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# Immunologic Therapy for Melanoma

**Geoffrey T. Gibney, MD**

Associate Professor

Co-Leader Melanoma / Skin Cancer Program

Medical Director, Adult Outpatient Infusion Services

Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center

Medstar Georgetown University Hospital

# Disclosures

- Consultant: Novartis, BMS, Regeneron
- Research Support: Exelixis
- Clinical Trial Steering Committee: Genentech



# Outline

- Frontline immunotherapy in advanced melanoma – current options and emerging strategies.
- Adjuvant immunotherapies for resected high risk melanoma.
- Novel second line immunotherapy regimens in advanced melanoma.



# Summary of Current Frontline Options

	ORR	4yr PFS	5yr PFS	4yr OS	5yr OS	Subsequent treatment	Reference
Nivo/Ipi	58%	37%	36%	53%	52%	46%	Larkin J, N Engl J Med, 2019
Nivo	45%	31%	29%	46%	44%	59%	Larkin J, N Engl J Med, 2019
Pembro	46%	27%	--	46%	43%	--	Robert C, Lancet Oncol, 2019
TVEC*	16%	--	--	33%	--	--	Andtbacka, RHI, J Clin Oncol, 2015
Dab/Tram	68%	21%	19%	37%	34%	53%	Nathan P, ASCO, 2019
Vem/Cobi	70%	--	--	34%	31%		MacArthur GA, SMR, 2019
Enco/Bini	62%	--	--	--	--	53%	Ascierto PA, Eur J Cancer, 2020

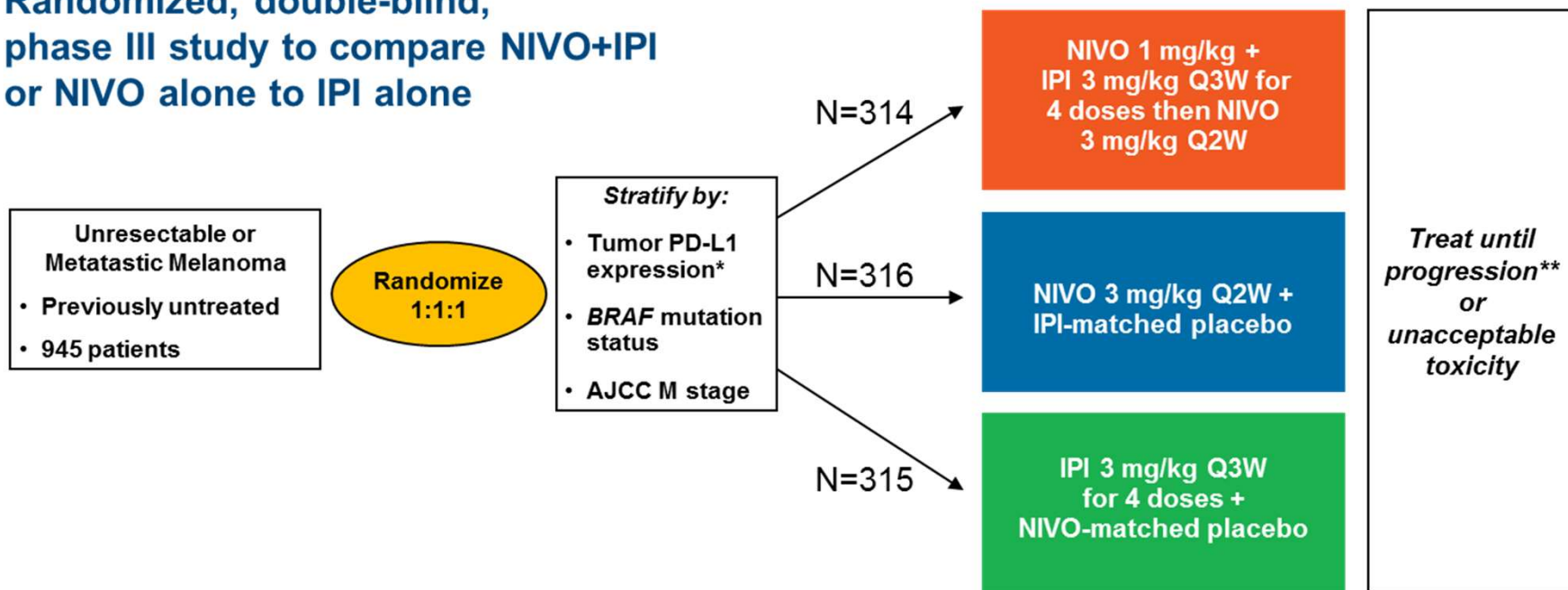
\*Study included 30% stage III patients, objective response rate = DRR



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## Randomized, double-blind, phase III study to compare NIVO+IPI or NIVO alone to IPI alone



\*Verified PD-L1 assay with 5% expression level was used for the stratification of patients; validated PD-L1 assay was used for efficacy analyses.

\*\*Patients could have been treated beyond progression under protocol-defined circumstances.



# Checkmate 069: Phase III study of Nivo/Ipi, Nivo, and Ipi advanced melanoma 5 Year Follow Up

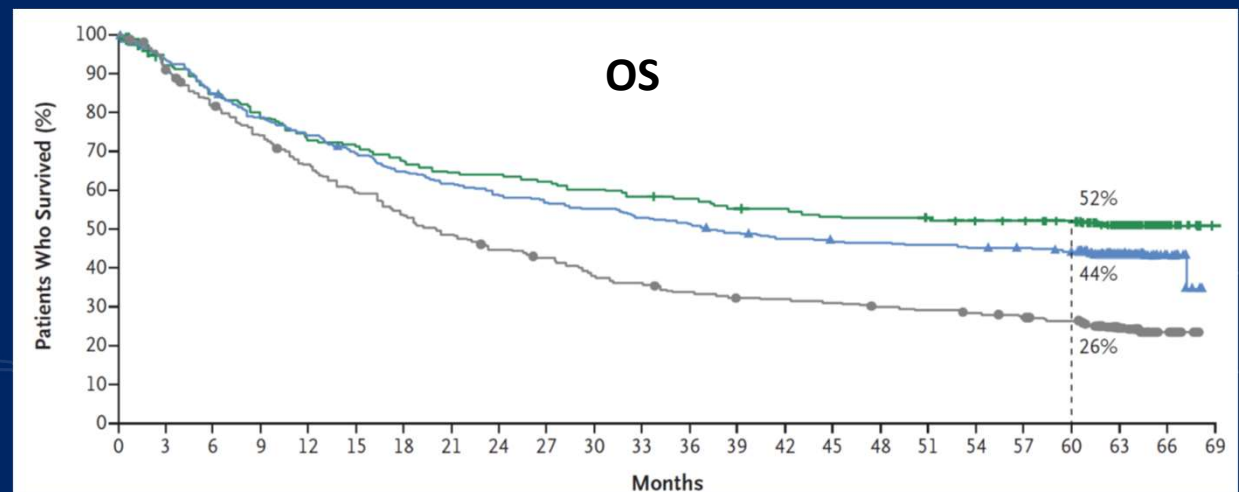
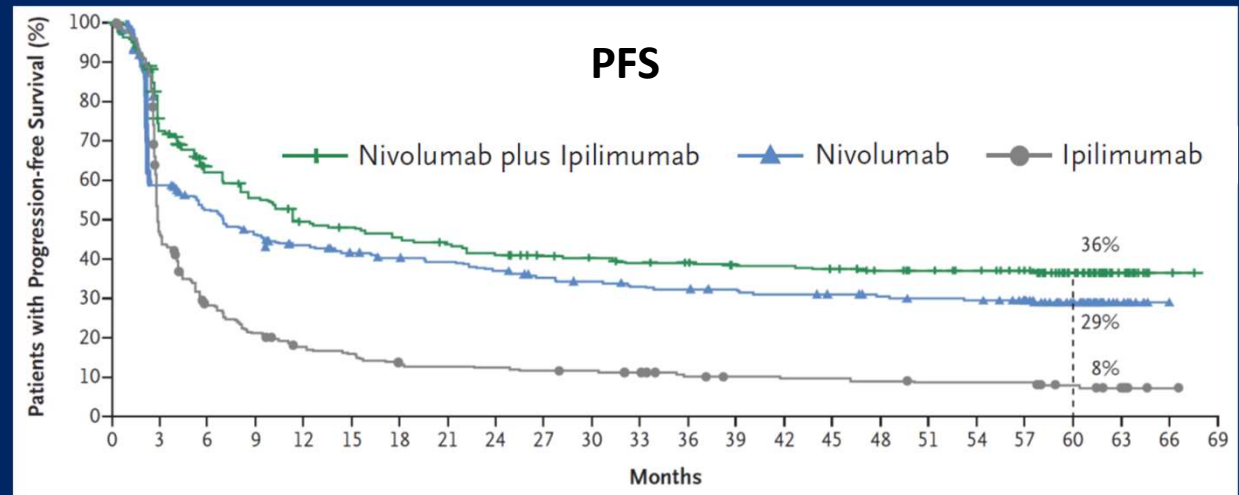
## Nivo/Ipi vs Nivo

- PFS HR = 0.79 (95% CI 0.64 to 0.96)
- OS HR = 0.83 (95% CI, 0.67 to 1.03)
- Treatment-related Grade 3-4 AEs
  - 59% for Nivo/Ipi
  - 23% for Nivo

Larkin J, N Engl J Med, 2019



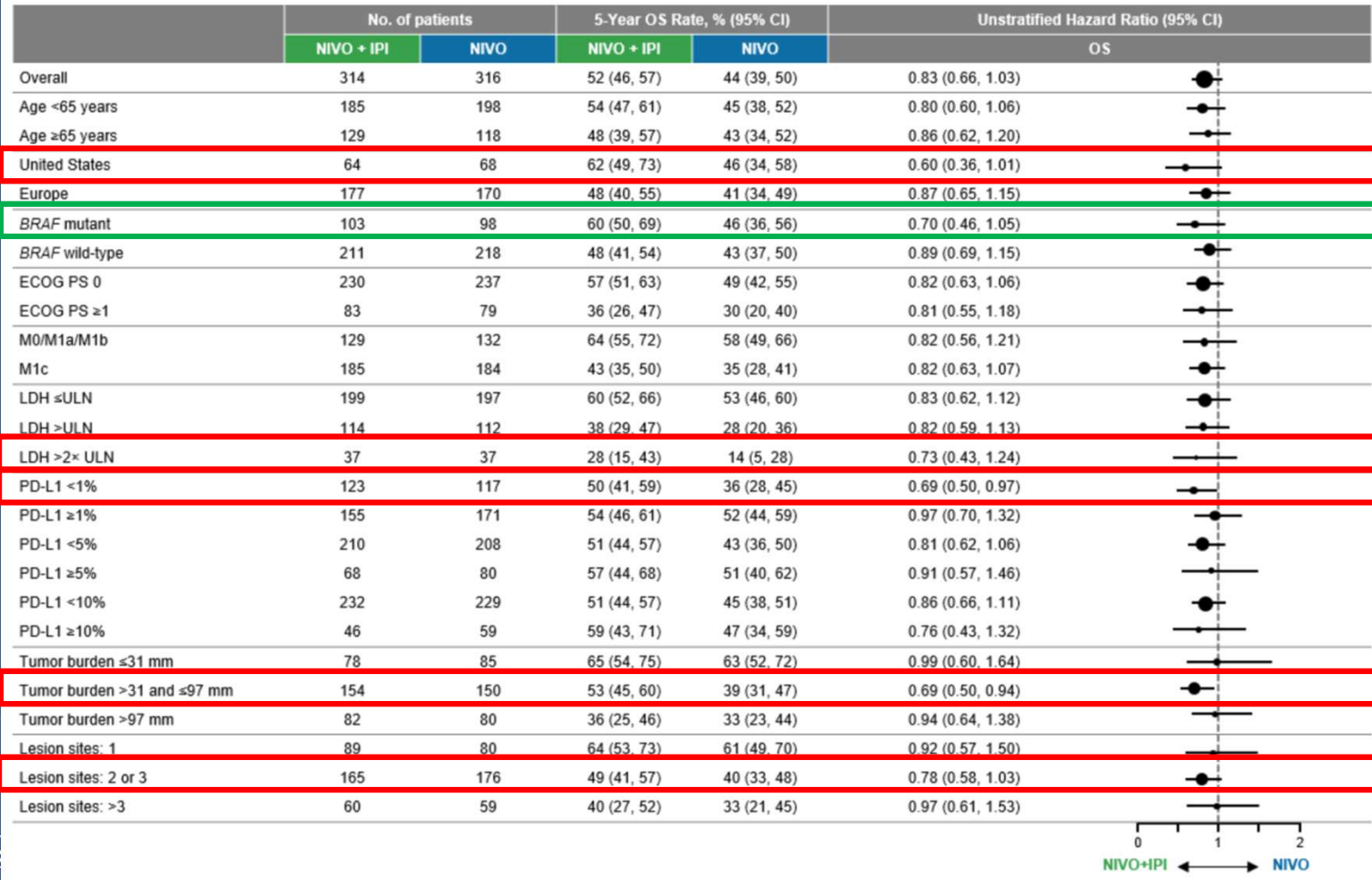
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# Checkmate 069: Phase III study of Nivo/Ipi, Nivo, and Ipi advanced melanoma

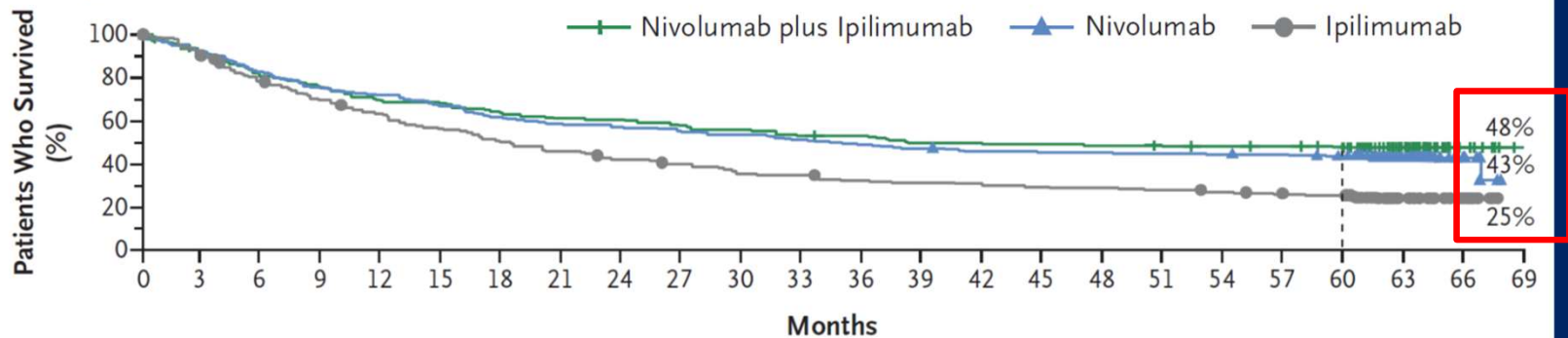
(F) Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab Versus Nivolumab (Overall Survival).



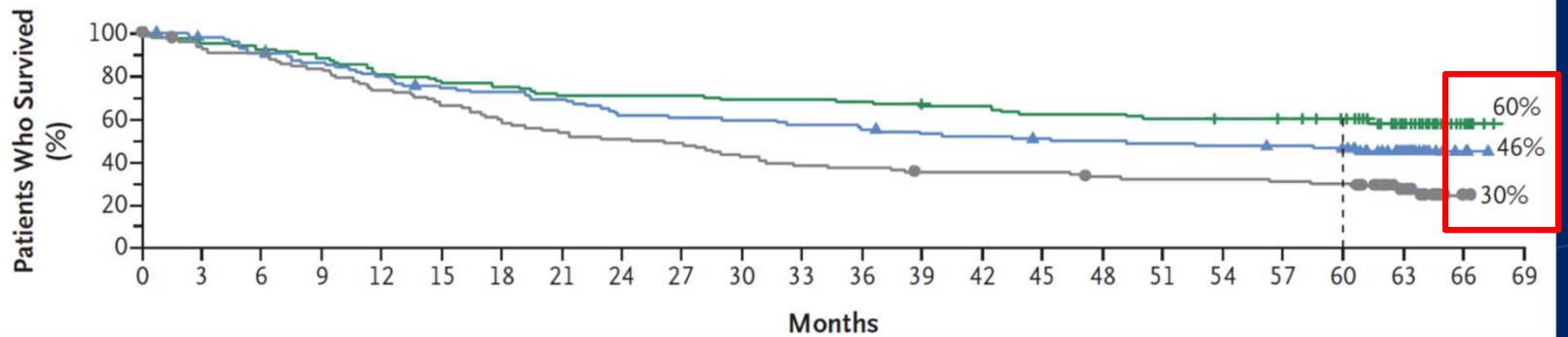
# Checkmate 069: Phase III study of Nivo/Ipi, Nivo, and Ipi advanced melanoma

## 5 Year Follow Up – Survival by BRAF status

Overall Survival among Patients without BRAF Mutations

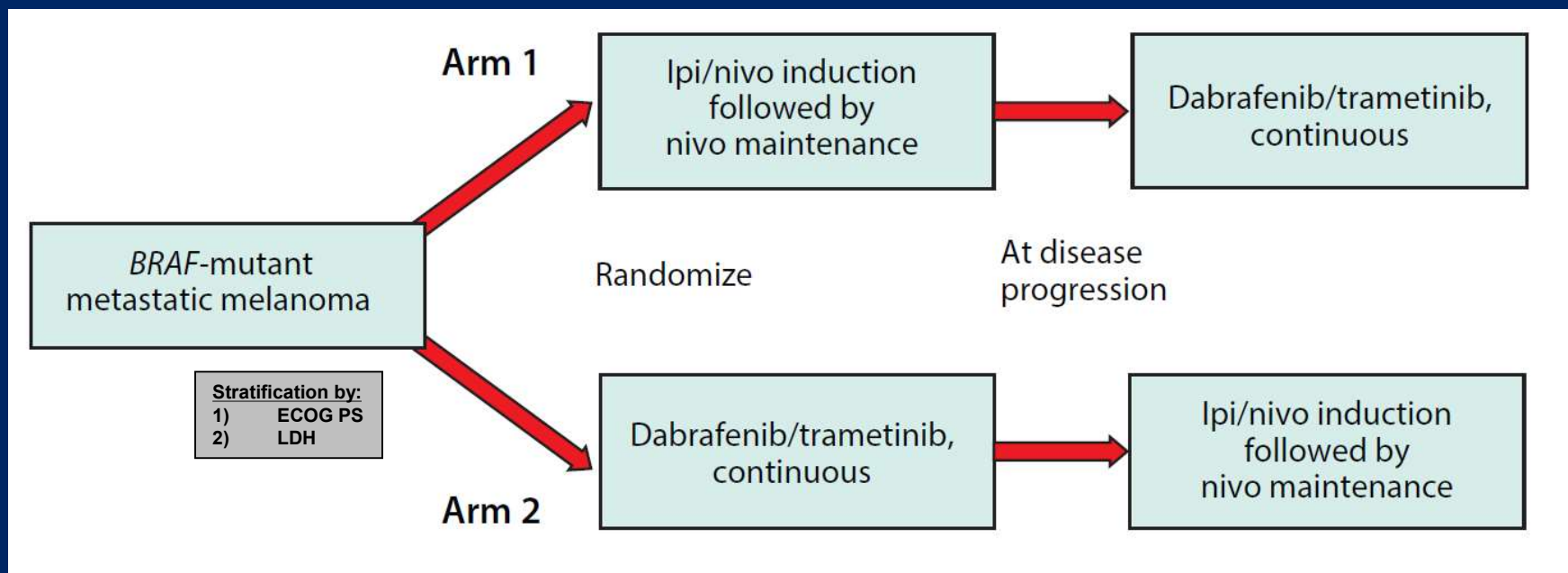


Overall Survival among Patients with BRAF Mutations





# DREAM-Seq (EA6134) Trial



- Total Accrual Goal = 300 subjects
- Primary Endpoint = 2 year overall survival rate (70% vs 50%)
- Baseline tumors (pretreatment) and blood available for biomarker studies

Study Chair:  
Michael B. Atkins, MD



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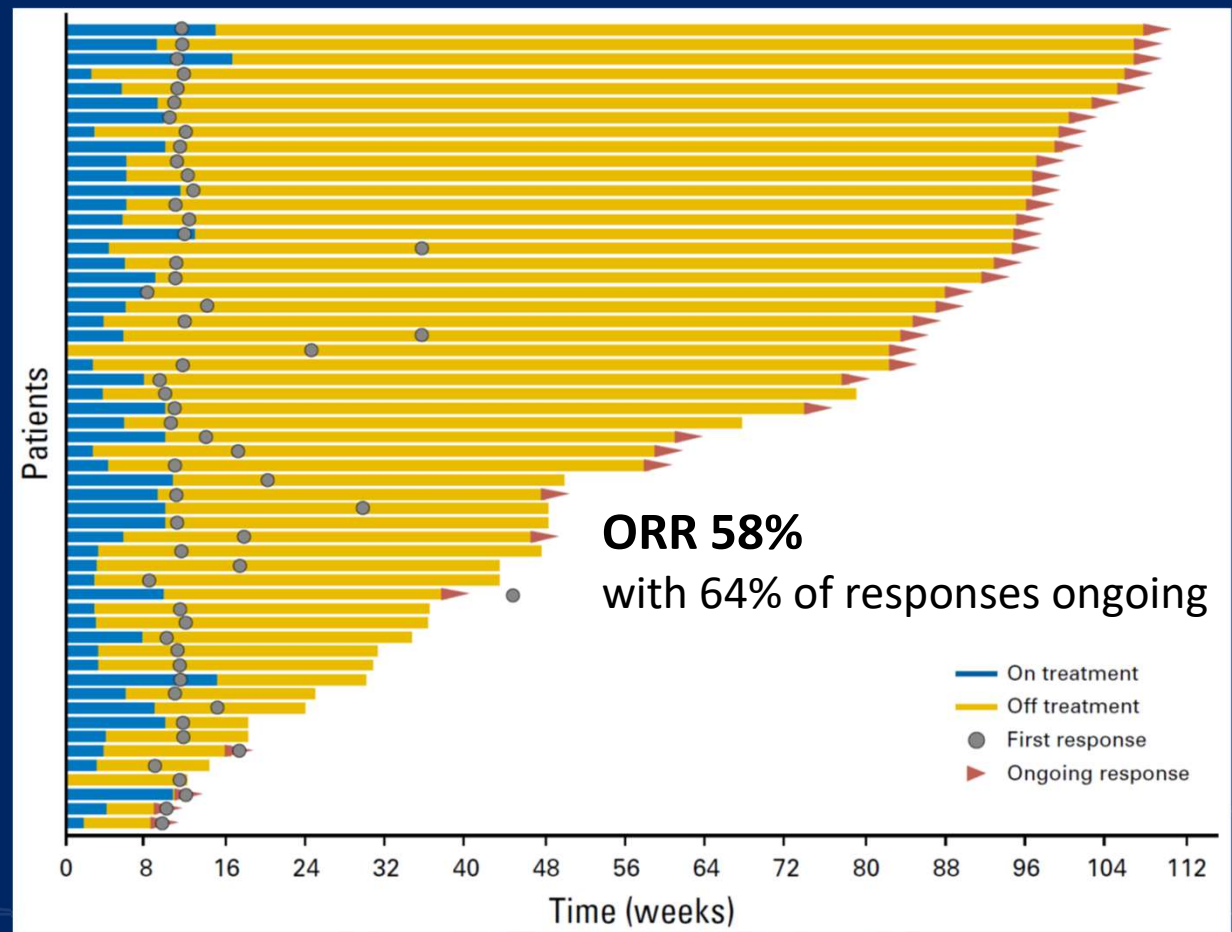
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# Off Treatment Survival Nivo/Ipi Data from CM 067/06

38% of patients discontinued treatment due to AE

Efficacy of Nivo/Ipi is not diminished who come off early for toxicity.

OS rate 67% at 18 months (vs 62% for no AE discontinuation)



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Schadendorf D, J Clin Oncol 2017

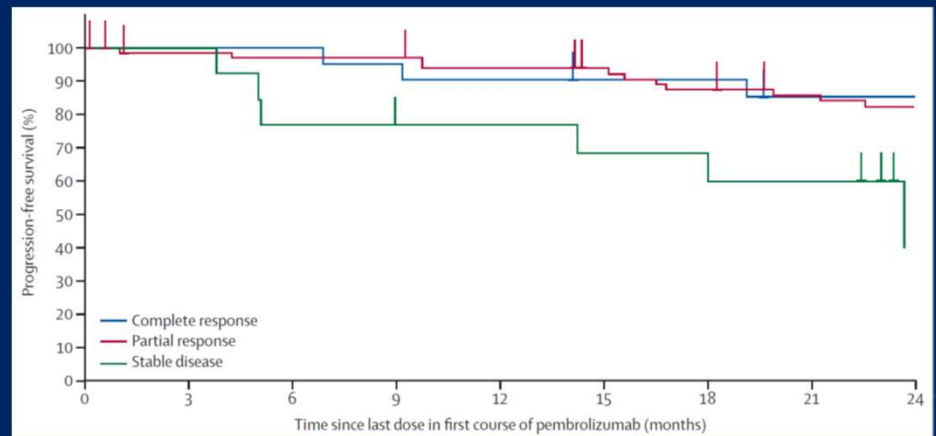
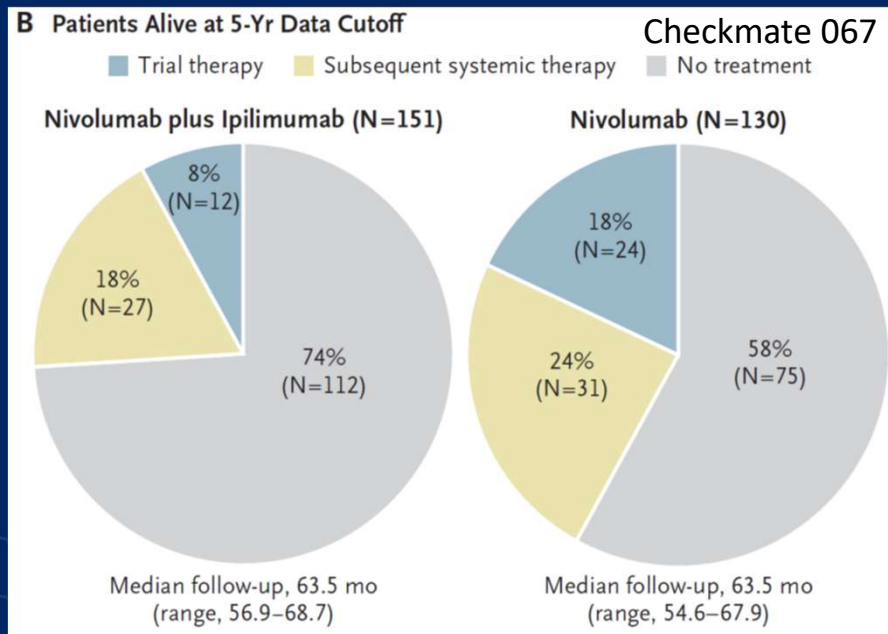
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# Off Treatment Survival (OTS)

CM 067 - 5 year follow up  
 More patients in OTS with  
 Nivo/Ipi

Keynote 006: D/C Pembro  
 after 2 yrs

Stopping pembro after 2 years  
 appears to be safe in patients  
 with PR or CR.



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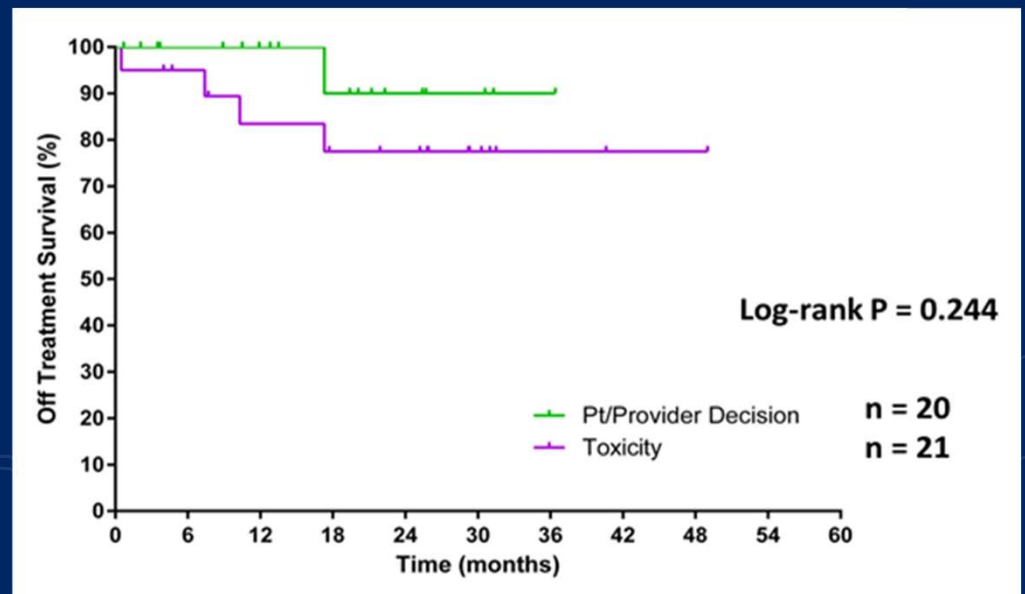
Larkin J, N Engl J Med, 2019  
 Robert C, Lancet Oncol, 2019

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# Off Treatment Survival with anti-PD-1 monotherapy vs combinations therapy

- Retrospective study at Georgetown
- Patients came off treatment by decision after CR on CT scan, PET/CT neg, or PET/CT + and biopsy negative.

Reason for DC	Mono (n=42)	mDOT	Combo (n=48)	mDOT
PD/Death	26 (62%)	2.3mos	19 (40%)	2.4mos
Toxicity	4 (12%)	2.3mos	20 (42%)	2.1mos
Pt/provider decision	11 (26%)	11.9mos	9 (19%)	11.7mos



Christiansen SA, ASCO, 2018

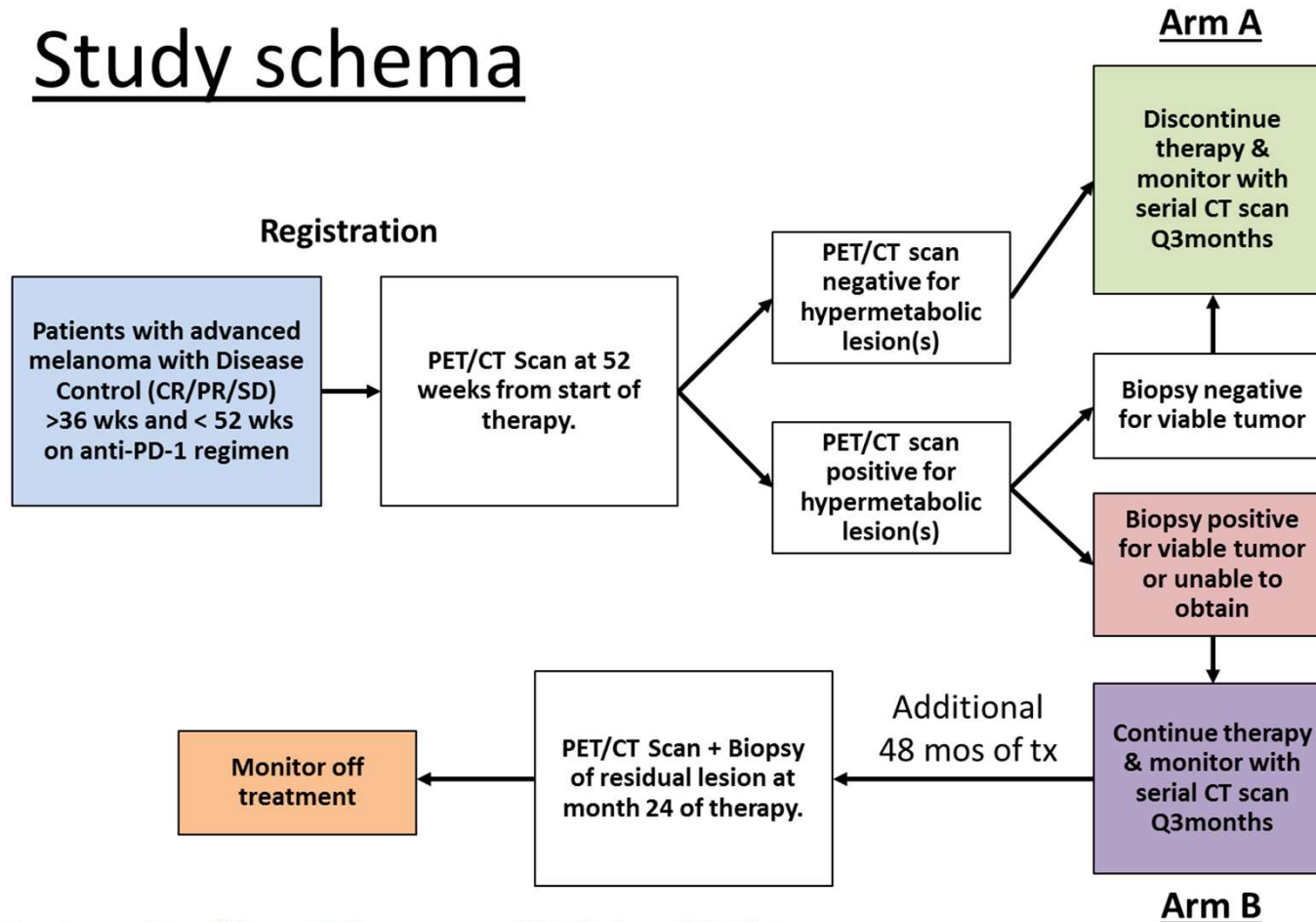


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# EA6192 protocol under development

## Study schema



Study Chairs: Geoffrey Gibney and Michael Atkins

Primary Endpoint = Event Free Survival at 12 months off treatment in Arm A

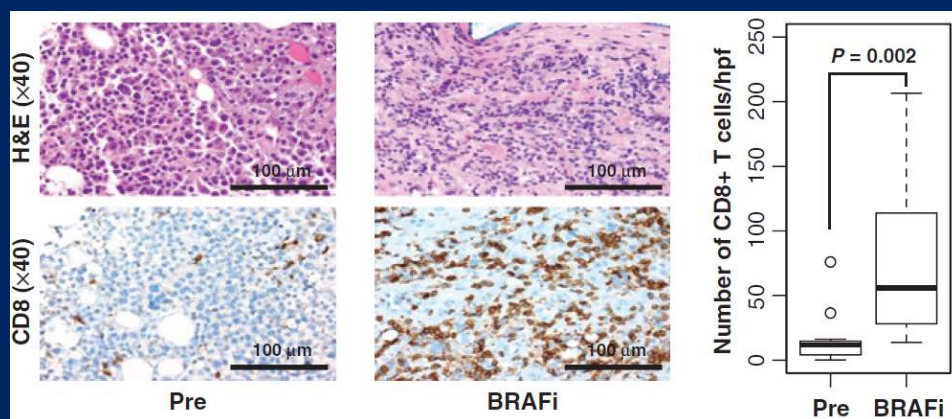
Secondary Endpoints = EFS Arm B, Pathologic negative rate, OS, AE rates

# Frontline Melanoma Immunotherapy Strategies in Development

- IMspire150 (Trilogy): Vemurafenib/Cobimetinib + Atezolizumab\*
- COMBI-i: Dabrafenib/Trametinib + Spartalizumab\*
- CA045-001: Nivolumab + NKTR 214 (IL-2 agonist)
- CA224-041: Nivolumab + Relatlimab (anti-LAG3)
- Pembrolizumab + Personalized Cancer Vaccine
- Masterkey 265: Pembrolizumab + TVEC
- EA6141: Nivolumab/Ipilimumab + GM-CSF

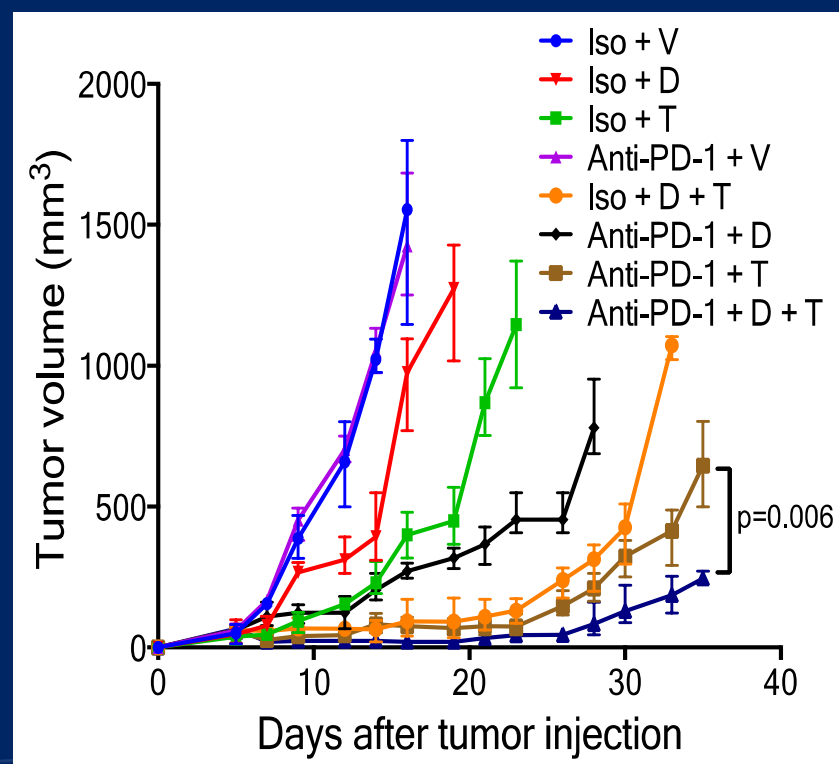


# Preclinical data for Anti-PD-1/L1 plus BRAFi/MEKi



- Increase in intratumoral CD8+ T-cell density (and melanoma Ag expression) after BRAFi

Tumor control superior with triple combo



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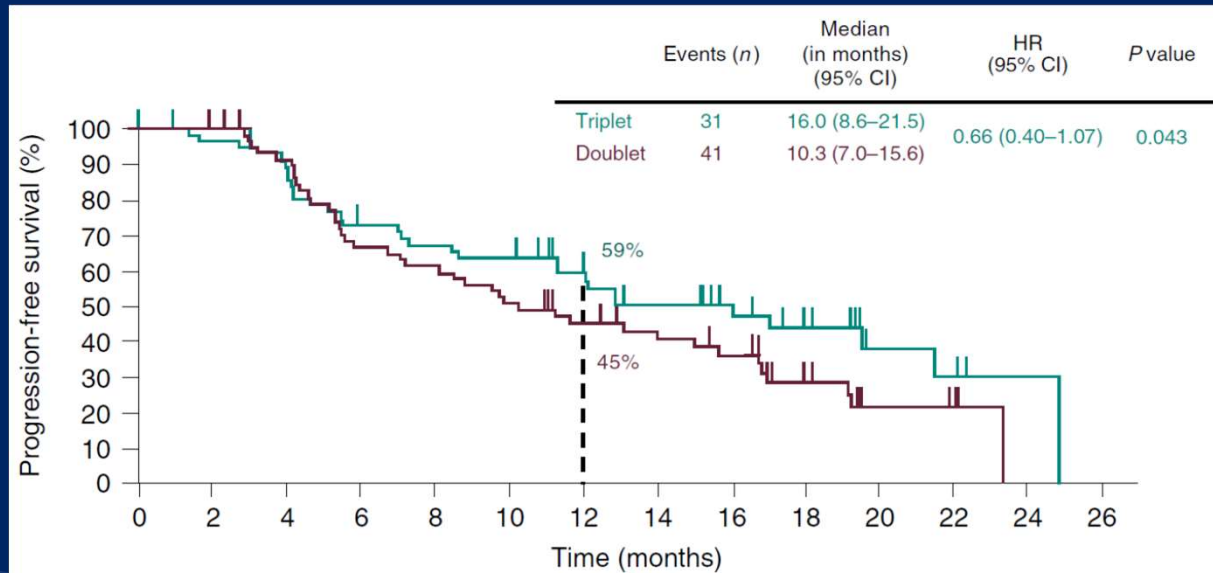
Frederick DT, et al. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2013; Hu-Lieskvoan S, et al. *Sci Transl Med.* 2015.

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# Keynote 022 Randomized Phase 2

Ascierto PA, Nat Med, 2019

- Dabrafenib/trametinib +/- pembrolizumab randomized 1:1
- Total of 120 patients with BRAF V600 mut melanoma enrolled
- ORR 63% for D/T and 72% for D/T/P\*



	PFS at 24 mos	DOR at 24 mos
D/T/P	41%	55%
D/T	16%	16%

SMR 2019 (Ferrucci PF, et al.)

- TRAE gr3-5 AE rate 58% (D/T/P) vs 27% (D/T)
  - most often fever, increased AST/ALT and rash.



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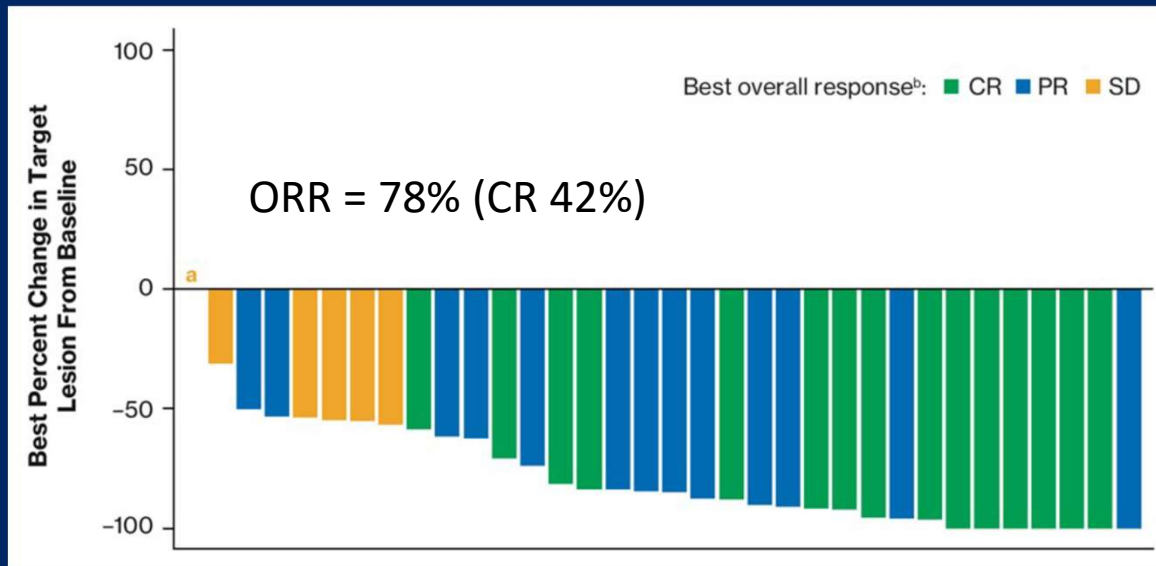
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# COMBI-i (parts 1&2 data)

- N= 36
- Dabrafenib/trametinib plus spartalizumab

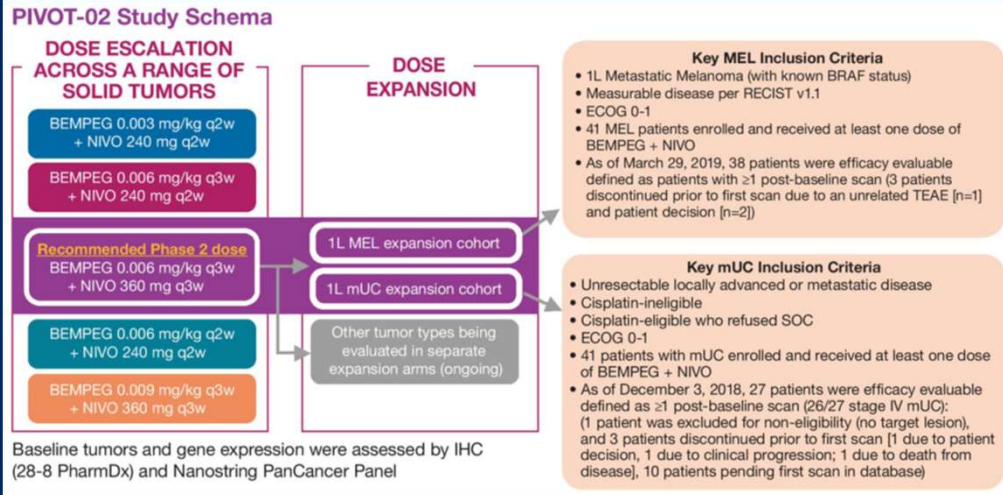


AE related	
Drug interruption	100%
Any drug discontinuation	47%
All drug discontinuation	17%

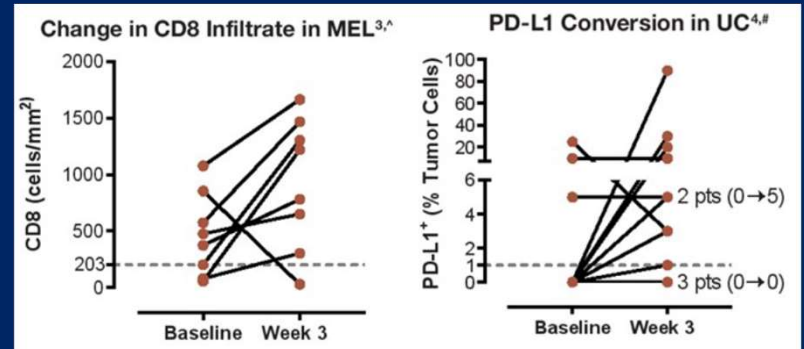
- 12 month PFS and DOR rates = 67% and 80%
- Treatment related gr3-4 AE rate = 72%, most often pyrexia; also arthralgias and elevated CPK, AST, ALT, Lipase and amylase.



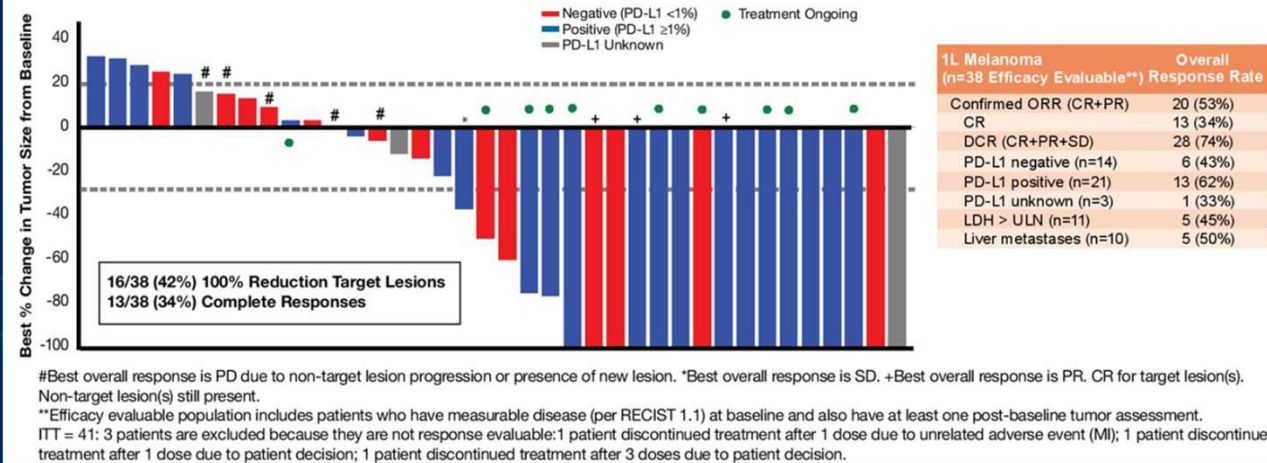
# NKTR 214 + Nivolumab



Early increased CD8 T-cell and PD-L1 expression seen on study.



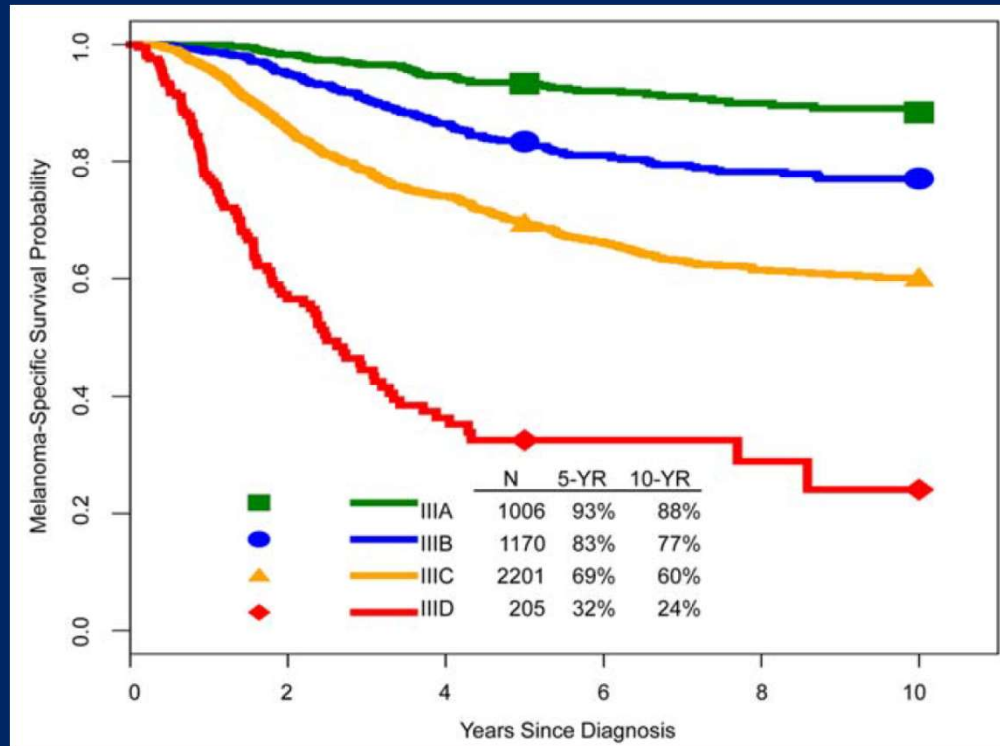
## Stage IV 1L Melanoma Cohort at RP2D: Best Overall Response by Independent Radiology



- 80% with ongoing responses at median 13mos follow up
- Grade 3-4 TRAE = 15%
- Gr1-2 flu-like sxs 81%
- Gr1-2 rash 71%

Hurwitz M, ASCO, 2019

# Adjuvant Systemic therapy for resected high risk stage III melanoma



- Approved options of IFN and Ipilimumab not routinely used.
- Current standards are anti-PD-1 monotherapy (Nivolumab or Pembrolizumab) and dabrafenib/trametinib\*

\*BRAF V600 mutant melanoma only

Gershanwald J, CA J Clin, 2017



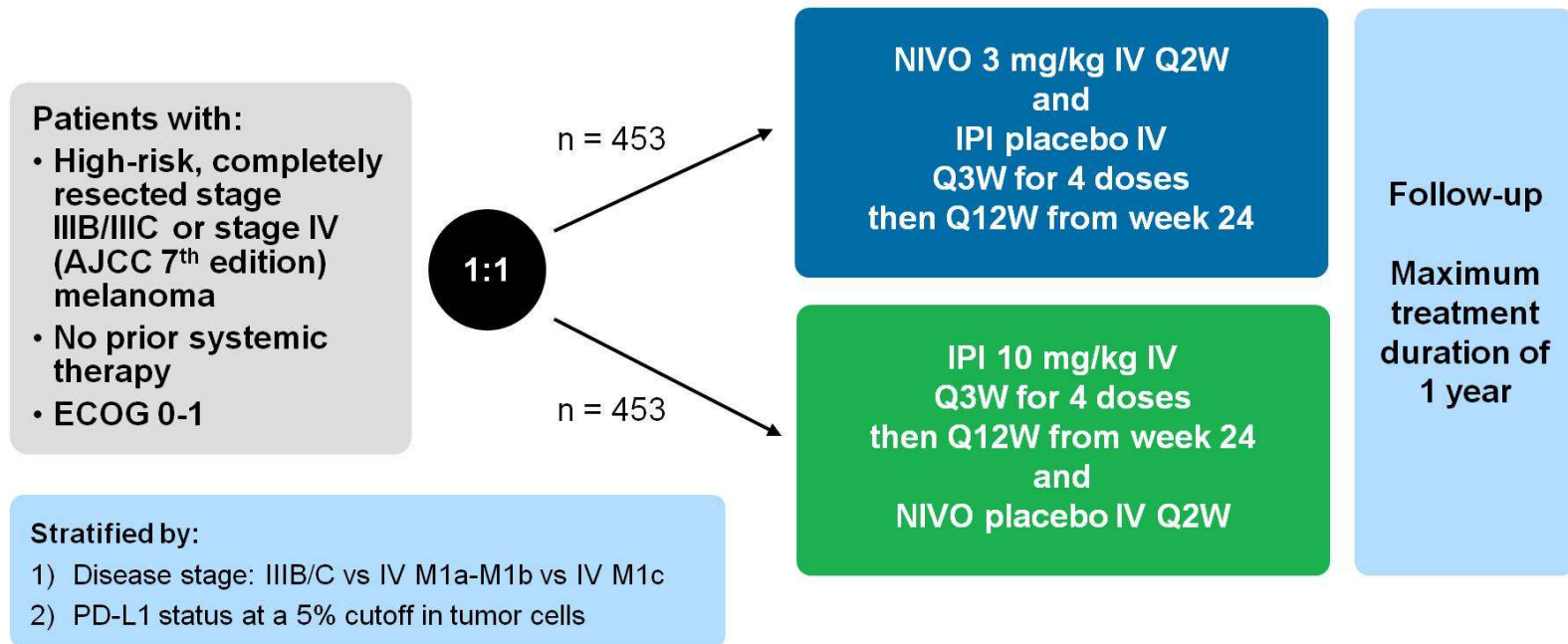
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# Phase III study of adjuvant Nivo vs Ipi in resected stage IIIB-IV melanoma

CheckMate 238: 24-Month Follow-Up

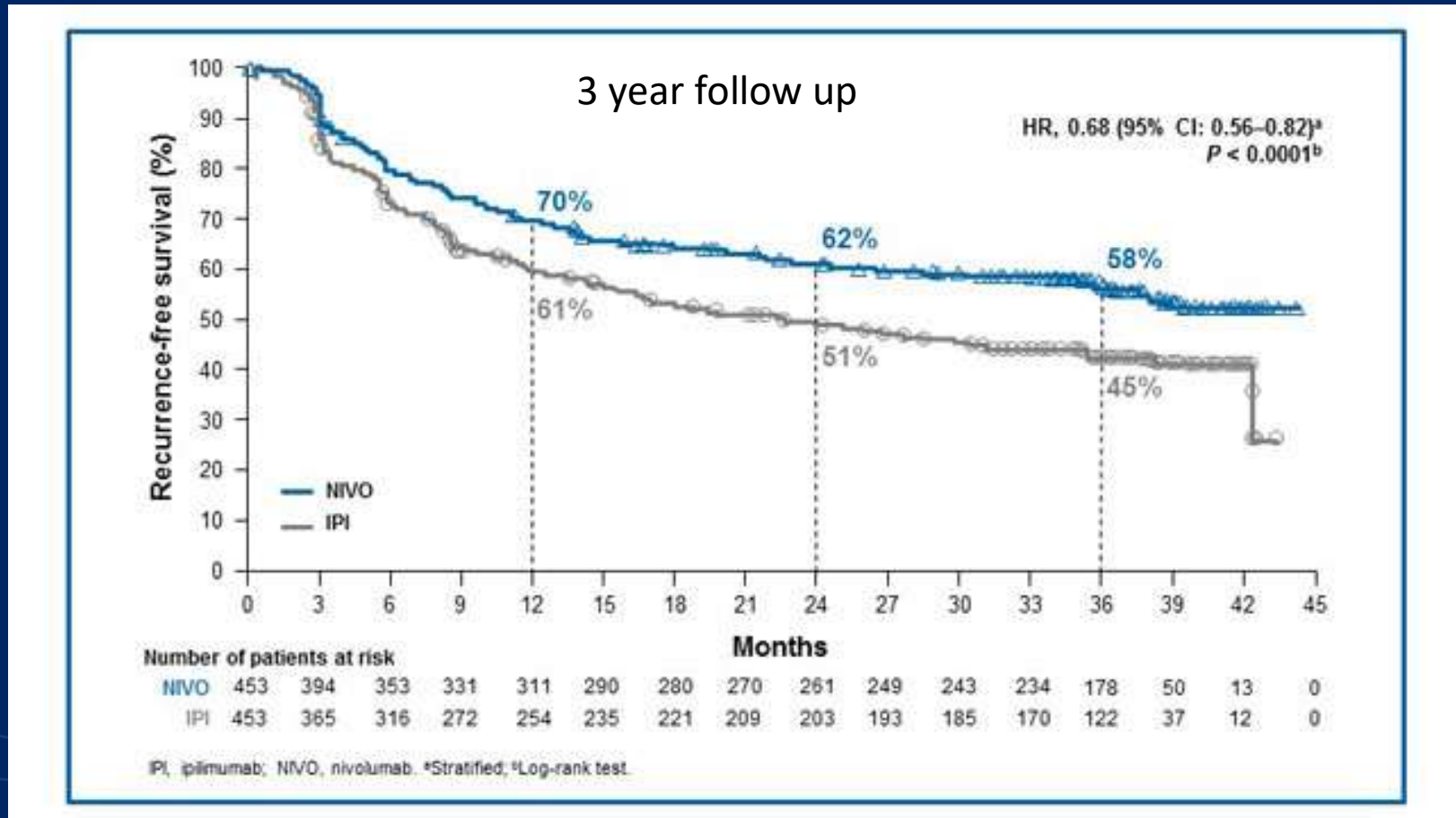
## CheckMate 238: Study Design



**Enrollment period:** March 30, 2015 to November 30, 2015



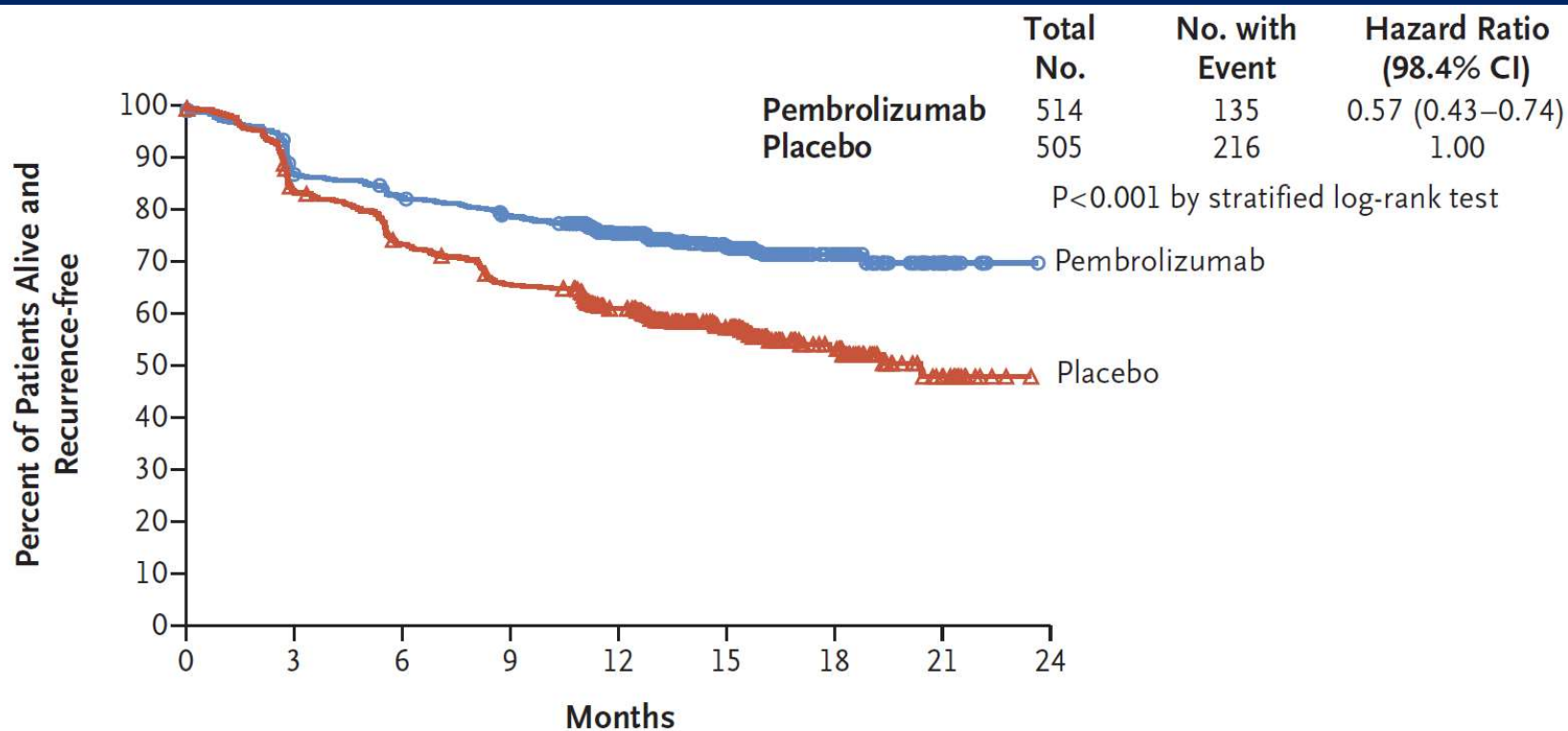
# Checkmate 238: Phase III adjuvant Nivo vs Ipi in resected stage IIIB-IV melanoma



# Checkmate 238: Safety

Event	Nivolumab (N=452)		Ipilimumab (N=453)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4	Any Grade	Grade 3 or 4
	<i>number of patients with event (percent)</i>			
Any adverse event	438 (96.9)	115 (25.4)	446 (98.5)	250 (55.2)
Treatment-related adverse event†	385 (85.2)	65 (14.4)	434 (95.8)	208 (45.9)
Fatigue	156 (34.5)	2 (0.4)	149 (32.9)	4 (0.9)
Diarrhea ←	110 (24.3)	7 (1.5)	208 (45.9)	43 (9.5)
Pruritus	105 (23.2)	0	152 (33.6)	5 (1.1)
Rash	90 (19.9)	5 (1.1)	133 (29.4)	14 (3.1)
Nausea	68 (15.0)	1 (0.2)	91 (20.1)	0
Arthralgia	57 (12.6)	1 (0.2)	49 (10.8)	2 (0.4)
Asthenia	57 (12.6)	1 (0.2)	53 (11.7)	4 (0.9)
Hypothyroidism	49 (10.8)	1 (0.2)	31 (6.8)	2 (0.4)
Headache	44 (9.7)	1 (0.2)	79 (17.4)	7 (1.5)
Abdominal pain	29 (6.4)	0	46 (10.2)	1 (0.2)
Increase in ALT level ←	28 (6.2)	5 (1.1)	66 (14.6)	26 (5.7)
Increase in AST level ←	25 (5.5)	2 (0.4)	60 (13.2)	19 (4.2)
Maculopapular rash	24 (5.3)	0	50 (11.0)	9 (2.0)
Hypophysitis	7 (1.5)	2 (0.4)	48 (10.6)	11 (2.4)
Pyrexia	7 (1.5)	0	54 (11.9)	2 (0.4)
Any adverse event leading to discontinuation	44 (9.7)	21 (4.6)	193 (42.6)	140 (30.9)
Treatment-related adverse event leading to discontinuation	35 (7.7)	16 (3.5)	189 (41.7)	136 (30.0)

# Keynote 054 / EORTC 1325: *Pembrolizumab vs Placebo*



### No. at Risk

Pembrolizumab	514	438	413	392	313	182	73	15	0
Placebo	505	415	363	323	264	157	60	15	0

Eggermont AMM, N Engl J Med, 2018



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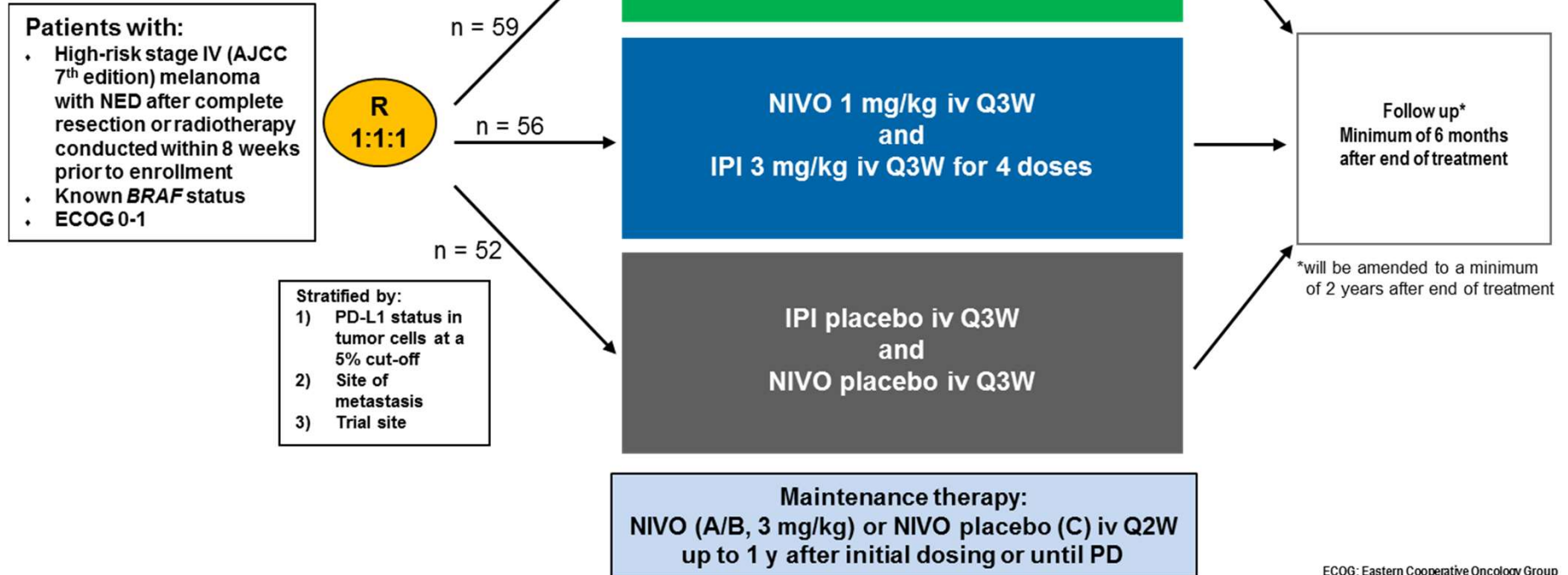
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# THE IMMUNED STUDY

## Study design

Enrollment period: Sept. 2015 to Nov. 2018



ECOG: Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group  
PD: Progressive disease



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Shadendorf D, ESMO 2019

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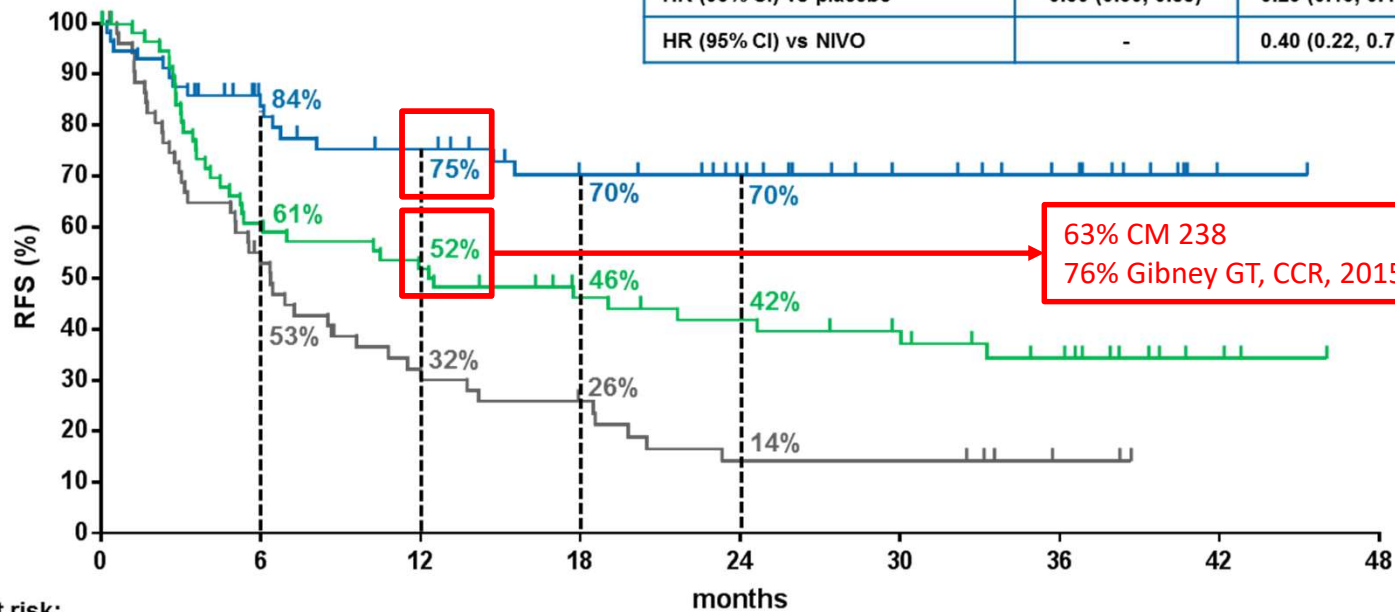
# THE IMMUNED STUDY

## RFS in all patients

Data cut-off date July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019  
 Median follow-up time: 28.4 months (n=167)

	NIVO (n=59)	NIVO+IPI (n=56)	Placebo (n=52)
Median RFS, mo (95% CI)	12.4 (5.30, 33.26)	NR <sup>1</sup>	6.4 (3.26, 9.61)
HR (95% CI) vs placebo	0.56 (0.36, 0.88)	0.23 (0.13, 0.41)	-
HR (95% CI) vs NIVO	-	0.40 (0.22, 0.73)	-

<sup>1</sup>NR: not reached



Patients at risk:

	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
NIVO	59	34	29	22	19	16	11	3	-
NIVO + IPI	56	40	34	26	21	14	10	1	-
Placebo	52	26	15	11	6	6	2	-	-



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Shadendorf D, ESMO 2019

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# THE IMMUNED STUDY

## Safety overview

	NIVO (n=56)				NIVO + IPI (n=55)				Placebo (n=51)			
	All Grades		Grade 3/4		All Grades		Grade 3/4		All Grades		Grade 3/4	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Any treatment-related AE	47	83.9	15	26.8	53	96.4	39	70.9	28	54.9	3	5.9
Skin	19	33.9	1	1.8	33	60.0	3	5.5	7	13.7	0	0
Gastrointestinal	19	33.9	1	1.8	25	45.5	8	14.5	8	15.7	0	0
Hepatic	9	16.1	5	8.9	33	60.0	26	47.3	1	2.0	0	0
Endocrine	14	25.0	2	3.6	33	60.0	7	12.7	1	2.0	0	0
Neurological	10	17.9	2	3.6	11	20.0	1	1.8	9	17.6	0	0
Musculoskeletal	14	25.0	3	5.4	14	25.5	1	1.8	5	9.8	0	0
Any immune-related AE	40	71.4	14	25.0	51	92.7	38	69.1	17	33.3	3	5.9
Treatment-related AE leading to discontinuation	7	12.5	5	8.9	34	61.8	29	52.7	1	2.0	-	-
Any AE leading to discontinuation	7	12.5	5	8.9	34	61.8	29	52.7	2	3.9	1	2.0

- No treatment-related deaths have occurred!

Data cut-off date July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019  
Median follow-up time: 28.4 months (n=167)



# Accrued Phase III Adjuvant Immunotherapy Melanoma Studies

- SWOG 1404: Phase III study of Pembrolizumab vs Patient/Provider Choice (IFN or Ipilimumab) in resected stage IIIA-IV melanoma patients
  - Closed to Accrual 11/2/2017; no updates yet
- Checkmate 915: Phase III study for Nivolumumab/Ipilimumab vs Nivolumab in resected stage IIIB-IV melanoma patients
  - Press release on 11/20/19: “A statistically significant benefit was not reached for the co-primary endpoint of recurrence-free survival (RFS) in patients whose tumors expressed PD-L1 <1%...”



# Neoadjuvant approach to clinical stage III melanoma



- Responses can occur quickly with systemic therapy
- Pathologic response appears to predict long-term survival
- Neoadjuvant immunotherapy efficacy may be greater compared to administration after surgery.



# Modern melanoma NST trials

Trial	Regimen	N	pCR (%)	med RFS (mo)	med FU (mo)
Amaria Lancet Oncol 2018	Dab/Tram	21	58	19.7	18.6
Long Lancet Oncol 2019*	Dab/Tram	35	49	23.0	27.0
Blank Nat Med 2018	Ipi+nivo	10	33	NR	32
Amaria Nat Med 2018	Nivo	12	25	NR	20
	Ipi+nivo	11	45	NR	
Huang Nat Med 2019	Pembro	30	19	NR	18
Rozeman Lancet Oncol 2019*	Ipi+nivo	86	57 <sup>^</sup>	NR	8.3

**pCR for IO = 38%**

<sup>^</sup>arm B = I1N3

**5% of IO patients progressed prior to surgery**

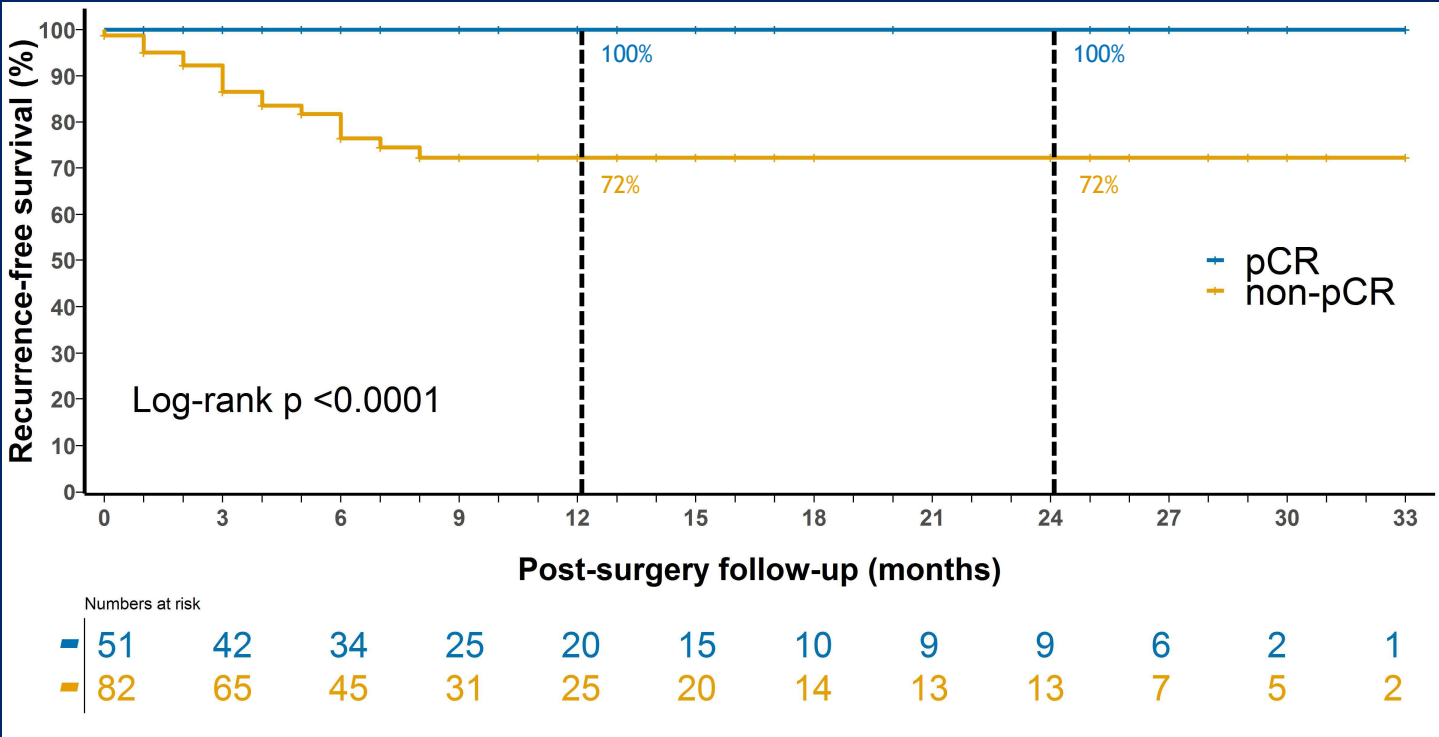


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Menzies AM, ASCO, 2019

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# RFS by pathological response with IO

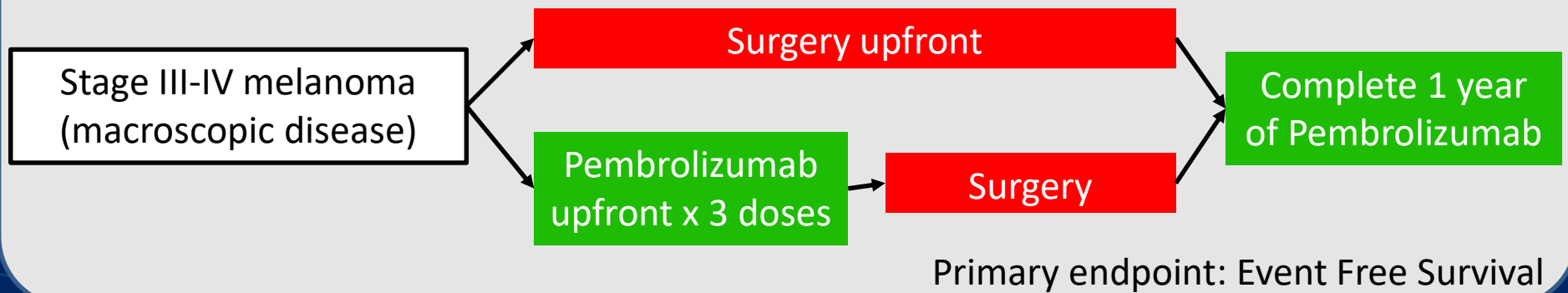


Med f/u 10 mo

\* 1 pt died from toxicity without recurrence, censored at time of death

# Approach to management of stage III melanoma patient with macroscopic disease (or limited stage IV disease)

## SWOG 1801 Study

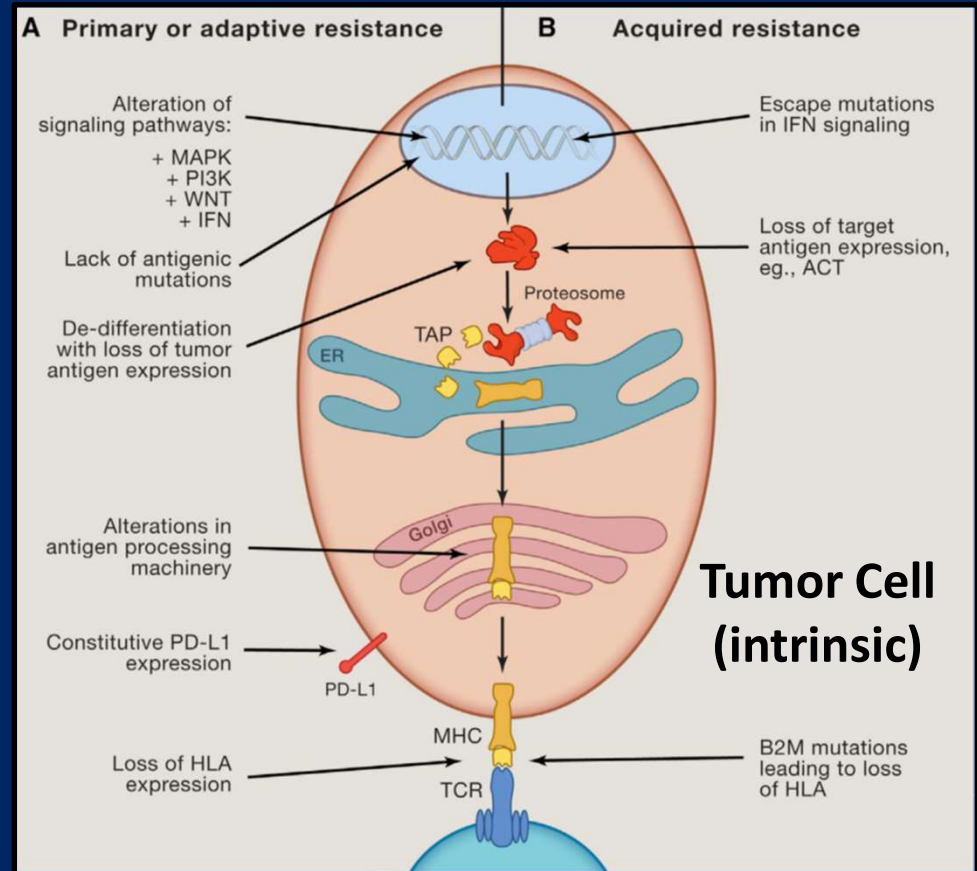




# IO Resistance mechanisms

**Table 2. Mechanisms of Primary and Adaptive Resistance to Immunotherapy**

	Mechanism	Examples
tumor cell intrinsic	absence of antigenic proteins	low mutational burden lack of viral antigens lack of cancer-testis antigens overlapping surface proteins
	absence of antigen presentation	deletion in TAP deletion in B2M silenced HLA
	genetic T cell exclusion	MAPK oncogenic signaling stabilized b-catenin mesenchymal transcriptome oncogenic PD-L1 expression
	insensibility to T cells	mutations in interferon gamma pathway signaling
tumor cell extrinsic	absence of T cells	lack of T cells with tumor antigen-specific TCRs
	inhibitory immune checkpoints	VISTA, LAG-3, TIM-3
	immunosuppressive cells	TAMs, Tregs



# Emerging Immunotherapy Salvage Regimens After Anti-PD-1/Anti-CTLA-4

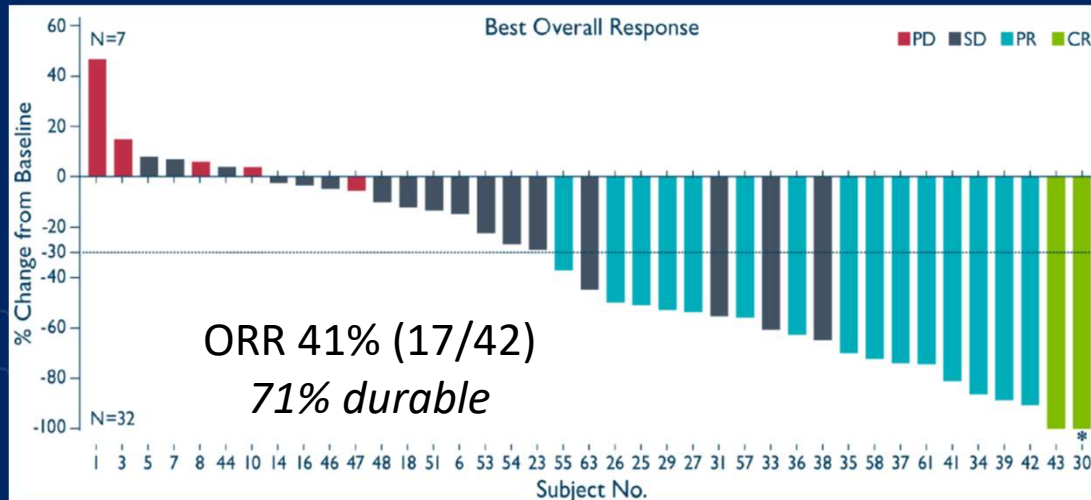
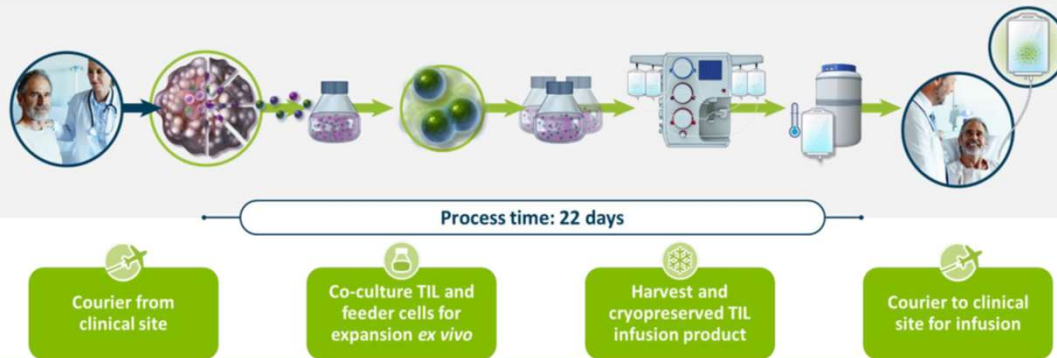
- 46% of patients treated with Nivo/Ipi on CM 067 received subsequent systemic therapy
- Outside of IL-2, no FDA approved immunotherapy options.
- Phase I-II studies with novel immunotherapy agents have demonstrated responses in anti-PD-1 refractory melanoma patients.
  - **Autologous TIL (lifileucel, aka LN-144)**
  - **TLR9 agonists (CMP-001, SD-101, tilsotolimod)**
  - **Anti-LAG-3 antibody (relatlimab)**
  - **HDAC inhibitor (epacadostat)**



# Iovance C-144-01 Phase 2 Trial in Metastatic Melanoma Anti-PD-1/PD-L1 Refractory Cohort

## Lifileucel Manufacturing Process: 22-Days

**EXCISE:** Patient's tumor is removed via surgical resection of a lesion  
**EXTRACT:** Tumor is fragmented and placed in media for TIL to leave the tumor and enter media  
**EXPAND:** TIL expanded via IL-2 + OKT3 exponentially *ex vivo* to yield  $10^9 - 10^{11}$  TIL  
**PREPARE & INFUSE:** Patient receives non-myeloablative lymphodepletion and is infused with their expanded TIL and IL-2



## Treatment Emergent Adverse Events

PREFERRED TERM	GRADE ≥3 n (%)	GRADE 5 n (%)
Number of subjects reporting at least one TEAE	41 (97.6)	2 ( 4.8)
Thrombocytopenia	33 (78.6)	0
Chills	3 ( 7.1)	0
Anemia	25 (59.5)	0
Pyrexia	7 (16.7)	0
Febrile neutropenia	23 (54.8)	0
Neutropenia	15 (35.7)	0
Hypophosphatemia	12 (28.6)	0
Leukopenia	15 (35.7)	0
Fatigue	1 ( 2.4)	0
Lymphopenia	13 (31.0)	0
Hypotension	5 (11.9)	0
Hypocalcemia	3 ( 7.1)	0
Aspartate aminotransferase increased	0	0
Diarrhea	1 ( 2.4)	0
Tachycardia	1 ( 2.4)	0

Most AEs occurred in first 30 days from TIL dose.

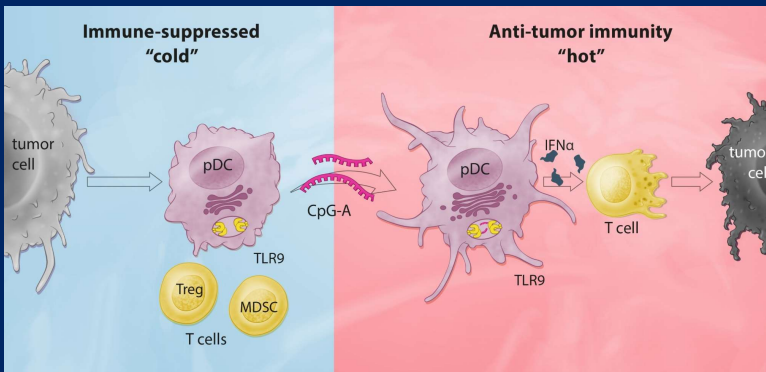
Sarnaik A, SMR, 2019

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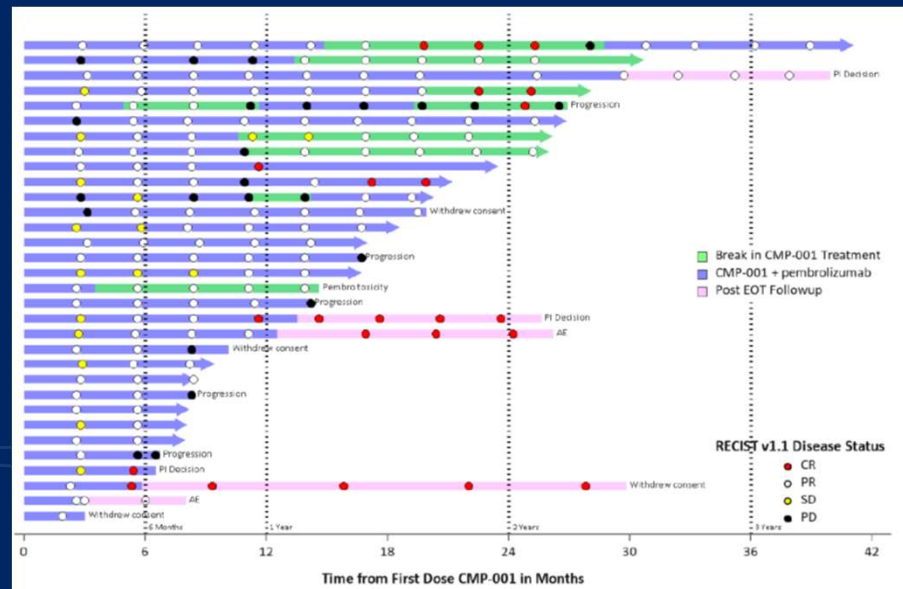
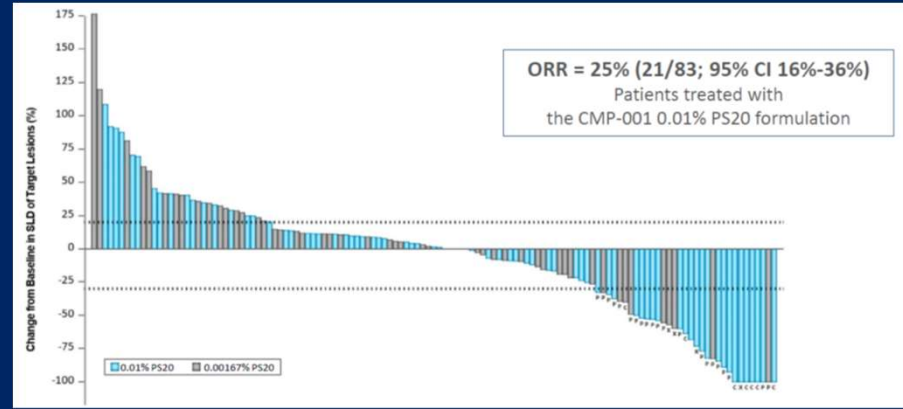
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# Phase 1B Study of Intratumoral CMP-001 +/- Pembrolizumab in Anti-PD-1 Refractory Melanoma

- CMP-001 is a CpG-A DNA packaged in a virus-like particle for enhanced systemic anti-tumor T cell response : TLR 9 agonist



- 3+3 Dose Escalation (1, 3, 5, 7.5, 10mg; n=44) / Expansion (5, 10mg; n=100, ongoing)
  - CMP-001 intratumoral/pembrolizumab IV
- Two schedules of escalation with CMP-001 evaluated:



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# How close are we to achieving durable response with IO for all patients?

Patients with active melanoma disease

100% of patients

Anti-PD-1/CTLA-4 Therapy  
Durable response ~50%

Progression

50% of patients

TIL post-anti-PD1 tx  
Durable response ~28%

Progression

32% of patients

Alternative IO approach  
hypothetical durable response ~10%

E.g., TLR9 agonist,  
anti-LAG-3, HDACi

Progression

29% of patients

Non-T-cell mediated IO approach or  
Targeted Therapy / Chemotherapy

?



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# Conclusions/Take-Away Points

- Long-term survival (5 years) seen in 43-52% of advanced melanoma patients treated with anti-PD-1 therapy.
- Adjuvant anti-PD-1 therapy reduces recurrence risk by >40%; yet to know impact on overall survival
- Neoadjuvant therapy is promising for resected high risk melanoma patients
- Novel immunotherapy approaches can achieve durable responses in patients who progressed on anti-PD-1/anti-CTLA-4 therapies.

