

# Novel Platforms for Lung Cancer Screening *(and Earlier Diagnosis)* using Liquid Biopsy

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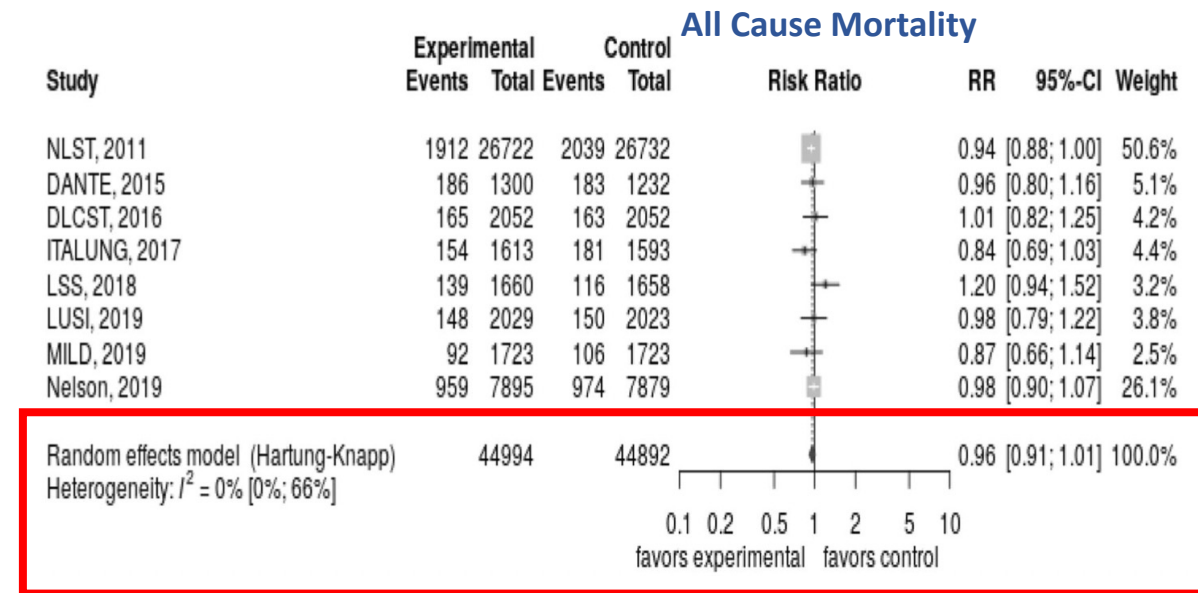
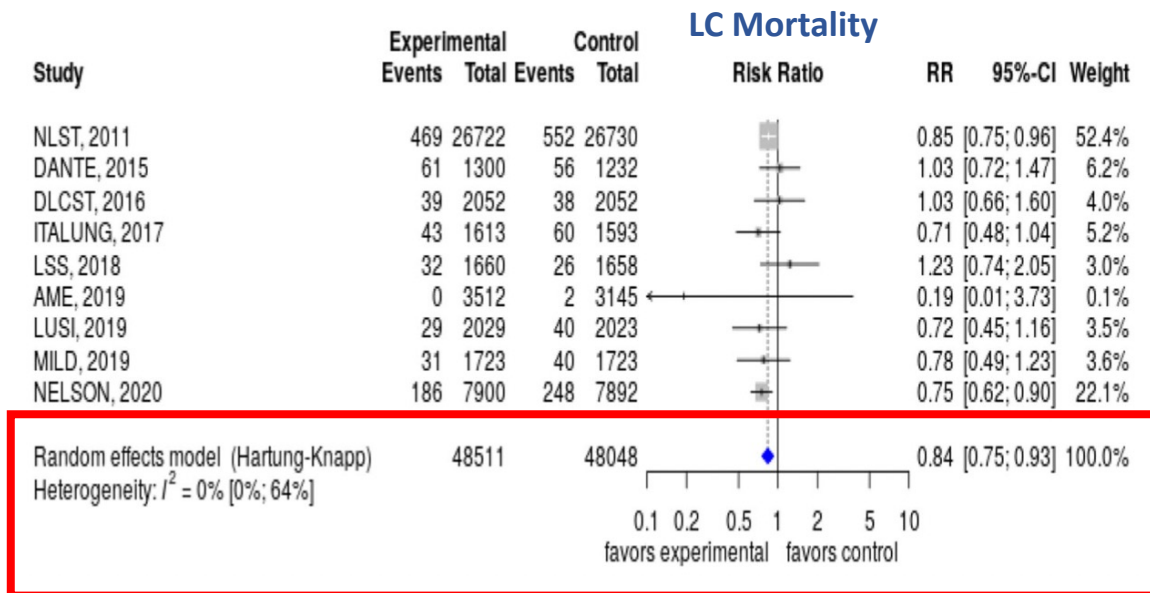


# Objectives

- To review emerging novel platforms for lung cancer screening using liquid biopsy
- To highlight the current applications of liquid biopsy in patients with lung cancer in clinical practice
  - Genotyping in advanced NSCLC patients
- To highlight potential to accelerate molecular diagnosis

# Lung Cancer and Screening

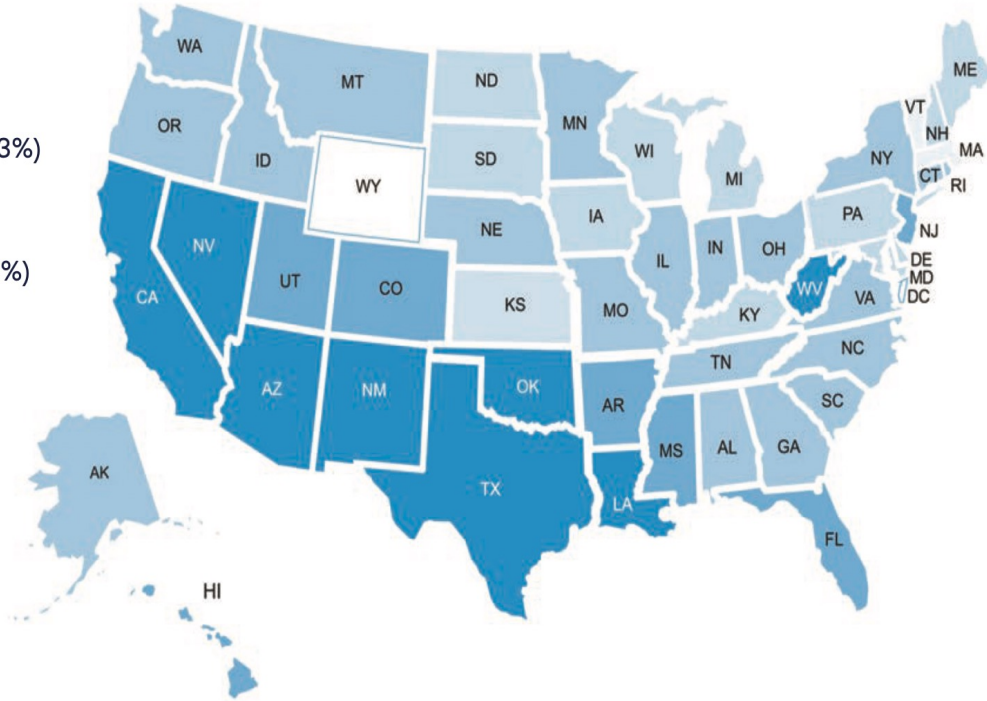
- Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer mortality and cancer care costs globally including in the US
  - 5-year survival 22% → Need Prevention, Early Detection
- Screening with low-dose CT reduces lung cancer-related mortality [I,A].



# Lung Cancer Screening in the US

## Tiers

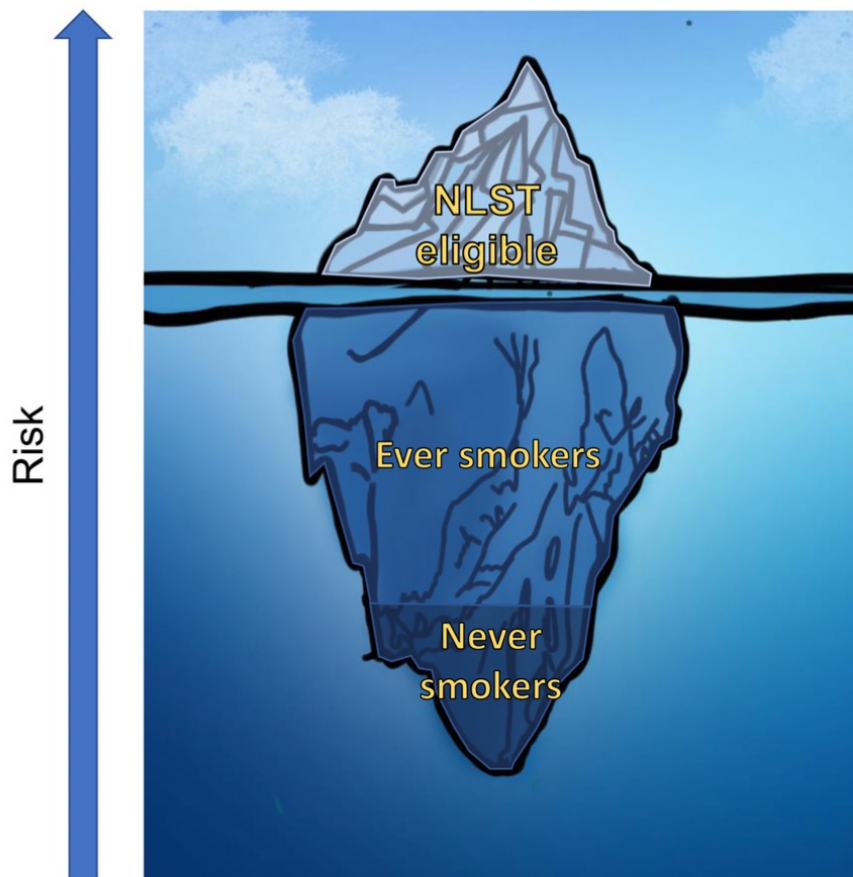
- Top (13.4%-18.5%)
- Above Average (8.3%-13.3%)
- Average (4.7%-8.2%)
- Below Average (2.9%-4.6%)
- Bottom (1.0%-2.8%)
- Data Not Available



- In **US**, only **5.7%** of those at high risk screened
- Screening rates range from 1.0 to 18.5%
- Louisiana ranks 40<sup>th</sup> of 50 states at **3.3%**
- Only 21.6% of cases diagnosed at early stage (National average 24.5%, Louisiana ranks 43<sup>rd</sup> of 50); 17.6% undergo surgery (National average 20.7%)
- USPSTF 2021– expanded screening population: 50-80 years old, current or former smokers (quit<15 yrs ago), >=20 pack year smoking history



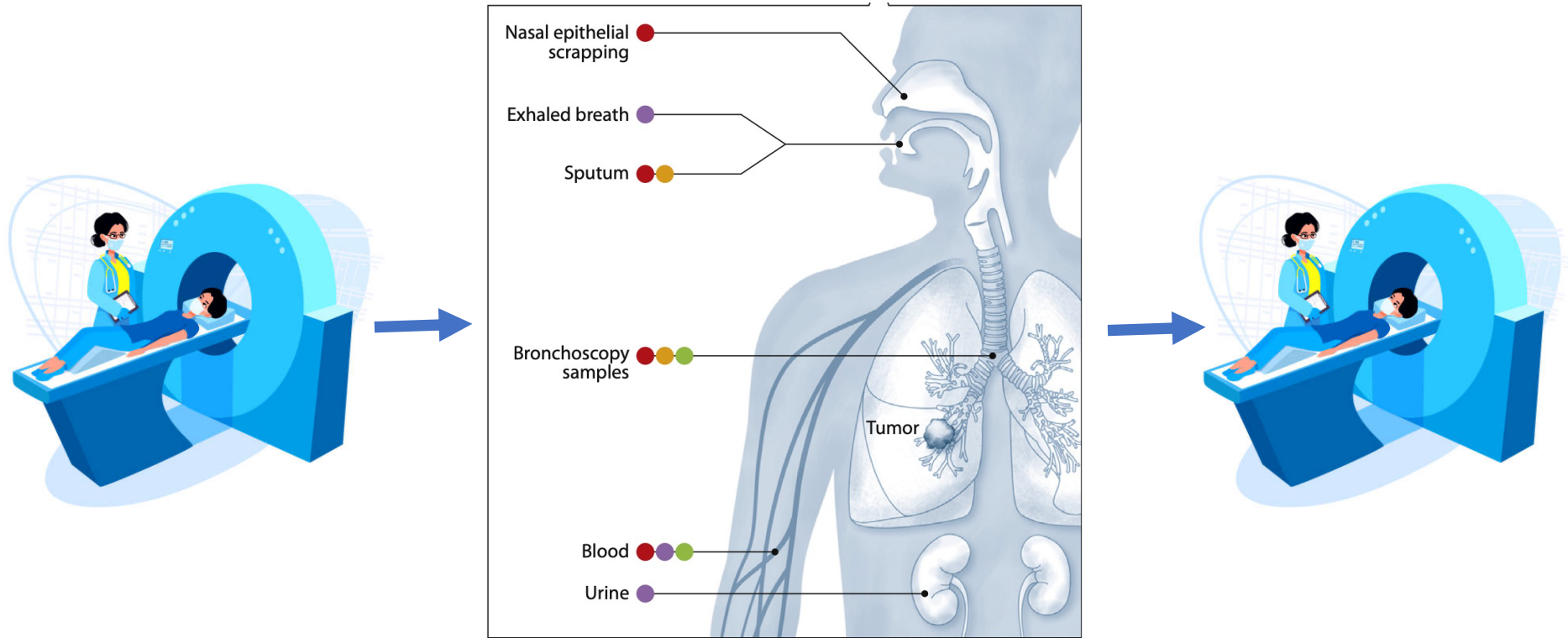
# What are some challenges with lung cancer screening?



CT  
followed  
by blood  
test

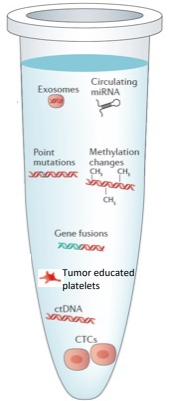
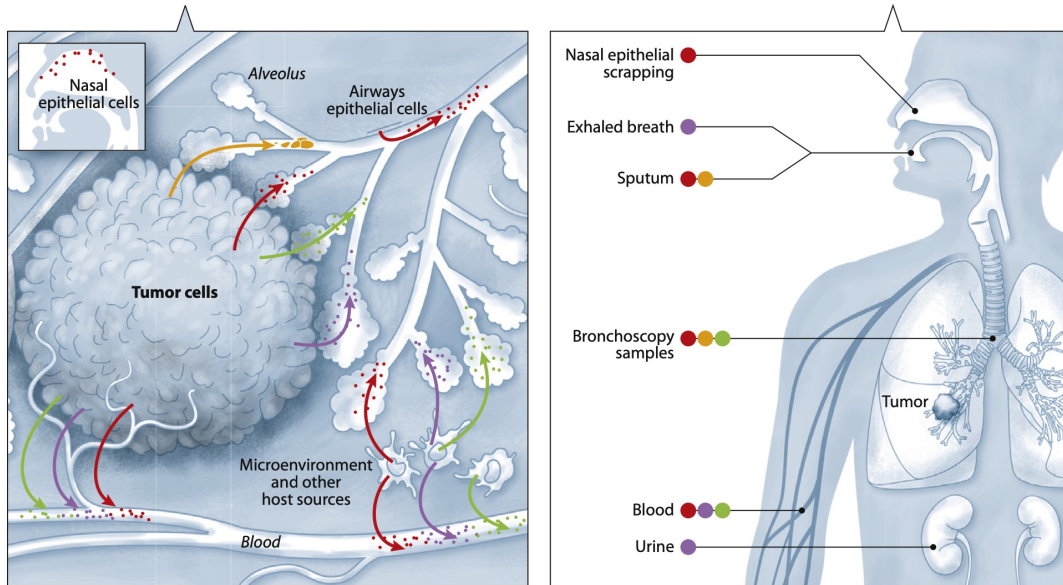
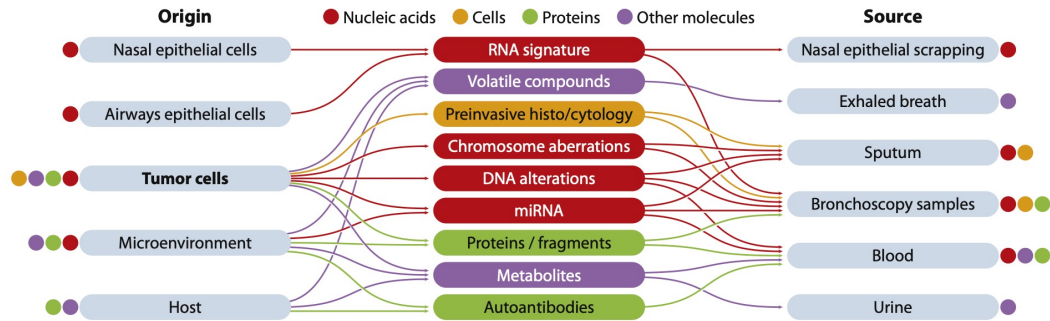
Blood test  
followed  
by CT

- If we screened all NLST eligible patients, we would detect only 27% of all lung cancers
- With new criteria, this may increase by ~30%
- Even low dose CT (LDCT) not perfect...
- ~27% had “positive” screen, most (96%) did not have cancer
- 2.7% of those without cancer underwent at least 1 invasive procedure
- Definition of “positive” test improving, e.g. Lung RADS criteria, but still need to improve positive predictive value



Enhance detection in those  
with positive LDCT screen  
OR screen population with  
novel biomarker →  
further investigation in those  
deemed at risk

# Many candidate biomarkers under investigation

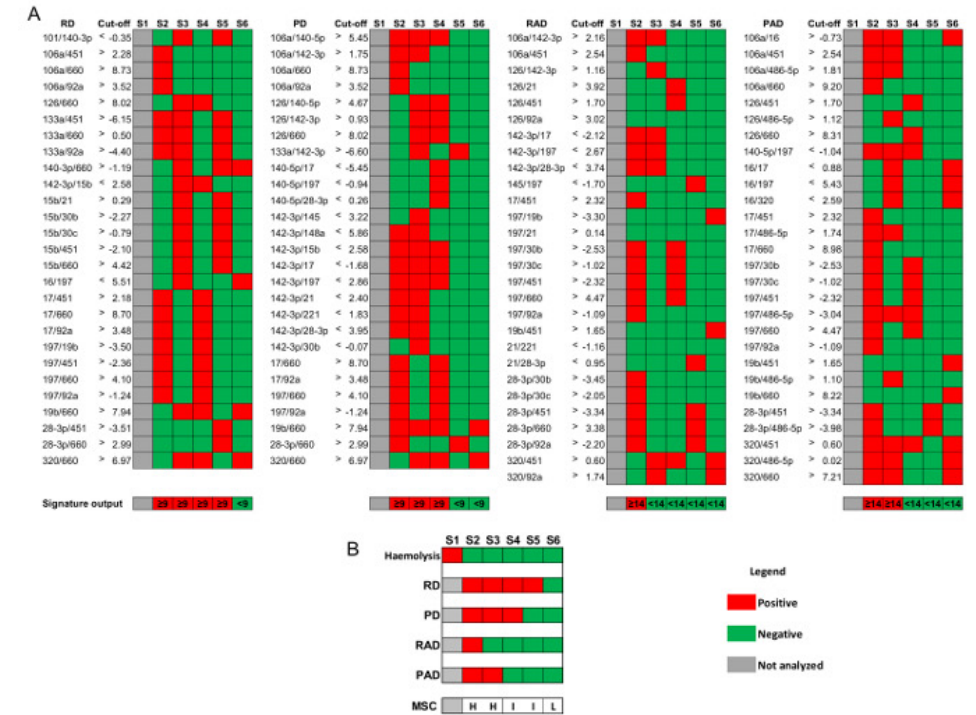
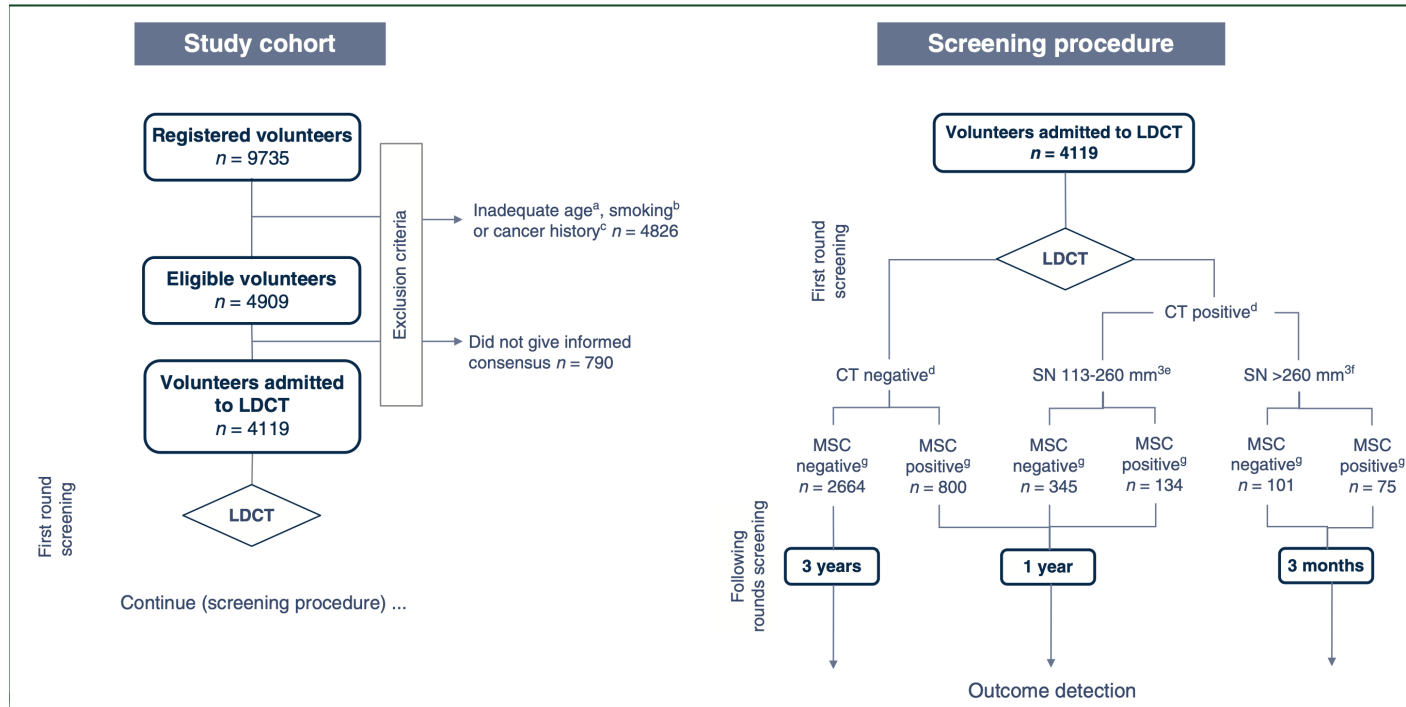


Blood Components	Biomarkers	Tests
<i>Candidate Blood-Based Biomarkers for the Early Detection of Lung Cancer</i>		
Plasma	Circulating free DNA	NGS (large panels)
Plasma/serum	MicroRNAs/ exosomes	RT-PCR, NGS
Plasma	Proteins/ autoantibodies	ELISA
Whole blood	CTCs	ISET, ScreenCell, CellSearch, other
Platelets (TEPs)	Nucleic acids	NGS, RNA sequencing
<i>Candidate Blood-Based Biomarkers for the Prediction of Lung Cancer Occurrence</i>		
Plasma	Circulating free DNA	Gene methylation, DNA fragmenta- tion assessment
Plasma/serum	MicroRNAs	RT-PCR
Plasma	Proteins	ELISA
Whole blood	CTCs	ISET, ScreenCell

Abbreviations: CTC, circulating tumor cell; ELISA, enzyme-linked immunoadsorbent assay; ISET, Isolation by Size of Epithelial Tumor Cell; NGS, next-generation sequencing; RT-PCR, reverse transcriptase–polymerase chain reaction; TEP, tumor-educated platelet.



# bioMILD: LDCT + plasma miRNA signature classifier (MSC)



**Figure 1. CONSORT diagram of the BioMILD screening trial.**

LDCT, low-dose computed tomography; LC, lung cancer; MSC, micro RNA signature classifier; SN, solid nodules.

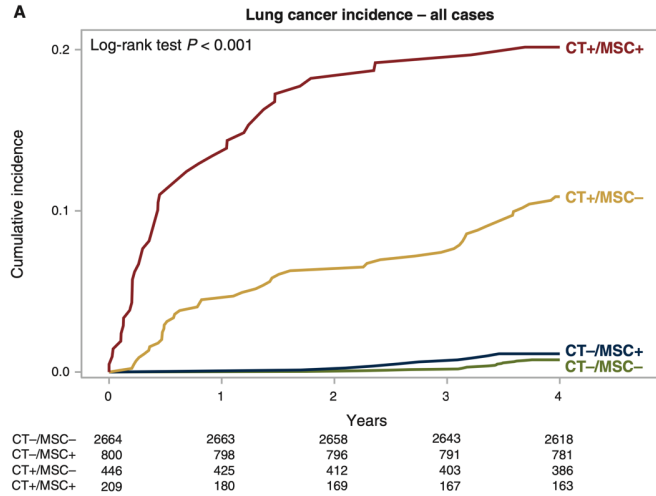
<sup>a</sup>Volunteers aged  $\leq 50$  or  $\geq 75$  years.

<sup>b</sup>Never smokers or former smokers who quit for 10 years or more or current smokers with  $< 30$  pack-years or current smokers with  $< 20$  pack-years without chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and/or family history of lung cancer.

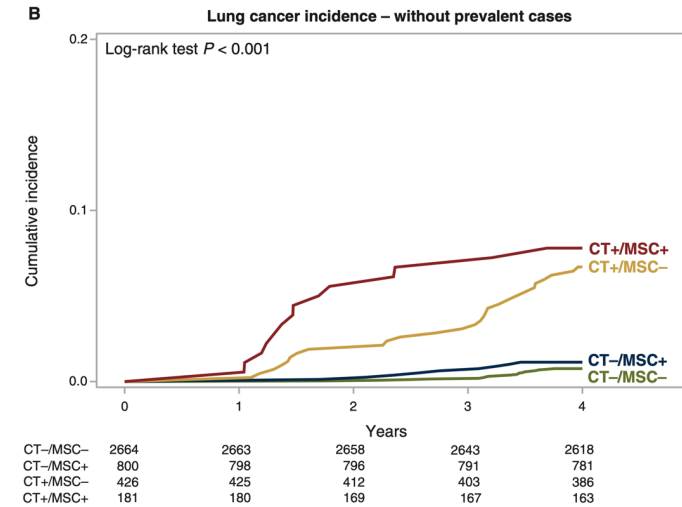
<sup>c</sup>Volunteers in whom a neoplasm was diagnosed in the past 5 years.

<sup>d</sup>Negative LDCT: no nodule, or nodule with calcification pattern, or solid nodules  $< 113 \text{ mm}^3$ , or non-solid nodules  $< 5 \text{ mm}$ ; positive LDCT: solid nodules  $\geq 113 \text{ mm}^3$ , or part-solid nodules, or non-solid nodules  $\geq 5 \text{ mm}$ .

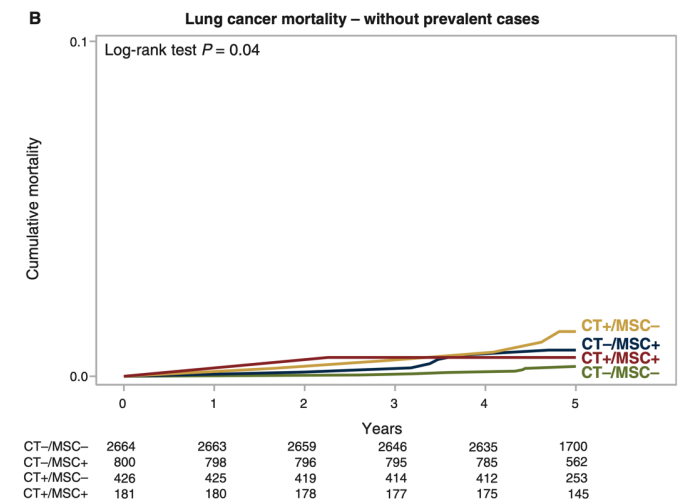
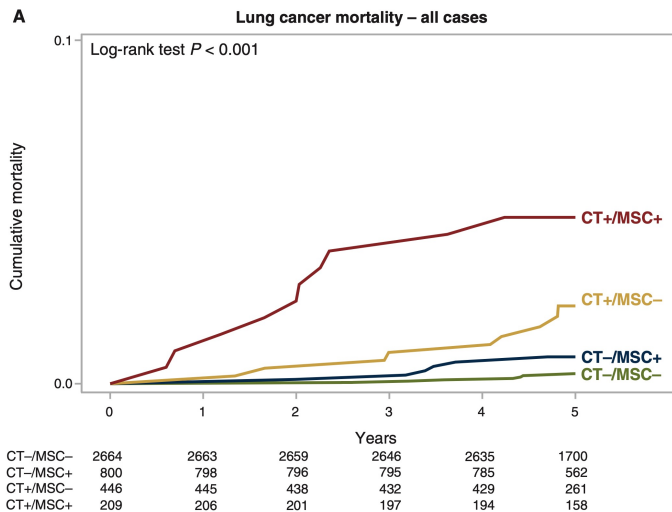
# bioMILD: LDCT + plasma miRNA signature classifier (MSC)



At first screen, MSC + associated with 2 fold risk of lung cancer diagnosis in those with LDCT + screen

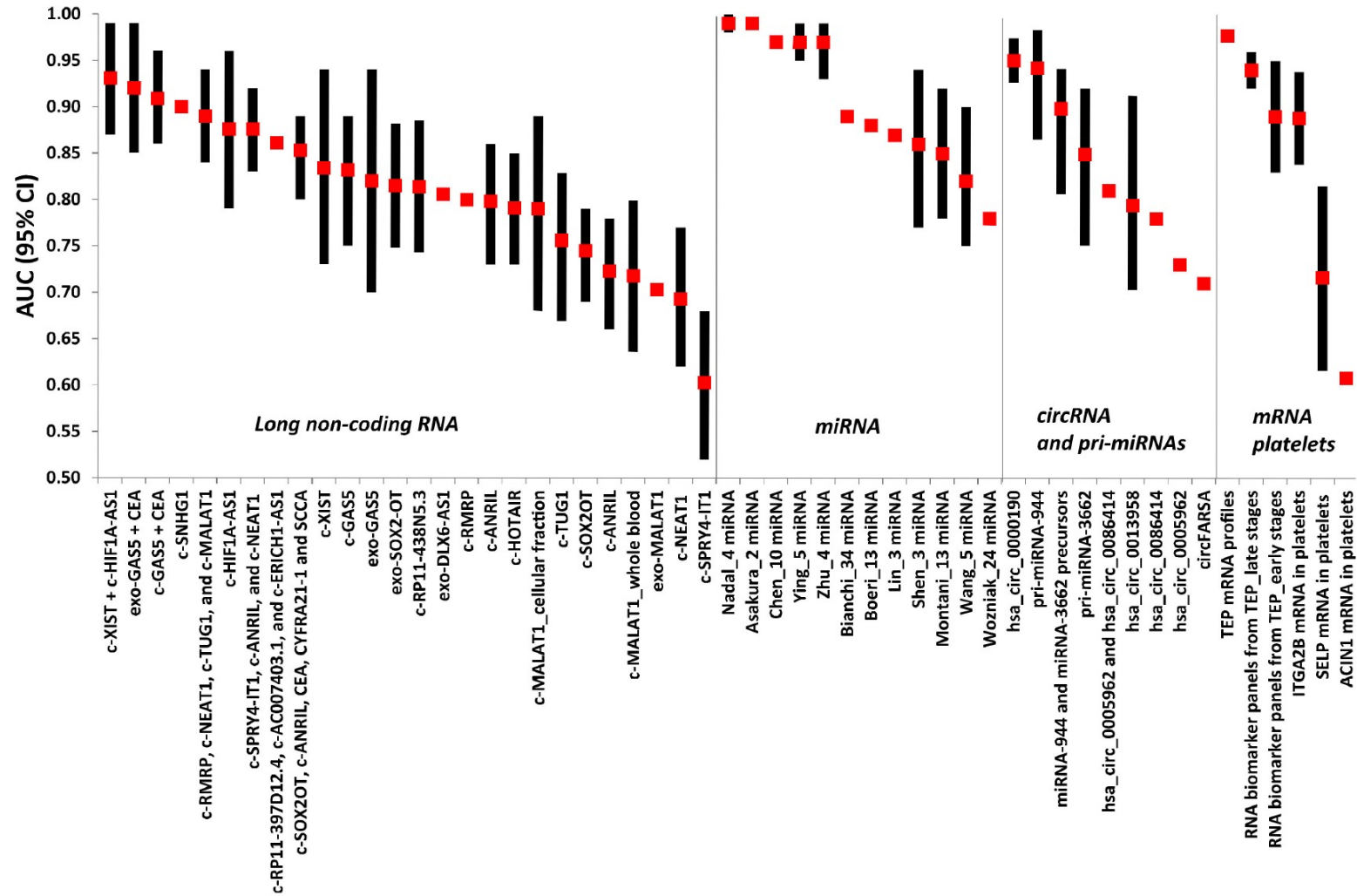


Benefit of MSC in subsequent follow up less clear but may help inform less frequent follow up intervals for low risk group (LDCT- MSC-)

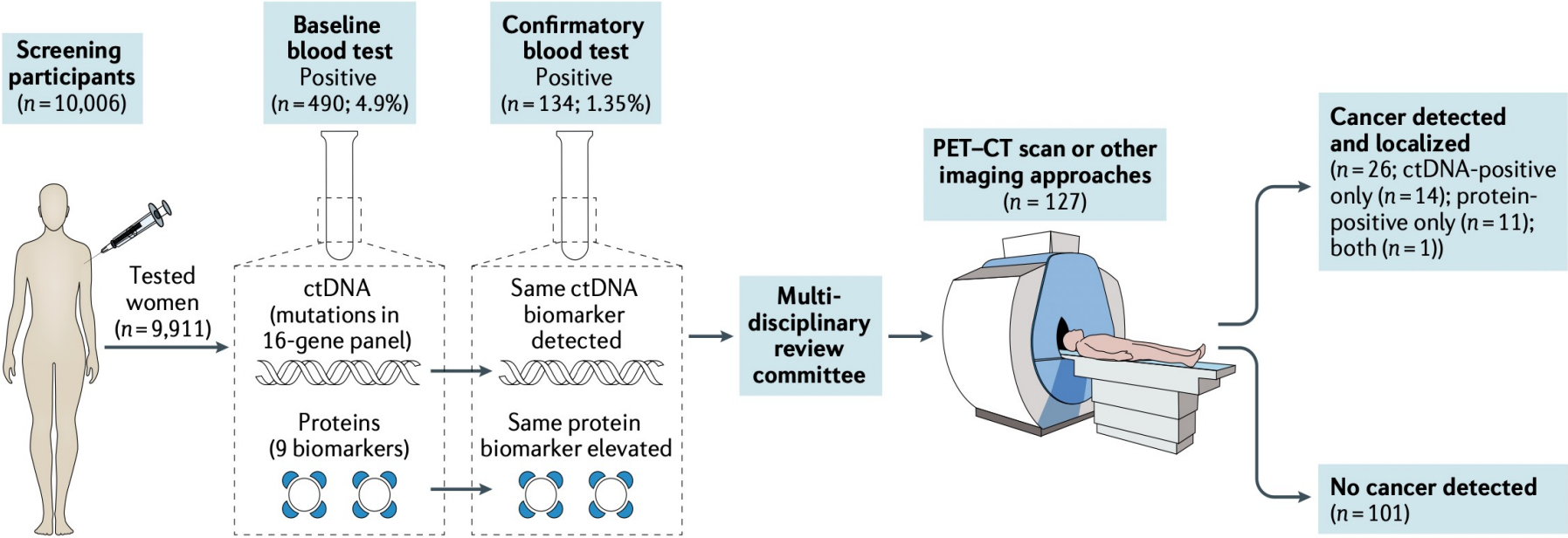




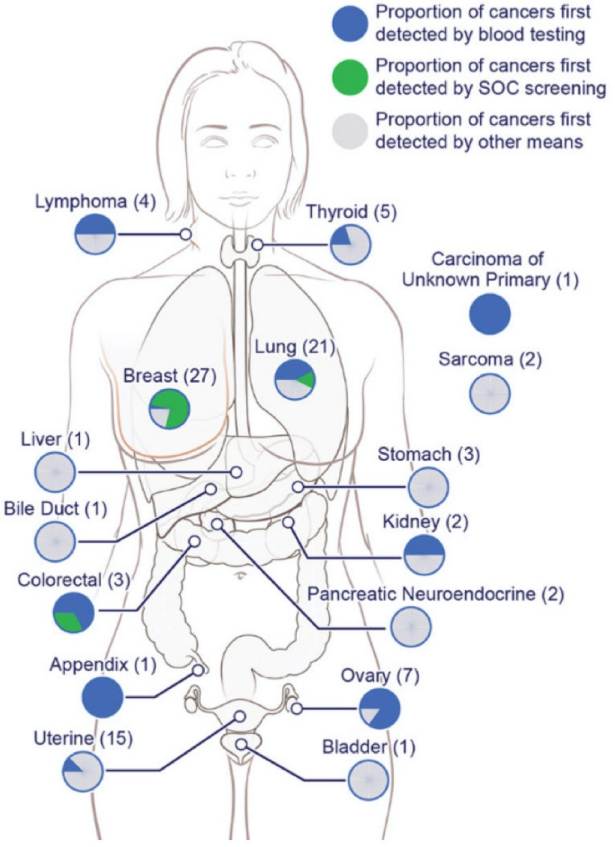
# Blood-based RNA signatures promising



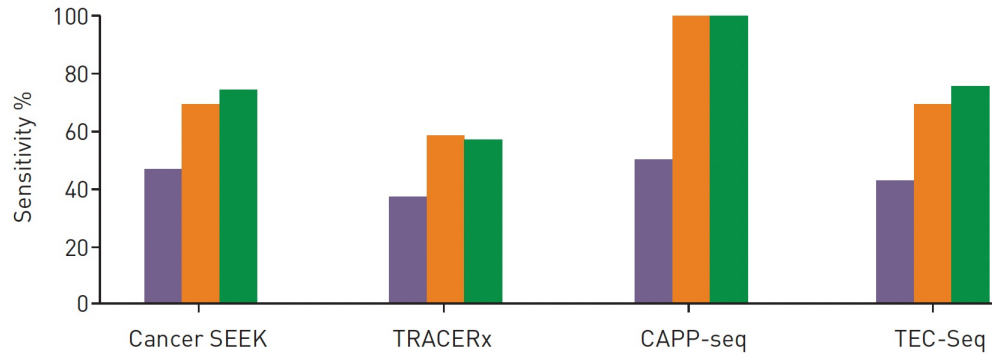
# Multi-cancer early detection assays



All cancers identified in the DETECT-A study

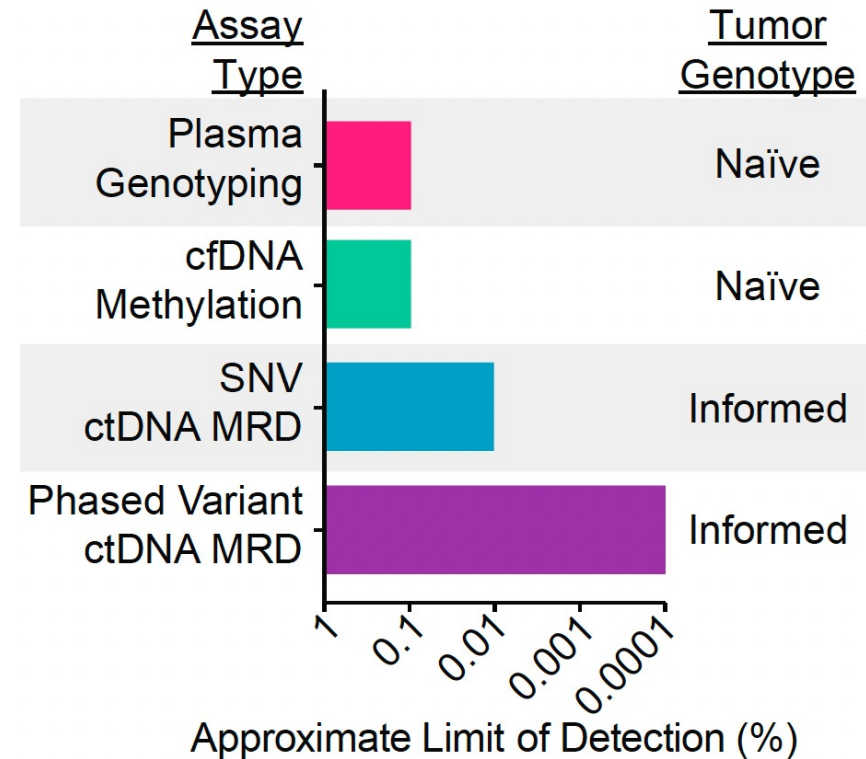


# Key challenge of ctDNA assays in screening, minimal residual disease identification is the limit of detection



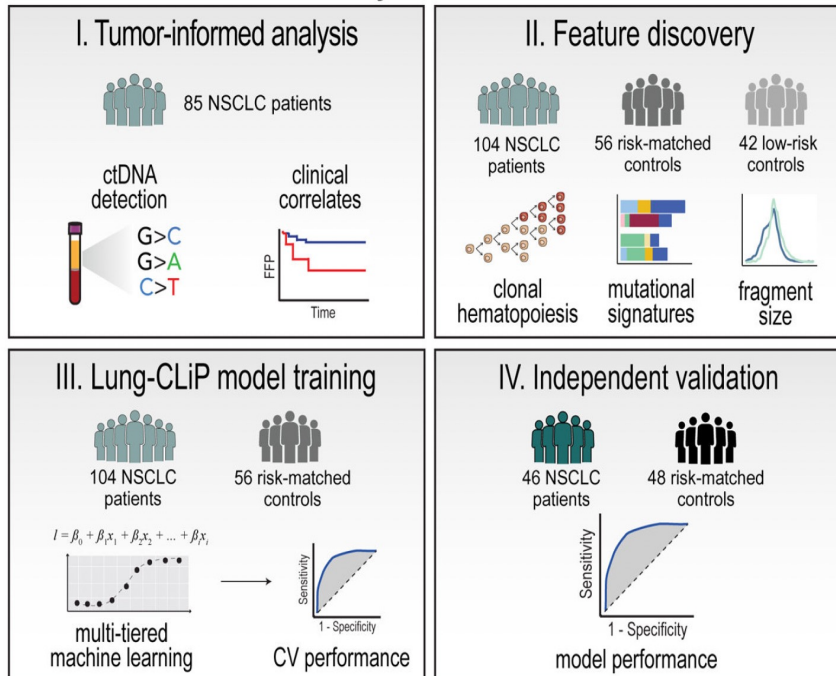
	Cancer SEEK <sup>#</sup>	TRACERx <sup>¶</sup>	CAPP-seq <sup>+</sup>	TEC-Seq <sup>§</sup>
■ Stage I	43	37	50	45
■ Stage II	69	59	100	72
■ Stage III	74	57	100	75

FIGURE 2 Summary of the technical properties and performances of the four main plasma genotyping platforms studied for early stage nonsmall cell lung cancer detection. <sup>#</sup>: early stages: hybrid capture, plasma next-generation sequencing (NGS) (16 genes) and 8 protein markers. <sup>¶</sup>: minimal residual disease (MRD): plasma NGS, patient-specific multiplex PCR (10 to 22 single-nucleotide variations), subclonal evolution. <sup>+</sup>: early stage MRD: hybrid capture, plasma NGS (139 genes). <sup>§</sup>: early stage MRD: hybrid capture, plasma NGS (58 genes).



# Lung Cancer Likelihood in Plasma (Lung CLiP assay)

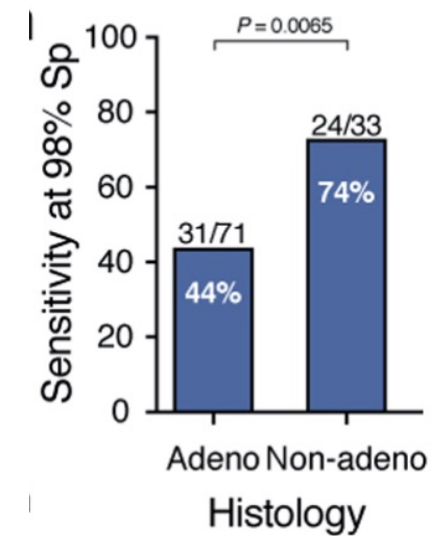
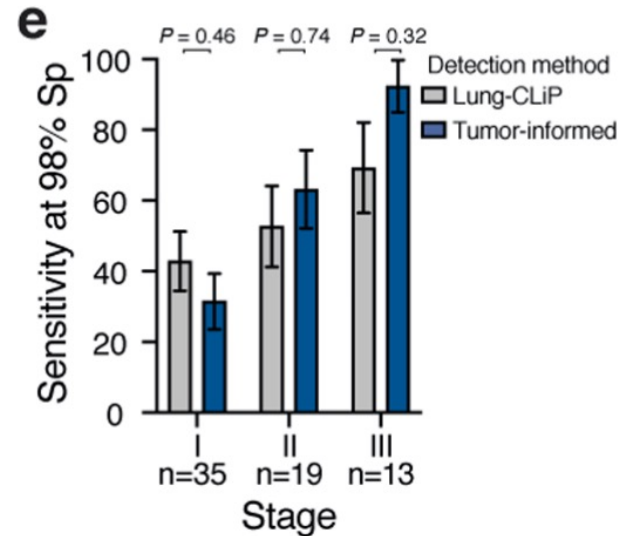
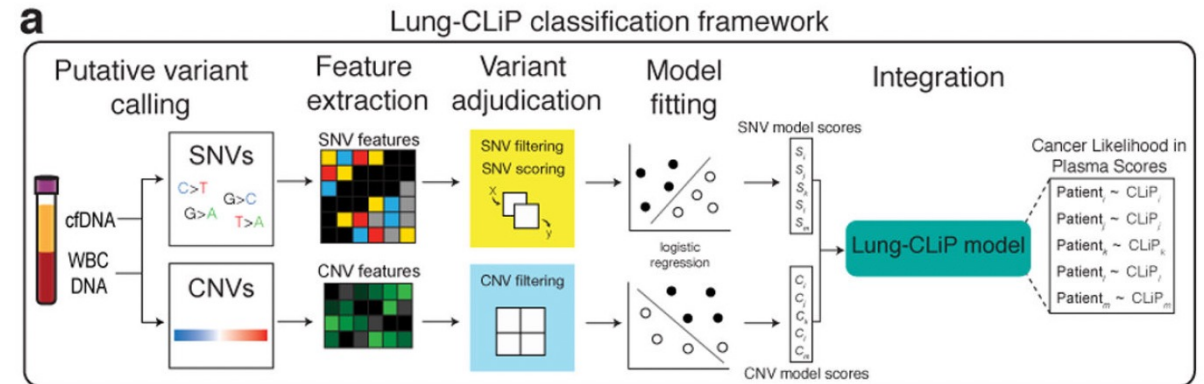
## Study Overview



n = 314 subjects  
 n = 713 samples

Discovery cohort:  
 Institutions 1-4

Validation cohort:  
 Institution 5





# The PATHFINDER Study: Assessment of a Multi-Cancer Early Detection Test In Clinical Practice

*Prospective, multicenter, interventional, return-of-results study (NCT04241796)*

## Study Objectives

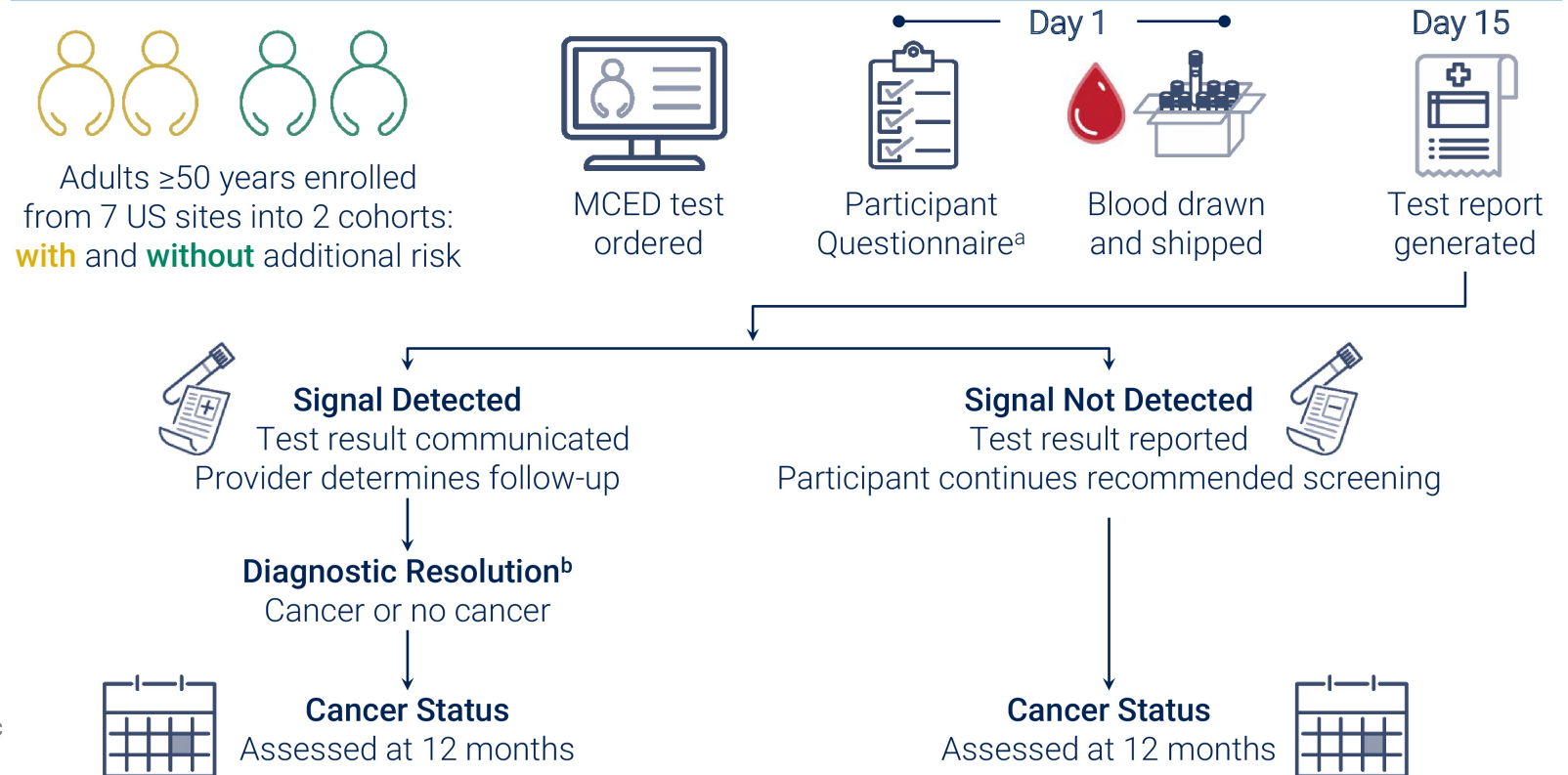
### Primary

- Assess extent of diagnostic testing required to achieve diagnostic resolution following a “signal detected” test result

### Secondary

- Evaluate test performance
- Assess participant-reported outcomes and perceptions of the MCED test

## Study Design



<sup>a</sup>Also collected at other timepoints during the study.

<sup>b</sup>Defined as date when study team determines to end diagnostic evaluation triggered by a “signal detected” test result.  
MCED, multi-cancer early detection.

Presented By: **Tomasz M. Beer**  
OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, Portland, OR

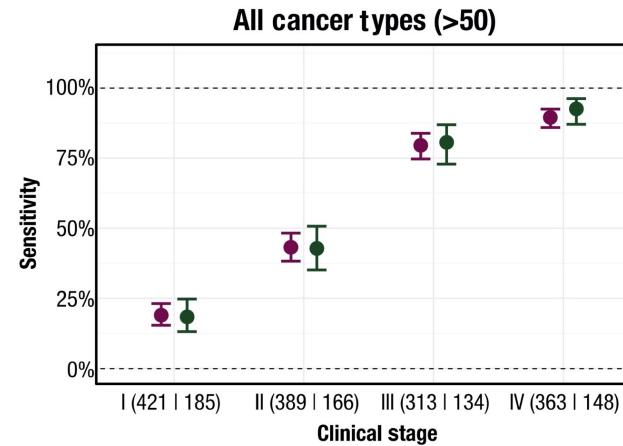
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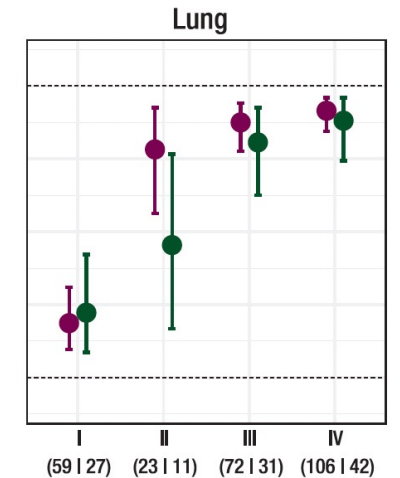
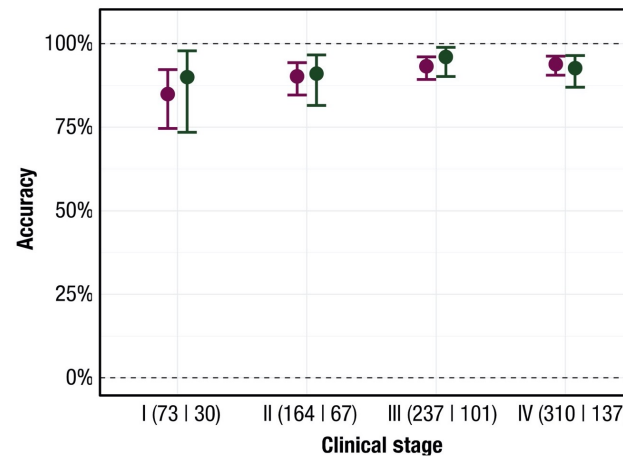


# Background

- Early detection via screening improves cancer-specific survival for some cancers
- GRAIL's Multi Cancer Early Detection (MCED) Test is a methylation-based cell-free DNA blood test that can detect multiple types of cancers
- A case control study demonstrated 18-81% sensitivity in stage I-III and >99% specificity
- Accuracy for predicting tissue of origin was 93%



Note in Lung Cancer, sensitivity lower for early stages – which we need to identify in order to cure lung cancer



Liu M, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2020

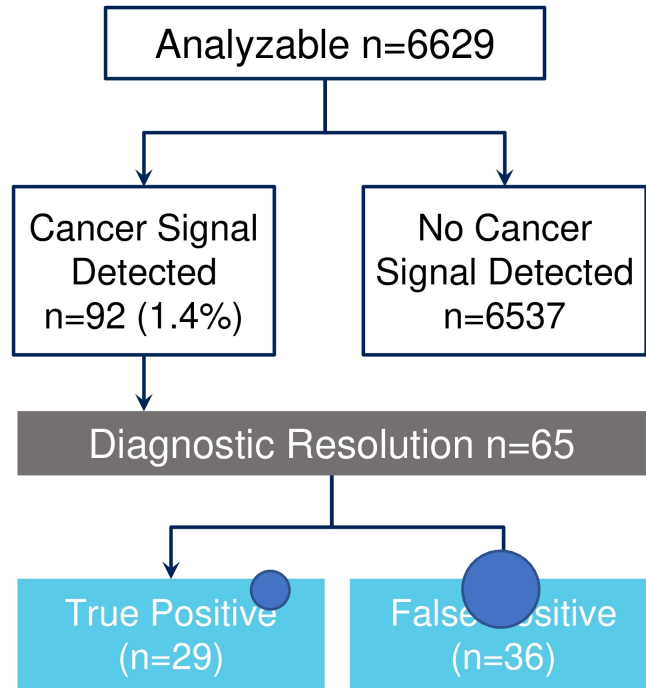
Presented By: **Max Diehn, MD/PhD**

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Adapted from Dr. Diehn, ASCO 2021; Liu et al Ann Oncol 2020; purple = training set, green = validation set

# Interim Primary Outcome: Extent of Diagnostic Testing



Median (Q1, Q3)	True Positive n=27*	False Positive n=36	Total (n=63*)
<b>All Imaging/Invasive Procedures</b>	2.0 (1.5, 3.0)	1.5 (1.0, 2.2)	2.0 (1.0, 3.0)
<b>All Imaging Tests</b>	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
Functional	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
Anatomic	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
<b>All Invasive Procedures</b>	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
Minimally Invasive	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
Surgical	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
<b>Biological Lab Tests</b>	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)
<b>Days to Resolution</b>	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)

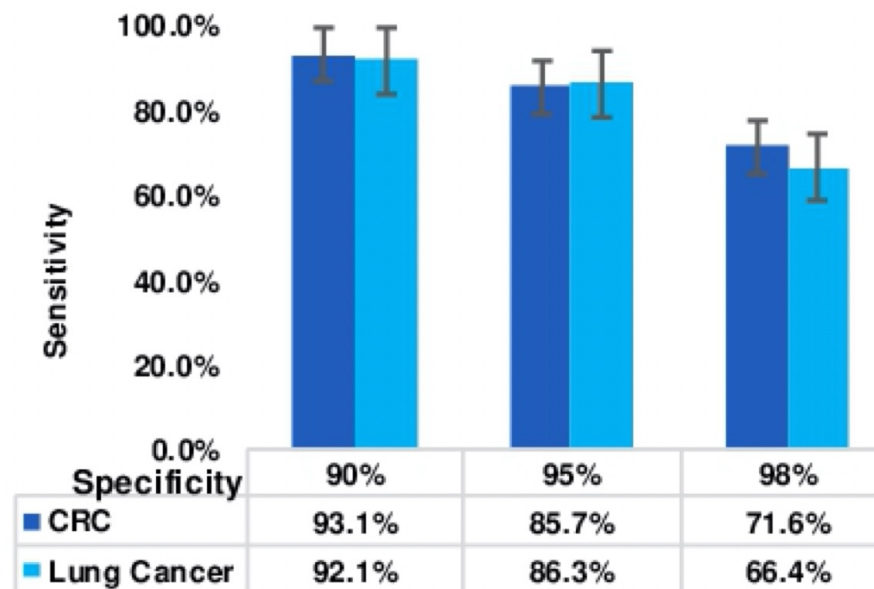
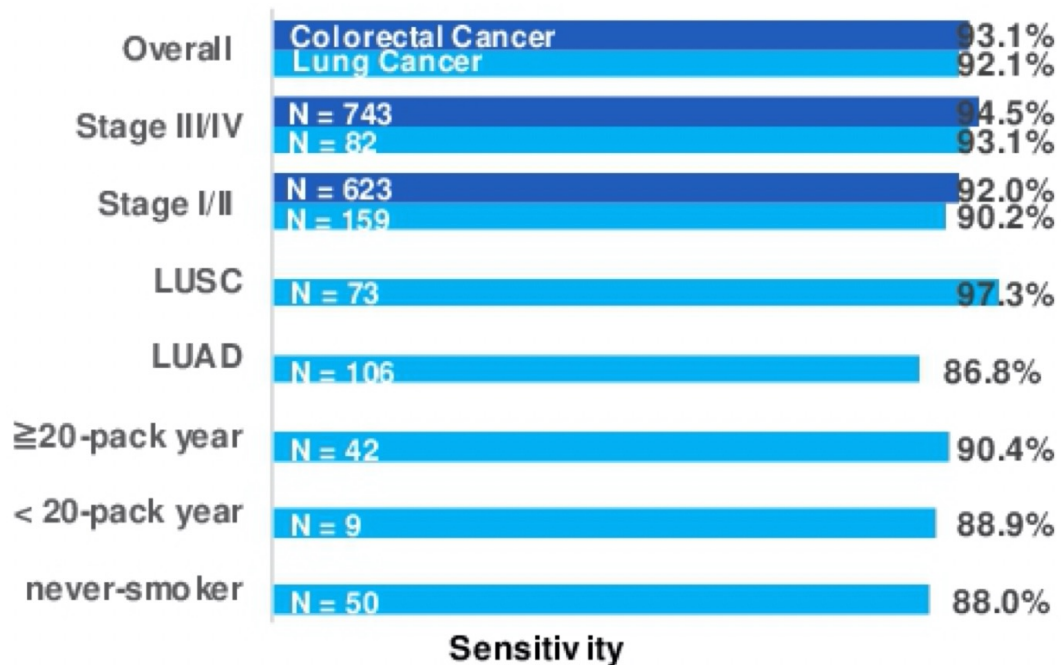
52% lymphoid cancers; 1 lung cancer  
 85% accuracy for tissue of origin  
 PPV 49% (39-67%)  
 40% stage I, II  
 ? Are plasma tests better at picking up micrometastatic cases rather than more curable early stage?

Most participants with diagnostic resolution had a minimally invasive procedure  
 More true positives (21/27; 78%) than false positives (10/36; 28%)  
 Most invasive procedures were minimally invasive

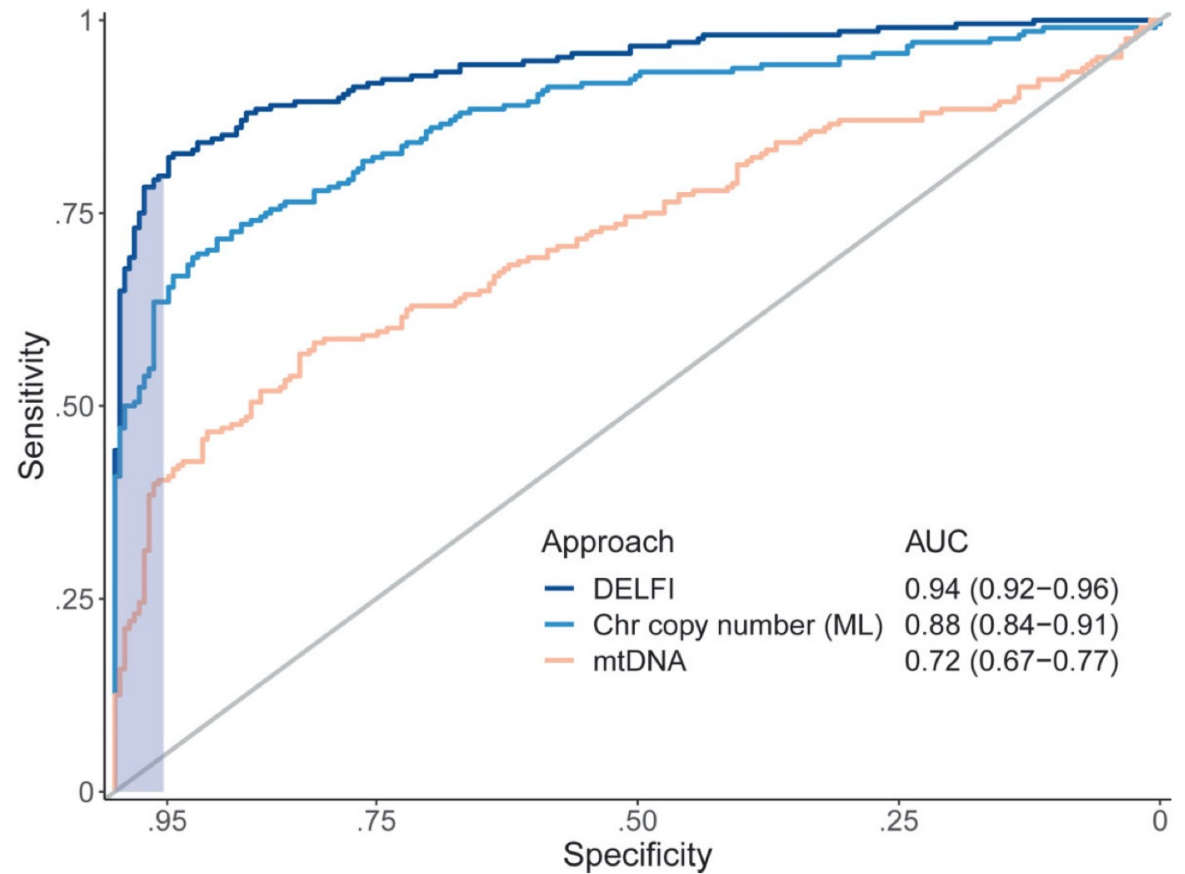
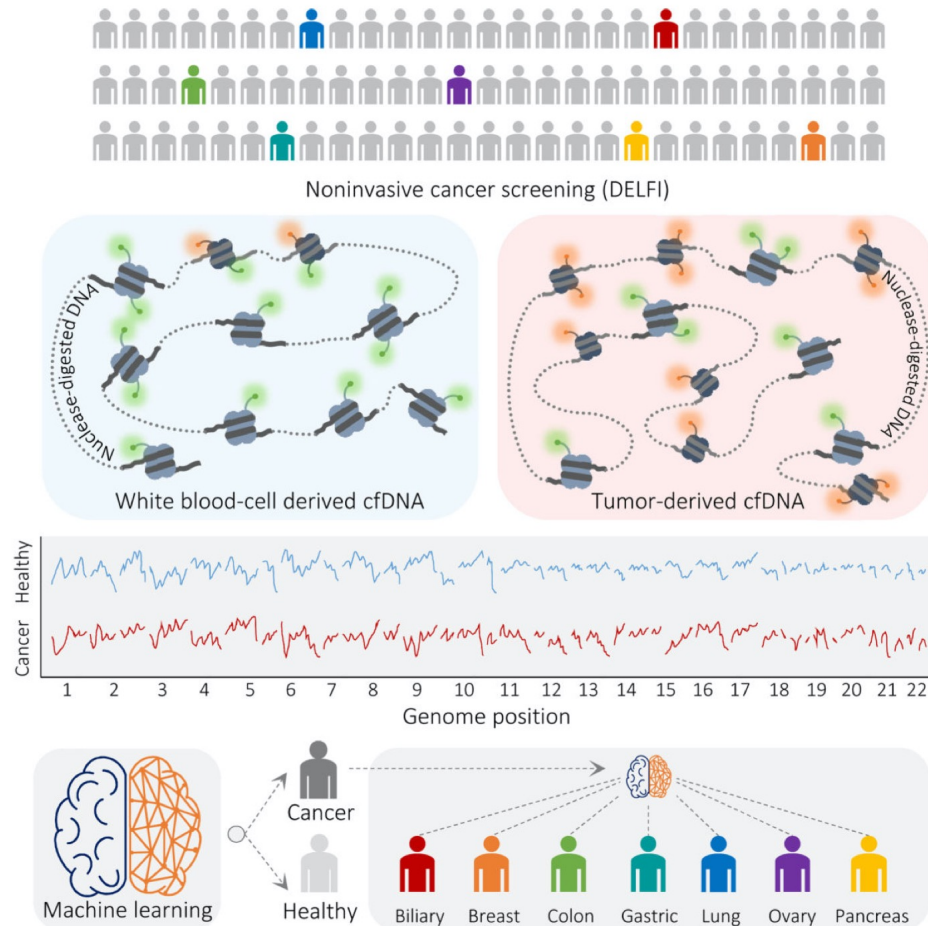
\*2 participants with 'signal detected' MCED test result (true positives) were excluded from the diagnostic workup analysis because diagnostic testing was initiated before MCED test results were returned. As of March 2021, 30 participants had ≥1 invasive procedure (26 minimally invasive, 2 surgical, 2 both).

# Other plasma methylation assays in clinical trials

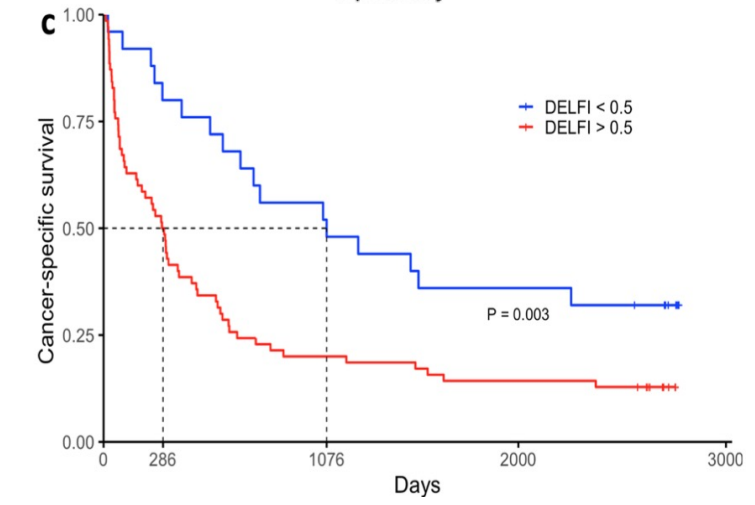
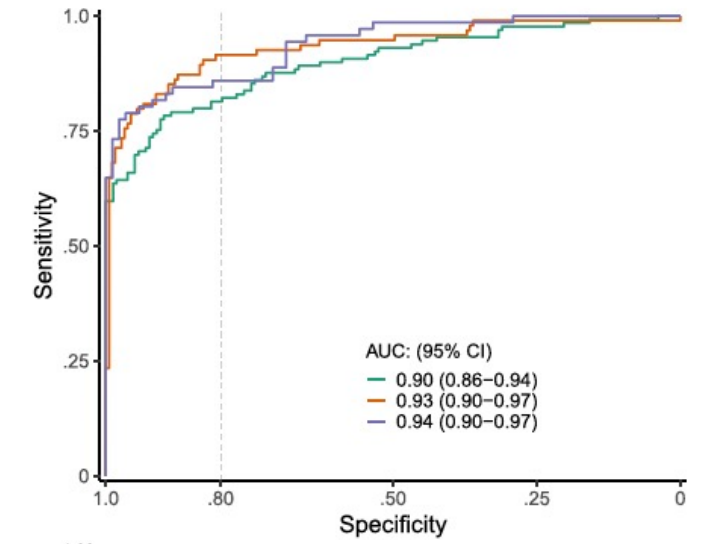
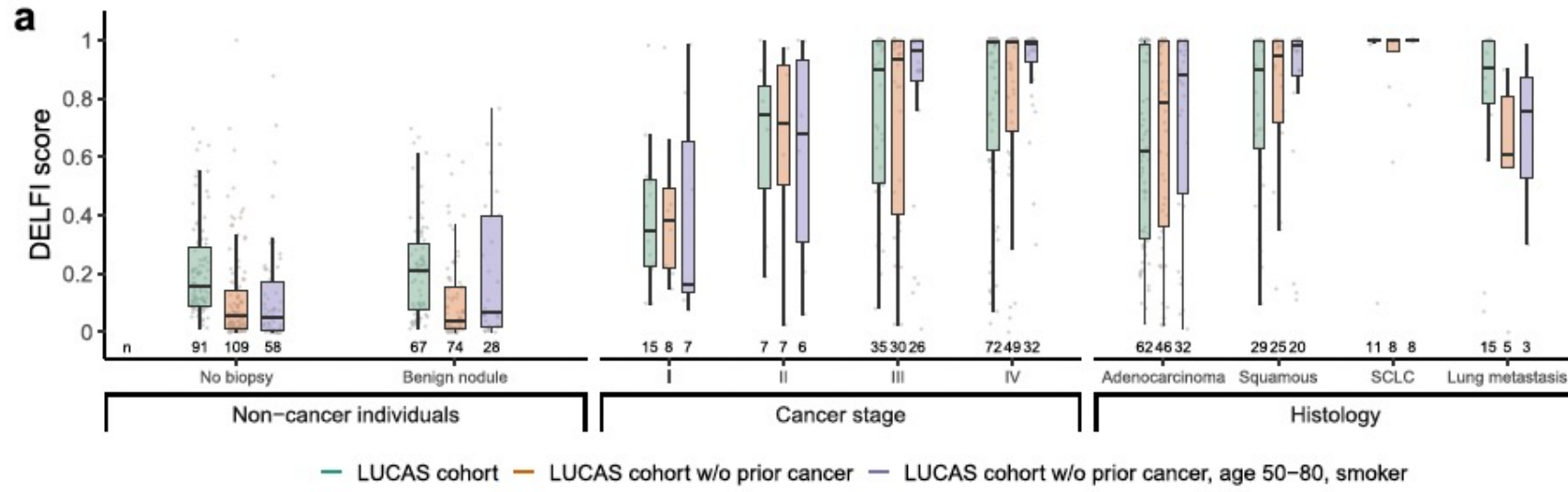
Cohort Demographics				
		Cancer-free (N = 3,298)	Colorectal Cancer (N = 1,366)	Lung Cancer (N = 241)
Cancer Stage	I / II	-	54%	34%
	III / IV	-	46%	66%
Age (years)	Median	57	65	67
	(Range)	(18 – 86)	(19 – 93)	(23 – 93)
Number of unique cohorts		17	12	6



# Cancer diagnosis using Genome Wide ctDNA Fragmentation

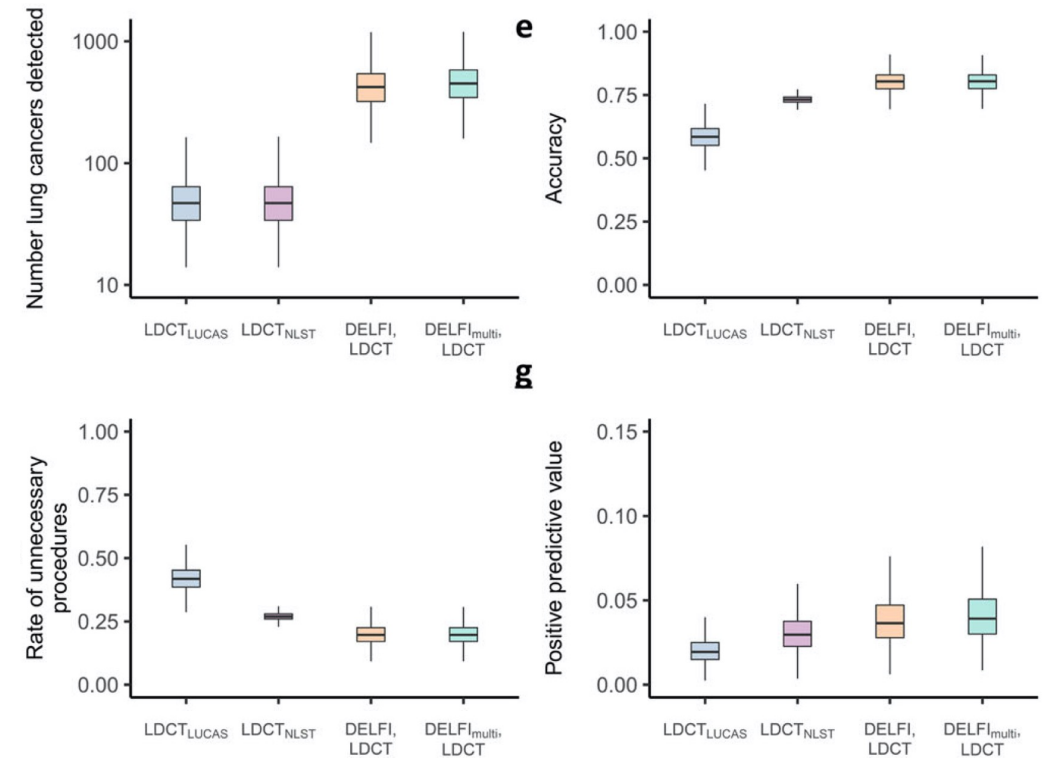
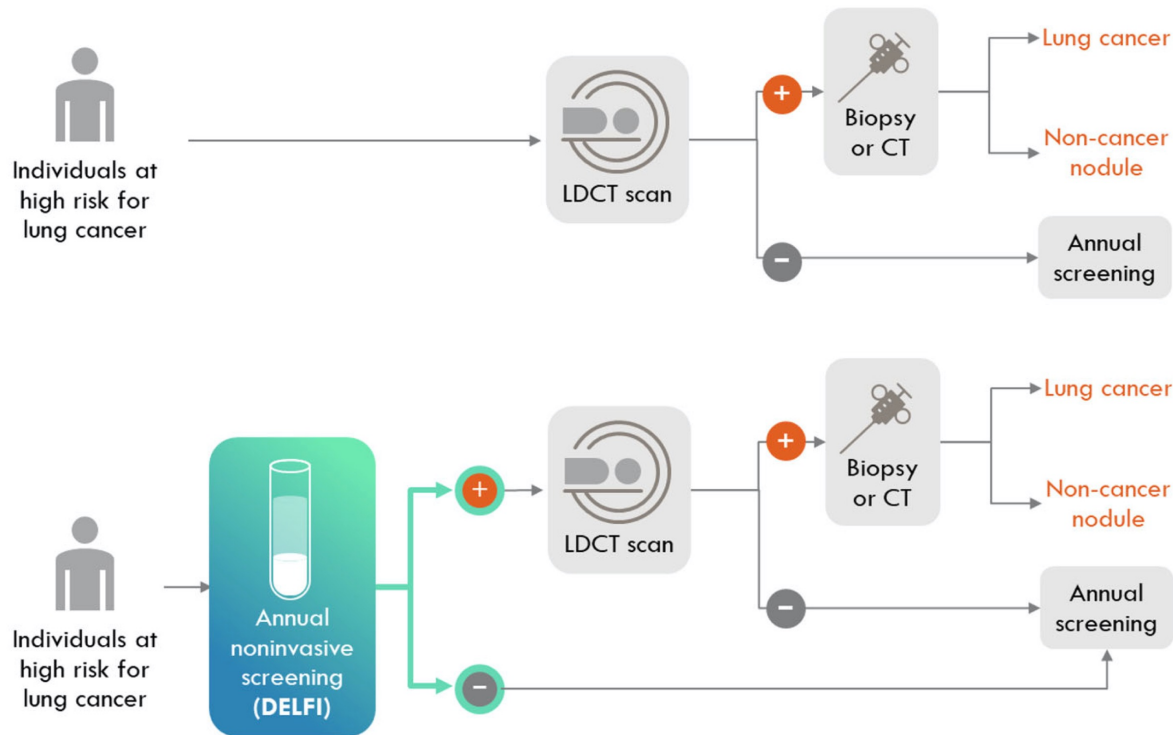


# Higher DELFI scores in those with lung cancer

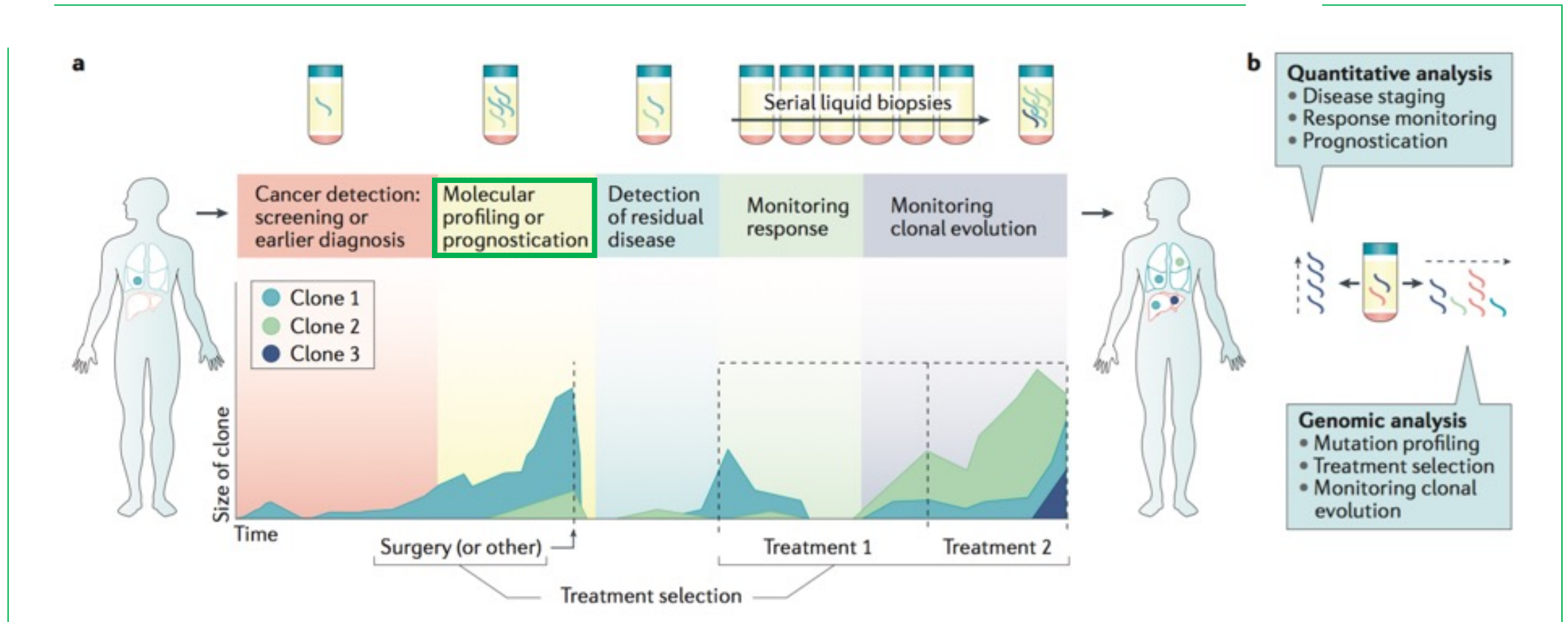




# The future? Hypothesized potential improvement with adding shallow whole genome sequencing (DELFI) to LDCT



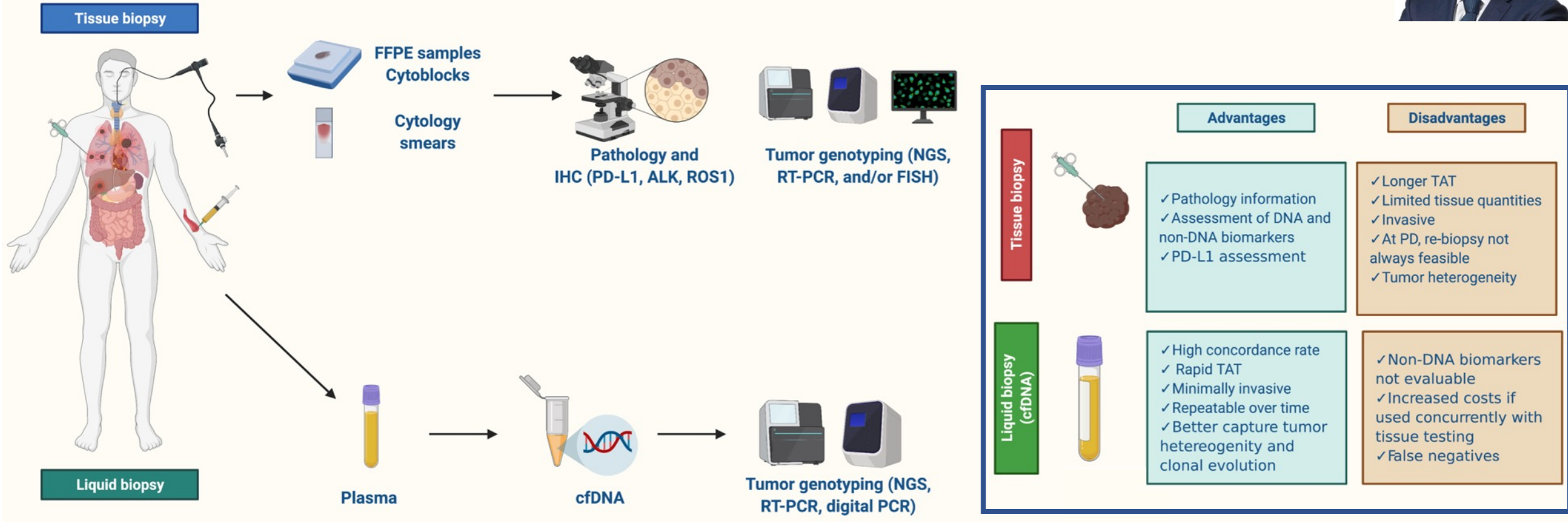
# Current Roles of Liquid Biopsy in Lung Cancer in Clinic



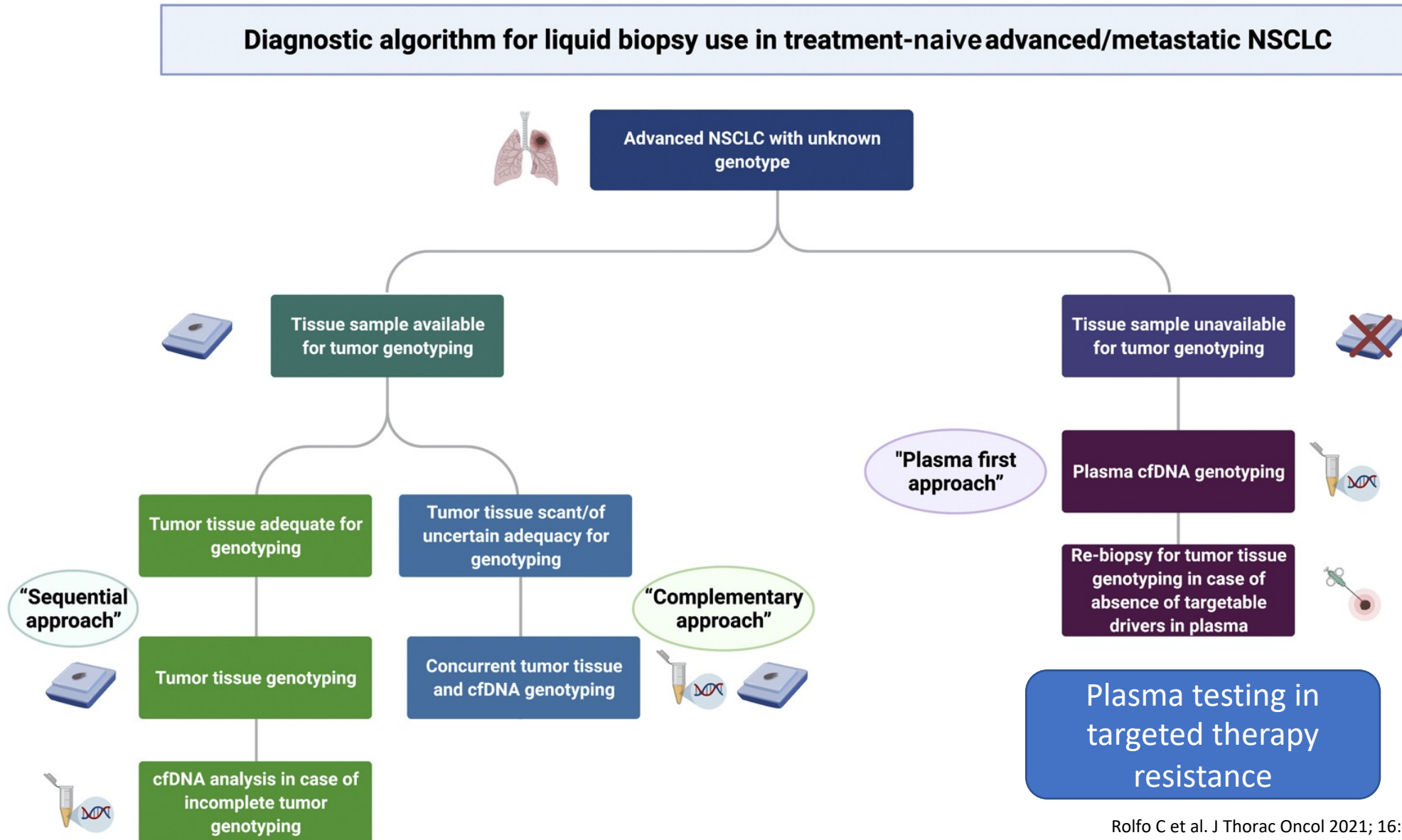
# Liquid Biopsy in Advanced NSCLC: 2021 IASLC Consensus Statement



## Tissue vs. Liquid Biopsy



# Plasma cfDNA testing can be used in genotyping of patients with advanced NSCLC





# Actionable driver oncogenes in metastatic lung cancer (2022)

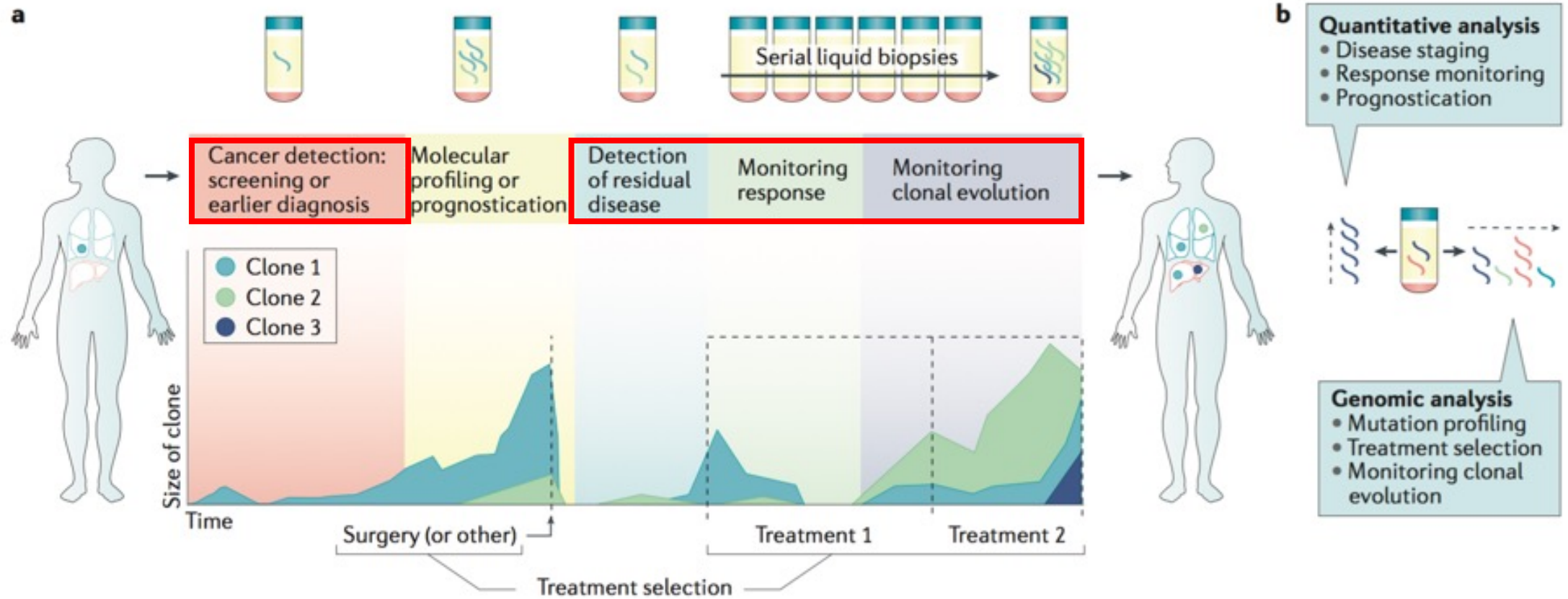
ASCO/OH, NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup> recommend biomarker testing for eligible patients with mNSCLC and treating patients based on results<sup>a,b</sup>

	Driver oncogene positive	Treatment
Molecular Biomarker Test Results	<b>KRAS G12C-positive</b>	Soratinib after chemotherapy
	<b>EGFR mutation-positive</b>	Select EGFR TKI(s) <sup>c,d</sup> or select EGFR TKI + select VEGF inhibitor(s) <sup>e,f,g,h</sup>
	<b>ALK rearrangement-positive</b>	Select ALK TKI(s) <sup>c,d</sup>
	<b>ROS1 rearrangement-positive</b>	Select ROS1 TKI <sup>d,e</sup> or select ALK TKI(s) <sup>d,e</sup>
	<b>BRAF V600E mutation-positive</b>	Select BRAF TKI(s) ± MEK inhibitor <sup>e,i</sup> or initial systemic therapy <sup>j</sup>
	<b>NTRK gene fusion-positive</b>	Select NTRK TKI(s) <sup>d,e</sup> or initial systemic therapy <sup>j</sup>
	<b>MET exon 14 skipping mutation-positive</b>	Select MET TKI <sup>e</sup> or select ALK TKI <sup>e</sup> or initial systemic therapy <sup>j</sup>
	<b>RET rearrangement-positive</b>	Select RET TKI <sup>e</sup> or select multikinase inhibitor(s) <sup>e,f</sup> or initial systemic therapy <sup>j</sup>
Immune Biomarker Test Results	<b>⊖ Driver oncogene negative</b>	
	<b>PD-L1 ≥50% and EGFR, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, MET, RET negative</b>	Select PD-1 inhibitor <sup>c</sup> or select PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitor + CT ± VEGF inhibitor <sup>c,e,h</sup> or select PD-L1 inhibitor <sup>c</sup> or select immunotherapy ± chemotherapy combinations <sup>c,e</sup>
	<b>PD-L1 ≥1%-49% and EGFR, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, MET, RET negative</b>	Select PD-1 inhibitor <sup>f</sup> or select PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitor + CT ± VEGF inhibitor <sup>c,e,h</sup> or select immunotherapy ± chemotherapy combinations <sup>c,e</sup>
	<b>EGFR, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, MET, RET negative, PD-L1 &lt;1%</b>	PS 0-1: Select PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitor + CT ± VEGF inhibitor <sup>c,e,h</sup> or select immunotherapy ± chemotherapy combinations <sup>c,e</sup> ; PS 2: Select chemotherapy combinations or monotherapy <sup>e</sup> ; PS 3-4: Best supportive care

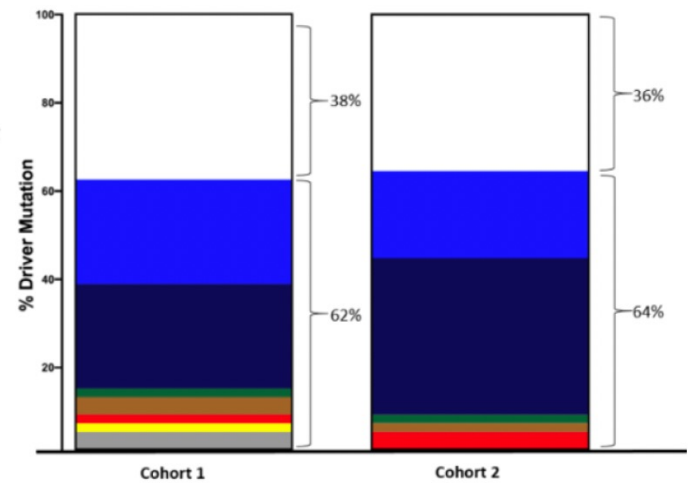
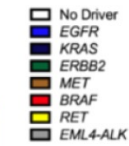
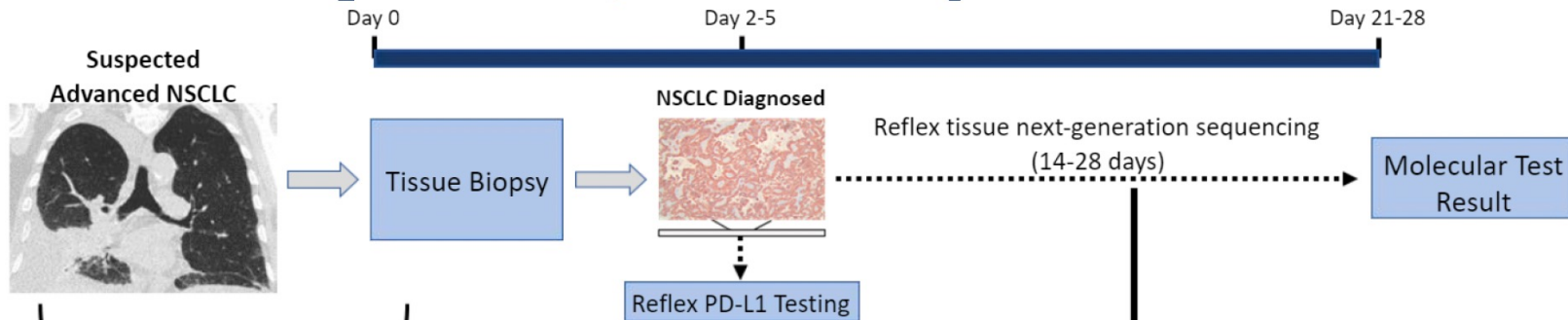
<sup>a</sup>Refer to the NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup> for specific treatment recommendations for each setting. Not all agents in a drug class are recommended for all settings. <sup>b</sup>The NCCN NSCLC Panel recommends molecular testing and strongly advises broader molecular profiling with the goal of identifying rare driver mutations for which effective drugs may already be available, or to appropriately counsel patients regarding the availability of clinical trials. Broad molecular profiling is a key component of the improvement of care of patients with NSCLC. <sup>c</sup>Category 1. <sup>d</sup>For PS 0-4. <sup>e</sup>Category 2A. <sup>f</sup>Category 2B. <sup>g</sup>Criteria for treatment with bevacizumab: non-squamous NSCLC, and no recent history of hemoptysis. <sup>h</sup>An FDA-approved biosimilar is an appropriate substitute for bevacizumab. <sup>i</sup>Single-agent vemurafenib or dabrafenib are treatment options if the combination of dabrafenib + trametinib is not tolerated. <sup>j</sup>Category 1 or category 2A. ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; BRAF, v-Raf murine sarcoma viral oncogene homolog B; CT, chemotherapy; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; MEK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; MET, MET proto-oncogene, receptor tyrosine kinase; mNSCLC, metastatic non-small cell lung cancer; NCCN, National Comprehensive Cancer Network; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; NTRK, neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed death-ligand 1; PS, performance status; RET, rearranged during transfection; ROS1, ROS proto-oncogene 1, receptor tyrosine kinase; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor. Adapted with permission from the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup>) for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer V.4.2021. © 2021 National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. All rights reserved. The NCCN Guidelines<sup>®</sup> and illustrations herein may not be reproduced in any form for any purpose without the express written permission of NCCN. To view the most recent and complete version of the NCCN Guidelines, go online to NCCN.org. The NCCN Guidelines are a work in progress that may be refined as often as new significant data become available.



# Future Roles of Liquid Biopsy



# Thompson, et al (Abstract 405)

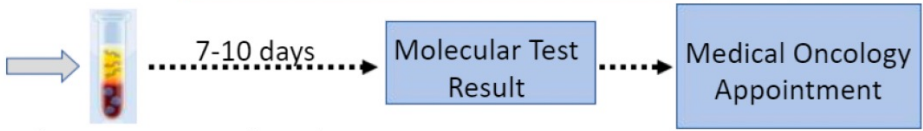


## STUDY DESIGN:

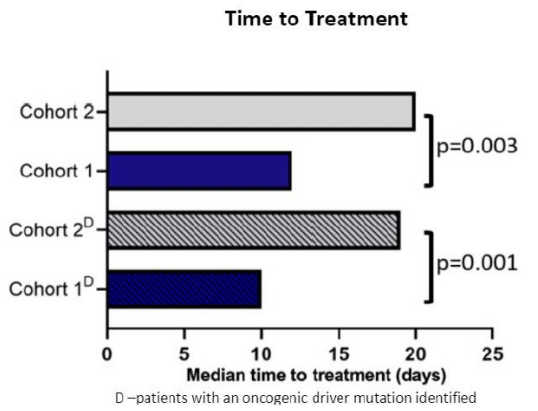
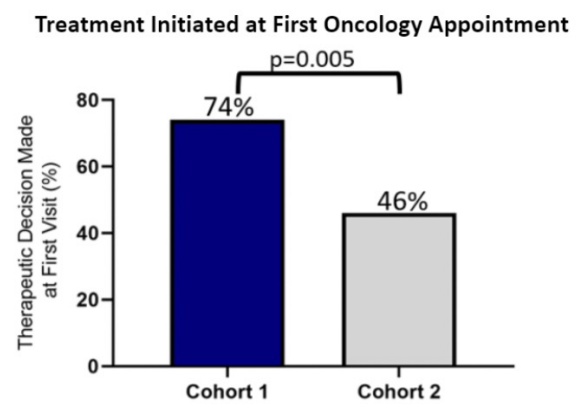
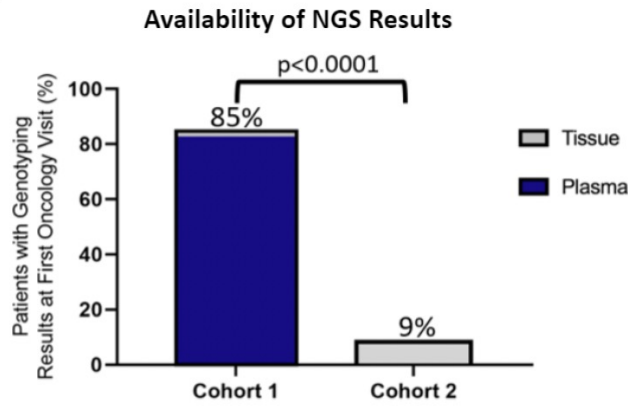
- Key Eligibility:**
- Suspected Stage IIIB/IV NSCLC based on imaging
  - Evaluated by interventional pulmonology for biopsy
- Exclusions:**
- Any concurrent malignancy

**Primary Endpoint:**

- Time to first-line therapy compared to a retrospective control cohort

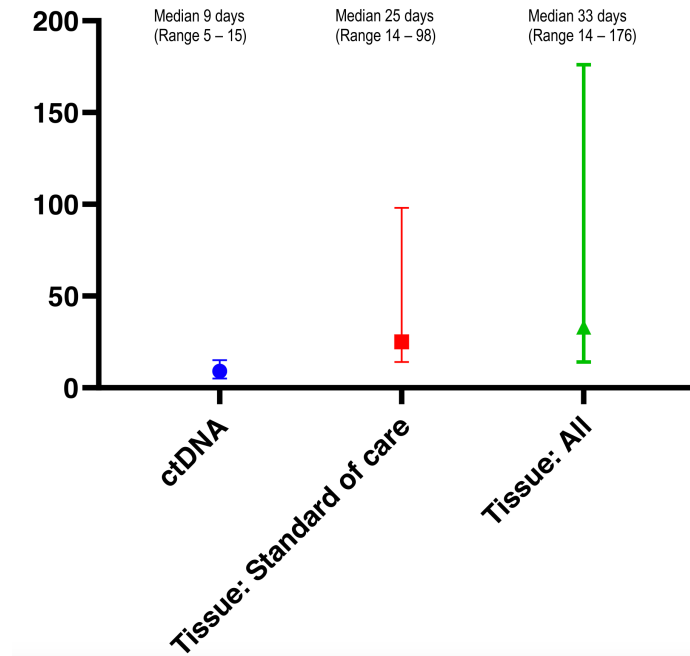
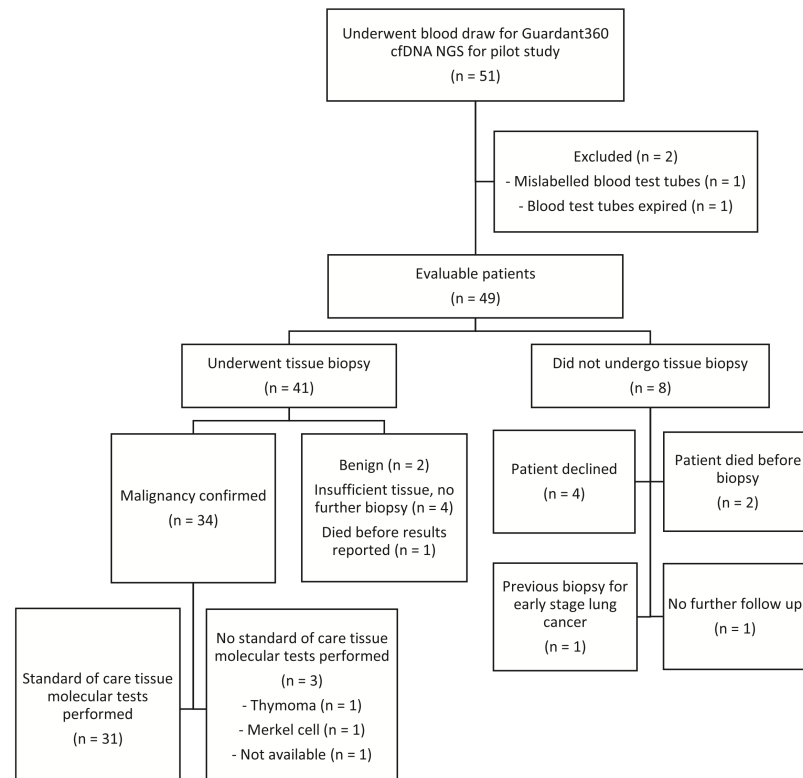


N=55 prospective pts  
N=55 retrospective "controls"



# UK Study: Plasma testing for suspected advanced lung cancer (n=51)

- Liquid biopsy taken when tissue biopsy taken
- 30 (61%) had actionable alterations (tier 1 variants ASCO/AMP/CAP) identified
- 20 alterations identified in plasma only, 3 alterations identified in tissue only
- 11 (22%) started targeted therapy based on plasma results before tissue available



# ACCELERATE: Preliminary Results (N=60)

## Liquid Biopsy first



Faster time to results  
(9 versus 36-46 days,  $P < 0.0001$ )

Shorter time to treatment  
(34 versus 62 days,  $P < 0.0001$ )

More patients received targeted therapy (49% v. 29%)

27% of patients started therapy based on plasma testing before tissue results available

## Tissue Biopsy standard of care pathway



Times for tissue pathway based on study data and historical data



# Where we are today in lung cancer?

- Molecular diagnosis

If actionable target in blood → treat  
If none → profile tissue or repeat biopsy  
For histologic transformation → biopsy

- Monitoring

ctDNA levels correlate with outcomes –  
clinical utility studies ongoing

- MRD

Presence of MRD is prognostic –  
Ongoing trials to demonstrate utility

- Screening

Many exciting novel biomarkers under study

- miRNA, ctDNA, methylation, multimodal assays, metabolomics...
- Ongoing trials to demonstrate utility, cost effectiveness

Thank you!

