

**SIU** **UPDATES**

**ASCO GU**

ASCO GENITOURINARY CANCER SYMPOSIUM



**JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2018**

**ROME**

UNA HOTEL via Giovanni Amendola, 57



## ***Kidney Cancer***

COORDINATOR: **Alessandro Volpe,**

TEAM: **Alessandro Antonelli, Marco Carini, Giacomo Carteni, Francesco Ferraù**

# Case 1

E.P., male, 59 y.o.

- Obesity (100 Kg)
- OSAS
- High blood pressure
- Colon diverticulosis



NOV  
2014

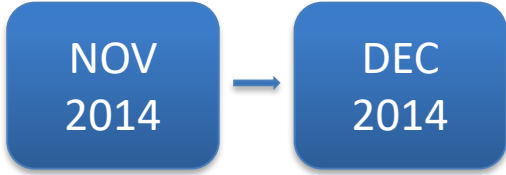
- Acute lumbar pain with irradiation to the left lower limb and paresthesia
- MRI spine: L3 vertebral collapse without spinal cord injury



Lumbar arthrodesis was indicated



- Bone scan
  - Significant uptake at the level of L3
  - Focal area at the distal third of the left femur (not confirmed at MRI)



Bone biopsy at the time of arthrodesis



Pathology:  
clear cell neoplasm, likely of renal origin

# Case 1

E.P., male, 59 y.o.

- Metastatic RCC (bone)
- ECOG 1 (lumbar pain irradiated to the hip and right lower limb in upright position, not at rest)
- sCr 0.77 mg/dL
- Hb 11.9 g/dL, WBC and PLTs normal
- Albumin, calcium, ALP, LDH normal
- MSKCC / IMDC score 2 (intermediate risk)

# CYTOREDUCTIVE NEPHRECTOMY

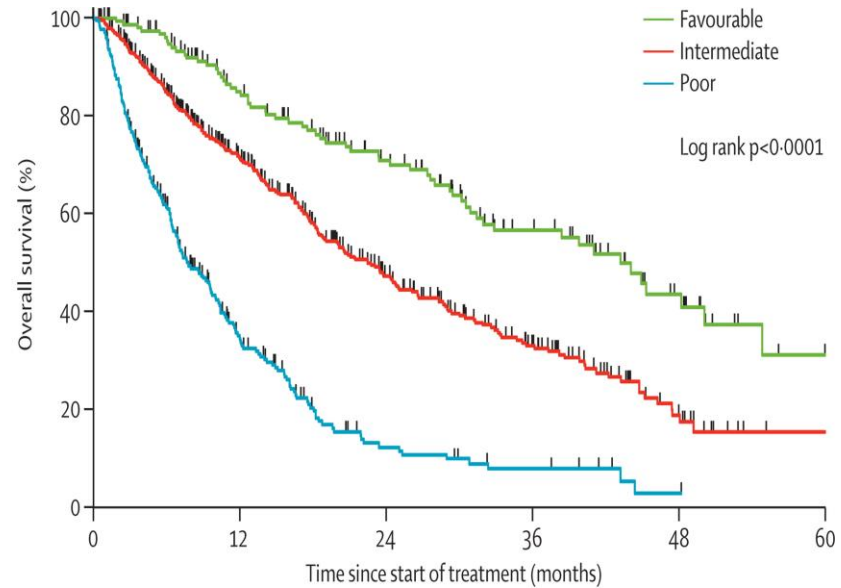


- Tumour resection is curative only if all tumour deposits are excised. This includes patients with the primary tumour in place and single- or oligo-metastatic resectable disease.
- For most patients with metastatic disease, cytoreductive nephrectomy (CN) is palliative and systemic treatments are necessary.

# SELECTION IS KEY PATIENT FEATURES

## Individual factors

- Karnofsky performance < 80 %
- anemia
- thrombocytosis
- neutrophilia
- hypercalcemia
- time from diagnosis to treatment < 1 year

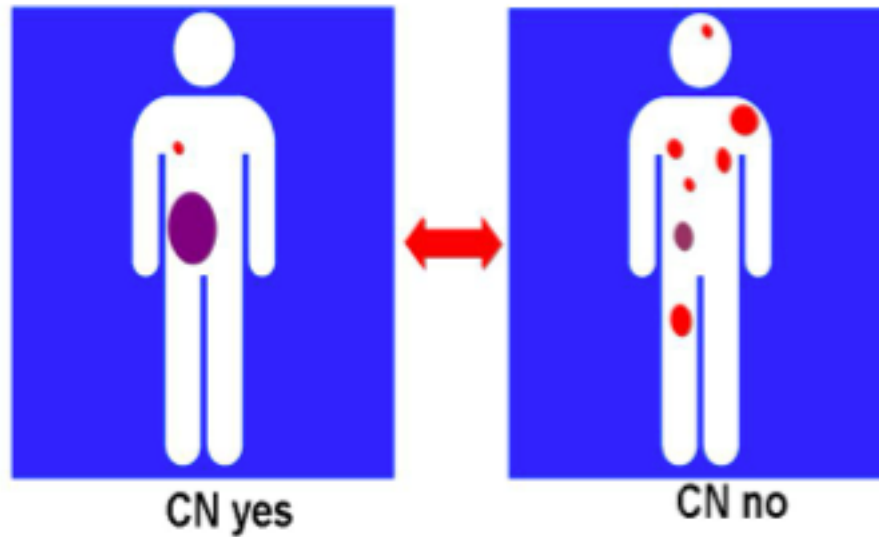


### Number at risk

|              |     |     |     |    |    |   |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|---|
| Favourable   | 157 | 109 | 74  | 40 | 17 | 3 |
| Intermediate | 440 | 247 | 122 | 59 | 15 | 1 |
| Poor         | 252 | 65  | 15  | 7  | 1  | 0 |

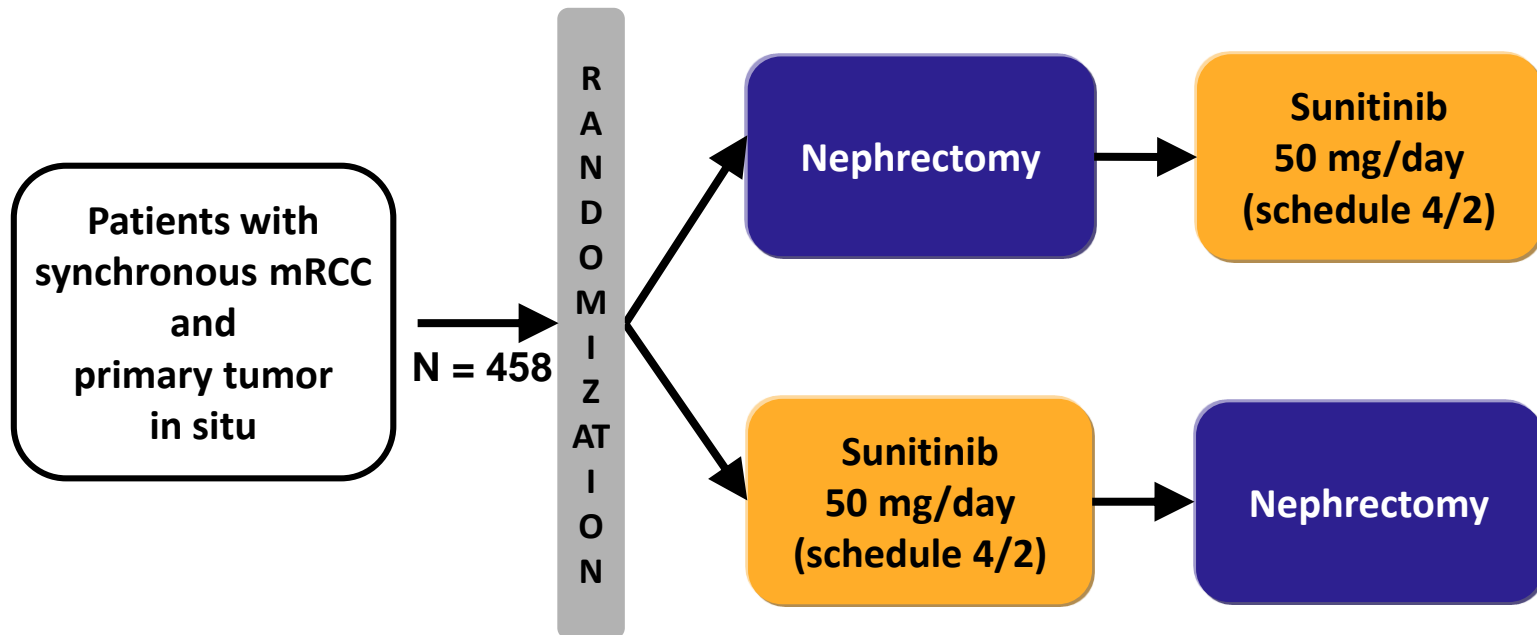
Heng et al., External validation and comparison of the IMDC prognostic model with other models  
The Lancet Oncology 14 (2)141-8, 2013

# SELECTION IS KEY TUMOR FEATURES



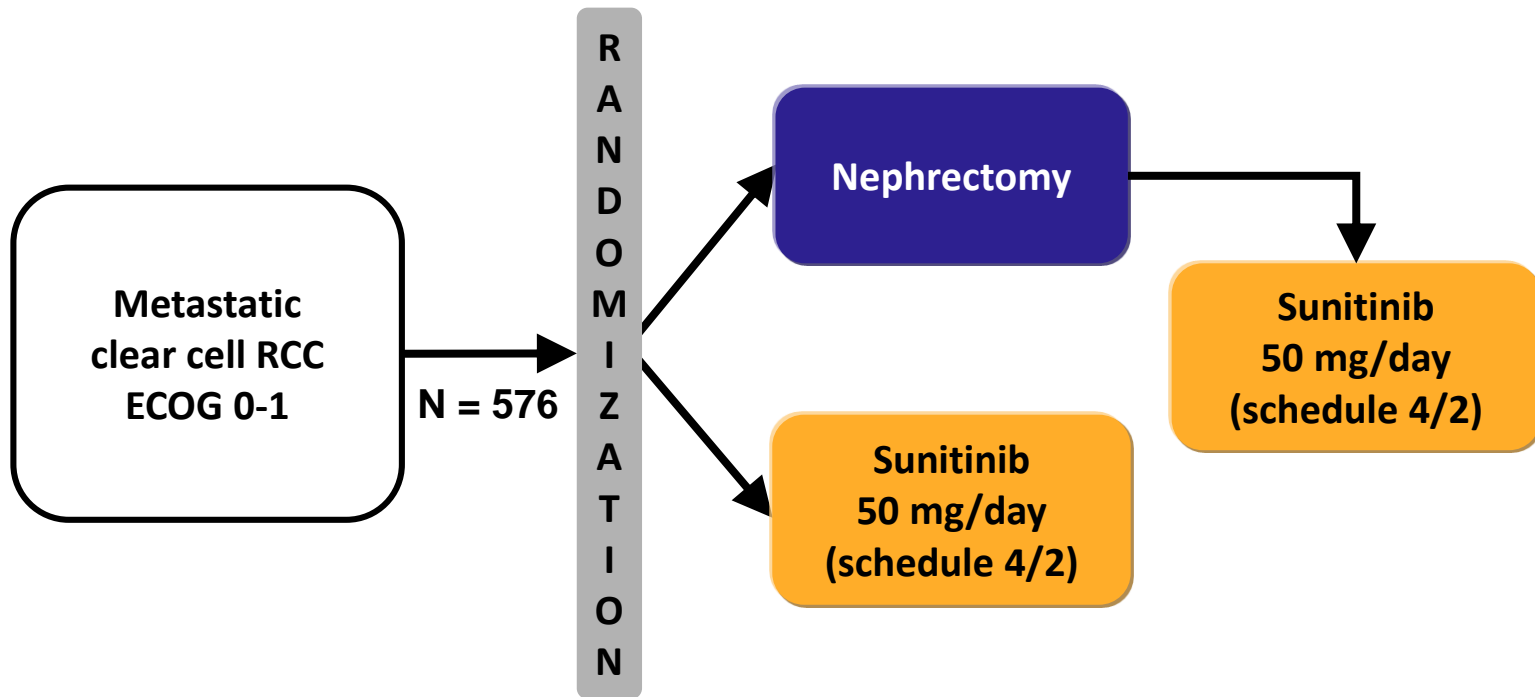
# SURTIME, a EORTC-GU 30073 Phase III Study

## Investigating the Sequence of Nephrectomy and Sunitinib



- ❖ Primary end point: PFS
- ❖ Secondary end points: OS, association with prognostic gene and protein expression profiles

# CARMENA Phase III Study of Sunitinib Only vs. Nephrectomy Followed by Sunitinib



- ❖ **Primary objective:** Is sunitinib alone non-inferior to nephrectomy plus sunitinib in terms of OS?
- ❖ **Note:** NO stratification in MSKCC or IMDC risk



Radiation therapy on L2-L4 (8 Gy)

Laparoscopic right radical nephrectomy +  
Paracaval/interaortocaval LND

Pathology

Clear cell RCC - Grade III-IV – diffuse necrosis  
pT2 N0

# LYMPH NODE DISSECTION

# Radical Nephrectomy with and without Lymph-Node Dissection: Final Results of European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) Randomized Phase 3 Trial 30881

Jan H.M. Blom<sup>a,\*</sup>, Hein van Poppel<sup>b</sup>, Jean M. Maréchal<sup>c</sup>, Didier Jacqmin<sup>d</sup>, Fritz H. Schröder<sup>e</sup>,  
Linda de Prijck<sup>f</sup>, Richard Sylvester<sup>f</sup>, for the EORTC Genitourinary Tract Cancer Group



## OUTCOMES

383 RN+LND

vs.

389 RN alone

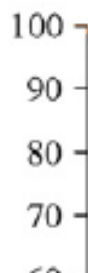
Time-to-progression

Overall survival

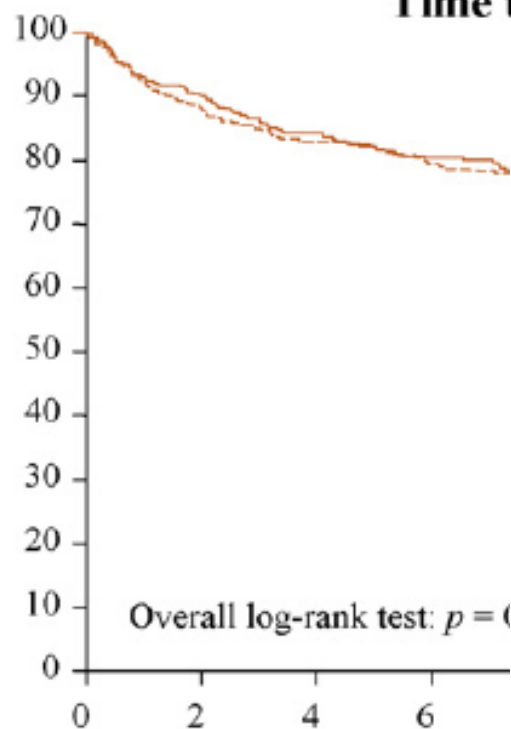
Progression-free survival



### Progression-free survival

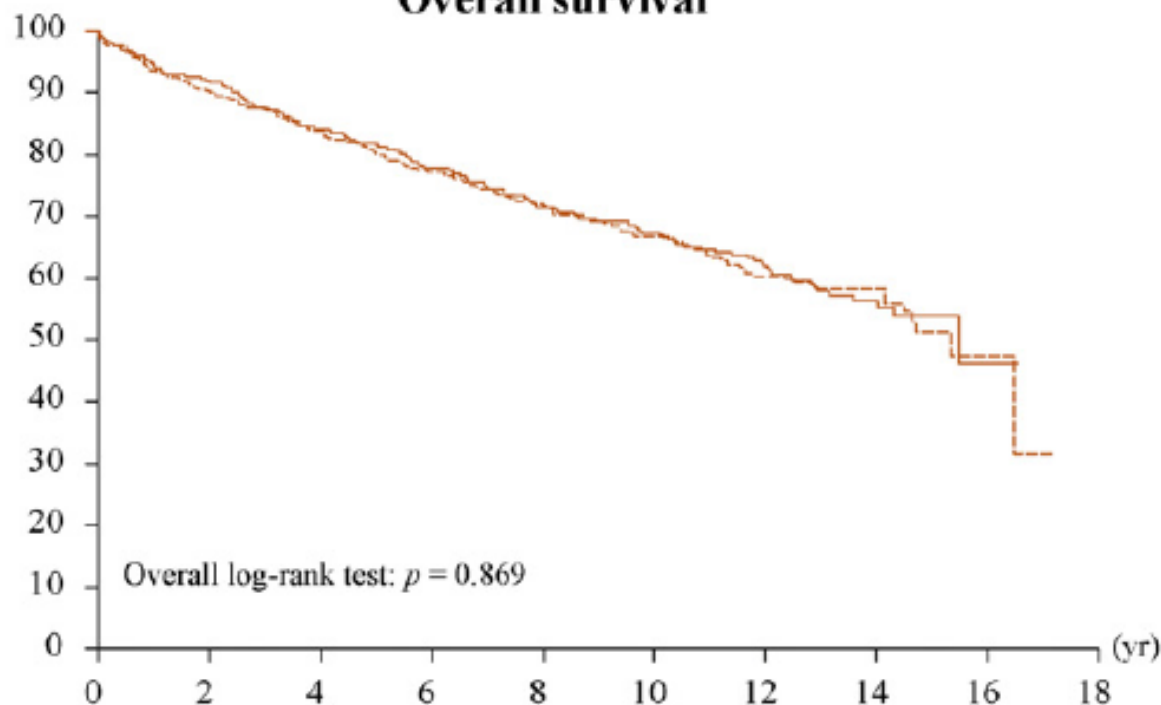


### Time to progression



| O  | n   | No. of patients at risk |     |     |
|----|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----|
| 93 | 389 | 314                     | 276 | 232 |
| 87 | 383 | 308                     | 268 | 220 |

### Overall survival



| O   | n   | No. of patients at risk |     |     |     |     |     |    |   |   |     | LN Dis |
|-----|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|---|---|-----|--------|
| 135 | 389 | 334                     | 294 | 248 | 200 | 173 | 137 | 53 | 5 | — | No  |        |
| 137 | 383 | 326                     | 288 | 241 | 198 | 172 | 129 | 56 | 8 | — | Yes |        |

# Low-risk population

All cNO patients

|                    | Without lymph-node dissection |    | With complete lymph-node dissection |    |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|----|
|                    | n                             | %  | n                                   | %  |
| Site of the tumor  |                               |    |                                     |    |
| Right side         | 195                           | 53 | 198                                 | 54 |
| Left side          | 172                           | 47 | 169                                 | 46 |
| Tumor category     |                               |    |                                     |    |
| T1                 | 23                            | 6  | 34                                  | 9  |
| T2                 | 242                           | 66 | 221                                 | 60 |
| T3                 | 101                           | 28 | 112                                 | 31 |
| Tumor diameter, cm |                               |    |                                     |    |
| Median             | 6                             |    | 5.5                                 |    |
| Maximum            | 20                            |    | 19                                  |    |

# Radical Nephrectomy with and without Lymph-Node Dissection: Final Results of European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) Randomized Phase 3 Trial 30881

Jan H.M. Blom<sup>a,\*</sup>, Hein van Poppel<sup>b</sup>, Jean M. Maréchal<sup>c</sup>, Didier Jacqmin<sup>d</sup>, Fritz H. Schröder<sup>e</sup>,  
Linda de Prijck<sup>f</sup>, Richard Sylvester<sup>f</sup>, for the EORTC Genitourinary Tract Cancer Group

|             | Without lymph-<br>node dissection |    | With complete<br>lymph-node<br>dissection |    |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|----|---|----|
|             | n                                 | %  | n   | %  |
| pT category |                                   |    |   |    |
| T0          | 5                                 | 1  | 4   | 1  |
| T1          | 19                                | 5  | 21  | 6  |
| T2          | 230                               | 65 | 221                                       | 63 |
| T3          | 96                                | 27 | 101                                       | 29 |
| T4          | 2                                 | 1  | 3   | 1  |
| TX          | 2                                 | 1  | 3   | 1  |
| pN-category |                                   |    |   |    |
| N0          | –                                 | –  | 332                                       | 96 |
| N1          | –                                 | –  | 5   | 1  |
| N2          | –                                 | –  | 6   | 2  |
| N3          | –                                 | –  | 3   | 1  |

pN+ = 4%

## Radical Nephrectomy With or Without Lymph Node Dissection for Nonmetastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma: A Propensity Score-based Analysis

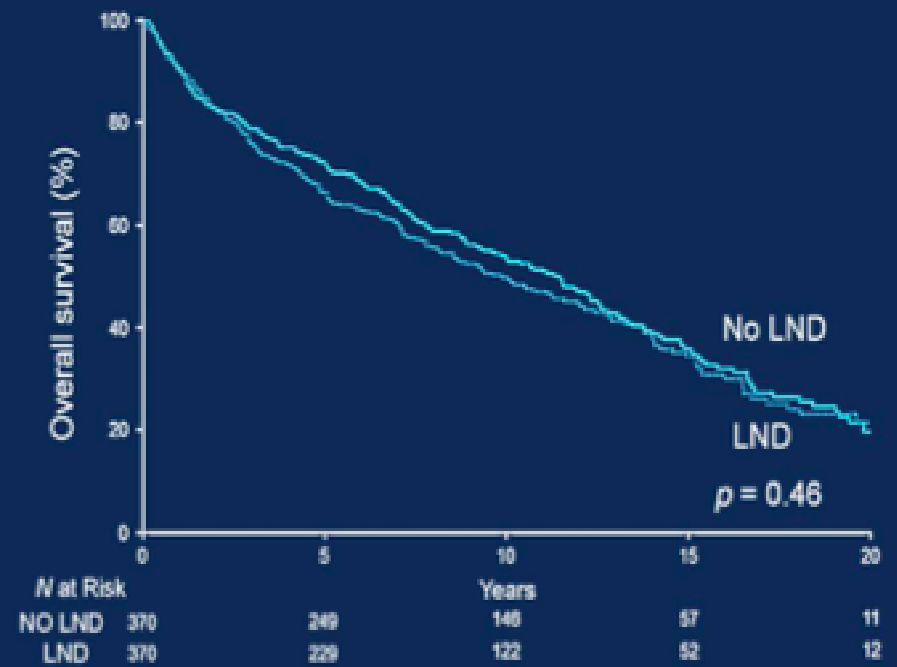
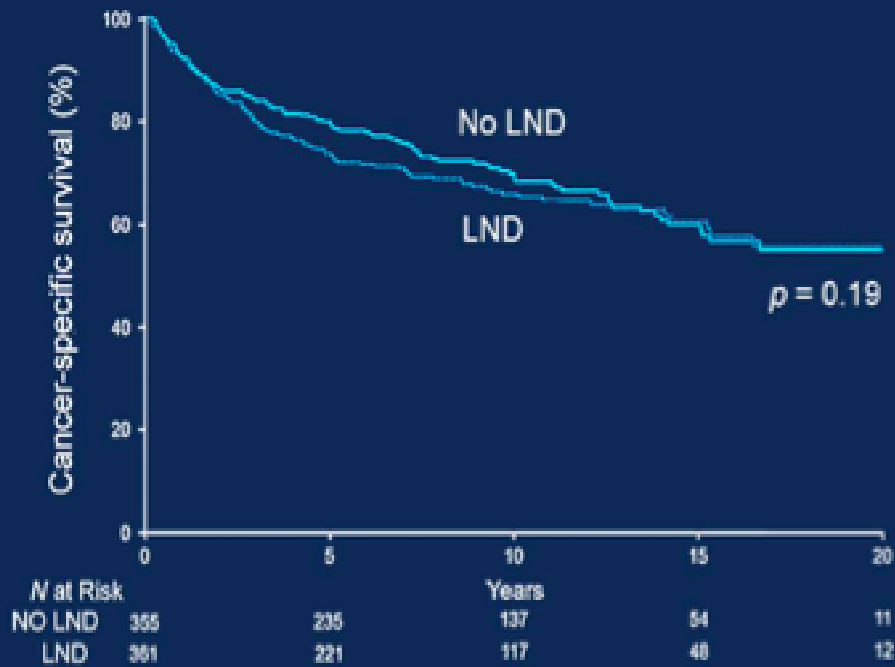
Boris Gershman<sup>a</sup>, R. Houston Thompson<sup>b</sup>, Daniel M. Moreira<sup>c</sup>, Stephen A. Boorjian<sup>b</sup>, Matthew K. Tollefson<sup>b</sup>, Christine M. Lohse<sup>d</sup>, Brian A. Costello<sup>e</sup>, John C. Cheville<sup>f</sup>, Bradley C. Leibovich<sup>b,\*</sup>



- Retrospective cohort study
- Single institution
- 1,797 cM0 RCC pts
- 1990-2010
- 34% underwent LND

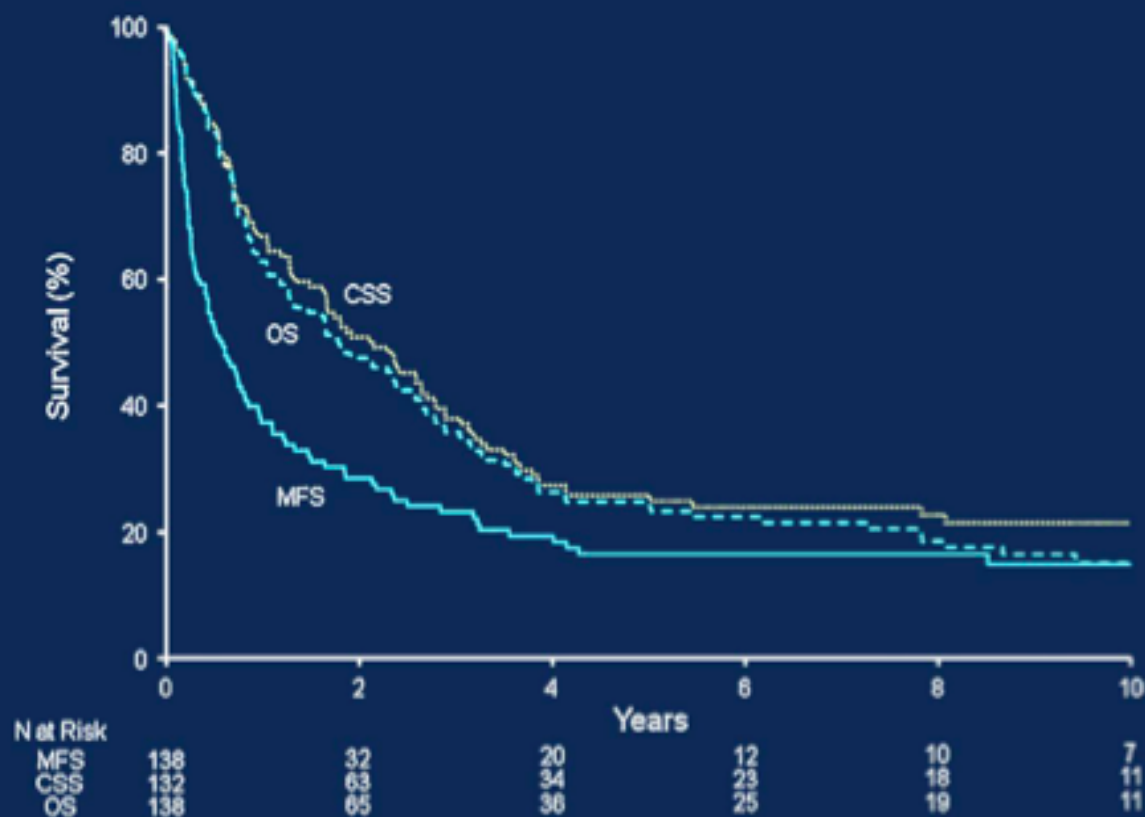
Gershman et al. *Eur Urol* 2017

## No survival effect after matching 1:1



## Key role of LND in terms of prognosis

Gershman et al. Eur Urol 2017



Median MFS: <9 months

Median survival: 2 yrs

# Can we predict LNI ?

## Lymph Node Dissection at the Time of Radical Nephrectomy for High-Risk Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma: Indications and Recommendations for Surgical Templates



*Paul L. Crispen<sup>a</sup>, Rodney H. Breau<sup>a</sup>, Cristine Allmer<sup>b</sup>, Christine M. Lohse<sup>b</sup>, John C. Cheville<sup>c</sup>, Bradley C. Leibovich<sup>a</sup>, Michael L. Blute<sup>a,\*</sup>*

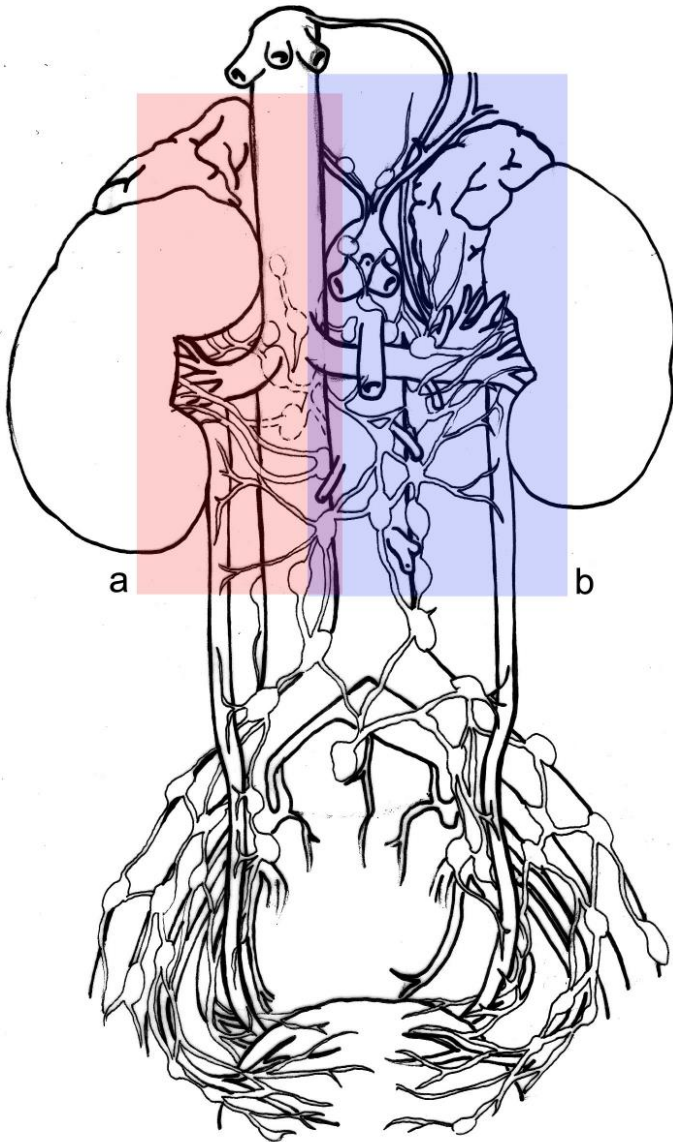
- Non standardized LND in 415 cN0 patients
- 5 risk factors:
  1. Tumor size > 10 cm
  2. Fuhrman 3-4
  3. Sarcomatoid component
  4. pT3-pT4
  5. Histologic tumor necrosis

169 high-risk patients

LNI 38%



# LND in RCC. Which template?



Predilection of RCC for early haematogenic dissemination  
 $\approx 57\%$  TanyNOM1

Directly to the thoracic duct  $\approx 30\%$

Many possible different lymphatic routes in normal retroperitoneal anatomy

Collateral lymphatic drainage and invasion of tissue with different lymphatic drainage (e.g. perinephric fat)

Isolated metastases in the ipsilateral iliac and supraclavicular nodes  $\approx 10\%$



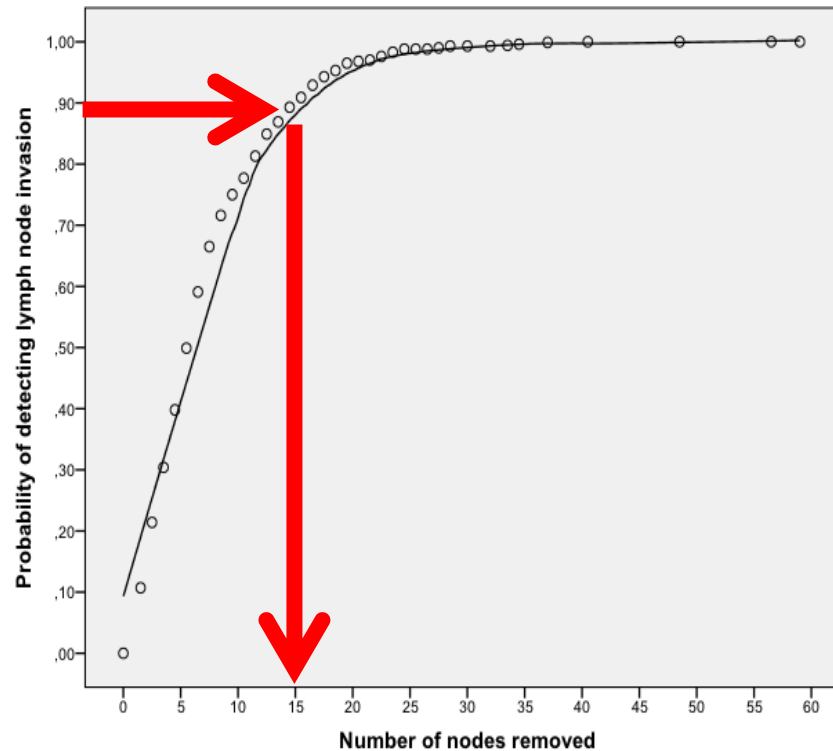
# Staging lymphadenectomy in renal cell carcinoma must be extended: a sensitivity curve analysis

Umberto Capitanio, Nazareno Suardi, Rayan Matloob, Firas Abdollah, Fabio Castiglione, Alberto Briganti, Cristina Carenzi, Marco Roscigno, Francesco Montorsi and Roberto Bertini

Department of Urology, University Vita-Salute, San Raffaele Hospital, Milan, Italy

$n = 850$ ; T<sub>any</sub>NO-1M<sub>any</sub> RCC + LND (1987-2011)

90%



15 nodes

# FIRST LINE SYSTEMIC THERAPY

# EAU Guidelines on Renal Cell Carcinoma 2018

|   | First-line therapy                    | Second-line therapy                   | Third-line therapy                              |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| IMDC favourable risk disease            | sunitinib or pazopanib                | cabozantinib or nivolumab             | cabozantinib or nivolumab                       |
| IMDC intermediate and poor risk disease | ipilimumab/ nivolumab                 | cabozantinib or VEGF-targeted therapy | cabozantinib or an alternative targeted therapy |
|   | cabozantinib, sunitinib or pazopanib* | VEGF targeted therapy or nivolumab    | An alternative targeted therapy or nivolumab    |

Boxed categories represent strong recommendations

|   |    |
|---|----|
| The combination of nivolumab and ipilimumab in treatment-naïve patients with clear-cell metastatic RCC of IMDC intermediate- and poor-risk leads to superior survival compared to sunitinib.  | 1b |
| The combination of nivolumab and ipilimumab in the ITT population of treatment-naïve unselected patients with clear-cell metastatic RCC leads to superior survival compared to sunitinib.     | 2b |
| Due to the exploratory nature of PD-L1 tumour expression, the small sample size, the lack of OS data and the premature results in this subpopulation, definitive conclusions cannot be drawn. | 2b |
| Nivolumab plus ipilimumab was associated with 15% grade 3-5 toxicity and 1.5% treatment-related deaths.   | 1b |

| Recommendation  | Strength rating |
|---|-----------------|
| Use ipilimumab plus nivolumab in treatment-naïve patients with clear-cell metastatic RCC of IMDC intermediate and poor risk.  | Strong          |
| Offer nivolumab after one or two lines of VEGF-targeted therapy in metastatic RCC.  | Strong          |
| Do not offer monotherapy with interferon- $\alpha$ or high-dose bolus interleukin-2 as first-line therapy in metastatic RCC.  | Weak            |
| Do not use bevacizumab plus IFN- $\alpha$ in treatment-naïve clear-cell favourable- and intermediate-risk RCC patients.   | Weak            |
| Do not use PD-L1 tumour expression as a predictive biomarker.   | Weak            |
| Administer nivolumab plus ipilimumab in centres with experience of immune combination therapy and appropriate supportive care within the context of a multidisciplinary team.           | Weak            |
| Do not rechallenge patients who stop nivolumab plus ipilimumab because of toxicity with the same drugs in the future without expert guidance and support from a multidisciplinary team. | Strong          |

# Study Design

## Key Eligibility:

- Treatment-naive advanced or metastatic RCC
- Clear cell and/or sarcomatoid histology
- KPS  $\geq$  70
- Tumor tissue available for PD-L1 staining

## Stratification:

- MSKCC risk score
- Liver metastases
- PD-L1 IC IHC status (< 1% vs  $\geq$  1%)<sup>a</sup>

N = 915

R  
1:1

Atezolizumab 1200 mg IV q3w<sup>b</sup>  
+  
Bevacizumab 15 mg/kg IV q3w<sup>b</sup>

Sunitinib 50 mg/day orally  
(4 wk on, 2 wk off)

## • Primary Endpoints

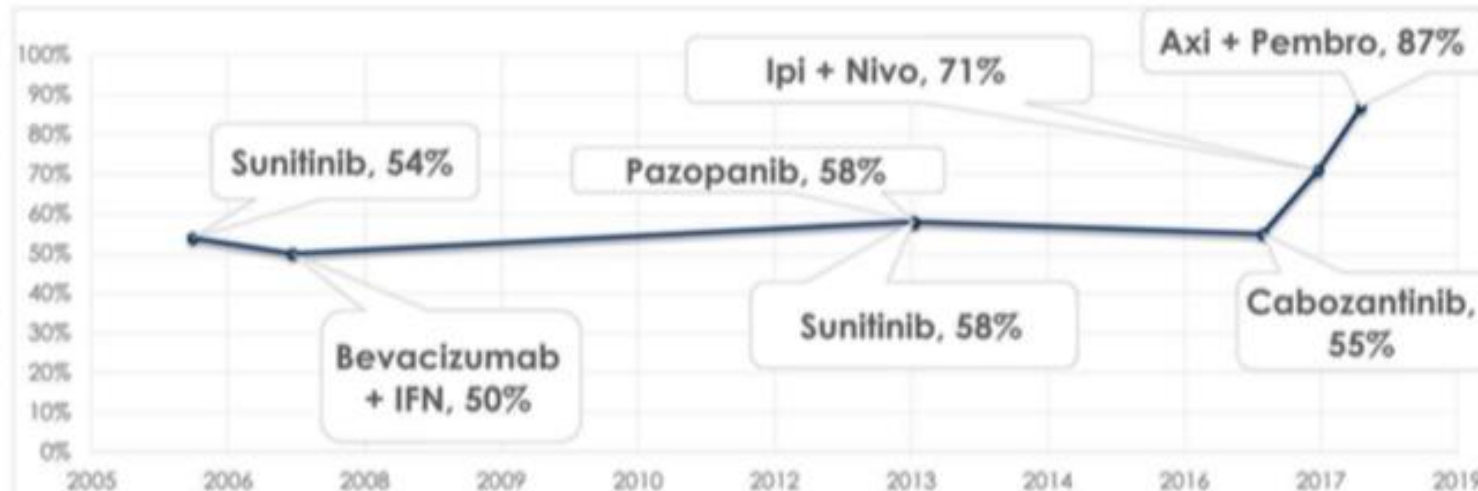
- PFS by investigator-assessment in PD-L1+ patients, defined as  $\geq$  1% expression on tumor-infiltrating immune cells (IC) as determined by immunohistochemistry (IHC)<sup>a</sup>
- OS in ITT

# Progress in metastatic RCC

US FDA APPROVALS



Percent of patients alive 2 yrs after starting first line therapy



PubMed PMID:  
 23598172  
 26482279  
 23598172  
 20549832  
 29550566  
 29562145  
 29439857

...nell'era delle COMBO IO+IO o IO+Tki...

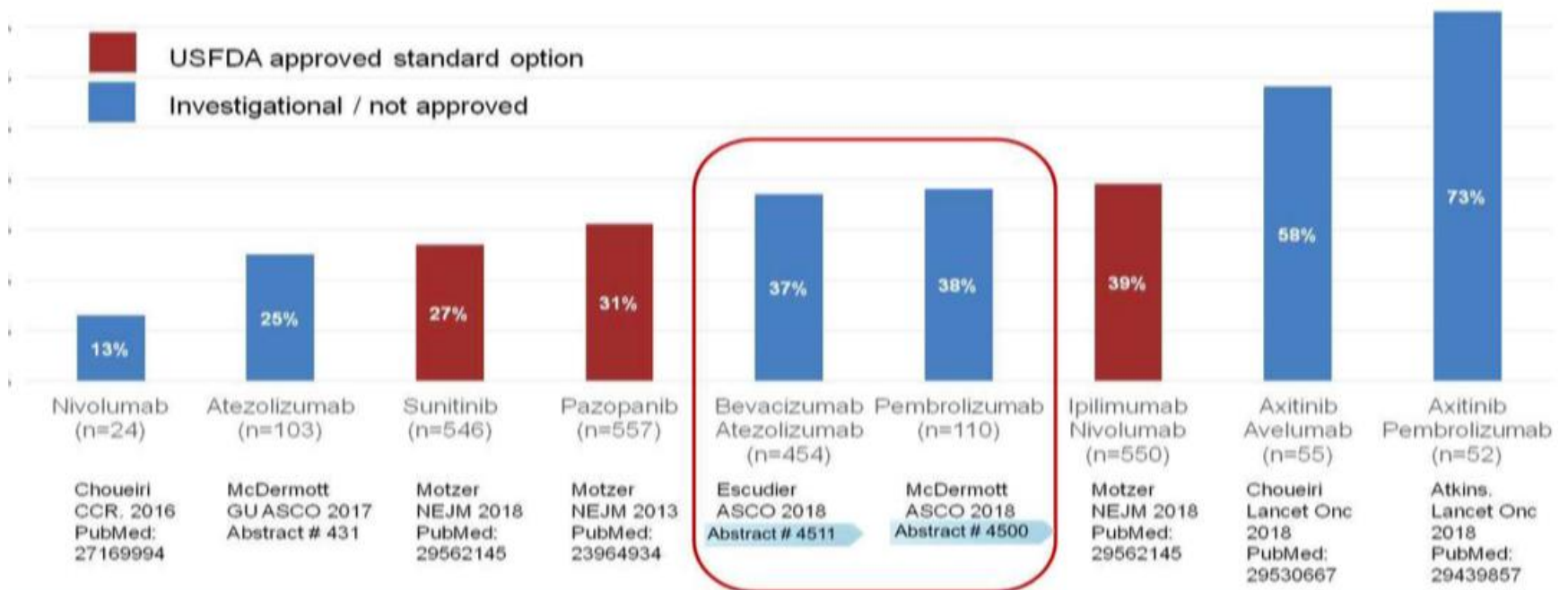


## RCC landscape today: Combinations: IO/IO and IO/VEGF

|                          | I-O + TKI (phase 1/2)                       |  |  | I-O + I-O<br>(phase 3)<br><i>CheckMate-214</i>               | I-O + VEGF mAb<br>(phase 3)<br><i>IMmotion151</i>              | TKI<br>(comparator)    |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|------------------------|
| TRIAL                    | Pembrolizumab<br>+<br>Axitinib <sup>1</sup> | Pembrolizumab<br>+<br>Levatinib <sup>2</sup> | Avelumab<br>+<br>Axitinib <sup>3</sup> | Nivolumab +<br>Ipilimumab<br>Vs.<br>Sunitinib <sup>4,5</sup> | Atezolizumab +<br>Bevacizumab<br>Vs.<br>Sunitinib <sup>6</sup> | Sunitinib <sup>6</sup> |
| N                        | 52  | 30   | 55                                     | 425<br><i>Int/Poor risk subgroup</i>                         | 454  | 461                    |
| Prior allowed<br>therapy | No  | Yes  | No                                     | No   | No   | No                     |
| ORR                      | 73%   | 63%  | 58%                                    | 42%  | 37%  | 33%                    |

<sup>1</sup>NCT02133742, Atkins et al. Lancet Oncol 2018; <sup>2</sup>NCT02501096, Lee et al. ESMO 2017; <sup>3</sup>NCT02493751, Choueiri et al. Lancet Oncol 2018; <sup>4</sup>NCT02231749, Motzer et al. SITC 2017 and NEJM 2018; <sup>5</sup>NCT01984242 Motzer et al. ASCO GU 2018

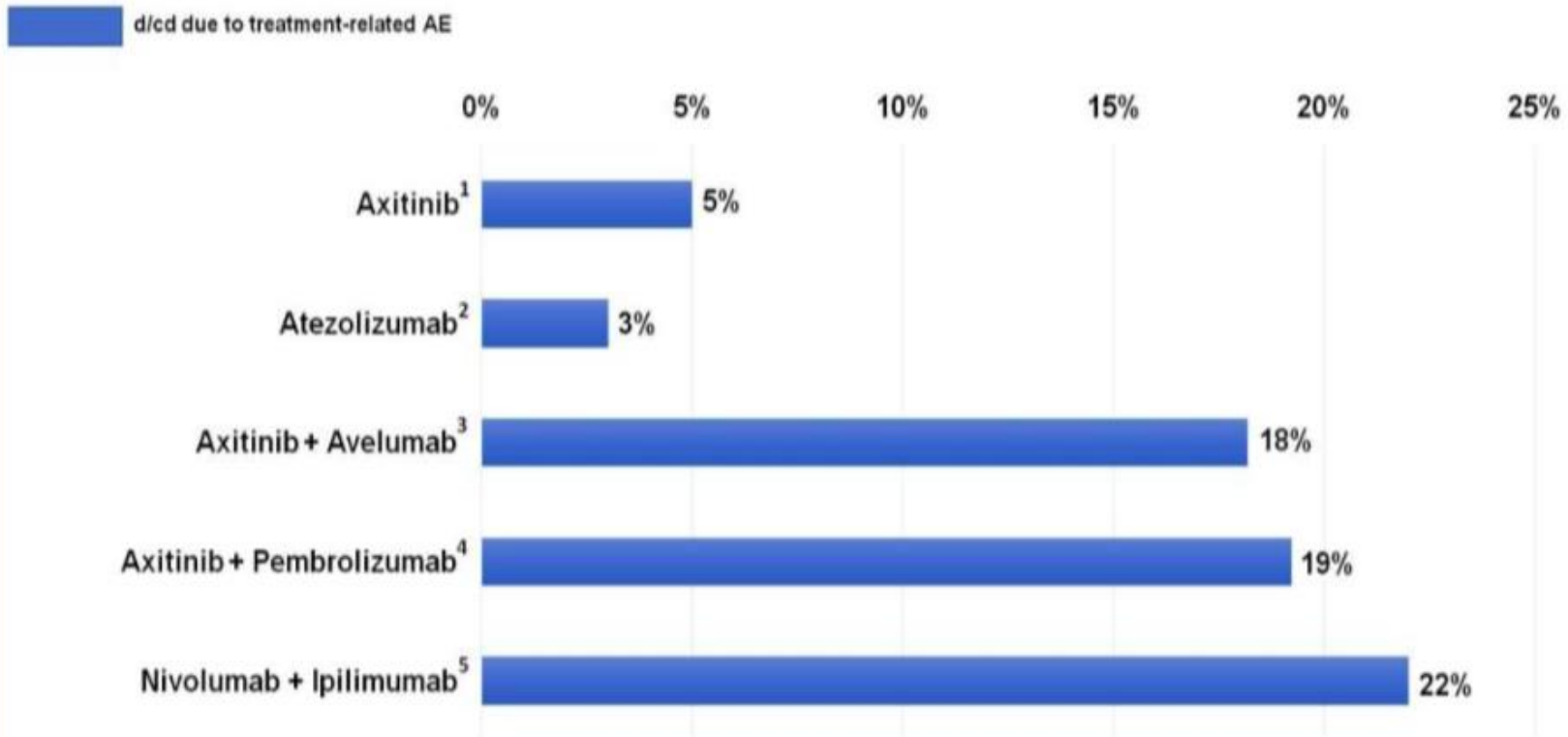
# Response Rates in Front Line metastatic ccRCC (all risk groups)



Presented By Elizabeth Plimack at 2018 ASCO Annual Meeting



## ...ma Tki o IO in monoterapia hanno meno tossicità delle COMBO



1. Hutson et al, Lancet Oncol 2013. 2. Powles et al, GUASCO 2017. 3. Choueiri et al, Lancet Oncol 2018. 4. Atkins et al, Lancet Oncol 2018. 5. Motzer et al, NEJM 2018

## Data with single agents first-line PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors in ccRCC

|                                  | Phase               | N   | IMDC poor | ORR | CR   | ORR (PD-L1 +) | mPFS | Trt disc due to AEs |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----|-----------|-----|------|---------------|------|---------------------|
| <b>Nivolumab<sup>1</sup></b>     | Ib<br>(CA209-009)   | 24  | NA        | 13% | 8%   | NA            | 6m   | NA                  |
| <b>Atezolizumab<sup>2</sup></b>  | II<br>(IMmotion150) | 103 | 8%        | 25% | 11%  | 28%           | 6.1m | 3%                  |
| <b>Pembrolizumab<sup>3</sup></b> | II<br>(KEYNOTE-427) | 110 | 15.5%     | 38% | 2.7% | 50%           | 8.7m | 10.9%               |

ITT: Intention to Treat  
NA: Not Available

1. Choueiri TK et al, Clin Cancer Res 2017. 2. Atkins MB et al, ASCO 2017 and McDermott et al, GUASCO 2017.. 3. McDermott DF et al, ASCO 2018.

PRESENTED AT: **2018 ASCO**  
ANNUAL MEETING


#ASCO18  
*Slides are the property of the author;  
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PRESENTED BY: TONI K. CHOUERI, MD

6

Presented By Toni Choueiri at 2018 ASCO Annual Meeting

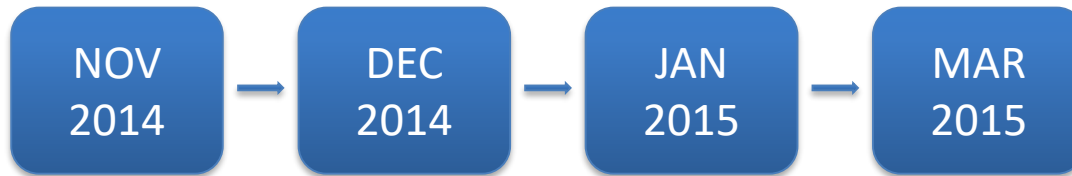
# Decisions Regarding Front line Therapy

- Patient Factors: 
  - Age
  - Organ Function
  - Immune Status
  - Comorbid Conditions
  - IMDC Risk
  - Neutrophil-Lymphocyte Ratio
  - Urgency of Response

- Disease Factors: 
  - Histology
  - Presentation:  
Synchronous/Metachronous
    - Symptomatic or Not
    - Sites of Metastases
    - IMDC risk
    - PDL-1 status
    - Tumor genomic mutations

# L'importanza del Team multidisciplinare





Starts

Sunitinib 50 mg  
4 weeks on / 2 weeks off



Stable disease

Sunitinib 50 mg weeks 4/6  
4 weeks on / 2 weeks off

Toxicity: nausea, vomiting and diarrhea G2



NOV  
2014



DIC  
2014



GEN  
2015

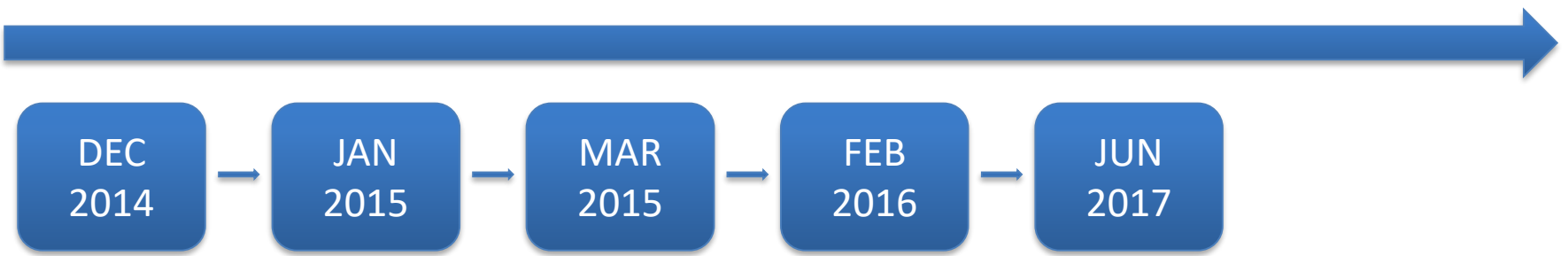


MAR  
2015



FEB  
2016





Continue Sunitinib

Sunitinib 50 mg orally  
4 weeks on / 2 weeks off

Toxicity: diarrhea G2, hand-foot syndrome G2-3





DEC  
2014



JAN  
2015



MAR  
2015



FEB  
2016



JUN  
2017



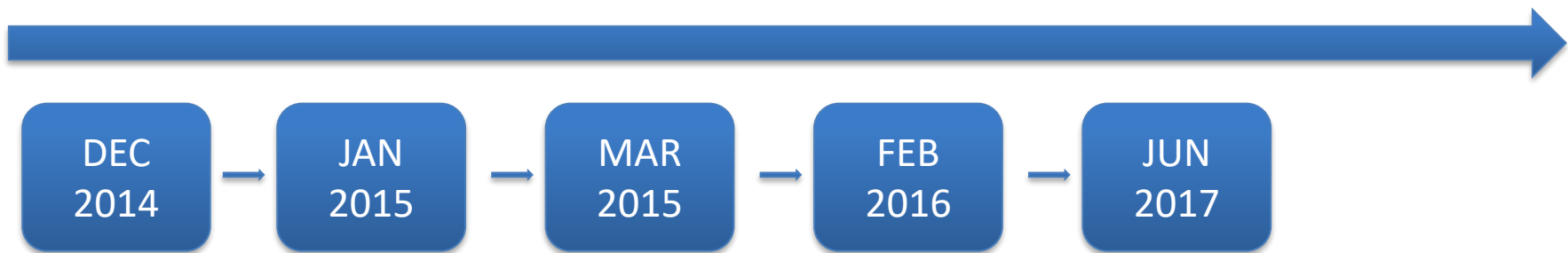


- Worsening lumbar pain
- Total body CT scan
  - Chest and abdominal PD
    - 4 pulmonary lesions – max 16 mm
    - Mediastinal and retroperitoneal lymphadenopathy
  - Bone PD
    - Infiltration of left psoas muscle at the level of L3

# Case 1

E.P., male, 61 y.o.

- Metastatic RCC (bone, lung, mediastinum)
- ECOG 0
- sCr 1.1 mg/dL
- Hb 12.1 g/dL, WBC and PLTs normal
- Albumin, calcium, ALP, LDH normal



Radiation therapy on L2-L4 (20 Gy/5 fractions)

Switch to second line systemic therapy

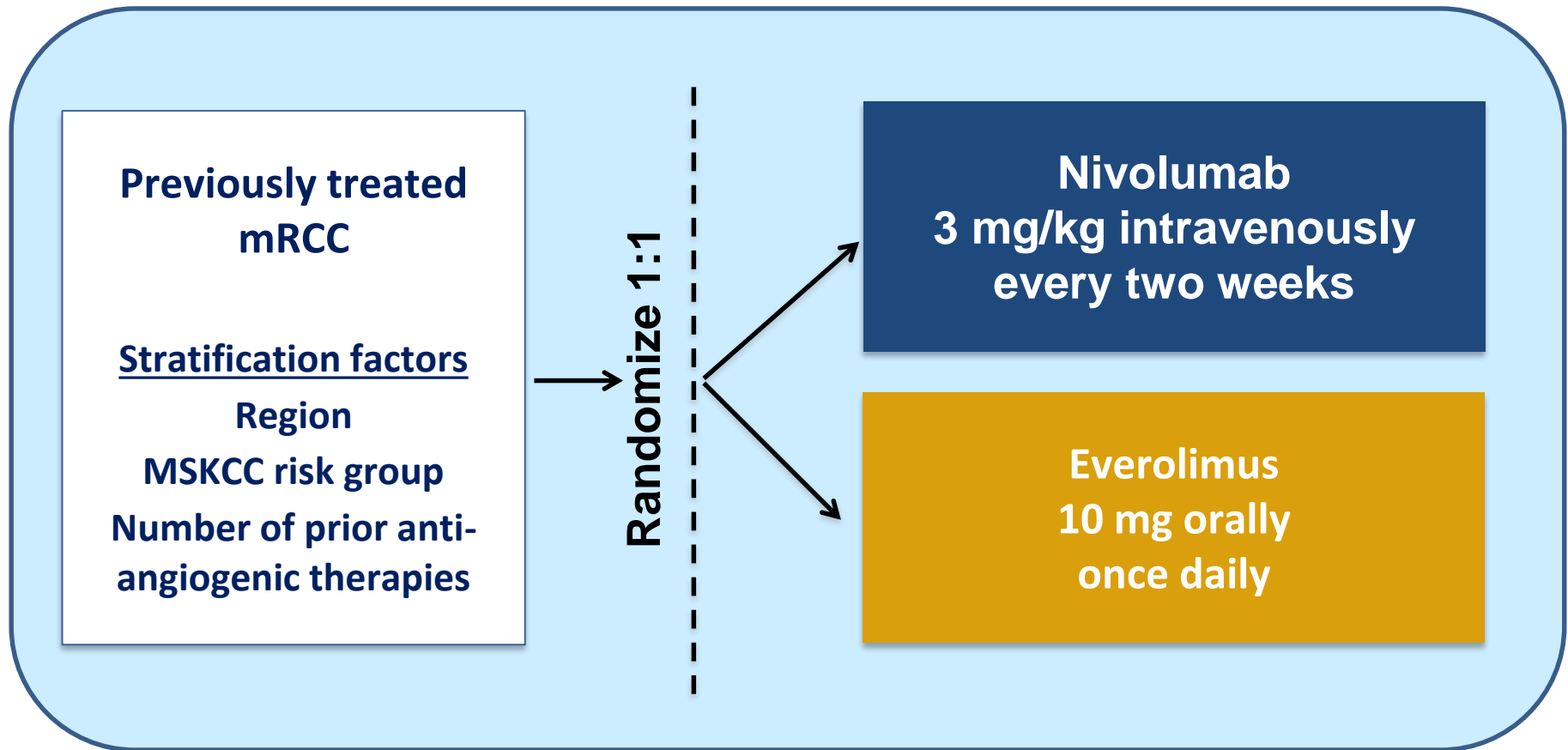
# SECOND LINE SYSTEMIC THERAPY

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Nivolumab versus Everolimus in Advanced Renal-Cell Carcinoma

R.J. Motzer, B. Escudier, D.F. McDermott, S. George, H.J. Hammers, S. Srinivas, S.S. Tykodi, J.A. Sosman, G. Procopio, E.R. Plimack, D. Castellano, T.K. Choueiri, H. Gurney, F. Donskov, P. Bono, J. Wagstaff, T.C. Gauler, T. Ueda, Y. Tomita, F.A. Schutz, C. Kollmannsberger, J. Larkin, A. Ravaud, J.S. Simon, L.-A. Xu, I.M. Waxman, and P. Sharma, for the CheckMate 025 Investigators\*

# Checkmate 025-Study design

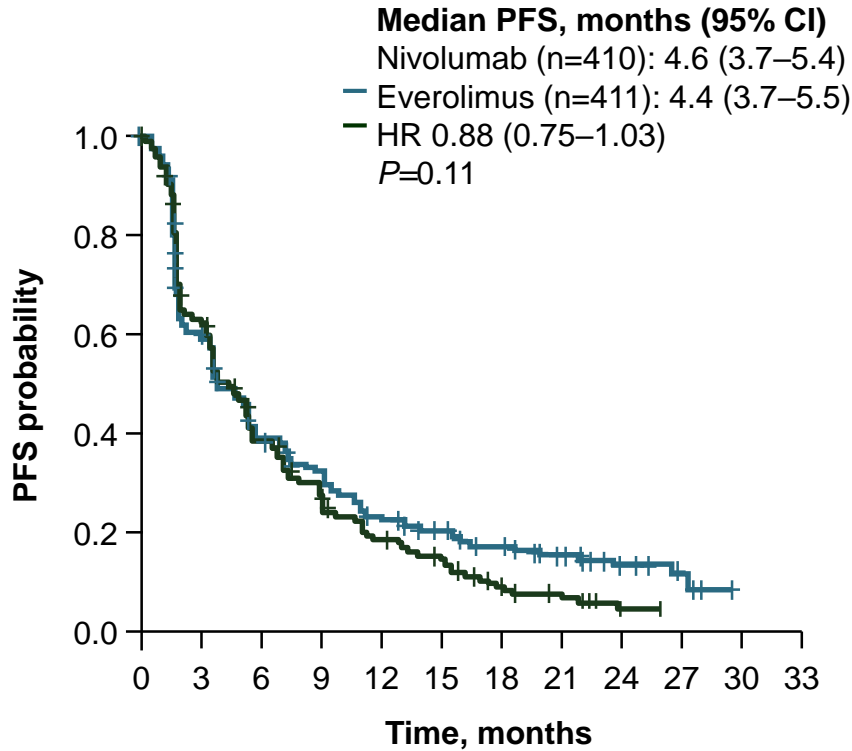


- Patients were treated until progression or intolerable toxicity occurred
- Treatment beyond progression was permitted if drug was tolerated and clinical benefit was noted

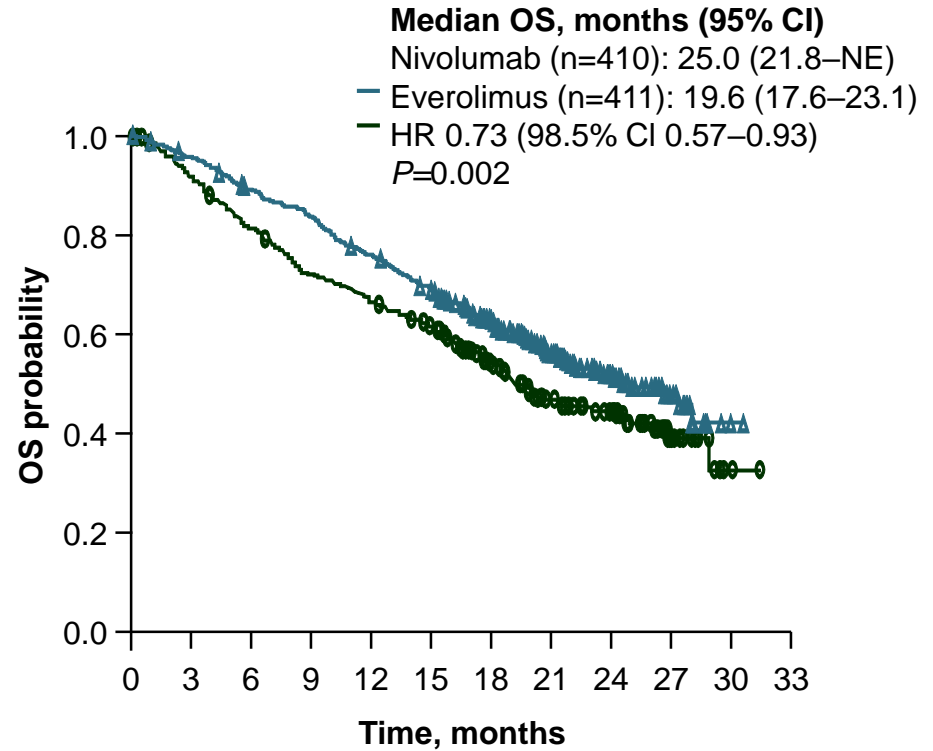
Presented By P. Sharma at the European Cancer Congress, Vienna, 26 September 2015

# CheckMate-025: Nivolumab versus everolimus in second-line advanced RCC

## Progression-free survival



## Overall survival





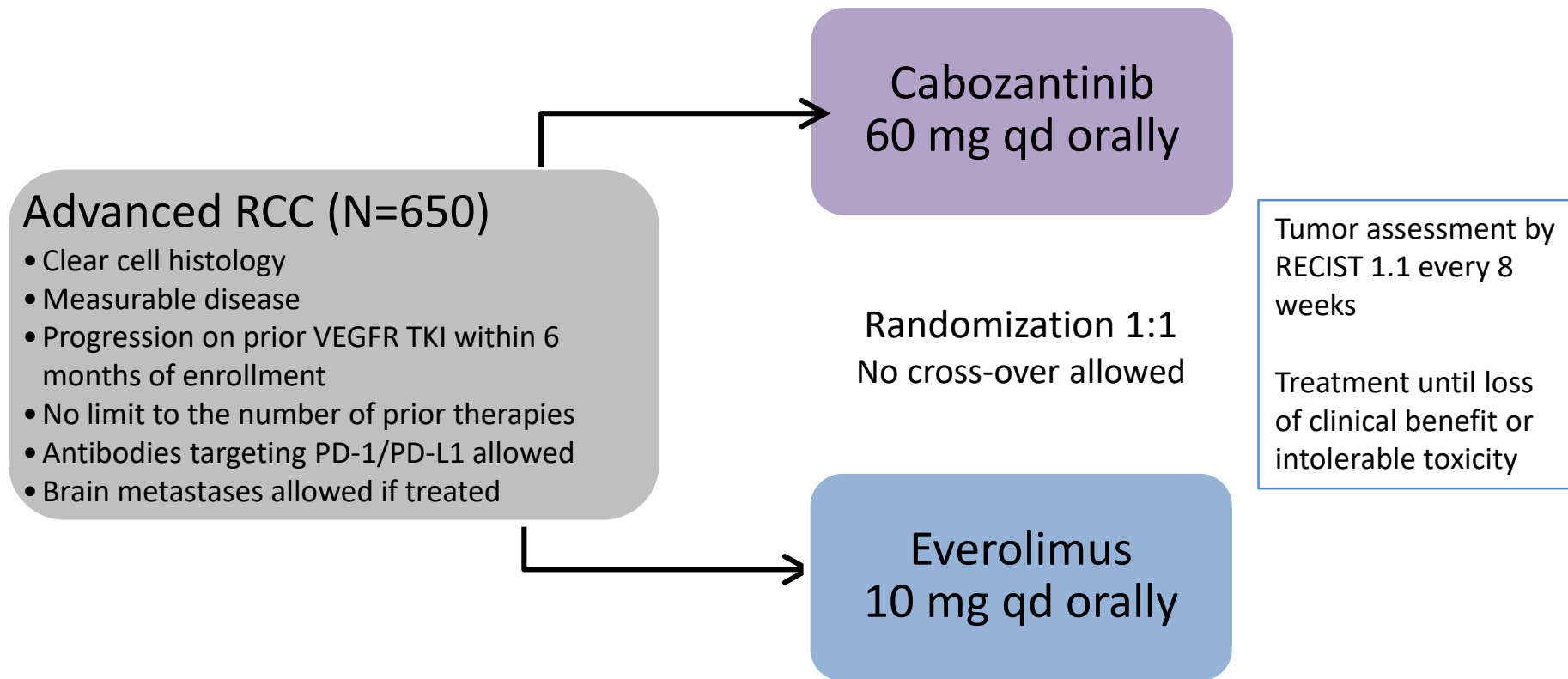
The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Cabozantinib versus Everolimus in Advanced Renal-Cell Carcinoma

T.K. Choueiri, B. Escudier, T. Powles, P.N. Mainwaring, B.I. Rini, F. Donskov, H. Hammers, T.E. Hutson, J.-L. Lee, K. Peltola, B.J. Roth, G.A. Bjarnason, L. Géczi, B. Keam, P. Maroto, D.Y.C. Heng, M. Schmidinger, P.W. Kantoff, A. Borgman-Hagey, C. Hessel, C. Scheffold, G.M. Schwab, N.M. Tannir, and R.J. Motzer, for the METEOR Investigators\*

# METEOR Study Design



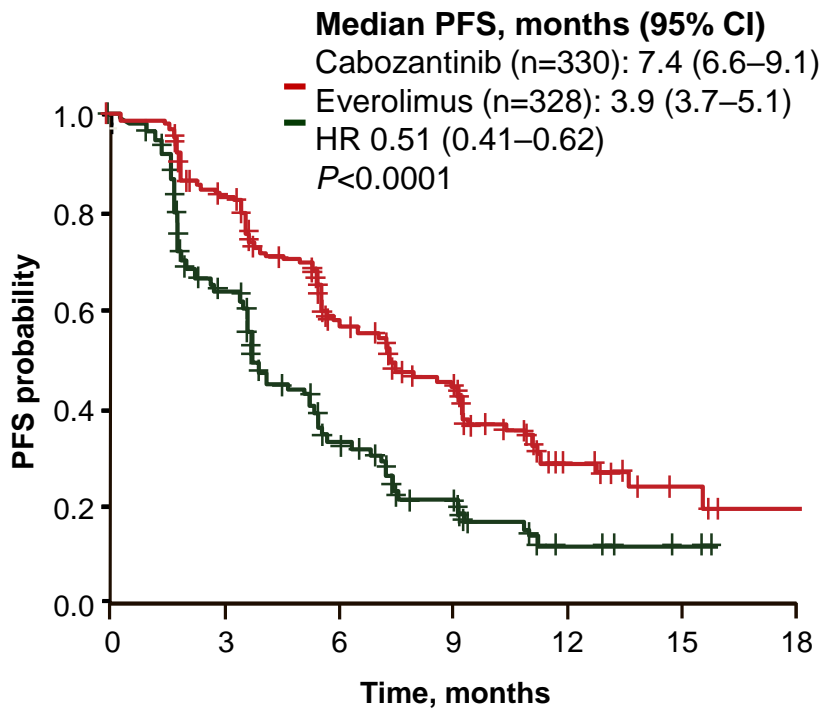
## Stratification:

- MSKCC<sup>1</sup> risk groups: favorable, intermediate, poor
- Number prior VEGFR-TKIs: 1, 2 or more

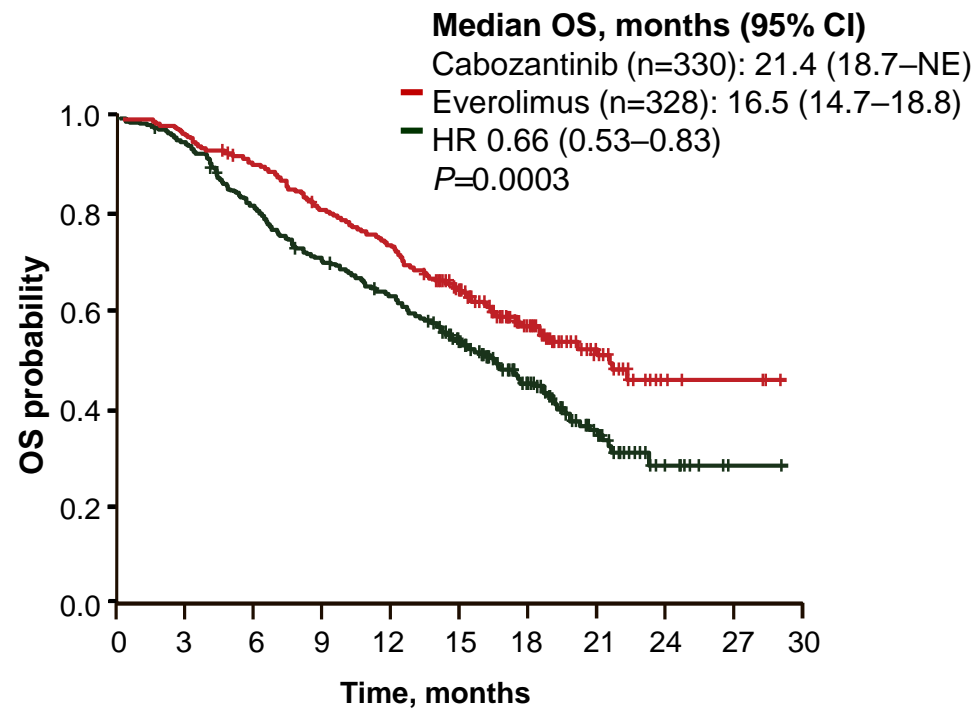
<sup>1</sup> Motzer R. et al., J Clin Oncol, 2004

# METEOR Study Design

## Progression-free survival



## Overall survival



# EAU Guidelines on Renal Cell Carcinoma 2018

|   | First-line therapy                    | Second-line therapy                   | Third-line therapy                              |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| IMDC favourable risk disease            | sunitinib or pazopanib                | cabozantinib or nivolumab             | cabozantinib or nivolumab                       |
| IMDC intermediate and poor risk disease | ipilimumab/ nivolumab                 | cabozantinib or VEGF-targeted therapy | cabozantinib or an alternative targeted therapy |
|   | cabozantinib, sunitinib or pazopanib* | VEGF targeted therapy or nivolumab    | An alternative targeted therapy or nivolumab    |

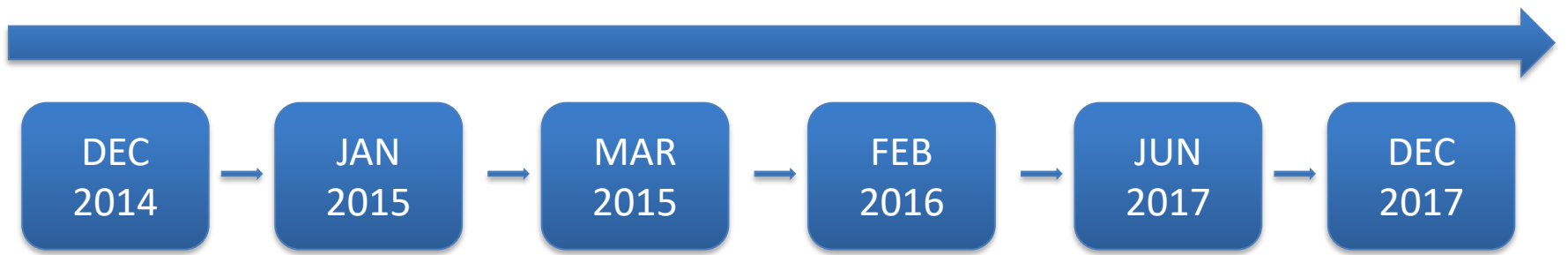


Boxed categories represent strong recommendations



Starts

Nivolumab 3 mg/kg iv  
every 2 wks



Nivolumab 3 mg/kg iv  
every 2 wks

DVT of right superficial femoral vein -> LMWE



DEC  
2014



JAN  
2015



MAR  
2015



FEB  
2016



JUN  
2017



DEC  
2017



# Case 1

E.P., male, 62 y.o.

- Metastatic RCC (bone, lung, mediastinum)
- PD (lung and mediastinum) SD (bone)
- ECOG 0-1 (intermittent hip and lumbar pain)
- sCr 1.15 mg/dL
- Hb 12.5 g/dL, WBC and PLTs normal
- Albumin, calcium, ALP, LDH normal





Switch to third line systemic therapy

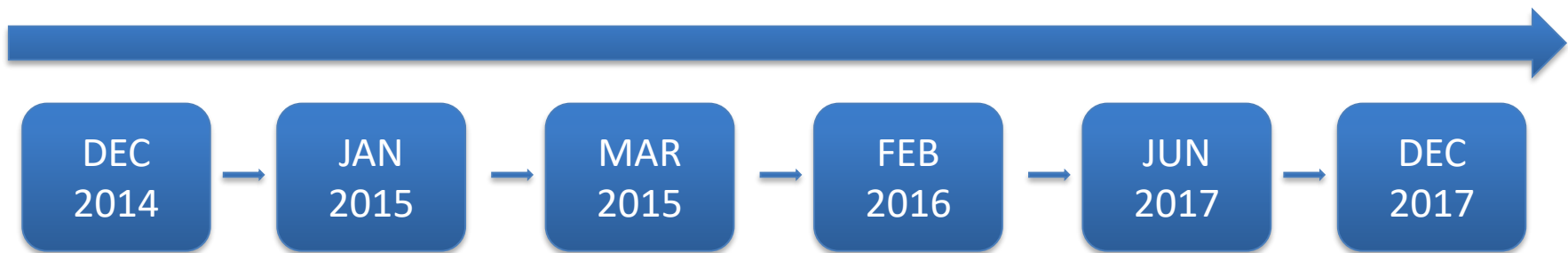
# THIRD LINE SYSTEMIC THERAPY

# EAU Guidelines on Renal Cell Carcinoma 2018

|  | First-line therapy                    | Second-line therapy                   | Third-line therapy                              |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>IMDC favourable risk disease</b>            | sunitinib or pazopanib                | cabozantinib or nivolumab             | cabozantinib or nivolumab                       |
| <b>IMDC intermediate and poor risk disease</b> | ipilimumab/ nivolumab                 | cabozantinib or VEGF-targeted therapy | cabozantinib or an alternative targeted therapy |
|  | cabozantinib, sunitinib or pazopanib* | VEGF targeted therapy or nivolumab    | An alternative targeted therapy or nivolumab    |



Boxed categories represent strong recommendations



Starts

Cabozantinib 60 mg/die per os

Stable disease at CT scan in April 2018

# SYSTEMIC ADJUVANT TREATMENT

# ADJUVANT TRIALS OF TARGETED AGENTS IN RCC

| Study   | Type of Drug                      | Duration          | Primary Endpoint | Patient Population                  | Status (www.CT.gov)  |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| ASSURE  | VEGF<br>(Sunitinib,<br>sorafenib) | 1 year            | DFS              | High & Int Risk<br><br>N=1923       | Negative   |
| S-TRAC  | VEGF<br>(Sunitinib)               | 1 year            | DFS              | High Risk<br><br>N=720 <sup>a</sup> | Positive for DFS, not for OS                                     |
| ATLAS   | VEGF<br>(Axitinib)                | 1 year<br>3 years | DFS              | High Risk<br><br>N=700              | Trial ongoing<br>Projected Readout Date:<br>June 2017            |
| SORCE   | VEGF<br>(Sorafenib)               | 3 years           | DFS              | High & Int Risk<br><br>N=1656       | Awaiting results<br>Projected Readout Date:<br>Completed accrual |
| PROTECT | VEGF<br>(Pazopanib)               | 1 year            | DFS              | High & Int Risk<br><br>N=1500       | Negative   |
| EVEREST | mTOR<br>(Everolimus)              | 1 year            | RFS              | High & Int Risk<br><br>N=1218       | Awaiting results<br>Projected Readout Date:<br>Completed accrual |

## PATIENT SELECTION

- The currently used prognostic tools do not capture well the biology of the tumor and do not adequately discriminate recurrence risk
- *Grade, necrosis and performance status* are subject to substantial interobserver variability
- The addition of prognostic molecular and genetic biomarkers may improve the identification of the very high risk population

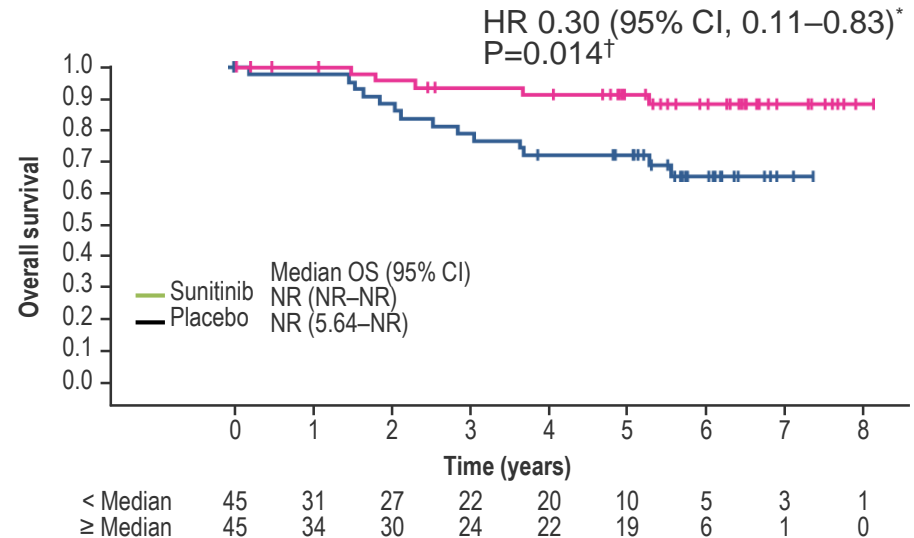
# S-TRAC: BIOMARKER ANALYSIS BY IHC

## CD8+ T-cells in tumour tissue may be a predictive biomarker

### Tissue from 191 of the 615 patients (31.1%) analysed

- n=101/90 (sunitinib/placebo)
- PD-L1, CD4, CD8 and CD68 analysed
- No DFS difference between PD-L1-positive and negative subgroups in both arms
  - Prognostic value should be further explored<sup>1</sup>
- No statistically significant association between tumour-infiltrating CD4 or CD68 levels and DFS or OS, in either group
- **Increased density of CD8+ T-cells in tumour tissue was associated with longer DFS/OS in sunitinib-, but not placebo-treated patients, suggesting a predictive role**

#### Comparison of $\geq$ median density of positive cells, sunitinib vs placebo



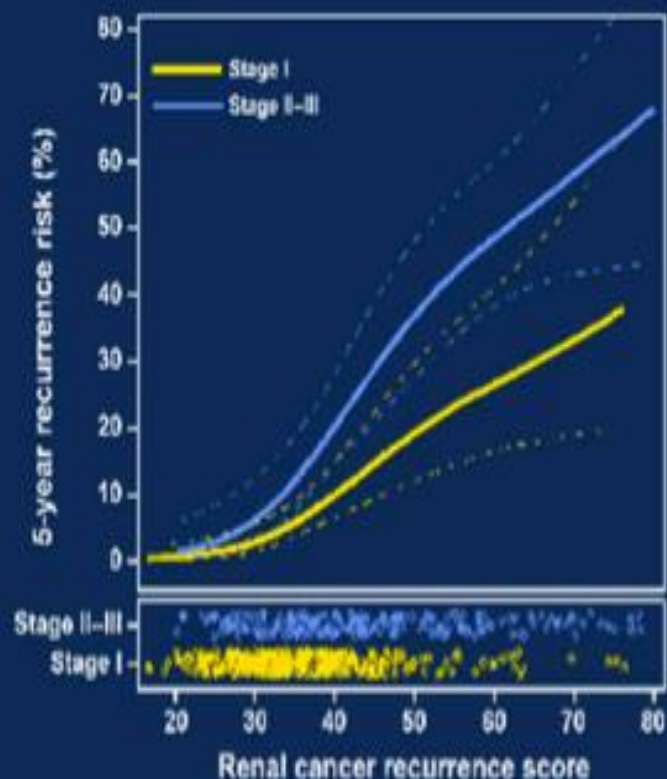
\*Sunitinib vs placebo. <sup>†</sup>Unstratified log rank test.

DFS, disease-free survival; OS, overall survival; CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; NR, not reached.



# The 16-Gene RS Assay

Risk profiles of continuous RS vs 5-year recurrence risk by stage in the validation cohort<sup>1</sup>



Genes Associated with Better Outcome

Genes Associated with Worse Outcome

Vascular

APOLD1  
EDNRB  
NOS3  
PPAP2B

Immune Response

CEACAM1  
CX3CL1  
CCL5

Cell Growth/Division

EIF4EBP1  
TUBB2A  
LMNB1

Inflammation

IL6

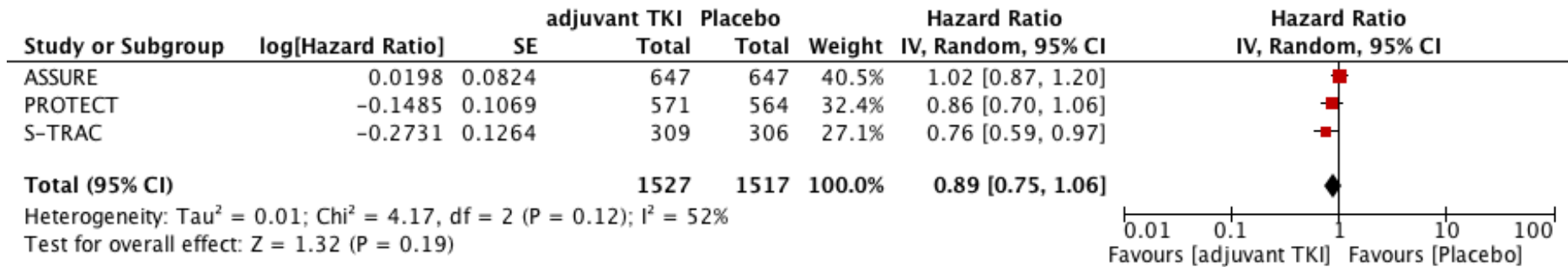
Reference Genes

AAMP GPX1  
ARF1 RPLP1  
ATP5E

1. Rini BI, et al. Lancet Oncol 2015;16:676-85.  
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Recurrence Score = - 0.45 x vascular group score - 0.31 x immune response score + 0.27 x cell growth / division score + 0.04 x inflammation / scaled to 0-100

# Inter-trial metaanalysis for ASSURE, PROTECT and S-TRAC



Marconi et al., personal communication



# ASSESSMENT OF EVIDENCE ON ADJUVANT SUNITINIB

## GRADE

| Domaines                              | Items   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Quality of evidence<br><b>weak</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Conflicting DFS</li><li>- No OS benefit yet</li></ul> |
| Harms-benefits ratio<br><b>weak</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Significant reduction in QoL items</li></ul>          |
| Values and preferences<br><b>weak</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inconsistent and premature</li></ul>                  |
| Costs<br><b>weak</b>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- High in view of the above</li></ul>                   |

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journal homepage: [www.europeanurology.com](http://www.europeanurology.com)



European Association of Urology



## Brief Correspondence

# Updated European Association of Urology Guidelines Regarding Adjuvant Therapy for Renal Cell Carcinoma

*Axel Bex<sup>a,\*</sup>, Laurence Albiges<sup>b</sup>, Börje Ljungberg<sup>c</sup>, Karim Bensalah<sup>d</sup>, Saeed Dabestani<sup>e</sup>, Rachel H. Giles<sup>f,g</sup>, Fabian Hofmann<sup>h</sup>, Milan Hora<sup>i</sup>, Markus A. Kuczyk<sup>j</sup>, Thomas B. Lam<sup>k,l</sup>, Lorenzo Marconi<sup>m</sup>, Axel S. Merseburger<sup>n</sup>, Michael Staehler<sup>o</sup>, Alessandro Volpe<sup>p</sup>, Thomas Powles<sup>q</sup>*

| Summary of evidence   | LE |
|---|----|
| Adjuvant cytokines do not improve survival after nephrectomy.   | 1b |
| Adjuvant sunitinib improved disease-free survival in one of the two available studies, but not overall survival, after nephrectomy, in selected high-risk patients. | 1b |

| Recommendation  | Strength rating |
|---|-----------------|
| Do not offer adjuvant therapy with sorafenib or pazopanib.  | Strong          |
| Do not offer adjuvant sunitinib following surgically resected high-risk clear-cell renal cell cancer. | Weak            |

## CONCLUSIONS

- Currently published trial on adjuvant treatment with TKIs after nephrectomy for RCC differ significantly in terms of population size and characteristics
- The evidence of efficacy of TKIs is discordant (significant DFS benefit only in S-TRAC, no OS benefit)
- The profile of adverse event of TKIs is consistent with the metastatic setting, but leads to a significant proportion of dose reductions and treatment discontinuations in the adjuvant setting

## CONCLUSIONS

- Adjuvant treatment with TKIs is not recommended by the guidelines but sunitinib is an option in selected cases
- Accurate selection based on clinical features and biological/genetic tumor characteristics is crucial to identify the ideal candidates
- The results of the ongoing trials of targeted and immunotherapy agents in the adjuvant setting are awaited