



# CURRENT ROLE OF ADJUVANT IMMUNOTHERAPY IN NSCLC

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University of Chicago  
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# Lung Cancer Incidence and Mortality

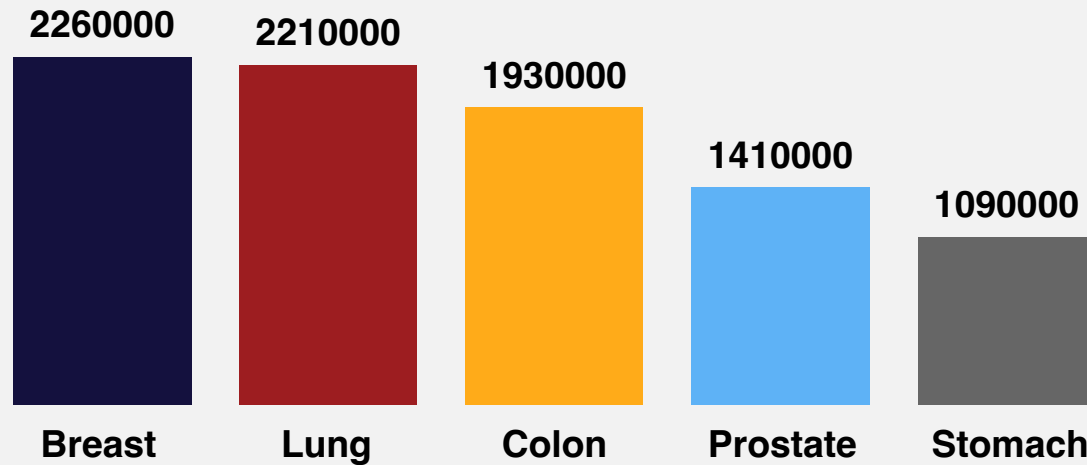


**were diagnosed with lung cancer in 2020**

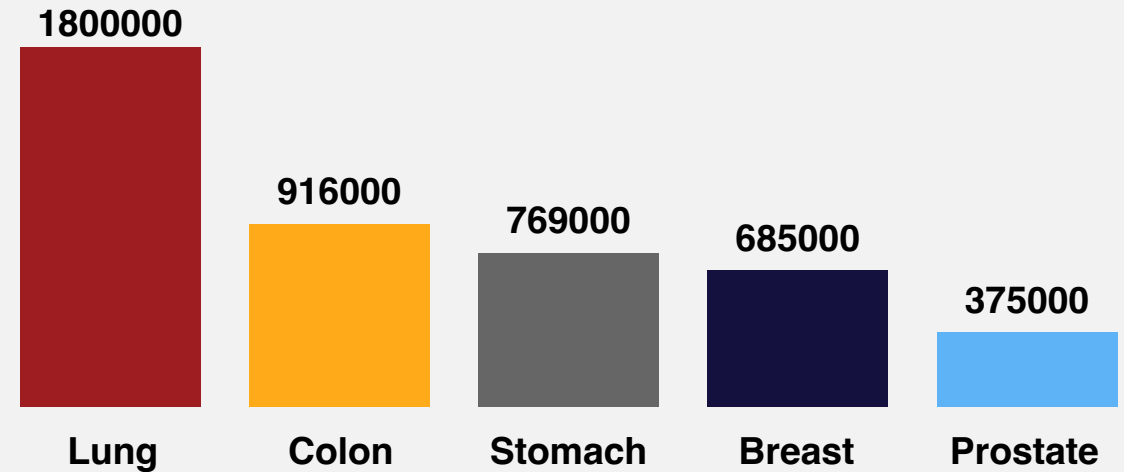


**died from lung cancer in 2020**

**Estimated Cases by Tumor Type**



**Estimated Deaths by Tumor Type**

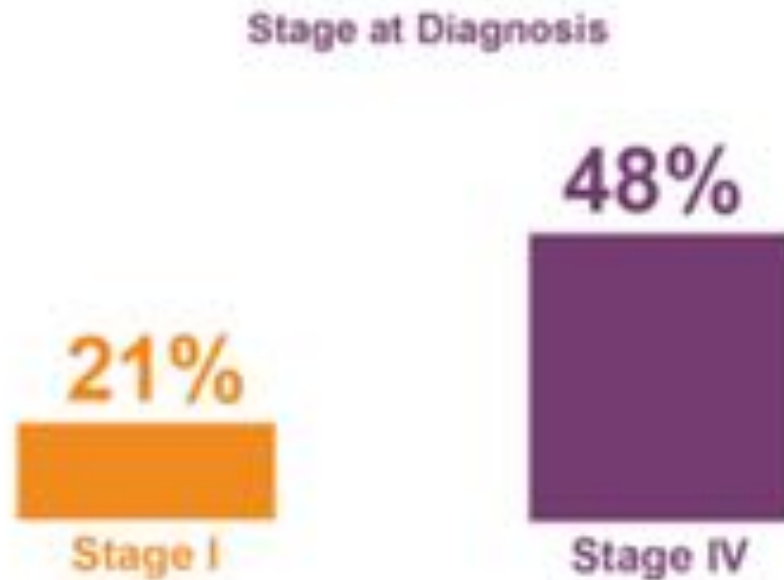


WHO Cancer Facts 2020

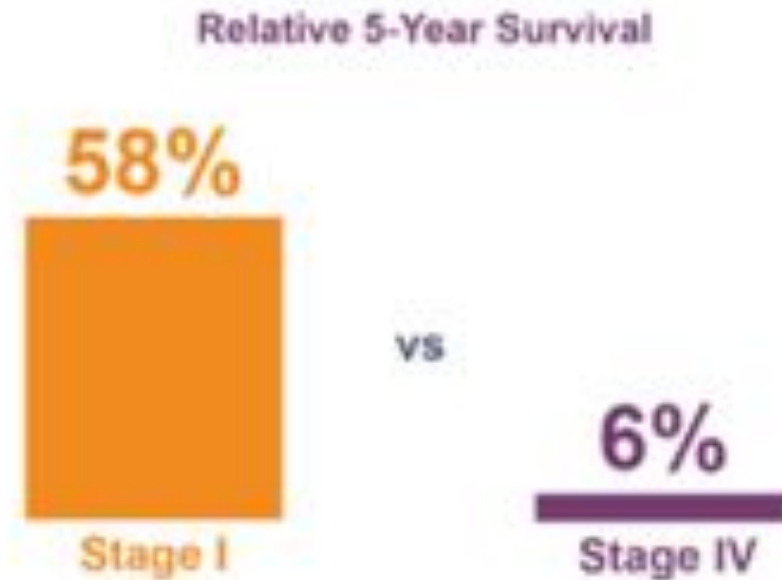
# Poor Prognosis in NSCLC

## Two-pronged problem

We diagnose pts too late

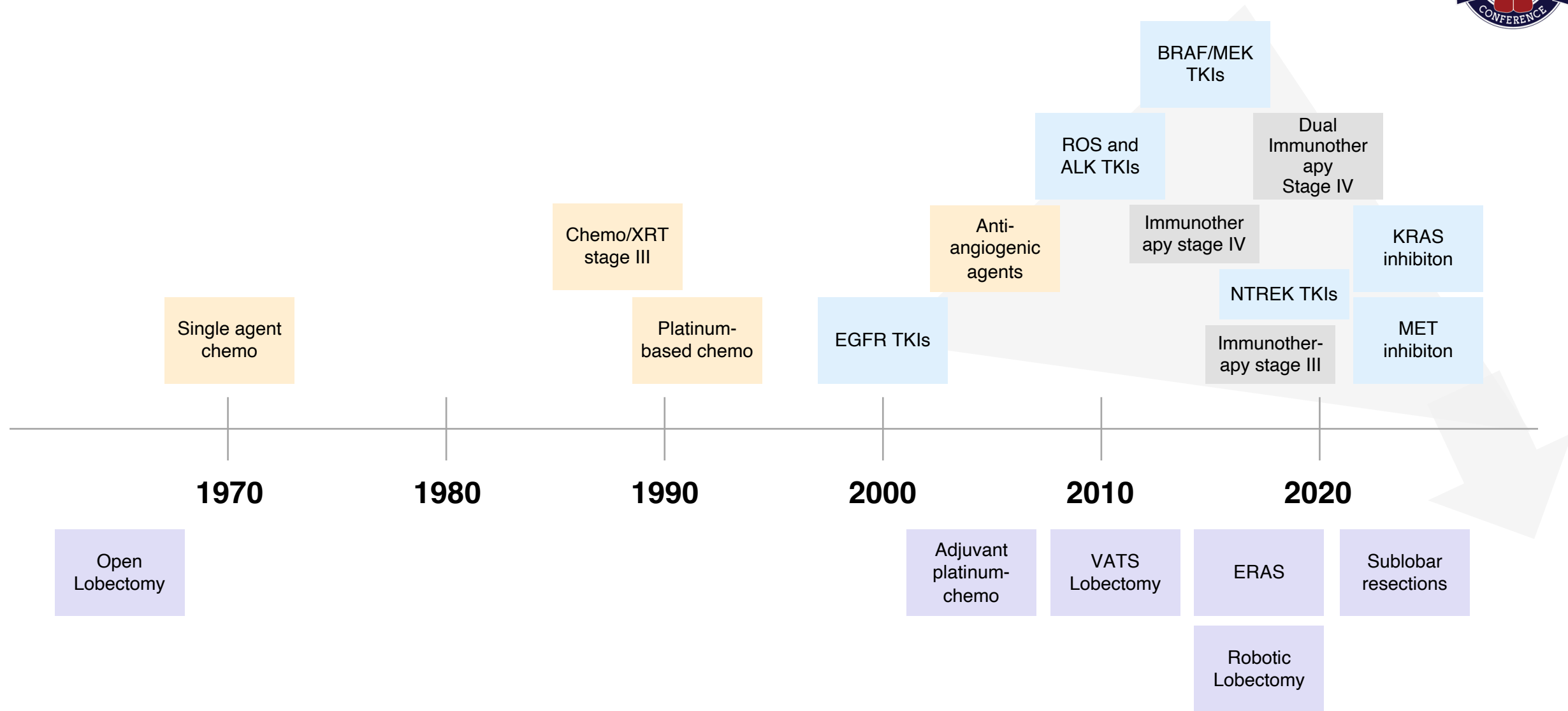


Treatments are ineffective

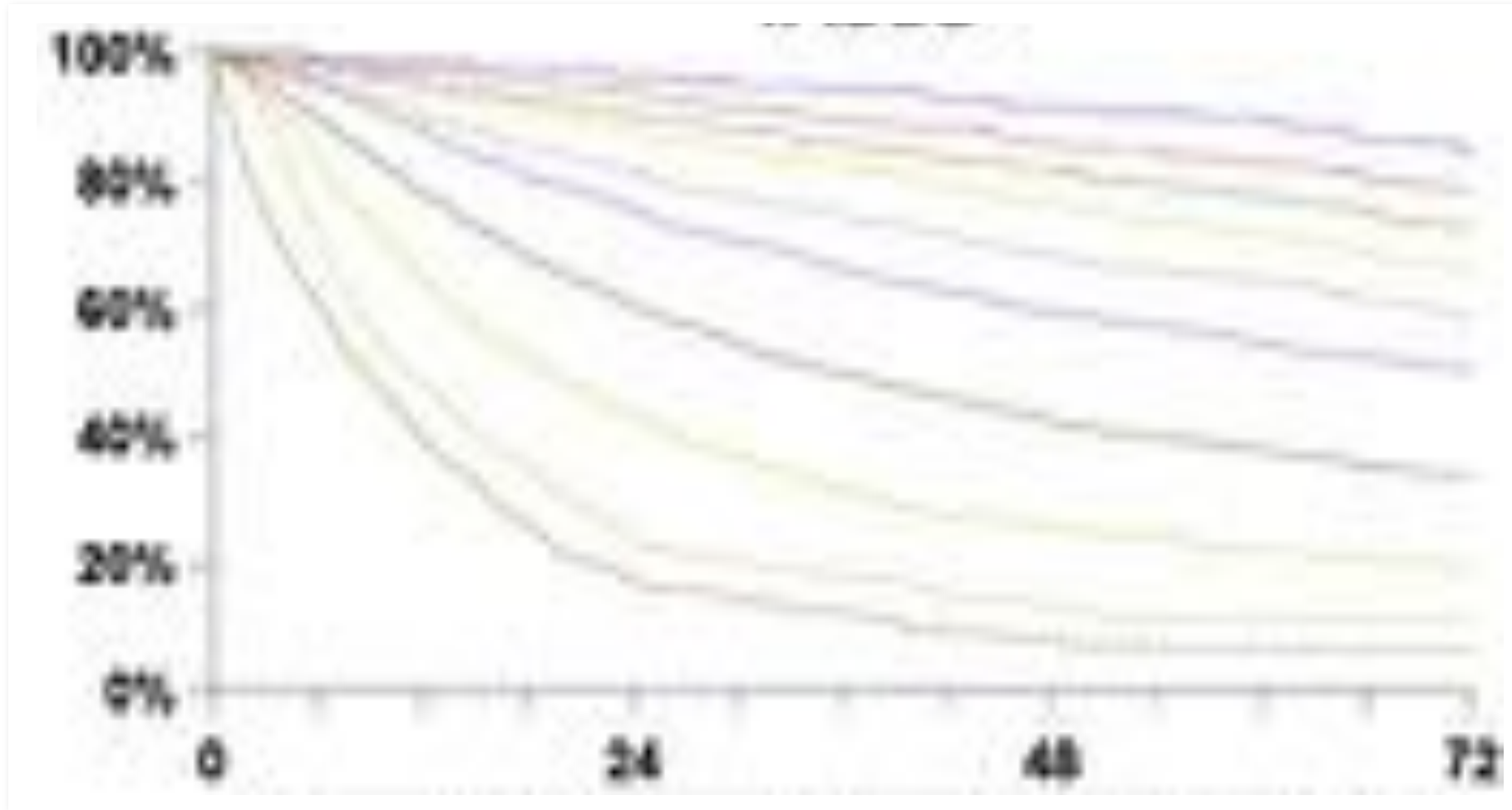


Early detection and treatment are critical to improving clinical outcomes  
in patients with lung cancer

# Milestones in NSCLC Treatment



# Lung Cancer Survival by Stage



**5y OS**

**Stage IB: 71%**

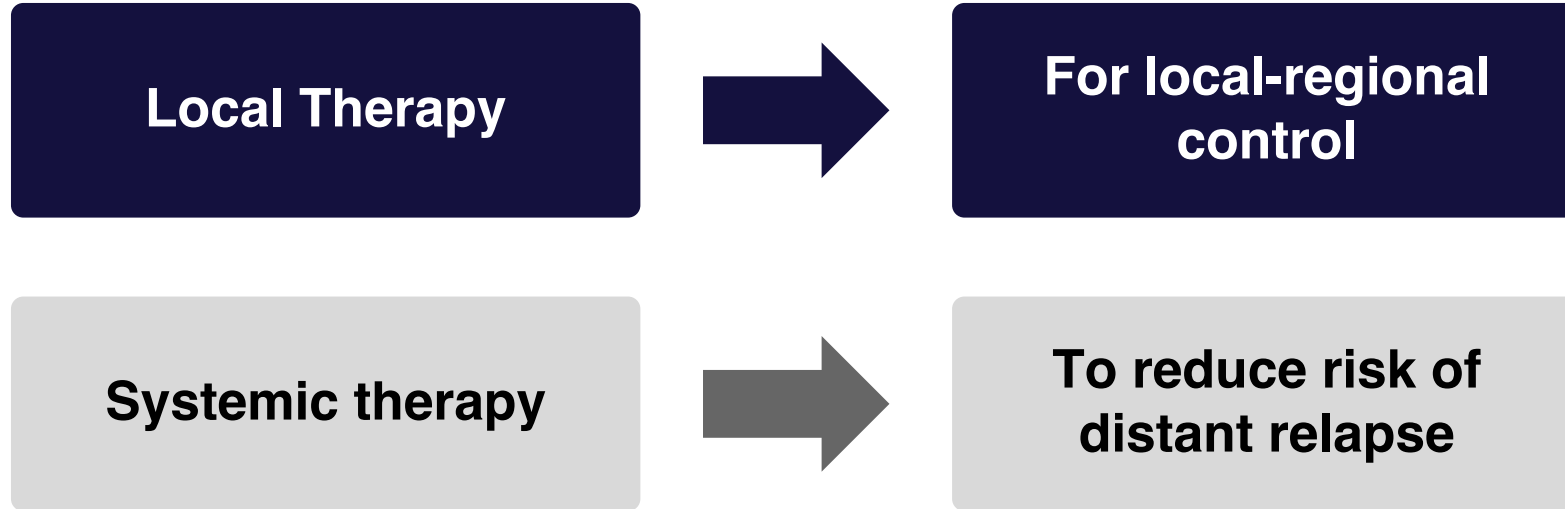
**Stage IIA: 64%**

**Stage IIB: 55%**

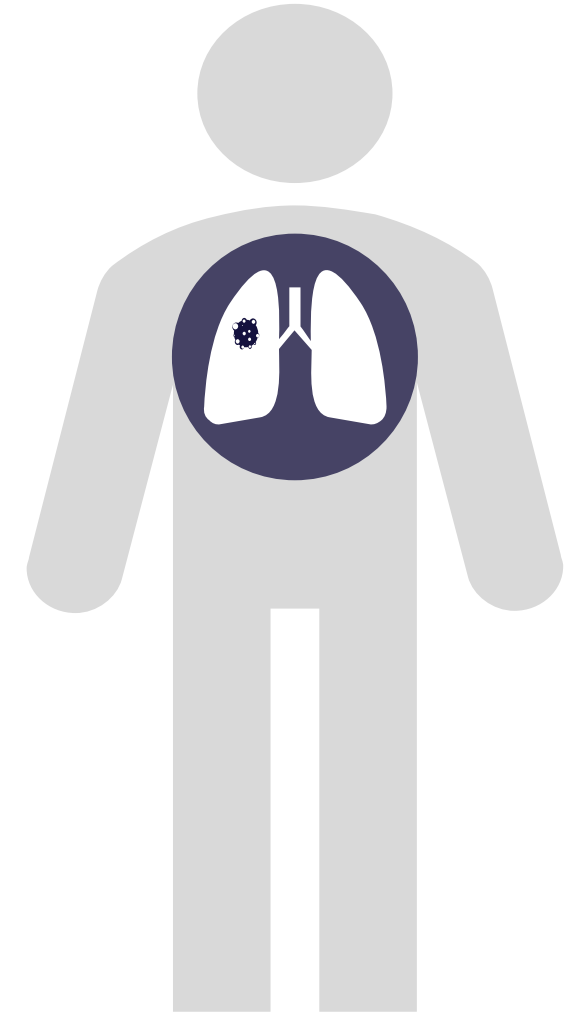
**Stage IIIA: 37%**

Goldstraw P, JTO, 2016

# Treatment for early-stage NSCLC



- Chemotherapy
- Targeted therapy
- Cancer immunotherapy





**Because good surgery is not  
enough to cure patients  
Lung cancer is a systemic disease**

# Basic NSCLC Treatment Strategies 2022

|                |  |     |   |           |  |
|----------------|--|-----|---|-----------|--|
|                | <b>IA</b><br><i>Resection alone</i><br><b>Consider Sublobar Resection</b>                              |     | <b>Resectable IB, II and IIIA</b><br><i>Surgery ±</i><br><i>(neo)adjuvant <b>cancer immunotherapy or targeted therapy</b></i><br><i>± chemotherapy ± RT</i> |           | <b>Unresectable IIIB/C</b><br><i>Chemotherapy/RT ± <b>cancer immunotherapy or targeted therapy</b></i> |
| <b>T and N</b> | <b>N0</b>  |     | <b>N1</b>   | <b>N2</b> | <b>N3</b>  |
| <b>T1</b>      | IA   |     | IIA   | IIIA      | IIIB   |
| <b>T2a/b</b>   | IB   | IIA | IIA/IIIB  | IIIA      | IIIB   |
| <b>T3</b>      | IIB  |     | IIIA  | IIIA      | IIIC   |
| <b>T4</b>      | IIIA   |     | IIIA  | IIIB      | IIIC   |
| <b>M1a/b/c</b> | IVA/B/C  |     | IVA/B/C   | IVA/B/C   | IVA/B/C  |
|                | <b>IVA/B/C</b><br><i>Systemic therapy: <b>cancer immunotherapy; targeted therapy; chemotherapy</b></i> |     |   |           |  |

NCCN guidelines for NSCLC v8.2020 (15 September 2020); Postmus, et al. Ann Oncol 2017



# **HOW** do we incorporate immunotherapies therapy into resectable NSCLC?

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# How to incorporating Novel Therapies into Resectable NSCLC



Select appropriate patient

Decide neoadjuvant of adjuvant

Relay importance to the patient

# Patient Selection

- Targeted therapies and immunotherapies are typically mutually exclusive
- Approvals for use are dependent on biomarkers
- Increases importance of pre-treatment biopsy for molecular analysis

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <br><b>PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors<sup>3-5</sup></b> | <br><b>Biomarker-directed therapies<sup>4,6</sup></b> |
| Inhibit the interaction between PD-1 and PD-L1 to activate T cells to recognize and eliminate cancer cells                      | Inhibit oncogenic drivers, which are present in ~64% of patients with NSCLC  |

# Surgical Evaluation for NSCLC



## Staging

- CT
- PET
- EBUS/Med
- Brain MRI

## Physiologic Evaluation

- PFTs
- Cardiac eval
- Exercise testing
- Frailty assessment

# Surgical Evaluation for NSCLC



## Staging

- CT
- PET
- EBUS/Med
- Brain MRI

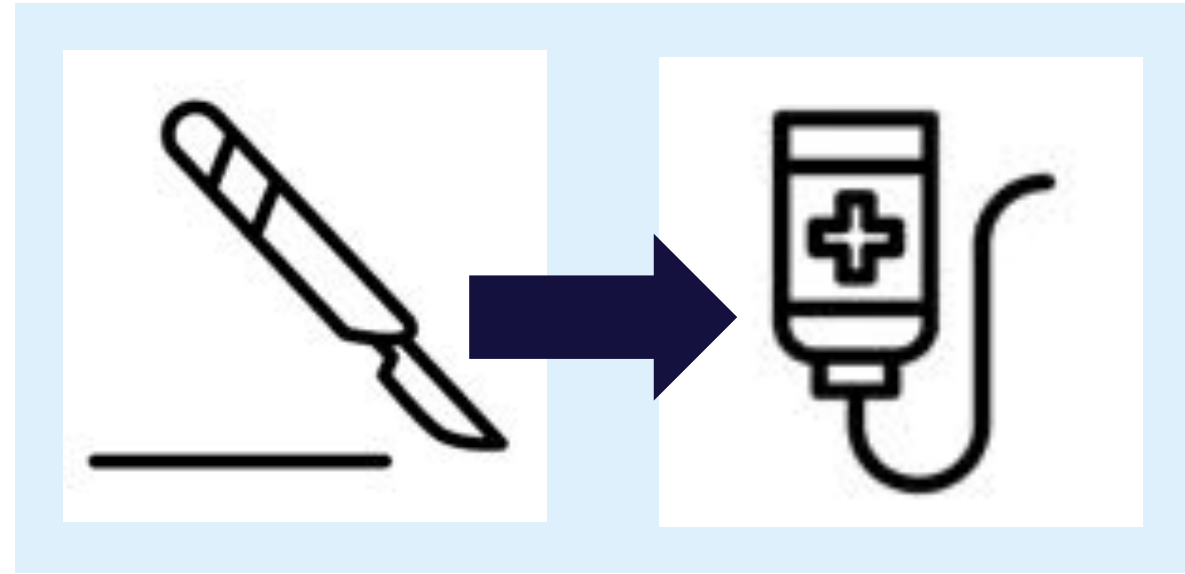
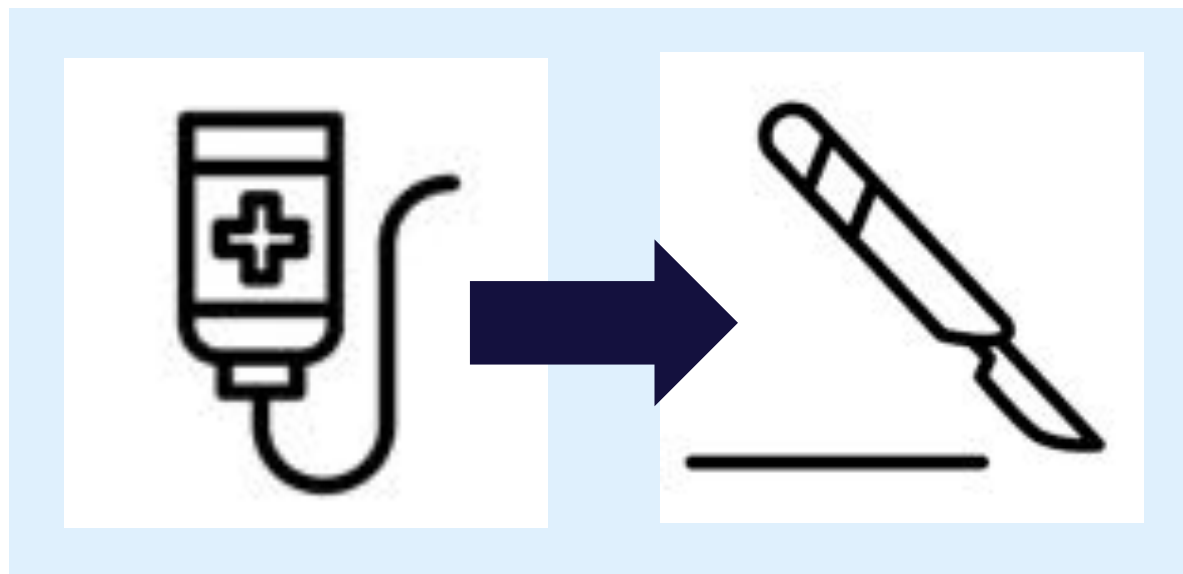
## Physiologic Evaluation

- PFTs
- Cardiac eval
- Exercise testing
- Frailty assessment

## Biomarker testing

- EGFR
- ALK
- PD-L1
- NGS

# Sequencing with Resection



**NEOADJUVANT or ADJUVANT**

# Considerations for adjuvant I/O or targeted therapy

## PRO

Proven standard of care for resected stage IB and II disease

Tumor biomarkers can guide tx decisions

No surgical delays

No hilar and mediastinal fibrosis

No risk of disease progression resulting in missed opportunity for curative surgery

Clinical stage I patients upstaged at resection

## CON

Poor tolerance and compliance with adjuvant protocols

Longer treatment times

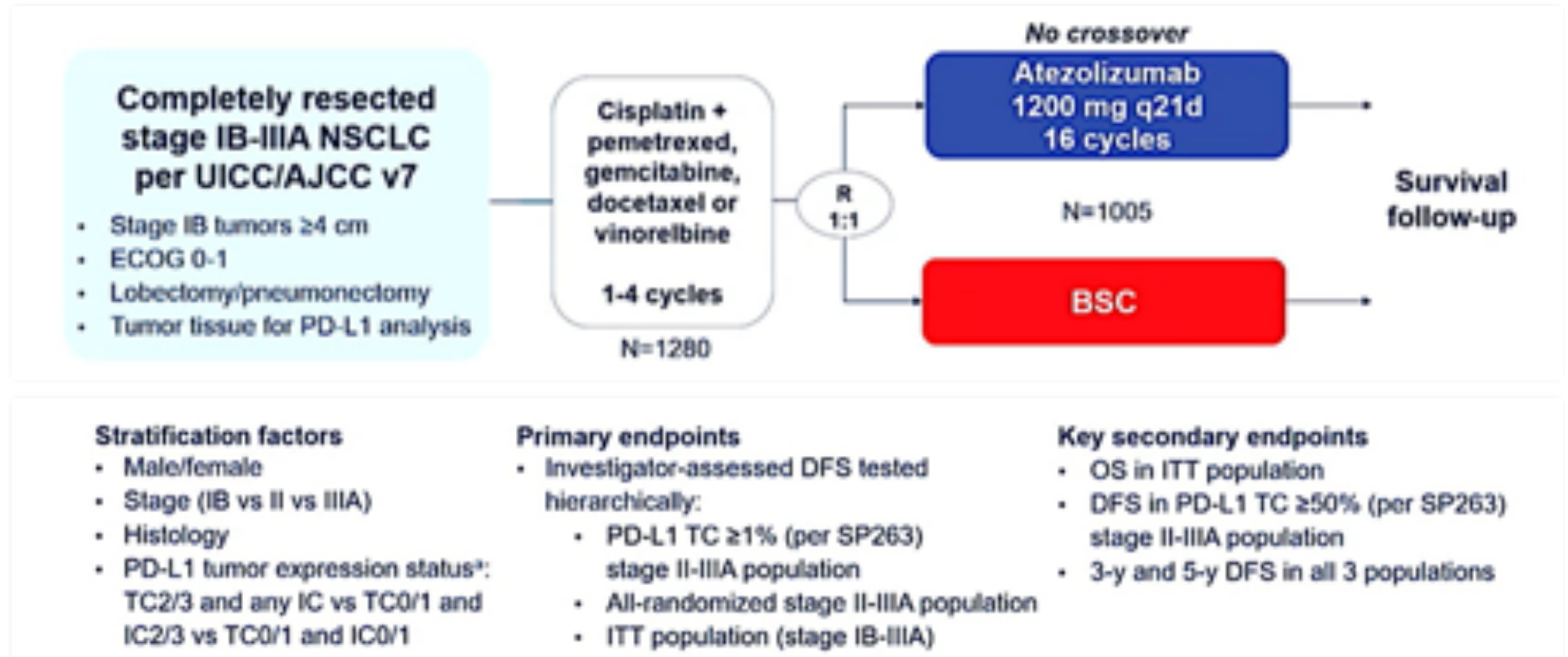
Need for biomarker testing from resection specimen

# What is the **evidence** for **adjuvant** immunotherapy?

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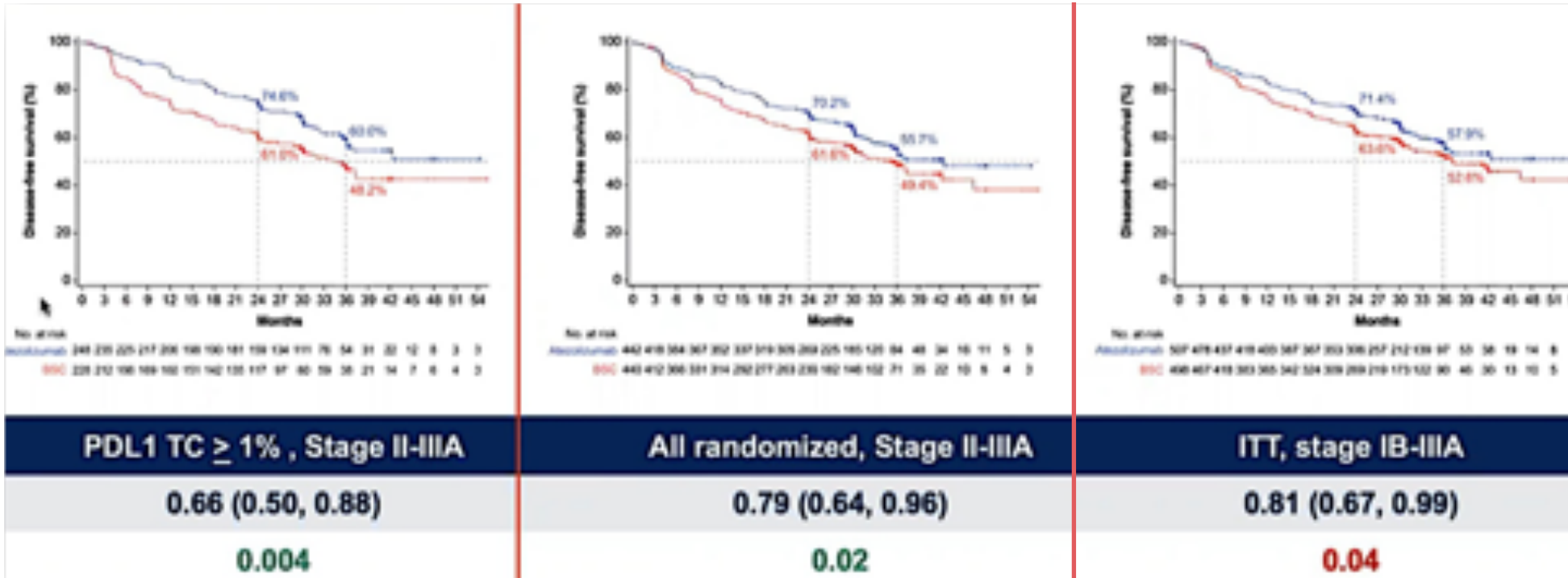


# Impower010



Wakelee, H, ASCO 2021.

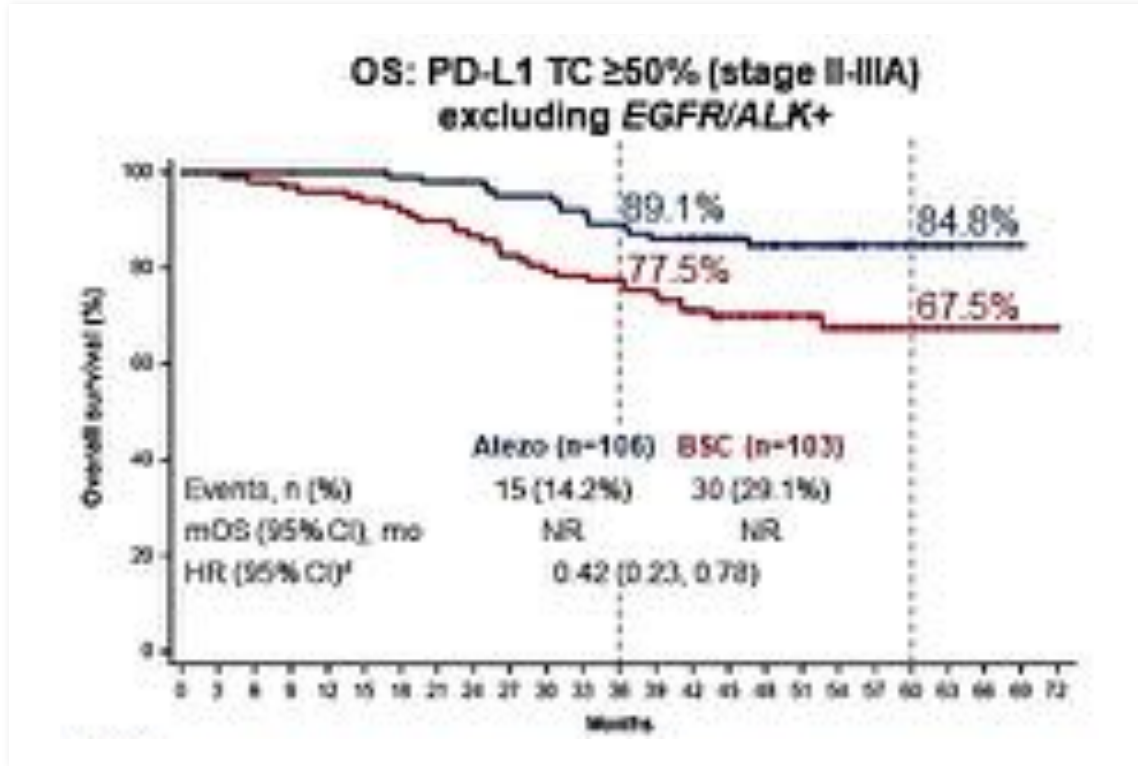
# Impower010: DFS



- Adjuvant atezolizumab following resection and adjuvant chemotherapy showed significant improvement in DFS in PD-L1  $>1\%$  stage II-III A (HR 0.66) and all randomized stage II-IIA (HR 0.79)
- Safety profile similar to prior atezolizumab monotherapy

Wakelee, H, ASCO 2021.

# Adjuvant I/O: Impower010 early OS data

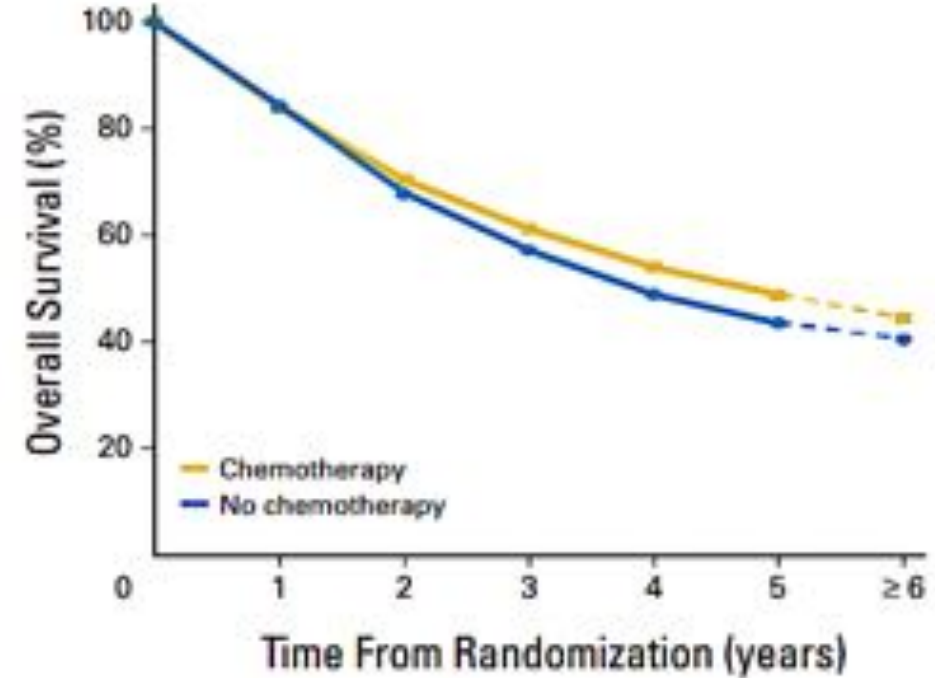


## IMPower010

1103 pts IB- IIIA

Surgery + chemo I/O vs Surgery + chemo

85% OS @ 36 month



## LACE analysis

4584 pts IB-IIIa

Surgery + cisplatin chemo

<60% OS @ 36 month

Pigon JP, JCO 2016; Felipe E, Lancet WCLC 2022.

# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091



## 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 Maereud, Unaria Dafni, Kirsti Oselin, Liber Havel, Emilio Estebar, Dolores Isla, Alex Martinez-Marti, Martin Faehling, Masahiro Tsuboi, Jong-Seok Lee, Kazuhiko Nishigawa, Jing Yang, Ayman Samkari, Steven M Keller, Murielle Maurer, Nitish Jha, Rolf Seahel, Benjamin Besser, Solange Peters, on behalf of the EORTC-1416-LCG/ETOP 8-15 – PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091 Investigators†

2022 ASCO<sup>®</sup>  
ANNUAL MEETING

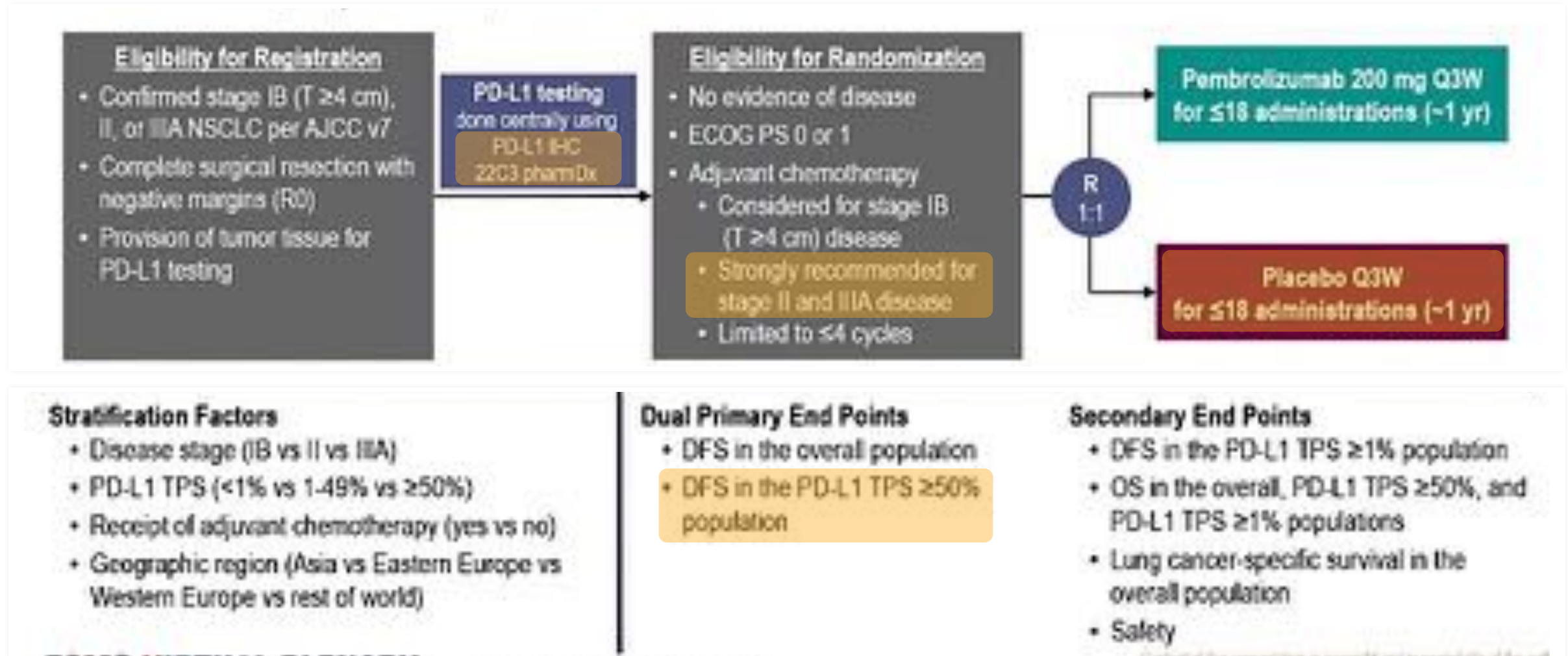
PARIS 2022 ESMO congress



O'Brien M, Lancet Oncol, 2022, ESMO 2022, ASCO 2022



# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091



O'Brien M, ESMO 2022, ASCO 2022

# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091: Demographics

| Characteristic         | Overall             |                      | PD-L1 TPS ≥50%      |                      |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                        | Pembro<br>(N = 590) | Placebo<br>(N = 587) | Pembro<br>(N = 168) | Placebo<br>(N = 165) |
| Age, median (range), y | 65.0 (31-87)        | 65.0 (37-85)         | 64.5 (38-82)        | 65.0 (37-85)         |
| Male sex               | 68.0%               | 68.7%                | 72.0%               | 70.3%                |
| Geographic region      |                     |                      |                     |                      |
| Asia                   | 18.0%               | 17.9%                | 17.3%               | 17.6%                |
| Eastern Europe         | 19.7%               | 19.3%                | 18.5%               | 18.2%                |
| Western Europe         | 51.4%               | 51.3%                | 53.6%               | 53.9%                |
| Rest of world          | 11.0%               | 11.6%                | 10.7%               | 10.3%                |
| ECOG PS 1              | 35.6%               | 41.6%                | 31.0%               | 38.8%                |

| Characteristic                 | Overall             |                      | PD-L1 TPS ≥50%      |                      |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                                | Pembro<br>(N = 590) | Placebo<br>(N = 587) | Pembro<br>(N = 168) | Placebo<br>(N = 165) |
| Current/former smoker          | 85.3%               | 88.8%                | 91.7%               | 92.1%                |
| Nonsquamous histology          | 67.5%               | 61.8%                | 61.3%               | 63.6%                |
| Received adjuvant chemotherapy | 85.8%               | 85.9%                | 85.1%               | 85.5%                |
| Pathologic stage <sup>a</sup>  |                     |                      |                     |                      |
| IB                             | 14.2%               | 14.5%                | 12.5%               | 13.3%                |
| II                             | 55.8%               | 57.6%                | 56.5%               | 56.4%                |
| IIIA                           | 30.0%               | 27.6%                | 31.0%               | 30.3%                |
| EGFR mutation <sup>b</sup>     | 6.6%                | 5.8%                 | 3.6%                | 3.0%                 |
| ALK translocation <sup>c</sup> | 1.2%                | 1.2%                 | 1.8%                | 0.6%                 |

O'Brien M, ASCO 2022

# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091: Treatment

|                               | Pembro<br>(N = 590) | Placebo<br>(N = 587) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Type of surgery, n (%)</b> |                     |                      |
| Bilobectomy                   | 47 (8.0)            | 45 (7.7)             |
| Lobectomy                     | 461 (78.1)          | 464 (79.0)           |
| Pneumonectomy                 | 65 (11.0)           | 62 (10.6)            |
| Other                         | 17 (2.9)            | 16 (2.7)             |
| <b>pN status, n (%)</b>       |                     |                      |
| 0                             | 233 (39.5)          | 257 (43.8)           |
| 1                             | 233 (39.5)          | 223 (38.0)           |
| 2                             | 124 (21.0)          | 107 (18.2)           |
| <b>Tumor size, n (%)</b>      |                     |                      |
| ≤4 cm                         | 252 (42.7)          | 239 (40.7)           |
| >4 cm                         | 337 (57.1)          | 348 (59.3)           |
| Missing                       | 1 (0.2)             | 0                    |

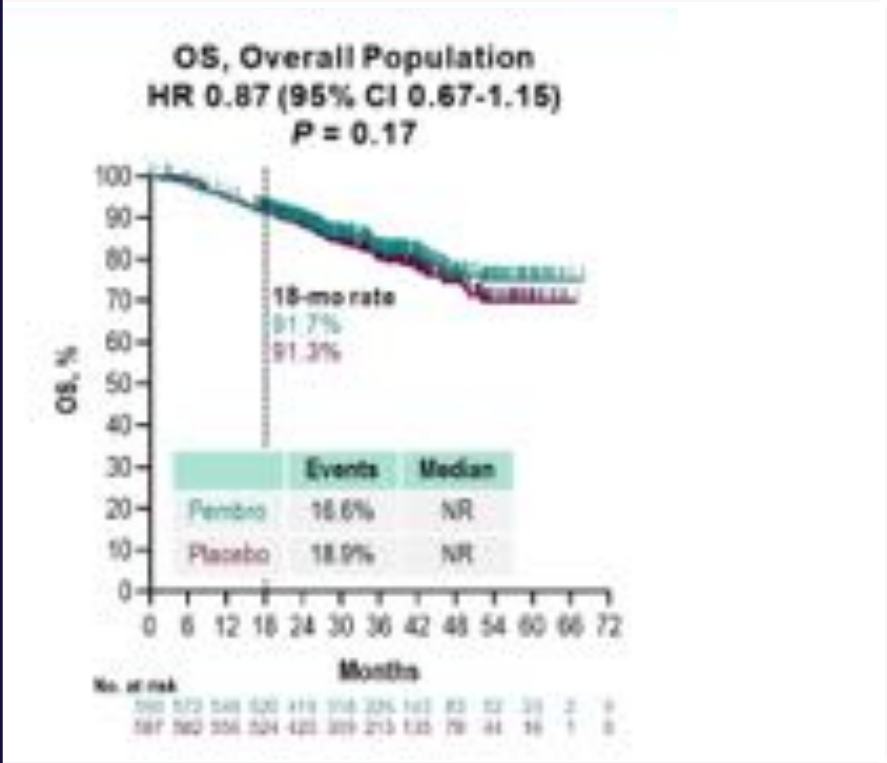
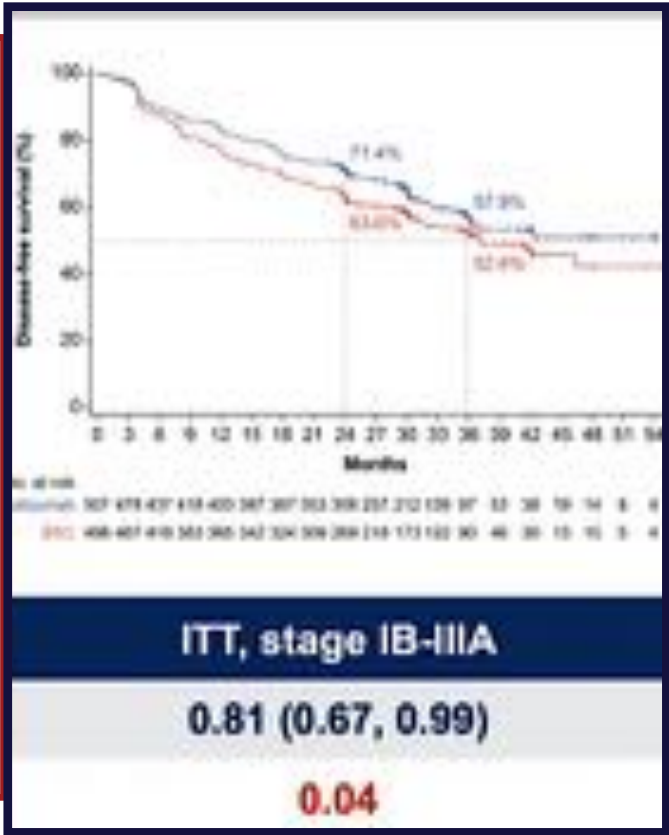
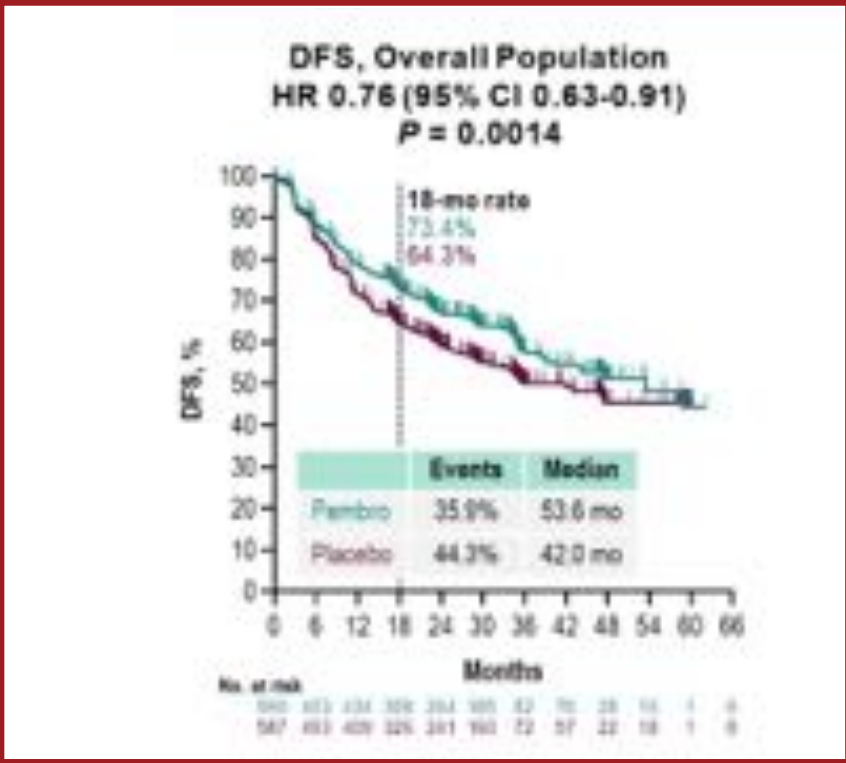
|  | Pembro<br>(N = 590) | Placebo<br>(N = 587) |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Received adjuvant chemotherapy</b>                |                     |                      |
| No, n (%)  | 84 (14.2)           | 83 (14.1)            |
| <b>Reason for not receiving, n</b>                   |                     |                      |
| Participant refused                                  | 36                  | 30                   |
| Physician decision <sup>a</sup>                      | 46                  | 47                   |
| Unknown  | 2                   | 6                    |
| <b>Disease stage in those who did not receive, n</b> |                     |                      |
| IB   | 24                  | 30                   |
| II   | 48                  | 43                   |
| IIIA   | 12                  | 10                   |
| Yes, n (%)   | 506 (85.8)          | 504 (85.9)           |
| 1-2 cycles   | 35 (5.9)            | 32 (5.5)             |
| 3-4 cycles   | 471 (79.8)          | 472 (80.4)           |

|   | Pembro<br>(N = 590) | Placebo<br>(N = 587) |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Type of adjuvant platinum, n (%)</b> |                     |                      |
| Carboplatin-based only                  | 184 (31.2)          | 171 (29.1)           |
| Cisplatin-based only                    | 301 (51.0)          | 307 (52.3)           |
| Carboplatin- and cisplatin-based        | 21 (3.6)            | 26 (4.4)             |
| <b>Adjuvant regimen, n (%)</b>          |                     |                      |
| Carboplatin + paclitaxel                | 60 (10.2)           | 75 (12.8)            |
| Carboplatin + vinorelbine               | 81 (13.7)           | 70 (11.9)            |
| Cisplatin + gemcitabine                 | 27 (4.6)            | 30 (5.1)             |
| Cisplatin + vinorelbine                 | 241 (40.8)          | 250 (42.6)           |
| Other                                   | 97 (16.4)           | 79 (13.5)            |

O'Brien M, ASCO 2022



# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091

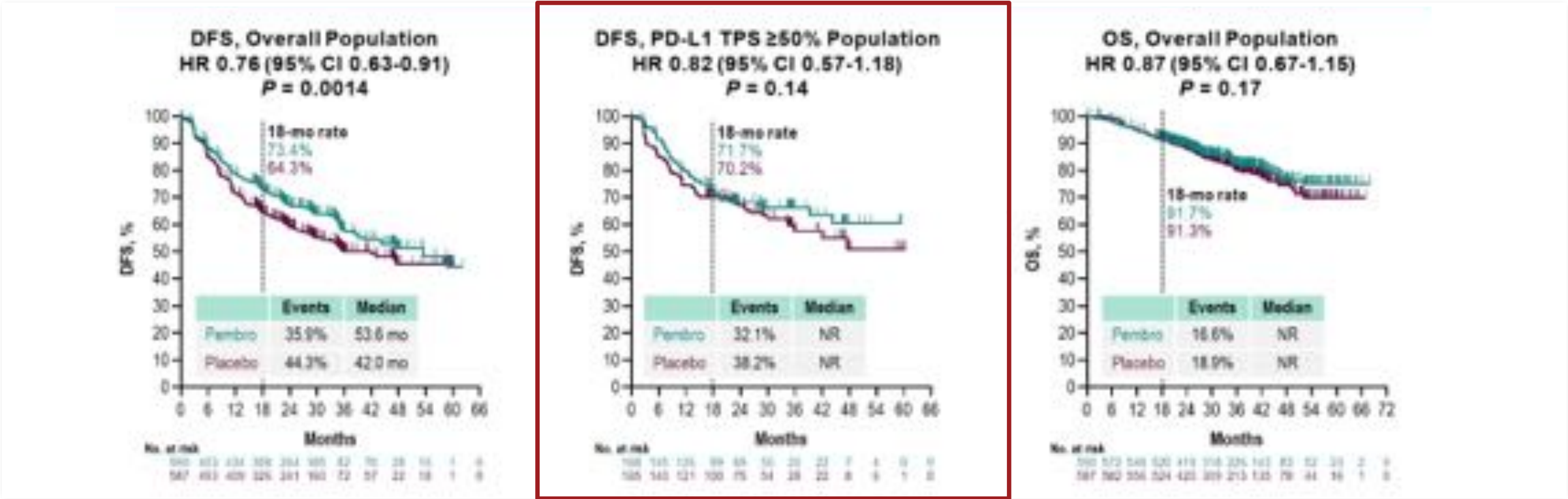


- DFS benefit generally consistent across most protocol-specified subgroups, including PD-L1 TPS <1% (HR 0.78, 95% CI 0.58-1.03) and 1-49% (HR 0.67, 95% CI 0.48-0.92)
- Overall safety profile generally as expected for pembrolizumab monotherapy

O'Brien M, ASCO 2022



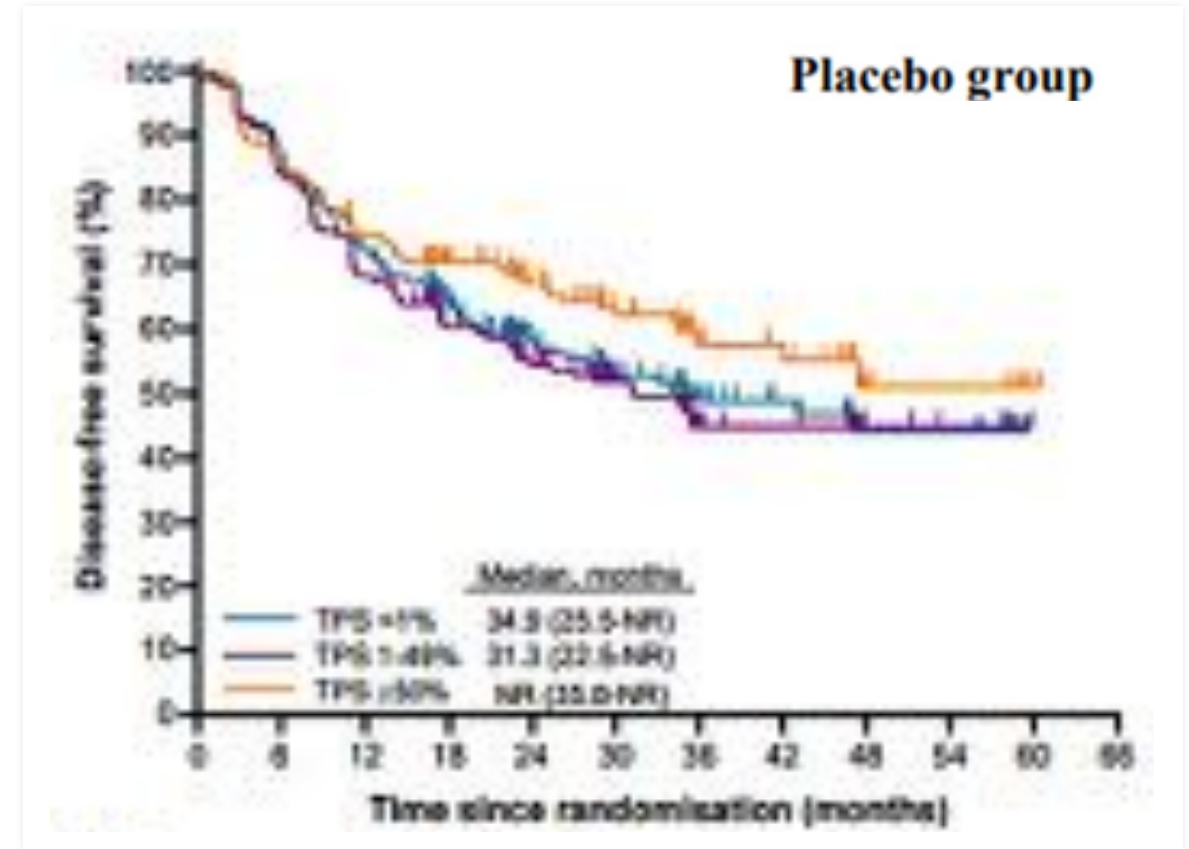
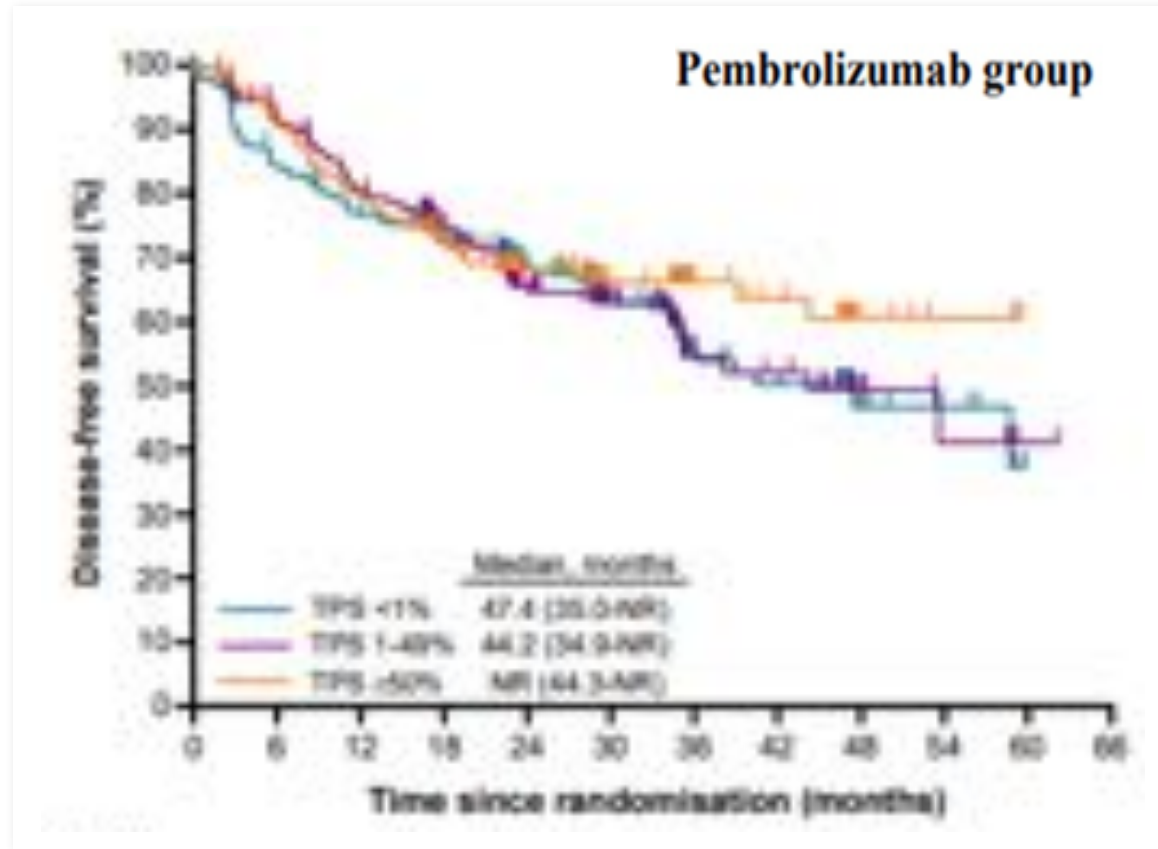
# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091



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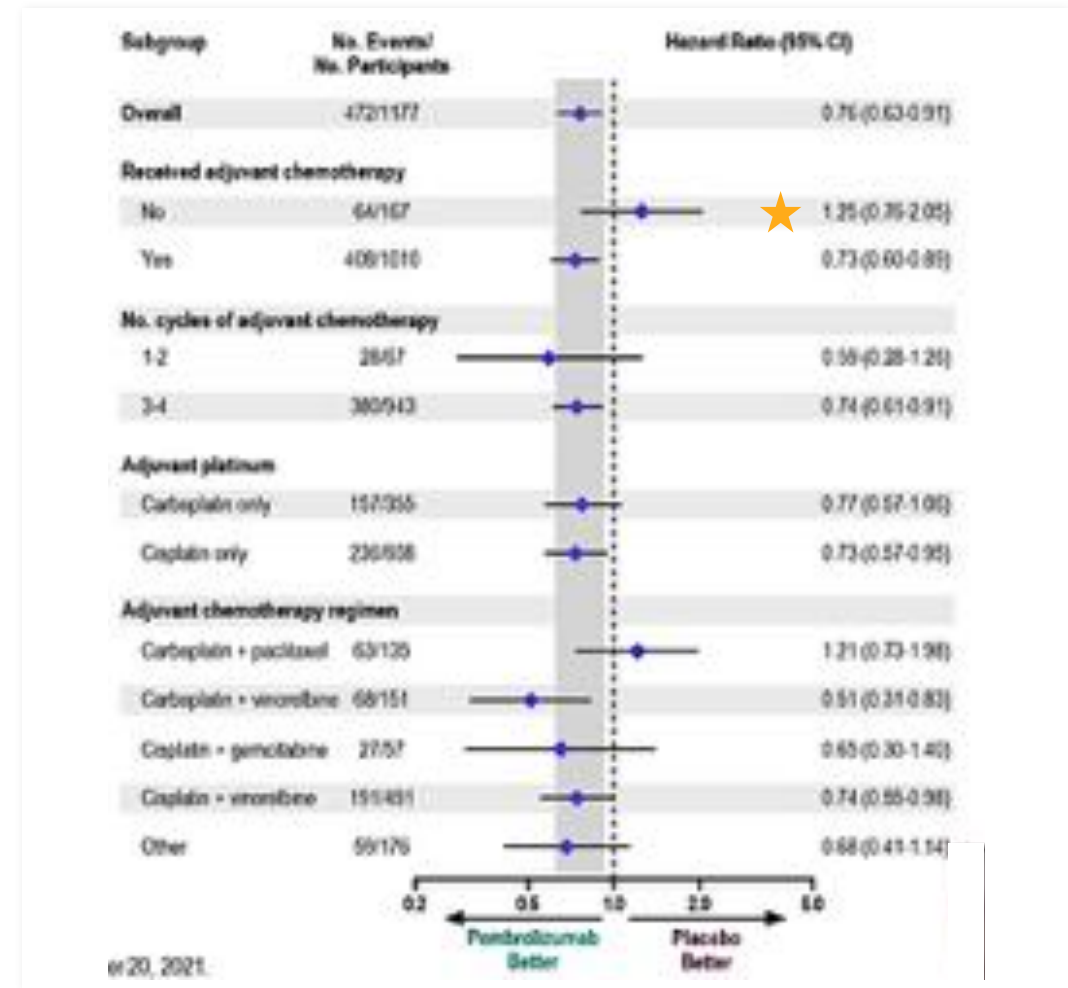
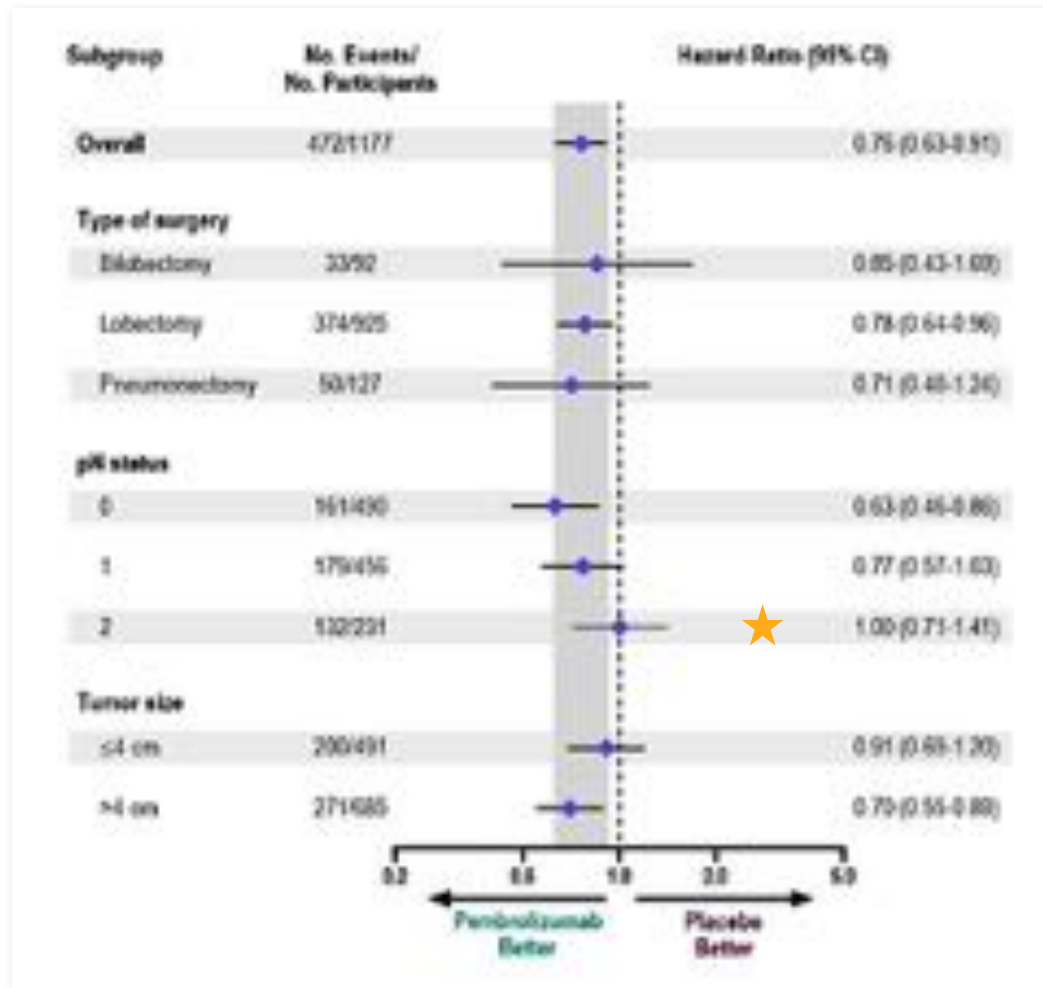
O'Brien M, ASCO 2022

# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091: DFS by PD-L1



O'Brien M, Lancet Oncol 2022

# PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091: Subgroup Analysis by Disease Burden and Treatment



O'Brien M, ASCO 2022

# How do the trials compare?

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**Table. Impower-010 vs KEYNOTE-091/PEARLS Data**

| Trial                 | IMpower-010  | KEYNOTE-091/PEARLS   |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Population            | Resected stage IB-IIIa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% stage IIIa</li> <li>• 41% PD-L1 negative</li> <li>• 23% never smokers</li> </ul> | Resected stage IB-IIIa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30% stage IIIa</li> <li>• 39% PD-L1 negative</li> <li>• 15% never smokers</li> </ul> |
| Design                | Phase 3, randomized 1:1 to atezolizumab (507 pts) vs best supportive care (498 pts)  | Phase 3, randomized 1:1 to pembrolizumab (590 pts) vs placebo (587 pts)  |
| Endpoints             | 1. DFS in stage II-IIIa PD-L1 $\geq$ 1%<br>2. DFS in all stage II-IIIa pts<br>3. DFS in ITT, stage IB-IIIa pts                                       | 1. DFS in ITT, stage IB-IIIa<br>2. DFS in PD-L1 TPS $\geq$ 50%   |
| Results               | 1. HR 0.66, CI [0.5, 0.88]; $P = .0039$<br>2. HR 0.79, CI [0.64, 0.96]; $P = .02$<br>3. HR 0.81, CI [0.67, 0.99]; $P = .04^*$                        | 1. HR 0.76, CI [0.63, 0.91]; $P = .0014$<br>2. HR 0.82, CI [0.57, 1.18]; $P = .14^*$   |
| Median DFS            | 1. NE vs 35.3 mo<br>2. 42.3 vs 35.3 mo<br>3. NE vs 37.2 mo <sup>a</sup>  | 1. 53.6 vs 42 mo<br>2. NR vs NR <sup>a</sup>   |
| PD-L1 assay           | SP263, Ventana   | 22C3, Agilent  |
| Adjuvant chemotherapy | Mandatory  | Considered   |

IMpower010 more stage III

KEYNOTE larger and placebo controlled

All KEYNOTE 1° endpoints inclusive of stage IB

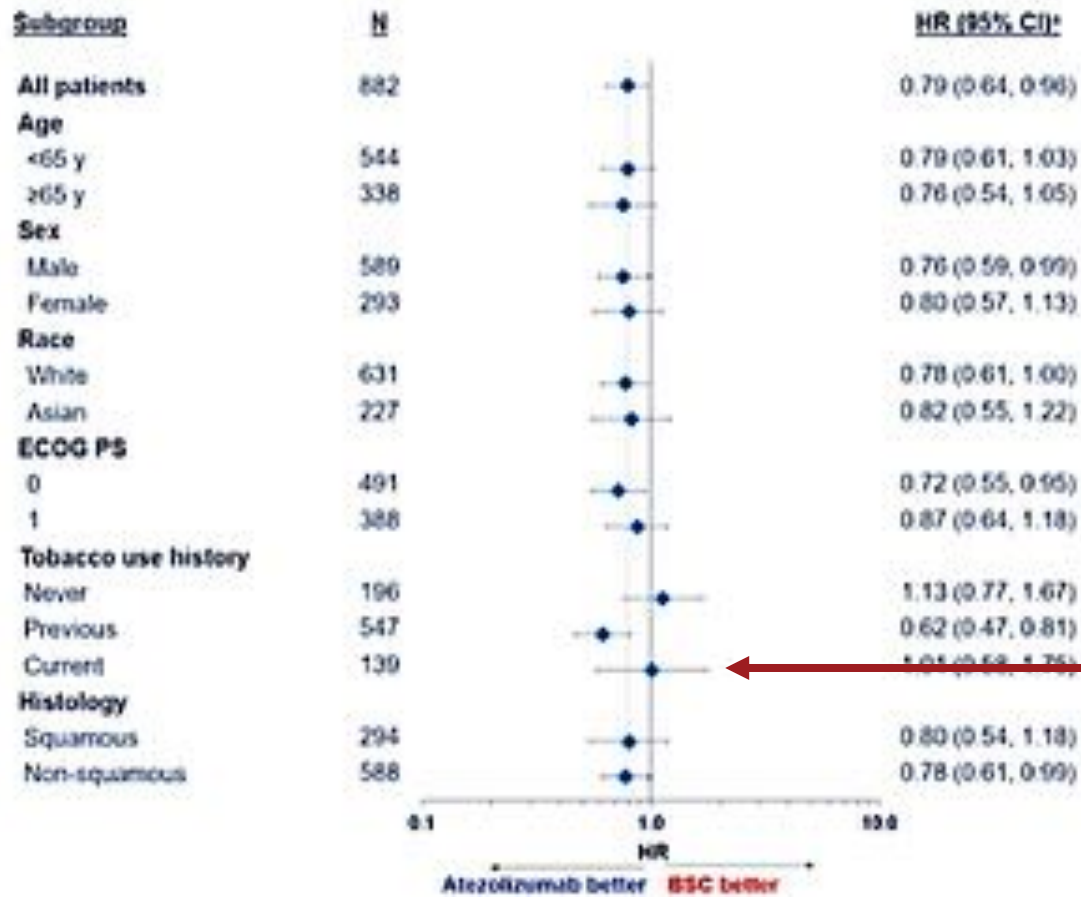
KEYNOTE control arm performed well

Different PD-L1 assays

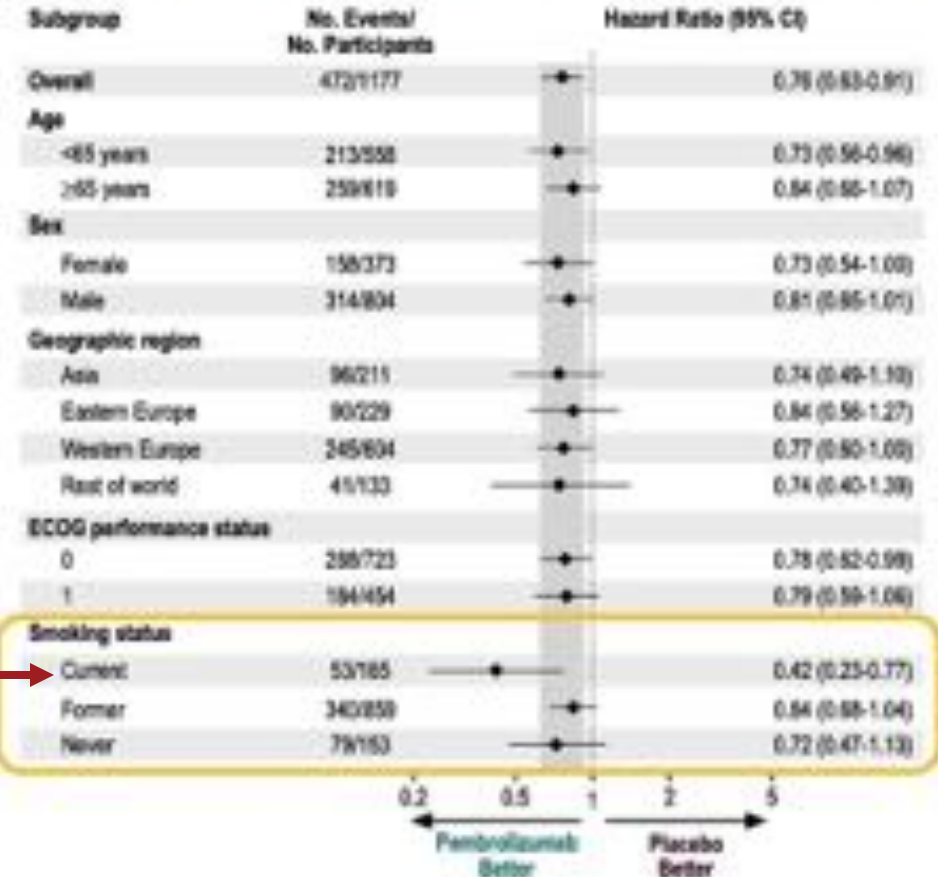
15% KEYNOTE no chemo, 50% carboplatin

# DFS Subgroups Analysis

## IMpower010



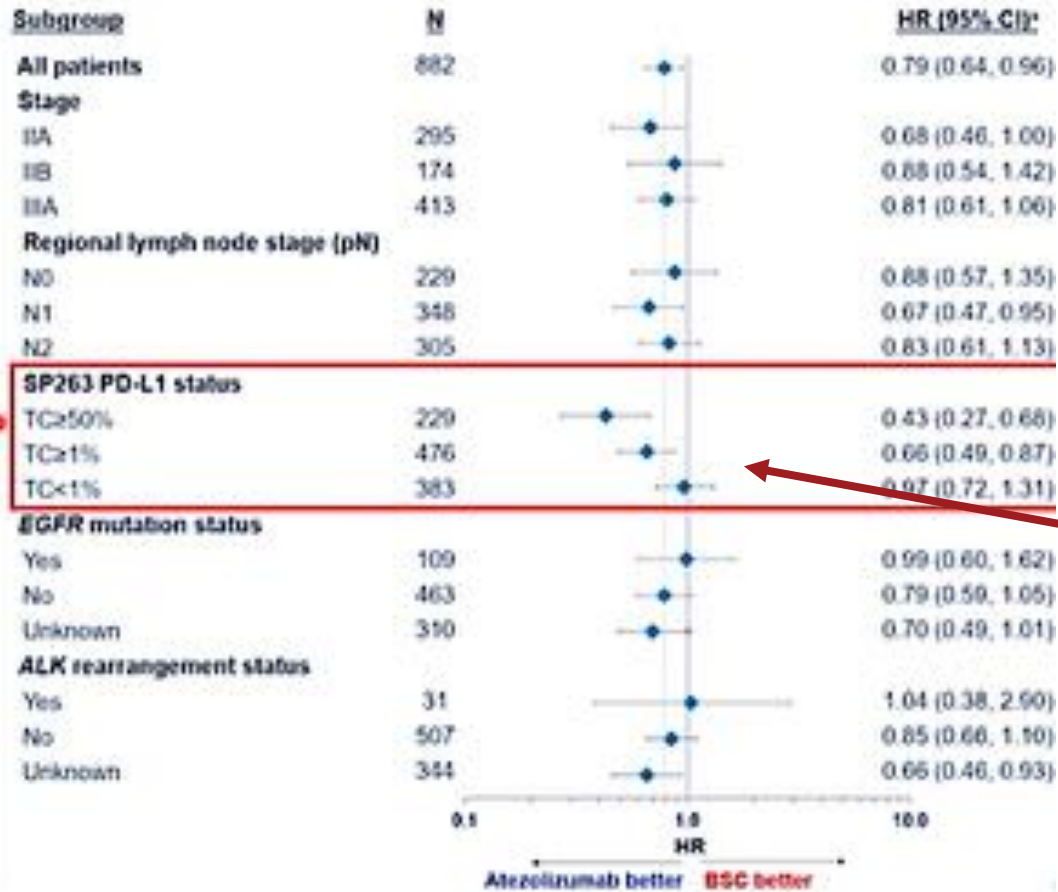
## PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091



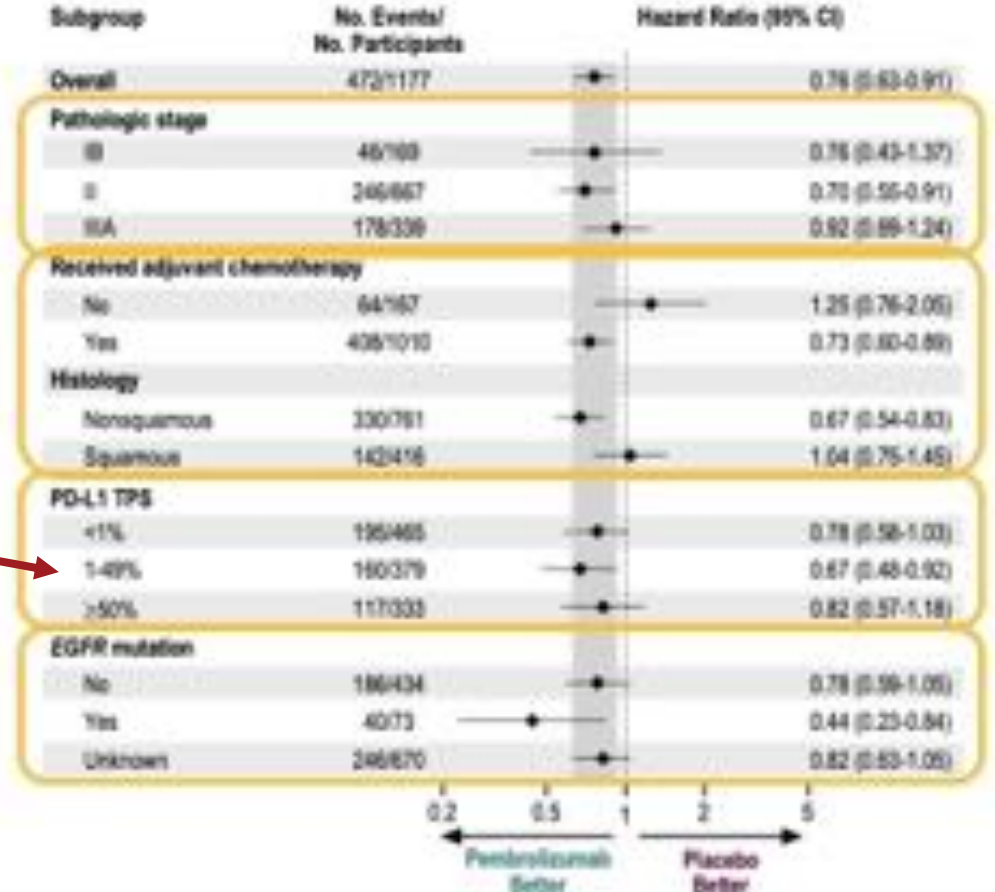
O'Brien M, ASCO 2022

# DFS Subgroups Analysis

## IMpower010



## PEARLS/KEYNOTE-091



Wakelee H, ASCO 2021, O'Brien M, ESMO 2022

# FDA Approved Adjuvant Immunotherapy for NSCLC

|                     | PD-L1 < 1% |                      | PD-L1 1-49%         |                      | PD-L1 > 50%         |                      |
|---------------------|------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <b>IB (&gt;4cm)</b> |            | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> |                     | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> |                     | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> |
| <b>II</b>           |            | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> | <b>Atezolizumab</b> | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> | <b>Atezolizumab</b> | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> |
| <b>IIIA</b>         |            | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> | <b>Atezolizumab</b> | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> | <b>Atezolizumab</b> | <b>Pembrolizumab</b> |

## Pembrolizumab

DFS HR 0.76 (95%CI 0.63-0.91) p=0.0014  
Stage IB-IIIa, regardless PD-L1

## Atezolizumab

DFS HR 0.66 (95%CI 0.50-0.88) p=0.0039  
Stage II-IIIa, PD-L1 > 1%

## Atezolizumab

DFS HR 0.81 (95%CI 0.67-0.99) p=0.04  
Stage IB-IIIa, regardless of PD-L1



# What is coming?

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# Adjuvant I/O Landscape

IMPower010

PEARLS/Keynote-091







ANVIL

BR31

ALCHEMIST chemo I/O

Mermaid

# Phase III adjuvant I/O trials

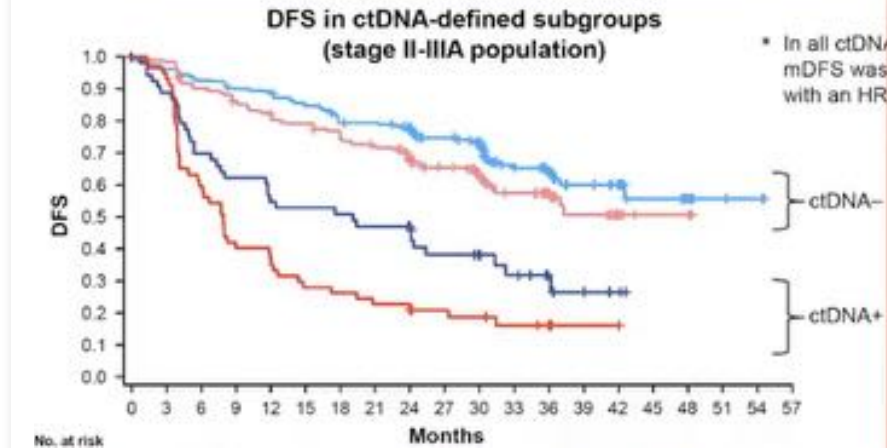
| Trial                  | Inclusion criteria  | Treatment arms  | Primary endpoint(s) |
|------------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| IMpower010             | <b>Resected Stage IB (≥4cm)–IIIA NSCLC</b> (UICC 7th Edition)<br>• ≤4 cycles chemo<br>N=1280                            |  <div>             Atezolizumab 1,200 mg q3w x 16 cycles or 1 year<br/>             Best supportive care           </div>  | DFS                 |
| ANVIL                  | <b>Resected Stage IB (≥ 4cm)–IIIA NSCLC</b> (UICC 7th Edition)<br>• Adjuvant chemo or RT optional<br>N=903              |  <div>             Nivolumab q4w (up to 1 year)<br/>             Observation           </div>  | DFS and OS          |
| PEARLS/<br>KEYNOTE-091 | <b>Resected Stage IB (≥ 4cm)–IIIA NSCLC</b> (UICC 7th Edition)<br>• Adjuvant chemo optional ≤4 cycles<br>N=1177         |  <div>             Pembrolizumab 200mg q3w (up to 1 year; max 18 cycles)<br/>             Placebo           </div>   | DFS                 |
| BR31                   | <b>Resected Stage IB (≥ 4cm)–IIIA NSCLC</b> (UICC 7th Edition)<br>• Adjuvant chemo optional*<br>N=1360                  |  <div>             Durvalumab q4w (up to 1 year)<br/>             Placebo           </div>   | DFS                 |
| ALCHEMIST<br>Chemo IO  | <b>Resected Stage IB (≥ 4cm)–IIIA NSCLC†</b> (UICC 7th Edition)<br>• No prior neoadjuvant or adjuvant therapy<br>N=1263 |  <div> <div>Chemo + pembrolizumab q3w (4 cycles)</div> <div>Pembrolizumab q3w (17 cycles)</div> <div>Chemo q3w (4 cycles)</div> <div>Pembrolizumab q3w (17 cycles)</div> <div>Chemo q3w (4 cycles)</div> <div>Observation</div> </div> | DFS and OS          |
| MERMAID-1              | <b>Resected stage II–III NSCLC</b><br>• No prior adjuvant therapy or durvalumab therapy<br>N=332                        |  <div>             Durvalumab + chemo<br/>             Placebo + chemo           </div>  | DFS in MRD+         |

www.clinicaltrials.gov; September 2020

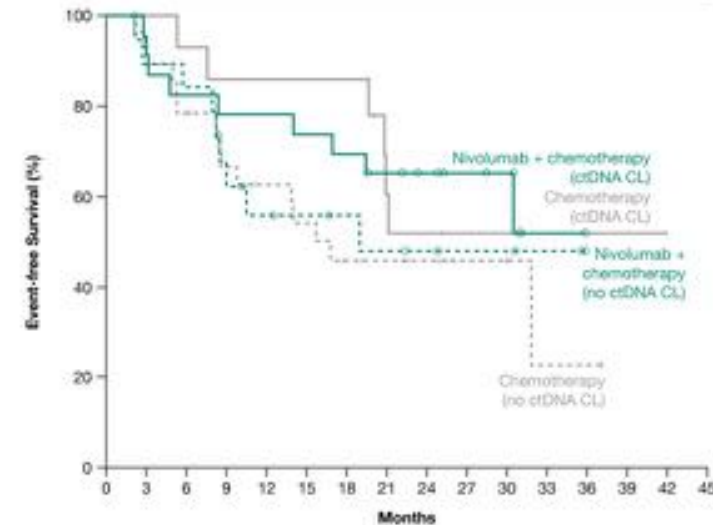
# ctDNA

- ctDNA clearance was exploratory endpoint in IMPower010 and CheckMate 816
- post-treatment clearance was associated improved DFS, EFS and pCR.
- Today's ctDNA assays insensitive to low disease levels
- Currently-
  - ctDNA clearance **should not** serve as a marker to de-escalate therapy
  - ctDNA persistence of following initial therapy **could** serve as a marker for earlier escalation of therapy

## IMPower010



## CheckMate 816



# Adjuvant Immunotherapies



## CONCLUSIONS

- Two approved agents
- Both for use after adjuvant chemotherapy
- Associated with significant disease free survival improvements
- Pembrolizumab indicated in IB-IIIa regardless of PD-L1 staining (HR 0.76)
- Atezolizumab indicated in II-IIa with PD-L1 staining > 1% (HR 0.66)
- More work for surgeons
  - Requires understanding agents and indication
  - Biomarker testing is essential
  - Procedures can be more challenging
- Embrace the change, not going away





# THANK YOU

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