



Selección de pacientes para tratamiento adyuvante en cáncer de colon: ¿es posible ir más allá de las variables clínicas?

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Agenda



Agenda

1

**Signatures
KRAS/BRAF
Immunoscore**





Agenda

1

Signatures
KRAS/BRAF
Immunoscore



2

Microsatellite instability
(MSI)





Agenda

1

**Signatures
KRAS/BRAF
Immunoscore**



2

**Microsatellite instability
(MSI)**



3

**Circulating tumour DNA
(ctDNA)**





Agenda

1

**Signatures
KRAS/BRAF
Immunoscore**



2

**Microsatellite instability
(MSI)**



3

**Circulating tumour DNA
(ctDNA)**



4

PIK3CA





1. Gene expresión signatures, KRAS/BRAF, immunoscore

SEOM:

(Pericay 2024)

ESMO:

(Argiles 2020)

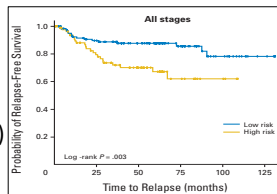
Not recommended for routine practice

Not recommended for routine practice

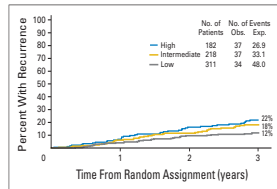
Could be considered

Signatures

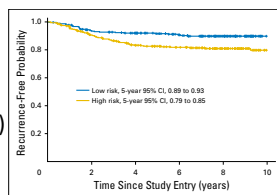
Coloprint
(Salazar, JCO 2011)



Oncotype DX
(Gray, JCO 2011)

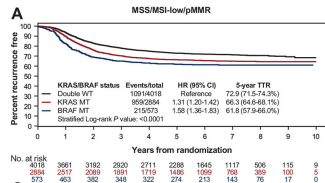


GeneFx Colon
(Niedzwiecki, JCO 2016)

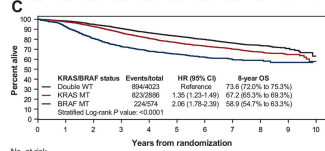


KRAS and BRAF

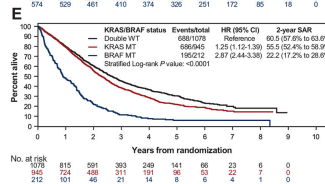
TTR



OS

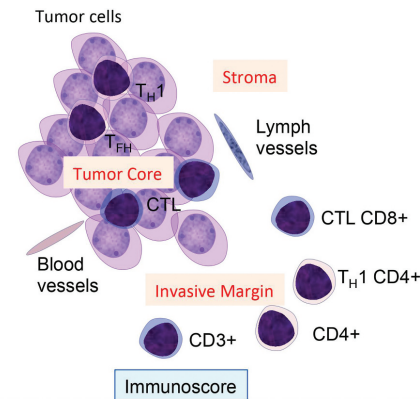


SAR



Taieb, Ann Oncol 2023

Immunoscore



CD3+, CD8+ cells in the tumor and at the invasive margin
Full slide quantification with the Immunoscore software

Lanzi, Oncoimmunology 2020

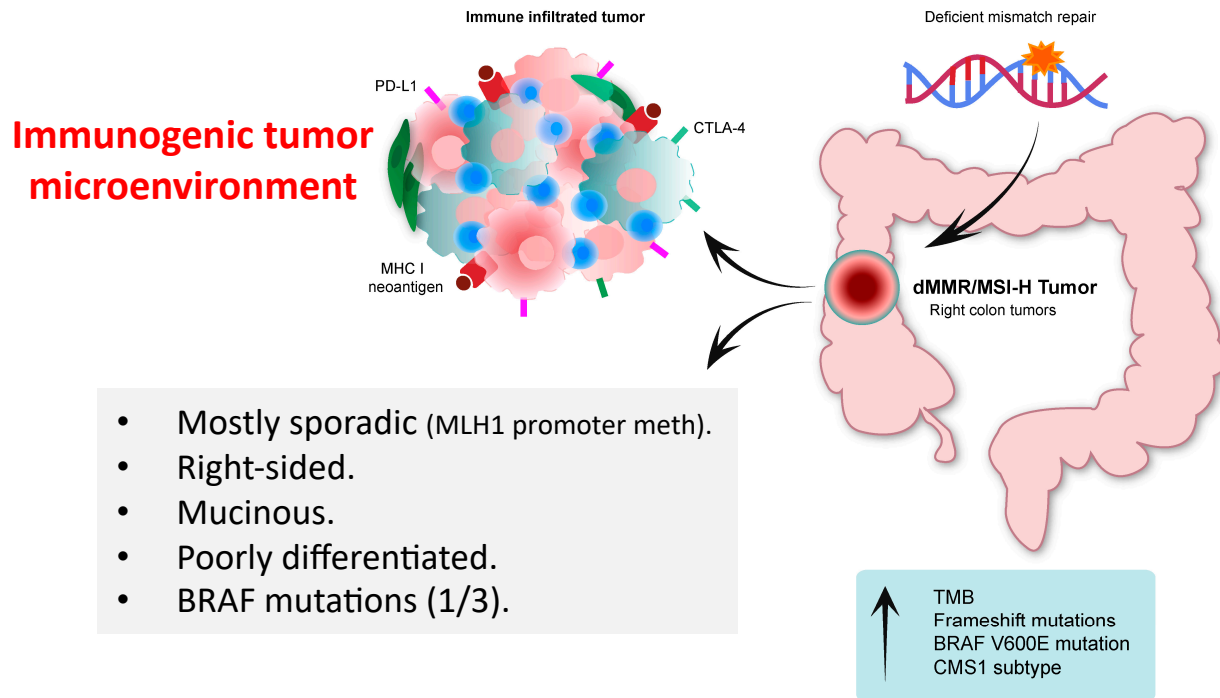
Mlecnik, J Clin Oncol 2020

Pagés, Ann Oncol 2020



2. Microsatellite instability (MSI)

dMMR/MSI-H: hypermutated tumors



Hypermuted:
10-100x somatic
mutations



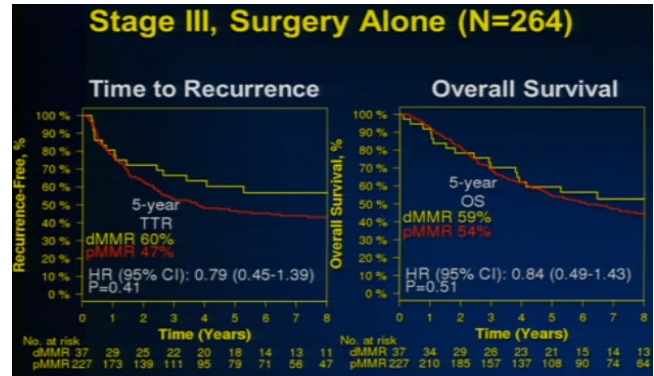
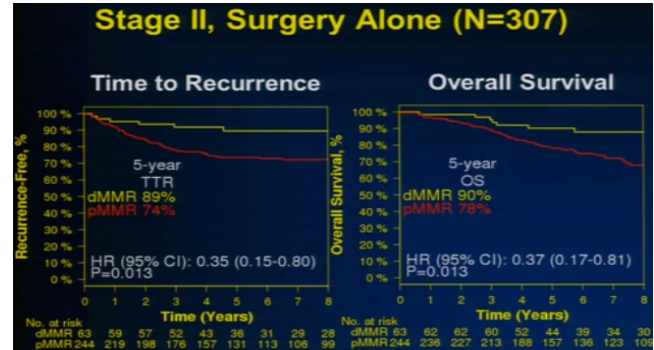
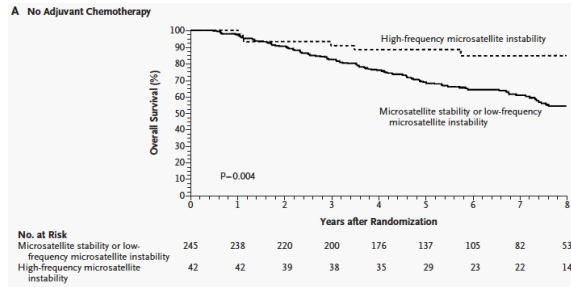
Large amounts of
neoantigens 10-
50x



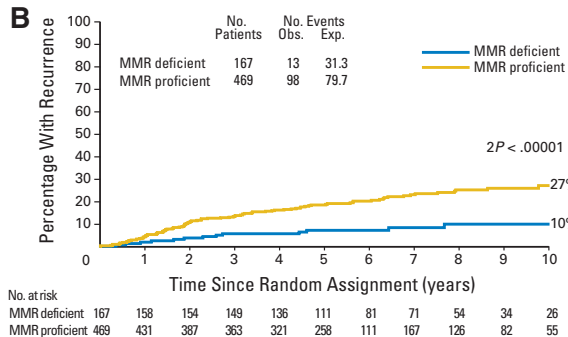
Stage II: 20%
Stage III: 12%
Stage IV: 4%

Untreated MSI patients have a better prognosis than MSS, with a trend toward stronger effect in stage II

Stages
II and III
(5 trials)

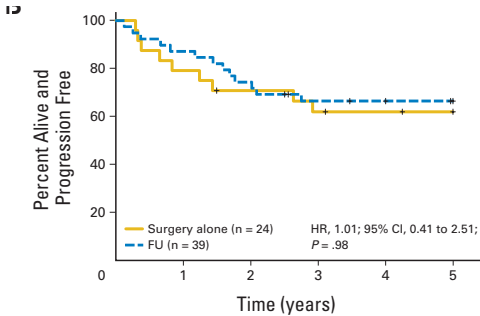
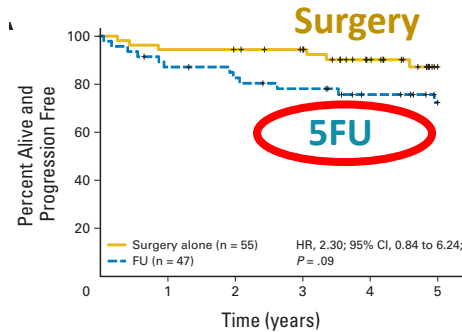


Stage II
(QUASAR)

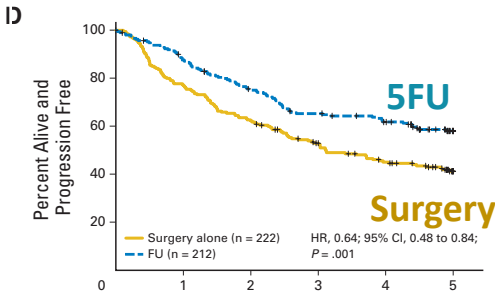
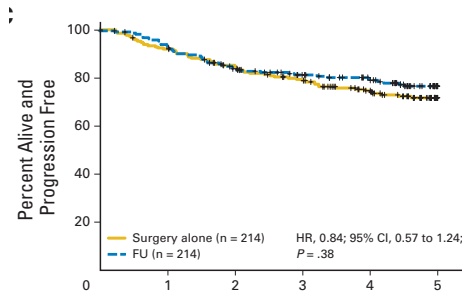


MSI do not seem to benefit from adjuvant FP, even a suggestion of harm in OS (5 trials of adj FU vs observation)

dMMR



pMMR



Stage II

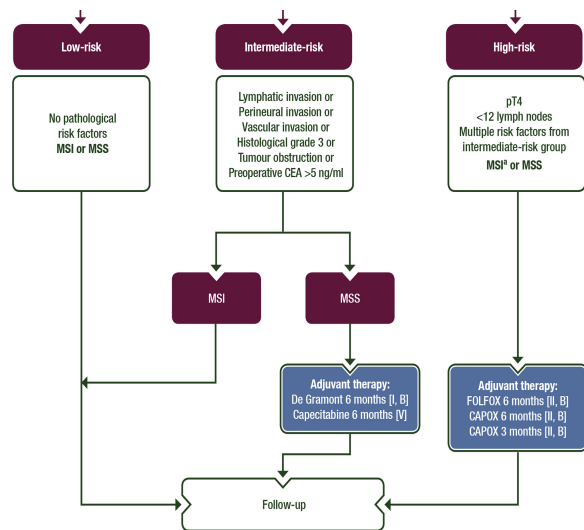
Stage III

Stage II

IMS

ESMO

Argilés et al, Ann Oncol 2020



ASCO

Baxter et al, J Clin Oncol 2022

MSS: Adj CT should be offered to IIB and IIC (T4).

May be offered to IIA with high-risk factors: <12 ln, PNI, LVI, G3-4, obstruction, perforation, BD3 tumor budding (≥ 10 buds)

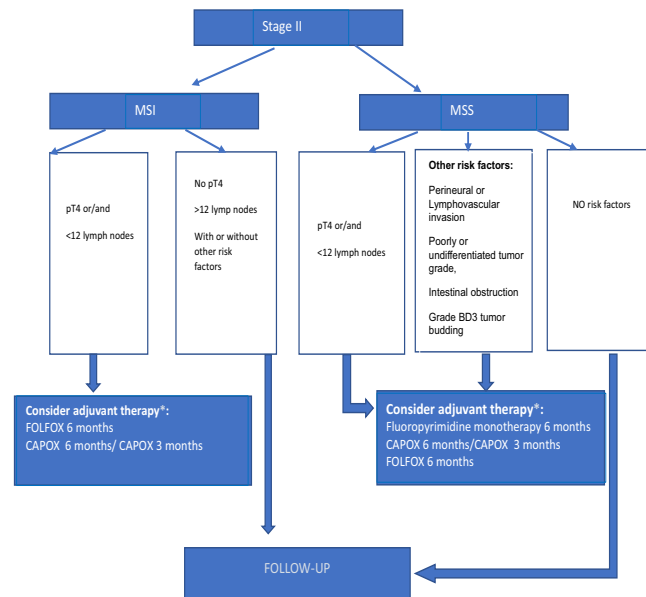
Nº of risk factors should be considered.

Insufficient evidence to routinely recommend oxali to high-risk MSS.

MSI and T4/other high-risk features (exception: G3): Oxaliplatin.

SEOM

Pericay et al, Clin Transl Oncol 2024

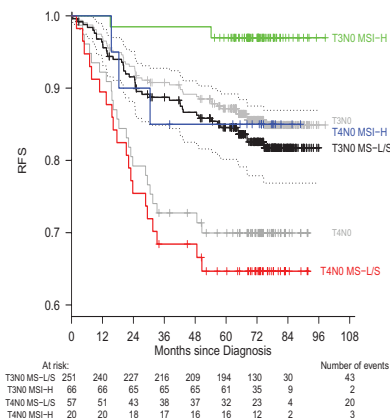


*Individualize according to age and comorbidities

Which is the strongest factor in stage II? MSI vs T4

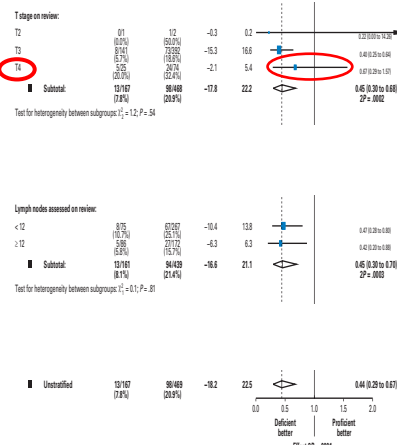
PETACC3

Roth, J Natl Cancer Inst 2012



QUASAR

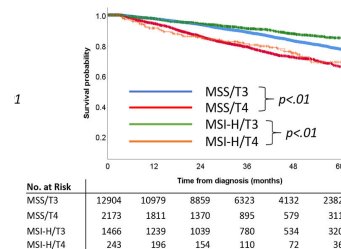
Hutchins, J Clin Oncol 2011



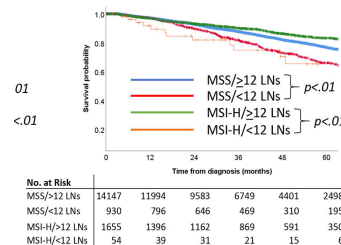
NCDB

Cavallaro, Dis Colon Rectum 2021

D. Tumor stage



F. Lymph node yield



FOXTROT

Platt, ESMO 2024

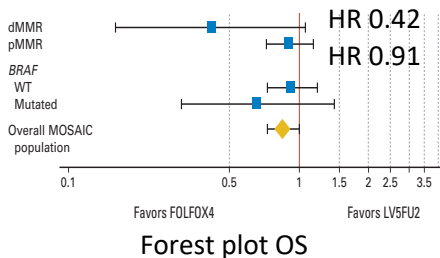
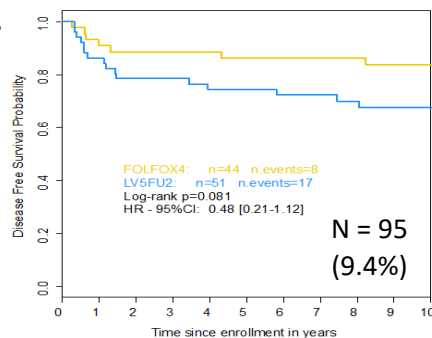
Table 5. Univariable Analysis for Time to Recurrence According to MMR Status

Radiological Feature	pMMR		dMMR	
	Hazard ratio (95% CI) ^a	P value ^c	Hazard ratio (95% CI) ^a	P value ^c
Tumour side ^a				
Right	1.0		1.0	
Left	0.76 (0.56-1.05)	0.10	1.33 (0.55-3.19)	0.53
T stage ^b				
T3	1.0		1.0	
T4	1.35 (0.95-1.92)	0.10	2.11 (1.10-4.06)	0.03
Depth of tumour extension				
Continuous	1.03 (1.01-1.05)	0.0005	1.02 (0.98-1.05)	0.39
≤7	1.0		1.0	
>7	1.74 (1.26-2.38)	0.001	1.18 (0.61-2.26)	0.62
Maximum tumour thickness				
Continuous	1.14 (1.00-1.29)	0.05	1.19 (1.00-1.40)	0.045
≤25	1.0		1.0	
>25	1.51 (1.08-2.12)	0.02	2.26 (1.18-4.34)	0.01
N stage ^b				
N0	1.0		1.0	
N1	1.03 (0.69-1.54)	0.88	1.83 (0.61-5.49)	0.28
N2	1.19 (0.77-1.84)	0.42	3.09 (1.04-9.20)	0.04
Node ≥10mm				
No	1.0		1.0	
Yes	1.35 (0.98-1.87)	0.07	1.72 (0.90-3.32)	0.10
EMVI				
Absent	1.0		1.0	
Present	1.32 (0.95-1.83)	0.10	1.82 (0.86-3.85)	0.12

Oxaliplatin provides benefit in dMMR tumors

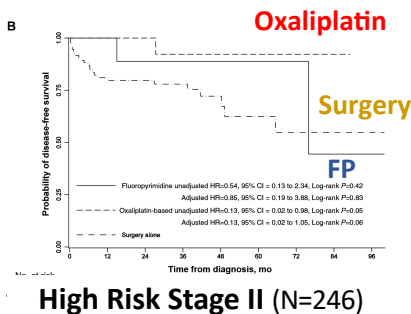
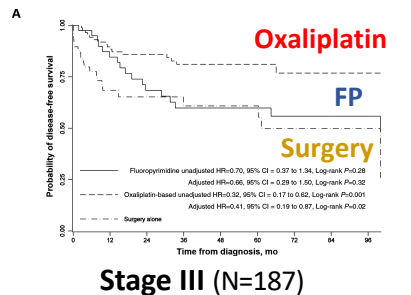
MOSAIC

André, J Clin Oncol 2015



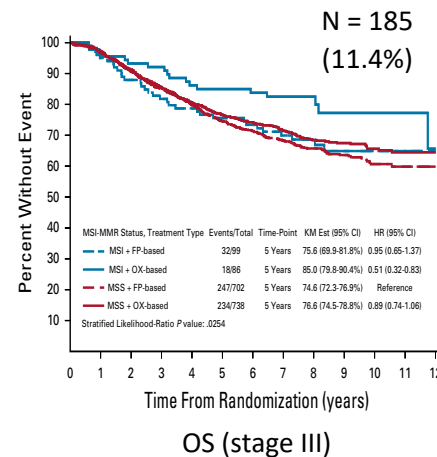
AGEO

Tougeron, J Natl Cancer Inst 2016



ACCENT (MOSAIC, C-07)

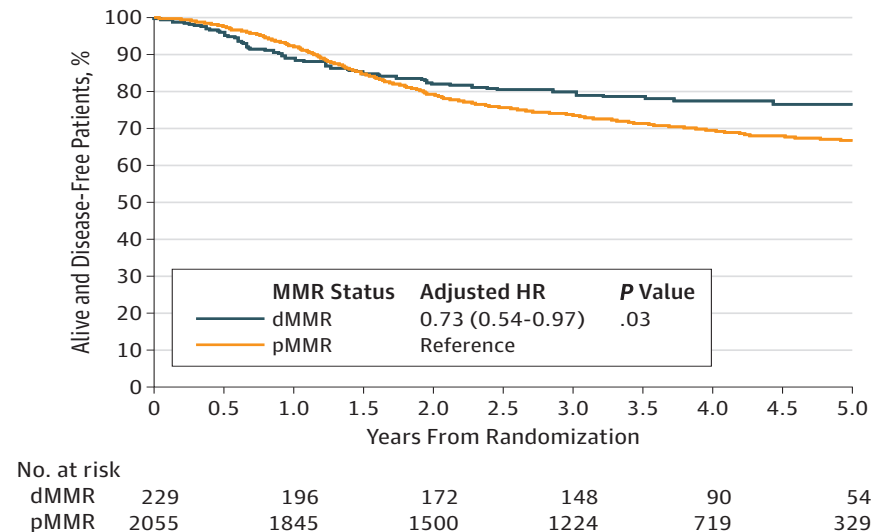
Cohen, J Clin Oncol 2021



Significant benefit from oxaliplatin, aHR for OS:
MSI: 0.52 (95% CI, 0.28-0.93)
MSS: 0.89 (95% CI, 0.74-1.06)

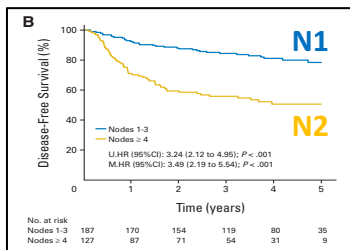
dMMR/MSI remains a favorable prognostic factor in stage III receiving adjuvant FOLFOX (N0147 and PETACC8)

Figure 2. Disease-Free Survival



Among dMMR/MSI: distal, N2 and ctDNA+ have poor outcome

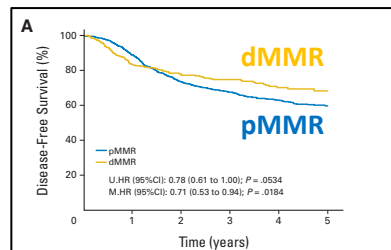
N2



N0147

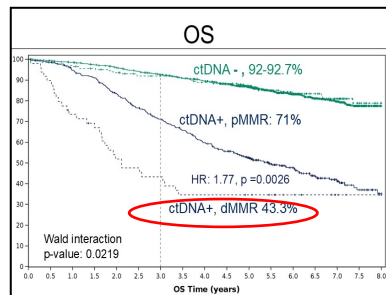
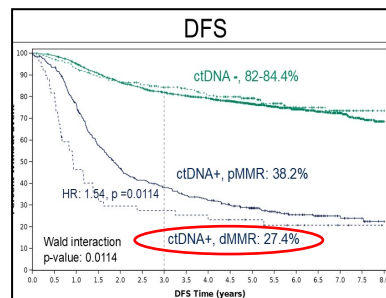
(Sinicrope, J Clin Oncol 2013)

Distal



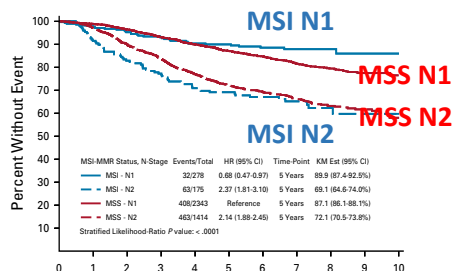
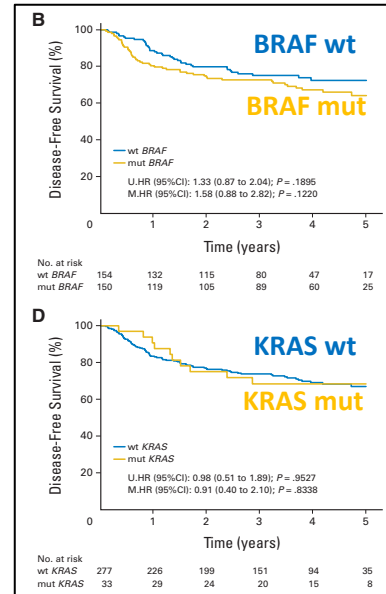
Proximal

ctDNA+



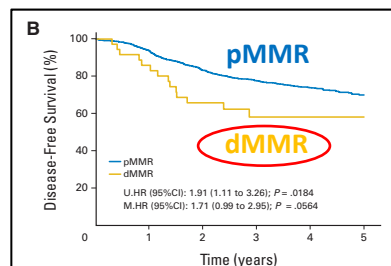
Distal

KRAS and BRAF



ACCENT

(Cohen, J Clin Oncol 2021)



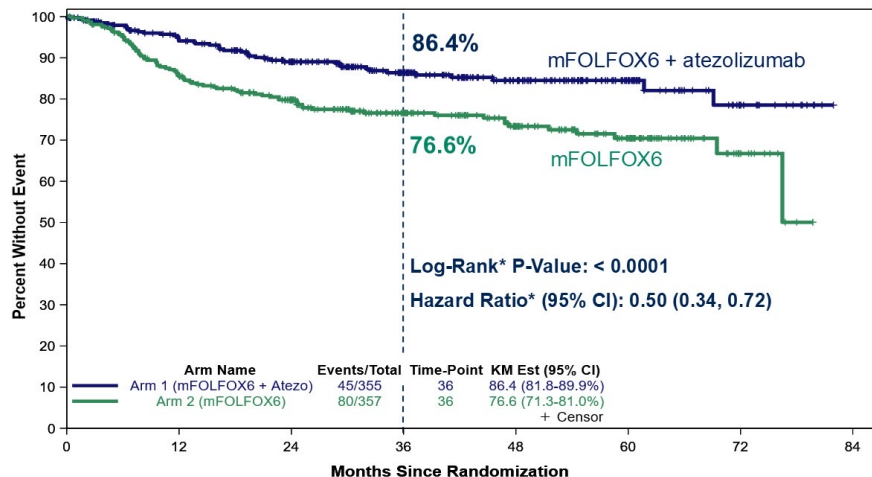
(Sinicrope, J Clin Oncol 2013)

(Sinicrope, ASCO 2025)

(Sinicrope, J Clin Oncol 2013)

ATOMIC trial (Phase III): Adding atezolizumab to mFOLFOX6 significantly improves DFS for dMMR stage III

Primary Endpoint: DFS



Arm 1 (mFOLFOX6 + Atezo)	355	291	242	171	106	50	15	0
Arm 2 (mFOLFOX6)	357	262	217	150	99	58	11	0
	Patients-at-Risk							

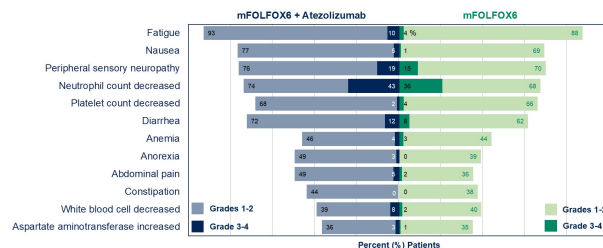
Confirmed dMMR by central reference laboratory: Log-Rank P-Value: 0.0007, Hazard Ratio (95% CI): 0.53 (0.36, 0.79)

*Stratified by randomization factors

Median follow-up = 37.2 mos

Safety Summary

Characteristics	mFOLFOX6 + Atezo (N=345)*	mFOLFOX6 (N=334)*
Any Grade AE, % (n)	100% (346)	95.1% (329)
Treatment-related	99.7% (345)	94.2% (326)
Grade 3-4 AE, % (n)	83.8% (290)	69.1% (239)
Treatment-related	72.3% (250)	59.2% (205)
Grade 5 AE, % (n)	1.7% (6)	0.6% (2)
Treatment-related	0.6% (2)*	0.0% (0)



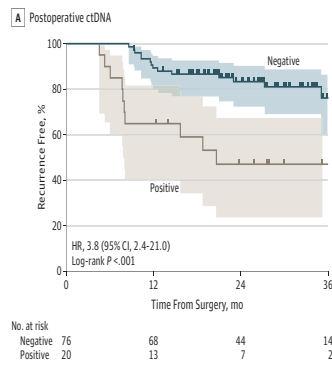


3. Circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA)

Positive ctDNA status is a strong prognostic factor for recurrence

Australian cohort

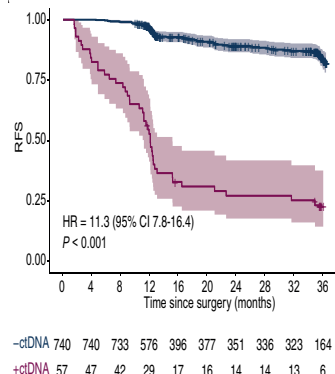
Tie, JAMA Oncol
2019



N = 100
Stage III
SafeSeq
ctDNA+ post-Sx **21%**
HR **3.8**

Danish cohort

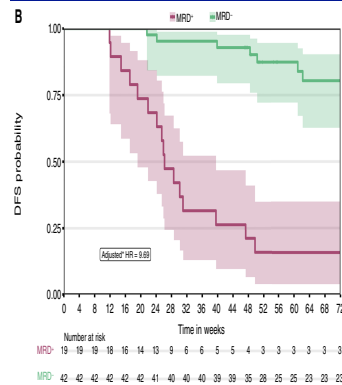
Henriksen, Ann Oncol
2024



N = 851
Stage II/III
dPCR
ctDNA+ post-Sx **7%**
HR **11.3**

GALAXY

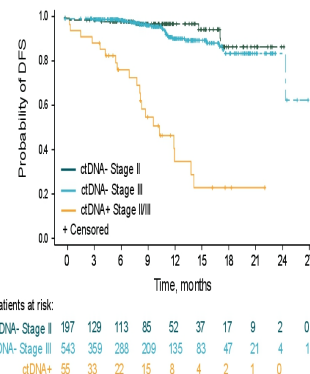
Nakamura, Clin Cancer Res
2025



N = 80
Stage II/III
xM
ctDNA+ post-Sx **31%**
HR **9.69**

BNT 000-001

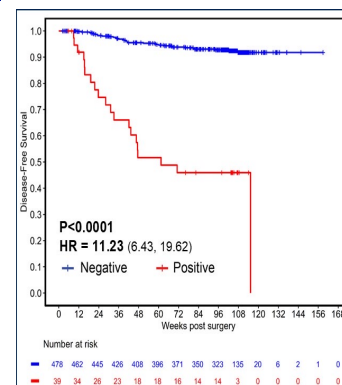
Reinacher-Schick, ASCO
2024



N = 852
Stage II/III
AVENIO
ctDNA+ post-Sx **13%**
HR **13.06**

BESPOKE CRC

Shah, ASCO GI
2025

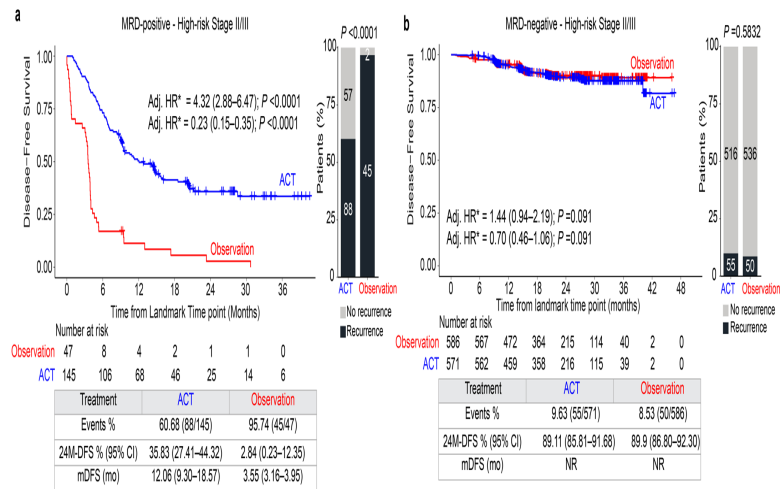


N = 1166
Stage II/III
Signatera
ctDNA+ post-Sx **8/28%**
HR **11.2/8.3**

ctDNA is also able to predict benefit from adjuvant CT

GALAXY

Nakamura et al, Nat Med 2024

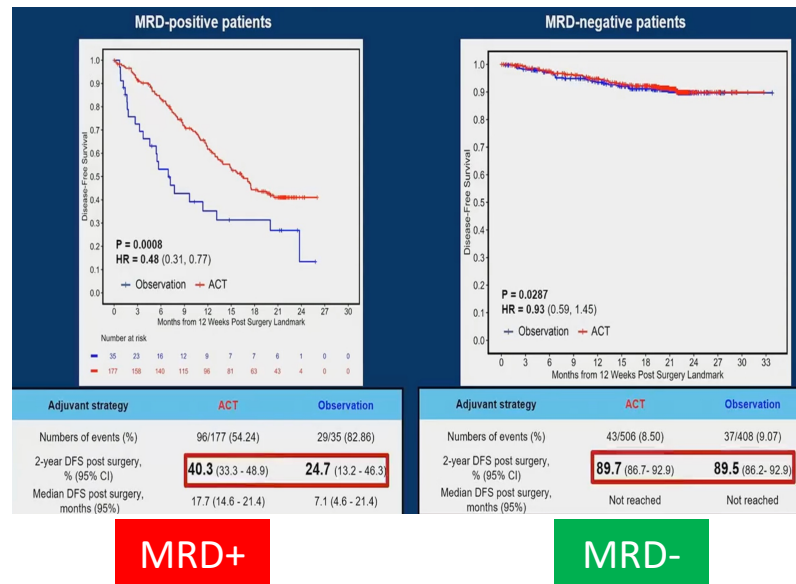


MRD+

MRD-

BESPOKE

Shah et al, ASCO GI 2025



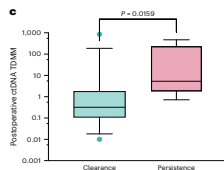
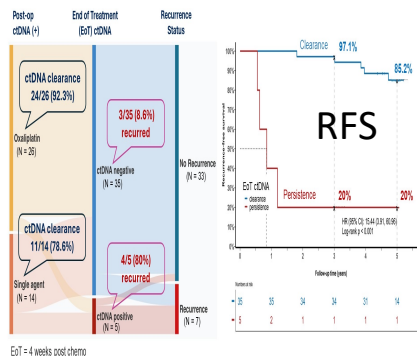
MRD+

MRD-

Clearance of ctDNA as survival predictor

DYNAMIC (Stage II)

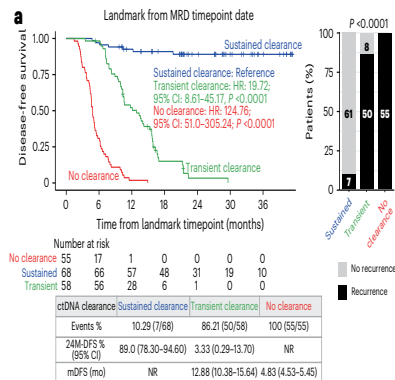
Tie, NEJM 2022; Nat Med 2025



Clearance
(4w post adj CT): 87%

GALAXY (Stage I – IV)

Nakamura, Nat Med 2024

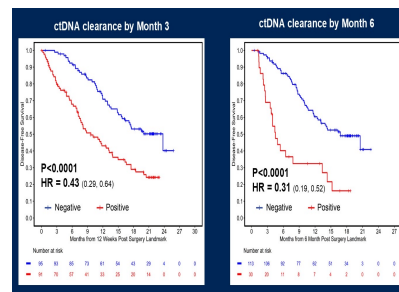


Clearance after adj CT: 68%

Sustained clearance: **37%**

BESPOKE (Stage II-III)

Shah, ASCO GI 2025



Clearance:

12w 49%

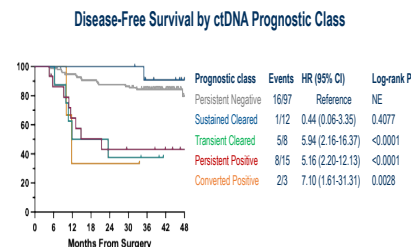
20w 67%

6m 73%

Overall 75%

PEGASUS (Stage II-III)

Marsoni, ESMO 2025



Persistent negative: 72%

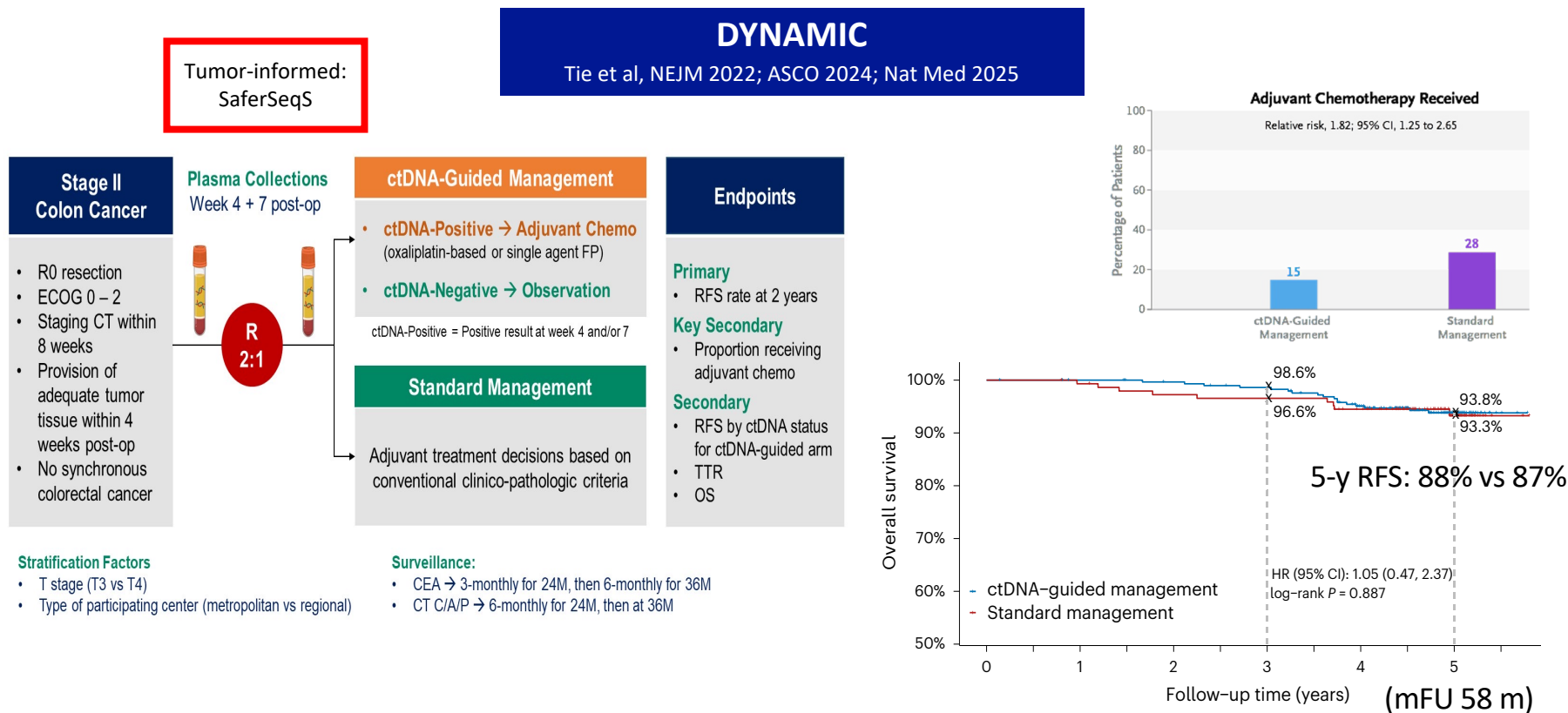
Sustained cleared: **9%**

Transient cleared: 6%

No clearance: 11%

Converted positive: 2%

DYNAMIC-II: first randomized phase II trial (stage II)




Adjuvant Chemotherapy Received

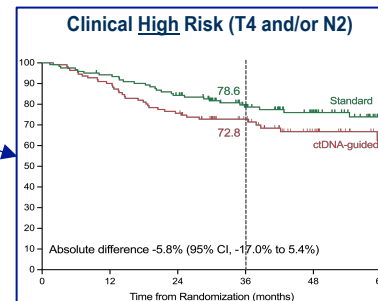
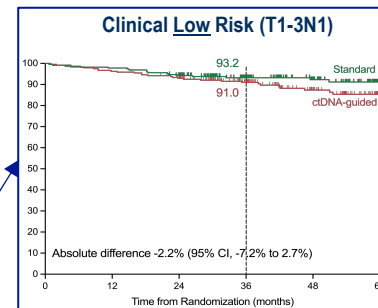
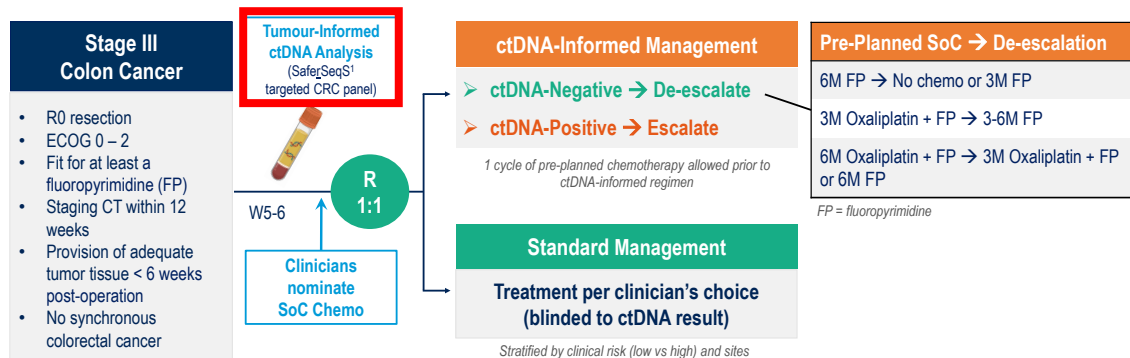
Relative risk, 1.82; 95% CI, 1.25 to 2.65



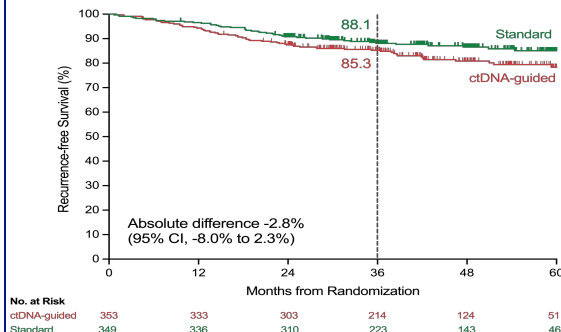
5-y RFS: 88% vs 87%

HR (95% CI): 1.05 (0.47, 2.37)
log-rank P = 0.887

DYNAMIC-III (randomised phase II/III): ctDNA-guided adjuvant CT **de-escalation** in stage III (ctDNA **negative**)



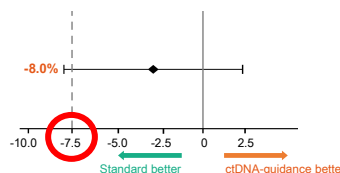
Recurrence-Free Survival



Median follow-up 47 months (0.68 - 67.0)

Arm	Total	Events	3-year RFS (95% CI)
ctDNA	353	63	85.3% (81, 89)
Standard	349	45	88.1% (84, 91)

Absolute Difference in 3-year RFS (95% CI)



➤ Markedly reduced oxaliplatin exposure (88.6% → 34.8%)

Lung, peritoneum and local recurrences are typically not detected

BESPOKE (Stage II-III)

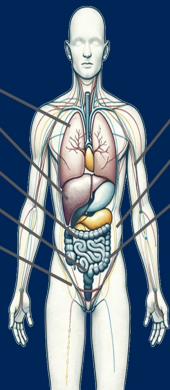
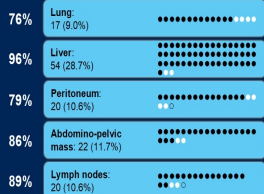
Shah, ASCO GI 2025

PEGASUS (Stage II-III)

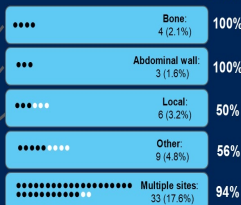
Marsoni, ESMO 2025

Recurrence sites (N=188)

Sensitivity



Sensitivity

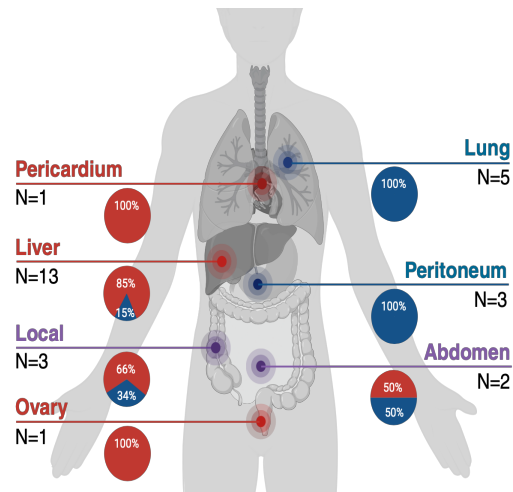


● ctDNA-pos within 24w before recurrence
○ ctDNA-neg within 24w before recurrence
○ ctDNA not available within 24w before recurrence

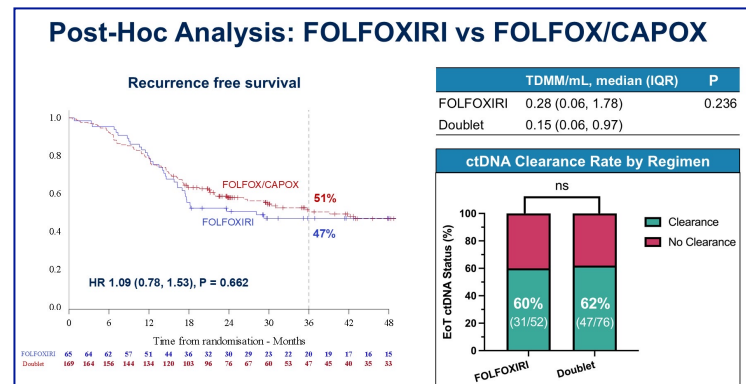
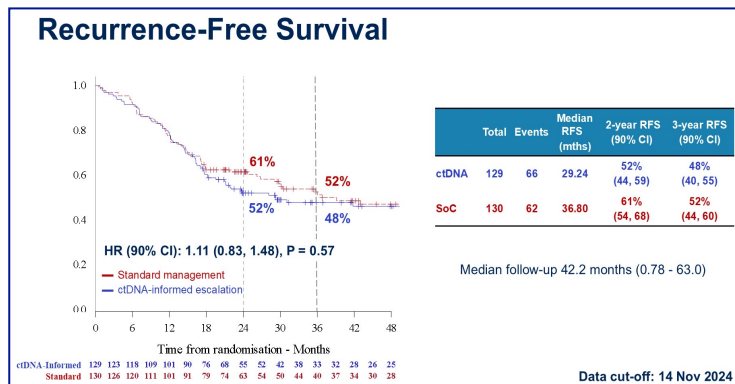
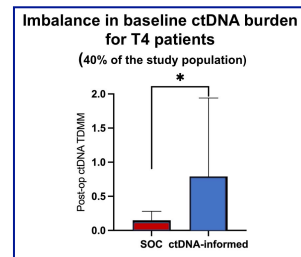
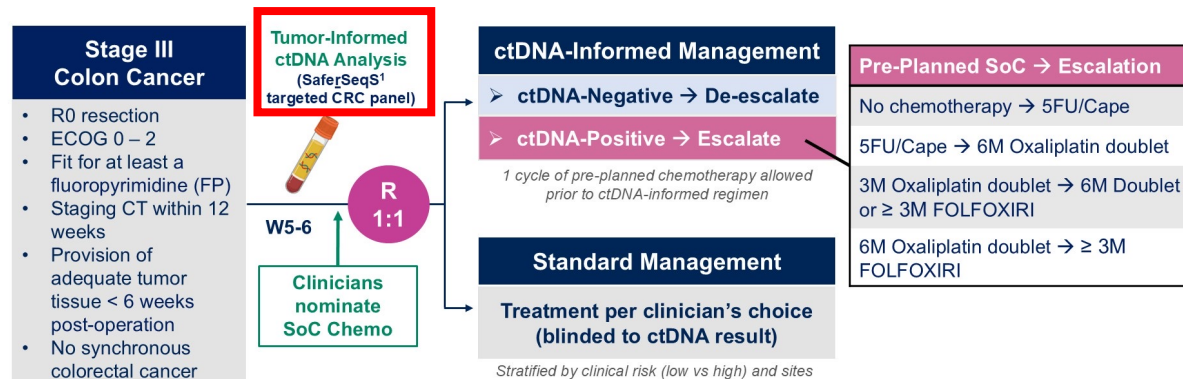
Site-specific relapse vs ctDNA detection

ctDNA
detection rate

50% detected
50% not detected



DYNAMIC-III (randomised phase II/III): ctDNA-guided adjuvant CT escalation in stage III (ctDNA **positive**)



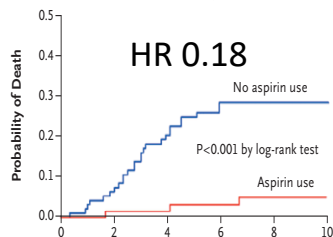
4. PIK3CA mutations



Aspirin and celecoxib: predictive value of PIK3CA

Liao, NEJM 2012 (Aspirin, I-IV CCR)

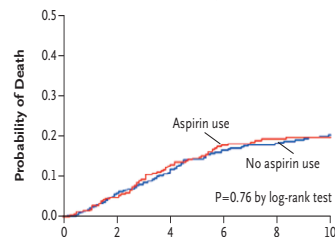
A Colorectal Cancer-Specific Mortality, Mutant PIK3CA



mut PIK3CA

16%

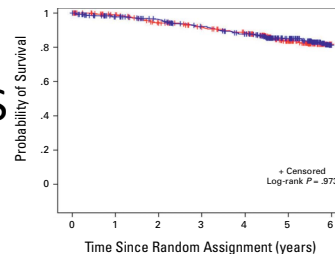
B Colorectal Cancer-Specific Mortality, Wild-Type PIK3CA



wt PIK3CA

Nowak, JCO 2024 (Celecoxib, III colon, CALGB/SWOG 80702)

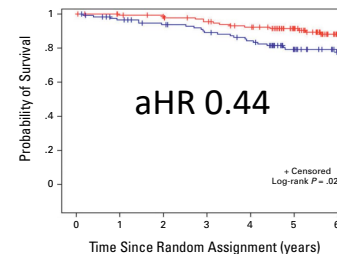
OS



No. at risk:
Celecoxib 450
Placebo 488

wt PIK3CA

185
182



No. at risk:
Celecoxib 141
Placebo 118

mut PIK3CA

96
35

Celecoxib
400 mg
daily
x 3y

21%

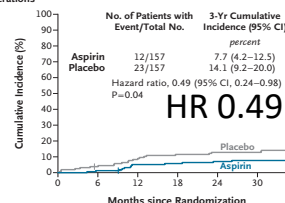
Martling, NEJM 2025 (Aspirin, I-III CCR, ALASCCA)

PIK3CA

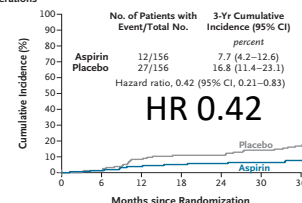
15-30%

Aspirin
160 mg
daily
x 3y

A Colorectal Cancer Recurrence among Patients with Group A Alterations



B Colorectal Cancer Recurrence among Patients with Group B Alterations



PIK3CA hotspot mutations
(exon 9 or 20)

Other moderate/ high-impact
variants in PIK3CA, PIK3R1, PTEN

37%



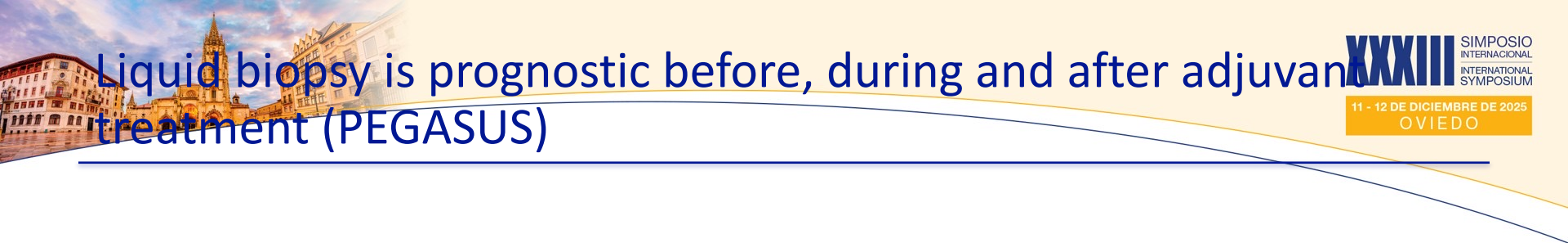
Conclusions:

- 1) Routine use of genomic **signatures, KRAS/BRAF mutations and immunoscore** is not currently recommended to guide adjuvant treatment decisions for colon cancer in clinical practice.
- 2) **MSI** is the most relevant molecular factor in localised stages of colon cancer due to its prognostic and predictive value (improved survival for MSI/dMMR tumours, and lack of benefit from adjuvant fluoropyrimidines alone, particularly in stage II).
- 3) **ctDNA** is a powerful prognostic factor for recurrence, and it is also able to predict the benefit of adjuvant CT. Clearance of ctDNA following adjuvant CT is associated with improved survival, particularly when it is sustained over time. Ongoing clinical trials aim to enable the incorporation of liquid biopsy into routine clinical practice.
- 4) Activating **PIK3CA** mutations allow the selection of patients who may benefit from adjuvant aspirin, with a significantly lower incidence of colorectal cancer recurrence.

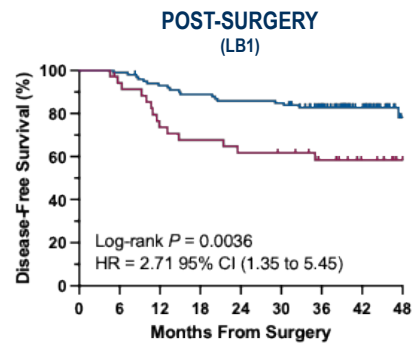


Thank you



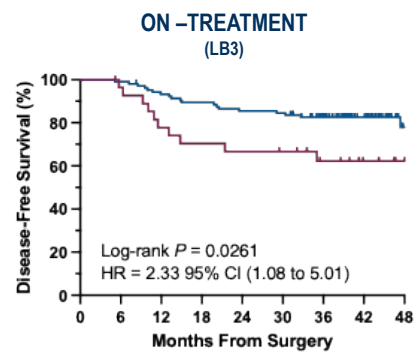


Liquid biopsy is prognostic before, during and after adjuvant treatment (PEGASUS)



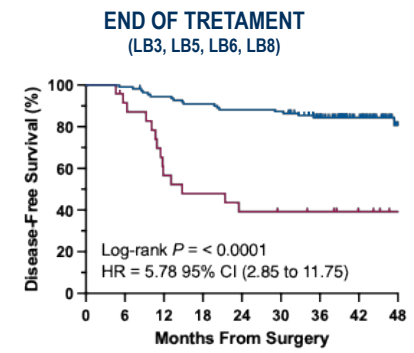
No at risk:

ctDNA Negative	100	99	92	88	85	84	69	41	15
ctDNA Positive	35	32	25	23	21	20	16	11	6



No at risk:

ctDNA Negative	104	103	96	92	88	87	72	43	15
ctDNA Positive	28	26	21	19	18	17	13	9	6

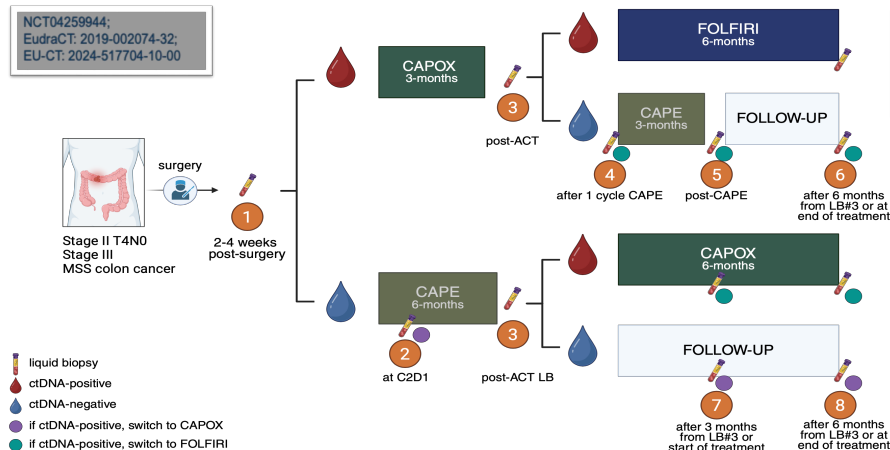


No at risk:

ctDNA Negative	111	110	104	100	97	96	78	48	20
ctDNA Positive	24	21	13	11	9	8	7	4	1

PEGASUS: a feasibility trial (stage III and high-risk stage II)

NCT04259944;
EudraCT: 2019-002074-32;
EU-CT: 2024-517704-10-00



Reveal L1.2 test (Guardant Health, Inc.)

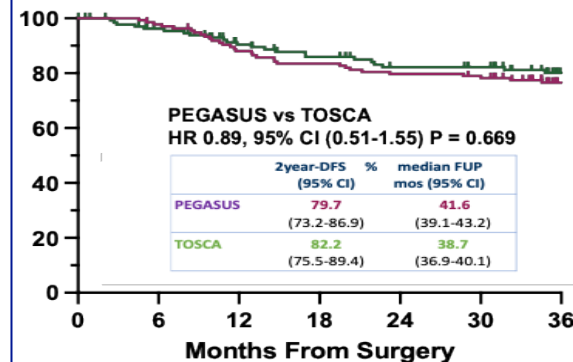
- Plasma-only assay
- Genetic | Epigenetic signal
- Early-generation version

PRIMARY ENDPOINT

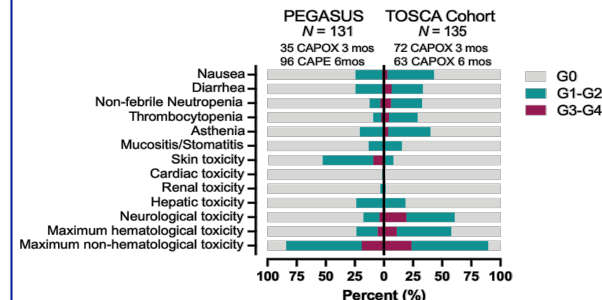
Number of false negative cases within 2 years

- 100 ctDNA- patients → 12 relapses (2 local+10 distant) within 2 years
- 2-year recurrence-free rate: **88%** (90% CI, 81-93)
- Primary endpoint not formally powered
- 2-year recurrence-free rate exceeded the **85%** benchmarking, upper CI **93%** crossed H_1 target 92% supporting **clinical adequacy despite reduced power**.

Disease-free survival



Overall Toxicity



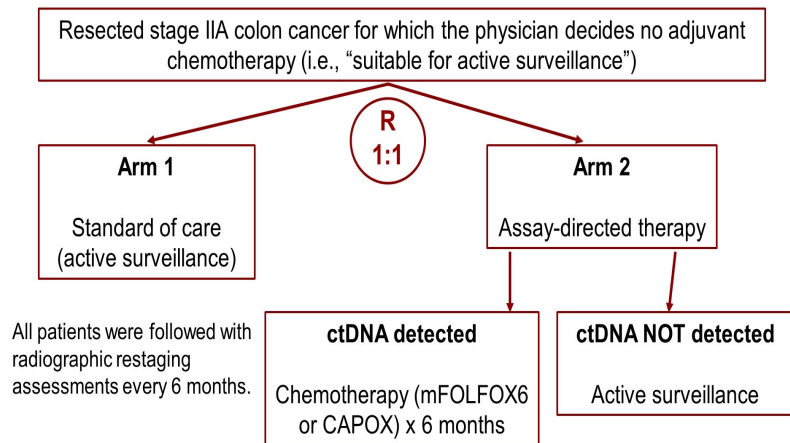
COBRA: Randomized phase II-III in stage IIA with <12LN



COBRA

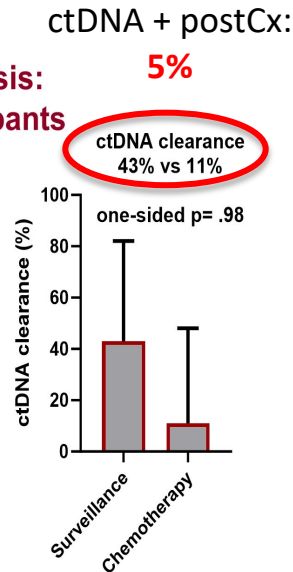
Morris et al, ASCO GI 2024

NRG-GI005 (COBRA) Study Schema



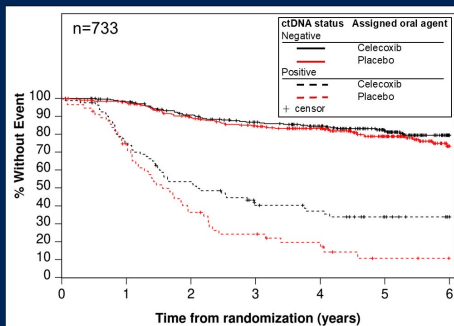
Phase II Endpoint Analysis: ctDNA(+) baseline participants

- Among 596 participants with baseline ctDNA status available, ctDNA(+) detection was observed in 33 (5.54%).
- 16 participants with "ctDNA detected" status at baseline
 - Arm 1: Surveillance 7 participants
 - Arm 2: Chemotherapy 9 participants
- Clearance of ctDNA at 6 months among ctDNA(+) participants at baseline was observed in:
 - Arm 1 (surveillance):** 3 of 7 (43%, 95% CI 10 - 82%) participants
 - Arm 2 (chemotherapy):** 1 of 9 patients (11%, 95% CI 0.3 - 48%) participants
- Because the 1-sided Fisher's Exact Test yields $p = 0.98$ exceeded 0.35, H_0 was not rejected, and the decision rule calls for early stopping due to futility.



Value of ctDNA in PIK3CA wt (CALGB/SWOG 80702)

Survival by ctDNA status and celecoxib use in *PIK3CA* wildtype tumors



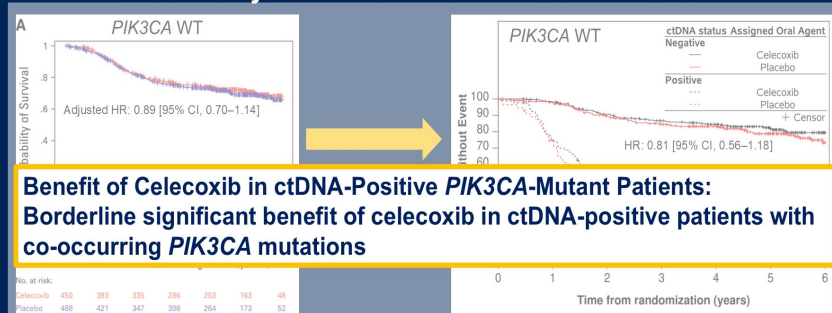
Assigned Oral Agent by ctDNA status	Events / Total	Hazard Ratio (95% CI) ¹	3 Year Survival Estimate (95% CI) ²	P-value
Negative				0.2777 ⁴
Celecoxib	49/278	0.81 (0.56-1.18)	86.7 (82.7-91.0%)	
Placebo	63/318	Reference	84.8 (80.7-89.0%)	
Positive				0.0166 ⁴
Celecoxib	51/81	0.61 (0.41-0.92)	40.3 (30.7-52.9%)	
Placebo	45/61	Reference	24.2 (14.9-39.3%)	
Interaction P-value: 0.2217 ³				

Interaction P-value: 0.2217³

¹ Unadjusted Cox model, ² Kaplan-Meier method, ³ Likelihood-ratio test, ⁴ Log-rank test

PIK3CA status as defined in Nowak JA, et al. J Clin Oncol. 42(24):2853-2859, 2024.

CALGB/SWOG 80702 ctDNA Analysis Survival by ctDNA & Celecoxib in *PIK3CA* WT



**Benefit of Celecoxib in ctDNA-Positive *PIK3CA*-Mutant Patients:
Borderline significant benefit of celecoxib in ctDNA-positive patients with co-occurring *PIK3CA* mutations**

No. at risk:									
Celecoxib	450	393	336	288	253	163	48		
Placebo	488	421	347	308	264	173	52		