



How Do I Treat HER2+ Breast Cancer

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Professor of Medicine

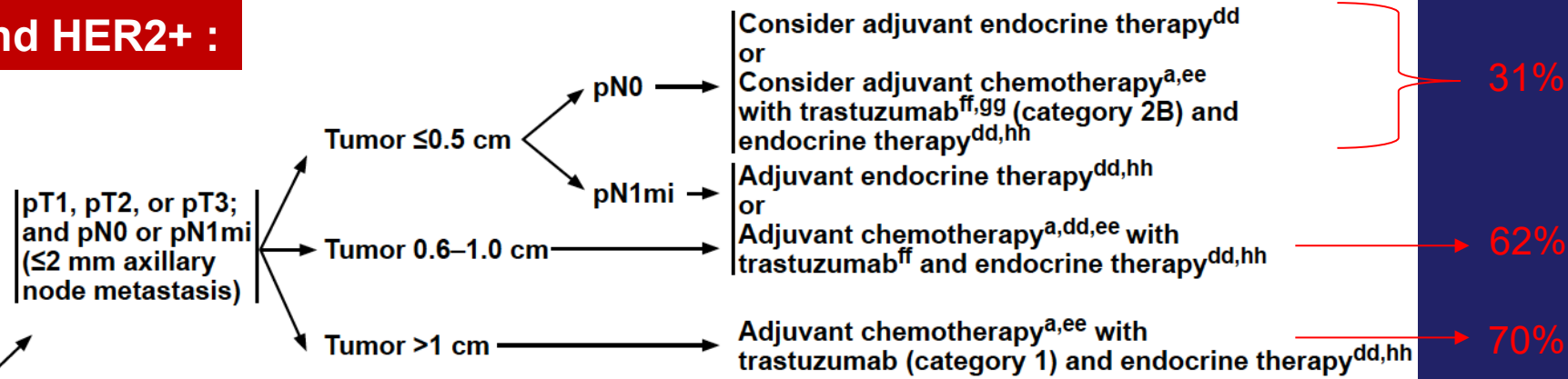
*Head, Division of Hematology/Oncology,
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Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center*

Small node negative (cT1a/T1b)

NCCN Guidelines 2024: Stage I

SYSTEMIC ADJUVANT TREATMENT: HR-POSITIVE – HER2-POSITIVE DISEASE^{d,t,bb}

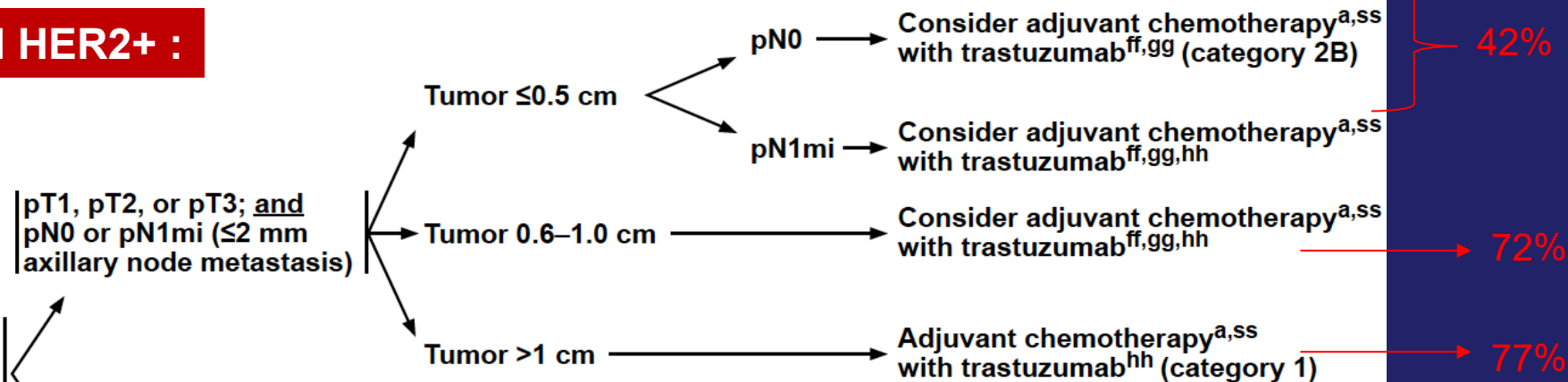
HR+ and HER2+ :



Receipt of chemo
2010-19
SEER Database
Analysis

SYSTEMIC ADJUVANT TREATMENT: HR-NEGATIVE – HER2-POSITIVE DISEASE^{d,t}

HR- and HER2+ :



Receipt of
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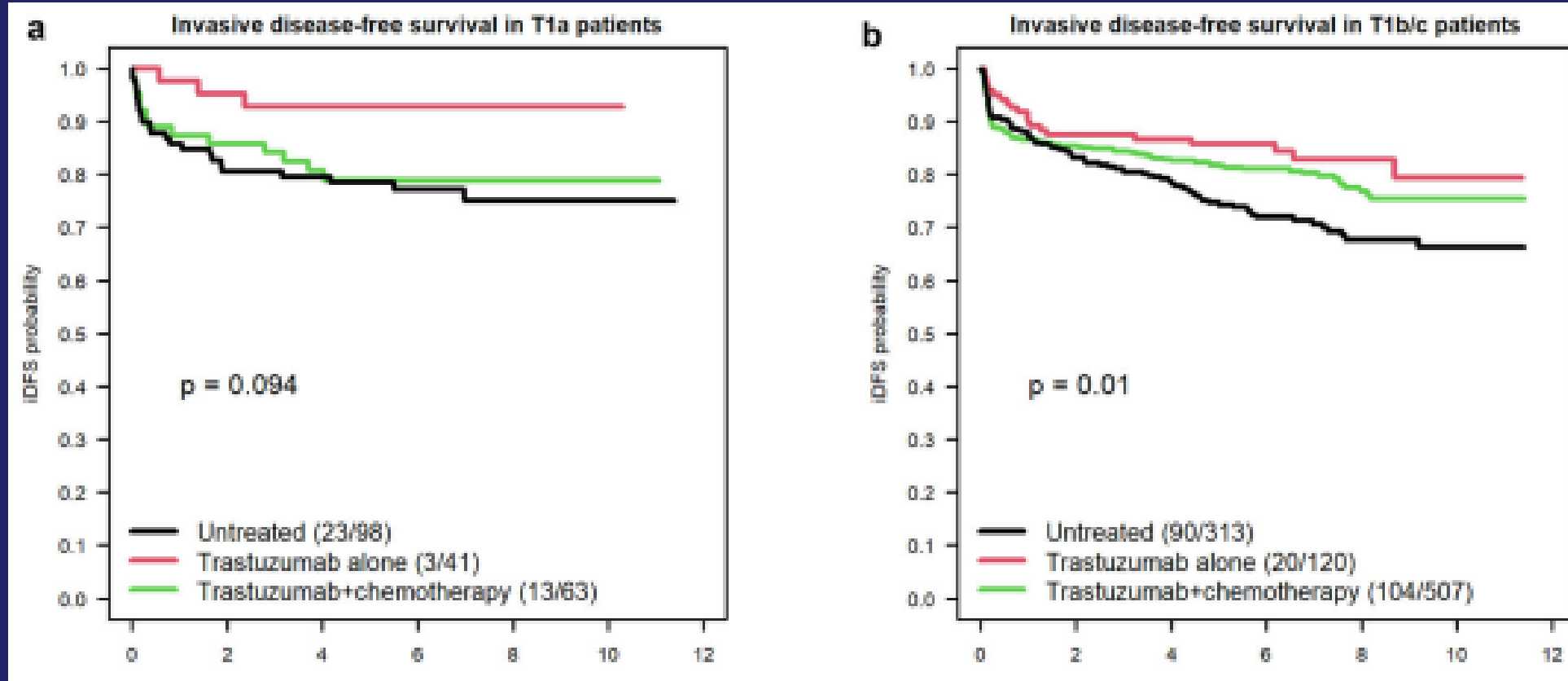
SEER 2010-19 Stage IA HER2+ 7-year Breast Cancer Specific Survival, N=12896

HR Positive 74%	Overall N-9547	pT1mi N-504	pT1a N-1479	pT1b N-2441	pT1c N-5123
Yes Chemo	97.9 (N=5625)	100.0 (N=59)	98.7 (N=453)	98.8 (N=1522)	97.5 (N=3591)
No Chemo	96.6 (N=3922)	99.1 (N=445)	98.9 (N=1026)	97.6 (N=919)	93.7 (N=1532)
Adj HR Adj p-value	0.60 0.009	Not Reported	Not Reported	.068 0.426	0.60 0.02
HR Negative 26%	Overall N-3349	pT1mi N-492	pT1a N-730	pT1b N-712	pT1c N-1415
Yes Chemo	96.3 (N=1976)	100.0 (N=69)	97.2 (N=303)	97.4 (N=514)	95.4 (N=1090)
No Chemo	96.0 (N=1373)	97.8 (N=423)	97.7 (N=427)	96.5 (N=198)	91.0 (N=325)
Adj HR Adj p-value	0.70 0.19	Not Reported	Not Reported	Not Reported	0.61 0.137

Waks A, et
al. *Cancer*.
2025;131:e
35729

Outcomes T1a-b HER2+ 2010-21

Multi-Institutional Retrospective Analysis ASCO LinQ Database



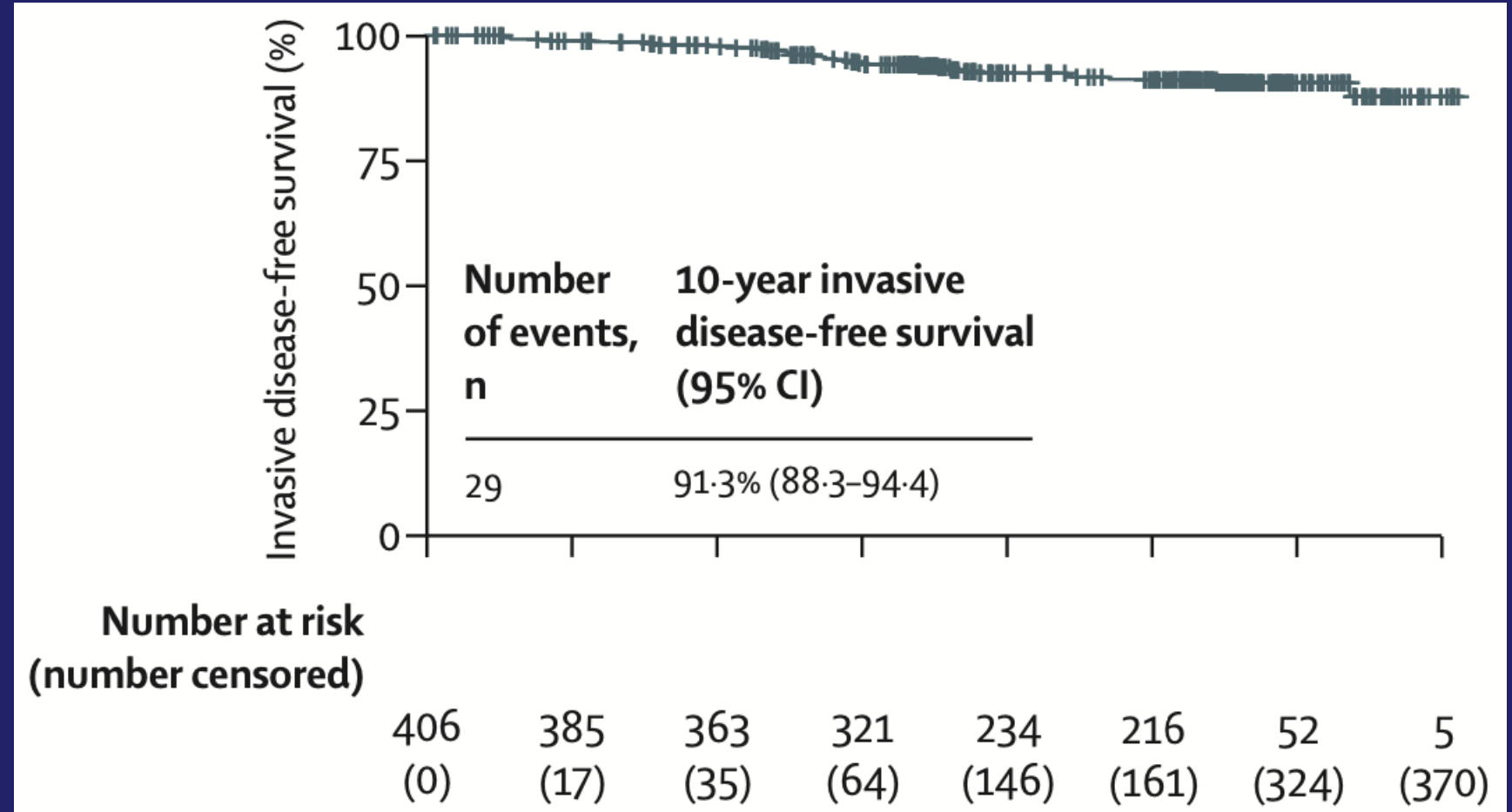
Receipt of chemo was not randomized thus confounding variables may bias results, affecting the observed differences

10-year Analysis of Phase II Trial of Adjuvant Paclitaxel (weekly x 12) and Trastuzumab (1-year) (APT) for Node-Neg, HER2+

Note:

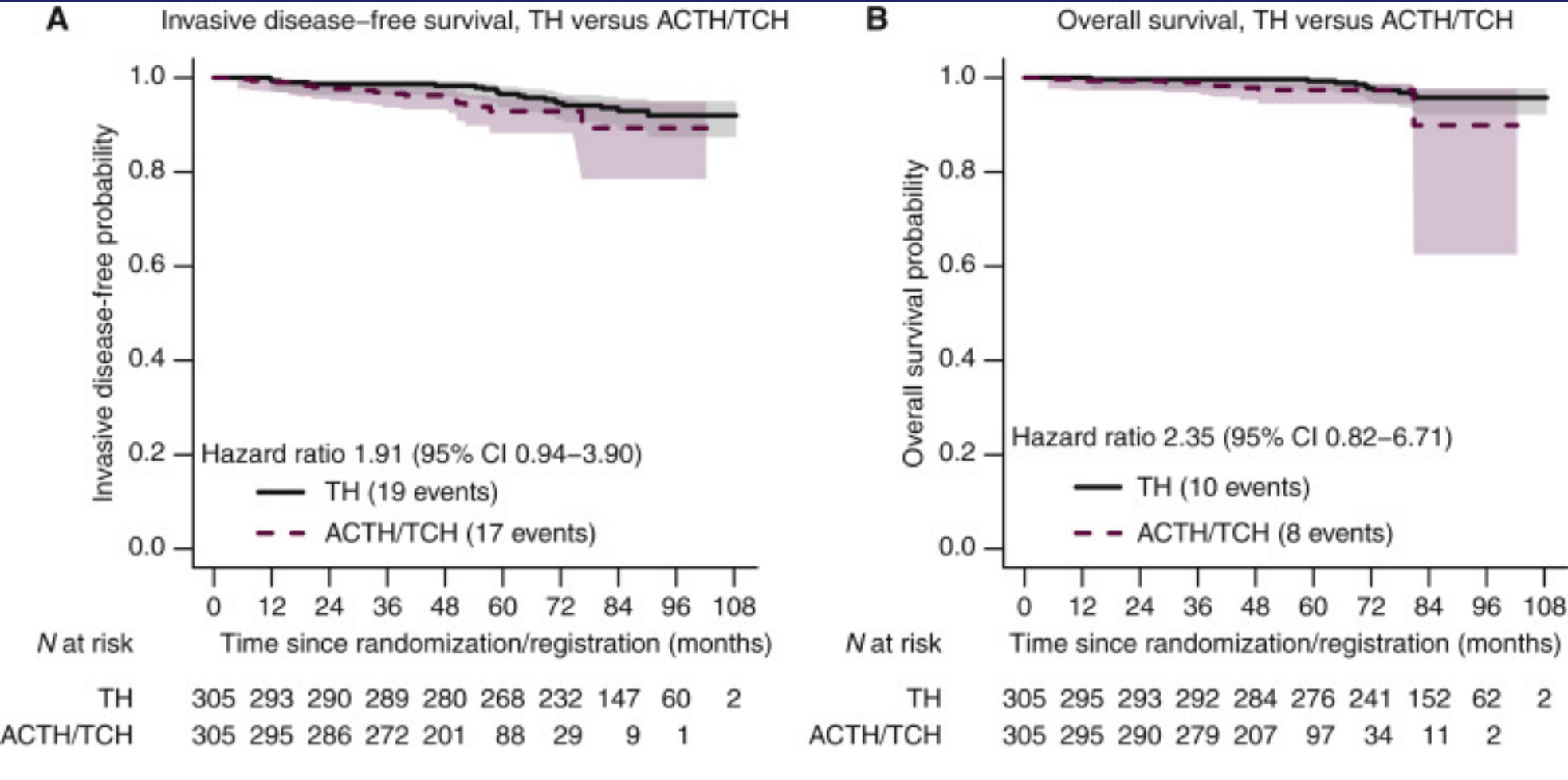
2/3 HR+; 19% T1a,
31% T1b; 42% T1c

10-year RFI (excludes
death from non-
BC/contralateral BC)
96.3%



FDA Analysis of 5 RCTs

Propensity Score Matching to Compare iDFS of APT with ACTH/TCH in T_≤3.0 Node Negative BC



How Do I Treat Small node negative (cT1a/T1b) HER2+?

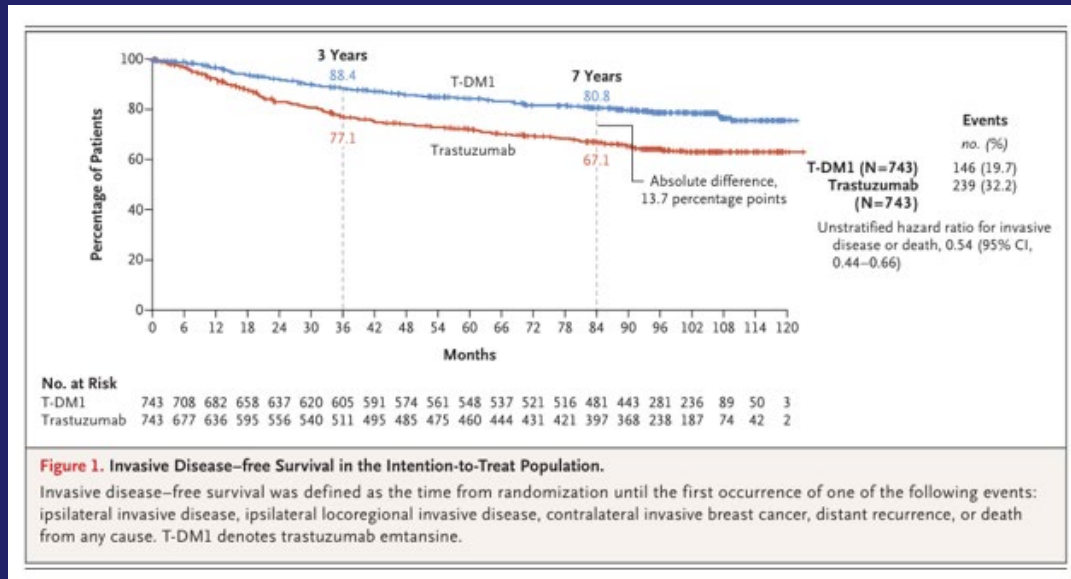
Weekly paclitaxel x 12 plus trastuzumab x 1 year

How Do I Treat $\geq$ cT1c or Clinically Node Positive Tumors?

Neoadjuvant Setting is Not Just a Research Tool

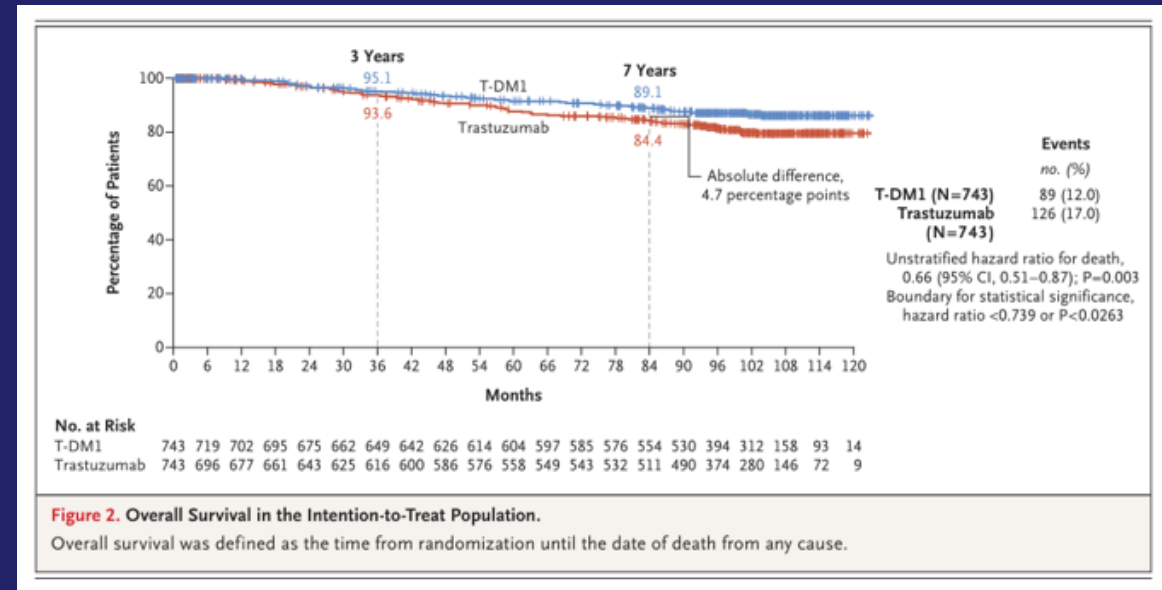
Acting on residual disease has long term impact in HER2+ BC

KATHERINE TRIAL (8.4 years follow uP)



Neoadjuvant treatment also reduces amount of surgery (mastectomy, axillary lymph node dissection)

Geyer C et al. 2025;392:249-57.



For a patient with clinical node negative disease that is T1, should I offer neoadjuvant therapy or upfront surgery?

What is the risk that the patient has occult node positive disease?

Nodal Status in HER2+ cN0 Disease Treated with Upfront Surgery: Two International Cohorts

	Upfront Surgery Patients N= 368	
	Pathologic Node Positive	
Center	USA N=368	Spain N=119
cT Category Total	73/368 (19.8%)	25/119 (21%)
1mic	6/48 (10.4%)	0/2
1a	3/26 (11.5%)	1/8 (12.5%)
1b	7/87 (8.0%)	3/34 (8.8%)
1c	38/154 (24.7%)	16/56 (28.6%)

- 20% of patients with clinical node negative disease had node positive disease at surgery
- 26% of patients with cT1cN0 tumors had pN+ disease at surgery
- 10% of pts with T1mi/a/b had pN+ disease

Nodal Status in HER2+ cN0 Disease Treated with Upfront Surgery: Two International Cohorts

	Upfront Surgery Patients		Neoadjuvant Tx	
	Pathologic Node Positive		Pathologic Node Positive	
Center	USA N=368	Spain N=119	USA N=211	Spain N=173
cT Category				
Total	73/368 (19.8%)	25/119 (21%)	26/211 (12.3%)	18/173 (10.4%)
1mic	6/48 (10.4%)	0/2	-	-
1a	3/26 (11.5%)	1/8 (12.5%)	-	-
1b	7/87 (8.0%)	3/34 (8.8%)	1/7 (14.3%)	0/4
1c	38/154 (24.7%)	16/56 (28.6%)	5/30 (16.7%)	9/68 (13.2%)

How Do I Treat $\geq$ cT1c or Clinically Node Positive Tumors

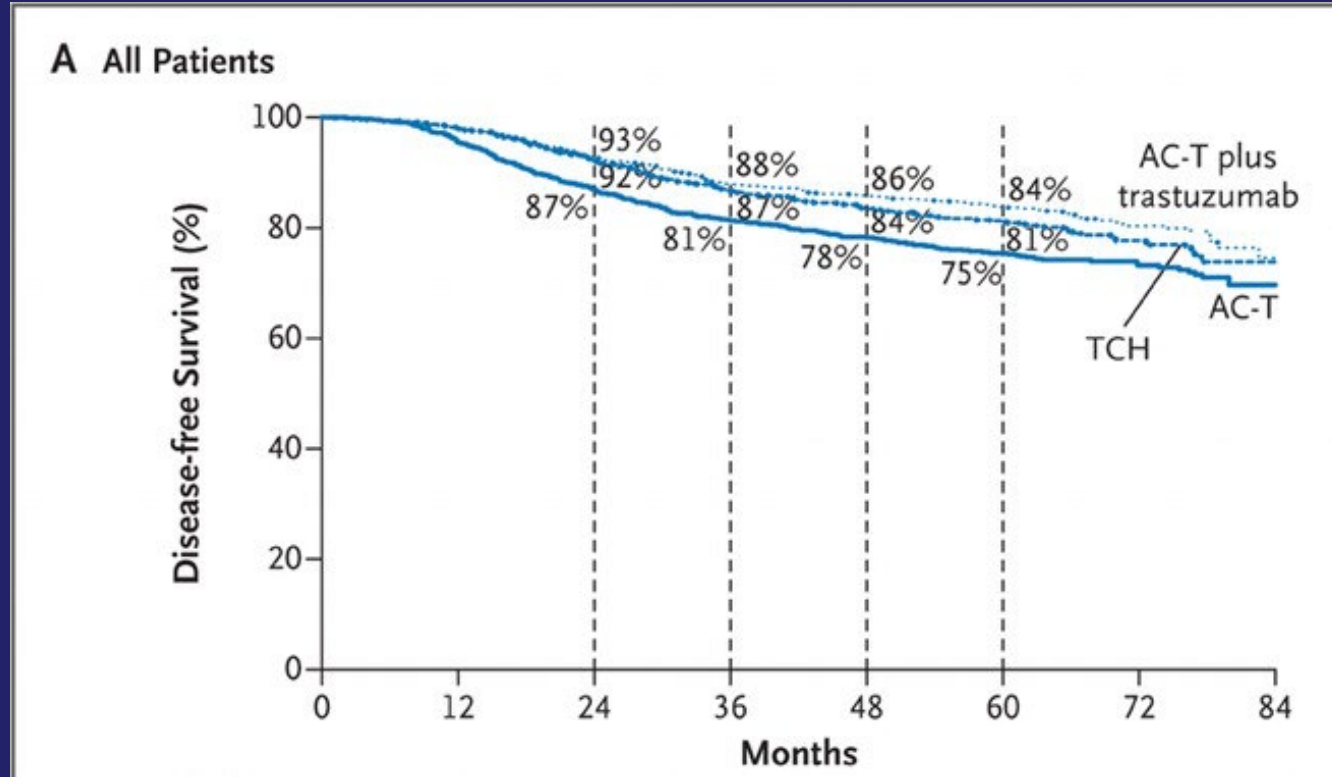
Neoadjuvant Therapy

What systemic therapy should I use for LN+ or T1c+ Disease?

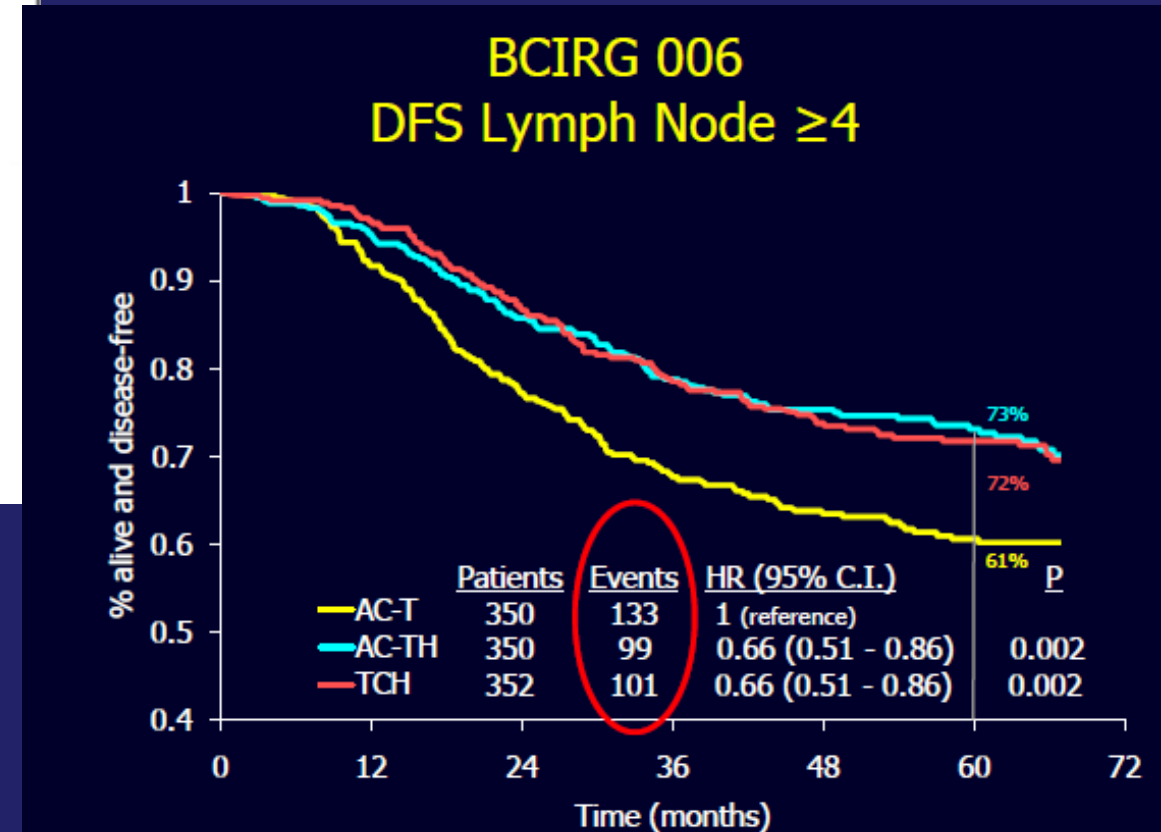
Anthracyclines?

Platinum vs No-platinum?

BCIRG006: TCH vs AC-TH Regimen



Slamon D et al. N Engl J Med 2011;365:1273-1283.



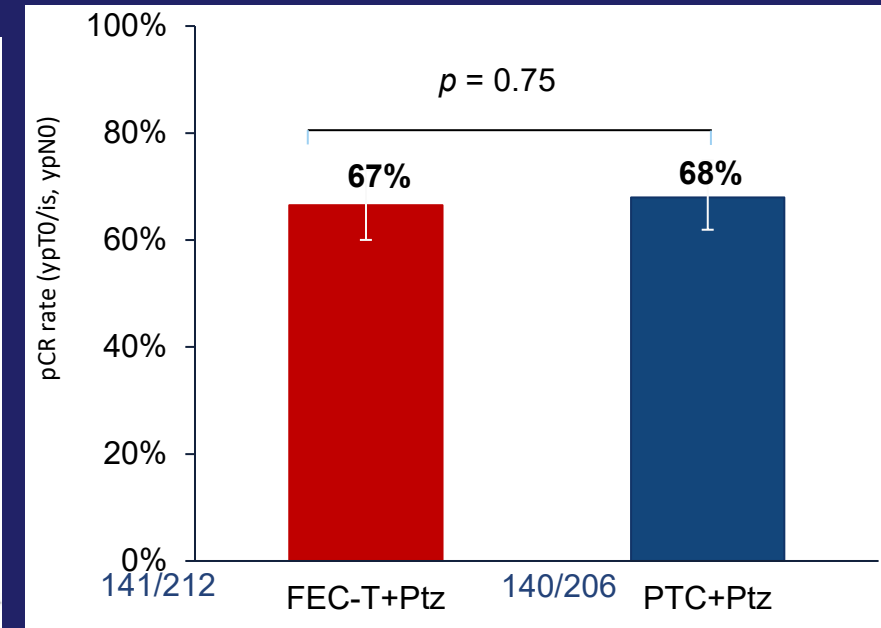
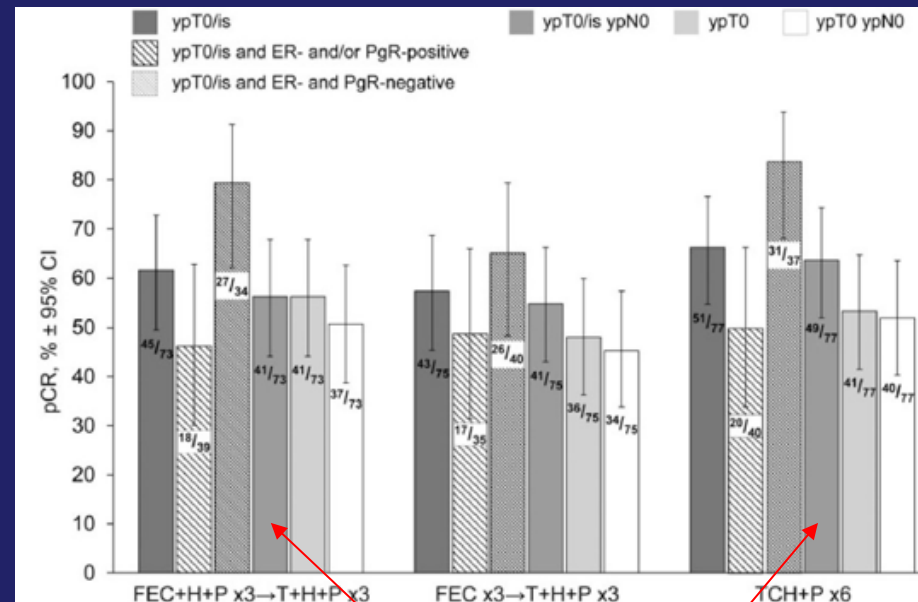
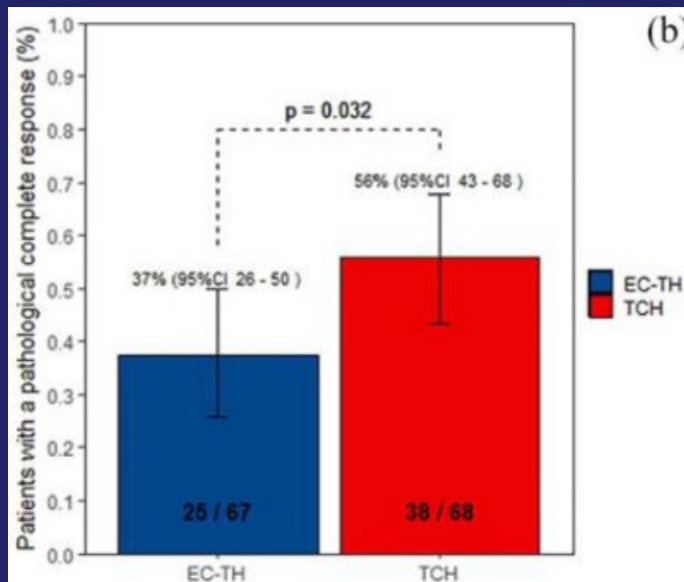
Slamon D, et al. SABCS 2009, Abstr 62

Neoadjuvant Trials of Anthracycline vs Non-Anthracycline Based Regimens in HER2+ BC

NeoCARH

TRYPHAENA

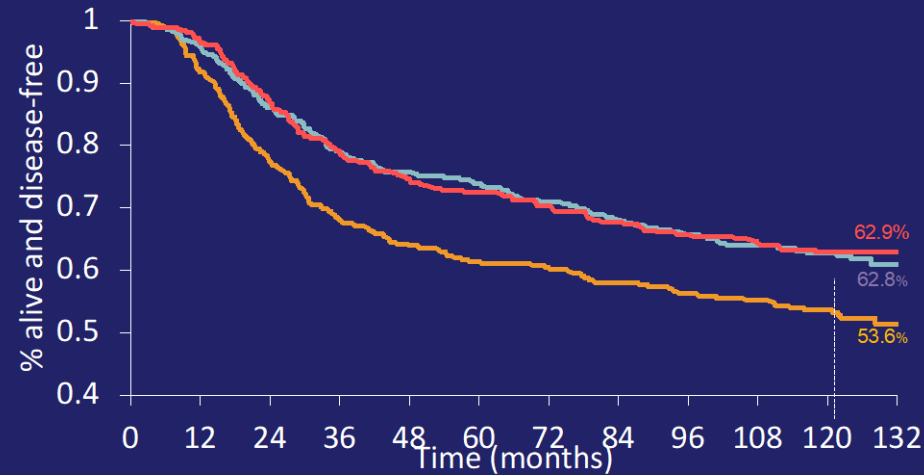
TRAIN-2



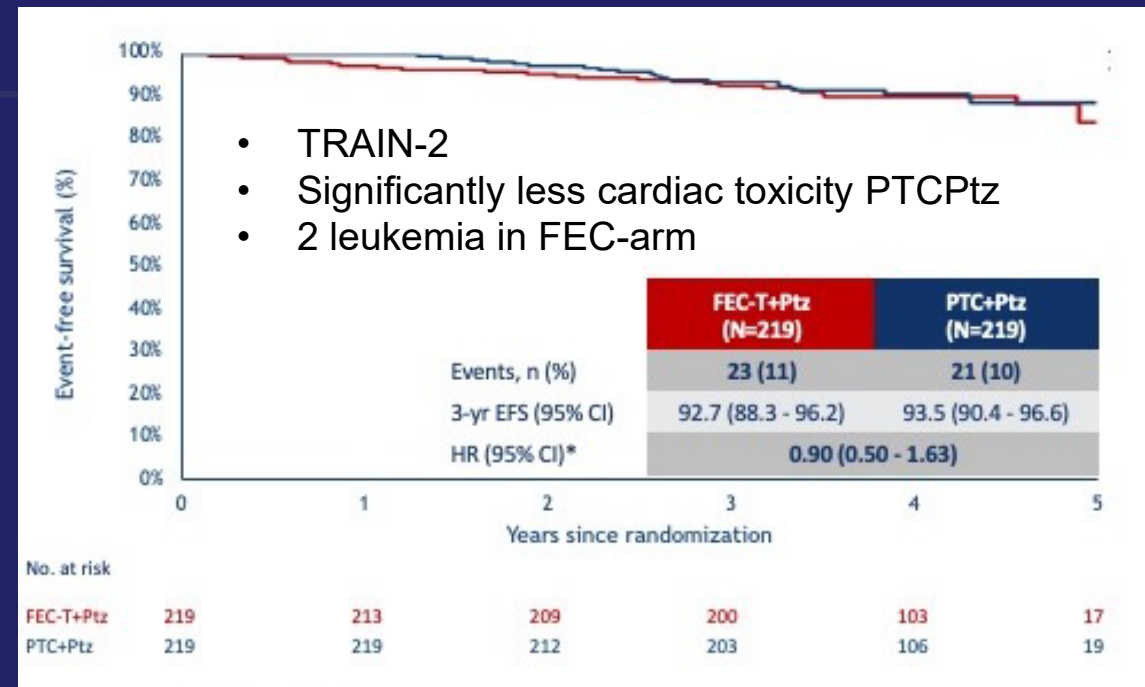
ypT0/is ypN0
FECHP-THP < TCHP

Disease Free/Event Free Survival Anthracycline vs. Non-Anthracycline Based Regimens for HER2+

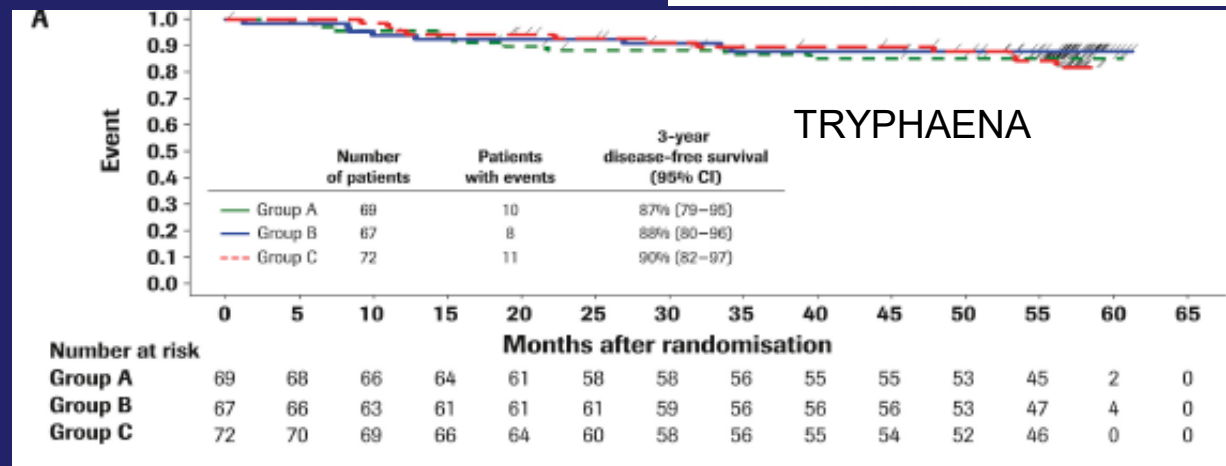
BCIRG 006 DFS Lymph Node ≥ 4



Slamon D et al. *Ca Research* 2015;76: Abstr S5-04



- TRAIN-2
- Significantly less cardiac toxicity PTCPtz
- 2 leukemia in FEC-arm



Schneeweiss A, et al. *Eur J Cancer* 2018;89:27-35.

Van der Voort A, et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2021;7:978-84.

Cardiomyopathy in HER2+ Disease

- Rate of CHF or cardiac death in trastuzumab-treated patients at 6-7 years up to 4.0%
- Proportion who could not receive trastuzumab after AC due to cardiomyopathy, up to 7%
- Occult heart damage difficult to gauge; studies only measured LVEF in asymptomatic pts 18-21 mos
 - B31: 15.5% (N=147) in total stopped trastuzumab early due to cardiac related issues
 - N9831: Up to 24% in ACTH arm had LVEF drop below normal

What systemic therapy should I use for LN+ or T1c+ Disease?

Anthracycline Free, Taxane Based Neoadjuvant Therapy

pCR for Neoadjuvant Taxane/Carbo-Based HER2-Targeted Therapy

Regimen/ Study		pCR
TCH x 6 TRIO B07/Hurvitz SA, et al. Nat Commun. 2020;11:5824	34	47%
TCH x 6 neoCARH/Gao HF, et al. Ther Adv Med Oncol. 2021	68	56%
TCHP x 6 TRYPHAENA/Schneeweiss, et al. Ann Oncol 2021	75	64%
TCHP x 6 KRISTINE-TRIO-02/Hurvitz SA, et al. Lancet Oncol 2018	221	56%
TCHP x 4 (in combination with trastuzumab) NSABP B-51/Slamon TJ, et al. Cancer Res 2016, SABCS S3-06	155	41% <i>HR+ only</i>
Paclitaxel/Carbo/Trastuzumab/Pertuzumab x 9 TRAIN-2/van Ramshorst et al. Lancet Oncol 2018	206	68%
TCHP x 6 PHERGAIN/Perez-Garcia, et al. Lancet 2021	71	58%

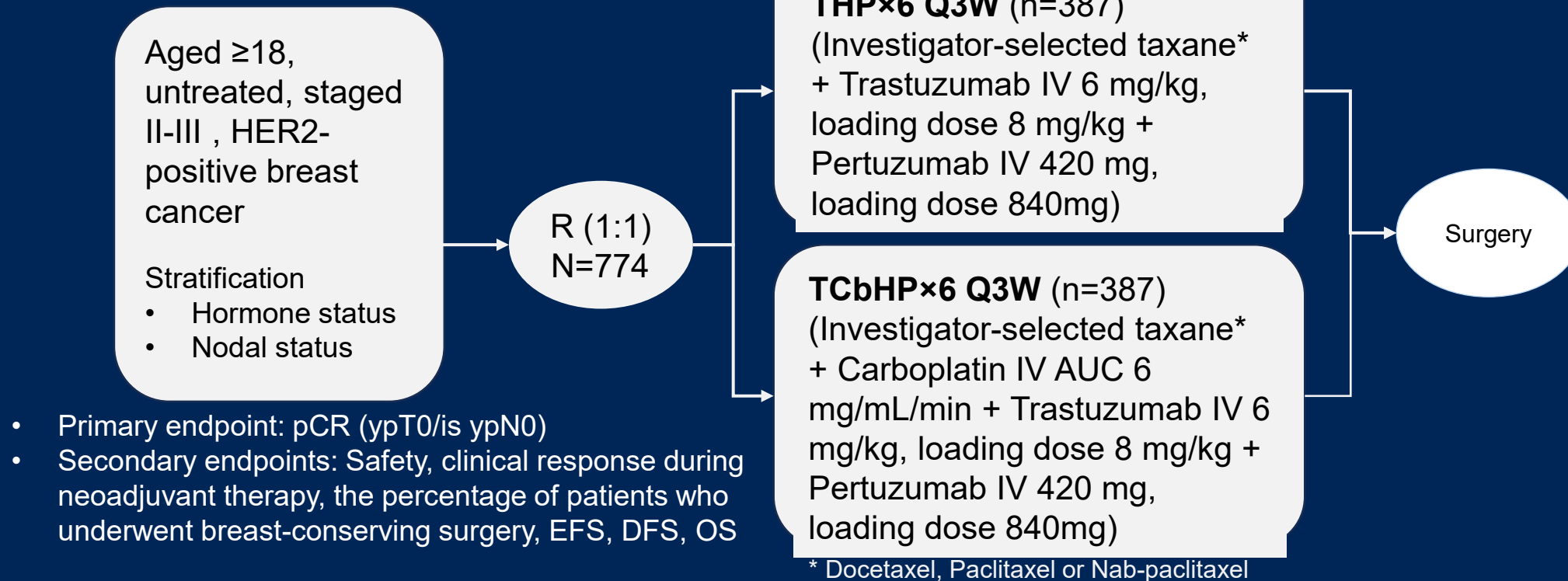
Can we omit carboplatin??

Select Neoadjuvant Non-Anthracycline Taxane + HP Regimens

Regimen/ Study	N	pCR
Docetaxel + Trastuzumab/Pertuzumab (HP) x 4 cycles NeoSphere	107	39.3%
Docetaxel + HP x 6 cycles PREDIX HER2	99	45.5%
Paclitaxel x 12 weeks + HP WSG-ADAPT-HR-/HER2+	42	90.5%
Paclitaxel x 12 weeks + HP Triple Positive-II (TP II)	107	56.9%
Paclitaxel x 12 weeks + HP DAPHNE	98	57%

1. NeoSphere: Gianni L, et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2012;13:25-32; Gianni L, et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2016;17:791–800. 2. ADAPT HR-: Nitz U, et al. *Annals Oncol.* 2017. 3; 3. Triple Positive-II: Gluz O, et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2023; 4. PREDIX HER2: Hatschek T, et al. *JAMA Oncol.* 2021;7:1360-1367. 5. DAPHNE: Waks AG, et al. *npj Breast Cancer* 2022.

neoCARHP Study Design (NCT04858529)



Potential Limitation: All taxane given q3 weeks. Studies have indicated that for paclitaxel and nab-paclitaxel, weekly dosing may be superior

Green MC. J Clin Oncol 2005;23. Sparano J. NEJM 2008;358:1663-71. Seidman A. J Clin Oncol. 2008;26:1642–9. Martin M. Breast Cancer Res 2015;17.

Baseline Patients Characteristics

	THP (n=382)	TCbHP (n=384)
Age (median [IQR], years)	52 (45-58)	51 (44-56)
Menopausal status, n (%)		
Premenopausal	191 (50.0%)	200 (52.1%)
Postmenopausal	191 (50.0%)	184 (47.9%)
T stage, n (%)		
T1-2	311 (81.4%)	302 (78.6%)
T3-4	71 (18.6%)	82 (21.4%)
Nodal status, n (%)		
Negative	137 (35.9%)	138 (35.9%)
Positive	245 (64.1%)	246 (64.1%)
Disease stage, n (%)		
Stage II	294 (77.0%)	275 (71.6%)
Stage III	88 (23.0%)	109 (28.4%)
Histological type, n (%)		
Ductal	375 (98.2%)	376 (97.9%)
Lobular	1 (0.3%)	2 (0.5%)
Others	6 (1.6%)	6 (1.6%)

	THP (n=382)	TCbHP (n=384)
Hormone receptor status, n (%)		
ER-negative and PR-negative	142 (37.2%)	144 (37.5%)
ER-positive and/or PR-positive	240 (62.8%)	240 (62.5%)
HER2 status, n (%)		
Immunohistochemistry 3+	338 (88.5%)	348 (90.6%)
Immunohistochemistry 2+ and ISH-positive	44 (11.5%)	36 (9.4%)
Ki67, n (%)		
≤30%	163 (42.7%)	172 (44.8%)
>30%	219 (57.3%)	212 (55.2%)
Taxane therapy, n (%)		
Nab-paclitaxel* Q3 wk	170 (44.5%)	171 (44.5%)
Docetaxel	137 (35.9%)	141 (36.7%)
Paclitaxel Q3 wk	75 (19.6%)	72 (18.8%)

*nab-paclitaxel not FDA approved for this indication

Pathologic Complete Response

No different by adding carboplatin

Trial	pCR Overall	pCR in ER-positive	pCR in ER-negative
neoCARHP-TCHPx6	66%	59%	78%
neoCARHP-THPx6	64%	56%	78%

Safety:

- Increased grade 3/4 adverse events in TCHP arm: neutropenia (16.4% vs 6.8%), febrile neutropenia (2.6% vs. 1.3%), thrombocytopenia (4.2% vs. 0.3%), anemia (6.6% vs. 2.1%)
- Higher all grade nausea, vomiting, increased creatinine

HELEN-006 Phase 3 RCT:

Population Enrolled:

64% stage II

36% stage III

73% node-positive

**Stage II-III
HER2+ BC
Age 18-70 yo**

N=669

1:1

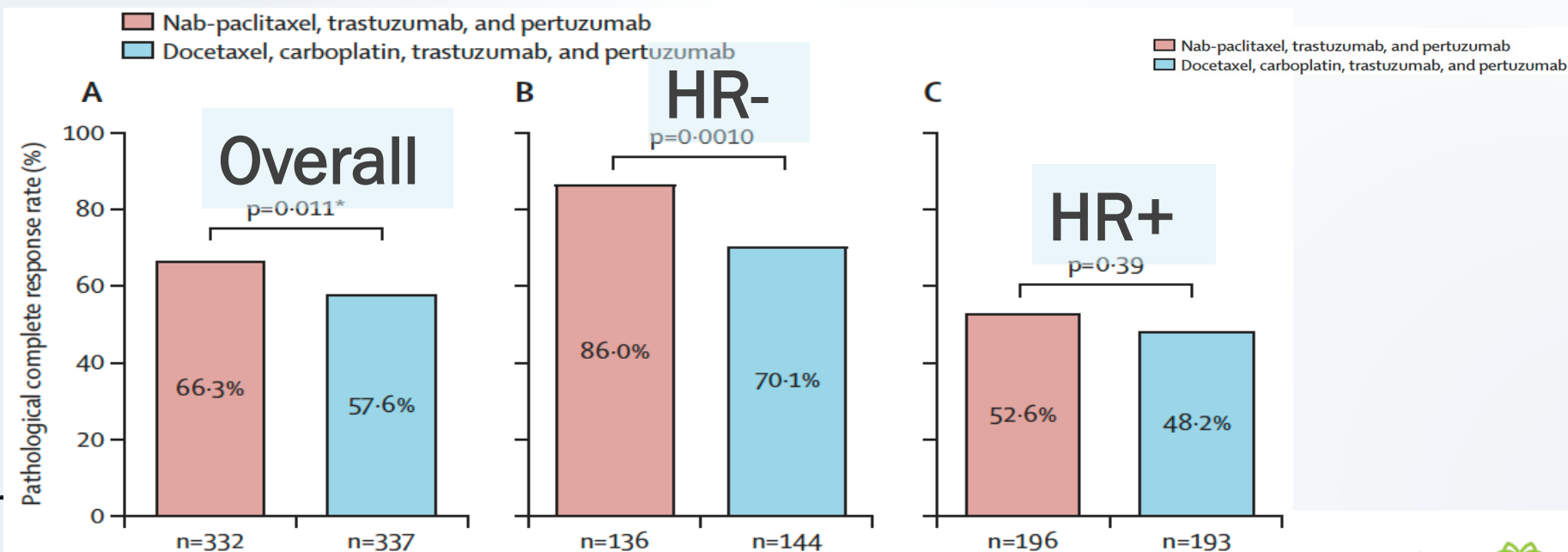
**Docetaxel/carbo/HP
x18 weeks**

**Weekly nab-paclitaxel/HP
x18 weeks**

Primary Endpoint: pCR (ypT0/is N0)

Superiority design

(hypothesis: nab-paclitaxel > docetaxel arm)



Pathology Complete Response across trials

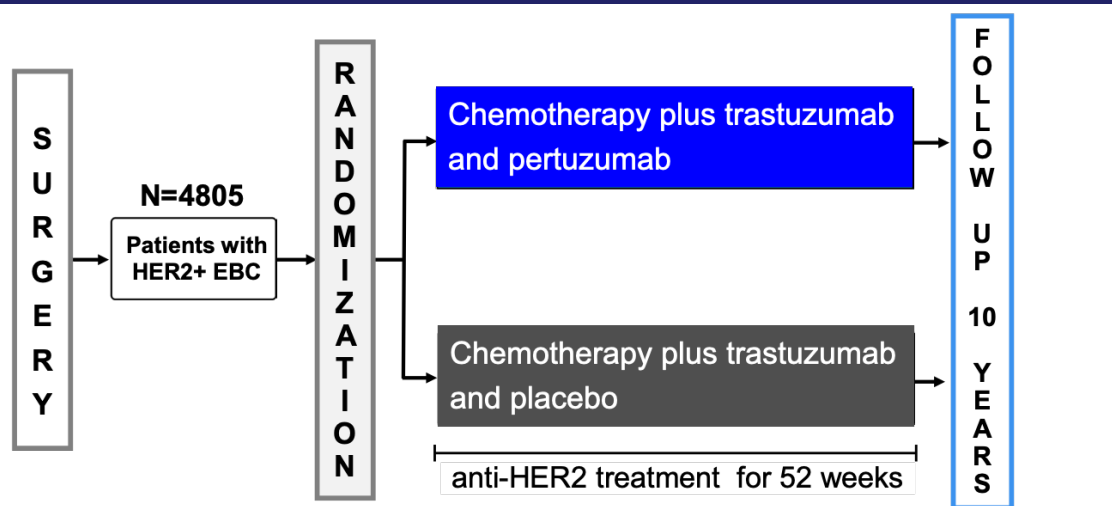
		Overall	HR-	HR+
Taxane-HP x12 wks	Tax-HP (CompassHER2-pCR)	44%	64%	33%
	THP (DAPHNe)	57%	85%	42%
	THP (WSG-TP-II)	-	-	56%
	DHP (NeoSphere)	45%	-	-
Taxane-HP x18 wks	nab-THP (HELEN006)	66%	86%	53%
	Tax-HP (NeoCARHP)	64%	78%	56%
Taxane-Cb-HP x18 wks	DCbHP (TRYPHAENA)	52%	-	-
	DCbHP (KRISTINE)	56%	73%	44%
	DCbHP (HELEN006)	58%	70%	48%
	Tax-CbHP (NeoCARHP)	66%	78%	59%

When Do I Omit Carboplatin?

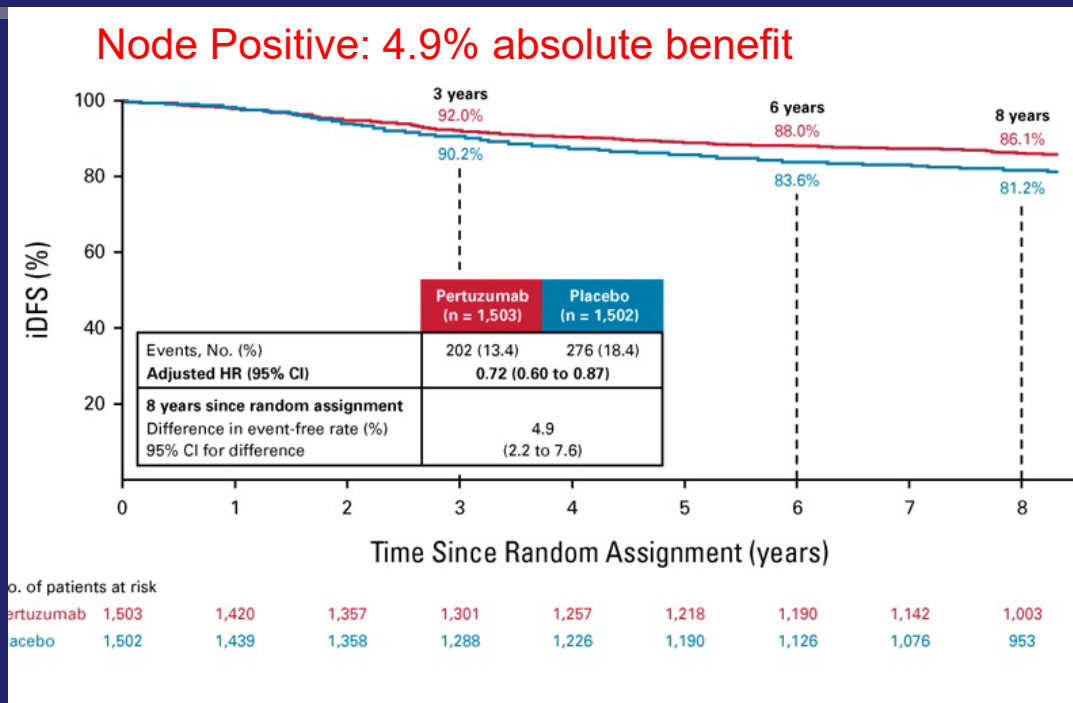
Stage II Disease, will consider omission

How Do I Treat Very High Risk Disease (Node Positive, Residual Disease)

APHINITY: Adjuvant Pertuzumab 8-year iDFS



- Large Global trial: US highest enrolling country
- Anthracycline or non-anthracycline based chemo allowed
- IDMC and Independent Cardiac Review Committee



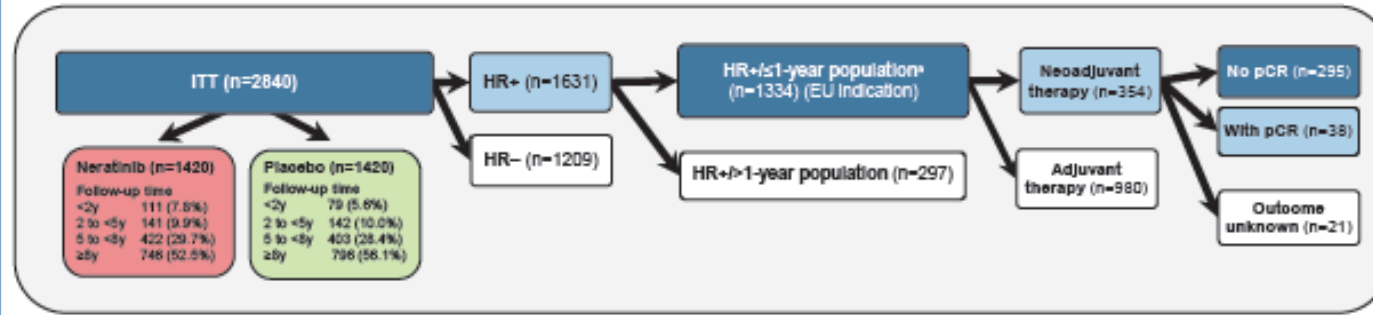
No differential benefit based on HR status

New Data 2025: OS difference in the ITT population with 11.3 yrs median f/u

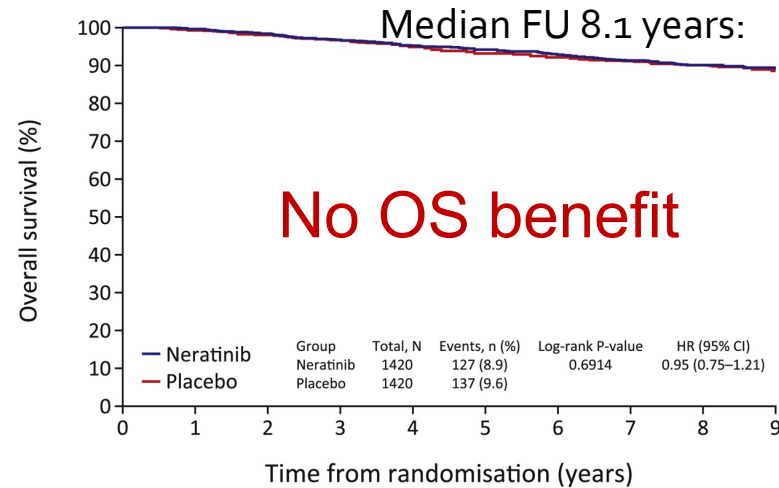
- HR 0.83 (Δ 1.8%) in ITT
- HR 0.79 (Δ 2.7%) in node-positive
- Loibl S et al. *ESMO Breast*. 2025.

Extended Adjuvant HER2-Targeted Therapy

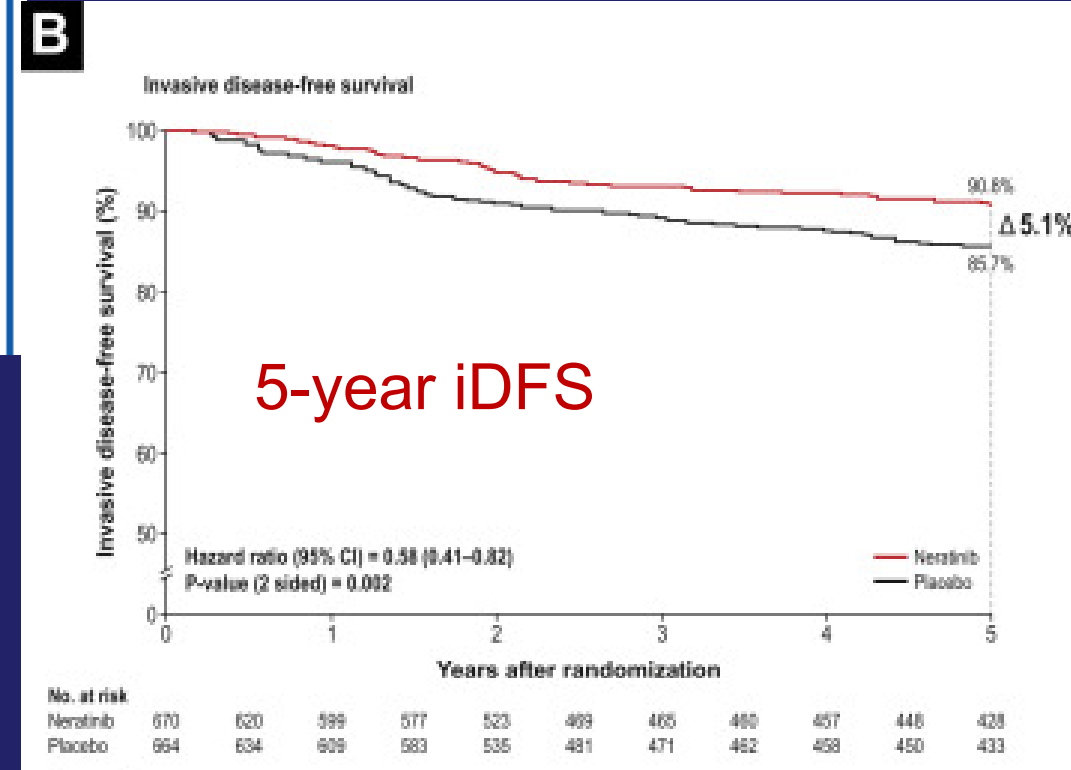
ExteNET: Neratinib



Intention-to-treat population

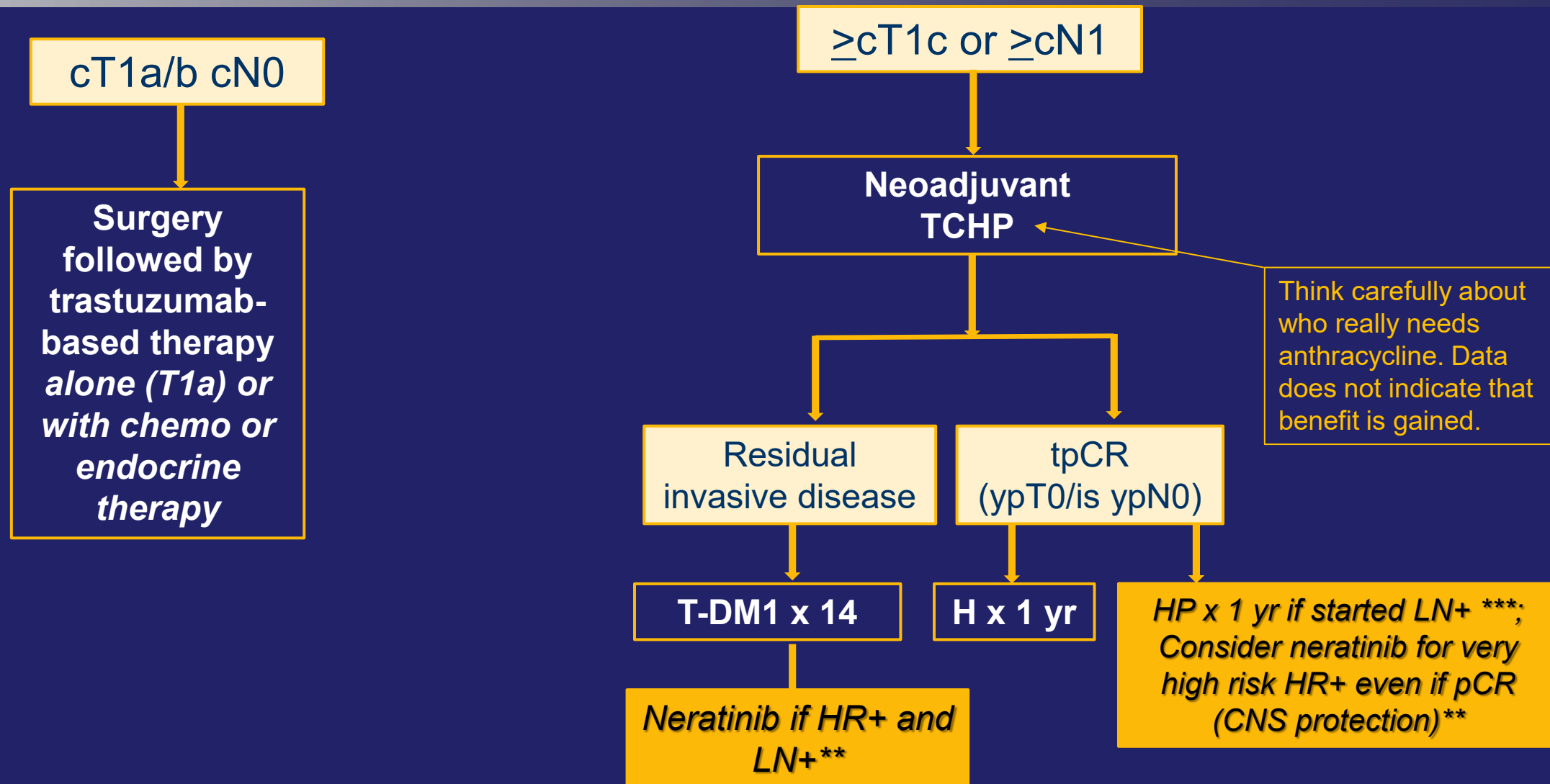


No. at risk										
Neratinib	1420	1364	1309	1213	1188	1168	1123	1041	746	218
Placebo	1420	1384	1341	1249	1223	1199	1166	1086	796	221



***Benefit restricted to
Hormone Receptor Positive**

KEY TAKEAWAY: Current Strategy for HER2-Positive Stage I-III

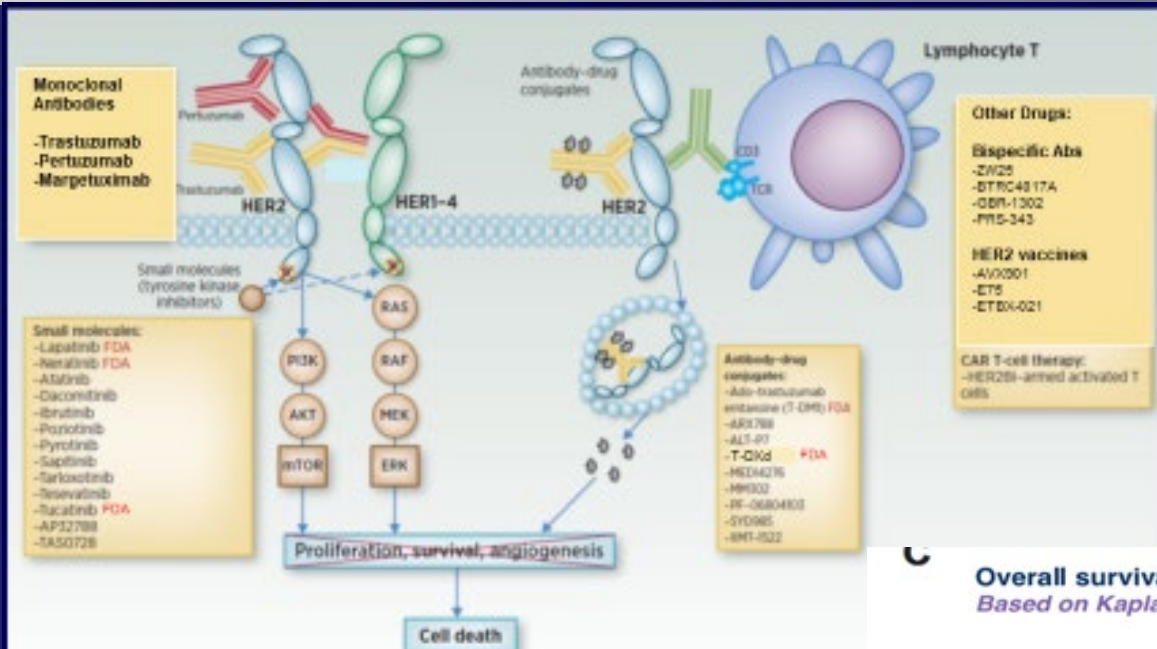


**neratinib not tested after T-DM1 or pertuzumab in EXTENET

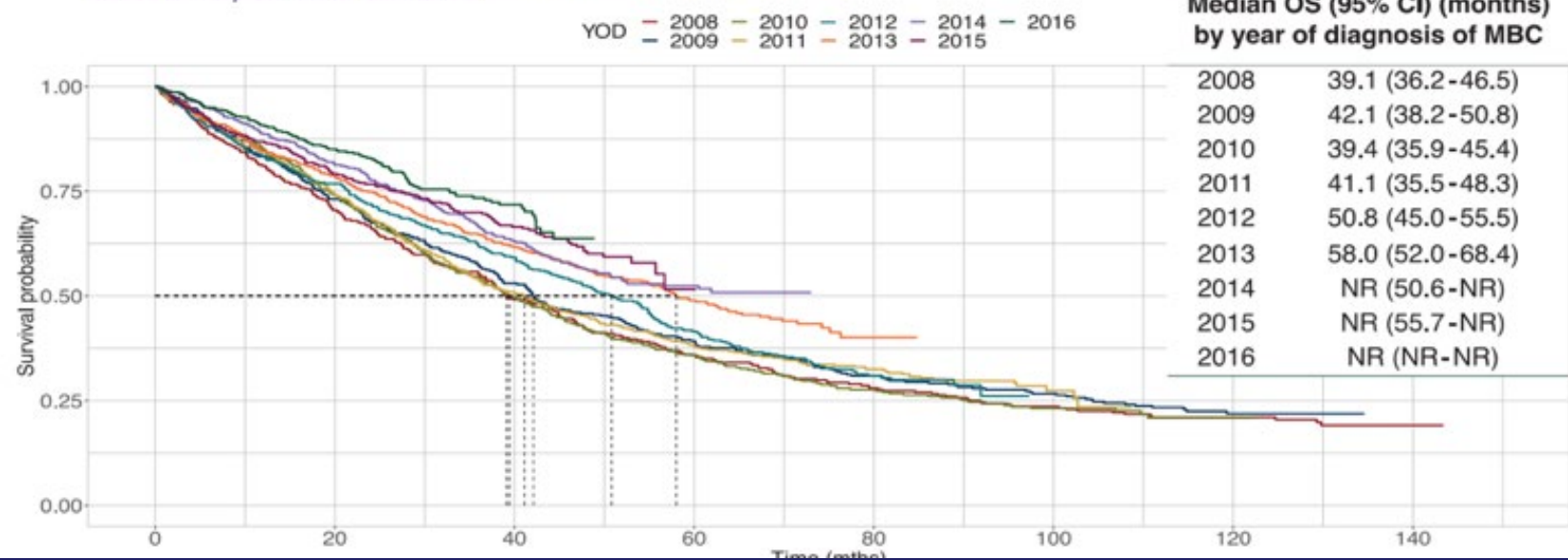
***adjuvant pertuzumab not tested after neoadjuvant pertuzumab in APhIINTY

How Do I Treat Stage IV Disease?

An Expanding Armamentarium Is Improving Outcomes for HER2+ Disease



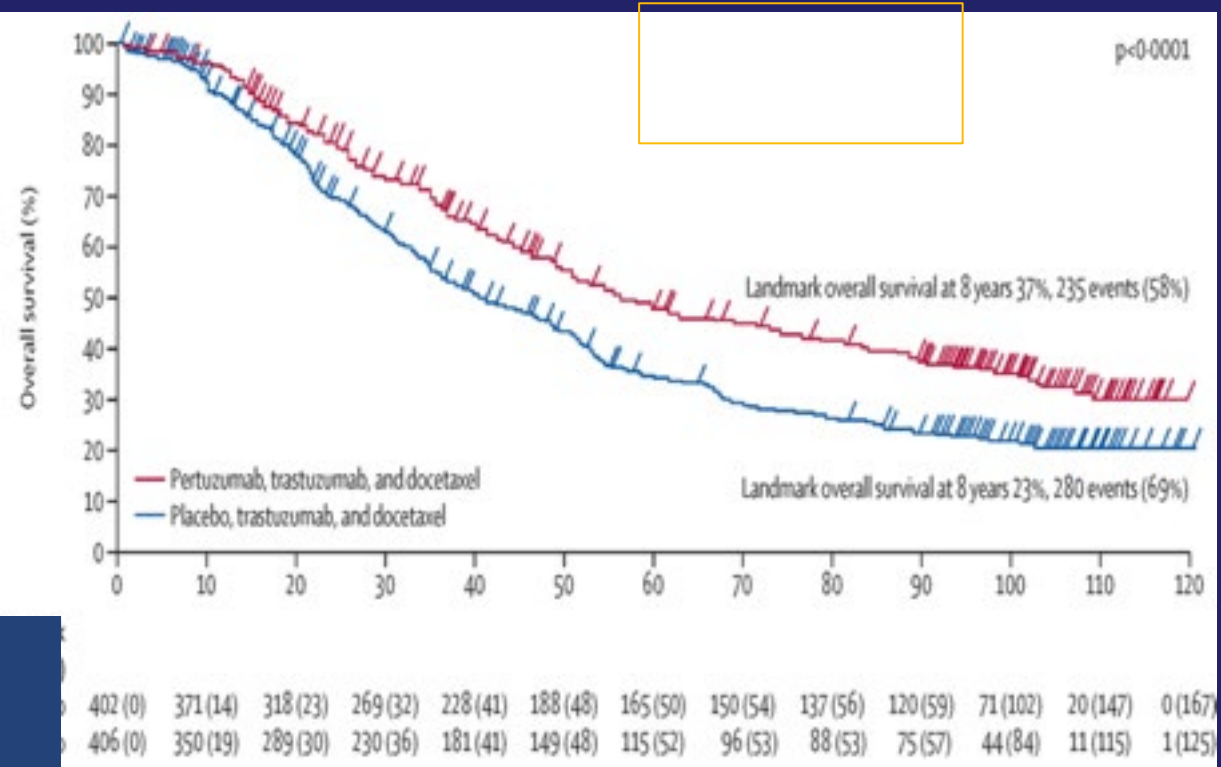
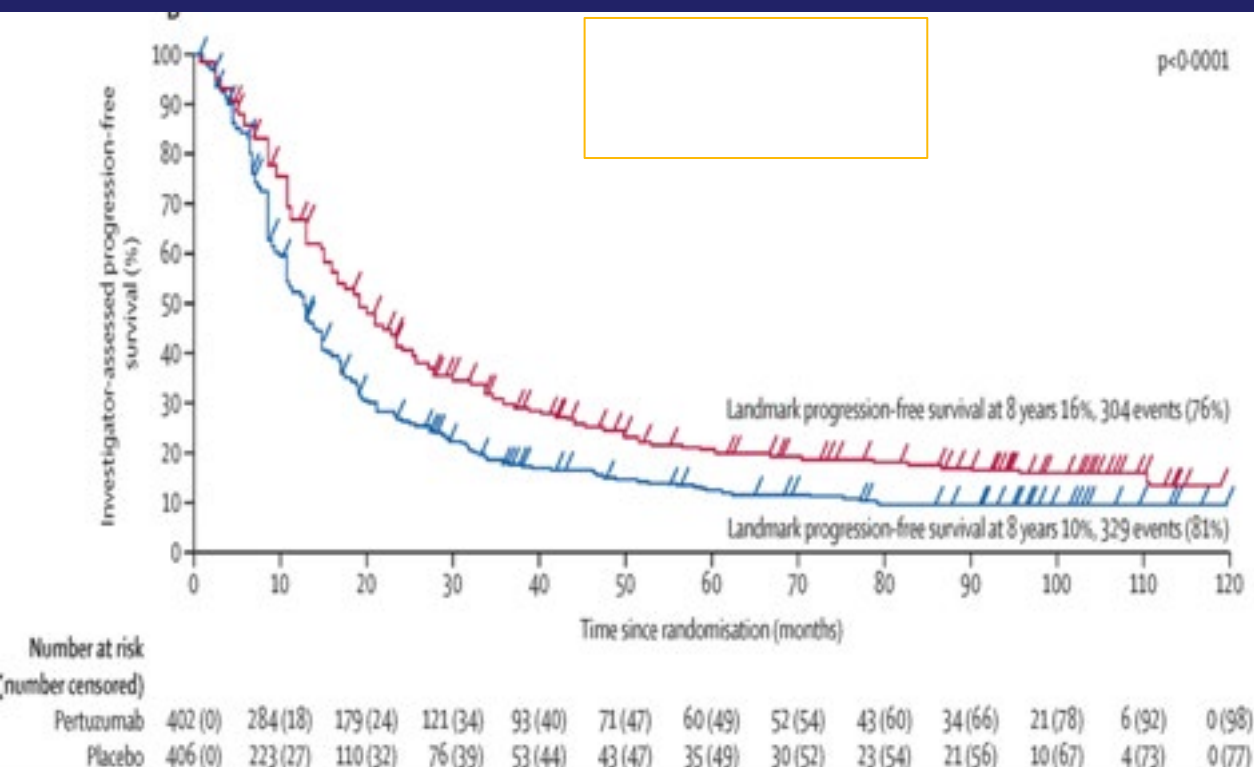
Overall survival in the HER2+ subcohort according to the YOD
Based on Kaplan-Meier estimates



CLEOPATRA End-of-Study Results:

Adding Pertuzumab to Taxane + Trastuzumab Improves PFS and OS

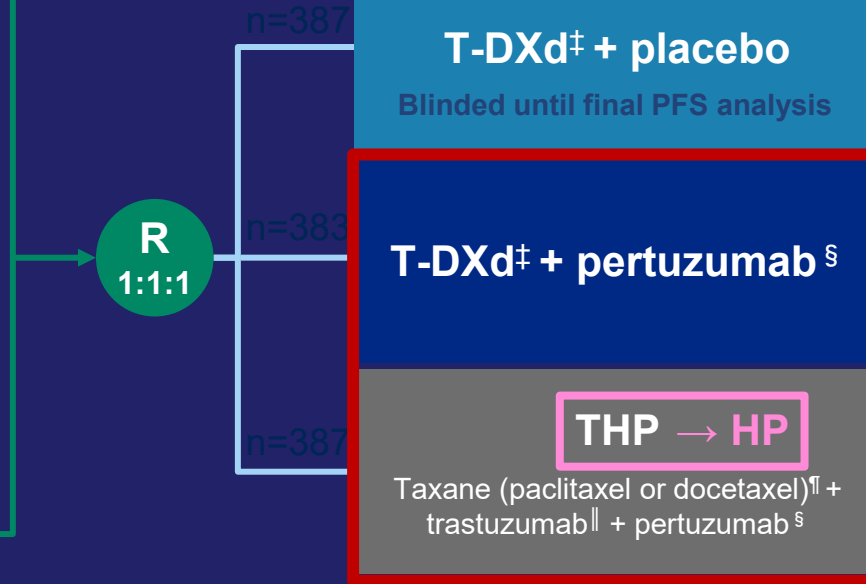
(median follow-up ~100 months)



DESTINY-Breast09 – 1L HER2+ mBC

Eligibility criteria

- HER2+ a/mBC
- Asymptomatic/inactive brain mets allowed
- DFI >6 mo from last chemotherapy or HER2-targeted therapy in neoadjuvant/adjuvant setting
- One prior line of ET for mBC permitted
- **No other prior systemic treatment for mBC[†]**



Endpoints

Primary

- PFS (BICR)

Key secondary

- OS

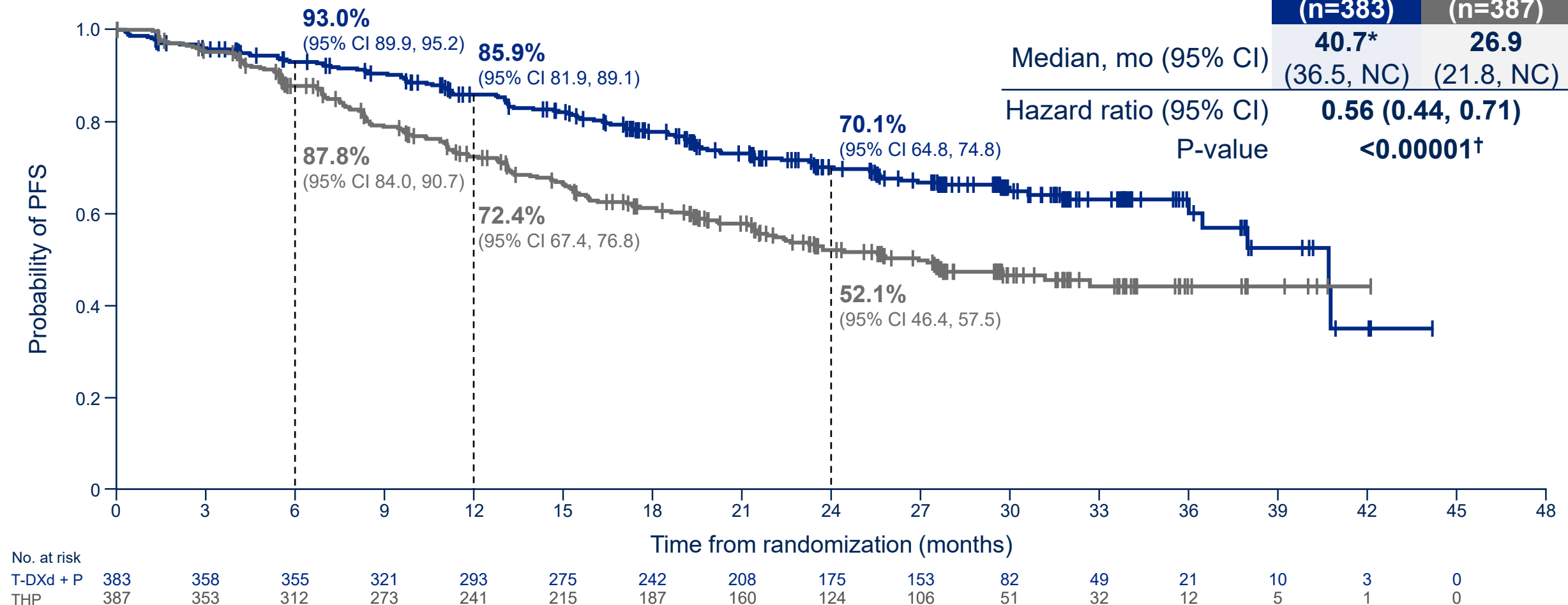
Secondary

- PFS (INV)
- ORR (BICR/INV)
- DOR (BICR/INV)
- PFS2 (INV)
- Safety and tolerability

Key participant characteristics:

- 51% de novo mBC; 54% HR+; ~82% IHC 3+
- Of those initially diagnosed with ESB: ~ 80-85% received (neo)adjuvant chemo; ~ **58% trastuzumab**; ~**15% pertuzumab**; **2% T-DM1**
- Concurrent use of **ET in HR+**: **13.5% in T-DXd + P arm**; **38.3% in THP arm**

DB09 PFS (BICR): primary endpoint

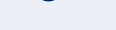


Statistically significant and clinically meaningful PFS benefit with T-DXd + P (median Δ 13.8 mo)

*Median PFS estimate for T-DXd + P is likely to change at updated analysis; †stratified log-rank test. A P-value of <0.00043 was required for interim analysis superiority

BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; mo, months; (m)PFS, (median) progression-free survival; NC, not calculable; P, pertuzumab; T-DXd, trastuzumab deruxtecan; THP, taxane + trastuzumab + pertuzumab

DB09-PFS (BICR): subgroup analyses

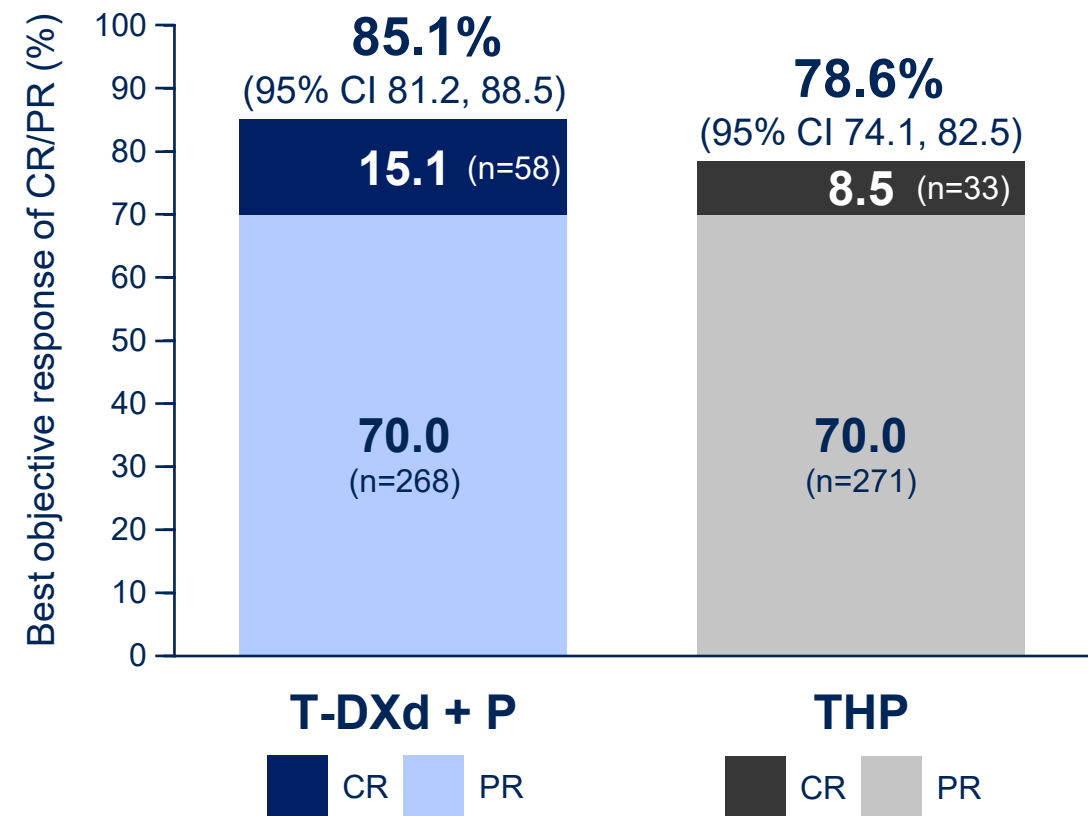
	No. of events / no. of patients		mPFS, months (95% CI)		Hazard ratio (95% CI)	
	T-DXd + P	THP	T-DXd + P	THP		
Prior treatment status						
De novo	52/200	85/200	NC (36.5, NC)	31.2 (23.5, NC)		0.49 (0.35, 0.70)
Recurrent	66/183	87/187	38.0 (26.9, NC)	22.5 (18.1, NC)		0.63 (0.46, 0.87)
HR status						
Positive	65/207	87/209	38.0 (36.0, NC)	27.7 (22.4, NC)		0.61 (0.44, 0.84)
Negative	53/176	85/178	40.7 (40.7, NC)	22.6 (17.3, 32.7)		0.52 (0.37, 0.73)
PIK3CA mutation status						
Detected	41/116	64/121	36.0 (29.7, NC)	18.1 (15.1, 25.6)		0.52 (0.35, 0.77)
Not detected	76/266	108/266	40.7 (38.0, NC)	32.7 (24.4, NC)		0.57 (0.43, 0.77)
Age at randomization						
<65 years	90/315	139/315	40.7 (36.5, NC)	27.4 (22.4, NC)		0.50 (0.38, 0.65)
≥65 years	28/68	33/72	27.6 (14.0, NC)	21.5 (13.0, NC)		0.02 (0.55, 1.51)
Geographical region						
Asia	62/188	87/191	40.7 (36.5, NC)	27.2 (21.5, NC)		0.60 (0.43, 0.83)
Western Europe and North America	27/87	31/78	36.0 (30.6, NC)	31.2 (15.8, NC)		0.60 (0.35, 1.01)
Rest of World	29/108	54/118	NC (38.0, NC)	24.4 (14.8, NC)		0.48 (0.30, 0.76)
Brain metastases at baseline						
Present	10/25	15/22	31.8 (18.5, NC)	9.5 (5.6, 13.3)		0.30 (0.12, 0.68)
Not present	108/358	157/365	40.7 (36.5, NC)	27.6 (22.6, NC)		0.58 (0.45, 0.74)
Prior exposure to anti-HER2 therapies						
Yes	39/115	51/112	38.0 (26.9, NC)	21.5 (15.3, NC)		0.55 (0.36, 0.83)
No	79/268	121/275	40.7 (36.5, NC)	27.6 (22.5, NC)		0.56 (0.42, 0.74)
Prior exposure to pertuzumab						
Yes	5/31	12/26	40.8 (25.4, NC)	19.8 (7.5, NC)		NC
No	113/352	160/361	40.7 (36.0, NC)	27.4 (22.4, NC)		0.61 (0.48, 0.77)

Size of circle is proportional to the number of events
 BICR, blinded independent central review;
 CI, confidence interval; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor;
 NC, not calculable; P, pertuzumab;
 (m)PFS, (median) progression-free survival;
 T-DXd, trastuzumab deruxtecan;
 THP, taxane + trastuzumab + pertuzumab

PFS benefit with T-DXd + P vs THP was consistently observed across prespecified subgroups, including stratification factors

DB09 ORR and DOR (BICR)

Confirmed ORR*



	T-DXd + P (n=383)	THP (n=387)
Median DOR, mo (95% CI)	39.2 (35.1, NC)	26.4 (22.3, NC)
Remaining in response at 24 mo (%)	73.3	54.9
Stable disease, n (%)	38 (9.9)	56 (14.5)

Response rates were greater with T-DXd + P vs THP and were durable

*Based on RECIST v1.1; response required confirmation after 4 weeks
BICR, blinded independent central review; CI, confidence interval; CR, complete response; DOR, duration of response; mo, months; NC, not calculable; ORR, objective response rate; P, pertuzumab; PR, partial response;
RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumours; T-DXd, trastuzumab deruxtecan; THP, taxane + trastuzumab + pertuzumab

DB09: T-DXd + Pertuzumab

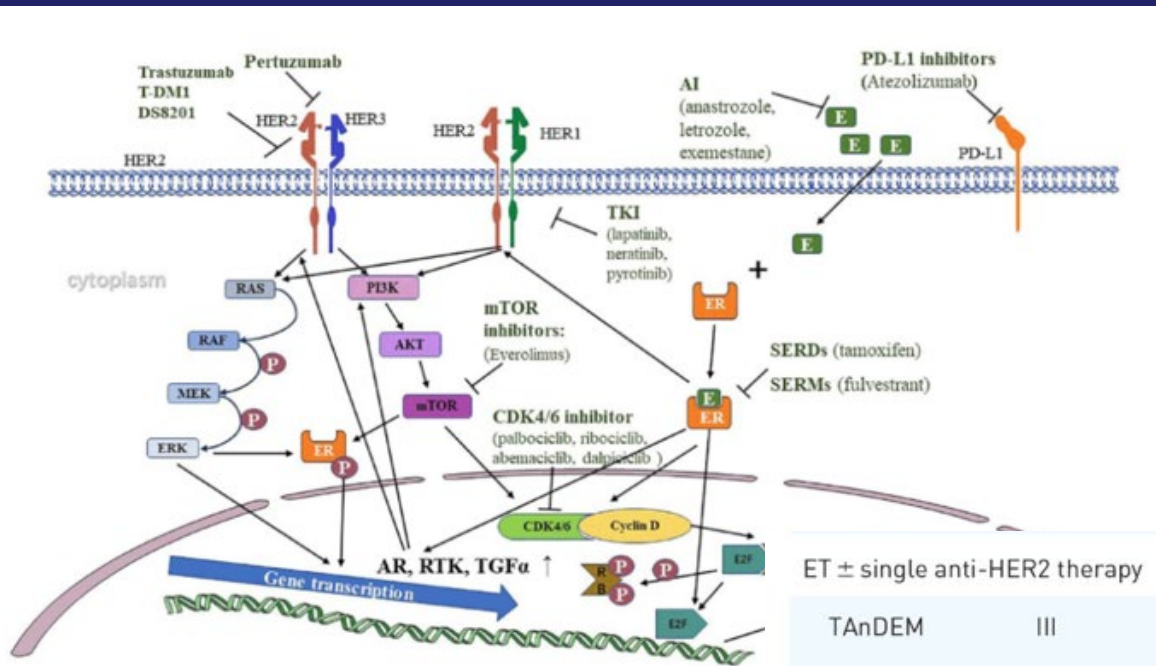
- Median Progression Free Survival of 40.7 mos is historic!
 - THP in CLEOPATRA median PFS only 18.6 mos
 - THP in this study notably longer at 26 mos (endocrine therapy used during maintenance phase)
 - Likely will receive approval
 - But....

Is Frontline T-DXd/Pertuzumab necessary for everyone?

- Overall survival benefit not yet seen
- Unclear whether pertuzumab is adding anything to the T-DXd
- Very few patients crossed over so do not know if harming patients by waiting for 2nd line for T-DXd
- 16% of patients on CLEOPATRA were progression free at 8 years. Can we prospectively select those pts and treat them with THP—HP maintenance?
- Studies ongoing (DEMETHER) to evaluate induction T-DXd with maintenance HP strategy (Cortés J, *et al.* SABCS 2024; P5-03-11)

Focus on HER2+ HR+ Metastatic Disease

Crosstalk between HER2 and ER pathways



ET ± single anti-HER2 therapy

TAnDEM	III	Trastuzumab + anastrozole <i>versus</i> anastrozole	HR+/HER2+ (207)	4.8 <i>versus</i> 2.4 ($p=0.0016$)	28.5 <i>versus</i> 23.9 ($p=0.325$)
EGF30008	III	Lapatinib + letrozole <i>versus</i> letrozole	HR+/HER2+ (219)	8.2 <i>versus</i> 3.0 ($p=0.019$)	33.3 <i>versus</i> 32.3
eLEcTRA	III	Trastuzumab + letrozole <i>versus</i> letrozole	HR+/HER2+ (57)	14.1 <i>versus</i> 3.3 ($p=0.23$)	Data not shown

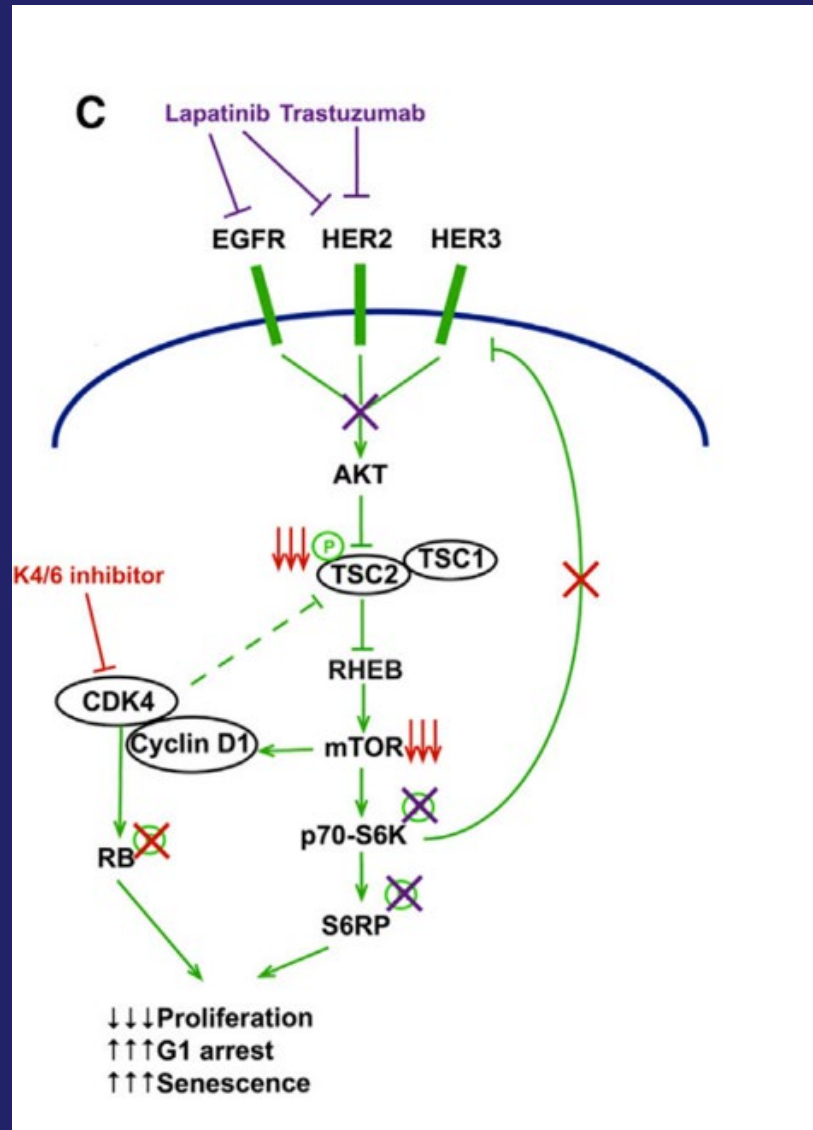
ET ± dual anti-HER2 therapy

PERTAIN	II	Pertuzumab + trastuzumab + AI <i>versus</i> trastuzumab + AI	HR+/HER2+ (258)	18.9 <i>versus</i> 15.8 ($p=0.007$)	60.2 <i>versus</i> 57.2
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ET/CT + single anti-HER2 therapy

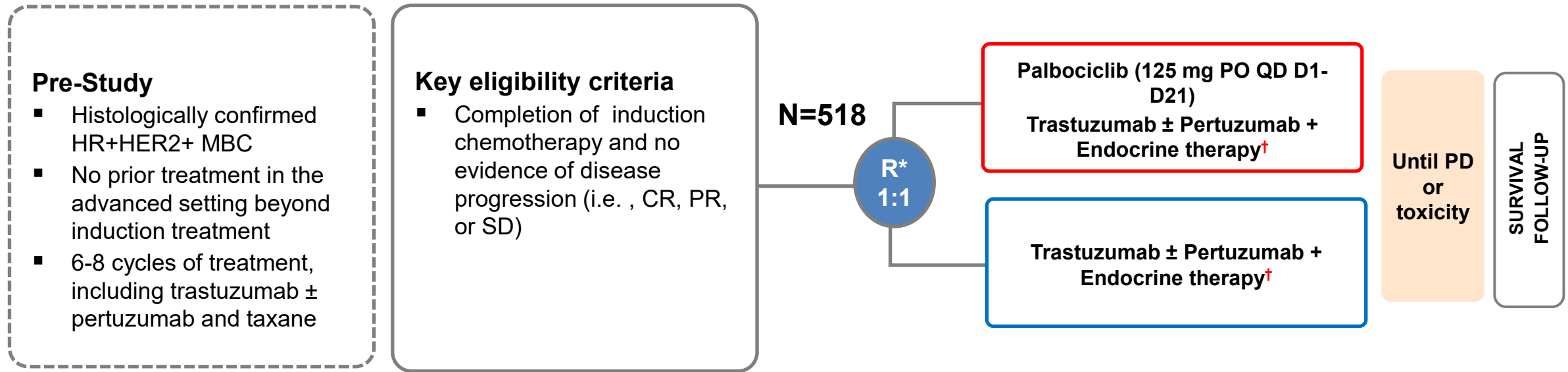
SYSUCC-002	III	Trastuzumab + ET <i>versus</i> trastuzumab + CT	HR+/HER2+ (392)	19.2 <i>versus</i> 14.8 ($p<0.0001$)	33.9 <i>versus</i> 32.5 ($p=0.094$)
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Co-treating cells with a CDK4/6i and anti-HER2 therapy is synergistic



Inhibiting both CDK4/6 and HER2 maximizes suppression of TSC2 phosphorylation, leading to a more complete shutdown of S6RP phosphorylation and inhibition of Rb, reducing cellular proliferation.

AFT-38 PATINA Study Design



Stratification Factors

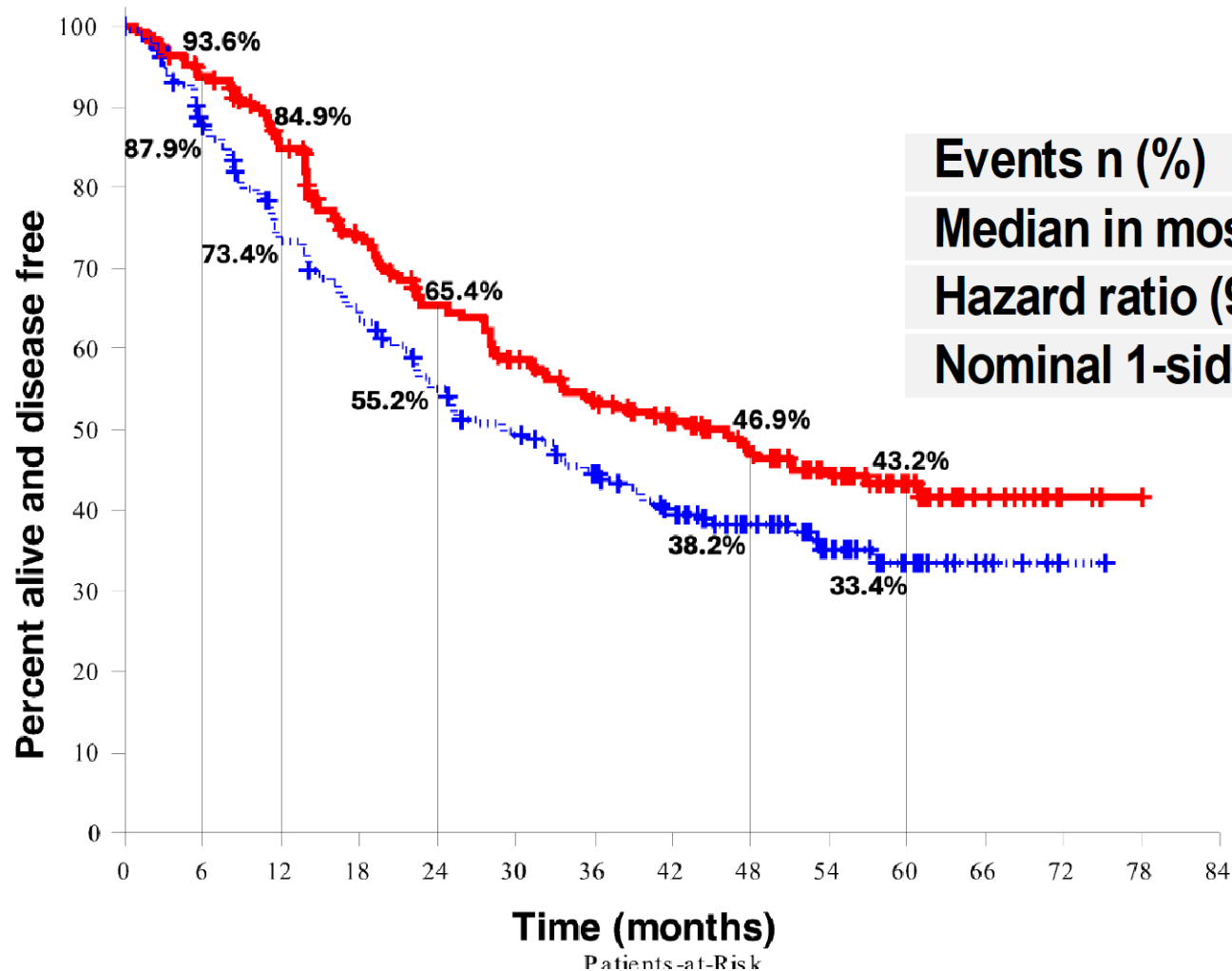
- Pertuzumab Use (Yes vs. No)
 - The non-pertuzumab option is limited to up to 20% of the population
- Prior anti-HER2 therapy in the (neo)adjuvant setting (Yes vs. No, including denovo)*
- Response to induction therapy (CR or PR vs. SD) by investigator assessment*
- Type of endocrine therapy (Fulvestrant vs. AI)

97% used pertuzumab

Prior trastuzumab 71%

ORR 69%

PATINA Investigator-Assessed PFS



Events n (%)

Median in mos (95% CI)

Hazard ratio (95% CI)

Nominal 1-sided *P* value

Palbo + Anti-
HER2 and ET

126/261

44.3

0.74 (0.58–0.94)

0.0074

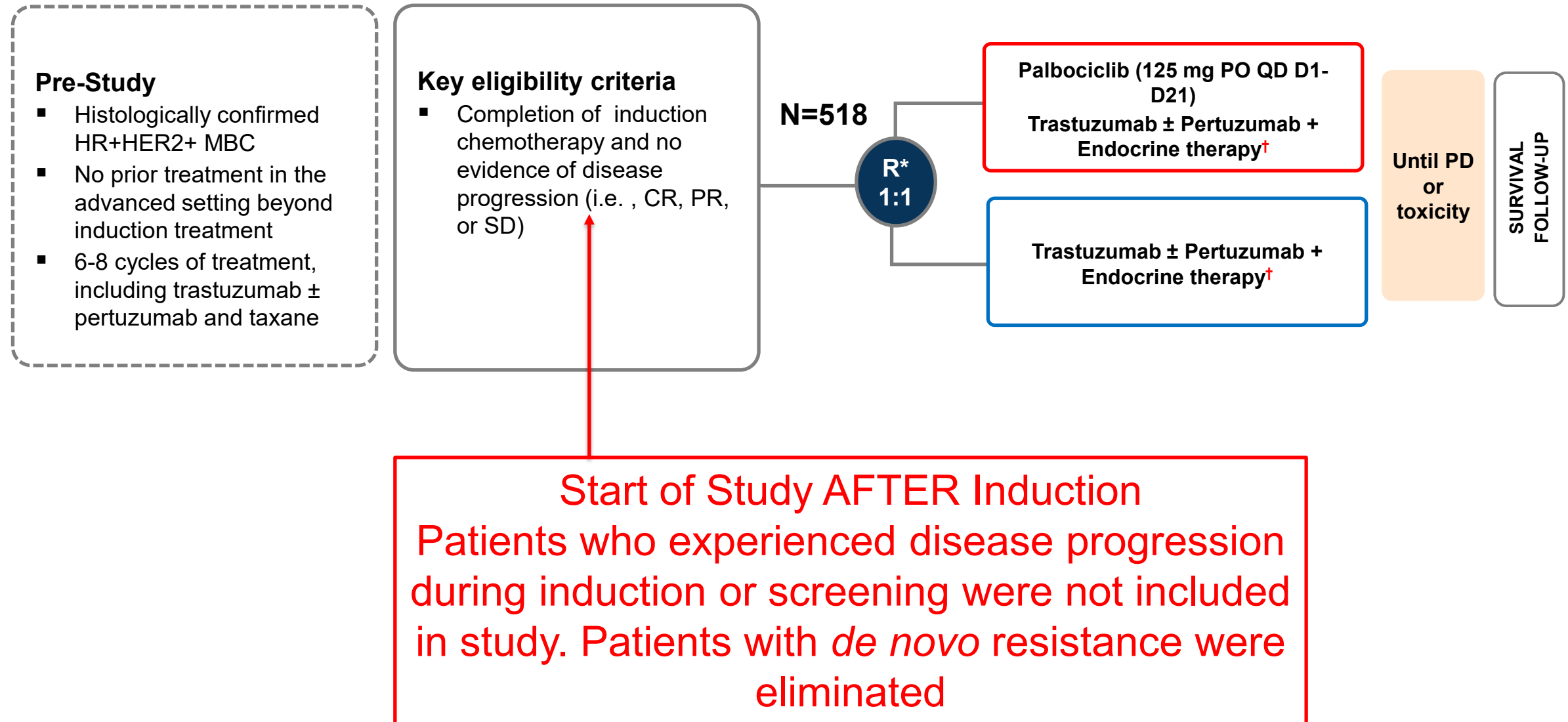
+ Anti-HER2
and ET

136/257

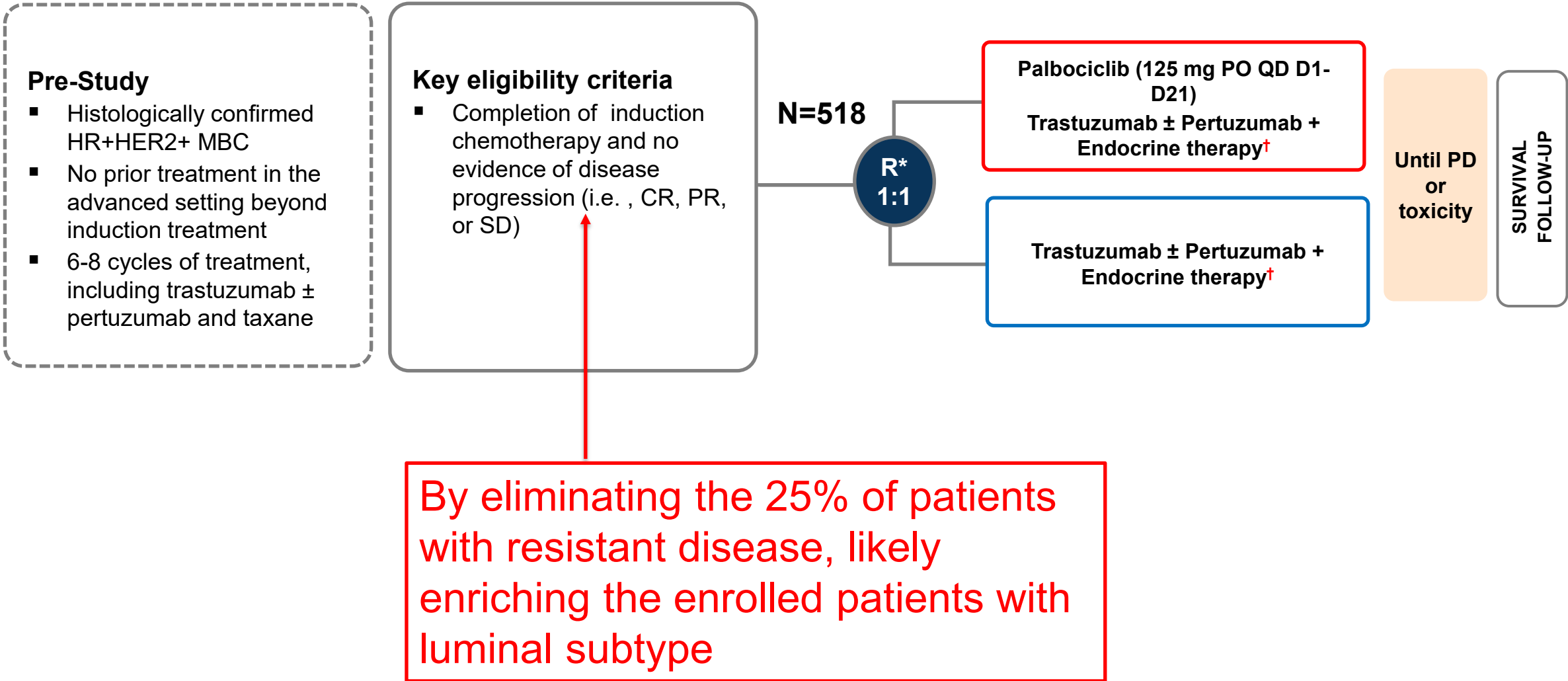
29.1

This is quite high!

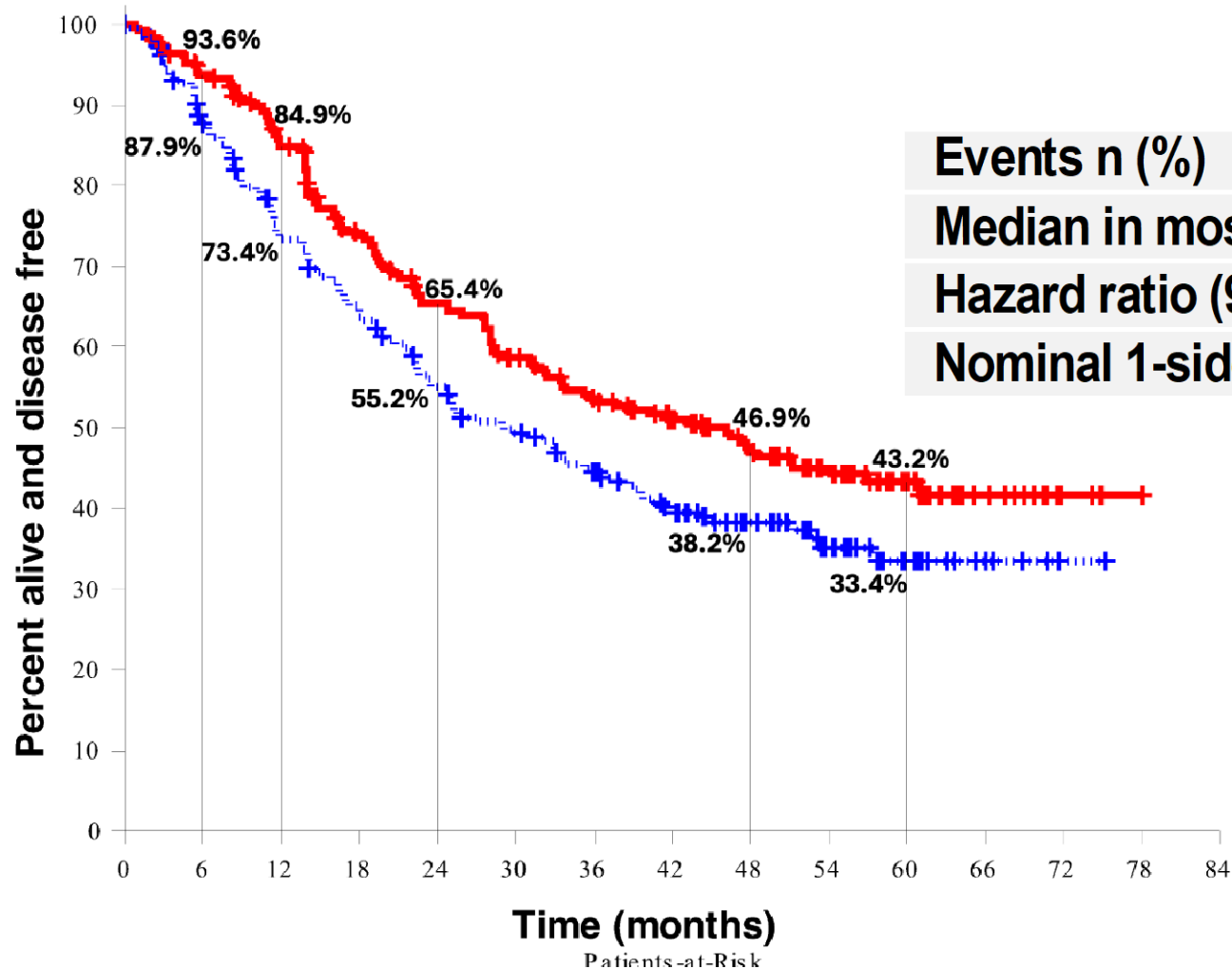
AFT-38 PATINA



AFT-38 PATINA



Investigator-Assessed PFS



Events n (%)	126/261	136/257
Median in mos (95% CI)	44.3	29.1
Hazard ratio (95% CI)	0.74 (0.58–0.94)	
Nominal 1-sided <i>P</i> value	0.0074	

Palbo + Anti-HER2 and ET

+ Anti-HER2 and ET

126/261

136/257

44.3

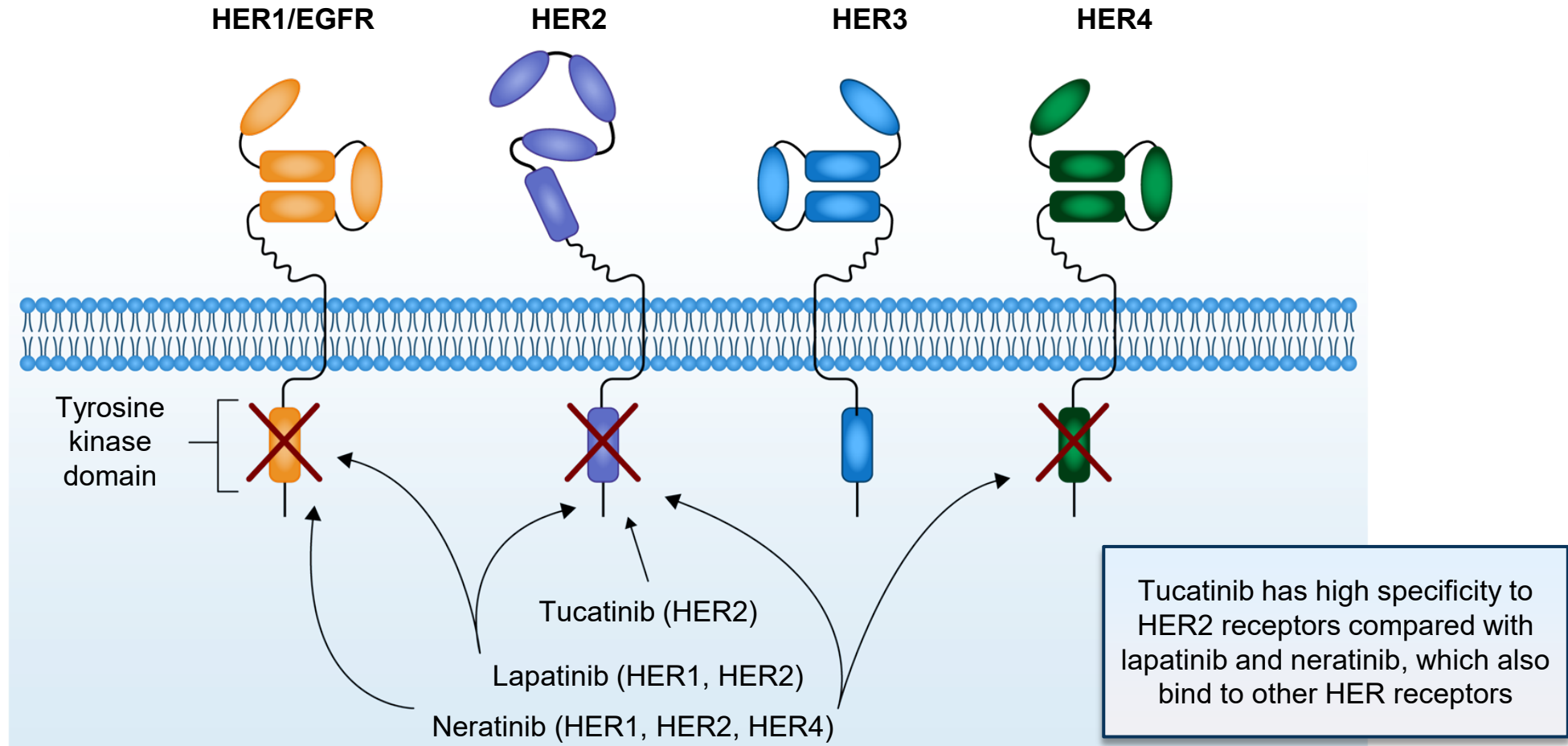
29.1

0.74 (0.58–0.94)

0.0074

This is impressive!
(some would say,
historic?!)

HER2-Targeted Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors^{1,2}



HER2CLIMB

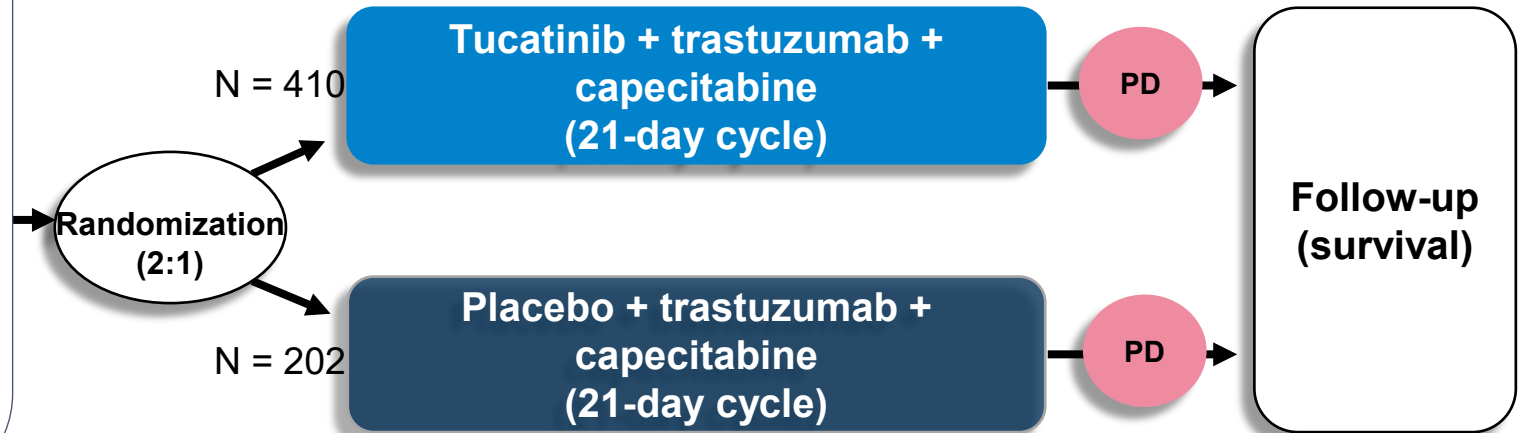
Tucatinib + Trastuzumab + Capecitabine vs Placebo + Trastuzumab + Capecitabine

Inclusion criteria

- HER2+ metastatic breast cancer
- **Prior treatment with trastuzumab, pertuzumab, and T-DM1**
- ECOG 0, 1
- *Brain MRI at baseline*
 - No evidence of brain metastases, or
 - Untreated, previously treated stable, or previously treated progressing, brain metastases not needing immediate local therapy

Stratification variables

- Presence of brain metastases (yes/no)
- ECOG status (0 or 1)
- Region of the world (US or Canada or rest of world)



Endpoints

- Primary: PFS (first 480 patients randomized)
- Secondary: OS (total population), PFS among patients with brain metastases, ORR

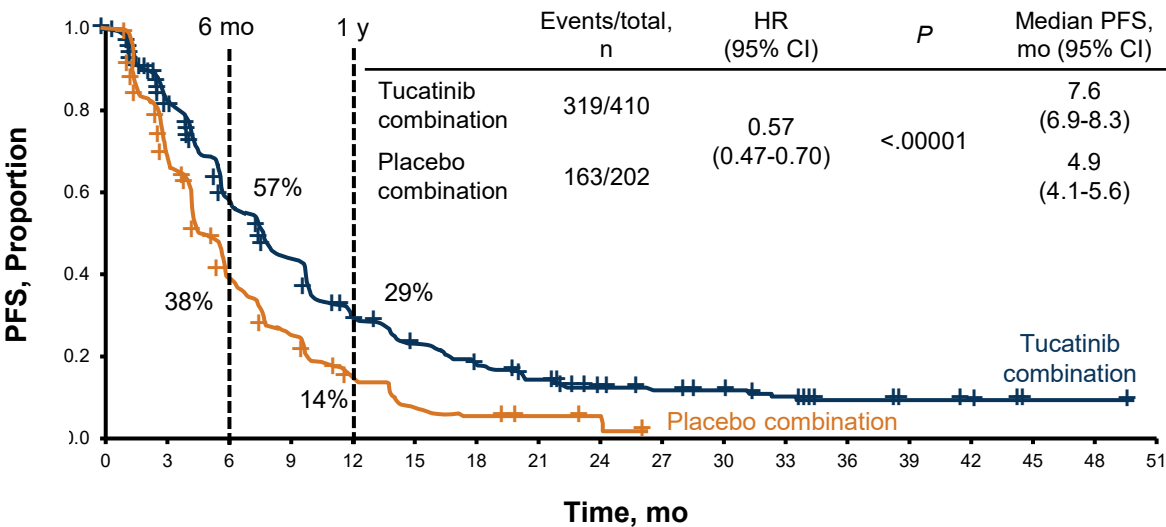
Notable baseline characteristic: 48% of patients had CNS metastases

Abbreviations: CNS, central nervous system; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; PD, progressive disease; PFS, progression-free survival.

Murthy R, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2020;382:597-609.

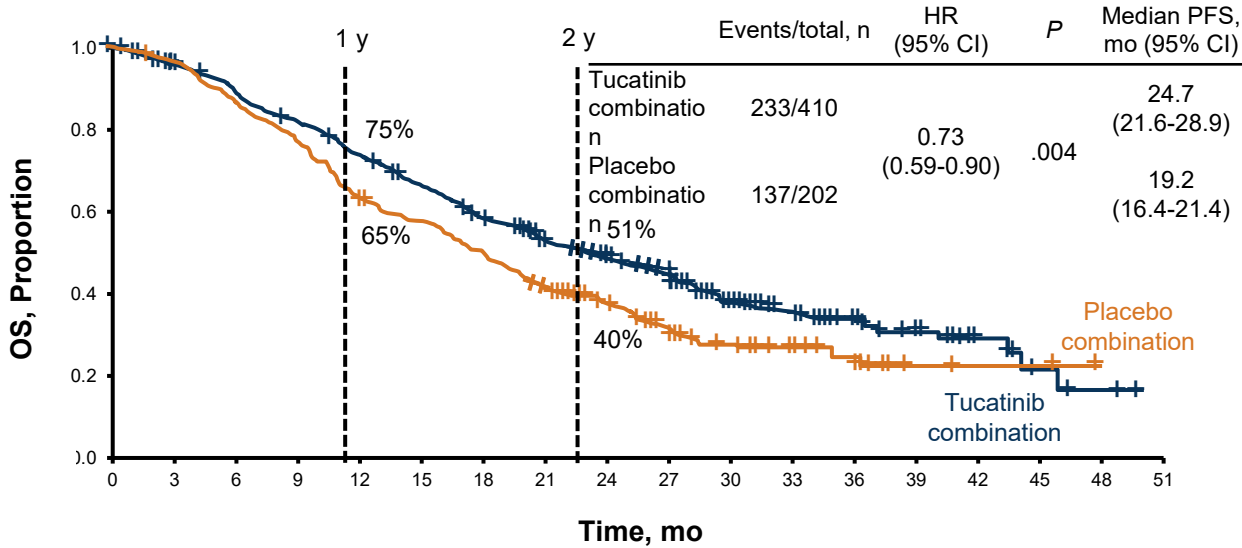
HER2CLIMB: PFS and OS¹ with tucatinib/capecitabine/trastuzumab

PFS



No. at Risk																	
Tucatinib combination	410	303	205	154	99	77	59	44	28	24	20	14	9	5	4	1	0
Placebo combination	202	118	64	41	19	9	6	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

OS



No. at Risk																											
Tucatinib combination	410	387	356	325	295	268	241	214	153	122	81	56	38	24	19	11	4	2	0								
Placebo combination	202	191	174	156	129	114	103	87	63	47	28	21	14	8	4	3	2	0	0								

1. Curigliano G et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2022;33:321-329.

HER2+ Brain Metastases

Discussion: Should We Screen Asymptomatic Patients With HER2+ MBC for BMs?



"There are insufficient data to recommend for or against performing routine magnetic resonance imaging to screen for brain metastases; clinicians should have a low threshold for MRI of the brain because of the high incidence of brain metastases among patients with HER2+ advanced breast cancer."

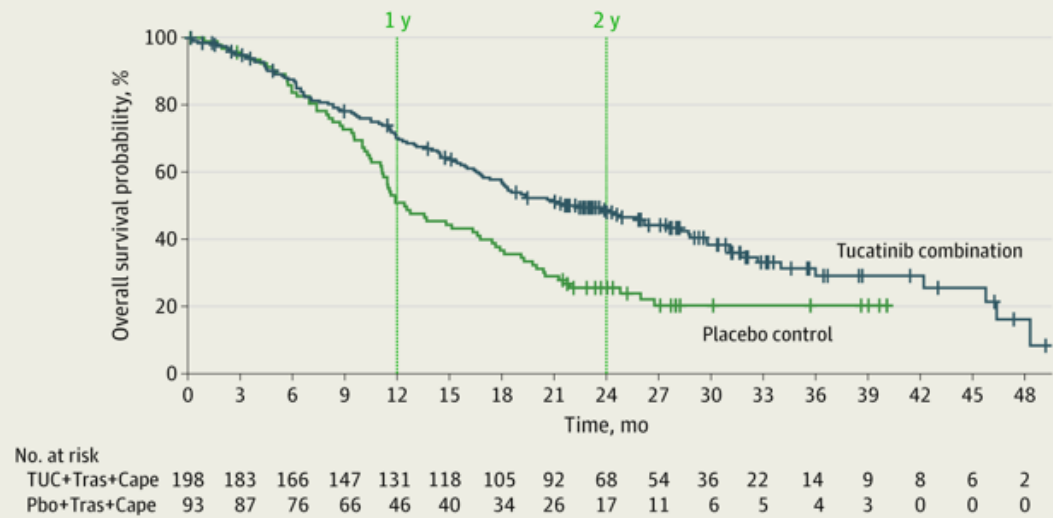


"Screening at diagnosis is potentially justified in HER2+ and TN MBC (EANO: IV, n/a; ESMO IV, B). This approach will result in a higher rate of detection of asymptomatic BM."

Outcomes in HER2CLIMB in patients with CNS metastases

FINDINGS

Median OS was longer in the tucatinib-combination group compared with the placebo-combination group



Median OS:

21.6 mo (95% CI, 18.1-28.5 mo) in tucatinib-combination group

12.5 mo (95% CI, 11.2-16.9 mo) in placebo-combination group

Table. Confirmed Intracranial Responses in Patients With Active Brain Metastases and Measurable Intracranial Lesions at Baseline

Intracranial response	Tucatinib combination (n = 55) ^a	Placebo combination (n = 20) ^b
Patients with objective response of confirmed complete response or partial response, No.	26	4
Confirmed ORR-IC, % (95% CI)	47.3 (33.7-61.2)	20.0 (5.7-43.7)
DOR-IC, median (95% CI), mo ^c	8.6 (5.5-10.3)	3.0 (3.0-10.3)

Abbreviations: DOR-IC, duration of intracranial response; ORR-IC, intracranial objective response rate.

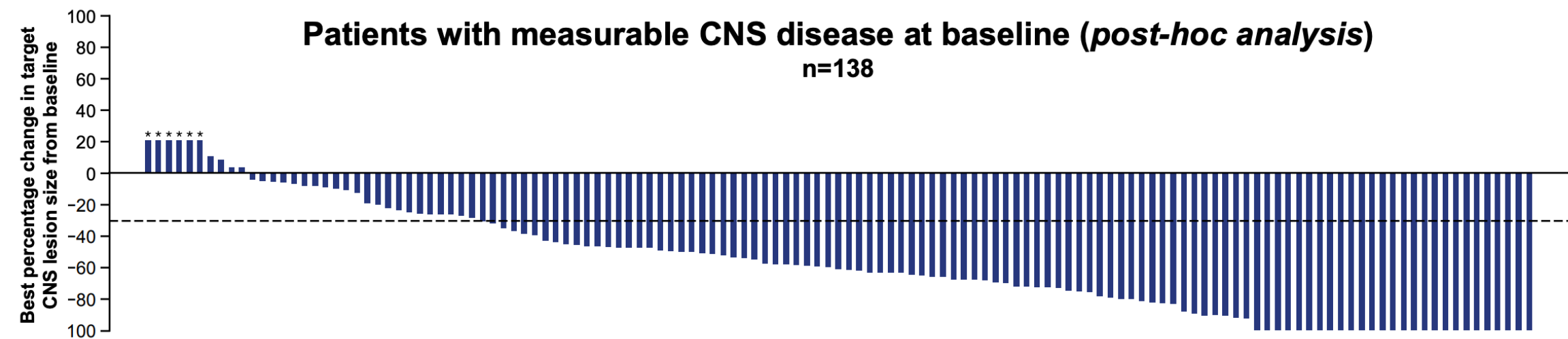
^a Tucatinib, trastuzumab, and capecitabine.

^b Placebo, trastuzumab, and capecitabine.

^c Calculated with the complementary log-log transformation method.

DESTINY-Breast12: T-DXd in Patients with CNS metastases

Baseline BMs: CNS ORR¹



Measurable CNS disease at baseline	Active BM subgroups				
	All patients (n=138)	Stable BMs (n=77)	Active BMs (n=61)	Untreated (n=23) <i>Post-hoc analysis</i>	Previously treated / progressing (n=38) <i>Post-hoc analysis</i>
Confirmed CNS ORR, % (95% CI)	71.7 (64.2, 79.3)	79.2 (70.2, 88.3)	62.3 (50.1, 74.5)	82.6 (67.1, 98.1)	50.0 (34.1, 65.9)

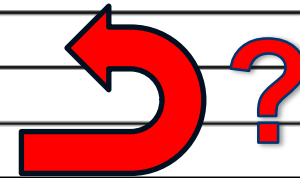
T-DXd showed substantial CNS responses in the overall BMs population, including patients with stable and active BMs

Dashed line indicates a 30% decrease in target tumor size (PR). *Imputed values: a value of +20% was imputed if best percentage change could not be calculated because of missing data if: a patient had a new lesion or progression of non-target lesions or target lesions, or had withdrawn because of PD and had no evaluable target lesion data before or at PD.

1. Lin N et al. ESMO 2024. Abstract LBA18.

Summary: Standard for HER2+ MBC

HR-Positive or -Negative and HER2-Positive ^m	
See BINV-Q (1) for Considerations for systemic HER2-targeted therapy.	
Setting	Regimen
First Line ⁿ	Pertuzumab + trastuzumab + docetaxel (category 1, preferred)
	Pertuzumab + trastuzumab + paclitaxel (preferred)
Second Line ^o	Fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki ⁿ (category 1, preferred)
Third Line	Tucatinib + trastuzumab + capecitabine ^o (category 1, preferred)
	Ado-trastuzumab emtansine (T-DM1) ^p
Fourth Line and Beyond (optimal sequence is not known) ^q	Trastuzumab + docetaxel or vinorelbine
	Trastuzumab + paclitaxel ± carboplatin
	Capecitabine + trastuzumab or lapatinib
	Trastuzumab + lapatinib (without cytotoxic therapy)
	Trastuzumab + other chemotherapy agents ^{r,s}
	Neratinib + capecitabine
	Margetuximab-cmkb + chemotherapy (capecitabine, eribulin, gemcitabine, or vinorelbine)
	Abemaciclib in combination with fulvestrant and trastuzumab (for HR+ only) (category 2B)
	Targeted Therapy and emerging biomarker Options BINV-Q (7) and BINV-Q (8)



HER2+ Brain Metastases: NCCN Guidelines v2.2025

▶ HER2 positive

◊ Preferred

- Tucatinib + trastuzumab + capecitabine (category 1) if previously treated with ≥ 1 regimen⁶
- Fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki if previously treated with ≥ 1 regimen^{7,8}

◊ Other Recommended

- Ado-trastuzumab emtansine (T-DM1)⁹
- Neratinib and T-DM1¹⁰
- Capecitabine + lapatinib^{11,12}
- Capecitabine + neratinib^{13,14}
- Pertuzumab and high-dose trastuzumab^{d,15}
- Paclitaxel + neratinib (category 2B)¹⁶

Summary: Standard for HER2+ MBC

First Line

Trastuzumab + pertuzumab
+ taxane

CLEOPATRA

- Continue HP after induction
- HR+: Consider addition of palbociclib and endocrine therapy to HP (PATINA trial)

Second Line

Trastuzumab deruxtecan
(T-DXd)

DB03

or

Tucatinib + trastuzumab
+ capecitabine

HER2CLIMB

Factors include extracranial disease burden, intracranial disease burden, comorbidities, patient preference

Third Line

Tucatinib + trastuzumab
+ capecitabine

HER2CLIMB

or

Trastuzumab deruxtecan

DB02/03

or

Trastuzumab emtansine
(T-DM1)

EMILIA, TH3RESA

Late Line Options for HER2+ MBC: “Dealer’s Choice”

Fourth Line +

Trastuzumab emtansine
(T-DM1)

TH3RESA

Margetuximab + chemo

SOPHIA

Neratinib + capecitabine

NALA

Trastuzumab + chemo

Trastuzumab + lapatinib

EGF104900

Many possible agents,
including

- Vinorelbine
- Eribulin
- Gemcitabine
- Doxil
- Carboplatin

**Special consideration
in HR+/HER2+:**
fulvestrant/abema/trastuzumab

Or tucatinib/capecitabine/trastuzumab, or T-DXd if not already received

Discussion