

# MET AND NSCLC

**Paul K. Paik, MD**

April 19, 2024

Endorsed by



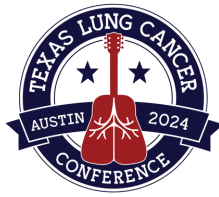
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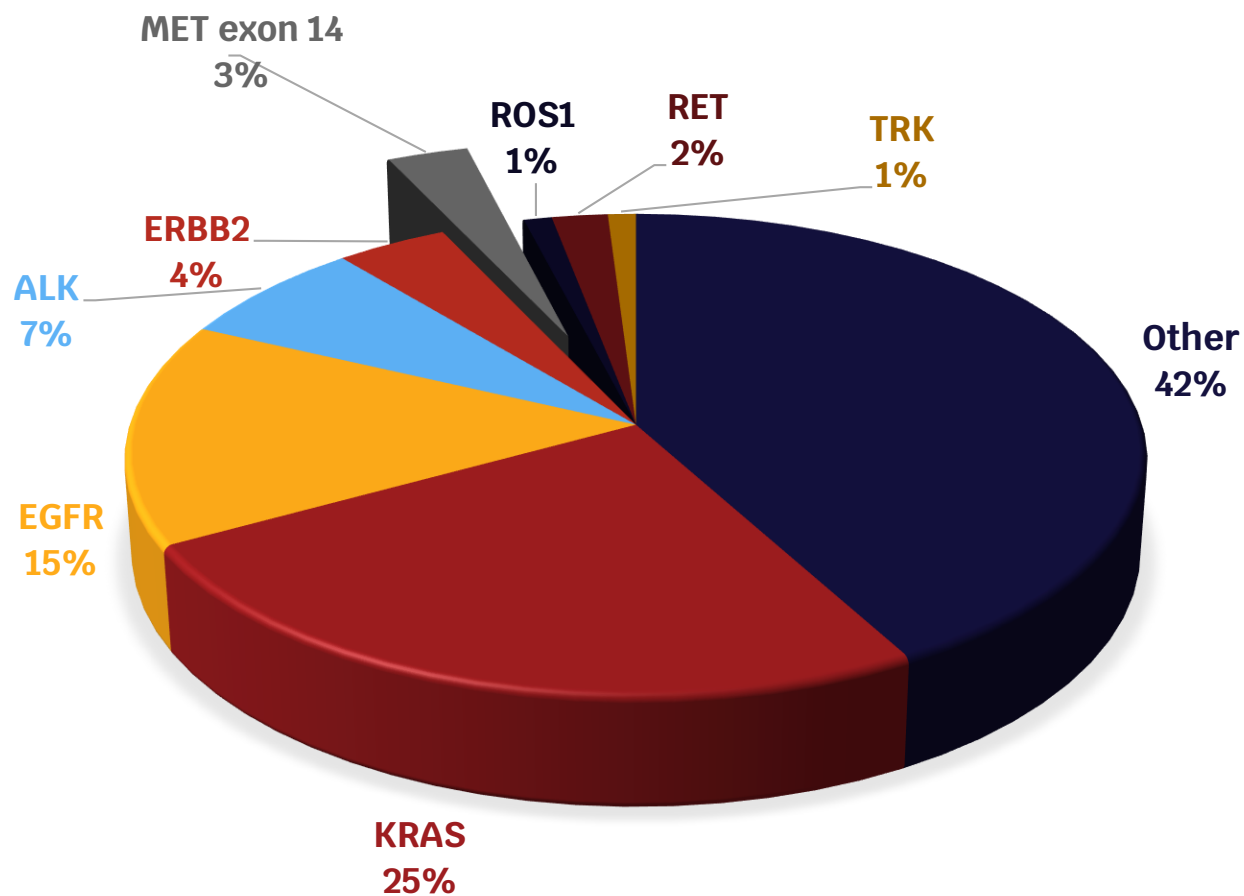


# Overview

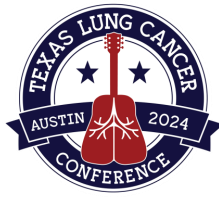


- MET exon 14 skipping
  - A bit of biology- what is it?
  - Unique population- who are these patients?
  - A bit of history- when did we start targeting it?
- MET inhibitors in patients with MET exon 14 skipping mutations
  - Efficacy and safety
  - Resistance mechanisms
  - LungMAP S1900K and other active efforts
- MET amplification as a primary driver
- What should the standard of care be for these patients?

# MET exon 14 skipping: the newest (arguably) actionable oncogenic alteration



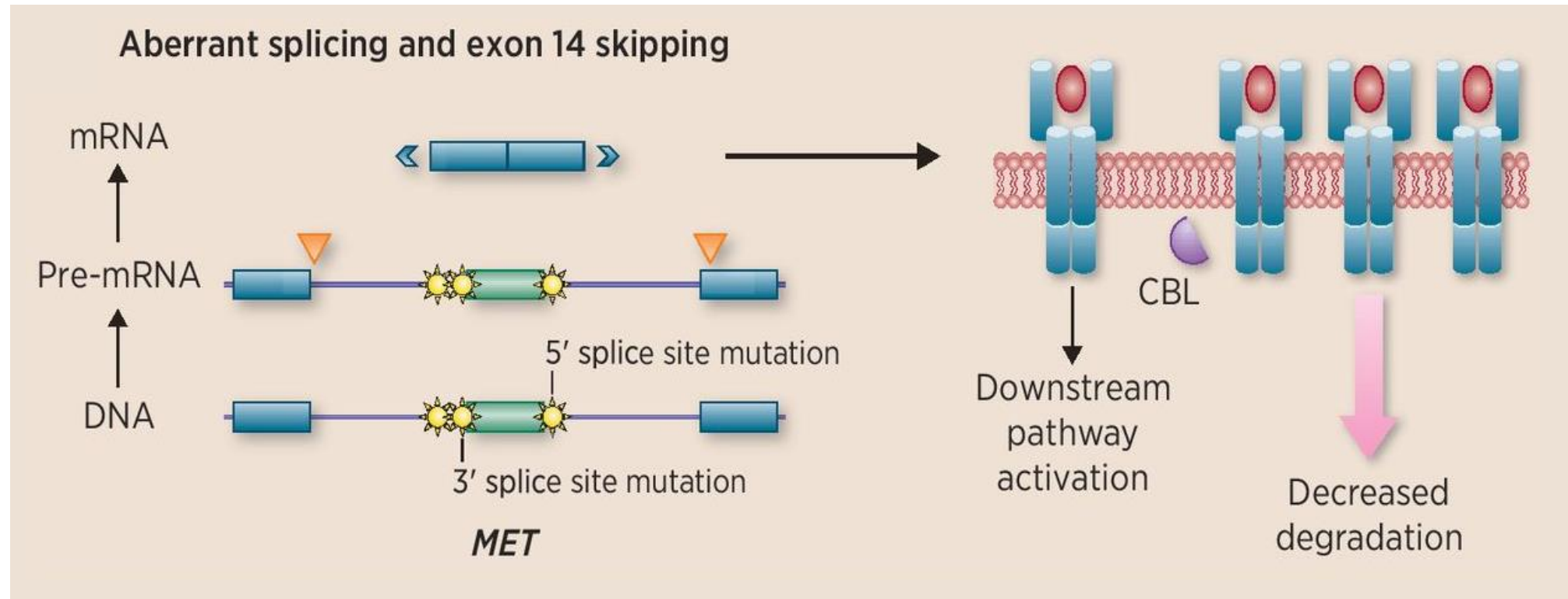
# MET Background



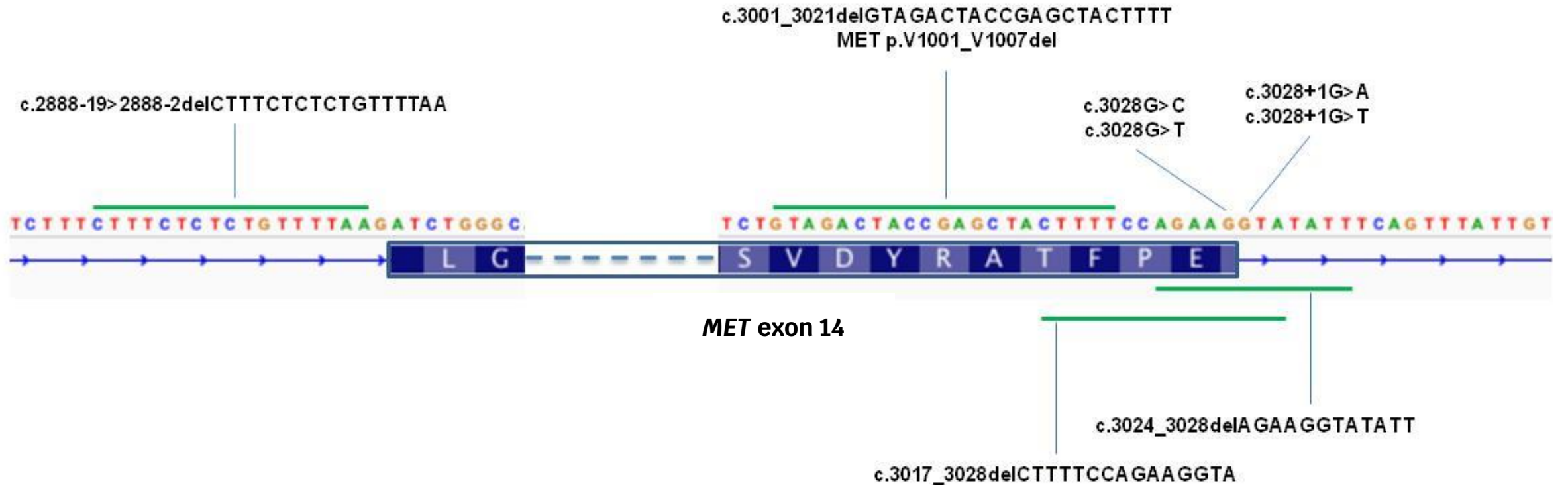
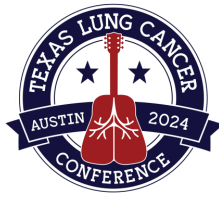
- MET receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) is a proto-oncogene with roles in proliferation, apoptosis, and motility/invasion<sup>1</sup>
- Gain of function alterations include amplification and protein overexpression<sup>2</sup>
- These have been previous targets in lung cancer with no significant success (overexpression) or modest success (high amplification)<sup>2,3</sup>
- Mutations in the MET exon 14 RNA splice acceptor and donor sites lead to exon skipping, deletion of the juxtamembrane domain, and loss of Cbl E3-ligase binding to the resultant aberrant MET protein<sup>1</sup>
- MET exon 14 mutations are oncogenic in preclinical models of SCLC, NSCLC and gastric cancer, and are sensitive to MET inhibition<sup>1,4</sup>

1. Kong-Beltran M, et al. *Cancer Res.* 2006;66(1):283-289. 2. Spigel DR, et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2017;35(4):412-420. 3. Camidge DR, et al. ASCO 2016; Abstract 9070. 4. Pilotto S, et al. *Ann Transl Med.* 2017;5(1):2.

# MET exon 14 splice site mutations engender alternative splicing



# MET Exon 14 Splice Site Mutations Are Heterogeneous



Paik PK, et al. *Cancer Discov.* 2015;5(8):842-849.

# Clinical Characteristics of MET-Altered Lung Cancers Are Heterogeneous and Different from Other Lung Cancers



## Patients With MET Exon 14-Altered Lung Cancers (N = 69)

<b>Age, years</b>	<b>Median (range)</b>	<b>72 (34–91)</b>
<b>Sex, n (%)</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>40 (58)</b>
	<b>Male</b>	<b>29 (42)</b>
<b>Race, n (%)</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>50 (72)</b>
	<b>Asian</b>	<b>11 (16)</b>
	<b>Black</b>	<b>2 (3)</b>
	<b>Other</b>	<b>6 (9)</b>
	<b>Former smoker</b>	<b>42 (61)</b>
<b>Smoking history, n (%)</b>	<b>Never smoker</b>	<b>26 (38)</b>
	<b>Smoker</b>	<b>1 (1)</b>
	<b>Adenocarcinoma</b>	<b>58 (84)</b>
<b>Tumor histology, n (%)</b>	<b>Sarcomatoid carcinoma</b>	<b>6 (9)</b>
	<b>Squamous cell carcinoma</b>	<b>3 (4)</b>
	<b>Adenosquamous carcinoma</b>	<b>2 (3)</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>19 (28)</b>
<b>ECOG performance status, n (%)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>49 (71)</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>1 (1)</b>
<b>Prior treatments for advanced disease, n (%)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26 (38)</b>
	<b>≥1</b>	<b>43 (62)</b>

Drilon A, et al. *Nat Med*.2020;26:47–51.



# MET Exon 14-Altered NSCLC Patients Respond to MET Inhibitors



Baseline



6 week follow-up  
crizotinib



Baseline



1 month follow-up  
cabozantinib\*



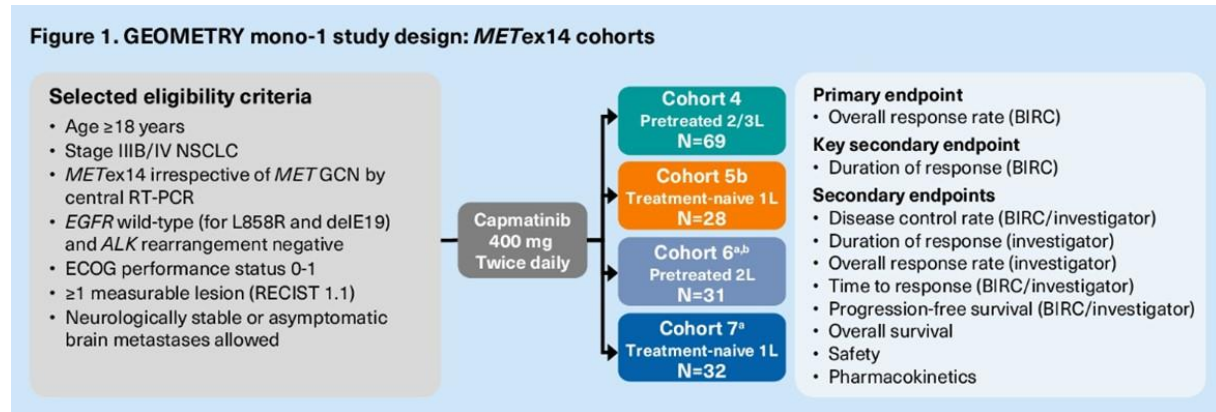
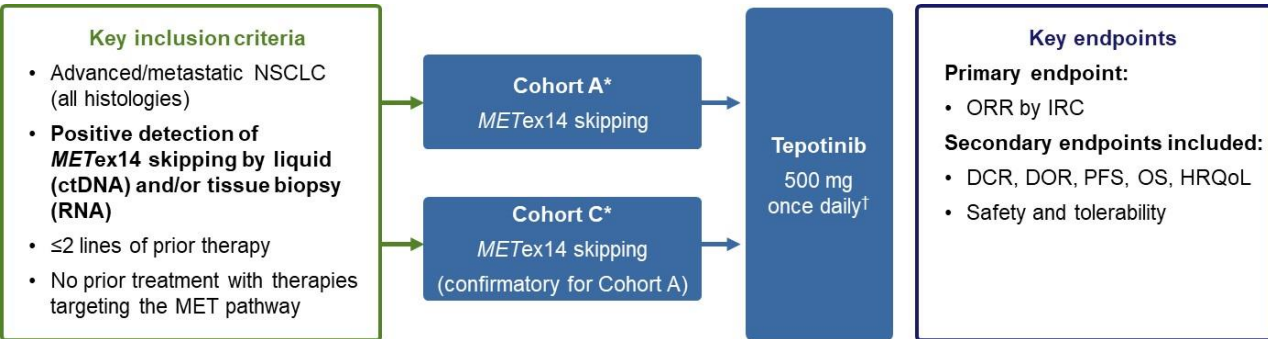
Paik PK, et al. *Cancer Discov.* 2015;5(8):842-849.



# VISION and GEOMETRY Trial Designs: Single Arm Phase 2 Trials

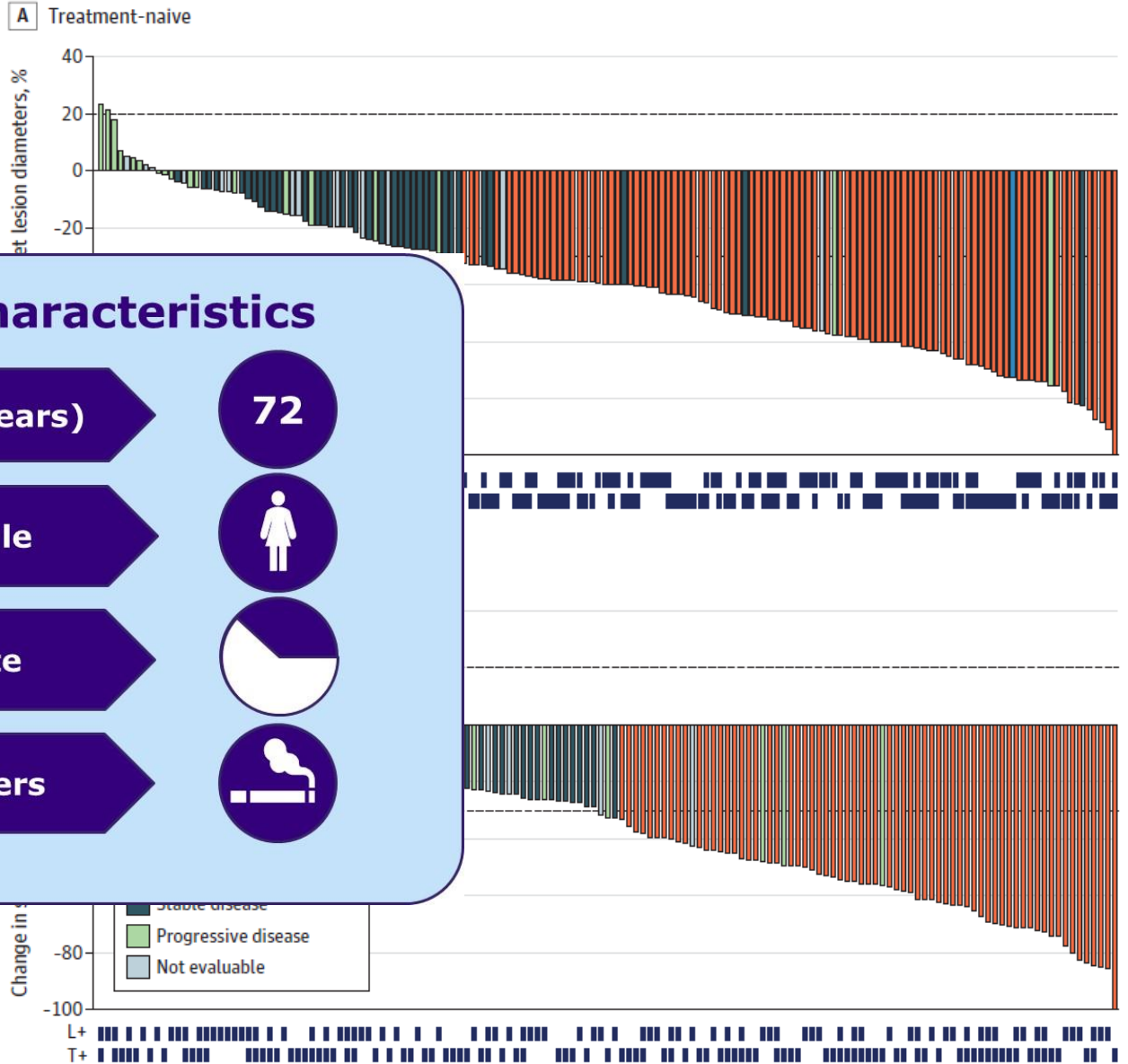
## VISION<sup>1,2</sup>

## GEOMETRY<sup>3,4</sup>



1. Felip E, et al. WCLC 2021. 2. Paik PK, et al. N Engl J Med. 2020;383(10):931-943. 3. Wolf J, et al. ASCO 2021; Abstract 9020. 4. Wolf J, et al. N Engl J Med. 2020;383:944–957.

# VISION update 2023



	Cohort A+C (N=313)	Treatment Naive (N=164)
ORR, % (95% CI)	51.4 (45.8-57.1)	57.3 (49.4-65.1)
mDOR, months (95% CI)	18.0 (12.4, 46.4)	46.4 (13.8-NE)
mPFS, months (95% CI)	11.2 (9.5, 13.8)	12.6 (9.7-17.1)
mOS, months (95% CI)	19.6 (16.2, 22.9)	21.3 (14.2-25.1)

### Patient characteristics

- Average age (years)** 72
- 50.8% female**
- 62.3% white**
- 47.6% smokers**

Paik et al. ASCO 2023  
Mazieres et al., JAMA Onc 2023

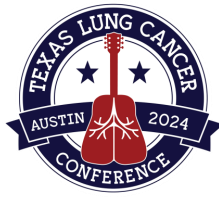
# GEOMETRY efficacy update 2021: treatment-naive



	Treatment-naive			Pretreated		
	Cohort 5b N=28	Cohort 7 N=32	All patients N=60	Cohort 4 (2/3L) N=69	Cohort 6 (2L) N=31	All patients N=100
Best overall response, n (%)						
Complete response	1 (3.6)	0	1 (1.7)	0	0	0
Partial response	18 (64.3)	21 (65.6)	39 (65.0)	28 (40.6)	16 (51.6)	44 (44.0)
Stable disease	7 (25.0)	11 (34.4)	18 (30.0)	25 (36.2)	11 (35.5)	36 (36.0)
Non-complete response/ non-progressive disease	1 (3.6)	0	1 (1.7)	1 (1.4)	1 (3.2)	2 (2.0)
Progressive disease	1 (3.6)	0	1 (1.7)	6 (8.7)	0	6 (6.0)
Not evaluable <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	9 (13.0)	3 (9.7)	12 (12.0)
ORR, <sup>b</sup> % (95% CI)	67.9 (47.6-84.1)	65.6 (46.8-81.4)	66.7 (53.3-78.3)	40.6 (28.9-53.1)	51.6 (33.1-69.8)	44.0 (34.1-54.3)
DCR, <sup>c</sup> % (95% CI)	96.4 (81.7-99.9)	100.0 (89.1-100.0)	98.3 (91.1-100.0)	78.3 (66.7-87.3)	90.3 (74.2-98.0)	82.0 (73.1-89.0)
DOR events, <sup>d</sup> n (%)	12 (63.2)	5 (23.8)	17 (42.5)	23 (82.1)	11 (68.8)	34 (77.3)
Median DOR, months (95% CI)	12.6 (5.6-NE)	NE (5.5-NE)	12.6 (8.4-NE)	9.7 (5.6-13.0)	8.4 (4.2-NE)	9.7 (5.6-13.0)
PFS events, n (%)	18 (64.3)	14 (43.8)	32 (53.3)	60 (87.0)	22 (71.0)	82 (82.0)
Median PFS, months (95% CI)	12.4 (8.2-23.4)	10.8 (6.9-NE)	12.3 (8.2-21.6)	5.4 (4.2-7.00)	6.9 (4.2-13.3)	5.5 (4.2-8.1)

Wolf et al. 9020 ASCO 2021

# GEOMETRY efficacy update 2021: previously treated



	Treatment-naive			Pretreated		
	Cohort 5b N=28	Cohort 7 N=32	All patients N=60	Cohort 4 (2/3L) N=69	Cohort 6 (2L) N=31	All patients N=100
Best overall response, n (%)						
Complete response	1 (3.6)	0	1 (1.7)	0	0	0
Partial response	18 (64.3)	21 (65.6)	39 (65.0)	28 (40.6)	16 (51.6)	44 (44.0)
Stable disease	7 (25.0)	11 (34.4)	18 (30.0)	25 (36.2)	11 (35.5)	36 (36.0)
Non-complete response/ non-progressive disease	1 (3.6)	0	1 (1.7)	1 (1.4)	1 (3.2)	2 (2.0)
Progressive disease	1 (3.6)	0	1 (1.7)	6 (8.7)	0	6 (6.0)
Not evaluable <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	9 (13.0)	3 (9.7)	12 (12.0)
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Wolf et al. 9020 ASCO 2021

# Safety profile: MET inhibition has a unique signature



TEAEs (Overall Rate ≥10%)	Related TEAE Crizotinib		Related TEAE Capmatinib		Related TEAE Tepotinib		Related TEAE Savolitinib	
	Any grade	Grade ≥ 3	Any grade	Grade ≥ 3	Any grade	Grade ≥ 3	Any grade	Grade ≥ 3
Peripheral Edema	51%	1%	42%	8%	63%	7%	54%	7%
AST increase	17%		NR	NR	7%	2%	37%	13%
ALT increase	4%		NR	NR	7%	3%	37%	10%
Hypoalbuminemia	NR	NR	NR	NR	16%	2%	23%	0%
Creatinine increase	NR	NR	20%	0%	18%	1%	NR	NR
Fatigue	NR	NR	14%	3%	7%	1%	NR	NR
Nausea	41%	0%	33%	2%	26%	1%	44%	0%
Vision disorder	45%	1%	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

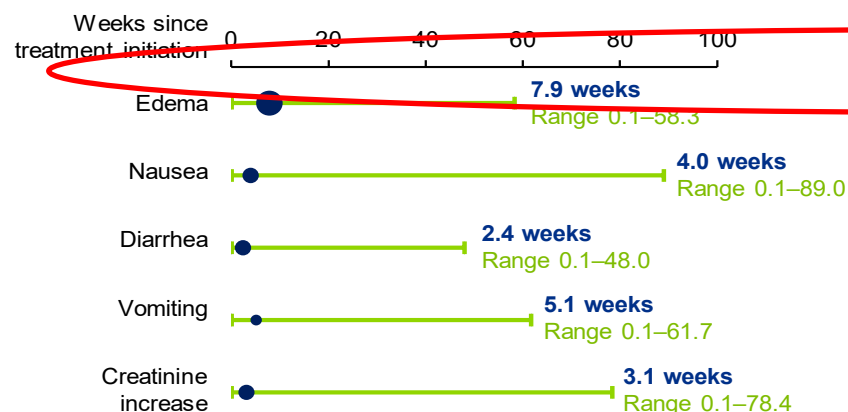
1. Drilon A, et al. *Nature Med* 2020. 2. Wolf et al. ASCO Annual Meeting 2019. 3. Paik et al. *NEJM* 2020. 4. Lu et al. ASCO Annual Meeting 2020



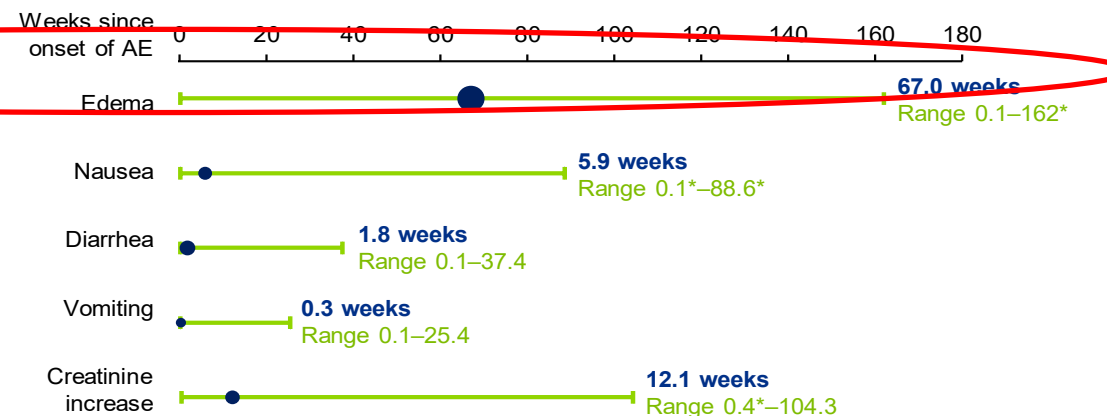


## AEs of clinical interest: Time to first onset and time to resolution

### Median time to first onset



### Median time to resolution



Events, n	Edema (n=178)	Nausea (n=68)	Diarrhea (n=67)	Vomiting (n=33)	Creatinine increase (n=66)
Total	337	87	112	47	96
Resolved at time of analysis	115	67	102	44	67

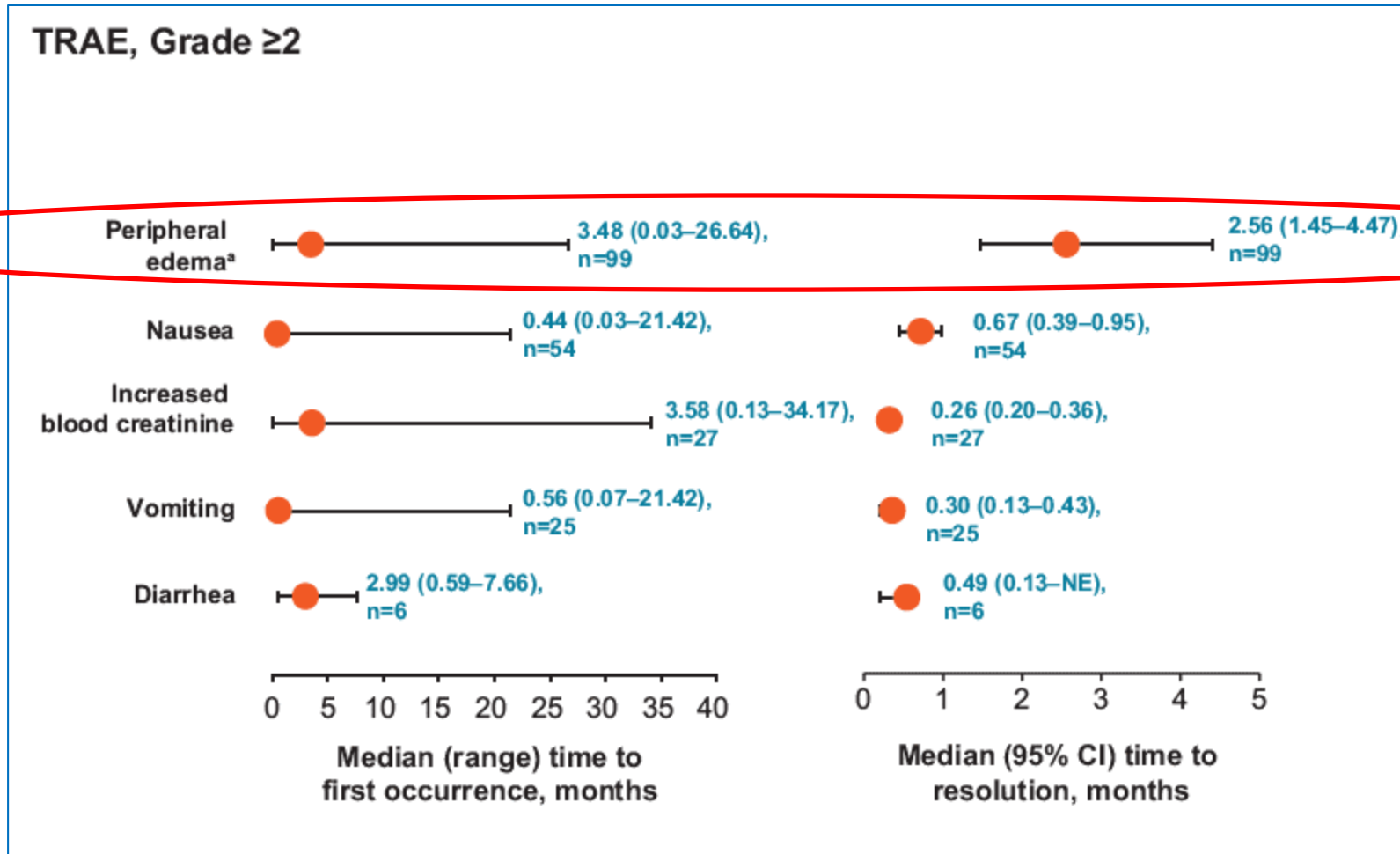
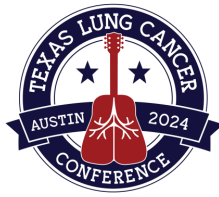
Analyses of time to first onset and time to resolution were carried out for AEs of clinical interest, including composite categories comprising preferred terms, and were analyzed irrespective of causal relation to study treatment. Time to first onset was described by median and range for observed AEs, not accounting for competing events. Time to resolution was analyzed using Kaplan–Meier method in a descriptive manner, not accounting for the fact that one patient could contribute by more than one event of the respective AE. \*Denotes a censored value. AE, adverse event.

JANUARY 28-31, 2021 | WORLDWIDE VIRTUAL EVENT

Veillon et al. WCLC 2020

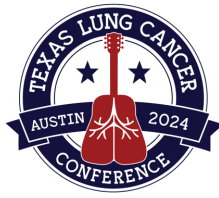


# Capmatinib AE kinetics similar to tepotinib



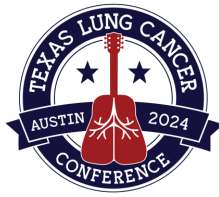
Heist et al. ESMO 2021

# Drug selectivity as a window into therapeutic approach: cabozantinib has notably low rates of edema



Study	Drug	Disease	Peripheral edema, % all grade
Abou-alfa et al. NEJM 2018	Cabozantinib	Hepatocellular carcinoma	13%
Choueiri et al. NEJM 2015	Cabozantinib	Renal cell carcinoma	9%
Smith et al. J Clin Oncol 2016	Cabozantinib	Prostate cancer	15%
Drilon et al. Lancet Oncol 2017	Cabozantinib	RET+ lung cancer	<5%
Paik et al. NEJM 2020	Tepotinib	MET exon 14+ lung cancer	58%
Wolf et al. NEJM 2020	Capmatinib	MET exon 14+ lung cancer	54%

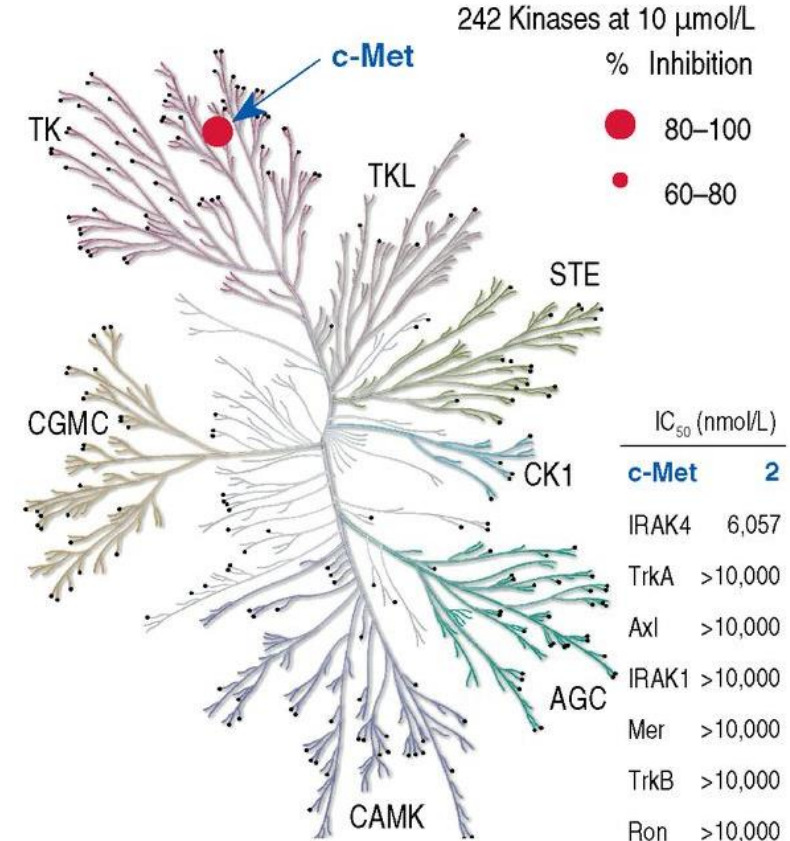
# Cabozantinib kinase profile: exquisite VEGFR2 inhibition, similar MET potency as MET TKIs



Kinase	IC <sub>50</sub> ± SD, <sup>a</sup> nmol/L	Enzyme concentration, nmol/L	ATP concentration, μmol/L	Assay
VEGFR2	0.035 ± 0.01	0.05	3	A
MET	1.3 ± 1.2	10	1	C
MET (Y1248H)	3.8	13	1	C
MET (D1246N)	11.8	12	1	C
MET (K1262R)	14.6	12	1	C
RET	5.2 ± 4.3	15	2	C
TIE2	14.3 ± 1.1	15	5	R
AXL	7	TBD	TBD	TBD
FLT3	11.3 ± 1.8	0.5	1	C
KIT	4.6 ± 0.5	1	3	A
RON	124 ± 1.2	60	1	C

Abbreviations: A, AlphaScreen; C, Coupled luciferase; R, radiometric; TBD, to be determined.  
<sup>a</sup>Mean ± SD of at least 3 independent determinations.

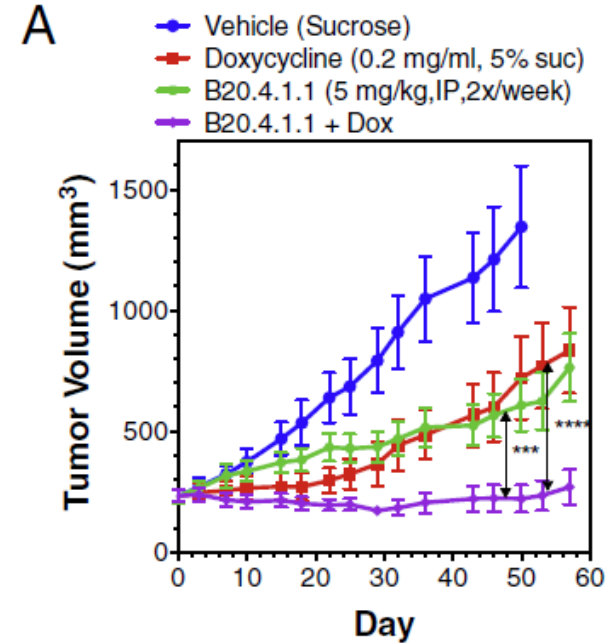
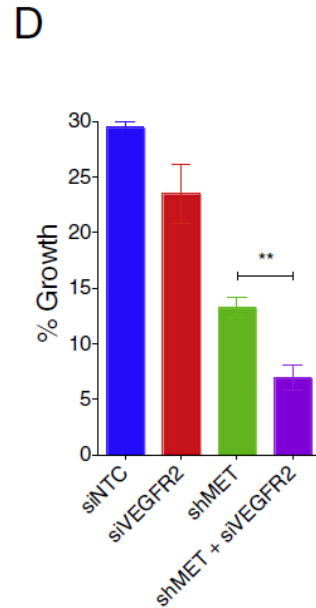
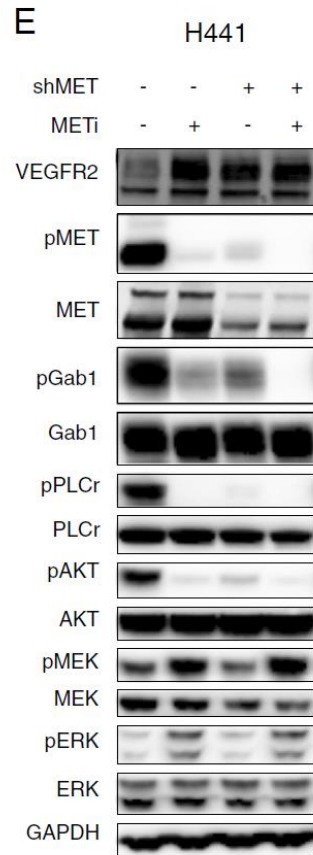
Cabozantinib



Tepotinib

Bladt et al. Clin Cancer Res 2013; Yakes et al. Mol Cancer Ther 2011

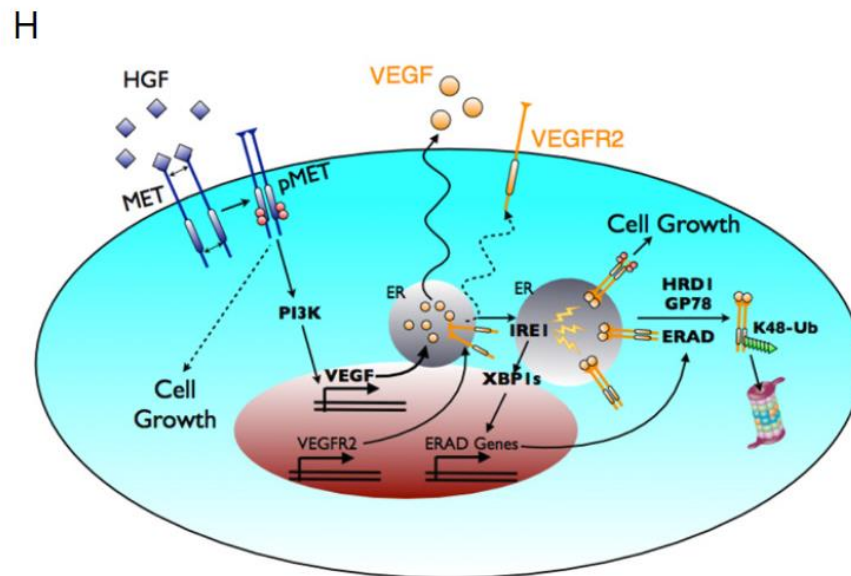
# MET and VEGF signaling: MET inhibition causes VEGFR2 upregulation, can be co-targeted to engender further anti-tumor activity



H411 adenoca xenograft,  
shMET (doxy inducible)  
B20.4.1.1 = anti-VEGF ab

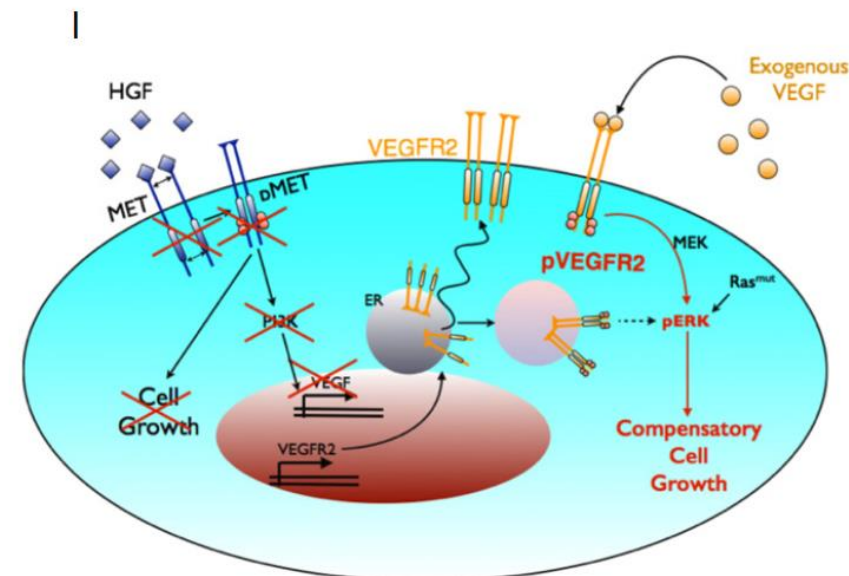
Chen et al. EBioMedicine 2015

# Model: MET inhibition relieves VEGFR2 degradation, engenders compensatory switch to VEGFR2 signaling



HGF/MET On

MET induced VEGF via PI3K, folded in ER with VEGFR2 -> ubiquitination and degradation



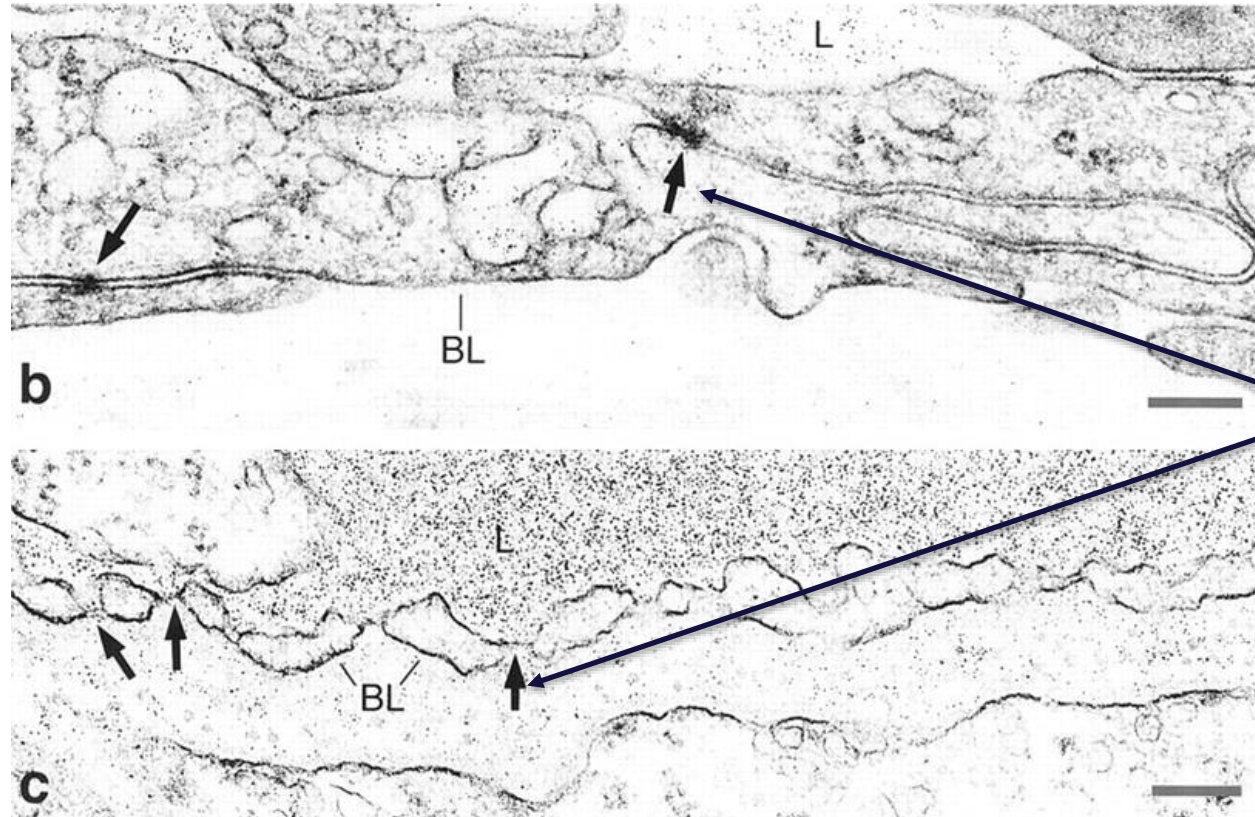
HGF/MET Off

MET inhibition shuts off VEGF induction, prevents VEGFR2 degradation, potentiates VEGFR2 signaling

Chen et al. EBioMedicine 2015



# VEGF signaling and edema: VEGF-A disrupts endothelial junction



Endothelial cell junctions pre/post VEGF-A

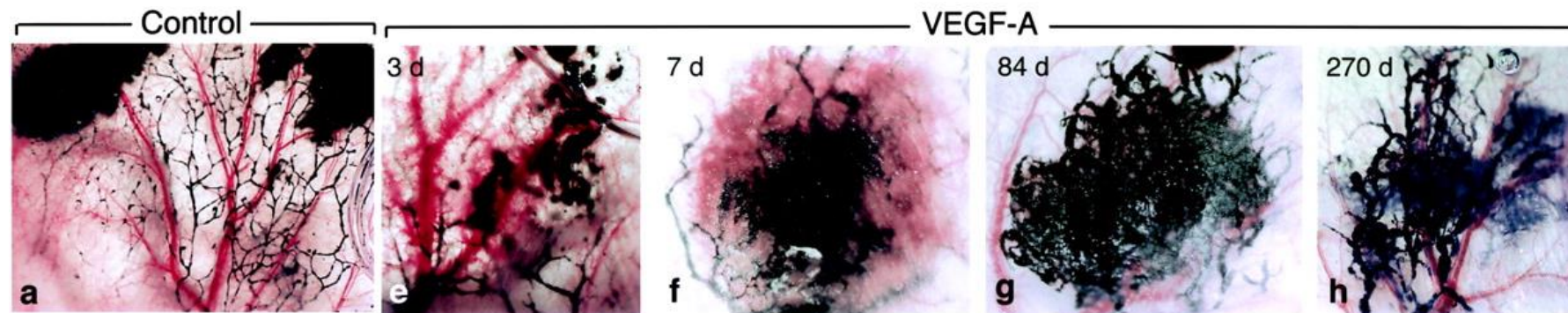


# VEGF-A perturbs lymphangiogenesis: giant lymphatics and incompetence

VEGF-A induces a strong lymphangiogenesis response

BUT New lymphatics are abnormal

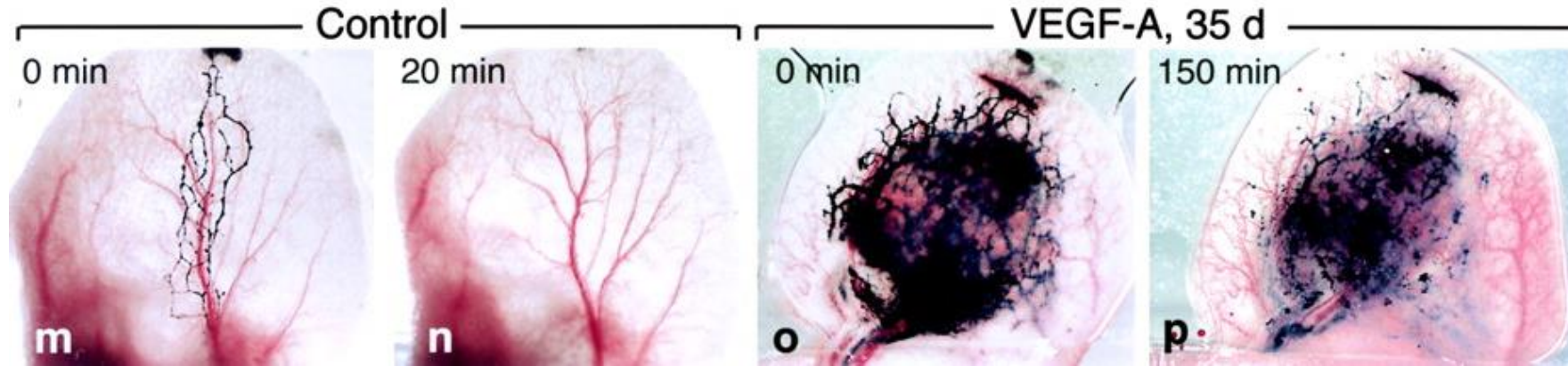
- Very large
- Incompetent valves
- Sluggish flow
- Delayed lymph clearance



Murine ear lymphatics after intravital infusion of colloidal carbon, injected w/ Ad-VEGF-A.  
Marked by giant lymphatics, bulbous valves

Nagy et al. J Exp Med 2002

# VEGF-A perturbs lymphangiogenesis: delayed lymphatic clearance



Murine ear lymphatics after intravital infusion of colloidal carbon, injected w/ Ad-VEGF-A.

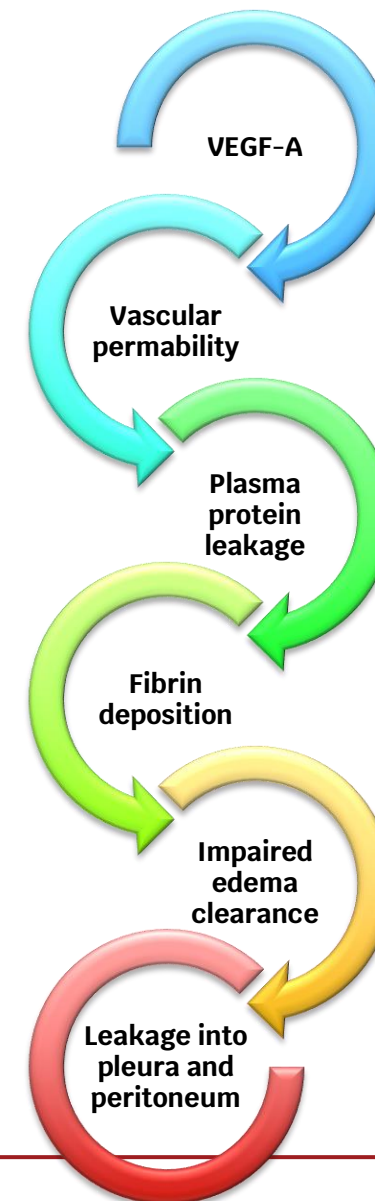
Kinetics of lymphatics clearance in Control (m,n) and Ad-VEGF-A (o,p) mice. Clearance occurs within 20 minutes in control mice, but persists for at least 150min in Ad-VEGF-A mice.

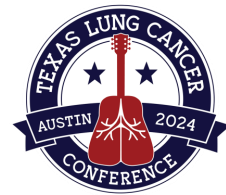
Nagy et al. J Exp Med 2002

# Hypothesis: dual VEGFR2 and MET inhibition will increase efficacy while decreasing toxicity

MET inhibition leads to increased VEGF production, causing 1) bypass resistance through VEGFR2 and 2) changes in the microvasculature that instigate many of the MET inh class-associated side (i.e. edema)

Administration of ramucirumab with tepotinib will effectively abrogate the inducible intratumoral switch to VEGFR2 signaling as a bypass pathway while also **blunting** the effect of VEGF/VEGFR2 interaction in the periphery, **decreasing** the frequency and magnitude of peripheral edema, effusions, and hypoalbuminemia caused by tepotinib





**S1900K:  
A Randomized Phase II Study of  
Tepotinib with or without Ramucirumab  
in Participants with  
MET Exon 14 Skipping Positive Stage IV  
or  
Recurrent  
Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer**

**CHAIR: PAUL K. PAIK, MD (MSKCC)  
CO-CHAIR: XIUNING LE (MD ANDERSON)**

# S1900K schema: please consider activation!

## Key Eligibility

- Stage IIIB/IV/recurrent NSCLC
- *MET* exon 14 skipping + (LungMAP screening, tumor or liquid, consider local testing by FDA approved assay)
- CNS mets allowed if not active/symptomatic, <1cm
- No contraindications to angiogenesis inhibition
- MET inhibitor naïve
- Received prior first-line therapy
- No prior angiogenesis inhibition

## Treatment

Tepotinib 450mg po qd  
+  
Ramucirumab 10mg/kg q3wk  
(21 day cycles)

N=25

Tepotinib 450mg po qd  
(21 day cycles)

N=25

## Endpoints

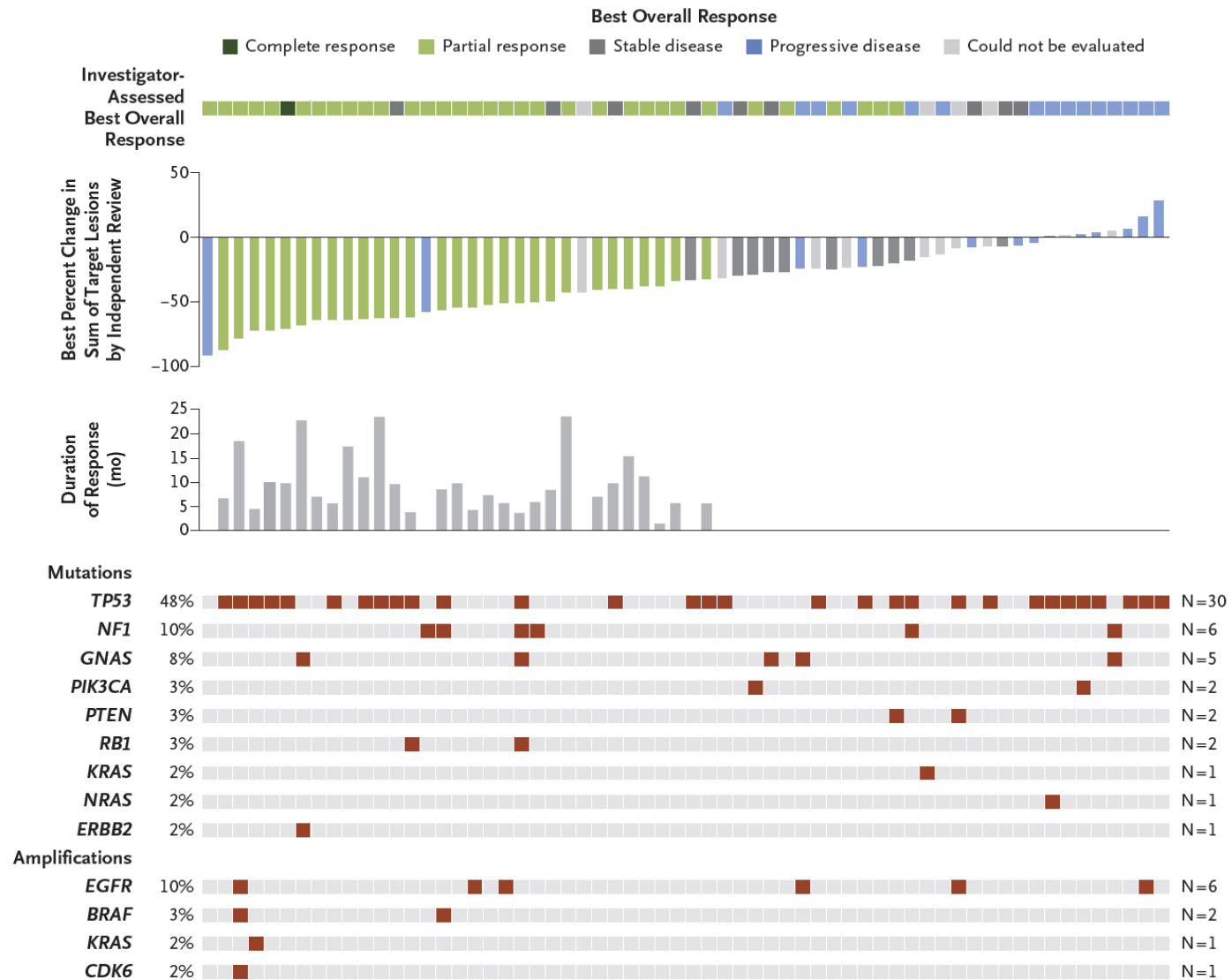
### Primary:

- ORR

### Secondary:

- PFS
- Frequency of all grade edema
- Lymphoscintigraphy scan changes

# MET inhibition: resistance mechanisms are generally not known



Paik PK, et al. NEJM 2020



# Emerging resistance mechanisms were detected in samples taken at the time of disease progression

End-of-treatment



## Emerging *MET* resistance mechanisms

Includes all patients with matched baseline + EOT biomarker profiles that discontinued due to disease progression; this includes patients with baseline liquid biopsy negative for *MET* exon 14 skipping who were enrolled based on *MET* exon 14 skipping detection in tissue biopsy

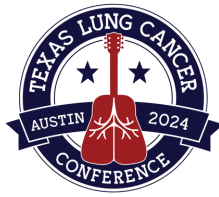
**N=52**

<i>MET</i> kinase domain mutations	Other <i>MET</i> mutations	Best objective response	PFS, months
D1228N	-	Partial response	11.2
D1228H	-	Partial response	11.1
Y1230H	G685E	Complete response	11.0
D1228N	-	Partial response	11.0
D1228G	-	Partial response	10.6
Y1230H/C	-	Partial response	6.9
-	G344R	Stable disease	5.6
Y1230H/C	-	Partial response	4.2
-	S156L	Stable disease	4.2

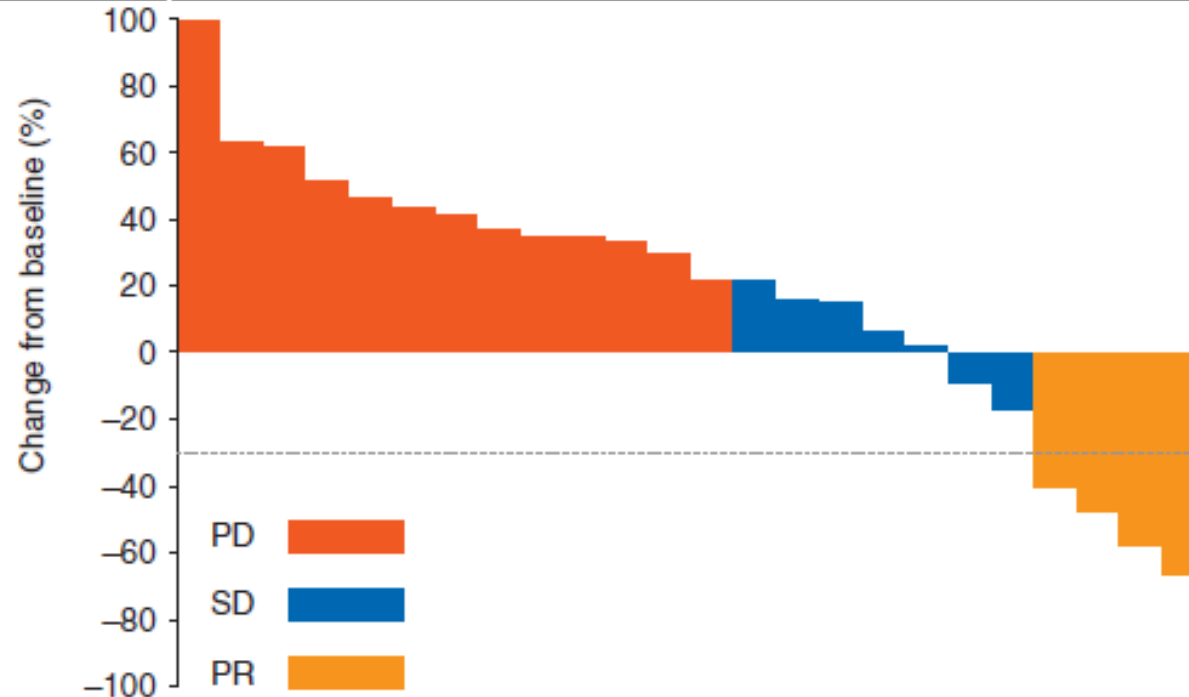
- *MET* kinase domain mutations, which were not present at Week 6 or 12, were detected at EOT in 7/52 patients (13%)
  - All patients with emerging Y1230 and D1228 mutations were responders and 5/7 had PFS >10 months
  - Other *MET* mutations (of unknown functional significance) were detected in three patients

Paik PK, ASCO 2021

# Immunotherapy in MET+ lung cancer: concern for potential resistance



Immunotherapy	Pe mbro	Nivo	Nivo	Pe mbro	Nivo	Nivo	Nivo	Nivo	Nivo	Nivo	Nivo	Nivo	Durva	Pe mbro	Durva	Nivo	Pe mbro	Nivo	Pe mbro	Ata zp	Ipi + N	Ipi + N	Pe mbro	Pe mbro	Pe mbro
Histology	Saia	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Squam	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno	Saia	Saia	Adeno	Adeno	Adeno
PD-L1	90	80	80	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	90	60	NA	100	1	0	80	50	100	NA	NA	90	90	0
TMB	7.5	4.8	4.8	12.1	8.2	5.3	0.9	7.5	3.8	5.7	12.1	6.8	3.8	2.8	9.1	0.9	0.8	7.4	6.1	NA	4.9	9.9	8.4	7.3	



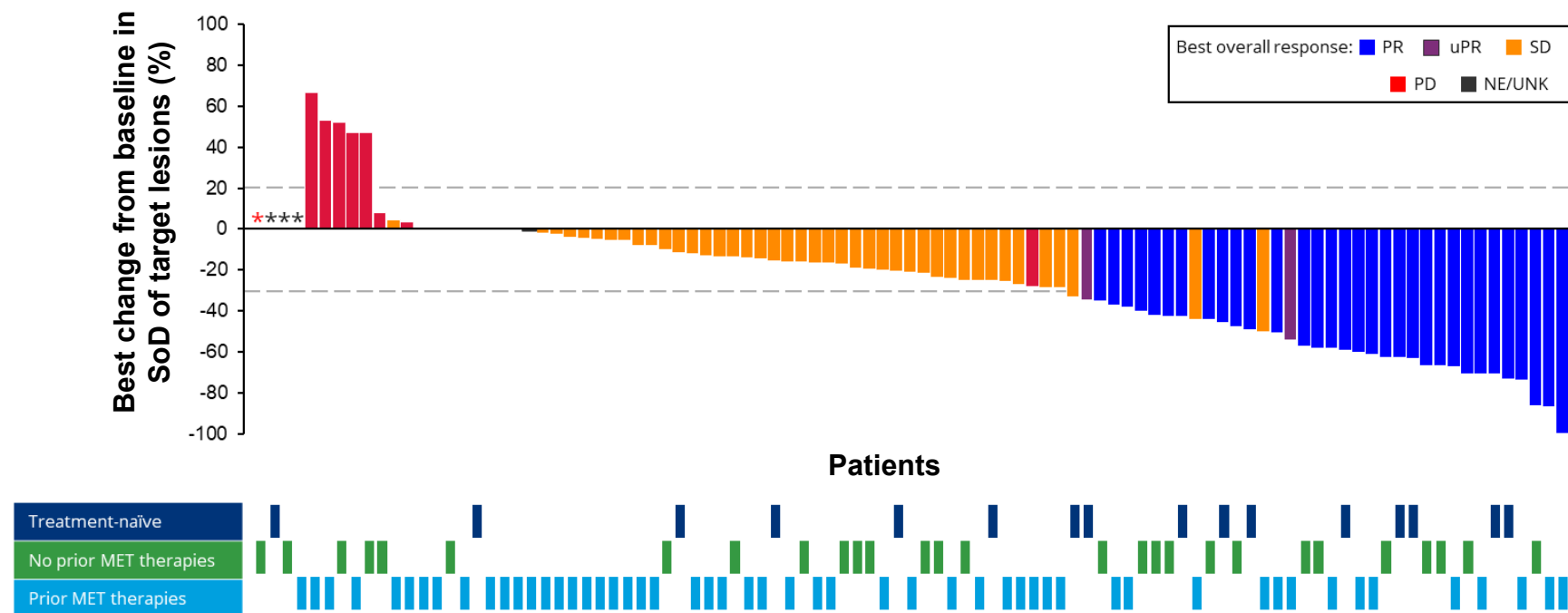
Sabari JK, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2018;29(10):2085-2091.

# Objective and Best Overall Response to Amivantamab



- The **ORR<sup>a</sup> was 33%**, with a total of 32 PRs observed
- Responses to amivantamab were observed in both treatment-naïve and prior treatment settings
  - Treatment-naïve: 8 PRs / 16; **ORR<sup>a</sup> = 50%**
  - No prior MET therapies: 13 PRs / 28; **ORR<sup>a</sup> = 46%**
  - Prior MET therapies: 11 PRs / 53; **ORR<sup>a</sup> = 21%**

## Best change from baseline in SoD of target lesions



MET, mesenchymal-epithelial transition factor; NE/UNK, not evaluable/unknown; ORR, objective response rate; PD, progressive disease; PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; SoD, sum of diameters; uPR, unconfirmed partial response.  
 Four patients (marked with \*) did not have postbaseline disease assessment.  
<sup>a</sup>Two patients with uPR were not included in the ORR estimates.

# Teliso-V (MET ADC) + erlotinib (H-score $\geq 150$ )



TABLE 2. Adverse Events

Adverse Event	Teliso-V Plus Erlotinib (N = 42), No. (%)	
	Any Grade ( $\geq 10\%$ of Patients)	Grade $\geq 3$ ( $\geq 5\%$ of Patients)
Any adverse event	42 (100)	27 (64)
Peripheral sensory neuropathy	18 (43)	3 (7)
Dermatitis acneiform	16 (38)	2 (5)
Diarrhea	14 (33)	3 (7)
Hypoalbuminemia	14 (33)	0
Fatigue	13 (31)	2 (5)
Dyspnea	12 (29)	2 (5)
Decreased appetite	10 (24)	1 (2)
Nausea	10 (24)	0
Asthenia	9 (21)	2 (5)
Vomiting	9 (21)	0
Cough	8 (19)	0
Peripheral neuropathy	8 (19)	1 (2)

Response	Teliso-V Plus Erlotinib			
	c-Met+ <i>EGFR</i> -M+ (n = 28), No./n (%)	c-Met+ <i>EGFR</i> -WT (n = 5), No./n (%)	c-Met+ <i>EGFR</i> -Rare/Unknown (n = 3), No./n (%)	Total (N = 36), No./N (%)
Best overall response <sup>a</sup>				
Complete response	1/28 (4)	0/5	0/3	1/36 (3)
Partial response	8/28 (29)	2/5 (40)	0/3	10/36 (28)
Stable disease	15/28 (54)	2/5 (40)	3/3 (100)	20/36 (56)
Progressive disease	4/28 (14)	1/5 (20)	0/3	5/36 (14)
Objective response rate <sup>b</sup> [95% CI]	9/28 (32.1) [15.9 to 52.4]	2/5 (40.0) [5.3 to 85.3]	0 [0.0 to 70.8]	11/36 (30.6) [16.3 to 48.1]
Disease control rate <sup>c</sup> [95% CI]	24/28 (85.7) [67.3 to 96.0]	4/5 (80.0) [28.4 to 99.5]	3/3 (100) [29.2 to 100]	31/36 (86.1) [70.5 to 95.3]
Progression-free survival				
Median, months [95% CI]	5.9 [2.8 to NR]	6.0 [1.2 to NR]	4.0 [1.6 to NR]	5.9 [2.8 to NR]

Camidge et al. JCO 2022

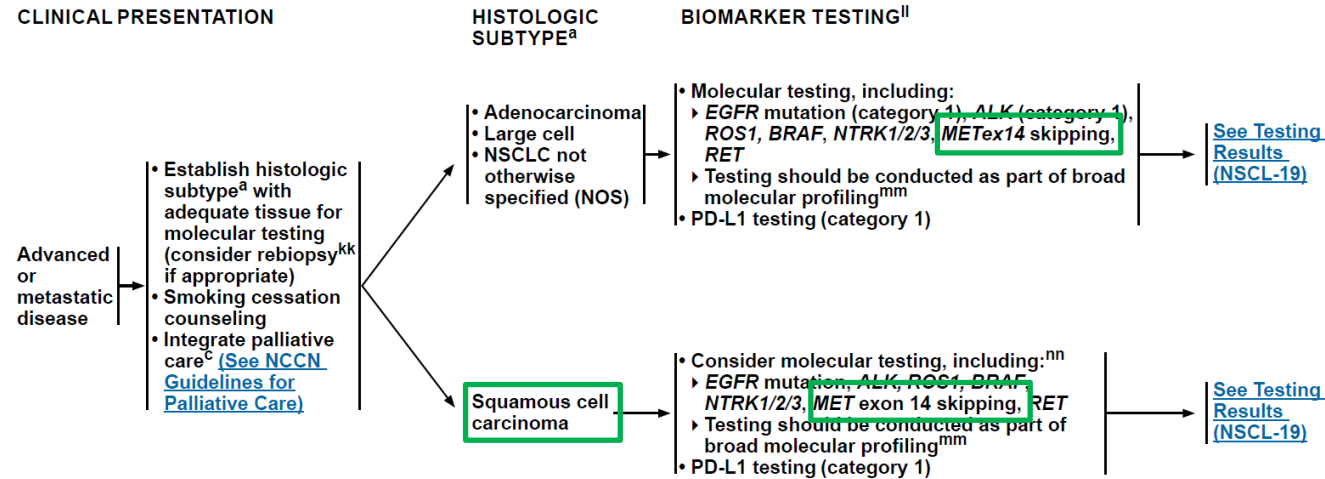
# MET exon 14 testing is now standard of care



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## NCCN Guidelines Version 4.2021 Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

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<sup>a</sup> See [Principles of Pathologic Review \(NSCL-A\)](#).

<sup>c</sup> Temel JS, et al. N Engl J Med 2010;363:733-742.

<sup>kk</sup> If there is insufficient tissue to allow testing for all of EGFR, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, NTRK1/2/3, MET, and RET, repeat biopsy and/or plasma testing should be done. If these are not feasible, treatment is guided by available results and, if unknown, these patients are treated as though they do not have driver oncogenes.

<sup>II</sup> See [Principles of Molecular and Biomarker Analysis \(NSCL-H\)](#).

<sup>mmm</sup> The NCCN NSCLC Guidelines Panel strongly advises broader molecular profiling with the goal of identifying rare driver mutations for which effective drugs may already be available, or to appropriately counsel patients regarding the availability of clinical trials. Broad molecular profiling is a key component of the improvement of care of patients with NSCLC. See [Emerging Biomarkers to Identify Patients for Therapies \(NSCL-I\)](#).

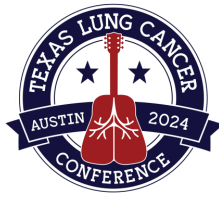
<sup>nn</sup> Lam VK, et al. Clin Lung Cancer 2019;20:30-36.e3; Sands JM, et al. Lung Cancer 2020;140:35-41.

Note: All recommendations are category 2A unless otherwise indicated.  
Clinical Trials: NCCN believes that the best management of any patient with cancer is in a clinical trial. Participation in clinical trials is especially encouraged.

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NSCL-18

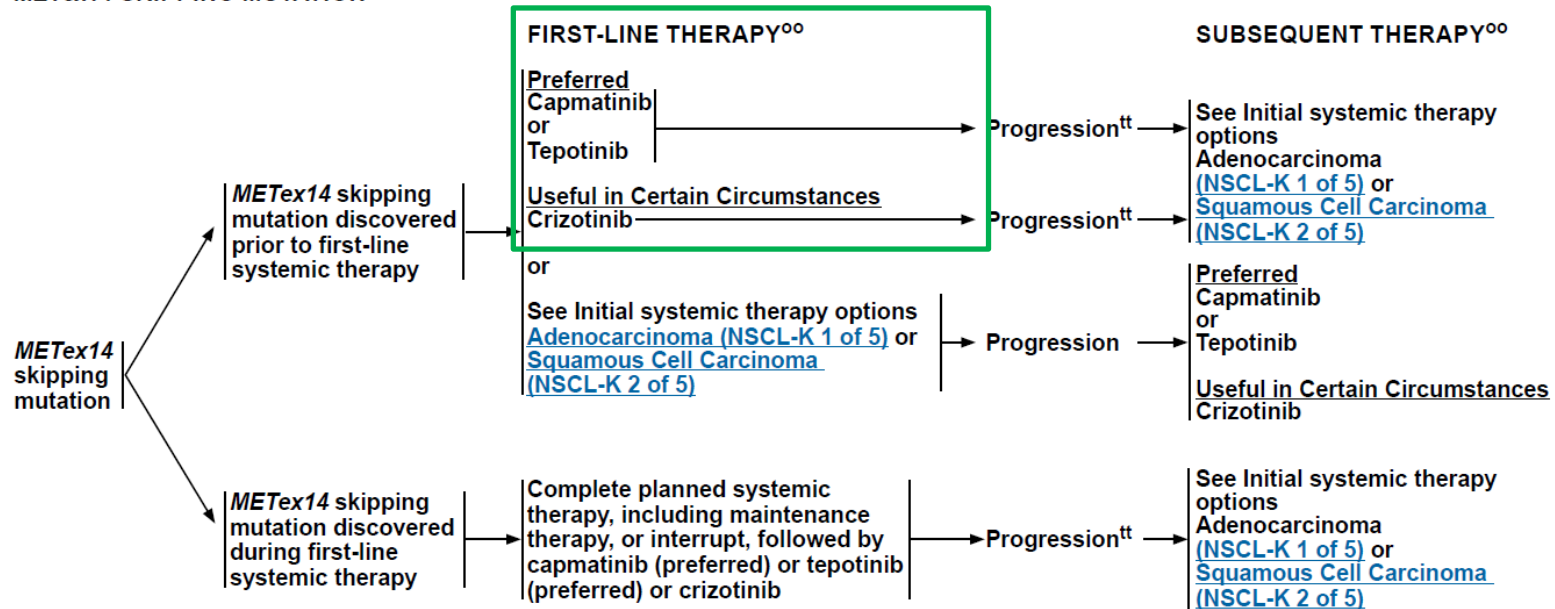
# NCCN recommends first-line MET therapy for MET exon 14 skipping + patients



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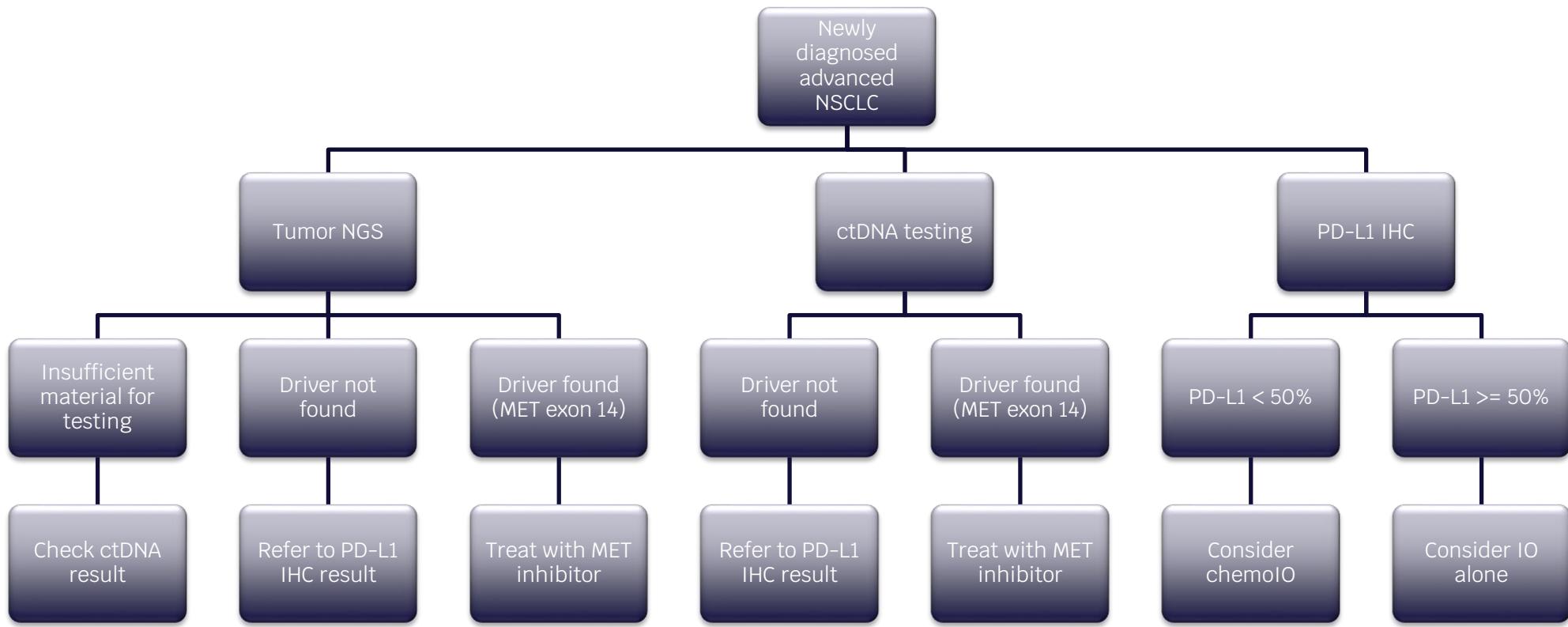
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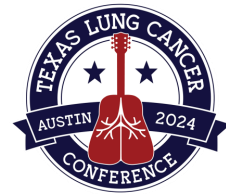
## METex14 SKIPPING MUTATION<sup>II</sup>





# How to apply MET exon 14 testing as standard of care: my algorithm





**Thank you!**

Endorsed by

