

# Upper GI Cancer: Esophageal and Gastric-New Developments

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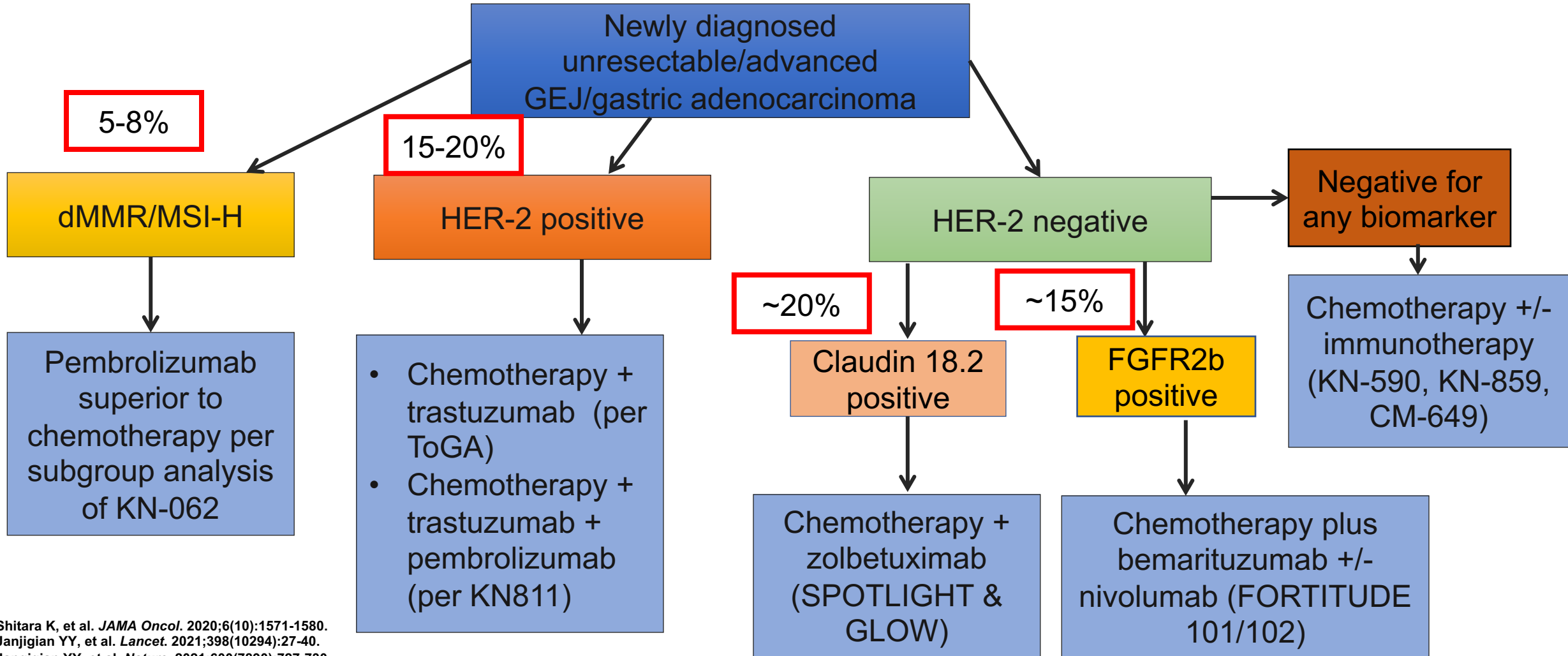




# Agenda

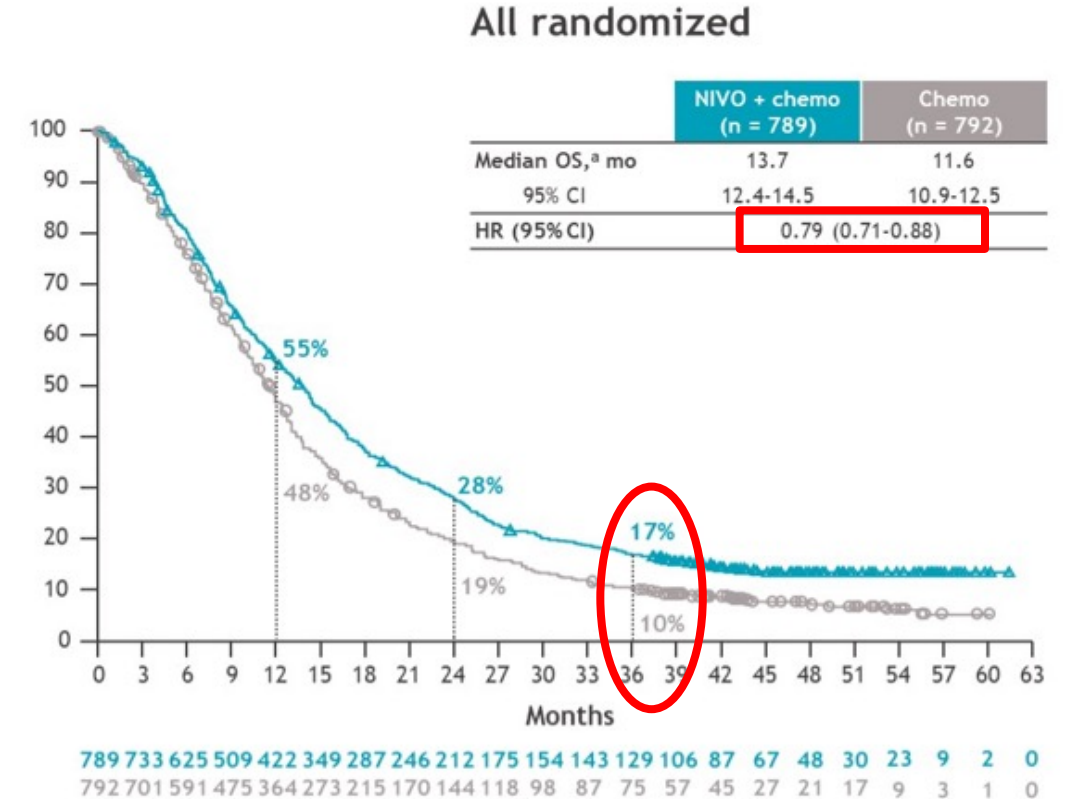
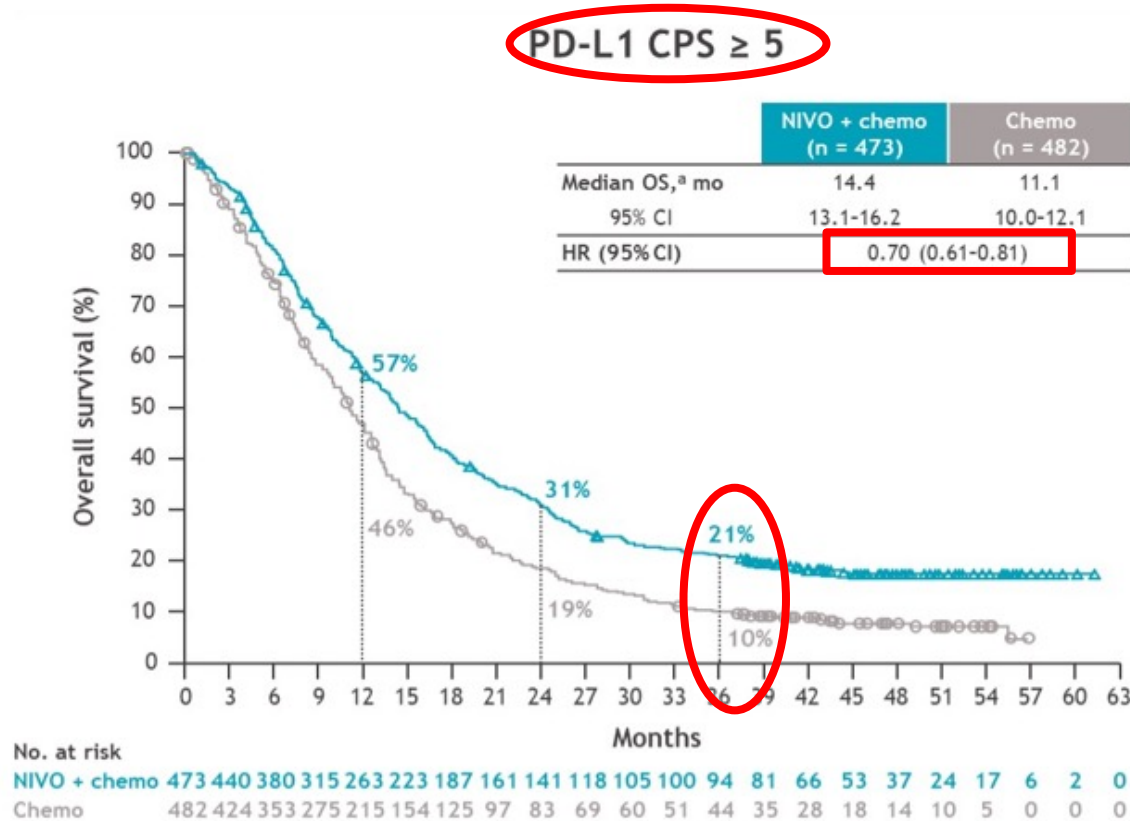
- Current state of art of 1<sup>st</sup> line treatment of gastroesophageal cancers – Old and New developments
- Update from ASCO 2024 (ESOPEC study)

# Paradigm of treatment for treatment naïve stage IV GEJ/gastric adenocarcinoma patients





# CheckMate-649: Overall Survival at 36 Months



- Clinically meaningful improvement in OS with NIVO + chemo vs chemo was maintained with longer follow-up in PD-L1 CPS  $\geq 5$  and all randomized populations

<sup>a</sup>Minimum follow-up, 36.2 months.

# KEYNOTE-859 Primary Endpoint: Overall Survival

## Overall

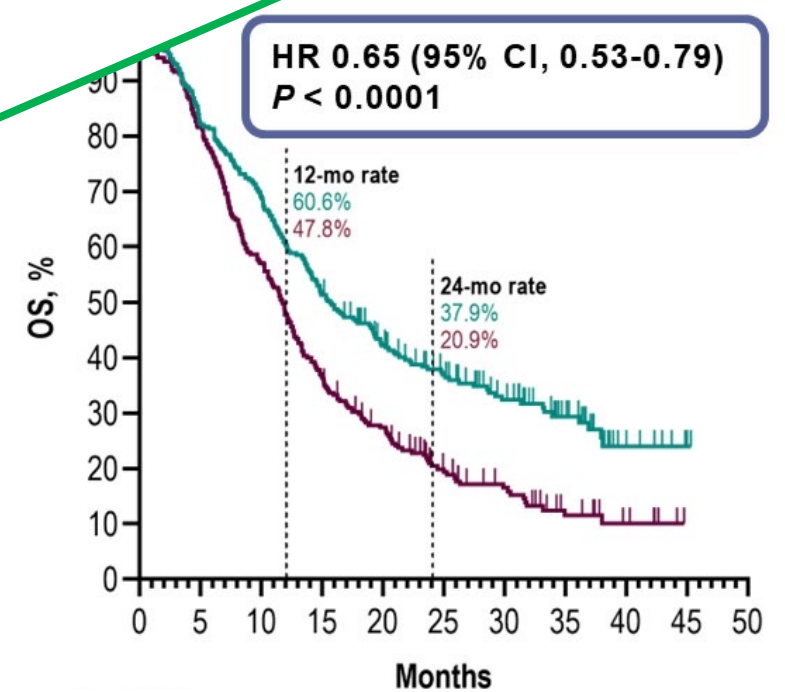
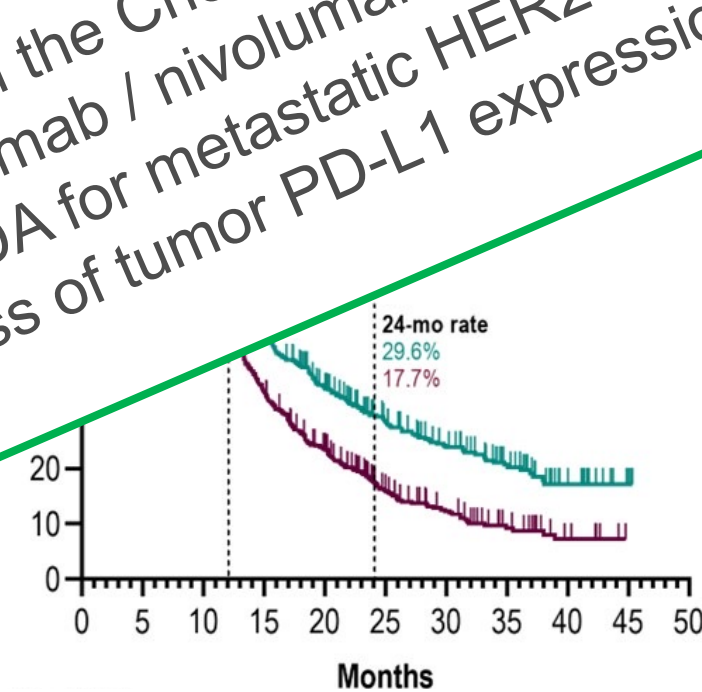
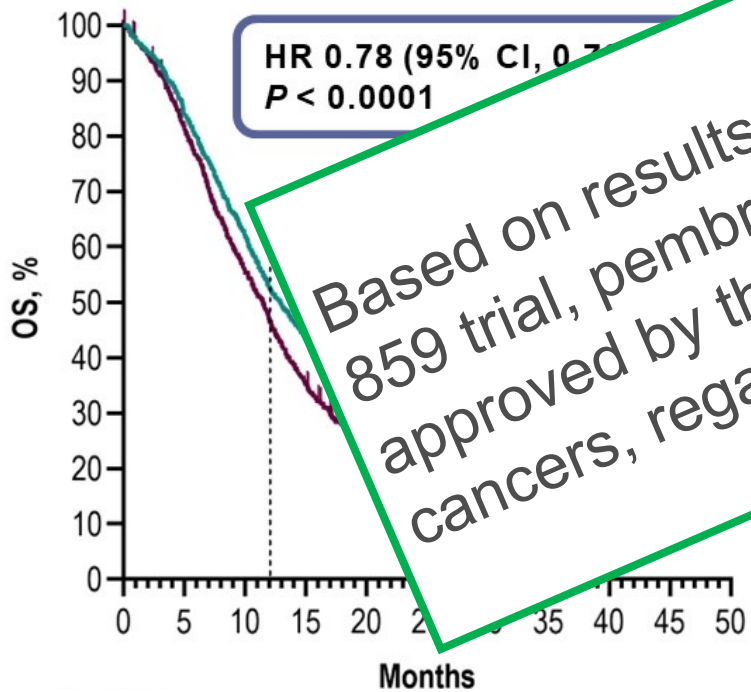
	Pts w/ Event	Median (95% CI), mo
Pembro + chemo	76.3%	12.9 (11.9-14.0)
Placebo + chemo	84.4%	11.5 (10.6-12.1)

## PD-L1 CPS

	Pts w/ Event	Median (95% CI), mo
Pembro + chemo	76.3%	12.9 (11.9-14.0)
Placebo + chemo	84.4%	11.5 (10.6-12.1)

## ≥ 1 CPS ≥ 10

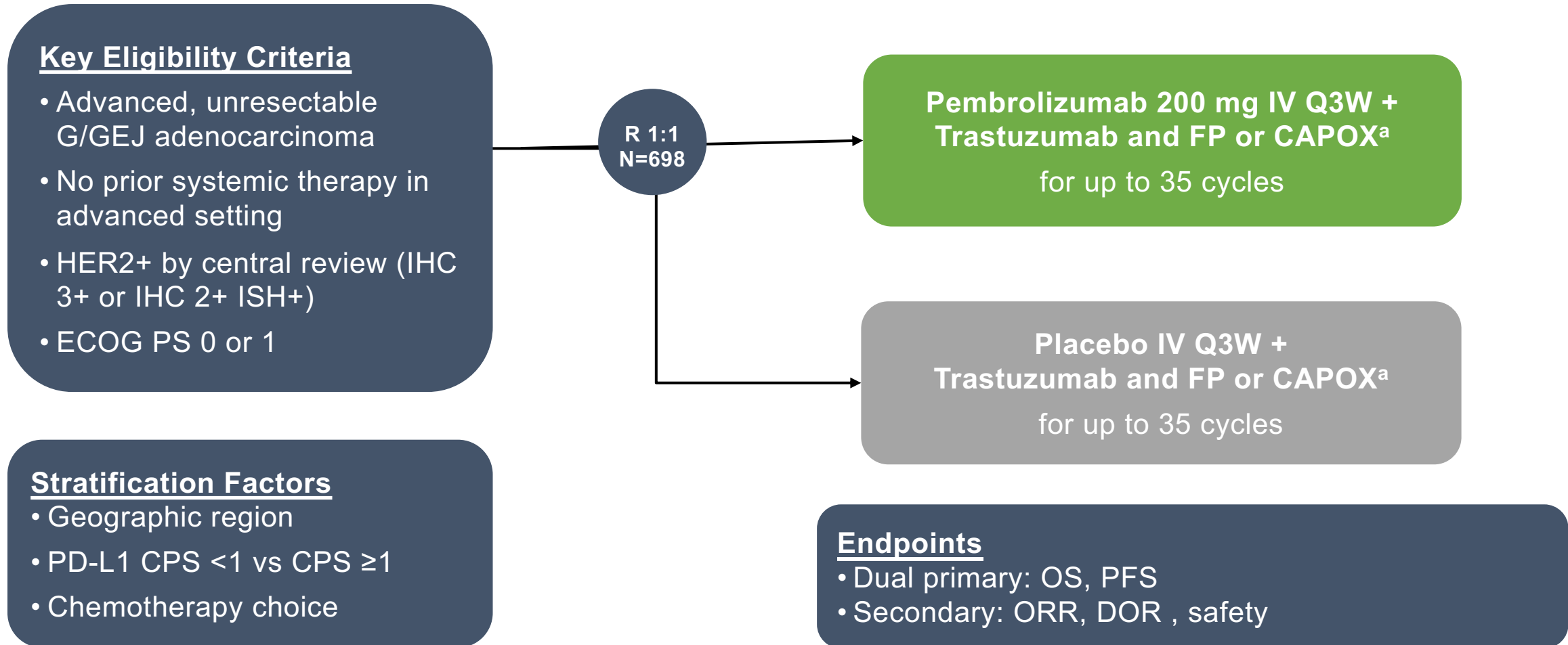
	Pts w/ Event	Median (95% CI), mo
Pembro + chemo	76.3%	12.9 (11.9-14.0)
Placebo + chemo	84.4%	11.5 (10.6-12.1)



Based on results from the CheckMate-649 and KEYNOTE-859 trial, pembrolizumab / nivolumab with chemotherapy was approved by the FDA for metastatic HER2-negative G/GEJ cancers, regardless of tumor PD-L1 expression

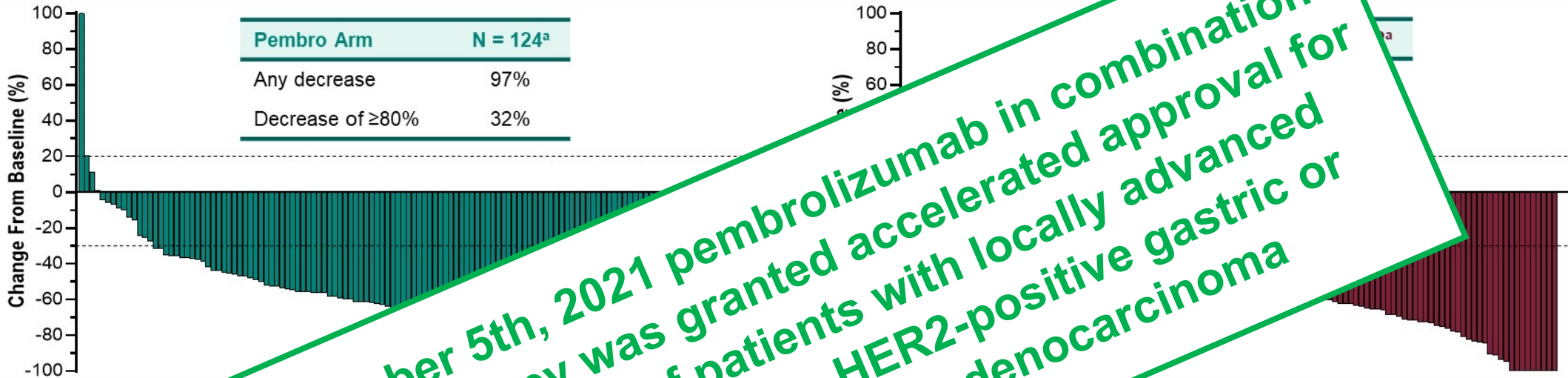
# KEYNOTE-811 Study Design (NCT03615326)

## Phase 3 Randomized, Placebo-Controlled



<sup>a</sup>Trastuzumab: 6 mg/kg IV Q3W following an 8 mg/kg loading dose. FP: 5-fluorouracil 800 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV on D1-5 Q3W + cisplatin 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV Q3W. CAPOX: capecitabine 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup> BID on D1-14 Q3W + oxaliplatin 130 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV Q3W. PFS, ORR, DOR per RECIST by BICR. BICR, blinded independent central review; CPS, combined positive score; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1. Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.

# KEYNOTE 811: Interim Analysis Results



On November 5th, 2021 pembrolizumab in combination with chemotherapy was granted accelerated approval for first-line treatment of patients with locally advanced unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma

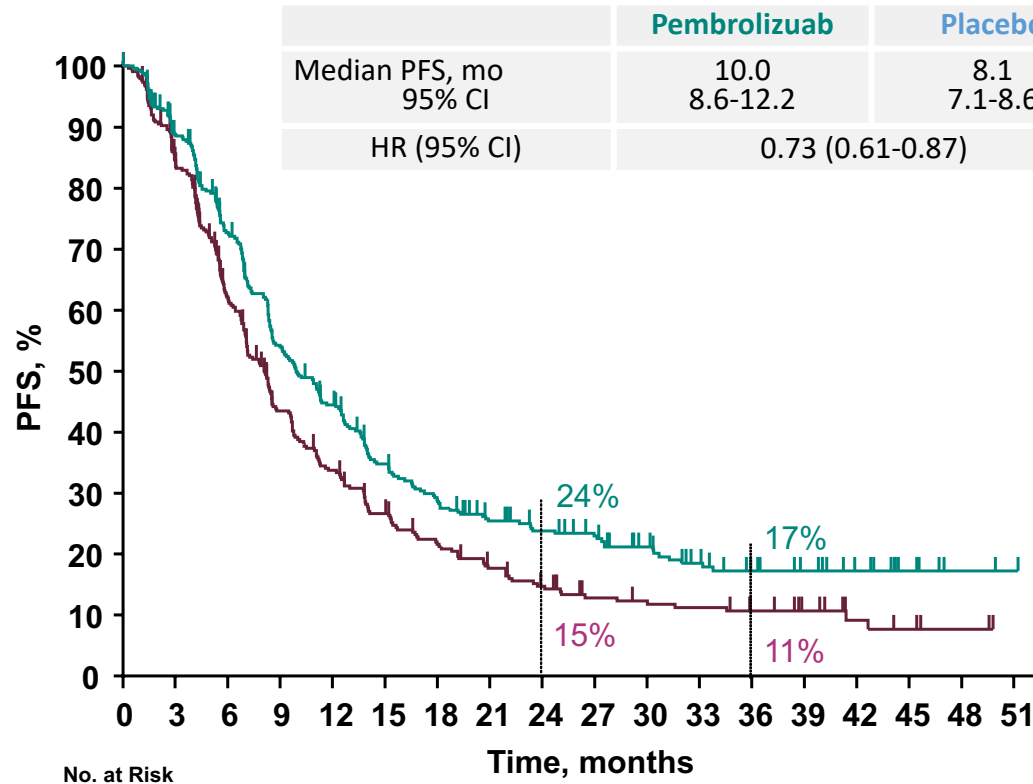
ORR and DCR % (95% CI)	Pembro Arm (N = 133)	Placebo Arm (N = 131)	Duration of Response <sup>c</sup>	Pembro Arm (N = 99)	Placebo Arm (N = 68)
<b>ORR</b>	<b>15 (11%)</b>	<b>4 (3%)</b>	Median <sup>d</sup>	10.6 mo	9.5 mo
<b>ORR difference<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>84 (63%)</b>	<b>64 (49%)</b>	Range	1.1+ to 16.5+	1.4+ to 15.4+
DCR	89.3%	SD	≥6-mo duration <sup>d</sup>	70.3%	61.4%
(91.4-98.8) (82.7-94.0)	29 (22%)	49 (37%)	≥9-mo duration <sup>d</sup>	58.4%	51.1%
	PD	5 (4%)			
	Not evaluable	0			
	Not assessed	0			

# Progression-Free Survival at 38.5 Months of Follow-Up<sup>a</sup>

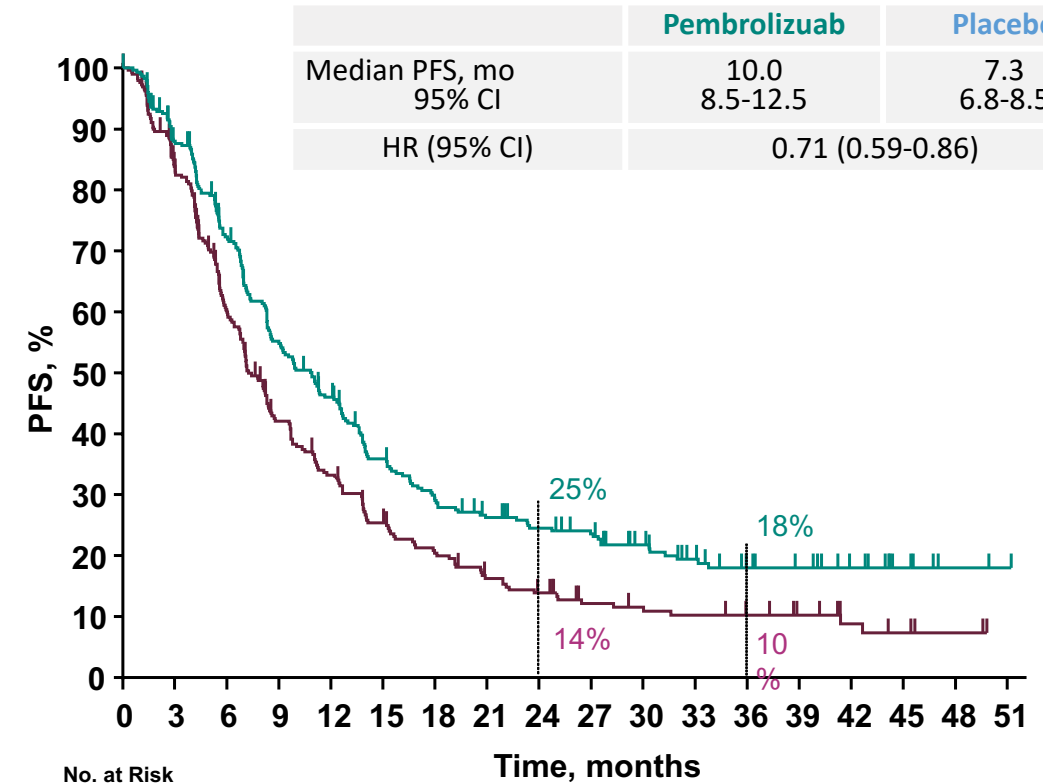
## RECIST V1.1, BICR



### All patients



### PD-L1 CPS $\geq 1$ <sup>b</sup>



Data cut-off: March 29, 2023.

Data cut-off: March 29, 2023.

<sup>a</sup>Median follow-up; <sup>b</sup>Not a prespecified endpoint.

BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; PFS, progression-free survival; RECIST, response evaluation criteria in solid tumors.

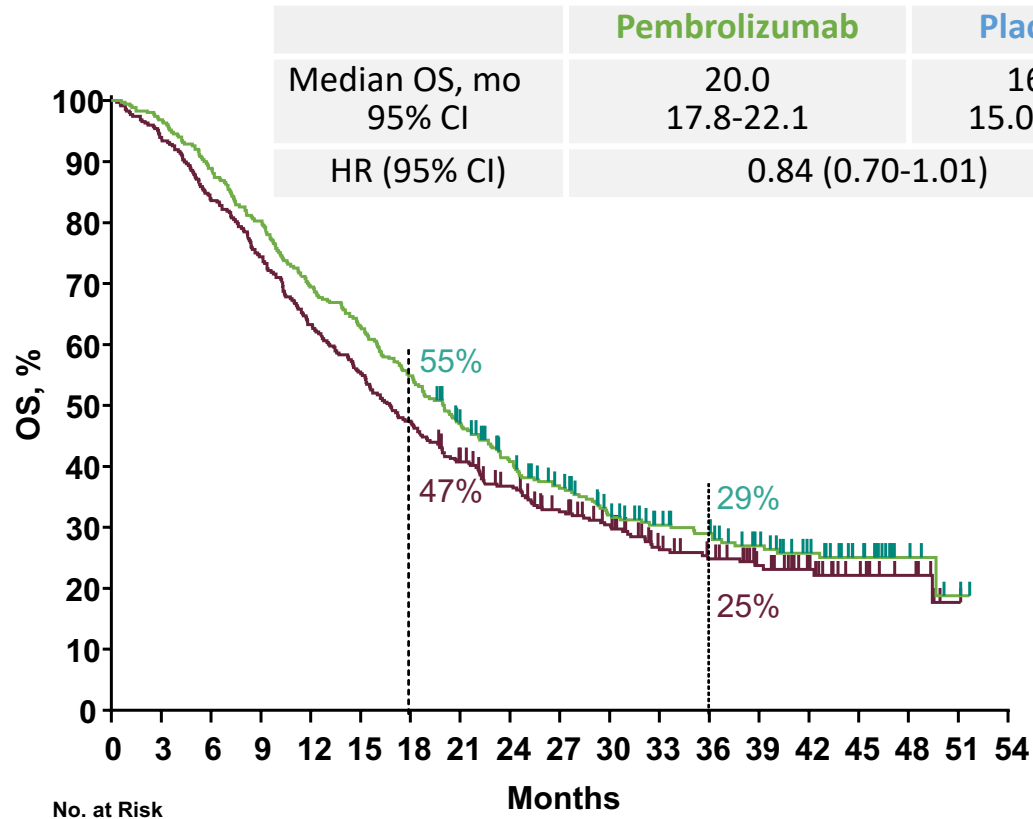
Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.



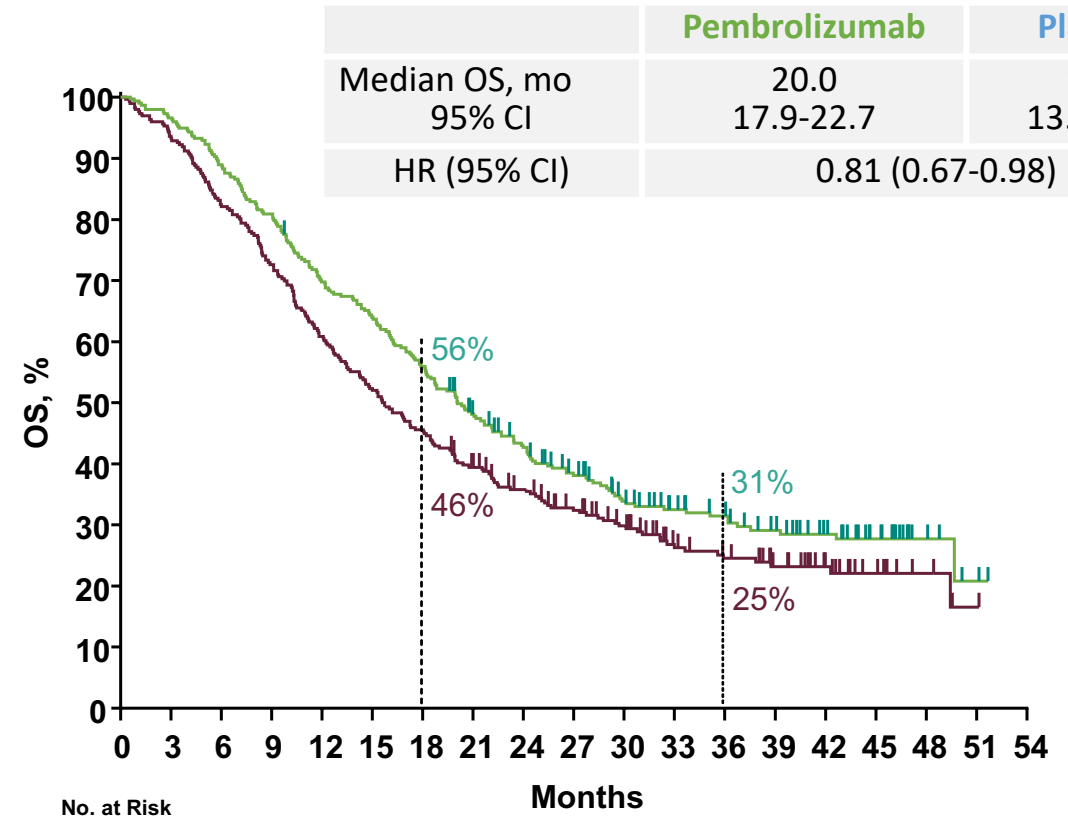


# Overall Survival at the Third Interim Analysis

## All patients



## PD-L1 CPS $\geq 1^a$



No. at Risk

Months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54
Pembrolizumab gp	350	339	311	281	243	220	192	156	126	105	84	69	61	48	37	23	7	2	0
Placebo gp	348	327	292	259	220	193	165	138	116	96	83	58	51	37	25	15	8	1	0

No. at Risk

Months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54
Pembrolizumab gp	298	288	265	241	207	190	166	136	115	96	78	64	58	47	37	23	7	2	0
Placebo gp	296	277	244	215	180	155	135	113	96	80	67	47	41	31	21	12	5	1	0

Data cut-off: March 29, 2023. OS did not meet the prespecified criteria for significance at IA3 and will be retested at final analysis.

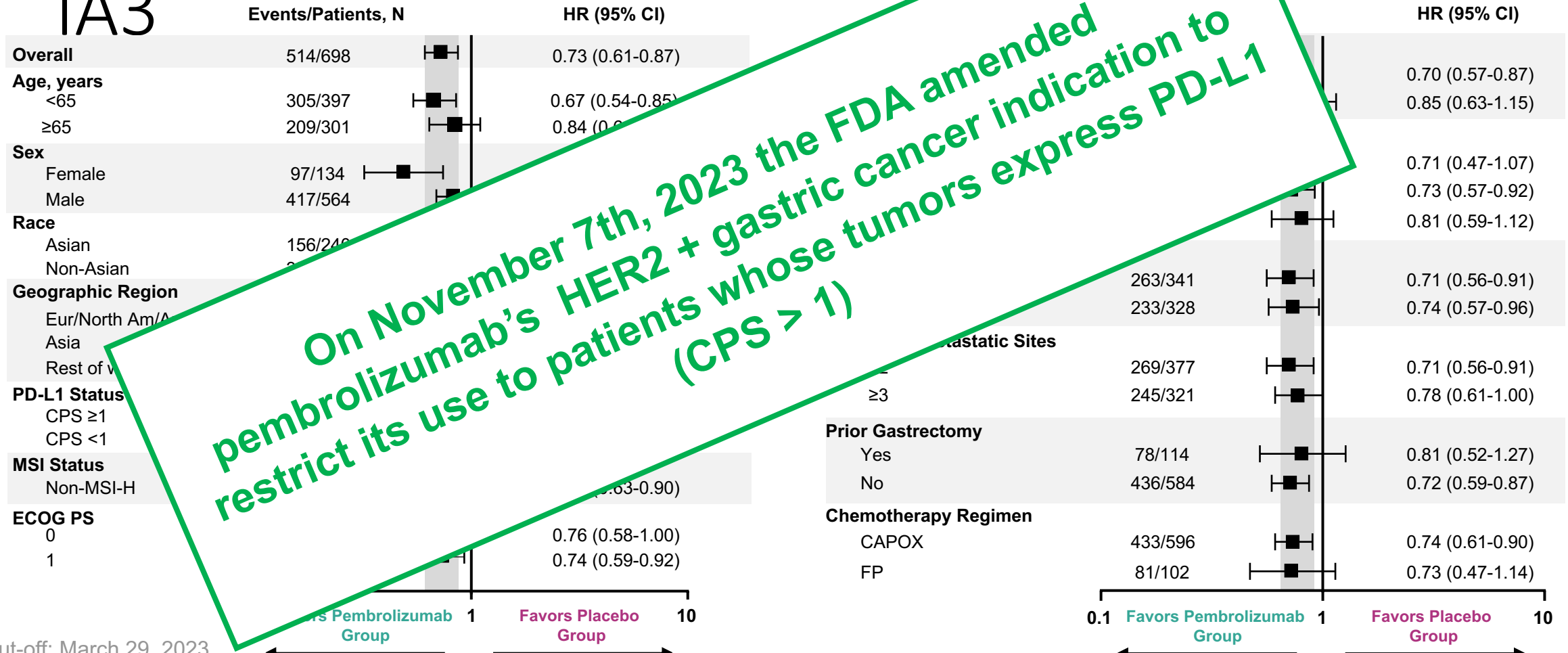
<sup>a</sup>Not a prespecified endpoint.

Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.



# Progression-Free Survival in Key Subgroups at

## IA3



**On November 7th, 2023 the FDA amended pembrolizumab's HER2 + gastric cancer indication to restrict its use to patients whose tumors express PD-L1 (CPS > 1)**

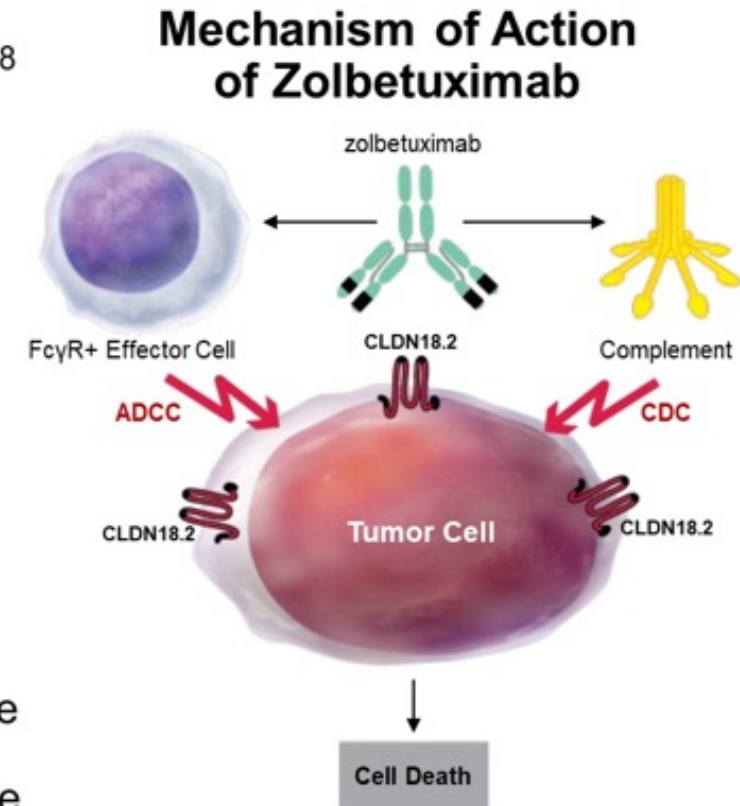
Data cut-off: March 29, 2023.

CAPOX, oxaliplatin + capecitabine; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; FP, 5-fluorouracil + cisplatin; MSI, microsatellite instability; PS, performance status.

Janjigian YY, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract 15110.

# What is Zolbetuximab?

- CLDN18.2 is a tight junction protein normally expressed in gastric mucosa cells and retained in G/GEJ adenocarcinoma<sup>1-8</sup>
- CLDN18.2 may become exposed on the surface of G/GEJ adenocarcinoma cells, making it a promising target<sup>2-8</sup>
- Zolbetuximab is a first-in-class chimeric IgG1 monoclonal antibody that targets CLDN18.2 and induces ADCC/CDC<sup>4-8</sup>
- In the phase 2b FAST study, EOX  $\pm$  zolbetuximab prolonged survival in a subgroup of patients with higher expression of CLDN18.2 in tumor cells<sup>8</sup>
  - mPFS: 9.0 vs 5.7 months with zolbetuximab + EOX vs EOX alone
  - mOS: 16.5 vs 8.9 months with zolbetuximab + EOX vs EOX alone

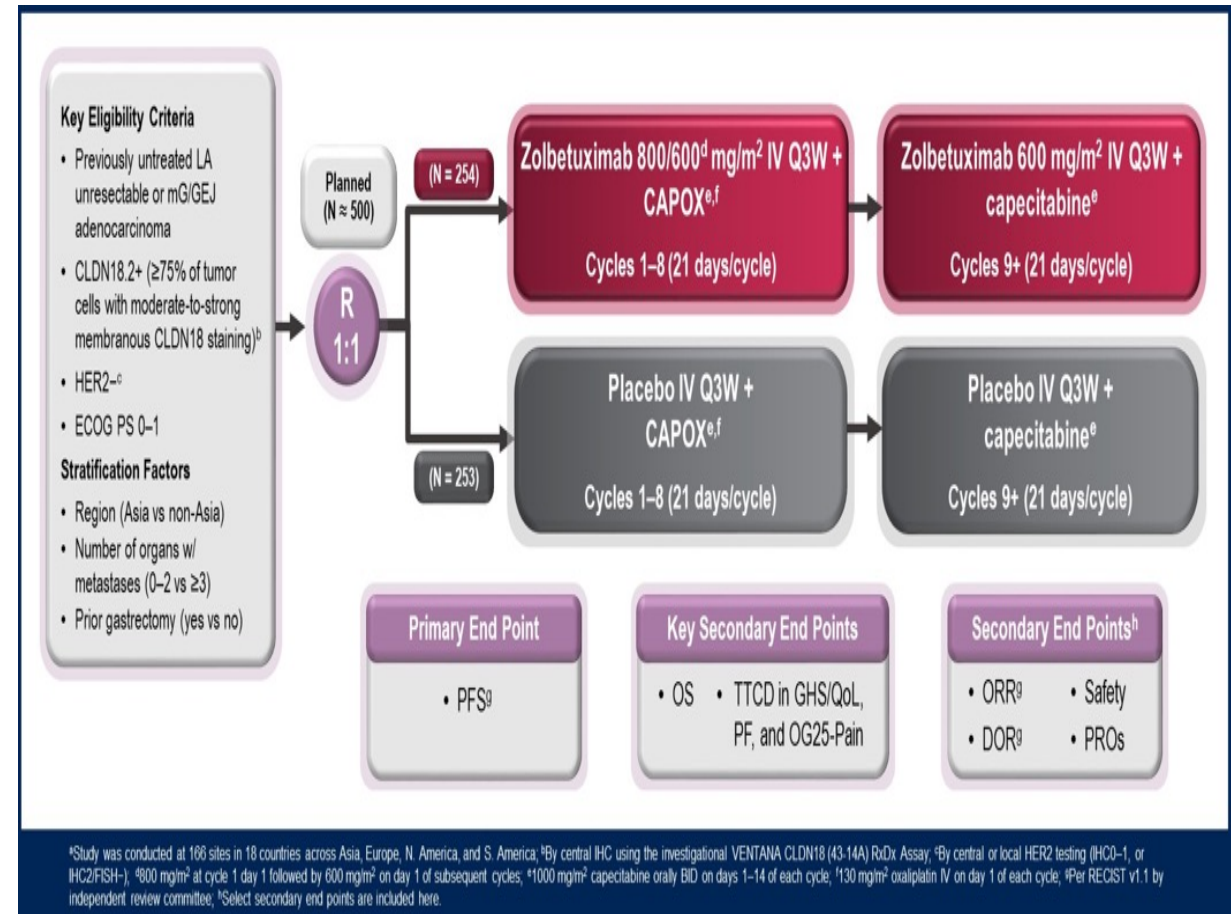
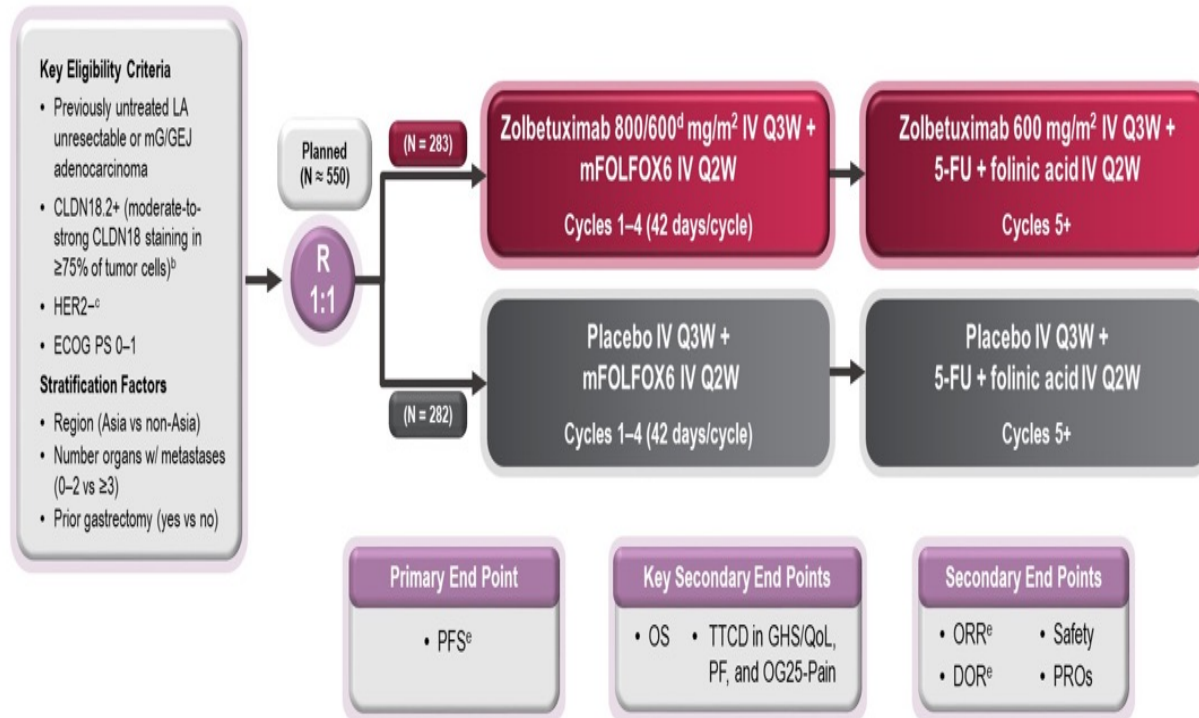


1. Niimi T et al. *Mol Cell Biol*. 2001;21:7380-90; 2. Sahin U et al. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2008;14:7624-34; 3. Moran D et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2018;29:viii14-viii57; 4. Sahin U et al. *Eur J Cancer*. 2018;100:17-26; 5. Rhode C et al. *Jpn J Clin Oncol*. 2019;49:870-6; 6. Türeci Ö et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2019;30:1487-95; 7. Pellino A et al. *J Pers Med*. 2021; 11(11):1095; 8. Sahin U et al. *Ann Oncol*. 2021;32:609-19.



# Two Studies SPOTLIGHT and GLOW

Global<sup>a</sup>, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trial

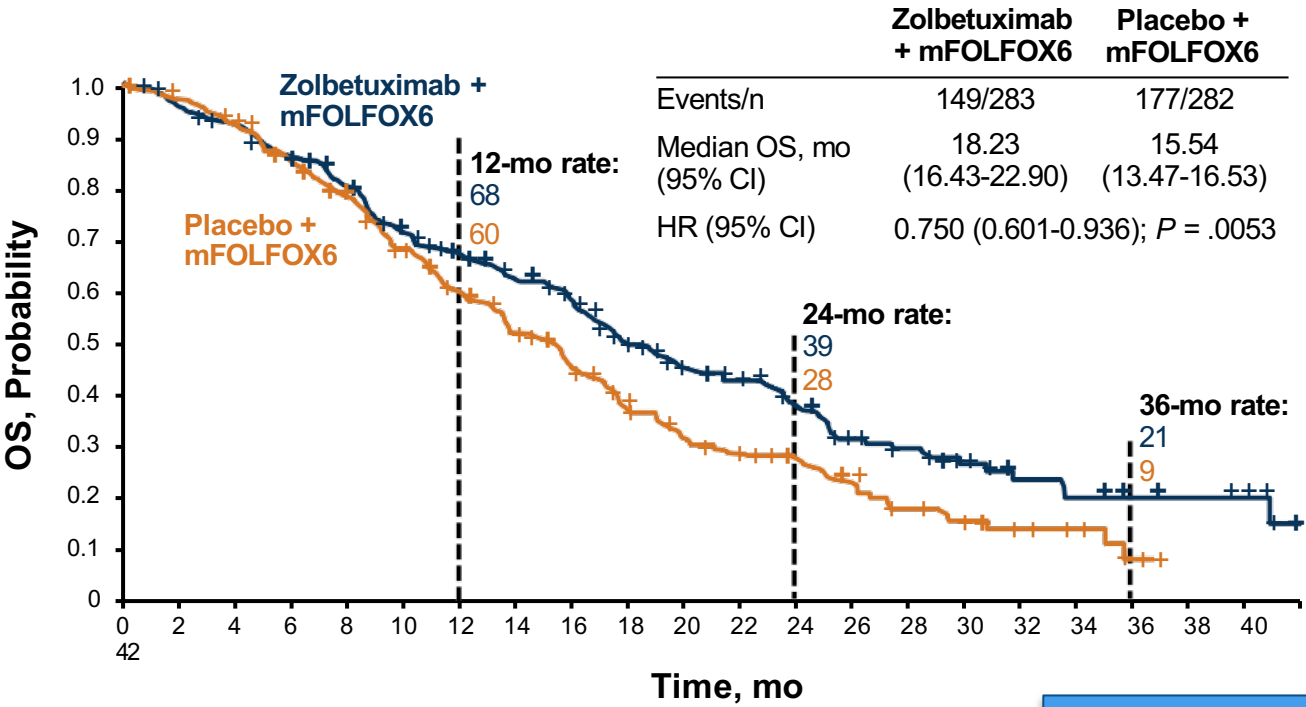


<sup>a</sup>Study was conducted at 215 sites in 20 countries across Australia, Asia, Europe, N. America, and S. America; <sup>b</sup>By central IHC using the analytically validated VENTANA CLDN18 (43-14A) RxDx Assay; <sup>c</sup>By central or local HER2 testing; <sup>d</sup>800 mg/m<sup>2</sup> at cycle 1 day 1 followed by 600 mg/m<sup>2</sup> on cycle 1 day 22 and days 1 and 22 of subsequent cycles; <sup>e</sup>Per RECIST v1.1 by independent review committee.

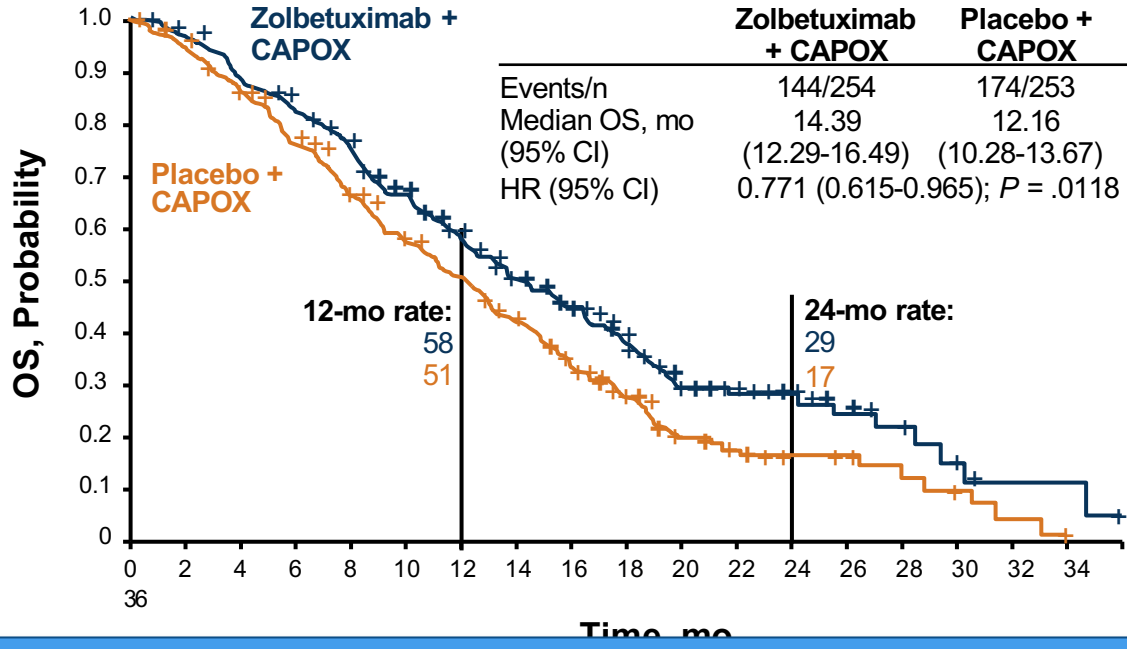
# Phase 3 Trials of Zolbetuximab + Chemotherapy<sup>1,2</sup>



## SPOTLIGHT Zolbetuximab + FOLFOX



## GLOW Zolbetuximab + CAPOX



- Improvement of PFS and OS in two studies
- Notable toxicities: nausea and vomiting at first infusion

**ASCO 2024**  
**Final overall survival results from the phase 3 SPOTLIGHT trial<sup>3</sup>**  
 mOS (ITT): 18.23 vs 15.57  
 mOS (PPS): 21.49 vs 16.39

1. Shitara K et al. *Lancet*. 2023;401:1655-1668. 2. Shah M et al. *Nat Med*. 2023;29:2133-2141. 3. Shitara K et al. ASCO 2024. Abstract 4036.



# GLOW and SPOTLIGHT – Efficacy Comparison

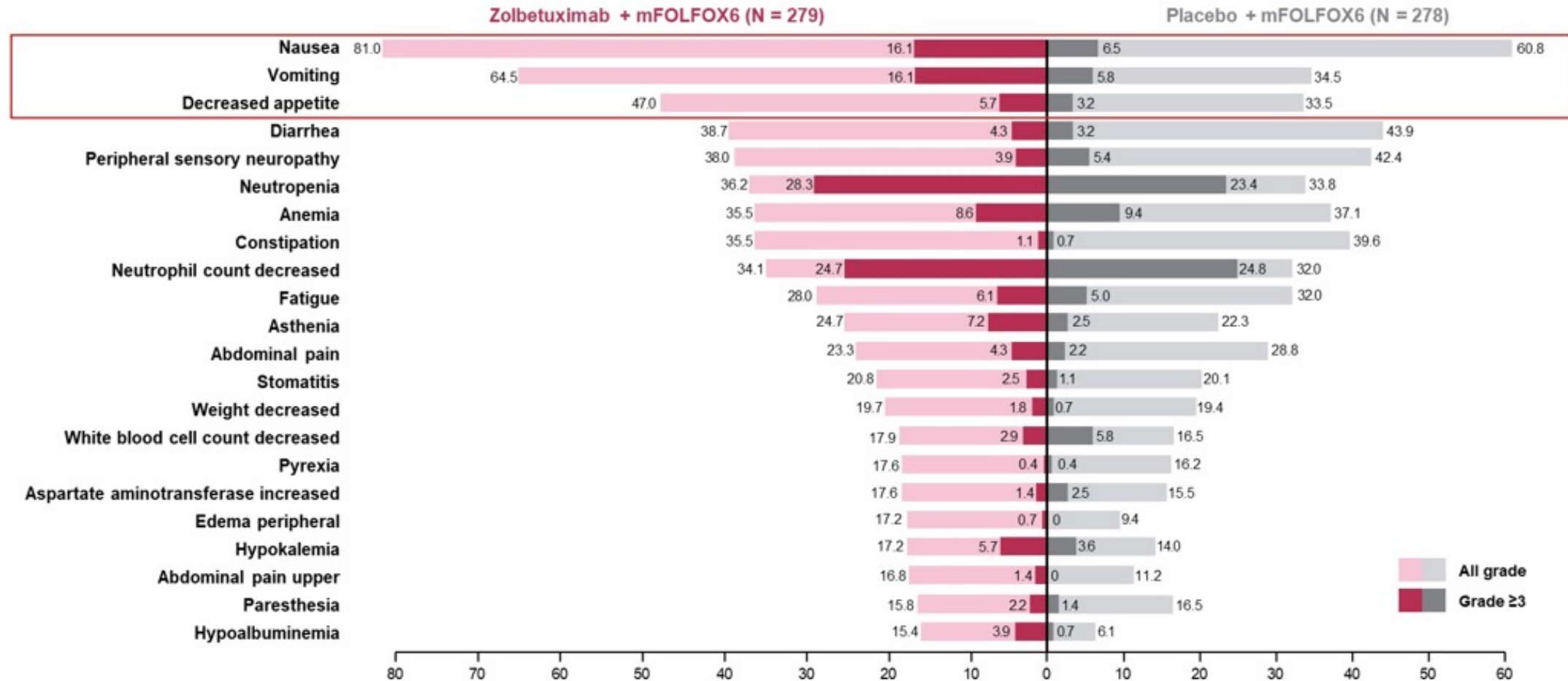
	<b>GLOW</b> CAPOX + zolbetuximab vs CAPOX + placebo Patients (N = 254 vs 253)	<b>SPOTLIGHT</b> mFOLFOX6 + zolbetuximab vs mFOLFOX 6 vs placebo Patients (N = 283 vs 282)
Median PFS	14.32 vs 12.16 months	18.2 vs 15.6 months
Median Overall Survival	14.32 vs 12.16 months <b>HR 0.771</b> (95% CI 0.624-0.952; P = 0.0079)	18.2 vs 15.6 months <b>HR 0.778</b> (95% CI 0.637 - 0.949; P = 0.0067)
Objective Response Rate (CR + PR)	54.1% vs 48.5%	61.1% vs 62.4%

**ASCO 2024**  
**Final overall survival results from the phase 3 SPOTLIGHT trial<sup>3</sup>**  
mOS (ITT): 18.23 vs 15.57  
mOS (PPS): 21.49 vs 16.39

Shah et al. *Lancet*. 2023. (GLOW); Shitara et al. *Lancet*. 2023. (SPOTLIGHT);



# TEAEs Occurring in $\geq 15\%$ of Patients



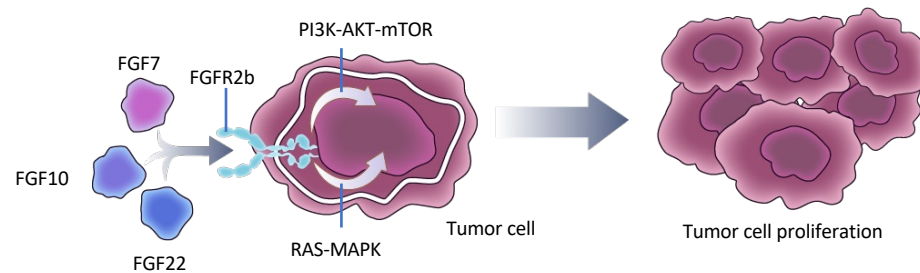
- The most common TEAEs with zolbetuximab + mFOLFOX6 were nausea and vomiting as on-target effects

# FGFR2b in Cancer

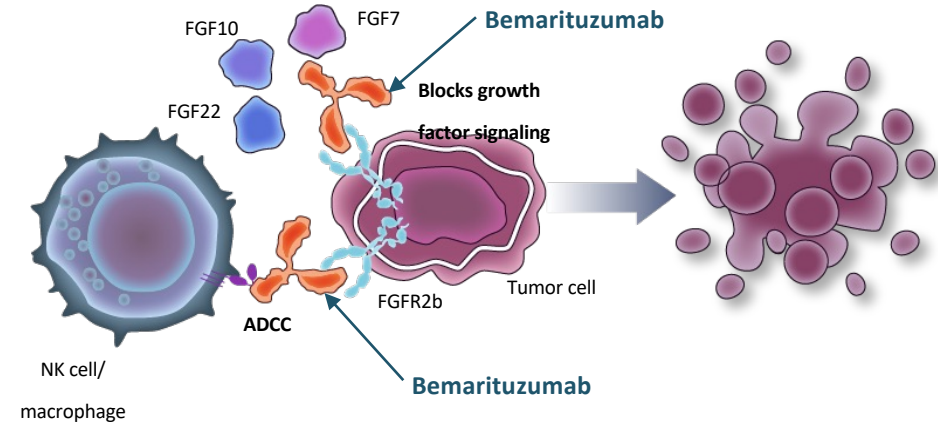
FGFR2b is a member of the FGFR family (FGFR1-4) and is a splice form of FGFR2

FGFR2b overexpression: 3%-61% of gastric cancer depending on tumor stage and assay

FGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitors have shown clinical benefit in cancers with FGFR mutations, fusions, or translocations



- Bemarituzumab is an IgG1 antibody specific to the FGFR2b receptor



NK = natural killer; mTOR = mammalian target of rapamycin;  
MAPK = mitogen-activated protein kinase



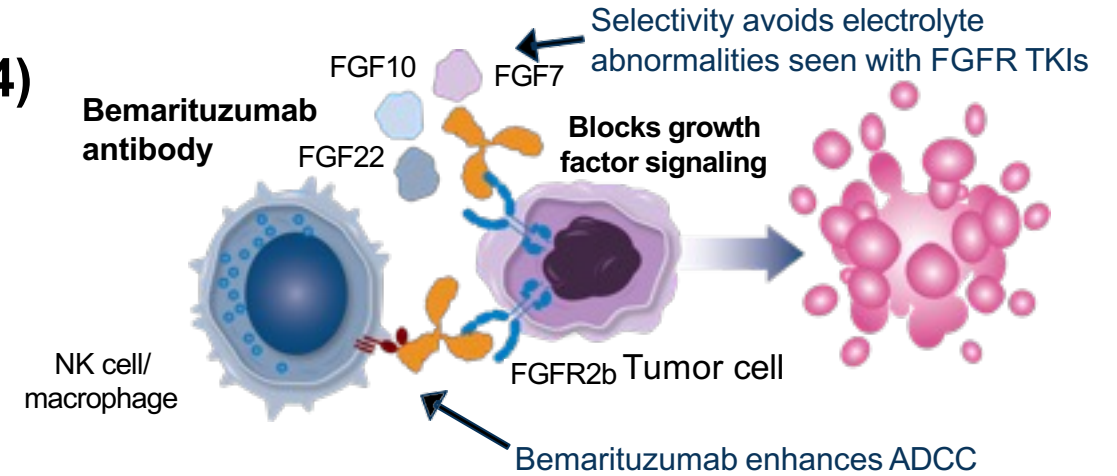
# Anti-FGFR2b Monoclonal Antibody: Bemarituzumab<sup>1,2</sup>

## Bemarituzumab (anti-FGFR2b mAb, AMG522, FPA144)

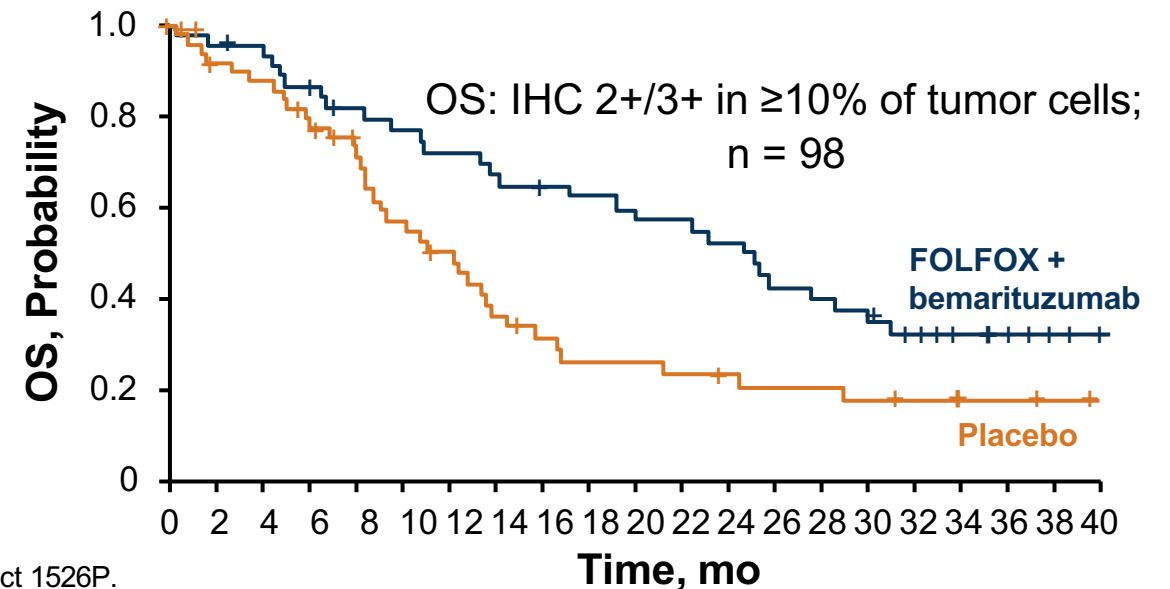
- ORR as single agent 18%
- Less electrolyte abnormalities than TKI
- Reversible corneal toxicities are common

## FIGHT trial (rP2 of FOLFOX + bema vs + placebo)

- mPFS 9.5 vs 7.4 (HR 0.72) in ITT / HR 0.43 in  $\geq 10\%$
- mOS 19.2 vs 13.5 (HR 0.77) in ITT/ HR 0.52 in  $\geq 10\%$
- 27.6% d/c bema by corneal events
- Two P3 are ongoing
  - FORTITUDE-101 (chemo + bema, NCT05052801)
  - FORTITUDE-102 (chemo + nivo + bema, NCT05111626)



## Updated OS Results From FIGHT Trial





# Summary

- In HER2 negative patients, there is now FDA approval of chemotherapy plus immunotherapy. The magnitude of benefit of adding immunotherapy increases with selection of high PD-L1 cases.
- The addition of pembrolizumab in the KEYNOTE-811 trial improved PFS and ORR, particularly in dual HER2 and PD-L1 overexpressed tumors (CPS > 1)
- Claudin 18.2 is a new biomarker and zolbetuximab is a monoclonal antibody targeting this. Two studies- SPOTLIGHT and GLOW have shown PFS and OS benefit with the addition of zolbetuximab to chemotherapy in the first line setting.
- However as of Jan 12, 2024 FDA has not approved zolbetuximab due to unresolved deficiencies following its pre-license inspection of a third-party manufacturing facility.

Moving on to ASCO 2024

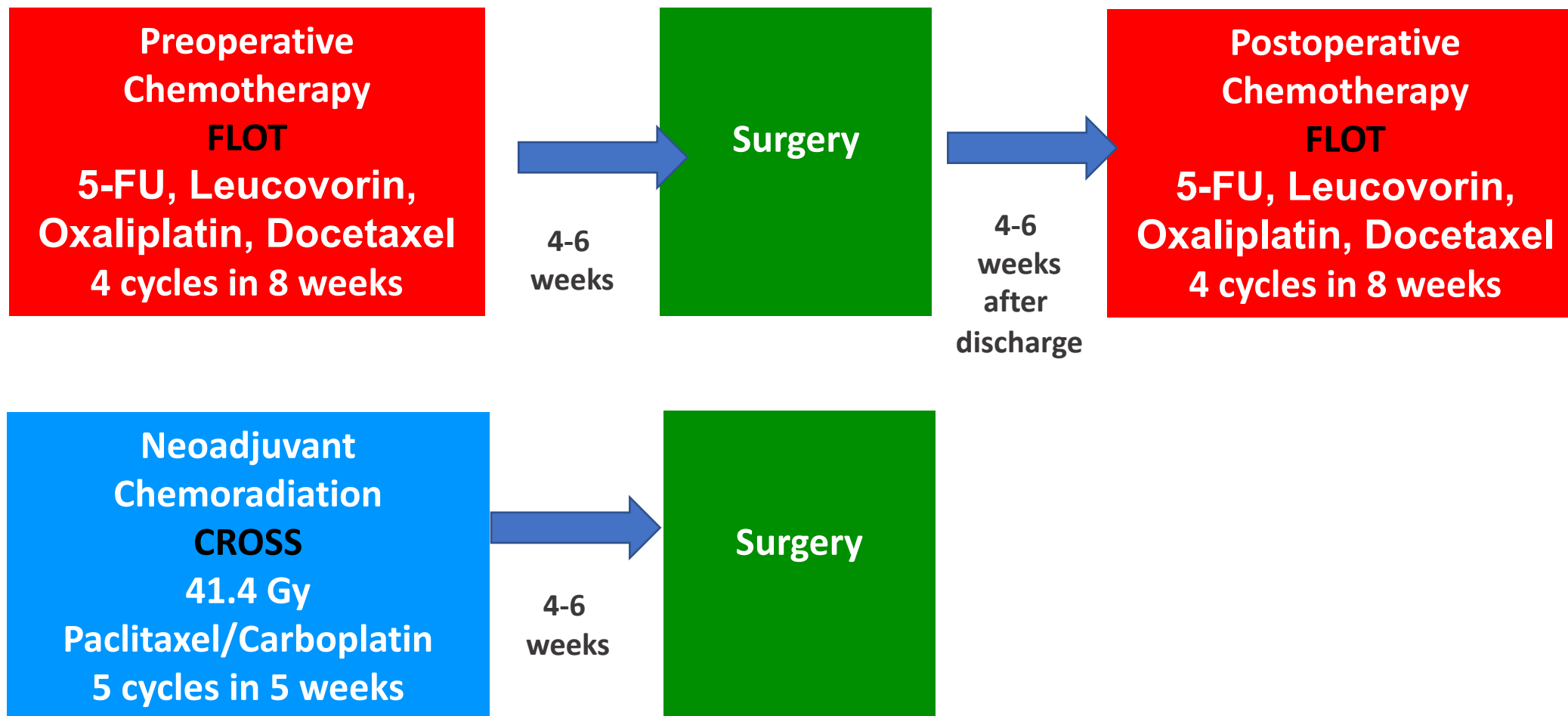


# Perioperative Chemotherapy (FLOT) versus Neoadjuvant Chemoradiotherapy (CROSS) for Resectable Esophageal Adenocarcinoma

## The ESOPEC Trial (NCT02509286)

J Hoepfner, F Lordick, T Brunner, C Schmoor, B Kulemann, UP Neumann, G Folprecht, T Keck, F Benedix, M Schmeding, E Reitsamer, CJ Bruns, JF Lock, B Reichert, M Ghadimi, K Wille, I Gockel, JR Izbicki, S Utzolino, P Griminger

# ESOPEC Trial Scheme



# Main Eligibility Criteria

## Inclusion Criteria

**Histology: Adenocarcinoma**  
**Esophageal cancer according**  
**UICC (TNM7)<sup>1,\*</sup>**  
**Clinical stage cT1N+ or cT2-4a,**  
**cN0/+, cM0**

## Exclusion Criteria

**Squamous or other non-**  
**adenocarcinoma histology**  
**Gastric cancer**  
**Clinical Stage cT1cN0 and cT4b**  
**Metastatic disease**

**Tumors of the esophagus and tumors of which the epicenter is within 5 cm of the esophagogastric junction and also extend into the esophagus.**

# Key Trial Endpoints

## Primary Endpoint

**Overall survival (OS)**

**Progression free survival (PFS)**

**Postoperative pathological stage**

**Postoperative complications**

**Adverse events**

**Recurrence free survival**

**Site of tumor recurrence**

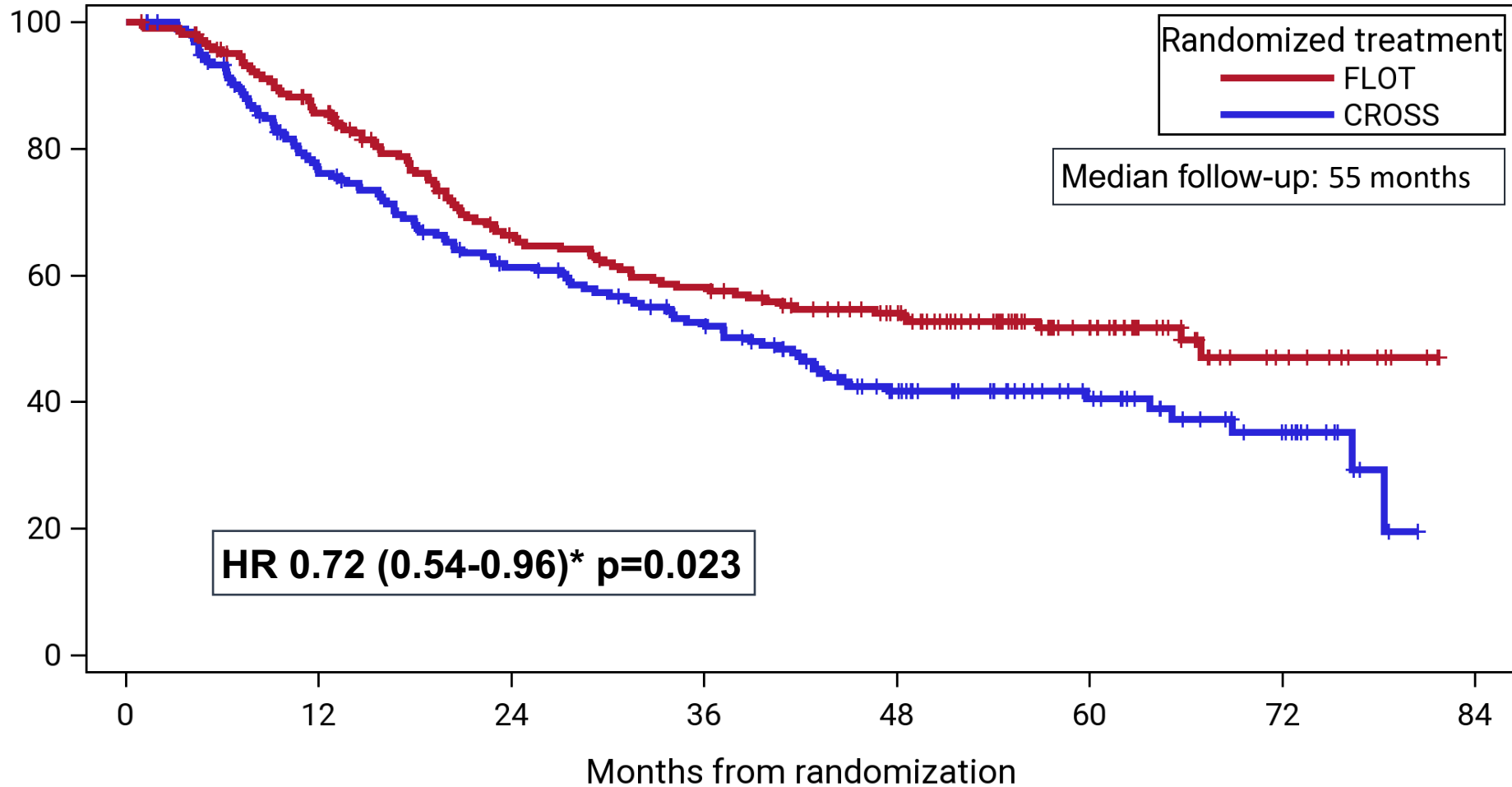
**Quality of life**

# Characteristics of ESOPEC Trial Patients

	<b>FLOT Group</b>	<b>CROSS Group</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>217</b>
<b>Age mean (SD) in years</b>	<b>63.1 (8.6)</b>	<b>62.6 (9.8)</b>
<b>Sex male</b>	<b>89.1 %</b>	<b>89.4 %</b>
<b>ECOG</b>		
<b>&gt; 0</b>	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>28.1%</b>
<b>Clinical T-stage</b>		
<b>cT1-2</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>
<b>cT3-4</b>	<b>79.1%</b>	<b>81.9%</b>
<b>Clinical N-stage</b>		
<b>cN0</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>18.4%</b>
<b>cN+</b>	<b>77.8%</b>	<b>81.6%</b>



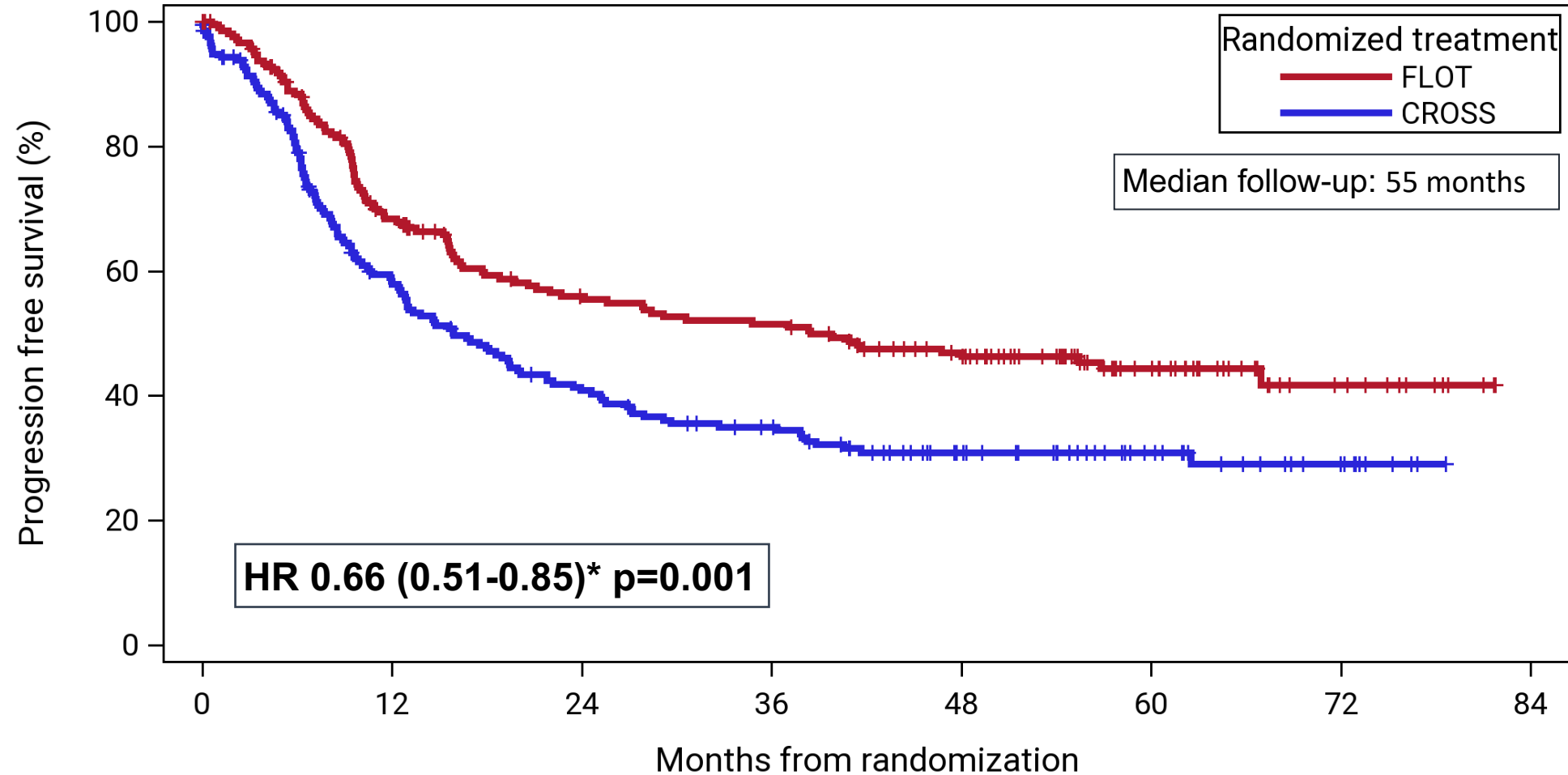
# Overall Survival – PP Population



FLOT	207	169	121	105	84	44	11	0
CROSS	196	141	109	89	54	32	15	0

	FLOT	CROSS
Events	92	110
Median OS time (months)	66 95% CI 38 – n.e	39 95% CI 29 – 45
3-year OS rate	58.1%	52.6%
5-year OS rate	51.8%	40.5%

# Progression Free Survival – ITT Population

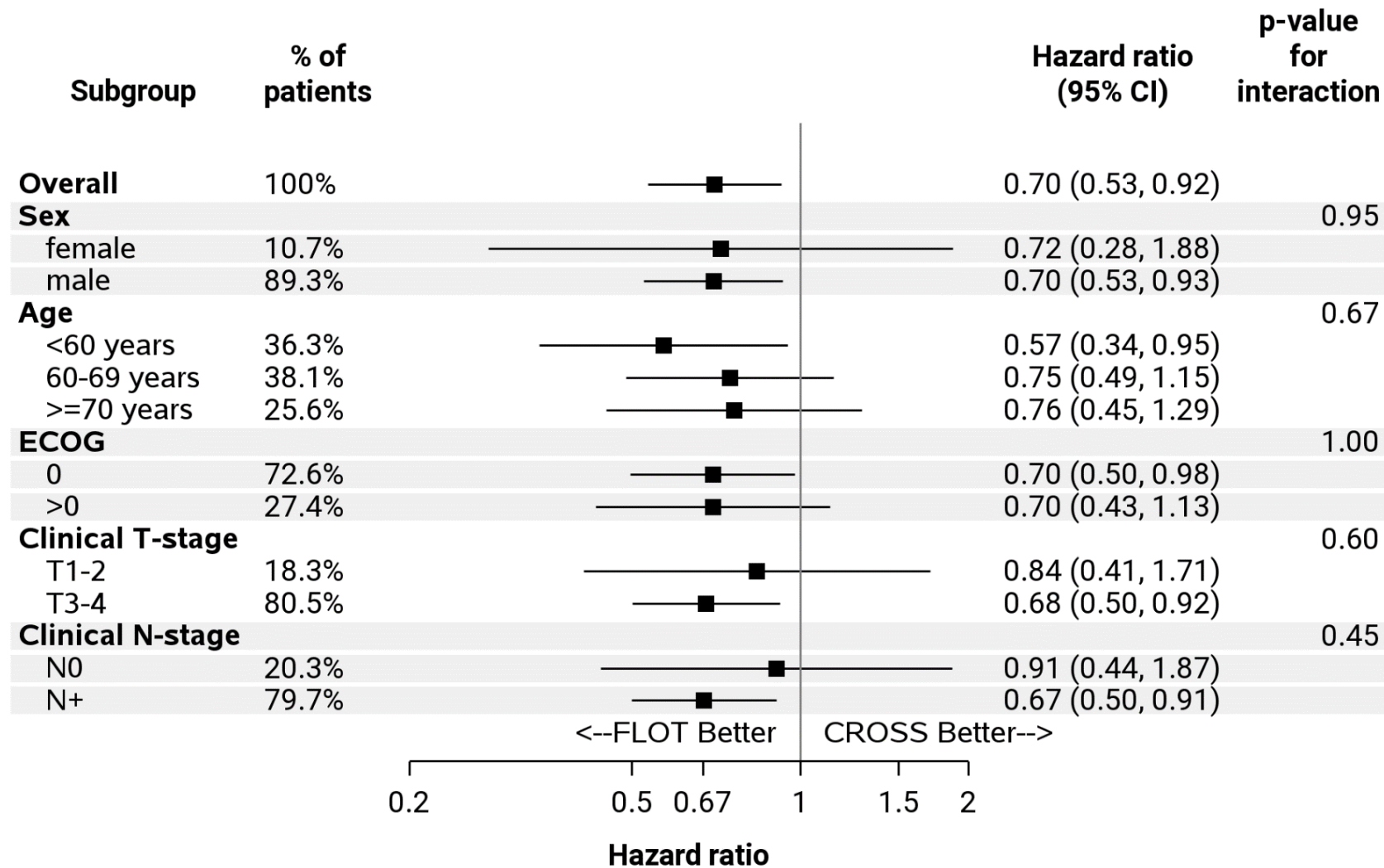


FLOT	221	135	101	93	73	39	11	0
CROSS	217	113	78	62	39	22	9	0

	FLOT	CROSS
Events	107	137
Median PFS time (months)	38 95% CI 21 – n.e.	16 95% CI 12 – 22
3-year PFS rate	51.6%	35.0%
5-year PFS rate	44.4%	30.9%

\*Two-sided 95% confidence interval; Cox regression adjusted for N stage and age, stratified for trial site

# Overall Survival in Exploratory Subgroups



# Treatment Exposure

	<b>FLOT Group</b>	<b>CROSS Group</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>217</b>
<b>Started neoadjuvant treatment (PP population*)</b>	<b>93.7 %</b>	<b>90.3 %</b>
<b>Completed neoadjuvant treatment</b>	<b>87.3 %</b>	<b>67.7 %<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>Received neoadjuvant treatment plus surgery</b>	<b>86.0 %</b>	<b>82.9 %</b>
<b>Received adjuvant treatment</b>	<b>63.3 %</b>	
<b>Completed adjuvant treatment</b>	<b>52.5 %</b>	

protocol population according to Clinical Trial Protocol and Statistical Analysis Plan

<sup>#</sup>Completion rate (41.4Gy) of radiotherapy **98%**



# Conclusions

- Perioperative FLOT improved median overall survival (OS) by 29 months when compared with neoadjuvant CROSS.
- Surgical complications and postoperative mortality were similar in the FLOT and CROSS arms
- FLOT will likely be adopted as a more standard approach in the United States for esophageal and GEJ adenocarcinomas
- However we cannot conclude that perioperative FLOT is better than preoperative CROSS and adjuvant nivolumab.

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# Thank You for Your Attention



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