

# Optimal treatment for early stage HER2 positive breast cancer: Tailoring treatment to response

**Virginia F Borges, MD, MMSc**

Professor and Deputy Head, Medical Oncology

Director, Breast Cancer Research Program & Young Women's Breast Cancer Translational Program

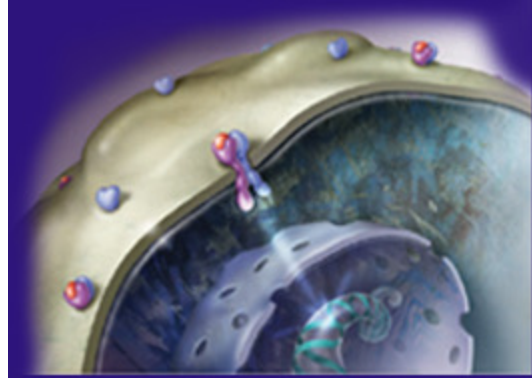
University of Colorado Cancer Center

Denver, CO

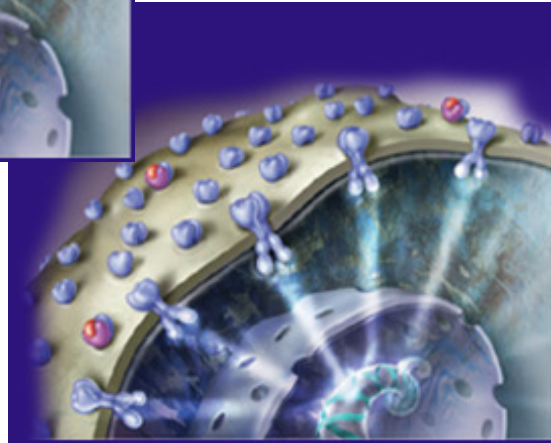
# Objectives

1. Summarize the key advances in early stage Her 2 positive breast cancer that led to today's standard of care.
2. Apply these latest advances in breast cancer research in clinical practice to how we currently optimize patient outcomes.
3. Understand the current clinical trials in progress through review of the background data and identify the key questions facing the management of patients with Her 2+ breast cancer.

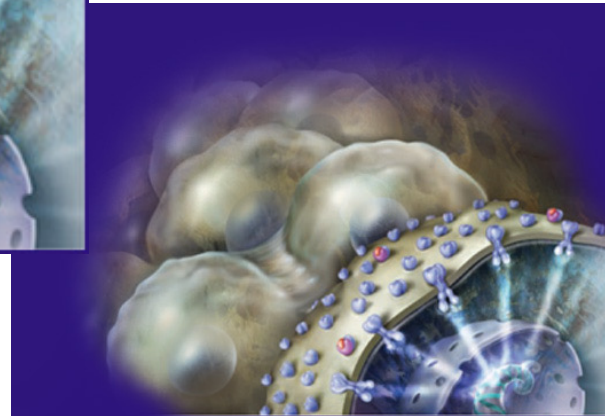
# HER2 Signals Cells to Divide



**Normal**



**Overexpressed HER2**



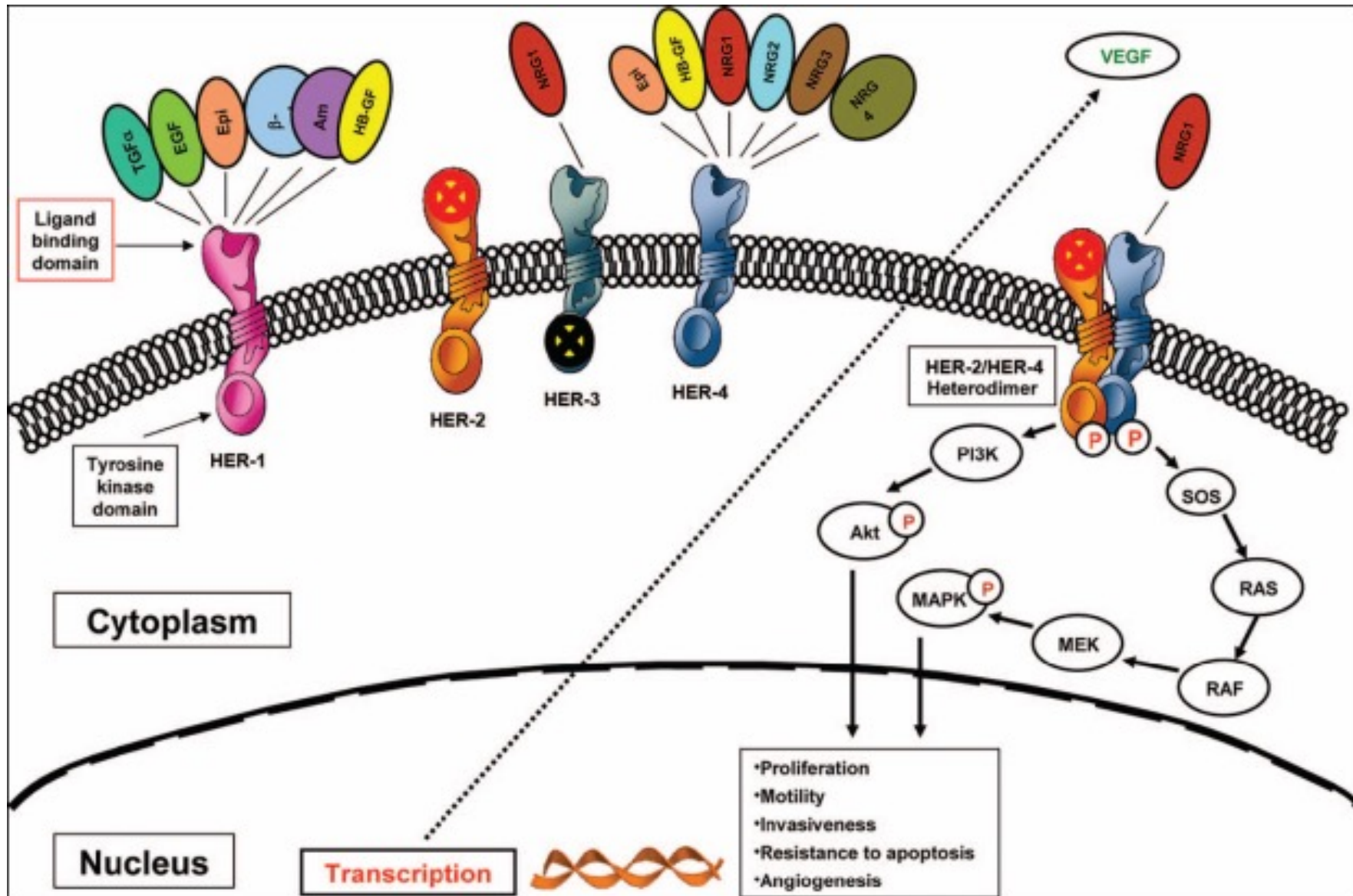
**Excessive cellular division**

Berger et al. *Cancer Res.* 1988;48:1238.

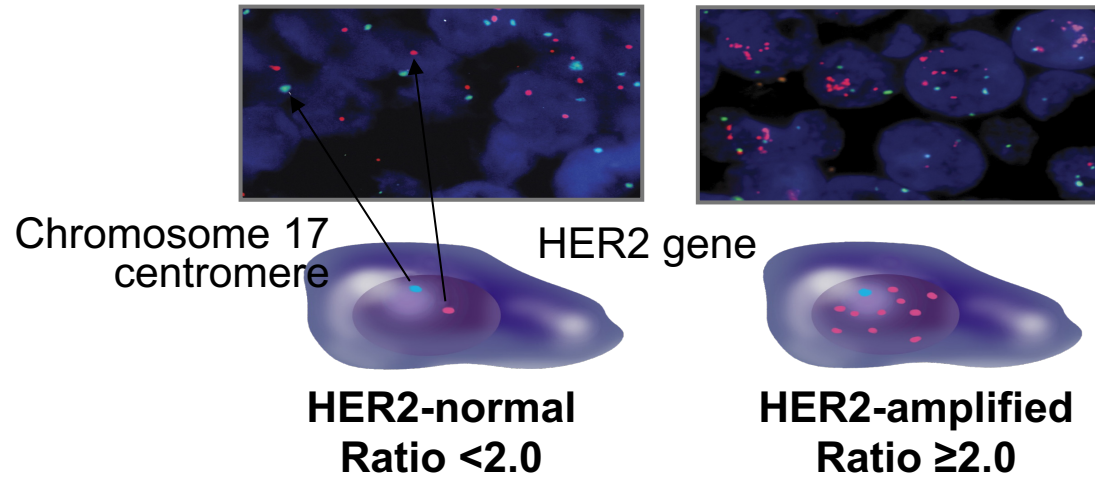
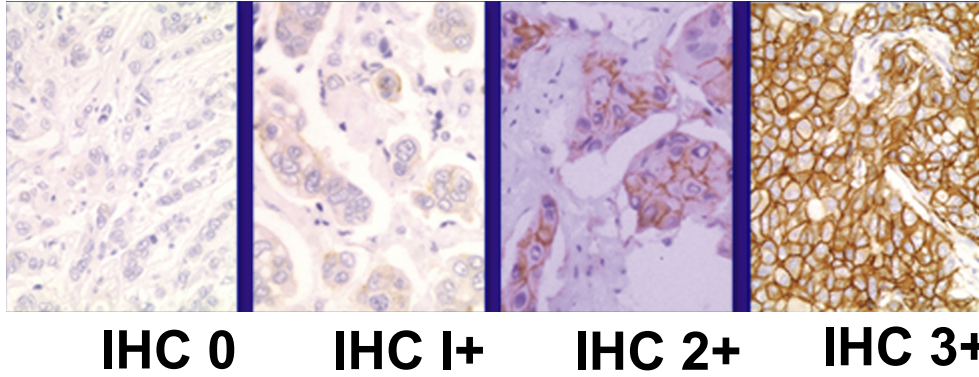
Roskoski. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun.* 2004;319:1.

Rowinsky. *Annu Rev Med.* 2004;55:433.

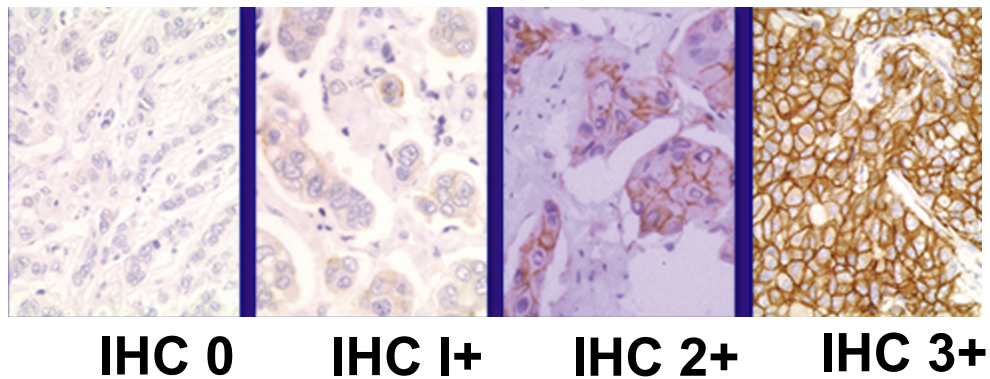
Slamon et al. *Science.* 1987;235:177.



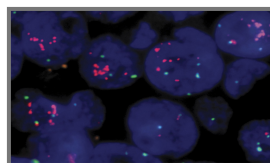
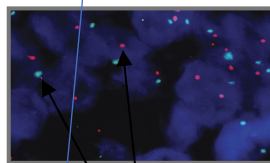
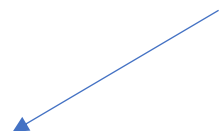
# HER2 Protein Overexpression for Clinical Discrimination



# HER2 Protein Overexpression for Clinical Discrimination



Her 2 negative



Chromosome 17 centromere

HER2 gene

HER2-normal  
Ratio <2.0

HER2-amplified  
Ratio  $\geq 2.0$

Her 2 Positive

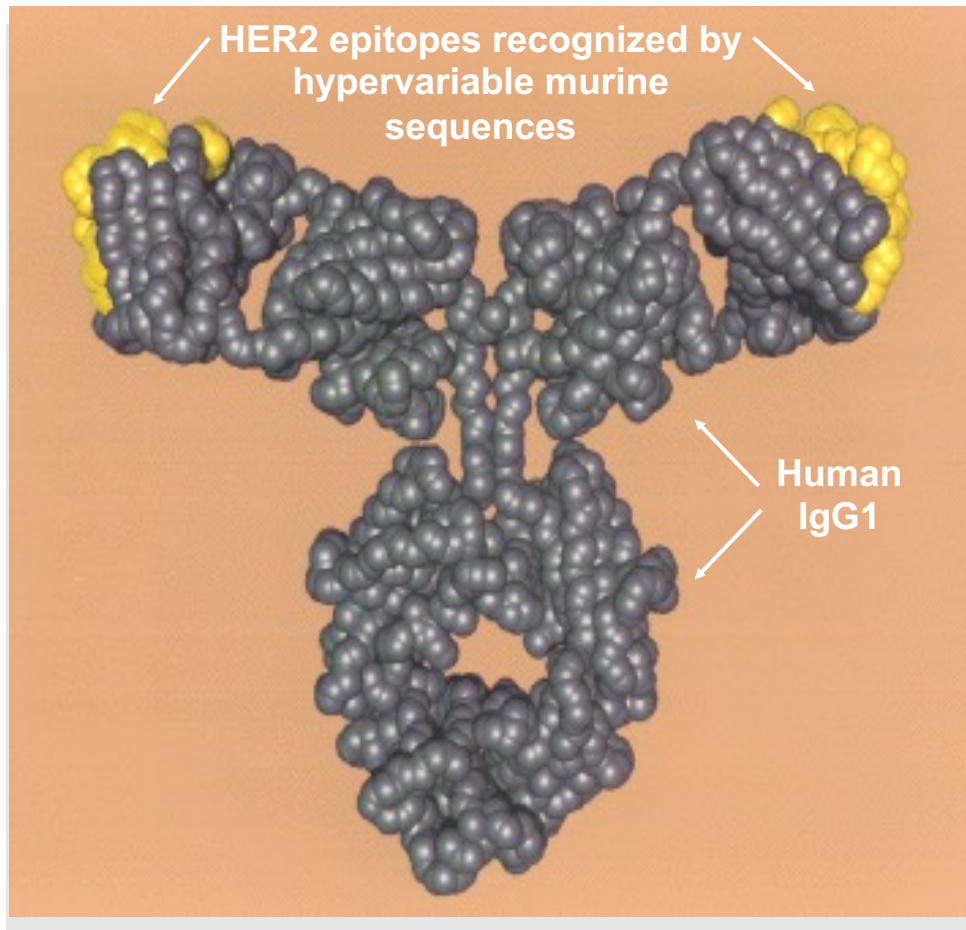


Treatment pathway follows the ER status

Her 2 Low treatment pathway in MBC

Treatment driven down the Her 2 pathway

# Trastuzumab: Humanized Anti-HER2 MAb



- Targets HER2 protein
- Selectively binds with high affinity ( $K_d \leq 0.5$  nM)
- 95% human, 5% murine

# Trastuzumab Randomized Adjuvant Clinical Trials: 2006

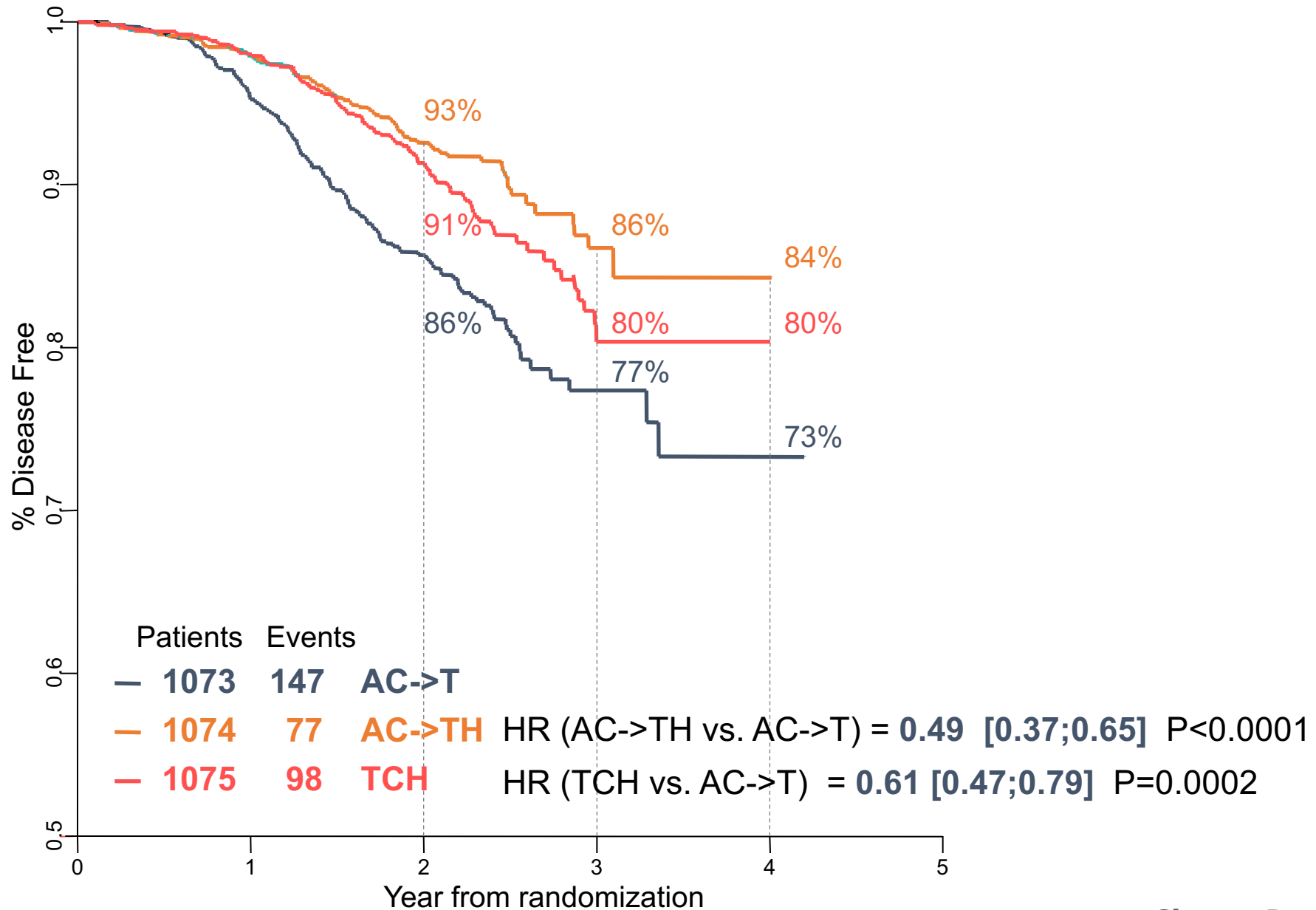
Intergroup N9831 (2614 pts)	AC → P AC → P → H AC → PH → H	None vs Sequential vs Concurrent long
NSABP B-31 (2043 pts)	AC → P AC → PH → H	None vs Concurrent long
HERA (5081 pts)	Chemo → none → H x 1 year → H x 2 years	None vs Sequential For 1 or 2y
BCIRG 006 (3222 pts)	AC → D AC → DH → H DCbH	None vs Concurrent vs Non-A
FinHer (232 pts)	D or V D or V plus H → FEC	None vs Concurrent short

A = doxorubicin, C = cyclophosphamide, P = paclitaxel, H = trastuzumab, D = docetaxel, Cb = carboplatin, V = vinorelbine, E = epirubicin, F = 5-FU

Tam/AI for ER+



# BCIRG 006: Disease Free Survival: 2005



# The mABs trastuzumab and pertuzumab in the Neoadjuvant Space

Study	Regimen	Phase/Size	pCR	Disease outcomes
NOAH trial	SOC chemo +/- H	II/235	43% v 58%	HR 0.64
TRYPHAENA	FEC-THP	II/150	55%	DFS 87-90%
	FECHP-THP		56%	
	TCHP		64%	
TRAIN-2	FEC-TCHP TCHP		67% v 68%	EFS 93%, OS 98% both arms
KRISTINE	TDM-1P	III/444	44%	
	TCHP		55.7%	
NeoSphere	TH [FEC H adj.]	II/417	29%	PFS 81%
	THP		45.8%	86%
	HP		24%	73%
	TP		17%	73%

These significant studies paved the way for TCHP to become a standard neoadjuvant regimen moving forward.

# Improvements in the Adjuvant Setting

## APHINITY TRIAL

6 year follow up data:

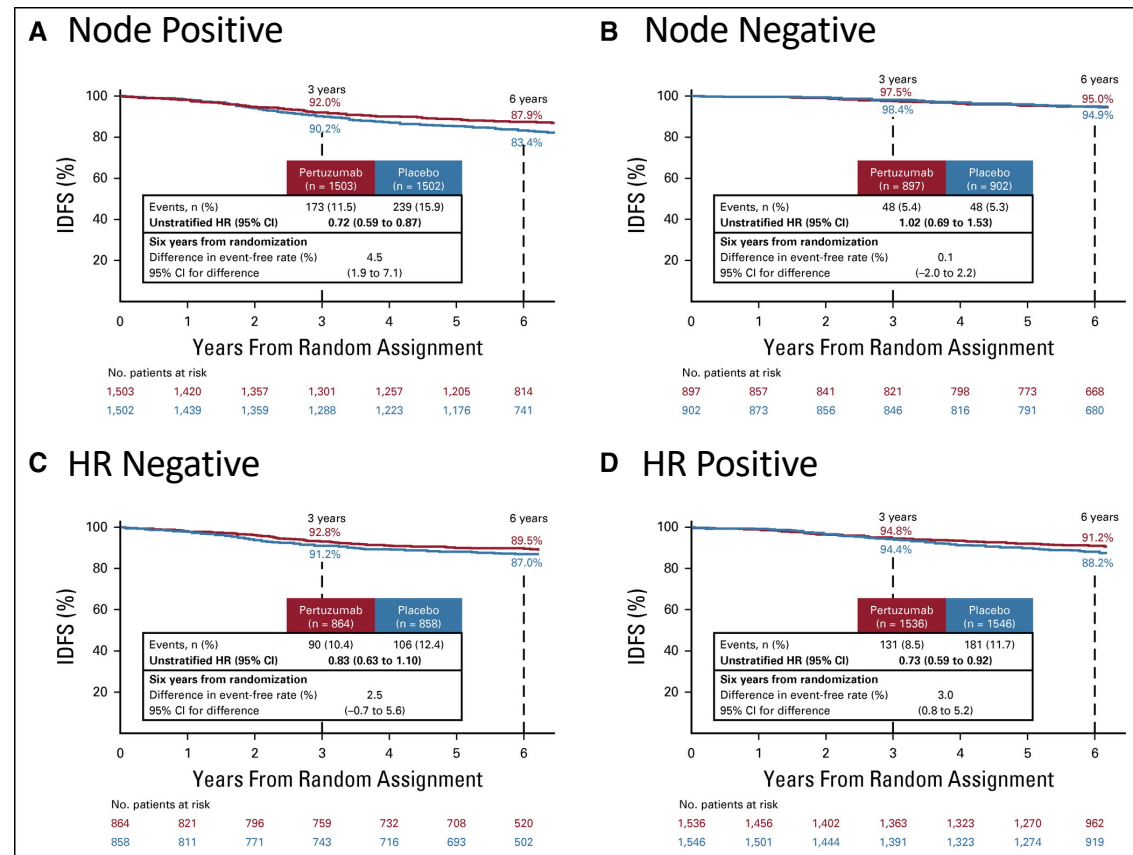
Overall IDFS 91% v 88%

Node pos IDFS 88% v 83%

Both HR+ and HR- benefit:

3% gain and 2.5% gain respectively

Cardiac event rate <1%



## ExteNET

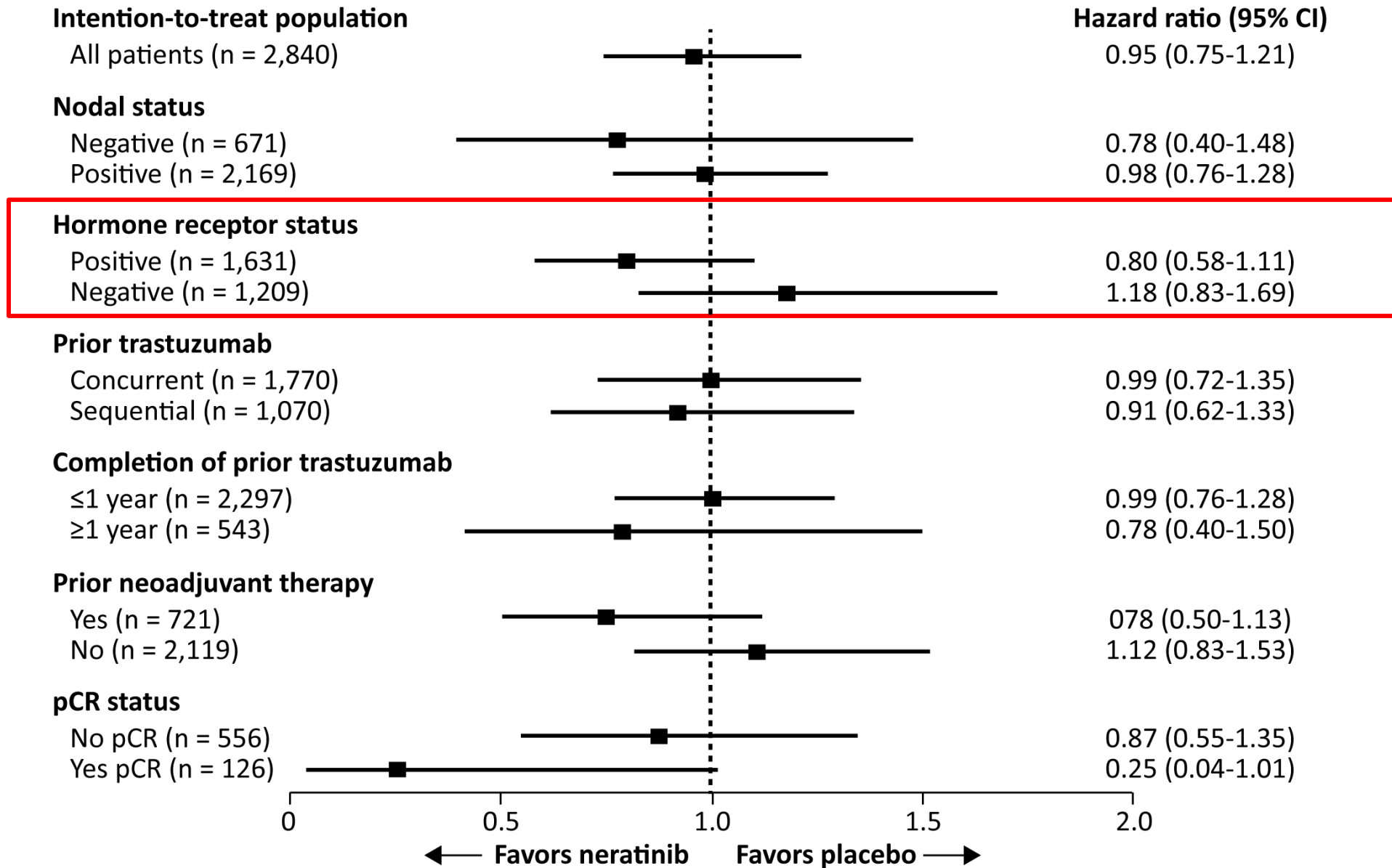
# Neratinib for Early Stage Her 2+ BC

HR+/ $\leq$  1-year population (n=1334)

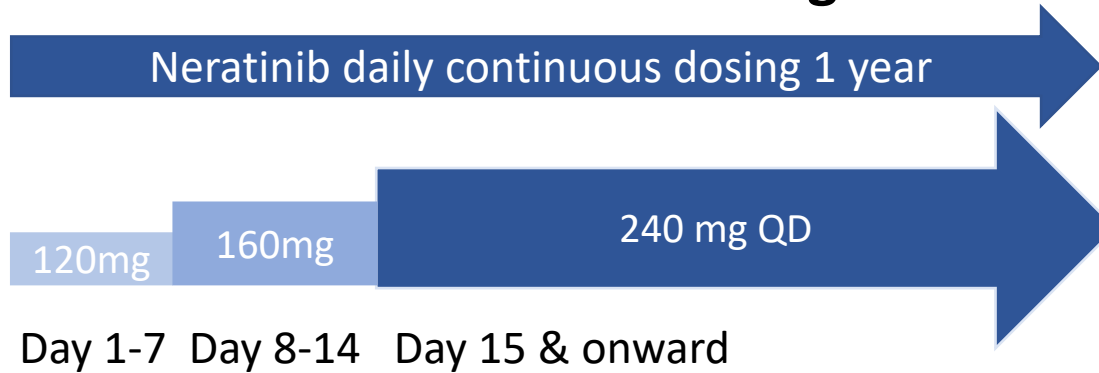
Absolute improvements seen:

- iDFS 5.1%, dDFS 4.7% , OS 2.1%
- 4 versus 12 CNS events for neratinib v placebo
- neoadjuvant/non-pCR population (n=295)
  - iDFS 7.4%, dDFS 7.0%, OS 9.1%
- neratinib is a pan-HER TKI
- unmitigated neratinib at recommended 240mg dosing has 40% incidence grade 3 diarrhea
- median onset 8 days
- majority occur in the first 2 months

# ExteNET: Final Overall Survival Analysis

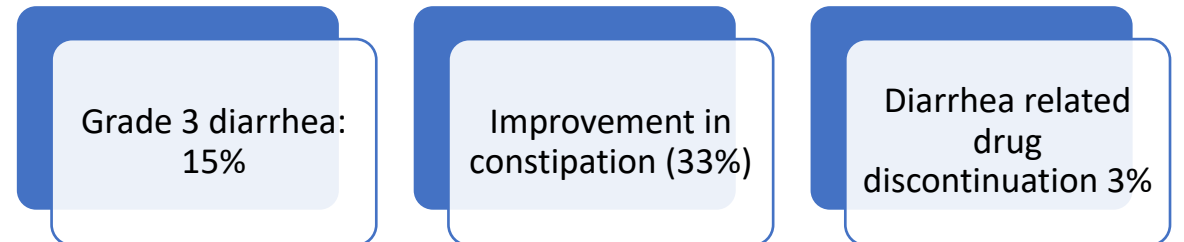


## Dose Escalation Prevention regimens

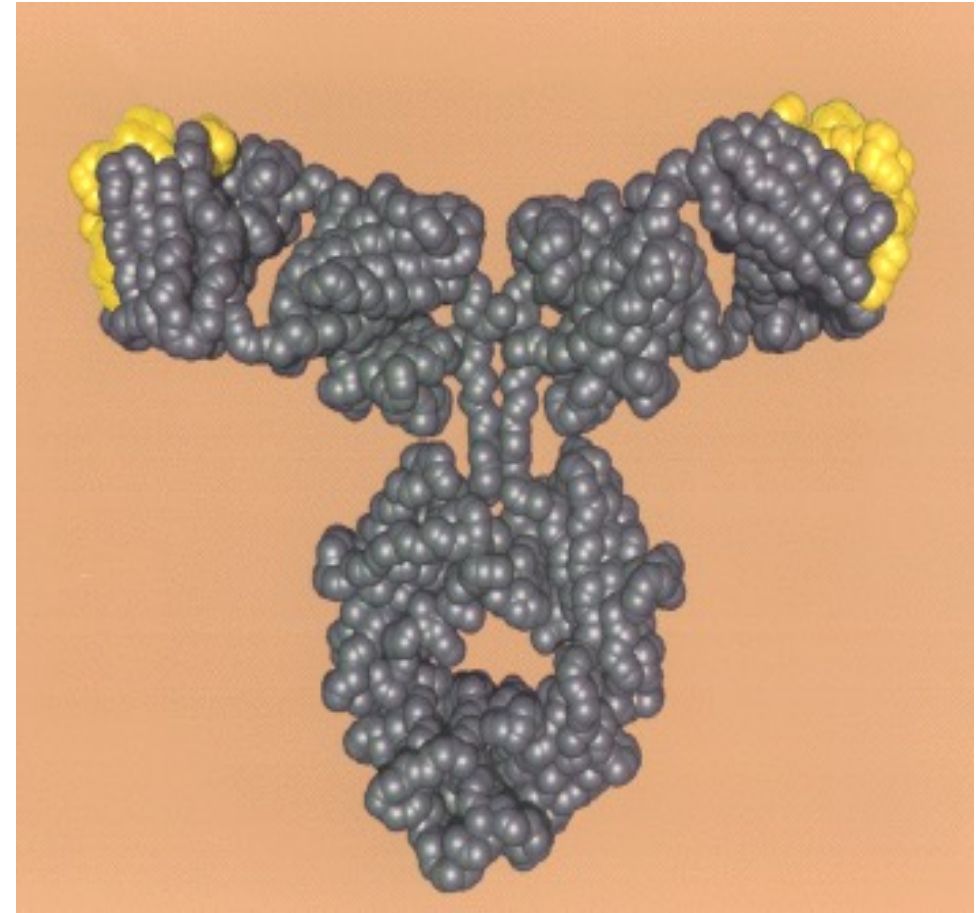
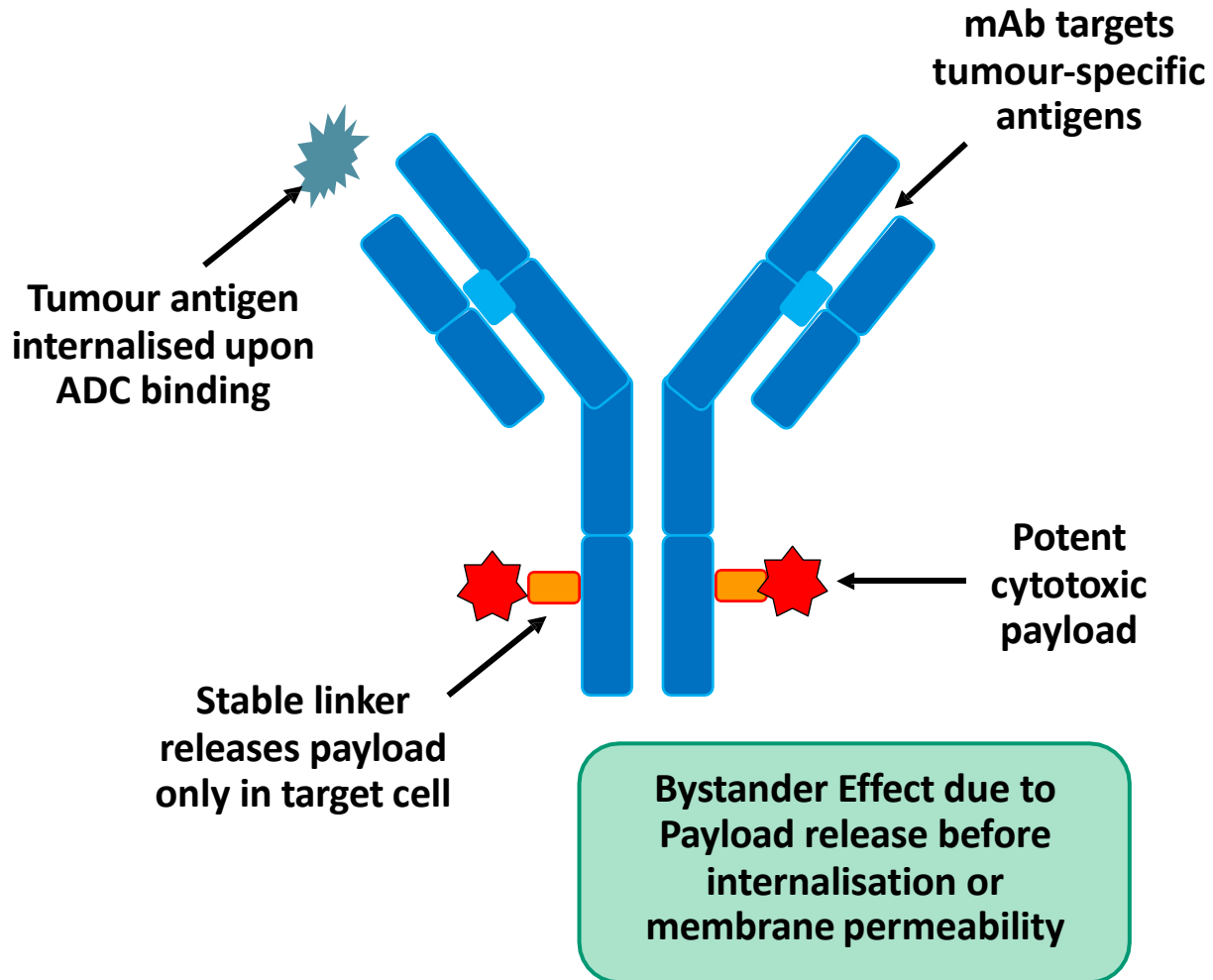


Loperamide given 2-16mg daily as needed

## Results:



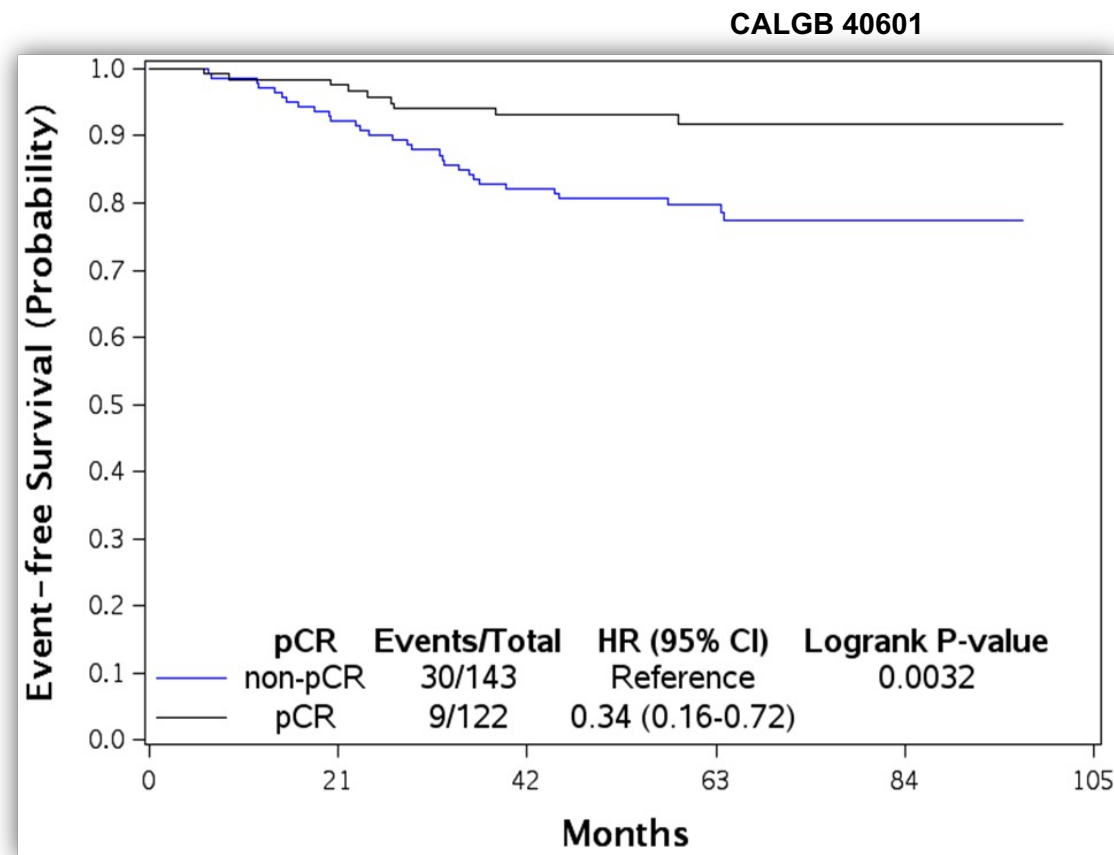
# HER2-Targeting Antibody-Drug Conjugates (ADCs)



# The neoadjuvant era highlighted the role of pCR in survival for Her 2 + early breast cancer

Patients with residual invasive breast cancer after completion of preoperative HER2-directed therapy and chemotherapy have an inferior prognosis<sup>2-6</sup>

Investigation of additional treatment strategies warranted



Krop et al, AACR-SABCS 2017

**RD: ~80 % 5y EFS**



# The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

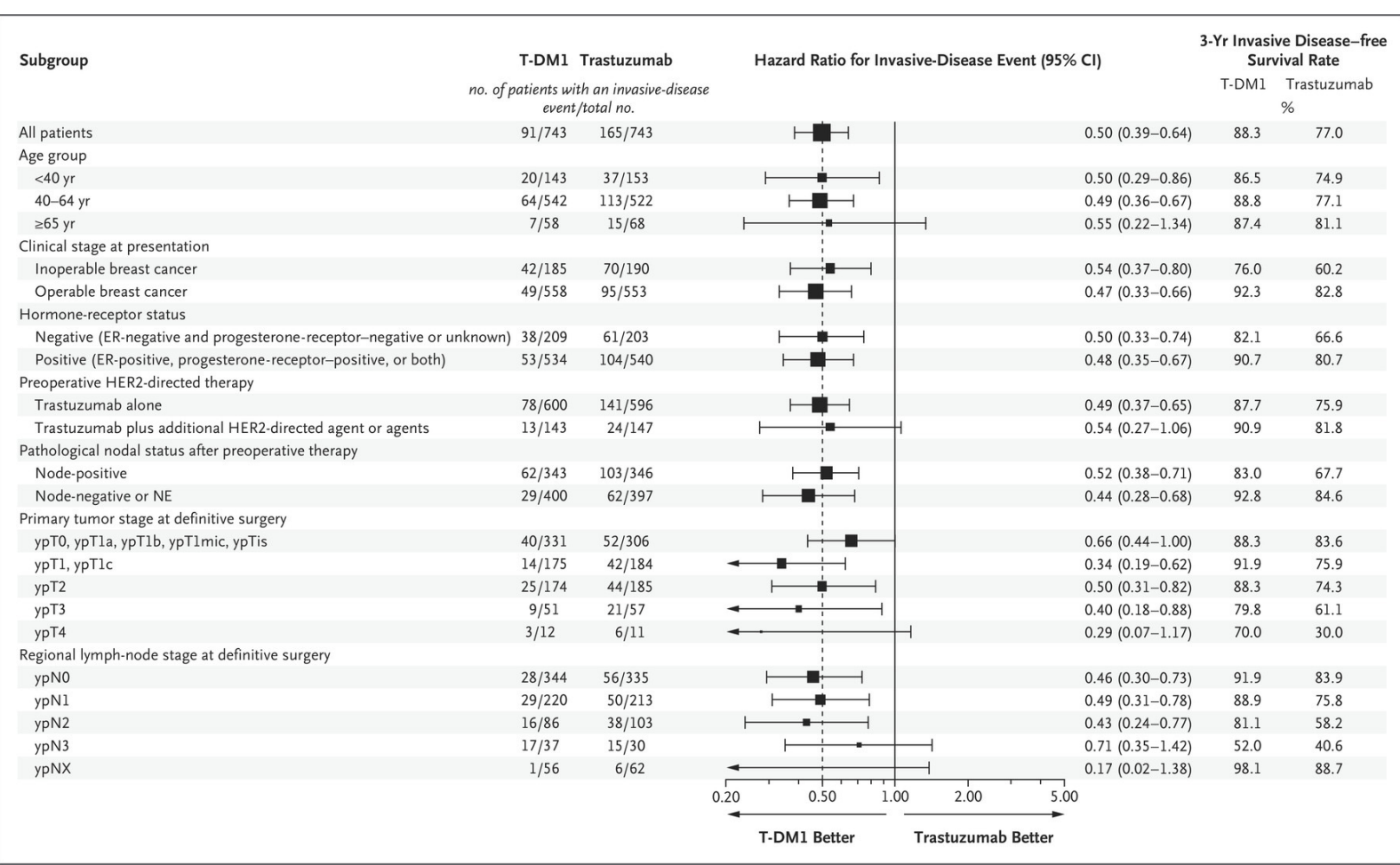
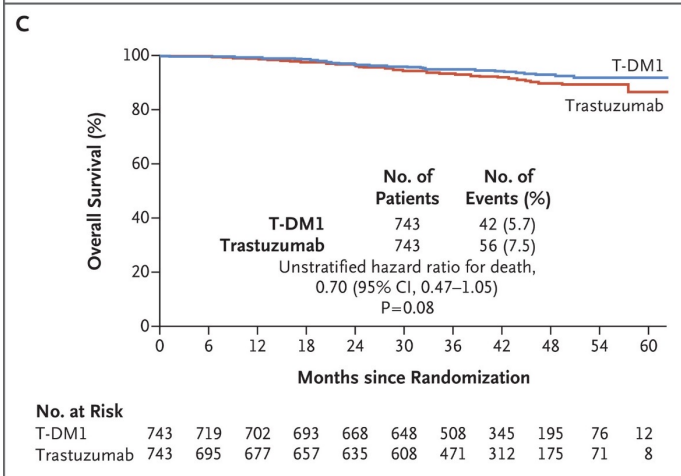
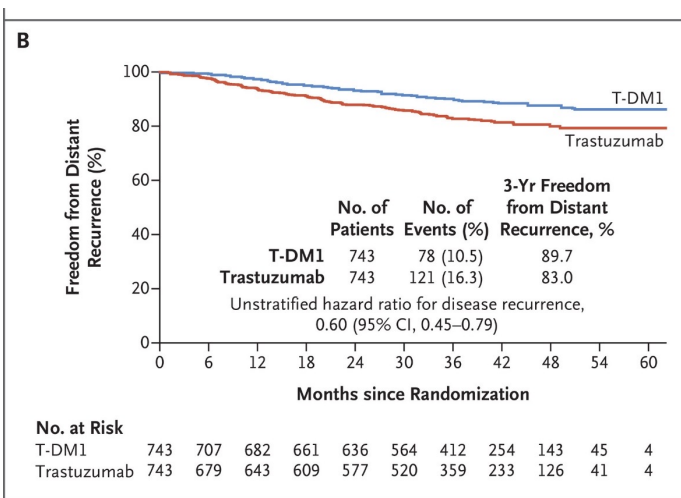
ESTABLISHED IN 1812

FEBRUARY 14, 2019

VOL. 380 NO. 7

## Trastuzumab Emtansine for Residual Invasive HER2-Positive Breast Cancer

KATHERINE Trial, von Minckwitz, et al.



# Summary of the Early Her2+ BC Field

## **NODE NEGATIVE**

Adjuvant :

TH-> H

TCH->H

? TDM-1

Larger tumor [>2cm]:

Neoadjuvant TCHP -> HP

## **NODE POSITIVE**

Neoadjuvant: TCHP or anthracycline based regimen

Adjuvant:

pCR yes: HP

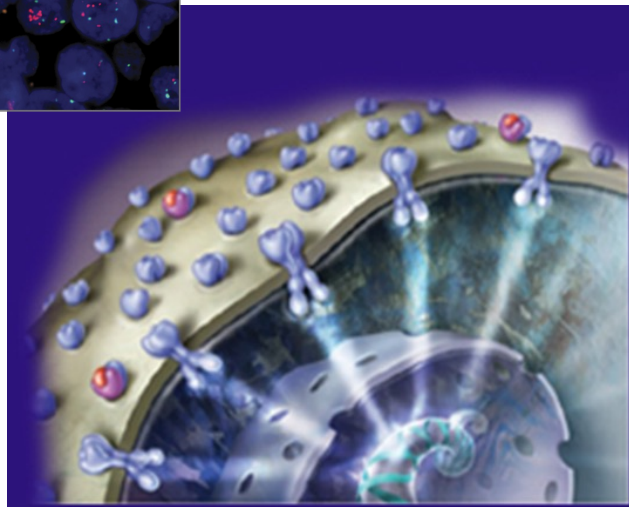
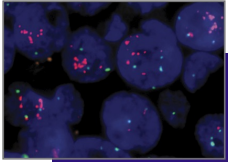
pCR no: TDM-1

Option to add neratinib add if ER+ and high risk

Pregnancy: AC x 4 during 2 or 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester (stop by 36-37 weeks)  
then TH or THP postpartum



# TODAY'S OPTIONS IN HER 2 TARGETED THERAPY FOR EARLY-STAGE DISEASE



**Overexpressed HER2**

**1998-2023**

---

trastuzumab

---

pertuzumab

---

ado-emtansine-trastuzumab [T-DM1]

---

neratinib

---

Contenders:

---

tucatinib

---

trastuzumab-deruxtecan [T-DXd]

# COMPARATIVE SELECT TOXICITIES OVERVIEW

<b>Drug</b>	<b>neuropathy</b>	<b>neutropenia</b>	<b>thrombocytopenia</b>	<b>Diarrhea</b>	<b>LFTs</b>	<b>Pulmonary</b>
trastuzumab	-	-	-	+	-	+
pertuzumab	+	-	-	+	-	-
T-DM1	+	+	+	+	+	+
neratinib	-	-	-	+	+	-
tucatinib	-	-	-	+	+	-
T-DXd	-	+	+	+	+	+

# TBCRC 033: A Randomized Phase 2 Trial of Adjuvant Trastuzumab Emtansine (T-DM1) vs. Paclitaxel with Trastuzumab for Stage 1 HER2+ Breast Cancer (ATEMPT)

Sara M. Tolaney<sup>1,2</sup>, Jiani Hu<sup>1,2</sup>, Chau Dang<sup>3</sup>, Denise Yardley<sup>4</sup>, Steven J. Isakoff<sup>5</sup>, Vicente Valero<sup>6</sup>, Meredith Faggen<sup>1</sup>, Therese Mulvey<sup>5</sup>, Ron Bose<sup>7</sup>, Nabihah Tayob<sup>1,2</sup>, William Barry<sup>1,2</sup>, Douglas Weckstein<sup>1</sup>, Antonio C. Wolff<sup>8</sup>, Katherine Reeder-Hayes<sup>9</sup>, Hope S. Rugo<sup>10</sup>, Bhuvaneshwari Ramaswamy<sup>11</sup>, Dan Zuckerman<sup>12</sup>, Lowell Hart<sup>13</sup>, Vijayakrishna K. Gadi<sup>14</sup>, Michael Constantine<sup>1</sup>, Kit Cheng<sup>15</sup>, Frederick Briccetti<sup>1</sup>, Bryan Schneider<sup>16</sup>, Nadine Tung<sup>1,2</sup>, Merrill Garrett<sup>17</sup>, Kelly Marcom<sup>18</sup>, Kathy Albain<sup>19</sup>, Patricia DeFusco<sup>20</sup>, Blair Ardman<sup>21</sup>, Rita Nanda<sup>22</sup>, Rachel Jankowitz<sup>23</sup>, Mothaffar Rimawi<sup>24</sup>, Vandana Abramson<sup>25</sup>, Paula Pohlmann<sup>26</sup>, Catherine Van Poznak<sup>27</sup>, Andres Forero-Torres<sup>28</sup>, Minetta Liu<sup>29</sup>, Michelle DeMeo<sup>1</sup>, Ann Partridge<sup>1,2</sup>, Harold Burstein<sup>1,2</sup>, Eric P. Winer<sup>1,2</sup>, Ian Krop<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA; <sup>2</sup>Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; <sup>3</sup>Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY; <sup>4</sup>Sarah Cannon Cancer Center, Nashville, TN; <sup>5</sup>Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA; <sup>6</sup>MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; <sup>7</sup>Washington University, St. Louis, MO; <sup>8</sup>Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center, Washington, DC; <sup>9</sup>UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC; <sup>10</sup>UCSF, San Francisco, CA; <sup>11</sup>OSU Comprehensive Cancer Center, Columbus, OH; <sup>12</sup>St. Luke's Mountain States Tumor Institute, Boise, ID; <sup>13</sup>Florida Cancer Specialists, Fort Myers, FL; <sup>14</sup>Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, WA; <sup>15</sup>North Shore-LIJ Cancer Institute, Lake Success, NY; <sup>16</sup>IU School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana; <sup>17</sup>Northern Light Cancer Care, Brewer, ME; <sup>18</sup>Duke University, Durham, NC; <sup>19</sup>Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, IL; <sup>20</sup>Hartford Healthcare Cancer Institute, Hartford, CT; <sup>21</sup>Lowell General Hospital, Lowell, MA; <sup>22</sup>UChicago Medicine, Chicago, IL; <sup>23</sup>UPMC Hillman Cancer Center, Pittsburgh, PA; <sup>24</sup>Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX; <sup>25</sup>Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center, Nashville, TN; <sup>26</sup>Georgetown University Hospital, Washington DC; <sup>27</sup>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; <sup>28</sup>Birmingham Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Birmingham, AL; <sup>29</sup>Mayo Clinic Cancer Center, Rochester, MN

# Study Design: ATEMPT Trial

## Key Eligibility Criteria

- Stage 1 HER2+ breast cancer
  - HER2 centrally tested (ASCO CAP 2013 guidelines)
- N0 or N1mic
- Left Ventricular EF  $\geq$  50%
- No prior invasive breast cancer
- $\leq$ 90 days from last surgery

N = 497

R  
3:1

N = 383

**T-DM1**

3.6 mg/kg IV q3 wks x 17

N = 114

**TH**

Paclitaxel 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV + Trastuzumab 2 mg/kg IV wkly x12  
→ Trastuzumab 6 mg/kg every 3 wks x13

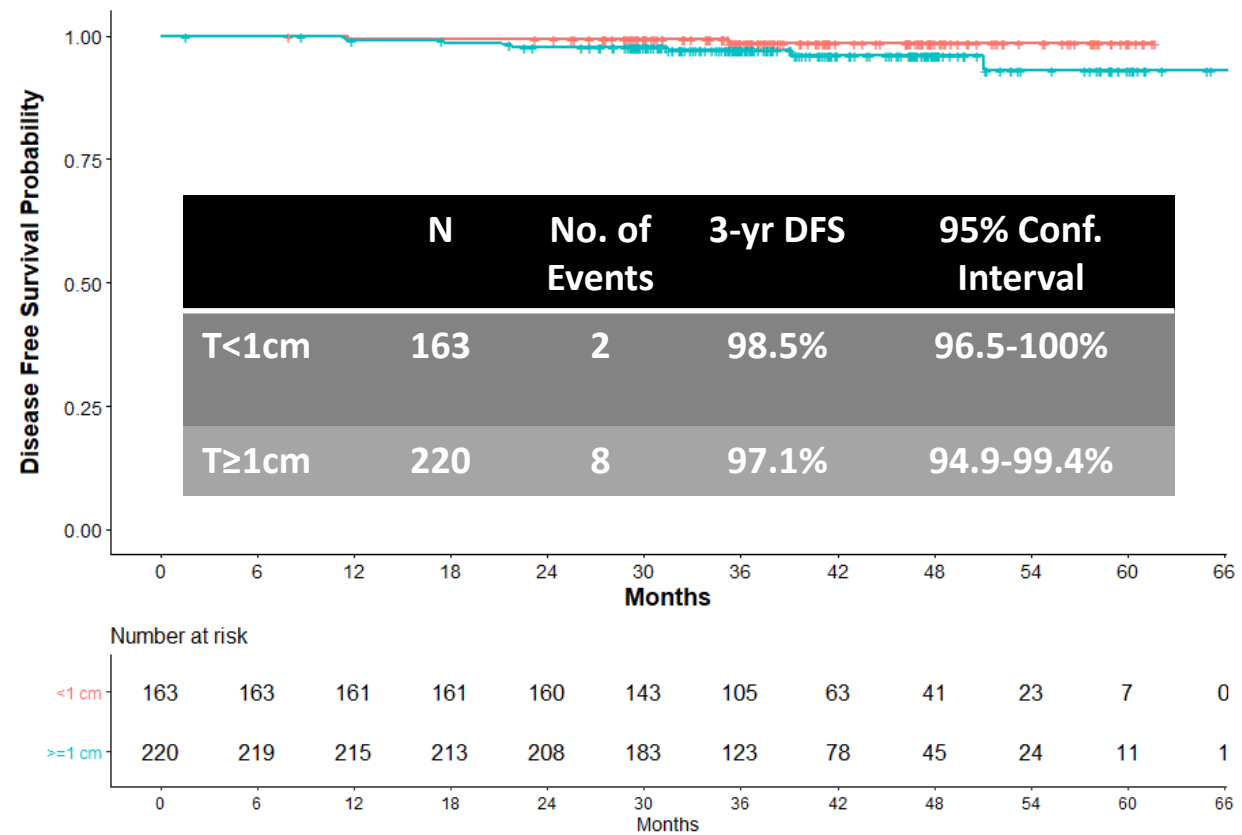
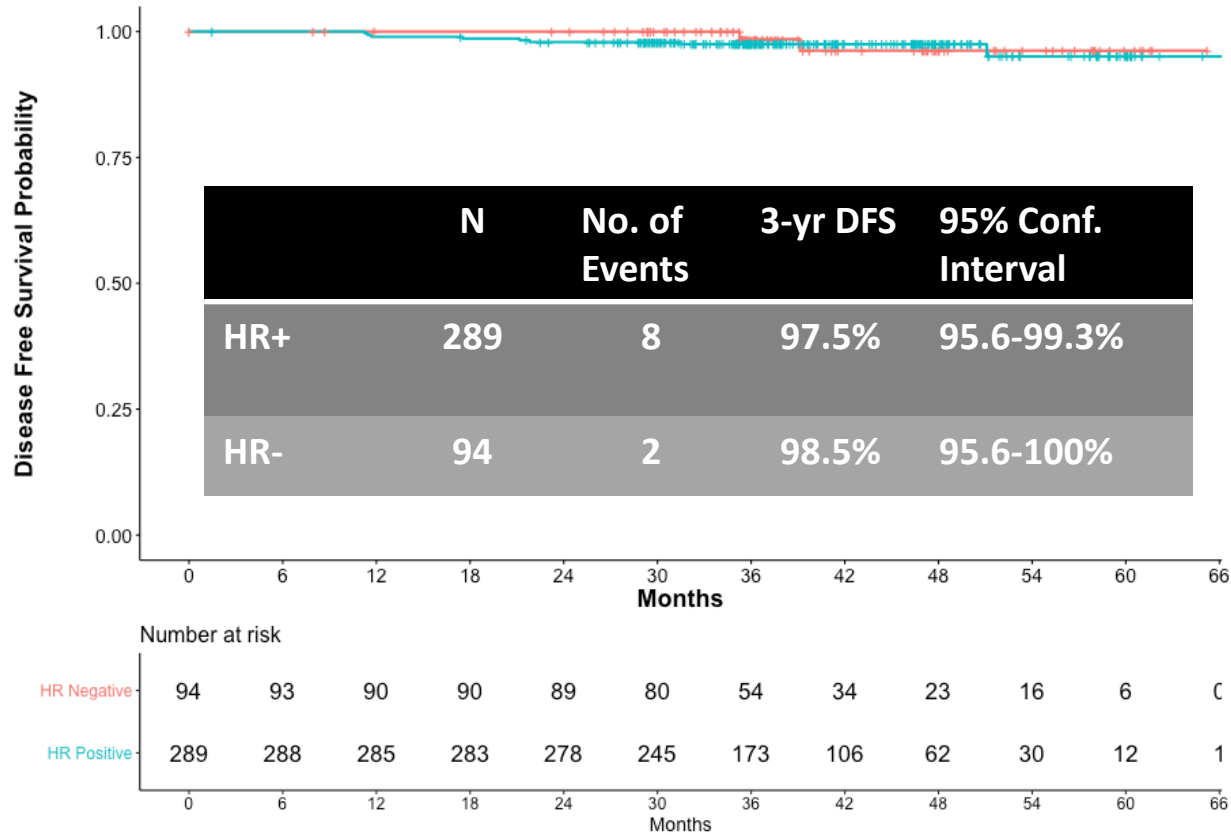
# Study Population

	T-DM1 (n = 383)	TH (n = 114)	All Patients (n = 497)
<b>Median Age (Range)</b>	56 (32-85)	55 (23-82)	56 (23-85)
<b>Tumor Size</b>			
<0.5 cm	42 (11%)	14 (12%)	56 (11%)
≥0.5-1.0 cm	121 (32%)	38 (33%)	159 (32%)
≥1.0-1.5 cm	118 (31%)	29 (25%)	147 (30%)
≥1.5-2.0 cm	102 (27%)	33 (29%)	135 (27%)
			43%
			57%
<b>Histologic Grade</b>			
Well Differentiated	11 (3%)	4 (4%)	15 (3%)
Moderately Differentiated	148 (39%)	46 (40%)	194 (39%)
Poorly Differentiated	219 (57%)	62 (54%)	281 (57%)
Unknown	5 (1%)	2 (2%)	7 (2%)
<b>HR status</b>			
Positive	289 (75%)	84 (74%)	373 (75%)
Negative	94 (25%)	30 (26%)	124 (25%)
<b>HER2 Status (Central)</b>			
1+	5 (1%)	1 (1%)	6 (1%)
2+	92 (24%)	25 (22%)	117 (24%)
3+	277 (72%)	87 (76%)	364 (73%)
Not done*	9 (2%)	1 (1%)	10 (2%)

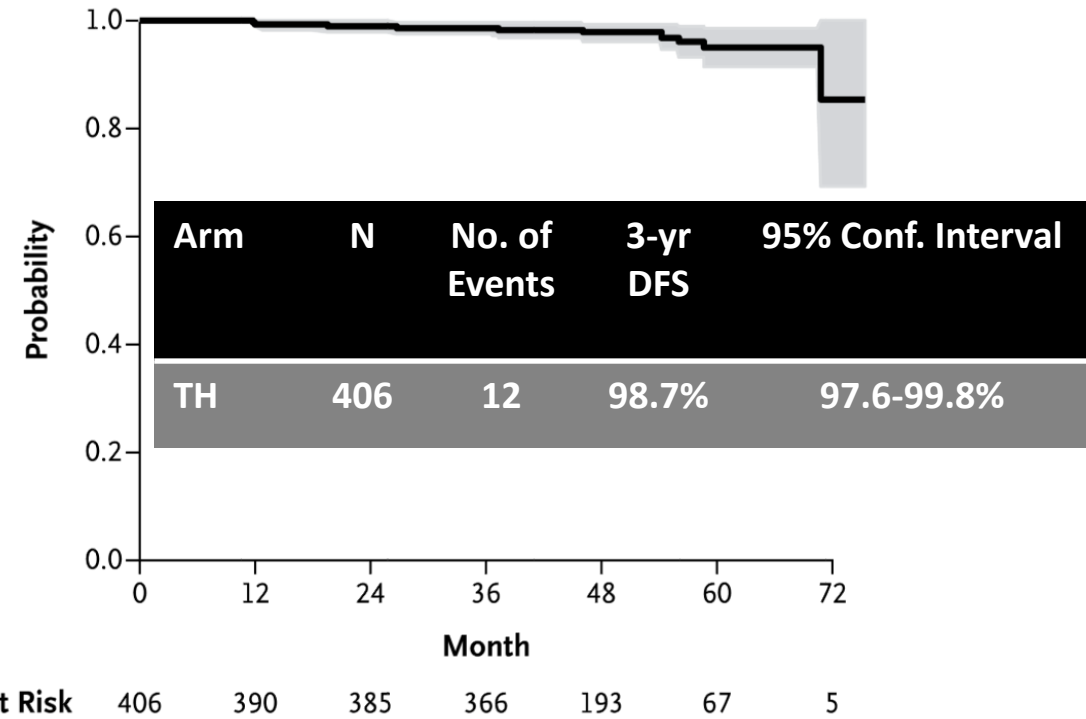
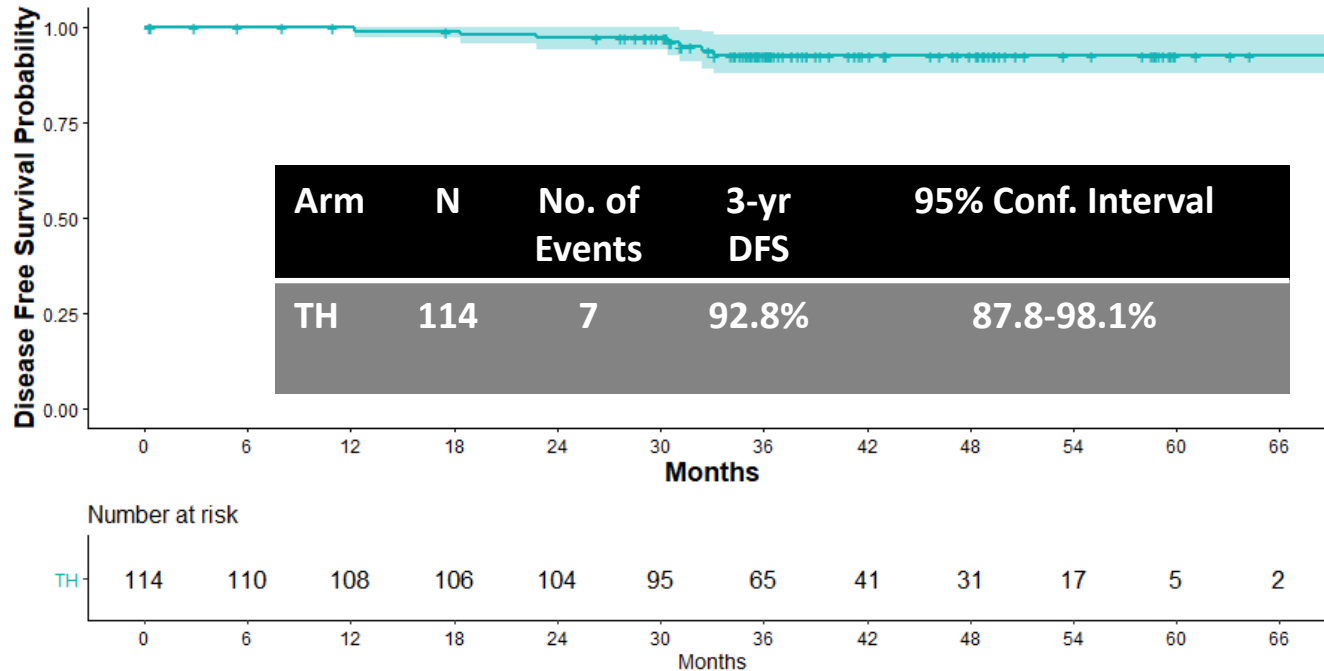
\*FISH performed centrally without IHC



# Disease-Free Survival: T-DM1



# Disease-Free Survival: TH



Tolaney S et al, NEJM 2015

# Clinically Relevant Toxicity

Clinically Relevant Toxicity	T-DM1 (n = 383) N (%)	TH (n = 114) N (%)
Grade $\geq 3$ non-hematologic toxicity	37 (10%)	13 (11%)
Grade $\geq 2$ neurotoxicity	42 (11%)	26 (23%)
Grade $\geq 4$ hematologic toxicity	4 (1%)	0 (0%)
Febrile neutropenia	0 (0%)	2 (2%)
Any toxicity requiring dose delay	106 (28%)	30 (26%)
Any toxicity requiring early discontinuation	67 (17%)	7 (6%)
Total	176 (46%)	53 (46%)

Suitability of  
Chemotherapy De-  
escalation Based on  
Response to  
Neoadjuvant Paclitaxel  
+ Trastuzumab +  
Pertuzumab in HER2-  
Positive Breast Cancer:  
The DAPHNE Trial

- Feasibility study, single arm, dose de-escalation study -THP
- Stage II/III ER any Her 2 positive breast cancer
- “Infeasible if adherence is <80% in patients with pCR”
  - 81 subjects, 86% stage 2, 32% ER/PR-
  - 51 achieved pathCR – adherence endpoint was met in that 95% stayed on regimen
  - 30 without pCR 14 got chemo, 16 got non-chemo approach [TDM-1]

A011801 (CompassHER2 RD)  
Postneoadjuvant T-DM1 + Tucatinib/Placebo in Patients With  
Residual Disease

***The CompassHER2 Trials***

***COMprehensive use of Pathologic response ASSESSment to optimize  
therapy in HER2-positive breast cancer***

CompassHER2 pCR(EA1181): Patients with pCR after preoperative THP

*CTSU active, Feb 11,2020*

CompassHER2 RD (A011801): Patients with residual disease after THP

*CTSU activation, January 6,2021*

Virginia F. Borges, MD, MMSc  
University of Colorado Cancer Center  
NRG co-Chair RD trial

# CompassHER2 Trials

## EA1181 and A011801

### EA1181 CompassHER2 pCR

#### EA1181 Eligibility (n=1,250)

Stage II or IIIA HER2+ BC (T2-3, N0-2)

- cN0 eligible if T ≥ 2.0 cm
- cN1-2 eligible if T ≥ 1.0cm
- ER+ and ER- eligible

R  
E  
G  
I  
S  
T  
R  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N

**THP\* x 4 cycles**  
paclitaxel weekly x12  
(or  
docetaxel q3w x4)  
plus  
trastuzumab (H)  
& pertuzumab (P)  
q3w x4

\*nab-pacl and  
biosimilars allowed

S  
U  
R  
G  
E  
R  
Y

pCR  
(ypT0/Tis  
ypN0)  
40%

#### EA1181 Arm A: pCR

- complete 1 yr HP
- radiation and endocrine rx (as appropriate)

No pCR  
60%

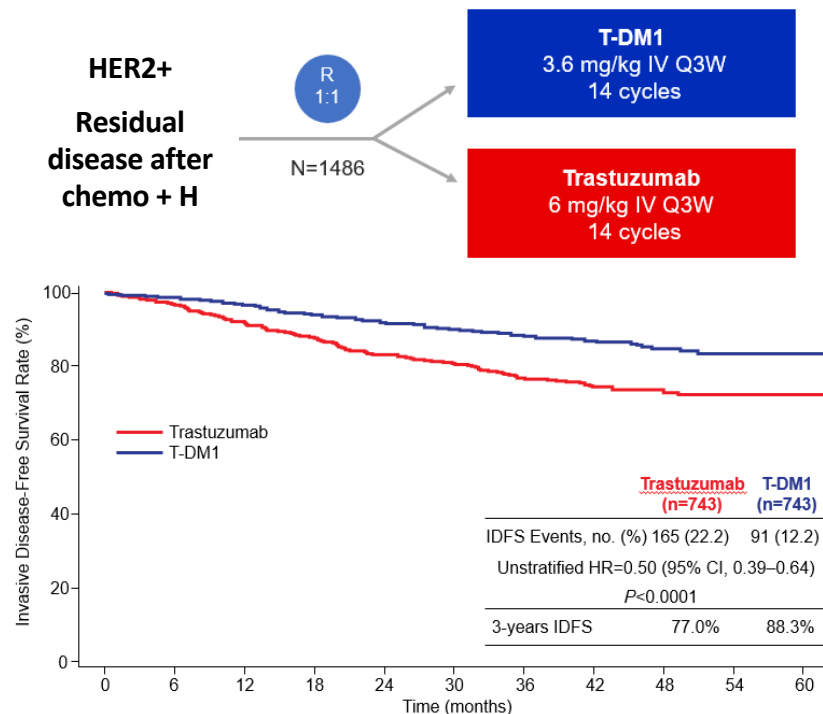
#### EA1181 Arm B: Residual Disease

- post-op AC
- THP x 2
- Cb/HP x 2-4

**TDM-1  
or clinical trial:  
A011801 CompassHER2 RD  
BR009**

# Rationale for Escalation in Residual Disease

## KATHERINE POSTNEOADJUVANT TRIAL



Group	Total N	Trastuzumab (n=743) T-DM1 (n=743)	
		3-Year IDFS	3-Year IDFS
All	1486	77.0	88.3
Clinical stage at presentation			
Operable	1111	82.8	92.3
Inoperable	375	60.2	76.0
Hormone receptor status			
Negative (ER negative and PgR negative/unknown)	412	66.6	82.1
Positive (ER and/or PgR positive)	1074	80.7	90.7
Preoperative HER2-directed therapy			
Trastuzumab alone	1196	75.9	87.7
Trastuzumab plus additional HER2-directed agent(s)	290	81.8	90.9
Pathological nodal status after preoperative therapy			
Node positive	689	67.7	83.0
Node negative/not done	797	84.6	92.8
Age group (years)			
<40	296	74.9	86.5
40–64	1064	77.1	88.8
≥65	126	81.1	87.4
Race*			
White	1082	79.1	88.8
Asian	129	71.9	82.5
American Indian or Alaska Native	86	60.3	81.8
Black or African American	40	66.0	94.7

**Even with T-DM1, ER-negative and any node+ have EFS ~ 82%**

**Incidence of brain metastases similar in both treatment arms**

- Appropriate subgroups for escalation: (ER-/HER2+ patients, high-risk ER+/HER2+ patients, e.g. N+ after preoperative systemic therapy)

Geyer, NEJM 2018

# KATHERINE: Central Nervous System Recurrence Events

	<b>T-DM1 (n = 743)</b>	<b>Trastuzumab (n = 743)</b>
Patients with CNS recurrence	45 (6.1%)	40 (5.4%)
At first IDFS event <sup>a</sup>	44 (5.9%)	32 (4.3%)
After first IDFS event <sup>b</sup>	1 (0.1%)	8 (1.1%)
Patients with CNS as only event <sup>c</sup>	36 (4.8%)	21 (2.8%)
Median time to CNS recurrence	17.5 months	11.9 months

T-DM1 = trastuzumab emtansine; CNS = central nervous system; IDFS = invasive disease-free survival  
CNS recurrence <sup>a</sup>within or <sup>b</sup>after 61 days of first IDFS event or at <sup>c</sup>any time



# A011801 (CompassHER2 RD)

## Postneoadjuvant T-DM1 + Tucatinib/Placebo in Patients With Residual Disease

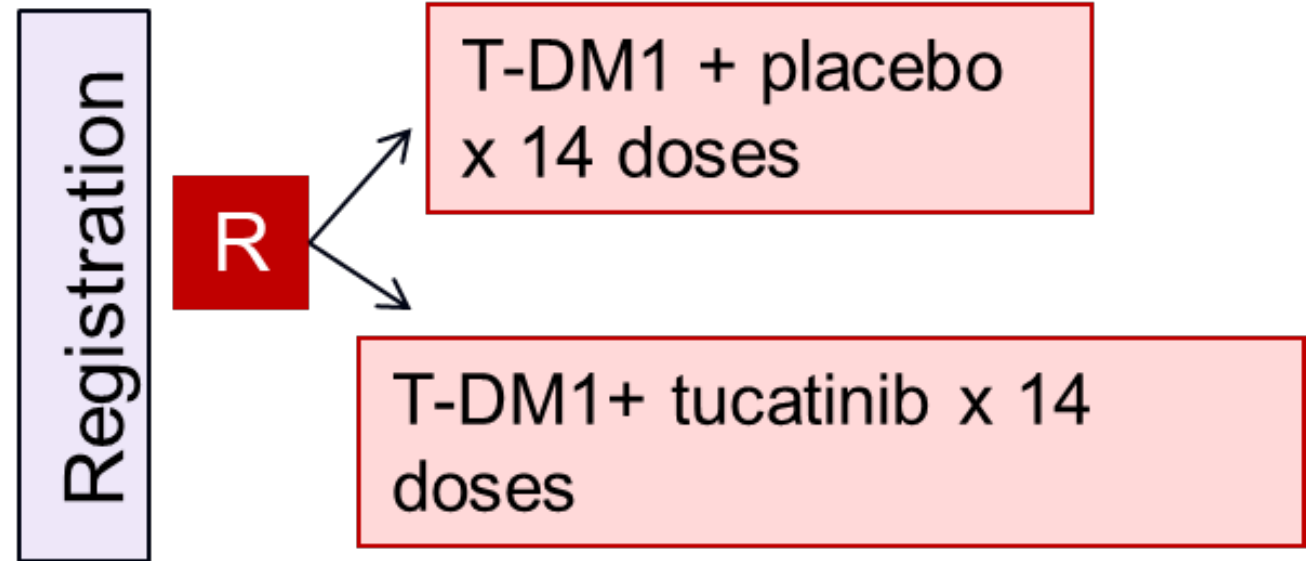
### Eligibility A011801

HER2+ RD

ER- & ER+

**(must have N+ if ER+ )**

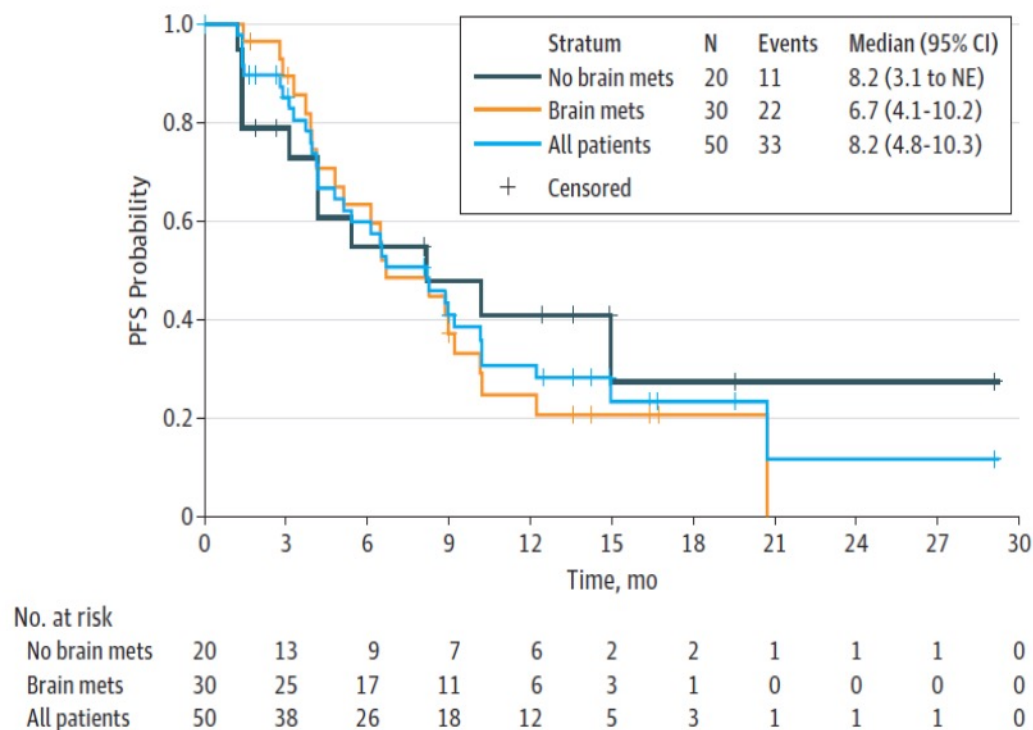
*(~30% of A011801 participants  
expected to come from EA1181)*



# Tucatinib Combined With Ado-Trastuzumab Emtansine in Advanced *ERBB2/HER2*-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer: A Phase 1b Clinical Trial

Virginia F. Borges, MD, MMSc; Cristiano Ferrario, MD; Nathalie Aucoin, MD; Carla Falkson, MD; Qamar Khan, MD; Ian Krop, MD, PhD; Stephen Welch, MD; Alison Conlin, MD; Jorge Chaves, MD; Philippe L. Bedard, MD; Marc Chamberlain, MD; Todd Gray, MD; Alex Vo, MD; Erika Hamilton, MD

Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier Plot of Progression-Free Survival (PFS) Among Patients Treated With the Maximum Tolerated Dosage of Tucatinib Combined With Ado-Trastuzumab Emtansine



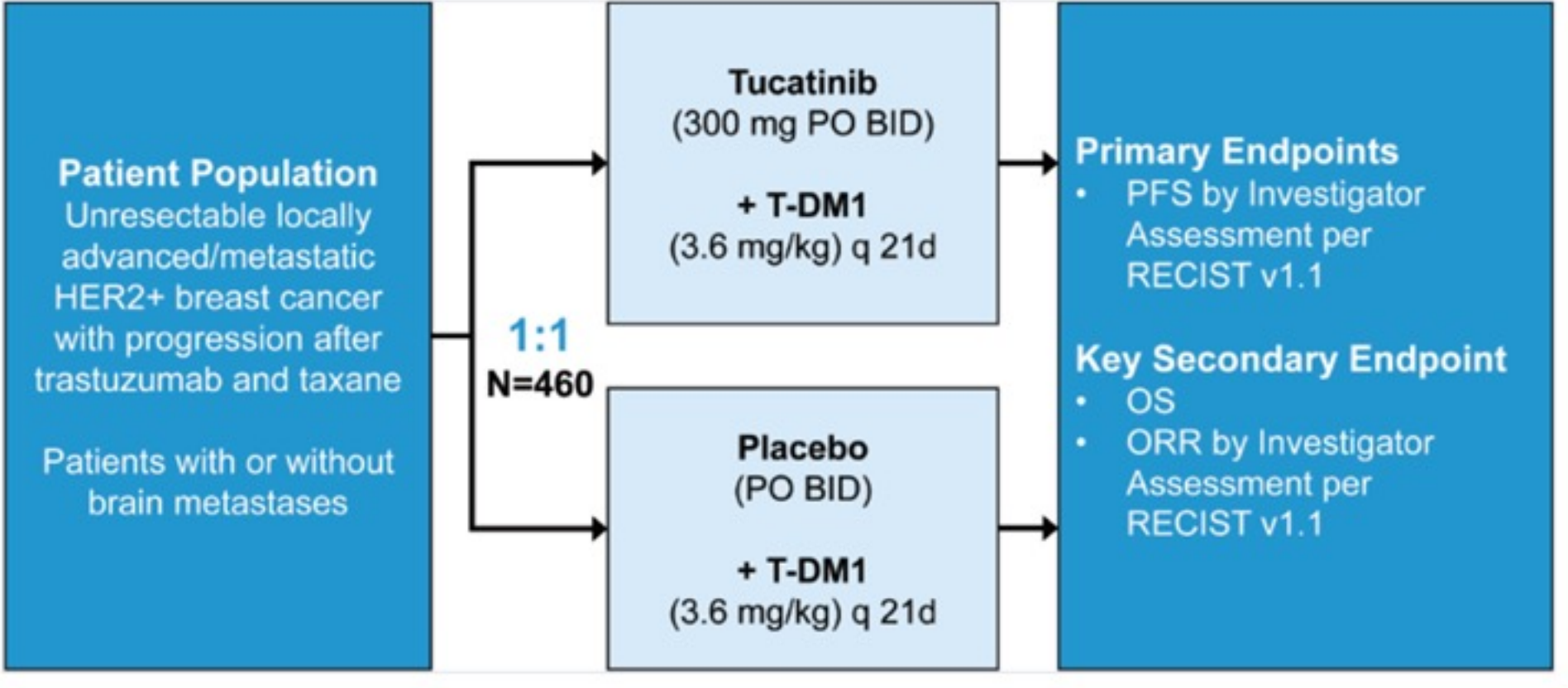
**Findings** In this phase 1b study of 57 patients with metastatic or unresectable locally advanced *ERBB2/HER2*-positive breast cancer treated previously with trastuzumab and a taxane, the maximum tolerated dosage of tucatinib combined with ado-trastuzumab emtansine was determined to be 300 mg administered orally twice daily; the objective response rate was 48%; and median progression-free survival was 8.2 months.

- **Adverse events:** nausea (72%), diarrhea (60%), fatigue (56%), epistaxis (44%), headache (44%), vomiting (42%), constipation (42%), decreased appetite (40%);
- Majority AEs grade 1 or 2.
- Tucatinib-related toxic reactions  $\geq$  grade 3: thrombocytopenia (7 patients; 14%) and transaminitis (6 patients; 12%).

**Acceptable safety profile and preliminary antitumor efficacy**

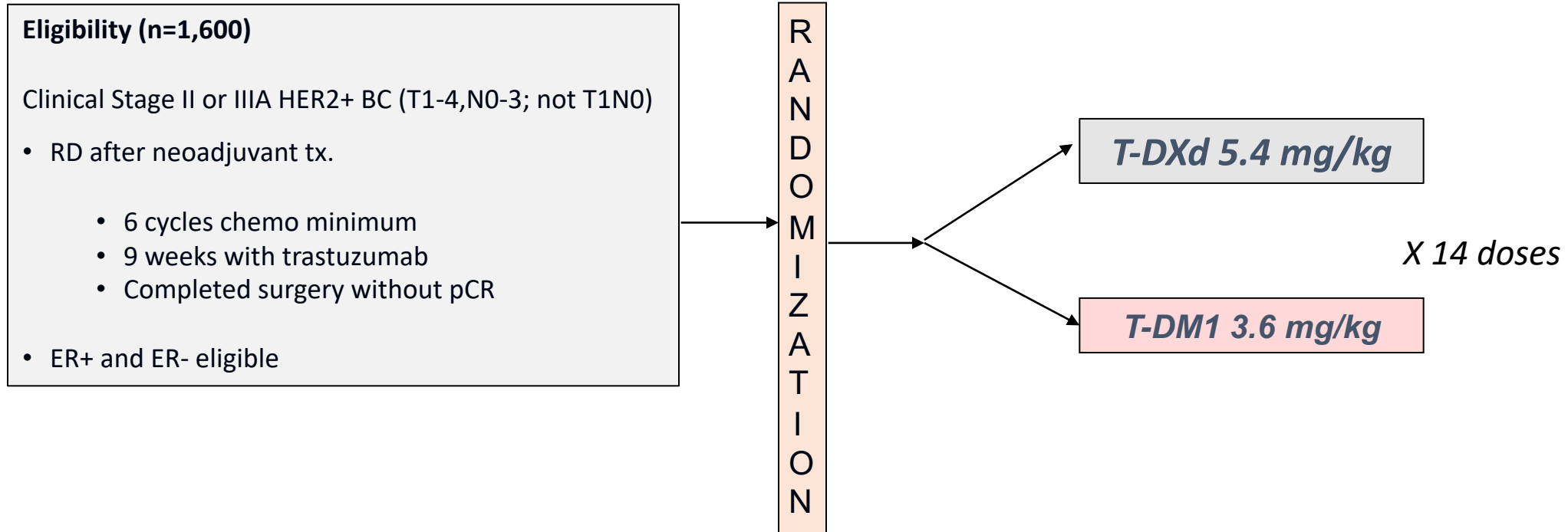
# HER2CLIMB-02: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Phase 3 Study of Tucatinib or Placebo with T-DM1 for Unresectable Locally-Advanced or Metastatic HER2+ Breast Cancer (Trial in Progress)

Sara Hurvitz<sup>1</sup>, Linda Vahdat<sup>2</sup>, Nadia Harbeck<sup>3</sup>, Antonio C. Wolff<sup>4</sup>, Sara M. Tolane<sup>5</sup>, Sherene Loi<sup>6</sup>, Norikazu Masuda<sup>7</sup>, Joyce O'Shaughnessy<sup>8</sup>, Cassie Dong<sup>9</sup>, Luke Walker<sup>9</sup>, Evelyn Rustia<sup>9</sup>, Virginia F. Borges<sup>10</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>University of California, Los Angeles/Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA; <sup>2</sup>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY; <sup>3</sup>Brustzentrum der Universität München (LMU), Munich, Germany; <sup>4</sup>The Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, Baltimore, MD; <sup>5</sup>Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA; <sup>6</sup>Peter MacCallum Cancer Center, Melbourne, Australia; <sup>7</sup>NHO Osaka National Hospital, Osaka, Japan; <sup>8</sup>Baylor University Medical Center, Texas Oncology, US Oncology, Dallas;



# DESTINY-Breast05

A Phase 3, Multicenter, Randomized, Open-Label, Active-Controlled Study of Trastuzumab Deruxtecan (T-DXd) Versus Trastuzumab Emtansine (T-DM1) in Participants With High-Risk HER2-Positive Primary Breast Cancer Who Have Residual Invasive Disease in Breast or Axillary Lymph Nodes Following Neoadjuvant Therapy [NCT04622319]



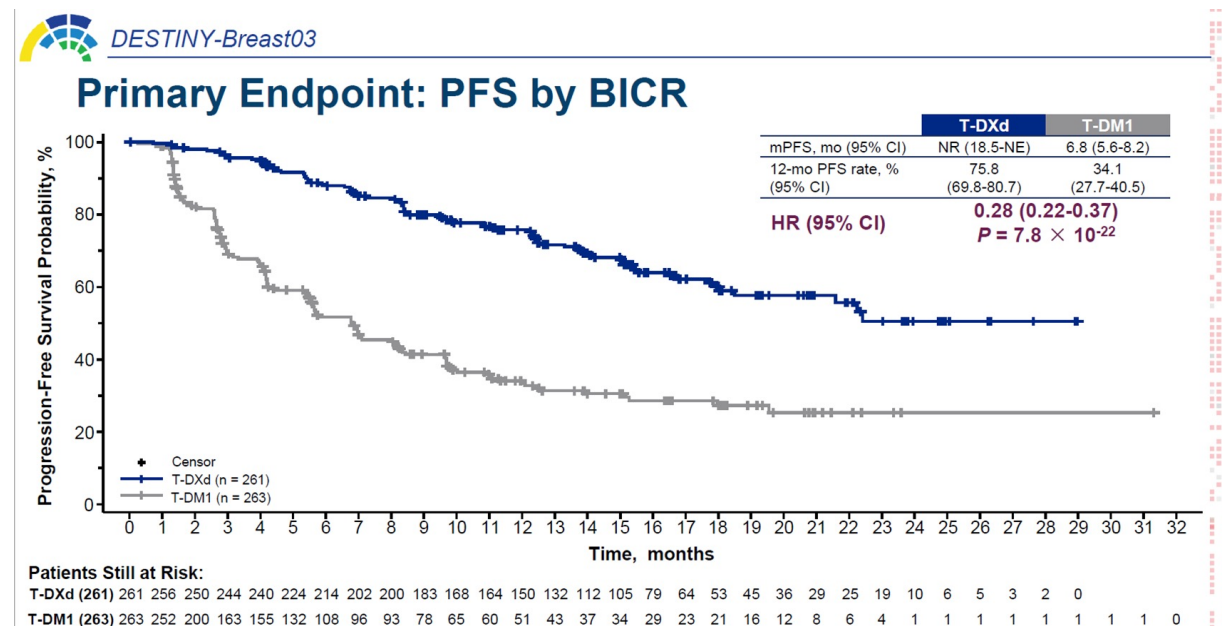
# RATIONALE FOR ESCALATION TO T-DXD IN RD: DESTINY-03

T-DXD v. T-DM1 in Previously Treated HER2+ Positive Breast Cancer

Randomized Phase III (n=524)

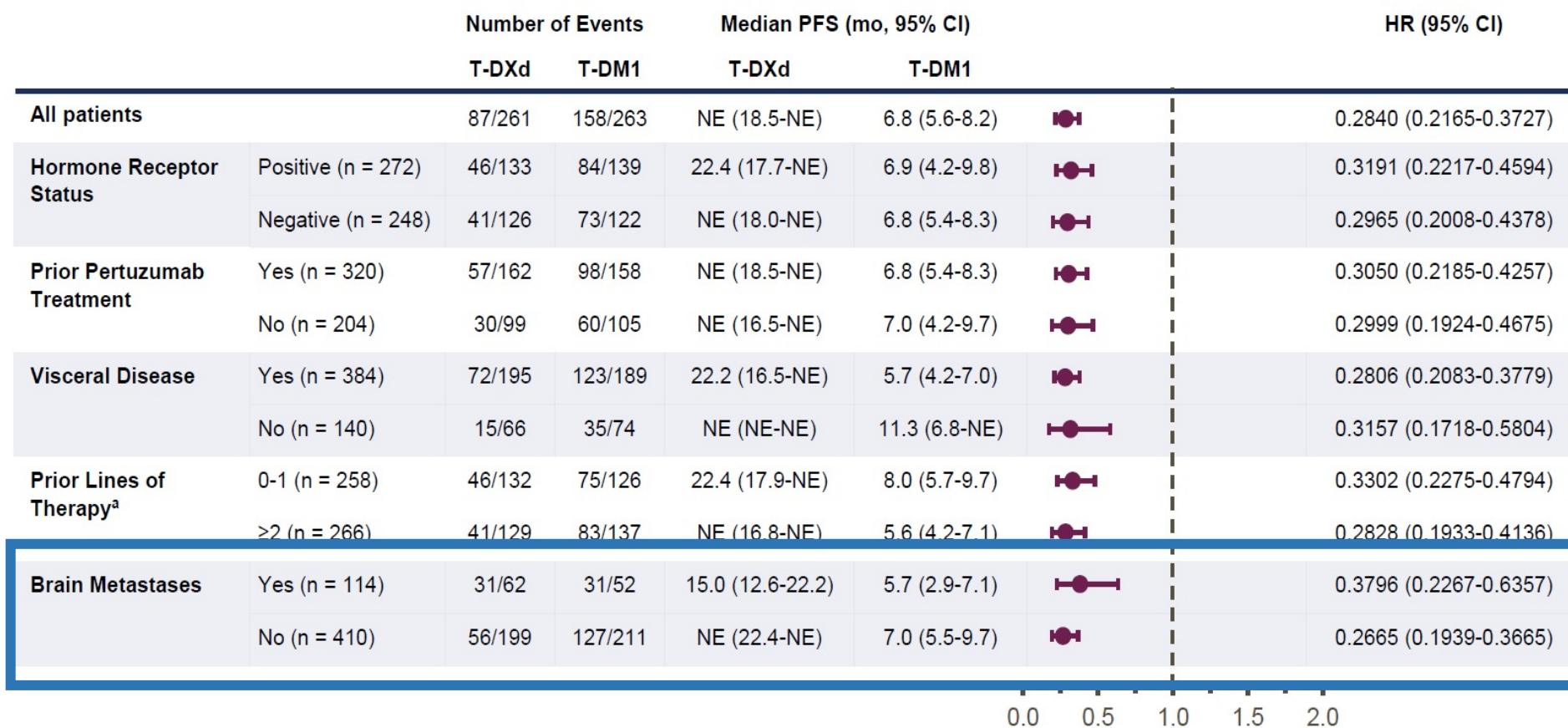
mPFS T-DXD not yet reached  
mPFS T-DM1 6.8 months

12-month PFS 75.8% T-DXD  
12-months PFS 34.1% T-DM1





# PFS in Key Subgroups



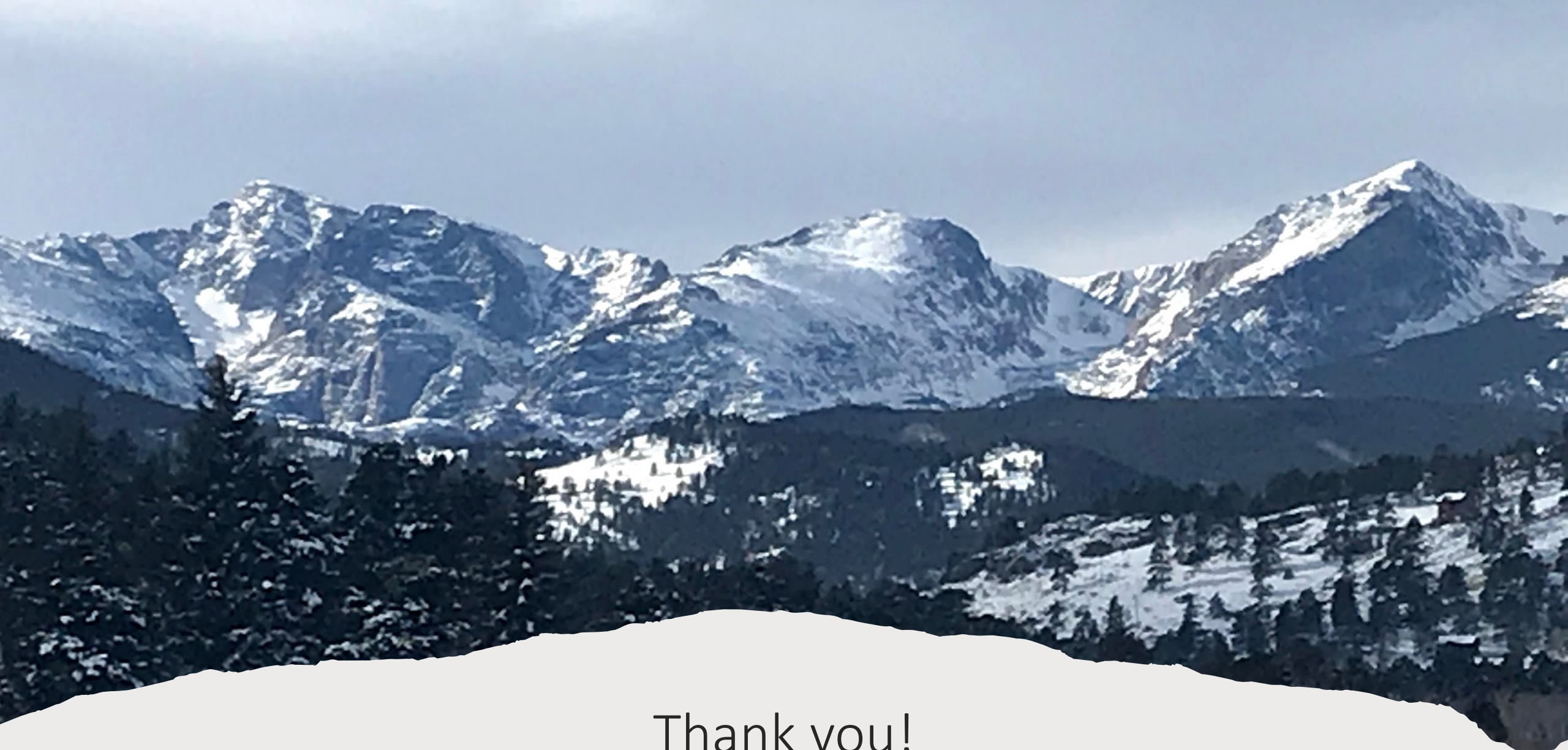
UNCONTROLLED COPY

HR (T-DXd vs T-DM1)

<sup>a</sup>Rapid progressors on (neo)adjuvant therapy were included. Line of therapy does not include endocrine therapy.

# Summary and future directions

- We are living in an era of opportunity to tailor therapy to the biology, the stage, the response, and the tolerability/patient preferences.
- These are long treatment pathways for patients, so PROs, QOL, clinical resources and support are of increased importance.
- Continuing to tweak options for the lower risk patients
- Ongoing HR+ Her 2+ concepts
- Understanding Low Her2+ in the adjuvant setting
- Additional pathways and outcome drivers – PIK3CA+, etc.



Thank you!