

Decennale di
HIGHLIGHTS in
RADIOTERAPIA

*Update degli Studi
Practice Changing 2024*

Undicesima Edizione

In memoria di Renzo Corvò

New evidence and practice changing treatments in breast tumors

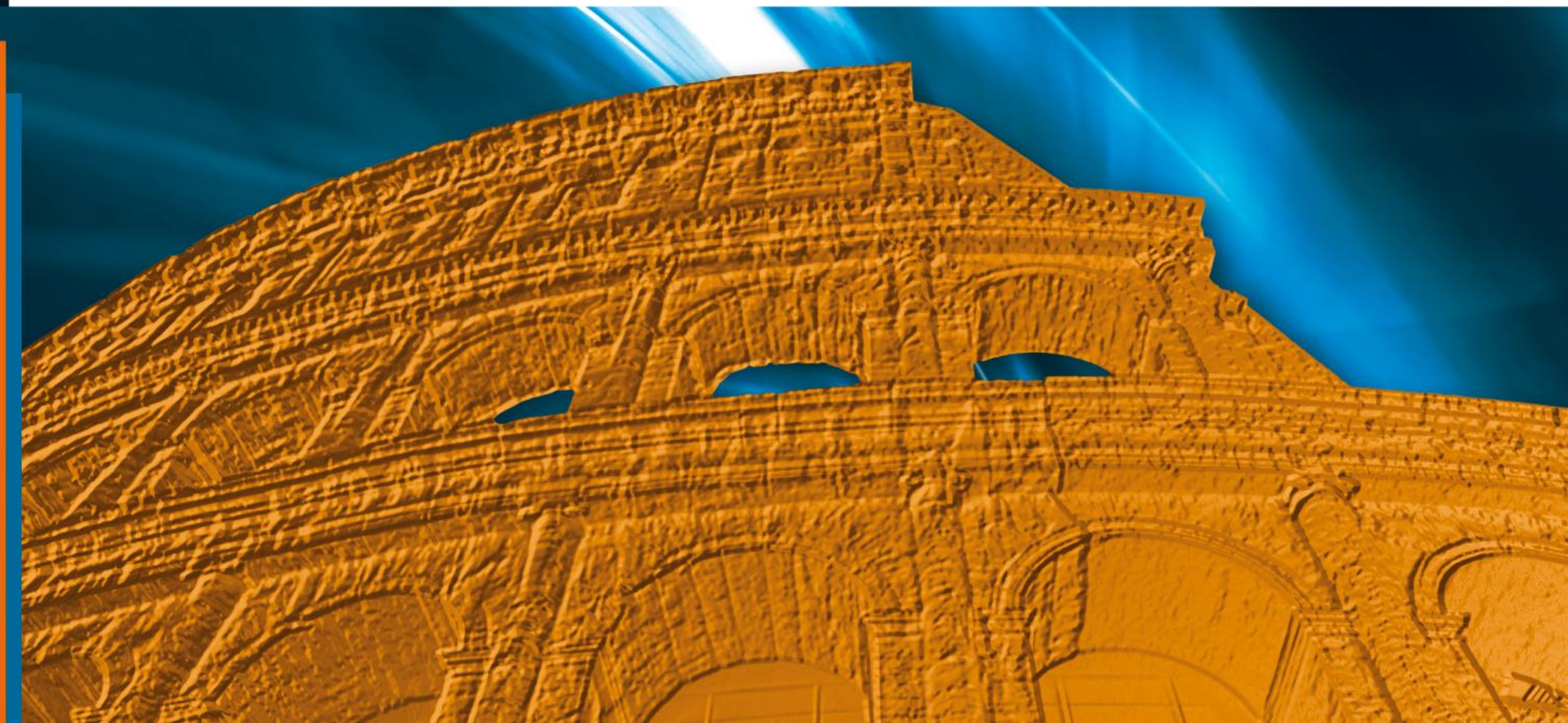
Maria Carmen De Santis, MD

mariacarmen.desantis@istitutotumori.mi.it; twitter @MariaCarmenDeS1

Fondazione I.R.C.C.S Istituto Nazionale Tumori di Milano

ROMA

30-31 gennaio 2025
Starhotels Metropole



No Conflict of interest to declare

» **Treatment Escalation**

- DBCG IMN2
- SUPREMO
- NATALEE
- KEYNOTE 522

» **Treatment Descalation**

- SENOMAC
- INSEMA
- OPBC-05/ICARO
- IDEA
- EUROPA (Prof. Livi)
- IRMA
- COMET
- RTCHARM

Findings

Radiotherapy to regional nodes in early breast cancer: an individual patient data meta-analysis of 14 324 women in 16 trials

Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG)*

Newer Trials (1989–2008, 12,167 patients):

- Reduced recurrence (RR 0.88; p=0.0008)
- Reduced breast cancer mortality (RR 0.87; p=0.0010)
- No significant effect on non-breast-cancer mortality
- Reduced all-cause mortality (RR 0.90; p=0.0022)

15-year breast cancer mortality reductions:

- 1.6%: No positive axillary nodes
- 2.7%: 1–3 positive axillary nodes
- 4.5%: 4+ positive axillary nodes

Older Trials (1961–1978, 2,157 patients):

- No reduction in breast cancer mortality (RR 1.04; p=0.55)
- Increased non-breast-cancer mortality (RR 1.42; p=0.00023), primarily after 20 years
- Increased all-cause mortality (RR 1.17; p=0.0067)

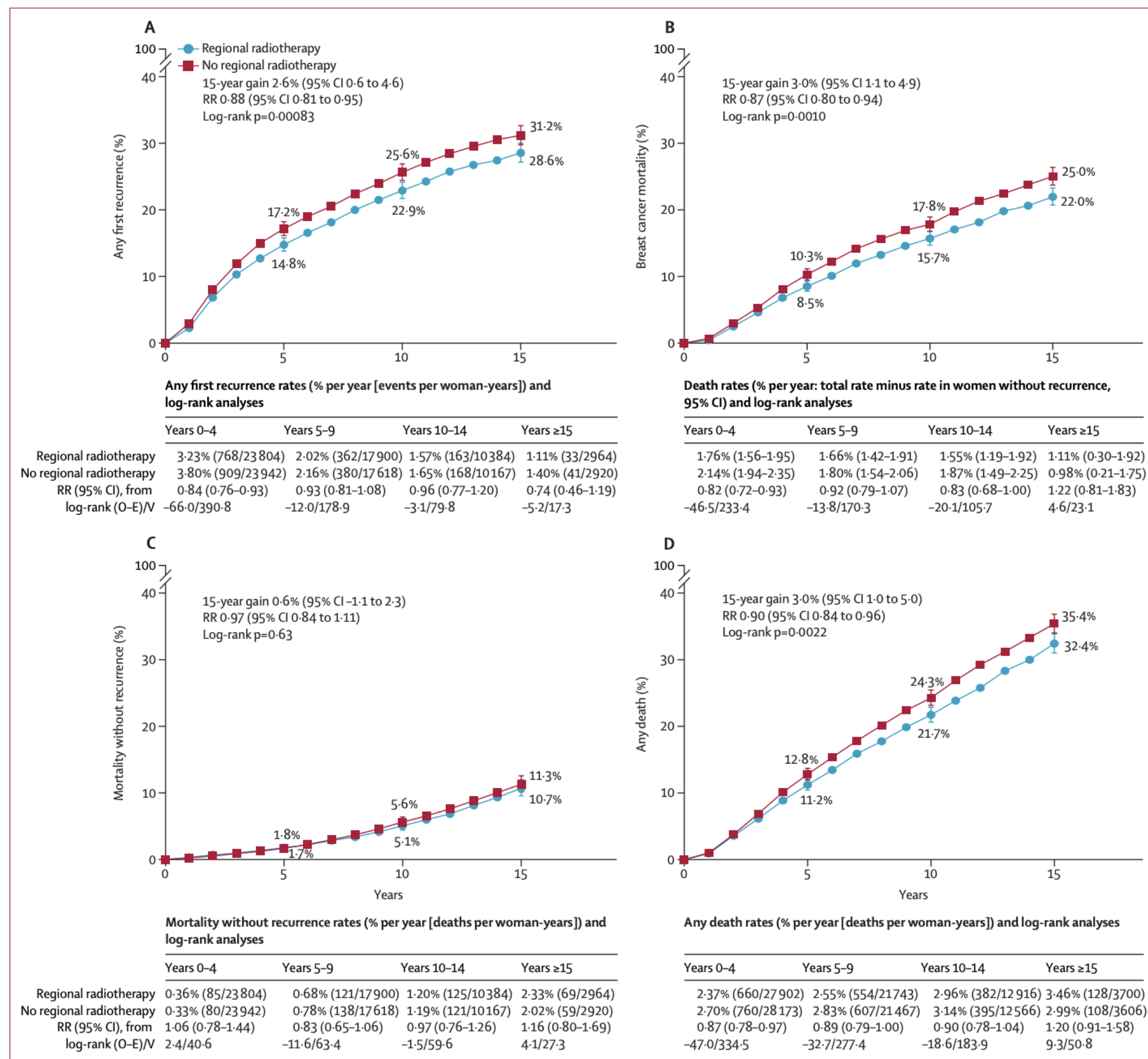


Figure 2: Effect of regional node radiotherapy in the eight newer trials on (A) any recurrence, (B) breast cancer mortality, (C) non-breast-cancer mortality, and (D) any death. One newer trial of 1334 women that reported only all-cause mortality is included only in graph D. RR=rate ratio.

**Radiotherapy to regional nodes in early breast cancer:
 an individual patient data meta-analysis of 14324 women in
 16 trials**

*Early Breast Cancer Trialists' Collaborative Group (EBCTCG)**

Interpretation

- Post-1980s trials show significant reductions in breast cancer and all-cause mortality, reflecting advancements in radiotherapy techniques
- Pre-1980s trials highlight increased non-breast-cancer mortality, likely due to outdated RT methods

	Regional radiotherapy	No regional radiotherapy	Gain from regional radiotherapy
Any recurrence			
pN0	19.0%	21.3%	2.3%
pN1-3	25.6%	28.5%	2.9%
pN4+	46.8%	51.1%	4.3%
Breast cancer mortality			
pN0	10.9%	12.5%	1.6%
pN1-3	20.3%	23.0%	2.7%
pN4+	40.5%	45.0%	4.5%

Data are 15-year cumulative risks. The overall rate ratios (RRs) for any recurrence (RR=0.88; figure 3) and breast cancer mortality (0.87; figure 3) were applied to annual rates of any recurrence and breast cancer mortality in the trials, averaged over treatment groups (there was no significant heterogeneity in the proportional reductions [RRs] for any recurrence and breast cancer mortality). pN0=pathologically node negative. pN1-3=one to three involved axillary lymph nodes. pN4+=four or more involved axillary lymph nodes.

Table 2: Absolute effect of regional node radiotherapy on 15-year risk of any recurrence and breast cancer mortality by nodal status in 10 833 women in the seven newer trials with data on recurrence

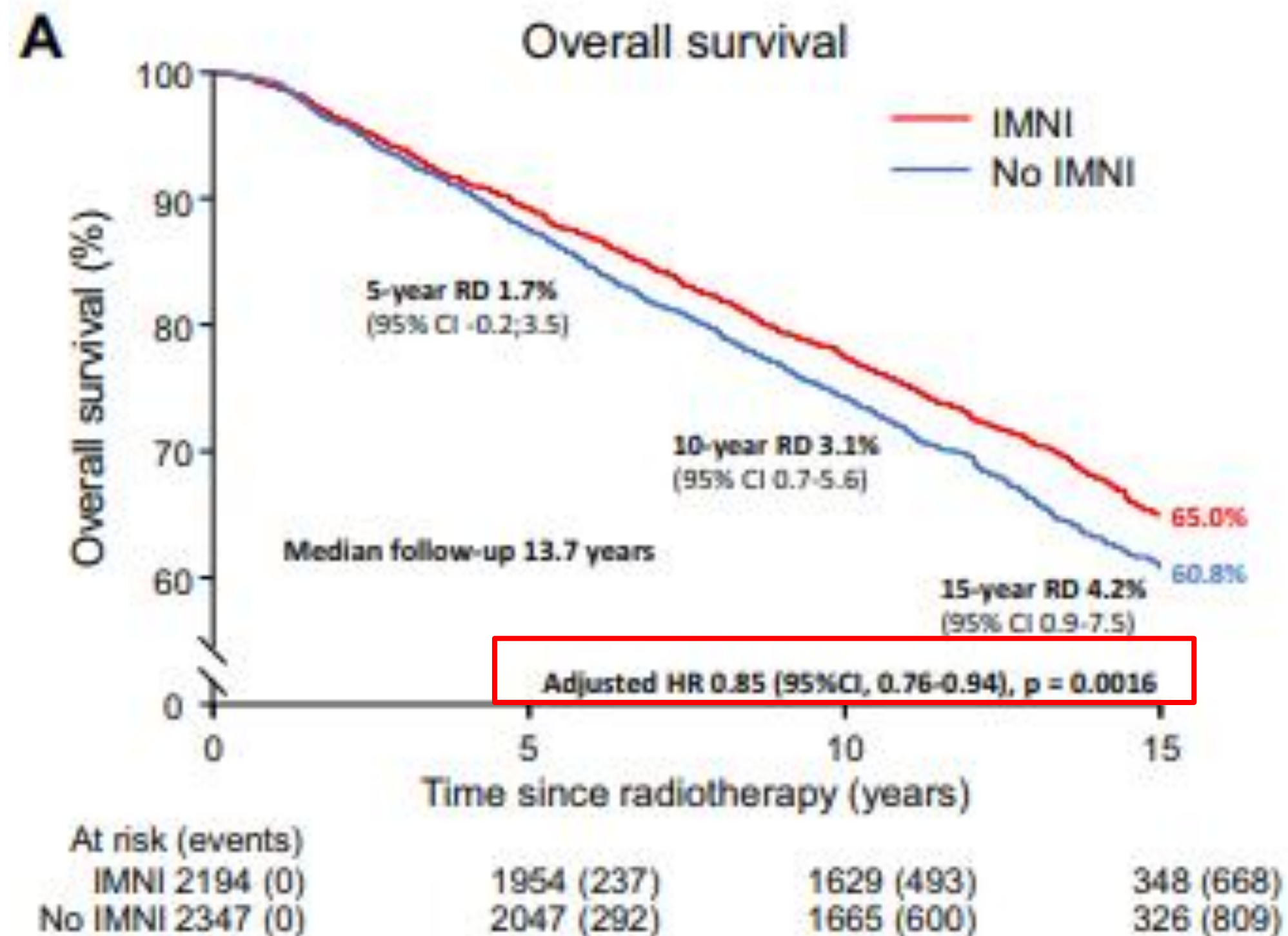


Internal mammary node irradiation in 4541 node-positive breast cancer patients treated with newer systemic therapies and 3D-based radiotherapy (DBCG IMN2): a prospective, nationwide, population-based cohort study



Anders W. Mølby Nielsen,^{a,b,*} Lise B. J. Thorsen,^{a,b,c} Demet Özcan,^{a,d} Louise W. Matthiessen,^e Else Maae,^f Marie L. H. Milo,^g Mette H. Nielsen,^h Trine Tramm,^{a,d} Jens Overgaard,^{a,b} and Birgitte V. Offersen,^{a,b,c,i} on behalf of the DBCG RT Committee

- 4541 patients were included in the period January 2007–May 2014
- Median age was 59 years
- Among patients receiving chemotherapy, 99.8% were given cyclophosphamide, 90.4% epirubicin, 96.2% taxanes
- The median follow-up was 13.7 years
- Primary endpoint was OS



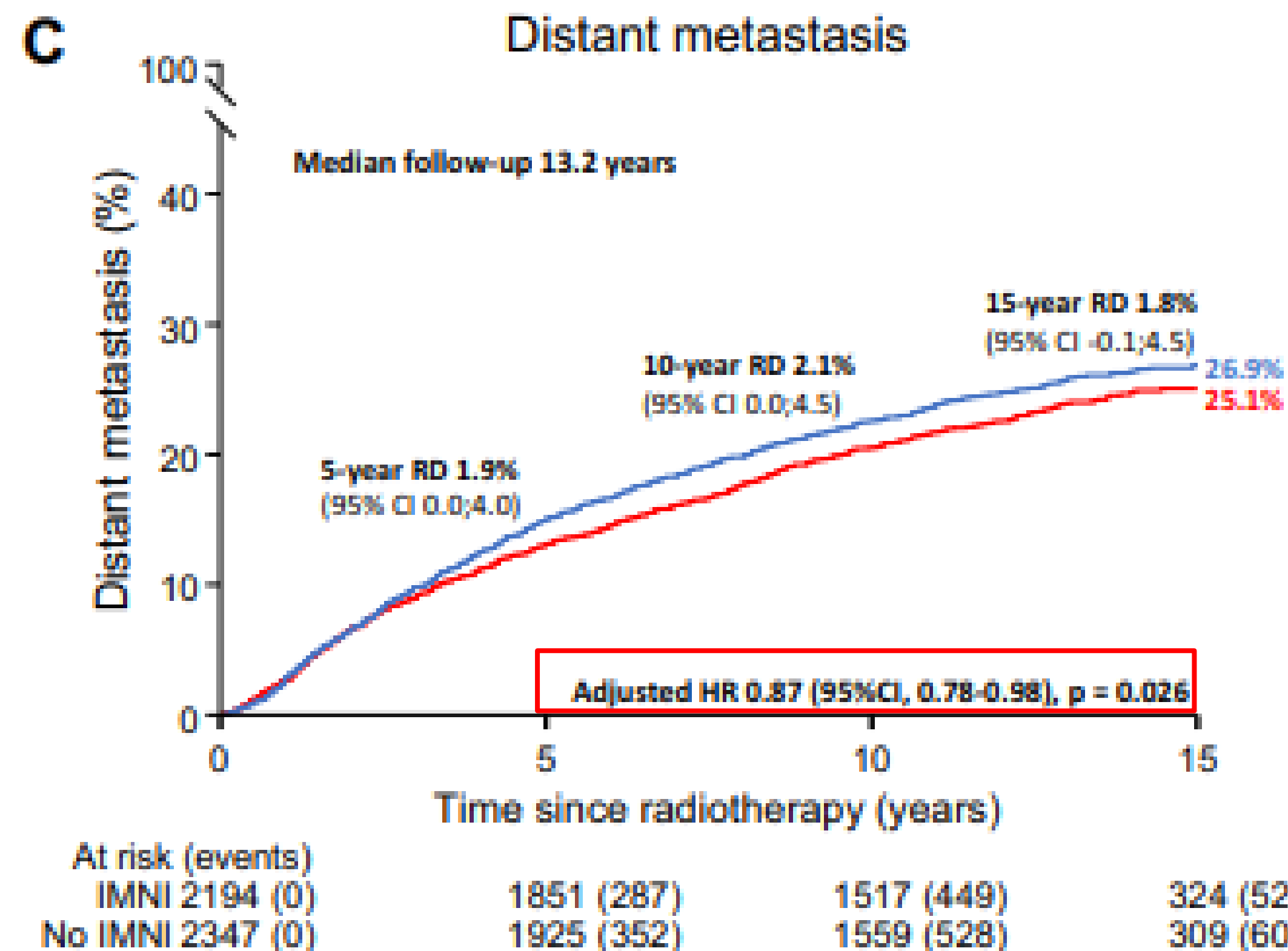
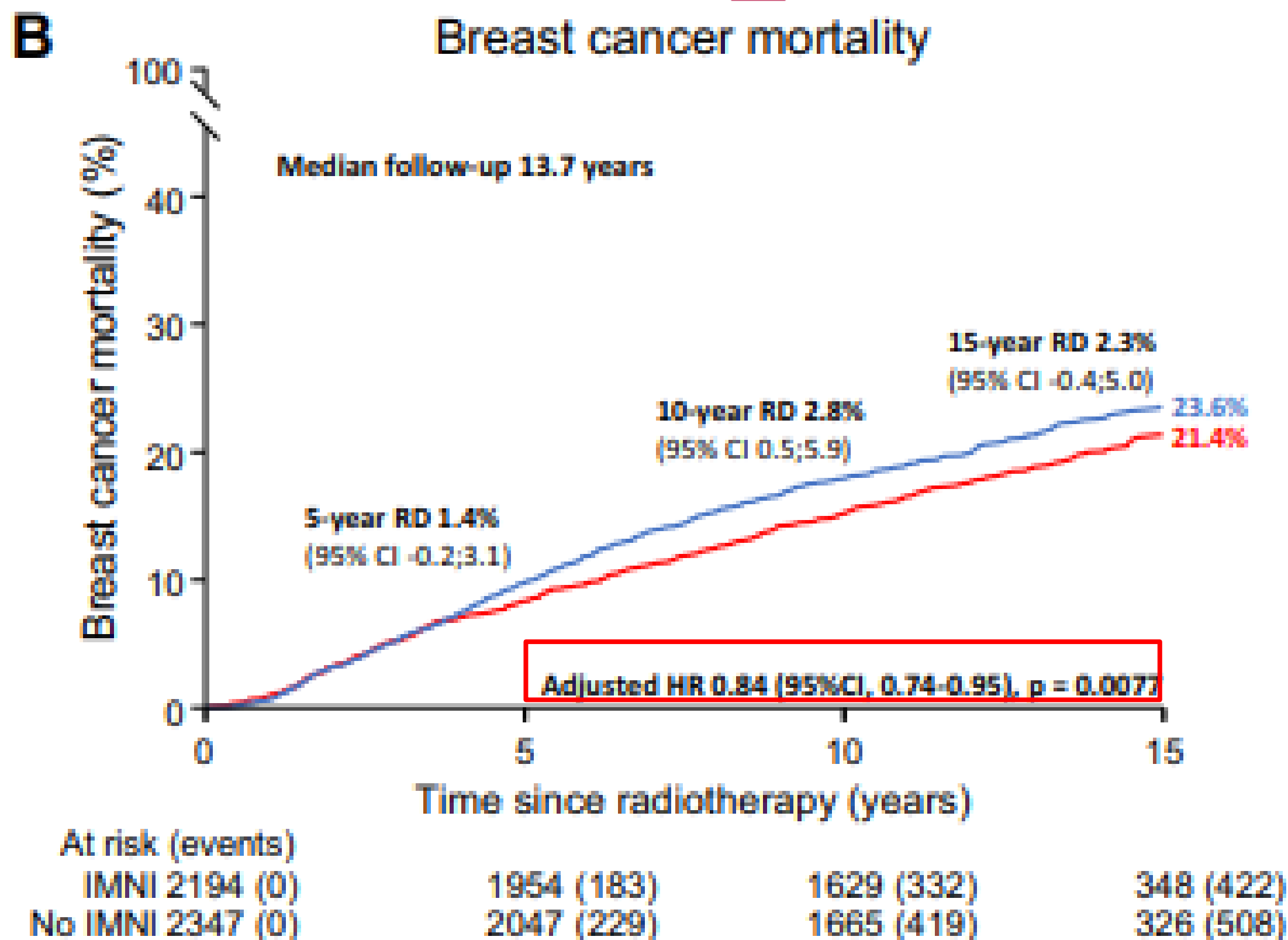
Nielsen A et al. The Lancet Regional Health – Europe 2025



Internal mammary node irradiation in 4541 node-positive breast cancer patients treated with newer systemic therapies and 3D-based radiotherapy (DBCg IMN2): a prospective, nationwide, population-based cohort study



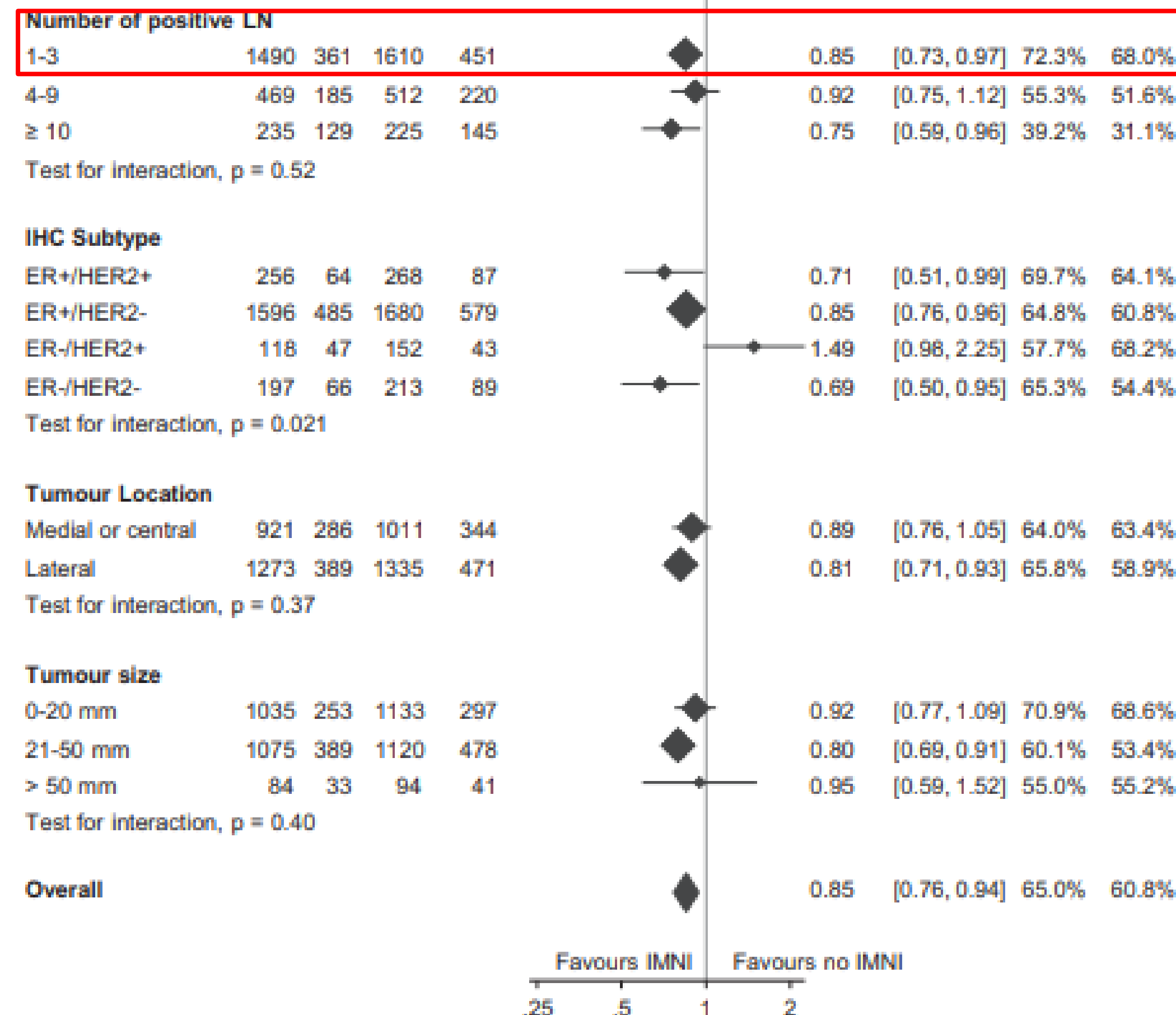
Anders W. Melby Nielsen,^{a,b,*} Lise B. J. Thorsen,^{a,b,c} Demet Özcan,^{a,d} Louise W. Matthiessen,^e Else Maae,^f Marie L. H. Milo,^g Mette H. Nielsen,^b Trine Tamm,^{a,d} Jens Overgaard,^{a,b} and Birgitte V. Offersen,^{a,b,c,i} on behalf of the DBCg RT Committee



Nielsen A et al. The Lancet Regional Health – Europe 2025



Study	IMNI		No IMNI		HR	95% CI	IMNI 15y OS	No IMNI 15y OS
	n	Events	n	Events				
Age								
< 35 years	37	7	42	9	0.63	[0.23, 1.71]	80.7%	78.4%
35-49 years	486	73	499	122	0.57	[0.43, 0.77]	83.2%	72.1%
50-59 years	605	151	692	173	0.95	[0.77, 1.19]	72.0%	72.3%
60-69 years	784	279	762	288	0.90	[0.76, 1.06]	59.5%	58.2%
≥ 70 years	282	165	352	224	0.86	[0.69, 1.06]	34.6%	27.0%
Test for interaction, p = 0.063								
Histological type								
IDC	1875	575	2018	698	0.84	[0.75, 0.94]	65.1%	61.0%
ILC	216	81	232	92	0.93	[0.69, 1.26]	58.6%	55.8%
Other	103	19	97	26	0.68	[0.37, 1.25]	77.7%	69.2%
Test for interaction, p = 0.65								
Malignancy grade								
Grade 1	514	140	551	140	0.99	[0.78, 1.26]	67.5%	70.8%
Grade 2	949	300	1010	377	0.83	[0.71, 0.97]	63.9%	57.1%
Grade 3	623	216	680	272	0.81	[0.68, 0.97]	62.7%	56.2%
Missing	108	19	106	27	0.66	[0.36, 1.21]	78.9%	71.2%
Test for interaction, p = 0.48								
Menopausal status								
Premenopausal	648	104	381	160	0.64	[0.50, 0.82]	81.8%	73.5%
Postmenopausal	1546	571	1666	656	0.90	[0.80, 1.01]	58.6%	55.9%
Test for interaction, p = 0.014								
Number of positive LN								
1-3	1490	361	1610	451	0.85	[0.73, 0.97]	72.3%	68.0%
4-9	469	185	512	220	0.92	[0.75, 1.12]	55.3%	51.6%
≥ 10	235	129	225	145	0.75	[0.59, 0.96]	39.2%	31.1%
Test for interaction, p = 0.52								





DECEMBER 10–13, 2024

HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER • SAN ANTONIO, TX

Does postmastectomy radiotherapy in ‘intermediate-risk’ breast cancer impact overall survival? 10 year results of the BIG 2-04 MRC randomized trial on behalf of the SUPREMO trial investigators

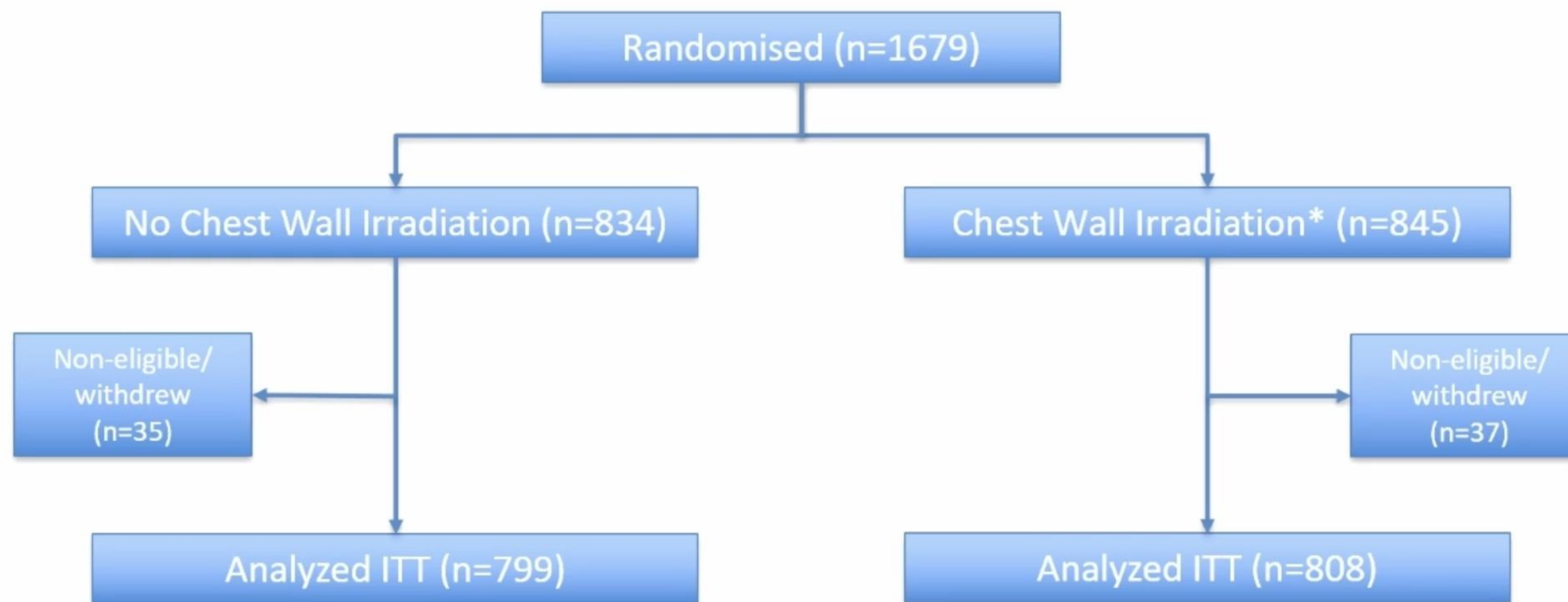
Ian Kunkler, FRCR
Institute of Genetics and Cancer
University of Edinburgh

MRC

Medical
Research
Council

Consort diagram (recruitment 2006-2013)

- pT1N1M0;pT2N1M0 or pT3N0M0 histologically confirmed invasive breast cancer.
- pT2N0M0 if grade 3 and/or lymphovascular invasion
- Undergone simple mastectomy (with minimum of 1mm clear margin) and an axillary staging procedure



Data lock: 19 June 2024

*40-50 Gy 15-25 fr

Kunkler et al, Abs # GS2-03

SUPREMO – Study population

- Included high risk N0 – **pT2,N0,M0 if grade 3 +/- LVI**
(also pT3,N0,M0 – but only 11 patients)
- 65% of patients were either node negative or had only 1 involved LN

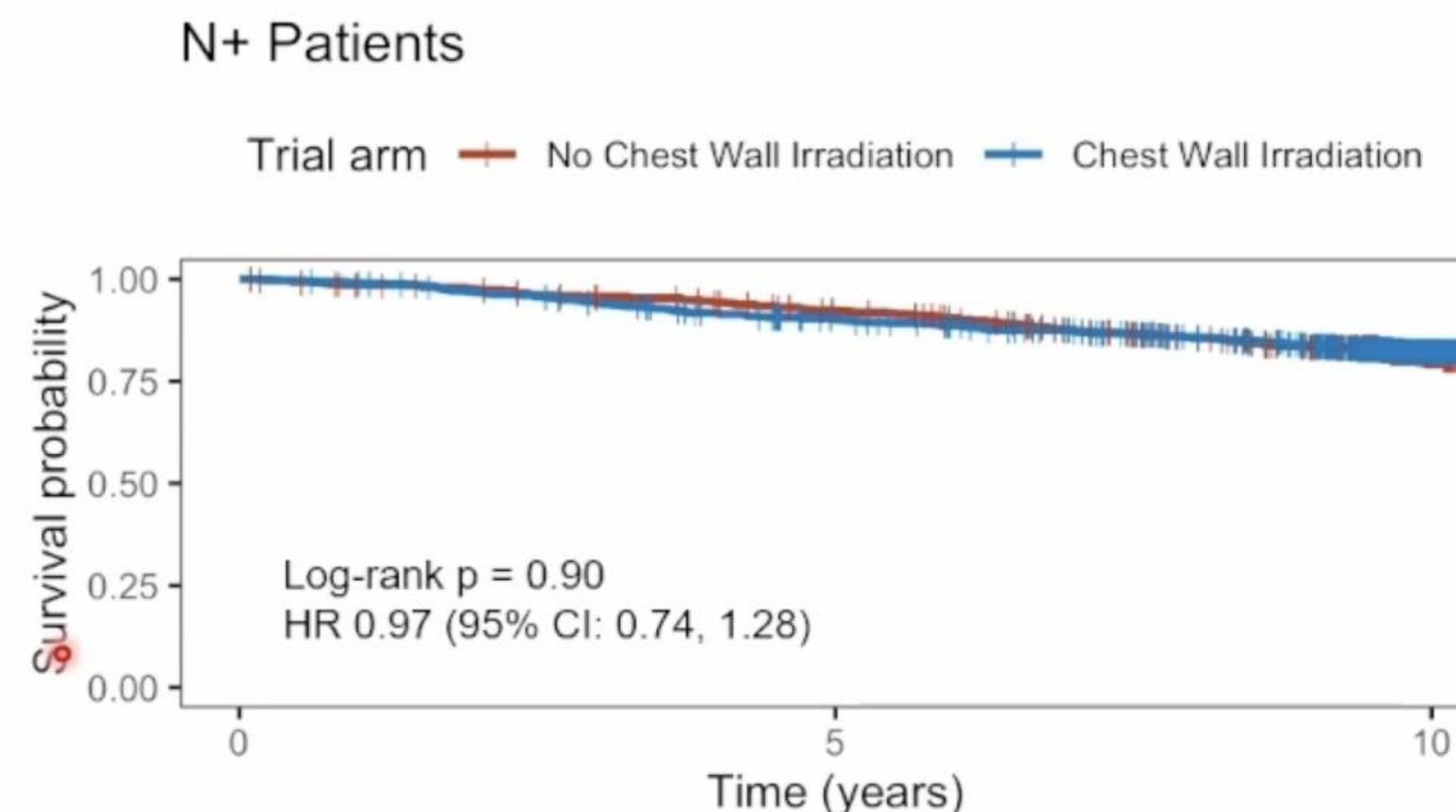
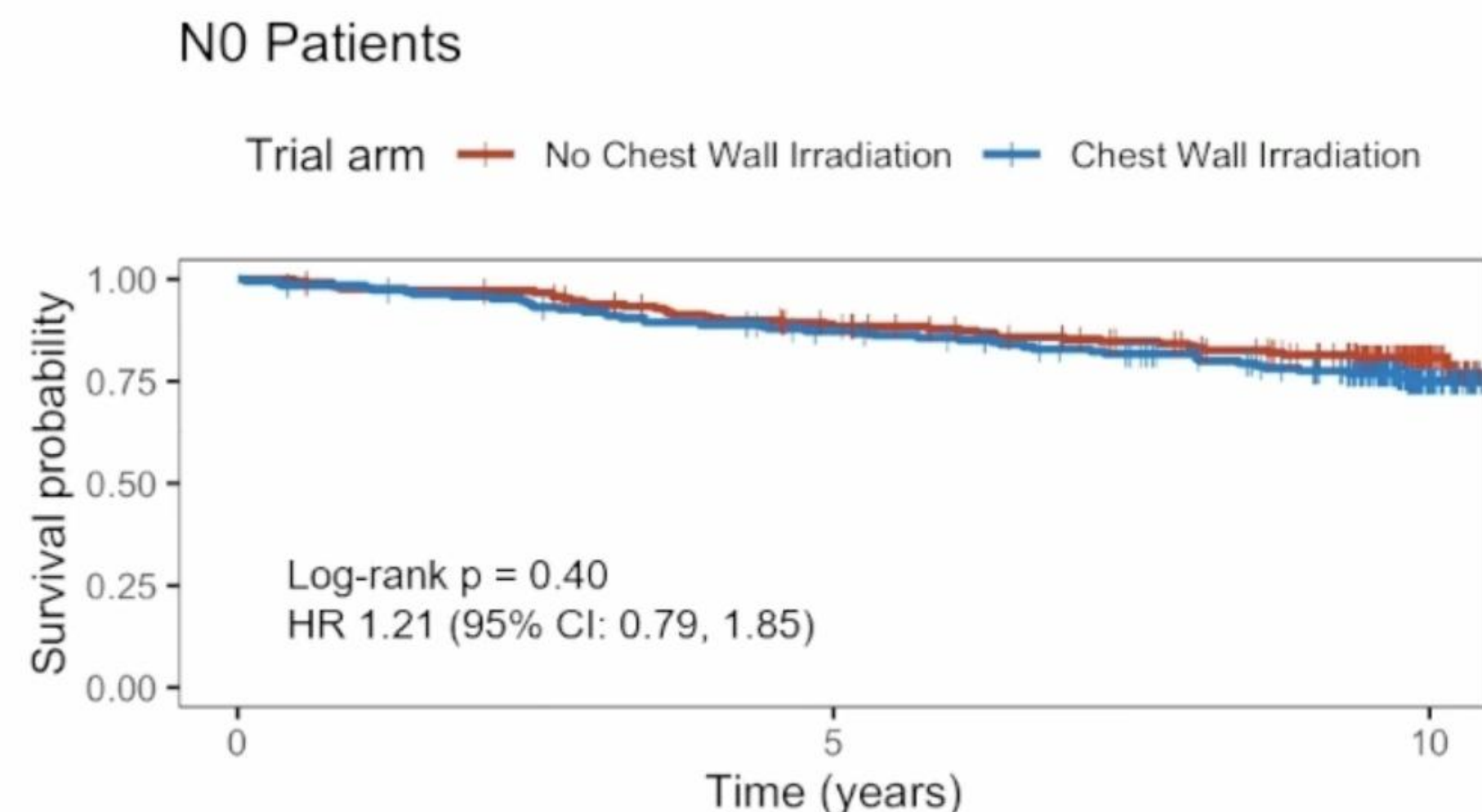
Number of Nodes	Number of Patients
0	25%
1	40%
2	23%
3	12%

- If node positive had an axillary node clearance (minimum of 8 nodes removed) – **current treatment would be to offer axillary irradiation rather than axillary node clearance for some of these patients.**



RESULTS: Overall Survival

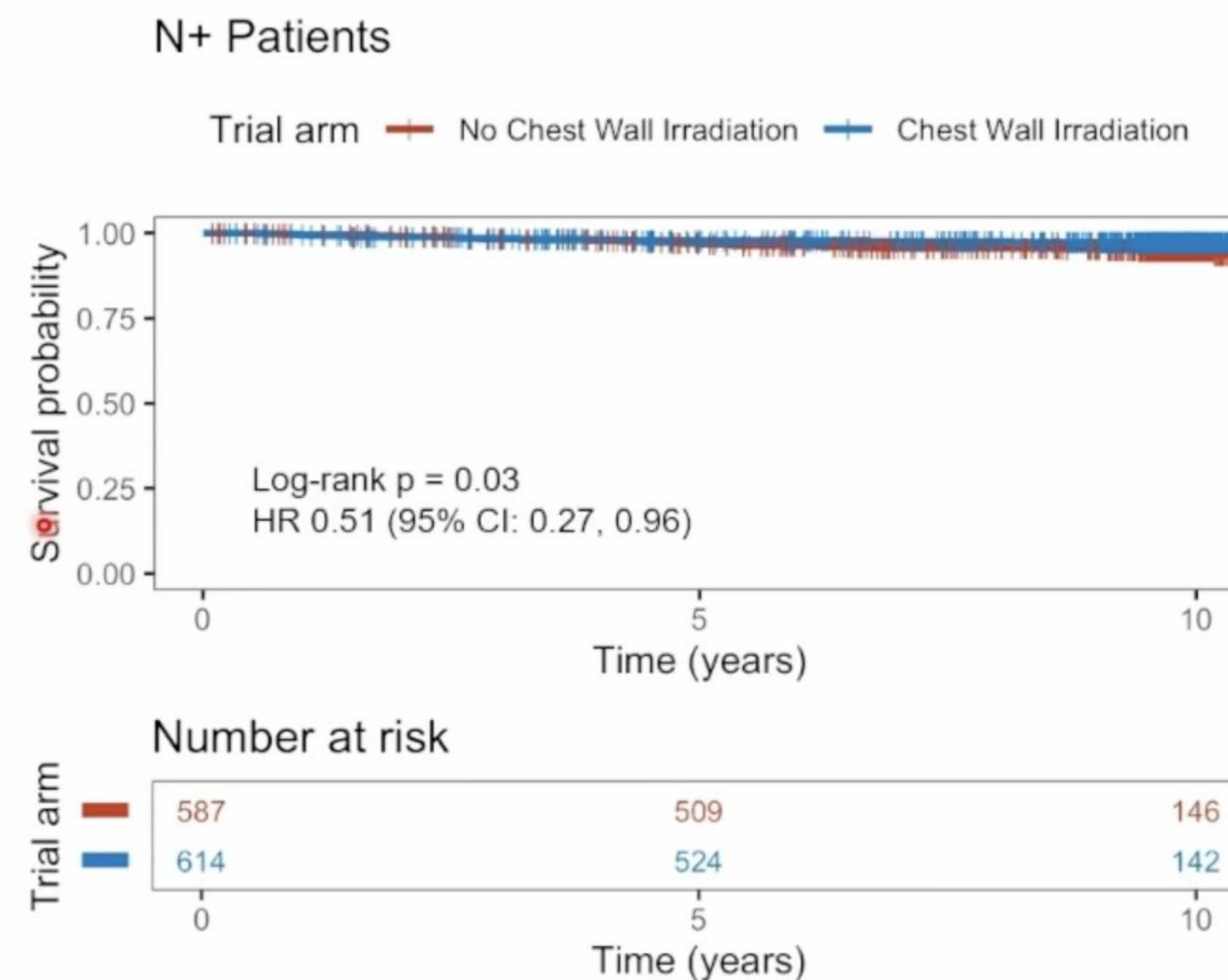
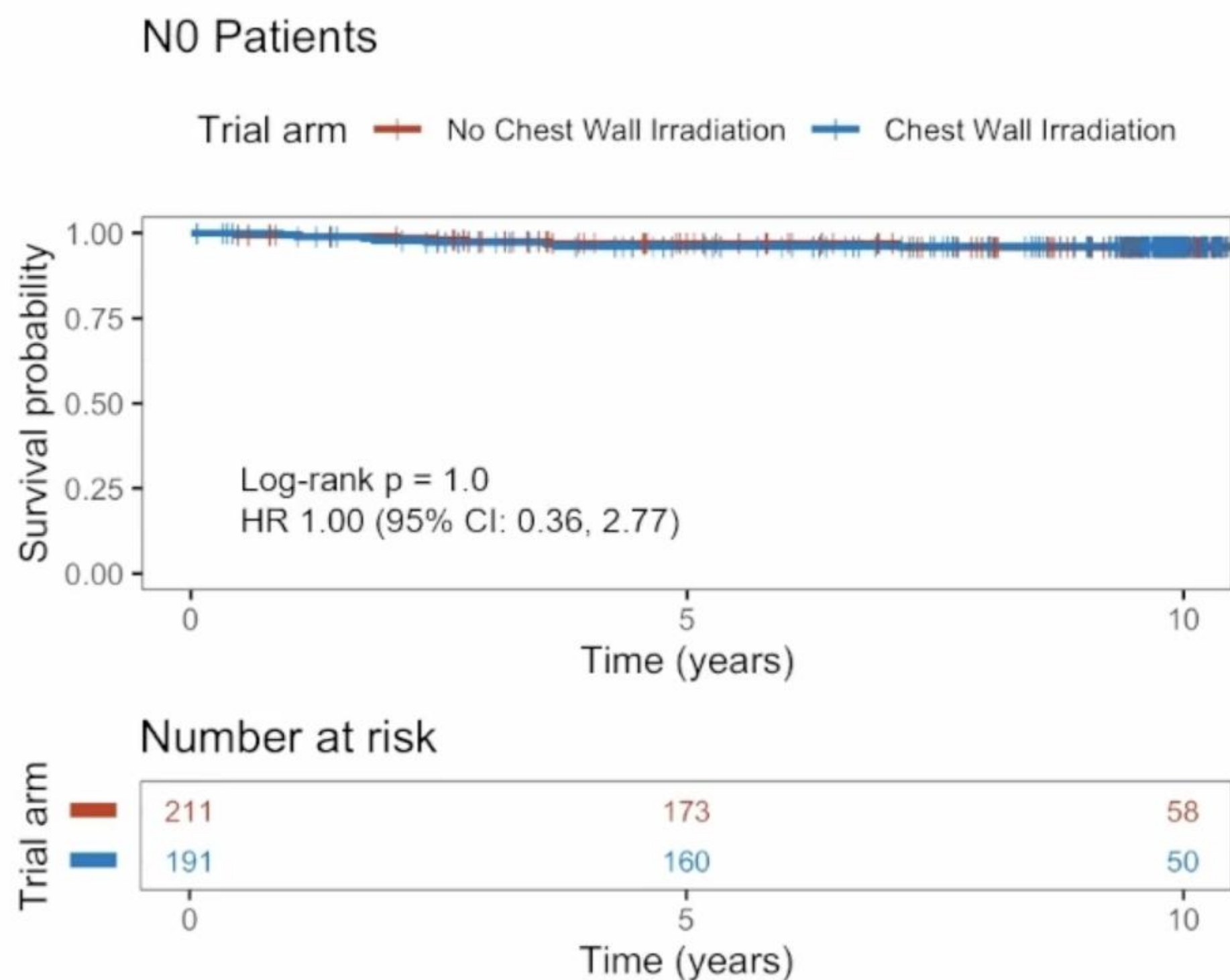
Overall Survival by Randomized Treatment and N0 or N+ Status



Kunkler et al, Abs # GS2-03

RESULTS: Regional Recurrence

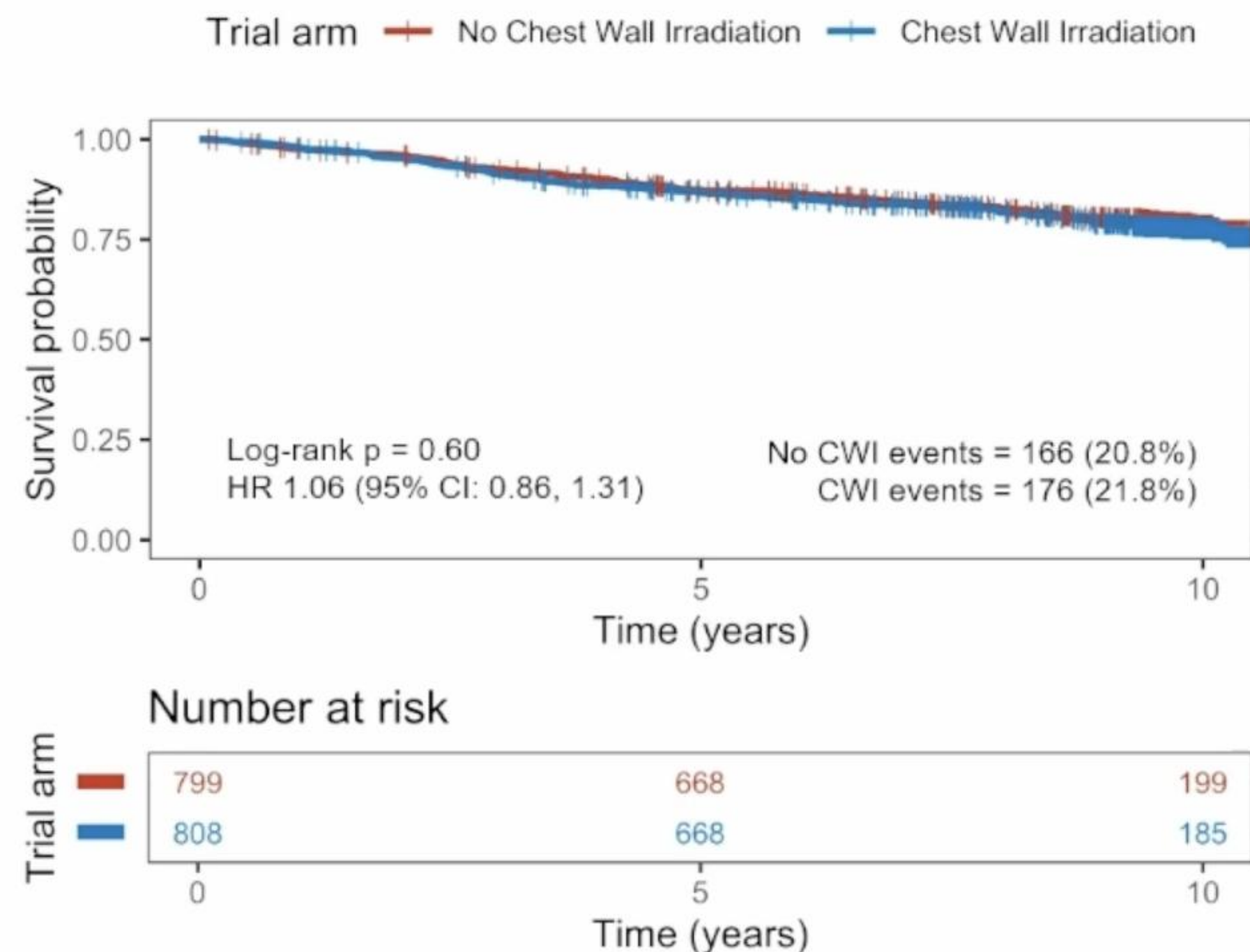
Regional Recurrence by Randomized Treatment and N0 or N+ Status



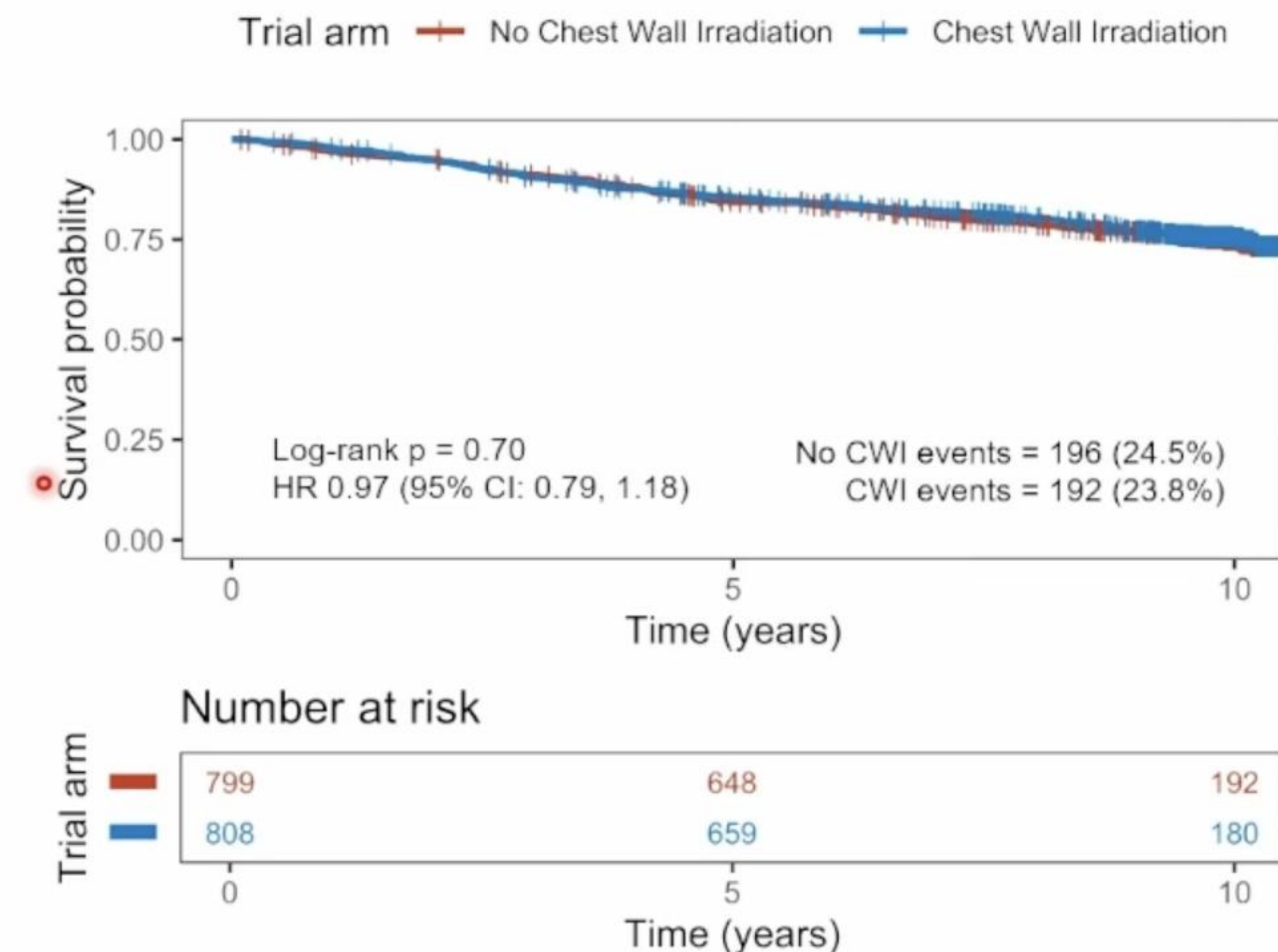
Kunkler et al, Abs # GS2-03

RESULTS: Metastasis-free & Disease-free Survival

Kaplan-Meier Curves for ITT Population:
Metastasis-free Survival by Randomized Treatment



Kaplan-Meier Curves for ITT Population:
Disease-free Survival by Randomized Treatment



Kunkler et al, Abs # GS2-03

SUPREMO - Summary



- No evidence for PMRT in **pT2,N0,M0 if grade 3 +/- LVI**
- *Has not answered the question regarding need for PMRT in pT3,N0,M0*
- Benefit from PMRT in women in the node positive group very small **but this cannot be generalised to all patients with 1-3 positive nodes. ... only 12% had 3 positive nodes.**

For pN1 patients in SUPREMO trial Overall Survival HR was 0.82 (0.63-1.05) in favor of CWI.

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Ribociclib plus Endocrine Therapy in Early Breast Cancer

D. Slamon, O. Lipatov, Z. Nowecki, N. McAndrew, B. Kukielka-Budny,
D. Stroyakovskiy, D.A. Yardley, C.-S. Huang, P.A. Fasching, J. Crown, A. Bardia,
S. Chia, S.-A. Im, M. Ruiz-Borrego, S. Loi, B. Xu, S. Hurvitz, C. Barrios, M. Untch,
R. Moroosse, F. Visco, K. Afenjar, R. Fresco, I. Severin, Y. Ji, F. Ghaznawi, Z. Li,
J.P. Zarate, A. Chakravartty, T. Taran, and G. Hortobagyi

Slamon D. et al. NEJM. 2024

NATALEE study design

- Adult patients with HR+/HER2- EBC
 - Prior ET allowed up to 12 months
 - **Anatomic stage IIA^a**
 - **N0** with:
 - Grade 2 and evidence of high risk:
 - KI-67 $\geq 20\%$
 - Oncotype DX Breast Recurrence Score ≥ 26 or
 - High risk via genomic risk profiling
 - Grade 3
 - **N1**
 - **Anatomic stage IIB^a**
 - N0 or N1
 - **Anatomic stage III**
 - N0, N1, N2, or N3
- N = 5101^b**

R 1:1^c

Ribociclib

400 mg/day
3 weeks on/1 week off
for 3 years

NSAI

Letrozole or
anastrozole^d for
 ≥ 5 years
+ **goserelin** in men and
premenopausal women

NSAI

Letrozole or
anastrozole^d for
 ≥ 5 years
+ **goserelin** in men and
premenopausal women

Primary end point

- iDFS using STEEP criteria

Secondary end points

- Recurrence-free survival
- Distant disease-free survival
- OS
- HRQoL
- Safety and tolerability
- PK

Exploratory end points

- Locoregional recurrence-free survival
- Gene expression and alterations in tumor ctDNA/ctRNA samples

Randomization stratification

Anatomic stage: II vs III

Menopausal status: men and premenopausal women vs postmenopausal women

Prior (neo)adjuvant chemotherapy: yes vs no

Geographic location: North America/Western Europe/Oceania vs rest of world

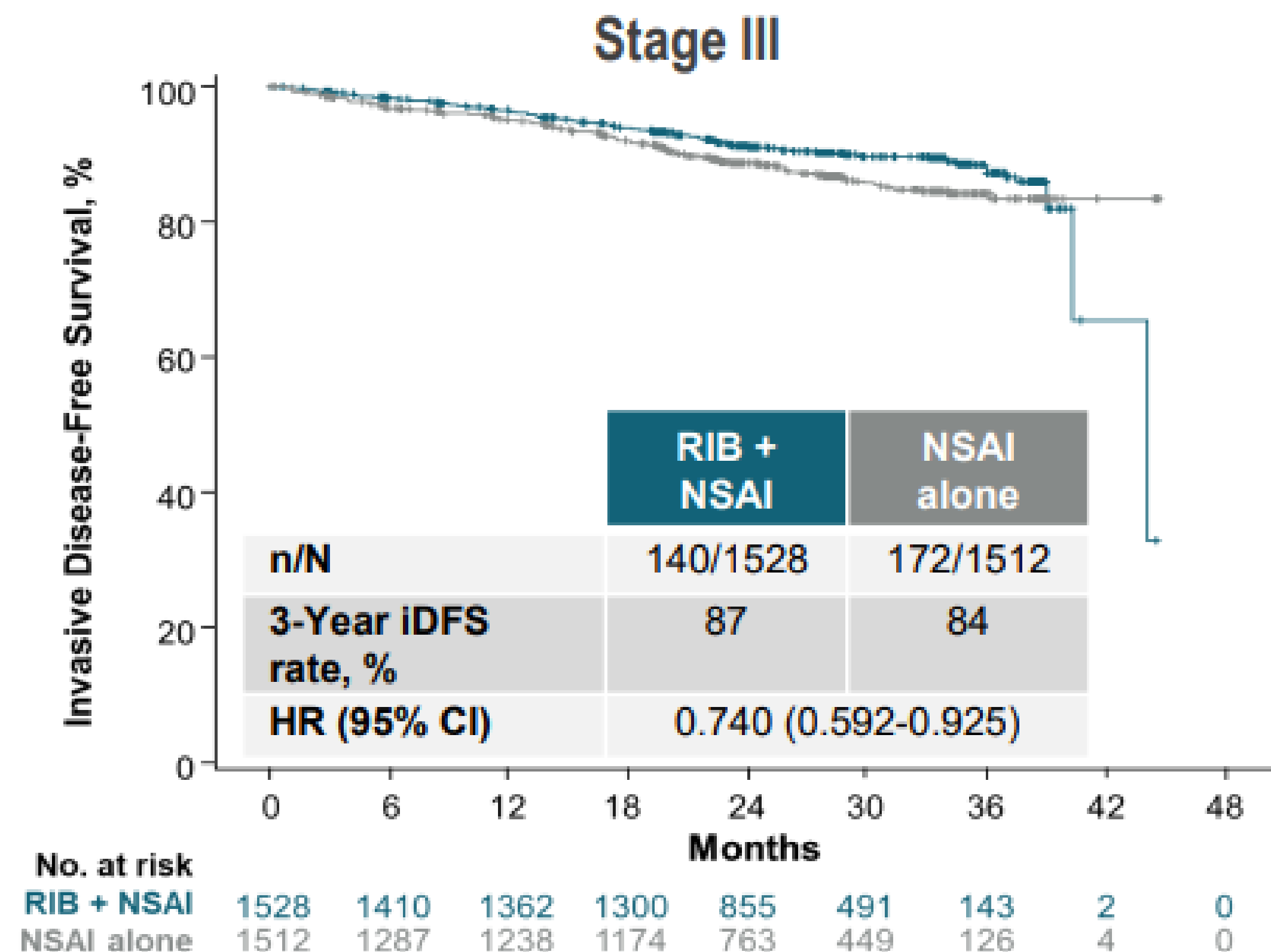
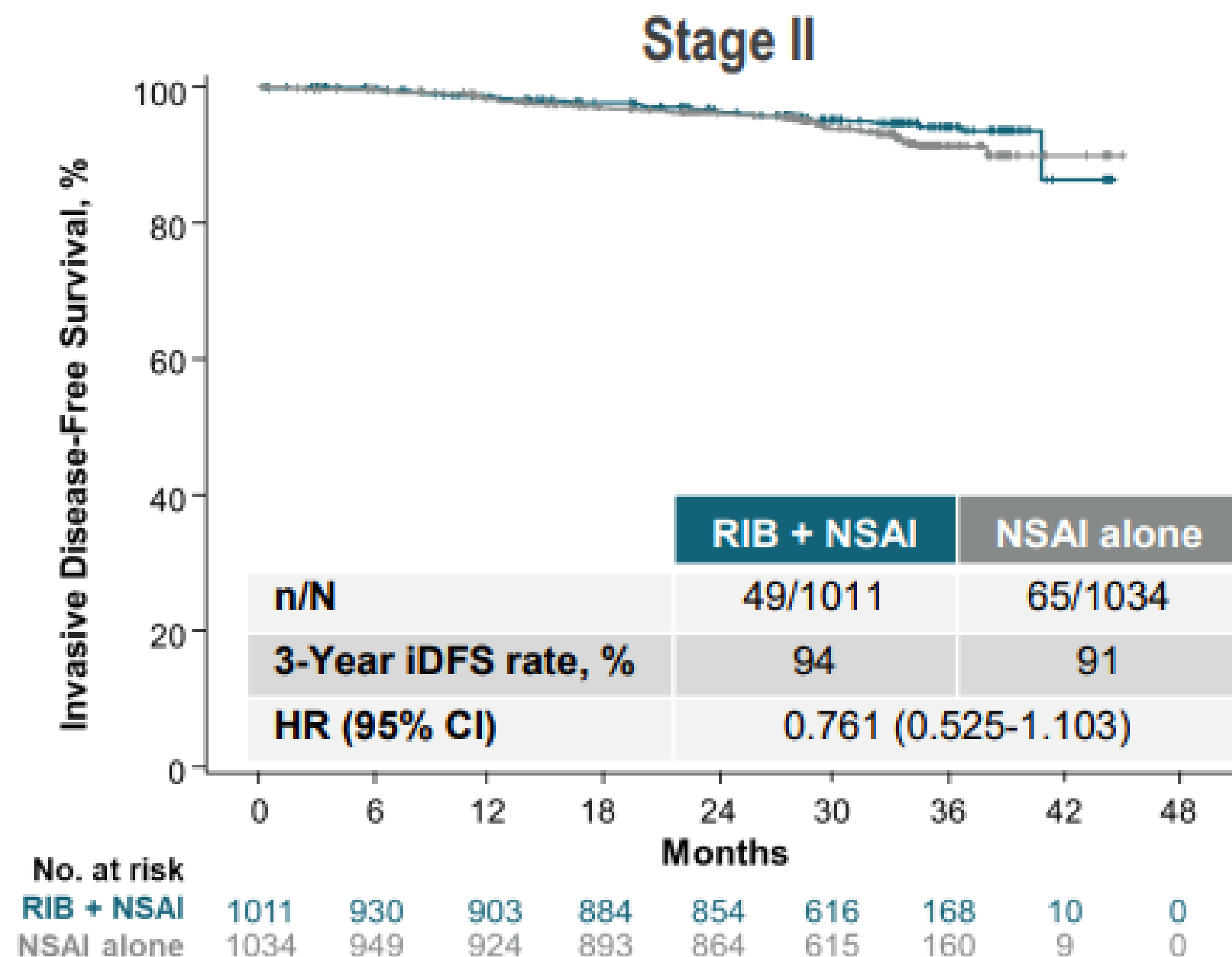
ctDNA/RNA, circulating tumor DNA/RNA; EBC, early breast cancer; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; HRQoL, health-related quality of life; iDFS, invasive disease-free survival; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor; OS, overall survival; PK, pharmacokinetics; R, randomized; STEEP, Standardized Definitions for Efficacy End Points in adjuvant breast cancer trials.

^a Enrollment of patients with stage II disease was capped at 40%. ^b 5101 patients were randomized from January 10, 2019, to April 20, 2021. ^c Open-label design. ^d Per investigator choice.

1. Slamon D, et al. ASCO 2023. Oral; abstract LBA500. 2. Slamon DJ, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37(15 suppl). Abstract TPS597.

NATALEE iDFS by anatomic stage

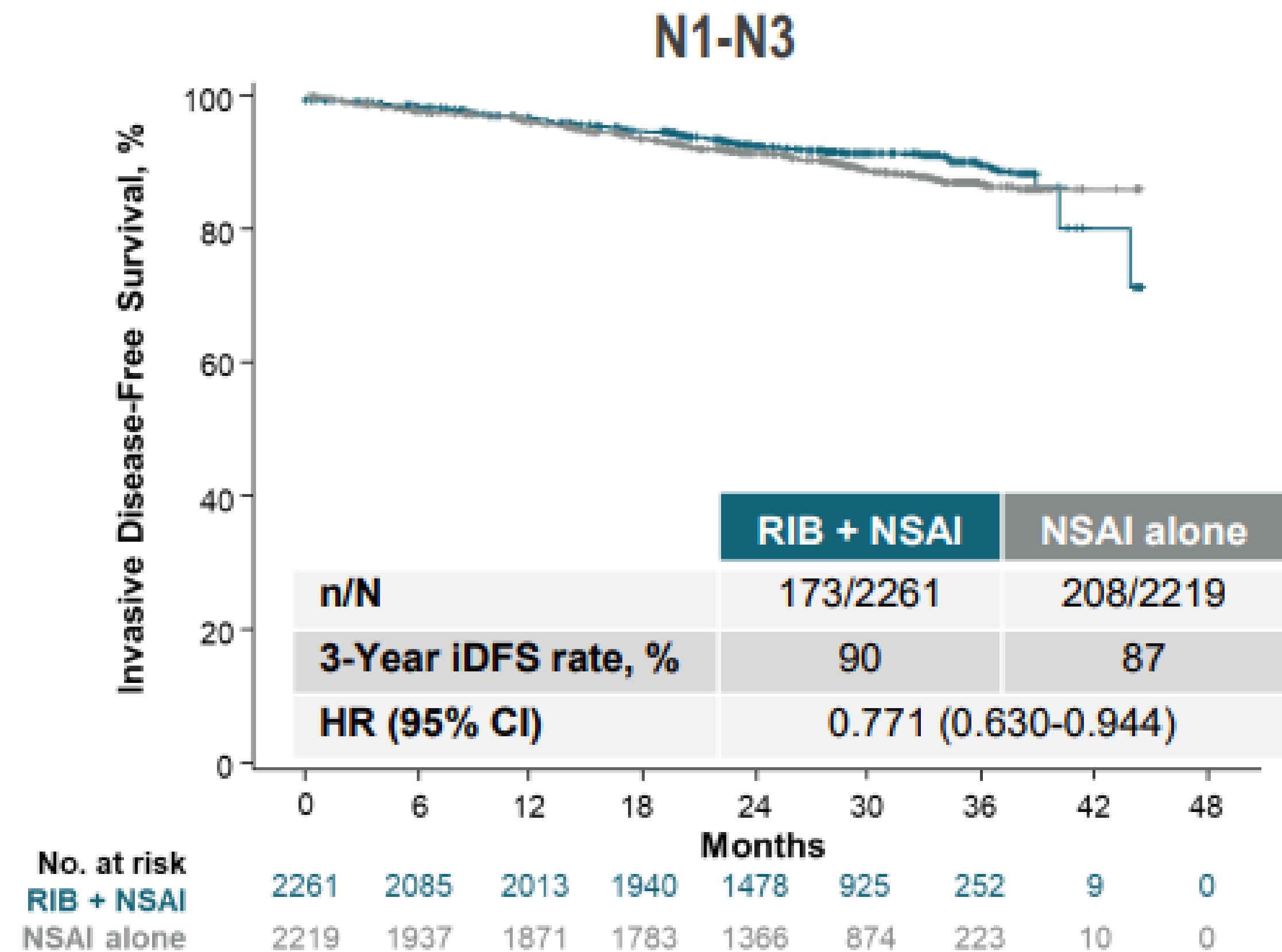
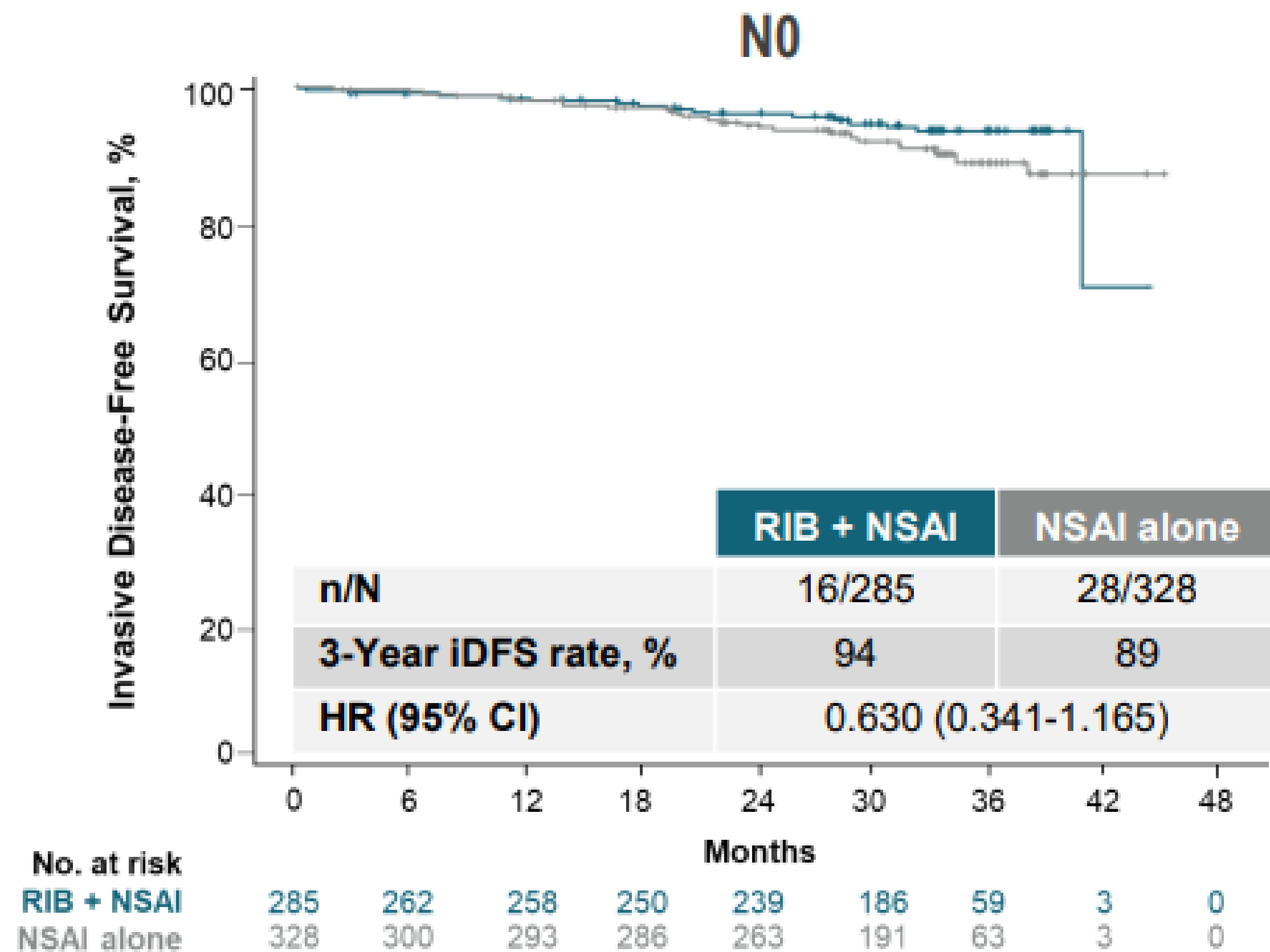
Consistent iDFS benefit with ribociclib + NSAI in patients with stage II or III disease



iDFS, invasive disease-free survival; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor; RIB, ribociclib.

NATALEE iDFS by nodal status

Ribociclib + NSAI prolonged iDFS regardless of nodal status



iDFS, invasive disease-free survival; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor; RIB, ribociclib.

Conclusions

- The iDFS benefit with ribociclib + NSAI across clinically relevant patient subgroups was generally consistent with that observed in the ITT population of NATALEE, suggesting that the benefit is not driven by any particular subgroup
- iDFS benefit was observed with ribociclib + NSAI over NSAI alone regardless of disease stage, nodal involvement, menopausal status, age, and Ki-67 score
- The control arm of NATALEE confirms that the patient population is at risk of recurrence, including those with N0 and stage II disease

These data reinforce previously reported results which showed significantly lowered risk of recurrence with ribociclib + NSAI compared with NSAI alone across a broad population of patients with stage II and III HR+/HER2- early breast cancer

iDFS, invasive disease-free survival; ITT, intent-to-treat; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor; NSAI, nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitor.



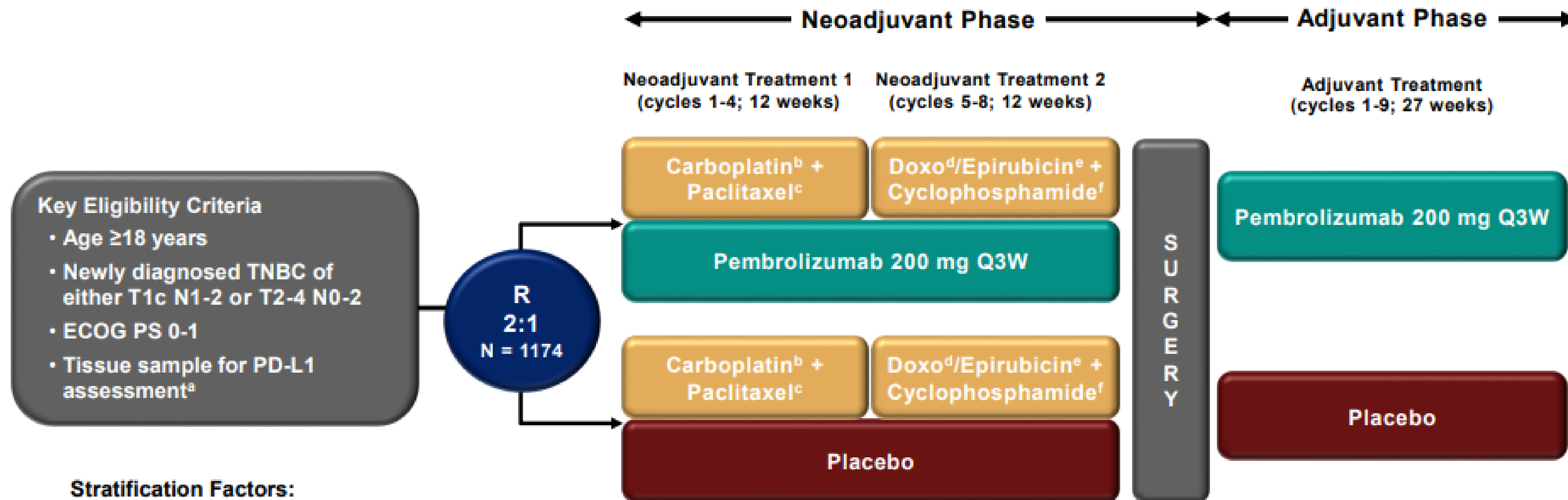
Neoadjuvant Pembrolizumab or Placebo + Chemotherapy Followed by Adjuvant Pembrolizumab or Placebo for High-Risk Early-Stage Triple-Negative Breast Cancer: Overall Survival Results from the Phase 3 KEYNOTE-522 Study

Peter Schmid,¹ Javier Cortes,² Rebecca Dent,³ Heather McArthur,⁴ Lajos Pusztai,⁵ Sherko Kümmel,⁶ Carsten Denkert,⁷ Yeon Hee Park,⁸ Rina Hui,⁹ Nadia Harbeck,¹⁰ Masato Takahashi,¹¹ Seock-Ah Im,¹² Michael Untch,¹³ Peter A. Fasching,¹⁴ Fatima Cardoso,¹⁵ Jing Zhao,¹⁶ Xuan Zhou,¹⁶ Konstantinos Tryfonidis,¹⁶ Gursel Aktan,¹⁶ Joyce O'Shaughnessy¹⁷

¹Centre for Experimental Cancer Medicine, Barts Cancer Institute, Queen Mary University London, London, UK; ²International Breast Cancer Center (IBCC), Pangaea Oncology, Quironsalud Group, Barcelona, Spain; Medical Scientia Innovation Research (MedSIR), Barcelona, Spain; Faculty of Biomedical and Health Sciences, Department of Medicine, Universidad Europea de Madrid, Madrid, Spain; ³National Cancer Centre Singapore, Duke – National University of Singapore Medical School, Singapore; ⁴University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX, USA; ⁵Yale School of Medicine, Yale Cancer Center, New Haven, CT, USA; ⁶Breast Unit, Kliniken Essen-Mitte, Essen, Germany and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Department of Gynecology with Breast Center, Berlin, Germany; ⁷Institute of Pathology, Philipps-University Marburg and University Hospital Marburg, Marburg, Germany; ⁸Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea; ⁹Westmead Breast Cancer Institute, Westmead Hospital and the University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW, Australia and Centre of Cancer Medicine, School of Clinical Medicine, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong; ¹⁰Breast Center, Dept. OB&GYN, LMU University Hospital, Munich, Germany; ¹¹Hokkaido University Hospital, Sapporo, Japan; ¹²Seoul National University Hospital, Cancer Research Institute, Seoul National University, Seoul, Republic of Korea; ¹³Breast Cancer Center, Helios Klinikum Berlin-Buch, Berlin, Germany; ¹⁴University Hospital Erlangen, Comprehensive Cancer Center Erlangen-EMN, Erlangen, Germany; ¹⁵Breast Unit, Champalimaud Clinical Center/ Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal; ¹⁶Oncology, Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA; ¹⁷Baylor University Medical Center, Texas Oncology, Sarah Cannon Research Institute, Dallas, TX, USA



KEYNOTE-522 Study Design (NCT03036488)



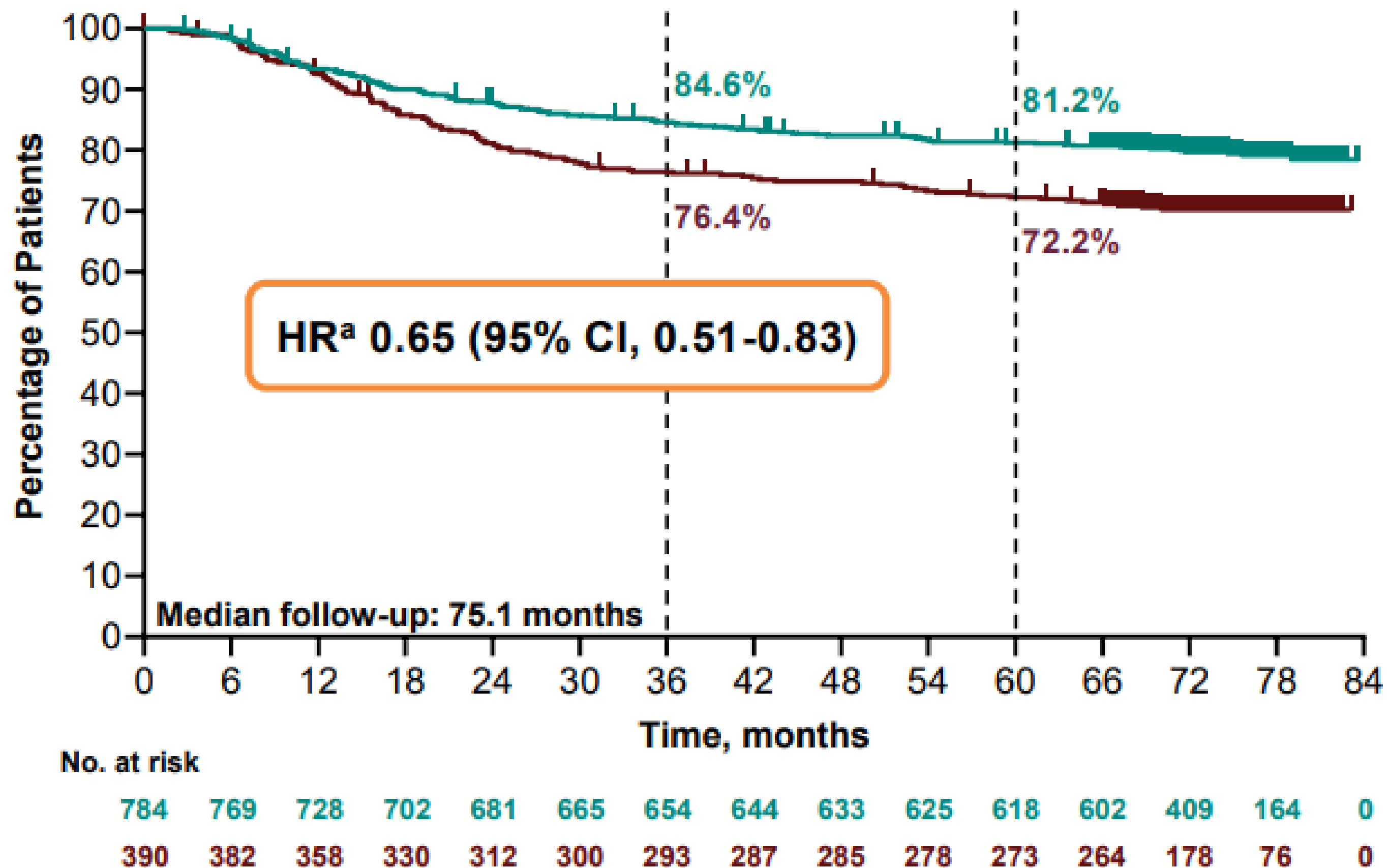
Neoadjuvant phase: starts from the first neoadjuvant treatment and ends after definitive surgery (post-treatment included)

Adjuvant phase: starts from the first adjuvant treatment and includes radiation therapy as indicated (post-treatment included)

^aMust consist of at least 2 separate tumor cores from the primary tumor. ^bCarboplatin dose was AUC 5 Q3W or AUC 1.5 QW. ^cPaclitaxel dose was 80 mg/m² QW. ^dDoxorubicin dose was 60 mg/m² Q3W.

^eEpirubicin dose was 90 mg/m² Q3W. ^fCyclophosphamide dose was 600 mg/m² Q3W.

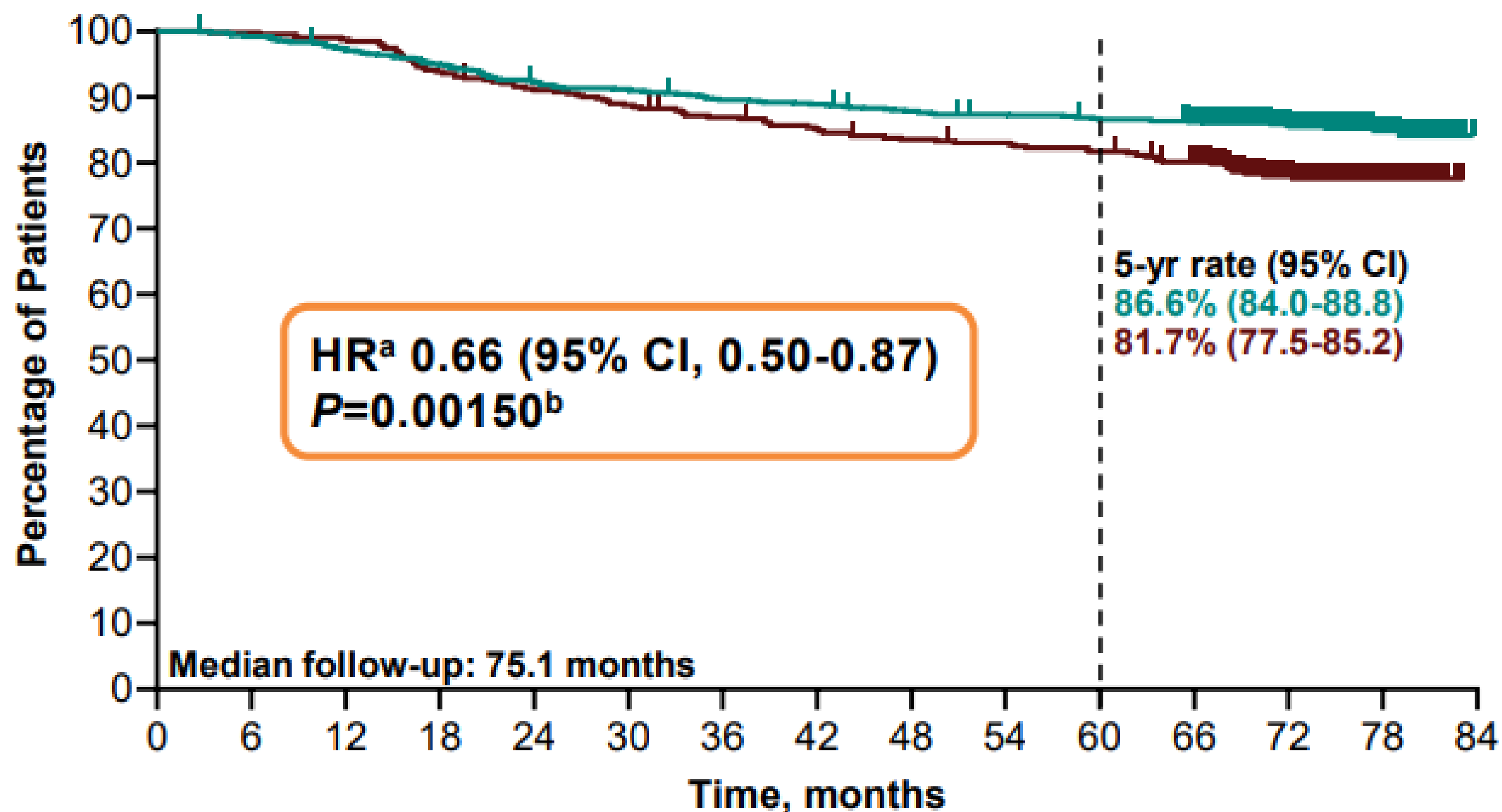
Updated Event-Free Survival



	Pts w/ Event
Pembro + Chemo/Pembro	20.3%
Placebo + Chemo/Placebo	29.2%

^aHazard ratio (CI) analyzed based on a Cox regression model with treatment as a covariate stratified by the randomization stratification factors. Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.

Key Secondary Endpoint: Overall Survival



	Pts w/ Event
Pembro + Chemo/Pembro	14.7%
Placebo + Chemo/Placebo	21.8%

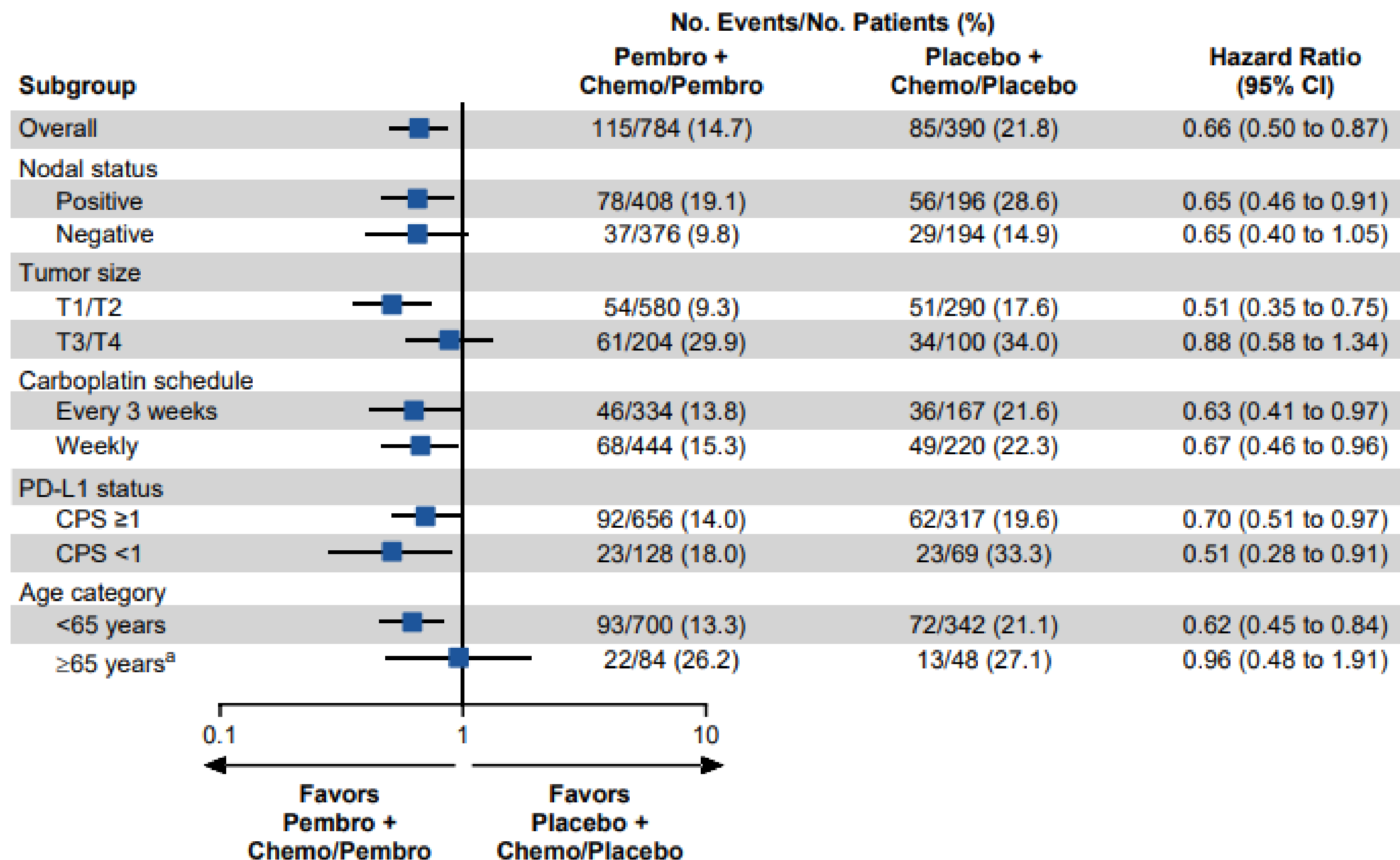
No. at risk

784	777	760	742	720	712	698	693	683	677	670	656	448	176	0
390	389	385	366	354	345	336	328	321	318	313	300	199	82	0

^aThe unstratified piecewise HR was 0.87 (95% CI, 0.57-1.32) before the 2-year follow-up and 0.51 (95% CI, 0.35-0.75) afterwards. The weighted average HR with weights of number of events before and after 2-year follow-up was 0.66. With 200 events (67.3% information fraction), the observed P-value crossed the prespecified nominal boundary of 0.00503 (1-sided) at this interim analysis.

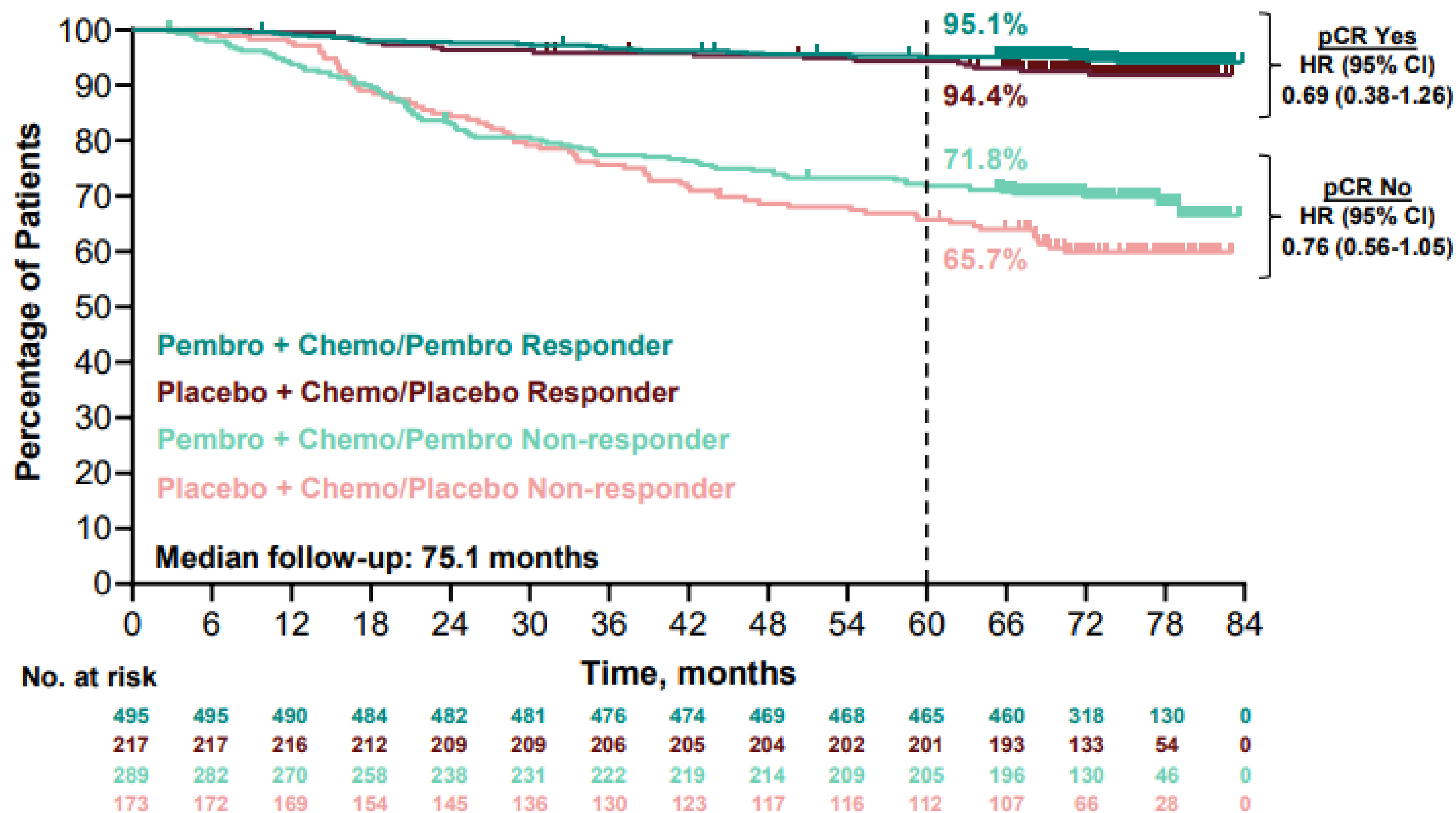
Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.

Overall Survival in Patient Subgroups



For overall population and PD-L1 subgroups, analyses based on Cox regression model with Efron's method of tie handling with treatment as a covariate and stratified by nodal status (positive vs negative), tumor size (T1/T2 vs T3/T4), and frequency of carboplatin (once weekly vs once every 3 weeks); for other subgroups, analysis based on unstratified Cox model. ^aBased on the small sample size and few events, results should be interpreted with caution. Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.

Overall Survival by Pathologic Complete Response (yp T0/Tis ypN0)

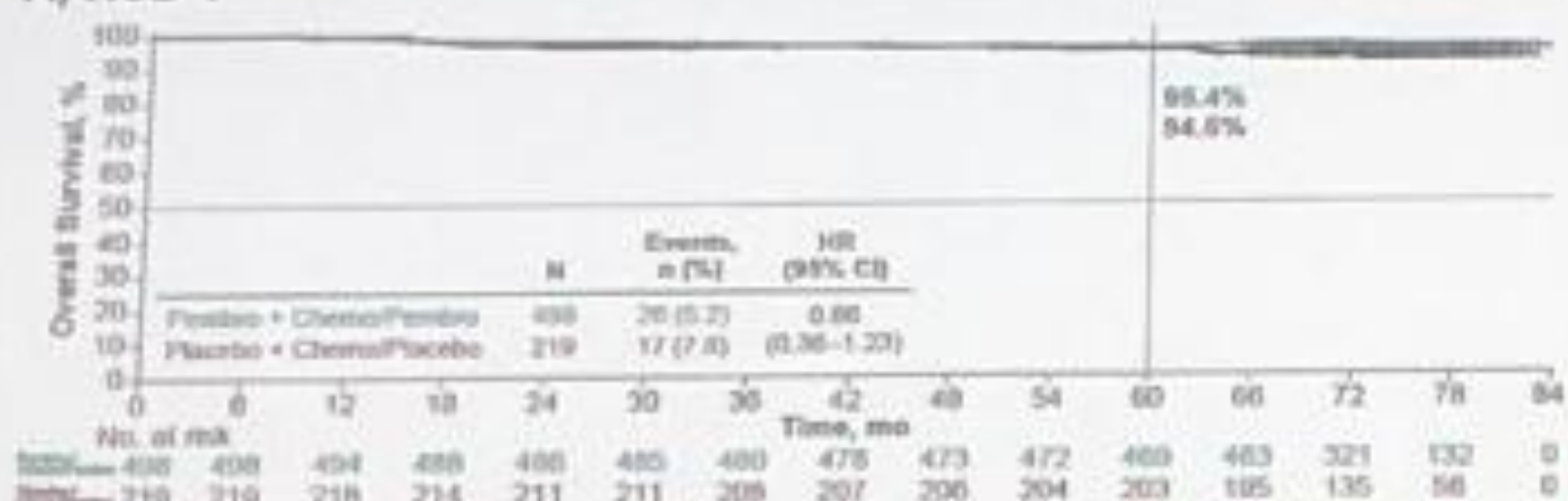


This is a non-randomized subgroup analysis based on the post-treatment outcome of pCR and HRs should therefore be interpreted with caution. Data cutoff date: March 22, 2024.

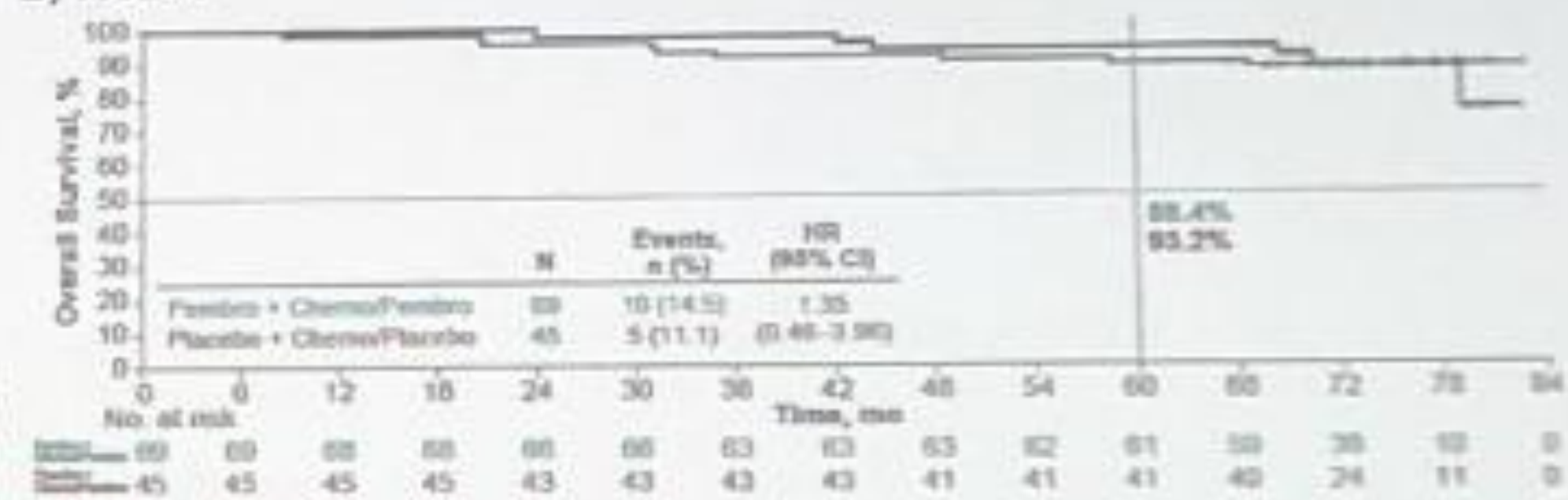
Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy: Pembrolizumab

KEYNOTE-522 trial

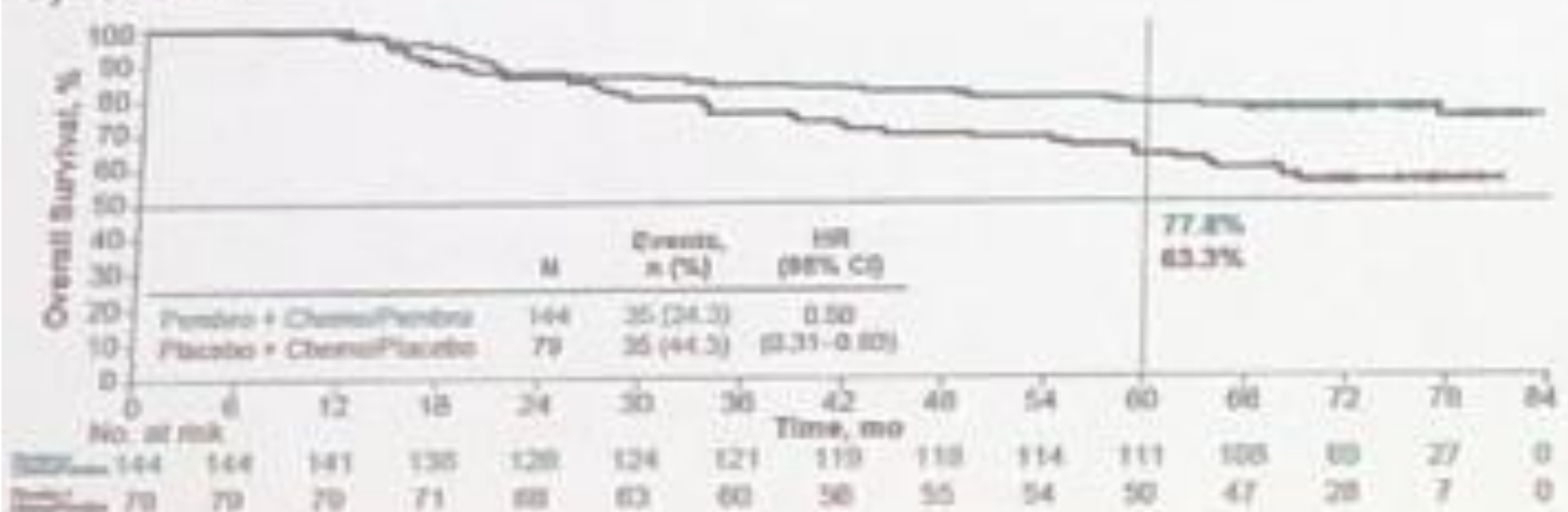
A) RCB-0



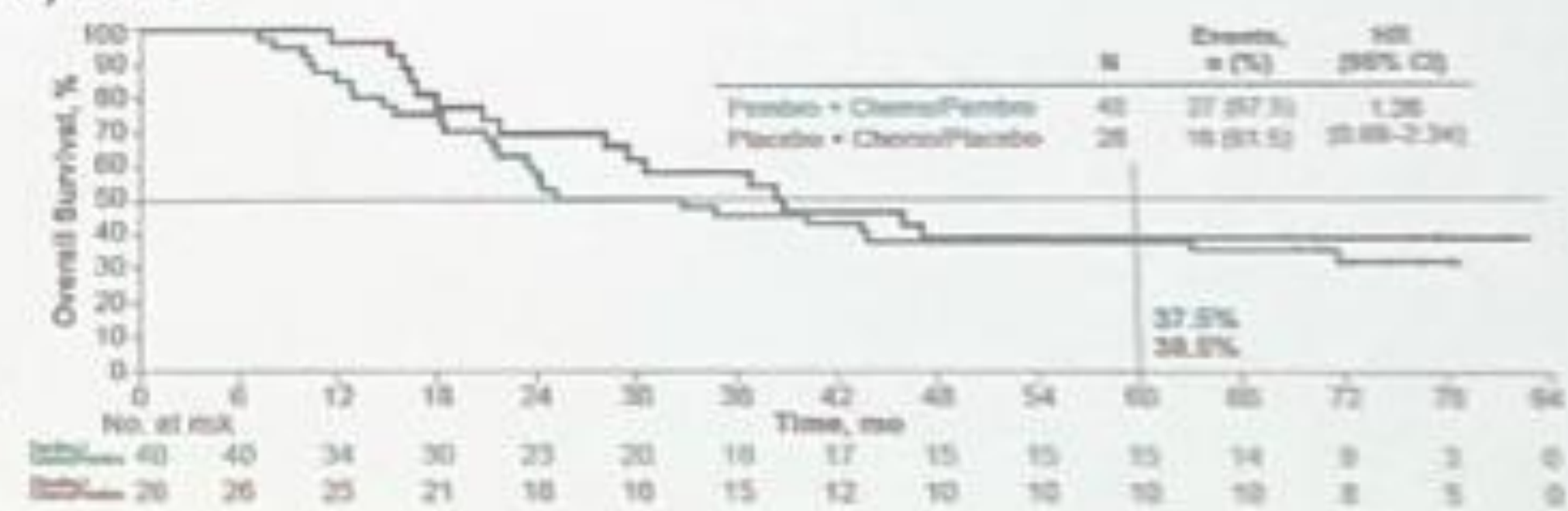
B) RCB-1



C) RCB-2



D) RCB-3



Dent R et al, SABCS 2024

Omitting Axillary Dissection in Breast Cancer with Sentinel-Node Metastases

J. de Boniface, T. Filtenborg Tvedskov, L. Rydén, R. Szulkin, T. Reimer, T. Kühn, M. Kontos, O.D. Gentilini, R. Olofsson Bagge, M. Sund, D. Lundstedt, M. Appelgren, J. Ahlgren, S. Norenstedt, F. Celebioglu, H. Sackey, I. Scheel Andersen, U. Hoyer, P.F. Nyman, E. Vikhe Patil, E. Wieslander, H. Dahl Nissen, S. Alkner, Y. Andersson, B.V. Offersen, L. Bergkvist, J. Frisell, and P. Christiansen, for the SENOMAC Trialists' Group*

- Between January 2015 and December 2021, a total of 2766 were randomized with one or two sentinel-node macrometastases.
- Adjuvant treatment and radiation therapy were used in accordance with national guidelines.
- The primary endpoint was OS
- The median follow-up was 46.8 months
- Postoperative radiation therapy targeting regional lymphnodes was done in 89.9% in the sentinel-node biopsy-only group.
- One third of the patients had extracapsular extension in the sentinel-node biopsy sample.

Table 1. Characteristics of the Patients and Tumors (Per-Protocol Population)*

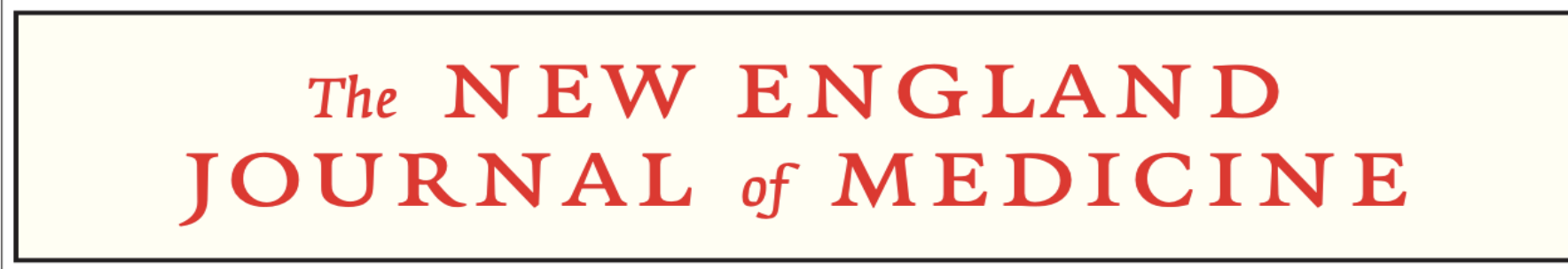
Characteristic	Sentinel-Node Biopsy Only (N=1335)	Completion Axillary-Lymph-Node Dissection (N=1205)
Age		
Mean — yr	61.0±12.0	60.9±11.7
Median (range) — yr	61 (20–94)	61 (34–90)
Distribution — no. (%)		
<40 yr	37 (2.8)	32 (2.7)
40–49 yr	220 (16.5)	194 (16.1)
50–64 yr	549 (41.1)	483 (40.1)
65–74 yr	334 (25.0)	342 (28.4)
≥75 yr	195 (14.6)	154 (12.8)
Tumor size — mm†		
Mean	24.4±15.5	24.2±16.9
Median (range)	20 (0.2–155)	20 (1–155)
Tumor stage — no. (%)‡		
T1	710 (53.2)	651 (54.0)
T2	552 (41.3)	480 (39.8)
T3	73 (5.5)	74 (6.1)
No. of removed sentinel lymph nodes — no. (%)		
1 or 2	934 (70.0)	856 (71.0)
3 or 4	349 (26.1)	303 (25.1)
>4	52 (3.9)	46 (3.8)
Mean	2.1±1.2	2.1±1.2
Median (range)	2 (1–11)	2 (1–9)
No. of sentinel lymph-node macrometastases — no. (%)		
1	1143 (85.6)	1008 (83.7)
2	192 (14.4)	197 (16.3)
No. of axillary metastases		
Mean	1.3±0.5	2.3±3.0
Median (range)	1 (1–5)	1 (1–42)
Type of breast surgery — no. (%)		
Breast-conserving surgery	845 (63.3)	775 (64.3)
Mastectomy	490 (36.7)	430 (35.7)
Tumor histologic type — no. (%)		
Invasive carcinoma, no special type	997 (74.7)	939 (77.9)
Lobular carcinoma	278 (20.8)	226 (18.8)
Other	60 (4.5)	40 (3.3)
Nottingham histologic grade — no. (%)§		
Grade 1	243 (18.2)	211 (17.5)
Grade 2	786 (58.9)	717 (59.5)
Grade 3	298 (22.3)	263 (21.8)
Missing data	8 (0.6)	14 (1.2)

Practice Changing 2024

Table 1. (Continued.)

Characteristic	Sentinel-Node Biopsy Only (N=1335)	Completion Axillary-Lymph-Node Dissection (N=1205)
Tumor subtype — no. (%)¶		
ER-positive, HER2-negative	1166 (87.3)	1034 (85.8)
ER-positive, HER2-positive	84 (6.3)	83 (7.3)
ER-negative, HER2-positive	23 (1.7)	34 (2.8)
ER-negative, HER2-negative	57 (4.3)	46 (3.8)
Missing data	5 (0.4)	3 (0.2)
Ki-67 proliferation index		
Mean — %	24.6±17.2	24.8±17.7
Median (range) — %	20 (1–98)	20 (1–98)
Missing data — no. (%)	13 (1.0)	18 (1.5)

De Boniface J et al. NEJM 2024



ESTABLISHED IN 1812 APRIL 4, 2024 VOL. 390 NO. 13

Omitting Axillary Dissection in Breast Cancer with Sentinel-Node Metastases

Findings

Population Analysis:

- SNB-only group: 1,335 patients
- Dissection group: 1,205 patients

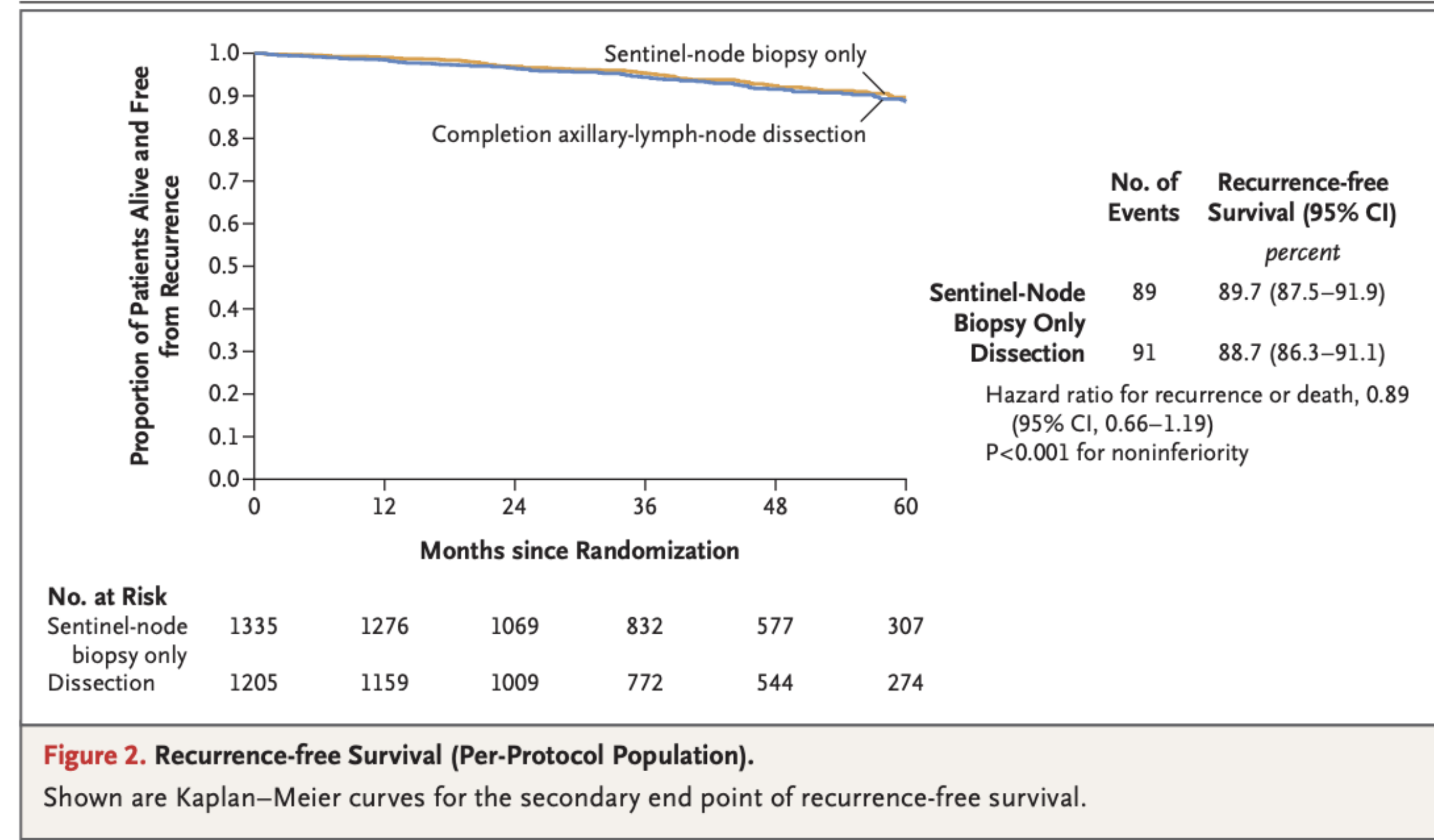
Recurrence-Free Survival (5 years):

- SNB-only group: 89.7% (95% CI: 87.5–91.9)
- Dissection group: 88.7% (95% CI: 86.3–91.1)
- Hazard ratio: 0.89 (95% CI: 0.66–1.19), below the noninferiority margin (P<0.001)

Radiation Therapy Use:

- SNB-only group: 89.9% received nodal radiation
- Dissection group: 88.4% received nodal radiation

Omitting Axillary Dissection in Breast Cancer – SENOMAC Trial Results



The **NEW ENGLAND**
JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

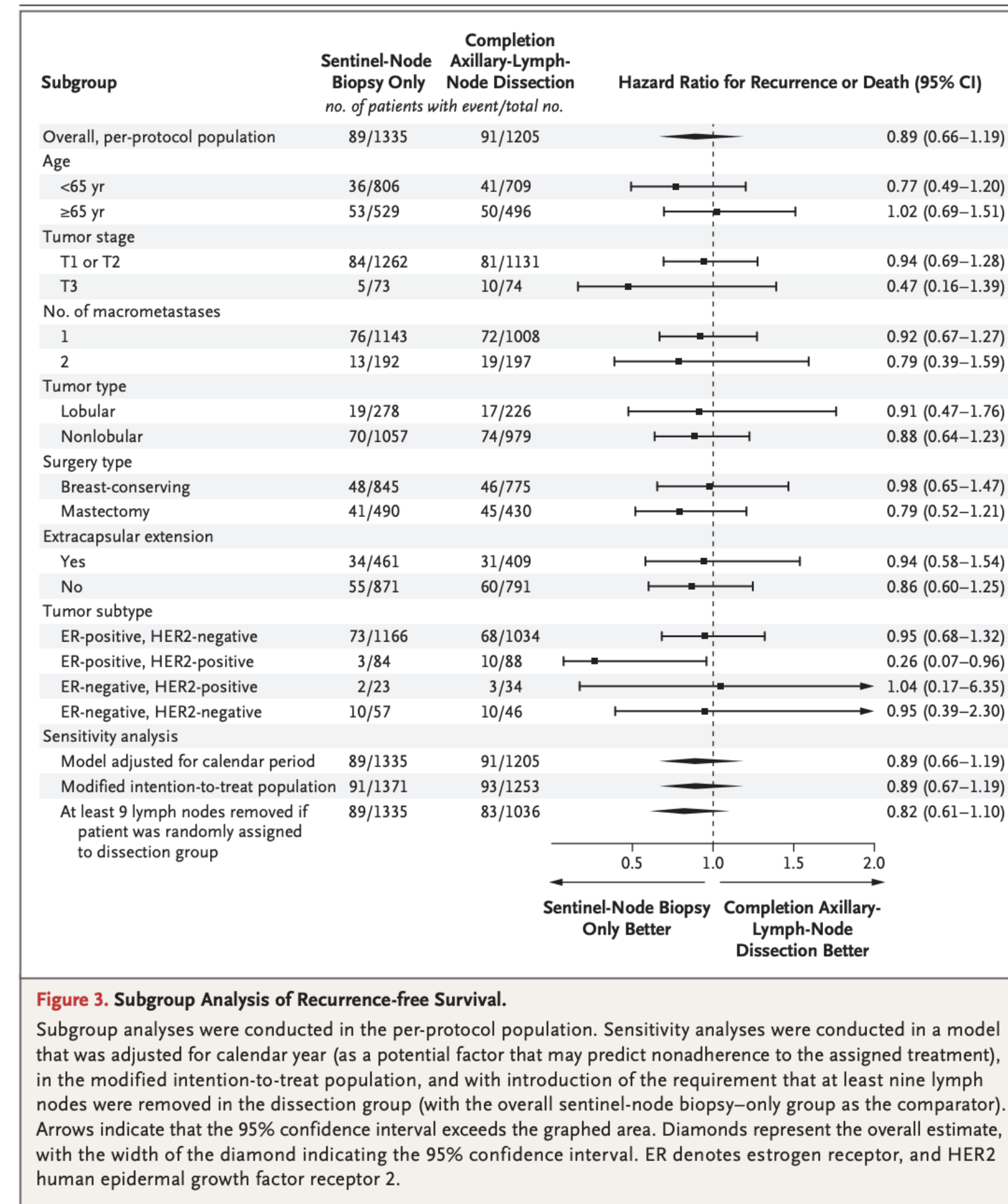
APRIL 4, 2024

VOL. 390 NO. 13

Omitting Axillary Dissection in Breast Cancer
with Sentinel-Node Metastases

Conclusions

- Omission of cALND is noninferior to dissection in recurrence-free survival for patients with sentinel-node macrometastases, most of whom received nodal radiation therapy
- Results suggest that SNB alone, combined with appropriate adjuvant therapy, may be a safe standard of care for select patients



Comparison between SENOMAC, Z0011 and AMAROS

Characteristic	SENOMAC	Z0011	AMAROS
Period	2015-2021	1999-2004	2001-2010
Population	2766 patients	891 patients	1425 patients
Surgery	Conservative and mastectomy	Conservative only	Conservative and <u>mastectomy</u>
<u>N Metastases</u>	<u>Macrometastases</u> (<u>micrometastes allowed</u>)	Micro and <u>macrometastases</u> (40% micro)	Micro and macrometastases
Tumors	T1-T3	T1-T2	T1-T2
Extracapsular extension	Allowed	Excluded	Not reported
Mastectomy	>33% of cases	Not allowed	17.4% of cases
Nodal RT	89% of cases	Not standardized	Study arm

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Axillary Surgery in Breast Cancer — Primary Results of the INSEMA Trial

Background

- Axillary surgery has long been a standard part of breast-conserving therapy (BCT)
- The necessity of axillary staging in patients with clinically node-negative, invasive breast cancer has been debated
- The INSEMA trial investigated whether axillary surgery could be omitted without compromising invasive disease-free survival (iDFS)

Methods

- **Trial Type:** Prospective, randomised, noninferiority study
- **Population:** 5,502 patients with clinically node-negative, invasive breast cancer (T1/T2, tumour size ≤5 cm) scheduled for BCT
- **Intervention Groups:**
 - **Surgery-omission group:** No axillary surgery
 - **Surgery group:** Sentinel-lymph-node biopsy (SLNB)
- **Primary Endpoint:** iDFS (per-protocol analysis)
- **Noninferiority Criteria:** 5-year iDFS ≥85%, with an upper hazard ratio (HR) limit <1.271
- **Median Follow-Up:** 73.6 months

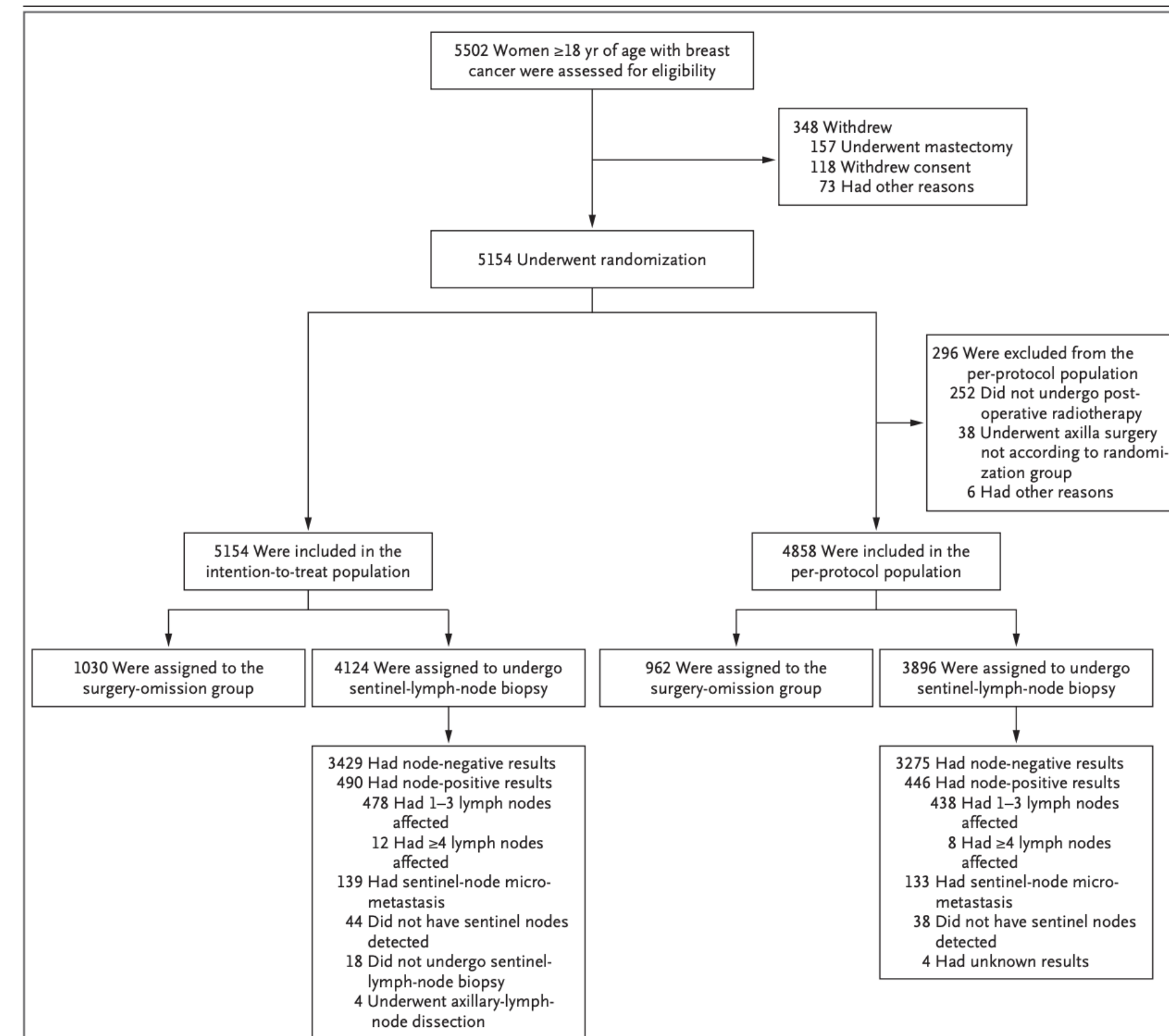


Figure 1. Randomization and Analysis.
 Failed sentinel-lymph-node mapping was an indication for axillary-lymph-node dissection according to the trial protocol, based on the guideline released by the American Society of Breast Surgeons in November 2014.

Reimer T, et al. N Engl J Med. 2024

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Axillary Surgery in Breast Cancer — Primary Results of the INSEMA Trial

Findings

Primary Outcome:

5-year iDFS:

- **Surgery-omission group:** 91.9% (95% CI: 89.9–93.5)
- **Surgery group:** 91.7% (95% CI: 90.8–92.6)
- Hazard ratio: 0.91 (95% CI: 0.73–1.14)

Axillary Recurrence:

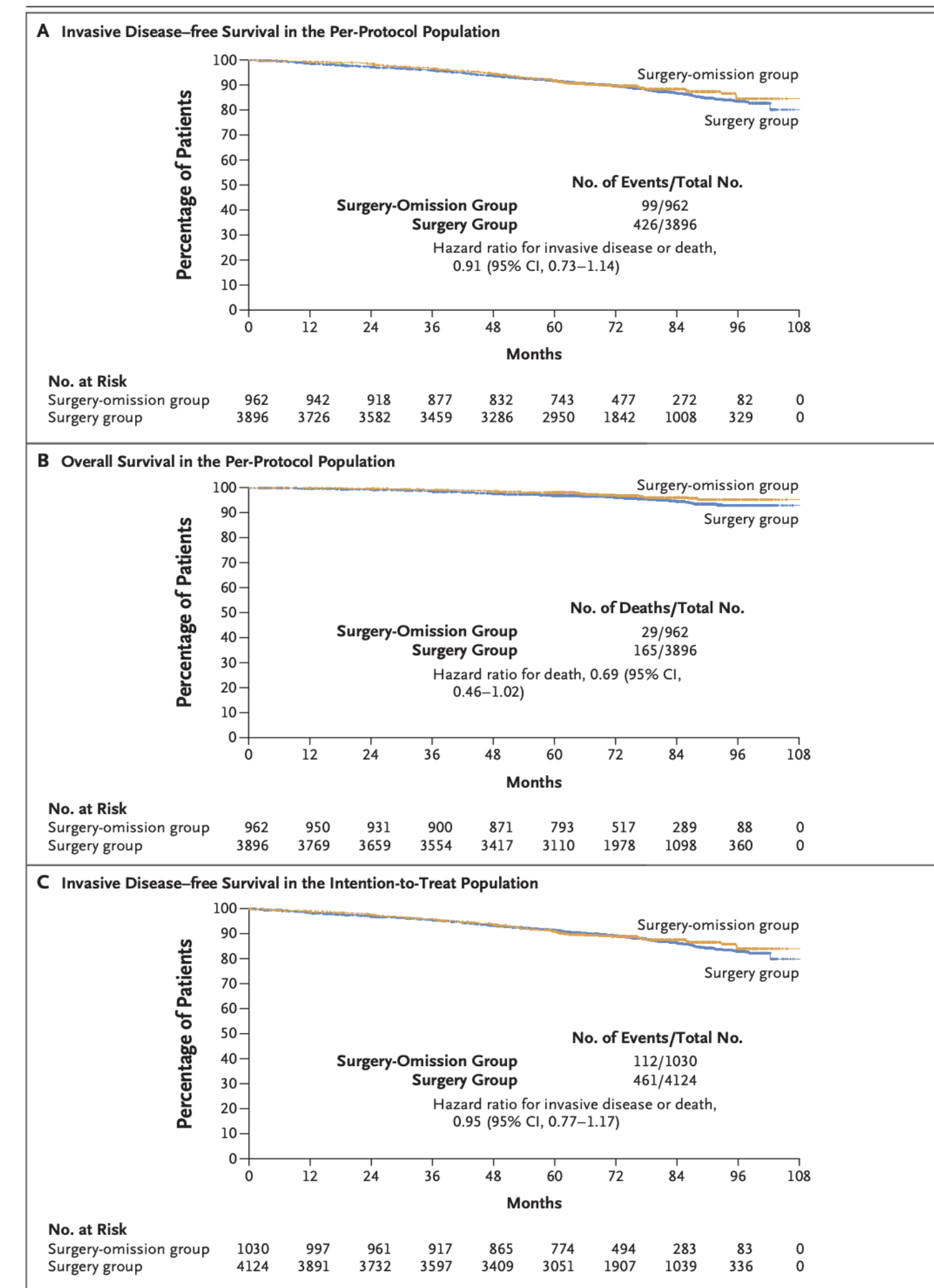
- Surgery-omission: 1.0%
- Surgery group: 0.3%

Mortality Differences:

- Surgery-omission group: 1.4%
- Surgery group: 2.4%

Safety and QoL Outcomes:

- Reduced lymphedema
- Improved arm mobility
- Less pain in arm/shoulder movement



Reimer T, et al. N Engl J Med. 2024

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Axillary Surgery in Breast Cancer — Primary Results of the INSEMA Trial

Conclusions

- Omission of surgical axillary staging was noninferior to SLNB in iDFS after 6 years
- Patients in the surgery-omission group experienced fewer adverse effects and better quality of life
- Findings challenge the necessity of routine axillary staging in selected patients, potentially reshaping standards of care

Table 2. Summary of Primary-Outcome Events in the Per-Protocol Population.

Event	No Sentinel-Lymph-Node Biopsy (N=962)	Sentinel-Lymph-Node Biopsy (N=3896)	All Patients (N=4858)
Any primary-outcome event — no. (%)			
No	863 (89.7)	3470 (89.1)	4333 (89.2)
Yes	99 (10.3)	426 (10.9)	525 (10.8)
First primary-outcome event — no. (%)			
Invasive locoregional relapse	18 (1.9)	54 (1.4)	72 (1.5)
Invasive contralateral breast cancer	10 (1.0)	25 (0.6)	35 (0.7)
Distant relapse	26 (2.7)	104 (2.7)	130 (2.7)
Secondary cancer	32 (3.3)	150 (3.9)	182 (3.7)
Death	13 (1.4)	93 (2.4)	106 (2.2)
Locoregional relapse — no. (%)			
Axillary recurrence	10 (1.0)	12 (0.3)	22 (0.5)
Invasive ipsilateral breast recurrence	8 (0.8)	42 (1.1)	50 (1.0)
Death from any cause — no./total no. (%)			
Breast cancer	0	1/93 (1.1)	1/106 (0.9)
Second, nonbreast cancer	0	3/93 (3.2)	3/106 (2.8)
Other known cause	7/13 (53.8)	43/93 (46.2)	50/106 (47.2)
Unknown cause	6/13 (46.2)	46/93 (49.5)	52/106 (49.1)

Reimer T, et al. N Engl J Med. 2024

Original Reports | Breast Cancer



Ⓢ Nodal Burden and Oncologic Outcomes in Patients With Residual Isolated Tumor Cells After Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy (ypN0i+): The OPBC-05/ICARO Study

Giacomo Montagna, MD, MPH¹; Alison Laws, MD, MPH²; Massimo Ferrucci, MD, PhD³; Mary M. Mrdutt, MD, MS⁴; Susie X. Sun, MD⁵; Suleyman Bademler, MD⁶; Hakan Balbaloglu, MD⁷; Nora Balint-Lahat, MD^{8,9}; Maggie Banyas-Paluchowski, MD, PhD¹⁰; Andrea V. Barrio, MD¹; John Benson, MD¹¹; Nuran Bese, MD¹²; Judy C. Boughey, MD¹³; Marissa K. Boyle, MD¹³; Emilia J. Diego, MD¹⁴; Claire Eden, MD¹⁵; Ruth Eller, MD^{16,17}; Maite Goldschmidt, MSc^{16,17}; Callie Hlavin, MD, MPH¹⁴; Martin Heidinger, MD^{16,17}; Justyna Jelinska, MD, PhD¹⁸; Güldeniz Karadeniz Cakmak, MD, FEBS¹⁹; Susan B. Kesmodel, MD¹⁹; Tari A. King, MD²⁰; Henry M. Kuerer, MD, PhD²; Julie Loesch, MD^{16,17}; Francesco Milardi, MD⁹; Dawid Murawa, MD, PhD¹⁸; Tracy-Ann Moo, MD¹; Tehillah S. Menes, MD, MSc^{4,9}; Daniele Passeri, MD⁹; Jessica M. Pastoriza, MD²⁰; Andraz Perhavec, MD, PhD²¹; Nina Pisljar, MD²¹; Natália Polidorio, MD, PhD¹; Avina Rami, BA²; Jai Min Ryu, MD, PhD²²; Alexandra Schulz, MSc^{16,23}; Varadan Sevilimeedu, MBBS, DrPH²⁴; M. Umit Ugurlu, MD²⁵; Cihan Uras, MD¹²; Annemiek van Hemert, MSc²⁶; Stephanie M. Wong, MD, MPH²⁷; Tae-Kyung Robyn Yoo, MD²⁸; Jennifer Q. Zhang, MD²⁹; Hasan Karanlik, MD³⁰; Neslihan Cabioğlu, MD³⁰; Marie-Jeanne Vrancken Peeters, MD, PhD³¹; Monica Morrow, MD¹; and Walter P. Weber, MD^{16,17}; on behalf of the ICARO Study Group

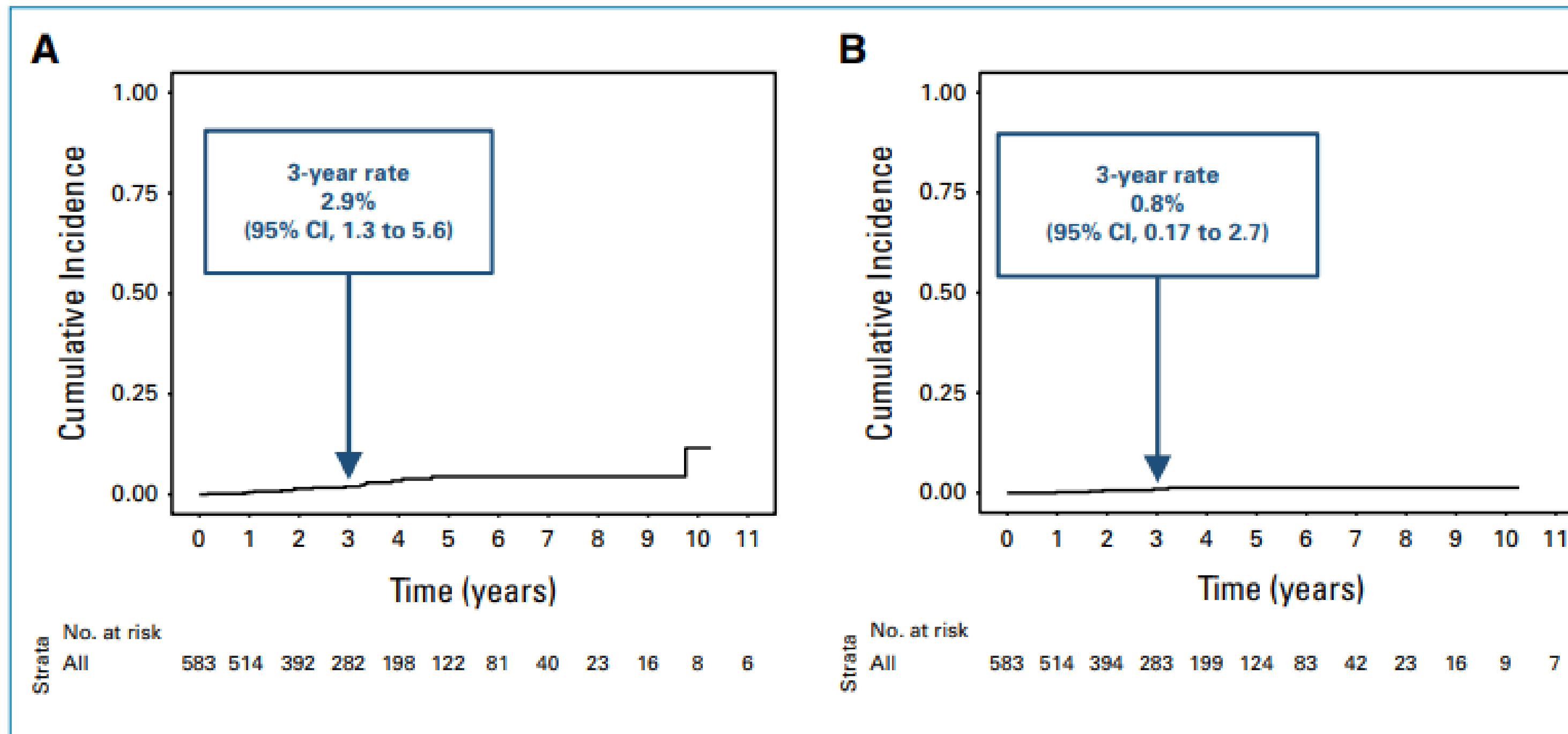
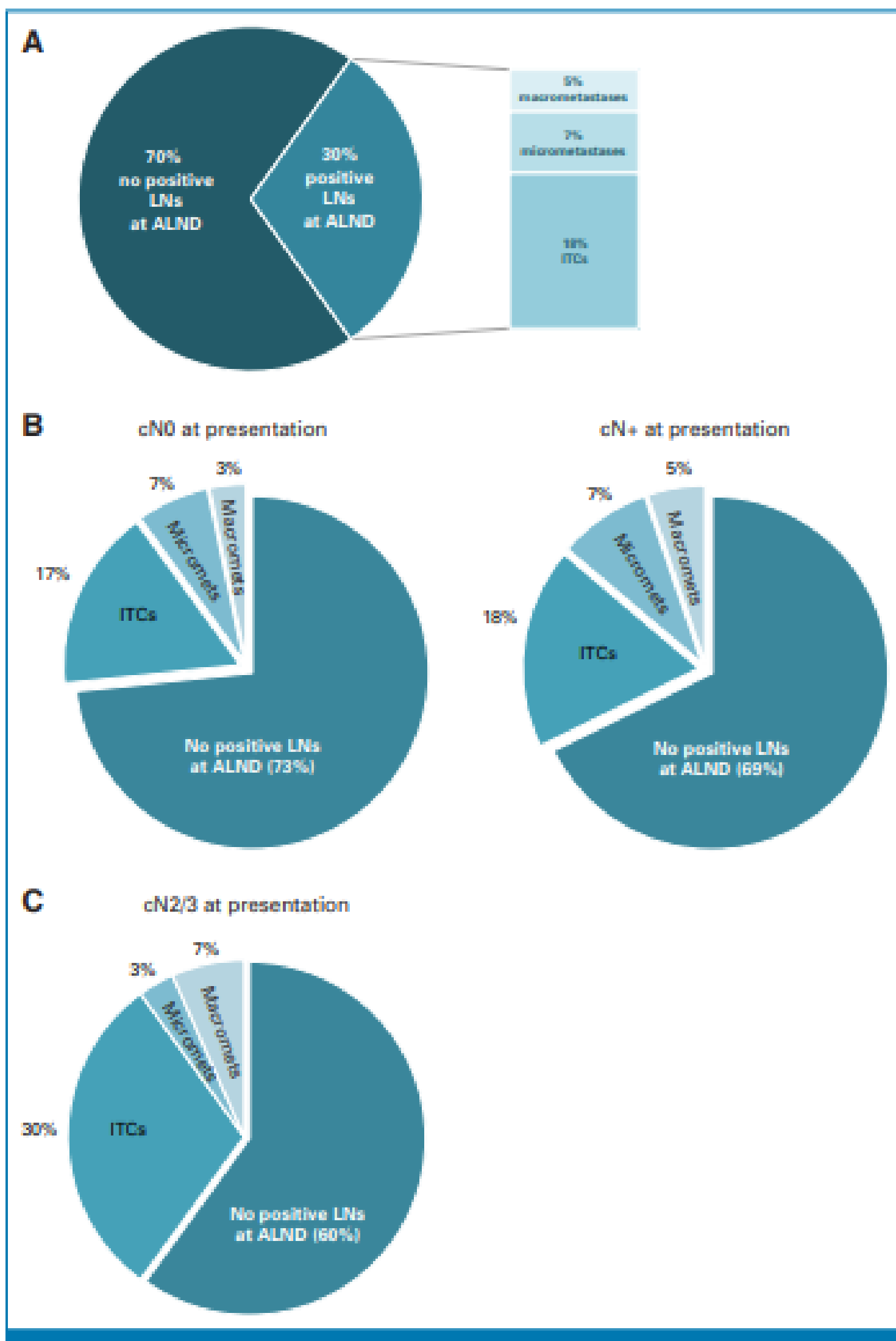
DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.24.01052>

Background

- To investigate the role of axillary lymph node dissection (ALND) in patients with residual isolated tumor cells (ITCs) in the sentinel lymph nodes (SLNs) after neoadjuvant chemotherapy.
- **Methods**
- **Trial Type:** Retrospective. Patients with stage I to III breast cancer with ITCs in SLNs after NAC from 62 centers in 18 countries.
- **Population:** 583 patients were included, of whom 182 (31%) had completion ALND and 401 (69%) did not.
- **Primary Endpoint:** The primary end point was the 3-year rate of any axillary recurrence.
- **Median Follow-Up:** 38 months

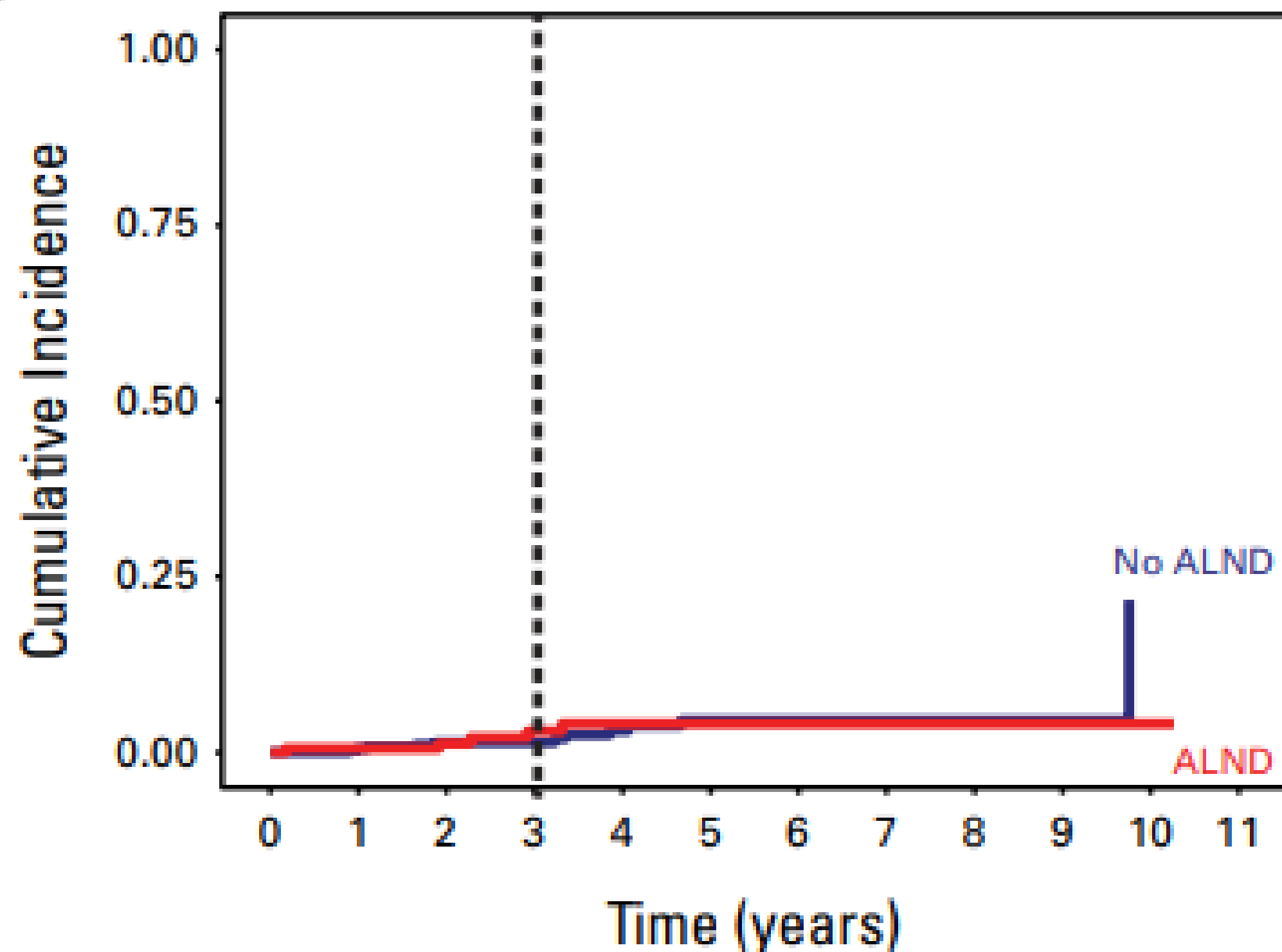
Montagna G, et al. JCO. 2024

Nodal Burden and Oncologic Outcomes in ypN0(i+) Patients



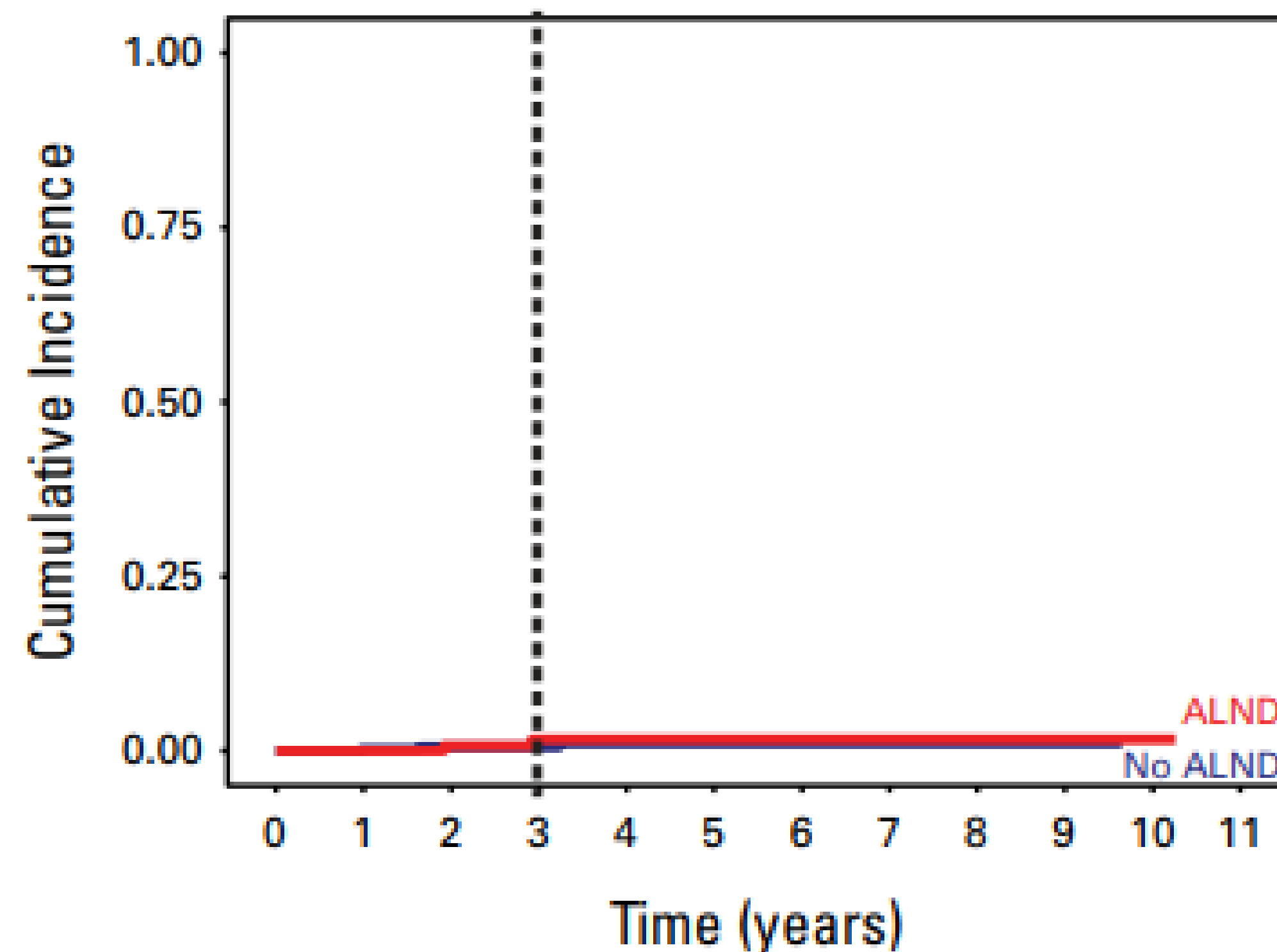
Montagna G, et al. JCO. 2024

C



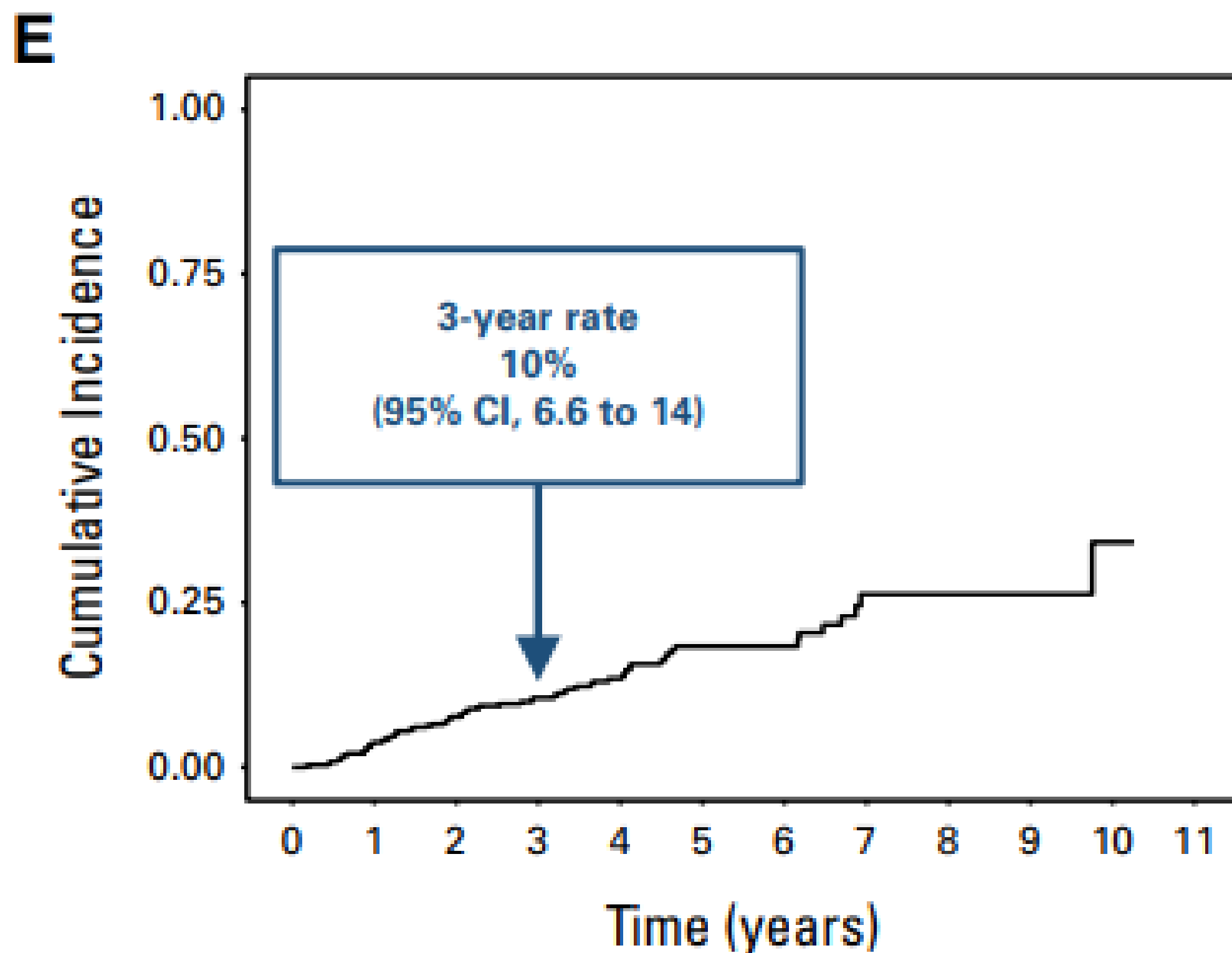
No. at risk		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Strata	No ALND	401	349	266	187	131	73	45	21	10	6	3	3
	ALND	182	165	126	95	67	49	36	19	13	10	5	3

D

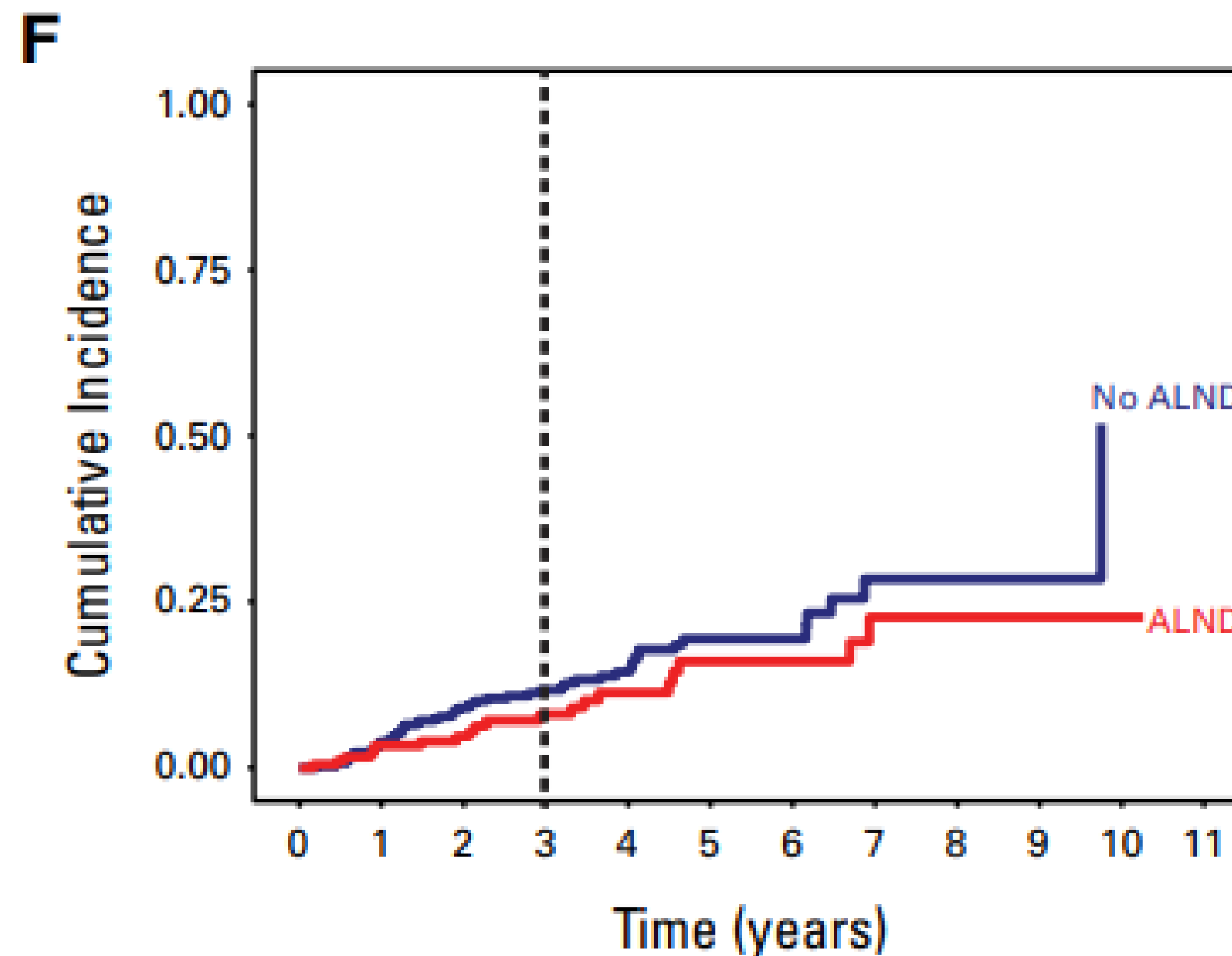


No. at risk		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Strata	No ALND	401	349	268	188	132	75	47	23	10	6	4	4
	ALND	182	165	126	95	67	49	36	19	13	10	5	3

Montagna G, et al. JCO. 2024



Strata	No. at risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All		583	514	393	280	197	121	80	39	22	15	7	5



Strata	No. at risk	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
No ALND		401	349	266	185	129	71	43	20	9	5	2	2
ALND		182	165	127	95	68	50	37	19	13	10	5	3

Montagna G, et al. JCO. 2024

Original Reports | Breast Cancer

Check for updates

Omission of Radiotherapy After Breast-Conserving Surgery for Women With Breast Cancer With Low Clinical and Genomic Risk: 5-Year Outcomes of IDEA

Reshma Jagsi, MD, DPhil^{1,2}; Kent A. Griffith, MS³; Eleanor E. Harris, MD³; Jean L. Wright, MD⁴; Abram Recht, MD⁵; Alphonse G. Taghian, MD, PhD⁶; Lucille Lee, MD⁷; Meena S. Moran, MD⁸; William Small Jr, MD⁹; Candice Johnstone, MD¹⁰; Asal Rahimi, MD¹¹; Gary Freedman, MD¹²; Mahvish Muzaffar, MD¹³; Bruce Haffty, MD¹⁴; Kathleen Horst, MD¹⁵; Simon N. Powell, MD, PhD¹⁶; Jody Sharp, BS²; Michael Sabel, MD²; Anne Schott, MD²; and Mahmoud El-Tamer, MD¹⁵

DOI <https://doi.org/10.1200/JCO.23.02270>

- Postmenopausal patients age 50-69 years with pT1N0 unifocal invasive breast cancer with margins ≥ 2 mm after BCS Luminal A with Oncotype DX 21-gene recurrence score ≤ 18 were prospectively enrolled in a single-arm trial of radiotherapy omission if they consented to take at least 5 years of ET.
- The primary end point was the rate of locoregional recurrence 5 years after BCS.
- Between June 2015 and October 2018, 200 eligible patients were enrolled.
- The 5-year freedom from any recurrence was 99%.
- Median follow-up time was 5.21 years.

TABLE 1. Characteristics of Patient Sample

Characteristic	Statistics
Year enrolled, No. (%)	
2015	10 (5)
2016	58 (29)
2017	103 (51.5)
2018	29 (14.5)
Age, years	
Mean (SD)	62 (4.0)
Median (IQR)	63 (58-66)
Age group, No. (%)	
50-59	60 (30)
60-69	140 (70)
Zubrod performance status, No. (%)	
0, asymptomatic	175 (87.5)
1, symptomatic, fully ambulatory	25 (12.5)
MRI at the time of diagnosis, No. (%)	
No	134 (67)
Yes	66 (33)
Imaging evidence beyond primary site of tumor, No. (%)	
No	188 (94)
Yes, biopsy-proven nonmalignant	12 (6)
Nodal evaluation procedure, No. (%)	
SLNB only	190 (95)
SLNB, ALND	7 (3.5)
ALND only	3 (1.5)
Histology, No. (%)	
Ductal	169 (84.5)
Lobular	20 (10)
Ductal and lobular	4 (2)
Mucinous	3 (1.5)
Tubular	4 (2)
Oncotype DX 21-gene assay recurrence score	
Mean (SD)	11.2 (4.8)
Median (IQR)	12 (8-15)
Tumor grade, No. (%)	
Well differentiated	85 (42.5)
Moderately differentiated	109 (54.5)
Poorly differentiated	6 (3)
Tumor size, mm	
Mean (SD)	10 (4.6)
Median (IQR)	9 (7-13)
Nodal status, No. (%)	
Node-negative without ITCs	199 (99.5)
ITCs, no cluster >0.2 mm	1 (0.5)
Lymphovascular invasion, No. (%)	
Absent	171 (85.5)
Present	16 (8)
Not reported/unknown	13 (6.5)
Extensive intraductal component, No. (%)	
Absent	90 (45)

(continued in next column)

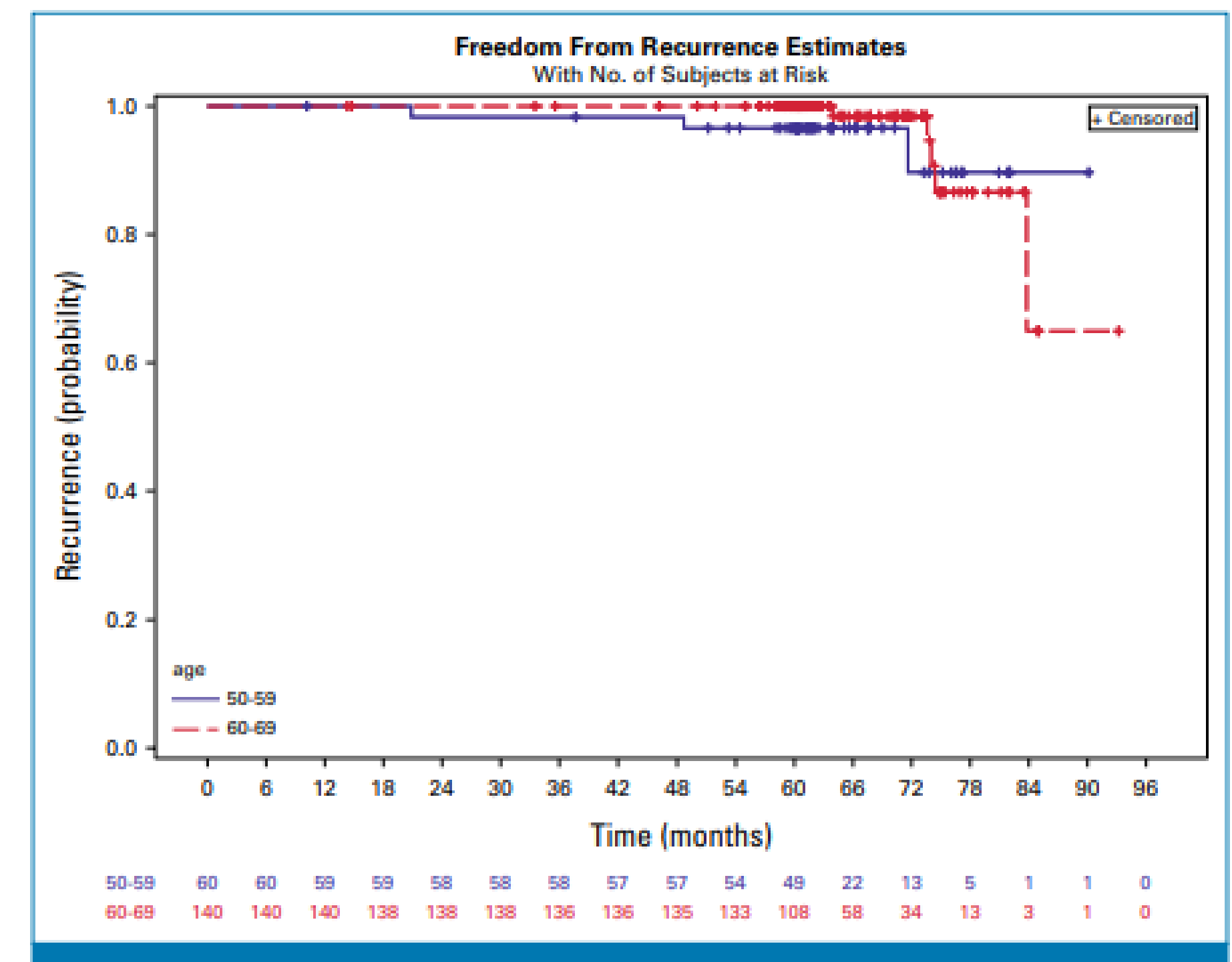


FIG 1. Freedom from recurrence in relation to age cohort.

Jagsi R et al. JCO 2024

To report **5-year results of IRMA trial**

IRMA trial (NCT 01803958)

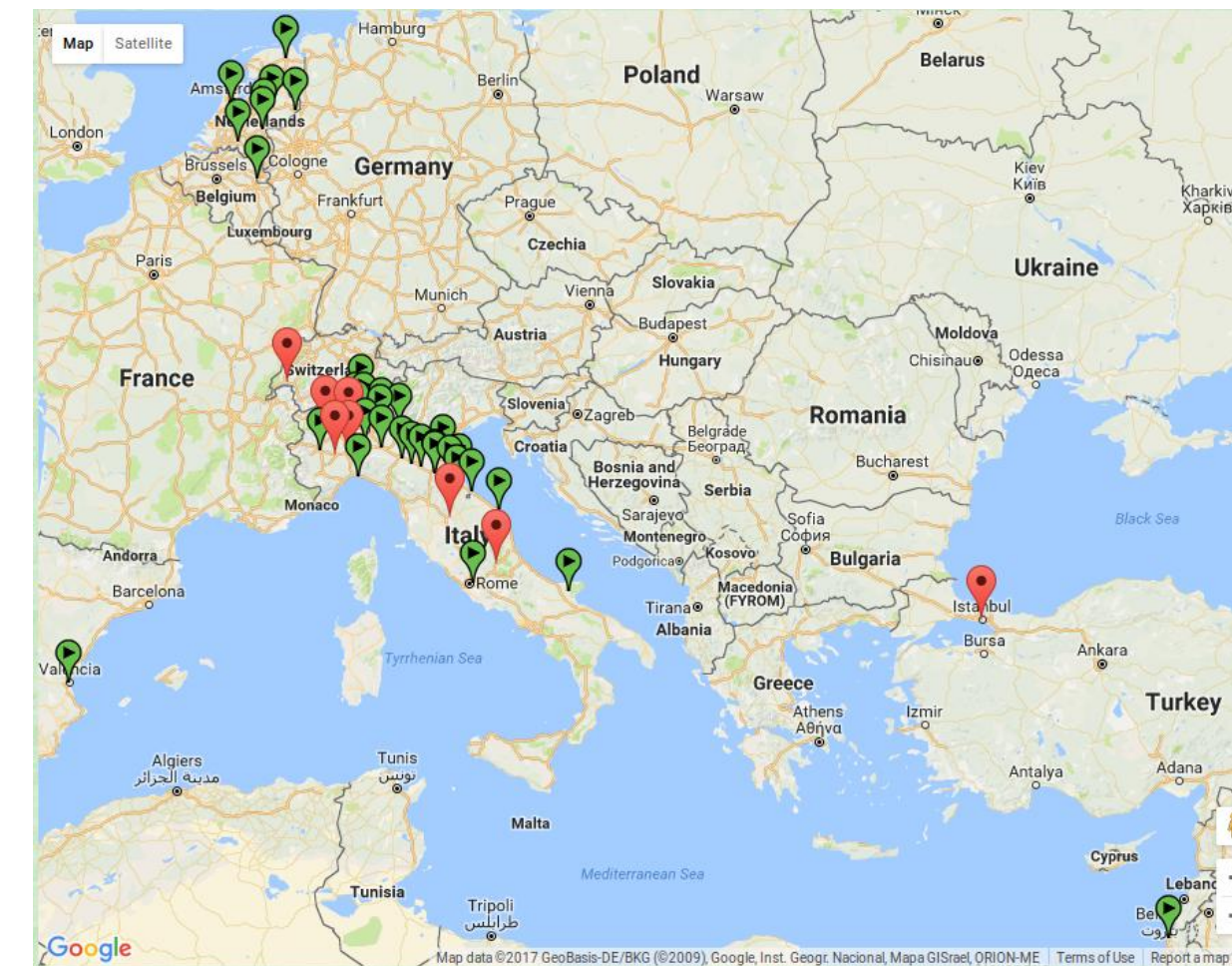
Multicentric randomized trial (Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Israel)

Non inferiority study (APBI vs WBI)

Primary Objective : Local control

(incidence of ipsilateral breast tumour recurrences)

Secondary Objectives: OS, Cosmesis, Toxicity



<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01803958> - www.irmatrial.it

Treatment

APBI: 38.5 Gy in 10 fractions b.i.d

WBI: conventional or hypo-fractionated

Adjuvant systemic therapy according to institutional guidelines

Patients

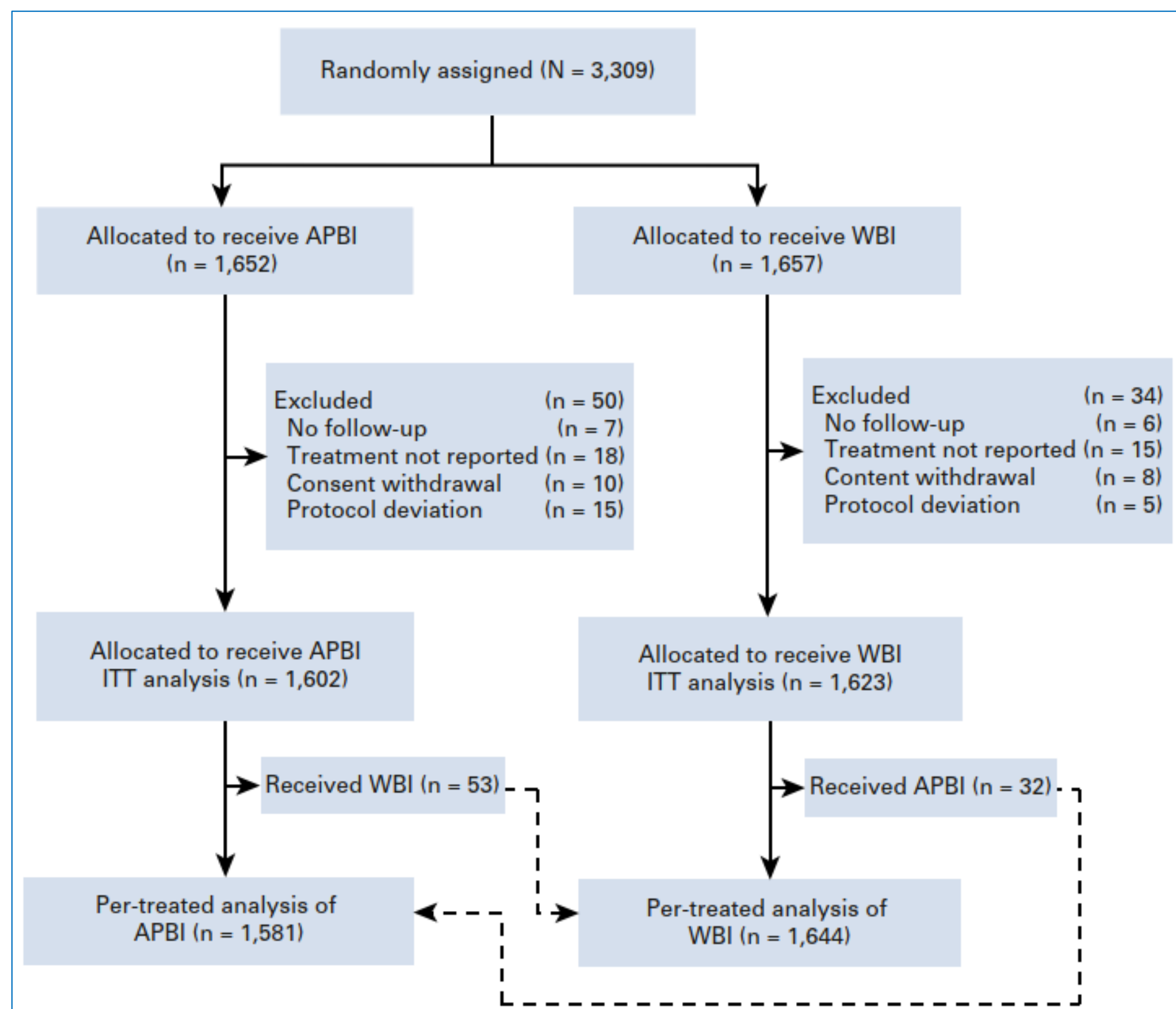
ESTRO2024

- Age \geq 49 years
- Invasive breast cancer (including lobular) < 3 cm, pN0-1, treated with BCS
- Unifocal disease
- Negative resection margins (\geq 2 mm)

APBI volume and techniques

Technique: 4-5 non-coplanar conformal fields or with intensity modulated RT

CTV: tumour bed [surgical clips (and seroma, if present)] + 1,5 cm, excluding pectoralis major muscle, chest wall, and tissue within 5 mm of the skin --- **PTV:** CTV plus a 1 cm margin



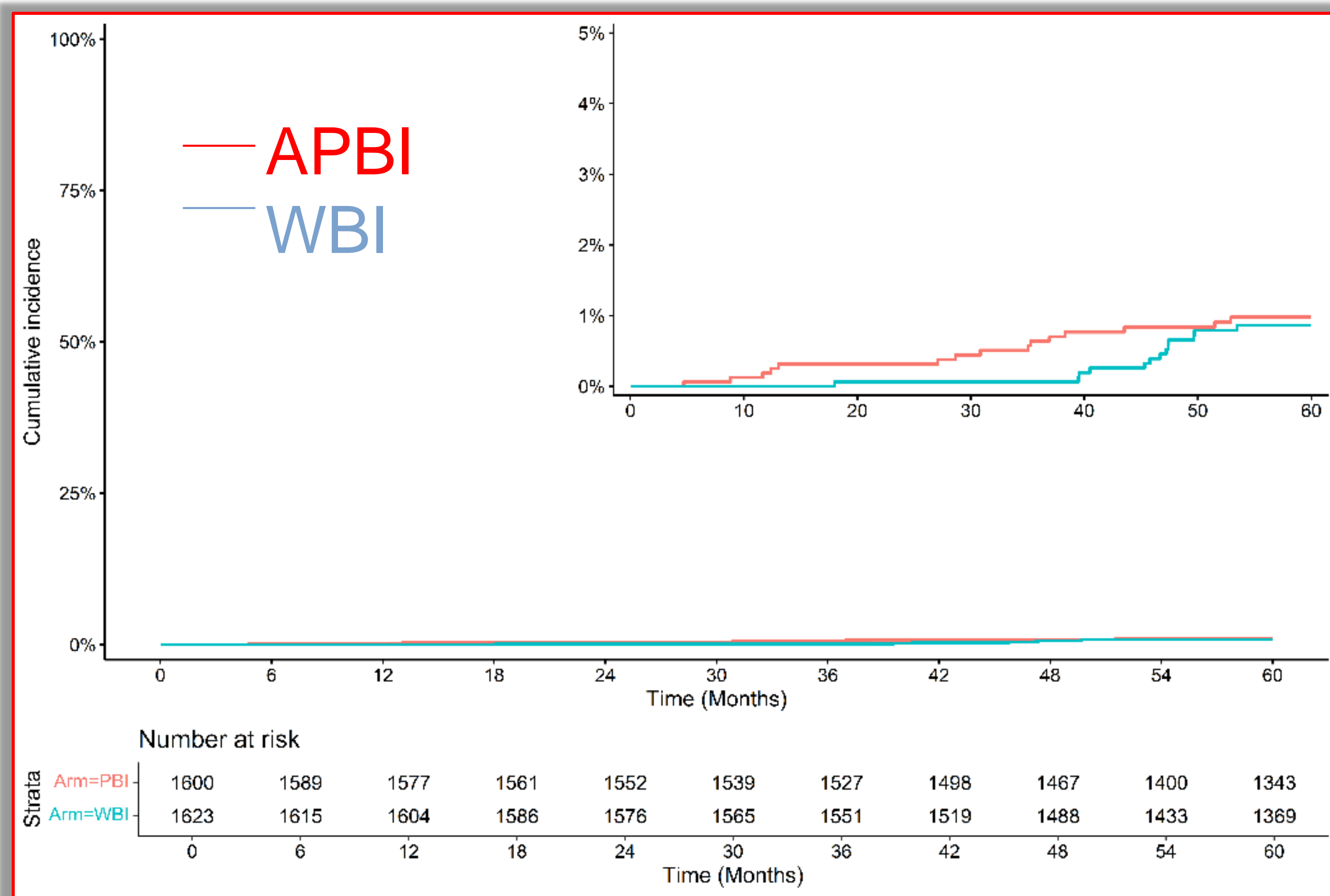
2007 –2019 - **35 European centers**

Median FUP: 8 years (IQR 5.6-10.1)

	APBI (N = 1602) n (%)	WBI (N = 1623) n (%)
Age (years)		
Median (IQR)	65 (58 – 70)	65 (58 – 71)
T stage		
T1	1479 (92.3)	1484 (91.4)
T2	123 (7.7)	138 (8.5)
Unknown	0	1 (0.1)
N stage		
N0	1481 (92.5)	1503 (92.6)
N1	121 (7.5)	119 (7.3)
Unknown	0	1 (0.1)
Tumour grade		
I	453 (28.3)	450 (27.7)
II	896 (55.9)	908 (56.0)
III	224 (14.0)	231 (14.2)
Unknown	29 (1.8)	34 (2.1)
Histology		
Ductal inv	1341 (83.7)	1371 (84.5)
Lobular inv	131 (8.2)	114 (7.0)
Other	123 (7.7)	133 (8.2)
Unknown	7 (0.4)	5 (0.3)

	APBI (N = 1602) n (%)	WBI (N = 1623) n (%)
Hormone Receptor		
ER+/PR+	1366 (85.3)	1383 (85.2)
ER+/PR-	166 (10.3)	161 (9.9)
ER-/PR+	1 (0.1)	5 (0.3)
ER-/PR-	53 (3.3)	66 (4.1)
Unknown	16 (1.0)	8 (0.5)
HER2-neu		
Positive	71 (4.4)	72 (4.4)
Negative	1344 (83.9)	1379 (85.0)
Unknown	187 (11.7)	172 (10.6)
Adjuvant Chemotherapy		
Yes	170 (10.6)	163 (10.0)
No	1432 (89.4)	1457 (89.8)
Unknown	0	3 (0.2)
Hormone Therapy		
Yes	951 (59.4)	949 (58.5)
No	651 (40.6)	671 (41.3)
Unknown	0	3 (0.2)

Ipsilateral breast tumour recurrence ESTRO2024



**5-year cumulative rate of
Ipsilateral breast tumour
recurrence**

APBI: 1% (95% CI 0.6% - 1.6%)

WBI: 0.8% (95% CI 0.5% - 1.4%)

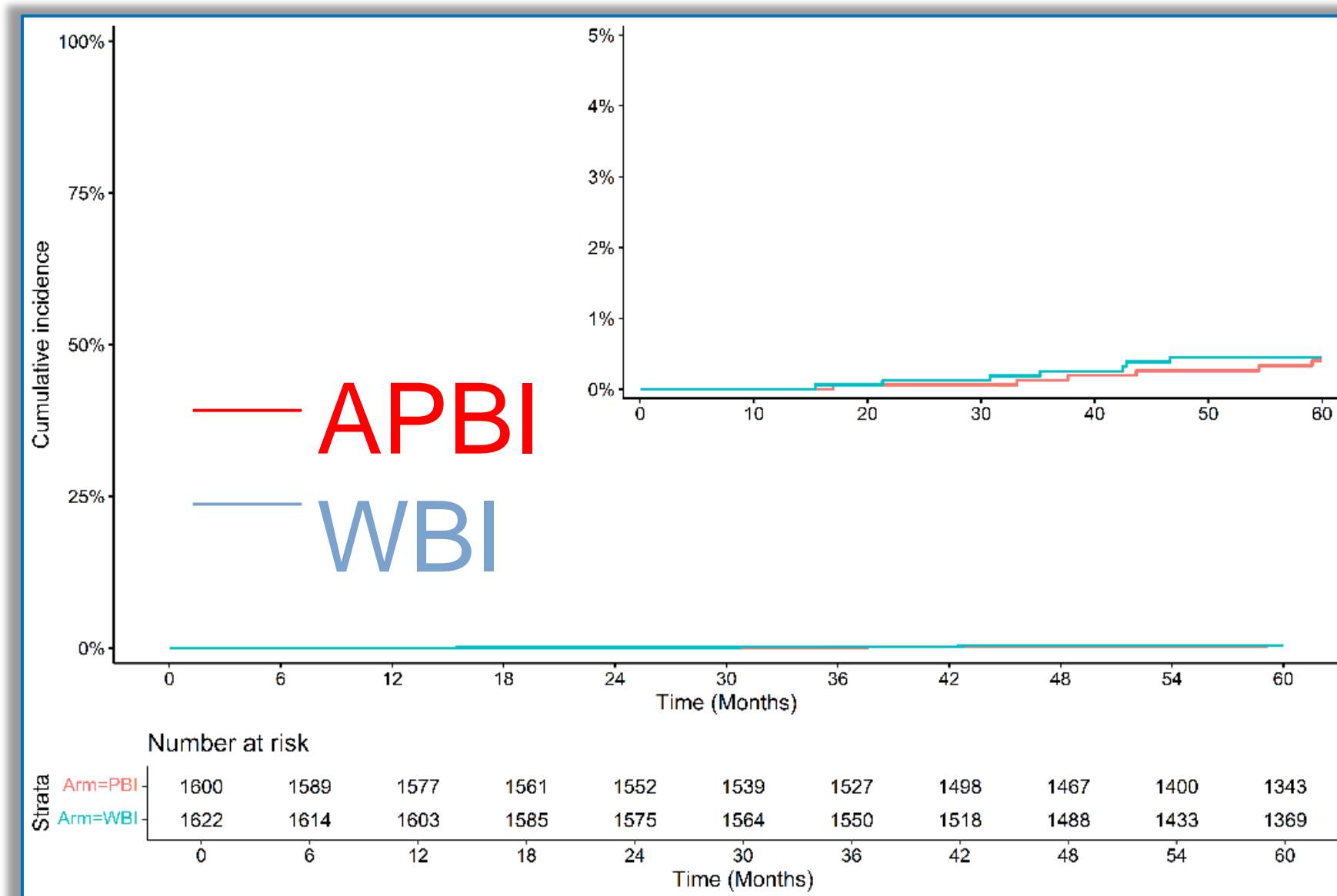
HR: 1.18 (90% CI 0.63% - 2.2%)

5-year cumulative rate of Distant relapses

APBI: 1.4% (95% CI 0.9% - 2.1%)

WBI: 1.3% (95% CI 0.2% - 2%)

HR: 1.07 (95% CI 0.59% - 1.94%)

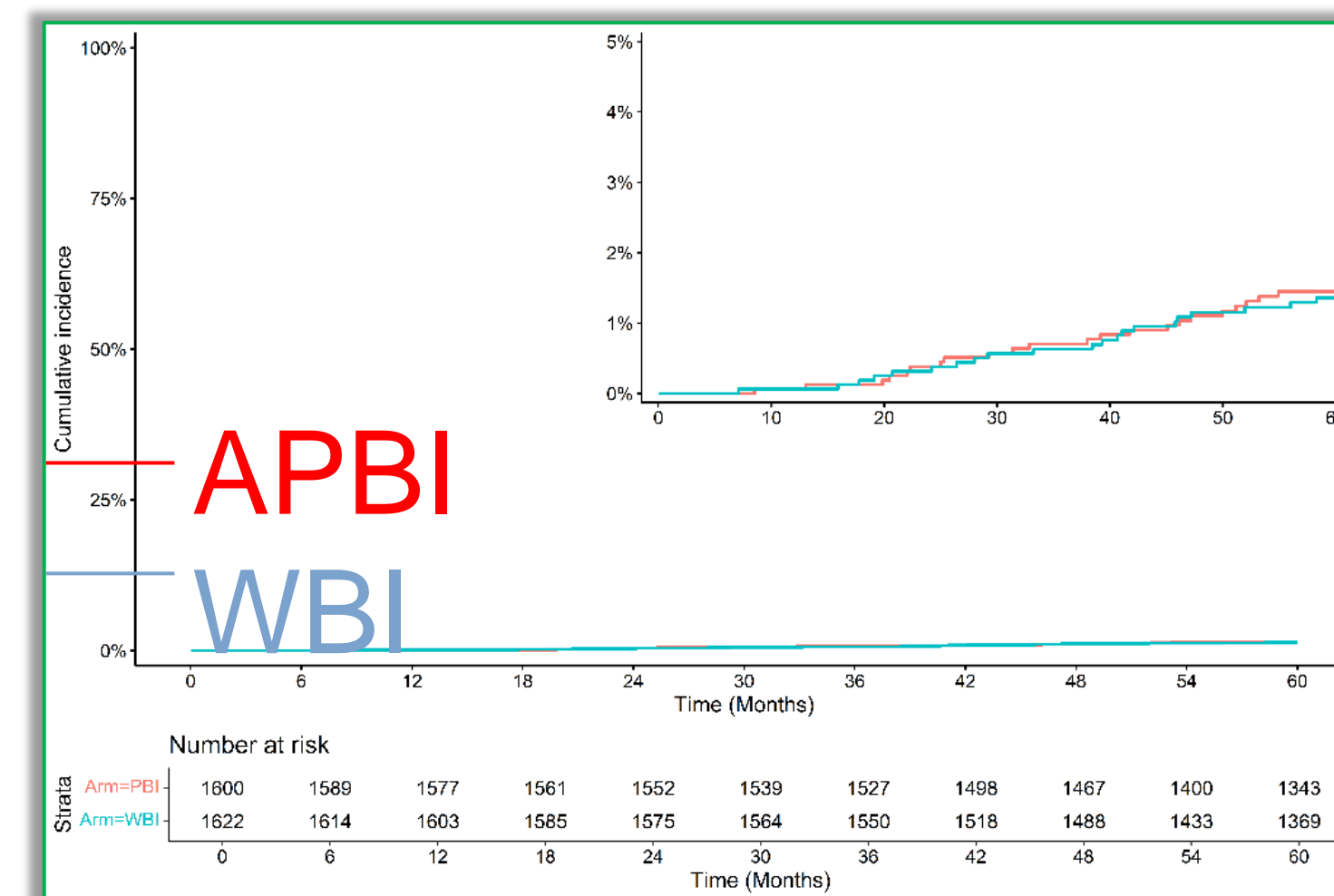


5-year cumulative rate of Regional relapses

APBI: 0.4% (95% CI 0.2% - 0.8%)

WBI: 0.4% (95% CI 0.2% - 0.9%)

HR: 0.87 (95% CI 0.56% - 2.48%)

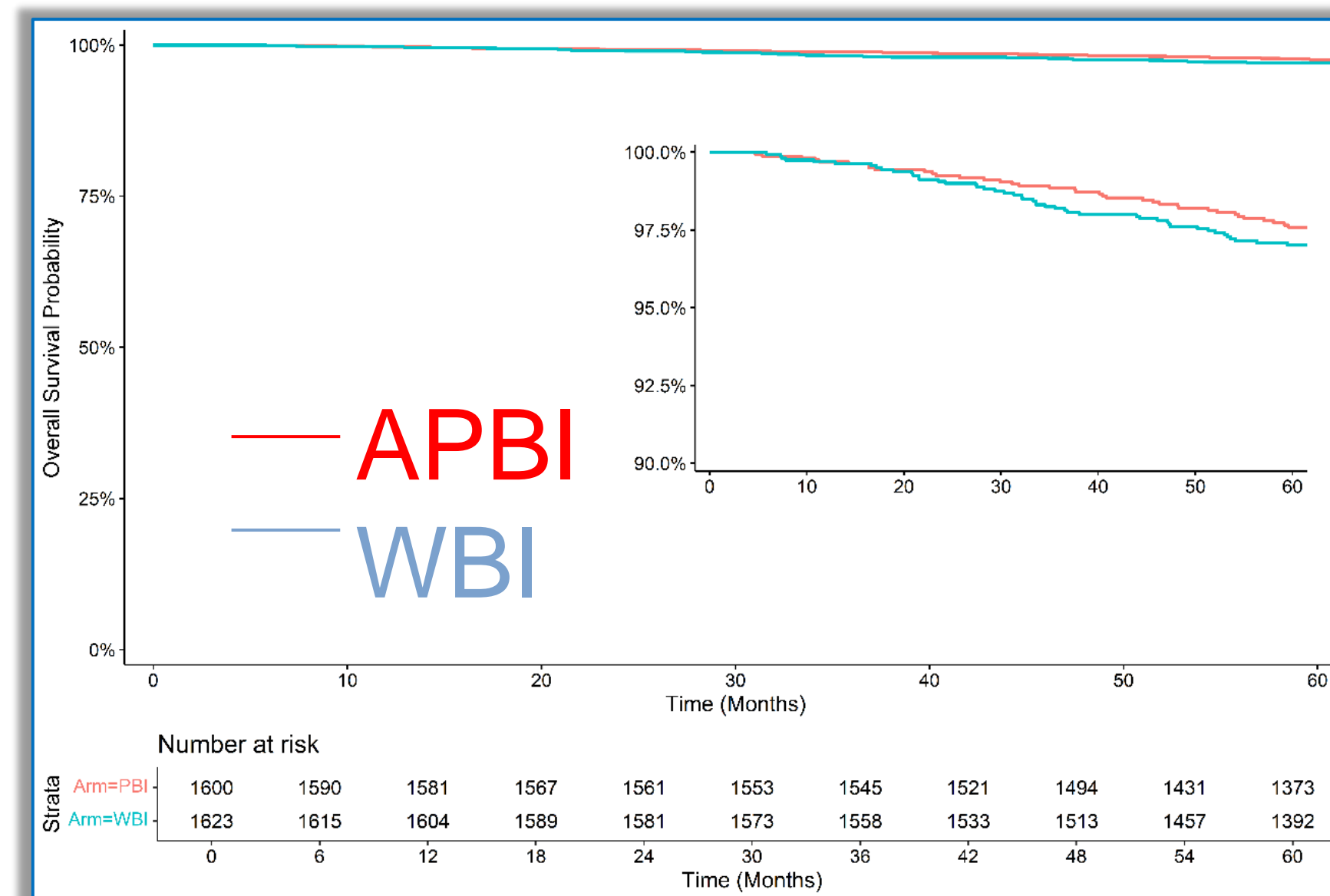
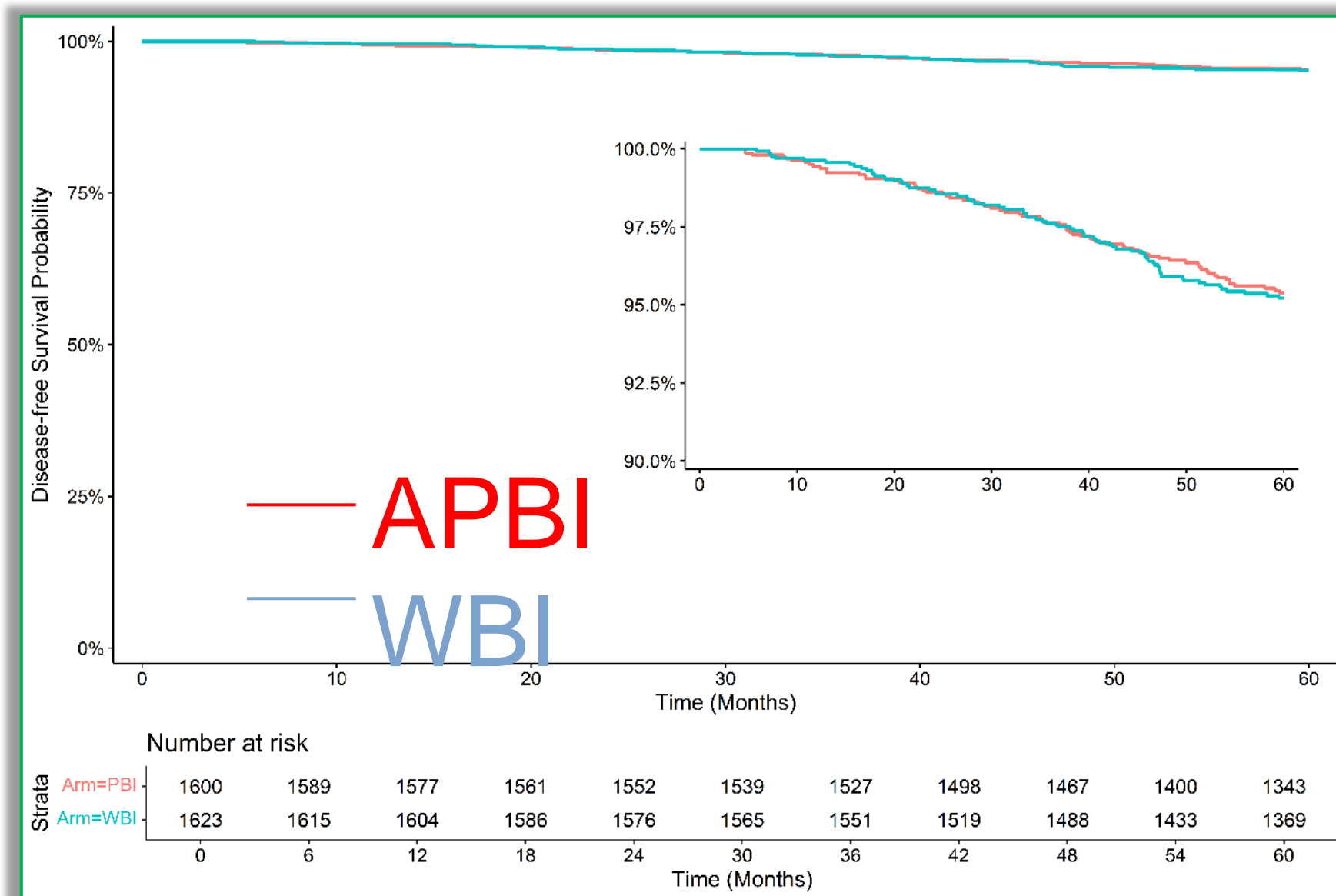


5-year Disease free survival

APBI: 95.4% (95% CI 94.3% - 96.4%)

WBI: 95.2% (95% CI 94.1% - 96.2%)

HR: 0.97 (95% CI 0.69% - 1.33)



5-year Overall survival

APBI: 97.6% (95% CI 96.7% - 98.3%)

WBI: 97% (95% CI 96.1% - 97.8%)

HR: 0.8 (95% CI 0.52% - 1.23%)

External beam APBI with twice-daily schedule was *non-inferior* to whole breast irradiation in preventing
IBTR at 5 years

These data significantly strengthen the evidence in favor of
external-beam APBI in low risk invasive BC

**DECEMBER 10–13, 2024**

HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER • SAN ANTONIO, TX

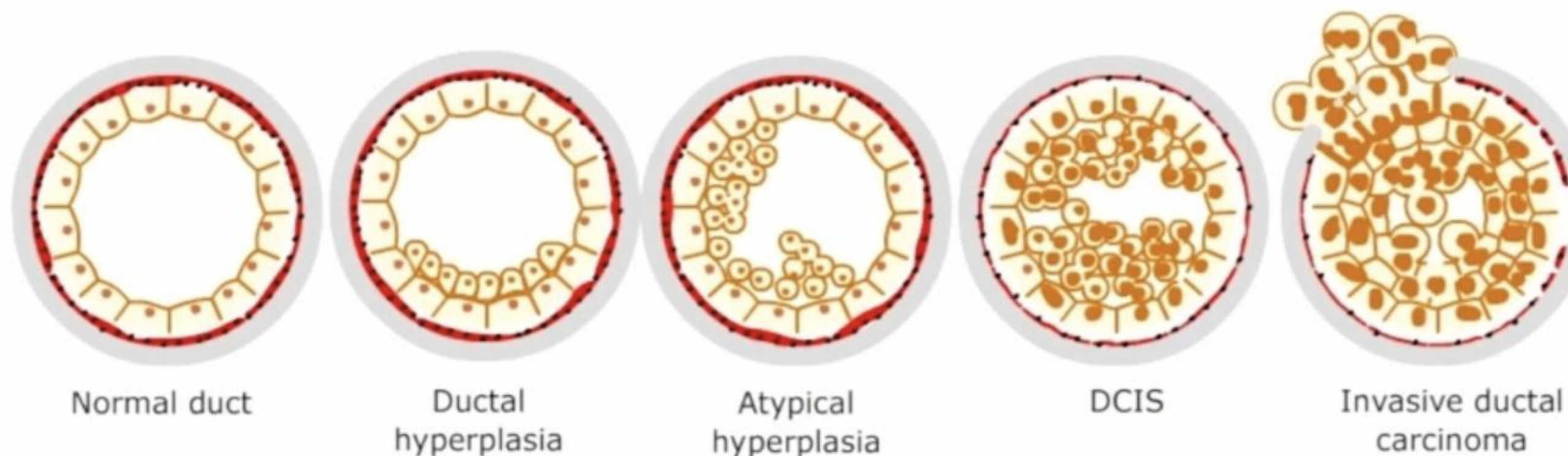
GS2-05. Primary Outcomes following Active Monitoring or Surgery (+/- Radiation) for Low-risk DCIS: the COMET Study (AFT-25)

E. Shelley Hwang, Terry Hyslop, Thomas Lynch, Marc D Ryser, Anna Weiss, Anna Wolf, Kelsey Norris, Meredith Witten, Lars Grimm, Stuart Schnitt, Sunil Badve, Rachel Factor, Elizabeth Frank, Deborah Collyar, Desiree Basila, Donna Pinto, Mark A Watson, Robert West, Louise Davies, Jenny Donovan, Ayako Shimada, Yutong Li, Yan Li, Antonia V Bennett, Shoshana Rosenberg, Jeff Marks, Eric Winer, Marc Boisvert, Armando Giuliano, Kelsey Larson, Kathleen Yost, Priscilla McAuliffe, Lisa Carey, Alastair Thompson,* Ann H Partridge. *Co-Senior Authors



240310

Background

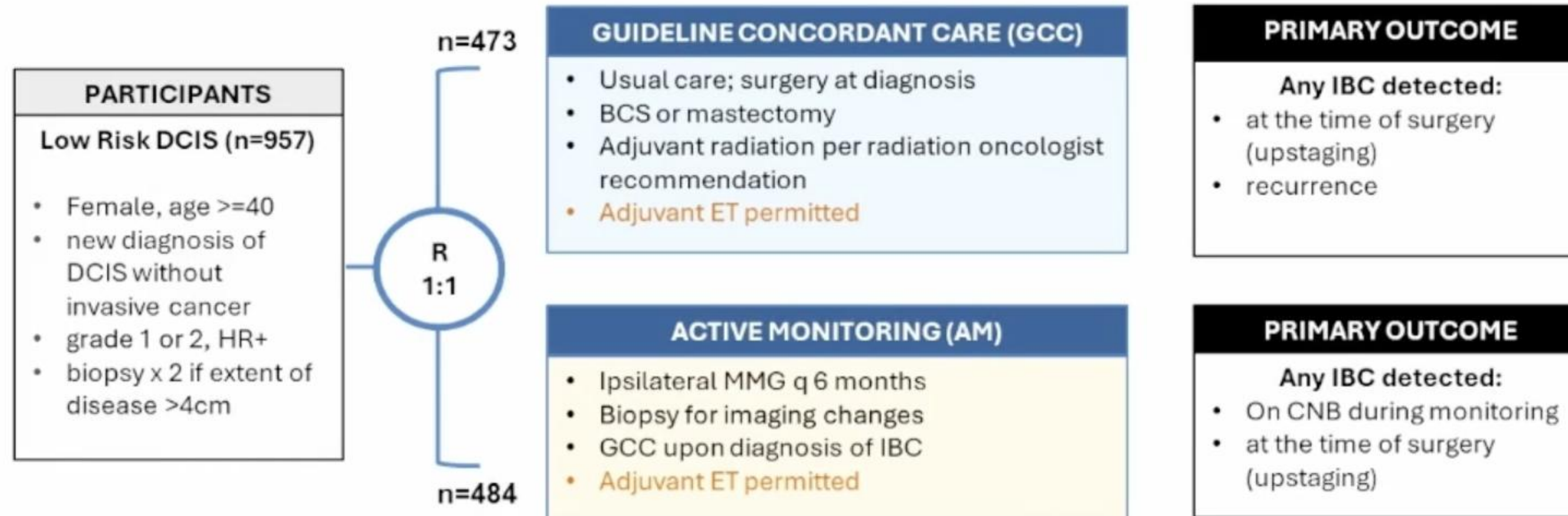


- Ductal carcinoma *in situ*, **precancer, preinvasive cancer**
- Estimated incidence of DCIS: over 50,000 new cases annually
- Treatment: surgical excision +/- radiotherapy to prevent progression
- **DCIS MAY, but DOES NOT ALWAYS progress to invasive cancer; opportunity for active monitoring?**

Ryser M, JNCI 2019
Poelhekken K, Breast 2023
Worni M, JNCI 2015

GS2-05: The COMET Study

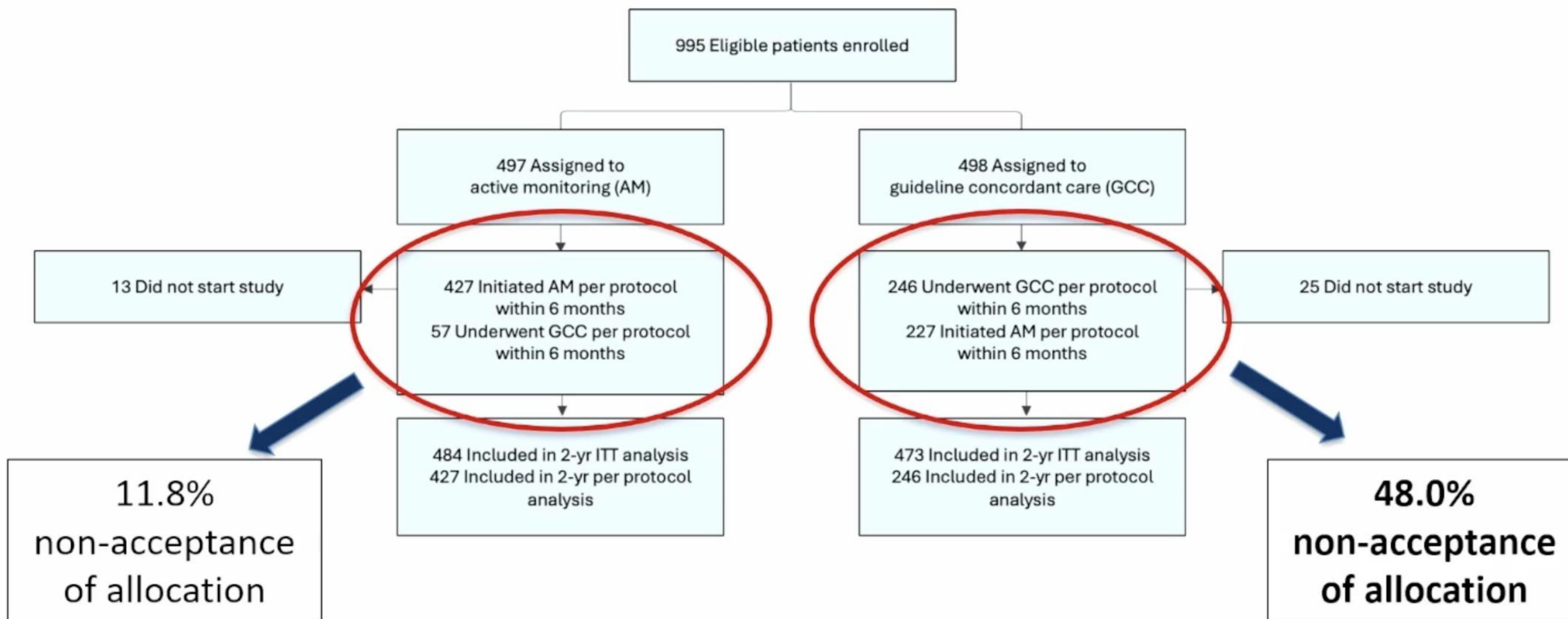
- Randomized, pragmatic non-inferiority trial from 2017–2022
- Primary objective: 2-year ipsilateral invasive cancer rate**
 - Estimated 10% rate in GCC arm
 - <5% non-inferiority margin



Hwang et al, Abs # GS2-05

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium® December 10-13, 2024

GS2-05: The COMET Study



Hwang et al, Abs # GS2-05

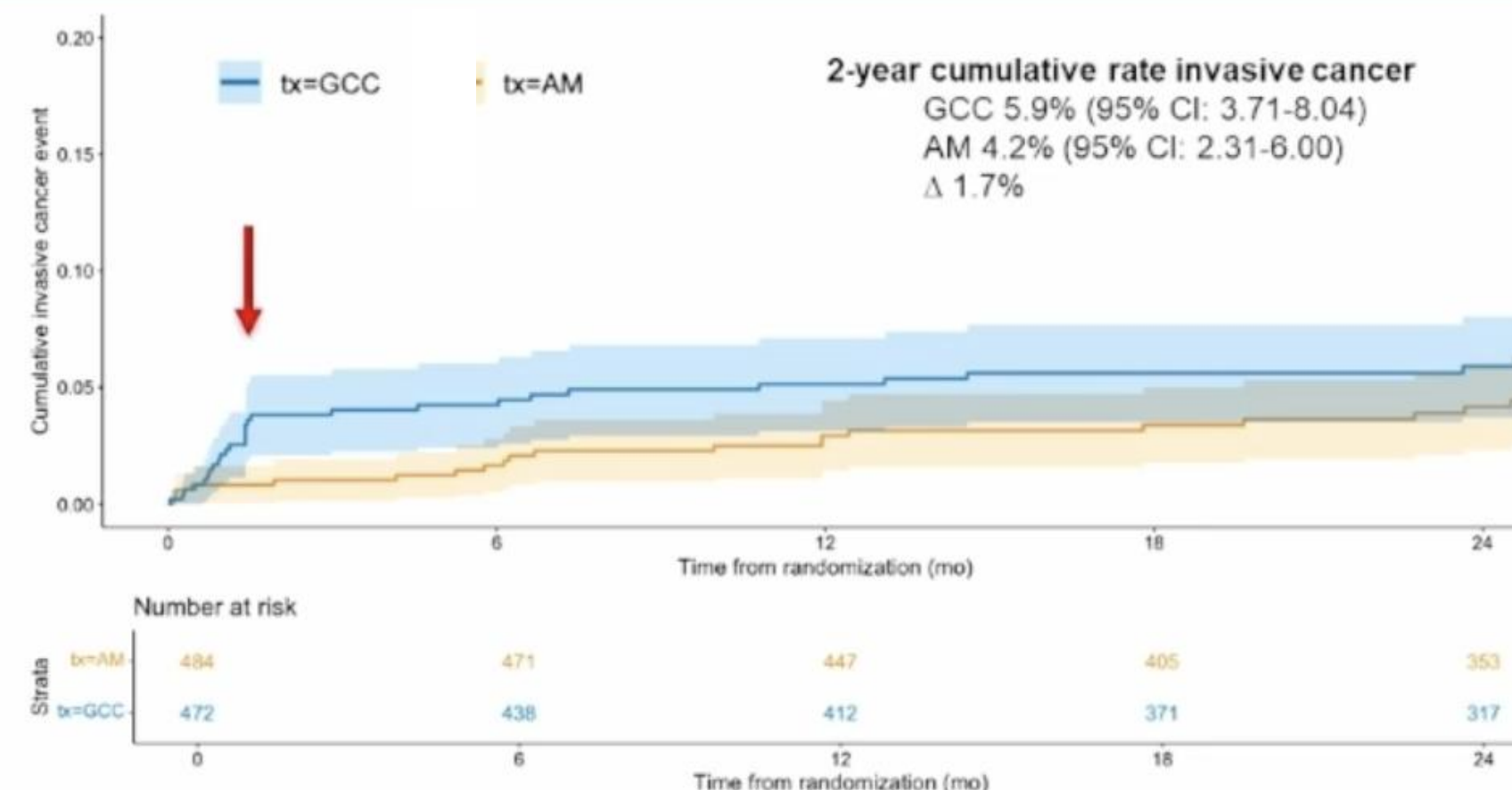
San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium® December 10-13, 2024



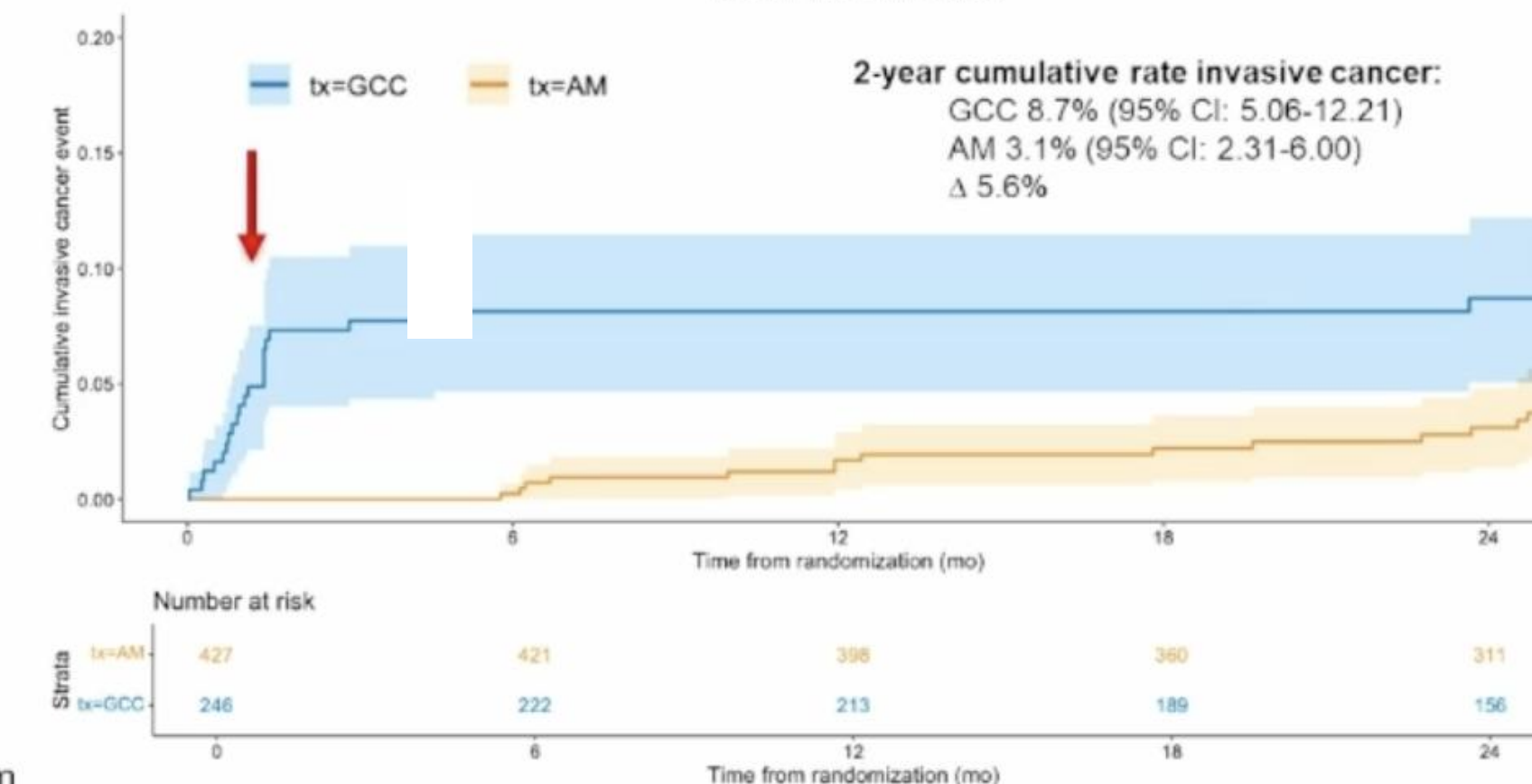
GS2-05: The COMET Study

- Non-inferiority of AM compared to GCC in both analyses
 - Majority of invasive cancers in GCC arm were due to upstage
- 26.6% GCC vs 7.4% AM received RT
- 65.5% GCC vs 71.3% AM received any ET in 2 years
- Majority of invasive cancers small (mean 0.45cm, 0.23–1.1)

ITT



PP



This presentation is the intellectual property of the [author/presenter](#). Contact them

Hwang et al, Abs # GS2-05

San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium® December 10-13, 2024

Additional considerations for active surveillance of DCIS



- Longer follow up needed – pre-specified analyses at 5 and 7 years
- 48% of patients on GCC did not receive per protocol treatment
 - Indication of significant patient interest in active surveillance of DCIS
- Role of endocrine therapy in AM
- Frequency of additional imaging and biopsies with AM and associated healthcare costs

RT-CHARM

Alliance A221505: RT CHARM: Phase III Randomized Trial of Hypofractionated Post Mastectomy Radiation with Breast Reconstruction

Matthew M. Poppe, MD

Huntsman Cancer Hospital, University of Utah

Study Schema

Mastectomy with nodal evaluation/dissection +/- adjuvant chemotherapy with planned breast reconstruction

Randomize

Conventional PMRT
50Gy/2Gy Chest wall and/or reconstructed breast with 50Gy/2Gy to regional nodes over 5-6 weeks.

Hypofractionated PMRT
42.5Gy/2.66Gy Chest wall and/or reconstructed breast with 42.5Gy/2.66Gy to regional nodes

Conclusion: A 16-fraction course of hypofractionated PMRT appears safe and effective for pts undergoing breast reconstruction and is non-inferior to traditional 25-fraction course of PMRT. (NCT03414970)

Primary endpoint: Non-inferior reconstruction complication rate at 24 months post radiation with hypofractionation

Oral Scientific Sessions

1

A Randomized Trial of Hypofractionated Post-Mastectomy Radiation Therapy (PMRT) in Women with Breast Reconstruction (RT CHARM, Alliance A221505)

M.M. Poppe,¹ J. Le-Rademacher,² B.G. Haffty, Jr³ E.K. Hansen,⁴ J. Agarwal,¹ J. Wagner,⁵ I. Kong,⁶ J. Armer,⁷ D.W. Arthur,⁸ T.J. Whelan,⁹ M.K. Lee,² O. Kour,² M. Lustberg,¹⁰ A. Partridge,¹¹ L.A. Carey,¹² K.J. Ruddy,¹³ D.K. Gaffney,¹ S.R. Stecklein,¹⁴ M.B. Bernstein,¹⁵ and A.J. Khan¹⁵; ¹Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, ²Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, ³Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, ⁴The Oregon Clinic, Portland, OR, ⁵University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS, ⁶BC Cancer - Vancouver Centre, Vancouver, BC, Canada, ⁷University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, ⁸Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, Richmond, VA, ⁹McMaster University and Juravinski Cancer Centre, Hamilton, ON, Canada, ¹⁰Yale, New Haven, CT, ¹¹Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA, ¹²Division of Oncology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, ¹³Department of Medical Oncology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, ¹⁴University of Kansas, Memorial Sloan Ket-

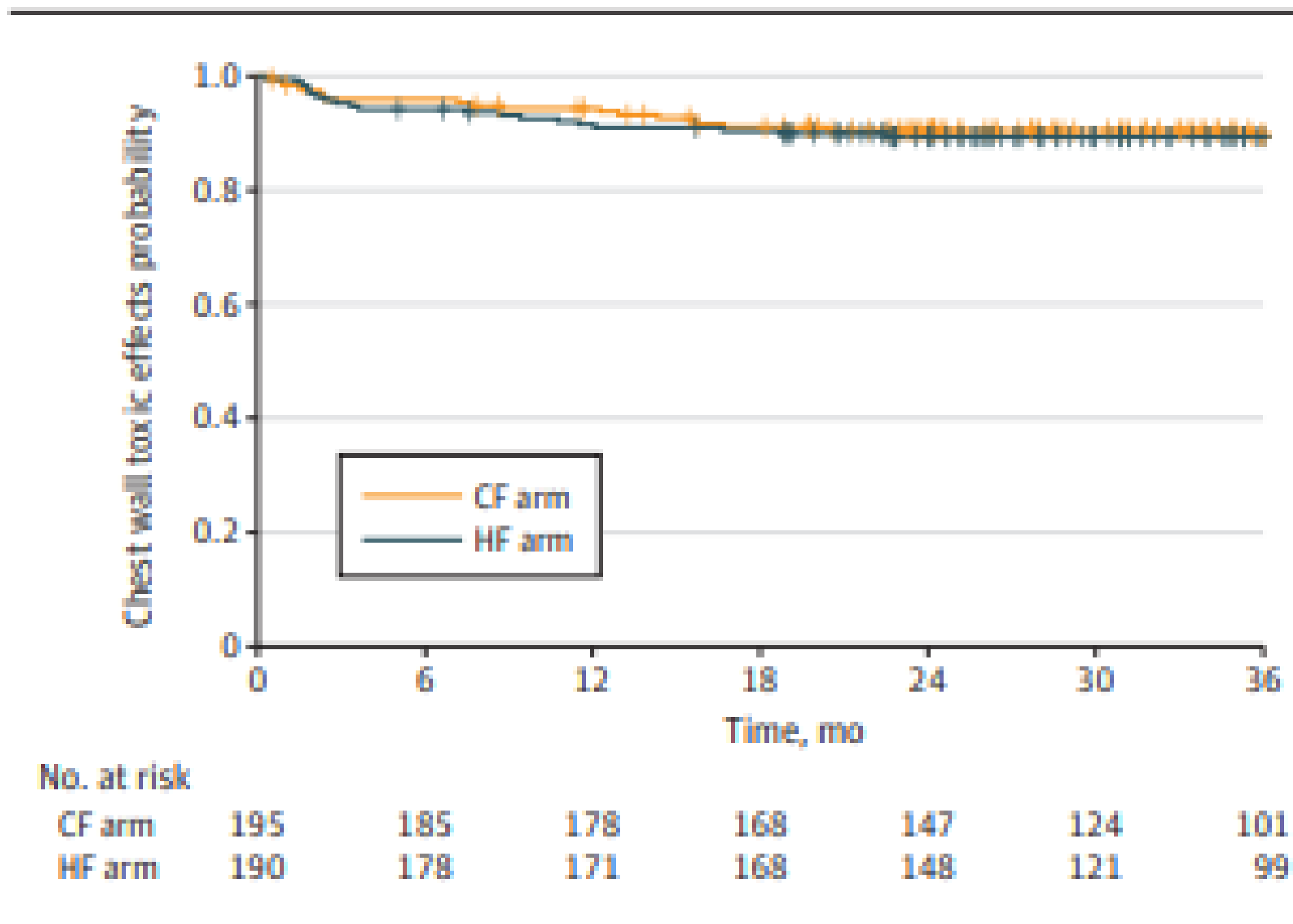
Research

JAMA Oncology | Original Investigation

Hypofractionated vs Conventionally Fractionated Postmastectomy Radiation After Implant-Based Reconstruction A Randomized Clinical Trial

Julia S. Wong, MD; Hajime Uno, PhD; Angela C. Tramontano, MPH; Lauren Fisher, MPH; Catherine V. Pellegrini, BS; Gregory A. Abel, MD, MPH; Harold J. Burstein, MD, PhD; Yoon S. Chun, MD; Tari A. King, MD; Deborah Schrag, MD, MPH; Eric Winer, MD; Jennifer R. Bellon, MD; Matthew D. Cheney, MD, PhD; Patricia Hardenbergh, MD; Alice Ho, MD, MBA; Kathleen C. Horst, MD; Janice N. Kim, MD; Kara-Lynne Leonard, MD, MS; Meena S. Moran, MD; Catherine C. Park, MD; Abram Recht, MD; Daniel E. Soto, MD, MS; Ron Y. Shiloh, MD; Susan F. Stinson, MD; Kurt M. Snyder, MD; Alphonse G. Taghian, MD, PhD; Laura E. Warren, MD; Jean L. Wright, MD; Rinaa S. Punglia, MD, MPH

Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier Plot for Freedom From Chest Wall Toxic Effects by Treatment Arm



CF indicates conventionally fractionated; HF, hypofractionated.

Wong JS, et al. JCO. 2024

Randomised controlled trials on radiation dose fractionation in breast cancer: systematic review and meta-analysis with emphasis on side effects and cosmesis

Shing Fung Lee,^{1,2} Samantha K F Kennedy,³ Saverio Caini,⁴ Henry C Y Wong,⁵ Pui Lam Yip,^{1,2,6} Philip M Poortmans,^{7,8} Icro Meattini,^{9,10} Orit Kaidar-Person,^{11,12,13} Abram Recht,¹⁴ Tarek Hijal,¹⁵ Mylin A Torres,¹⁶ Jeffrey Q Cao,¹⁷ Kimberly S Corbin,¹⁸ J Isabelle Choi,¹⁹ Wee Yao Koh,^{1,2} Jennifer Y Y Kwan,^{20,21} Irene Karam,^{21,22} Adrian W Chan,^{21,22} Edward Chow,^{21,22} Gustavo N Marta^{23,24,25}

Background

Hypofractionation regimens have gained popularity due to shorter treatment times and potential benefits in safety and quality of life

This review comprehensively compares conventional fractionation (CF), moderate hypofractionation (MHF), and ultra-hypofractionation (UHF)

Methods

Study Design: Systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials (RCTs)

Data Sources: Ovid MEDLINE, Embase, Cochrane Central, 1986–2023

Population: 20,237 patients across 35 RCTs

Fractionation Regimens:

CF: 50–50.4 Gy over 5–6 weeks

MHF: 39–43 Gy over 3–5 weeks

UHF: 26–30 Gy in 5 fractions over 1–5 weeks

Outcomes: Acute and late side effects, cosmesis, quality of life, recurrence, and survival

Fractionation Schemes in Breast Cancer Radiotherapy Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

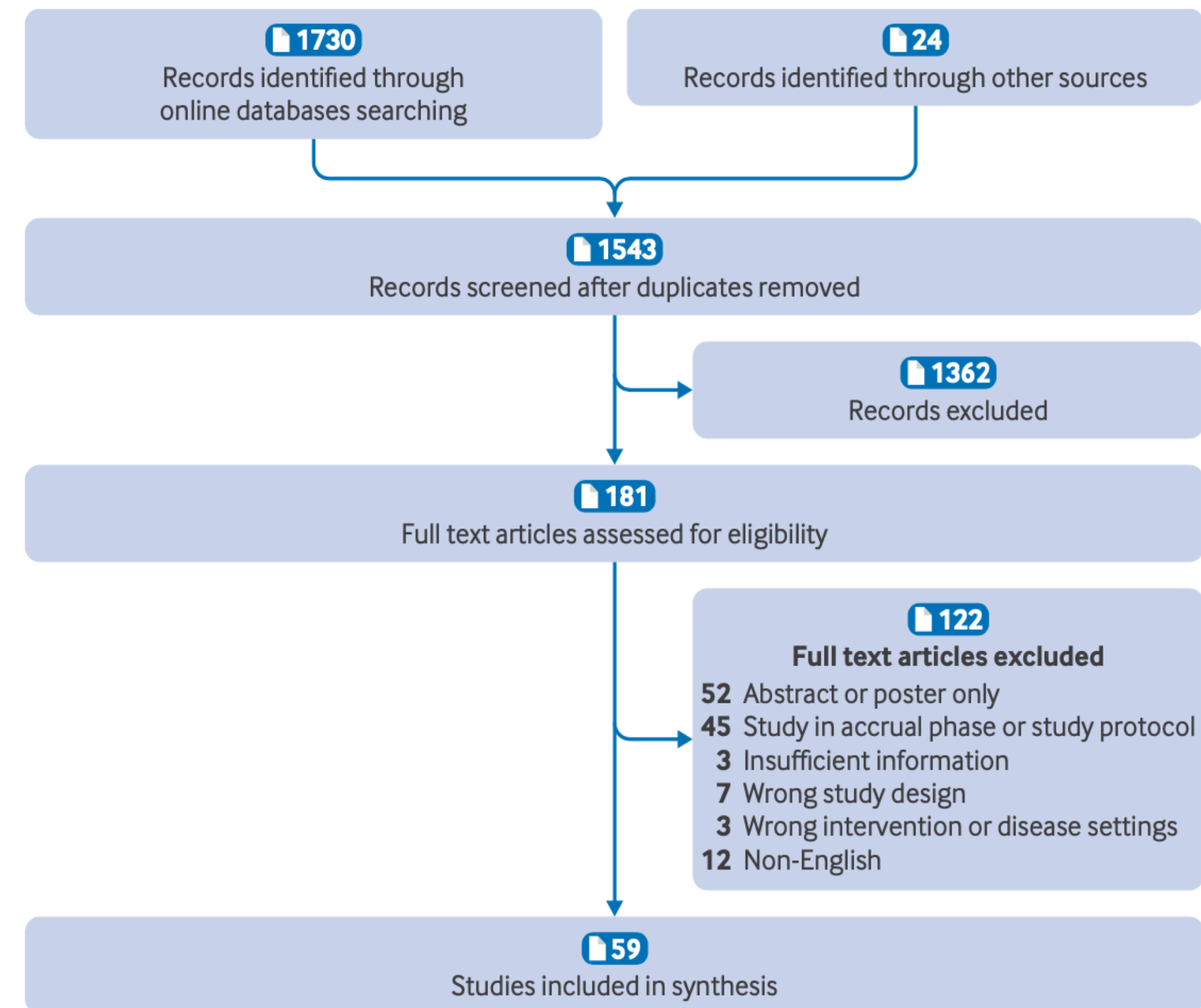


Fig 1 | PRISMA diagram of study selection

Randomised controlled trials on radiation dose fractionation in breast cancer: systematic review and meta-analysis with emphasis on side effects and cosmesis

Shing Fung Lee,^{1,2} Samantha K F Kennedy,³ Saverio Caini,⁴ Henry C Y Wong,⁵ Pui Lam Yip,^{1,2,6} Philip M Poortmans,^{7,8} Icro Meattini,^{9,10} Orit Kaidar-Person,^{11,12,13} Abram Recht,¹⁴ Tarek Hijal,¹⁵ Mylin A Torres,¹⁶ Jeffrey Q Cao,¹⁷ Kimberly S Corbin,¹⁸ J Isabelle Choi,¹⁹ Wee Yao Koh,^{1,2} Jennifer Y Y Kwan,^{20,21} Irene Karam,^{21,22} Adrian W Chan,^{21,22} Edward Chow,^{21,22} Gustavo N Marta^{23,24,25}

Findings

Acute Side Effects:

MHF vs. CF: Reduced grade ≥2 radiation dermatitis (RR 0.54; P<0.001)

UHF vs. CF: Further reduction in dermatitis risk (RR 0.27; P<0.001)

Cosmetic Outcomes:

MHF associated with better outcomes compared to CF

UHF showed mixed results; higher doses linked to increased risks of fibrosis and shrinkage

Oncological Outcomes:

Similar survival and recurrence rates across CF, MHF, and UHF

MHF offered disease-free survival benefits in specific regimens (HR 0.86; P=0.03)

Quality of Life:

MHF improved physical well-being and reduced fatigue compared to CF

UHF demonstrated fewer functional declines in short-term follow-up

Fractionation Schemes in Breast Cancer Radiotherapy Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

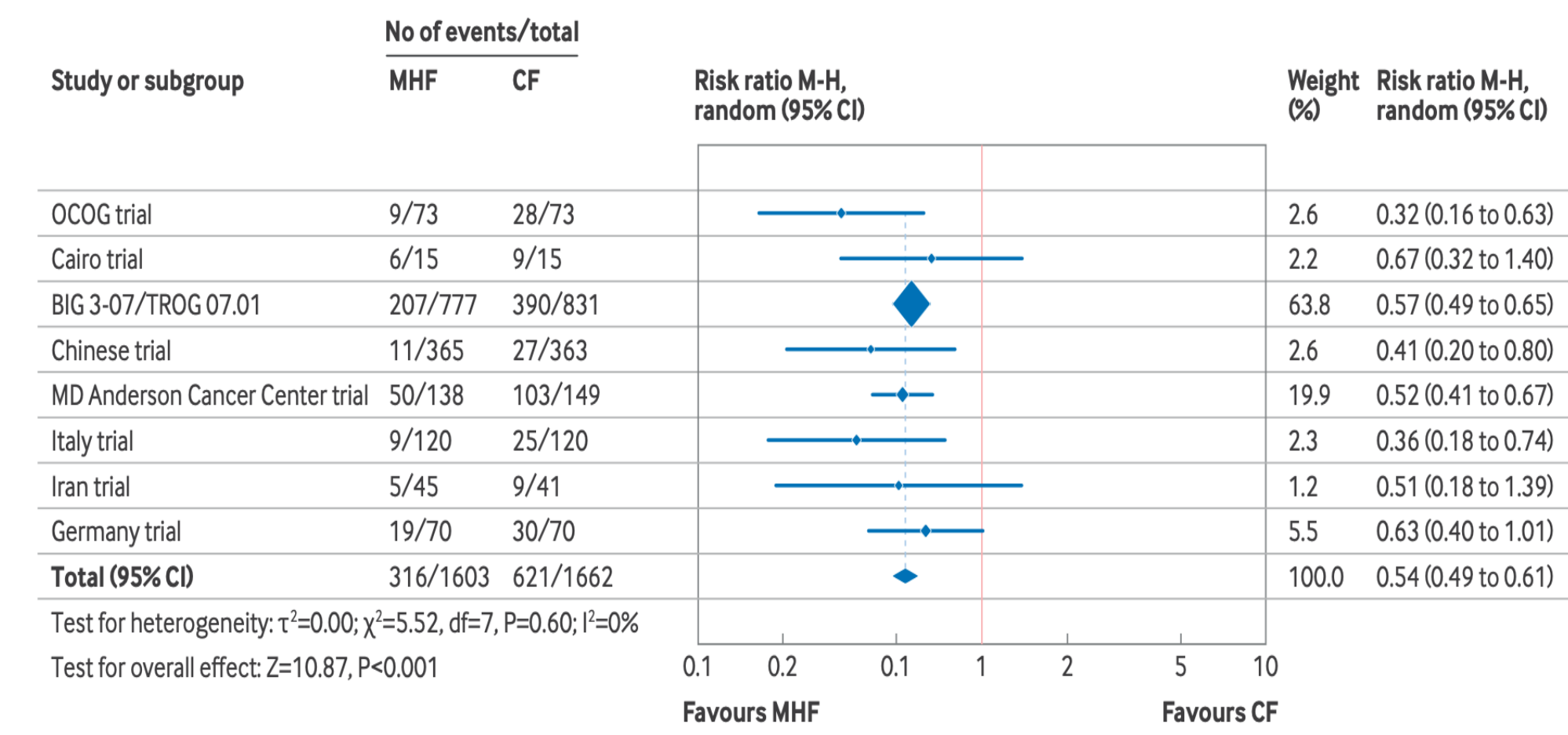


Fig 4 | Forest plot showing risk ratios for grade ≥2 acute radiation dermatitis for moderate versus conventional fractionation in breast conserving treatment trials. Cairo trial used RTOG toxicity criteria for acute radiation dermatitis. CF=conventional fractionation; CI=confidence interval; M-H=Mantel-Haenszel; MHF=moderate hypofractionation

Randomised controlled trials on radiation dose fractionation in breast cancer: systematic review and meta-analysis with emphasis on side effects and cosmesis

Shing Fung Lee,^{1,2} Samantha K F Kennedy,³ Saverio Caini,⁴ Henry C Y Wong,⁵ Pui Lam Yip,^{1,2,6} Philip M Poortmans,^{7,8} Icro Meattini,^{9,10} Orit Kaidar-Person,^{11,12,13} Abram Recht,¹⁴ Tarek Hijal,¹⁵ Mylin A Torres,¹⁶ Jeffrey Q Cao,¹⁷ Kimberly S Corbin,¹⁸ J Isabelle Choi,¹⁹ Wee Yao Koh,^{1,2} Jennifer Y Y Kwan,^{20,21} Irene Karam,^{21,22} Adrian W Chan,^{21,22} Edward Chow,^{21,22} Gustavo N Marta^{23,24,25}

Conclusions

MHF is a safer, more convenient alternative to CF, maintaining equivalent oncological outcomes

UHF offers similar efficacy, with the potential for further optimisation and longer follow-up to establish safety

Recommendations support MHF and UHF as preferred regimens in appropriate patient populations

Fractionation Schemes in Breast Cancer Radiotherapy Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

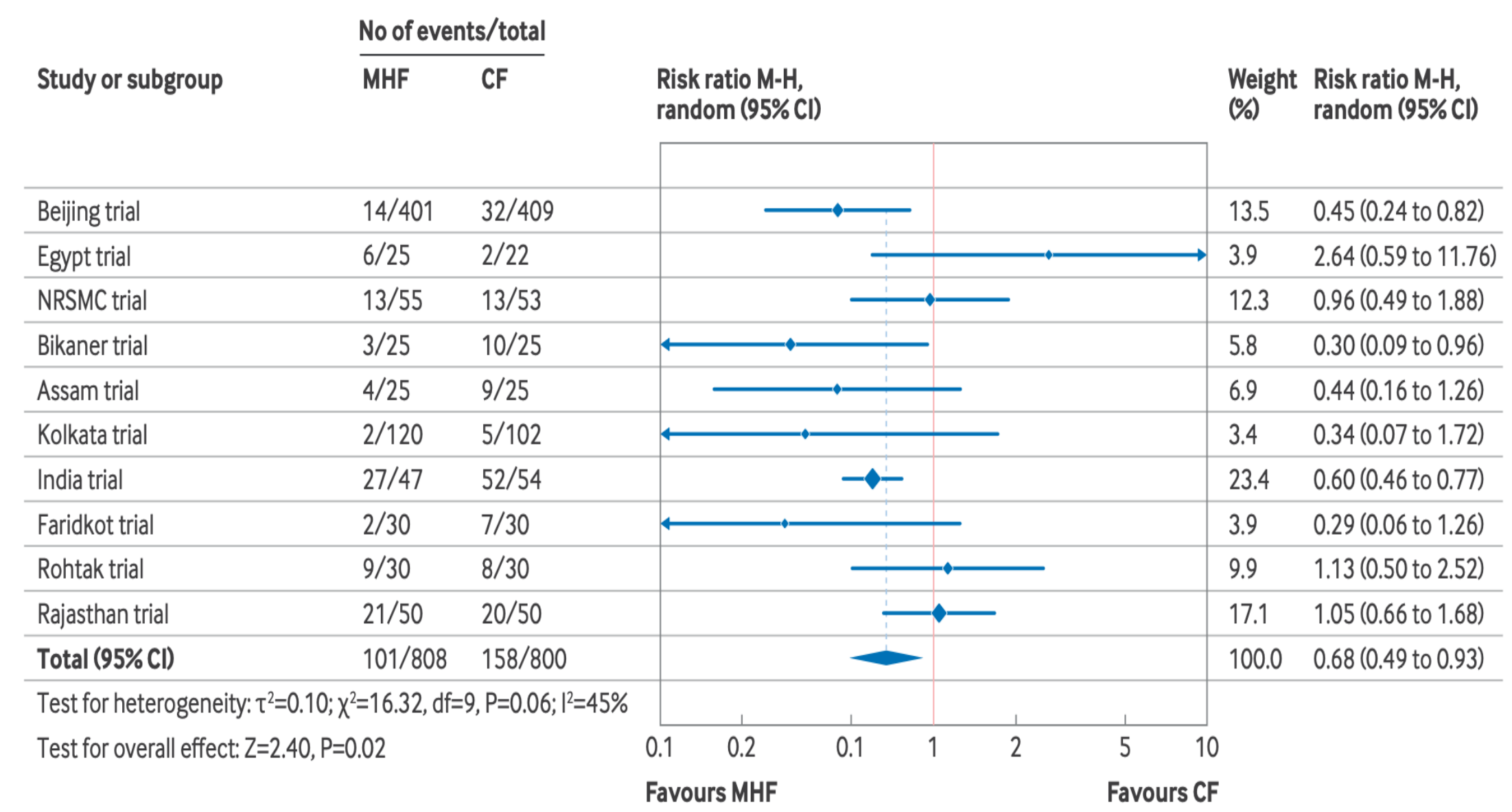
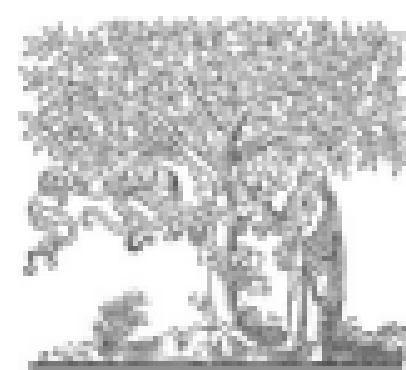


Fig 5 | Forest plot showing risk ratios for grade ≥2 acute radiation dermatitis for moderate versus conventional fractionation in mastectomy trials. Beijing trial reported incidence of acute radiation dermatitis across grade 1–2 and 3; however, only grade 3 data have been included in this forest plot for analysis. Kolkata trial reported incidence of only grade ≥3 acute radiation dermatitis. CF=conventional fractionation; CI=confidence interval; M-H=Mantel-Haenszel; MHF=moderate hypofractionation

Radiotherapy and Oncology 202 (2025) 110591

**ELSEVIER**Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)**Radiotherapy and Oncology**journal homepage: www.thegreenjournal.com

Review Article

Dose constraints in breast cancer radiotherapy. A critical review

Fiorenza De Rose ^{a,1}, Maria Carmen De Santis ^{b,1}, Sara Lucidi ^a, Riccardo Ray Colciago ^{c,*},
 Lorenza Marino ^d, Francesca Cucciarelli ^e, Eliana La Rocca ^f, Francesca Di Pressa ^g, Frank Lohr ^{h,1},
 Valentina Vanoni ^a, Bruno Meduri ^g

^a Radiation Oncology, APSS, Trento, Italy^b Radiation Oncology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori di Milano, Milan, Italy^c School of Medicine and Surgery, University of Milan Bicocca, Milan, Italy^d Servizio di Radioterapia, Humanitas Istituto Clinico Catanese, Misterbianco, CT, Italy^e Radiotherapy Department, Azienda Ospedaliero Universitaria delle Marche, Ancona, Italy^f Department of Radiation Oncology, Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria Integrata di Verona, Verona, Italy^g Department of Radiation Oncology, University Hospital of Modena, Modena, Italy^h Proton Therapy Unit, APSS, Trento, Italy¹ CISMED - Centro Interdipartimentale di Scienze Mediche, University of Trento, Trento, Italy

De Rose F. et al. Radiotherapy and Oncology. 2024

Table 1
Lung dose constraints.

Organ at Risk	Conventional fractionation (2 Gy/fr)	Moderate hypofractionation (2.6–3.2 Gy/fr)	Ultra hypofractionation (5.2 Gy/fr)	
Ipsilateral Lung	<u>Breast/chest wall</u> MLD ≤ 8 Gy (range 7.9 3DCRT – 9.4 IMRT) [27] V _{10Gy} ≤ 35 % (acceptable < 40 %) [31] V _{50Gy} ≤ 50 % (acceptable < 55 %) [31] V _{20Gy} < 25 % [28,29]	<u>Systematic review</u> <u>RTOG 1005</u> <u>DBCG guidelines and trial protocol (Hypo trial)</u> <u>DBCG guidelines, RTOG 1304, Alliance A221505</u> <u>SKAGEN trial</u>	<u>Breast/chest wall</u> V _{20Gy} < 10 % ([33,34] – VMAT treatment) V _{17Gy} ≤ 25 % [28,29] V _{80Gy} ≤ 35 % (acceptable < 40 %) [31] V _{40Gy} ≤ 50 % (acceptable < 55 %) [31] MLD < 10–16 Gy ([29,33,34] – VMAT treatment) <u>Breast/chest wall and RLN</u> V _{18Gy} ≤ 35 % [36] V _{17Gy} ≤ 35 % [39]	V _{80Gy} < 15 % [35] <u>Phase III Trial</u> <u>DBCG guidelines and trial protocol (Hypo trial)</u> <u>RTOG 1005</u> <u>Trial protocol (Hypo trial)</u> <u>Phase II Trial</u> <u>RTOG 1304</u> <u>SKAGEN trial</u>
	<u>Breast/chest wall and RLN</u> V _{20Gy} ≤ 35 % [28,36,38,39] V _{10Gy} ≤ 65 % [38] V _{50Gy} ≤ 75 % [38] MLD ≤ 18 Gy [28,39] (range 14l MRT-20 3DCRT) [27]	<u>Alliance A221505</u> <u>DBCG guidelines</u> <u>SKAGEN trial</u> <u>Systematic review</u>		
Contralateral Lung	<u>Breast/chest wall</u> V _{50Gy} ≤ 10 % (acceptable < 15 %) [21,31,36,38] <u>Breast/chest wall and RLN</u> V _{50Gy} ≤ 15 % [36]	<u>QUANTEC, RTOG 1005, RTOG 1304, Alliance A221505</u> <u>RTOG 1304</u>	<u>Breast/chest wall</u> V _{40Gy} ≤ 10 % (acceptable < 15 %) [30,31] <u>Breast/chest wall and RLN</u> V _{4.80Gy} ≤ 10 % (acceptable < 15 %) [38]	<u>ASTRO guidelines, RTOG 1005</u> <u>Alliance A221505</u> Not available
Lungs	<u>Breast/chest wall</u> MLD ≤ 6 Gy [27]	<u>Systematic review</u>	Not available	Not available

MLD: mean lung dose; 3DCRT: three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy; IMRT: Intensity-modulated radiotherapy; RLN: regional lymph nodes. Doses reported for hypofractionation (moderate or ultra) are not EQD2 if not specified.

Table 2
Heart and cardiac substructure dose constraints.

Organ at risk	Conventional fractionation (2 Gy/fr)		Moderate hypofractionation (2.6-3.2 Gy/fr)		Ultra hypofractionation (5.2 Gy/fr)	
Heart	<u>Breast/chest wall</u>	<u>Original scientific article, trial protocol (RTOG1005)</u>	<u>Breast/chest wall</u>	<u>Original scientific article, trial protocol (RTOG1005)</u>	$V_{7Gy} < 5\%$ (3DCRT) [35]	<u>Original scientific article</u>
	$V_{20Gy} \leq 5\%$ [31,61]		$V_{17Gy} \leq 5\%$ [61]		$V_{1.5Gy} < 30\%$ (3DCRT) [35]	
	$V_{40Gy} \leq 1\%$ [61]	<u>Original scientific article, DEGRO guidelines, trial protocol (RTOG1005)</u>	$V_{25Gy} \leq 1\%$ [61]		Not available for IMRT and VMAT	
	$D_{mean} 2.5\text{ Gy}^*$ (optimal) [57,60] $D_{mean} < 4\text{ Gy}$ [31]		$D_{mean} < 3.2\text{ Gy}$ [31]			
<u>Breast/chest wall and RLN</u>	<u>Original scientific article, trial protocol (RTOG 1304)</u>		<u>Breast/chest wall and RLN</u>	<u>Original scientific article</u>		
	$V_{20Gy} \leq 10\%$ [61]		$V_{17Gy} \leq 10\%$ [61]			
	$V_{40Gy} \leq 5\%$ [61]		$V_{25Gy} \leq 5\%$ [61]			
	$D_{mean} < 5\text{ Gy}$ [36] *With DIBH					
LADCA	$D_{max} < 20\text{ Gy}$ [60]	<u>DEGRO guidelines, Original scientific article, Trial protocol (Hypo trial)</u>	$D_{max} < 17\text{ Gy}$ [61]	<u>Original scientific article</u>		
	$D_{max} < 45\text{ Gy}^*$ [58]					
	$D_{mean} < 10\text{ Gy}$ [29]					
	$V_{30Gy} < 2\%$ [29]					
	$V_{40Gy} < 1\%$ [29]					
* End-point: cardiac death; as, however, LAD-related and muscle-related toxicity cannot yet reliably be separated, as the dimension of both muscle and LAD is small, and as positioning of the anterior heart is not perfect, it seems prudent to keep maximum dose to the anterior heart – thus also dose to the LAD – in any case \ll 30 Gy, in line with the published recommendations for anterior heart also reported in this table						
LV	$D_{mean} < 3\text{ Gy}$ [56]	<u>Original scientific articles, Trial protocol (Hypo trial)</u>				
	$D_{mean} < 4.5\text{ Gy}$ [57]					
	$V_{5Gy} < 17\%$ [55]					
	$V_{25Gy} < 5\%$ [29]					

LADCA: Left Anterior Descendent Coronary artery; LV: Left Ventricle; 3DCRT: three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy; IMRT: Intensity-modulated radiotherapy; VMAT: volumetric-modulated arc therapy; Dmax: Maximum dose; Dmean: Mean dose; RT: radiation-therapy. Doses reported for hypofractionation (moderate or ultra) are not EQD2 if not specified.

Table 3

Contralateral Breast dose constraints.

Organ at risk	Conventional fractionation (2 Gy/fr)	Moderate hypofractionation (2.6–3.2 Gy/fr)	Ultra hypofractionation (5.2 Gy/fr)
Contralateral Breast	ALARA [30,61,67] $D_{2\%} \leq 1.86$ Gy (RNI -) [31,38] $D_{10\%} \leq 3$ Gy (RNI +) [31,38] $V_{4Gy} < 10\%$ [68] $D_{mean} < 4$ Gy [68]	ALARA [30,61,67] $D_{2\%} \leq 1.44$ Gy (RNI -) [31,38] $D_{10\%} \leq 3$ Gy (RNI +) [31,38] $D_{mean} < 3$ Gy [34]	Not available

ALARA: As Low As Reasonably Achievable; D_{mean} : mean dose; D_{max} : Maximum dose; $D_{0.1cc}$: Dose to 0.1 cc of volume; RNI: regional nodes irradiation; Doses reported for hypofractionation (moderate or ultra) are not EQD2 if not specified.

Table 4

Dose constraints for other OARs routinely involved in breast locoregional treatment.

Organ at risk	Conventional fractionation (2Gy/fr)	Moderate hypofractionation (2.6-2.9 Gy/fr)	Ultra hypofractionation (5.2 Gy/fr)
Brachial Plexus	$D_{max} \leq 54$ Gy [14] $V_{40Gy} < 13.5$ cm ³ [85] $V_{50Gy} < 90\%$ [86]	$D_{max} 46.25$ Gy [39]	Not available
Humeral Head	ALARA	ALARA	Not available
Esophagus	$D_{mean} \leq 11$ Gy, $V_{10Gy} \leq 30\%$, $V_{20Gy} \leq 15\%$ [87]* *(when contoured along the entire length) $D_{mean} \leq 31$ Gy [88]* *(when contoured from the superior to the inferior border of the supraclavicular PTV)	$V_{25Gy} < 20\%$ and $V_{35Gy} < 0.27$ mL [89]* *(when contoured from the lower border level of the cricoid cartilage to the lower margin of the aortic arch)	Not available
Liver	$D_{mean} \leq 3$ Gy (left breast) [90] $D_{mean} \leq 4$ Gy (right breast) [90]	$D_{mean} \leq 3$ Gy (left breast) $D_{mean} \leq 4$ Gy (right breast) [90]	Not available
Thyroid	$V_{30Gy} < 50\%$ [91] $D_{mean} < 21$ Gy [92]	$D_{mean} < 21$ Gy [93]	Not available
Chest Wall	$D_{2cc} \leq 52$ Gy [94]	$D_{2cc} \leq 52$ Gy [94]	Not available
Spinal Cord	$D_{max} \leq 45$ Gy (optimal) [95] $D_{max} < 50$ Gy (mandatory) [95]	$D_{max} \leq 37.8$ Gy (optimal) [96] $D_{max} < 42$ Gy (mandatory) [96]	Not available

ALARA: As Low As Reasonably Achievable; D_{mean} : mean dose; D_{max} : Maximum dose; Doses reported for hypofractionation (moderate or ultra) are not EQD2 if not specified.

Thank you to my colleagues!!!



Thank you for the attention

