



Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Lung Cancer

Matthew Gubens, MD, MS

University of California, San Francisco



Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer

Disclosures

- Consulting
 - AbbVie, ARIAD, AstraZeneca, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Genentech/Roche, Novartis, Pfizer
- Research Funding (to institution)
 - Celgene, Genentech/Roche, Merck, Novartis, OncoMed
- I will discussing non-FDA approved treatment/indications during my presentation today (research findings)

Case

- 69yo female, current smoker with 60 pack year smoking history, presents with progressive cough
- CT reveals, and PET/CT confirms, 4cm LUL lesion, multifocal mediastinal LAD, and 2cm R adrenal lesion, all hypermetabolic. MRI brain negative
- Bronchoscopy with biopsy of subcarinal node reveals squamous cell carcinoma
- Primary oncologist recommends carboplatin and gemcitabine
- Saw a commercial “with a big wall” and presents for a second opinion and wants to know if she should change therapy

Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer

- PD-1/PD-L1 inhibition in the 2nd line
- PD-1 inhibition in the 1st line
- Where we're going: combinations

F.D.A. Allows First Use of a Novel Cancer Drug

By ANDREW POLLACK SEPT. 4, 2014



EMAIL



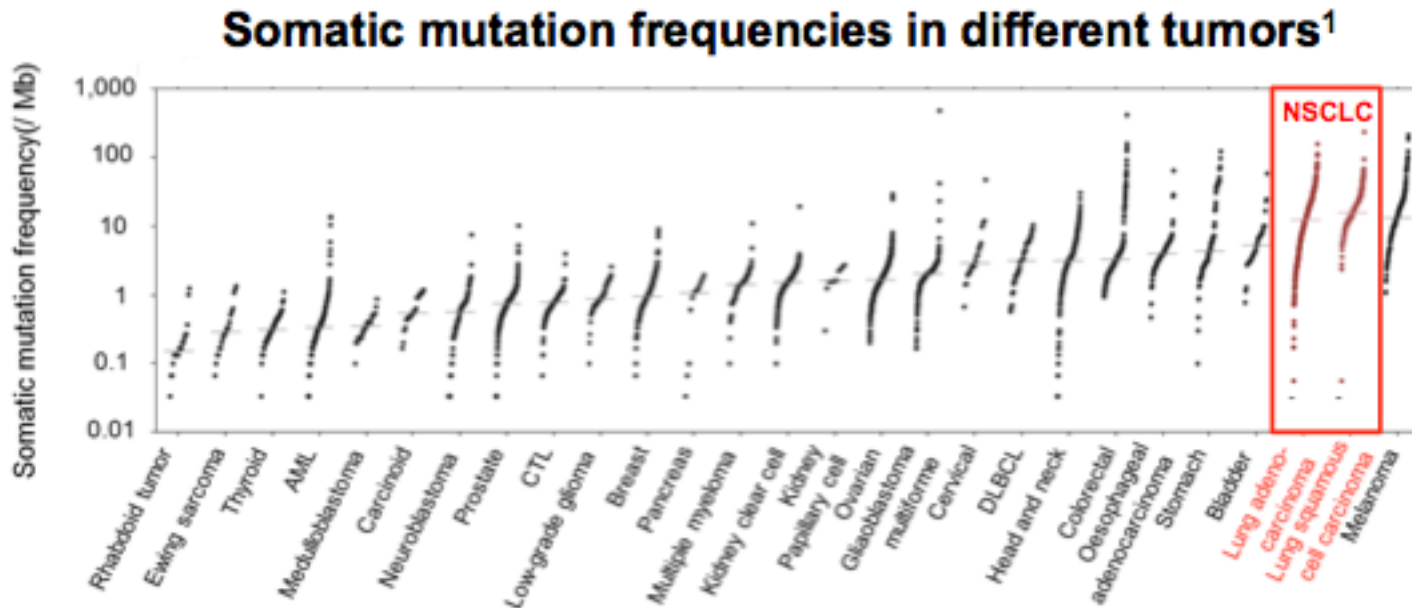
FACEBOOK

The Food and Drug Administration on Thursday approved the first of an eagerly awaited new class of cancer drugs that unleashes the body's immune system to fight tumors.

The drug, which will sell under the name , was approved for patients with advanced melanoma who have exhausted other therapies.

Cancer researchers have been almost giddy in the last couple of years about the potential of drugs like , which seem to solve a century-old mystery of how cancerous cells manage to evade the body's immune system.

Immunotherapy- PD1/PD-L1



- High rates of somatic mutations in lung cancer may contribute to increased immunogenicity
- Therapies targeting the PD-L1/PD-1 pathway will alter the treatment of NSCLC

¹Lawrence MS, et al. Nature. 2013;499(7457):214-218.

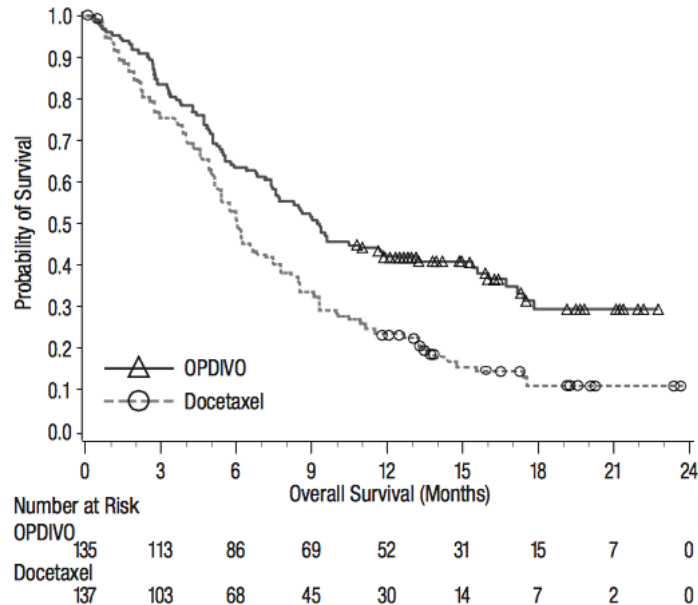
²Chen DS, et al. CCR. 2012.

Nivolumab vs docetaxel: Checkmate 017/057

Squamous

Non-squamous

Figure 1: Overall Survival - Trial 2



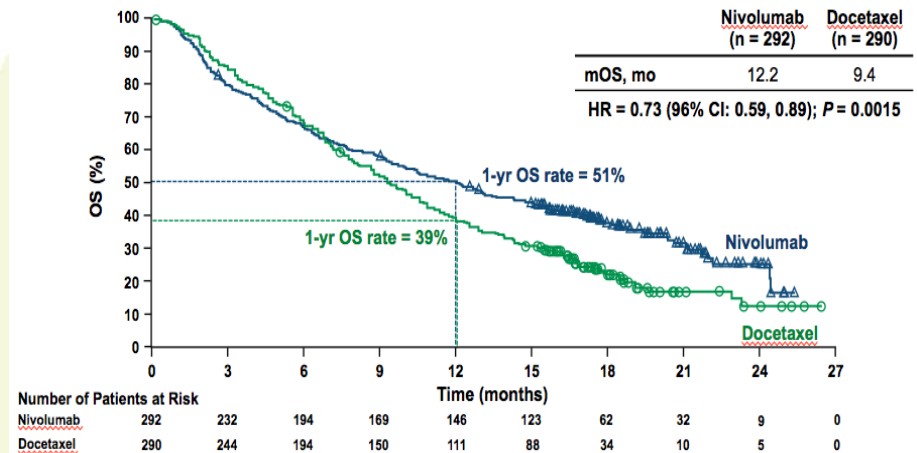
■ Response rate on 017

- Nivo 20% vs docetaxel 9%

■ Median duration of response on 017

- Nivo NR vs docetaxel 8.4mo

Overall Survival



■ Response rate on 057

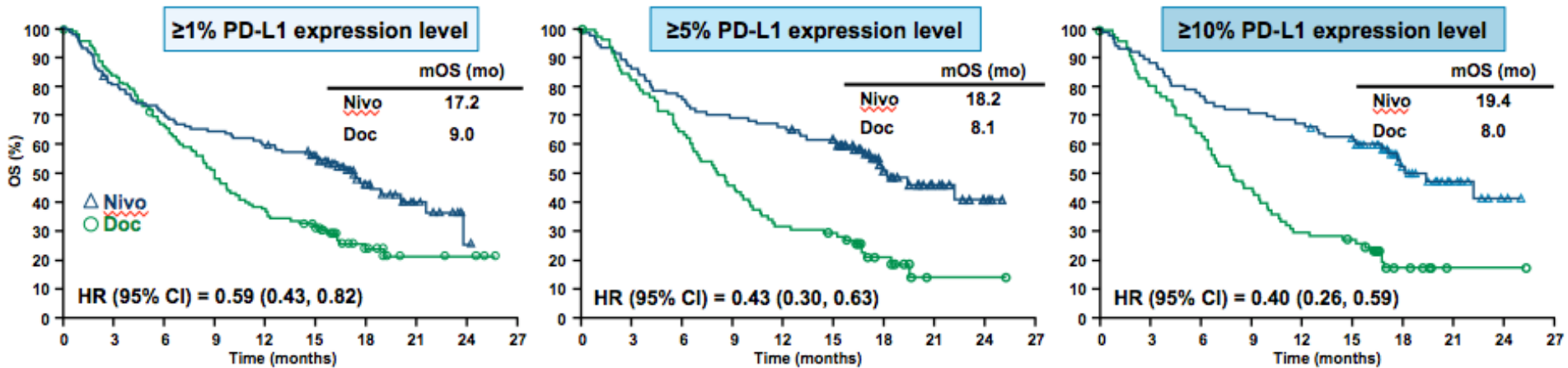
- Nivo 19% vs docetaxel 12%

■ Median duration of response on 057

- Nivo 17.2mo vs docetaxel 5.6mo

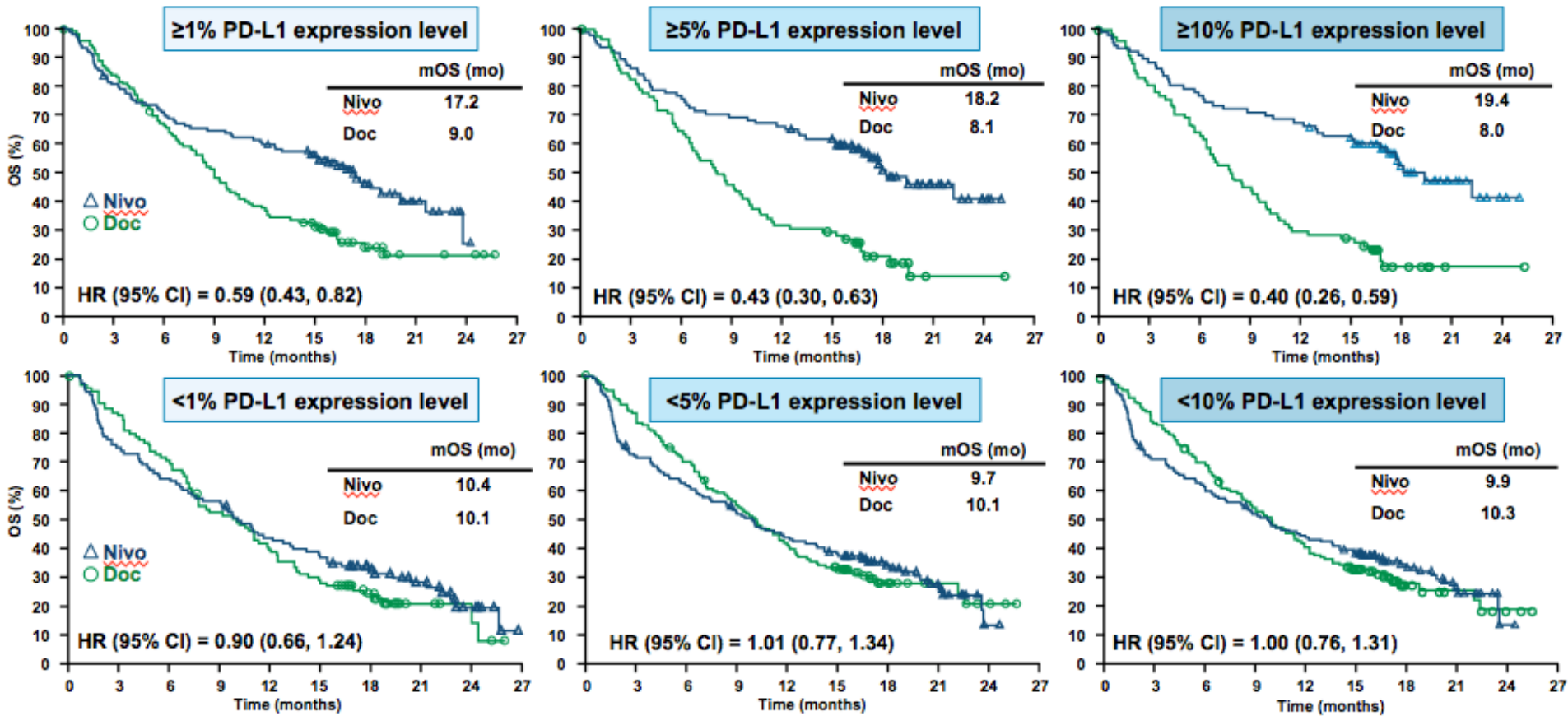
Nivo vs doce in non-squam NSCLC: Checkpoint 057

OS by PD-L1 Expression

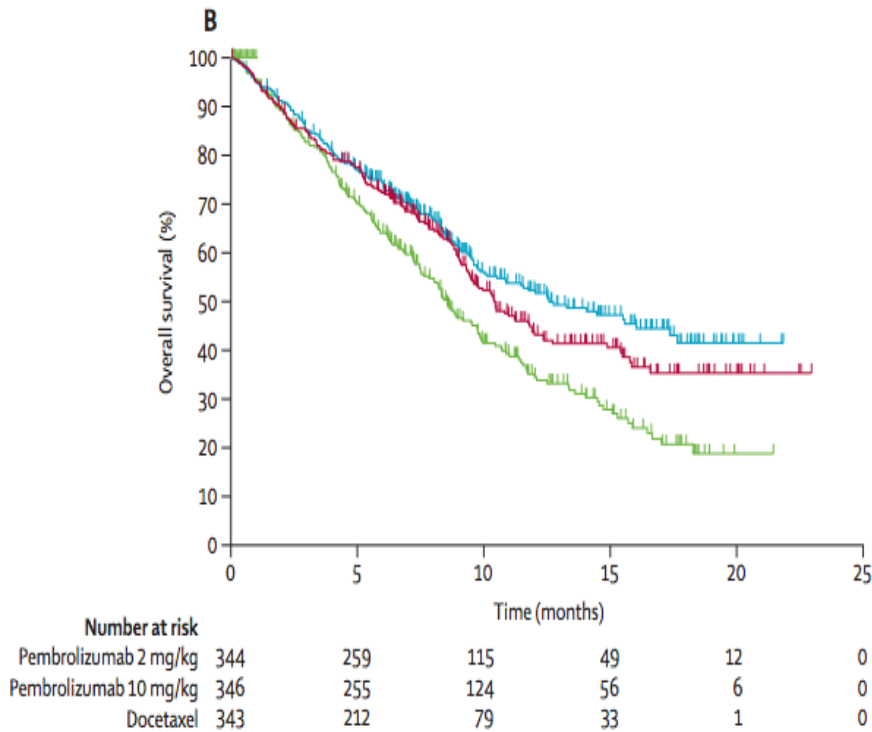


Nivo vs doce in non-squam NSCLC: Checkpoint 057

OS by PD-L1 Expression

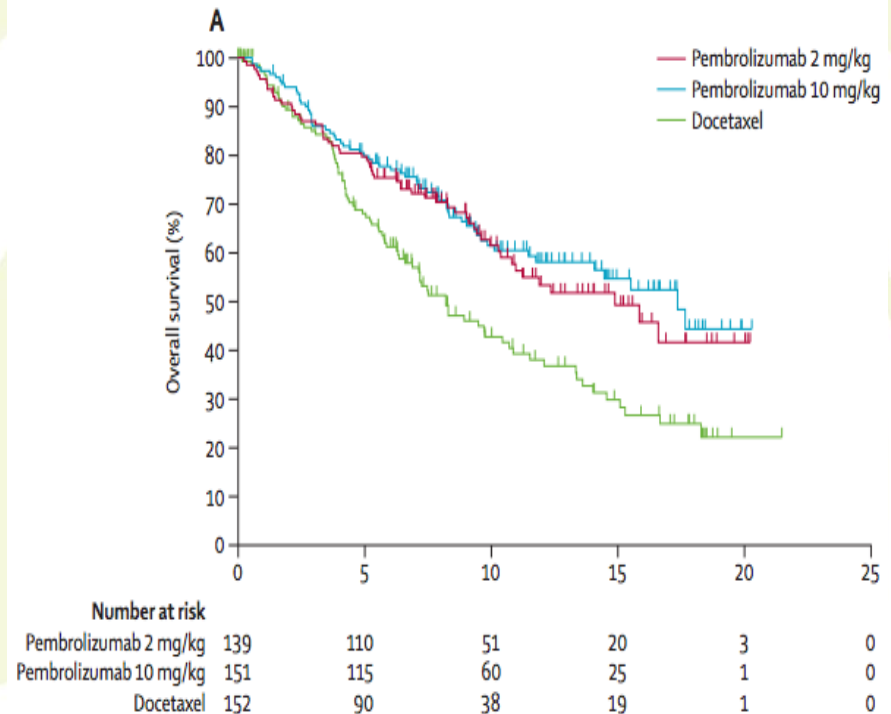


Pembrolizumab vs docetaxel: KEYNOTE-010



PD-L1>1%

- OS 10.2/12.7 vs 8.5 mos
- RR 18%/18% vs 8%

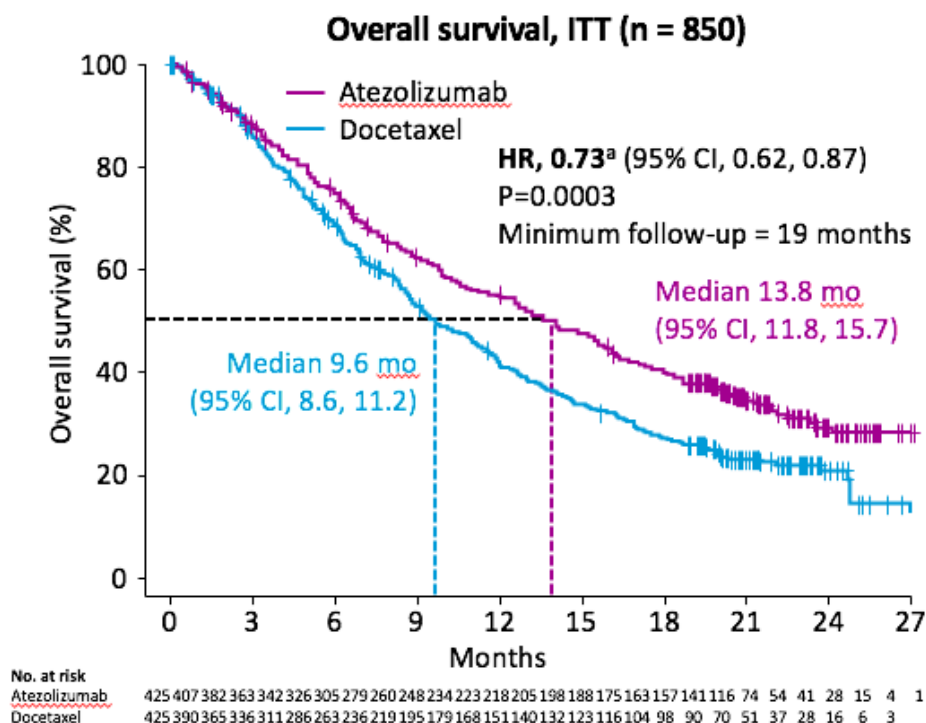


PD-L1>50%

- OS 14.9/17.3 vs 8.2mo
- RR 30/20% vs 8%

Atezolizumab vs doce, 2nd or 3rd line: OAK

Characteristics	Atezolizumab n = 425	Docetaxel n = 425
Median age, y	63	64
≥65 y	45%	49%
Male	61%	61%
Nonsquamous	74%	74%
Squamous	26%	26%
ECOG PS, 0/1	37%/64%	38%/62%
No. of prior therapies, 1/2	75%/25%	75%/25%
History of tobacco use		
Never	20%	17%
Current/previous	14% / 66%	16% / 67%
Known EGFR status, %		
Mutant/WT	10% / 75%	10% / 73%



Take-home points: PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitor 2nd line

- Nivolumab, pembrolizumab, and now atezolizumab with overall similar benefit and toxicity
 - Nivo and atezo approved for all comers 2nd line
 - Pembro approved for PD-L1+ >1% 2nd line
 - Nivo q2w, pembro and atezo q3w
- Toxicities DIFFERENT than chemo
 - Majority find it better tolerated...
 - ...but any organ can be inflamed
 - For new hypoxia or dyspnea, low threshold to evaluate for pneumonitis

Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer

- PD-1/PD-L1 inhibition in the 2nd line
- **PD-1 inhibition in the 1st line**
- Where we're going: combinations

PD-1 inhibitor 1st line?

- 1st line trials presented at ESMO 2016
 - Pembro vs chemo in PD-L1 \geq 50%
 - Nivo vs chemo in PD-L1 \geq 5%

PD-1 inhibitor 1st line?

- 1st line trials presented at ESMO 2016

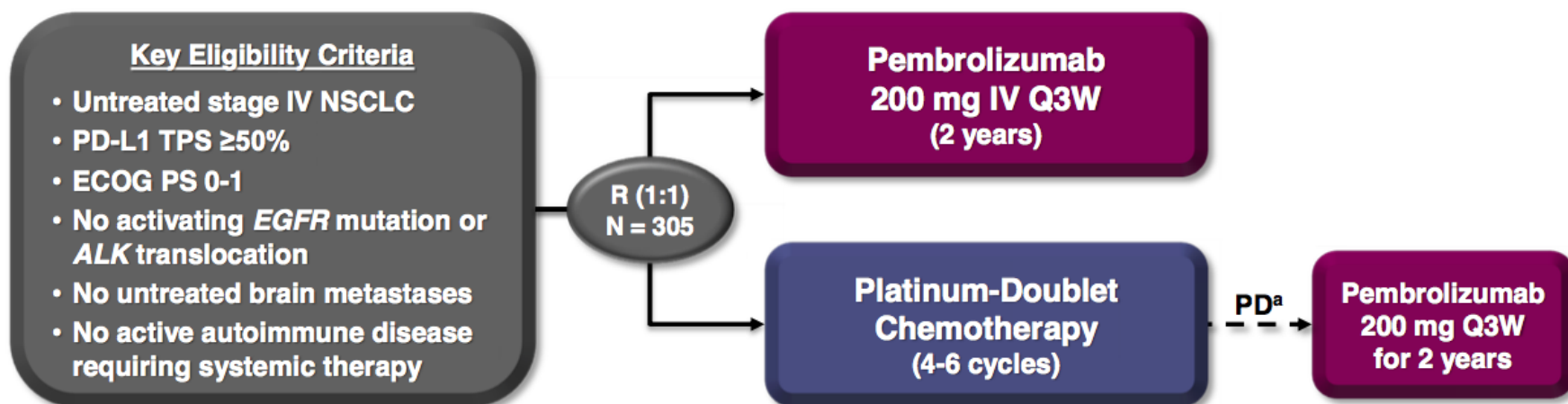
- Pembro vs chemo in PD-L1 \geq 50%
- Nivo vs chemo in PD-L1 \geq 5%

POSITIVE

NEGATIVE

Pembrolizumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 50%)

KEYNOTE-024 Study Design (NCT02142738)



Key End Points

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

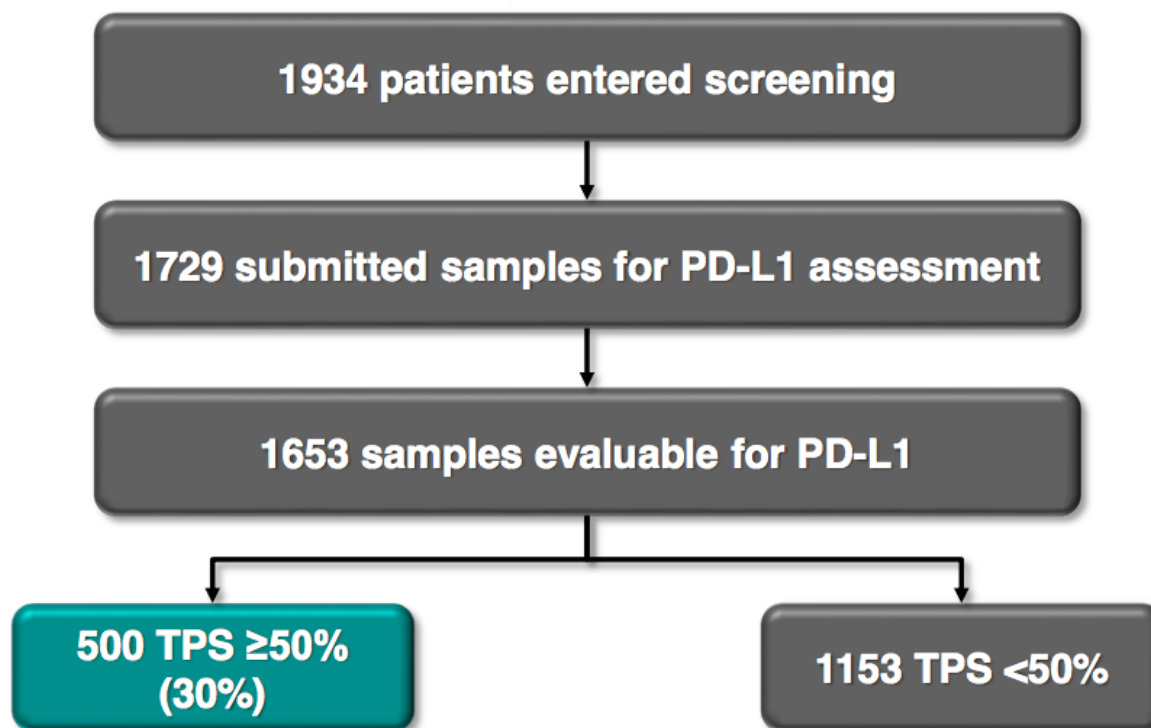
Secondary: OS, ORR, safety

Exploratory: DOR

^aTo 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.

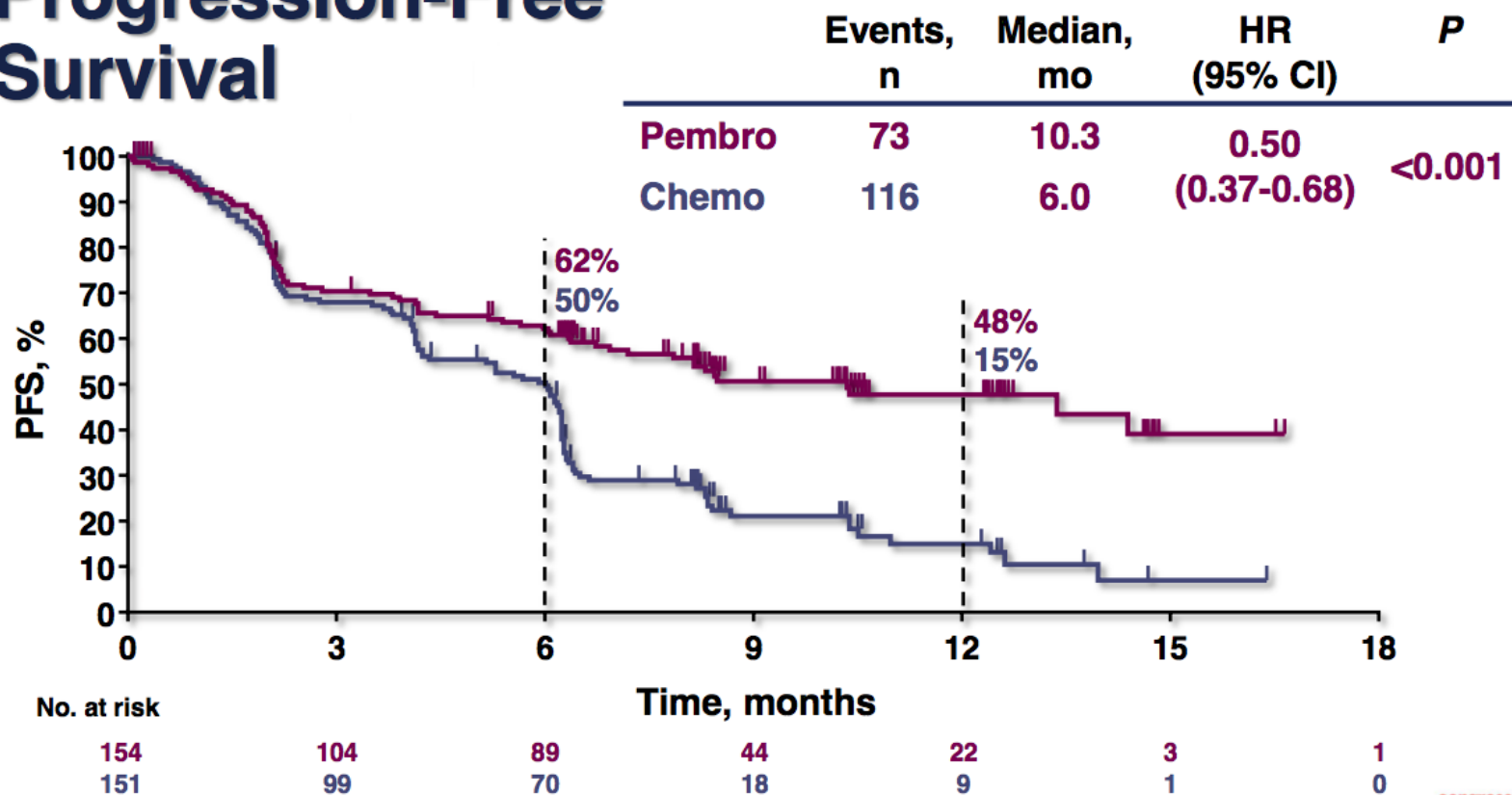
Pembrolizumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 50%)

PD-L1 Screening



Pembrolizumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 50%)

Progression-Free Survival

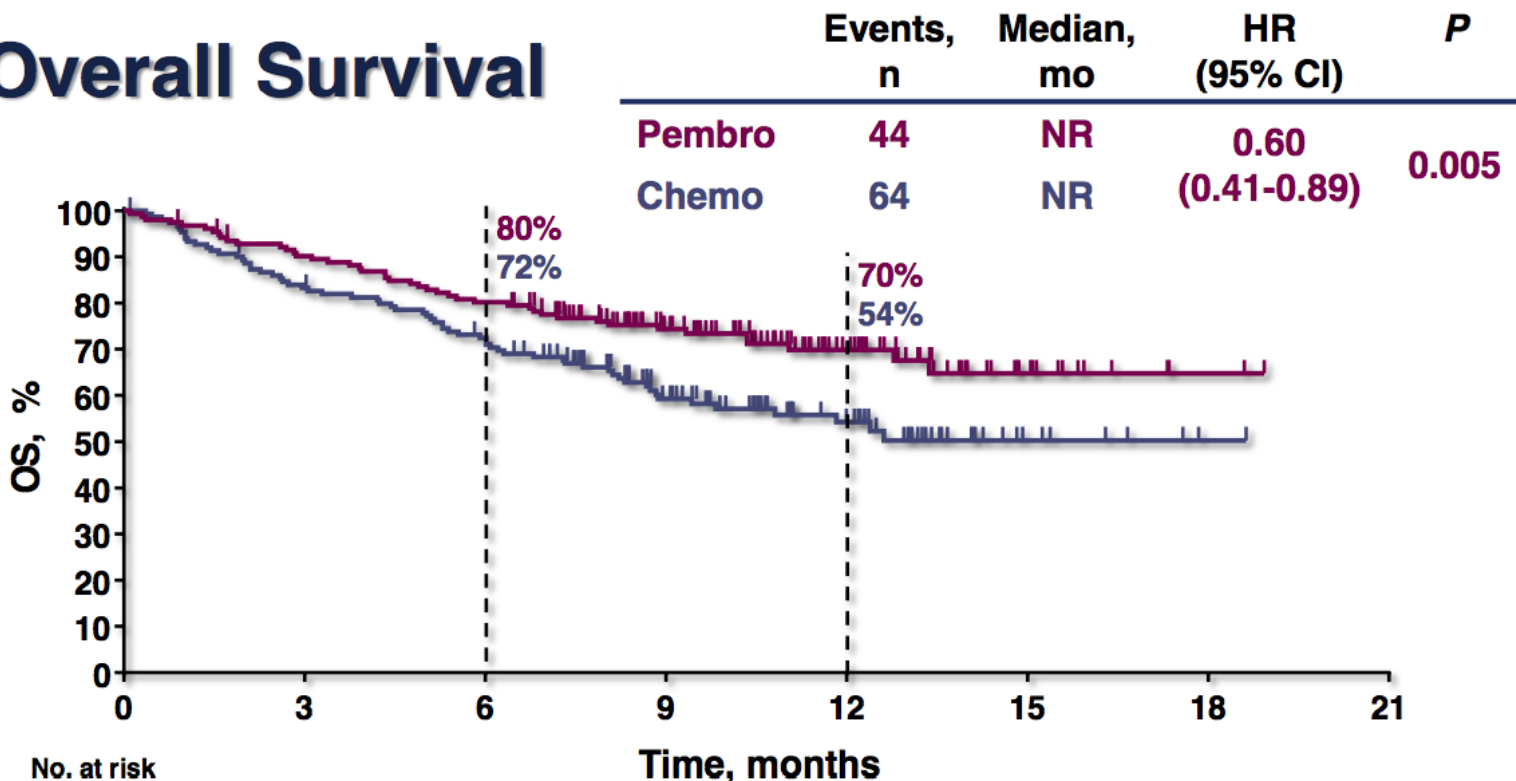


Assessed per RECIST v1.1 by blinded, independent central review.
Data cut-off: May 9, 2016.

COPENHAGEN 2016 **ESMO** congress

Pembrolizumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 50%)

Overall Survival

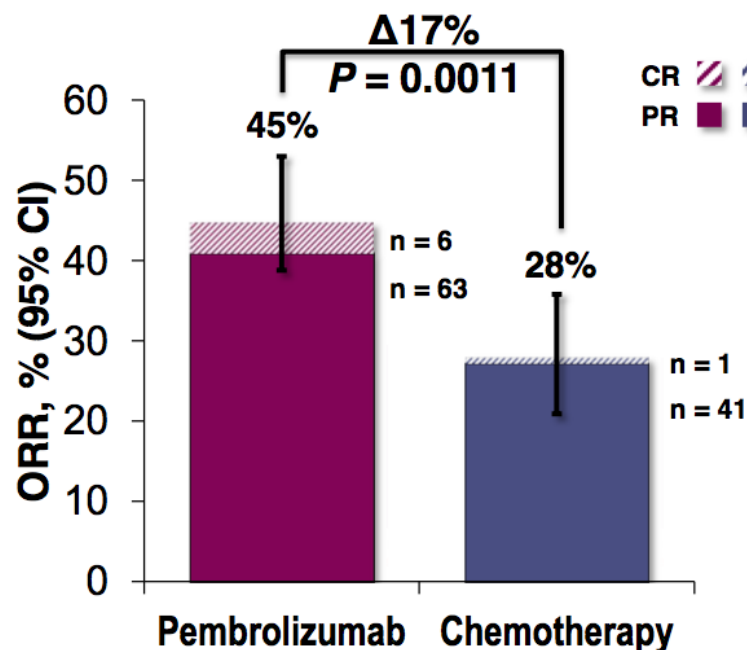


Data cut-off: May 9, 2016.

Crossover from chemo to pembro: 66/151 (44%)

Pembrolizumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 50%)

Confirmed Objective Response Rate



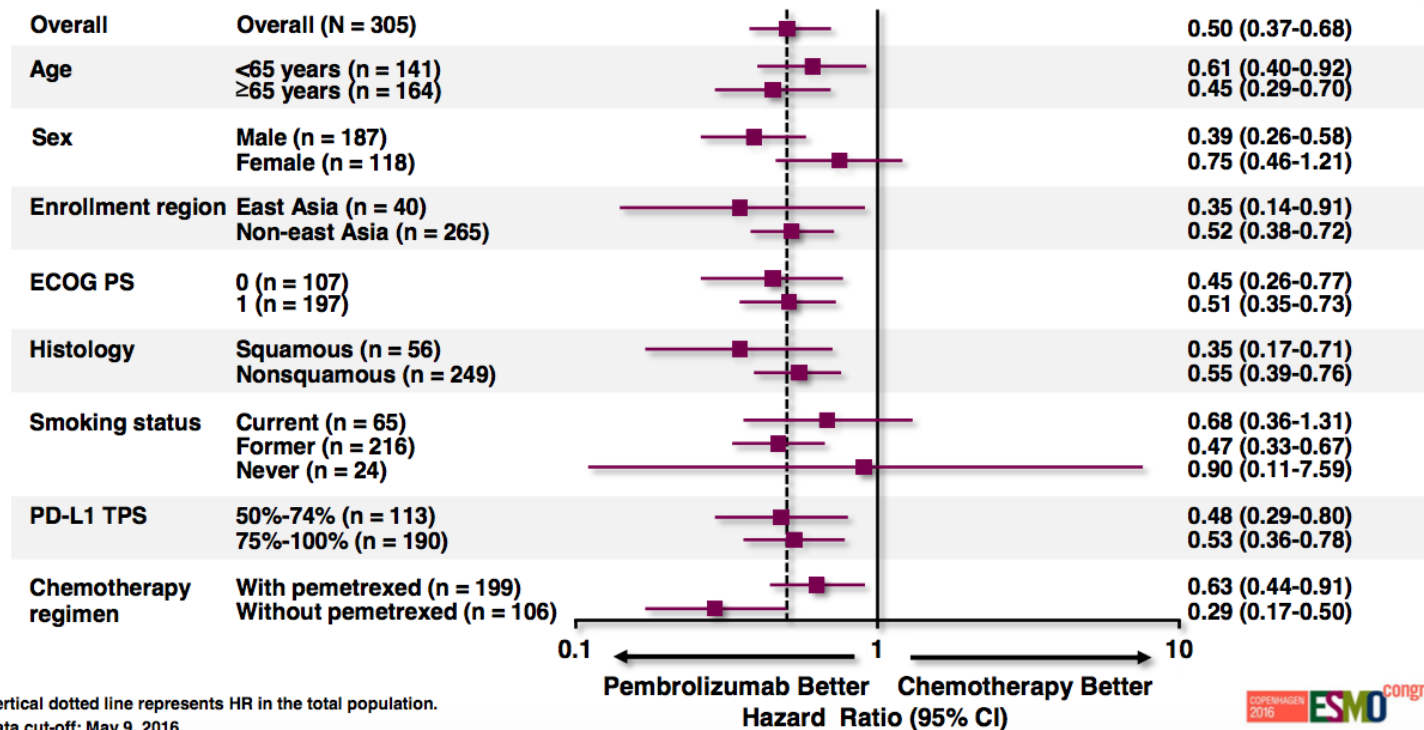
	Pembro Responders n = 69	Chemo Responders n = 42
TTR, mo median (range)	2.2 (1.4-8.2)	2.2 (1.8-12.2)
DOR, mo median (range)	NR (1.9+ to 14.5+)	6.3 (2.1+ to 12.6+)

Assessed per RECIST v1.1 by blinded, independent central review.
Data cut-off: May 9, 2016.

ESMO congress
COPENHAGEN 2016

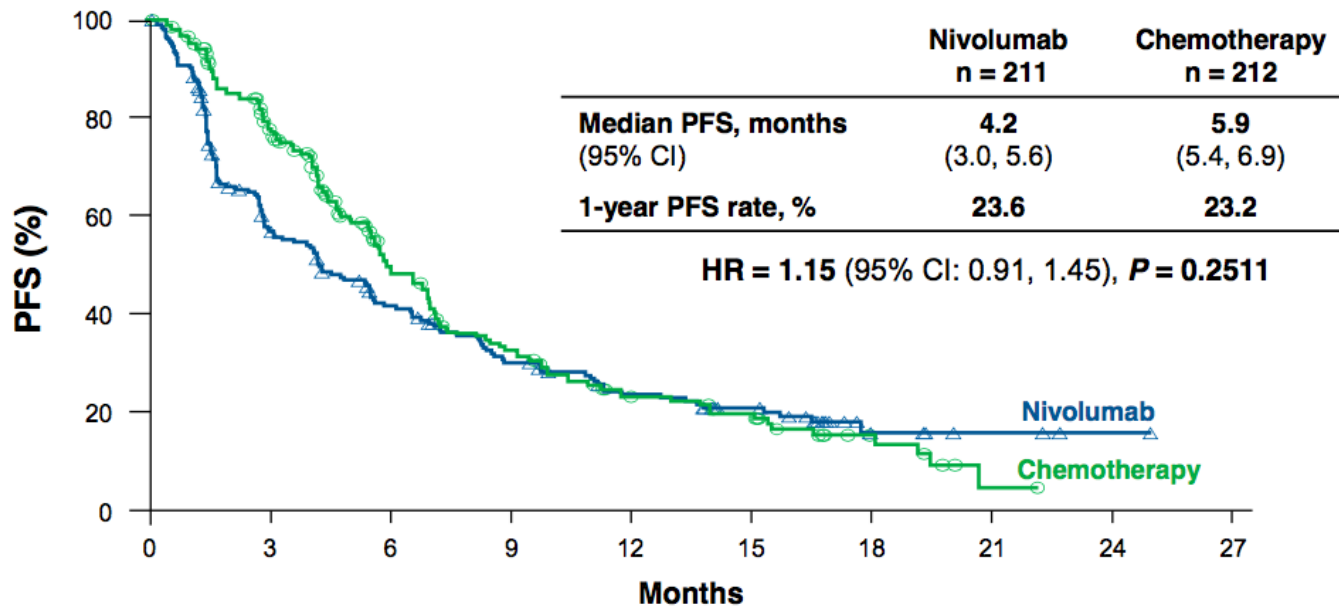
Pembrolizumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 50%)

Progression-Free Survival in Subgroups



Nivolumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 5%)

Primary Endpoint (PFS per IRRC in \geq 5% PD-L1+) CheckMate 026: Nivolumab vs Chemotherapy in First-line NSCLC



No. of patients at risk:

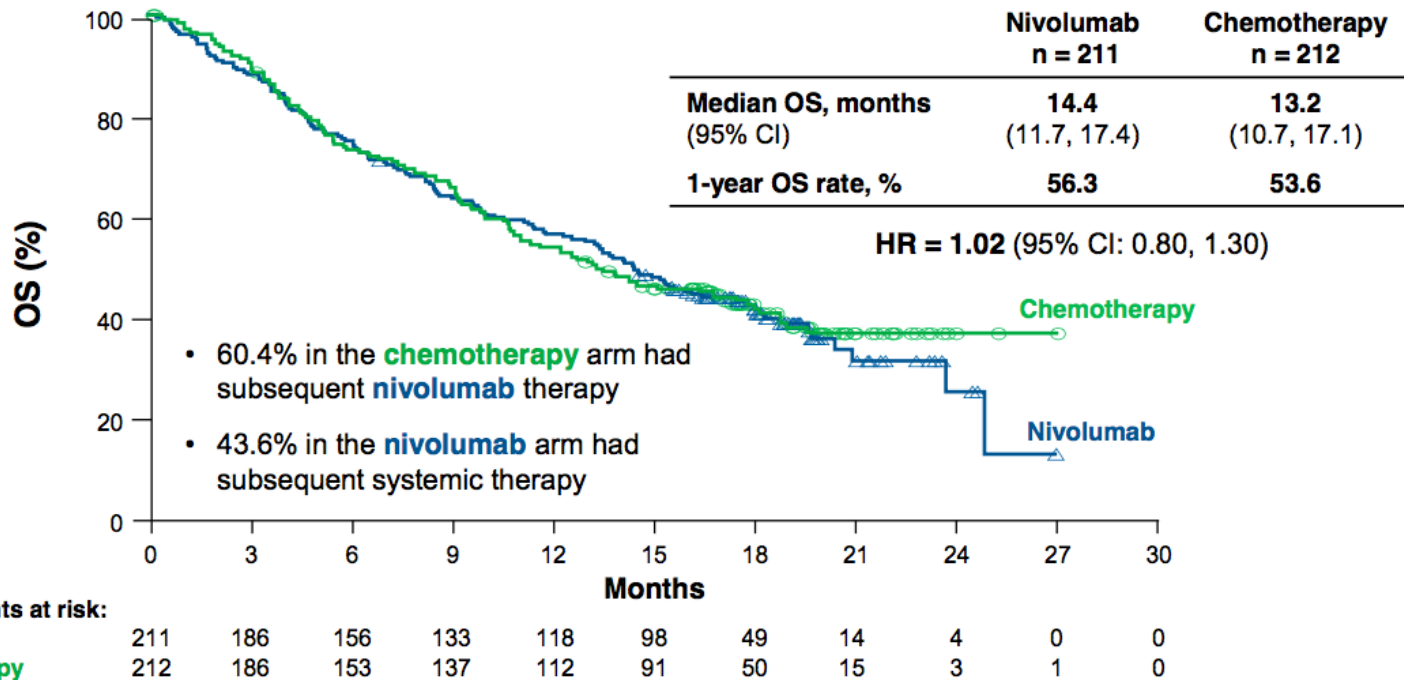
Nivolumab	211	104	71	49	35	24	6	3	1	0
Chemotherapy	212	144	74	47	28	21	8	1	0	0

All randomized patients (\geq 1% PD-L1+): HR = 1.17 (95% CI: 0.95, 1.43)

Nivolumab 1st line (PD-L1 \geq 5%)

OS (\geq 5% PD-L1+)

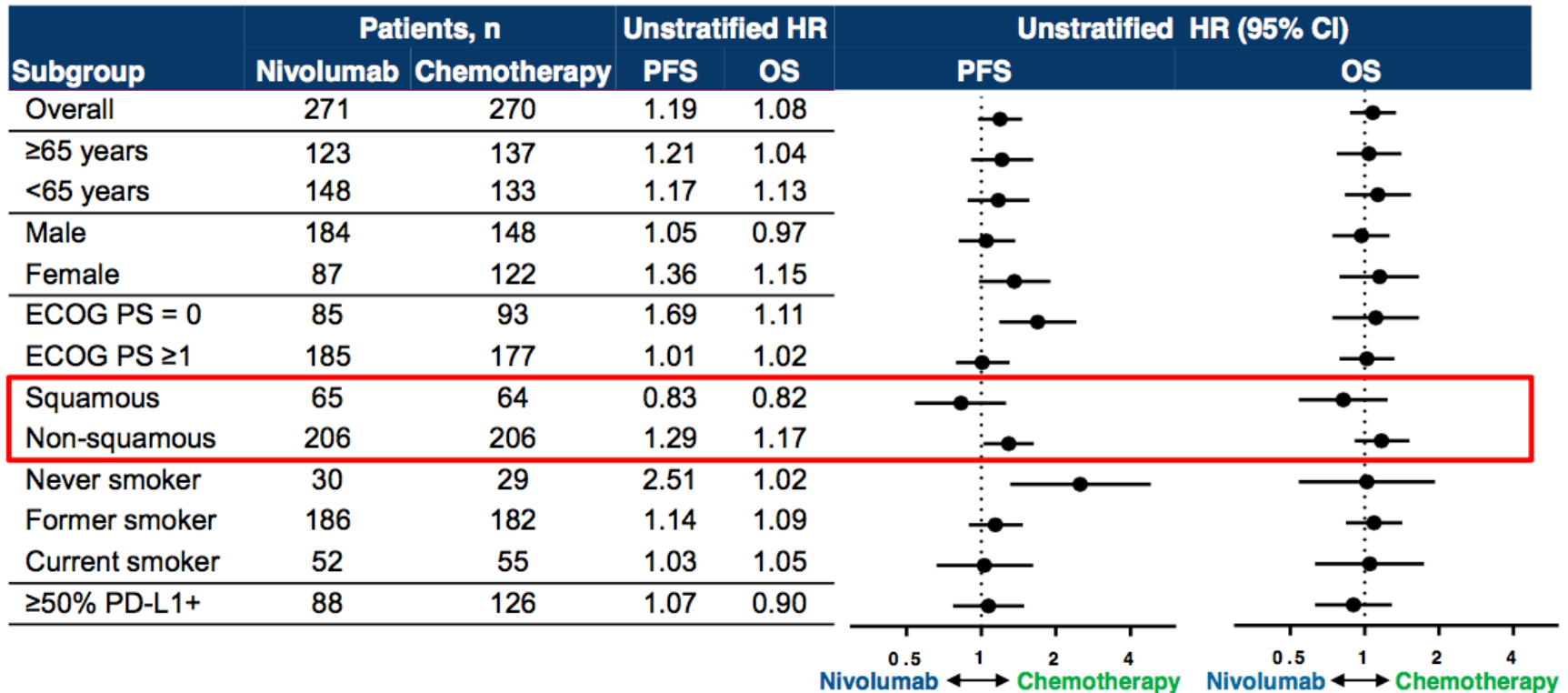
CheckMate 026: Nivolumab vs Chemotherapy in First-line NSCLC



All randomized patients (\geq 1% PD-L1+): HR = 1.07 (95% CI: 0.86, 1.33)

Nivolumab 1st line (PD-L1≥5%)

PFS and OS Subgroup Analyses (All Randomized Patients) CheckMate 026: Nivolumab vs Chemotherapy in First-line NSCLC



Take-home points: 1st line



National
Comprehensive
Cancer
Network®

NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2017 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

[NCCN Guidelines Index](#)
[Table of Contents](#)
[Discussion](#)

PD-L1 EXPRESSION POSITIVE^a

FIRST-LINE THERAPY

SUBSEQUENT THERAPY

PD-L1
expression
positive (≥50%)
and EGFR, ALK,
ROS1 negative
or unknown

→ Pembrolizumab^{††}
(category 1)

→ Progression

→ See First-line therapy options for
[Adenocarcinoma \(NSCL-24\)](#) or
[Squamous cell carcinoma \(NSCL-25\)](#)

And 2nd line (if chemo 1st line):

- Nivolumab
- Pembrolizumab (PD-L1>1%)
- Atezolizumab

^aSee Principles of Pathologic Review (NSCL-A).

^{††}Reck M, Rodríguez-Abreu D, Robinson AG, et al. Pembrolizumab versus chemotherapy for PD-L1–positive non–small-cell lung cancer. N Engl J Med 2016; October 9 Epub.

Note: All recommendations are category 2A unless otherwise indicated.
Clinical Trials: NCCN believes that the best management of any patient with cancer is in a clinical trial. Participation in clinical trials is especially encouraged.

Case

- 69yo female, current smoker with 60 pack year smoking history, presents with progressive cough
- CT reveals, and PET/CT confirms, 4cm LUL lesion, multifocal mediastinal LAD, and 2cm R adrenal lesion, all hypermetabolic. MRI brain negative
- Bronchoscopy with biopsy of subcarinal node reveals squamous cell carcinoma
- What to do?
 - PD-L1 by 22C3
 - If PD-L1 \geq 50%, pembrolizumab
 - Otherwise, platinum-based chemo, then 2nd line nivolumab, pembrolizumab (if PD-L1 \geq 1%) or atezolizumab

Immunotherapy in Lung Cancer

- PD-1/PD-L1 inhibition in the 2nd line
- PD-1 inhibition in the 1st line
- **Where we're going: combinations**

Future of immunotherapy in NSCLC

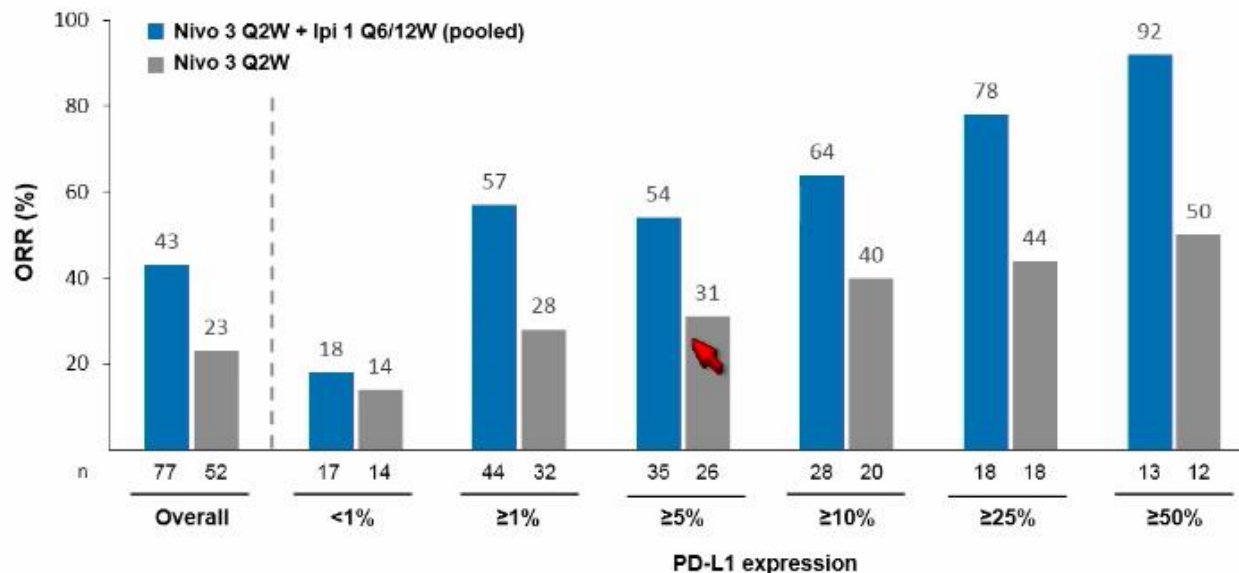
- Use PD1 inhibitors with chemo?
 - Motivation: Cancer cell death → release of cancer cell antigens → improved priming and activation might let PD1 inhibitors work better
 - Caveats:
 - Steroids with some chemos
 - General immunosuppressive state post-chemo
 - Compound toxicity
- Awaiting phase 3 studies of chemo +/- PD1 inhibitors
 - Early data: Langer et al (Lancet Oncol and ESMO), n=123 carbo/pem +/- pembro
 - RR 55 vs 29%, PFS 13.0 vs 8.9 mo

Future of immunotherapy in NSCLC

- Use PD1 inhibitors with other immunotherapy?
 - Motivation: PD1 inhibition alone only works in 20% of tumors– what about the rest?
 - Caveats:
 - Hard to anticipate results based on pre-clinical models
 - Additive (even synergistic) efficacy possible, but so is additional toxicity
- Awaiting studies of chemo vs PD1 vs PD1/CTLA4
 - CTLA4 inhibitor already approved in melanoma (ipilimumab)
 - Early data: Hellman et al (ASCO 2016) nivo vs nivo/ipi

Early data: 1st line nivo/ipi

Nivolumab Plus Ipilimumab in First-line NSCLC: Efficacy Across All Tumor PD-L1 Expression Levels



Combination data based on a February 2016 database lock; monotherapy data based on a March 2015 database lock

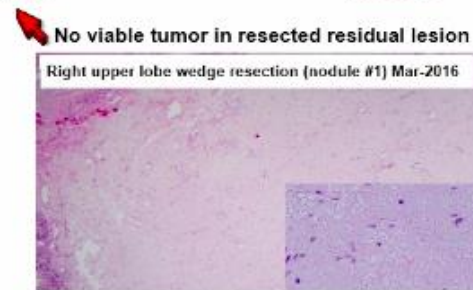
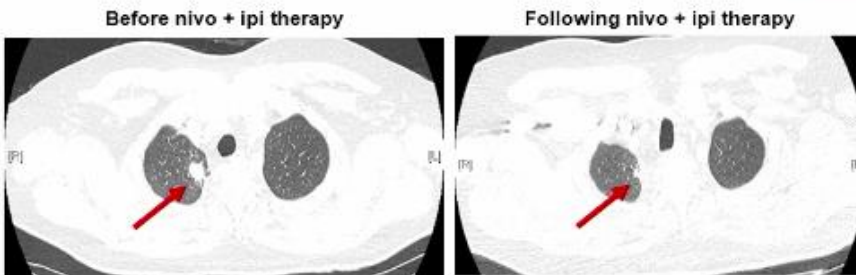
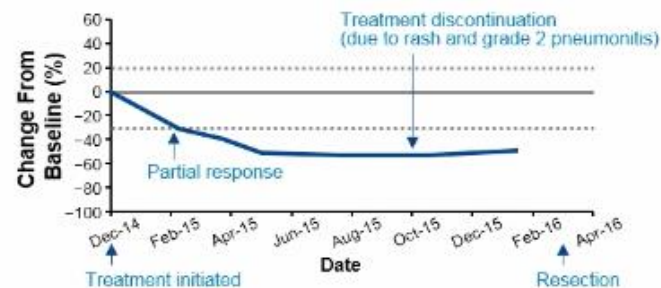
11

Await data from adequately powered phase 3 trials... next year?

Early data: 1st line nivo/ipi

Case of Pathological CR in One Patient Treated With Nivo 3 Q2W + Ipi 1 Q6W

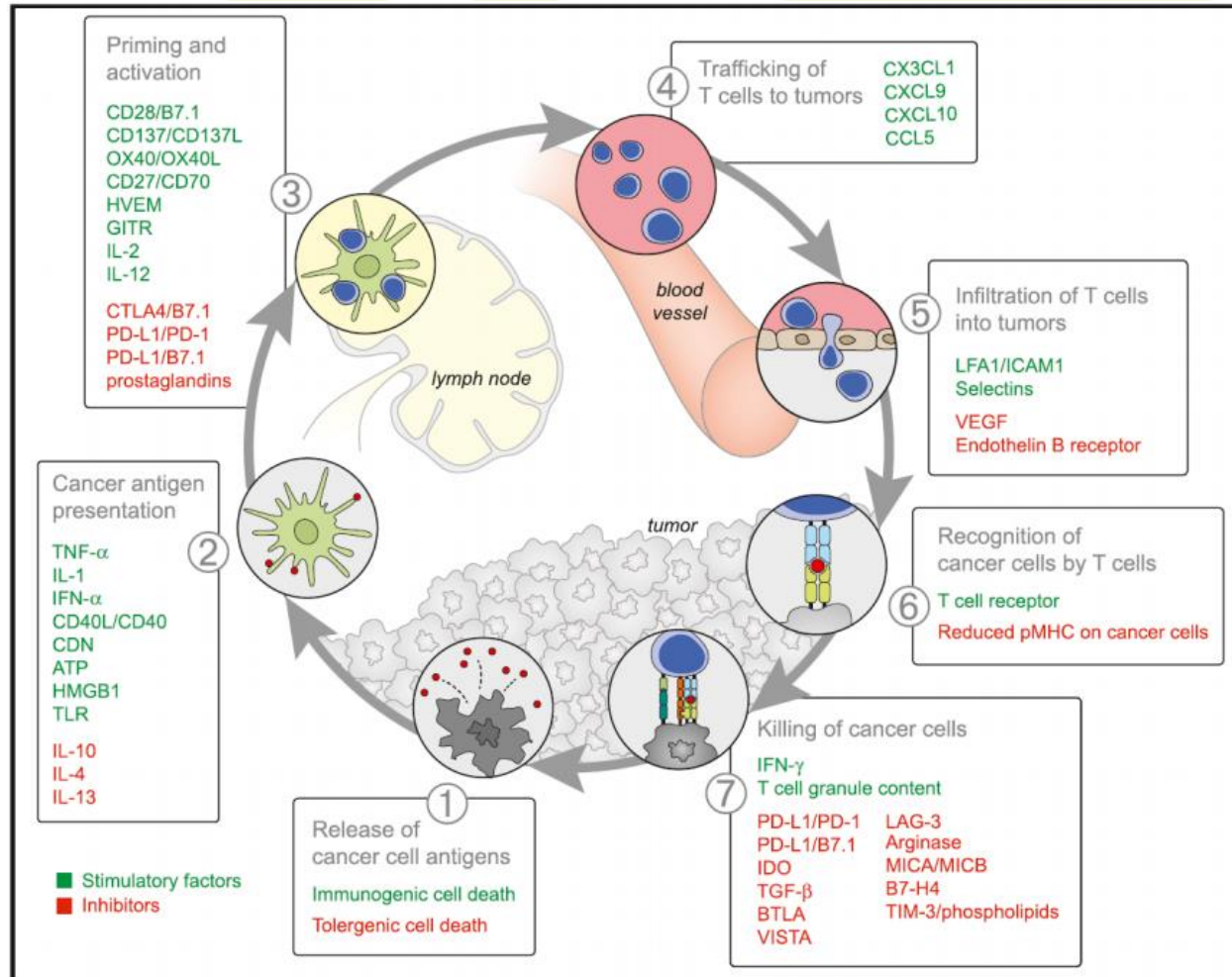
- 54-yr-old male (former smoker, 52 pack-yr) with metastatic large-cell lung cancer (PD-L1 <1%^a)
 - 53% total tumor size reduction by RECIST
 - Radiographic residual lesions in the lung and mediastinal lymph nodes, without distant disease



Courtesy of Dr. William Travis, MSKCC

^aPatient was included as having partial response and PD-L1 expression unknown in analysis at time of database lock

Future of immunotherapy in NSCLC



Take-home points: Future of immunotherapy

- Stay tuned for data on chemo combos
- Stay tuned for data on immunotherapy combos
- Stay tuned for data on immunotherapy in earlier stage disease
- Stay tuned for data on better biomarkers than PD-L1
- Clinical trials are the way forward
 - Special role for immunoREFRACTORY patients
- Value in medicine

BUSINESS DAY

Lung Cancer Treatment Using Immune System Wins F.D.A. Approval

By ANDREW POLLACK MARCH 4, 2015

The first immune-based treatment for lung cancer won approval from the Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday, and it could displace more conventional chemotherapy for certain patients, at least.

The drug, , from is one of a class of medicines that have electrified oncologists in recent years because they free the body's own immune system to attack tumors.

, also known as nivolumab, was approved last year to treat advanced cases of the skin cancer melanoma, but the approval for lung cancer is in some ways more significant.

BUSINESS DAY

Lung Cancer Treatment Using Immune System Wins F.D.A. Approval

By ANDREW POLLACK MARCH 4, 2015

The first immune-based treatment for lung cancer won approval from the Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday, and it could displace more conventional chemotherapy for certain patients, at least.

The drug, [REDACTED], from [REDACTED] is one of a class of medicines that have electrified oncologists in recent years because they free the body's own immune system to attack tumors.

[REDACTED], also known as nivolumab, was approved last year to treat advanced cases of the skin cancer melanoma, but the approval for lung cancer is in some ways more significant.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths by far, with 224,000 new diagnoses and nearly 160,000 deaths last year. That means approval to treat lung cancer could help more patients and also result in much larger sales for Bristol-Myers. The drug sells for about \$12,500 a month.

Take-home points: Future of immunotherapy

- Stay tuned for data on chemo combos
- Stay tuned for data on immunotherapy combos
- Stay tuned for data on immunotherapy in earlier stage disease
- Clinical trials are the way forward
 - Special role for immunoREFRACTORY patients
- Value in medicine
 - These are expensive drugs...
 - ...but optimizing them (better combos, better patient selection) may yield superior value by meaningfully improving survival in our patients

Thank you!

