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# gp100 (209-2M) peptide and High Dose Interleukin-2 in HLA-A2+ Advanced Melanoma Patients

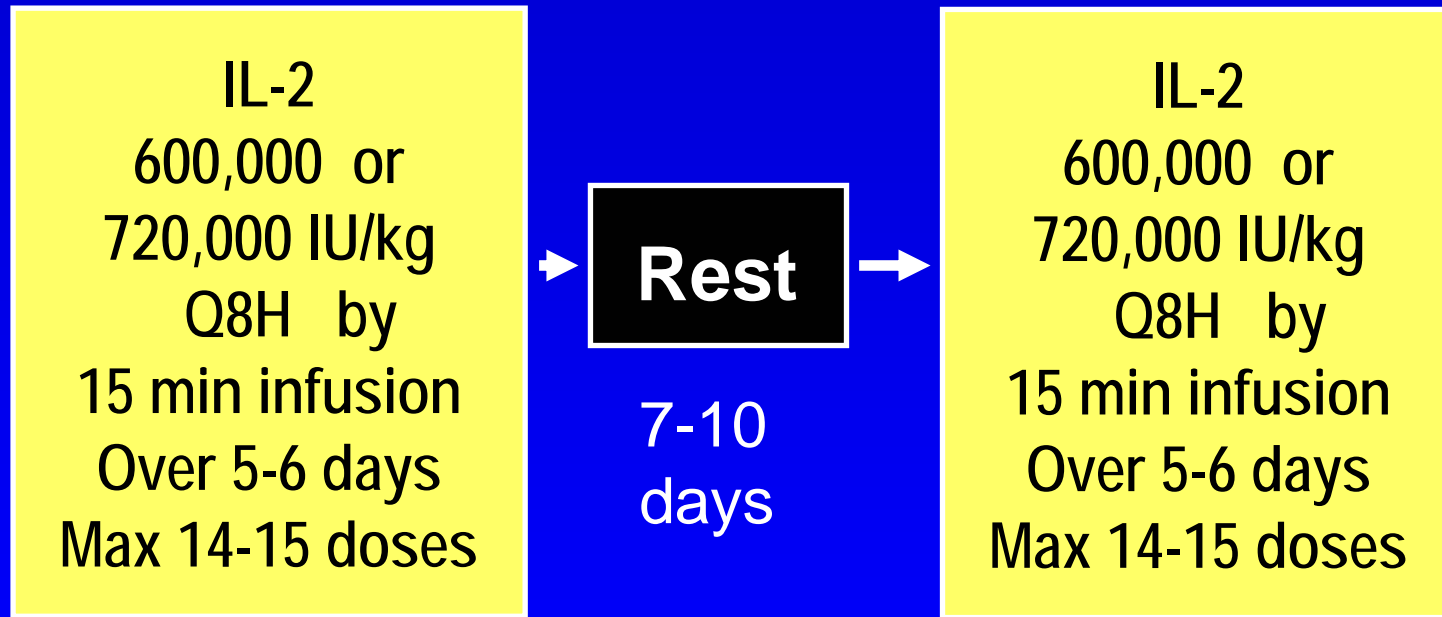
Cytokine Working Group  
Experience

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# Metastatic Melanoma- Progress in Past 30 years

<u>Approved Therapies (USA)</u>	<u>Date</u>
◆ DTIC	1970's
◆ High Dose Interleukin-2	1998

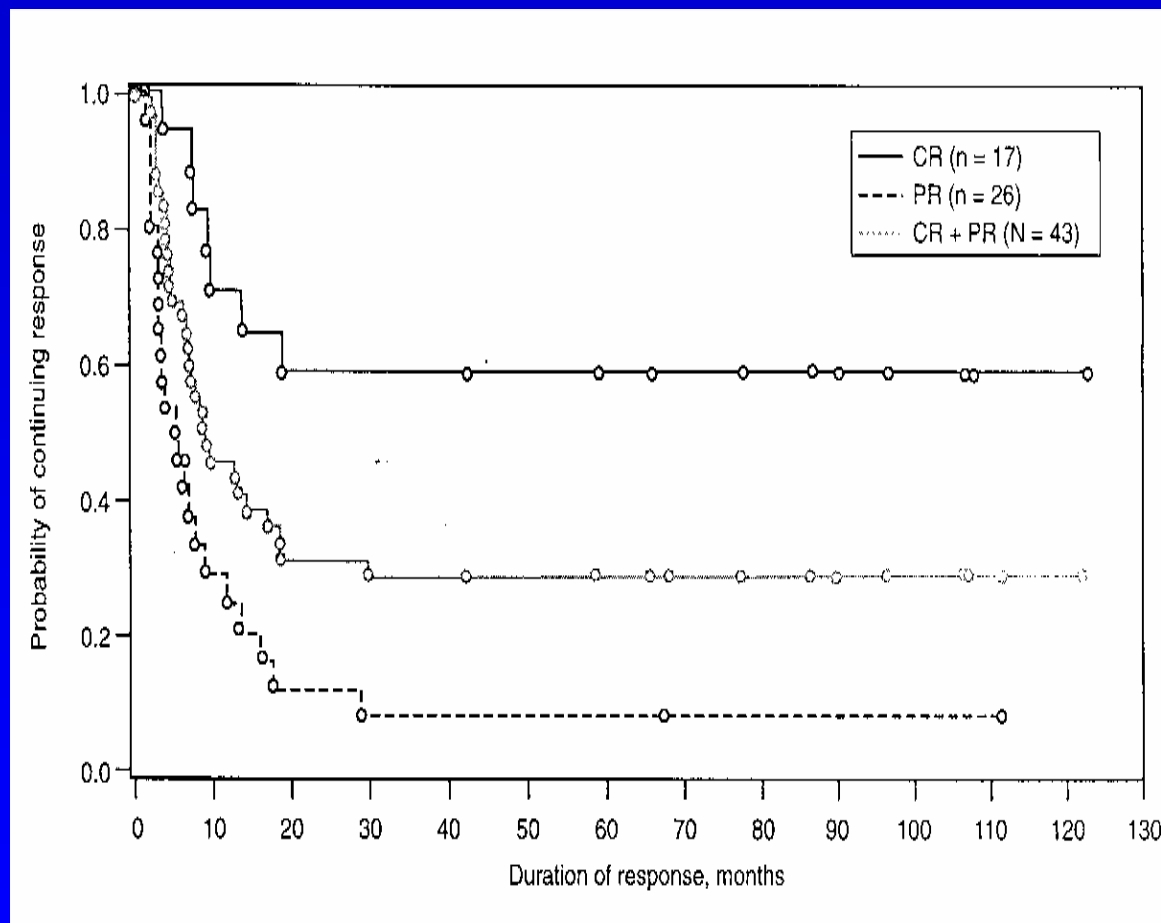
# INTERLEUKIN-2 TREATMENT REGIMEN



Repeat at 8-12 weeks if responding

Maximum 3 or so courses

# High Dose IL-2 Therapy\* in Advanced Melanoma



- ◆ RR: 16% (43 / 270)
- ◆ Durable responses
  - Median 8.9 mos
  - CR: median not reached
- ◆ Toxic
- ◆ Inpatient
- ◆ Expensive
- ◆ Use limited to selected pts and Rx Centers

\*Atkins et al JCO, 1999 (N=270)

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## High Dose IL-2: Survival in Melanoma

	<u>median (mos)</u>	<u>range</u>
overall	12.0	0.3 - 150+

*11% (30/270) remain alive at minimum 5 year f/up*

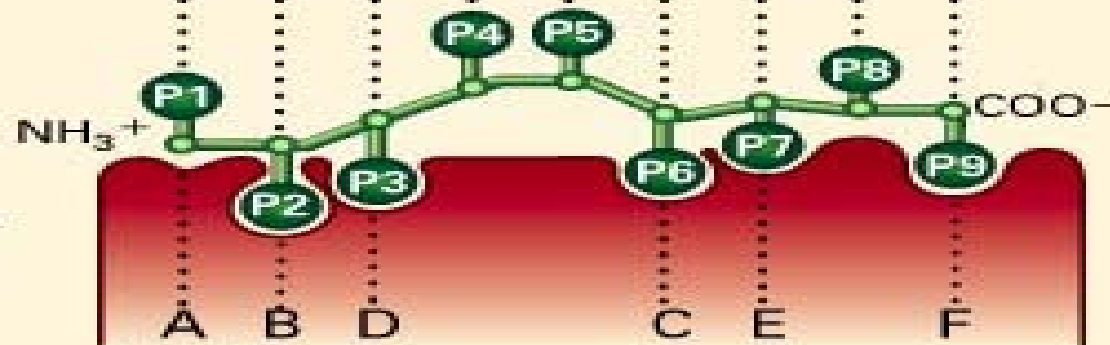
A

## Peptides

		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9
HLA-A*0201	[	W	L	S	L	L	V	P	F	V
		L	L	F	G	V	P	V	Y	V
	]	I	L	K	E	P	V	H	G	Y
HLA-A3	[	R	L	R	P	G	G	K	K	K
		I	L	R	G	S	V	A	H	K
	]	R	L	R	A	E	A	G	V	K
HLA-A*6801	[	K	T	G	G	P	I	Y	K	R
		E	V	A	P	P	E	Y	H	R
	]	A	V	A	A	V	A	A	R	R
HLA-B7	[	G	P	G	P	Q	P	G	P	L
		I	P	Q	C	R	L	T	P	L
	]	P	P	P	I	F	I	R	R	L
HLA-B27	[	R	R	V	K	E	V	V	K	K
		G	R	I	D	K	P	I	L	K
	]	R	R	I	K	E	I	V	K	K

B

Peptide

Pockets  
of an HLA  
molecule

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# MALIGNANT MELANOMA: PEPTIDE VACCINES

T cell defined epitopes shared by HLA-matched melanomas

HLA-A2 Epitopes (nonapeptides)

<u>gp100(209-2M)</u>	<u>IT(M)DQVPFSV</u>
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MART-1(26)	AA(L)GIGILTV
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Tyrosinase(368)	YMN(D)GTMSQV
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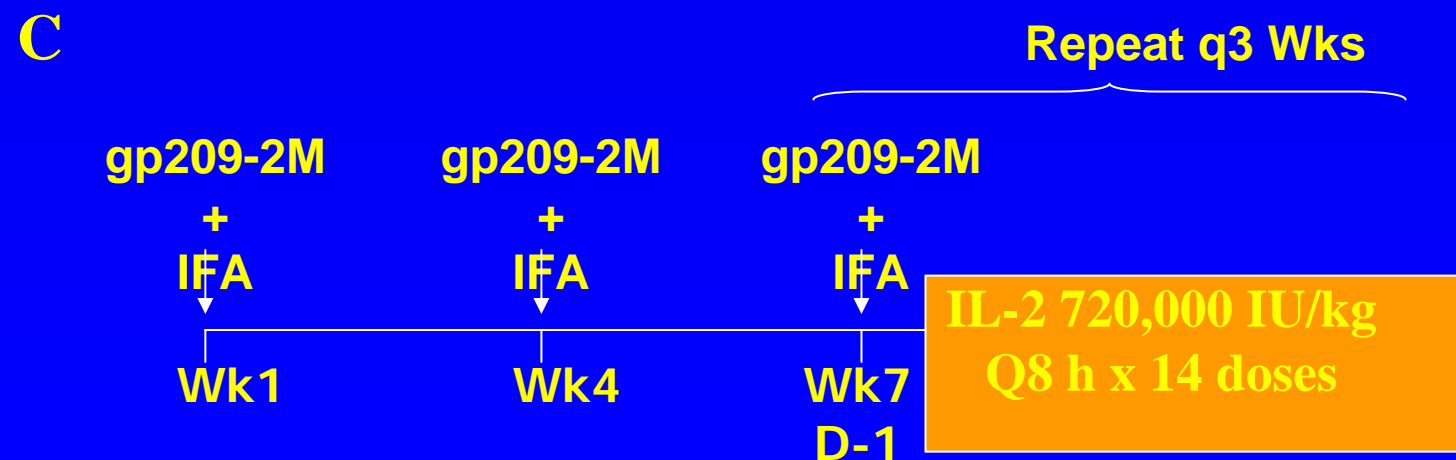
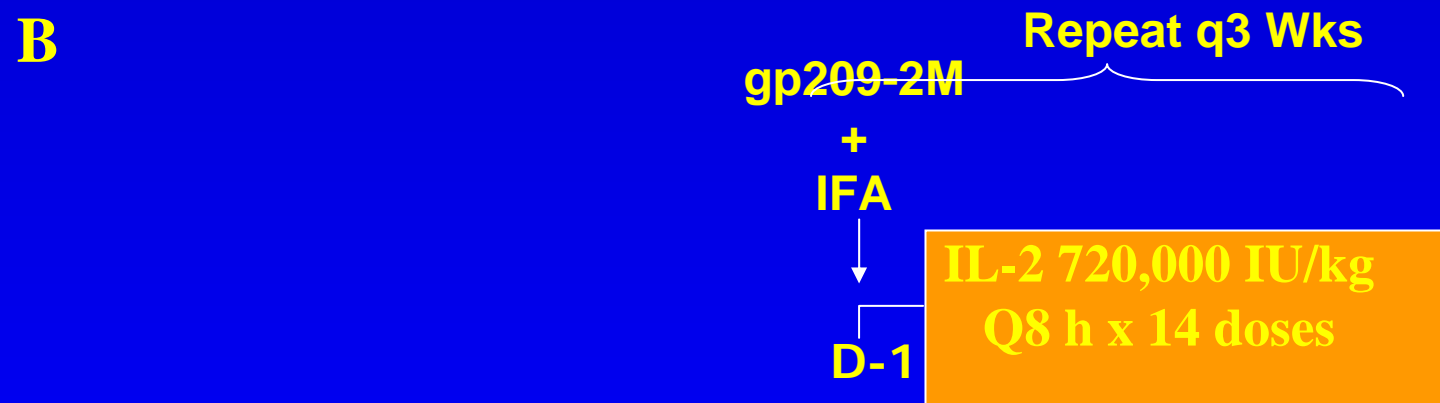
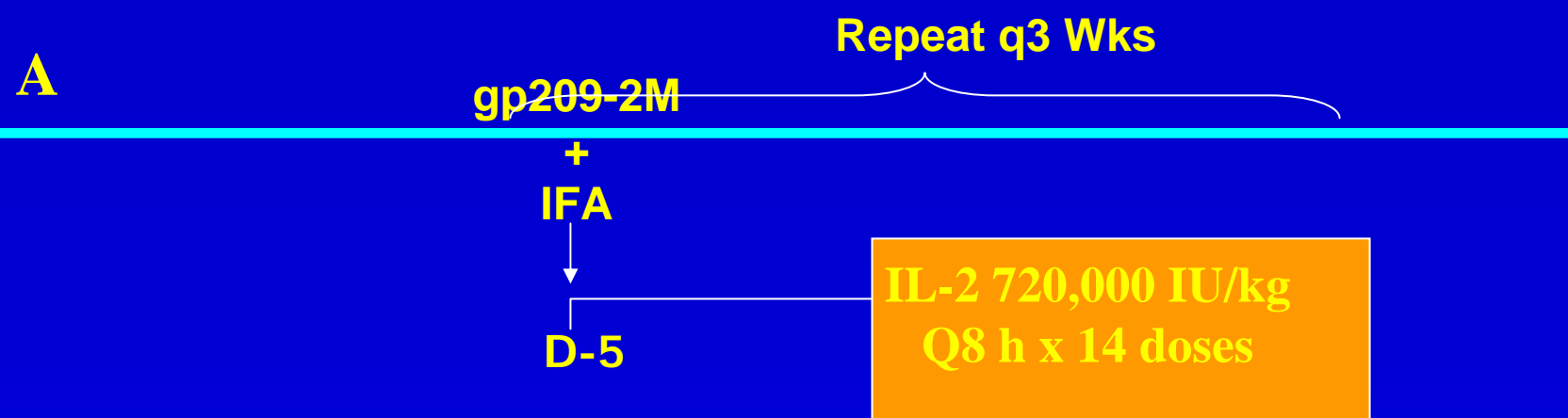
Heteroclitic peptides- modified to be more effective for T cell activation

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## Findings at the NCI-Surgery Branch with gp100 209-2M alone and with high Dose Interleukin-2

- ◆ 10/11 patients respond immunologically ELISPOT and tetramers to gp209-2M + IFA, while 0/11 clinical responses (Nat Med. 4,1998)
- ◆ Later followup report shows 0/32 clinical responses (Nat Med. 10, 2004)





## IL-2 + gp100 209-2M Peptide Vaccine

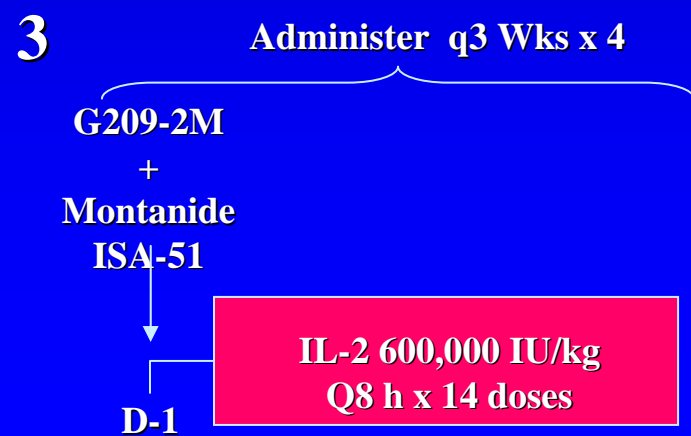
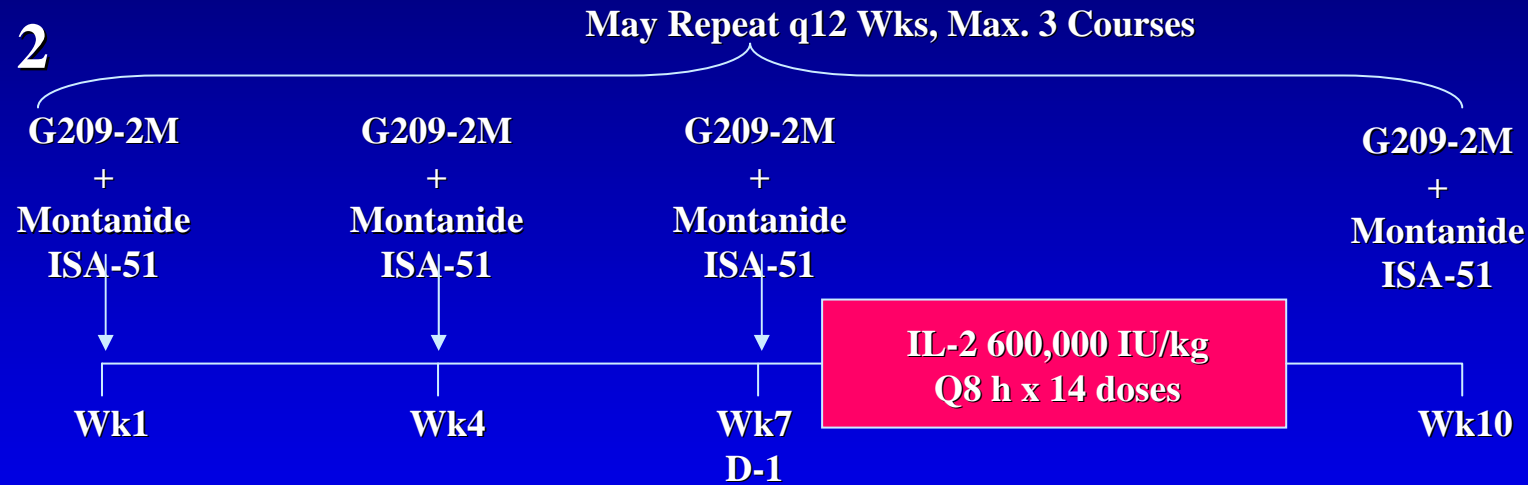
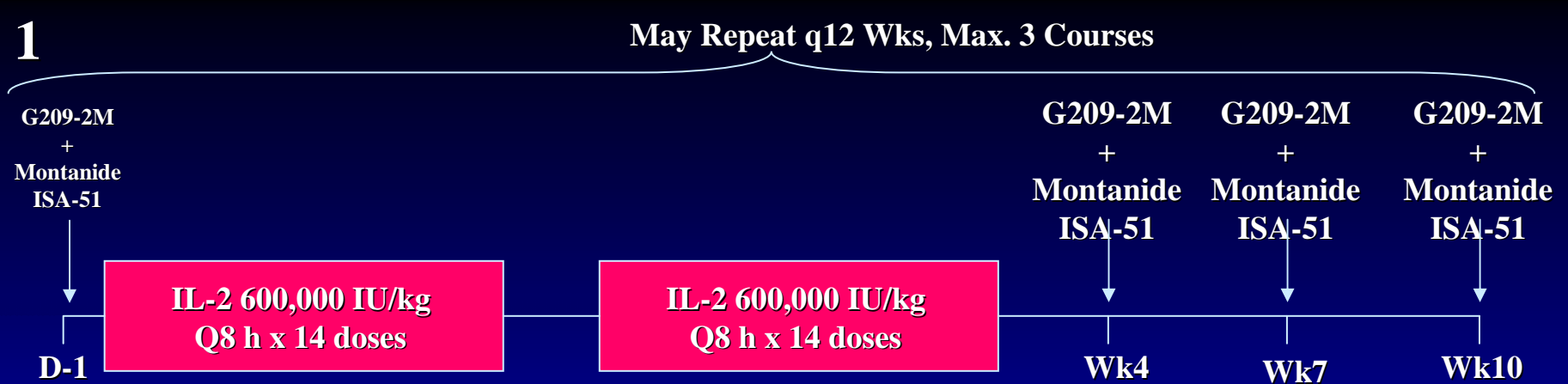
- ◆ 13/31 (42%) respond to gp209-2M + HD IL-2 with 12 PR and 1 CR, while only 16% with immune response to peptide
- ◆ Follow-up (update) 15/47 (32%) respond clinically (14 PR and 1 CR) to peptide + HD IL-2

\*Rosenberg et al Nat Med 4:1998

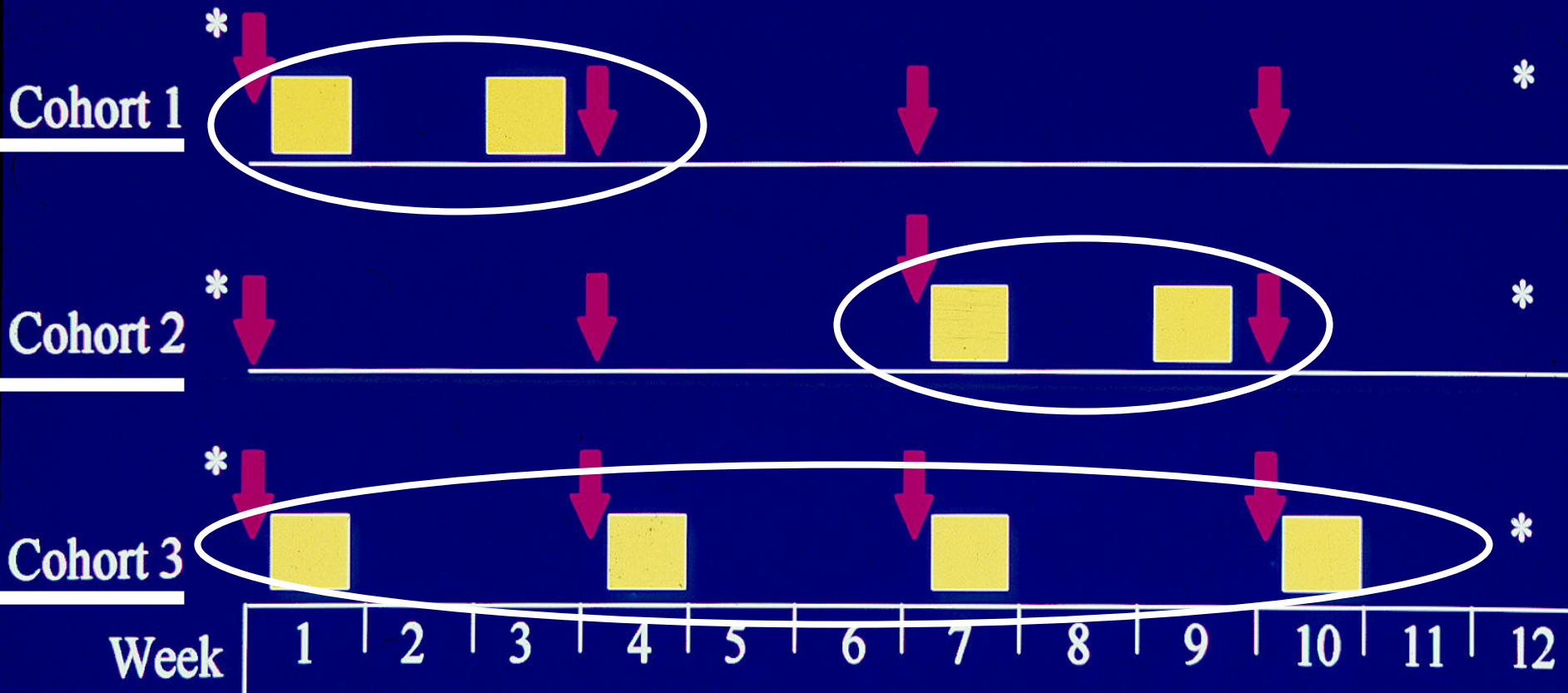
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# IL-2 + gp100 209-2M Peptide Vaccine in Melanoma

- ◆ NCI disseminate trial as phase III (concern results not sufficient)
- ◆ NCI SB Consortium Phase III Trial  
HD IL-2 +/- vaccine (underway)
- ◆ This Report:  
**CWG Three Arm Phase II trial**  
**Vaccine + various HD IL-2 Schedules**



# CWG IL-2 + Mutated gp100 Melanoma Peptide Protocol for Metastatic Melanoma



↓ = Melanoma Peptide

■ = IL-2

\* = Tumor measurements and T cell assays

# Eligibility Criteria

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- ◆ Must have histologically confirmed melanoma which is advanced and measurable.
- ◆ Must be HLA typed and be shown to be HLA-A2+
- ◆ Must have a good performance status (ECOG 0 or 1)
- ◆ Must have adequate organ function (as for High dose IL-2)
- ◆ Must not have received prior IL-2. Patients who have received one prior chemotherapy regimen are eligible
- ◆ Patients with active brain metastases are ineligible.

# CWG Three arm phase II trial of gp100 209-2M peptide and high dose IL-2

- ◆ 131 enrolled with follow-up available on 121 eligible patients
  - 46 (42) pts on cohort 1
  - 43 (40) pts on cohort 2
  - 42 (39) pts on cohort 3

# CWG Three arm phase II trial of gp100 209-2M peptide and high dose IL-2

Characteristics		N=121
M/F		72/49
Median age		50 (20-76)
ECOG PS (0/1)		99/22
LDH		
	Elevated	34 (46%)
	Normal	40 (54%)
	Unknown	47
Prior therapy		
	IFNa	44 (36%)
	Chemotx	16 (13%)



# CWG Three arm phase II trial of gp100 209-2M peptide and high dose IL-2

## Patient Characteristics

Cohort 3 (39 patients) had slightly less favorable characteristics

Otherwise very balanced

## Prior therapy

IFNa	18	(46%)
Chemotx	6	(18%)

# HD IL-2 + gp100 209-2M Peptide Vaccine Trial

## Results

Therapy	IL-2 doses	Median <sub>(of max)</sub>	(range)
Cohort 1		20 of 28	(11-27)
Cohort 2		20 of 28	(9-27)
Cohort 3		35 of 56	(8-51)

■ 15 patients (12%) did not receive IL-2 due to disease progression

■ 12 (30%) of those pts not receiving IL-2 in cohort 2

# HD IL-2 + gp100 209-2M Peptide Vaccine Trial

Response (by WHO criteria):

Cohort:	<u>Eval</u>	<u>CR</u>	<u>PR</u>	<u>RR %</u>
Overall	121	10	10	16.5%
Cohort 1	42	6	4	23.8%
Cohort 2	40	3	2	12.5%
Cohort 3	39	0	4	10.2%

# Characteristics of Responses

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- ◆ Follow-up range from 17 to 62 months
- ◆ Median Follow-up of 44 months
- ◆ Complete Responses (10)
  - 8/10 progression-free at (18+, 26+, 27+, 27+, 29+, 35+, 37+, 62+ months)
  - 2 progressed at 17 and 51 months
- ◆ Partial Responses (10)
  - Only 1 progression-free at 17 months
  - 6 progressed in less than 12 months, 2 progressed at 15 months and 1 progressed at 29 months

# Clinical Outcome in PFS and OS

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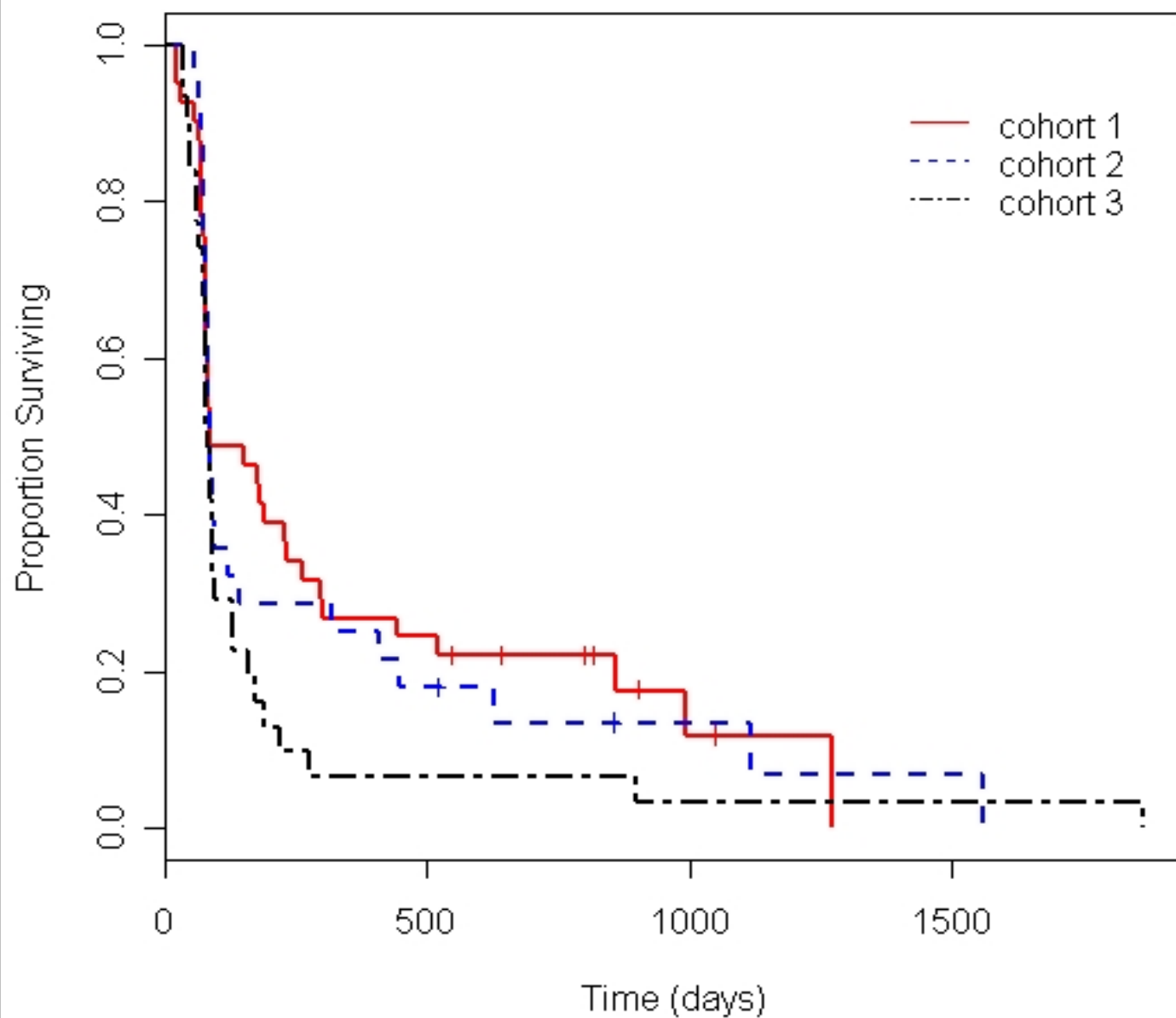
## Progression Free Survival

	mean days	median days
Overall	248d	84d

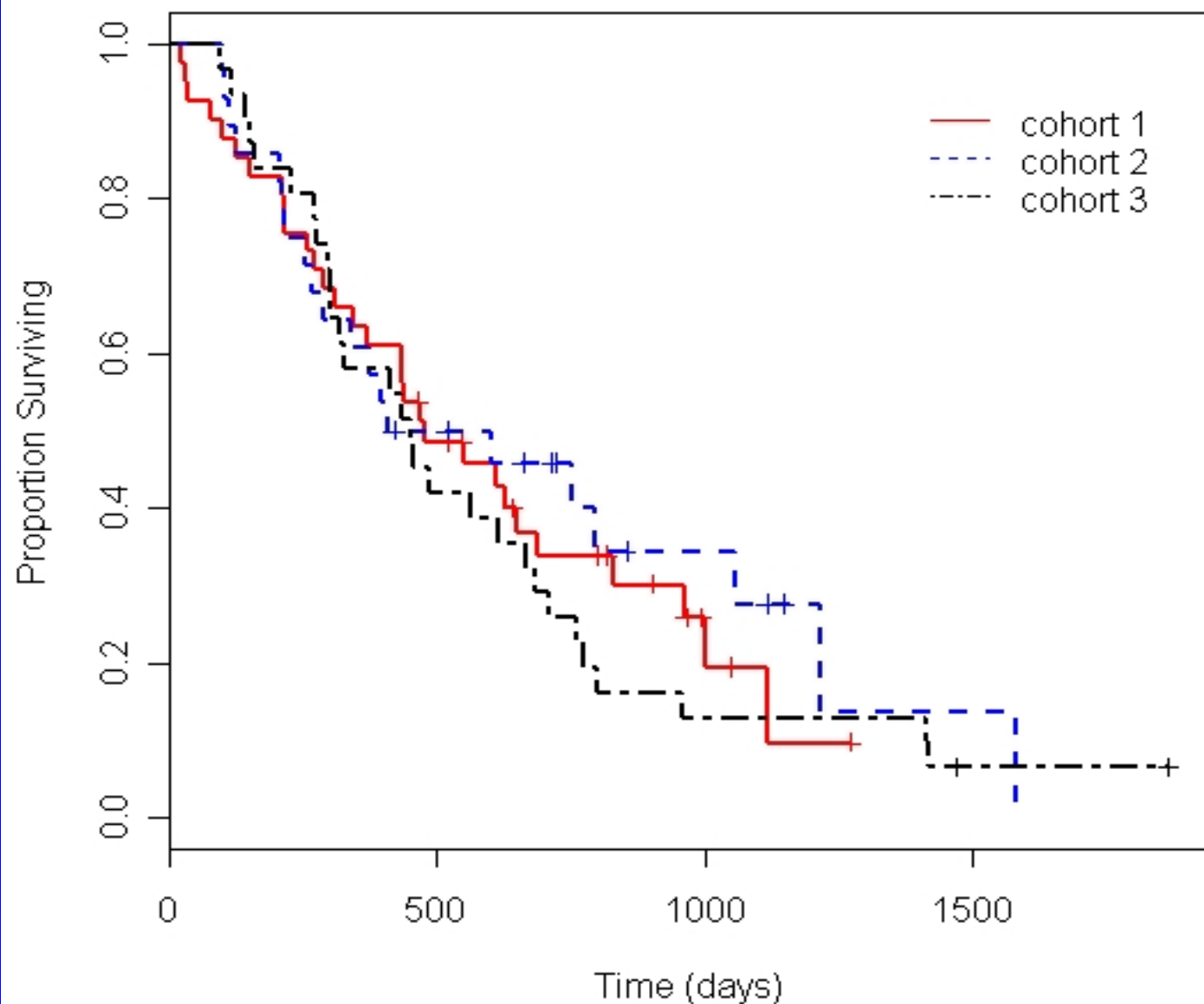
## Overall Survival

	mean yrs	median yrs
Overall	1.47	1.24

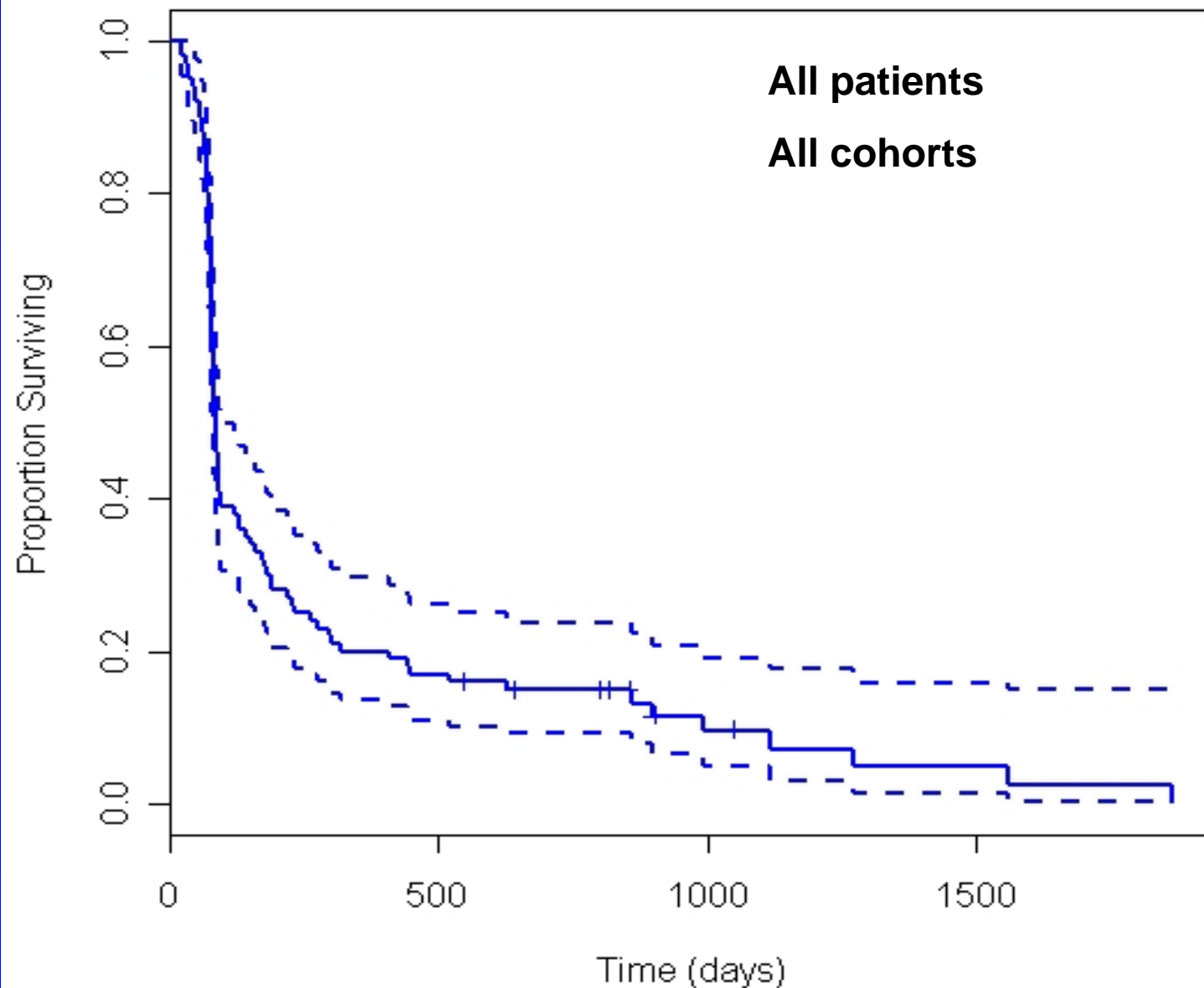
## Survival Curves for PFS



## Survival Curves for Overall Survival

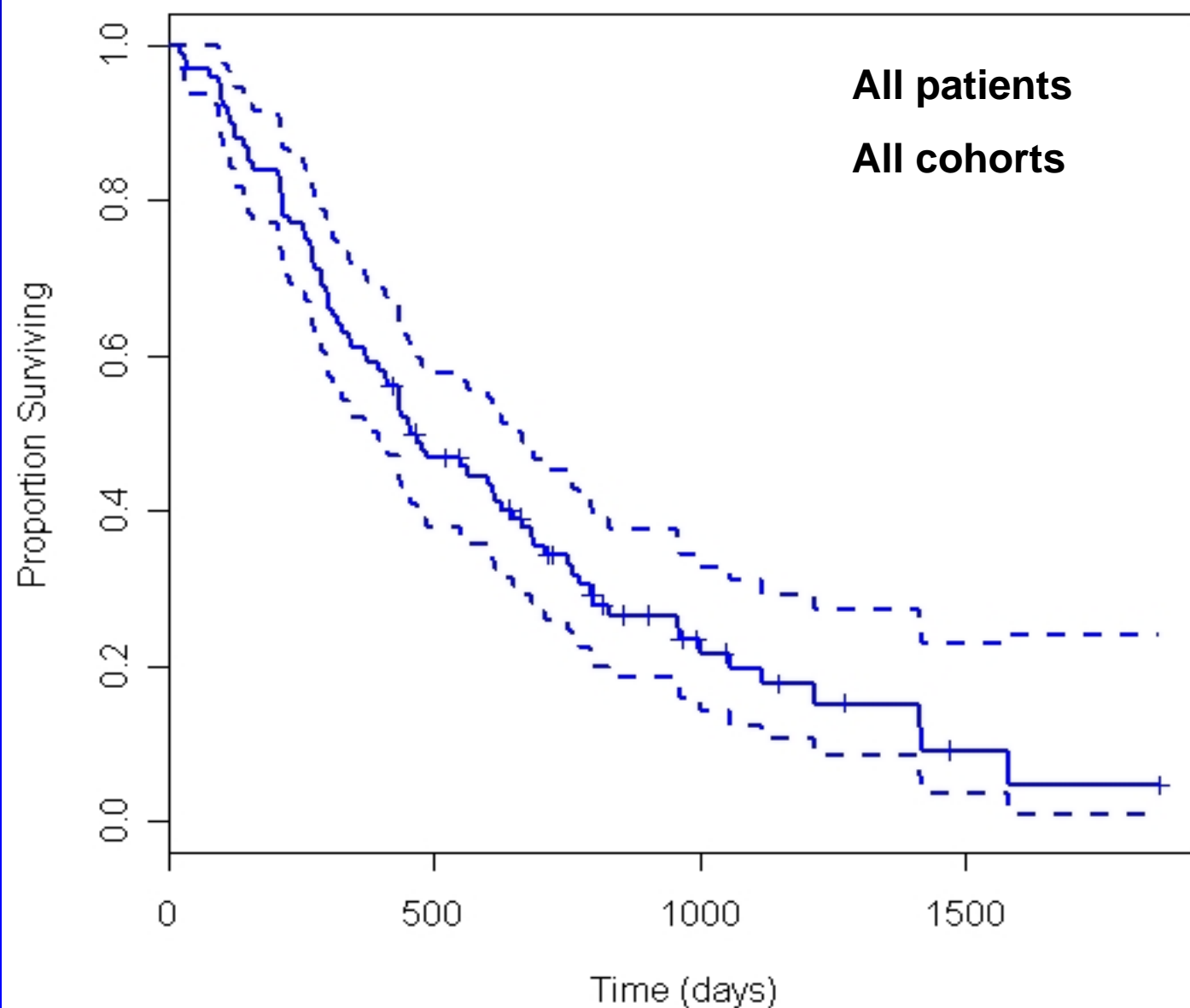


# Survival Curve for PFS with 95% confidence intervals





# Survival Curve for Overall Survival with 95% confidence intervals



# Immune Assays Performed Pre-Tx and at Week 12

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- ◆ Assess degree of immune dysfunction
  - Percent of CD3+ expressing  $\zeta$  chain ( ↓ )
  - Percent of CD4+CD25+ Regulatory T cells ( ↓ )
  - Percent of CD15+, CD14-CD18+ (Immature Myeloid Cells) ( ↓ )
- ◆ Assess Specific T cell response
  - Percent gp100-209 tetramer expressing CD8+ T cells ( ↑ )
  - Control percent Flu tetramer expressing CD8+T cells
- ◆ Compare Pre-treatment, Post-treatment, and change from pre- to post-treatment

# Immune Assays Performed Pre-Tx and at Week 12

## ◆ Preliminary Results

- Complete sampling on 52 patients (Pre- and Week 12))
  - Including 10 responders (6 CR, 4 PR)
  - Including 13 PFS > 12 months (PFS responders)
- For % CD3+,  $\zeta$  expressing cells
- For % CD4+, CD25+ cells
- For % CD15+, CD18+, CD14- cells
- For %CD8+, gp100 tetramer+ cells
  - No significant difference in Pre- and Post-Treatment levels or change in levels in CR/PR responders (10) compared to non-responders (42)
  - No significant difference in Pre- and Post-Treatment levels or change in levels in PFS responders (13) compared to non-responders (39)

# CWG HD IL-2 + gp100 209-2M Peptide Vaccine Trial

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## Conclusions

- gp100 209-2M vaccine does not appear to greatly enhance high dose IL-2 clinical activity in HLA- A2 + advanced melanoma patients
- No correlation of Immunologic Assays (Pre-, Post- and change from Pre- to Post-Treatment with clinical outcome in PFS and objective responses

# CWG HD IL-2 + gp100 209-2M Peptide Vaccine Trial

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## Conclusions (continued)

Low overall response rates-in cohort 3- IL-2 and vaccine every 3 weeks

- Prognostics characteristics of tumor were poor??
- Difficulty in tolerance to increased IL-2 doses??

- Many patients (12; 30%) in cohort 2 do not receive IL-2 after 6 weeks of vaccine
- Results support the early initiation of standard HD IL-2 after the diagnosis of advanced melanoma in lieu of a clinical trial and **the continued need to search for approaches to enhance IL-2's clinical effectiveness**

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## Special Thanks

- ◆ Carol Carrillo, BS
- ◆ David Panka, PhD- laboratory correlates
- ◆ Bonnie LaFleur, PhD- statistics
- **Sosman JA, Urba W, Ernstoff M, Flaherty L, Atkins M, Clark J, Dutcher J, Margolin K, Weiss G, Kirkwood J, for the Cytokine Working Group**