

# Immunotherapy for Breast Cancer

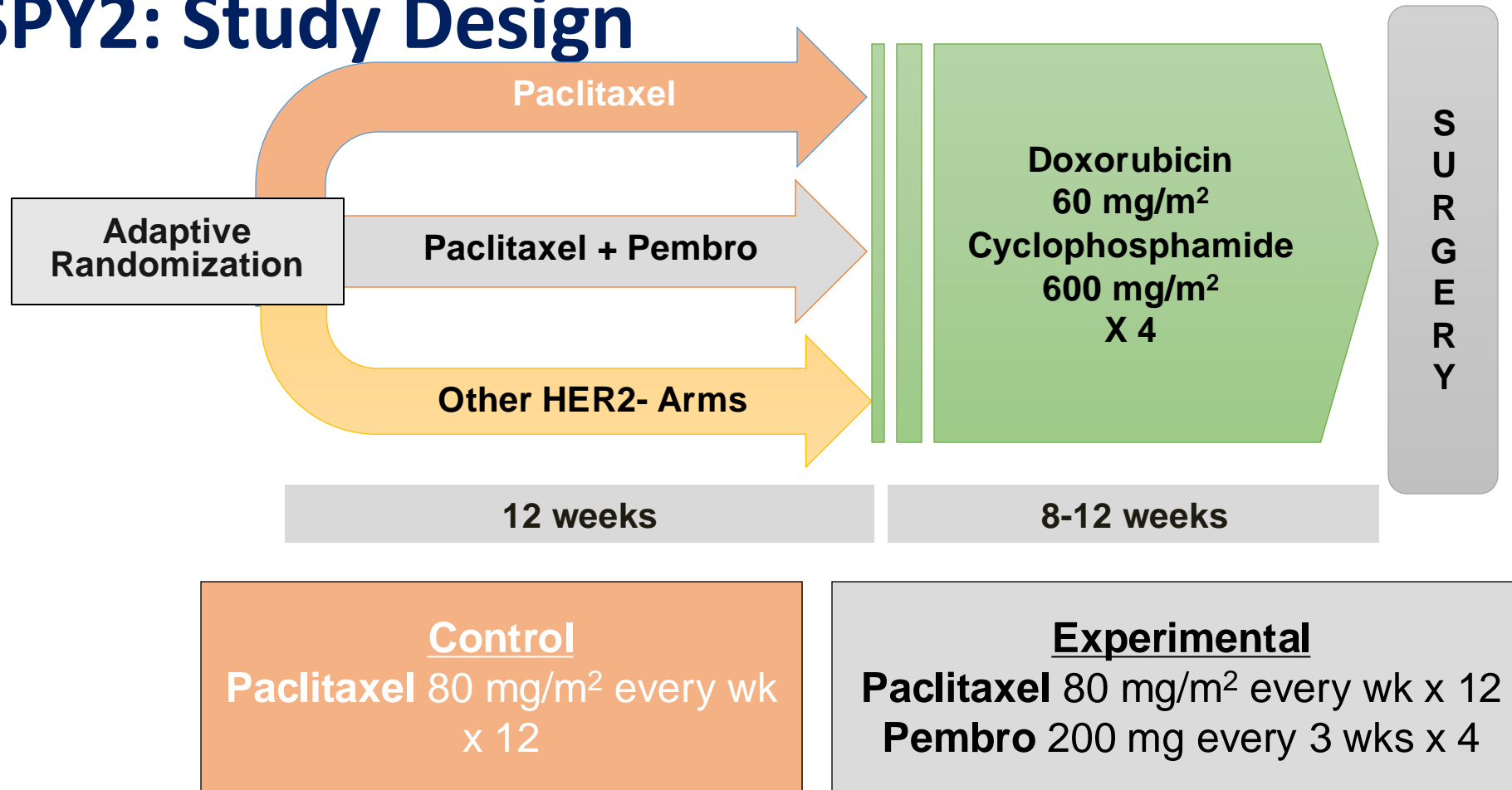
D. Constanza Guaqueta MD  
Memorial Cancer Institute  
Hollywood, FL



# Triple Negative Breast Cancer

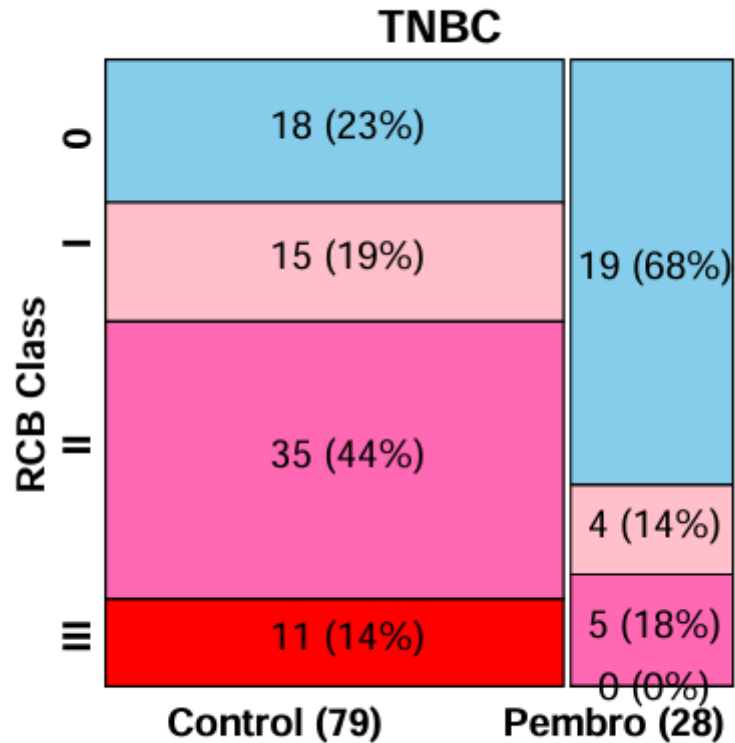


# I-SPY2: Study Design



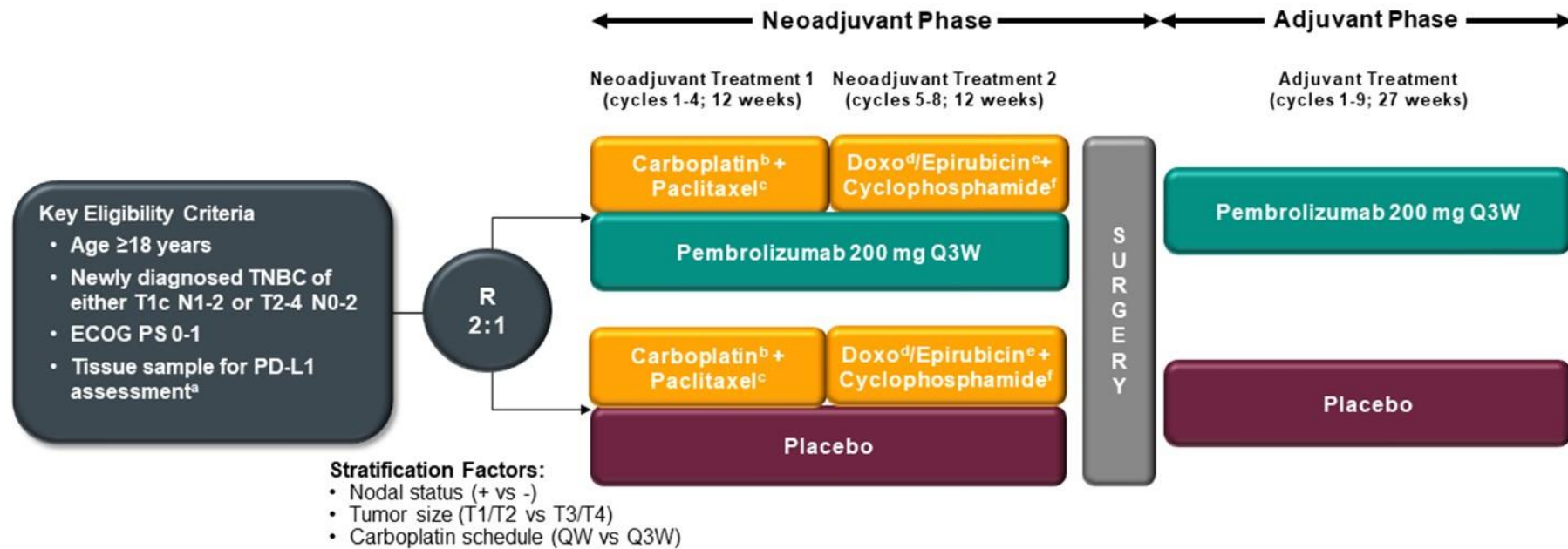
**Pembrolizumab administered only with paclitaxel**

# I-SPY 2 Neoadjuvant IO in TNBC



- Pembrolizumab more than doubled the estimated pCR rates
- Pembrolizumab shifted the RCB distribution to a lower disease burden

# KEYNOTE-522 Study Design (NCT03036488)

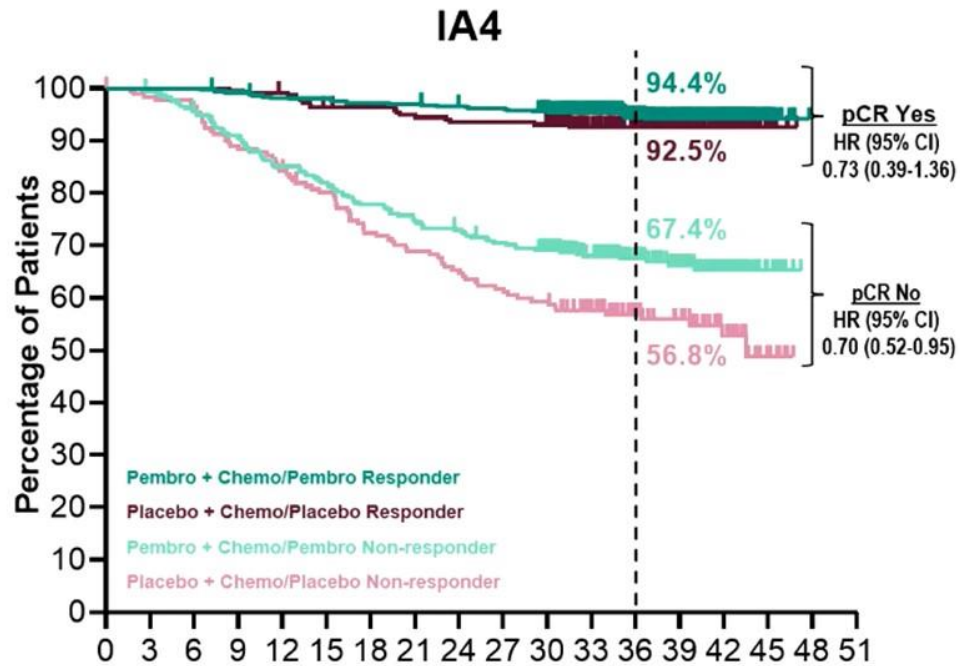


**Neoadjuvant phase:** starts from the first neoadjuvant treatment and ends after definitive surgery (post treatment included)

**Adjuvant phase:** starts from the first adjuvant treatment and includes radiation therapy as indicated (post treatment included)

Schmid et al. N Engl J Med 2020

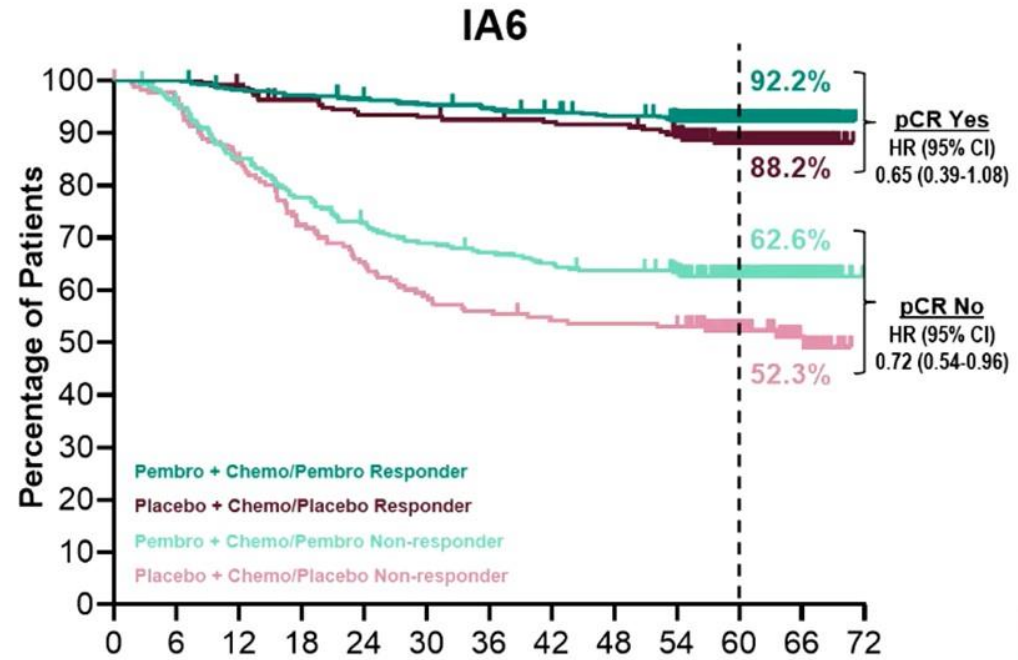
# KEYNOTE-522 (Phase 3): Efficacy – EFS by pCR (ypT0Tis ypN0)



No. at risk

Time, months	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51
Pembro + Chemo/Pembro Responder	494	494	494	489	483	482	478	477	472	470	460	387	307	220	122	18	0	0
Placebo + Chemo/Placebo Responder	217	217	217	216	214	207	206	203	200	200	197	165	130	87	56	9	0	0
Pembro + Chemo/Pembro Non-responder	290	287	275	262	245	236	224	215	209	201	192	164	126	83	43	10	0	0
Placebo + Chemo/Placebo Non-responder	173	169	165	152	144	135	122	116	110	104	100	85	65	53	27	8	0	0

Data cutoff date: March 23, 2021



No. at risk

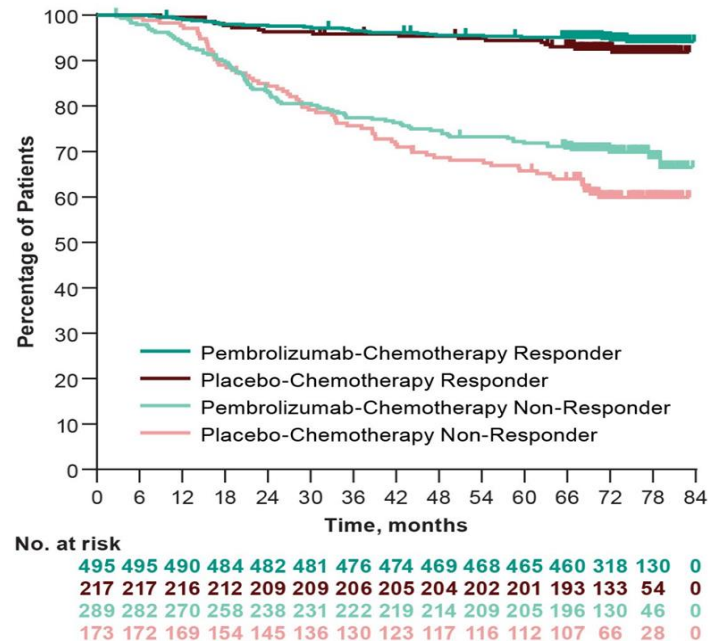
Time, months	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
Pembro + Chemo/Pembro Responder	495	495	484	479	473	468	463	458	451	439	295	120	0
Placebo + Chemo/Placebo Responder	217	217	214	206	200	199	197	195	194	185	130	53	0
Pembro + Chemo/Pembro Non-responder	289	274	244	223	208	197	191	185	180	173	116	42	0
Placebo + Chemo/Placebo Non-responder	173	165	144	123	111	100	95	91	90	89	59	26	0

Data cutoff date: March 23, 2023

Schmid P, et al. ESMO 2023. Abstract LBA18

# KEYNOTE-522 (Phase 3) : OS by pCR

Fig. S4. Kaplan-Meier Estimates of Overall Survival by Pathological Complete Response (ypT0/Tis ypN0) According to Treatment Group in the Intention-to-Treat Population. Tick marks represent data censored at the last time the patient was known to be alive.

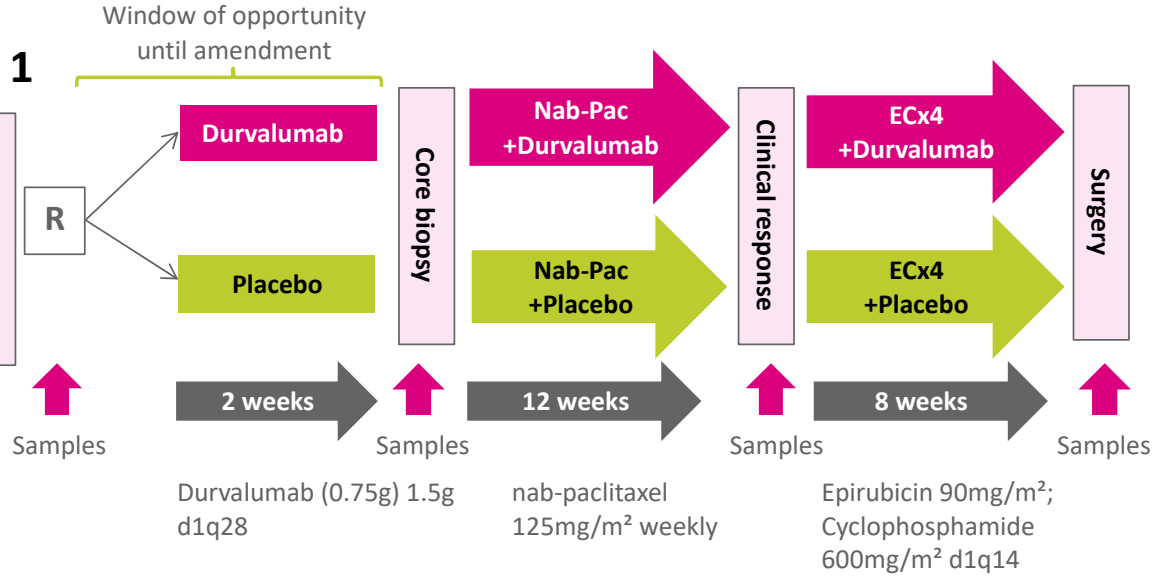


- Pembrolizumab significantly improved overall survival as compared with neoadjuvant chemotherapy alone
- A lower risk of death was observed in the Pembrolizumab group than in the SOC group regardless of the outcome with respect to pathological complete response

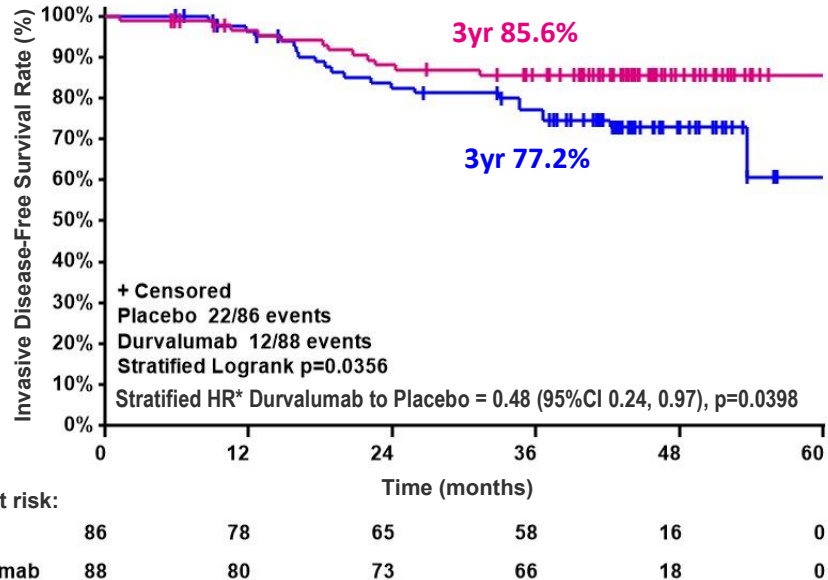
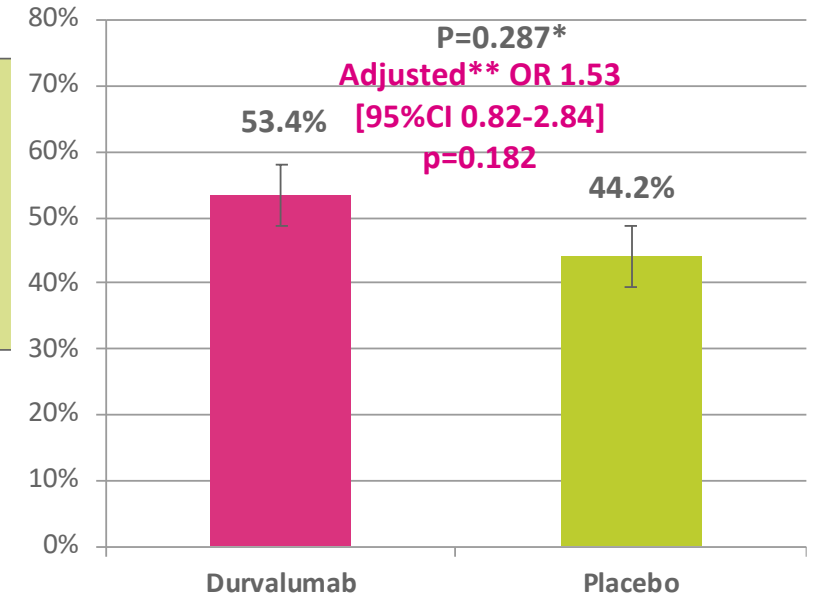
# GeparNUEVO: Phase II Durvalumab Neoadjuvant Trial

~35% stage 1

N=174  
TNBC  
Stratum:  
TILs  
(low/med/high)



Primary endpoint: pCR – ypT0, ypN0



**Δ8.4%**

iDFS between arms

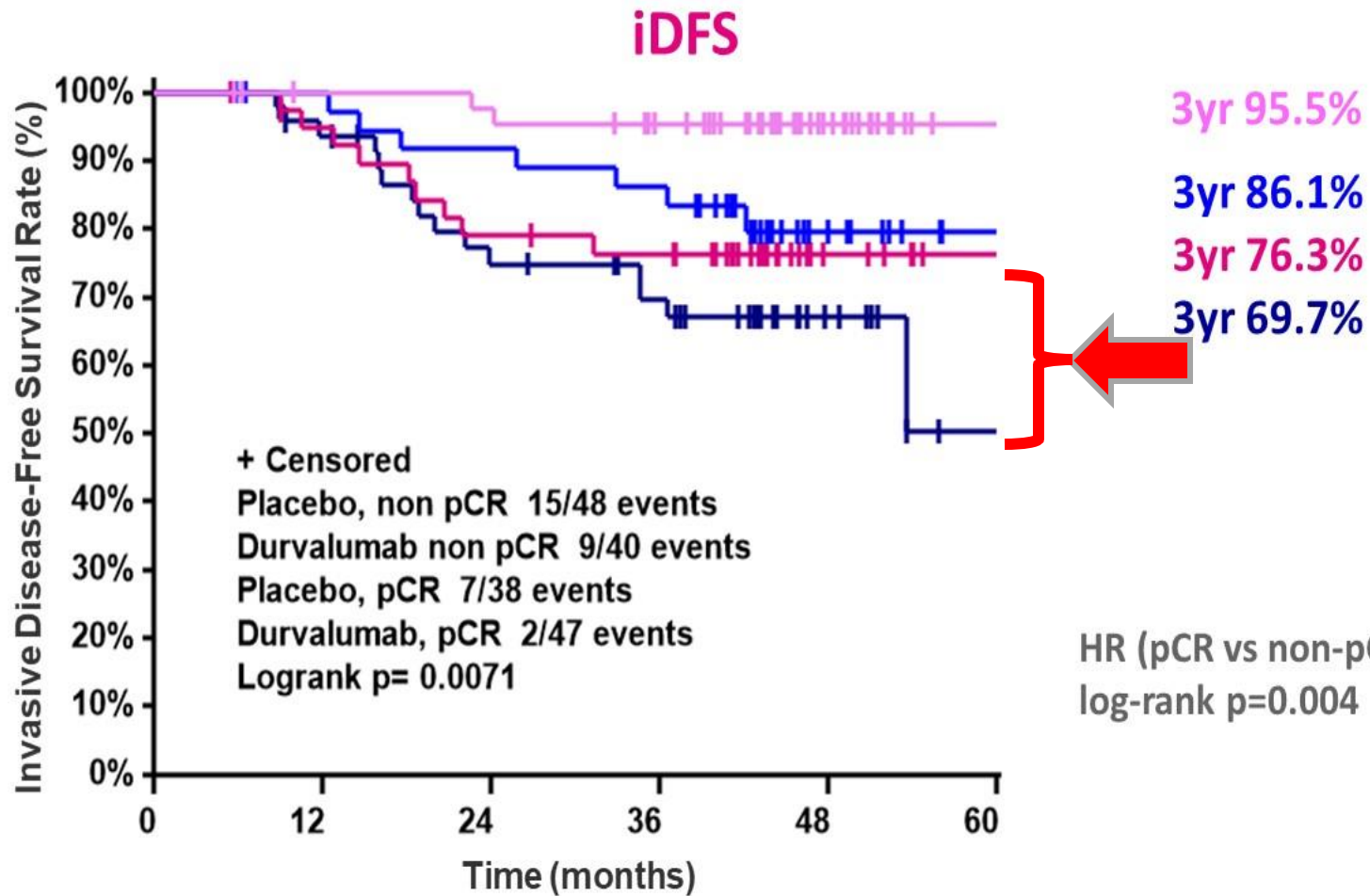
Median FU 43.7 months

\* Stratified by sTILs

**Immune therapy administered only with neoadjuvant chemo**



# iDFS by pCR and Treatment Arm



Patients at risk:

	0	12	24	36	48	60
— Placebo, non pCR	48	42	32	27	8	0
— Durvalumab non pCR	40	36	30	28	5	0
— Placebo, pCR	38	36	33	31	8	0
— Durvalumab, pCR	47	44	43	38	13	0

# Ongoing Post-Neoadjuvant Studies

Study	Treatment Arms
<b>Pathologic Complete Response After Prior Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy Plus Pembrolizumab</b>	
<b>OptimICE (Alliance)</b> <b>NCT05812807</b>	Adjuvant pembrolizumab x 9 cycles vs. No further pembrolizimab
<b>Residual Disease After Prior Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy</b>	
<b>ASCENT-05/OptimICE-RD</b> <b>NCT05633654</b>	Sacituzumab Govitecan and Pembrolizumab Vs. Treatment of Physician's Choice
<b>TROPION-Breast03</b> <b>NCT05629585</b>	Dato-DXd Vs. Dato-DXd plus Durvalumab Vs. Investigator's Choice of Therapy

# Adjuvant Immunotherapy in TNBC

# Alexandra/IMpassion030 Phase 3 open-label study design

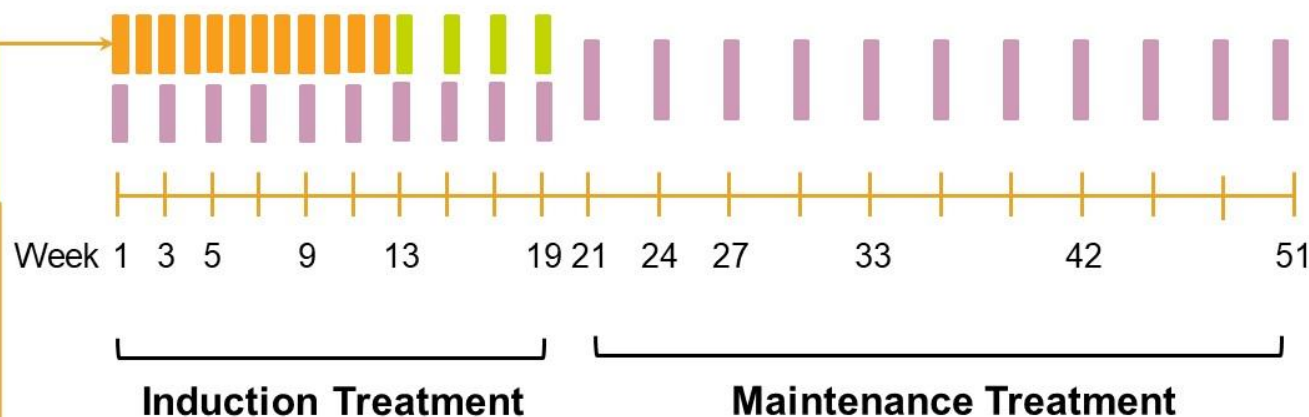
SURGERY

Early TNBC

- Stage II-III
- At least 50% node-positive
- N=2300

(R)

Arm A: Atezolizumab + Chemotherapy experimental arm



Arm B: Chemotherapy only control arm



- Paclitaxel qw for 12 weeks
- ddAC/EC q2w for 4 doses supported with G-CSF/GM-CSF
- Atezolizumab
  - Induction: 840 mg q2w for up to 10 doses
  - Maintenance: 1200 mg q3w to complete 1 year
- Monitoring visit Arm B

★ End of 30-day safety reporting period after last study treatment

Ignatiadis M SABCS 2023  
GS1-03

## Stratification factors:

### Axillary nodal status

(0 vs. 1–3 vs.  $\geq 4$  positive lymph nodes)

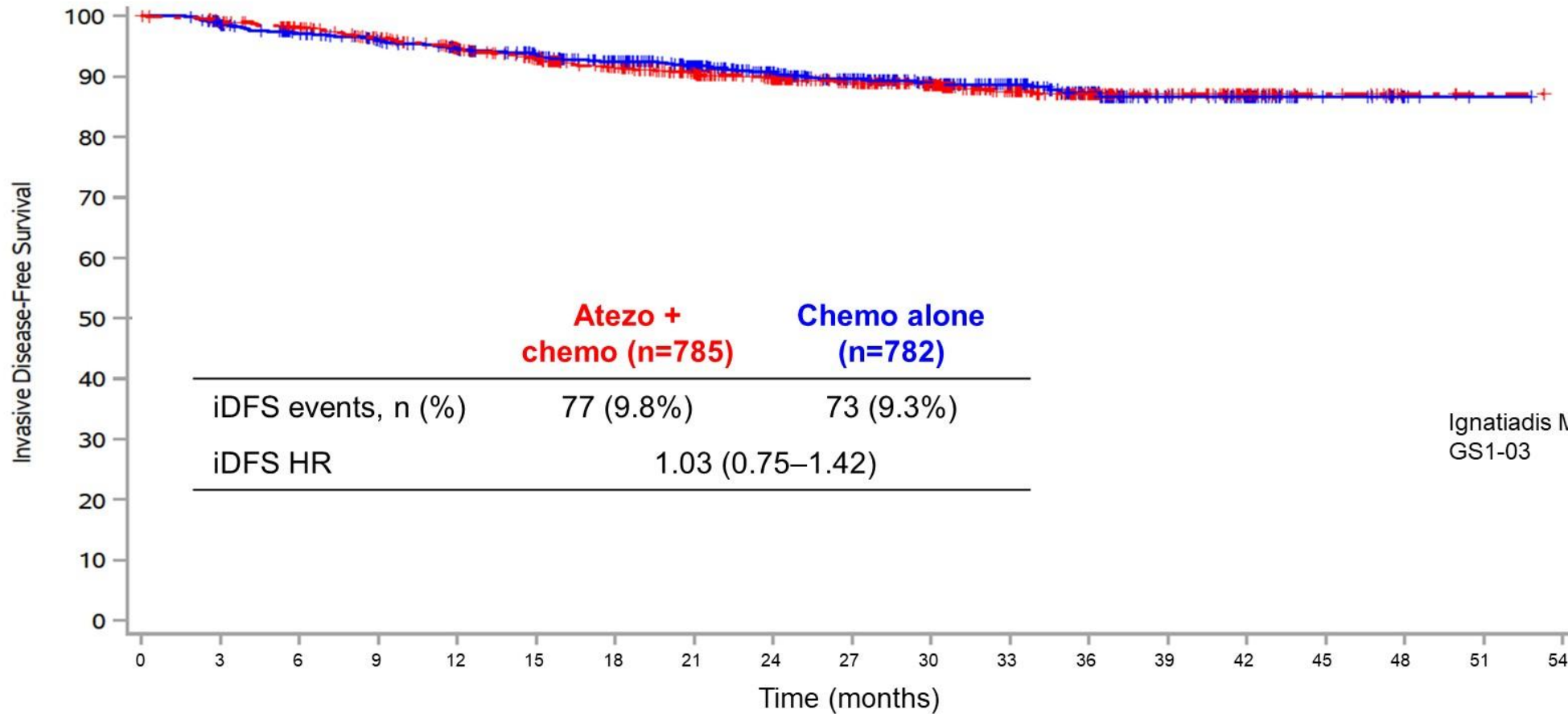
### Surgery

(breast conserving vs. mastectomy)

### Tumor PD-L1 status

(IC0 vs. IC1/2/3)

# Key secondary efficacy endpoint: iDFS in the PD-L1+ subgroup (71%)



Ignatiadis M SABCS 2023  
GS1-03

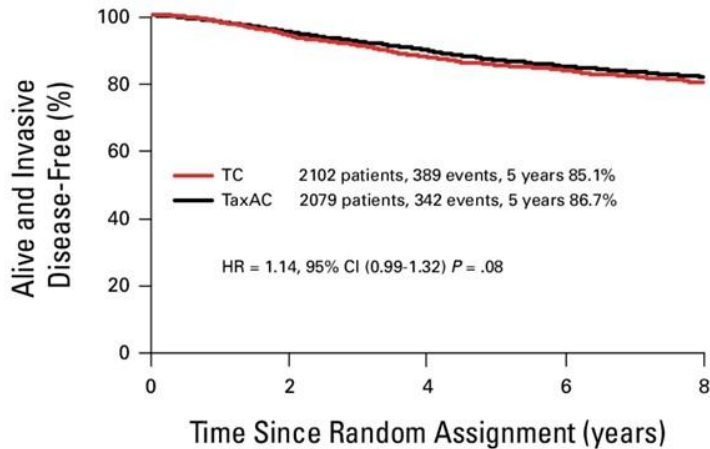
<b>Chemo alone</b>	782	728	691	660	622	589	534	486	416	350	276	223	154	81	53	14	4	1	0
<b>Atezo + chemo</b>	785	749	718	680	640	601	536	480	425	366	300	230	156	90	48	17	3	1	0

# Immunotherapy in HR+ Breast Cancer

# Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for HR+ EBC

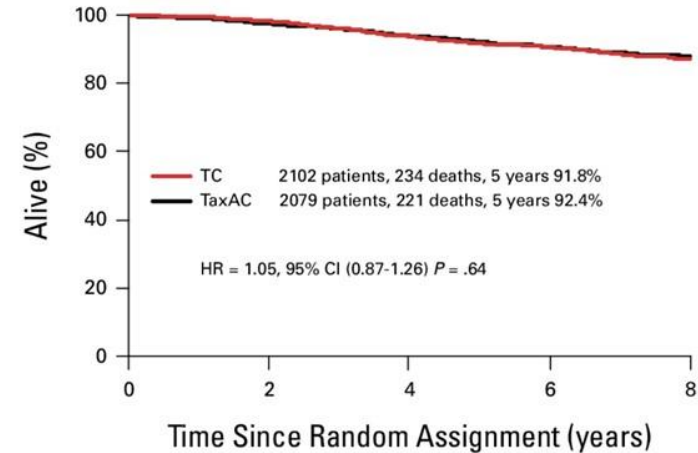
- Use of neoadjuvant chemo for HR+ dz is extrapolated from from adjuvant trials
- ABC Trials compared TC x 6 vs. TaxAC regimens
  - Median follow up at 6.9 years: Noninferiority of TC x 6 for IDFS not demonstrated. TaxAC improved IDFS in HR- subset.
  - Although TaxAC sig. reduced recurrence as IDFS first event, no sig. diff. in OS. & was associated w/ increased leukemias & non-breast cancer deaths.

**IDFS**



No. at risk:	0	2	4	6	8
TC at risk	2,102	1,908	1,707	1,367	423
TaxAC at risk	2,079	1,892	1,689	1,347	414

**OS**

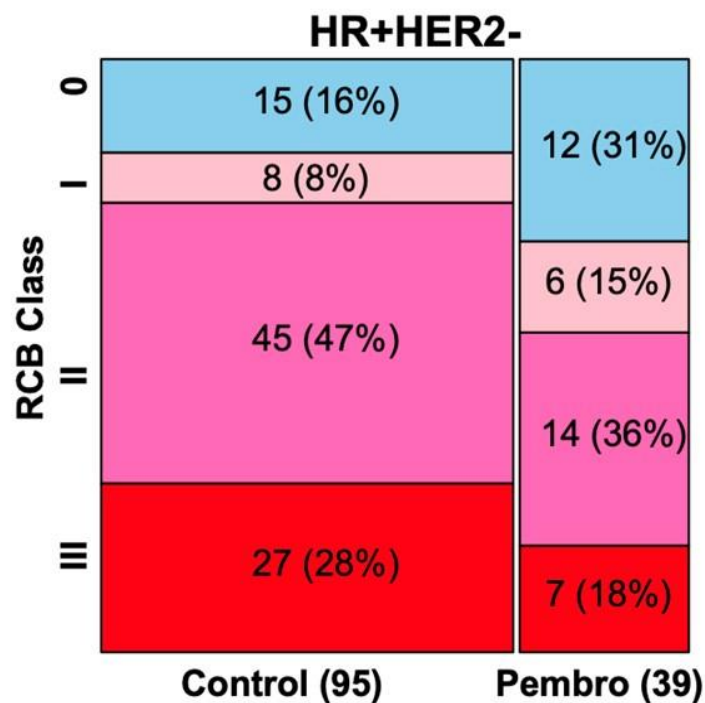


No. at risk:	0	2	4	6	8
TC at risk	2,102	1,999	1,831	1,487	455
TaxAC at risk	2,079	1,945	1,770	1,444	436

Geyer et al.  
JCO 2024

# Neoadjuvant IO in HR+ EBC

- I-SPY2: adaptively randomized platform trial for high-risk, stage II/III breast cancer
  - 69 pts. randomized to pembrolizumab x 4 cycles with weekly paclitaxel, f/b AC
  - 181 pts. randomized to standard neoadj. chemo control



- Important to realize that many “HR”+ cases are actually basal molecular subtypes and benefit from TNBC style regimens

Nanda et al.  
*JAMA Onc* 2020

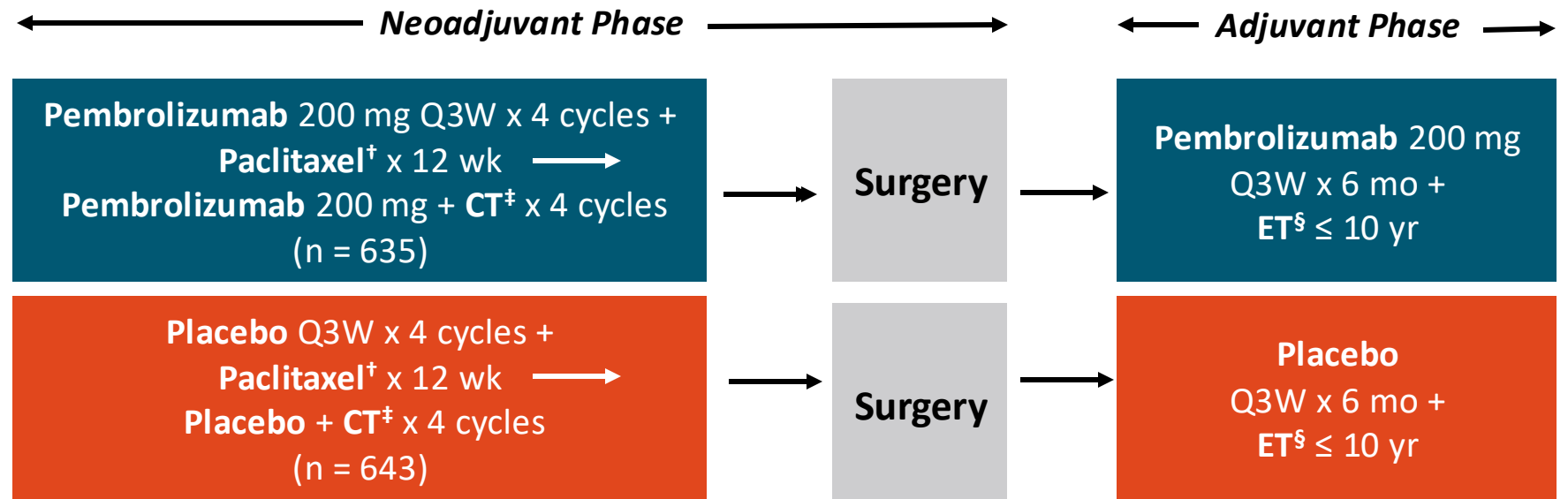


# KEYNOTE-756: Study Design

- International, randomized, open-label phase III trial

Stratified\* by tumor PD-L1 status (CPS  $\geq 1$  or  $< 1$ ), nodal involvement (positive vs negative), ER positivity (1-9% vs  $\geq 10\%$ ), anthracycline schedule (Q2W vs Q3W)

Patients with high-risk, grade 3 invasive ductal ER+/HER2- EBC; T1c-2 ( $\geq 2$  cm) cN1-2 or T3-4 cN0-2; no prior treatment permitted (N = 1278)



\*Patients in Eastern Europe stratified by PD-L1 status only; no stratification in China; all other countries stratified by all factors. <sup>†</sup>80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> QW. <sup>‡</sup>Doxorubicin 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W, epirubicin 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W, cyclophosphamide 600 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W or Q2W. <sup>§</sup>ET according to institution. Radiotherapy permitted in adjuvant phase.

- Primary endpoints: pCR (ypT0/Tis ypN0) at time of surgery; EFS
- Secondary endpoints: OS; pCR (ypT0 ypN0); pCR (ypT0/Tis ); efficacy in PD-L1 CPS  $\geq 1$  group; safety

# KEYNOTE-756: pCR at First Interim Analysis by Subgroup

Patients With pCR at First Interim Analysis, % (n/N)	Pembrolizumab	Placebo	Estimated Treatment Difference, % (95% CI)
PD-L1 CPS $\geq 1$			
▪ ER+ <10%	57.6 (19/33)	33.3 (13/39)	24.2 (1. to -45.1)
▪ ER+ $\geq 10\%$	27.6 (124/449)	18.4 (83/450)	9.2 (3.7 to 14.6)
PD-L1 CPS <1			
▪ ER+ $\geq 10\%$	7.2 (11/152)	2.7 (4/150)	4.6 (-0.4 to 10.2)
CT exposure			
▪ Full exposure*	26.2 (142/543)	16.9 (95/563)	9.3 (4.5 to 14.1)
▪ < Full exposure	13.2 (12/91)	6.4 (5/78)	6.8 (-2.6 to 16.2)

\*Paclitaxel 10-12 doses, doxorubicin or epirubicin 4 doses, and cyclophosphamide 4 doses.

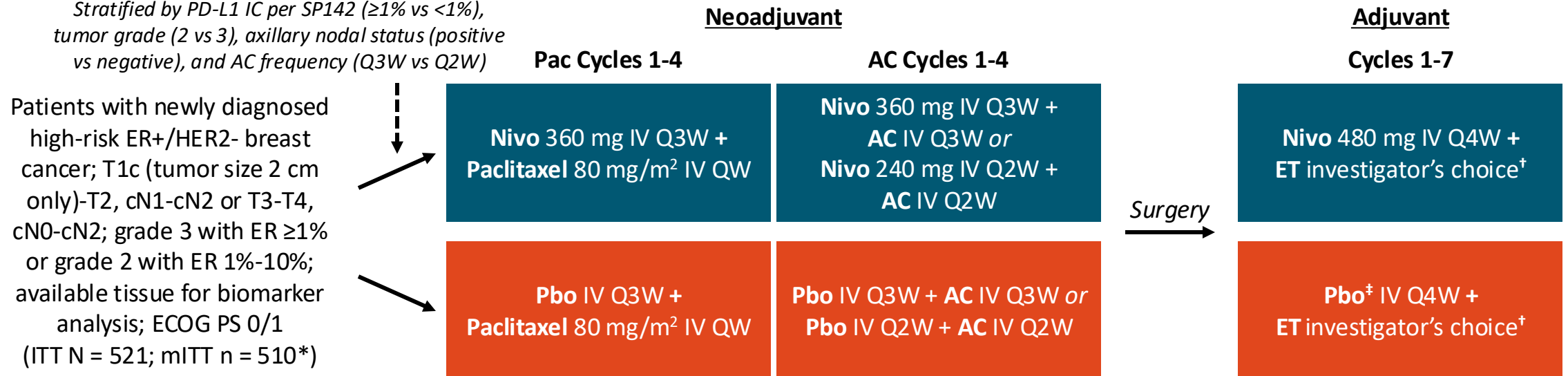
# KEYNOTE-756: Residual Cancer Burden After Definitive Surgery

RCB Category After Surgery, % (n/N)	Pembrolizumab	Placebo
RCB 0-1	35.0 (222/635)	23.6 (152/643)
RCB 2	40.8 (259/635)	45.3 (291/643)
RCB 3	20.5 (130/635)	28.9 (186/643)

# CheckMate 7FL Biomarker Analysis: Study Design

- Exploratory biomarker analysis of international, randomized, double-blind phase III trial

Stratified by PD-L1 IC per SP142 ( $\geq 1\%$  vs  $< 1\%$ ), tumor grade (2 vs 3), axillary nodal status (positive vs negative), and AC frequency (Q3W vs Q2W)



\*mITT population excluded n = 11 enrolled in Russia after site closed before pCR assessment. <sup>†</sup>Investigator's choice of ET agents included anastrozole, exemestane, letrozole, and tamoxifen. <sup>‡</sup>After protocol amendment, adjuvant phase made open label and patients no longer received Pbo.

- Primary endpoint:** pCR (ypT0/Tis, ypN0) in mITT
- Secondary endpoints:** pCR in PD-L1+, RCB class frequency and 0-1 rate in mITT and PD-L1+, safety

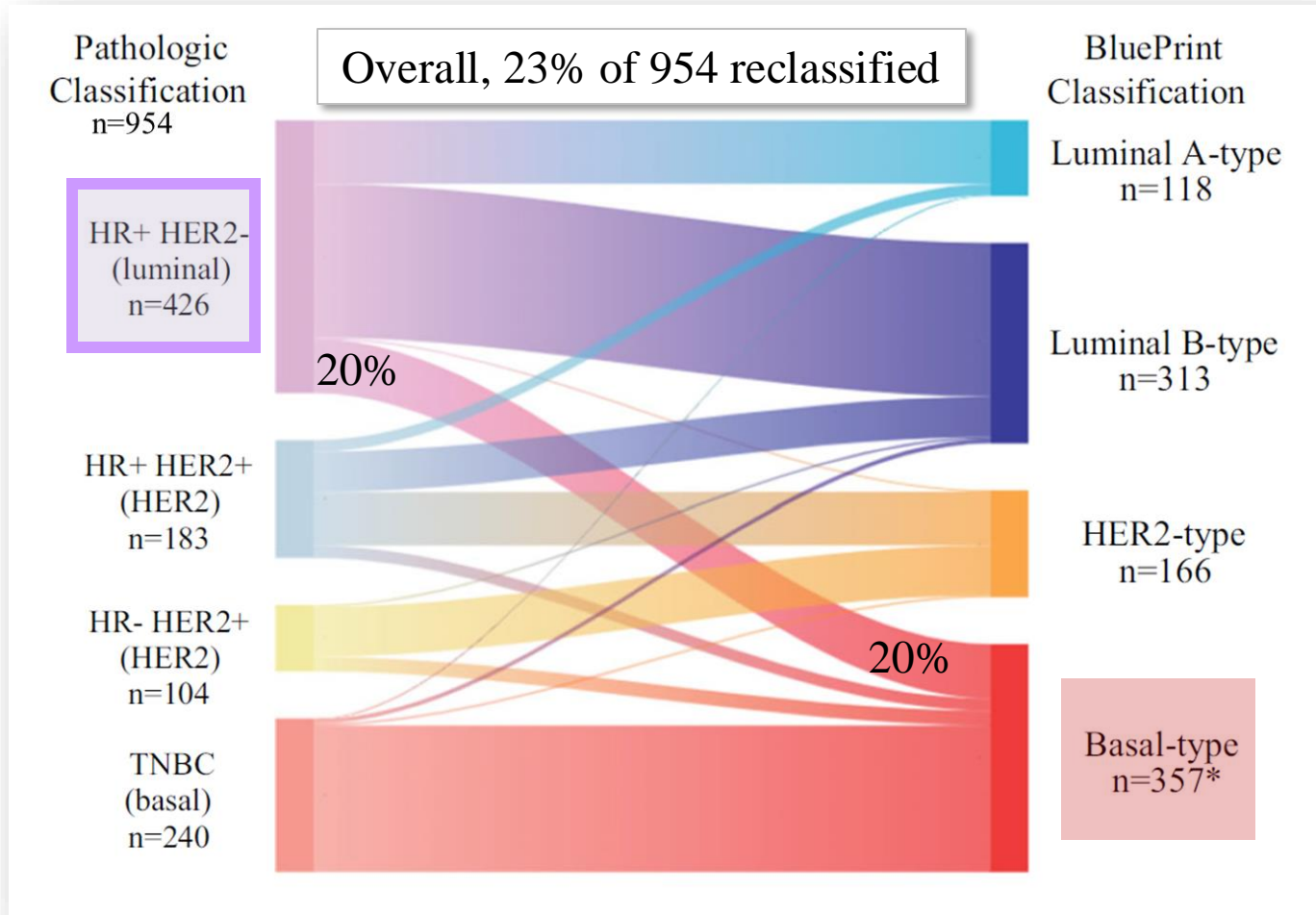
- Current analysis:** pCR and RCB 0-1 rates according to PD-L1 expression per SP142 and 28-8 CPS, sTIL score, ER and/or PgR IHC, and Ki67 index

# CheckMate 7FL Biomarker Analysis: pCR and sTIL

Rate by PD-L1, %		pCR		
		Nivo + NACT	Pbo + NACT	Diff., % (95% CI)
Overall		24.5	13.8	10.7 (3.9 to 17.4)
SP142	<1%	14.2	10.7	3.6 (-3.6 to 10.7)
	≥1%	44.3	20.2	24.1 (10.1 to 36.7)
sTIL	<3	9.2	10.0	-0.8 (-9.5 to 8.3)
	≥3	44.4	21.1	23.4 (8.7 to 36.7)
	<5	9.8	10.5	-0.7 (-9.3 to 8.3)
	≥5	46.1	21.1	24.9 (9.7 to 38.6)
	<10	14.0	11.4	2.7 (-5.9 to 11.4)
	≥10	51.9	22.6	29.2 (10.9 to 44.9)

- Nivo benefit greater in PD-L1+ population defined using SP142 IC ≥1% or 28-8 CPS ≥1
- Greater pCR was observed with nivolumab when tumors had sTIL ≥1%
- RCB 0-1 rate by sTIL status consistent with pCR rate
- Ki67 index (< vs ≥20%) not associated with pCR or RCB 0-1 benefit with nivolumab

# 20% of ER+, HER2- Clinical “Subtype” → BluePrint Genomic Basal Subtype



JCO® Precision Oncology

**CANCER GENOMICS**

original reports

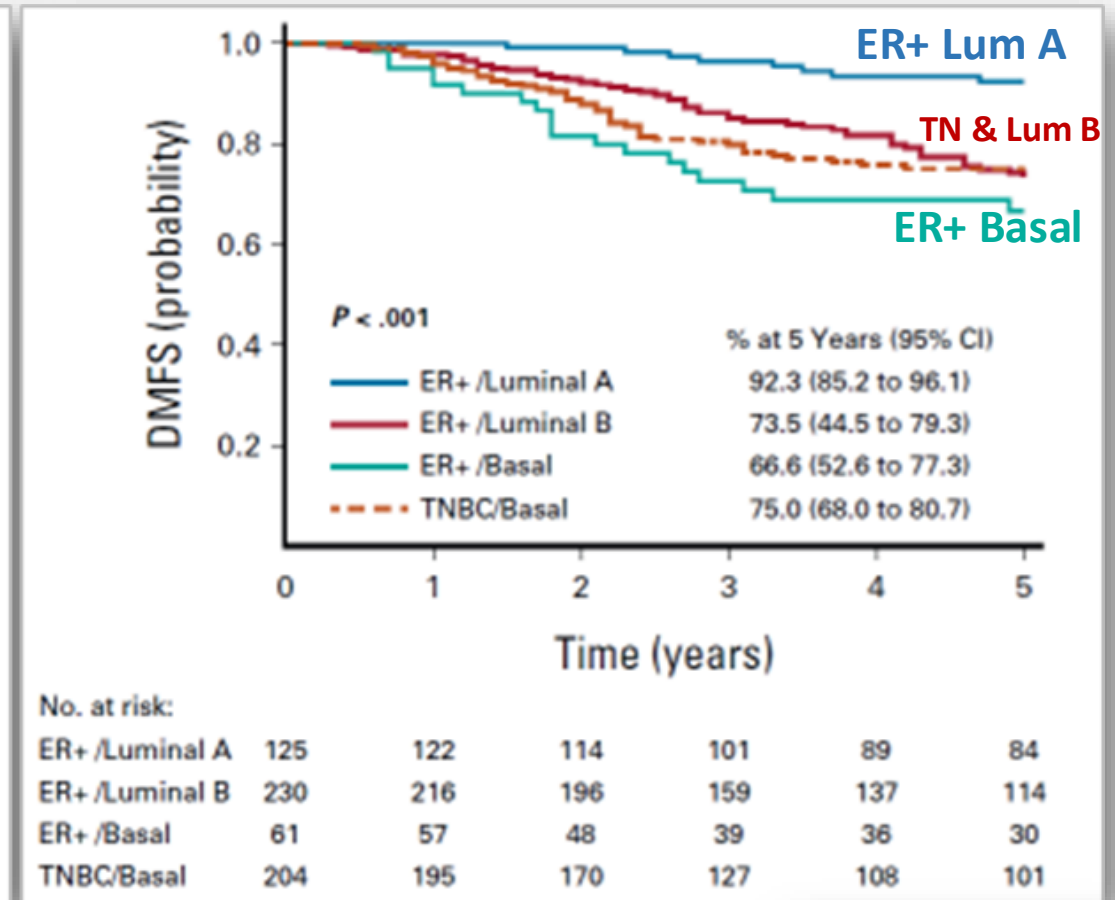
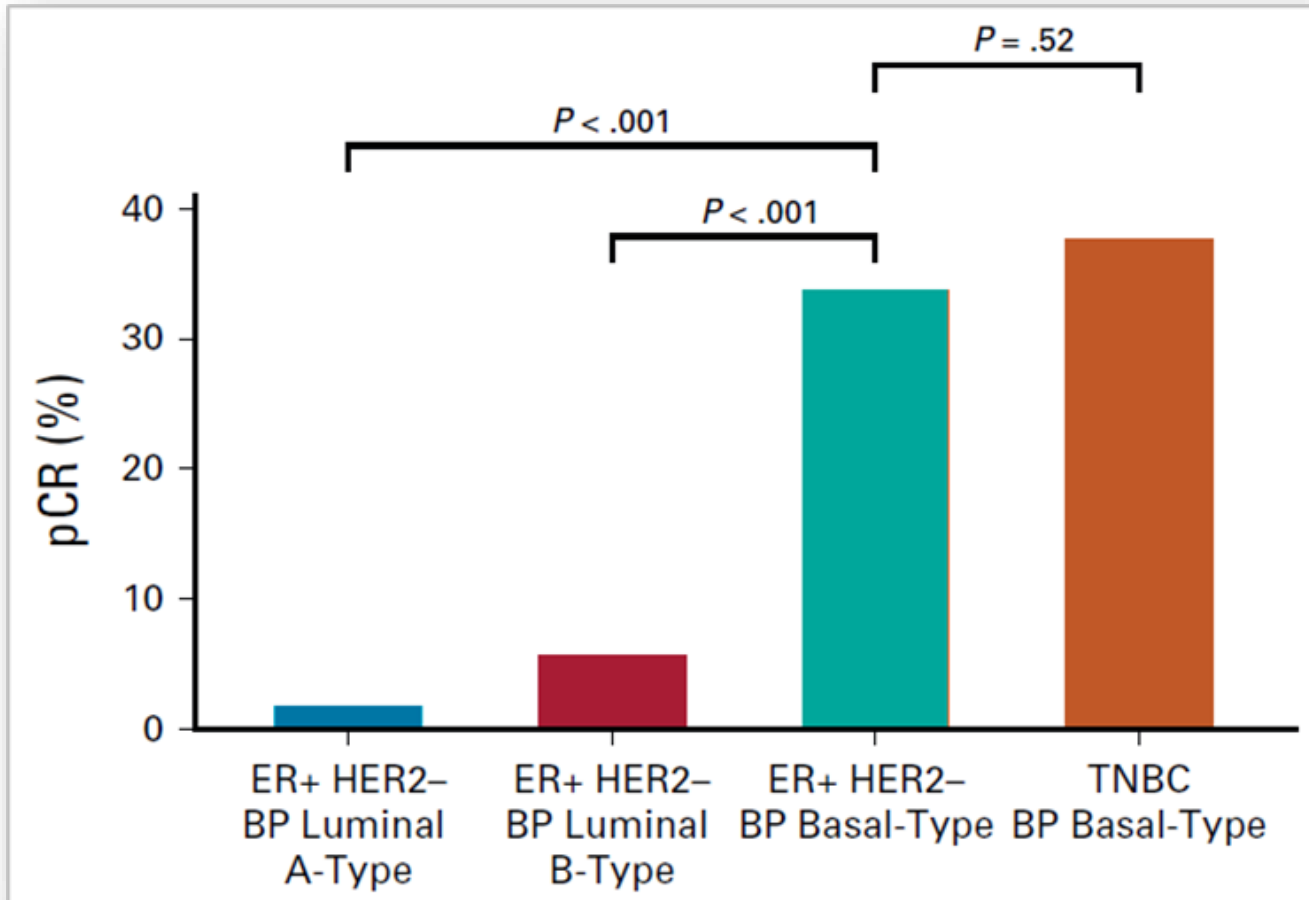
## Distinct Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy Response and 5-Year Outcome in Patients With Estrogen Receptor-Positive, Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor 2-Negative Breast Tumors That Reclassify as Basal-Type by the 80-Gene Signature

Pat W. Whitworth, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; Peter D. Beitsch, MD<sup>2,3</sup>; James V. Pellicane, MD<sup>4</sup>; Paul L. Baron, MD<sup>5,6</sup>; Laura A. Lee, MD<sup>7</sup>; Carrie L. Dul, MD<sup>8</sup>; Mary K. Murray, MD<sup>9,10</sup>; Mark A. Gittleman, MD<sup>11</sup>; Raye J. Budway, MD<sup>12</sup>; Rakhshanda Layeequr Rahman, MD<sup>13</sup>; Pond R. Kelemen, MD<sup>14,15</sup>; William C. Dooley, MD<sup>16,17</sup>; David T. Rock, MD<sup>18,19</sup>; Kenneth H. Cowan, MD, PhD<sup>20</sup>; Beth-Ann Lesnikoski, MD<sup>21,22</sup>; Julie L. Barone, DO<sup>23,24</sup>; Andrew Y. Ashikari, MD<sup>15,25</sup>; Beth B. Dupree, MD<sup>26</sup>; Shiyu Wang, MS<sup>27</sup>; Andrea R. Menicucci, PhD<sup>27</sup>; Erin B. Yoder, MS<sup>27</sup>; Christine Finn, BS<sup>27</sup>; Kate Corcoran, MPH<sup>27</sup>; Lisa E. Blumencranz, PhD<sup>27</sup>; and William Audeh, MD, MS<sup>27</sup>; NBRST Investigators Group

published at [ascopubs.org/journal/jco](https://ascopubs.org/journal/jco) on April 27, 2022; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.2021.00463>

# pCR Rates and DMFS in Basal and ER+ Luminal Subtypes

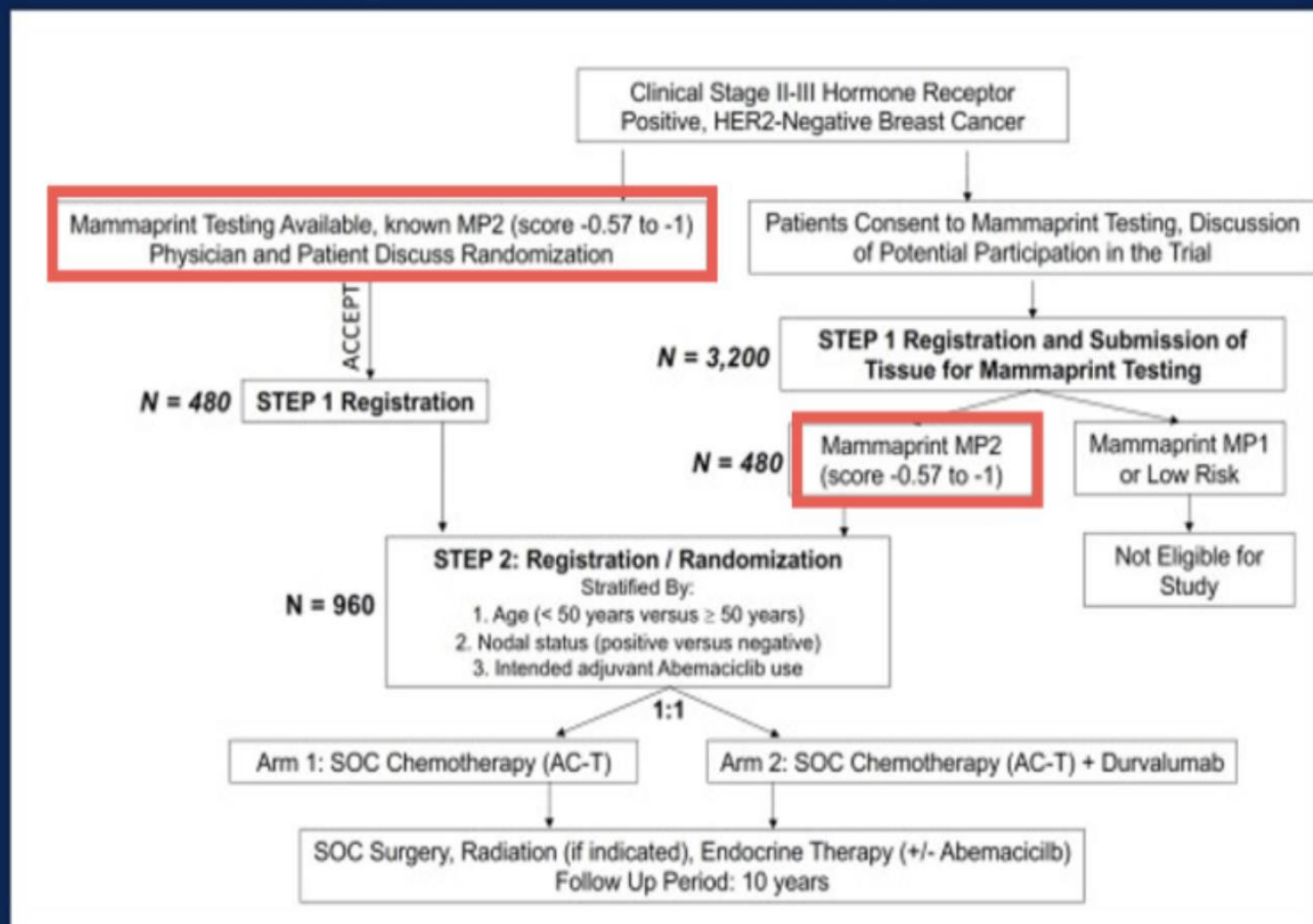
## ER Basal Behaves Like TNBC but looks like ER positive



[ascopubs.org/journal/po](https://ascopubs.org/journal/po) on April 27, 2022:  
DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/P0.21.00463>

# SWOG S2206

## MammaPrint High 2 for Immunotherapy in ER+ Breast Cancer





# Metastatic Triple Negative Breast Cancer



# KEYNOTE-355 Study Design (NCT02819518)

## Key Eligibility Criteria

- Age ≥18 years
- Central determination of TNBC and PD-L1 expression<sup>a</sup>
- Previously untreated locally recurrent inoperable or metastatic TNBC
- De novo metastasis or completion of treatment with curative intent ≥6 months prior to first disease recurrence
- ECOG performance status 0 or 1
- Life expectancy ≥12 weeks from randomization
- Adequate organ function
- No systemic steroids
- No active CNS metastases
- No active autoimmune disease

R  
2:1

Pembrolizumab<sup>b</sup> + Chemotherapy<sup>c</sup>

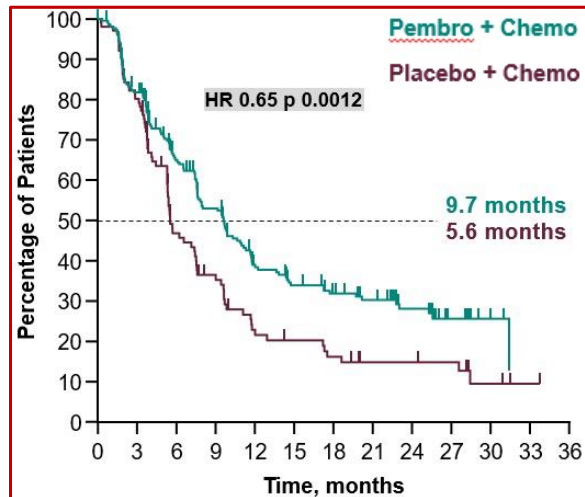
Placebo<sup>d</sup> + Chemotherapy<sup>c</sup>

Progressive disease<sup>e</sup>/cessation of study therapy

## Stratification Factors:

- Chemotherapy on study (taxane or gemcitabine-carboplatin)
- PD-L1 tumor expression (CPS ≥1 or CPS <1)<sup>f</sup>
- Prior treatment with same class chemotherapy in the neoadjuvant or adjuvant setting (yes or no)

## PFS: PD-L1 CPS ≥10



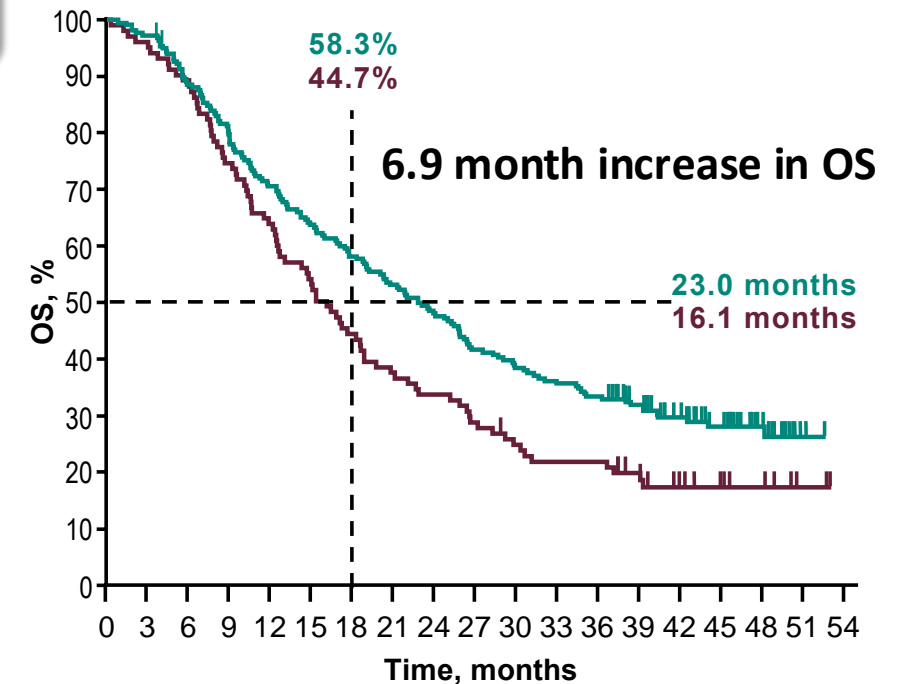
Prespecified *P* value boundary of 0.00411 met

38% of pts

Cortes et al, Lancet 2020; Rugo et al, ESMO 2021

## OS: PD-L1 CPS ≥10

	n/N	Events	HR (95% CI)	<i>P</i> -value (one-sided)
Pembro + Chemo	155/220	70.5%	0.73 (0.55-0.95)	0.0093 <sup>a</sup>
Placebo + Chemo	84/103	81.6%		

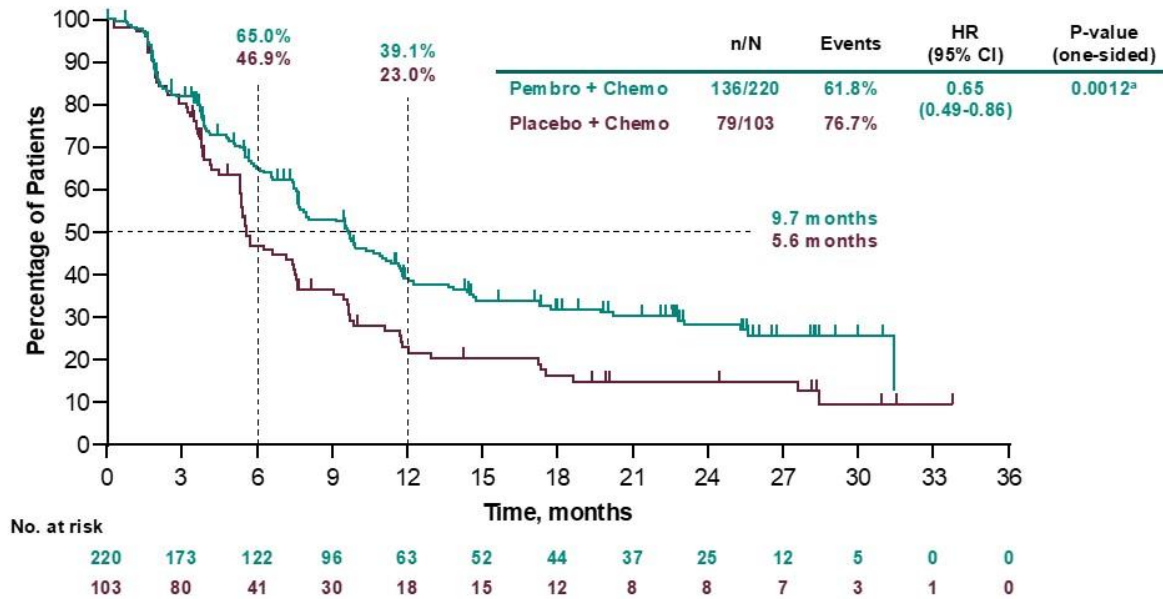


## No. at risk

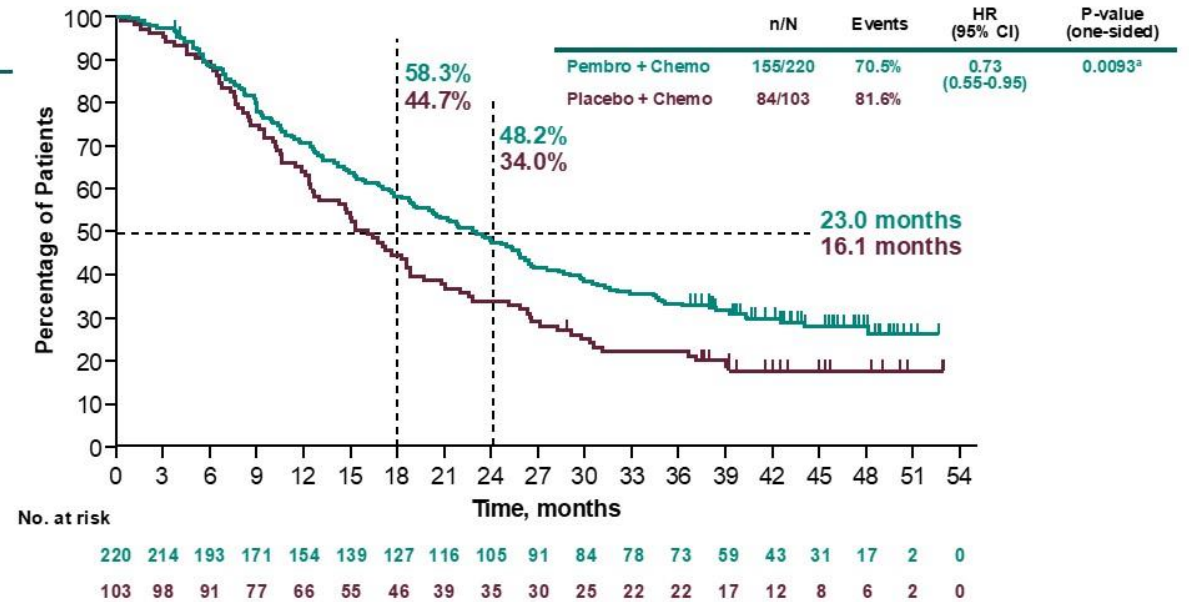
220	214	193	171	154	139	127	116	105	91	84	78	73	59	43	31	17	2	0
103	98	91	77	66	55	46	39	35	30	25	22	22	17	12	8	6	2	0

# KN355: Addition of Pembrolizumab to Chemotherapy Improves Survival as 1L Treatment for PD-L1+ mTNBC

## PFS in PD-L1+ (CPS ≥10)

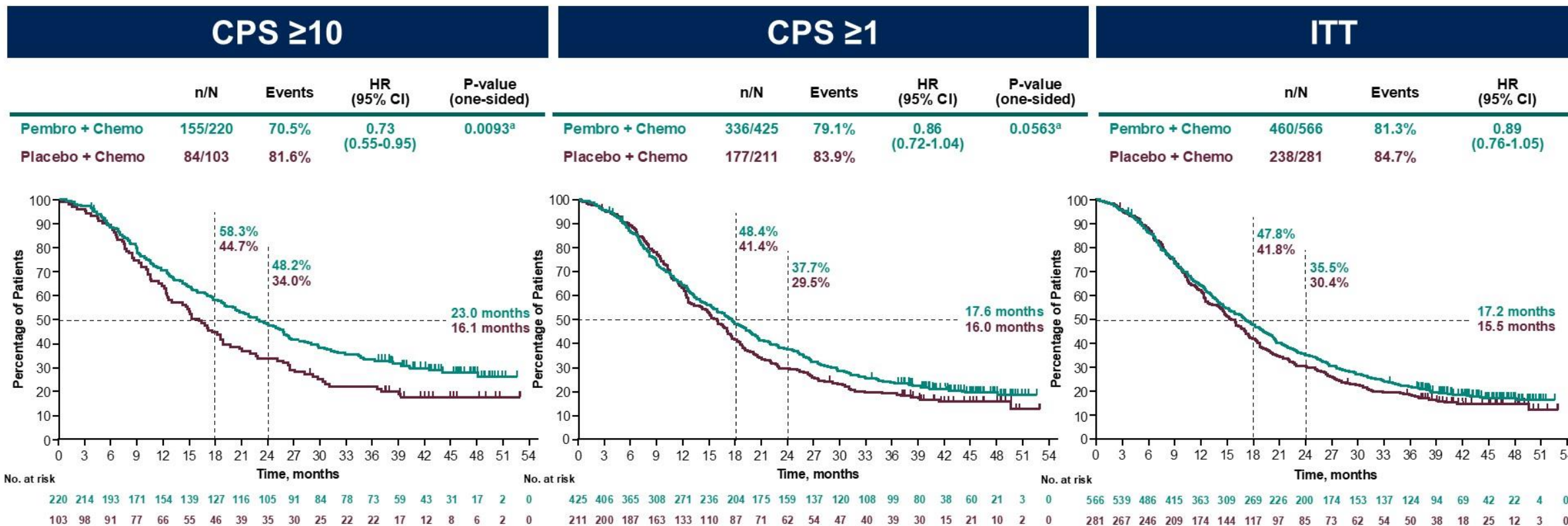


## OS in PD-L1+ (CPS ≥10)



Cortes J et al. ASCO 2020; Rugo H et al. SABCS 2020; Cortes J et al. Lancet. 2020;396:1817-28; Rugo H et al. ESMO 2021; Cortes J et al. N Engl J Med. 2022;387:217-26.

# KN355: Pembrolizumab Benefit in PD-L1 CPS $\geq 10$



Cortes J et al. ASCO 2020; Rugo H et al. SABCS 2020; Cortes J et al. Lancet. 2020;396:1817-28; Rugo H et al. ESMO 2021; Cortes J et al. N Engl J Med. 2022;387:217-26.

# Take Home Message

- Neoadjuvant Chemoimmunotherapy is now SOC in patients with Stage II/III TNBC based on results from Keynote-522
- In patients with early-stage triple-negative breast cancer, the addition of Atezolizumab to standard adjuvant chemotherapy provided no benefit over chemotherapy alone in the final analysis of the phase III ALEXANDRA/IMpassion030 trial
- Neoadjuvant Chemoimmunotherapy significantly improved pCR and RCB 0–1 rates in High Risk HR (+) Her2 Negative Breast cancer patients
- Chemoimmunotherapy in advanced triple-negative breast cancer whose tumors expressed PD-L1 with a CPS of 10 or more resulted in significantly longer overall survival than chemotherapy alone.