

# Systemic Therapy in Urothelial Carcinoma

Sarmad Sadeghi, MD, PhD

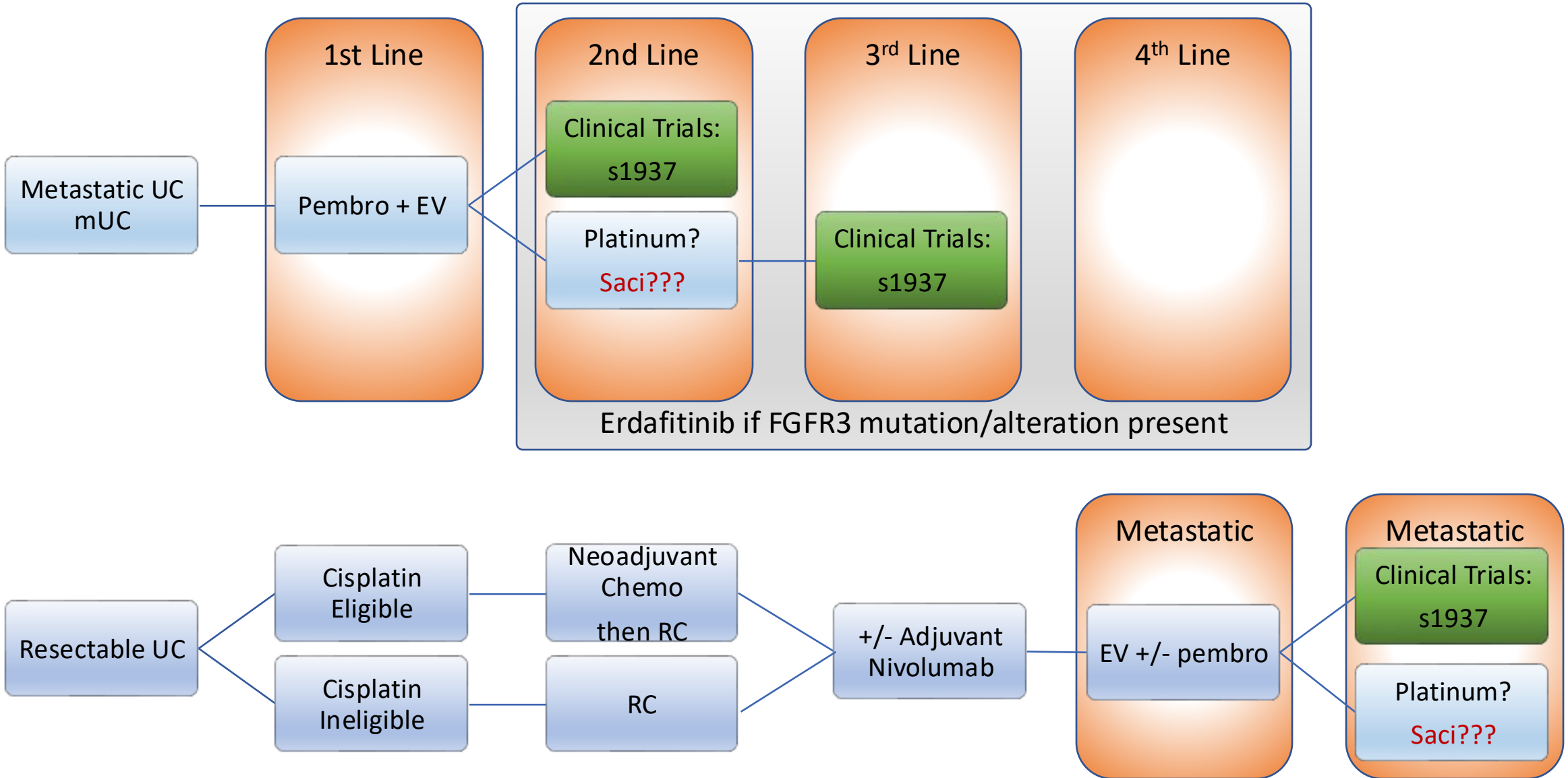
Department of Medicine

Institute of Urology

University of Southern California

August 24, 2024

# Current Standard of Care for UC

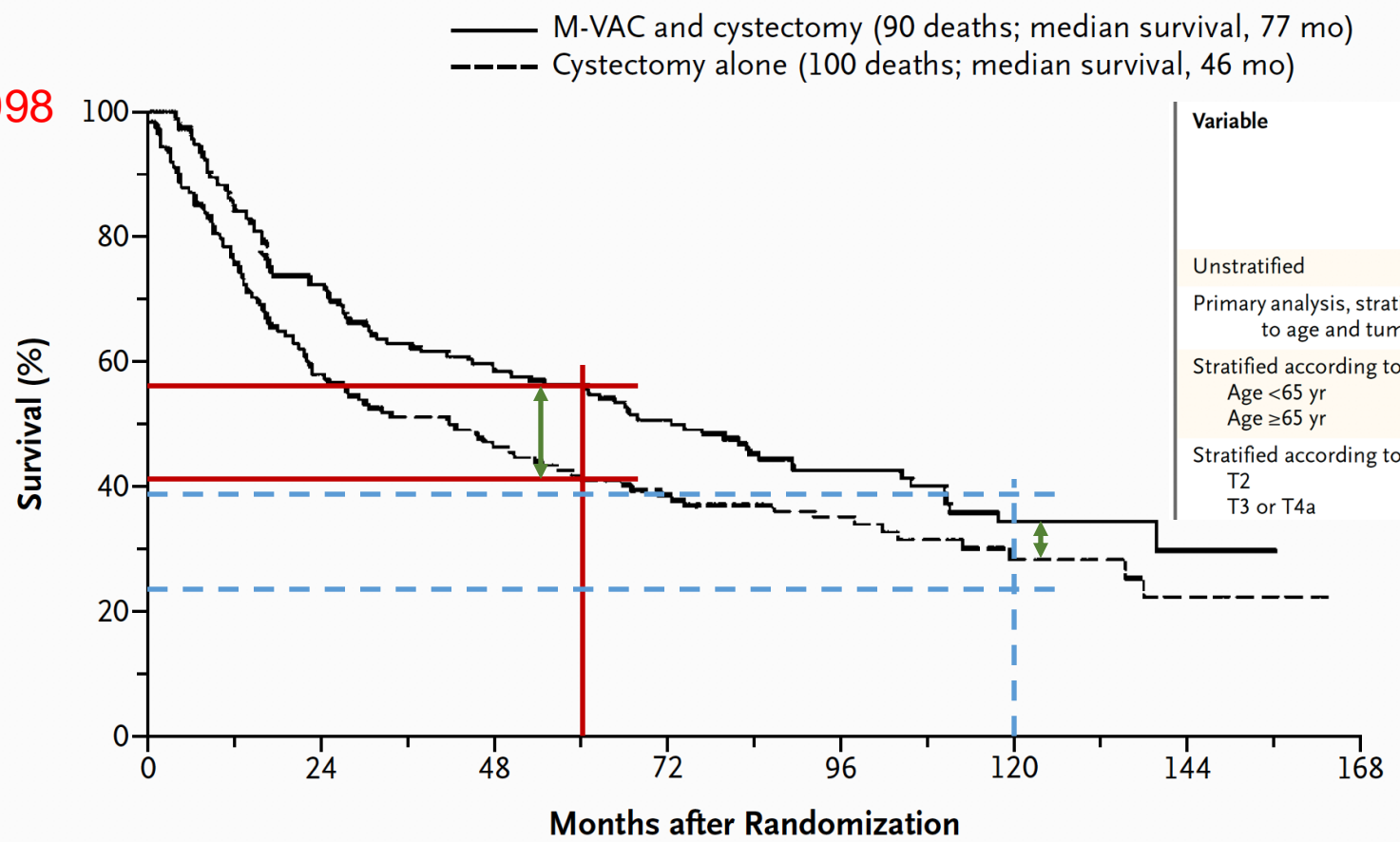


ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy plus Cystectomy Compared with Cystectomy Alone for Locally Advanced Bladder Cancer

H. Barton Grossman, M.D., Ronald B. Natale, M.D., Catherine M. Tangen, Dr.P.H.,  
V.O. Speights, D.O., Nicholas J. Vogelzang, M.D., Donald L. Trump, M.D.,  
Ralph W. deVere White, M.D., Michael F. Sarosdy, M.D., David P. Wood, Jr., M.D.,  
Derek Raghavan, M.D., Ph.D., and E. David Crawford, M.D.

August 1987 to July 1998



— M-VAC and cystectomy (90 deaths; median survival, 77 mo)  
 - - - Cystectomy alone (100 deaths; median survival, 46 mo)

Variable	Median Survival		P Value†
	M-VAC and Cystectomy	Cystectomy Alone	
Unstratified	77	46	0.05
Primary analysis, stratified according to age and tumor stage			0.06
Stratified according to age			0.05
Age <65 yr	104	67	
Age ≥65 yr	61	30	
Stratified according to tumor stage			0.05
T2	105	75	
T3 or T4a	65	24	

**No. at Risk**

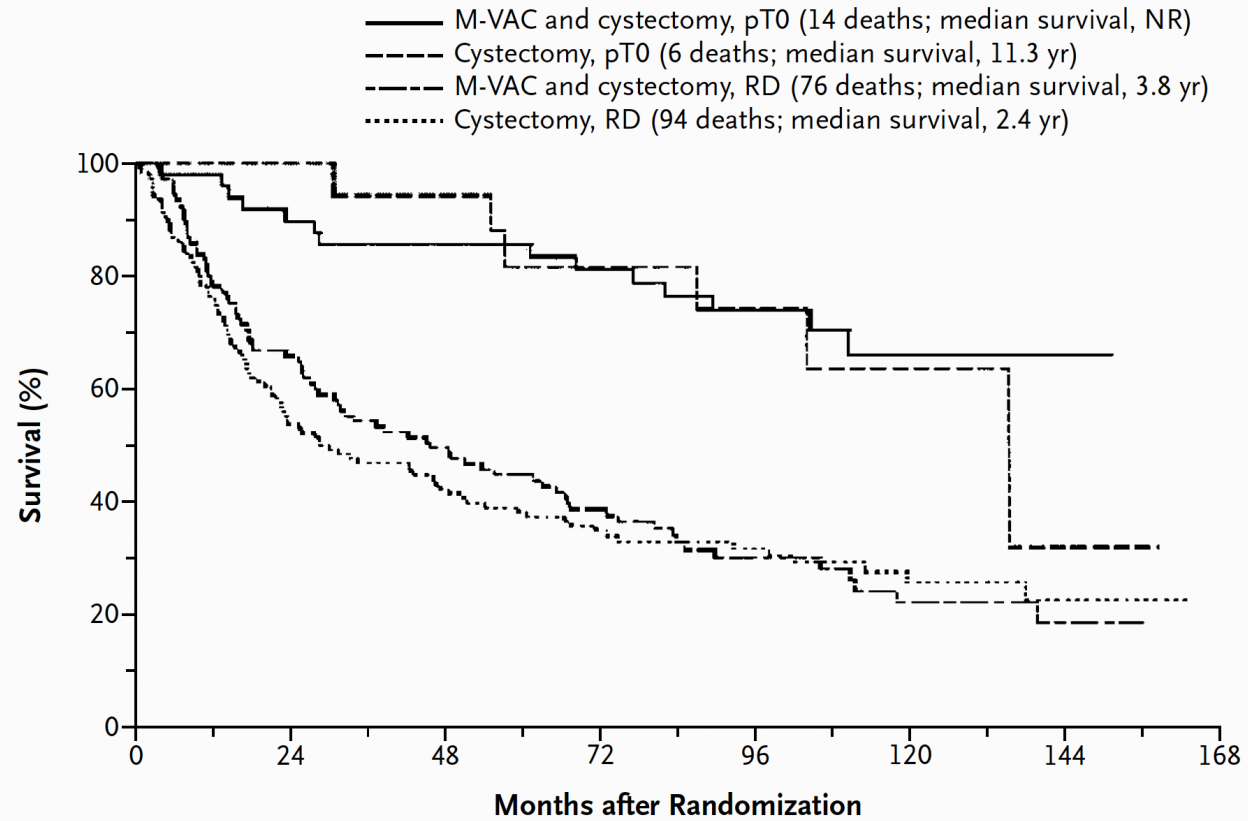
M-VAC and cystectomy	153	112	92	75	46	23	6
Cystectomy alone	154	88	67	50	37	18	7

**Figure 1.** Survival among Patients Randomly Assigned to Receive Methotrexate, Vinblastine, Doxorubicin, and Cisplatin (M-VAC) Followed by Cystectomy or Cystectomy Alone, According to an Intention-to-Treat Analysis.

38% pT0 for MVAC  
15% pT0 for Cystectomy

85% of pT0 alive at 60 months

pT0 as a surrogate for OS  
remains controversial



**No. at Risk**

M-VAC and cystectomy, pT0	48	43	40	37	26	12	2
Cystectomy, pT0	18	17	15	12	10	4	1
M-VAC and cystectomy, RD	105	69	52	38	20	11	4
Cystectomy, RD	136	71	52	37	27	14	6

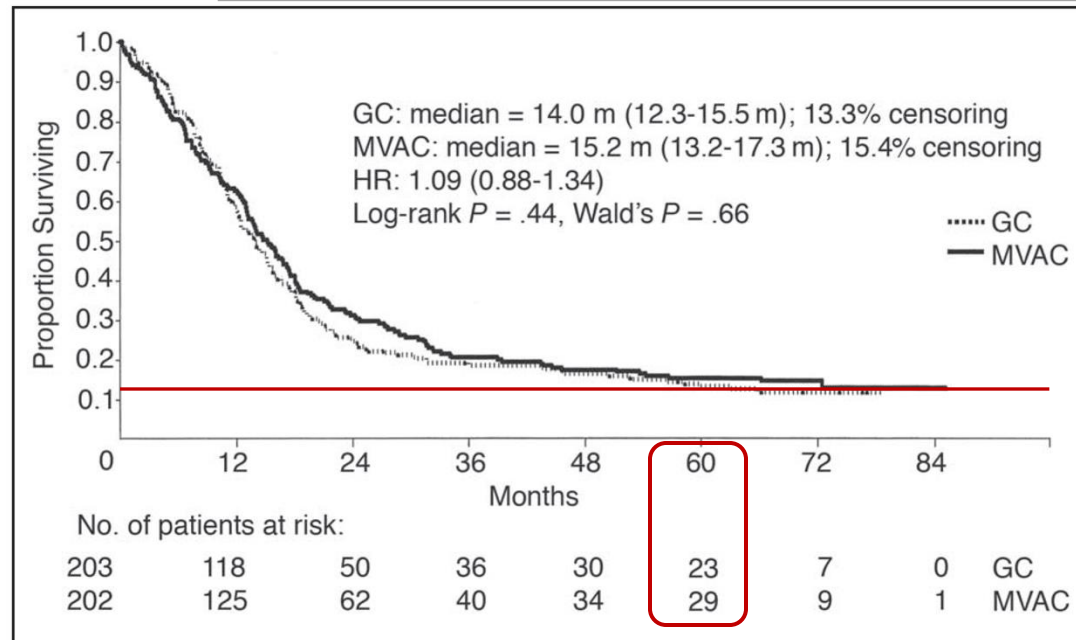
**Figure 2. Survival According to Treatment Group and Whether Patients Were Pathologically Free of Cancer (pT0) or Had Residual Disease (RD) at the Time of Cystectomy.**

M-VAC denotes methotrexate, vinblastine, doxorubicin, and cisplatin, and NR not reached.

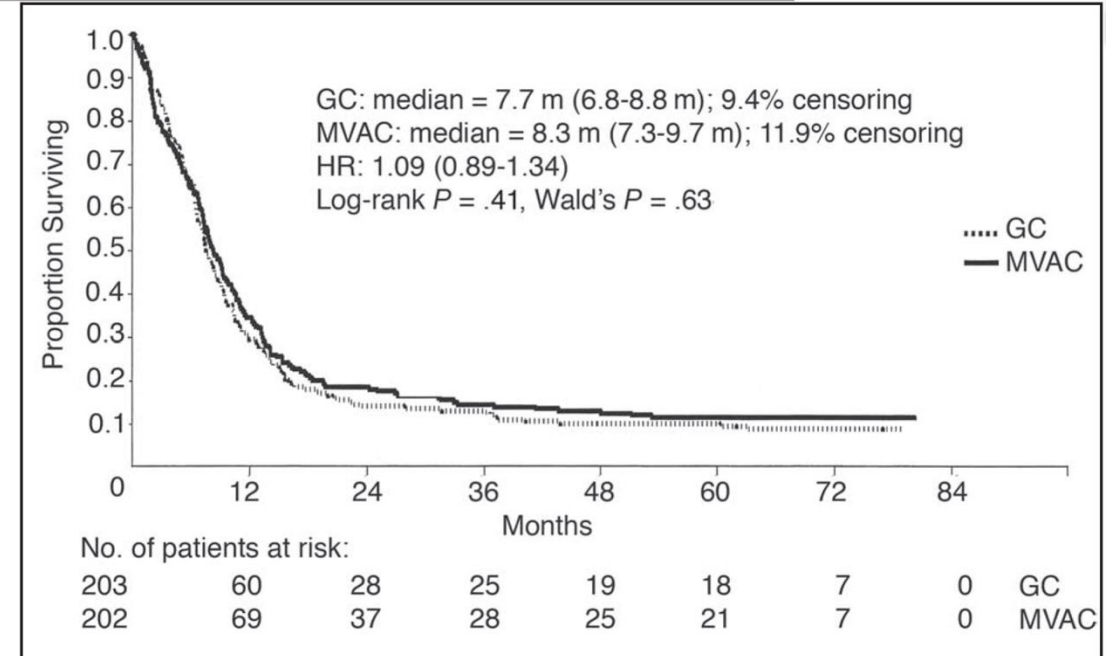
# Frontline Chemotherapy

## Long Term Results: GC vs MVAC *Von der Maase JCO 2005*

	GC	MVAC
ORR	49.4%	45.7%
CR	12.2%	11.9%
SD	33.5%	32.5%
ITT ORR	44.5%	38.1%



**Fig 1.** Kaplan-Meier curves for overall survival. GC, gemcitabine/cisplatin; MVAC, methotrexate/vinblastine/doxorubicin/cisplatin; HR, hazard ratio; Pts, patients.

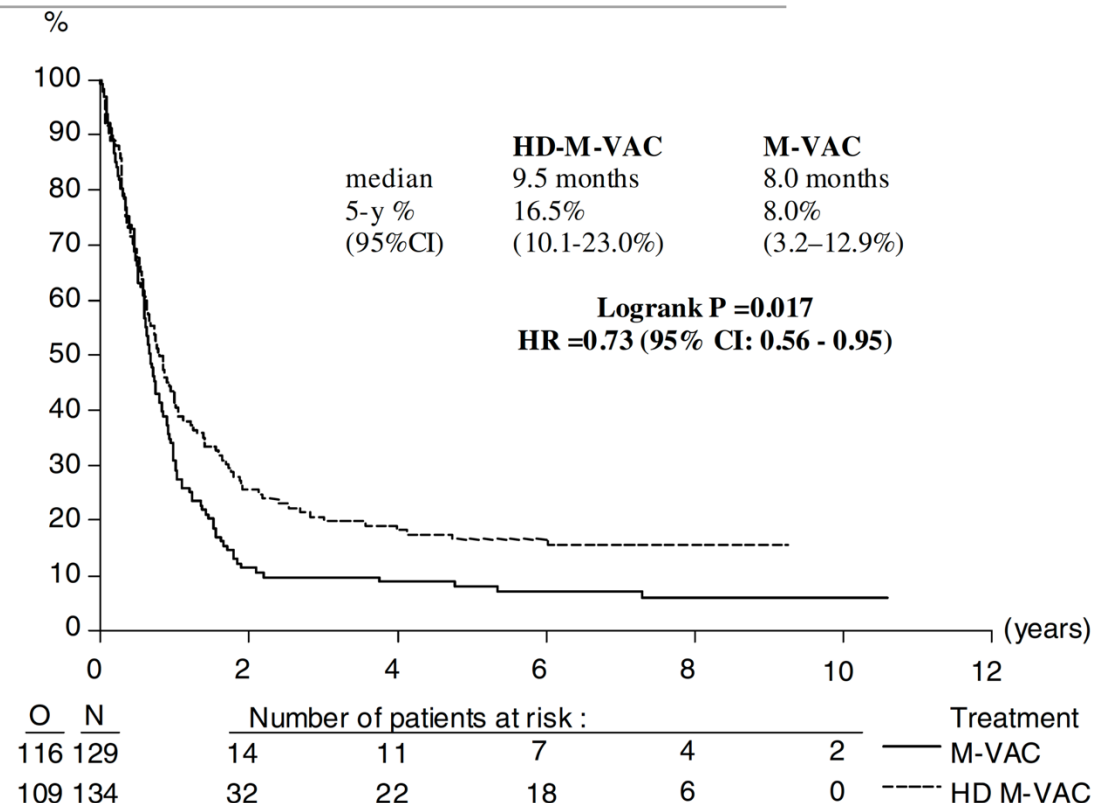
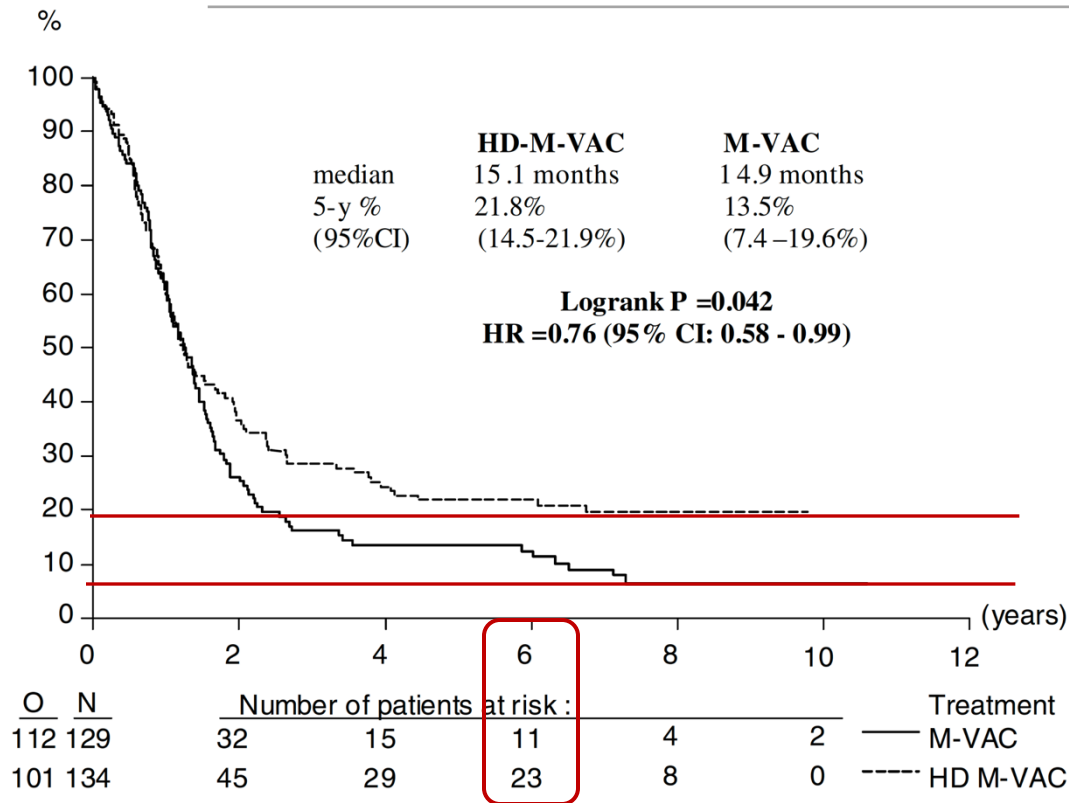


**Fig 2.** Kaplan-Meier curves for progression-free survival. GC, gemcitabine/cisplatin; MVAC, methotrexate/vinblastine/doxorubicin/cisplatin; HR, hazard ratio; Pts, patients.

# Frontline Chemotherapy

ddMVAC vs MVAC *Sternberg Eur J Cancer 2006*

	ddMVAC	MVAC
ORR	72%	58%
CR	25%	11%
SD	-%	-%
ITT ORR	64%	50%



1) Is one regimen better (GC vs ddMVAC)?

2) Is one better for select patients?

# SWOG S1314: A randomized phase II study of coexpression extrapolation (COXEN) with neoadjuvant chemotherapy for bladder cancer.

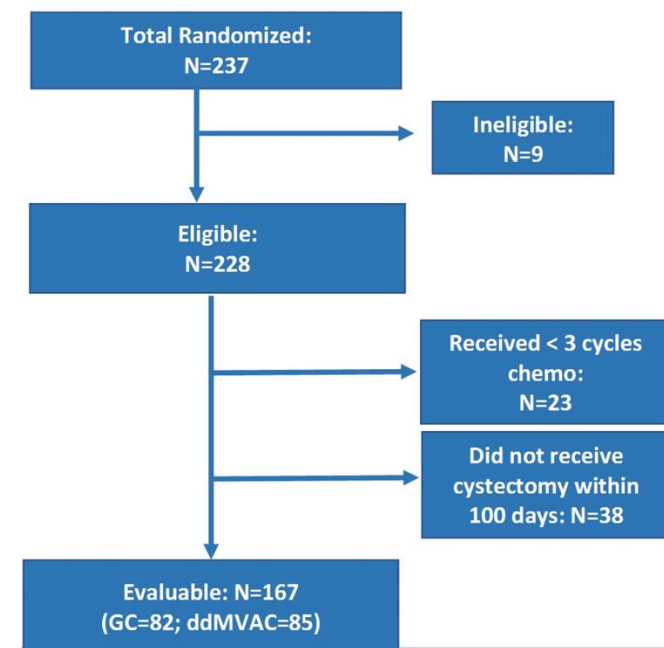
Thomas W. Flaig, Catherine M. Tangen, Siamak Daneshmand, Ajjai Shivaram Alva, Seth P. Lerner, M. Scott Lucia, David James McConkey, Dan Theodorescu, Amir Goldkorn, Matthew I. Milowsky, Rick Bangs, Gary R. MacVicar, Bruno R. Bastos, Daniel Gustafson, Melissa Plets, Ian Murchie Thompson Jr.

Division of Medical Oncology, School of Medicine, University of Colorado, Aurora, CO; Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA; Institute of Urology, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI; Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX; University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO; Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD; Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute at Cedars-Sinai, Los Angeles, CA; Division of Medical Oncology, Department of Medicine, Keck School of Medicine and Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC; SWOG, San Antonio, TX; Illinois CancerCare PC, Peoria, IL; Cleveland Clinic Florida, Weston, FL; Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO; CHRISTUS Medical Center Hospital, San Antonio, TX



# S1314: Descriptive data on pathologic response by treatment arm in evaluable subjects

	N=167	GC (N=82)	ddMVAC (N=85)
<b>Chemotherapy Response</b>			
CR (pT0)		28 (35%)	27 (32%)
PR (downstaged to $\leq$ T1)		12 (15%)	20 (24%)
<i>CR + PR</i>		40 (50%)	47 (56%)
Non-responders		42 (50%)	38 (44%)



No statistically significant difference between the two.

Not powered for OS.

# MULTICENTER RANDOMIZED PHASE III OF DOSE DENSE MVAC OR GC AS PERIOPERATIVE CHEMOTHERAPY FOR MUSCLE INVASIVE BLADDER CANCER

**Overall Survival at 5 years in the GETUG/AFU V05 VESPER trial**

*Ch Pfister, G Gravis, A Flechon, C Chevreau, H Mahammedi, B Laguerre, A Guillot,*

*F Joly, Y Allory, V Harter and S Culine for the Vesper trial investigators*



# Trial design (1)

## Chemotherapy

- **4 cycles of GC** Gemcitabine 1250 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d1 and d8  
Cisplatin 70 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d1
- **6 cycles of ddMVAC** Methotrexate 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d1  
Vinblastine 3 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d2  
Doxorubicin 30 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d2  
Cisplatin 70 mg/m<sup>2</sup> d2  
**+ G-CSF support from d3 to d9**

every 3

every 2

# Trial design (3)

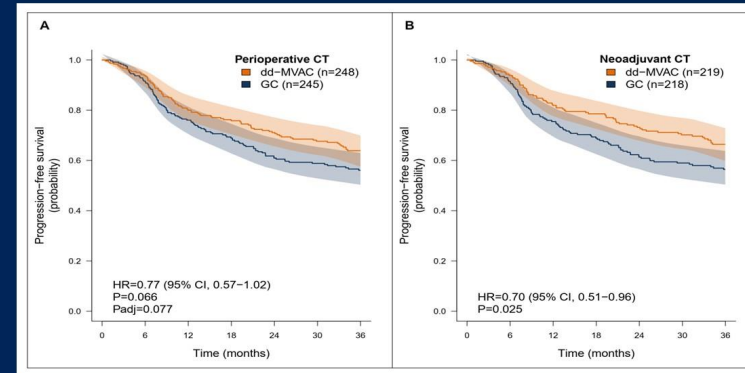
- 500 patients included in 28 centers from 2013 to 2018  
(493 patients available for intent-to-treat analysis)
- Adjuvant (n=56) and Neoadjuvant (n=437) (88%)
- Primary end-point : Progression Free Survival at 3 years
- Final analysis : Overall and Specific Survival at 5 years

# Trial design (2)

## Inclusion criteria

- Pure or mixed urothelial bladder cancer (*neuroendocrine excluded*)
  - ECOG PS < 2 and all criteria for cisplatin eligibility
  - Written informed consent
- AND**
- ≥ T2, N0 (LN ≤ 10 mm on CT scan), M0 (Neoadjuvant CT)
  - > pT2 or pN+ and M0 (Adjuvant CT)

## PFS at 3 years



Perioperative dd-MVAC improve 3-y PFS over GC

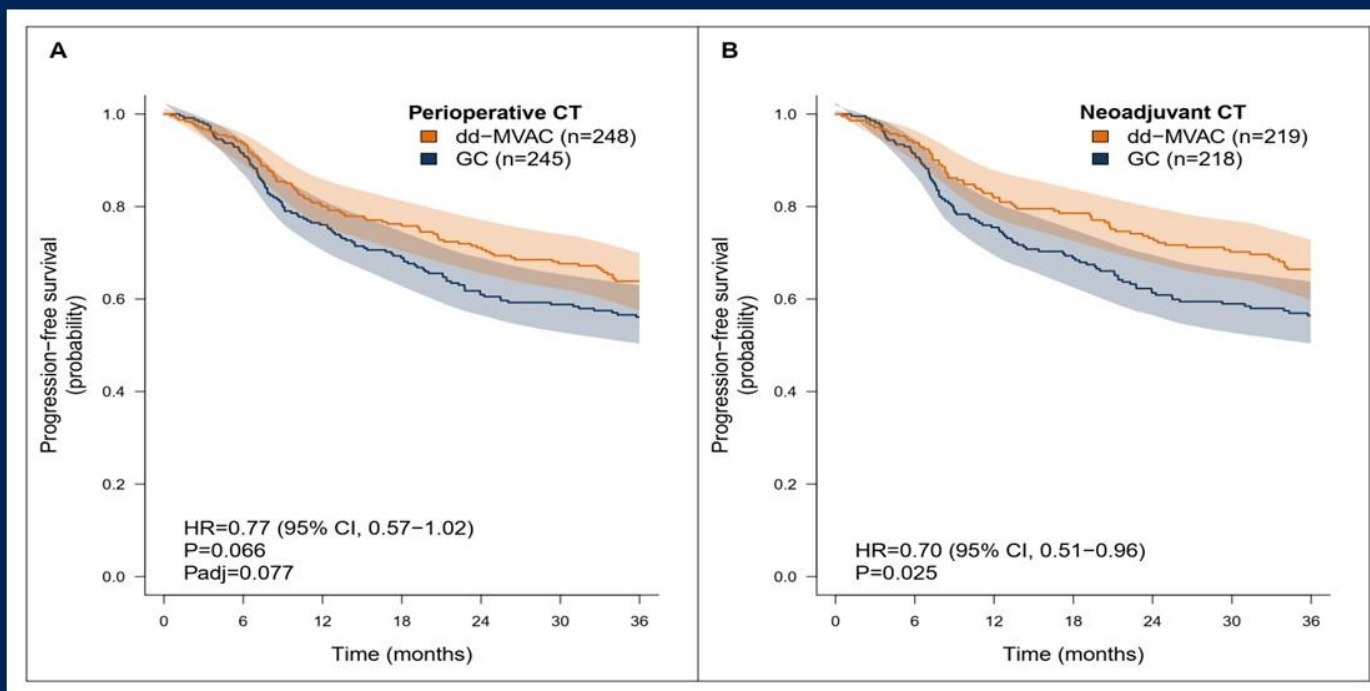
In the **neoadjuvant group**, better bladder tumor local control with a **significant improvement on 3-y PFS in the dd-MVAC arm**

Pfister et al. J Clin Oncol 2022

# PFS at 3 years

2021 ESMO congress

16-21 September 2021



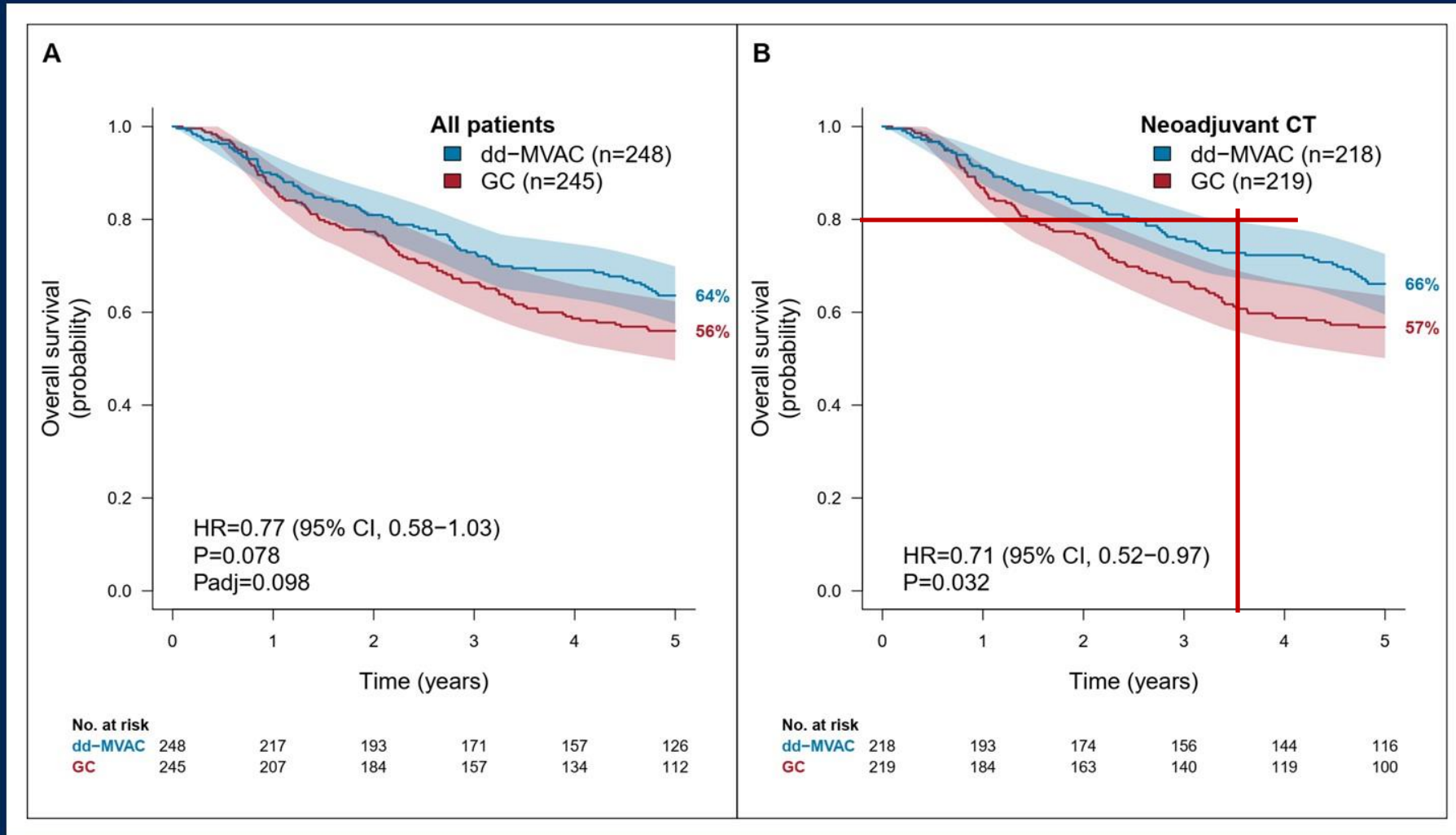
Perioperative dd-MVAC  
improve 3-y PFS over GC

In the **neoadjuvant group**,  
better bladder tumor local  
control with a **significant  
improvement on 3-y PFS  
in the dd-MVAC arm**

*Pfister et al. J Clin Oncol 2022*

# Results (1)

## Overall Survival at 5 years



# Conclusions/Take-Home Messages

- **Vesper trial is a milestone in the history of CT for MIBC**

- **The study did NOT meet its primary endpoint:**  
PFS 3-year rate: 64% v 56%, hazard ratio [HR] = 0.77 [95% CI, 0.57 to 1.02],  $P = .066$ - JCO 2022

- **ypT0N0 42% vs 36%,  $p=0.2$**

- **No OS 5-year rate benefit in the overall group. But**  
overall survival at 5 years was improved in the **neoadjuvant** dd-MVAC group versus the GC group (66% [95% CI 60-73] vs 57% [50-64], HR 0.71 [95% CI 0.52-0.97])

- **40% in neoadjuvant and 60% in adjuvant setting could not get 6 cycles**

# PURE-01 (NCT02736266): Neoadjuvant pembrolizumab before radical cystectomy for MIBC

- Fit and planned for cystectomy
- Predominant (i.e. 50% at least) UC histology
- cT $\leq$ 3bN0 stage
- Residual disease after TURB (surgical opinion, cystoscopy or radiological presence)
- GFR  $\geq$ 20 ml/min (Cockcroft – Gault formula)
- ECOG-PS 0-1

3x3 weekly cycles of pembrolizumab 200 mg IV

Pre-post treatment tissue/blood sample collection for biomarker analyses

Pre-post treatment imaging: multiparametric bladder MRI (mpMRI);  $^{18}$ FDG-PET/CT scan, T/ACT scan

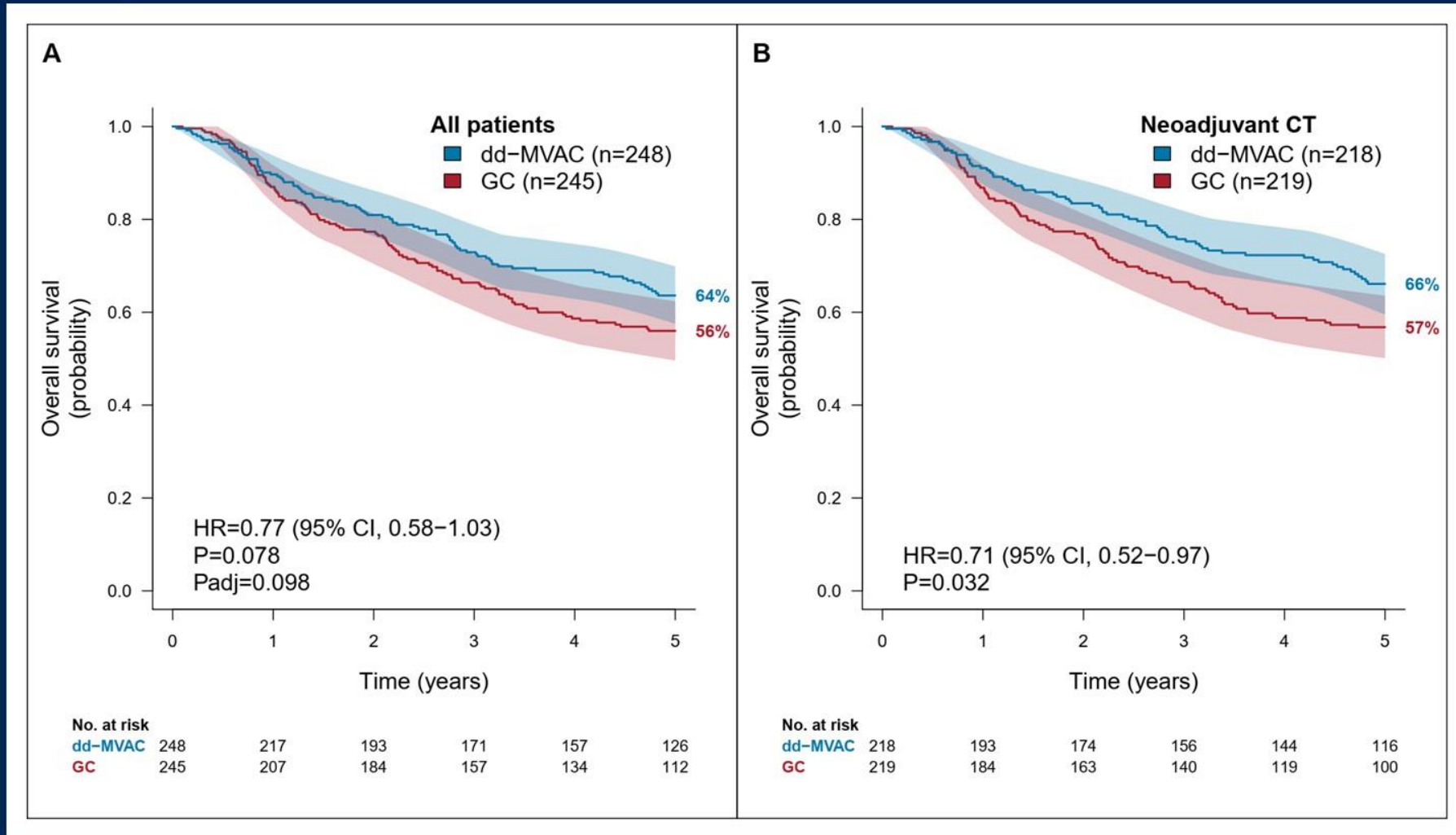
Additional DD-MVAC x 4 cycles in non-responding pts (investigator choice)

- Cystectomy
- Post-cystectomy management according to EAU guidelines
- Survival data collected until 2-y post cystectomy

- Pathologic complete response (pT0) in ITT population is the primary endpoint
- The H<sub>1</sub> is pT0  $\geq$ 25% and H<sub>0</sub> pT0  $\leq$ 15%
- **71 pts** will be enrolled, with **43 pts** at first stage according to MinMax design
- pT0 limits for H<sub>0</sub> rejection: **6 (1<sup>st</sup> stage); 14 (2<sup>nd</sup> stage)**
- 80% power and a one-sided test of significance at the 10% level
- Data cut-off: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018; Median Follow-up: 8 months

# Results (1)

## Overall Survival at 5 years





# PURE-01

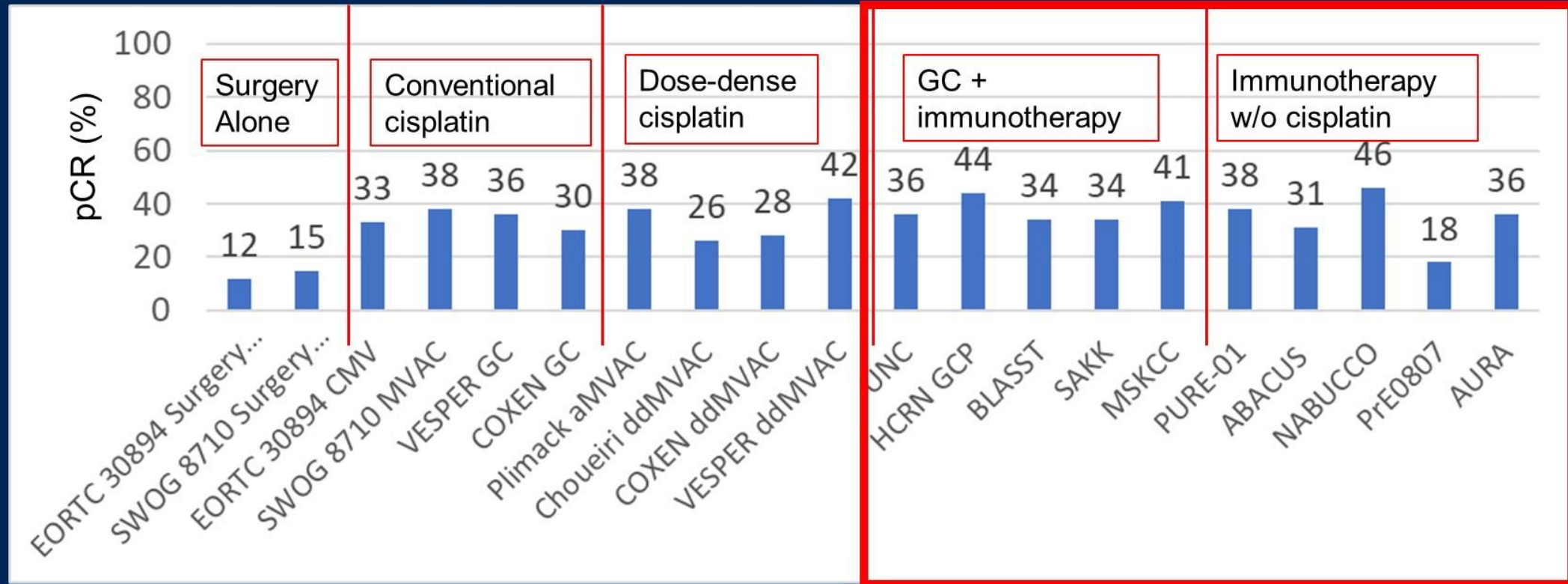
**Table 2.** Univariable and multivariable Cox regression models predicting EFS.

Variable	Univariable analyses		Multivariable analyses	
	HR (95%CI)	<i>P</i> <sup>a</sup>	HR (95%CI)	<i>P</i> <sup>a</sup>
Age (continuous)	1.00 (0.97–1.04)	0.6	—	—
Sex (Male vs. Female)	1.15 (0.44–3.00)	0.8	—	—
Previous NMIBC	0.76 (0.17–3.33)	0.7	—	—
Previous BCG	0.72 (0.12–4.20)	0.7	—	—
Histology:				
• Pure UC (ref.)				
• Non-predominant VH (ref.)	2.51 (0.91–6.92)	0.07	—	—
• Predominant VH	0.76 (0.28–2.06)	0.6	—	—
TMB (Mut/Mb; continuous)	0.95 (0.90–1.00)	0.09	0.95 (0.91–1.00)	0.1
CPS (%; continuous)	0.96 (0.95–0.98)	0.001	0.97 (0.95–0.99)	0.003
Clinical T-stage:				
• cT2N0 (ref.)				
• cT3–4N0	2.50 (1.20–5.17)	0.01	2.20 (1.09–4.45)	0.03

Abbreviations: BCG, Bacillus Calmette-Guérin; CPS, combined positive score; HR, hazard ratio; NMIBC, non-muscle-invasive bladder cancer; ref., reference group; TMB, tumor mutational burden; UC, urothelial carcinoma; VH, variant histology.

<sup>a</sup>Two-sided Wald test *P* value.

# Is the addition of chemotherapy to immunotherapy necessary?

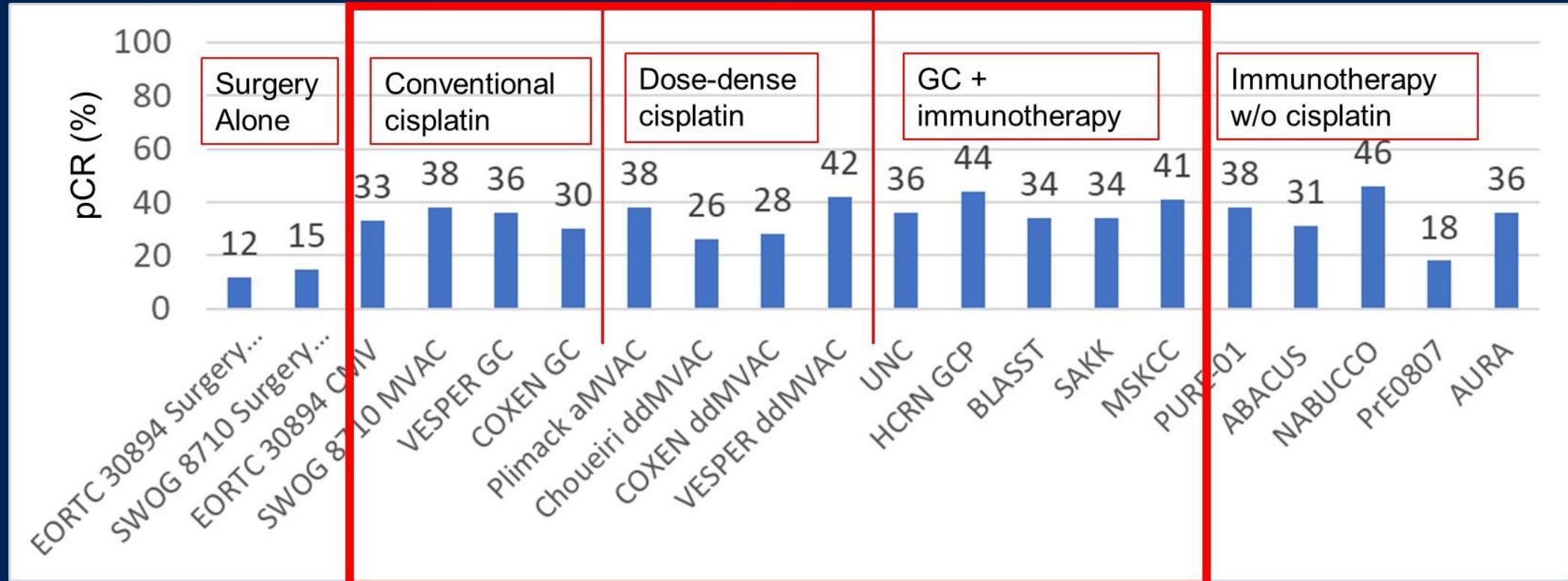


Grossman et al. NEJM 2003  
 Flaig et al, CCR 2021  
 Gupta et al, JCO 38,6\_supp (Feb 2020).  
 Necchi et al, JCO 2018  
 Grivas et al, ASCO Annual Mtg 2021; abstr 4518

EORTC 30894, JCO 2011  
 Rose et al, GU ASCO 2021, abstr 396.  
 Cathomas et al, GU ASCO 2021, abstr 430.  
 Powles et al, Nat Med 2019  
 Kaimakliotis et al, ASCO Annual Mtg 2020;abstr 5019

Pfister et al, Euro Urol 2021  
 Hoimes et al, ESMO 2018, abstr 5681.  
 Funt et al, ASCO Annual Meeting, abstr 4517.  
 Van Dijk et al, ASCO Annual Mtg 2020;abstr 5020

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 Van Dijk et al, ASCO Annual Mtg 2020;abstr 5020

# What endpoints should be used for neoadjuvant trials in bladder cancer?

- pCR – individual-level and trial-level surrogacy for time-to-event endpoints (EFS, DFS, OS) is not clear in MIBC
  - Magnitude of pathologic response improvement that translates into meaningful clinical benefit?
- pCR may be used to guide subsequent therapy on a trial level i.e., more therapy for those without pCR (used in breast cancer and c/w CheckMate 274 and more to come related to ctDNA)
- Current trials must have “highly granular patient-related, tumor-related and treatment-related characteristics” to inform design of future trials

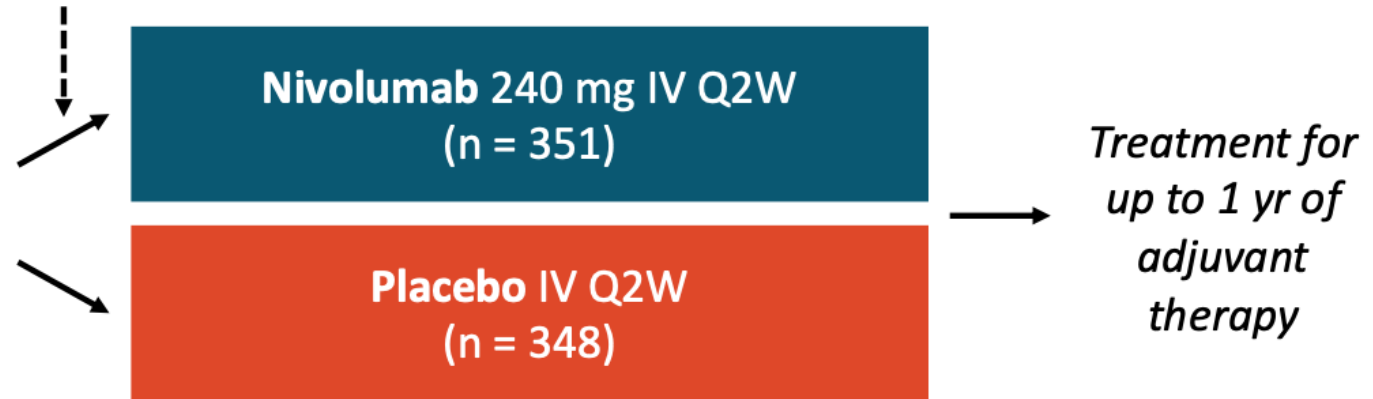
Nat Rev Urol. 2022 Jan;19(1):37-46.

# CheckMate 274: Adjuvant Nivolumab vs Placebo After Radical Surgery ± Neoadjuvant CT in High-Risk MIUC

- First analysis of international, randomized, double-blind phase III trial

*Stratified by PD-L1 status (< vs ≥ 1%\*), previous neoadjuvant cisplatin-based CT, nodal status*

Patients with high-risk MIUC; if ypT2-ypT4a or ypN+, received neoadjuvant cisplatin CT; if pT3-pT4a or pN+, did not receive neoadjuvant cisplatin CT and ineligible for/refused adjuvant cisplatin CT; underwent radical surgery ≤ 120 days; disease free within 4 wks of study dosing (N = 709)



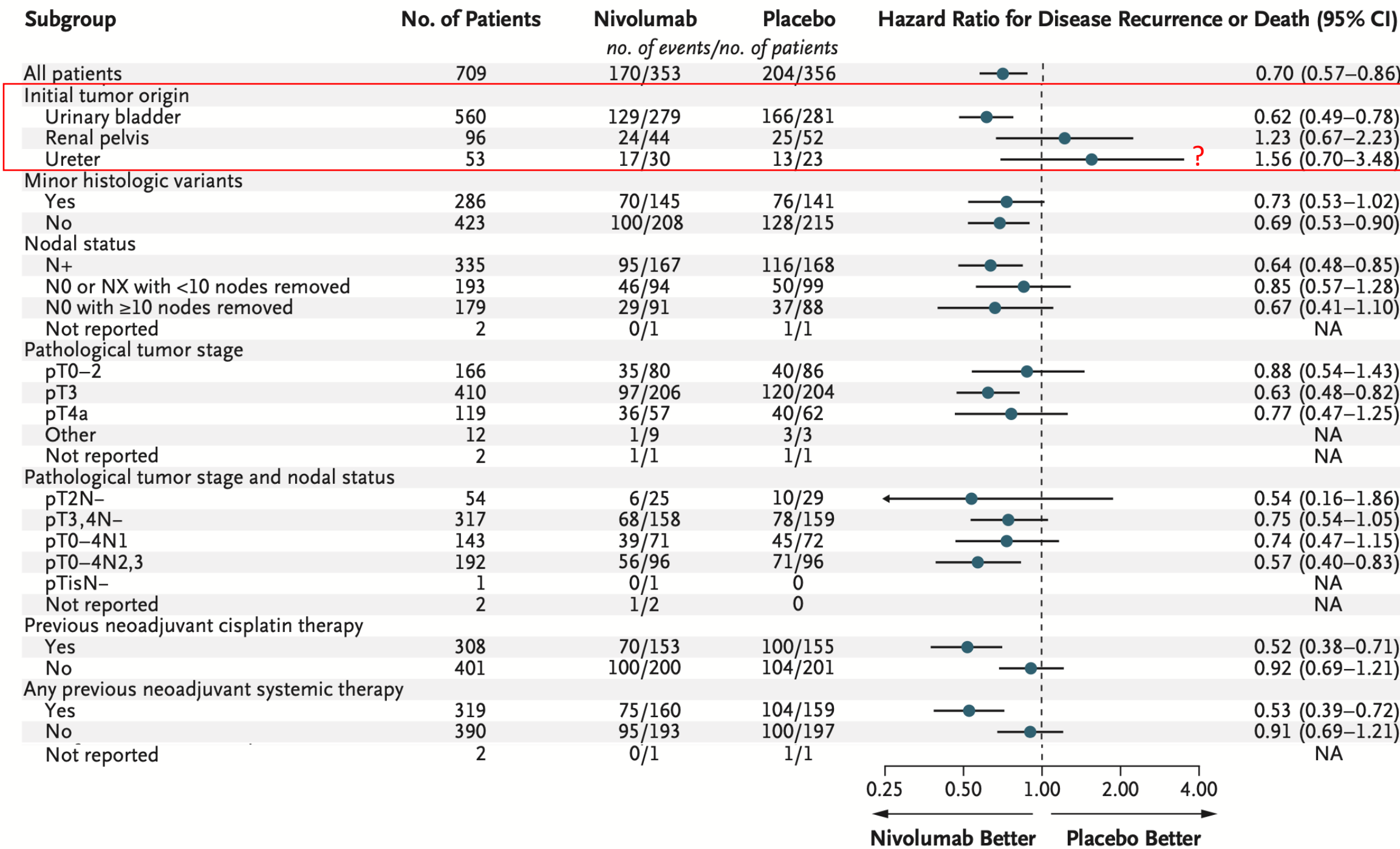
- Primary endpoints:** DFS is ITT population, DFS in all randomized patients with PD-L1 ≥ 1%

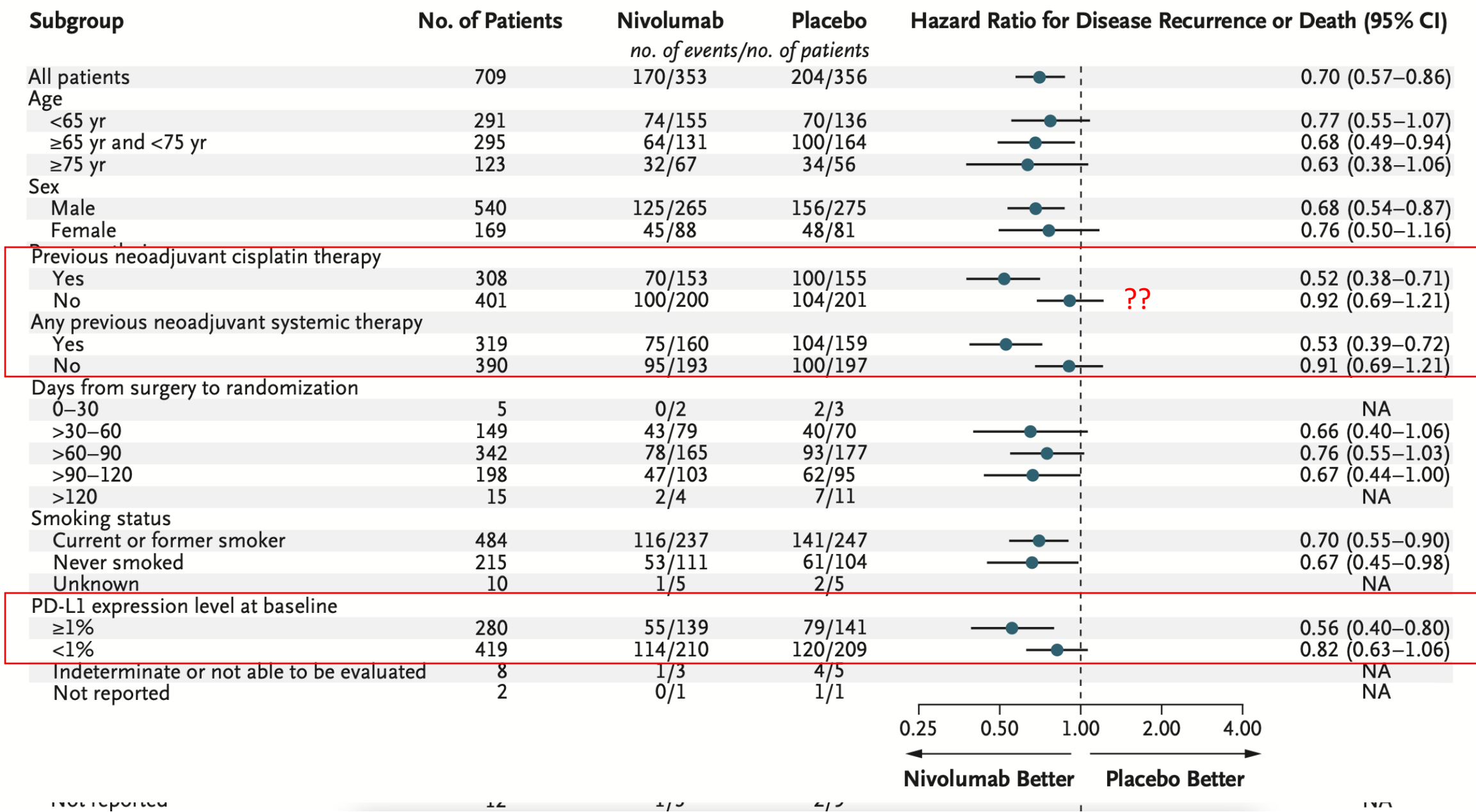
\*Per PD-L1 IHC 28-8 PharmDx assay.

†OS data immature at time of analysis.

- Secondary endpoints:** nonurothelial tract recurrence-free survival, disease-specific survival, OS<sup>†</sup>

- Exploratory endpoints:** distant metastasis-free survival, safety, HRQoL





# CheckMate 274: Efficacy Outcomes

Median, Mos	ITT		PD-L1 ≥ 1%	
	Nivolumab (n = 353)	Placebo (n = 356)	Nivolumab (n = 140)	Placebo (n = 142)
<b>DFS (primary endpoints)</b>	21.0	10.9	NR	10.8
▪ <b>HR for DFS</b>	0.70 (98.31% CI: 0.54-0.89); <i>P</i> < .001		0.53 (98.87% CI: 0.34-0.84); <i>P</i> < .001	
NUTRFS	24.6	13.7	NR	10.9
▪ HR for NUTRFS	0.72 (95% CI: 0.58-0.89)		0.54 (95% CI: 0.38-0.77)	
DMFS	35.0	29.0	NR	21.2
▪ HR for DMFS	0.74 (95% CI: 0.58-0.93)		0.60 (95% CI: 0.41-0.88)	

- Study met its primary endpoints: nivolumab significantly prolonged DFS vs placebo in the ITT population and patients with PD-L1 ≥ 1% (both *P* < .001)
- Nivolumab prolonged DFS vs placebo in most subgroups of ITT population except for patients with initial tumor origin in renal pelvis (HR: 1.16; 95% CI: 0.63-2.13) and ureter (HR: 1.55; 95% CI: 0.70-3.45)

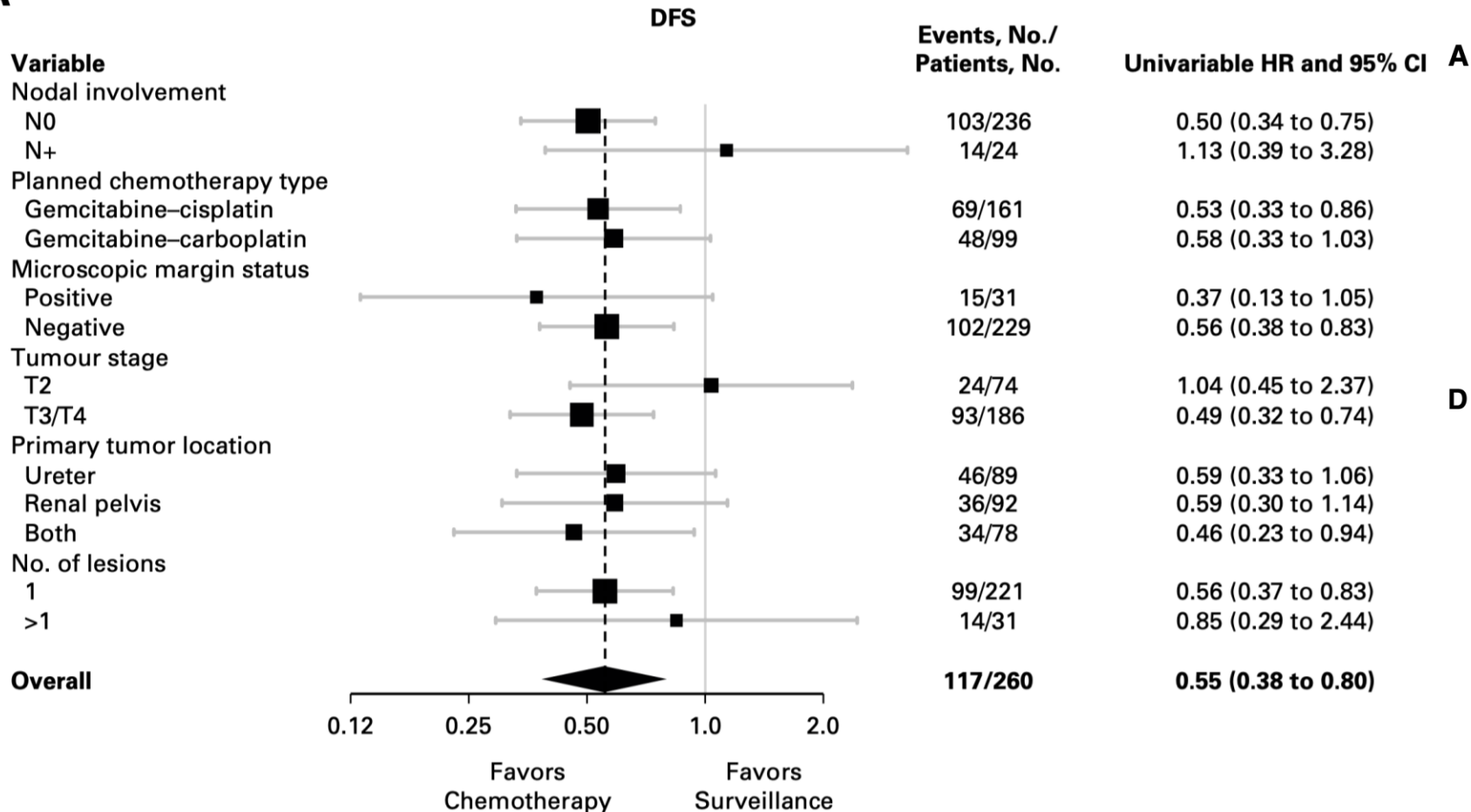


# Upper Tract:

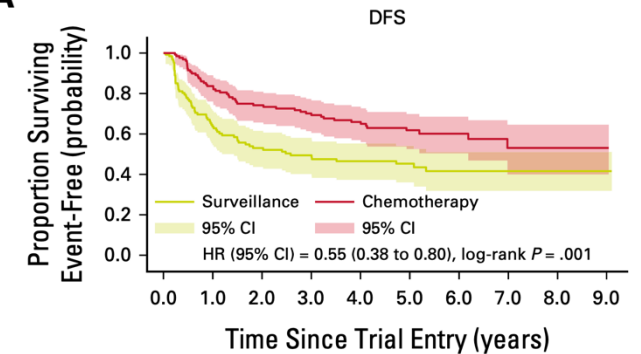
## ③ Improved Disease-Free Survival With Adjuvant Chemotherapy After Nephroureterectomy for Upper Tract Urothelial Cancer: Final Results of the POUT Trial

Alison Jane Birtle, MD, MBBS, MRCP, FRCR<sup>1,2,3</sup> ; Robert Jones, PhD, MBChB<sup>4,5</sup> ; John Chester, PhD, MRCP, MBBS<sup>6</sup> ; Rebecca Lewis, BSc<sup>7</sup> 

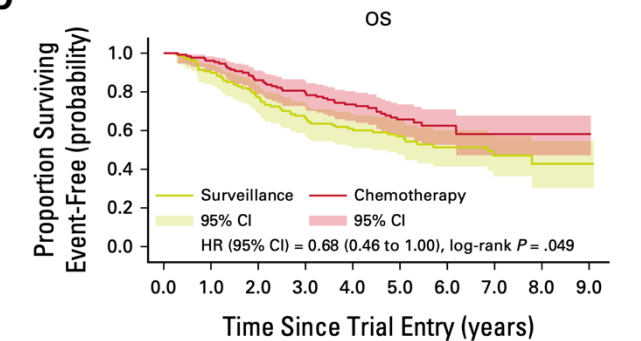
**A**



**A**



**D**



MADRID  
2023

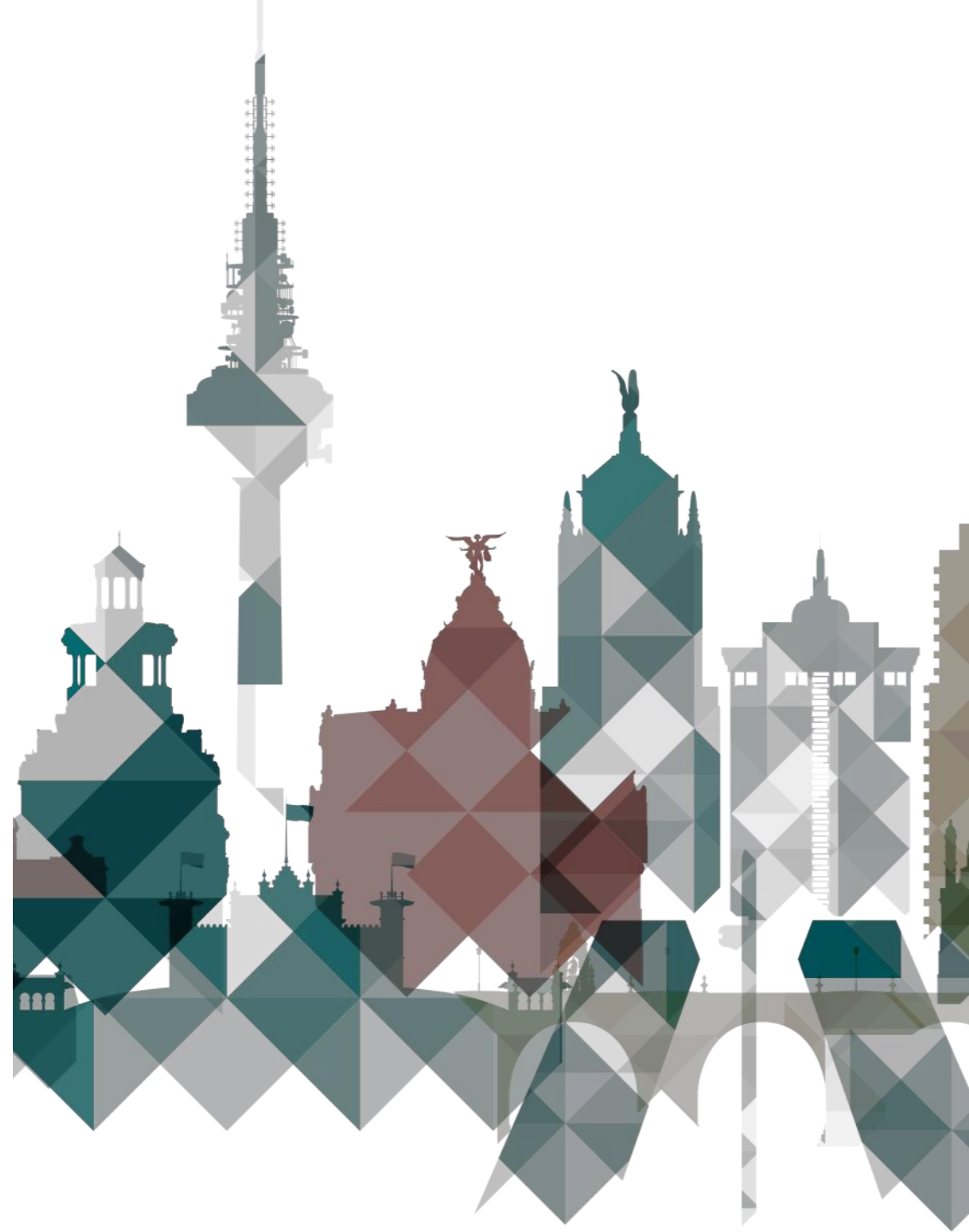
ESMO

congress

## EV-302/KEYNOTE-A39: Open-Label, Randomized Phase 3 Study of Enfortumab Vedotin in Combination with Pembrolizumab vs Chemotherapy in Previously Untreated Locally Advanced or Metastatic Urothelial Carcinoma

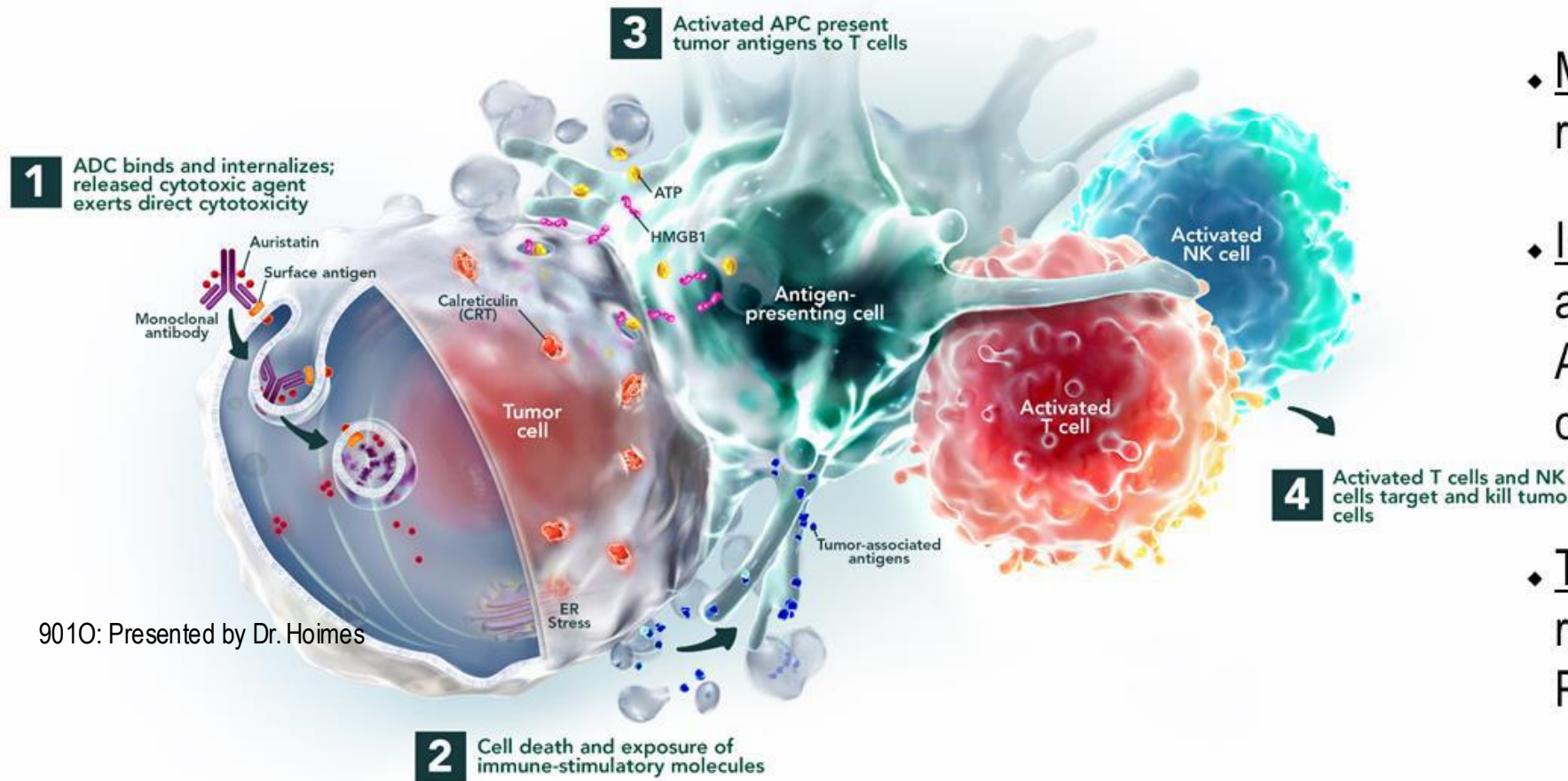
Thomas Powles, Begona Perez-Valderrama, Shilpa Gupta, Jens Bedke, Eiji Kikuchi, Jean Hoffman-Censits, Gopa Iyer, Christof Vulsteke, Se Hoon Park, Sang Joon Shin, Daniel Castellano Gauna, Giuseppe Fornarini, Jian-Ri Li, Mahmut Gumus, Nataliya Mar, Sujata Narayanan, Xuesong Yu, Seema Gorla, Blanca Homet Moreno, Michiel Van der Heijden

FPN: LBA6



# RATIONALE FOR COMBINING ENFORTUMAB VEDOTIN + PEMBROLIZUMAB

ADCs<sup>1</sup> linked to monomethyl auristatin E (MMAE) induce immunogenic cell death (ICD) in preclinical and in vitro data, and may enhance anti-tumor immunity



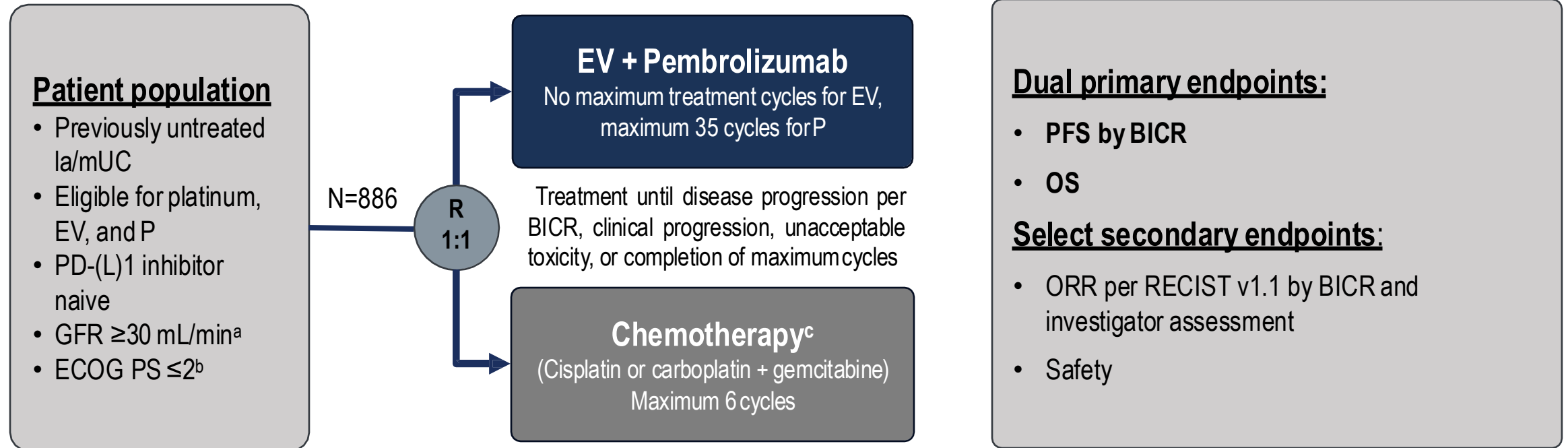
9010: Presented by Dr. Hoimes

- ◆ MMAE disrupts microtubules resulting in ICD due to ER stress
- ◆ ICD releases innate immune-activating molecules resulting in APC activation and presentation of tumor antigens to T cells
- ◆ T cells mount antigen-specific response augmented by PD-1/L1 inhibitors

Antibody drug conjugates are investigational agents, and their safety and efficacy have not been established. ©2019 Seattle Genetics, Inc.

<sup>1</sup> Brentuximab vedotin, ladiratumumab vedotin, and tisotumab vedotin. References: Cao et al. *AACT* 2016. Cao et al. *Cancer Res* 2017;77(13 suppl): Abstract 5588. Cao et al. *Cancer Res* 2018;78(13 Suppl): Abstract 2742. Alley et al. *Cancer Res* 2019;79(13 Suppl): Abstract 221.

# EV-302/KEYNOTE-A39 (NCT04223856)



Stratification factors: cisplatin eligibility (eligible/ineligible), PD-L1 expression (high/low), liver metastases (present/absent)

Cisplatin eligibility and assignment/dosing of cisplatin vs carboplatin were protocol-defined; patients received 3-week cycles of EV (1.25 mg/kg; IV) on Days 1 and 8 and P (200 mg; IV) on Day 1

Statistical plan for analysis: the first planned analysis was performed after approximately 526 PFS (final) and 356 OS events (interim); if OS was positive at interim, the OS interim analysis was considered final

BICR, blinded independent central review; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; GFR, glomerular filtration rate; ORR, overall response rate; PFS, progression-free survival; R, randomization; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors

<sup>a</sup>Measured by the Cockcroft-Gault formula, Modification of Diet in Renal Disease, or 24-hour urine

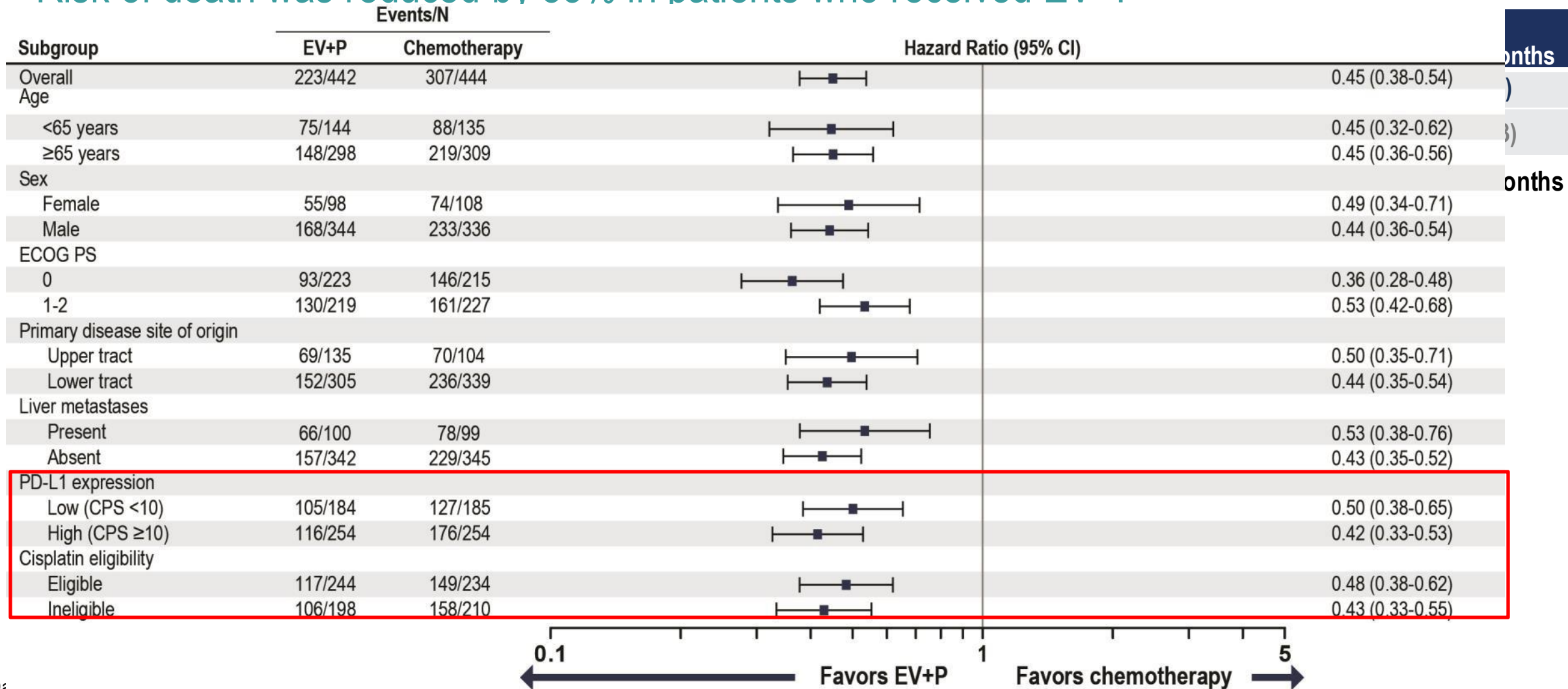
<sup>b</sup>Patients with ECOG PS of 2 were required to also meet the additional criteria: hemoglobin  $\geq 10$  g/dL, GFR  $\geq 50$  mL/min, may not have NYHA class III heart failure

<sup>c</sup>Maintenance therapy could be used following completion and/or discontinuation of platinum-containing therapy

Data cutoff: 08 Aug 2023; FPI: 7 Apr 2020, LPI: 09 Nov 2022

# Overall Survival

Risk of death was reduced by 53% in patients who received EV+P



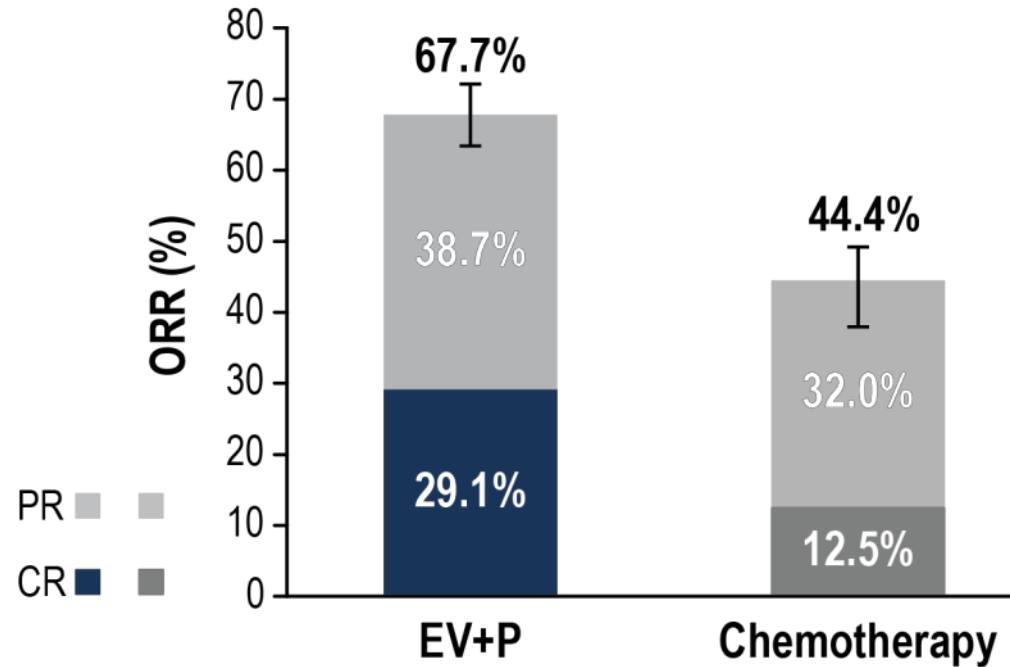
mOS, median overall survival; NR, not reached

<sup>a</sup>Calculated using stratified Cox proportional hazards model. A hazard ratio <1 favors the EV+P arm

Data source: ...

# Confirmed Overall Response per BICR

Significant improvement in objective response rate was observed with EV+P



	EV+P (N=437)	Chemotherapy (N=441)
<b>Confirmed ORR, n (%) (95% CI)</b>	<b>296 (67.7) (63.1-72.1)</b>	<b>196 (44.4) (39.7-49.2)</b>
<b>2-sided P value</b>	<0.00001	
<b>Best overall response<sup>a</sup>, n (%)</b>		
Complete response	127 (29.1)	55 (12.5)
Partial response	169 (38.7)	141 (32.0)
Stable disease	82 (18.8)	149 (33.8)
Progressive disease	38 (8.7)	60 (13.6)
Not evaluable/No assessment <sup>b</sup>	21 (4.8)	36 (8.2)

Median DOR (95% CI)	EV+P	Chemotherapy
	NR (20.2, NR)	7.0 (6.2, 10.2)

CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; PR, partial response

<sup>a</sup>Best overall response according to RECIST v1.1 per BICR. CR or PR was confirmed with repeat scans  $\geq 28$  days after initial response

<sup>b</sup>Patients had either post-baseline assessment and the best overall response was determined to be not evaluable per RECIST v1.1 or no response assessment post-baseline

Data cutoff: 08 Aug 2023

# EV Treatment-Related Adverse Events of Special Interest\*

Majority of treatment-related AEsIs were low grade

	EV+P (N=440) n (%)		Chemotherapy (N=433) n (%)	
	Any grade	Grade ≥3	Any grade	Grade ≥3
Skin reactions	294 (66.8)	68 (15.5)	60 (13.9)	1 (0.2)
Peripheral neuropathy	278 (63.2)	30 (6.8)	53 (12.2)	0 (0.0)
Sensory events	260 (59.1)	19 (4.3)	51 (11.8)	0 (0.0)
Motor events	44 (10.0)	12 (2.7)	5 (1.2)	0 (0.0)
Ocular disorders	94 (21.4)	0 (0.0)	12 (2.8)	0 (0.0)
Dry eye	82 (18.6)	0 (0.0)	8 (1.8)	0 (0.0)
Hyperglycemia	57 (13.0)	27 (6.1)	3 (0.7)	0 (0.0)
Infusion-related reactions	9 (2.0)	0 (0.0)	9 (2.1)	0 (0.0)

Data cutoff: 08 Aug 2023

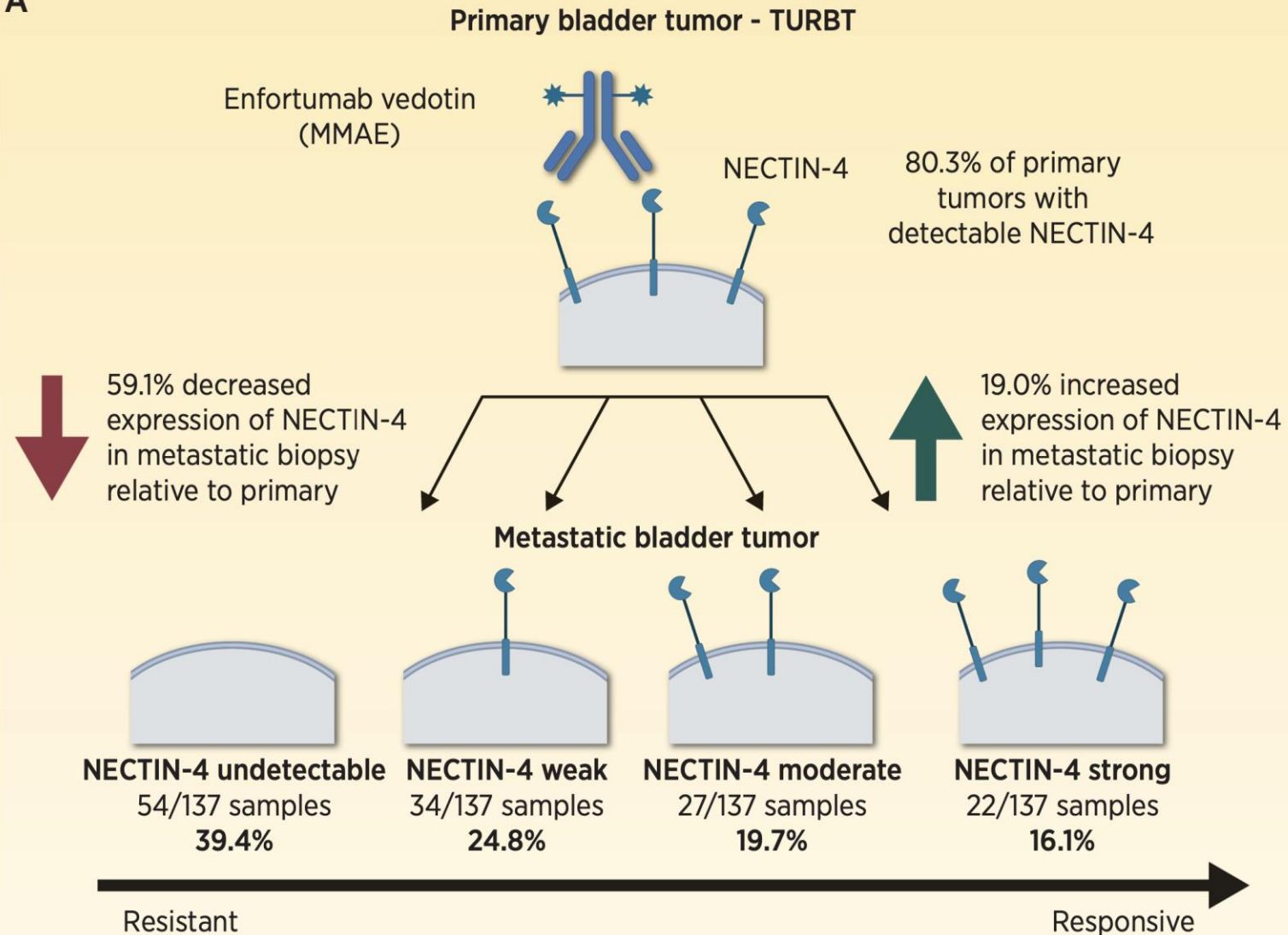
\*There are differences in the rates of skin reactions reported for EV treatment-related AEsIs and P TEAEs of special interest because these adverse events were reported via different methodologies developed for EV and P monotherapies, respectively AEsI, adverse event of special interest

## Scratching the Surface: NECTIN-4 as a Surrogate for Enfortumab Vedotin Resistance

David H. Aggen<sup>1</sup>, Carissa E. Chu<sup>2</sup>, and Jonathan E. Rosenberg<sup>1</sup>



A



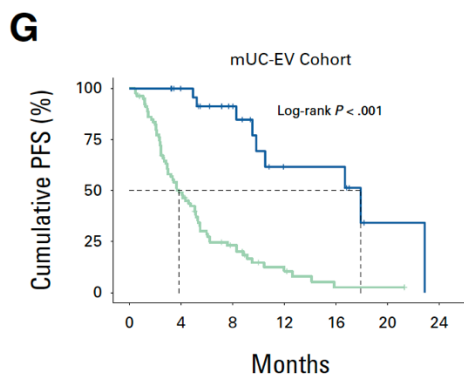
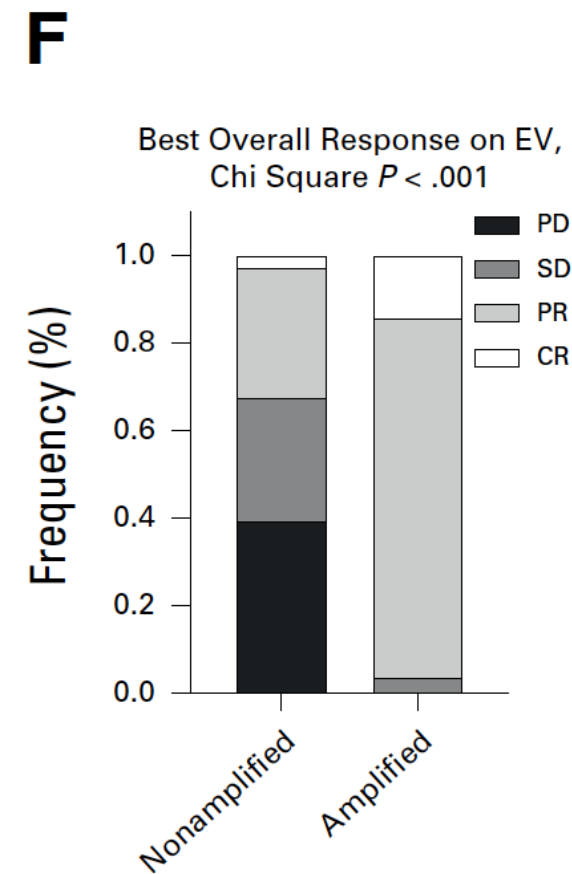


# NECTIN4 Amplification Is Frequent in Solid Tumors and Predicts Enfortumab Vedotin Response in Metastatic Urothelial Cancer

Niklas Klümper, MD<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>; Ngoc Khanh Tran<sup>1,2,3</sup>; Stefanie Zschäbitz, MD<sup>5</sup>; Oliver Hahn, MD<sup>6</sup>; Thomas Büttner, MD<sup>1,3</sup>

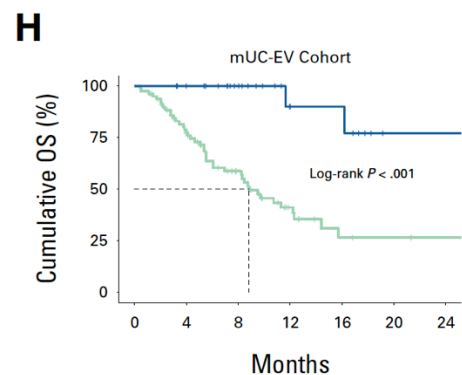
**MATERIALS AND METHODS** We established a *NECTIN4*-specific fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) assay to assess the predictive value of *NECTIN4* CNVs in a multicenter EV-treated mUC patient cohort (mUC-EV, n = 108). CNVs were correlated with membranous *NECTIN4* protein expression, EV treatment responses, and outcomes. We also assessed the prognostic value of *NECTIN4* CNVs measured in metastatic biopsies of non-EV-treated mUC (mUC-non-EV, n = 103). Furthermore, we queried The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) data sets (10,712 patients across 32 cancer types) for *NECTIN4* CNVs.

**RESULTS** *NECTIN4* amplifications are frequent genomic events in muscle-invasive bladder cancer (TCGA bladder cancer data set: approximately 17%) and mUC (approximately 26% in our mUC cohorts). In mUC-EV, *NECTIN4* amplification represents a stable genomic alteration during metastatic progression and associates with enhanced membranous *NECTIN4* protein expression. **Ninety-six percent (27 of 28) of patients with *NECTIN4* amplifications demonstrated objective responses to EV compared with 32% (24 of 74) in the nonamplified subgroup ( $P < .001$ ).** In multivariable Cox analysis adjusted for age, sex, and



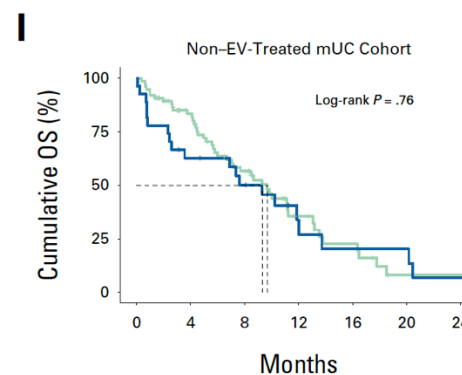
No. at risk:

	0	4	8	12	16	20	24
Nonamplified	80	38	15	6	1	1	0
Amplified	28	23	15	6	6	1	0



No. at risk:

	0	4	8	12	16	20	24
Nonamplified	80	54	32	15	6	5	4
Amplified	28	24	17	8	7	1	1



No. at risk:

	0	4	8	12	16	20	24
Nonamplified	76	52	32	12	7	1	1
Amplified	27	16	12	5	3	3	1

Sarmad Sadeghi<sup>1</sup>, Nataliya Mar<sup>2</sup>, Denice Tsao-Wei<sup>3</sup>, Karam Ashouri<sup>3</sup>, Imran Siddiqi<sup>1</sup>, Jon P Cogan<sup>4</sup>, Alexandra Jackovich<sup>5</sup>, Dory Freeman<sup>6</sup>, Jillian O'Toole<sup>6</sup>, Thomas W. Flaig<sup>7</sup>, Parkash S. Gill<sup>1</sup>, Arash Rezazadeh<sup>2</sup>, Guru P. Sonpavde<sup>8</sup>, Joaquim Bellmunt<sup>6</sup>

1 Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA; 2 University of California, Irvine Medical Center, Orange, CA; 3 University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA; 4 Vasgene Therapeutics, Inc, Los Angeles, CA; 5 Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ; 6 Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA; 7 University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO; 8 AdventHealth Cancer Institute, Orlando, FL

## Background

EphrinB2 is a transmembrane protein expressed in developing arterial capillary endothelium; it is minimally expressed in adults but re-expressed in tumors and tumor blood vessel. Its expression is a poor prognostic marker (TCGA). High EphrinB2 expression in tumor blood vessels functions as a gate-keeper by preventing immune cells in the circulation from migrating into the tumor. The trial of pembrolizumab+sEphB4-HSA (an EphrinB2 inhibitor) in mUC showed a higher response rate in EphrinB2 high patients compared to pembrolizumab historical data- 52% vs 21%- JCO PMID 35984996. This raised the question whether immunotherapy alone could overcome the poor prognostic effect of EphrinB2?

## Objectives

This retrospective study was designed to examine the response to immunotherapy monotherapy in patients with mUC and correlate it with EphrinB2 expression.

## Methods

Patients with mUC who received a PD1/PDL1 antibody after prior systemic therapy who had tissue available for analysis were eligible. Demographics, disease characteristics, and radiographic response data were also required and collected. In situ hybridization was used to assess the expression EphrinB2 in tumor specimens from 3 participating site: University of Southern California (USC), Dana Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI), and University of California, Irvine (UCI).

- EphrinB2 is a biomarker of resistance to PD1/L1 inhibitors in mUC and predicts low response rate and poor overall survival.
- EphrinB2 inhibition may overcome the resistance to PD1/PDL1 inhibitors in patients whose tumors express high levels of EphrinB2
- The role of EphrinB2 in resistance to immunotherapy merits further investigation.

For questions or comments please contact Sarmad Sadeghi sarmadsa@med.usc.edu

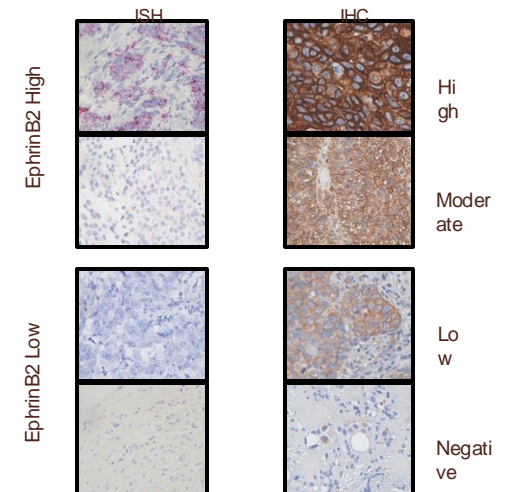
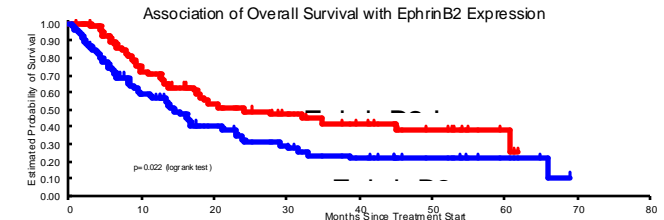
## Results

	All N=143	USC n=49	DFCI, n=55	UCI, n=39	P
Median Age (range)	73 (48-91)	72 (48-87)	73 (48-91)	74 (48-90)	0.82
Male (%)	101 (71%)	37 (76%)	36 (65%)	28 (72%)	0.53
ECOG 0, 1, >1 (%)	42, 35, 23	51, 22, 27	40, 40, 21	33, 44, 23	0.23
Visceral Metastases (%)	79 (55%)	26 (53%)	36 (65%)	17 (44%)	0.11
Responders (ORR)*	28 (21%)	10 (20%)	11 (20%)	7 (22%)	1
EphrinB2 Low Cases	55 (40%)	21 (43%)	19 (35%)	15 (47%)	0.005
Responders (ORR)	18 (33%)	6 (29%)	7 (37%)	5 (33%)	
EphrinB2 High Cases	81 (60%)	28 (57%)	36 (65%)	17 (53%)	
Responders (ORR)	10 (12%)	4 (14%)	4 (11%)	2 (12%)	
Median OS in months (95% CI)	17.2 (13.5, 23.8)	16 (8.1, 30.1)	14.5 (9.0, 18.0)	32 (13.3, 60.8)	0.32
EphrinB2 Low Cases	60 (42%)	21 (43%)	19 (35%)	20 (51%)	0.022
Median OS in months (95% CI)	24 (13.7, 60.8)	24 (9.2, NA)	17.5 (7.3, 27.6)	45.1 (10.8, 60.8)	
EphrinB2 High Cases	83 (58%)	28 (57%)	36 (65%)	19 (49%)	
Median OS in months (95% CI)	14.5 (9.4, 21.0)	8.8 (3.8, 30.1)	13.8 (8.2, 16.7)	21 (9.4, 32.8)	

\* 7 patients were inevaluable for response

## Results (Continued)

PD1/L1 inhibitors included pembrolizumab 78%, atezolizumab 17%, nivolumab, avelumab, and durvalumab in 3, 1, and 1%, respectively.



## Conclusion and Future Directions

The role of EphrinB2 in resistance to immunotherapy merits further investigation. Whether EphrinB2 inhibition also improves outcomes of non-immunotherapy regimens remains unclear.

# Nivolumab plus gemcitabine-cisplatin versus gemcitabine-cisplatin alone for previously untreated unresectable or metastatic urothelial carcinoma: results from the phase 3 CheckMate 901 trial

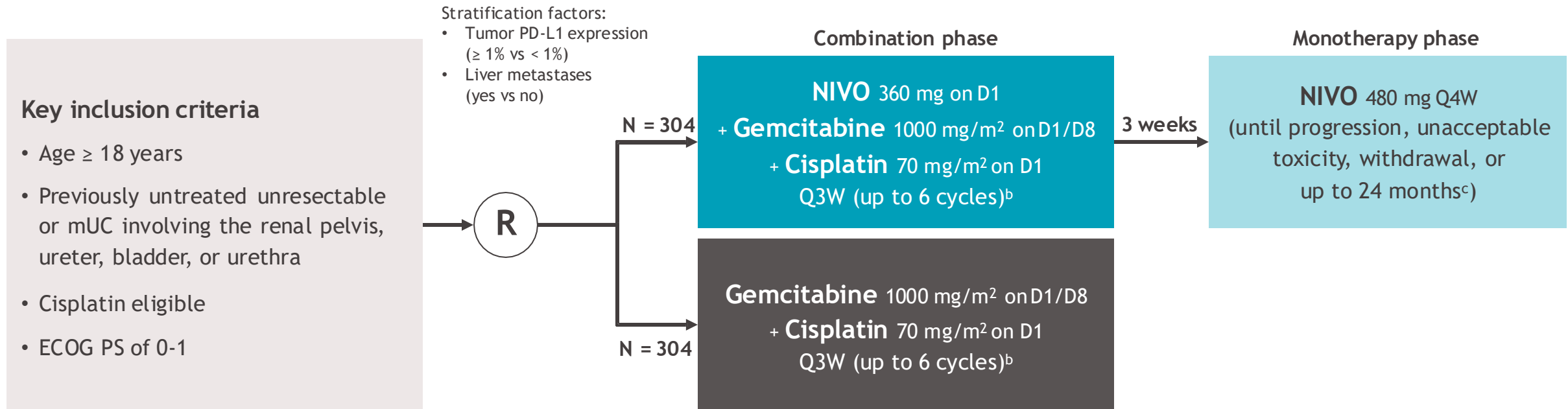
[Michiel S. van der Heijden](#),<sup>1</sup> [Guru Sonpavde](#),<sup>2a</sup> [Thomas Powles](#),<sup>3</sup> [Andrea Necchi](#),<sup>4b</sup> [Mauricio Burotto](#),<sup>5</sup> [Michael Schenker](#),<sup>6</sup> [Juan Pablo Sade](#),<sup>7</sup> [Aristotelis Bamias](#),<sup>8</sup> [Philippe Beuzeboc](#),<sup>9</sup> [Jens Bedke](#),<sup>10c</sup> [Jan Oldenburg](#),<sup>11</sup> [Yüksel Ürün](#),<sup>12</sup> [Dingwei Ye](#),<sup>13</sup> [Zhisong He](#),<sup>14</sup> [Begoña P. Valderrama](#),<sup>15</sup> [Yoshihiko Tomita](#),<sup>16</sup> [Jeiry Filian](#),<sup>17</sup> [Daniela Purcea](#),<sup>18</sup> [Federico Nasroulah](#),<sup>17</sup> [Matthew D. Galsky](#)<sup>19</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands; <sup>2</sup>Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA; <sup>3</sup>Barts Cancer Institute, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK; <sup>4</sup>Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy; <sup>5</sup>Bradford Hill Clinical Research Center, Santiago, Chile; <sup>6</sup>University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Craiova, Romania; <sup>7</sup>Alexander Fleming Institute, Buenos Aires, Argentina; <sup>8</sup>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, ATTIKON University Hospital, Athens, Greece; <sup>9</sup>Hopital Foch, Suresnes, France; <sup>10</sup>Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany; <sup>11</sup>Akershus University Hospital (Ahus), Lørenskog, Norway; <sup>12</sup>Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey; <sup>13</sup>Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Center, Shanghai, China; <sup>14</sup>Peking University First Hospital, Beijing, China; <sup>15</sup>Hospital Universitario Virgen del Rocío, Sevilla, Spain; <sup>16</sup>Niigata University Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences, Niigata, Japan; <sup>17</sup>Bristol Myers Squibb, Princeton, NJ, USA; <sup>18</sup>Bristol Myers Squibb, Boudry, Switzerland; <sup>19</sup>Tisch Cancer Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, USA

<sup>a</sup>Current affiliation is AdventHealth Cancer Institute and University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, USA. <sup>b</sup>Current affiliation is IRCCS San Raffaele Hospital, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milan, Italy. <sup>c</sup>Current affiliation is Klinikum Stuttgart, Katharinenhospital, Stuttgart, Germany.

# Study design

- NIVO + gemcitabine-cisplatin vs gemcitabine-cisplatin in cisplatin-eligible patients<sup>a</sup>



Median (range) study follow-up, 33.6 (7.4-62.4) months

Primary endpoints: OS, PFS per BICR

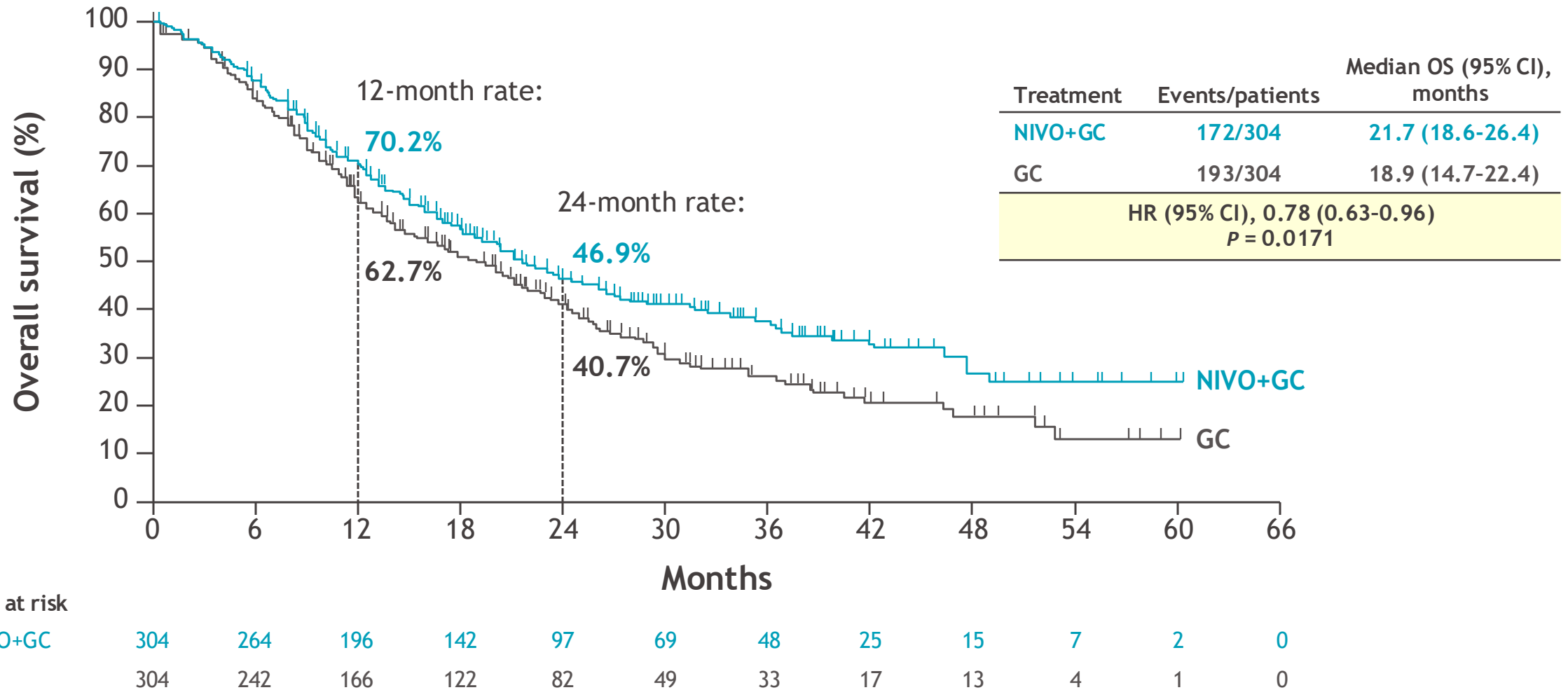
Key secondary endpoints: OS and PFS by PD-L1  $\geq$  1%,<sup>d</sup> HRQoL

Key exploratory endpoints: ORR per BICR, safety

<sup>a</sup>Further CheckMate 901 trial design details are available at <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03036098>. <sup>b</sup>Patients who discontinued cisplatin could be switched to gemcitabine-carboplatin for the remainder of the platinum doublet cycles (up to 6 in total). <sup>c</sup>A maximum of 24 months from first dose of NIVO administered as part of the NIVO + gemcitabine-cisplatin combination. <sup>d</sup>PD-L1 status was defined by the percentage of positive tumor cell membrane staining in a minimum of 100 tumor cells that could be evaluated with the use of the PD-L1 IHC 28-8 pharmDx immunohistochemical assay (Dako, Santa Clara, CA, USA).

BICR, blinded independent central review; D, day; ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; HRQoL, health-related quality of life; ORR, objective response rate; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival; Q $\times$ W, every  $\times$  weeks; R, randomization.

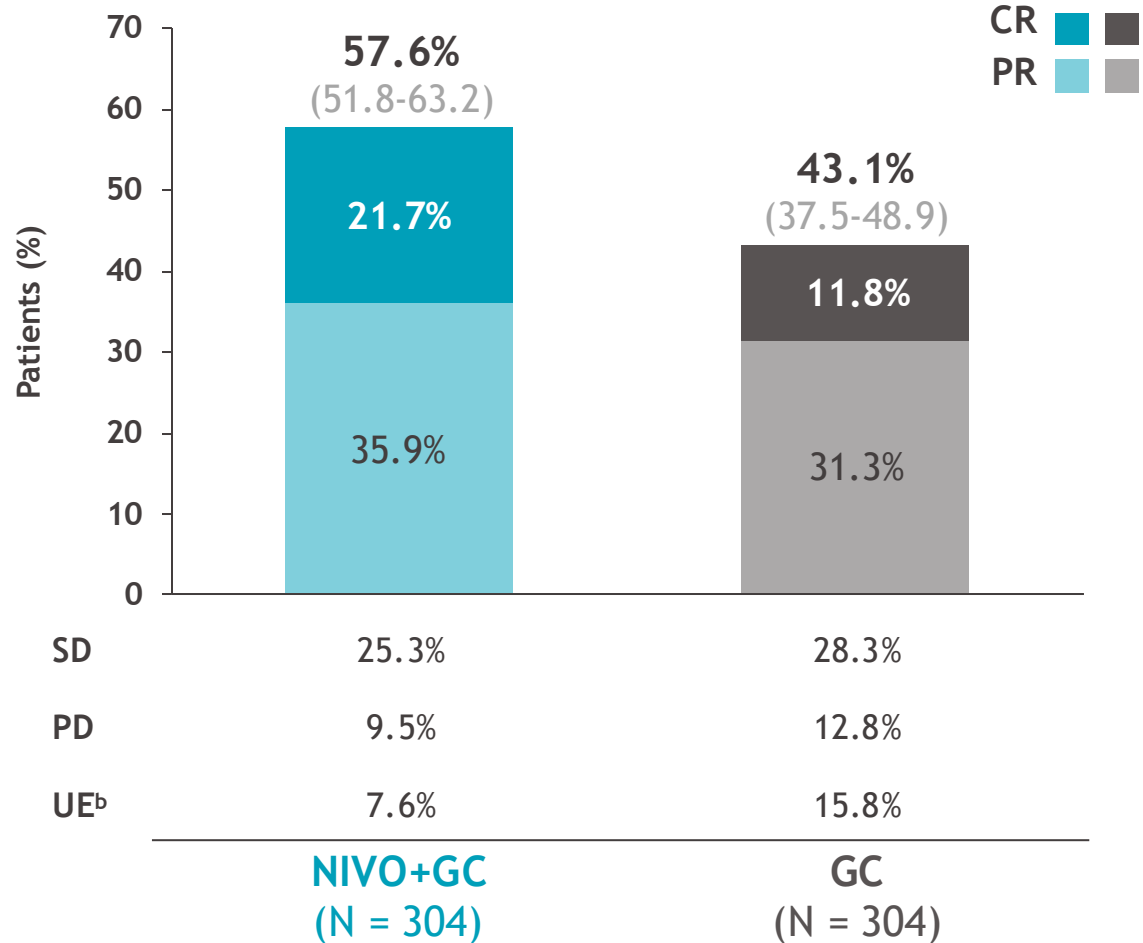
# OS (primary endpoint)



Median (range) study follow-up was 33.6 (7.4-62.4) months. OS was estimated in all randomized patients and defined as time from randomization to death from any cause. For patients without documented death, OS was censored on the last date the patient was known to be alive. For randomized patients with no follow-up, OS was censored at randomization.

# Objective response outcomes (exploratory endpoints)

ORR (95% CI) and BOR per BICR<sup>a</sup>



Time to and duration of responses

	NIVO+GC (n = 175)	GC (n = 131)
Any objective response <sup>c</sup>		
Median TTR (Q1-Q3), months	2.1 (2.0-2.3)	2.1 (2.0-2.2)
Median DoR (95% CI), months	9.5 (7.6-15.1)	7.3 (5.7-8.9)

	NIVO+GC (n = 66)	GC (n = 36)
Complete response <sup>d</sup>		
Median TTCR (Q1-Q3), months	2.1 (1.9-2.2)	2.1 (1.9-2.2)
Median DoCR (95% CI), months	37.1 (18.1-NE)	13.2 (7.3-18.4)

<sup>a</sup>In all randomized patients. <sup>b</sup>The most common reasons for UE response included death before first tumor assessment, withdrawal of consent, treatment stopped due to toxicity, patient never treated, and receipt of subsequent anticancer therapy before first tumor assessment. <sup>c</sup>Based on patients with an objective response per BICR (PR or CR as BOR). <sup>d</sup>Based on patients with a CR per BICR. BOR, best overall response; CR, complete response; DoCR, duration of complete response; DoR, duration of objective response; NE, not estimable; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; Q, quartile; SD, stable disease; TTCR, time to complete response; TTR, time to objective response; UE, unevaluable.

# Phase 3 THOR Study: Erdafitinib Versus Chemotherapy of Choice in Patients With Advanced Urothelial Cancer and Selected FGFR Aberrations

## Cohort 1

### Key eligibility criteria

- Age  $\geq 18$  years
- Metastatic or unresectable UC
- Confirmed disease progression
- Prior tx with anti-PD-(L)1
- 1-2 lines of systemic tx
- Select *FGFR3/2alt* (mutation/fusion)<sup>a</sup>
- ECOG PS 0-2

1:1  
N=266<sup>b</sup>

R

### Erdafitinib

(n=136)

Once-daily erdafitinib 8 mg with pharmacodynamically guided up titration to 9 mg

### Chemotherapy of Choice

(n=130)

docetaxel or vinflunine once every 3 weeks

Stratification factors: region (North America vs European Union vs rest of world), ECOG PS (0 or 1 vs 2), and disease distribution (presence vs absence of visceral [lung, liver, or bone] metastases)

### Primary end point:

- OS

### Key secondary end points:

- PFS
- ORR
- Safety

NCT03390504

<sup>a</sup>Molecular eligibility can be confirmed using either central or local historical *FGFR* test results (Qiagen assay). If a patient was enrolled based on local historical testing, a tissue sample must still be submitted at the time of enrollment for retrospective confirmation (by central lab) of *FGFR* status. Tumors must have  $\geq 1$  of the following translocations: *FGFR2-BICC1*, *FGFR2-CASP7*, *FGFR3-TACC3\_V1*, *FGFR3-TACC3\_V3*, *FGFR3-BAIAP2L1*; or 1 of the following *FGFR3* gene mutations: R248C, S249C, G370C, Y373C.

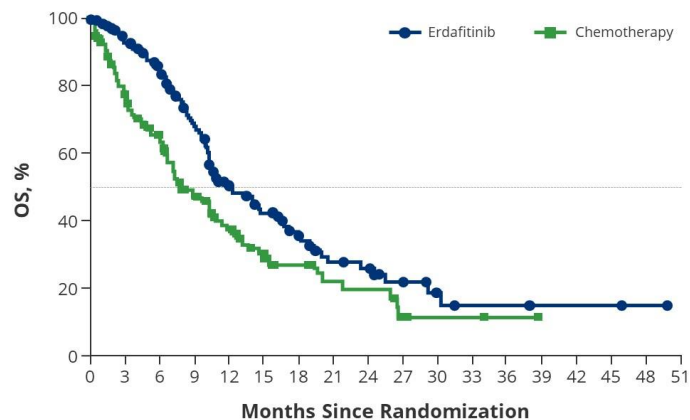
<sup>b</sup>Number of patients randomized at the time of the interim analysis (data cutoff January 15, 2023).

ECOG PS, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; FGFR, fibroblast growth factor receptor; *FGFR3/2alt*, *FGFR3/2* alterations; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed death-ligand 1; Q3W, every 3 weeks; tx, treatment; UC, urothelial cancer.



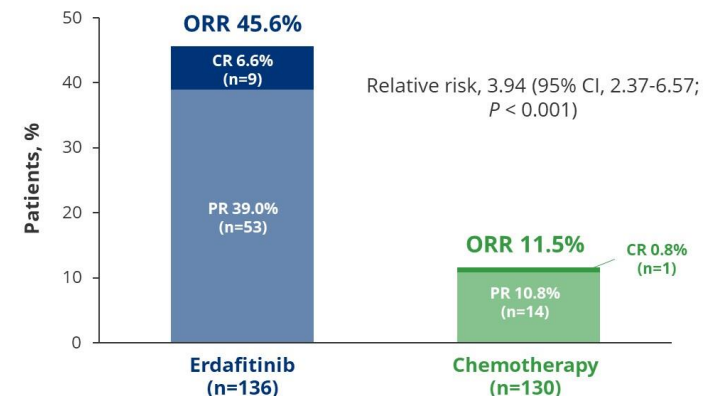
# Overall Survival for Erdafitinib Was Superior to Investigator's Choice of Chemotherapy

# Objective Response Rate Was Significantly Higher for Erdafitinib Versus Chemotherapy<sup>a</sup>



No. at risk																		
	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51
<b>Erdafitinib</b>	136	117	97	74	46	35	25	17	15	9	5	3	3	2	2	2	1	0
<b>Chemotherapy</b>	130	87	66	43	30	18	13	9	8	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Median follow-up was 15.9 months
- Median OS was 12.1 months for erdafitinib versus 7.8 months for chemotherapy
- Erdafitinib reduced the risk of death by 36% versus chemotherapy
  - HR, 0.64 (95% CI, 0.47-0.88;  $P = 0.005$ )<sup>a</sup>
- Based on these interim analysis results, the IDMC recommended to stop the study, unblind data, and cross over patients from chemotherapy to erdafitinib



CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; IDMC, Independent data monitoring committee; OS, overall survival.  
<sup>a</sup>The significance level for stopping for efficacy was  $p=0.019$ , corresponding to a HR of 0.69.

## The Safety Profiles Were Consistent With the Known Profiles of Erdafitinib and Chemotherapy (2/2)

Patients with AEs of interest, n (%)	Erdafitinib (n=135)		Chemotherapy (n=112)	
	Any grade	Grade 3-4	Any grade	Grade 3-4
Nail disorders <sup>a</sup>	90 (66.7)	15 (11.1)	6 (5.4)	0
Skin disorders <sup>b</sup>	74 (54.8)	16 (11.9)	14 (12.5)	0
Eye disorders (excluding central serous retinopathy) <sup>c</sup>	57 (42.2)	3 (2.2)	6 (5.4)	0
Central serous retinopathy <sup>d</sup>	23 (17.0)	3 (2.2)	0	0

<sup>a</sup>Nail disorders: nail bed bleeding, nail discoloration, nail disorder, nail dystrophy, nail ridging, nail toxicity, onychalgia, onychoclasia, onycholysis, paronychia, onychomadesis.  
<sup>b</sup>Skin disorders: blister, dry skin, erythema, hyperkeratosis, palmar erythema, palmar-plantar erythrodysesthesia syndrome, plantar erythema, rash, rash erythematous, rash generalized, rash macular, rash maculopapular, skin atrophy, skin exfoliation, skin fissures, skin lesion, skin ulcer, toxic skin eruption, xeroderma.  
<sup>c</sup>Eye disorders (excluding central serous retinopathy): blepharitis, cataract, cataract subcapsular, conjunctival hemorrhage, conjunctival hyperemia, conjunctival irritation, corneal erosion, corneal infiltrates, dry eye, eye inflammation, eye irritation, eye pain, foreign body sensation in eyes, keratitis, lacrimation increased, night blindness, ocular hyperemia, photophobia, vision blurred, visual acuity reduced, visual impairment, xanthopsia, xerophthalmia, chorioretinitis, conjunctivitis, ulcerative keratitis.  
<sup>d</sup>Central serous retinopathy: retinal detachment, vitreous detachment, retinal edema, retinopathy, chorioretinopathy, detachment of retinal pigment epithelium, detachment of macular retinal pigment epithelium, macular detachment, serous retinal detachment, subretinal fluid, retinal thickening, chorioretinitis, serous retinopathy, maculopathy, choroidal effusion.  
 AE, adverse event.

## THOR Cohort 1: Conclusions












- Erdafitinib significantly extended OS in patients with advanced/mUC with *FGFRalt* after prior treatment with anti-PD-(L)1, with a median OS of 1 year
  - Erdafitinib provided a 36% reduction in risk of death compared to chemotherapy
  - The OS benefit of erdafitinib was consistent across clinically relevant subgroups
  - Erdafitinib provided significantly longer PFS and greater ORR versus chemotherapy
- Erdafitinib safety profile was consistent with the BLC2001 study<sup>1,2</sup>
- The phase 3 THOR study supports the clinical efficacy of erdafitinib as the standard of care option for patients with mUC with *FGFRalt* after anti-PD-(L)1 treatment
- The OS benefit of erdafitinib in patients with mUC with *FGFRalt* supports molecular testing for *FGFRalt* in all patients with mUC

*FGFRalt*, *FGFR* alterations; mUC, metastatic urothelial carcinoma; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed death-ligand 1; PFS, progression-free survival.  
 1. Loriot Y, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2019;381:338-348; 2. Siefker-Radtke AO, et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2022;23:248-258.



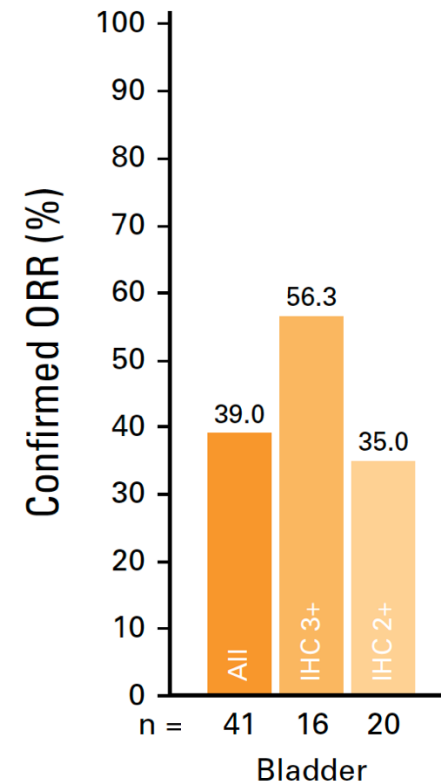
# Her2 ADC

## Efficacy and Safety of Trastuzumab Deruxtecan in Patients With HER2-Expressing Solid Tumors: Primary Results From the DESTINY-PanTumor02 Phase II Trial

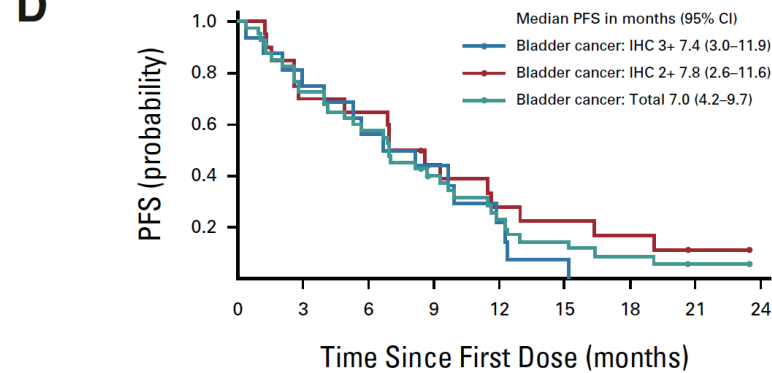
Funda Meric-Bernstam, MD<sup>1</sup> ; Vicky Makker, MD<sup>2,3</sup> ; Ana Oaknin, MD<sup>4</sup> ; Do-Youn Oh, MD<sup>5</sup> ; Susana Banerjee, PhD<sup>6</sup> ; Antonio González-Martín, MD<sup>7</sup> ; Kyung Hae Jung, MD<sup>8</sup> ; Iwona Ługowska, MD<sup>9</sup>; Luis Manso, MD<sup>10</sup> ; Aránzazu Manzano, MD<sup>11</sup>; Bohuslav Melichar, MD<sup>12</sup>; Salvatore Siena, MD<sup>13</sup> ; Daniil Stroyakovskiy, MD<sup>14</sup> ; Anitra Fielding, MBChB<sup>15</sup>; Yan Ma, MSc<sup>16</sup>; Soham Puvvada, MD<sup>15</sup>; Norah Shire, PhD<sup>15</sup>; and Jung-Yun Lee, MD<sup>17</sup> 

DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.23.02005>

**A**



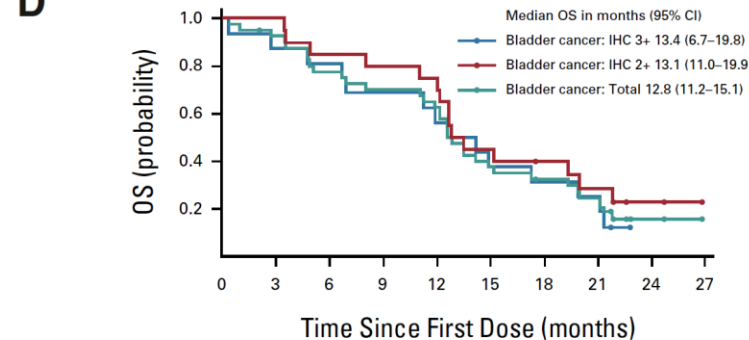
**D**



No. at risk:

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
Bladder cancer: IHC 3+	16	12	9	6	3	1	0		
Bladder cancer: IHC 2+	20	14	13	8	5	4	3	1	0
Bladder cancer: Total	41	29	23	14	8	5	3	1	0

**D**



No. at risk:

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27
Bladder cancer: IHC 3+	16	14	13	11	9	6	5	4	0	
Bladder cancer: IHC 2+	20	20	17	16	15	9	7	5	2	0
Bladder cancer: Total	41	37	31	28	25	15	12	9	2	0

**TABLE 2. Incidence of Drug-Related Adverse Events**

Adverse Event	Bladder Cancer (n = 41)
Drug-related adverse events, No. (%)	38 (92.7)
Grade ≥3	17 (41.5)
Serious adverse events	4 (9.8)
Leading to discontinuation	4 (9.8)
Leading to dose modification <sup>a</sup>	15 (36.6)
Associated with death	1 (2.4)
Most common drug-related adverse events (>10% of total patients), No.	
Nausea	21 (51.2)
Anemia	12 (29.3)
Diarrhea	13 (31.7)
Fatigue	11 (26.8)
Vomiting	6 (14.6)
Neutropenia	11 (26.8)
Decreased appetite	8 (19.5)
Asthenia	3 (7.3)
Alopecia	5 (12.2)
Thrombocytopenia	6 (14.6)

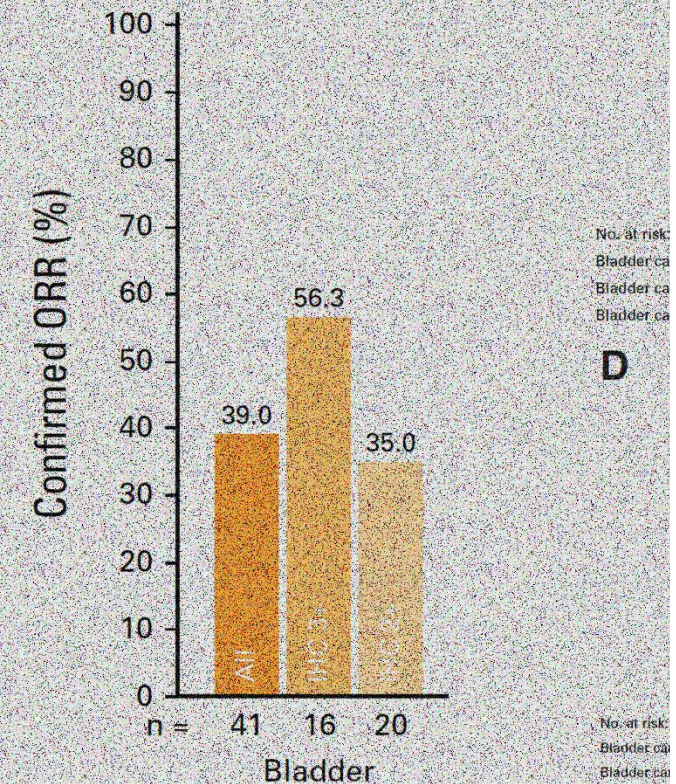
# Her2 ADC

## Efficacy and Safety of T... With HER2-Expressing S... the DESTINY-PanTumorC...

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**A**



**Table 2. HER2 Status by UC Stage<sup>a</sup>: Assay Results**

Stage	N	N (row %)		
		HER2+	HER2-low	HER2-zero
Stage I	7	1 (14)	0	6 (86)
Stage II	133	17 (13)	46 (35)	70 (53)
Stage III	192	37 (19)	50 (26)	102 (55)
Stage IV	30	2 (7)	7 (23)	21 (70)
All	362	57 (16)	103 (28)	202 (56)

<sup>a</sup> Stage information as supplied by the tissue vendor. Staging may have been based on clinical information or on tissue samples different from those included in the current study

**Table 3. Summary of HER2 Status**

HER2 Status	N	Percentage of samples (95% CI)
HER2+ and HER2-low	160	44.2% (39.2%–49.3%)
HER2+/overexpression	57	15.7% (12.4%–19.9%)
HER2-low	103	28.5% (24.1%–33.3%)
HER2-zero	202	55.8% (50.7%–60.8%)

### Related Adverse Events

	Bladder Cancer (n = 41)
(%)	38 (92.7)
	17 (41.5)
	4 (9.8)
	4 (9.8)
	15 (36.6)
	1 (2.4)
se events (>10% of total patients), No	
	21 (51.2)
	12 (29.3)
	13 (31.7)
	11 (26.8)
	6 (14.6)
	11 (26.8)
	8 (19.5)
	3 (7.3)
	5 (12.2)
	6 (14.6)

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# Systemic Therapy in Urothelial Carcinoma

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