

# ESMO PRECEPTORSHIP ON

## Chemotherapy in metastatic bladder cancer

Dr Toh Chee Keong, Senior Consultant , Division of Medical Oncology, National Cancer Centre

4 Sep 2019





## DISCLOSURES

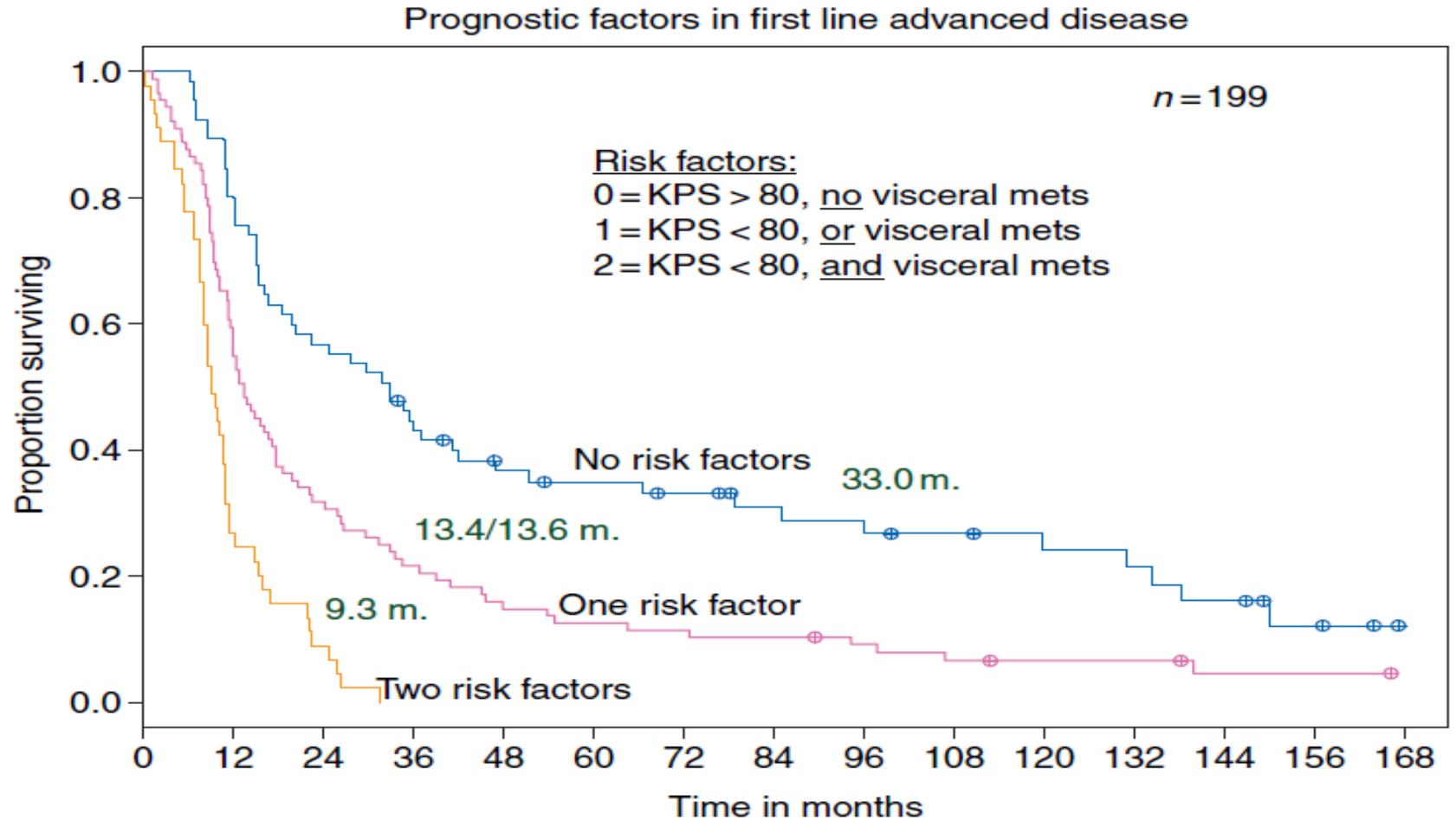
- ◆ Advisory role: BI, MSD, Pfizer, Eisai
- ◆ Research funding: BMS, MSD, AZ, Roche, Pfizer
- ◆ Speaker's role: MSD

# Chemotherapy

- ◆ Prognostic factors
- ◆ First line therapy
- ◆ Second line therapy

# Prognostic factors

- ◆ 203 pts, MVAC chemotherapy, retrospective, MSKCC
- ◆ 2 risk factors had independent prognosis: Performance status based on KPS (<80), Visceral metastases (liver, lung, bone)
- ◆ 0, 1, 2 risk factors



# First line therapy

- ◆ Cisplatin eligible
- ◆ Cisplatin ineligible

# Eligibility for cisplatin

- ◆ Defining medically frail patients
  - ◆ ECOG performance status  $\geq 2$
  - ◆ Creatinine clearance  $< 60\text{ml/min}$
  - ◆ Hearing loss of 25dB
  - ◆ Peripheral neuropathy  $>$ grade 2
  - ◆ NYHA  $>$ class III heart failure

# Cisplatin-eligible:

## Methotrexate/ Vinblastine/ Adriamycin/ Cyclophosphamide (MVAC)

- ◆ 1984 to 1989, 269 pts
- ◆ MVAC vs Cisplatin
- ◆ Improvement in RR (39% vs 12%)
- ◆ Median PFS (10 mths vs 4 mths)
- ◆ Median OS ( 13 mths vs 8 mths)
- ◆ Higher toxicities (neutropenic fever, mucositis, mortality)

# Gemcitabine/ cisplatin (GC)

- ◆ 1996 to 1998, 405 pts
- ◆ GC vs MVAC
- ◆ Similar ORR (49% vs 46%)
- ◆ Similar OS (14 mths vs 15mths); 5-year survival rate (13% vs 15%)
- ◆ Less toxicities (2% vs 14% neutropenic sepsis, 1% vs 22% mucositis)
- ◆ Note: designed for superiority , not powered for equivalence

# ddMVAC

- ◆ 1996 to 1998, 263 pts
- ◆ ddMVAC vs MVAC
- ◆ Improvement in ORR (64% vs 50%;  $p=0.06$ )
- ◆ Median survival 15.1 mths vs 14.9mths
- ◆ 5-year survival (21.8% vs 13.5%)
- ◆ Bordeline statistically significant relative reduction in risk of death

# Paclitaxel/Gemcitabine/Cisplatin (PGC)

- ◆ 2001 to 2004, 626 pts
- ◆ PGC vs GC
- ◆ Increase in ORR (56% vs 44%)
- ◆ Trend in OS (16 mths vs 13 mths) but not statistically significant
- ◆ Increased toxicities (neutropenia, fatigue, infection)

# Cisplatin eligible pts

- ◆ Options:
  - ◆ MVAC
  - ◆ ddMVAC
  - ◆ GC
  - ◆ PGC
- ◆ Outcome –OS/PFS fairly similar

# Cisplatin - ineligible

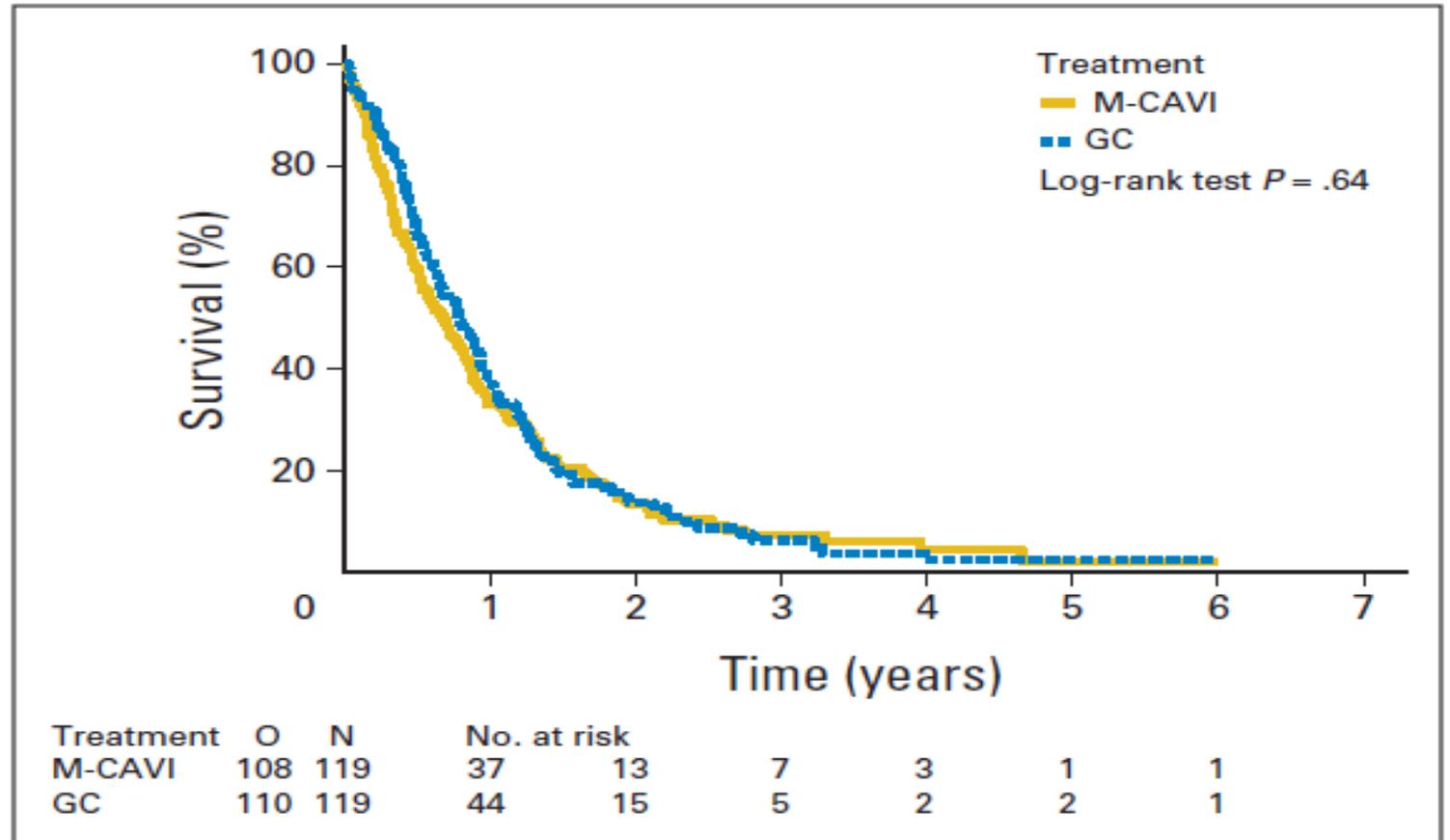
- ◆ Carboplatin based
- ◆ Non-platinum based
- ◆ Single agent taxane
- ◆ Single agent gemcitabine

# Gemcitabine/ Carboplatin

- ◆ 2001 to 2008 , 238 pts, impaired renal function ( $30\text{ml/min} < \text{CCT} < 60\text{ml/min}$ ) and/or ECOG  $\geq 2$ )
- ◆ Gem/Carbo vs M-CAVI (Carbo/Methotrexate/Vinblastine)
- ◆ Higher but not statistically significant RR (41% vs 30%)
- ◆ No difference in median OS (9 mths vs 8 mths)
- ◆ Less toxicities with Gem/Carbo

# Gemcitabine/ Carboplatin

- ◆ Inferior survival as compared to cisplatin based chemotherapy
- ◆ For pts with no Bajorin risk factors, the median OS was 12 months
- ◆ If renal function can be improved (eg due to obstructive uropathy that is easily reversible), correct and give cisplatin-based chemotherapy if possible



**Fig 2.** Duration of survival by treatment group. GC, gemcitabine/carboplatin; M-CAVI, methotrexate/carboplatin/vinblastine; O, observed number of deaths.

# Non-platinum combination

- ◆ Paclitaxel/Gemcitabine
  - ◆ Phase II
  - ◆ Response rates between 54 to 70%
  - ◆ Median OS between 13 to 16 months
- ◆ Docetaxel/Gemcitabine
  - ◆ Phase II
  - ◆ RR between 33 to 53%
  - ◆ Median OS between 13 to 15 months

# Single agent gemcitabine

- ◆ Phase II studies
- ◆ RR 23-29%

Table 1  
Responses to single-agent gemcitabine in bladder cancer<sup>a</sup>

Investigator (reference)	Phase	Gemcitabine dose (mg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Prior therapy	Evaluable patients (n)	CR/PR (n)	RR% (CR%)	Median survival (months)
Pollera et al. 1994 [22]	I	875–1370	Prior MVAC except for 1 patient	15	1/3	27% (7%)	NR
Lorusso et al. 1998 [23]	II	1250 <sup>b</sup> days 1, 8, 15 every 28 days	One prior cisplatin-based regimen	31	4/3	23% (13%)	5
Stadler et al. 1997 [24]	II	1200 days 1, 8, 15 every 28 days	Adjuvant >6 months prior to study entry	39	4/7	28% (10%)	13.5
Moore et al. 1997 [25]	II	1200 days 1, 8, 15 every 28 days	Adjuvant >12 months prior to study entry	37	3/6	24% (8%)	8
Gebbia et al. 1999 [26]	II	1000 3 consecutive weeks every 28 days	One prior cisplatin-based regimen	24	1/6	29% (4%)	13.0+

<sup>a</sup> CR, complete response; PR, partial response; RR, overall response rate; NR, not reported.

<sup>b</sup> In the publication of this study, the dosage was erroneously published as 1200 mg/m<sup>2</sup>; the actual dosage used was 1250 mg/m<sup>2</sup>.

# Single agent taxanes

- ◆ Paclitaxel -42% RR (23% -63%)
- ◆ Docetaxel – 31% RR (14-48%)

# Cisplatin ineligible pts

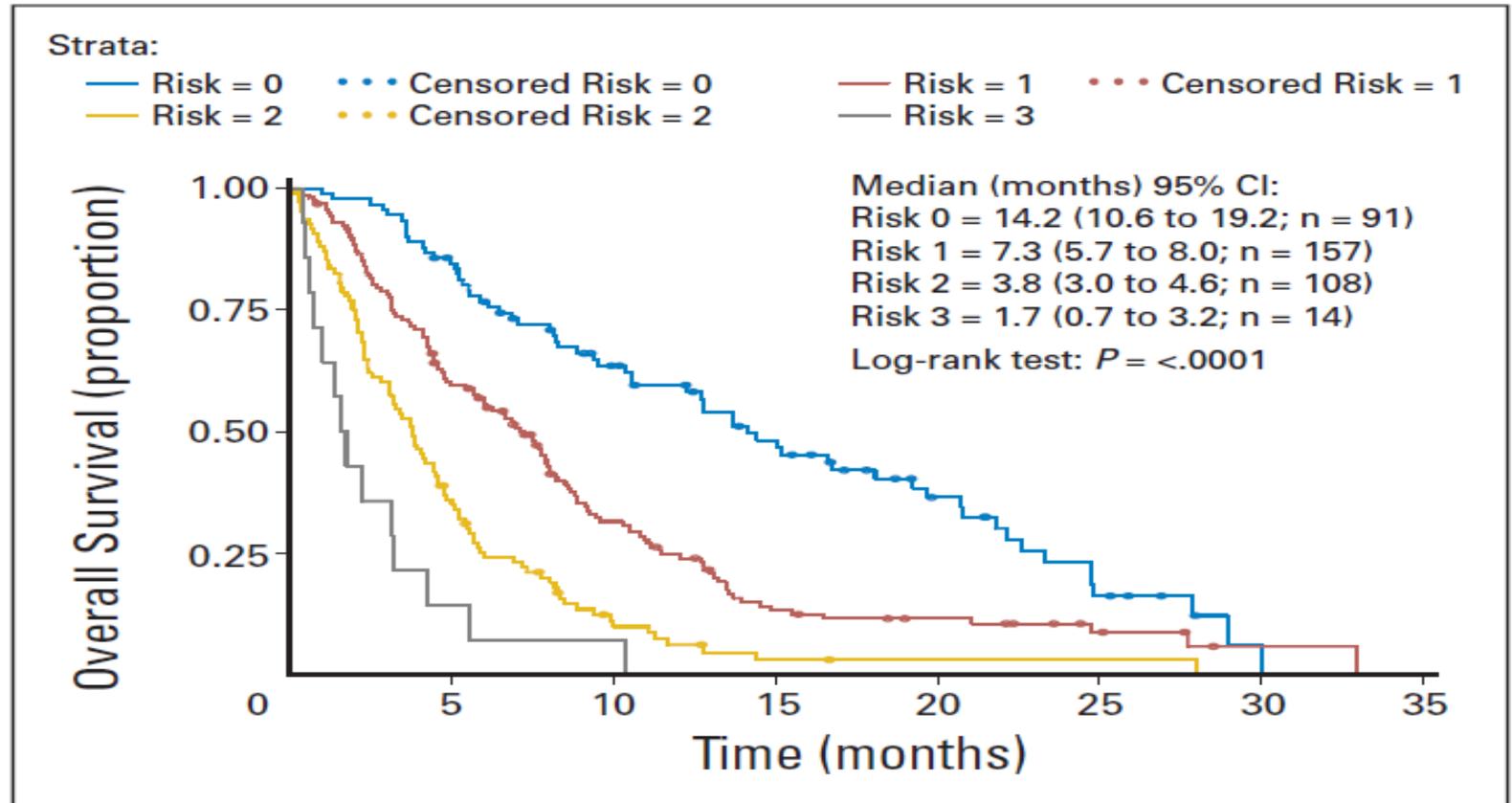
- ◆ Options:
  - ◆ Gemcitabine/Carboplatin
  - ◆ Gemcitabine/paclitaxel
  - ◆ Gemcitabine
  - ◆ Paclitaxel
  - ◆ Docetaxel

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

- ◆ Prognostic factors
- ◆ Progression-free interval >12 months, can re-challenge with platinum based regimen
- ◆ Progression-free <12 months

# Prognostic factors

- ◆ 370 pts on the phase III vinflunine vs BSC clinical trial
- ◆ 3 adverse OS prognostic factors: PS>0, Hb<10g/dL, liver mets
- ◆ 4 subgroups: 0,1,2, 3 Risk factors



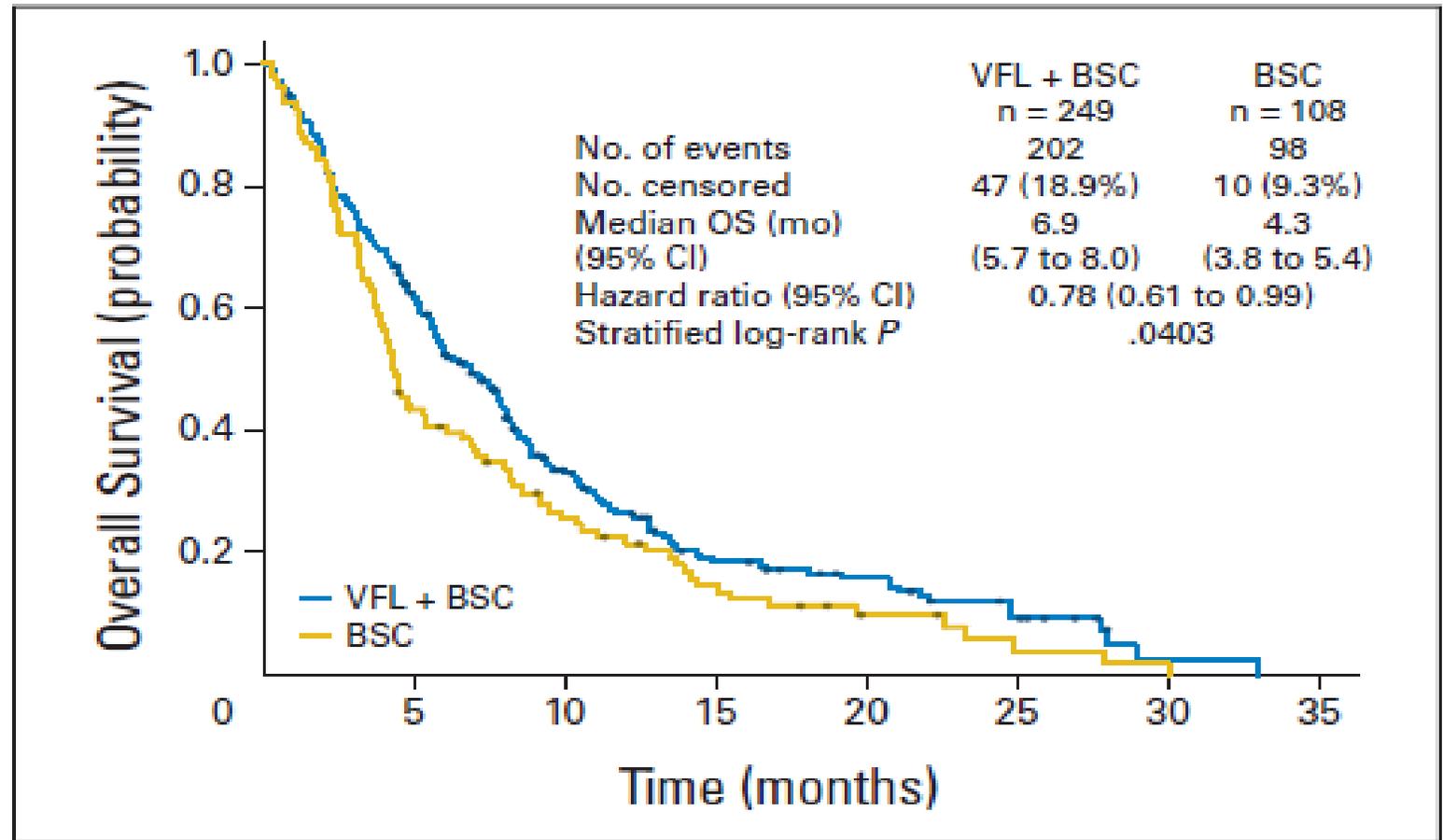
**Fig 1.** Kaplan-Meier estimates for each risk group (zero, one, two, or three risk factors).

# vinflunine

- ◆ 2003 to 2006, 370 pts, phase III randomized trial
- ◆ Progression after first line platinum-based chemotherapy, CCT $\geq$ 40ml/min
- ◆ 9% objective RR
- ◆ ITT group – OS was 6.9 vs 4.6mths (HR-0.88, 95% CI 0.69-1.12)
- ◆ Eligible group (357pts) – OS was 6.9 vs 4.3 mths ( HR-0.78, 95% CI 0.61-0.99)

# Vinflunine

- ◆ Objective RR 8.6%, PFS-3.0 vs 1.5 mths
- ◆ Limitations: toxicities



**Fig 3.** Overall survival (OS) in the eligible population (n = 357; 96.5% of intent-to-treat population). VFL, vinflunine; BSC, best supportive care.

# Taxanes

- ◆ No randomized phase III trials
- ◆ Paclitaxel 9% RR
- ◆ Docetaxel 13% RR

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

- ◆ Vinflunine
- ◆ Taxanes
- ◆ Others: pemetrexed, gemcitabine, ifosfamide, oxaliplatin

# Conclusion

- ◆ Cisplatin based chemotherapy is std of care for treatment naïve met urothelial carcinoma who are cisplatin eligible
  - ◆ Long term survival in small proportion of pts
- ◆ Carboplatin based chemotherapy/single agent chemotherapy are options for cisplatin-ineligible pts
- ◆ For second line therapy, vinflunine or taxanes are chemotherapeutic options

**THANK YOU**