

Cancer Center



Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL  
TEACHING HOSPITAL

# Immunotherapy for Lung Cancer

**Deepa Rangachari, M.D.**

**Thoracic Oncology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Instructor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School**

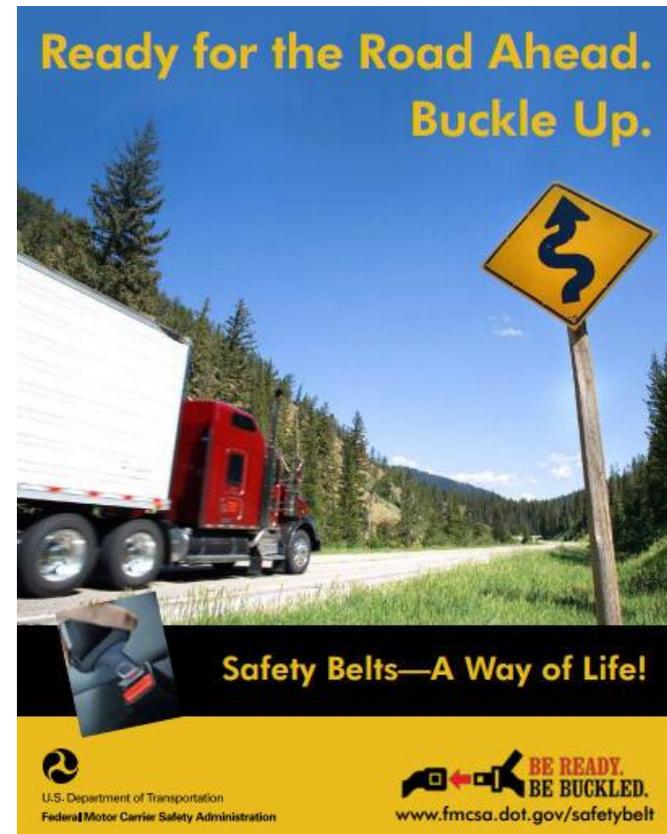
**Thursday, September 8, 2016**

# Disclosures

- No relevant financial relationships
- There will not be discussion about the use of products for non-FDA approved indications in this presentation

# Overview

- Clinical vignette: advanced lung cancer
- Immune checkpoint inhibitors in advanced disease:
  - *Non-squamous* NSCLC
  - *Squamous* NSCLC
- \*Focus on major phase III studies
- Conclusions & questions



# Clinical Vignette

**A 65 y/o fit gentleman with an 80 pack/year tobacco hx presents with stage IV adenocarcinoma of the lung (KRAS-mutated).**

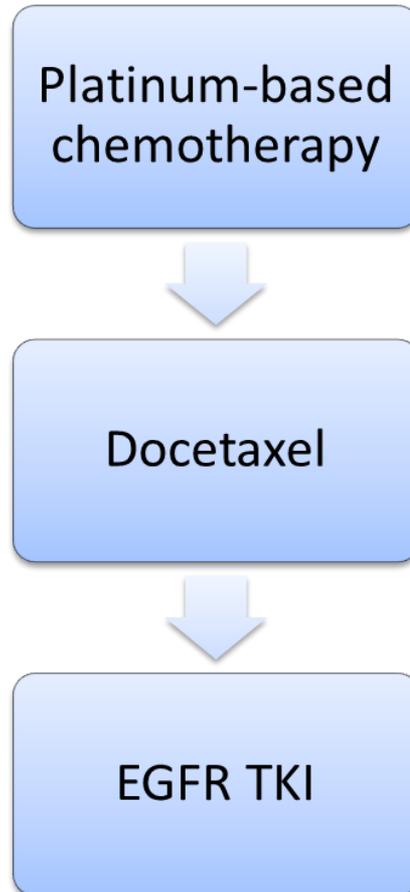
- Following 4 cycles of 1<sup>st</sup> line palliative Carboplatin/Pemetrexed, he receives maintenance Pemetrexed for 6 cycles
- 8 months after initial diagnosis, he experiences disease progression in the lungs

**Where do we go from here?**



# Evolving paradigms in the management of advanced NSCLC: THEN

**c. 2000**



# Evolving paradigms in the management of advanced NSCLC: NOW

squamous cell carcinoma

7<sup>th</sup> TNM stage IV NSCLC

adenocarcinoma  
(tumor without EGFR mutation, ALK or ROS1 rearrangements)

## 1<sup>st</sup> line therapy

carboplatin + gemcitabine  
(cisplatin) paclitaxel  
nab-paclitaxel  
(4-6 cycles)  
+/-  
necitumumab  
(if using cisplatin+gemcitabine)

## 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> line therapy

nivolumab  
or  
pembrolizumab (PD-L1+)  
or  
docetaxel  
+/-  
ramucirumab  
or  
(afatinib)

best supportive care or clinical trial

carboplatin + pemetrexed  
(cisplatin) paclitaxel  
+/-  
bevacizumab  
(4-6 cycles)  
+/-  
pemetrexed maintenance

nivolumab  
or  
pembrolizumab (PD-L1+)  
or  
pemetrexed  
or  
docetaxel  
+/-  
ramucirumab  
or  
(erlotinib)

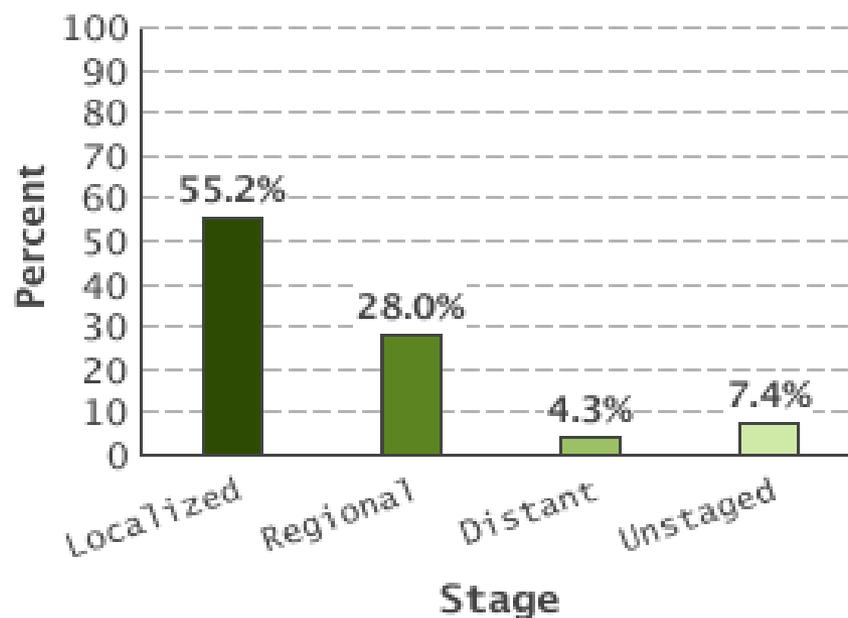
best supportive care or clinical trial



# Long-term outcomes for advanced NSCLC remain poor

Cancer Center

5-Year Relative Survival



	Median Survival
1980s	4-6 mos
2000	8 mos
2005	12 mos
2020	???



Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center



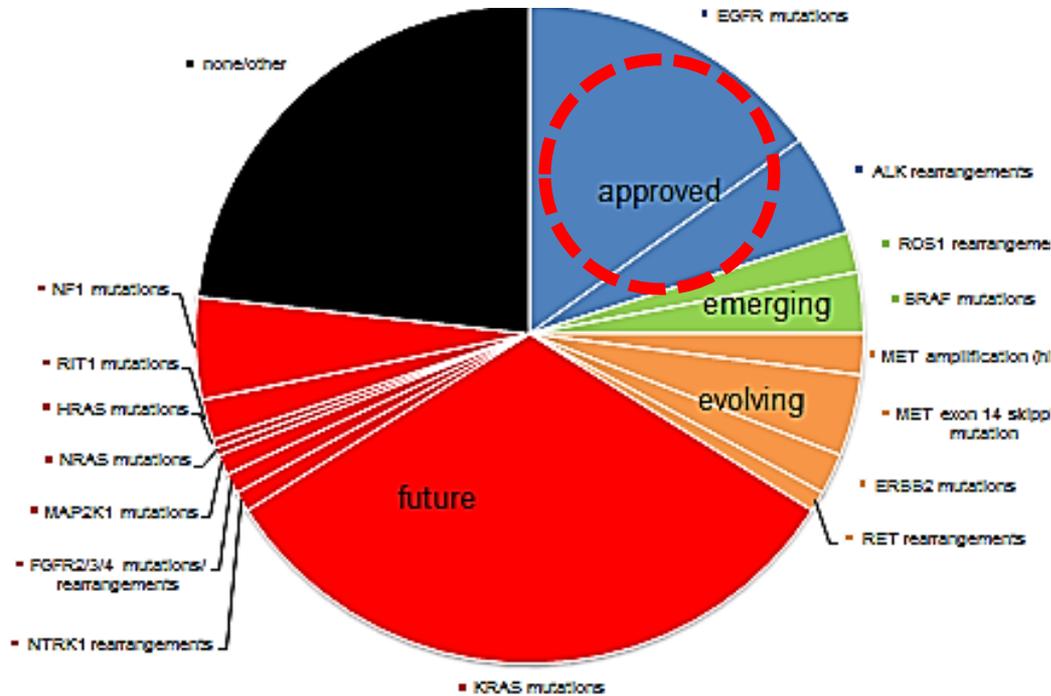
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL TEACHING HOSPITAL

Courtesy of J Brahmer

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

# Targeted therapies in advanced NSCLC have brought promise— but not for most

## Adenocarcinoma



## Squamous Cell Cancer



# FDA-approved indications for immunotherapy in advanced NSCLC (as of right now...)

Cancer Center



U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Protecting and Promoting *Your* Health

March 4, 2015

FDA News Release

**FDA expands approved use of Opdivo to treat lung cancer**

October 2, 2015

FDA News Release

**FDA approves Keytruda for advanced non-small cell lung cancer**

*First drug approved in lung cancer for patients whose tumors express PD-L1*

October 9, 2015

FDA News Release

**FDA expands approved use of Opdivo in advanced lung cancer**

*Opdivo demonstrates survival benefit in squamous and non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer*

## NIVOLUMAB

- 2<sup>nd</sup> line
- Squamous & Non-squamous NSCLC

## PEMBROLIZUMAB

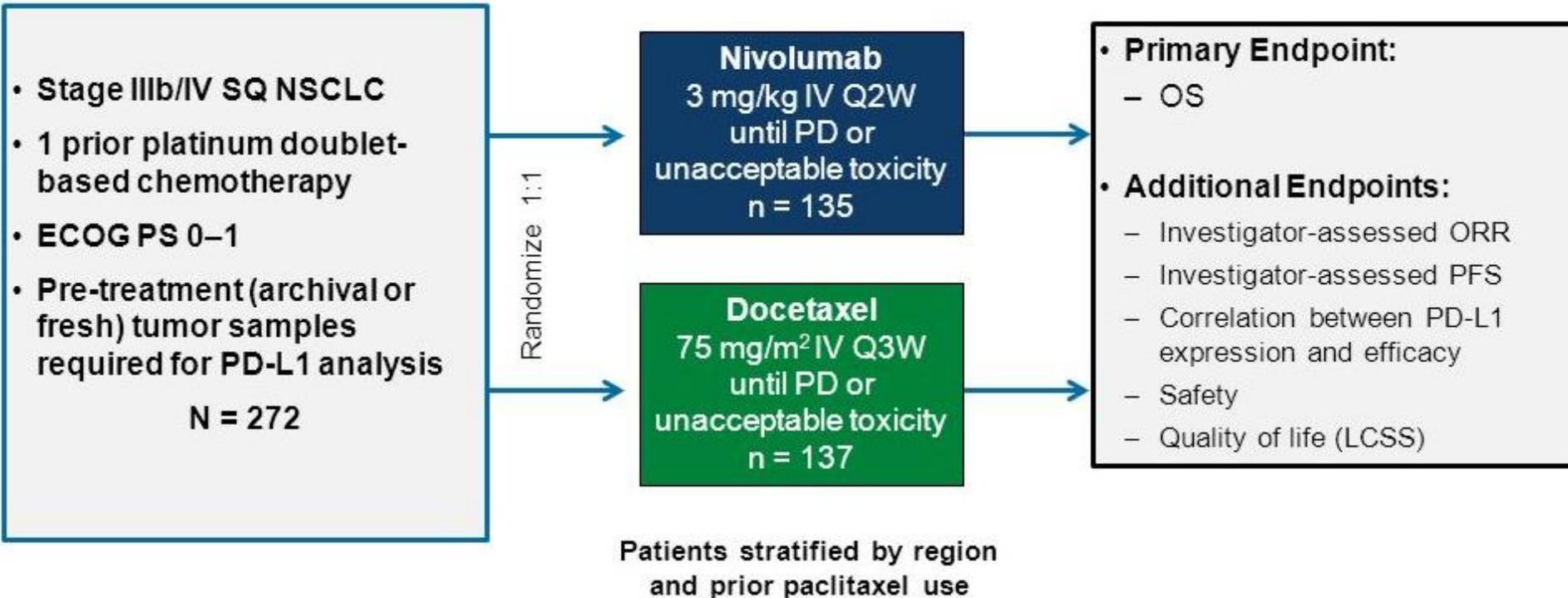
- 2<sup>nd</sup> line
- Squamous & Non-squamous NSCLC
- **PDL1+: ≥50%**

# NIVOLUMAB IN SQUAMOUS NSCLC

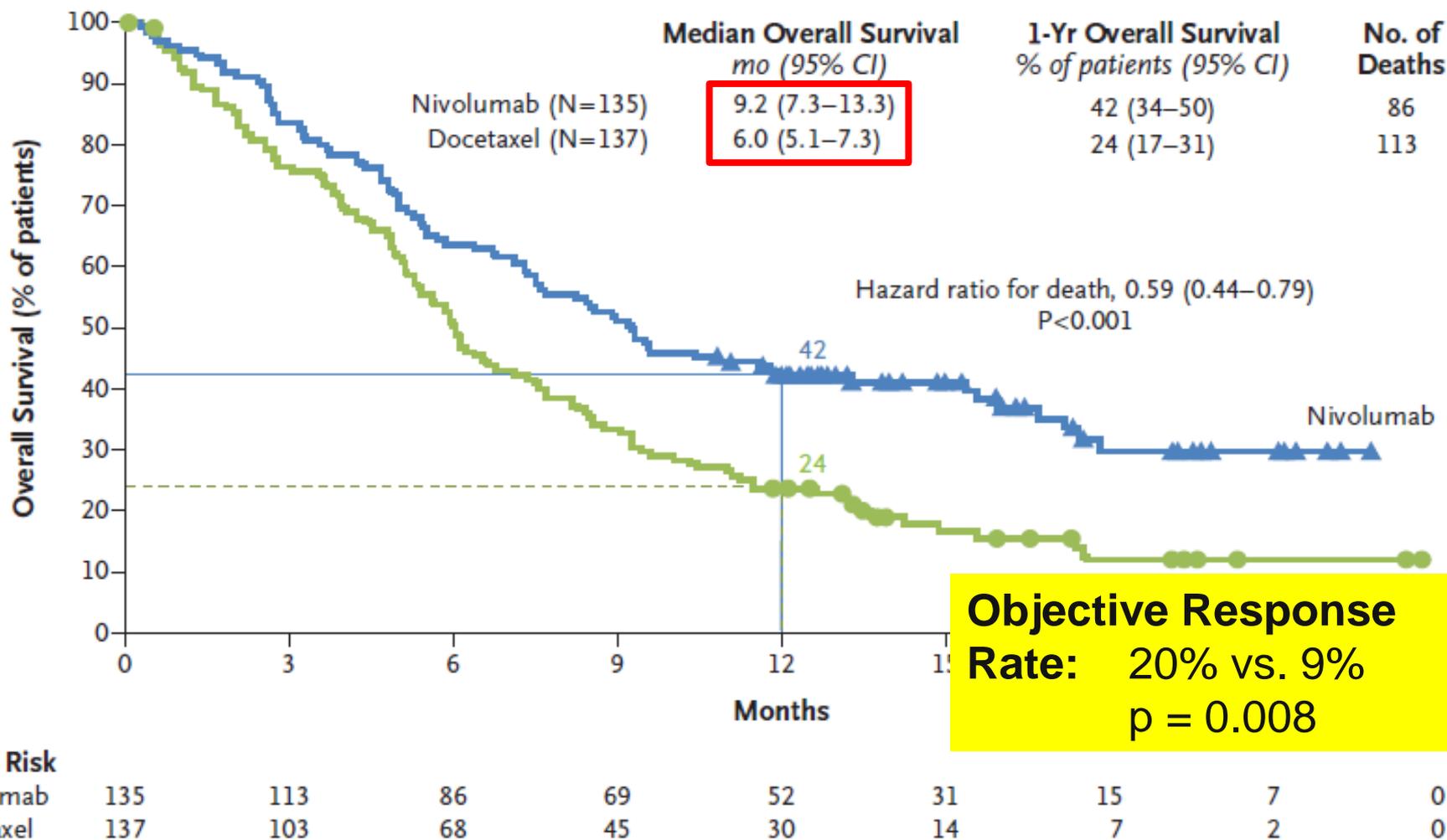


# Checkmate-017: Nivolumab vs. Docetaxel for 2<sup>nd</sup> line tx of adv squamous NSCLC

Cancer Center

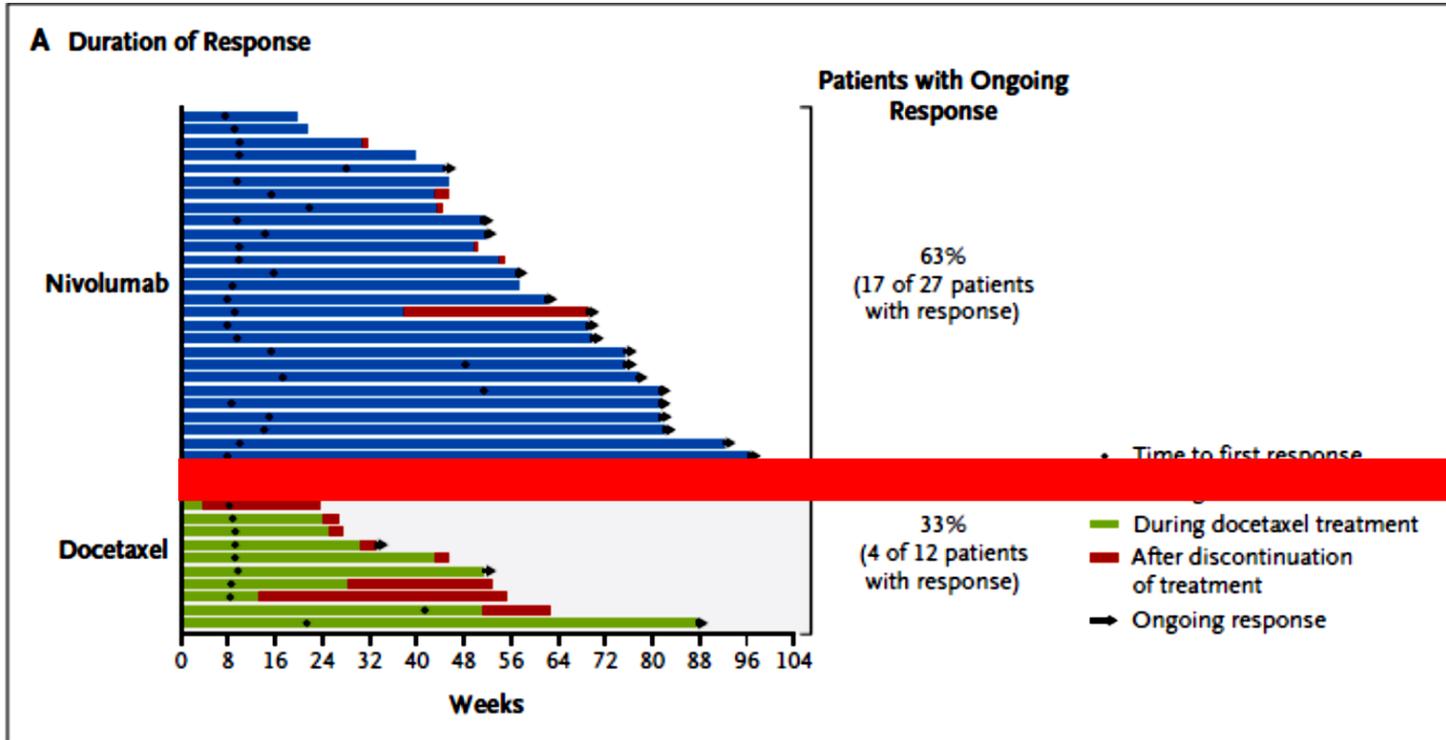


# Checkmate-017: Overall survival improved with Nivolumab



# Checkmate-017: Durable responses with Nivolumab

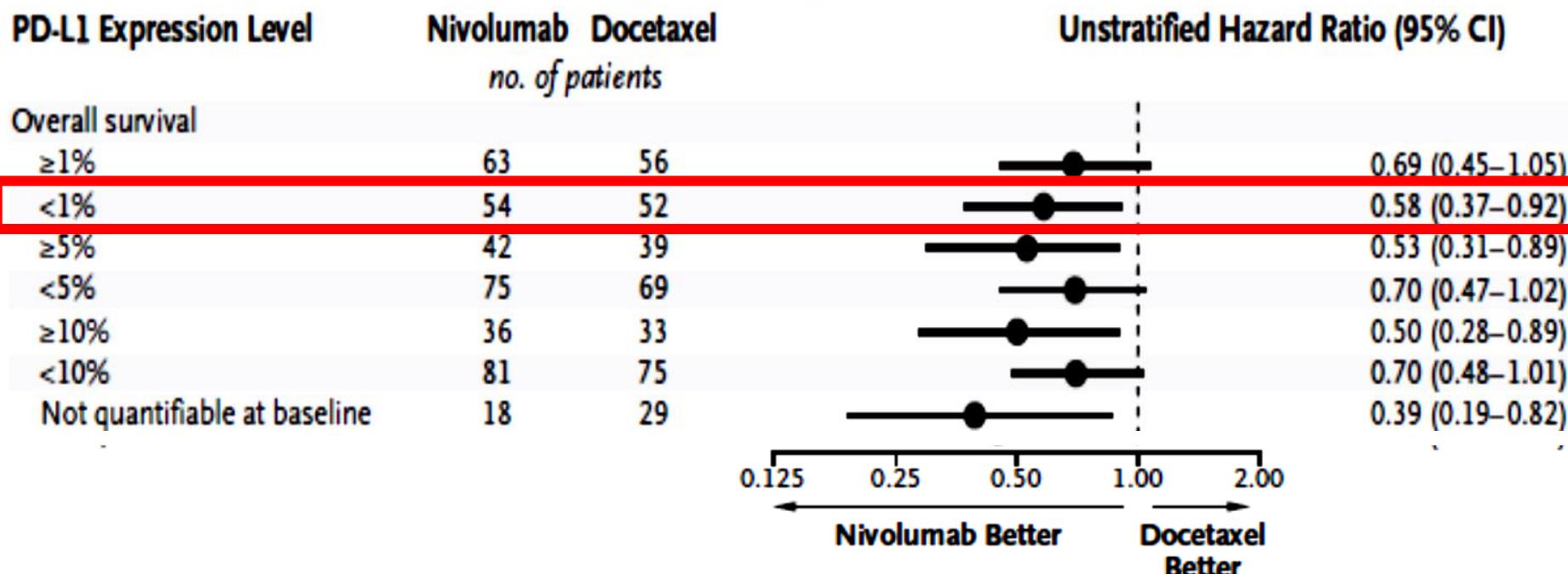
Cancer Center



**Median duration  
of response:  
20.4+ vs 8.4 mos**

# Checkmate-017: Tumor PDL1 status does not predict benefit from Nivolumab

## C Overall and Progression-free Survival According to PD-L1 Expression Level





# Checkmate-017: Adverse events fewer and less severe with Nivolumab

- Nivolumab:
  - 7% moderate/severe toxicities
  - fatigue, anorexia (10-16%)
  - moderate/severe immune-related toxicities:
    - \*nephritis, colitis, pneumonitis
    - \*most immune events treated with systemic steroids
- Docetaxel:
  - 57% moderate/severe toxicities
  - neutropenia, fatigue, alopecia, nausea (23-33%)

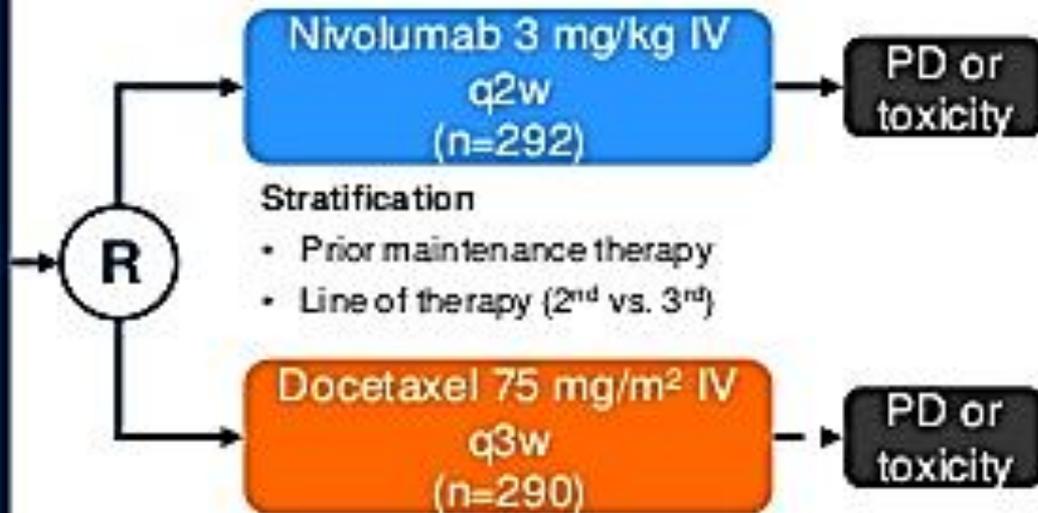
# NIVOLUMAB IN NON-SQUAMOUS NSCLC



# Checkmate-057: Nivolumab vs Docetaxel for 2<sup>nd</sup> line tx of adv NON-squamous NSCLC

## Key patient inclusion criteria

- Stage IIIB/IV non-squamous NSCLC
  - Pre-treatment (archival or recent) tumor samples available for PD-L1 testing
  - ECOG PS 0–1
  - Failed 1 prior platinum doublet
- (n=582)



## Primary endpoint

- OS

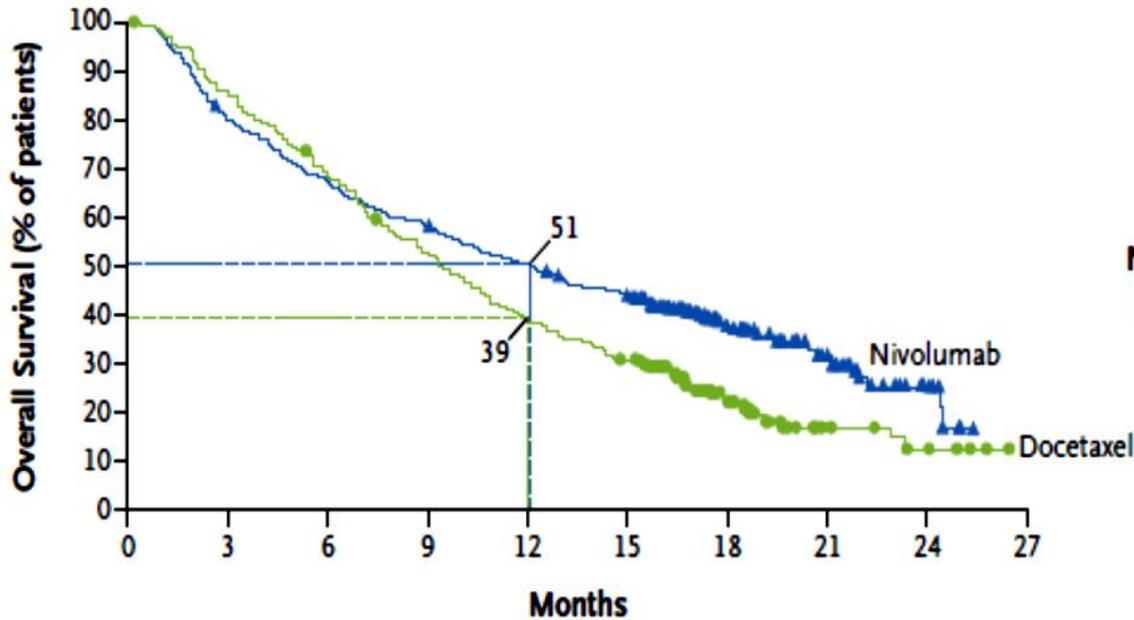
## Secondary endpoints

- ORR, PFS, safety, efficacy by PD-L1 expression, QoL

# Checkmate-057: Overall survival improved with Nivolumab

Cancer Center

## A Overall Survival



	No. of Deaths/ Total No. of Patients	Median Overall Survival (95% CI) <i>mo</i>	1-Yr Overall Survival Rate (95% CI) %
<b>Nivolumab</b>	190/292	12.2 (9.7–15.0)	51 (45–56)
<b>Docetaxel</b>	223/290	9.4 (8.1–10.7)	39 (33–45)

Hazard ratio for death, 0.73 (96% CI, 0.59–0.89)  
P=0.002

**Objective response rate: 19% vs. 12%**  
**p = 0.02**

### No. at Risk

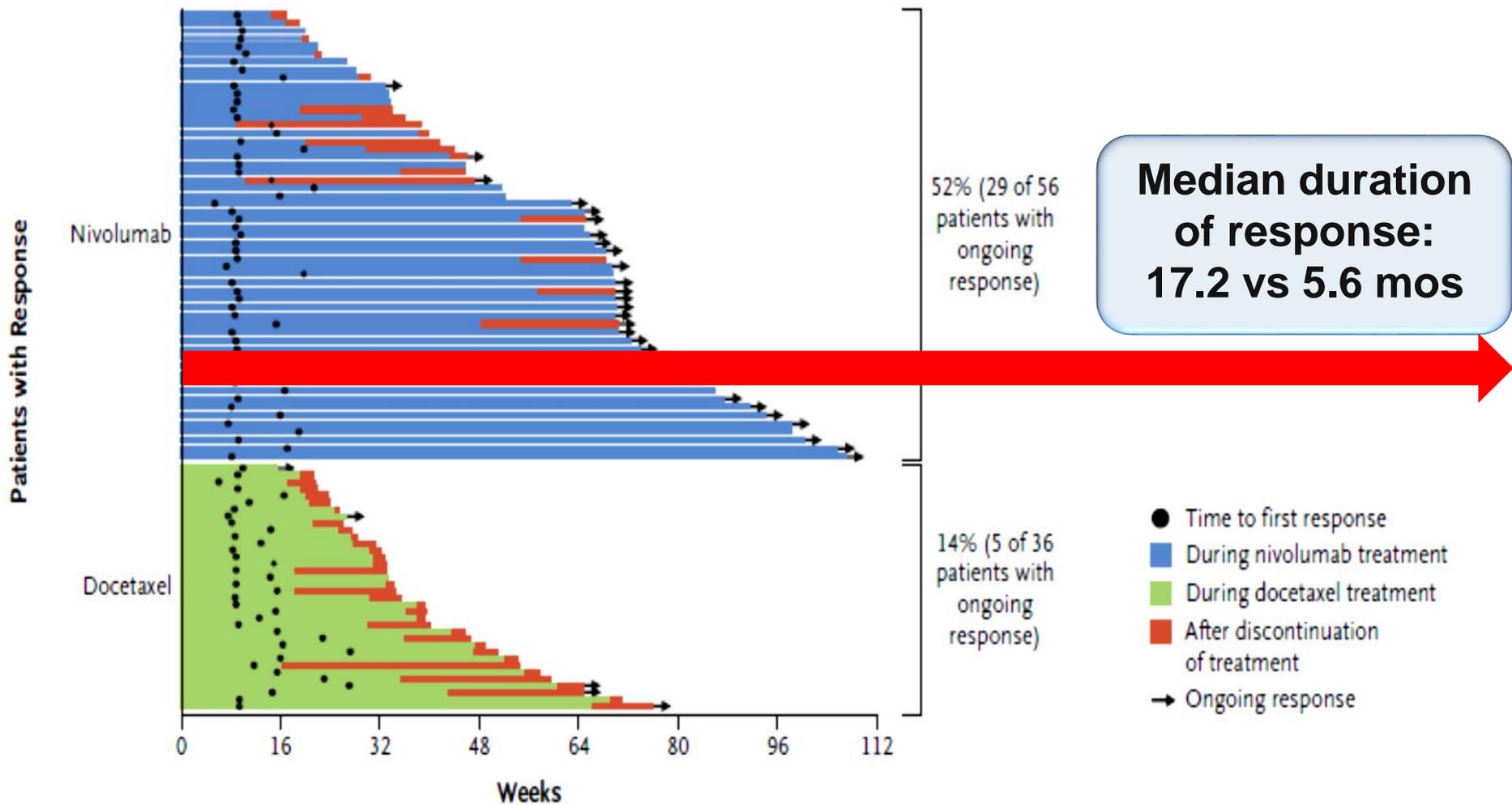
Nivolumab	292	232	194	169	146	123	62	32	9	0
Docetaxel	290	244	194	150	111	88	34	10	5	0



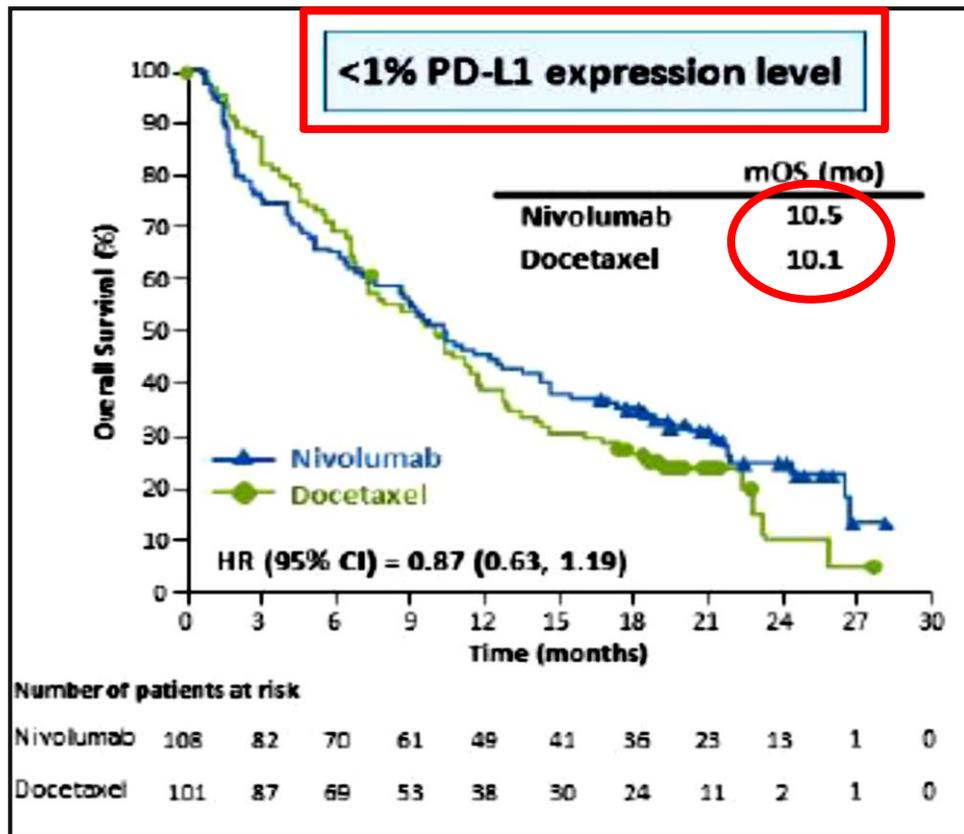
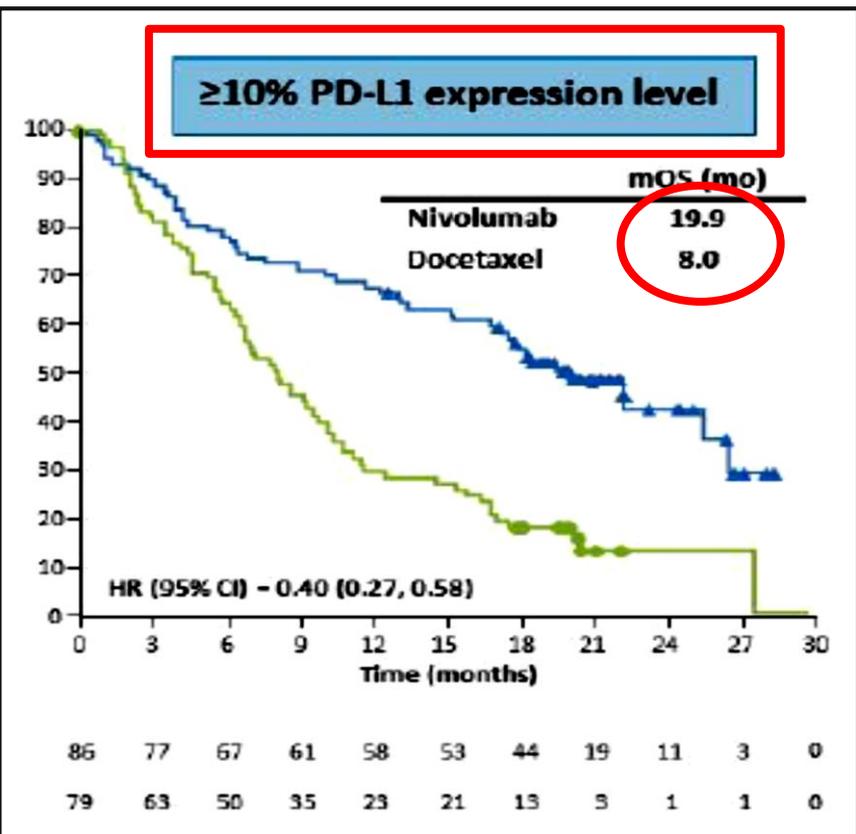
# Checkmate-057: Durable responses with Nivolumab

Cancer Center

## B Duration of Response



# Checkmate-057: Tumor PDL1 expression associated with improved outcomes with Nivolumab





# Checkmate-057: Adverse events fewer and less severe with Nivolumab

- Nivolumab:
  - 10% moderate/severe
  - fatigue, nausea, anorexia (10-16%)
  - moderate/severe immune-related toxicities:
    - \*rash, colitis, abnl LFT's, pneumonitis
    - \*most immune events treated with systemic steroids
- Docetaxel:
  - 54% moderate/severe
  - neutropenia, fatigue, alopecia, nausea (25-31%)



# PEMBROLIZUMAB IN NSCLC

# KEYNOTE-010: Pembrolizumab vs. Docetaxel for previously treated adv NSCLC

Stratified by ECOG performance status (0 vs 1), region (east Asia vs not east Asia), and PD-L1 expression ( $\geq 50\%$  vs 1% to 49%)

Pts with advanced NSCLC who progressed after platinum-based chemotherapy (and TKI if EGFR+ or ALK+);  $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1+ tumor cells; ECOG performance status 0-1 (N = 1034)

Pembrolizumab 2 mg/kg IV every 3 wks (n = 345)

Pembrolizumab 10 mg/kg IV every 3 wks (n = 346)

Docetaxel\* 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> IV every 3 wks (n = 343)

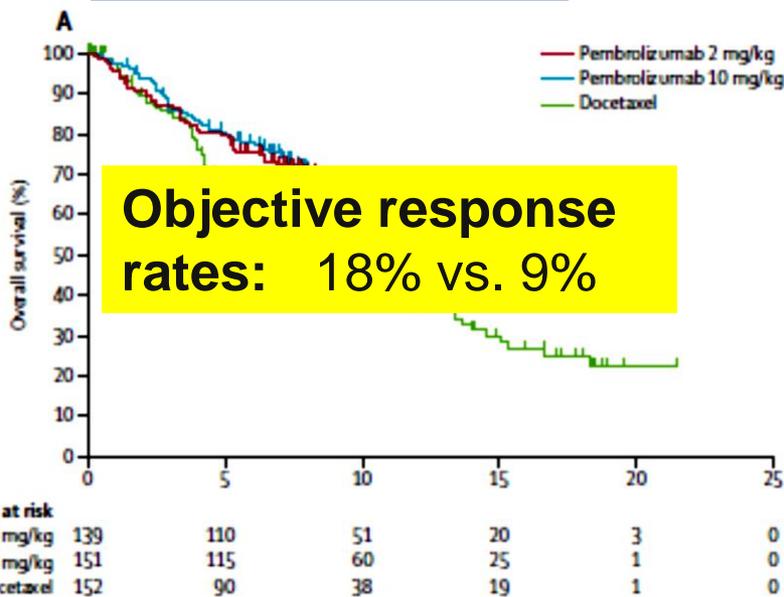
Treatment continued for 24 mos or until progressive disease<sup>†</sup> or unacceptable toxicity

**Pembrolizumab given at 2 different doses; Patients stratified by tumor PDL1 status**



# KEYNOTE-010: Overall survival improved with Pembrolizumab in all groups/dose levels

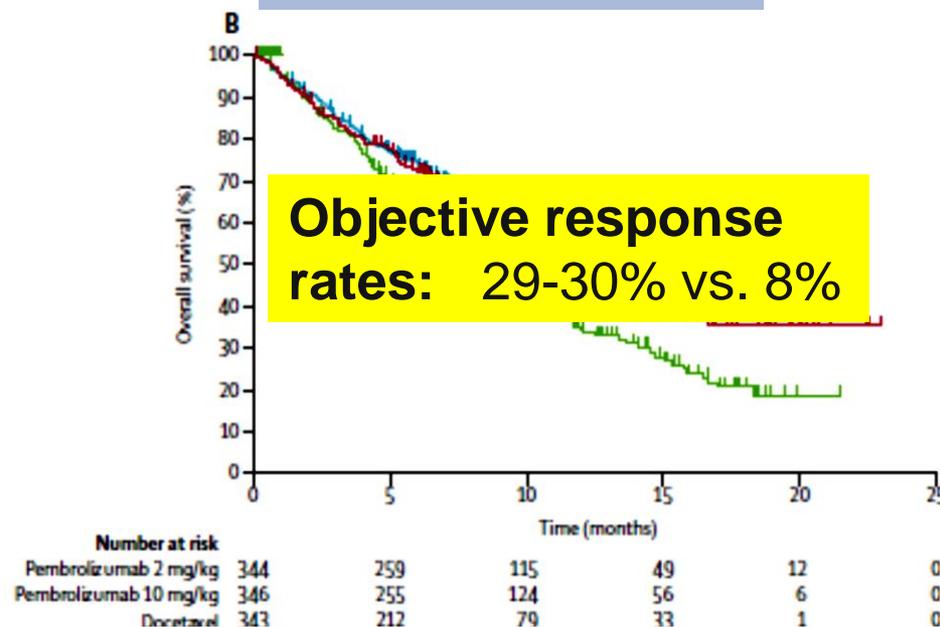
**PD-L1 ≥ 1%**



**Median overall survival:**

10.4-12.7 mos vs 8.5 mos

**PD-L1 ≥ 50%**



**Median overall survival:**

14.9-17.3 vs 8.2 mos

**Median duration of response:  
10-12+ vs 6-8 mos**



# KEYNOTE-010: Adverse events fewer and less severe with Pembrolizumab

- Pembrolizumab:
  - 13-16% moderate/severe toxicities
  - fatigue, anorexia (11-14%)
  - immune-related toxicities:
    - hypothyroidism (8%),
    - hyperthyroidism (4-6%),
    - pneumonitis (4-5%)-- 3 deaths due to pneumonitis
- Docetaxel:
  - 35% moderate/severe toxicities
  - alopecia, fatigue, diarrhea (18-33%)

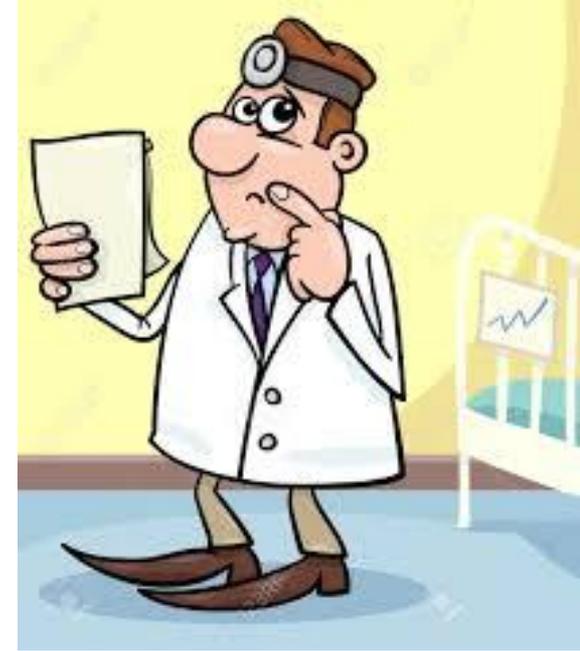


# BACK TO OUR PATIENT...



**A 65 y/o fit gentleman with an 80 pack/year tobacco hx presents with stage IV adenocarcinoma of the lung (KRAS-mutated).**

- Following 4 cycles of 1<sup>st</sup> line palliative Carboplatin/Pemetrexed, he receives maintenance Pemetrexed
- 8 months after initial diagnosis, he experiences disease progression in the lungs
- PS is 0, end organ function is normal, and no concurrent autoimmune disease
- Tumor tests positive for PDL1 by IHC
- **He proceeds to receive 2<sup>nd</sup> line Pembrolizumab IV every 3 weeks**





# Nivolumab vs. Pembrolizumab for previously treated advanced NSCLC

## Nivolumab

- Previously treated NSCLC
- 3mg/kg IV  
every **2 weeks**

## Pembrolizumab

- Previously treated **PDL1+** NSCLC
- 2mg/kg IV  
every **3 weeks**

# There are many ongoing phase III trials of checkpoint inhibitors in NSCLC...

Cancer Center

**Table 5.** Ongoing Phase III Clinical Trials of Checkpoint Inhibitors in NSCLC

Immune Checkpoint Target	Trial ID	Study Phase and Setting	Regimen	Accrual Status and Estimated Enrollment (No. of patients)	Primary End Point and Estimated PCD
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> line/refractory</b>					
PD-1 inhibitors beyond	CheckMate 153, NCT02066636	aNSCLC, second line	Nivolumab 1 year v nivolumab until progression	Recruiting, N = 780	Safety, March 2019
PD-1	KEYNOTE-010, NCT01905657	Phase II/III aNSCLC, PD-L1 positive, second line	Pembrolizumab v docetaxel	Active, not recruiting, N = 920	OS, November 2015
PD-L1 inhibitors	OAK, NCT02008227	aNSCLC, second line*	Atezolizumab v docetaxel	Active, not recruiting, N = 1,225	OS, June 2017
PD-L1	JAVELIN Lung 200, NCT02395172	aNSCLC, PD-L1 positive, second line	Avelumab v docetaxel	Recruiting, N = 650	OS, October 2021
PD-L1 and/or CTLA-4	ARCTIC, NCT02352948	aNSCLC, EGFR and ALK negative or unknown, third line	PD-L1 positive: durvalumab v standard care; PD-L1 negative: durvalumab and/or tremelimumab v standard care	Recruiting, N = 900	OS, February 2017
<b>1<sup>st</sup> line metastatic</b>					
PD-1 inhibitors	IMpower 133, NCT02394933	aNSCLC EGFR T790M positive, EGFR inhibitor pretreated, second line	Durvalumab plus AZD9291 v AZD9291	Not yet recruiting, N = 350	PFS, August 2017
CTLA-4	CA184-104, NCT01285609	Squamous aNSCLC, first line	Ipilimumab plus PacCarbo v PacCarbo	Completed accrual, N = 920	OS, June 2015
PD-1 inhibitors	CA184-153, NCT02279732	Squamous aNSCLC, first line	Ipilimumab plus PacCarbo v PacCarbo	Recruiting, N = 867	OS, September 2019
PD-1	CheckMate 026, NCT02041533	aNSCLC, PD-L1 positive, first line	Nivolumab v PlatD	Recruiting, N = 535	PFS, August 2016
PD-1	KEYNOTE-024, NCT02142738	aNSCLC, PD-L1 positive, EGFR and ALK negative, first line	Pembrolizumab v PlatD	Recruiting, N = 300	PFS, June 2016
PD-1	KEYNOTE-042, NCT02220894	aNSCLC, PD-L1 positive, EGFR and ALK negative or unknown, first line	Pembrolizumab v PlatD	Recruiting, N = 1,240	OS, June 2018
PD-L1 inhibitors	MYSTIC, NCT02453282	aNSCLC, EGFR and ALK negative or unknown, first line	Durvalumab v durvalumab plus tremelimumab v PlatD	Not yet recruiting, N = 675	PFS, April 2018
PD-L1	IMpower 110, NCT02409342	aNSCLC nonsquamous, PD-L1 positive, first line	Atezolizumab v PemPlat	Recruiting, N = 400	PFS, April 2018
PD-L1	IMpower 111, NCT02409355	aNSCLC squamous, PD-L1 positive, first line	Atezolizumab v GemPlat	Recruiting, N = 400	PFS, July 2019
PD-L1	IMpower 130, NCT02367781	aNSCLC nonsquamous, first line	Atezolizumab plus nabpacCarbo v nabpacCarbo	Recruiting, N = 550	PFS, July 2018
PD-L1	IMpower 131, NCT02367794	aNSCLC squamous, first line	Atezolizumab plus nabpacCarbo v atezolizumab plus PacCarbo v nabpacCarbo	Recruiting, N = 1,200	PFS, February 2023
PD-L1	IMpower 150, NCT02366143	aNSCLC nonsquamous, first line	Atezolizumab plus PacCarbo v atezolizumab plus PacCarboBev v PacCarboBev	Recruiting, N = 1,200	PFS, January 2017
<b>Adjuvant</b>					
PD-L1	PACIFIC, NCT02125461	Stage III unresectable NSCLC	Durvalumab v placebo after chemoradiation	Recruiting, N = 702	OS, May 2017
PD-L1	BR31, IFCT1401, NCT02273375	Completely resected NSCLC, adjuvant	Durvalumab v placebo	Recruiting, N = 1,100	DFS, January 2025

NOTE. Clinical trial data as listed on ClinicalTrials.gov as of June 19, 2015.

Abbreviations: ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; aNSCLC, advanced non-small-cell lung cancer; Bev, bevacizumab; Carbo, carboplatin; CTLA-4, cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated antigen 4; DFS, disease-free survival; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; Gem, gemcitabine; NABpac, nanoparticle albumin-bound paclitaxel; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung cancer; OS, overall survival; Pac, paclitaxel; PCD, primary completion date; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed death ligand 1; Pem, pemetrexed; PFS, progression-free survival; Plat, platinum; PlatD, platinum doublet.

\*First-line patients were allowed if they had disease recurrence within 6 months of treatment with a platinum-based adjuvant/neoadjuvant regimen or combined-modality (eg, chemoradiation) regimen with curative intent.

# Conclusions

- Outcomes for advanced NSCLC are poor
- Available 2<sup>nd</sup> line therapies are toxic and with modest efficacy
- Immune checkpoint inhibitors have **improved survival** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line
  - ...Survival benefit = 2-6 months
  - (And may be true for 1<sup>st</sup> line/initial treatment, too)
- PDL1 remains a challenging marker to predict who will best respond to immune checkpoint inhibitors
  - ...**Patients with PDL1- tumors may still benefit from drug**
- IF response, then typically **durable** (>6 mos)
- Immune toxicities are real, but can be managed
  - ...And are typically **less severe** than with chemotherapy





# Conclusions & Future Directions

- Combination vs. sequential chemotherapy/immunotherapy is being explored
- Oral targeted therapies (TKIs) remain the standard initial treatment for mutated advanced tumors (i.e. *EGFR*, *ALK*)
- Immunotherapy for small cell lung cancer is up and coming

