



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023
Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

Con il Patrocinio di



Fabrizio Nicolis
Direttore Sanitario



Liechtenstein

Svizzera

Ginevra

Como

Milano

NEGRAR

Verona

Padova

Venezia

Trieste

Slovenia

Torino

Genova

Bologna

Rimini

San Marino

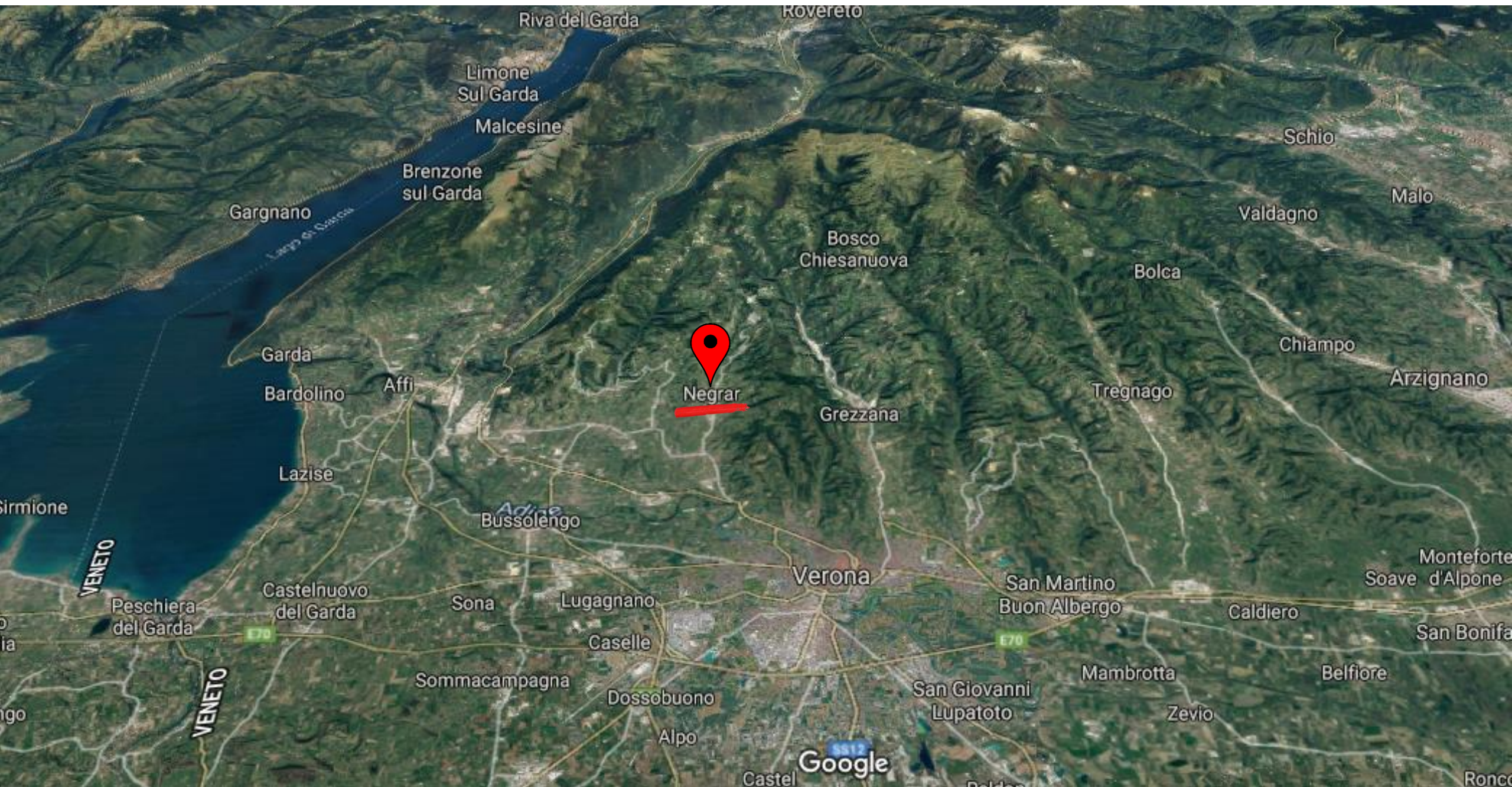
Cannes

Monaco

Pisa

Google

Firenze



La Valpolicella

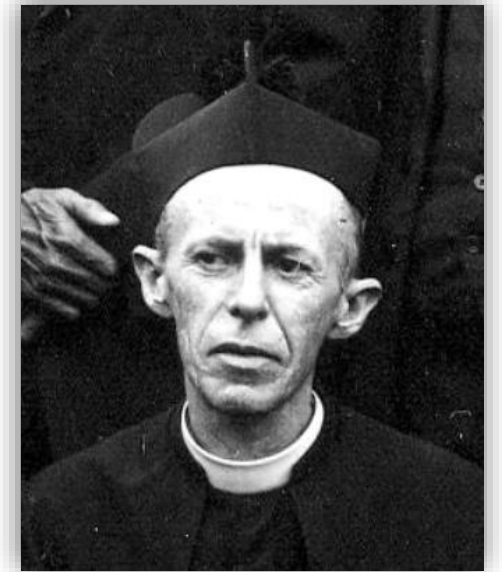




SACRO CUORE
DON CALABRIA

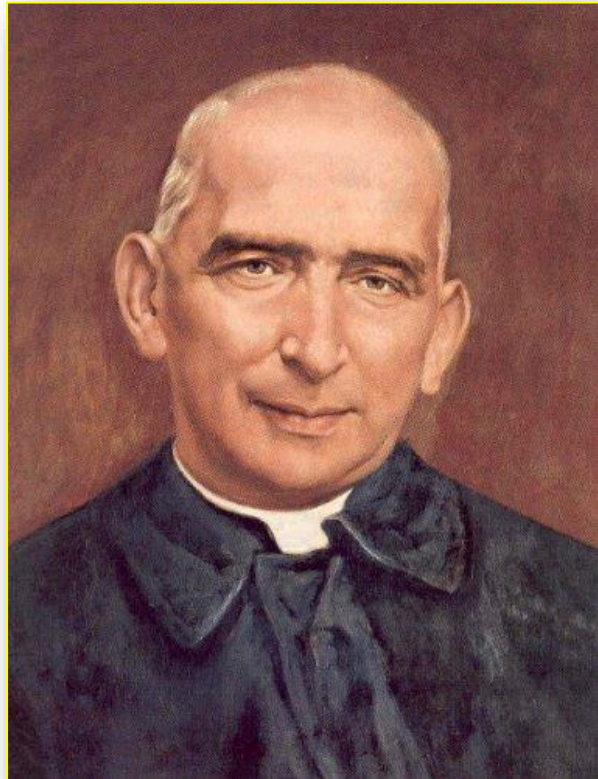


1922 – Ricovero Sacro Cuore



don Angelo Sempreboni

San Giovanni Calabria



Verona 8 ottobre 1873
Verona 4 dicembre 1954



La Cittadella della Carità



La Cittadella della Carità



IRCCS
Sacro Cuore
Don Calabria
per acuti
per post acuti

549
Posti Letto

La Cittadella della Carità

Casa Nogarè
RSA, CDR, SUAP

365
Posti Letto

Casa Perez
Psichiatrici Cronici, CDR,
Casa del Clero



La Cittadella della Carità

Ospedale Sacro Cuore

Ospedale Don Calabria

Casa Nogarè

Casa Perez

914
Posti Letto

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER



MINISTERO DELLA SALUTE

DECRETO 23 maggio 2018.

Riconoscimento del carattere scientifico nella disciplina «Malattie infettive e tropicali» all'«Ospedale Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria», in Negrar.

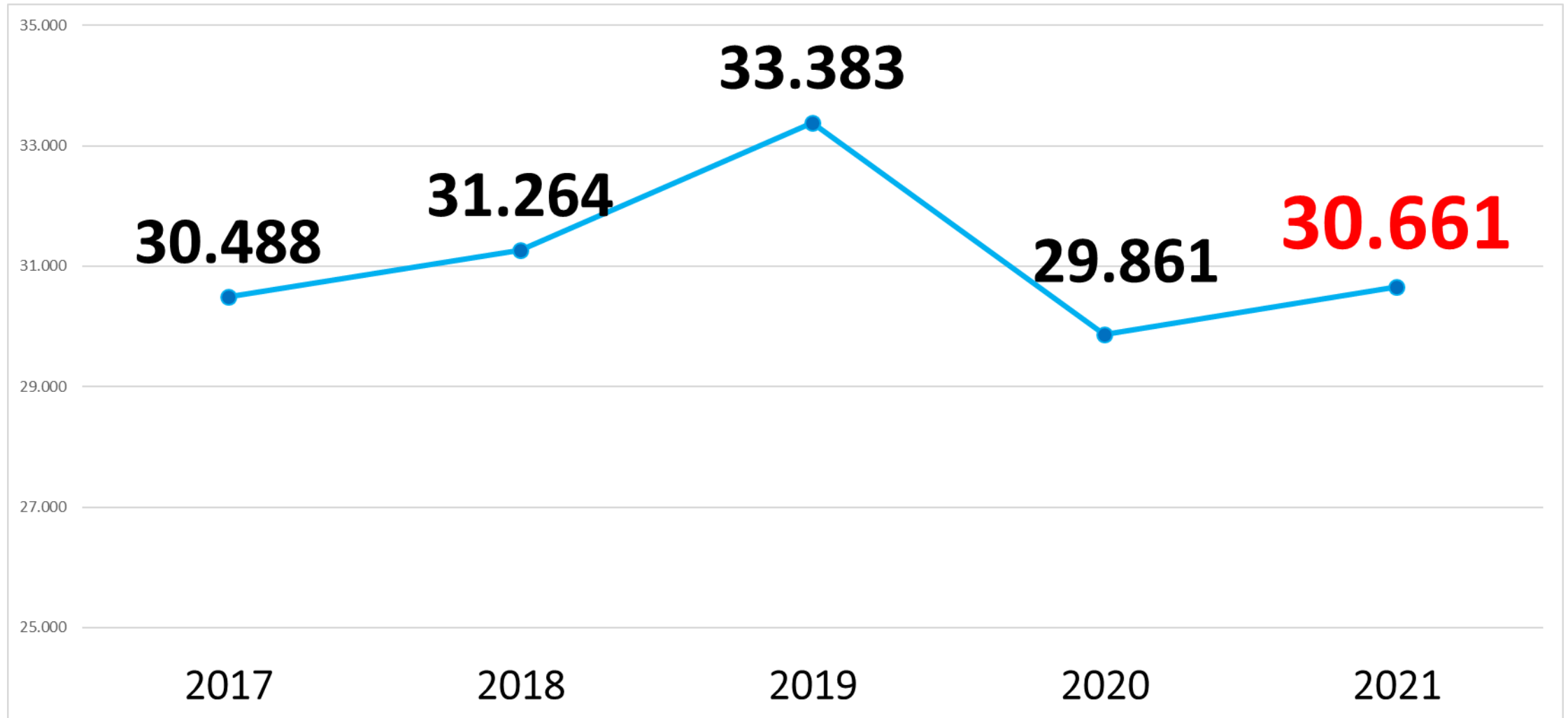
IRCCS Ospedale “Sacro Cuore – Don Calabria”

Schede di dotazione delle Strutture Ospedaliere

DGR n. 614 del 14 maggio 2019

1. Centro di **Riferimento Regionale** per le **Malattie Tropicali**
2. Struttura di **Riferimento Regionale** per la **Riprotesi di ginocchio e anca**
3. Struttura di **Riferimento Regionale** per il trattamento delle **Gravi Patologie Retiniche**
4. Struttura di **Riferimento Regionale** per l'**Endometriosi**
5. Struttura di **Riferimento Regionale** per **Radioterapia**
6. Centro **Hub** per l'attività di **preparazione radiofarmaci** e per attività di terapia radiometabolica

Ricoveri 2017 – 2021

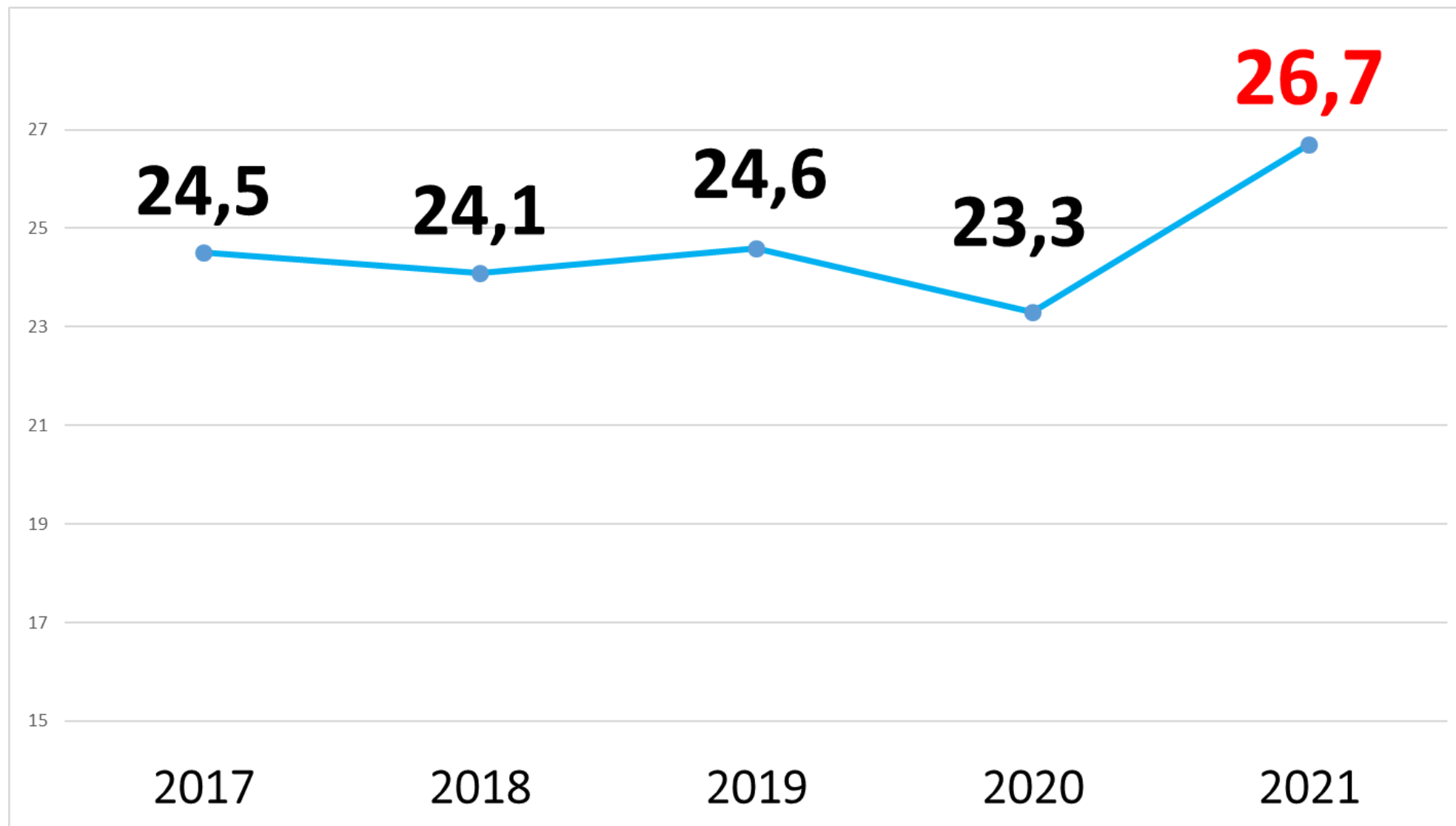


Graduatoria Ospedali per numero di ricoveri Regione Veneto

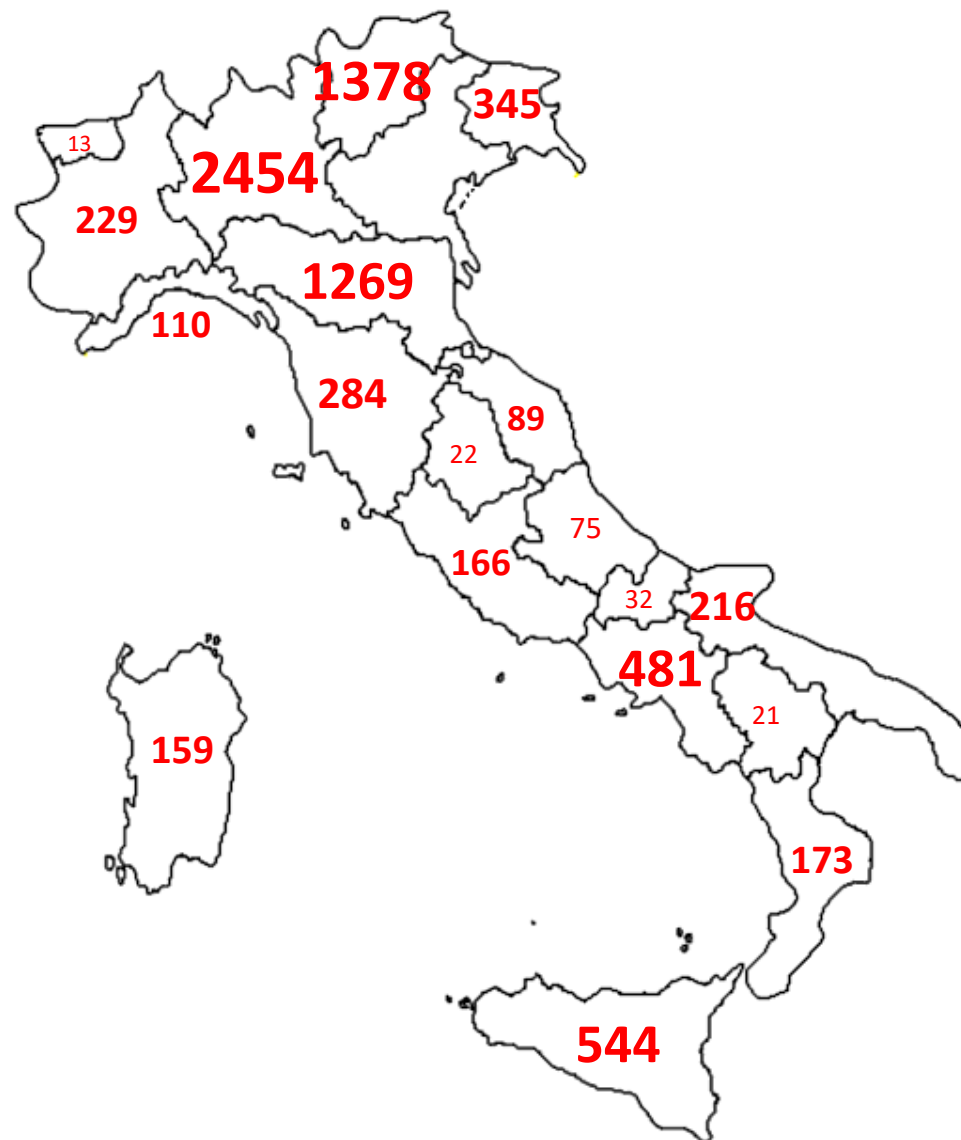


1	Azienda Ospedaliera di Padova
2	Azienda Ospedaliera di Verona
3	Ospedale di Vicenza
4	Ospedale di Treviso
5	IRCCS Sacro Cuore Don Calabria

Attrazione Extraregionale (%)



Attrazione Extraregionale Ricoveri



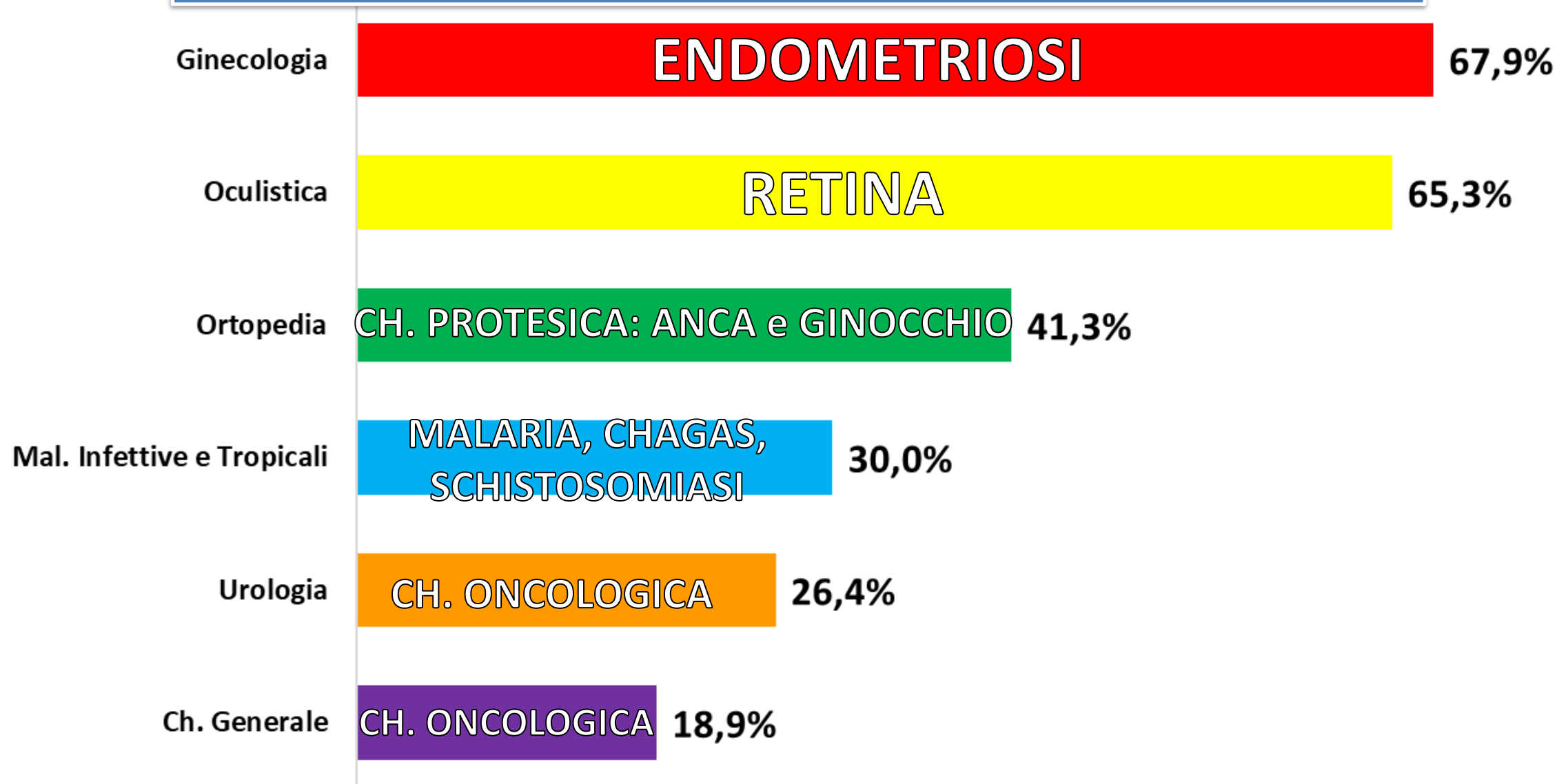
Anno 2021

Totale ricoveri
extraregione:

8.060

RICOVERI

Attrazione Extraregionale - % anno 2021



I nostri investimenti



Radioterapia Oncologica

- **4 ACCELERATORI LINEARI**

- TrueBeam (2)

- ETHOS

- **RM-LINAC UNITY**



Prof. Filippo Alongi
Direttore Radioterapia Oncologica

CICLOTRONE con Radiofarmacia



- 19 MeV – 300 μ A

Centro **HUB** per l'attività di **preparazione radiofarmaci**

(DGR n. 614 del 14 maggio 2019)

Dott. Giancarlo Gorgoni
Responsabile Radiofarmacia e
Ciclotrone

22 settembre 2022

- **Certificazione AIFA** per la produzione secondo i **criteri GMP** di tutti i **radiofarmaci sperimentali** a base di **Fluoro 18**
- **Unico ospedale in Italia** con Radiofarmacia GMP (non gestita da aziende esterne)

MEDICINA

A Negrar nasce l'unica «fabbrica di radiofarmaci» in Italia gestita da un ospedale

La certificazione è giunta a pochi giorni dal meeting sui radiofarmaci che vede in Valpolicella, fino al 23 settembre, i 15 Paesi aderenti al progetto



Chirurgia Robotica

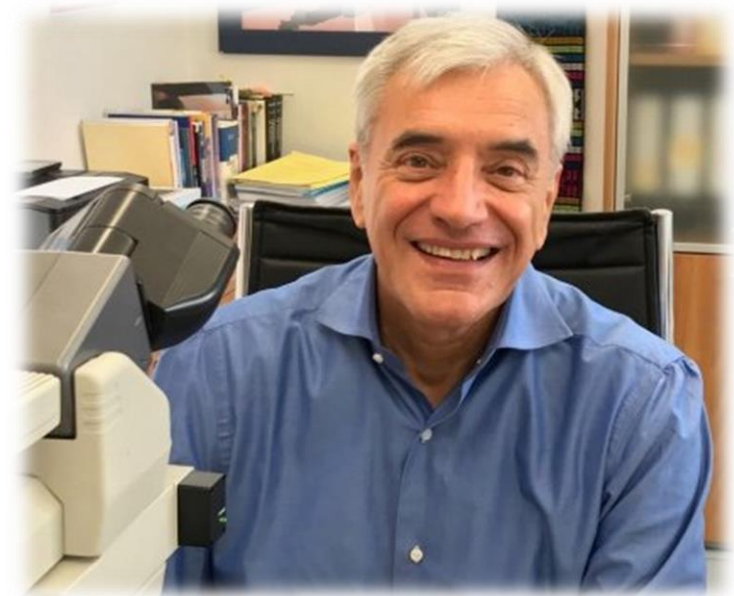


Unità Operative di Urologia, Chirurgia Generale, Ginecologia e Ortopedia



Biologia Molecolare

Anatomia Patologica



Prof. Giuseppe Zamboni
Direttore Anatomia Patologica

Sequenziatore
Ion GeneStudio™
S5 System

Nuovi laboratori ad alto biocontenimento (BSL 2 e BSL 3)



8 ottobre 2021

Nuova Risonanza Magnetica 3 TESLA



Hospice e Biobanca



Realizzazione
Biobanca per
l'Oncologia



ALLEANZA CONTRO IL CANCRO

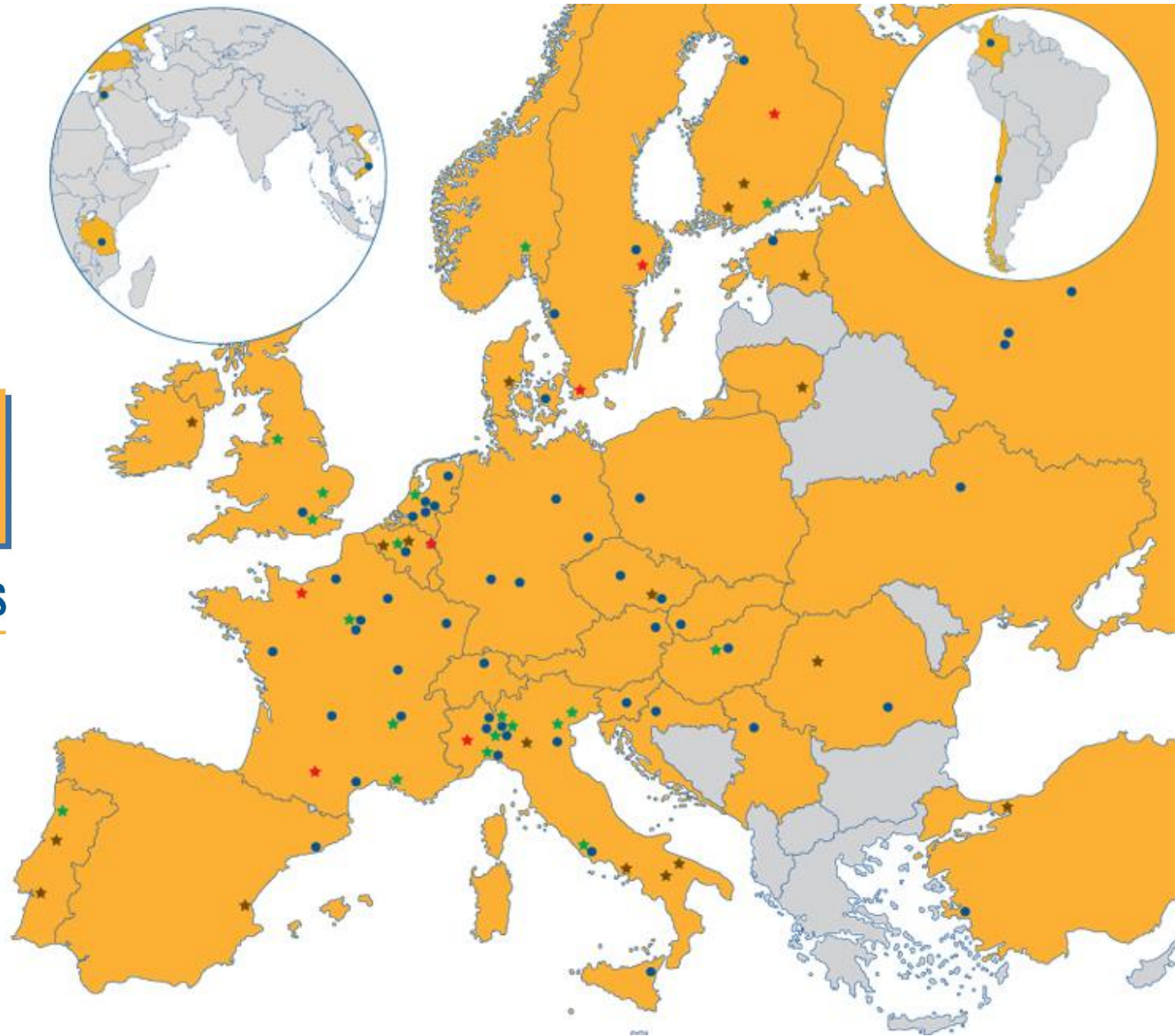
34 associati





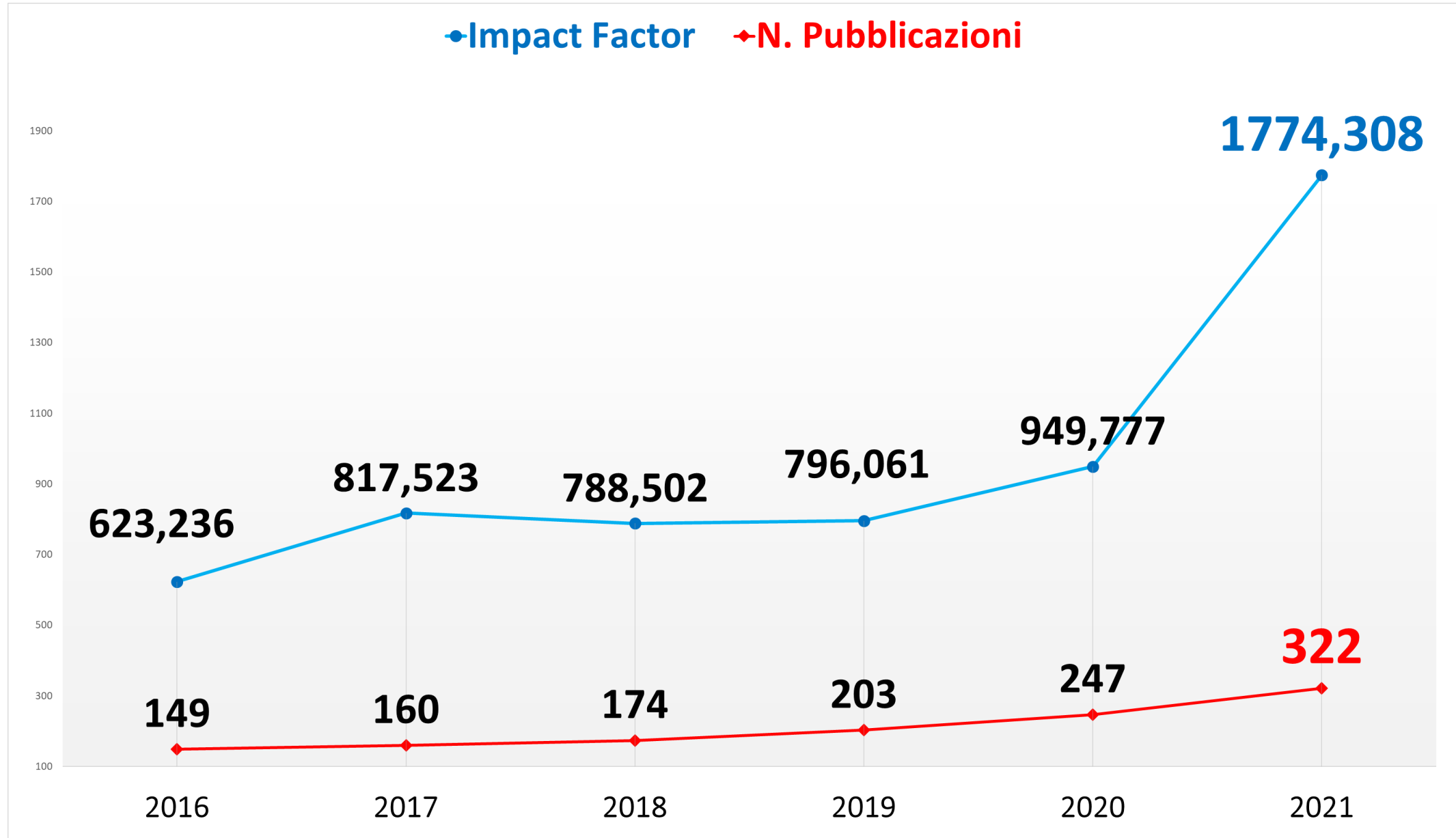
ORGANISATION OF EUROPEAN CANCER INSTITUTES

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC INTEREST GROUPING



PUBBLICAZIONI SCIENTIFICHE

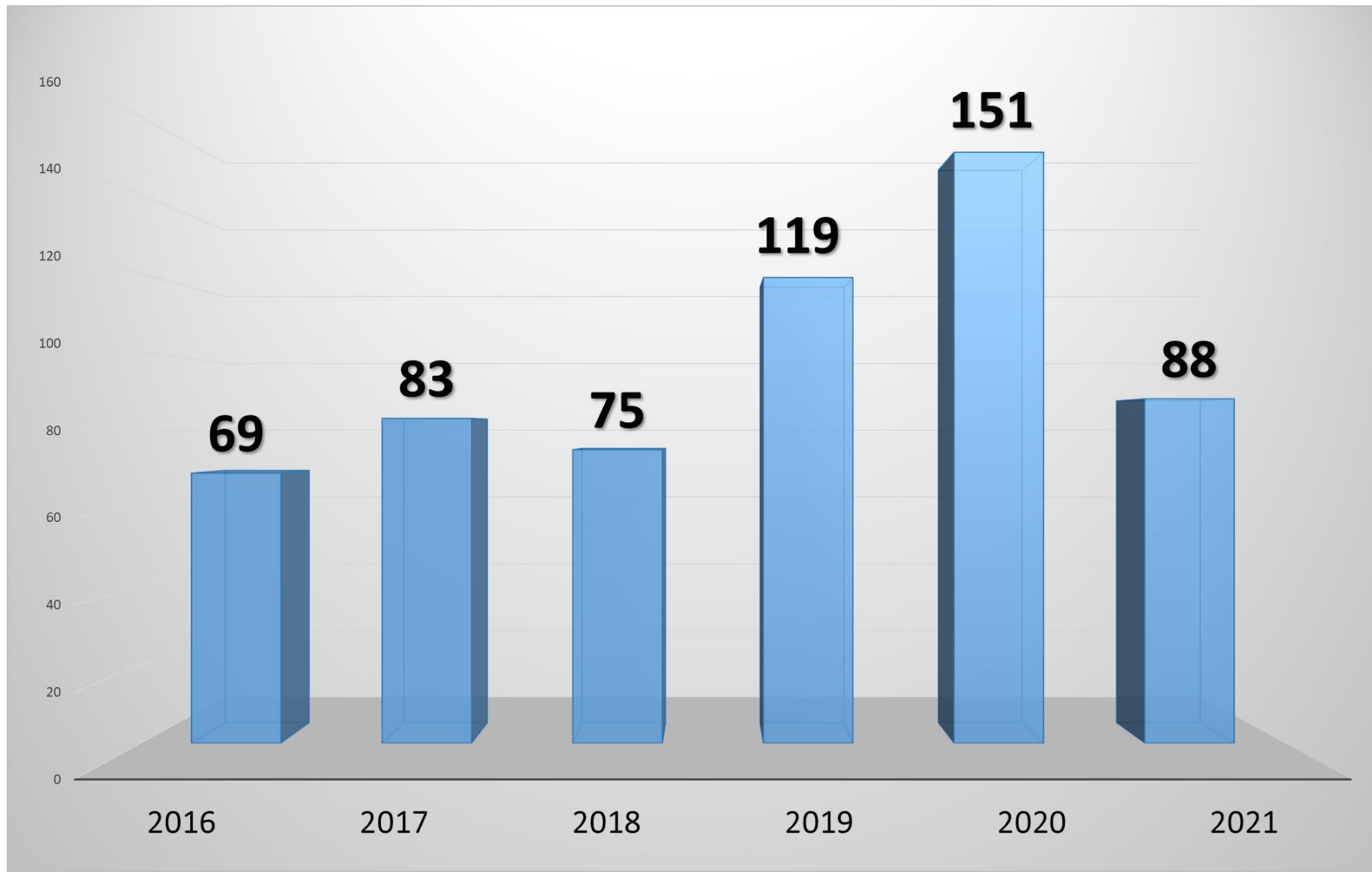
IRCCS Ospedale Sacro Cuore Don Calabria



STUDI CLINICI

(Osservazionali + Sperimentali)

IRCCS Ospedale Sacro Cuore Don Calabria

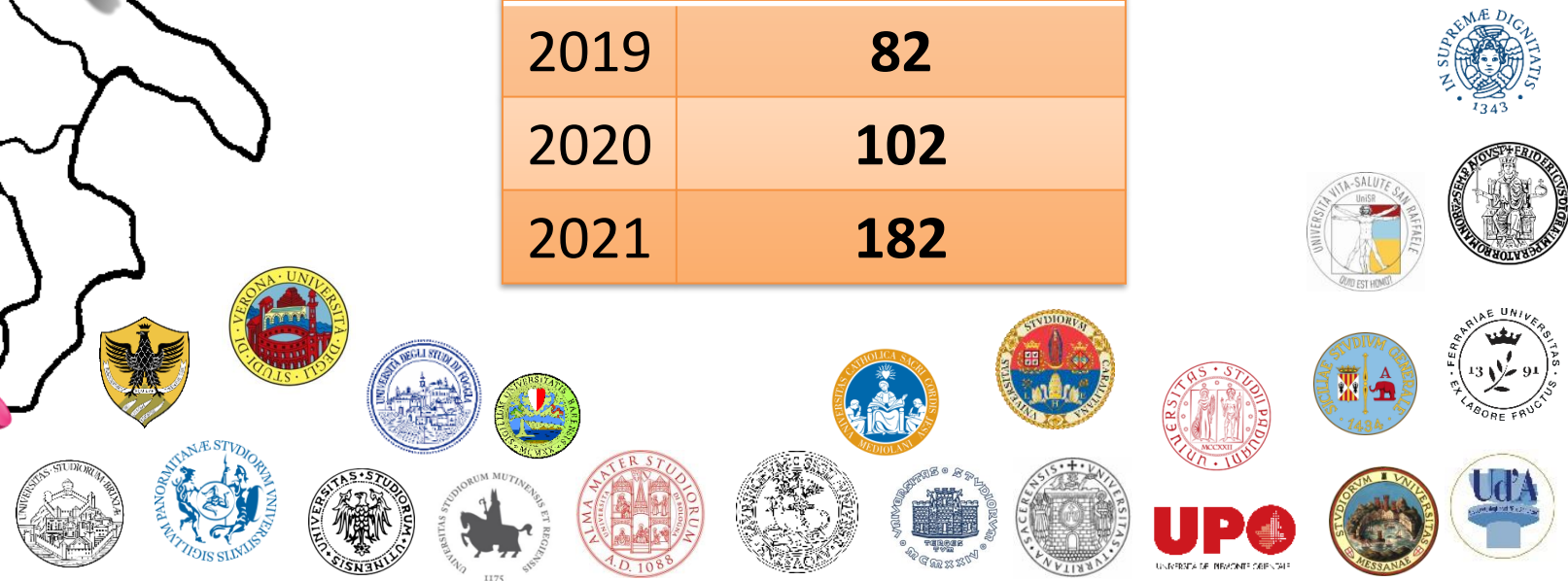
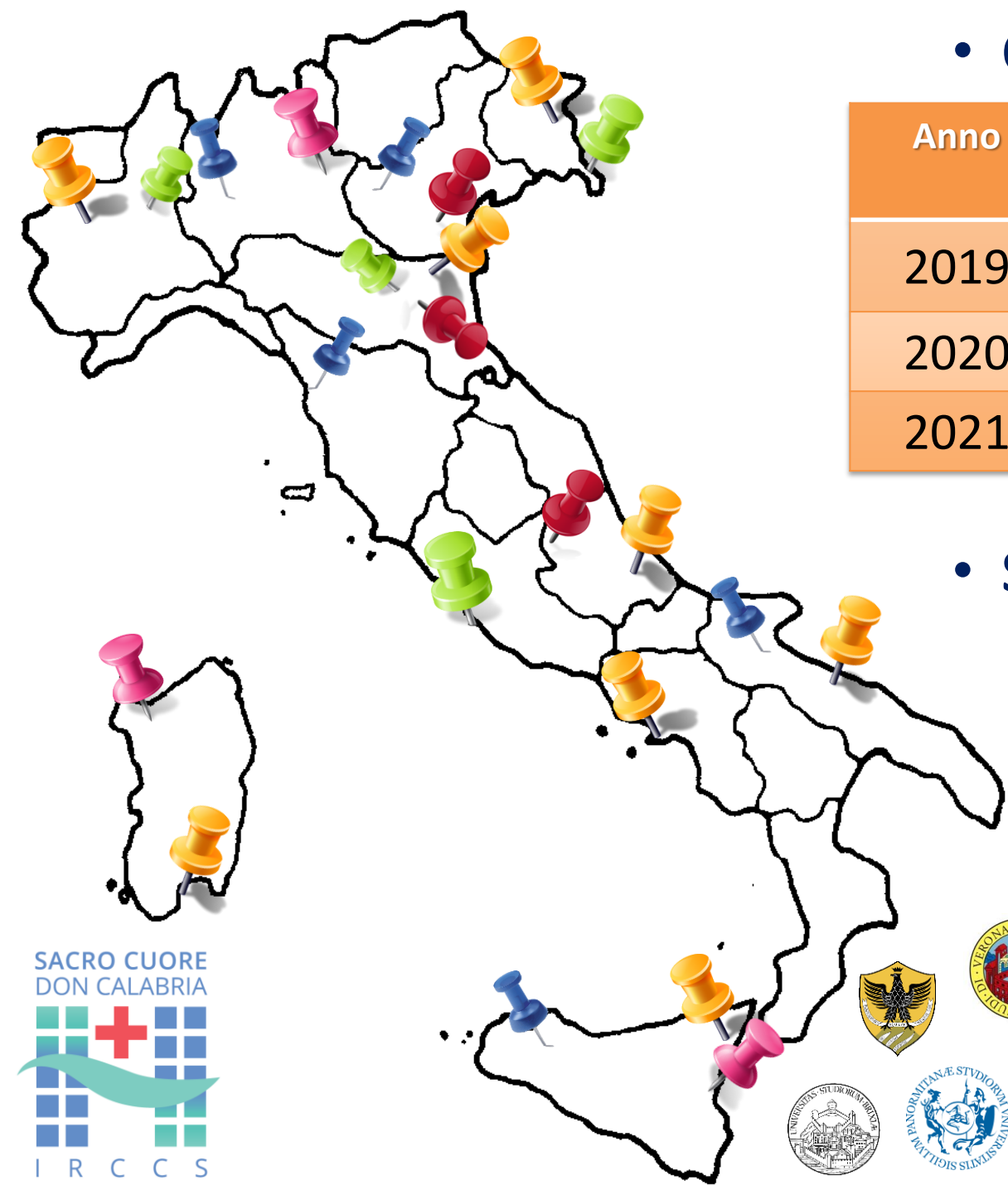


• Collaborazioni con Università

Anno	Scuole di Specialità in rete formativa	Convenzioni attivate extra rete formativa
2019	21	32
2020	21	31
2021	26	21

• Specializzandi provenienti da Università

Anno	N. Specializzandi
2019	82
2020	102
2021	182



LEFRONTIERE DELLA SANITÀ L'ateneo amplia l'offerta formativa. La sede sarà nella cittadella dell'ospedale di Negrar dove, nel giro di due anni, sorgerà un campus

Accordo storico, ci sarà la laurea in Farmacia

Intesa fra Università e Sacro Cuore. Il rettore Nocini: «Strategico nell'identificare vaccini e in interventi d'urgenza». L'ad Piccinini: «Si rafforza una collaborazione trentennale»

Laura Perina

●● L'università di Verona amplia l'offerta formativa con un nuovo corso di laurea dedicato alla formazione dei futuri farmacisti di comunità, ospedalieri e dei professionisti che operano nella ricerca e nell'industria, figure che hanno subito importanti trasformazioni negli ultimi anni e di cui si avverte in maniera forte il fabbisogno.

«Scienze del farmaco e dei prodotti della salute»: questa la definizione del percorso quinquennale a numero programmato che partirà il prossimo anno accademico 2023/24. I posti disponibili sono 60 e per le aspiranti matricole si aprirà in primavera la possibilità di sostenere l'esame d'ammissione tramite il test online Tolc.

L'iniziativa è frutto di un accordo di collaborazione sottoscritto dall'ateneo con l'Ircs

strutture specialistiche e assistenziali di Negrar, compatibilmente con le possibilità ricettive di ciascuna. «Come ha dimostrato anche l'esperienza recente della pandemia, la professione farmaceutica in tutte le sue declinazioni è fondamentale per il miglioramento dell'assistenza sanitaria offerta alla popolazione», afferma il rettore Pier Francesco Nocini.

«La scienza del farmaco ha giocato un ruolo fondamentale, tra la necessità di interventi d'urgenza, la rapidità di ricerca e raccomandazione di soluzioni farmacologiche, la scommessa di una veloce identificazione di vaccini efficaci. Alla luce di queste considerazioni ho proposto all'Ircs Sacro Cuore di mettere insieme forze e risorse per realizzare questo nuovo corso di laurea che il territorio veronese attende da anni».

L'accordo quadro è stato sottoscritto ieri mattina da Nocini e dall'amministratore dele-



I protagonisti il rettore Pier Francesco Nocini, a sinistra, e l'ad dell'ospedale Sacro Cuore di Negrar, Mario Piccinini



La cerimonia i partecipanti all'incontro a Palazzo Giuliani





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Direttore Sanitario



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9ª EDIZIONE

FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



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Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

Con il Patrocinio di



FORMAZIONE


.....2016

Con il Patrocinio di


STUDI CLINICI: METODOLOGIA


Coordinatore:
Dr.ssa Stefania Gori

Evento ECM MODULO 1
(formazione di base)
"A good foundation"



NEGRAR
22-23 Gennaio 2016
Centro Formazione
Ospedale Sacro Cuore
Don Calabria


Licenziatario n.016 (P3)

Con il Patrocinio di


STUDI CLINICI: CRITICITA' INTERPRETATIVE


Coordinatore:
Dr.ssa Stefania Gori


Evento ECM MODULO 2
(formazione avanzata)
"Confidence, directness, relevance"



NEGRAR
5-6 Febbraio 2016
Centro Formazione
Ospedale Sacro Cuore
Don Calabria


Licenziatario n.016 (P3)

Con il Patrocinio di






REVISIONI SISTEMATICHE E META-ANALISI

Coordinatore:
Dr.ssa Stefania Gori




NEGRAR
6-7 Maggio 2016
Centro Formazione
Ospedale Sacro Cuore
Don Calabria

Con il Patrocinio di




Metodologia della Ricerca Clinica Corso teorico pratico: "Come si scrive un protocollo di ricerca clinica"

Coordinatore:
Dr.ssa Stefania Gori



NEGRAR
24-25 Maggio 2016
Centro Formazione
Ospedale Sacro Cuore
Don Calabria

Scuola Metodologia Studi Clinica- IRCCS Sacro Cuore Don Calabria Negrar-
Edizione 2016

Lavori di gruppo in corso...



**Scuola Metodologia Studi Clinica- IRCCS Sacro Cuore Don Calabria Negrar-
VI Edizione-2020**

I CORSO – 28/29 Gennaio 2020 (pre-COVID-19)





Numero partecipanti alle 8 edizioni eseguite:

- **oltre 300 nelle prime 5 edizioni (in presenza)
+ 20 nei Moduli in presenza del 2020 e 2021+
35 nella 8a edizione 2022 (in presenza)**
- **>90 nei Moduli online della 6a edizione 2020**
- **>90 nei Moduli online della 7a edizione 2021**



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA CLINICA
IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria" Negrar di Valpolicella

VIII Edizione

1° MODULO

PRINCIPI DI SPERIMENTAZIONE CLINICA

NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA
28-29 GENNAIO 2022

2022

Scuola Metodologia Studi Clinica- IRCCS Sacro Cuore Don Calabria Negrar-

VIII Edizione-2022

I CORSO – 28/29 Gennaio 2022





SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE

FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

Con il Patrocinio di





SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE

FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School)

B1- LETTURA DI UN TRIAL CLINICO

20-21 gennaio 2023

B2- PREPARAZIONE DI UN PROTOCOLLO DI RICERCA CLINICA

17-18 febbraio 2023

MODULI SPECIALISTICI

S1- REVISIONI SISTEMATICHE E METANALISI

10-11 marzo 2023

S2-LINEE GUIDA PER LA PRATICA CLINICA

21-22 aprile 2023

S3- I CONFRONTI INDIRECTI

11 maggio 2023

S4- GLI STUDI OSSERVAZIONALI

12-13 maggio 2023

LETTURA DI UN TRIAL CLINICO

20 Gennaio 2023

- 10.00-10.10 Saluti dell'amministratore delegato dell'IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria" Negrar di Valpolicella (VR)
Dr. Mario PICCININI
- 10.10-10.25 Presentazione ed obiettivi del Corso
Stefania GORI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO

SESSIONE I - NOZIONI DI BASE

- 10.25-10.45 Etica della ricerca
Fabrizio NICOLIS
- 10.45-11.45 Quesito clinico di riferimento. Fasi della sperimentazione clinica. Disegni di studio osservazionali ed interventistici
Emilio BRIA
- 11.45-12.00 Discussione
- 12.00-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-15.15 Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 15.15-16.15 Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)
Cristina MAZZI
- 16.15-16.30 Discussione
- 16.30-16.45 Coffee Break
- 16.45-17.45 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 17.45 Termine dei lavori della giornata

21 Gennaio 2023

SESSIONE II - VALUTAZIONE DELLE EVIDENZE

- 09.00-09.45 Rilevanza clinica
 V_s significatività statistica
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 09.45-10.15 Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 10.15-10.30 Discussione
- 10.30-10.45 Coffee Break
- 10.45-11.15 Affidabilità delle prove (rischio di bias, imprecisione degli effetti)
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.15-12.00 Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo: "Lettura di uno studio clinico"
Ettore D'ARGENTO
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 12.00-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 13.00-13.30 Compilazione questionario ECM
- 13.30 Conclusione del Corso

PREPARAZIONE DI UN PROTOCOLLO DI RICERCA CLINICA

10 Febbraio 2023

- 10.15-10.30 Introduzione al Corso
Fabrizio NICOLIS
- 10.30-11.00 Modalità di svolgimento e presentazione delle proposte di protocollo e formazione dei gruppi di lavoro
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.00-11.30 Fattibilità e rilevanza (F.I.N.E.R.) dell'argomento e rationale dello studio
Cristina MAZZI
- 11.30-12.00 Definizione dell'obiettivo primario e secondari
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 12.00-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo (valido come prova ECM) e discussione degli elaborati in corso
Tutors:
Cristina MAZZI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-15.00 Definizione del disegno di studio (osservazionale V_s interventistico; superiorità V_s non inferiorità)
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 15.00-16.00 Lavoro di gruppo (valido come prova ECM) e discussione degli elaborati in corso
Tutors:
Cristina MAZZI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30-17.00 Procedure di assegnazione dei trattamenti
Cristina MAZZI
- 17.00-18.30 Lavoro di gruppo (valido come prova ECM) e discussione degli elaborati in corso
Tutors:
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
Cristina MAZZI
- 18.30 Termine dei lavori della giornata

11 Febbraio 2023

- 09.00-10.00 Definizione degli endpoints primario e secondari
Cristina MAZZI
- 10.00-10.30 Criteri di selezione dei pazienti (e dei Centri)
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 10.30-11.15 Protocollo diagnostico-terapeutico, dimensionamento campionario
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
Cristina MAZZI
- 11.15-11.30 Coffee Break
- 11.30-12.30 Lavoro di gruppo (valido come prova ECM) e discussione degli elaborati in corso
Tutors:
Cristina MAZZI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 12.30-13.00 Raccolta modulistica ECM
- 13.00 Conclusione del Corso

REVISIONI SISTEMATICHE e METANALISI

10 Marzo 2023

- 10.30-10.45 Introduzione al Corso
Stefania GORI
Fabrizio NICOLIS
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 10.45-11.30 Tipologia e obiettivi delle Revisioni della Letteratura Scientifica
Michela CINQUINI
- 11.30-12.00 Strutturazione del quesito clinico e misure di associazione
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 12.00-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-15.00 Database bibliografici e ricerca delle informazioni
Veronica Andrea FITTIPALDO
- 15.00-15.45 Selezione degli studi; *study flow*
Michela CINQUINI
- 15.45-16.15 Metodi di valutazione di autori e riviste scientifiche: indici bibliometrici classici e innovativi
Giulio ZUANETTI
- 16.15-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30-17.45 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 17.45-18.15 Discussione
- 18.15 Termine dei lavori della giornata

11 Marzo 2023

- 09.00-10.00 Valutazione del rischio di bias negli studi selezionati
Ivan MOSCHETTI
- 10.00-10.15 Discussione
- 10.15-10.30 Coffee Break
- 10.30-12.00 *Summary of Findings Tables* (S.O.F. / Tabelle Sinottiche delle Evidenze)
Ivan MOSCHETTI
- 12.00-12.45 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 12.45-13.00 Compilazione questionario ECM
- 13.00 Conclusione del Corso

LINEE GUIDA per la PRATICA CLINICA

21 Aprile 2023

- 10.30-10.45 Introduzione e presentazione del Corso
Fabrizio NICOLIS
- 10.45-11.00 Metodiche di produzione di linee guida a confronto
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.00-11.30 Dal quesito clinico alla raccolta sistematica delle prove
Michela CINQUINI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.30-13.00 La valutazione della qualità delle prove (1): *risk of bias*
Michela CINQUINI
Ivan MOSCHETTI
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-16.00 La valutazione della qualità delle prove (2): *imprecision, indirectness*
Michela CINQUINI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30-17.30 La valutazione della qualità delle prove (3): *inconsistency, publication bias*
Michela CINQUINI
Ivan MOSCHETTI
- 17.30-18.30 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 18.30 Termine dei lavori della giornata

22 Aprile 2023

- 09.00-09.30 Tabella Sinottica delle Evidenze
Michela CINQUINI
Ivan MOSCHETTI
- 09.30-10.30 Esercitazione su GRADE Development Tool (GDT) - GradePro
Michela CINQUINI
- 10.30-10.45 Coffee Break
- 10.45-11.45 Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo: "Evidence to Decision Framework e formulazione delle Raccomandazioni"
Marco MARUZZO
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.45-12.05 Metodiche di valutazione di una Linea Guida e normativa vigente
Michela CINQUINI
- 12.05-12.45 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 12.45-13.00 Compilazione questionario ECM
- 13.00 Conclusione del Corso

I CONFRONTI INDIRETTI

11 Maggio 2023

- 10.30-10.45 Introduzione al Corso
Fabrizio NICOLIS
- 10.45-11.30 Generalità e requisiti
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.30-12.00 *Indirect Treatment Comparison* (Bucher)
Michela CINQUINI
- 12.00-12.30 *Matching-Adjusted Indirect Comparison* (MAIC)
e *Simulated Treatment Comparison* (STC)
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 12.30-13.00 Discussione
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-15.45 *Network Meta-Analysis* (NMA)
Michela CINQUINI
- 15.45-16.45 La valutazione della certezza delle prove
Michela CINQUINI
- 16.45-17.00 Coffee Break
- 17.00-18.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 18.00-18.15 Compilazione questionario ECM
- 18.15 Conclusione del Corso

GLI STUDI OSSERVAZIONALI

12 Maggio 2023

- 10.15-10.30 Introduzione al Corso
Stefania GORI
- 10.30-11.00 L'impatto degli studi osservazionali
nella pratica clinica
Pierfranco CONTE
- 11.00-11.15 Classificazione degli studi osservazionali:
descrittivi Vs analitici
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.15-12.00 Studi trasversali: (*cross-sectional*)
*Punti di forza/debolezza, metodologie
di pianificazione, qualità metodologica,
conduzione e analisi*
Cristina BOSETTI
- 12.00-12.45 Studi caso-controllo
*Punti di forza/debolezza, metodologie
di pianificazione, qualità metodologica,
conduzione e analisi*
Cristina BOSETTI
- 12.45-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-15.00 Studi di coorte, con coorte parallela
*Punti di forza/debolezza, metodologie
di pianificazione, qualità metodologica,
conduzione e analisi*
Michela CINQUINI
- 15.00-15.45 Studi di *Real World*
*Punti di forza/debolezza, metodologie
di pianificazione, qualità metodologica,
conduzione e analisi*
Oriana NANNI
- 15.45-16.15 Discussione
- 16.15-16.30 Coffee Break
- 16.30-17.30 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI

13 Maggio 2023

- 09.00-10.15 Misure di accuratezza diagnostica
e validazione di un test
Valter TORRI
- 10.15-10.30 Discussione
- 10.30-10.45 Coffee Break
- 10.45-12.00 Sviluppo e validazione
di un modello prognostico
Valter TORRI
- 12.00-12.45 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 12.45-13.00 Compilazione questionario ECM
- 13.00 Conclusione del Corso



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE

NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS “Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria”

Con il Patrocinio di



UNIVERSITÀ di VERONA



Associazione Italiana Radioterapia e Oncologia clinica



ISTITUTO DI RICERCHE FARMACOLOGICHE MARIO NEGRI - IRCCS



Società Italiana di Psico-Oncologia



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

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FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

Programma

20 Gennaio 2023

- 10.00-10.10 Saluti dell'amministratore delegato dell'IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria" Negrar di Valpolicella (VR)
Dr. Mario PICCININI
- 10.10-10.25 Presentazione ed obiettivi del Corso
Stefania GORI
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO

SESSIONE I - NOZIONI DI BASE

- 10.25-10.45 Etica della ricerca
Fabrizio NICOLIS
- 10.45-11.45 Quesito clinico di riferimento. Fasi della sperimentazione clinica. Disegni di studio osservazionali ed interventistici
Emilio BRIA
- 11.45-12.00 Discussione
- 12.00-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 13.00-14.15 Colazione di lavoro
- 14.15-15.15 Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 15.15-16.15 Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)
Cristina MAZZI
- 16.15-16.30 Discussione
- 16.30-16.45 Coffee Break
- 16.45-17.45 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 17.45 Termine dei lavori della giornata

21 Gennaio 2023

SESSIONE II - VALUTAZIONE DELLE EVIDENZE

- 09.00-09.45 Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 09.45-10.15 Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 10.15-10.30 Discussione
- 10.30-10.45 Coffee Break
- 10.45-11.15 Affidabilità delle prove (rischio di bias, imprecisione degli effetti)
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 11.15-12.00 Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo: "Lettura di uno studio clinico"
Ettore D'ARGENTO
Giovanni L. PAPPAGALLO
- 12.00-13.00 Lavoro di gruppo
Summing-Up
(metodo: *What? So What? Now What?*)
Tutor: Cristina MAZZI
- 13.00-13.30 Compilazione questionario ECM
- 13.30 Conclusione del Corso



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

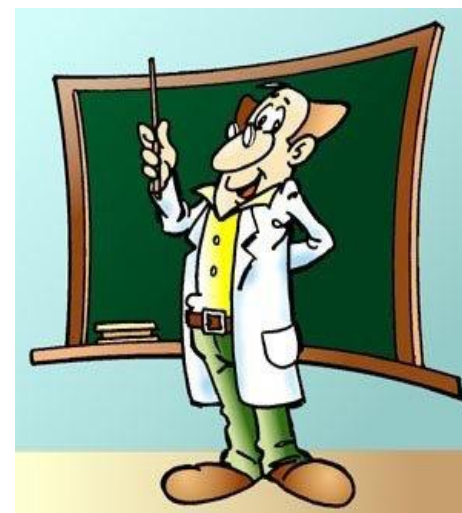
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Ricerca di innovazioni e soluzioni



Analisi degli obiettivi



Condivisione di idee



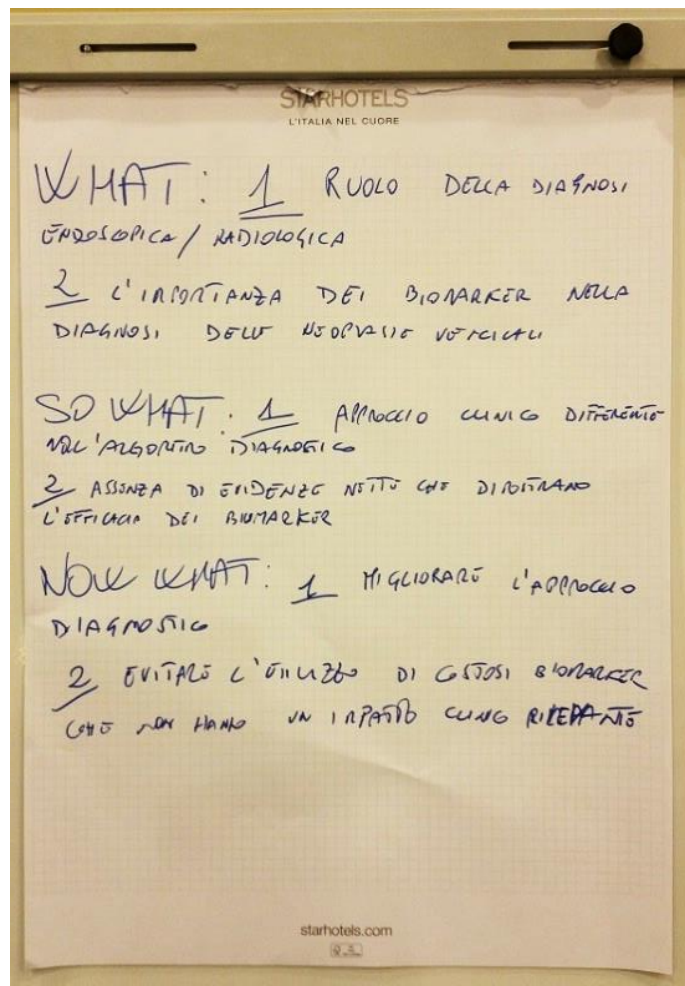
Debriefing (riflessioni e sintesi)



Soluzioni a sfide



What?, So What?, Now What?



Partendo da quanto ascoltato, cosa è emerso di particolarmente saliente / rilevante?



WHAT?

Per quale motivo le cose emerse sono così rilevanti?



**SO
WHAT?**

Quali ricadute nell'immediato per la mia professione?



**NOW
WHAT?**



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Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

- **Etica della ricerca**

- Quesito clinico di riferimento
- Fasi della sperimentazione clinica
- Disegni di studio osservazionali e interventistici
- Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto
- Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)
- Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)



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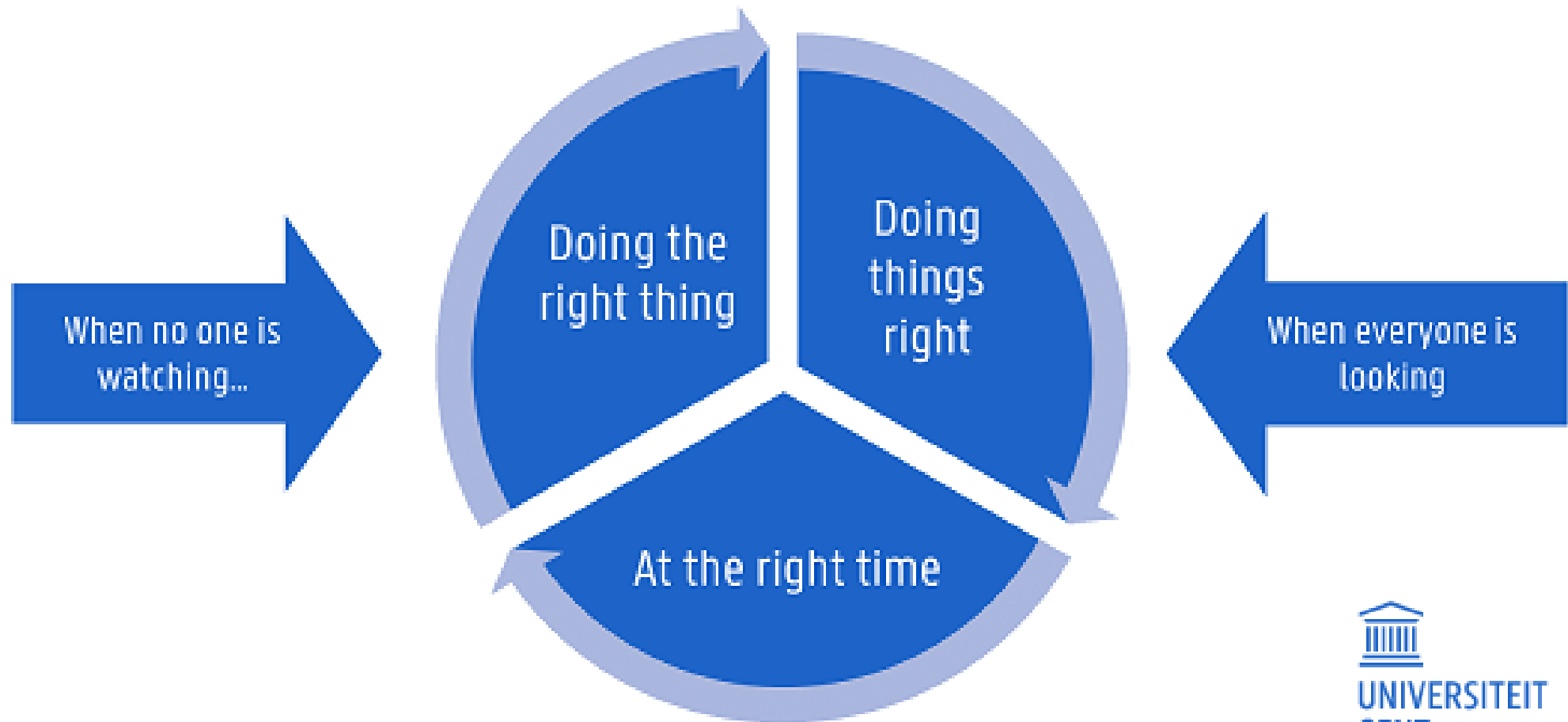
SACRO CUORE
DON CALABRIA



Etica e Integrità della Ricerca

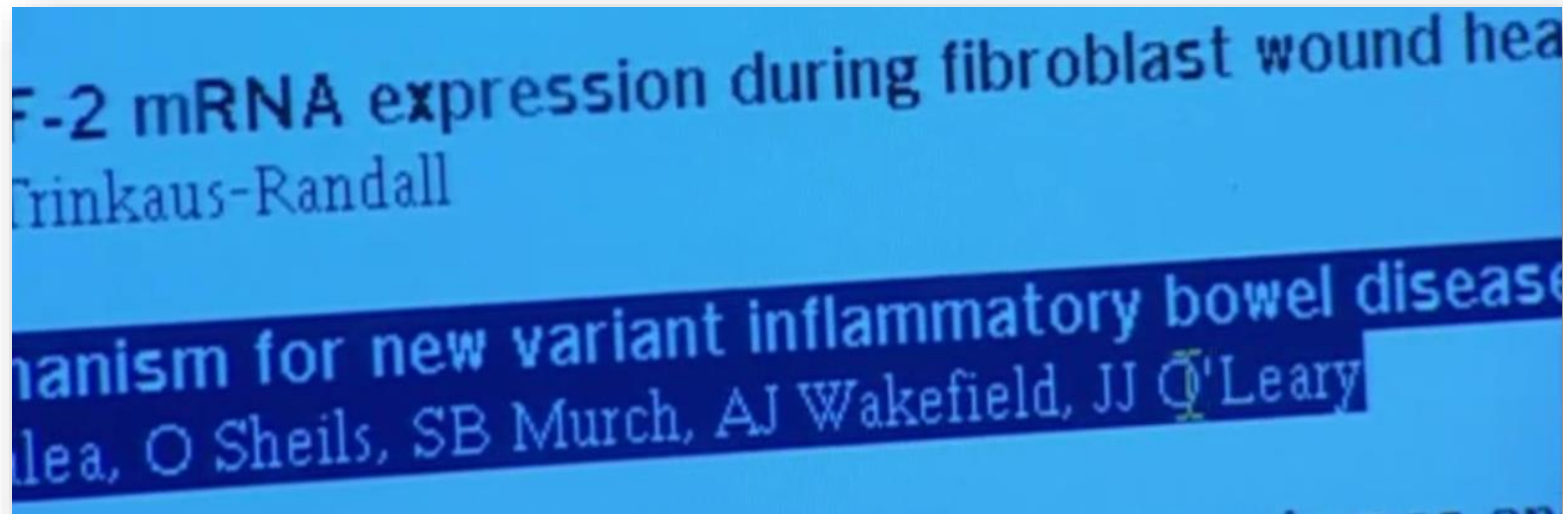
Fabrizio Nicolis
Direttore Sanitario

Research integrity: what is it about?

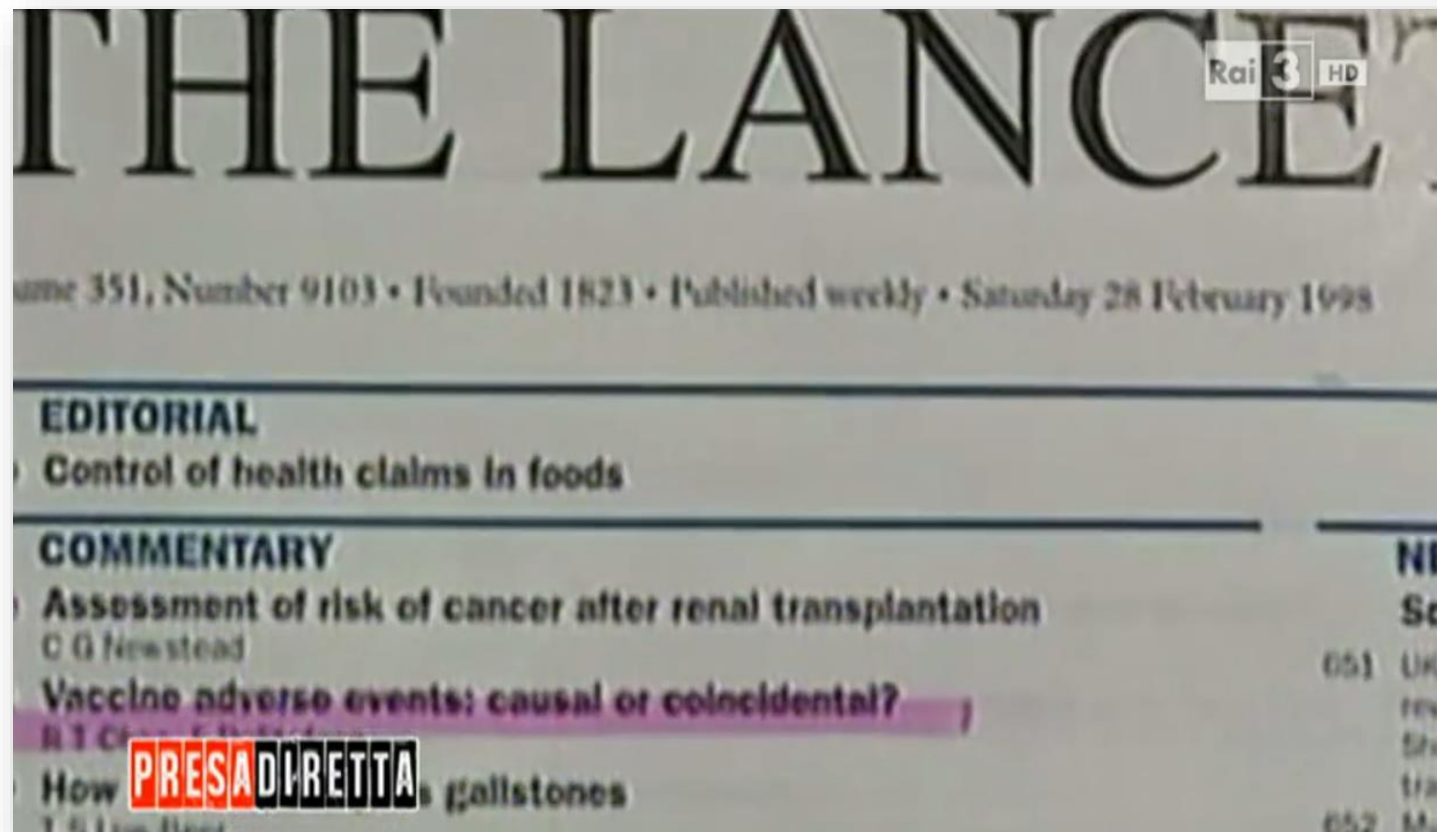




La storia di **Andrew Wakefield** inizia nel Royal Free Hospital, importante Ospedale di Londra e grande policlinico universitario pubblico.



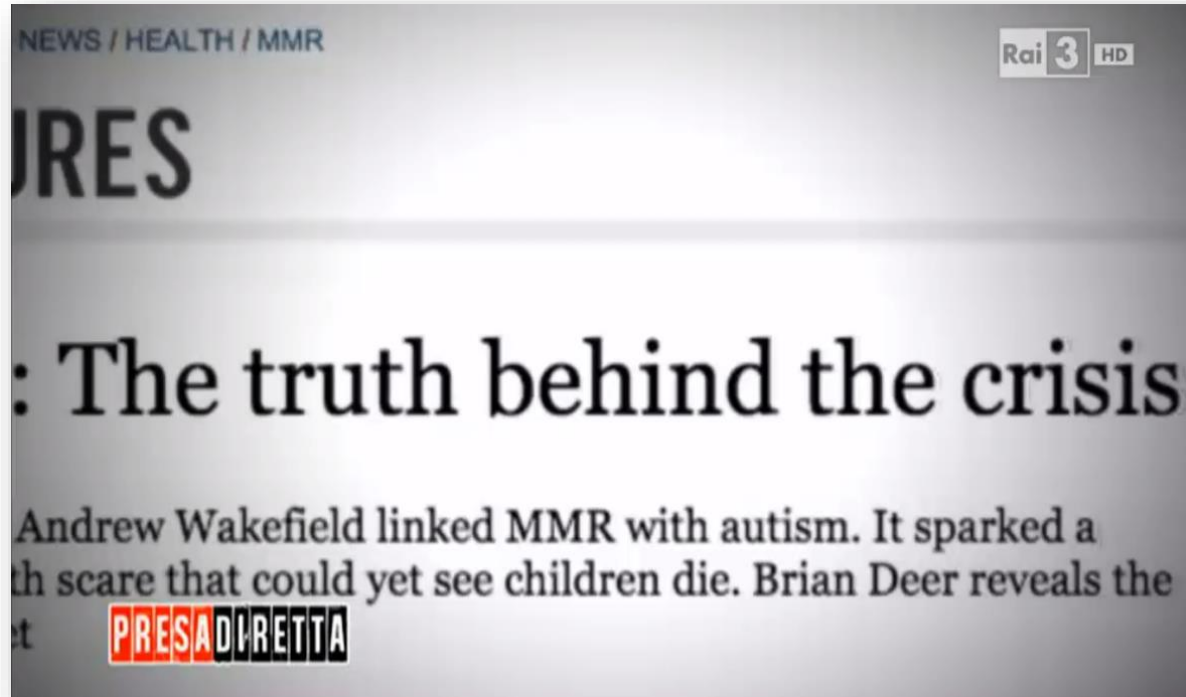
Nel luglio 1997 Wakefield, gastroenterologo, rende pubblica una ricerca che sta conducendo nell'ospedale in cui si ipotizza il legame tra l'assunzione del triplo vaccino MMR e l'insorgenza dell'autismo e del Morbo di Crohn.



I risultati della ricerca condotta su un **campione** di soli **12 bambini** vengono pubblicati 6 mesi dopo nel **febbraio** del **1998** sulla prestigiosa rivista scientifica *The Lancet* (*Impact Factor 1998: 11,793 – I.F. 2021: 202,731*).

Al primo articolo ne seguono altri su *The Lancet*, da parte della stessa equipe di ricercatori.

...a Wakefield va tutto bene **fino a dicembre del 2003**



Un' inchiesta sul **Sunday Times** rivela la presenza di **conflitto di interessi**, sia per Wakefield che per il suo team di medici (relazione con avvocati che convincevano i genitori di bambini autistici a fare causa all'azienda farmaceutica produttrice del vaccino MMR; fondazione di una società privata che vendeva kit diagnostici da usare per i bambini autistici che secondo loro si erano ammalati per colpa dei vaccini).

Si è poi scoperto che la ricerca non reggeva dal punto di vista scientifico: era piena di **gravi errori** nella **scelta dei campioni** analizzati e nelle **procedure di analisi**

The screenshot shows a web page for a retracted article. At the top, it indicates 'Volume 351, No. 9103, p637-641, 28 February 1998'. The article title is 'RETRACTED: Ileal-lymphoid-nodular hyperplasia, non-specific colitis, and pervasive developmental disorder in children'. The authors listed are Dr AJ Wakefield, FRCS, SH Murch, MB, A Anthony, MB, J Linnell, PhD, DM Casson, MRCP, M Malik, MRCP, M Berelowitz, FRCPsych, AP Dhillon, MRCPsych, MA Thomson, FRCP, P Harvey, FRCP, A Valentine, FRCP, SE Davies, MRCPsych, JA Walker-Smith, FRCP. A large red 'RETRACTED' watermark is overlaid on the page. Below the title, there is an Altmeter score of 1,059 and a DOI link: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(97\)11096-0](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(97)11096-0). The page also features a 'PRESA DIRETTA' logo and navigation tabs for 'Summary', 'Full Text', 'Tables and Figures', and 'References'. On the right side, there are 'Article Options' including PDF (942), Download, Email Article, Add to My Library, Export Citations, Create Citation, Cited by, and Request. A 'Linked Article' section is partially visible at the bottom right.

Partial retraction:
2004

Fully retraction:
2010

La rivista The Lancet decide di cancellare per sempre l'articolo di Wakefield considerandolo una vera e propria **frode scientifica**



Wakefield è stato radiato nel 2010 dal Consiglio Generale dei Medici Britannici, che lo ha giudicato “disonesto”, “irresponsabile” e in pieno conflitto di interesse nel proprio lavoro di ricerca.

Il Consiglio lo ha ritenuto colpevole di aver agito contro l’interesse dei propri pazienti, tutti bambini disabili, e di aver mentito all’editore di un’importante rivista scientifica, The Lancet.



2007

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
GLOBAL SCIENCE FORUM**

Best Practices for Ensuring Scientific Integrity and Preventing Misconduct

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an **international** organisation that works to build ***better policies for better lives***. Our goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all. We draw on 60 years of experience and insights to better prepare the world of tomorrow.



- Prima pubblicazione:
2011
- Revisione: 2017

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity

REVISED EDITION



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Academies, Berlin 2017

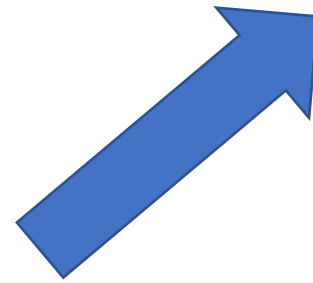
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Italia:

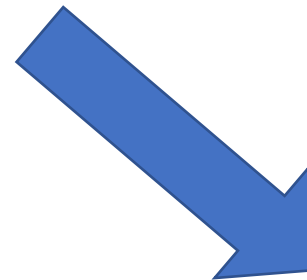
- Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei
- Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti
- Accademia delle Scienze di Torino



A) I **PRINCIPI** su cui si fonda l'integrità della ricerca



B) Le **BUONE PRASSI** di ricerca



C) Le **VIOLAZIONI** dell'integrità della ricerca

4 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH INTEGRITY

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, 2017

1

RELIABILITY

in ensuring the quality of research, reflected in the design, the methodology, the analysis, and the use of resources.

HONESTY

in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting, and communicating research in a transparent, fair, full, and unbiased way.

2

3

RESPECT

for colleagues, research participants, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage, and the environment.

ACCOUNTABILITY

for research, from idea to publication, for its management and organisation, for training, supervision, and mentoring, and for its wider impact.

4

A) I **PRINCIPI** su cui si fonda l'integrità della ricerca

1- **AFFIDABILITÀ**

nel garantire la **qualità della ricerca** che si riflette nella progettazione, nella metodologia, nell'analisi e nell'uso delle risorse.

HONESTY

in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting, and communicating research in a transparent, fair, full, and unbiased way.

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2- **ONESTÀ**

nello sviluppare, condurre, rivedere, riferire e comunicare la **ricerca** in maniera **trasparente, equa, completa e obiettiva**.

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3- **RISPETTO** per:

colleghi, partecipanti alla ricerca, società, ecosistemi, patrimonio culturale e ambiente

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3- **RISPETTO** per:

colleghi, partecipanti alla ricerca, società, ecosistemi, patrimonio culturale e ambiente

4- **RESPONSABILITÀ**

dall'idea iniziale alla pubblicazione, per la gestione e organizzazione della ricerca, per la formazione, la supervisione e il tutoraggio, e infine per i suoi impatti più ampi.

B) Le **BUONE PRASSI** di ricerca

Nei diversi contesti:

- Ambiente di ricerca
- Formazione, supervisione e tutoraggio
- Procedure di ricerca
- Salvaguardie (ambiente, rapporti tra ricercatori, etc.)
- Qualità e gestione dei dati
- Collaborazione
- Pubblicazione e diffusione
- Revisione, valutazione ed editing

C) Le **VIOLAZIONI** dell'integrità della ricerca

Le situazioni principali in cui si configura una *frode scientifica*:

- **FABBRICAZIONE**: invenzione di risultati che vengono registrati come se fossero reali
- **FALSIFICAZIONE**: manipolazione di materiali, attrezzature o processi di ricerca, oppure ingiustificata modifica, omissione o soppressione di dati o risultati
- **PLAGIO**: utilizzo dei lavori e delle idee di altre persone senza citare la fonte originaria, violando così i diritti dell'autore o degli autori originari sulla propria produzione intellettuale



Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

Commissione per l'Etica e l'Integrità nella Ricerca



ETHICS

Commissione per l'Etica
e l'Integrità nella Ricerca

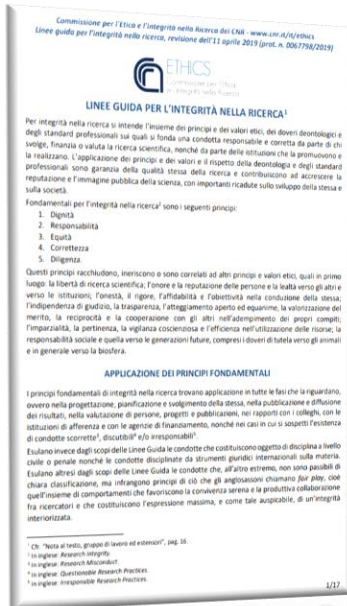
La Commissione per l'Etica e l'Integrità nella Ricerca è presieduta dal Presidente del Cnr. La Commissione è un organismo indipendente con funzioni di consulenza in materia di etica della ricerca, bioetica e biodiritto, inclusi gli aspetti etici, deontologici e giuridici ricompresi nell'ambito della integrità nella ricerca (*Research Integrity*), così come descritta in letteratura scientifica e nelle principali Carte e Convenzioni internazionali nonché nelle "[Linee guida per l'integrità nella ricerca](#)" del Cnr, approvate il 10 giugno 2015 e revisionate nel 2019.

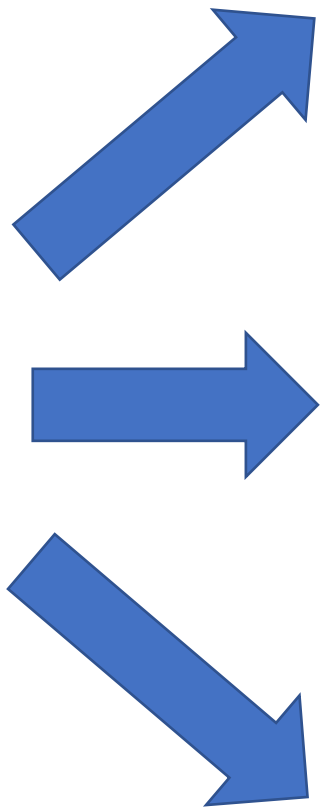
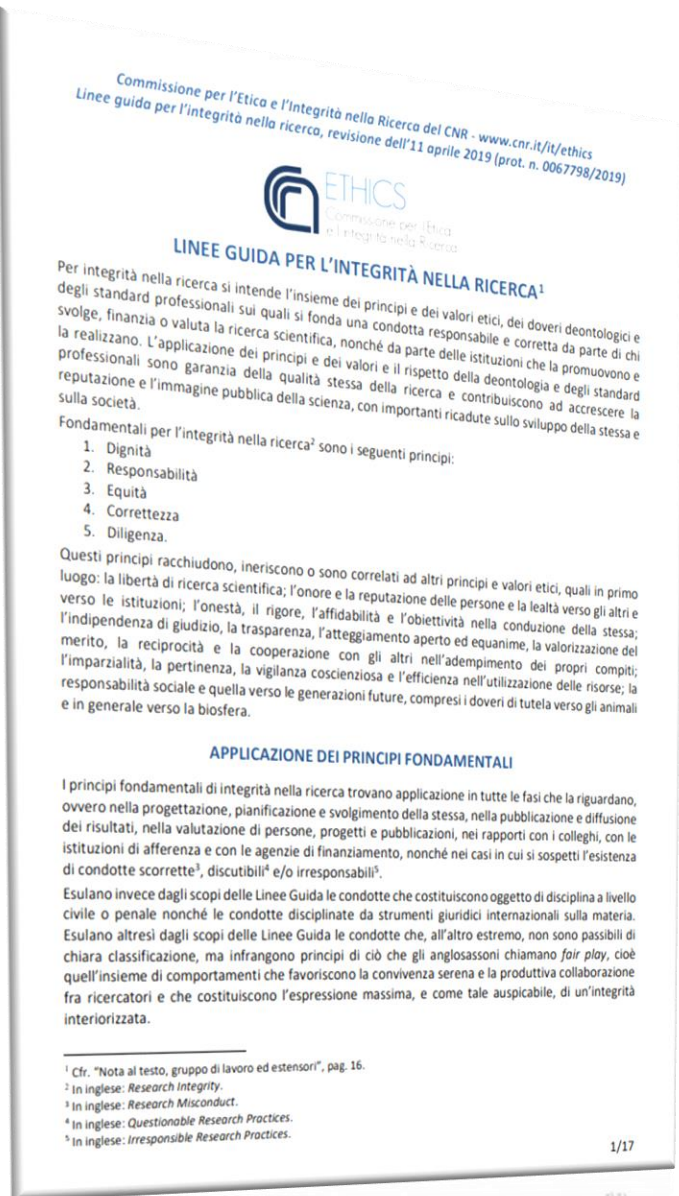


Commissione per l'Etica e l'Integrità nella Ricerca del CNR - www.cnr.it/it/ethics Linee guida per l'integrità nella ricerca, revisione dell'11 aprile 2019 (prot. n. 0067798/2019)



LINEE GUIDA PER L'INTEGRITÀ NELLA RICERCA¹





A) PRINCIPI FONDAMENTALI per l'integrità nella ricerca

B) CONDOTTE che PROMUOVONO l'integrità nella ricerca, in tutte le fasi della ricerca (progettazione, svolgimento, pubblicazione dei risultati, etc.)

C) CONDOTTE LESIVE dell'integrità nella ricerca, in tutte le fasi della ricerca

Numero pagine: 17

CONDOTTE che **PROMUOVONO** l'integrità nella ricerca

Un esempio

3. Educare all'integrità nella ricerca: le istituzioni scientifiche e chi in esse riveste ruoli di coordinamento o direzione scientifica o amministrativa contribuiscono, nelle forme consentite dal proprio ruolo, a formare i ricercatori riguardo ai principi dell'integrità nella ricerca e in generale alle responsabilità sociali implicate dalle sperimentazioni.



LINEE GUIDA PER L'INTEGRITÀ NELLA RICERCA

DECRETO LEGISLATIVO 23 dicembre 2022, n. 200.

Riordino della disciplina degli Istituti di ricovero e cura a carattere scientifico.



G.U. Serie generale - n. 304, 30-12-2022

Art. 4. Modifiche all'articolo 8 del decreto legislativo 16 ottobre 2003, n. 288

5-bis. Gli Istituti, nel rispetto della legge 31 maggio 2022, n. 62, garantiscono che l'attività di ricerca e cura si conformi ai **principi** della **correttezza, trasparenza, equità, responsabilità, affidabilità e completezza** riconosciuti a livello internazionale. Essi pubblicano tutti i dati e le fonti della ricerca in modo veritiero e oggettivo, al fine di consentire la verifica e la riproducibilità, con specifico riferimento al mantenimento dei dati utilizzati. A tal fine, per garantire la valutazione dell'attività scientifica, anche con riguardo agli effetti di quest'ultima sulla salute della popolazione, utilizzano indicatori di efficacia ed efficienza della qualità dell'attività di ricerca riconosciuti a livello internazionale. **Gli Istituti adottano e aggiornano periodicamente un codice di condotta per l'integrità della ricerca.** Il personale in servizio presso gli IRCCS è tenuto ad aderire ad un codice di condotta che disciplina prescrizioni comportamentali volte al corretto utilizzo delle risorse e al rispetto di regole di *fair competition (concorrenza leale)*.



Organisation of European
Cancer Institutes – EEIG

OECCI Qualitative Standards

Prevention and detection and handling of scientific misconduct

Standard 78

Conduct of research is defined by core principles of research integrity.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | There is a code of conduct regarding good research practices, covering the research environment, data practices and management, publication and dissemination, such as those of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity. |
| 2. | There is a procedure to deal with violation of research integrity, such as research misconduct. |

CONDOTTE che **PROMUOVONO** l'integrità nella ricerca

Un esempio

5. Comunicare con obiettività e responsabilità: nella misura consentita da ciascuna diversa forma e modalità di pubblicazione, i ricercatori forniscono **in modo scrupoloso, obiettivo e imparziale** la maggior quantità possibile di elementi e informazioni anche su aspetti quali:
- la letteratura fondamentale e le conoscenze antecedenti lo studio;
 - lo scopo originario e i metodi definiti *prima* dello svolgimento della ricerca;
 - le eventuali modifiche negli obiettivi e nelle metodologie intercorse *dopo* l'avvio della ricerca;
 - i risultati significativi conseguiti, compresi quelli negativi o nulli;**
 - le possibili interpretazioni, l'ambito di applicabilità e le limitazioni dei risultati conseguiti.

Research Letter

April 16, 2020



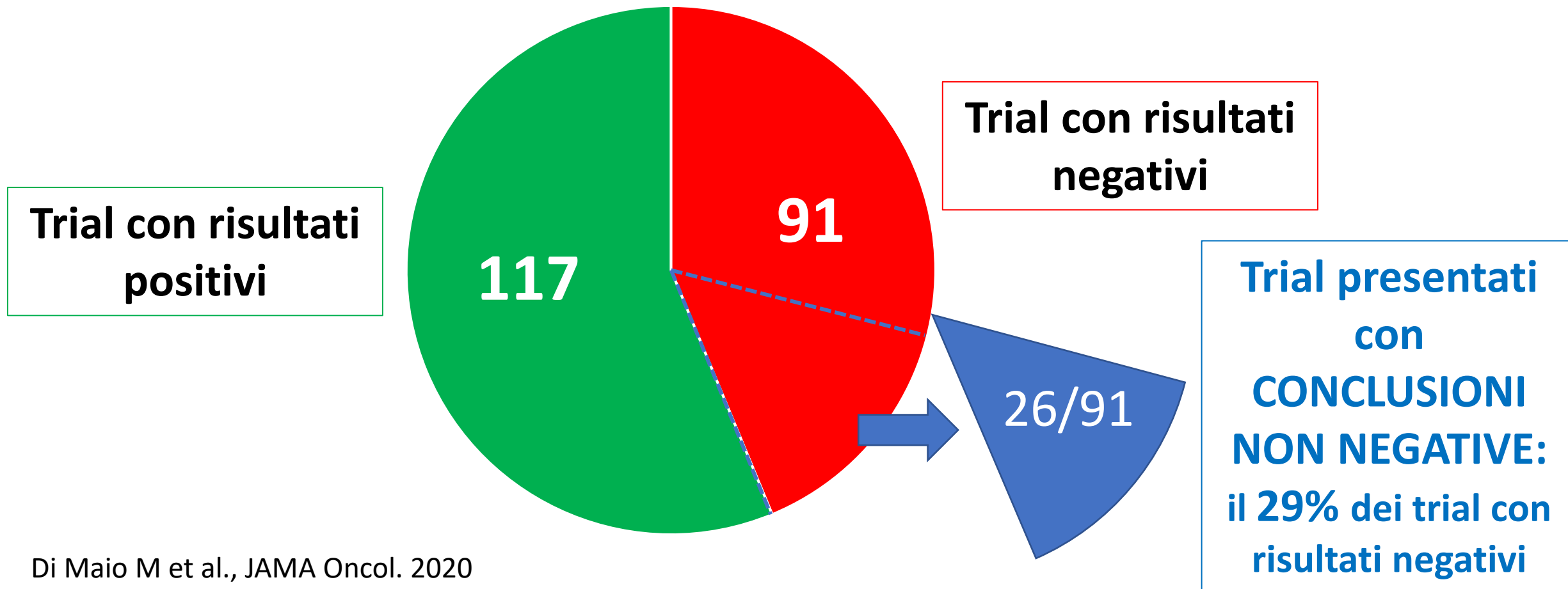
The Use of Not-Negative Conclusions to Describe Results of Formally Negative Trials Presented at Oncology Meetings

Massimo Di Maio, MD^{1,2}; [Marco Audisio, MD^{1,2}](#); Claudia Cardone, MD^{3,4}; [et al](#)

» [Author Affiliations](#) | [Article Information](#)

JAMA Oncol. 2020;6(6):926-927. doi:10.1001/jamaoncol.2020.0475

Trial Clinici randomizzati di Fase 3 Presentati ai congressi ASCO e ESMO dal 2017 al 2019 (tot=208)



I Trial con risultati negativi MA presentati con CONCLUSIONI NON NEGATIVE:

- Sono aumentati nel corso degli anni
- Sono risultati essere maggiori ai congressi ASCO vs ESMO
- Sono superiori tra i trial no-profit vs profit

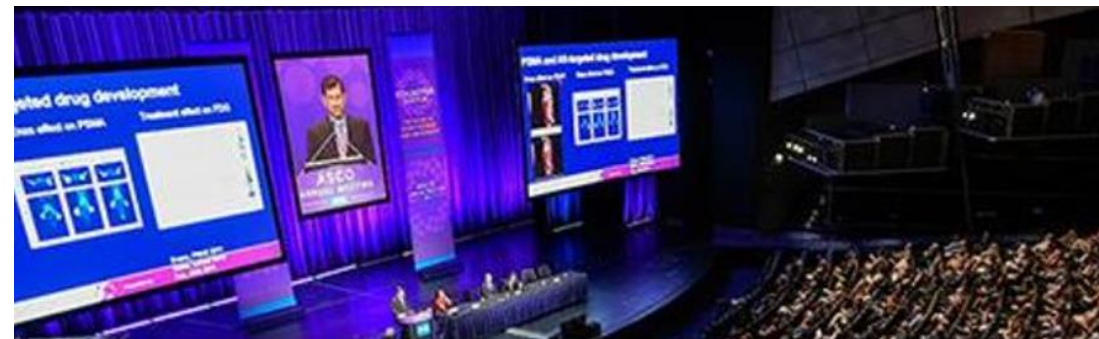
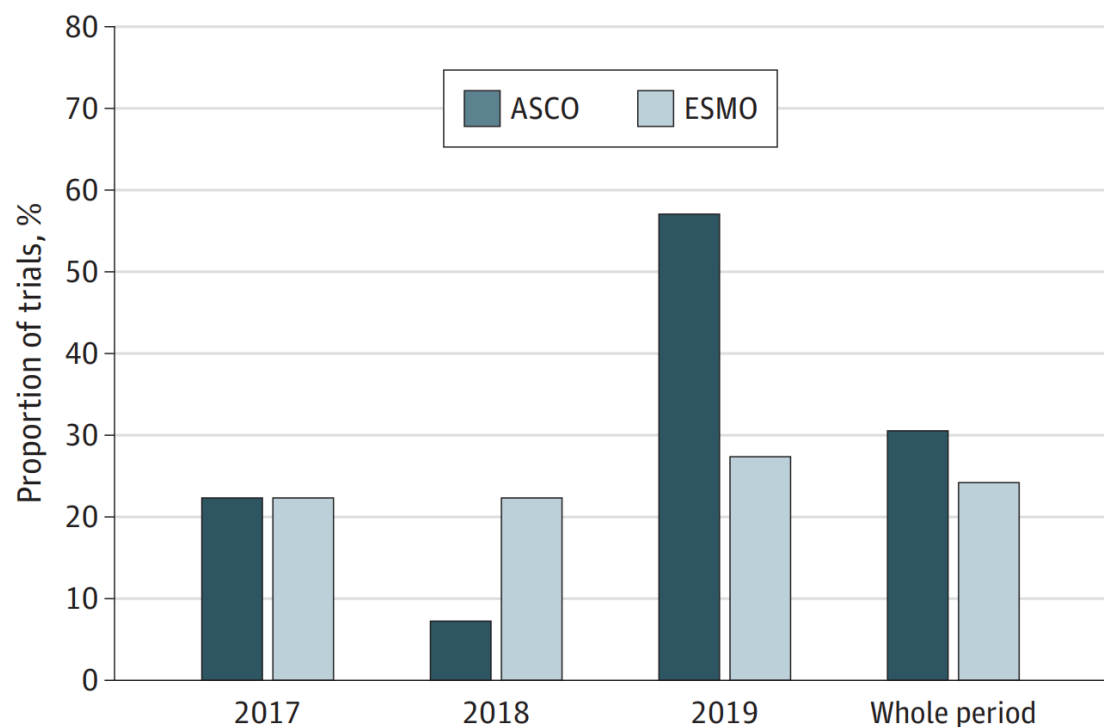
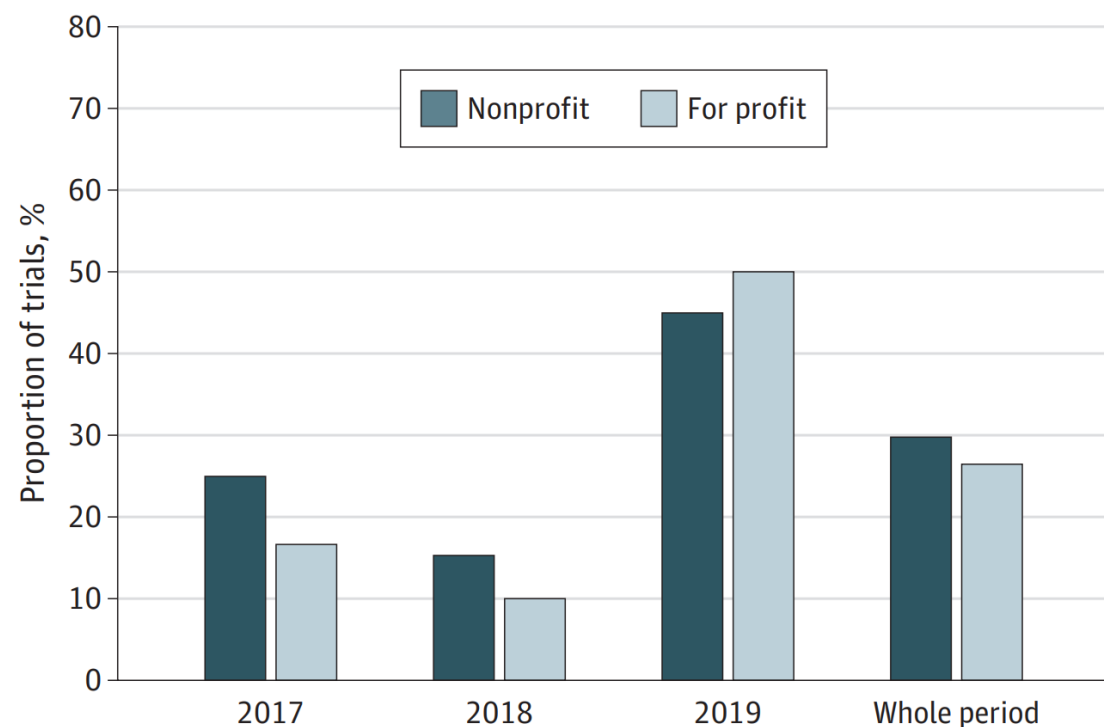


Figure. Proportion of Formally Negative Trials With Not-Negative Conclusions in Oral Presentations at American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) and European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Meetings From 2017 Through 2019

A Proportion by meeting



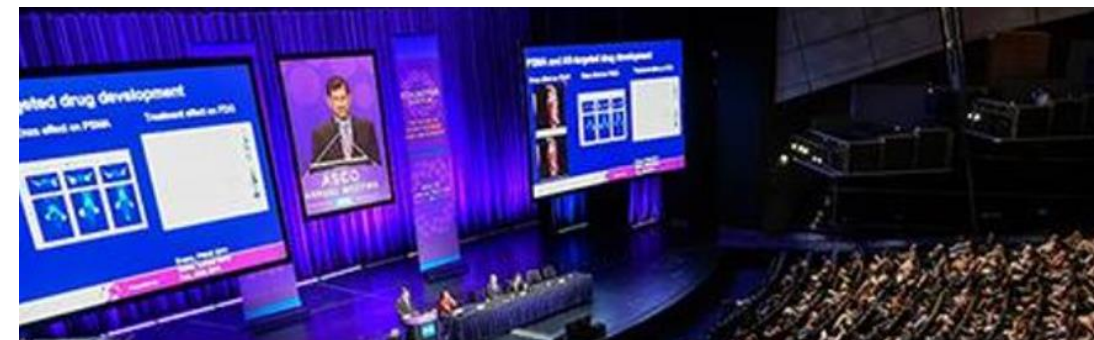
B Proportion by sponsor



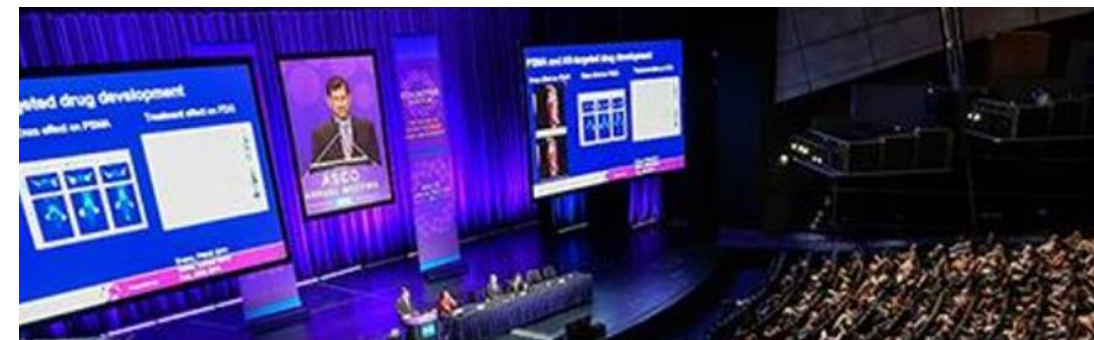
A, Proportion of trials according to meeting. B, Proportion of trials according to study sponsor.

NOT-NEGATIVE CONCLUSIONS:

- (1) numerically better outcome in the experimental arm, despite a nonsignificant P value,
- (2) emphasis on positive subgroup(s),
- (3) emphasis on positive secondary end point (s),
- (4) noninferiority interpretation of a negative superiority trial



In conclusion, we believe that more attention should be paid to the statements included in the conclusions of oral presentations at meetings, and the discussants' role is crucial. When the primary end point is not met, the word *negative* should be explicitly used.



CONDOTTE LESIVE dell'integrità nella ricerca

Un esempio

PRATICHE DISCUTIBILI E/O IRRESPONSABILI:

- ostacolare, rallentare, o sabotare indirettamente e involontariamente il lavoro dei colleghi attraverso la non-condivisione protratta oltre i limiti professionalmente e scientificamente giustificabili, di dati, metodi, risultati negativi di esperimenti, informazioni su errori metodologici o di altro tipo;



Joint statement on public disclosure of results from clinical trials

18 May 2017 | Departmental news | Reading time: 8 min (2142 words)

Some of the world's largest funders of medical research and international non-governmental organizations agreed on new standards that will require all clinical trials they fund or support to be registered and the results disclosed publicly. Currently, about 50% of clinical trials go unreported, often because the results are negative. These unreported trial results leave an incomplete and potentially misleading picture of the risks and benefits of vaccines, drugs and medical devices, and can lead to use of suboptimal or even harmful products

Frodi nella ricerca

Quando la scienza truca le carte



Mdr e payback
Medical devices
nella tempesta

Pag. 30

Cop27 e ambiente
L'industria prova
a limitare i danni

Pag. 36

Medicina e ricerca
Gli organi umani,
racchiusi in un chip

Pag. 68



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

Con il Patrocinio di



Etica e Integrità della Ricerca

Fabrizio Nicolis
Direttore Sanitario



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE

FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

- Etica della ricerca
- **Quesito clinico di riferimento**
- **Fasi della sperimentazione clinica**
- **Disegni di studio osservazionali e interventistici**
- Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto
- Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)
- Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)

SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA 2023 - 9^a Edizione 'Lettura di un Trial Clinico' - Sessione I – Nozioni di Base

- **Quesito Clinico di Riferimento**
- **Fasi della Sperimentazione Clinica**
- **Disegni di Studio Osservazionali ed Interventistici**



Emilio Bria

U.O.S.D. Oncologia Toraco-Polmonare,
Comprehensive Cancer Center,
Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS,
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Roma

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Disclosures

- **Advisory Boards / Speakers' fee:**
 - *MSD, Astra-Zeneca, Celgene, Pfizer, Helsinn, Eli-Lilly, BMS, Novartis, Roche*
- **Research Support / Grants from:**
 - *Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC), Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, A.I.R.C. (Associazione Italiana Ricerca sul Cancro), I.A.S.L.C. (International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer), L.I.L.T. (Lega Italiana per la Lotta contro i Tumori), A.I.O.M. (Associazione Italiana di Oncologia Medica), Fondazione Cariverona, Fondazione Roche, AZ Open Innovation*
- **Travels / Hospitality:**
 - *Roche, Astra-Zeneca, BMS, MSD.*



Topics

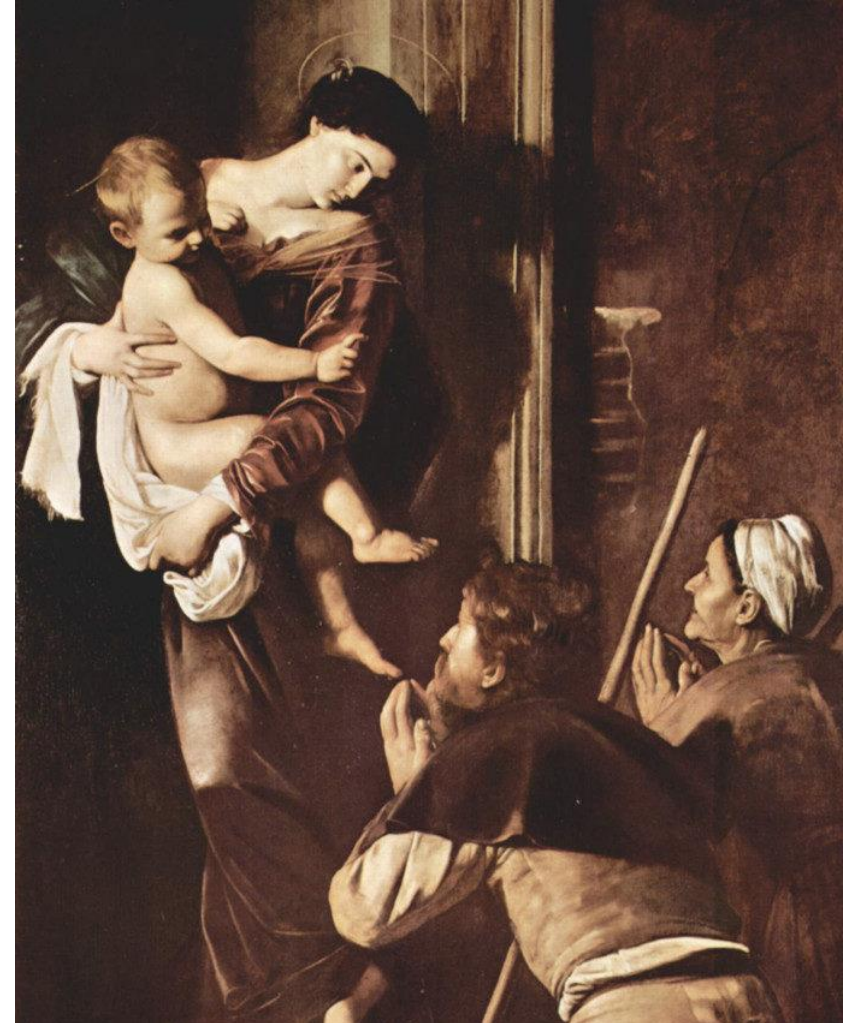
- **Quesito Clinico di Riferimento**
- **Fasi della Sperimentazione Clinica**
- **Disegni di Studio Osservazionali ed Interventistici**



'La Scuola di Atene' (Particolare, Platone [Leonardo] e Aristotele), Raffaello Sanzio, 1509-1511, Musei Vaticani, Roma

Topics

- **Quesito Clinico di Riferimento**
- Fasi della Sperimentazione Clinica
- Disegni di Studio Osservazionali ed Interventistici

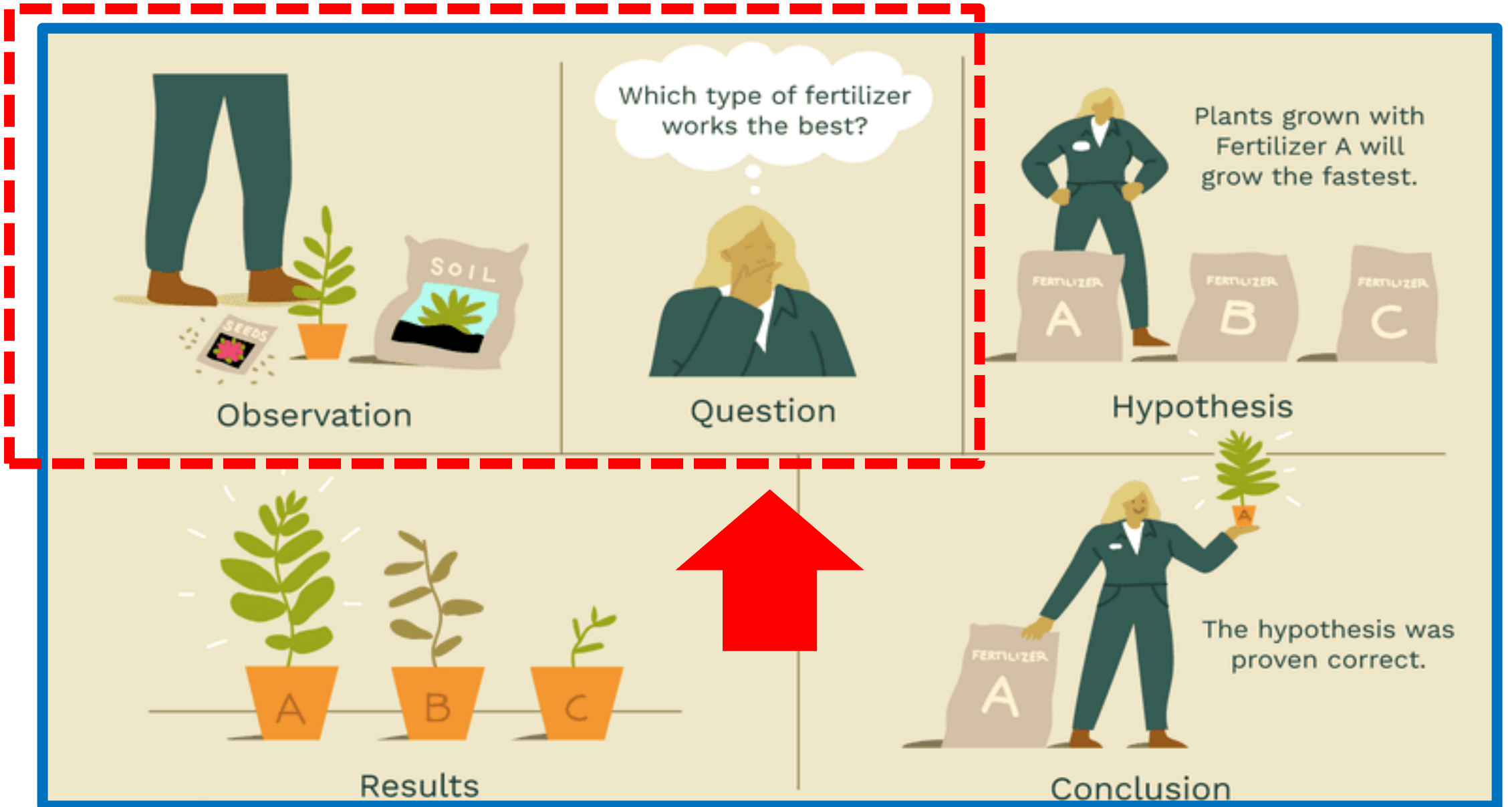


'Madonna dei Pellegrini' (Particolare), Caravaggio, 1604 – 1606, Sant'Agostino in Campo Marzio, Roma

Fattori da prendere in considerazione come primo approccio alla lettura di un articolo riguardante una sperimentazione clinica

- 1. Gravità dell'affezione.**
- 2. Efficacia/tollerabilità delle terapie disponibili.**
- 3. *Unmet need* attuali (efficacia e/o tollerabilità).**
- 4. Presumibile superiorità delle terapie sperimentali.**

Steps of the Scientific Method



Dall'Ipotesi al Disegno di una Sperimentazione Clinica

- **Premessa: la buona ricerca clinica**
- **L'importanza del disegno di studio**
 - **Descrizione dei dati e inferenza statistica**
 - **L'importanza della numerosità campionaria**
 - **La rappresentatività del campione**
 - **La tentazione delle analisi per sottogruppi**



'Sibilla Libica' (Particolare), Michelangelo, circa 1512, Cappella Sistina, Roma

Dall'Ipotesi al Disegno di una Sperimentazione Clinica

- **Premessa: la buona ricerca clinica**
- L'importanza del disegno di studio
 - Descrizione dei dati e inferenza statistica
 - L'importanza della numerosità campionaria
 - La rappresentatività del campione
 - La tentazione delle analisi per sottogruppi

Una buona ricerca clinica deve essere:

- 1. Scientificamente rilevante**
- 2. Metodologicamente corretta**
- 3. Eticamente accettabile**

La Buona Ricerca Clinica

- **Non è etico ciò che non è rilevante scientificamente:**
 - **Uno studio clinico deve rispondere ad un bisogno reale;**
 - **La domanda deve essere clinicamente e biologicamente giustificata.**
- **Non è etico ciò che non è metodologicamente corretto**
 - **Uno studio clinico metodologicamente non corretto:**
 - Può portare a conclusioni inutili, sbagliate, potenzialmente dannose;
 - Espone a rischi ingiustificati i malati;
 - E' uno spreco di risorse!

La Buona Ricerca Clinica

- Non è necessariamente etico ciò che è metodologicamente corretto.

Esempi:

- Quesito sostanzialmente irrilevante
- Rapporto rischi-benefici ingiustificato
- Domanda di non-inferiorità ingiustificata
- Interruzione dello studio ingiustificata



Lettura di un Trial: P.I.C.O.

Un trial clinico non dovrebbe essere *letto così com'è*, ma avendo come riferimento uno specifico quesito di particolare interesse.

P • Population
Used to first develop the health care question

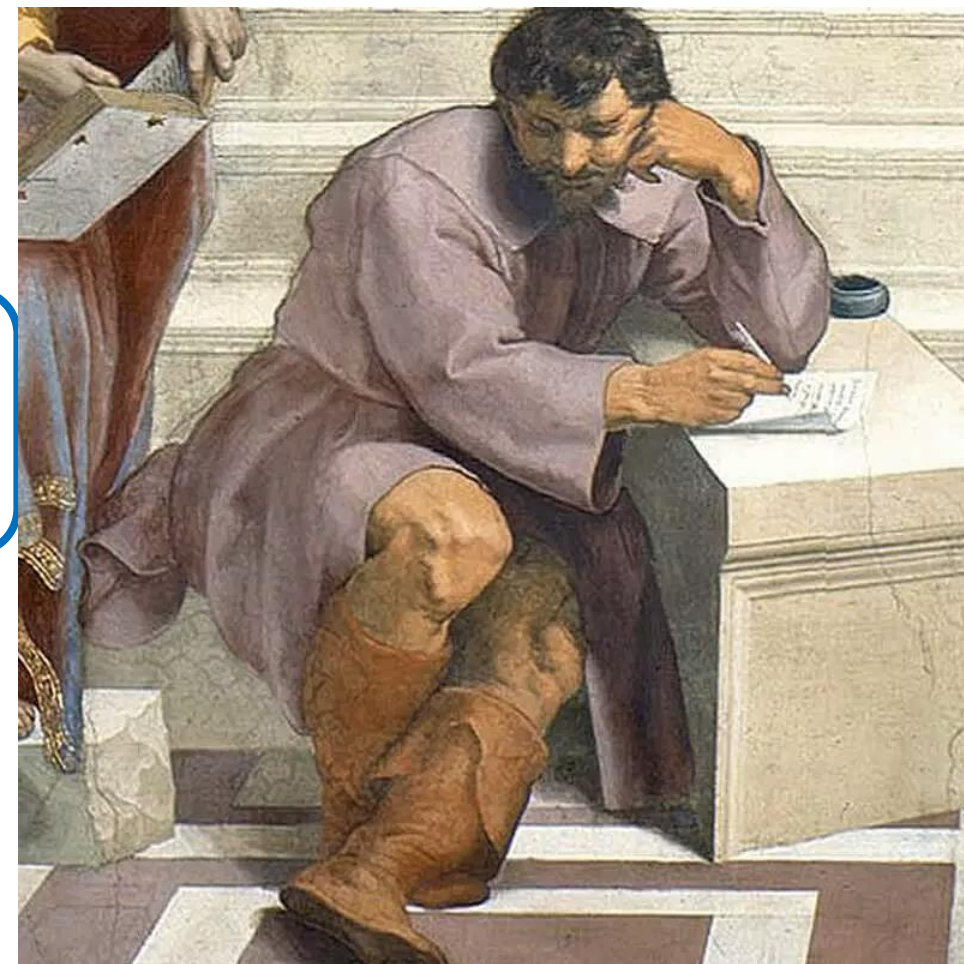
I • Intervention

C • Comparison
Used to determine if the evidence found directly answers the health care question

O • Outcomes

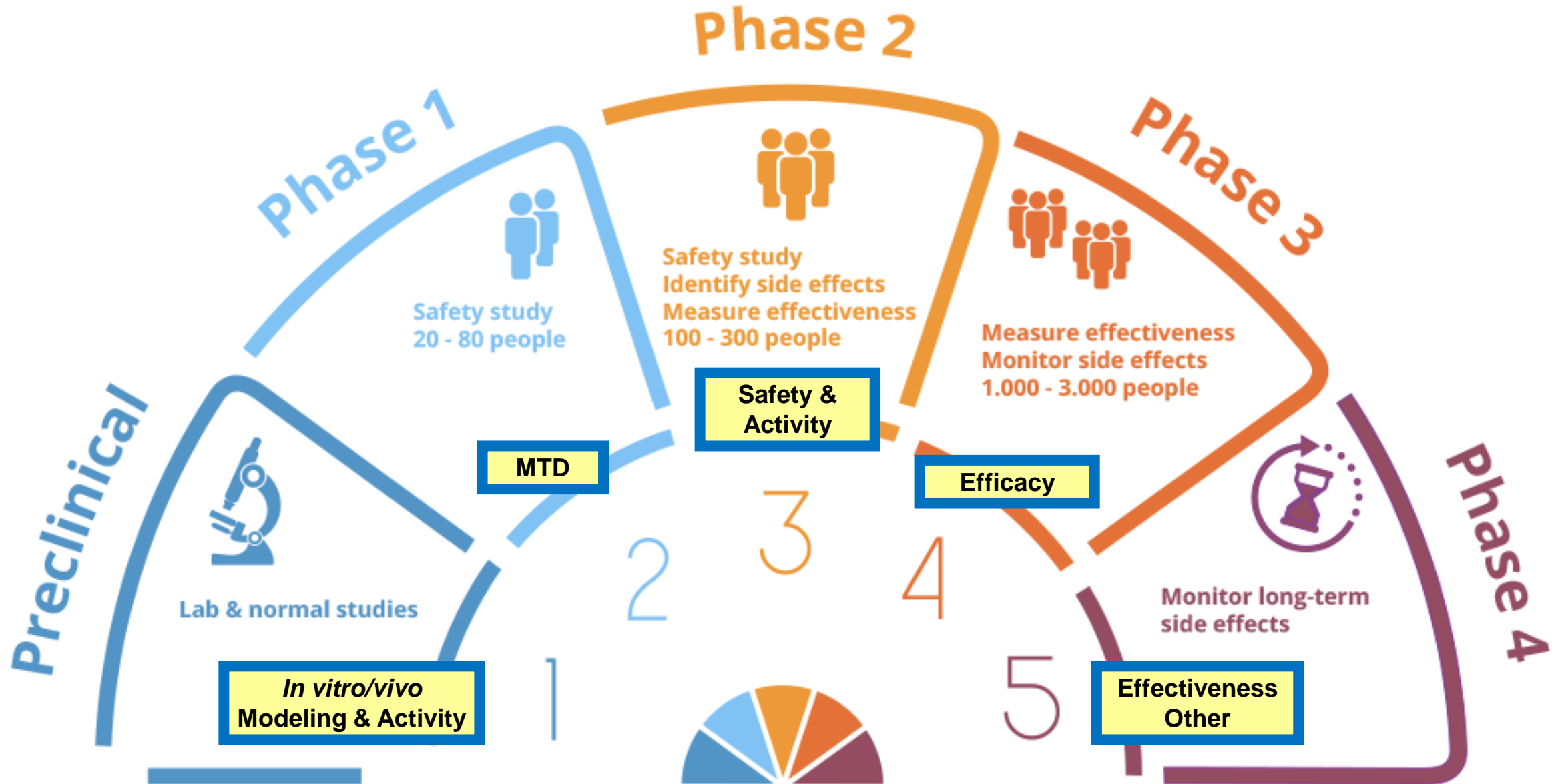
Topics

- Quesito Clinico di Riferimento
- **Fasi della Sperimentazione Clinica**
- Disegni di Studio Osservazionali ed Interventistici

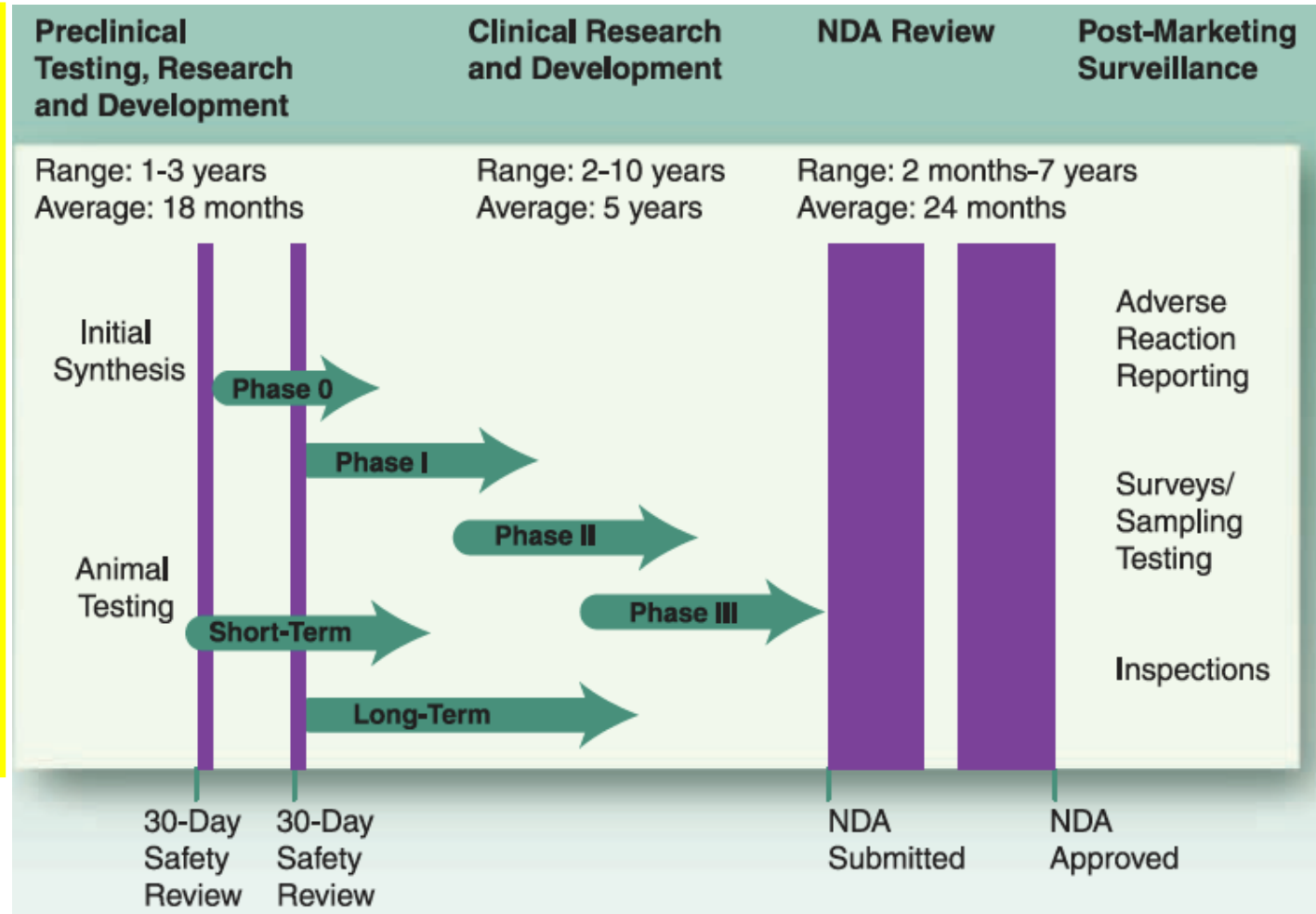
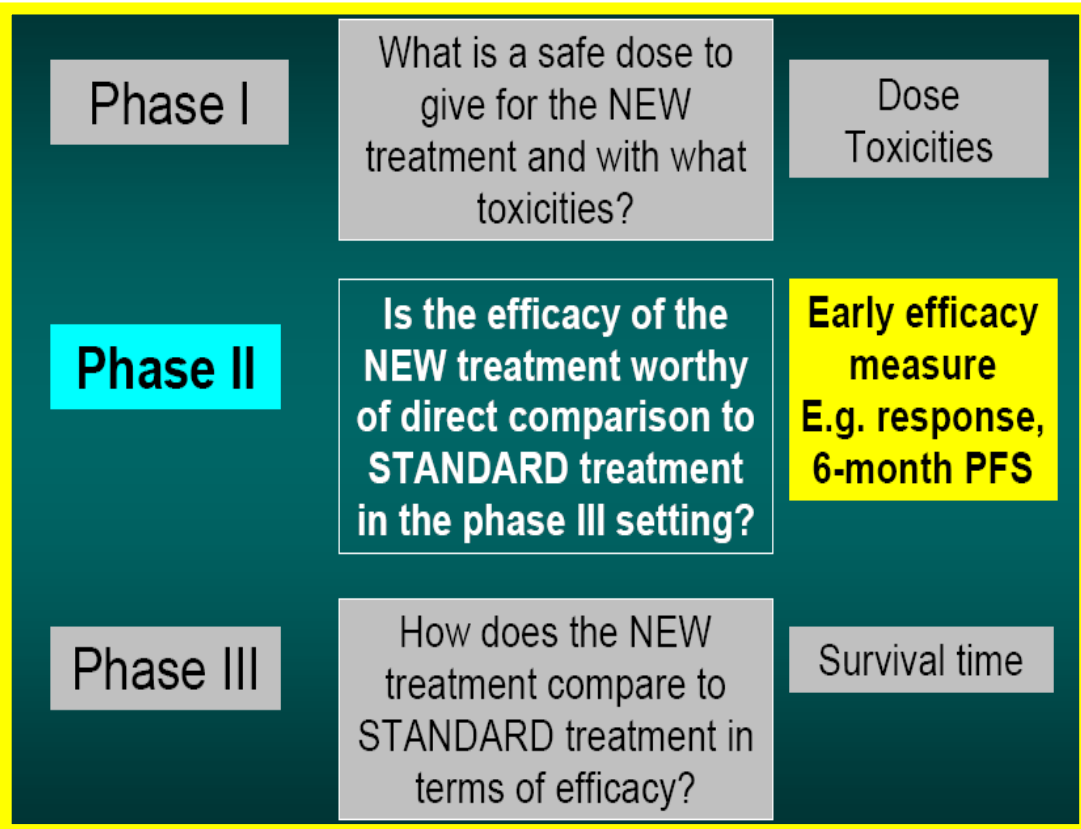


'La Scuola di Atene' (Particolare, Michelangelo), Raffaello Sanzio, 1509-1511, Musei Vaticani, Roma

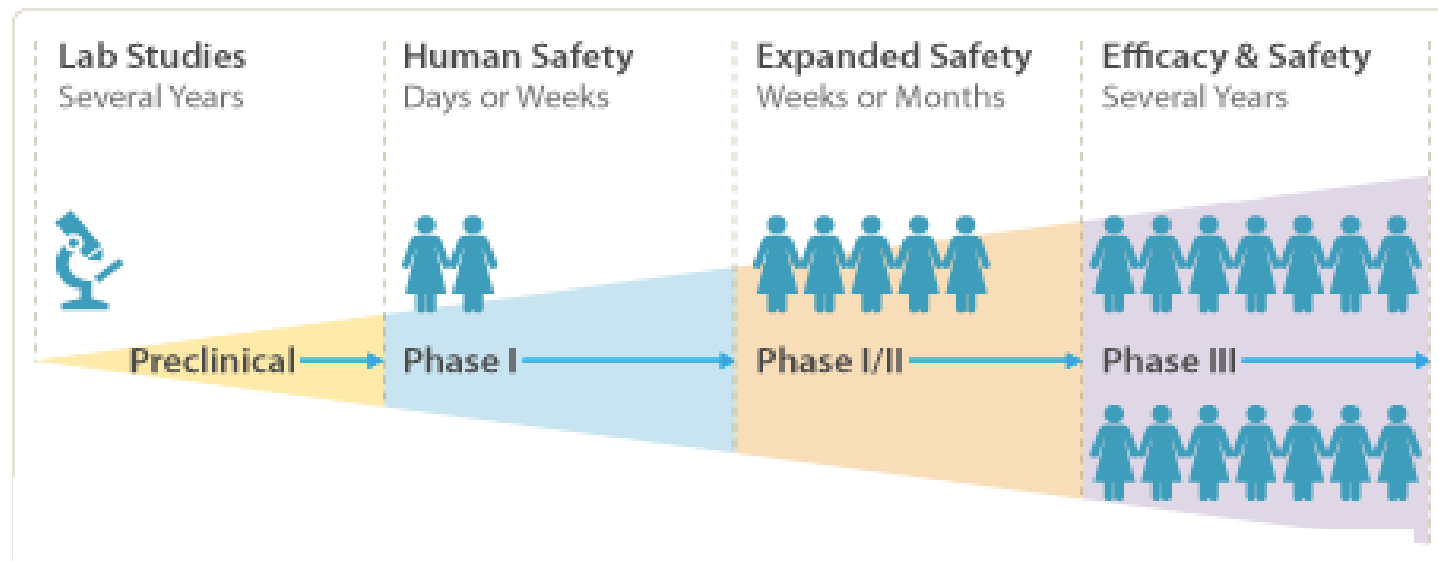
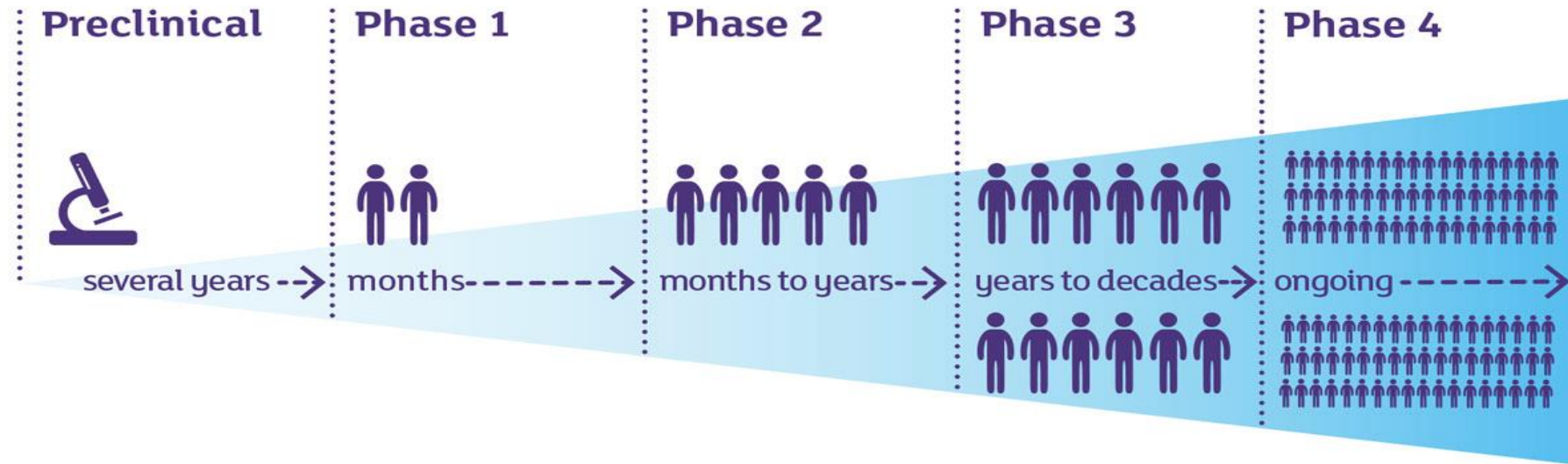
Traditional Drug Development according to Phases & Aims



'Average' Duration of Drug Development Process



'Average' Duration of Drug Development Process



Steps of the Scientific Method

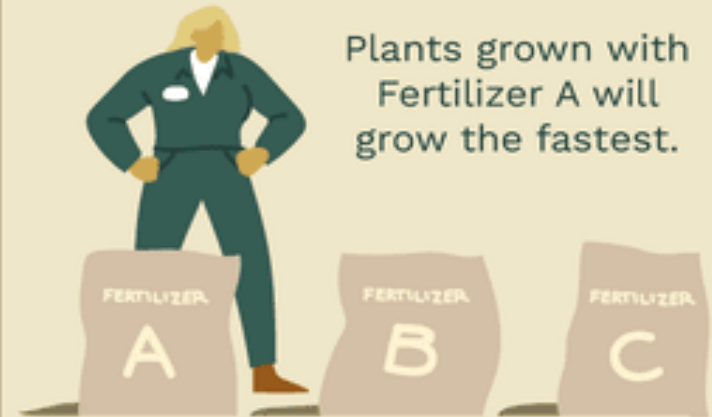


Observation

Which type of fertilizer works the best?



Question



Hypothesis



Results



Conclusion

Clinical Trials Methodology

- Objectives/aims of clinical studies are:

–**Phase I**



–Phase II

–Phase III



Clinical Trials Methodology: Topics of Phases

Phase	Objectives and Aims	Subjects	Focused on
I	Pharmacokinetics Safety	Healty Subjects Patients	DRUG
II	Activity Safety	Patient	DISEASE
III	Efficacy	Patients	INDIVIDUAL PATIENT

The Role of 'Early' phases (I-II) is CRUCIAL !

- After preclinical, in the 1-3 yrs of drug development, you can:
 - Easily control drug effect
 - Monitor either biological and clinical action
 - Identify the 'REAL' target (if present!)
- When the drug enters phase III, only early stopping can be applied (with all related concerns....)



'Profeta Isaia', Raffaello Sanzio, 1511-12, Sant'Agostino in Campo Marzio, Roma

Phase I: *Definition & Pre-requisites*

- **1st evaluation of a new cancer therapy in humans**

- *Dose-escalation studies*

- First-in-human single agent study
- Combination of novel (or approved) agents
- Combination of novel agent and radiation therapy

- **Which agents deserve to enter Phase I?**

- It is *biologically plausible* that the agent may have activity in cancer (target seems valid and agent affects it)
- Preclinical or other evidence of efficacy
- Reasonable expectation of safety (toxicology)
- Sufficient data on which to base a starting dose

Phase I Trials : Endpoints/Objectives?

- **Primary**

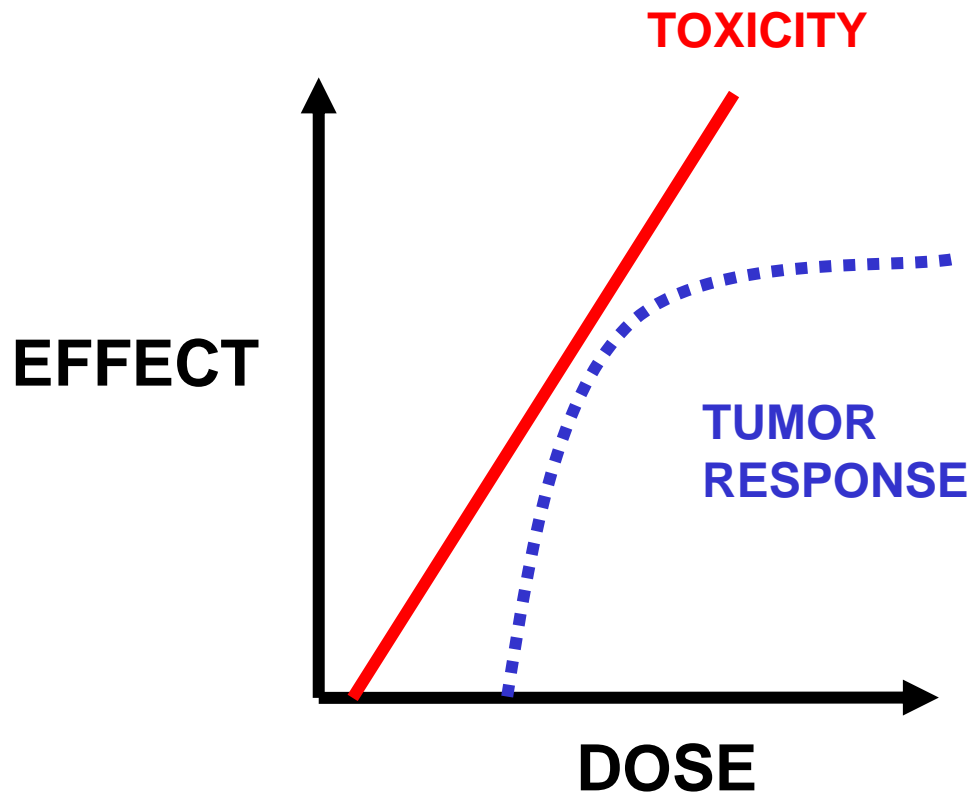
- Identify the maximally tolerated dose (**MTD**) and recommended Phase II dose (RP2D)
 - *MTD = level @ DLT (in Europe or Japan)*
 - *MTD = level below DLT (in US)*
- Identify dose-limiting toxicities (**DLTs**)
 - *Unacceptable toxicities for severity/duration, which limit further dose escalation*

- **Secondary**

- Pharmacokinetics (**PK**)
- Pharmacodynamics (**PD**)

'Old-Style' cytotoxics: Dose-Effect model

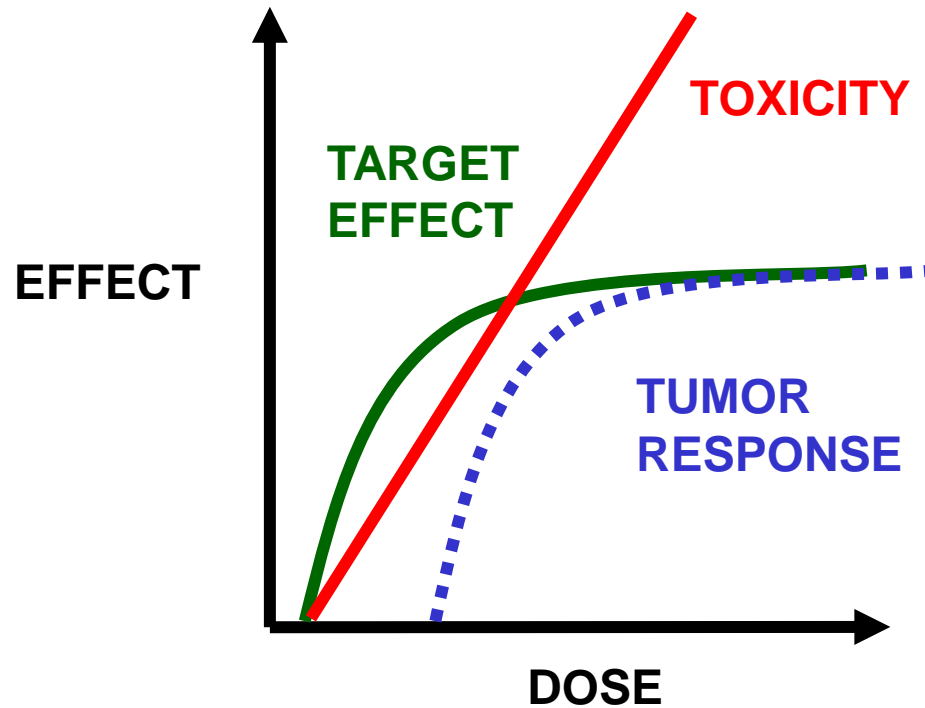
Aim of Phase I: MTD (maximum tolerated dose)



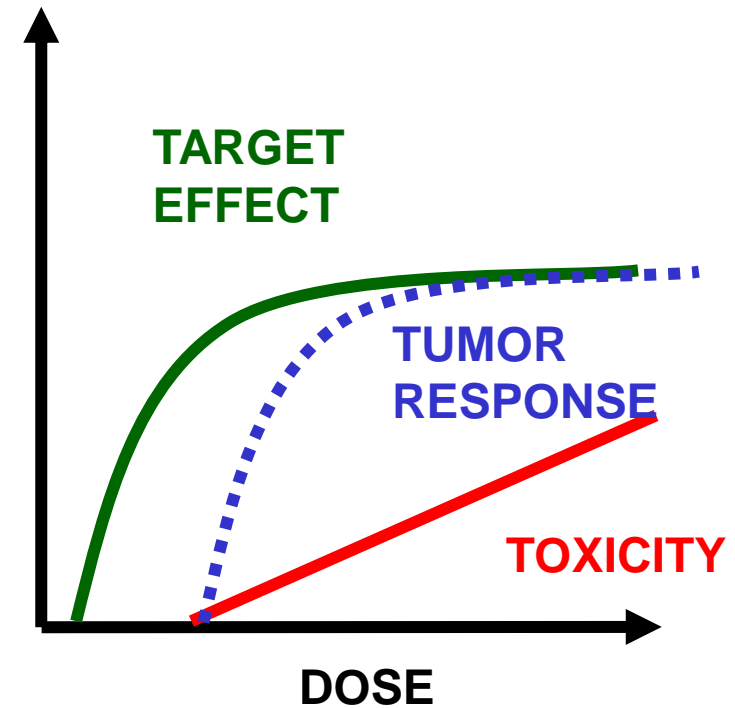
- Usually have a direct correlation between dose and toxicity
- Over a threshold, toxicity limits activity
- Phase I aims to find out MTD as conducive to the highest efficacy

Targeted Agents: Is Dose-Effect model Reliable?

Aim of Phase I: MTD or MTID (minimum target-inhibiting dose)?



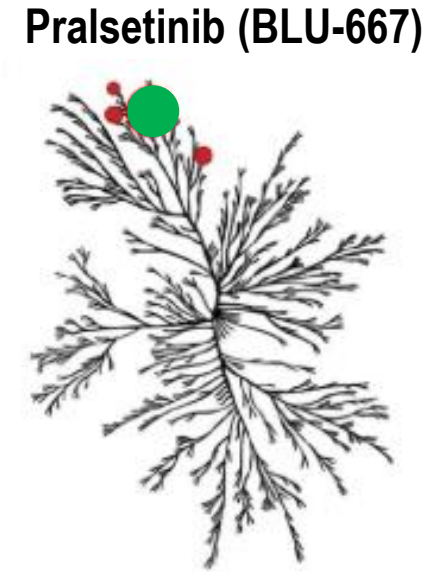
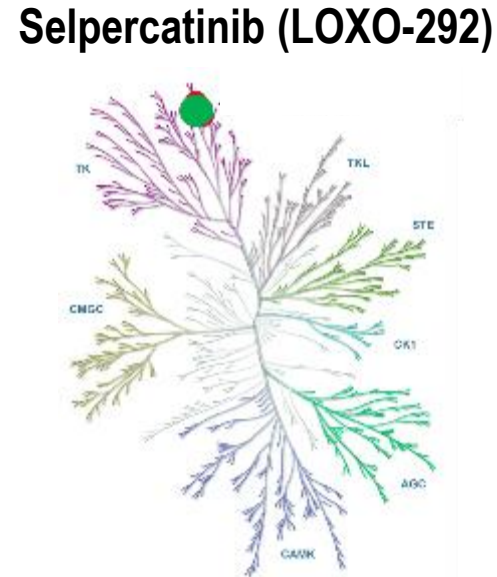
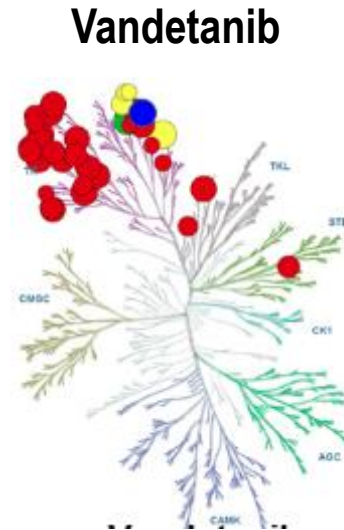
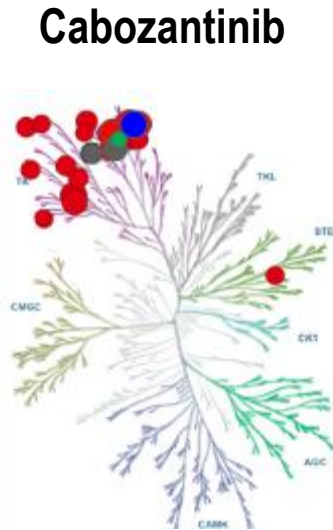
Drug Specificity: **LOW**



HIGH

More Selective *RET* Multikinase Inhibitors for *RET*-Rearranged NSCLC

- RET
- KDR/VEGFR2
- FGFR1-3/EGFR
- MET/ALK/ROS
- Other kinases



Agent	Cabozantinib	Vandetanib	Selpercatinib (LOXO-292)	Pralsetinib (BLU-667)
IC ₅₀ RET, nM*	11	4	3	0.4
ORR, %	37	18	68	58
▪ CR	5	0	2	1

*Cell free.

Phase I Study Basic Design Principles

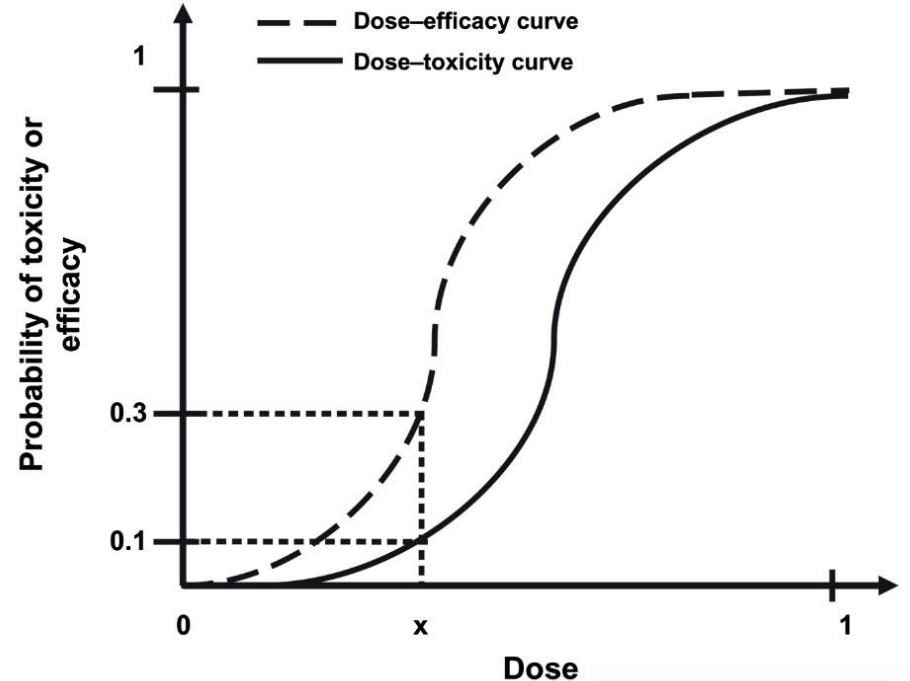
- Define a recommended dose (*dose-escalation context*):
 - **SAFELY** (minimum # of serious toxicities)
 - **EFFICIENTLY** (smallest possible # of pts)
 - **RELIABLY** (high statistical confidence)

!SAFETY TRUMPS EVERYTHING ELSE!

- Start with a safe dose
 - *1/10th of the LD10 in rodents, or 1/3rd of the minimal toxic dose in large animals expressed as mg/m²*
- Minimize # of pts treated at sub-toxic/therapeutic doses
- Escalate dose rapidly in the absence of toxicity
- Escalate dose slowly in the presence of toxicity
- Expand patient cohort at recommended phase II dose

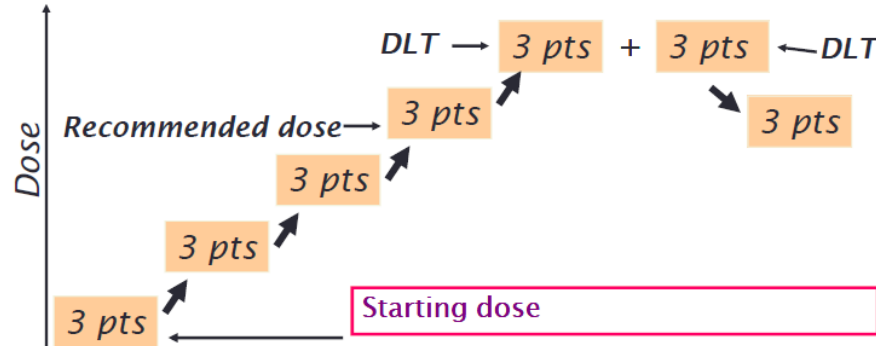
Dose Escalation Methods

- **Rule-Based Designs**
 - **Traditional 3+3 Design**
 - **Accelerated Titration Design**
 - **Pharmacologically Guided Dose Escalation**
- **Model-Based Designs**
 - **Modified Continual Assessment Method**

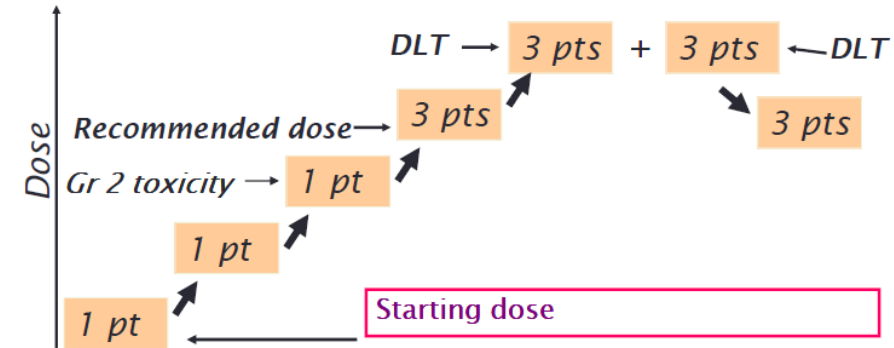


“Escalation in decreasing steps”, L. Fibonacci, 13th century

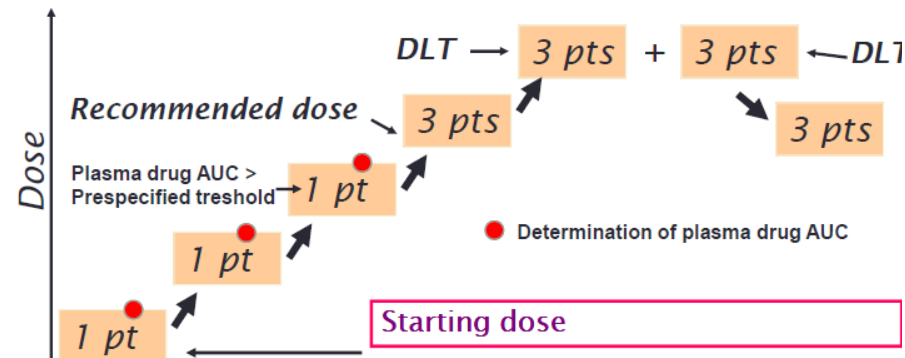
Phase I "Standard" 3 + 3 Design



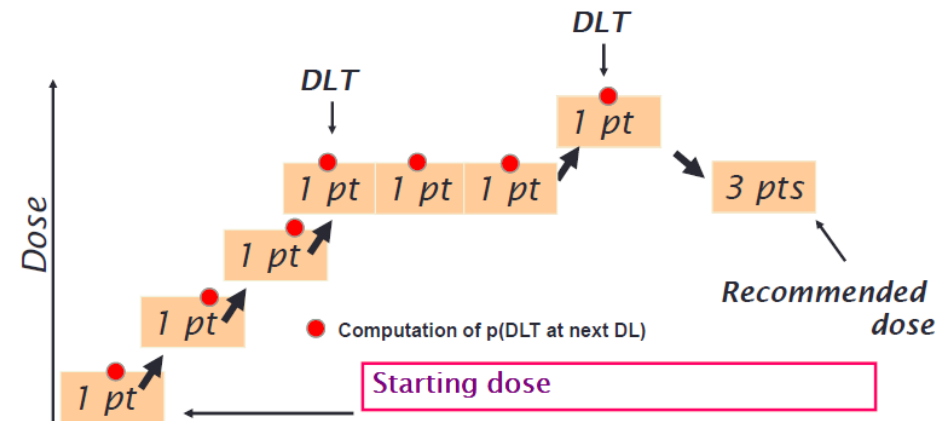
Accelerated Titrated Design



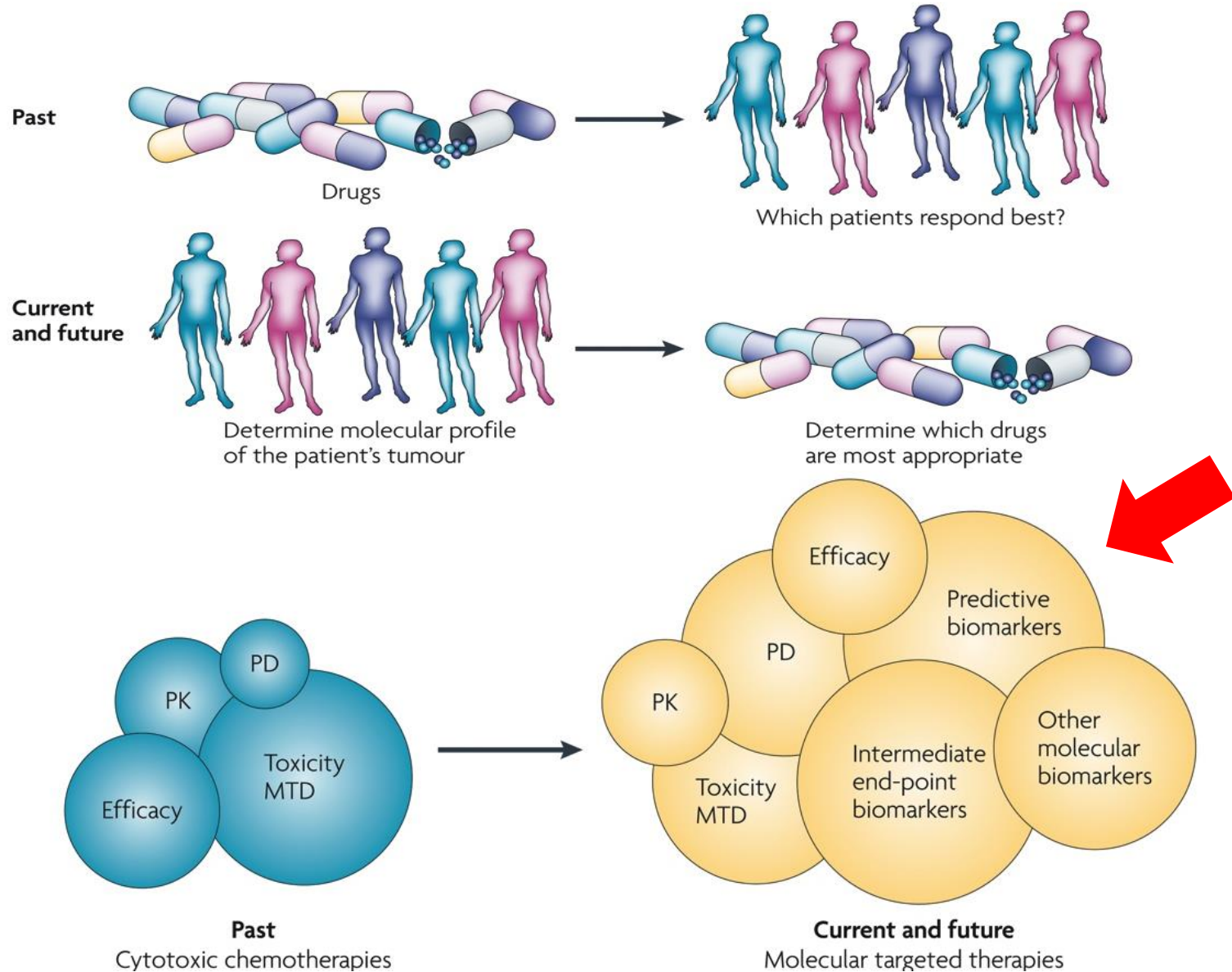
Pharmacologically Guided Dose Escalation



Model-Based Phase I Design: Modified Continual Assessment Method



Phase Is: A Changing Paradigm Overtime



Predictive Biomarkers

Together with corresponding PK data should confirm target modulation and help to identify the *biologically active dose range*

- **Advantages**

- Decrease the number of patients receiving ineffective treatments
- Minimize the need for retrospective subgroup analysis in later phase trials

- **Drawbacks**

- Might not be applicable to broad-spectrum inhibitors
- Regulatory issues
- Difficulties in recruiting
- Potential benefit in unselected population could be missed - prevalence

Recent examples:

- EML4-ALK fusion – ALK/MET inhibitors *Crizotinib, Alectinib, other*
- V600E BRAF mutation – BRAF inhibitor (*Dabrafenib + Trametinib*)

Clinical Trials Methodology

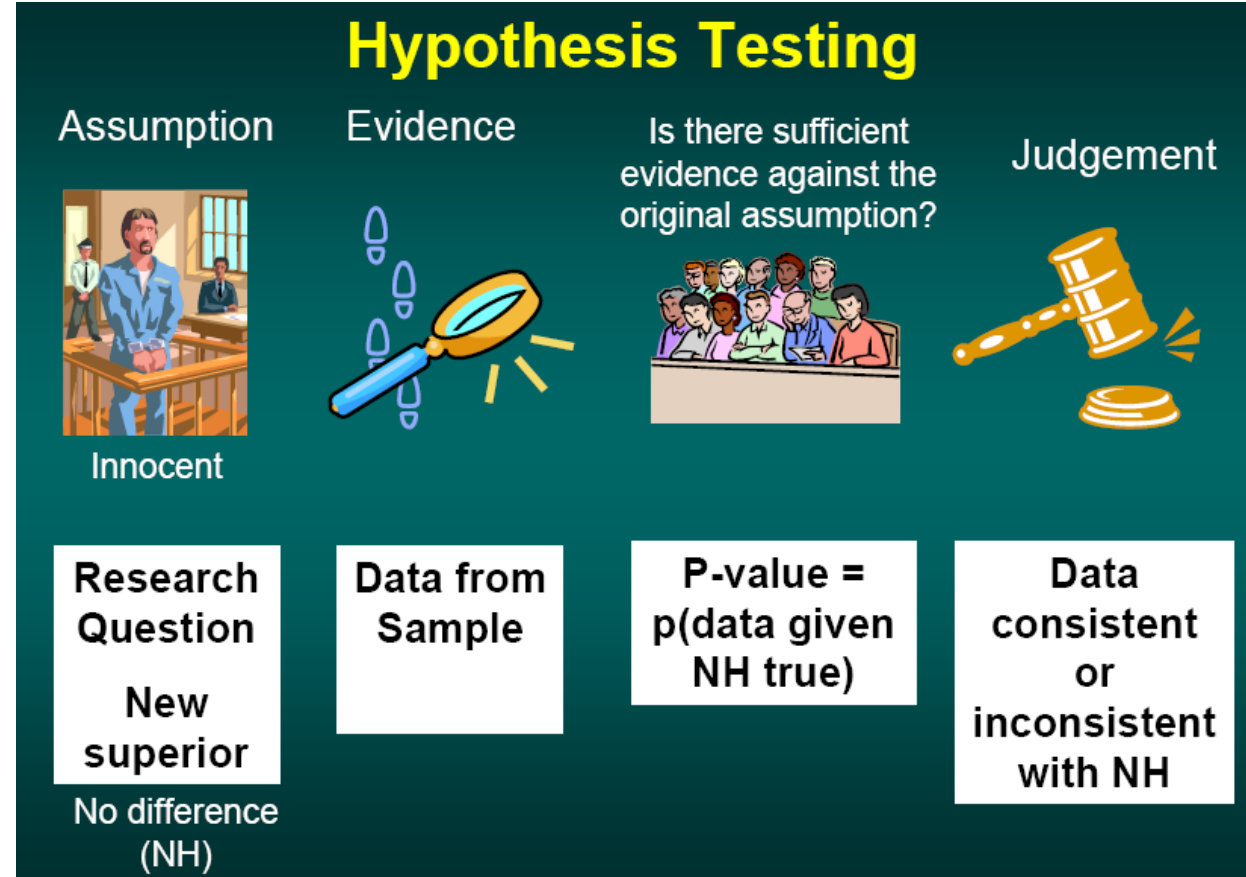
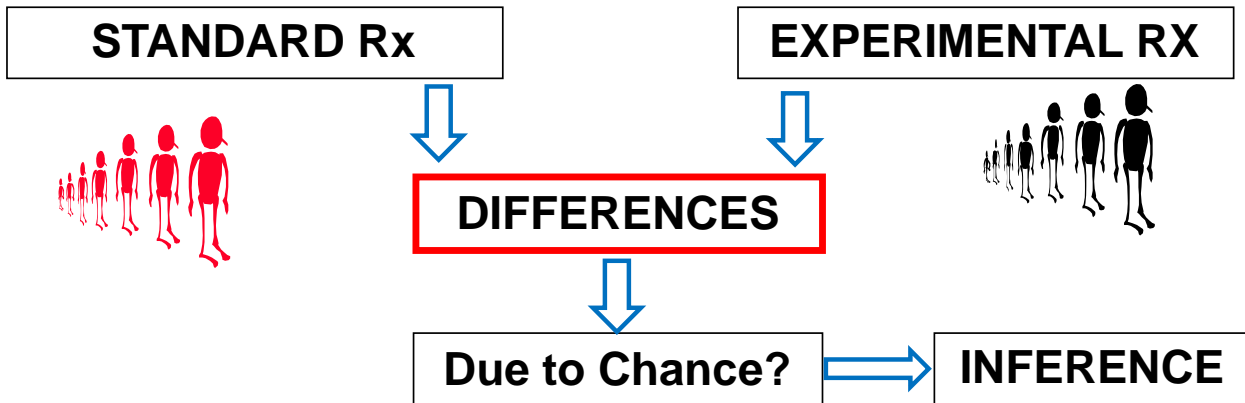
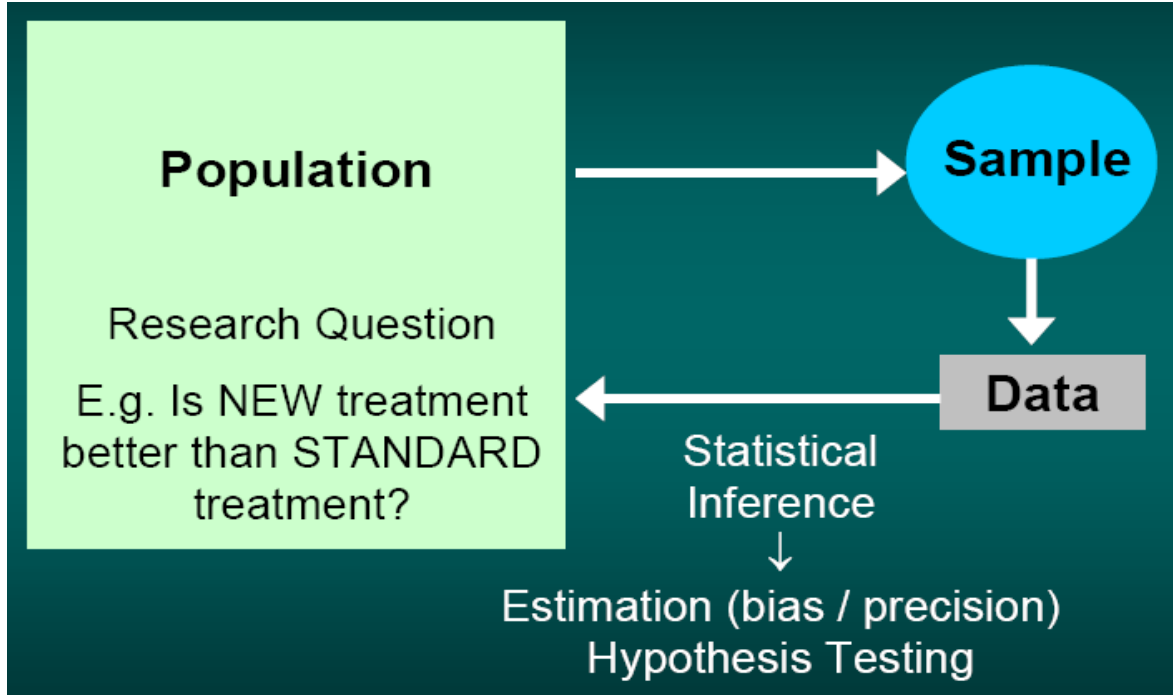
- Objectives/aims of clinical studies are:
 - Phase I
 - Phase II** ←
 - Phase III



Clinical Trials Methodology: Topics of Phases

Phase	Objectives and Aims	Subjects	Focused on
I	Pharmacokinetics Safety	Healthy Subjects Patients	DRUG
II	Activity Safety	Patients	DISEASE
III	Efficacy	Patients	INDIVIDUAL PATIENT

Why Do We Need Statistics?



**Aim of Statistical Analysis:
Search for the Truth!**

What do we assess in clinical trials?



- Activity:

- ability of the treatment to induce modifications of the disease thanks to which it is assumed that the patient may have a benefit [**Phase II**]

- Efficacy:

- ability of the treatment to induce a clinical benefit in patients who are administered *in an experimental context* [Phase III]

- Effectiveness:

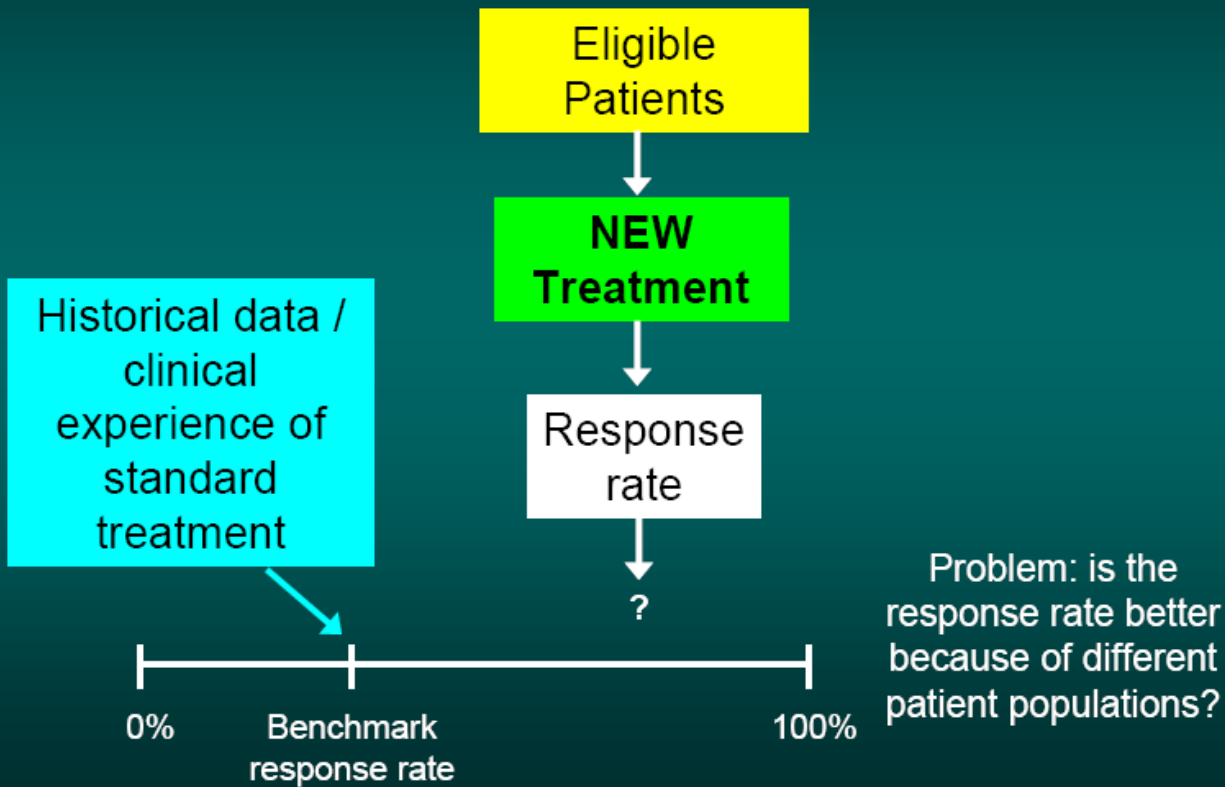
- ability of a treatment to be effective in a *non-experimental, concrete and coincident with the clinical practice* [Phase IV?]

Attività vs. Efficacia

Trattamento	Attività	Efficacia
Diuretico	Riduzione P.A.	Riduzione Malatt. C.V.
Antidiab. Orale	Riduz. Glicemia	Riduz. Mortalità
A.Infiammat.	Az. A.Aggregante	Riduzione Malatt. C.V.
Citotossico	Riduz. Tumorale	Riduz. Mortalità
Citostatico	Controllo Malattia	Riduz. Mortalità
Fatt. Di Crescita	Stimolo Crescita	Riduz. Complicanze

Single-Arm Phase II: Pros and Cons

Single-Arm Phase II Study



Setting the Bar in Phase II Studies

Citation of historical data	Number	Conclusions		Results	
		Unclear	Clear	Reject alternative (agent not worthy of further study)	Reject null (agent worthy of further study)
No historical data cited	32	3	29	6 (21%)	23 (79%)
Historical data cited					
Did not meet criteria	29	2	27	4 (15%)	23 (85%)
Met criteria	9	0	9	6 (67%)	3 (33%)

- Studies that met the criteria for appropriate citation of prior data were **significantly less likely** to reject the null (33%) than those cited that did not meet the criteria (85%) $p=0.006$

Targeted Agents – 'MYTHS'

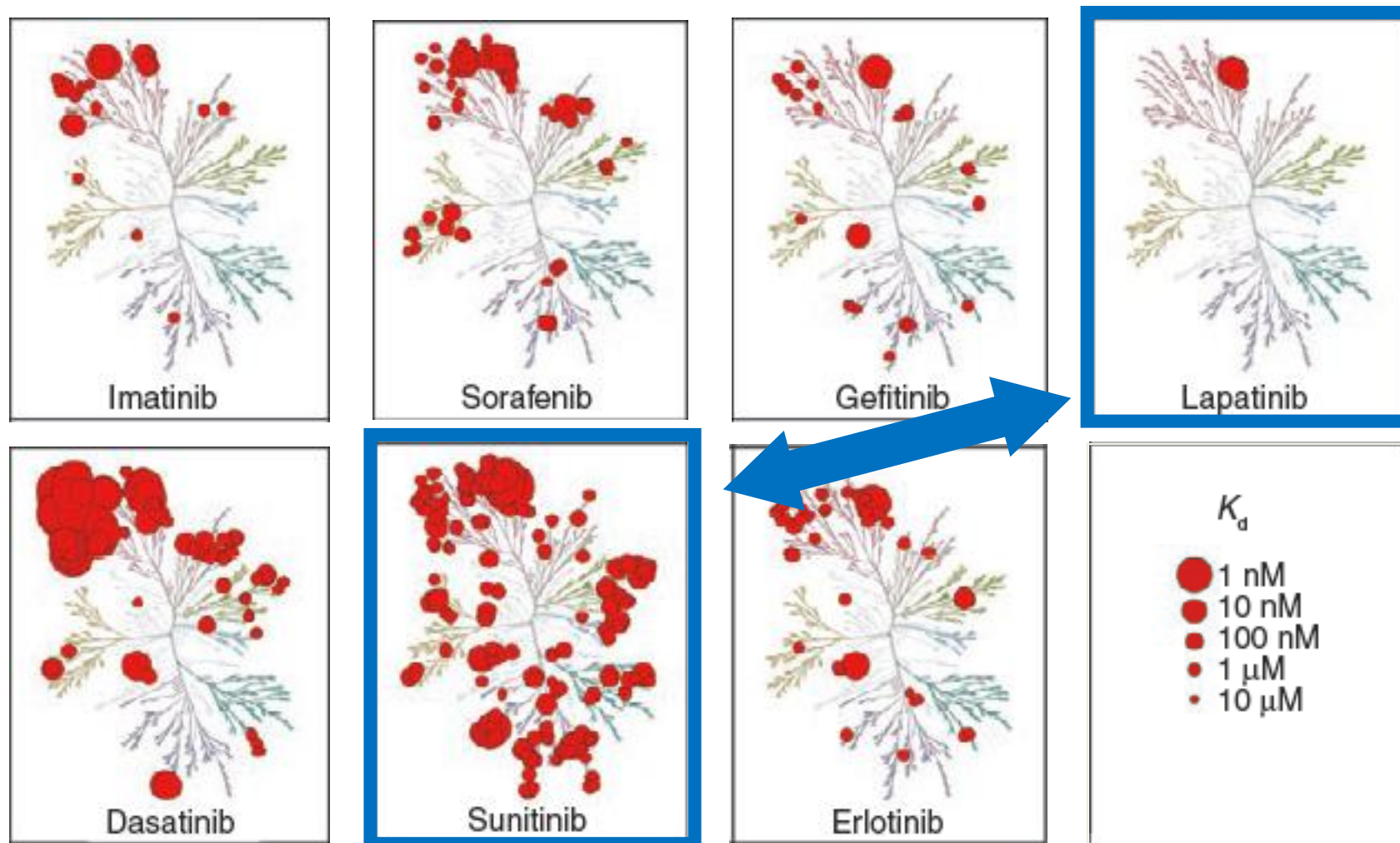
1. Conversely to Classical cytotoxics, Targeted agents selectively hit a specific molecule/enzyme

- **their functional/clinical effects are directly related to the level of target inhibition**

2. Targeted agents are 'cytostatic' in nature:

- they will slow down growth, but seldom shrink pre-existing tumor masses

'Targeted' agents, particularly ATP-competitive kinase inhibitors, frequently hit multiple targets



NATURE BIOTECHNOLOGY VOLUME 26 NUMBER 1 JANUARY 2008

Modified - Courtesy of Milella M, ESMO 2008

Targeted Agents – 'MYTHS'

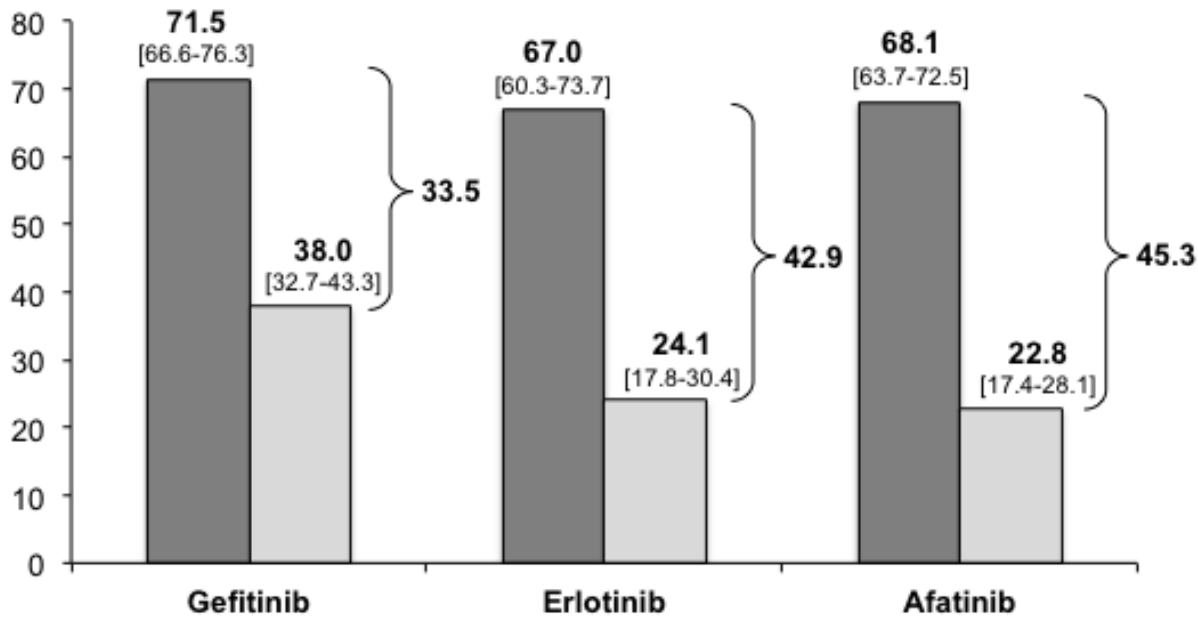
1. Conversely to Classical cytotoxics, Targeted agents selectively hit a specific molecule/enzyme
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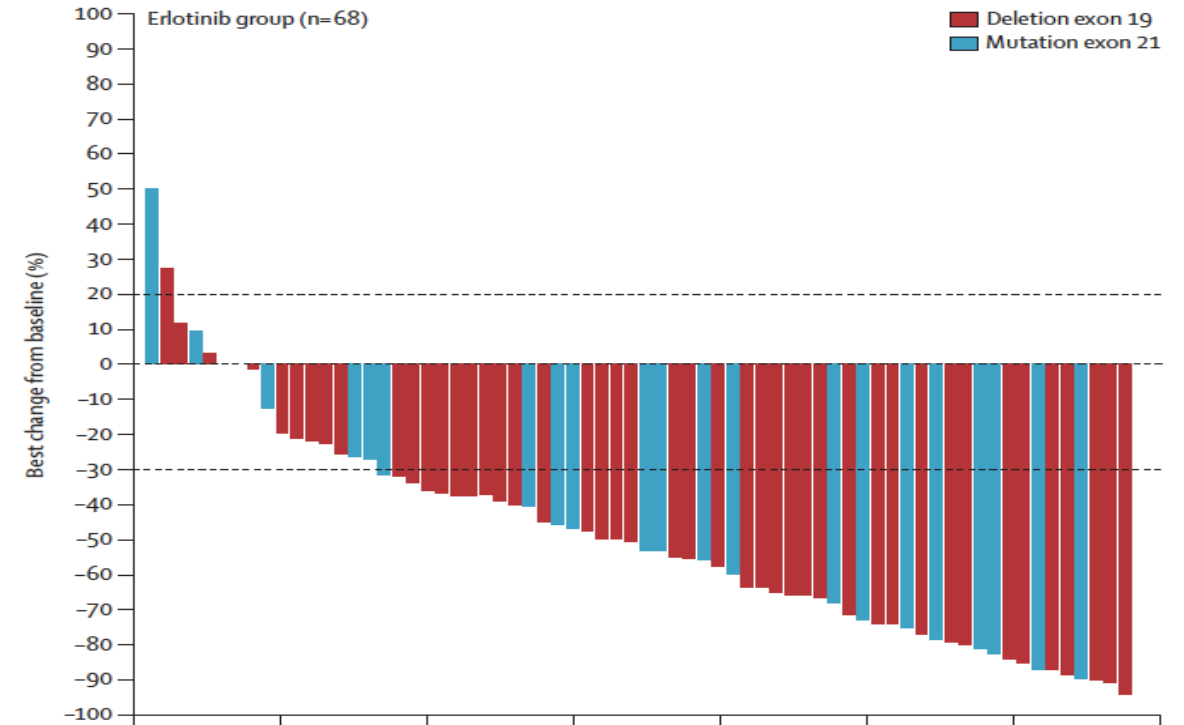
EGFR De-addiction as a treatment goal!

Overall Activity (Overall Response Rate (ORR), RECIST) RCTs of TKIs vs. First-Line Chemo



Pilotto S et al, Crit Rev Oncol Hem 2014

Example: EURTAC (Erlotinib vs. Chemo) Waterfall Plot



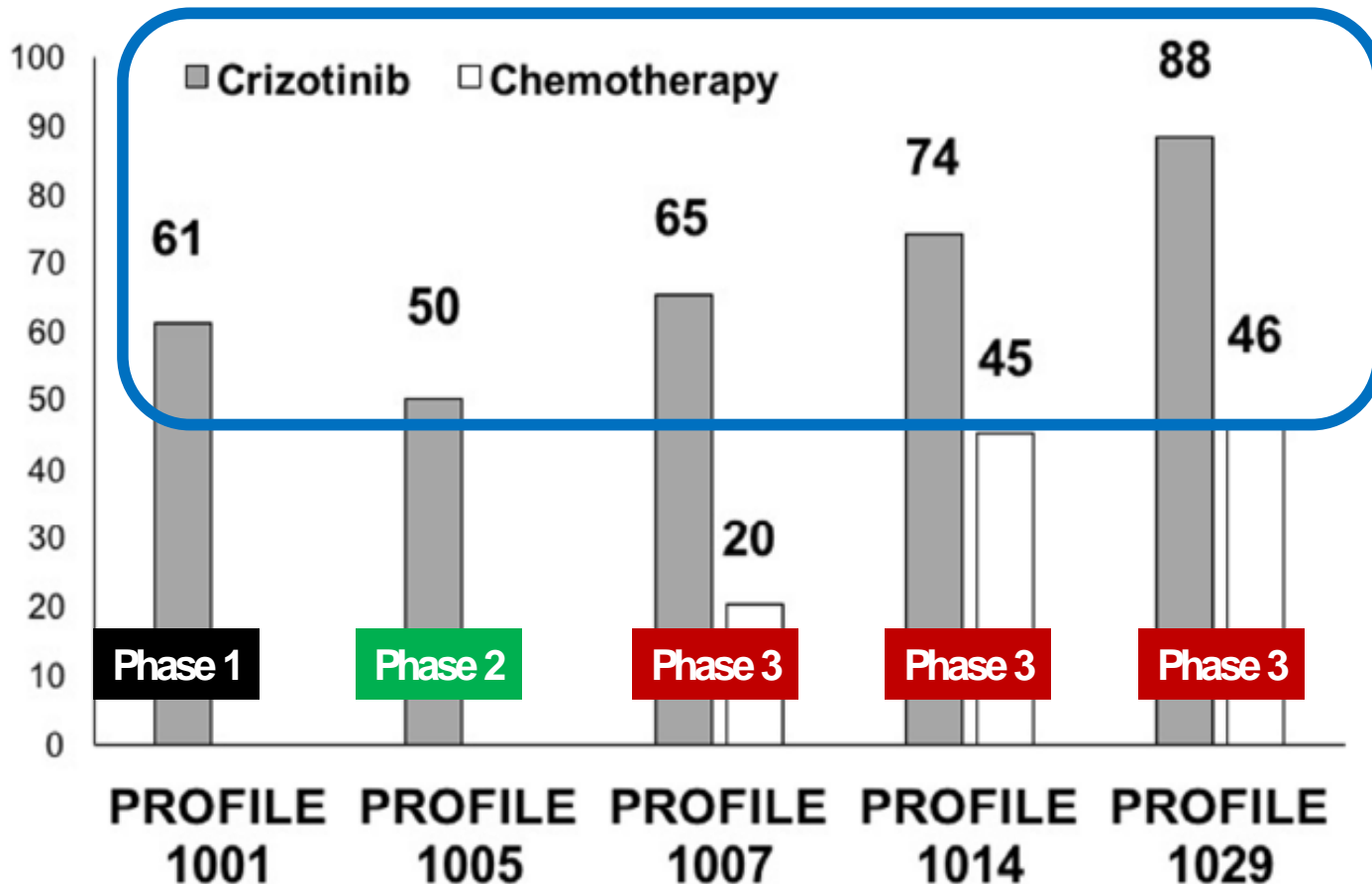
Rosell R et al, Lancet Oncol 2012

Definition of DE-ADDICTION: less than 10% of primary resistance

Besse B, WCLC 2017

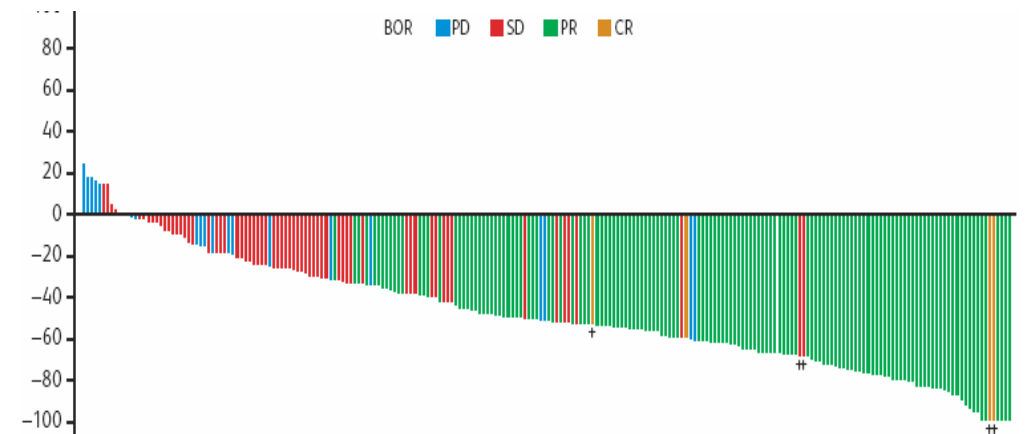
ALK De-addiction as a treatment goal!

Consistent Activity of Crizotinib (ORR) Across Developmental Phases (from Phase 1 to 3)

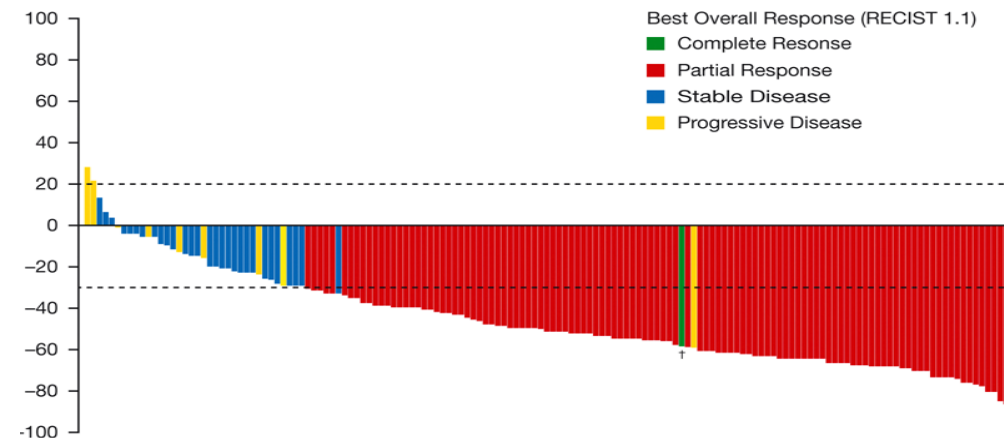


Caccese M et al, Exp Opinion Pharm 2016

CRIZOTINIB (PROFILE 1005): Phase II



CRIZOTINIB (PROFILE 1007): Phase III



Kim et al, ASCO 2014, Blackhall F et al, ESMO-Open 2018

Shaw A et al, NEJM 2013

Relationship between Blood Biomarkers and Activity: BFAST

- Unresectable, stage IIIB or IV NSCLC
- *ALK*+ by centralised blood screening only
- Treatment naïve
- ECOG PS 0–2

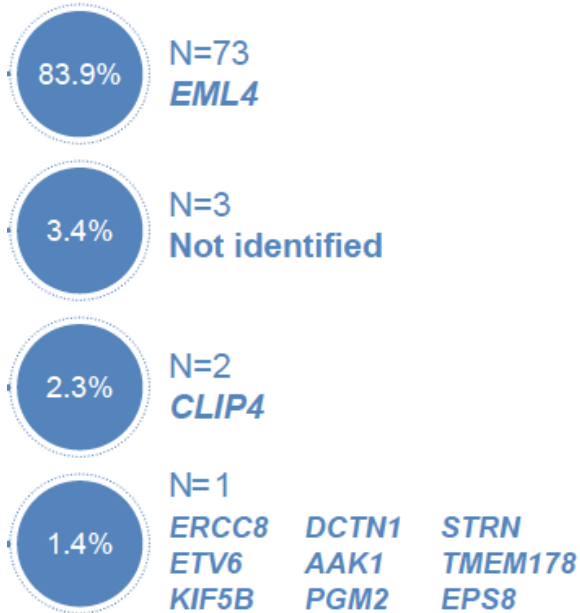


Alectinib 600mg BID



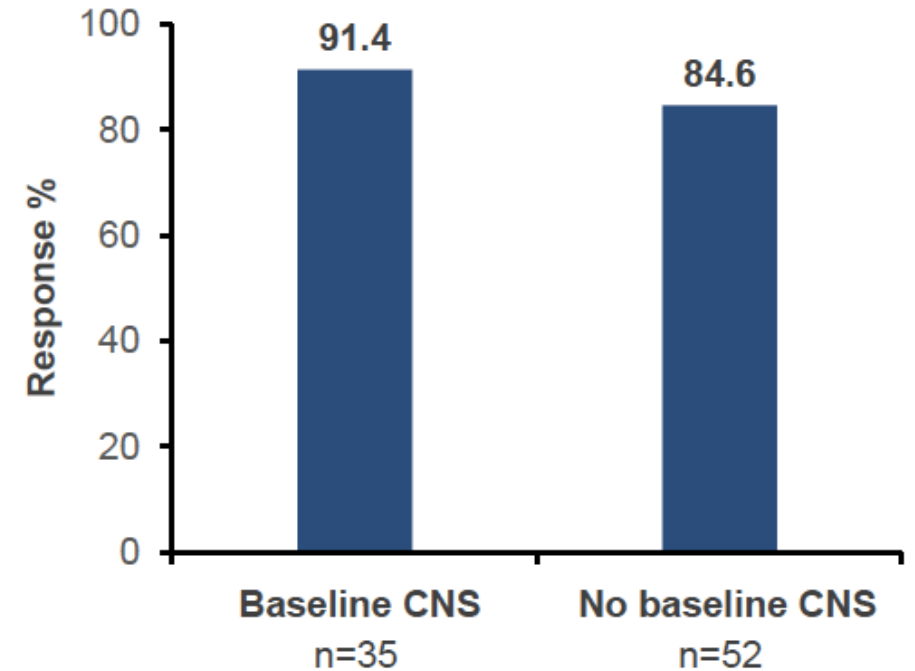
Until PD, toxicity, withdrawal or death

- ⊙ **Primary endpoint**
Confirmed ORR by investigator
- ⊙ **Exploratory endpoint**
Confirmed ORR by investigator for patients with baseline CNS metastases



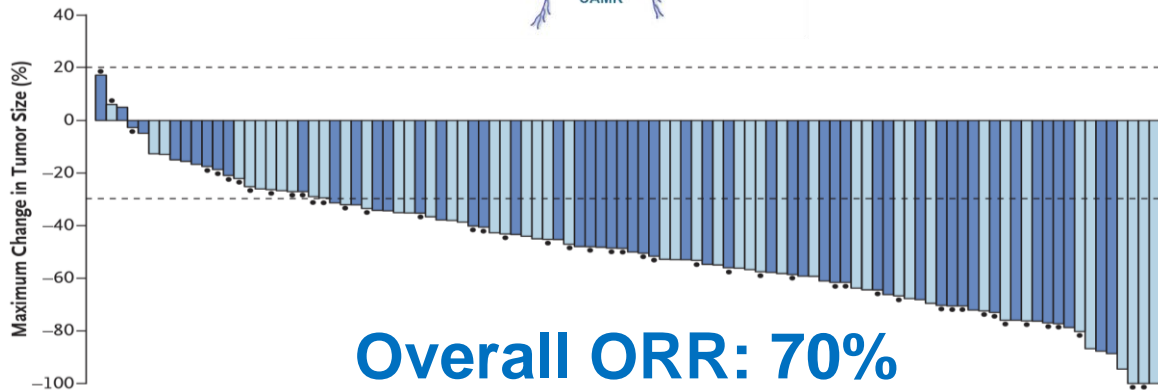
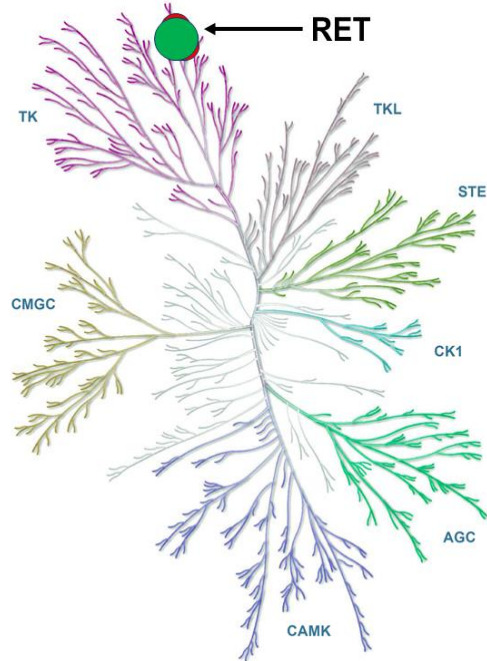
- The 5.4% (119 of 2219) prevalence of *ALK* in the screening population is close to the expected rate of 5%¹
- 38/87 (43.7%) patients had a *TP53* mutation
- **Median bTMB at baseline was two mutations (range: 0 to 21)**
 - 3/87 (3.4%) patients had bTMB ≥ 16 mutations

INV Overall Response Rate



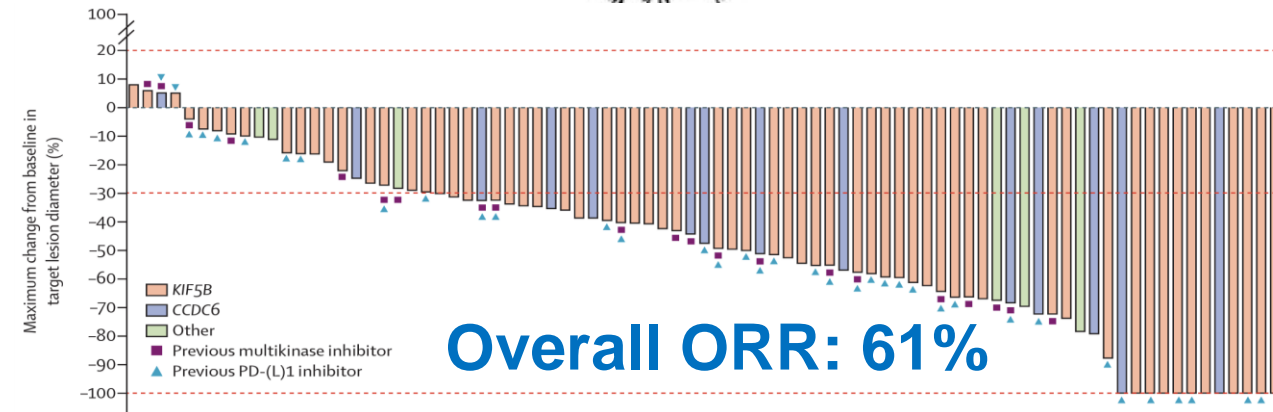
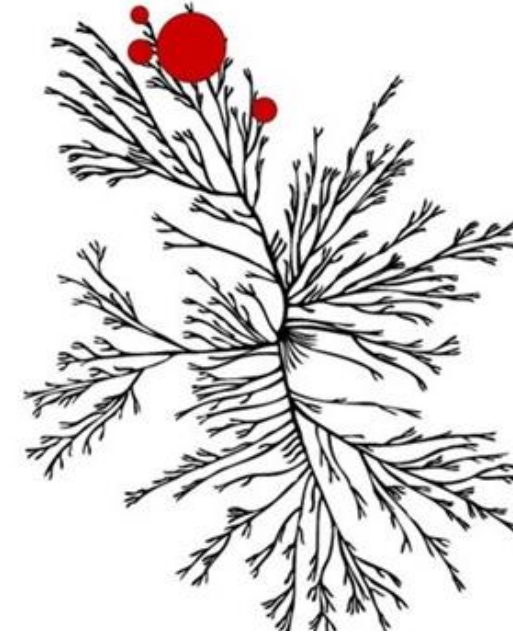
RET-Driven NSCLC: TKI Specificity and Activity

Selpercatinib (LOXO-292)



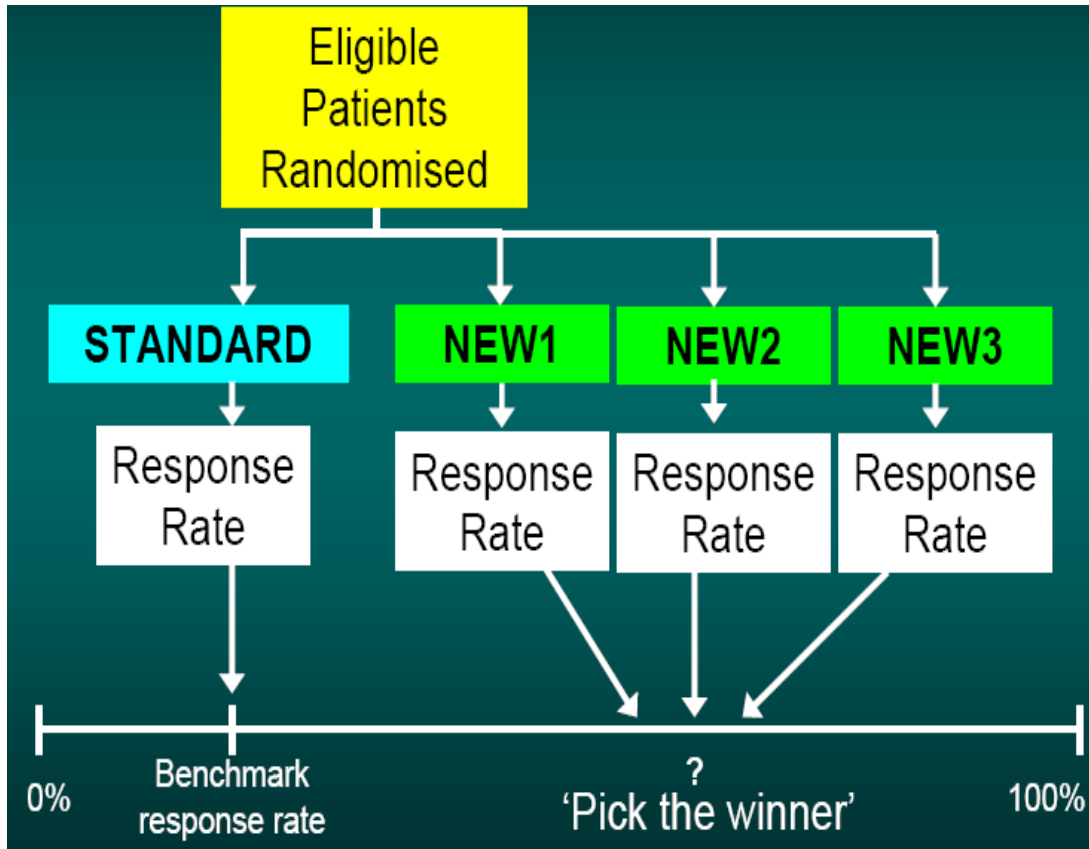
Drilon A et al, WCLC 2019
Drilon A et al, NEJM 2020

Pralsetinib (BLU-667)



Gainor J et al, ASCO 2019
Gainor J et al, Lancet Oncol 2021

Pros & Cons (Random. Phase II): Overinterpretation

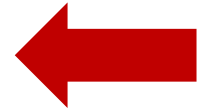


**Comparative means:
The winner enters the Phase III fashion**

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Control of selection bias• Simultaneous testing of several new treatments, combinations, doses, etc.• Generally preferable: some degree of control is better than none!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NOT a statistical <u>comparison</u> between randomized groups• The randomized Phase II trials DO NOT <u>replace phase III trials</u>• <u>Over-interpretation of comparative results</u> from small sized randomized Phase II trials

Clinical Trials Methodology

- Objectives/aims of clinical studies are:
 - Phase I
 - Phase II
 - Phase III**



Classification by Objective



Phase III: Compare new treatment to standard therapy or placebo.

<http://www.msra.org.au/next-20-article-clinical-trials-phase-1>

Clinical Trials Methodology: Topics of Phases

Phase	Objectives and Aims	Subjects	Focused on
I	Pharmacokinetics Safety	Healthy Subjects Patients	DRUG
II	Activity Safety	Patients	DISEASE
III	Efficacy	Patients	INDIVIDUAL PATIENT

What do we assess in clinical trials?

- Activity:

- ability of the treatment to induce modifications of the disease thanks to which it is assumed that the patient may have a benefit [**Phase II**]



- Efficacy:

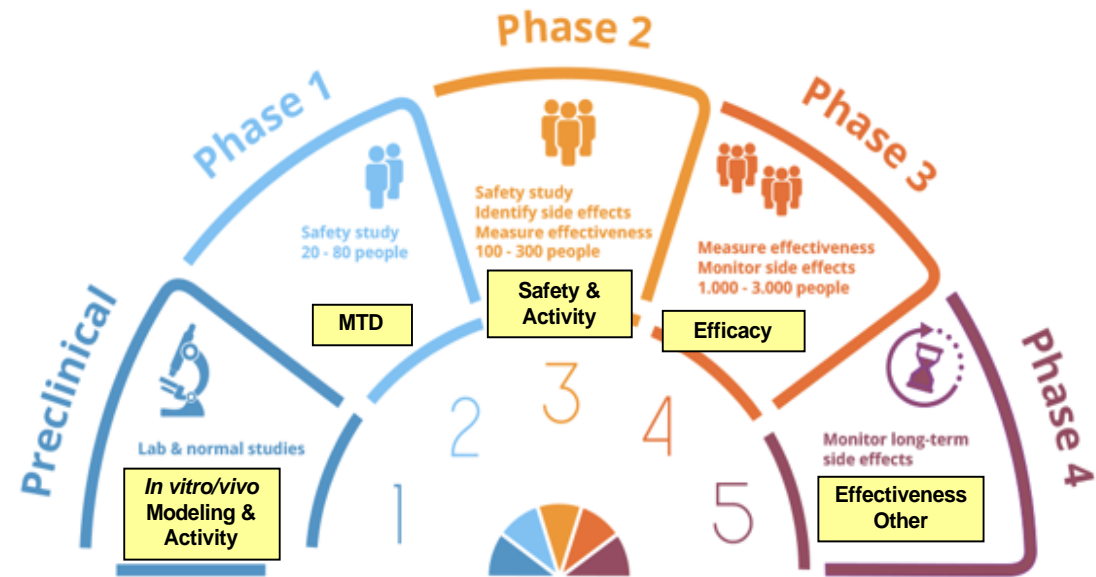
- ability of the treatment to induce a clinical benefit in patients who are administered *in an experimental context* [**Phase III**]

- Effectiveness:

- ability of a treatment to be effective in a *non-experimental, concrete and coincident with the clinical practice* [**Phase IV?**]

Gold Standard: RCTs

- Phase III clinical trials are the gold standard for evaluating therapeutic interventions.
- **Randomization:**
 - Provides a treatment assignment that is independent of outcome and patient/disease features, thus **balancing treatment groups on known and unknown factors associated with outcome.**
 - The intention-to-treat (ITT) analysis approach is the gold standard for all phase III) randomized, controlled clinical trials: **analyzes all patients in the treatment groups as randomized without regard to treatment actually received.**



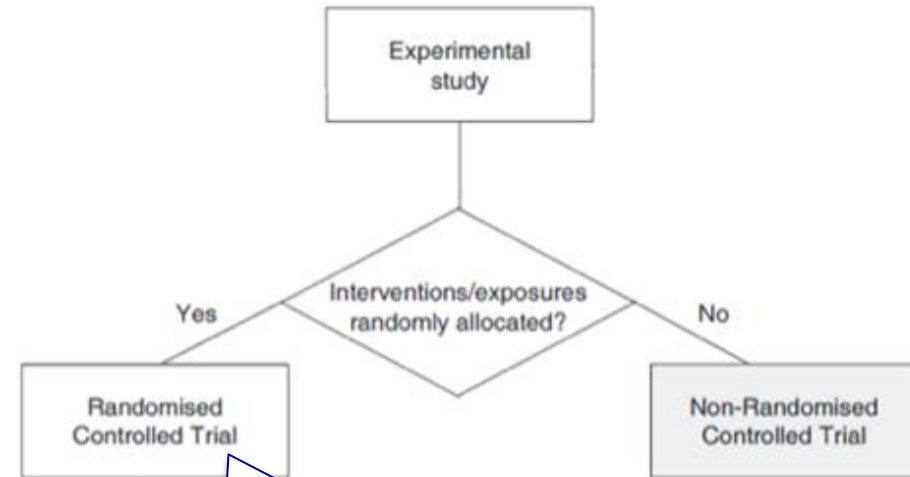
Phase III trials: Randomization

- Assignment of subjects to groups compared according to a random sequence
- Why to randomize? To avoid:
 - **Selection bias**
 - **Performance bias**
 - **Detection bias**
 - **Attrition bias**



Phase III trials: Randomization

- **Assegnazione casuale** dei pazienti al gruppo sperimentale o di controllo, al fine di assicurare che tutti i fattori prognostici (noti e sconosciuti) si distribuiscano omogeneamente nei due gruppi.
- Tutti i requisiti della randomizzazione hanno lo scopo di assicurare che il **processo con cui vengono creati i due gruppi a confronto segua le leggi del caso**, e che **nessun fattore possa interferire** con la sua casualità.



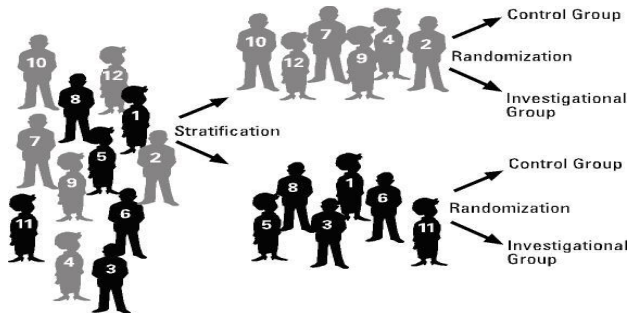
Minimizes allocation bias, balancing both known and unknown prognostic factors, in the assignment of treatments.

Phase III trials: Randomization

RANDOMIZZAZIONE STRATIFICATA

Allestimento di liste di randomizzazione separate per una o più caratteristiche pre-trattamento:

- ✓ misura atta a evitare sbilanciamenti fra i trattamenti a confronto per specifici fattori prognostici;
- ✓ possibili vantaggi di tipo gestionale e organizzativo (es. stratificazione per Centro);
- ✓ considerare solo fattori di stratificazione oggettivamente definibili.



MASCHERAMENTO (BLINDING)

- Insieme delle procedure atte a prevenire distorsioni dovute al fatto che il Paziente, il Medico o il Valutatore sono a conoscenza del trattamento ricevuto dal Paziente:
 - **Paziente = singolo cieco**
 - **Paziente + Medico = doppio cieco**
 - **Paziente + Medico + Valutatore = triplo cieco**
- Necessità connessa agli obiettivi dello studio e al tipo di **variabile di effetto** utilizzata

Design Elements and Ethics

Sample Size Determination

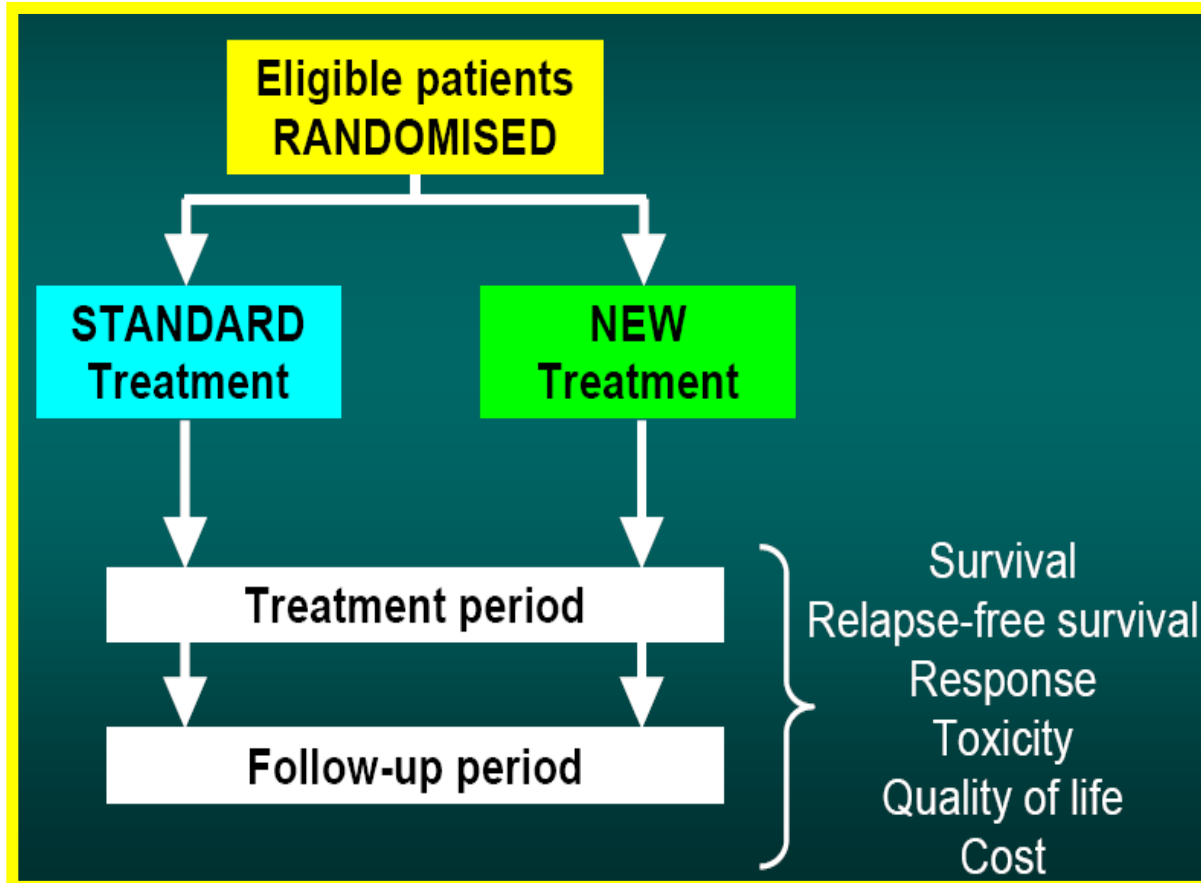
- Experiments with **more patients** than needed violate the individual human rights of the specific patients
- Experiments with **less patients** than needed violate human rights of the whole society

- **ETHICAL to use appropriate sample size**

Bias, Variability & Generalizability

- To **address Bias** of the estimate, the design needs to include at least:
 - **Randomization**
- To **address Variability** of the estimate, the design needs to include:
 - **Adequate Sample Size**
 - To **address Generalizability** of the results, the design needs to include:
 - **Inclusion of diverse subgroups (eg. older age, female gender)**

Randomized Phase III Clinical Trials



- The new drug is more effective than other drugs?
 - Superiority trial (is 'statistically' relevant?)
- The new drug is as effective as other drugs but with fewer side effects (or minor discomfort or lower costs)?
 - Non-inferiority trial
- The use of the new drug determines a therapeutic benefit for patients?
 - Amount of the benefit (is 'clinically' relevant?)
- What categories of patients may derive more benefit from the new drug?
 - Subgroups analysis

Sizing a trial (A [Exp.] vs. B [Control]) For...

- **Superiority:**

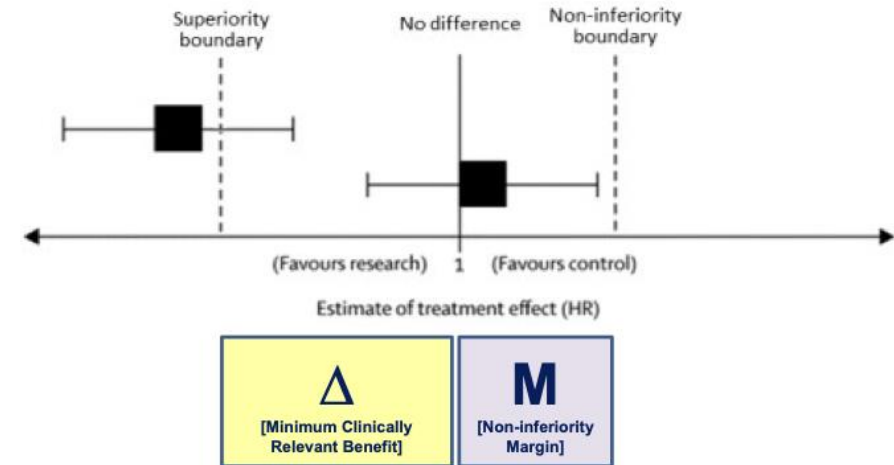
- A is better than B in terms of the primary outcome, and *this expected difference must be clinically relevant [Minimum Clinically Relevant Benefit: Δ]*

- **Non-inferiority:**

- A is *inferior* to B in terms of the primary outcome, but *not lower than a clinically pre-specified 'margin' [M] which is considered clinically relevant.*

- **Ex. You can accept a small degree of lower benefit, if patients experience better tollerability**

Superiority & Non-inferiority



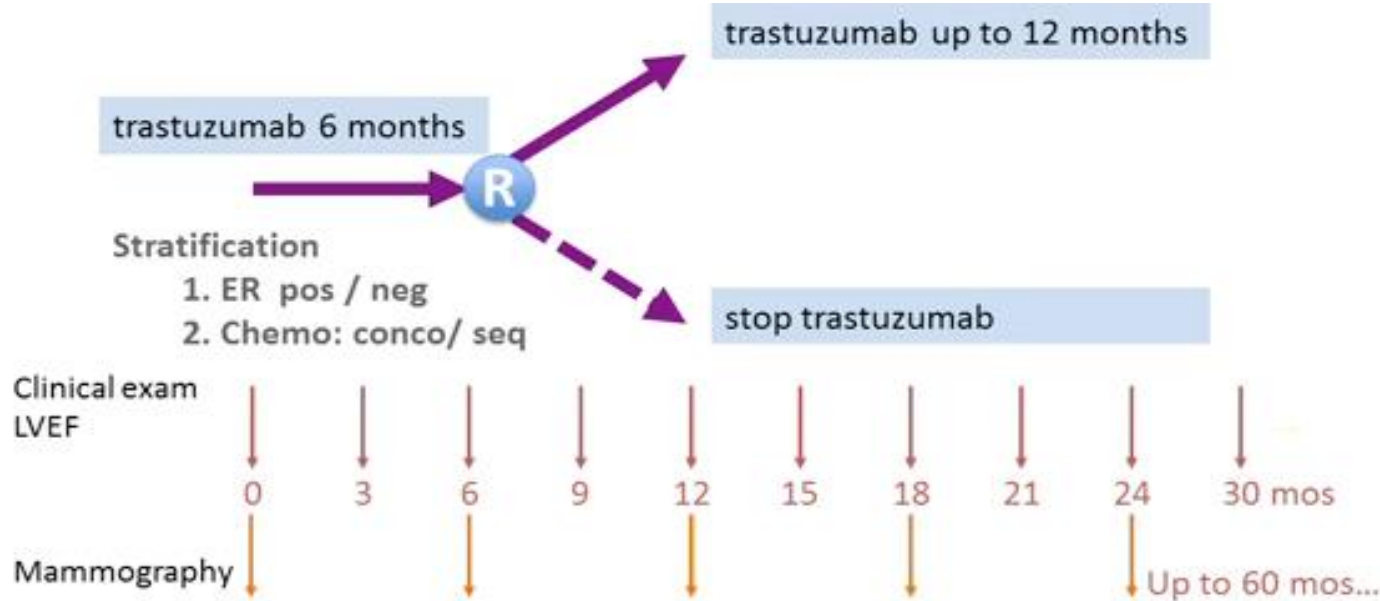
emea London, 27 July 2005
Doc. Ref. EMEA/CPMP/EWP/2158/99

GUIDELINE ON THE CHOICE OF THE NON-INFERIORITY MARGIN

The choice of the non-inferiority margin must always be justified on both clinical and statistical grounds.

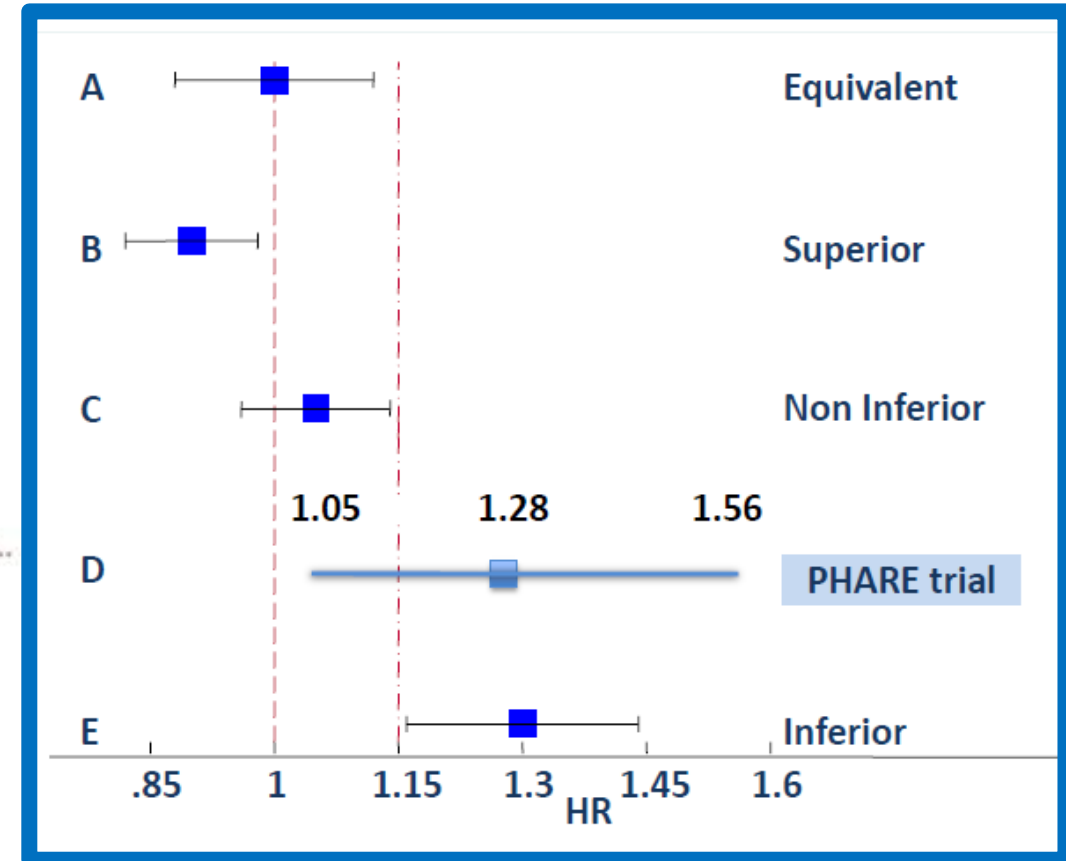
It always needs to be tailored specifically to the particular clinical context and no rule can be provided that covers all clinical situations.

Non-Inferiority in Breast Cancer: Trastuzumab De-Escalation



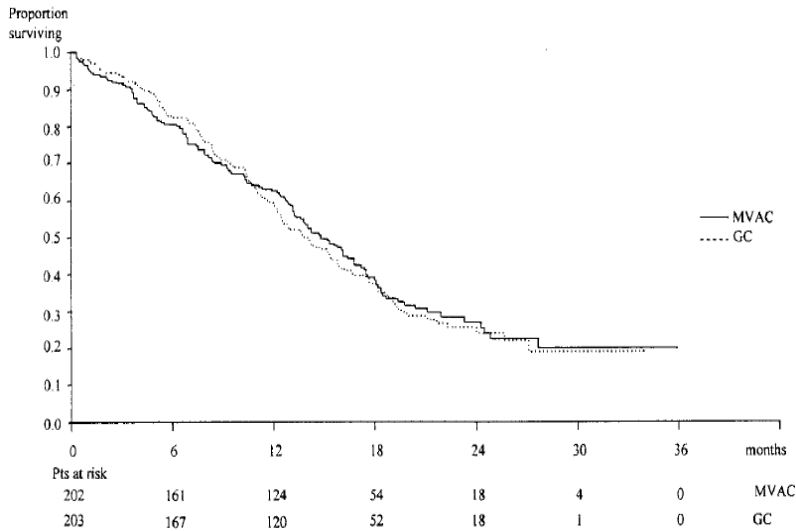
- **Non inferiority randomized trial**
 - 2% variation in terms of absolute difference of recurrence
 - The 95% CI HR margins should not cross the 1.15 boundary
 - 1040 DFS events required for 80% power at 5% level
- or
- 4 years of accrual and at least 2 years of follow-up
- HR were estimated from the stratified Cox model

- **Accrual target: 3400 patients**

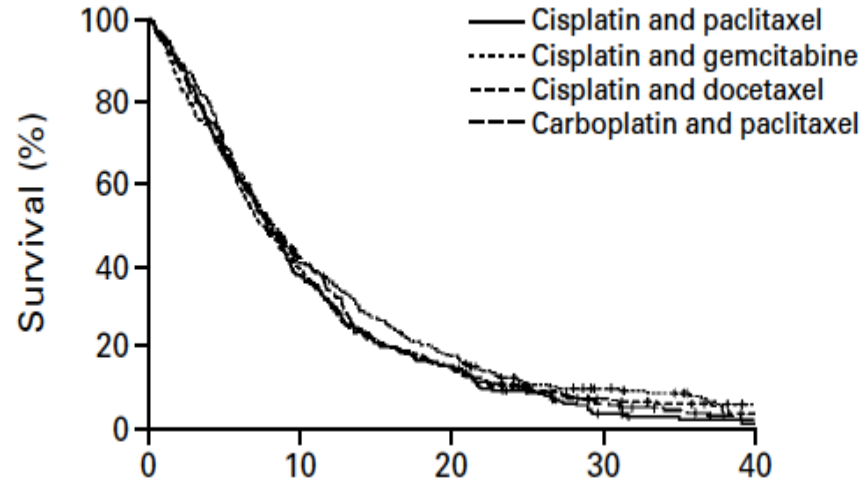


Key Examples of Mis-interpretation of SUPERIORITY RCTs with Relevant Implication for Clinical Practice

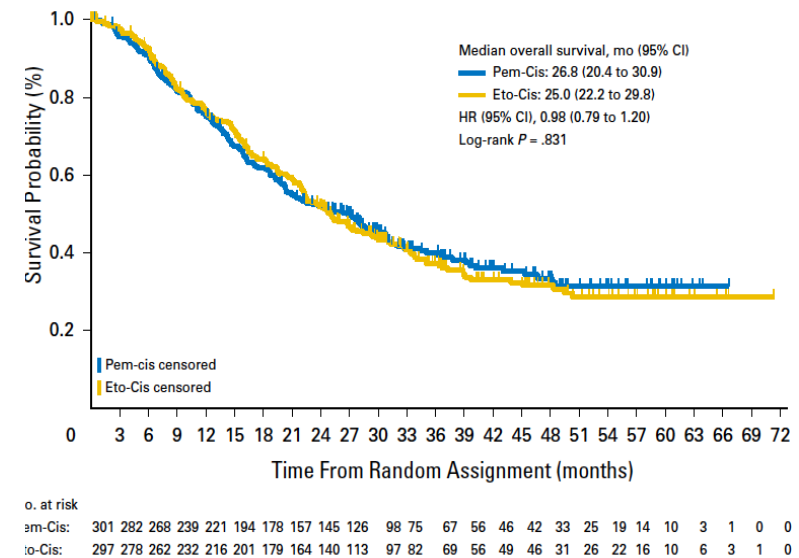
Bladder [Stage IV-Advanced]: Testing SUPERIORITY of CIS-GEM vs. MVAC



NSCLC [Stage IIIB-IV - ECOG 1594]: Testing SUPERIORITY of One vs. Other(s)



NSCLC [Stage III – PROCLAIM] Testing SUPERIORITY of CIS-PEM vs. CIS-VP-16



Non-Inferiority & Equivalence MUST be Pre-Specified and Powered! Beware of Wrong Conclusions for Clinical Practice!

Superiority Trials: Principles and ASCO/ESMO Advices

- **Aim:** To demonstrate the superiority of a new therapy compared to an established therapy or placebo
- **Sample Size:** To estimate the sample size one needs to consider
 - the **Clinical significance (Δ):** By how much should the new therapy be better than the established?
 - the **Power ($1-\beta$):** the probability of correctly showing a benefit (usually $\geq 80\%$)
 - the **Significance level (α):** the probability of wrongly concluding that a benefit exists (usually $\leq 5\%$)

- **ASCO: Recommended Targets for Meaningful Trial Goals**
- **ESMO: Development of the Magnitude of Clinical Evaluation Scale**

- *Ellis et al. 2013. JCO. American Society of Clinical Oncology Perspective: Raising the Bar for Clinical Trials by Defining Clinically Meaningful Outcomes*
- *ASCO 2014, 2015, ESMO 2014, ECCO 2015; Annals of Oncology 2015*

Modified by Dafni U, WCLC 2019

Recommended Targets for Meaningful Trial Goals

Table 1. Summary of Recommended Targets for Meaningful Clinical Trial Goals

Cancer Type	Patient Population	Current Baseline Median OS (months)	Primary End Point		Secondary End Point	
			Improvement Over Current OS That Would Be Clinically Meaningful (months)	Target HRs	Improvement in 1-Year Survival Rate (%)*	Improvement in PFS (months)
Pancreatic cancer	FOLFIRINOX-eligible patients	10 to 11 ¹⁹	4 to 5	0.67 to 0.69	48 → 63	4 to 5
Pancreatic cancer	Gemcitabine or gemcitabine/nab-paclitaxel-eligible patients	8 to 9 ^{20,21}	3 to 4	0.6 to 0.75	35 → 50	3 to 4
Lung cancer	Nonsquamous cell carcinoma	13 ²²	3.25 to 4	0.76 to 0.8	53 → 61	4
Lung cancer	Squamous cell carcinoma	10 ²³	2.5 to 3	0.77 to 0.8	44 → 53	3
Breast cancer	Metastatic triple negative, previously untreated for metastatic disease	18 ^{24,25}	4.5 to 6	0.75 to 0.8	63 → 71	4
Colon cancer	Disease progression with all prior therapies (or not a candidate for standard second- or third-line options)	4 to 6 ²⁶	3 to 5	0.67 to 0.67	25 → 35	3 to 5

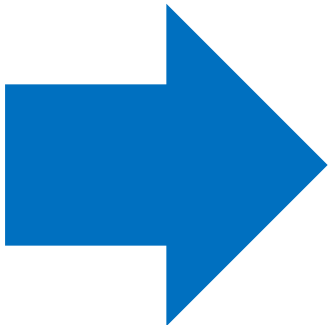
Abbreviations: FOLFIRINOX, leucovorin, fluorouracil, irinotecan, and oxaliplatin; HR, hazard ratio; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival.
*Current → target.

- $HR \leq 0.8$, with an improvement in median OS 2.5 to 6 months:
- Minimum incremental improvement over standard therapy that would define a clinically meaningful outcome.

*Ellis et al. 2013. JCO. American Society of Clinical Oncology Perspective:
Raising the Bar for Clinical Trials by Defining Clinically Meaningful Outcomes*

What do we assess in clinical trials?

- Activity:
 - ability of the treatment to induce modifications of the disease thanks to which it is assumed that the patient may have a benefit [**Phase II**]
- Efficacy:
 - ability of the treatment to induce a clinical benefit in patients who are administered *in an experimental context* [**Phase III**]
- Effectiveness:
 - ability of a treatment to be effective in a *non-experimental, concrete and coincident with the clinical practice* [**are Phase IV, 'Real World' Data**]



Dall'Ipotesi al Disegno di una Sperimentazione Clinica

- **Premessa: la buona ricerca clinica**
- **L'importanza del disegno di studio**
 - Descrizione dei dati e inferenza statistica
 - L'importanza della numerosità campionaria
 - **La rappresentatività del campione**
 - La tentazione delle analisi per sottogruppi



'Liberazione di San Pietro' (Particolare), Raffaello Sanzio, 1513-1514, Musei Vaticani, Roma

Generalizability of Data from RCTs

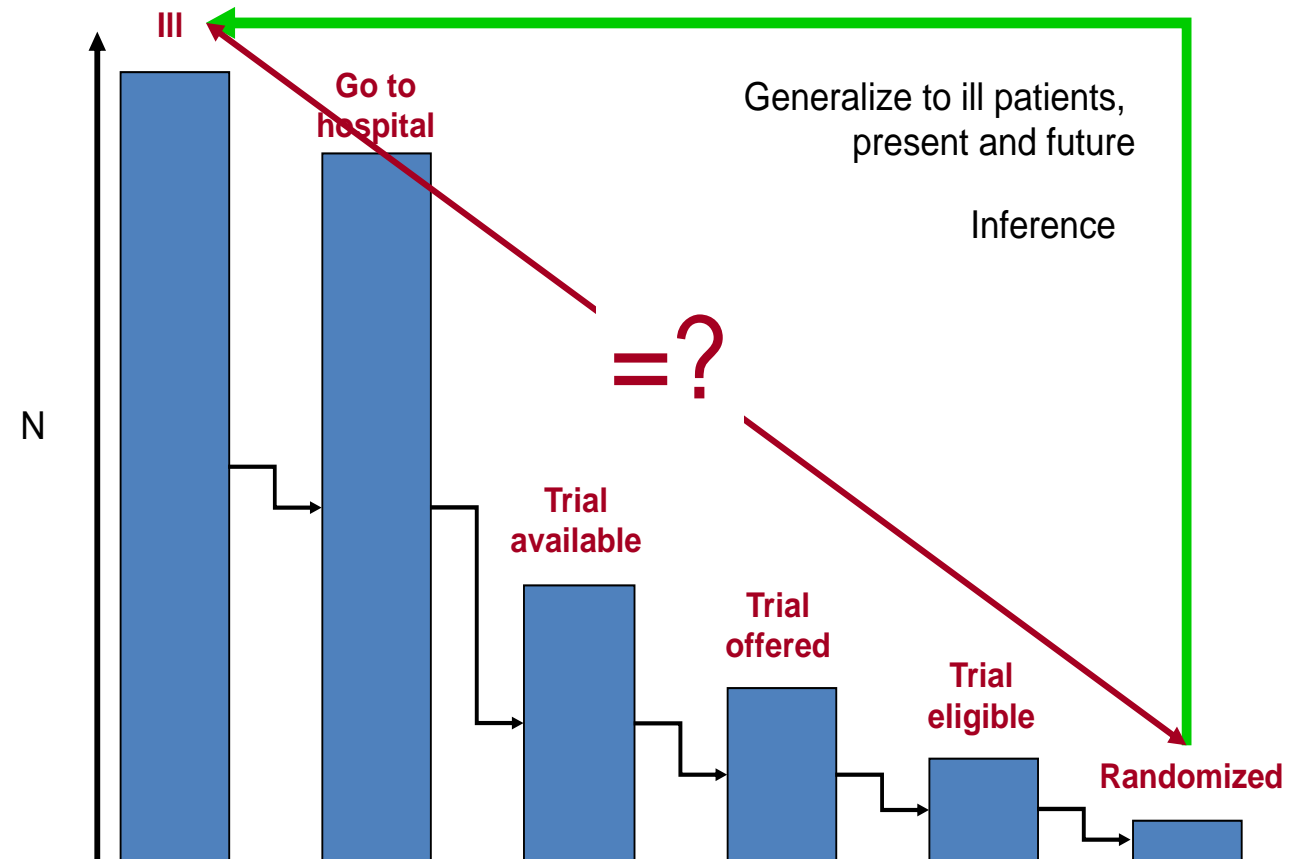
Problems that Might Limit Interpretation of RCTs

Some randomised controlled trials might:

- Ask questions of commercial rather than clinical interest
- Be based on inadequate preclinical and early clinical studies
- Use surrogate endpoints that do not reflect patient benefit (ie, duration or quality of survival)
- Fail to assess or inadequately assess health-related quality of life or patient-reported outcomes even though the goals of treatment are palliative
- Show statistically significant but clinically irrelevant results
- Be analysed and reported prematurely
- Underestimate the toxicity of new treatments
- Be subject to biased reporting, both in the primary publication and by the media
- Select patients who do not represent those seen in everyday practice

Tannock I et al, Lancet Oncology 2016

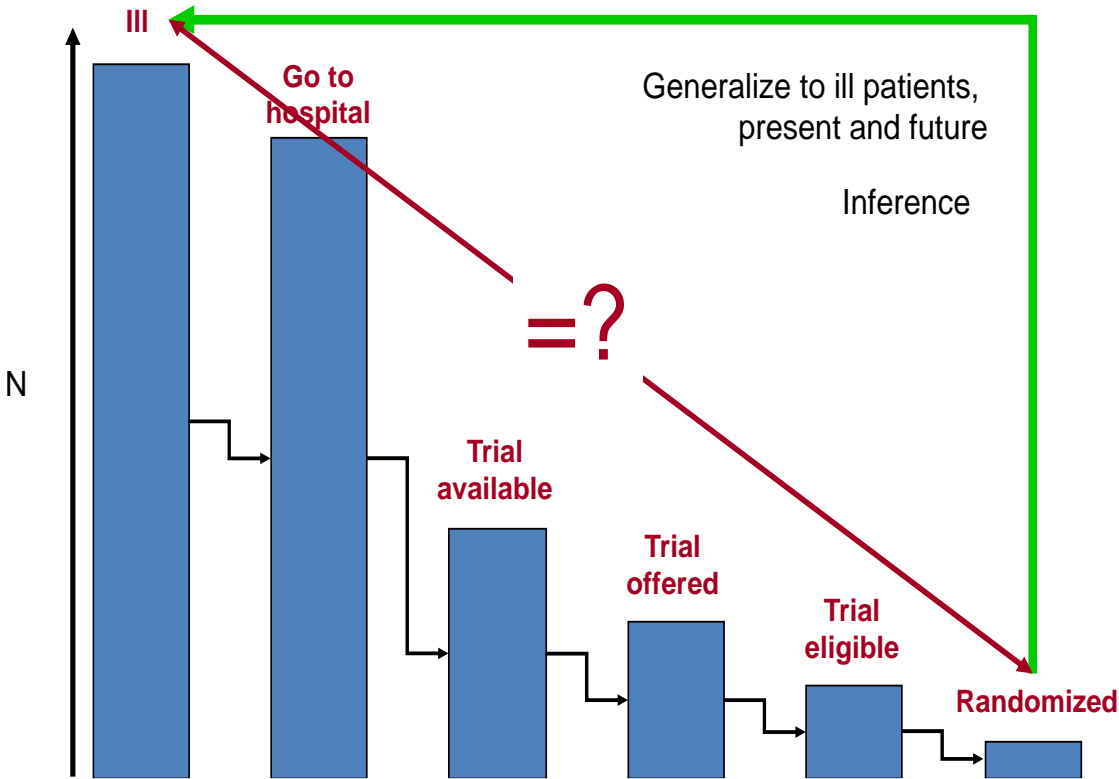
External Validity?



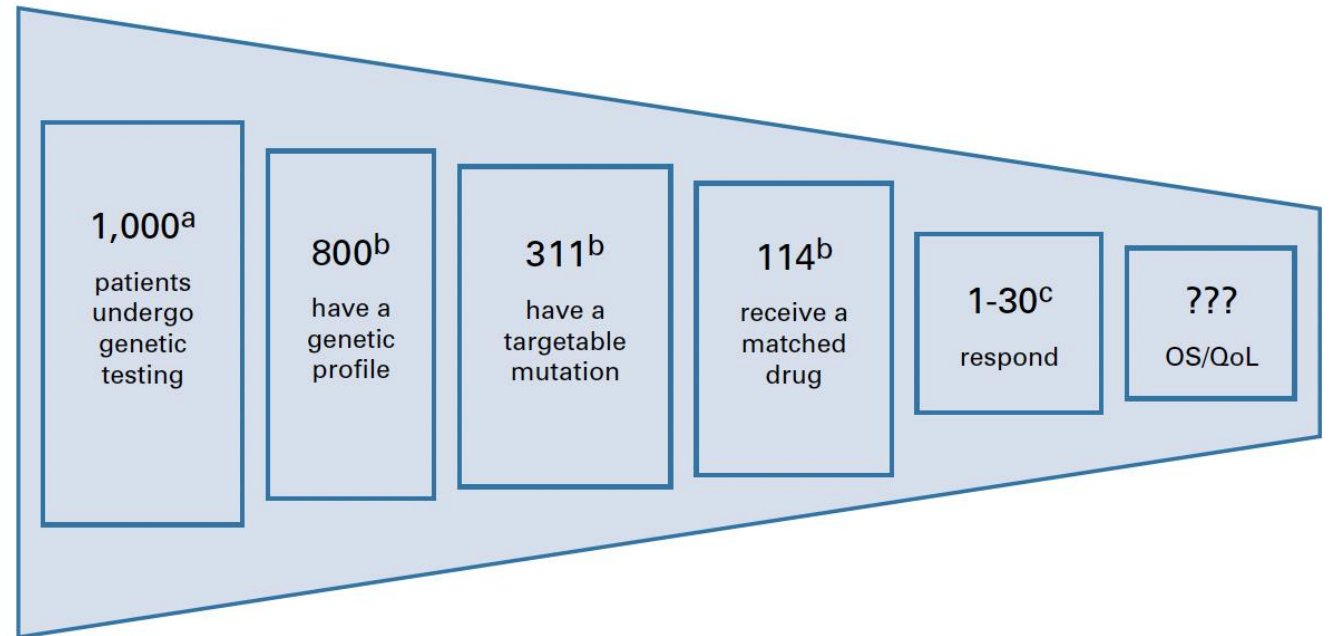
Courtesy of Di Maio M & Perrone F

Generalizability of Data from RCTs/Basket & PM Trials

External Validity?



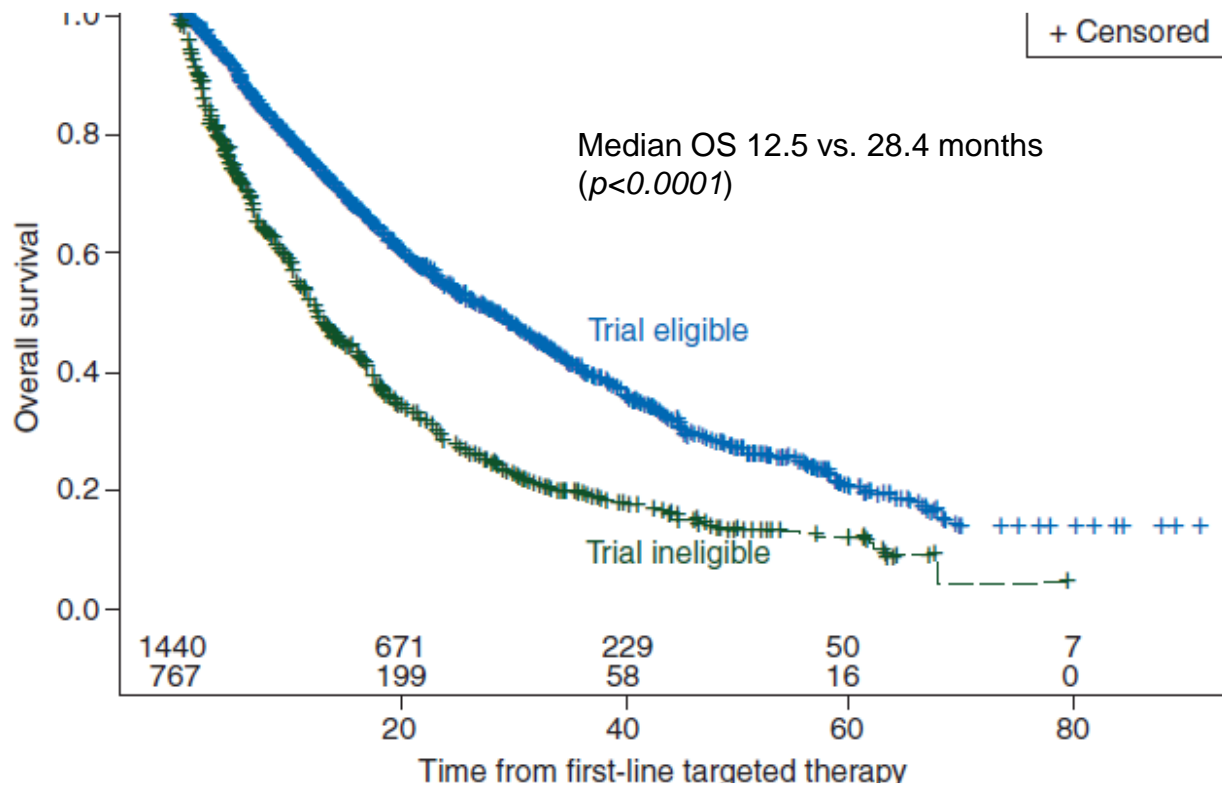
'The shrinking denominator'



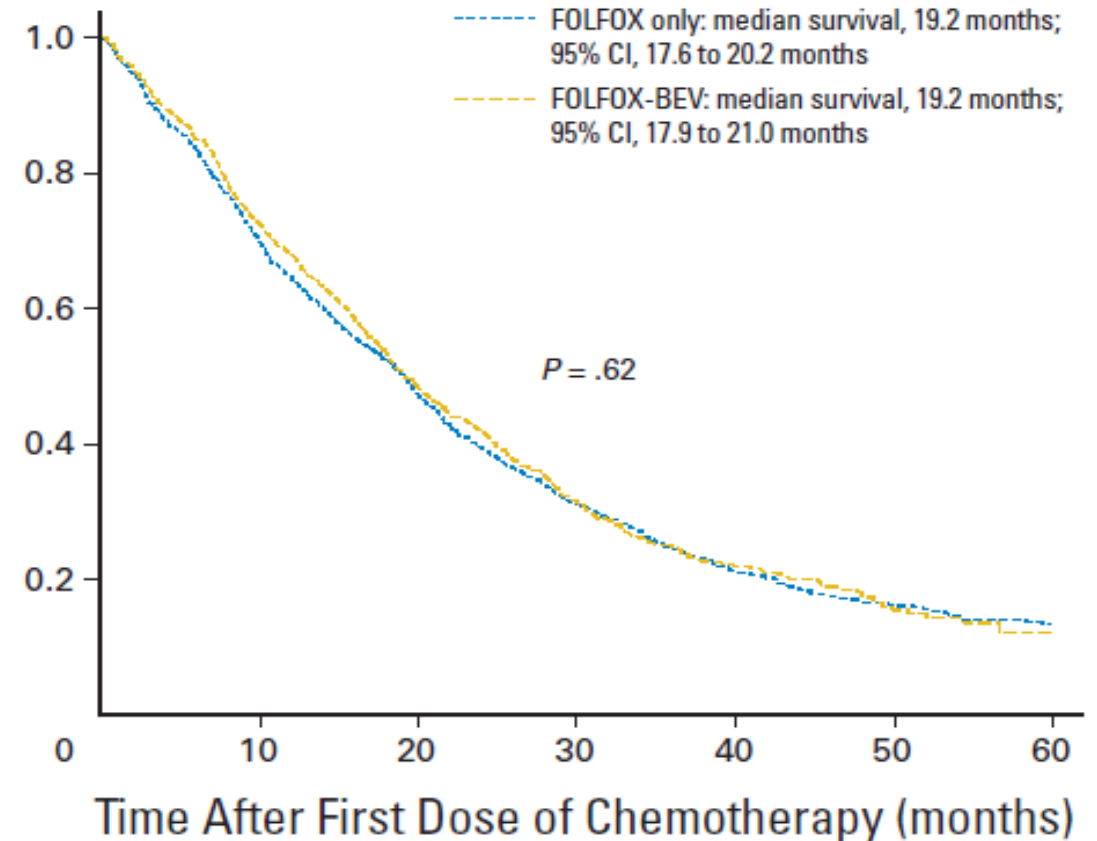
Representative results derived from a large series of patients who have undergone genetic testing and where an attempt has been made to treat with a drug targeting a genetic mutation.

Targeted Therapy Performance in the 'Real World'

Trials' Ineligible Pts vs. Eligible (all receiving targeted agents)



Addition of Bevacizumab to FOLFOX, 'Registry' Context



ESMO & ASCO are aiming to add Quantity to Quality

MCBS: Magnitude of Clinical Benefit Score

Table 2. Maximal preliminary scores

Treatments with curative intent (form 1)

>5% improvement of survival at ≥ 3 -year follow-up

Improvements in DFS alone HR < 0.60 (primary end point) in studies without mature survival data

Treatments with non-curative intent (form 2)

Primary outcome OS (form 2a)

Control ≤ 12 months

HR ≤ 0.65 AND gain ≥ 3 months OR

Increase in 2-year survival alone $\geq 10\%$

Control > 12 months

HR ≤ 0.70 AND gain ≥ 5 months OR

Increase in 3-year survival alone $\geq 10\%$

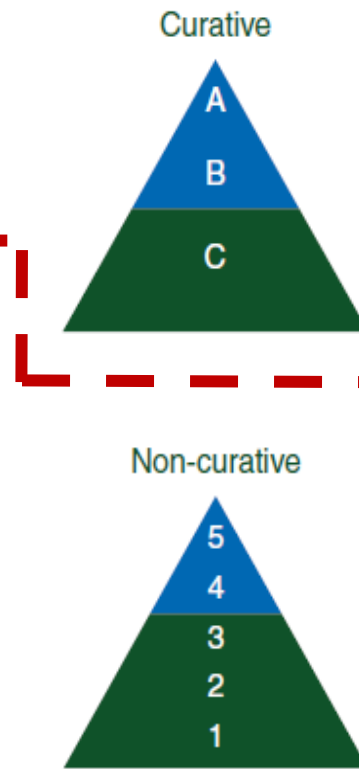
Primary outcome PFS (form 2b)

Control ≤ 6 months

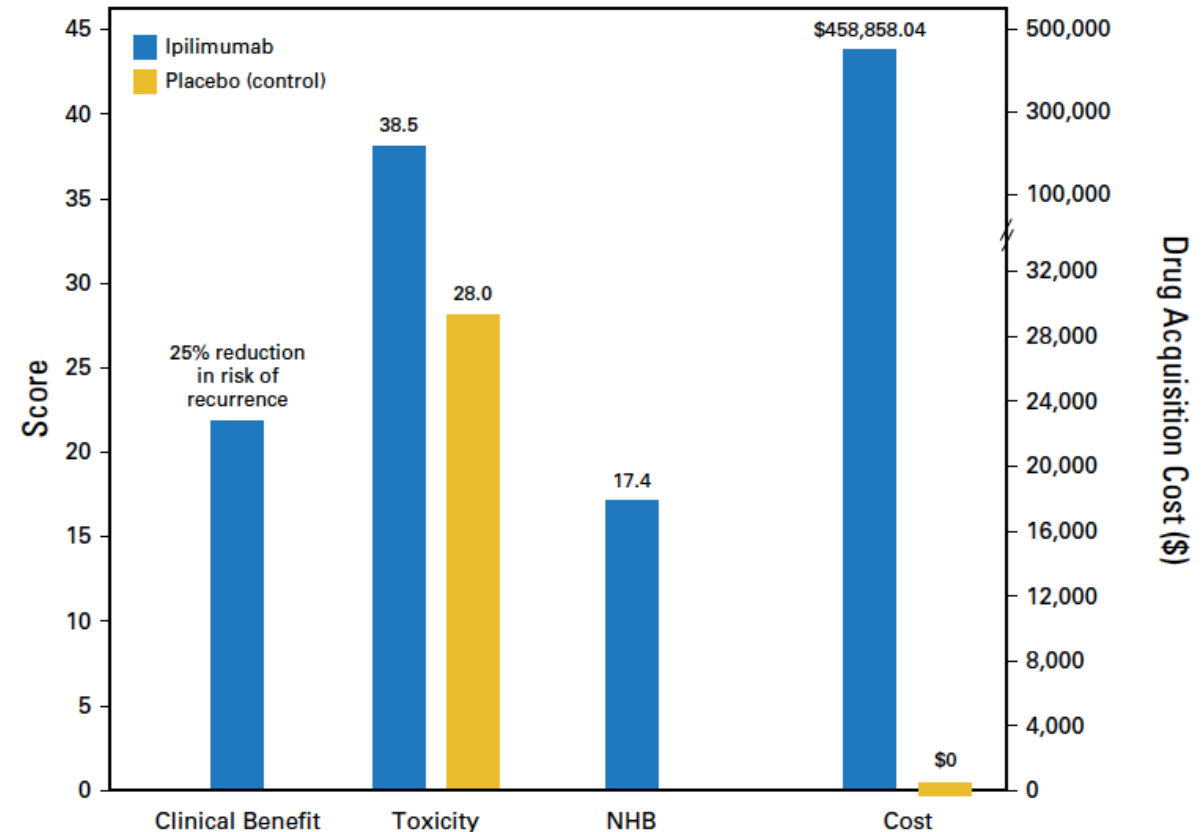
HR ≤ 0.65 AND gain ≥ 1.5 months

Control > 6 months

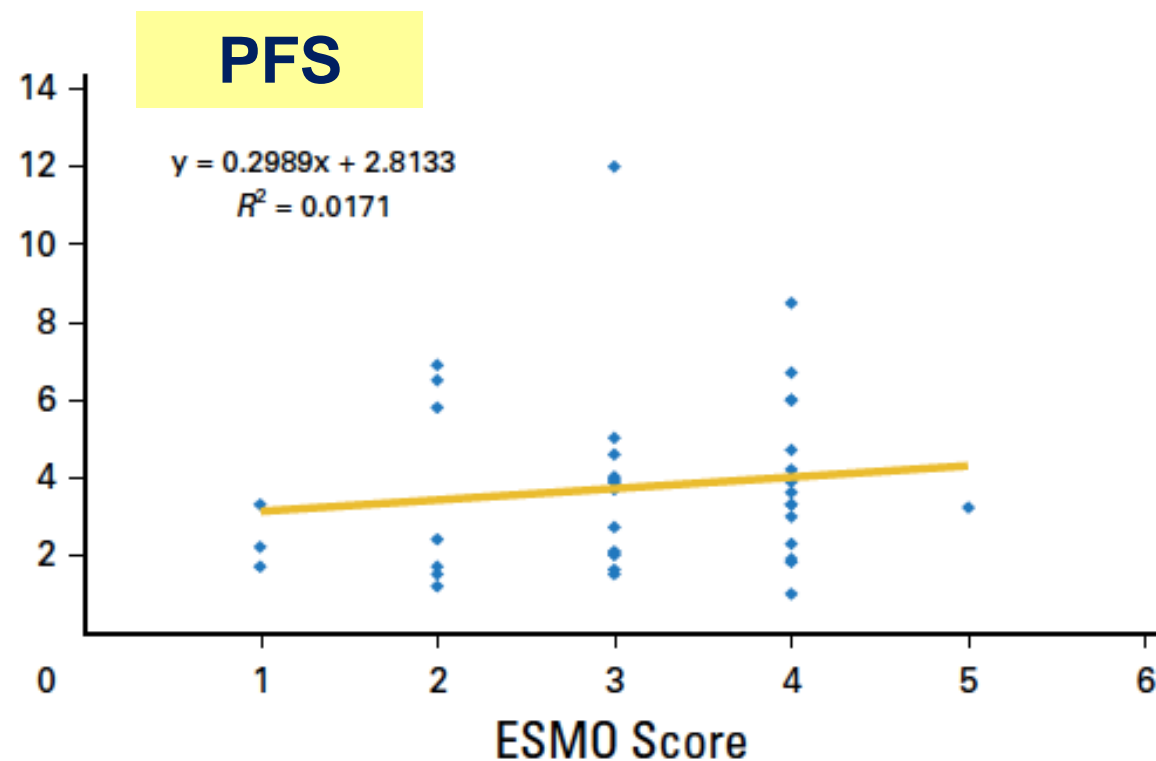
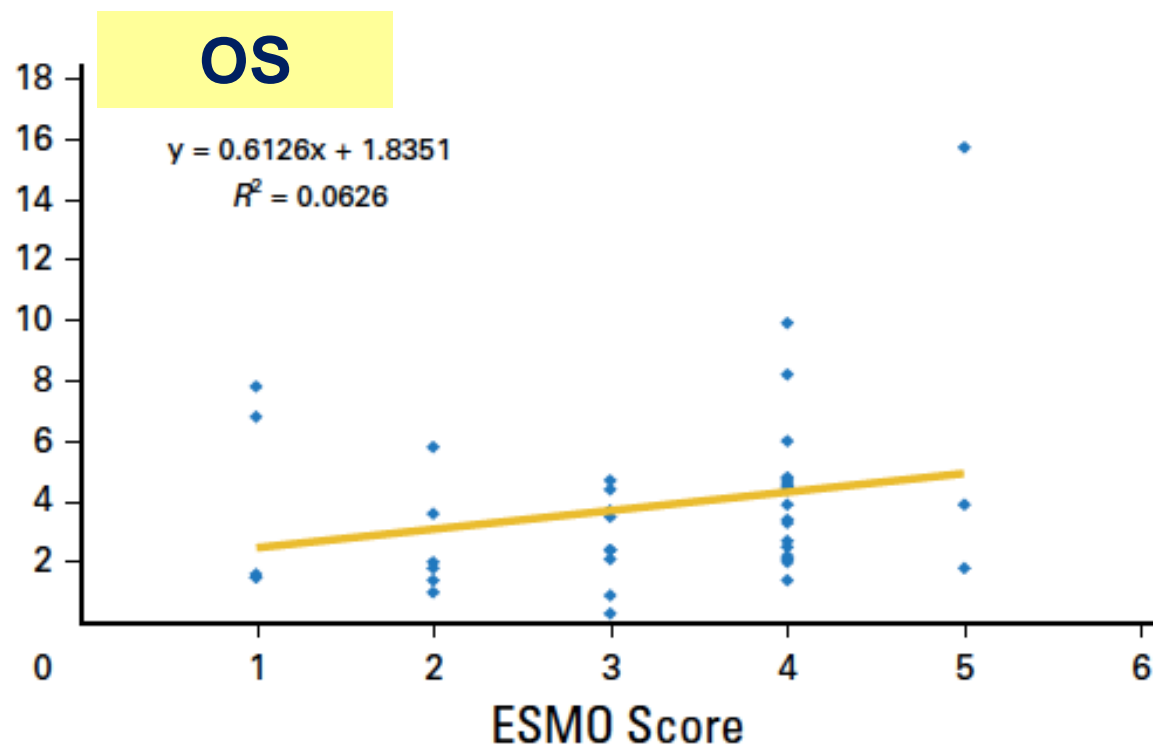
HR ≤ 0.65 AND gain ≥ 3 months



NHB: Net Health Benefit (NHB)

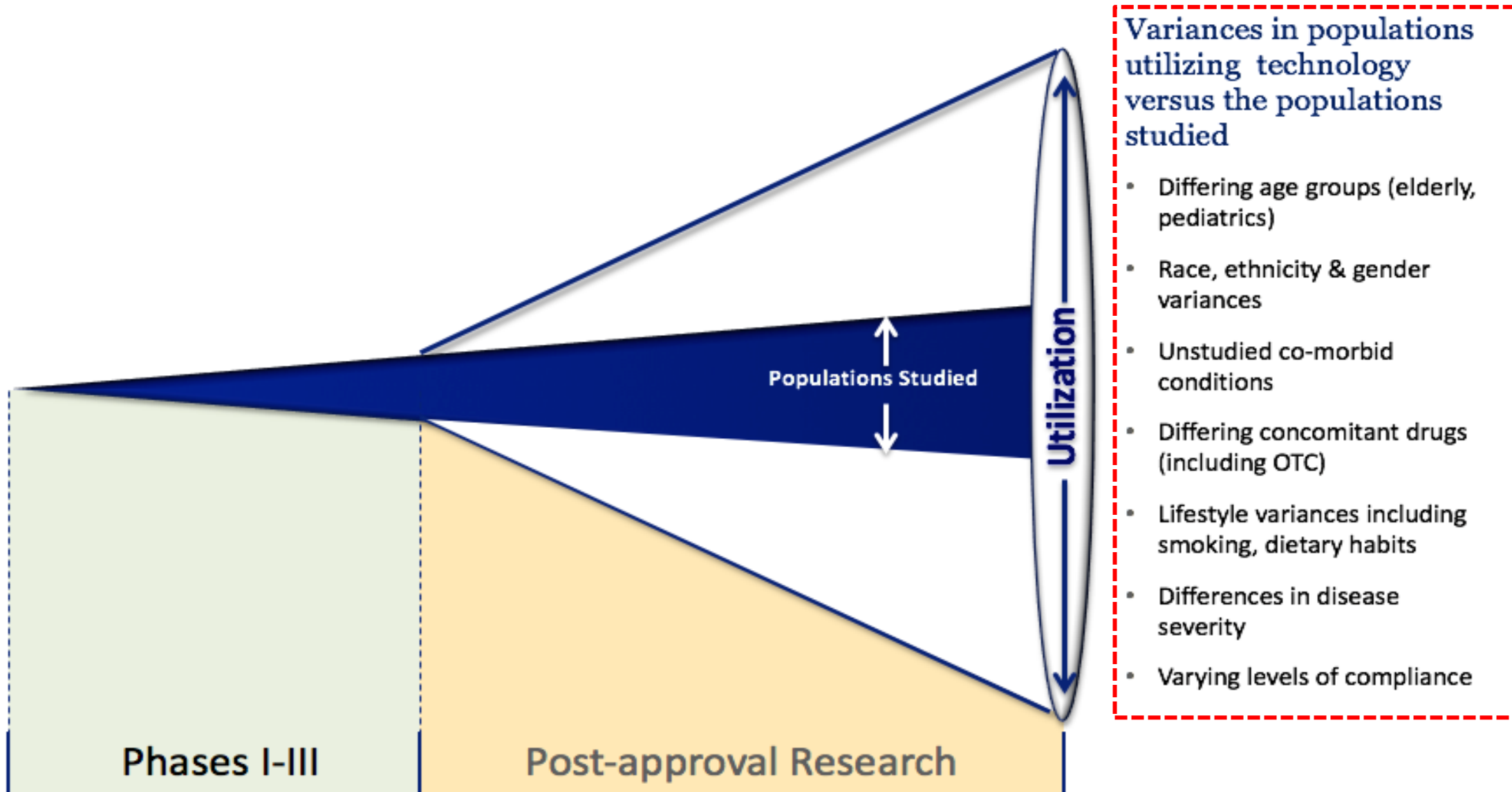


Do we really add Quantity to Quality?



- **ESMO MCSB:**
 - Poor correlation between outcome and scores
 - Decision criterion different from HTAs in the last 20 years.
- **ASCO Value Framework:**
 - Not possible to estimate

The 'Pyramid' of Evidence is Evolving



What do we assess in Ph. IV/Post-Marketing/RWD clinical studies?

- Activity:

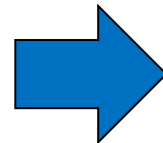
- ability of the treatment to induce modifications of the disease thanks to which it is assumed that the patient may have a benefit [Phase II]

- Efficacy:

- ability of the treatment to induce a clinical benefit in patients who are administered *in an experimental context* [Phase III]

- Effectiveness:

- ability of a treatment to be effective in a ***non-experimental, concrete and coincident with the clinical practice*** [Phase IV?]



Submitting Documents Using Real-World Data and Real-World Evidence to FDA for Drugs and Biologics Guidance for Industry

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)

May 2019
Procedural

<https://www.fda.gov/media/124795/download>

How to measure 'Real Life' Effectiveness

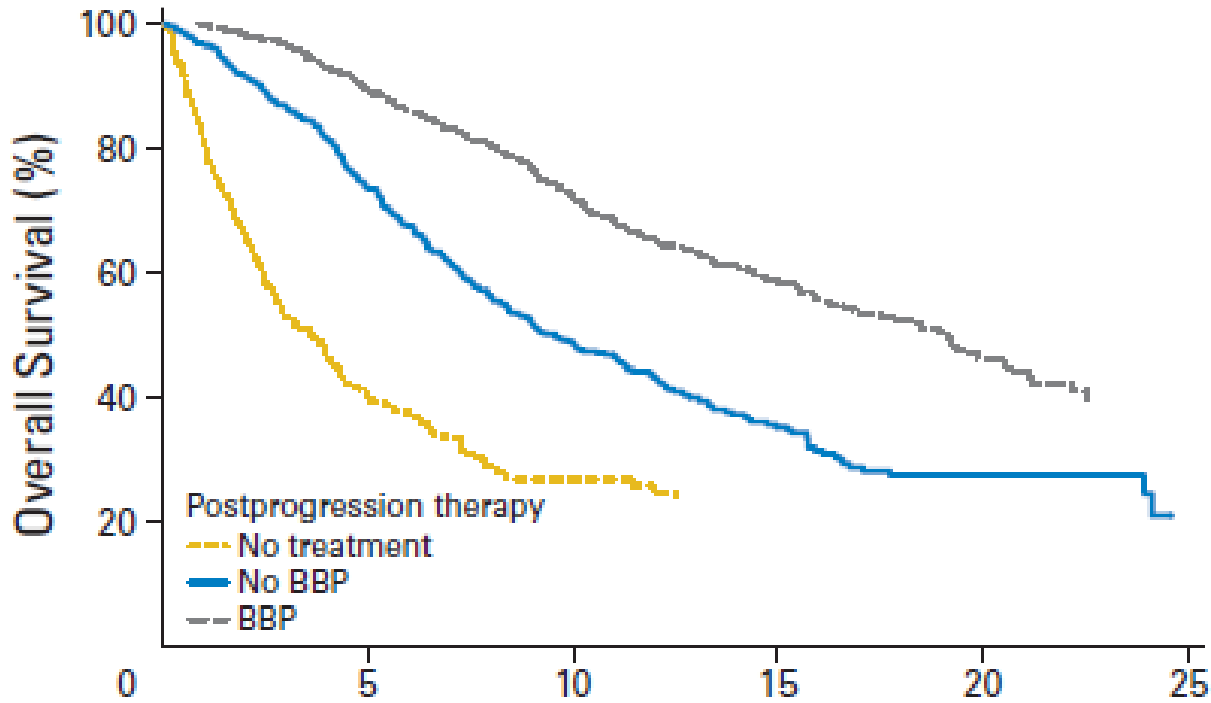
Real life effectiveness data can be collected in a number of ways:

- **Databases;**
- **Patient and population surveys;**
- **Patient chart reviews;**
- **Observational data from cohort studies;**
- **Pragmatic clinical trials;**
- **Registries.**

	Efficacy study (clinical trials)	Effectiveness study (observational studies)
Question	Does the intervention work under IDEAL circumstances?	Does the intervention work in REAL-LIFE practice?
Setting	Resource-intensive IDEAL setting	REAL-LIFE everyday clinical setting
Population	Highly selected, homogeneous population; many exclusion criteria	Heretogeneous population; few exclusion criteria
Providers	Highly experienced and training	Representative, usual providers
Intervention	Strictly enforced and standardized; no concurrent interventions	Applied with flexibility; concurrent interventions permitted

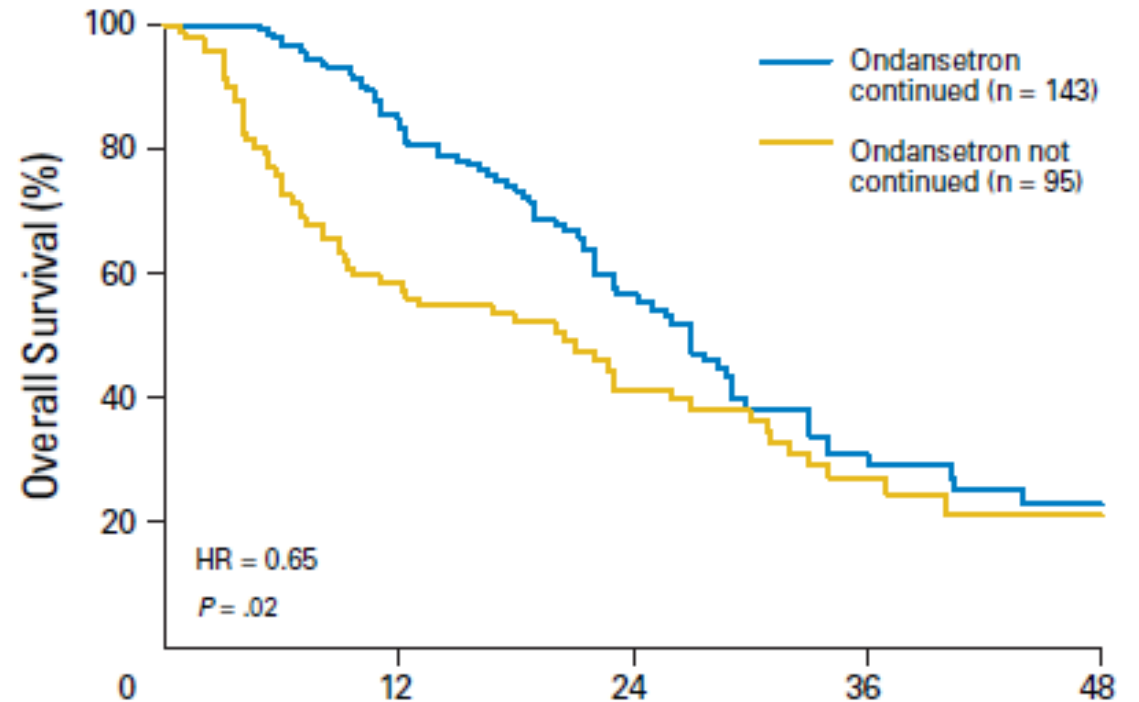
Hidden Biases in Observational Studies

**BRITE Trial [Large, Observational]:
Bevacizumab Beyond Progression,
Advanced CRC [HR 0.46]**



Grothey A et al, J Clin Oncol 2008

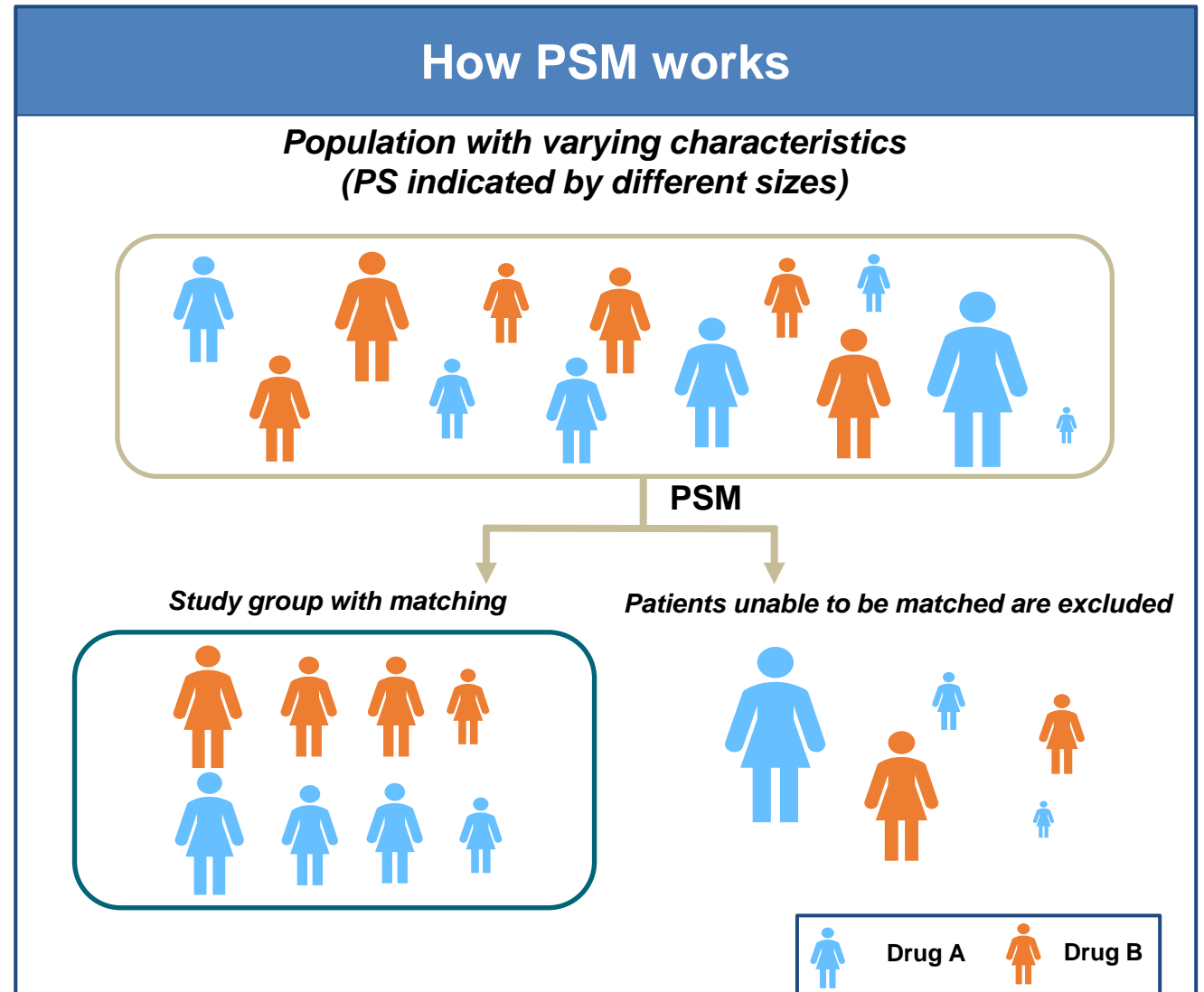
**Second Line Advanced CRC Patients'
Series: Fluorauracil Beyond
Progression [HR 0.72]**



Kopetz S et al, J Clin Oncol 2009

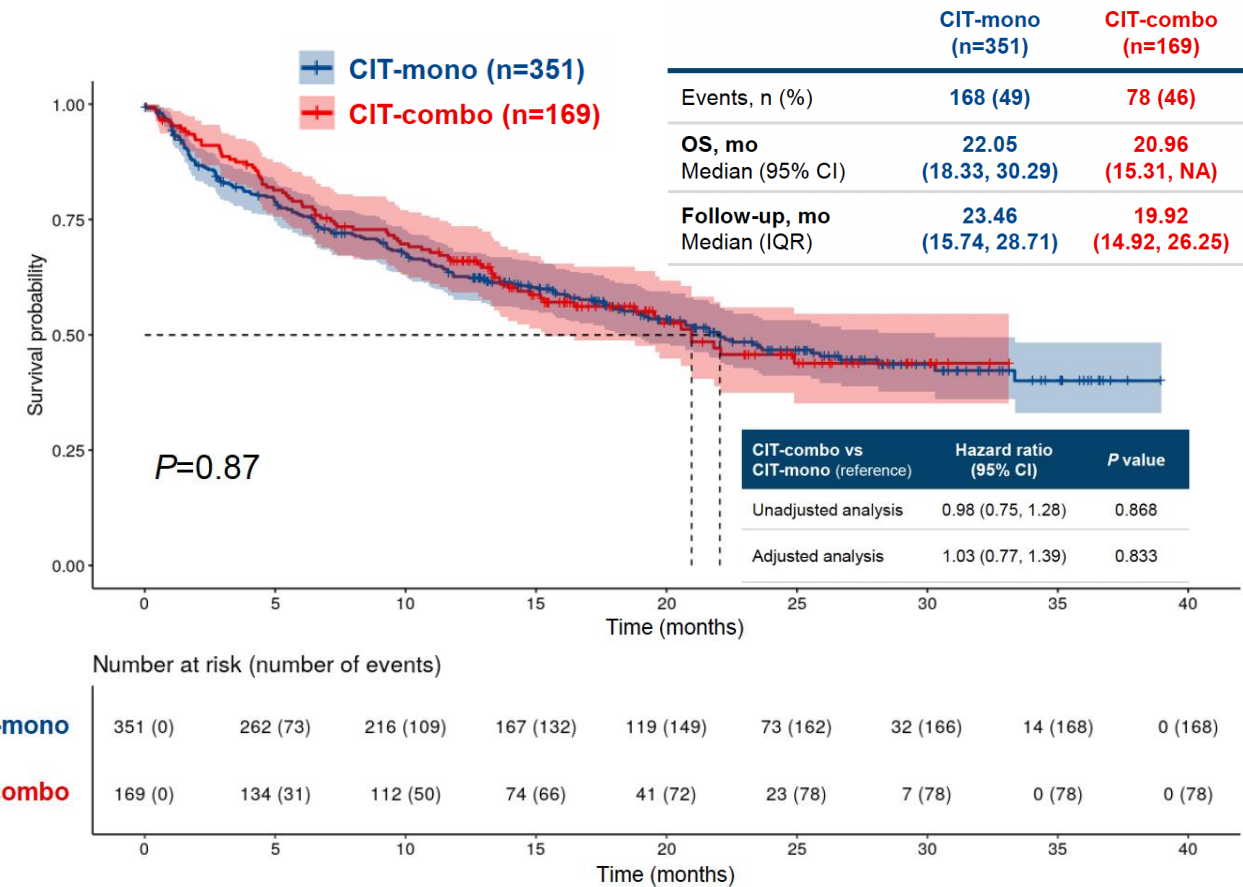
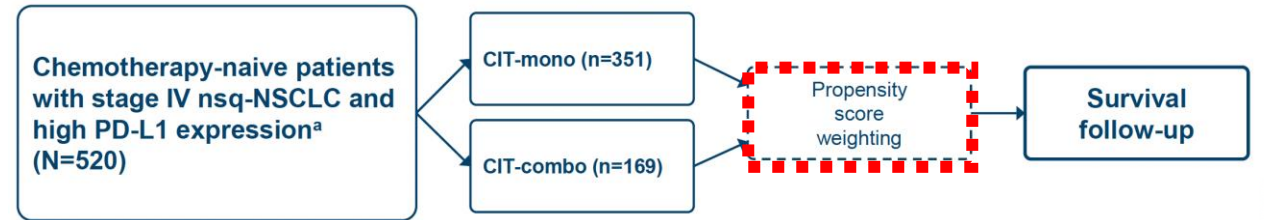
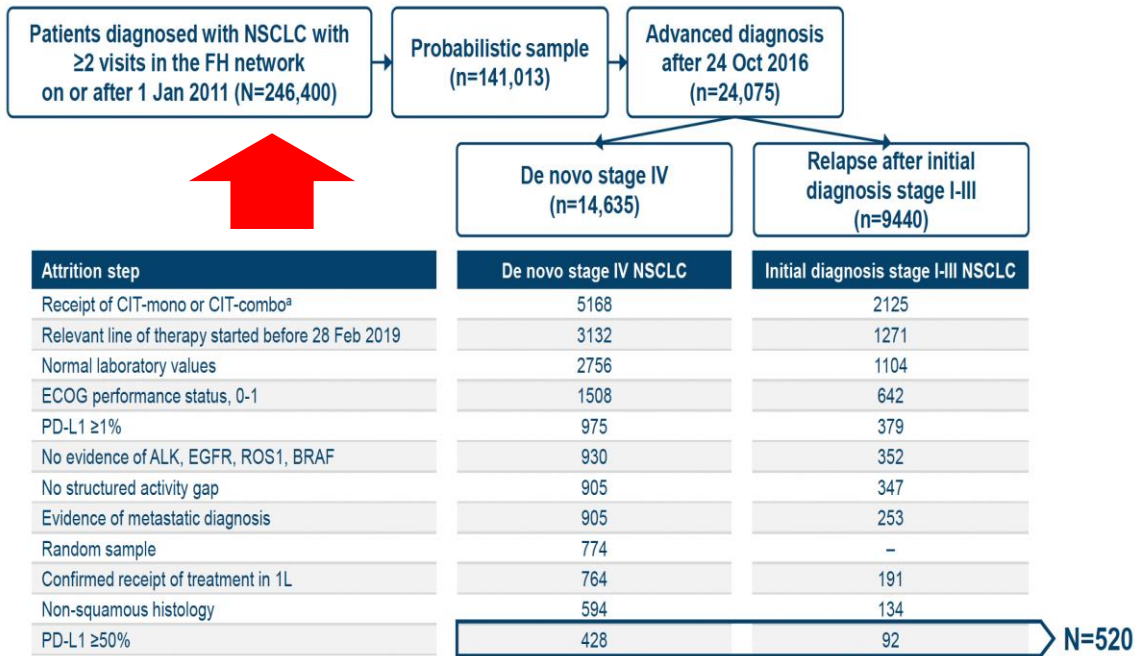
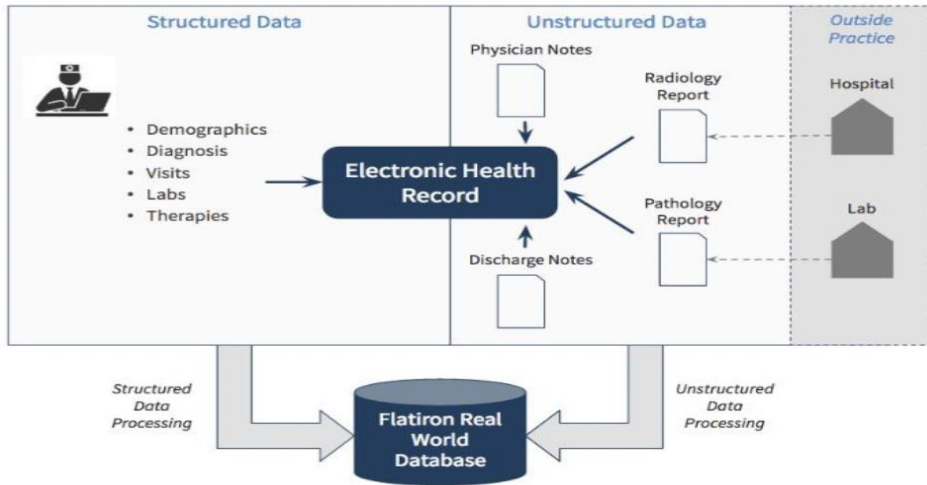
Propensity Score Matching (PSM)

- PSM is a statistical matching technique that attempts to eliminate or reduce any bias in real-world studies that are caused by the lack of randomisation
- The propensity score (PS) is the probability of a subject being assigned to a particular treatment given a set of observed key covariates (e.g. age or performance status) that may impact on this treatment decision



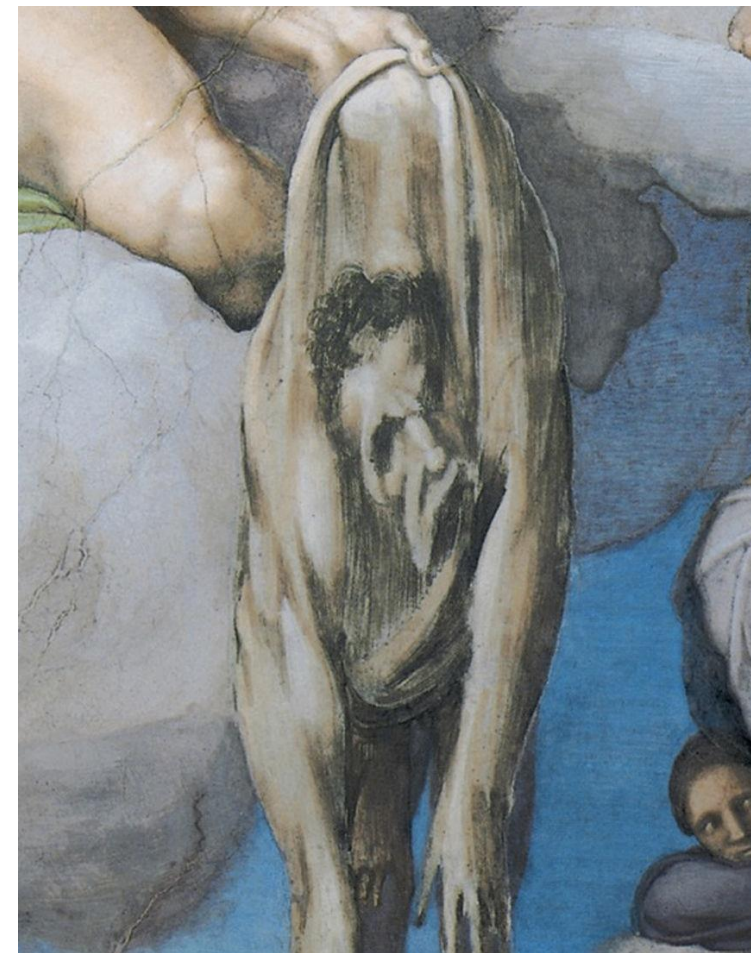
RWD: Effectiveness of IO(CT) for Advanced NSCLC

Flatiron Health database components



Topics

- Quesito Clinico di Riferimento
- Fasi della Sperimentazione Clinica
- **Disegni di Studio Osservazionali ed Interventistici**



'Giudizio Universale' (Particolare, Autoritratto?), Michelangelo, 1535 - 1541, Cappella Sistina, Roma

Dall'Ipotesi al Disegno di una Sperimentazione Clinica

- **Premessa: la buona ricerca clinica**
- **L'importanza del disegno di studio**
 - Descrizione dei dati e inferenza statistica
 - L'importanza della numerosità campionaria
 - La rappresentatività del campione
 - La tentazione delle analisi per sottogruppi

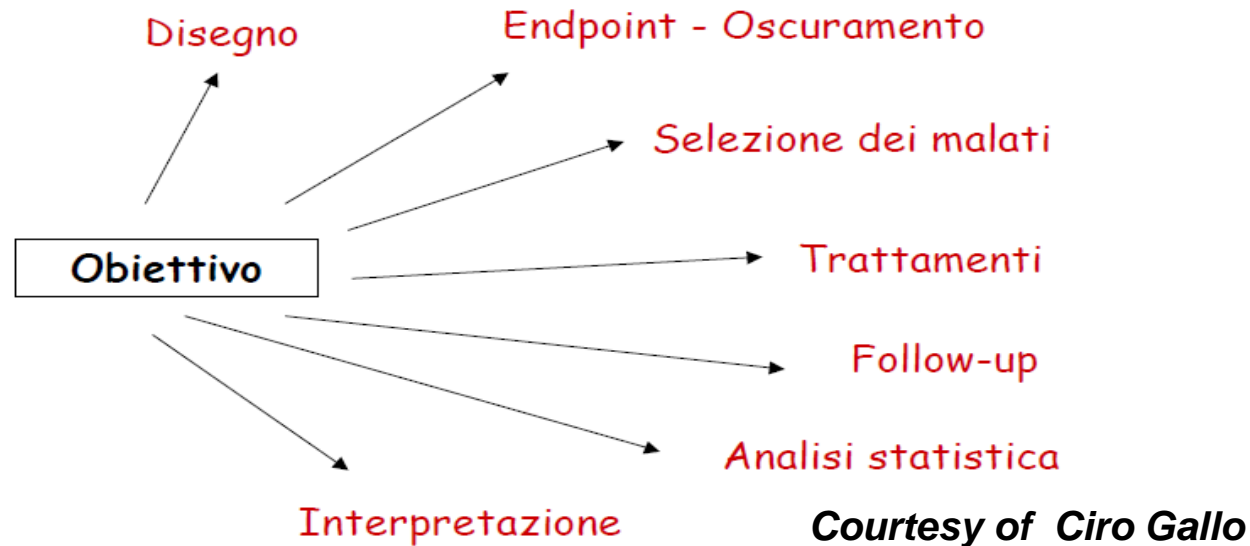
E' la struttura operativa dello studio, che permette di giungere a risultati:

- 1. Credibili**
- 2. Riproducibili**
- 3. Generalizzabili**

L'analisi Dovrebbe Essere Coerente Con Il Disegno Dello Studio!

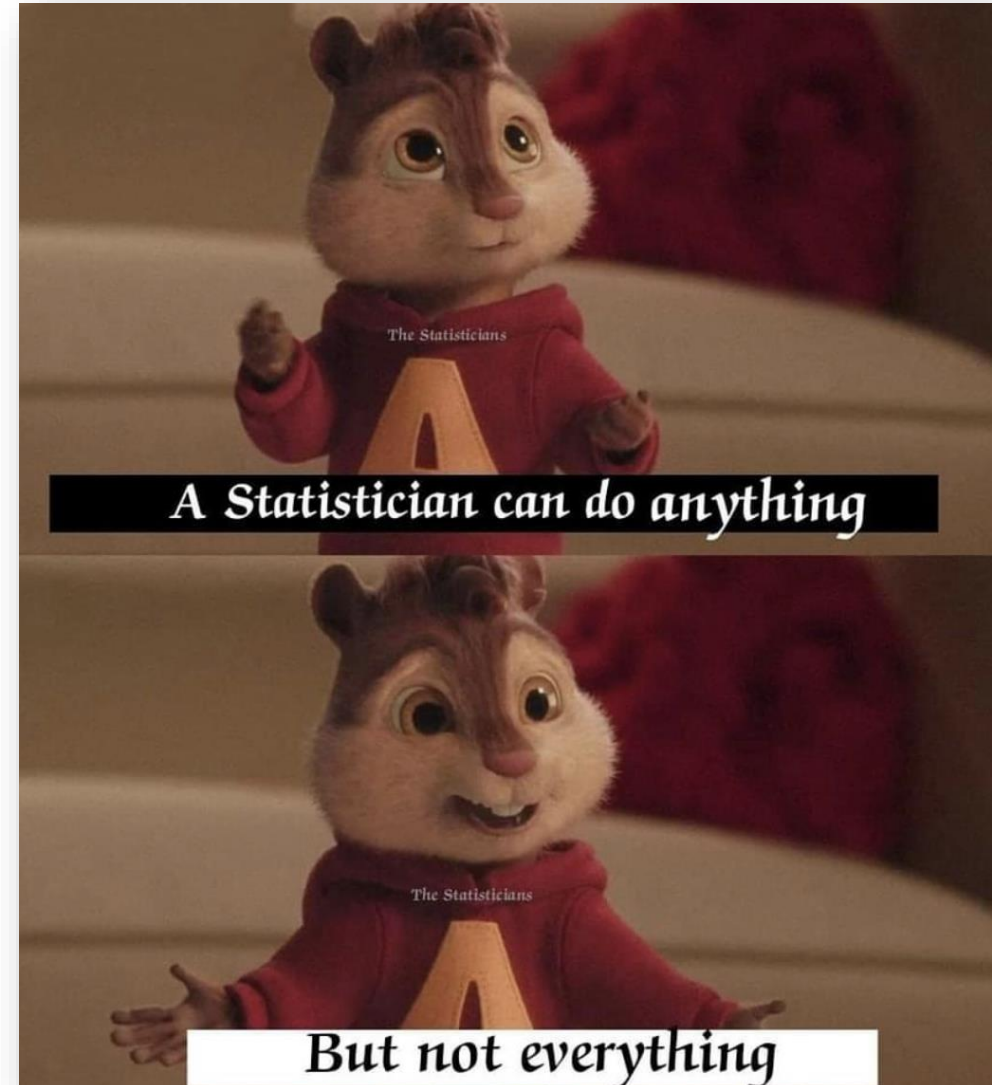
Metodo epidemiologici per la clinica efficacia / 7

L'aspetto più importante di uno studio e' il suo obiettivo primario

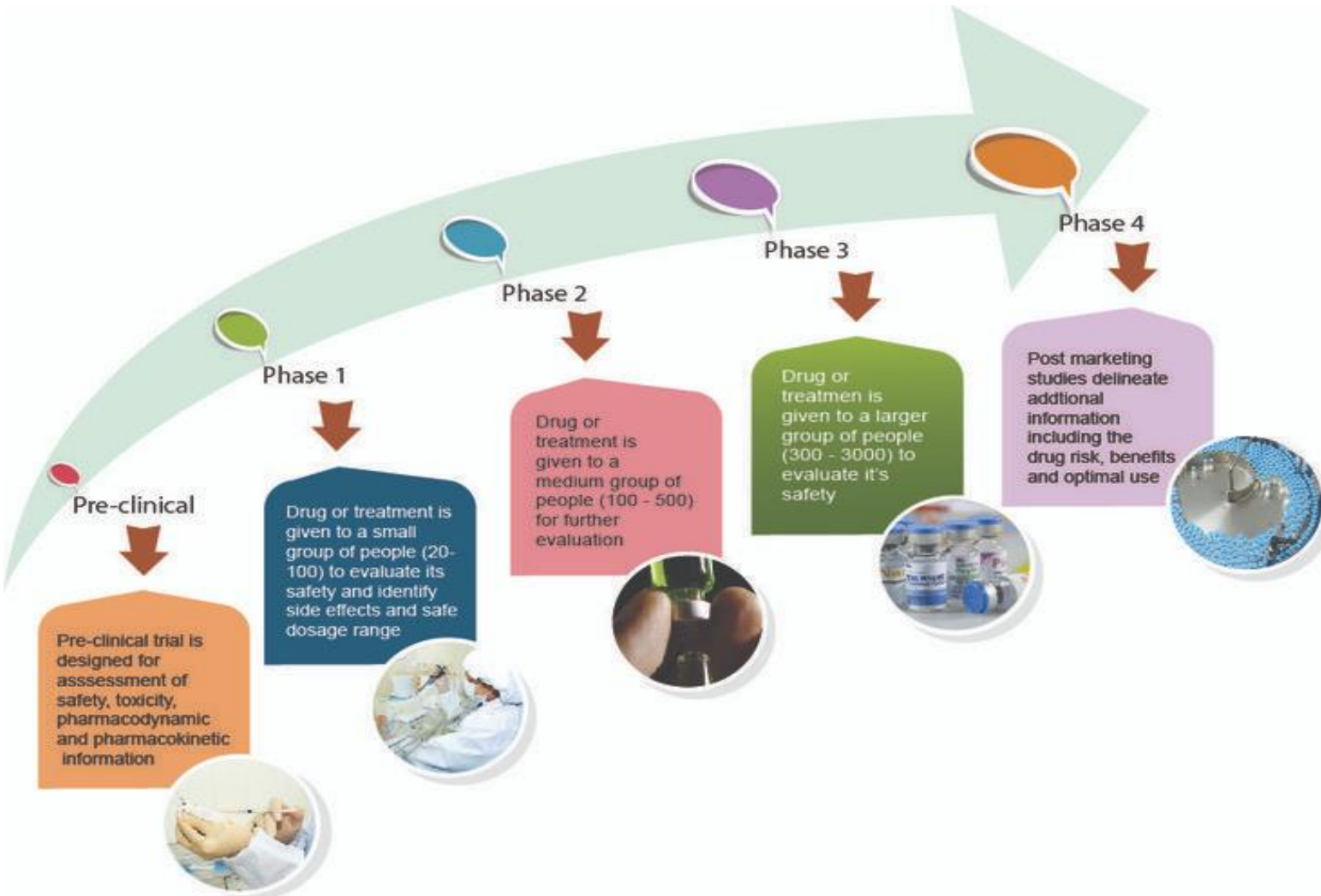


'If you torture your data long enough, they will tell you whatever you want to hear'

Mills, N Engl J Med 1993

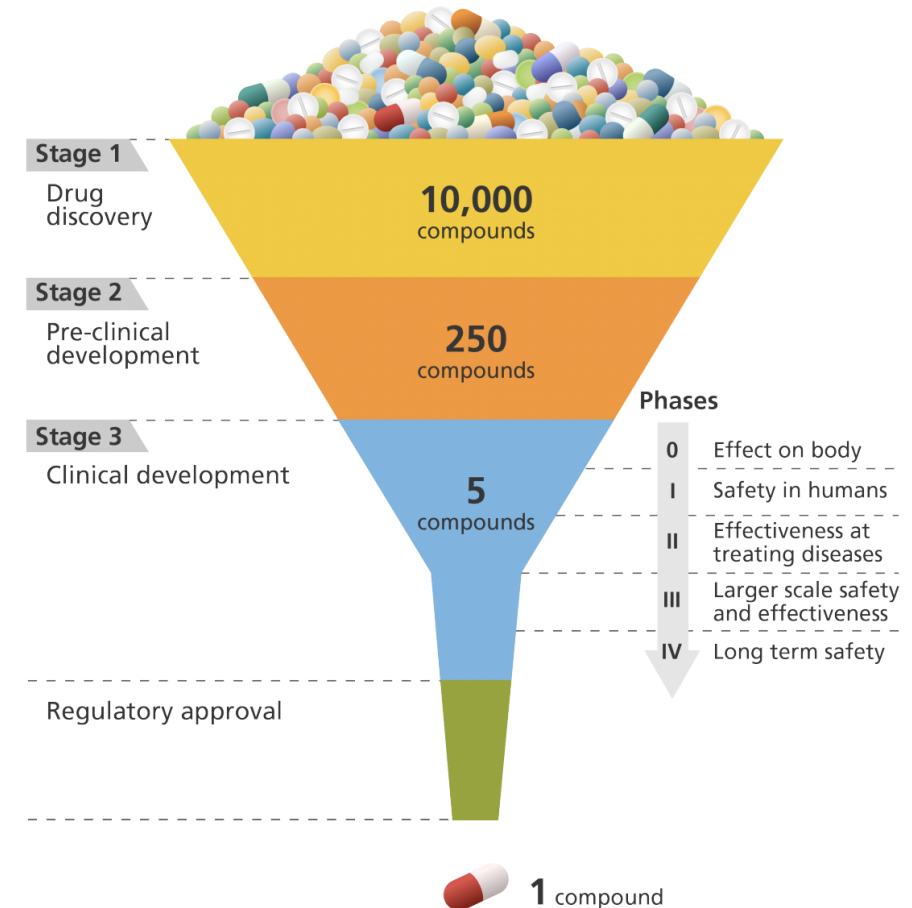


Il programma di ricerca clinica



Source: www.pinterest.it/excaliburhealth

Drugs' Attrition: One out of 10,000 Compound!



Source: *Genome Research Limited*

Steps of the Scientific Method

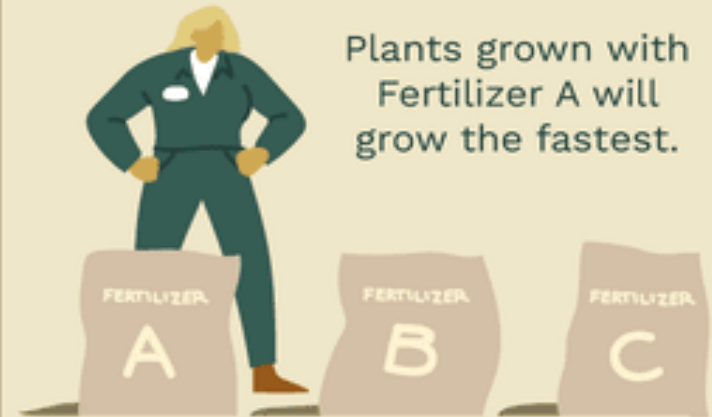


Observation

Which type of fertilizer works the best?



Question



Hypothesis



Results



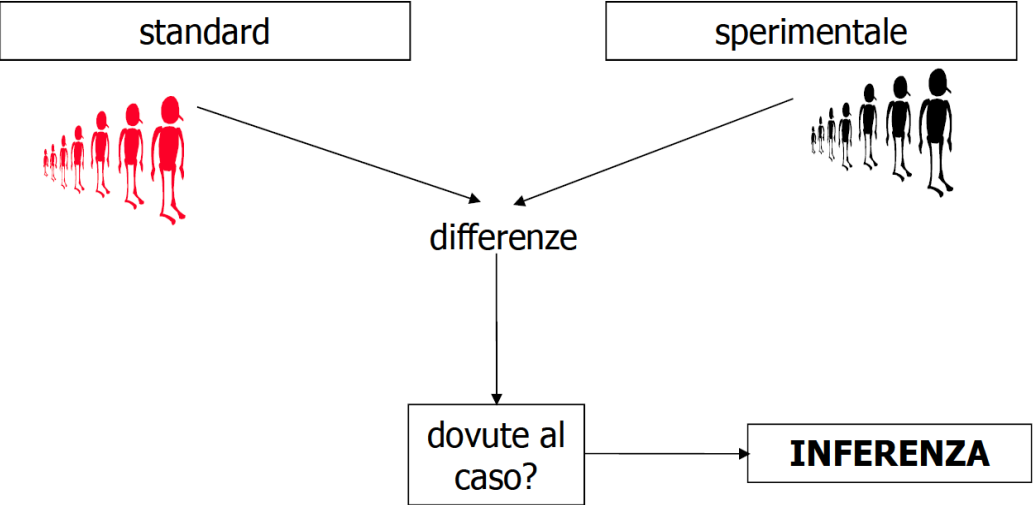
Conclusion

Dall'Ipotesi al Disegno di una Sperimentazione Clinica

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- **Statistica descrittiva:** prende in considerazione gli aspetti di presentazione (es. tabelle e grafici) dei dati
- **Statistica inferenziale:** deriva conclusioni riguardanti le popolazioni a partire dallo studio di un campione

Inferenza Statistica



Ipotizziamo che in un campione di pazienti la % risposte del trattamento A sia migliore rispetto a quella di B

Come interpretiamo questa differenza?

3 possibili ipotesi per giustificare la diversità osservata:

- 1 Il confronto è viziato perché qualche fattore non considerato è responsabile della differenza osservata
- 2 La differenza è dovuta alla variabilità campionaria
- 3 A è effettivamente più attivo di B

L'ipotesi 1 può essere esclusa disegnando bene l'esperimento

L'ipotesi 2 può essere esclusa applicando un test di significatività statistica

Soltanto dopo avere escluso le ipotesi 1 e 2 possiamo concludere che A è migliore di B

The diagram is set against a light beige background. It starts with a hypothesis: 'Ipotizziamo che in un campione di pazienti la % risposte del trattamento A sia migliore rispetto a quella di B'. Below this is a red-bordered box asking 'Come interpretiamo questa differenza?'. A large white arrow points from this question to a list of three hypotheses, numbered 1, 2, and 3, each in a blue circle. Hypothesis 1: 'Il confronto è viziato perché qualche fattore non considerato è responsabile della differenza osservata'. Hypothesis 2: 'La differenza è dovuta alla variabilità campionaria'. Hypothesis 3: 'A è effettivamente più attivo di B'. Below the list, two boxes provide methods to exclude hypotheses 1 and 2. The first box says 'L'ipotesi 1 può essere esclusa disegnando bene l'esperimento'. The second box says 'L'ipotesi 2 può essere esclusa applicando un test di significatività statistica'. A large white arrow points from these two boxes down to a final red-bordered box: 'Soltanto dopo avere escluso le ipotesi 1 e 2 possiamo concludere che A è migliore di B'.

Studi Osservazionali vs. Studi Sperimentali

- An observational study draws inferences from a sample to a population where the independent variable is **not under the control** of the researcher.



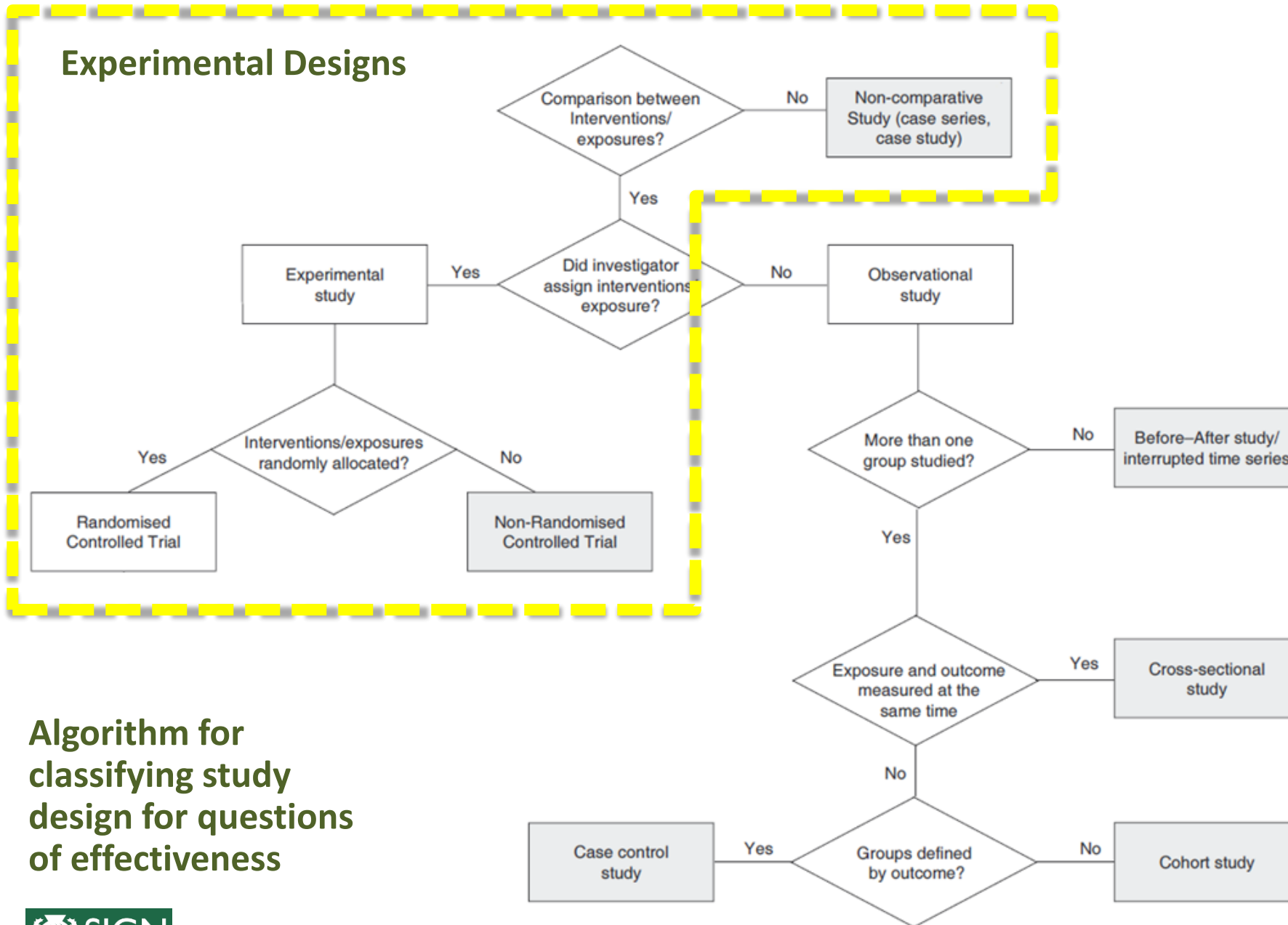
- The term observational study covers a wide range of study designs, a common feature of which is that they are non-interventional, in the sense that the **study protocol does not determine the precise features of any therapy** given to the participants in the study.



Studi non controllati

Studi controllati non randomizzati

Studi controllati randomizzati



Algorithm for classifying study design for questions of effectiveness

Observational Studies

“EPIDEMIOLOGIC” Vs “THERAPEUTIC”

Before-After

Surveys disease status before and after an intervention

Cross-Sectional

Provide information on prevalence of a particular condition at a single time point (time window)

Case-Control

Identify predictors of a particular outcome

Cohort

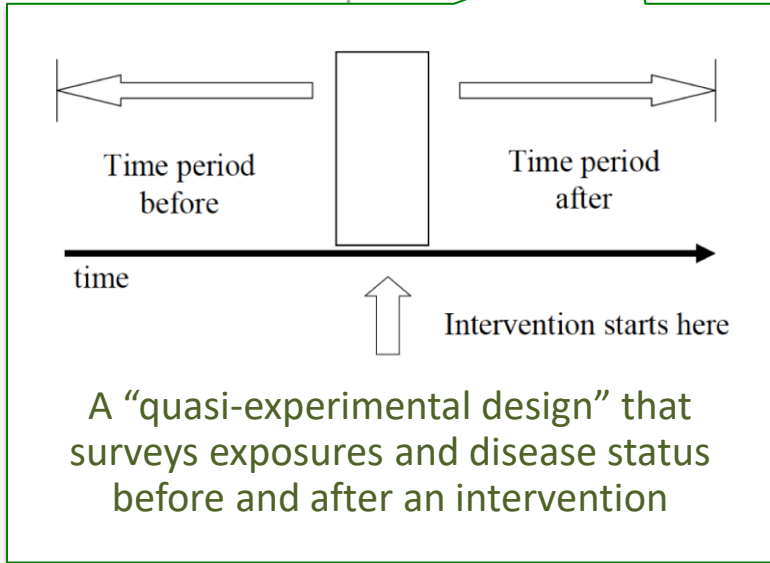
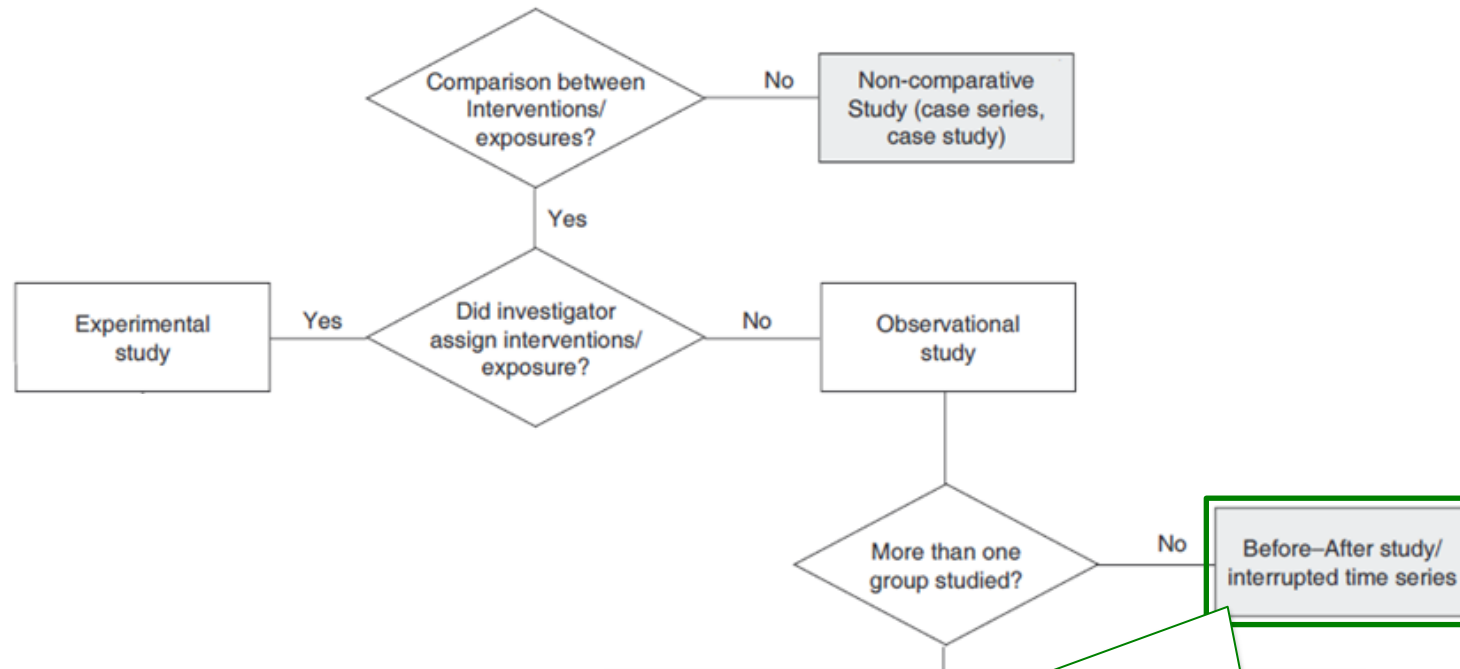
Identify the incidence of a particular outcome over time

Non-comparative case series

Report outcomes of patients who received a specific intervention

Comparative case series

Compare outcomes between patients who received different interventions



Algorithm for classifying study design for questions of effectiveness

Observational Studies

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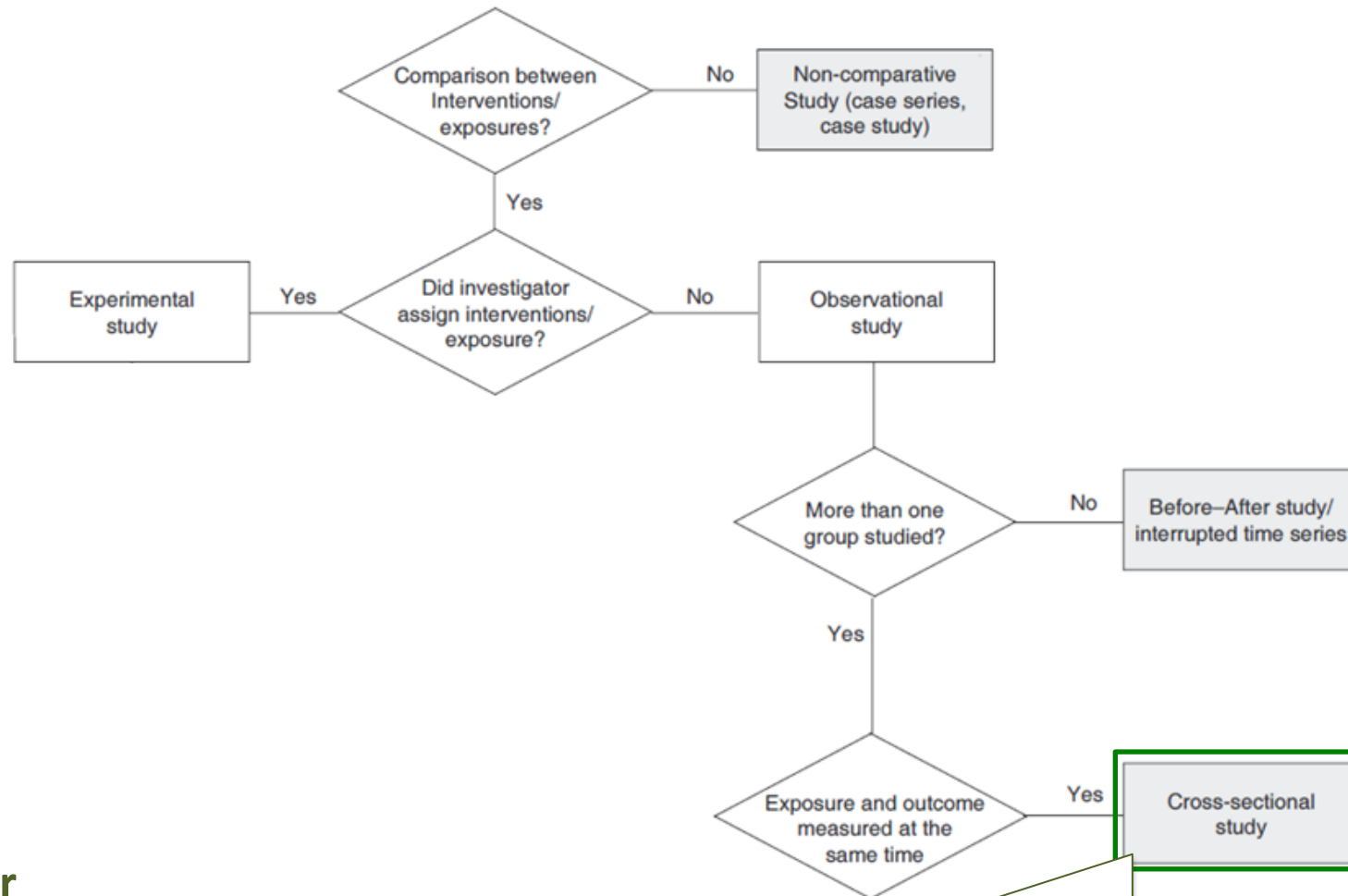
Identify the incidence of a particular outcome over time

Non-comparative case series

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Algorithm for classifying study design for questions of effectiveness

Subjects selected irrespective of the presence or absence of the characteristics of interest. Similar to a case series, except that the purpose of the analysis is to record associations between variables, rather than merely to report frequencies of their occurrence

Observational Studies

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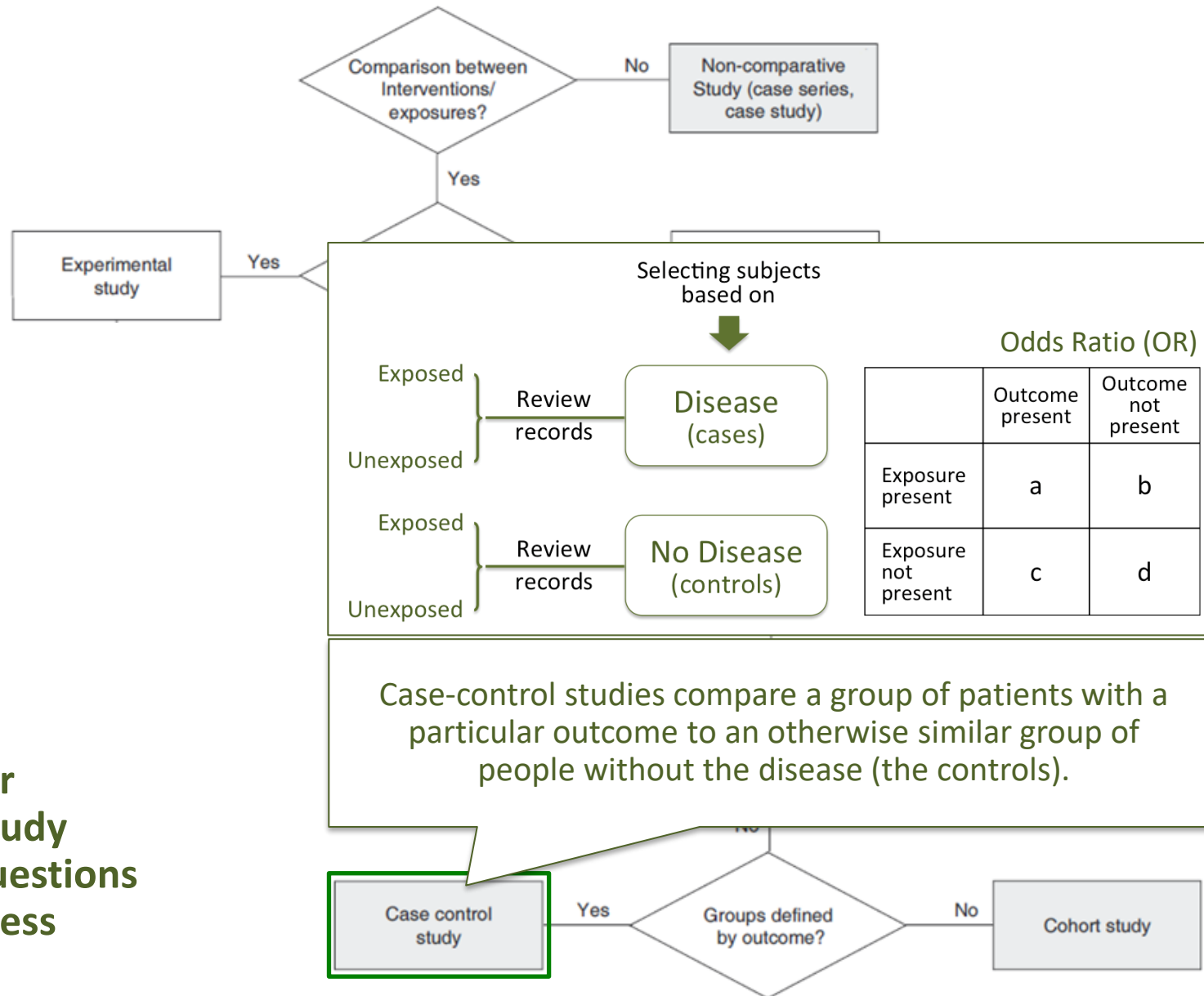
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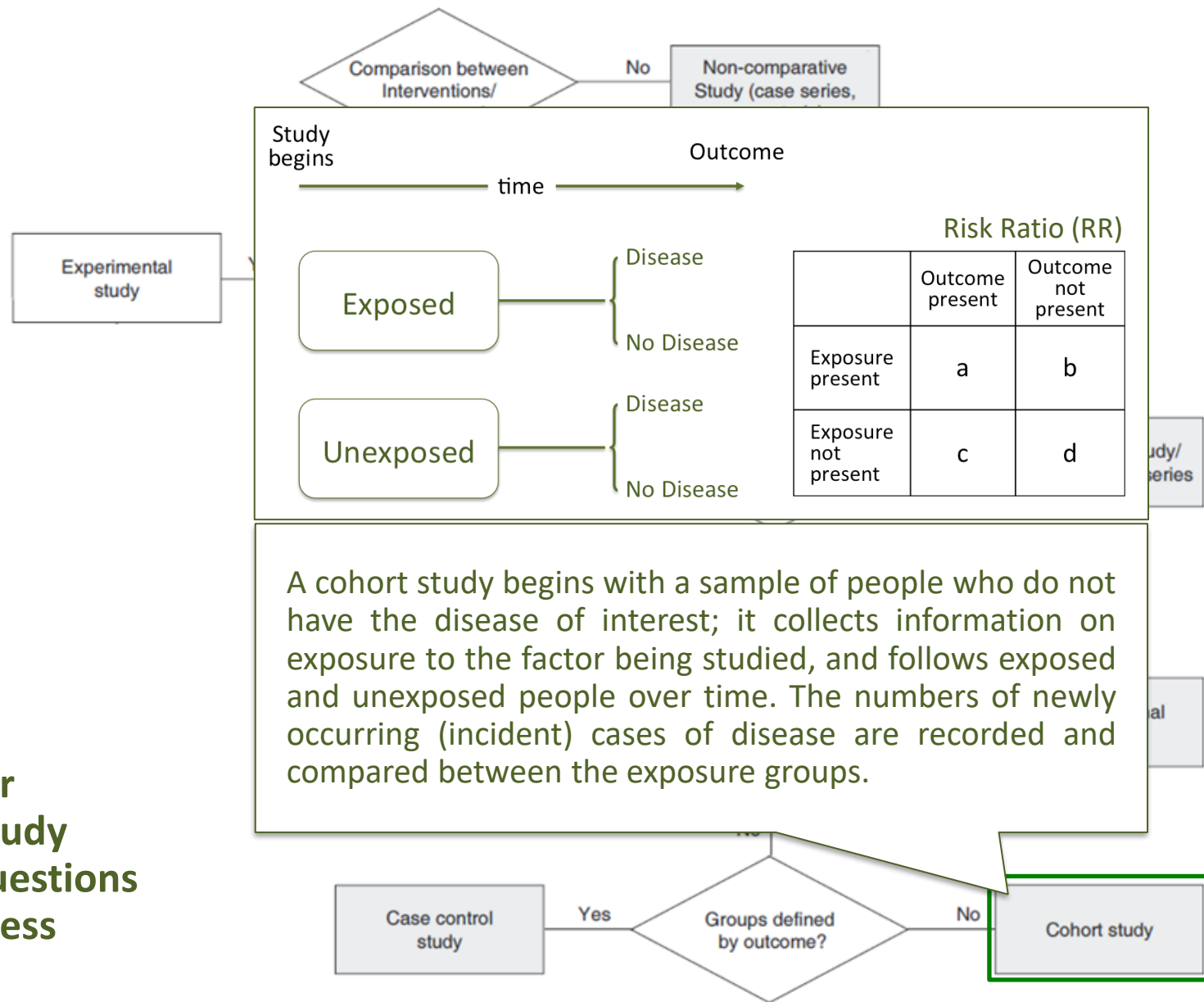
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Comparative case series

Compare outcomes between patients who received different interventions

Algorithm for classifying study design for questions of effectiveness



Time matters...



Cross-Sectional Studies

(exposure and outcome measured at the same time)



Case-Control Studies

(groups defined by the outcome)



Cohort Studies

(groups not defined by the outcome)

Observational Studies

“EPIDEMIOLOGIC” Vs “THERAPEUTIC”

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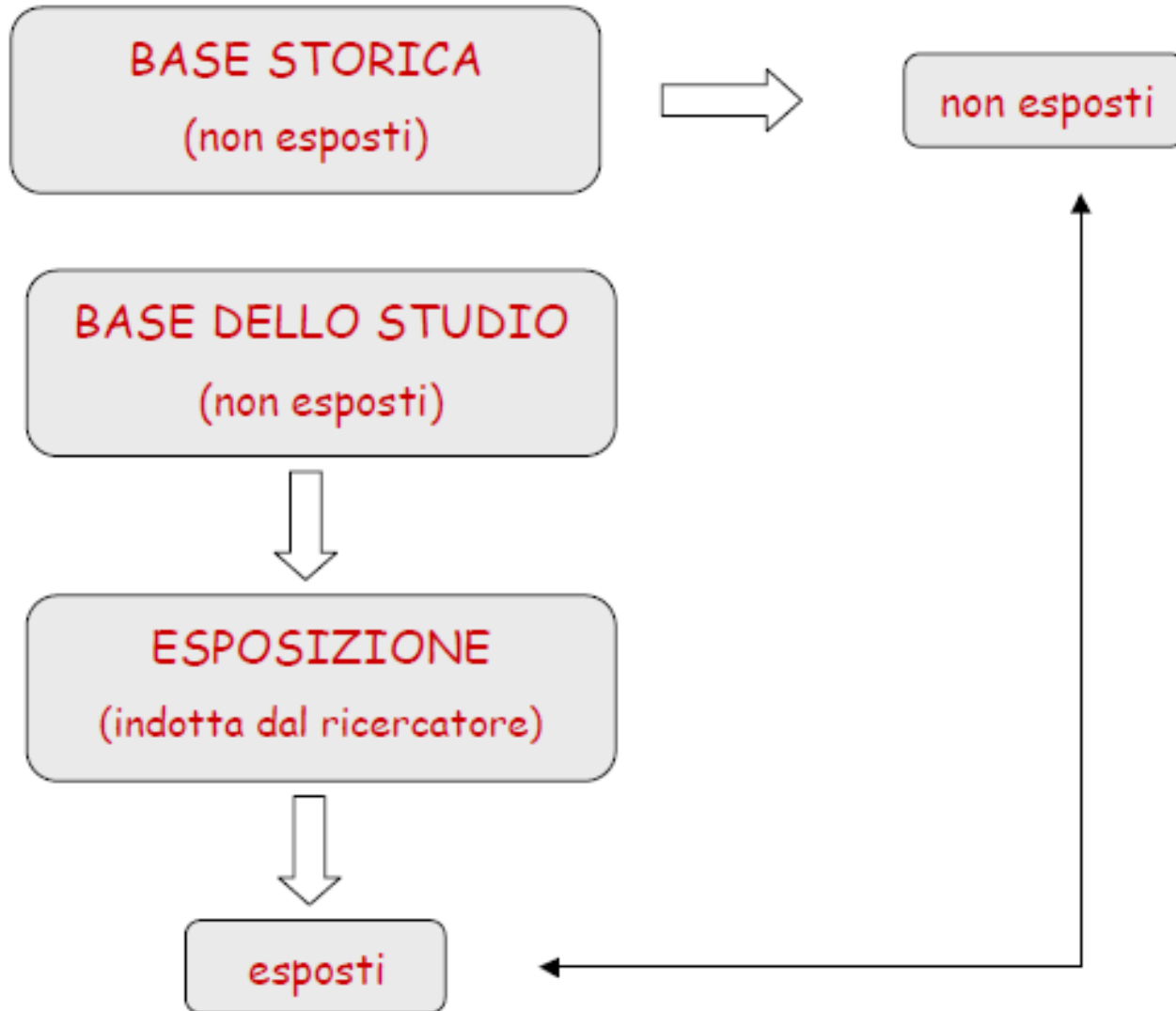
Report outcomes of patients who received a specific intervention

Comparative case series

Compare outcomes between patients who received different interventions

Any observed difference between the outcomes of study arms may be attributable to baseline differences rather than to a true treatment effect.

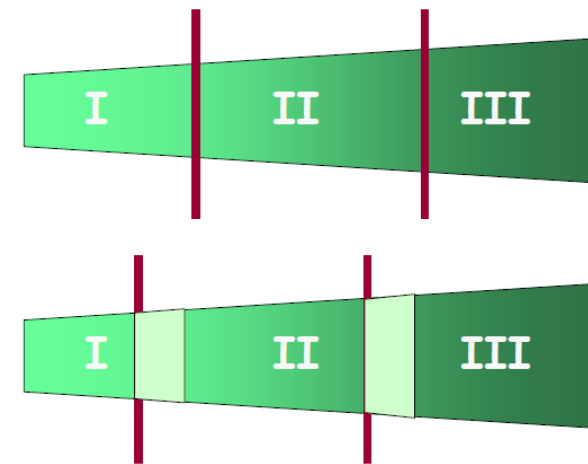
Studi non controllati (es. *controlli storici*)



Problemi

- Variabilità del decorso
- Selezione della popolazione
- Effetto “placebo”

La migrazione di stadio: il fenomeno di Will Rogers

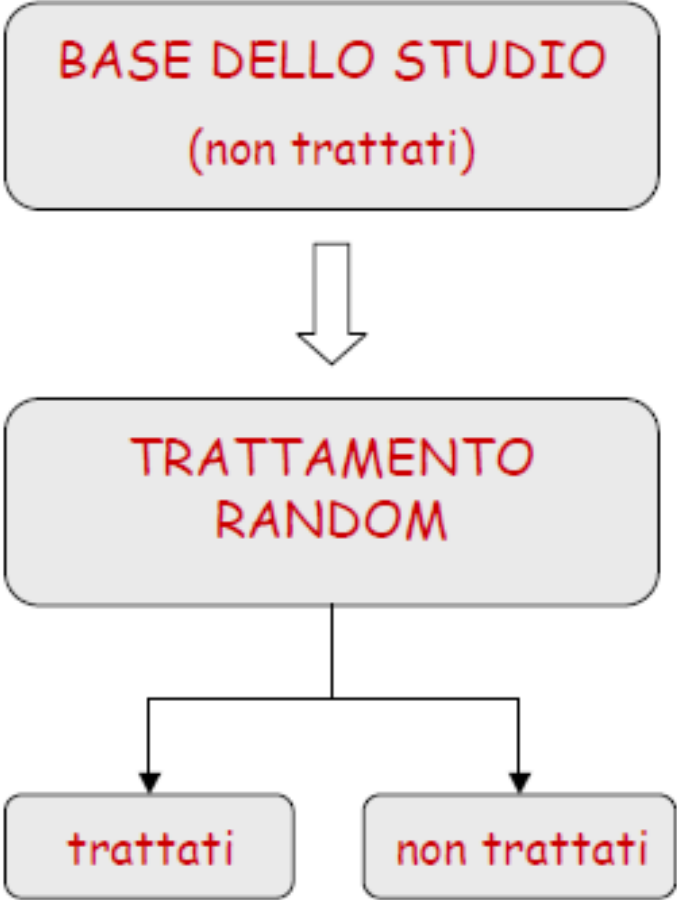


Studi Controllati

Studi con controlli paralleli



Studi randomizzati



Dall'Ipotesi al Disegno di una Sperimentazione Clinica

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La Precisione della Stima

Numeri assoluti	Proporzione Osservata	Intervallo di confidenza 95%
2/10	20%	0.1% - 44.8%
4/20	20%	2.5% - 37.5%
6/30	20%	5.7% - 34.3%
8/40	20%	7.6% - 32.4%
10/50	20%	8.9% - 31.1%
12/60	20%	9.9% - 30.1%
14/70	20%	10.6% - 29.4%
16/80	20%	11.2% - 28.8%
18/90	20%	11.7% - 28.3%
20/100	20%	12.2% - 27.8%
50/250	20%	15.0% - 25.0%

Fattori che influenzano la numerosità del campione in una sperimentazione clinica



Importanza della Numerosità Campionaria

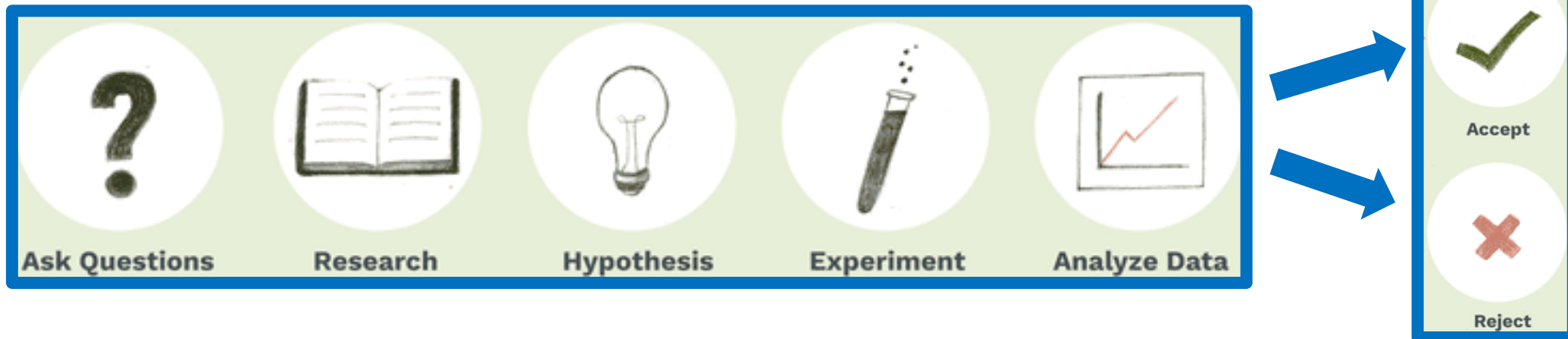
- Immaginiamo di voler verificare la superiorità di un trattamento sperimentale rispetto allo standard
- Fissati il rischio di risultato falso positivo (5%) e la potenza (80%), il numero di eventi necessari dipende dall'entità dell'impatto prognostico che ipotizziamo (**Hazard Ratio**)

Hazard Ratio (HR)	Numero di eventi necessari
0.80	631
0.70	247
0.60	121
0.50	66
0.40	38
0.30	22
0.20	13
0.10	6

Numero di eventi	Potenza
20	20%
30	28%
40	36%
50	44%
60	51%
70	57%
80	63%
90	68%
100	72%
110	76%
120	80%

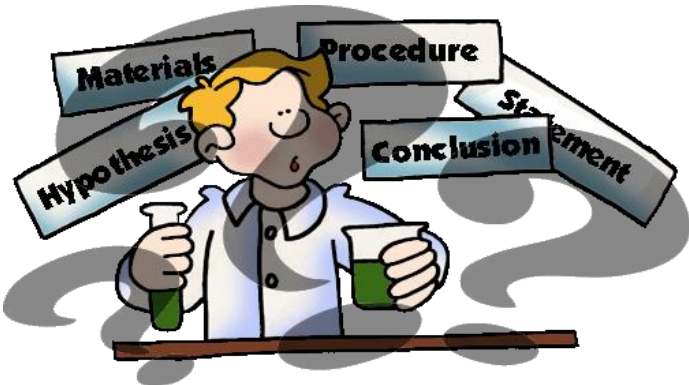
Objectives and End-points

- The selection of endpoints in a clinical trial is extremely important and requires a marriage of:
 - **Clinical relevance**
 - **Statistical reasoning.**
- The motivation for every clinical trial begins with a scientific question.
- The primary objective of the trial is to address the scientific question by collecting appropriate data.
- The selection of the primary endpoint is made to:
 - Address the primary objective of the trial.



Objectives and End-points

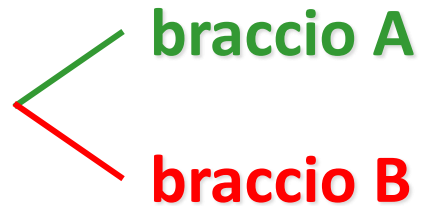
- The primary end-point should be:
 - Clinically relevant
 - Interpretable
 - Sensitive to the effects of intervention
 - Practical and affordable to measure
 - Ideally measured in an unbiased manner
- Endpoints can generally be categorized by their scale of measurement.
- The 3 most common types of endpoints in clinical trials are:
 - Continuous endpoints (ex. Pain-VAS),
 - Categorical (ex. binary, response vs. no response)
 - Event-time endpoints (ex. time to death)
- The scale of the primary endpoint impacts:
 - Analyses
 - Trial power
 - Costs



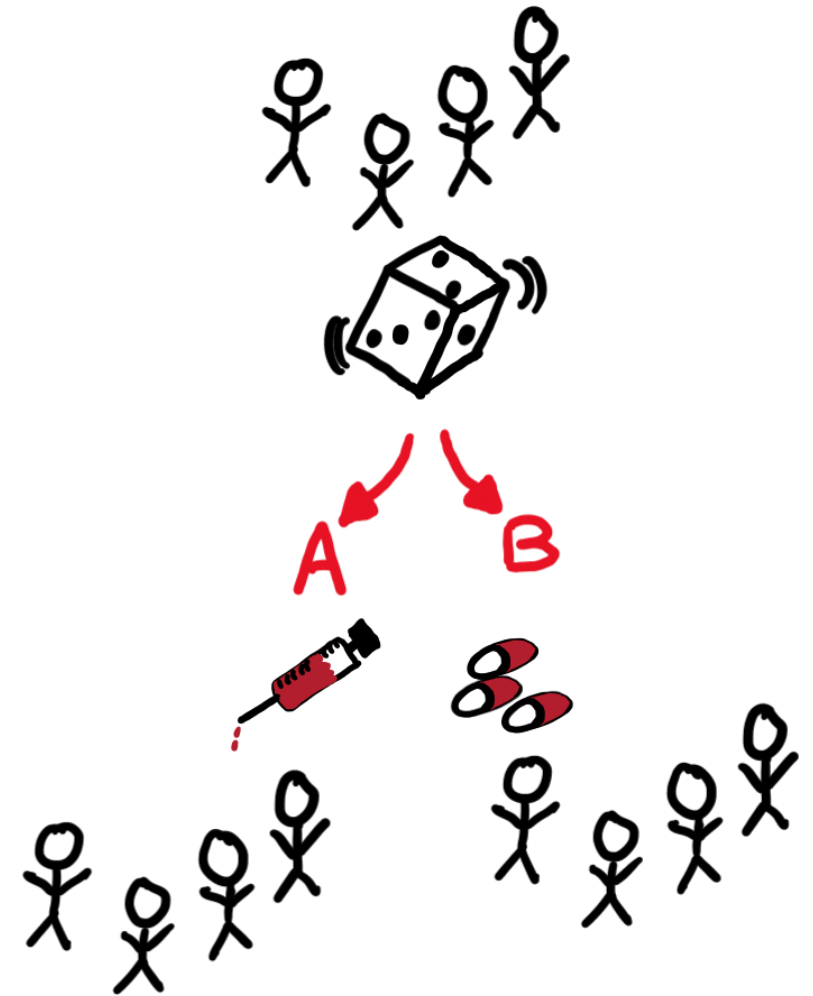
Disegno a Bracci Paralleli

Assegnazione del paziente a un gruppo di trattamento, al quale si appartiene per l'intera durata dello studio:

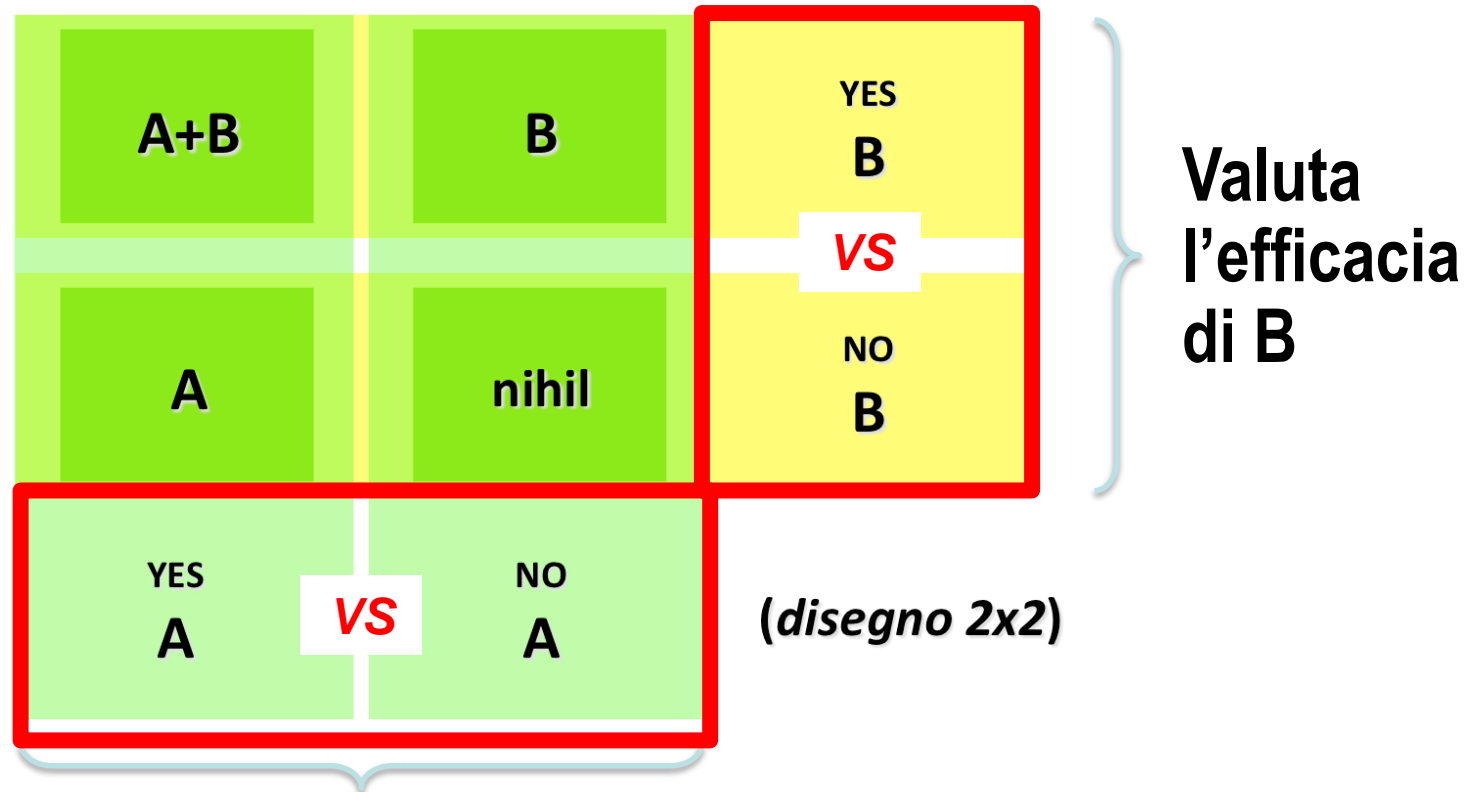
assegnazione del
trattamento



rilevazione esito



Disegno Fattoriale



Valuta l'efficacia di A

Prerequisito: non interazione tra gli effetti degli interventi ("righe Vs colonne")

Factorial Design for RCTs

- The sample size of the factorial design is based on a non-interaction assumption between the two aimed questions.
- The application of factorial design allows two independent questions to be answered using the same patients:
 - **In other words, it is a simple way to conduct two trials in one.**
- **If a significant interaction is expected, or it emerges during the trial (ex. other evidence), it should be kept in mind that its occurrence could make the primary result of the trial practically useless, and the unique useful information could come from secondary, less powered analyses.**

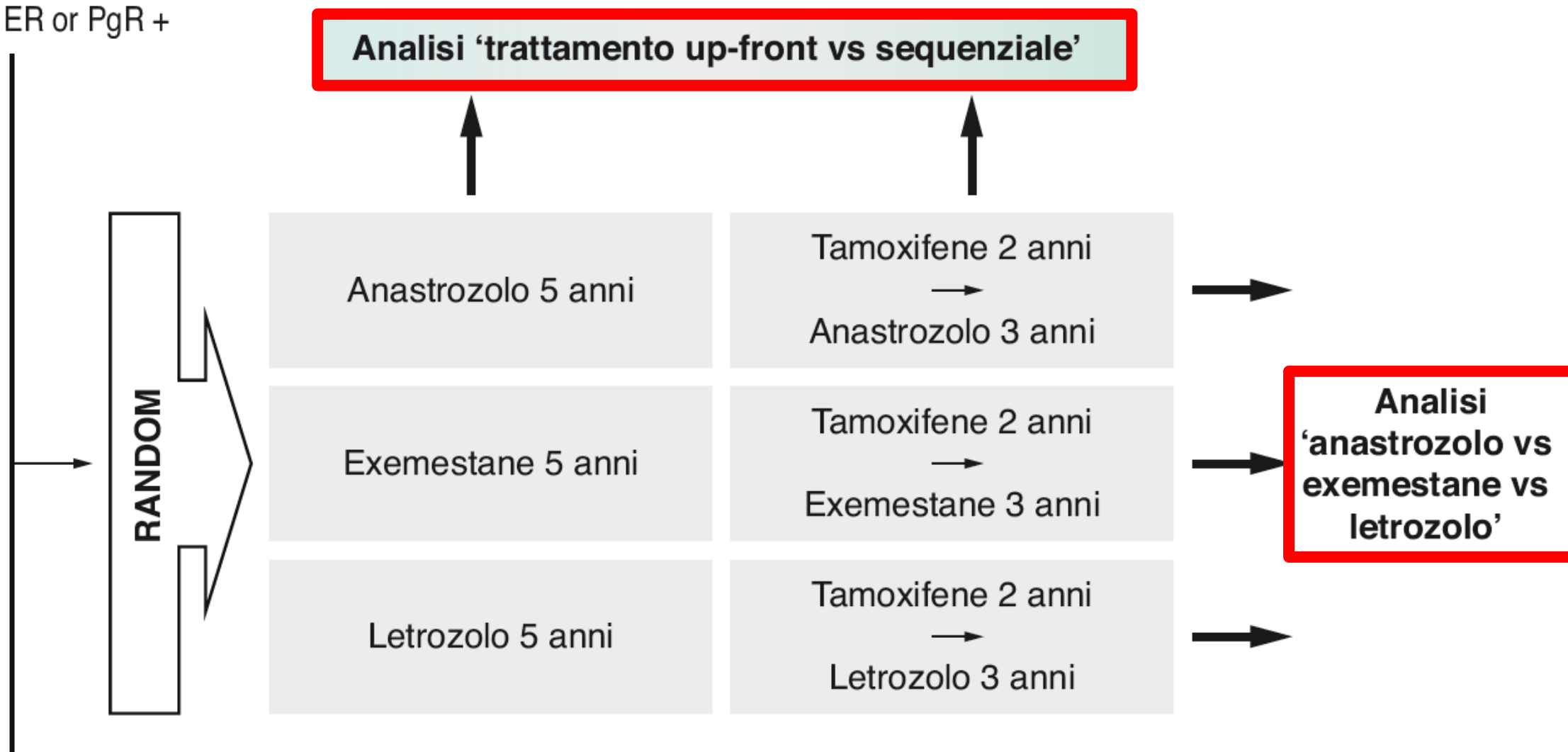


Pazienti

- Carcinoma mammario operato
- Postmenopausa
- ER or PgR +

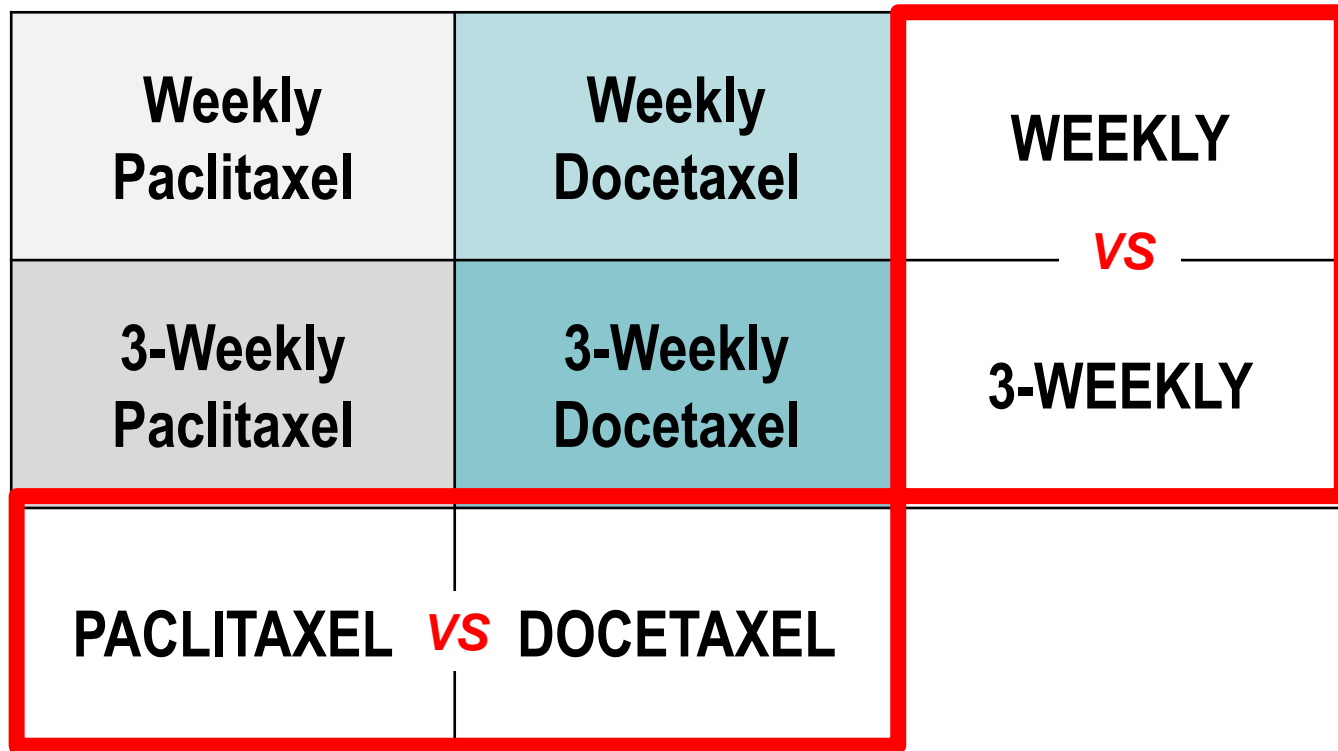
Gruppo Italiano Mammella (GIM) Studies

Source: Trial Sponsors > Index > G > Gruppo Italiano Mammella (GIM)

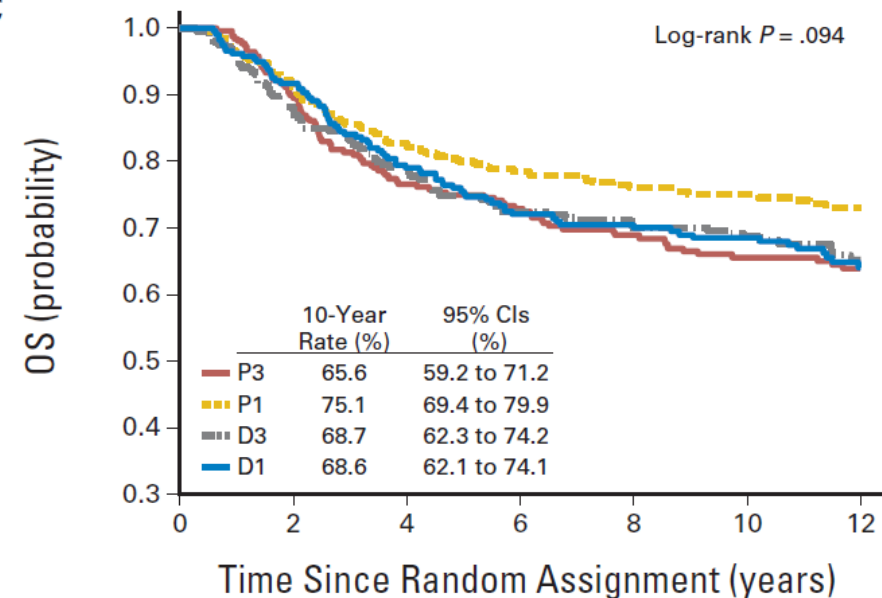


Paclitaxel in TNBC

**E1199 Trial, TNBC subgroup
(SEE LATER!!!!)**



C

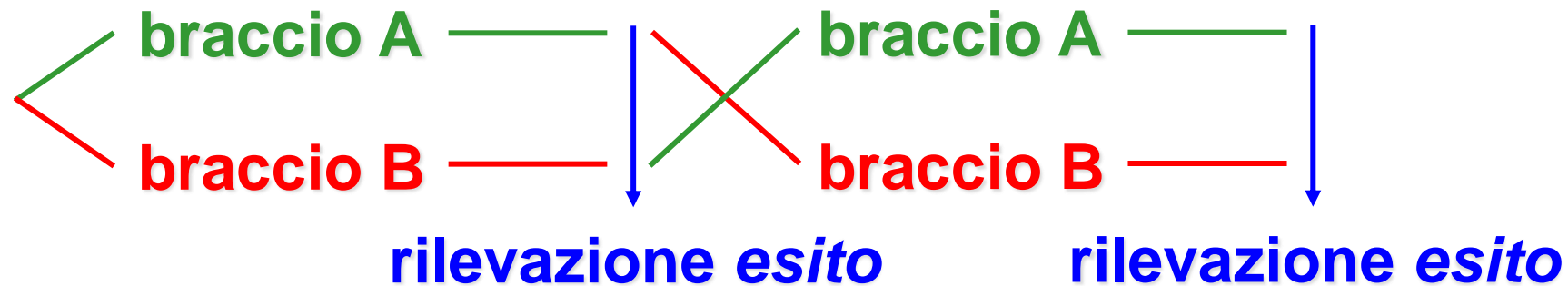


No. at risk

	0	2	4	6	8	10	12
P3	261	232	190	168	149	134	84
P1	274	245	218	196	179	167	102
D3	248	214	186	159	144	139	87
D1	243	218	184	156	143	129	77

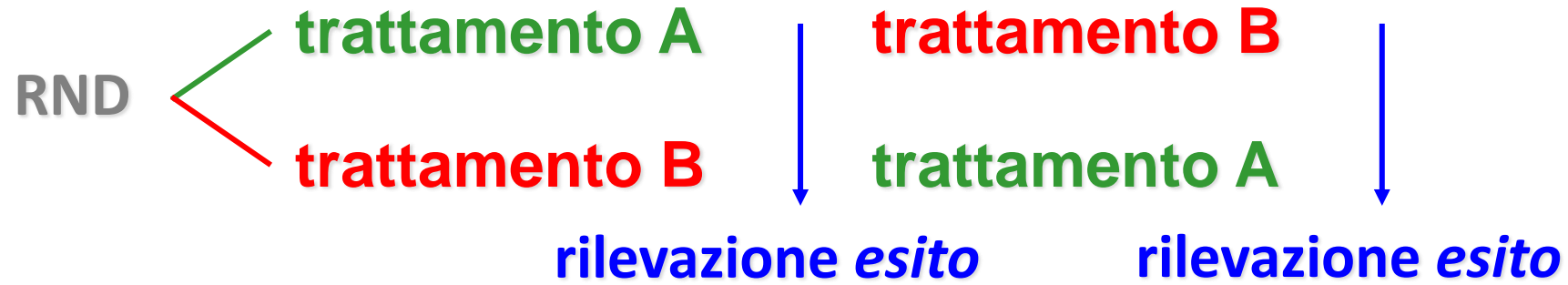
Disegno Crossover

Ciascun paziente riceve entrambi i trattamenti oggetto di sperimentazione clinica (*within patient vs between patient*):

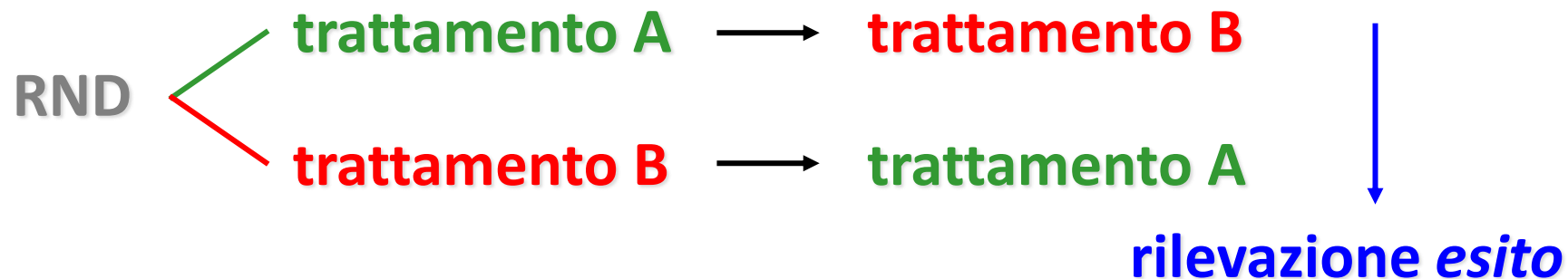


Viene “sottratta” dal confronto dei trattamenti l’influenza delle caratteristiche del paziente, le quali possono influire sull’indicatore di effetto → dimensione campionaria minore rispetto a uno studio a bracci paralleli.

ATTENZIONE A NON CONFONDERE UN DISEGNO CROSSOVER...



...CON UN DISEGNO A BRACCI PARALLELI DI TIPO SEQUENZIALE



Do not forget the Choice/Performance of the Control Arm!

The uncertainty principle and industry-sponsored research

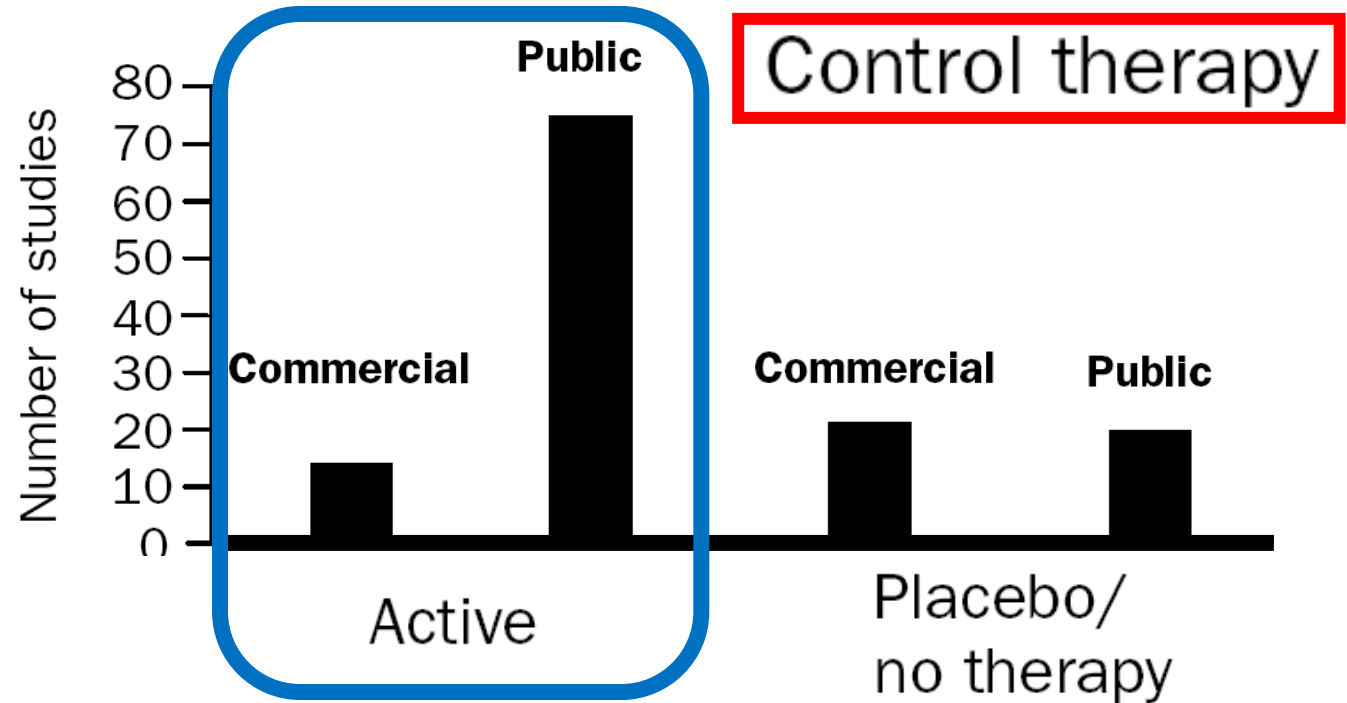
Choice of Control Group

- The selection of an appropriate control group is a critical decision which **impacts on the scientific validity and ethical acceptability** of a clinical investigation.
- The proper control group allows for discrimination between patient outcomes caused by the test treatment, and outcomes caused by other factors such as the natural progression of the disease, observer or patient expectations, or other treatments.



E-10 Choice of Control Group and Related Issues in Clinical Trials, May 2001

2



- **Active Control adopted in <20% of COMMERCIAL trials vs >80% of PUBLIC**

Djulbegovic B et al, Lancet 2000

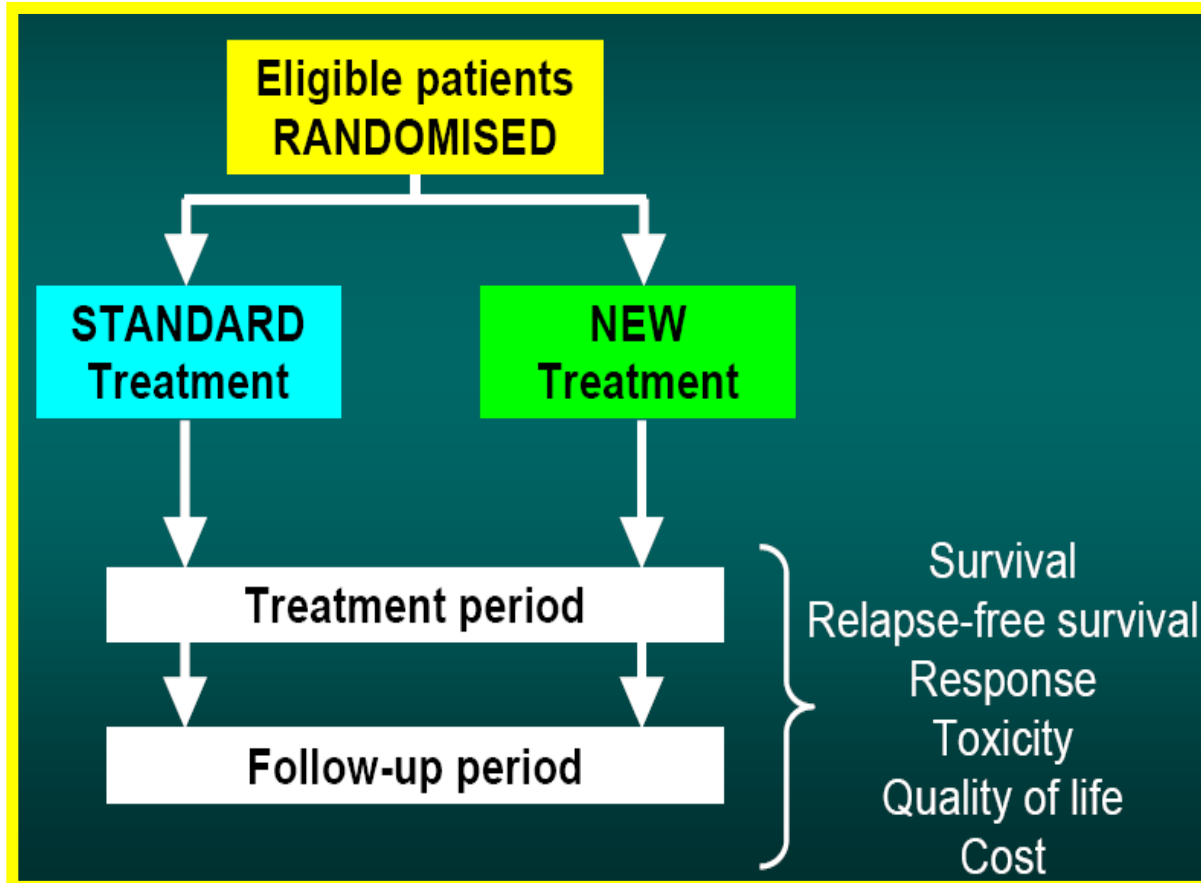
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 - La rappresentatività del campione
 - **La tentazione delle analisi per sottogruppi**



'San Matteo e L'angelo' (Particolare), Caravaggio, 1602, San Luigi dei Francesi, Roma

Issues with Randomized Ph. III Clinical Trials

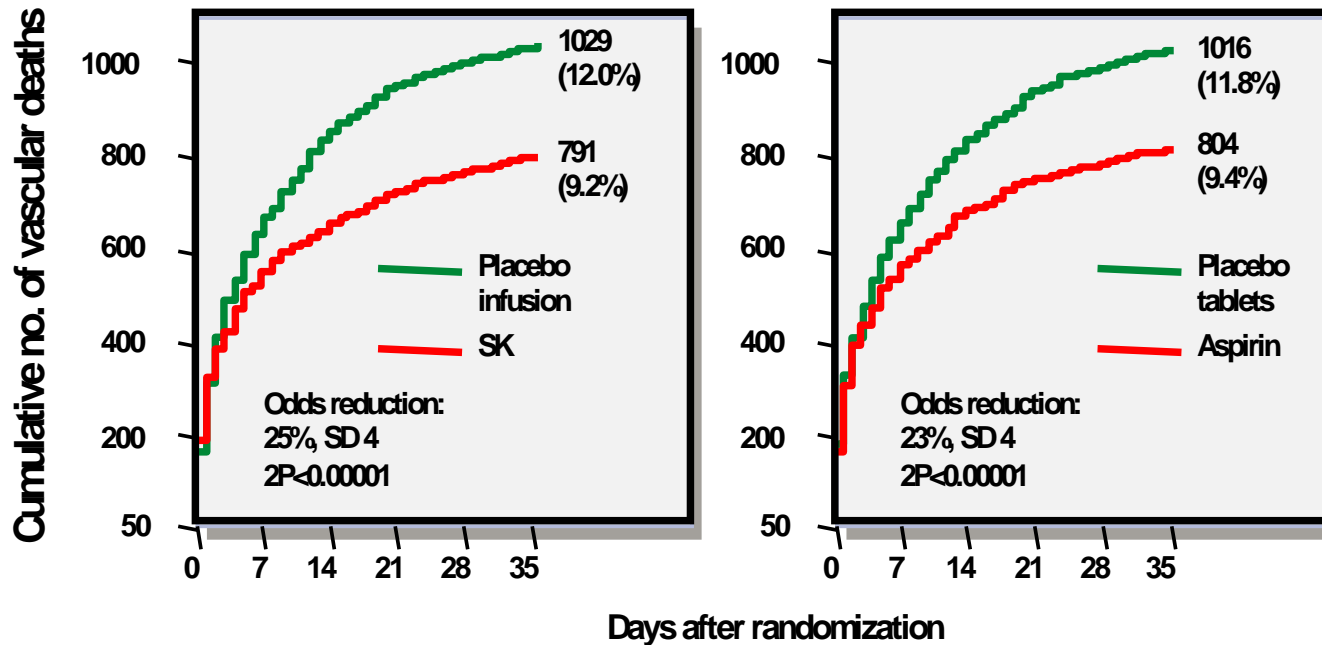


- The new drug is more effective than other drugs?
 - Superiority trial (is 'statistically' relevant?)
 - The new drug is as effective as other drugs but with fewer side effects (or minor discomfort or lower costs)?
 - Non-inferiority trial
 - The use of the new drug determines a therapeutic benefit for patients?
 - Amount of the benefit (is 'clinically' relevant?)
- What categories of patients may derive more benefit from the new drug?
 - Subgroup analysis

Subgroup Analyses: The Case of 'Gemini & Libra' in ISIS2 Trial

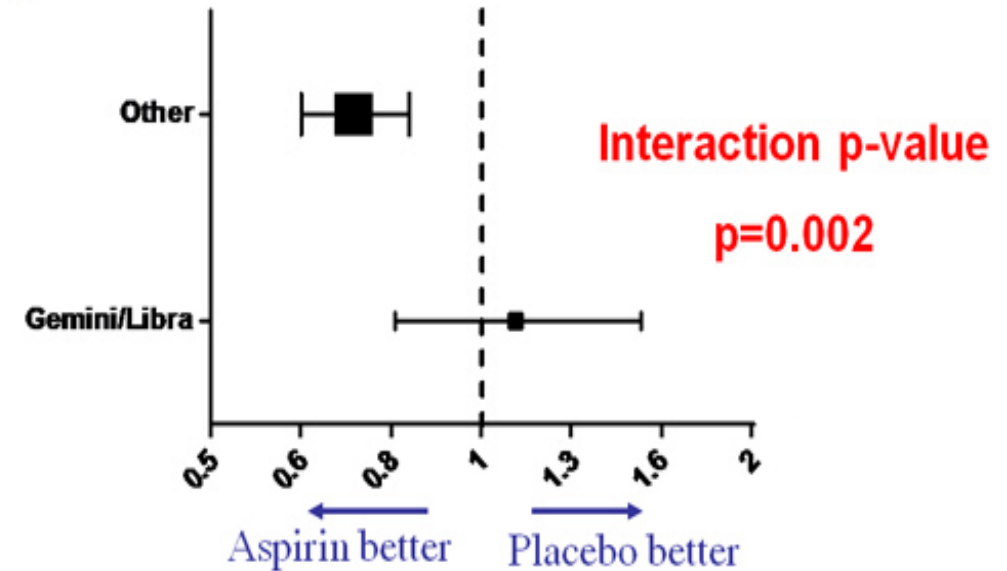
ISIS-2: aspirin vs control - effects on vascular death in 17,187 patients with acute myocardial infarction (Peto et al, Lancet 1988)

Vascular mortality over 35 days: individual therapies



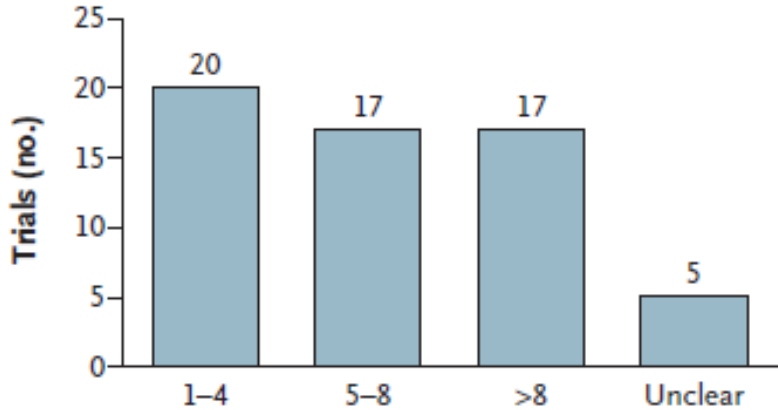
Astrological birth sign

Odds ratio & 95% CI

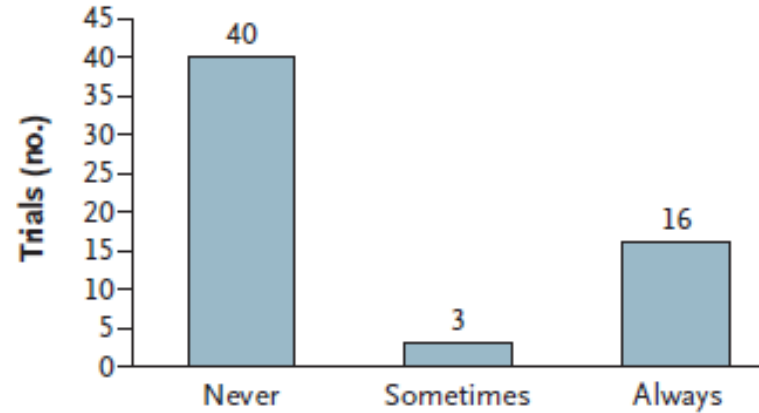


Reporting of Subgroup Analyses in Clinical Trials

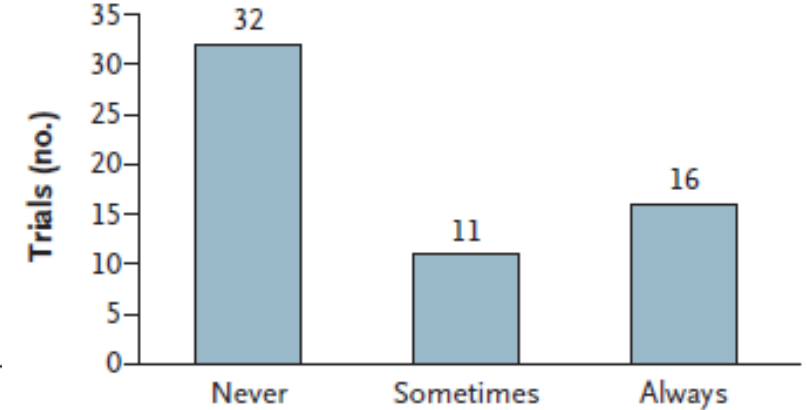
No. of Subgroup Analyses



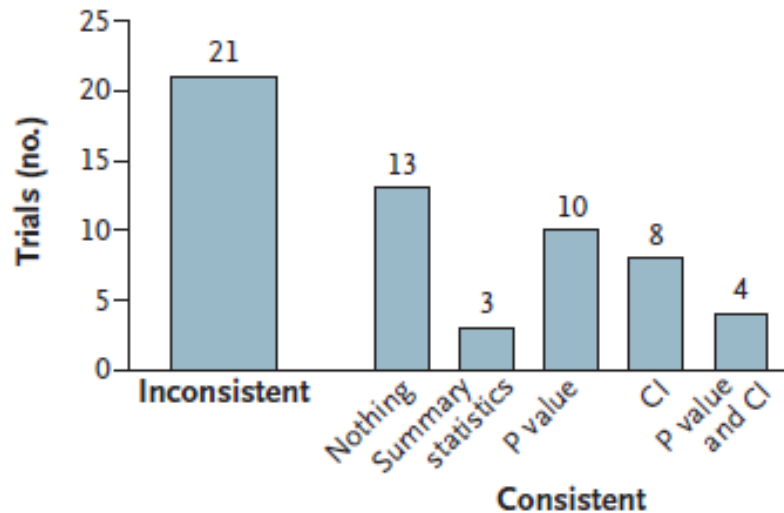
Clear about Prespecified or Post Hoc



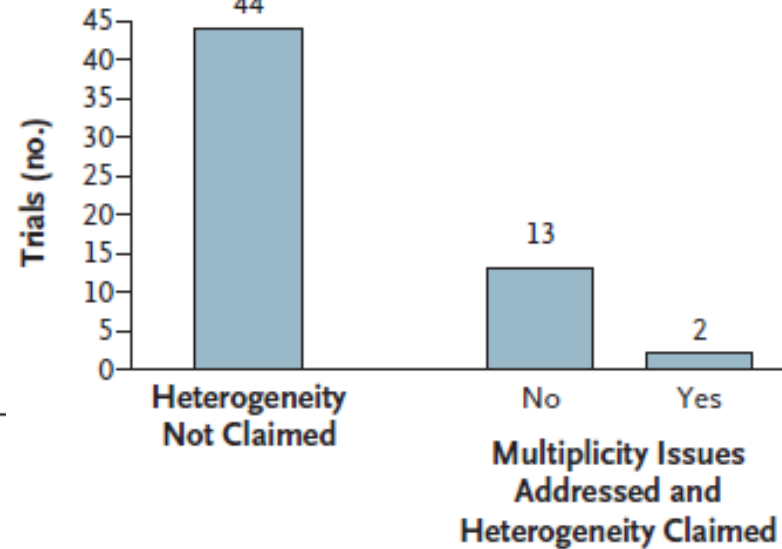
Interaction Test Reported



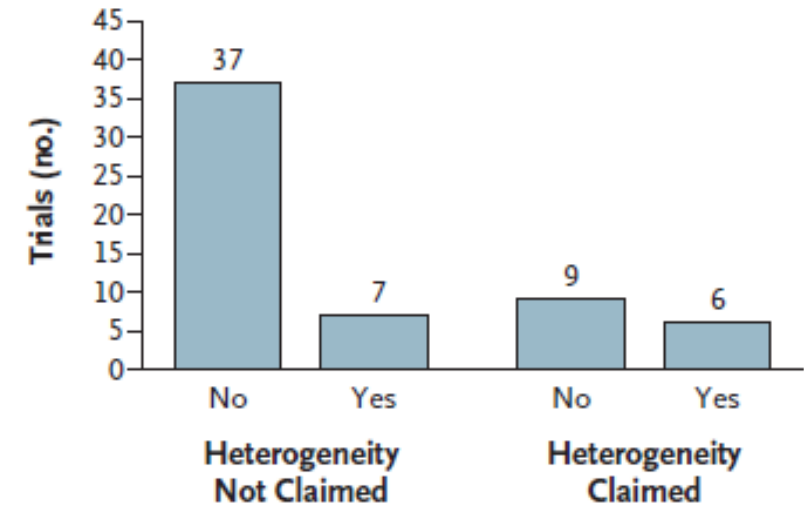
Information Reported within Subgroups



Heterogeneity and Multiplicity



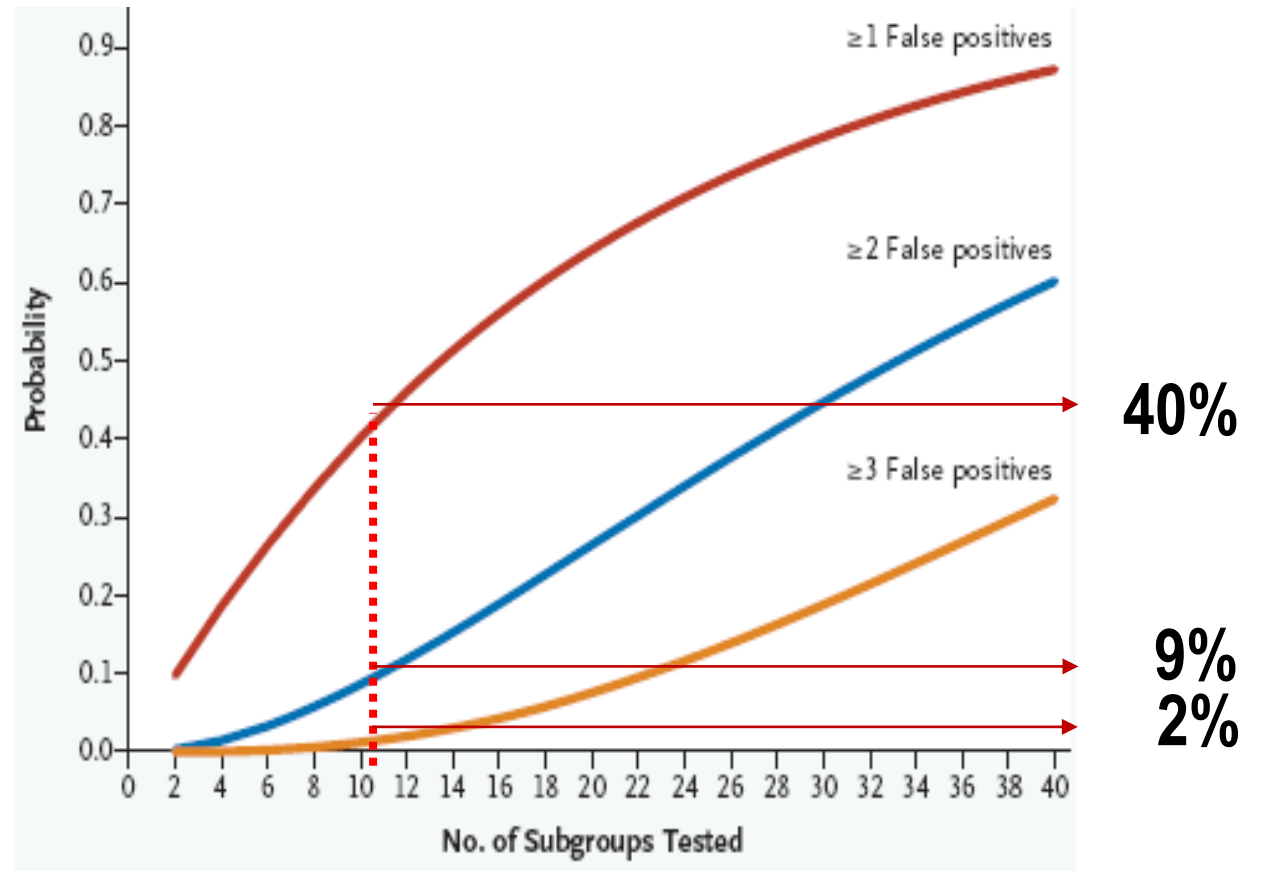
Subgroup Analyses Reported in Abstract



False Positive (F.P.) Risk when Testing Subgroups in RCTs

Ex.: if you test 10 subgroups, your F.P. chance is:

The Challenge of Subgroup Analyses — Reporting without Distorting

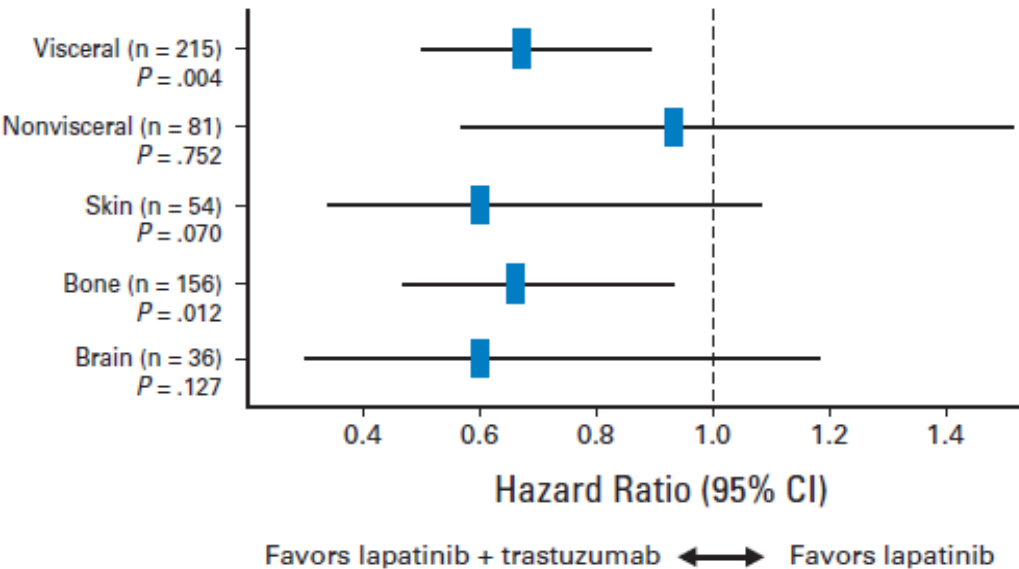


Probability That Multiple Subgroup Analyses Will Yield at Least One (Red), Two (Blue), or Three (Yellow) False Positive Results.

HER2+ ABC: Subgroup Analyses with anti-HER2 agents

LAP vs. LAP-trast

.....Patients presenting with **visceral** or **bone** disease at baseline experienced a longer PFS if treated with the combination therapy.....



No significant Interaction!

PER + TRAS-Doc vs. TRAS-DOC

PFS

No significant Interaction!

Disease type	n	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P-value
Visceral	630	0.64 (0.53-0.76)	0.19
Nonvisceral	178	0.83 (0.58-1.18)	

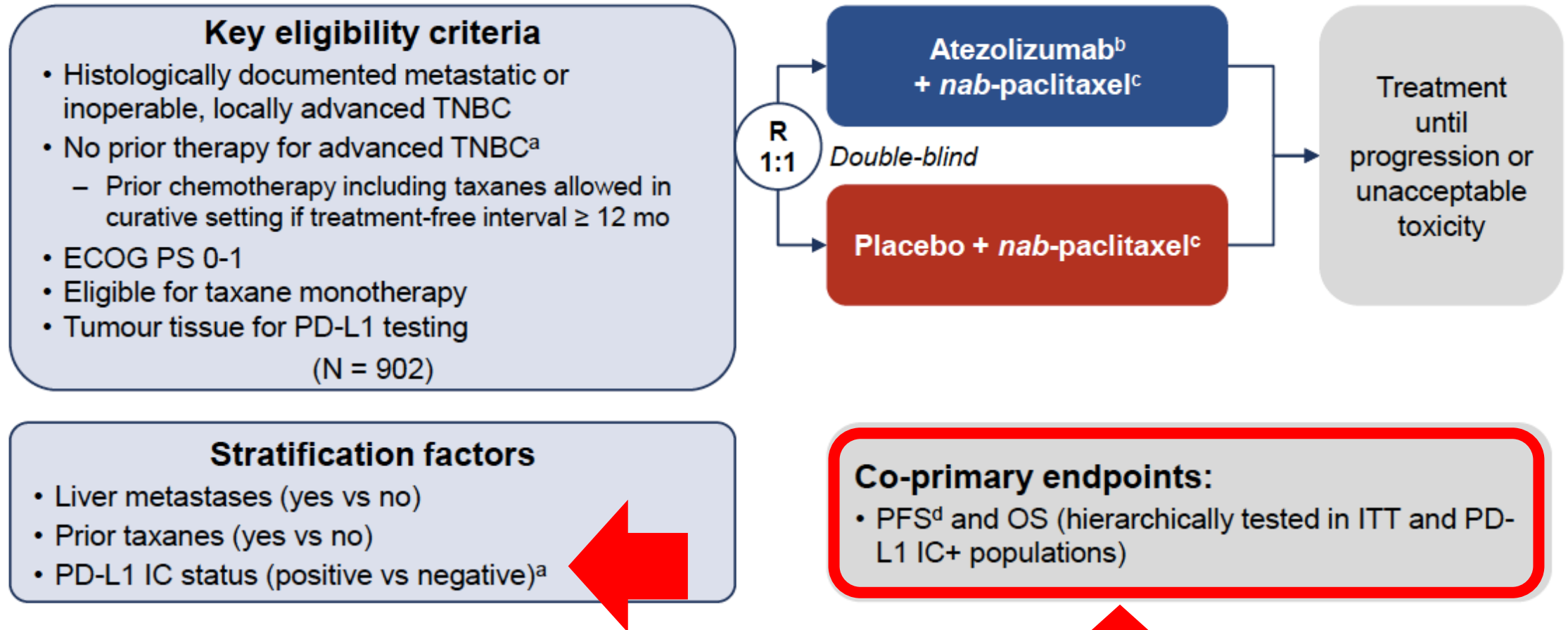
OS

Significant Interaction!

Disease type	n	Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	P-value
Visceral	630	0.59 (0.48-0.74)	0.03
Nonvisceral	178	1.11 (0.66-1.85)	

Unfortunately, these data are not highlighted in the paper, and the curve according to disease type is **NEVER** report in **ANY** paper!

IMpassion 130: Study Design



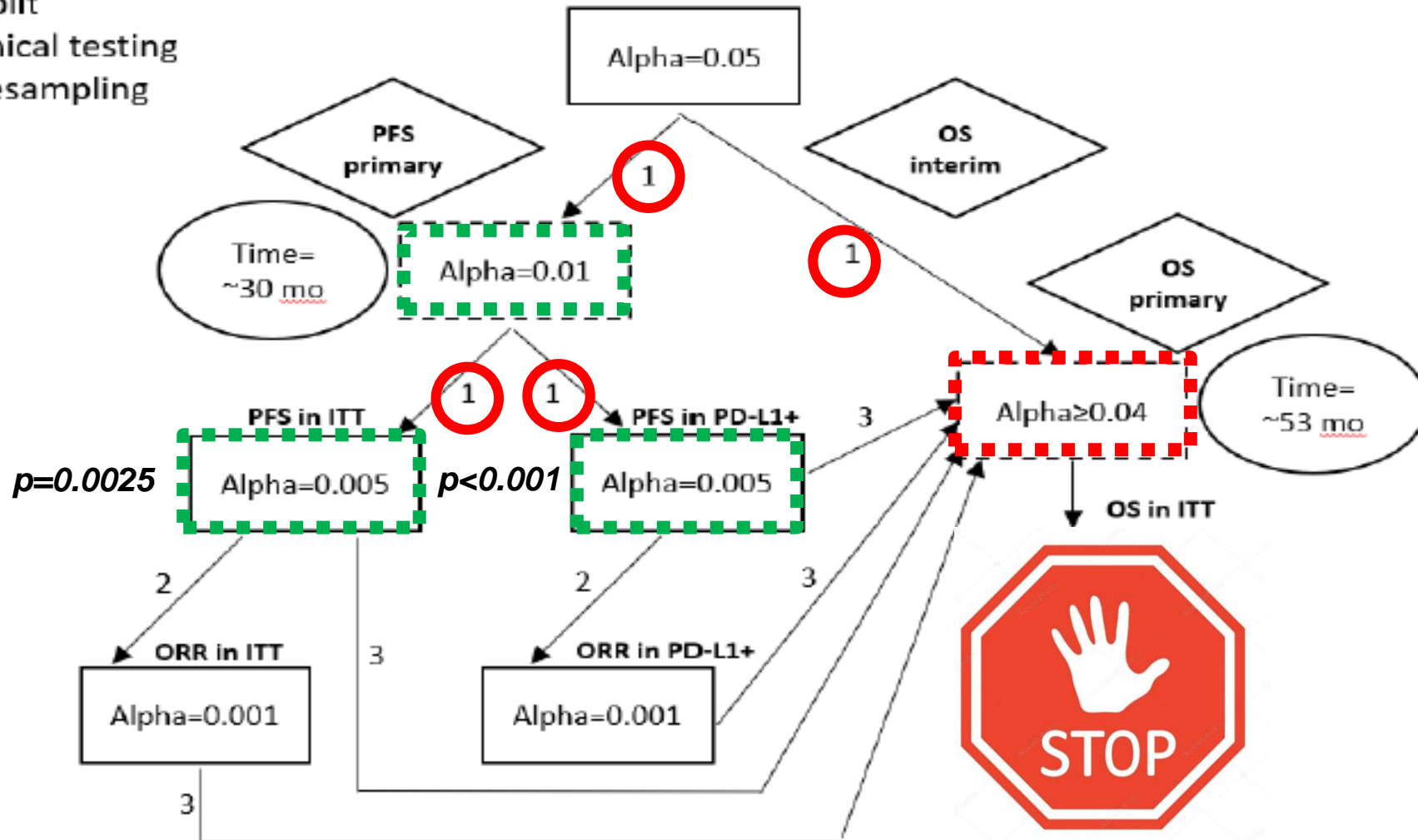
^a PD-L1 IC \geq 1% vs $<$ 1% per VENTANA SP142 assay. ^b 840 mg IV on days 1 and 15 (28-day cycle).

^c 100 mg/m² IV on days 1, 8 and 15 (28-day cycle). ^d Per RECIST 1.1. Reference: 1. Schmid, *N Engl J Med* 2018.

Impassion 130: Study Design & Stat. Assumptions

Type I error control:

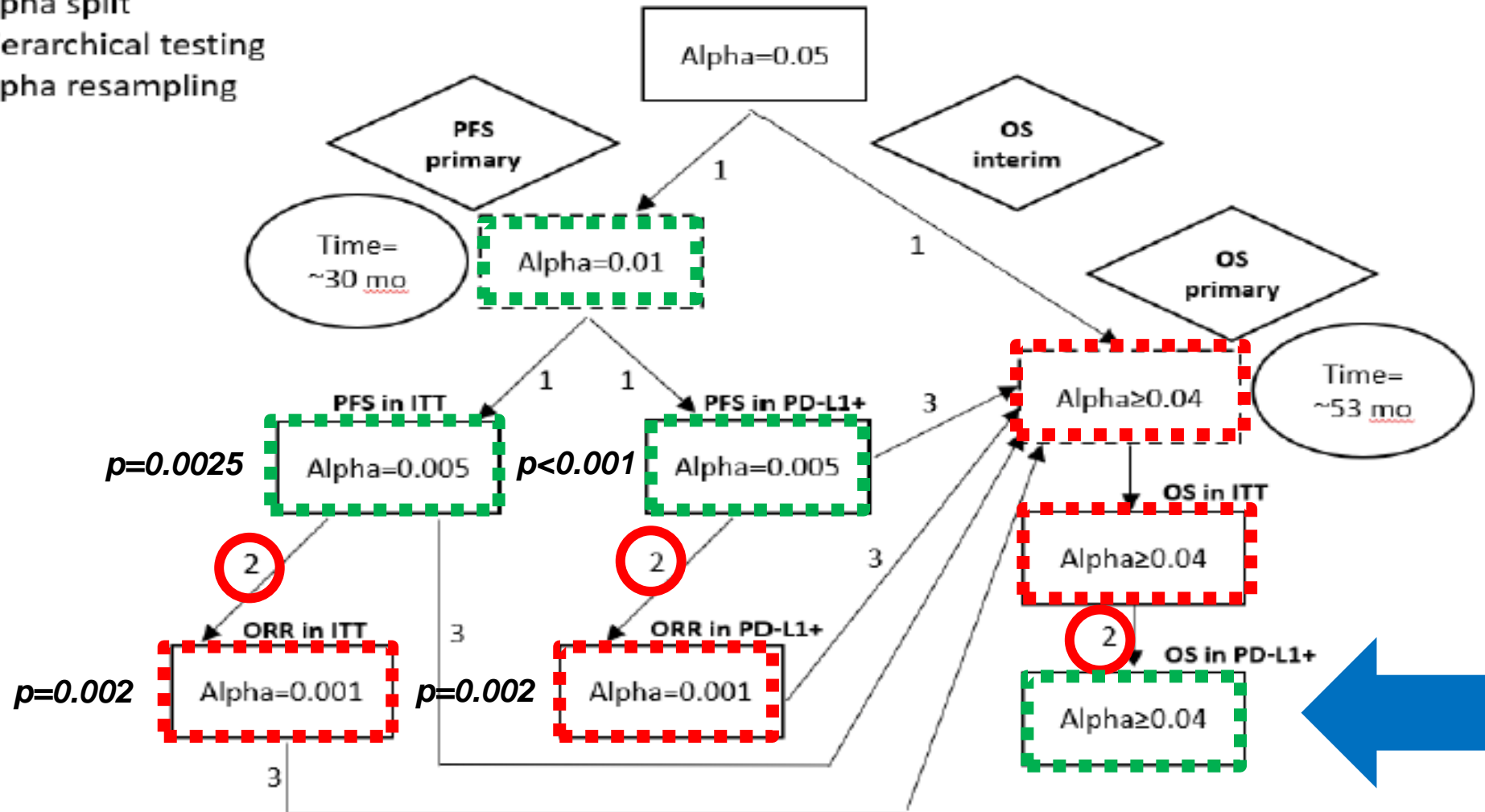
- 1 = alpha split
- 2 = hierarchical testing
- 3 = alpha resampling



IMpassion 130: Study Design & Stat. Assumptions

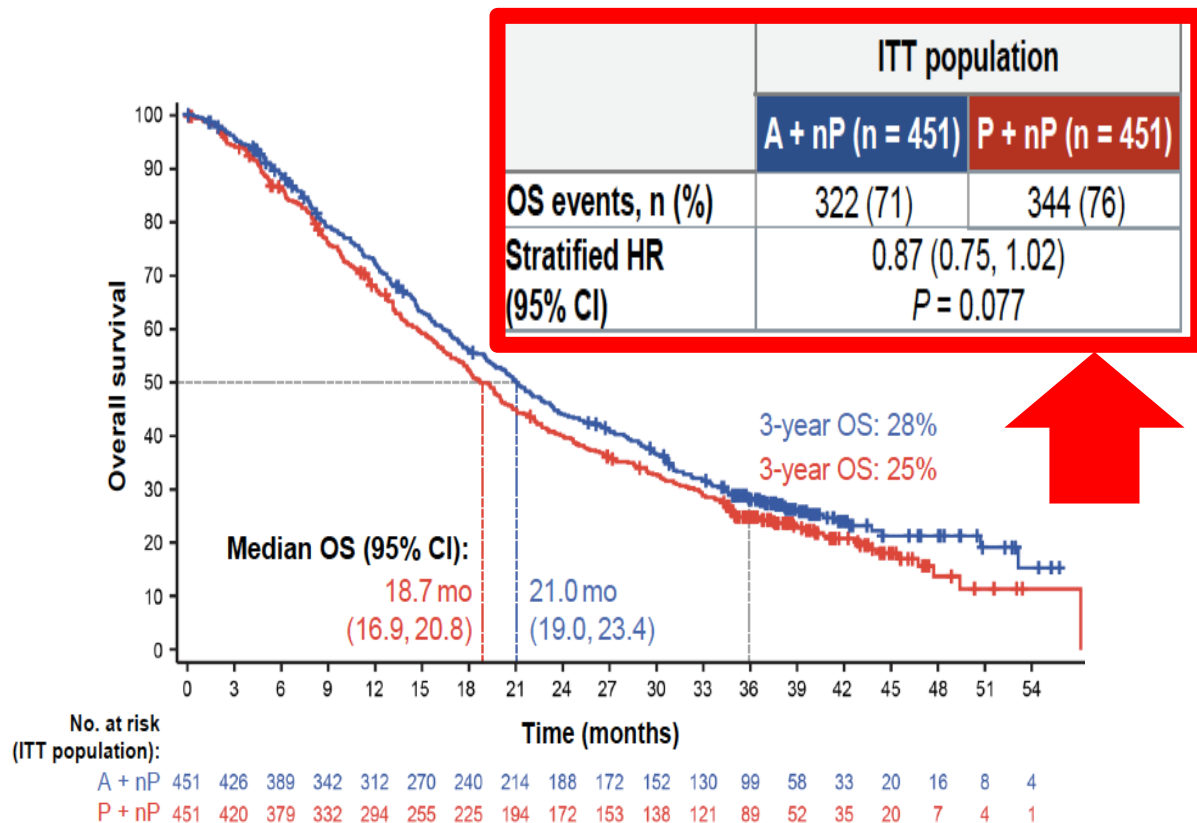
Type I error control:

- 1 = alpha split
- 2 = hierarchical testing
- 3 = alpha resampling

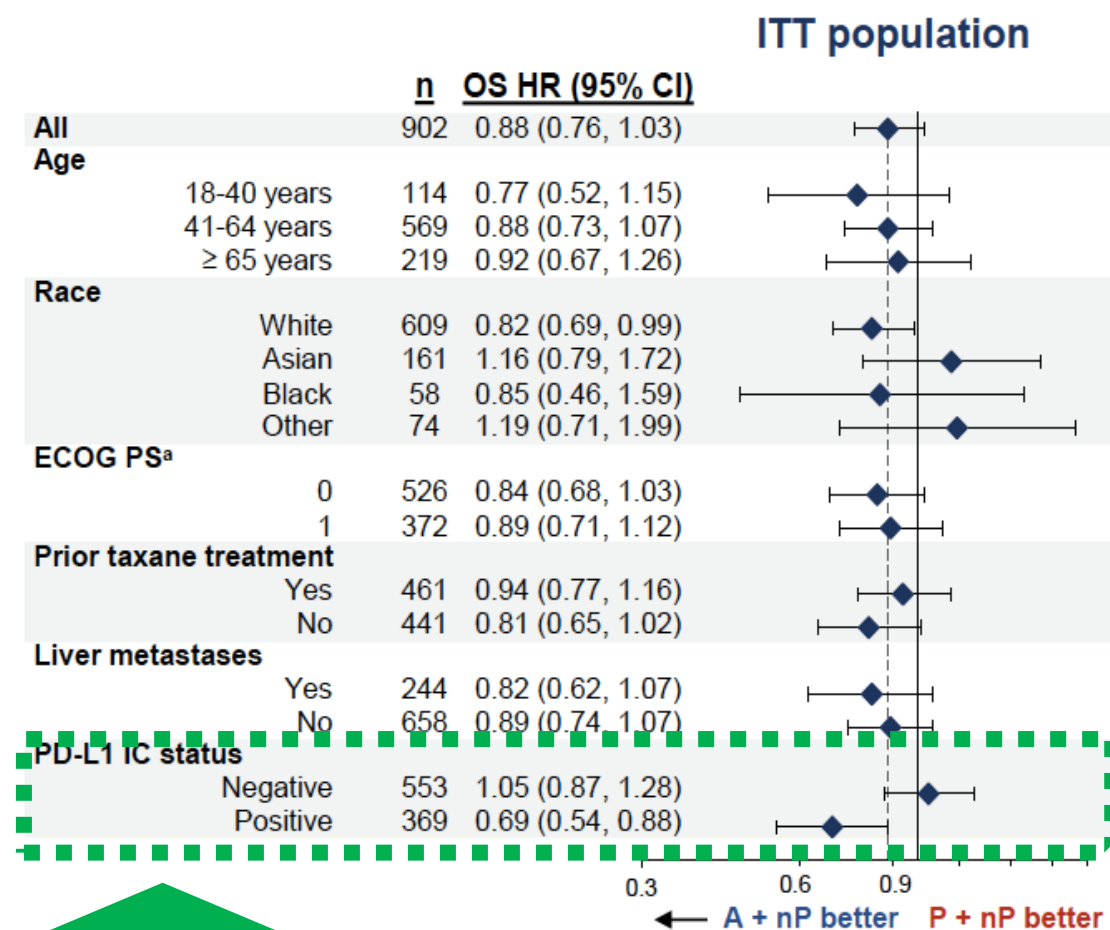


IMpassion 130: Co-Primary End-Point (OS-ITT)

Overall Survival (OS): ITT



OS: Subgroups



Subgroup Analyses and Interactions

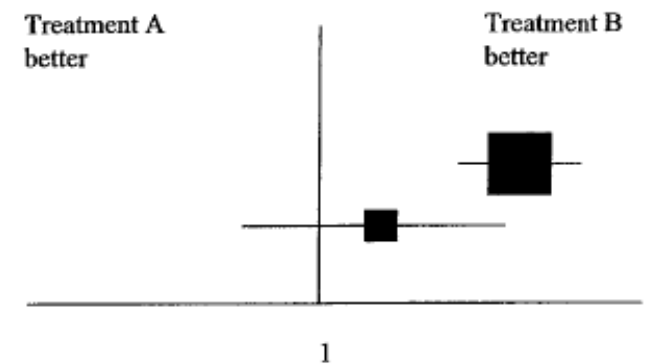
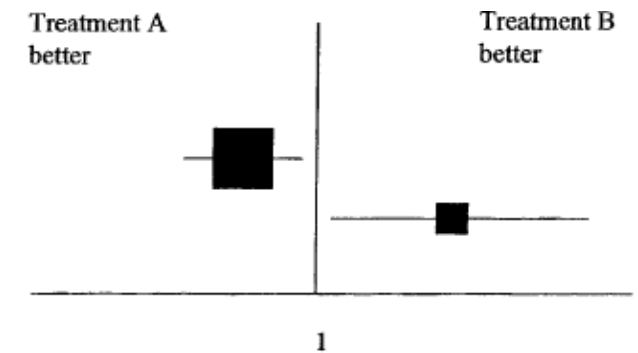
Subgroup analyses in RCTs: risk of subgroup-specific analyses

- A test for interaction between treatment and subgroup is the appropriate way to examine whether treatment effects differ between subgroups.
- This approach tests and estimates the difference between treatment effects across subgroups directly.
- It involves 1 statistical test irrespective of the number of subgroups, whereas subgroup specific analyses involve 2 or more.

Brookes ST et al, J Clin Epid 2004

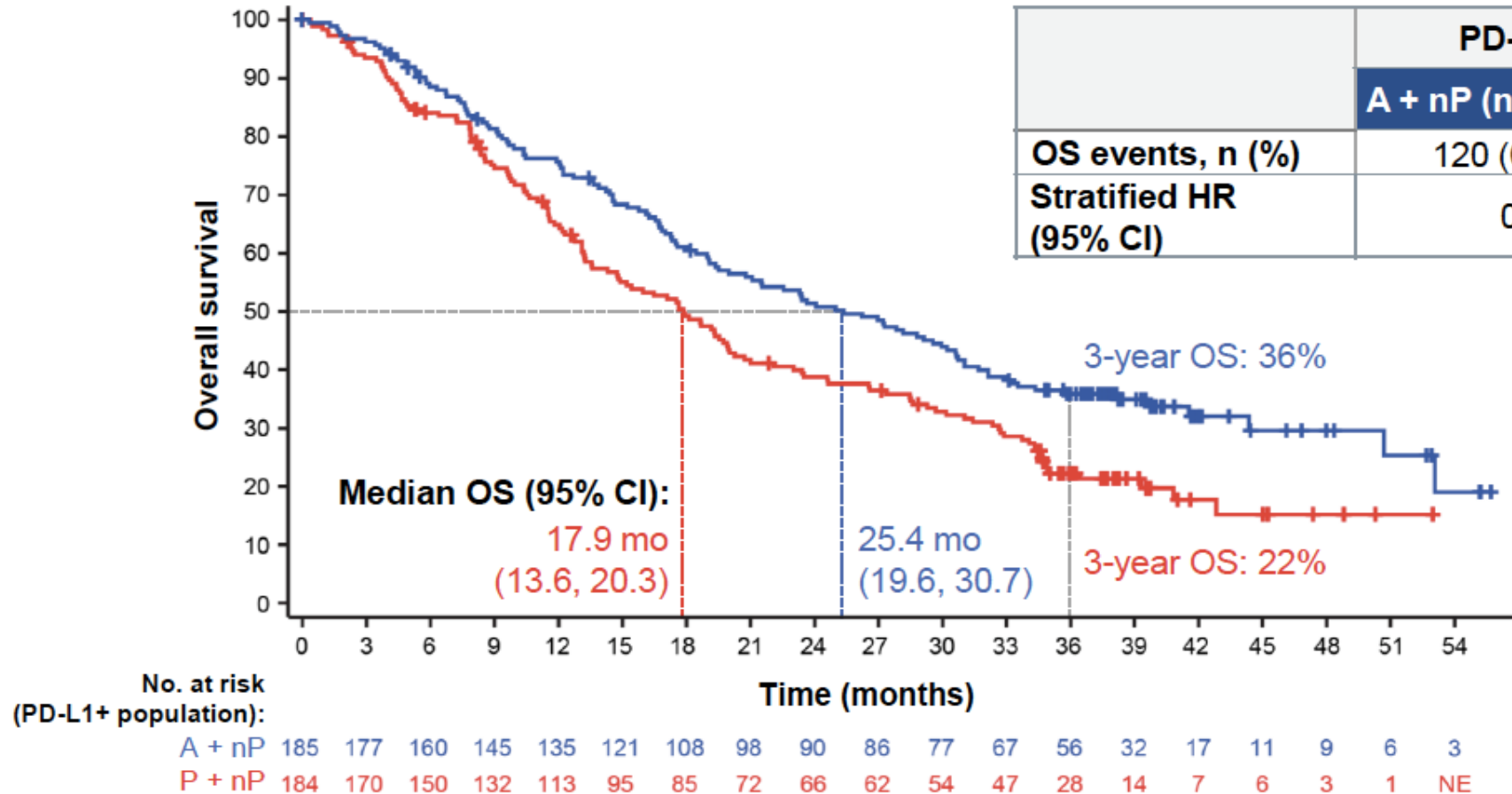
Type of Interactions

- Qualitative Interaction: the direction of true treatment differences varies among subsets of patients
 - also called crossover interaction
- Quantitative Interaction: variation in the magnitude but NOT direction of treatment effects among patient subgroups – also called a non-crossover interaction



Modified - Amy Wagaman, 2008

IMpassion 130: OS (PD-L1 positive)

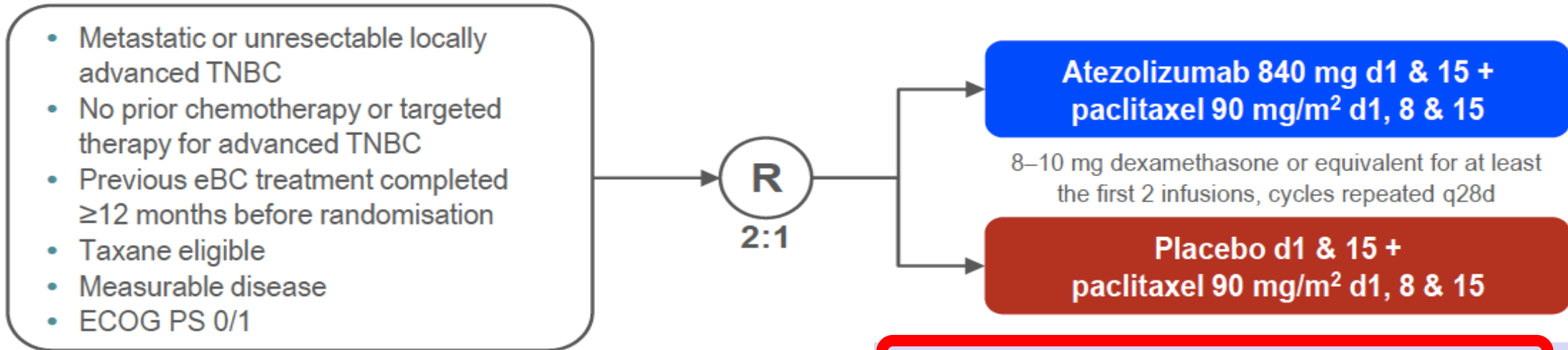


So What? FDA claims for a Confirmatory Trial to verify such 'potential' benefit



i.e. Prospective Phase III testing ATEZO benefit in PD-L1 positive patients

IMpassion 131: Study Design & Stat. Assumptions



Stratification:

- Prior taxane (yes vs no)
- Tumour PD-L1 status (IC <1% vs $\geq 1\%$)^a
- Liver metastases (yes vs no)
- Geographical region (N America vs W Europe/Australia vs E Europe/Asia Pacific vs S America)

Primary endpoint: PFS (investigator assessed)

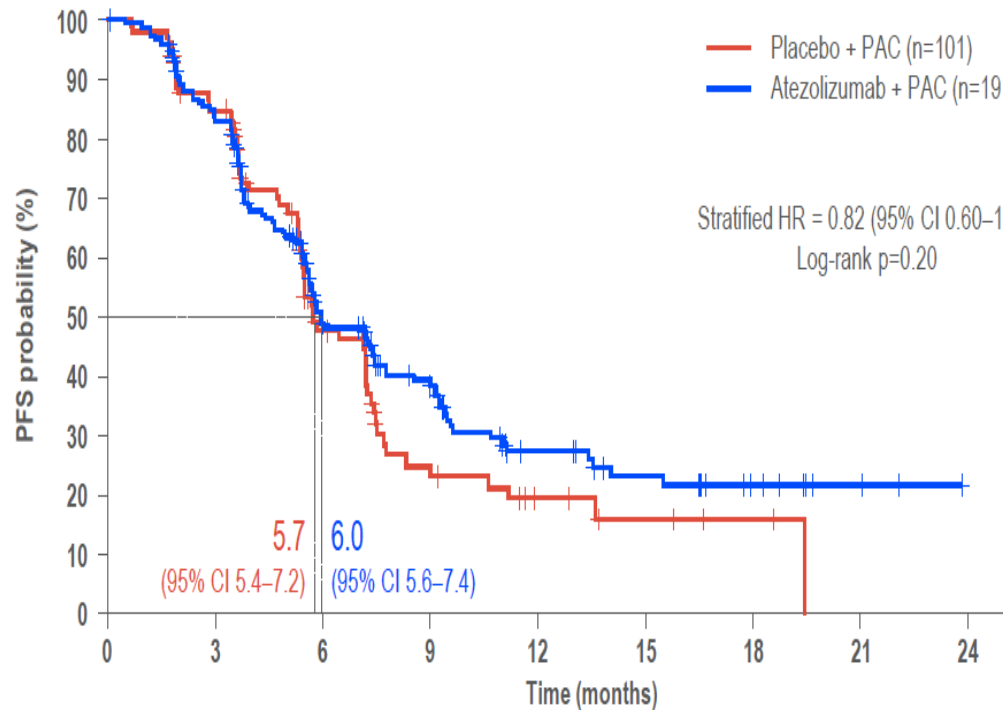
Secondary endpoints include:

- OS, ORR, PFS (IRC assessed)
- PROs
- Safety
- Translational research

- Hierarchical testing informed by results from IMpassion130¹
- Primary endpoint: Investigator-assessed PFS
 - Tested first in PD-L1+ population (defined as IC $\geq 1\%$)
 - Target HR 0.62 (median PFS 5.0 \rightarrow 8.0 months); 5% 2-sided alpha and 80% power; 155 PFS events in PD-L1+ population
 - If significant in PD-L1+, PFS tested in the ITT population

IMpassion 131: PFS and OS (PD-L1 positive)

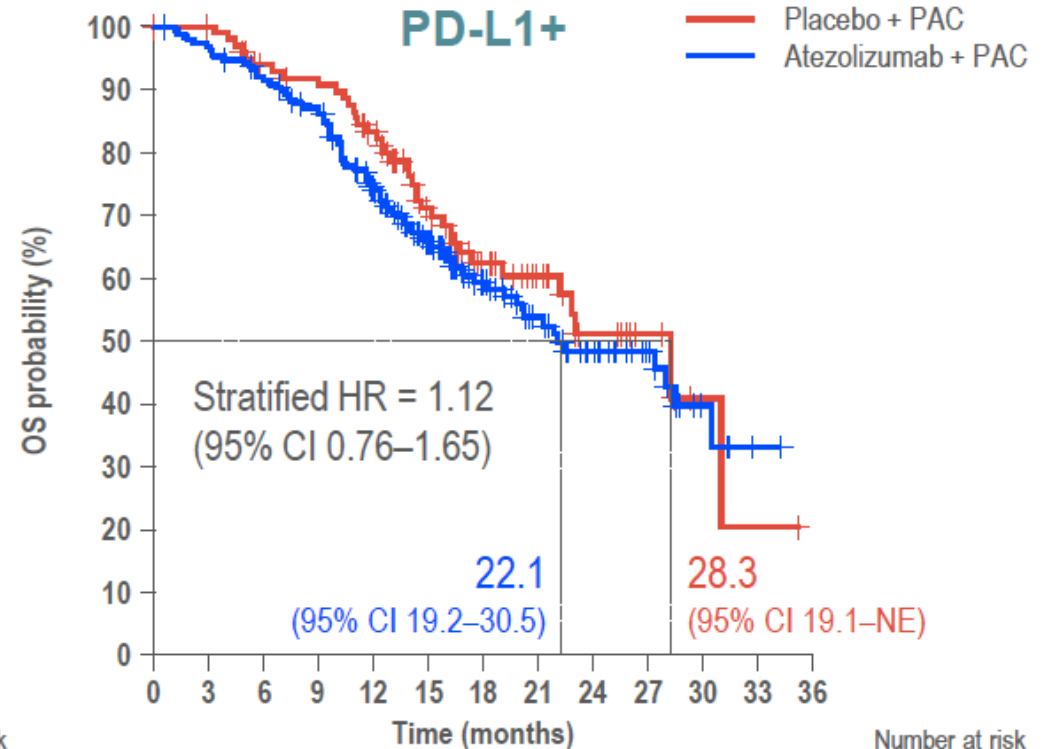
PFS (PD-L1 Positive)



Number at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
Placebo + PAC	101	81	33	14	7	4	2	0	0
Atezolizumab + PAC	191	152	69	44	22	15	8	3	0

Median duration of follow-up: 8.6 months (placebo + PAC) vs 9.0 months (atezolizumab + PAC). CI = confidence interval

OS (PD-L1 Positive)



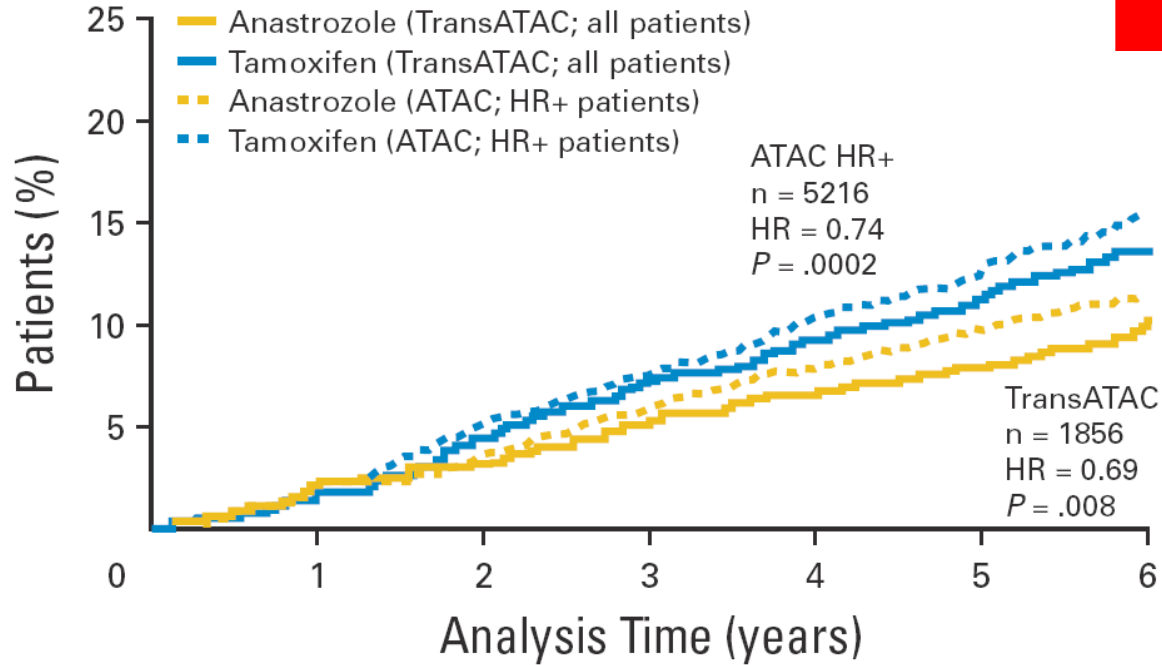
Number at risk	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
Placebo + PAC	101	99	89	86	75	53	34	25	12	6	2	1	0
Atezolizumab + PAC	191	184	171	160	129	95	60	43	30	19	6	1	0

Roche provides update on Tecentriq US indication for PD-L1-positive, metastatic triple-negative breast cancer

Basel, 27 August 2021 - Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY) today announced that the company has made the decision to voluntarily withdraw the US accelerated approval for Tecentriq® (atezolizumab) in combination with chemotherapy (Abraxane®, albumin-bound paclitaxel; nab-paclitaxel) for the treatment of adults with unresectable locally advanced or metastatic triple-negative breast cancer (mTNBC) whose tumours express PD-L1, as determined by a US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved test. Roche made this decision following consultation with the US FDA, based on the agency's assessment of the current mTNBC treatment landscape and in accordance with the requirements of the accelerated approval programme. This decision only impacts the mTNBC indication in the US. It does

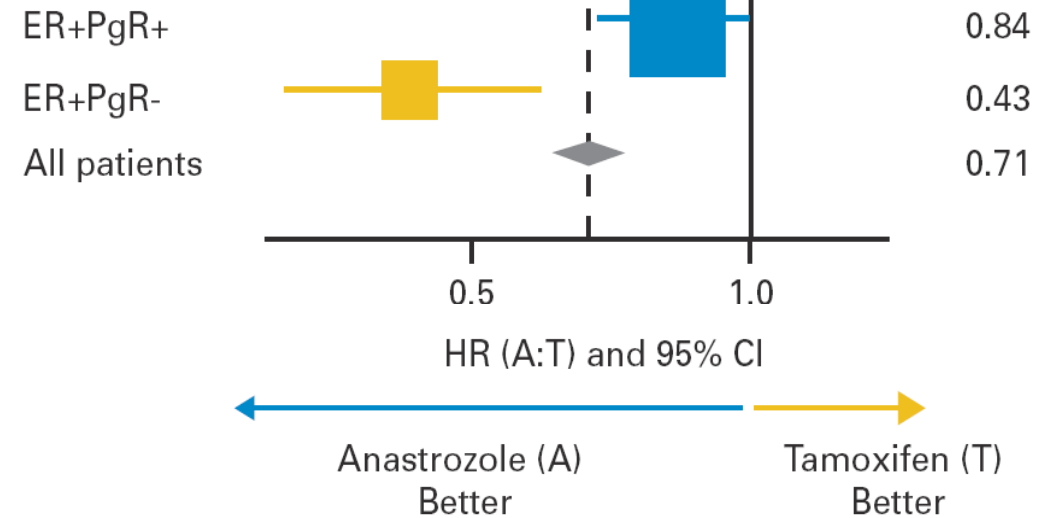
ATAC vs. TRANS-ATAC: Subgroups of Interests

Time-To-Recurrence: Similar Overall Benefit of Anastrozole vs. Tamoxifen (HR 0.74 vs. HR 0.69)

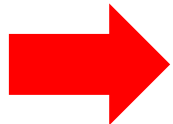


Subgroup Analysis: Significant Interaction, the Hypothesis that a differential effect according to PgR status is generated

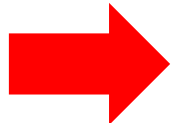
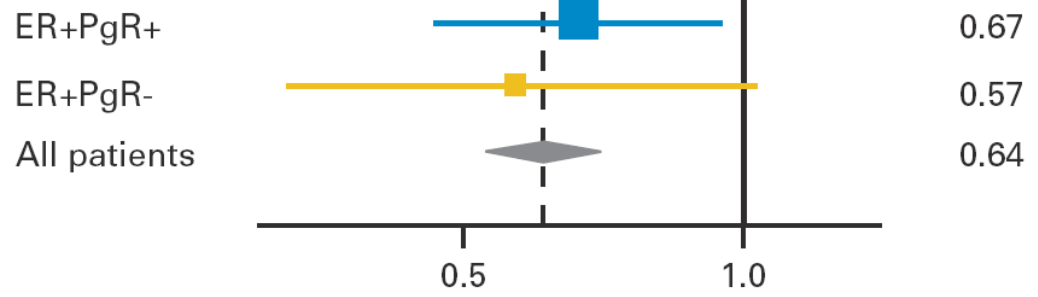
Peripheral ATAC



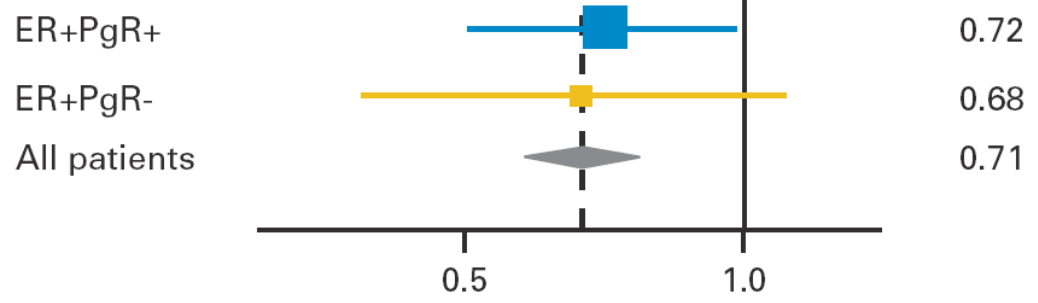
ATAC vs. TRANS-ATAC: Subgroups of Interests



Peripheral TRANS-ATAC

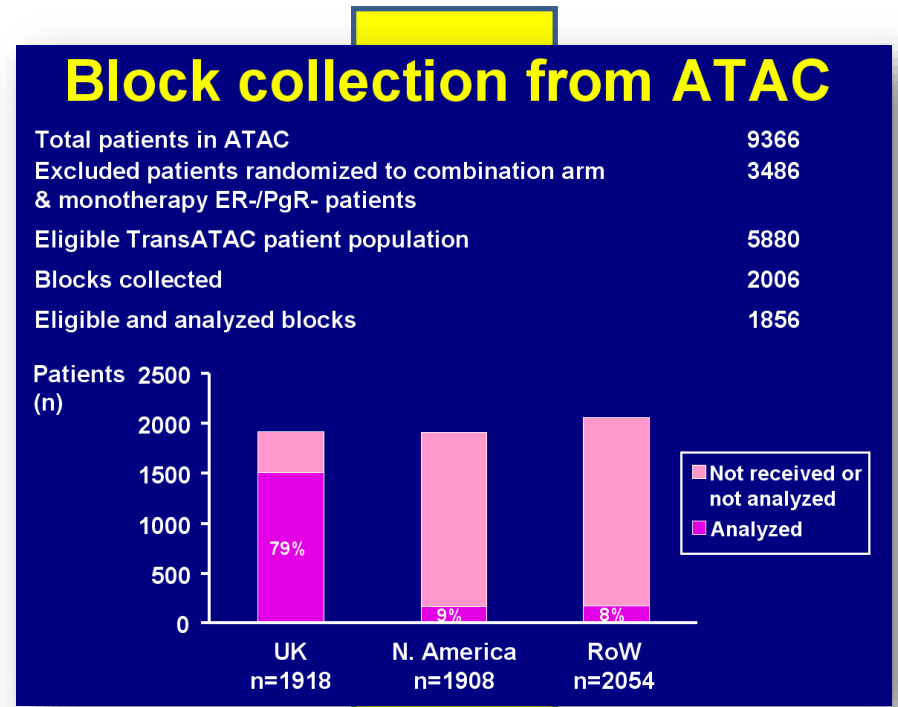


Centralized TRANS-ATAC



HR (A:T) and 95% CI

← Anastrozole (A) Better Tamoxifen (T) Better →



Attrition Rate of 19.8% (of total pts.) and 31.5% (of eligible Trans-ATAC)

Recommendations for Subgroup Analyses

Interpretation


- Subgroup analyses should, as far as possible, be restricted to those proposed before data collection.....
- Trials should ideally be powered with subgroup analyses in mind.....
- Subgroup-specific analyses are unreliable and affected by many factors.
- These analyses should always be based on formal tests of interaction although even these should be interpreted with caution.
- Unless there is strong supporting evidence, they are best viewed as a hypothesis-generation exercise.

Research

- The implications of considering confidence intervals rather than p-values could be considered.
- The same approach as in this study could be applied to contexts other than RCTs, such as observational studies and meta-analyses.





1. Riflettete da soli per 10 min. e compilate il form 
2. Confrontatevi con i Colleghi del Vostro tavolo per 15 min., declinate un W³ condiviso e delegate un portavoce
3. Riportate sulla lavagna il Vostro W³ condiviso su almeno due aspetti ritenuti rilevanti e impattanti sulla professione (in 5 min.)
4. Presentate ai Colleghi degli altri tavoli il Vostro W³ condiviso



WHAT?

Cosa è emerso di particolarmente saliente / rilevante?

.....
.....
.....



SO WHAT?

Per quale motivo le cose emerse sono così rilevanti?

.....
.....
.....



NOW WHAT?

Quali ricadute nell'immediato per la mia professione?

.....
.....
.....



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE

FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

- Etica della ricerca
- Quesito clinico di riferimento
- Fasi della sperimentazione clinica
- Disegni di studio osservazionali e interventistici
- **Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto**
- Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)
- Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)

Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

Endpoint	Tipo di variabile statistica	Indicatore comparativo di effetto	
		relativo	assoluto
Attività (CR, PR, SD, ecc.) Tossicità (eventi avversi)	nominale	RR (relative risk) OR (odds ratio)	RD (risk difference)
Punteggi di qualità di vita	intervallare	-	MD (mean difference)
OS (overall survival) PFS (progression-free survival) DFS (disease-free survival) TTD (time to deterioration...)	tempo a evento	HR (hazard ratio) - - -	differenza tra mediane differenza tra stime al tempo t... RMST (restricted mean survival time) RD (risk difference)

VARIABILE DI RISPOSTA

- di tipo **qualitativo (nominale)**
 - esprime categorie di risposta del tipo successo / insuccesso (di un trattamento somministrato).
- di tipo **quantitativo**
 - assume uno spettro continuo di valori e viene misurata in riferimento a una scala a intervalli costanti.
- del tipo **“tempo a evento”**
 - rappresenta il tempo trascorso fino al verificarsi (o meno) di un evento.

Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

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Risks, Rates, and Odds

- Risk (proportion of persons with disease = cumulative incidence)

– Risk Ratio = ratio of 2 cumulative incidence estimates = Relative Risk

– Rate Difference = absolute difference of 2 cumulative incidence

**number of new events during
the specified period**

**number of persons at risk during
the specified period**

– Incidence Rate = (number of new events / person-time = incidence rate)

– Rate Ratio = ratio of 2 incidence rates = Relative Rate

– Rate Difference = absolute difference of 2 incidence rates

- Odds (number of events / number of non events)
 - Odds Ratio = ratio of 2 odds

Risks, Rates, and Odds

- Risk (proportion of persons with disease = cumulative incidence)
 - Risk Ratio = ratio of 2 cumulative incidence estimates = Relative Risk
 - Risk Difference = absolute difference of 2 cumulative incidence estimates
- Rate (based on events per person-time = incidence rate)
 - Rate Ratio = ratio of 2 incidence rates = Relative Rate
 - Rate Difference = absolute difference of 2 incidence rates
- Odds (number of events / number of non events)
 - Odds Ratio = ratio of 2 odds

Risks, Rates, and Odds

number of new events during
the specified period

time each person was observed,
totaled for all persons

(with disease = cumulative incidence)

cumulative incidence estimates = Relative Risk

absolute difference of 2 cumulative incidence

estimates

- **Rate** (based on events per person-time = incidence rate)
 - Rate Ratio = ratio of 2 incidence rates = Relative Rate
 - Rate Difference = absolute difference of 2 incidence rates
- Odds (number of events / number of non events)
 - Odds Ratio = ratio of 2 odds

Risks, Rates, and Odds

- Risk (proportion of persons with disease = cumulative incidence)
 - Risk Ratio = ratio of 2 cumulative incidence estimates = Relative Risk
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- **Rate** (based on events per person-time = incidence rate)
 - **Rate Ratio** = ratio of 2 incidence rates = **Relative Rate**
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- Odds (number of events / number of non events)
 - Odds Ratio = ratio of 2 odds

Risks, Rates, and Odds

- Risk (proportion of persons with disease = cumulative incidence)
 - Risk Ratio = ratio of 2 cumulative incidence estimates = Relative Risk
 - Risk Difference = difference between 2 cumulative incidence estimates
- Rate (based on events per person-time)
 - Rate Ratio = ratio of 2 rate estimates
 - Rate Difference = absolute difference between 2 rate estimates
- Odds (number of events / number of non-events)
 - Odds Ratio = ratio of 2 odds

Odds Ratios are used to compare the occurrence of the outcome of interest (e.g. disease or unfavourable event), given exposure to the variable of interest (e.g. health characteristic, or intervention).

Most commonly used in **case-control studies**

Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

Endpoint	Tipo di variabile statistica	Indicatore comparativo di effetto	
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Beneficio RELATIVO (RR, OR , HR) o ASSOLUTO (RD)?

WHY THE NUMBERS MATTER

RELATIVE RISK

**"New wonder drug
reduces heart
attack risk 50%"**



Beneficio RELATIVO (RR, OR , HR) o ASSOLUTO (RD)?

WHY THE NUMBERS MATTER

RELATIVE RISK

**"New wonder drug
reduces heart
attack risk 50%"**

ABSOLUTE RISK

**"New wonder drug
reduced heart attacks
from from 2 per 100
to 1 per 100"**

The absolute risk is more useful at conveying the true impact of an intervention, yet is often under-reported in the research and the news.



HEALTHNEWSREVIEW
YOUR HEALTH NEWS WATCHDOG

VARIABILE DI RISPOSTA

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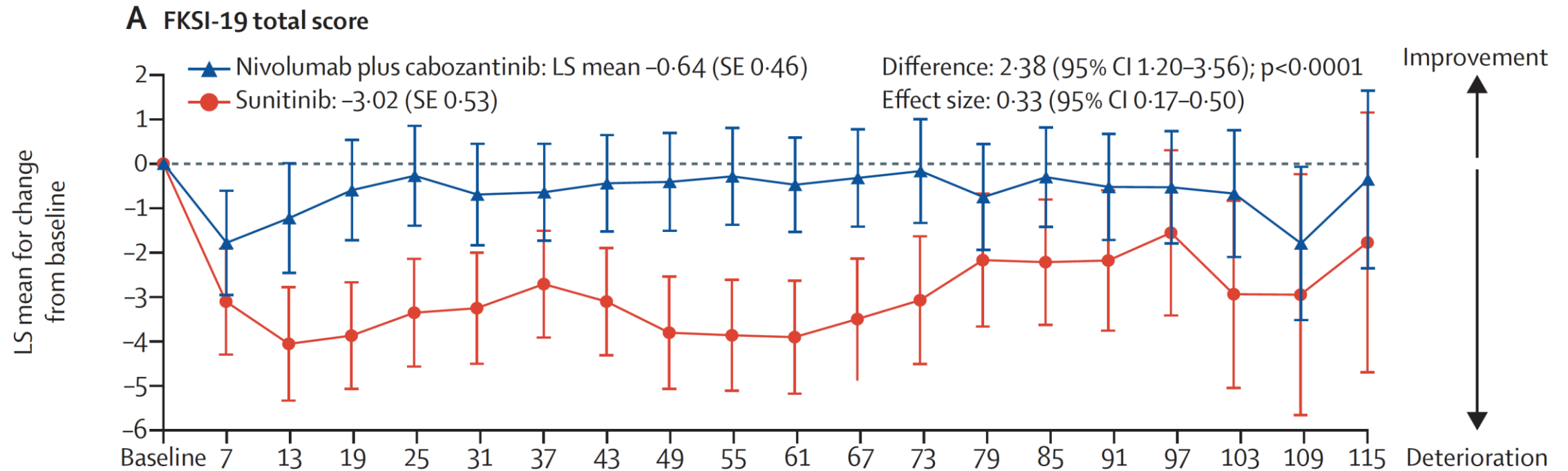
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Patient-reported outcomes with first-line nivolumab plus cabozantinib versus sunitinib in patients with advanced renal cell carcinoma treated in CheckMate 9ER: an open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial

David Cella*, Robert J Motzer*, Cristina Suarez, Steven I Blum, Flavia Ejzykowicz, Melissa Hamilton, Joel F Wallace, Burcin Simsek, Joshua Zhang, Cristina Ivanescu, Andrea B Apolo, Toni K Choueiri

Lancet Oncol 2022; 23: 292–303



VARIABILE DI RISPOSTA

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Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

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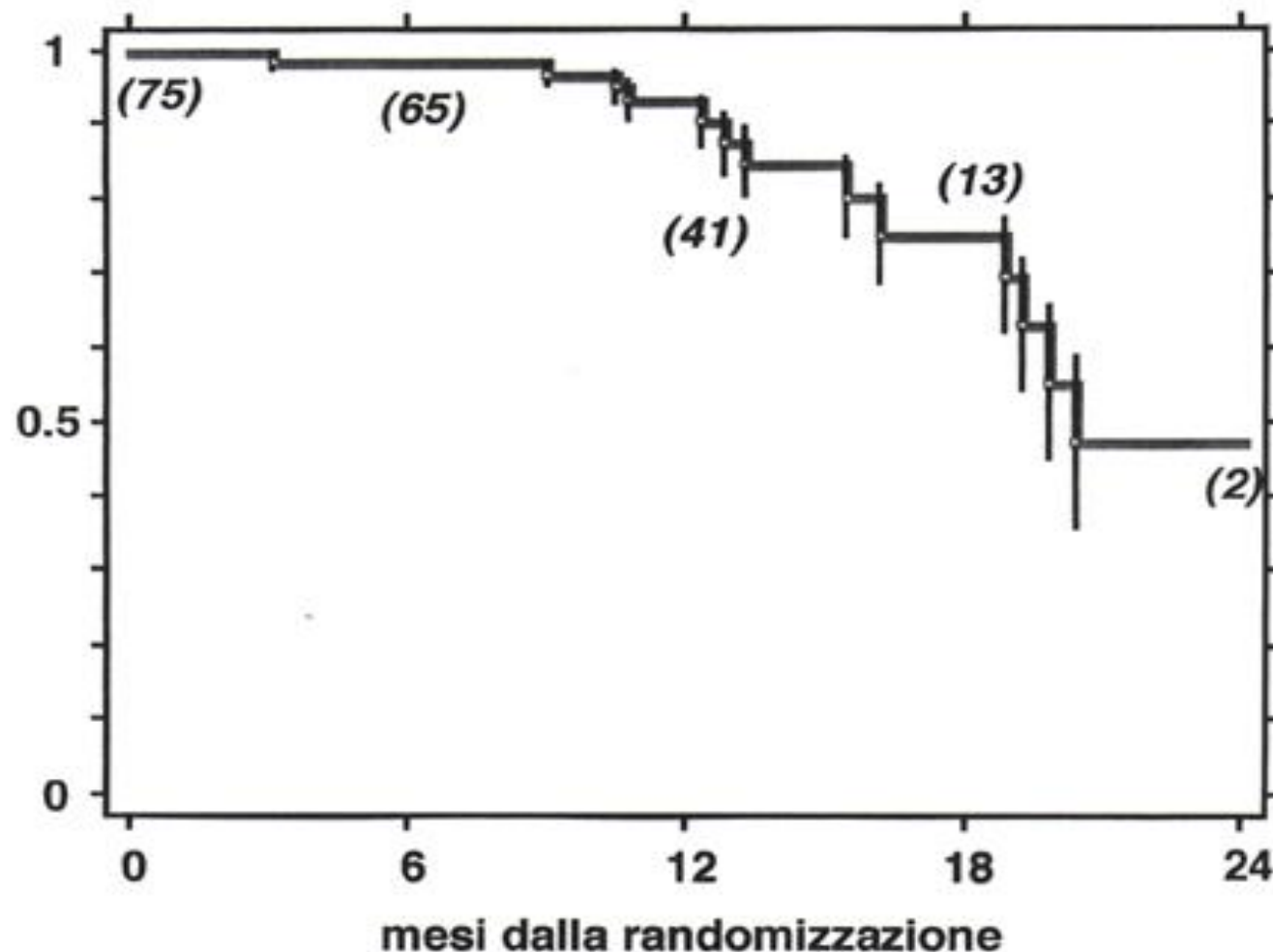
Variabile tempo-a-evento

- Apparentemente assimilabile a una variabile di tipo quantitativo (intervallare)...
- ...ma il verificarsi o meno di un evento la rende assimilabile a una variabile di tipo qualitativo (nominale)

Metodo di Kaplan-Meier

Stima della probabilità di sopravvivere in corrispondenza di ciascuno dei tempi in cui si verifica almeno un evento

CURVA DI SOPRAVVIVENZA



**Analisi
della sopravvivenza
in sperimentazioni
cliniche controllate
e nelle osservazioni
pianificate**

E. Marubini - M.G. Valsecchi

**A cura del «Centro Zambon»
dell'Università di Milano**

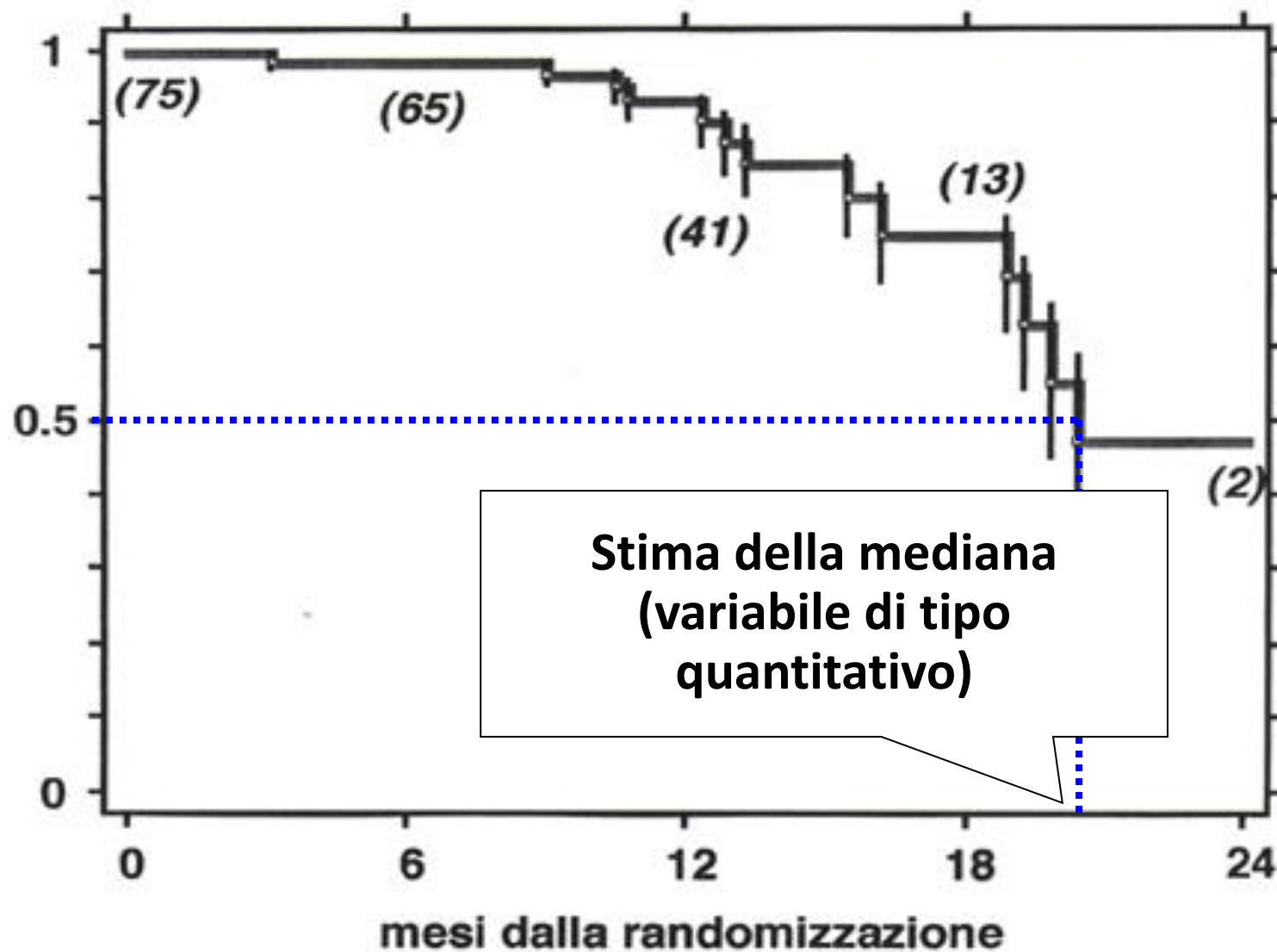
DALL'ISTITUTO DI STATISTICA MEDICA E BIOMETRIA
DELLA FACOLTÀ DI MEDICINA E CHIRURGIA

Tempi di risposta $t_{(j)}$	Tempi troncati* t^*	N° soggetti esposti a rischio n_j	N° eventi terminali d_j	Rischio istantaneo di "morte" $\hat{\lambda}(t_{(j)})$	Probabilità cumulativa di sopravvivere $t_{(j)}$ \hat{P}_j
9		20	1	1/20 = .050	$(1 - 1/20) \times 1 = .9500$
13		19	1	1/19 = .053	$(1 - 1/19) \times .9500 = .8996$
20		18	1	1/18 = .055	$(1 - 1/18) \times .8996 = .8501$
26		17	1	1/17 = .059	$(1 - 1/17) \times .8501 = .7999$
27		16	1	1/16 = .062	$(1 - 1/16) \times .7999 = .7503$
28		15	1	1/15 = .067	$(1 - 1/15) \times .7503 = .7000$
30		14	1	1/14 = .071	$(1 - 1/14) \times .7000 = .6503$
32		13	2	2/13 = .154	$(1 - 2/13) \times .6503 = .5502$
75		11	1	1/11 = .091	$(1 - 1/11) \times .5502 = .5001$
79		10	1	1/10 = .100	$(1 - 1/10) \times .5001 = .4501$
91		9	1	1/9 = .111	$(1 - 1/9) \times .4501 = .4001$
	177*	8	0	0/8 = .0	$(1 - 0/8) \times .4001 = .4001$
193		7	1	1/7 = .143	$(1 - 1/7) \times .4001 = .3429$
541		6	1	1/6 = .167	$(1 - 1/6) \times .3429 = .2856$
1129		5	1	1/5 = .200	$(1 - 1/5) \times .2856 = .2285$
	1499*	4	0	0/4 = .0	$(1 - 0/4) \times .2285 = .2285$
1585		3	1	1/3 = .333	$(1 - 1/3) \times .2285 = .1524$

TABELLA 10.

Calcolo secondo Kaplan e Meier della curva di sopravvivenza del rene trapiantato nei pazienti di tabella 6.

CURVA DI SOPRAVVIVENZA



**Analisi
della sopravvivenza
in sperimentazioni
cliniche controllate
e nelle osservazioni
pianificate**

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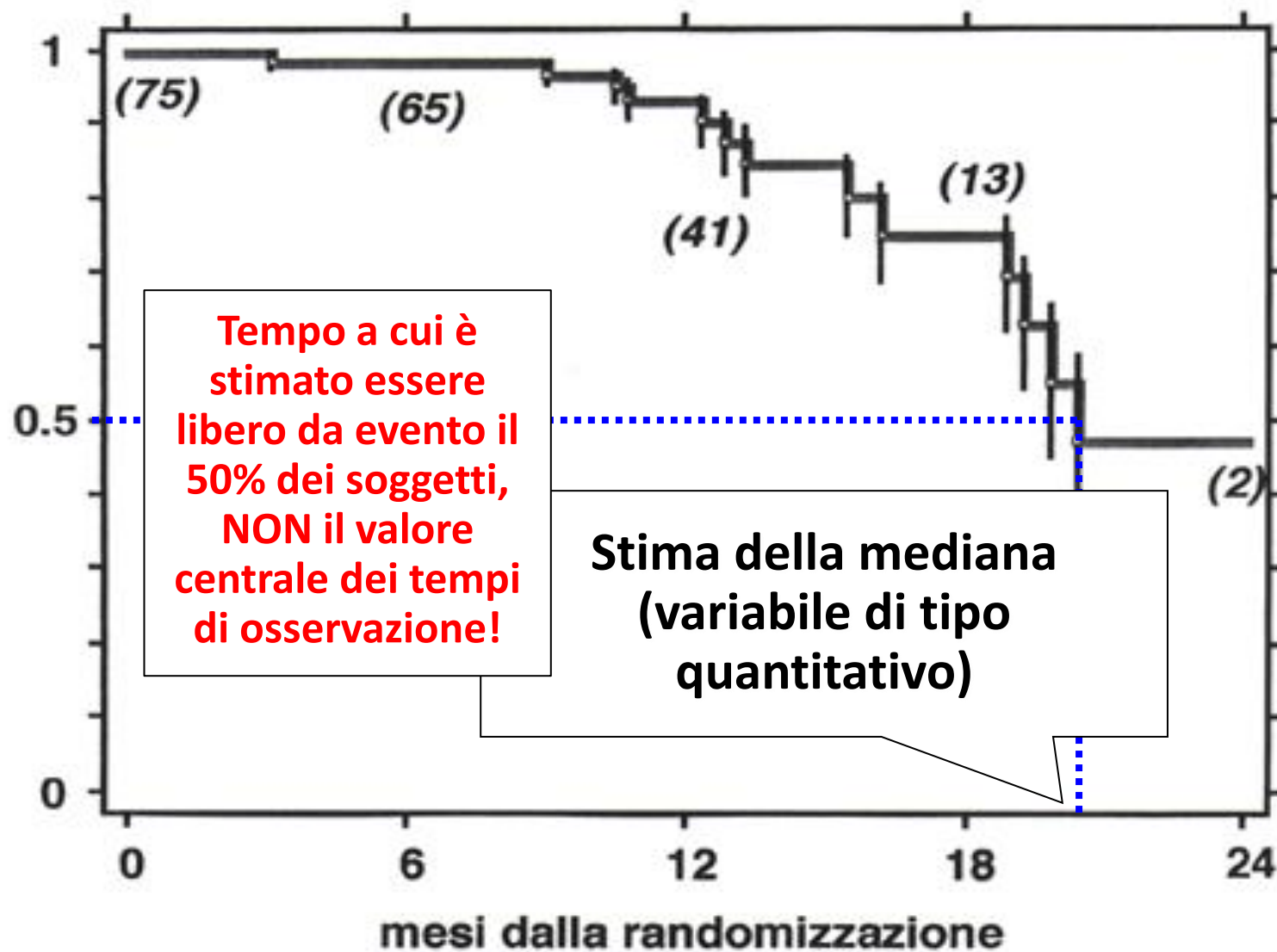
DALL'ISTITUTO DI STATISTICA MEDICA E BIOMETRIA
DELLA FACOLTÀ DI MEDICINA E CHIRURGIA

Tempi di risposta $t_{(j)}$	Tempi troncati* t^*	N° soggetti esposti a rischio n_j	N° eventi terminali d_j	Rischio istantaneo di "morte" $\hat{\lambda}(t_{(j)})$	Probabilità cumulativa di sopravvivere $t_{(j)}$ \hat{P}_j
9		20	1	1/20 = .050	$(1 - 1/20) \times 1 = .9500$
13		19	1	1/19 = .053	$(1 - 1/19) \times .9500 = .8996$
20		18	1	1/18 = .055	$(1 - 1/18) \times .8996 = .8501$
26		17	1	1/17 = .059	$(1 - 1/17) \times .8501 = .7999$
27		16	1	1/16 = .062	$(1 - 1/16) \times .7999 = .7503$
28		15	1	1/15 = .067	$(1 - 1/15) \times .7503 = .7000$
30		14	1	1/14 = .071	$(1 - 1/14) \times .7000 = .6503$
32		13	2	2/13 = .154	$(1 - 2/13) \times .6503 = .5502$
75		11	1	1/11 = .091	$(1 - 1/11) \times .5502 = .5001$
79		10	1	1/10 = .100	$(1 - 1/10) \times .5001 = .4501$
91		9	1	1/9 = .111	$(1 - 1/9) \times .4501 = .4001$
	177*	8	0	0/8 = .0	$(1 - 0/8) \times .4001 = .4001$
193		7	1	1/7 = .143	$(1 - 1/7) \times .4001 = .3429$
541		6	1	1/6 = .167	$(1 - 1/6) \times .3429 = .2856$
1129		5	1	1/5 = .200	$(1 - 1/5) \times .2856 = .2285$
	1499*	4	0	0/4 = .0	$(1 - 0/4) \times .2285 = .2285$
1585		3	1	1/3 = .333	$(1 - 1/3) \times .2285 = .1524$

TABELLA 10.

Calcolo secondo Kaplan e Meier della curva di sopravvivenza del rene trapiantato nei pazienti di tabella 6.

CURVA DI SOPRAVVIVENZA



Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

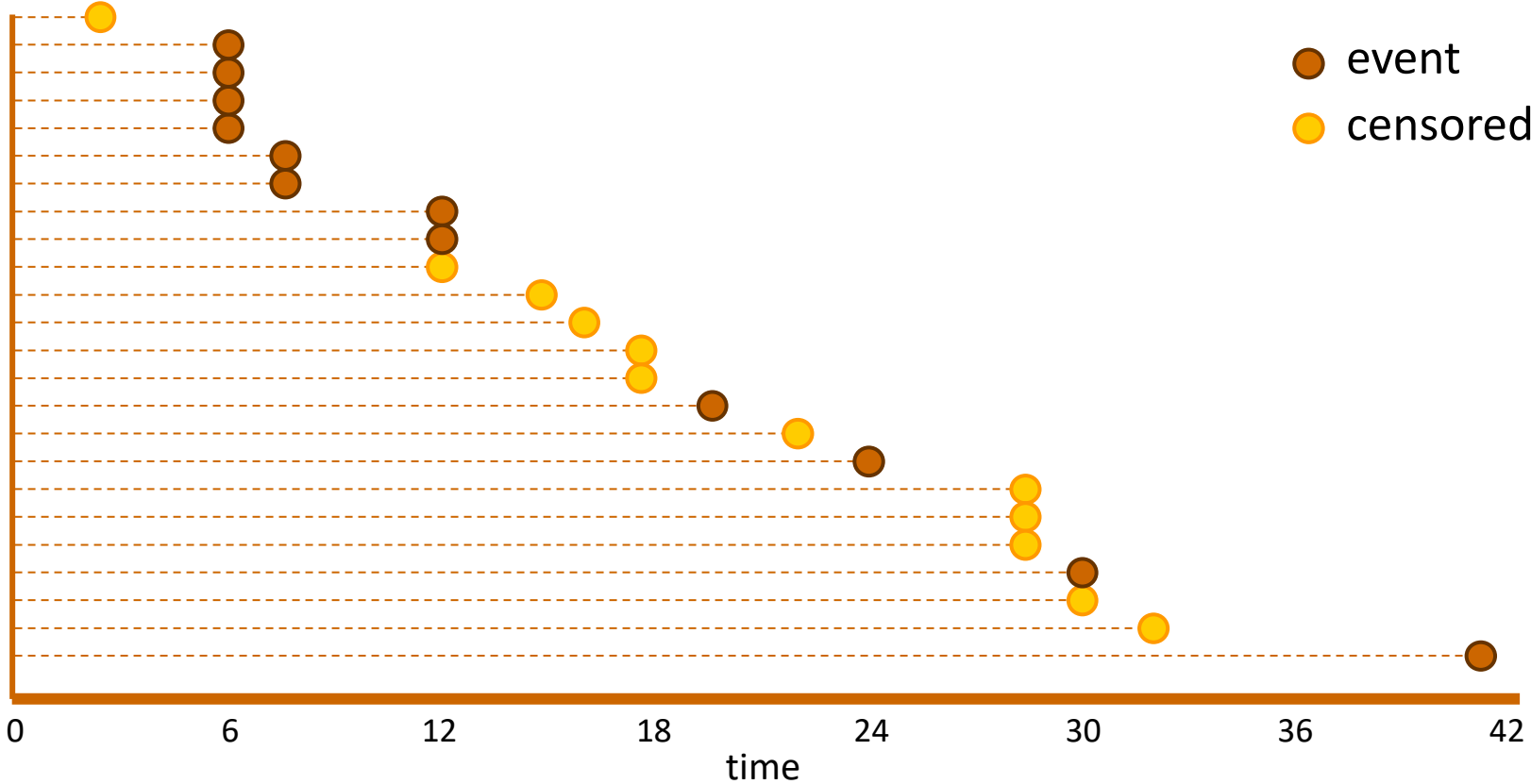
Endpoint	Tipo di variabile statistica	Indicatore comparativo di effetto	
		relativo	assoluto
Attività (CR, PR, SD, ecc.) Tossicità (eventi avversi)	nominale	RR (relative risk / relative rate) OR (odds ratio)	RD (risk difference / rate difference)
Punteggi di qualità di vita	intervallare	-	MD (mean difference)
OS (overall survival) PFS (progression-free survival) DFS (disease-free survival) TTD (time to deterioration...)	tempo a evento	HR (hazard ratio) - - -	differenza tra mediane differenza tra stime al tempo t... RMST (restricted mean survival time) RD (risk difference)

Defining a Hazard Ratio (HR)

- Compares risk of event in two populations or samples
- The ratio of risk (*hazard rate*) in experimental group to risk (*hazard rate*) in control group
 - *The Hazard Rate (λ)* is the rate at which events happen
- Assumption: *proportional hazards (PH)*, i.e. the risk does not depend on time, that is, “risk is constant over time”
 - If non PH is present, the HR is actually time-dependent and the estimated HR that is obtained is some type of average over the event times
 - The *restricted mean survival time* is as a possible alternative tool in the analysis of these trials

$$\lambda = \frac{d}{f + F}$$

d = number of events
 f = sum of follow-up times for patients with event
 F = sum of follow-up times for patients with no event (censored)



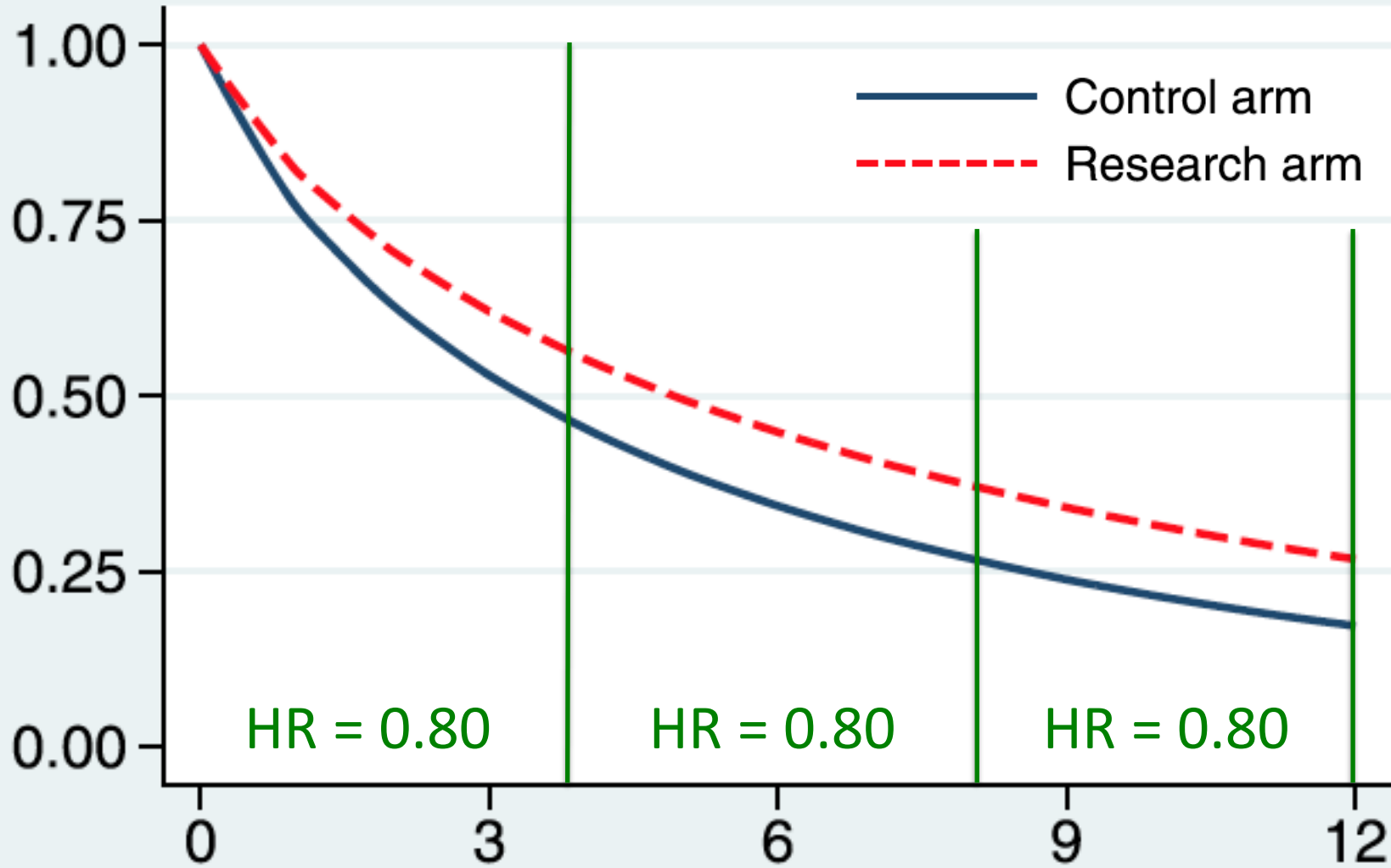
d = 12
 f = 6+6+6+6+8+8+12+12+20+24+30+42 = 180
 F = 3+12+15+16+18+18+22+28+28+28+30+33 = 251

$$\lambda = \frac{12}{431} = 0.0278$$

Defining a Hazard Ratio (HR)

- Compares risk of event in two populations or samples
- The ratio of risk (*hazard rate*) in experimental group to risk (*hazard rate*) in control group
 - *The Hazard Rate (λ)* is the rate at which events happen
- Assumption: *proportional hazards (PH)*, i.e. the risk does not depend on time, that is, “risk is constant over time”
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Proportional hazards

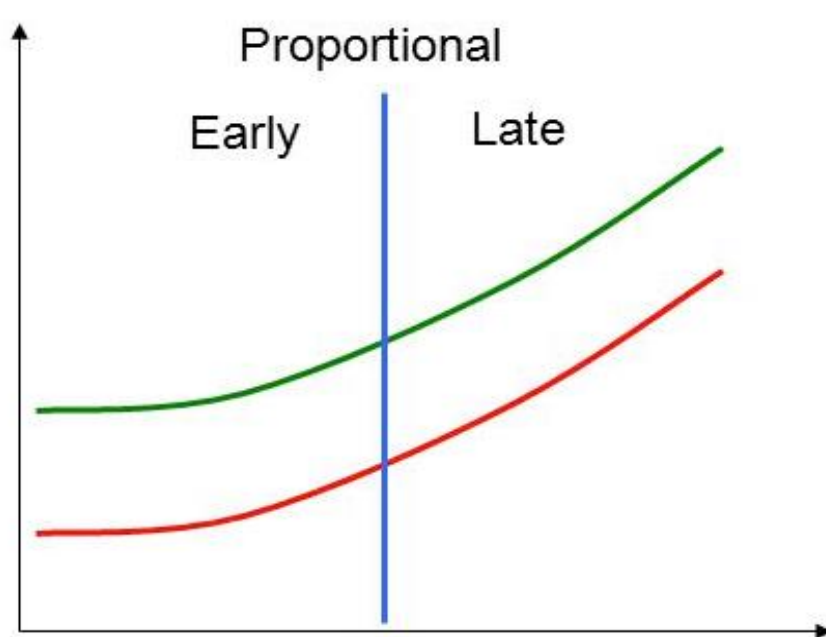


Defining a Hazard Ratio (HR)

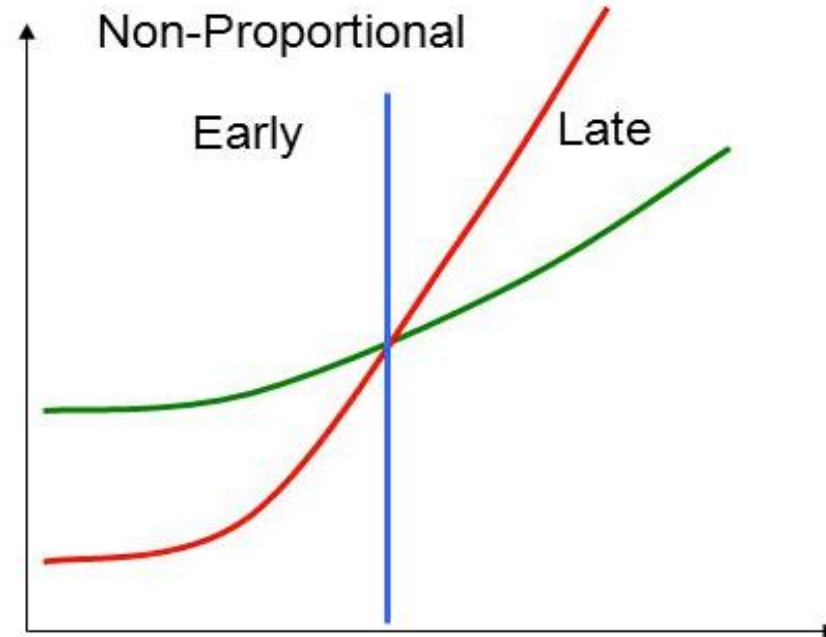
- Compares risk of event in two populations or samples
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 - *The Hazard Rate (λ)* is the rate at which events happen
- Assumption: *proportional hazards (PH)*, i.e. the risk does not depend on time, that is, “risk is constant over time”
 - If non PH is present, the HR is actually time-dependent and the estimated HR that is obtained is some type of average over the event times
 - The *restricted mean survival time* is as a possible alternative tool in the analysis of these trials

Proportional Hazard Assumption

If we are comparing a new treatment with the standard treatment, it is assumed that the ratio of the hazard for an individual on a new treatment to that for an individual on the standard treatment remains constant over time

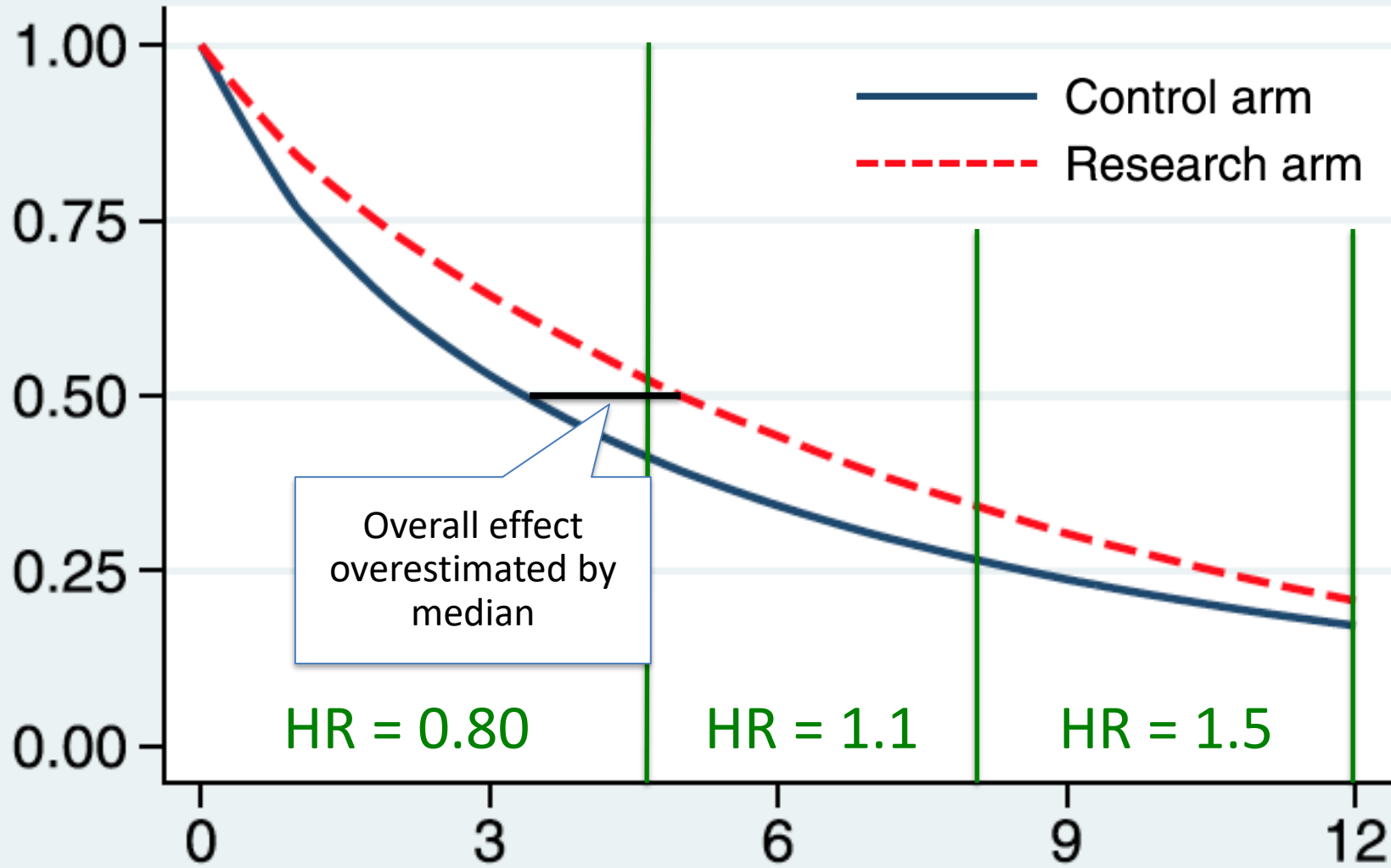


Here, the effect is the same in both time periods

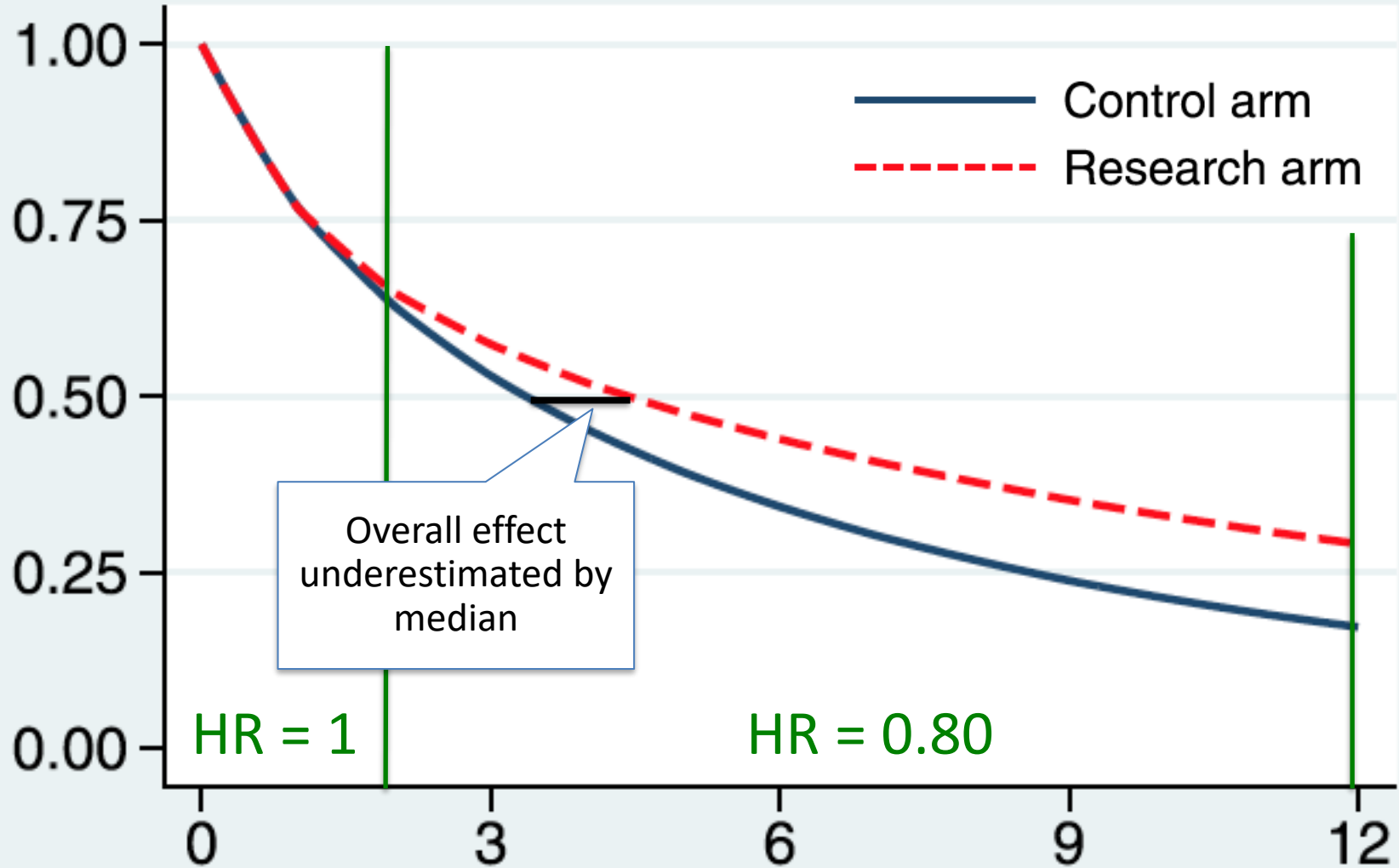


Here, the effect is negative in the early period and positive in the late period

Decreasing treatment effect

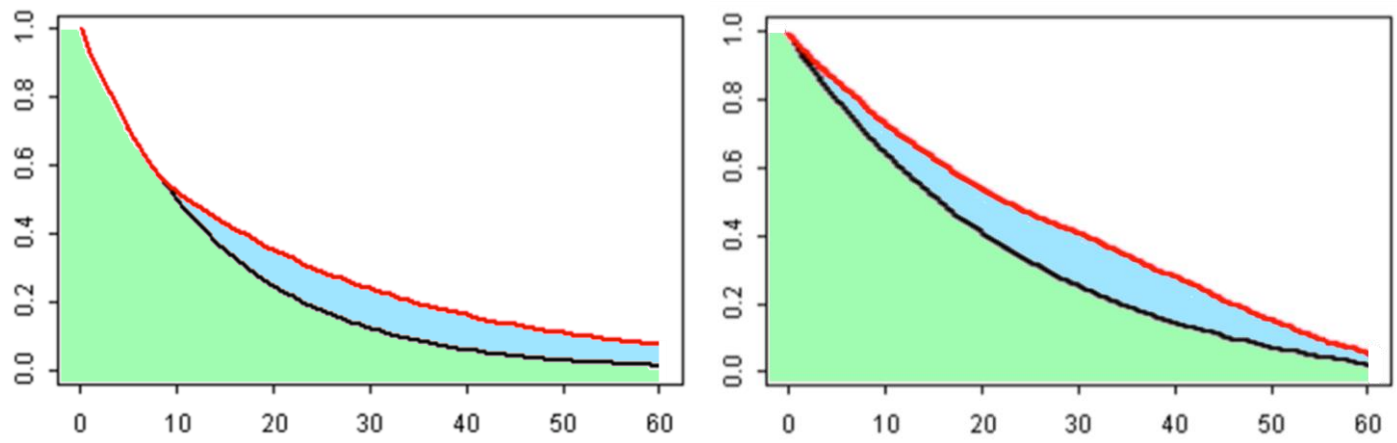
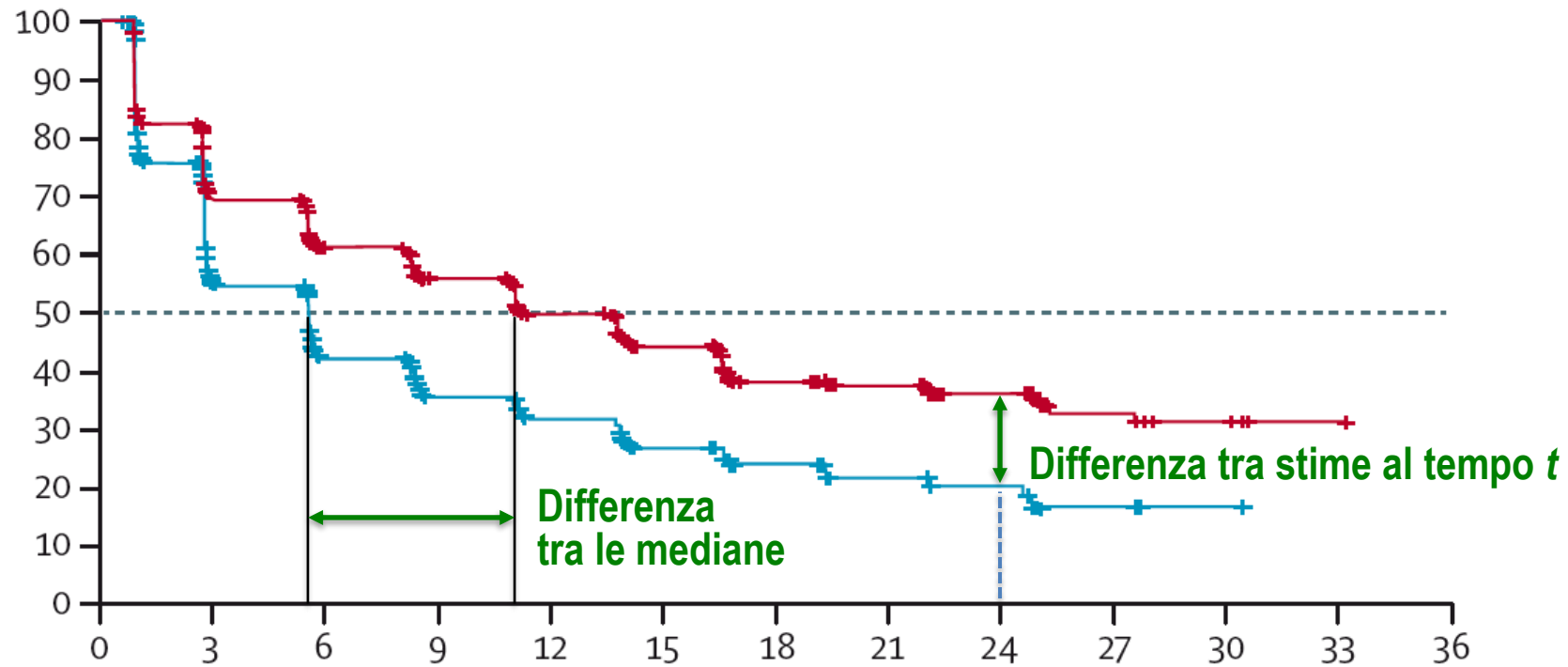


Increasing treatment effect



Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

Endpoint	Tipo di variabile statistica	Indicatore comparativo di effetto	
		relativo	assoluto
Attività (CR, PR, SD, ecc.) Tossicità (eventi avversi)	nominale	RR (relative risk / relative rate) OR (odds ratio)	RD (risk difference / rate difference)
Punteggi di qualità di vita	intervallare	-	MD (mean difference)
OS (overall survival) PFS (progression-free survival) DFS (disease-free survival) TTD (time to deterioration...)	tempo a evento	HR (hazard ratio) - - -	differenza tra mediane differenza tra stime al tempo t... RMST (restricted mean survival time) RD (risk difference)



**Restricted Mean
Survival Time
(differenza tra le
aree sotto la curva)**

— Time to Event (control) — Time to Event (treatment) ■ RMST (control) ■ Additional RMST (treatment)

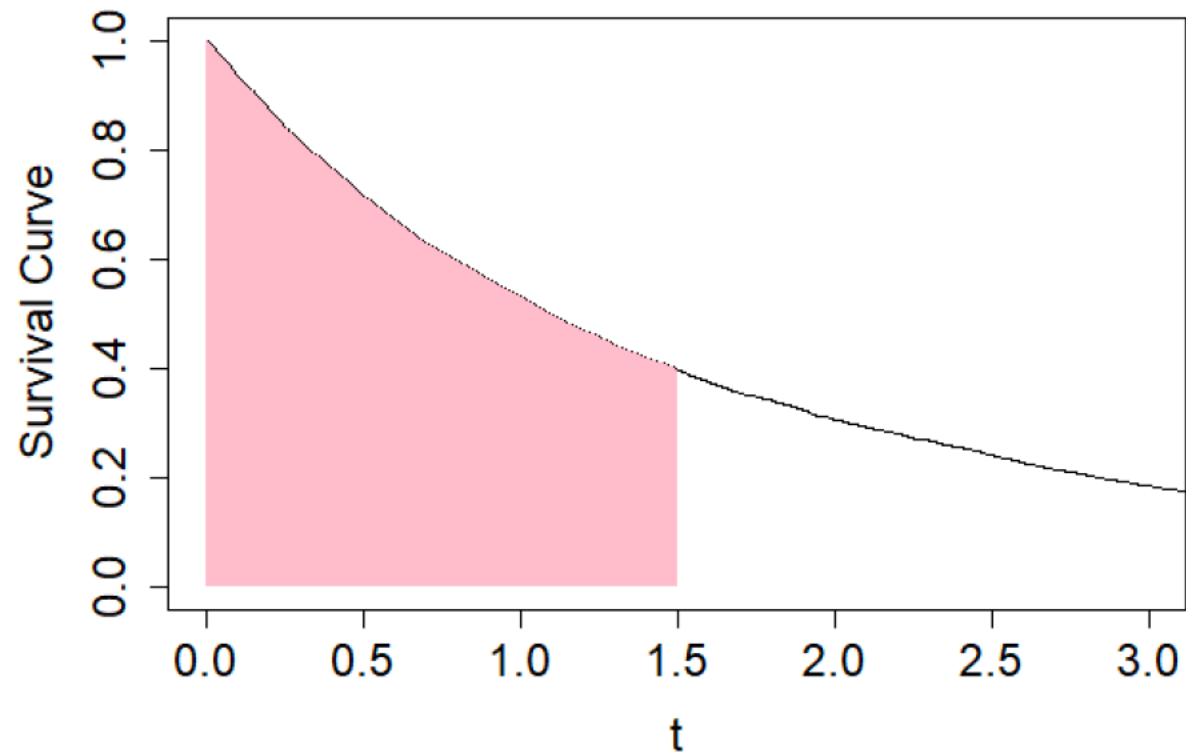
Defining a Hazard Ratio (HR)

- Compares risk of event in two populations or samples
- The ratio of risk (*hazard rate*) in experimental group to risk (*hazard rate*) in control group
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 - If non PH is present, the HR is actually time-dependent and the estimated HR that is obtained is some type of average over the event times
 - *The restricted mean survival time* is as a possible alternative tool in the analysis of these trials

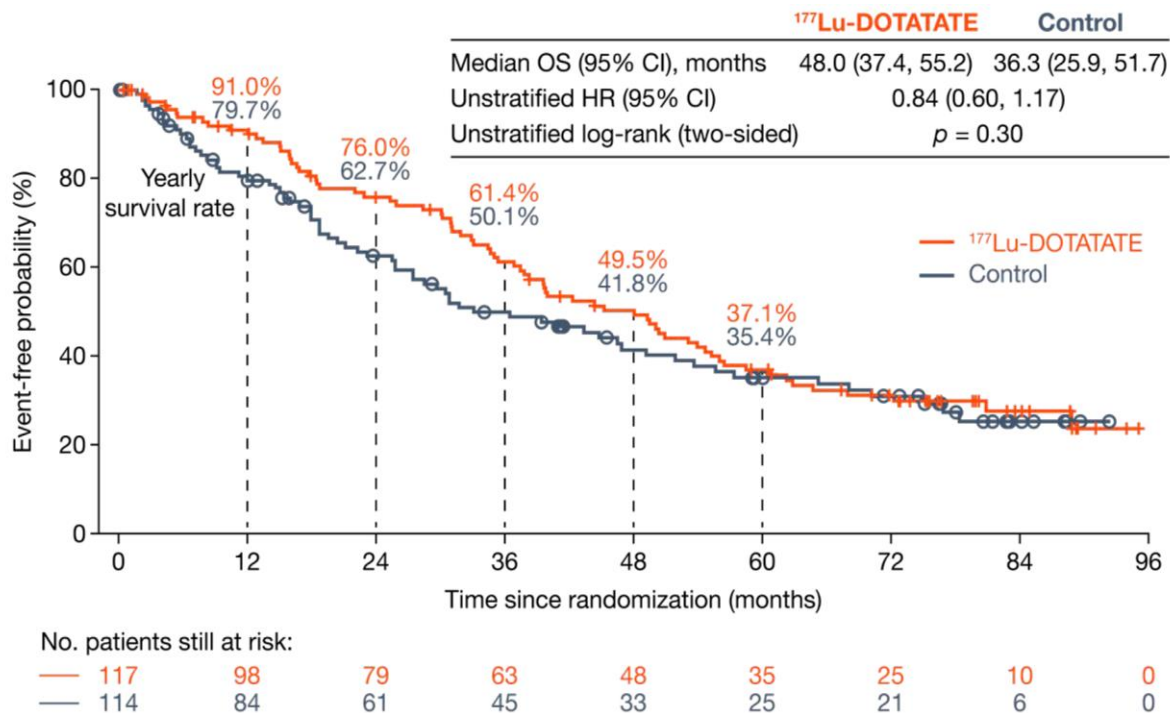
Restricted mean survival time: an alternative to the hazard ratio for the design and analysis of randomized trials with a time-to-event outcome

Patrick Royston* and Mahesh KB Parmar

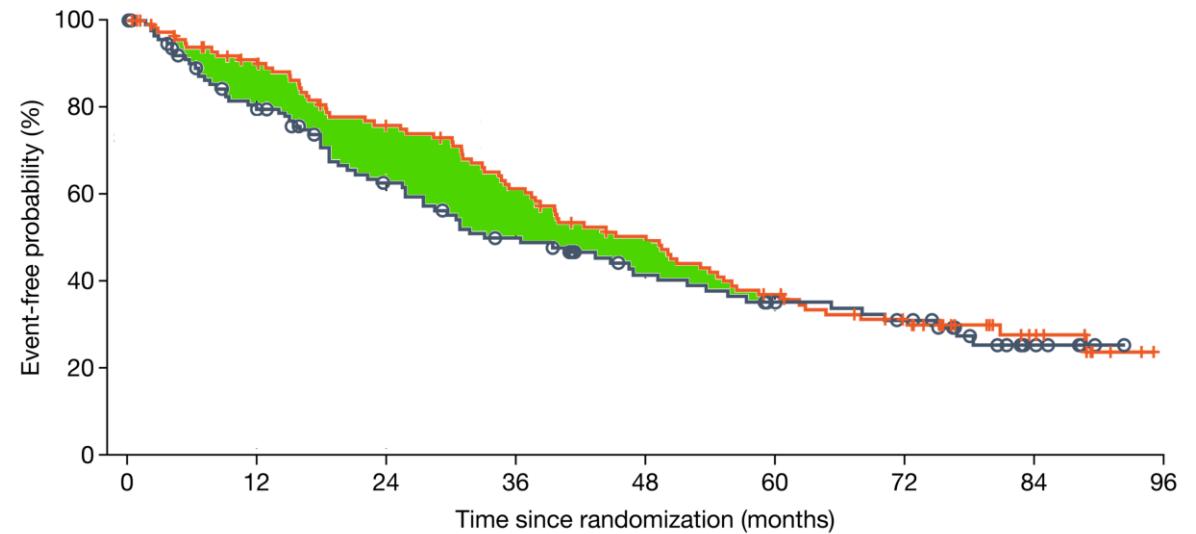
BMC Medical Research Methodology 2013, **13**:152



The phase 3 NETTER-1 study of ¹⁷⁷Lu-DOTATATE in patients with midgut neuroendocrine tumours: further survival analyses



Deaths, n (%)	65 (55.6)	63 (55.3)
RMST, months (95% CI)	41.2 (37.6, 44.9)	36.1 (31.9, 40.4)
Difference, months (95% CI)	5.1 (-0.5, 10.7)	



Variabili di comune riscontro negli studi clinici e indicatori comparativi di effetto

Endpoint	Tipo di variabile statistica	Indicatore comparativo di effetto	
		relativo	assoluto
Attività (CR, PR, SD, ecc.) Tossicità (eventi avversi)	nominale	RR (relative risk / relative rate) OR (odds ratio)	RD (risk difference / rate difference)
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GRADE guidelines 27: how to calculate absolute effects for time-to-event outcomes in summary of findings tables and Evidence Profiles

Nicole Skoetz^{a,*}, Marius Goldkuhle^a, Elvira C. van Dalen^b, Elie A. Akl^c, Marialena Trivella^d,
Reem A. Mustafa^e, Artur Nowak^f, Philipp Dahm^g, Holger Schünemann^h,
Ralf Benderⁱ, GRADE Working Group

Absolute effect estimates (i.e., risk difference, the number needed to treat) provide important supplementary information to relative effect estimates by **considering the control event rate over a given time period**. As they take into account the underlying baseline risk for the event of interest in the study groups, absolute effect estimates **are less vulnerable to exaggerated effect interpretation than relative effect estimates** and allow a more appropriate assessment of the clinical relevance of effects.

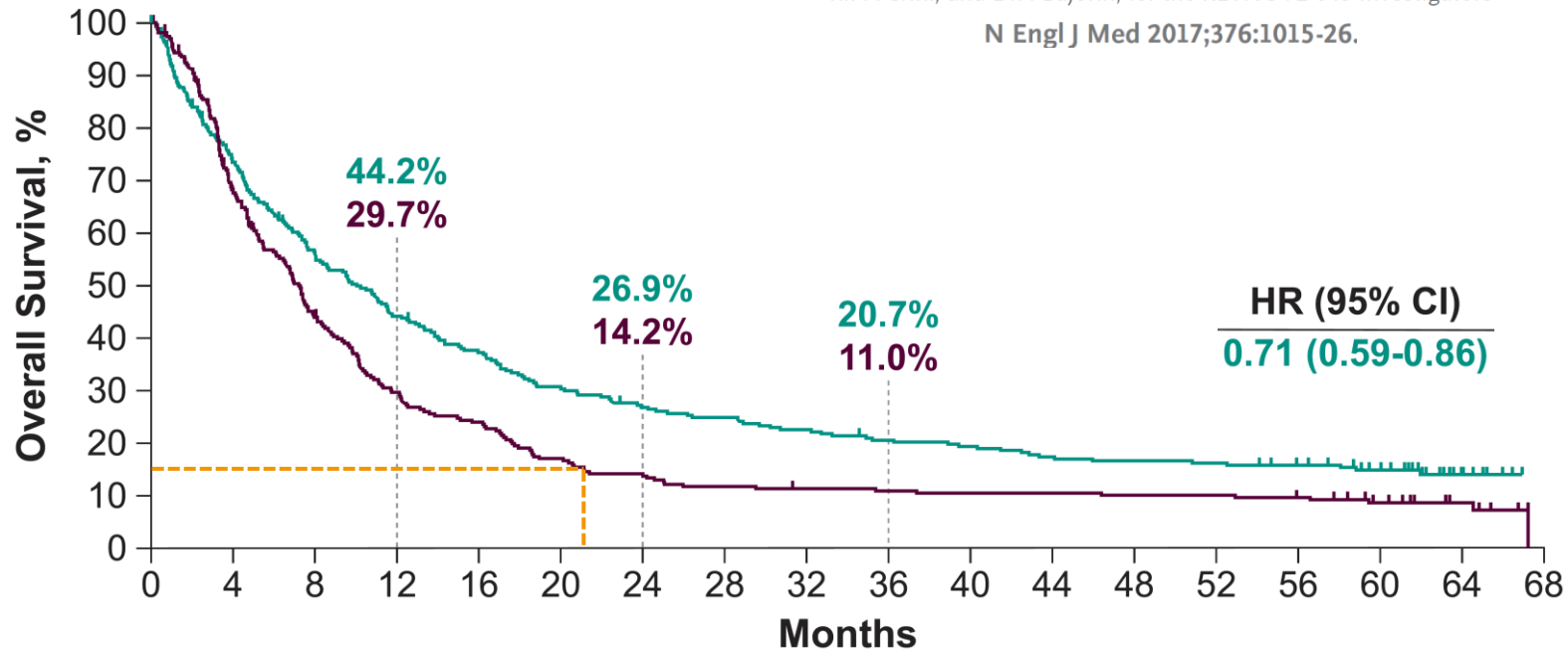
...

Data from Kaplan-Meier survival curves from the control groups of the trials included in the analysis may be **used to estimate the baseline risk**.

Pembrolizumab as Second-Line Therapy for Advanced Urothelial Carcinoma

J. Bellmunt, R. de Wit, D.J. Vaughn, Y. Fradet, J.-L. Lee, L. Fong, N.J. Vogelzang, M.A. Climent, D.P. Petrylak, T.K. Choueiri, A. Necchi, W. Gerritsen, H. Gurney, D.I. Quinn, S. Culine, C.N. Sternberg, Y. Mai, C.H. Poehlein, R.F. Perini, and D.F. Bajorin, for the KEYNOTE-045 Investigators*

N Engl J Med 2017;376:1015-26.



- Median f.u.: 21.1 months
- Basal risk* at median f.u.: 85%
- **Risk Difference: 11 events lower / 100 pts (95%CI: 18 lower to 5 lower)**
- NNT = 9



SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE


FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

- Etica della ricerca
- Quesito clinico di riferimento
- Fasi della sperimentazione clinica
- Disegni di studio osservazionali e interventistici
- Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto
- **Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)**
- Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)

1. Riflettete da soli per 10 min. e compilate il form 
2. Confrontatevi con i Colleghi del Vostro tavolo per 15 min., declinate un W³ condiviso e delegate un portavoce
3. Riportate sulla lavagna il Vostro W³ condiviso su almeno due aspetti ritenuti rilevanti e impattanti sulla professione (in 5 min.)
4. Presentate ai Colleghi degli altri tavoli il Vostro W³ condiviso



WHAT?

Cosa è emerso di particolarmente saliente / rilevante?

.....
.....
.....



SO WHAT?

Per quale motivo le cose emerse sono così rilevanti?

.....
.....
.....



NOW WHAT?

Quali ricadute nell'immediato per la mia professione?

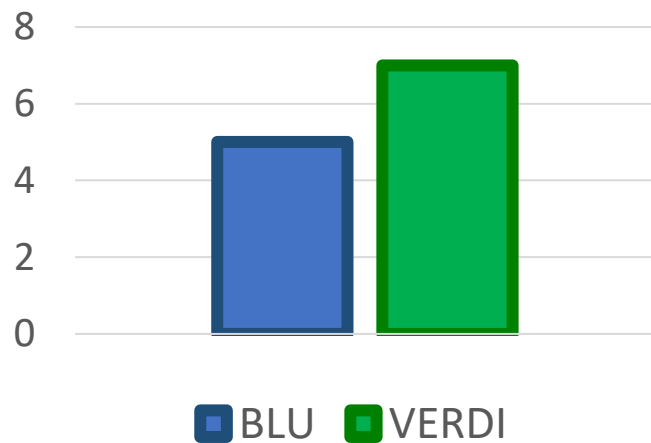
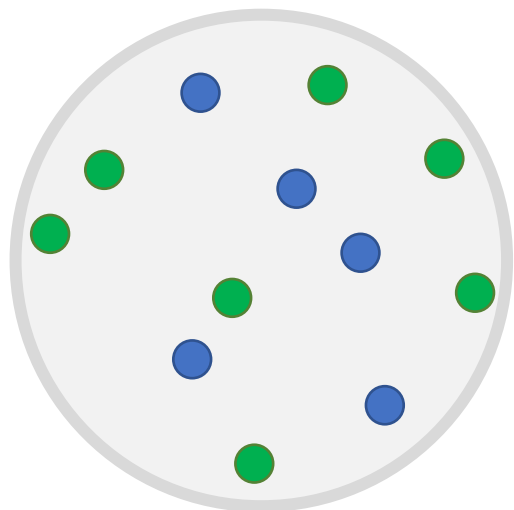
.....
.....
.....

PRINCIPI DI STATISTICA MEDICA:
ERRORI STATISTICI,
VERIFICA DI IPOTESI,
DIMENSIONAMENTO CAMPIONARIO

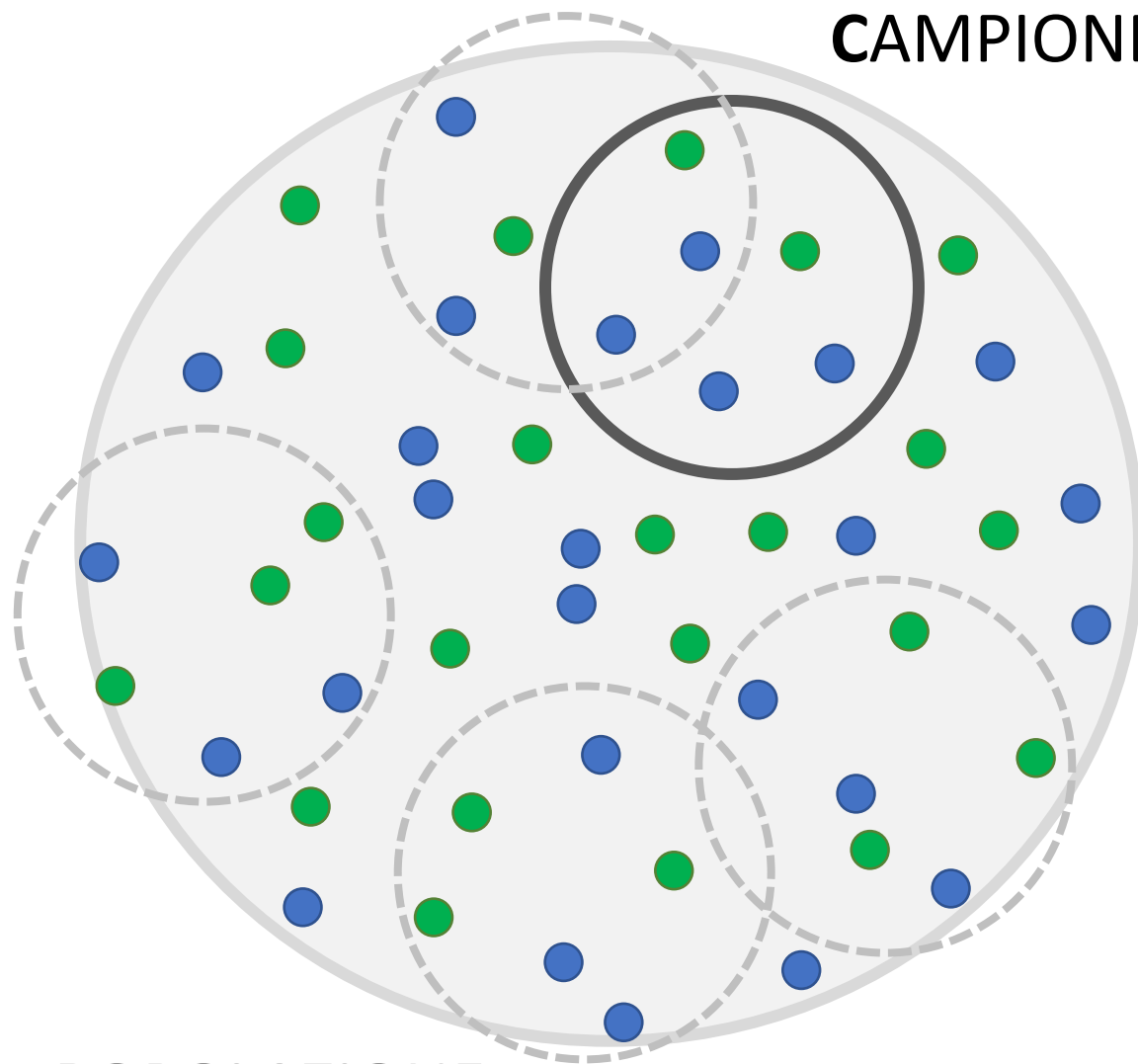
“we can be blind to the obvious, and we are
also blind to our blindness.”

— Daniel Kahneman

STATISTICA DESCRITTIVA VS. INFERENZIALE



■ BLU ■ VERDI



CAMPIONE

POPOLAZIONE

STIMA PUNTUALE VS. STIMA INTERVALLARE



Stima puntuale

Singolo valore che mira al parametro della popolazione.



Stima intervallare

Specifica un intervallo di valori che contiene il parametro della popolazione. Solitamente viene costruito tenendo conto di una probabilità del 95%.

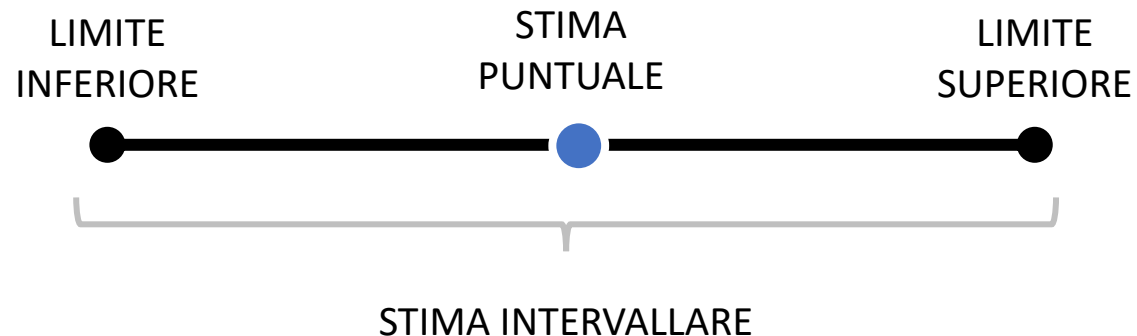
Se riportiamo un intervallo di valori plausibili, abbiamo buone probabilità di cogliere il parametro.

INTERVALLI DI CONFIDENZA

Qual è la cosa che ha il 95% di probabilità di accadere?

Circa **il 95% degli intervalli costruiti** seguendo la procedura di estrazione del campione e di stima conterrà il vero parametro di popolazione.

Il nostro intervallo costruito dal campione osservato conterrà o non conterrà il parametro, non lo sappiamo.



TEST D'IPOTESI

In un **tribunale**:
l'imputato è considerato innocente se non diversamente dimostrato.

L'obiettivo del pubblico ministero è di trovare delle **evidenze** che dimostrino la colpevolezza dell'imputato.

Ma quanto siamo disposti a considerare certe le evidenze che definiranno la colpevolezza dell'innocente?

		Verità	
		INNOCENTE	COLPEVOLE
Verdetto	INNOCENTE	Corretto	Errore
	COLPEVOLE	Errore	Corretto



TEST D'IPOTESI

In tribunale

Innocente





Colpevole

In uno studio clinico

Non esiste differenza tra i trattamenti (H0)

Esiste una differenza tra i trattamenti (H1)

TEST D'IPOTESI

	H_0 is True	H_0 is NOT True
Accept H_0		 Errore di II tipo (β) Accetto un'ipotesi che non è vera
Reject H_0	 Errore di I tipo (α) Rifiuto un'ipotesi vera	

TEST D'IPOTESI

In tribunale

Innocente

Colpevole

In uno studio clinico

Non esiste differenza tra i trattamenti (H0)

Esiste una differenza tra i trattamenti (H1)

Assolvo l'innocente

Condanno il colpevole

Condanno l'innocente

Assolvo il colpevole

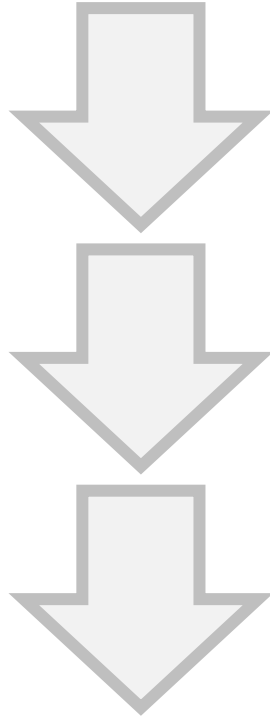
Corretta accettazione di H0

Corretto rifiuto di H0

Errore di I tipo

Errore di II tipo

VERIFICA D'IPOTESI



1. Impostare le ipotesi:

- $H_0 : \mu_0 - \mu_1 = 0$ (Non esiste differenza tra i trattamenti)
- $H_1 : \mu_0 - \mu_1 \neq 0$ (Esiste differenza tra i trattamenti)

2. Calcolare il valore del test e il corrispettivo **pvalue** (p)

3. Prendere una decisione:

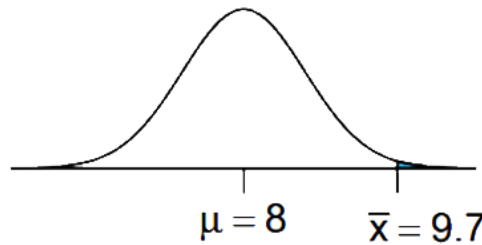
- Se il valore di $p < \alpha$, rifiutare H_0
- Se il valore di $p > \alpha$, non rifiutare H_0

P-VALUE

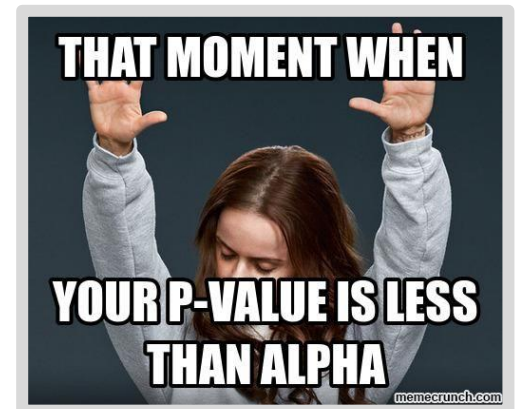
Il p-value è la probabilità che il parametro che voglio stimare, sotto l'ipotesi H_0 , abbia un valore uguale o più estremo di quello che ho osservato.

Ipotesi: $H_0: \mu = 8$

Campione: $\bar{X} = 9.7$



$$p\text{-value} = P(\bar{x} > 9.7 \mid \mu = 8) = P(Z > 2.50) = 0.0062$$



P-VALUE

Non possiamo concludere da un P-value piccolo, se è presente un rapporto di causa effetto o se le nostre conclusioni possono essere generalizzate ad una popolazione più ampia.

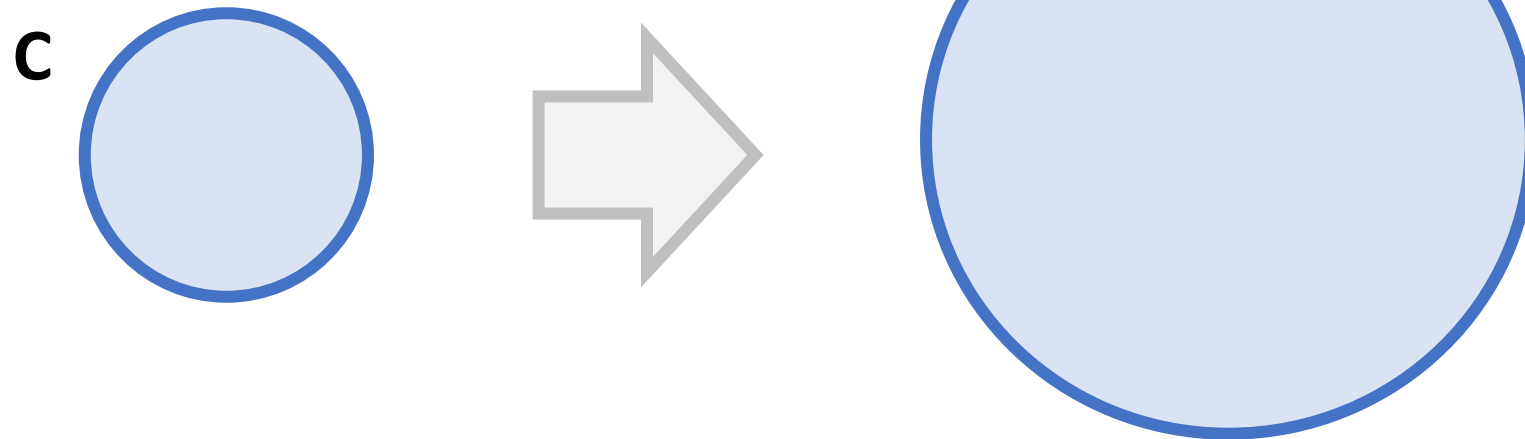
Questo perché i p-value non possono dirci se il disegno di uno studio è stato impostato correttamente o se i dati sono stati raccolti in modo appropriato

Garbage In → Garbage Out

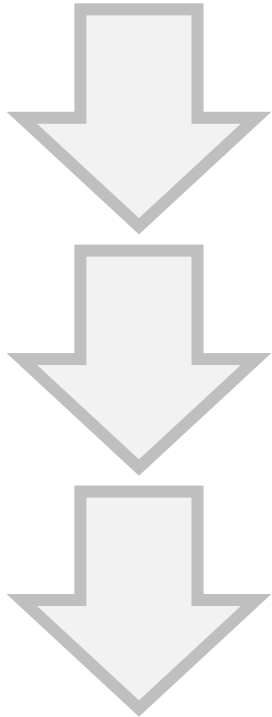
Inoltre, il p-value non ci da alcuna informazione sulla rilevanza degli effetti che abbiamo osservato. **Rilevanze statistica non implica rilevanza clinica.**

P-VALUE

Il campione deve essere **rappresentativo** per permettere l'inferenza e **casuale** per essere rappresentativo.



DALL'IPOTESI ALLA NUMEROSITÀ

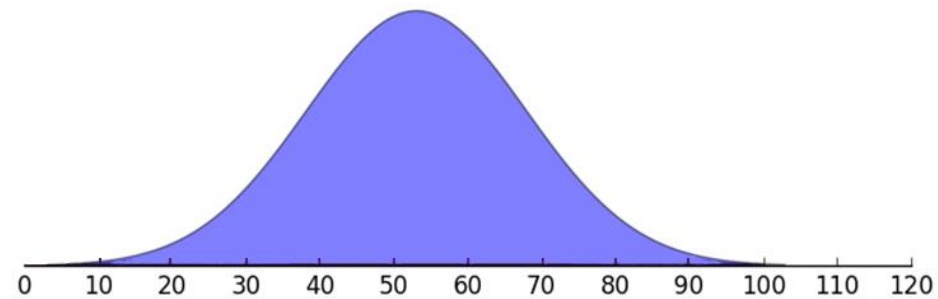


- **Obiettivo primario.**
- Definizione del **disegno di studio.**
- Scelta dei **criteri di inclusione** dei soggetti e metodi di selezione del campione.
- Definizione dell'**endpoint** corrispondente.
- Calcolo della **numerosità campionaria.**

ENDPOINT

Gli endpoints o **outcome** sono **misure di efficacia** scelte per valutare il raggiungimento degli obiettivi.

Devono essere validi, appropriati e clinicamente rilevanti.



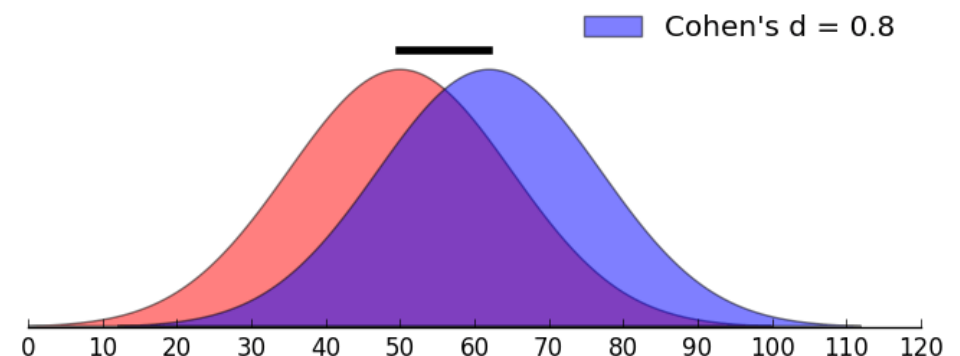
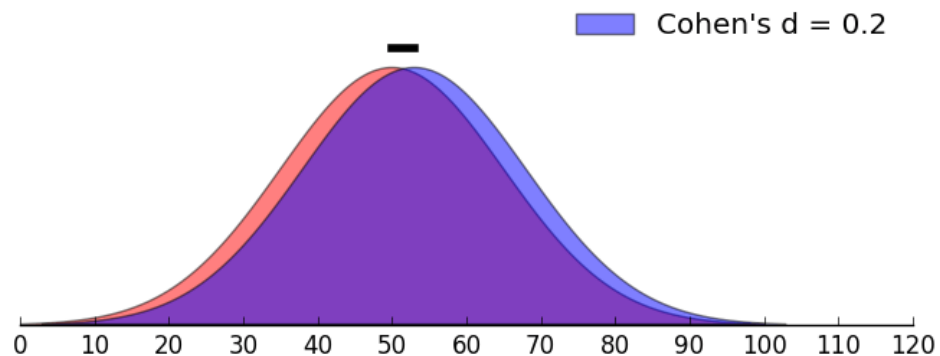
EFFECT SIZE

L'effect size è la misura quantitativa della forza di un fenomeno.

Esprime la **grandezza** (size) della differenza o relazione indagata.

Esempio:

$$d_{Cohen} = \frac{\text{differenza media}}{\text{standard deviation}}$$

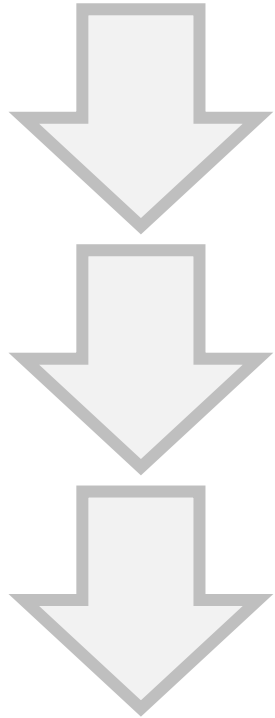


SAMPLE SIZE

Un trial clinico è un esperimento che coinvolge persone. L'arruolamento di un numero adeguato di soggetti ha anche una rilevanza **etica**. Il numero di soggetti dovrebbe essere sufficiente affinché si riesca a rispondere adeguatamente agli obiettivi prefissati.

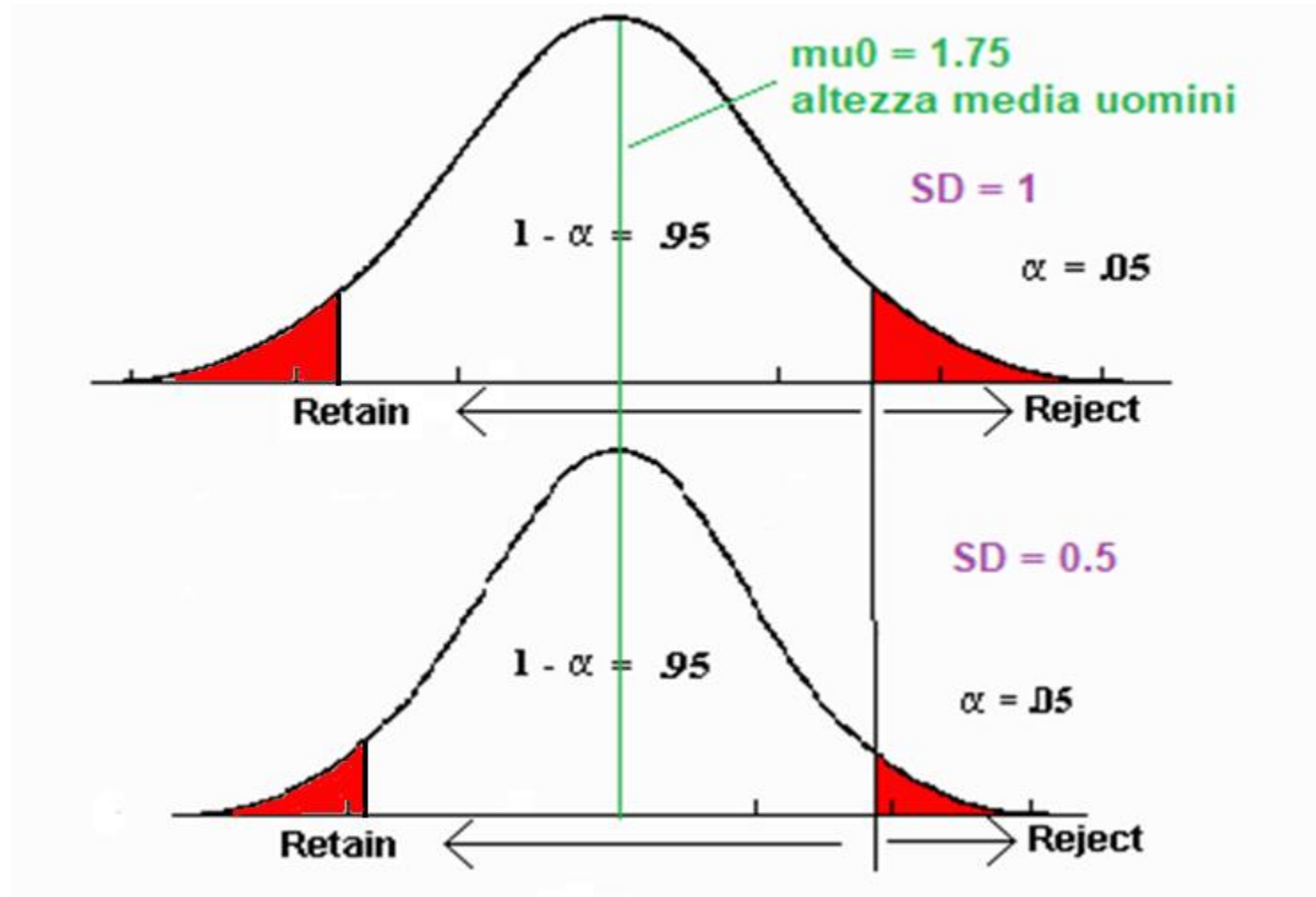
Sottodimensionare o sovradimensionare uno studio ha anche implicazioni **economiche**.

ELEMENTI DEL SAMPLE SIZE

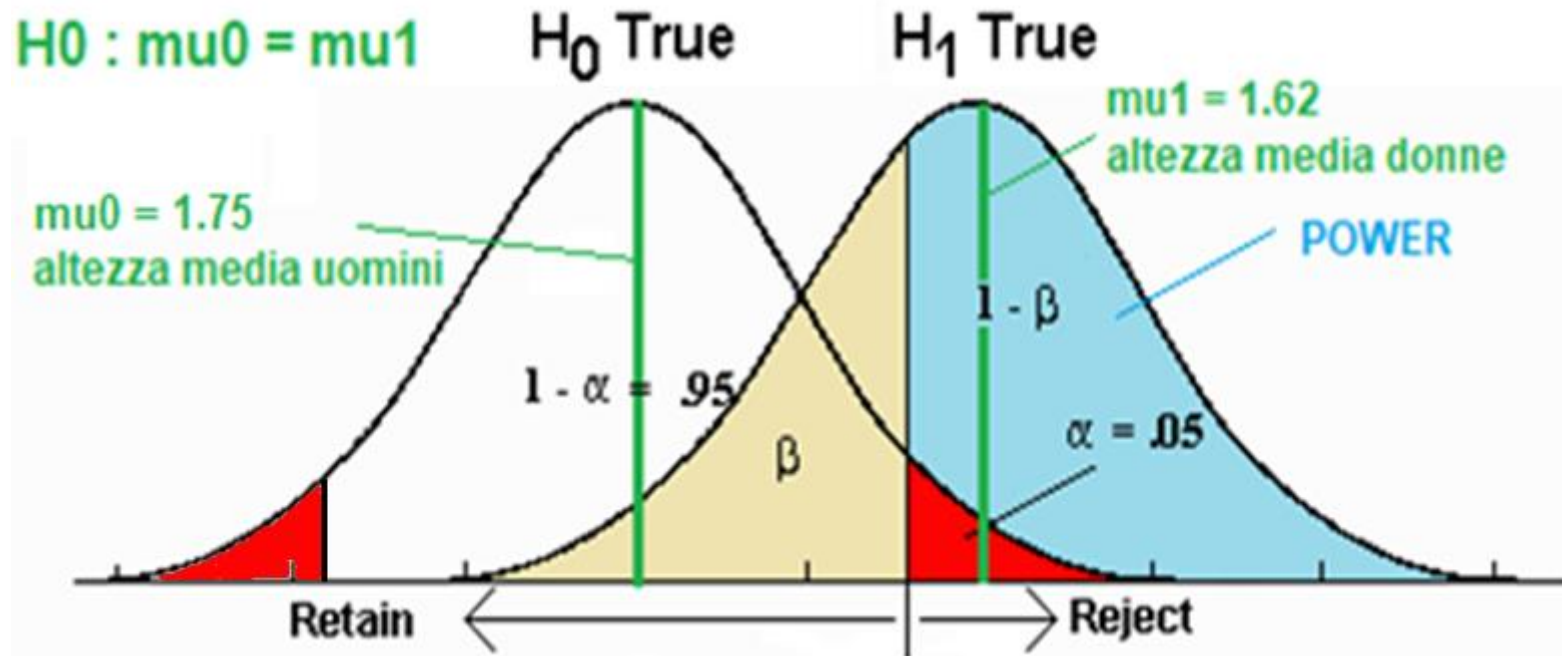


- **Effect size:** misura dell'effetto (assoluta o relativa).
- **Variabilità.**
- Errore di primo tipo (α).
- Errore di secondo tipo (β) o **POTENZA** ($1 - \beta$).
- **Grandezza** campione.

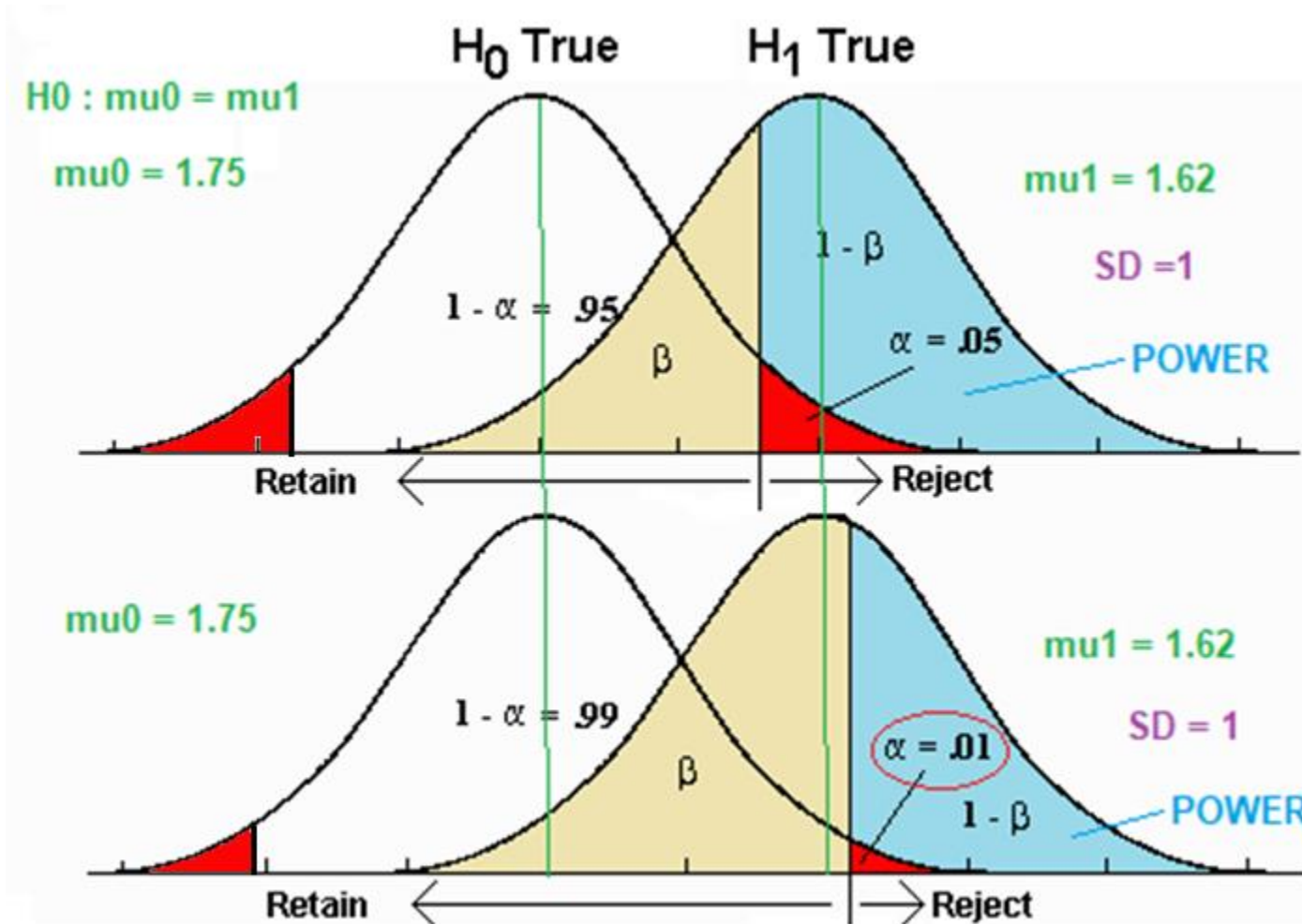
L'OUTCOME PRIMARIO E LA SUA DISTRIBUZIONE



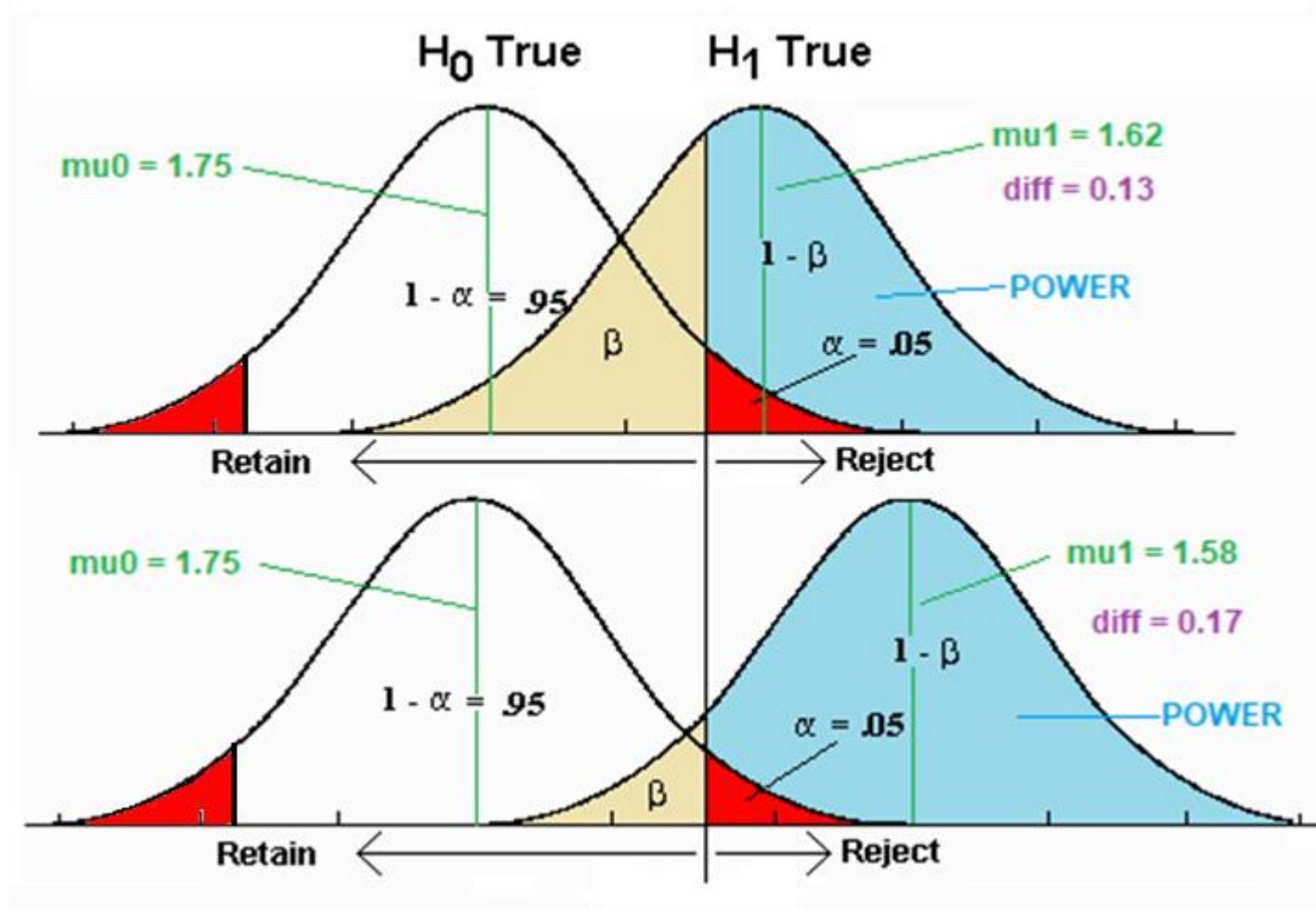
L'OUTCOME PRIMARIO E LA SUA DISTRIBUZIONE NEI DUE GRUPPI



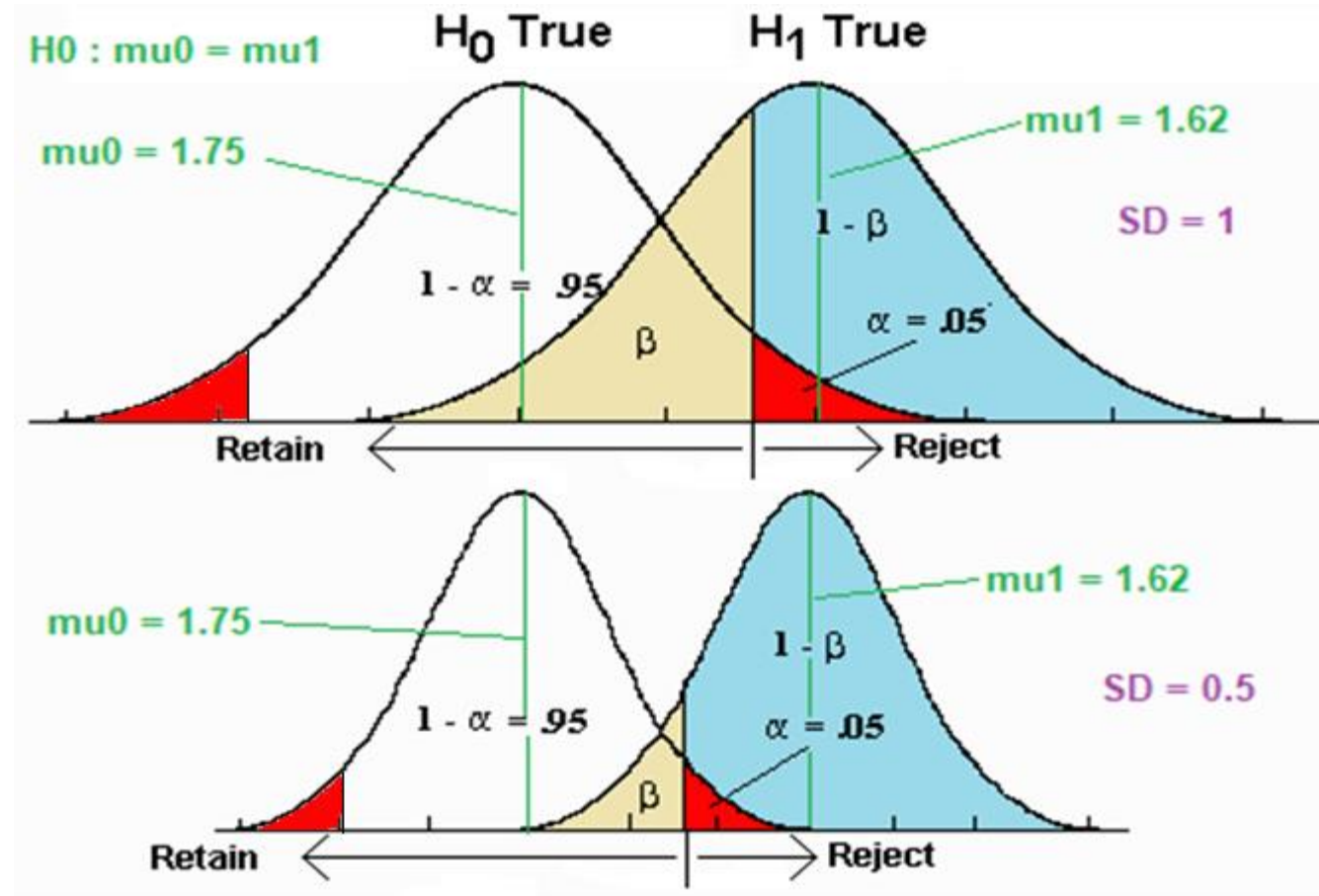
COME VARIA LA POTENZA AL VARIARE DELL'ERRORE DI PRIMO TIPO



COME VARIA LA POTENZA AL VARIARE DELLA DIFFERENZA ASSOLUTA



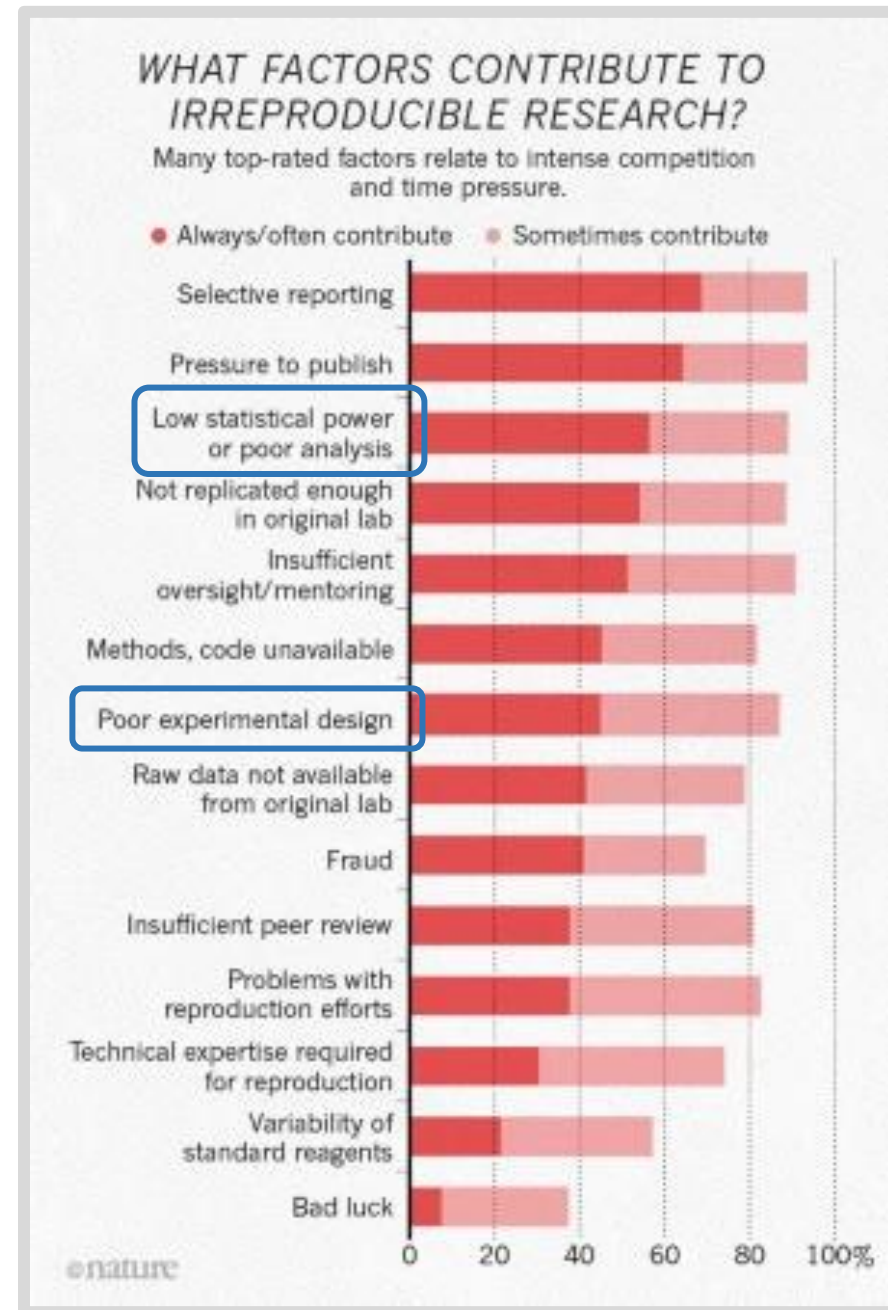
COME VARIA LA POTENZA AL VARIARE DELLA DEVIAZIONE STANDARD



PRINCIPI FONDAMENTALI

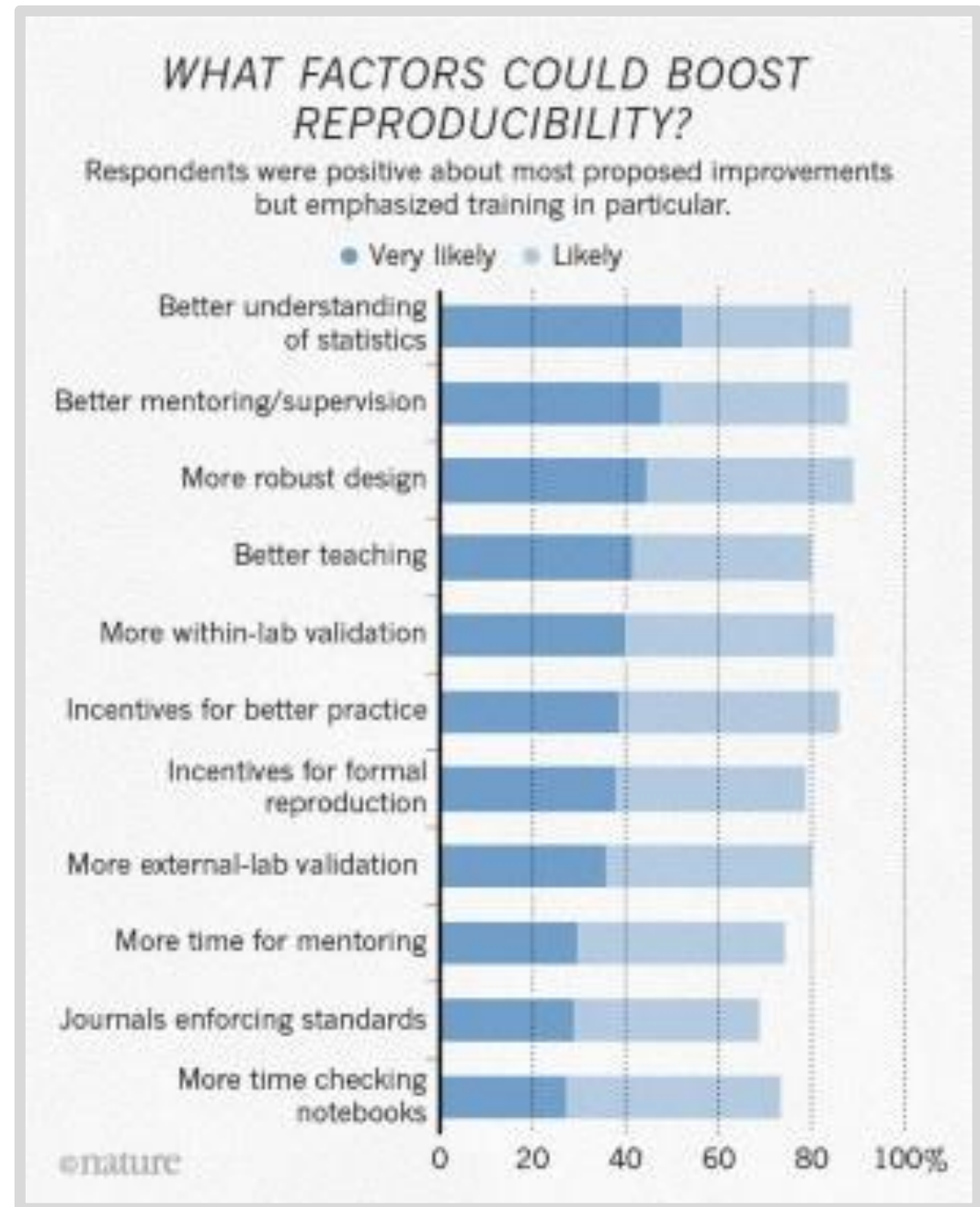
1,500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility.

Baker, Nature, 2016



1,500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility.

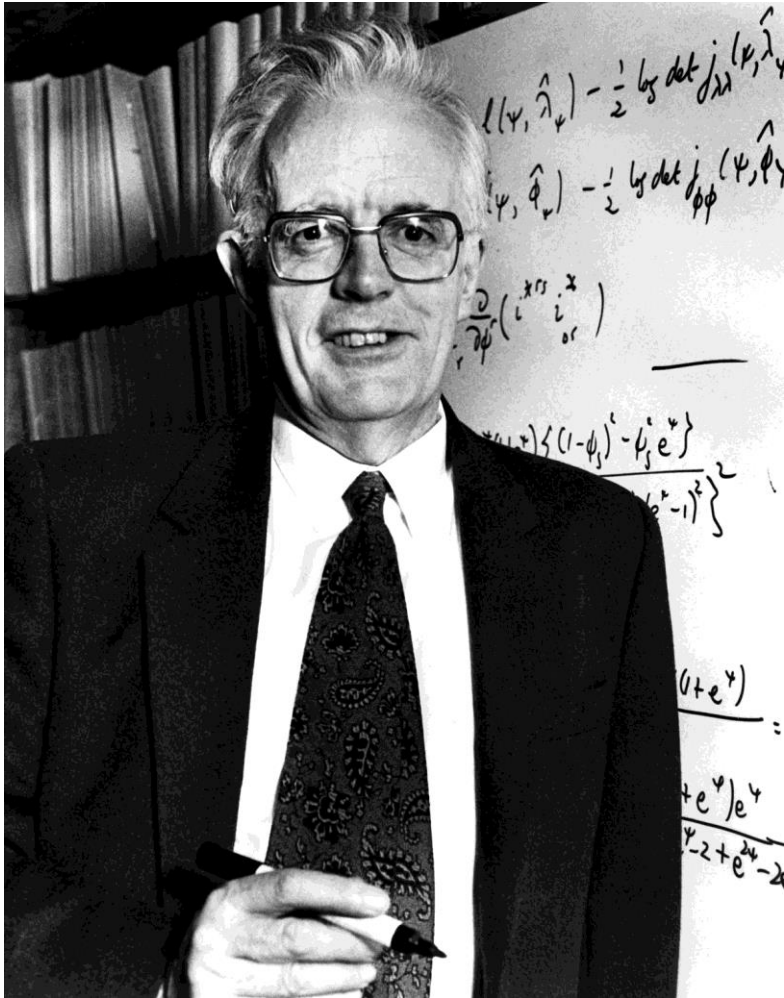
Baker, Nature, 2016



MY TWO CENTS...

STATISTICO VS. STATISTA

Sir David Cox



Presidente Sergio Mattarella



DIALOGHI CON STATISTICI, COSA EVITARE:





SCUOLA DI METODOLOGIA DELLA RICERCA CLINICA

2023 - 9^a EDIZIONE

FORMAZIONE DI BASE (Core School) - B1 - 1° Modulo



NEGRAR DI VALPOLICELLA • 20-21 GENNAIO 2023

Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

- Etica della ricerca
- Quesito clinico di riferimento
- Fasi della sperimentazione clinica
- Disegni di studio osservazionali e interventistici
- Misure di effetto relativo e assoluto
- Principi di statistica medica (errori statistici, verifica di ipotesi, dimensionamento campionario)
- **Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica**
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)

Statistical Vs Clinical Significance

- **Statistical Significance**

“Is an observed difference **likely to be real**”

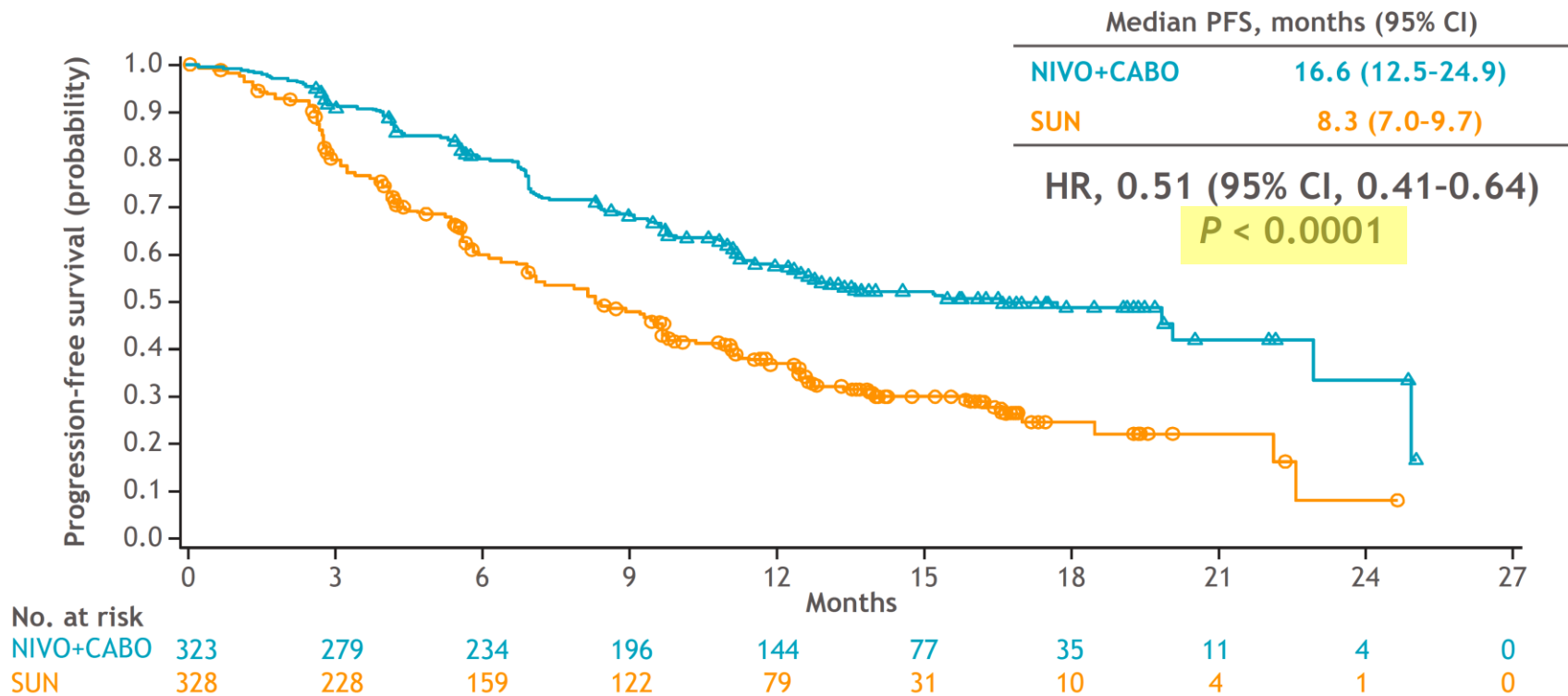
- ✓ dependent on the magnitude of the number of patients
NOT on whether the difference is meaningful for patients

- quando il valore di **p** risultante dal test di significatività è più piccolo del valore soglia (usualmente 5%), si considera lo studio (statisticamente) positivo;
- se il valore di **p** è maggiore del 5%, si considera lo studio (statisticamente) negativo

Nivolumab plus cabozantinib versus sunitinib in first-line treatment for advanced renal cell carcinoma: first results from the randomized phase 3 CheckMate 9ER trial

Toni K. Choueiri,¹ Thomas Powles,² Mauricio Burotto,³ Maria T. Bourlon,⁴ Bogdan Zurawski,⁵ Victor Manuel Oyervides Juárez,⁶ James J. Hsieh,⁷ Umberto Basso,⁸ Amishi Y. Shah,⁹ Cristina Suarez,¹⁰ Alketa Hamzaj,¹¹ Carlos Barrios,¹² Martin Richardet,¹³ David Pook,¹⁴ Yoshihiko Tomita,¹⁵ Bernard Escudier,¹⁶ Joshua Zhang,¹⁷ Burcin Simsek,¹⁷ Andrea B. Apolo,¹⁸ Robert J. Motzer¹⁹

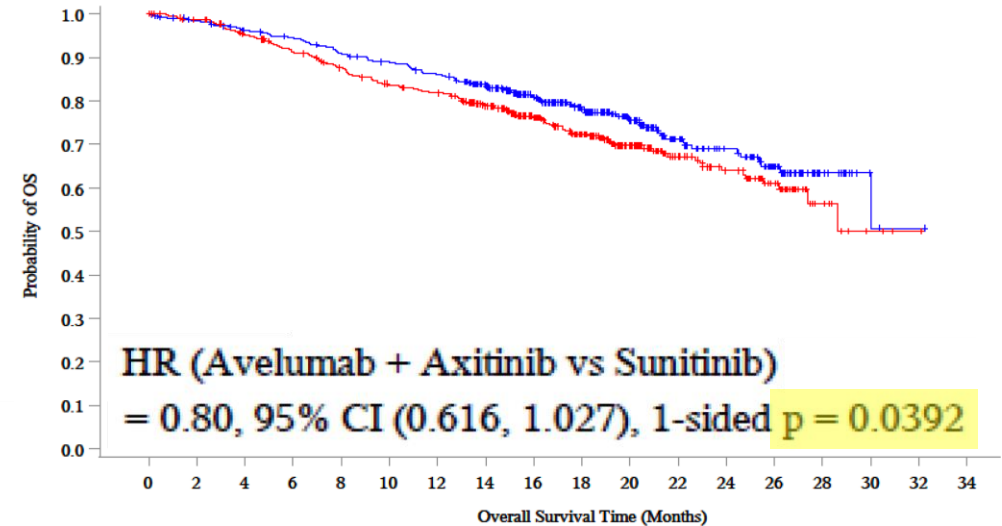
Progression-free survival per BICR



It was estimated that ~350 progression or death events would result at least 95% power to detect a hazard ratio of 0.68

P-value is a measure of the probability that an observed difference could have occurred just by random chance.

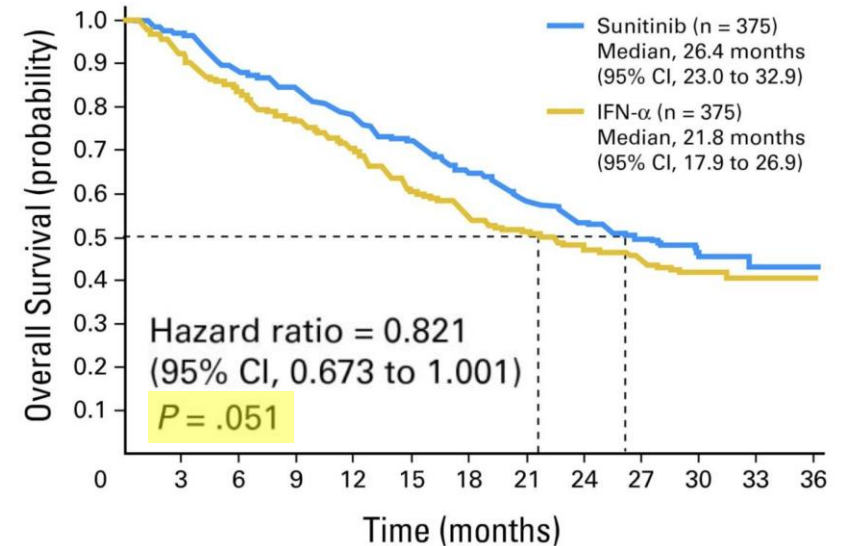
- Don't base your conclusions solely on whether an association or effect was found to be “statistically significant”.



Motzer R, et al. N Engl J Med. 2019 Mar 21;380(12):1103-1115.

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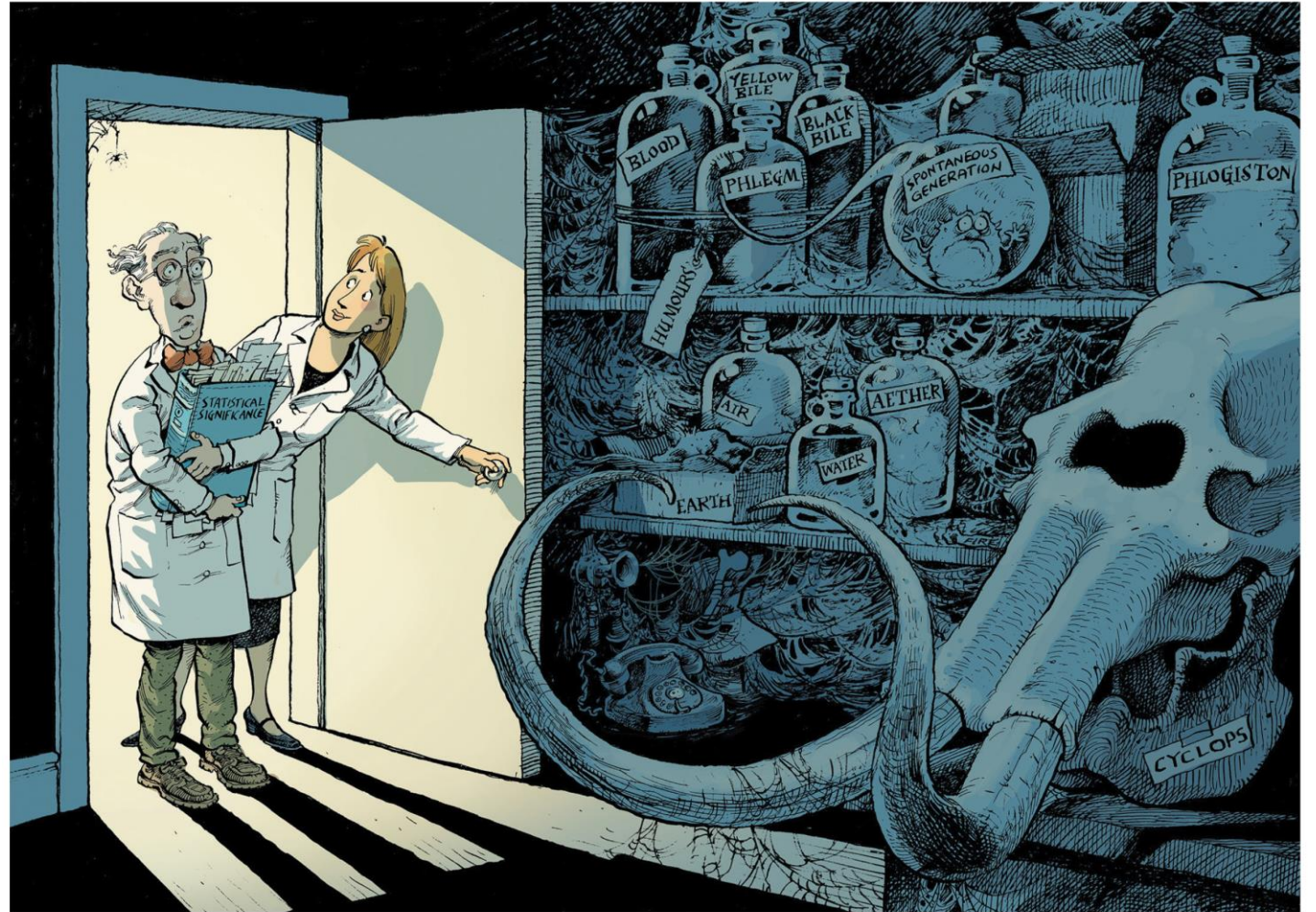
- Don't base your conclusions solely on whether an association or effect was found to be "statistically significant".
- Don't believe that an association or effect is absent just because it was not statistically significant.



Motzer R, et al. N Engl J Med. 2007 Jan 11;356(2):115

P-value is a measure of the probability that an observed difference could have occurred just by random chance.

- Don't base your conclusions solely on whether an association or effect was found to be "statistically significant".
- Don't believe that an association or effect is absent just because it was not statistically significant.
- **Don't conclude anything about scientific or practical importance based on statistical significance (or lack thereof).**



Retire statistical significance

Valentin Amrhein, Sander Greenland, Blake McShane and more than 800 signatories call for an end to hyped claims and the dismissal of possibly crucial effects.

p-value



The fragility of phase 3 trials supporting FDA-approved anticancer medicines: a retrospective analysis

Joseph C Del Paggio, Ian F Tannock
Lancet Oncol 2019; 20: 1065-69

Fragility Index (FI) = the minimum number of changes from non-events to events resulting in loss of statistical significance in a RCT

FI ≤ 2 in 59% of trials

	Control group (n=362)	Experimental group (n=360)	
Number of events	157	129	p=0.040
Number of non-events	205	231	
↓			
Number of events	157	129+1=130	p=0.048
Number of non-events	205	231-1=230	
↓			
Number of events	157	129+2=131	p=0.058
Number of non-events	205	231-2=229	

Statistical Vs Clinical Significance

- **Statistical Significance**

“Is an observed difference likely to be real”

- ✓ dependent on the magnitude of the number of patients and/or the **magnitude of the difference** NOT on whether the difference is meaningful for patients

- **Clinical Significance**

“Is an observed difference likely **to be meaningful for patients**”

- ✓ dependent on the magnitude of the difference NOT the number of patients

J Natl Cancer Inst 2011;103:16–20

When Are “Positive” Clinical Trials in Oncology Truly Positive?

Alberto Ocana, Ian F. Tannock

What Constitutes a Positive Clinical Trial in Oncology?

We would define a positive trial as one in which the predefined value of δ represents a clinically important difference in an endpoint that directly reflects benefit (mainly OS or quality of life) to patients and for which the results provide a best estimate of the difference that exceeds that predefined value of δ .

Obiettivi di uno studio comparativo

Si ritiene che il trattamento in esame
“A” abbia le potenzialità per
migliorare il trattamento standard
“B” almeno di una **quantità Δ**

**studio di
superiorità**

**A > B di una
quantità Δ
di interesse
clinico**

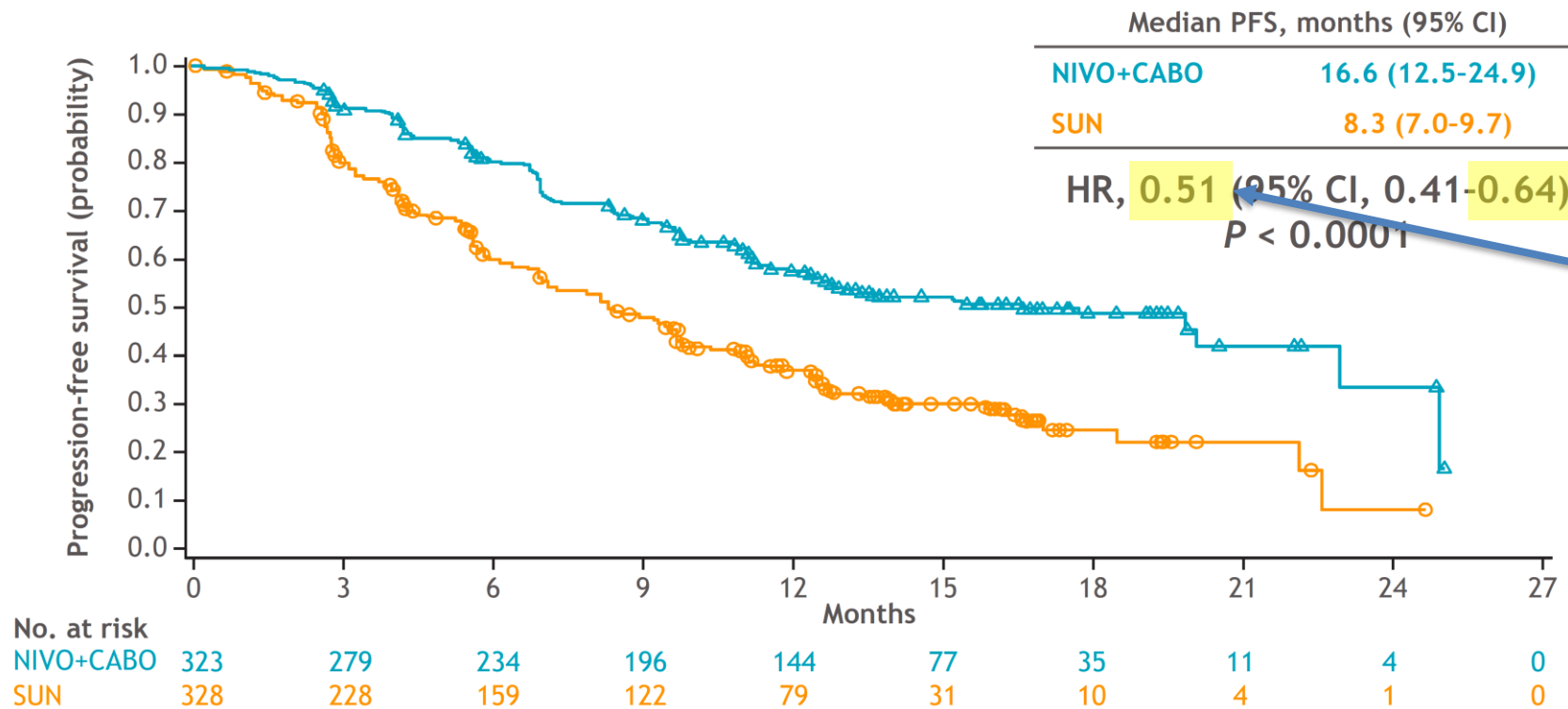
studio di
non inferiorità

A < B non oltre
una quantità M
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clinica

Nivolumab plus cabozantinib versus sunitinib in first-line treatment for advanced renal cell carcinoma: first results from the randomized phase 3 CheckMate 9ER trial

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Progression-free survival per BICR



It was estimated that ~350 progression or death events would result at least 95% power to detect a hazard ratio of 0.68

Symptom Endpoints (Patient-Reported Outcomes)

- Blinding is often difficult
- Data are often missing or incomplete
- Clinical significance of small changes unknown
- Few validated instruments

Pazopanib versus Sunitinib in Metastatic Renal-Cell Carcinoma

Robert J. Motzer, M.D., Thomas E. Hutson, D.O., David Cella, Ph.D., James Reeves, M.D., Robert Hawkins, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Jun Guo, Ph.D., Paul Nathan, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Michael Staehler, M.D., Paul de Souza, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Jaime R. Merchan, M.D., Ekaterini Boleti, M.D., Ph.D., Kate Fife, M.D., Jie Jin, M.D., Robert Jones, Ph.D., Hirotsugu Uemura, M.D., Ph.D., Ugo De Giorgi, M.D., Ulrika Harmenberg, M.D., Ph.D., Jinwan Wang, M.D., Cora N. Sternberg, M.D., Keith Deen, M.S., Lauren McCann, Ph.D., Michelle D. Hackshaw, Ph.D., Rocco Crescenzo, D.O., Lini N. Pandite, M.D., and Toni K. Choueiri, M.D.

N Engl J Med 2013;369:722-31

Table 2. Change in Health-Related Quality of Life during the First 6 Months for 927 Patients Treated in the Study.*

Instrument	Pazopanib	Sunitinib	Difference in Mean Change from Baseline Score with Pazopanib vs. Sunitinib [‡]	P Value [§]	Drug Favored According to Significant Difference [¶]	Effect Size
	<i>number of patients</i>					
FACIT-F**	377	403	2.32 ?	<0.001	Pazopanib	0.24
FKSI-19**						
Treatment side effects	351	382	0.31	0.03	Pazopanib	0.14
Disease-related physical symptoms	378	407	0.78	0.03	Pazopanib	0.13
Disease-related emotional symptoms	370	402	-0.05	0.41	Neither	-0.04
Functional well-being	378	403	0.31	0.10	Neither	0.09
Total score	377	408	1.41	0.02	Pazopanib	0.14

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	<i>number of patients</i>					
FACIT-F**	377	403	2.32	<0.001	Pazopanib	0.24
FKSI-19**						
Treatment side effects	3	3		0.03	Pazopanib	0.14
Disease-related physical symptoms	3	3		0.03	Pazopanib	0.13
Disease-related emotional symptoms	3	3		0.41	Neither	-0.04
Functional well-being	378	403	0.31	0.10	Neither	0.09
Total score	377	408	1.41	0.02	Pazopanib	0.14

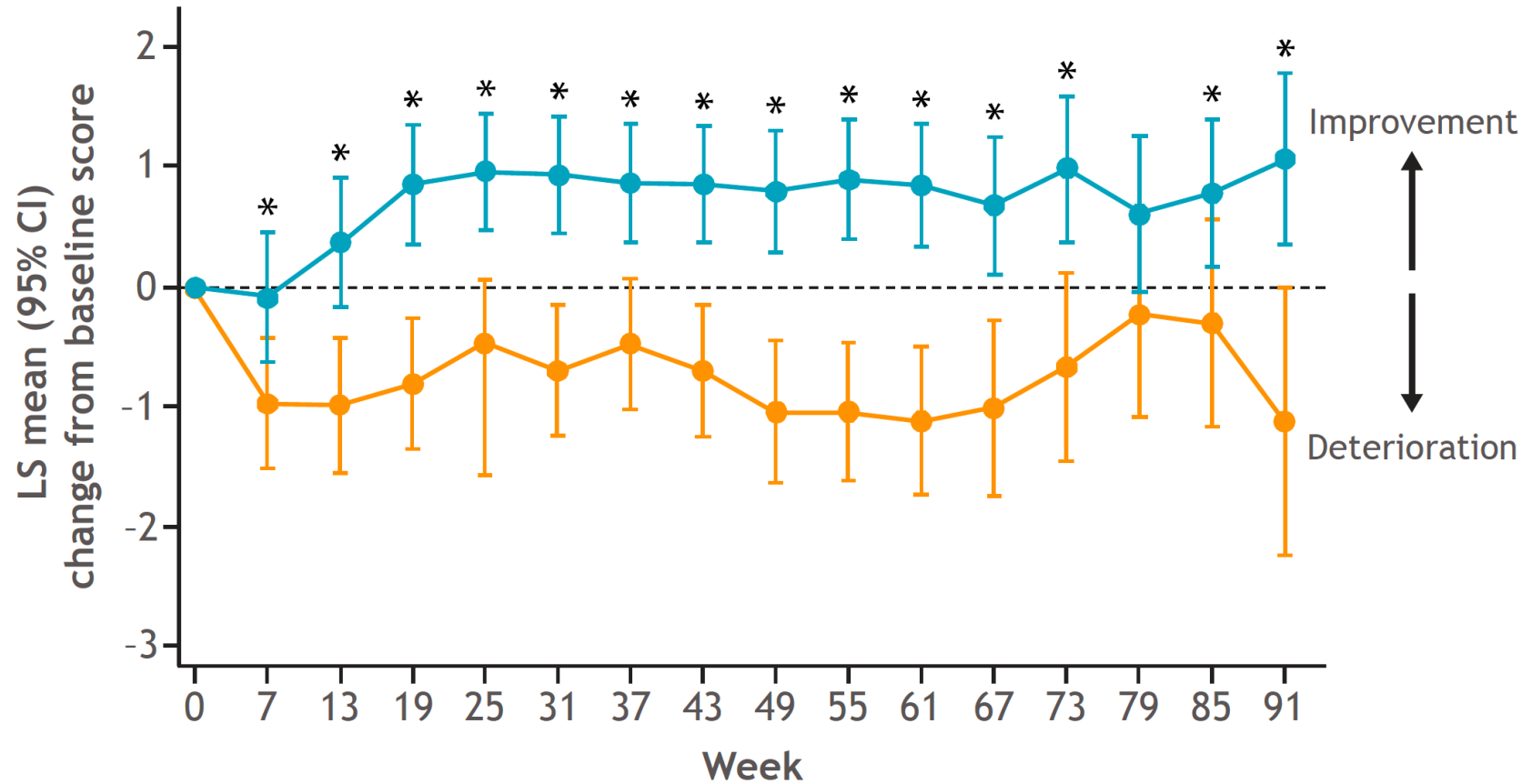
Rilevanza dell'effetto da riportare alla M.I.D. specifica

Minimal (Clinical) Interesting Difference (MID / MCID)

the smallest difference in score in the domain of interest which patients perceive as beneficial and which would mandate, in the absence of troublesome side effects and excessive cost, a change in the patient's management

- it's easily understood by clinicians as a key concept in the interpretability of PRO scores;
- will inform judgments about the success-fulness of an intervention;

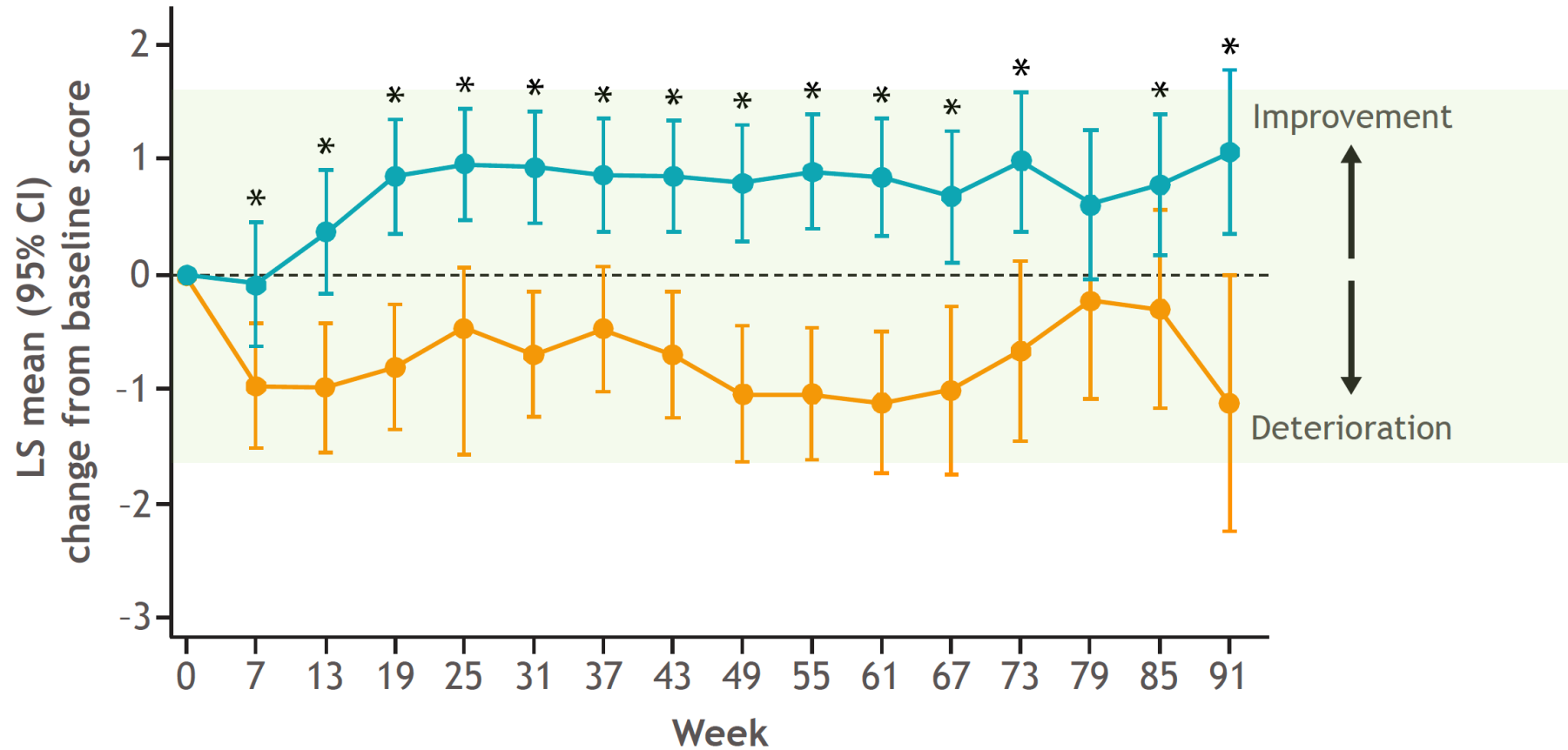
FKSI: Disease-Related Symptom Subscale



*Between-arm difference was statistically significant at this timepoint ($P < 0.05$)



FKSI: Disease-Related Symptom Subscale



M.I.D. *Castellano D, et al. Annals of Oncology 20: 1803–1812, 2009*

*Between-arm difference was statistically significant at this timepoint ($P < 0.05$)

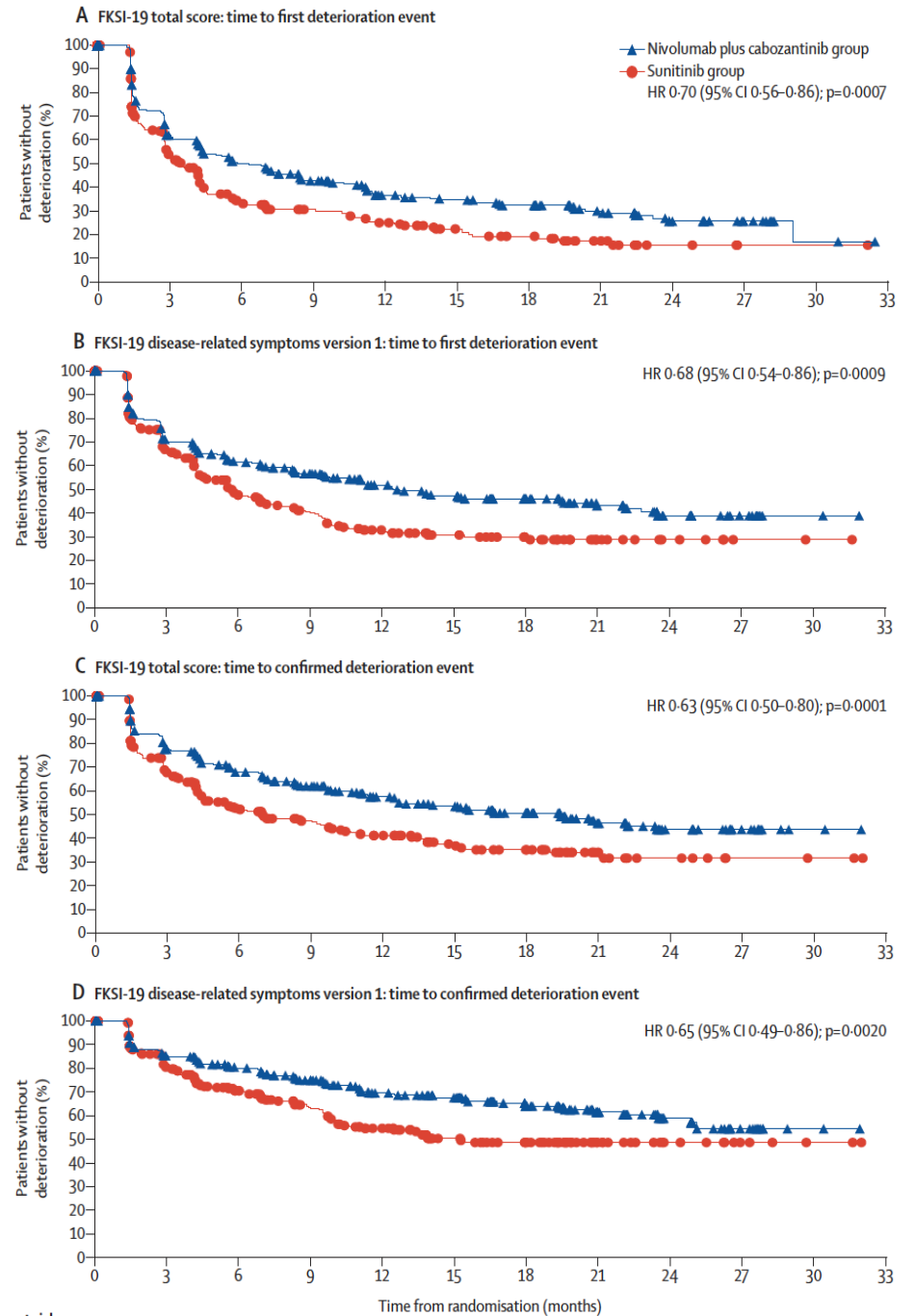


Patient-reported outcomes with first-line nivolumab plus cabozantinib versus sunitinib in patients with advanced renal cell carcinoma treated in CheckMate 9ER: an open-label, randomised, phase 3 trial

David Cella*, Robert J Motzer*, Cristina Suarez, Steven I Blum, Flavia Ejzykowicz, Melissa Hamilton, Joel F Wallace, Burcin Simsek, Joshua Zhang, Cristina Ivanescu, Andrea B Apolo, Toni K Choueiri
Lancet Oncol 2022; 23: 292-303

Time to first deterioration and time to confirmed deterioration were assessed for FKSI-19 and EQ-5D-3L. **Time to first deterioration was defined as the time from randomisation to the first date that a patient had a change from baseline meeting or exceeding the prespecified primary meaningful change threshold for the scale.**

Death or progression were not considered deterioration events.



Parliamo di Maturità di uno Studio Clinico

$$\frac{\del{numero di eventi osservati}}{\del{numero di pazienti arruolati}} \quad Vs \quad \frac{numero di eventi osservati}{numero degli eventi previsti}$$

For trials with a well-designed interim-monitoring plan, **stopping at 50% or greater information has a negligible impact on estimation.**

Freidlin & Korn. Clinical Trials 2009; 6: 119–125

Nivolumab plus Cabozantinib versus Sunitinib for Advanced Renal-Cell Carcinoma

T.K. Choueiri, T. Powles, M. Burotto, B. Escudier, M.T. Bourlon, B. Zurawski, V.M. Oyervides Juárez, J.J. Hsieh, U. Basso, A.Y. Shah, C. Suárez, A. Hamzaj, J.C. Goh, C. Barrios, M. Richardet, C. Porta, R. Kowalyszyn, J.P. Feregrino, J. Żołnierek, D. Pook, E.R. Kessler, Y. Tomita, R. Mizuno, J. Bedke, J. Zhang, M.A. Maurer, B. Simsek, F. Ejzykowicz, G.M. Schwab, A.B. Apolo, and R.J. Motzer, for the CheckMate 9ER Investigators*

N Engl J Med 2021;384:829-41.

	Nivo+Cabo	Sunitinib
	N = 323	N = 328
PFS per BICR		
Events, n (%)	144 (44.6)	191 (58.2)

It was estimated that ~350 progression or death events would result at least 95% power to detect a hazard ratio of 0.68

335 events observed / 350 planned: I.F. 95.7%

comparativo

Vista la **migliore tollerabilità** del trattamento in esame “A”, si è disposti ad accettarne una eventuale minore efficacia rispetto al trattamento standard “B” purché questa non vada oltre un **marginale M**

studio di superiorità

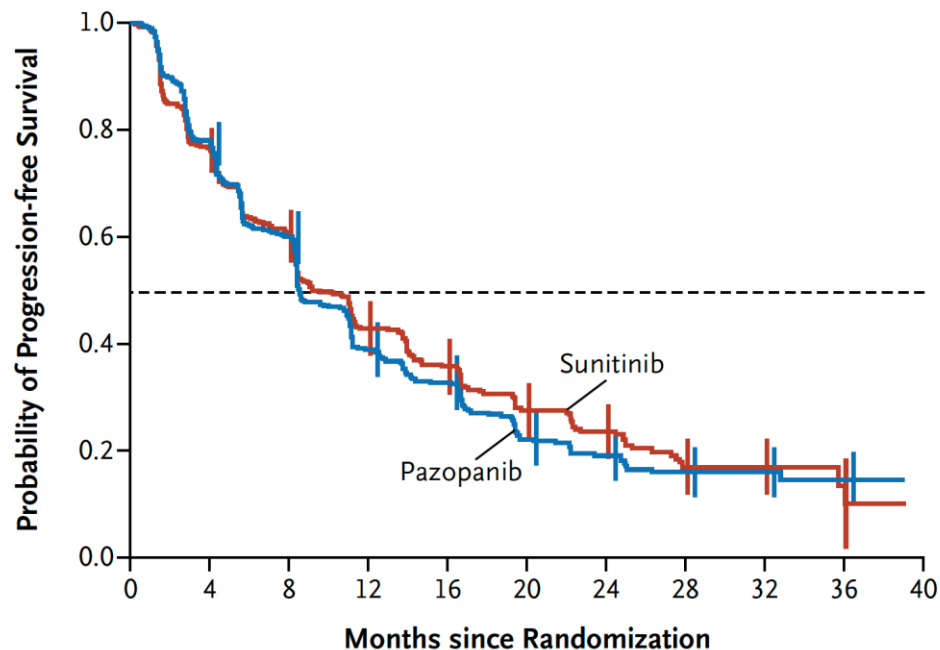
$A > B$ di una quantità Δ di interesse clinico

studio di non inferiorità

$A < B$ non oltre una quantità **M** di rilevanza clinica

Pazopanib versus Sunitinib in Metastatic Renal-Cell Carcinoma

Robert J. Motzer, M.D., Thomas E. Hutson, D.O., David Cella, Ph.D., James Reeves, M.D., Robert Hawkins, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Jun Guo, Ph.D., Paul Nathan, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Michael Staehler, M.D., Paul de Souza, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Jaime R. Merchan, M.D., Ekaterini Boleti, M.D., Ph.D., Kate Fife, M.D., Jie Jin, M.D., Robert Jones, Ph.D., Hirotugu Uemura, M.D., Ph.D., Ugo De Giorgi, M.D., Ulrika Harmenberg, M.D., Ph.D., Jinwan Wang, M.D., Cora N. Sternberg, M.D., Keith Deen, M.S., Lauren McCann, Ph.D., Michelle D. Hackshaw, Ph.D., Rocco Crescenzo, D.O., Lini N. Pandite, M.D., and Toni K. Choueiri, M.D.
N Engl J Med 2013;369:722-31



STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

We calculated that 631 disease-progression events were required for the study to have 80% power to reject the null hypothesis of an increased risk in the hazard of disease progression with pazopanib (hazard ratio, ≥ 1.25).

hazard ratio 1.05 (95% CI, 0.90 to 1.22)

Studi di non-inferiorità: Analisi ITT Vs analisi PP



The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products
Evaluation of Medicines for Human Use

London, 27 July 2000 CPMP/EWP/482/99

IV.2.3 Choice of analysis set

In a superiority trial the full analysis set, based on the ITT (intention-to-treat) principle, is the analysis set of choice, with appropriate support provided by the PP (per protocol) analysis set.

In a non-inferiority trial the full analysis set and the PP analysis set have equal importance and their use should lead to similar conclusions for a robust interpretation.

Guidance for Industry Non-Inferiority Clinical Trials

March 2010
Clinical/Medical

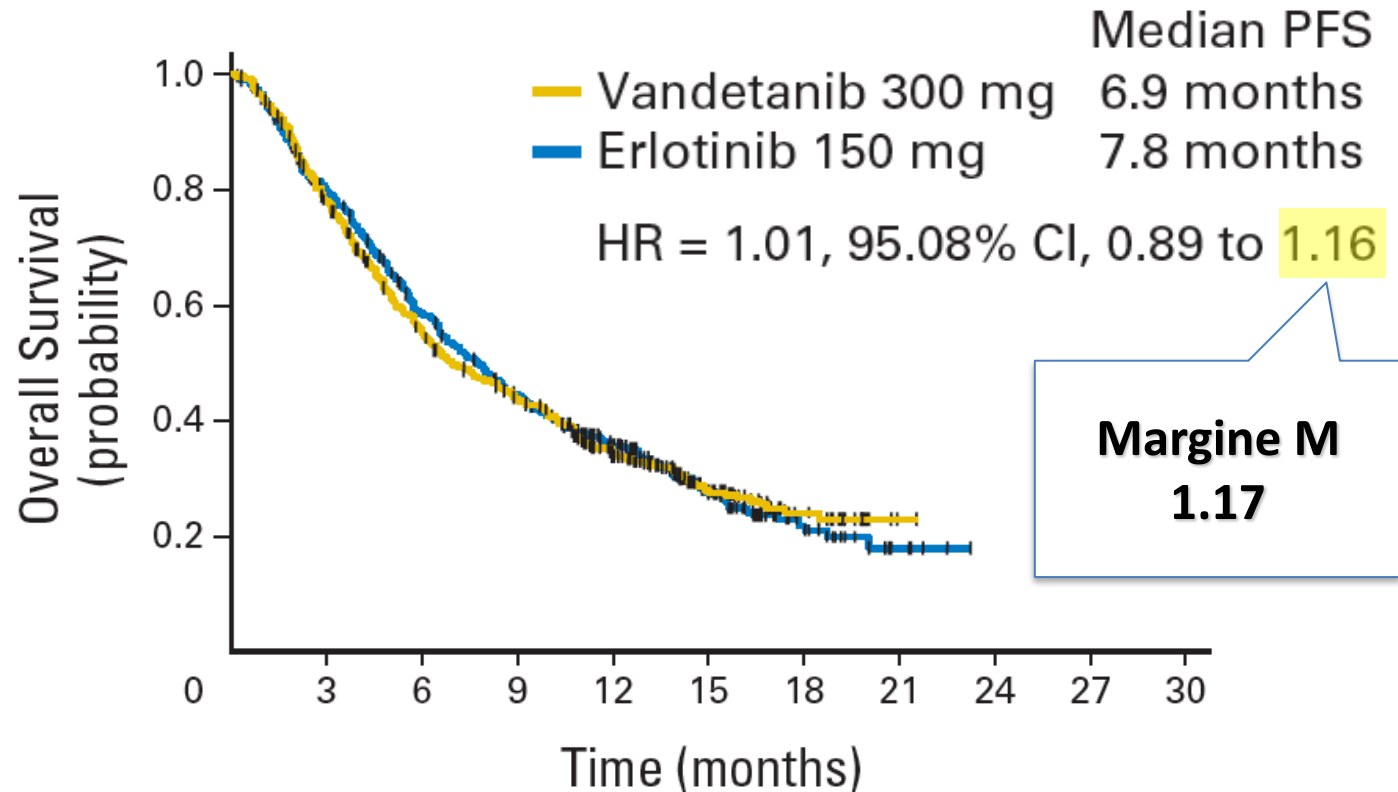
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Food and Drug Administration
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)

Although an “as-treated” analysis is therefore often suggested as the primary analysis for NI studies, there are also significant concerns with the possibility of informative censoring in an as-treated analysis. It is therefore important to conduct both ITT and as-treated analyses in NI studies.

Differences in results using the two analyses will need close examination.

Phase III Trial of Vandetanib Compared With Erlotinib in Patients With Previously Treated Advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer

Ronald B. Natale, Sumitra Thongprasert, F. Anthony Greco, Michael Thomas, Chun-Ming Tsai, Patrapim Sunpaweravong, David Ferry, Clive Mulatero, Robert Whorf, Joyce Thompson, Fabrice Barlesi, Peter Langmuir, Sven Gogov, Jacqui A. Rowbottom, and Glenwood D. Goss
J Clin Oncol 29:1059-1066. © 2011 by American Society of Clinical Oncology



The overall incidence of grade ≥ 3 AEs was higher with vandetanib than erlotinib (50% v 40%, respectively)



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- **Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico**
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)

PREMESSA

Un trial clinico non dovrebbe essere *letto così com'è*, ma avendo come riferimento uno specifico quesito di particolare interesse.

P • Population
Used to first develop the health care question

I • Intervention

C • Comparison
Used to determine if the evidence found directly answers the health care question

O • Outcomes

Direct evidence...

...comes from research that:

- is conducted in the **Population** that we are providing answers for;
- includes the **Intervention** that we are interested in...
- ...and compares these interventions with the appropriate **Alternatives**;
- measures the **Outcomes** in which we are interested

GRADE

P

- Population

Used to first develop the health care question

I

- Intervention

C

- Comparison

Used to determine if the evidence found directly answers the health care question

O

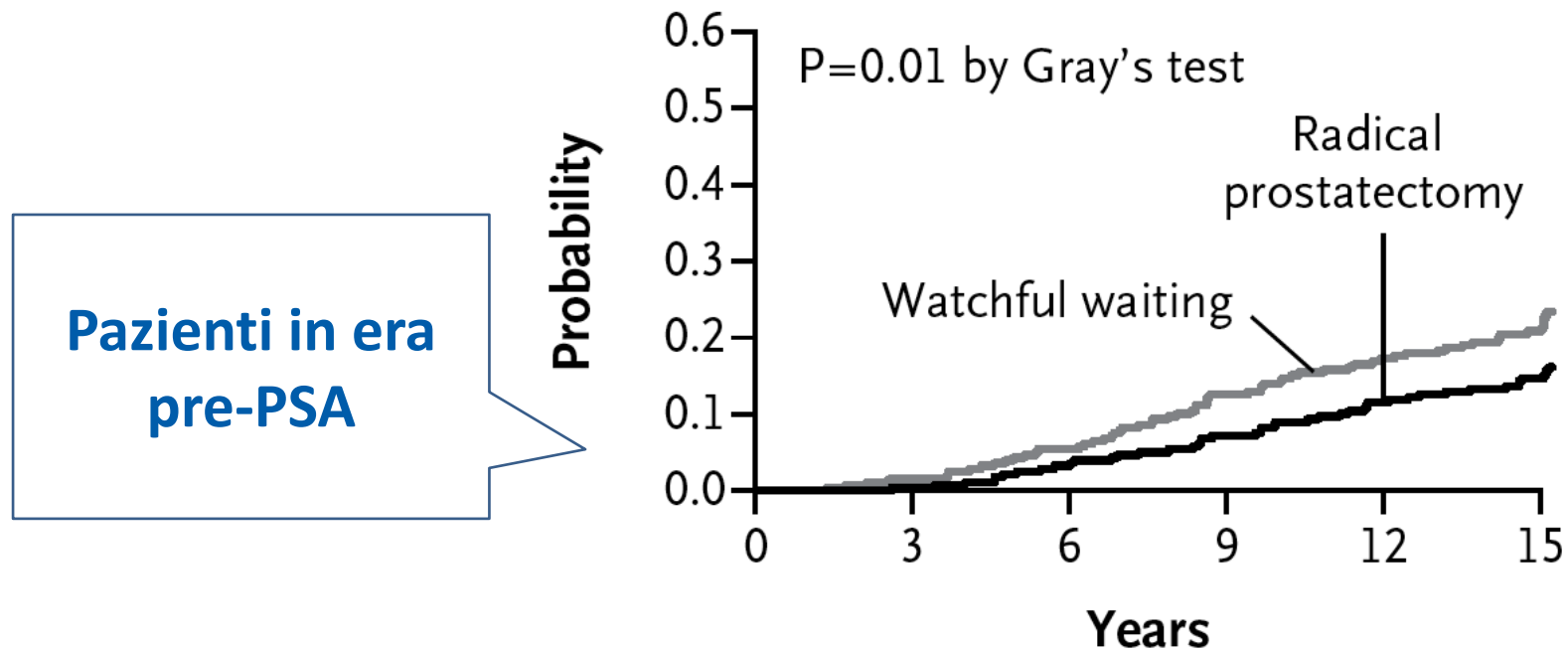
- Outcomes

Radical Prostatectomy versus Watchful Waiting in Early Prostate Cancer

Anna Bill-Axelson, M.D., Ph.D., Lars Holmberg, M.D., Ph.D.,
Mirja Ruutu, M.D., Ph.D., Hans Garmo, Ph.D., Jennifer R. Stark, Sc.D.,
Christer Busch, M.D., Ph.D., Stig Nordling, M.D., Ph.D.,
Michael Häggman, M.D., Ph.D., Swen-Olof Andersson, M.D., Ph.D.,
Stefan Bratell, M.D., Ph.D., Anders Spångberg, M.D., Ph.D.,
Juni Palmgren, Ph.D., Gunnar Steineck, M.D., Ph.D.,
Hans-Olov Adami, M.D., Ph.D., and Jan-Erik Johansson, M.D., Ph.D.,
for the SPCG-4 Investigators*

N Engl J Med 2011;364:1708-17.

Death from Prostate Cancer, Total Cohort



GRADE

P

- Population

Used to first develop the health care question

I

- Intervention

C

- Comparison

Used to determine if the evidence found directly answers the health care question

O

- Outcomes

Long-term oncologic outcomes of postoperative adjuvant versus salvage radiotherapy in prostate cancer: Systemic review and meta-analysis of 5-year and 10-year follow-up data

Ja Yoon Ku¹, Chan Ho Lee¹, Hong Koo Ha^{1,2}

Korean J Urol 2015;56:735-741.

The present systemic review has the following limitations that must be taken into account.

The first limitation is that we heterogeneously recruit randomized controlled studies and retrospective studies: in retrospective studies, the initiation timing of radiotherapy is somewhat different in each study.

The second limitation is that there is a difference in dose and modality (2-dimensional, 3-dimensional, or intensity modulated radiation therapy) of radiation compared to recent practice, which may alter oncologic outcomes.

The third limitation is that the definitions of long-term outcomes were different in each study, and the definitions of long-term outcome were different in each study.

Indirectness per I. (di P.I.C.O.)

GRADE

P

• Population

Used to first develop the health care question

I

• Intervention

C

• Comparison

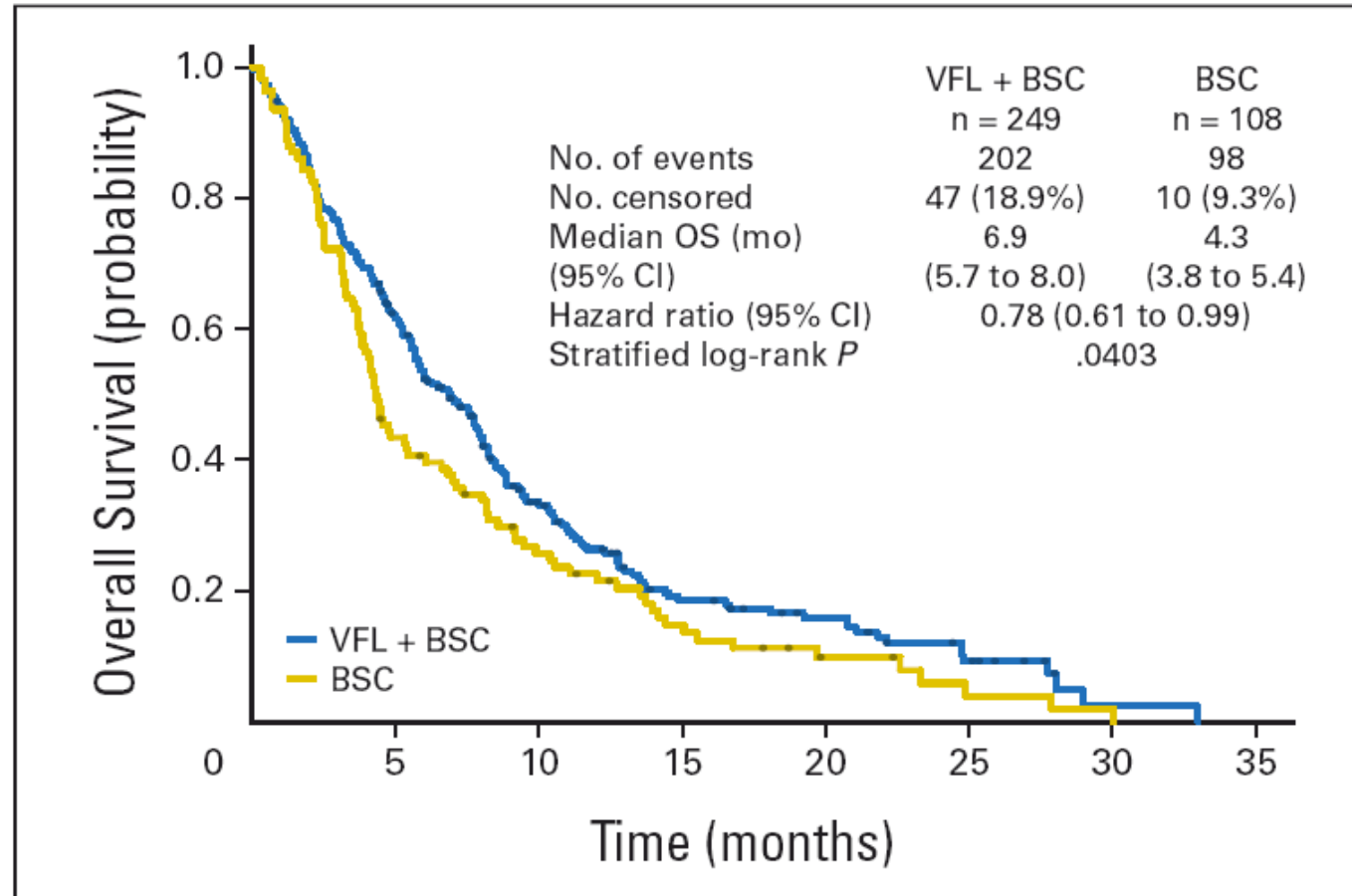
Used to determine if the evidence found directly answers the health care question

O

• Outcomes

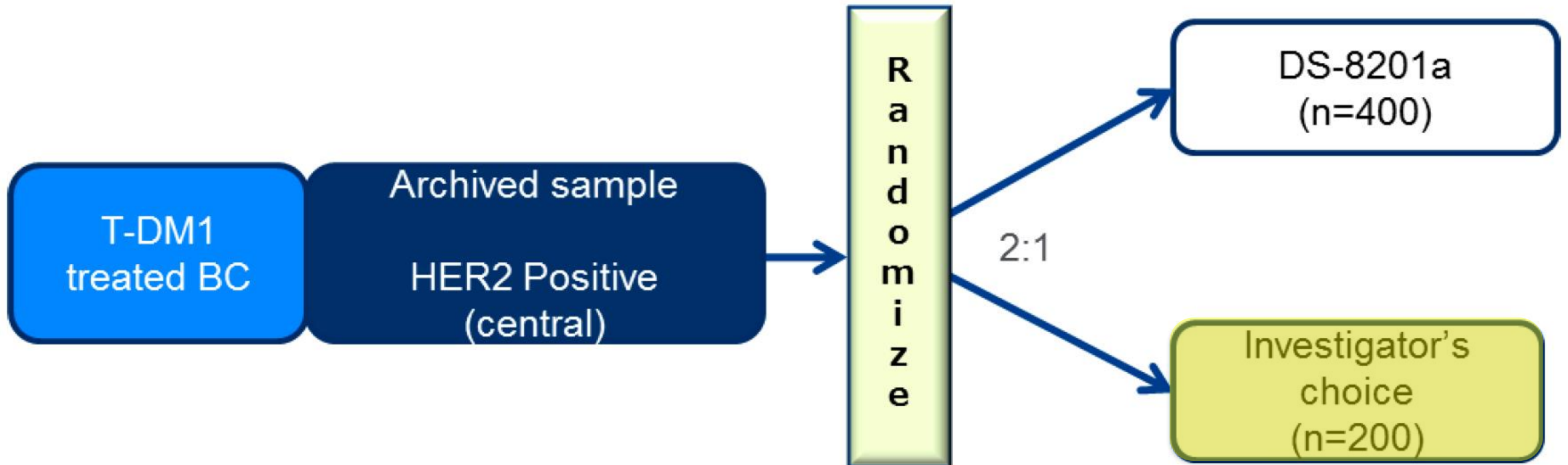
Phase III Trial of Vinflunine Plus Best Supportive Care Compared With Best Supportive Care Alone After a Platinum-Containing Regimen in Patients With Advanced Transitional Cell Carcinoma of the Urothelial Tract

Joaquim Bellmunt, Christine Théodore, Tomasz Demkov, Boris Komyakov, Lisa Sengelov, Gedské Daugaard, Armelle Caty, Joan Carles, Agnieszka Jagiello-Gruszfeld, Oleg Karyakin, François-Michel Delgado, Patrick Hurteloup, Eric Winqvist, Nassim Morsli, Yacine Salhi, Stéphane Culine, and Hans von der Maase
J Clin Oncol 27:4454-4461. © 2009 by American Society of Clinical Oncology



**A PHASE 3, MULTICENTER, RANDOMIZED,
OPEN-LABEL, ACTIVE-CONTROLLED STUDY OF
DS-8201A, AN ANTI-HER2-ANTIBODY DRUG
CONJUGATE, VERSUS TREATMENT OF
INVESTIGATOR'S CHOICE FOR HER2-POSITIVE,
UNRESECTABLE AND/OR METASTATIC BREAST
CANCER SUBJECTS PRETREATED WITH PRIOR
STANDARD OF CARE HER2 THERAPIES,
INCLUDING T-DM1**

DS8201-A-U301



GRADE

P

• Population

Used to first develop the health care question

I

Non necessariamente coincidenti con gli outcome di efficacia delle evidenze disponibili

C

to determine if the evidence found directly answers the health care question

O

• Outcomes

Surrogate outcome markers in research and clinical practice

Scott Twaddell

(Aust Prescr 2009;32:47–50)

Table 1

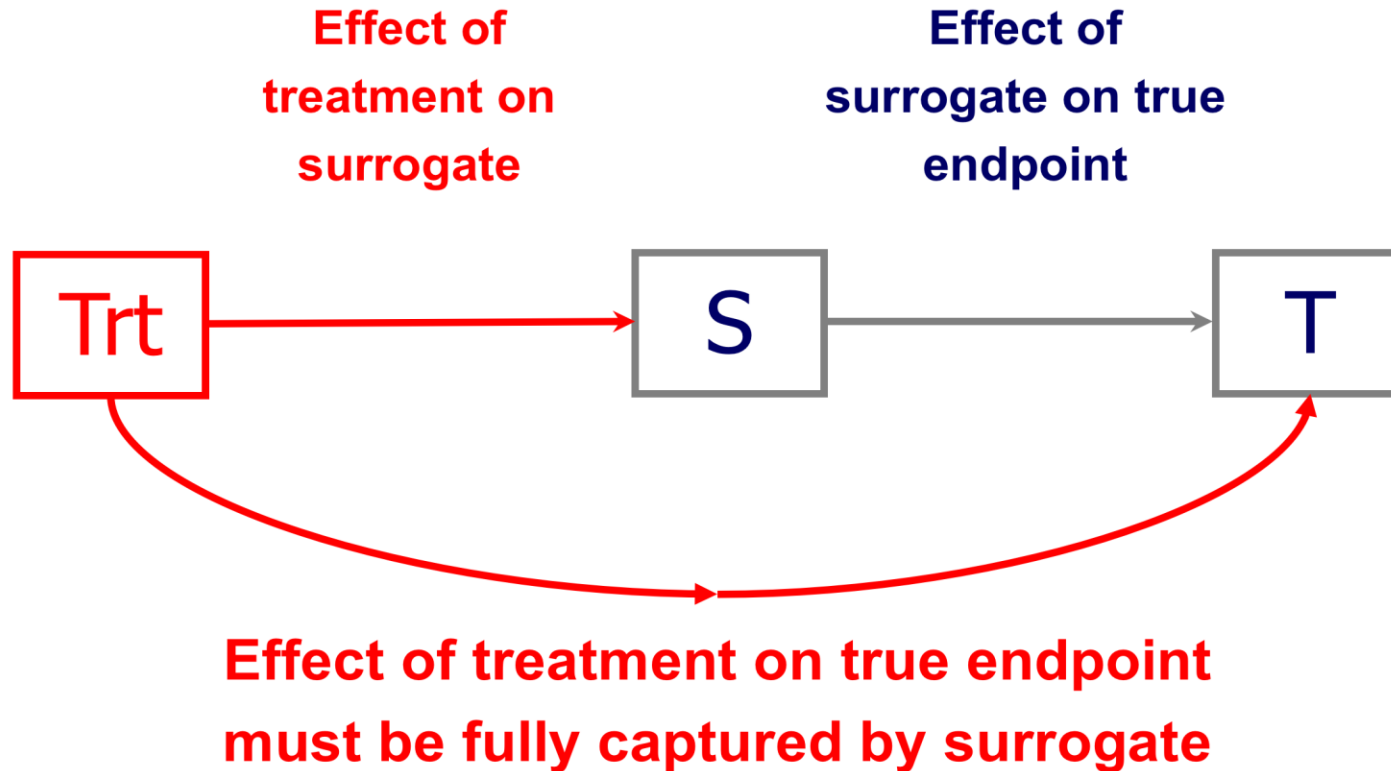
Surrogate markers often used in clinical practice

Generally accepted as valid		Doubt still exists about validity	
Surrogate marker	Predicts	Surrogate marker	Predicts
HbA1c	Diabetic microvascular complications	HbA1c	Diabetic macrovascular complications
FEV ₁	Mortality in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Bone mineral density	Fracture risk
Blood pressure	Primary and secondary cardiovascular events	Prostate specific antigen	Prognosis of prostate cancer
Viral load	Survival in HIV infection	Suppression of arrhythmia	Long-term survival
Cholesterol concentration	Primary and secondary cardiovascular events	Carotid intima-media thickness	Coronary artery disease
Intraocular pressure	Visual loss in glaucoma	Albuminuria	Cardiovascular events

HbA1c glycated haemoglobin

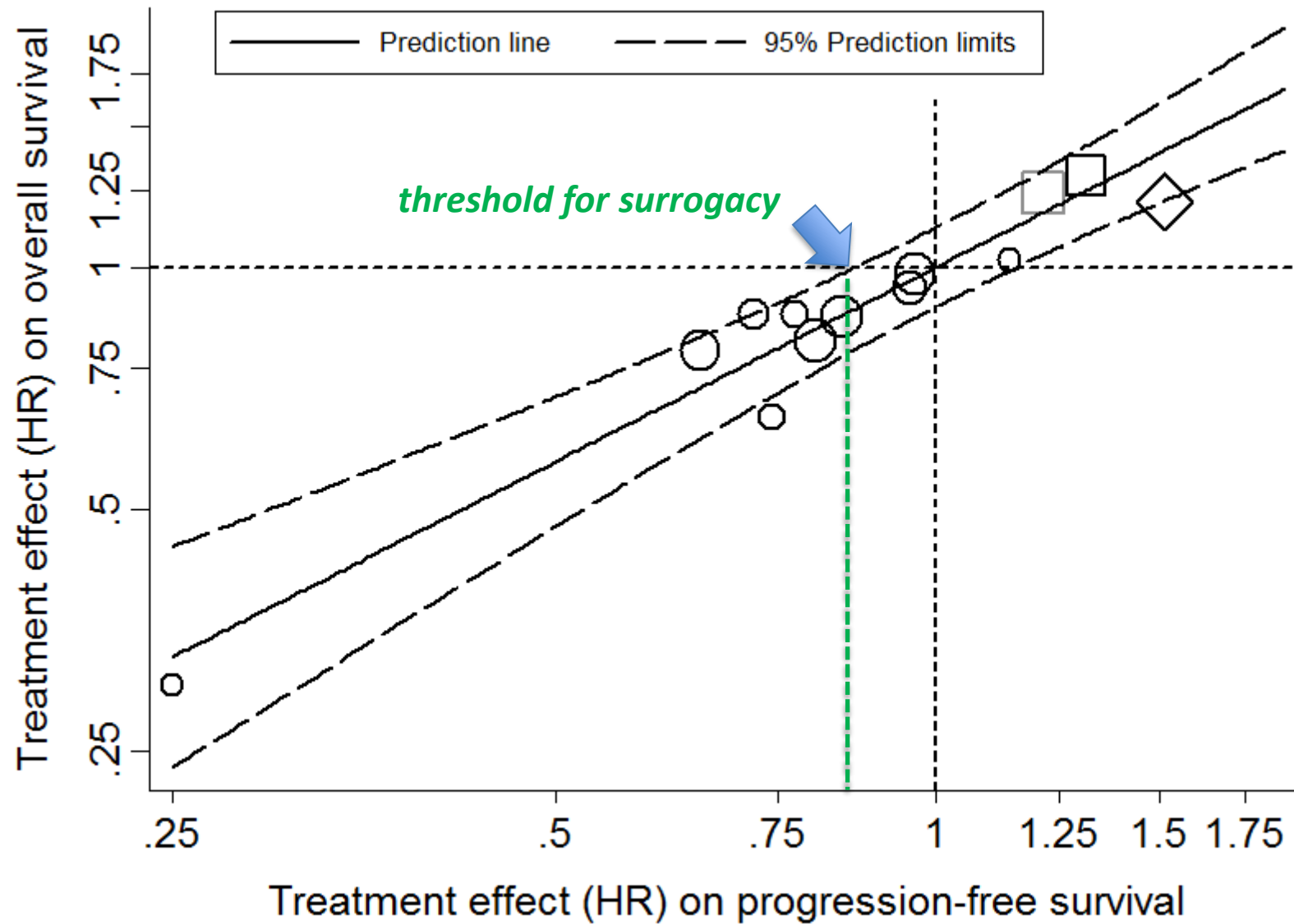
FEV₁ forced expiratory volume in one second

VALIDATION OF SURROGATE ENDPOINTS: “FULL CAPTURE OF EFFECT”



Prentice, Statist Med 1989;8:431.

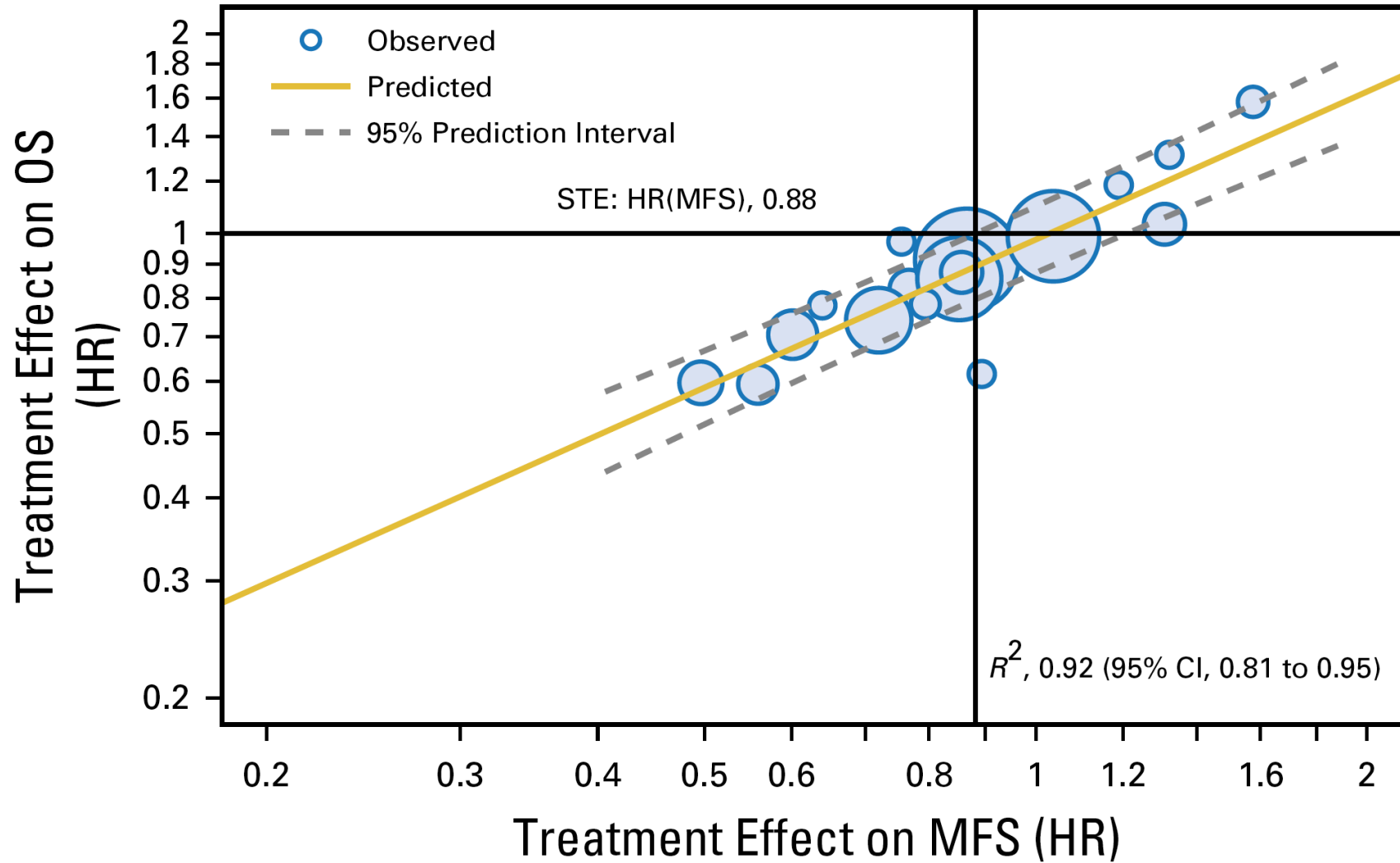
TRIAL LEVEL CORRELATION BETWEEN EFFECTS



Metastasis-Free Survival Is a Strong Surrogate of Overall Survival in Localized Prostate Cancer

Wanling Xie, Meredith M. Regan, Marc Buyse, Susan Halabi, Philip W. Kantoff, Oliver Sartor, Howard Soule, Noel W. Clarke, Laurence Collette, James J. Dignam, Karim Fizazi, Wendy R. Paruleker, Howard M. Sandler, Matthew R. Sydes, Bertrand Tombal, Scott G. Williams, and Christopher J. Sweeney, on behalf of the ICECaP Working Group

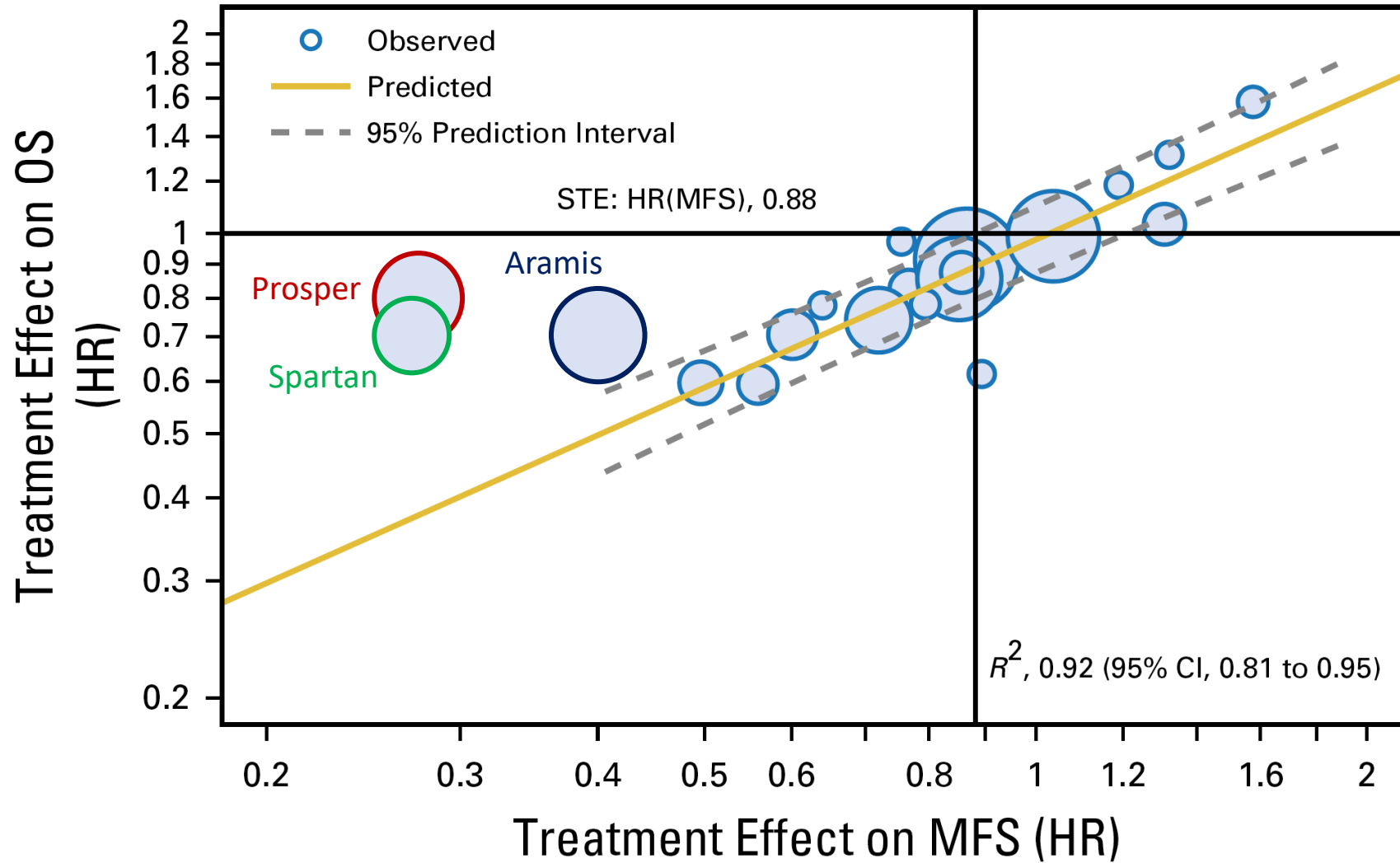
J Clin Oncol 35:3097-3104. © 2017 by American Society of Clinical Oncology

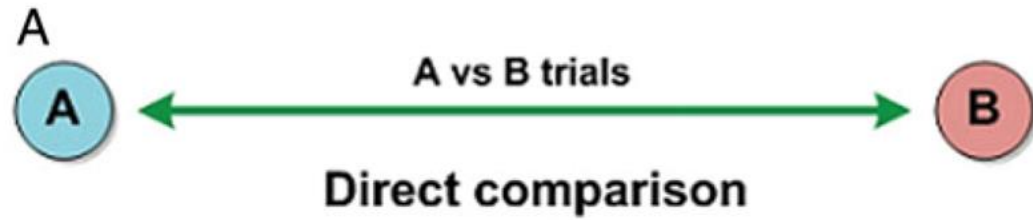


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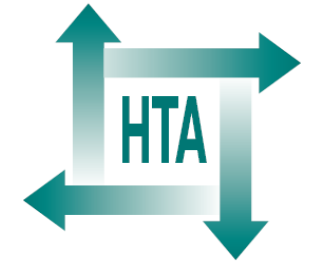




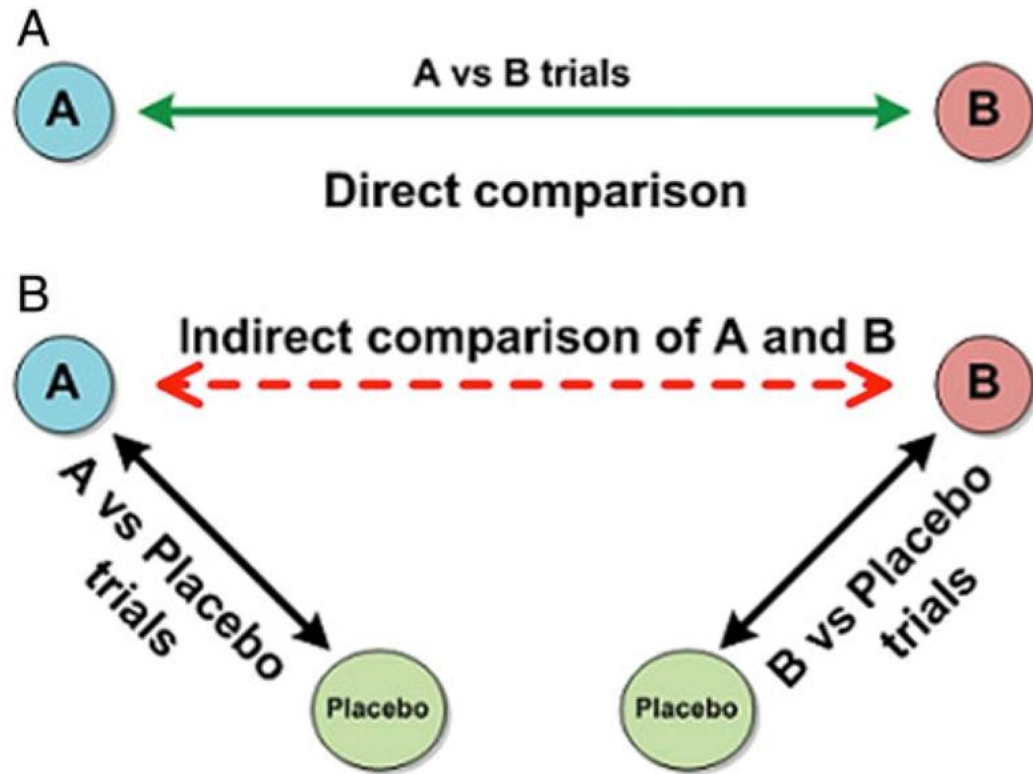
Indirect comparisons of competing interventions

AM Glenny,^{1*} DG Altman,² F Song,³
C Sakarovitch,² JJ Deeks,² R D'Amico,²
M Bradburn² and AJ Eastwood⁴

Health Technology Assessment 2005; Vol. 9: No. 26



When conducting systematic reviews to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions, **direct evidence from good-quality RCTs should be used wherever possible.** If little or no such evidence exists, it may be necessary to look for indirect comparisons from RCTs. The reviewer needs, however, to be aware that the results may be susceptible to bias.



through a
Common Comparator

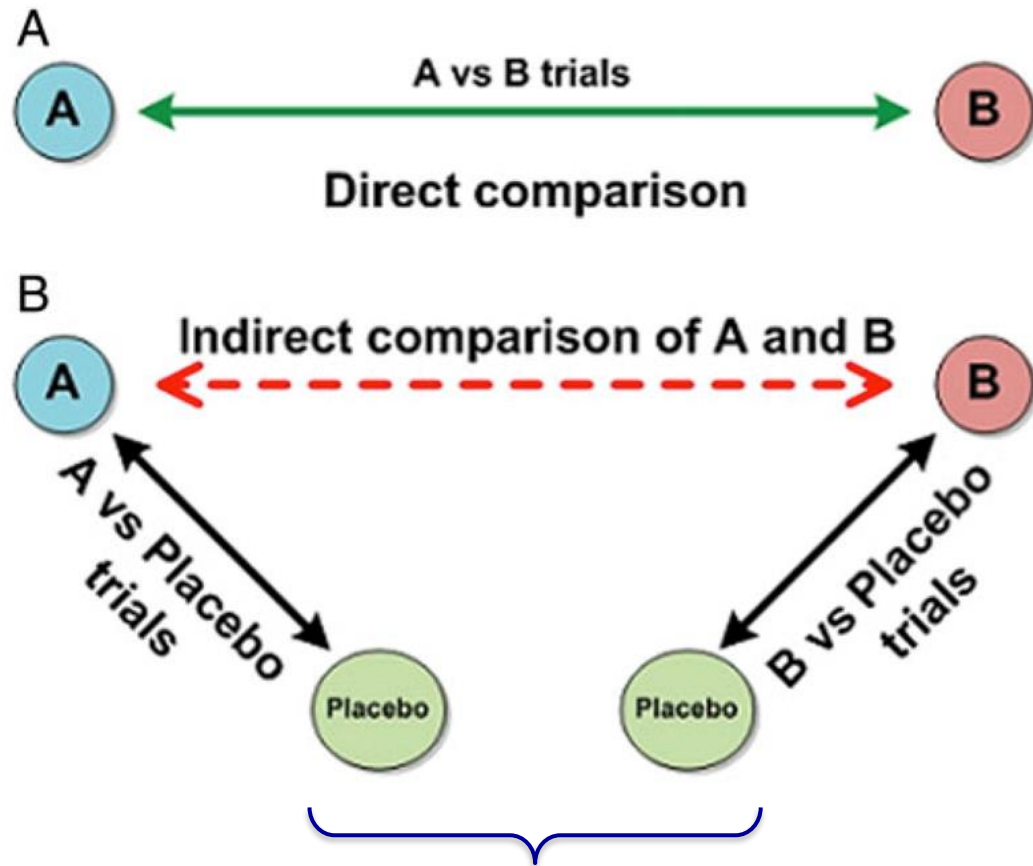
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Similarity Assumption

trials must be comparable on effect modifiers to obtain an unbiased pooled estimate.

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Centro Formazione IRCCS "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

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- Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- **Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)**
- Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)

Caso Vs Bias

CASO



Errore Random



Risultati Imprecisi

**Errore in diminuzione con
l'aumentare delle dimensioni
del campione**

BIAS



Errore Sistemático



Risultati Inesatti

**Errore non influenzato dalle
dimensioni del campione**

When are results precise enough?

Consider

- Small sample size
 - (Optimal Information Size, OIS)

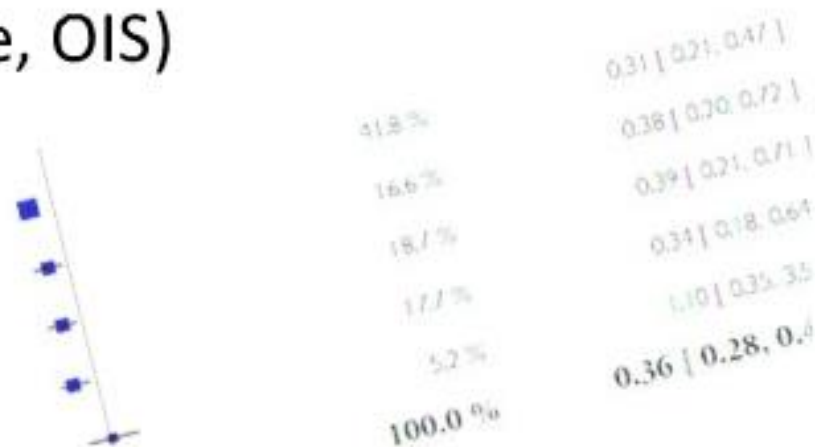
- Number of events

Inactivated vaccines (one dose)	28/300	8.7%
Boutner 1979a	9/54	31/11
Clover 1991	10/54	22/138

- Wide confidence intervals

– uncertainty about magnitude of effect

Hoberman 1990	15/273	11/23
Subtotal (95% CI)	933	
Total events: 71 (Vaccine)	181 (Control)	



GRADE guidelines 6. Rating the quality of evidence—imprecision

Gordon H. Guyatt^{a,b,*}, Andrew D. Oxman^c, Regina Kunz^{d,e}, Jan Brozek^a, Pablo Alonso-Coello^f,
David Rind^g, PJ Devereaux^a, Victor M. Montori^h, Bo Freyschussⁱ, Gunn Vist^c, Roman Jaeschke^b,
John W. Williams Jr.^j, Mohammad Hassan Murad^h, David Sinclair^k, Yngve Falck-Ytter^l,
Joerg Meerpohl^{m,n}, Craig Whittington^o, Kristian Thorlund^a, Jeff Andrews^p,
Holger J. Schünemann^{a,b}

Key Points

- GRADE's primary criterion for judging precision is to focus on the 95% confidence interval (CI) around the difference in effect between intervention and control for each outcome.

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Key Points

- GRADE's primary criterion for judging precision is to **focus on the 95% confidence interval (CI)** around the difference in effect between intervention and control for each outcome.
- In general, **the CIs to consider are those around the absolute, rather than the relative effect.**

WHY THE NUMBERS MATTER

RELATIVE RISK

"New wonder drug reduces heart attack risk 50%"

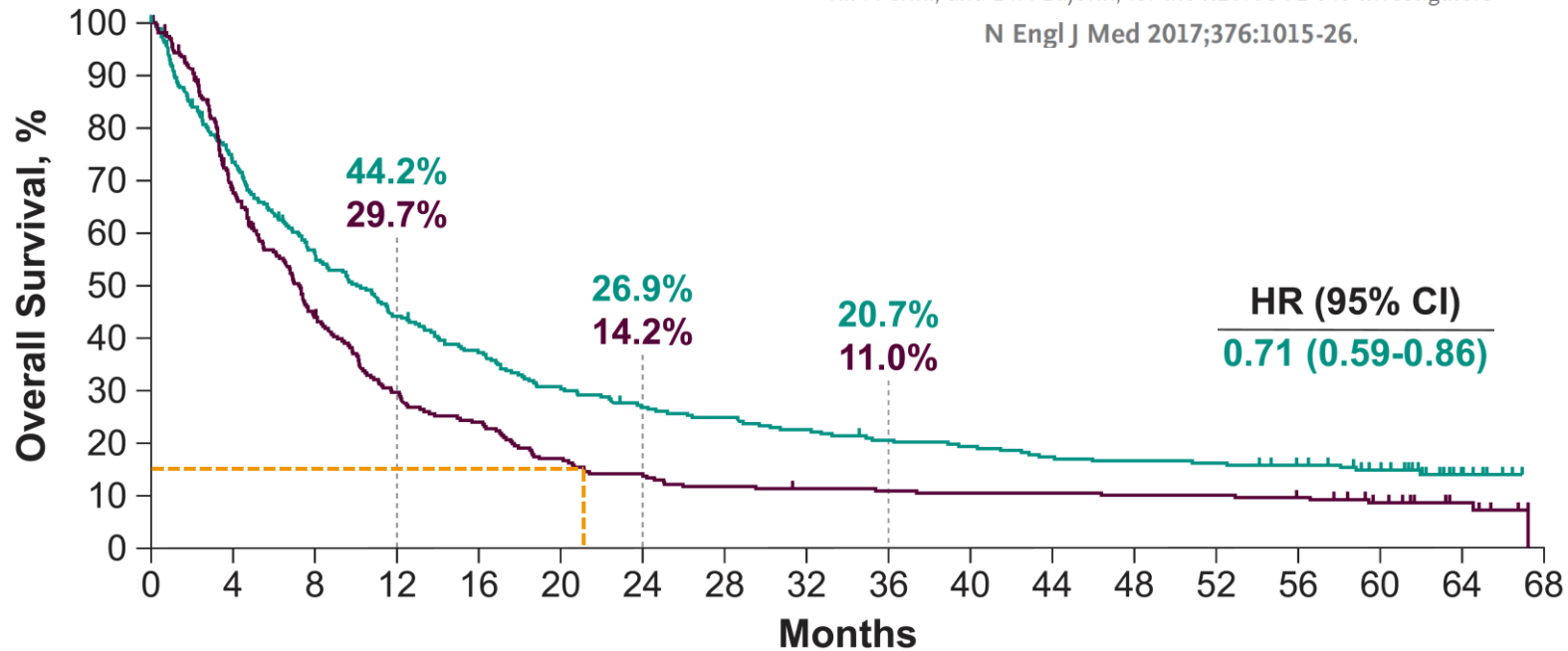
ABSOLUTE RISK

"New wonder drug reduced heart attacks from from 2 per 100 to 1 per 100"

Pembrolizumab as Second-Line Therapy for Advanced Urothelial Carcinoma

J. Bellmunt, R. de Wit, D.J. Vaughn, Y. Fradet, J.-L. Lee, L. Fong, N.J. Vogelzang, M.A. Climent, D.P. Petrylak, T.K. Choueiri, A. Necchi, W. Gerritsen, H. Gurney, D.I. Quinn, S. Culine, C.N. Sternberg, Y. Mai, C.H. Poehlein, R.F. Perini, and D.F. Bajorin, for the KEYNOTE-045 Investigators*

N Engl J Med 2017;376:1015-26.



LC95% consistent with a relevant efficacy ($\downarrow 18$ events death / 100 paz.) and with a marginal benefit ($\downarrow 5$ events death / 100 paz.)

NON seria imprecisione

- Median f.u.: 21.1 months
- Basal risk* at median f.u.: 85%
- **Risk Difference:** 11 events lower / 100 pts (**95%CI: 18 lower to 5 lower**)
- NNT = 9

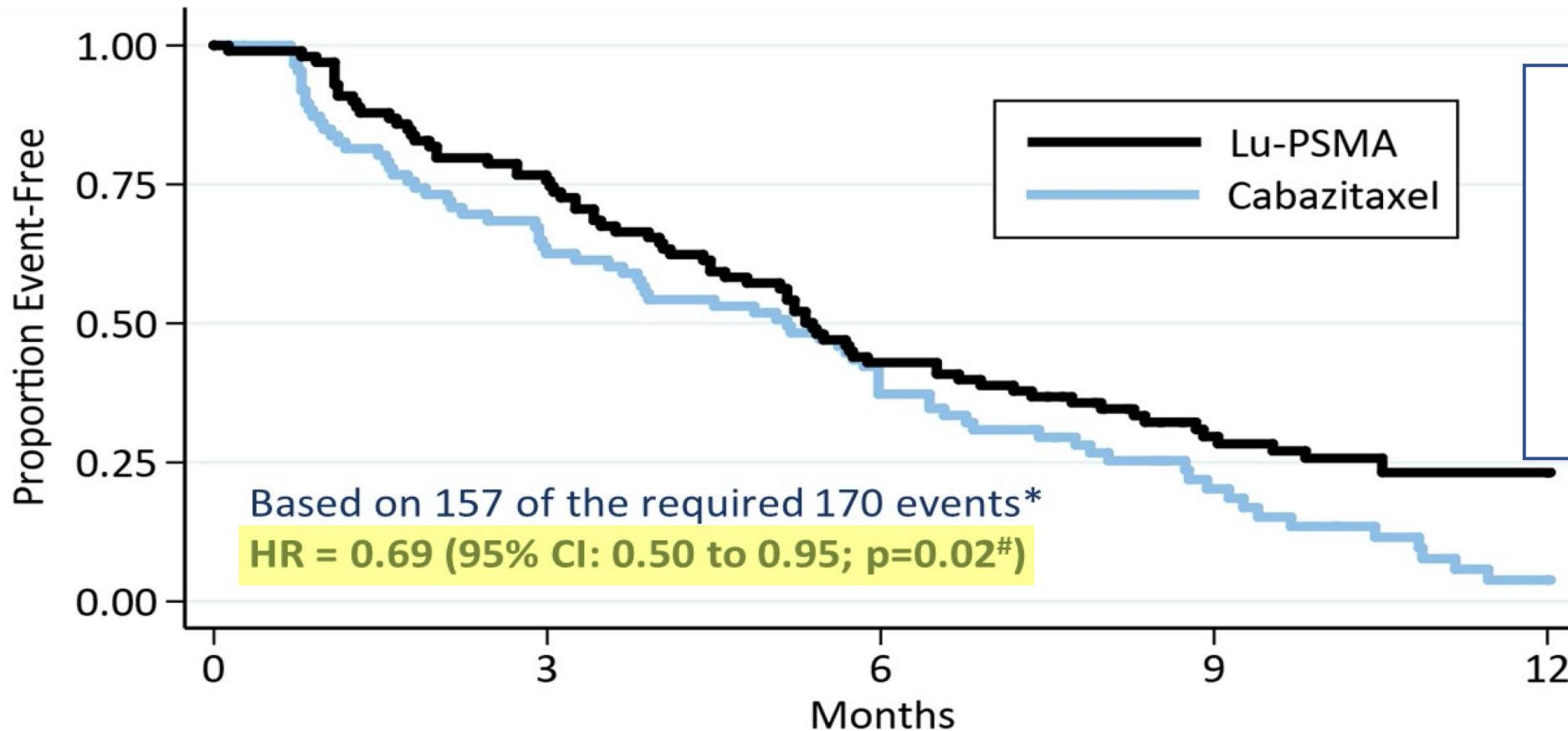
* *J Clin Epidemiol* 118 (2020) 124-131

A randomised phase II trial of ¹⁷⁷Lu-PSMA-617 (Lu-PSMA) theranostic versus cabazitaxel in metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) progressing after docetaxel: Initial results

TheraP (ANZUP 1603)

Michael Hofman, Louise Emmett, Shahneen Sandhu, Amir Iravani, Anthony Joshua, Jeffrey Goh, David Pattison, Hsiang Tan, Ian Kirkwood, Siobhan Ng, Roslyn Francis, Craig Gedyne, Natalie Rutherford, Alison Zhang, Margaret McJannett, Martin Stockler, John Violet, Scott Williams, Andrew Martin, Ian Davis

- median follow-up: 13.3 months
- baseline risk: 95.1%
- absolute risk: 8 events fewer (95%CI: 1 fewer to 17 fewer)



95%CI of absolute effect consistent with opposite interpretations

NON Imprecisione Clinica anche in presenza di valore di P ≥ 0.05

M.I.D. EORTC QLQ-C30 GHS: 10 punti

	Cabazitaxel	Lu-PSMA	Diff.
Scale	Pred. Mean (SE) {95% CI}	Pred. Mean (SE) {95% CI}	Pred. Mean (SE) {95% CI} [p-value]
Global health status / QoL	60.4 (1.8) {56.9 to 63.9}	63.4 (1.6) {60.3 to 66.5}	3.0 (2.3) {-1.6 to 7.5} [0.202]

**IC95% dell'effetto assoluto compreso nel
range di non rilevanza clinica (<10 punti)**

NON Imprecisione

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CASO



Errore Random



Risultati Imprecisi

Errore in diminuzione con
l'aumentare delle dimensioni
del campione

BIAS



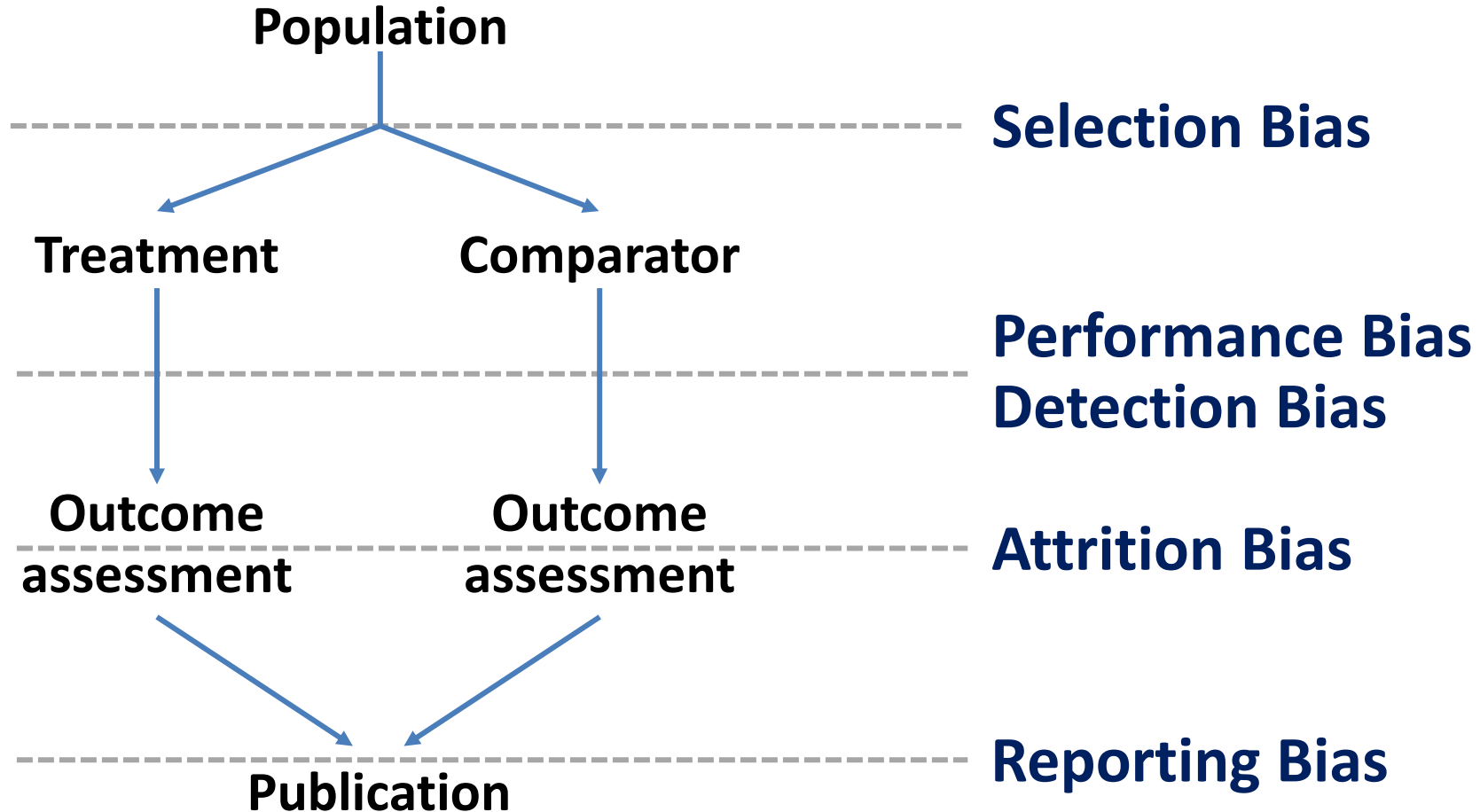
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Study Flow & Risk of Bias...



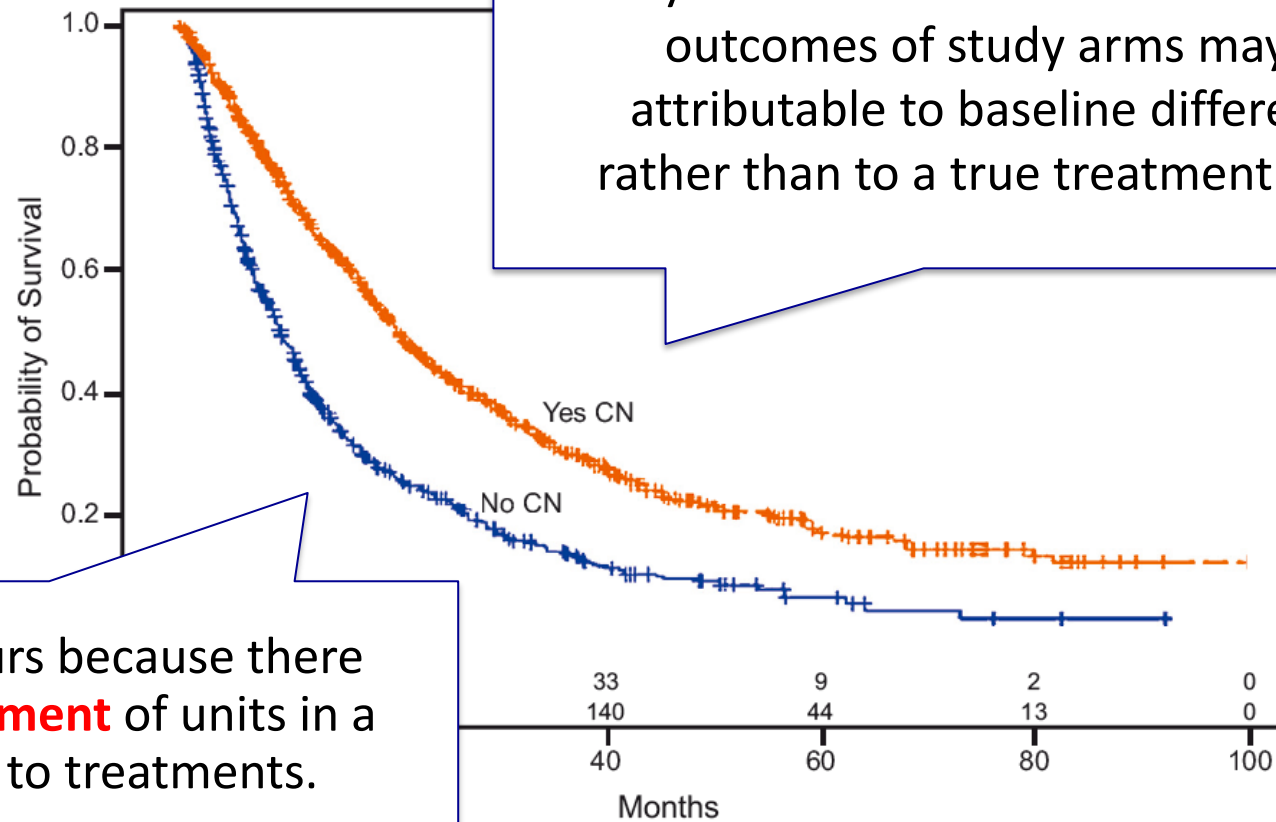
SOURCES OF BIAS IN CLINICAL TRIALS

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Selection bias.	Systematic differences between baseline characteristics of the groups that are compared.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sequence generation.● Allocation concealment.
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Cytoreductive Nephrectomy in Patients with Synchronous Metastases from Renal Cell Carcinoma: Results from the International Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Database Consortium

Daniel Y.C. Heng^{a,*†}, J. Connor Wells^{a,†}, Brian I. Rini^b, Benoit Beuselinck^c, Jae-Lyun Lee^d, Jennifer J. Knox^e, Georg A. Bjarnason^f, Sumanta Kumar Pal^g, Christian K. Kollmannsberger^h, Takeshi Yuasaⁱ, Sandy Srinivas^j, Frede Donskov^k, Aristotelis Bamias^l, Lori A. Wood^m, D. Scott Ernstⁿ, Neeraj Agarwal^o, Ulka N. Vaishampayan^p, Sun Young Rha^q, Jenny J. Kim^r, Toni K. Choueiri^s

EUROPEAN UROLOGY 66 (2014) 7



Any observed difference between the outcomes of study arms may be attributable to baseline differences rather than to a true treatment effect.

A possible **bias** occurs because there is **no random assignment** of units in a target population to treatments.

Reconciling the Use of Cytoreductive Nephrectomy in the Targeted Therapy Era

Stephen H. Culp *

EUROPEAN UROLOGY 66 (2014) 711–712

Although retrospective, the results of this study are strengthened by the number of patients examined, inclusion of patients from institutions around the world, and lack of patient exclusion based on RCC histology or type of targeted agent.



Phase III Trial of Vinflunine Plus Best Supportive Care Compared With Best Supportive Care Alone After a Platinum-Containing Regimen in Patients With Advanced Transitional Cell Carcinoma of the Urothelial Tract

Joaquim Bellmunt, Christine Théodore, Tomasz Demkov, Boris Komyakov, Lisa Sengelov, Gedske Daugaard, Armelle Caty, Joan Carles, Agnieszka Jagiello-Gruszfeld, Oleg Karyakin, François-Michel Delgado, Patrick Hurteloup, Eric Winqvist, Nassim Morsli, Yacine Salhi, Stéphane Culine, and Hans von der Maase

J Clin Oncol 27:4454-4461. © 2009

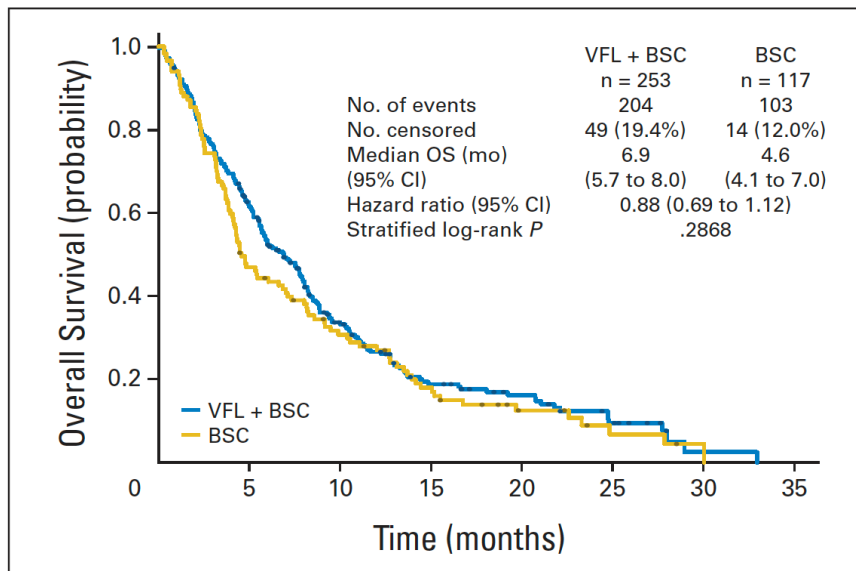


Fig 2. Overall survival (OS) in the intent-to-treat population (n = 370). VFL, vinflunine; BSC, best supportive care.

Although the objective of the median 2-month survival advantage favoring VFL BSC versus BSC was achieved (6.9 v 4.6 months, respectively), this difference was not statistically significant (P .287; Fig 2).

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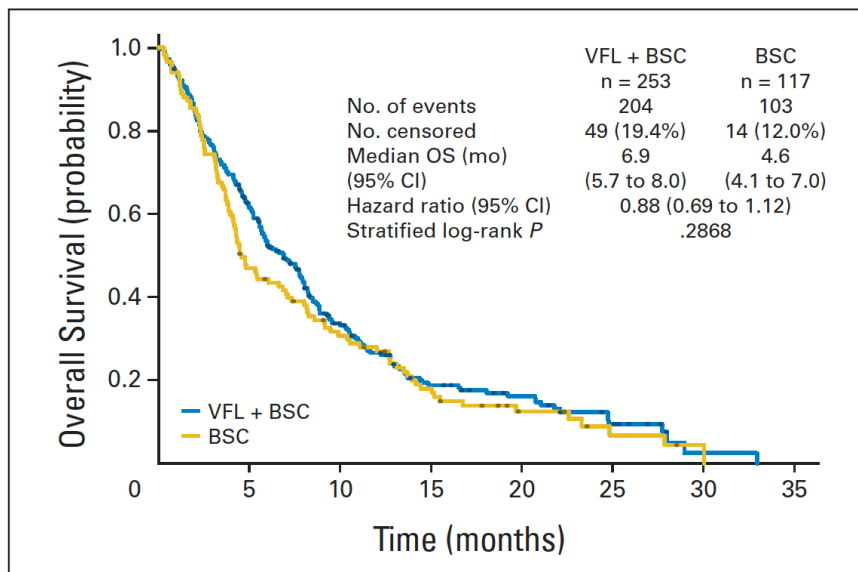


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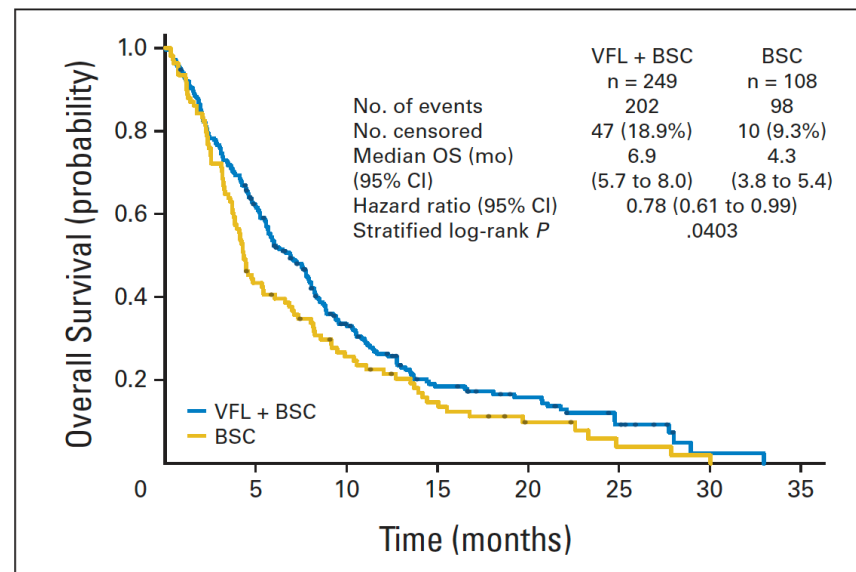


Fig 3. Overall survival (OS) in the eligible population (n = 357; 96.5% of intent-to-treat population). VFL, vinflunine; BSC, best supportive care.

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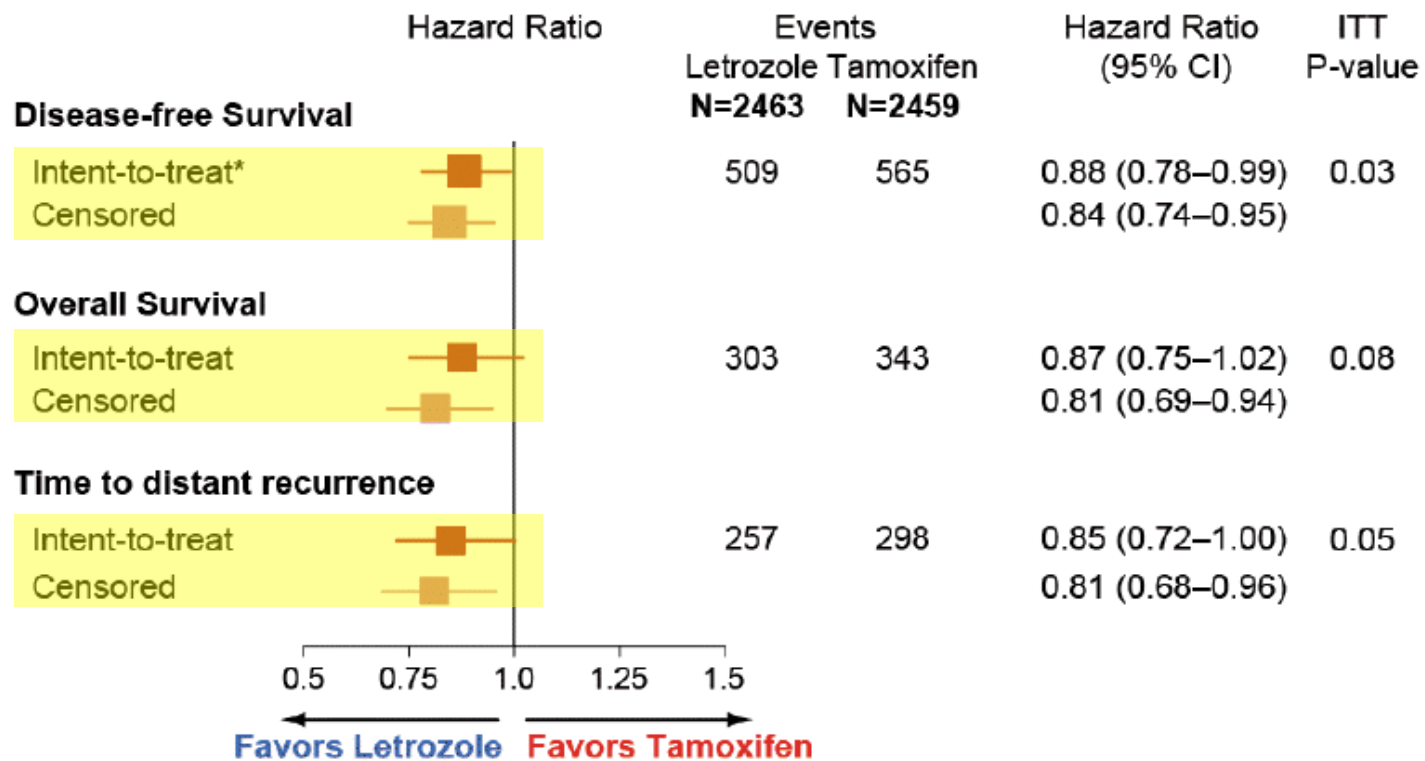
In the **eligible population** (Fig 3), the objective of achieving a 2-month survival difference in OS between the VFLBSC and BSC arms was met (6.9 v 4.3 months, respectively), and this difference is statistically significant (P. 040).

What is Selective Crossover?

- Special case of *non-adherence to a randomized treatment* following the report of *positive trial results*: control group patients selectively cross over to the experimental treatment
- *Disturbs the randomized comparison* in updated analyses performed subsequent to the first results

BIG 1-98 Monotherapy Update

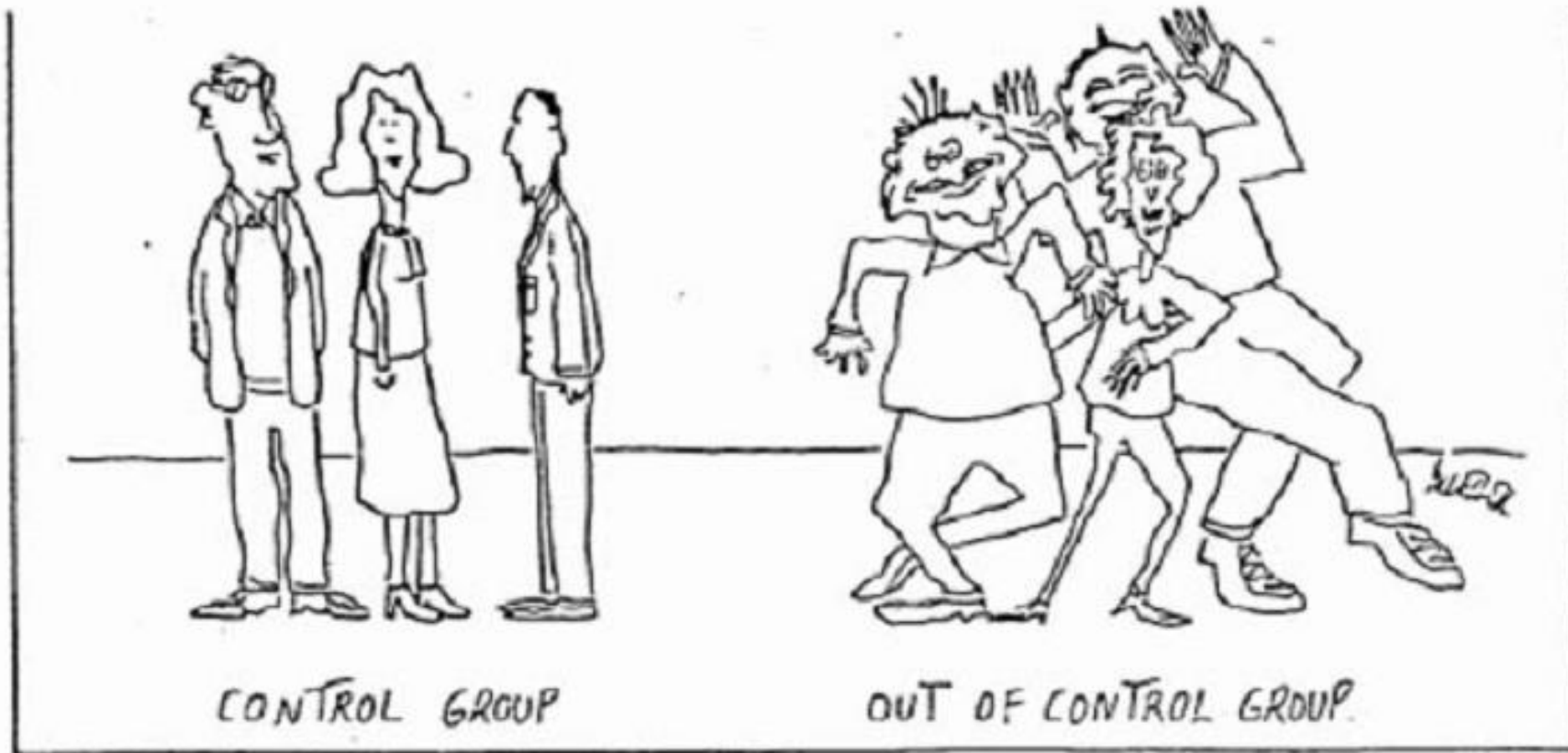
Median Follow-up 76 months



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If no patient blinding was performed...



... were they **unbiased** when filling the QoL questionnaire?

If no physician blinding was performed...

TREATMENT A

Not at risk of renal impairment



TREATMENT B

Renal impairment as common adverse event



Same frequency of creatinine testing?

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If no evaluator blinding was performed...



... was he (totally) **unbiased** when evaluating the scan?

Rischio di bias legato all'assenza di mascheramento

END POINTS AND ASSESSMENTS

The primary end point was **progression-free survival**, which was defined as the time from randomization to documented disease progression (as **evaluated by independent central review** by radiologists who were unaware of the treatment assignments) or death from any cause. Secondary end points included the **objective response rate**, **overall survival** (defined as the time from randomization to death from any cause), **safety**, and the side-effect profile.

Basso rischio di Detection Bias
(valutazione indipendente in cieco)

Alto rischio di Detection Bias

Alto rischio di Performance & Detection Bias

Basso rischio di Detection Bias
(per caratteristica intrinseca dell'outcome)

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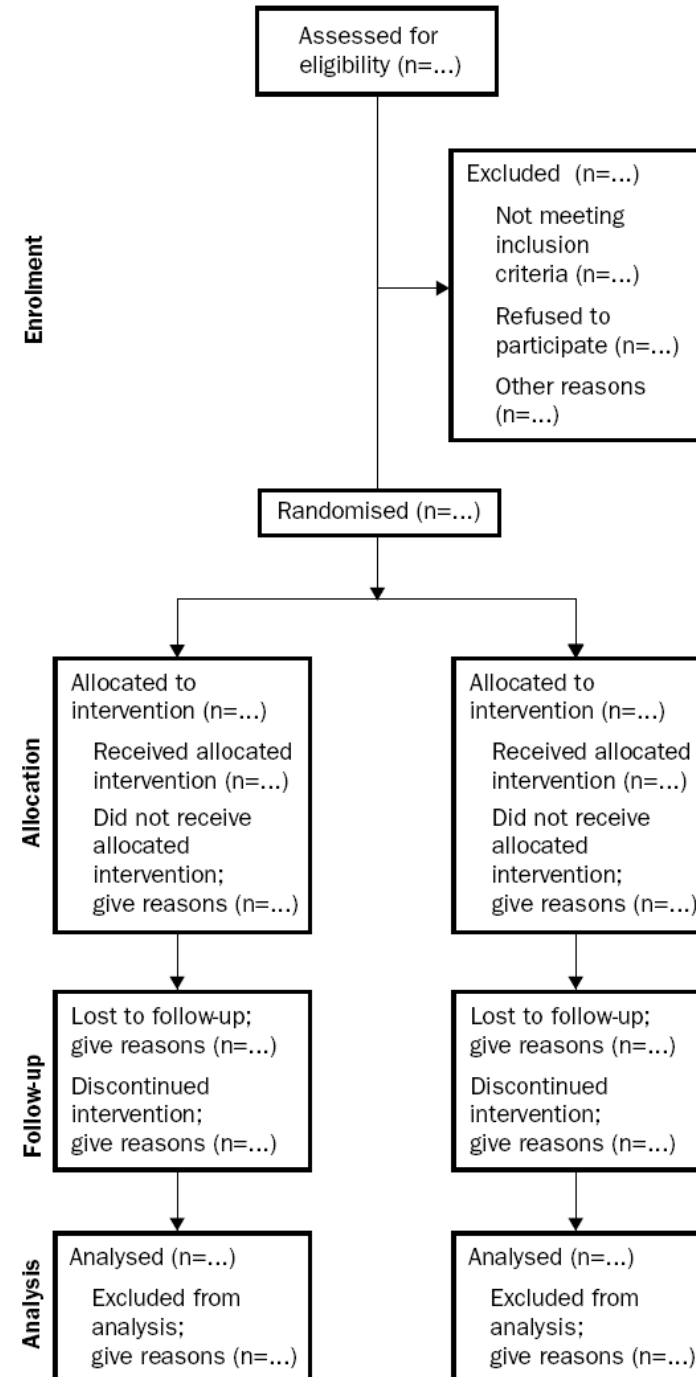


The CONSORT statement: revised recommendations for improving the quality of reports of parallel-group randomised trials

David Moher, Kenneth F Schulz, Douglas G Altman, for the CONSORT Group*

Lancet 2001; 357: 1191–94

A ciascuno studio è richiesto di dare conto del flusso di pazienti nelle fasi di arruolamento, assegnazione del trattamento, follow-up e analisi



Can trial quality be reliably assessed from published reports of cancer trials: evaluation of risk of bias assessments in systematic reviews

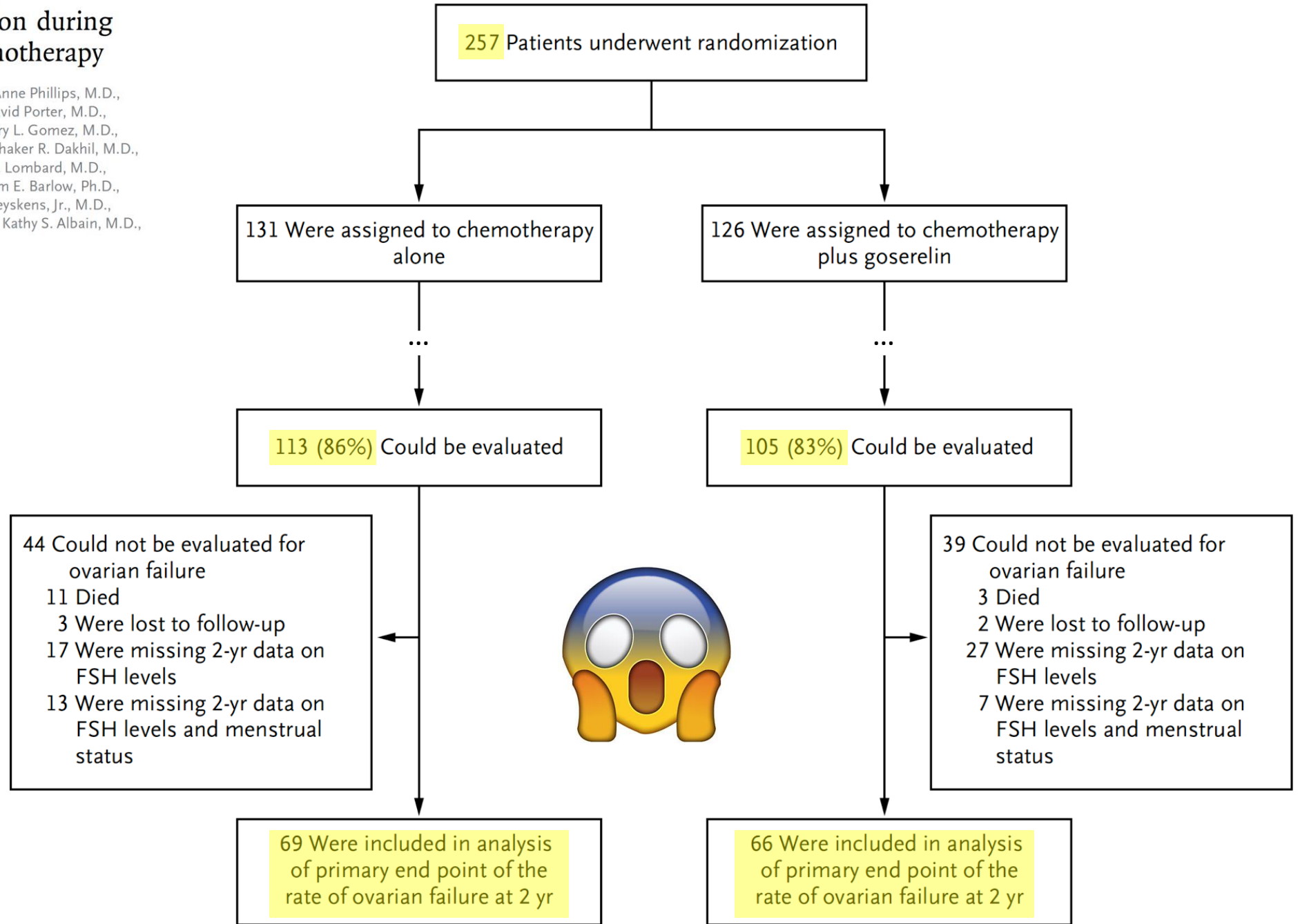
Claire L Vale *senior research scientist*, Jayne F Tierney *senior research scientist*, Sarah Burdett *senior research scientist*

BMJ 2013;346:f1798 doi: 10.1136/bmj.f1798 (Published 22 April 2013)

To evaluate attrition bias, on the basis of whether the outcome data were incomplete or not, the authors had to establish a rule of thumb to ensure consistency between assessments. Trials were assessed as **low risk of bias if less than 10% of patients were excluded overall and if similar proportions were excluded from both arms**. Trials were judged as **high risk of bias if there were considerable imbalances between arms or if more than 10% of randomised patients were excluded from the analysis**.

Goserelin for Ovarian Protection during Breast-Cancer Adjuvant Chemotherapy

Halle C.F. Moore, M.D., Joseph M. Unger, Ph.D., Kelly-Anne Phillips, M.D., Frances Boyle, M.B., B.S., Ph.D., Erika Hitre, M.D., David Porter, M.D., Prudence A. Francis, M.D., Lori J. Goldstein, M.D., Henry L. Gomez, M.D., Carlos S. Vallejos, M.D., Ann H. Partridge, M.D., M.P.H., Shaker R. Dakhil, M.D., Agustin A. Garcia, M.D., Julie Gralow, M.D., Janine M. Lombard, M.D., John F. Forbes, M.B., B.S., Silvana Martino, D.O., William E. Barlow, Ph.D., Carol J. Fabian, M.D., Lori Minasian, M.D., Frank L. Meyskens, Jr., M.D., Richard D. Gelber, Ph.D., Gabriel N. Hortobagyi, M.D., and Kathy S. Albain, M.D., for the POEMS/S0230 Investigators
N Engl J Med 2015;372:923-32.



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Instances of SRB

- * Selective omission of outcomes from reports
- * Selective choice of data for an outcome
- * Selective reporting of analyses using the same data
- * Selective reporting of subsets of the data
- * Selective under-reporting of data

Quality of Life in Patients With Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma Treated With Sunitinib or Interferon Alfa: Results From a Phase III Randomized Trial

David Cella, Jim Z. Li, Joseph C. Cappelleri, Andrew Bushmakin, Claudie Charbonneau, Cindy T. Kim, Isan Chen, and Robert J. Motzer

J Clin Oncol 26:3763-3769. © 2008 by American Society of Clinical Oncology

Instruments	Difference in Least Squares Means		
FKSI-DRS (primary endpoint)	1.98*	MID = 2 points	✗
FKSI-15	3.27*	MID = 3 points	✓
FACT-G	5.58*	MID = 5 points	✓
PWB	1.42*	MID = 2 points	✗
SFWB	1.20*	MID = 2 points	✗
EWB	0.787*	MID = 2 points	✗
FWB	1.98*	MID = 2 points	✗
EQ-5D Index	0.0364*	MID = 0.09	✗
EQ-VAS	4.74*	MID = 8	✗

Patients receiving sunitinib reported higher FKSI-15 and FACT-G scores at each cycle than those receiving IFN- α , per pre-established clinically meaningful thresholds.

*Results were statistically significant at critical $P = .05$

Riassumendo:

- selezione dei soggetti da assegnare a uno specifico trattamento, rimozione di alcuni pazienti dall'analisi, analisi non preordinata su sottogruppi di pazienti (***selection bias***)
rimedio: randomizzazione (e stratificazione)
- conoscenza da parte del paziente/medico/valutatore del trattamento in atto (***performance/detection bias***)
rimedio: mascheramento
- perdita dei pazienti alla valutazione di uno specifico outcome di interesse (***attrition bias***)
rimedio: disegno di studio e procedure di follow-up
- selezione dei risultati da comunicare a mezzo presentazione/pubblicazione (***reporting bias***)
rimedio: database degli studi clinici in corso



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- Rilevanza clinica Vs significatività statistica
- Trasferibilità delle evidenze al quesito clinico
- Affidabilità delle prove (imprecisione degli effetti, rischio di bias)
- **Dialogo tra clinico e metodologo (lettura di uno studio clinico)**

Pembrolizumab versus placebo as adjuvant therapy for completely resected stage IB–IIIA non-small-cell lung cancer (PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091): an interim analysis of a randomised, triple-blind, phase 3 trial

Mary O'Brien, Luis Paz-Ares*, Sandrine Marreaud, Urania Dafni, Kersti Oselin, Libor Havel, Emilio Esteban, Dolores Isla, Alex Martinez-Marti, Martin Faehling, Masahiro Tsuboi, Jong-Seok Lee, Kazuhiko Nakagawa, Jing Yang, Ayman Samkari, Steven M Keller, Murielle Mauer, Nitish Jha, Rolf Stahel, Benjamin Besse†, Solange Peter†, on behalf of the EORTC-1416-LCG/ETOP 8-15 – PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091 Investigators‡*

Lancet Oncol 2022; 23: 1274–86

1. Riflettete da soli per 10 min. e compilate il form 
2. Confrontatevi con i Colleghi del Vostro tavolo per 15 min., declinate un W³ condiviso e delegate un portavoce
3. Riportate sulla lavagna il Vostro W³ condiviso su almeno due aspetti ritenuti rilevanti e impattanti sulla professione (in 5 min.)
4. Presentate ai Colleghi degli altri tavoli il Vostro W³ condiviso



WHAT?

Cosa è emerso di particolarmente saliente / rilevante?

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SO WHAT?

Per quale motivo le cose emerse sono così rilevanti?

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NOW WHAT?

Quali ricadute nell'immediato per la mia professione?

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