

# Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Breast Cancer

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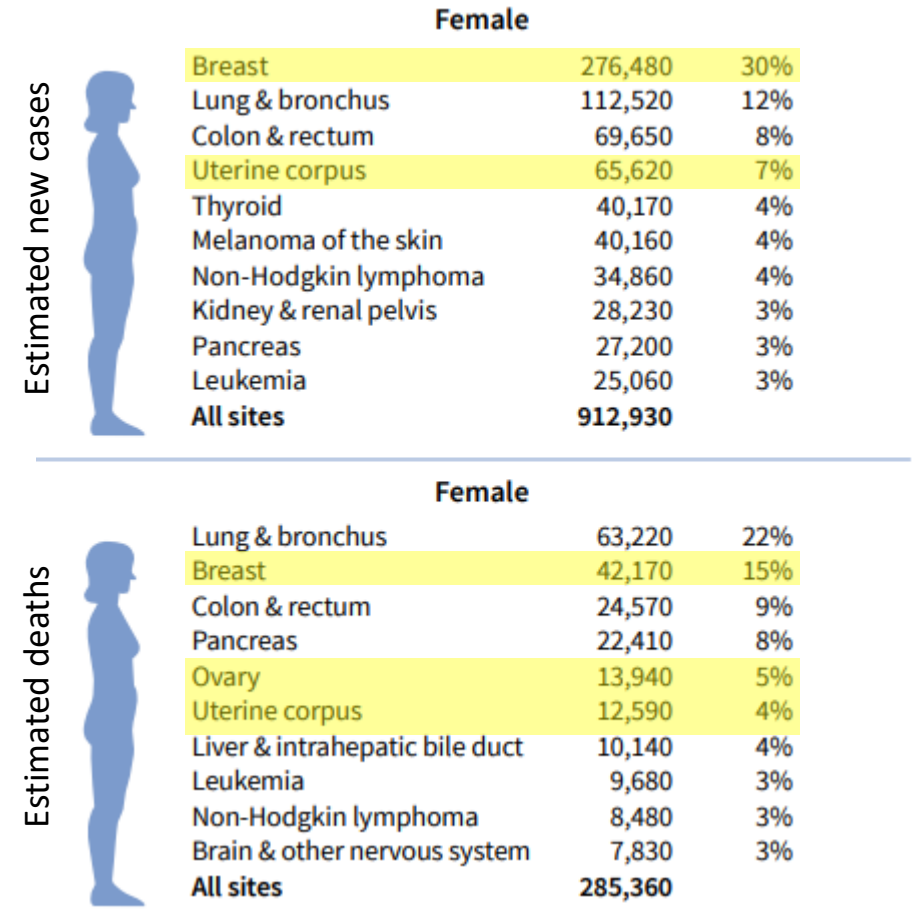
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Institute of New Jersey

# Disclosures

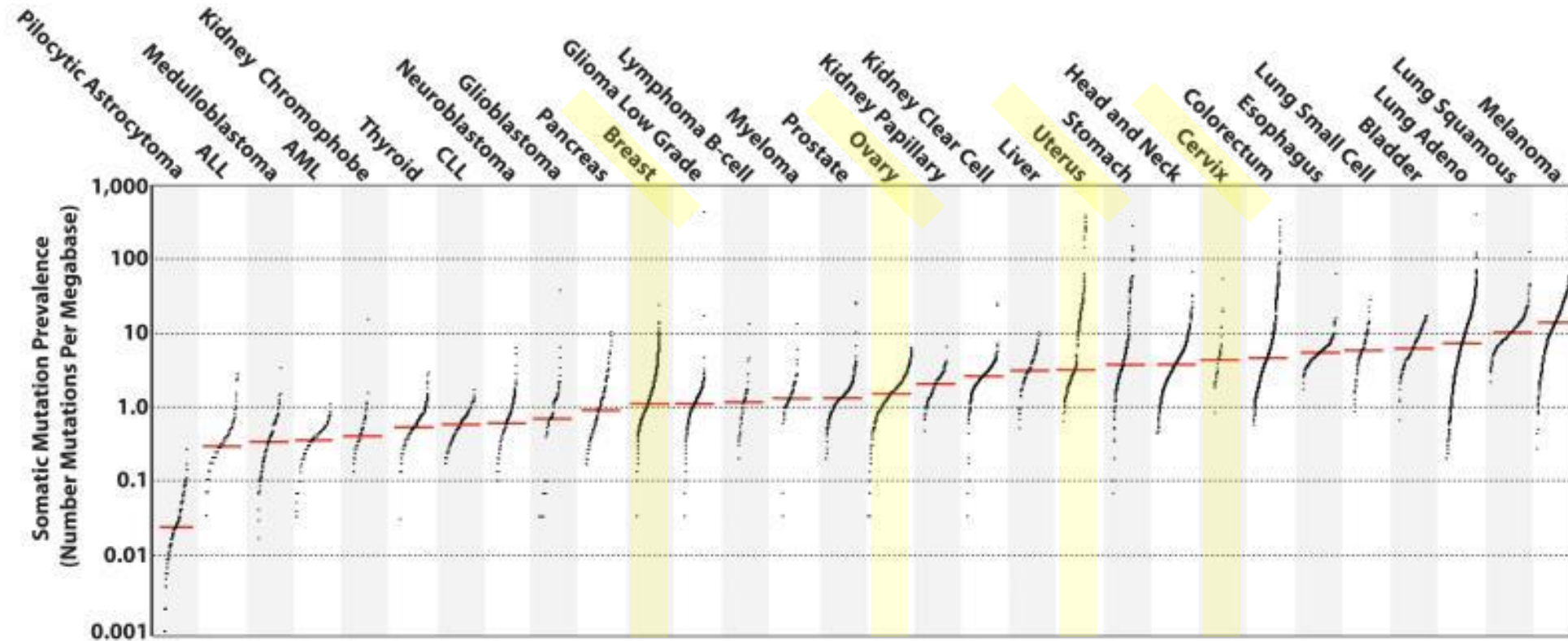
- No relevant financial relationships to disclose
- I will be discussing non-FDA approved indications during my presentation.

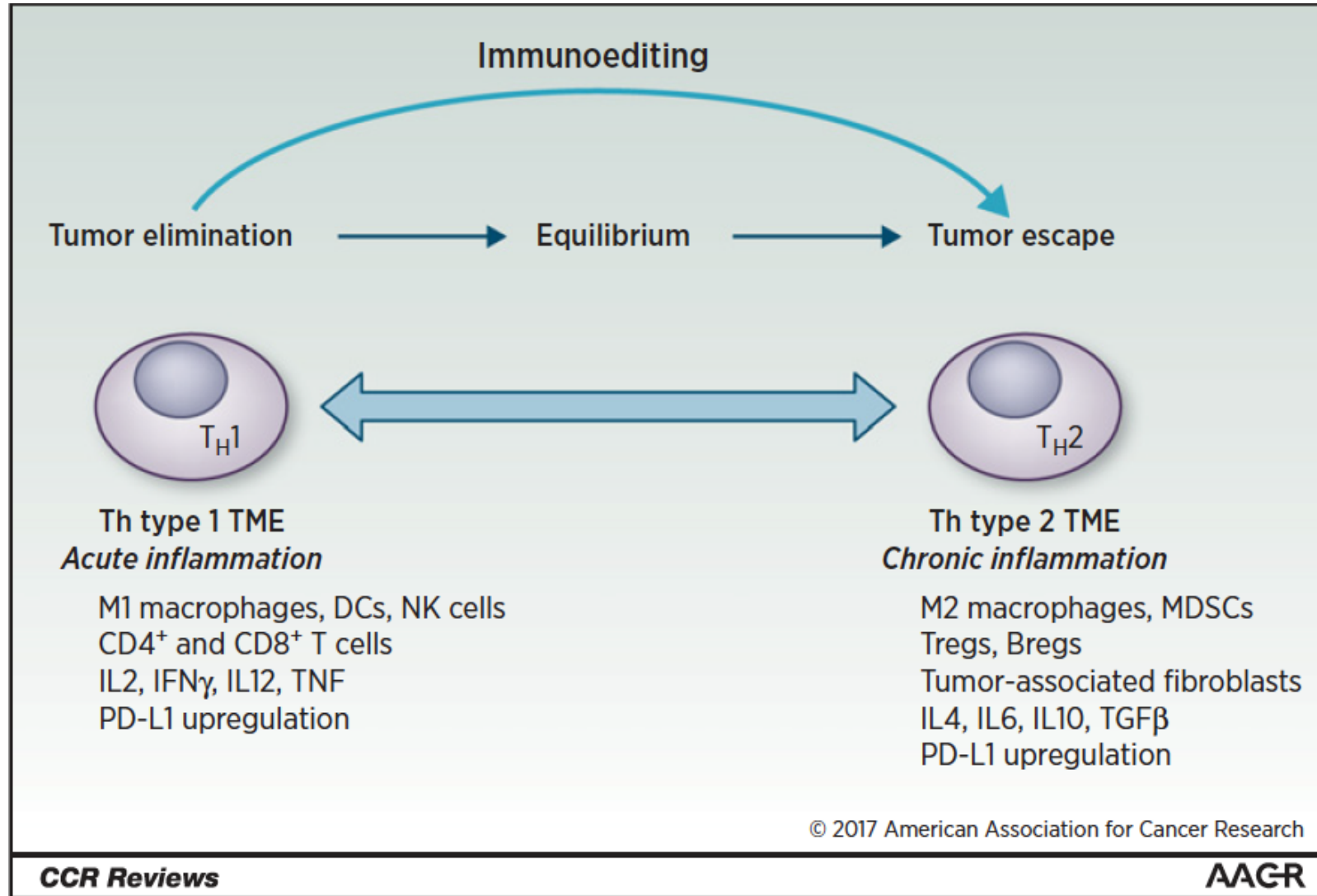
# Immunotherapy in breast cancer

- Standard-of-care treatment usually involves surgery, endocrine therapy and/or HER2 directed therapy by subtype, chemotherapy, and radiation
- Application of immunotherapy is still in early stages



# Immunotherapy in breast and gynecologic cancers





Emens L. DOI: 10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-16-3001

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# Outline

- Breast cancer
  - Approvals
  - In the pipeline
  - Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness

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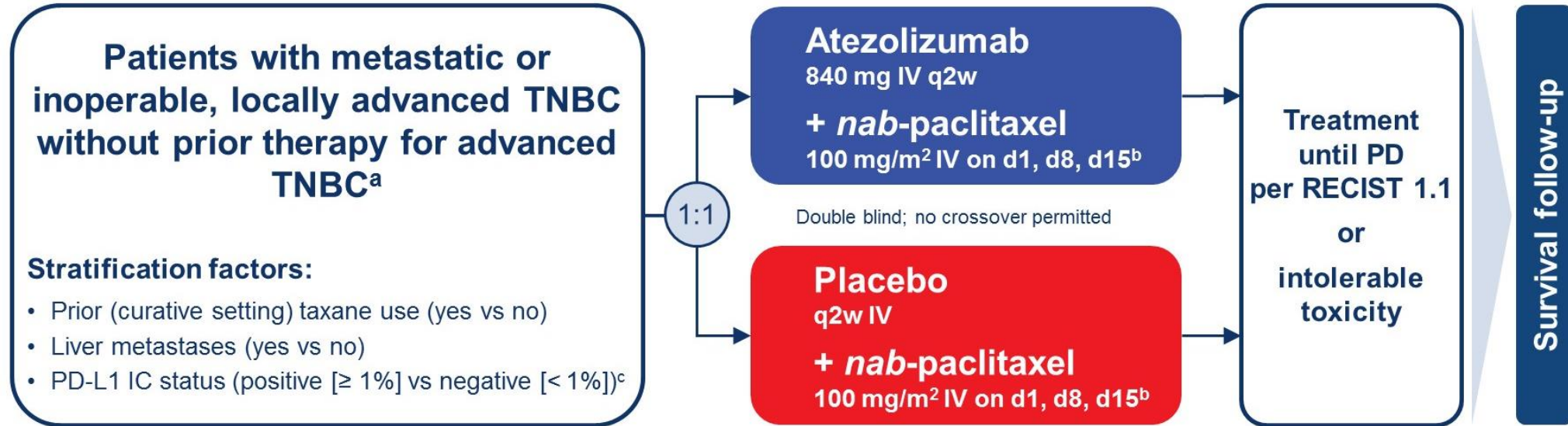
# Current approvals in breast cancer

Checkpoint inhibitor	Approved	Indication	Dose
<b>Pembrolizumab</b>	2017	MSI-H/dMMR <b>advanced cancer</b> with progression on previous treatment	200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W
<b>Atezolizumab + nab-paclitaxel or paclitaxel protein-bound</b>	2019	Advanced/Metastatic <b>TNBC</b> with PD-L1 $\geq 1\%$ immune cells	840 mg atezolizumab Q2W + 100 mg/m <sup>2</sup> nab-paclitaxel on days 1, 8, 15
<b>Pembrolizumab</b>	2020	TMB-high <b>solid tumors</b> with progression on prior treatment	200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W
<b>Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy</b>	2020	Locally recurrent/metastatic TNBC with PD-L1 CPS $\geq 10$	200 mg Q3W or 400 mg Q6W

Antibody-drug conjugate	Approved	Indication	Dose
<b>Ado-trastuzumab emtansine</b>	2019	Adjuvant treatment of <b>HER2-positive</b> early breast cancer	3.6 mg/kg Q3W
<b>Fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki</b>	2019	Unresectable/metastatic <b>HER2-positive</b> breast cancer after 2+ HER2 regimens	5.4 mg/kg Q3W
<b>Sacituzumab govitecan</b>	2020	Metastatic <b>TNBC</b> after two previous therapies	10mg/kg on D1&D8 of 21-day cycle



# IMpassion130

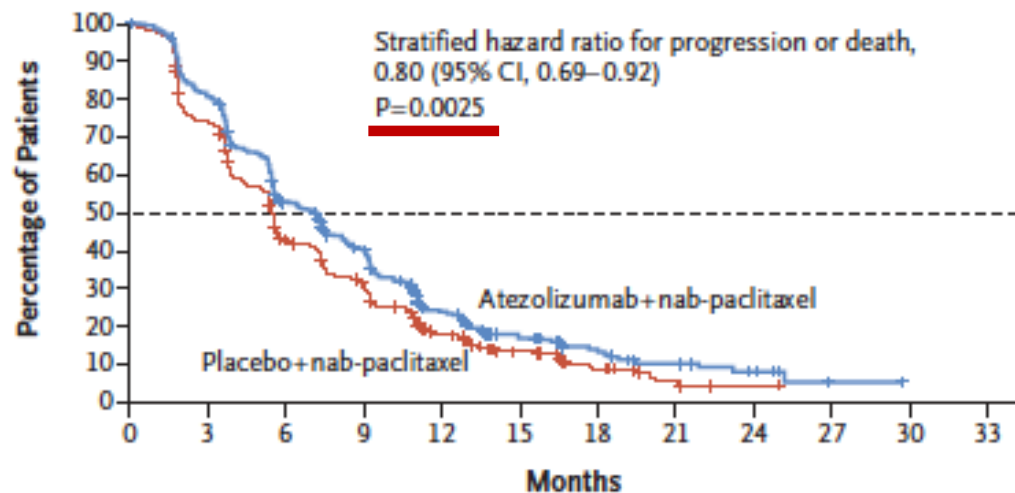


- Co-primary endpoints in ITT and PD-L1 IC+: PFS and OS<sup>d</sup>
- Pre-specified hierarchical testing of OS in ITT and, if significant, in PD-L1 IC+ patients
- In both treatment arms, 41% of patients were PD-L1 IC+

# Significant improvement in PFS

## A Progression-free Survival in the Intention-to-Treat Population

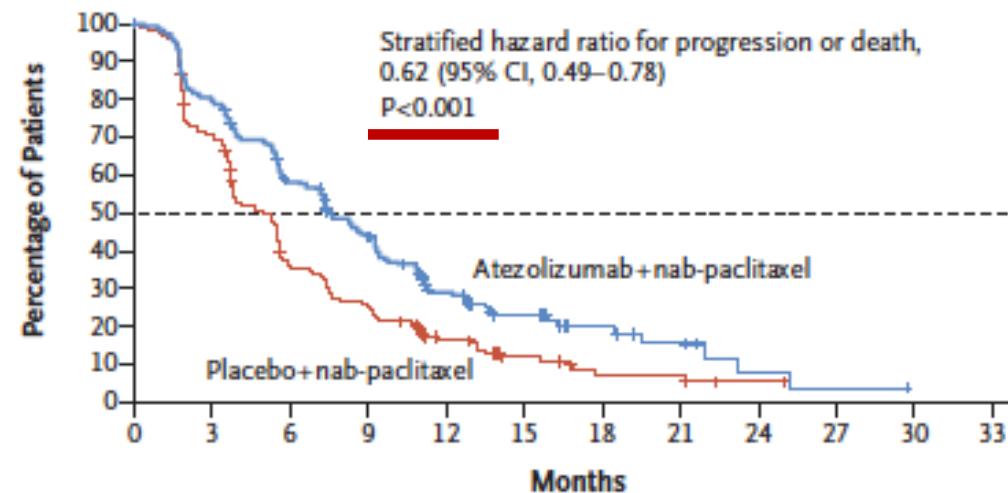
	No. of Events/ No. of Patients	Median Progression-free Survival (95% CI) mo	1-Yr Rate of Progression-free Survival (95% CI) %
Atezolizumab+Nab-Paclitaxel	358/451	7.2 (5.6–7.5)	23.7 (19.6–27.9)
Placebo+Nab-Paclitaxel	378/451	5.5 (5.3–5.6)	17.7 (14.0–21.4)



No. at Risk		451	360	226	164	77	34	20	11	6	1	NE	NE
Atezolizumab+ nab-paclitaxel		451	360	226	164	77	34	20	11	6	1	NE	NE
Placebo+ nab-paclitaxel		451	327	183	130	57	29	13	5	1	NE	NE	NE

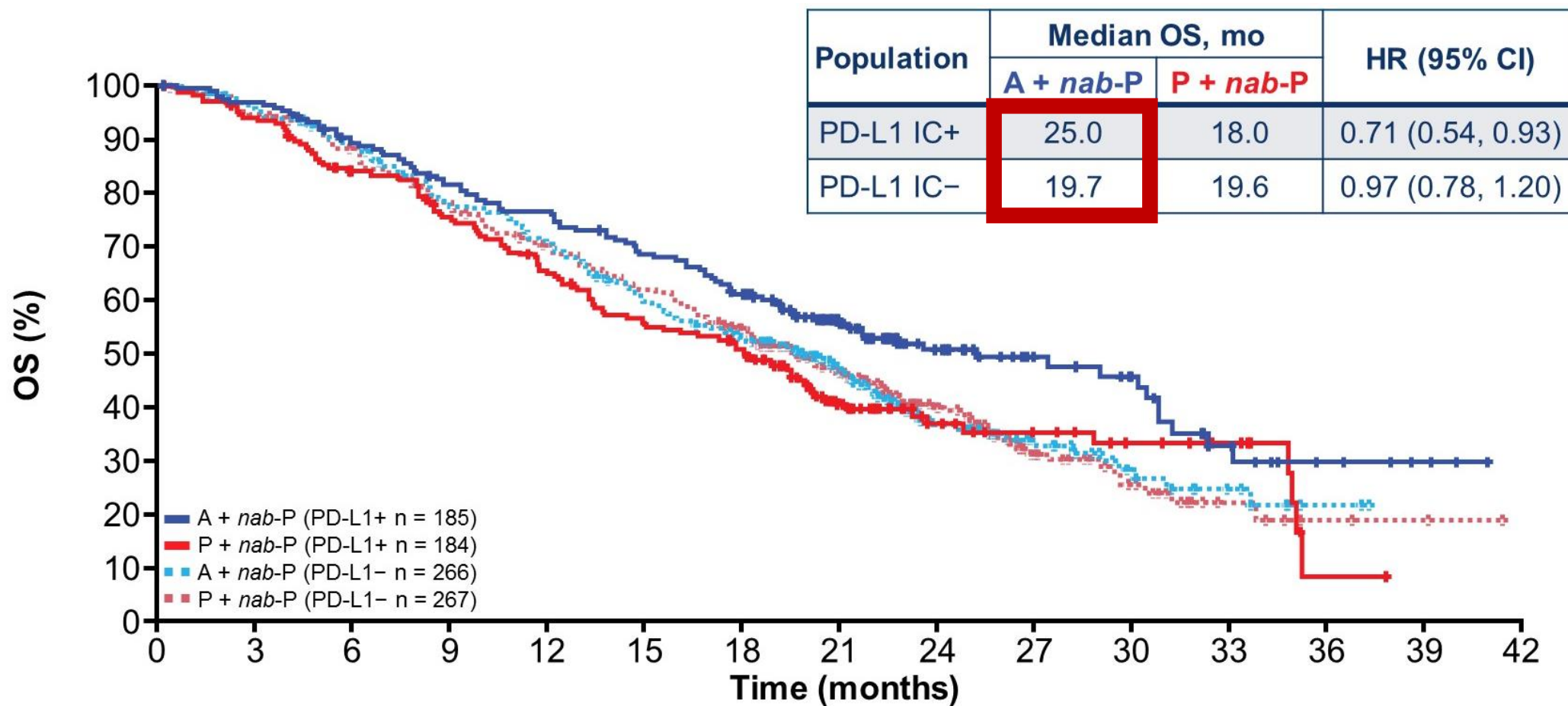
## B Progression-free Survival in the PD-L1–Positive Subgroup

	No. of Events/ No. of Patients	Median Progression-free Survival (95% CI) mo	1-Yr Rate of Progression-free Survival (95% CI) %
Atezolizumab+Nab-Paclitaxel	138/185	7.5 (6.7–9.2)	29.1 (22.2–36.1)
Placebo+Nab-Paclitaxel	157/184	5.0 (3.8–5.6)	16.4 (10.8–22.0)



No. at Risk		185	146	104	75	38	19	10	6	2	1	NE	NE
Atezolizumab+ nab-paclitaxel		185	146	104	75	38	19	10	6	2	1	NE	NE
Placebo+ nab-paclitaxel		184	127	62	44	22	11	5	5	1	NE	NE	NE

# IMpassion130: PD-L1+ TNBC



# KEYNOTE-355 Study Design (NCT02819518)

## Key Eligibility Criteria

- Age  $\geq 18$  years
- Central determination of TNBC and PD-L1 expression
- Previously untreated locally recurrent inoperable or metastatic TNBC
- Completion of treatment with curative intent  $\geq 6$  months prior to first disease recurrence
- ECOG performance status 0 or 1
- Life expectancy  $\geq 12$  weeks from randomization
- Adequate organ function
- No systemic steroids
- No active CNS metastases
- No active autoimmune disease

R  
2:1

Pembrolizumab<sup>a</sup> + Chemotherapy<sup>b</sup>

Placebo<sup>c</sup> + Chemotherapy<sup>b</sup>

Progressive disease<sup>d</sup>/cessation of study therapy

## Stratification Factors:

- Chemotherapy on study (taxane vs gemcitabine/carboplatin)
- PD-L1 tumor expression (CPS  $\geq 1$  vs CPS  $< 1$ )
- Prior treatment with same class chemotherapy in the neoadjuvant or adjuvant setting (yes vs no)

<sup>a</sup>Pembrolizumab 200 mg intravenous (IV) every 3 weeks (Q3W)

<sup>b</sup>Chemotherapy dosing regimens are as follows:

Nab-paclitaxel 100 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV on days 1, 8, and 15 every 28 days

Paclitaxel 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV on days 1, 8, and 15 every 28 days

Gemcitabine 1000 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/carboplatin AUC 2 on days 1 and 8 every 21 days

<sup>c</sup>Normal saline

<sup>d</sup>Treatment may be continued until confirmation of progressive disease

CNS=central nervous system; ECOG=Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group;

PD-L1=programmed death ligand 1; R=randomized; TNBC=triple-negative breast cancer

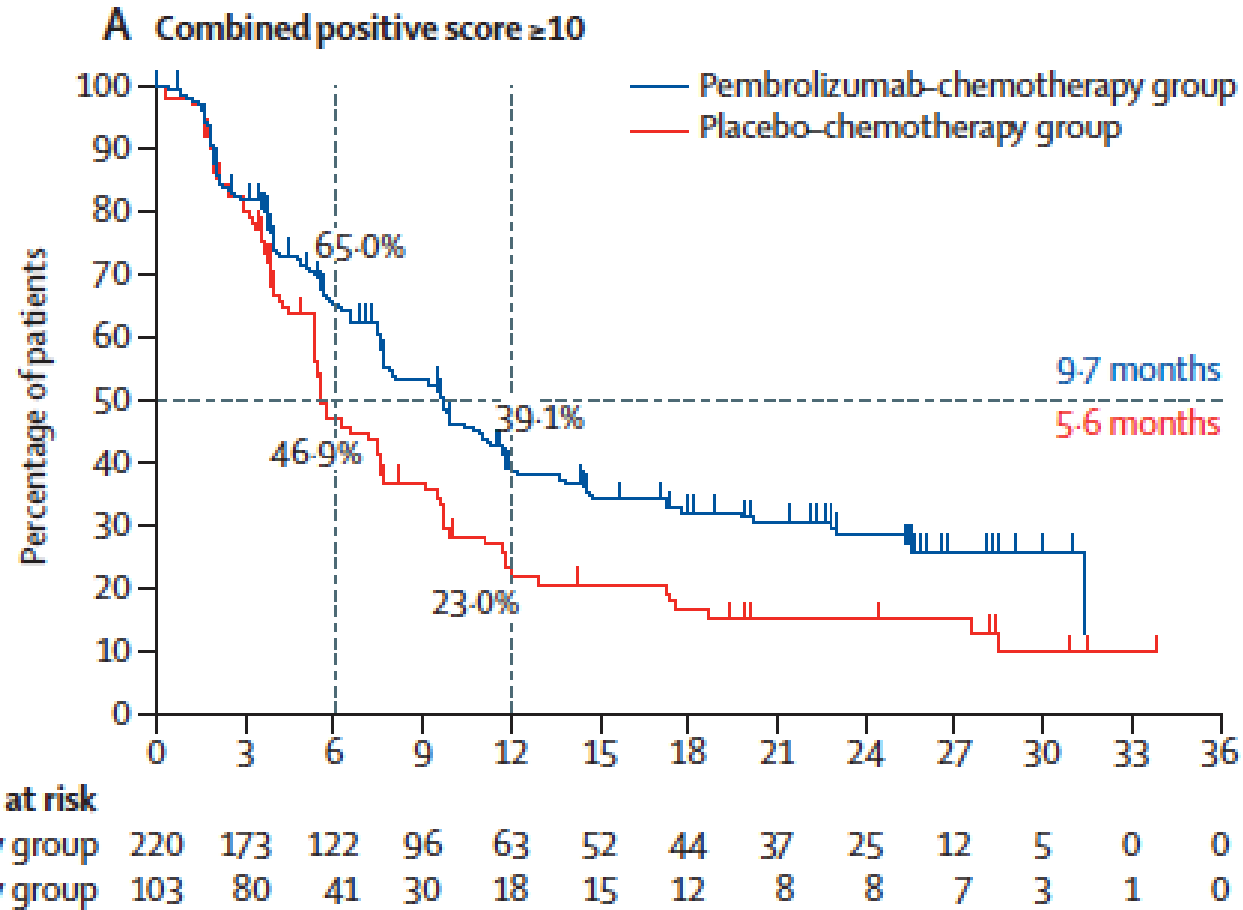
Presented by Javier Cortes at ASCO 2020

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# PFS Benefit in CPS<sub>≥10</sub>

The FDA concurrently approved the PD-L1 IHC 22C3 pharmDx test as a companion diagnostic assay for selecting patients with TNBC for pembrolizumab

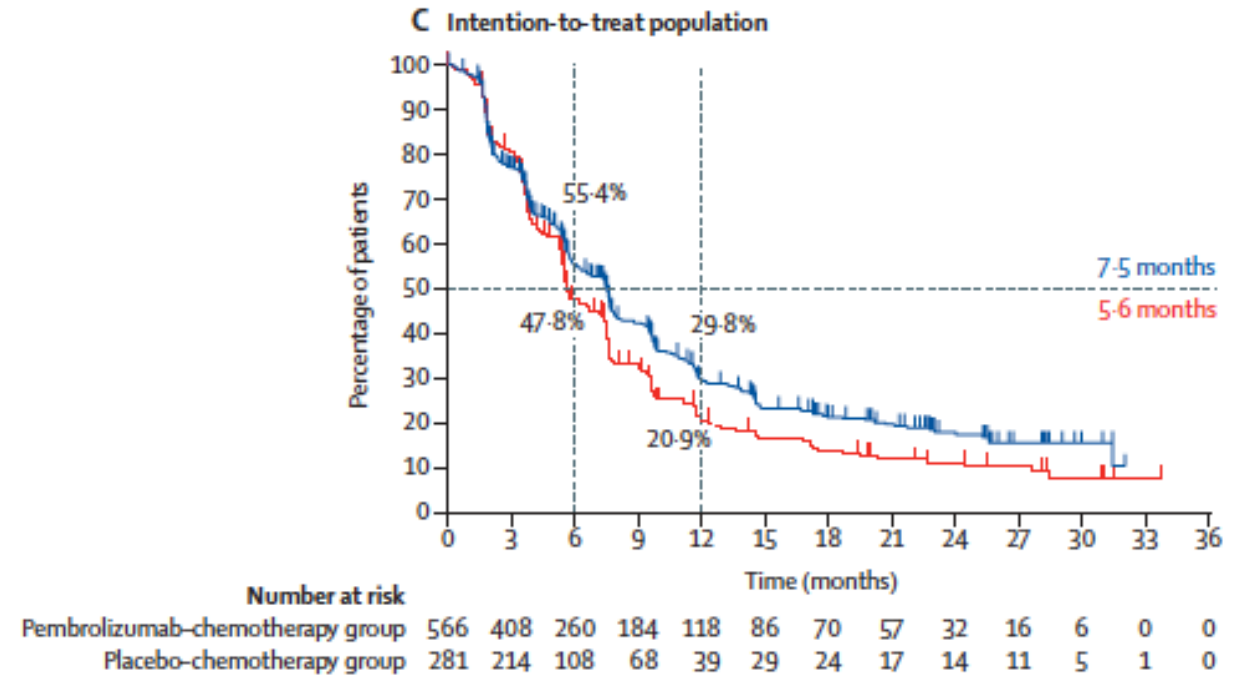
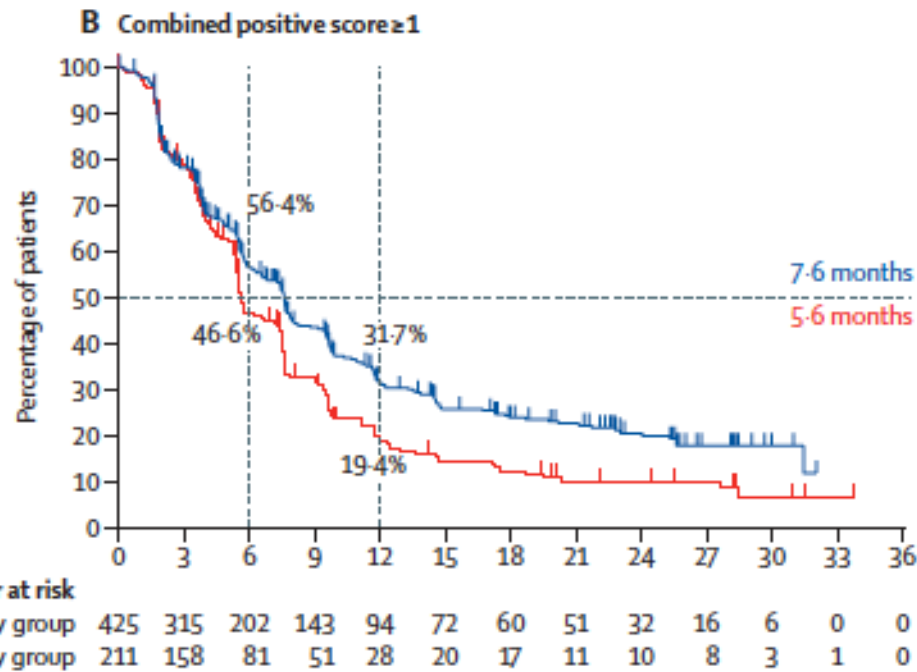


**Hazard ratio [HR] for progression or death, 0.65, 95% CI 0.49–0.86; one-sided  $p=0.0012$  [primary objective met]).**

Cortes J. et al ***Lancet* 2020; 396: 1817–28**

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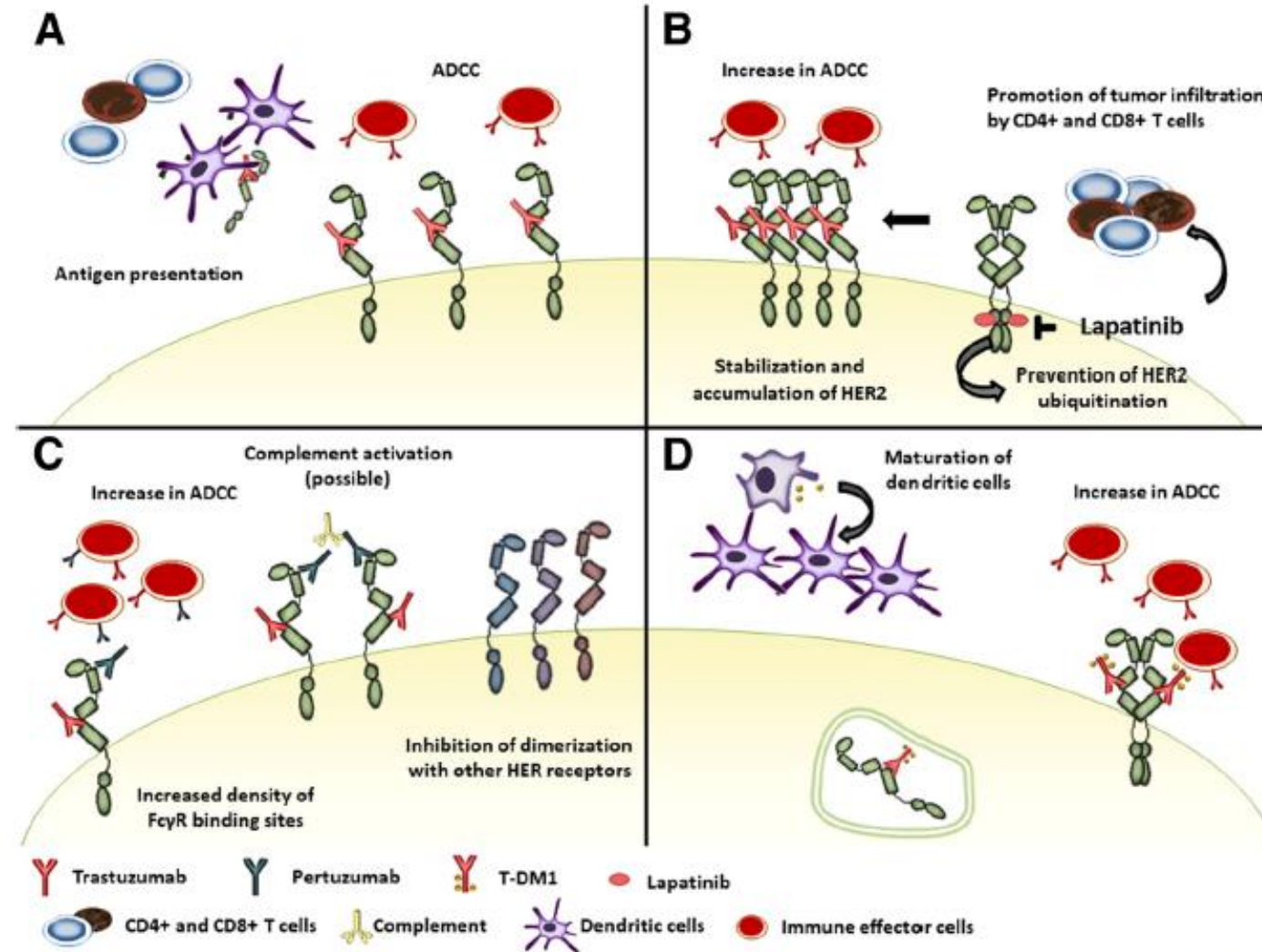
# CPS $\geq 1$ and ITT:



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# Immune Effects of HER2 directed therapy



**Fig. 1** Immune related mechanisms of action of HER2-targeted agents: trastuzumab (a), lapatinib (b), pertuzumab (c), T-DM1 (d)

# T-DM1 in adjuvant setting

## The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

FEBRUARY 14, 2019

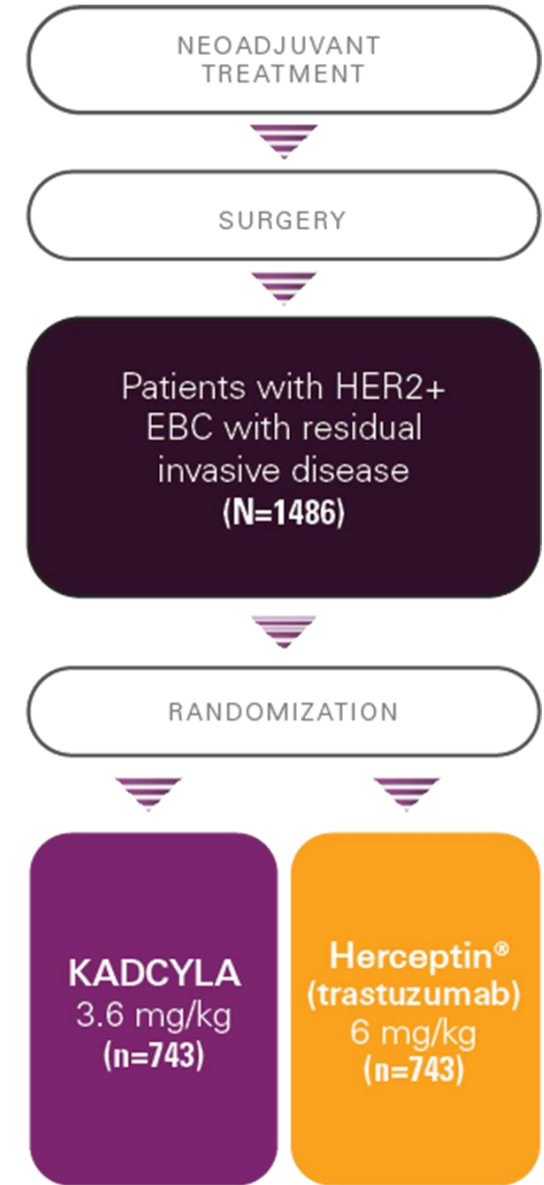
VOL. 380 NO. 7

### Trastuzumab Emtansine for Residual Invasive HER2-Positive Breast Cancer

G. von Minckwitz, C.-S. Huang, M.S. Mano, S. Loibl, E.P. Mamounas, M. Untch, N. Wolmark, P. Rastogi, A. Schneeweiss, A. Redondo, H.H. Fischer, W. Jacot, A.K. Conlin, C. Arce-Salinas, I.L. Wapnir, C. Jackisch, M.P. DiGiovanna, P.A. Fasching, J.P. Crown, P. Wülfing, Z. Shao, E. Rota Caremoli, H. Wu, L.H. Lam, D. Tesarowski, M. Smitt, H. Douthwaite, S.M. Singel, and C.E. Geyer, Jr., for the KATHERINE Investigators\*

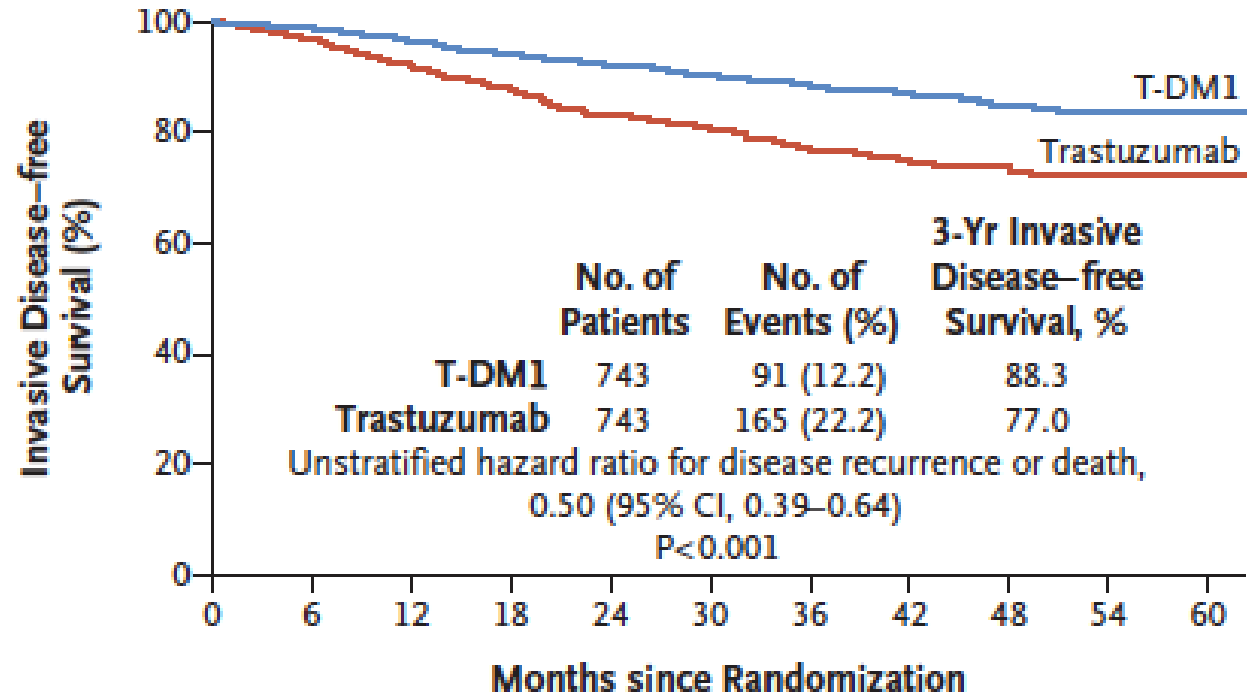
N Engl J Med 2019;380:617-28.

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1814017



# 3 year iDFS improvement of 11%

**A**



**No. at Risk**

T-DM1	743	707	681	658	633	561	409	255	142	44	4
Trastuzumab	743	676	635	594	555	501	342	220	119	38	4

# Outline

- **Breast cancer**
  - Approvals
  - **In the pipeline**
  - Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness
- Gynecologic cancers
  - Approvals
  - In the pipeline

# Clinical trials in TNBC

Trial	Treatment arm(s)	Patient selection criteria	n	ORR	Median PFS (months)	Median OS (months)
IMpassion130	Atezolizumab + nab-paclitaxel* *FDA-approved	Metastatic TNBC without prior therapy	902	ITT: 56.0% PD-L1+: 58.9%	ITT: 7.2 PD-L1+: 7.5	ITT: 21.3 PD-L1+: 25.0
	Placebo + nab-paclitaxel			ITT: 45.9% PD-L1+: 42.6%	ITT: 5.5 PD-L1+: 5.0	ITT: 17.6 PD-L1+: 15.5
KEYNOTE-086	Pembrolizumab	A: Metastatic TNBC at 2 <sup>nd</sup> line or greater	170	5.3% CR: 1.2%	2.0	9.0
		B: PD-L1+ metastatic TNBC without prior therapy	84	21.4% CR: 4.7%	2.1	18.0
IMMU-132-01	Sacituzumab govitecan-hziy* (Anti-Trop-2)	Advanced TNBC with at least 2 prior therapies	108	33.3%	5.5	13.0
KEYNOTE-355	Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy	Locally recurrent inoperable or metastatic TNBC without prior therapy	566		ITT: 7.5 CPS >10: 9.7	
	Placebo + chemotherapy		281		ITT: 5.6 CPS >10: 5.6	
KEYNOTE-522	Neoadjuvant pembrolizumab + paclitaxel/carboplatin, adjuvant pembrolizumab	Stage II or III TNBC without prior therapy	1174	Pathological complete response rates: ITT: 64.8% vs 51.2% PD-L1+: 68.9% vs 54.9% PD-L1-: 45.3% vs 30.3%		
	Neoadjuvant placebo + paclitaxel/carboplatin, adjuvant placebo					



# Clinical trials in HR+ or HER2+ breast cancer

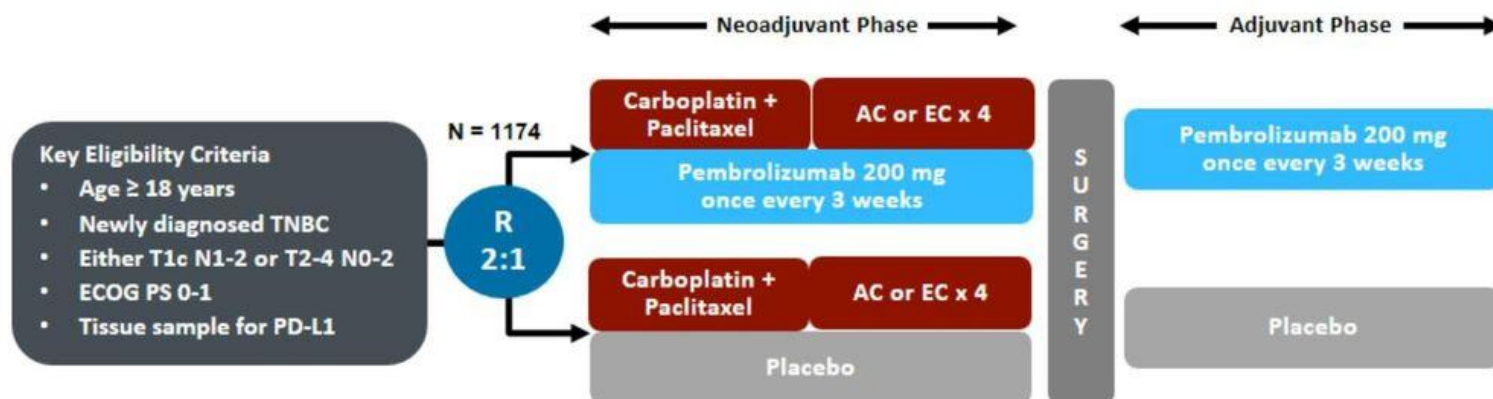
Trial	Treatment arm(s)	Patient selection criteria	n	ORR	Median PFS (months)	Median OS (months)
KEYNOTE-028	Pembrolizumab	ER+/HER2-, PD-L1+ breast cancer	25	12.0% CR: 0%	1.8	8.6
KEYNOTE-014/PANACEA	Pembrolizumab + trastuzumab	HER2+ breast cancer with progression on trastuzumab	58	PD-L1+: 15% CR: 4%  PD-L1-: 0%		
KATE2	Atezolizumab + trastuzumab emtansine	HER2+ advanced breast cancer with previous trastuzumab and a taxane	133	ITT: 45% PD-L1+: 54%	ITT: 8.2 PD-L1+: 8.5	ITT 1-year: 89.1% PD-L1+: 94.3%
	Trastuzumab emtansine		69	ITT: 43% PD-L1+: 33%	ITT: 6.8 PD-L1+: 4.1	ITT 1-year: 89.0% PD-L1+: 87.9%
KATHERINE	Trastuzumab emtansine* (Anti-HER2)	HER2-positive early breast cancer after neoadjuvant therapy	148 6	3-year invasive disease-free survival: 88.3% vs. 77.0%		
DESTINY-Breast01	Trastuzumab deruxtecan*	HER2-positive metastatic breast cancer after trastuzumab emtansine	184	60.9%	16.4	NR



# KEYNOTE 522: Neoadjuvant Study

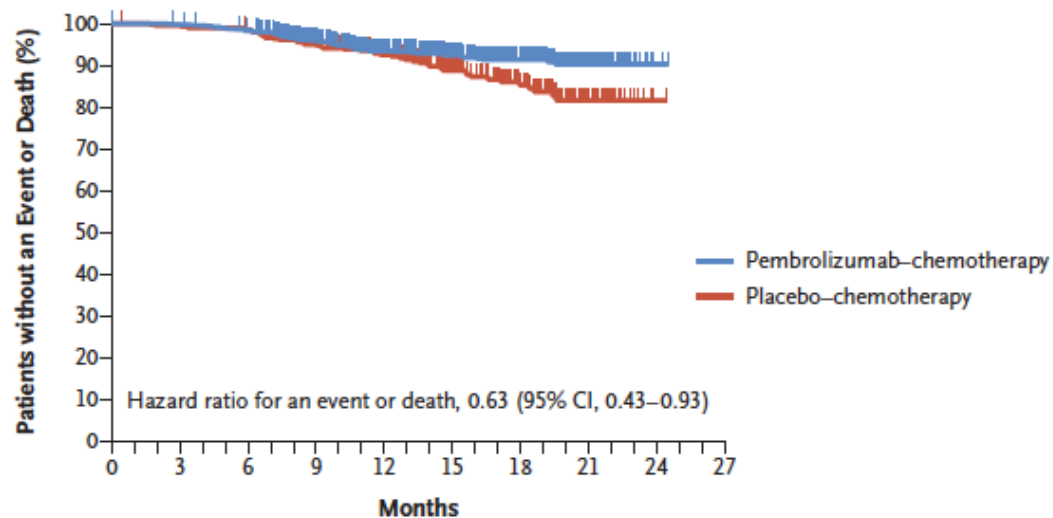
## KEYNOTE-522

*Confirming Benefit of Pembrolizumab-Containing Neoadjuvant Therapy*



### Stratification Factors:

- Nodal status (+ vs -)
- Tumor size (T1/T2 vs T3/T4)
- Carboplatin schedule (once weekly vs once every 3 weeks)



**No. at Risk**

Pembrolizumab–chemotherapy	784	780	765	666	519	376	242	73	2	0
Placebo–chemotherapy	390	386	380	337	264	186	116	35	1	0

**Figure 2. Kaplan–Meier Estimates of Event-free Survival, According to Trial Group in the Intention-to-Treat Population.**

Tick marks indicate data censored at the last time the patient was known to be alive and without an event (disease progression that precludes definitive surgery; local or distant recurrence or a second primary tumor; or death from any cause). The hazard ratio and confidence interval were analyzed with the use of a Cox regression model with treatment as a covariate stratified according to the randomization stratification factors of nodal status (positive or negative), tumor size (T1 to T2 or T3 to T4), and frequency of carboplatin administration (once weekly or once every 3 weeks).

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Pembrolizumab for Early Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

P. Schmid, J. Cortes, L. Pusztai, H. McArthur, S. Kümmel, J. Bergh, C. Denkert, Y.H. Park, R. Hui, N. Harbeck, M. Takahashi, T. Foukakis, P.A. Fasching, F. Cardoso, M. Untch, L. Jia, V. Karantza, J. Zhao, G. Aktan, R. Dent, and J. O'Shaughnessy, for the KEYNOTE-522 Investigators\*

- pCR: **64.8%** (pembro-chemo) vs. **51.2%** (placebo-chemo)

After a median follow-up of 15.5 months EFS events occurred in:

- 58 of 784 patients (7.4%) in the pembro–chemo group
- 46 of 390 patients (11.8%) in the placebo–chemo group
- (hazard ratio, 0.63; 95% CI, 0.43 to 0.93).

# ALLIANCE CALGB 40603: Addition of carboplatin led to pCR 54% v 41%; P .0029

The use of neoadjuvant platinum with taxane for treatment of early stage TNBC improve pCR rate, but toxicity limits dosing of carboplatin

In Arm 3 (taxol/carbo/ddAC arm)

- 56% in the carbo arm had Grade 3-4 neutropenia
- 20% had Grade 3-4 thrombocytopenia
- 10 pts had febrile neutropenia

J Clin Oncol 33:13-21.

DOI: 10.1200/JCO.2014.57.0572

**Table 3.** Grade 3 to 4 Treatment-Related Toxicities

	Arm One: Control (%)	Arm Two: Control + Bev (%)	Arm Three: Control + Carbo (%)	Arm Four: Control + Bev and Carbo (%)
Leukopenia	12	13	13	<b>25</b>
Neutropenia	22	27	<b>56</b>	<b>67</b>
Thrombocytopenia	4	3	<b>20</b>	<b>26</b>
Hemoglobin	0	2	4	5
Febrile neutropenia	7	9	12	<b>24</b>
Nausea	4	4	3	8
Vomiting	2	2	2	4
Mucositis	2	0	1	4
Diarrhea	0	3	2	3
Hypertension	2	<b>12</b>	0	<b>10*</b>
ALT elevation	0	3	0	3
Hypokalemia	3	1	6	2
Peripheral neuropathy	2	6	7	4
Fatigue	10	12	10	<b>20</b>
Pain	3	6	3	<b>11</b>

NOTE. Bold font indicates significant difference in incidence compared with other treatment arms. Early surgical complications requiring intervention ± bevacizumab: 9% versus 5%; delayed surgical complications requiring intervention ± bevacizumab: 4% versus 1%.

Abbreviations: Bev, bevacizumab; Carbo, carboplatin.

\*One treatment-related fatality.

# Neoadjuvant chemotherapy regimens in TNBC

- **ISPY2** demonstrated addition of pembrolizumab improves pCR rate:
  - **pCR 60%** in pembro-chemo (P+C) arm vs **20%** in standard chemo (C) alone arm
  - Standard chemo: 12 weekly paclitaxel → AC (q2-3 wks)
- **KEYNOTE-522**
  - **pCR: 64.8%** in the pembro–chemo group vs. **51.2%** in chemo alone group
  - Toxicity: treatment-related AE  $\geq$  grade 3: 78.0% in (P+C) and 73.0% in chemotherapy group
  - febrile neutropenia: 14.6% (P+C) and 12.1% (C)
  - discontinuation of any trial drug: 23.3% (P+C), 12.3% (C)

# Outline

- **Breast cancer**
  - Approvals
  - In the pipeline
  - Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness
- Gynecologic cancers
  - Approvals
  - In the pipeline



# Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness in breast cancers

- Potential markers of responsiveness include:
  - PD-L1
  - Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes
  - Mutational signatures

## FDA-approved biomarkers only include:

- PD-L1+ by SP142
- TMB 10 or more
- MSI high

ADDITIONAL TARGETED THERAPIES AND ASSOCIATED BIOMARKER TESTING FOR RECURRENT OR STAGE IV (M1) DISEASE

Biomarkers Associated with FDA-Approved Therapies					
Breast Cancer Subtype	Biomarker	Detection	FDA-Approved Agents	NCCN Category of Evidence	NCCN Category of Preference
Any <sup>a</sup>	<i>BRCA1</i> mutation <i>BRCA2</i> mutation	Germline sequencing	Olaparib Talazoparib	Category 1 Category 1	Preferred Preferred
HR-positive/ HER2-negative <sup>b</sup>	<i>PIK3CA</i> mutation	PCR (blood or tissue block if blood negative), molecular panel testing	Alpelisib + fulvestrant <sup>d</sup>	Category 1	Preferred second-line therapy
HR-negative/ HER2-negative <sup>c</sup>	PD-L1 expression • Threshold for positivity: ≥1% on tumor-infiltrating immune cells	IHC	Atezolizumab + albumin-bound paclitaxel	Category 2A	Preferred
Any	<i>NTRK</i> fusion	FISH, NGS, PCR (tissue block)	Larotrectinib <sup>e</sup> Entrectinib <sup>e</sup>	Category 2A Category 2A	Useful in certain circumstances <sup>e</sup> Useful in certain circumstances <sup>e</sup>
Any	MSI-H/dMMR	IHC, PCR (tissue block)	Pembrolizumab <sup>f</sup>	Category 2A	Useful in certain circumstances <sup>f</sup>



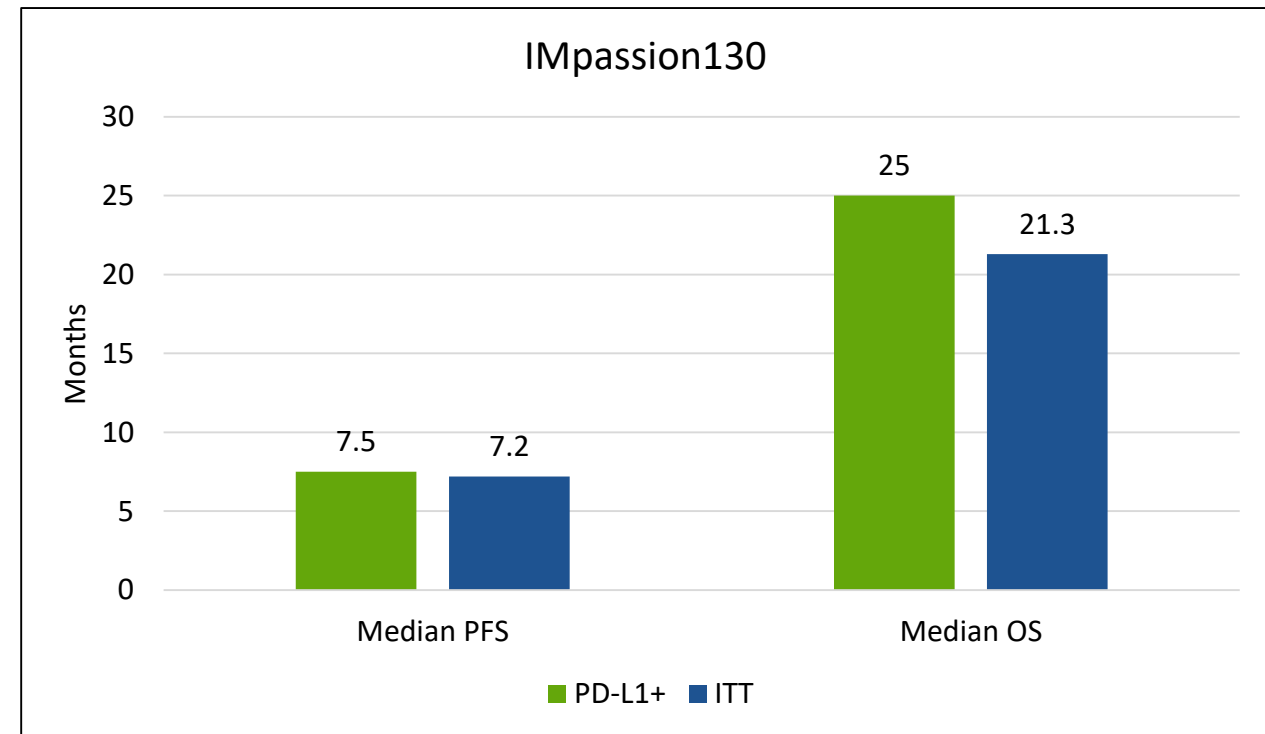
# Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness in breast cancers

- Potential markers of responsiveness include:

- PD-L1
- Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes
- Mutational signatures

Here, patients with PD-L1 on  $\geq 1\%$  of tumor-infiltrating immune cells had improved outcomes on atezolizumab + chemotherapy compared to the general population (OS HR 0.62 vs 0.84)

However, PD-L1 expression does not always correlate with response to all ICIs.

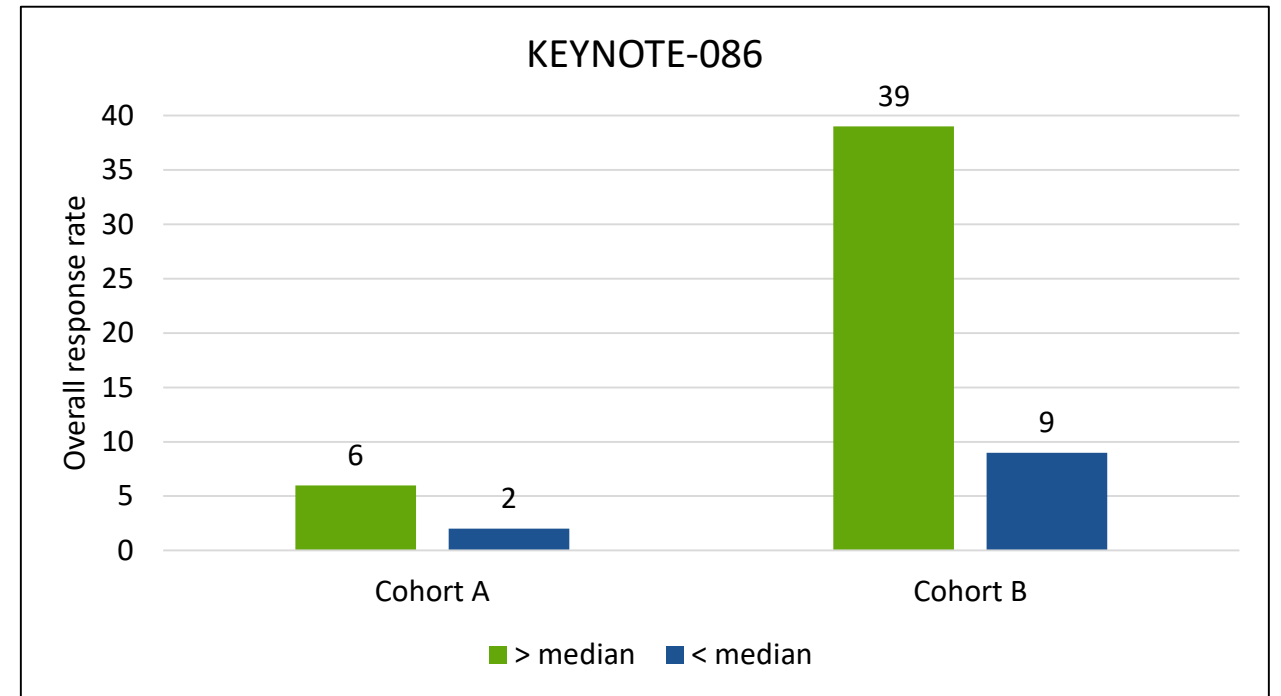


# Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness in breast cancers

- Potential markers of responsiveness include:

- PD-L1
- Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes
- Mutational signatures

Here, patients with a tumor infiltrating lymphocyte level greater than the median level had improved outcomes when treated with pembrolizumab, particularly in the front-line setting (cohort B).

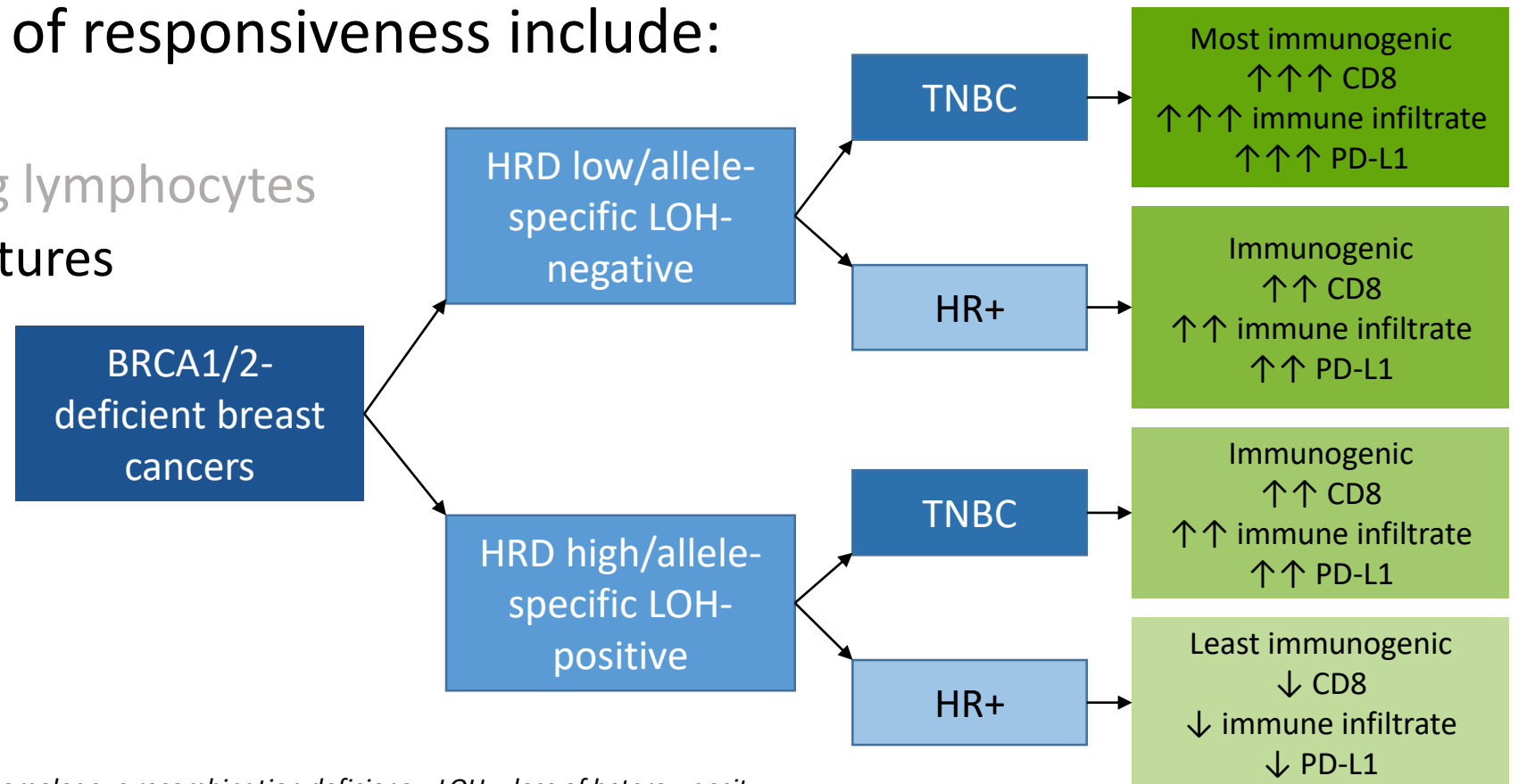


*\*Not an FDA-approved biomarker for treatment selection*

# Biomarkers and immunotherapy responsiveness in breast cancers

- Potential markers of responsiveness include:

- PD-L1
- Tumor infiltrating lymphocytes
- Mutational signatures



*Pembrolizumab is also approved for MSI-H/TMB-H tumors*

*\*BRCA/HRD not FDA-approved biomarkers for immunotherapies*

HRD = homologous recombination deficiency; LOH = loss of heterozygosity

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# Conclusions

- Immunotherapy in breast cancers is expanding rapidly
- Immunotherapy in breast cancer shows promise in certain subtypes

# Case Studies

# Case Study 1

65 y.o. woman with de novo stage 4 TNBC with metastatic disease to the bone, liver, and lung presents for initial consultation. She has not received any treatment in the metastatic setting.

1. What is the first step in evaluating her disease to determine the 1<sup>st</sup> line therapy?
  - A. Initiate chemotherapy with Gemcitabine plus carboplatin
  - B. Biopsy metastatic site and send off for PD-L1 IHC
  - C. Initiate radiation to the liver lesions
  - D. Initiate endocrine therapy with tamoxifen
  
2. The patient initiates 1<sup>st</sup> line therapy, on her first restaging scan at 3 months, she has achieved PR. She feels well and continues on current therapy. What are the routine labs for patients like her?
  - A. CBC with diff
  - B. CMP
  - C. TFTs
  - D. All of the above
  
3. Her TSH on routine labs was found to be elevated at 10, she is asymptomatic, what is the next step?
  - A. Admit patient to the hospital
  - B. Do nothing
  - C. Begin levothyroxine
  - D. All of the above