

# State of the art radiotherapy for Lung Cancer

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# Conflict of Interest

*Institutional financial interests (no personal financial interests):*

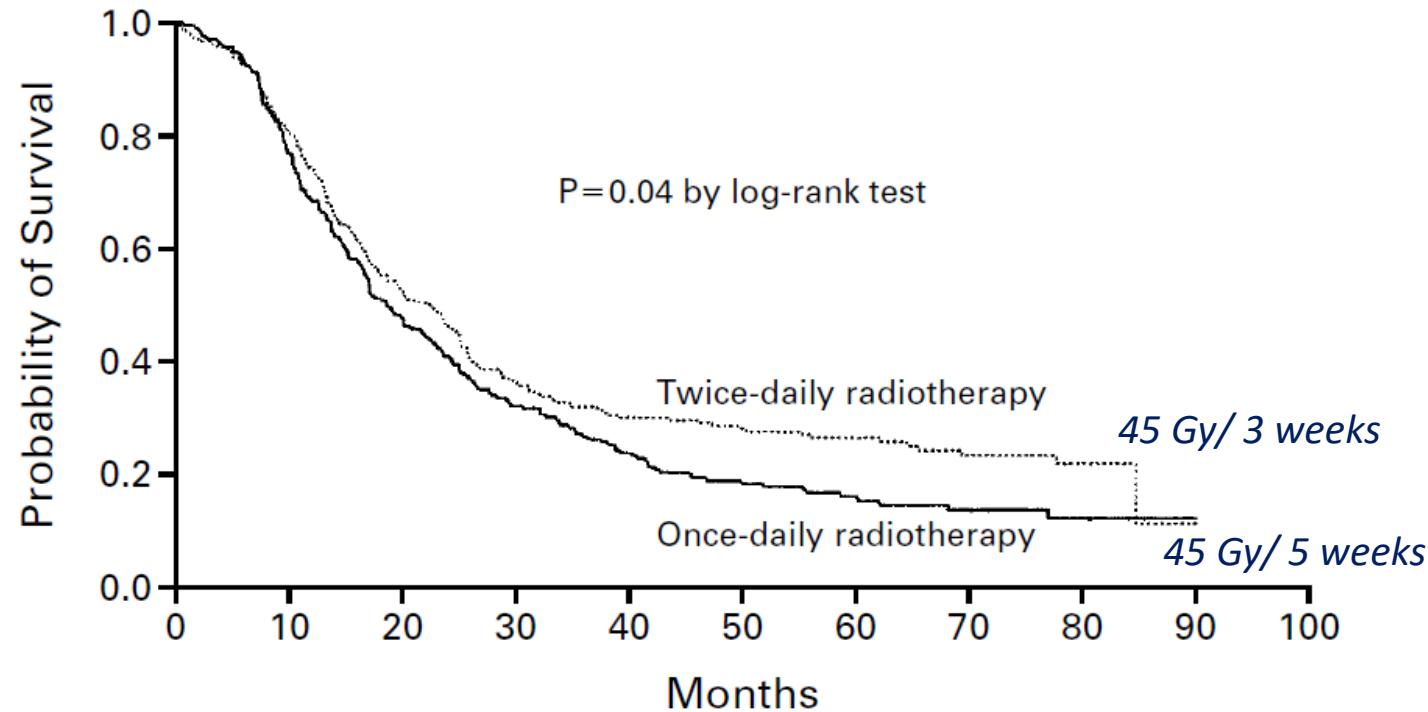
- Research grant/ support: Bristol-Myers Squibb, AstraZeneca, Beigene, Philips, Olink
- Advisory board: Bristol-Myers Squibb, AstraZeneca, Philips

# Small cell lung cancer

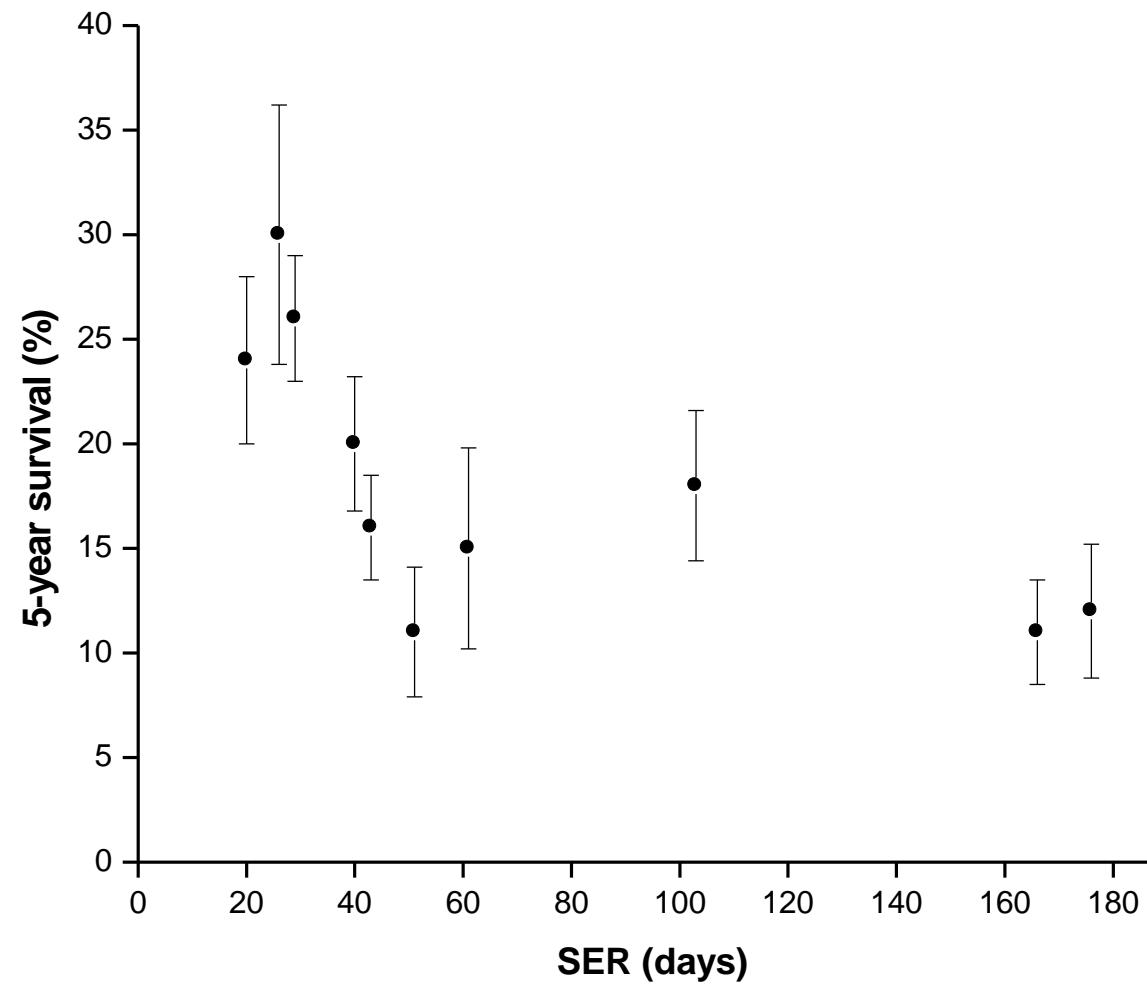
# Simple to treat for a doctor; hard to cure

- Stage I-III
  - Concurrent cisplatin-etoposide and 45 Gy BID chest RT
  - PCI in fit patients without PD after CCRT
- On average 25 % 5-y OS
- Stage IV
  - Carboplatin-etoposide x 4/ IO → PCI or MRI brain surveillance
  - Thoracic RT to be considered
- On average less than 5 % 5-y OS

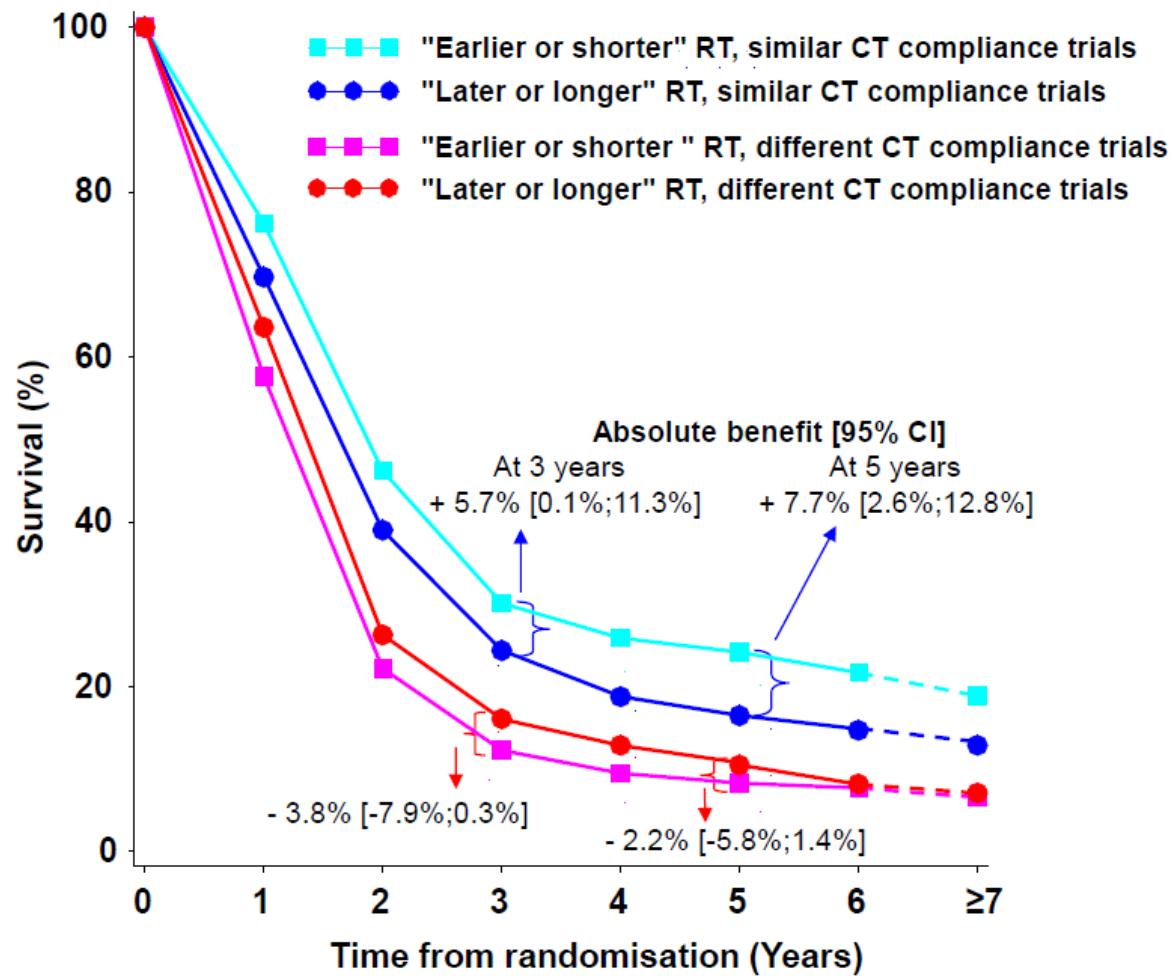
# Intensification of thoracic radiotherapy



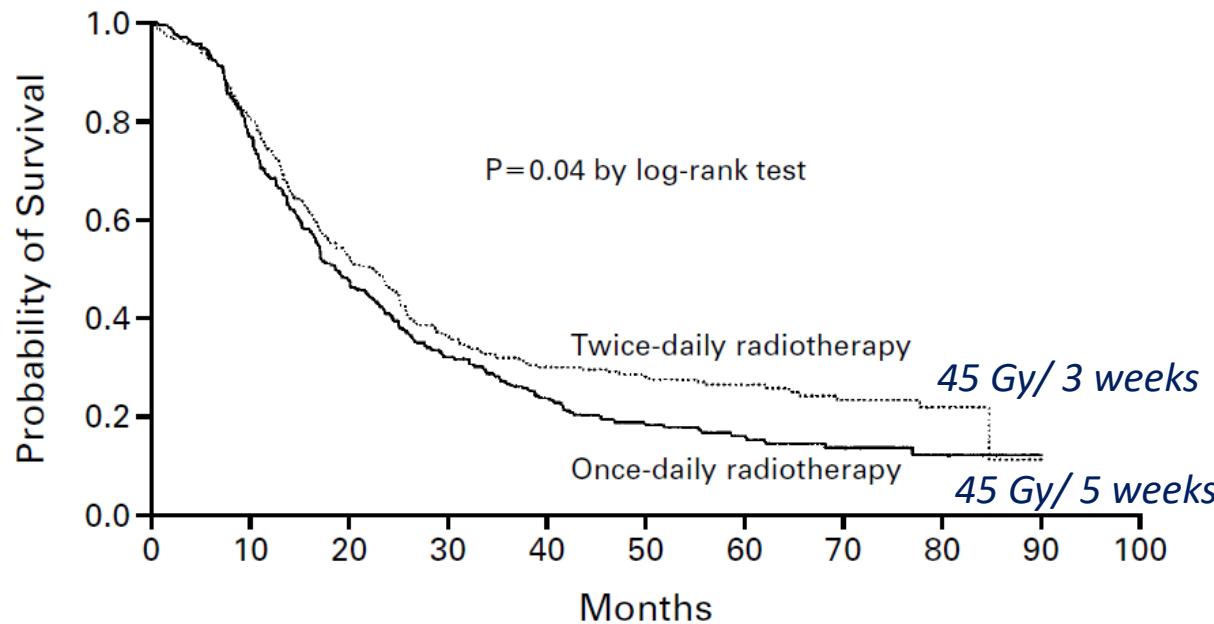
# Time is important



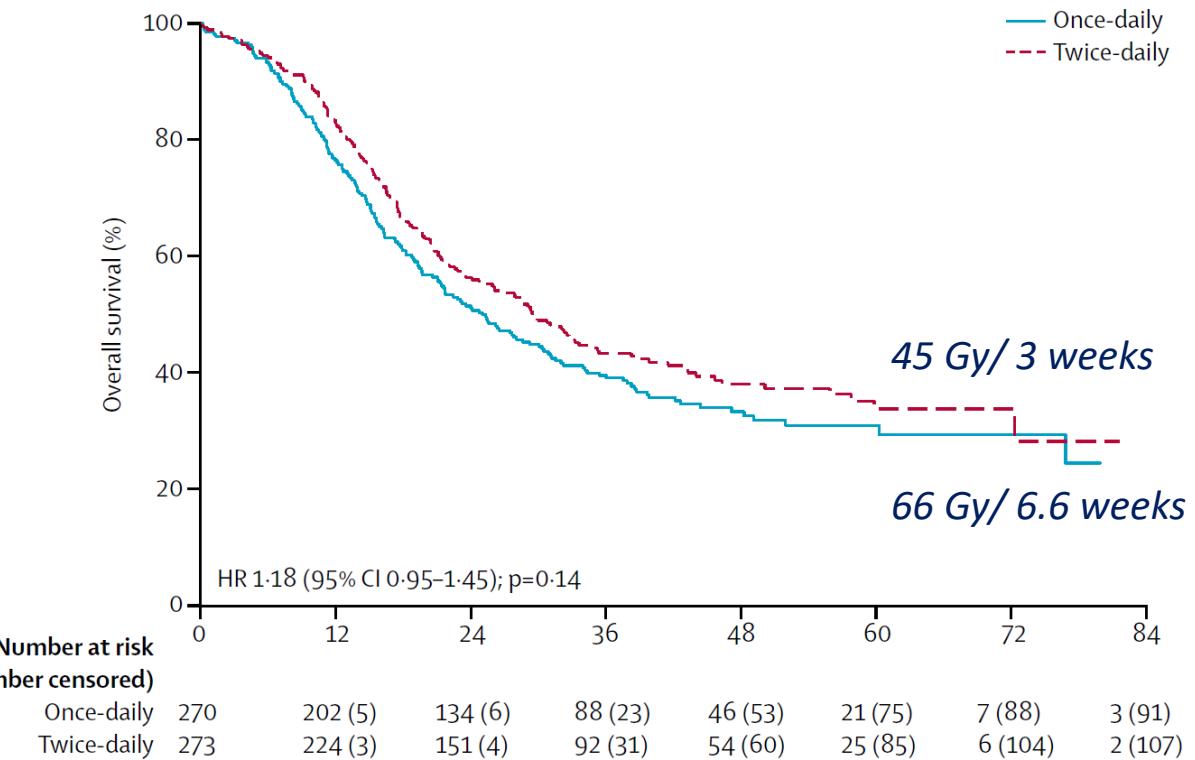
# Effect of early, accelerated radiotherapy as a function of chemotherapy compliance



# Fractionation studies: Phase III



Turrisi et al. New Engl J Med 1999

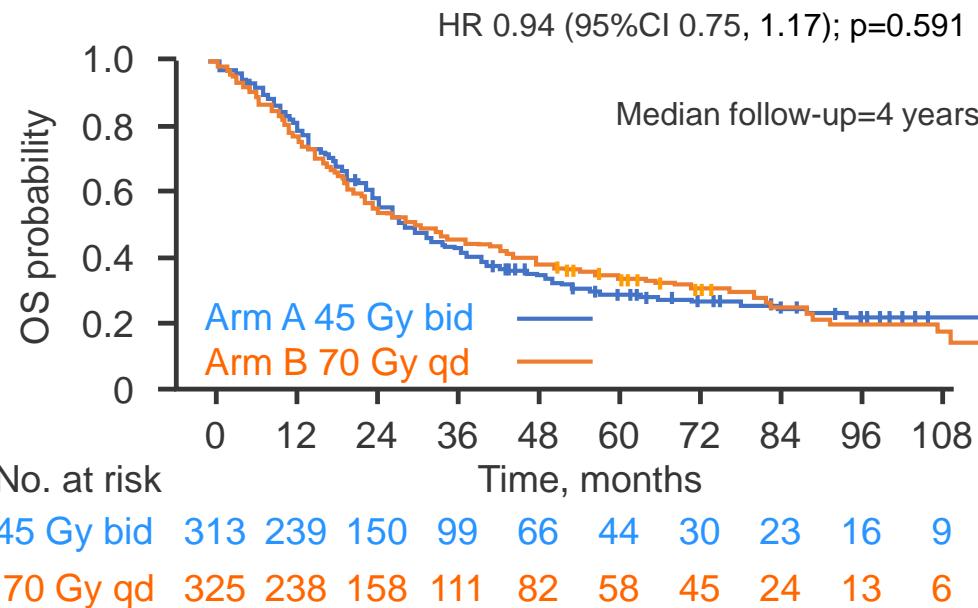


Faivre-Finn et al. Lancet Oncol 2016

# CALGB 30610 (Alliance)/RTOG 0538

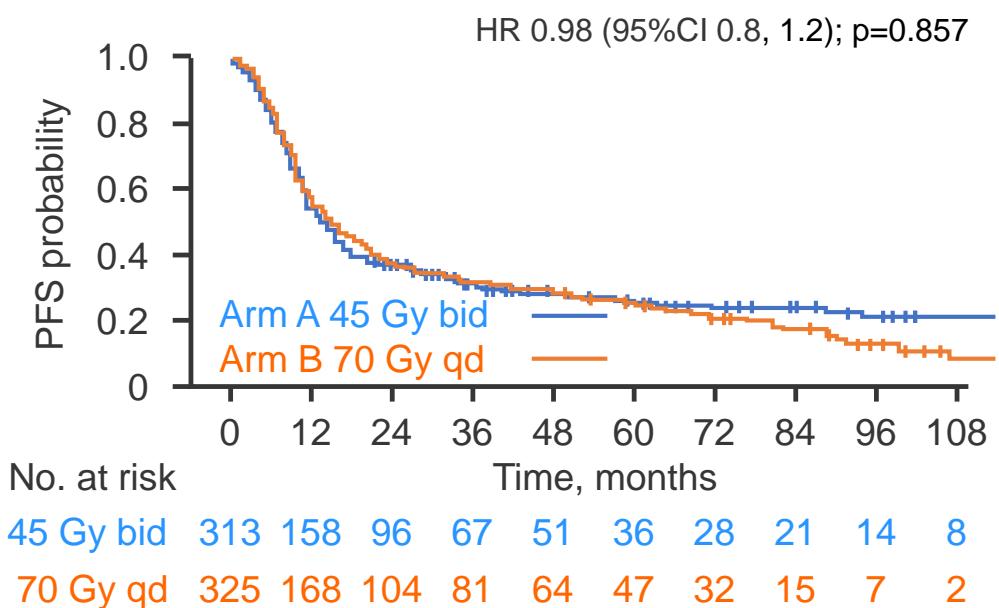
## Overall survival

	mOS, mo (95%CI)	2-years OS, % (95%CI)	5-years OS, % (95%CI)
45 Gy bid	28.5 (25.4, 35.5)	58 (53, 64)	29 (23, 35)
70 Gy qd	30.5 (25.4, 41.1)	56 (51, 62)	34 (23, 35)

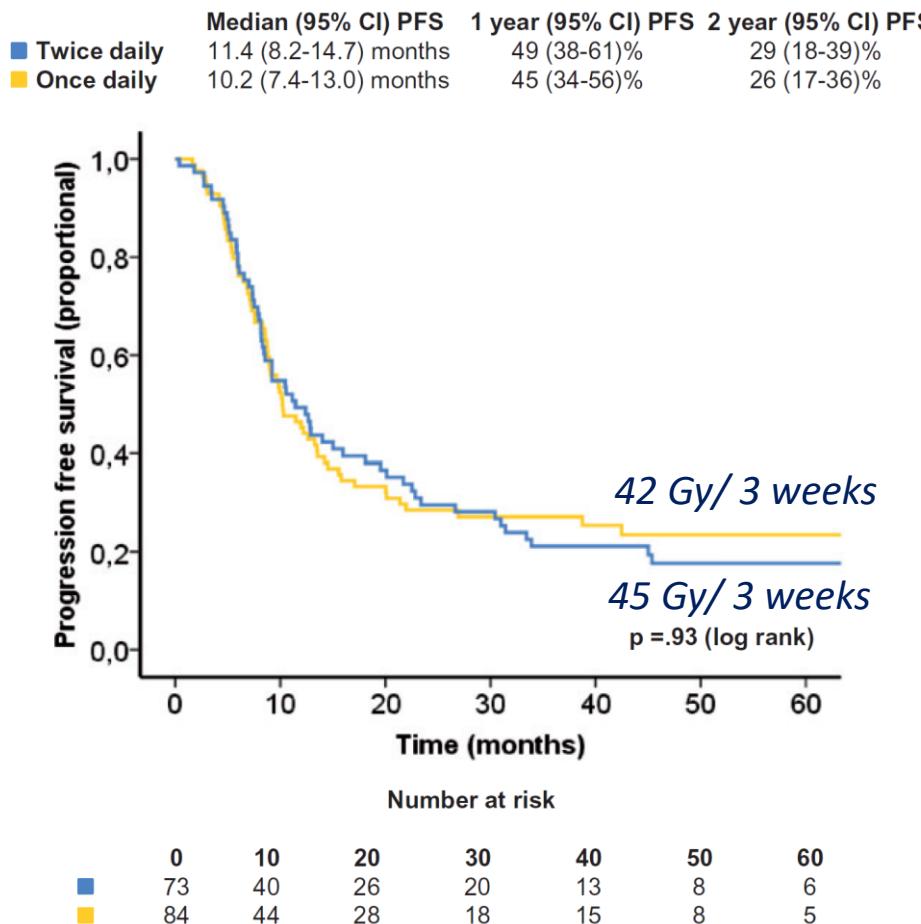


## Progression-free survival

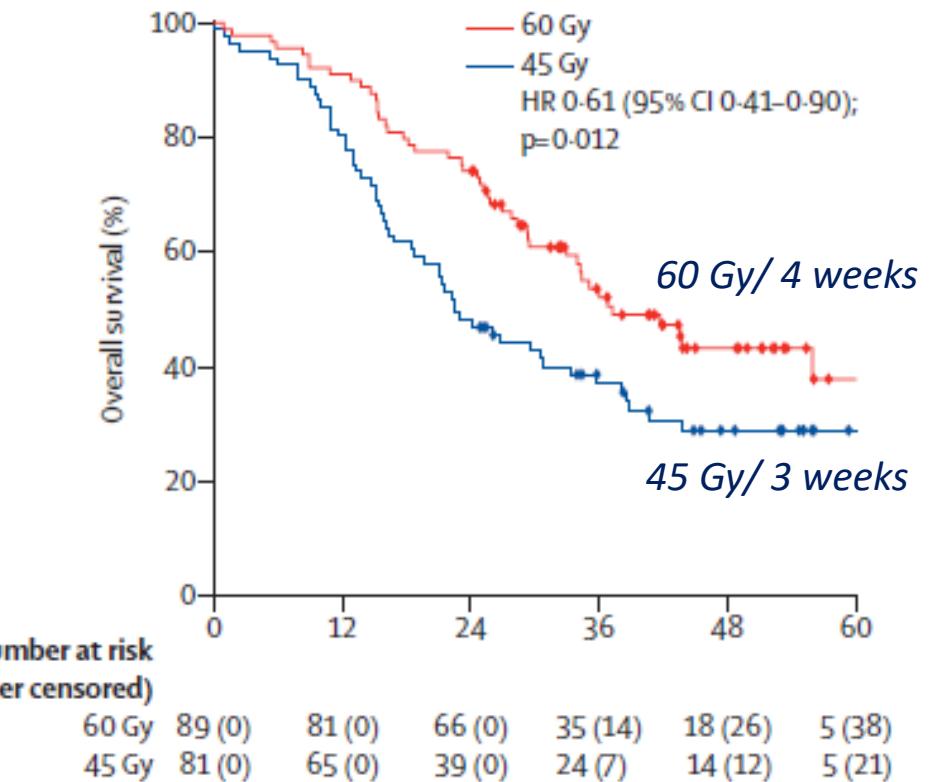
	mPFS, mo (95%CI)	2-years PFS, % (95%CI)	5-years PFS, % (95%CI)
45 Gy bid	13.5 (11.7, 15.8)	36 (31, 42)	25 (20, 31)
70 Gy qd	14.2 (11.9, 17.7)	36 (31, 42)	24 (20, 30)



# Fractionation studies: Phase II

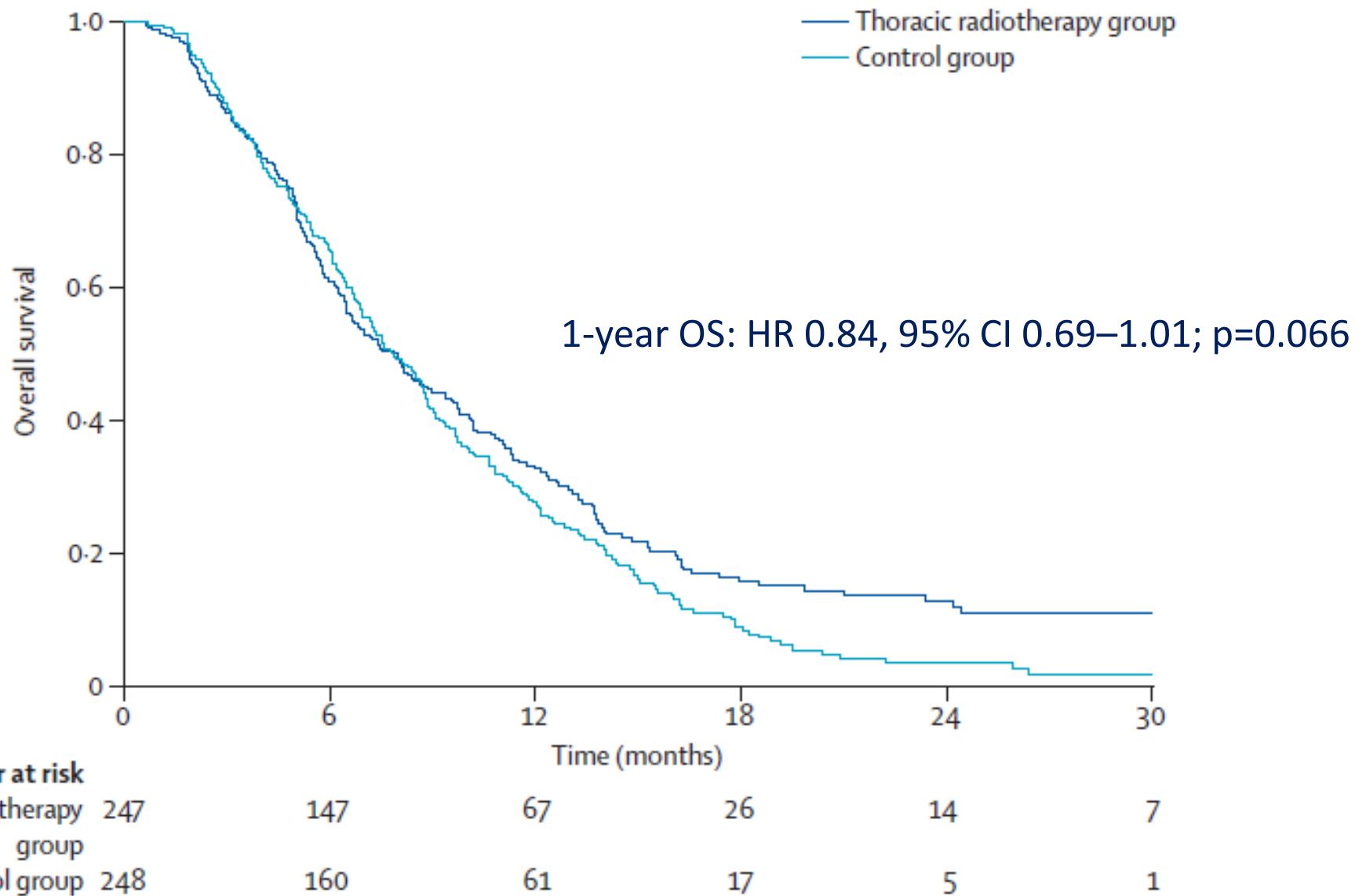


Grønberg et al. Acta Oncol 2016



Grønberg et al. Lancet Oncol 2021

# CREST

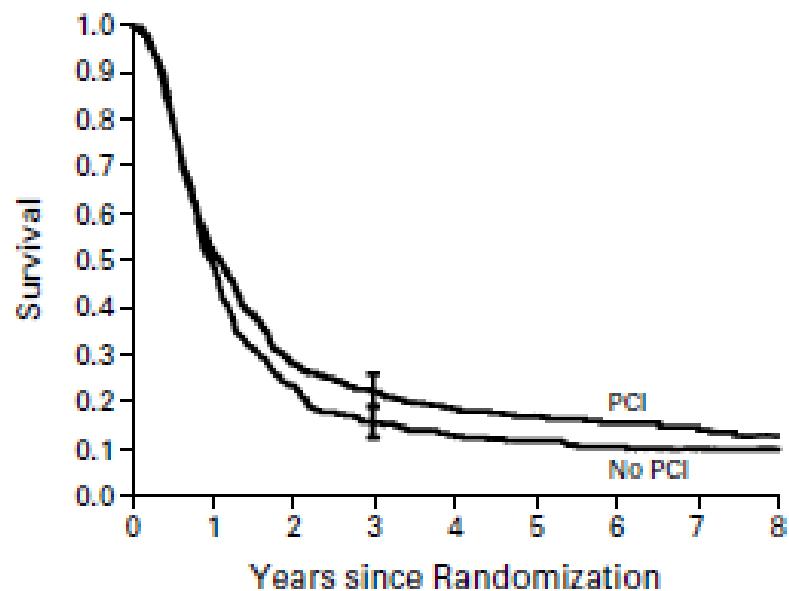


# **Prophylactic Cranial Irradiation in small cell lung cancer**

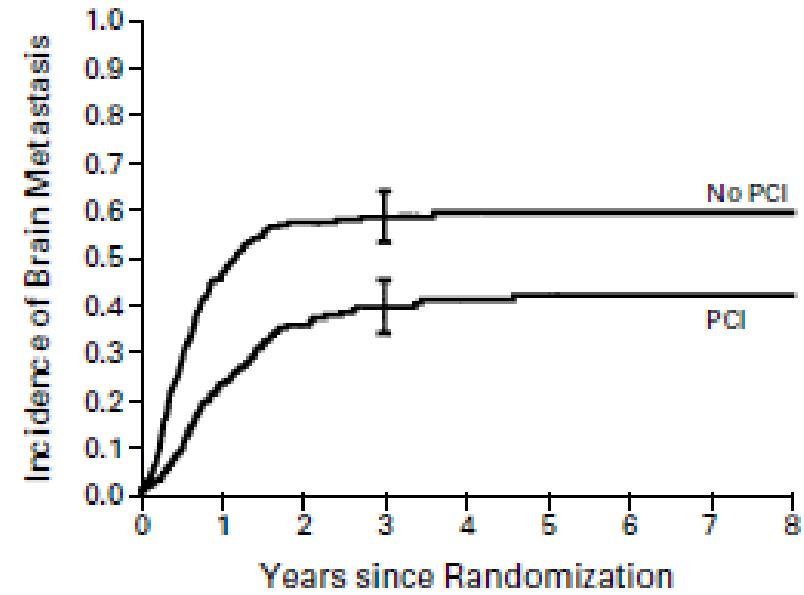
# «Limited disease» small cell lung cancer

Aupérin et al. NEJM 1999; 341:476-484

## PROPHYLACTIC CRANIAL IRRADIATION FOR PATIENTS WITH SMALL-CELL LUNG CANCER IN COMPLETE REMISSION



No. at Risk									
No PCI	461	224	103	61	44	34	23	19	15
PCI	526	276	139	101	66	52	40	29	17



No. at Risk									
No PCI	457	171	88	57	41	32	21	18	14
PCI	524	248	133	96	66	52	40	29	17

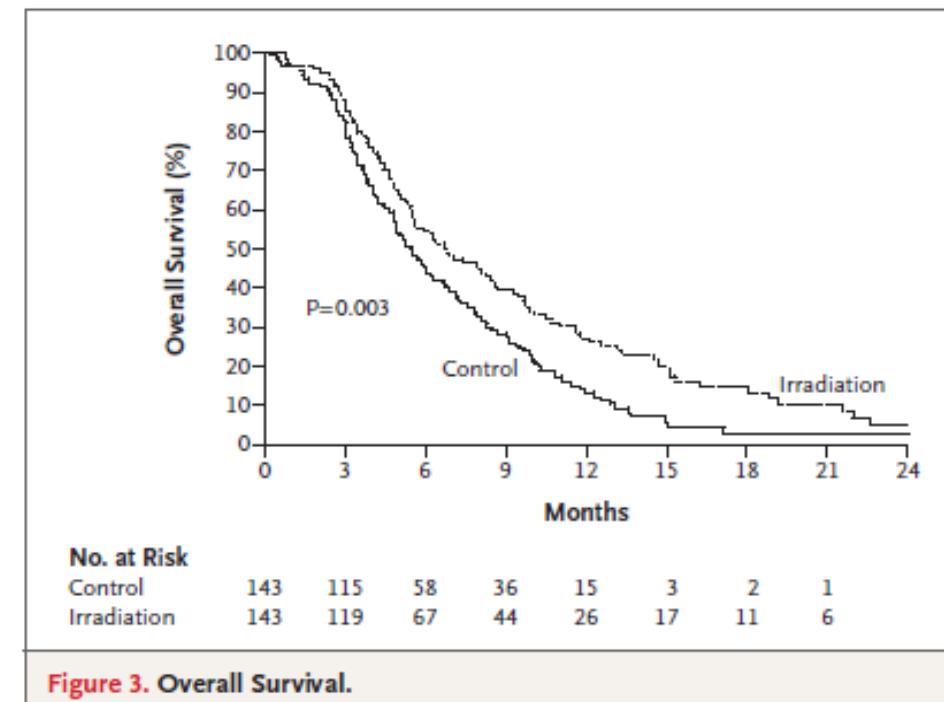
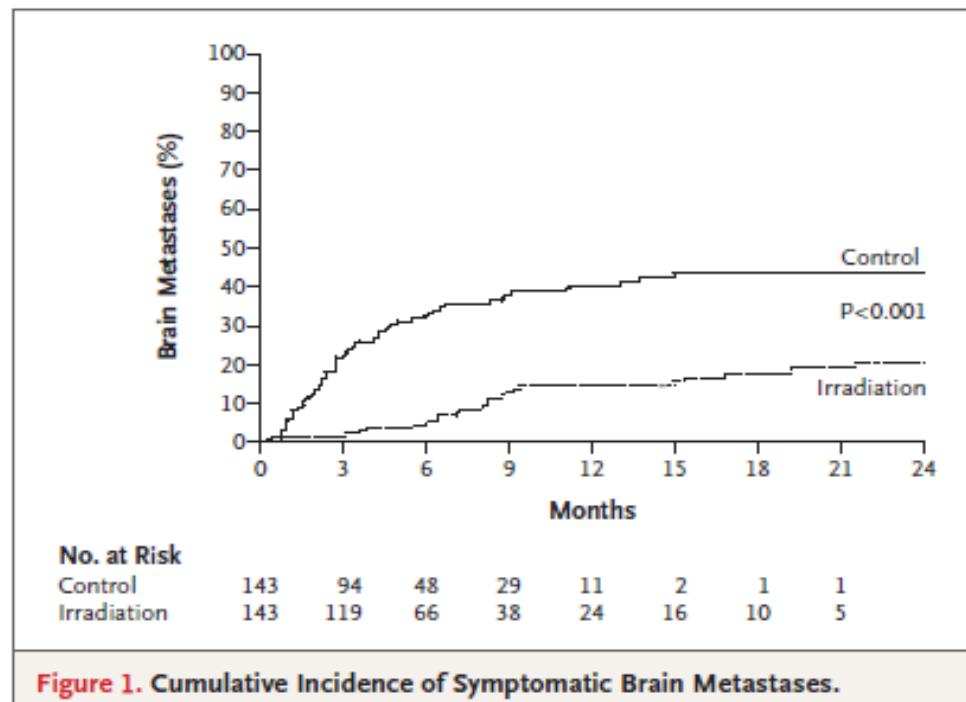
Increased overall survival and less BM in patients with a CR on chest X-ray

No concurrent chemo-radiotherapy

No high quality CT (no MRI) of the brain

# PCI: «Extensive disease» SCLC

(Slotman et al. NEJM 2007;357:664-72)



# Hippocampus Avoidance PCI

## A randomized phase III trial (NCT01780675)



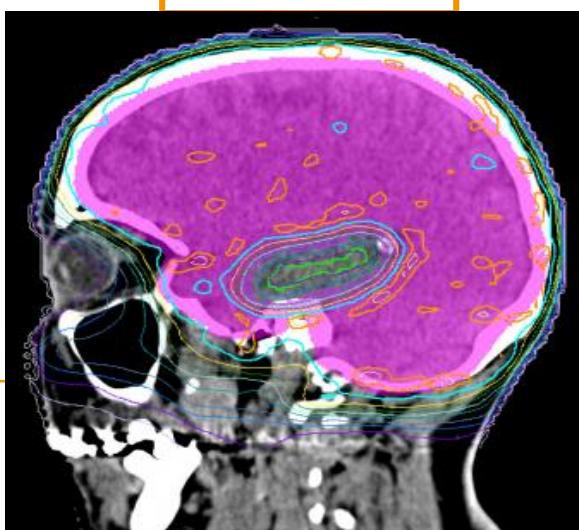
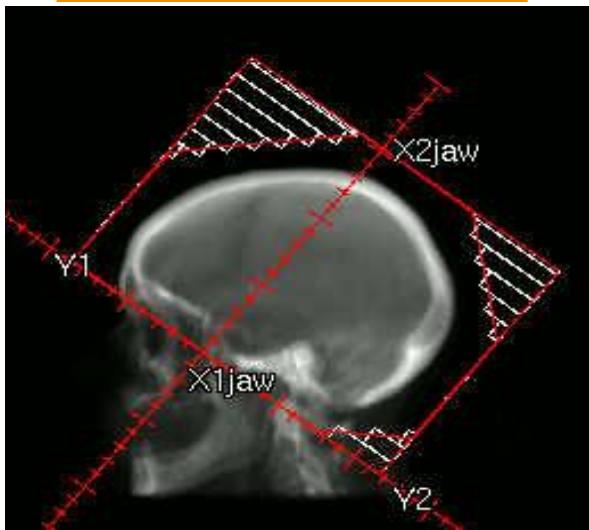
SCLC (LD and ED)

PCI

R

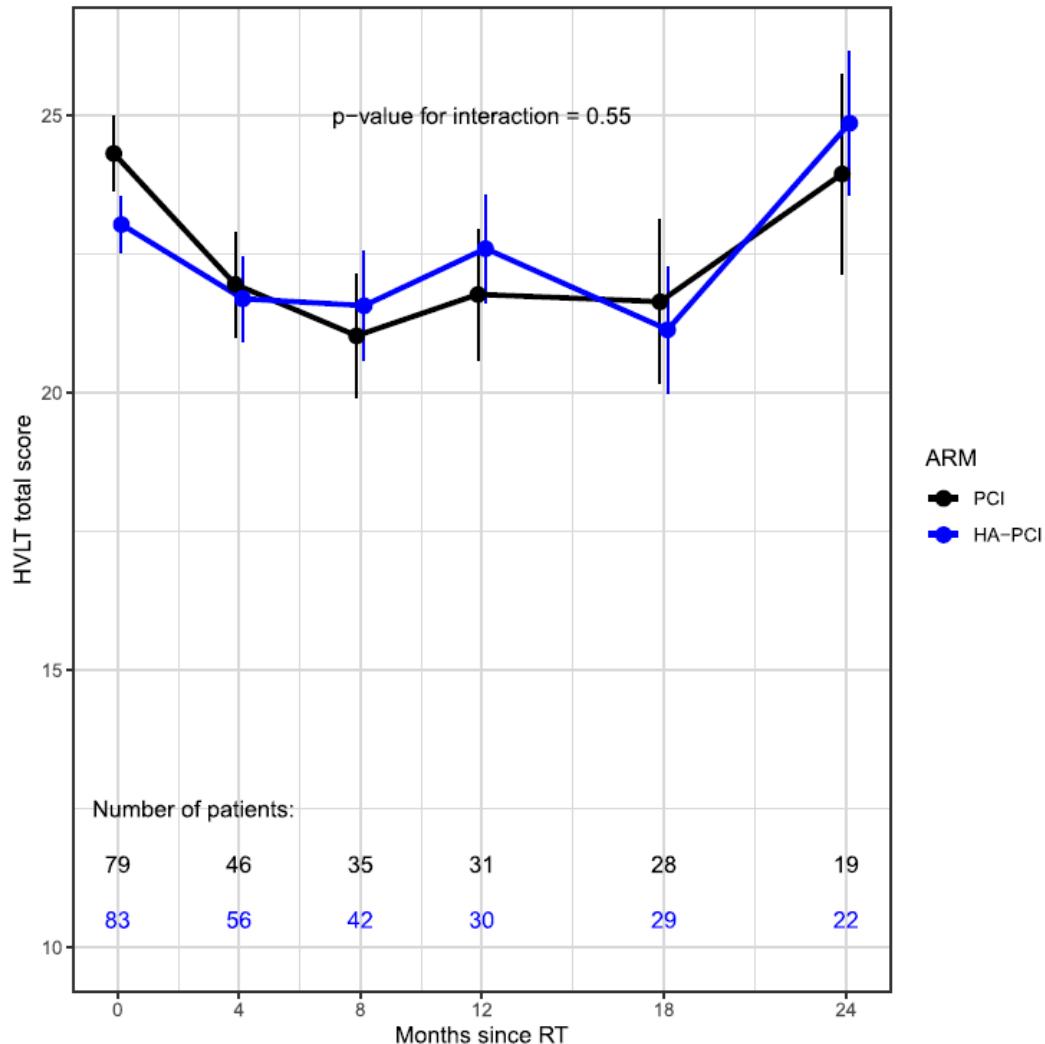
standard PCI

HA-PCI



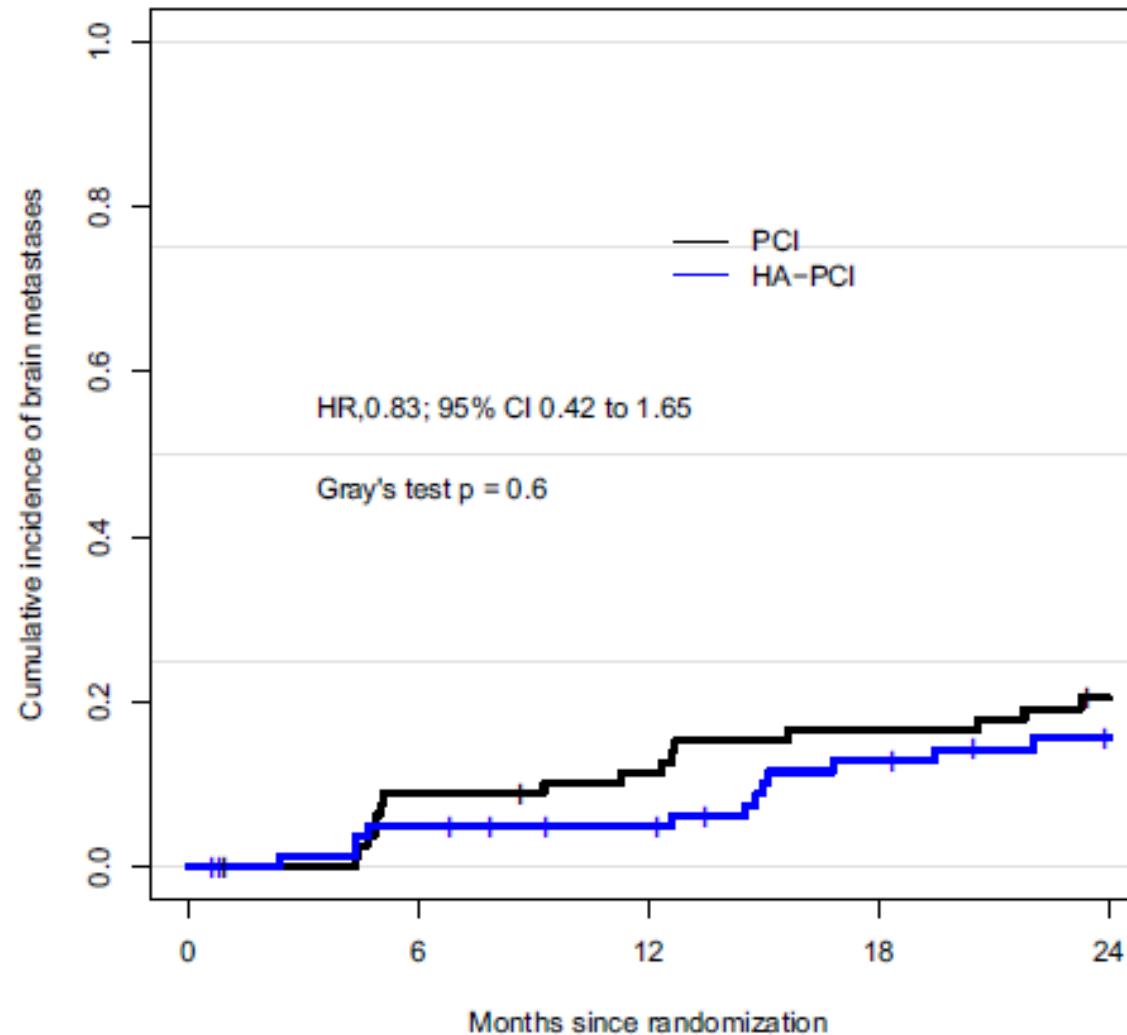
- Prescription dose 25 Gy/10 fx
- Neurocognitive test battery baseline and 4 /8 /12 /18/ 24 mths
- MRI baseline, 4 mths and 1 year

# Primary endpoint: HVLT-R



Belderbos et al. J Thorac Oncol 2021

# Incidence of brain metastases



# IMpower 133: PROM

Table 5. CNS-related AEs in all patients and in patients who received PCI

CNS-related AEs, n (%)	Atezolizumab + CP/ET		Placebo + CP/ET			
	All patients (n = 198)	Patients with PCI (n = 23)	All patients (n = 196)	Patients with PCI (n = 21)		
	AEs at any time	AEs after PCI <sup>a</sup>	AEs at any time	AEs after PCI <sup>a</sup>		
Headache	24 (12)	8 (35)	6 (26)	23 (12)	3 (14)	3 (14)
Asthenia	25 (12)	5 (22)	1 (4)	20 (10)	2 (10)	0
Dizziness	19 (10)	2 (9)	0	11 (6)	0	0
Insomnia	15 (8)	3 (13)	1 (4)	13 (7)	1 (5)	1 (5)
Fall	8 (4)	2 (9)	1 (4)	4 (2)	1 (5)	1 (5)
Balance disorder	2 (1)	1 (4)	1 (4)	0	0	0
Lethargy	2 (1)	1 (4)	1 (4)	1 (<1)	0	0
Syncope	5 (3)	1 (4)	0	1 (<1)	0	0
Agitation	1 (<1)	0	0	1 (<1)	1 (5)	1 (5)
Confusional state	3 (2)	0	0	3 (2)	1 (5)	1 (5)

# Conclusions fractionation stage I-III small cell lung cancer

- “Small cell lung cancer is a chemo- and radiosensitive disease” is a myth. We were fooled by their immediate effects.
- Optimize chemotherapy, then optimizing radiotherapy improves OS.
- *Concurrent chemo-RT: 45 Gy/ 1.5 Gy BID/ 3 weeks (70 Gy/ 2 Gy QD/ 7 weeks)*
- *[Sequential chemo-RT: only one phase III trial: 45 Gy BID]*

## Conclusions PCI

- PCI remains SoC in localized small cell lung cancer when no progressive disease is found after concurrent chemo-radiotherapy and the performance status is 0-2
- PCI in metastatic disease should be considered as well as MRI follow-up
- Hippocampus sparing is of no use
- The neuro-cognitive side effects of PD-(L)1 antibodies and especially combined with PCI should be investigated further

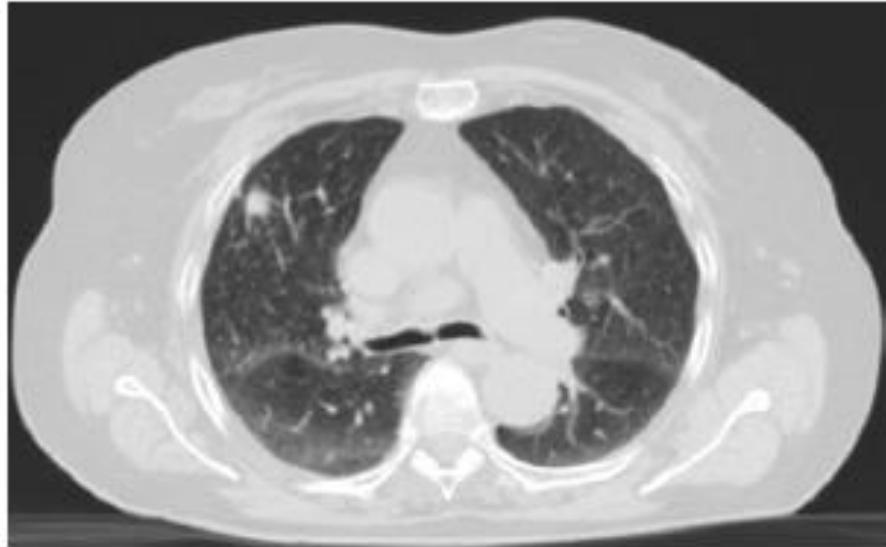
# Conclusions chest irradiation in stage IV disease

- Chest irradiation (30 Gy/ 10 fractions) in metastatic disease after a response to chemotherapy and a performance status of 0-2 should be considered
- Chest irradiation can be combined safely with PD-(L)-1 antibodies

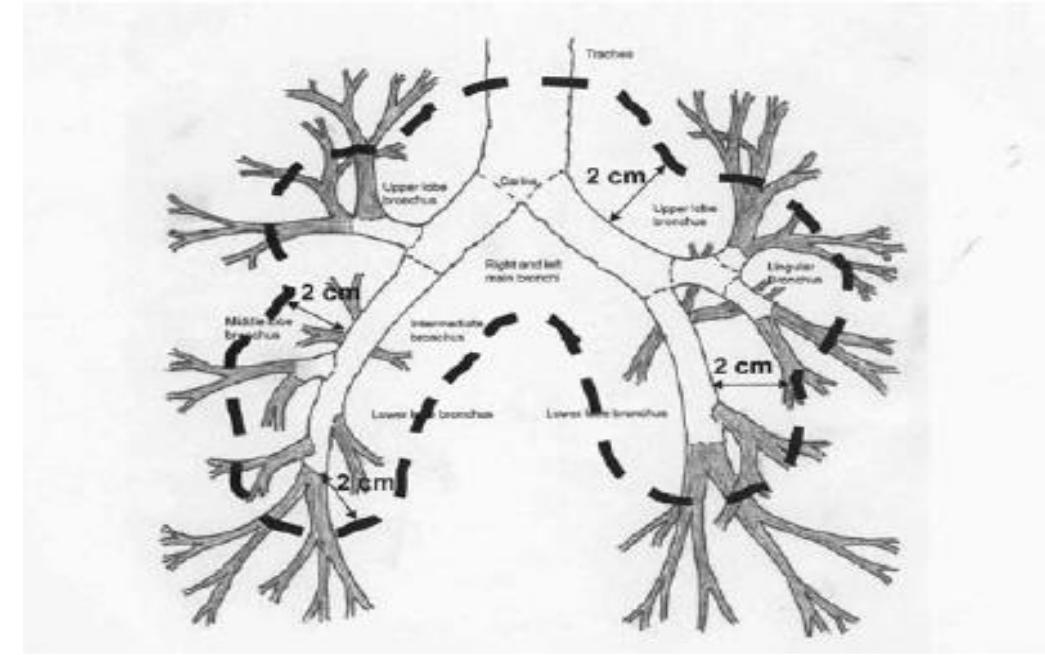
# Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

# Early stage NSCLC: Stereotactic Radiotherapy

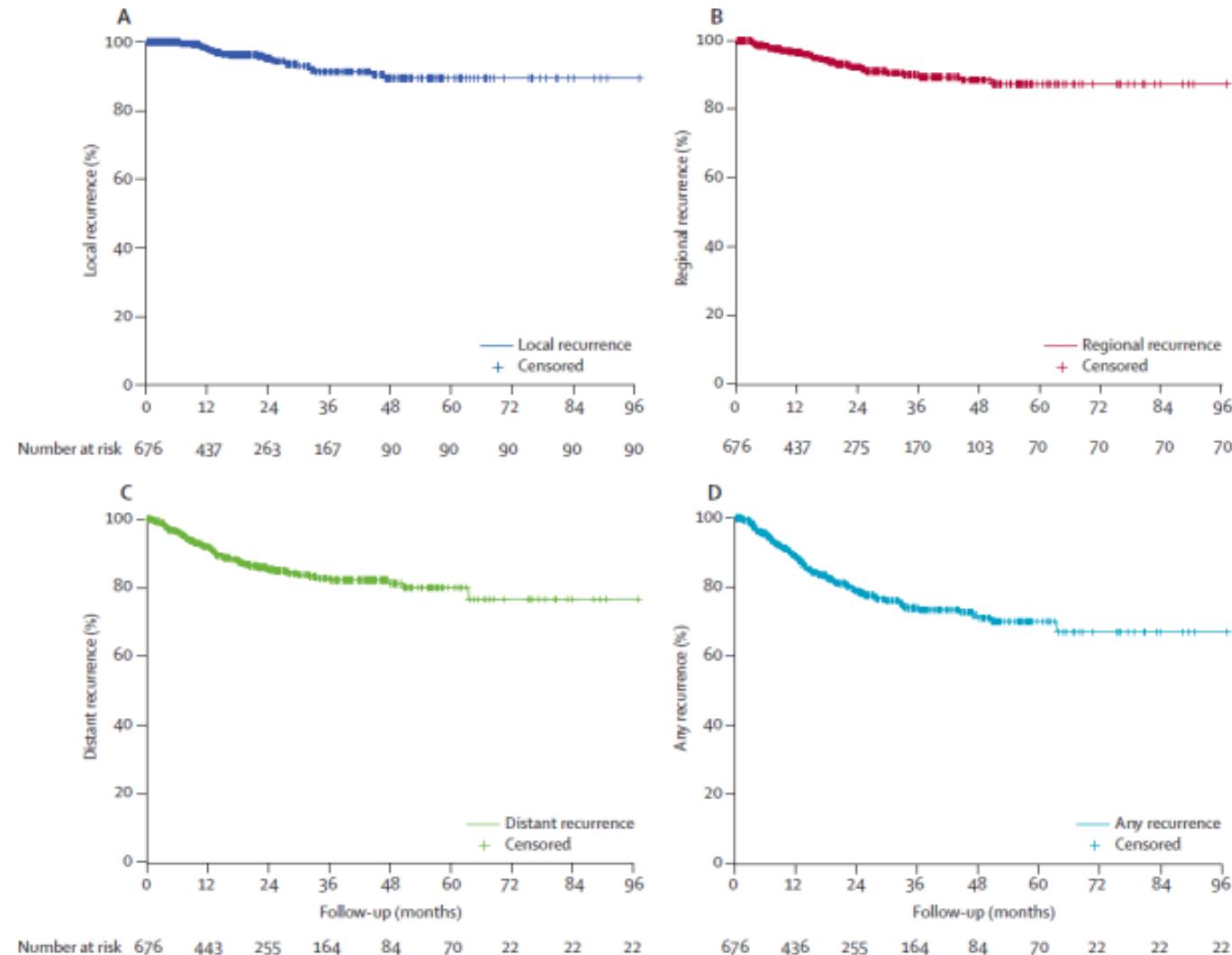
# Inclusion



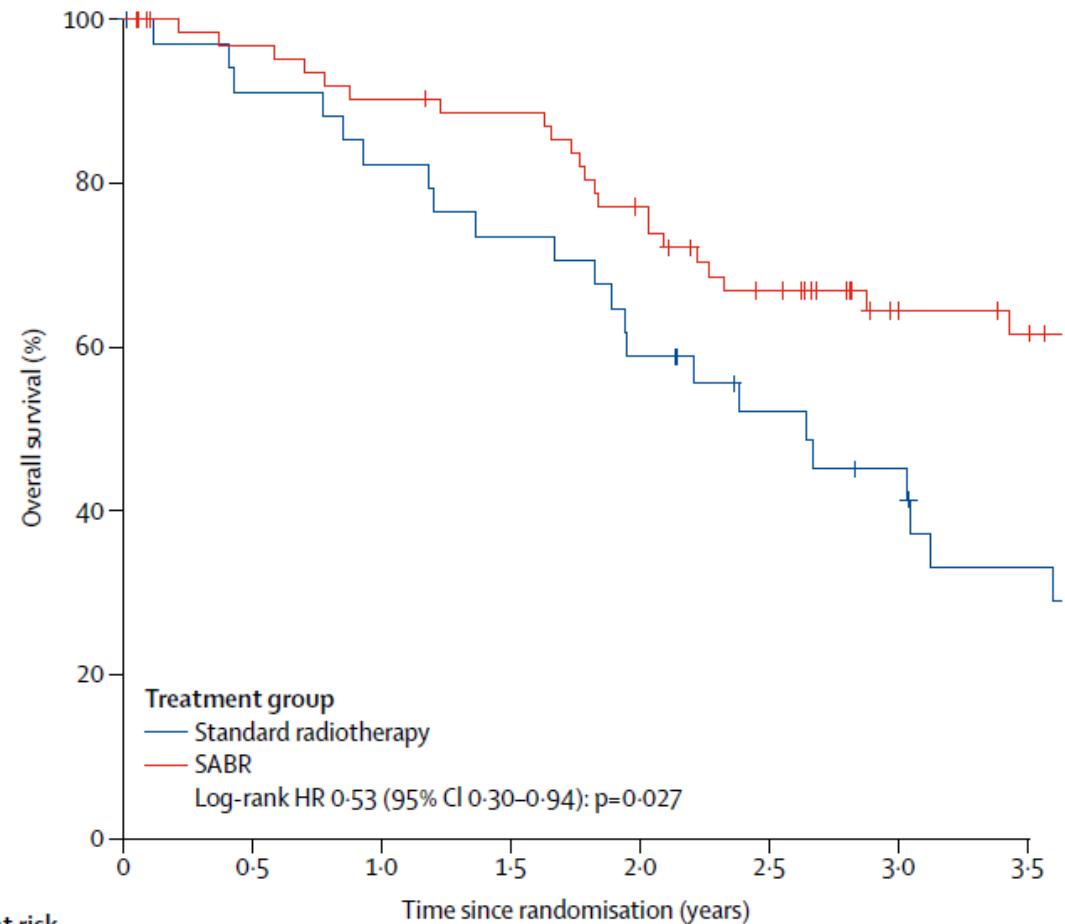
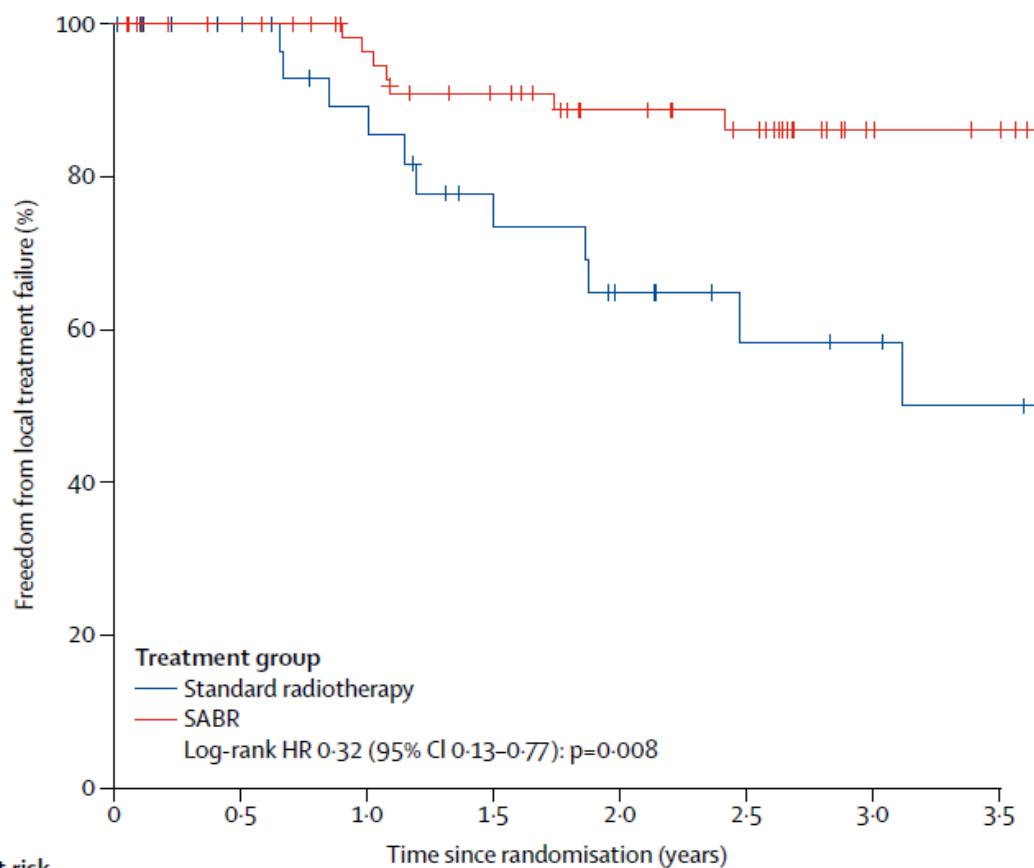
# Exclusion



# Retrospective series

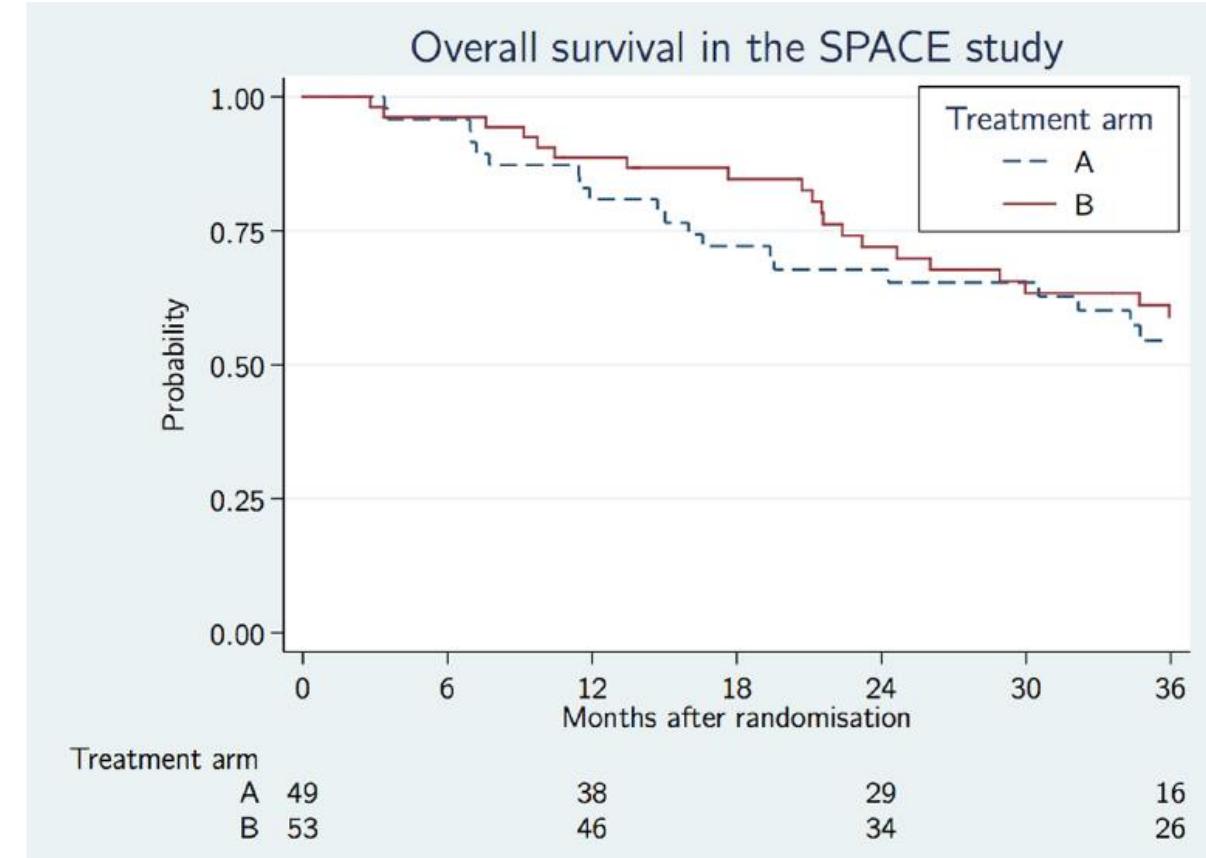
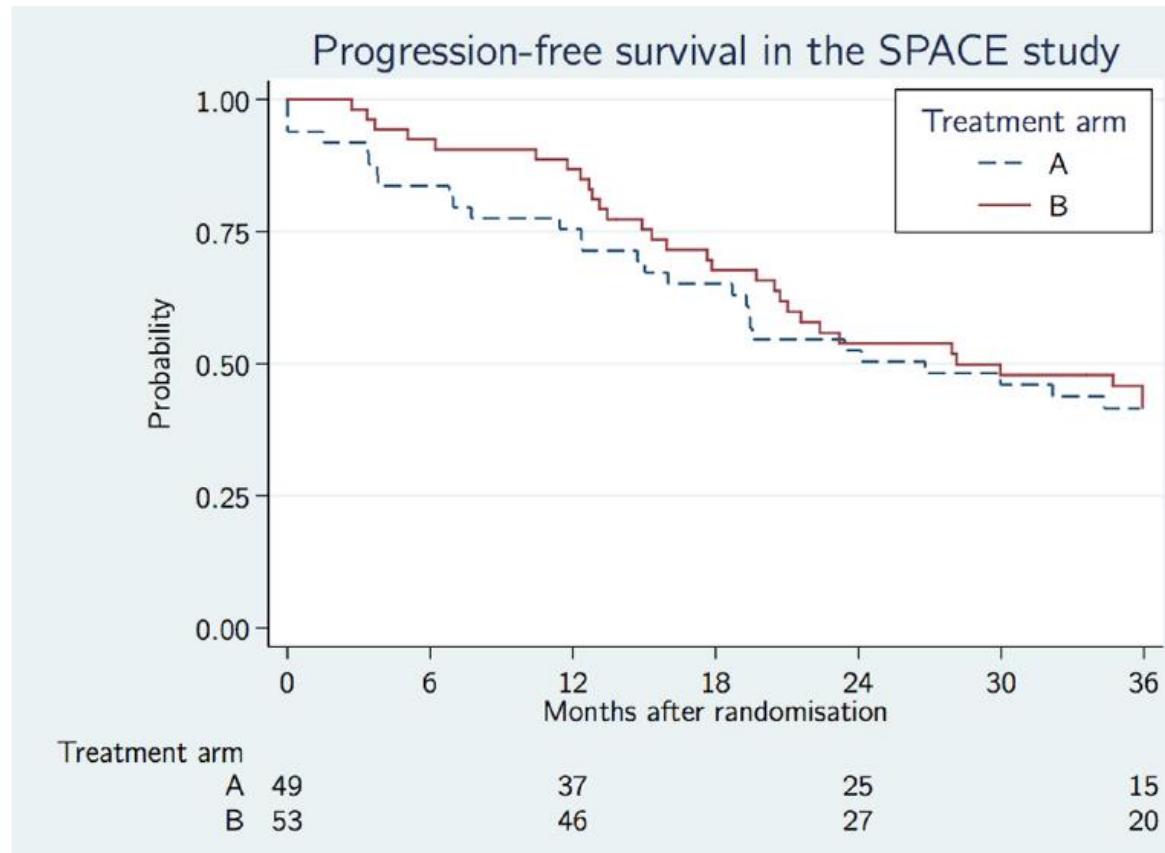


# CHISEL RCT

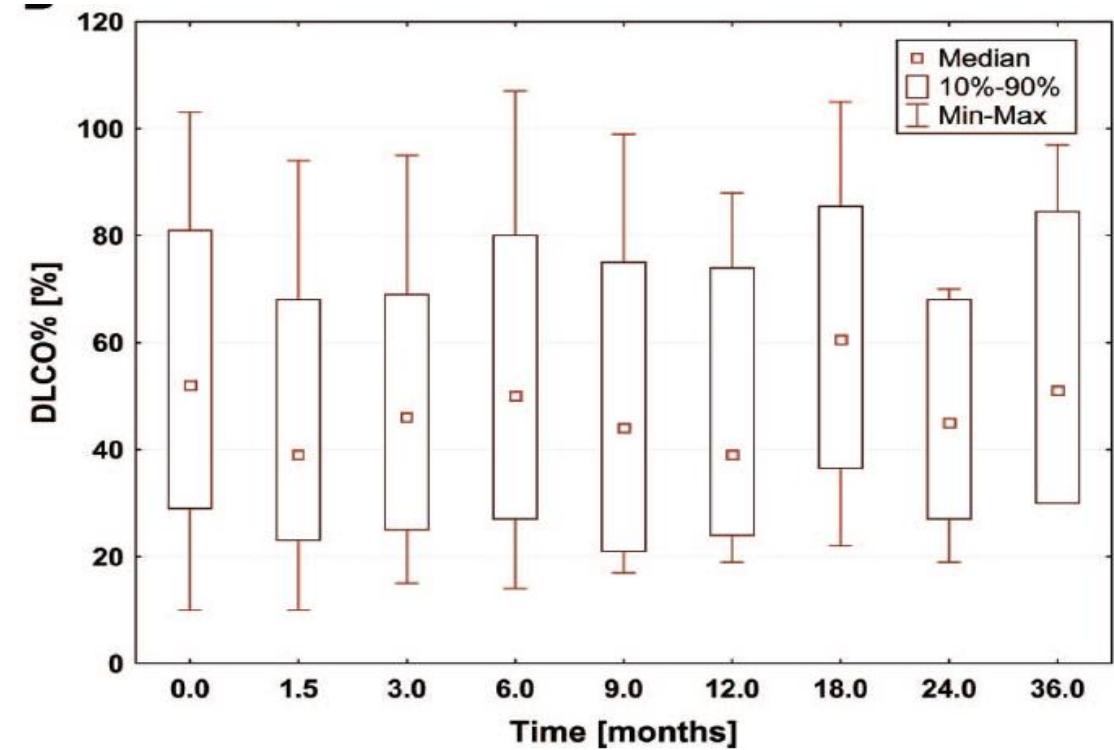
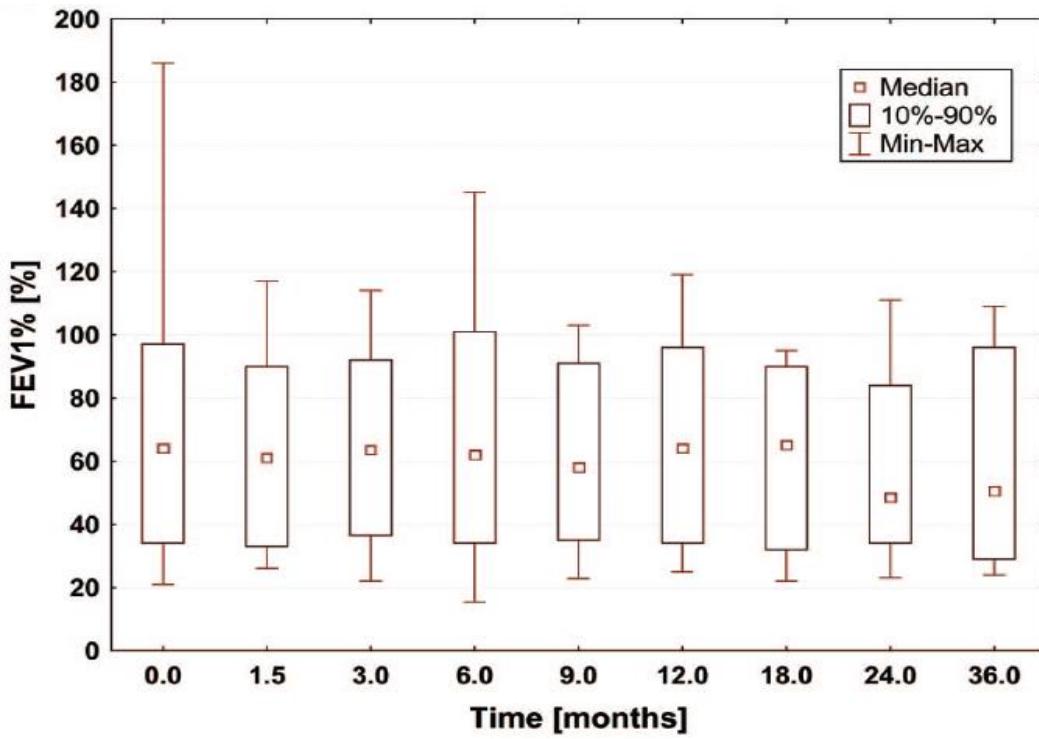


# SPACE RCT

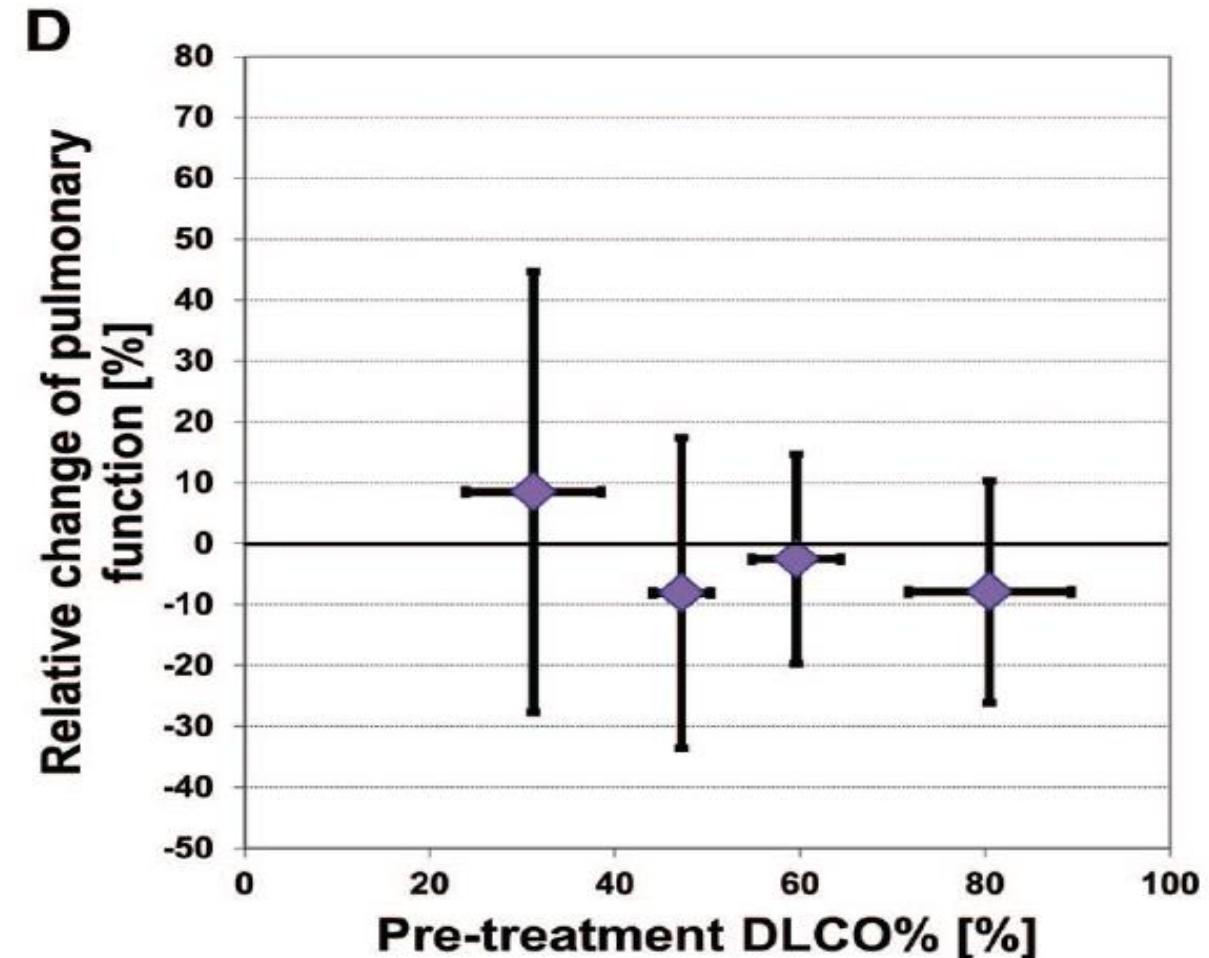
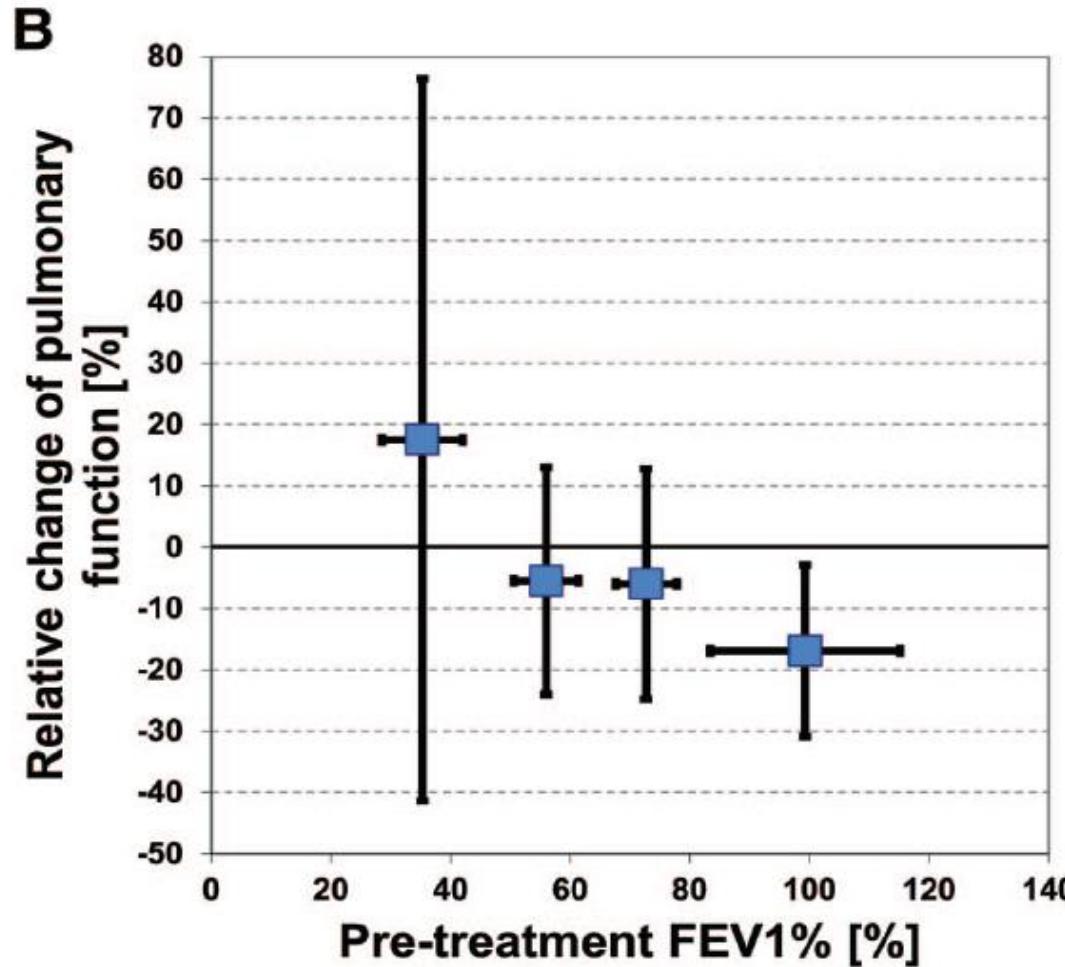
A=SBRT; B=3DCRT



# SBRT: No change of FeV1 or DLCO over time

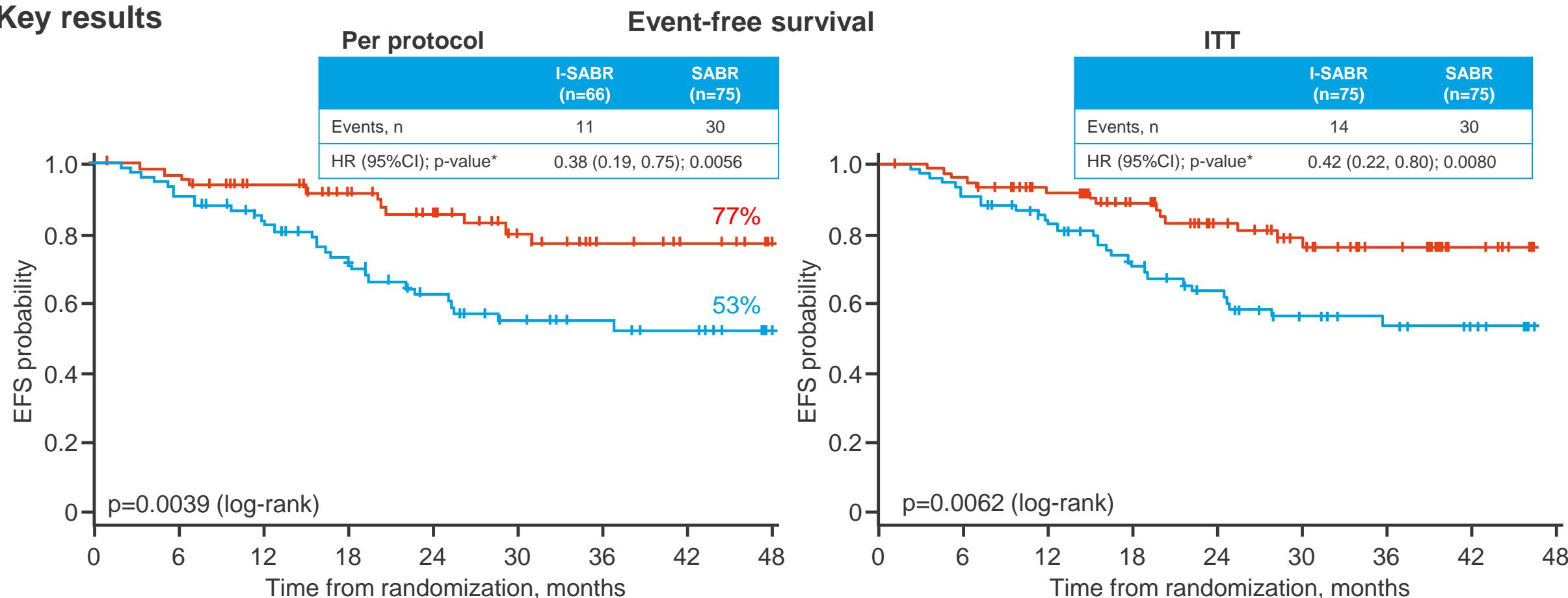


# SBRT: No decline in FeV1 or DLCO in patients with poor pulmonary function



## OA12.04: Nivolumab After Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy for Early-Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: Randomized I-SABR Trial – Chang JY, et al

- Key results



No. at risk (events)

— I-SABR 66 (0)	54 (4)	38 (4)	18 (3)	7 (0)	75 (0)	62 (5)	43 (6)	22 (3)
— SABR 75 (0)	59 (11)	34 (14)	22 (4)	11 (1)	75 (0)	59 (11)	34 (14)	22 (4)

\*Cox model.

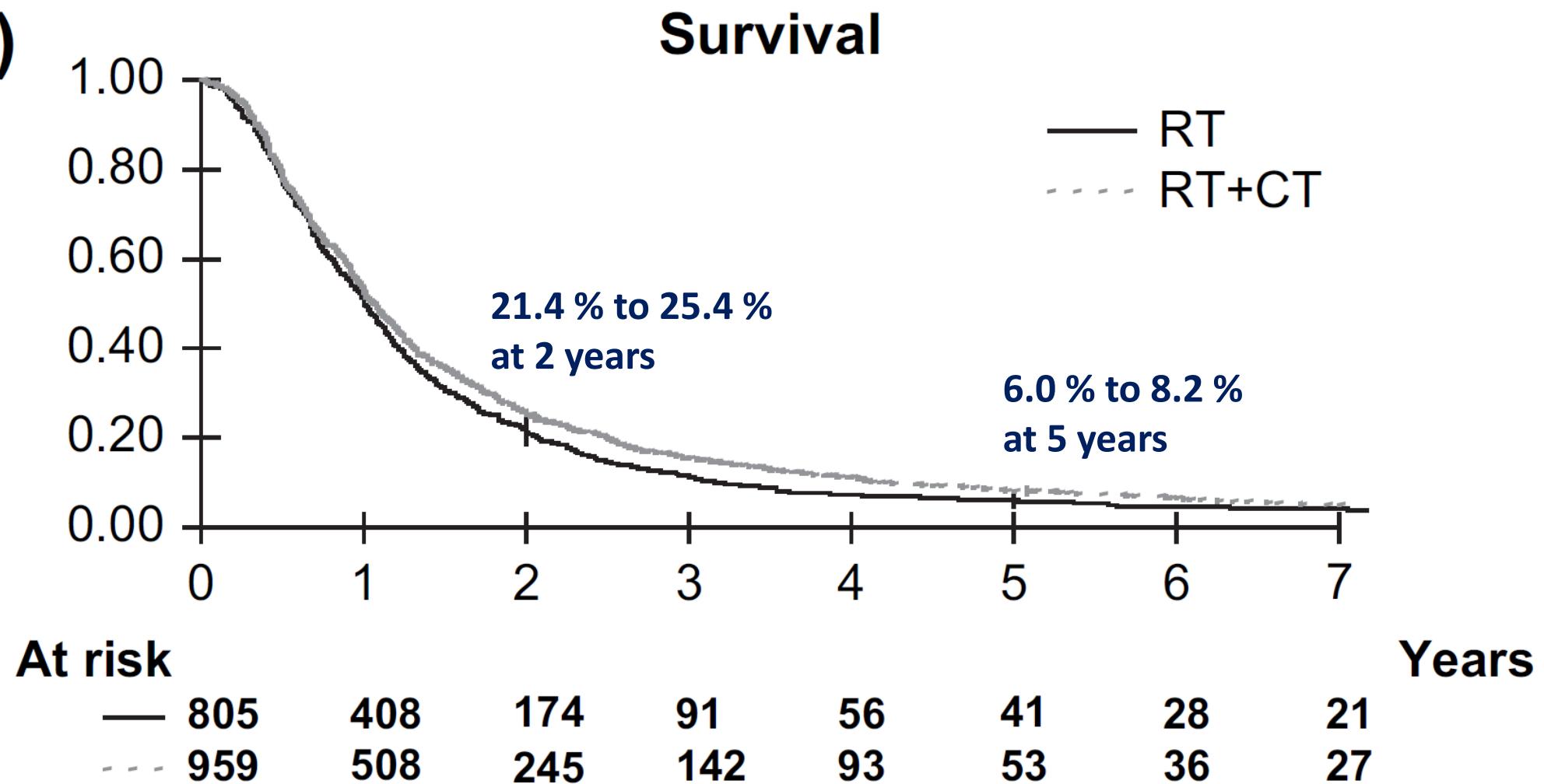
# Conclusion: SBRT for inoperable patients

- Local tumour control at 5 years > 90 %
- Regional tumour control 80 %, Distant metastases: 30-40 %
- Severe toxicity < 5 %
- No decline in pulmonary function
- Safe in patients with severely impaired lung function
- **IPF is the major risk factor**
- (Ultra)- central tumors: in case of doubt: protracted schedule

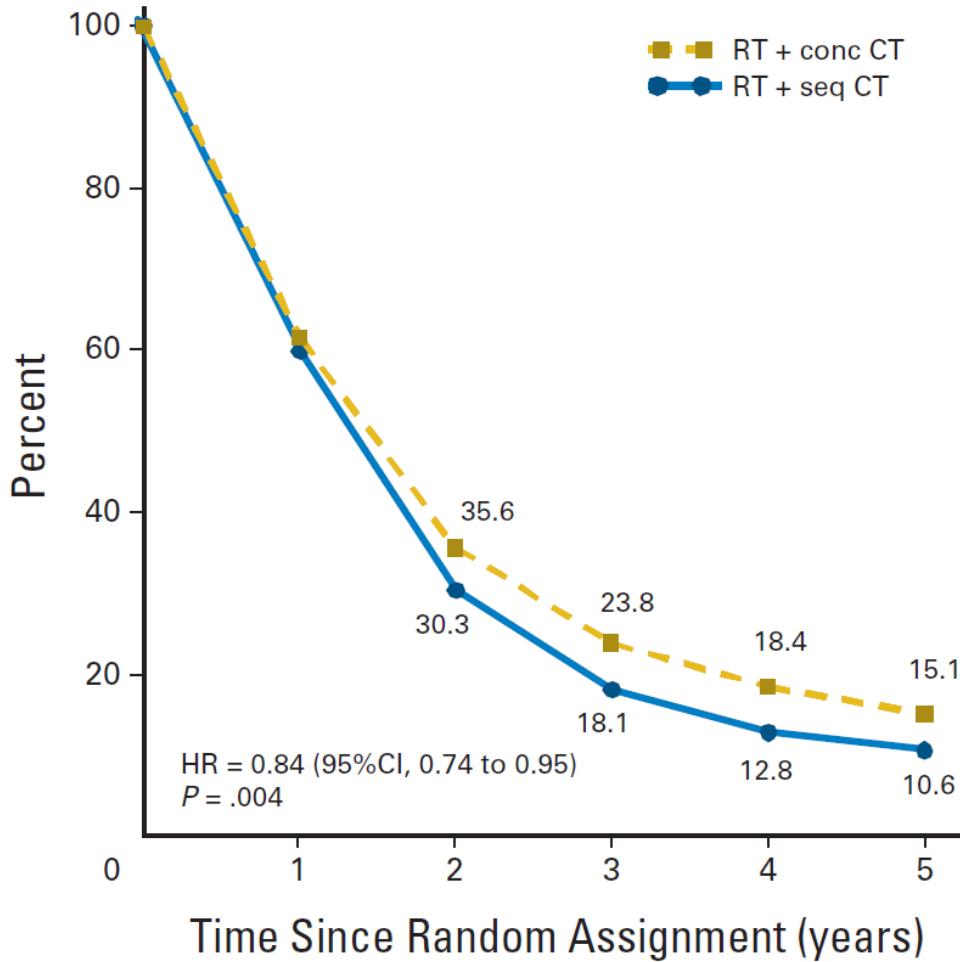
# Locally advanced NSCLC

# Sequential chemo-radiotherapy

(a)



# Concurrent chemo-radiotherapy



	Deaths/Person-Years by Period				
	0y-1y	1y-2y	2y-3y	3y-4y	> 4y
RT+ conc CT (n = 603)	240/498	147/276	67/171	30/116	37/186
RT+ seq CT (n = 602)	253/491	171/242	70/129	30/ 83	23/126

# Integration of FDG-PET-CT in radiation planning

Mean esophageal dose decreased from 30.7 Gy to 17.2 Gy ( $p=0.004$ ):

**G3 esophagitis from 30 % to 18 %**

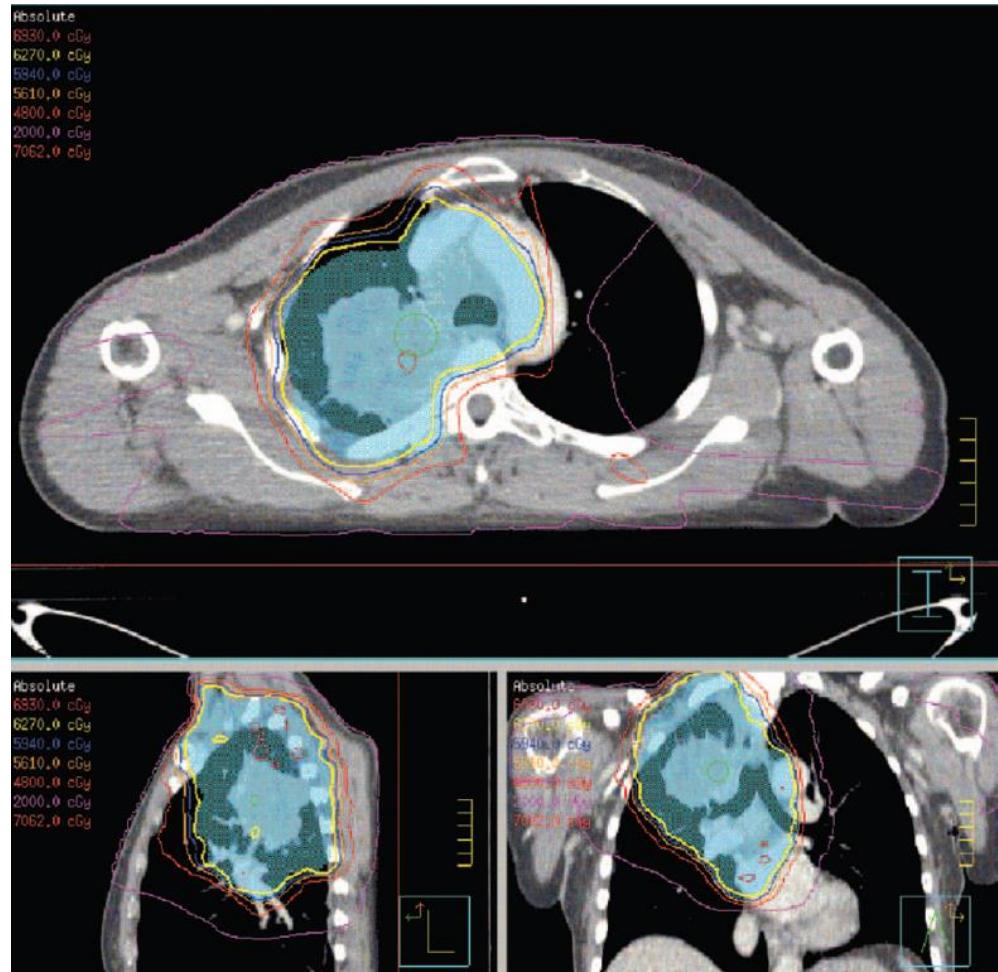
Table 2. Patterns of recurrence

Recurrences	No. of patients (%)
None	26 (59)
In-field	10 (23)
Exclusively in-field	5
In-field and distant	5
Isolated nodal	1 (2)
Nodal (outside of CTV) along with local or distant failure	2 (4.5)
Distant only	7 (16)
Brain only	1



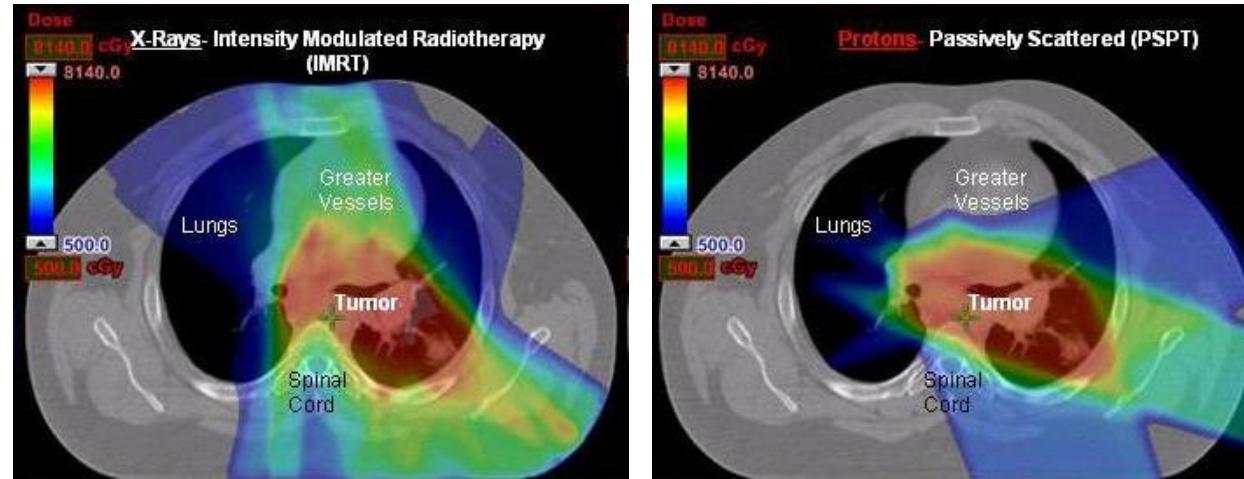
Abbreviation: CTV = clinical target volume.

# IMRT/ VMAT: very conformal for high-dose regions



Chan et al. J Thorac Oncol 2014

# Proton Therapy to reduce low-dose volumes



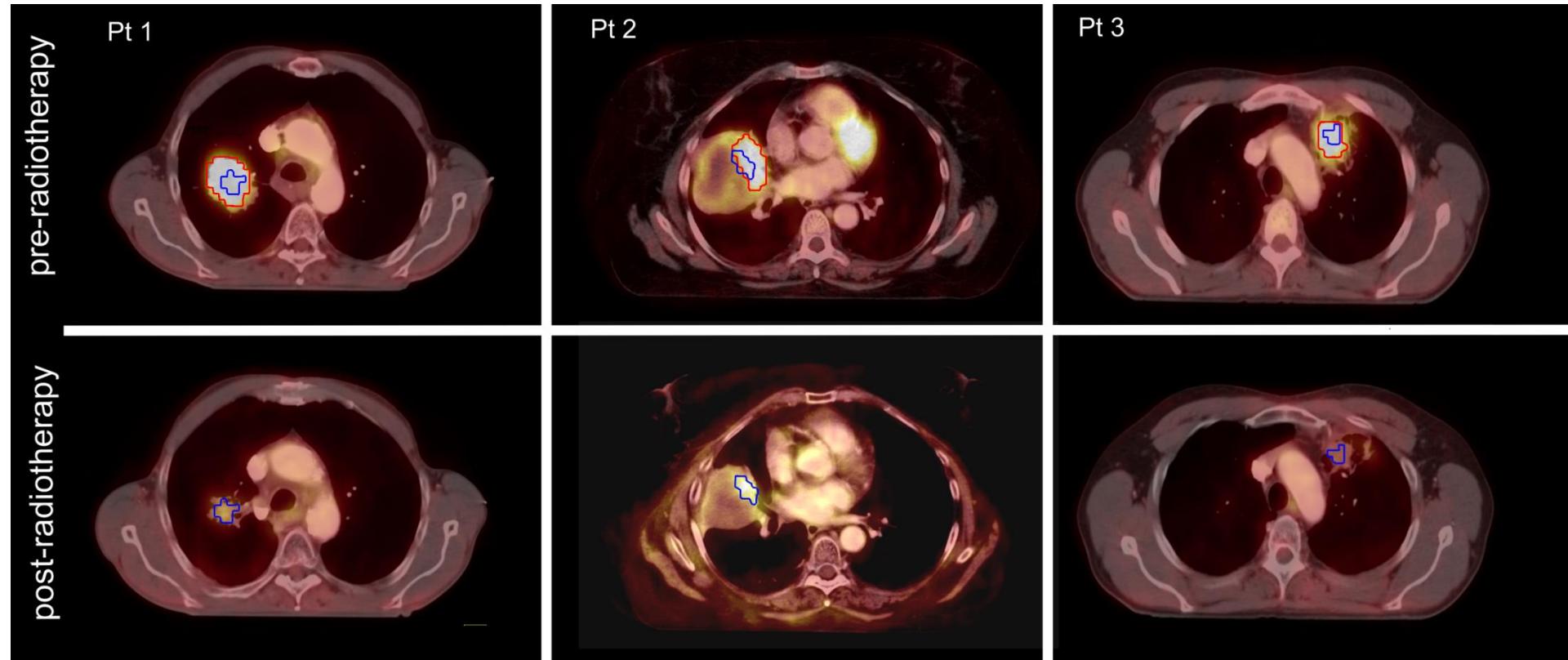
De Ruysscher D, Chang JY Sem Radiat Oncol 2014



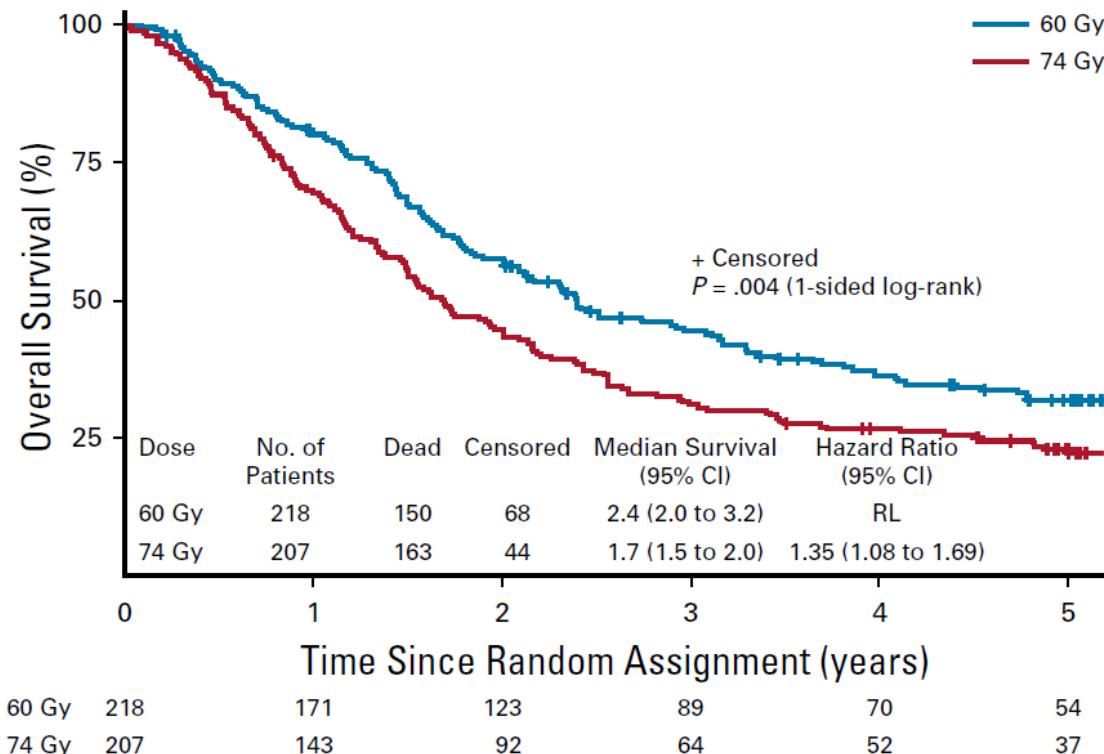
# IMPT

Mean Lung Dose  
16 Gy → 8 Gy  
Mean Heart Dose  
25 Gy → 6 Gy

# Tackling intra-tumor heterogeneity? PET-boost failed

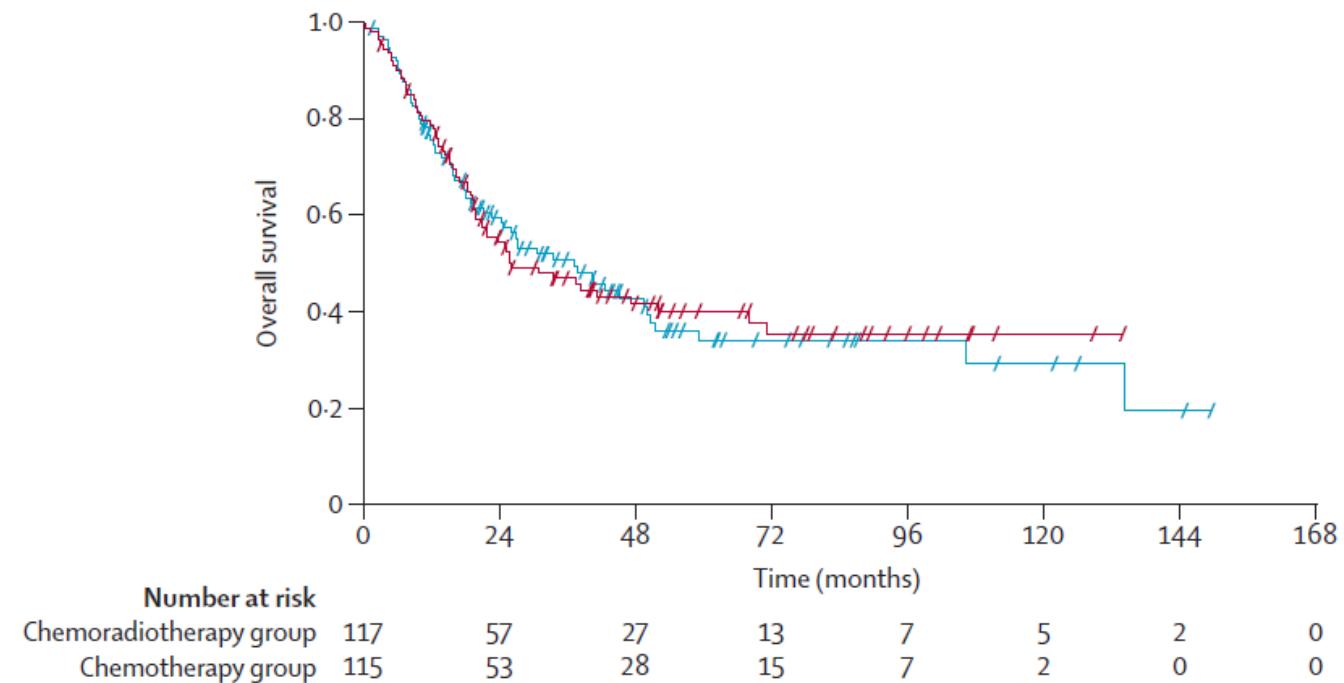
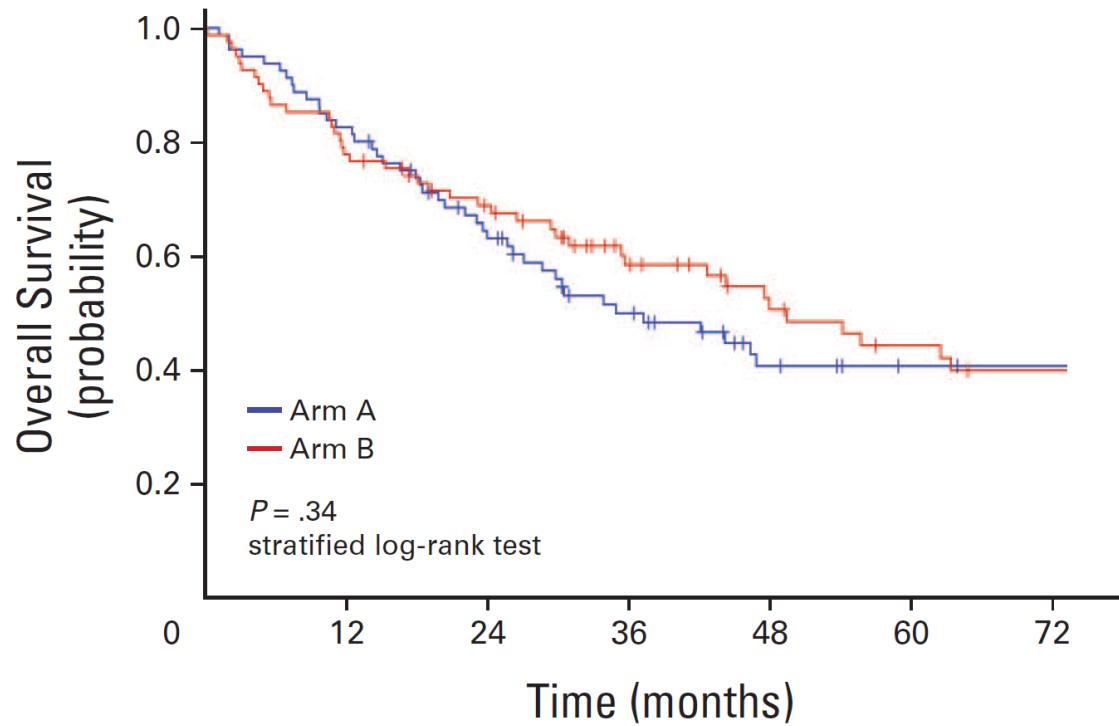


# Dose-escalation in concurrent chemo-RT: RTOG 0617: Failed



Failure Pattern	Standard Dose (60 Gy)		High Dose (74 Gy)		P
	Failed, % (95% CI)	No. at Risk	Failed, % (95% CI)	No. at Risk	
Local	38.2 (31.7 to 44.8)	40	45.7 (38.7 to 52.4)	27	.07
Regional	35.7 (29.3 to 42.2)	37	38.4 (31.7 to 45.0)	27	.54
Locoregional	49.7 (42.8 to 56.3)	34	55.4 (48.3 to 61.9)	25	.17
Distant	52.3 (45.3 to 58.8)	36	57.6 (50.4 to 64.1)	24	.32

# Addition of surgery: Failed



Eberhardt et al. J Clin Oncol 2015

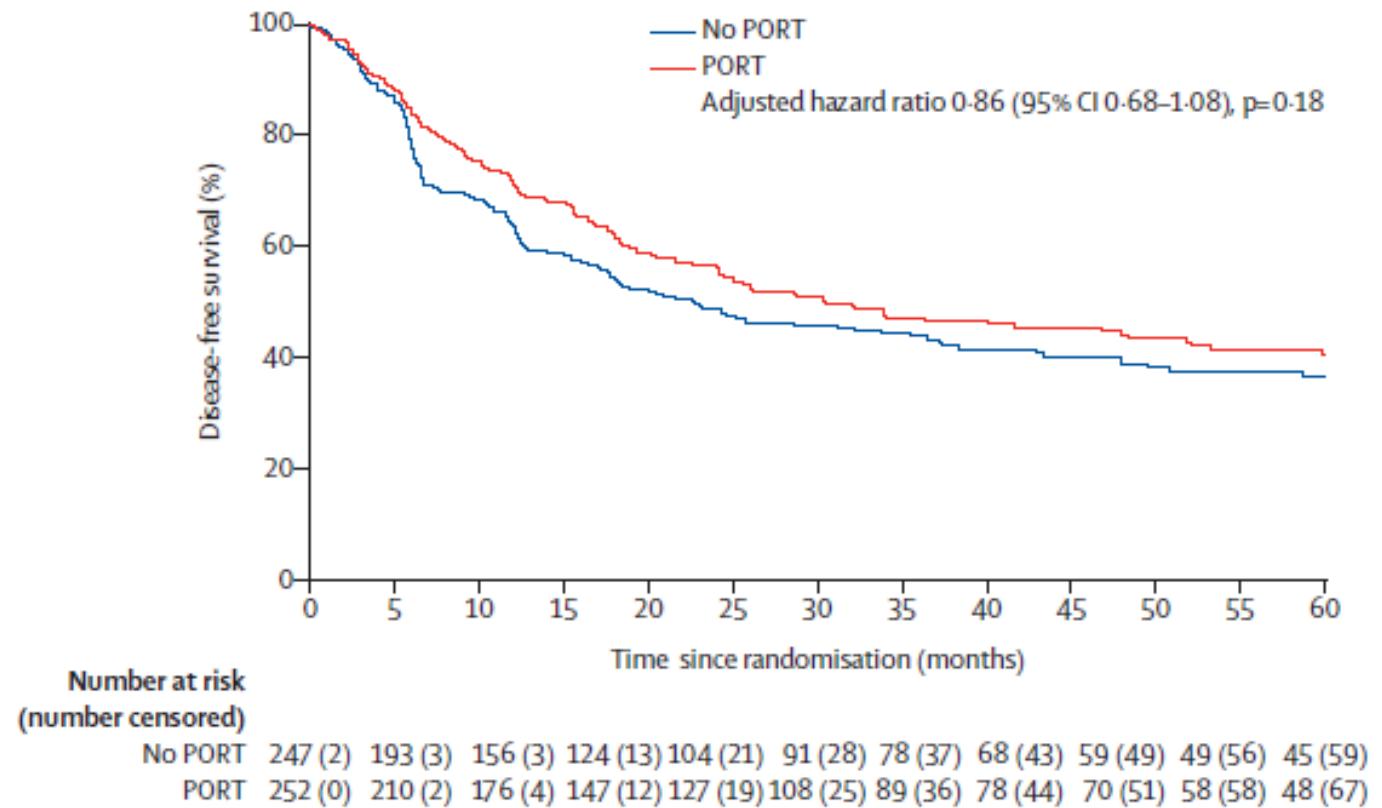
Pless et al. Lancet 2015

# PORT reduces loco-regional relapses after complete resection: Lung-ART trial

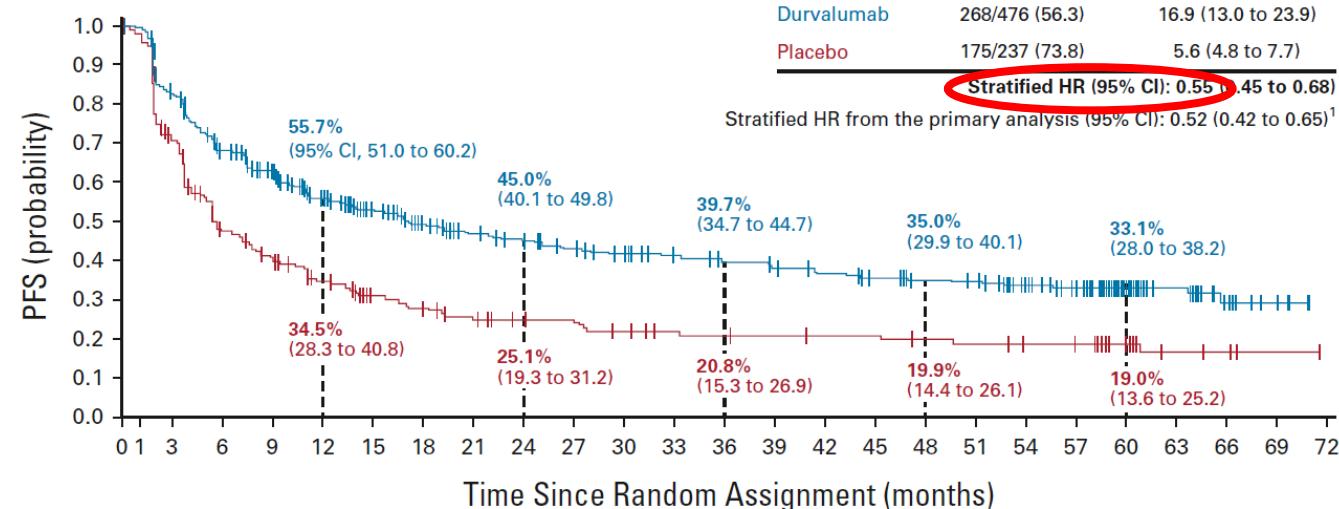
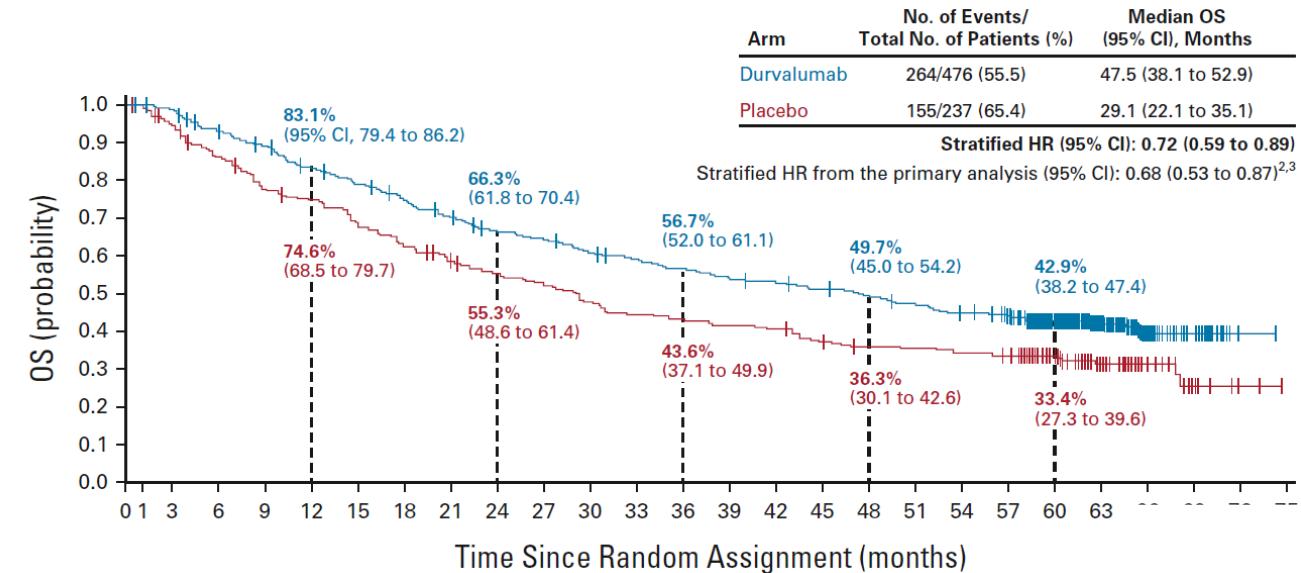
	PORT group (n=252)	Control group (n=249)
All disease-free survival events	144	152
Relapses and metastases	123 (85%)	144 (95%)
Mediastinal relapse	36 (25%)	70 (46%)
	<b>36/252 (14 %)</b>	<b>70/249 (28 %)</b>
Death	21 (15%)	8 (5%)
Causes of death		
Cardiopulmonary	11 (8%)	0
	<b>11/252 (4 %)</b>	
Progression	1 (1%)	0
Second primary cancer	4 (3%)	2 (1%)
Vascular	0	1 (1%)
Unknown	3 (2%)	4 (3%)

Data are n (%), regarding the number of patients with event. Patients can have several different events at the same time. PORT=postoperative radiotherapy.

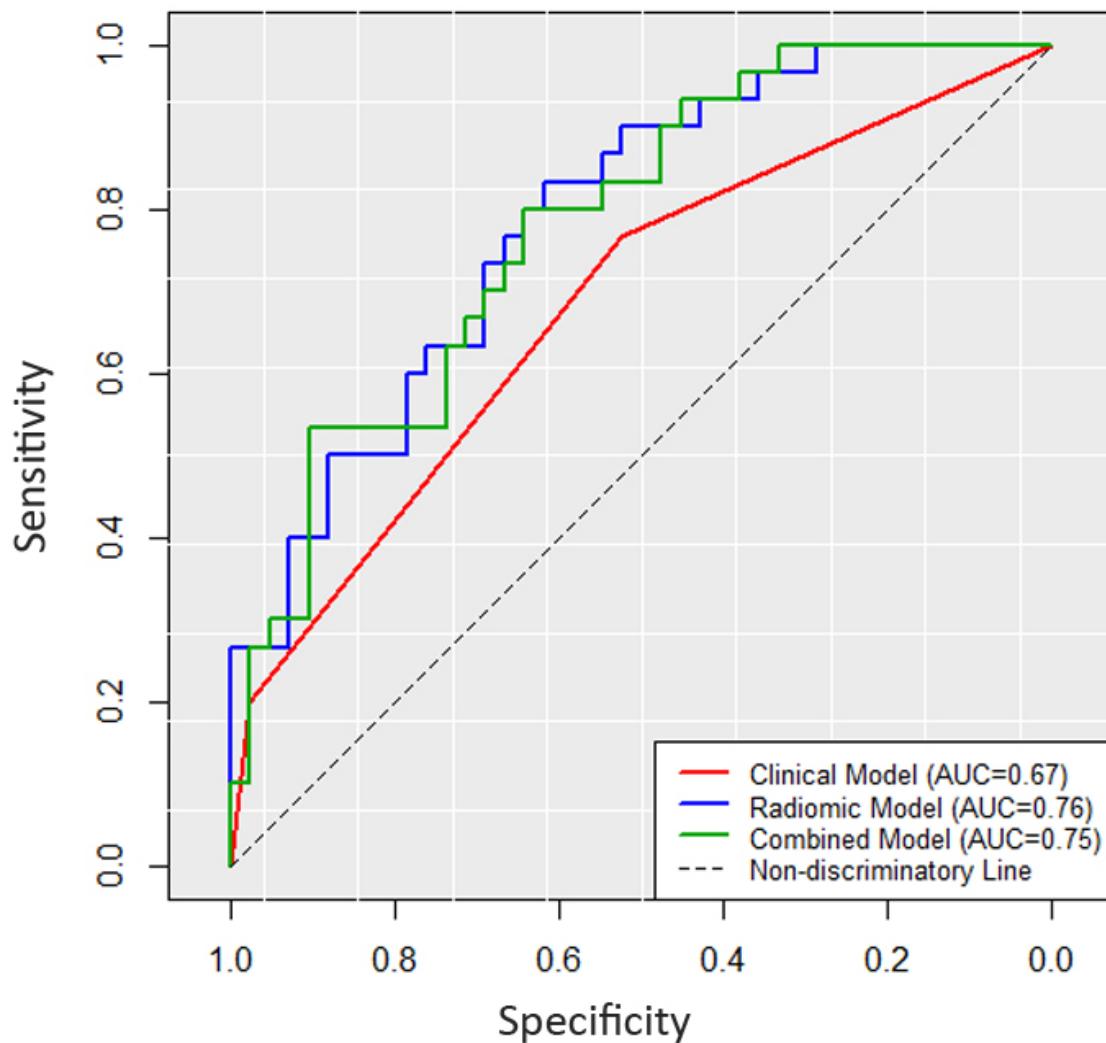
Table 3: Disease-free survival events



# PACIFIC: stage III NSCLC: concurrent chemo-RT → durvalumab



# What is the cause of pneumonitis? Deep learning



Observed outcome	Clinical model		Radiomic model		Combined model	
	IIP	OTP	IIP	OTP	IIP	OTP
IIP	23	7	25	5	24	6
OTP	20	22	16	26	15	27
Sensitivity (%)	77	83	80			
Specificity (%)	52	62	64			
PPV (%)	53	61	62			
NPV (%)	76	84	82			
Accuracy (%)	62	71	71			
AUC (95% CI) <sup>a</sup>	0.67 (0.56 to 0.79)	0.76 (0.68 to 0.88)	0.75 (0.67 to 0.88)			
Brier score (95% CI)	0.21 (0.14 to 0.23)	0.19 (0.11 to 0.21)	0.19 (0.11 to 0.21)			

Abbreviations: AUC, Area under the ROC Curve; CI, Confidence Interval; IIP, Immunotherapy-Induced Pneumonitis; NPV, Negative Predictive Value; OTP, Other Types of Pneumonitis; PPV, Positive Predictive Value.

<sup>a</sup> Comparison of AUCs using n=1000 bootstrap samples:

# Conclusion: Stage III NSCLC

- Most fit patients qualify for concurrent chemo-radiotherapy followed by durvalumab immunotherapy
- Recurrences remain a major problem
- Optimal local treatment remains debatable
- Many questions remain

# Oligometastatic NSCLC

# Oligometastatic definitions



Time of initial diagnosis

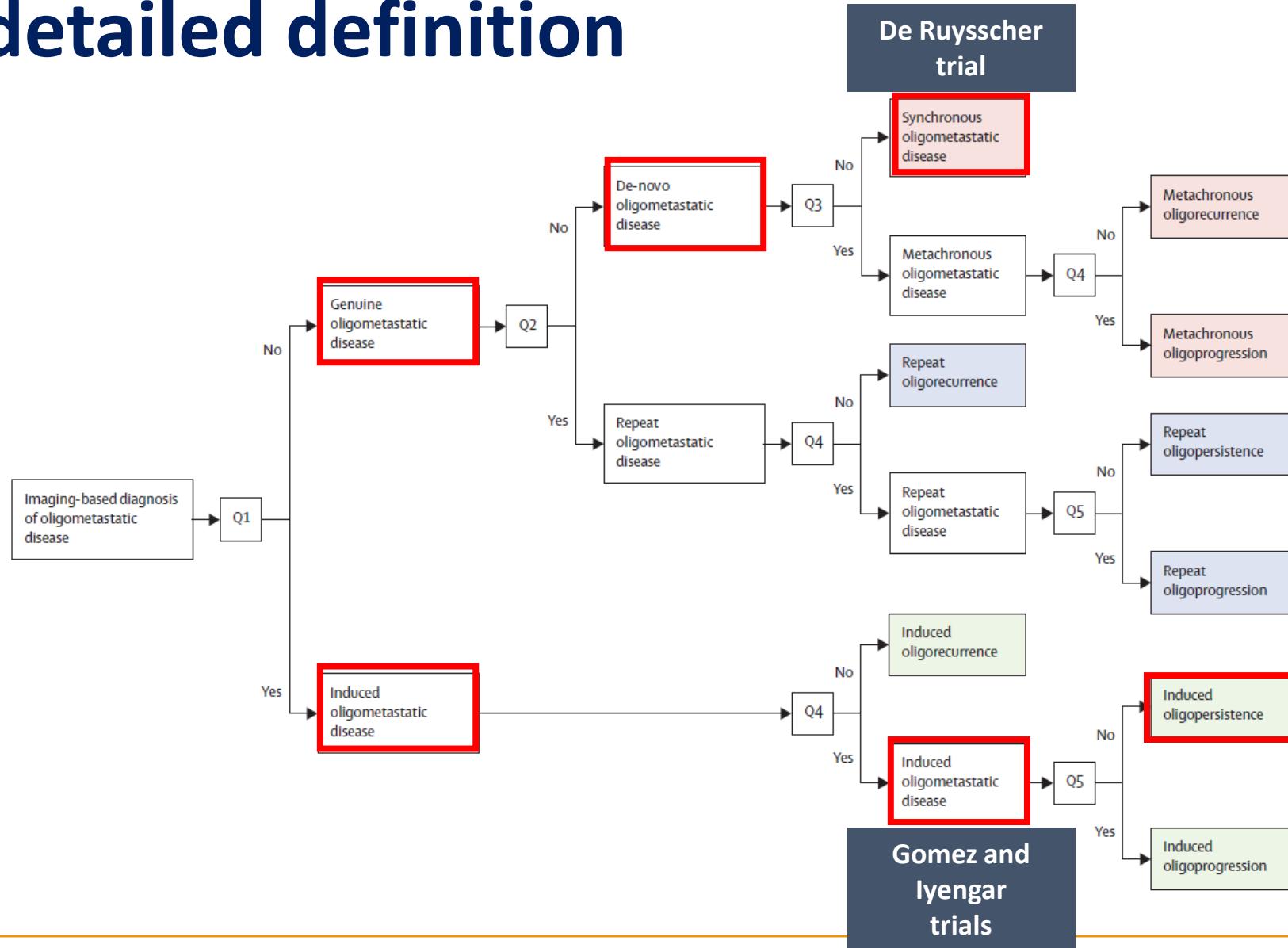
Persistent disease in limited number  
of sites after/on systemic disease

Progression in limited number of  
metastasis

Recurrence after control of localized  
primary tumor

**EORTC:** Maximum of five metastases and three organs  
Mediastinal lymph node involvement is not counted as a metastatic site

# More detailed definition



**Gomez and Iyengar trials**

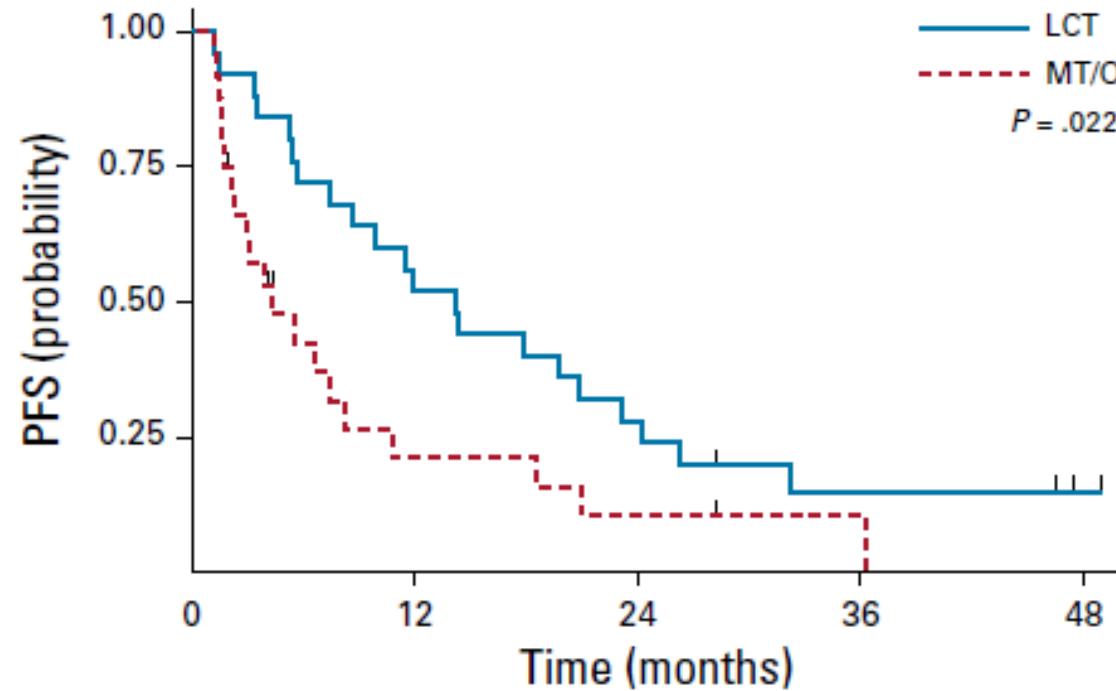
# Actual series/trial inclusion vs criteria

Articles	Number of patients	Maximal number metastases defined	Maximal number of metastases treated	Patients with $\leq 2$ metastases treated (%)
Downey R. 2002	23	1	1	100%
Khan A. 2006	23	2	2	100%
Inoue St et al. 2010	25	5	5	N.A.
Cheruvu P. 2011	38	8	8	N.A.
Collaud S. 2012	29	1	1	100%
Congedo M. 2012	53	2	2	100%
De Ruysscher D. 2012	40	5	3	97.4%
Lopez Guerra J. 2012	78	4	4	91%
Griffioen G. 2013	61	3	3	96.7%
Nieder C.S. 2014	23	3	2	100%
Parikh R. 2014	186	5	5	74%
Sheu T. 2014	90	3	3	88%
Plones T. 2015	56	5	4	99%
Su Ss. 2015	198	3	3	56%*
Xanthopoulos E. et al. 2015	25	4	4	84%
Fleckenstein J. 2016	39	5	5	90%
Johnson K. 2016	37	5	N.A.	N.A.
Sakai Ks.2016	18	5	N.A.	N.A.
Su Ss. 2016	91	4	N.A.	N.A.
Iyengar P. 2017	29	5	3	93%**
Gomez D. 2019	49	3	3	98%
Bauml JM. 2019 [3]	51	4	4	94%
Arrieta O. 2019 [4]	37	5	N.A.	65%

Most: 3-5

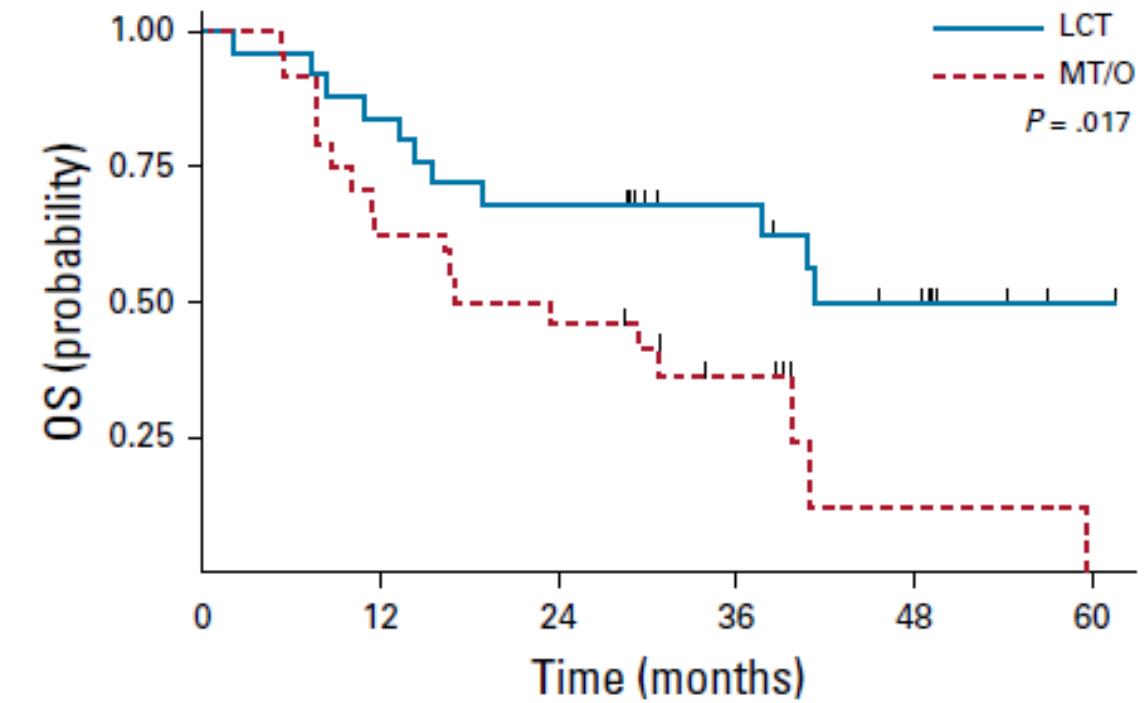
Included:  $\leq 2$

# Randomized study after response on chemotherapy/ TKI



No. at risk

LCT:	25	13	7	3	1
MT/O:	24	4	2	1	0



No. at risk

LCT:	25	21	17	12	7	1
MT/O:	24	15	11	6	1	0

# SABR-COMET: *Controlled* primary tumor; metachronous

Characteristic	Arm, No. (%)	
	Control (n = 33)	SABR (n = 66)
Median age, years (IQR)	69 (64-75)	67 (59-74)
Sex		
Male	19 (58)	40 (61)
Female	14 (42)	26 (39)
Site of original primary tumor		
Breast	5 (15)	13 (20)
Colorectal	9 (27)	9 (14)
Lung	6 (18)	12 (18)
Prostate	2 (6)	14 (21)
Other	11 (33)	18 (27)
Median time from diagnosis of primary tumor to random assignment, years (IQR)	2.3 (1.3-4.5)	2.4 (1.6-5.3)



# Radiation Therapy for Oligometastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: An ASTRO/ESTRO Clinical Practice Guideline

Developed in collaboration with the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology

Endorsed by the Canadian Society of Radiation Oncology and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists

# Conclusion: Oligometastatic NSCLC

- A small group of these patients will experience a long PFS and OS by adding a local treatment to all metastatic sites to systemic therapy
- Probably the best is to begin with the best available systemic treatment, in case of a response or clinical improvement, add local therapy
- Many questions unanswered

# What you may optimize now: Supportive care



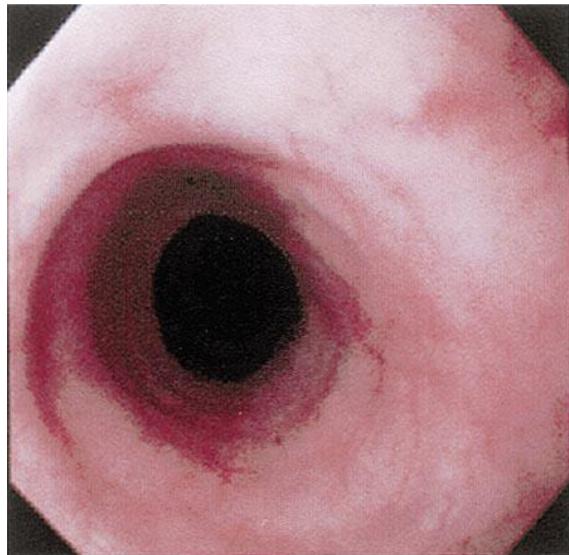
REVIEW

## Recommendation for supportive care in patients receiving concurrent chemotherapy and radiotherapy for lung cancer<sup>☆</sup>

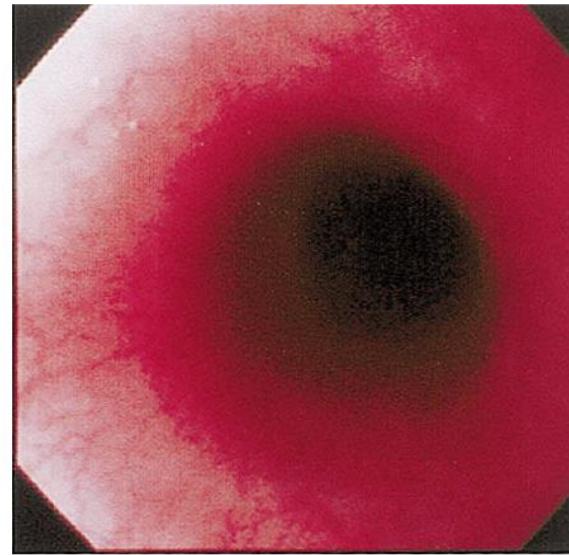
D. De Ruysscher<sup>1\*</sup>, C. Faivre-Finn<sup>2</sup>, K. Nackaerts<sup>3</sup>, K. Jordan<sup>4</sup>, J. Arends<sup>5</sup>, J. Y. Douillard<sup>6</sup>, U. Ricardi<sup>7</sup> & S. Peters<sup>8</sup>

# Endoscopic findings of radiation-induced esophagitis

Normal



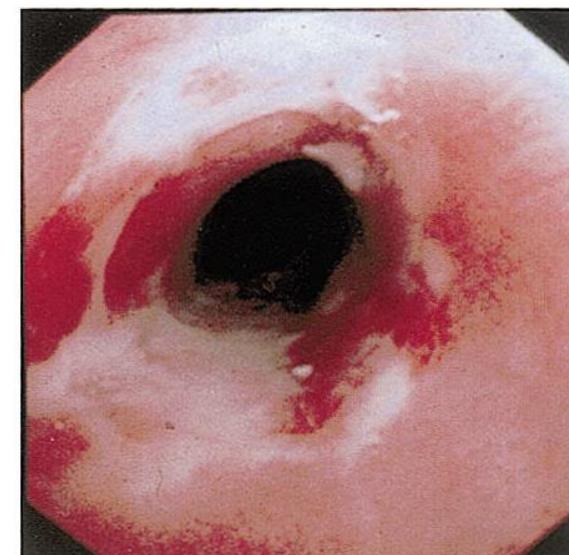
Grade 1



Grade 2



Grade 3



# Conclusions

- Because of the increased esophageal transit time and the healing time of esophagitis, the administration of a proton pump inhibitor at a daily dose of 40 mg, up to three months after the end of radiotherapy is recommended (level V, grade B).
- Because esophageal candidiasis frequently occurs, patients with grade 2 or more esophagitis may be given appropriate anti-fungal drugs (level V, grade B).
- Symptomatic care, such as the administration of local anaesthetics (e.g. lidocaine), systemic analgesics including opioids, and appropriate feeding, incl. naso-gastric tube, is essential (level V, grade A).

# Practical recommendations

<b>Screen for</b>	malnutrition sarcopenia systemic inflammation fatigue depression	NRS, Nutrition Risk Screening 2002 SARC-F mGPS, modified Glasgow Prognostic Score FSI, Fatigue Symptom Inventory PHQ-2, Public Health Questionnaire
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# Practical recommendations

Aim for

**energy**

25-35 kcal/kg body weight

**protein**

1.0- 1.5 g/kg

**micronutrients**

RDA

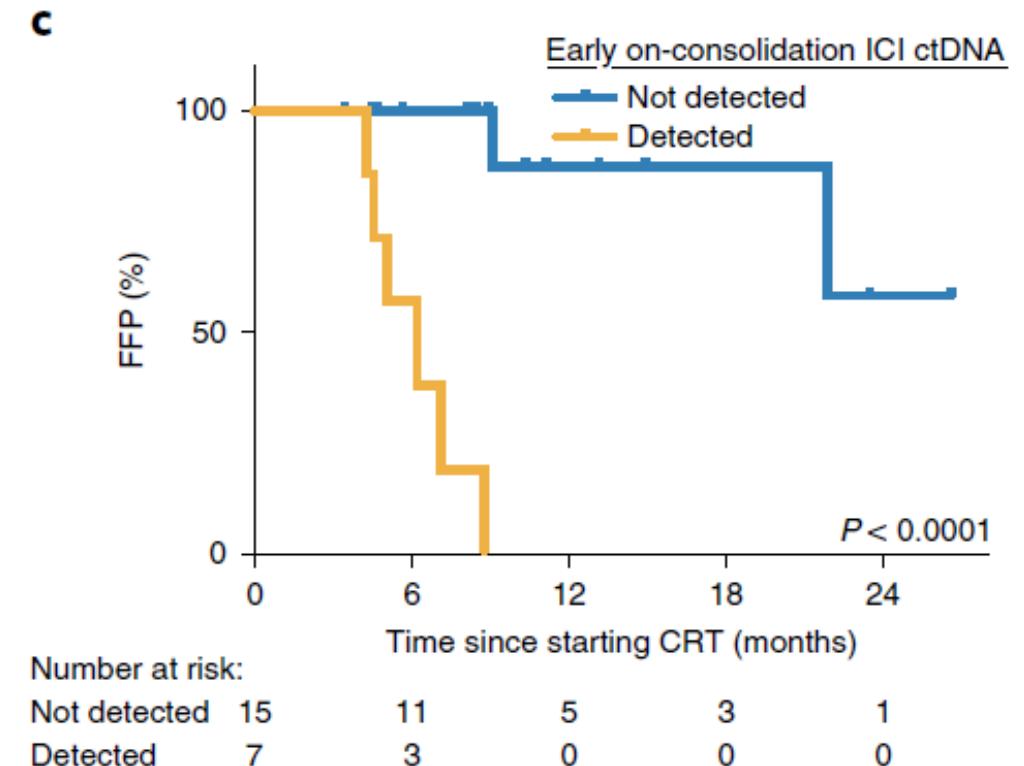
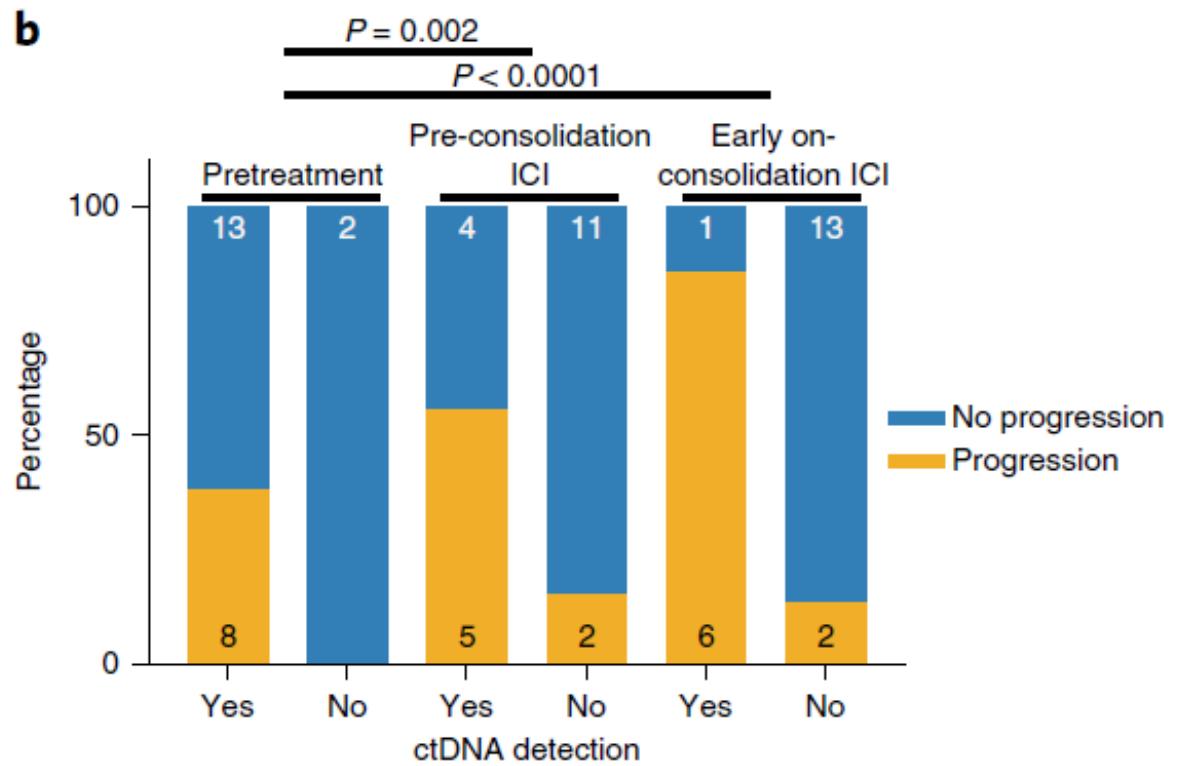
**Artificial nutrition**

ONS, oral nutritional supplements

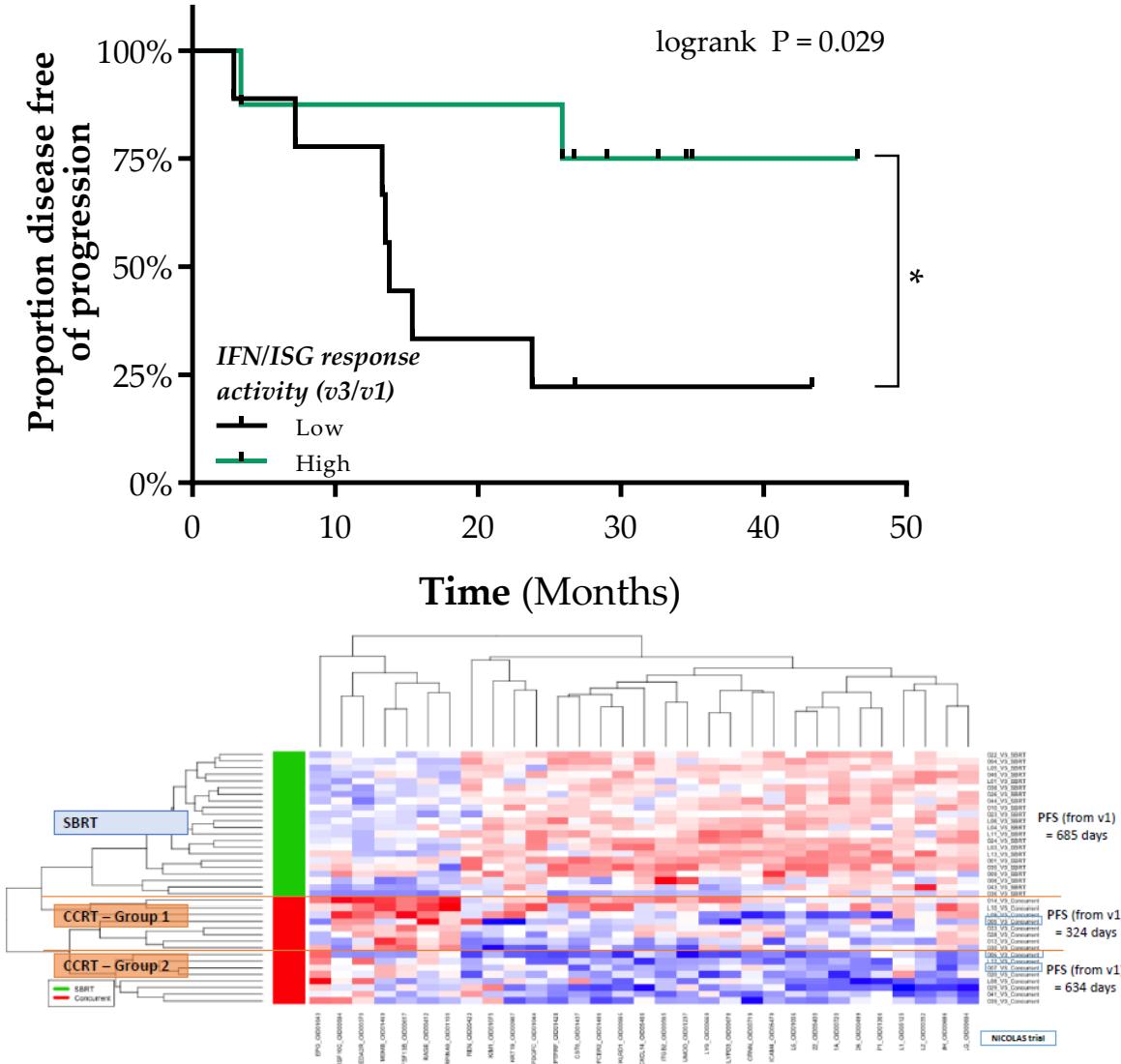
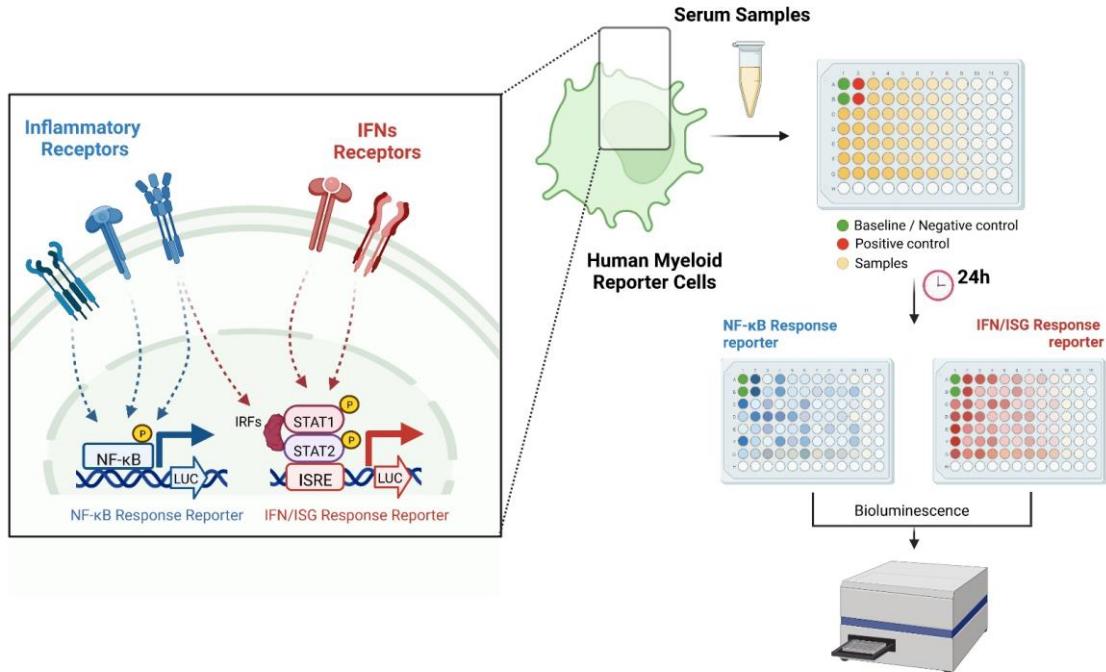
add **parenteral nutrition** if oral inadequate

# The future

# cf tumor DNA: Who needs durvalumab?



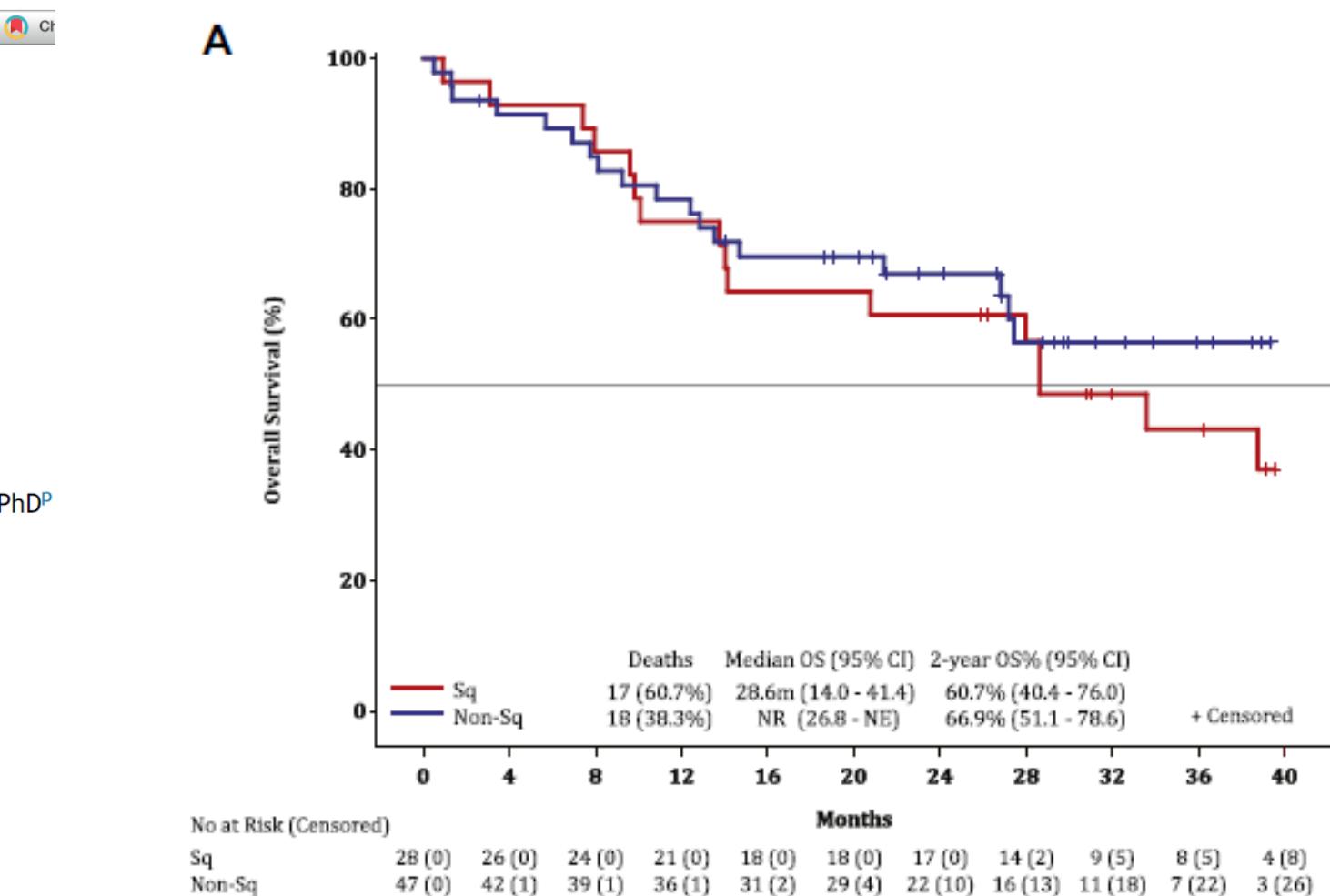
# Identify prognostic and predictive biomarkers in the blood



# Add concurrent immunotherapy to CCRT?

Progression-Free and Overall Survival for Concurrent Nivolumab With Standard Concurrent Chemoradiotherapy in Locally Advanced Stage IIIA-B NSCLC: Results From the European Thoracic Oncology Platform NICOLAS Phase II Trial (European Thoracic Oncology Platform 6-14)

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Amanda Tufman, MD,<sup>e,f</sup> Matthias Guckenberger, MD,<sup>g</sup> Ruth Álvarez, MD,<sup>h</sup>  
Ernest Nadal, MD, PhD,<sup>i</sup> Annemarie Becker, MD, PhD,<sup>j</sup> Hansjörg Vees, MD,<sup>k</sup>  
Miklos Pless, MD,<sup>l</sup> Alex Martinez-Martí, MD,<sup>b</sup> Maarten Lambrecht, MD, PhD,<sup>m</sup>  
Nicolaus Andratschke, MD,<sup>g</sup> Zoi Tsourti, PhD,<sup>c</sup> Anne-Christine Piguet, PhD,<sup>n</sup>  
Heidi Roschitzki-Voser, PhD,<sup>n</sup> Adrian Gasca-Ruchti, MD,<sup>n</sup>  
Johan Vansteenkiste, MD, PhD,<sup>o</sup> Rolf A. Stahel, MD,<sup>n,\*</sup> Dirk De Ruysscher, MD, PhD<sup>p</sup>



# Go beyond checkpoint inhibitors: e.g. IL2 immunocytokines

Strong pre-clinical effects. Radiation to a tumor before IL2 necessary.

## NHS-IL2

- Untreated stage IV NSCLC
  - 5x4 Gy to primary tumor
  - NHS-IL2
- 
- 2/13 patients > 3 year PFS

*van den Heuvel et al. J Transl Med 2015*

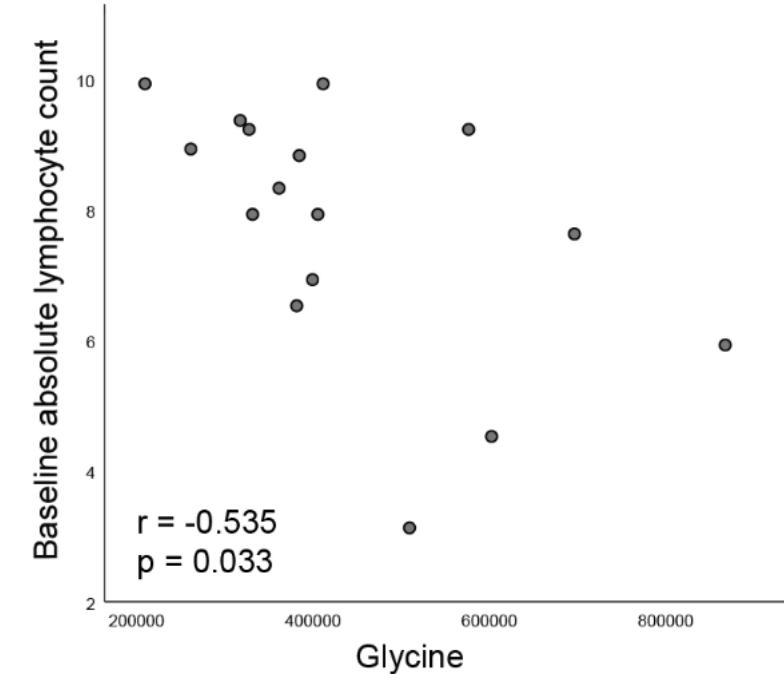
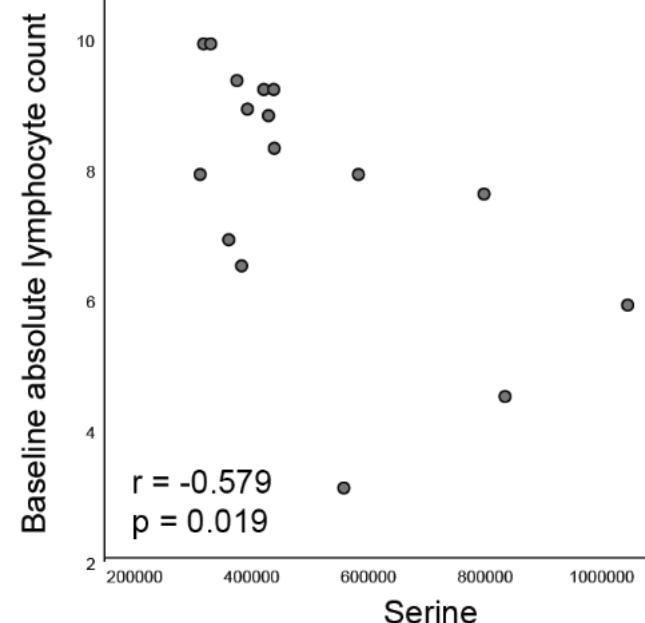
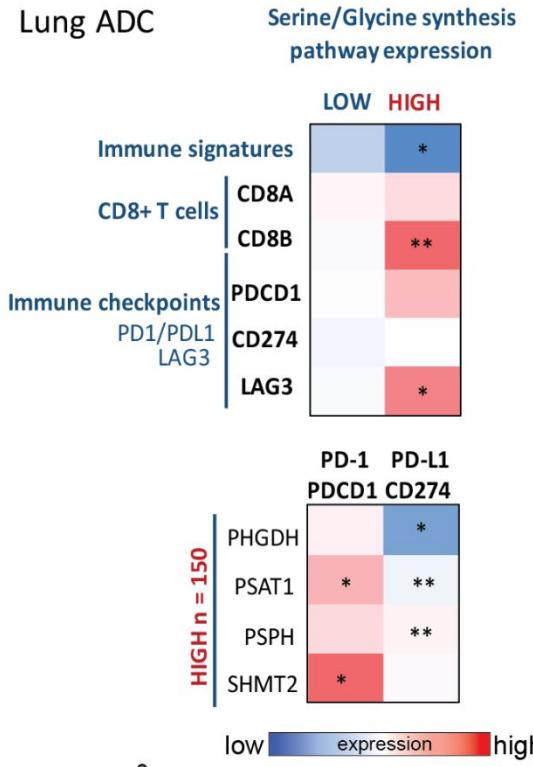
## L19-IL2

- Untreated stage IV NSCLC
  - 3x8 Gy to a metastasis
  - L19-IL2
- 
- 2/6 patients > 3 year PFS

*Van Limbergen et al. Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2021*

# Work on the TME and metabolism

*Serine/glycine pathway activation associates with an immunosuppressive signature in lung cancer patients*



Geeraerts et al. *Nature Metabolism* 2021

Geeraerts et al. *Mol Cancer Therap* 2021

Sánchez-Castillo et al. *Cancers* 2021

Vaes et al. *Cancers* 2021