCO 2010

Gong Y, Sci Rep 2017

# Lines of chemotherapy and duration according to BC subtype



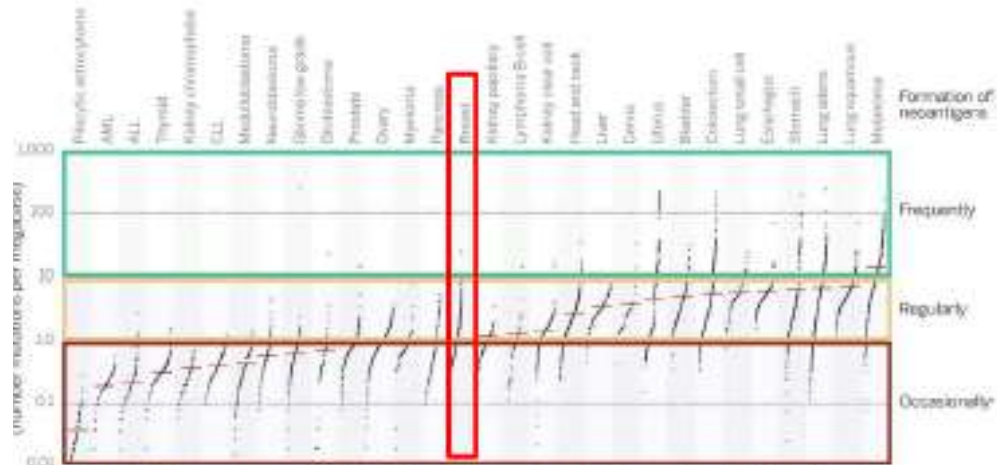
Seah DSE, J Natl Compr Canc Netw 2014

Courtesy Maria Vittoria Dieci, Padua September 22<sup>o</sup> 2018

# Clinical significance of mutation load

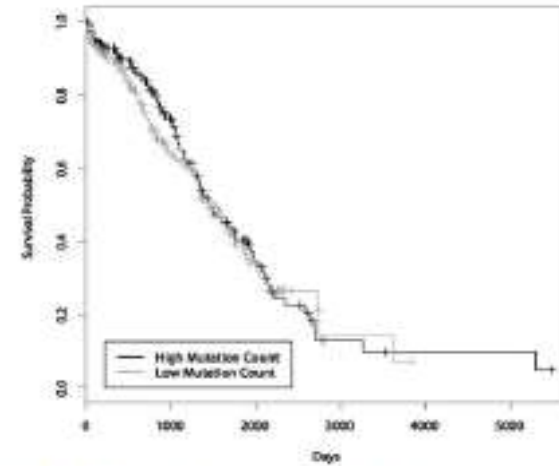
→ TIL can recognize somatic mutations and are correlated to the density of predicted mutant epitopes

BC has a moderate mutational load

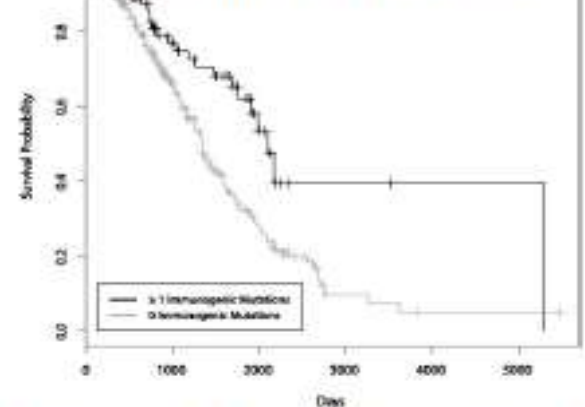


→ Higher mutation load in TNBC and HER2 BC

Total mutations and survival



Number of predicted immunogenic mutations and survival



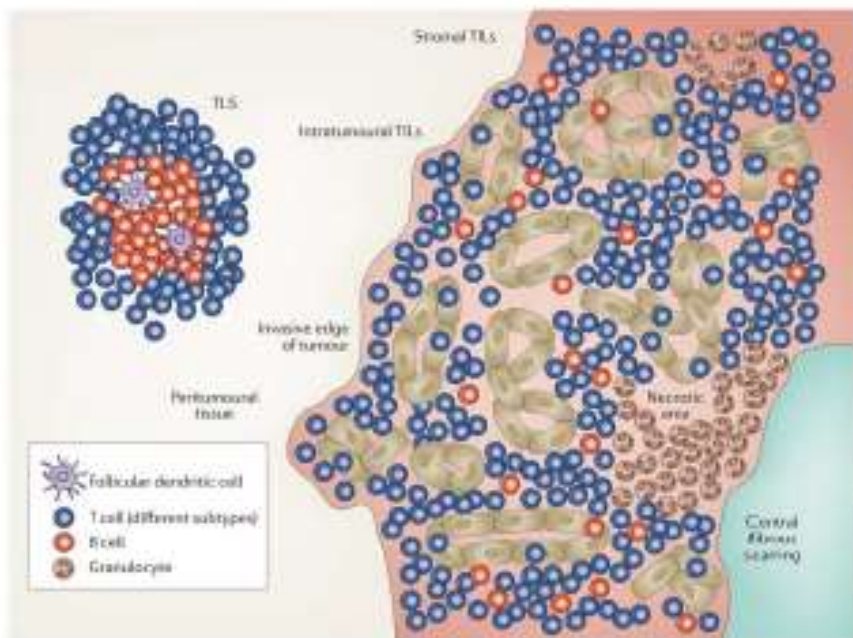
Ton N. Schumacher, and Robert D. Schreiber Science 2015

Scott D. Brown et al. Genome Res. 2014



# Clinical Significance of TIL infiltration in BC

→ TIL have prognostic and predictive value in early stage BC, particularly in HER2+ and TNBC



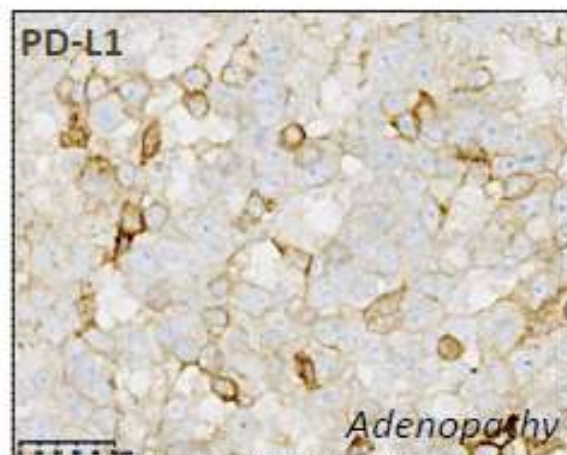
Nature Reviews | Clinical Oncology

Table 3 | Adjuvant trials in which TILs have been assessed

Trial analysed	Trial type	Treatment	TILs assessment	Population	n	Recurrence and points
BIG2-98 (REF: 10)	Adjuvant	Doxorubicin	Stromal on H&E	ER+/HER2-	1,079	Not significant
	Prospective	Cyclophosphamide		HER2+	297	Not significant
	RCT	CMF Docetaxel		TNBC	256	For each 10% increment of sTILs: DFS, HR=0.84 (95% CI 0.74-0.98, P=0.025)
Fin-HER <sup>+</sup>	Adjuvant	Docetaxel	Stromal on H&E	ER+/HER2-	591	Not significant
	Prospective	Vincorelbine		HER2+	209	Not significant
	RCT	FEC Trastuzumab		TNBC	134	For each 10% increment of sTILs: DDFS, HR=0.79 (95% CI 0.64-0.98, P=0.032)
E2197 and E1199 (REF: 50)	Adjuvant	Doxorubicin	Stromal on H&E	TNBC	461	For each 10% increment of sTILs: DFS, HR=0.84 (95% CI 0.74-0.95, P=0.005)
	Prospective	Cyclophosphamide Docetaxel				
SEARCH, BCCA, NBCCS, HEAT <sup>11</sup>	Prospective Observational RCT (HEAT)	Various, not standardised No trastuzumab	IHC for CD8 in stroma (sCD8) IHC for CD8 in tumour (tCD8)	ER+ (including HER2+)	6,775	Presence versus absence of tCD8: Breast cancer specific survival, HR=0.95 (95% CI 0.85-1.07, P=0.43)
				ER+/HER2+ TNBC		3,501
NeoALTTO <sup>16</sup>	Neoadjuvant Prospective RCT	Trastuzumab Lapatinib Paclitaxel FEC	Stromal on H&E	HER2+	387	1% decrease in rate of recurrence (event free survival) for every 1% increase in TILs P=0.002

Trials overall include a total of 15,800 patients. BIG, Breast International Group; CMF, cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, 5-fluorouracil; DDFS, distant disease-free survival; DFS, disease-free survival; ER, oestrogen receptor; FEC, 5-fluorouracil, epirubicin, cyclophosphamide; H&E, haematoxylin and eosin; HR, hazard ratio; IHC, immunohistochemistry; PR, progesterone receptor; RCT, randomized controlled trial; sTIL, stromal TIL; TIL, tumour-infiltrating lymphocyte; TNBC, triple-negative breast cancer.

# PD-L1 expression in metastatic BC



	PD-L1 positivity (%)
Luminal A	0/15 (0)
Luminal B	4/34 (11.7)
HER2+	2/21 (9.5)
TNBC	10/28 (35.7)

**111 metastases from 11 sites** including skin (40), ipsilateral breast relapse (23), liver (12), soft tissues (7), pleura (6), bone (6), brain (5), peritoneum (3), colon (1), lung (1), nodes (7)

PD-L1 IHC expression on	N = 111 (%)	Median (% cells-positive cases)	25th-75th percentile (%)
Tumor cells	3 (2.7)	1	1-5
Immune cells	12 (10.8)	5	5-10
Stromal cells	9 (8.1)	5	5-10
Any cells	17 (15.3)		

PD-L1 positivity :  $\geq 1\%$  expression on tumor or immune or stromal cells

1- Major survival improvements in Her2 positive BC with the use of mAbs targeting Her2 and their mechanism of action involve partially the immune system.

2- TILs have a positive prognostic impact on survival and predict a high probability of pathological response to neoadjuvant chemo.

3- PDL1 is expressed in BC and correlates with the presence of TILs, younger age, high grade, lack of ER, overexpression of Her2, **TNBC subtype**



*PD-1/PD-L1 Targeting in Breast Cancer – a Literature Review. Cancers 2019*



# Phase Ib of pembrolizumab in mTNBC

## KEYNOTE 012

- Recurrent or metastatic ER<sup>-</sup>/PR<sup>-</sup>/HER2<sup>-</sup> breast cancer
- ECOG PS 0-1
- PD-L1<sup>+</sup> tumor<sup>a</sup>
- No systemic steroid therapy
- No autoimmune disease (active or history of)
- No active brain metastases



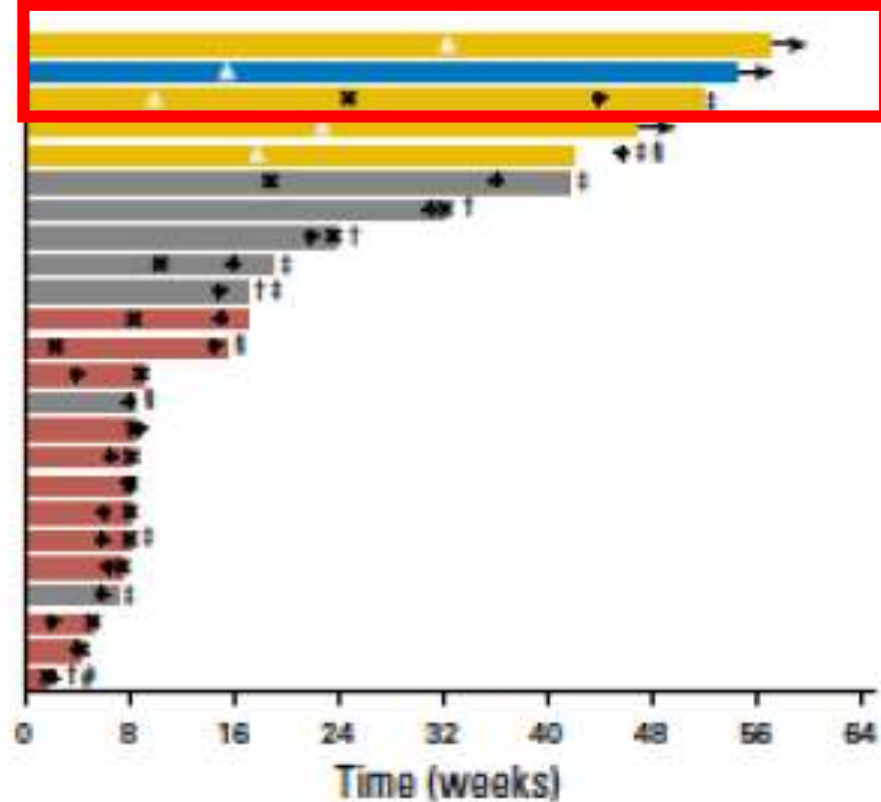
- **PD-L1 positivity:** 58% of all patients screened had PD-L1-positive tumors
- **Treatment:** 10 mg/kg IV Q2W
- **Response assessment:** Performed every 8 weeks per RECIST v1.1

<sup>a</sup>PD-L1 expression was assessed in archival tumor samples using a prototype IHC assay and the 22C3 antibody. Only patients with PD-L1 staining in the stroma or in  $\geq 1\%$  of tumor cells were eligible for enrollment.

<sup>b</sup>If clinically stable, patients are permitted to remain on pembrolizumab until progressive disease is confirmed on a second scan performed  $\geq 4$  weeks later. If progressive disease is confirmed, pembrolizumab is discontinued. An exception may be granted for patients with clinical stability or improvement after consultation with the sponsor.

*Nanda R et al. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2014*

### 3 exceptional responders



	Patients Evaluable for Response <sup>a</sup> n = 27
Overall response rate	5 (18.5%)
Best overall response	
Complete response	1 (3.7%)
Partial response	4 (14.8%)
Stable disease	7 (25.9%)
Progressive disease	12 (44.4%)
No assessment	3 (11.1%)

- ✓ 32 patients with PDL1 + mTNBC
- ✓ ORR 18,5%
- ✓ 2years survival rate 22%
- ✓ Heavily pre-treated pts and 78% with visceral involvement

Nanda R et al. JCO 2016

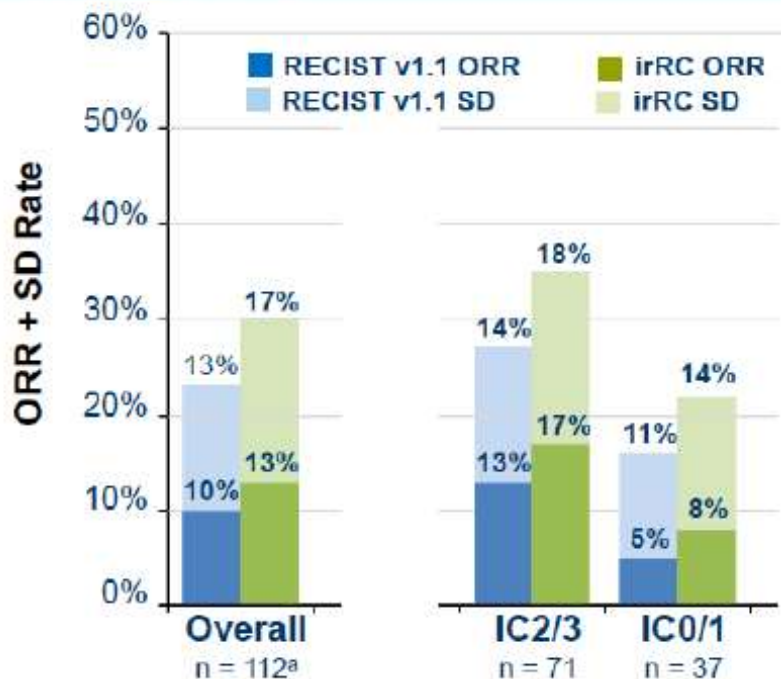
# Immuno check point inhibitors

Drug	Phase	Subtype	PD-L1	Nb pts	ORR		References
				<i>Evaluable</i>			
<b>Pembrolizumab</b> (anti-PD-1)	Ib	TNBC PDL1+	≥ 1% TC Stroma+ (58% of screened pts)	32 27	<b>18.5%</b>	1 CR 4 PR	KEYNOTE 012 Nanda et al. SABC 2014 JCO 2016
<b>Atezolizumab</b> (anti-PD-L1)	Ia	TNBC	≥ 5% IC	115 112	<b>10%</b>	3 CR 8 PR	Schmid et al. AACR2017
<b>Pembrolizumab</b> (anti-PD-1)	Ib	ER+/HER2- PDL1+	≥ 1% TC Stroma+ (19% of screened pts)	25	<b>12%</b>	0 CR 3 PR	KEYNOTE 028 Rugo et al. SABC 2015
<b>Avelumab</b> (anti-PD-L1)	Ib	All  TNBC ER+/HER2-	≥ 1% TC (58%) ≥ 5% TC (16%) ≥ 10% IC (9%)	168 153 58 72	<b>4.8%</b> 8.6% 2.8%	1 CR 7 PR	JAVELIN Dirix et al. SABC 2015



# ORR according to PD-L1 expression

## Phase Ia: Atezolizumab, an anti-PD-L1 antibody, in patients with locally advanced or metastatic TNBC



## Phase Ib: Avelumab, an anti-PD-L1 antibody, in patients with locally advanced or metastatic BC

PD-L1 expression	All patients (N=136)	TNBC (N=48)
≥ 1% TC	3/85 (3.5%)	2/33 (6.1%)
≥ 5% TC	1/23 (4.3%)	1/13 (7.7%)
≥ 25% TC	0/3 (0)	0/2 (0)
≥ 10% IC	4/12 (33.3%)	4/9 (44.4%)

Dirix L et al. SABC 2015

## KEYNOTE-086:

# Pembrolizumab Monotherapy for Metastatic TNBC



**B**

1L PD-L1-positive  
mTNBC n=80

Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV q 3 weeks

**A**

2+L mTNBC n=160  
Conditional expansion  
in PD-L1-positive

Pembrolizumab 200 mg IV q 3 weeks

170 pts with documented PD at the first line  
61.8% PD-L1 positive

**ORR 5.3% in the overall population**

5.7% in the PD-L1 positive/ 4.7% in the negative

**Disease Control Rate 7.6%**

No difference in Survival between PD-L1 pos vs neg

- **Primary Endpoint:**
  - ORR (RECIST 1.1) in first line PD-L1+BC
  - ORR (RECIST 1.1) in 2+ line BC
  - Safety, tolerability
- **Secondary Endpoints:**
  - PFS, DOR, OS

Adams, et al. TTP, SABCs 2015

# Keynote-086; sTIL levels correlate with tumor response

Cohort B (1° Line) (n=84 PD-L1+)

ORR 23%  
CR 4%  
PR 19%  
SD 17%  
PD 58%

No prior systemic tp and PDL1 positive tumor  
Two pts reaching a SD for more than 24 weeks

	Univariate <sup>a</sup>		Multivariate	
	Odds Ratio (95% CI)	<i>P</i> <sup>b</sup>	Odds Ratio (95% CI)	<i>P</i> <sup>a</sup>
sTIL level (continuous)	1.029 (1.012-1.046)	<0.001	1.0212 (1.002-1.041)	0.014
Cohort (B vs A)	6.075 (2.358-16.465)	<0.001	4.191 (1.407-13.005)	0.005
LDH concentration (continuous)	0.683 (0.477-0.896)	0.009	0.688 (0.468-0.924)	0.015

<sup>a</sup>Visceral disease (yes vs no) and ECOG performance status (0 vs 1) were evaluated and found to be nonsignificant based on the likelihood ratio test.

<sup>b</sup>One-sided from logistic regression. Red font indicates statistical significance.

Data cutoff date: Nov 10, 2016.

Adams, ASCO 2017



Investigative Clinical Oncology

Loi, LBA13 ESMO 2017



# PRESS RELEASE DETAILS



Everyone is put into 1 of 2 groups at random



Pembrolizumab

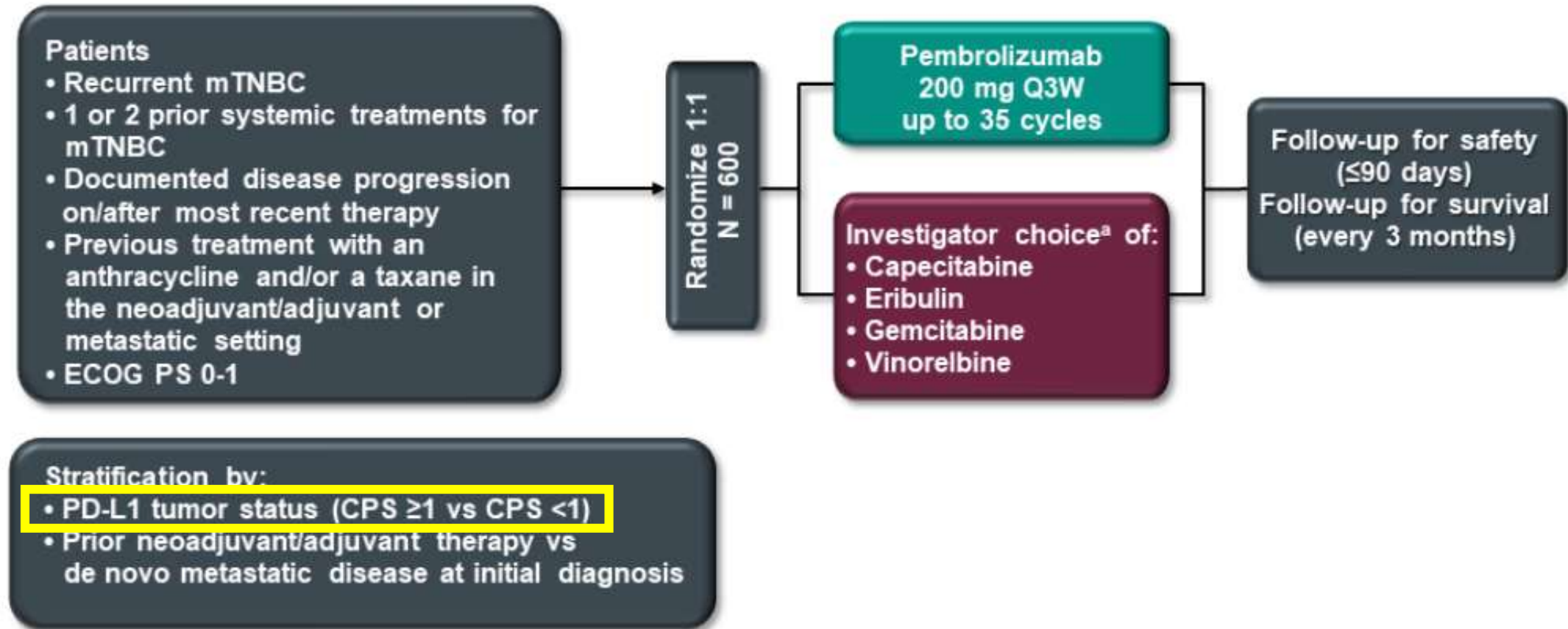
1 of the following chemotherapy drugs; capecitabine, eribulin, gemcitabine or vinorelbine

## Merck Provides Update on Phase 3 KEYNOTE-119 Study of KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab) Monotherapy in Previously-Treated Patients with Metastatic Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

MAY 20, 2019

KENILWORTH, N.J.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Merck (NYSE: MRK), known as MSD outside the United States and Canada, today announced that the Phase 3 KEYNOTE-119 trial evaluating KEYTRUDA, Merck's anti-PD-1 therapy, as monotherapy for the second- or third-line treatment of patients with metastatic triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) did not meet its pre-specified primary endpoint of superior overall survival (OS) compared to chemotherapy (capecitabine, eribulin, gemcitabine or vinorelbine). Other endpoints were not formally tested per the study protocol because the primary endpoint of OS was not met. The safety profile of KEYTRUDA in this trial was consistent with that observed in previously reported studies involving patients treated with KEYTRUDA monotherapy; no new safety concerns were identified. Results will be presented at an upcoming medical meeting.

# KEYNOTE-119 Study Design (NCT02555657)



ECOG PS = Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; mTNBC = metastatic triple-negative breast cancer; PD-L1 = programmed death ligand 1; Q3W = every 3 weeks.  
<sup>a</sup>Maximum enrollment cap of 60% of total enrollment for each chemotherapy drug.

# Baseline Characteristics

Characteristic, n (%)	Pembro N = 312	Chemo N = 310	Characteristic, n (%)	Pembro N = 312	Chemo N = 310
Age, median (range), y	50 (28 – 85)	50 (25 – 79)	Prior neoadjuvant/adjuvant	246 (78.8)	246 (79.4)
<65 years	264 (84.6)	260 (83.9)	Time to progression on 1L		
Post-menopausal	238 (76.3)	239 (77.1)	<6 mo	156 (50.0)	151 (48.7)
ECOG PS			≥6 mo	156 (50.0)	159 (51.3)
0	169 (54.2)	158 (51.0)	Chemotherapy received		
1	141 (45.2)	151 (48.7)	Eribulin	-	167 (53.9)
No. prior lines			Capecitabine	-	85 (27.4)
1	187 (59.9)	187 (60.3)	Vinorelbine	-	43 (13.9)
2	124 (39.7)	123 (39.7)	Gemcitabine	-	15 (4.8)



# Study End Points

## Primary

- OS in patients with PD-L1 positive tumors (CPS  $\geq 10$ )<sup>a</sup>
- OS in patients with PD-L1 positive tumors (CPS  $\geq 1$ )<sup>a</sup>
- OS in all patients

## Key Secondary

- PFS in all patients
- ORR in all patients<sup>b</sup>
- Safety and tolerability

## Additional Secondary

- DCR and DOR in all patients and patients with PD-L1 positive tumors (CPS  $\geq 1$  or CPS  $\geq 10$ )<sup>a</sup>

## Exploratory

- OS, PFS, ORR, and DOR in patients with PD-L1 positive tumors using additional CPS cutpoints

<sup>a</sup>Assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay defined as the combined positive score (CPS), the number of PD-L1–positive cells (tumor cells, lymphocytes, macrophages) divided by total number of tumor cells  $\times 100$ .

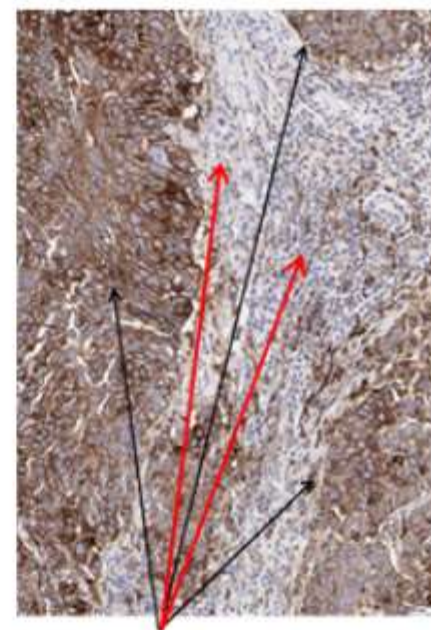
<sup>b</sup>Assessed per RECIST v1.1 by blinded, independent central review.

# PD-L1 Expression Analysis

- Measure of PD-L1 expression: combined positive score (CPS)

$$\text{CPS} = \frac{\text{\# PD-L1-staining cells (tumor cells, lymphocytes, macrophages)}}{\text{Total \# viable tumor cells}} \times 100$$

- Assessed centrally in newly obtained core or excisional biopsy from metastatic, not previously irradiated, tumor lesion using PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx (Agilent Technologies)
- Positive PD-L1 expression: CPS  $\geq 10$  and CPS  $\geq 1$



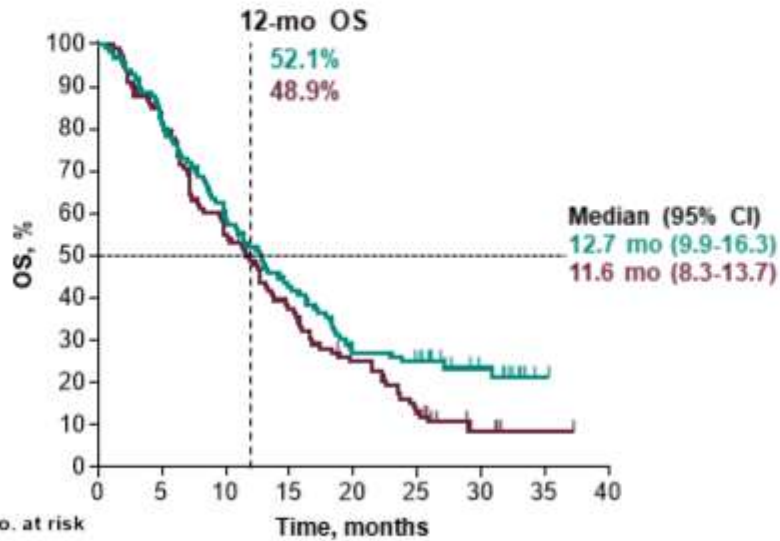
PD-L1 positive cells  
(Tumor Cells, **Immune Cells**)

Balar AV et al. Presented at ESMO 2016; Oct 7-11, 2016; Copenhagen, Denmark. Abstr. LBA32-PR.

# Overall Survival: Primary Endpoints

## CPS ≥10

	Events	HR (95% CI)	P
Pembro	77.1%	0.78	0.057
Chemo	88.8%	(0.57-1.06)	

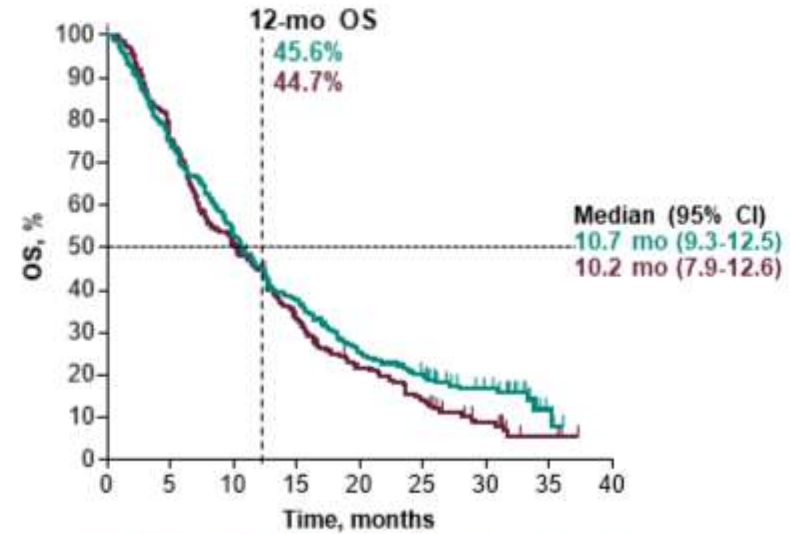


No. at risk	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
Pembro	96	79	57	41	26	23	11	1	0
Chemo	98	80	54	36	23	12	4	1	0

ata cutoff date: April 11, 2019.

## CPS ≥1

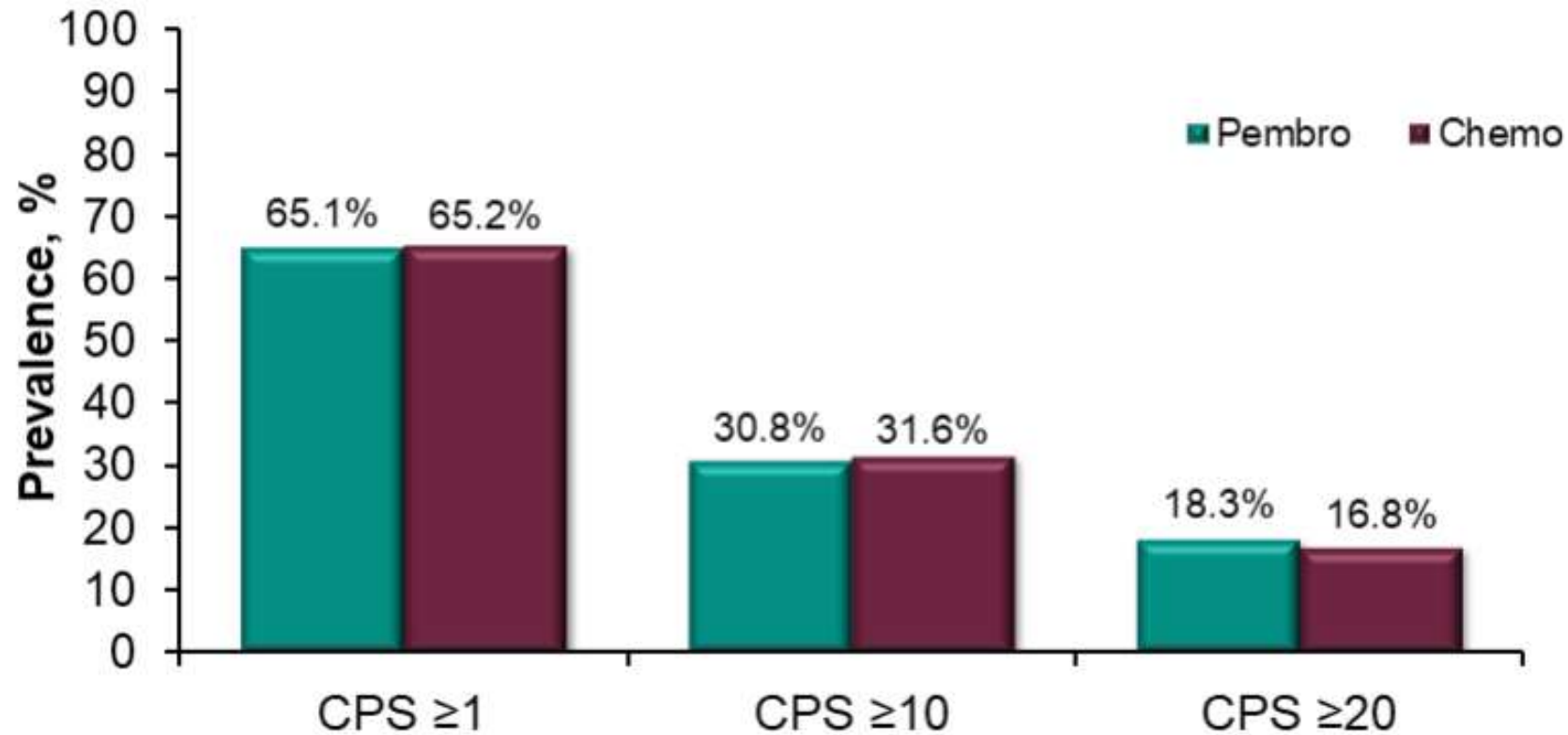
	Events	HR (95% CI)	P
Pembro	84.2%	0.86	0.073
Chemo	90.6%	(0.69-1.06)	



No. at risk	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40
Pembro	203	151	109	76	51	40	20	3	0
Chemo	202	152	102	66	42	27	12	3	0



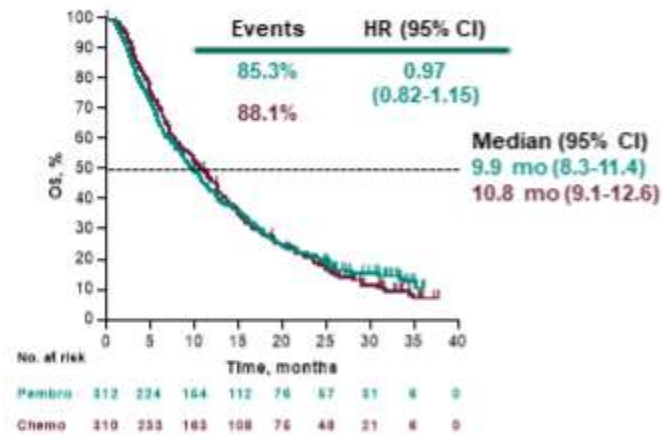
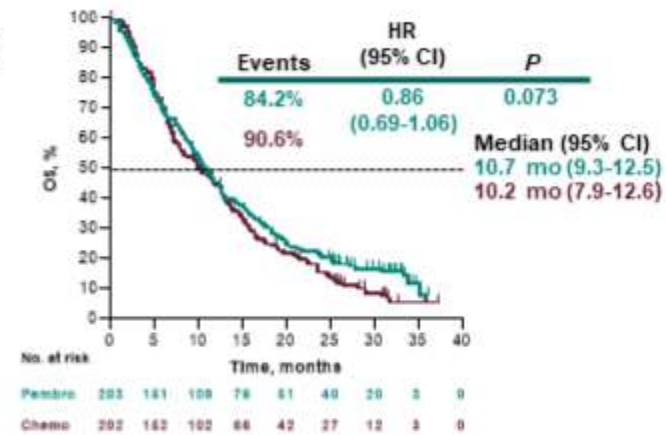
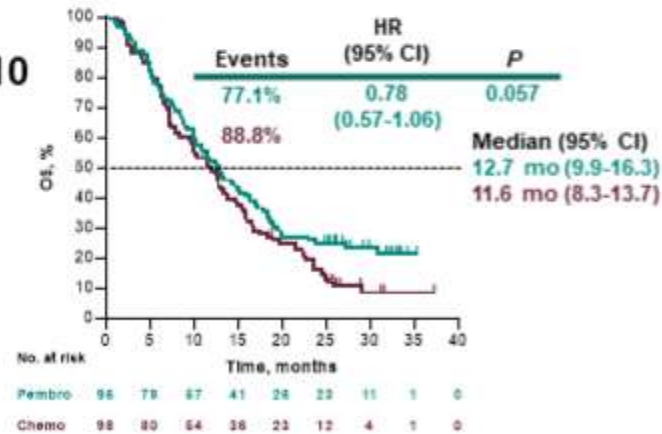
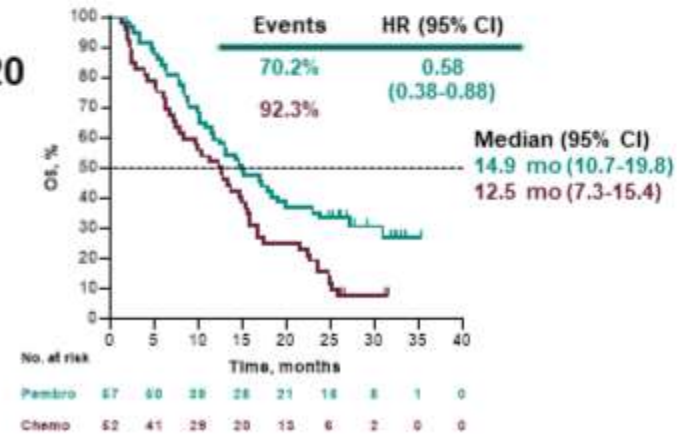
# Prevalence of PD-L1 CPS Categories



CPS = combined positive score defined as the number of PD-L1-positive cells (tumor cells, lymphocytes, macrophages) divided by total number of tumor cells  $\times 100$ .  
Data cutoff date: April 11, 2019.

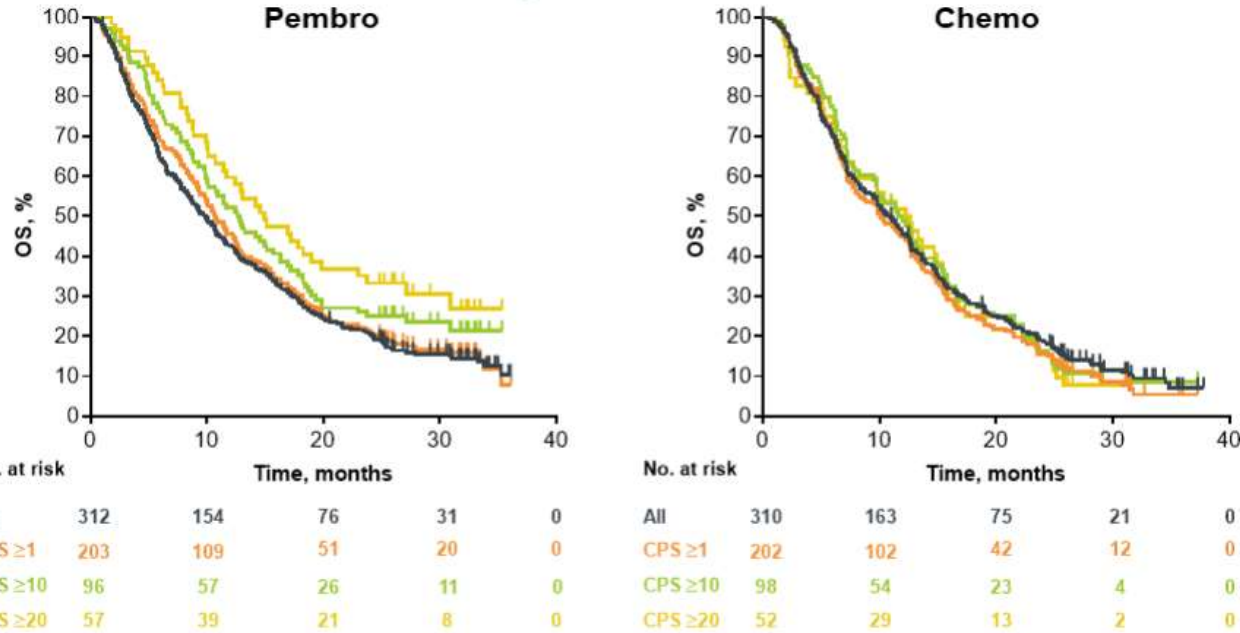
# Overall Survival by PD-L1 CPS

ITT

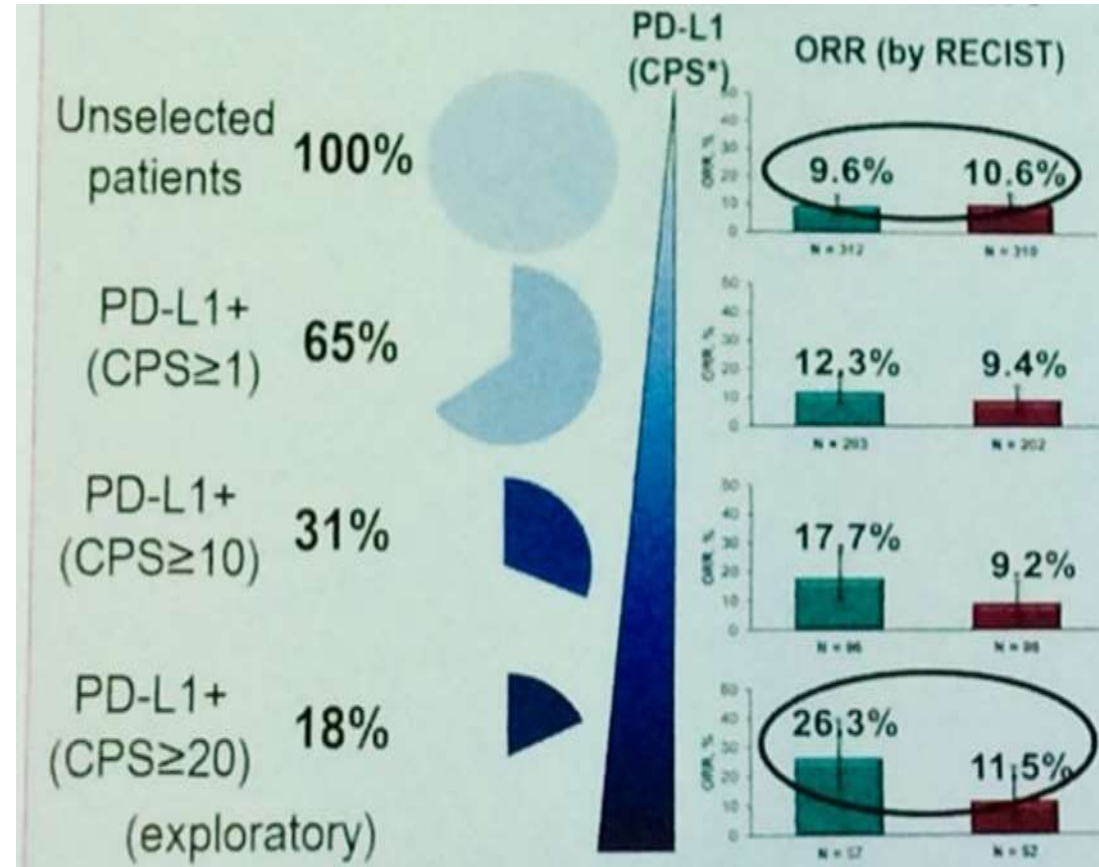
CPS  $\geq 1$ CPS  $\geq 10$ CPS  $\geq 20$ 

OS in the ITT, CPS  $\geq 1$  and CPS  $\geq 10$  populations were primary endpoints; OS in the CPS  $\geq 20$  population was an exploratory endpoint. Data cutoff date: April 11, 2019.

# Overall Survival by PD-L1 CPS



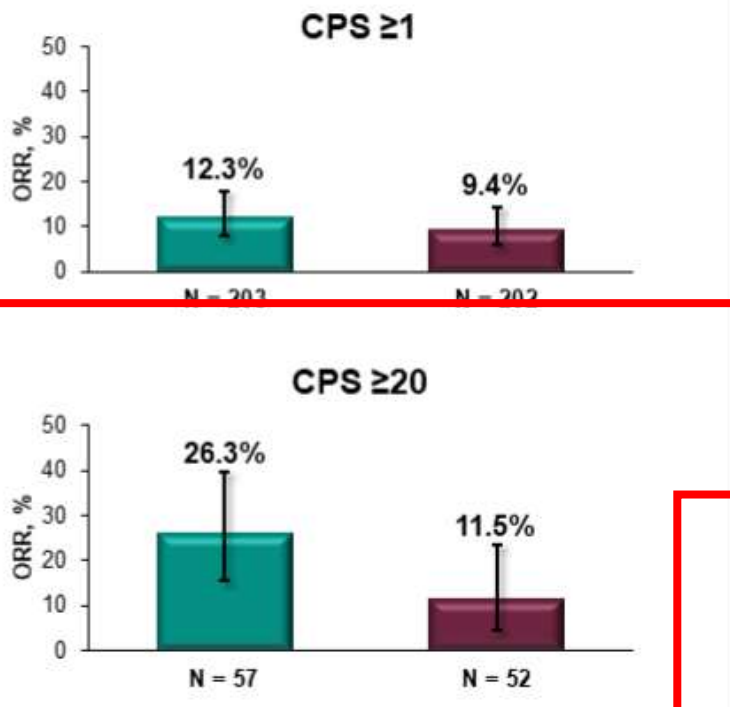
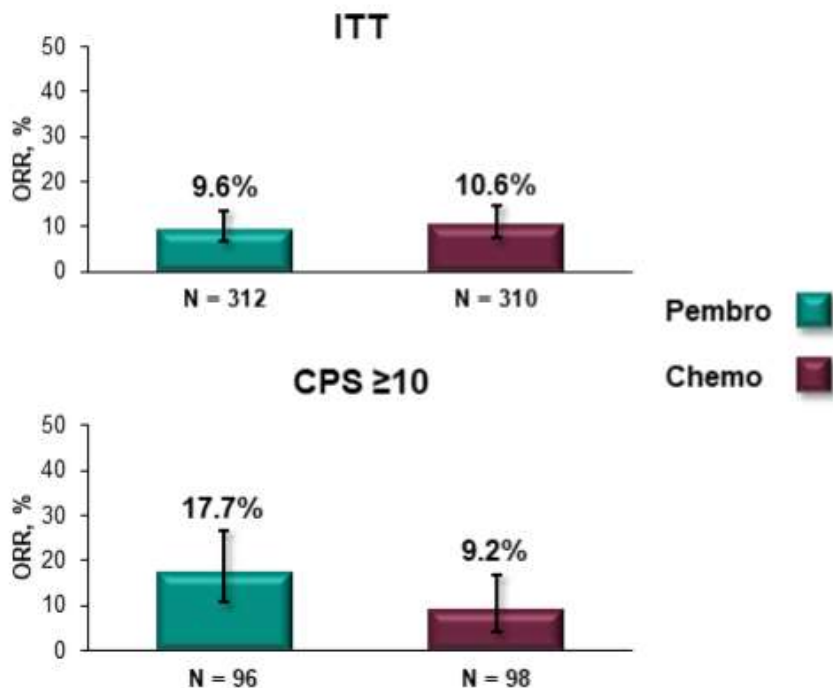
Data cutoff date: April 11, 2019.



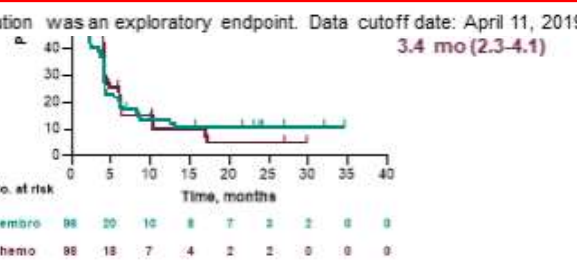
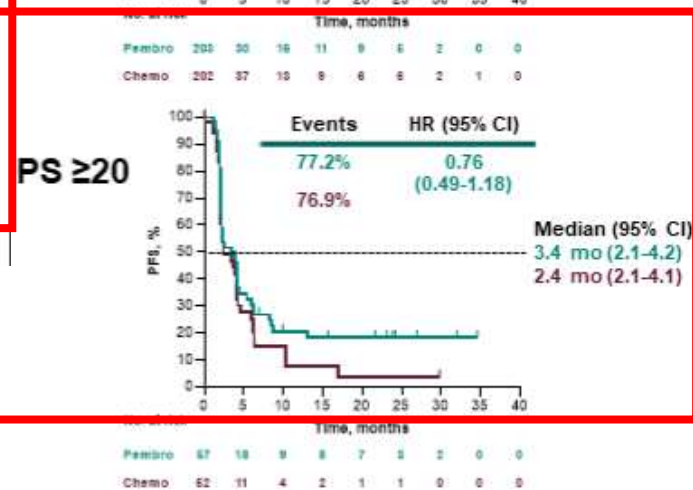
**The application of incrementally restrictive cut-offs of CPS lends weight to the exploratory analysis showing better survival from pembrolizumab in tumors with CPS ≥ 20**



# Response Rate (RECIST v1.1, BICR)



## -L1 CPS (RECIST v1.1, BICR)



ORR in the ITT, CPS ≥ 1 and CPS ≥ 10 populations were secondary endpoints; ORR in the CPS ≥ 20 population was an exploratory endpoint. Data cutoff date: April 11, 2019.

PFS in the ITT, CPS ≥ 1 and CPS ≥ 10 populations were secondary endpoints; PFS in the CPS ≥ 20 population was an exploratory endpoint. BICR, blinded, independent central review. Data cutoff date: April 11, 2019

# IMpassion130 study design

## Key IMpassion130 eligibility criteria<sup>a</sup>:

- Metastatic or inoperable locally advanced TNBC
  - Histologically documented<sup>b</sup>
- No prior therapy for advanced TNBC
  - Prior chemo in the curative setting, including taxanes, allowed if TFI  $\geq$  12 mo
- ECOG PS 0-1

## Stratification factors:

- Prior taxane use (yes vs no)
- Liver metastases (yes vs no)
- PD-L1 status on IC (positive [ $\geq$  1%] vs negative [ $<$  1%])<sup>c</sup>

R  
1:1

## Atezo + nab-P arm:

- Atezolizumab 840 mg IV
  - On days 1 and 15 of 28-day cycle
- + nab-paclitaxel 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV
  - On days 1, 8 and 15 of 28-day cycle

Double blind; no crossover permitted

## Plac + nab-P arm:

- Placebo IV
  - On days 1 and 15 of 28-day cycle
- + nab-paclitaxel 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV
  - On days 1, 8 and 15 of 28-day cycle

RECIST v1.1  
PD or toxicity

- Co-primary endpoints were PFS and OS in the ITT and PD-L1+ populations<sup>d</sup>
  - Key secondary efficacy endpoints (ORR and DOR) and safety were also evaluated

IC, tumour-infiltrating immune cell; TFI, treatment-free interval. <sup>a</sup> ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT02425891. <sup>b</sup> Locally evaluated per ASCO-College of American Pathologists (CAP) guidelines. <sup>c</sup> Centrally evaluated per VENTANA SP142 IHC assay (double blinded for PD-L1 status). <sup>d</sup> Radiological endpoints were investigator assessed (per RECIST v1.1).

Schmid P, et al. IMpassion130  
ESMO 2018 (LBA1\_PR)  
<http://bit.ly/2DMhsyg>

# IMpassion130 baseline characteristics

Characteristic	Atezo + nab-P (N = 451)	Plac + nab-P (N = 451)
Median age (range), y	55 (20-82)	56 (26-86)
Female, n (%)	448 (99%)	450 (100%)
Race, n (%) <sup>a</sup>		
White	308 (68%)	301 (67%)
Asian	85 (19%)	76 (17%)
Black/African American	26 (6%)	33 (7%)
Other/multiple	20 (4%)	26 (6%)
ECOG PS, n (%) <sup>b,c</sup>		
0	256 (57%)	270 (60%)
1	193 (43%)	179 (40%)
Prior (neo)adjuvant treatment, n (%)	284 (63%)	286 (63%)
Prior taxane	231 (51%)	230 (51%)
Prior anthracycline	243 (54%)	242 (54%)

Characteristic	Atezo + nab-P (N = 451)	Plac + nab-P (N = 451)
Metastatic disease, n (%)	404 (90%)	408 (91%)
No. of sites, n (%) <sup>d</sup>		
0-3	332 (74%)	341 (76%)
≥ 4	118 (26%)	108 (24%)
Site of metastatic disease, n (%)		
Lung	226 (50%)	242 (54%)
Bone	145 (32%)	141 (31%)
Liver	126 (28%)	118 (26%)
Brain	30 (7%)	31 (7%)
Lymph node only <sup>d</sup>	33 (7%)	23 (5%)
PD-L1+ (IC), n (%)	185 (41%)	184 (41%)

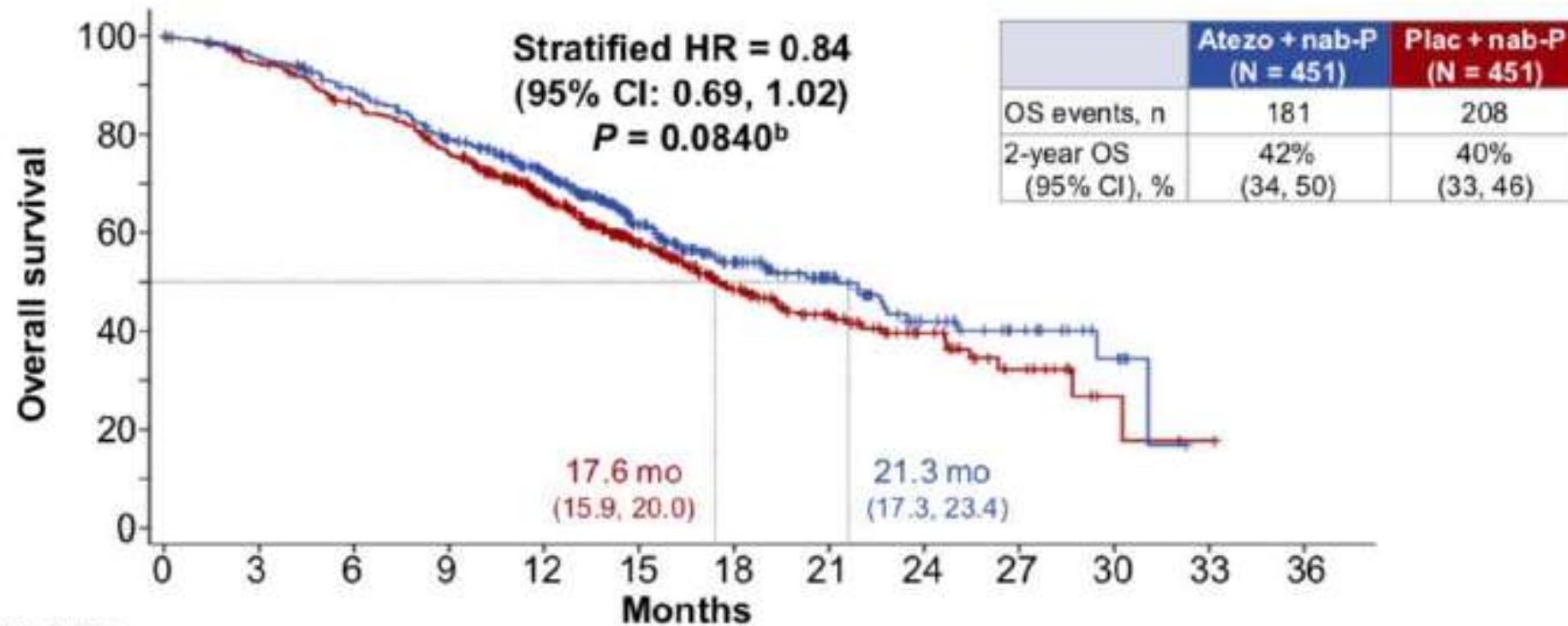
Data cutoff: 17 April 2018. <sup>a</sup> Race was unknown in 12 patients in the Atezo + nab-P arm and 15 in the Plac + nab-P arm. <sup>b</sup> Of n = 450 in each arm. <sup>c</sup> ECOG PS before start of treatment was 2 in 1 patient per arm. <sup>d</sup> Of n = 450 in the Atezo + nab-P arm and n = 449 in the Plac + nab-P arm.

Schmid P, et al. IMpassion130  
ESMO 2018 (LBA1\_PR)  
<http://bit.ly/2DM7hevo>





# Interim OS analysis: ITT population<sup>a</sup>

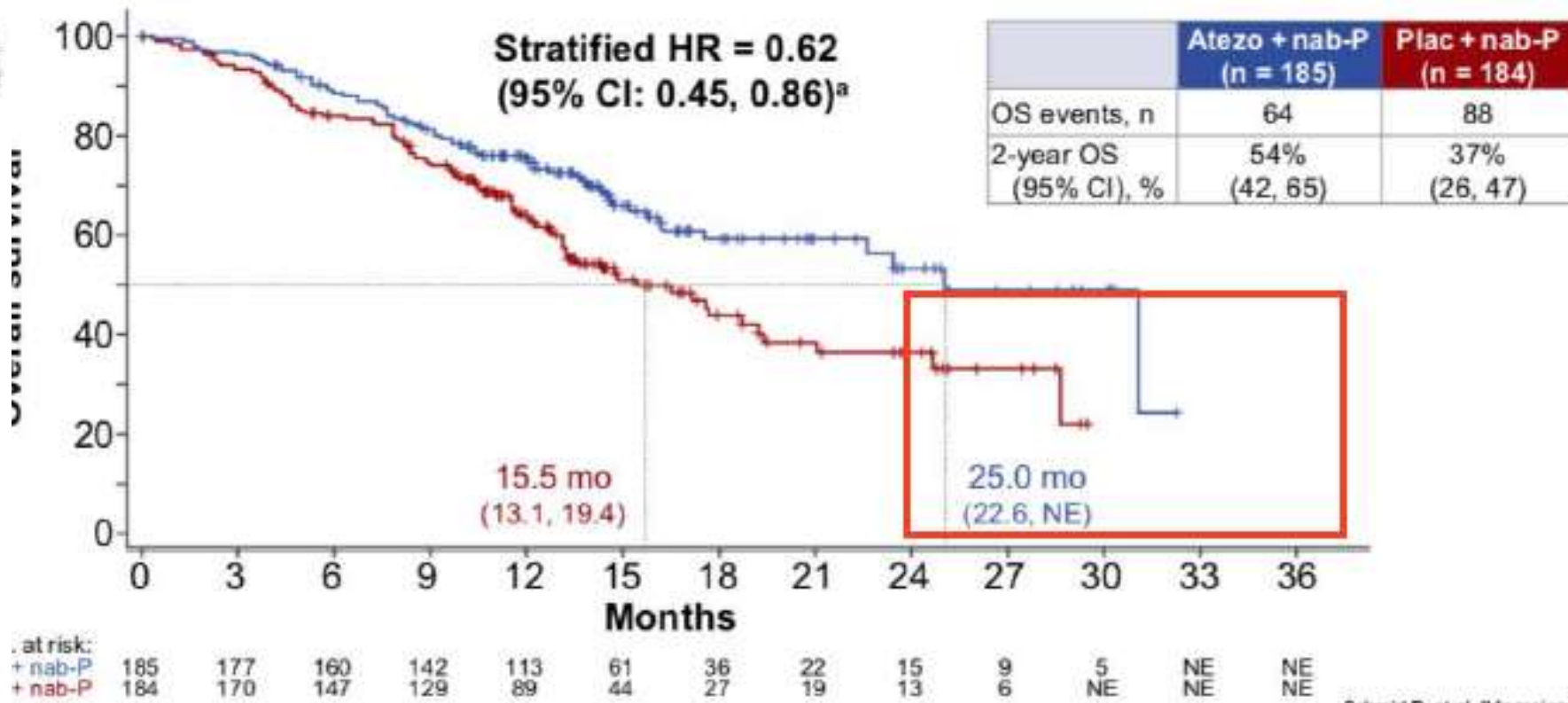


No. at risk:	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
Atezo + nab-P	451	426	389	337	271	146	82	48	26	15	6	NE	NE
Plac + nab-P	451	419	375	328	246	145	89	52	27	12	3	NE	NE

Data cutoff: 17 April 2018. Median OS durations (and 95% CI) are indicated on the plot. Median follow-up (ITT): 12.9 months.  
<sup>a</sup>For the interim OS analysis, 59% of events had occurred. <sup>b</sup>Significance boundary was not crossed.

Schmid P, et al. Mpession130  
 ESMO 2018 (LBA1\_PR)  
<http://bit.ly/2DMhayg>

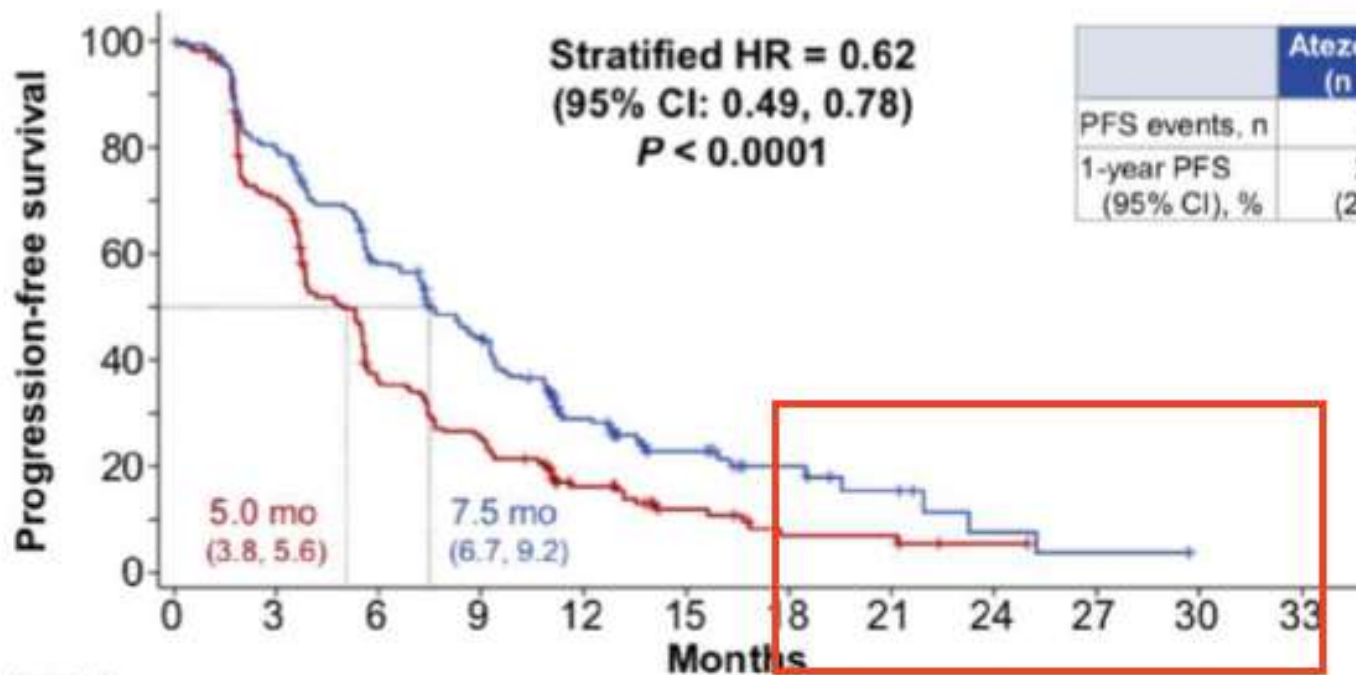
# Interim OS analysis: PD-L1+ population



Schmid P, et al. J Clin Oncol 35:130

However, as per protocol, the statistical significance could not be tested in this subgroup, since the OS improvement was not confirmed in the whole population at this time. Of note, in a recently reported update (**second interim analysis after a median follow-up of 18 months**), the median OS was still not significantly different between each arm (**21 months versus 18.7 months, stratified HR = 0.86, p = 0.07**) in the whole population, and the numerical difference in OS in the PD-L1-positive subset tended to decrease (median OS of 25 months versus 18 months, HR = 0.71, no formal p-value by protocol design).

# Primary PFS analysis: PD-L1+ population



	Atezo + nab-P (n = 185)	Plac + nab-P (n = 184)
PFS events, n	138	157
1-year PFS (95% CI), %	29% (22, 36)	16% (11, 22)

No. at risk:	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33
Atezo + nab-P	185	146	104	75	38	19	10	6	2	1	NE	NE
Plac + nab-P	184	127	62	44	22	11	5	5	1	NE	NE	NE

Data cutoff: 17 April 2018.

Schmid P, et al. Impassion130  
ESMO 2018 (LBA1\_PR)  
<http://bit.ly/2DMhava>

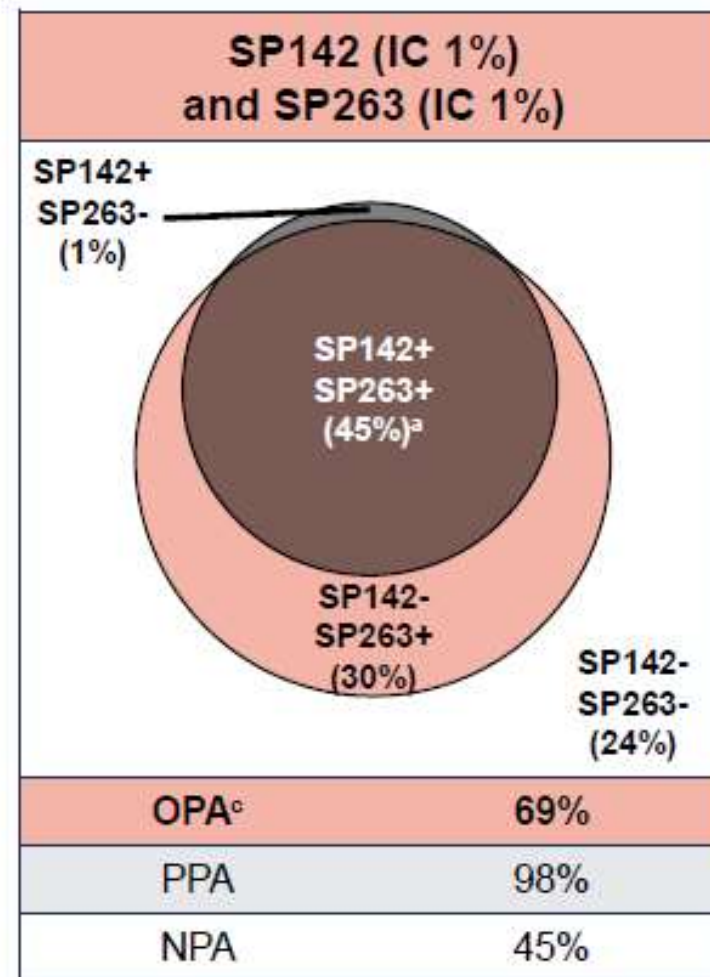
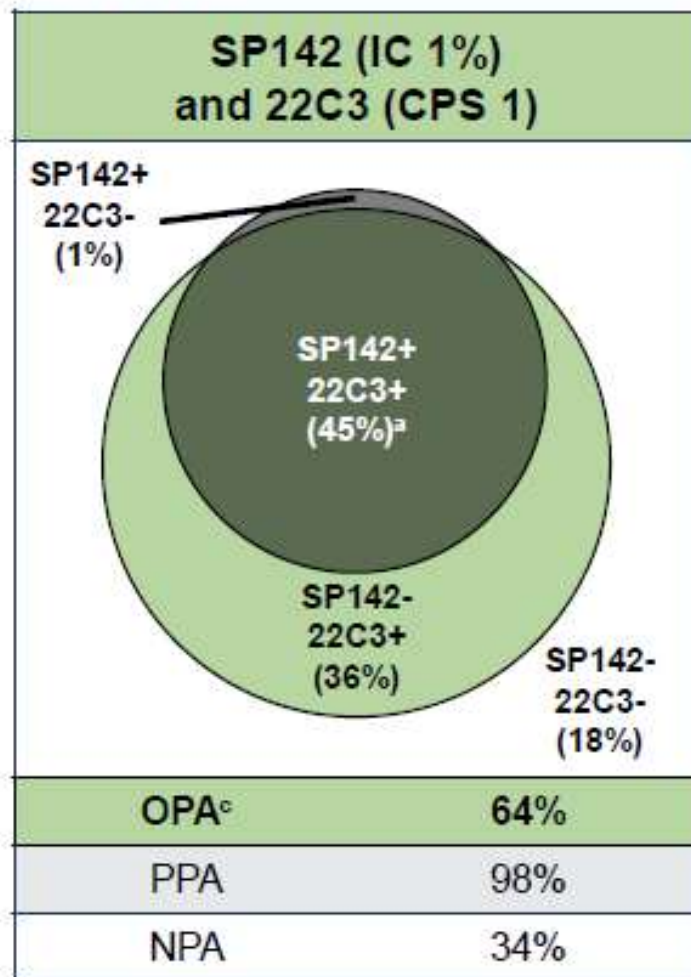
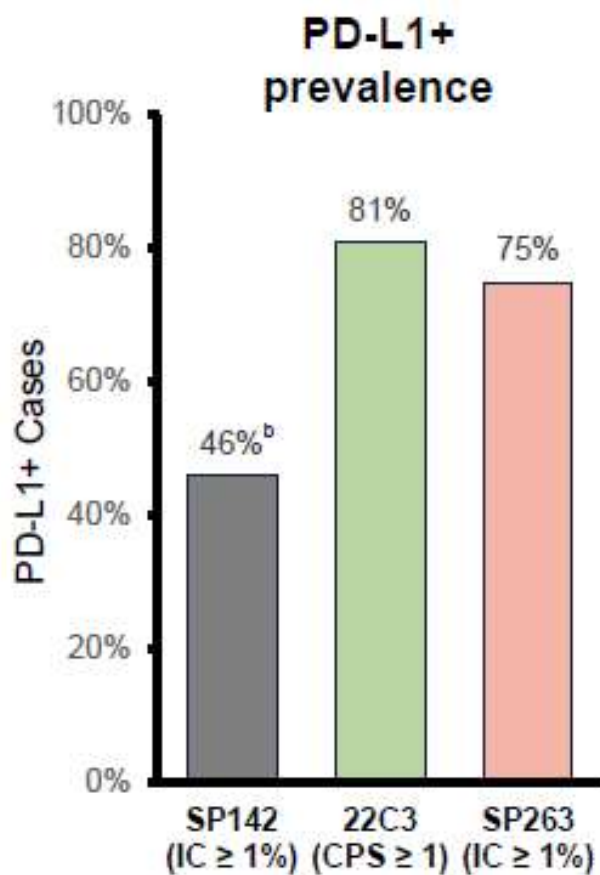


# Performance of PD-L1 immunohistochemistry assays in unresectable locally advanced or metastatic triple-negative breast cancer: post hoc analysis of IMpassion130

## Methods

- Central testing of VENTANA PD-L1 SP142, DAKO 22C3 and VENTANA PD-L1 SP263 IHC assays were performed according to the respective package inserts<sup>a</sup>
  - Each slide was read by a single pathologist out of a panel of 8 pathologists<sup>b</sup>
  - Pathologists were trained and qualified to read IC 1% (SP142 and SP263) and CPS 1 (22C3) cutoffs<sup>b</sup>
- The biomarker-evaluable population (BEP) in this retrospective exploratory analysis comprised 614 patients (68% of ITT) with samples tested with the 3 PD-L1 assays
  - Prevalence of PD-L1 IC+ status according to SP142 was higher in the BEP (46%) than the ITT (41%). All other evaluated baseline characteristics were balanced between BEP and ITT
  - PFS outcome with A + nP in the BEP slightly overperformed compared with PFS outcome in the ITT

# PD-L1 IHC assays: prevalence and analytical concordance



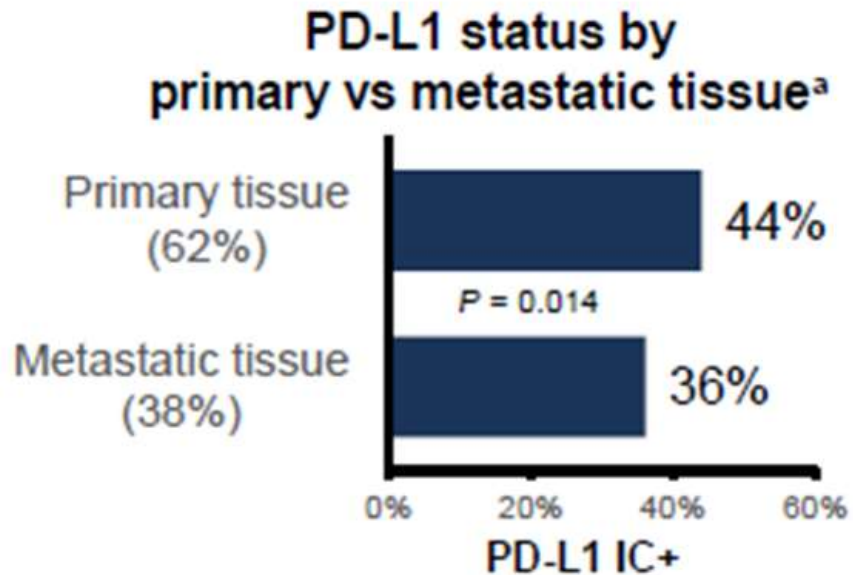
NPA, negative percentage agreement; OPA, overall percentage agreement; PPA, positive percentage agreement.

<sup>a</sup> > 97% of SP142+ samples included in 22C3+ or SP263+ samples. <sup>b</sup> Compared with 41% in ITT (Schmid, *New Engl J Med* 2018).

<sup>c</sup> ≥ 80% OPA, PPA and NPA required for analytical concordance.

Rugo et al. Abstract 6571  
 IMpassion130 PD-L1 IHC  
<https://bit.ly/30OmOqz>

# PD-L1 assessment in either primary or metastatic?



**These data do not inform whether PD-L1 assessment in primary and metastatic sites is equally informative!**

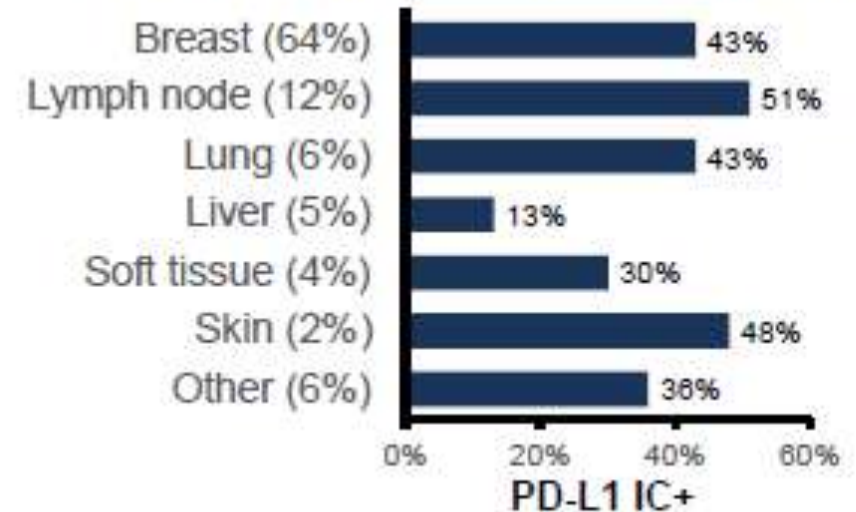
(a comparison among PD-L1 assessment in different sites of the same patients needed)

**Time and spatial heterogeneity of PD-L1 is known. Does site of PD-L1 assessment matter?**

When multiple tumor sites are present, what should we prefer to biopsy for PD-L1 assessment?

What about inter tumor heterogeneity?

## PD-L1 status by anatomical location<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>ay.  
in samples collected

Rugo et al. Abstract 657<sup>1</sup>  
IMpassion130 PD-L1 IHC  
<https://bit.ly/30OmOq>



# Most common serious AEs

SAEs occurring in  $\geq 1\%$  of patients in either arm (regardless of attribution)

SAE, n (%)	Atezo + nab-P (n = 452)		Plac + nab-P (n = 438)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3-4	Any Grade	Grade 3-4
All	103 (23%)	78 (17%) <sup>a</sup>	80 (18%)	56 (13%) <sup>b</sup>
Pneumonia	10 (2%)	8 (2%) <sup>c</sup>	5 (1%)	0
Urinary tract infection	5 (1%)	2 (< 1%)	0	0
Dyspnoea	5 (1%)	3 (1%)	2 (< 1%)	2 (< 1%)
Pyrexia	5 (1%)	3 (1%)	3 (1%)	0

- A higher proportion of patients in the Atezo + nab-P arm than in the Plac + nab-P arm reported SAEs (23% vs 18%)
- No SAE was reported with a  $\geq 2\%$  difference between treatment arms

SAE, serious adverse event. Data cutoff: 17 April 2018. <sup>a</sup>Six Grade 5 events occurred. <sup>b</sup>Three Grade 5 events occurred. <sup>c</sup>One Grade 5 event occurred.

Schmid P, et al. IMpassion130  
ESMO 2018 (LBA1\_PR)  
<http://bit.ly/2DM7ayg>

# Immune checkpoint inhibitors seem to work better in earlier setting

Ph	Anti-PD(L)-1	Single (S) or Combination	Study Title	Conditions or Disease	Treatment Line	Comparative Arm (for Phase IIR/III)	ORR (+/- 95% CI)	Duration of Response Median, Months (+/- 95% CI)	PFS Median, Months (+/- 95% CI)	OS Median, Months (+/- 95% CI)	Ref.
II	Atezolizumab	(Nab) paclitaxel + Cobimetinib	COLET	LA or M+ TNBC	1 L	/	34%	NA	6-mo PFS rate: 40.5%	6-mo OS rate: 84.1%	Brufski ASCO 2019 (#1013)
II-R	Pembrolizumab	Standard Chemo	I-SPY 2 trial	LA TNBC	Neo-adj	Placebo	Pembro: 62% Placebo: 22%	NA	NA	NA	Nanda ASCO 2017
II-R	Pembrolizumab	Eribulin	KEYNOTE-150 (ENHANCE 1) (Study 218)	M+ TNBC	1 L to 3 L	Eribulin +/- Pembrolizumab	26.4% (2017) Equal in 2 arms (2019)	8.3 mo (SABCS 2017)	P + E = 4.1 mo (ASCO 2019) E = 4.2 mo (ASCO 2019)	Median 17.7 (13.7-NR) (SABCS 2017)	Tolaney, SABCS 2017 Tolaney, ASCO 2019 (#1004)
II-R	Nivolumab	Doxo or Cyclo or RT (3*8 Gy)	TONIC	M+ TNBC	1 L to ≥3 L	Doxo or Cyclo or RT	Doxo = 35% Cyclo = 8% RT = 8%	NA	NA	NA	Voorwerk Nature Med 2019
II-R	Durvalumab	Nab-paclitaxel + standard EC	CeparNuevo	LA TNBC (cT2-cT4a-d)	Neo-adj				<b>The pCR was higher in durvalumab-arm (53.4% vs. 44.2% placebo), but not statistically significant</b>		
III	Pembrolizumab	S	KEYNOTE-119	M+ TNBC	2 L or 3 L	single-agent CT (physician's choice)	4.8%	NA	NA	not superior to CT	Merck press release
III	Atezolizumab	Nab-paclitaxel	IMPASSION-130	LA or M+ TNBC	1 L	Nab-paclitaxel	Atez: 56% Placebo: 46%	HR= 0.78 (0.63-0.98) Median DOR Atez: 7.4 mo Median DOR placebo: 5.6	HR 0.62 (0.49-0.78) Median PFS Atez: 7.2 mo Median PFS placebo: 5.5 mo	HR 0.86 (0.72-1.02) Median OS Atez: 21.0 mo Median OS placebo: 18.7 mo	Schmid NEJM 2018 Schmid ASCO 2019

Abbreviations: Ph = phase; IIR = phase II Randomized; TNBC: Triple Negative Breast Cancer; LA = Locally Advanced; M+ = metastatic; ORR = Objective Response Rate; DOR = Duration of Response; PFS = Progression-Free-Survival; OS = Overall Survival; L = Line; mo = months; NR = Not Reached; gBRCAm = germline BRCA-mutated;



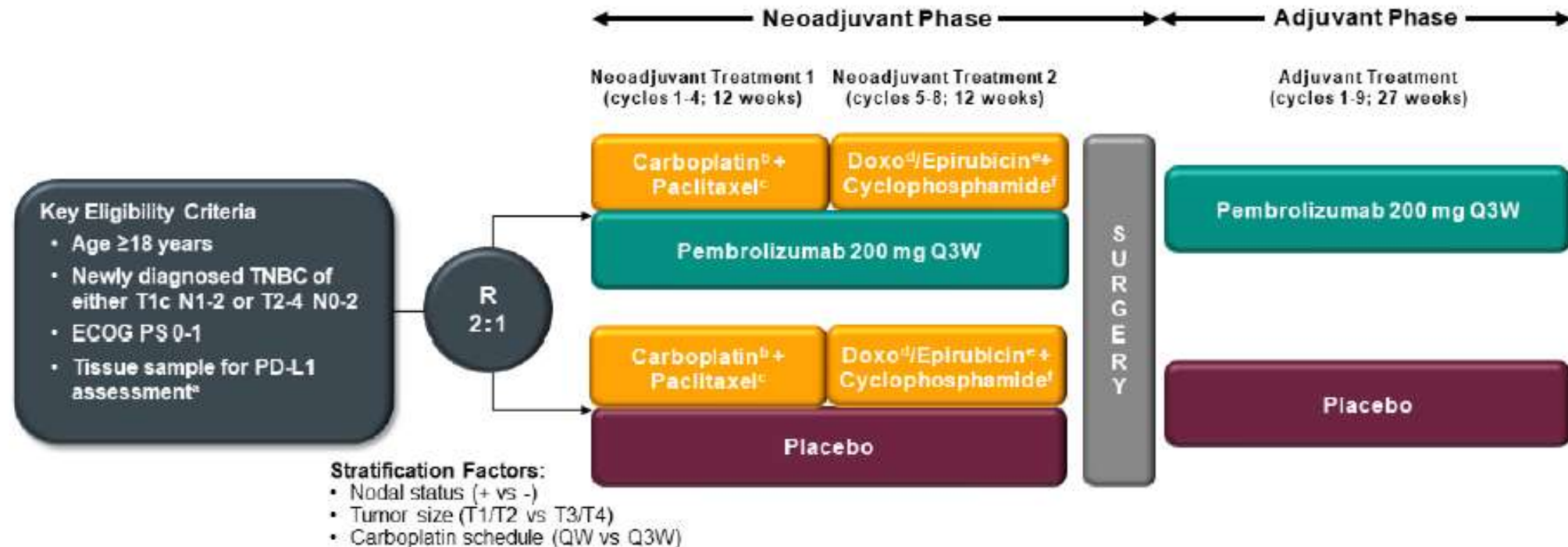
## KEYNOTE-522: Phase 3 Study of Pembrolizumab + Chemotherapy versus Placebo + Chemotherapy as Neoadjuvant Treatment, Followed by Pembrolizumab versus Placebo as Adjuvant Treatment for Early Triple-Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC)

Peter Schmid<sup>1</sup>, Javier Cortes<sup>2</sup>, Rebecca Dent<sup>3</sup>, Lajos Pusztai<sup>4</sup>, Heather McArthur<sup>5</sup>, Sherko Kümmel<sup>6</sup>, Jonas Bergh<sup>7</sup>, Carsten Denkert<sup>8</sup>, Yeon Hee Park<sup>9</sup>, Rina Hui<sup>10</sup>, Nadia Harbeck<sup>11</sup>, Masato Takahashi<sup>12</sup>, Theodoros Foukakis<sup>7</sup>, Peter A. Fasching<sup>13</sup>, Fatima Cardoso<sup>14</sup>, Liyi Jia<sup>15</sup>, Vassiliki Karantza<sup>15</sup>, Jing Zhao<sup>15</sup>, Gursel Aktan<sup>15</sup>, Joyce O'Shaughnessy<sup>16</sup>

1. Barts Cancer Institute, Queen Mary University London, London, UK; 2. IOB Institute of Oncology, Quiron Group; Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO), Madrid & Barcelona, Spain; 3. University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; 4. Yale School of Medicine, Yale Cancer Center, New Haven, CT, USA; 5. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA; 6. Breast Unit, Kliniken Essen-Mitte, Essen, Germany; 7. Department of Oncology-Pathology, Karolinska Institutet and Breast Cancer Centre, Cancer theme, Karolinska University Hospital, Solna, Sweden; 8. Institute of Pathology, Philipps-University Marburg and University Hospital Marburg (UKGM), Marburg, Germany; 9. Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea; 10. Westmead Breast Cancer Institute, Westmead Hospital and the University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW, Australia; 11. Breast Center, University of Munich (LMU), Munich, Germany; 12. Hokkaido Cancer Center, Sapporo, Japan; 13. University Hospital Erlangen, Comprehensive Cancer Center Erlangen-EMN, Erlangen, Germany; 14. Breast Unit, Champalimaud Clinical Center/Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal; 15. Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA; 16. Baylor University Medical Center, Texas Oncology, US Oncology, Dallas, TX, USA



# KEYNOTE-522 Study Design (NCT03036488)



**Neoadjuvant phase:** starts from the first neoadjuvant treatment and ends after definitive surgery (post treatment included)

**Adjuvant phase:** starts from the first adjuvant treatment and includes radiation therapy as indicated (post treatment included)

<sup>a</sup>Must consist of at least 2 separate tumor cores from the primary tumor.

<sup>b</sup>Carboplatin dose was AUC 5 Q3W or AUC 1.5 QW.

<sup>c</sup>Paclitaxel dose was 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> QW.

<sup>d</sup>Doxorubicin dose was 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W.

<sup>e</sup>Epirubicin dose was 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W.

<sup>f</sup>Cyclophosphamide dose was 600 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W.

# Study Endpoints

- Primary Endpoints
  - pCR (ypT0/Tis ypN0) assessed by local pathologist in ITT population<sup>a</sup>
  - Event-free survival (EFS) assessed by investigator in ITT population
- Secondary Endpoints
  - pCR as per alternative definitions (ypT0 ypN0 and ypT0/Tis)
  - Overall survival (OS)<sup>b</sup>
  - pCR, EFS<sup>a</sup> and OS<sup>b</sup> in the PD-L1–positive population<sup>c</sup>
  - Safety in all treated patients
- Key Exploratory Endpoints
  - Residual cancer burden (RCB)<sup>b</sup>
  - EFS by pCR<sup>b</sup>
  - pCR and EFS by TILs<sup>b</sup>

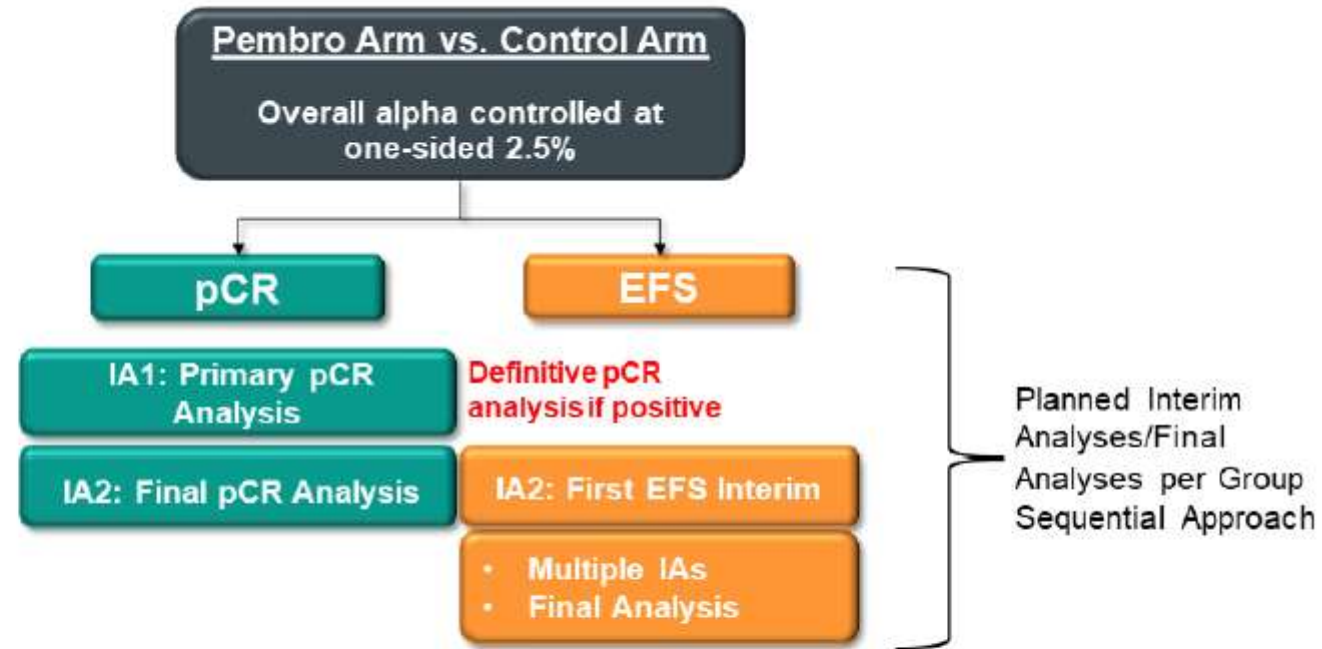
<sup>a</sup>Subjects without pCR data due to any reason or who received neoadjuvant chemotherapy not specified in the protocol were counted as non-pCR. <sup>b</sup>To be presented at a later date. <sup>c</sup>PD-L1 assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx assay and measured using the combined positive score (CPS; number of PD-L1–positive tumor cells, lymphocytes, and macrophages divided by total number of tumor cells x 100). PD-L1–positive = CPS ≥ 1.

# Statistical Considerations

## Interims Completed:

✓ First IA (IA1) performed after last subject enrolled; Data Cutoff: Sep 24, 2018

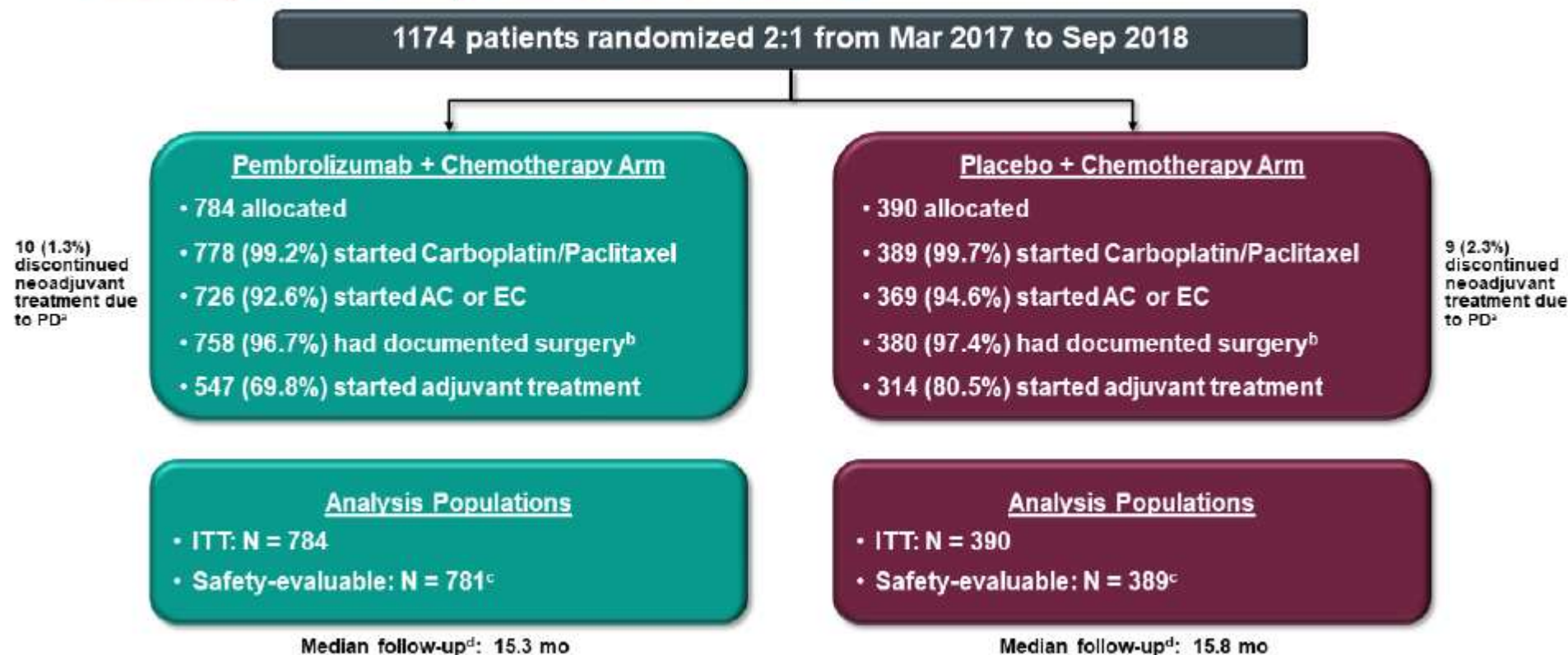
✓ Second IA (IA2) performed ~24 mo after first subject enrolled; Data Cutoff: Apr 24, 2019



- **IA1:** Primary pCR analysis to test primary hypothesis of pCR based on prespecified first 602 subjects (pre-calculated  $P$  value boundary for significance of 0.003)
- **IA2:** If pCR hypothesis successful at IA1 (thus definitive), pCR will not be formally tested at IA2
- EFS at IA2 (first interim of EFS): precalculated  $P$  value boundary for significance of 0.000051 (HR <0.4)
- Prespecified analysis plan allows alpha passing from successful endpoint(s) to other(s)



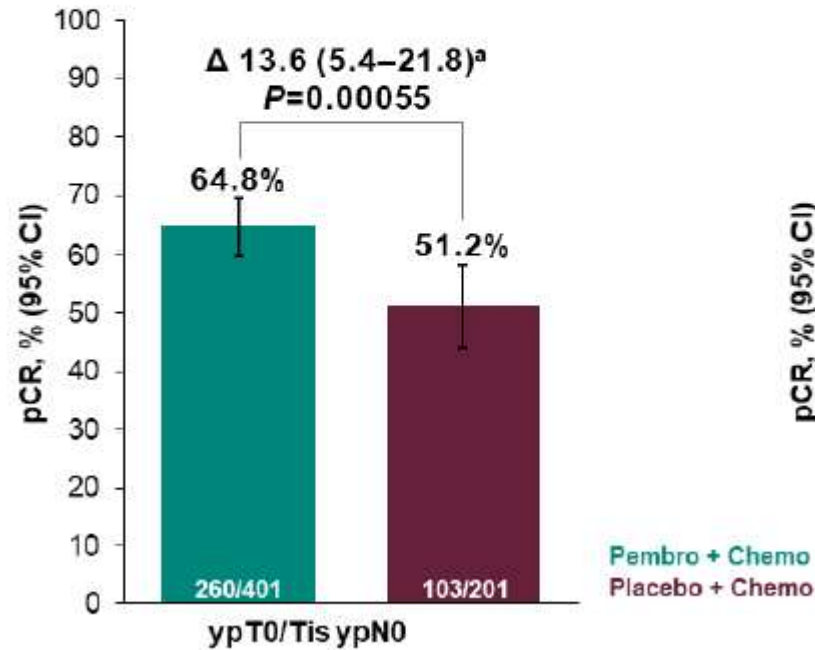
# Summary of Study Treatment and Analysis Populations: IA2



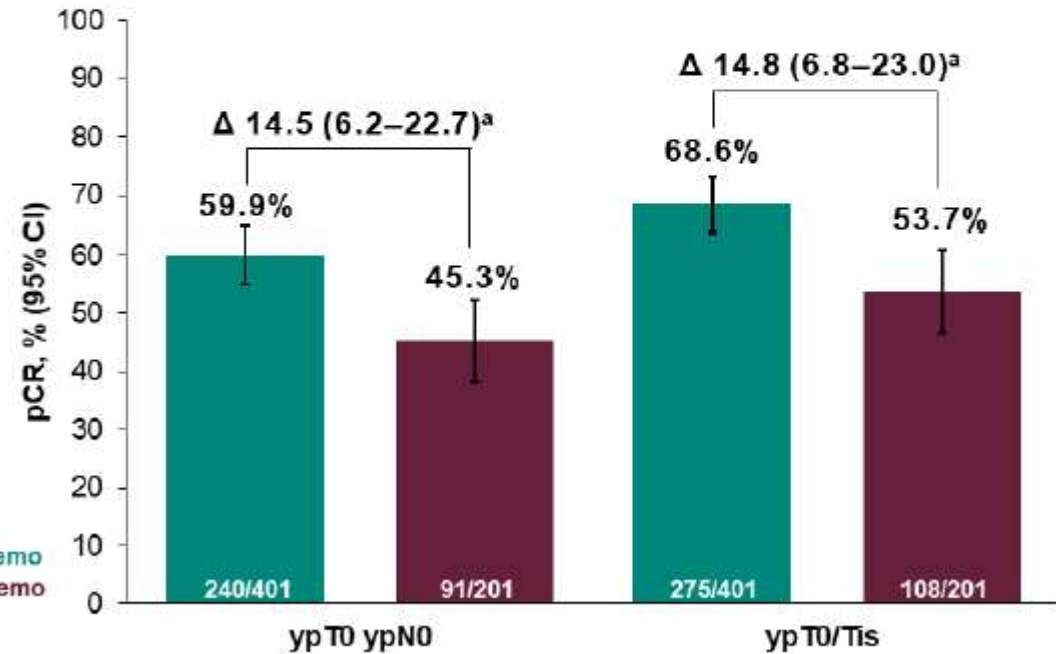
<sup>a</sup>Includes radiographic and clinical PD. <sup>b</sup>Patients did not have to complete all neoadjuvant therapy to undergo surgery. <sup>c</sup>Includes all patients who received  $\geq 1$  dose of study treatment or underwent surgery. <sup>d</sup>Defined as the time from randomization to the date of death or database cutoff date of April 24, 2019, if the patient was alive.

# Pathological Complete Response at IA1

## Primary Endpoint



## Secondary Endpoints: Other pCR Definitions

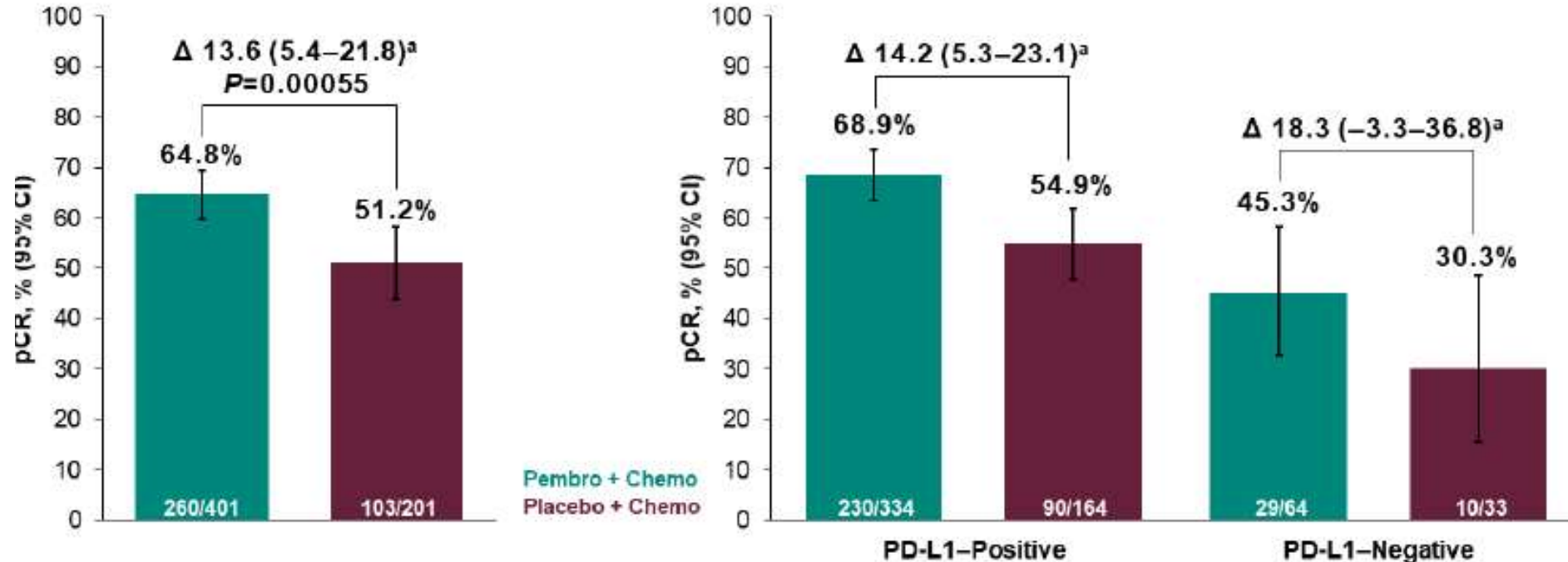


<sup>a</sup>Estimated treatment difference based on Miettinen & Nurminen method stratified by randomization stratification factors.  
Data cutoff date: September 24, 2018.

# Pathological Complete Response at IA1

Primary Endpoint: ypT0/Tis ypN0

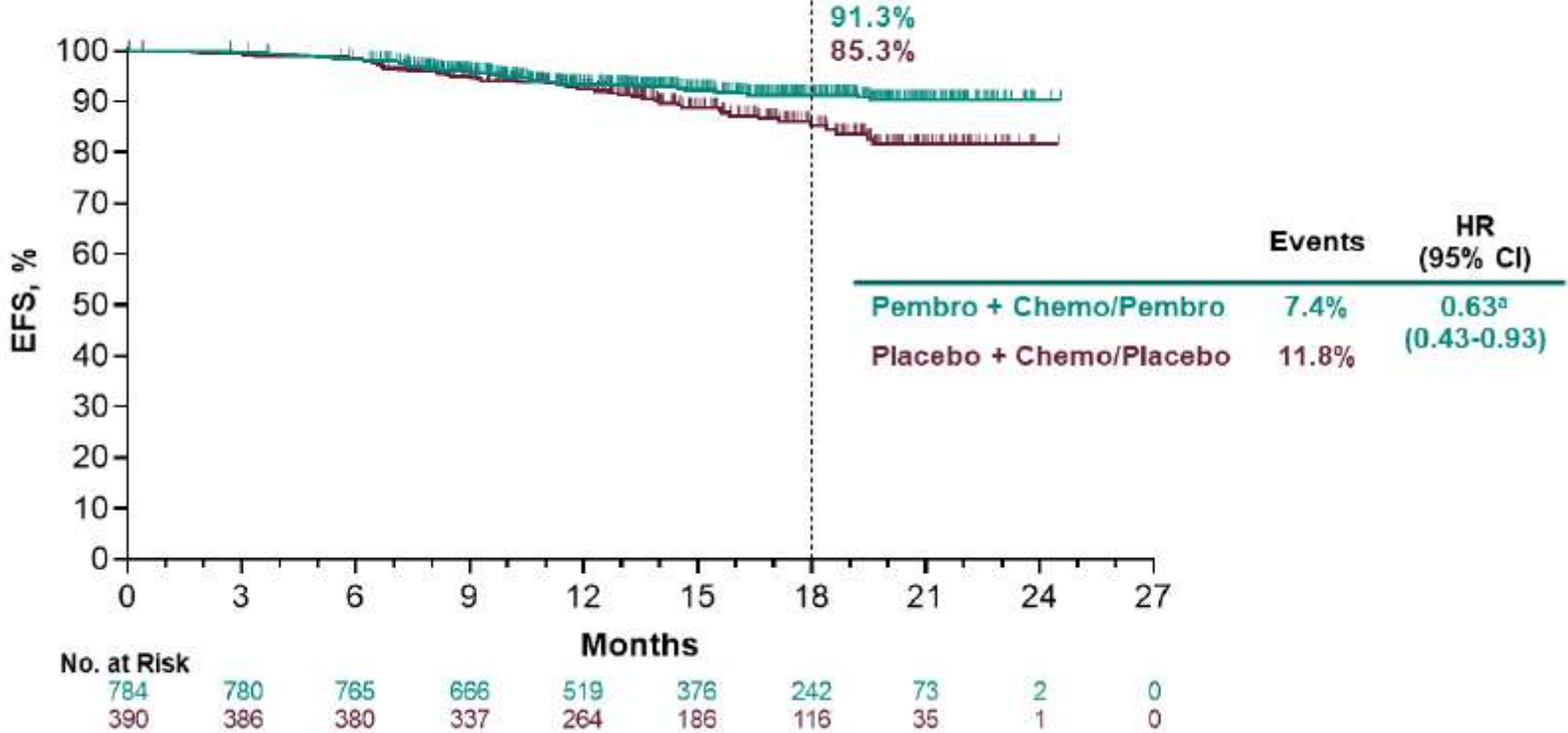
By PD-L1 Status<sup>b</sup>: ypT0/Tis ypN0



ated treatment difference based on Miettinen & Numminen method stratified by randomization stratification factors. <sup>a</sup>PD-L1 assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC pharmDx assay and measured using the combined positive score (CPS; number of PD-L1-positive tumor cells, lymphocytes, and macrophages divided by total number of tumor 100), PD-L1-positive = CPS  $\geq$  1. Data cutoff date: September 24, 2018.



# Event-Free Survival at IA2



<sup>a</sup>Prespecified *P* value boundary of 0.000051 not reached at this analysis (the first interim analysis of EFS). Hazard ratio (CI) analyzed based on a Cox regression model with treatment as a covariate stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Data cutoff April 24, 2019.

# Summary

- KEYNOTE-522 is the first prospective randomized placebo controlled phase 3 trial of pembrolizumab in early TNBC in the neoadjuvant/adjuvant setting
- Addition of pembrolizumab to platinum-containing neoadjuvant chemotherapy resulted in a statistically significant and clinically meaningful increase in pCR (ypT0/Tis ypN0) of 13.6 percentage points (P=0.00055)
  - Consistent benefit seen with pCR defined as ypT0 ypN0 and ypT0/Tis
  - Benefit of pembrolizumab independent of PD-L1 status
- Safety was consistent with the known profiles of each regimen; long-term safety follow-up is ongoing



National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network®

## NCCN Guidelines Version 3.2019 Invasive Breast Cancer

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)  
[Table of Contents](#)  
[Discussion](#)

### PREOPERATIVE/ADJUVANT THERAPY REGIMENS<sup>a,b,c,d,e,f</sup>

HER2-Negative <sup>g</sup>
<p><b>Preferred regimens:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dose-dense AC (doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide) followed by paclitaxel every 2 weeks<sup>h</sup></li> <li>• Dose-dense AC (doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide) followed by weekly paclitaxel<sup>h</sup></li> <li>• TC (docetaxel and cyclophosphamide)</li> <li>• If triple-negative breast cancer and residual disease after preoperative therapy with taxane-, alkylator-, and anthracycline-based chemotherapy: capecitabine<sup>i</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>Useful in certain circumstances:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dose-dense AC (doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide)</li> <li>• AC (doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide) every 3 weeks (category 2B)</li> <li>• CMF (cyclophosphamide/methotrexate/fluorouracil)</li> <li>• AC followed by weekly paclitaxel</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other recommended regimens:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AC followed by docetaxel every 3 weeks</li> <li>• EC (epirubicin/cyclophosphamide)</li> <li>• TAC (docetaxel/doxorubicin/cyclophosphamide)</li> </ul>





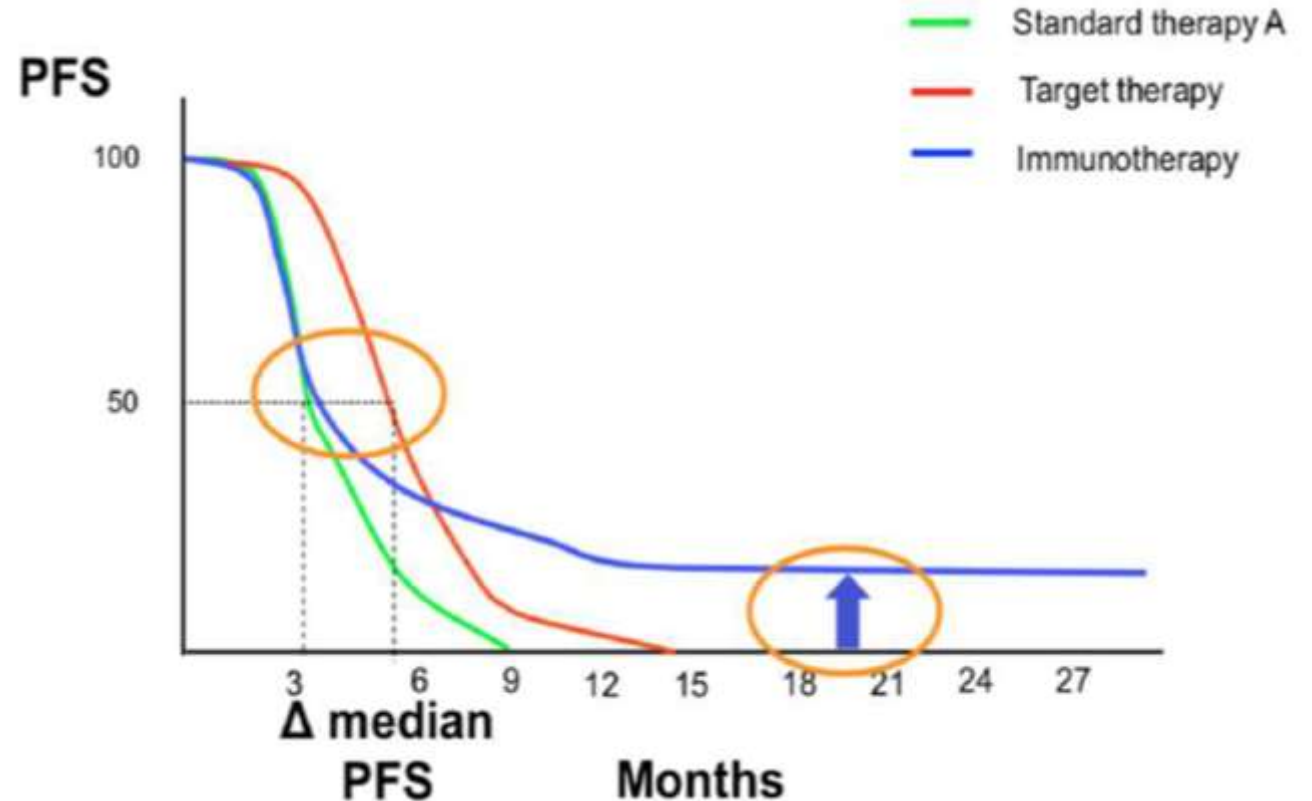
# TNBC : the candidate for immunotherapy





# Can we cure cancer with immunotherapy?

- ✓ Single agent response rate : 5-20%
- ✓ Higher Rationale in TNBC (most of all in PD-L1 positivity)
- ✓ Long-lasting responses and survival in a subset of pts
- ✓ Acceptable safety profile in early phases trials in metastatic setting



# Immuno checkpoint inhibitors in BC

- ✓ Identification of biomarkers of response for a better selection of patients (**Different PDL1 IHC test for each IMP**)



**SP142 the most accurate in BC!**

- Limitations in defining PD-L1 as the biomarker
- Expression is dynamic and focal
- < Biopsies / full sections
- < location of the metastases
- Expression depend of the antibody used
- Responses in PD-L1-negative cases
- 5-20% objective response rate in PD-L1 negative tumors (melanoma & NSCLC)
- Studies have used different threshold of positivity / different cells type
- Stratification < PD-L1 status in clinical trials

PEMBROLIZUMAB	22C3
	SP263
NIVOLUMAB	28-8
	SP263
ATEZOLIZUMAB	SP142
DURVALUMAB	SP263

*Curr Opin Pharmacol 2015; 23:32-38*

# Immuno checkpoint inhibitors in BC

“PD-L1 continues to be the most common biomarker assessed across cancer types, but a standardized protocol needs to be developed to facilitate data interpretation across clinical trials.”

*Biomark. Med 2018; 12: 97-100*



✓ Early stage! (**challenges with EndPoint**)

✓ Development of multiple intriguing rationale combinations (**Difficulty in assessing the success of a given combination when one agent is significantly more active than the other**) with compatible mechanisms that act synergistically to:

Increase anti-tumor efficacy (**Recist 1.1? imRecist? What about cross-over?**)

Reduce on-target side effects (**Different AEs profile! Different Management!**)

New Therapies.....  
New Toxicities

✓ Adjuvant/neoadjuvant and metastatic settings (**133 trials, 92 recruiting**)

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine

*ClinicalTrials.gov*



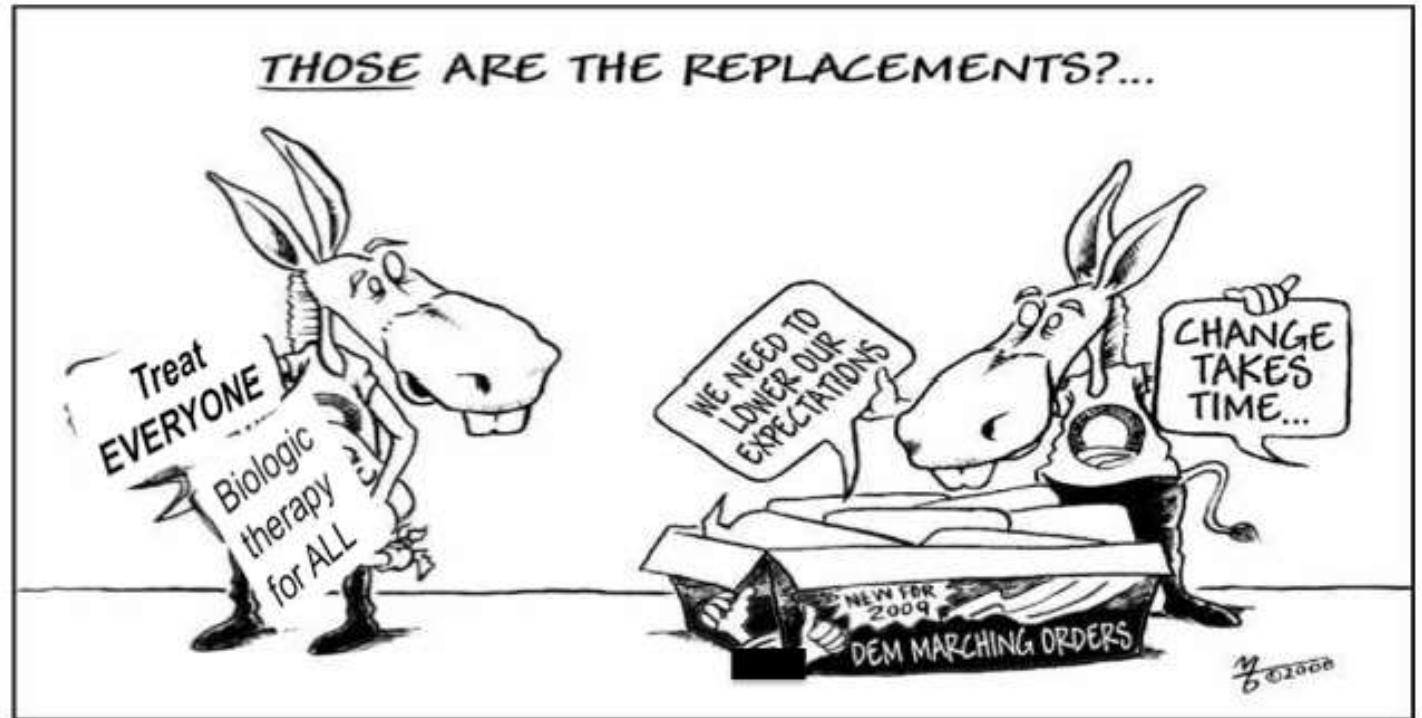
THANKS!

[zelmira.ballatore@ospedaliriuniti.marche.it](mailto:zelmira.ballatore@ospedaliriuniti.marche.it)

+ 39 071 596 4982

[r.berardi@univpm.it](mailto:r.berardi@univpm.it)  
[www.oncologiamarche.it](http://www.oncologiamarche.it)

## What Have we Learned?



The benefit of experience is not in treating everyone, but in treating wisely.

**Nelle donne con carcinoma mammario TRIPLO NEGATIVO (recettori ormonali negativi ed HER2-negativo) candidate a ricevere chemioterapia primaria/neoadiuvante, è raccomandabile l'aggiunta del platino ad uno schema standard con antracicline e taxani rispetto alla sola chemioterapia a base di antracicline e taxani?**

Qualità Globale delle evidenze GRADE	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione clinica
Moderata	Nelle donne con carcinoma mammario triplo negativo (recettori ormonali negativi ed HER2 negativo) candidate a ricevere chemioterapia primaria/neoadiuvante, l'aggiunta del platino ad uno schema standard con antracicline e taxani può essere preso in considerazione.	Positiva debole

*Leggere capitolo 14- Raccomandazioni prodotte secondo metodologia GRADE*

Una recente revisione sistematica e metanalisi ha incluso 9 studi randomizzati (n=2109) che hanno confrontato regimi chemioterapici neoadiuvanti contenenti platino vs regimi privi di platino per pazienti con carcinoma mamamrio triplo negativo<sup>37</sup>. Dei 9 studi inclusi, 7 confrontavano carboplatino + antracicline e taxani vs antracicline e taxani, di cui 5 (GEICAM/2006-3, GeparSixto GBG66, CALGB 40603 Alliance, UMIN000003355 and BrighTNess) presentavano lo stesso backbone chemioterapico con antracicline e taxani nei due bracci di randomizzazione. La metanalisi di questi 5 studi ha mostrato come l'aggiunta di platino si associ ad un'aumentata probabilità di ottenere una risposta patologica completa (54.2% vs 37.1% OR 2.04; 95% CI 1.39-3.00). Tuttavia, l'utilizzo del platino non è risultato associato ad una significativamente migliore sopravvivenza in termini di event-free survival o overall survival.

Nel CALGB 40603, l'aggiunta di carboplatino ogni tre settimane a paclitaxel settimanale seguita da AC "dose-densa" non ha dimostrato a distanza di 3 anni alcun beneficio in EFS<sup>38</sup>; al contrario, nello studio GeparSixto l'aggiunta di carboplatino, a uno schema chemioterapico non convenzionale, ha permesso di osservare un miglioramento assoluto del 10% in termini di sopravvivenza (EFS)<sup>39</sup>. Infine, dall'analisi di tutti e 9 gli studi inclusi, il trattamento con platino è risultato associato ad un maggior rischio di tossicità ematologiche di grado 3-4.

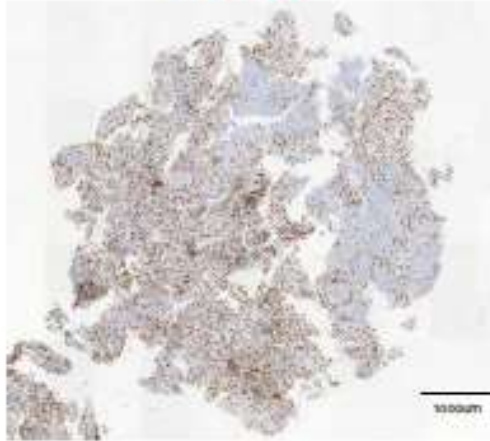
**La terapia biologica**

Incorporazione dei farmaci antiHER2 - Nelle pazienti con carcinoma mammario HER2+ candidate a

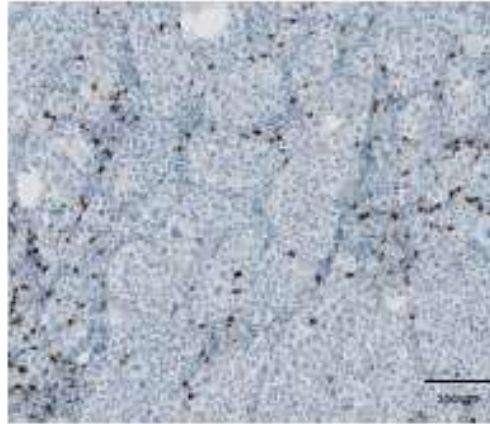


# Current approaches largely address patients with pre-existing immunity

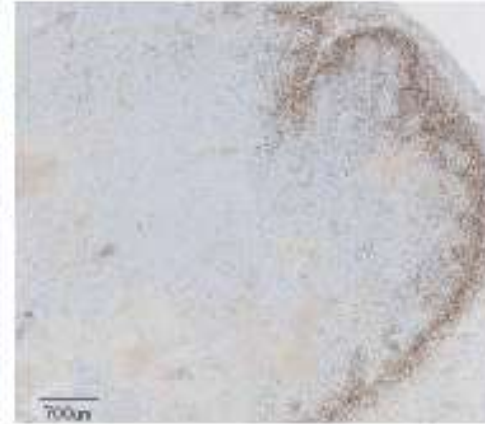
Pre-existing Immunity  
(20-30%?)



Non-functional immune response



Excluded infiltrate



Immune desert



CD8/IFN $\gamma$  signature



Response to immunotherapy

Many or most patients may lack pre-existing immunity



- Challenges with endpoints in combination trials
- [?] Difficulty in assessing the success of a given combination when one agent is significantly more active than the other
- [?] The utility of traditional radiographic response criteria for cancer immunotherapy (CIT) may be limited by the non-classical tumor kinetics (“pseudoprogression”) observed in some patients with clinical benefit
- [?] ORR and PFS have underestimated the overall survival (OS) benefit in monotherapy studies with PD1/PDL-1 inhibitors: how do we keep later line cross-over from confounding and prolonging studies?
- [?] Immune modified RECIST may capture of benefit of atypical responses otherwise missed with RECIST 1.1
- oAll atezolizumab trials include RECIST 1.1 and imRECIST

# TILs in Early Breast Cancer

**Table 2.** Characteristics of adjuvant randomized trials evaluating tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes in stromal compartments as continuous variable per 10% increase according to disease subtype

Author	HR	95% CI	HR (95% CI)	p value
Loi et al. 2014 [17]	0.990	0.736 1.332		.947
Dieci et al. 2015 [34]	1.010	0.889 1.148		.879
Loi et al. 2013 [18]	1.100	0.995 1.215		.061
<b>ER-Positive/HER2-Negative</b>	<b>1.060</b>	<b>0.982 1.144</b>		<b>.134</b>
Dieci et al. 2015 [34]	0.880	0.763 1.014		.078
Loi et al. 2013 [18]	0.890	0.775 1.022		.099
Loi et al. 2014 [17]	0.980	0.809 1.188		.837
<b>HER2-Positive</b>	<b>0.904</b>	<b>0.828 0.988</b>		<b>.025</b>
Loi et al. 2014 [17]	0.800	0.621 1.031		.085
Adams et al. 2014 [16]	0.810	0.690 0.950		.010
Loi et al. 2013 [18]	0.820	0.700 0.960		.014
Dieci et al. 2015 [34]	0.890	0.778 1.018		.089
<b>Triple-Negative</b>	<b>0.840</b>	<b>0.775 0.912</b>		<b>&lt;.0001</b>

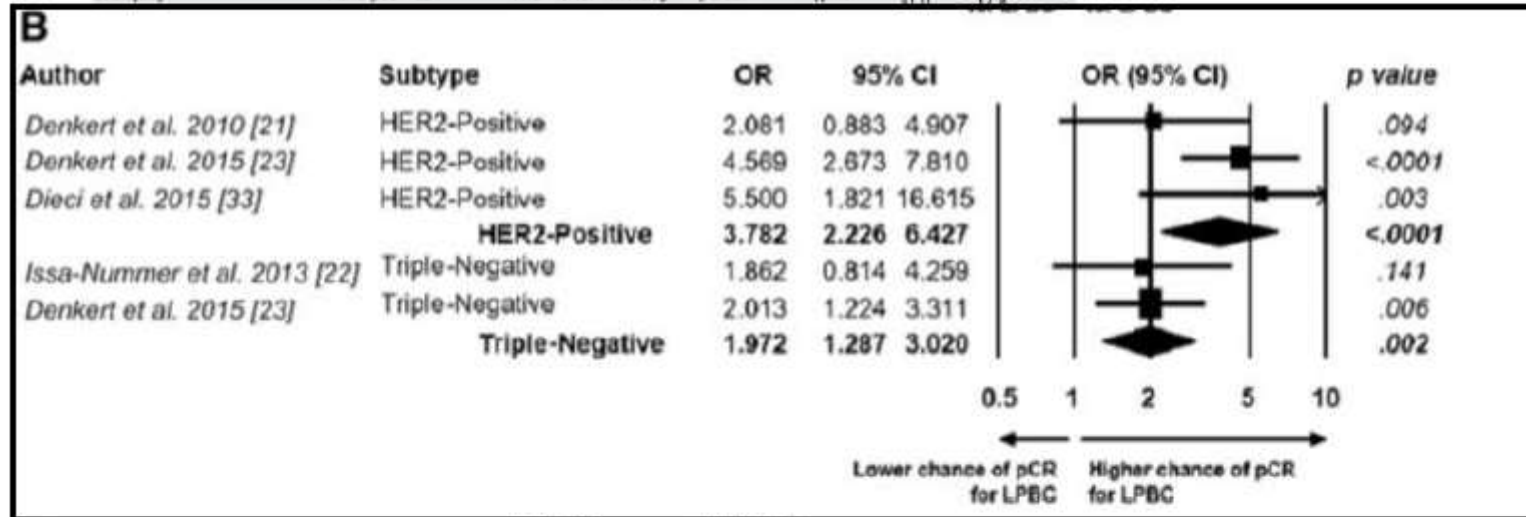
cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, and 5-fluorouracil, CT, Chemotherapy, D, docetaxel, FAC, 5-fluorouracil, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide, FEC, 5-fluorouracil, epirubicin, and cyclophosphamide; FinHER, Finland Herceptin; H&E, hematoxylin and eosin staining; HER2-pos, HER2-positive breast cancer; HR, hazard ratio; ITILs, intratumoral-infiltrating lymphocytes; LPBC, lymphocyte-predominant breast cancer (defined as  $\geq 60\%$  infiltration of stromal or intratumoral lymphocytes); NR, not reported; OS, overall survival; P, paclitaxel; sTILs, stromal tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes; TN, triple-negative breast cancer; TR, trastuzumab; V, vinorelbine.



# TILs in Early Breast Cancer

**Table 1.** Characteristics of neoadjuvant randomized trials evaluating tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes, including lymphocyte-predominant breast cancer assay, according to disease subtype

Author, Year [Reference]	Study	Disease subtype	Patients (n)	Treatment arms	TIL assay	TIL cutoff value	pCR definition	pCR in LPBC (%)	pCR in non-LPBC (%)
Denkert et al., 2010 [21]	GeparTrio	HER2-neg	442	TAC ×6 vs.	sTILs, iTILs	Noninfiltrate,	ypT0	48.1	12.6
		HER2-pos	254	TAC ×8 vs.	in H&E <sub>c</sub>	partial	ypNO	31.0	17.8



+ L vs. P + TR + L → FEC + TR + L  
 sTILs and iTILs as continuous variable

Abbreviations: Beva, bevacizumab; CA, carboplatin; EC, epirubicin and cyclophosphamide; EVE, everolimus; FEC, 5-fluorouracil, epirubicin, and cyclophosphamide; H&E, hematoxylin and eosin staining; HER2-neg, HER2-negative breast cancer; HER2-pos, HER2-positive breast cancer; IHC, immunohistochemistry; iTILs, intratumoral-infiltrating lymphocytes; L, lapatinib; LPBC, lymphocyte-predominant breast cancer (defined as ≥60% infiltration of stromal or intratumoral lymphocytes); nplA, nonpegylated liposomal doxorubicin; P, paclitaxel; pCR, pathological complete response; sTILs, stromal tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes; T, docetaxel; TAC, docetaxel, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide; TN, triple-negative breast cancer; TR, trastuzumab; VCap, vinorelbine and capecitabine.



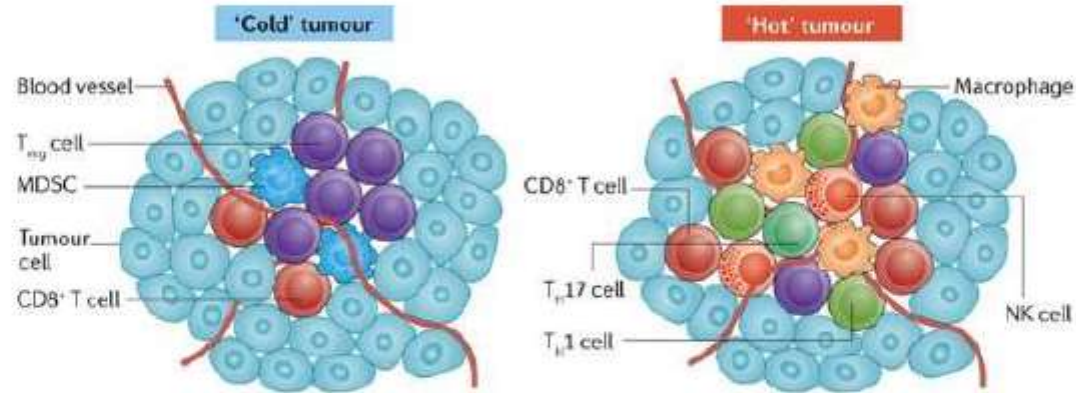


# Classifying Cancers Based on T-cell Infiltration and PD-L1

Tumor Microenvironment		Early BC	Ovarian	Melanoma
Type I	TIL+/PD-L1+	21%	57.4%	38%
Type II	TIL-/PD-L1-	24%	5.1%	41%
Type III	TIL-/PD-L1+	2%	0%	1%
Type IV	TIL+/PD-L1-	53%	37.4%	20%
References		Buisseret 2016	Webb 2016	Teng 2015

- Type I: Adaptive immune resistance
- Type II: Immunological ignorance
- Type III: Intrinsic Induction
- Type IV: Tolerance

# Cold and Hot Tumours

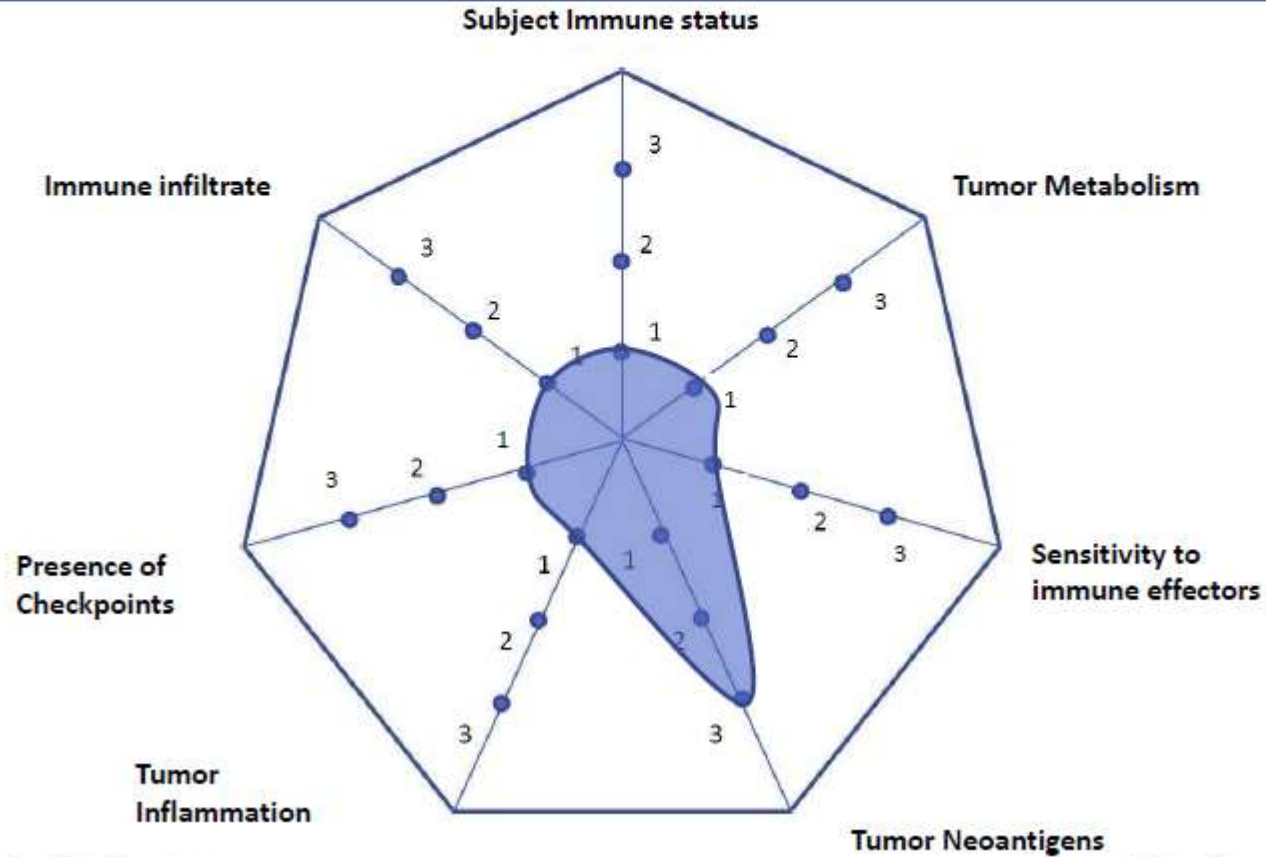


<b>Biological characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Epigenetic silencing</li> <li>• Active <math>\beta</math>-catenin signalling</li> <li>• Mesenchymal-like cells</li> <li>• Stem cell-like cells</li> <li>• Less-differentiated cells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Epigenetic reprogramming</li> <li>• Suppressed <math>\beta</math>-catenin signalling</li> <li>• Epithelial cells</li> <li>• Highly differentiated cells</li> <li>• High PDL1 expression</li> </ul>
<b>Immunological characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enriched in immunosuppressive cytokines</li> <li>• High numbers of Treg cells and MDSCs</li> <li>• Few Treg1 cells, NK cells and CD8+ T cells</li> <li>• Few functional APCs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enriched in Treg1-type chemokines</li> <li>• High numbers of effector immune cells (Treg1 cells, NK cells and CD8+ T cells)</li> <li>• High numbers of functional APCs</li> </ul>

Nature Reviews | Immunology

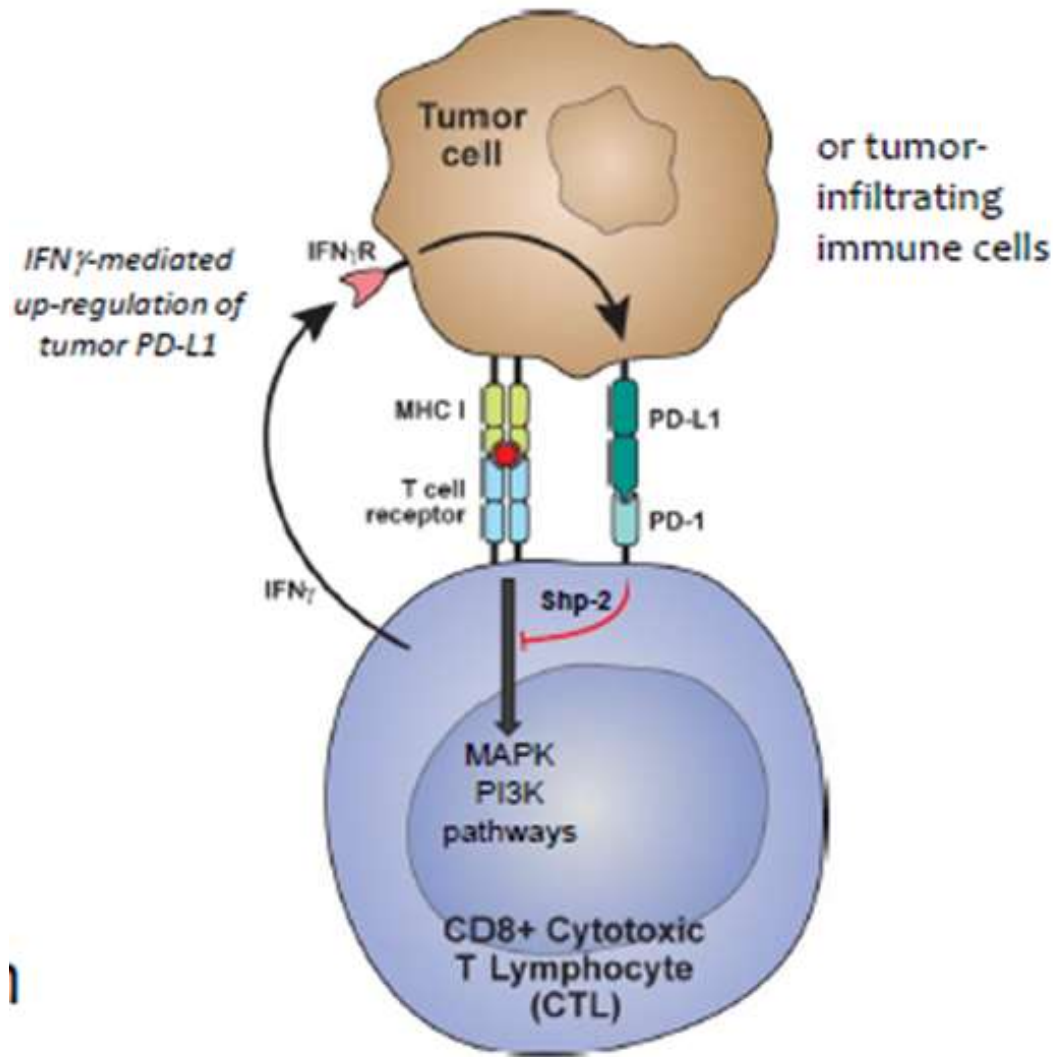
Nagasheth et al, Nature Reviews Immunology 2017

# Immunogram; late stage disease

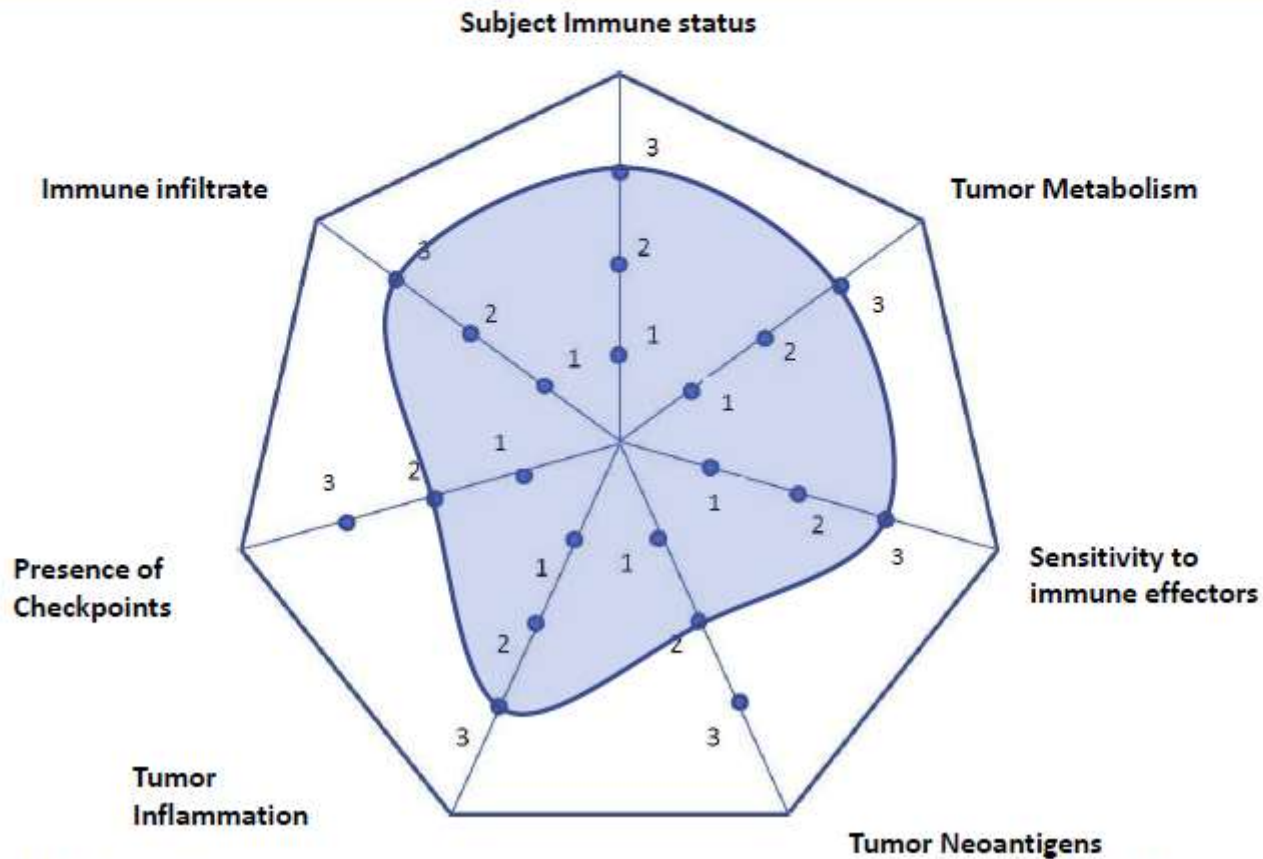




# What we have learned: immunosuppression is a rate limiting step to effective anti-tumor immunity... for some patients



# Immunogram; earlier stage disease

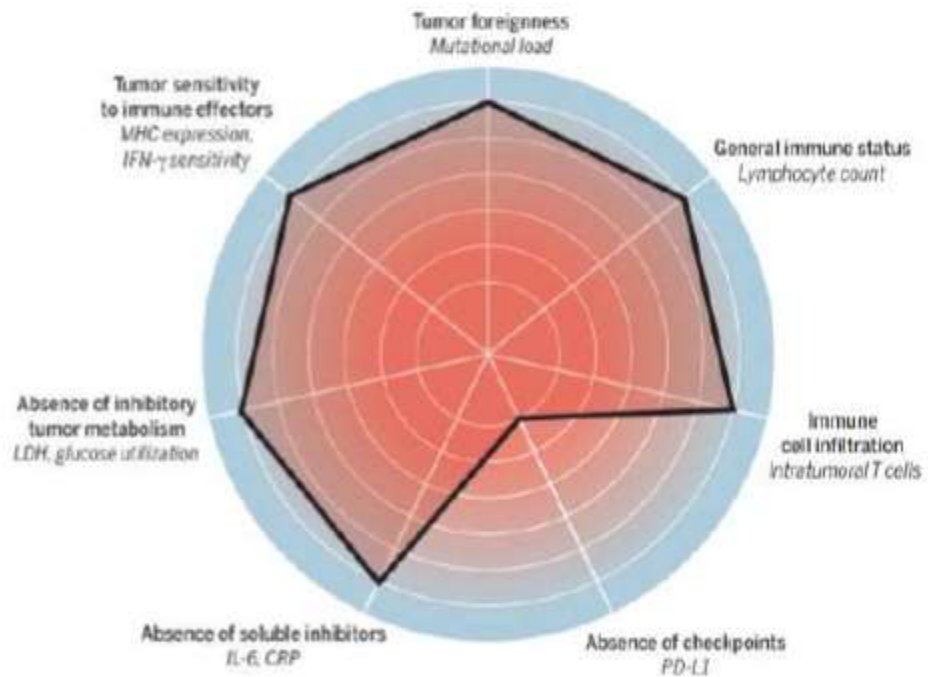


# Conclusion

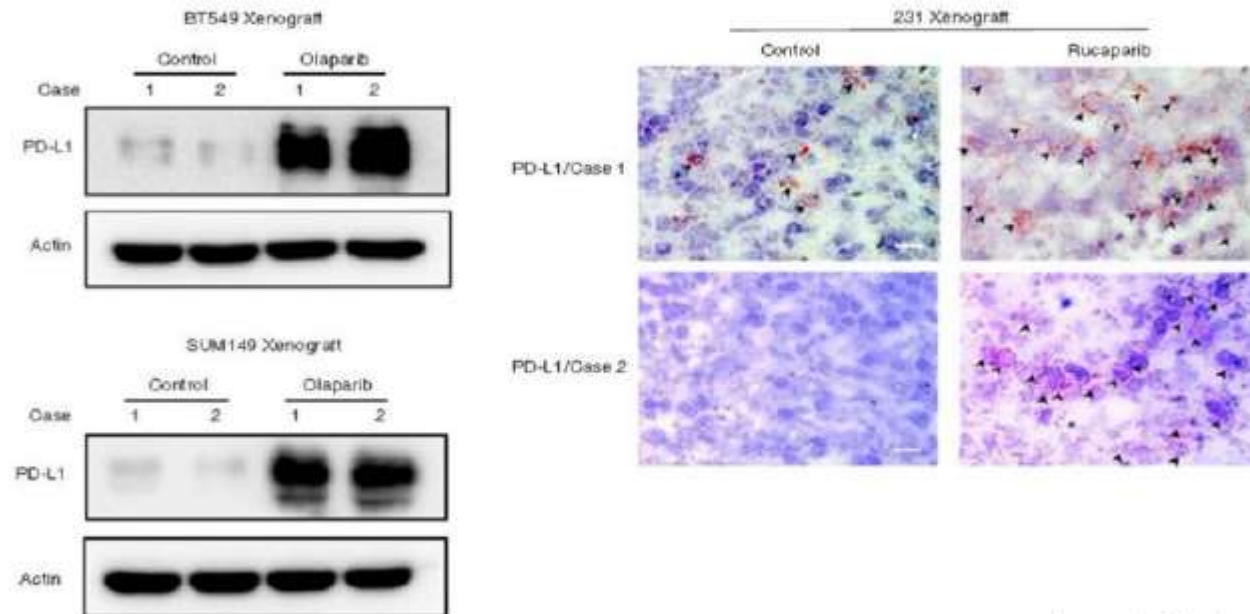
- Immunotherapy represents an intriguing and potentially
- revolutionary approach in BC
- • Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors are active and promising
- especially in TN subtype and in earlier lines of treatment
- • Novel strategies and novel combinations to enhance activity and
- extend spectrum of efficacy of immunotherapy are needed and
- under investigation



# The cancer immunogram



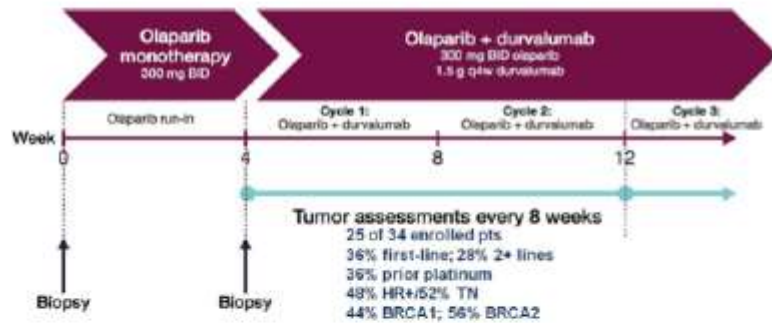
# Rationale for combining PARP inhibitors + immune checkpoint inhibitors



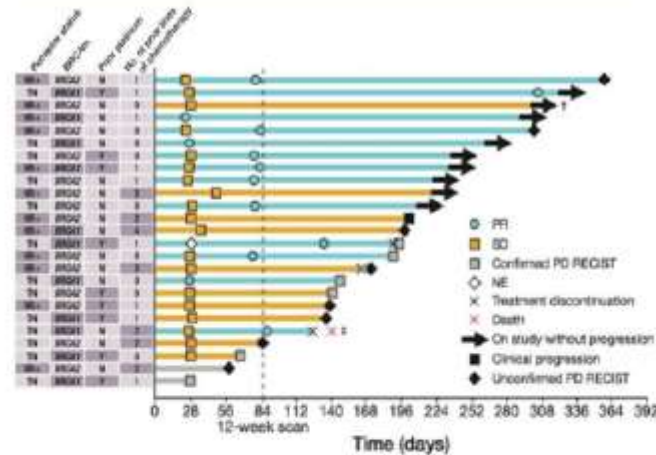
Jiao et al, Clin Cancer Res 2017

# MEDIOLA, phase II basket study of olaparib and durvalumab: gBRCAmut HER2- MBC (n=25)

Best Response by Line of Chemotherapy				
Response	1L	2L	3L	4L
CR	0	0	0	0
PR	6	6	1	0
SD	2	2	2	2
PD	1	1	2	0
Total #	9	9	5	2
ORR	6/9=67%	6/9=67%	1/5=20%	0/2=0%



Domcheck et al, SABCS 2017



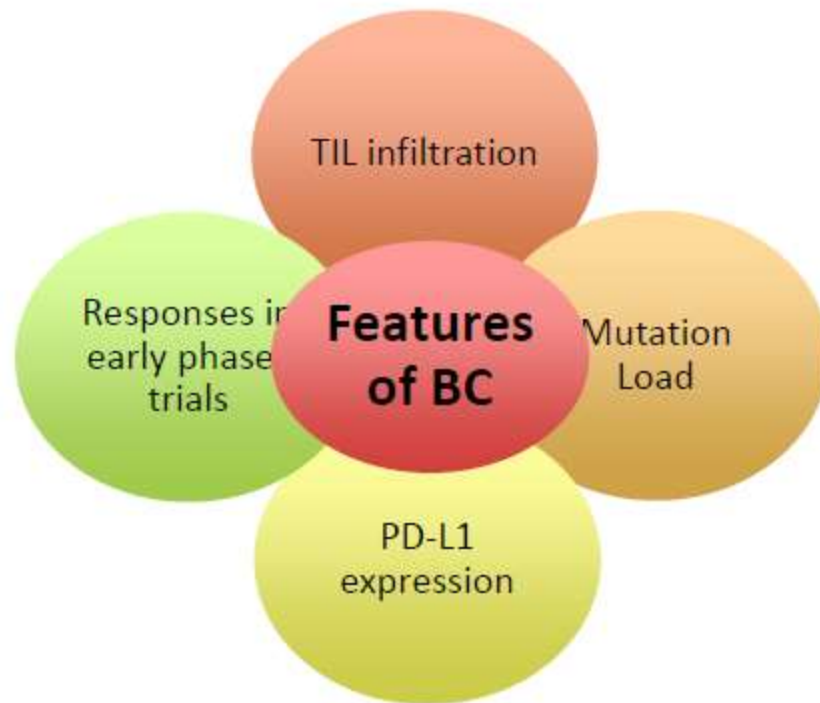


## What is going to challenge the already unstable algorithm for mTNBC?

- Increasing use of platinum in early setting will challenge its role in MBC
  - «ovarian cancer-like» model based on platinum sensitivity for platinum rechallenge or PARPi for gBRCAmut? Need for data and biomarkers.
- Immunotherapy combinations in early lines (CT, PARPi)
  - In patients subgroups (which role of immune biomarkers in I/O combos?)
  - Opportunity for maintenance treatment
  - PARPi in BRCA non mut
- AKT inhibitors + taxane in 1st line

---

## Rationale to develop immunotherapy in BC



# Goals of cancer immunotherapy

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Pembrolizumab versus Ipilimumab in Advanced Melanoma

Caroline Robert, M.D., Ph.D., Jacob Schachter, M.D., Georgina V. Long, M.D., Ph.D., Ana Arance, M.D., Ph.D., Jean Jacques Grob, M.D., Ph.D., Laurent Mortier, M.D., Ph.D., Adil Daud, M.D., Matteo S. Carlino, M.B., B.S., Catriona McNeil, M.D., Ph.D., Michal Lotem, M.D., James Larkin, M.D., Ph.D., Paul Lorigan, M.D., Bart Neyns, M.D., Ph.D., Christian U. Blank, M.D., Ph.D., Omid Hamid, M.D., Christine Matius, M.D., Ronnie Shapiro-Frommer, M.D., Michele Kosh, R.N., B.S.N., Honghong Zhou, Ph.D., Nageatte Ibrahim, M.D., Scot Ebbinghaus, M.D., and Antoni Ribas, M.D., Ph.D., for the KEYNOTE-006 investigators\*

The NEW ENGLAND  
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ISSN 0098-7339 MARCH 26, 2017 VOL. 375 NO. 12

## Pembrolizumab as Second-Line Therapy for Advanced Urothelial Carcinoma

J. Bellmunt, R. de Wit, D.J. Vaughn, Y. Fradet, J.-L. Lee, L. Fong, H.J. Vogelzang, M.A. Climen, D.P. Petrylak, T.K. Choueiri, A. Vecchi, W. Gerritsen, H. Garney, D.J. Quinn, S. Callea, C.N. Sternberg, Y. Mai, C.H. Pforderer, R.F. Parisi, and D.F. Bajorin, for the KEYNOTE 045 Investigators\*



Investigative Clinical Oncology

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Nivolumab versus Docetaxel in Advanced Nonsquamous Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer

H. Borghaei, L. Paz-Ares, L. Horn, D.R. Spigel, M. Steins, N.E. Ready, L.Q. Chow, E.E. Vokes, E. Felip, E. Holgado, F. Barlesi, M. Kohlhäuf, O. Arrieta, M.A. Burgio, J. Fayette, H. Lena, E. Poddubskaya, D.E. Gerber, S.N. Gettinger, C.M. Rudin, N. Rizvi, L. Crino, G.R. Blumenschein, Jr., S.J. Antonia, C. Dorange, C.T. Harbison, F. Graf Finckenstein, and J.R. Brahmer

VOLUME 36 NUMBER 8 MARCH 16, 2018

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

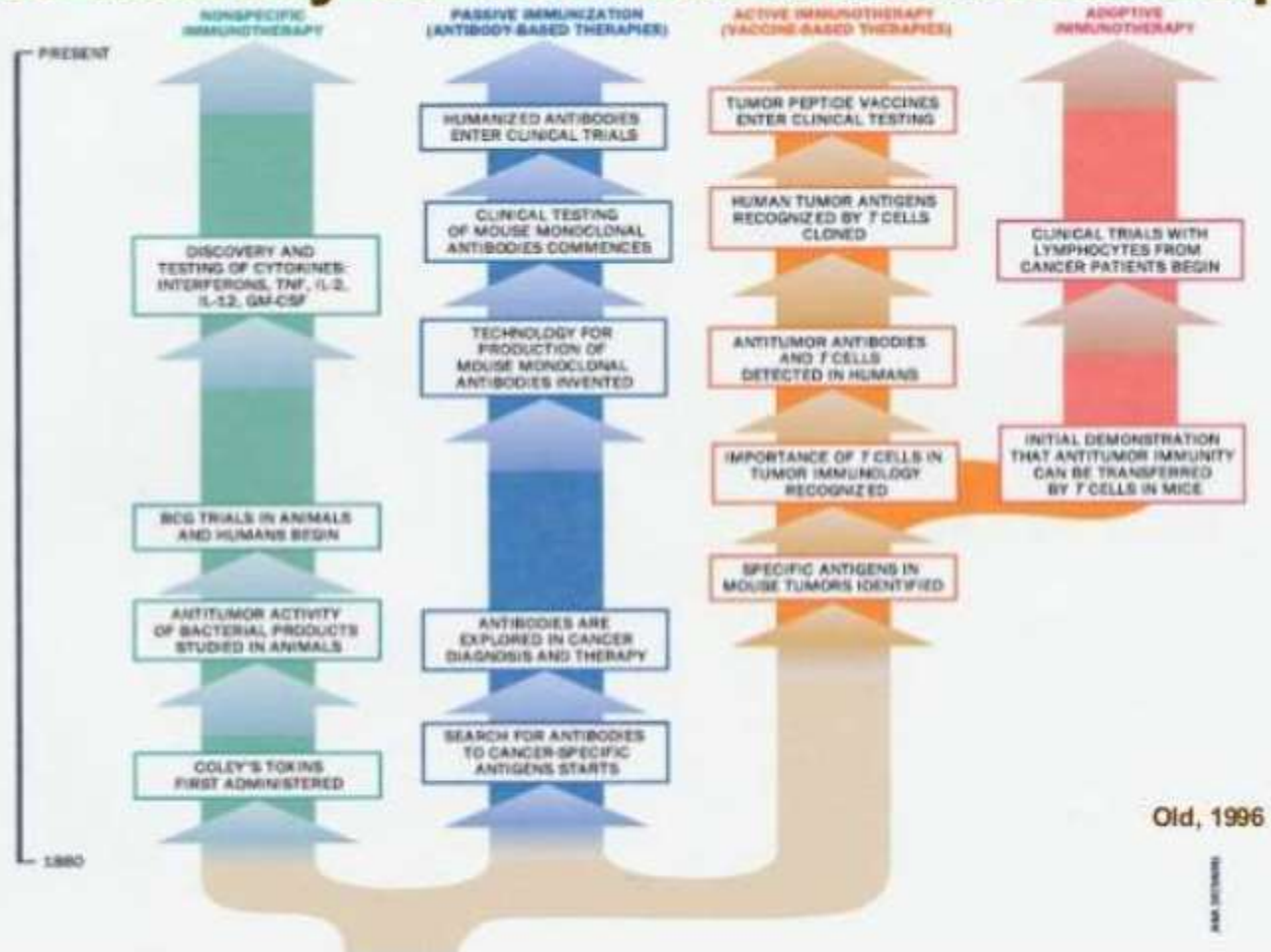
ORIGINAL REPORT

## Durable Clinical Benefit With Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab in DNA Mismatch Repair–Deficient/Microsatellite Instability–High Metastatic Colorectal Cancer

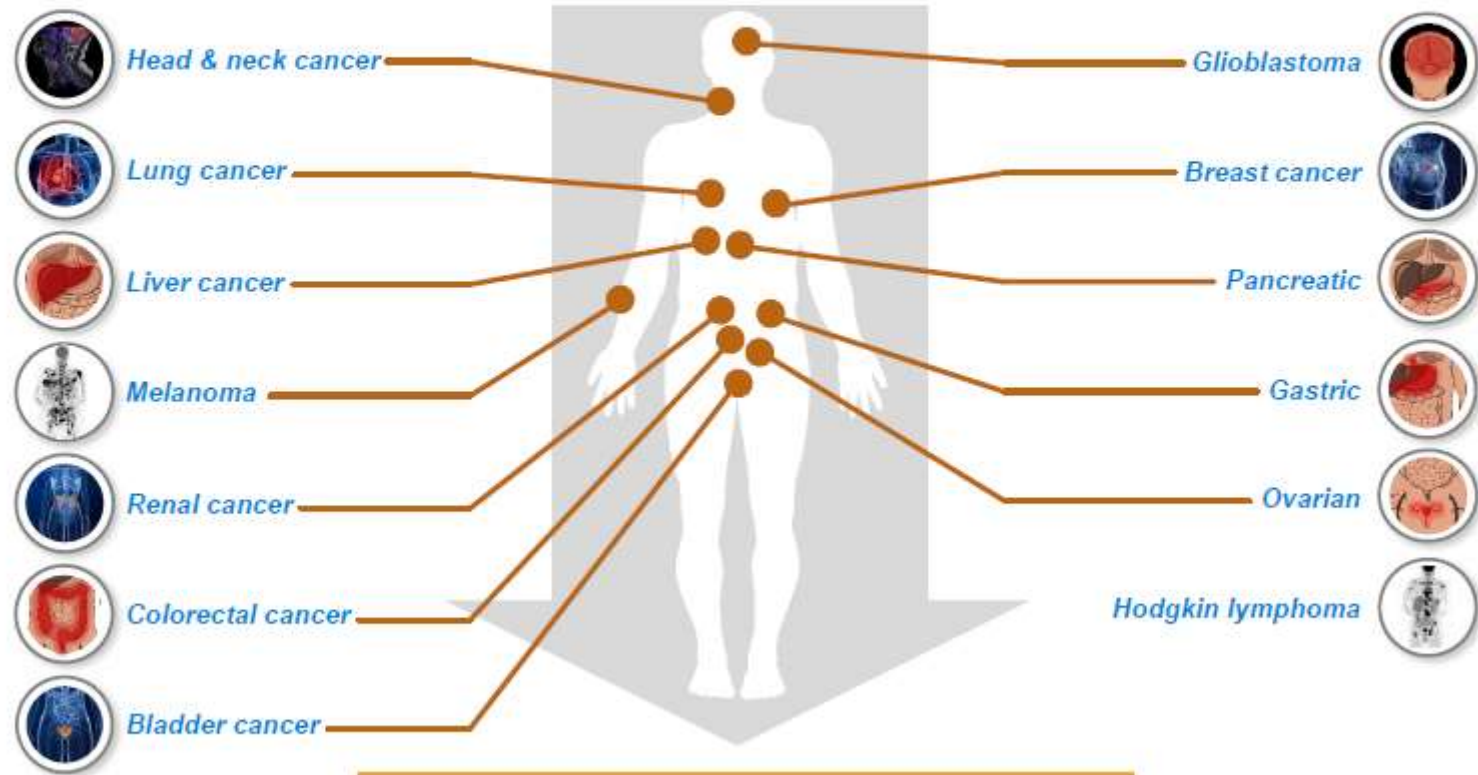
Michael J. Overman, Sara Lonardi, Gu Yong-Mark Hong, Hideo Imai, Fabio Chiarro, Massimo Aglietta, Michael A. Morse, An-Yee Chan, Faruk Demircan, Andrew Hall, Michael A. Sartor, Alex Hombik, Bart Naves, Mubashir Usmani, Roberto A. Mesa, Ivan-María Llorens, J. Alexander Cox, Shafiq Raza, Naveed Khan, and Thierry André



# The History of Tumour Immunotherapy

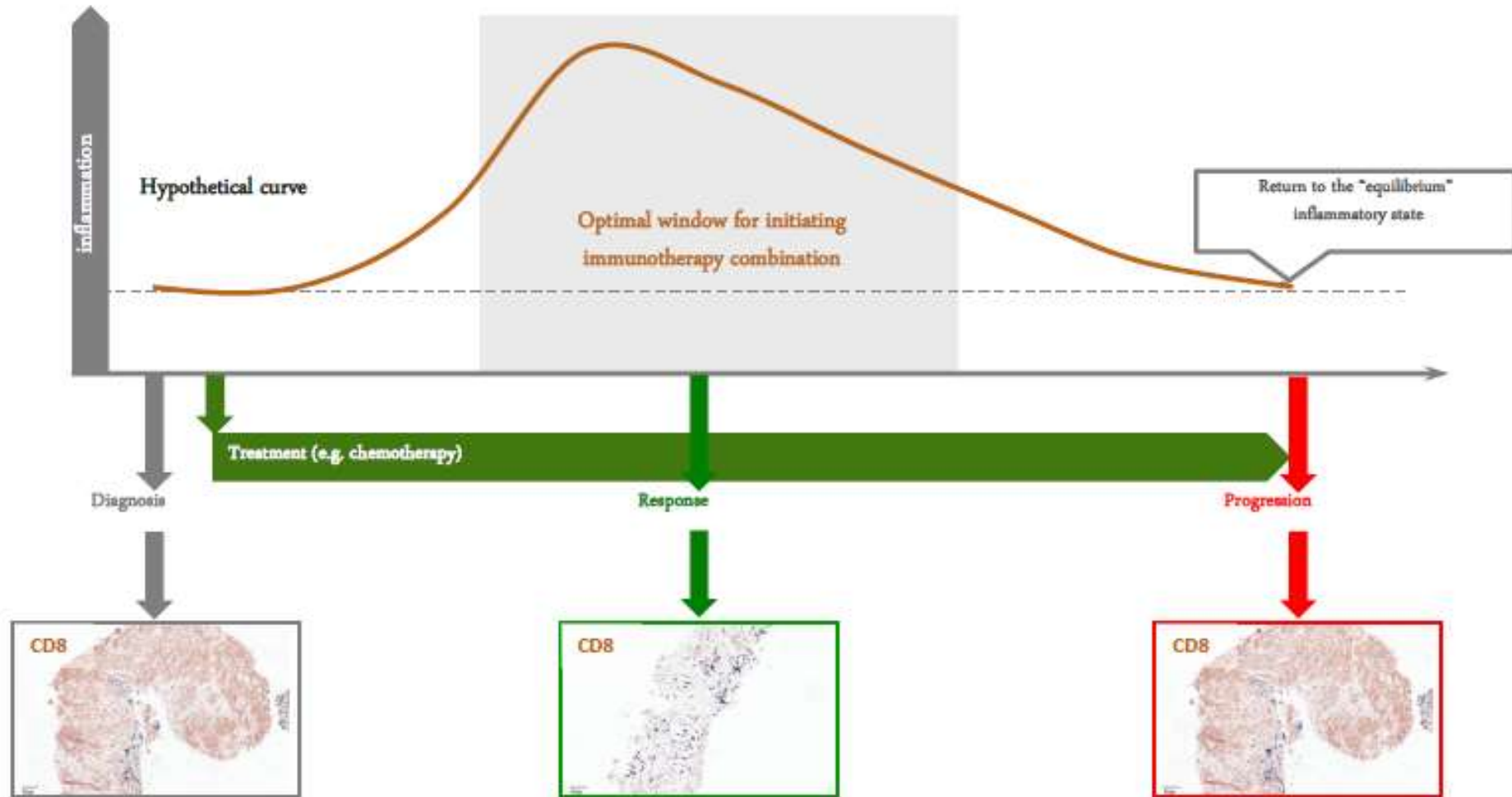


# Broad activity for anti-PD-L1/PD-1 in human cancer



**Broad activity, but only subset of patients benefit: ~10-30%**

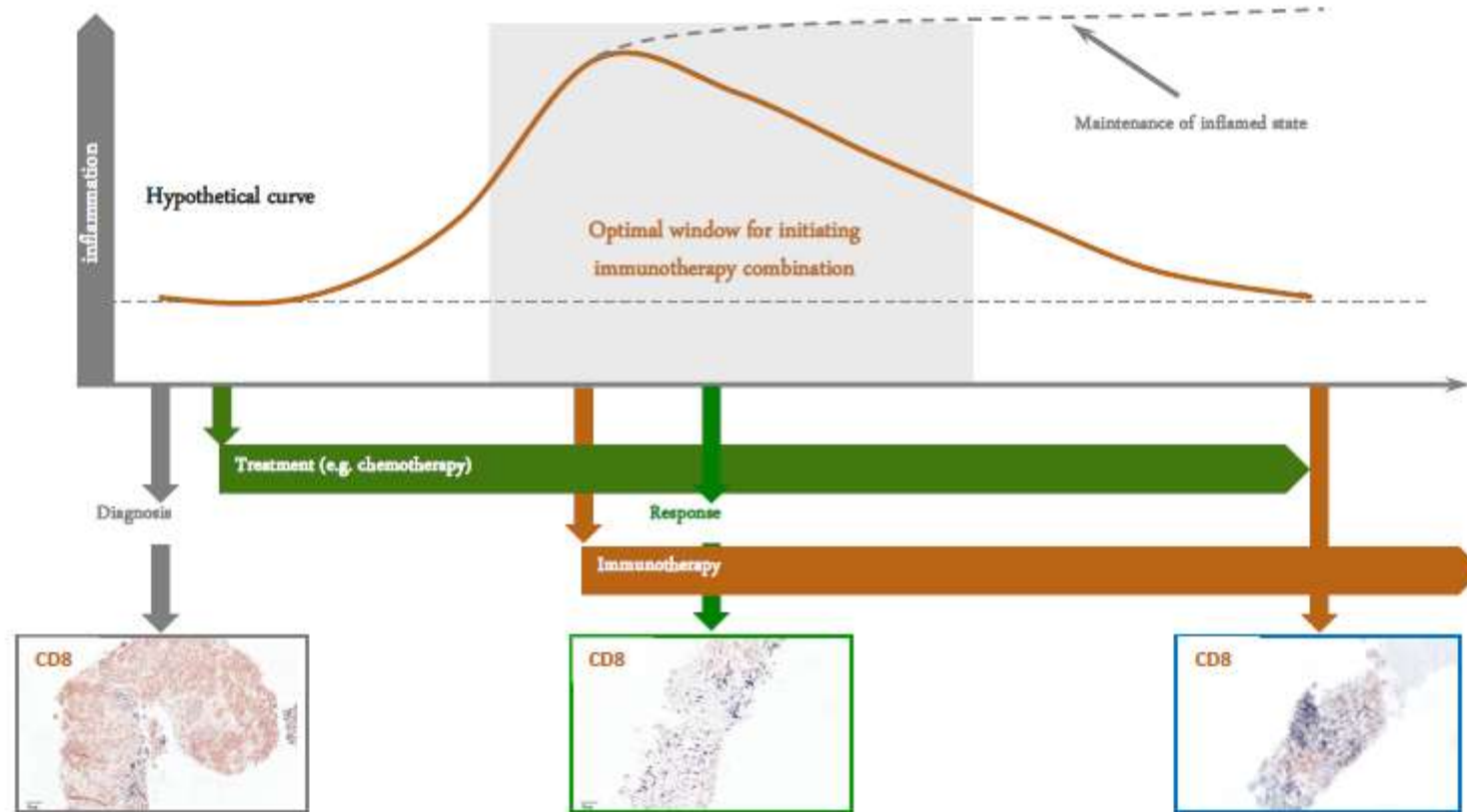
# Modulation of tumor immune status by chemotherapy may be transient



CD8 staining images are illustrative

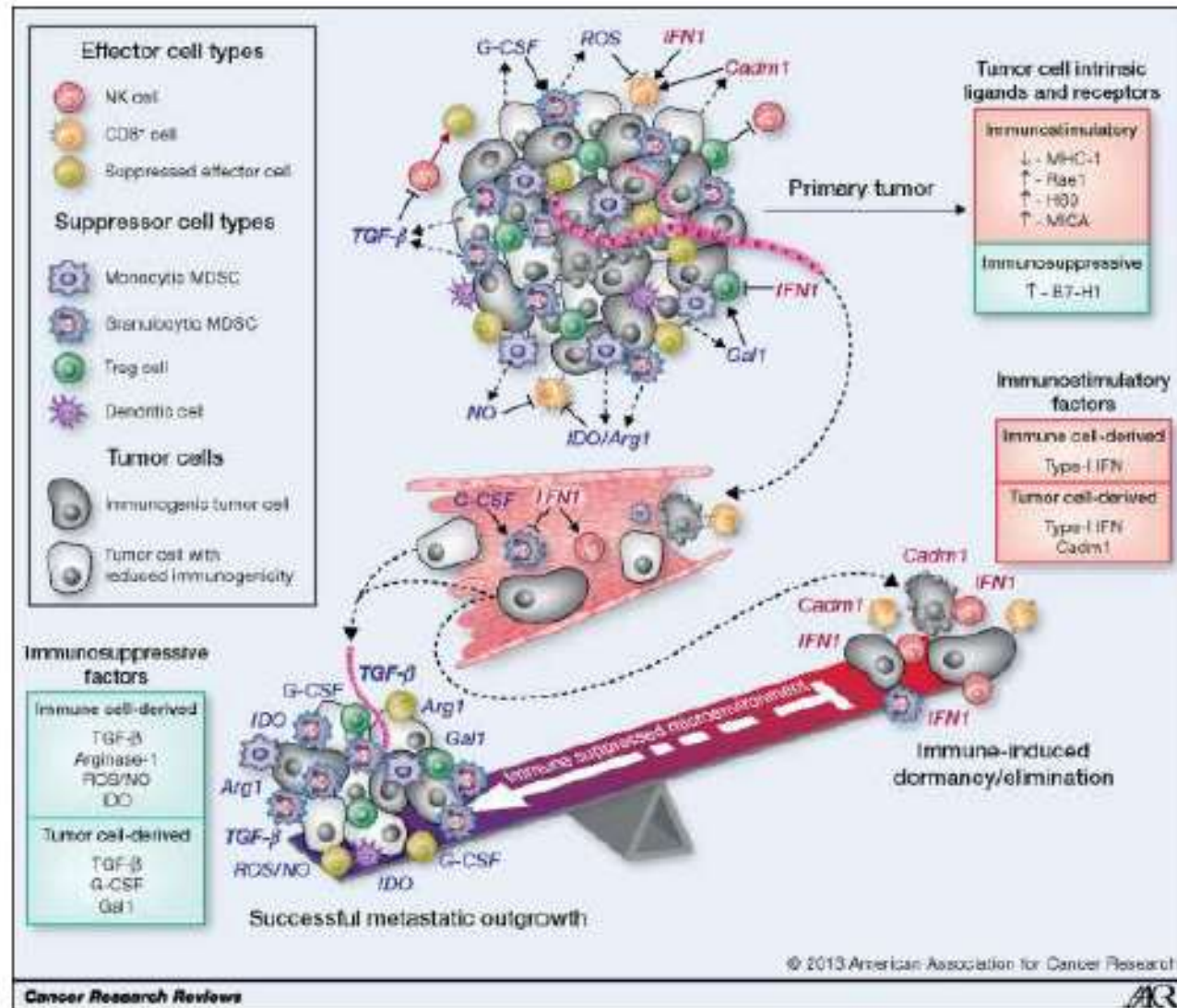


# Simultaneous combinations may help to maintain and extend tumor inflamed state



CD8 staining images are illustrative

# Immunosurveillance and immunoediting balance



## Attempt to design a treatment algorithm for mTNBC: key considerations

- Metastatic TNBC pts
    - Most received A-T as adjuvant/neoadjuvant treatment
    - Visceral metastases
    - Poor survival from the onset of MBC
    - Limited options available with limited efficacy
- 
- **Clinical trials!**
  - **A long-term treatment sequence is not possible (high attrition rate)**
  - **Best option first**



## Treatment options for metastatic TNBC



## Platinum for gBRCAmut metastatic TNBC

Study	Drug	Setting	ORR %		
			All/ Unselected	BRCA wt	BRCA mut
TBCR009 <sup>1</sup>	Cisplatin or Carboplatin	1-2 line	26%	20%	54.5%
BALI <sup>2</sup>	Cisplatin	1-2 line	10%	--	--
Byrski <sup>3</sup>	Cisplatin	1-2 line	--	--	80%

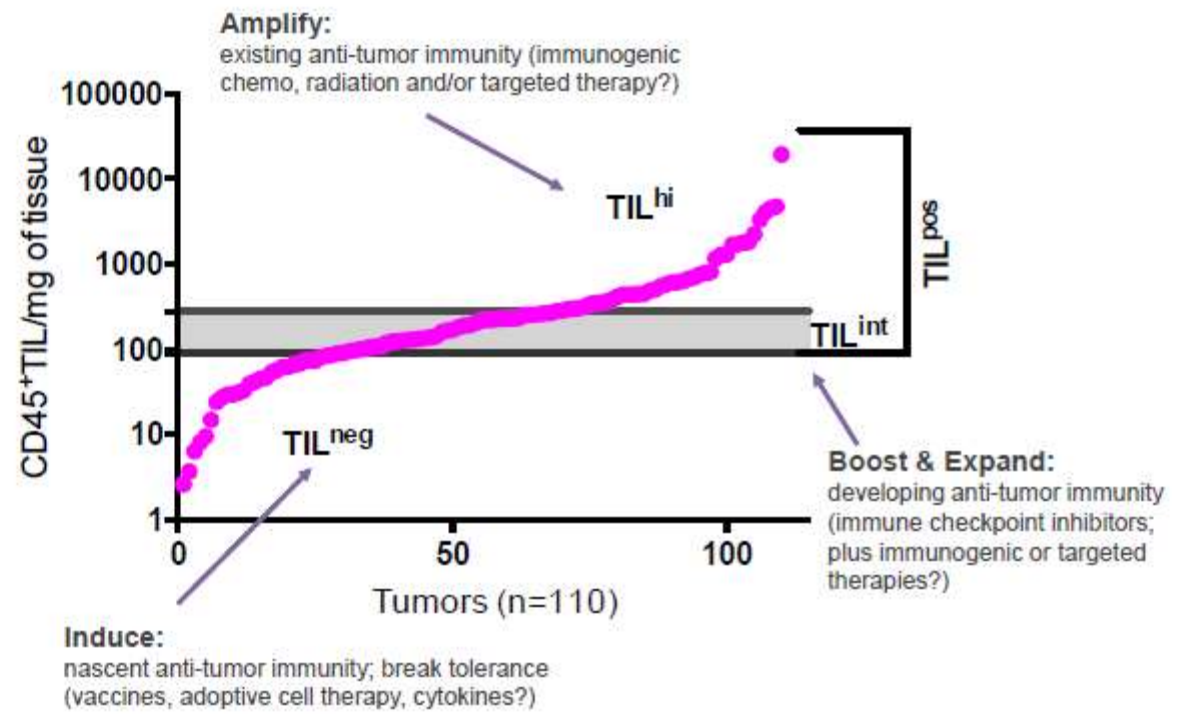
1. Isakoff SJ, J Clin Oncol 2015; 2. Baselga J et al, J Clin Oncol 2013; 3. Byrski T et al, Breast Cancer Res 2012

## What is going to challenge the already unstable algorithm for mTNBC?

- Increasing use of platinum in early setting will challenge its role in MBC
  - «ovarian cancer-like» model based on platinum sensitivity for platinum rechallenge or PARPi in gBRCAmut? Need for data and biomarkers.
- Immunotherapy combinations in early lines (CT, PARPi)



# TIL infiltration



Cerca 'Evidenziare'

- Esporta PDF
- Crea PDF
- Modifica PDF
- Commento
- Combinare i file
- Organizza pagine
- Redigere
- Proteggere
- Ottimizza PDF
- Compila e firma

# Strategies to modulate the immune system in breast cancer

**Active:** priming of the immune system

**Passive:** delivery of compounds that may use immune system

Antigen-specific

Peptide vaccine  
DC-vaccine  
DNA-vaccine  
Whole cell vaccine

Cancer vaccines

Non antigen-specific

Checkpoint inhibitors  
Cytokines

Immune modulators

Monoclonal antibodies

Trastuzumab  
Pertuzumab

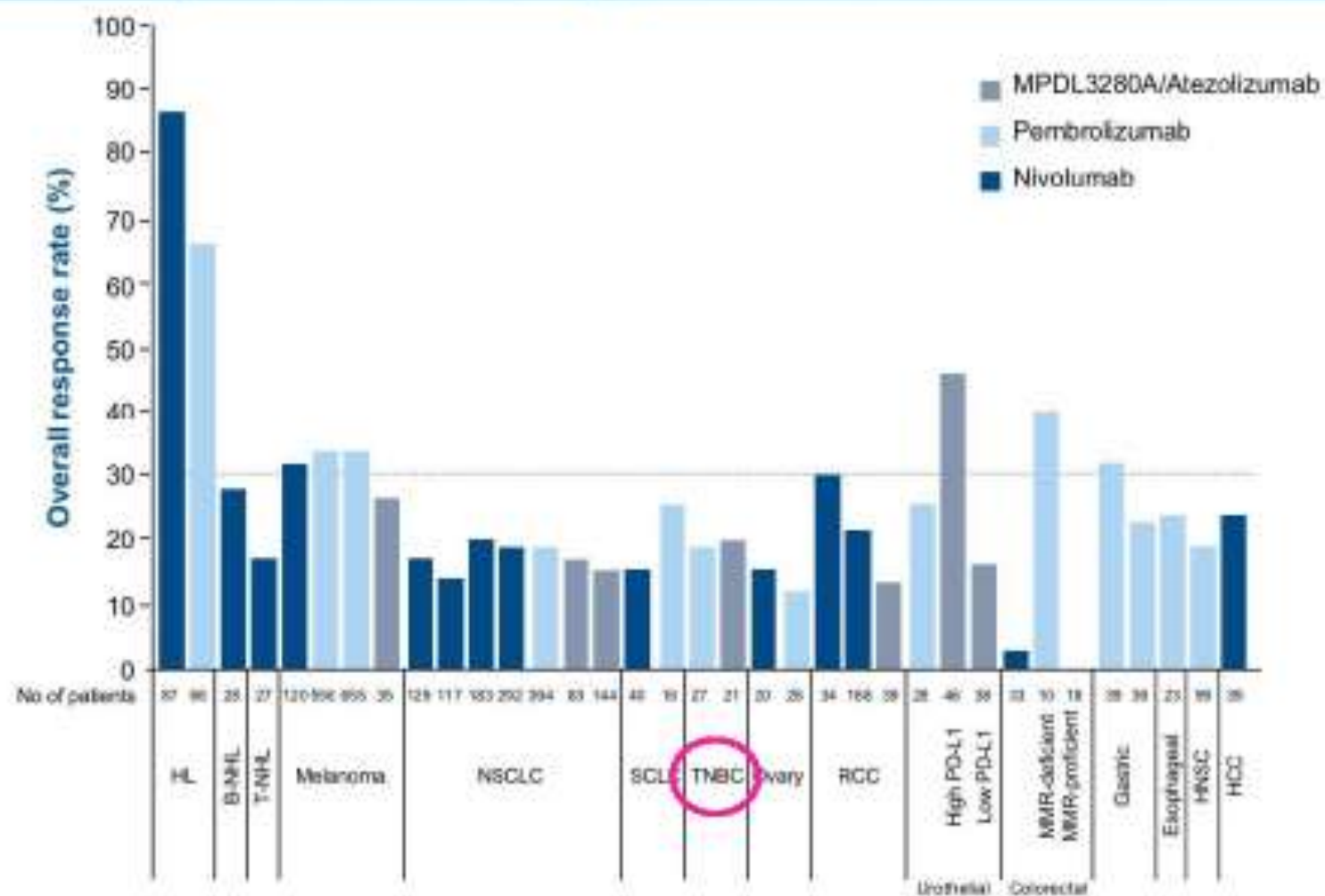
Targeted antibodies

Adoptive cell transfer

CAR T cells

Cellular immunotherapy

# Single Agent Activity of PD-1/PD-L1 Blockade in Relapsed/Refractory Cancer

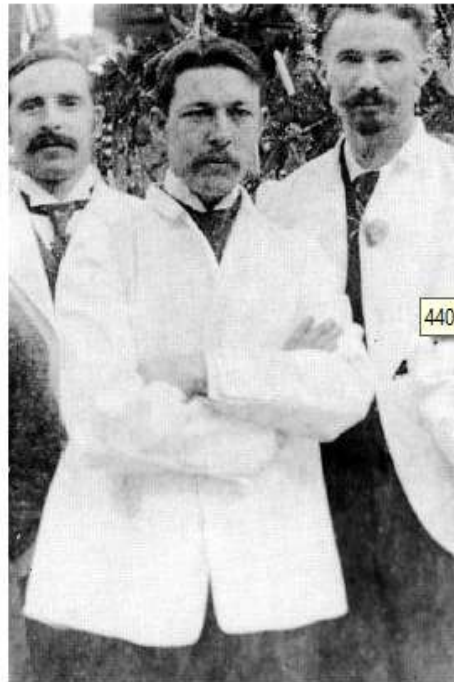


B-NHL=B cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma; HCC=hepatocellular carcinoma; HL=Hodgkin lymphoma; HNSCC=head and neck squamous cell carcinoma; MMR=mismatch repair; NSCLC=non-small cell lung cancer; PD-L1=programmed death ligand-1; SCLC=small cell lung cancer; TNBC=triple negative breast cancer; T-NHL=T cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Batlevi CL et al. Nat Rev Clin Oncol. 2016; 13:25-40.



# Immunotherapy in Cancer: Past, Present and Future

## William Coley and the birth of cancer immunotherapy



New York Times - July 29, 1908

### ERYSIPELAS GERMS AS CURE FOR CANCER

Dr. Coley's Remedy of Mixed  
Toxins Makes One Disease  
Cast Out the Other.

MANY CASES CURED HERE

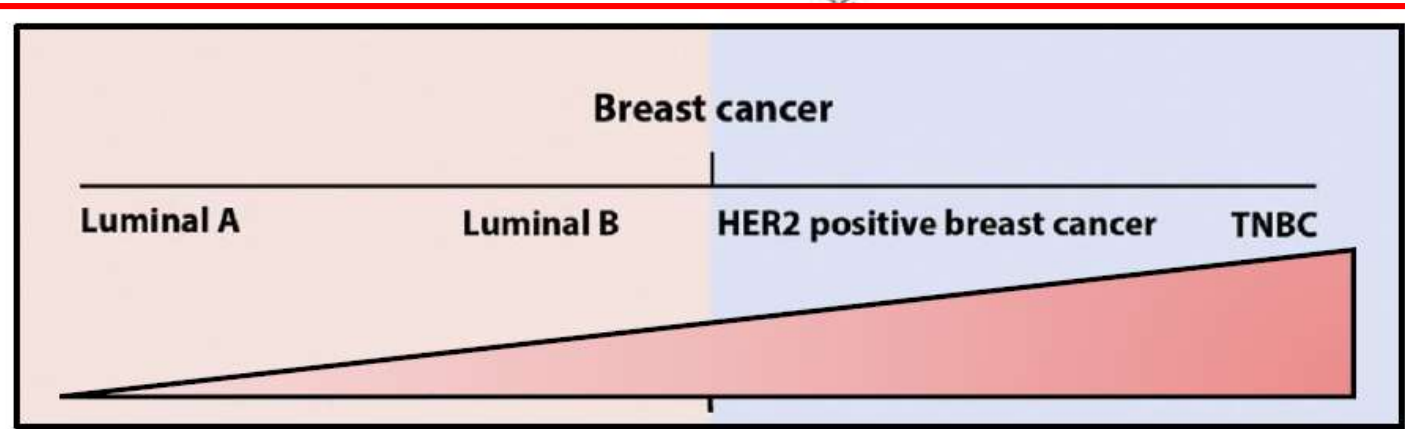
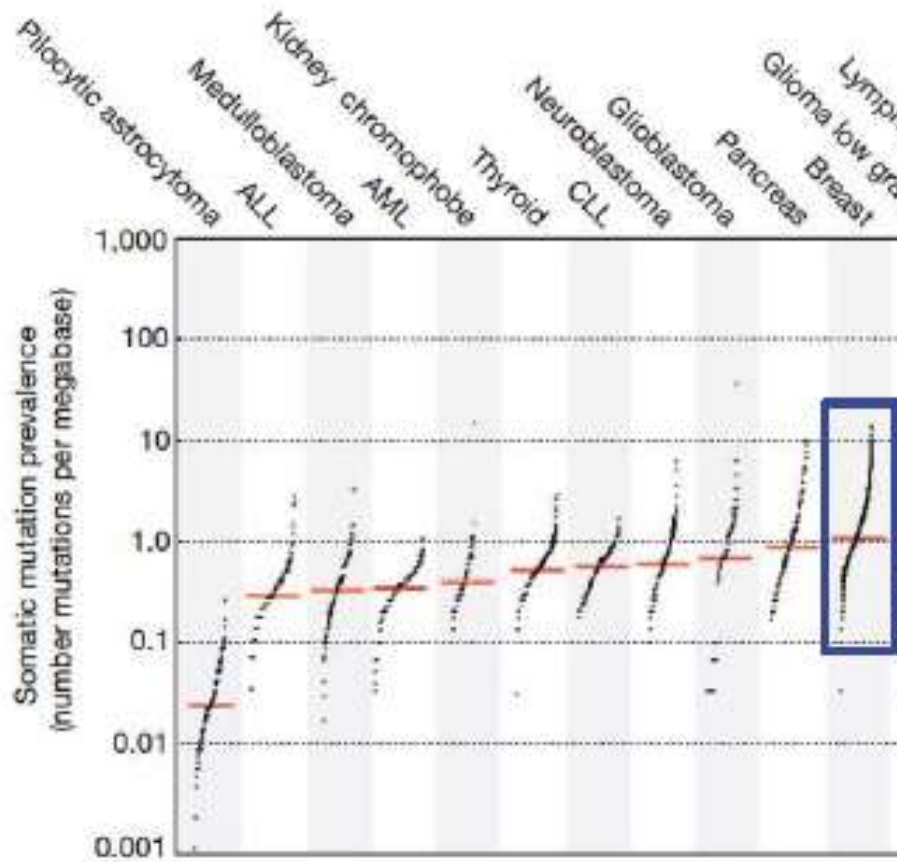
Physician Has Used the Cure for 15  
Years and Treated 430 Cases—  
Probably 150 Sure Cures.

Following news from St. Louis that  
two men have been cured of cancer in  
the City Hospital there by the use of  
a fluid discovered by Dr. William B.  
Coley of New York. It came out yester-

....Ever since the nineteenth-century observation by William Coley that postoperative infections were correlated with cancer regression and subsequently that injections for the treatment of erysipelas induced tumor regression, the immune system has been suspected to play a role in cancer.

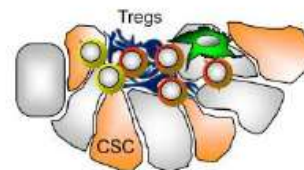
Since then, a wealth of in vitro and in vivo data has led to an immunosurveillance /immunoediting model of cancer progression proposed by Schreiber and colleagues.

*Elie Metchnikoff & Paul Ehrlich won the Nobel Prize 3 months later*



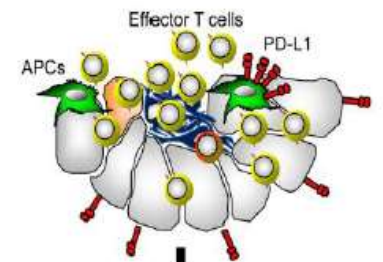
No or limited response to treatment

"non-inflamed cancer"



Active response to treatment

"inflamed cancer"

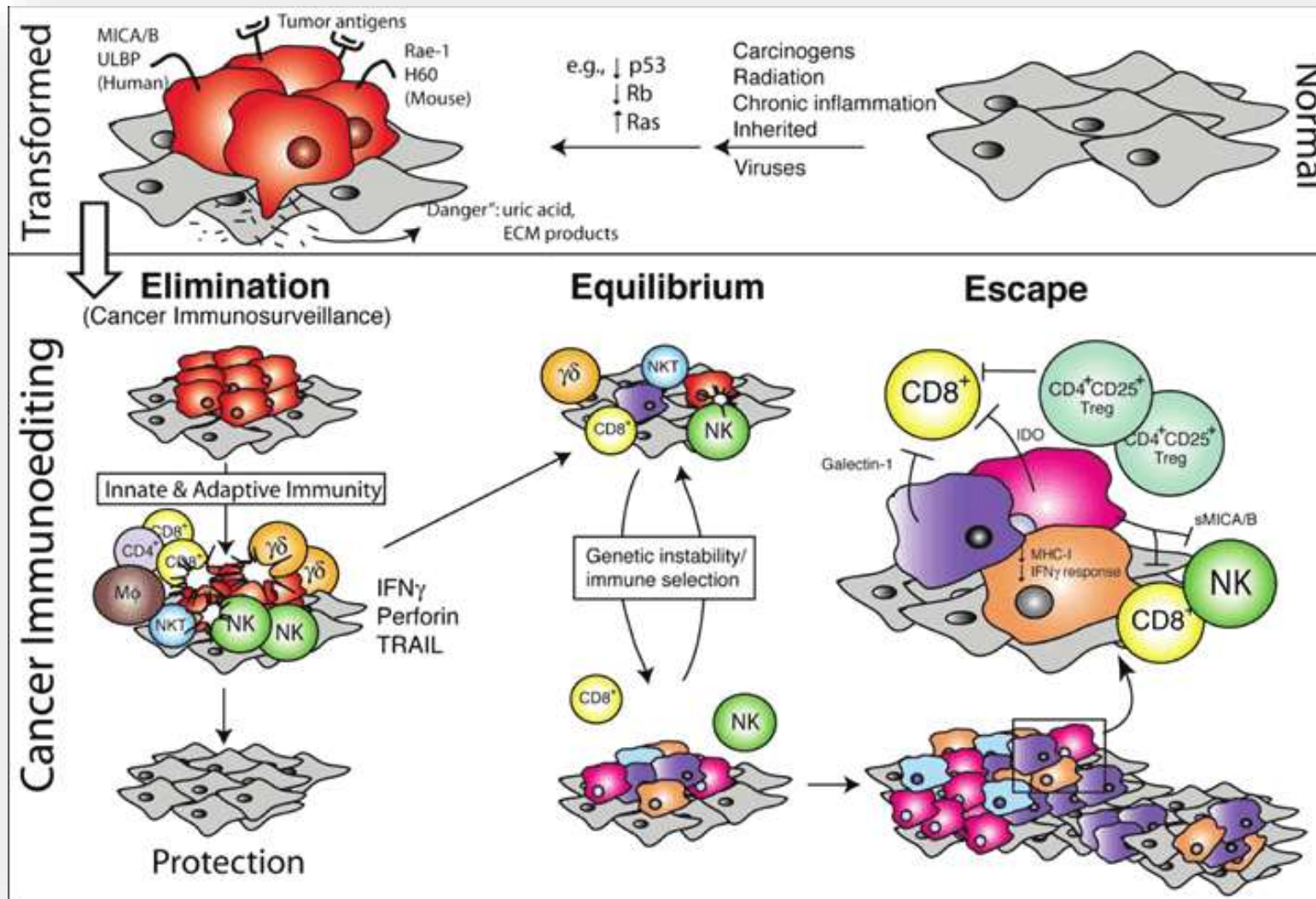


**Figure 1 | The prevalence of somatic mutations across human cancer types.** Every dot represents a sample whereas the red horizontal lines are the median numbers of mutations in the respective cancer types. The vertical axis (log scaled) shows the number of mutations per megabase whereas the different

of somatic mutations. We thank G. Getz and colleagues for the design of this figure<sup>26</sup>. ALL, acute lymphoblastic leukaemia; AML, acute myeloid leukaemia; CLL, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia.



# Immunotherapy in Cancer: Past, Present and Future





# Atezolizumab and Nab-Paclitaxel in metastatic TNBC

Best Overall Response	1L (n = 9)	2L (n = 8)	3L+ (n = 7)	All Patients N = 24
Confirmed ORR (95% CI) <sup>a</sup>	66.7% (29.9, 92.5)	25% (3.2, 65.1)	28.6% (3.7, 71.0)	41.7% (22.1, 63.4)
ORR (95% CI) <sup>b</sup>	88.9% (51.7, 99.7)	75.0% (34.9, 96.8)	42.9% (9.9, 81.6)	70.8% (48.9, 87.4)
CR	11.1%	0	0	4.2%
PR	77.8%	75.0%	42.9%	66.7%
SD	11.1%	25.0%	28.6%	20.8%
PD	0	0	28.6%	8.3%

**Response rates were higher for patients who received atezolizumab/nab-paclitaxel treatment as 1L therapy compared to 2L+**

<sup>a</sup> Confirmed ORR defined as at least 2 consecutive assessments of complete or partial response.  
<sup>b</sup> Including investigator-assessed unconfirmed responses.  
 Efficacy-evaluable patients were dosed by June 1, 2015, and were evaluable for response by RECIST v1.1. Minimum efficacy follow up was ≥ 3 months.

Adams S, et al. SABCS. 2015 [abstract 850477].