

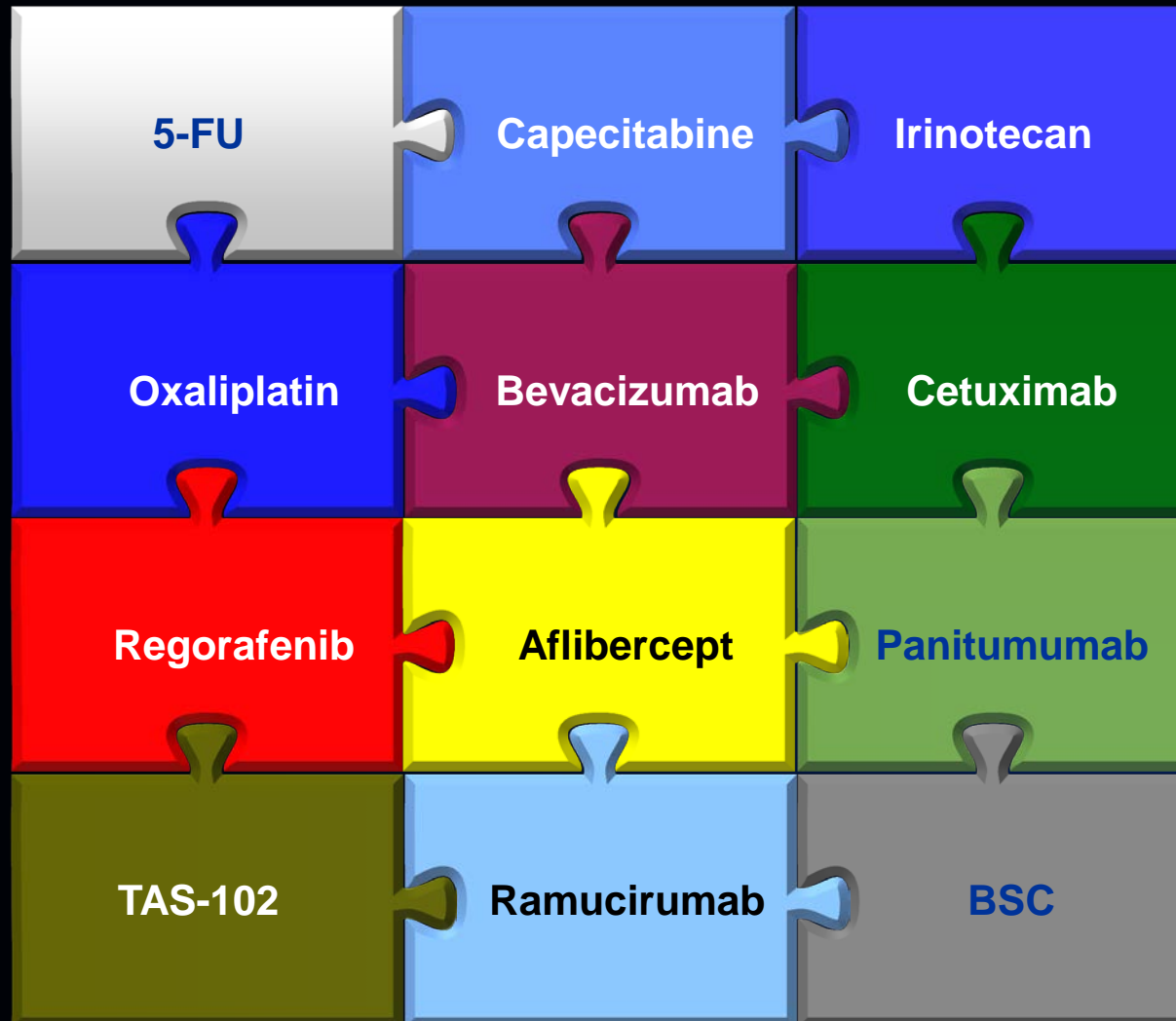
# **Optimizing treatment outcomes in WT RAS mCRC**

**A/Prof Niall Tebbutt**

**Director Medical Oncology**

**Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research and Wellness Centre**

# A High Number of Agents Is Currently Available for the Treatment of mCRC

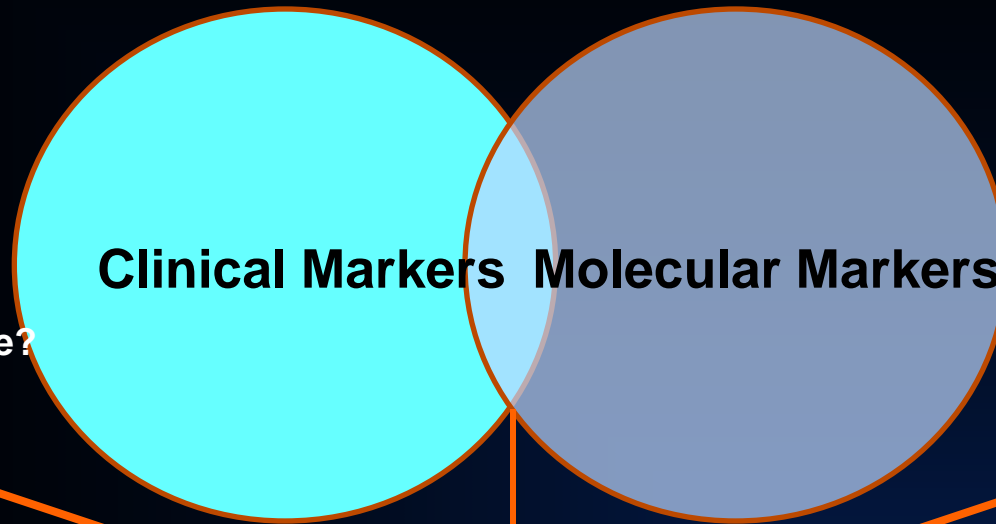


# The Goals of Systemic Therapy

- **Extending OS**
- **Maintaining quality of life as long as possible**
- **Tumour response; especially if symptomatic or potentially resectable**
  - **Consider intensity of therapy/toxicities**
  - **Consider patient wishes**
  - **Which situation needs more aggressive and which a more gentle therapy?**

# Tools for Treatment Selection

- Age
- PS
- Comorbidities
- Tumor burden
  - Potential for cure?
  - Symptoms?
- **Tumor location**



- Histologic grade
- CEA
- *KRAS*
- *NRAS*
- *BRAF*
- *MSI/MMR*

*Patient characteristics*

+

*Tumor characteristics*

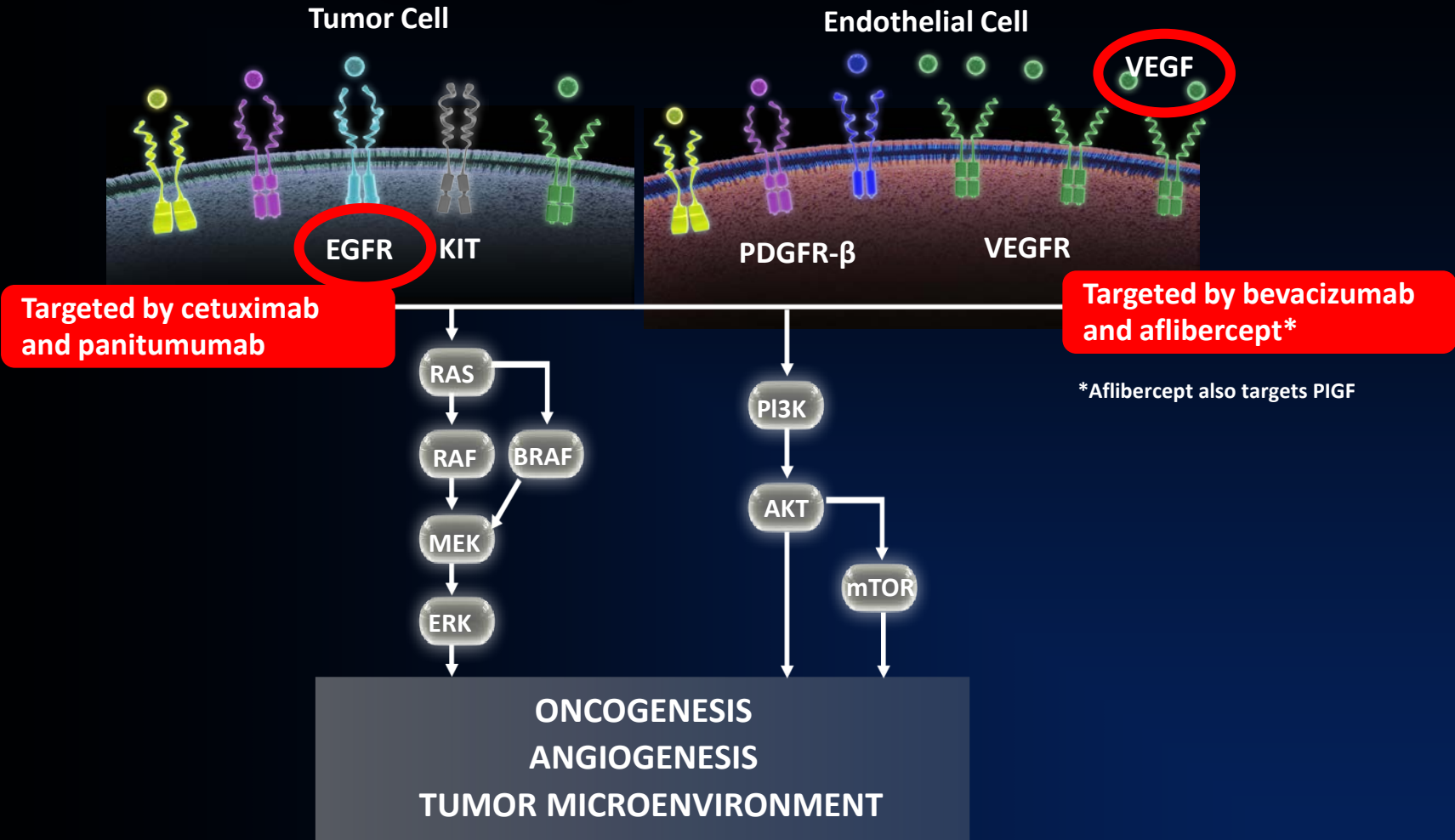
# Why personalized medicine?

“

Personalized management is considered the future of cancer care: medicine aiming at giving patients the best treatment according to their personal medical history, their physiological status, and the **molecular characteristics of their tumours**”

European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)

# Overview of EGFR and VEGFR Growth Signaling Pathways

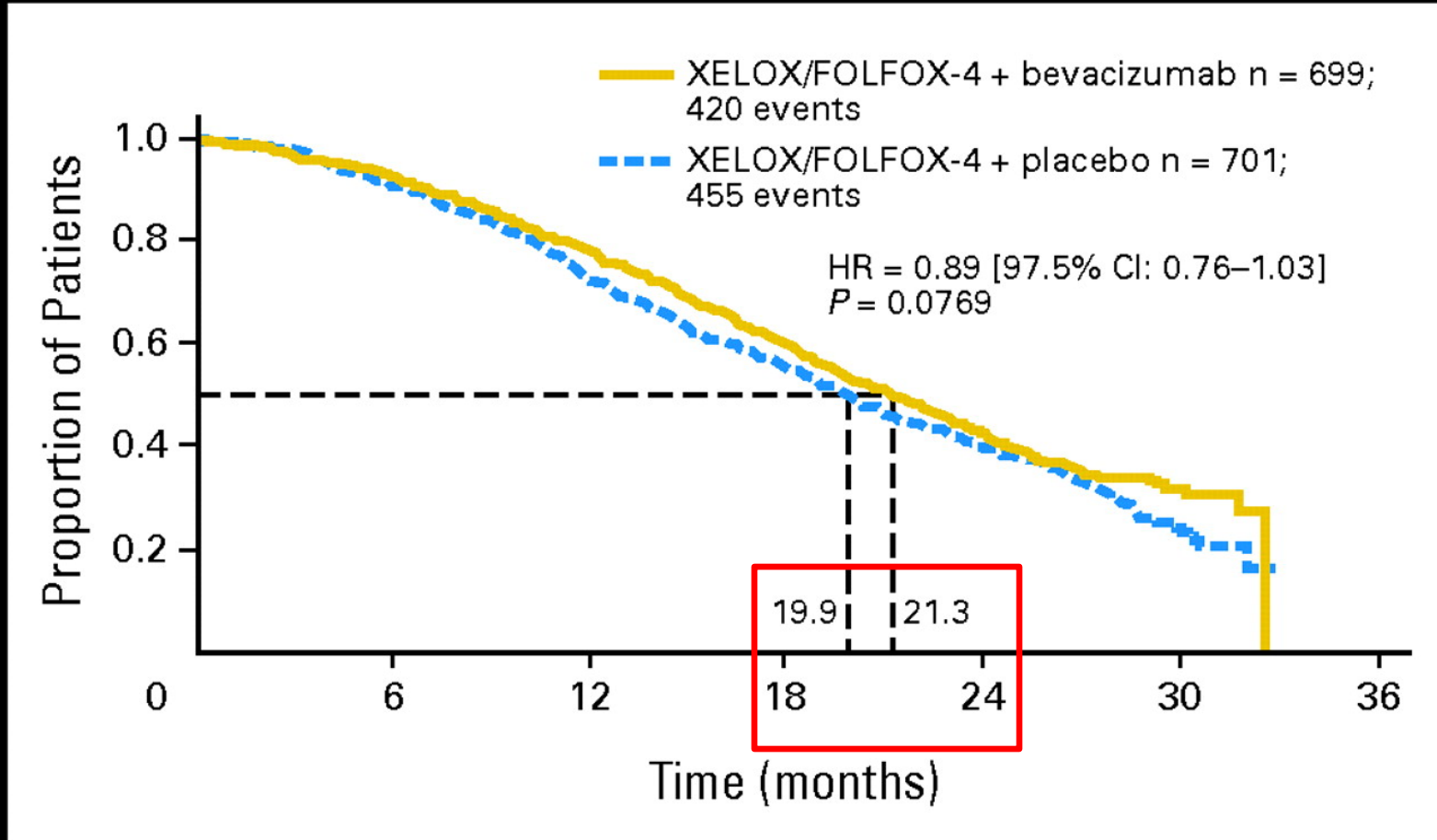


Krasinskas AM. *Patholog Res Int.* 2011;2011:932932; Sitohy B, et al. *Cancer Res* 2012;72:1909-1914; Bendardaf R, et al. *Anticancer Res.* 2008;28:3865-3870; Kitadai Y, et al. *Am J Pathol.* 2006;169:2054-2065; Jayson GC, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2005;23:973-981.

# Initial choice of biologic agent for 1<sup>st</sup> line therapy of mCRC

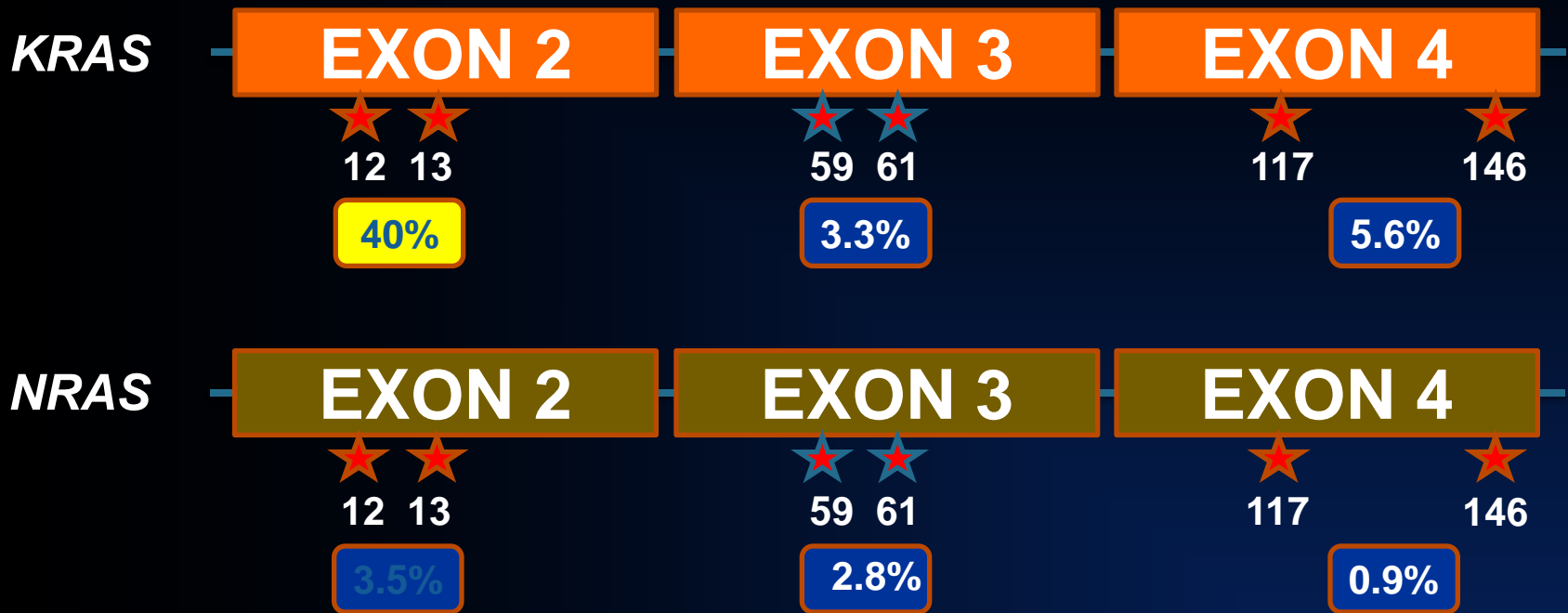


# FOLFOX/XELOX and bevacizumab: PFS gain but modest effect on OS

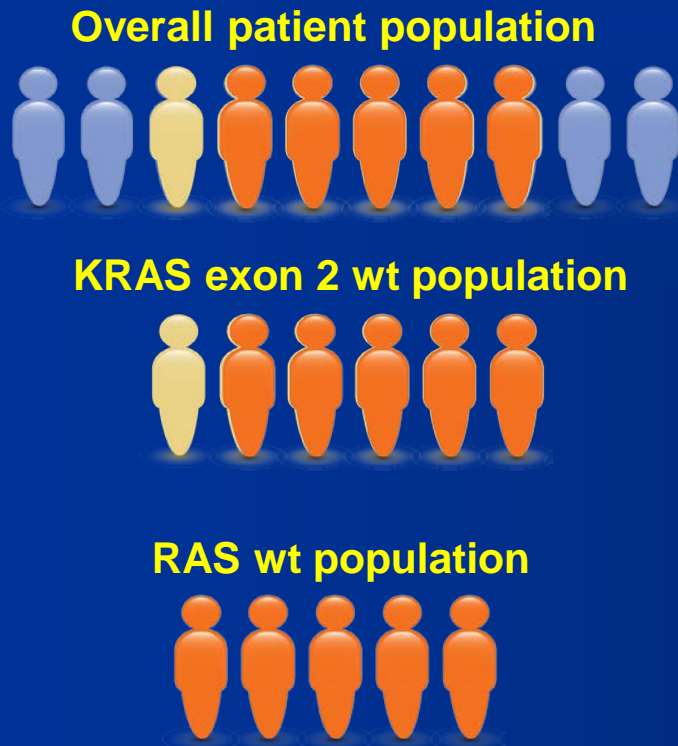




# Spectrum of ras mutations



# Progress: Improving patient selection extends the benefit with anti-EGFR therapies

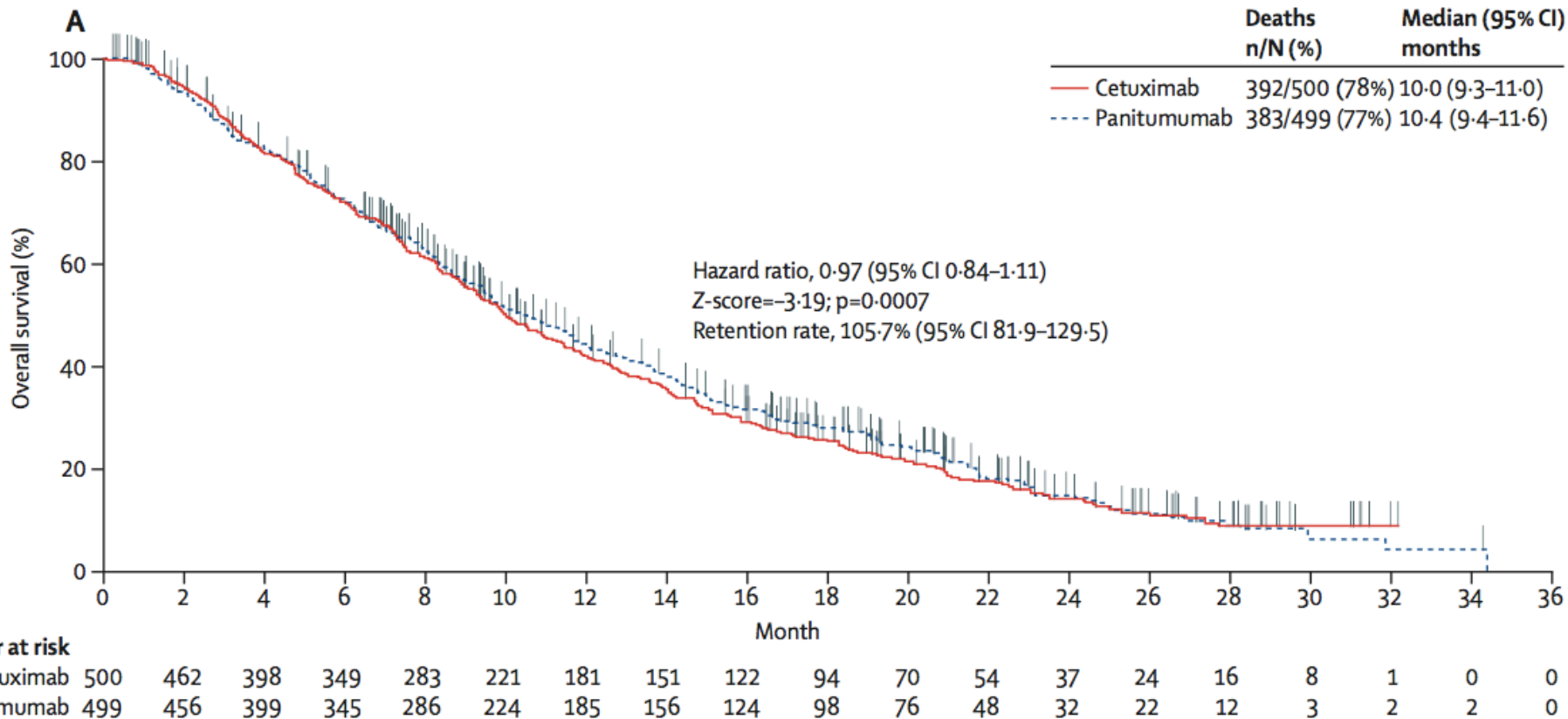


**OS benefit\***  
CRYSTAL<sup>1,2</sup>  
PRIME<sup>3</sup>  
FIRE-3<sup>4,5</sup>

**PFS benefit\***  
OPUS<sup>6,7</sup>  
PEAK<sup>8</sup>

\*Decreased HR in the RAS wt population compared with the KRAS exon 2 wt population or ITT population

# ASPECCT panitumumab v cetuximab: OS (non-inferiority)



# Main differences between panitumumab and cetuximab relate to safety

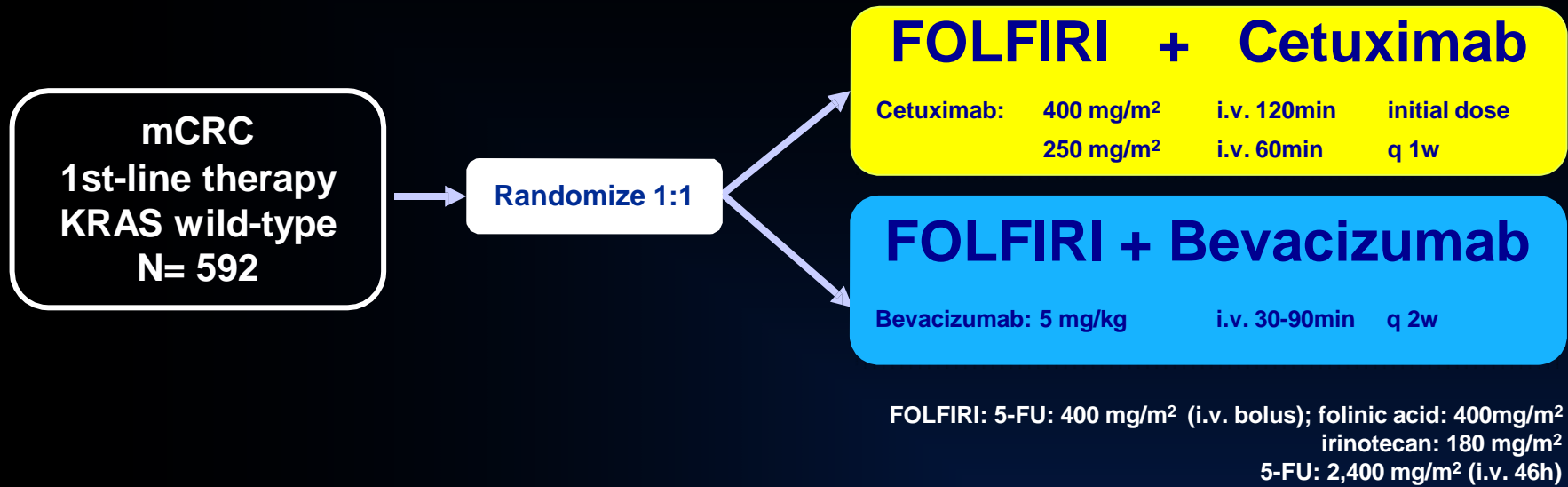
Adverse Event – n (%)	Panitumumab N=496	Cetuximab N =503
<b>Fatal AE's</b>	29 (5.8)	50 (9.9)
<b>Colon cancer</b>	20 (4.0)	34 (6.8)
<b>Others</b>	9 (1.8)	16 (3.2)
<b>Treatment-related fatal AE's</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>	<b>1 (0.2)</b>
<b>Skin and Subcutaneous tissue AE's</b>		
<b>Any grade</b>	<b>430 (86.7)</b>	<b>440 (87.5)</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>60 (12.1)</b>	<b>48 (9.5)</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>2 (0.4)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>
<b>Serious</b>	<b>1 (0.2)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>
<b>Hypomagnesemia</b>		
<b>Any grade</b>	<b>143 (28.8)</b>	<b>95 (18.9)</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>27 (5.4)</b>	<b>10 (2.0)</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>9 (1.8)</b>	<b>3 (0.6)</b>
<b>Infusion reactions</b>		
<b>Any grade</b>	<b>14 (2.8)</b>	<b>63 (12.5)</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>1 (0.2)</b>	<b>5 (1.0)</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>	<b>4 (0.8)</b>
<b>Diarrhea</b>		
<b>Any grade</b>	<b>91 (18.3)</b>	<b>89 (17.7)</b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>7 (1.4)</b>	<b>9 (1.8)</b>
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>3 (0.6)</b>	<b>0 (0.0)</b>

## First-line Chemotherapy + EGFR Inhibitor Regimens in mCRC: Efficacy Summary From Phase 3 Trials

Trial	Comparative Regimens	Median PFS, Mos	Median OS, Mos
CRYSTAL <sup>1</sup>	FOLFIRI/Cetux vs FOLFIRI	9.9 vs 8.4	23.5 vs 20.0
OPUS <sup>2</sup>	FOLFOX4/Cetux vs FOLFOX4	8.3 vs 7.2	22.8 vs 18.5
PRIME <sup>3-5</sup>	FOLFOX4/Pmab vs FOLFOX4*	9.6 vs 8.0	23.8 vs 19.4
	FOLFOX4/Pmab vs FOLFOX4 (KRAS/NRAS wild-type)*	10.1 vs 7.9	26.0 vs 20.2
COIN <sup>6</sup>	FOLFOX/XELOX/Cetux vs FOLFOX/XELOX	8.6 vs 8.6	17.0 vs 17.9

**Head to head comparisons of  
chemotherapy + EGFR inhibitor vs  
chemotherapy + bevacizumab**

# FIRE-3 study design



- Primary endpoint: **Overall response rate (ORR) (inv assessed)**
- Designed to detect a difference of 12% in ORR induced by FOLFIRI + cetuximab (62%) as compared to FOLFIRI + bevacizumab (50%)
- 284 evaluable patients per arm needed to achieve 80% power for an one-sided Fisher's exact test at an alpha level of 2.5%

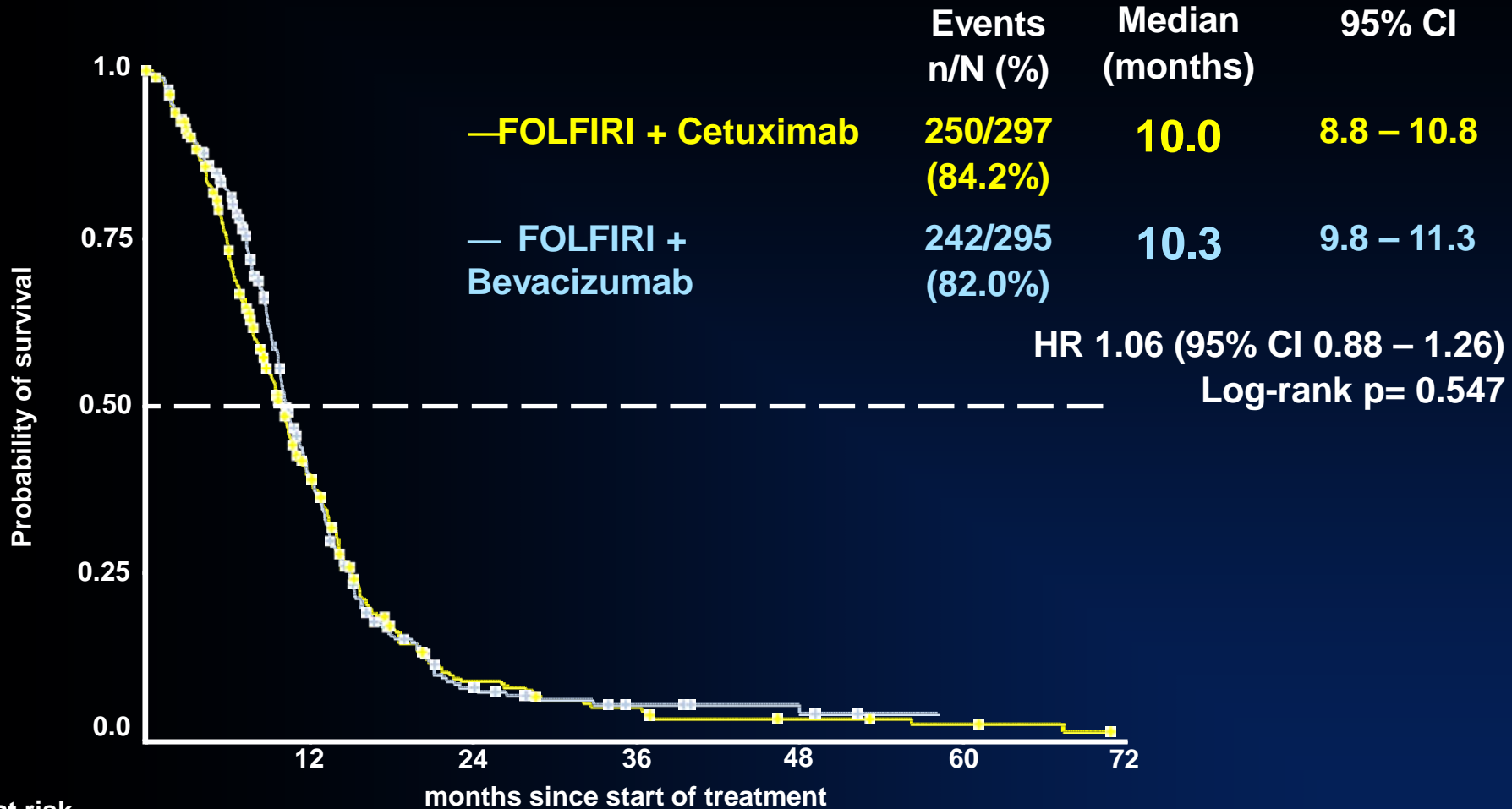
# FIRE-3 ORR Primary Endpoint

ORR	FOLFIRI + Cetuximab		FOLFIRI + Bevacizumab		Odds ratio	p
	%	95%-CI	%	95%-CI		
ITT population (N= 592)	<b>62.0</b>	56.2 – 67.5	<b>58.0</b>	52.1 – 63.7	<b>1.18</b> 0.85-1.64	<b>0.183</b>

p = Fisher's exact test (one-sided)



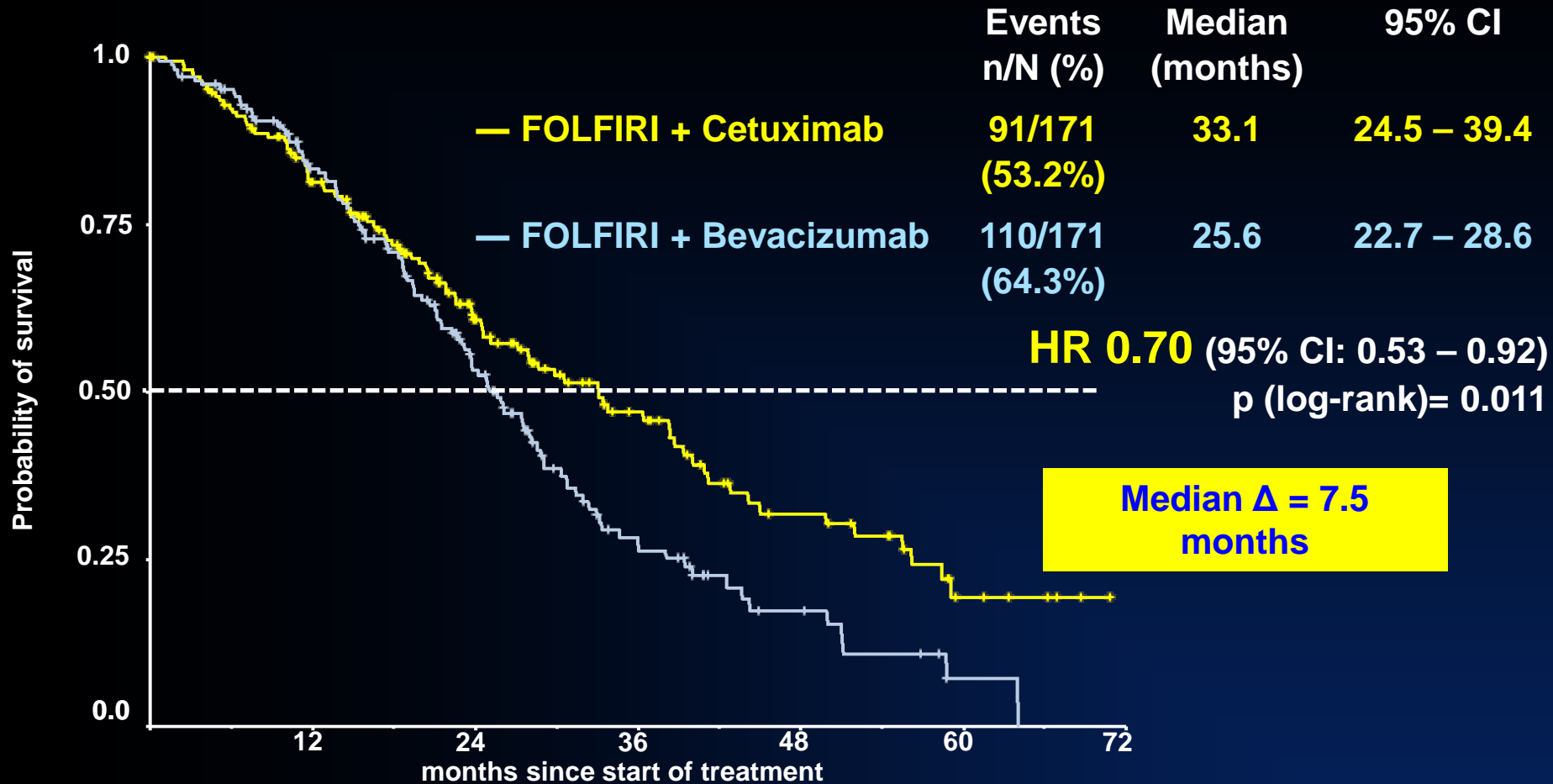
# FIRE-3 PFS



Number at risk  
FOLFIRI+cetux  
FOLFIRI+bev

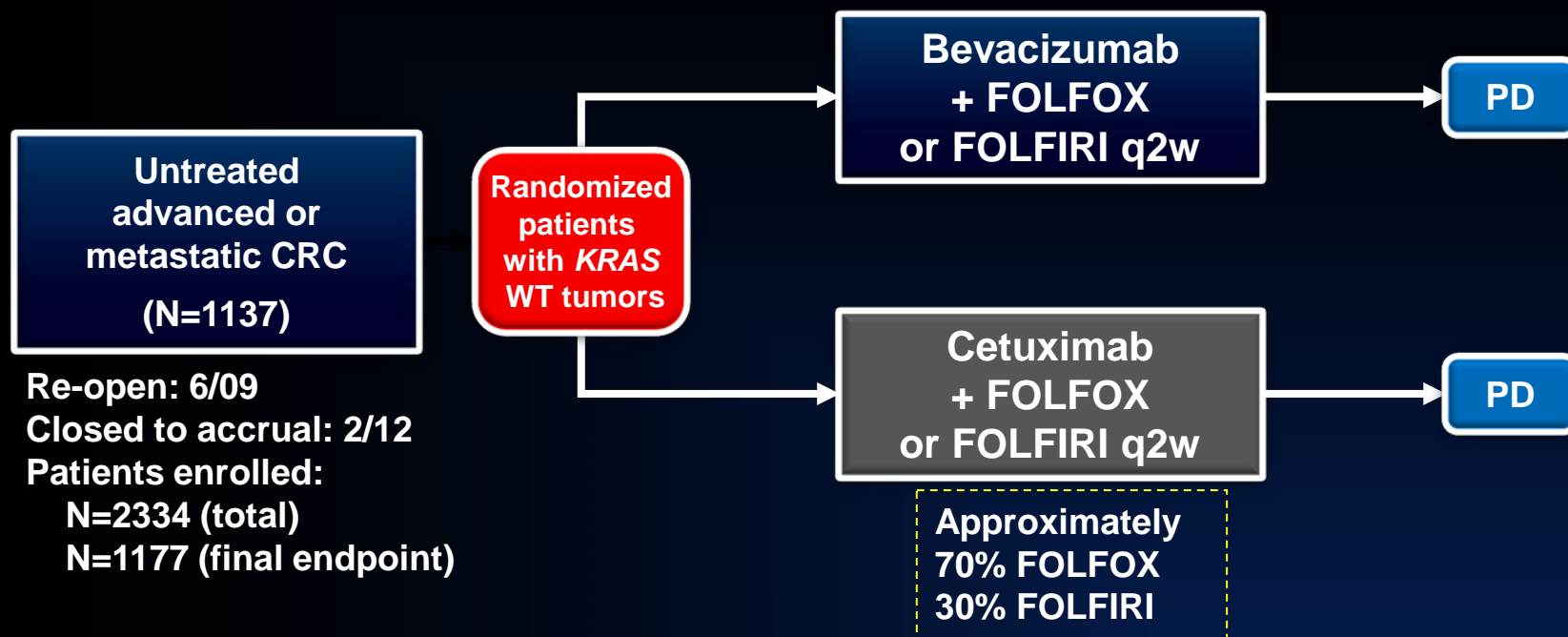
297	100	19	10	5	3
295	99	15	6	4	

# FIRE-3 ESMO/ECCO Update Overall survival All-RAS\* wild-type



No. at risk	171	128	71	39	20	6
risk	171	127	68	26	9	1

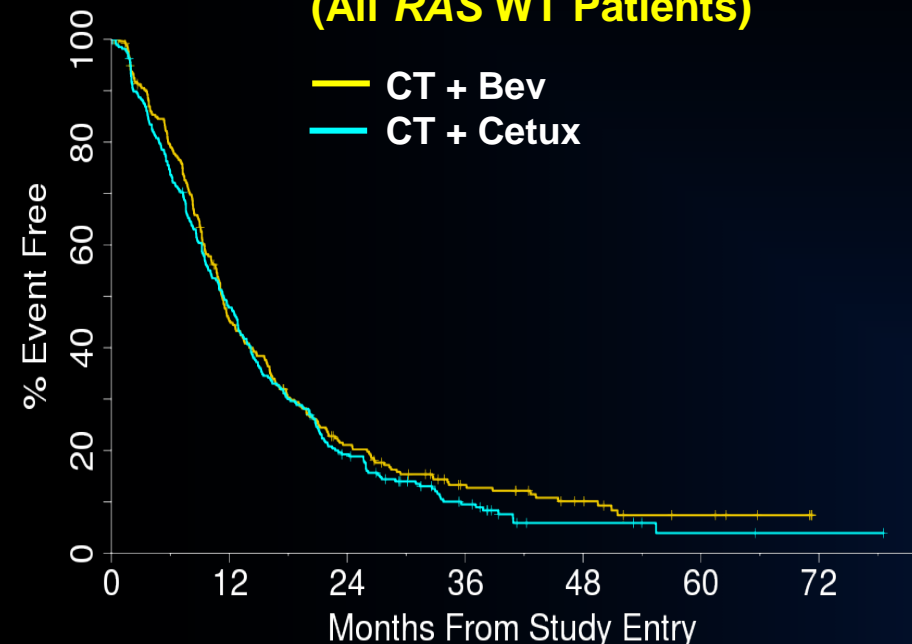
# CALGB/SWOG 80405: H2H Bevacizumab vs Cetuximab in First-line *KRAS* WT mCRC



- **Primary endpoint: OS**
  - Superiority trial with 90% power to detect an OS HR of 1.25 (2-sided  $\alpha=0.05$ )
- Secondary endpoints: ORR, PFS, TTF, DOR, and safety

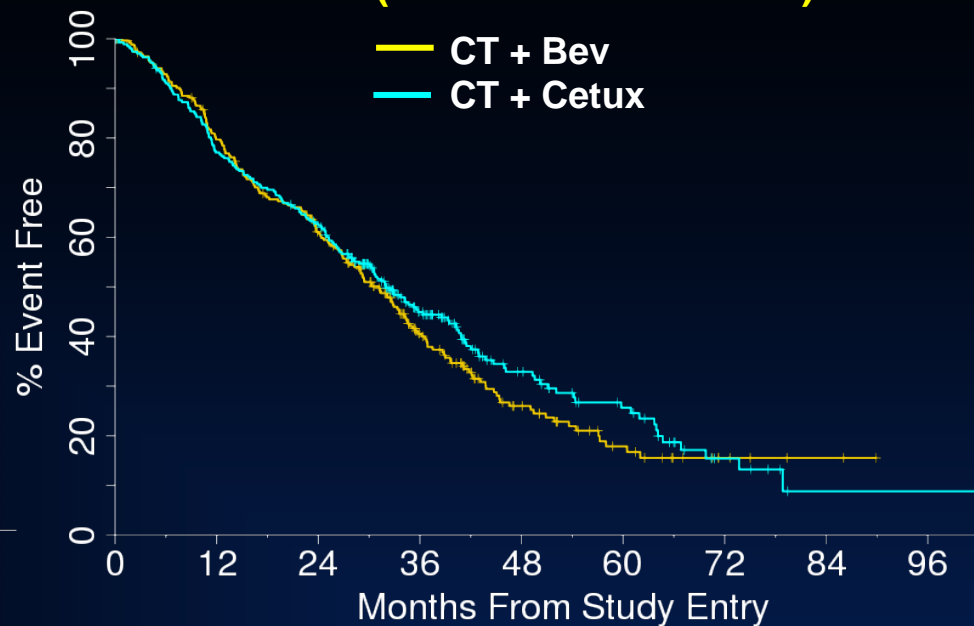
# CALGB/SWOG 80405: PFS and OS in All RAS WT Patients

**Progression-Free Survival  
(All RAS WT Patients)**



# At Risk	256	112	49	23	13	6
Risk	270	126	49	18	5	2

**Overall Survival  
(All RAS WT Patients)**



# At Risk	256	199	147	77	35	16	5	2
Risk	270	205	164	88	41	24	7	1

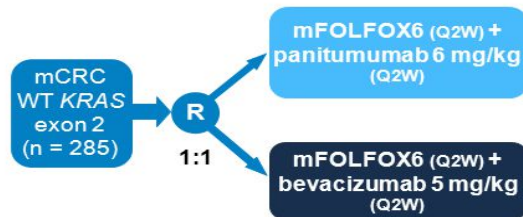
Arm	N (Events)	mPFS, Mos	HR (95% CI) P Value
CT + Bev	256 (221)	11.3 (10.3-12.6)	1.1 (0.9-1.3)  P=0.31
CT + Cetux	270 (241)	11.4 (9.6-12.9)	

Arm	N (Events)	mOS, Mos	HR (95% CI) P Value
CT+ Bev	256 (178)	31.2 (26.9-34.3)	0.9 (0.7-1.1)  P=0.40
CT + Cetux	270 (177)	32.0 (27.6-38.5)	

# PEAK Study

## Phase 2 PEAK study

mFOLFOX6 + panitumumab or bevacizumab in 1<sup>st</sup>-line treatment of WT *KRAS* exon 2 mCRC



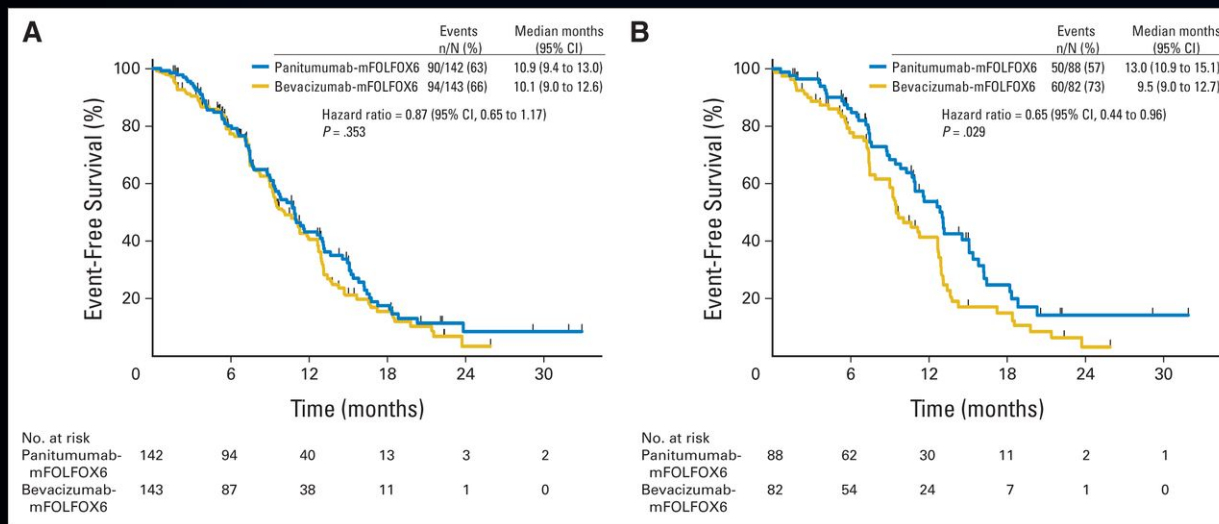
- Primary endpoint: PFS
  - No planned formal hypothesis testing
- Prespecified extended *RAS* analysis

WT <i>RAS</i> <sup>1</sup>	Panitumumab + mFOLFOX6 (n = 88)	Bevacizumab + mFOLFOX6 (n = 82)
Median PFS, mo*	13.0	9.5
HR (95% CI) P-value	0.65 (0.44–0.96) P = 0.029	
Median OS, mo <sup>†</sup>	41.3	28.9
HR (95% CI) P-value	0.63 (0.39–1.02) P = 0.058	
ORR, %* (95% CI)	63.6 (52.7–73.6)	60.5 (49.0–71.2)

1. Schwartzberg LS, et al. J Clin Oncol 2014;32:2240–7; Protocol ID: 20070509; ClinicalTrials.gov identifier: NCT00819780.

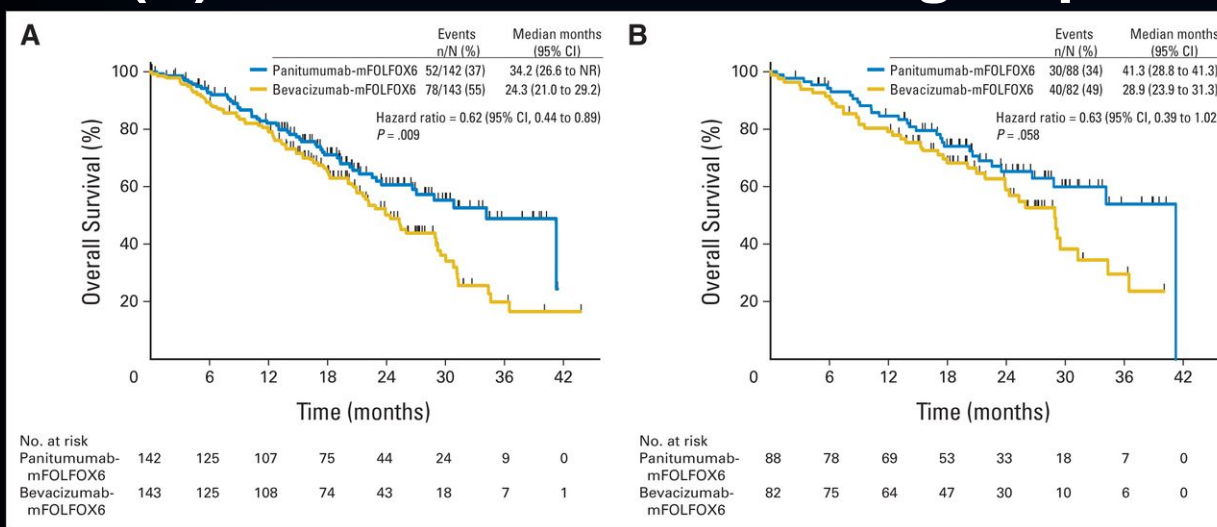
\*Primary analysis; †longer follow-up analysis.  
*RAS* ascertainment rate: 82%.  
 WT *RAS* = WT *KRAS*/*NRAS* exons, 2, 3, 4.

# PEAK: Progression-free survival in (A) wild-type (WT) KRAS exon 2 intent-to-treat group and (B) extended WT RAS subgroup.



Lee S. Schwartzberg et al. JCO 2014;32:2240-2247

# PEAK: Overall survival in (A) wild-type (WT) KRAS exon 2 intent-to-treat group and (B) extended WT RAS subgroup.

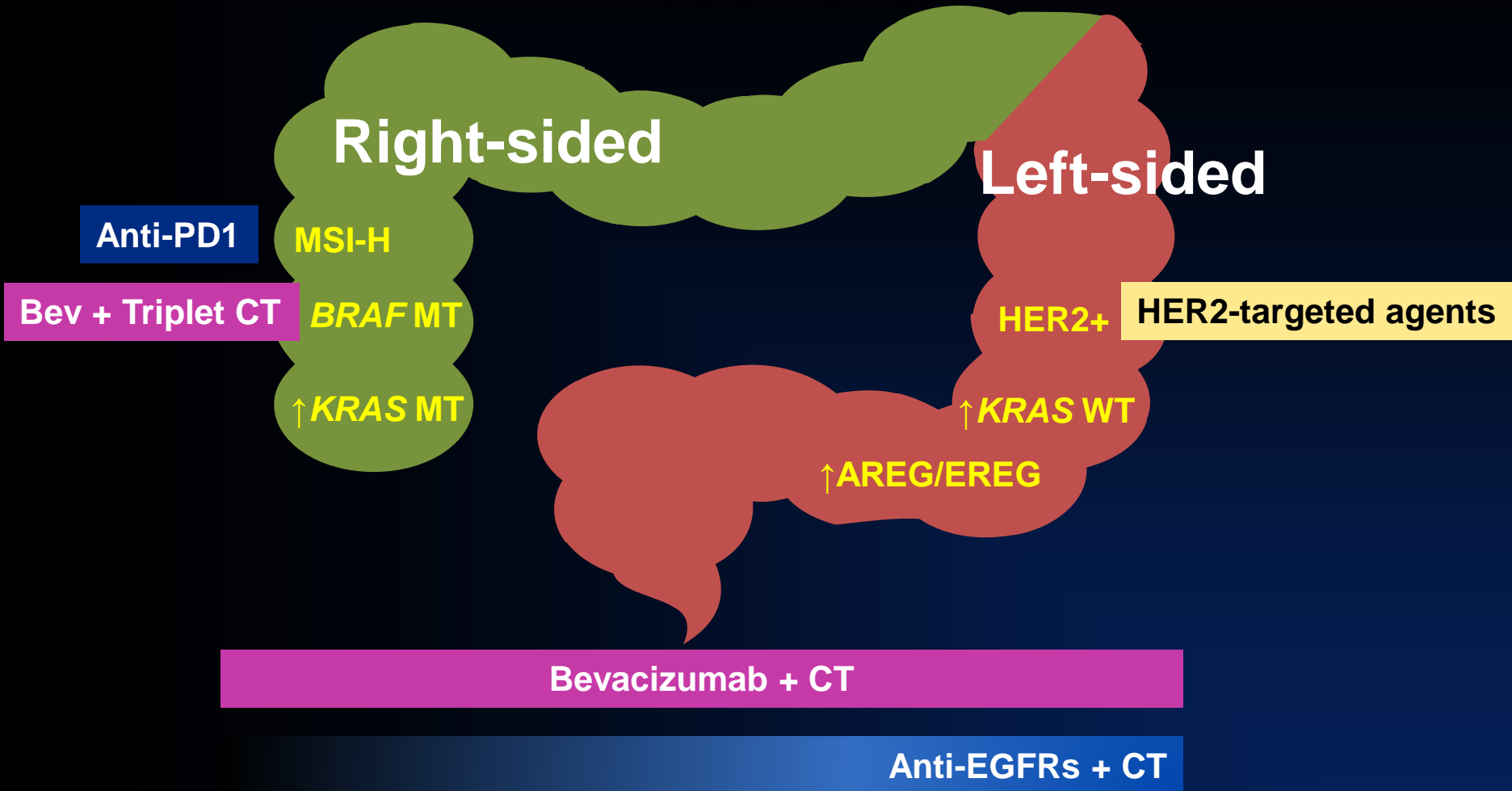


Lee S. Schwartzberg et al. JCO 2014;32:2240-2247

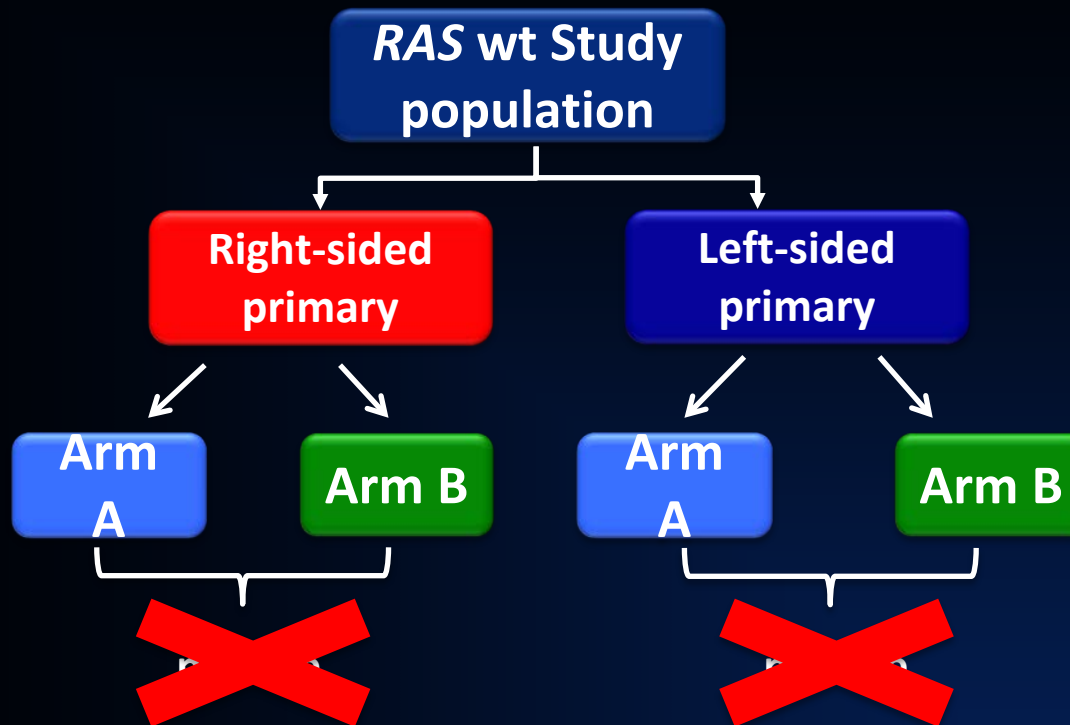
**What is the impact of site of primary tumour?**



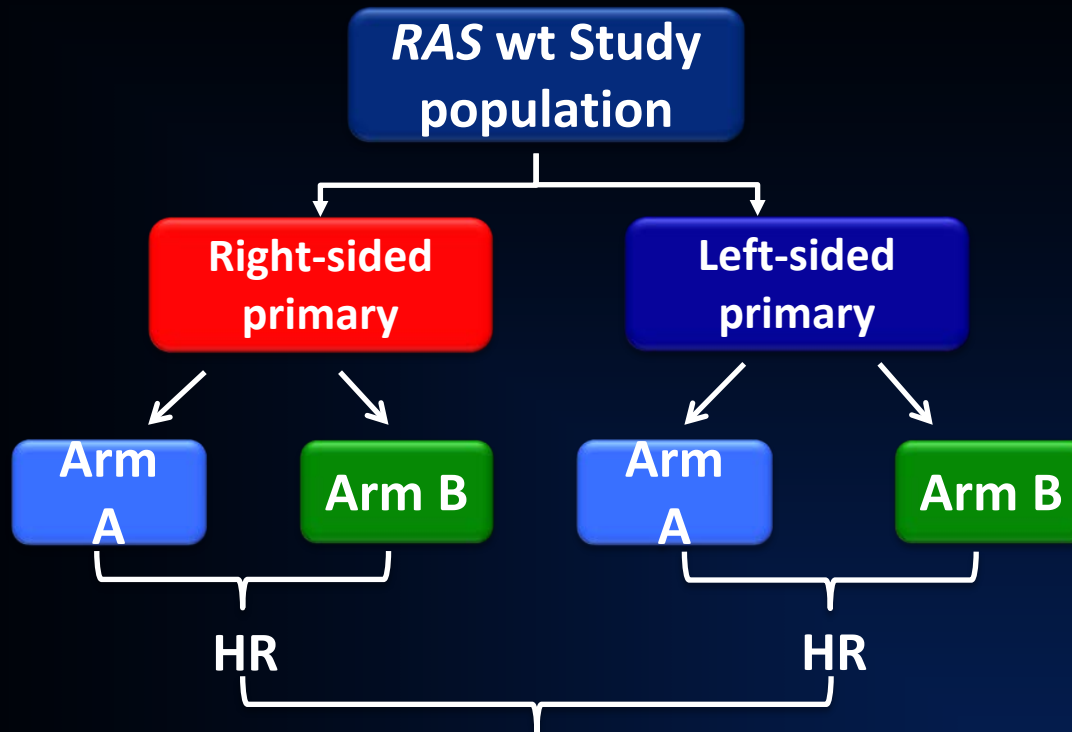
# Primary Tumor Location and Potential Treatments



# How to interpret subgroup analyses



# How to interpret subgroup analyses



*p* for interaction

If significant ( $p < 0.10$ ) → hypothesis-generating

# Right versus Left: summary

## 1) Prognostic impact

*Right-sided tumours have worse prognosis*

# Prognostic impact

JAMA Oncology | Original Investigation

## Prognostic Survival Associated With Left-Sided vs Right-Sided Colon Cancer A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Fausto Petrelli, MD; Gianluca Tomasello, MD; Karen Borgonovo, MD; Michele Ghidini, MD; Luca Turati, MD; Pierpaolo Dallera, MD; Rodolfo Passalacqua, MD; Giovanni Sgroi, MD; Sandro Barni, MD

**1.437.846 patients in 66 studies (stage I→IV)**

**HR (left vs right): 0.82 [95%CI: 0.79-0.84],  $p < 0.001$**

“... Left sided primary tumor location was associated with a significantly reduced risk of death (HR, 0.82; 95% CI, 0.79-0.84;  $P < .001$ ) and this was independent of stage, race, adjuvant chemotherapy, year of study, number of participants, and quality of included studies ... ”

# Right versus Left: summary

## 1) Prognostic impact

*Right-of-ventricles have worse prognosis*

**STRATIFY CLINICAL TRIALS**

## 2) Predictive impact

# Predictive impact – bevacizumab

Chemo +/- bevacizumab



*p for interaction OS=0.38;  
PFS=0.59*

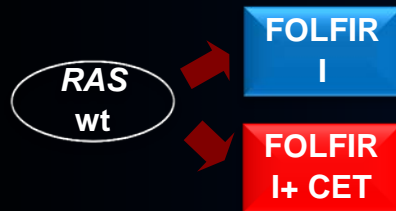


*p for interaction OS=0.29;  
PFS=0.62*

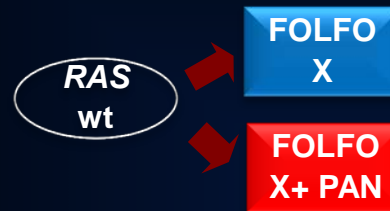
# Predictive impact – anti-EGFRs

Chemo +/- anti-EGFR

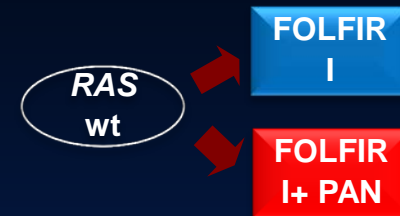
CRYSTAL



PRIME



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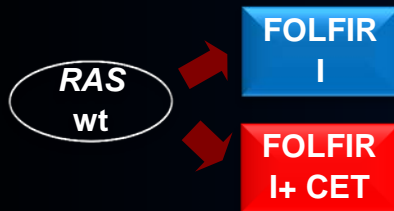




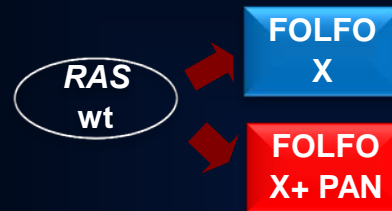
# Predictive impact – anti-EGFRs

Chemo +/- anti-EGFR

CRYSTAL



PRIME

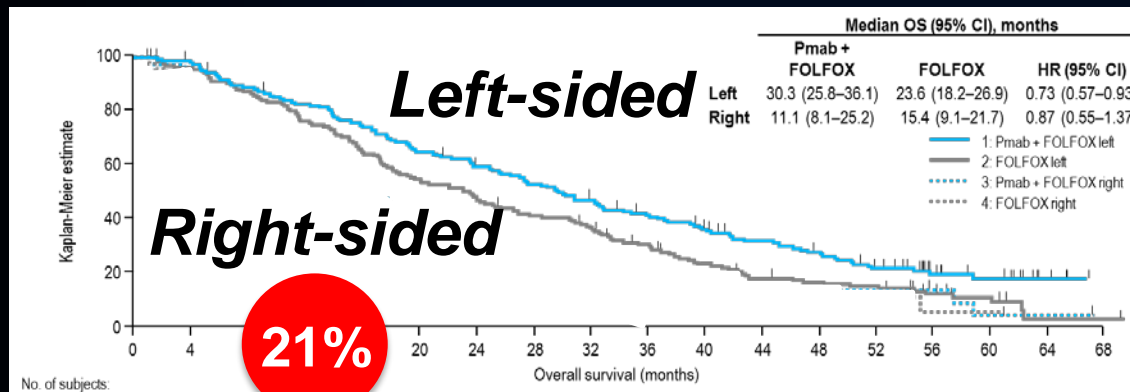


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# Right versus Left: PRIME study - OS

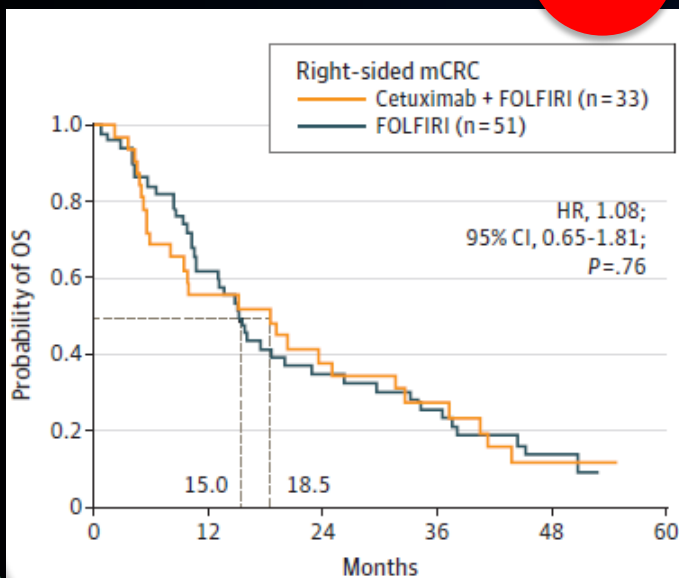
PRIME Trial: FOLFOX+PAN vs FOLFOX



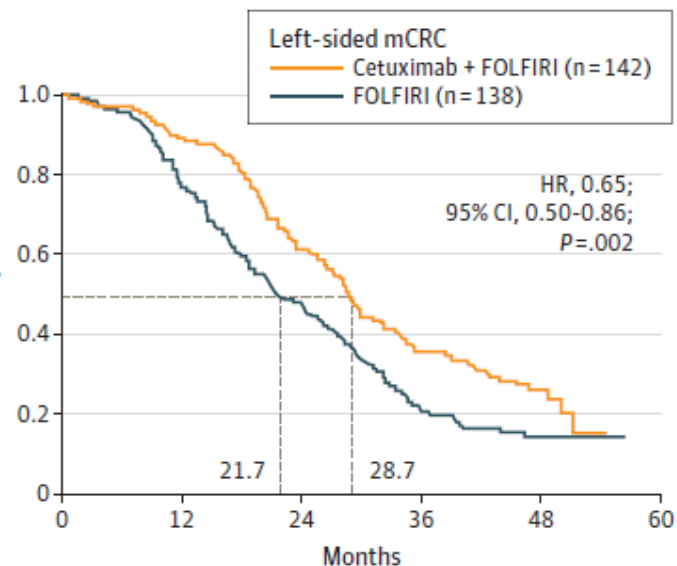
# Right versus Left: CRYSTAL study - OS

CRYSTAL Trial: FOLFIRI + cetuximab vs FOLFIRI

Right-sided **23%**



Left-sided



*p for interaction 0.17*

# Right versus Left: summary

## 1) Prognostic impact

*Right-sided tumours have worse prognosis*

## 2) Predictive impact

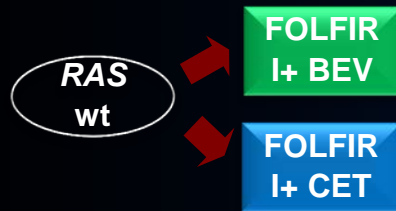
*No different benefit from bev for right versus left*

*More benefit from anti-EGFRs in left-sided than right-sided mCRC  
tumours*

# Predictive impact – bev versus anti-EGFRs

## Chemo+anti-EGFR vs Chemo+Bev

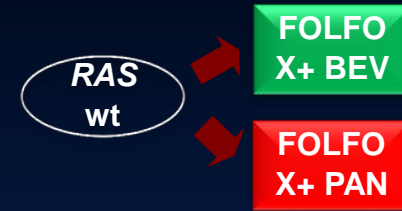
FIRE 3



CALGB

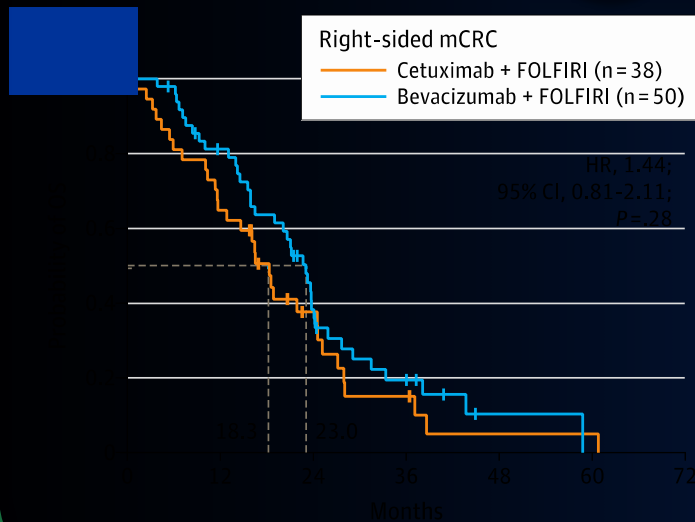


PEAK

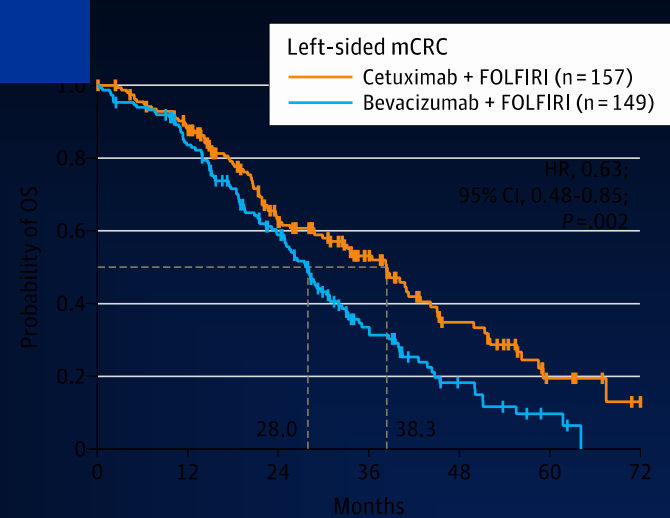


# Right versus Left: FIRE-3 study - OS

Right-sided **22%**



Left-sided



*p for interaction 0.009*

# Right versus Left: CALGB80405 study - OS

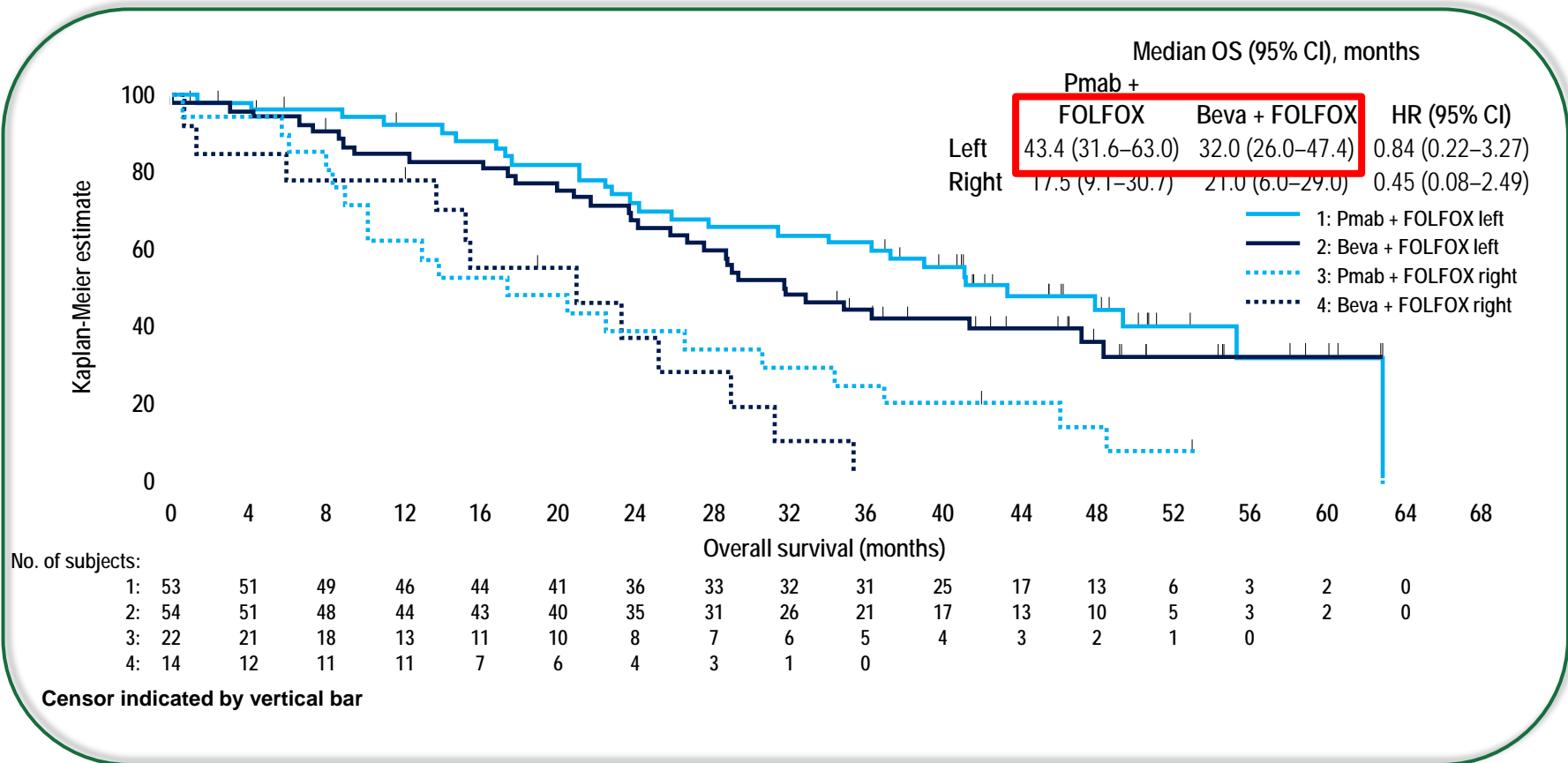


31%



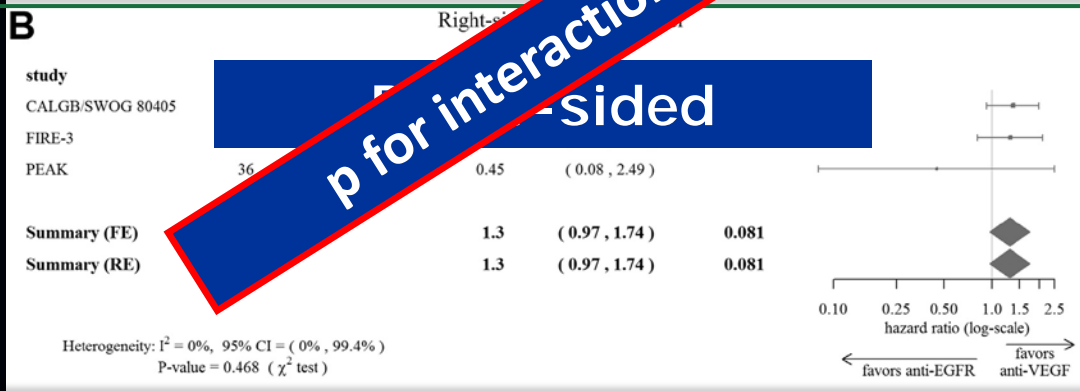
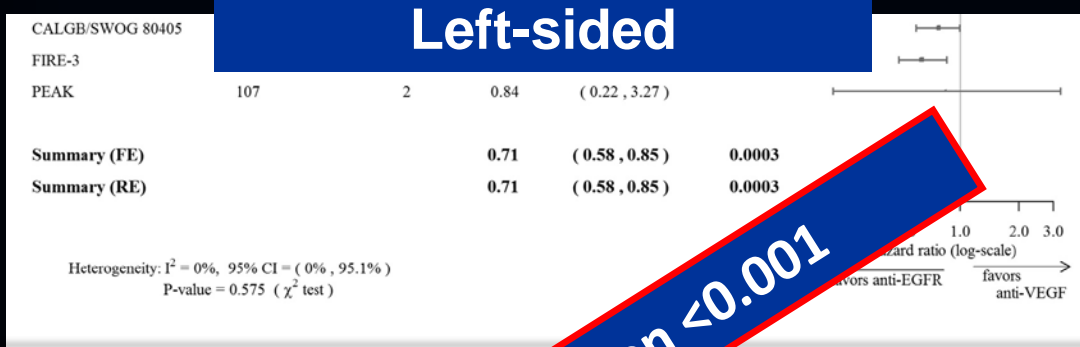
*p for interaction 0.009*

# Right versus Left: PEAK – OS



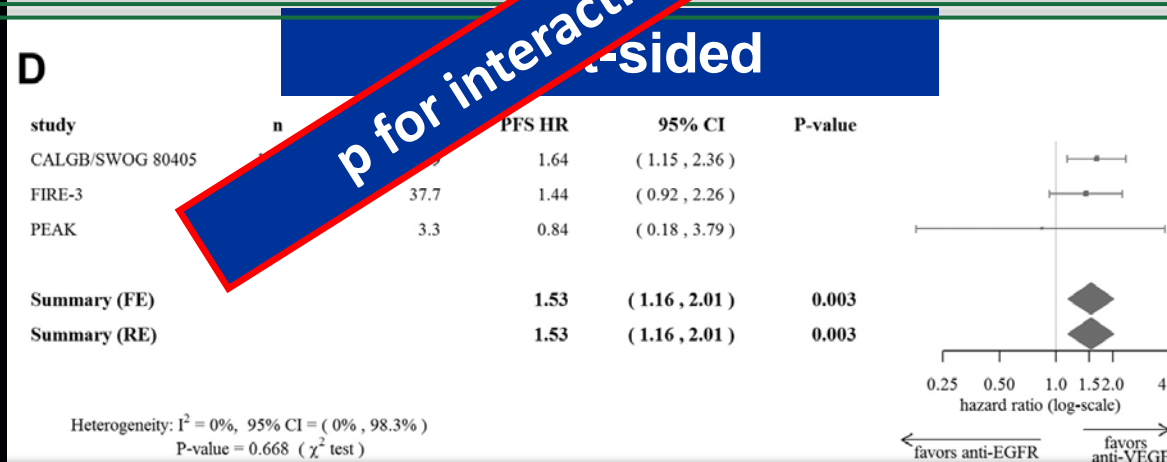


# Right versus Left: meta-analysis of H2H trials - OS



**p for interaction <0.001**

# Right versus Left: meta-analysis of H2H trials - PFS



**p for interaction < 0.001**

# Right versus Left: meta-analysis of H2H trials - response rate

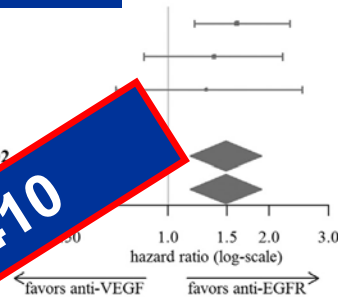
## Left-sided

Study	n	RR	95% CI
CALGB/SWOG 80405	325	57.7	1.6 (1.2, 2.3)
FIRE-3	306	27.3	1.37 (0.85, 2.19)
PEAK	107	15.1	1.3 (0.7, 2.5)

Summary (FE) **1.49** (1.16, 1.9) **0.002**

Summary (RE) **1.49** (1.16, 1.9)

Heterogeneity:  $I^2 = 0\%$ , 95% CI = (0%, 88%)  
P-value = 0.786 ( $\chi^2$  test)



**p for interaction = 0.410**

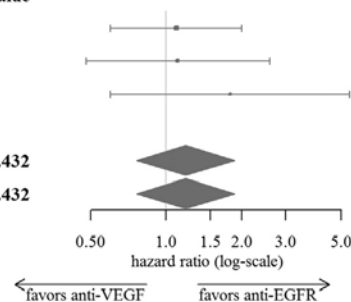
## Right-sided

Study	n	RR	95% CI	P-value
CALGB/SWOG 80405	140	28.2	1.1 (0.6, 2)	
FIRE-3	306	28.2	1.11 (0.48, 2.59)	
PEAK	107	16.6	1.8 (0.6, 5.4)	

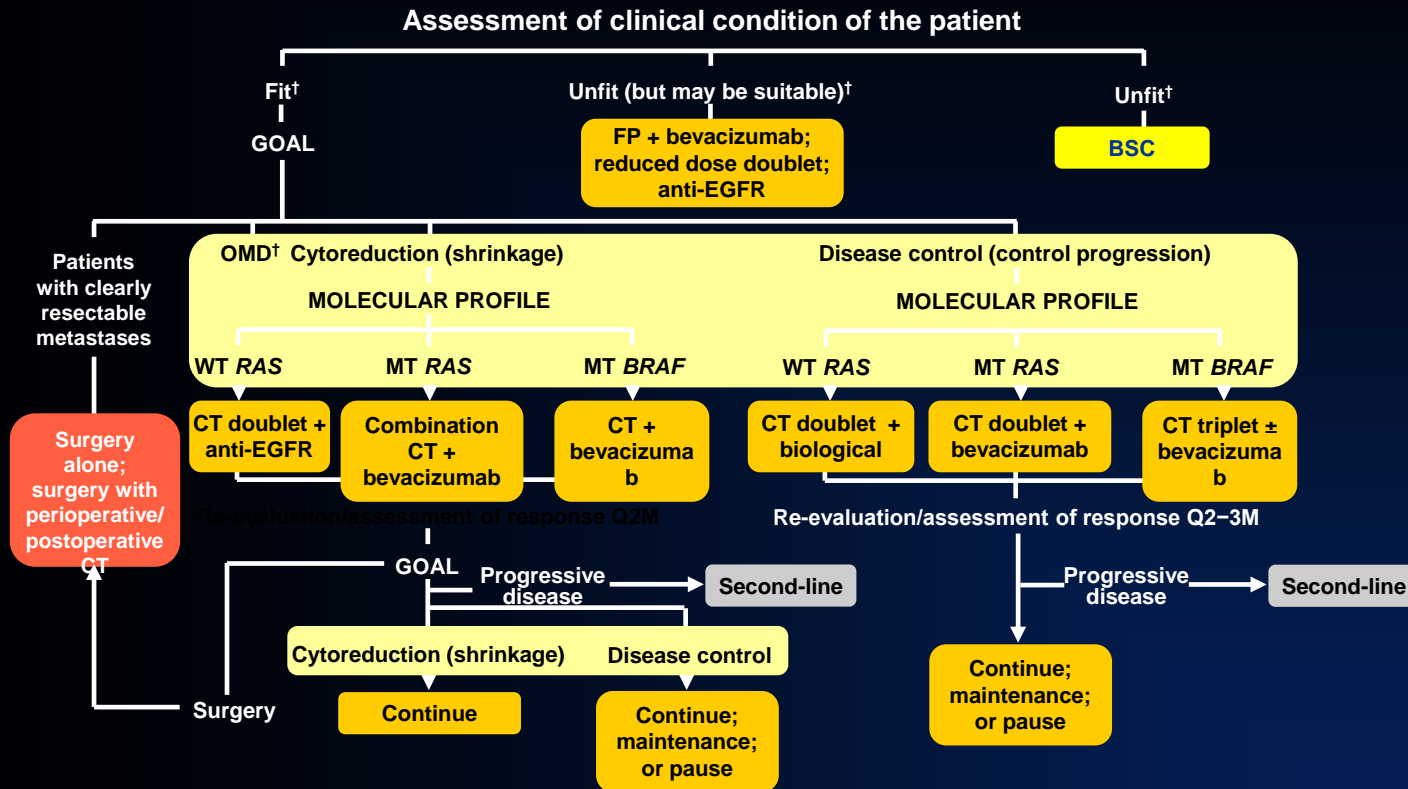
Summary (FE) **1.2** (0.77, 1.87) **0.432**

Summary (RE) **1.2** (0.77, 1.87) **0.432**

Heterogeneity:  $I^2 = 0\%$ , 95% CI = (0%, 94.2%)  
P-value = 0.728 ( $\chi^2$  test)



# ESMO recommendations: 2016



†Patients assessed as 'fit' or 'unfit' according to medical condition, not due to malignant disease; ‡Separate algorithm. OMD, oligometastatic disease.

# ESMO Recommendations: 2016

Goal / Condition	Molecular	Preferred 1st line regimen
Disease stabilization	all WT	Doublet plus EGFR or Doublet plus beva
	RAS mut	Doublet plus beva
	BRAF mut	FOLFOXIRI +/- beva
Cytoreduction	all WT	Doublet plus EGFR (FOLFOXIRI plus beva)
	RAS mut	Doublet or triplet + beva
	BRAF mut	FOLFOXIRI + beva
“Frail“, or chosen sequential treatment	no BRAF !	Cape or FU + beva

# After Right vs Left

Goal / Condition	Molecular	Preferred 1st line regimen
Disease stabilization	all WT	<b>Left: Doublet/EGFR</b> <b>Right: Doublet (FOLFOXIRI)/beva</b>
	RAS mut	(Doublet)/FOLFOXIRI/beva
	BRAF mut	FOLFOXIRI/(Doublet)/beva
Cytoreduction	all WT	<b>Left: Doublet/EGFR</b> <b>Right: FOLFOXIRI/beva (Doublet/EGFR)</b>
	RAS mut	FOLFOXIRI/beva
	BRAF mut	FOLFOXIRI/beva
“Frail”, or chosen sequential treatment	no BRAF !	Capecitabine/beva

Should we consider primary tumour location among other drivers of the first-line therapy?



# Candidate predictors of resistance to anti-EGFRs

Different molecular alterations, supported by a strong and sound biologic rationale, have been suggested as predictors of primary resistance to anti-EGFRs

Candidate alterations:

- *HER2* amplification or mutations
- *MET* amplification
- *ALK/ROS1/NTRKs* and *RET* fusions
- *PIK3CA/PTEN/Akt* and *MAPKs* pathways' activating mutations

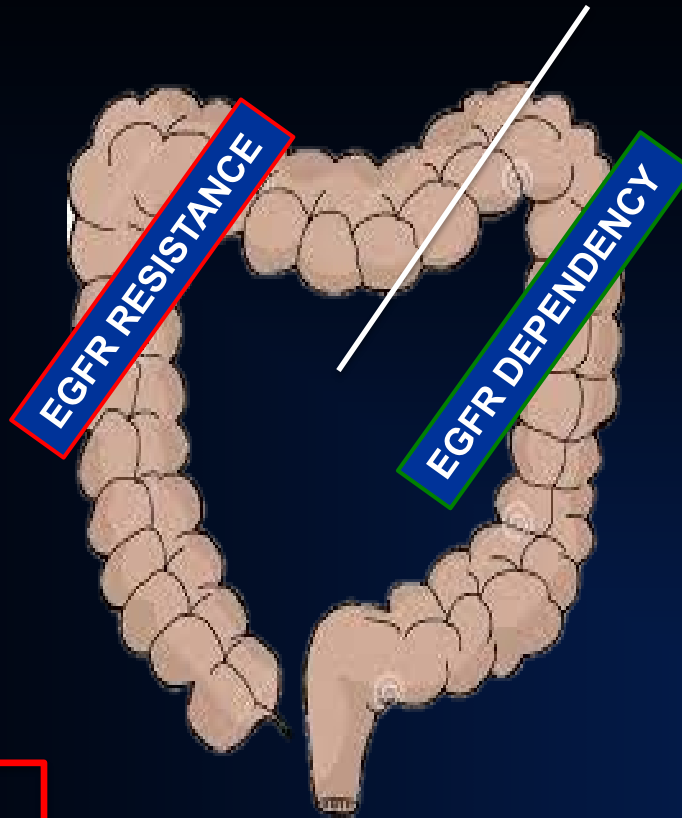
**BUT...**

Up to today their potential impact has been demonstrated only in pre-clinical experiences and retrospective series



## Right versus Left: Molecular make-up

*BRAF* V600E mutation  
*BRAF*-like signature  
*RAS* mutations  
*PIK3CA* mutations  
dMMR  
CIMP-high  
Low AREG-EREG expression  
CMS1(Immune)  
miR-31-3p high  
*EGFR* promoter methylation  
**ALK/ROS1/NTRK rearrangements**



HER-2 amplification  
High AREG-EREG expression  
*EGFR* amplification  
miR-31-3p low

# Conclusions

1. Few new classes of therapeutics; refinement of patient selection
2. Data relating to tumour site; improves patient selection
3. Reinforce the use of EGFR antibody therapy in patients with mCRC and left-sided RAS *wt* tumours
4. Patients with right-sided RAS *wt* tumours might be better treated with triplet chemotherapy alone or triplet chemotherapy plus bevacizumab except maybe doublet chemotherapy plus anti-EGFR if the goal is tumour size reduction as the ORRs were higher (but not PFS and OS)
5. Knowledge of site of primary tumor does not replace molecular characterisation