

Quali novità nel setting  
(neo)-adiuvante?

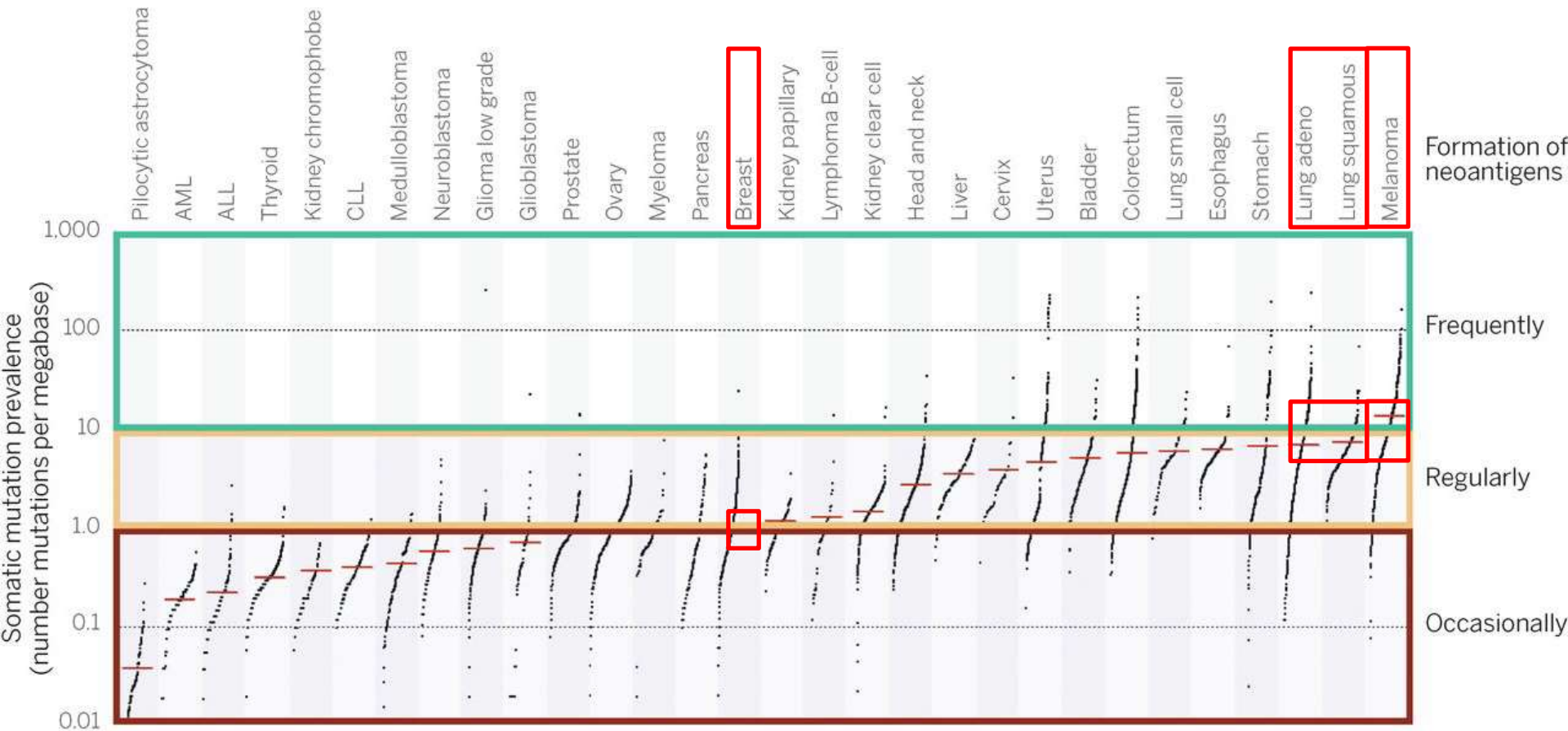
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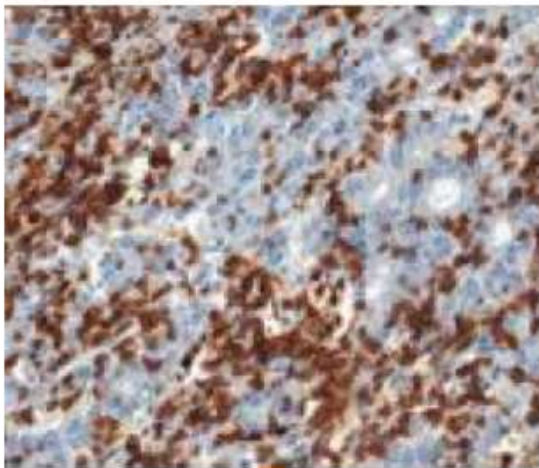


# Immunogenic vs. Non-immunogenic Tumors

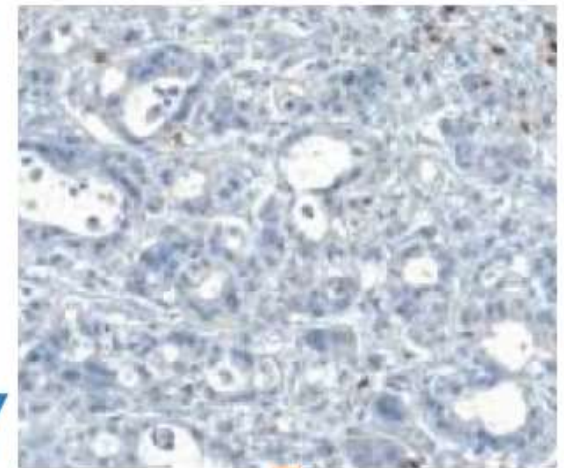


# Immunogenic vs. Non-immunogenic Tumors

**Inflamed**



**Non-inflamed**

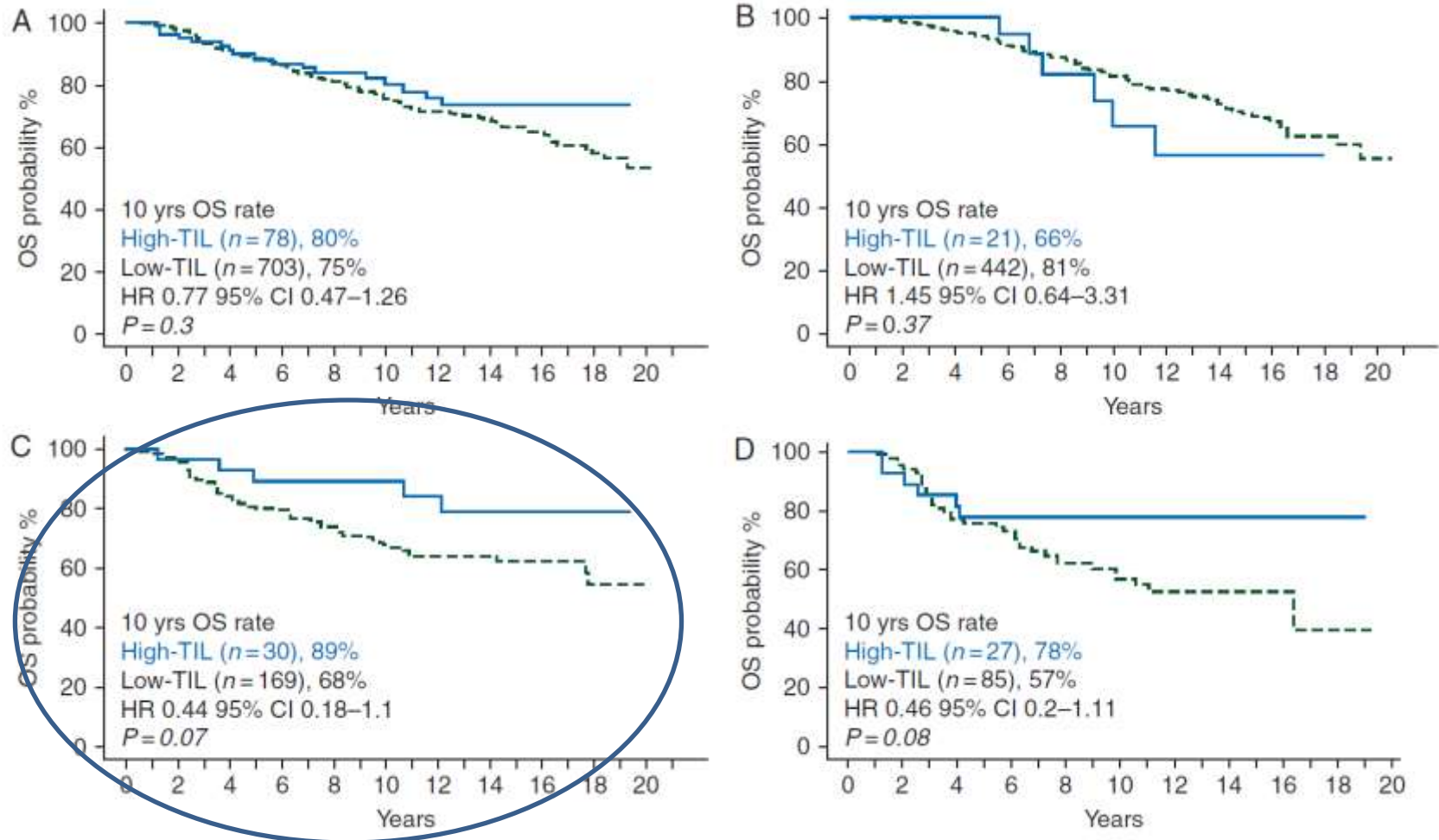


TILs  
PD-L1 expression  
CD8+ T cells  
Genomic instability  
Pre-existing immunity

Respond favorably  
to checkpoint  
inhibition

How do you convert  
these tumors to  
inflamed tumor?

# Prognostic value of TILs in different BC subgroups



all patients (A) ER+/HER2- (B) ER-/HER2- (C) HER2+ (d).

Dieci MV et al. Ann Oncol 2015

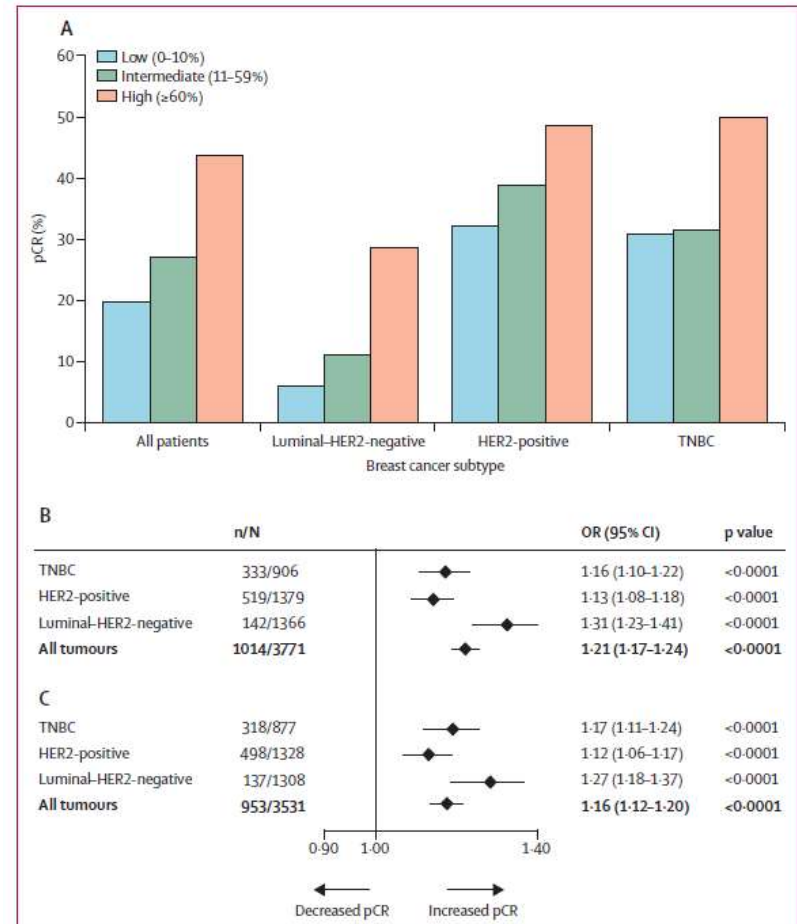


# Predictive value of TILs in neoadjuvant trials

Combined data from 6 neoadjuvant trials  
In the TNBC subtype, pCR was achieved in

- **31%:** low TILs (0-10%)
- **31%:** intermediate TILs (11-59%)
- **50%:** high TILs (>60%)

( $p < 0.001$ )



# Predictive value of PDL-1 in advanced BC trials

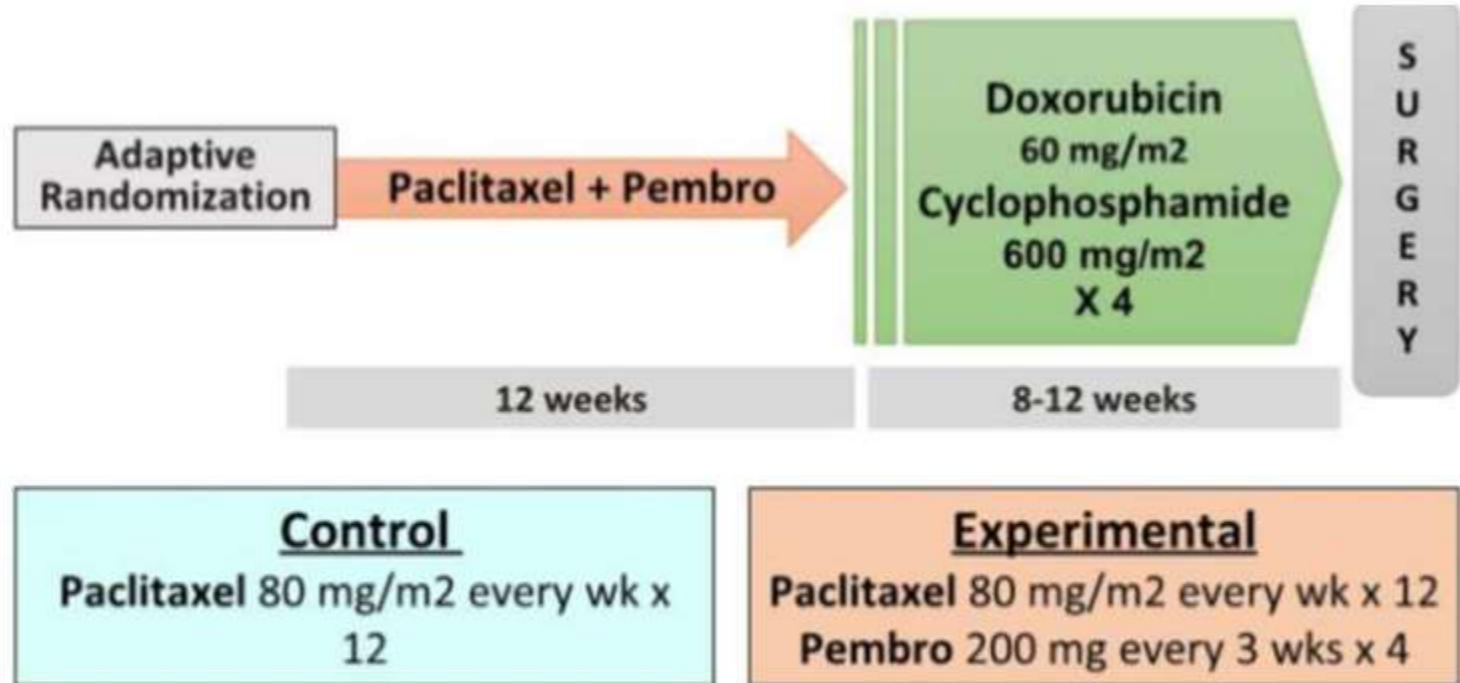
Study	Population	Treatment	PD-L1	Main finding
<b>Nanda 2016 Keynote-012 (phase Ib)</b>	111 (TN MBC) PDL1 positive	Pembrolizumab (ORR)	protein (prototype IHC assay: clone 22C3)	Increased ORR with increasing expression of PD-L1
<b>Schmid 2017 (expansion cohort phase Ia study)</b>	112 (TN MBC) initially limited to PDL1 positive, then opened also to PDL1 negative	Atezolizumab (ORR)	protein (IHC: clone SP142)	ORR for PDL1 2/3 vs PDL1 0/1 17% vs 8%
<b>Dirix 2017 Javelin (expansion cohort phase I trial)</b>	168 (MBC) regardless PDL1 status	Avelumab (ORR)	protein (IHC: clone 73-10)	TC PDL1: no efficacy trends in subgroups defined by PD-L1 expression in tumor cells at different thresholds
				IC PDL1: ORR for PD-L1+ vs PD-L1- 16.7% vs 1.6% in the overall group, and 22.2% vs 2.6% in TNBC
<b>Loi 2017 Keynote 086 (phase II)</b>	193 (TN MBC) cohort A: regardless PDL1 status cohort B: PDL1 positive	Pembrolizumab (ORR)	protein (IHC: clone 22C3)	No efficacy trends according to PDL1 status
<b>Tolaney 2017 Keynote 150-Enhance 1 (phase Ib/II)</b>	106 (TN MBC) regardless PDL1 status	Pembrolizumab + eribulin (ORR)	protein (IHC: clone 22C3)	No association between response and PDL1 status
<b>Loi 2018 Panacea (phase Ib/II)</b>	58 (HER2+ MBC) phase Ib: PDL1 positive phase II: regardless PDL1 status	Pembrolizumab + Trastuzumab (ORR)	protein (IHC: clone 22C3)	ORR for PDL1+ vs PDL1-: 15.2% vs 0% 1y-OS for PDL1+ vs PDL1-: 65% vs 12%
<b>Adams 2016; Pohlmann 2018 (phase Ib; 2-years update)</b>	32 (TN MBC) regardless PDL1 status	Atezolizumab + nab-paclitaxel (ORR)	protein (IHC: clone SP142)	ORR for PDL1+ (PDL1 1/2/3) vs PDL1- (PDL1 0): 42% vs 33% Secondary endpoints: longer PFS and OS with higher PDL1
<b>Schmid 2018 Impassion130 (phase III)</b>	902 (mTNBC) regardless PDL1 status (PDL1 status was a stratification factor)	nab-paclitaxel + atezolizumab /placebo (PFS, OS)	protein (IHC: clone SP142)	PFS for PDL1+ in control vs experimental arm: 7.5 vs 5.0 months OS for PDL1+ in control vs experimental arm: 55 vs 15.5 months

Adapted from Miglietta The Oncologist 2019 – in press

# PDL-1 in Breast Cancer: not a ideal Biomarker?

- biologic implications and associations of PD-L1 expression,
- dynamic changes in expression,
- heterogeneity in expression on tumor cells and on immune cells,
- prognostic and/or predictive implications

# I-SPY 2 TRIAL: Pembro 4 Arm Schema





# I-SPY 2 TRIAL: Estimated pCR Rate

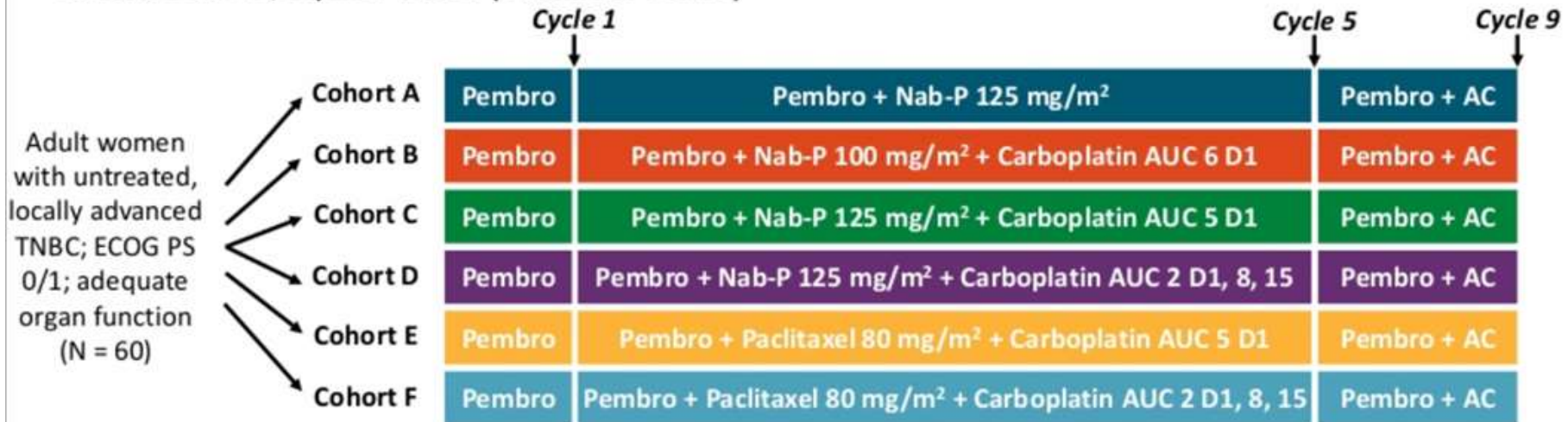
Signature	Estimated pCR Rate (95% Probability Interval)		Probability Pembro Superior to Control	Predictive Probability of Success in Phase 3
	Pembro	Control		
HER2-	<b>0.44</b> (0.33 – 0.55)	<b>0.17</b> (0.11 – 0.23)	<b>&gt;0.999</b>	<b>0.985</b>
HR-HER2-	<b>0.60</b> (0.44 – 0.75)	<b>0.22</b> (0.13 – 0.30)	<b>&gt;0.999</b>	<b>0.996</b>
HR+HER2-	<b>0.30</b> (0.17 – 0.43)	<b>0.13</b> (0.07 – 0.19)	<b>0.996</b>	<b>0.834</b>

The Bayesian model estimated pCR rates appropriately adjust to characteristics of the I-SPY 2 population.  
The raw pCR rates (not shown) are higher than the model estimate of 0.604 in TNBC.

*Nanda, ASCO, 2017*

# KEYNOTE-173: Pembro + CT as Neoadj Trial for TNBC:

- Multicohort, open-label phase Ib study



All tx given IV. Cyclophosphamide: 600 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W. Doxorubicin: 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> Q3W. Nab-P, Pac: Days 1, 8, 15 Q3W. Pembro: 200 mg Day 1 in cycle 1, then Q3W. Definitive surgery per local standards and tissue collection for pCR 3-6 wks following completion of neoadjuvant therapy.

- Primary endpoint: safety/tolerability
- Secondary endpoints including: pCR rate, ORR, EFS, OS

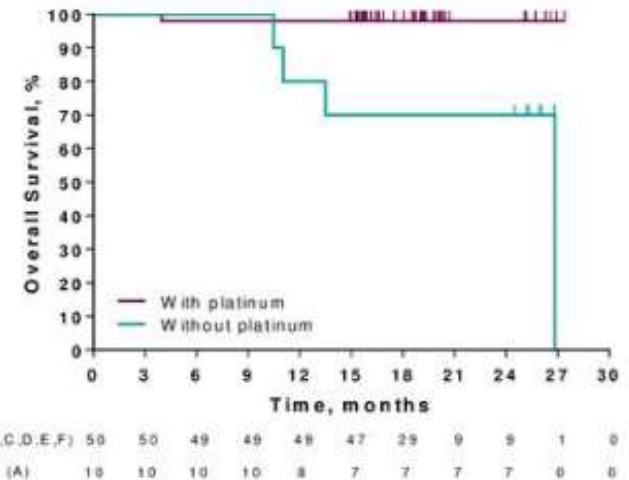
# KEYNOTE-173: Efficacy

Arm	Node neg	DLT	pCR
<b>nab 125/no carbo</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>6</b>
nab 100/carbo AUC 6	4	4	8
nab 125/carbo AUC 5	4	6	8
nab 100/carbo AUC 2	4	6	6
<b>pac 80/carbo AUC 5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0*</b>	<b>3</b>
pac 80/carbo AUC 2	3	4	5

\*Met threshold for RP2D

pCR rate  
with platinum  
60%

Schmid et al, PD5-01, SABCS 2018



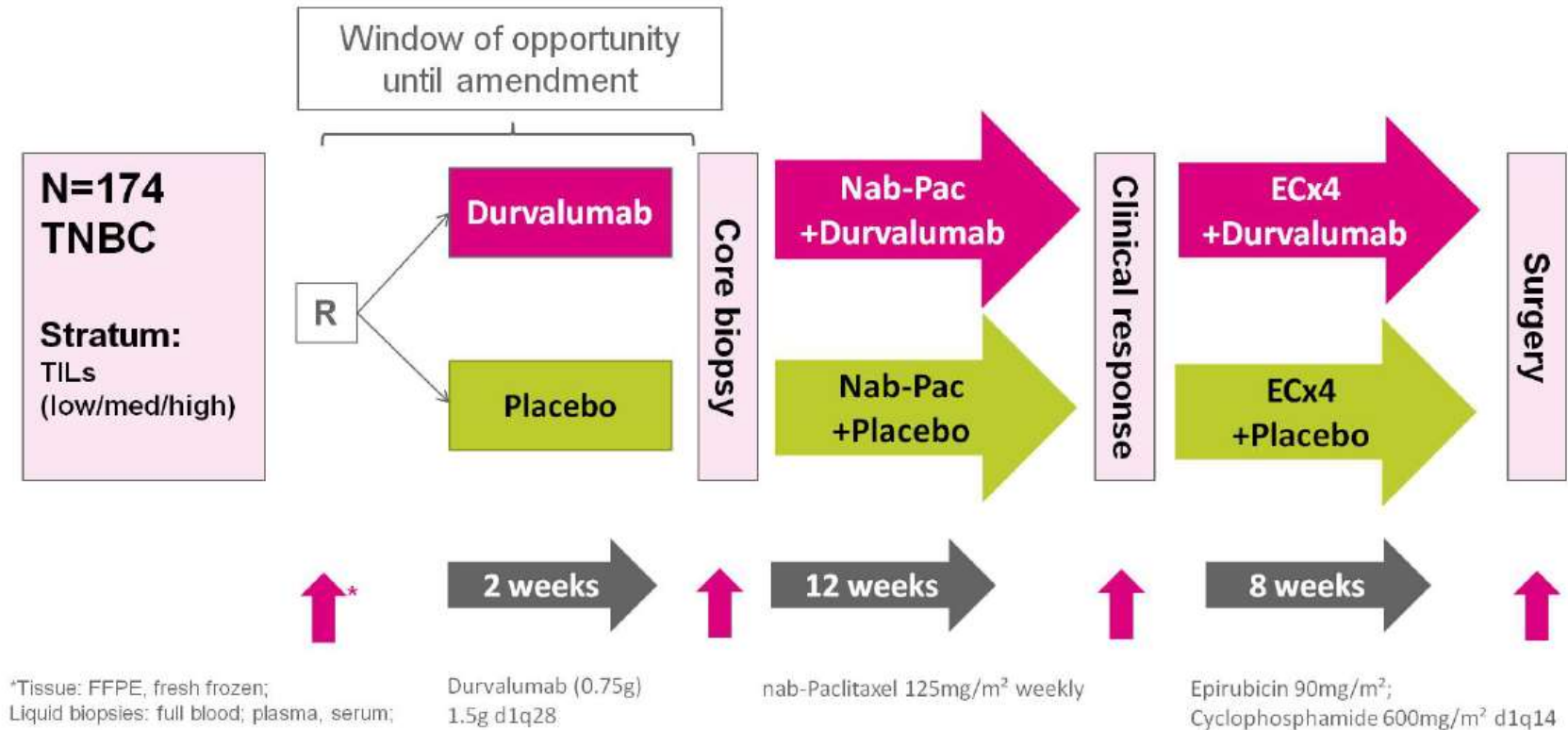
Loi S, Ann Oncol 2019 (Suppl)  
Schmid P, AACR 2019 (Suppl)

# KEYNOTE-173: Adverse Events

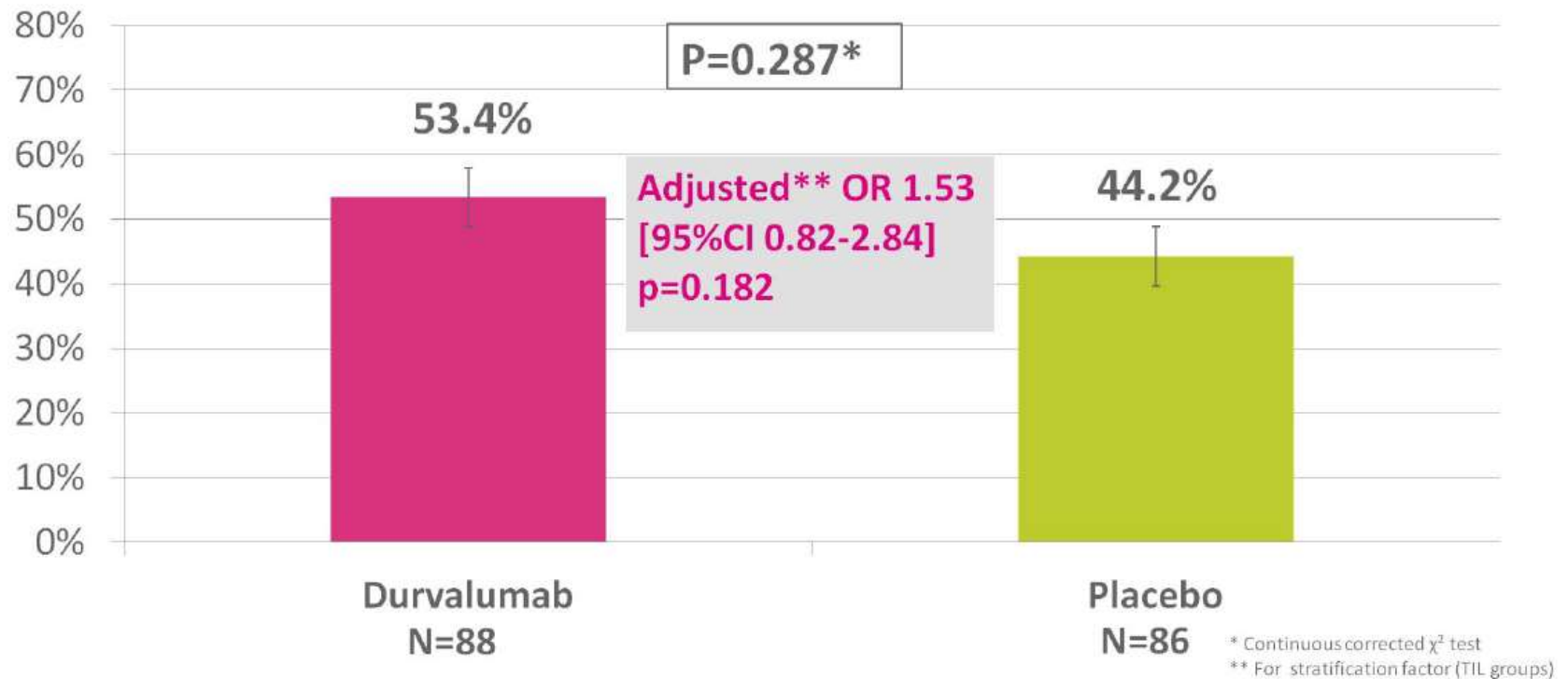
- 100% of patients experienced treatment-related AEs
  - Grade  $\geq 3$  events reported in 90%
  - Led to pembrolizumab discontinuation in 18%
- 30% of patients experienced immune-related AEs

Treatment-Related AEs, %	All Patients (N = 60)
Any	100
Grade $\geq 3$	90
■ Neutropenia	73
■ Febrile neutropenia	22
■ Anemia	20
■ Thrombocytopenia	8
Immune-related	30
■ Hypothyroidism	8
■ Hyperthyroidism	5

# GeparNUEVO Study Design

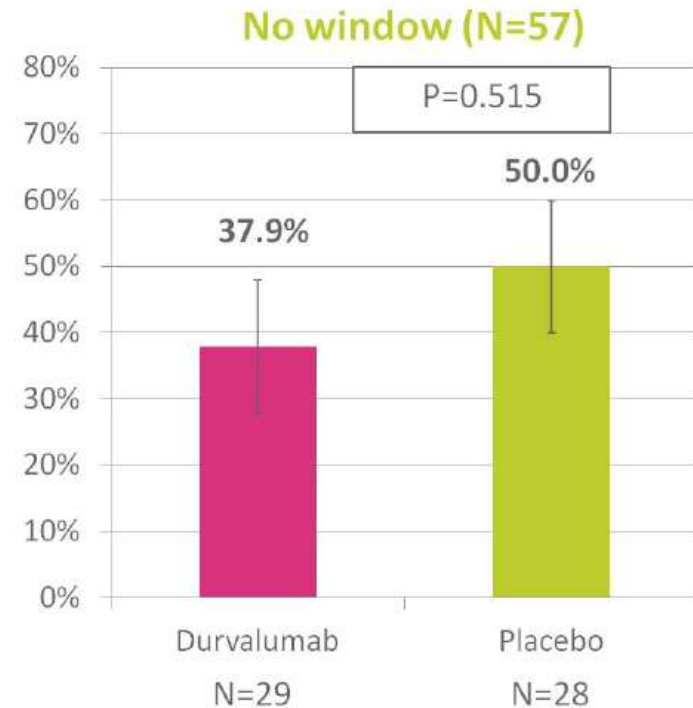
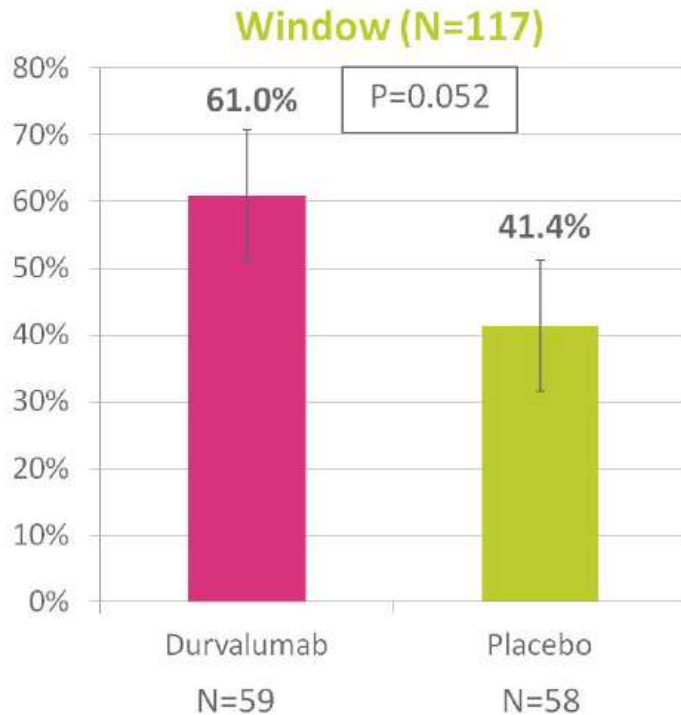


# Primary endpoint – pCR (ypT0 ypN0)





# Subgroup analysis of the window cohort

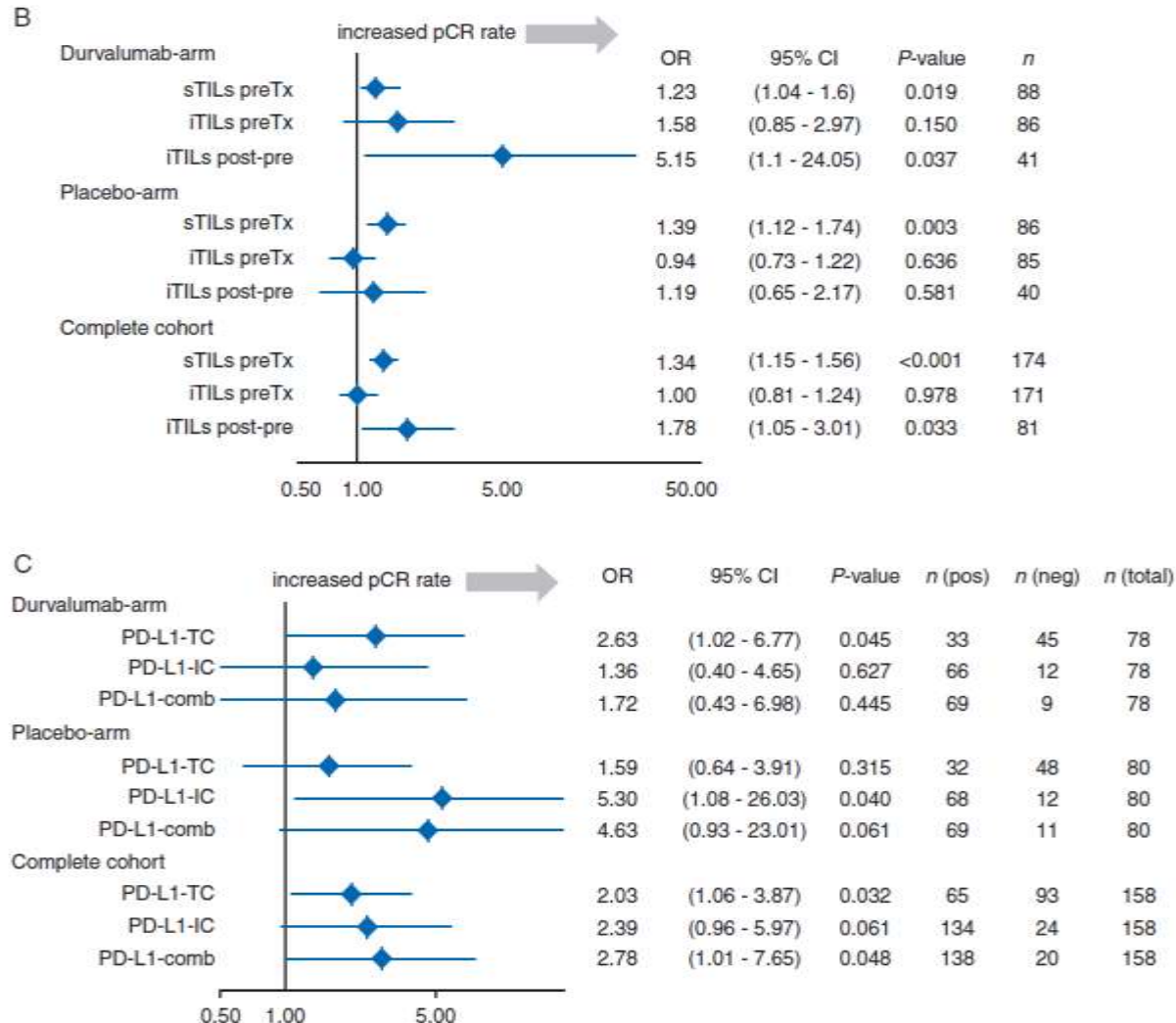


# Immune Related Toxicities (Any Grade)

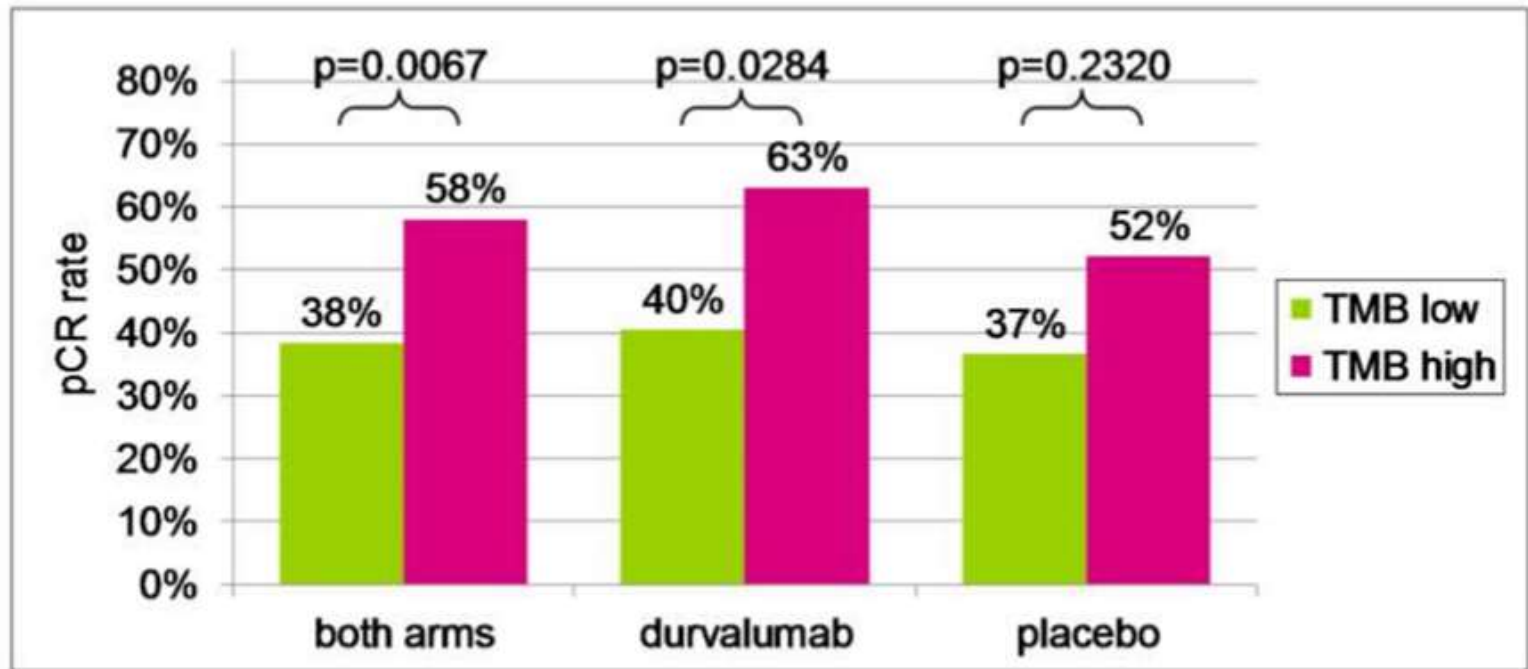
	Durvalumab N=92* N(%)	Placebo N= 82* N(%)	Overall N=174 N(%)
Hepatotoxicity	7 ( 7.6)	6 ( 7.3)	13 ( 7.5)
Dermatitis	13 (14.1)	12 (14.6)	25 (14.4)
Hypophysitis	1 ( 1.1)	0 ( 0.0)	1 ( 0.6)
Pneumonitis	1 ( 1.1)	1 ( 1.2)	2 ( 1.1)
Hypothyroidism	6 ( 6.5)	2 ( 2.4)	8 ( 4.6)
Hyperthyroidism	7 ( 7.6)	0 ( 0.0)	7 ( 4.0)
Neuropathy	5 ( 5.4)	7 ( 8.5)	12 ( 6.9)
Neuropathy, high grade	3 ( 3.3)	4 ( 4.9)	7 ( 4.0)

\*safety population differs because 4 patients received durvalumab instead of placebo at least once

# TILs and PDL-1 in GeparNUEVO



# GeparNuevo: Response based on TMB (Seliger et al, abstract 588)

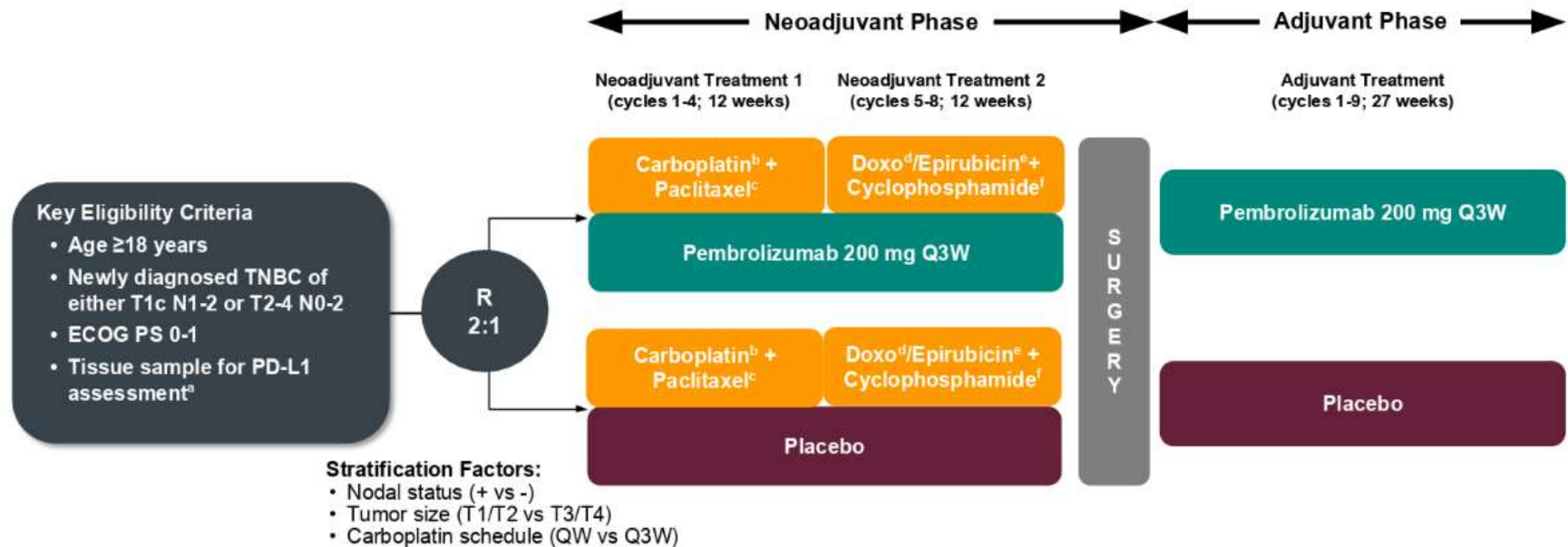


Median TMB: 1.52 mutations/MB

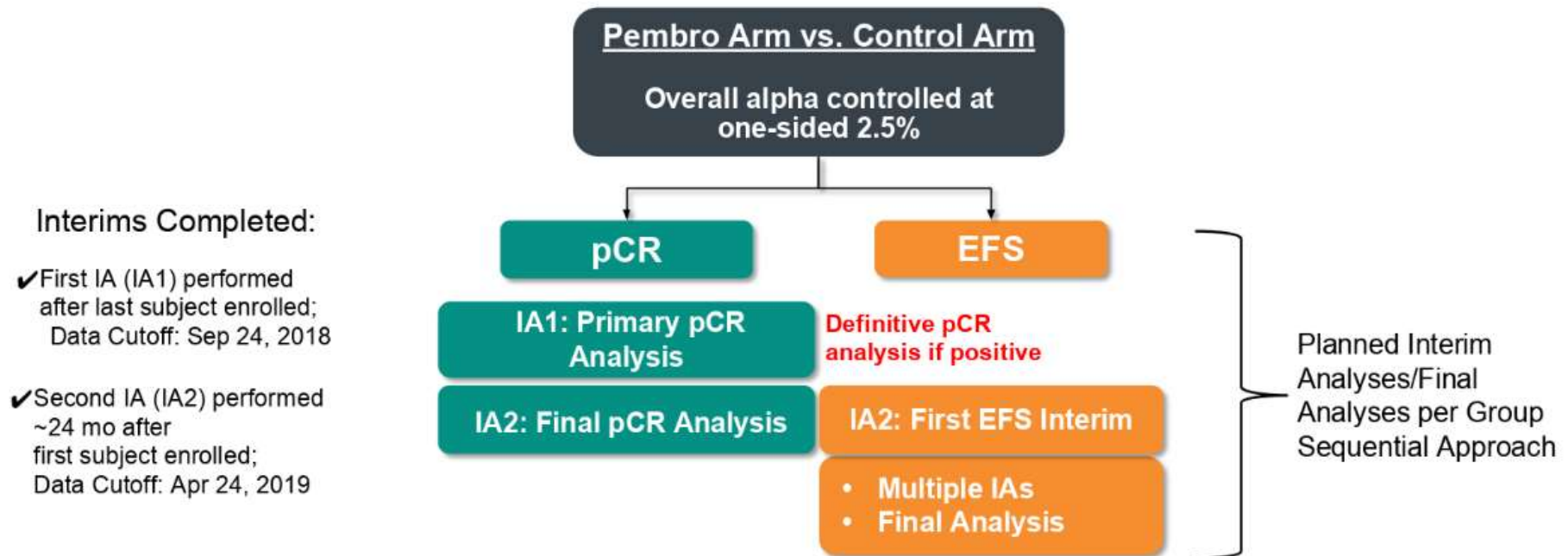
TMB low: below 66.7% percentile; TMB high: above 66.7% percentile

Top TMB tertile PCR 58% versus low TMB tertile 38%

# KEYNOTE 522 – Study design



# KEYNOTE 522 – Study endpoints



- **IA1:** Primary pCR analysis to test primary hypothesis of pCR based on prespecified first 602 subjects (pre-calculated  $P$  value boundary for significance of 0.003)
- **IA2:** If pCR hypothesis successful at IA1 (thus definitive), pCR will not be formally tested at IA2
- EFS at IA2 (first interim of EFS): precalculated  $P$  value boundary for significance of 0.000051 (HR <0.4)

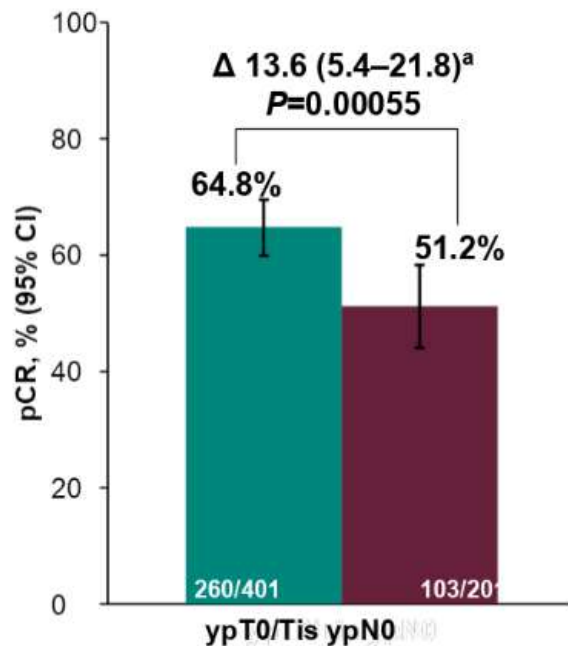


# Baseline Characteristics

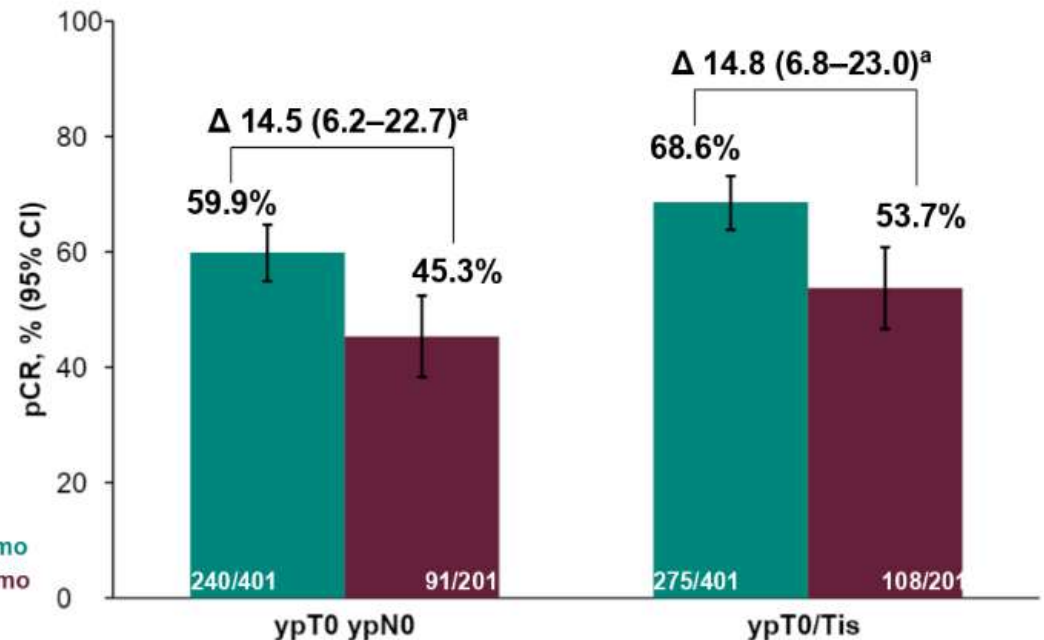
Characteristic, n (%)	All Subjects, N = 1174	
	Pembro + Chemo N = 784	Placebo + Chemo N = 390
Age, median (range), yrs	49 (22-80)	48 (24-79)
ECOG PS 1	106 (13.5)	49 (12.6)
PD-L1–positive <sup>a</sup>	656 (83.7)	317 (81.3)
Carboplatin schedule		
QW	449 (57.3)	223 (57.2)
Q3W	335 (42.7)	167 (42.8)
Tumor size		
T1/T2	580 (74.0)	290 (74.4)
T3/T4	204 (26.0)	100 (25.6)
Nodal involvement		
Positive	405 (51.7)	200 (51.3)
Negative	379 (48.3)	190 (48.7)

# Pathological Complete Response at AI2

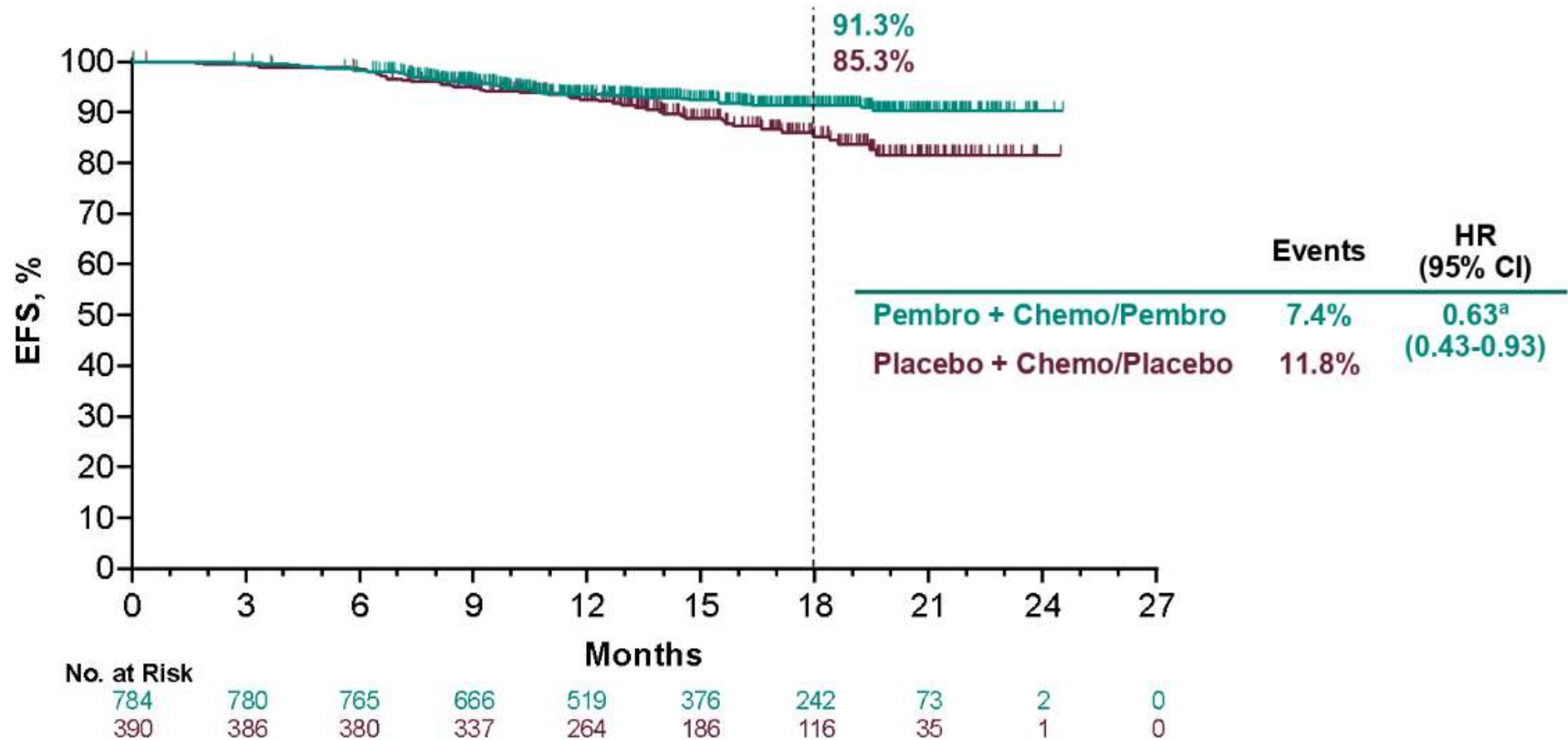
## Primary Endpoint



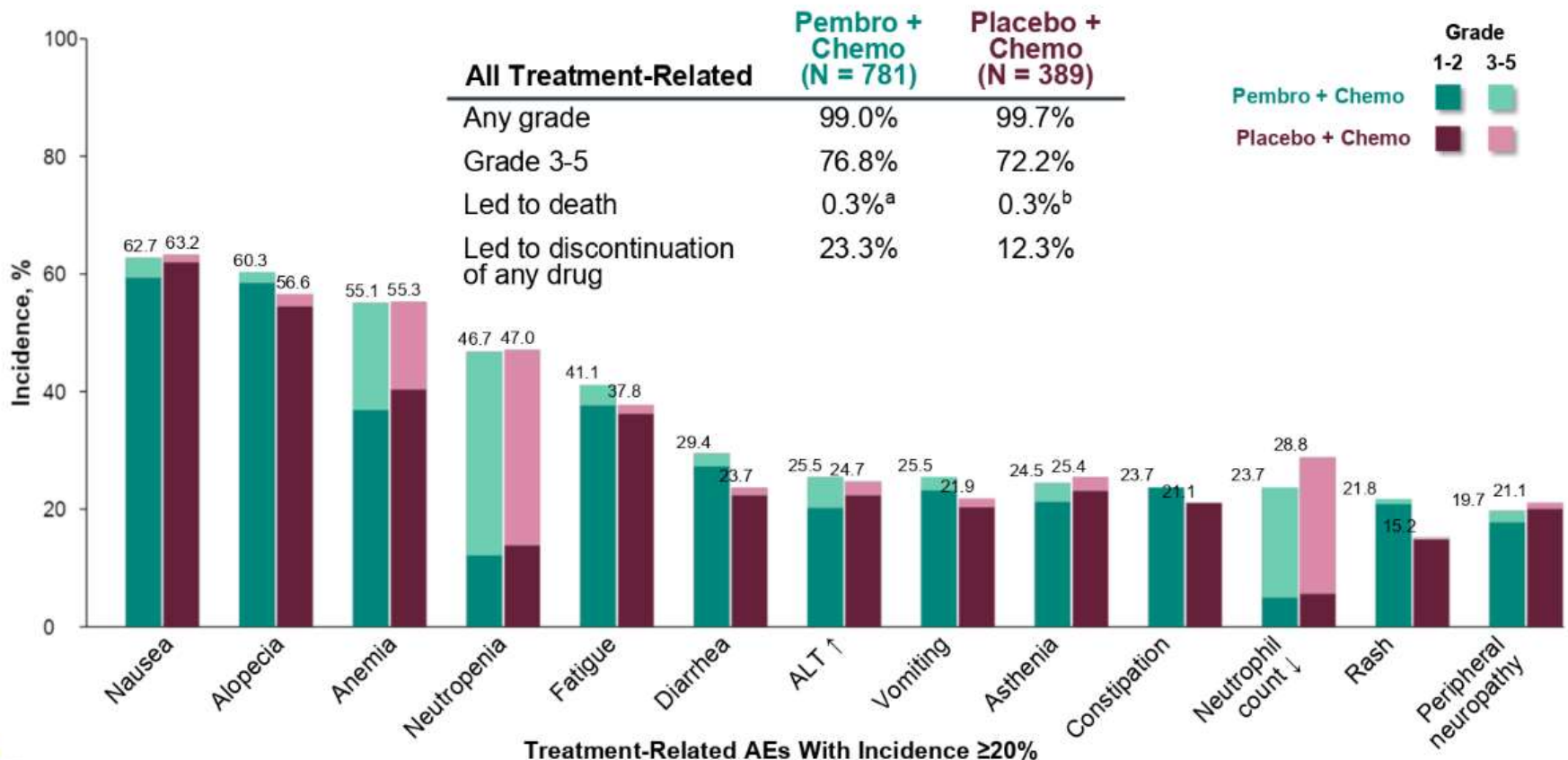
## Secondary Endpoints: Other pCR Definitions



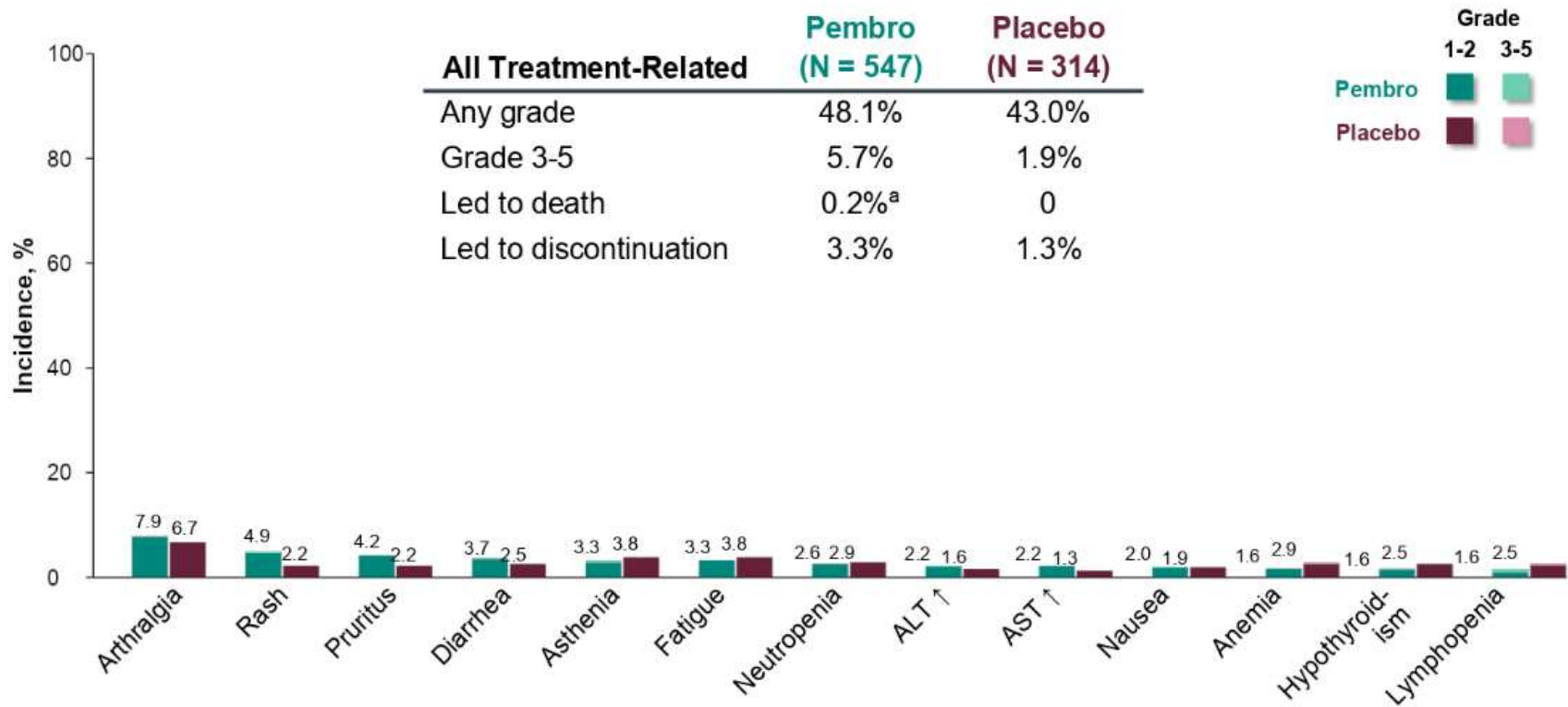
# Event free survival at AI2



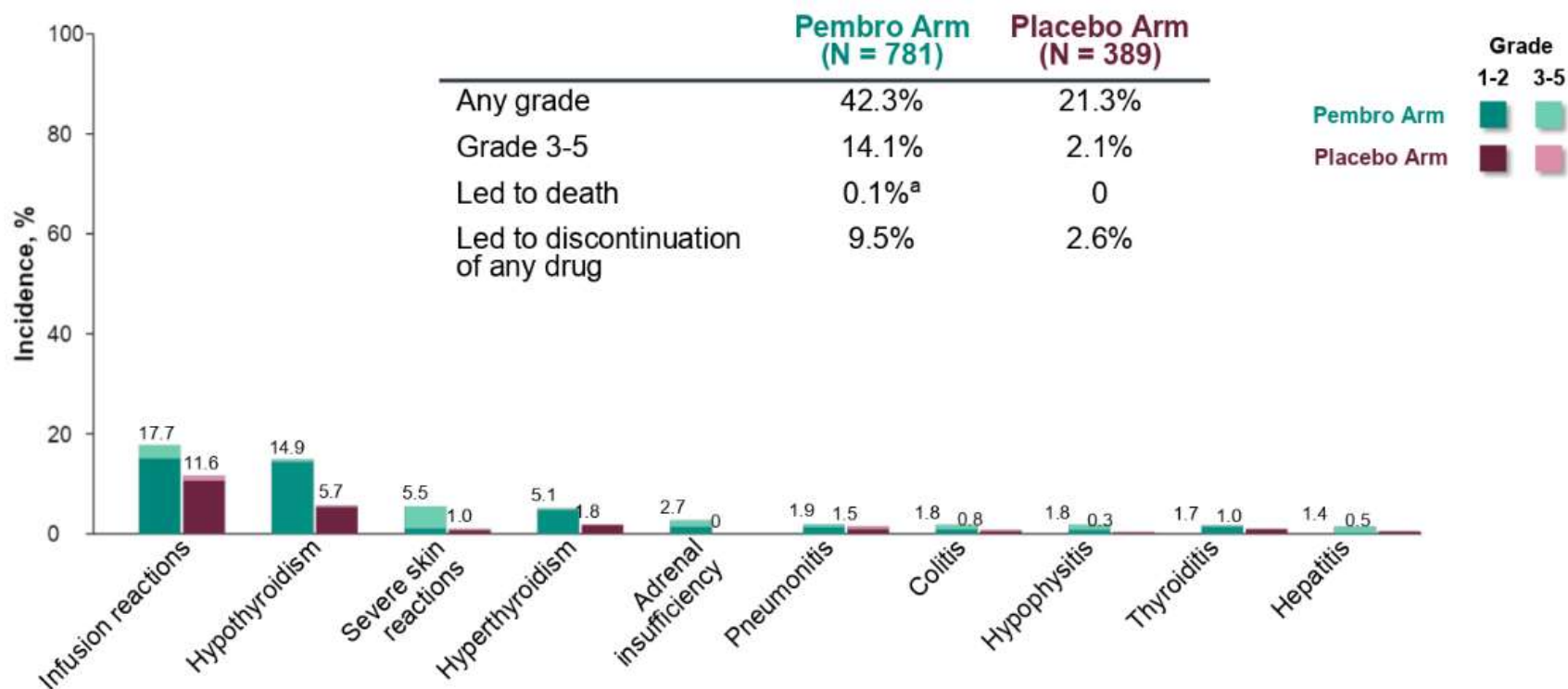
# Treatment related AEs in Neoadjuvant Phase



# Treatment related AEs in Adjuvant Phase



# Immune mediated AEs In Combined Phase



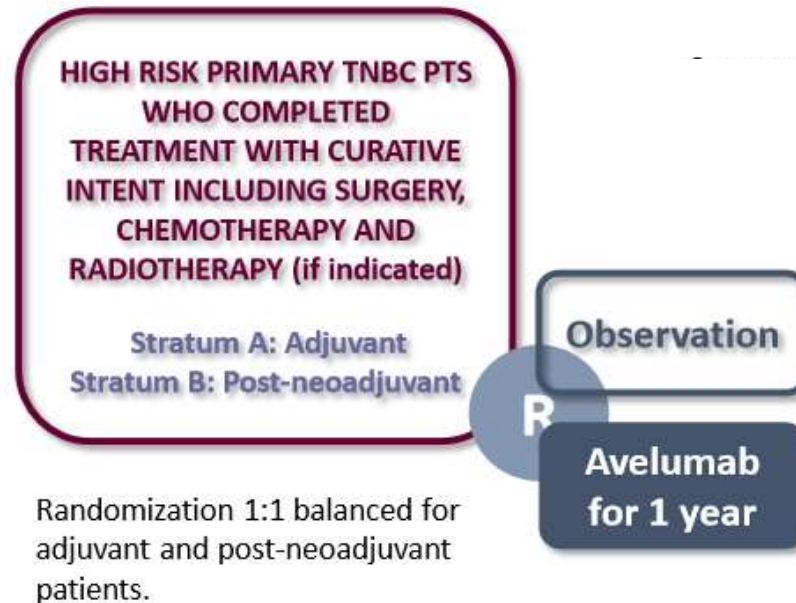
Immune-Mediated AEs and Infusion Reactions With Incidence  $\geq 10$  Patients



# Phase III anti PD-1/PDL-1 neoadjuvant TNBC Trials

Trial	Trial Description	Primary Endpoint(s)	Date Open (Study End)
<b>IMpassion031</b>	<p>Status: Recruiting N=204</p> <p>Treatment Arms:</p> <p>1) <b>Atezolizumab</b>+nab-paclitaxel→Atezo+ddAC→Surgery→Atezo1yrs</p> <p>2) Placebo+nab-paclitaxel→placebo+ddAC→Surgery</p>	pCR	Jul 2017 (Sept 2021)
<b>KeyNote-522</b>	<p>Status: Recruiting N=1150</p> <p>Treatment Arms:</p> <p>1) <b>Pembrolizumab</b>+paclitaxel+carbo→Pembro+AC→Surgery→Pembro x9 cycles</p> <p>2) Placebo+paclitaxel+carbo→placebo+AC→Surgery→placebo</p>	pCR EFS	Mar 2017 (Mar 2025)
<b>NeoTRIP</b>	<p>Status: Closed N=272</p> <p>Treatment Arms:</p> <p>1) <b>Atezolizumab</b>+nab-paclitaxel+carbo→Surgery→EC/AC</p> <p>2) nab-paclitaxel+carbo→Surgery→EC/AC</p>	EFS	Apr 2016 (Oct 2022)
<b>NSABP B-59 GeparDouze</b>	<p>Status: Active N=1520</p> <p>Treatment Arms:</p> <p>1) paclitaxel+carbo+placebo→AC→Surgery→placebo1yrs</p> <p>2) paclitaxel+carbo+<b>Atezolizumab</b>→AC→Surgery→Atezo1yrs</p>	pCR EFS	Dec 2017 (Jun 2024)

# Future Perspective



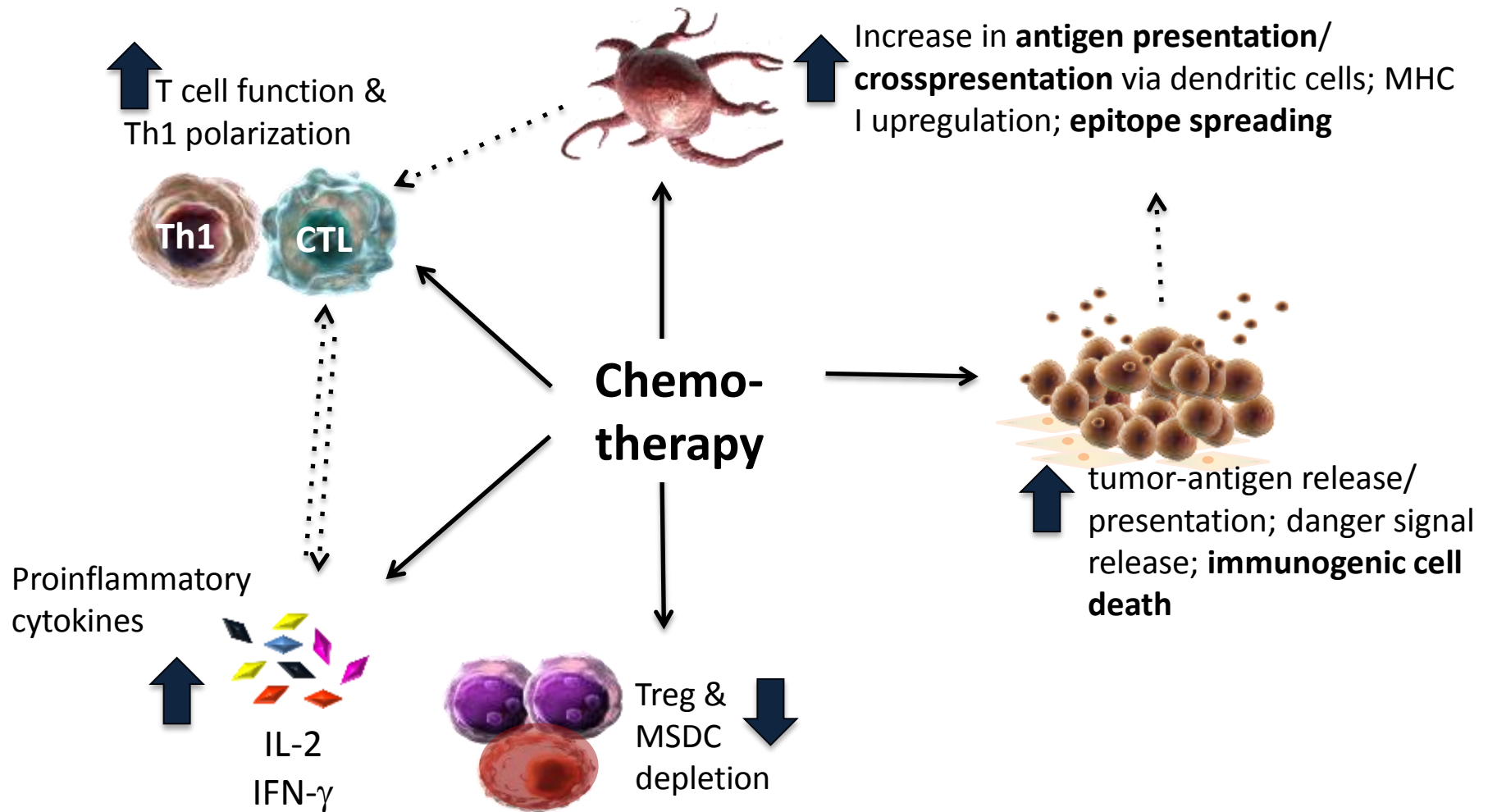
**Co-primary endpoints:** 1. DFS in all-comers; 2. DFS in PD-L1+ patients

**Secondary endpoints:** OS, Safety, Biomarkers

n=335 (for the 1<sup>st</sup> co-primary endpoint)

**A-BRAXE-TRIAL**

# Chemotherapy: Pleiotropic stimulatory effects on the immune system



# Refining immunotherapy strategies: which is the best CT partner?

Drug	Effect on immune system
Taxanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhances T cell and NK cell function</li><li>• Increases recruitment of TIL</li><li>• Increase efficacy of immuno-stimulatory agents</li></ul>
Doxorubicin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Induces immunogenic cell death</li><li>• Increases proliferation of CD8 T cells</li><li>• Stimulates antigen presentation by DCs</li><li>• Stimulates MCP1 and M6PR</li></ul>
Cyclophosphamide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Induces immunogenic cell death</li><li>• Suppresses Treg inhibitory functions and restores the proliferative capacity of effector T cells and NK cell cytotoxicity</li></ul>
Gemcitabine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduces the number of myeloid suppressor cells</li><li>• Increases the antitumor activity of CD8(+) T cells and activated NK cells</li></ul>
Oxaliplatin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Induces immunogenic cell death</li><li>• Increases MHC I complex</li><li>• Inhibits PD-L2</li></ul>

# Immunotherapy in (neo)-adj Breast Cancer

- Is there a role for improving response to immune checkpoint inhibitors by selecting the best chemotherapeutic partner?
- Need for better biomarkers and for an understanding of their relationship to one another
- Re-thinking targeted therapies in combination with immune checkpoint inhibitors
- Need for selection of adequate endpoints for future clinical trials testing immunotherapy in TNBC.

**GRAZIE**