



# New Directions in Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy:

Mariana Chavez Mac Gregor MD, MSc.  
*Associate Professor,  
Breast Medical Oncology Department  
Health Services Research Department*

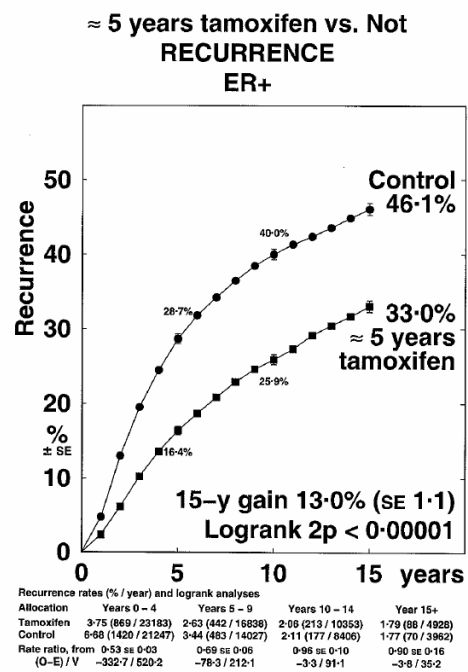
15<sup>th</sup> Annual New Orleans Summer Cancer Meeting

# Disclosures

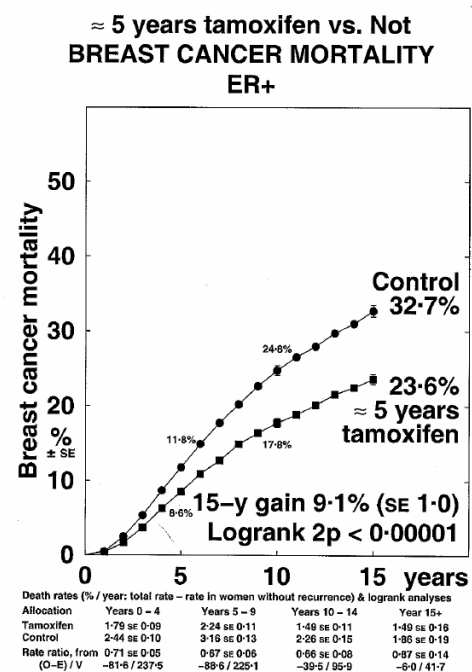
- Research support: Novartis
- Advisory Board/Consultant: Roche, Pfizer, AZ, Abbott; Genomic Health

# Adjuvant endocrine therapy

- Cornerstone of the treatment of patients with HR+ breast cancer



13/01/20 15 September 2010  
Not for publication or citation



13/02/26 15 September 2010  
Fig 6. Not for publication or cita

# Long term risk of recurrence

**THE LONGER, THE BETTER?**

Trial	Treatments											De Facto Comparisons (years)	HR for DFS	Exposed to AI Years 0-5, %	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	15				
<b>Studies of tamoxifen after 5 years of tamoxifen</b>															
ATLAS					*								5 v 10	0.75-0.99†	0
ATTOM					*								5 v 10	0.75-0.99†	0
<b>Studies of AI after 5 years of tamoxifen</b>															
MA.17					*								5 v 10	0.57	0
NSAPB B-33					*								5 v 10	0.68	0
ABCSG 6a†					*								5 v 8	0.62	0
<b>Studies of extended AI after 5 years therapy that included AI</b>															
DATA			*										6 v 9	0.79	100
NSABP B-42					*								5 v 10	0.85	100
MA.17R										§			10 v 15	0.66	100
<b>Studies of optimal duration or dosing in years 5 to 10</b>															
BOOG 2006-05 IDEAL					*								7.5 v 10	0.92	88
ABCSG 16					*								7 v 10	1.007	49
SOLE					*								Continuous v intermittent	1.08	81

■ Tamoxifen  
■ Tam/AI  
■ AI

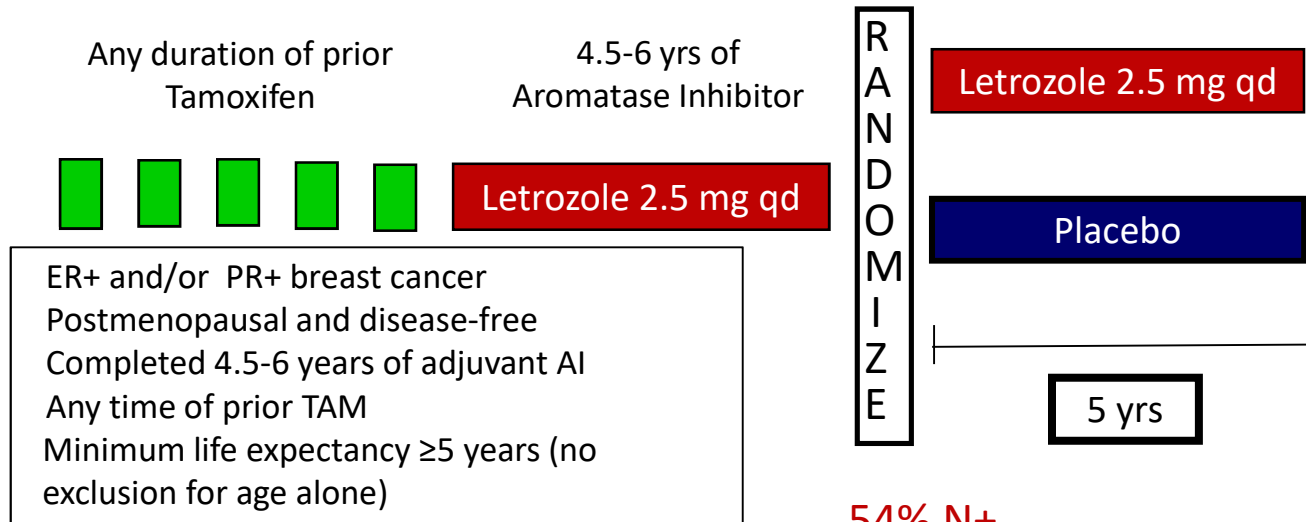
## Extended Endocrine Trials-Tamoxifen

Extended Endocrine Trials	Meno-pausal Status	Treatment	Trial Size	Median follow-up	Risk of Recurrence (Extended vs Not Extended)
<b>ATLAS</b>	Pre- and Post	Tamoxifen (5y) vs no treatment	6,846	10+ y	<b>21.4% vs 25.1%</b> <b>△ 3.7%</b>
<b>aTTom</b>	Pre- and Post	Tamoxifen (5y) vs no treatment	6,953	8.6 y	<b>28.0% vs 32.9%</b> <b>△ 4.9%</b>

# MA.17R Trial Design

Oct 2004 - May 2009

**N=1928**



## STRATIFICATION FACTORS

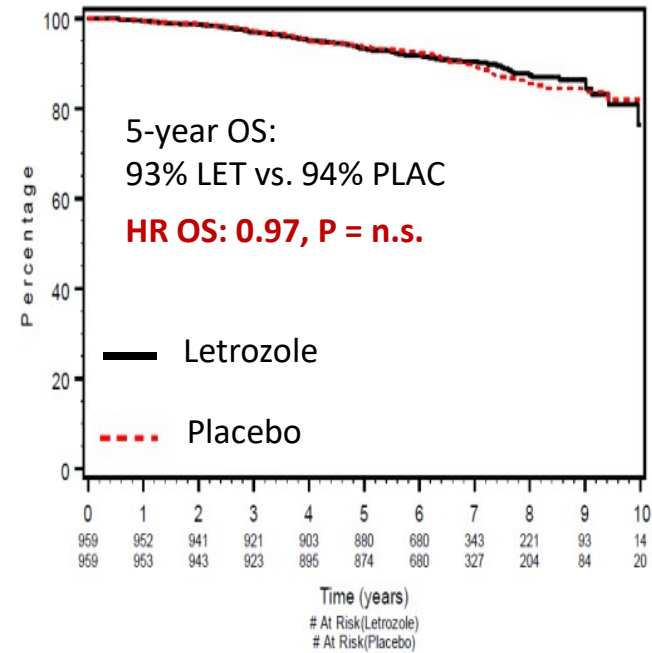
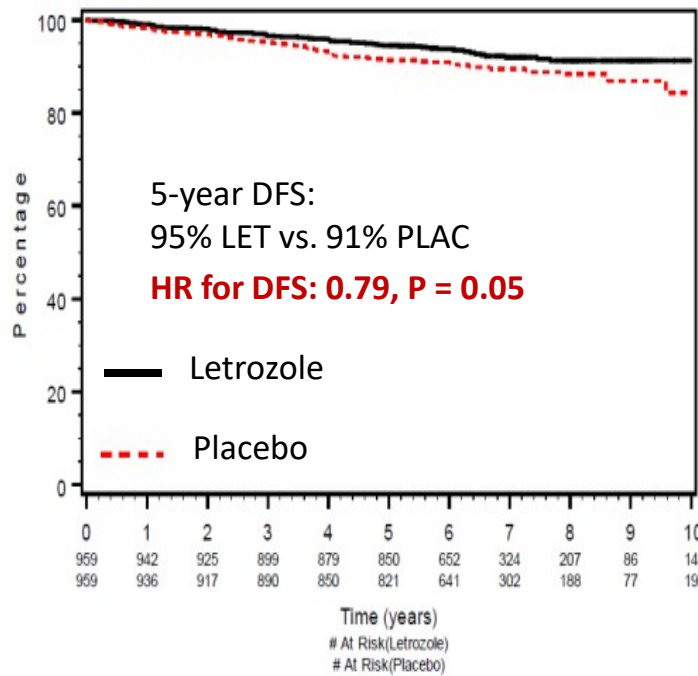
- Lymph node status at diagnosis
- Prior adjuvant chemotherapy
- Interval between the last dose of AI and randomization
- Duration of prior tamoxifen (0; >0 to <2; 2 to 4.5; >4.5)

54% N+  
58% Adjuvant  
chemotherapy

ASCO 2016, Presented by: P.E. Goss

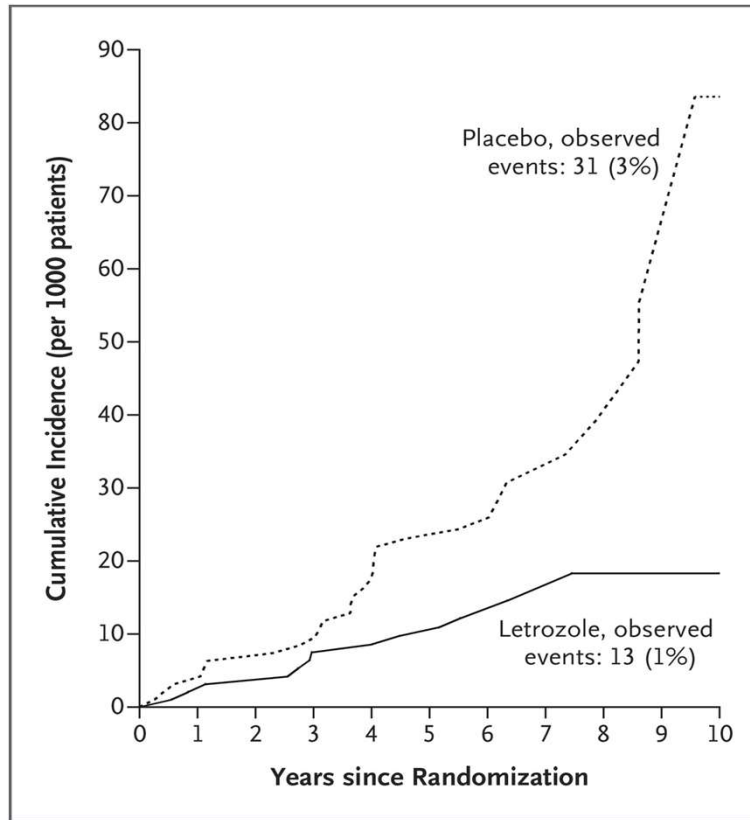


## MA.17R –DFS (med F/U of 6.3 yrs)



Goss et al, NEJM, 2016

# MA.17R - Contralateral Breast Cancer



**HR CBC: 0.42**

**P = 0.007**

**58% Reduction in CBC**

# NSABP B-42: Schema

- Postmenopausal Pts with ER+ or PR+ Breast Cancer
- Stage I, II, or IIIa invasive BC at diagnosis
- Disease-free After 5 Years of Endocrine Therapy

**AI X 5 yrs**    or    **TAM X ≤ 3 yrs** → AI to Complete 5 yrs



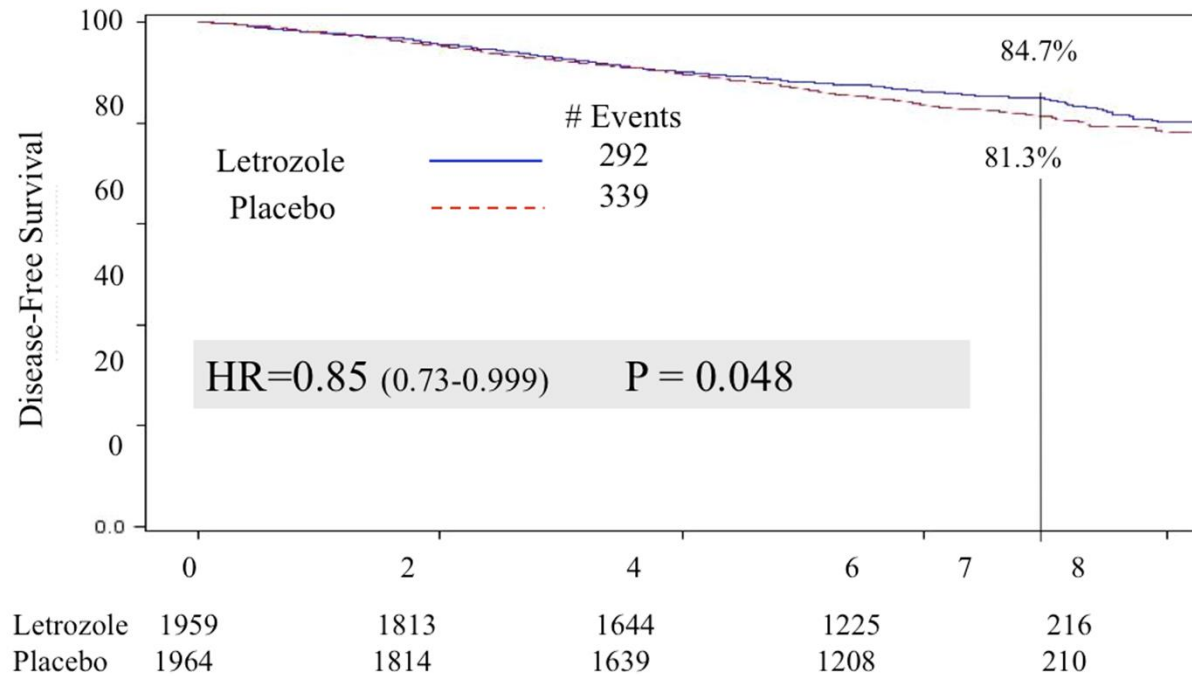
Stratification:  
Pathological nodal status (Negative, Positive)  
Prior adjuvant TAM (Yes, No)  
Lowest BMD T score: spine, hip, femur (>-2.0, ≤ -2.0 SD)



**Letrozole X 5 yrs**

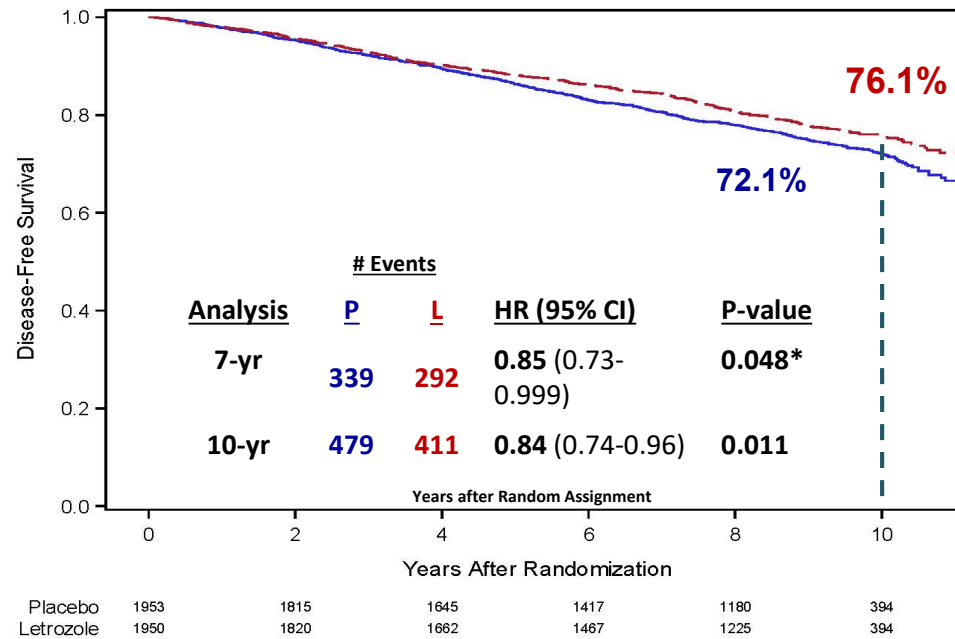
**Placebo X 5 yrs**

## NSABP B-42: Disease-Free Survival



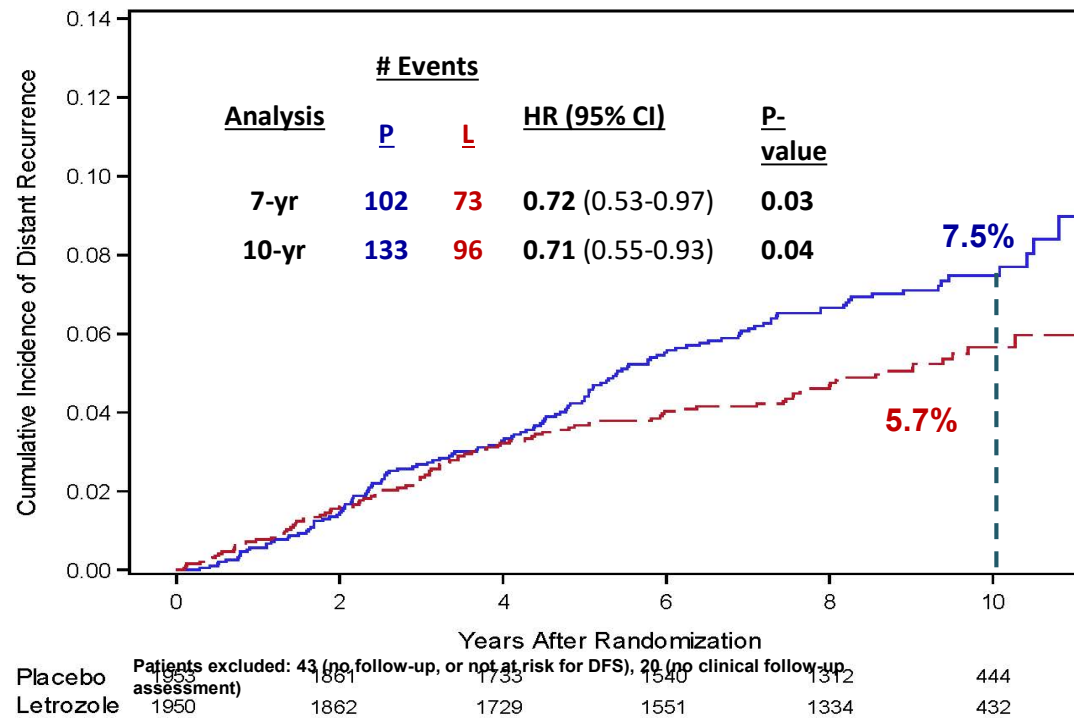
\*P-value did not reach statistical significance level of 0.0418

# 10-year Disease-Free Survival



Patients excluded: 43 (no follow-up, or not at risk for DFS), 20 (no clinical follow-up assessment)

# 10-year Distant Recurrence

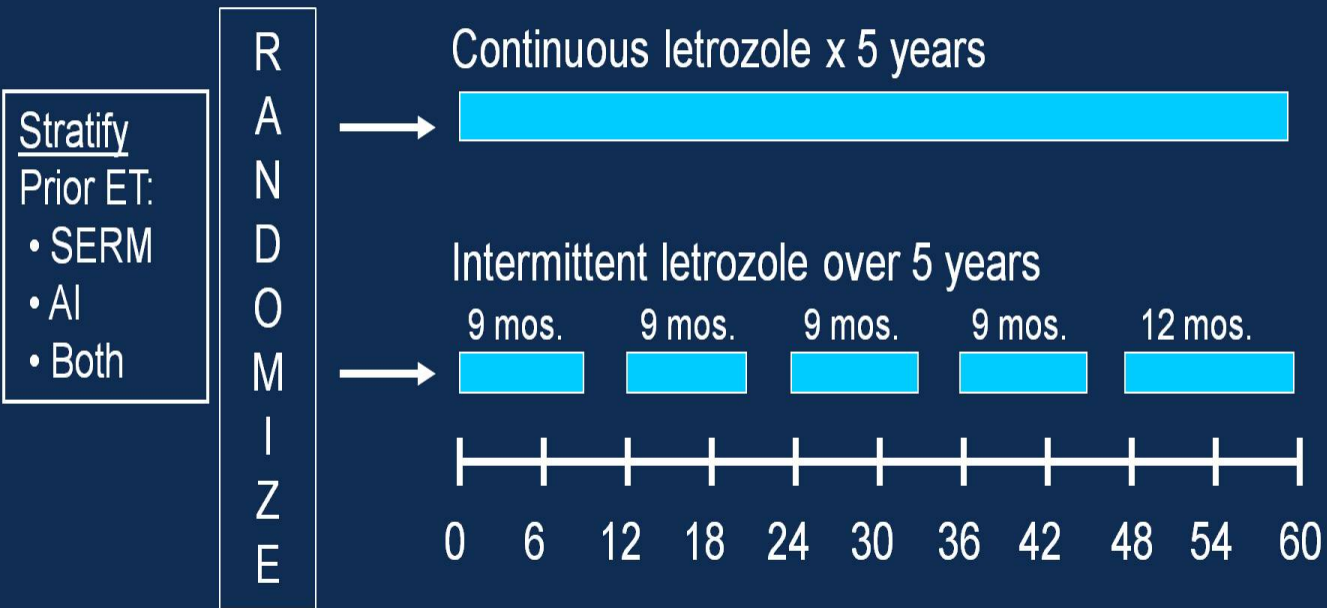


## DFS First Events by Treatment

First Event	Placebo (n=1953)		Letrozole (n=1950)	
	#	%	#	%
<b>Distant Recurrence</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Local Recurrence</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Second Primary Cancer</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>9.4</b>
Breast	81	4.1	52	2.7
Non-Breast	149	7.6	131	6.7
<b>Death</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>5.2</b>
<b>Total First Event</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>21.1</b>

# SOLE: Study of Letrozole Extension

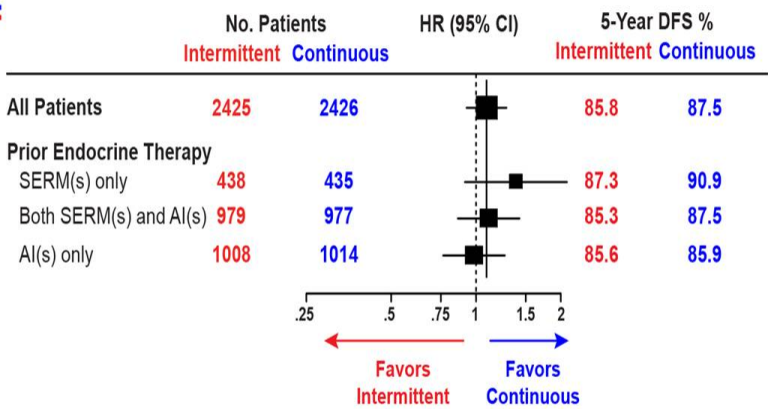
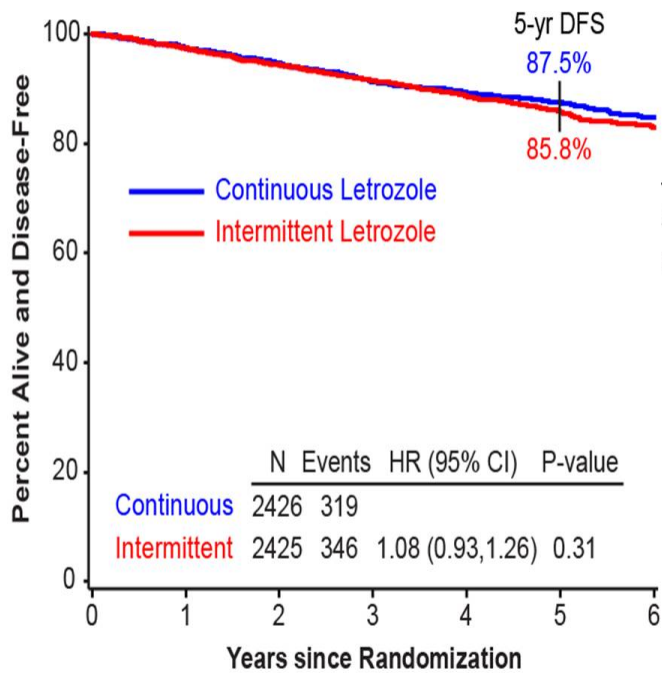
After 4 to 6 years of Prior Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy  
Postmenopausal, HR-positive, Node-positive



4884 Patients Randomized in ITT, Nov 2007 - July 2012



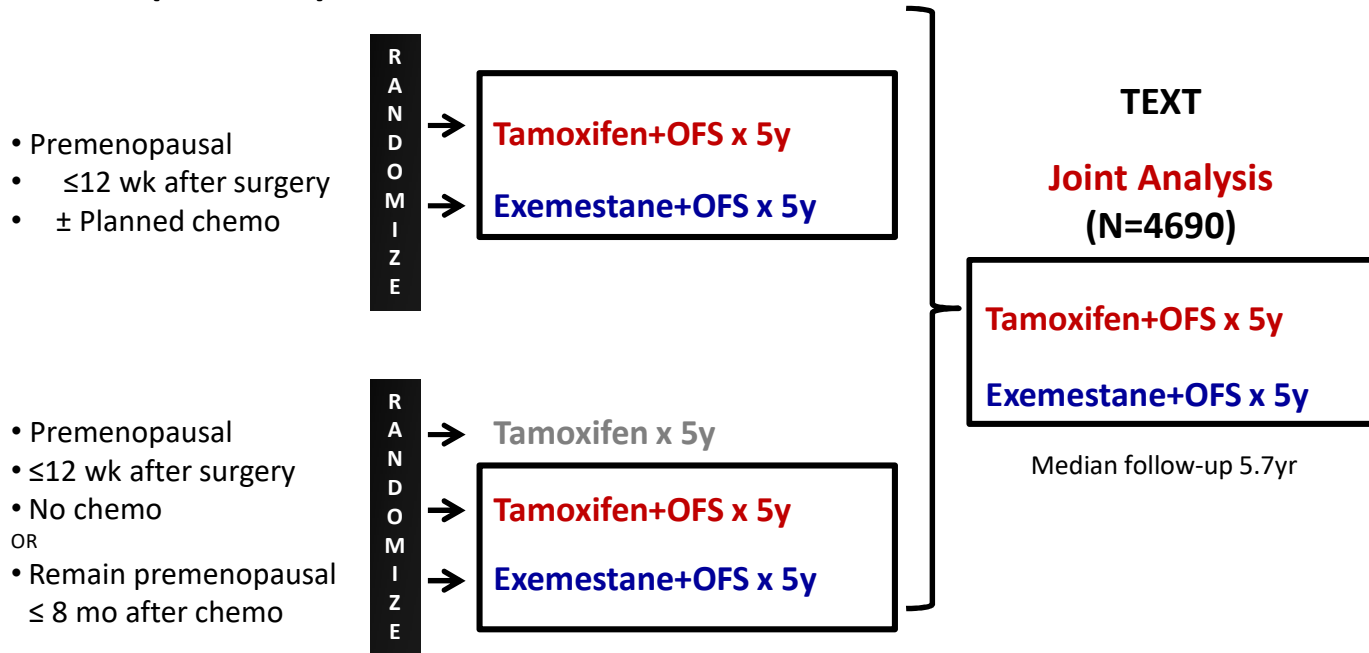
# Primary Endpoint: Disease-Free Survival



Median age: 60 mos. median follow-up

**THE MORE, THE BETTER?**

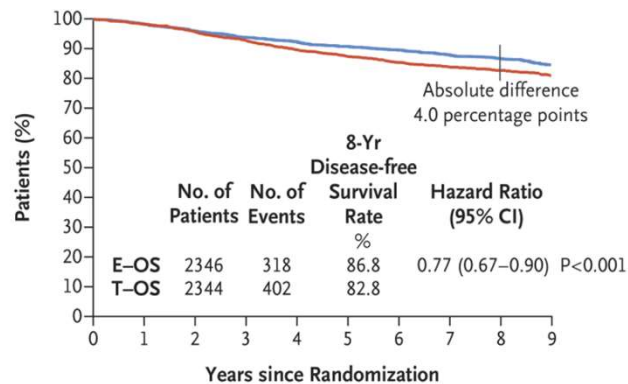
# TAMOXIFEN AND EXEMESTANE TRIAL (N=2672)



# SUPPRESSION OF OVARIAN FUNCTION TRIAL (N=3066)

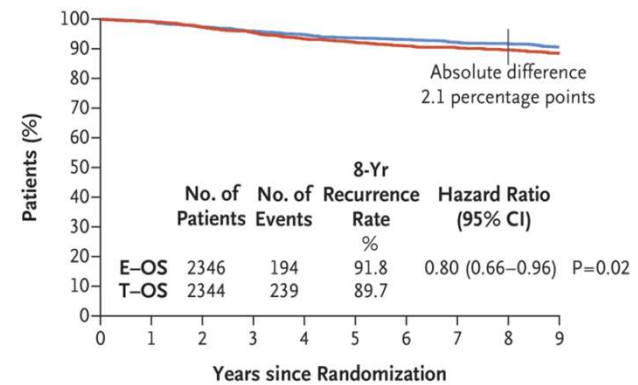
# Combined analysis: Exemestane+OFS Improved DFS

Disease-free Survival



No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
E-OS	2232	2073	1931	1391	861					
T-OS	2257	2066	1866	1337	834					

Freedom from Distant Recurrence



No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
E-OS	2245	2109	1977	1437	909					
T-OS	2271	2110	1955	1421	897					

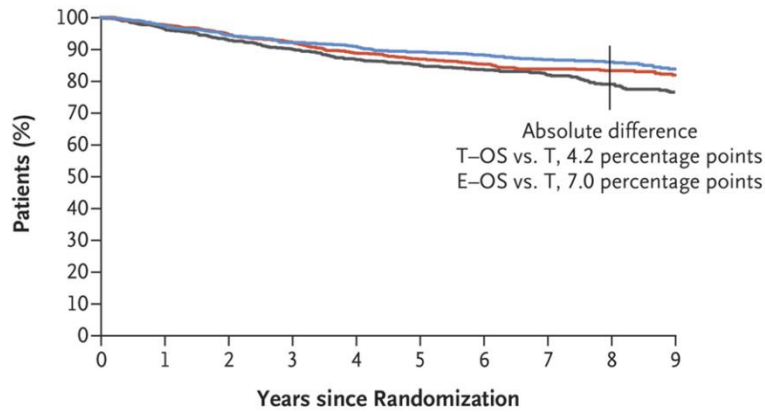
— Tamoxifen plus ovarian suppression (T-OS)      — Exemestane plus ovarian suppression (E-OS)

8 years median follow-up: 4% improvement in iDFS

# SOFT updated results

**Difference at 8 years= 7.0% iDFS**

Disease-free Survival in All Patients



	No. of Patients	No. of Events	8-Yr Disease-free Survival Rate %	Hazard Ratio (95% CI) vs. T
T	1018	208	78.9	
T-OS	1015	167	83.2	0.76 (0.62-0.93)
E-OS	1014	143	85.9	0.65 (0.53-0.81)

No. at Risk

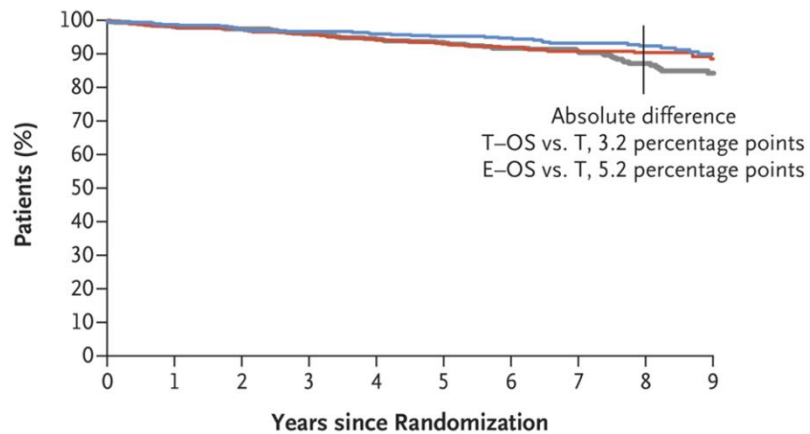
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
T	957	858	771	522	221					
T-OS	968	888	795	558	252					
E-OS	956	875	805	562	246					

— Tamoxifen alone (T)    — Tamoxifen plus ovarian suppression (T-OS)    — Exemestane plus ovarian suppression (E-OS)

Francis et al NEJM 2018

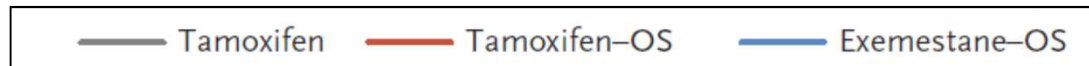
# Results- SOFT: No chemotherapy

Disease-free Survival in Patients Who Did Not Receive Chemotherapy



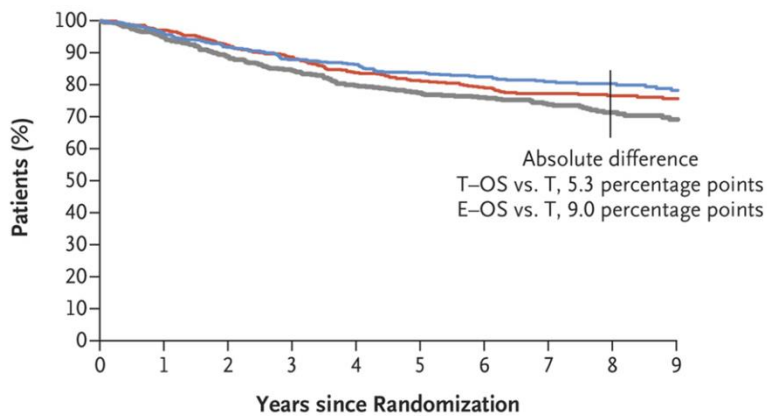
	No. of Patients	No. of Events	8-Yr Disease-free Survival Rate %	Hazard Ratio (95% CI) vs. T
T	476	60	87.4	
T-OS	473	47	90.6	0.76 (0.52-1.12)
E-OS	470	35	92.5	0.58 (0.38-0.88)

No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
T	460	431	398	372	346	320	294	268	242	118
T-OS	453	433	399	373	347	321	295	269	243	124
E-OS	443	419	390	366	342	318	294	270	246	132



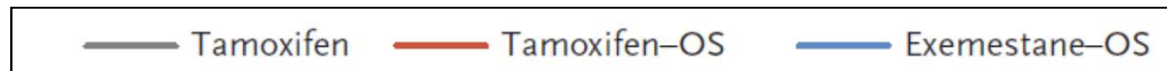
# Results- SOFT: Chemotherapy

sease-free Survival in Patients with Previous Chemotherapy



	No. of Patients	No. of Events	8-Yr Disease-free Survival Rate %	Hazard Ratio (95% CI) vs. T
T	542	148	71.4	
T-OS	542	120	76.7	0.76 (0.60-0.97)
E-OS	544	108	80.4	0.68 (0.53-0.88)

No. at Risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
T	496	427	373	329	285	249	215	181	147	102
T-OS	515	456	396	342	282	228	174	129	85	129
E-OS	513	456	396	342	282	228	174	129	85	115



The bottom line, among high-risk patients: 4.3 % improvement with Tam+OS and **9.0 % absolute improvement with OS+Exemestane**

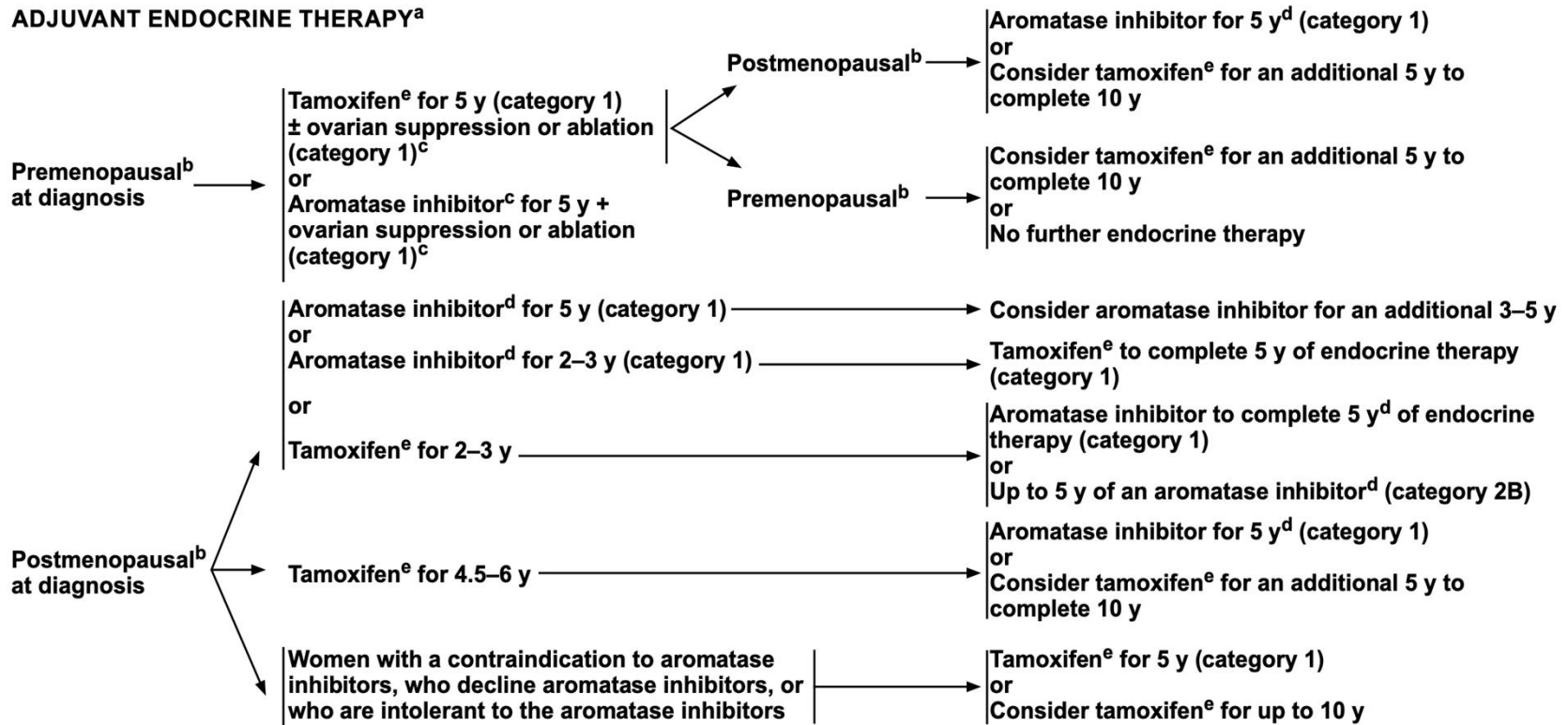
Francis el at NEJM 2018

## Selected Adverse Events SOFT/TEXT

Adverse Event	Tamoxifen (N = 1005)		Tamoxifen plus Ovarian Suppression (N = 2326)		Exemestane plus Ovarian Suppression (N = 2317)	
	Any Event	Grade 3 or 4 Event	Any Event	Grade 3 or 4 Event	Any Event	Grade 3 or 4 Event
	<i>number of patients (percent)</i>					
Any targeted adverse event	962 (95.7)	247 (24.6)	2295 (98.7)	721 (31.0)	2288 (98.7)	748 (32.3)
Allergic reaction or hypersensitivity	35 (3.5)	2 (0.2)	110 (4.7)	9 (0.4)	122 (5.3)	12 (0.5)
Injection-site reaction	4 (0.4)	0	189 (8.1)	1 (<0.1)	174 (7.5)	1 (<0.1)
Hot flushes	808 (80.4)	78 (7.8)	2175 (93.5)	284 (12.2)	2141 (92.4)	234 (10.1)
Depression	476 (47.4)	41 (4.1)	1195 (51.4)	108 (4.6)	1197 (51.7)	95 (4.1)
Sweating	492 (49.0)	NA	1391 (59.8)	NA	1286 (55.5)	NA
Insomnia	470 (46.8)	30 (3.0)	1383 (59.5)	105 (4.5)	1375 (59.3)	89 (3.8)
Fatigue	612 (60.9)	34 (3.4)	1496 (64.3)	70 (3.0)	1450 (62.6)	75 (3.2)
Hypertension	181 (18.0)	57 (5.7)	550 (23.6)	188 (8.1)	564 (24.3)	168 (7.3)
Cardiac ischemia or infarction†	5 (0.5)	4 (0.4)	10 (0.4)	6 (0.3)	17 (0.7)	7 (0.3)
Thrombosis or embolism	22 (2.2)	17 (1.7)	53 (2.3)	47 (2.0)	27 (1.2)	20 (0.9)
Nausea	241 (24.0)	0	692 (29.8)	14 (0.6)	747 (32.2)	17 (0.7)
Musculoskeletal symptom	703 (70.0)	67 (6.7)	1809 (77.8)	132 (5.7)	2082 (89.9)	263 (11.4)
Osteoporosis	138 (13.7)	1 (0.1)	648 (27.9)	7 (0.3)	977 (42.2)	10 (0.4)
Fracture	53 (5.3)	8 (0.8)	140 (6.0)	23 (1.0)	179 (7.7)	37 (1.6)
Vaginal dryness	426 (42.4)	NA	1144 (49.2)	NA	1245 (53.7)	NA
Decreased libido	434 (43.2)	NA	981 (42.2)	NA	1056 (45.6)	NA
Dyspareunia	242 (24.1)	16 (1.6)	636 (27.3)	35 (1.5)	733 (31.6)	56 (2.4)

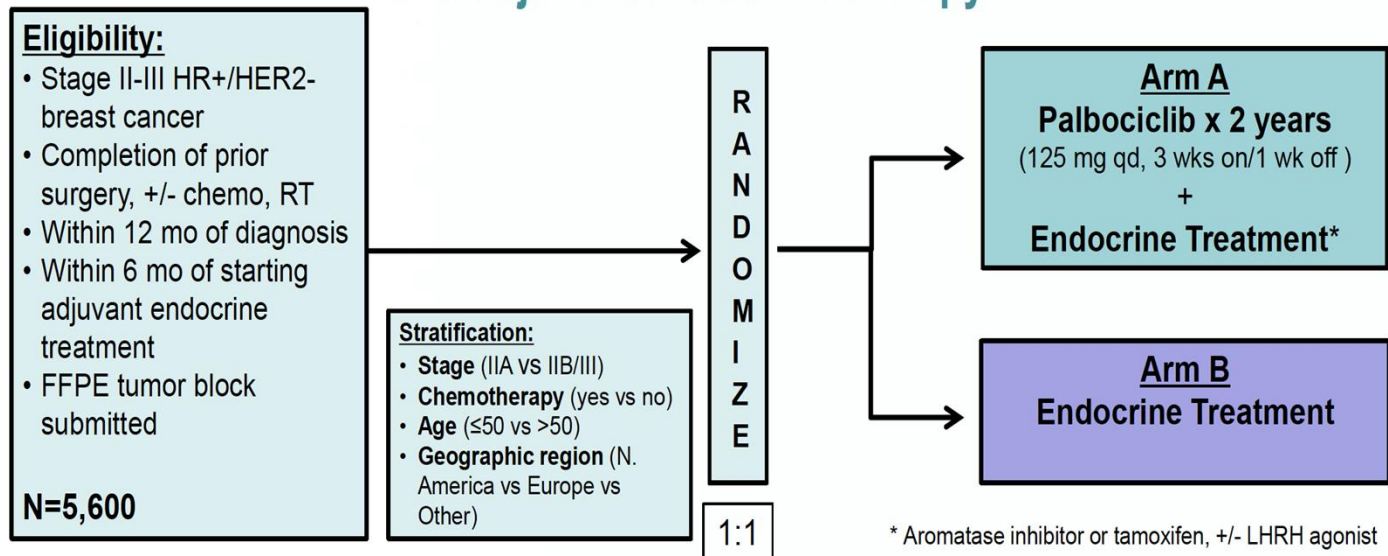


**ADJUVANT ENDOCRINE THERAPY<sup>a</sup>**



**ADDING NEW MOLECULES?**

## PALLAS: Phase III open-label study of palbociclib and adjuvant endocrine therapy



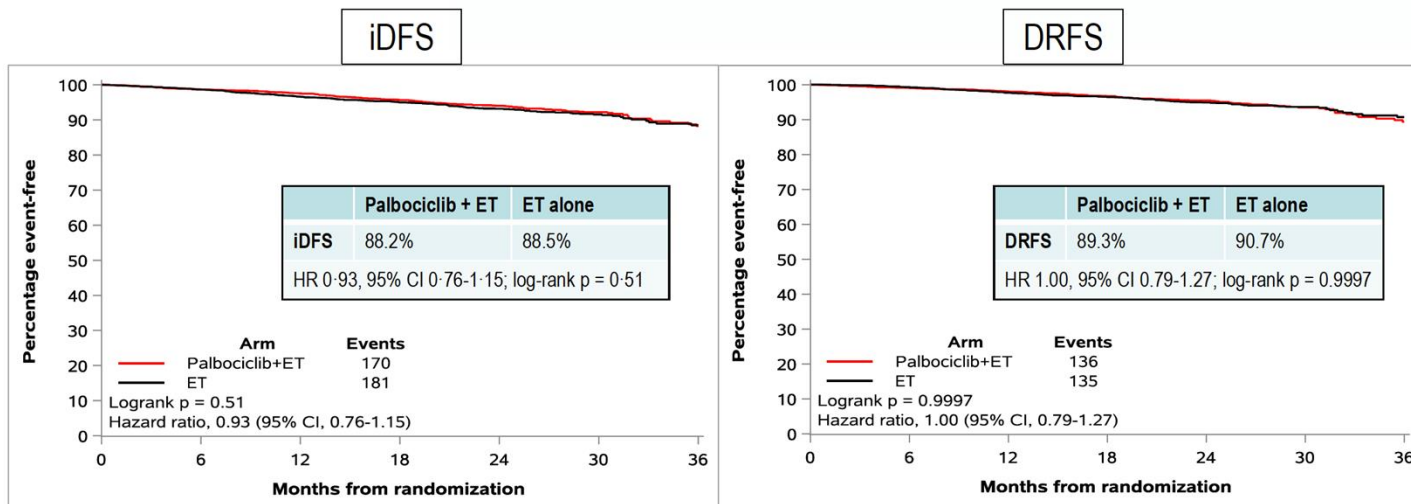
**Primary Endpoint: invasive Disease-Free Survival (iDFS)**

## PALLAS: Patient Characteristics

- Between 9/2015 and 11/2018, 5,760 patients were randomized and included in the ITT set.
- The majority had higher stage disease and had received prior chemotherapy.
- 58.7% had high clinical risk disease, described as:
  - $\geq 4$  nodes involved ( $\geq N2$ ), or
  - 1-3 nodes with either T3/T4 and/or G3 disease

Variable	Palbociclib + ET (N=2,883)	ET (N=2,877)
Age (y) – median (range)	52 (25 – 90)	52 (22 – 85)
Stage		
IIA	504 (17.5%)	509 (17.7%)
IIB	968 (33.6%)	951 (33.1%)
III	1402 (48.6%)	1408 (48.9%)
T-Stage		
T0/T1/Tis/TX	557 (19.3%)	500 (17.4%)
T2	1603 (55.6%)	1636 (56.9%)
T3/T4	722 (25.0%)	741 (25.8%)
N-Stage		
N0	367 (12.7%)	383 (13.3%)
N1	1427 (49.5%)	1415 (49.2%)
N2	703 (24.4%)	709 (24.6%)
N3	385 (13.4%)	370 (12.9%)
Histologic Grade		
G1	300 (10.4%)	313 (10.9%)
G2	1622 (56.3%)	1658 (57.6%)
G3	836 (29.0%)	767 (26.7%)
Prior Chemotherapy	2384 (82.7%)	2370 (82.4%)
Initial Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy		
Aromatase inhibitor	1954 (67.8%)	1918 (66.7%)
Tamoxifen	923 (32.0%)	949 (33.0%)
Concurrent Adjuvant LHRH Agonist	532 (18.5%)	604 (21.1%)

# PALLAS: Primary Endpoint iDFS



At a median follow-up of 23.7 months, no significant difference in either 3-year iDFS or DRFS was observed

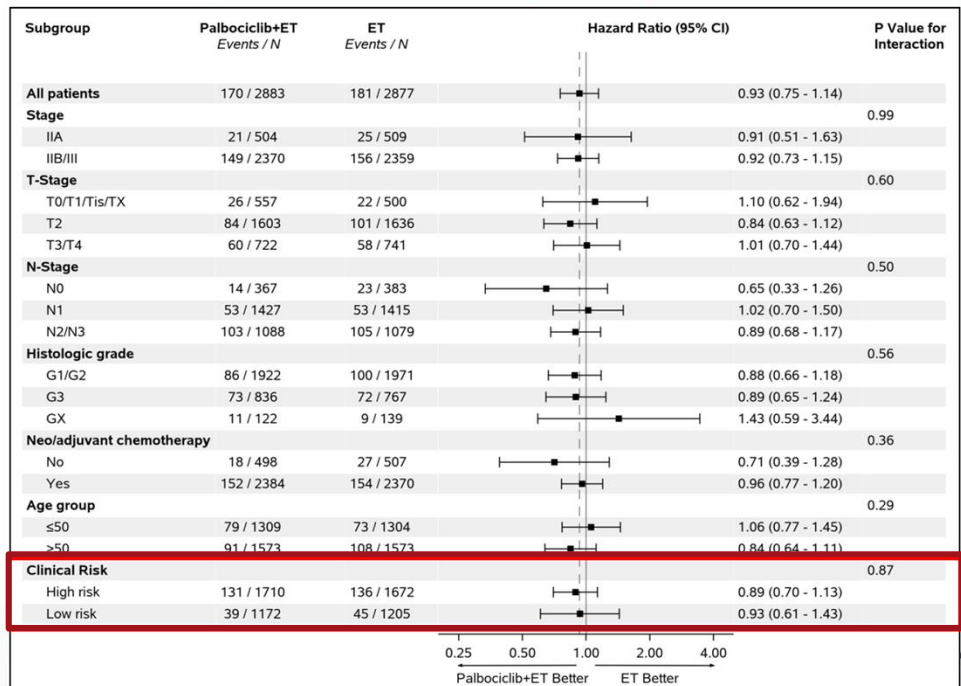


VIRTUAL  
2020

ESMO

Congress

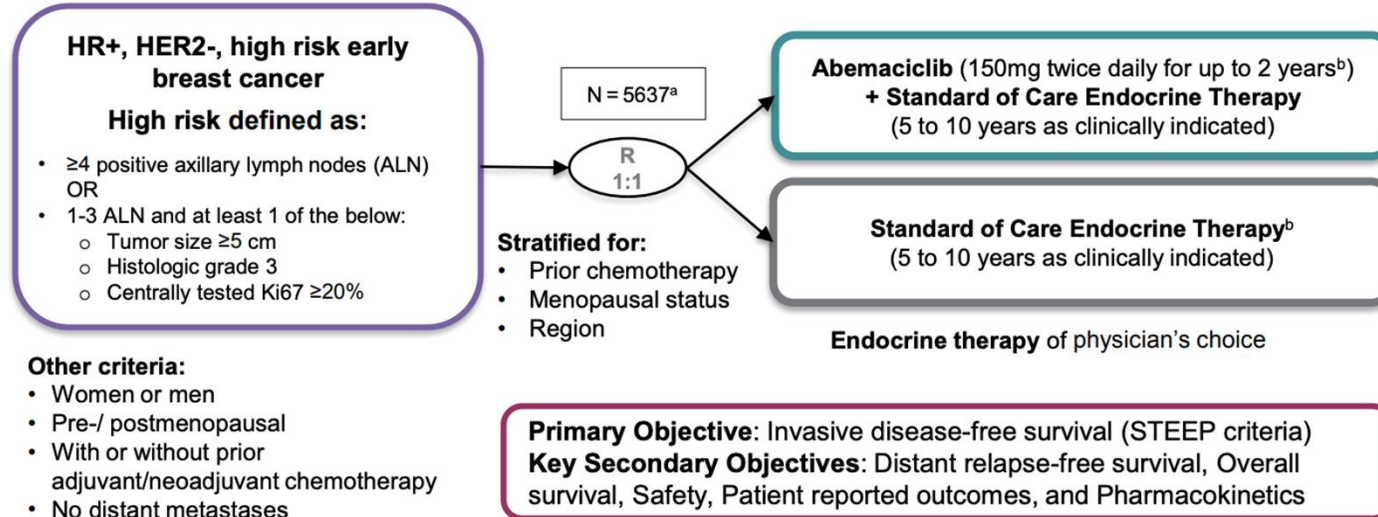
# PALLAS: Subgroup Analysis



PALLAS  
ABCSG 42 / APT-05 / BIG 14-03

BIG Pfizer Oncology

# monarchE Study Design



<sup>a</sup>Recruitment from July 2017 to August 2019; <sup>b</sup>Treatment period = first 2 years on study treatment after randomization

## Patient Demographics

		Abemaciclib + ET N = 2808, n (%)	ET Alone N = 2829, n (%)
Age	Median (range)	51 (23-89)	51 (22-86)
Age categories	<65 years	2371 (84.4)	2416 (85.4)
	≥65 years	437 (15.6)	413 (14.6)
Gender	Female	2787 (99.3)	2814 (99.5)
	Male	21 (0.7)	15 (0.5)
Region <sup>a</sup>	North America/Europe	1470 (52.4)	1479 (52.3)
	Asia	574 (20.4)	582 (20.6)
	Other	764 (27.2)	768 (27.1)
Menopausal status <sup>a</sup>	Premenopausal	1221 (43.5)	1232 (43.5)
	Postmenopausal	1587 (56.5)	1597 (56.5)
Prior treatment <sup>a</sup>	Neoadjuvant chemotherapy	1039 (37.0)	1048 (37.0)
	Adjuvant chemotherapy	1642 (58.5)	1647 (58.2)
	No chemotherapy	127 (4.5)	134 (4.7)
Baseline ECOG PS	0	2405 (85.7)	2369 (83.8)
	1	401 (14.3)	455 (16.1)

Note: where values do not add up to 100% remaining data are missing, unavailable or could not be assessed; <sup>a</sup> per Interactive Web Response System (IWRS)



## High Risk Disease Characteristics

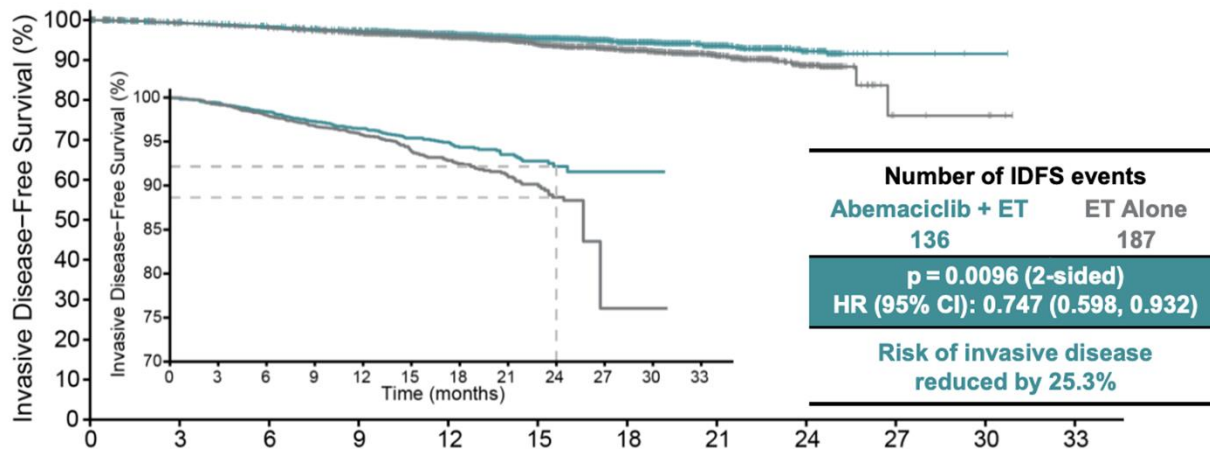
		Abemaciclib + ET N = 2808, n (%)	ET Alone N = 2829, n (%)
Number of positive lymph nodes	0	7 (0.2)	7 (0.2)
	1-3	1119 (39.9)	1143 (40.4)
	≥4 or more	1680 (59.8)	1679 (59.3)
Histological grade	Grade 1	209 (7.4)	215 (7.6)
	Grade 2	1373 (48.9)	1395 (49.3)
	Grade 3	1090 (38.8)	1066 (37.7)
Primary tumor size by pathology following definitive surgery	<2 cm	780 (27.8)	765 (27.0)
	2-5 cm	1369 (48.8)	1419 (50.2)
	≥5 cm	610 (21.7)	612 (21.6)
Central Ki-67	<20%	953 (33.9)	973 (34.4)
	≥20%	1262 (44.9)	1233 (43.6)
	Unavailable	593 (21.1)	623 (22.0)
Progesterone receptor status	Positive	2421 (86.2)	2453 (86.7)
	Negative	298 (10.6)	294 (10.4)

Note: where values do not add up to 100%, remaining data are missing, unavailable or could not be assessed

Additional high risk eligibility criteria for patients with 1-3 nodes	Abemaciclib + ET N = 2808, n (%)	ET Alone N = 2829, n (%)
Tumor size ≥5 cm (pathology) <sup>a</sup>	249 (8.9)	236 (8.3)
Tumor size ≥5 cm (imaging) <sup>a, b</sup>	152 (5.4)	158 (5.6)
Histologic grade 3 <sup>a</sup>	629 (22.4)	618 (21.8)
Central Ki-67 ≥20% only <sup>c</sup>	216 (7.7)	237 (8.4)

<sup>a</sup> Patients could be counted in more than one of the sub-categories under 1-3 positive lymph nodes; <sup>b</sup> Patients who received neoadjuvant chemotherapy may have been eligible based on imaging tumor size prior to receiving systemic therapy; <sup>c</sup> Patients not double counted; patients did not have tumor size ≥5 cm (either by pathology or imaging) or histologic grade 3

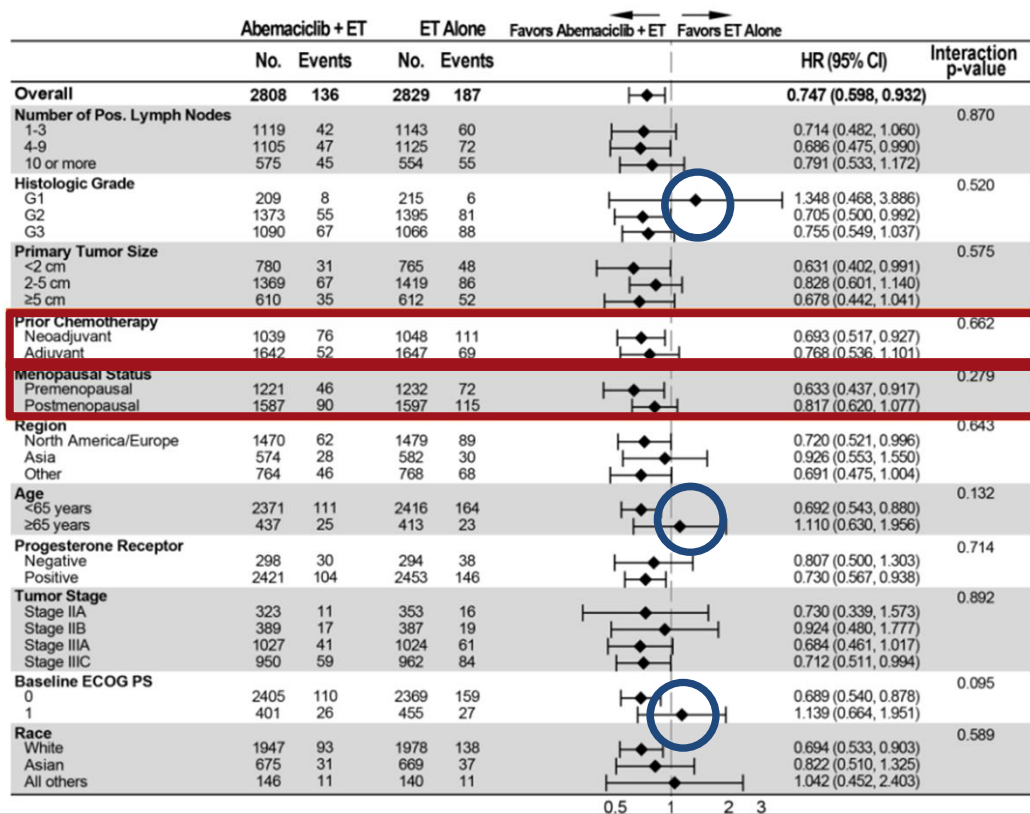
# Invasive Disease-Free Survival



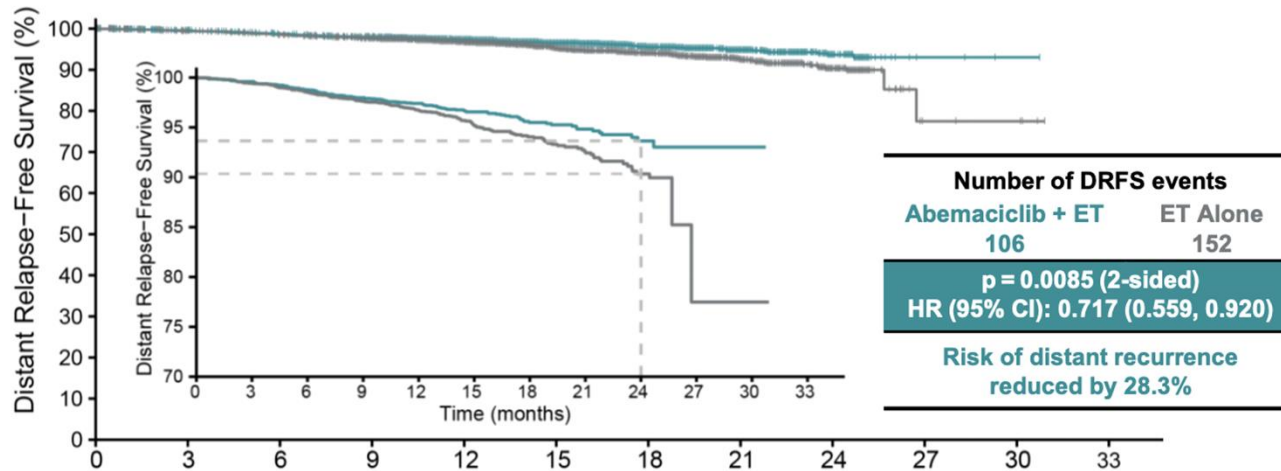
	Time (months)											
Number at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33
Abemaciclib + ET	2808	2676	2613	2543	1996	1371	918	566	245	3	1	0
ET Alone	2829	2699	2649	2562	2013	1405	932	586	262	7	6	0

**Two-year IDFS rates were 92.2% (abemaciclib + ET arm) and 88.7% (ET arm) – 3.5% absolute difference**

# IDFS in Prespecified Subgroups



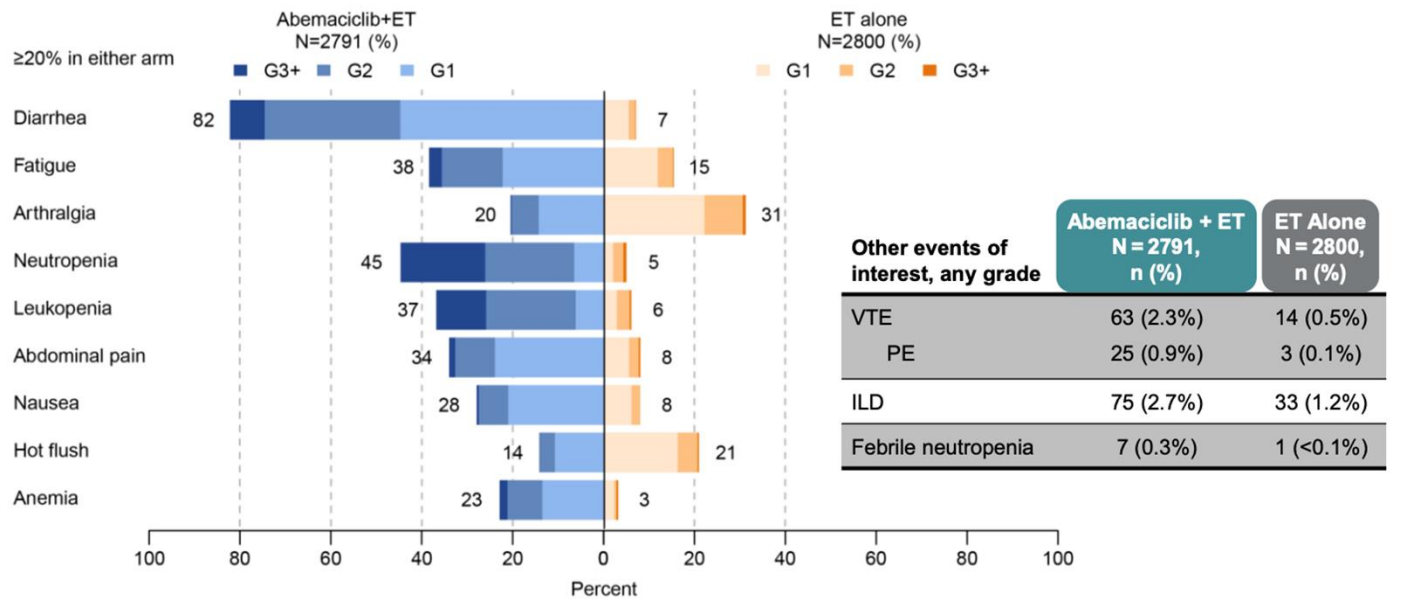
# Distant Relapse-Free Survival



Number at risk	Time (months)											
	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33
Abemaciclib + ET	2808	2680	2619	2555	2005	1378	925	573	247	3	1	0
ET Alone	2829	2704	2659	2576	2026	1417	941	590	263	7	6	0

**Two-year DRFS rates were 93.6% (abemaciclib + ET arm) and 90.3% (ET arm) – 3.3% absolute difference  
 DRFS benefit consistent across all prespecified subgroups**

# Treatment-Emergent Adverse Events



## Conclusions

Abemaciclib combined with ET showed a statistically significant improvement in IDFS in patients with high risk HR+, HER2- EBC

- HR = 0.747; (95% CI, 0.598 to 0.932; p = 0.0096)
- A 3.5% absolute improvement in 2-year IDFS rates was observed: 92.2% vs 88.7%
- There was a consistent treatment benefit across all prespecified subgroups

Results indicate the prevention of early recurrence and a reduction in the risk of distant recurrence (metastatic disease) by a clinically meaningful 28.3%

- The greatest reduction in distant metastases was to the liver and bone

Safety was consistent with the known profile of abemaciclib

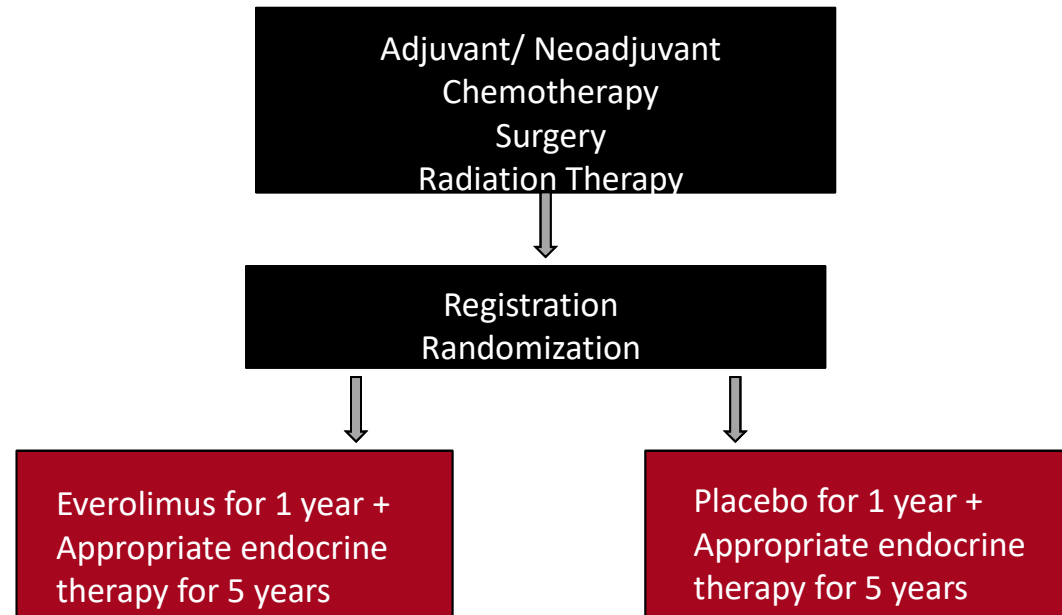
- Diarrhea was manageable with anti-diarrheal medication and dose adjustments
- There were significant reductions in arthralgia and hot flush when abemaciclib was added to ET

**Abemaciclib is the first CDK4 & 6 inhibitor to show a significant improvement in IDFS when combined with ET compared with ET alone in patients with HR+, HER2-, high risk EBC**

# MonarchE vs PALLAS

	MonarchE	PALLAS
Treatment	Abemaciclib	Palbociclib
Duration of Treatment	2 years	2 years
Total # Patients	5591	5760
Discontinuation rate	18.8%	42.2%
NO patients	14	750
Stage IIA	676	1013

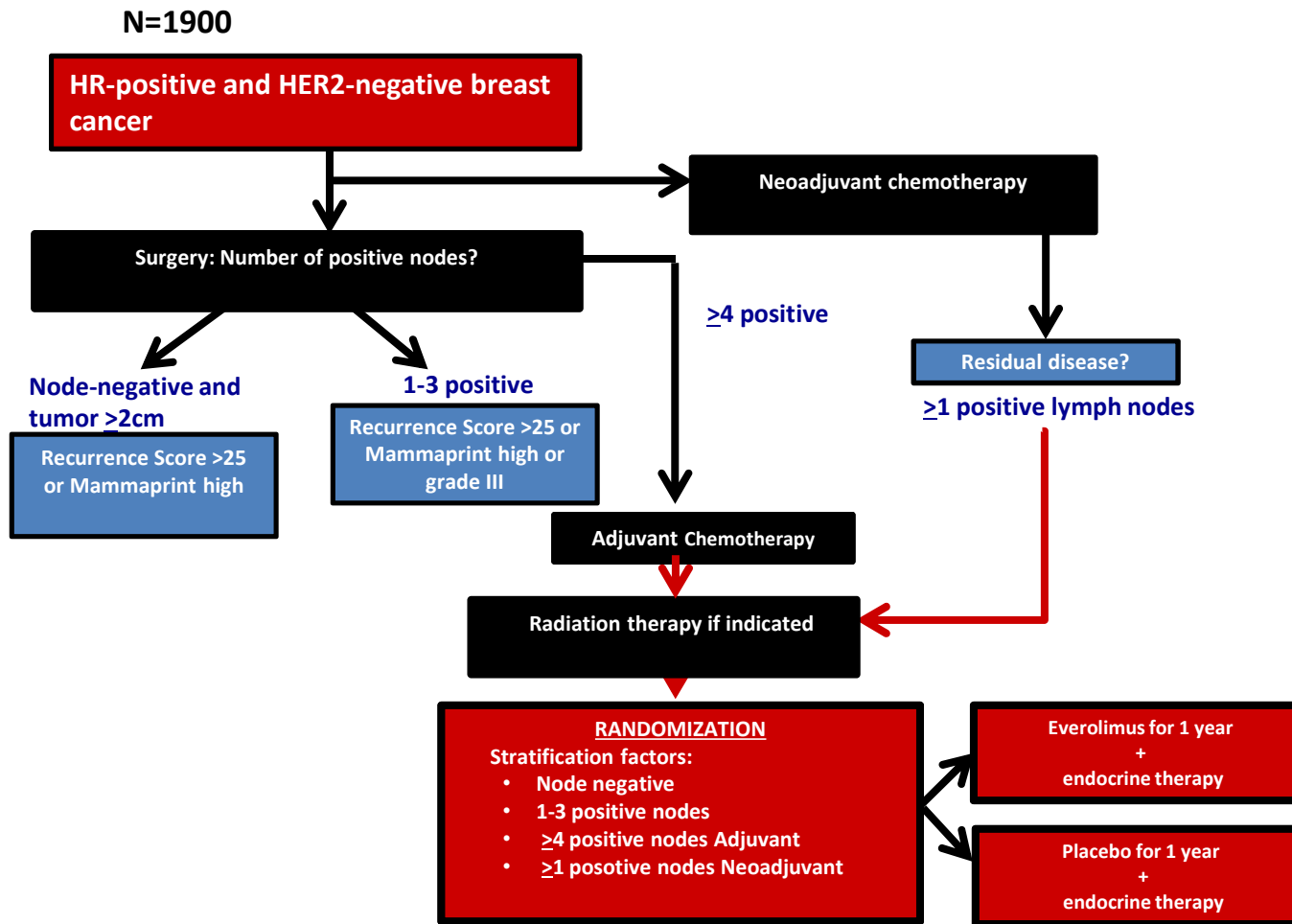
**S1207: Phase III randomized, placebo-controlled trial adding 1 year of everolimus to adjuvant endocrine therapy for patients with high-risk, HR+, HER2- BC**



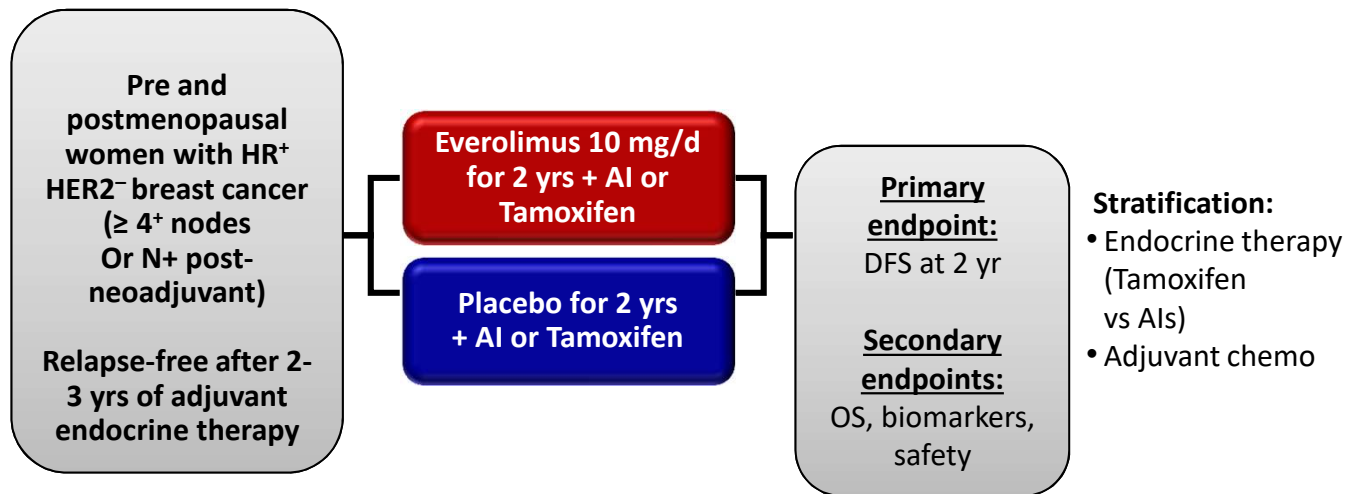
PI: Mariana Chavez-MacGregor, MD







# UNIRAD trial



Phase 3 study; N = 2010

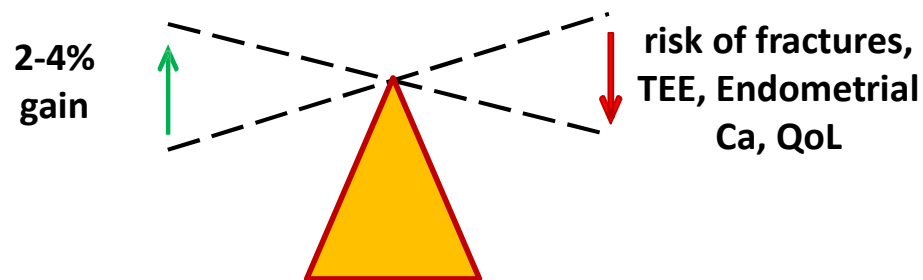
Sponsor: UNICANCER

Funding: French NCI

PI: Fabrice Andre

# Balancing act: Risks and Benefits

Predicted benefit versus side effects



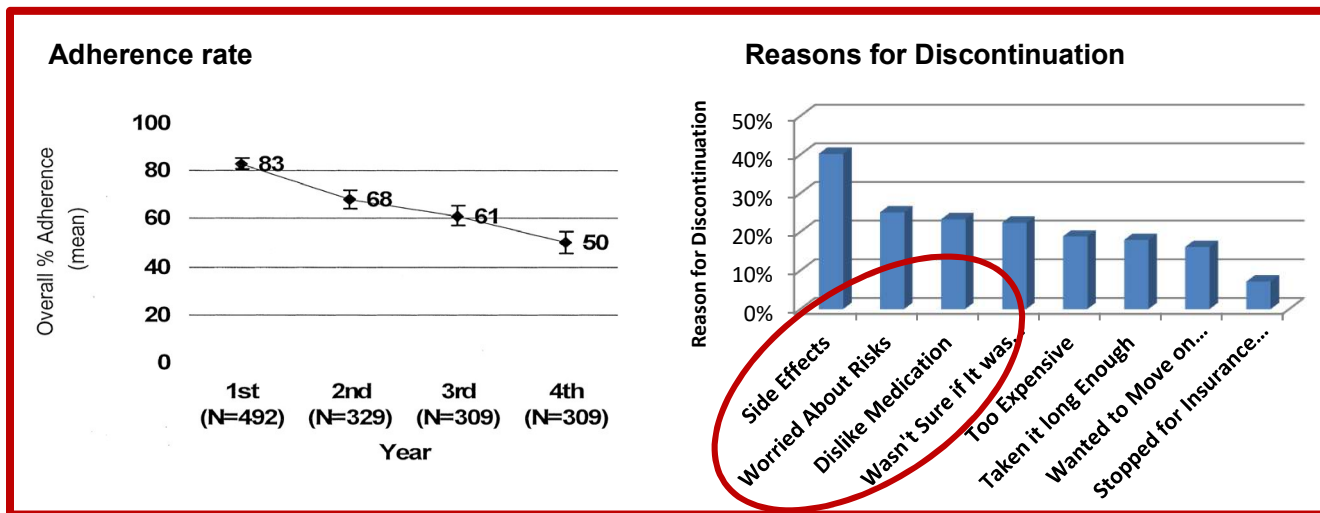
**Decrease in risk of recurrence counterbalanced by treatment-associated risks?**

**No OS benefit**

# Adherence and Persistence with Endocrine Therapy is a Significant Challenge

- Endocrine therapy adherence and persistence are poor
- Discontinuation ranges from 31-73% during the first 5 years

Side effects are the primary reason for treatment discontinuation



Partridge, A. H. et al. J Clin Oncol. 21:602-606 2003  
Murphy CC, et al Breast Can Res Treat. 2012;134:459-4  
Sheppard VB, et al J Clin Oncol. 2014

Fontein DBY. EJSO. 2012;38:110-117  
Friese CR et al. Breast Can Res Treat 2013; 138(3):931-39  
Hershman et al. Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2011; 126(2): 529-537

## Adherence rates in extended AI clinical trials

Trial	Adherence Rate (%)
MA.17R	62.5
NSABP-42	62.5
DATA	NR
IDEAL	57.5
ABCSG-16	59.4

Highly motivated patients that actually had already tolerated AIs

# Take home points

- Endocrine therapy improves BC outcomes
- Significant risk of recurrence
  - High risk groups
  - Late recurrence
- Optimization/improvement
  - Improve adherence/ Management of side effects
- **Premenopausal patients**
  - Tamoxifen 10 years
  - Ovarian ablation + AI in selected groups of patients
- **Postmenopausal patients**
  - Extended endocrine therapy in high-risk patients
- Molecular assays may be helpful/ Predictive biomarkers
- Incorporate new drugs/Algorithms will change
- In the absence of a survival advantage this decision should be selective rather than for all.
  - Shared-decision making process

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

MD Anderson  
~~Cancer~~ Center

Making Cancer History®

**Thank you**