

ESMO GUIDELINES: REAL WORLD CASES WEBINAR

BLADDER CANCER



TUMOUR TOPIC, PRESENTATION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY FROM THE ESMO CPG

Prof Yohann Loriot, MD, PhD,
Gustave Roussy, Université Paris-Saclay;
ESMO bladder cancer CPG

Bladder cancer

FREQUENT

lethal

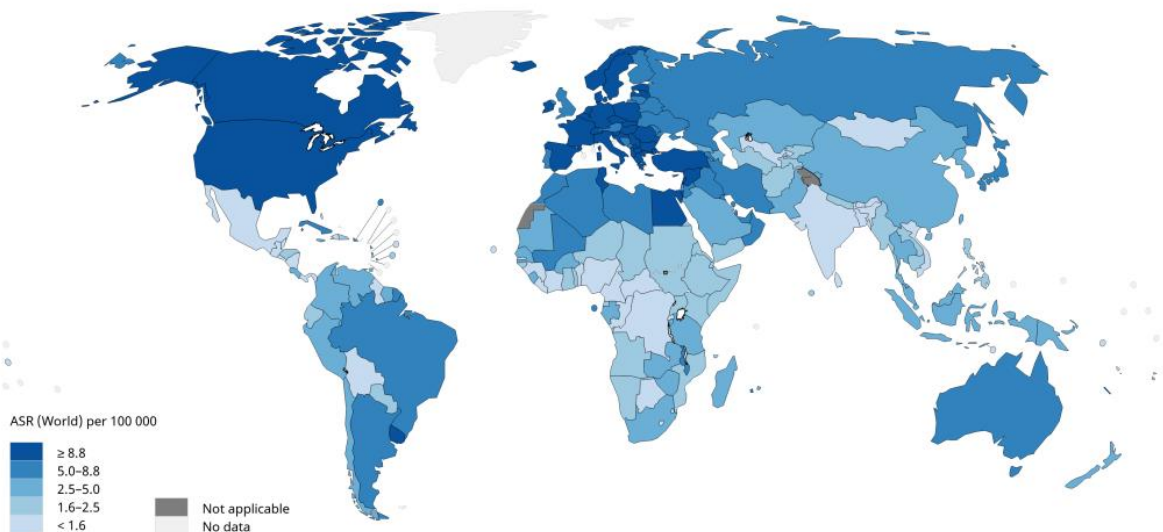
Highly mutated

chemosensitive

radiosensitive

IO sensitive

Estimated age-standardized incidence rates (World) in 2018, bladder, both sexes, all ages



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Data source: GLOBOCAN 2018
Graph production: IARC
{<http://gco.iarc.fr/today>}
World Health Organization

 World Health Organization
© International Agency for Research on Cancer 2018

- 9th most common cancer type worldwide.
- increasing trend in both incidence and mortality has been observed
- Worldwide disease
- Mainly in male

Risk factors

FREQUENT

50%: smoking

ACÉTALDÉHYDE (irritant des voies respiratoires)

ACROLÉINE (irritant des voies respiratoires)

ACÉTONE (dissolvant)

NAPHTYLAMINE

MÉTHANOL (carburant pour fusée)

PYRÈNE

DIMÉTHYLNITROSAMINE

NAPHTALÈNE (antimite)

NICOTINE (utilisée comme herbicide et insecticide)

CADMIUM (utilisé dans les batteries)

MONOXYDE DE CARBONE (gaz d'échappement)

BENZOPYRÈNE

CHLORURE DE VINYLE (utilisé dans les matières plastiques, diminution de la libido)

MERCURE (thermomètre)

ACIDE CYANHYDRIQUE (était employé dans les chambres à gaz)

TOLUIDINE

AMMONIAC (détergent)

URÉTHANE

TOLUÈNE (solvant industriel)

ARSENIC (poison violent)

DIBENZACRIDINE

PHÉNOL

BUTANE

POLONIUM 210 (élément radioactif)

STYRÈNE

DDT (insecticide)

GOUDRONS (les plus cancérigènes)

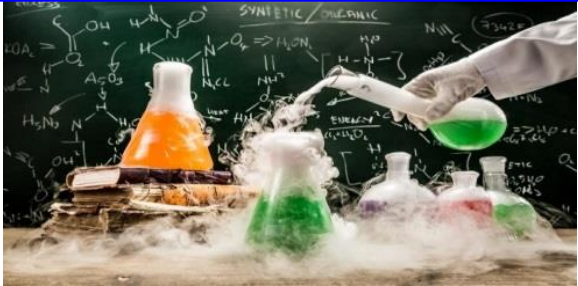
PLOMB (essence et gaz d'échappement)

Lors de sa combustion, la cigarette produit une fumée qui contient environ 4000 substances toxiques (dont au moins 50 cancérigènes). Sur les paquets, seuls goudrons et nicotine sont indiqués. Certains composés proviennent de l'environnement (pesticides, produits radioactifs), d'autres composés sont ajoutés, comme l'ammoniac qui favorise la fixation de la nicotine et la dépendance. Certains plants de tabac sont génétiquement modifiés afin de rendre la nicotine plus « efficace ».

* SUBSTANCES CANCÉRIGÈNES CONNUES 14, rue Corvisart - 75013 Paris - www.ligue-cancer.net 0810 111 101

LA LIGUE CONTRE LE CANCER pour la vie

workplace exposures (aromatic amines, polycyclic hydrocarbons, benzidines)



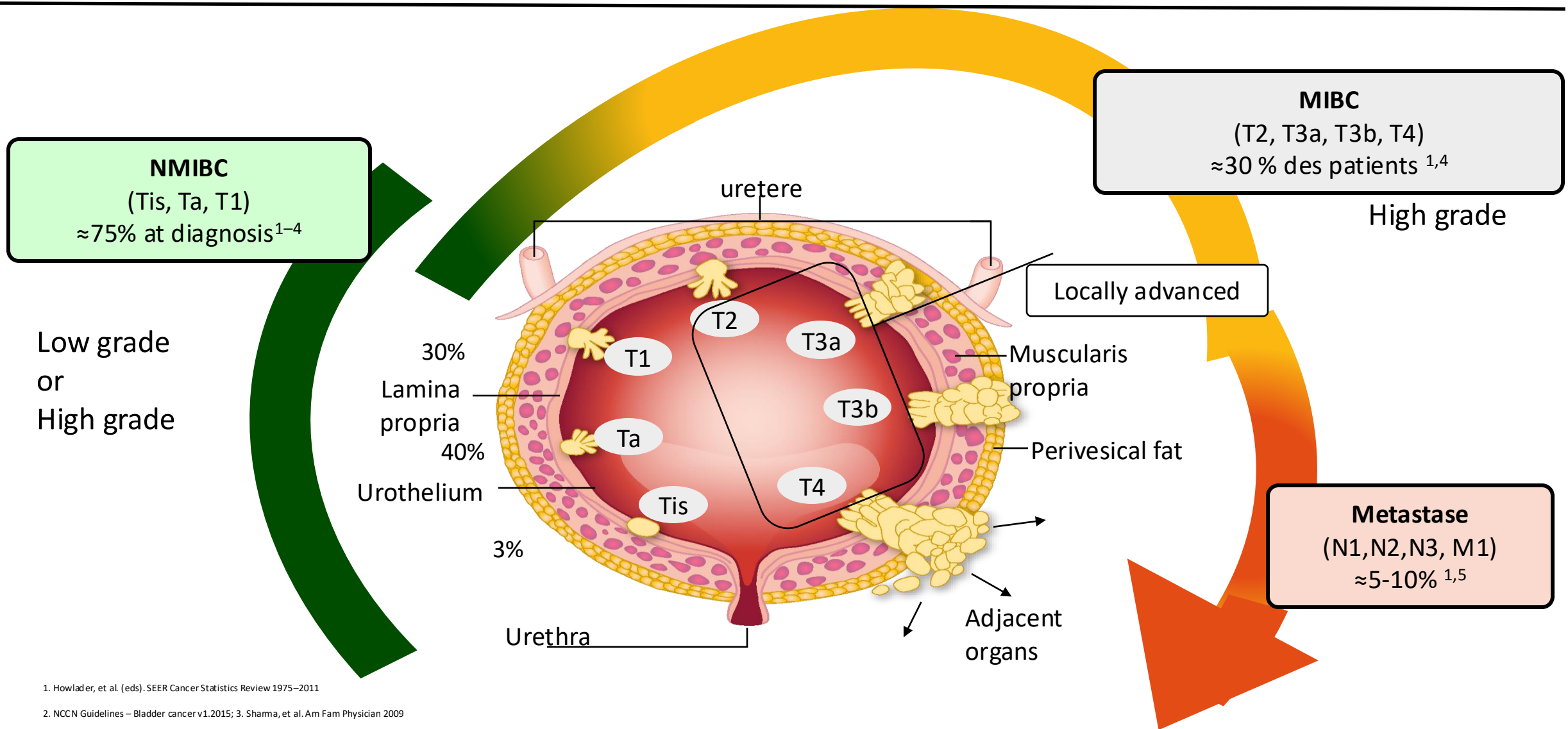
Infections (shistosomiasis) and chronic irritation



Other

Cyclophosphamide, Pelvic radiation - lynch syndrom (upper tract)

Natural disease history



1. Howlader, et al. (eds). SEER Cancer Statistics Review 1975–2011

2. NCCN Guidelines – Bladder cancer v1.2015; 3. Shama, et al. Am Fam Physician 2009

4. Kaufman, et al. Lancet 2009; 5. American Cancer Society 2014: Bladder Cancer

2016 WHO Classification

Invasive urothelial carcinoma

Urothelial (90%)

subtypes







- Micropapillary
- microcystic
- Lymphoepithelioma-like
- Plasmacytoid/signet ring cell/diffuse
- Sarcomatoid
- Giant cell
- Poorly differentiated
- Lipid-rich
- Clear cell
- Large nested
- Trabecular
- nested

Non-invasive urothelial carcinoma

- Urothelial carcinoma in situ
- Papillary urothelial carcinoma, low-grade
- Papillary urothelial carcinoma, high-grade
- PUNLMP
- All histologies referred in the invasive urothelial carcinoma

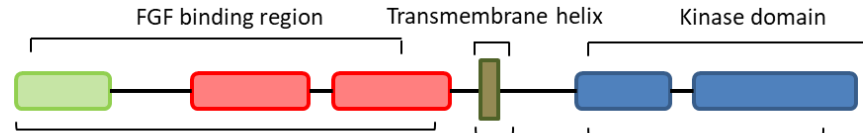
If the squamous or adenocarcinoma part is > 95%, the UC should be considered as a pure squamous/adenocarcinoma.

Molecular classification

	24%	8%	15%	15%	35%	3%
	Luminal Papillary	Luminal Non-Specified	Luminal Unstable	Stroma-rich	Basal/Squamous	Neuroendocrine-like
						
Differentiation	Urothelial / Luminal				Basal	Neuroendocrine
Oncogenic mechanisms	FGFR3 ++ CDKN2A -	PPAR-γ ++	PPAR-γ ++ E2F3 +, ERBB2 + Genomic instability		EGFR +	TP53 --, RB1 --, Cell cycle +
Mutations	<i>FGFR3</i> (40%), <i>KDM6A</i> (38%), <i>STAG2</i> (22%)	<i>ELF3</i> (35%)	<i>TP53</i> (76%), <i>ERCC2</i> (22%) TMB +, APOBEC +		<i>TP53</i> (61%), <i>RB1</i> (25%)	<i>TP53</i> (94%) <i>RB1</i> (39%)
Stromal infiltrate		Fibroblasts		Smooth muscle Fibroblasts Myofibroblasts	Fibroblasts Myofibroblasts	
Immune infiltrate				B cells	CD8 T cells NK cells	
Histology	Papillary morphology	Micropapillary variants			Squamous differentiation	Neuroendocrine differentiation
Clinical	T2 stage +	Older patients + (80+)			Women + T3/T4 stage +	
Median overall survival (years)	4	1.8	2.9	3.8	1.2	1

The role of further molecular diagnosis has yet to be clearly defined

FGFR3 alterations

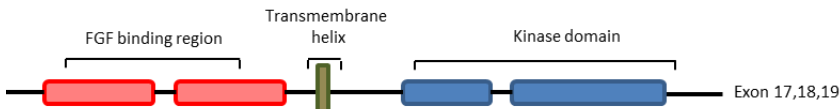


FGFR1	S125L, D128V, R189H/C, S238N
FGFR2	D101Y, G227E/A, S252W, P253R, W290C, Y328N
FGFR3	R248C, S249C, P283S
FGFR4	R80W, R203C
FGFR2	Y375C, C382Y/R, V392A
FGFR3	G370C, Y373C, G380R/E, F374L, A391E
FGFR1	N546K, K656M/E
FGFR2	N549K/S/H/D, L560F, M640I, A648V/T, K659N/M/E, R664W, E695K
FGFR3	D641N, K650E/Q/M/T, G697C
FGFR4	R610C, R667W

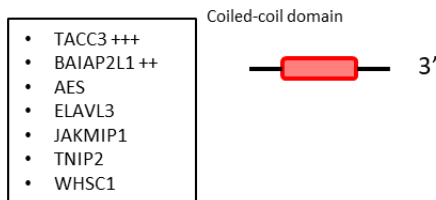
- Up to 50 % in NMIBC
- ≈ 15% in MIBC
- Treatment available for FGFR3-alt metastatic UC

FGFR3 fusion

FGFR3 gene



3' downstream gene partner



Molecular biology: recommendations

- Pathological diagnosis must be made according to the latest WHO classification
- In addition to stage and grade, presence and percentage of subtypes, lymphovascular invasion and presence of detrusor muscle should be reported
- Molecular diagnostics such as The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) classification and PD-L1 status is not required for all tumours [IV, C].
- Genomic testing [polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or next-generation sequencing (NGS)-based] should be used for detection of *FGFR2/3* mutations and fusions



Real World case of Advanced Urothelial Bladder Cancer

Akhil Kapoor

Tata Memorial Centre, Varanasi, India

26th February 2025

Diagnosis, Staging, Risk Factors, Management, Outcomes

Clinical Presentation

64 years gentleman

Smoker 30 pack years

No known comorbidities

Presented in ER in January 2024 with hematuria

Initial work up revealed bladder mass

Referred to tertiary oncology centre for further work up and evaluation

Work Up

Imaging confirmed Bladder mass with no regional nodes or distant metastasis
Cystoscopy and TURBT, histology showed Transitional Cell Carcinoma

Staging: cT4aN0M0

DTPA GFR: 55 ml/min

Received NACT with Gemcitabine cisplatin (Split doses of Cis on D1 and D8)

Further treatment

Post 4#, scans showed good response

Underwent Robotic Radical Cystectomy in April 2024

HPR showed ypT3N0 disease

Started on Adjuvant Nivolumab (Checkmate 274)

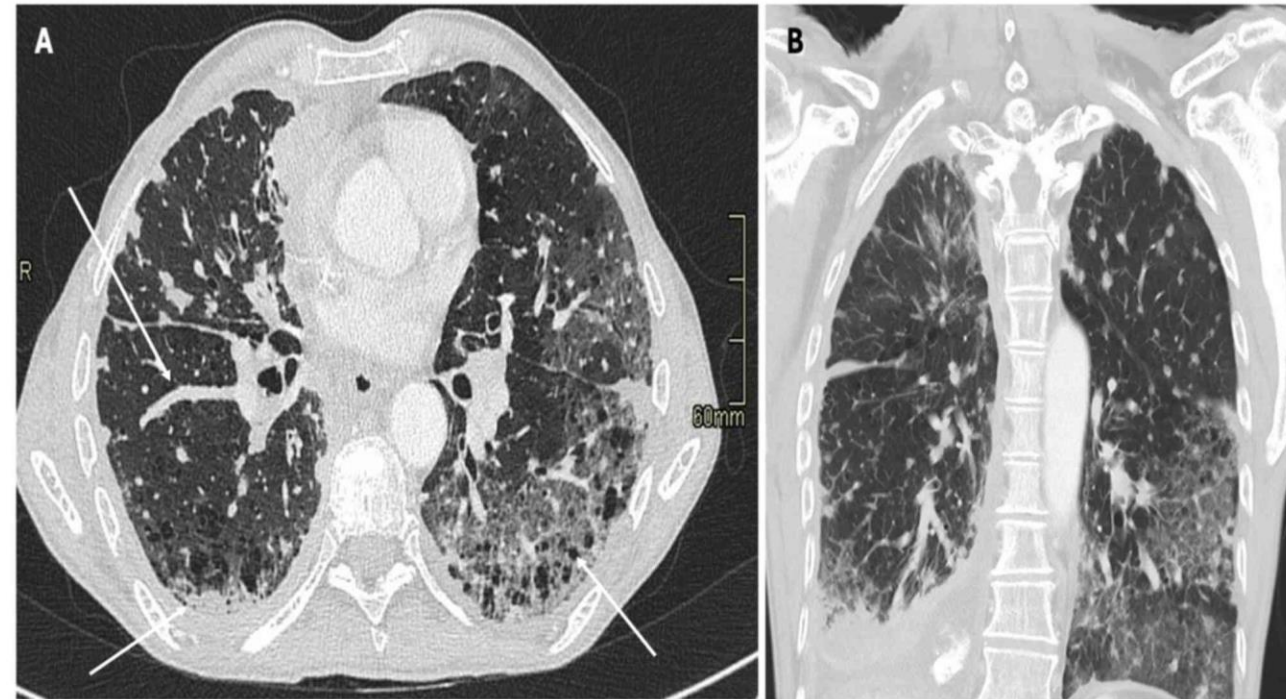
Toxicities and Follow up

Developed Grade 4 Immune mediated Pneumonitis after 3 months of Nivolumab

Required hospitalization and IV Methylpredsinolone

Symptoms resolved and patient discharged after 10 days of hospitalization

Further Nivolumab was discontinued



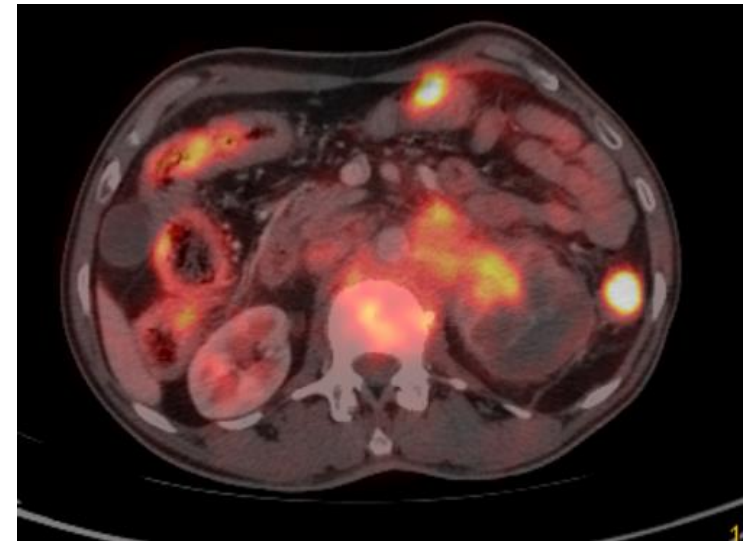
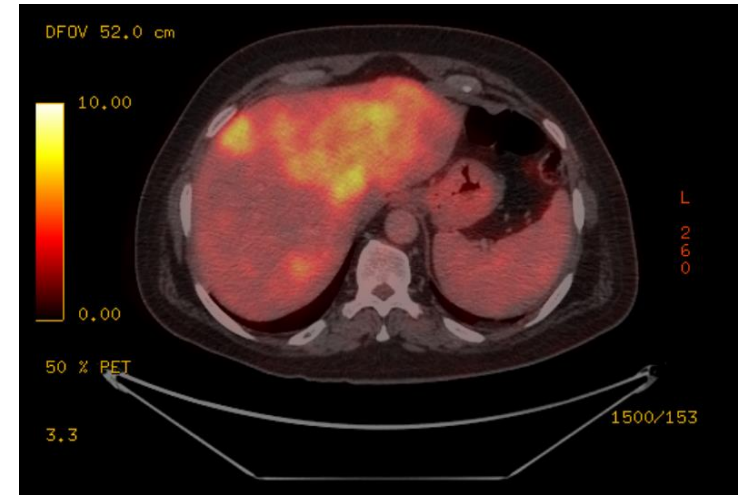
Recurrence

Patient presented after 3 months (October 2024)
with pain and heaviness in right hypochondrium

PET CT showed multiple sites of metastasis

Sites of mets: Liver, bone, nodes, adrenal

Biopsy from Liver confirmed metastatic TCC



Further Treatment for Metastatic disease

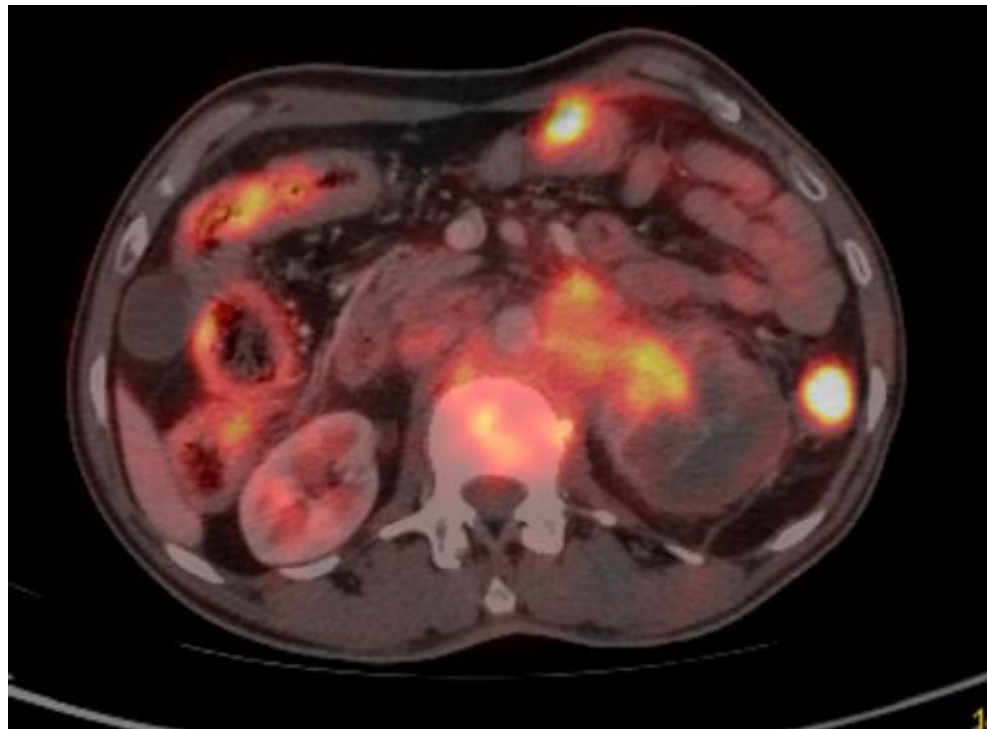
All the options discussed

Patient was extremely anxious due to prior toxicities

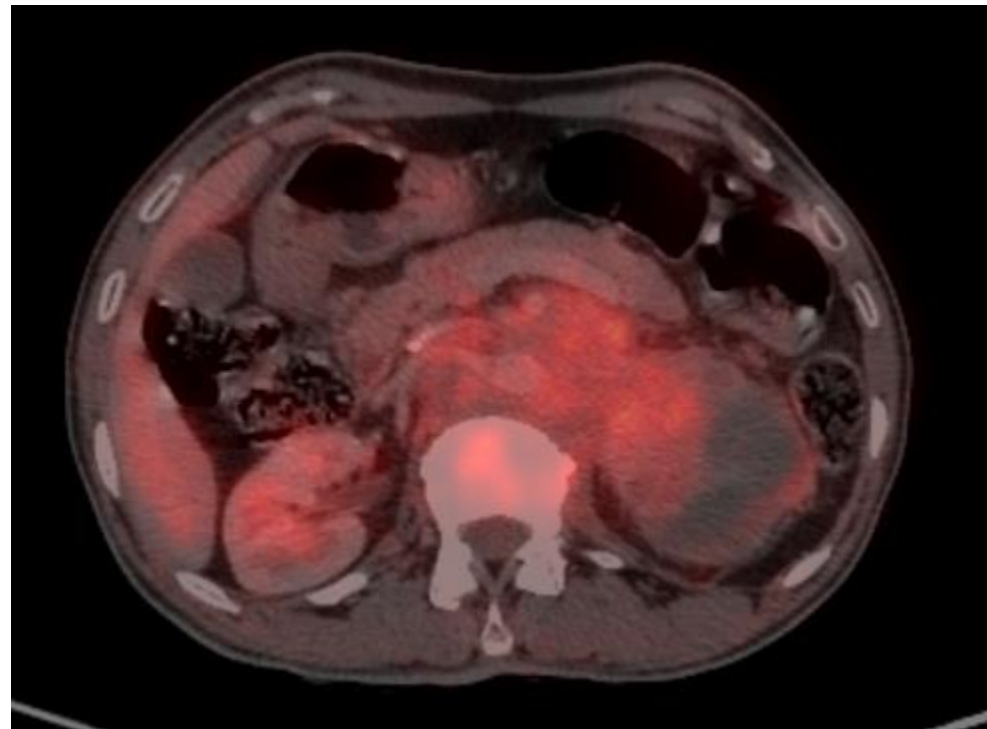
Started on Enfortumab vedotin after repeated counselling

Had significant symptomatic benefit with resolution of symptoms after 3 cycles

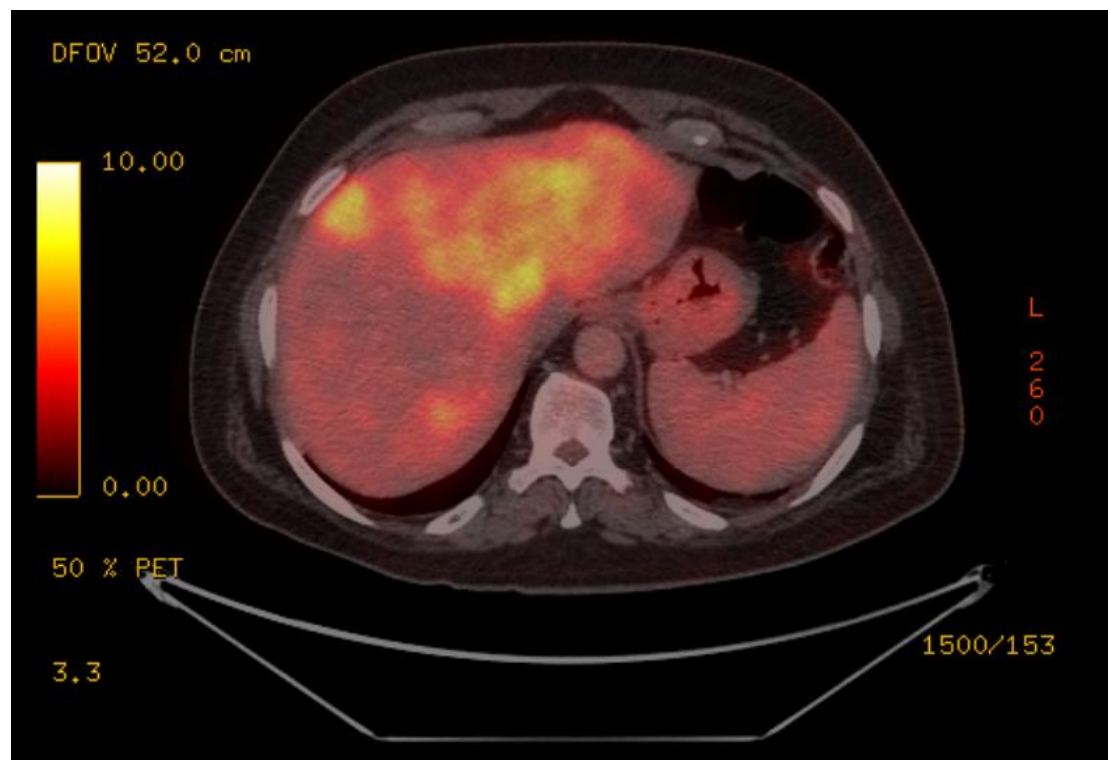
Before



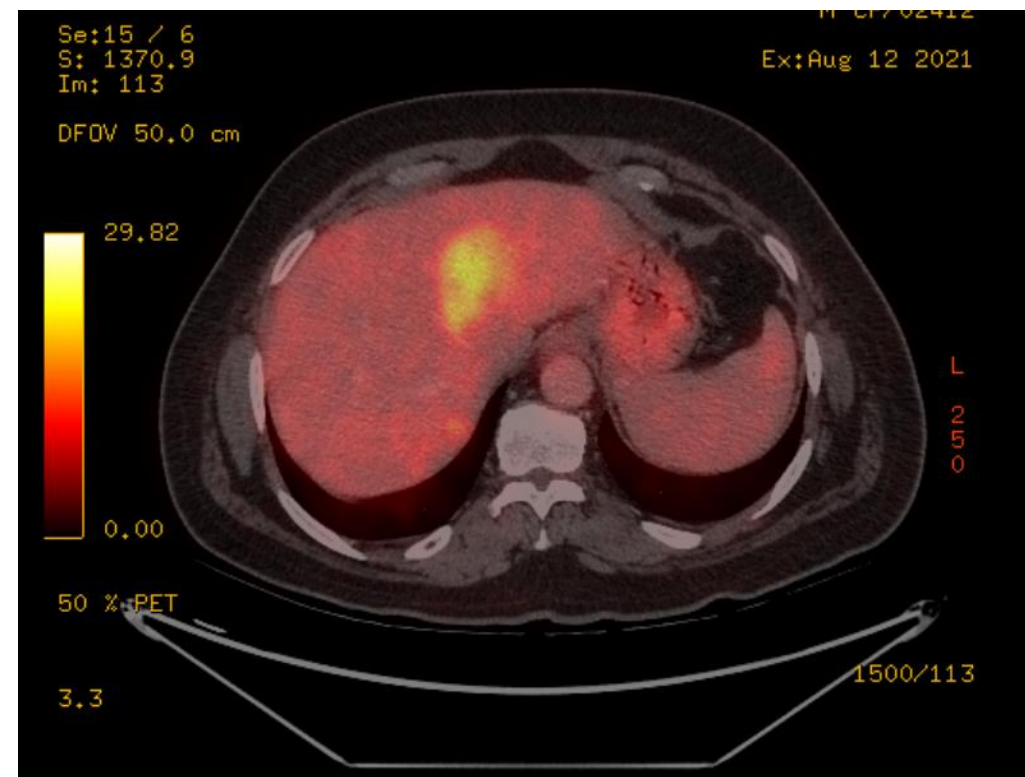
After



Before



After



Toxicities

Developed Grade 2 Peripheral Neuropathy after 5 cycles

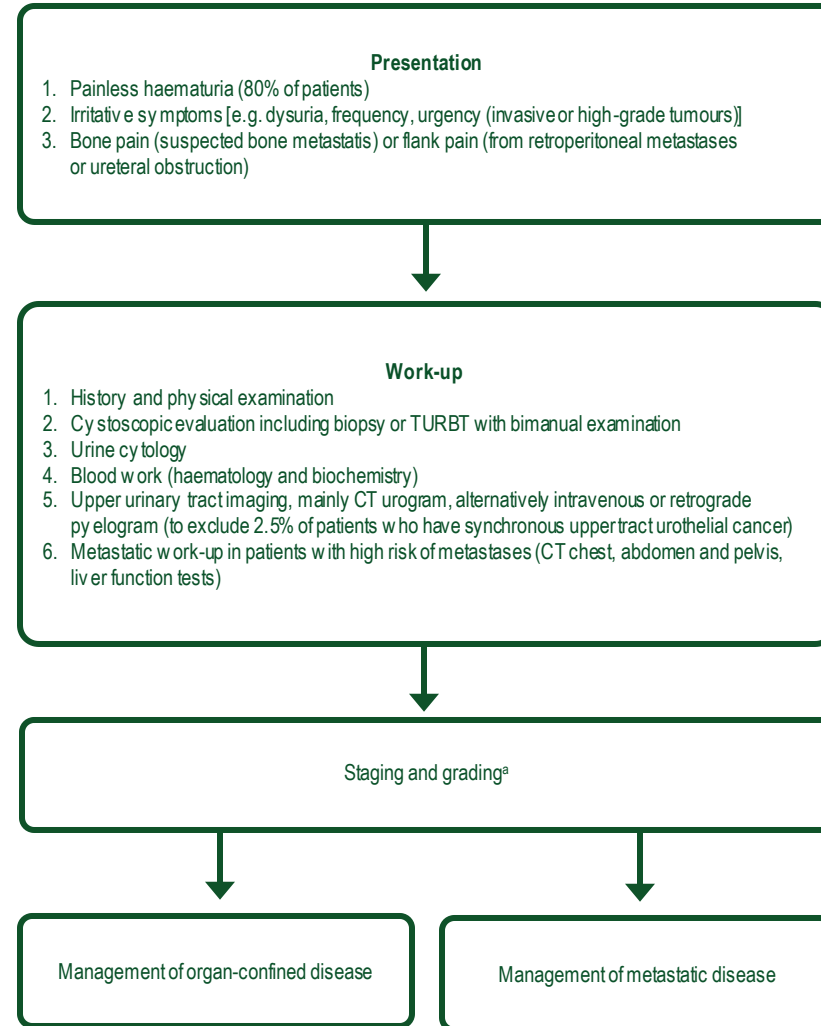
Patient reluctant for other treatment and chose to be on follow up

Maintained Partial Response after 2 months of stopping EV.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE CASE AND PARALLEL PRESENTATION OF THE ESMO CPG RECOMMENDATIONS, FLOW CHARTS, MCBS, SECTION BY SECTION

Prof Yohann Loriot, MD, PhD,
Gustave Roussy, Université Paris-Saclay;
ESMO bladder cancer CPG

Diagnosis and general work-up



Clinical classification UICC TNM 8th edition for urothelial carcinoma of the bladder

T - Primary tumour	
TX	Primary tumour cannot be assessed
T0	No evidence of primary tumour
Ta	Non-invasive papillary carcinoma
Tis	Carcinoma in situ: 'flat tumour'
T1	Tumour invades subepithelial connective tissue
T2	Tumour invades muscle
T2a	Tumour invades superficial muscle (inner half)
T2b	Tumour invades deep muscle (outer half)
T3	Tumour invades perivesical tissue
T3a	Microscopically
T3b	Macroscopically (extravesical mass)
T4	Tumour invades any of the following: prostate stroma, seminal vesicles, uterus, vagina, pelvic wall, abdominal wall
T4a	Tumour invades prostate stroma, seminal vesicles, uterus or vagina
T4b	Tumour invades pelvic wall or abdominal wall

N – Regional lymph nodes	
NX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed tissue
N0	No regional lymph node metastasis
N1	Metastasis in a single lymph node in the true pelvis (hypogastric, obturator, external iliac, or presacral)
N2	Metastasis in multiple regional lymph nodes in the true pelvis (hypogastric, obturator, external iliac, or presacral)
N3	Metastasis in common iliac lymph node(s)
M - Distant metastasis	
M0	No distant metastasis
M1a	Non-regional lymph nodes
M1b	Other distant metastases

AJCC TNM staging system for urothelial carcinoma of the bladder

Stage 0a	Ta	N0	M0
Stage 0is	Tis	N0	M0
Stage I	T1	N0	M0
Stage II	T2a–T2b	N0	M0
Stage IIIA	T3a–T3b, T4a	N0	M0
	T1-4a	N1	M0
Stage IIIB	T1-T4a	N2 or N3	M0
Stage IVA	T4b	N0	M0
	Any T	Any N	M1a
Stage IVB	Any T	Any N	M1b

Pathological diagnosis of urothelial carcinoma of the bladder WHO classification of tumours of the urothelial tract

Invasive urothelial carcinoma	Non-invasive urothelial carcinoma
Urothelial	Urothelial carcinoma in situ
Microcystic	Papillary urothelial carcinoma, low-grade
Micropapillary	Papillary urothelial carcinoma, high-grade
Lymphoepithelioma-like	PUNLMP
Plasmacytoid/signet ring cell/diffuse	All histologies referred in the invasive urothelial carcinoma column
Sarcomatoid	
Giant cell	
Poorly differentiated	
Lipid-rich	
Clear cell	
Large nested	
Trabecular	
nested	

Personalised medicine synopsis table for bladder cancer

Biomarker	Method	Use	LoE, GoR
PD-L1 expression in metastatic setting ⁴⁻⁷	IHC to identify PD-L1 expression on either immune and/or tumour cells. Trial assays are validated (SP142 and 22C3 antibody)	To select patients for atezolizumab or pembrolizumab in the advanced cisplatin-ineligible, treatment-naïve setting. The partner diagnostics for these two agents are ≥5% of immune component using SP142 antibody and CPS of ≥10% for 22C3 respectively	III, C
PDL1 expression in adjuvant setting ⁸	IHC to identify PD-L1 expression on tumor cells.	To select patients for nivolumab in adjuvant setting. The positivity is defined as ≥1% of positive tumor cell membrane staining in a minimum of 100 tumor cells that could be evaluated with the use of the PD-L1 IHC 28-8 pharmDx immunohistochemical assay (Dako)	I, A
FGFR3 gene alteration ⁹	DNA alterations to FGFR3 can either be detected by PCR (FGFR RT-PCR Kit), by whole exome sequencing or gene panels	FGFR-targeted therapy (erdafitinib) is recommended in patients with FGFR gene alteration in the platinum refractory setting [FGFR3 mutations, or FGFR3 fusions (FGFR RT-PCR Kit)]	I, A
HER2 expression in metastatic setting ¹⁰	IHC to identify HER2 expression on tumor cells.	To select patients for trastuzumab deruxtecan in metastatic setting	III, B
TCGA gene expression ¹¹	RNA analysis	Provide novel insights into disease biology	IV, D
Minimal residual disease (MRD) ¹²	Circulating tumor DNA using personalized and tumor-informed ctDNA testing (Natera Signatera assay)	To identify patients with higher risk of relapse after cystectomy and those with very low risk of relapse	III, B

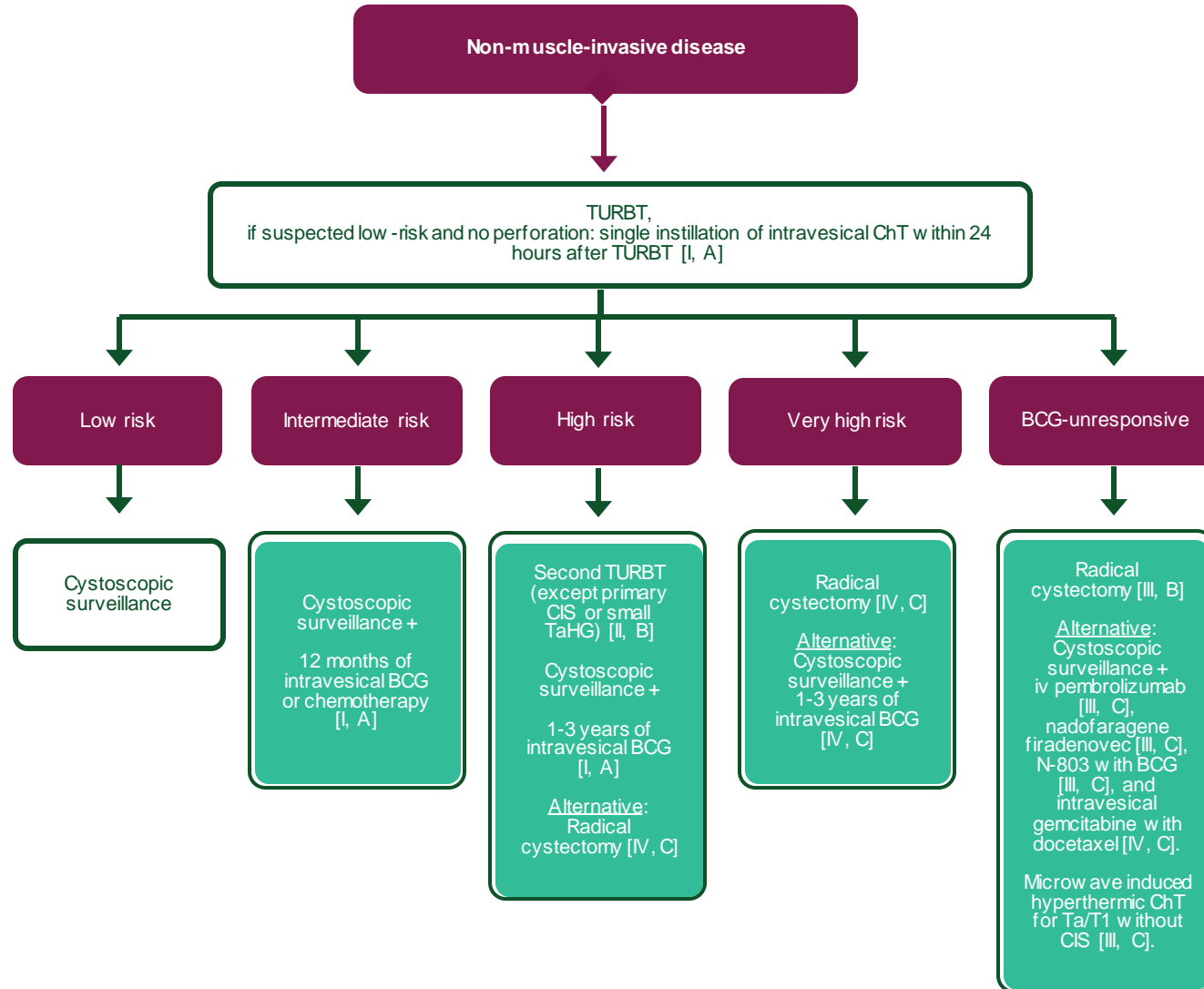
NMIBC stratification

Low risk	Intermediate risk	High risk	Very high risk
Patients with primary, single, TaT1 low-grade (LG) tumour <3 cm in diameter and without CIS.	<p>Patients without CIS who do not fall into the low-, high-, or very high-risk categories.</p> <p>Can be further stratified based on five clinical factors: tumour size, focality, timing and frequency of recurrence, and failure of prior intravesical treatment</p>	All patients with T1 or Ta HG tumours and/or CIS, except those included in the very high-risk group	Patients with features such as lympho-vascular invasion (LVI), CIS in the prostatic urethra, or select histological subtypes (i.e., micropapillary, sarcomatoid, nested, plasmacytoid, or neuroendocrine histological subtypes).

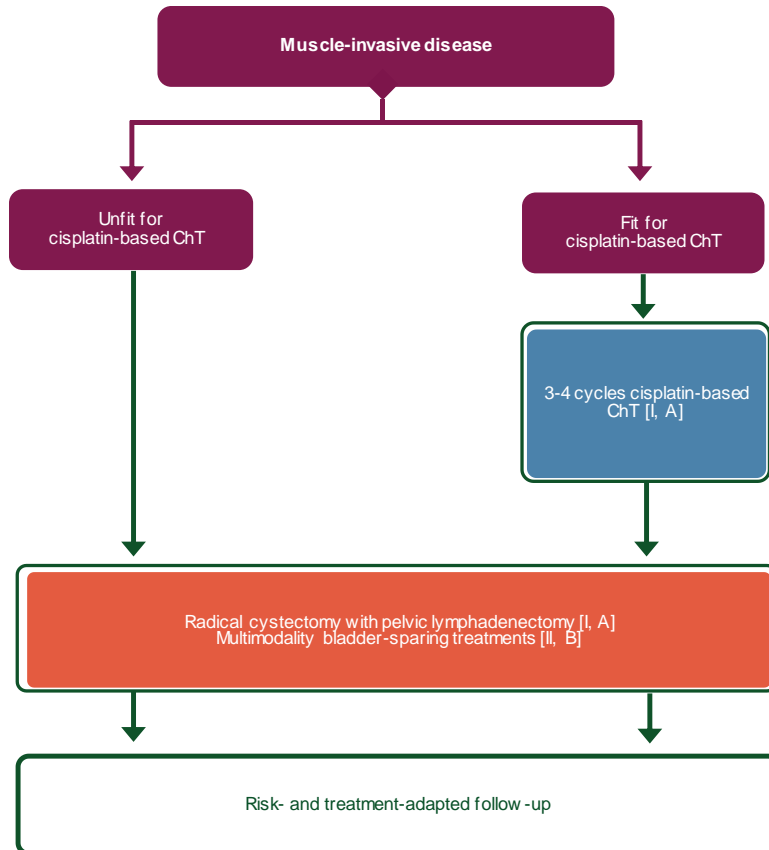
Staging and risk assessment

- Patients with NMIBC are classified into four risk categories based on tumour characteristics (low-risk, intermediate-risk, high-risk, very high-risk; Table 1), which constitutes the basis for treatment and follow-up recommendations [IV, B].
- In patients with invasive disease ($\geq T2$), regional and distant staging should be carried out with further imaging studies such as contrast-enhanced CT of chest/abdomen/pelvis or MRI of abdomen/pelvis combined with chest CT [IV, B]. FDG-PET-CT may aid in the detection of LN and distant metastases [IV, C], but no clear consensus was reached.

Management of NMIBC

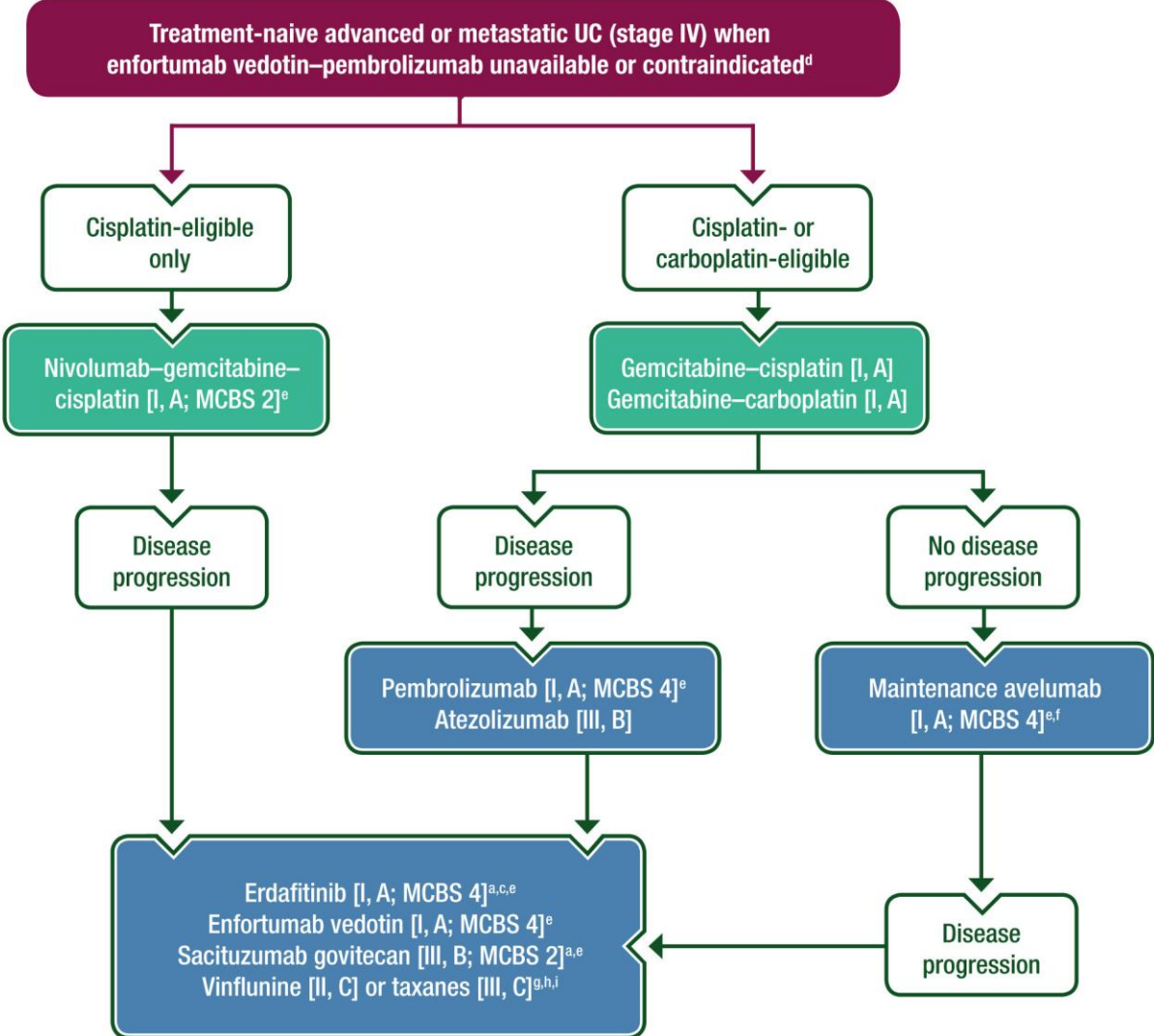
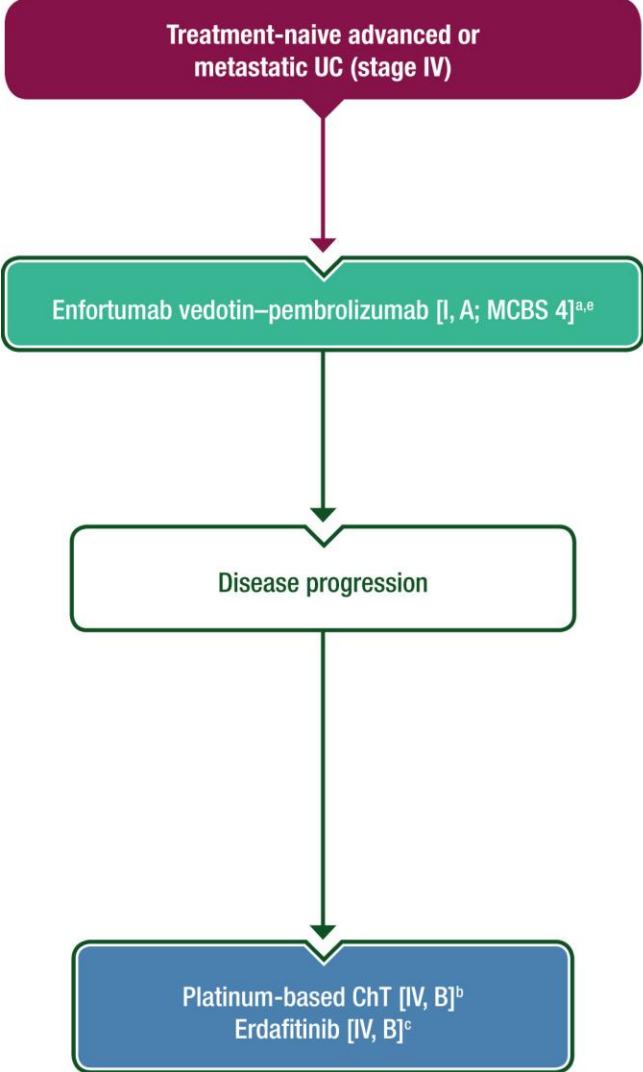


Management of MIBC



- Multidisciplinary care via tumour board discussions and/or directed consultations with a medical oncologist, radiation oncologist and urologist is recommended for the optimal management of bladder cancer
- Cisplatin-based neoadjuvant chemotherapy should be given for MIBC [I, A].
- **Durvalumab is recommended as peri-operative therapy, in addition to cisplatin-gemcitabine chemotherapy in cT2-4N0-1 MIBC [I,A].**
- There is weak evidence to support the use of adjuvant cisplatin-based ChT in patients who did not receive neoadjuvant therapy [II, B]. Neoadjuvant ChT is preferred.
- **Adjuvant nivolumab is recommended in high risk MIBC (defined as pT3, pT4a, or pN+ or ypT2 - ypT4a or ypN+ for patients who received neoadjuvant chemotherapy) [I, B]**
- **Adjuvant pembrolizumab is recommended in high risk MIBC (defined as pT3, pT4a, or pN+ or ypT2 - ypT4a or ypN+ for patients who received neoadjuvant chemotherapy) [I, B]**

Management of advanced disease



Follow-up, long-term implications, and survivorship

- Follow-up for NMIBC requires regular cystoscopic examination according to the patient's risk category [IV, A].
- Follow-up after curative therapy for MIBC requires cross-sectional imaging for 5 years. This should include 3-4 monthly imaging for the first 2 years. Bladder-sparing approaches also require regular cystoscopy [IV, B].
- Follow-up during and after systemic therapy for advanced UC should focus on regular cross-sectional imaging of the chest, abdomen and pelvis and other target lesions [IV, B].

THANK YOU

Prof Yohann Loriot, MD, PhD,
Gustave Roussy, Université Paris-Saclay;
ESMO bladder cancer CPG





Considerations related to Guideline implementation in everyday clinical practice

Lazar Popovic
Oncology Institute of Vojvodina
University of Novi Sad
Novi Sad, Serbia

DOI

Speaker/Advisor/Investigator: Astra Zeneca, MSD, BMS, Pfizer, Roche, Merck, Novartis, Lilly, Gilead, Takeda, Helsinn, Astellas, Janssen, Sanofi, Sandoz, Actavis, Amgen, Archigen, Amicus, Taiho, Infinity, Bioclin, G1 Therapeutics, MEI Pharma, Immunocore/Medison, NAPO Pharmaceuticals, Oktal, PharmaSwiss, Abbvie, MedicaLinea, MAK pharma, Agendia, Recordati, Incyte, Bicycle Thepeutics

The ESMO POWG serves to identify the practice needs of oncologists who are hospital and office-based by developing educational services, practice tools and quality indicators that will facilitate the implementation of best practice at the point of care.

The POWG members are relevant stakeholders to the ESMO Guidelines Webinars as experts who are consulting and implementing the guidelines in their daily practices

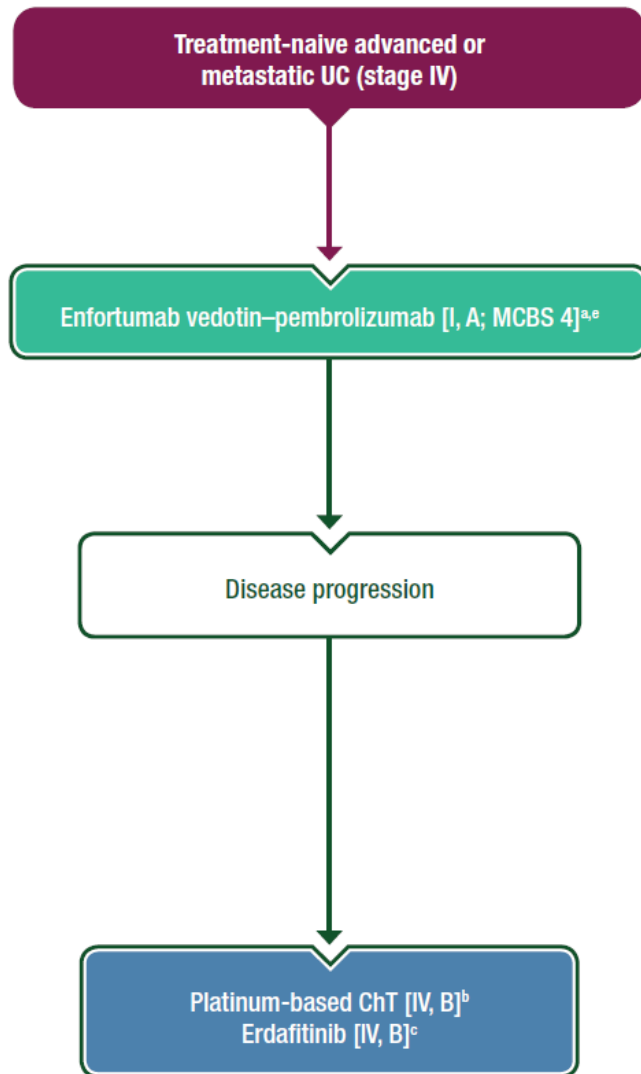
For more information about the ESMO POWG visit esmo.org

ESMO > About ESMO > Organisational Structure > Educational Committee
ESMO PRACTISING ONCOLOGISTS WORKING GROUP

Don't miss:

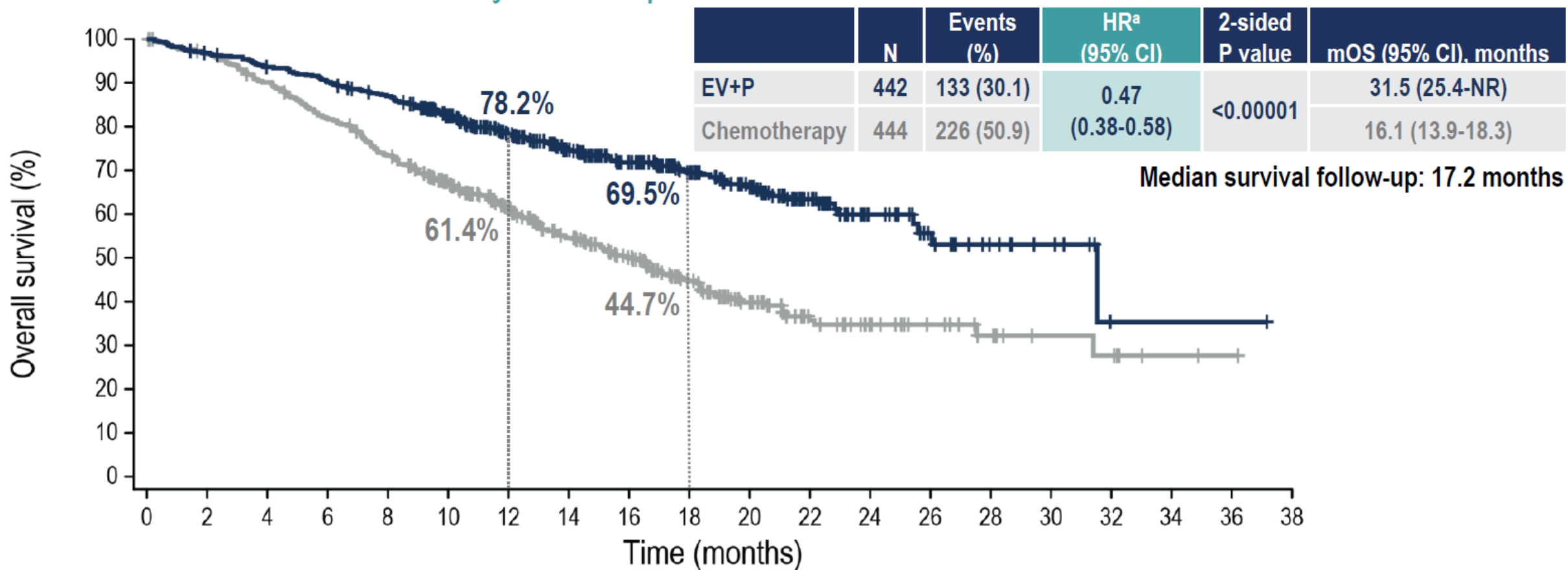
- The «ESMO Checklists» on OncologyPRO

ESMO Guideline: Metastatic Urothelial Cancer



Overall Survival

Risk of death was reduced by 53% in patients who received EV+P



N at risk

EV+P	442	426	409	394	376	331	270	222	182	141	108	67	36	22	12	8	1	1	1
Chemotherapy	444	423	393	356	317	263	209	164	125	90	60	37	25	18	12	7	6	2	1

Data cutoff: 08 Aug 2023



Powles et al.

OS at 12 and 18 months was estimated using Kaplan-Meier method

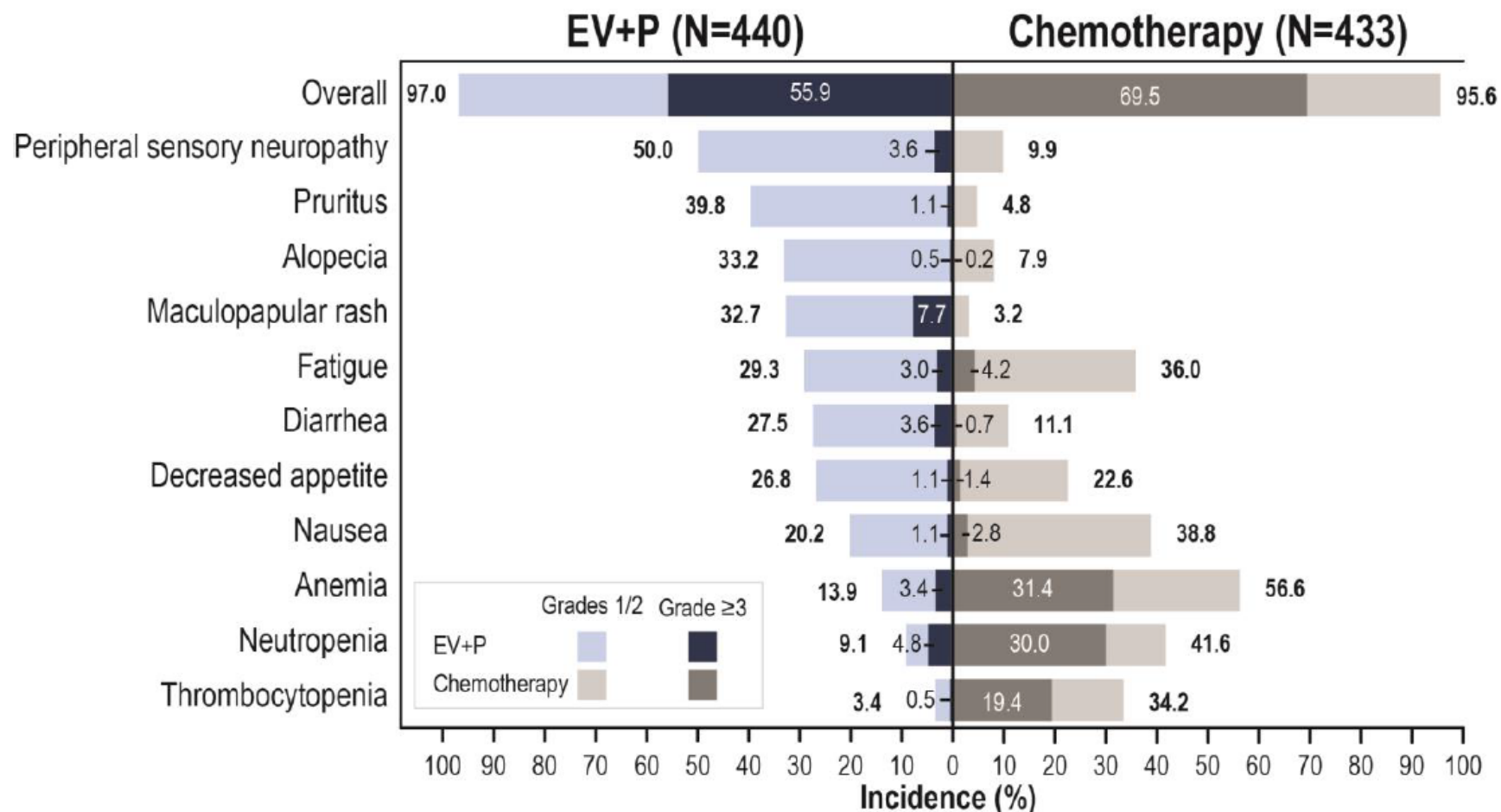
mOS, median overall survival; NR, not reached

^aCalculated using stratified Cox proportional hazards model. A hazard ratio <1 favors the EV+P arm

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Treatment-Related Adverse Events

Grade ≥ 3 events were 56% in EV+P and 70% in chemotherapy



Serious TRAEs:

- 122 (27.7%) EV+P
- 85 (19.6%) chemotherapy

TRAEs leading to death (per investigator):

EV+P: 4 (0.9%)

- Asthenia
- Diarrhea
- Immune-mediated lung disease
- Multiple organ dysfunction syndrome

Chemotherapy: 4 (0.9%)

- Febrile neutropenia
- Myocardial infarction
- Neutropenic sepsis
- Sepsis

Median number of cycles (range): 12.0 (1,46) for EV+P; 6.0 (1,6) for chemotherapy

Data cutoff: 08 Aug 2023

Pembro/EV availability

BLADDR 2024

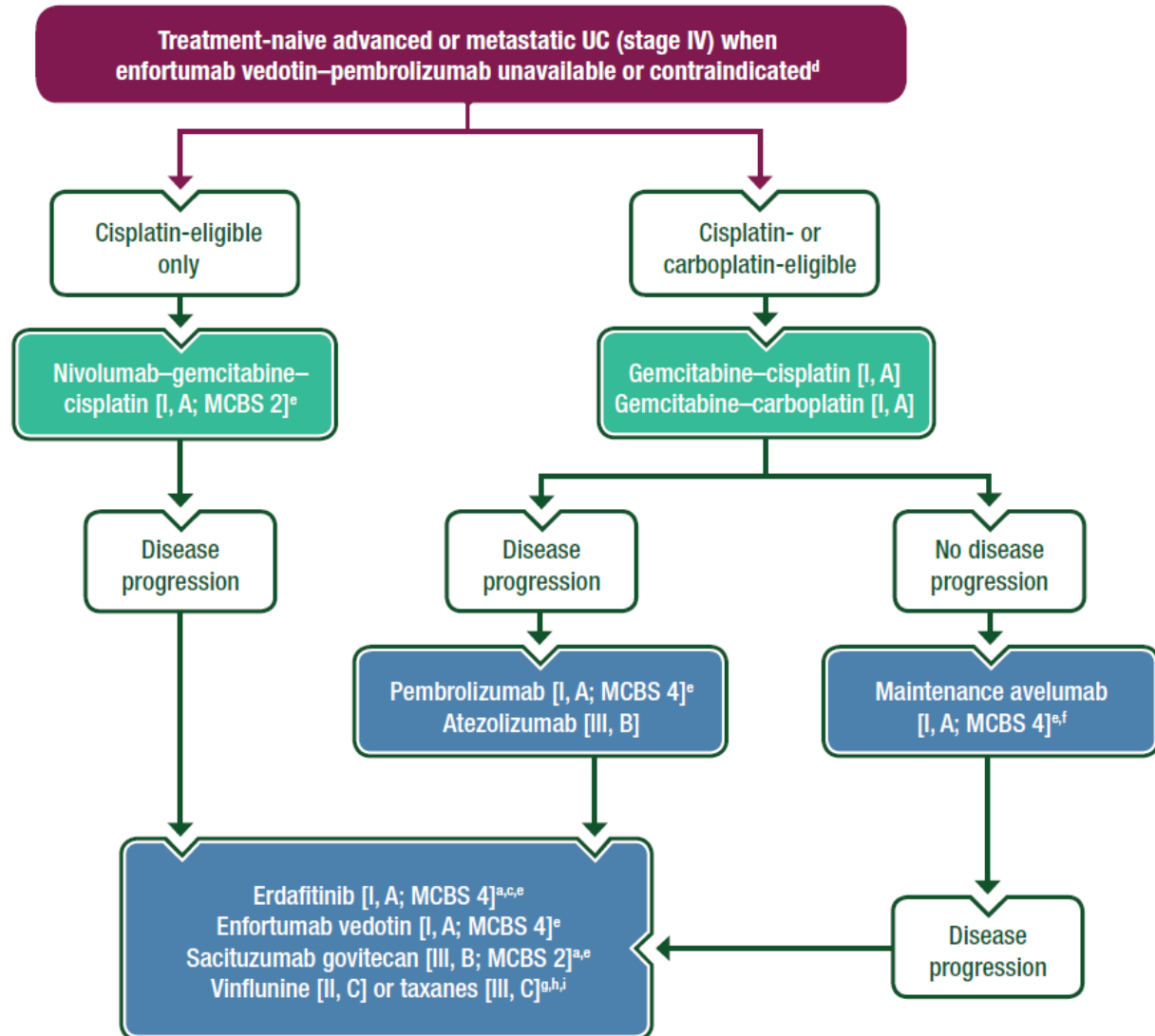
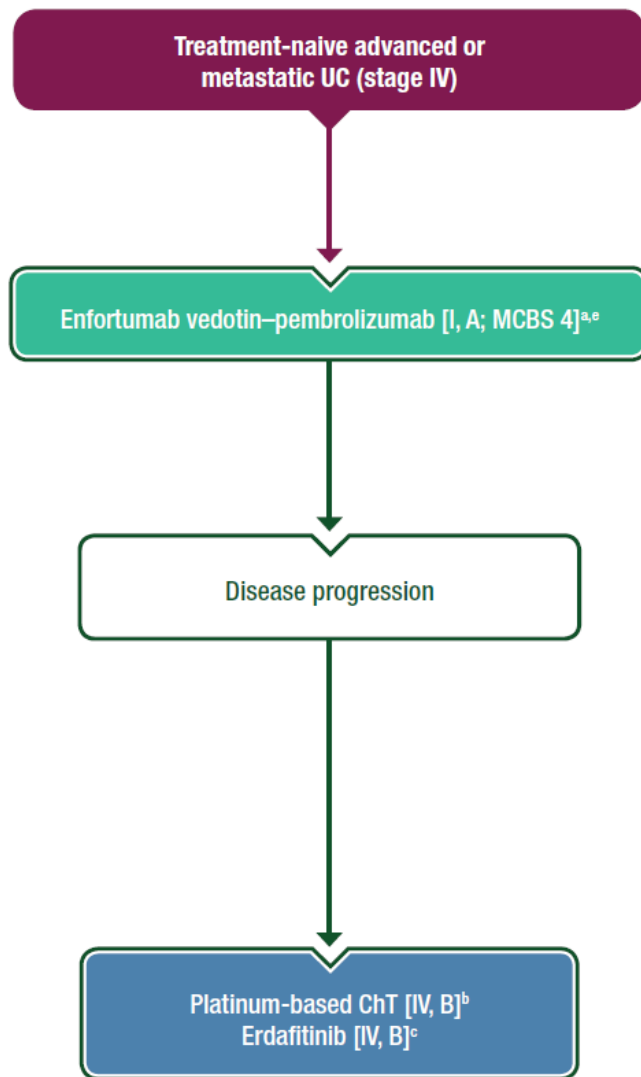
Availability: EV/P

Country	Status
Austria	Reimbursed
Belgium	?
Bulgaria	?
Denmark	?
Finland	?
France	Reimbursed
Germany	Reimbursed
Greece	Reimbursed
Italy	Not available
Israel	?
Norway	?
Slovenia	?
Sweden	?
Switzerland	Reimbursed
Croatia, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia	?

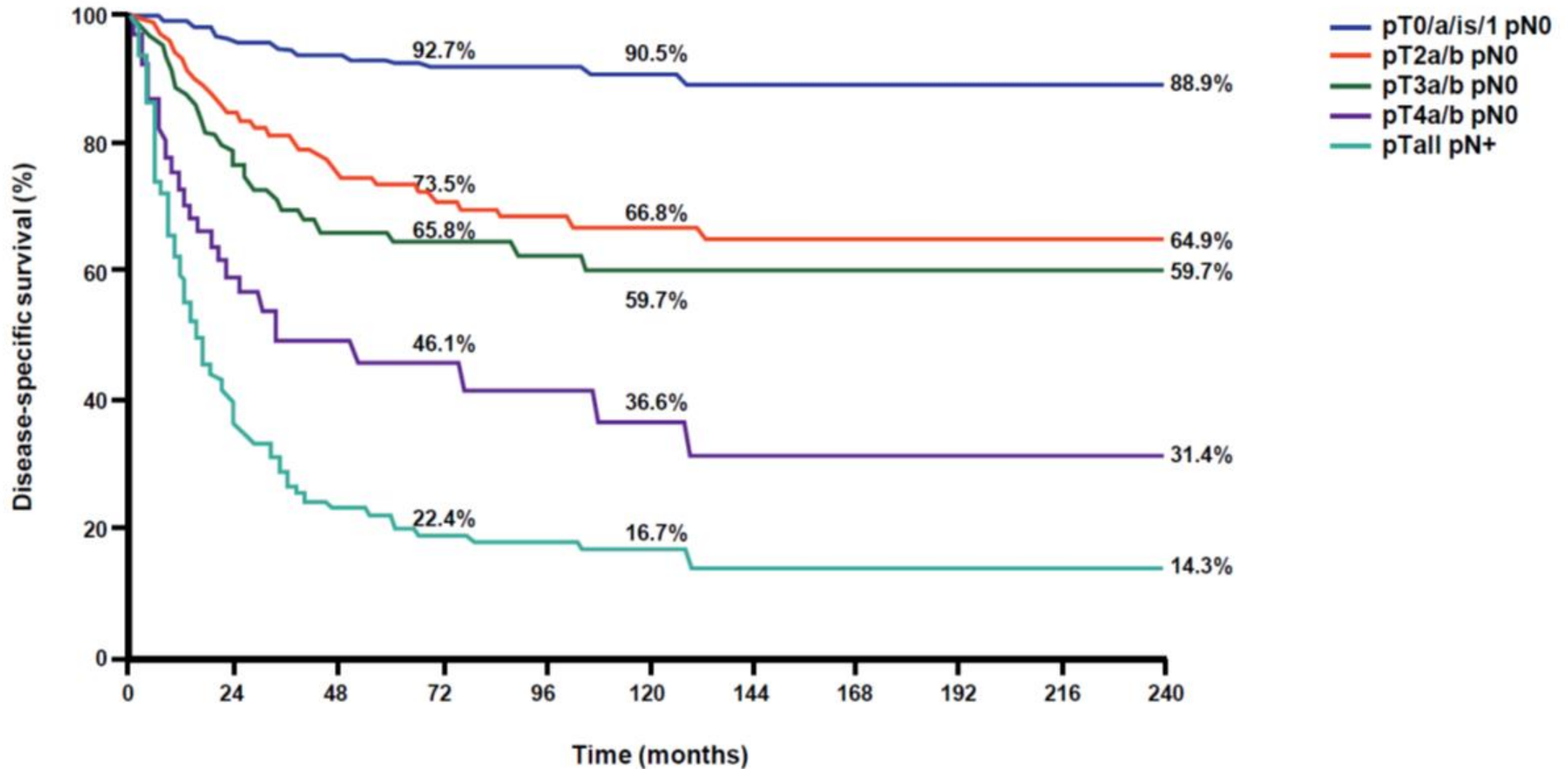
Some European countries have patient-specific reimbursement programs to bridge the gap until reimbursement of the combination is secured.



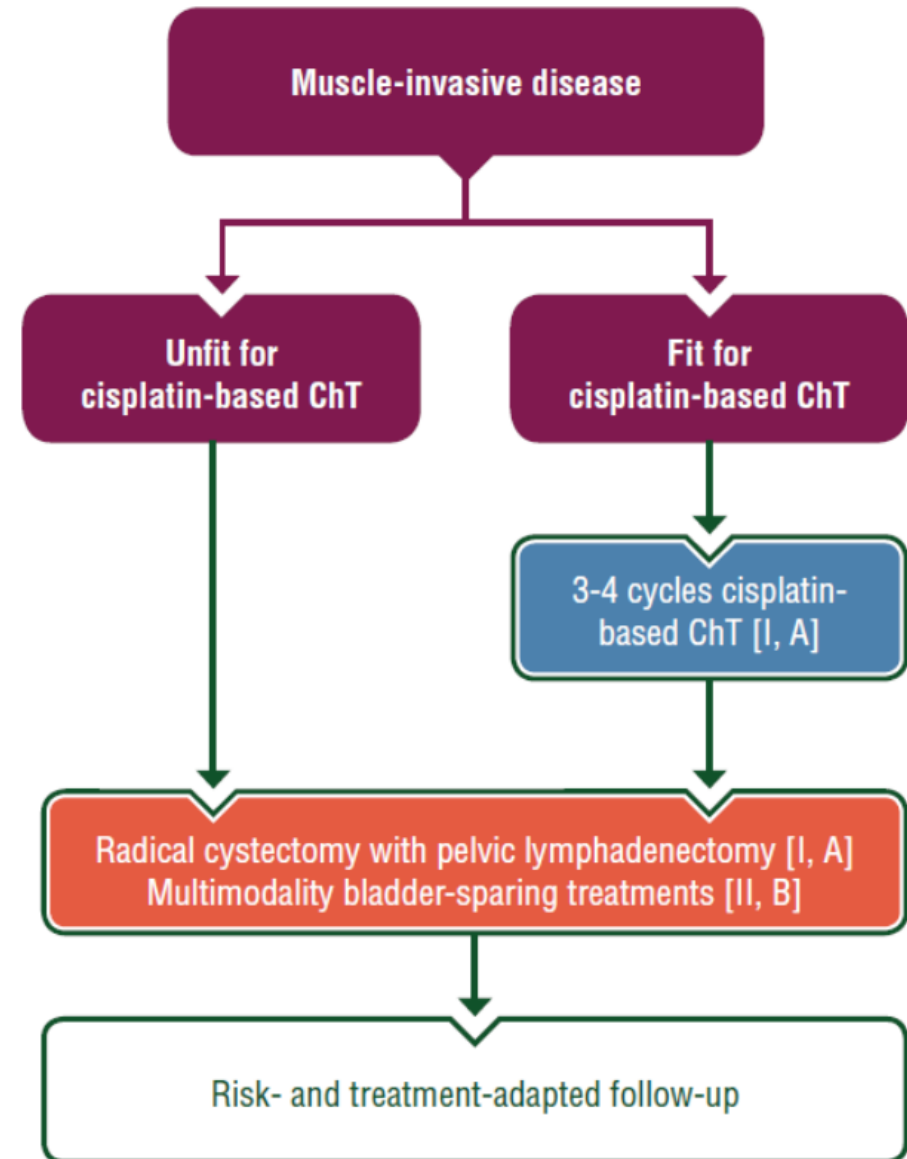
ESMO Guideline: Metastatic Urothelial Cancer



Survival after cystectomy without (neo)adjuvant therapy



ESMO Guideline: Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer



Powles Ann Oncol 2021;

Cisplatin-based Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy

European
Urology

European Urology 48 (2005) 202–206

Review—Bladder Cancer

Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Invasive Bladder Cancer: Update of a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Individual Patient Data

Advanced Bladder Cancer (ABC) Meta-analysis Collaboration

Meta-analysis Group, Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, 222 Euston Road, London NW1 2DA, UK

Accepted 6 April 2005

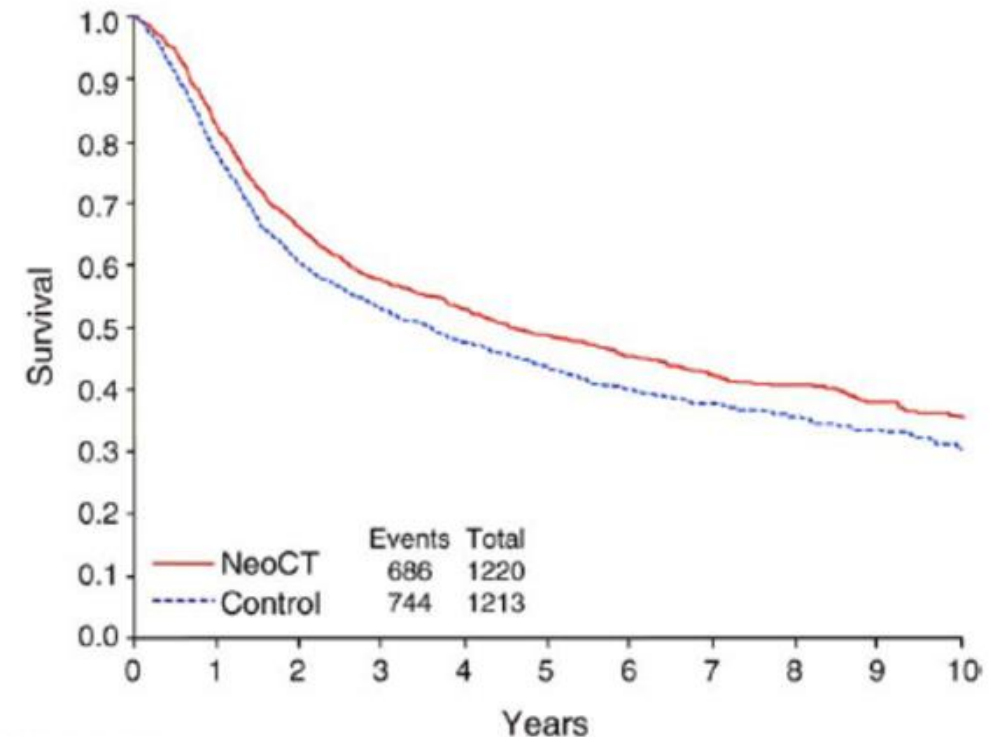
Available online 21 April 2005

11 trials, 3005 patients

mOS HR 0,86

$p=0,003$

5-years absolute difference 5%

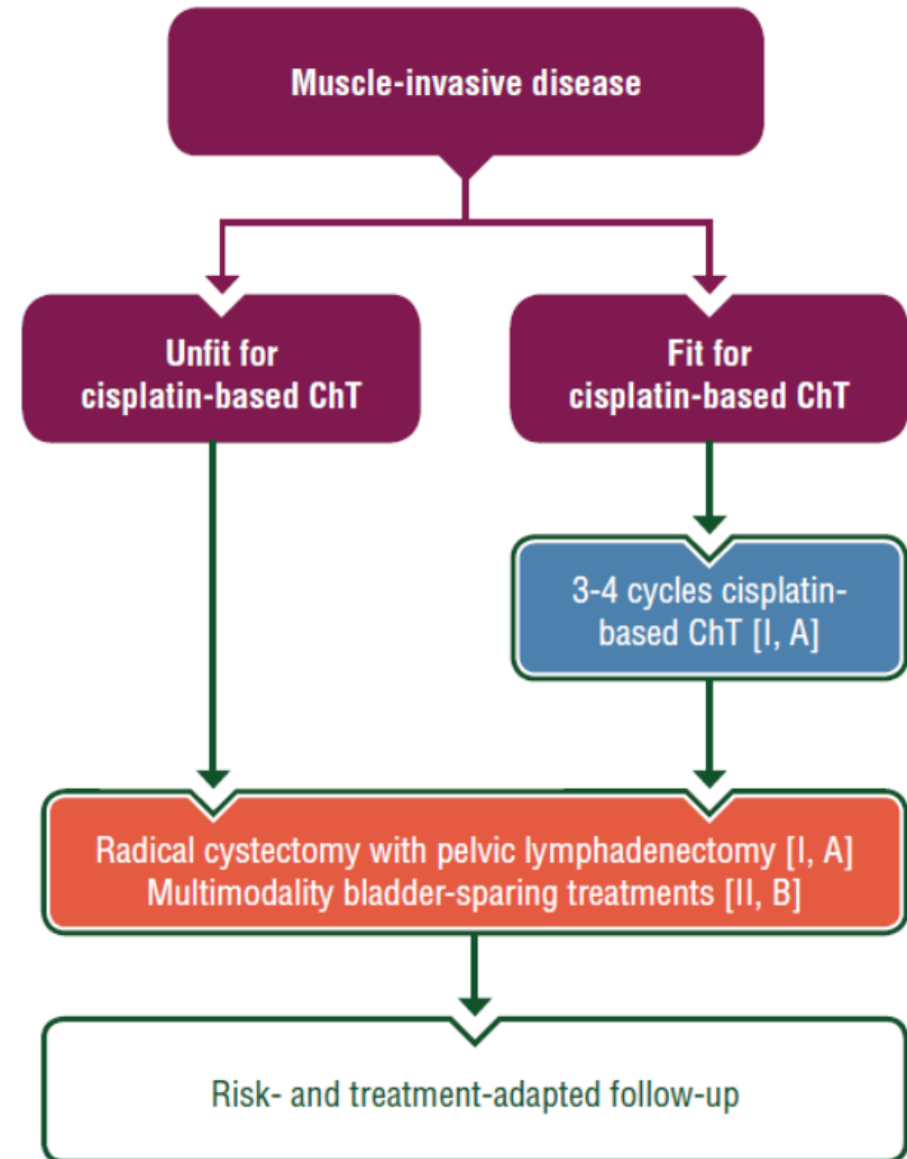


Patients at risk

NeoCT	1220	972	770	659	585	510	403	284	201	140	92
Control	1213	922	705	608	527	448	338	241	171	116	77

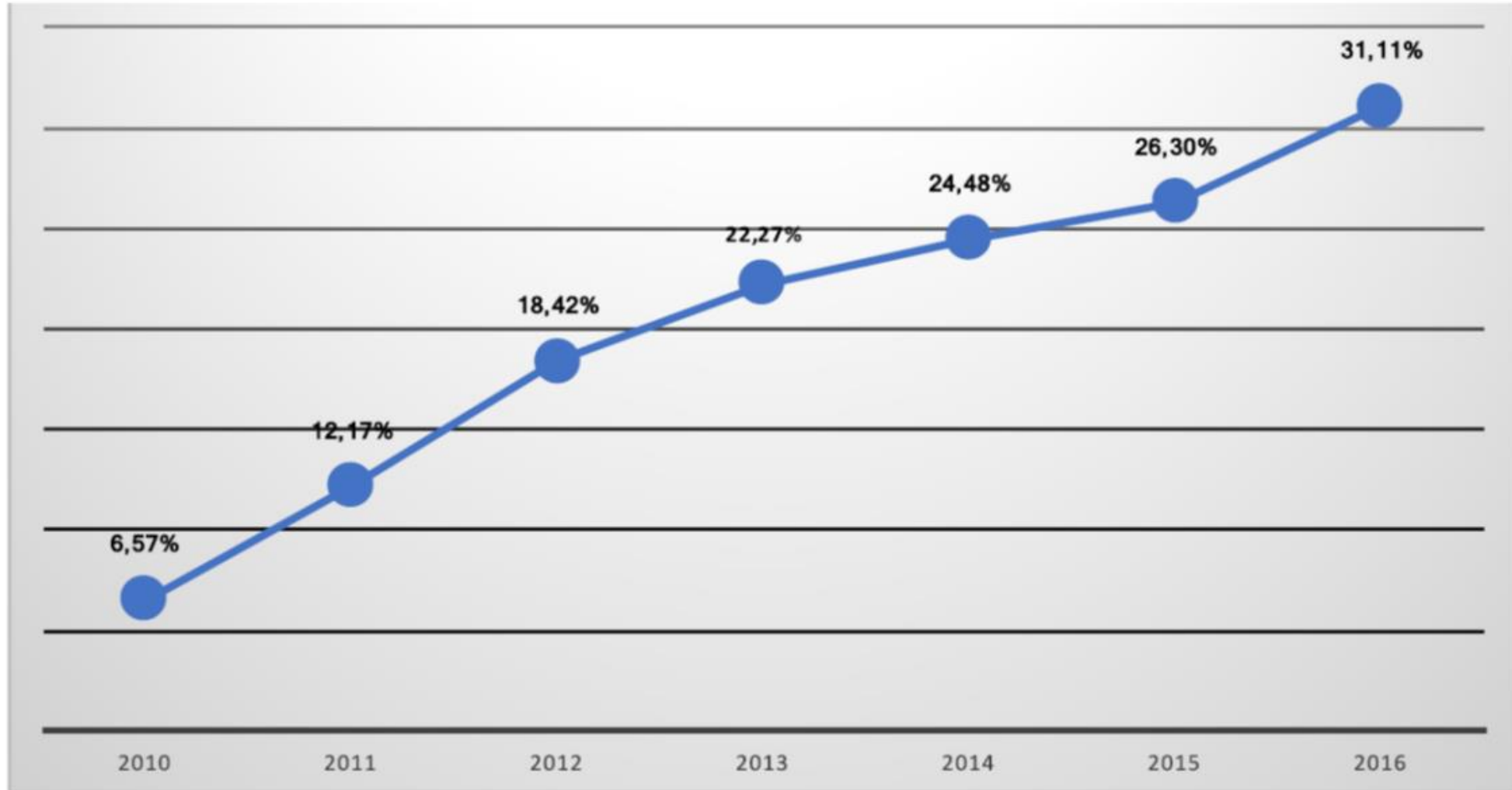
ESMO Guideline: Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer


Only **12–13%** of MIUC patients undergoing radical cystectomy receive neoadjuvant chemotherapy, despite current guidelines^{3,4}

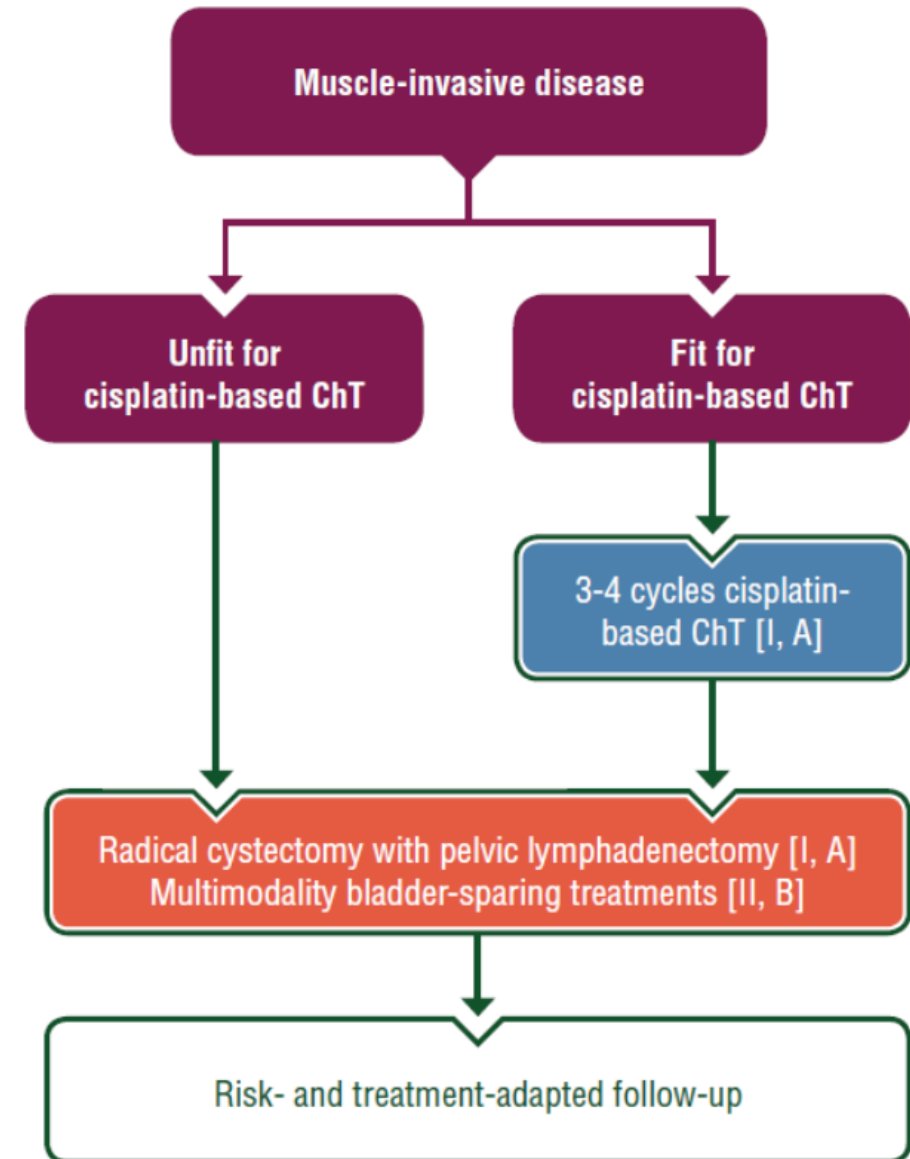


Powles Ann Oncol 2021; Burger Eur Urol 2012;
Huo Eur Urol Oncol 2019;

French Data on utility of NACT



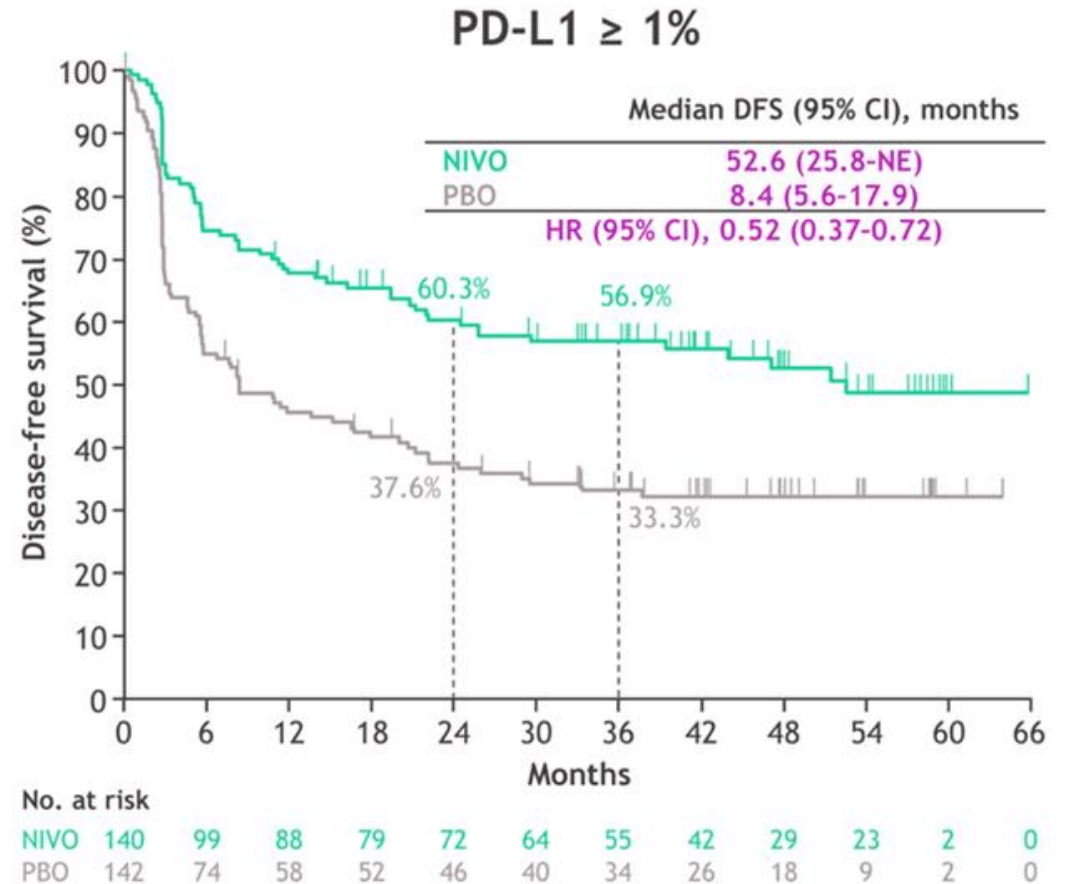
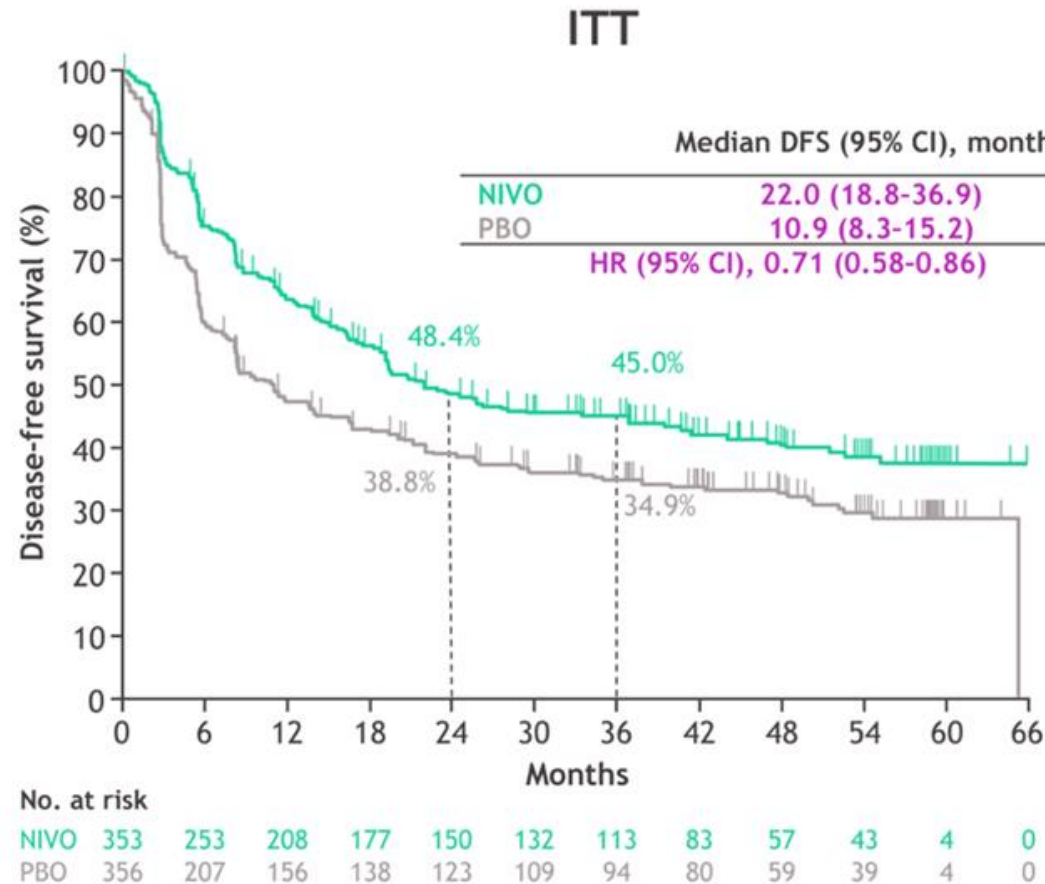
ESMO Guideline: Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer



Powles Ann Oncol 2021; Burger Eur Urol 2012;
Huo Eur Urol Oncol 2019; Dash Cancer 2006;
Sonpavde J Urol 2011; Galsky JCO 2011

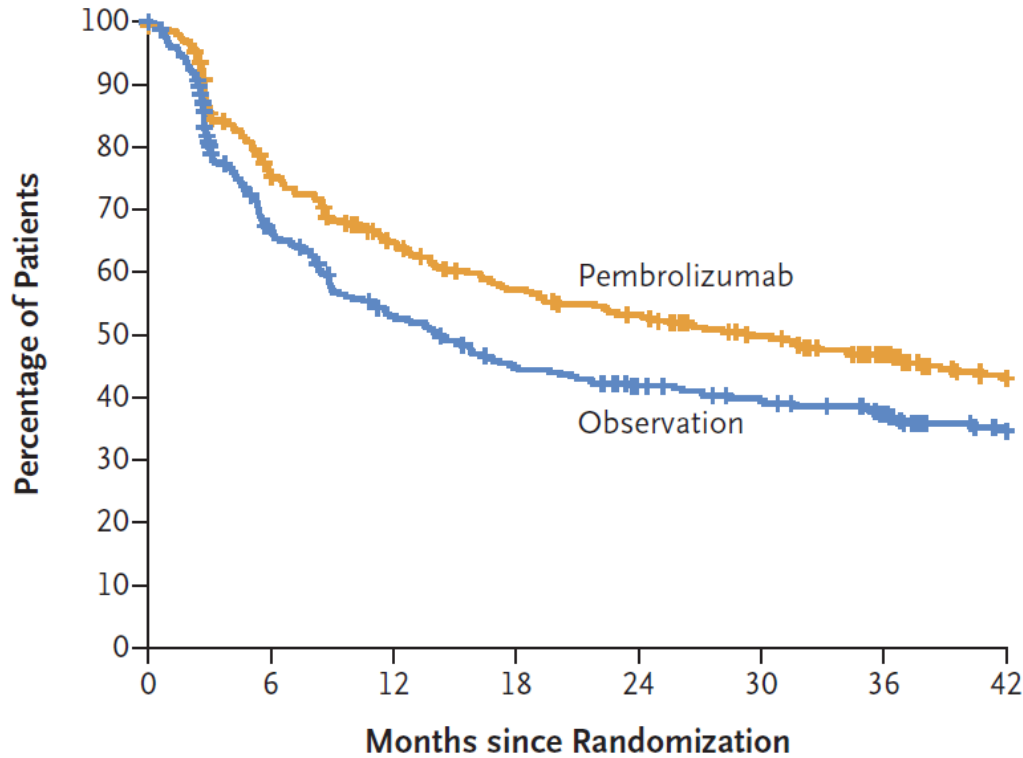
PD1/PDL1 Checkpoint inhibitors in adjuvant setting

Checkmate 274: Overall Survival



PD1/PDL1 Checkpoint inhibitors in adjuvant setting

AMBASSADOR Trial: Adjuvant Pembrolizumab



	No. of Events/ Total No. of Patients	Median Disease-free Survival (95% CI) <i>mo</i>
Pembrolizumab	185/354	29.6 (20.0–40.7)
Observation	194/348	14.2 (11.0–20.2)

Hazard ratio for disease progression or death,
0.73 (95% CI, 0.59–0.90)
Stratified P=0.003 by log-rank test

No. at Risk

Pembrolizumab	354	247	202	174	159	137	114	85
Observation	348	198	150	124	107	96	81	58

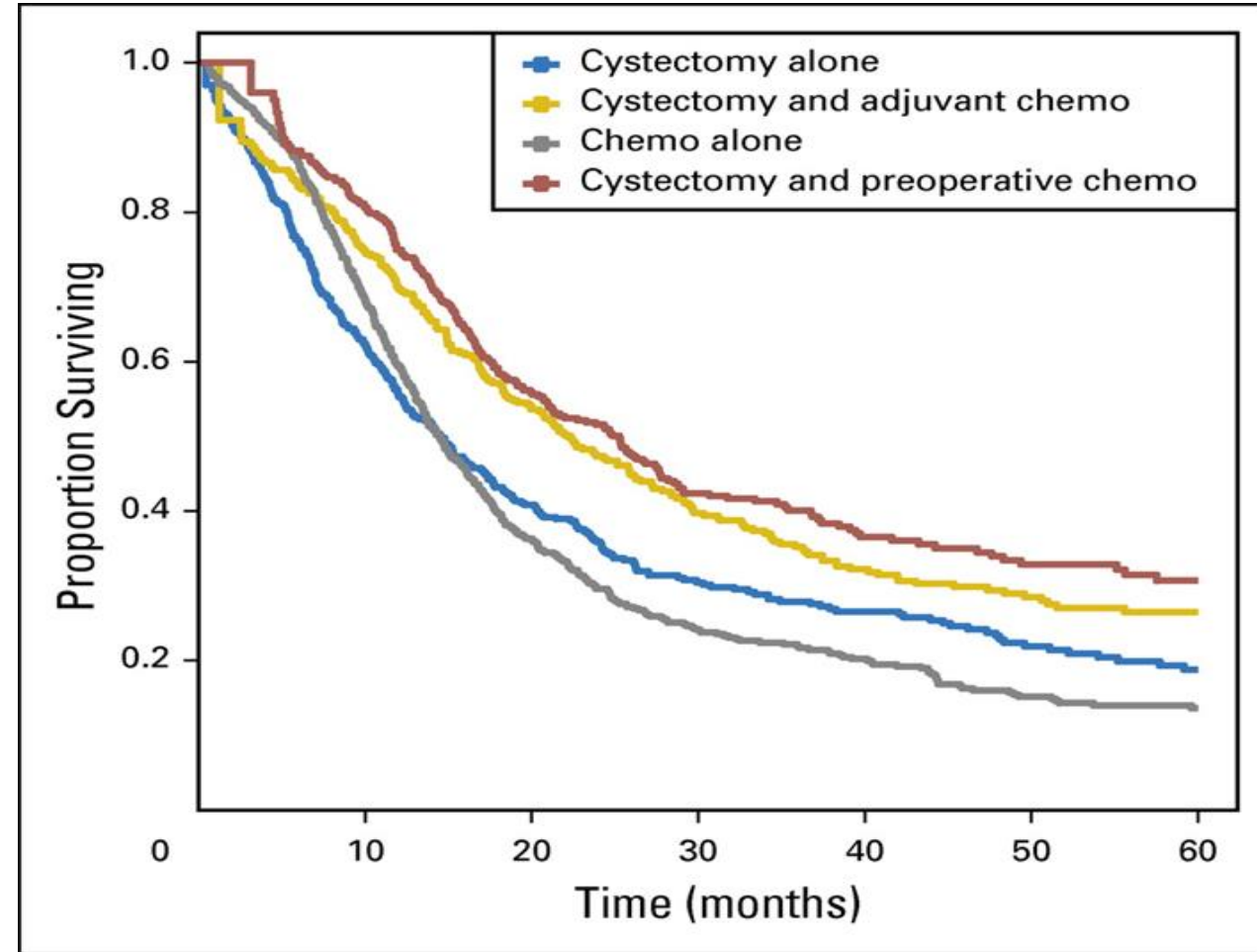
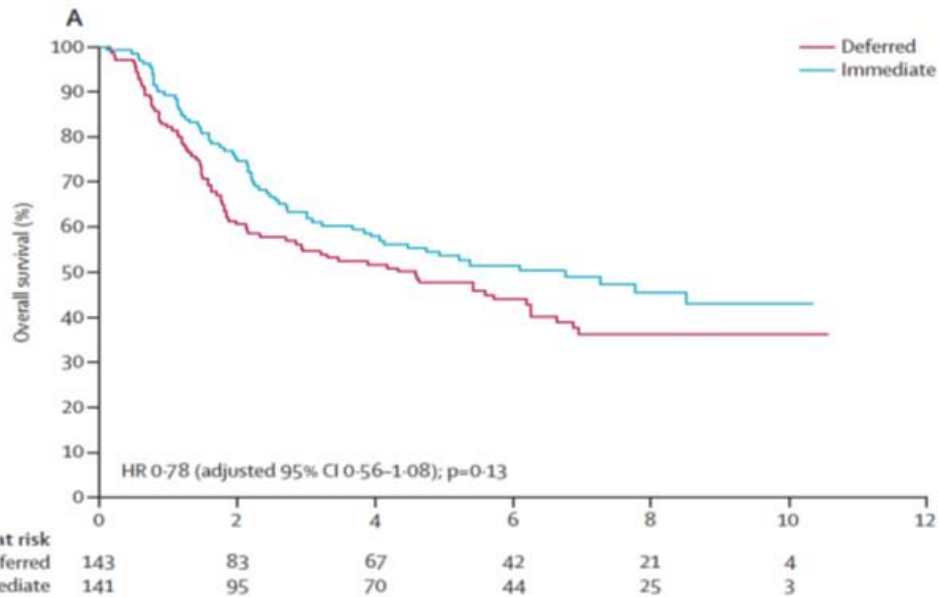
Adjuvant Chemotherapy

1,739 patients included in the analysis, (cN1, 48%; cN2, 45%; cN3, 7%), 36% received treatment with chemotherapy alone, 24% underwent cystectomy alone, 21% received preoperative chemotherapy followed by cystectomy, and 19% underwent cystectomy followed by adjuvant chemotherapy

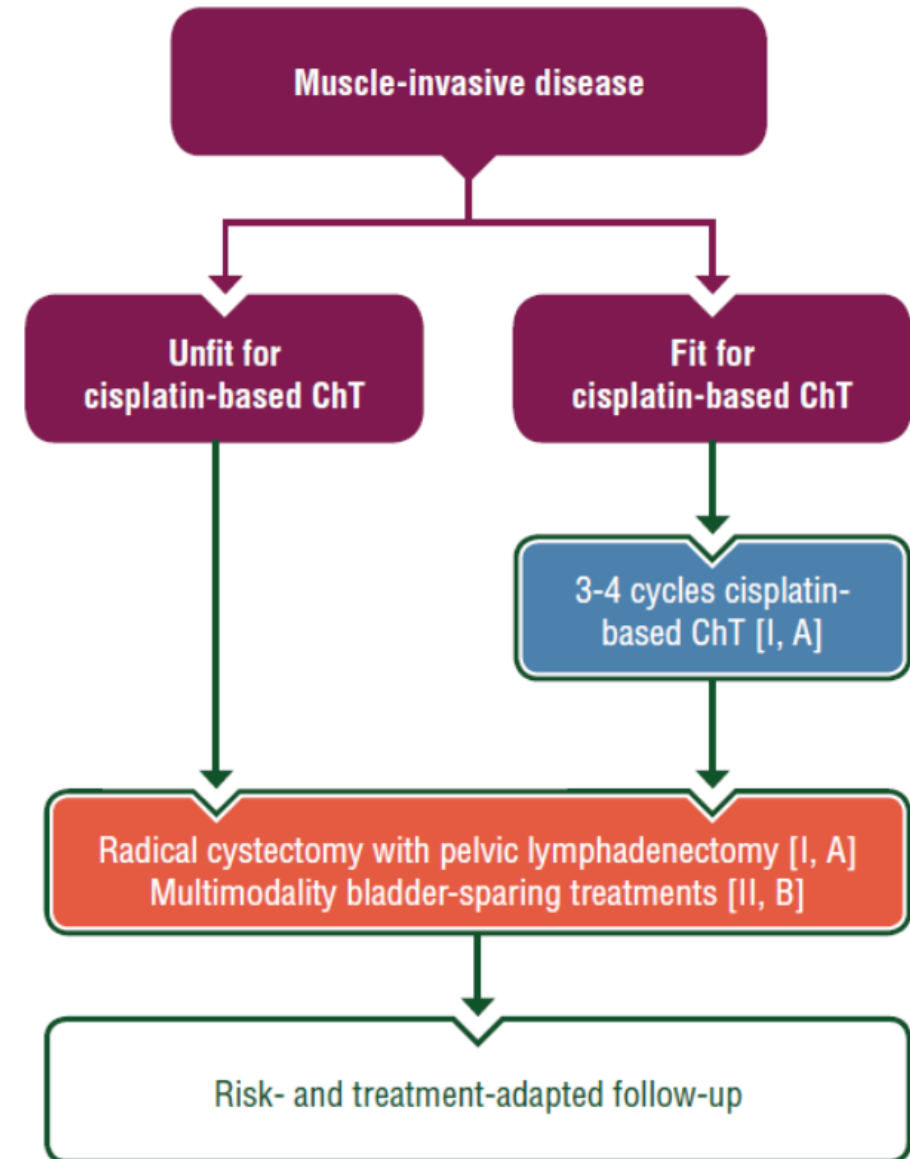
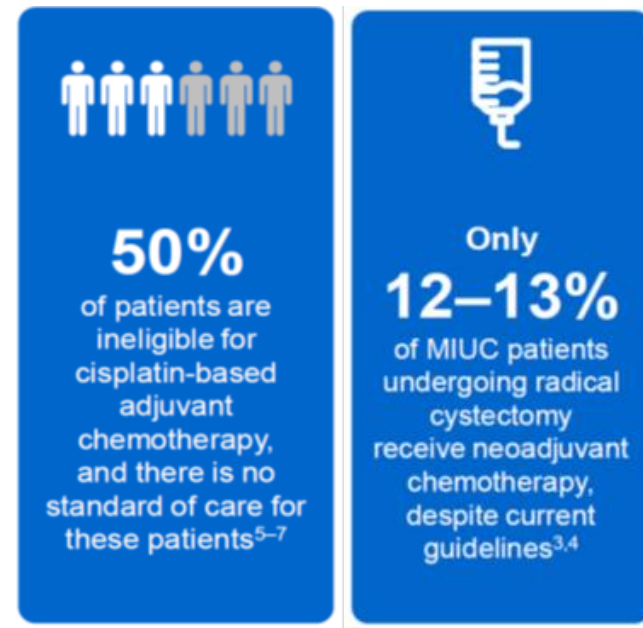


Immediate versus deferred chemotherapy after radical cystectomy in patients with pT3-pT4 or N+ M0 urothelial carcinoma of the bladder (EORTC 30994): an intergroup, open-label, randomised phase 3 trial

Coro N Sternberg, Iwona Skoneczna, J Martijn Kerst, Peter Albers, Sophie D Fossa, Mads Agerbaek, Herlinde Dumez, Maria de Santis, Christine Théodore, Michael G Leahy, John D Chester, Antony Verbaeys, Gedské Daugaard, Lori Wood, J Alfred Witjes, Ronald de Wit, Lionel Geoffrois, Lisa Sengelov, George Thalmann, Danielle Charpentier, Frédéric Rolland, Laurent Mignot, Santharam Sundar, Paul Symonds, John Graham, Florence Joly, Sandrine Marreaud, Laurence Collette, Richard Sylvester, for the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer Genito-Urinary Cancers Group, Groupe d'Etude des Tumeurs Urogénitales, National Cancer Research Institute Bladder Cancer Study Group, National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group, and German Association of Urologic Oncology (AUO)




ESMO Guideline: Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer




Powles Ann Oncol 2021; Burger Eur Urol 2012;
Huo Eur Urol Oncol 2019; Dash Cancer 2006;
Sonpavde J Urol 2011; Galsky JCO 2011


ESMO Guideline: Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer




50%
of patients who receive neoadjuvant chemotherapy have residual high-risk disease ($\geq pT2$) with an associated median survival of 3.4 years⁵



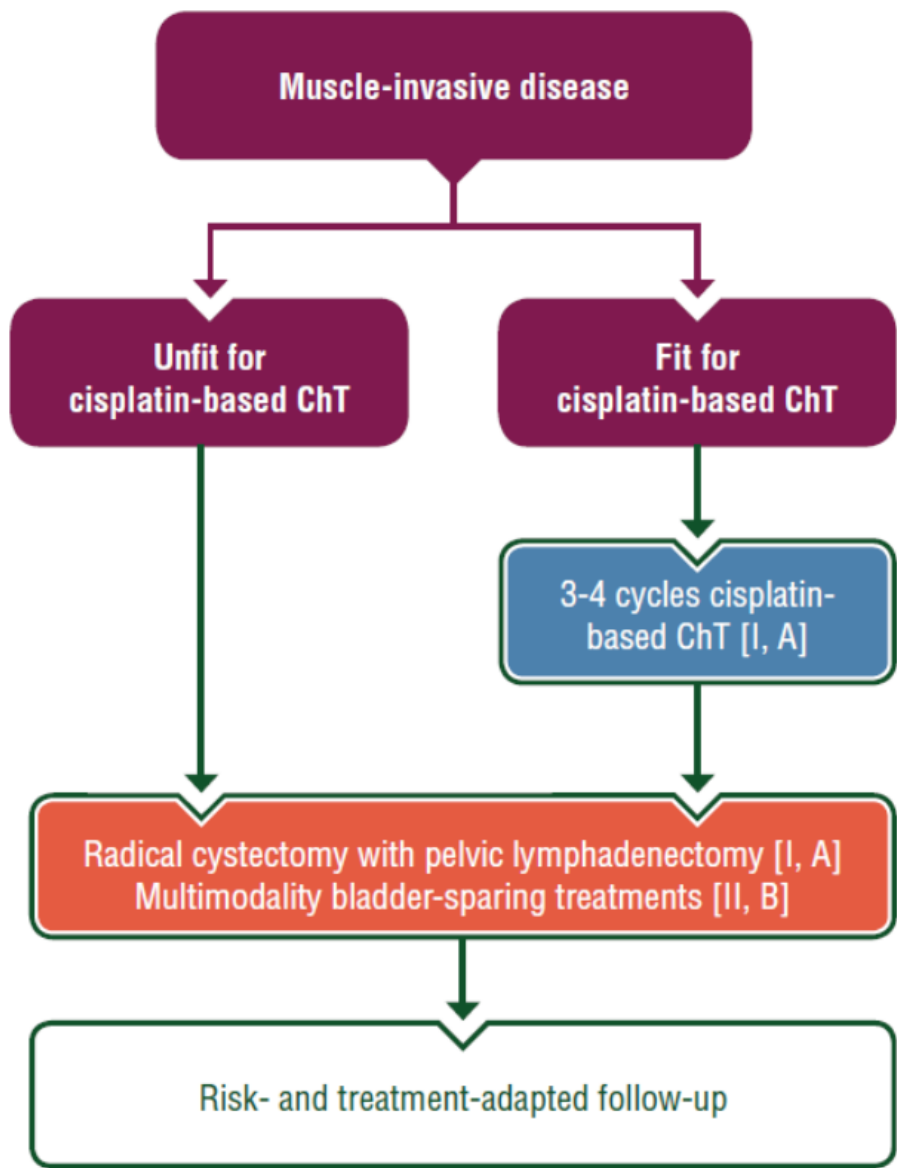
40–67%
of patients with pT3–T4a or lymph node-positive disease relapse after RC alone, with a poor 5-year OS (25–30%)^{1,2}



50%
of patients are ineligible for cisplatin-based adjuvant chemotherapy, and there is no standard of care for these patients^{5–7}



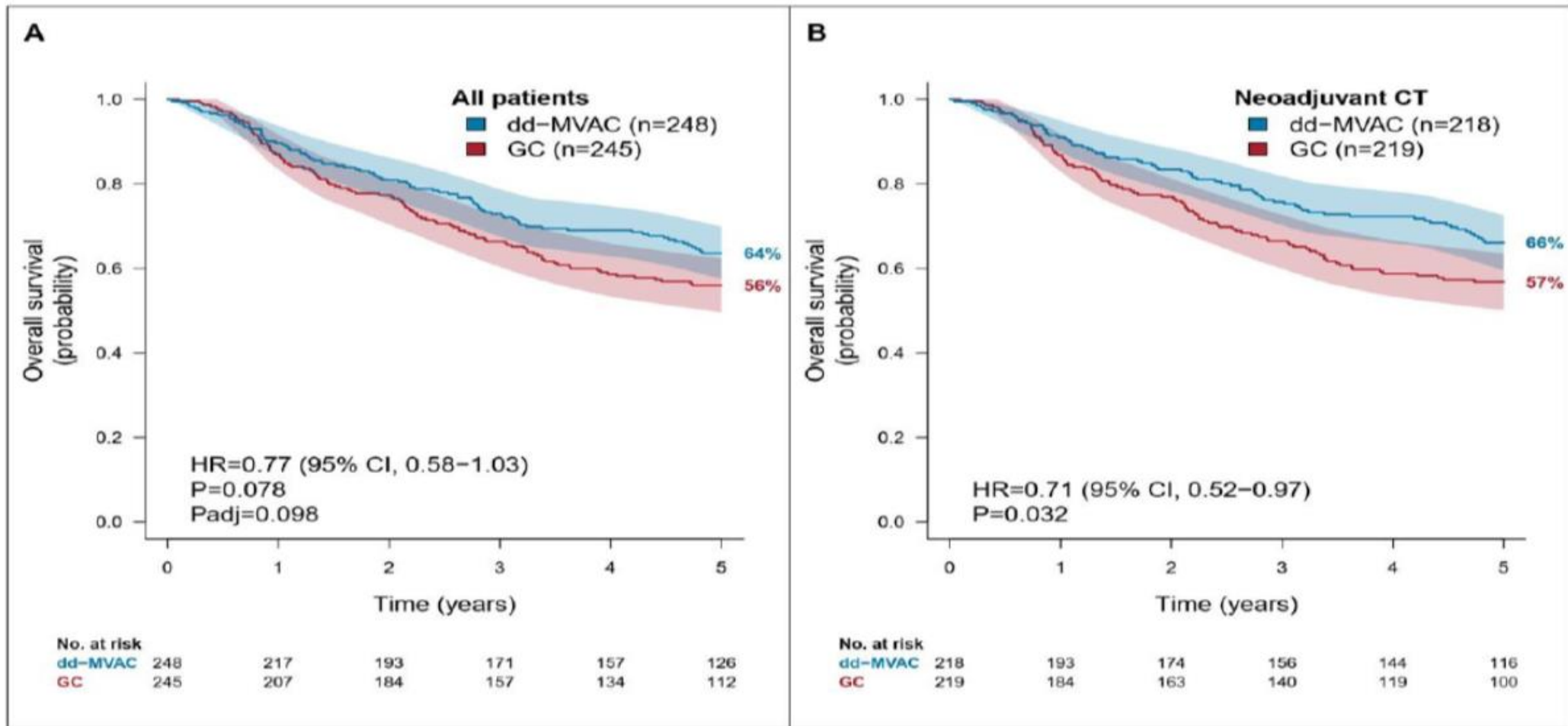
Only **12–13%**
of MIUC patients undergoing radical cystectomy receive neoadjuvant chemotherapy, despite current guidelines^{3,4}



Powles Ann Oncol 2021; Burger Eur Urol 2012;
 Huo Eur Urol Oncol 2019; Dash Cancer 2006;
 Sonpavde J Urol 2011; Galsky JCO 2011;
 Gschwned Eur Urol 2002; Shariat J Urol 2006;

„Optimal“ Chemotherapy

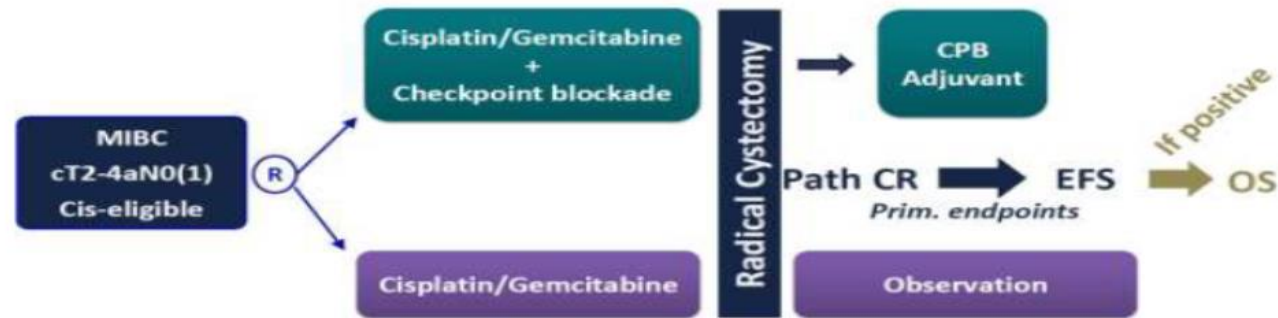
VESPER Trial 5-year OS



Checkpoint inhibitors in neoadjuvant setting

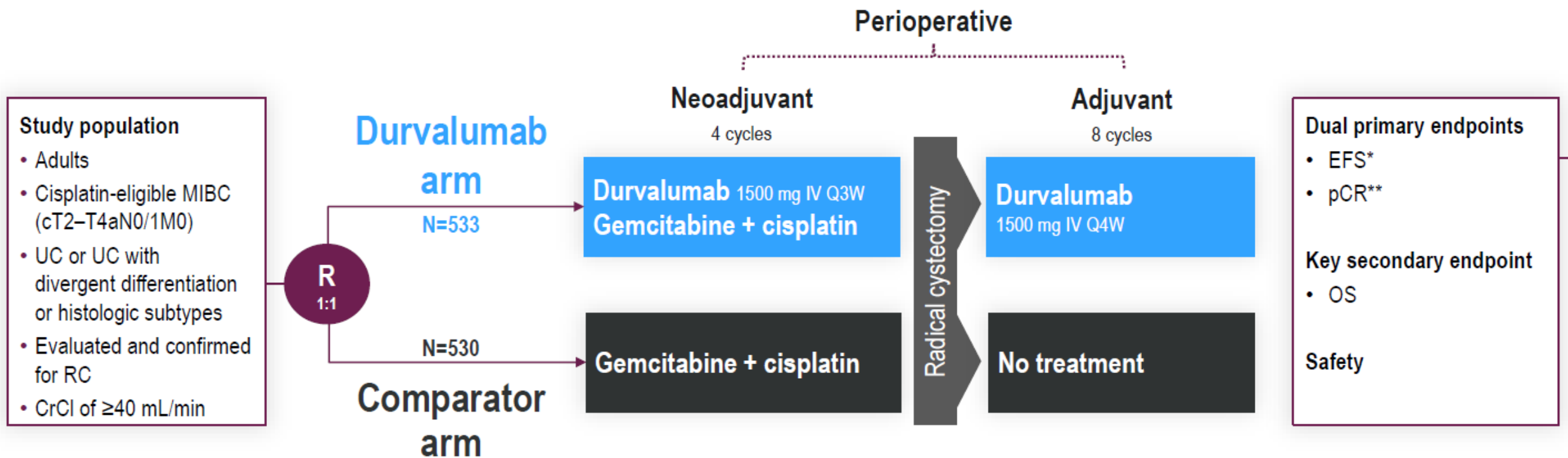
Cisplatin Eligible Population

Neo-adjuvant Chemo + checkpoint blockade



KEYNOTE-866 NCT03924856	—	CDDP-GEM + pembro	Chemo	pCR, EFS	06/2025
NIAGARA NCT03732677	—	CDDP-GEM + durva	Chemo	pCR, EFS	06/2025
EV-304 NCT04700124	—	neoadj. 4x EV + pembro adj. 5x EV + P → 13x P adj.	Chemo	pCR, EFS	12/2026
ENERGYZE NCT04700124	Chemo + nivo+ linrodostat	Chemo + nivo	Chemo	pCR, EFS	12/2026

NIAGARA: Study Design



Stratification factors

- Clinical tumour stage (T2N0 vs >T2N0)
- Renal function (CrCl ≥ 60 mL/min vs ≥ 40 – < 60 mL/min)
- PD-L1 status (high vs low/negative expression)

Gemcitabine/cisplatin dosing

- CrCl ≥ 60 mL/min: Cisplatin 70 mg/m² + gemcitabine 1000 mg/m² Day 1, then gemcitabine 1000 mg/m² Day 8, Q3W for 4 cycles
- CrCl ≥ 40 – < 60 mL/min: Split-dose cisplatin 35 mg/m² + gemcitabine 1000 mg/m² Days 1 and 8, Q3W for 4 cycles

EFS was defined as:

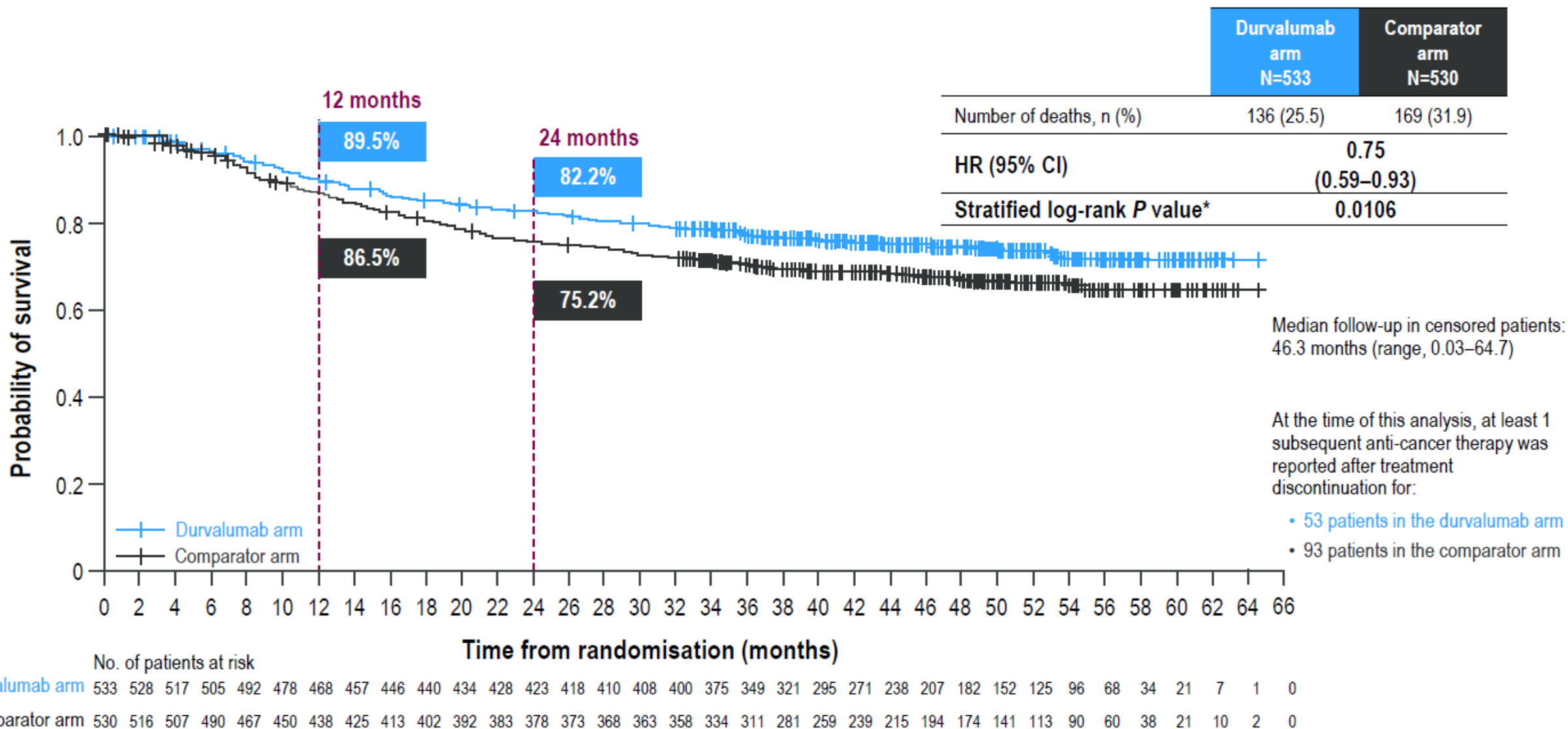
- Progressive disease that precluded RC
- Recurrence after RC
- Date of expected surgery in patients who did not undergo RC
- Death from any cause

Other endpoints (not reported here): DFS, DSS, MFS, HRQoL, 5-year OS

*Evaluated by blinded independent central review or central pathology review (if a biopsy was required for a suspected new lesion). **Evaluated by blinded central pathology review.

ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT03732677; EudraCT number, 2018-001811-59. CrCl, creatinine clearance; DFS, disease-free survival; DSS, disease-specific survival; EFS, event-free survival; HRQoL, health-related quality of life; IV, intravenous; MFS, metastasis-free survival; MIBC, muscle-invasive bladder cancer; OS, overall survival; pCR, pathologic complete response; PD-L1, programmed cell death ligand-1; Q3W, every 3 weeks; Q4W, every 4 weeks; R, randomised; RC, radical cystectomy; UC, urothelial carcinoma.

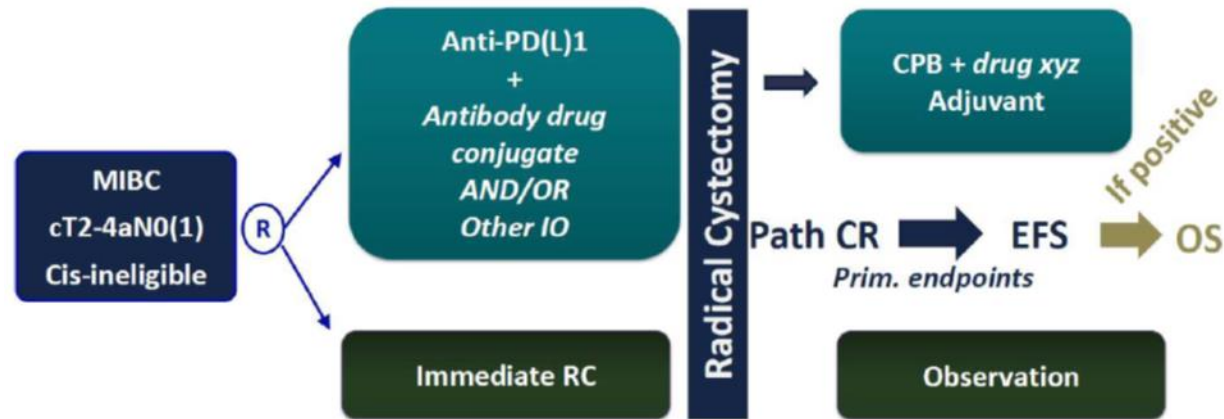
NIAGARA: Overall Survival (ITT)



OS is the time from the date of randomisation until death due to any cause regardless of whether the patient withdraws from randomised therapy or receives another anti-cancer therapy. *The threshold for statistical significance was based on a Lan-DeMets alpha spending function with O'Brien-Fleming boundary – with the observed number of events, the boundary for declaring statistical significance was 0.01543 for a 4.9% overall 2-sided alpha. Data cutoff 29 Apr 2024. CI, confidence interval; HR, hazard ratio; ITT, intent-to-treat population; OS, overall survival.

Checkpoint inhibitors in neoadjuvant setting

Cisplatin Ineligible Population

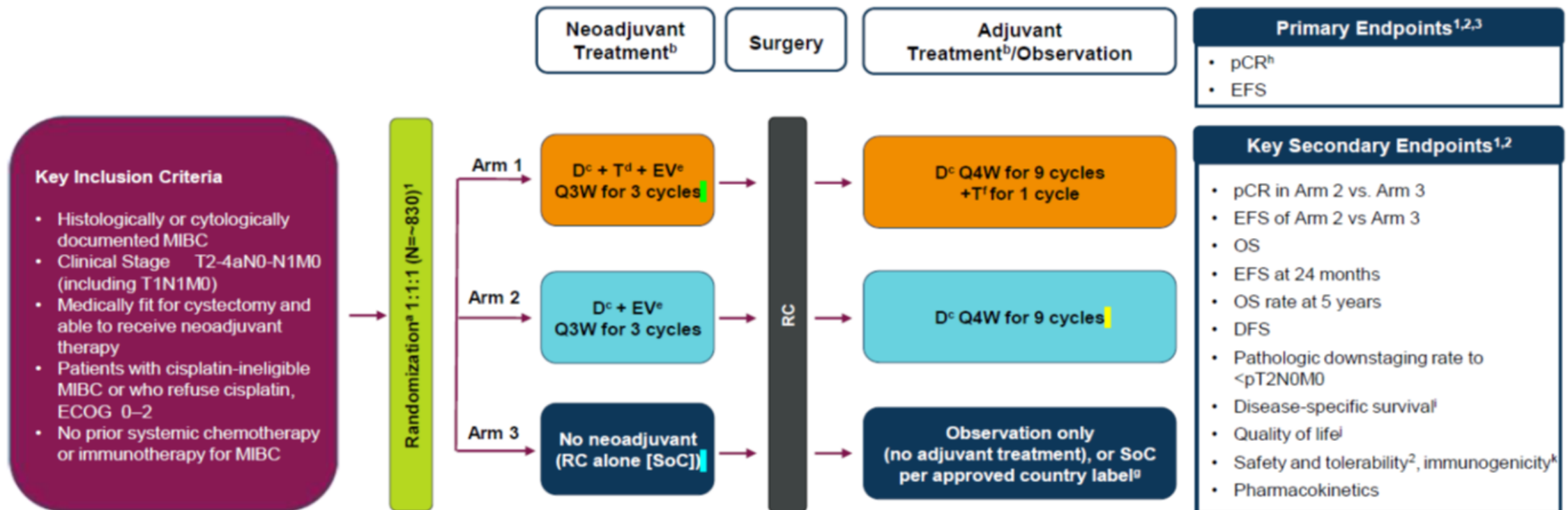


MK-905 NCT03924895	neoadj. 3x Pembro adj. 14x Pembro	neoadj: 3x P+ EV adj: 6x P + EV → 8x P	+	pCR, EFS	05/2027
PIVOT-IO-09 NCT04209114	neoadj + adj Nivo	neoadj + adj. Nivo + NKTR-214*	+	pCR, EFS	06/2023
VOLGA NCT04960709	neoadj and adj. Durva + EV	neoadj. and adj. Durva + Treme + EV	+ (+/- SOC adj IO)	EFS, OS, safety	07/2025

Checkpoint inhibitors in neoadjuvant setting

VOLGA Trial

A Phase III, randomized, open-label, multicenter, global study in MIBC



Conclusion

- **Enfortumab-vedotin plus pembrolizumab are SOC for 1L LA/mUC**
 - Toxicity and economy issues
 - Platinum based chemo with avelumab maintenance or Nivo plus cisplatin-based chemo are valid options
- **Cisplatin-based neoadjuvant chemo is SOC for MIBC**
- **50% of patients are unfit for cisplatin (and up to 30% of patients receive NACT)**
 - Adjuvant immunotherapy
 - Neoadjuvant trials with novel agents
- **Low pCR and DFS rates for standard therapies**
 - Immunotherapy and ADC incorporation in the treatment
 - More intensive chemotherapy regimens

Thank you!

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