

# Diagnosis and Treatment of Gastroesophageal Cancers



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Oncology Service Line

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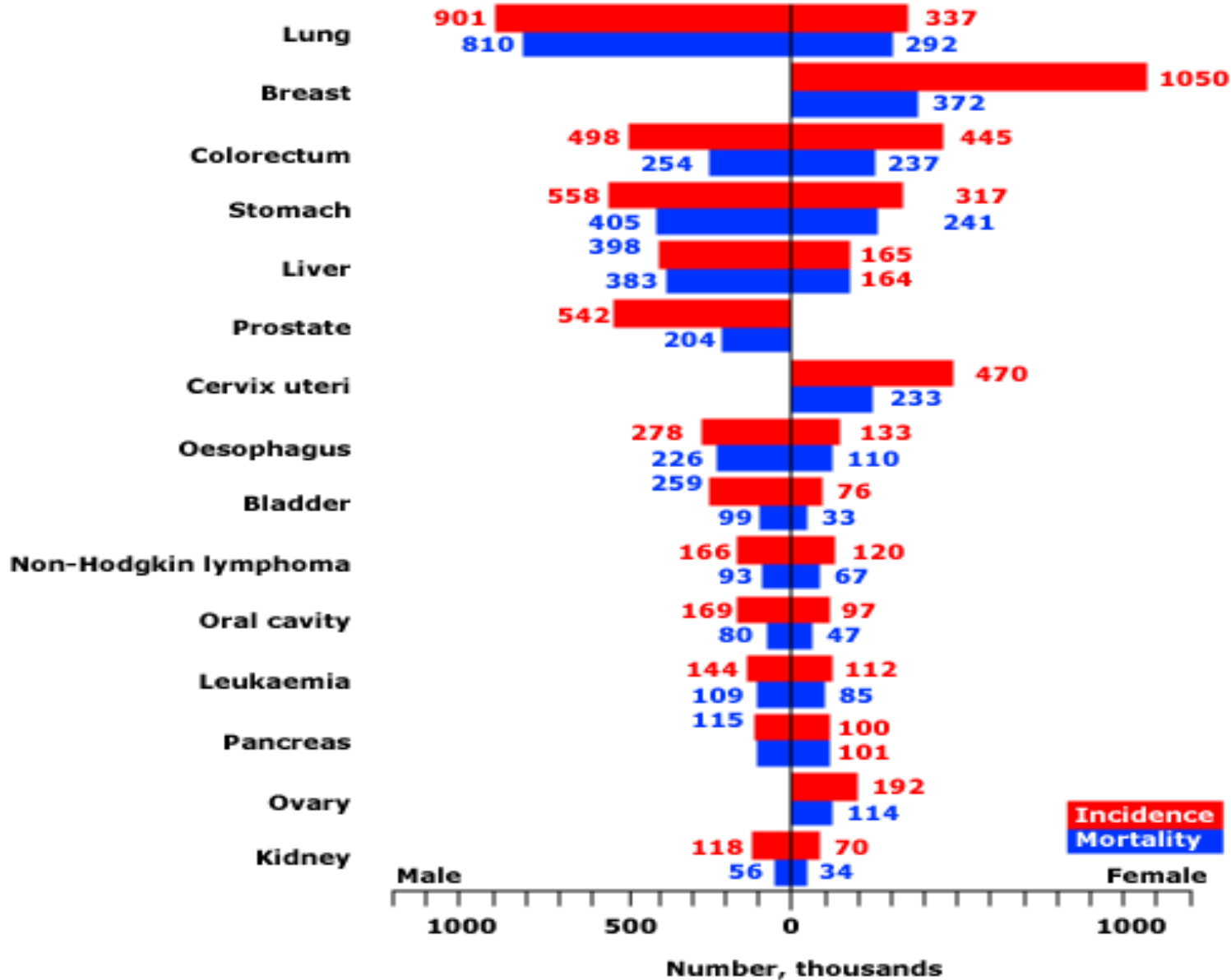
# Outline

- Overview – key facts
- Squamous and Adenocarcinoma of the mid-esophagus
- Distal esophageal and GE Junction adenocarcinoma
- Gastric adenocarcinoma
- GIST
- Questions

# Esophageal and Gastric Carcinoma US Incidence

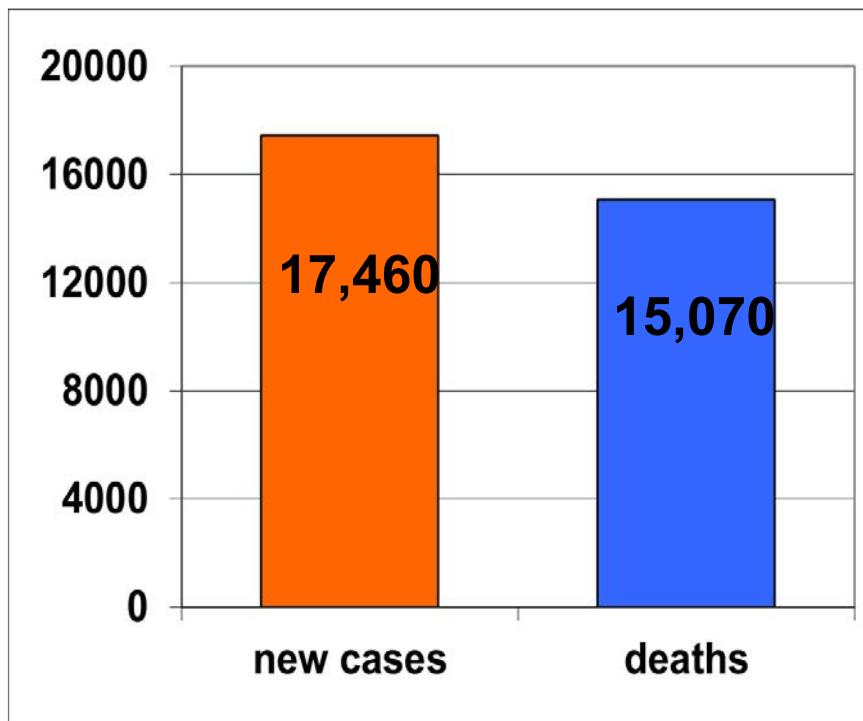
- 38,500 new cases per year
- Decline in Gastric Cancer Incidence
- Increase in Esophageal, GE Junction, cardia adenocarcinoma
- OS improvement, 1975-77, 1984-86, 1999-2006
  - Gastric: 16% → 18% → 27%
  - Esophageal: 5% → 10% → 19%
- Highly virulent diseases with poor outcome

# Worldwide

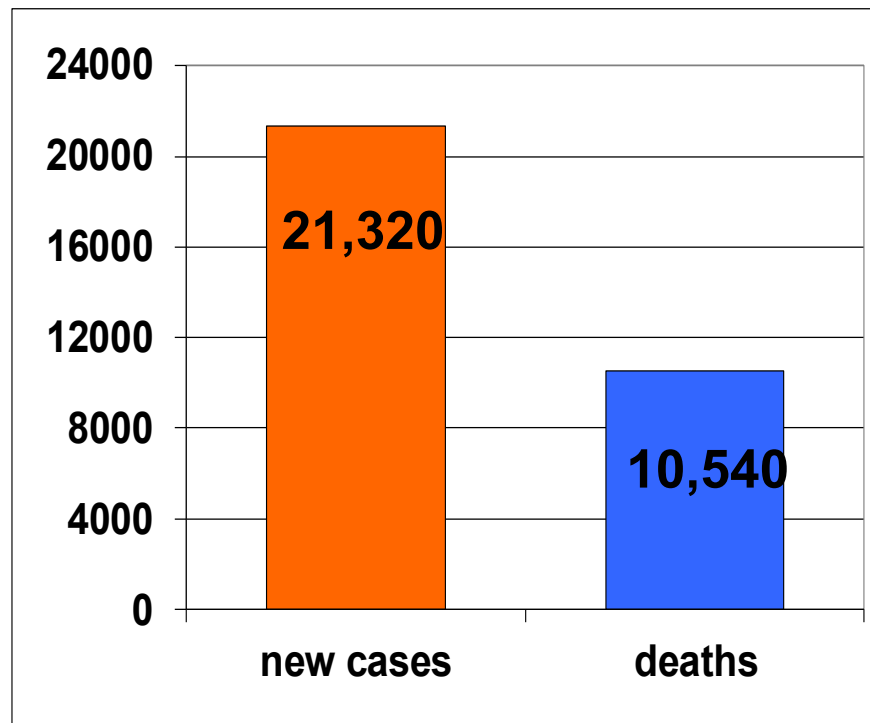


# Esophageal/Gastric Cancer Incidence / Mortality 2012

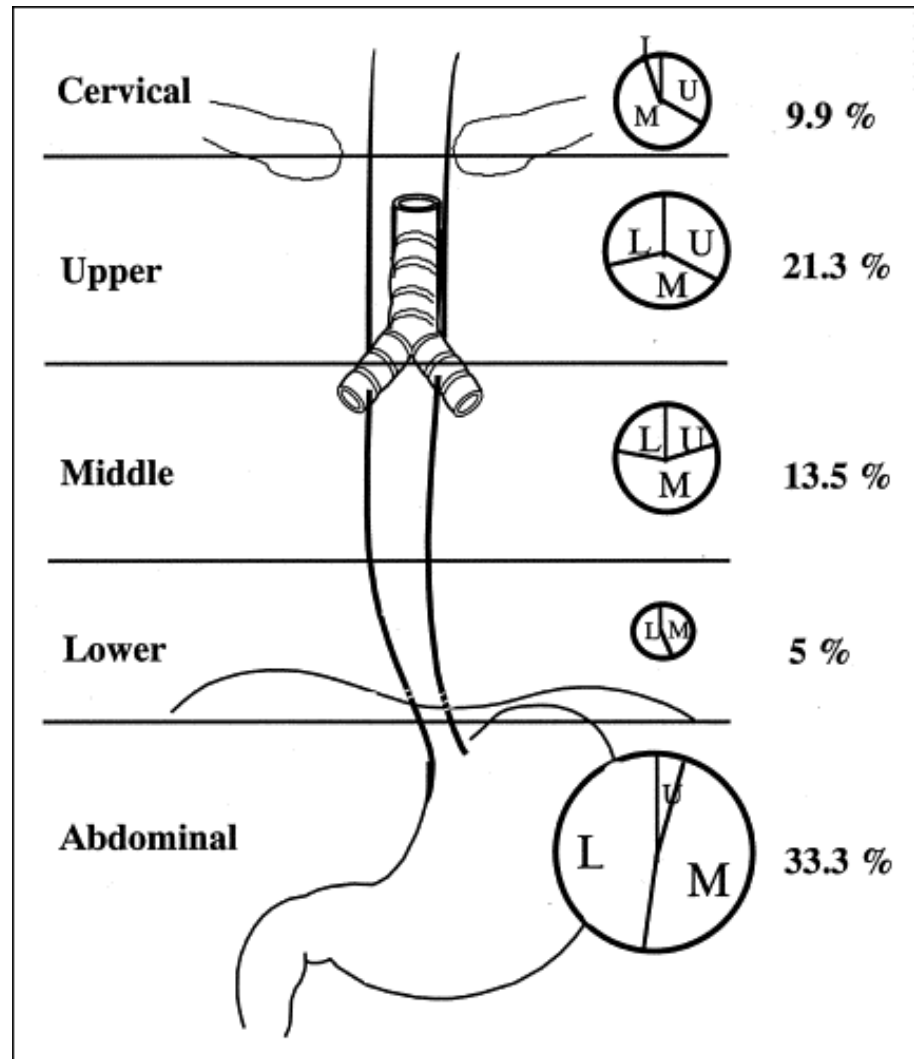
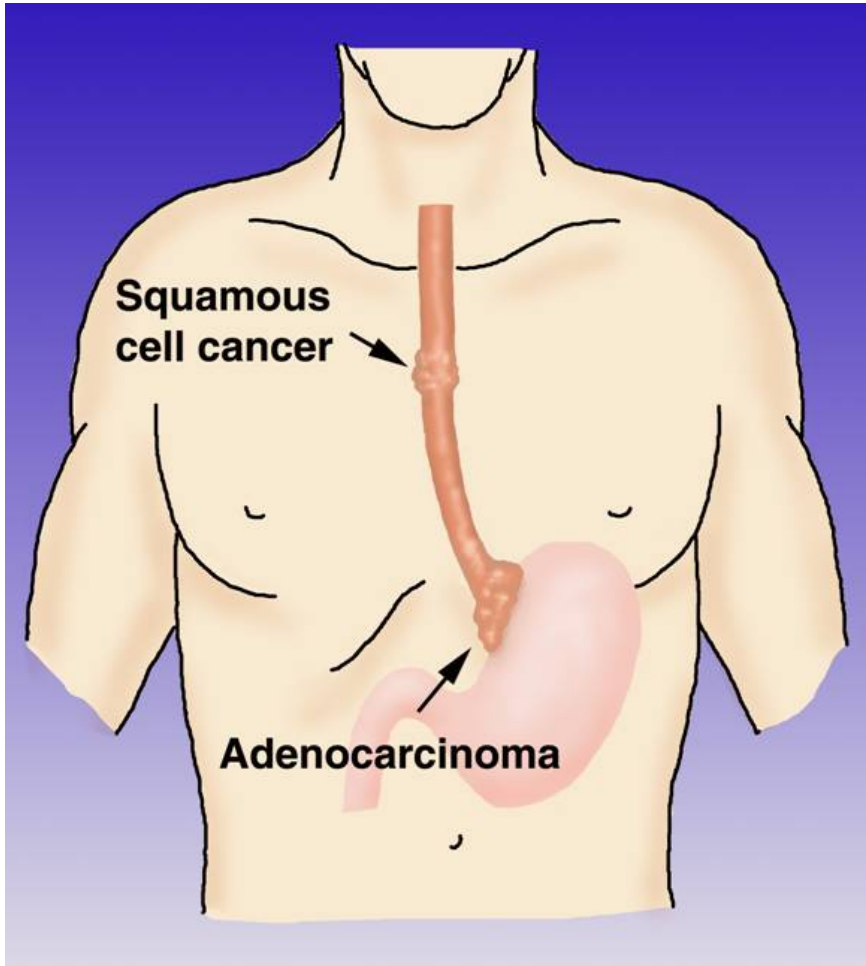
## Esophageal Cancer



## Stomach Cancer



# Esophageal Cancer



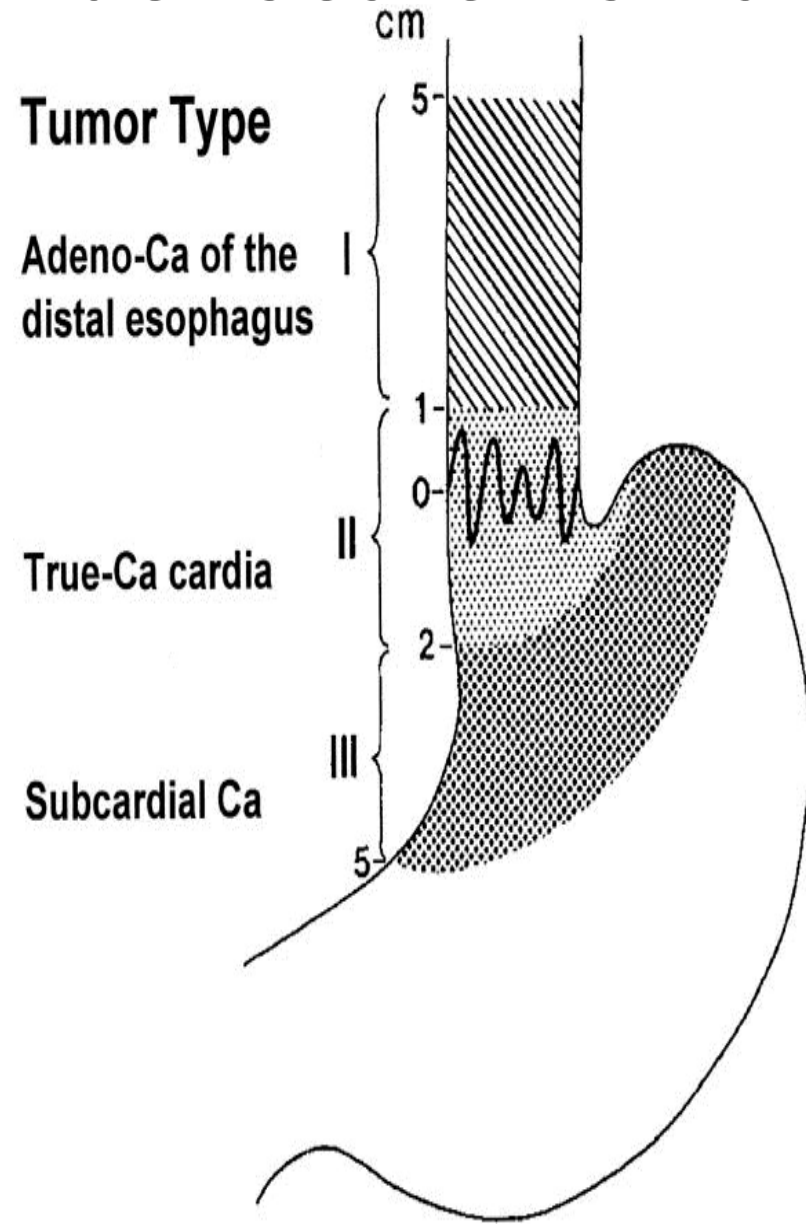
# Confusing?

## Squamous v. Adenocarcinoma Esophageal v. GEJ v. Gastric

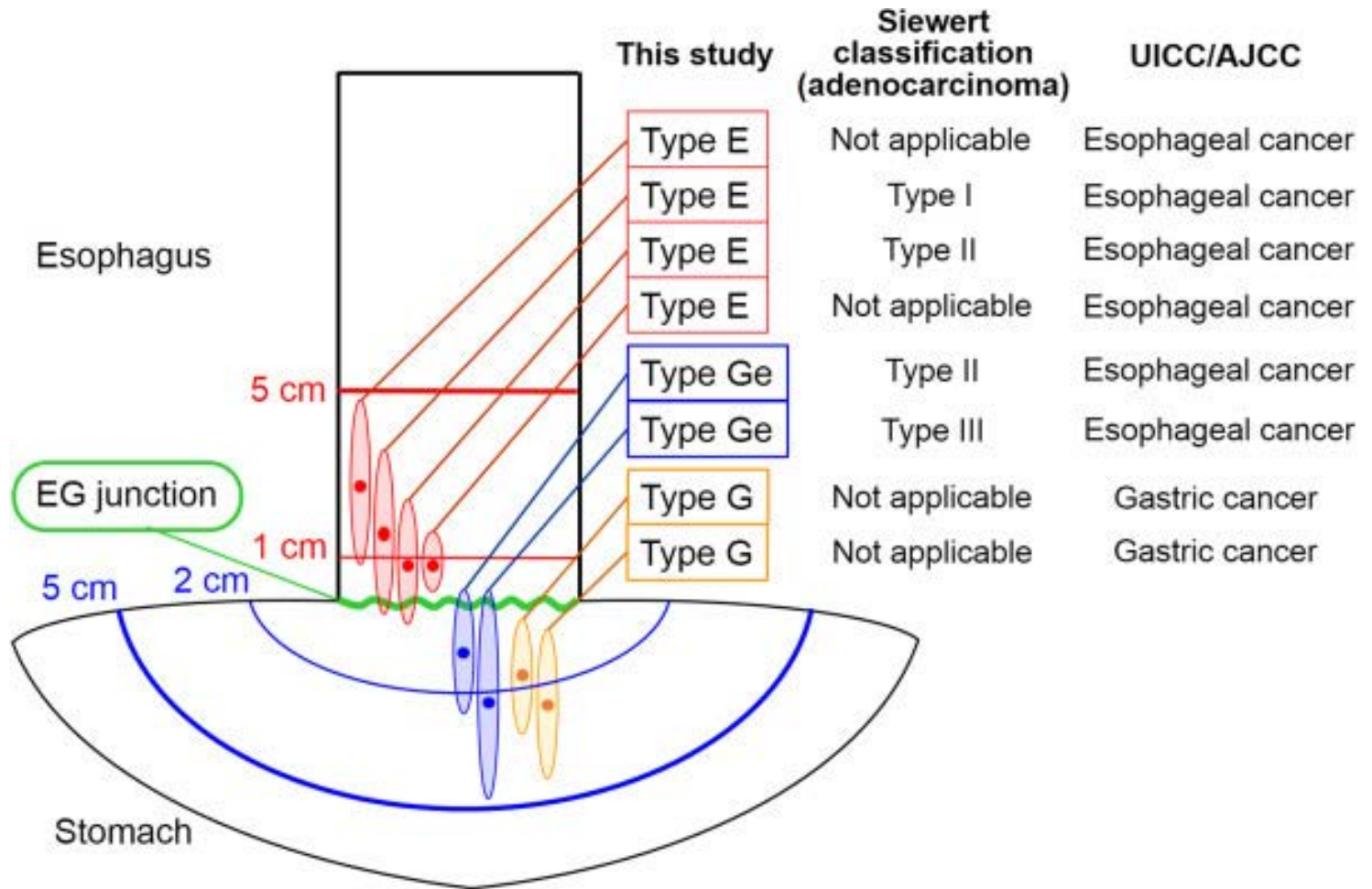
- Evolving incidence and pathology
- Variable incidence across globe
- Surgical technique
- Radiation technique
- Better staging.... EUS

# Siewert Classification for **GE** **Junction** Adenocarcinoma

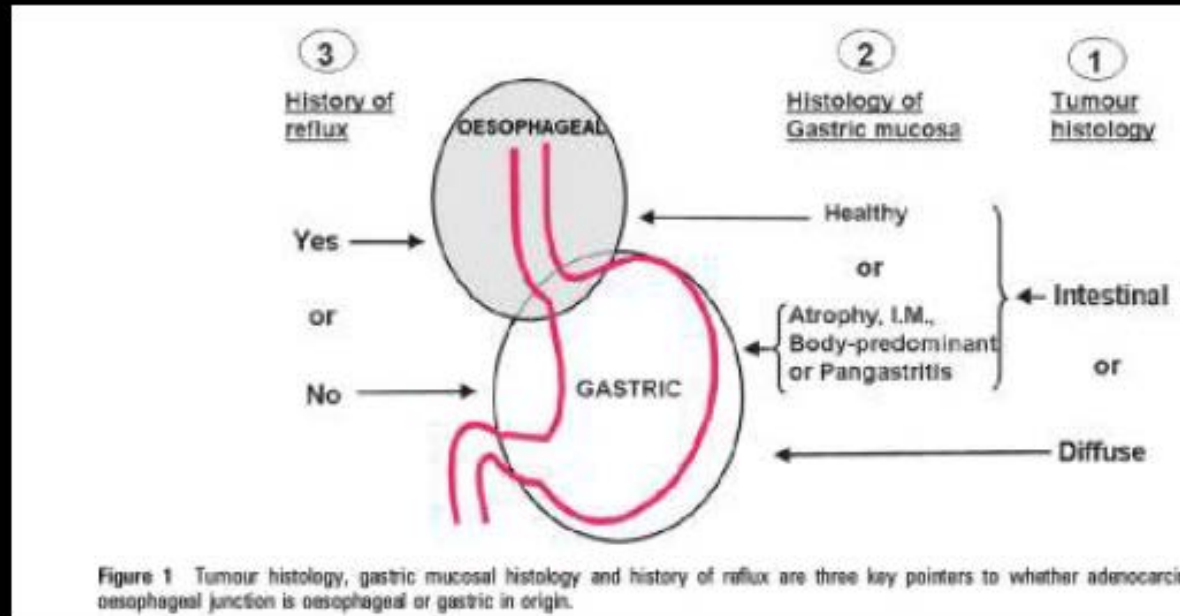
- Siewert I, in esophagus, growing down to GE junction
- Siewert II, “at GE junction”
- Siewert III, in Cardia of stomach, growing up into esophagus
- Siewert III may act more like gastric cancer – and signet cells sometimes seen
- **Siewert I most often associated with Barrett’s esophagus**







# Cardia Cancers: two different etiologies??



Key to differentiating type II is histology of the stomach well clear of the cancer

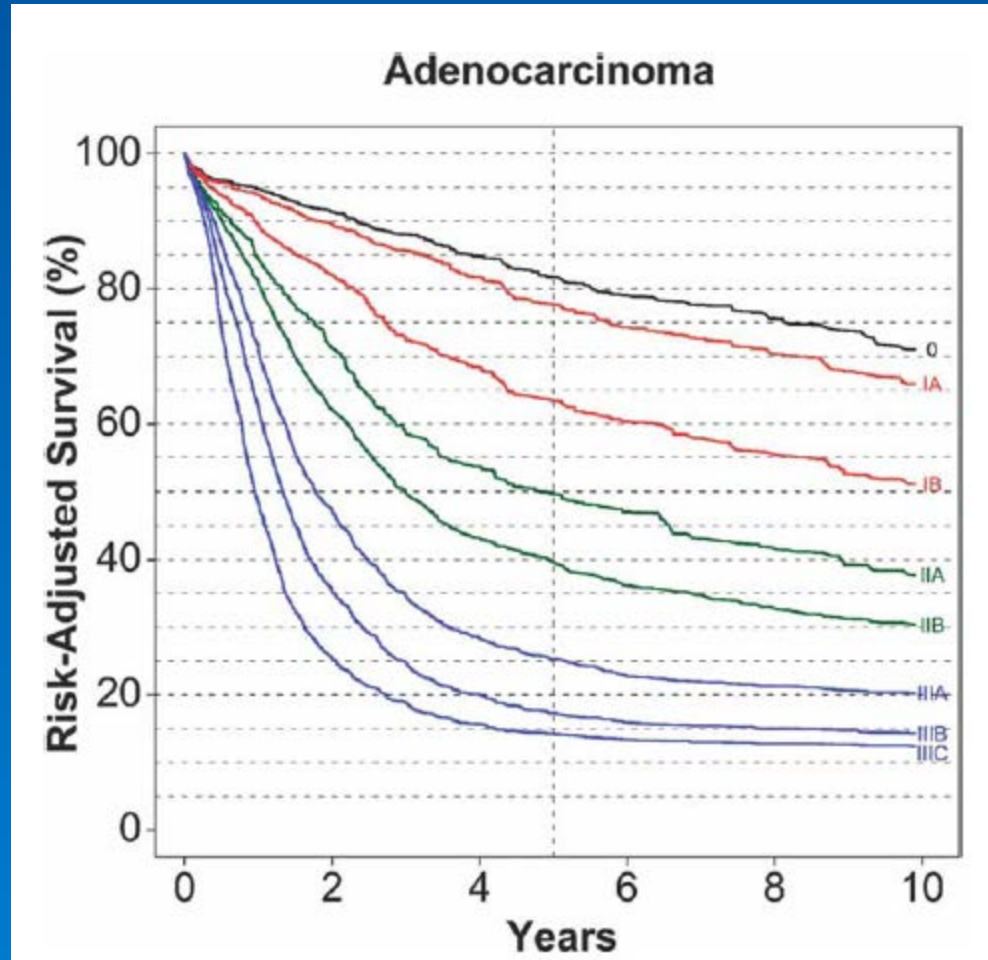
atrophy/H-pylori – gastric

healthy stomach, no H-pylori, reflux Sx - esophagus

## ESOPHAGUS STAGING FORM

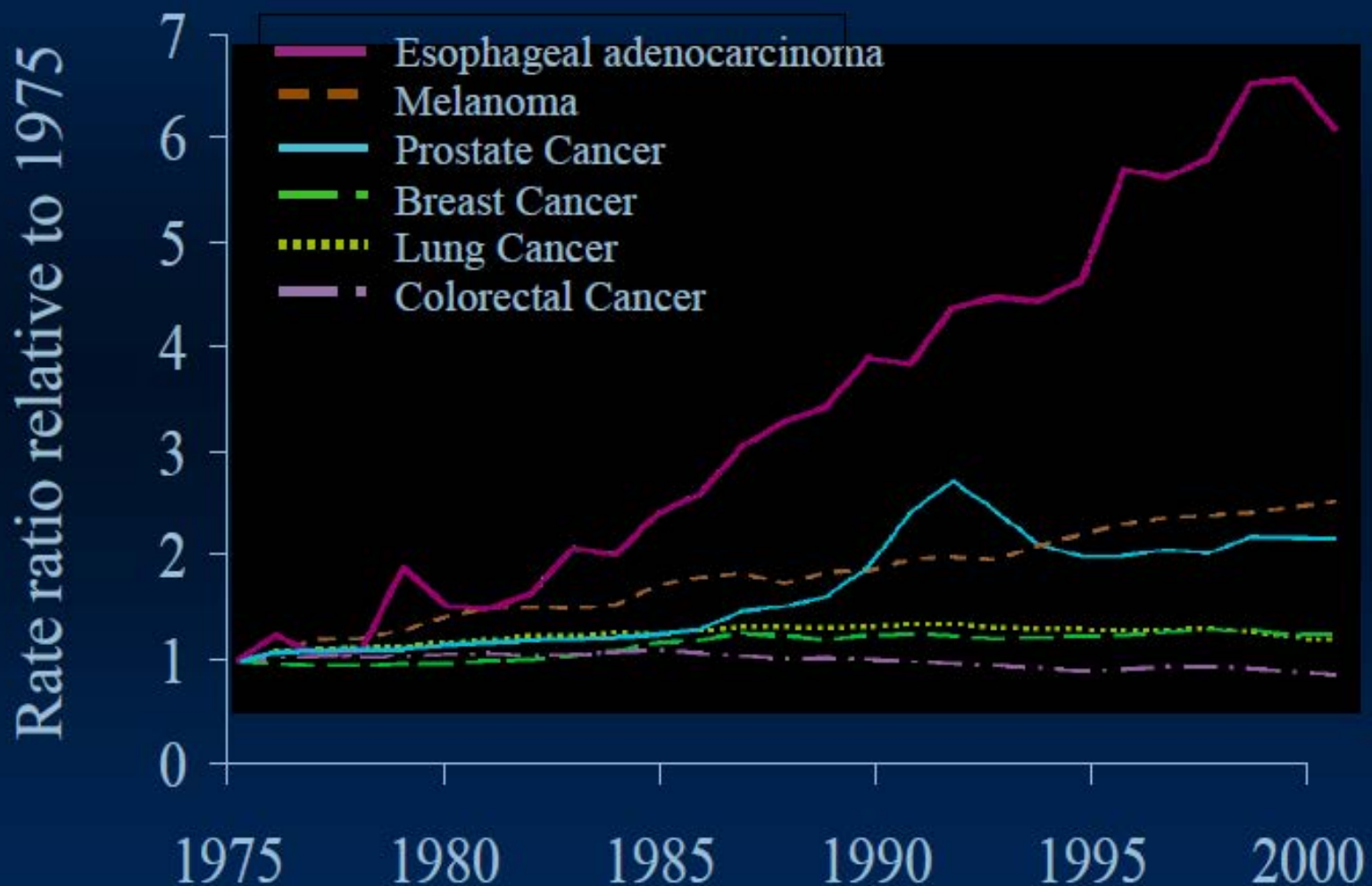
CLINICAL <i>Extent of disease before any treatment</i>	STAGE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS	PATHOLOGIC <i>Extent of disease through completion of definitive surgery</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> y clinical – staging completed after neoadjuvant therapy but before subsequent surgery	<b>TUMOR SIZE:</b> _____  <b>LATERALITY:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> left <input type="checkbox"/> right <input type="checkbox"/> bilateral	<input type="checkbox"/> y pathologic – staging completed after neoadjuvant therapy AND subsequent surgery
<input type="checkbox"/> TX <input type="checkbox"/> T0 <input type="checkbox"/> Tis <input type="checkbox"/> T1 <input type="checkbox"/> T1a <input type="checkbox"/> T1b <input type="checkbox"/> T2 <input type="checkbox"/> T3 <input type="checkbox"/> T4 <input type="checkbox"/> T4a <input type="checkbox"/> T4b	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRIMARY TUMOR (T)</b></p> Primary tumor cannot be assessed No evidence of primary tumor <b>High-grade dysplasia *</b> Tumor invades lamina propria, muscularis mucosae, or submucosa Tumor invades lamina propria or muscularis mucosae Tumor invades submucosa Tumor invades muscularis propria Tumor invades adventitia Tumor invades adjacent structures Resectable tumor invading pleura, pericardium, or diaphragm Unresectable tumor invading other adjacent structures, such as aorta, vertebral body, trachea, etc. <small>*High-grade dysplasia includes all non-invasive neoplastic epithelium that was formerly called carcinoma <i>in situ</i>, a diagnosis that is no longer used for columnar mucosae anywhere in the gastrointestinal tract.</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> TX <input type="checkbox"/> T0 <input type="checkbox"/> Tis <input type="checkbox"/> T1 <input type="checkbox"/> T1a <input type="checkbox"/> T1b <input type="checkbox"/> T2 <input type="checkbox"/> T3 <input type="checkbox"/> T4 <input type="checkbox"/> T4a <input type="checkbox"/> T4b
<input type="checkbox"/> NX <input type="checkbox"/> N0 <input type="checkbox"/> N1 <input type="checkbox"/> N2 <input type="checkbox"/> N3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>REGIONAL LYMPH NODES (N)</b></p> Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed No regional lymph node metastasis Regional lymph node metastases involving 1 to 2 nodes Regional lymph node metastases involving 3 to 6 nodes Regional lymph node metastases involving 7 or more nodes	<input type="checkbox"/> NX <input type="checkbox"/> N0 <input type="checkbox"/> N1 <input type="checkbox"/> N2 <input type="checkbox"/> N3
<input type="checkbox"/> M0 <input type="checkbox"/> M1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DISTANT METASTASIS (M)</b></p> No distant metastasis (no pathologic M0; use clinical M to complete stage group) Distant metastasis	<input type="checkbox"/> M1

# New AJCC Staging: Survival in over 4600 pts with esophageal and GEJ cancer





# Relative Change in Incidence of Esophageal Adenocarcinoma and Other Malignancies



	Squamous Cell Carcinoma	Adenocarcinoma
Epidemiology	Declining	Rising and fast!
	“Esophageal Cancer Belt”	5W:1B    8M:1F
Risk Factors	Smoking & Alcohol	GERD
	N-nitroso compounds	Smoking
	Betel nut	Obesity
	Achalasia / caustic stricture	H Pylori protective
	Prior Gastrectomy	↑acid exposure / ↓ LES
	Atrophic gastritis	Cholecystectomy
	HPV	NSAID is protective
	Tylosis	
	Bisphosphates	
	SCC of the URTI	

# Risk Factors of Esophageal Adenocarcinoma

- GERD → Barrett's metaplasia → Esophageal AdenoCa
- Smoking (2.08 X)
- Obesity (OR 2.78 if BMI > 30kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- High serum EGF
- **H. Pylori infection maybe beneficial! (OR 0.52)**
- Increased esophageal acid exposure (Zollinger Ellison syndrome)
- Use of drugs that lower ES pressure: Nitroglycerin, anticholinergics, beta adrenergic agonists, aminophylline, benzodiazepines
- Cholecystectomy... increase in reflux
- Nitroso compounds
- **Possible protective effective of cereal fibers & NSAID**

# Esophageal Cancer – Clinical Features

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- **Dysphagia (Solid → Liquid)**
- **Weight loss**
- **Anemia**
- **Hoarseness**
- **Aspiration pneumonia**
- **Odynophagia**
- **Tracheobronchial fistulas (mainly SCC)**



MID ESOPHAGEAL CA FOR PRE-OP STAGING  
33\_CM T3 , N1 MASS

09:55:42

FREQ: 12MHz  
RNG: 4cm  
GAIN: 75  
CONT: 1  
REC: 1

DISTANCE  
+ : 00.8cm  
X : 00.9cm

Esophagus, GEJ Preop therapy:  
T2-3 or N+  
T1A: EMR  
T1B: Primary resection

DIR: NOR

EAS

# Gastric Ca Intestinal type

- **Precursor lesions:**
  - Progression from **chronic gastritis** to **chronic atrophic gastritis**, to **intestinal metaplasia**, **dysplasia**, and eventually to adenocarcinoma
- **Usually presents as ulcerated masses**
- **Cardia cancers are biologically more aggressive with a worse prognosis, stage for stage, than distal cancers.**
- **Gene expression studies: Respond better to 5FU and oxaliplatin?**

# Gastric Ca Diffuse type

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- There is no clearly defined precancerous lesion.
- Defective intercellular adhesion molecules therefore, there is an inability for cells to form glands or tubules
  - Loss of E-Cadherin
- Highly metastatic and characterized by rapid disease progression and poor prognosis.
- **Linitis plastica** = rigid thickened stomach
- Mutations in E-cadherin gene (CDH1)
- Gene expression studies: Respond better to Cisplatin?

# Risk Factors – Gastric Ca

- **Diet**
  - High salt intake and salt-preserved food
  - Nitroso Compounds (Nitrates → Nitrites)
  - Fruits & vegetables are protective
- **Obesity (OR 1.22-1.55 for BMI >25)**
- **Smoking (OR 2 -2.2)**
- **H. Pylori (mainly intestinal type)**
  - Worse with high salt intake
  - Protective effect of NSAID
- **EBV (2-16% of all gastric cancers)**
- **Alcohol**
- **Socioeconomic status (Low = Low, High = High)**
- **Gastric surgery (RR 1.5-3)**
- **Reproductive hormones – Protective effective for women?**

# Host Risk Factors

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- **Blood Group (“A” have 20% higher incidence)**
- **Familial Predisposition**
  - H. Pylori infection
  - Chronic atrophic gastritis
  - Syndromes: HNPCC, FAP, Peutz Jegher
  - Hereditary diffuse gastric cancer (CDH1 mutations)
- **Genetic polymorphisms: IL-1B, Interferon gamma receptor**
- **Gastric Polyps**
- **Hypertrophic gastropathy and immunodeficiency syndromes**
- **Gastric ulcer – common risk factor as Ca?**
- **Pernicious Anemia**

MID ESOPHAGEAL CA FOR PRE-OP STAGING  
33\_CM T3 , N1 MASS

09:55:42

FRQ: 12MHz  
RNG: 4cm  
GAIN: 75  
CONT: 1  
AEC: 1

DISTANCE  
+ : 00.8cm  
X : 00.9cm

Gastric Cancer Preop therapy:  
T2-3 or N+  
T1A: EMR  
T1B, T2: Primary resection

DIR: NOR

# Laparoscopy in Gastric Cancer

- **CT and PET scan may miss small volume liver or peritoneal disease**
- **For gastric cancer, laparoscopy detects peritoneal or liver disease in 20-30% of patients**
  - Not mandated for GEJ cancers: < 5% positive lap findings
- **A positive cytology = Stage IV disease**
  - Patients do not benefit from immediate gastrectomy
  - They should be treated with palliative chemotherapy
  - ? Reassess response and consider selective surgery
    - No long term survivors with + cytology



## WORKUP

- H&P
- Upper GI endoscopy and biopsy<sup>a</sup>
- Chest/abdominal CT with oral and IV contrast
- Pelvic CT as clinically indicated
- PET-CT evaluation if no evidence of M1 disease<sup>b</sup>
- CBC and chemistry profile
- Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) if no evidence of M1 disease (preferred).
- Endoscopic mucosal resection (EMR) may contribute to accurate staging of early stage cancers<sup>c</sup>
- Nutritional assessment and counseling
- Biopsy of metastatic disease as clinically indicated
- HER2-neu testing if metastatic adenocarcinoma is documented/suspected<sup>d</sup>
- Smoking cessation advice, counseling and pharmacotherapy<sup>e</sup>

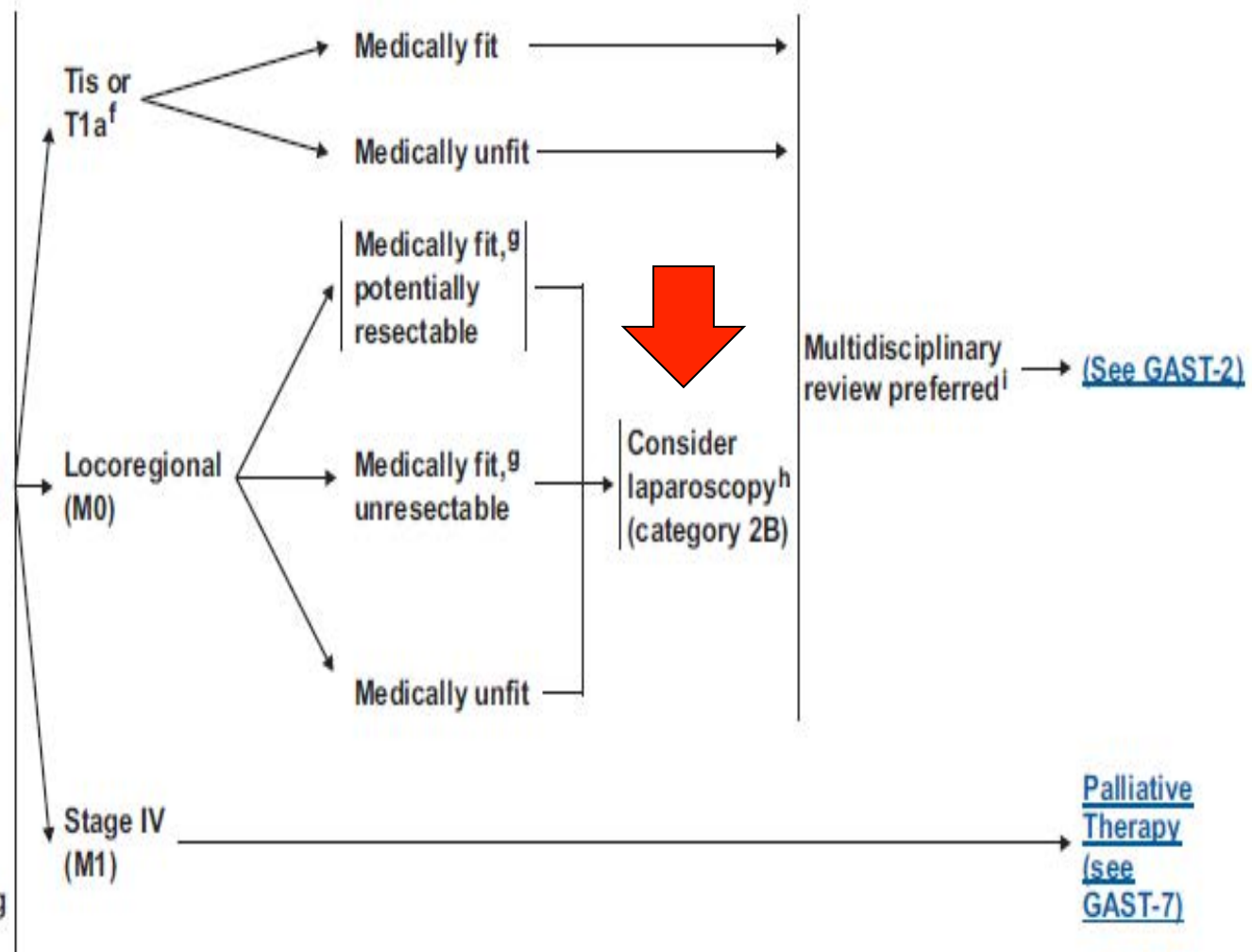
CLINICAL  
STAGETis or  
T1a<sup>f</sup>Locoregional  
(M0)Stage IV  
(M1)

Medically fit

Medically unfit

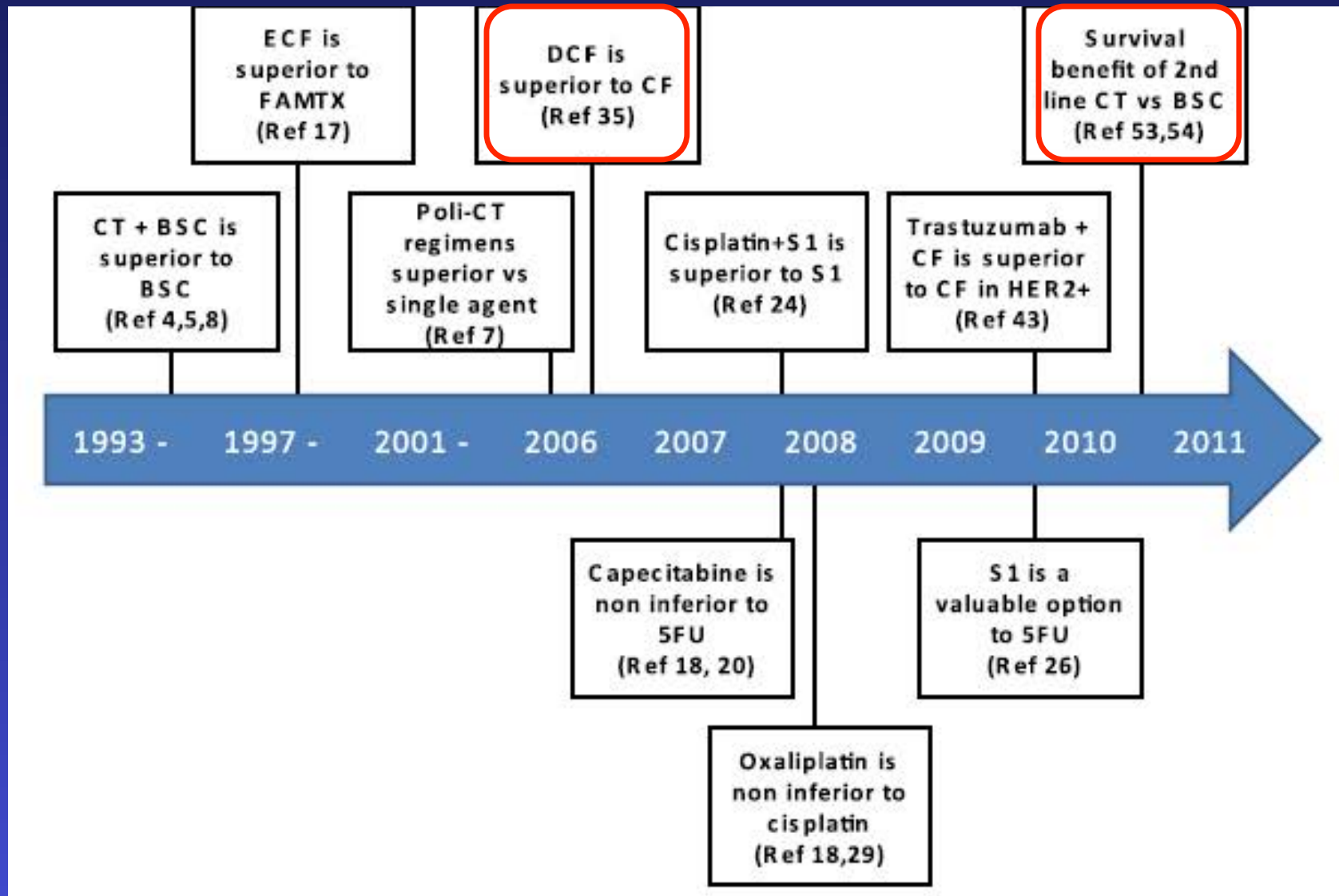
Medically fit,<sup>g</sup>  
potentially  
resectableMedically fit,<sup>g</sup>  
unresectable

Medically unfit

ADDITIONAL  
EVALUATIONConsider  
laparoscopy<sup>h</sup>  
(category 2B)Multidisciplinary  
review preferred<sup>i</sup>[Palliative  
Therapy  
\(see  
GAST-7\)](#)



# Key Discoveries in Gastric Cancer



# *H. pylori*

## Esophageal vs. Gastric Cancer

Serologic test results <sup>†</sup>	Case subjects, N (%)	Control subjects, N (%)	Unadjusted OR (95% CI)	Adjusted OR (95% CI) <sup>‡</sup>
<b><i>Noncardia gastric cancer</i></b>				
<i>H. pylori</i> negative	12 (7)	43 (25)	1.00 (referent)	1.00 (referent)
<i>H. pylori</i> positive				
CagA-negative strains	51 (29)	44 (25)	5.05 (2.11 to 12.07)	6.55 (2.31 to 18.53)
CagA-positive strains	110 (64)	86 (50)	5.64 (2.47 to 12.88)	8.93 (3.27 to 24.40)
<b><i>Gastric cardia cancer</i></b>				
<i>H. pylori</i> negative	25 (41)	15 (25)	1.00 (referent)	1.00 (referent)
<i>H. pylori</i> positive				
CagA-negative strains	11 (18)	24 (39)	0.34 (0.14 to 0.85)	0.21 (0.06 to 0.81)
CaA-positive strains	25 (41)	22 (36)	0.81 (0.35 to 1.85)	0.43 (0.12 to 1.52)

Kamangar F et al. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2006;

# Case Presentation

- 50 year old man presents with epigastric discomfort, early satiety and 5kg weight loss
- Endoscopy demonstrates ulcerated lesion at pylorus
- Biopsy consistent with moderately differentiated adenocarcinoma. Her-2 negative
- EUS confirms T3N1 lesion
- Past medical history hypertension, hypercholesterolemia
- ECOG PS=1



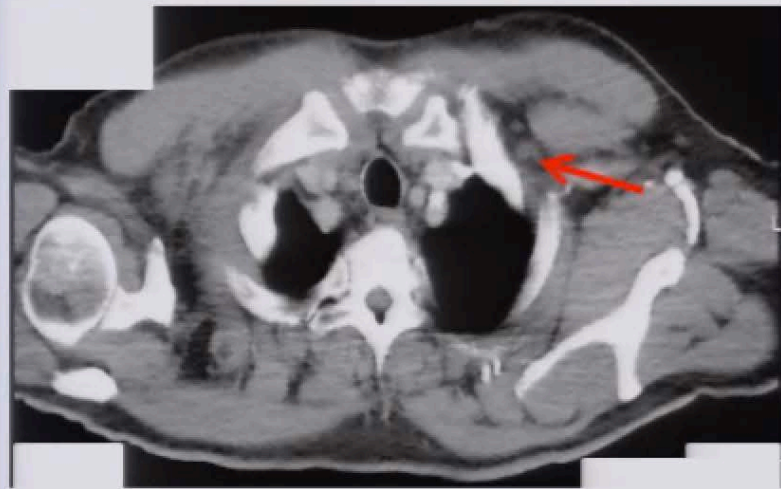
# Case presentation – gastric cancer

Thickening of gastric antrum

Peri-gastric lymph node 17mm



Enlarged lymph node in left supraclavicular fossa



# What would you do next?

1. Assume the supraclavicular lymph node represents advanced disease and proceed with palliative treatment
2. Assume the supraclavicular lymph node does not represent advanced disease and proceed with radical treatment
3. Biopsy the left supraclavicular lymph node
4. PET-CT



# PET/CT for Gastric Cancer Staging

J Korean Surg Soc. 2011 Aug;81(2):104-10. doi: 10.4174/jkss.2011.81.2.104. Epub 2011 Aug 3.

## **F18-fluorodeoxyglucose-positron emission tomography and computed tomography is not accurate in preoperative staging of gastric cancer.**

Ha TK, Choi YY, Song SY, Kwon SJ.

Department of Surgery, Hanyang University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea.

### **Abstract**

**PURPOSE:** To investigate the clinical benefits of F18-fluorodeoxyglucose-positron emission tomography and computed tomography ((18)F-FDG-PET/CT) over multi-detector row CT (MDCT) in preoperative staging of gastric cancer.

**METHODS:** FDG-PET/CT and MDCT were performed on 78 patients with gastric cancer pathologically diagnosed by endoscopy. The accuracy of radiologic staging retrospectively was compared to pathologic result after curative resection.

**RESULTS:** Primary tumors were detected in 51 (65.4%) patients with (18)F-FDG-PET/CT, and 47 (60.3%) patients with MDCT. Regarding detection of lymph node metastasis, the sensitivity of FDG-PET/CT was 51.5% with an accuracy of 71.8%, whereas those of MDCT were 69.7% and 69.2%, respectively. The sensitivity of (18)F-FDG-PET/CT for a primary tumor with signet ring cell carcinoma was lower than that of (18)F-FDG-PET/CT for a primary tumor with non-signet ring cell carcinoma (35.3% vs. 73.8%,  $P < 0.01$ ).

**CONCLUSION:** Due to its low sensitivity, (18)F-FDG-PET/CT alone shows no definite clinical benefit for prediction of lymph node metastasis in preoperative staging of gastric cancer.

PMID: 22066108 [PubMed] PMCID: PMC3204564 [Free PMC Article](#)



# Value of PET Esophageal vs. Gastric Cancer

	<b>Primary (sensitivity)</b>	<b>Metastases (undetected)</b>
<b>Esophageal</b>	<b>&gt; 95%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Gastric</b>	<b>~ 65%</b>	<b>10%</b>

Heeren PA et al. J Nucl Med. 2004

Smyth E et al. Cancer 2012

# PET SCAN: Staging (15% occult mets), and Determine Response to Preop Chemo



**SUV = 10.6**

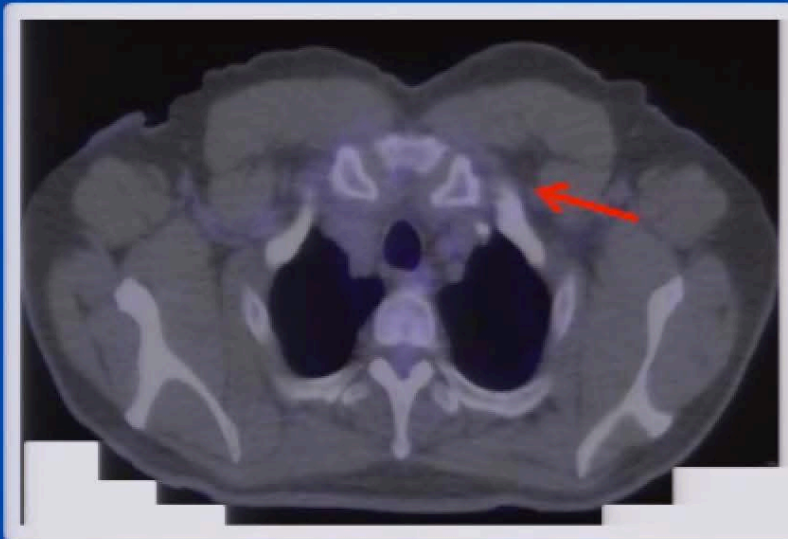
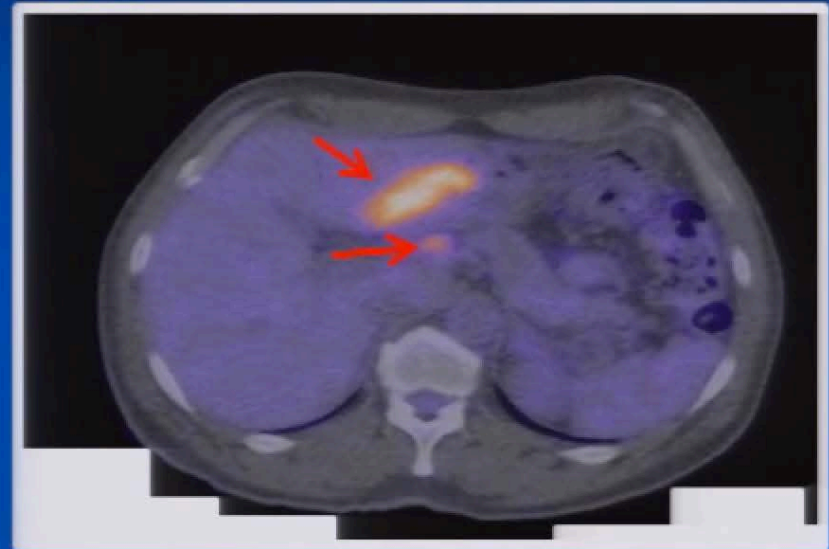


**SUV = 2.2**



# Case presentation – gastric cancer

FGD avid lesions at gastric antrum and local lymph nodes



No increased uptake in left supraclavicular fossa lymph node



# Case Study

- Biopsy of the lymph node was negative
- Laproscopic evaluation did not reveal and peritoneal metastases.



# What would you do next?

1. Peri-operative chemotherapy
2. Pre-operative chemoradiotherapy
3. Proceed to surgery



# Case Study

- Following a MDT discussion, a decision is made to offer the patient peri-operative chemotherapy.



# Which peri-operative chemotherapy would you choose?

1. ECX
2. EOX
3. Cisplatin / 5-FU
4. FOLFOX
5. Something else

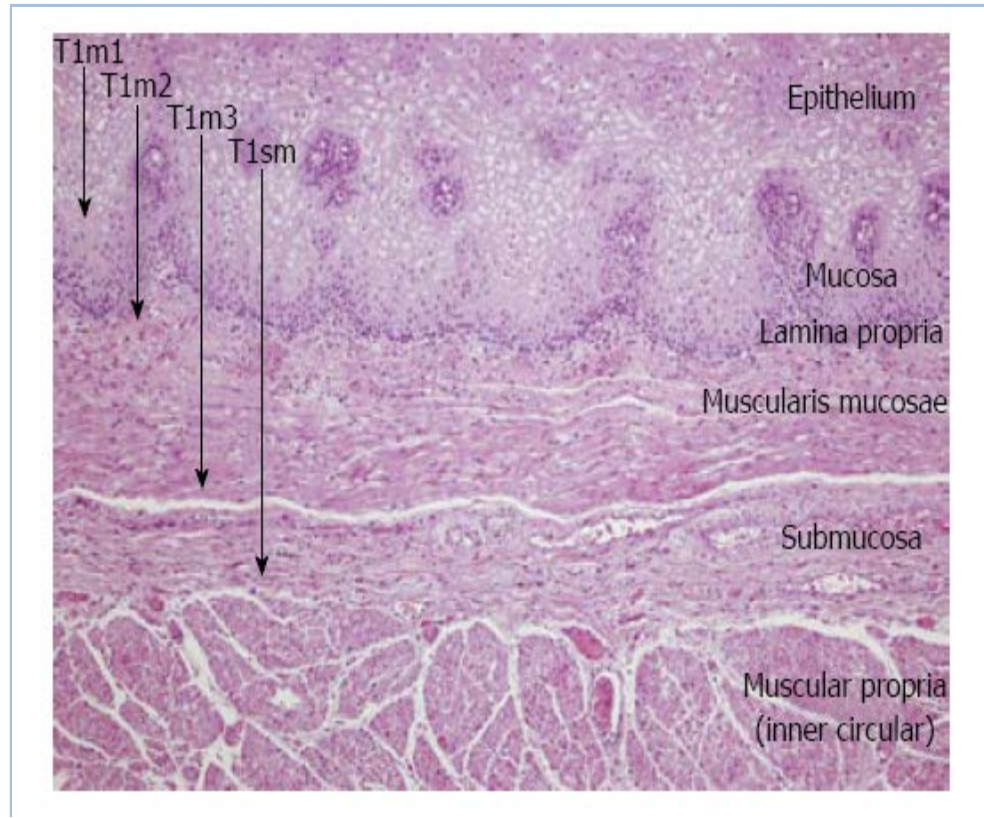


## Case 2 – Early Esophageal

- 52 yo M colleague with long-standing GERD your tells you he was recently dx' ed with Barrett' s esophagus with High Grade Dysplasia. EUS confirmed no invasion and no suspicious lymph nodes.
- He met with a surgeon who told him he will require distal esophagectomy.
- What would you recommend?

# Esophageal Malignancy

## Depth of Invasion



# Esophageal Malignancy Histology Dictating Therapy

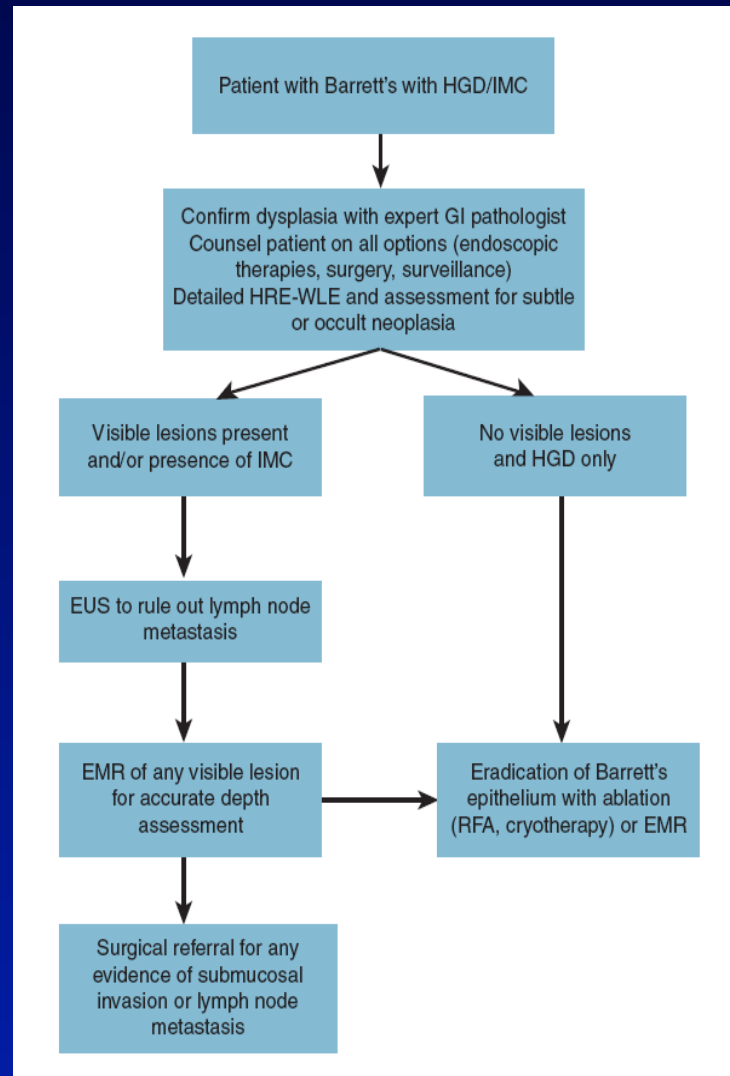
	Layer or structure	Associated histological diagnosis	Recommended clinical therapy
	Epithelium	High-grade dysplasia carcinoma in situ	Ablation or EMR
Basement membrane			
	Lamina propria	Intramucosal carcinoma (T1a)	EMR
Muscularis mucosa			
	Submucosa	Submucosal carcinoma (T1b)	Esophagectomy or systemic therapy
	Lymph nodes	Lymph node metastasis	Esophagectomy or systemic therapy



# Endoscopic Mucosal Resection Barrett's Esophagus

Author	<i>n</i>	Complete regression of intestinal metaplasia (%)	Complete regression of dysplasia/esophageal cancer (%)	Sessions (%)	Recurrence (%)	Progression (%)	Follow-up (mo)
Seewald <i>et al</i> <sup>[65]</sup> , 2003	12	100	100	2.5	0	0	9
Giovannini <i>et al</i> <sup>[66]</sup> , 2004	21	75	86	2	14	0	18
Peters <i>et al</i> <sup>[67]</sup> , 2006	39	89	95	3	0	0	11
Larghi <i>et al</i> <sup>[68]</sup> , 2007	24	87	100	1.8	4	0	28
Lopes <i>et al</i> <sup>[69]</sup> , 2007	41	76	90	1.5	12	0	31.6
Chennat <i>et al</i> <sup>[60]</sup> , 2009	49	97	100	2.1	0	0	17
Moss <i>et al</i> <sup>[54]</sup> , 2010	35	97	97	2	0	0	31
Pouw <i>et al</i> <sup>[63]</sup> , 2010	169	97.6	85.2	2	1.8	0.6	27

# “Early” Esophageal Cancer Treatment Algorithm

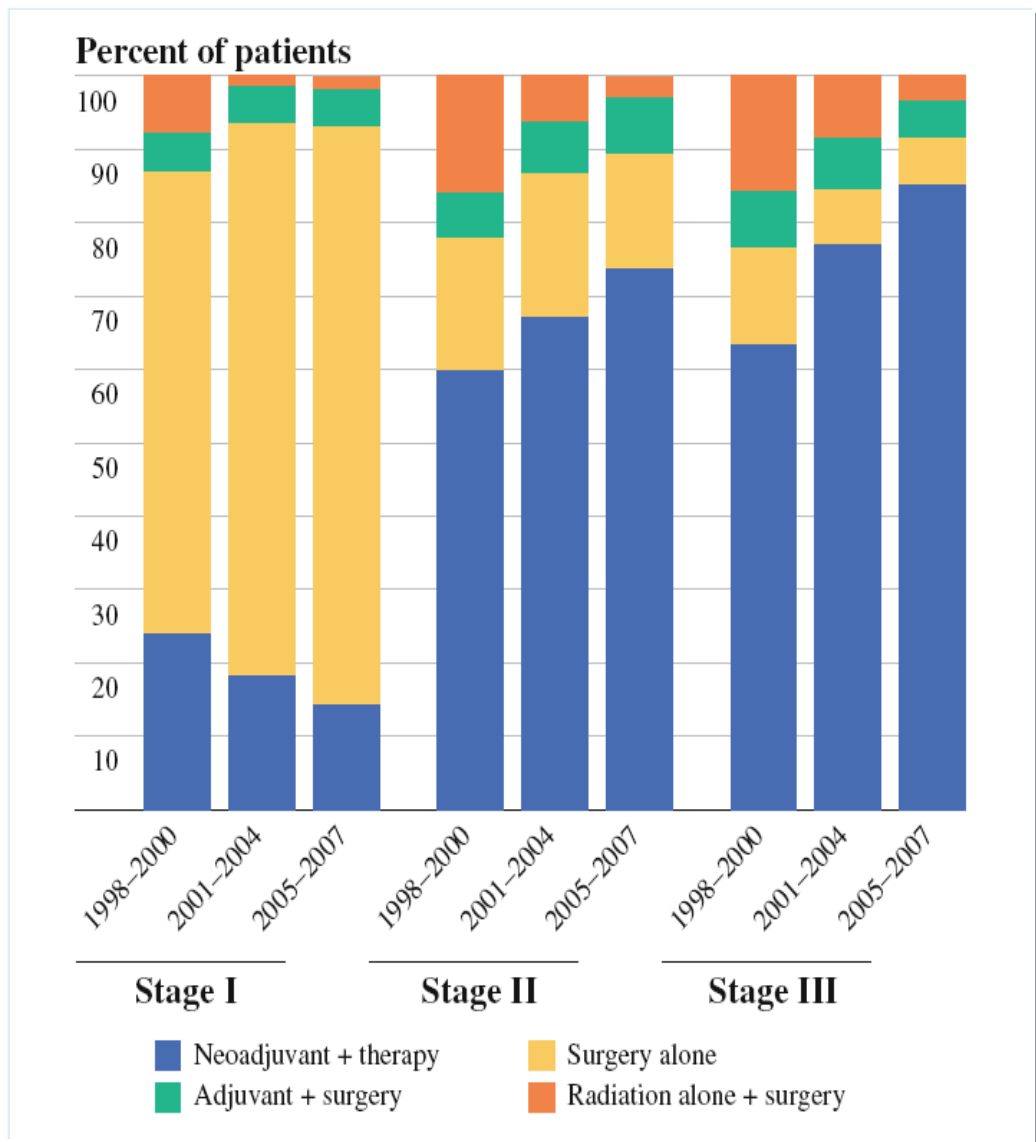


# Key Trials

- CROSS
- McDonald
- MAGIC
- REAL
- ToGA

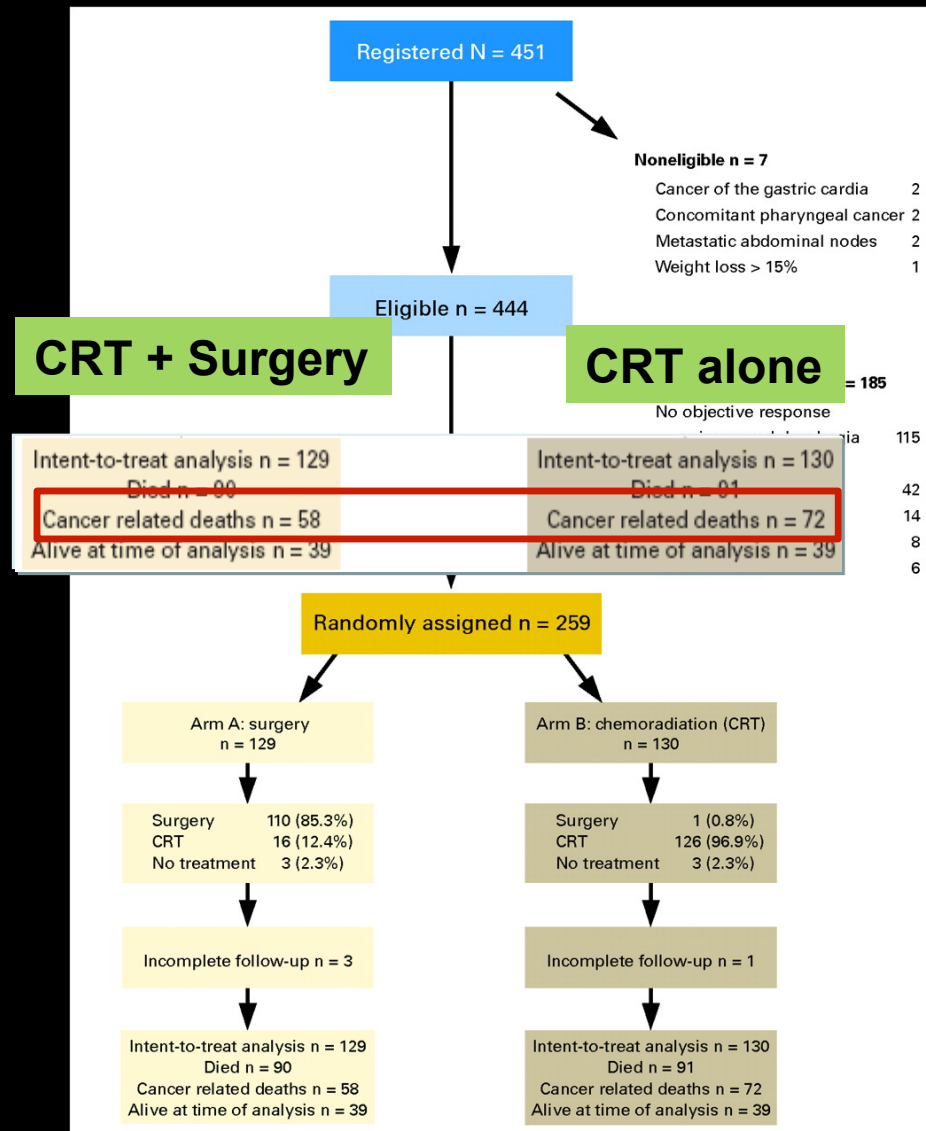
# Esophageal Cancer - Neoadjuvant Therapy Trends in Utilization

**Neoadjuvant  
 +  
 surgery**



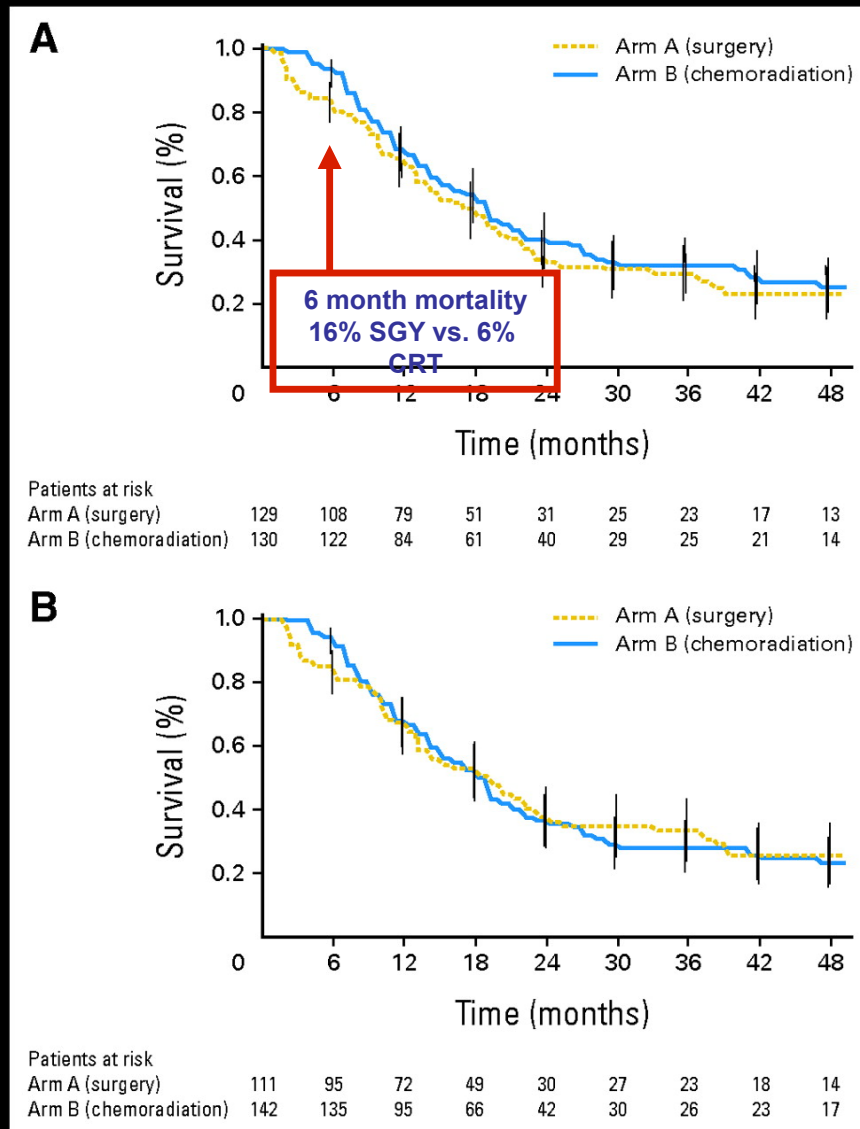
# Esophageal Cancer – Squamous Cell CA

## Role of Surgery



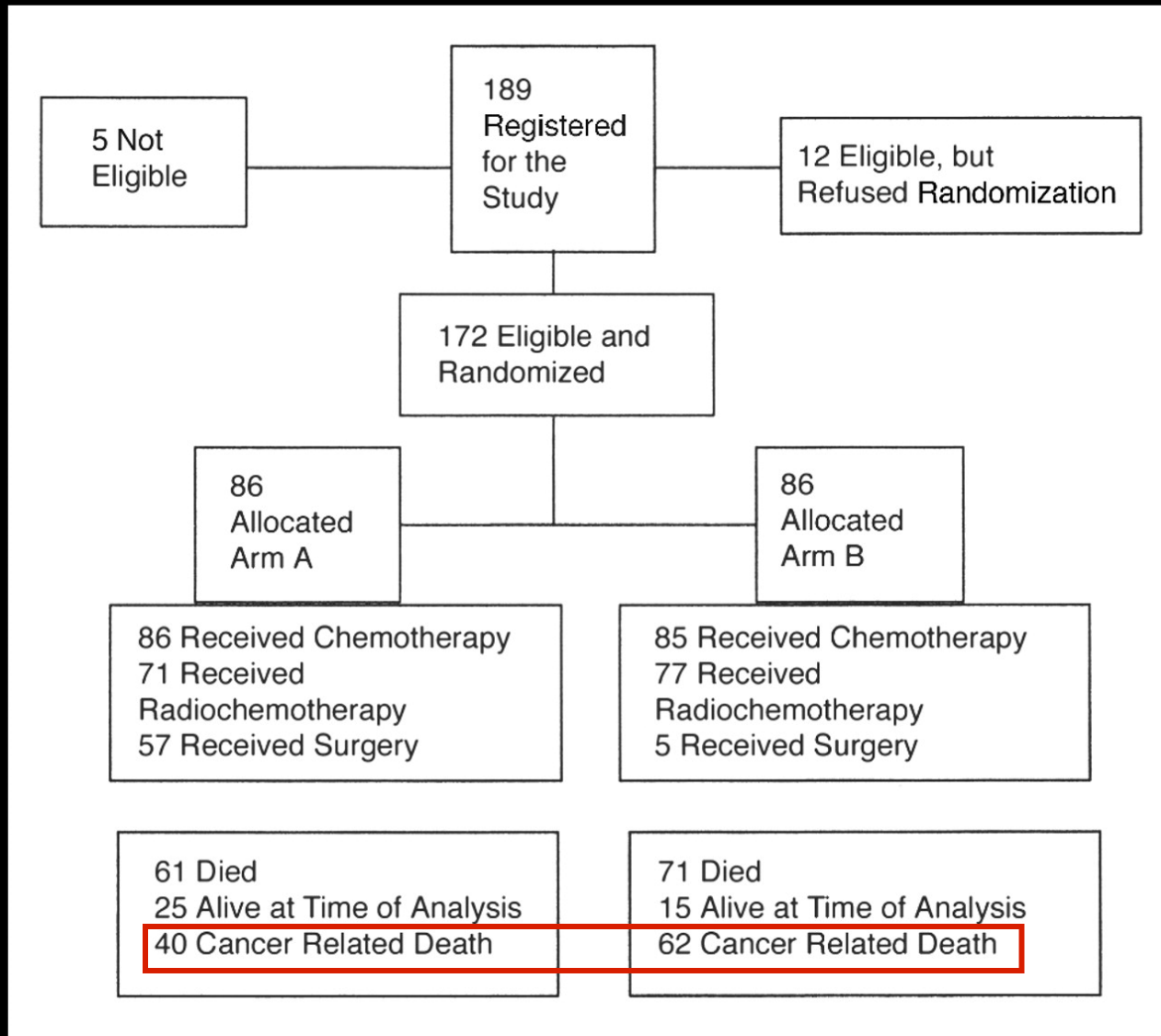
# Esophageal Cancer – Squamous Cell CA

## Role of Surgery



# Esophageal Cancer – Squamous Cell CA

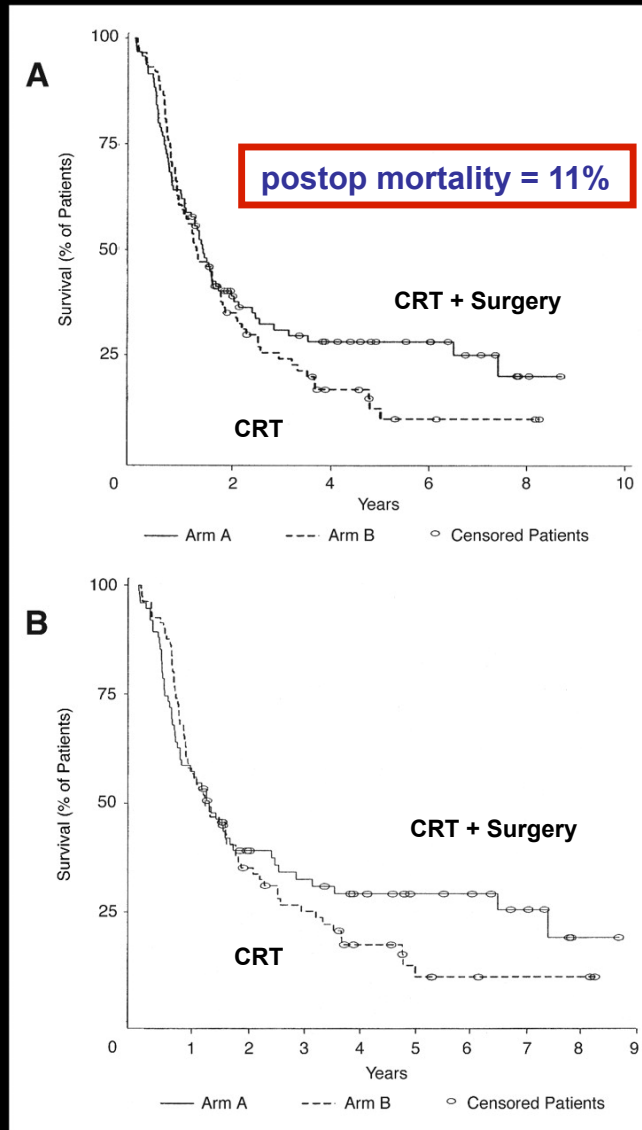
## Role of Surgery





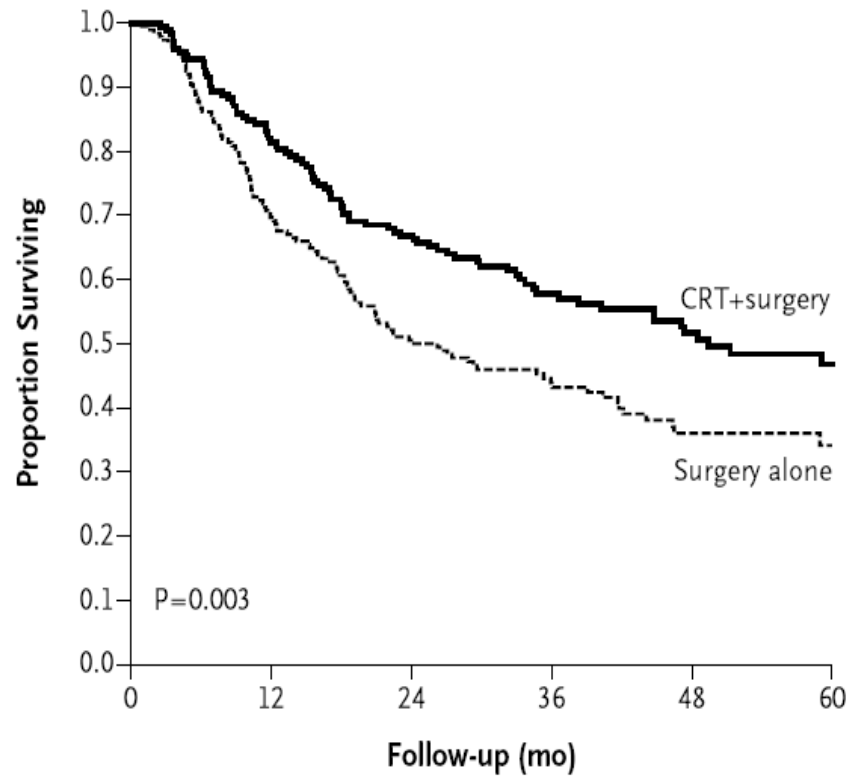
# Esophageal Cancer – Squamous Cell CA

## Role of Surgery



# Preoperative Chemoradiotherapy CROSS Trial

A Survival According to Treatment Group

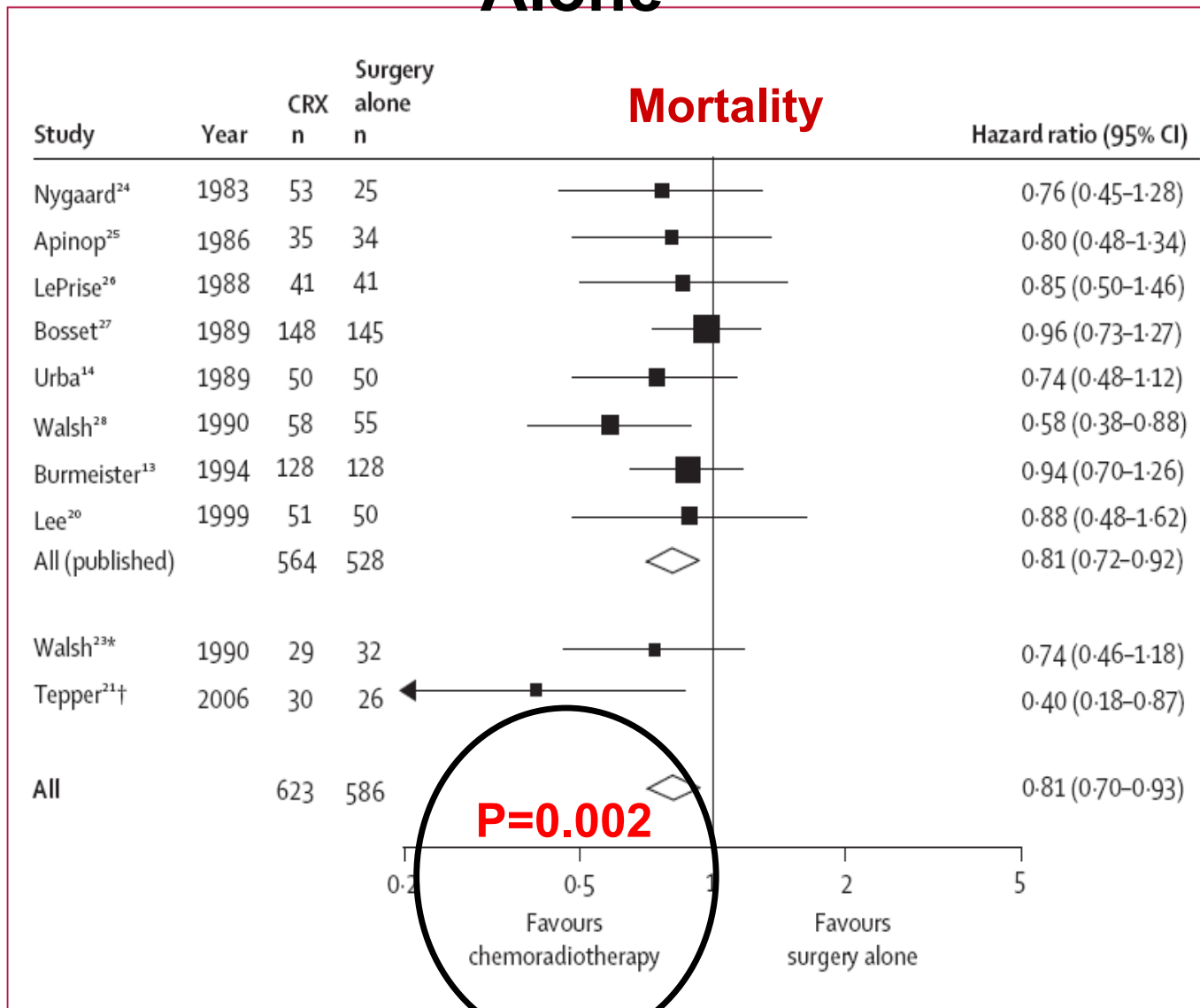


**No. at Risk**

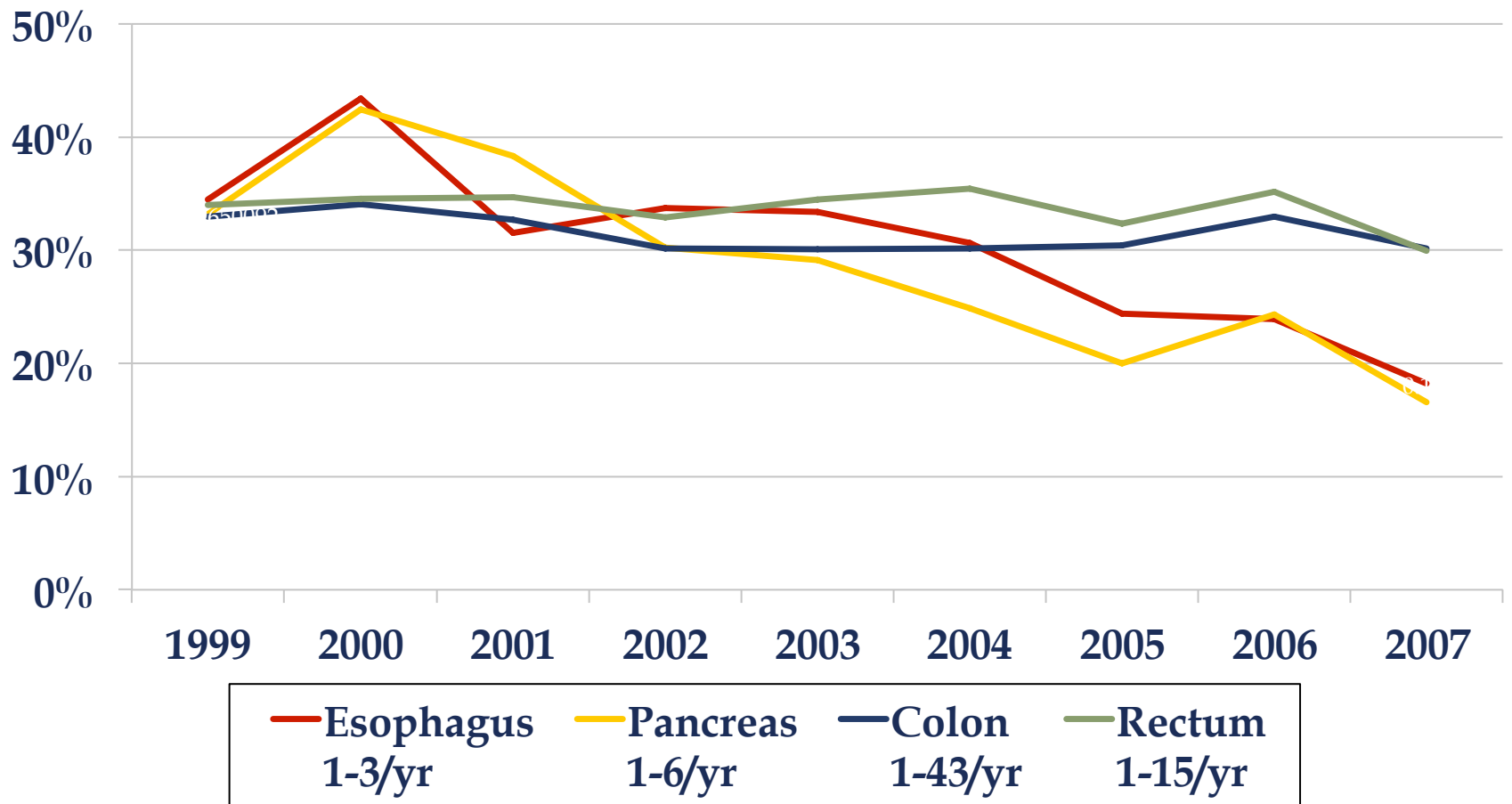
CRT+surgery	178	145	119	75	49	28
Surgery alone	188	131	94	62	33	17
Total	366	276	213	137	82	45

# Esophageal Cancer

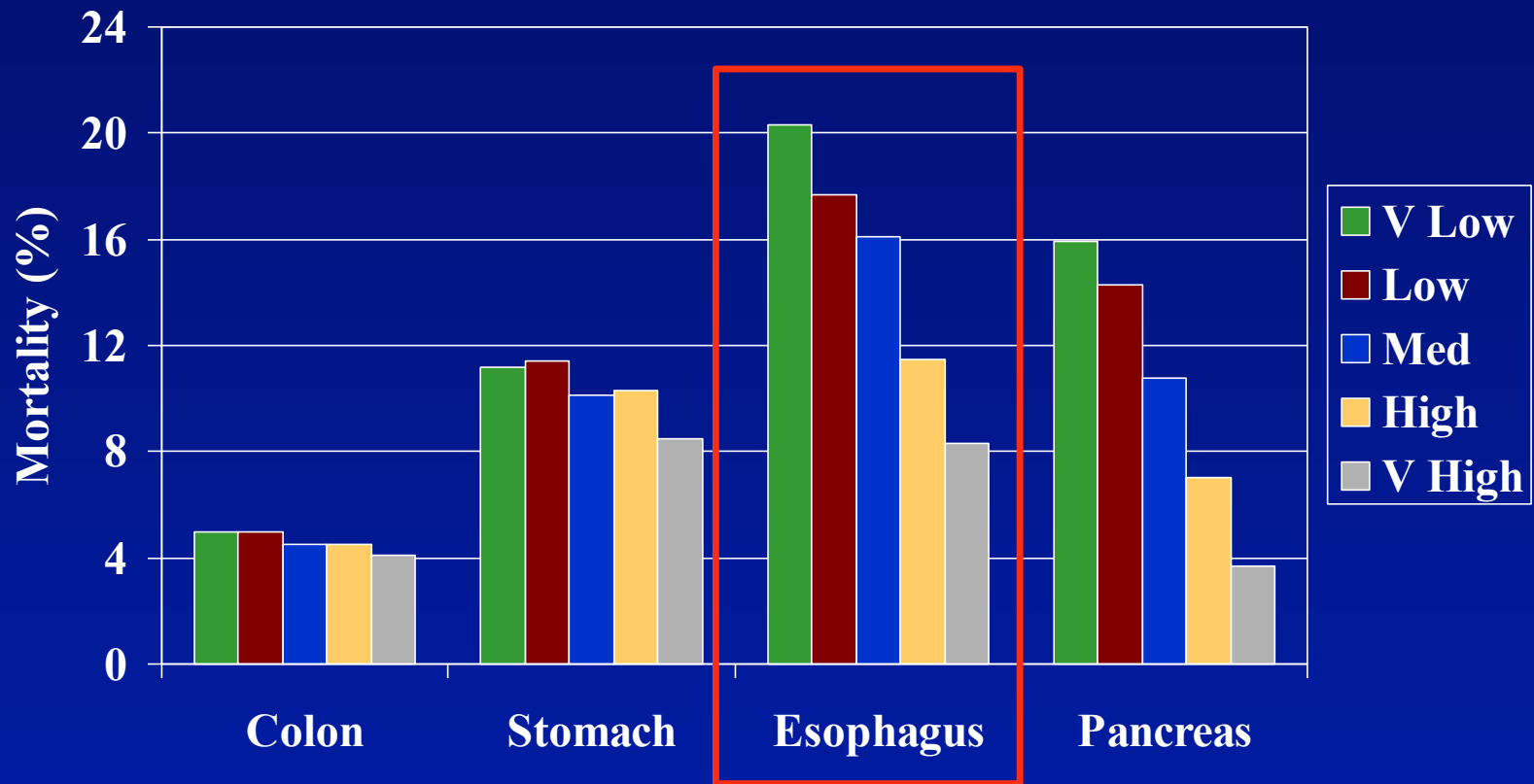
## Neoadjuvant Chemoradiotherapy vs. Surgery Alone



# Proportion of population-wide extirpative procedures performed at low volume centers



# GI Cancer Resections





University of Colorado  
Cancer Center

# **Gastric Adenocarcinoma**

**Adjuvant vs Neoadjuvant?  
Radiation vs Chemoradiation?**



# Radiation?

- Who uses it?
  - Yes: US
  - No: UK and Japan
- Why do we use?
  - GITSG studies in locally advanced pancreatic cancer and gastric adenocarcinoma

# **US Standard of Care...**

## **Historical Adjuvant Chemoradiation**



## CHEMORADIOTHERAPY AFTER SURGERY COMPARED WITH SURGERY ALONE FOR ADENOCARCINOMA OF THE STOMACH OR GASTROESOPHAGEAL JUNCTION

JOHN S. MACDONALD, M.D., STEPHEN R. SMALLEY, M.D., JACQUELINE BENEDETTI, PH.D., SCOTT A. HUNDAHL, M.D.,  
NORMAN C. ESTES, M.D., GRANT N. STEMMERMANN, M.D., DANIEL G. HALLER, M.D., JAFFER A. AJANI, M.D.,  
LEONARD L. GUNDERSON, M.D., J. MILBURN JESSUP, M.D., AND JAMES A. MARTENSON, M.D.

### ABSTRACT

**Background** Surgical resection of adenocarcinoma of the stomach is curative in less than 40 percent of cases. We investigated the effect of surgery plus postoperative (adjuvant) chemoradiotherapy on the survival of patients with resectable adenocarcinoma of the stomach or gastroesophageal junction.

**Methods** A total of 556 patients with resected adenocarcinoma of the stomach or gastroesophageal junction were randomly assigned to surgery plus postoperative chemoradiotherapy or surgery alone. The adjuvant treatment consisted of 425 mg of fluorouracil per square meter of body-surface area per day, plus 20 mg of leucovorin per square meter per day, for five days, followed by 4500 cGy of radiation at 180 cGy per day, given five days per week for five weeks, with modified doses of fluorouracil and leucovorin on the first four and the last three days of radiotherapy. One month after the completion of radiotherapy, two five-day cycles of fluorouracil (425 mg per square meter per day) plus leucovorin (20 mg per square meter per day) were given one month apart.

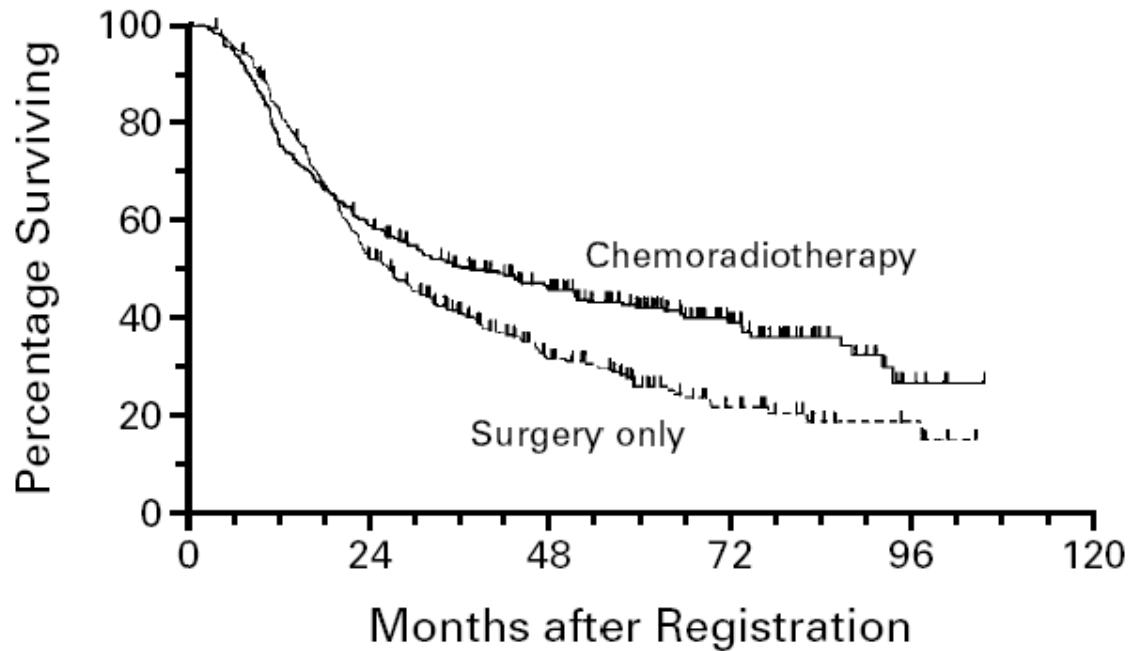
**Results** The median overall survival in the surgery-only group was 27 months, as compared with 36 months in the chemoradiotherapy group; the hazard ratio for death was 1.35 (95 percent confidence interval, 1.09 to 1.66;  $P=0.005$ ). The hazard ratio for relapse was 1.52 (95 percent confidence interval, 1.23 to 1.86;  $P<0.001$ ). Three patients (1 percent) died from toxic effects of the chemoradiotherapy; grade 3 toxic effects occurred in 41 percent of the patients in the chemoradiotherapy group, and grade 4 toxic effects occurred in 32 percent.

**Conclusions** Postoperative chemoradiotherapy should be considered for all patients at high risk for recurrence of adenocarcinoma of the stomach or gastroesophageal junction who have undergone curative resection. (N Engl J Med 2001;345:725-30.)

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## MacDonald Study

N Engl J Med, Vol. 345, No. 10 · September 6, 2001



**Figure 1.** Overall Survival among All Eligible Patients, According to Treatment-Group Assignment.

The median duration of survival was 27 months in the surgery-only group and 36 months in the chemoradiotherapy group. The difference in overall survival was significant ( $P=0.005$  by a two-sided log-rank test). A total of 169 of the 281 patients in the chemoradiotherapy group and 197 of the 275 patients in the surgery-only group died during the follow-up period.

# Authors Conclusions

- Chemoradiotherapy after curative resection of adenocarcinoma of the gastric /GE junction significantly improves relapse free and overall survival
- Limitations of the study:
  - Adequacy of the surgical resection?

# **UK Standard of Care Neoadjuvant /Adjuvant Chemotherapy**

## Perioperative Chemotherapy versus Surgery Alone for Resectable Gastroesophageal Cancer

David Cunningham, M.D., William H. Allum, M.D., Sally P. Stenning, M.Sc., Jeremy N. Thompson, M.Chir., Cornelis J.H. Van de Velde, M.D., Ph.D., Marianne Nicolson, M.D., J. Howard Scarffe, M.D., Fiona J. Lofts, Ph.D., Stephen J. Falk, M.D., Timothy J. Iveson, M.D., David B. Smith, M.D., Ruth E. Langley, M.D., Ph.D., Monica Verma, M.Sc., Simon Weeden, M.Sc., and Yu Jo Chua, M.B., B.S., for the MAGIC Trial Participants\*

### ABSTRACT

#### BACKGROUND

A regimen of epirubicin, cisplatin, and infused fluorouracil (ECF) improves survival among patients with incurable locally advanced or metastatic gastric adenocarcinoma. We assessed whether the addition of a perioperative regimen of ECF to surgery improves outcomes among patients with potentially curable gastric cancer.

#### METHODS

We randomly assigned patients with resectable adenocarcinoma of the stomach, esophagogastric junction, or lower esophagus to either perioperative chemotherapy and surgery (250 patients) or surgery alone (253 patients). Chemotherapy consisted of three preoperative and three postoperative cycles of intravenous epirubicin (50 mg per square meter of body-surface area) and cisplatin (60 mg per square meter) on day 1, and a continuous intravenous infusion of fluorouracil (200 mg per square meter per day) for 21 days. The primary end point was overall survival.

#### RESULTS

ECF-related adverse effects were similar to those previously reported among patients with advanced gastric cancer. Rates of postoperative complications were similar in the perioperative-chemotherapy group and the surgery group (46 percent and 45 percent, respectively), as were the numbers of deaths within 30 days after surgery. The resected tumors were significantly smaller and less advanced in the perioperative-chemotherapy group. With a median follow-up of four years, 149 patients in the perioperative-chemotherapy group and 170 in the surgery group had died. As compared with the surgery group, the perioperative-chemotherapy group had a higher likelihood of overall survival (hazard ratio for death, 0.75; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.60 to 0.93;  $P=0.009$ ; five-year survival rate, 36 percent vs. 23 percent) and of progression-free survival (hazard ratio for progression, 0.66; 95 percent confidence interval, 0.53 to 0.81;  $P<0.001$ ).

#### CONCLUSIONS

In patients with operable gastric or lower esophageal adenocarcinomas, a perioperative regimen of ECF decreased tumor size and stage and significantly improved progression-free and overall survival. (Current Controlled Trials number, ISRCTN93793971.)

From the Departments of Medicine (D.C., Y.J.C.) and Surgery (W.H.A., J.N.T.), Royal Marsden Hospital, Surrey and London; the Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, Cancer Group, London (S.P.S., R.E.L., M.V., S.W.); the Department of Oncology, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen (M.N.); the Department of Medical Oncology, Christie Hospital, Manchester (J.H.S.); the Department of Medical Oncology, St. George's Hospital, London (F.J.L.); the Department of Oncology, Bristol Haematology and Oncology Centre, Bristol (S.J.F.); the Medical Oncology Unit, Southampton General Hospital, Southampton (T.J.I.); and the Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology, Liverpool (D.B.S.) — all in the United Kingdom; and the Department of Surgery, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, the Netherlands (C.J.H.V.V.). Address reprint requests to Prof. Cunningham at the Department of Medicine, Royal Marsden Hospital, Downs Rd., Sutton, Surrey SM2 5PT, United Kingdom, or at david.cunningham@rmh.nhs.uk.

\*Participants in the Medical Research Council Adjuvant Gastric Infusional Chemotherapy (MAGIC) Trial are listed in the Appendix.

N Engl J Med 2006;355:11-20.

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# MAGIC



## Background



**Epirubicin** 50mg/m<sup>2</sup>, IV bolus, day 1  
**Cisplatin** 60mg/m<sup>2</sup>, 4-hour infusion, day 1  
**5-FU** 200mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day, continuous infusion, days 1-21

Cycles repeated every 3 weeks

- **ECF: high response rate in two randomised clinical trials of locally advanced and metastatic oesophagogastric cancer**
- **MAGIC:  
Does this effect translate into a survival advantage in operable disease?**

## Eligibility criteria

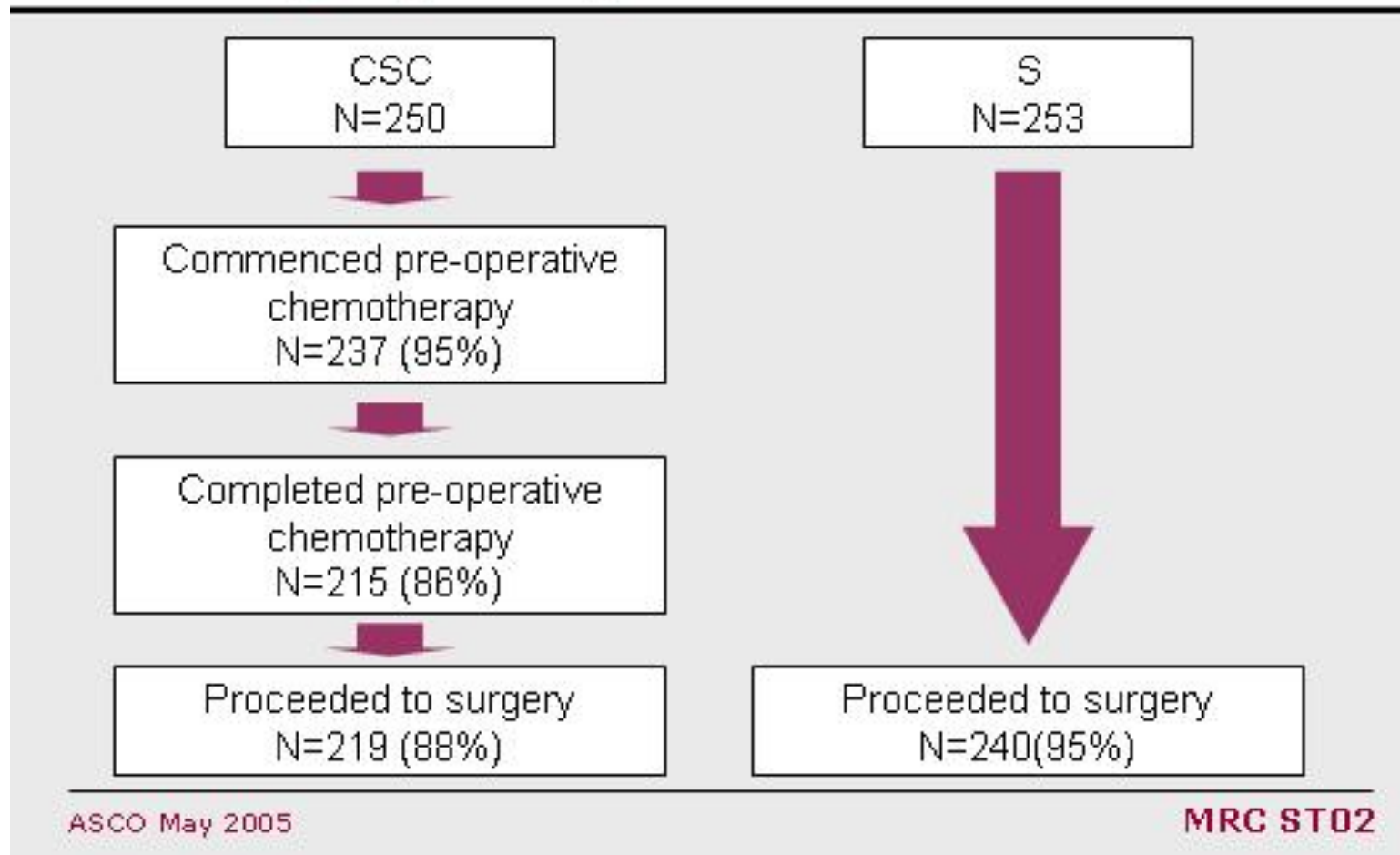
- Histologically-proven adenocarcinoma of the stomach or (later) lower third of the oesophagus, suitable for curative resection
- Non-metastatic disease
- Stage II or greater
- WHO performance status 0 or 1
- Fit to receive chemotherapy
- Informed consent

# Surgery - Protocol Guidelines

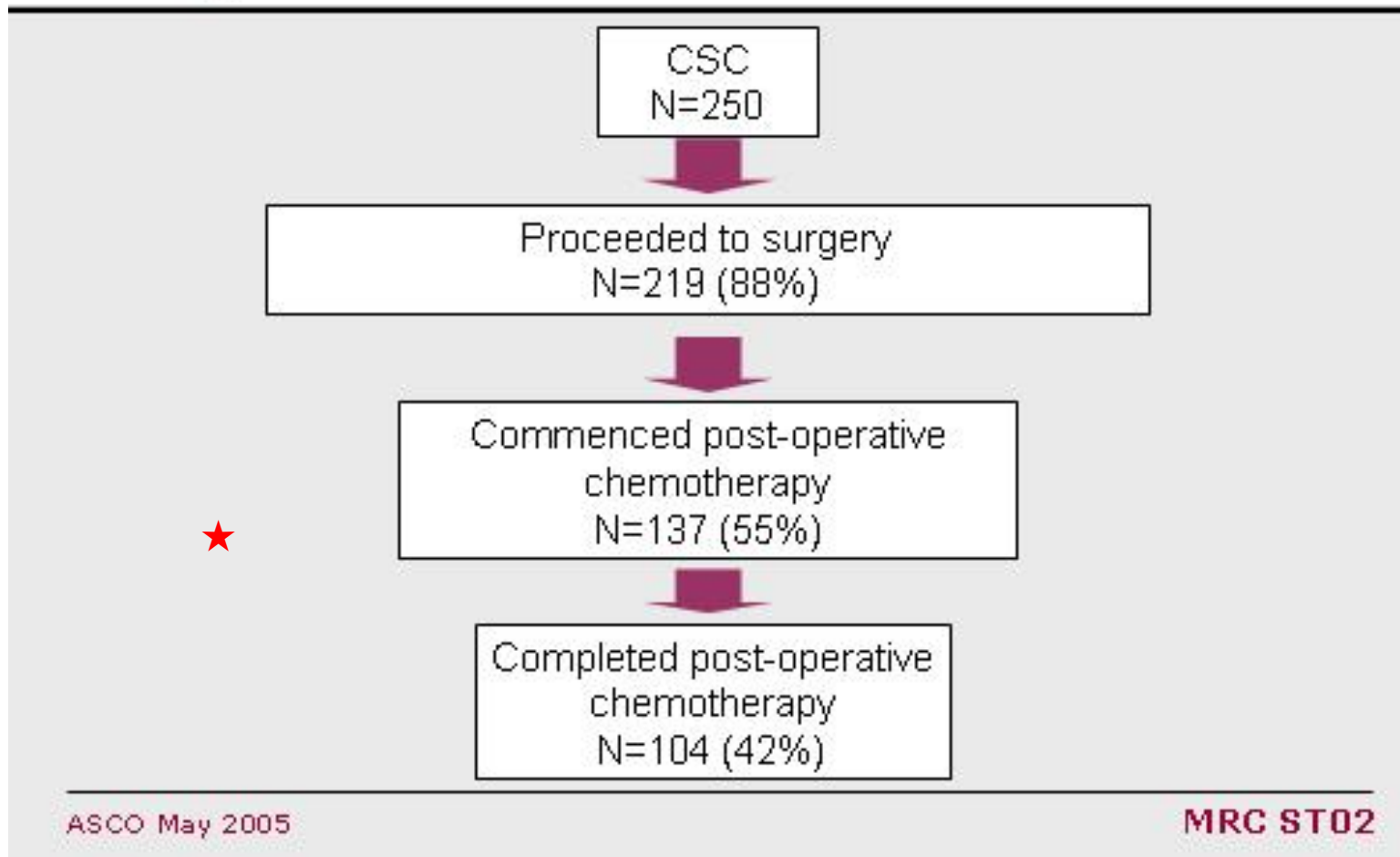


- Type of resection: discretion of the participating surgeon
- No recommendation given regarding D1 or D2 surgery as previous MRC trial comparing these techniques had yet to be fully reported
- Nodes recommended for dissection:
  - Gastric primary: perigastric nodes (gastric patients)
  - Oesophageal primary: sub-carinal mediastinal and coeliac nodes
- Further lymphadenectomy at discretion of participating surgeon
- Guidelines for assessment of curability included in protocol

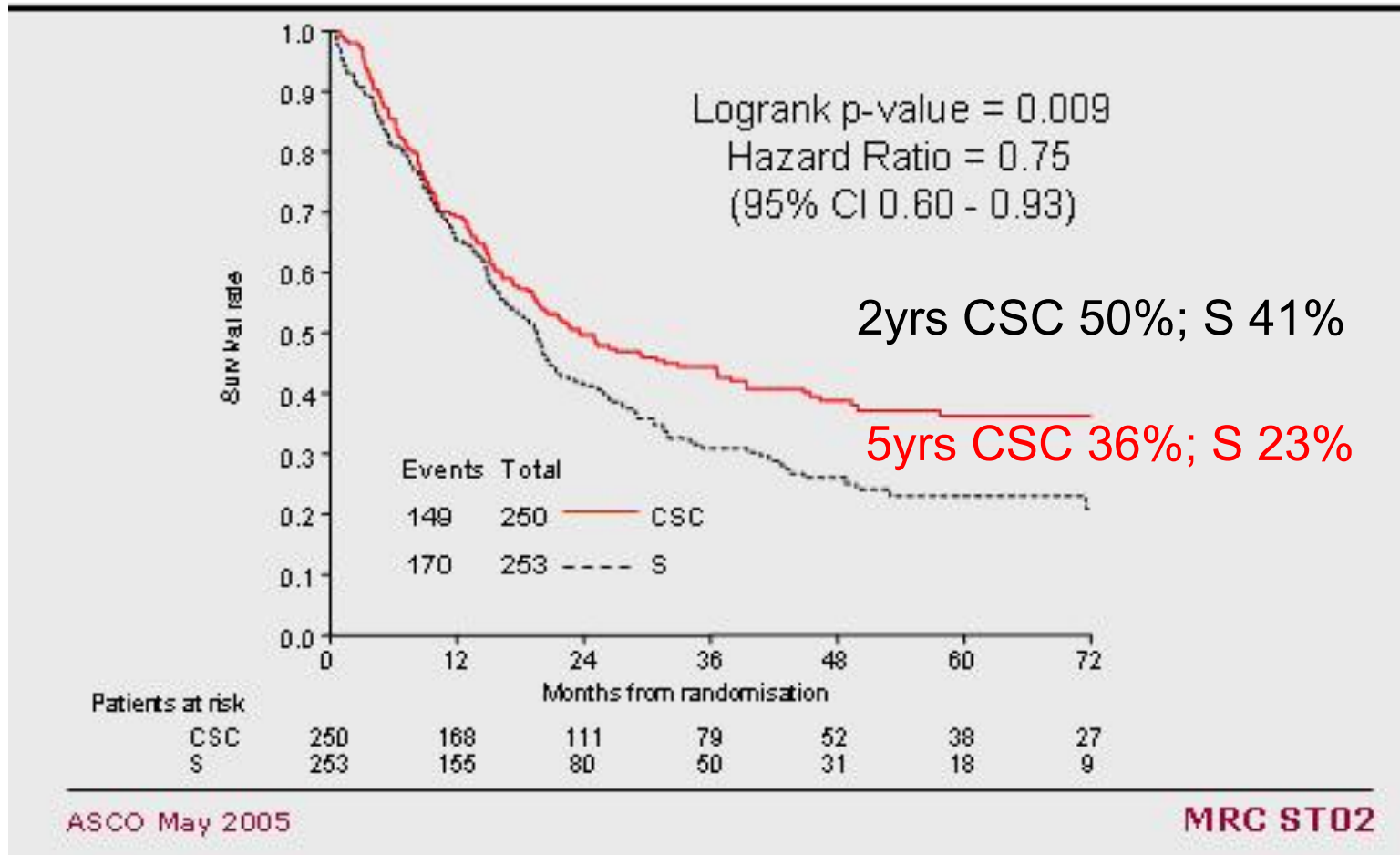
## Pre-operative chemotherapy and surgery trial profile



# Post-operative chemotherapy trial profile



# Survival





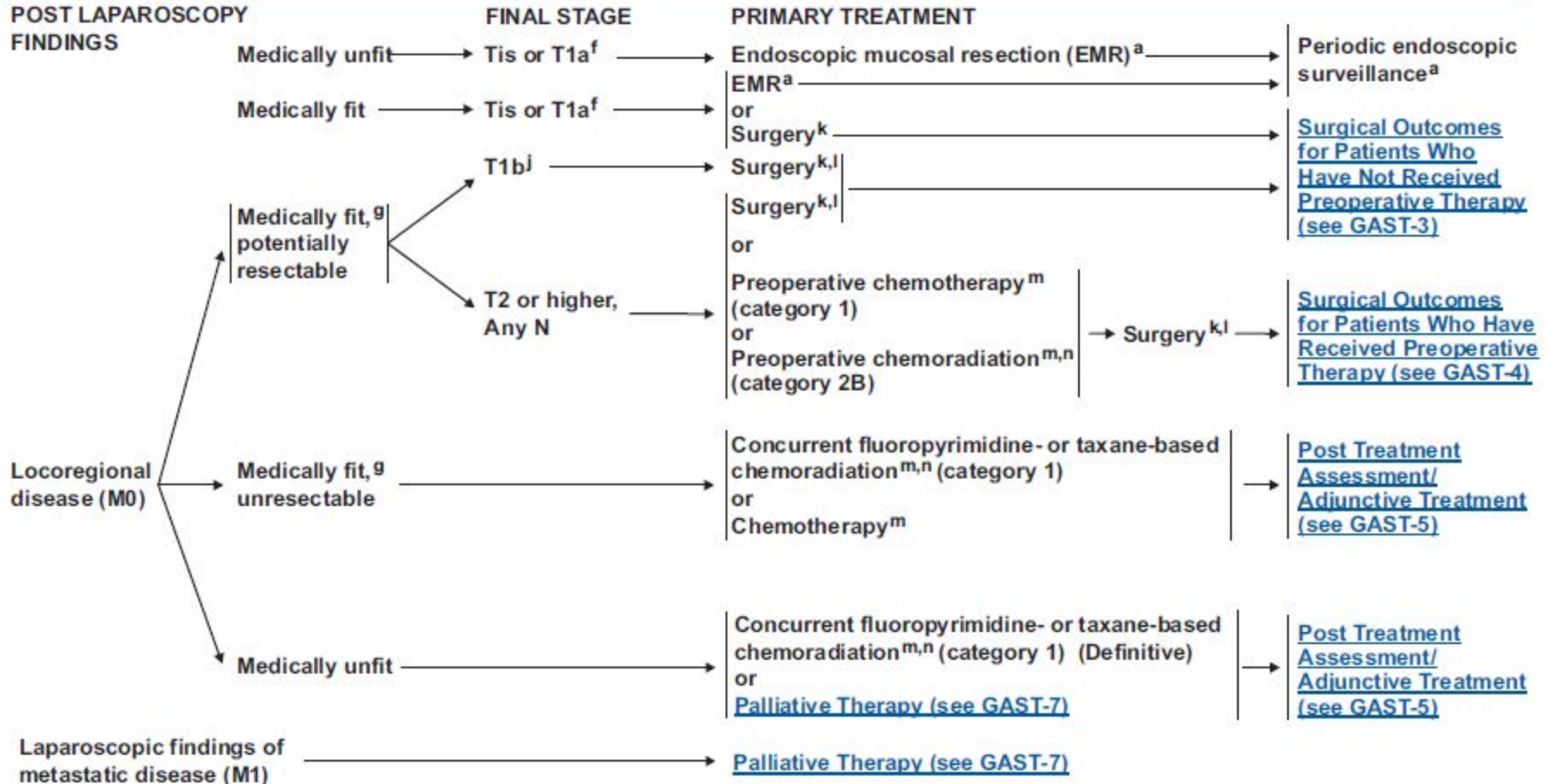
## In conclusion



In operable gastric and lower oesophageal cancer, perioperative chemotherapy:

- leads to downsizing of primary tumour
- significantly improves progression-free survival
- significantly improves overall survival





<sup>a</sup> See Principles of Endoscopic Surgery and Therapy (GAST-A).

<sup>f</sup> Tis or T1a: Defined as carcinoma in situ (Tis) or invasion of mucosa without submucosal invasion (T1a).

<sup>g</sup> Medically able to tolerate major abdominal surgery.

<sup>i</sup> See Principles of Multidisciplinary Team Approach (GAST-C).

<sup>j</sup> T1b: Tumors invading the submucosa.

<sup>k</sup> See Principles of Surgery (GAST-D).

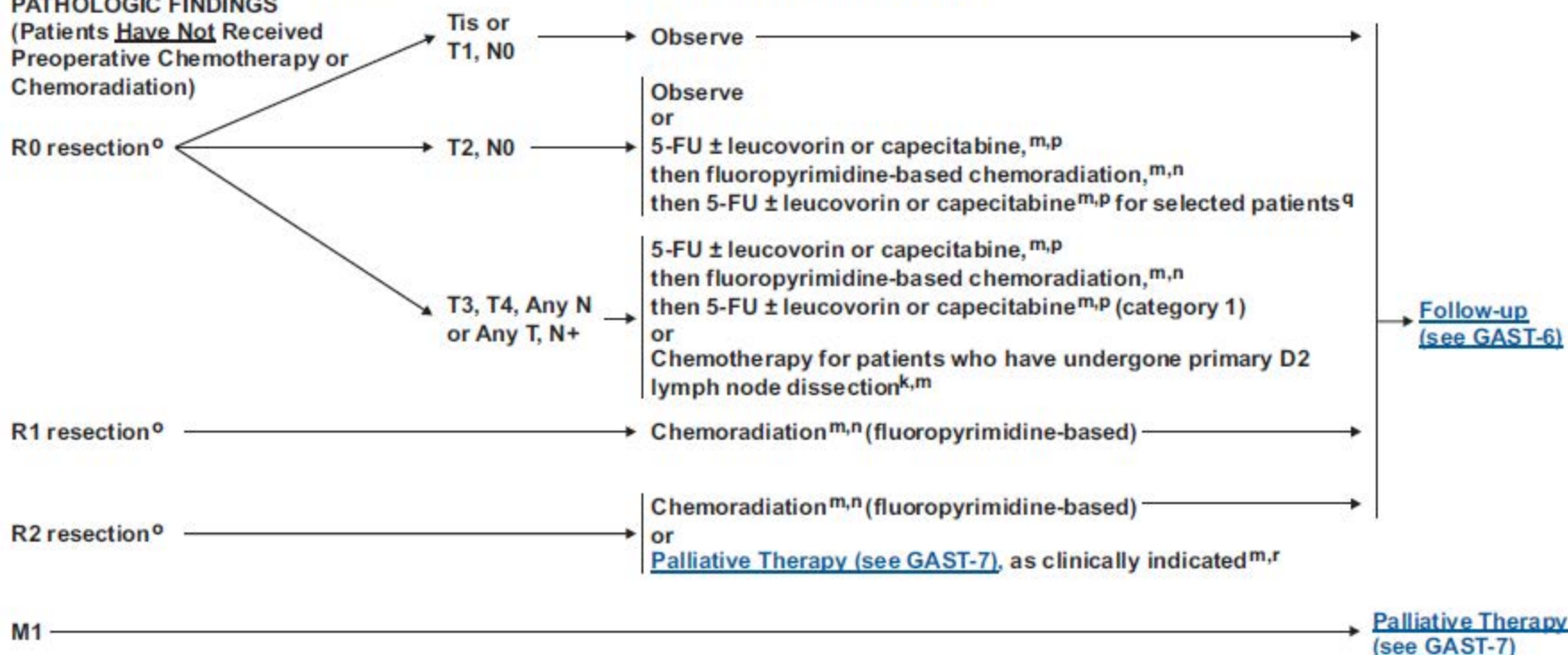
<sup>l</sup> Surgery as primary therapy is appropriate for ≥ T1b cancer or actively bleeding cancer, or when postoperative therapy is preferred.

<sup>m</sup> See Principles of Systemic Therapy (GAST-E).

<sup>n</sup> See Principles of Radiation Therapy (GAST-F).

SURGICAL OUTCOMES/CLINICAL  
PATHOLOGIC FINDINGS  
(Patients **Have Not** Received  
Preoperative Chemotherapy or  
Chemoradiation)

POSTOPERATIVE TREATMENT



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Capecitabine and Oxaliplatin for Advanced Esophagogastric Cancer

David Cunningham, M.D., F.R.C.P., Naureen Starling, M.R.C.P.,  
Sheela Rao, M.R.C.P., Timothy Iveson, M.D., F.R.C.P.,  
Marianne Nicolson, M.D., F.R.C.P., Fareeda Coxon, F.R.C.P.,  
Gary Middleton, M.D., F.R.C.P., Francis Daniel, M.B., Ch.B., R.C.S.I., F.F.R.,  
Jacqueline Oates, and Andrew Richard Norman, Ph.D.,  
for the Upper Gastrointestinal Clinical Studies Group of the National Cancer  
Research Institute of the United Kingdom

## ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND**

We evaluated capecitabine (an oral fluoropyrimidine) and oxaliplatin (a platinum compound) as alternatives to infused fluorouracil and cisplatin, respectively, for untreated advanced esophagogastric cancer.

**METHODS**

In a two-by-two design, we randomly assigned 1002 patients to receive triplet therapy with epirubicin and cisplatin plus either fluorouracil (ECF) or capecitabine (ECX) or triplet therapy with epirubicin and oxaliplatin plus either fluorouracil (EOF) or capecitabine (EOX). The primary end point was noninferiority in overall survival for the triplet therapies containing capecitabine as compared with fluorouracil and for those containing oxaliplatin as compared with cisplatin.

**RESULTS**

For the capecitabine–fluorouracil comparison, the hazard ratio for death in the capecitabine group was 0.86 (95% confidence interval [CI], 0.80 to 0.99); for the oxaliplatin–cisplatin comparison, the hazard ratio for the oxaliplatin group was 0.92 (95% CI, 0.80 to 1.10). The upper limit of the confidence intervals for both hazard ratios excluded the predefined noninferiority margin of 1.23. Median survival times in the ECF, ECX, EOF, and EOX groups were 9.9 months, 9.9 months, 9.3 months, and 11.2 months, respectively; survival rates at 1 year were 37.7%, 40.8%, 40.4%, and 46.8%, respectively. In the secondary analysis, overall survival was longer with EOX than with ECF, with a hazard ratio for death of 0.80 in the EOX group (95% CI, 0.66 to 0.97;  $P=0.02$ ). Progression-free survival and response rates did not differ significantly among the regimens. Toxic effects of capecitabine and fluorouracil were similar. As compared with cisplatin, oxaliplatin was associated with lower incidences of grade 3 or 4 neutropenia, alopecia, renal toxicity, and thromboembolism but with slightly higher incidences of grade 3 or 4 diarrhea and neuropathy.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Capecitabine and oxaliplatin are as effective as fluorouracil and cisplatin, respectively, in patients with previously untreated esophagogastric cancer. (Current Controlled Trials number, ISRCTN51678883.)

From Royal Marsden Hospital National Health Service Foundation Trust, Surrey and London (D.C., N.S., S.R., J.O., A.R.N.); Southampton University Hospital National Health Service Trust, Southampton, and Salisbury Hospital National Health Service Foundation Trust, Salisbury (T.I.); Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen (M.N.); Northern Centre for Cancer Treatment, Newcastle upon Tyne (F.C.); St. Luke's Cancer Centre, Guildford (G.M.); and Plymouth Oncology Centre, Plymouth (F.D.) — all in the United Kingdom.

N Engl J Med 2008;358:36-46.

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REAL Study

NEJM 2008



**Table 1. Baseline Demographic and Clinical Characteristics (Per-Protocol Population).\***

Variable	ECF (N= 249)	ECX (N= 241)	EOF (N= 235)	EOX (N= 239)
Age (yr)				
Median	65	64	61	62
Range	22–83	25–82	33–78	25–80
Sex (%)				
Male	81.1	80.5	81.3	82.8
Female	18.9	19.5	18.7	17.2
Subsite of tumor (%)				
Esophagus	34.9	29.5	39.6	34.3
Gastroesophageal junction	28.9	28.2	23.4	22.2
Stomach	36.1	42.3	37.0	43.5
Performance-status score (%)†				
0 or 1	88.4	87.6	91.5	90
2	11.6	12.4	8.5	10.0
Extent of disease (%)				
Metastatic	79.5	76.8	77.0	75.7
Locally advanced	20.5	23.2	23.0	24.3
Type of tumor (%)				
Adenocarcinoma	90.0	89.6	86.0	87.4
Squamous-cell carcinoma	7.6	9.5	12.8	12.1
Undifferentiated carcinoma	2.4	0.8	1.3	0.4
No. of metastatic sites (%)				
0 or 1	63.5	59.3	60.9	64.4
≥2	36.5	40.7	39.1	35.6
Previous surgery (%)	7.6	7.5	7.7	8.8

\* Patients were randomly assigned to receive one of four triplet therapies: epirubicin and cisplatin plus either fluorouracil (ECF) or capecitabine (ECX), or epirubicin and oxaliplatin plus either fluorouracil (EOF) or capecitabine (EOX).

† Performance was evaluated according to guidelines of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, with a score of 0 indicating normal performance status, 1 mildly symptomatic, 2 symptomatic but in bed less than half the day, 3 symptomatic and in bed more than half the day, and 4 in bed the whole day.

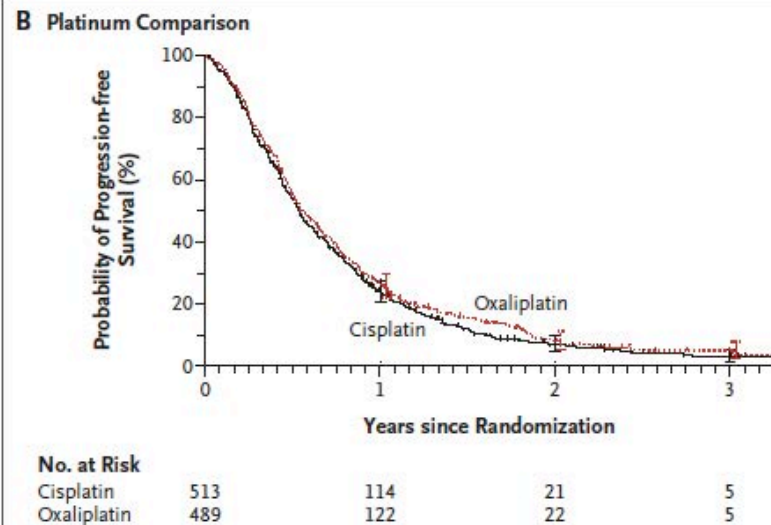
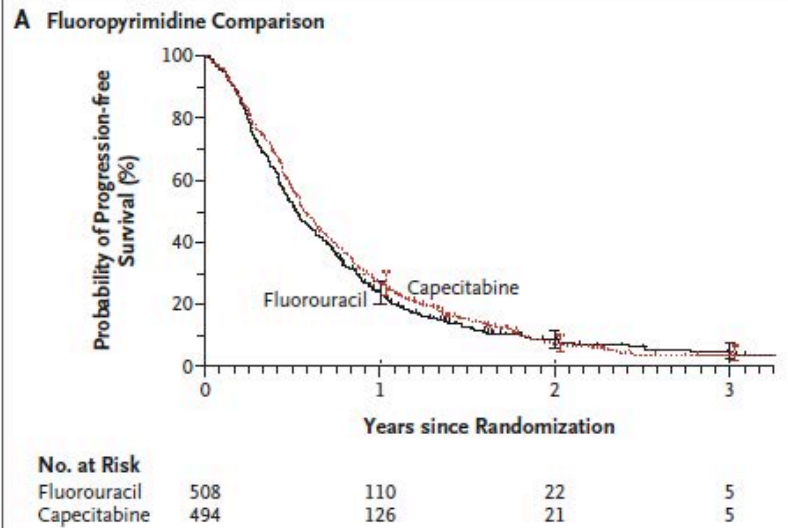
SCC

**Table 2. Analysis of Efficacy (Intention-to-Treat Population).\***

Variable	ECF (N = 263)	ECX (N = 250)	EOF (N = 245)	EOX (N = 244)
<b>Death</b>				
No. of patients	225	213	213	199
Hazard ratio (95% CI)		0.92 (0.76–1.11)	0.96 (0.79–1.15)	0.80 (0.66–0.97)
P value		0.39	0.61	0.02
<b>Overall survival</b>				
Median — mo	9.9	9.9	9.3	11.2
At 1 yr — % (95% CI)	37.7 (31.8–43.6)	40.8 (34.7–46.9)	40.4 (34.2–46.5)	46.8 (40.4–52.5)
<b>Progression-free survival</b>				
Median — mo	6.2	6.7	6.5	7.0
Patients who had progression or died	237	231	221	213
Hazard ratio (95% CI)		0.98 (0.82–1.17)	0.97 (0.81–1.17)	0.85 (0.70–1.02)
P value		0.80	0.77	0.07
<b>Response</b>				
Overall — % (95% CI) †	40.7 (34.5–46.8)	46.4 (40.0–52.8)	42.4 (36.1–48.8)	47.9 (41.5–54.3)
Complete — %	4.1	4.2	2.6	3.9
Partial — %	36.6	42.2	39.8	44.0
P value		0.20	0.69	0.11

\* Patients were randomly assigned to receive one of four triplet therapies: epirubicin and cisplatin plus either fluorouracil (ECF) or capecitabine (ECX), or epirubicin and oxaliplatin plus either fluorouracil (EOF) or capecitabine (EOX).

† Overall response could be evaluated in 246 patients in the ECF group, 237 patients in the ECX group, 231 patients in the EOF group, and 234 patients in the EOX group.



**Figure 3. Kaplan–Meier Estimates of Progression-free Survival.**

Panel A shows a comparison of progression-free survival in the intention-to-treat population between the capecitabine and fluorouracil regimens. The hazard ratio for progression with the capecitabine regimens was 0.92 (95% CI, 0.81 to 1.05;  $P=0.22$ ). Panel B shows progression-free survival in the intention-to-treat population between the oxaliplatin and cisplatin regimens. The hazard ratio for progression with the oxaliplatin regimens was 0.92 (95% CI, 0.80 to 1.04;  $P=0.19$ ).

Trend towards better OS

Capecitabine > 5FU

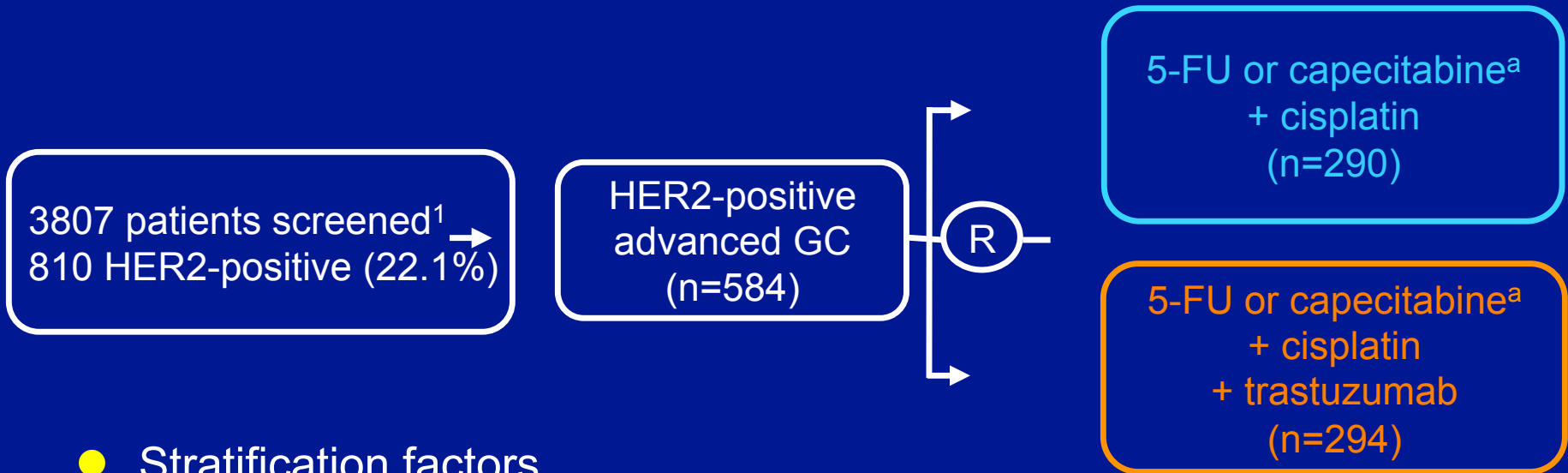
Oxaliplatin > Cisplatin

# Molecular Targets: Esophagogastric Cancer

- KRAS mutation: < 5-10%
- BRAF mutation: < 5%
- EGFr over expression: 50-80%
- EGFr mutation: < 5%
- CMET: < 10%
- HER2 over expression: 10-25%

# ToGA trial design

Phase III, randomized, open-label, international, multicenter study



- Stratification factors

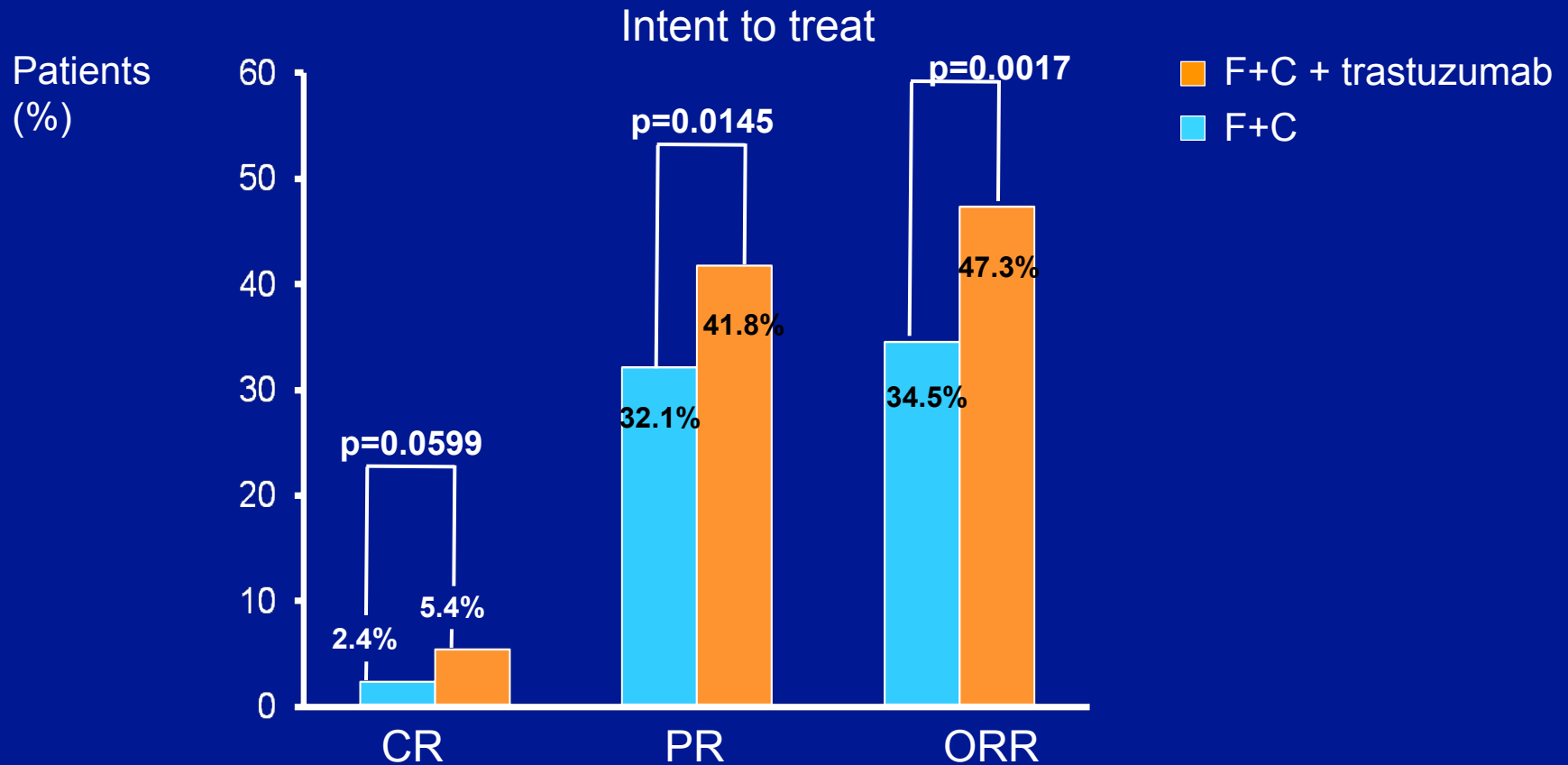
- advanced vs metastatic
- GC vs GEJ
- measurable vs non-measurable
- ECOG PS 0-1 vs 2
- capecitabine vs 5-FU

<sup>a</sup>Chosen at investigator's discretion  
GEJ, gastroesophageal junction

<sup>1</sup>Bang et al; Abstract 4556, ASCO 2009



# Secondary end point: tumor response rate

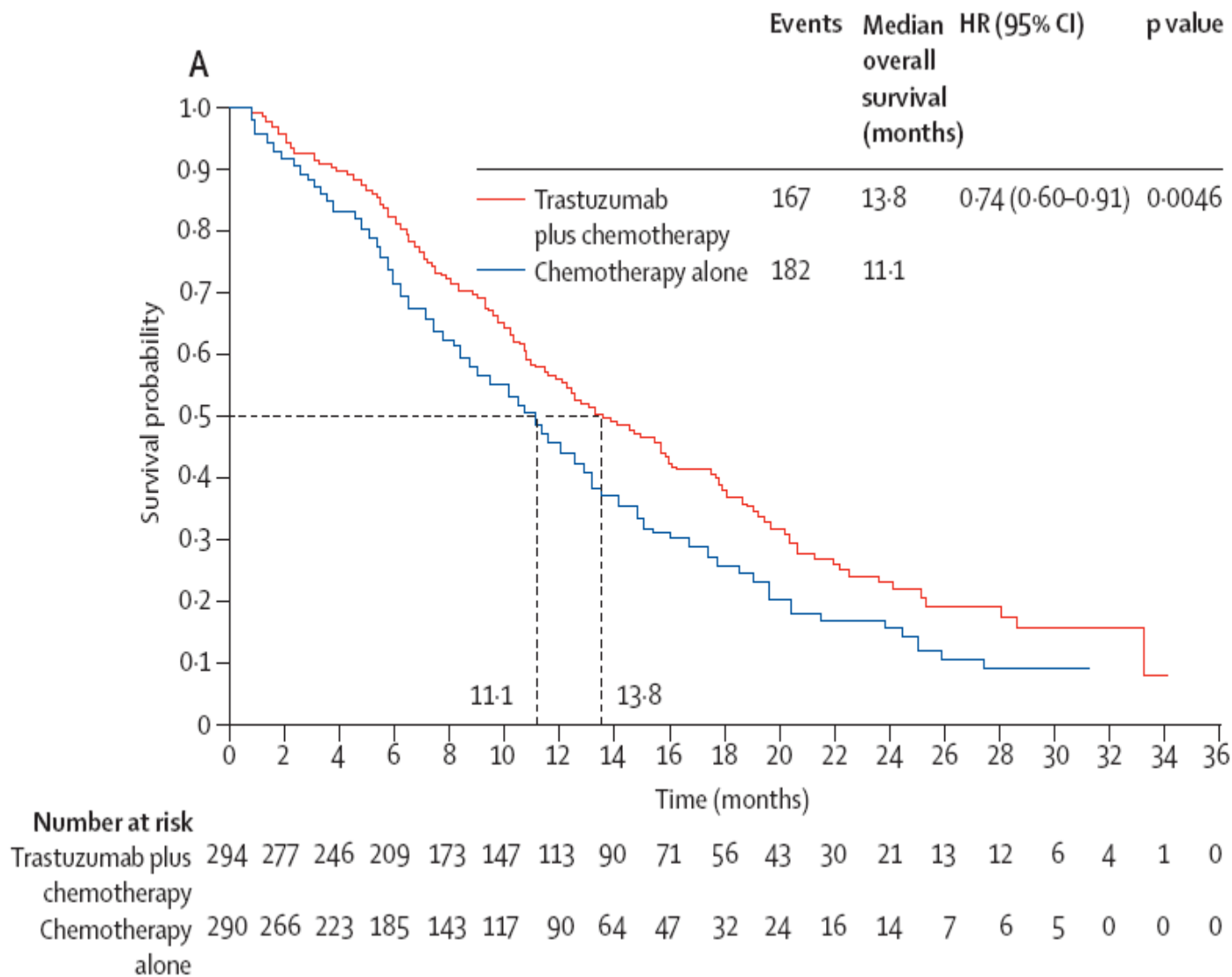


ORR= CR + PR

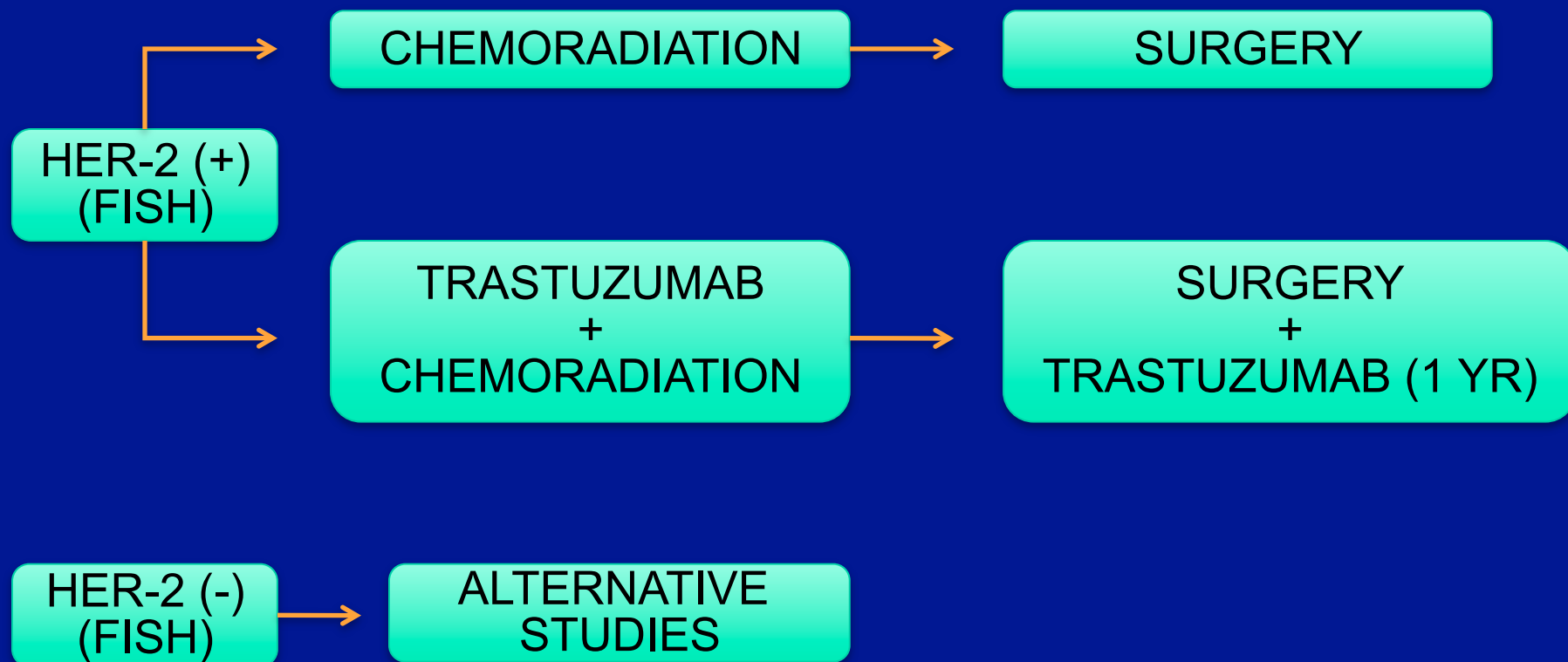
CR, complete response; PR, partial response

# Gastric Cancer

## Targeted Agents – ToGA Trial



# RTOG 1010: Phase II Study of Neoadjuvant Trastuzumab and Chemoradiation for Esophageal Adenocarcinoma (Siewert I, II)



- Chemoradiation: Carbo + Paclitaxel, RT 5040 cGy → Surgery  
Maintenance trastuzumab post op
- Sample Size = 130 Her-2 (+) Pts, Increase  
3-Yr Survival from 30% to 50%. 520+ pts to be screened

1

# *Phase I/II's*

*(selected studies in Her2+ gastric/GEJ)*

## **Combination Studies: trastuzumab plus**

**HM781-36B (pan-Her)/paclitaxel (NCT01746771; Seoul)**

**Pertuzumab/chemo (NCT01774786)**

**Pertuzumab 840mg v 420mg/chemo (NCT01461057)**

**MM-111/Paclitaxel (NCT01774851)**

**IL-12/Paclitaxel (NCT00028535)**

**Afatinib (Phase I gastric/breast; NCT01649271)**

## **Trastuzumab derivatives:**

**Trastuzumab emtansine/capecitabine (NCT01702558)**

**Pb212-Trastuzumab radioimmunotherapy  
(NCT01384253)**

# *Phase I/II's*

*(selected studies in Her2+ gastric/GEJ)*

## **Chemo Backbone Studies: Trastuzumab plus**

CAPOX (NCT01503983, 01364493, 01396707, 01130337)

CAPOX/Bev (CT01191697)

CAPOX and chemorads (“TOXAG”; NCT01748773)

CAPOX/Bev/Docetaxel (NCT01359397)

TS-1/cisplatin (NCT01736410; NCT01228045)

Docetaxel/oxali/cape (“TEX”; NCT01295086)

## **Perioperative Trastuzumab plus**

5-FU/LV/Oxali/Docetacel (FLOT) (NCT01472029)

# *Phase I/II's*

*(selected studies in Her2+ gastric/GEJ)*

## **Monotherapy Studies (no trastuzumab)**

**Afatinib** (BIBW 2992; NCT01522768)

**MGAH22** (optimized Fc domain; NCT01148849)

**ARRY-543/ASLAN001** (pan-HER; NCT01614522)

**LMJ-716** (mAb to HER3; NCT01598077)

**PF-00299804** (Pan-HER; NCT01152853)

## **Lapatinib:**

**Phase III: CAPOX +/- lapatinib** (NCT00680901) “LOGiC”

**Phase III: Paclitaxel +/- lapatinib** (NCT00486954) “TYTAN”

## **Terminated:**

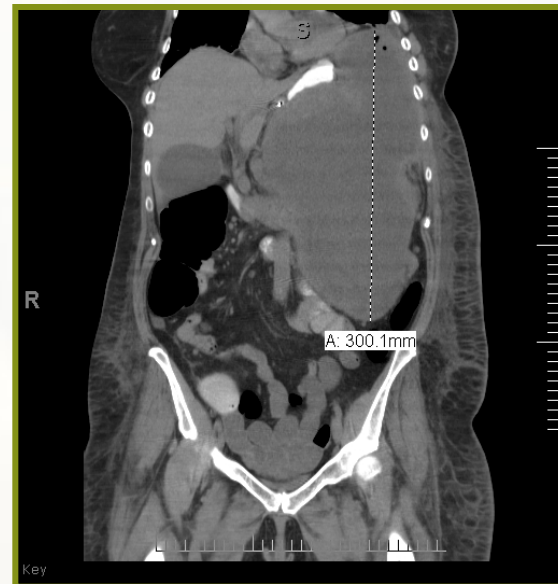
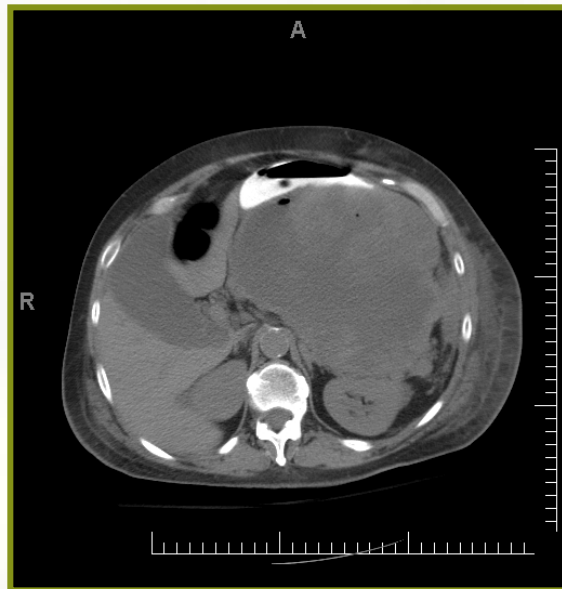
**AUY922 (HSP90) + Trastuzumab** (NCT01402401)



University of Colorado  
Cancer Center

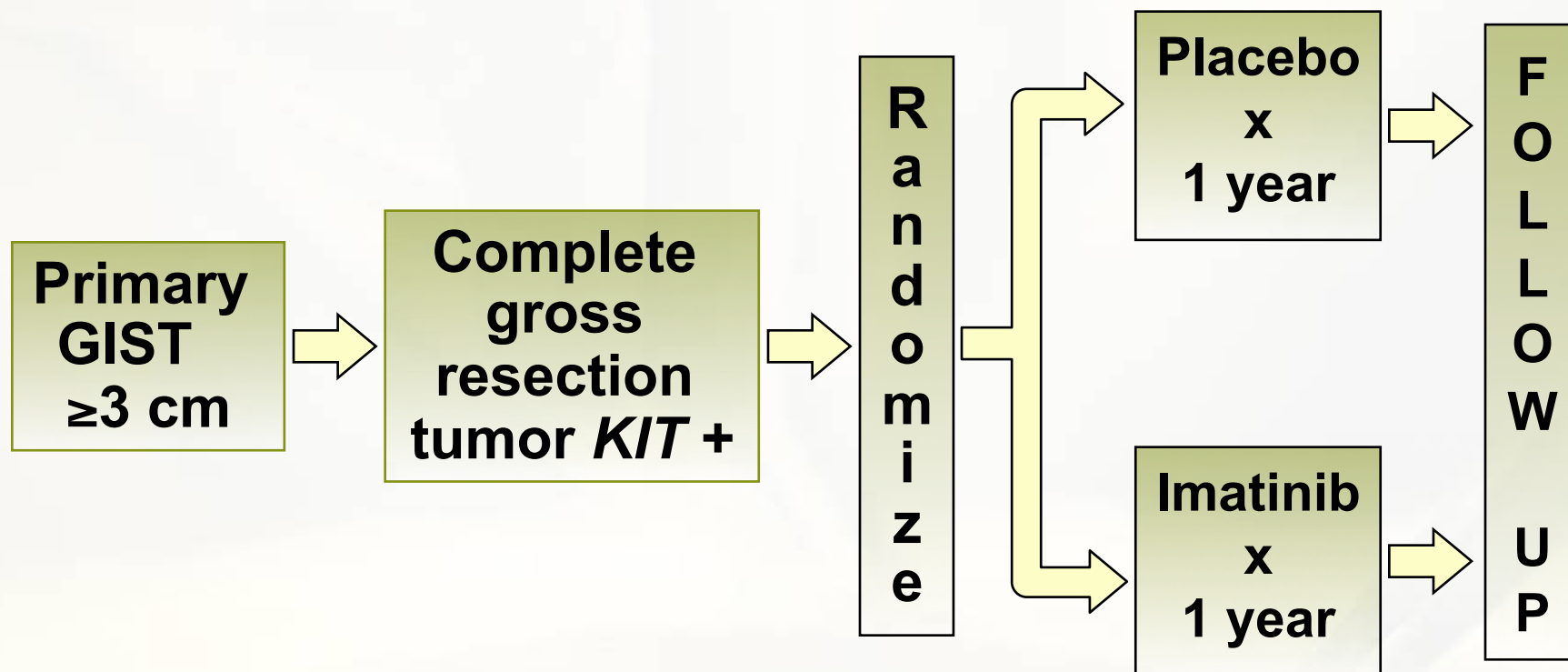
# GIST

- **>90% tumors → KIT or PDGFR $\alpha$  mutation**
- **>80% metastatic GIST patients benefit from imatinib mesylate**
- **Resected primary GIST: 5-yr survival = 54%**



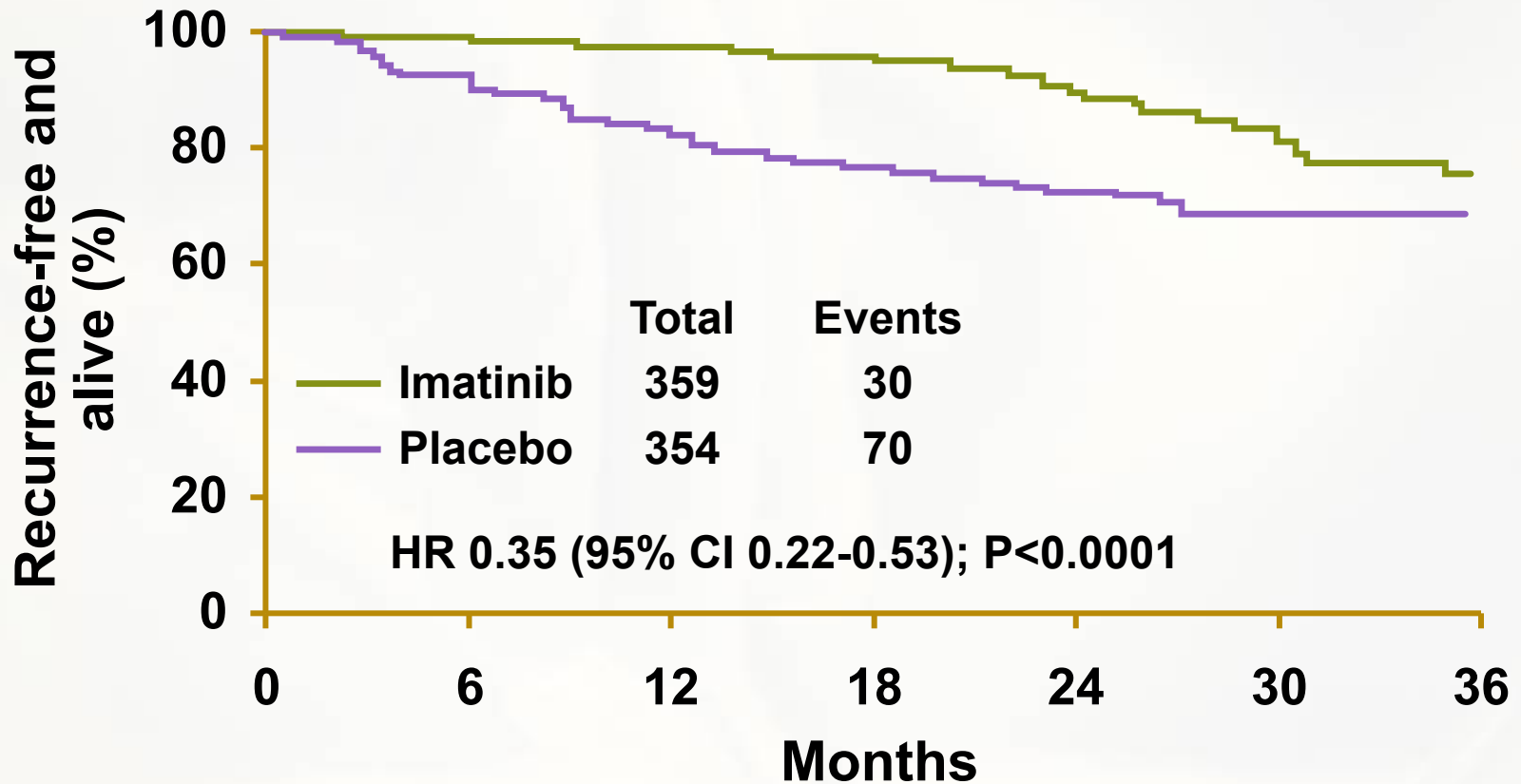


**A phase III randomized double-blind study of adjuvant imatinib vs placebo in patients following resection of primary GIST**



PI: Ron DeMatteo

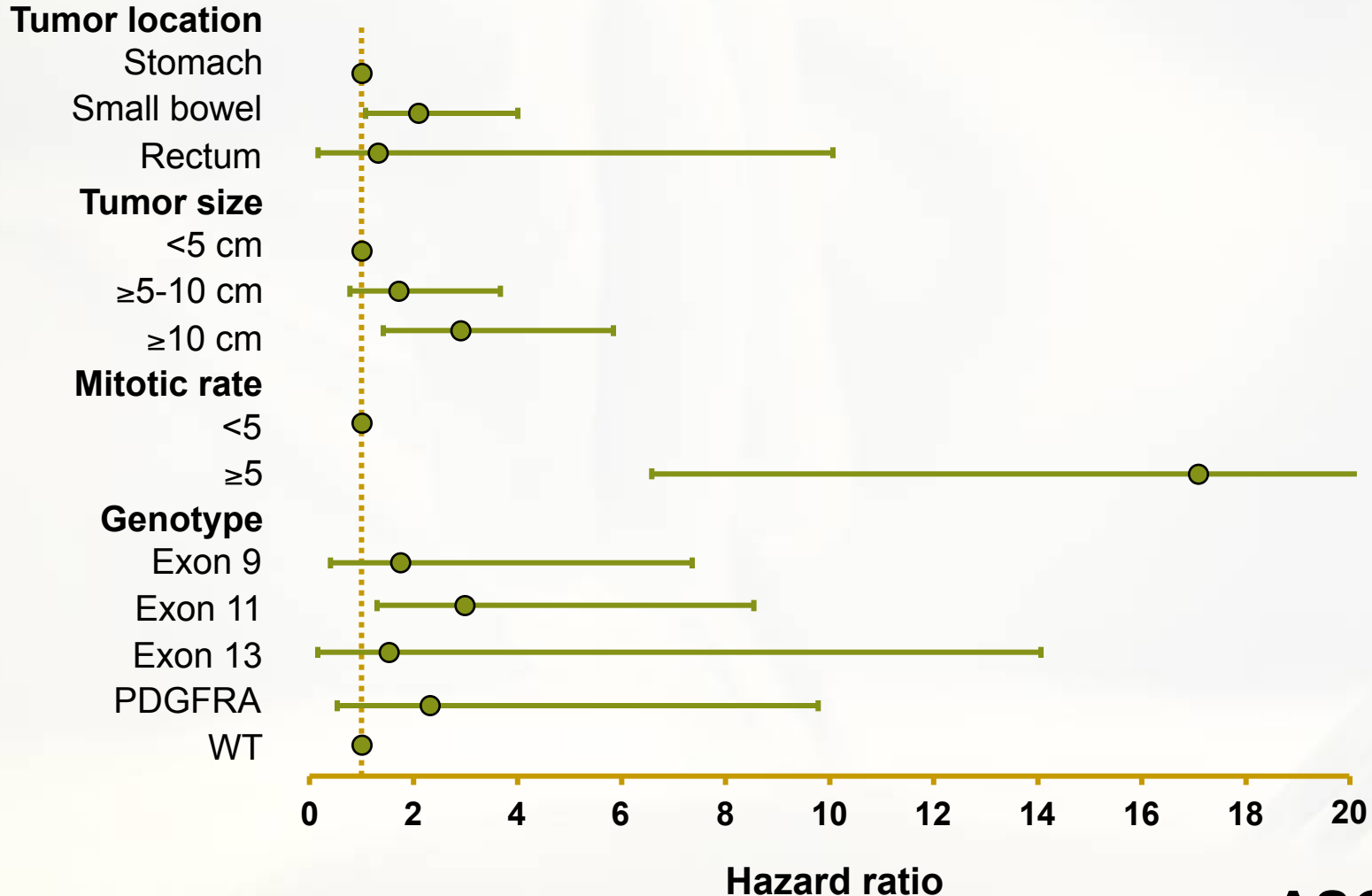
## Recurrence free survival



Placebo	359	207	105	33
Imatinib	354	188	89	34

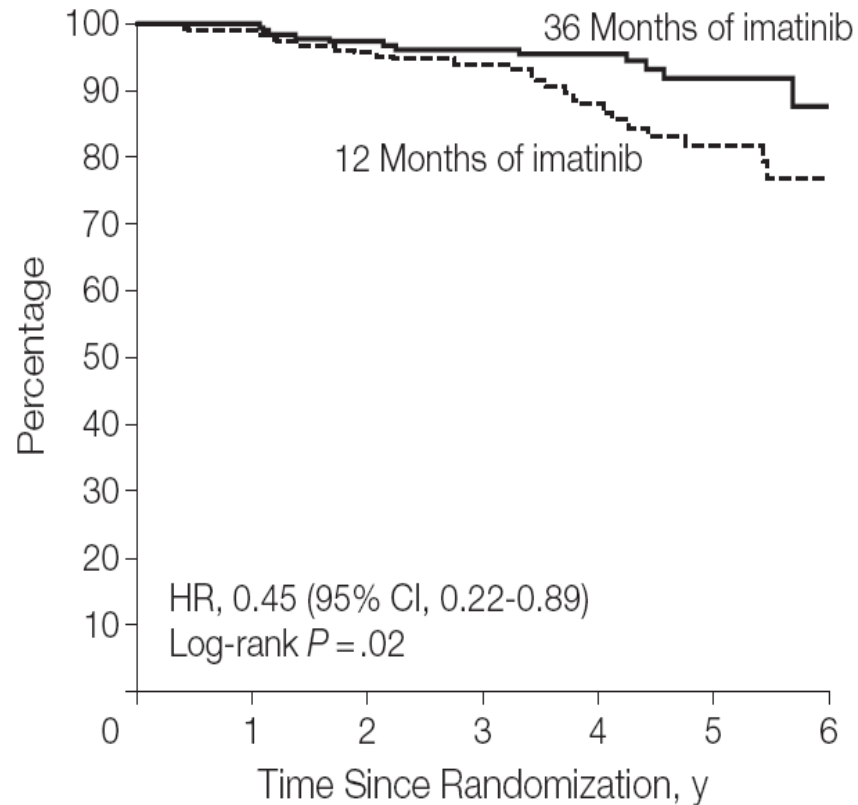
Lancet. 2009 Mar 28;373(9669):1097-104

## Multivariate Analyses For Recurrence: Placebo Group



# GIST – Adjuvant Imatinib One vs. Three Years

C Overall survival: intention-to-treat population

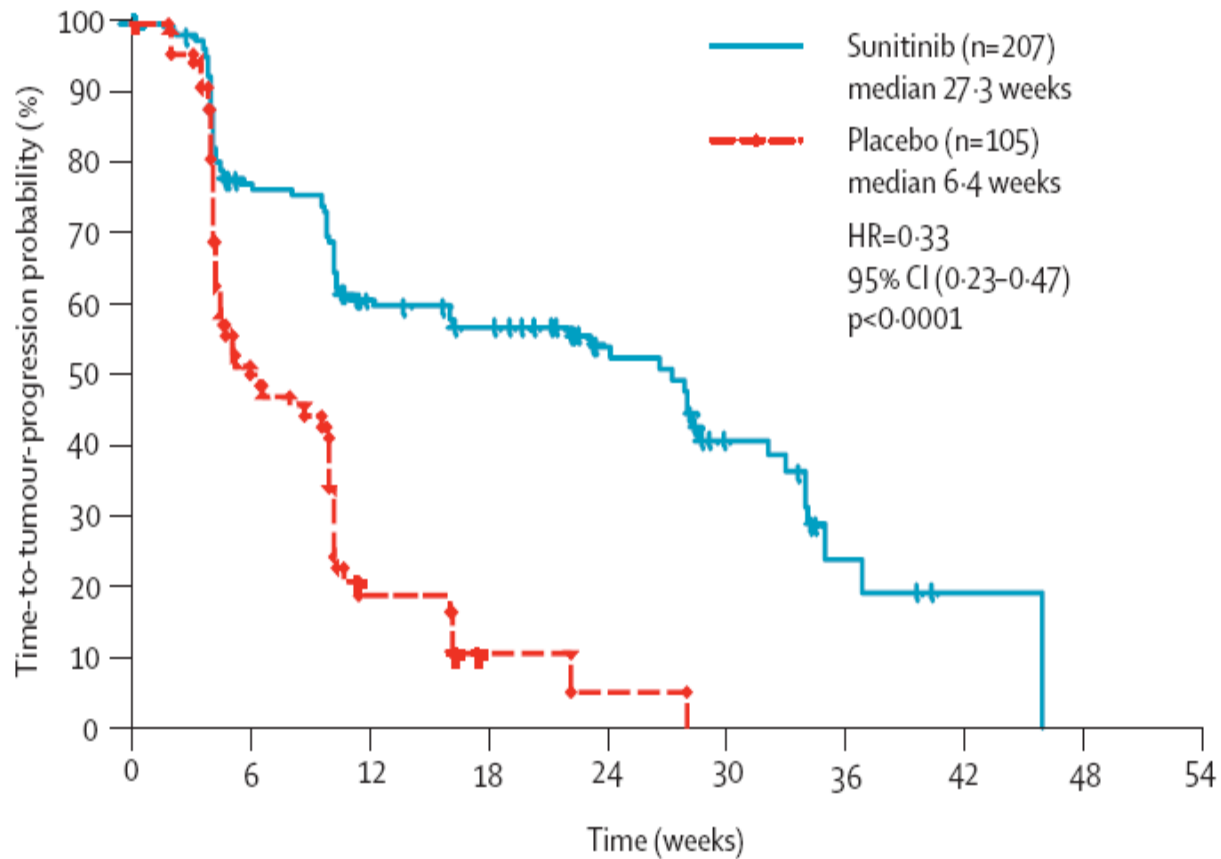


No. of patients

36 Months of imatinib	198	192	184	152	100	56	13
12 Months of imatinib	199	188	176	140	87	46	20

# Advanced GIST

## Sunitinib in Imatinib Resistant GIST

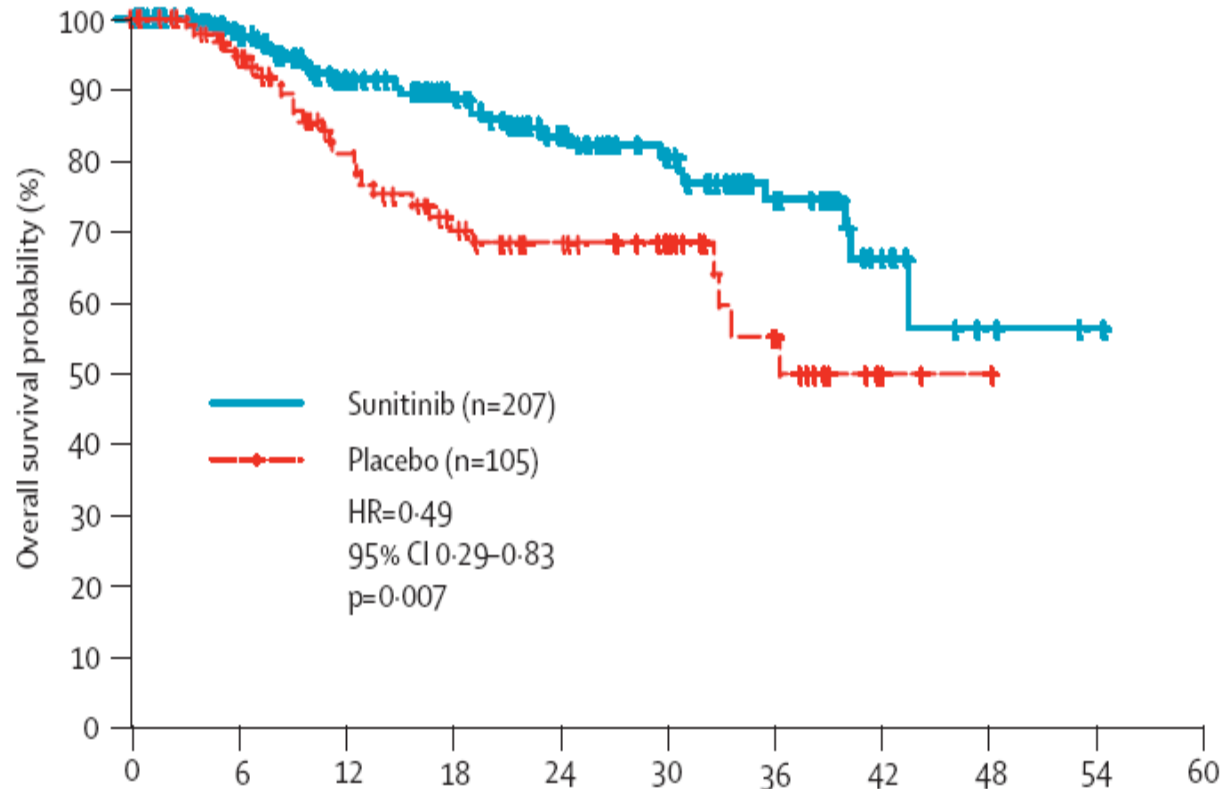


### Number at risk

Sunitinib	207	106	67	53	34	18	5	1	0
Placebo	105	36	9	2	1	0	0	0	0

# Advanced GIST

## Sunitinib in Imatinib Resistant GIST



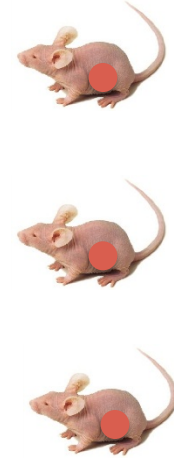
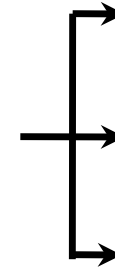
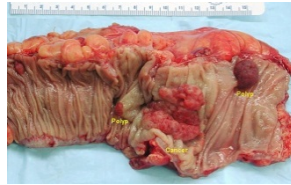
### Number at risk

Sunitinib	207	167	117	97	71	50	31	11	3	1	0
Placebo	105	85	57	43	31	22	13	3	1	0	0

# University of Colorado GI Tumor Bank

- “Bank” of patient’s blood and tumor
- Provides a collection of GI tumors that will be used for research
- The bank can be used to “identify” potential targets for drug development
- The molecular profile of tumors in the bank can be linked to information in our clinical database to provide insight on the relationship between molecular events and clinical outcome.

# Patient Derived Xenograft Program



Consented patient undergoing surgery for the neuroendocrine cancer

Tumor removed

Tumor transplanted into mice

Tumor is then transplanted into more mice for research

- Drug testing
- Biomarker / Mutations Discovery



# GI Oncology Team





# THANK YOU

