



THIRD ANNUAL  
**ISSPP**  
**Congress 2022** *International Society  
for the Study of Pleura  
and Peritoneum*



PLEURAL & PERITONEAL MESOTHELIOMA

# Update on Treatment Approaches to Pleural Mesothelioma

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City of Hope

*Advancing Innovative Therapies for Cancers That Invade the Peritoneum and the Pleura*

# Disclosures

- Consultant for AstraZeneca and Sanofi.
- On the Speakers Bureau for AstraZeneca and Sanofi.

*This presentation and/or comments will be free of any bias toward or promotion of the above referenced companies or their products and/or other business interests.*

*This presentation and/or comments will provide a balanced, non-promotional, and evidence-based approach to all diagnostic, therapeutic and/or research related content.*

*This presentation has been peer-reviewed and no conflicts were noted.*

# Cultural Linguistic Competency (CLC) & Implicit Bias (IB)

## **STATE LAW:**

The California legislature has passed Assembly Bill (AB) 1195, which states that as of July 1, 2006, all Category 1 CME activities that relate to patient care must include a cultural diversity/linguistics component. It has also passed AB 241, which states that as of January 1, 2022, all continuing education courses for a physician and surgeon **must** contain curriculum that includes specified instruction in the understanding of implicit bias in medical treatment.

*The cultural and linguistic competency (CLC) and implicit bias (IB) definitions reiterate how patients' diverse backgrounds may impact their access to care.*

## **EXEMPTION:**

Business and Professions Code 2190.1 exempts activities which are dedicated solely to research or other issues that do not contain a direct patient care component.

***This presentation is dedicated solely to research or other issues that do not contain a direct patient care component.***

# Malignant mesothelioma is an aggressive cancer with poor prognosis



- 3,000 new cases in US each year
- Majority of patients not candidates for surgery
- Staging and radiologic assessment difficult
- Pemetrexed plus cisplatin FDA approved, 2004
- Nivolumab plus Ipilimumab FDA approved, 2020

**Median overall survival ~18 months**

Kindler H,...Hassan R, *J Clin Oncol.*, 2018  
Rusch VW et. al., *J Thorac Oncol.*, 2016  
Vogelzang NJ et. al., *J Clin Oncol.*, 2003  
Baas P et. al., *Lancet*, 2021



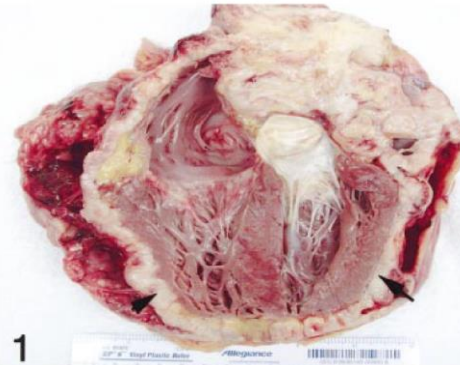
Mesothelioma arises at sites that are lined by mesothelial cells



Pleural



Peritoneal

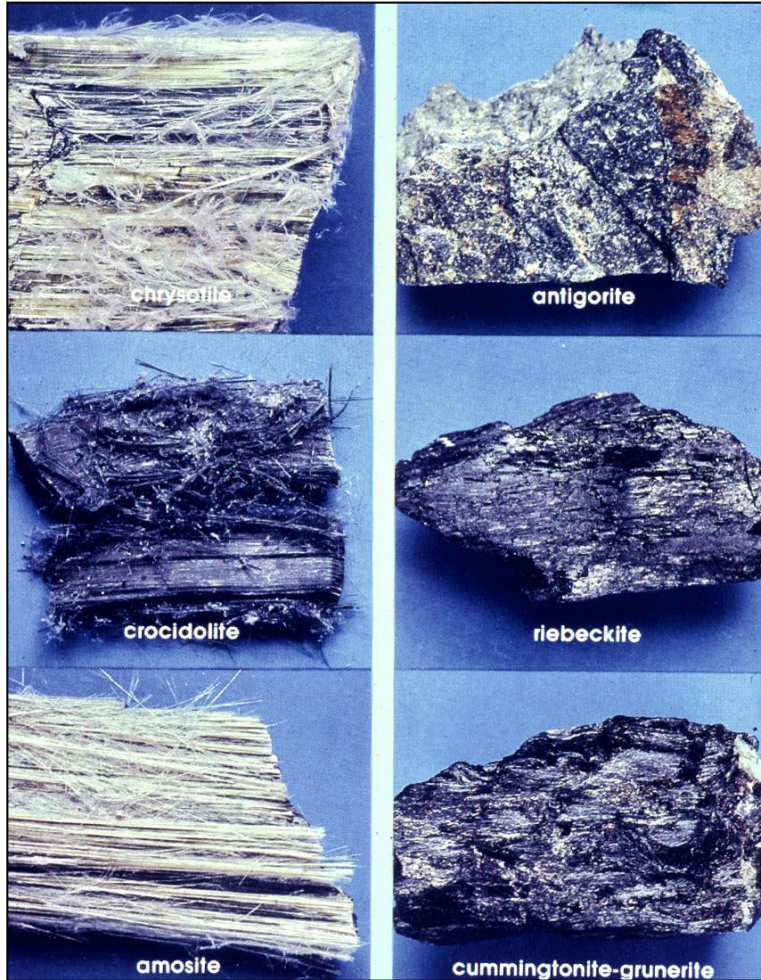


Pericardial



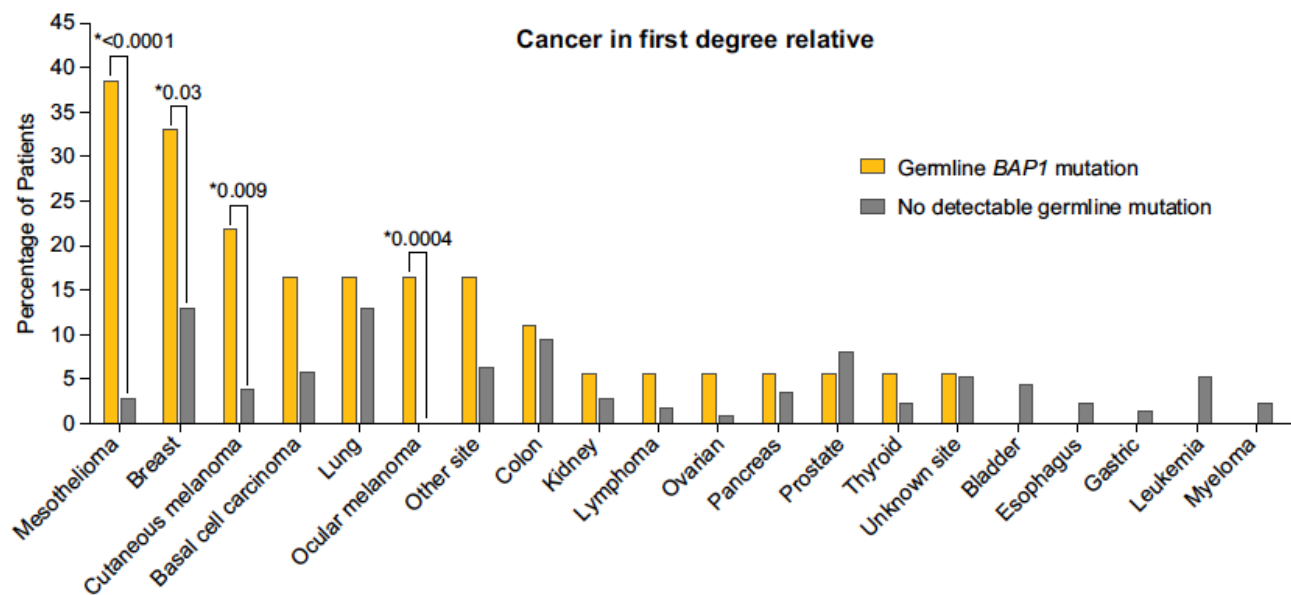
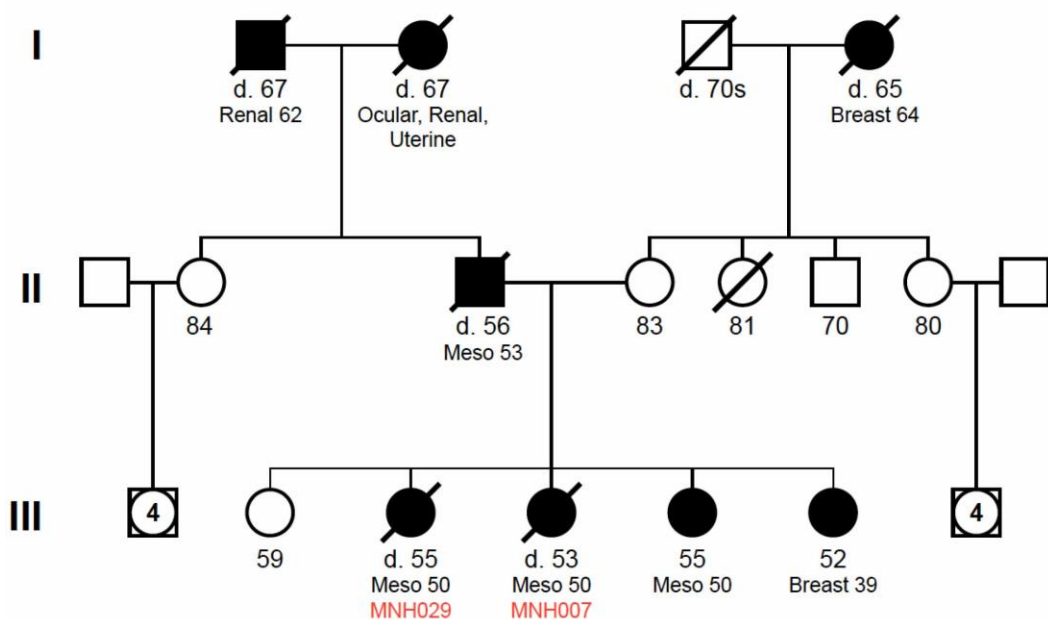
Tunica vaginalis

# Malignant mesothelioma - causes



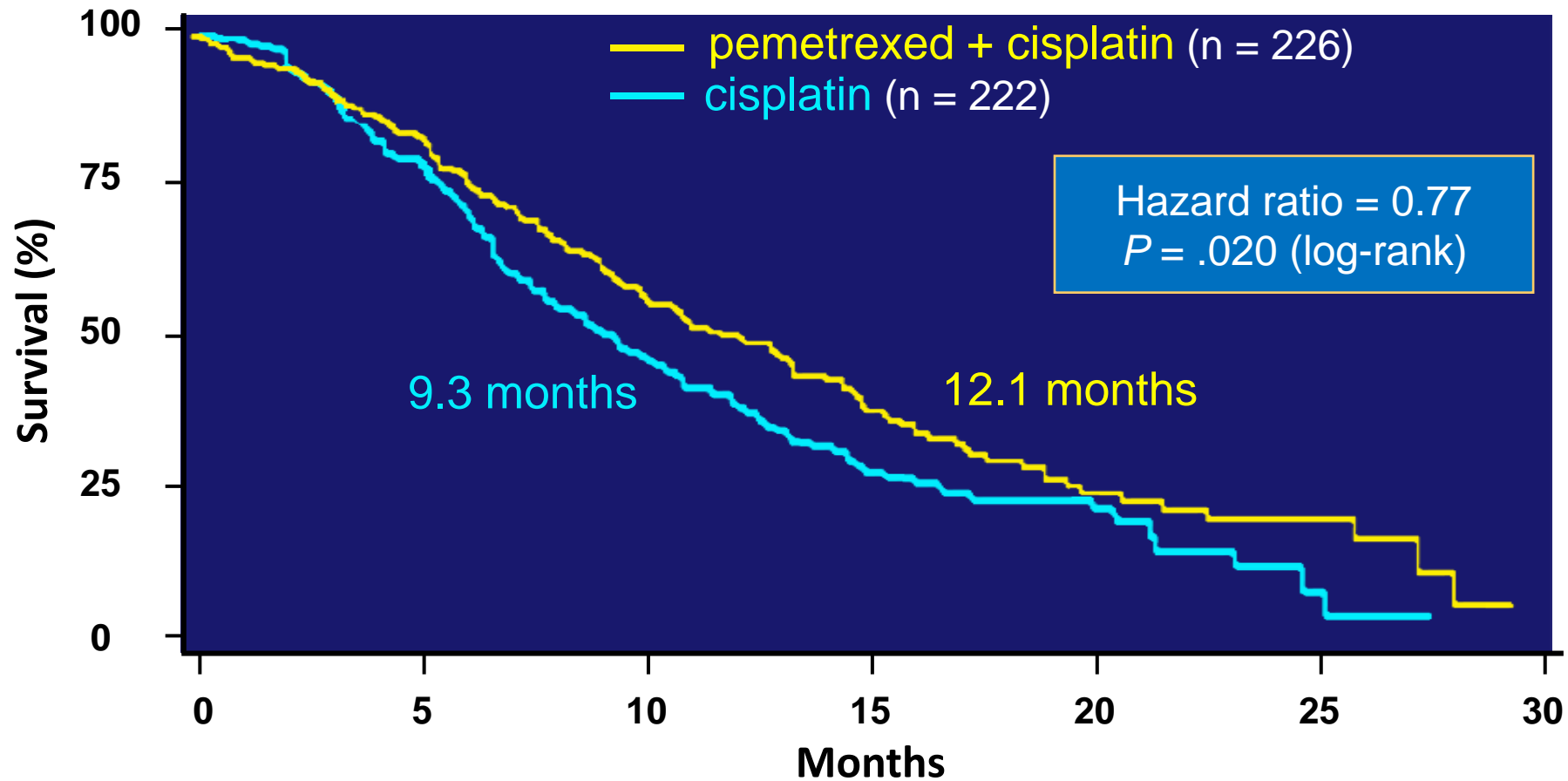
- Asbestos is the primary cause of mesothelioma
- Patients with Hodgkin's disease and NHL that have received XRT have an increased risk of developing mesothelioma
- Mesothelioma risk also increased in patients with germline mutations in the *BAP1* gene

# Patients and their family members with germline BAP1 mutations are at increased risk for mesothelioma and other cancers



Hassan R et. al. PNAS, 2019

# Phase III Study of Pemetrexed plus Cisplatin in MPM



Vogelzang NJ et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2003






# Frequently mutated genes in MPM



Illei Clin Cancer Res. 2003; Bueno R. *et al. Nat Genet* 2016; Hmeljak J. *et al. Cancer Discov* 2018.

# Targets for Current and Future Approaches

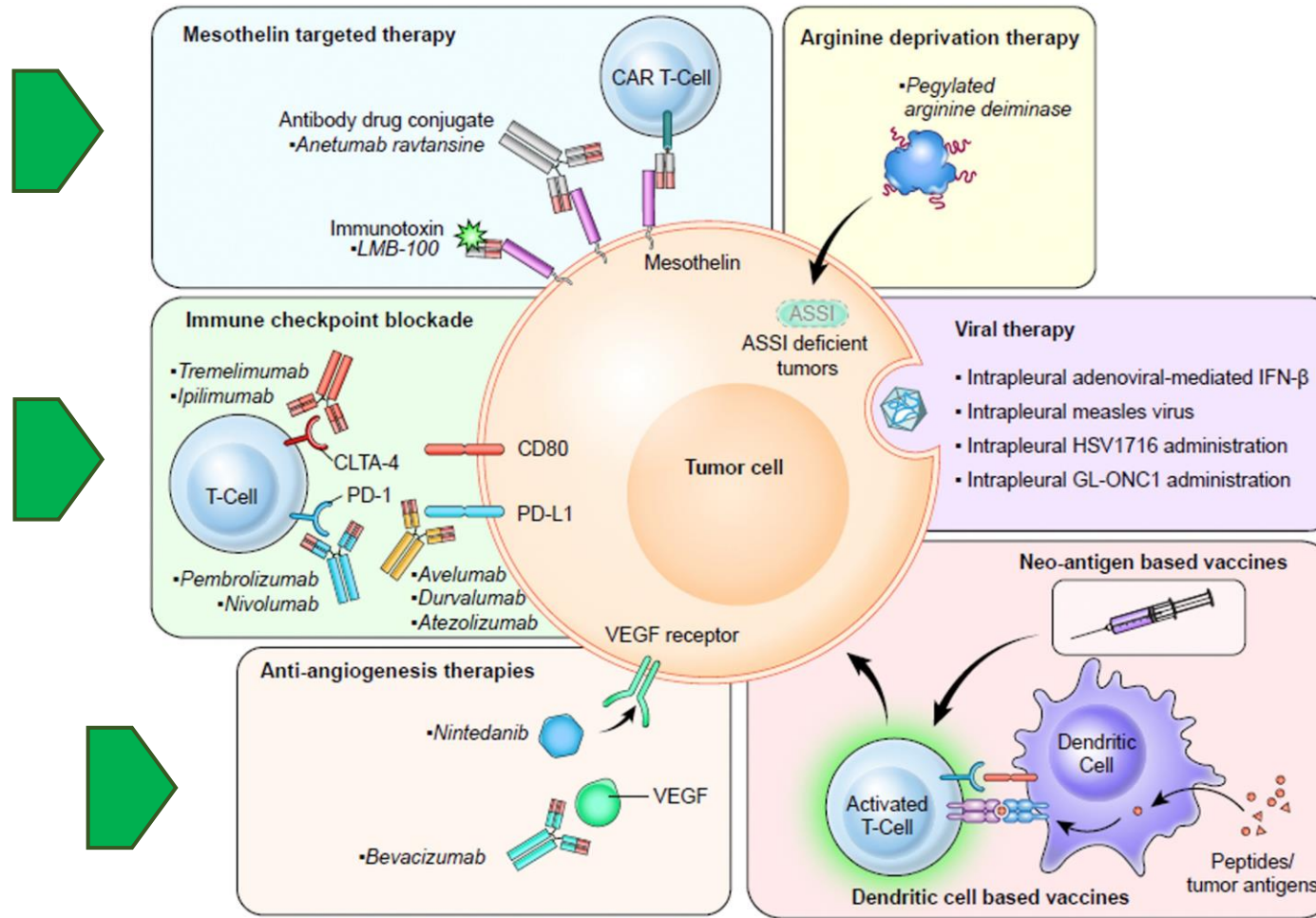
Phenotypic Histologic Subtypes	
Epithelioid (50–60% of cases)	
Biphasic (30–40% of cases)	
Sarcomatoid (10% of cases)	

Current and Future Systemic Approaches
Chemotherapy
Antibody-drug conjugates
Immune checkpoint inhibition (PD-1 or PD-L1 inhibition)
Ferroptosis inducers
Cellular therapy (CAR-T cells targeting mesothelin)
Angiogenesis inhibition

Genomic or Epigenomic Landscape	
Mutation	Therapeutic Targets
BAP1	EZH2; PARP
CDKN2A	p16
NF2	FAK; YAP-TEAD; mTOR and PI3K
ASS1	Arginine

Janes SM et al N Engl J Med 2021

# Selected examples of different strategies currently in clinical trials for therapy of malignant mesothelioma



Luciano M,...Hassan, R. JTO, 2018

# Anti-angiogenic agents for treatment of mesothelioma

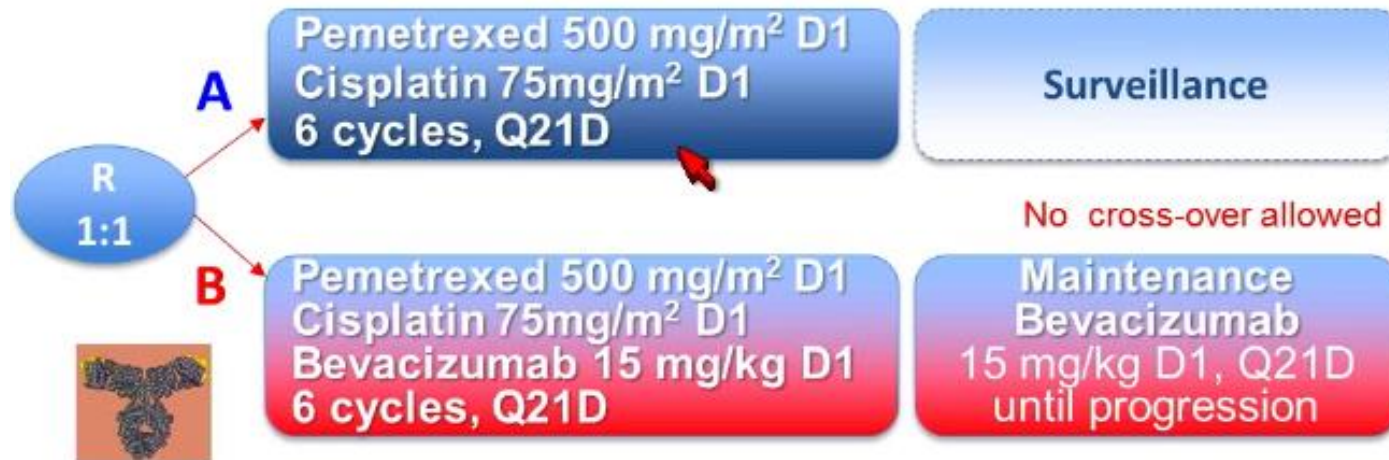


# Anti-angiogenic therapies

- Limited activity of cediranib, sorafenib and sunitinib
- The following two agents show some activity when combined with chemotherapy
  - Bevacizumab, an anti-VEGF antibody
  - Nintedanib, a multi-kinase inhibitor that targets VEGF receptors 1, 2, 3; PDGFR, FGF receptors

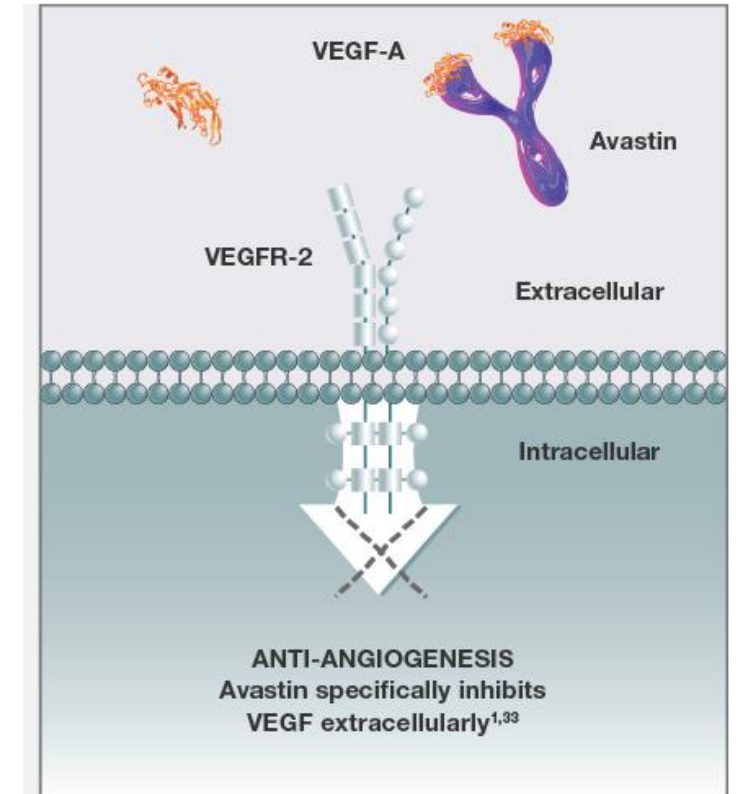
# IFCT-GFPC-0701 trial: MAPS

IFCT-sponsored, open-label, multi-center randomized phase II-III trial



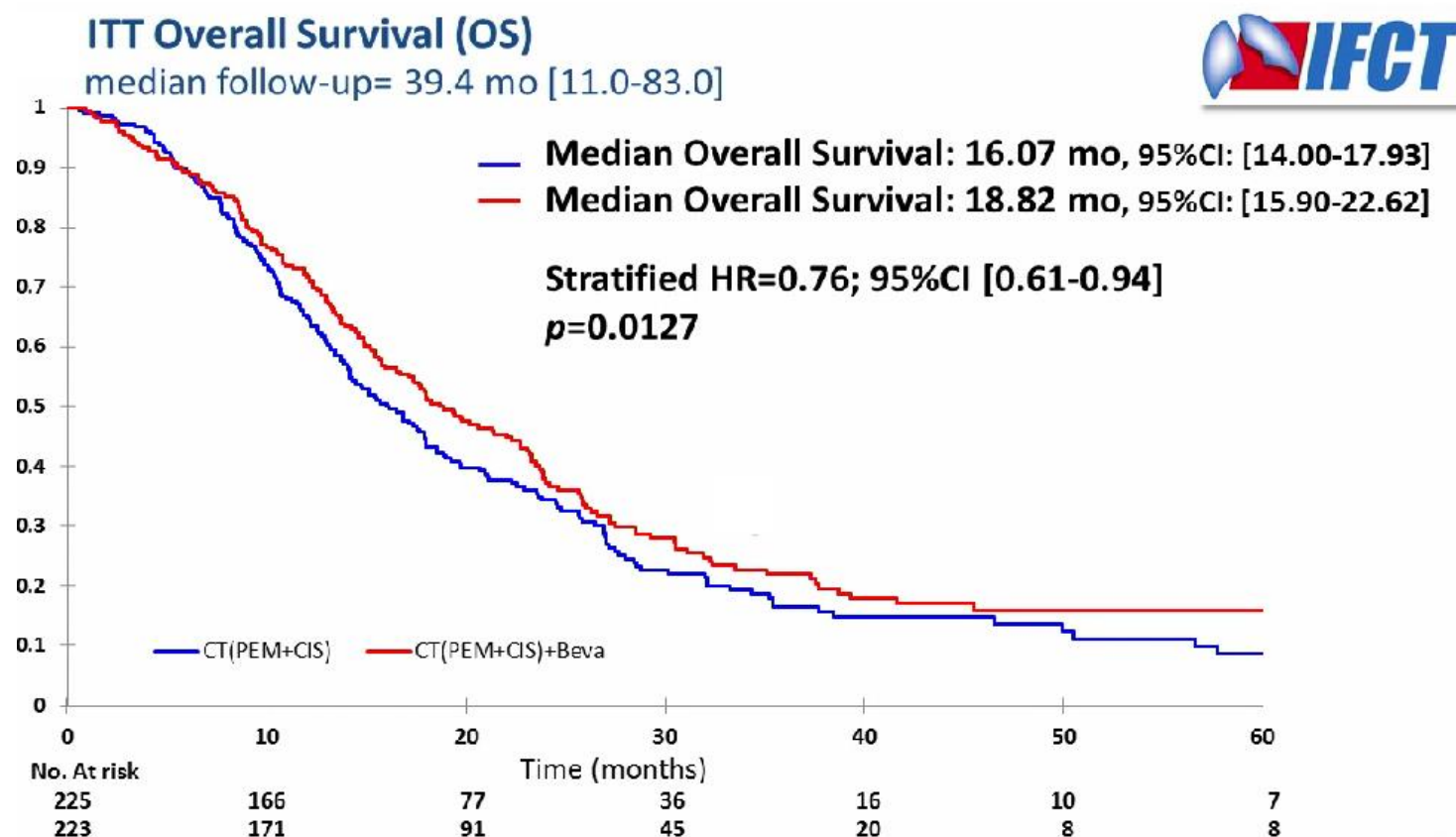
CT-scan Q 3 cycles in both arms.

Response assessed with modified RECIST criteria for mesothelioma



Zalcman G et al. ASCO 2015

# Increased overall survival in patients receiving bevacizumab plus pemetrexed and cisplatin

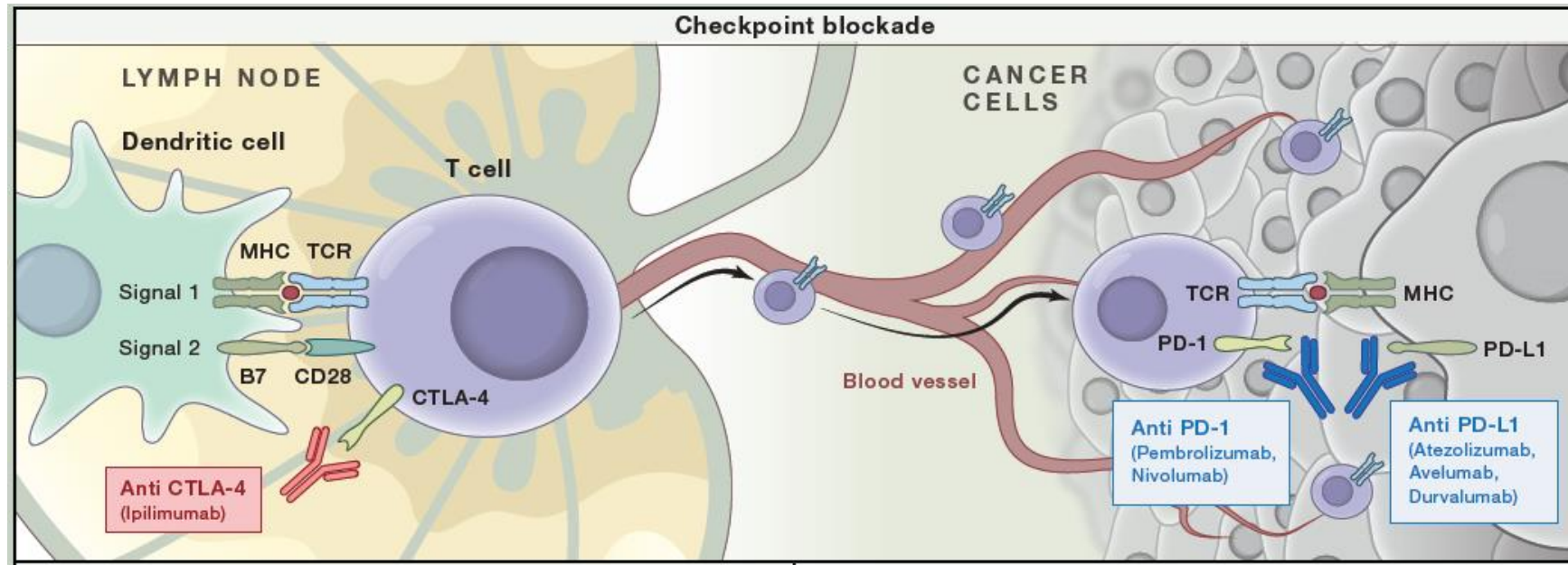


Zalcman G et al. *Lancet* 2015

# Immune checkpoint blockade in mesothelioma



# Immune-Checkpoints

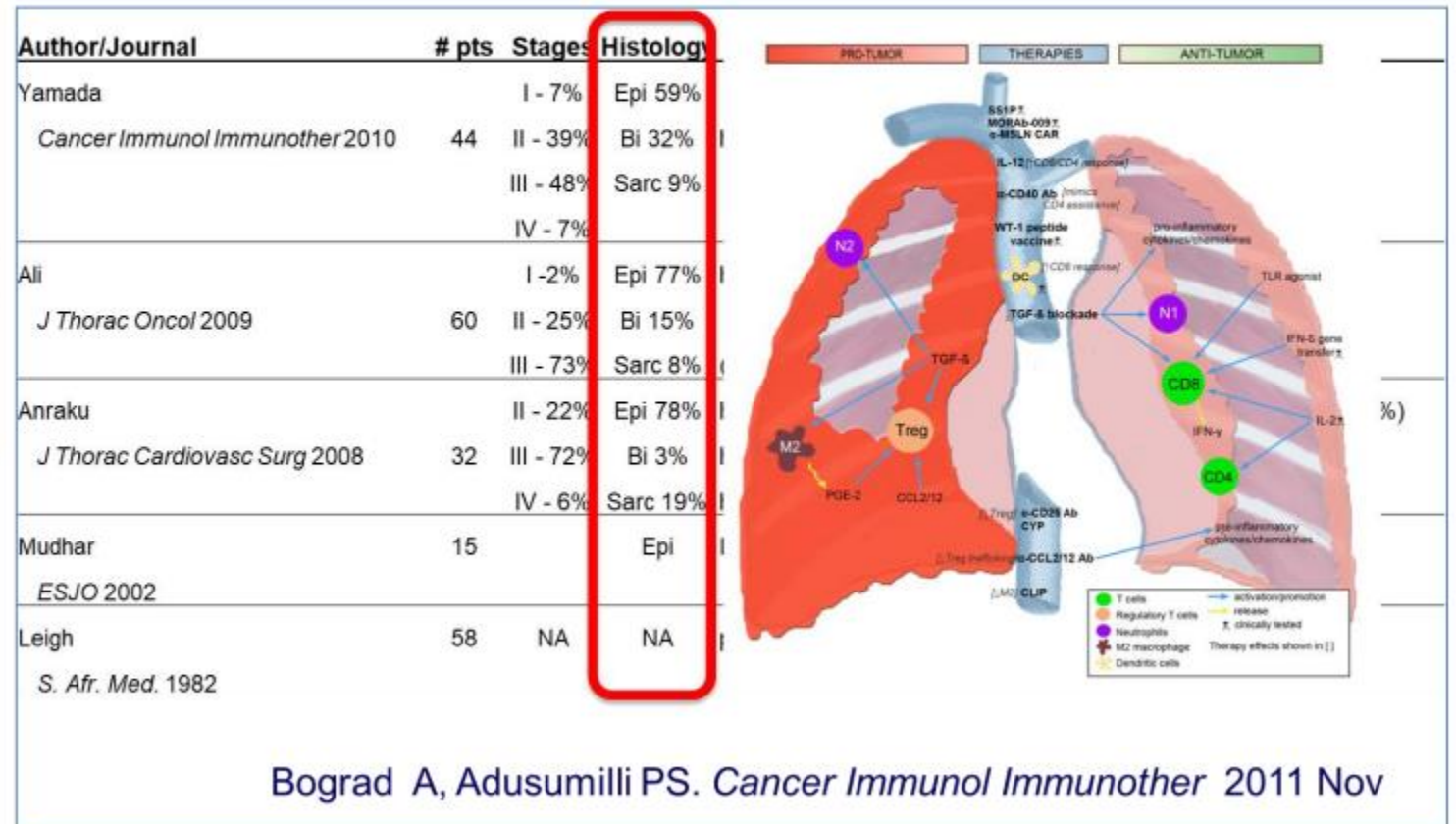
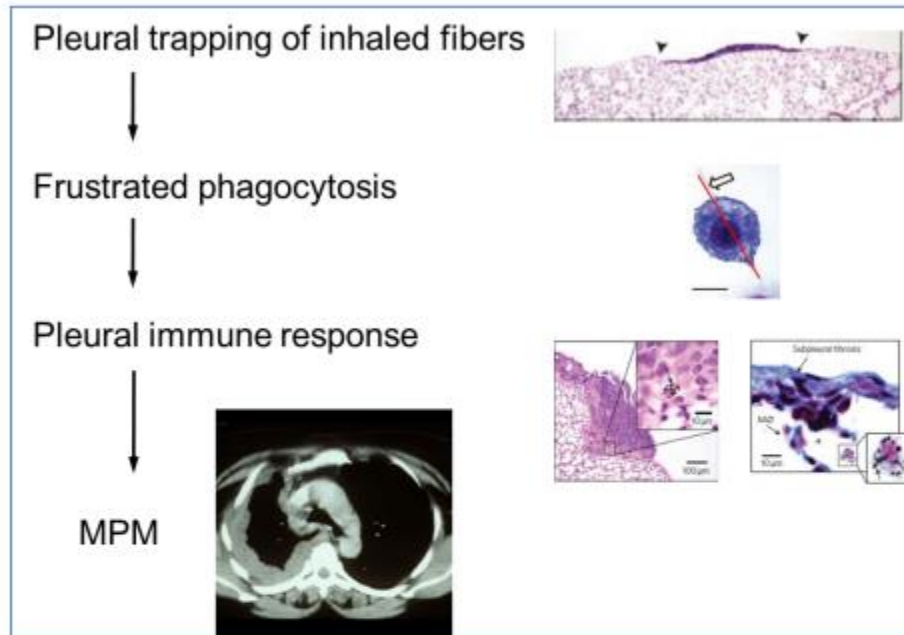


Abril-Rodriguez G, Ribas A. *Cancer Cell*, 2017

## Clinical trials of immune checkpoints in mesothelioma

- Anti-CTLA-4 antibodies: Tremelimumab, Ipilimumab
- Anti-PDL1 antibodies: Avelumab, Durvalumab
- Anti-PD-1 antibodies: Pembrolizumab, Nivolumab

# Pleural mesothelioma tumor immune microenvironment



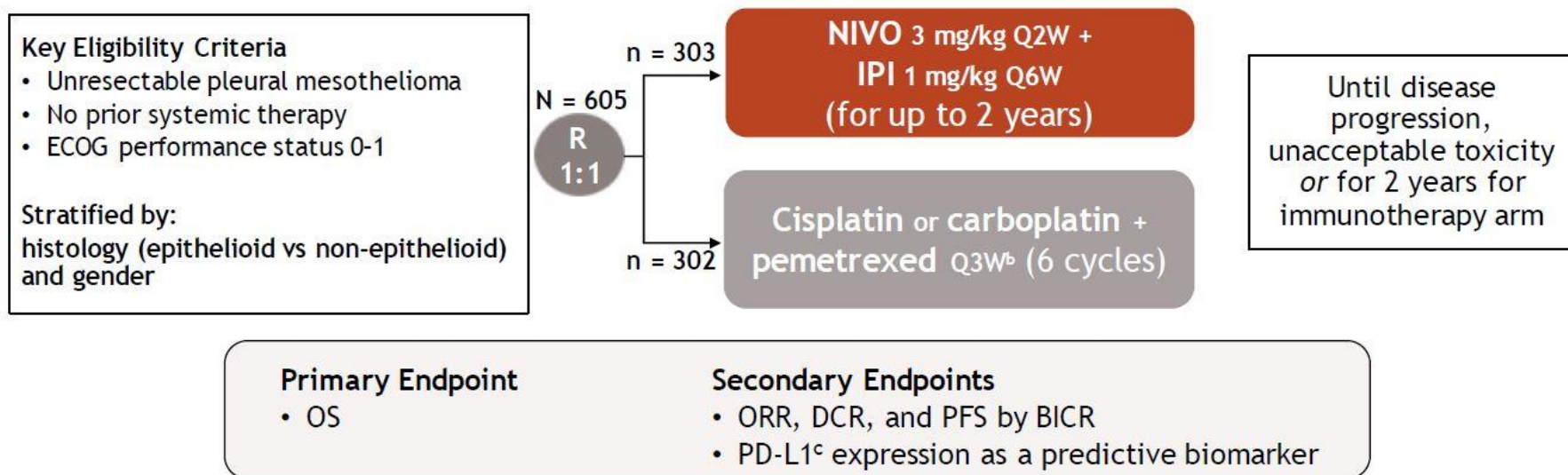
# Efficacy of immune checkpoints in mesothelioma

Checkpoint Inhibitor (Target)	Clinical Trials	Objective Response Rate (No. of Responders/ Total No. Enrolled)	References
Pembrolizumab (Anti-PD-1)	KEYNOTE-028: Ph 1b, 10 mg/kg every 2 wk up to 2 y	PR: <b>20%</b> (5/25)	Alley et al., 2017, Lancet Oncol
	Ph 2, 200 mg every 21 d	PR: <b>19%</b> (12/65)	Desai et al., 2018, J of Clin Oncol
Nivolumab (Anti-PD-1)	Ph 2, 3mg/kg every 2 wk	PR: <b>24%</b> (8/34)	Quispel-Janssen et al., 2018, J Thorac Oncol
	MERIT: Ph 2, 240 mg every 2 wk	ORR: <b>29%</b> (10/34)	Okada et al., 2019, Clin Cancer Res
Avelumab (Anti-PD-L1)	JAVELIN: Ph 1b, 10 mg/kg every 2 wks	1CR, 4PR: <b>9%</b> (5/53)	Hassan et al., 2019, JAMA Oncol
Tremelimumab (Anti-CTLA-4)	Ph 2, 15 mg/kg every 90 d	PR: <b>7%</b> (2/29)	Calabro et al., 2013, Lancet Oncol
	Ph 2, 10 mg/kg every 4 wk for 6 doses then every 12 wk	PR: <b>3%</b> (1/29)	Calabro et al., 2015, Lancet Respir Med
	DETERMINE: Ph 2b, same dose and schedule as above, treated (n=382) vs placebo (n=189)	<b>No benefit in OS</b>	Maio et al., 2017, Lancet Oncol



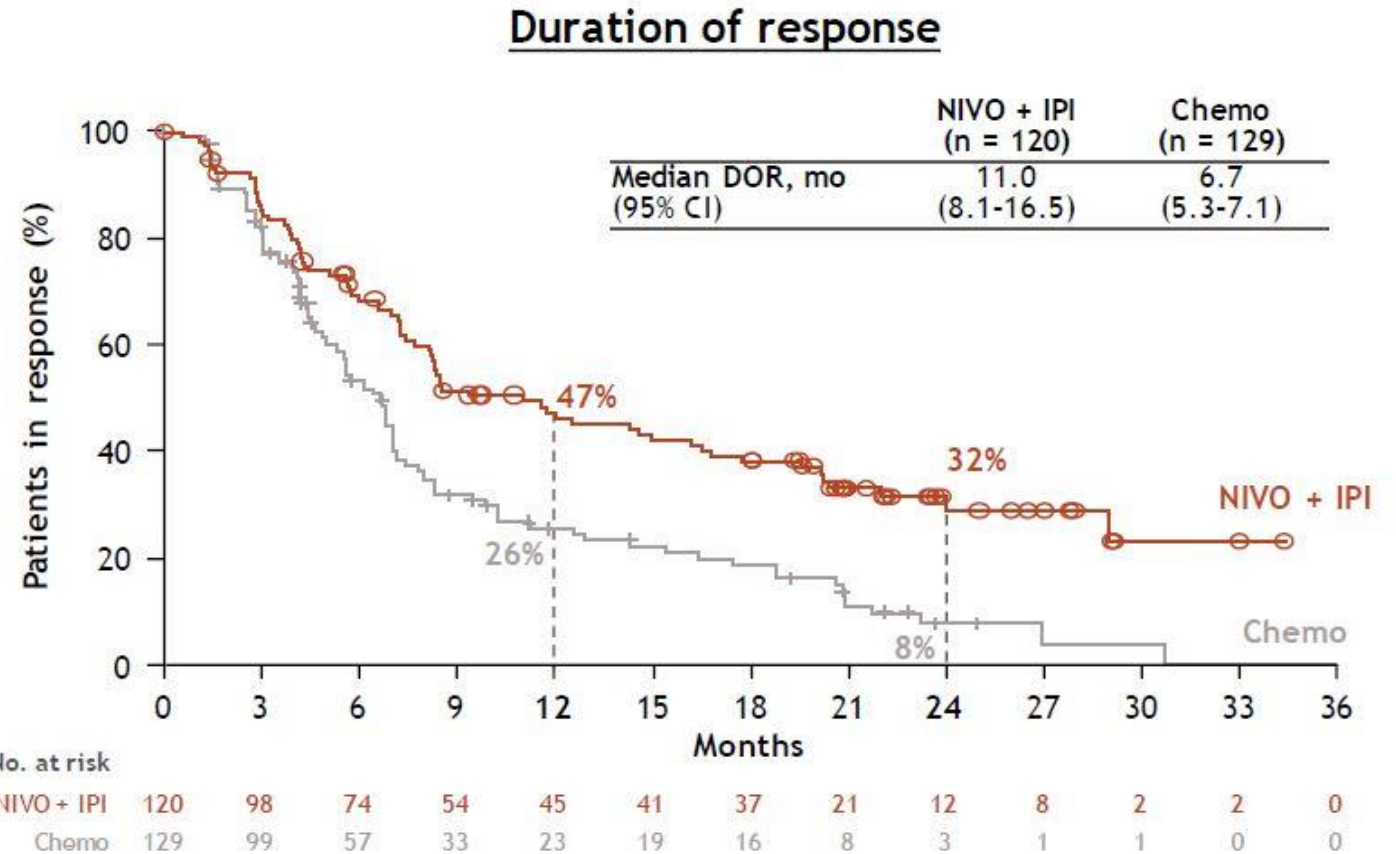
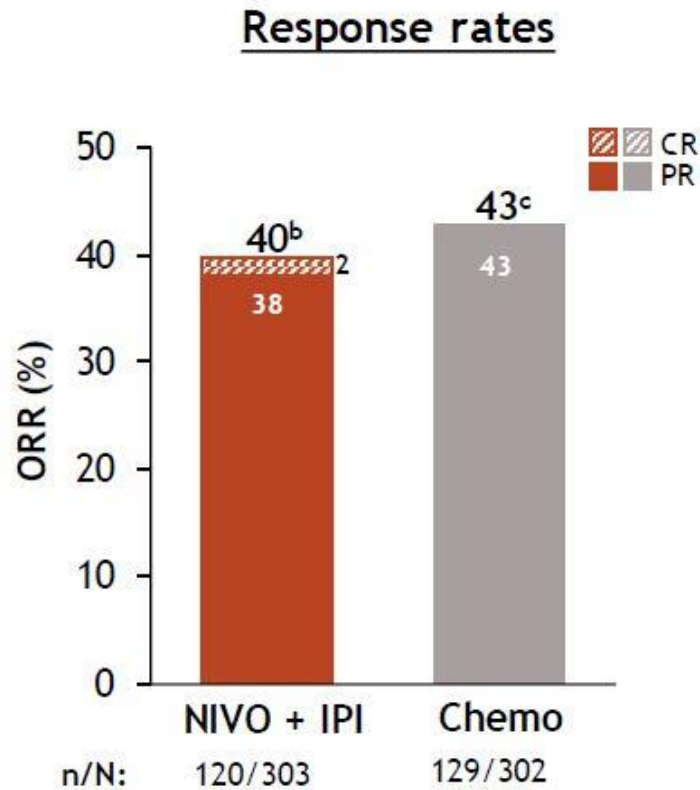
# First-line nivolumab plus ipilimumab in unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma (CheckMate 743): a multicentre, randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial

Paul Baas, Arnaud Scherpereel, Anna K Nowak, Nobukazu Fujimoto, Solange Peters, Anne S Tsao, Aaron S Mansfield, Sanjay Popat, Thierry Jahan, Scott Antonia, Youssef Oulkhvir, Yolanda Bautista, Robin Cornelissen, Laurent Greillier, Francesco Grossi, Dariusz Kowalski, Jerónimo Rodríguez-Cid, Praveen Aanur, Abderrahim Oukessou, Christine Baudelet, Gérard Zalcman



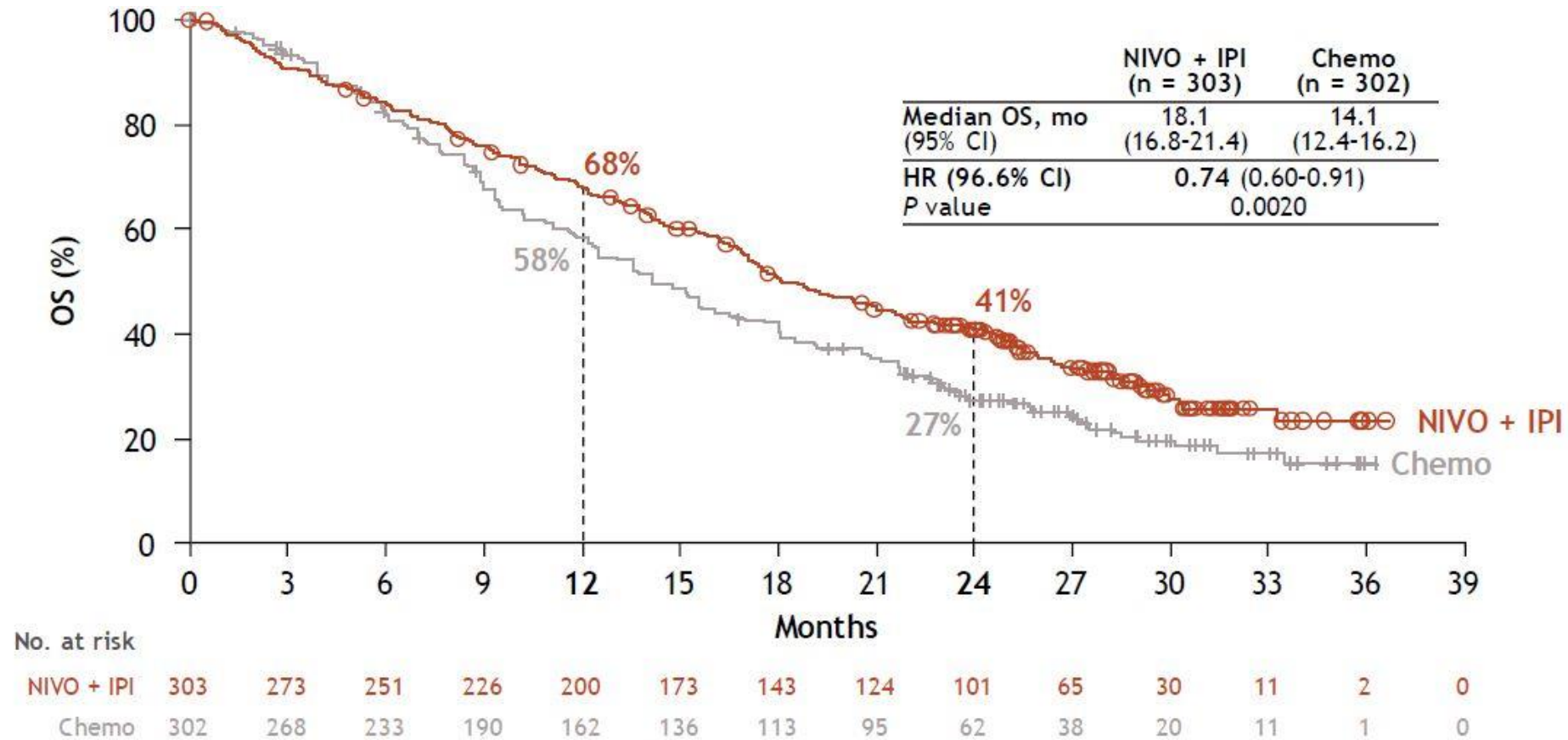


# Response rate

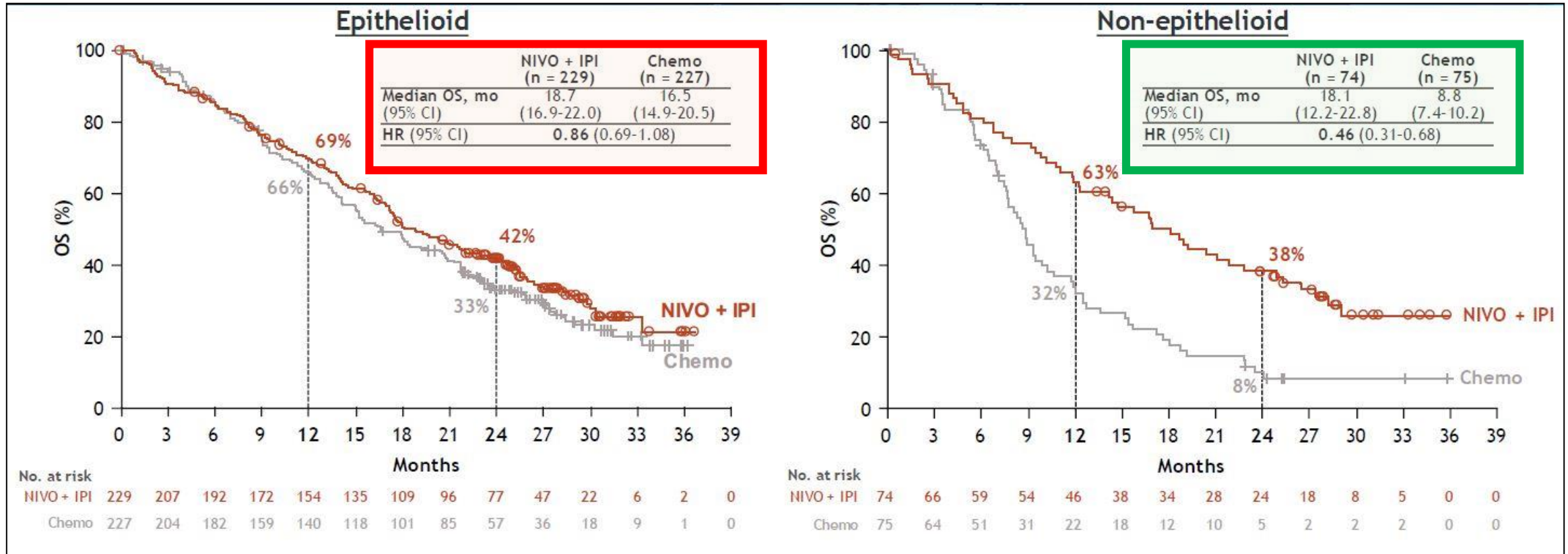


- Disease control rate was 76.6% with NIVO + IPI and 85.1% with chemo

# Overall survival



# Overall survival by histology



# Adverse events

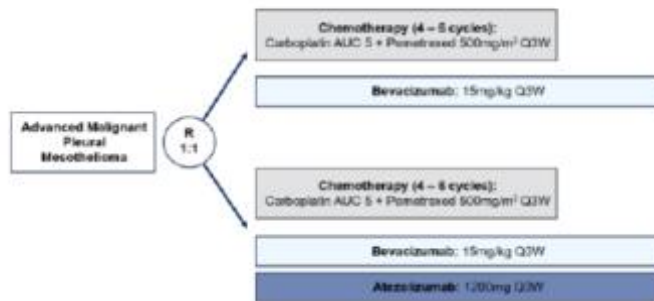
	Nivolumab plus ipilimumab group (n=300)			Chemotherapy group (n=284)		
	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1-2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Any	148 (49%)	79 (26%)	12 (4%)	141 (50%)	73 (26%)	18 (6%)
Diarrhoea	52 (17%)	10 (3%)	0	19 (7%)	2 (1%)	0
Pruritus	46 (15%)	3 (1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0	0
Rash	40 (13%)	3 (1%)	0	15 (5%)	0	0
Fatigue	38 (13%)	3 (1%)	0	50 (18%)	5 (2%)	0
Hypothyroidism	32 (11%)	0	0	0	0	0
Nausea	29 (10%)	1 (<1%)	0	97 (34%)	7 (2%)	0
Anaemia	5 (2%)	1 (<1%)	0	70 (25%)	32 (11%)	0
Decreased appetite	27 (9%)	2 (1%)	0	48 (17%)	2 (1%)	0
Constipation	12 (4%)	0	0	41 (14%)	1 (<1%)	0
Vomiting	8 (3%)	0	0	35 (12%)	6 (2%)	0
Asthenia	25 (8%)	0	0	32 (11%)	12 (4%)	0
Increased lipase	7 (2%)	11 (4%)	2 (1%)	0	1 (<1%)	0
Colitis	3 (1%)	7 (2%)	0	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	0
Increased amylase	10 (3%)	6 (2%)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	0	0
Thrombocytopenia	0	2 (1%)	0	16 (6%)	4 (1%)	6 (2%)
Neutropenia	0	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	28 (10%)	31 (11%)	12 (4%)

Data are n (%). Safety was assessed in all patients who received at least one dose of study drug. Treatment-related adverse events with an incidence of  $\geq 10\%$  in any group or grade 3 or 4 severity with an incidence of  $\geq 2\%$  in any group are shown. All grade 3 and 4 events are listed in the appendix (pp 13–16). Treatment-related adverse events included those reported between the first dose of study drug and 30 days after the last dose of study drug. \*Only events that led to death within 24 h were documented as grade 5 and reported as deaths. Events leading to death >24 h after onset are reported with the worst grade before death.

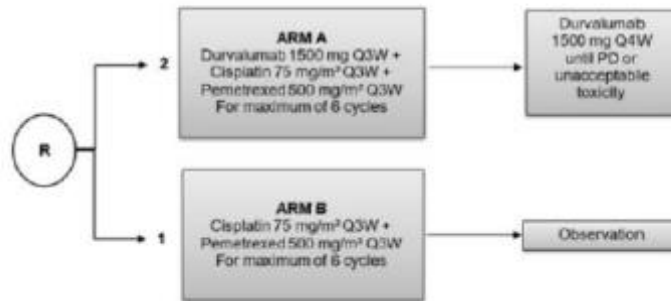


# Bringing IO to Frontline Treatment

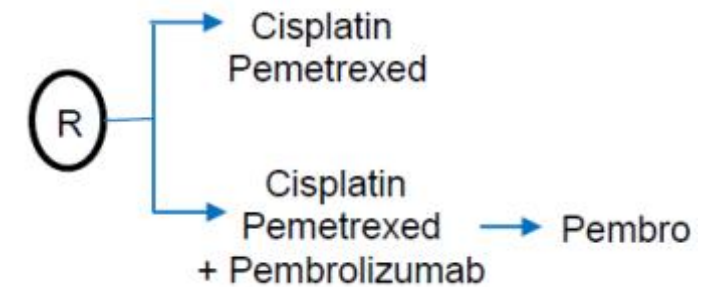
## BEAT-meso: 1L Carboplatin/Pemetrexed/Bevacizumab +/- Atezolizumab



## DREAM3R: 1L Carboplatin/Pemetrexed +/- Durvalumab

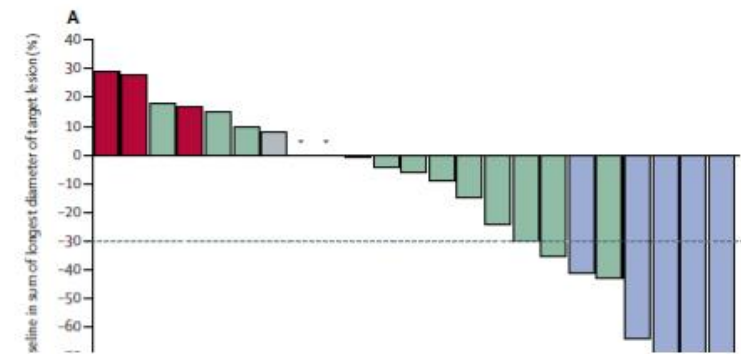


## IND.227: 1L Cisplatin/Pemetrexed +/- Pembrolizumab



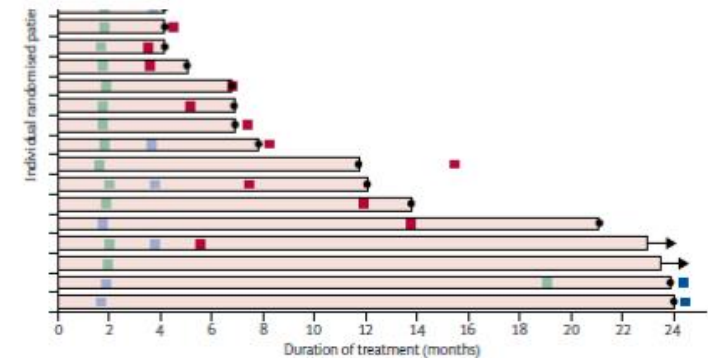
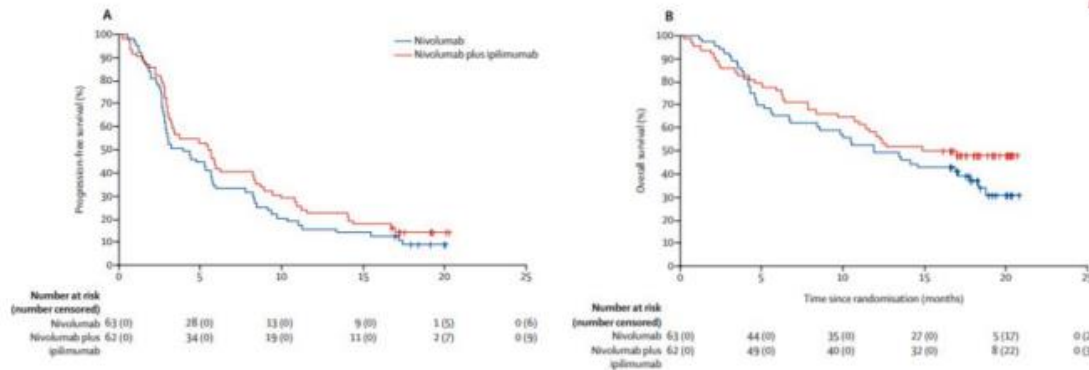
# Pleural Mesothelioma Second-line Options

- **Chemotherapy**
  - Gemcitabine (ORR ~31%)
  - Vinorelbine (ORR 16%, mOS 9.6 mo)
- **Immunotherapy**
  - Pembrolizumab or nivolumab
  - Nivolumab/Ipilimumab (if prior Pem/DDP +/- Bev)



Clinical safety and activity of pembrolizumab in patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma (KEYNOTE-028): preliminary results from a non-randomised, open-label, phase 1b trial

Evan Walley, Juanita Lopez, Armando Santoro, Anne Morosky, Sanatan Saraf, Bilal Piperdi, Emilie van Brummelen

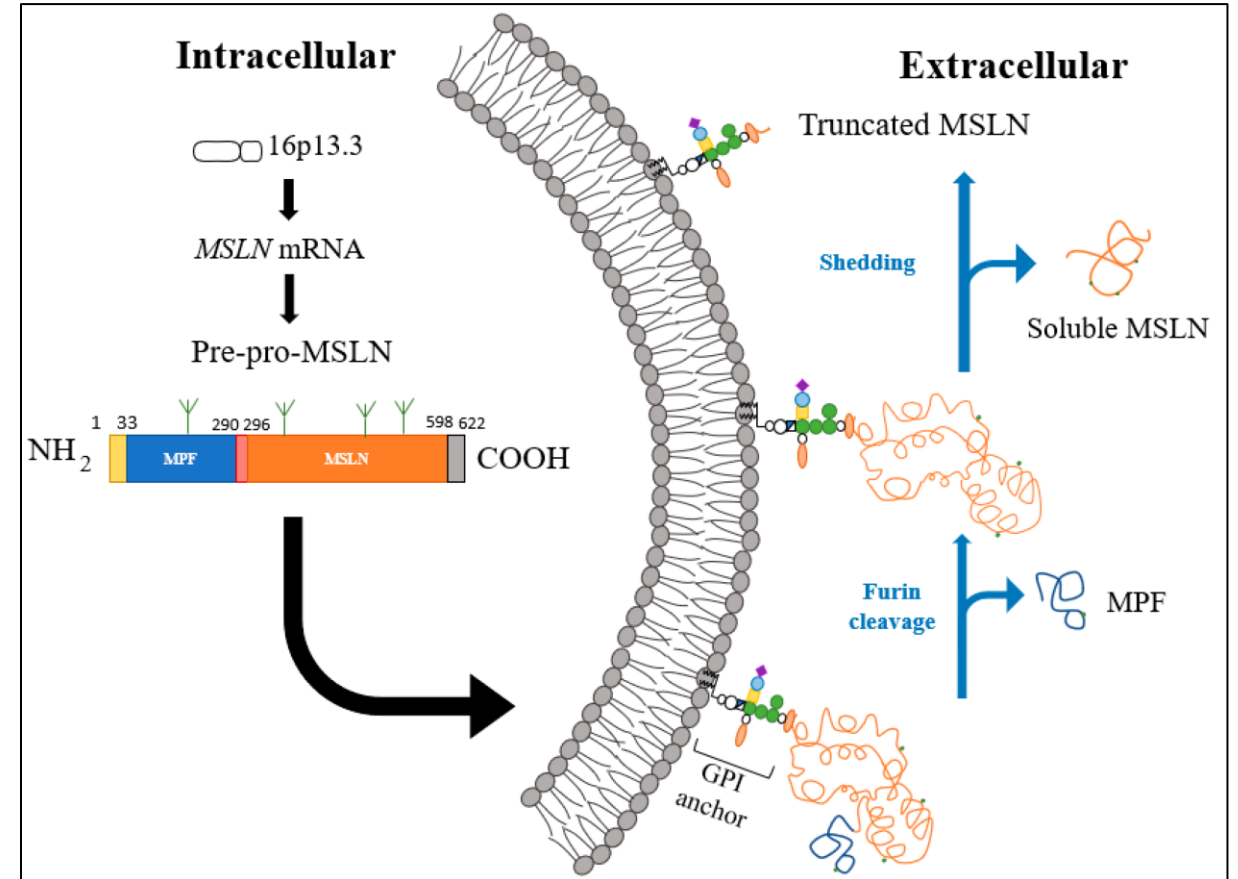


Janne, Clin Lung Cancer 2003; Stebbing, Lung Cancer 2009; Sherpereel Lancet 2019

# Mesothelin targeted therapies for mesothelioma

# Mesothelin

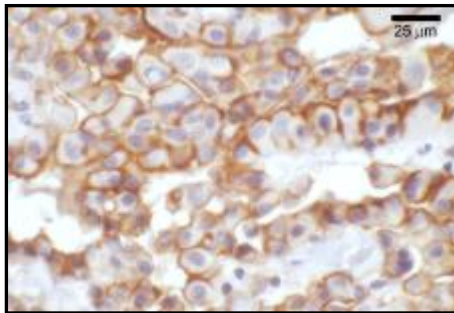
- Cell surface glycoprotein
- Expression in normal human tissues limited to mesothelial cells lining pleura, peritoneum and pericardium
- Mesothelin binds MUC16 and may play a role in tumor metastases



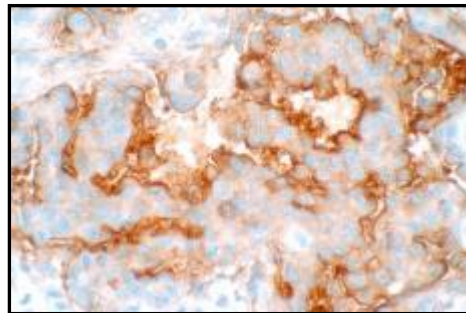
Chang K, Pastan I., PNAS 1996; Hassan R. et al. Clin Cancer Res. 2004; Pastan I, Hassan R., Cancer Res. 2014; Faust J.R et al. Cancers 2022

# Mesothelin is highly expressed in many solid tumors

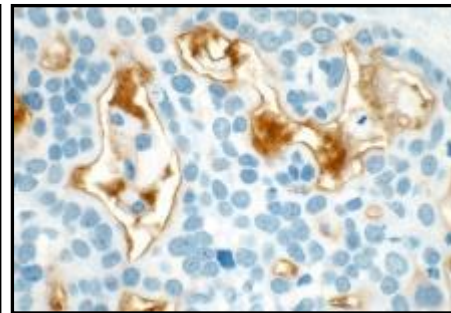
- Mesothelioma (epithelial) ~ 100%
- Pancreatic Cancer ~ 80%
- Ovarian Cancer 67-71%
- Lung adenocarcinoma 41-53%
- Gastric cancer, synovial sarcomas, TNBC, biliary cancers, thymic



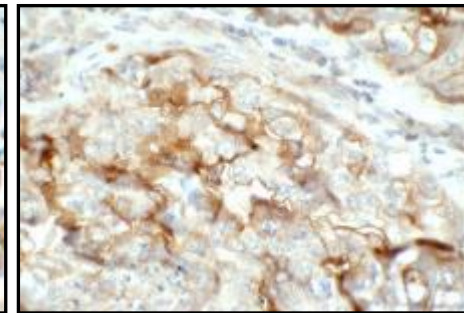
Mesothelioma



Ovarian Cancer



Pancreatic Cancer

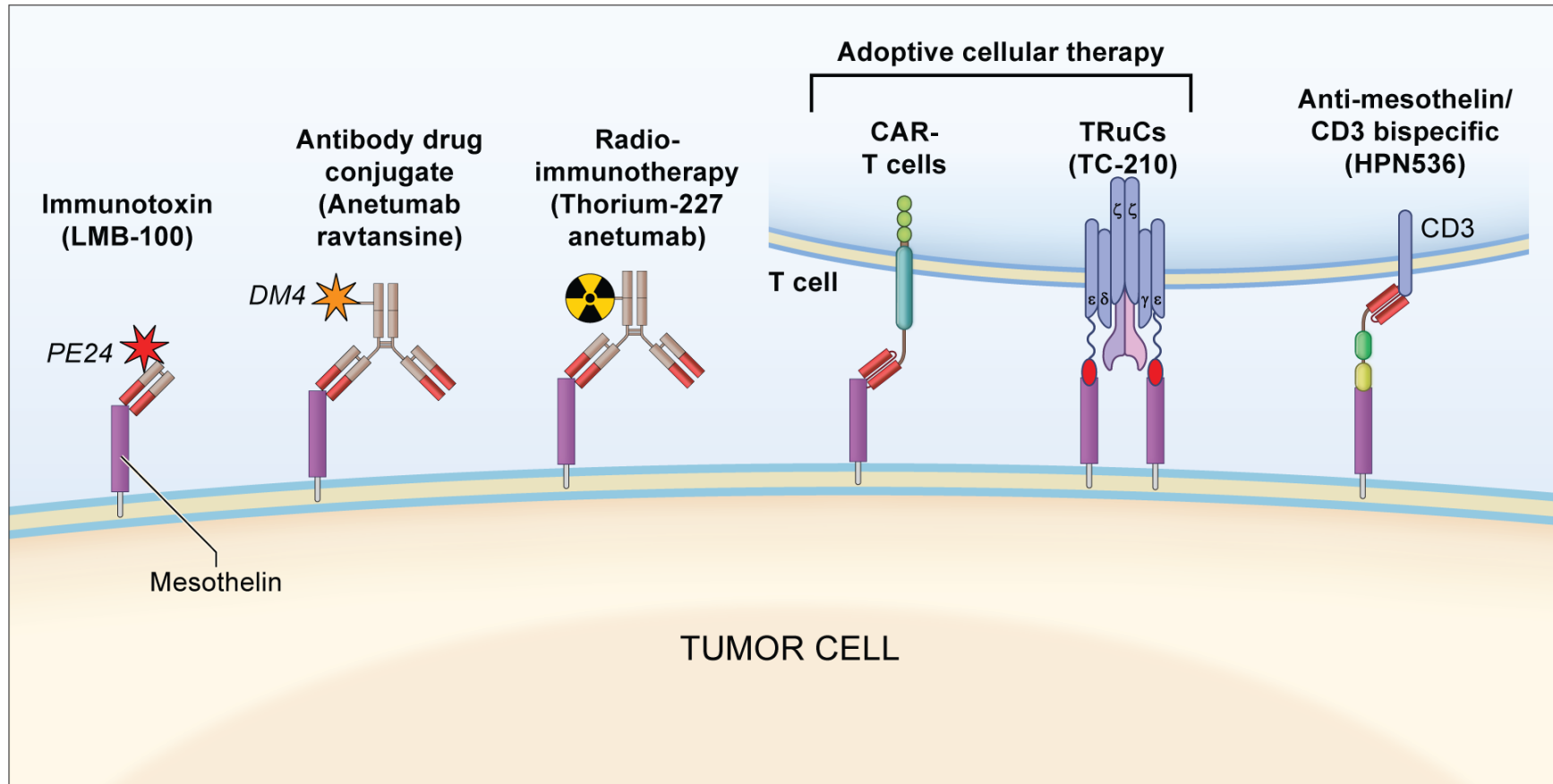


Lung Cancer

Hassan et al. Clin. Cancer Res., 2004 Ordonez NG. Am J Surg Pathol, 2003



# Mesothelin targeted therapies currently in clinical trials



Hassan R et. al. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 2016; Hassan R et. al. *Cancer*, 2020; Hassan R et. al. *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, 2020; Hassan R et. al. *Clin Cancer Res.*, 2019; Jiang Q...Hassan R. *Science Transl. Medicine*, 2020

# Summary

- Prognoses for patients diagnosed with mesothelioma remains poor
- Targeted approaches that take advantage of the mutational profile in mesothelioma have not come to fruition
- Frontline IO therapy with ipilimumab plus nivolumab increased overall survival in particular for patients with sarcomatoid mesothelioma
- There is a need for more biomarker-driven trials in mesothelioma