

# Management of Side Effects for Patients Receiving Multimodality Therapy in Thoracic Oncology

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# Learning Objectives

1. Identify strategies to mitigate adverse events (AEs) of checkpoint inhibitors
2. Evaluate emerging data regarding managing AEs of EGFR and ALK inhibitors
3. Formulate plans to mitigate AEs associated with radiotherapy

## Financial Disclosures

**Dr. Davies:** Speakers bureaus: AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Genentech, Merck

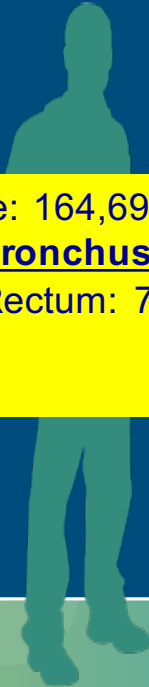
**Ms. Eaby Sandy:** Speakers bureaus: AstraZeneca, Helsinn, Merck, Takeda  
Consulting: AbbVie

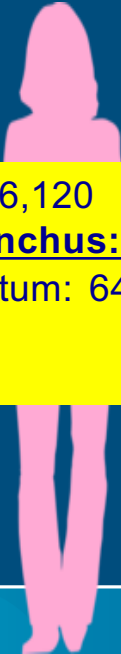
# Overview and Locally Advanced Non–Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)



# NSCLC: Scope of the Problem

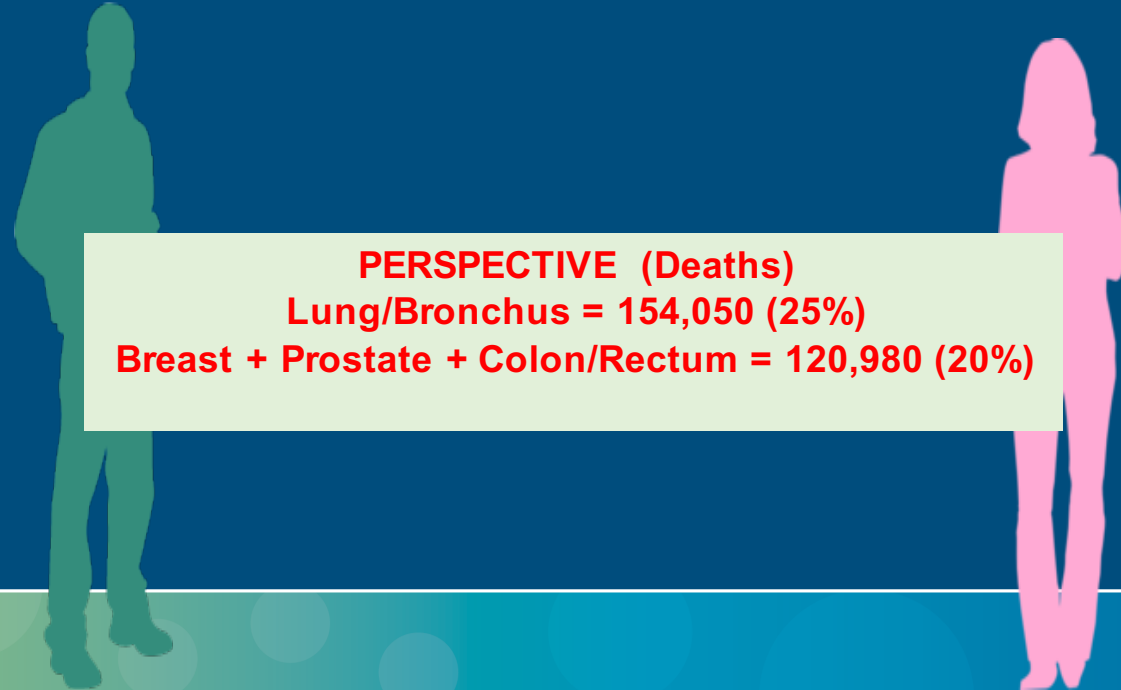
## Estimated Number of New Cases in US by Sex: 2018

- 
1. Prostate: 164,690
  2. Lung/Bronchus: 121,680
  3. Colon/Rectum: 75,610

- 
1. Breast: 266,120
  2. Lung/Bronchus: 112,350
  3. Colon/Rectum: 64,640

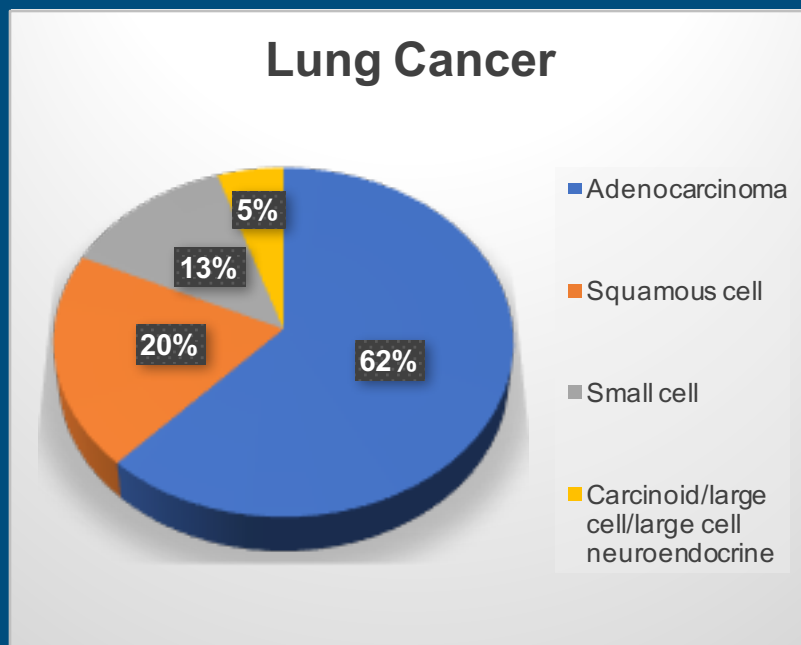
# NSCLC: Scope of the Problem

Estimated Number of Deaths in US by Sex: 2018



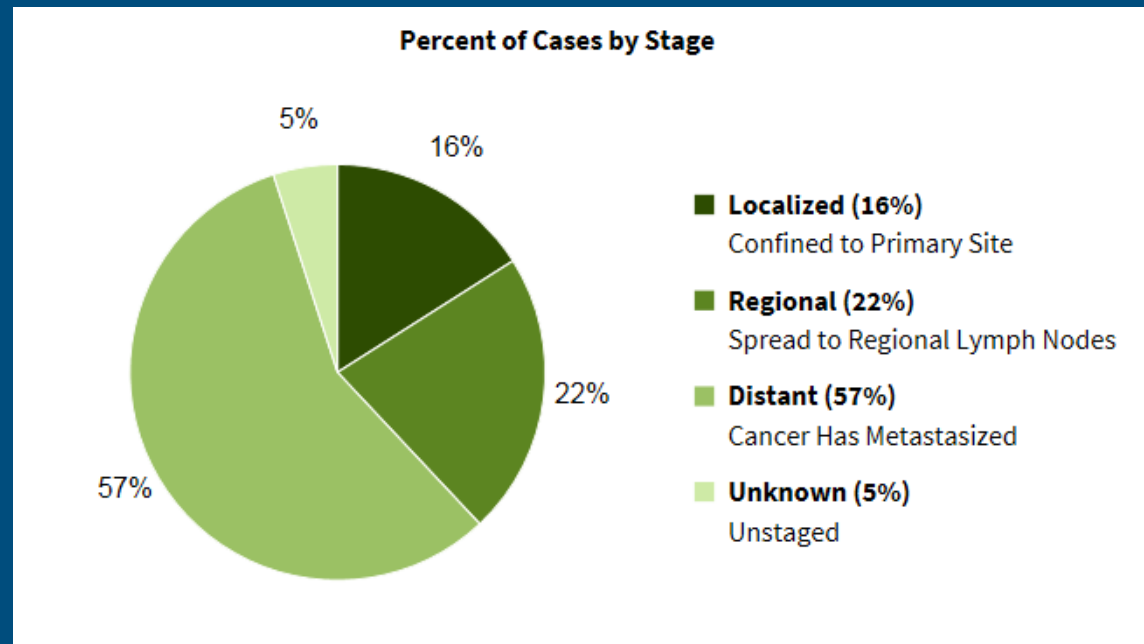
**PERSPECTIVE (Deaths)**  
**Lung/Bronchus = 154,050 (25%)**  
**Breast + Prostate + Colon/Rectum = 120,980 (20%)**

# Lung Cancer: Histology Matters



- Adenocarcinoma
  - Most likely to harbor a genetic mutation
  - Most common type in non-smokers
- Squamous cell
  - Generally more centrally located
- SCLC
- Large cell
  - Often associated with neuroendocrine features, but not a small cell

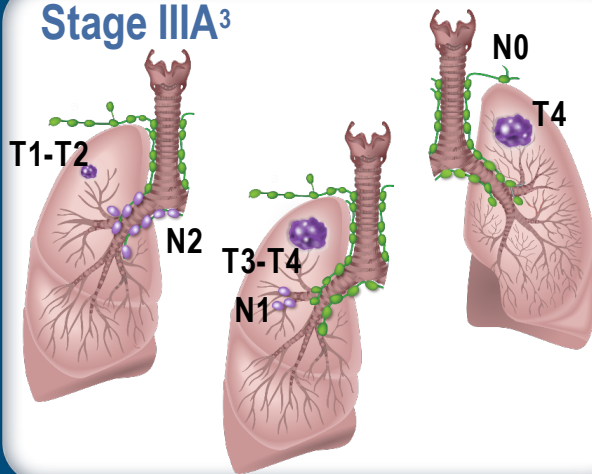
# Lung Cancer Stages and Survival



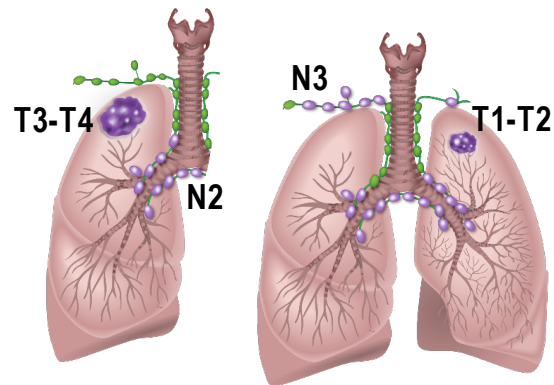
<https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/lungb.html>

# Locally Advanced/Stage III NSCLC

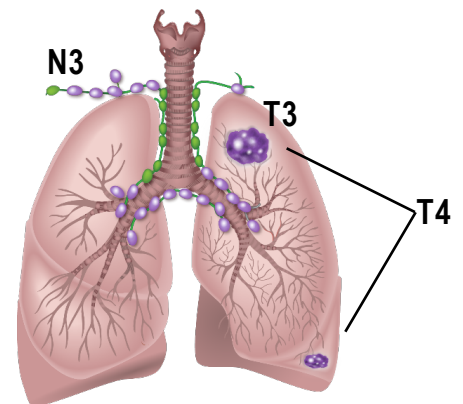
Stage IIIA<sup>3</sup>



Stage IIIB<sup>3</sup>



Stage IIIC<sup>3</sup>



**Most stage III NSCLC is not easily resectable; majority receive concurrent chemotherapy and radiation**

# 5-Year Survival Rates for Stage III NSCLC Post-Chemo/Radiation

- CALGB 39801 Pac/Carbo/XRT: 4-19% depending on prognostic factors
- SWOG 9019, 9504: Etopo/Cis/XRT: 15%, 29%
- Meta-analysis of stage III chemo/radiation trials 15.1%

## Locally Advanced NSCLC/Stage III

- About 30% of patients diagnosed with NSCLC
- Standard of care concurrent chemo plus radiation
- Median PFS is 8-10 months with chemo plus radiation
- 5-year survival rate only about 15%
- No advances in this population for several years
  - 3 common regimens
    - Weekly paclitaxel/carboplatin
    - Every-3-week pemetrexed/carboplatin
    - 28-day cycle of etoposide/cisplatin (SWOG regimen)
- New data adding immunotherapy in 2018!

# Trial of Durvalumab Post-Chemo/Radiation

## Phase III, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Multicenter, International Study

- Patients with stage III, locally advanced, unresectable NSCLC who have not progressed following definitive platinum-based cCRT (≥2 cycles)

- 18 years or older
- WHO PS score 0 or 1

- Estimated life expectancy of ≥12 weeks

- Archived tissue was collected

All-comers population

1–42 days  
post-  
cCRT

R

Durvalumab  
10 mg/kg q2w for  
up to 12 months  
N=476

2:1 randomization,  
stratified by age,  
sex, and smoking  
history N=713

Placebo  
10 mg/kg q2w for  
up to 12 months  
N=237

### Co-primary endpoints

- PFS by BICR using RECIST v1.1\*
- OS

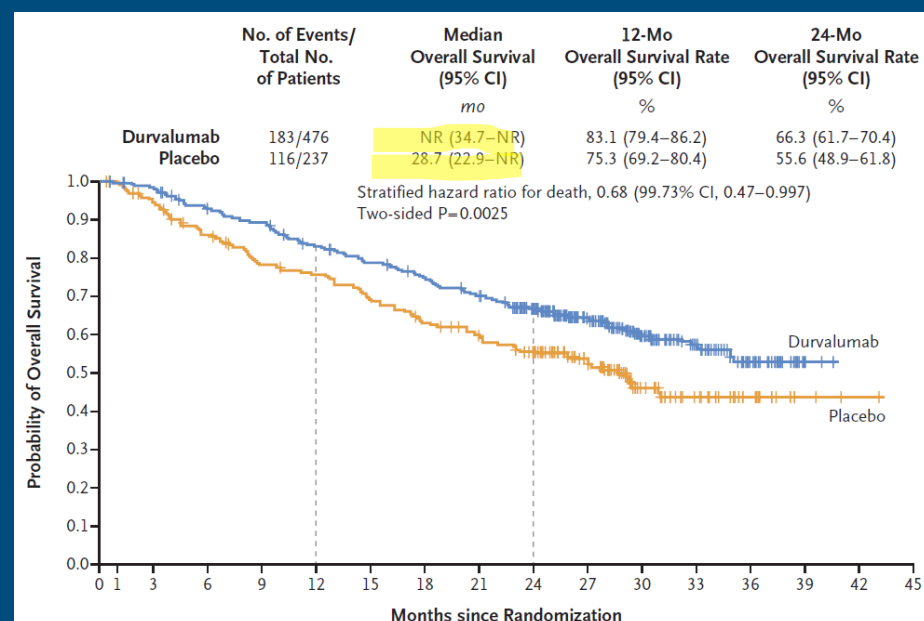
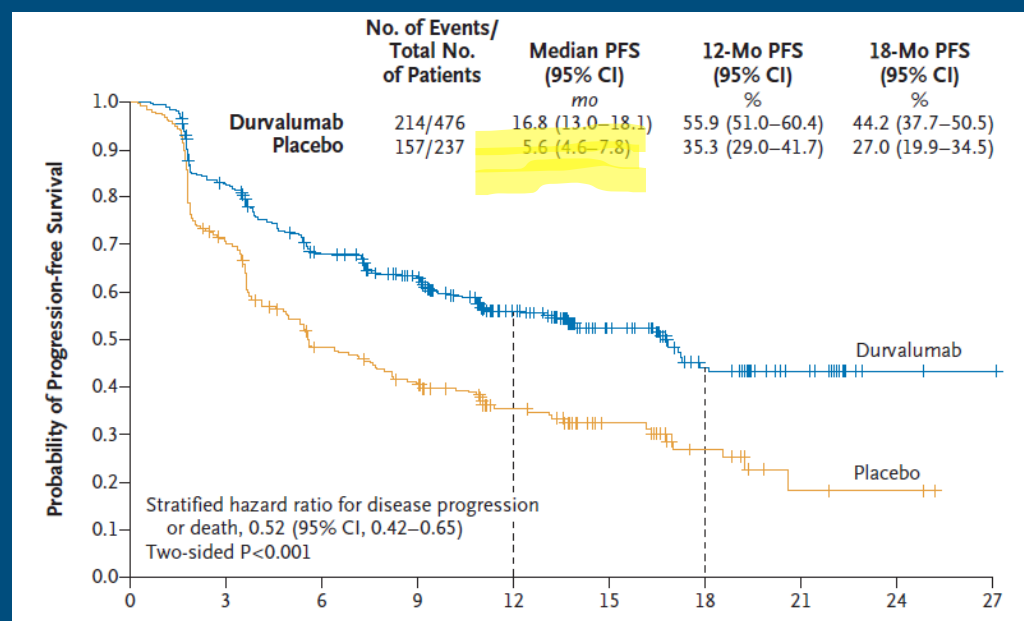
### Key secondary endpoints

- ORR (per BICR)
- DoR (per BICR)
- Safety and tolerability
- PROs

\*Defined as the time from randomization (which occurred up to 6 weeks post-cCRT) to the first documented event of tumor progression or death in the absence of progression.  
ClinicalTrials.gov number: NCT02125461



# Significant Improvement in PFS and OS in Favor of Durvalumab Post Chemo/Radiation



Antonia SJ, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2017;377:1919-29. Antonia SJ, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2018

# General Toxicities From Chemo/Radiation in NSCLC

- Esophagitis
  - Pancytopenia
  - XRT skin burns
  - Nausea
  - Fatigue
  - XRT pneumonitis
- But these vary across...
    - Patients
    - XRT techniques
    - Concurrent chemotherapy regimen

# Toxicities of Chemo/Radiation Followed by Durvalumab

Event	Durvalumab (N=475)		Placebo (N=234)	
	Any Grade*	Grade 3 or 4	Any Grade*	Grade 3 or 4
	<i>number of patients with event (percent)</i>			
Any event	460 (96.8)	142 (29.9)	222 (94.9)	61 (26.1)
Cough	168 (35.4)	2 (0.4)	59 (25.2)	1 (0.4)
Pneumonitis or radiation pneumonitis†	161 (33.9)	16 (3.4)	58 (24.8)	6 (2.6)
Fatigue	113 (23.8)	1 (0.2)	48 (20.5)	3 (1.3)
Dyspnea	106 (22.3)	7 (1.5)	56 (23.9)	6 (2.6)
Diarrhea	87 (18.3)	3 (0.6)	44 (18.8)	3 (1.3)
Pyrexia	70 (14.7)	1 (0.2)	21 (9.0)	0
Decreased appetite	68 (14.3)	1 (0.2)	30 (12.8)	2 (0.9)
Nausea	66 (13.9)	0	31 (13.2)	0

Antonia SJ, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2017;377:1919-29.

# Management Strategies

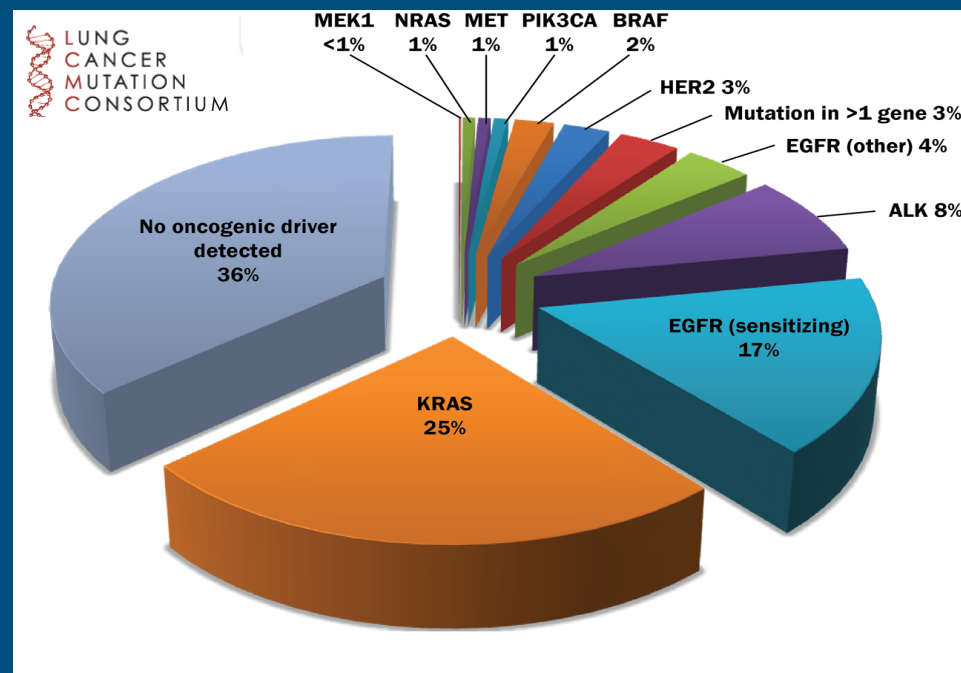
- Esophagitis: Supportive care, most pharmacologic stuff doesn't work well...
- Pancytopenia: Check weekly counts and treat/educate accordingly
- XRT skin burns: Topical preps (less of an issue with new XRT techniques?)
- Nausea: Proper prophylaxis depending on emetogenicity of regimen
- Fatigue: Energy conservation
- XRT pneumonitis: Educated about symptoms and when likely to occur

# Advanced NSCLC

# NSCLC: Treatment Decision Variables

- Histology
  - Non-squamous NSCLC
  - Squamous NSCLL
- Molecular driver mutations
  - EGFR
  - ALK
  - ROS1
  - BRAF
  - PD-L1
- Molecular drivers considerations
  - Consider in never-smokers
  - Mixed histologies

# Using Multiplexed Assays of Oncogenic Drivers in Lung Cancer to Select Targeted Drugs



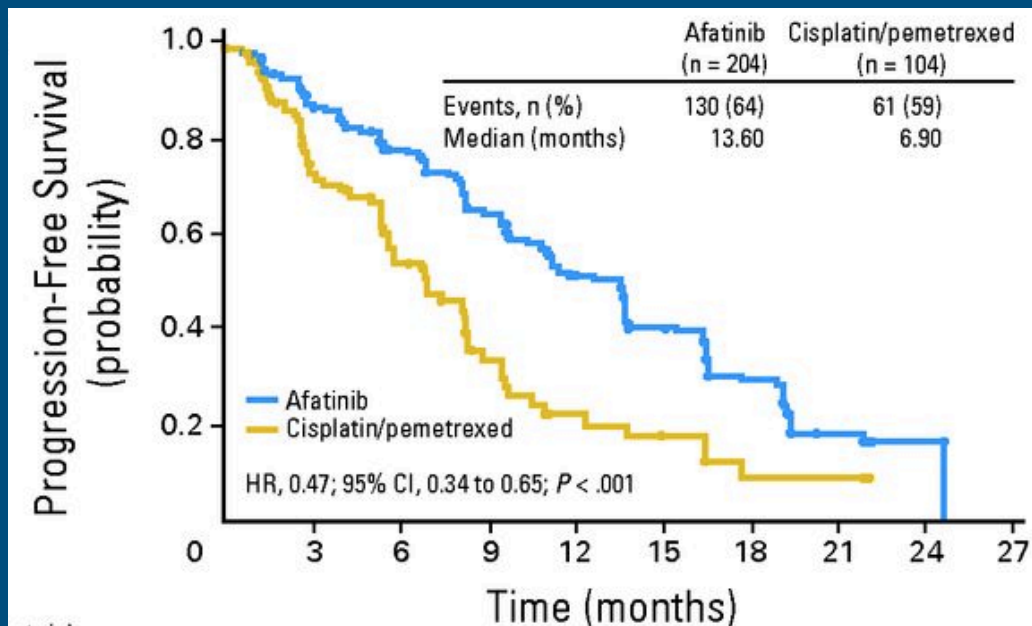
Kris M, et al. *JAMA*. 2014 May 21; 311(19): 1998–2006.

# EGFR Mutant NSCLC

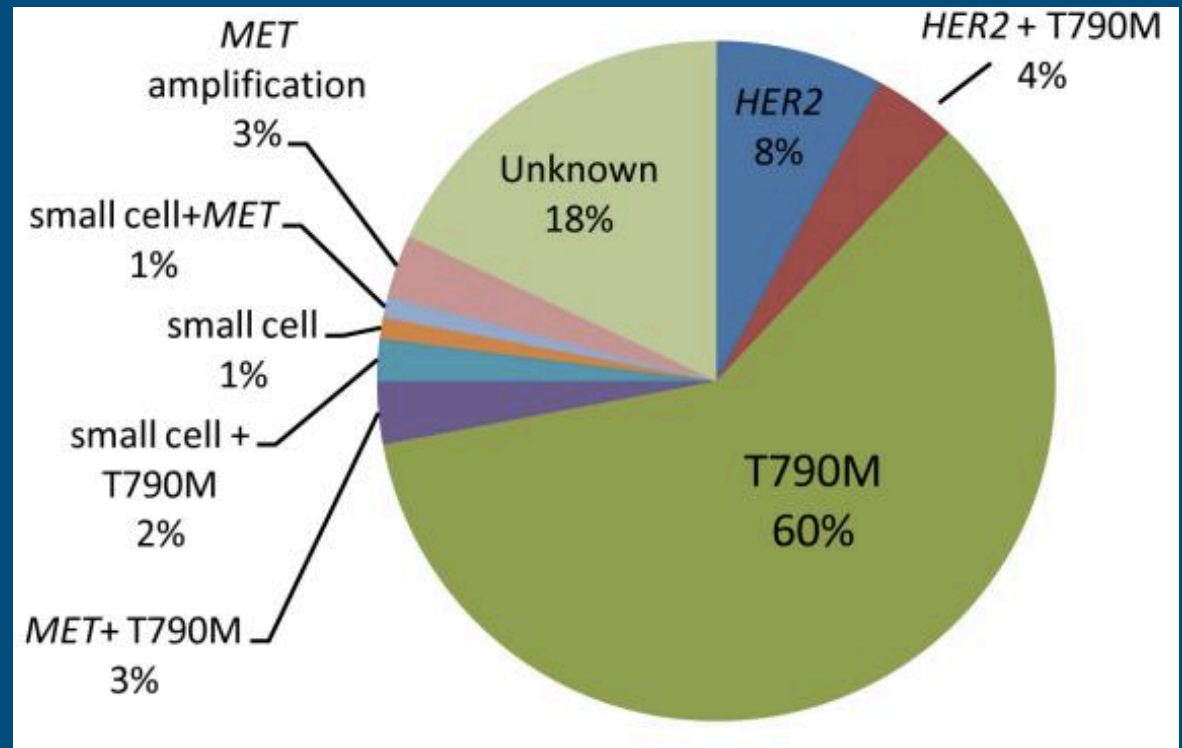
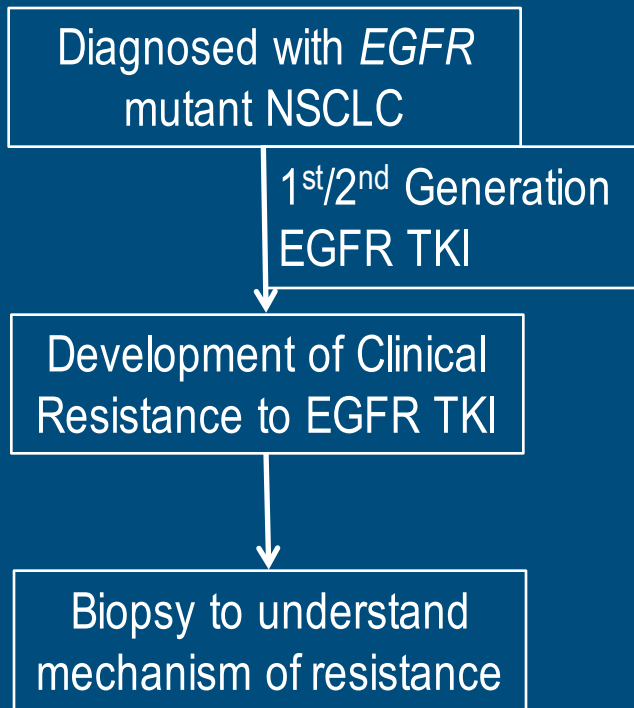
- Paradigm of oncogene driven solid tumor
- Occurs in about 20% of lung cancers
- More common in women than men (22% vs. 15%)
- More common in Asians than Caucasians (55% vs. 18%)
- More common in never-smokers (43%) than former (14%) or current smokers (5%)
- (But, if we only looked in women or never-smokers, we'd miss 57% of EGFR mutant NSCLC)



# In Patients With EGFR-Mutant NSCLC, First/Second-Generation EGFR TKIs Are Superior to Platinum-Based Doublets

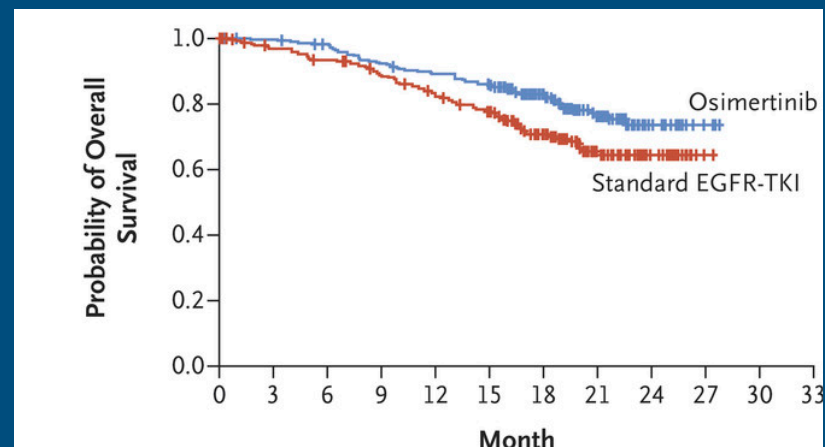
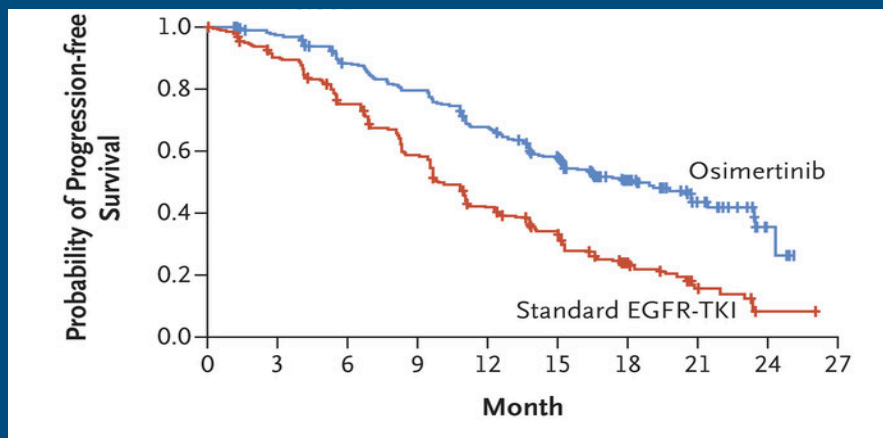


# What Causes Acquired Resistance?

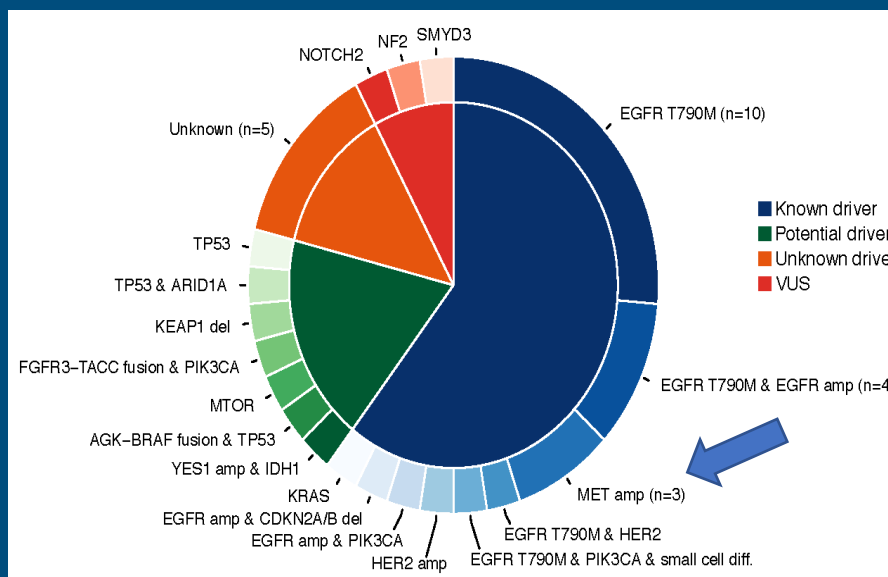
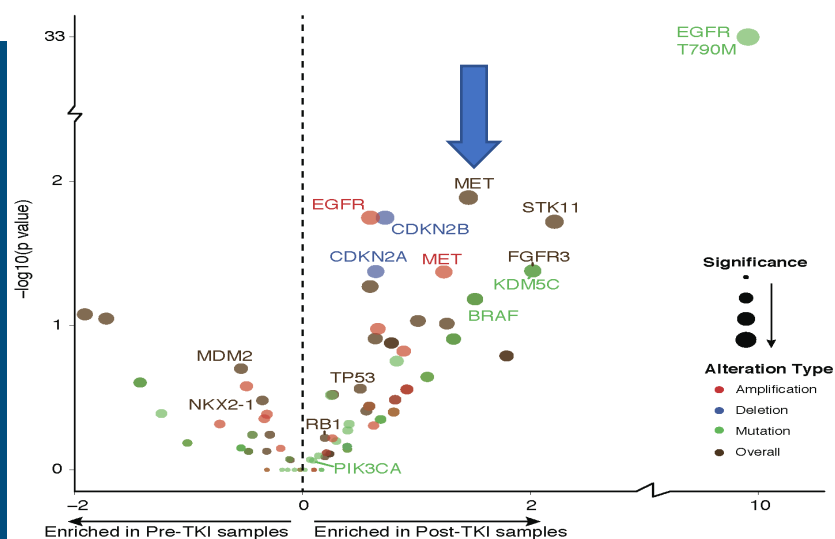


# FLAURA: Osimertinib vs. Gefitinib/Erlotinib

Osimertinib targets T790



# Acquired Resistance to 3rd Generation EGFR TKI



# Initial Therapy for Non-Squamous NSCLC EGFR Mutations

## First Line

- Osimertinib
- Erlotinib
- Afatinib
- Gefitinib
- Dacomitinib

## Progression

- T790 testing

## Next Line

- Combination TKI?

# Initial Therapy for Non-Squamous NSCLC ALK Mutations- ~7% of lung cancers

- FDA-Approved ALK TKIs
  - 1<sup>st</sup> gen: crizotinib\*
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> gen: ceritinib\*, alectinib\*, brigatinib\*\*
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> gen: lorlatinib, ensartinib in randomized trials

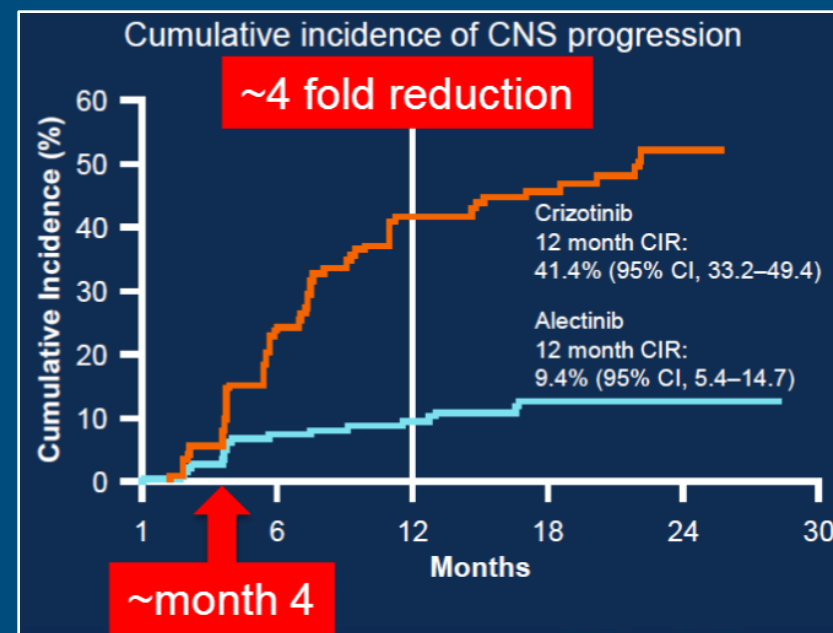
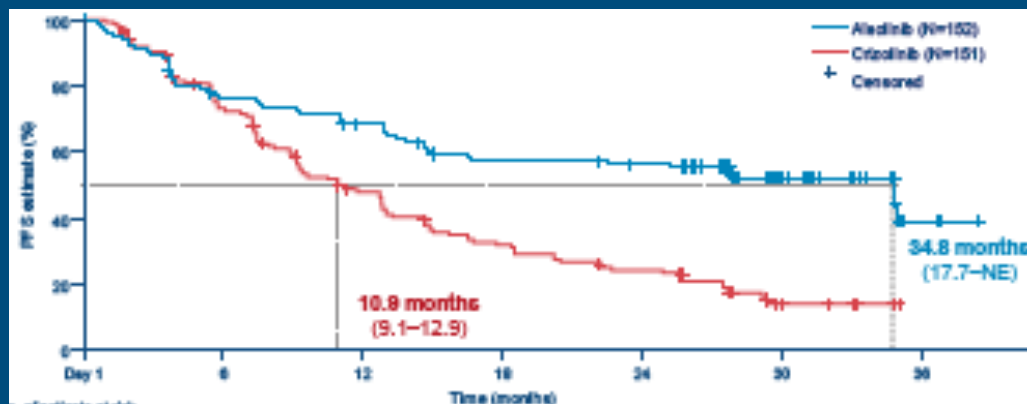
\*Approved first or later lines

\*\*Approved later lines

**Agents that do not cross the BBB**

Brain mets are common at diagnosis and primary area of progression in ALK NSCLC

# First Line ALEX Trial With Alectinib has mPFS of 35 mo and Marked Reduction in CNS Mets



Kwak, EL N Engl J Med 2010;363:1693-1703; Shaw AT Lancet Oncology 2011, 12:1004-12

# Initial Therapy for Non-Squamous NSCLC

## Other Mutations

### ROS 1 Gene Rearrangement

- **Crizotinib-preferred\***
- **Ceritinib\***
- **Lorlatinib (ALK/ROS1)\*\***
- **Entrectinib (ROS1/NTRK/ALK)\*\***
- **Repotrectinib (ROS1/NTRK/ALK)\*\***

### BRAF V600E mutation

- **Dabrafenib and trametinib\***

**\*Approved first or later lines**

**\*\* In clinical trials**

Drilon, A. Clin Cancer res. 2016. 22 (10); Lin et al WCLC Toronto 2018 OA02.02; Doebele et al WCLC Toronto 2018 OA02.01; Doebele et al WCLC Toronto 2018 OA02.01; Shaw AT. N Engl J Med. 2014 Nov 20;371(21):1963-71; Mazières J. J Clin Oncol. 2015 Mar 20;33(9):992-9; Goto K. Abstr #9022. ASCO 2016;18 OA02.01; Ou et al WCLC Toronto 2018 OA02.03; Moro-Sibilot WCLC Toronto 2018 (AcSe trial).



# Initial Therapy for Non-Squamous NSCLC

## Other Mutations

**MET exon 14 skipped 3%**

- **Crizotinib- approved**
- **Tepotinib\*\***
- **Telisotuzumab\*\***

**RET**

- **BLU-667\*\***
- **LOXO-292\*\***

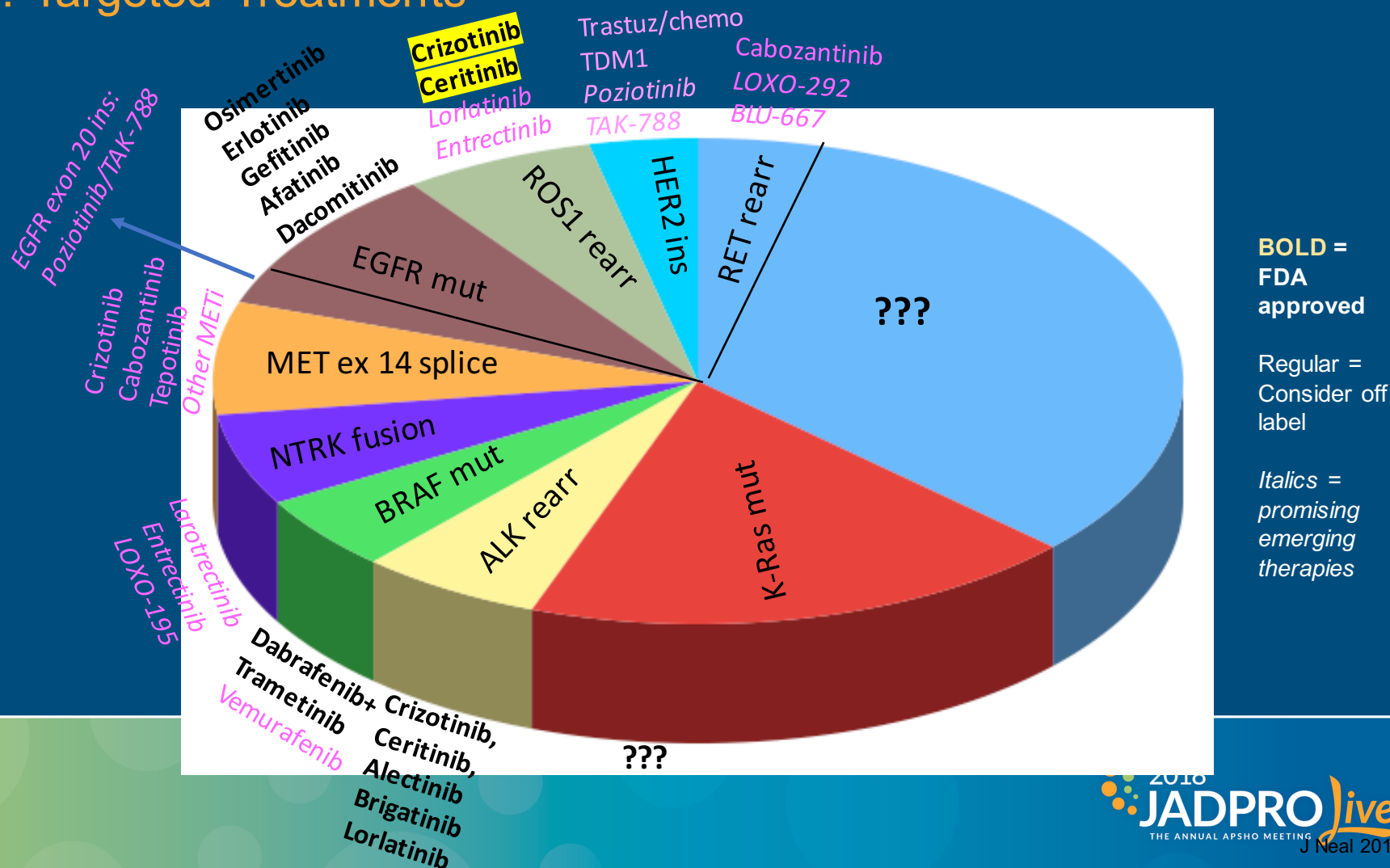
**Other Targets Include:**

- **HER2 (ERBB2)**
- **NTRK (TRK fusions)**

**\*\* In clinical trials**

Drilon WCLC Toronto 2018 (PROFILE1001; Felip WCLC Toronto 2018 OA12.01; Proc AACR, Chicago 14-18 April 2018; Oxnard WCLC Toronto 2018 OA12.07; Strickler JCO 2018 ; Moro-Sibilot WCLC Toronto 2018 (AcSetiral)

# NSCLC: Targeted Treatments



# NCCN Guidelines

## Adenocarcinoma

- Pembrolizumab (if 50%)
- (Carboplatin or cisplatin) + pemetrexed + pembrolizumab
- Carboplatin + paclitaxel + bevacizumab + atezolizumab
- Chemo doublet +/- bevacizumab if ICPI ineligible

## Squamous Cell Carcinoma

- Pembrolizumab
- (Carboplatin or cisplatin) + (paclitaxel or albumin-bound paclitaxel) + pembrolizumab
- Chemo doublet

# Second-Line Therapy

## Adenocarcinoma

- Systemic immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Other systemic therapy
  - Docetaxel or pemetrexed or gemcitabine
  - Ramucirumab & docetaxel
  - +/- Bevacizumab

## Squamous Cell

- Systemic immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Other systemic therapy
  - Docetaxel or gemcitabine
  - Ramucirumab and docetaxel

# Initial Therapy for NSCLC No Driver Mutations

## KEYNOTE-024 Study Design (NCT02142738)

M Reck ESMO 2016.

### Key Eligibility Criteria

- Untreated stage IV NSCLC
- PD-L1 TPS  $\geq 50\%$
- ECOG PS 0-1
- No activating *EGFR* mutation or *ALK* translocation
- No untreated brain metastases
- No active autoimmune disease requiring systemic therapy

R (1:1)

N = 305

Pembrolizumab  
200 mg IV Q3W  
(2 years)

Platinum-Doublet  
Chemotherapy  
(4-6 cycles)

PD<sup>a</sup>

Pembrolizumab  
200 mg Q3W  
for 2 years

### Key End Points

Primary: PFS (RECIST v1.1 per blinded, independent central review)

Secondary: OS, ORR, safety

Exploratory: DOR

<sup>a</sup>To be eligible for crossover, progressive disease (PD) had to be confirmed by blinded, independent central radiology review and all safety criteria had to be met.

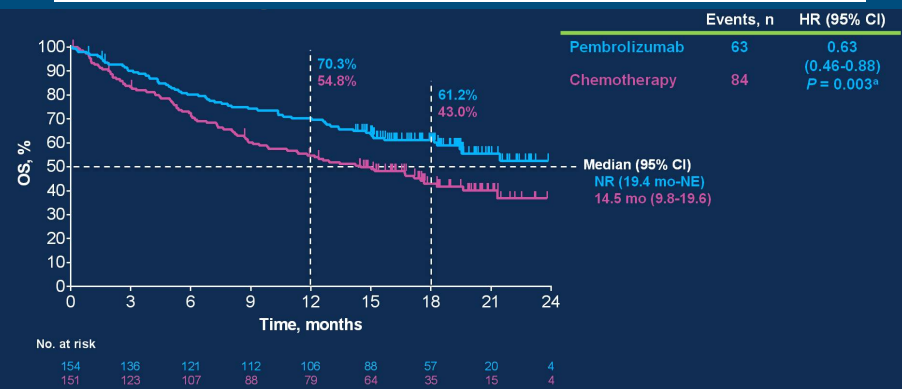
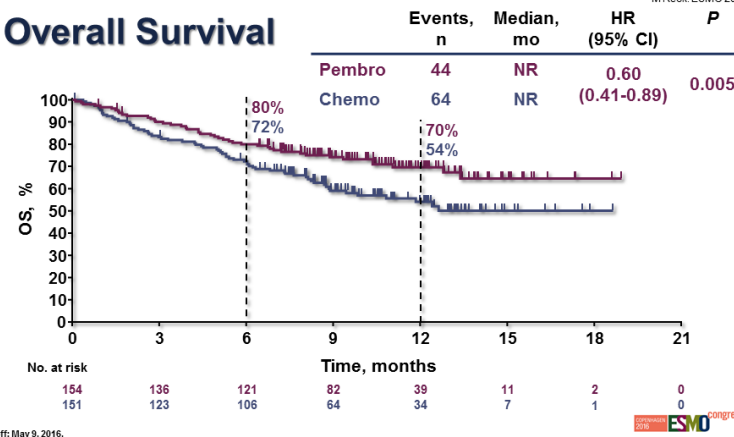
ESMO congress

M Reck ESMO 2016

Note: TPS  $\geq 50\%$

## Overall Survival

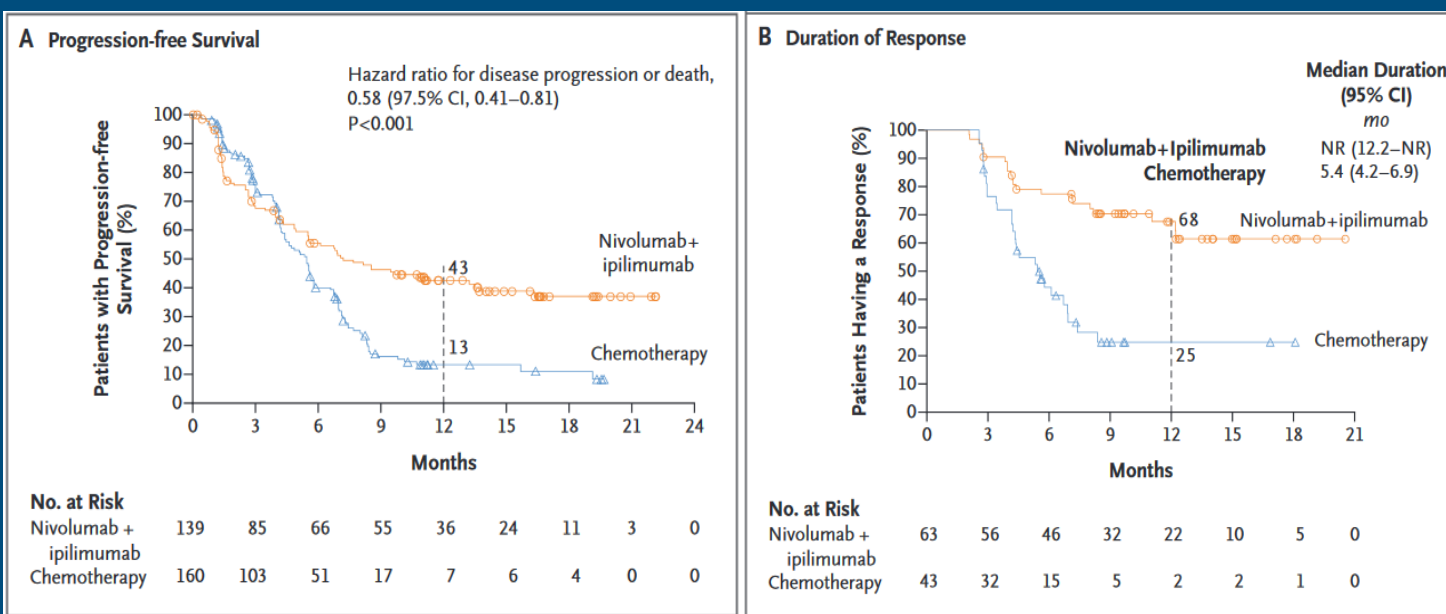
M Reck ESMO 2016.



Updated analysis

Brahmer, J. J Clin Oncol 35. 2017 (suppl. Abst. 9000)

# Combination Immune Checkpoint Therapy



# Approved and Emerging Checkpoint Inhibitors

DRUG	TARGET	DOSE	INDICATIONS
Ipilimumab	Anti-CTLA-4	Met Mel: 1-3 mg/kg IV over 90 min, every 3 weeks x 4 Adj Mel: 10 mg/kg/IV every 3 weeks x 4, then 10 mg/kg every 12 weeks up to 3 years.	Melanoma: adults & pediatrics, unresectable, metastatic; adjuvant; Renal Cell-in Combo with Nivolumab
Tremelimumab	Anti-CTLA-4	Orphan Drug Destination	Mesothelioma
Nivolumab	Anti-PD-1	240 mg IV over 60 min, every 2 weeks	Melanoma, Renal Cell, <b>NSCLC</b> , Hodgkin Lymphoma, SCCH&N, Urothelial, Microsatellite Instability-high or mismatch repair deficient solid tumor, Hepatocellular
		480 mg IV over 60 min, every 4 weeks	
		Combination with ipilimumab	Melanoma; MSI-H/dMMR-CRC
Pembrolizumab	Anti-PD-1	200 mg IV over 30 min, every 3 weeks	Melanoma, <b>NSCLC</b> *, SCCH&N, Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Urothelial, Microsatellite instability or mismatch repair deficient solid tumor, Colorectal, Gastric; Thymic <b>*Considerations for PD-L1 testing</b> <b>NSCLC</b>
		200 mg IV in combination with chemotherapy every 3 weeks	
Atezolizumab	Anti-PD-L1	1200 mg IV over 60/30 min, every 3 weeks	<b>NSCLC</b> , Urothelial
Durvalumab	Anti-PD-L1	10 mg/kg IV over 60 min, every 2 weeks	Urothelial, <b>Stage III NSCLC adjuvant</b>
Avelumab	Anti-PD-L1	10 mg/kg IV over 60 min, every 2 weeks.	Merkel cell, Urothelial

# Management of Toxicities of Targeted Therapies in NSCLC

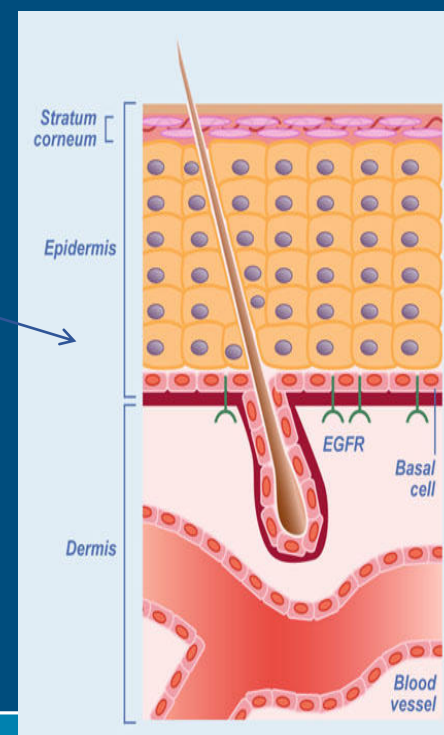


# EGFR Inhibitor Rash

- Most common “toxicity” associated with EGFR inhibitors
- Tends to appear on the face and chest but can be seen on any part of the body
- Can range from mild to severe
- Often described as a “papulopustular eruption”

# Why Does EGFR Inhibitor Rash Occur?

- The epidermis relies on EGF
- The keratinocytes located in the basal layers of the epidermis express elevated level of EGFR
- Inhibition of EGF will result in negative effects on cell growth in this layer of the epidermis
- This results in thinning, which decreases ability of skin to hold in moisture
- The damage also causes recruitment of the immune system response and thus, a pustular eruption



Adapted from Lacouture, 2006

## Incidence and Severity of Rash

Agent	All Rash Incidence	Grade 3/4 Incidence
Cetuximab	89% (70% in FLEX trial)	12% (10% in FLEX trial)
Erlotinib	First Line: 85% Second Line: 75%	First Line: 14% Second Line: 9%
Panitumumab	89%	12%
Gefitinib	First Line: 66%	First Line: 3%
Afatinib	First Line EGFR: 90% Squamous NSCLC: 70%	First Line: 16% Squamous NSCLC: 7%
Osimertinib	41%	0.5%
Dacomitinib	78%	21%

Pirker et al, 2009; Gatzemeier et al, 2008. Mok, T, et al 2009. Data from package inserts 10/21/2016; 10/2018

# Meta-Analysis of EGFR Rash and Clinical Benefit

Liu and colleagues (2013) reviewed 33 studies of EGFR TKIs that reported rash and clinical benefit

- Rash was a significant predictor of clinical benefit for NSCLC patients receiving EGFR inhibitor therapy
- Rash predicted ORR, longer PFS, and longer OS

# Strategies to Prevent Dermatologic Toxicities: Preemptive

STEPP trial in panitumumab-containing regimens in 95 metastatic colorectal patients:

- Showed significant improvement in EGFR rash and quality of life (QOL) with preemptive doxycycline and topical hydrocortisone cream
- Skin toxicities of  $\geq$  grade 2 were reduced by more than 50% at 6 weeks in the preemptive arm

# Suggestions for Prevention

- Moisturizers: creams without dyes or fragrances (e.g., Eucerin, Aveeno, Sarna Ultra, Neutrogena)
  - SPF 15 or higher with zinc recommended
- Protective clothing
- Either erlotinib or afatinib, taken on an empty stomach
- Gefitinib, osimertinib, dacomitinib can be taken with or without food
- Avoid very hot showers, try lukewarm water
- Generally avoid direct sunlight and extreme temperatures

# MASCC Recommendations for Treatment

	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Not Recommended</b>	<b>Level of Evidence</b>	<b>Recommendation Grade</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Topical</b>	Alclometasone 0.05% cream Fluocinonide 0.05% cream twice daily Clindamycin 1%	Vitamin K1 cream	IV	C	
<b>Systemic</b>	Doxycycline 100 mg twice daily Minocycline 100 mg daily Isotretinoin at low doses 20–30 mg/d	Acitretin	IV	C	Photosensitizing agents

## Mild to Moderate EGFRi Rash

- Patient develops grade 1 rash on chin and cheeks
- Continue erlotinib
- Prescribe topical clindamycin lotion 1%
- Encourage to moisturize
- Rash tends to be less in active smokers taking erlotinib<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Hamilton et al, 2006.



# EGFR Rash Grade 3 to Grade 1 or 2



Treated with oral  
doxycycline and  
topicals



## Grade 3/4 EGFR Rash

- Patient develops a grade 3 rash with significant erythema
- Recommendation is to hold afatinib and treat with oral doxycycline (100 mg bid) and topical hydrocortisone cream
- Restart agent at 30 mg
- Be sure the patient is using sunscreen



# Trichomegaly

- If curling out, trim carefully
- If curling in, consult ophthalmology
- Can develop blepharitis, conjunctivitis





# Paronychia With EGFRIs



# Paronychia With EGFR Inhibitors

- Diluted vinegar soaks
- Mostly inflammatory but still important to culture bacterial component to guide systemic therapy
- Topical steroids or cauterization with silver nitrate sticks may be used for inflammation
- For difficult cases, consult dermatologist or podiatrist for consideration of nail avulsion

# Fissures/Cracking

- Moisturize with thick cream
- Protect the areas
- Glue together with agent of choice
  - Liquid bandages
  - Superglue, etc.



# EGFRI: Scalp Rash

- Systemic rash management
- Selenium-based shampoos
- Fluocinonide solution/shampoo



# EGFRI: Pruritus and Xerosis

- Antihistamines
  - Topical or orals
- Moisturize
- Aprepitant?
- Pregabalin?





# Diarrhea in EGFRIs in NSCLC

Agent	All Diarrhea Incidence	Grade 3/4 Incidence
Erlotinib	First Line: 62%	First Line: 5%
Gefitinib	First Line: 29%	First Line: 3%
Afatinib	First Line EGFR: 96% Squamous NSCLC: 75%	First Line: 15% Squamous NSCLC: 10.8%
Osimertinib	58%	2.2%
Dacomitinib	86%	11%

Info taken from PIs

# Management Diarrhea From EGFRIs

- Loperamide
- Diphenoxylate/atropine
- Hydration and electrolyte repletion
- Dose reductions

# EGFR-I Considerations

- Side effects vary from drug to drug
- Dacomitinib: most recent approval, superiority over gefitinib first-line setting
- Osimertinib appears the least toxic
  - Better PFS in head to head study vs gefitinib/erlotinib
- Afatinib has data from post-hoc analysis:
  - 40 mg was equal to 30 mg in both pharmacokinetic data and PFS

# Toxicity Management of ALK/ROS1 Inhibitors in NSCLC

# Crizotinib (twice a day dosing)

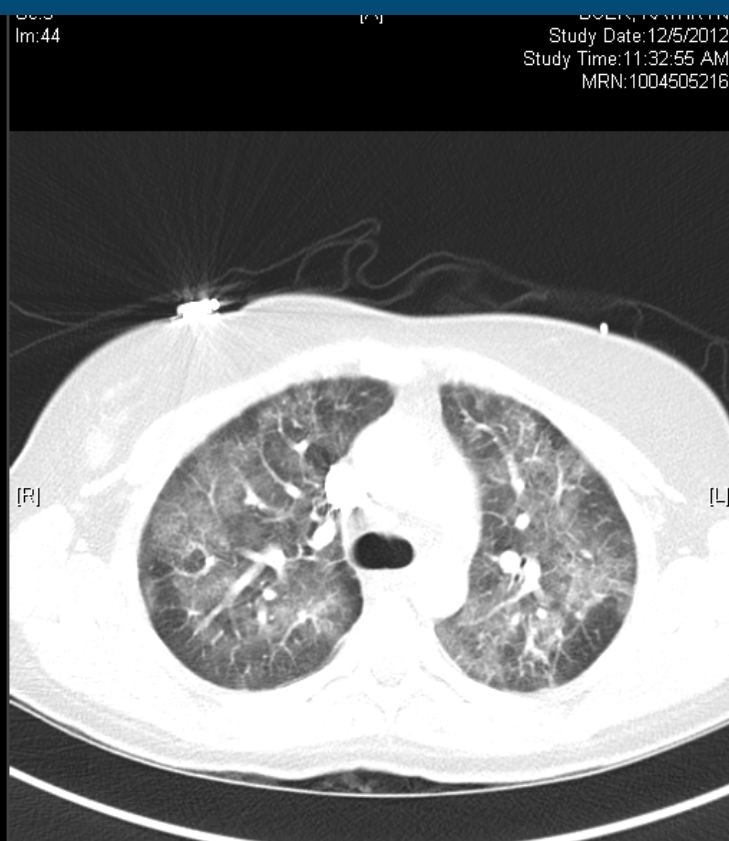
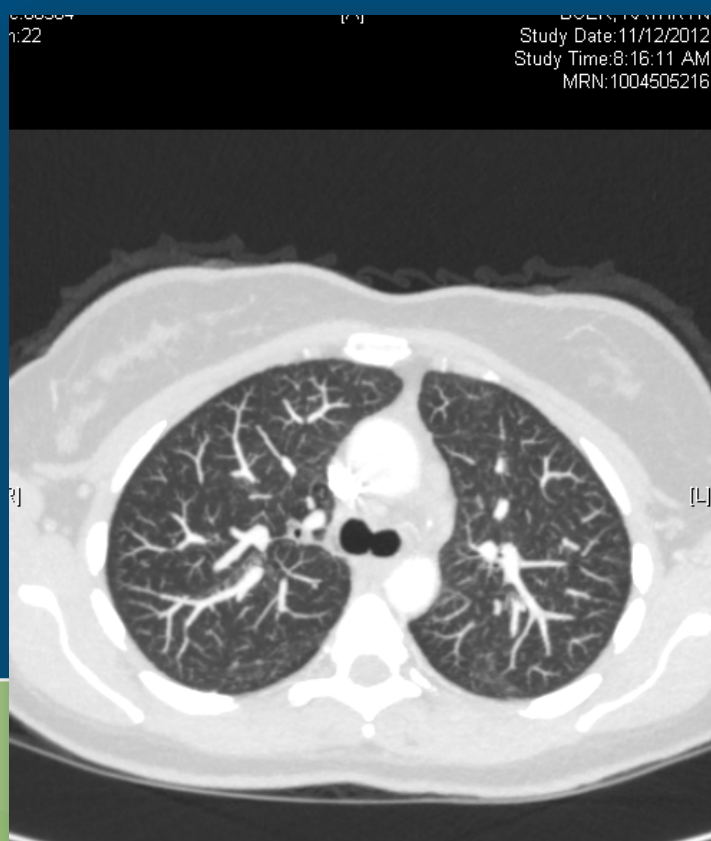
## Warnings:

- Hepatotoxicity
- ILD/pneumonitis (2.9%)
- QT prolongation
- Bradycardia
- Severe vision loss (0.2%)
- Embryo-fetal toxicity

## Common Toxicities:

- Visual changes 71%
  - Light and dark accommodation
  - Recommend no driving at night in beginning
- Vomiting 46%
- Diarrhea 61%
- Edema 49%

# Case of Pneumonitis 2 weeks after starting crizotinib for ALK + NSCLC



# Ceritinib 750 mg daily (initially), now 450 mg daily (150-mg capsules)

## Warnings:

- Severe/persistent GI toxicity
- Hepatotoxicity
- ILD (4%)
- QT interval prolongation
- Hyperglycemia
- Bradycardia
- Pancreatitis
- Embryofetal toxicity

## Common Adverse Events:

- Diarrhea 86%, 6% grade 3/4
- Nausea 80%
- Vomiting 60%
- Fatigue 52%

\*Data to support 450mg daily with food similar PK as 750mg on empty stomach with less GI toxicity.

# Alectinib 600 mg daily (150-mg capsules)

## Warnings:

- Hepatotoxicity
- ILD: 0.4%
- Bradycardia
- Severe myalgia/Elevated CPK
- Embryo-fetal toxicity

## Common Adverse Events:

- Fatigue 41%
- Constipation 34%
- Edema 30%
- Myalgia 29% (1-4% severe)
  - Check CPK's



# Brigatinib: 180 mg daily

## Warnings

- ILD 9.1%, this is why there is a run-in of 90mg for 7 days, then 180mg daily
- HTN
- Bradycardia
- Visual disturbance: not the same as crizotinib
- CPK elevation, pancreatic enzyme elevation, hyperglycemia
- Embryo-Fetal toxicity

## Common Adverse Events

- Nausea/Diarrhea
  - Grade 3/4 0.9%, 0%
- Fatigue
- Cough
- Headache

## ALK Conclusions

- Alectinib superior to crizotinib in first-line setting
- Toxicities significant vary from drug to drug

# Toxicity Management of BRAF Inhibitors in NSCLC

# BRAF Inhibitors: Dabrafenib + Trametinib

- Very rare V600E + NSCLC, 1% or less
- 3.2% of patients developed cutaneous squamous cell ca in the first month of being on drug (higher risk when giving dabrafenib alone, 11%)
- 1.1% of patients developed non-cutaneous malignancies, thought to be due to RAS activation
- Pyrexia/Fever- 55% (5% grade 3)
  - Grade 2 102.3-104.0
  - If 104 or complicated fever, hold and dose reduce
- Hemorrhage: 2.2%
- Cardiomyopathy: ECHO at baseline recommended
- Uveitis, hyperglycemia, embryo-fetal, G6P deficiency
- Rash: Severe only 0.7%
- GI: Nausea/vomiting

# Other Toxicities of Targeted Agents

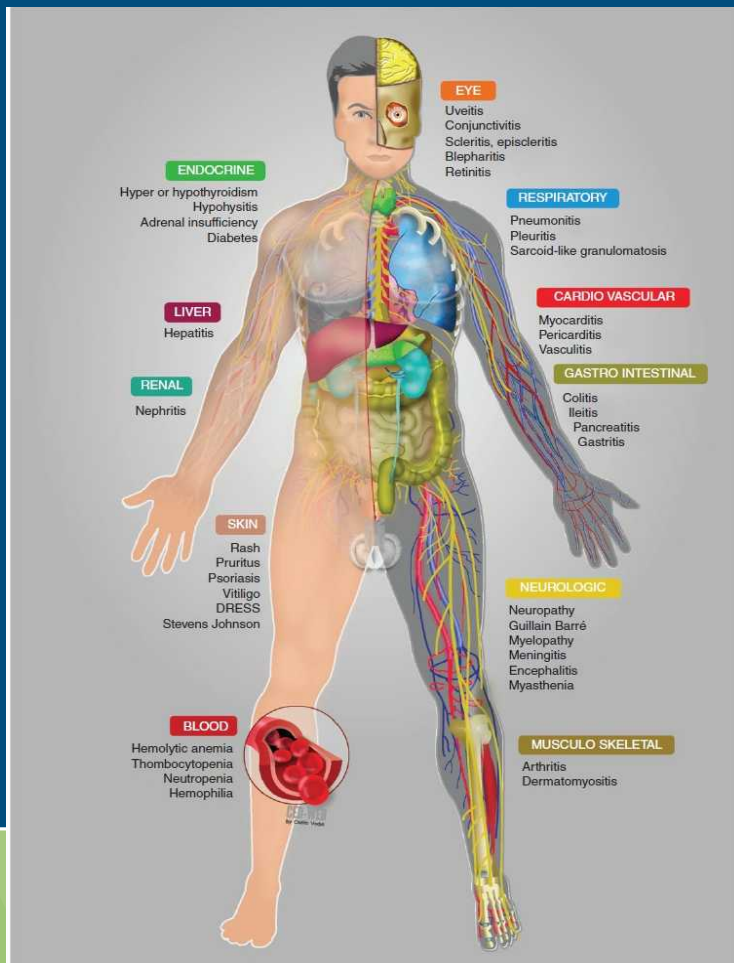
Toxicity	Agents	Considerations
Diarrhea	EGFRIs & ALKIs	Loperamide; diphenoxylate/atropine; hydration and electrolyte replacement; dose reduction
ILD/Pneumonitis	EGFRI's, ALKI's	CTA; Consider discontinuation
Cardiotoxicity (cardiomyopathy, QT prolongation, bradycardia)	EGFRI (osimertinib); ALKIs, BRAFI	ECHO; Consider dose reduction
Hepatotoxicities	EGFRI's, ALKI's	Monitor LFTs; Consider dose reduce
Visual Changes	ALKI's; BRAFI	Recommend no driving at night
Edema	Crizotinib, alectinib	May need diuretics
Hyperglycemia	Ceritinib; BRAFI	Monitor blood glucose levels regularly
Myalgias	ALKIs	Monitor CPK
Pyrexia/Fever	BRAFI's	Temp > 104, hold and dose reduce

# Conclusions

- Several targeted therapies approved in NSCLC
- Different toxicity profiles
- More to come!
- Most toxicities can be predicted and manageable

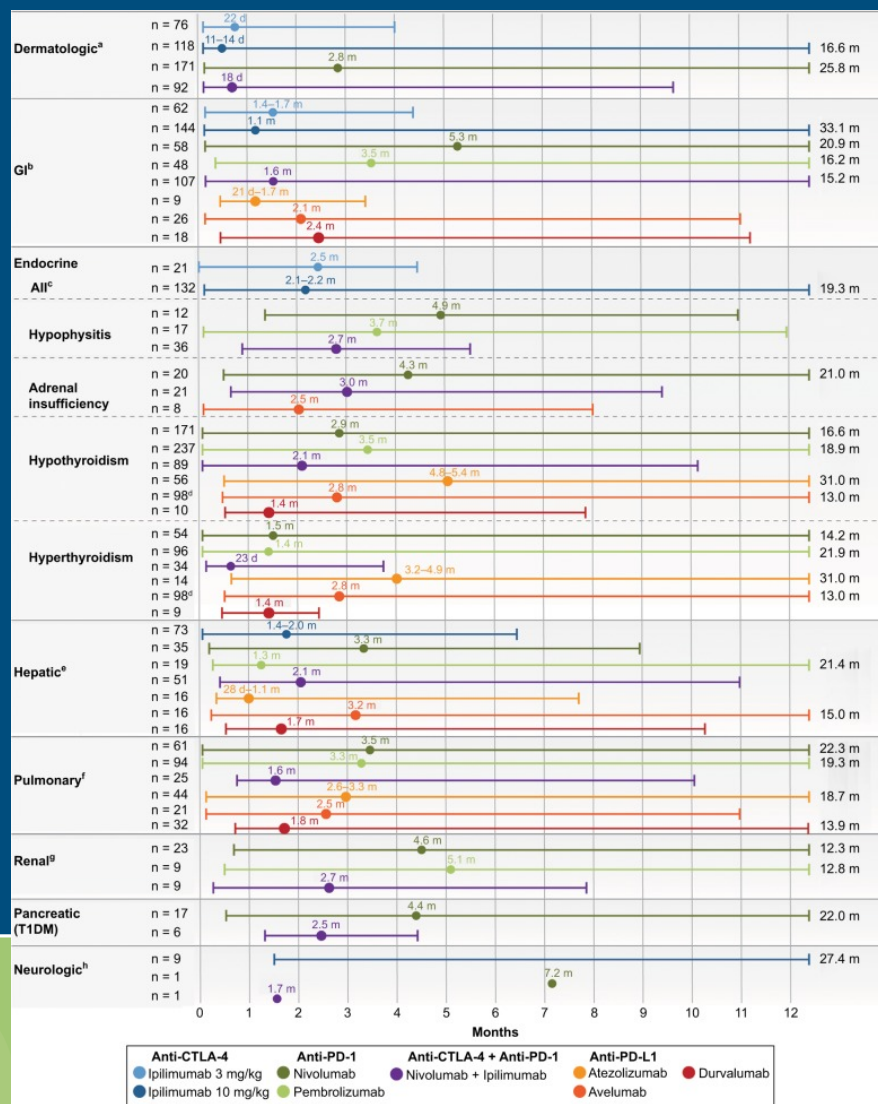
# Management of Toxicities of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors

# Immune-Related Adverse Events (IRAEs)



- Immune checkpoint inhibitors promote T-cell activity
- Activation of the immune system cannot be confined to antitumor effects
- Amplification of immune system can lead to unrestrained T-cells attack on healthy tissue: “auto-immunity”
- Rule out all causes of adverse events;
  - If no other cause, assume irAE
- Immune related adverse events (IrAEs)
  - Inflammation (“-itis” or “-opathy”)



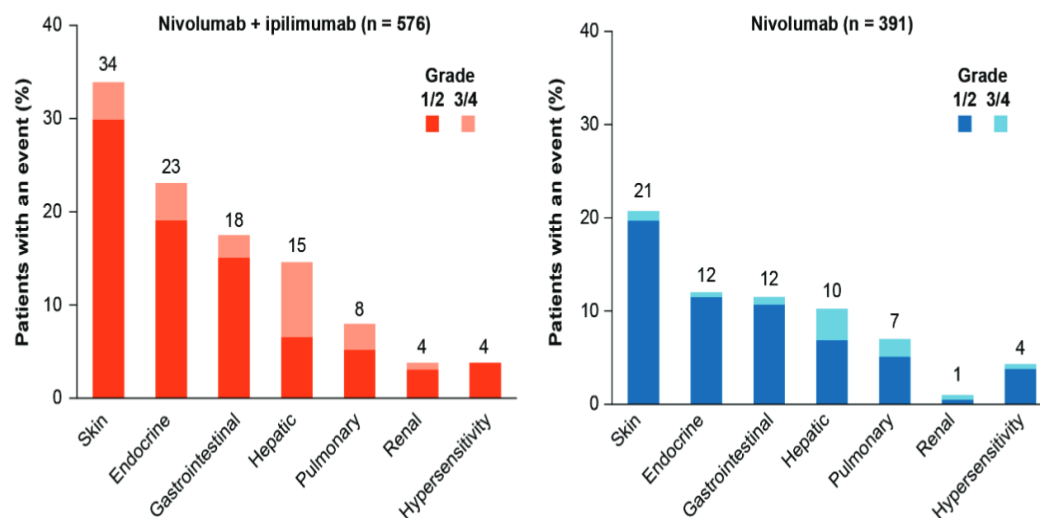


## Patterns of IRAEs

- Onset
  - Median onset is 5-12 weeks after initiation
    - Within days of first dose
    - After months of treatment
    - After discontinuation of therapy
- Organs affected
  - May affect one or many organs
  - Concurrently or sequentially
- Severity
  - Incidence/severity higher in anti-CTLA-4 agents
  - High grade AE to one class does not preclude safe administration to another class
- Dose & combination
  - Suggested dose dependency
  - Cumulative effect with anti-CTLA-4 agents
  - Not evident with anti-PD-1/PD-L1 agents
  - Increased in combination with other ICPI, targeted agents, chemotherapy and radiation therapy

Davies, M. & Duffield, E. (2017). Safety of checkpoint inhibitors for cancer treatment: strategies for patient monitoring and management of immune-mediated adverse events. *ImmunoTargets and Therapy*. 6:51-71

Figure S7. Treatment-Related Select Adverse Events<sup>a</sup> by Category With Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab

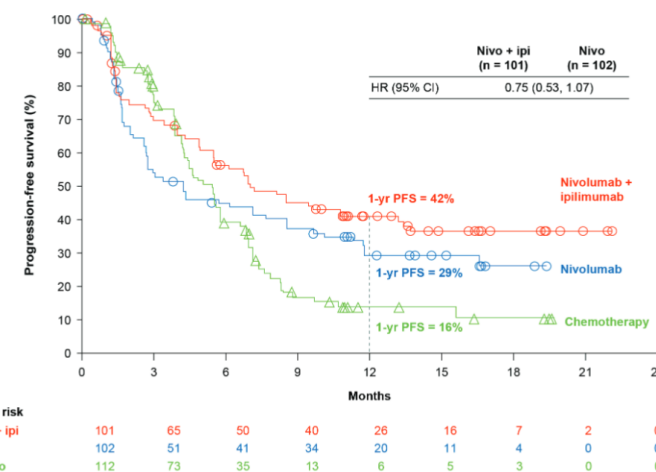


<sup>a</sup>Select adverse events are those with potential immunologic etiology that require frequent monitoring/intervention

Figure S6. Progression-free Survival With Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab Versus Nivolumab

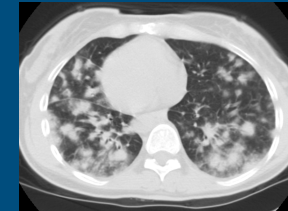
Monotherapy and Chemotherapy<sup>a</sup> in Patients With TMB  $\geq 10$  Mutations/Mb and  $\geq 1\%$

Tumor PD-L1 Expression



<sup>a</sup>HR (95% CI) = 0.62 (0.44, 0.88) for nivolumab + ipilimumab versus chemotherapy

# Pulmonary: Pneumonitis



Prevent-Anticipate-Evaluate	Detect-Monitor-Grade	Treatment-Management
<b>Prevent:</b> smoking cessation, vaccinations <b>Risk:</b> prior chest irradiation, COPD	<b>Physical Exam:</b> Respiratory rate, heart rate, oxygen saturation at rest & walk	<b>Grade 1:</b> <25% of lung on CT; Asymptomatic; Continue Tx; Close imaging
<b>Presentation:</b> Dyspnea, shortness of breath at rest, dry cough, wheezing, tachypnea, tachycardia, chest pain, hypoxia, Increased oxygen requirements  <b>R/O:</b> pulmonary embolism, pleural effusion, pneumonia, disease progression, resp. failure	<b>Diagnostic Imaging:</b> Computerized tomography scan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interstitial fibrosis</li> <li>• Alveolar infiltrates</li> <li>• Diffuse ground glass opacities</li> <li>• Lobular nodularity with air trapping</li> </ul> Pulmonary Function Tests Arterial Blood Gases (if hypoxic)	<b>Grade 2:</b> 25-50%; HOLD ICPI; infectious w/u; Consider empiric antibiotics; Methylprednisolone/prednisone 1-2 mg/kg/day; if no improvement in 48-72 hours, treat at grade 3
	<b>Laboratory:</b> infectious work up (nasal swab for viral pathogens; sputum culture; blood cultures)  <b>Other:</b> Pulmonary & infectious disease consult; consider bronchoscopy with bronchoalveolar lavage	<b>Grade 3-4:</b> > 50%; Permanent discontinue ICPI; Infectious w/u; Pulmonary & infectious disease consult; methylprednisolone 1-2 mg/kg/day; if no improvement in 48-72 hours, escalate  <b>Refractory:</b> Infliximab 5 mg/kg IV, second dose in 14 days if needed; Mycophenolate mofetil 1-1.5 g BID, then taper; IVIG 0.4 g/kg/day x 5 days

# Dermatologic Toxicities



Prevent-Anticipate-Evaluate	Detect-Monitor-Grade	Treatment-Management
<p><b>Prevent:</b> Sun screen, moisturizer, sunglasses</p> <p><b>Risk:</b> Psoriasis, eczema</p>	<p><b>Physical Exam:</b> dry flaky skin, blisters, eosinophilic infiltrates, lichenoid deposits, vitiligo, alopecia; Assess mucous membranes</p>	<p><b>Grade 1:</b> &lt;10% BSA with no symptoms; Continue ICPI; Moderate potency topical steroids, oral antihistamines</p>
<p><b>Presentation:</b> pruritic, urticaria, maculopapular rash, peeling of skin, blisters, toxic epidermal necrolysis, Steven Johnson Syndrome,</p>	<p><b>Diagnostic Imaging:</b> no standard</p>	<p><b>Grade 2: Moderate:</b> 10-30% BSA; Consider holding ICPI; High potency topical steroids +/- prednisone 0.5-1.0 mg/kg/day;</p>
<p><b>R/O:</b> cellulitis, contact dermatitis, allergies, sun exposure, radiation recall, other drug reaction, psoriasis/eczema flare</p>	<p><b>Laboratory:</b></p> <p><b>Other:</b> Dermatology consult, consider biopsy</p>	<p><b>Grade 3-4:</b> &gt;30% BSA; Hold ICPI; High potency topical steroids; Prednisone 0.5-1.0 mg/kg/day (increase dose if no improvement); Urgent dermatology</p> <p><b>Other:</b> Topical emollients; Urgent Dermatology and Permanent discontinuation of ICPI with bullous, SJS, TEN</p>



# Gastrointestinal Toxicities: Diarrhea, Colitis

Prevent-Anticipate-Evaluate	Detect-Monitor-Grade	Treatment-Management
<b>Prevent:</b> Dietary modification; hydration <b>Risk:</b> irritable bowel disease; Crohn's	<b>Physical Exam:</b> Abdominal exam;	<b>Grade 1:</b> < 4 stools over base; Consider holding ICPI; loperamide; hydration
<b>Presentation:</b> Abdominal cramps, spasm, increased stool frequency, volume, blood or mucous in bowel	<b>Diagnostic Imaging:</b> Abdominal CT with contrast;	<b>Grade 2:</b> Moderate; Hold ICPI; IV methylprednisolone (1 mg/kg/day); if no response in 2-3 days, increase to 2 mg/kg/day; consider infliximab;
<b>R/O:</b> infectious etiology or underlying autoimmune process	<b>Laboratory:</b> Stool: culture, C.difficile, Ova & parasite; consider lactoferrin/calprotectin  <b>Other:</b> GI consultation: may need colonoscopy +/- endoscopy (EGD) with biopsy	<b>Grade 3:</b> Hold ICPI, consider resuming if resolution of toxicity. <b>Grade 4:</b> Permanent discontinuation; Consider inpatient care; <b>Both:</b> IV methylprednisolone 2 mg/kg/day; if no response in 2 days, consider infliximab; if refractory-consider vedolizumab
		Supportive care, hydration

# Endocrine Toxicities: Thyroid

Anticipate	Detect-Monitor	Treatment-Management		
Presentation: fatigue, sluggishness, anorexia, weight loss/gain, irritability, palpitations	Physical Exam: heart rate,	Asymptomatic Hypothyroid subclinical	TSH 4 to < 10; Patient asymptomatic; Normal T4	Continue ICPI; Monitor TFTS
	Diagnostic Imaging: rarely thyroid ultrasound to r/o other cause		TSH >10; Normal Free T4	Continue ICPI; Consider levothyroxine 1.6 mcgt/kg/day
			Normal or low TSH; low free T4	Consider Central Hypothyroidism
			Primary Hypothyroid	Continue ICPI; Consider endocrine consult; Thyroid hormone replacement; Exclude adrenal insufficiency (AM cortisol level)
R/O: Other endocrinopathies; underlying disease progression	Laboratory: TSH, free T4; every 4 to 6 weeks;	Central Hypothyroid	Evaluate ACTH, cortisol (AM), FSH, LH, TSH, free T4; Estradiol-women; Testosterone-men; Consider MRI brain-pituitary	Continue ICPI Treat at hypophysitis
	Other: Endocrinology Consult			

# Endocrine Toxicities: Adrenal and Pituitary

Anticipate	Detect-Monitor	Treatment-Management		
<b>Presentation:</b> fatigue, headache, irritability, visual disturbances.  <b>R/O:</b> Other endocrinopathies; underlying disease progression	<b>Physical Exam:</b> Neurologic; Cardiac focused	<b>Primary Adrenal Insufficiency</b>	Continue ICPI; Consider endocrine consult; Thyroid hormone replacement; Exclude adrenal insufficiency (AM cortisol level)	HOLD ICPI *Start corticosteroid before other hormone replacement to avoid adrenal crisis; Hydrocortisone 20/10 or prednisone 7.5 to 10 am and 5 mg pm AND Fludrocortisone 0.1 mg QOD and titrate Supportive care
	<b>Diagnostic Imaging:</b> MRI of the brain with pituitary/sellar cuts			
	<b>Laboratory:</b> TSH, free T4; every 4 to 6 weeks; ACTH, FSH; Morning Cortisol, cosyntropin stimulation test < 3 µg/dL  <b>Other:</b> Endocrinology Consult	<b>Hypophysitis</b>	Evaluate ACTH, cortisol (AM), FSH, LH, TSH, free T4; Estradiol-women; Testosterone-men;	HOLD ICPI until symptoms resolve; methylprednisolone 1-2 mg/kg/day; Hormone replacement as indicated; patient education for stress doses of hydrocortisone



# Presentation and Management of IRAEs

System	Signs & Symptoms	Evaluation	Additional Management
Hepatic	Nausea, vague abdominal discomfort, RUQ pain, dehydration, jaundice, bleeding, bruising, dark skin, drowsiness.	Liver enzymes (AST, ALT, ALK, total and direct bilirubin; Liver ultrasound, GI consult r/o viral syndrome	Hold hepatotoxic drugs Mycophenolate 2 mg/kg/d, if refractory NO Infliximab
Renal, Nephritis	Elevated serum creatinine, vague nausea, emesis; Decreased urine output; Blood in urine, Ankle swelling	Serum creatinine, urinalysis; Nephrology consult; Renal ultrasound; Biopsy	Limit nephrotoxic drugs, ABX, NSAIDS, contrast dye; Identify high risk patients (CRF); Hydration
Cardiac	Chest pain, SOB, tachycardia, arrhythmias, VTE, fluid retention, pericarditis, myocarditis, effusion, vasculitis	EKG, echocardiogram, CXR, Cardiology Consult	Blood pressure support Heart rate regulation
Neurologic	Unusual weakness, numbness, Peripheral neuropathy, autonomic neuropathy, alt. gait, Memory difficulties, Seizures, aseptic meningitis, Myasthenia Gravis, Guillain Barre; Encephalitis, transverse myelitis	Neurology consult MRI of brain to r/o CVA, brain met MRI spine; LP Rule out infection	Permanent discontinuation; rehab services; IVIG
Ocular	Dry scratchy eyes, vision changes, redness, inflammation, pain. Iritis, Uveitis, Blepharitis, episcleritis, conjunctivitis	Rule out infection, Ophthalmology consult	Lubricating eyedrops Topical corticosteroid eyedrops Decrease local irritants; contact lens, eye makeup
Musculo-skeletal	Inflammatory arthritis, myositis, polymyalgia-like syndrome,	Rheumatologic tests-autoimmune panel (ANA, RF, anti-CCP, ESR,CK, CRP), imaging, EMG	NSAIDS, corticosteroid joint injections, DMARD, methotrexate; PT/OT
Hematologic	Autoimmune hemolytic anemia, acquired TTP, hemolytic uremic syndrome, aplastic anemia, lymphopenia, immune thrombocytopenia, acquired hemophilia	Immune related adverse event list is not all inclusive	



# Refractory IRAEs

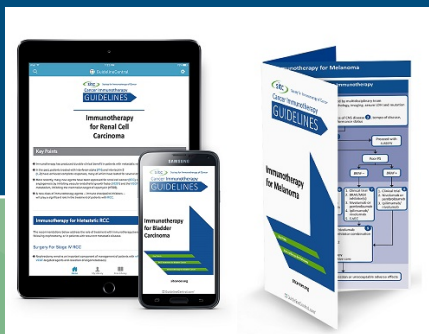
- If no improvement or progression, additional immunosuppressant treatment may be needed
  - Infliximab 5 mg/kg, TNF inhibitor (except if contraindicated)
    - Risk of HBV/HCV & TB reactivation
    - Avoid in hepatitis
  - Mycophenolate mofetil 1 g twice daily
  - Cyclosporine
  - Intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG)
  - Tacrolimus

# Guiding Principles of Immunosuppression for IrAEs

- Corticosteroids are the mainstay treatment
  - Use of corticosteroids has NOT been shown to reduce anti-tumor efficacy
  - Longer steroid tapers > 4 weeks may be necessary
  - Prophylaxis against *Pneumocystis jiroveci* pneumonia (PJP) +/- fungal infections (e.g., fluconazole) can be considered if prednisone >20 or more for more than 4 weeks
  - Proton pump inhibitor or H2 blockers for gastritis
  - Long term use: prevention of osteoporosis
- Anti-TNF $\alpha$  agents (e.g., infliximab) are effective
    - Risk of hepatitis B reactivation
    - Risk of TB activation
    - Used if severe IrAEs not responsive to corticosteroids
  - Patients with pre-existing autoimmune conditions or organ transplant may be at high risk for development of IrAEs

# Resources

- **AIM with Immunotherapy**
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN)  
Teaching/monitoring tool
  - [https://www.nccn.org/immunotherapy-tool/pdf/NCCN\\_Immunotherapy\\_Teaching\\_Monitoring\\_Tool.pdf](https://www.nccn.org/immunotherapy-tool/pdf/NCCN_Immunotherapy_Teaching_Monitoring_Tool.pdf)
- **Society for Immunotherapy in Cancer (SITC)**
- Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC)
- American Society of Clinical Oncologists (ASCO)
- Oncology Nursing Society



# THANK YOU

## QUESTIONS?



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