



## II SESSIONE: Immunoterapia nel tumore del polmone

### I risultati dell'immunoterapia

**Antonio Passaro**

Divisione di Oncologica Toracica



**IEO**

Istituto Europeo di Oncologia



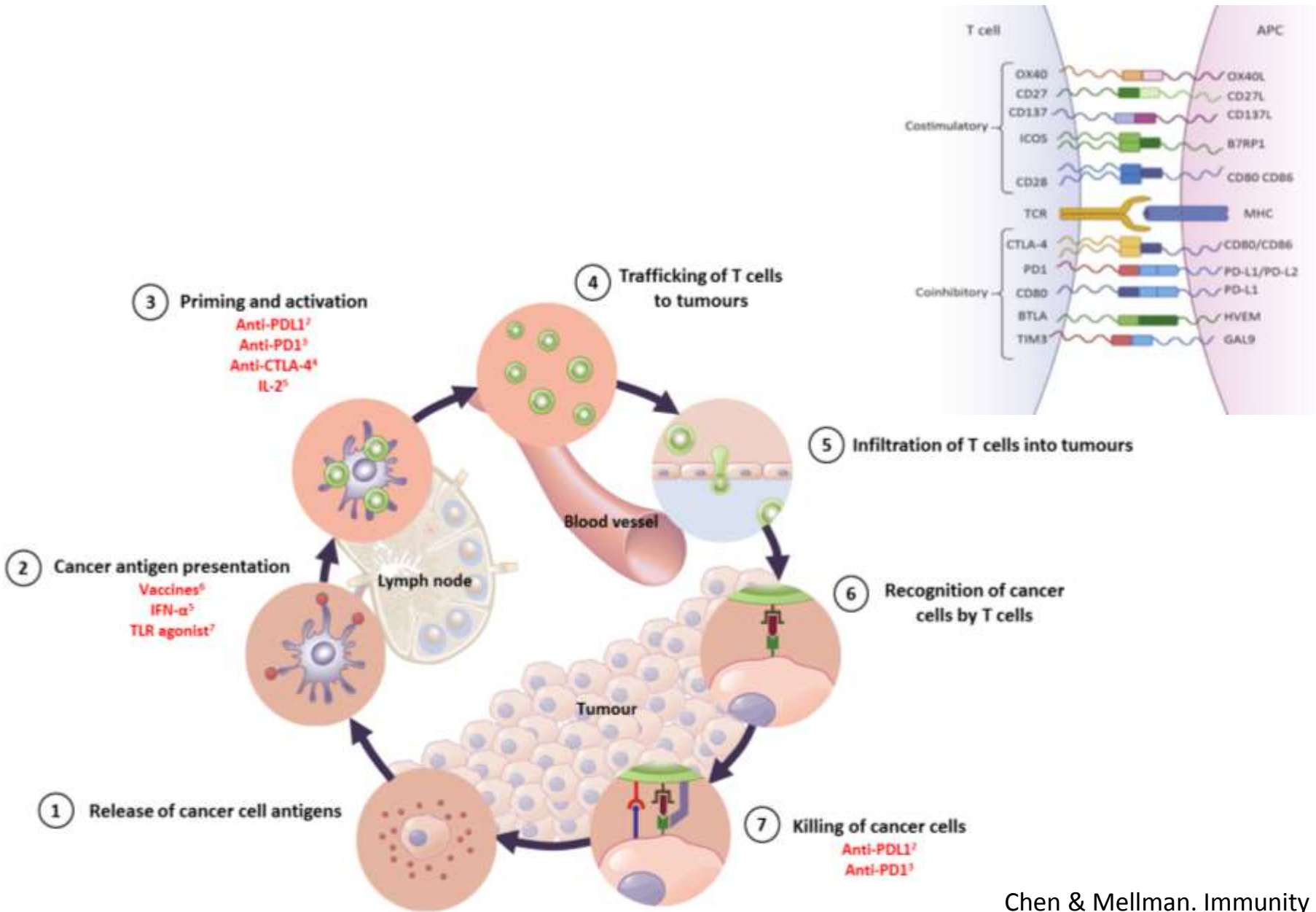
## **Advisory functions:**

- AstraZeneca
- BMS
- Boehringer Ingelheim
- Novartis
- Roche/Genentech

# Agenda

- **Rationale for checkpoint inhibitors**
- **Available evidence:**
  - **Second-line**
  - **First-line: monotherapy / combo-treatments**
- **Side effects**
- **Conclusions**

# Avoiding immune destruction is a hallmark of cancer

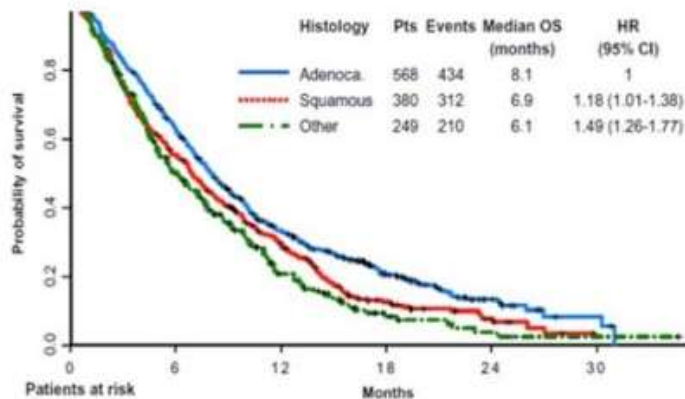


# Agenda

- Rationale for checkpoint inhibitors
- **Available evidence:**
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  - First-line: monotherapy / combo-treatments
- Side effects
- Conclusions

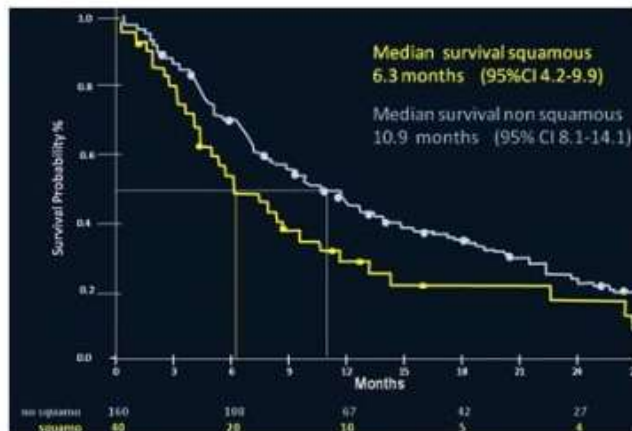
# Survival in advanced NSCLC: Expectation in 2<sup>nd</sup> Line

## Meta-analysis of Randomized Trials [Chemotherapy]



*Di Maio M et al, EJC 2010*

## Meta-analysis of Randomized Trials [Chemo vs. Erlotinib]



*Torri V et al, ASCO 2015*

**6-7 months for Squamous**  
**8-9 months for Non-squamous**

## Second-line therapy endpoints

### ‘Better life’

- Symptom improvement
- Prolonged time to progression
- Improved disease-control rate
- Reduced toxicity
- Improved QoL

# Published Phase III Trials of PD-1/PD-L1 Agents in 2nd-Line NSCLC

Immuno Agent	Target	Trial	Histology	N	Drug Comparison	Primary Endpoint	Outcome
NIVOLUMAB	Anti-PD1	CHECKMATE 017 <sup>1</sup>	Squamous NSCLC	272 100% 2 <sup>nd</sup> line	vs Docetaxel	OS	<b>Positive</b> HR 0.62 (95% CI, 0.44 to 0.79) p<0.001
	Anti-PD1	CHECKMATE 057 <sup>2</sup>	Non Squamous NSCLC	582 88% 2 <sup>nd</sup> line	vs Docetaxel	OS	<b>Positive</b> HR 0.73 (96% CI, 0.59 to 0.89) p=0.002
PEMBROLIZUMAB *	Anti-PD1	KEYNOTE 010 <sup>3</sup>	NSCLC PDL-1 >1%	1034 69% 2 <sup>nd</sup> line	vs Docetaxel	OS	<b>Positive</b> HR 0.71 (95% CI, 0.58–0.88) p=0.0008
ATEZOLIZUMAB	Anti-PDL1	OAK <sup>4</sup>	NSCLC	850 75% 2 <sup>nd</sup> line	vs Docetaxel	OS	<b>Positive</b> HR 0.73 (95% CI 0.62–0.87) p=0.0003

\* 2mg/kg

<sup>1</sup> Brahmer et al, NEJM 2015

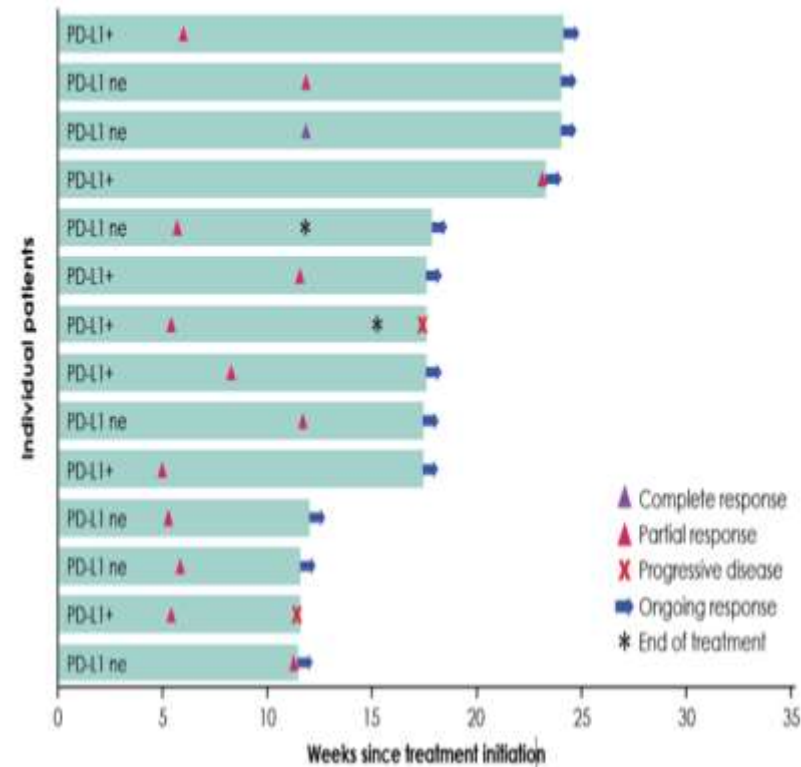
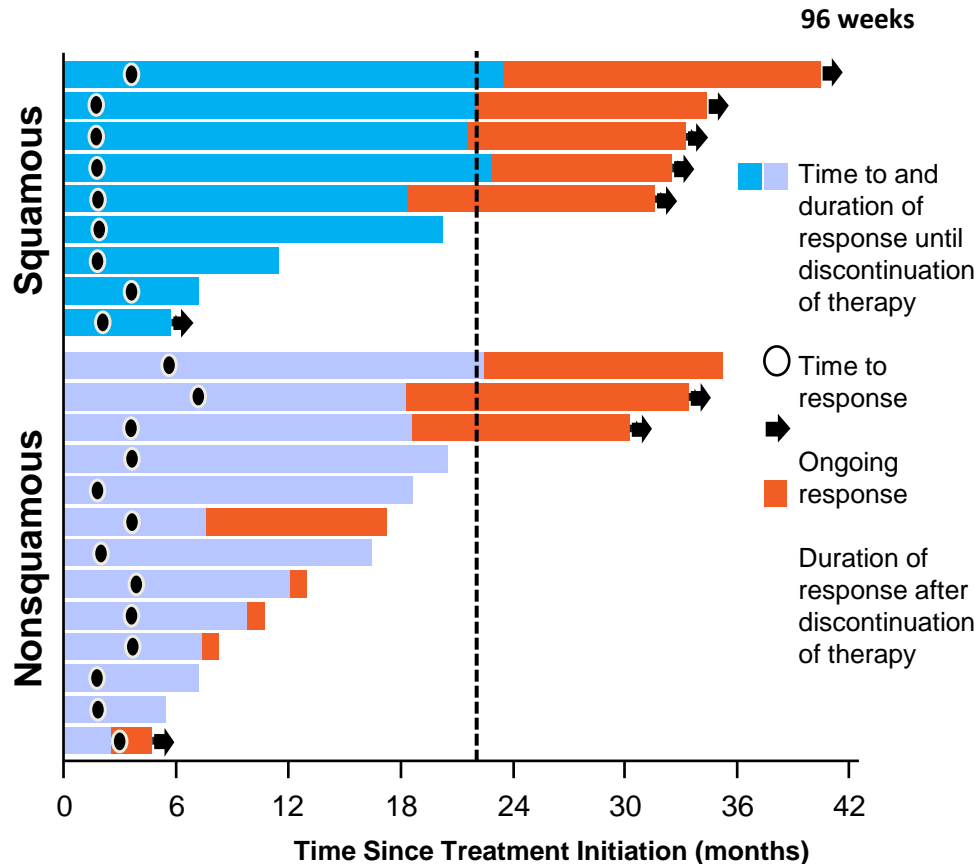
<sup>2</sup> Borghaei et al, NEJM 2015

<sup>3</sup> Herbst et al, Lancet 2016

<sup>4</sup> Rittermeyer et al, Lancet 2017

# Time to response is short

## Nivolumab & Avelumab monotherapy in $\geq 2^{\text{nd}}$ -line



- **Most responses occurred early and were durable**
  - 50% of responders (11/22) demonstrated response at the first tumor assessment (8 weeks)
  - Responses were ongoing in 41% of patients (9/22) at the time of analysis



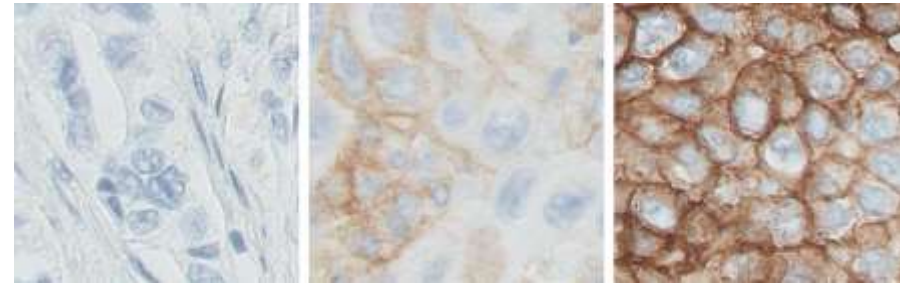
# PD-L1 Expression Matters

## Pembrolizumab - OS by PD-L1 expression

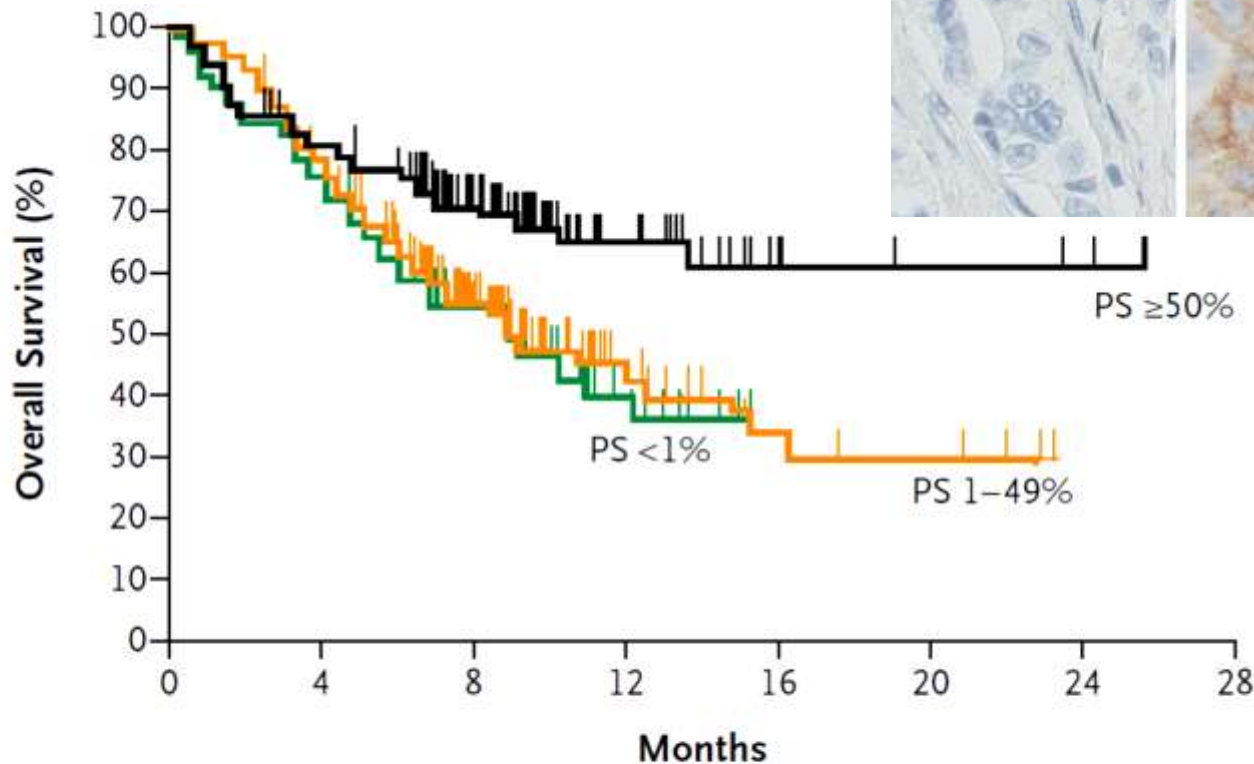
<1%

1-49%  
low

≥50%  
high



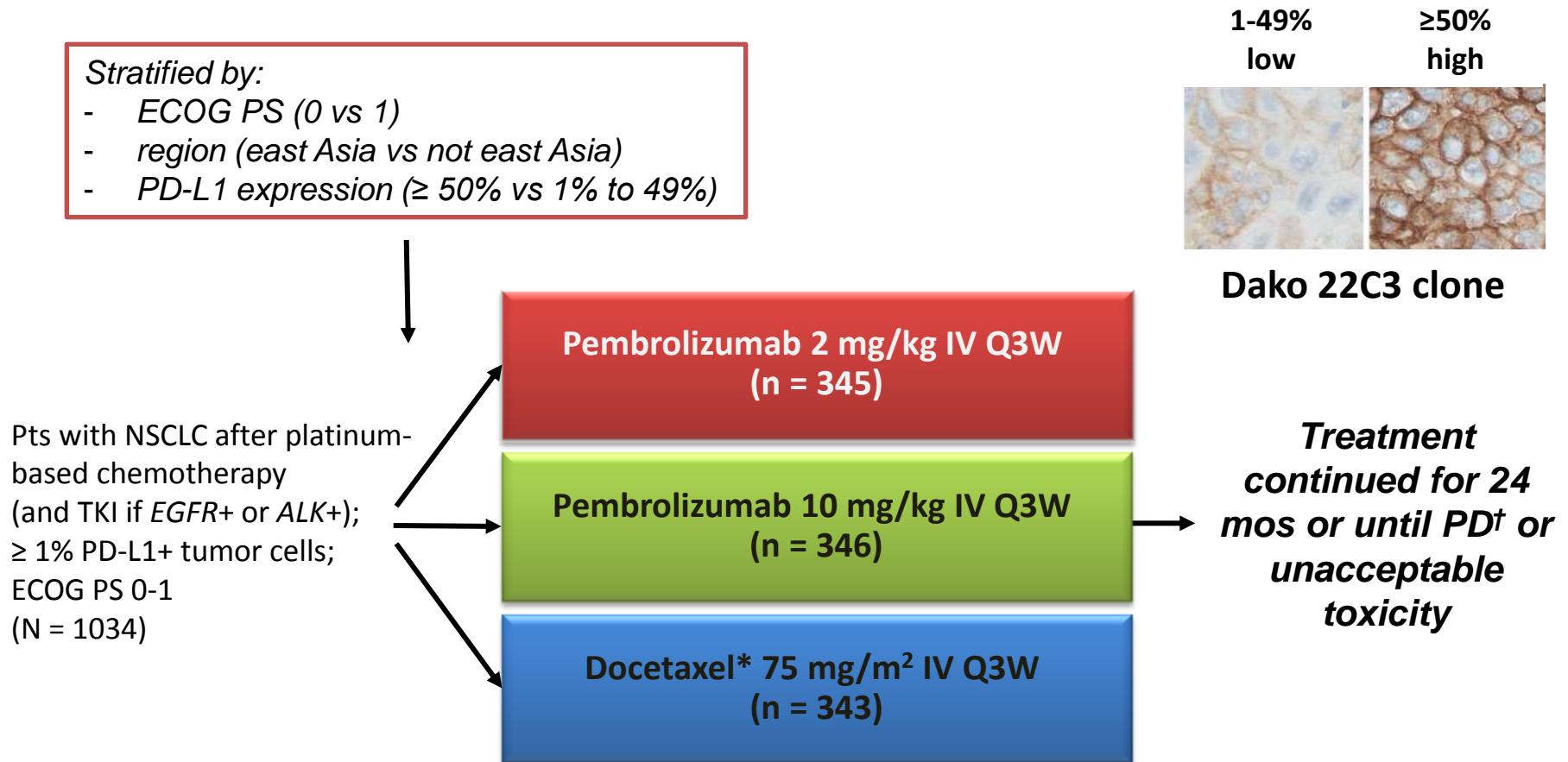
Dako 22C3 clone



### No. at Risk

PS ≥50%	119	92	56	22	5	4	3	0
PS 1-49%	161	119	58	15	6	4	0	0
PS <1%	76	55	33	8	0	0	0	0

# Pembrolizumab in KEYNOTE-010: Phase II/III Trial

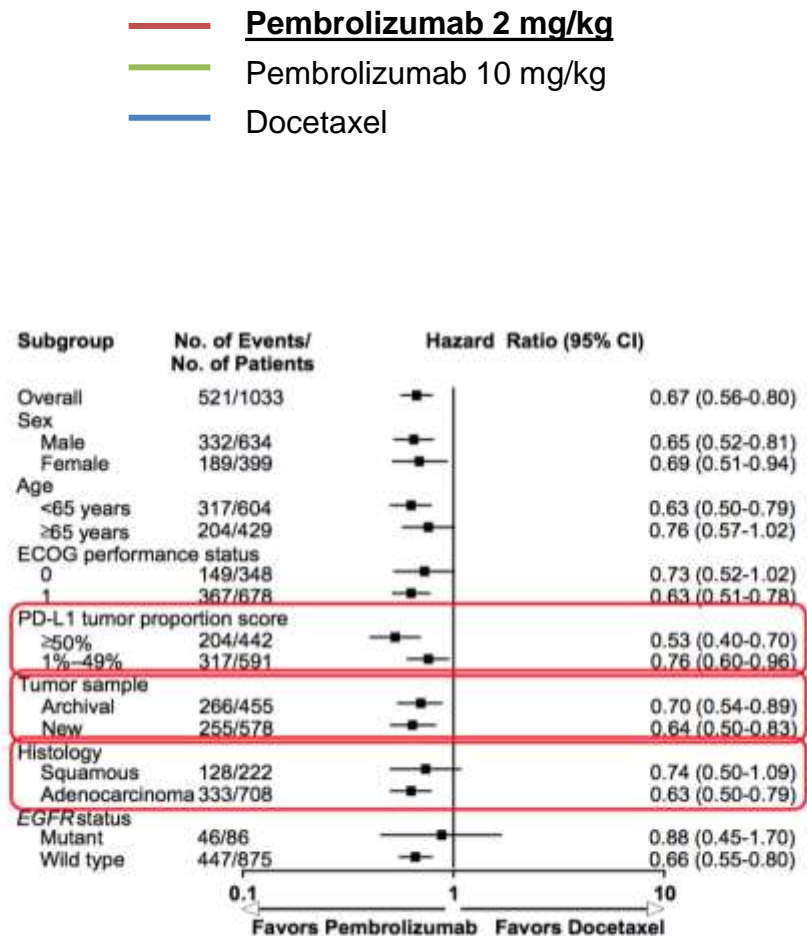
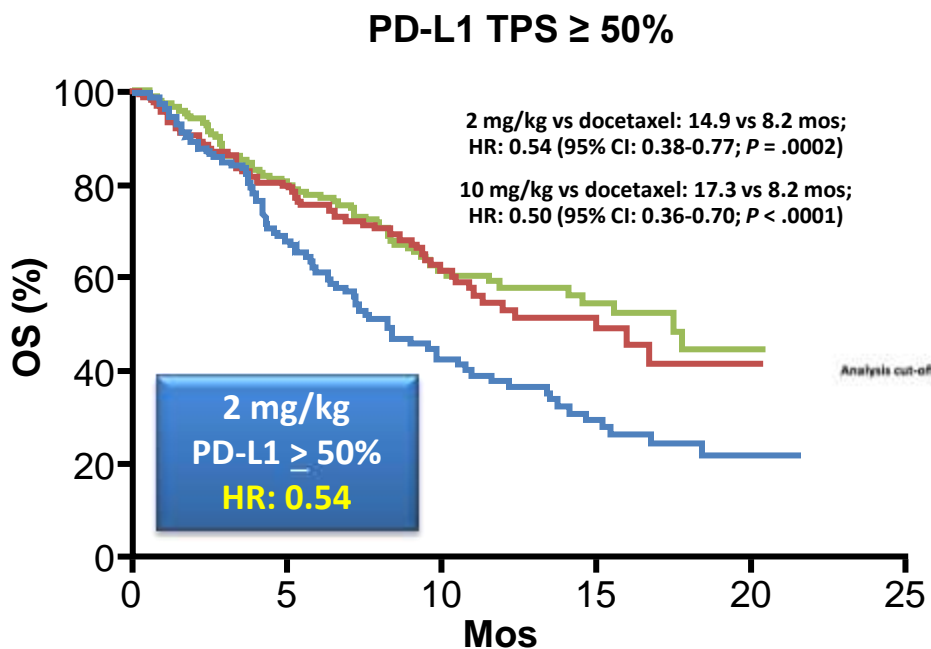
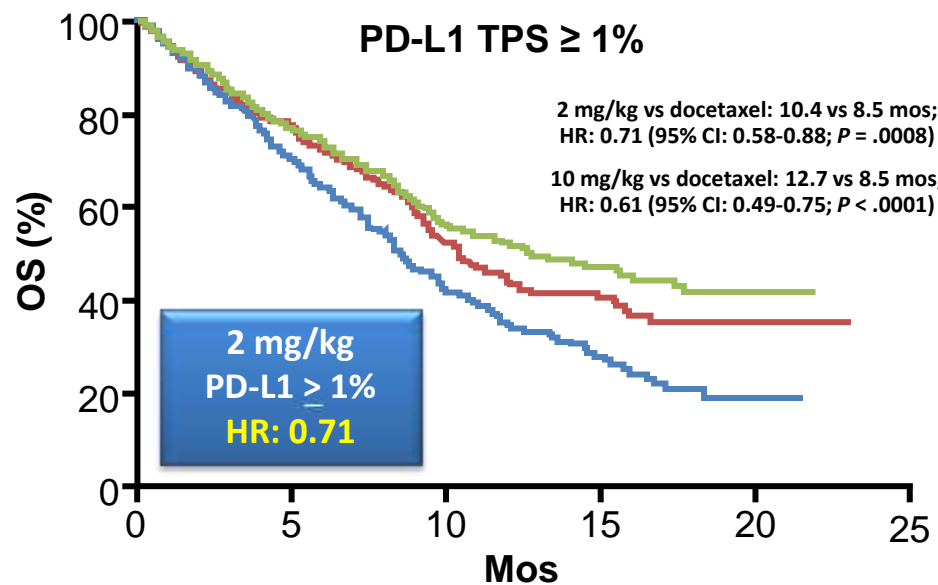


\*Corticosteroid premedication allowed.

<sup>†</sup>Disease progression determined by radiological imaging.

In the case of investigator-assessed clinical disease progression, treatment permitted until confirmatory scan completed 4-6 wks later.

# KEYNOTE-010: Overall Survival



Analysis cut-off date: September 30, 2015.

\*Data for the pembrolizumab doses were pooled.

# Nivolumab in CheckMate 017 and 057: twin Phase 3 trials

## CheckMate 017 (NCT01642004; N = 272)

### Key eligibility criteria

- Stage IIIB/IV SQ NSCLC
- ECOG PS 0-1
- One prior platinum-based chemotherapy
- Pretreatment (archival or fresh) tumour samples required for PD-L1 analysis

R  
A  
N  
D  
O  
M  
I  
Z  
E  
  
1:1

Nivolumab  
3 mg/kg iv q2w until  
PD or unacceptable  
toxicity (n = 135)

Docetaxel  
75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv q3w until  
PD or unacceptable  
toxicity (n = 137)

### Endpoints

- **Primary**
  - OS
- **Additional**
  - ORR
  - PFS
  - Efficacy by tumour PD-L1 expression
  - Safety
  - Quality of life

## CheckMate 057 (NCT01673867; N = 582)

### Key eligibility criteria

- Stage IIIB/IV non-SQ NSCLC
- ECOG PS 0-1
- One prior platinum-based chemotherapy
- Pretreatment (archival or fresh) tumour samples required for PD-L1 analysis
- Prior maintenance therapy allowed
- Prior TKI therapy allowed for known ALK translocation or EGFR mutation

R  
A  
N  
D  
O  
M  
I  
Z  
E  
  
1:1

Nivolumab  
3 mg/kg iv q2w until  
PD or unacceptable  
toxicity (n = 292)

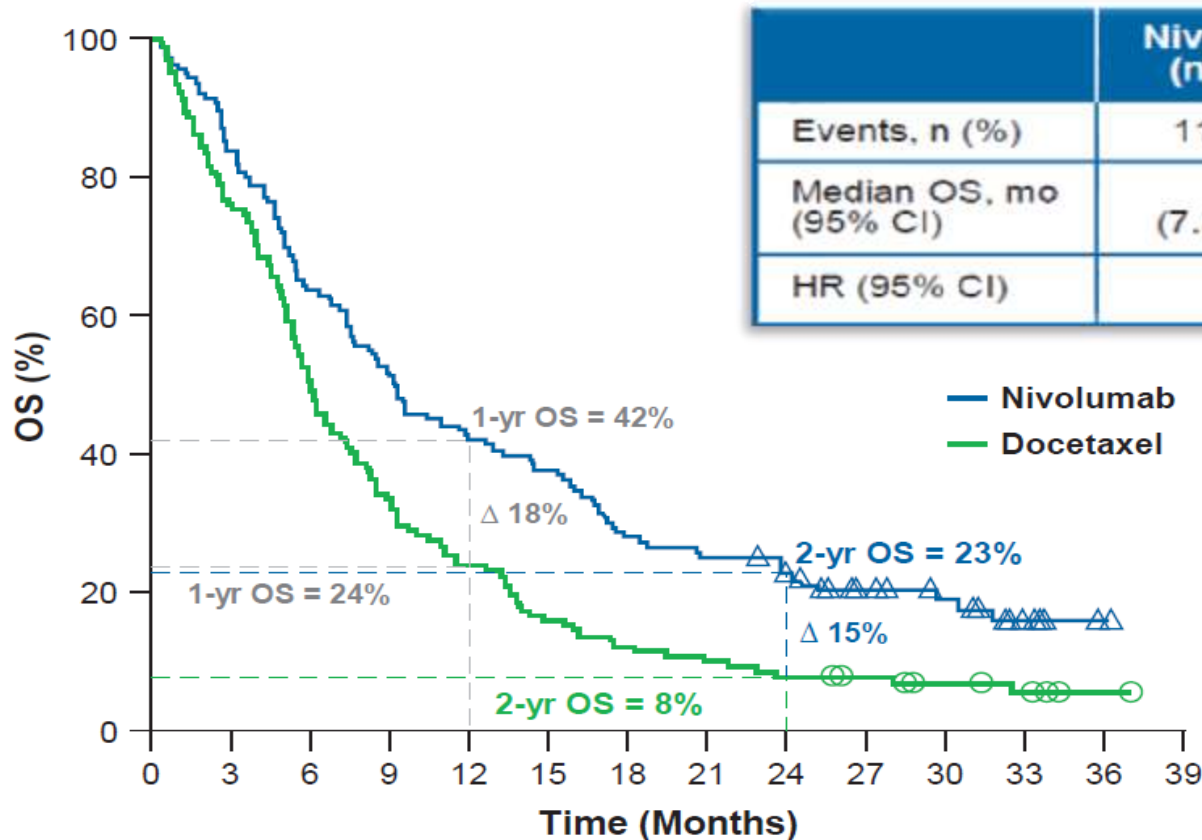
Docetaxel  
75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> iv q3w until  
PD or unacceptable  
toxicity (n = 290)

### Endpoints

- **Primary**
  - OS
- **Additional**
  - ORR
  - PFS
  - Efficacy by tumour PD-L1 expression
  - Safety
  - Quality of life

ALK = anaplastic lymphoma kinase; ECOG PS = Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status; EGFR = epidermal growth factor receptor; iv = intravenous; NSCLC = non-small cell lung cancer; ORR = objective response rate; OS = overall survival; PD-L1 = programmed death-ligand 1; PD = progressive disease; PFS = progression-free survival; q2w = every two weeks; q3w = every three weeks; SQ = squamous; TKI = tyrosine kinase inhibitor

# CheckMate-017: Overall Survival in Previously Treated SQ NSCLC



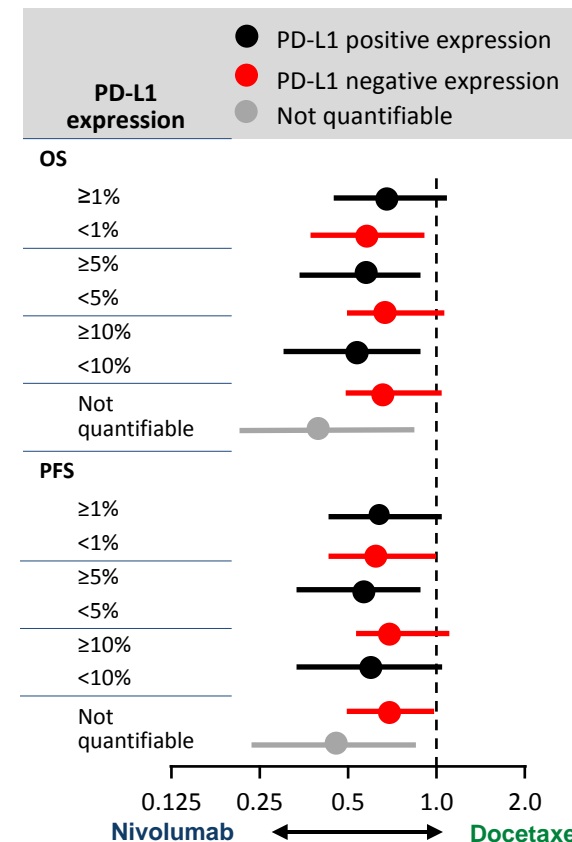
	Nivolumab (n = 135)	Docetaxel (n = 137)
Events, n (%)	110 (81)	128 (93)
Median OS, mo (95% CI)	9.2 (7.3, 12.6)	6.0 (5.1, 7.3)
HR (95% CI)	0.62 (0.47, 0.80)	

No. of patients at risk:

Nivolumab	135	113	86	69	57	51	38	34	29	19	14	7	1	0
Docetaxel	137	104	69	46	33	22	17	14	11	9	6	4	1	0

PD-L1 expression,<sup>b</sup> %

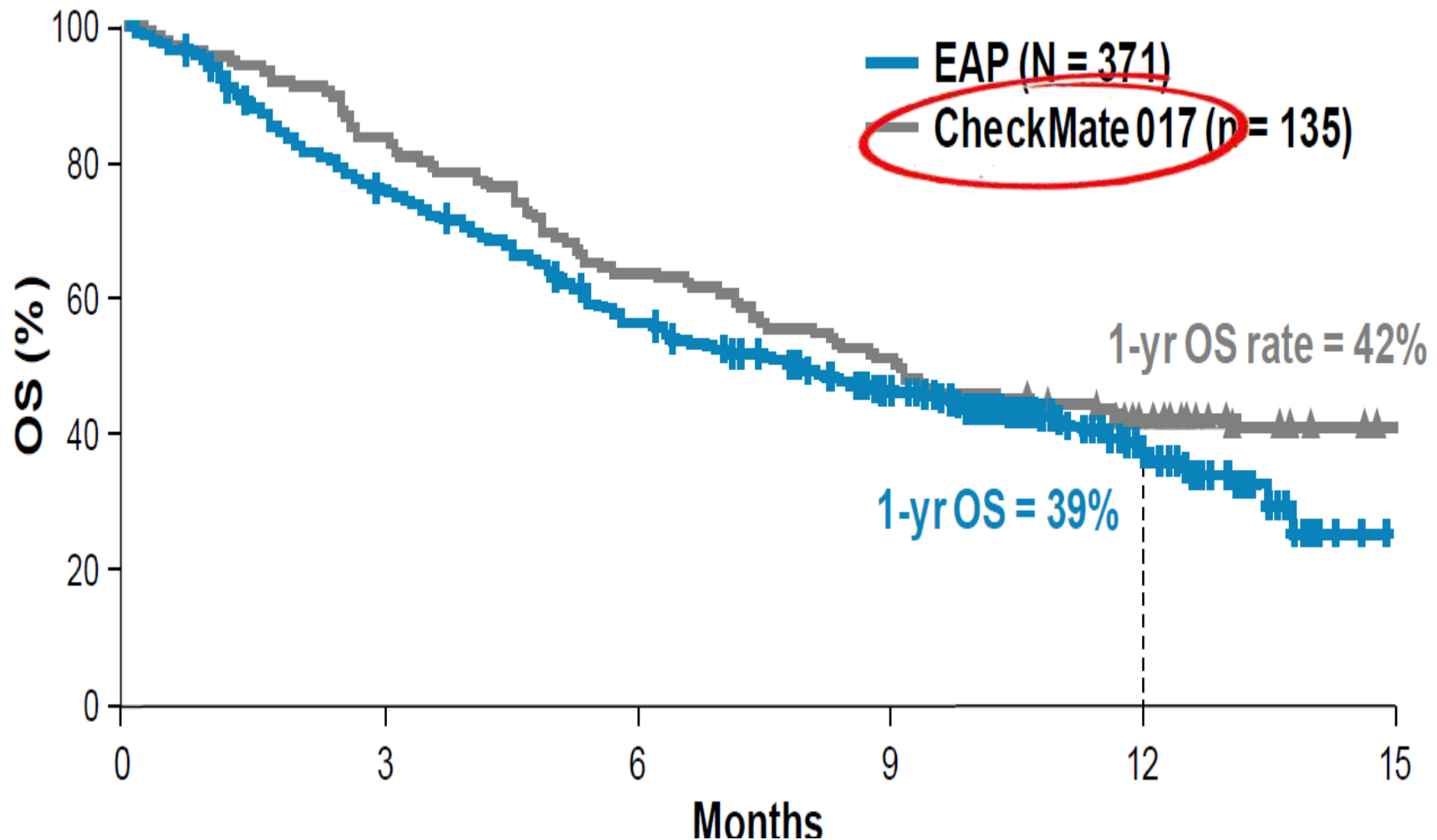
≥1%	47	41
≥5%	31	29
≥10%	27	24
Not quantifiable	13	21



• 83% (225/272) of patients had quantifiable PD-L1 expression

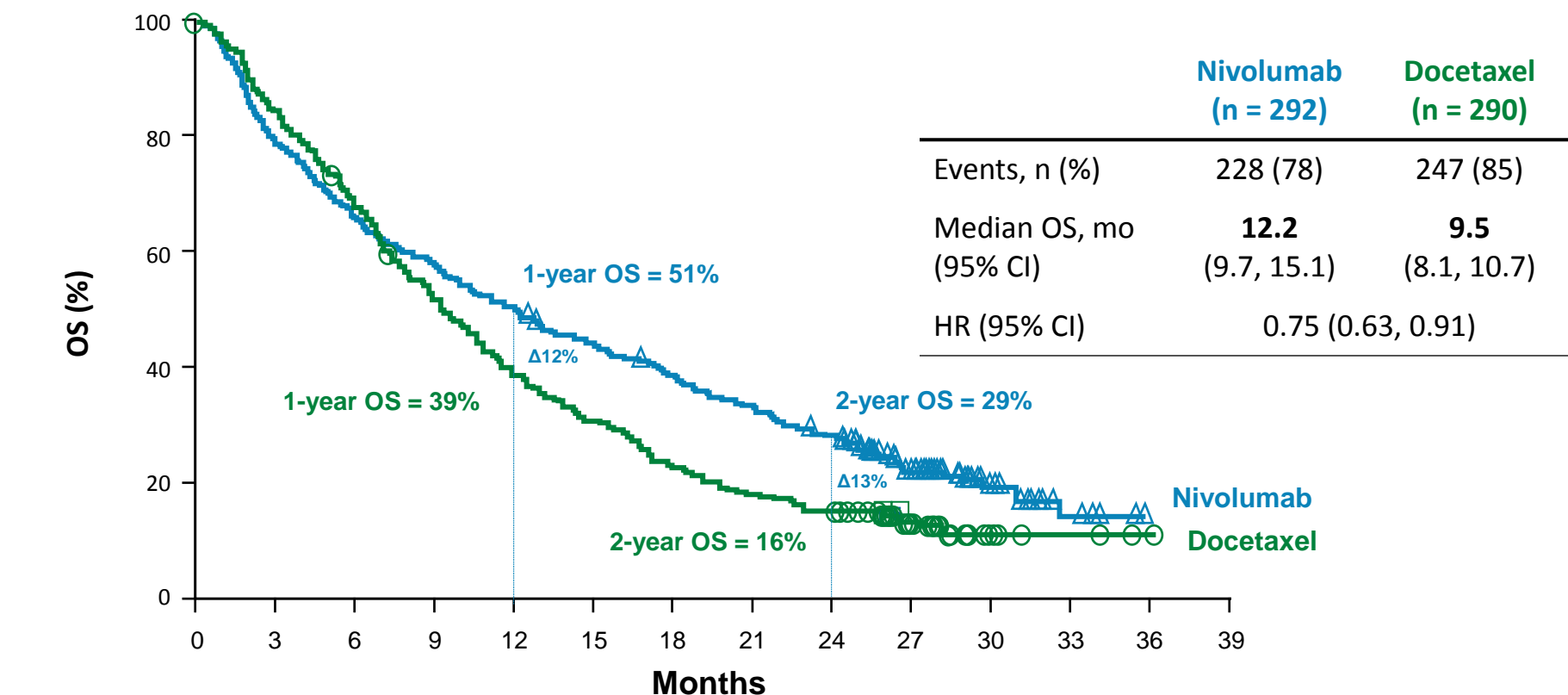
# Italian Nivolumab EAP: Efficacy in Squamous NSCLC pts

- 371 patients with SQ NSCLC participated in the EAP at 96 centers in Italy



- 209 (56%) patients received nivolumab after >2 previous lines of therapy

# CheckMate-057: Overall Survival in Previously Treated NSQ NSCLC



Number of patients at risk														
Nivolumab	292	233	194	171	148	128	112	97	81	46	18	6	0	0
Docetaxel	290	243	194	150	111	89	66	53	45	25	6	3	1	0

	Nivolumab (n = 292)	Docetaxel (n = 290)
Baseline PD-L1 expression		
Quantifiable (% of evaluable patients)		
≥1%	53	55
≥5%	41	38
≥10%	37	35
Not quantifiable (% of randomized patients)	21	23



# CheckMate-057: OS by PD-L1 Expression NSQ NSCLC

## ITT Population<sup>1</sup>

Nivo  
(n = 292)

Doc  
(n = 290)

Median OS, mo

12.2

9.4

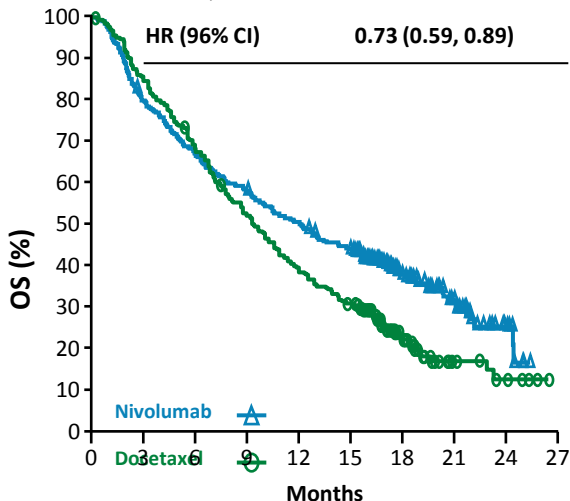
Events, n

190

223

HR (96% CI)

0.73 (0.59, 0.89)



## ≥1% PD-L1 Expression

Nivo  
(n = 123)

Doc  
(n = 123)

Median OS, mo

17.2

9.0

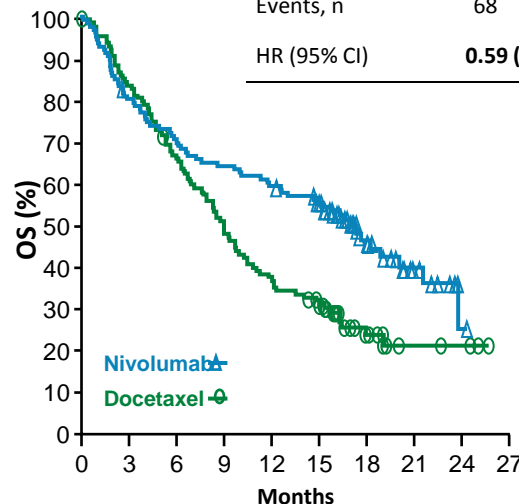
Events, n

68

93

HR (95% CI)

0.59 (0.43, 0.82)



## <1% PD-L1 Expression

Nivo  
(n = 108)

Doc  
(n = 101)

Median OS, mo

10.4

10.1

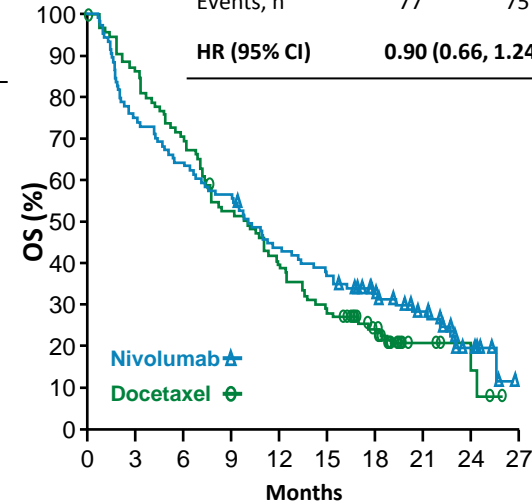
Events, n

77

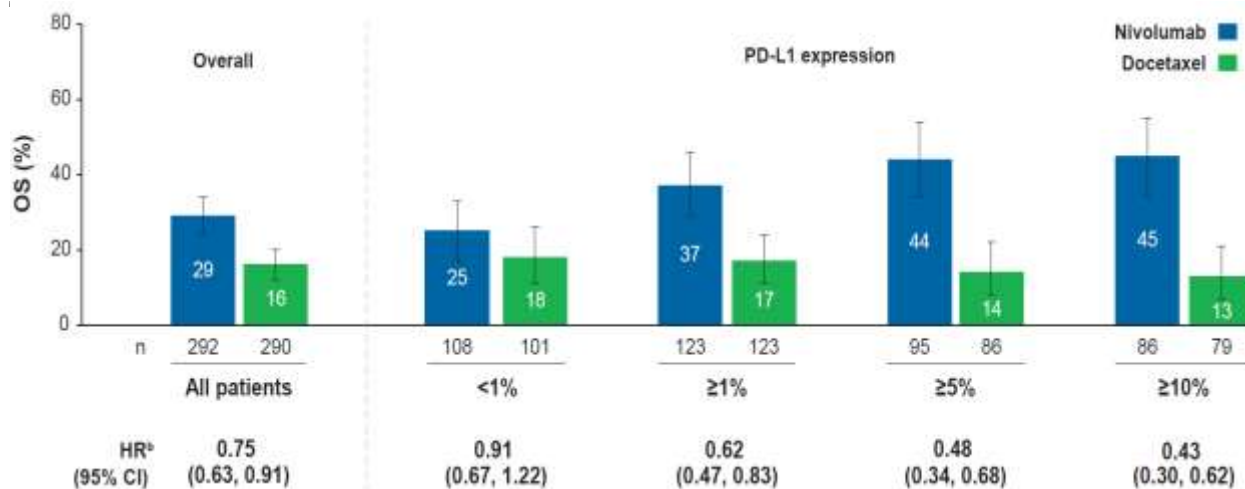
75

HR (95% CI)

0.90 (0.66, 1.24)



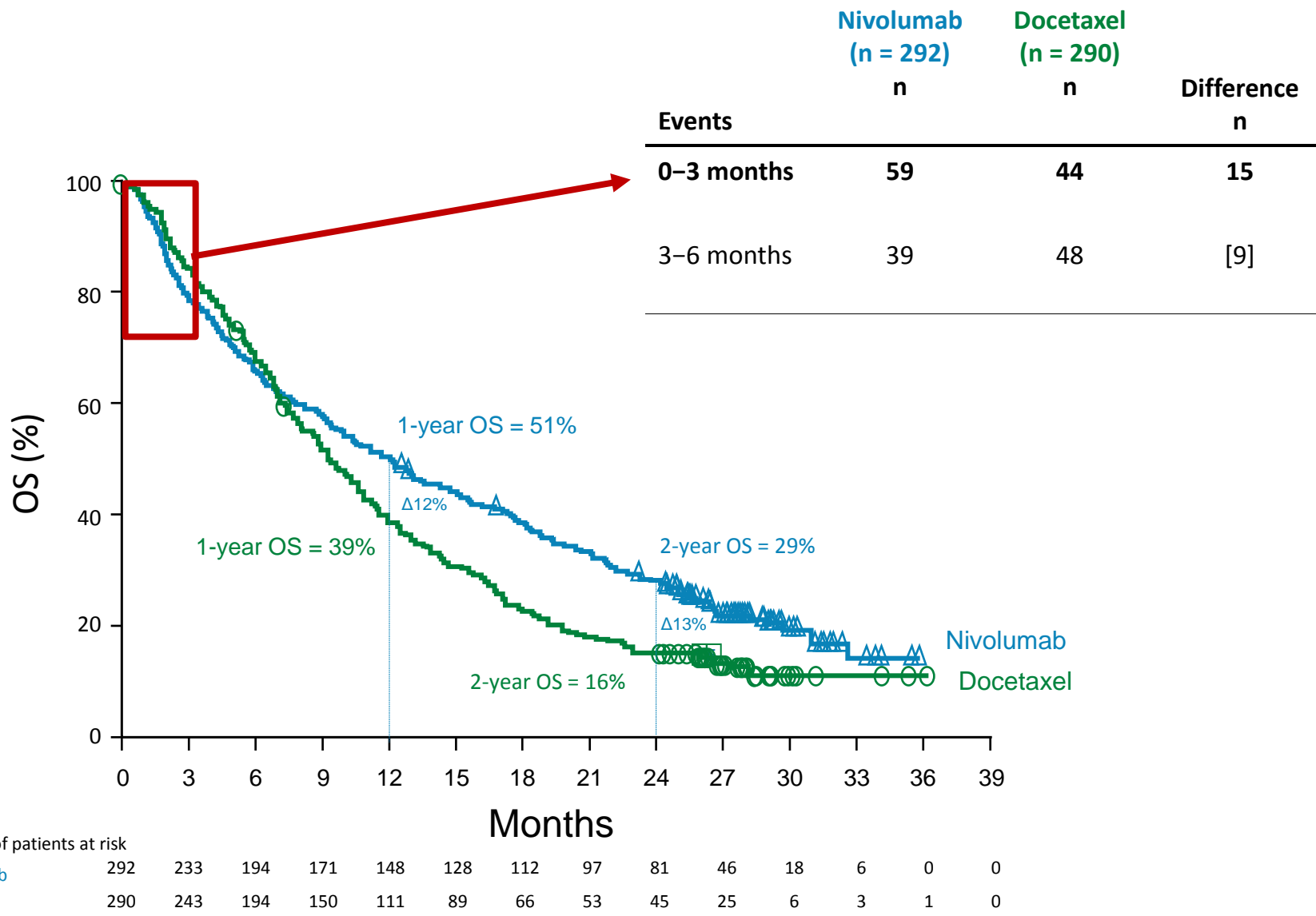
## CheckMate 057: 2-year OS Rates Overall and by PD-L1 Expression Level<sup>2</sup>



Paz-Ares L, ASCO 2015  
Peters S, WCLC 2016

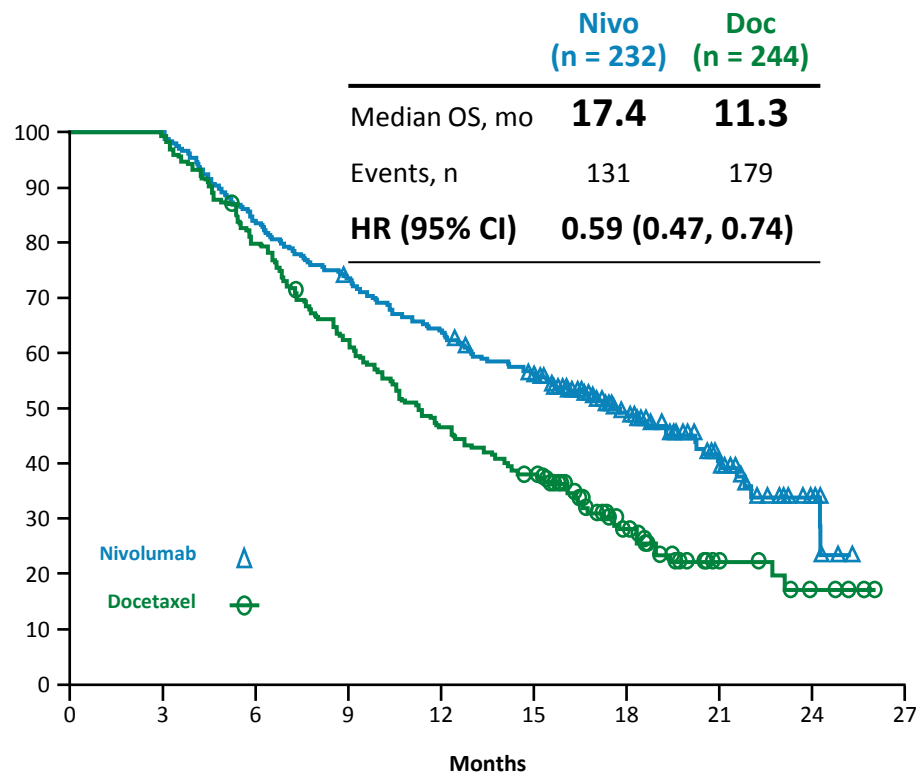


# CheckMate057: post-HOC analysis on outcome during the first 3 months

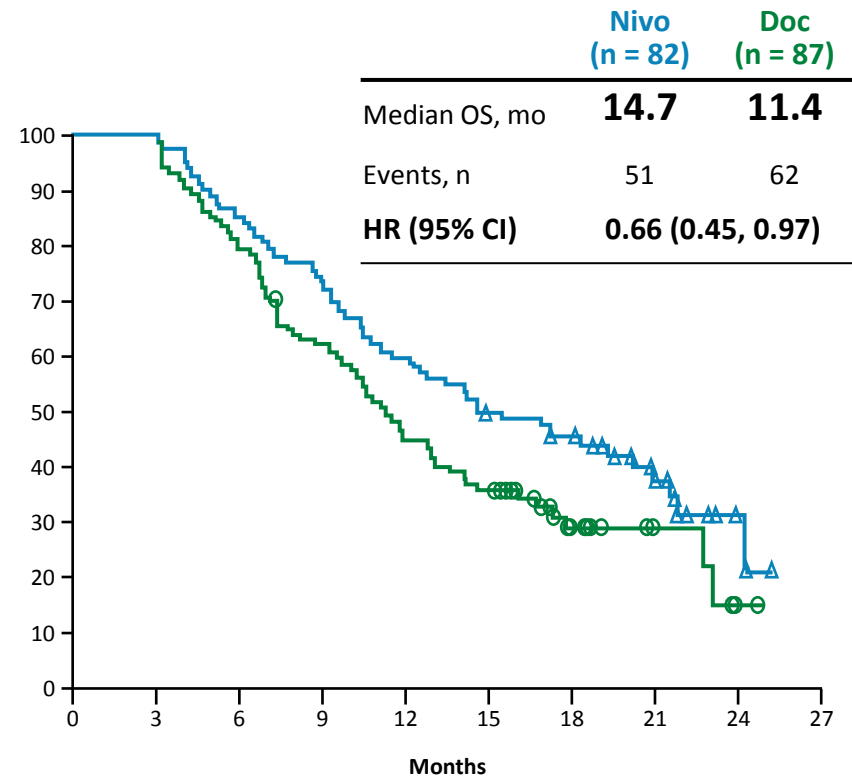


# 3-Month Landmark Analysis of OS

## Alive at 3 Months –All Patients



## Alive at 3 Months – Patients With <1% PD-L1 Expression



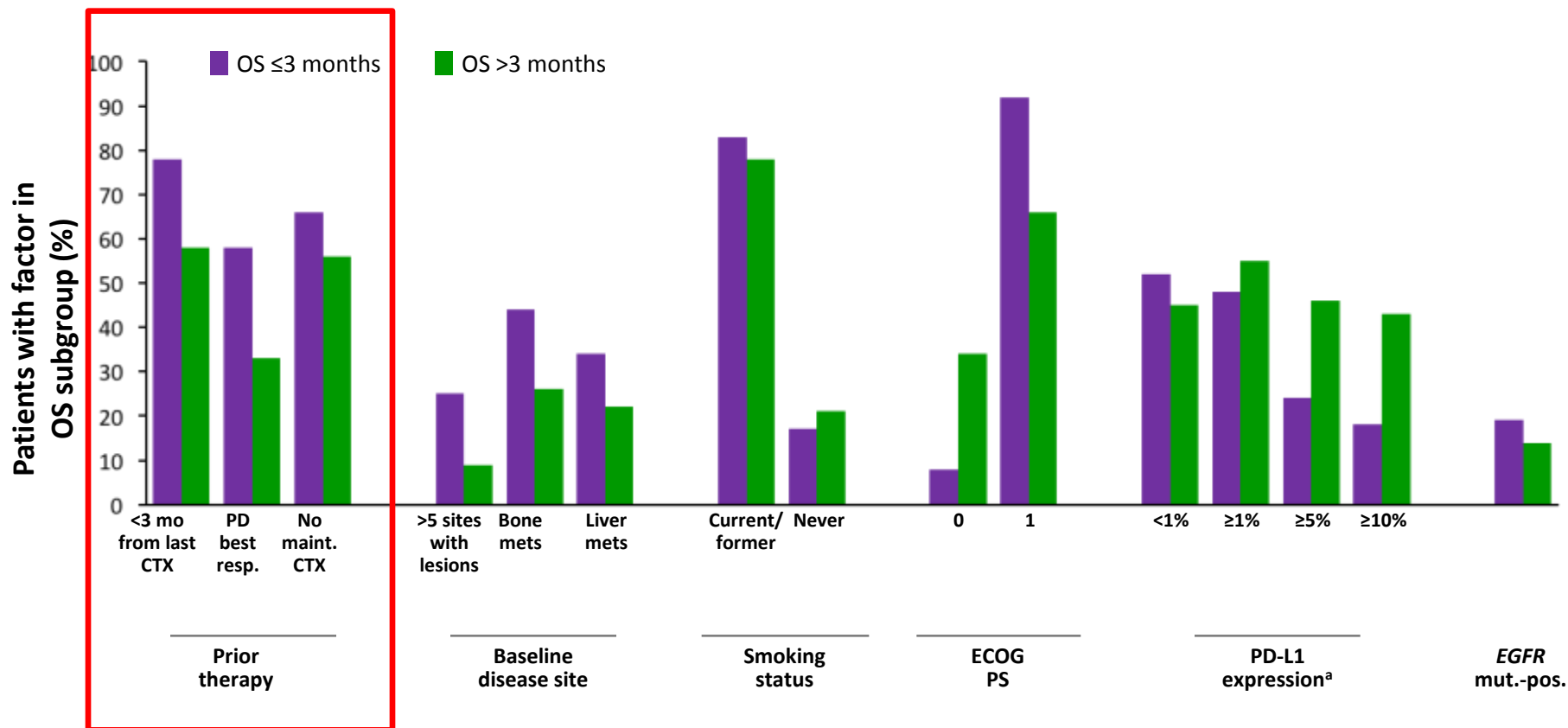
Based on a March 18, 2015 database lock

1. Borghaei H, et al. *N Engl J Med* 2015;373:1627–1639.

Peters S, WCLC 2016

# Combination of clinical factors and PD-L1 expression

Which patients are not candidate for second-line immunotherapy?

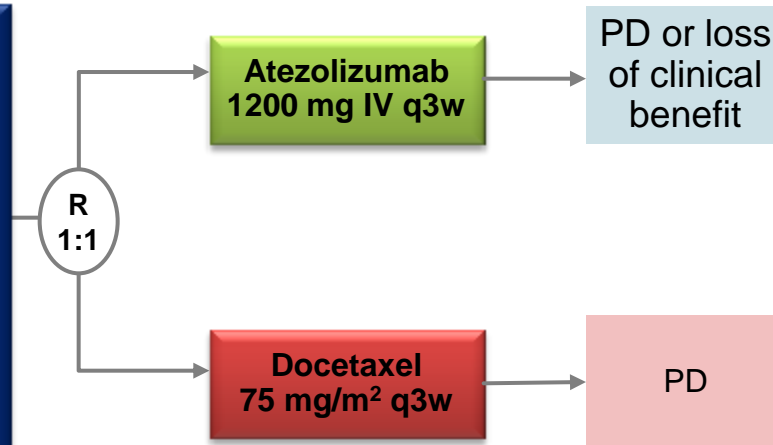


- Post-hoc, exploratory multivariate analysis suggested that nivolumab-treated patients **with poorer prognostic features and/or aggressive disease when combined with lower or no tumor PD-L1 expression may be at higher risk of death within the first 3 months**
- These included the following known prognostic factors: <3 months since last treatment, PD as best response to prior treatment, and ECOG PS = 1

# Phase III OAK study design (squamous and non-squamous)

## Locally Advanced or Metastatic NSCLC<sup>3</sup>

- N = 1225 enrolled<sup>a</sup>
- 1–2 prior lines of chemo including  $\geq 1$  platinum-based
- Any PD-L1 status<sup>b</sup>
- Stratification factors: PD-L1 expression, histology, prior chemotherapy regimens



### Primary Endpoints (first 850 enrolled patients)

- OS in the ITT population
- OS in patients with PD-L1 expression on  $\geq 1\%$  TC or IC

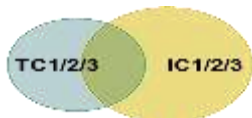
### Secondary Endpoints

ORR, PFS, DoR, Safety

## Ventana SP142



**Intrinsic** PD-L1 expression in tumor cells (TC)



**Adaptive** PD-L1 expression in tumor-infiltrating immune cells (IC)

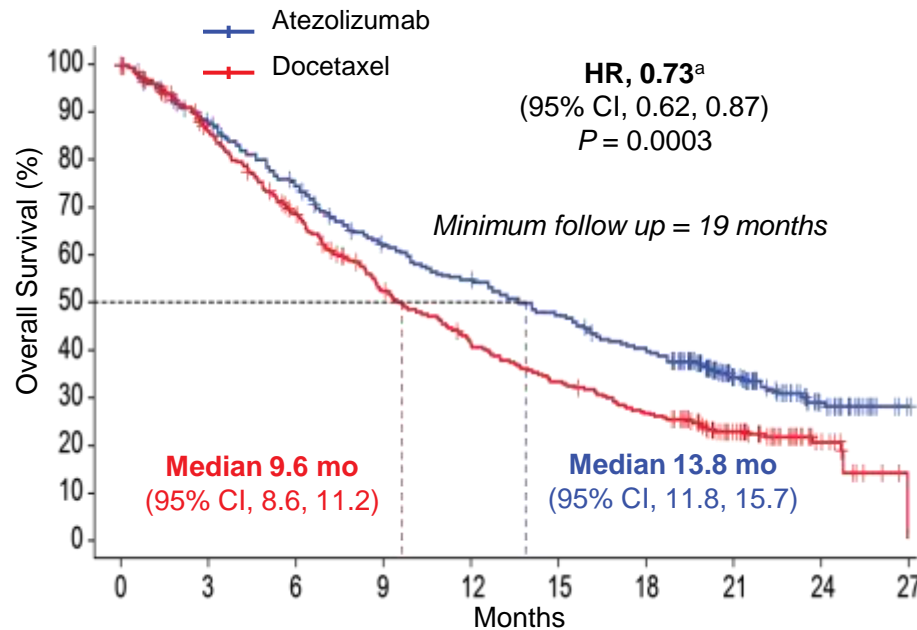


- SP142 IHC assay is sensitive and specific for PD-L1 expression on both TC and IC
- Distinct TC and IC sub-populations exist at each of four cutoff levels<sup>a</sup>  
Gettinger et al., ASCO 2015
- PD-L1 expression on TC and IC was independently predictive of response  
Horn et al. and Spigel et al., ASCO 2015

<sup>a</sup>A prespecified analysis of the first 850 patients provided sufficient power to test the co-primary endpoints of OS in the ITT and TC1/2/3 or IC1/2/3 subgroup ( $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1 expression).

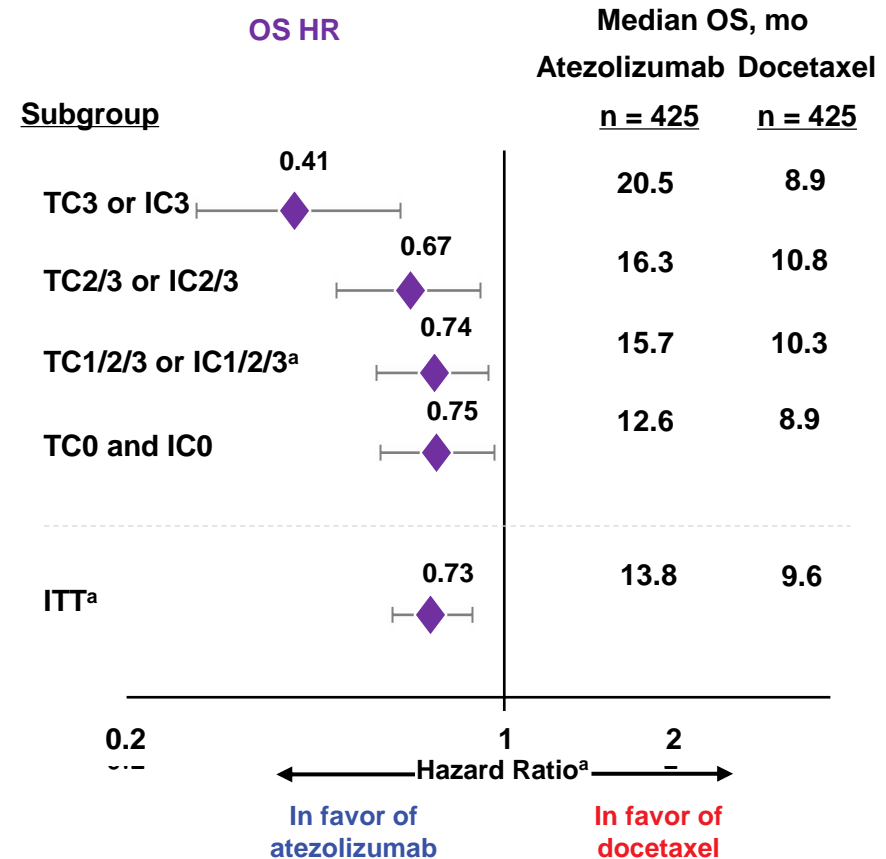
<sup>b</sup>PD-L1 expression assessed with VENTANA SP142 IHC assay

# Overall survival, ITT (n = 850) and PD-L1 subgroups



No. at risk

<b>Atezolizumab</b>	425	363	305	248	218	188	157	74	28	1
<b>Docetaxel</b>	425	336	263	195	151	123	98	51	16	0

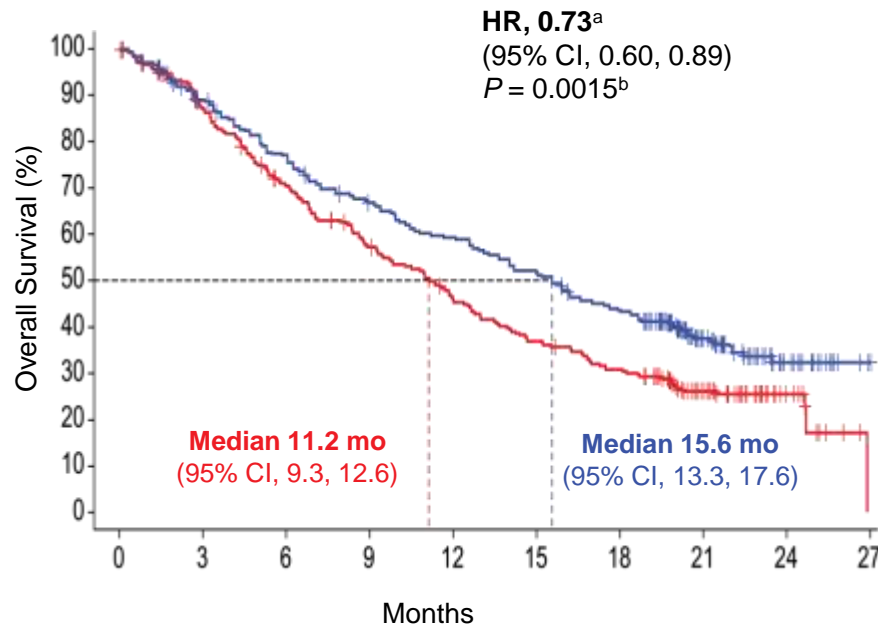


<sup>a</sup>Stratified HR for ITT and TC1/2/3 or IC1/2/3. Unstratified HR for other subgroups.  
TC, tumor cells; IC, tumor-infiltrating immune cells; OS, overall survival.

# OS by histology

## Non-squamous

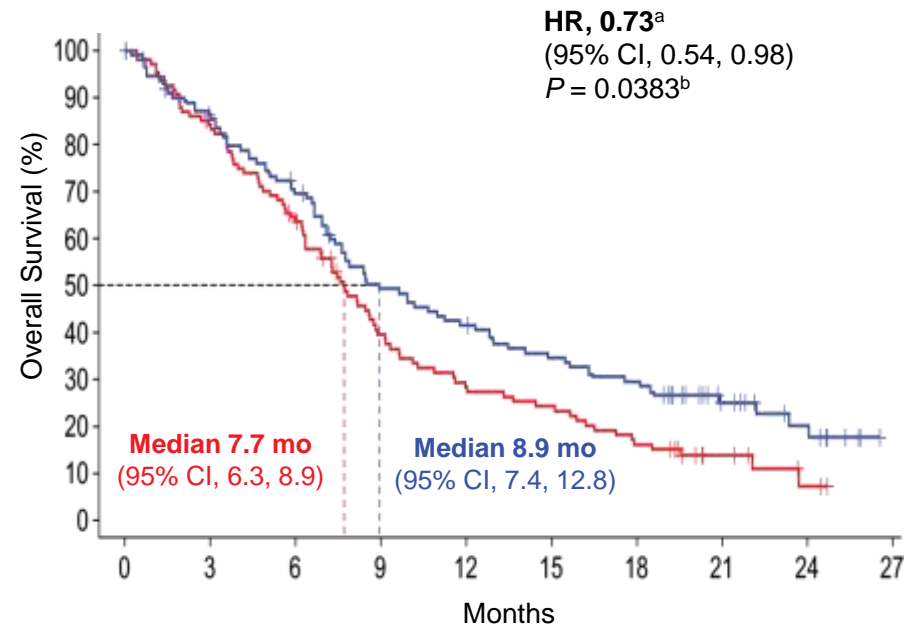
—+ Atezolizumab  
—+ Docetaxel



No. at risk

Atezolizumab	313	270	231	197	175	153	127	59	20	1
Docetaxel	315	246	196	156	123	99	82	44	14	0

## Squamous



Atezolizumab	112	93	74	51	43	35	30	15	8	0
Docetaxel	110	90	67	39	28	24	16	7	2	0

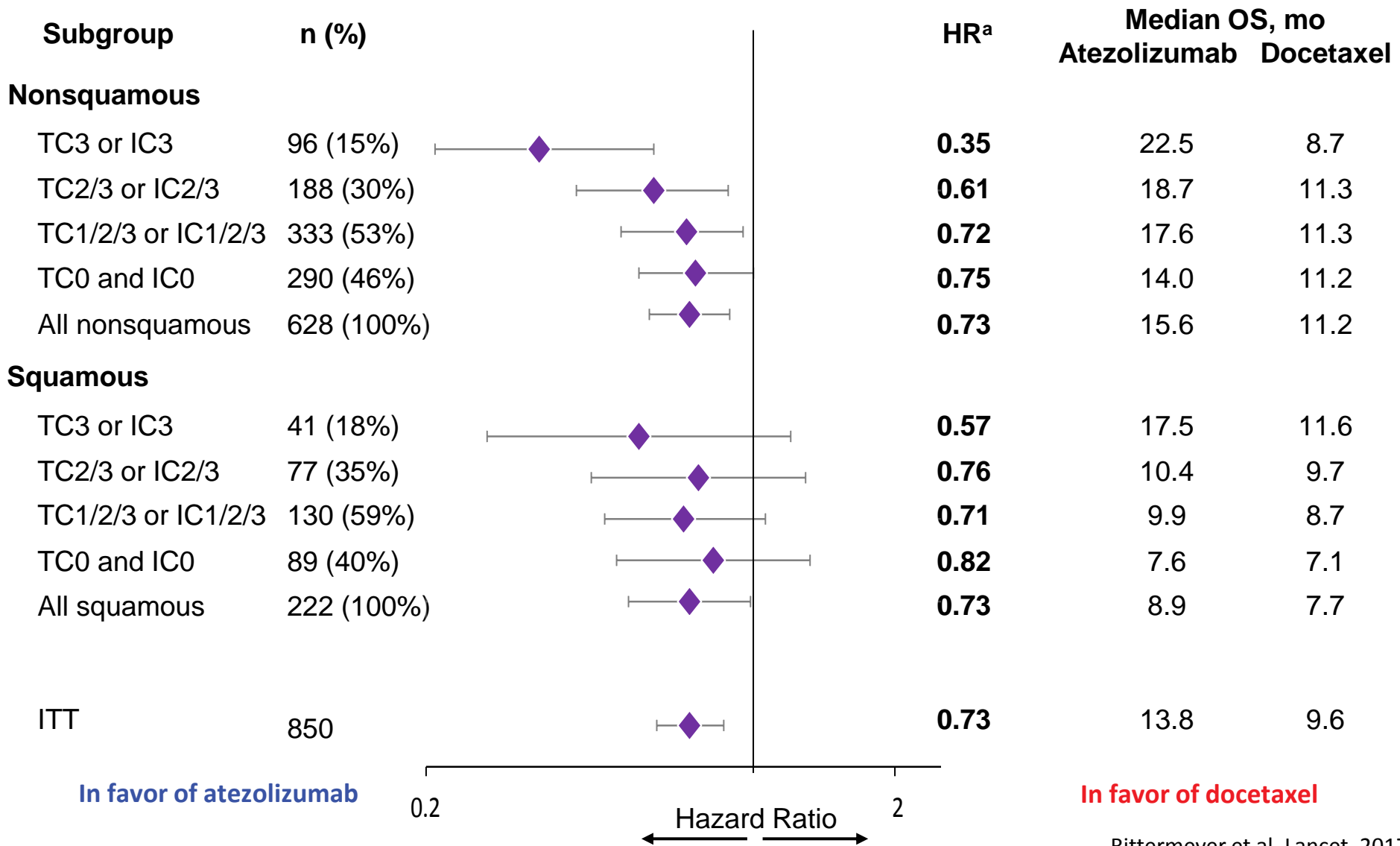
Minimum follow up = 19 months.

<sup>a</sup>Unstratified HRs. <sup>b</sup>P values for descriptive purpose only.

Histology information from eCRF. OS, overall survival.

Barlesi et al. ESMO 2016 LBA44

# Histology by PD-L1 status: Overall survival



# Second-line therapy of Sq and N-sq NSCLC: comparison across studies

## SQUAMOUS NSCLC

	CheckMate-017 <sup>1</sup>		Keynote-010 <sup>2</sup>		OAK <sup>3</sup>	
Drugs	NIVO	DOC	PEMBRO * 2-10mg/kg	DOC	ATEZO	DOC
mOS	9.2	6.0	NA		8.9	7.7
HR	0.62 (0,48-0,81)		0.74 (0,50-1,09)		0.73 (0,54-0,98)	
2 years-OS	23%	8%	NA		NA	

## NON-SQUAMOUS NSCLC

	CheckMate-057 <sup>4</sup>		Keynote-010 <sup>2</sup>		OAK <sup>3</sup>	
Drugs	NIVO	DOC	PEMBRO * 2-10 mg/kg	DOC	ATEZO	DOC
mOS	12.2	9.5	NA		15.6	11.2
HR	0.75 (0,63-0,91)		0.63 (0,50-0,79)		0.73 (0,60-0,89)	
2 years-OS	29%	16%	NA		NA	

\* PDL-1 >1%

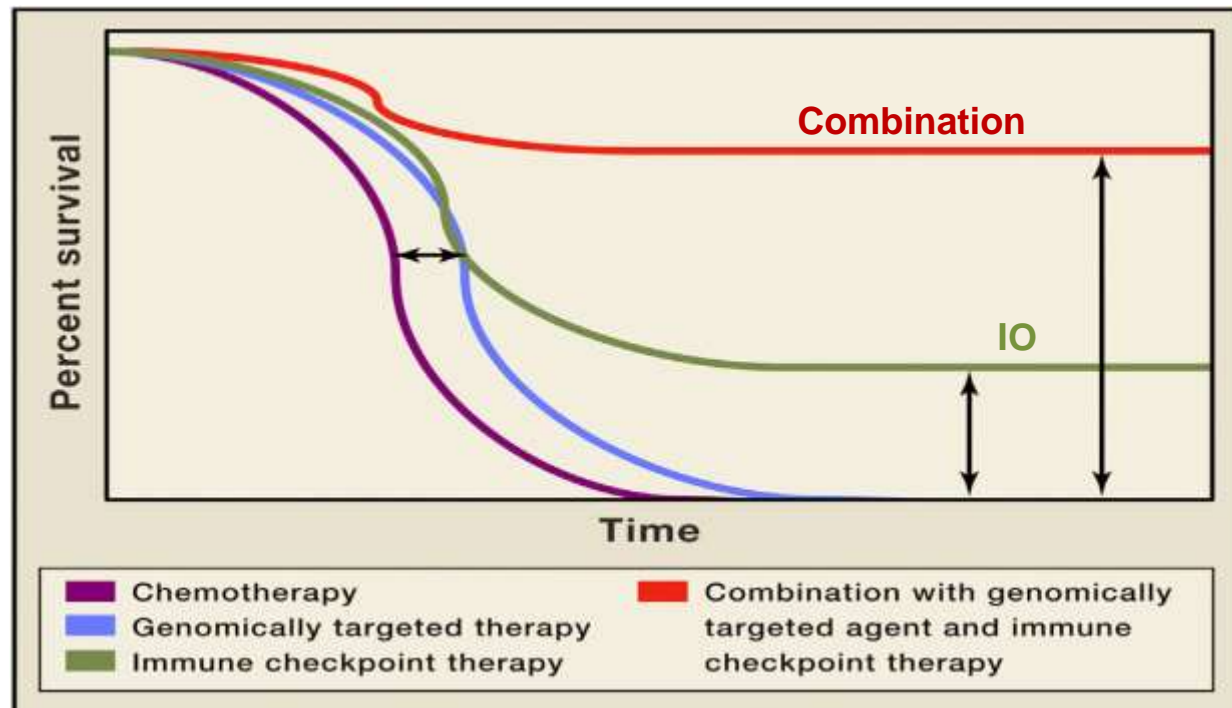
<sup>1</sup> Brahmer, NEJM 2015; <sup>2</sup> Herbst, Lancet 2016; <sup>3</sup> Rytmeier, Lancet 2017; Borghaei, NEJM 2015



Monotherapy with anti-PD1/PDL1

Chemotherapy + Checkpoint Inhibitors

PD-1 / PD-L1 + CTLA-4 Combinations



# First-line immunotherapy race

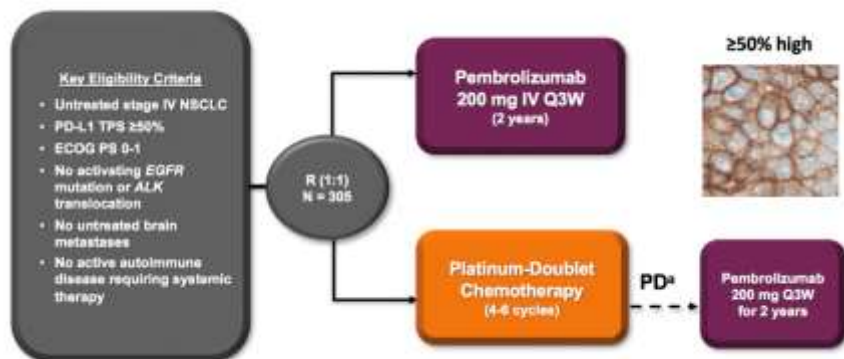


PD-L1+ selected

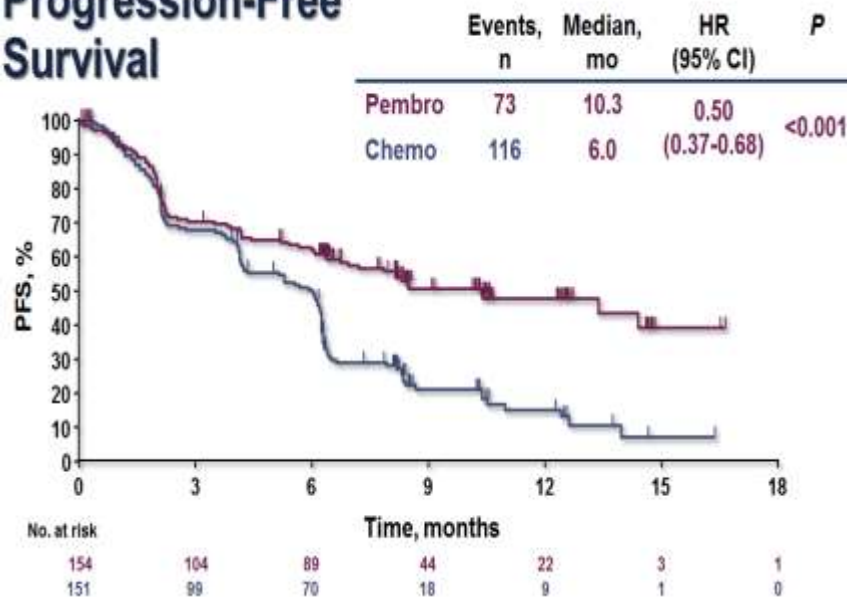
+ anti CTLA4

+ Chemo

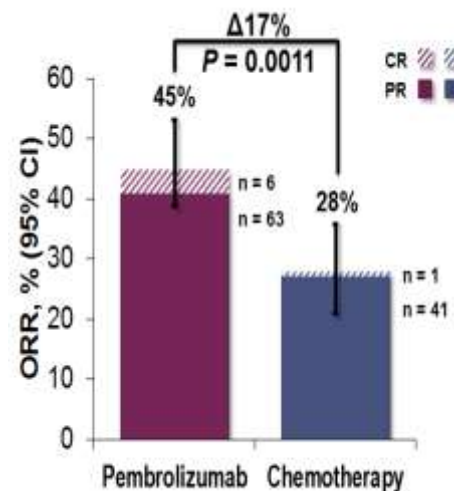
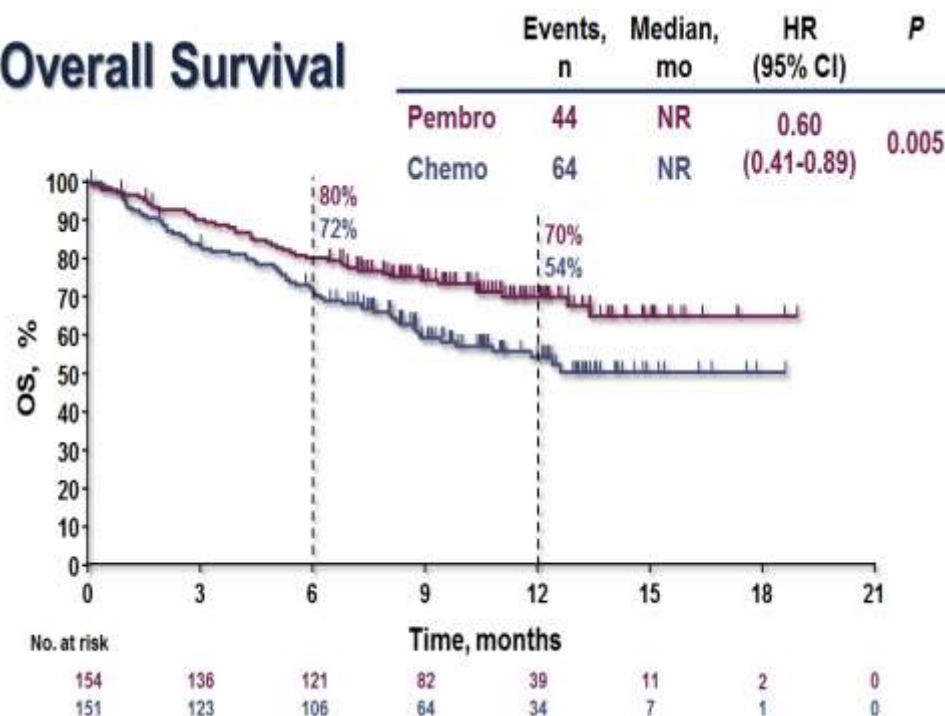
# First-line Pembrolizumab in KEYNOTE-024: efficacy outcomes



## Progression-Free Survival



## Overall Survival



•cross-over in 50% of the patients



# First-line Nivolumab in CheckMate-026: efficacy outcomes

## Key eligibility criteria:

- Stage IV or recurrent NSCLC
- No prior systemic therapy for advanced disease
- No *EGFR/ALK* mutations sensitive to available targeted inhibitor therapy
- $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1 expression<sup>a</sup>
- CNS metastases permitted if adequately treated at least 2 weeks prior to randomization

Randomize 1:1

**Nivolumab**  
3 mg/kg IV Q2W  
n = 271

**Disease progression or unacceptable toxicity**

Tumor scans Q6W until wk 48 then Q12W

**Chemotherapy**  
(histology dependent)<sup>b</sup>  
Maximum of 6 cycles  
n = 270

**Disease progression**

**Crossover nivolumab<sup>c</sup> (optional)**

## Stratification factors at randomization:

- PD-L1 expression ( $<5\%$  vs  $\geq 5\%$ )<sup>a</sup>
- Histology (squamous vs non-squamous)

**Primary endpoint:** PFS ( $\geq 5\%$  PD-L1+)<sup>d</sup>

**Secondary endpoints:** PFS ( $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1+)<sup>d</sup>, OS, ORR<sup>d</sup>

## OS in $\geq 5\%$ PD-L1+

	<b>Nivolumab</b> n = 211	<b>Chemotherapy</b> n = 212
Median OS, months (95% CI)	14.4 (11.7, 17.4)	13.2 (10.7, 17.1)
1-year OS rate, %	56.3	53.6

HR = 1.02 (95% CI: 0.80, 1.30)

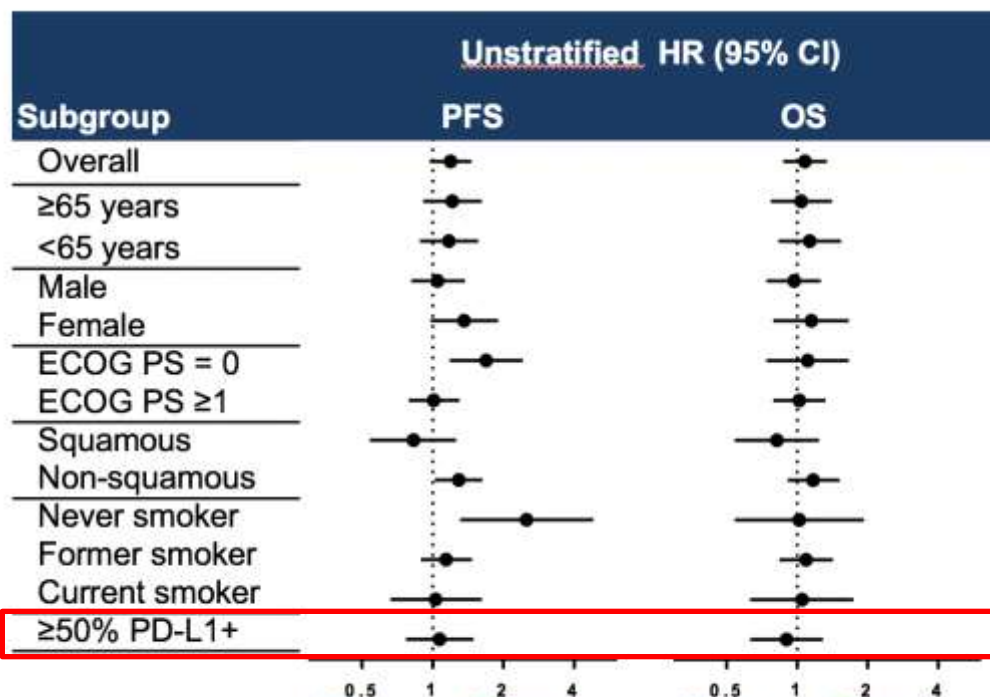
All randomized patients ( $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1+): HR = 1.07 (95% CI: 0.86, 1.33)

## PFS in $\geq 5\%$ PD-L1+

	<b>Nivolumab</b> n = 211	<b>Chemotherapy</b> n = 212
Median PFS, months (95% CI)	$< 4.2$ (3.0, 5.6)	5.9 (5.4, 6.9)
1-year PFS rate, %	23.6	23.2

HR = 1.15 (95% CI: 0.91, 1.45),  $P = 0.2511$

All randomized patients ( $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1+): HR = 1.17 (95% CI: 0.95, 1.43)



# CheckMate 026 vs Keynote 024

	Keynote 024	CheckMate 026
<b>Tumor biopsy</b>	<b>After metastatic diagnosis</b>	<b>Within 6 months</b>
<b>PD-L1 cut off</b>	<b>50% (22C3 clone)</b>	<b>5% (28-8 clone)</b>
<b>Prevalence</b>	<b>20-30%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Imaging interval</b>	<b>Q 9 weeks</b>	<b>Q 6 weeks for first 48 weeks</b>
<b>Primary endpoint</b>	<b>PFS (RECIST)</b>	<b>PFS (IRRC)</b>
<b>Never smokers (PD-1)</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Squamous histology</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Time from diagnosis to treatment</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>2 months</b>
<b>Prior radiation</b>	<b>? <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>37.6 %</b>

<sup>1</sup> Prior radiation therapy of > 30 Gy disallowed within 6 months of first dose of trial treatment

# BIRCH: Phase II Trial of Atezolizumab in PD-L1– Selected Advanced NSCLC

- Locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC
  - Tumor PD-L1 expression (TC2/3 and/or IC2/3)
  - ECOG PS 0 or 1 / No brain metastases
- N = 667**

**Cohort 1 (1L)**  
No prior chemo  
**n = 138**

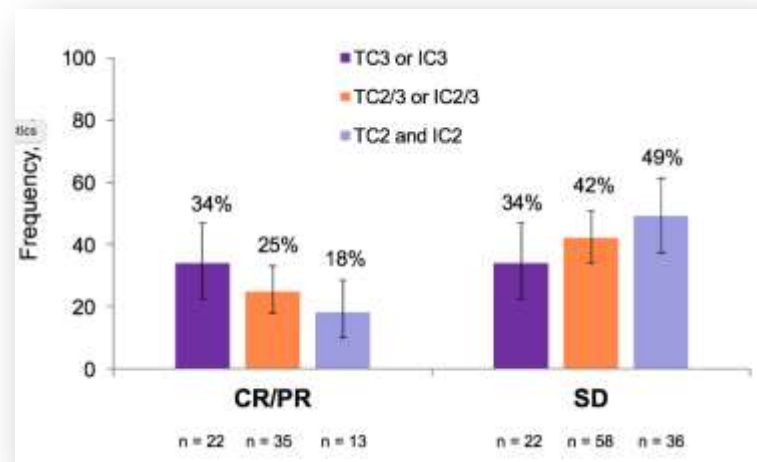
**PD**

Atezolizumab dosed at 1200 mg IV q3w in all cohorts

Primary endpoint: Objective response rate (ORR) per RECIST v1.1

Secondary endpoints:

- IRF-assessed PFS, DOR per RECIST v1.1
- Investigator ORR, PFS and DOR per RECIST v1.1 and mod-RECIST
- OS
- Safety



Endpoint	TC2/3 or IC2/3 n = 138	TC3 or IC3 n = 65	TC2 and IC2 n = 73
mDOR (95% CI)	16.5 mo (9.9, NE)	NE (8.5, NE)	12.3 mo (8.3, 17.9)
mPFS (95% CI)	7.3 mo (5.7, 9.7)	7.3 mo (4.9, 12.0)	7.6 mo (4.0, 9.7)
12-mo PFS rate (95% CI)	32.5% (24.2, 40.8)	36.5% (24.0, 48.9)	N/A

**Median duration of survival follow-up = 22.5 months**

TC3 or IC3 (n = 65)	
mOS (95% CI)	26.9 mo (12.0, NE)
TC2/3 or IC2/3 (n = 138)	
mOS (95% CI)	23.5 mo (18.1, NE)
TC2 and IC2 (n = 73)	
mOS (95% CI)	23.5 mo (18.1, NE)

# Combination Immunotherapy in first-line:

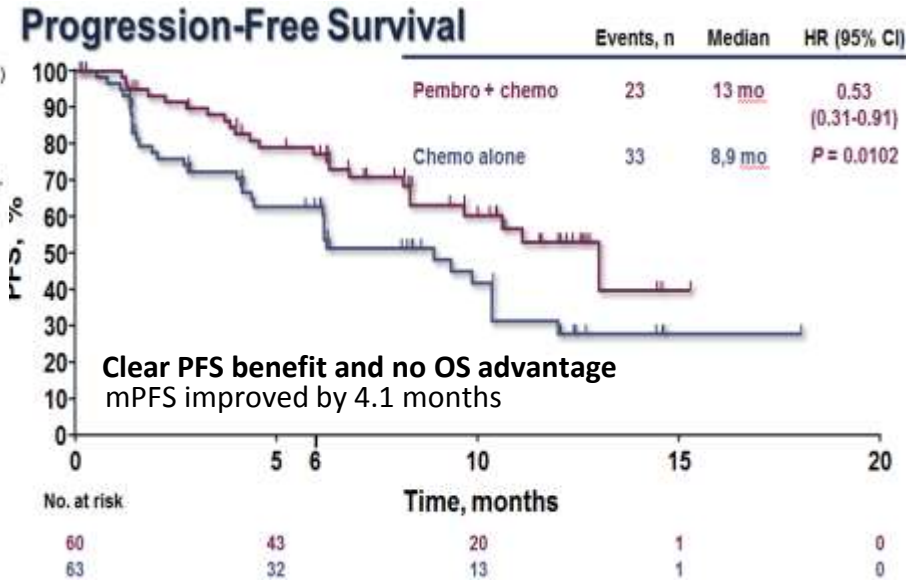
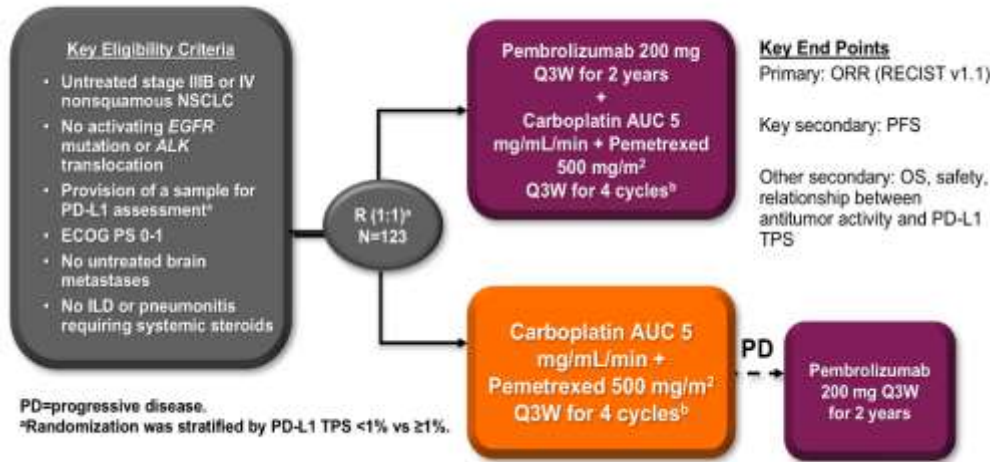
## Kind of combination:

- **Chemotherapy + Checkpoint Inhibitors**
- **PD-1 / PD-L1 + CTLA-4 Combinations**

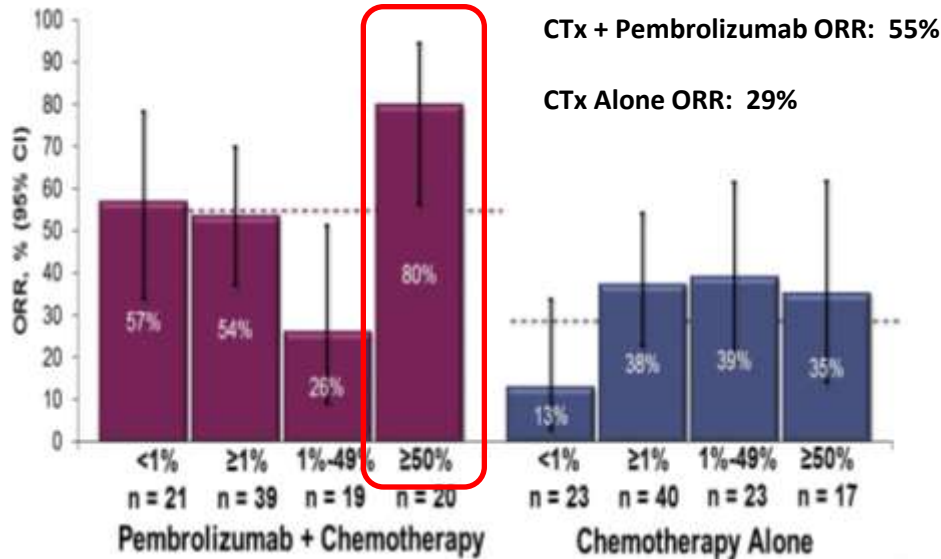
## Rationale:

- **Improve the number of people who benefit from single-agent immunotherapy**
- **Reduce the time to response and symptom control**
- **Extend the depth and duration of tumor response for individual patients**

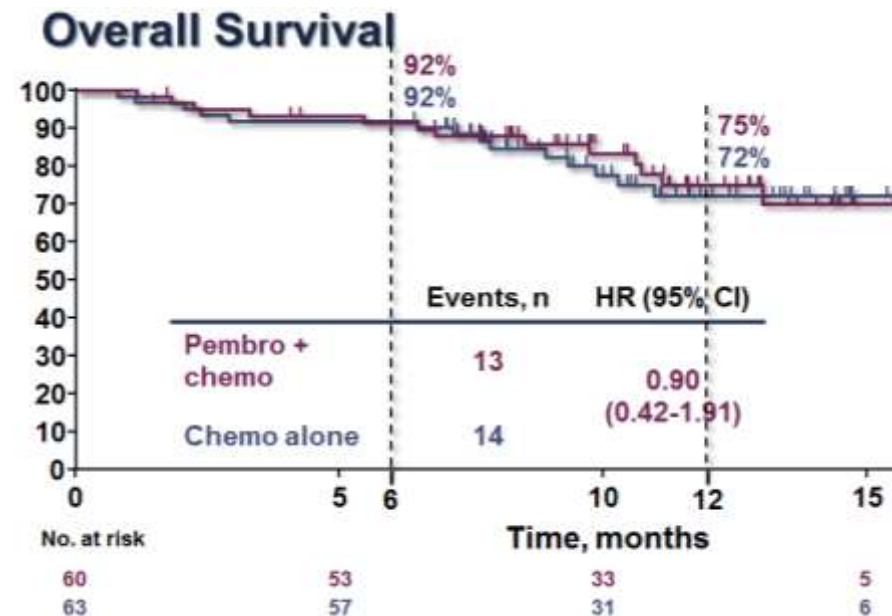
# Ph2 KEYNOTE-021: chemo plus pembrolizumab in first-line



## Objective Response Rate by PD-L1 Status

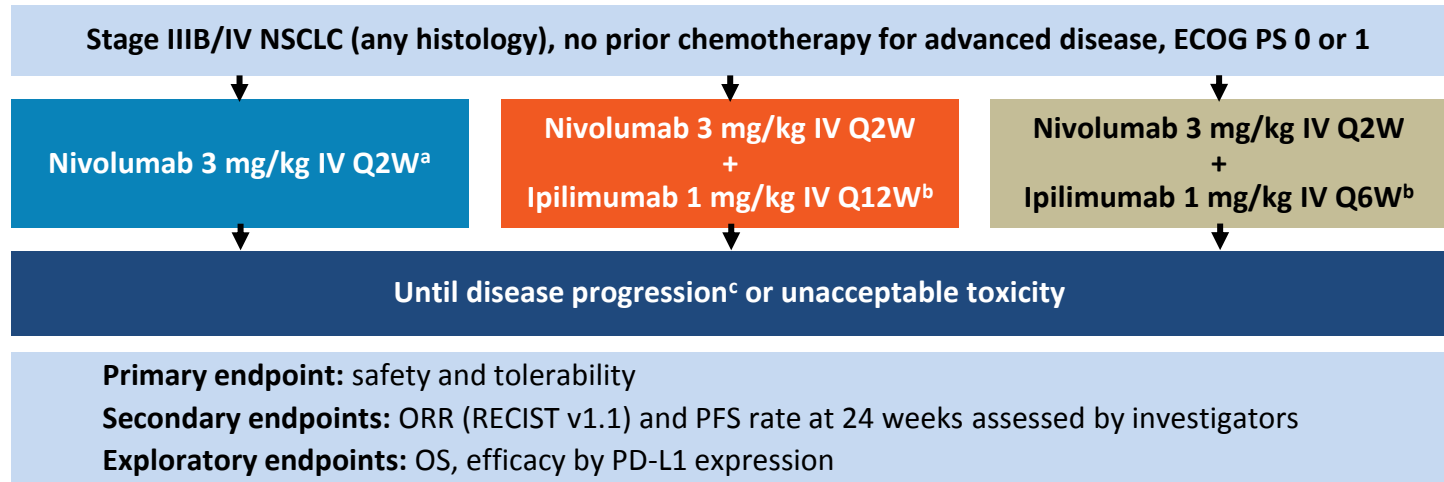


Estimated rate of OS @ 12 months: 75% (Combo) vs 72% (CT)  
In CT arm cross-over is 51% to PD(L)1 therapies (pembro & others)

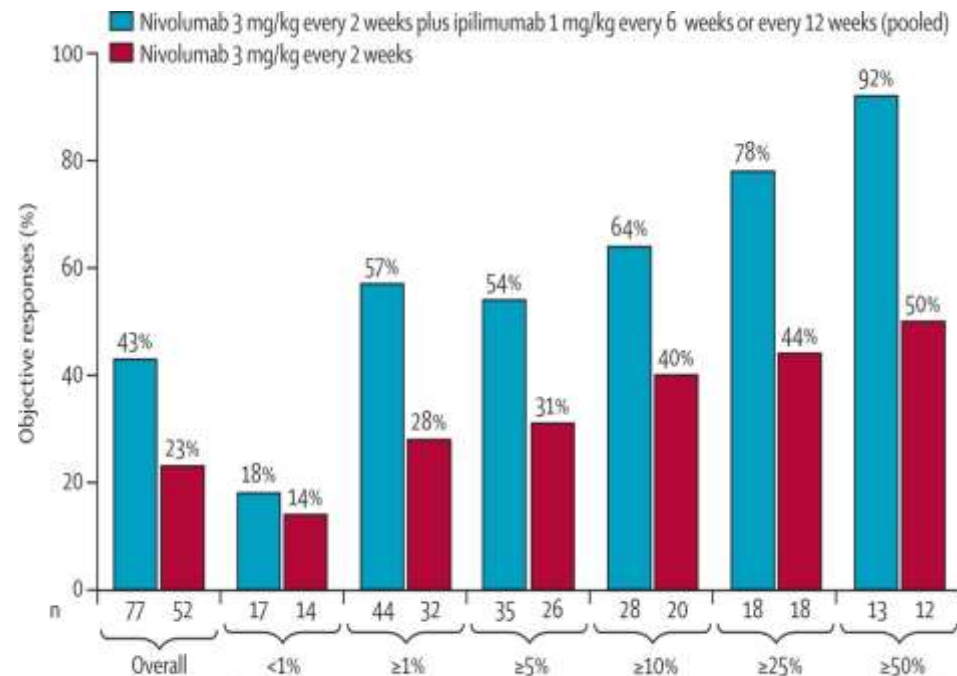




# Ph1 CheckMate 012: first-Line Nivolumab ± Ipilimumab in NSCLC



	Nivo 3 Q2W (n = 32)	Nivo 3 Q2W + Ipi 1 Q12W (n = 23)	Nivo 3 Q2W + Ipi 1 Q6W (n = 23)
ORR, n (%)	9 (28)	13 (57)	13 (57)
Median PFS, mo (95% CI)	3.5 (2.2, 6.6)	10.4 (6.4, NR)	13.2 (3.5, 23.0)
1-year OS rate, %	69	91	83



# The challenges of combination immunotherapy

- **More is not always better**  
*Risk for increased (and new) toxicity*  
*Modest gains in efficacy*  
*Increased expense*
- **Drug development is outpacing our understanding of biology and potential biomarker development**
- **Where to begin?**  
*Multiple agents and potential combinations*



# Agenda

- Rationale for checkpoint inhibitors
- Available evidence
- **Side effects**
- Conclusions

# Overall view of IO monotherapy toxicities

anti PD1

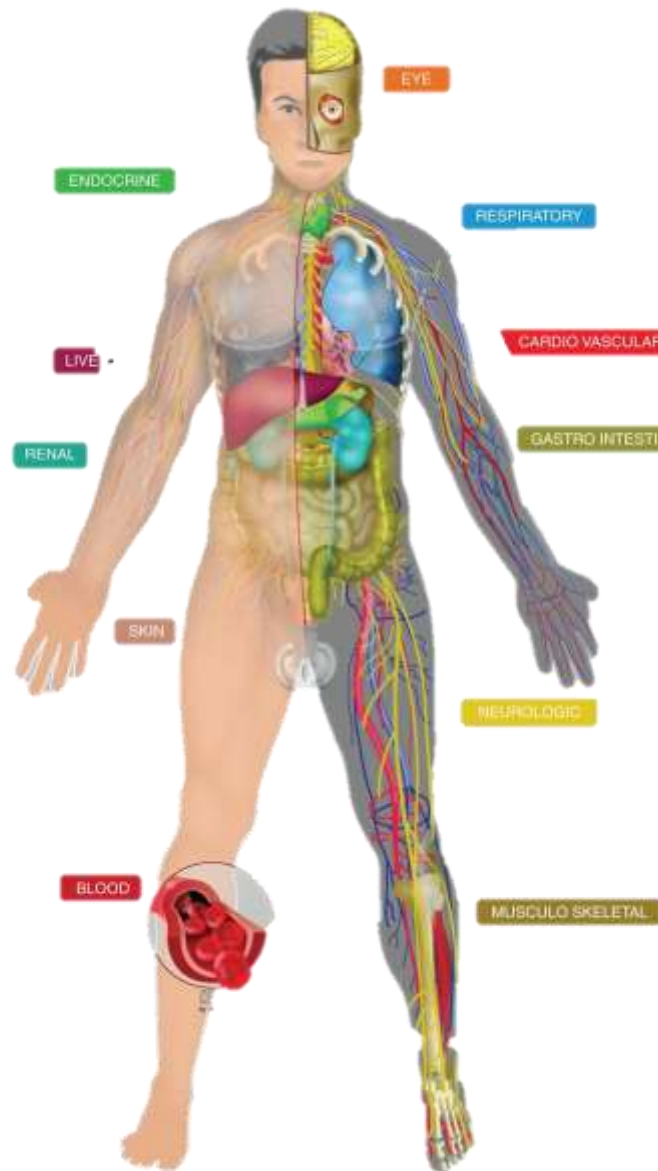
anti PD-1

anti PD-L1

	Nivolumab [Checkmate 017-057]		Pembrolizumab [KEYNOTE-010]		Atezolizumab [POPLAR]	
	All Grade	G3-4	All Grade	G3-4	All Grade	G3-4
All	58-69	7-10	63	10	67	12
Fatigue	16	1	14	1	20	1
Decrease appetite	10-11	1	14	1	17	1
Asthenia	10	0	6	1	6	1
Nausea	9-12	1	11	1	12	1
Diarrhea	8	1	7	1	7	1
Arthralgia	5	0	-	-	-	-
Pyrexia	5	0	-	-	-	-
Pneumonitis	5	2	5	2	-	-
Rash	4	0	9	1	-	-
Myalgia	2	0	1	0	-	1
Anemia	2	0	3	1	-	-

# Spectrum of Immuno-related toxicities of Immune checkpoint agents

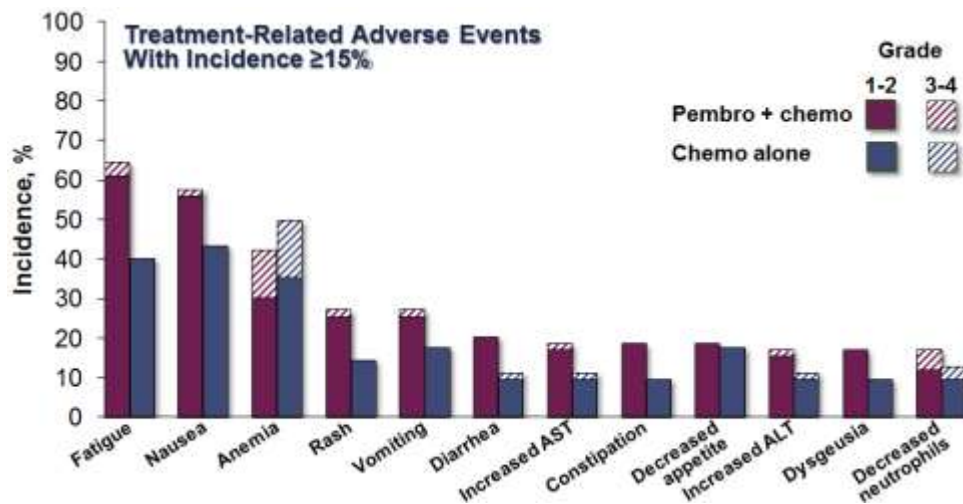
- Fatigue
- Arthralgia
- Diarrhea
- Rash, Pruritus
- Hepatitis
- Liver Disorder
- Pneumonitis
- Thyroid Disorder



- Dry Mouth Syndrom (5%)
- Hypophysitis (up to 10%) – mostly central hypothyroidism
- Adrenal Insufficiency
- Diabetes Mellitus
- Ophthalmological irAEs (Uveitis, Conjunctivitis..)
- Neurological ir AEs (Meningitis, Guillain Barre Syndrom...)
- Renal Disorder
- Pancreatic Disorder
- Haematologic syndromes (Cytopenia)

„WELL KNOWN“ irAEs

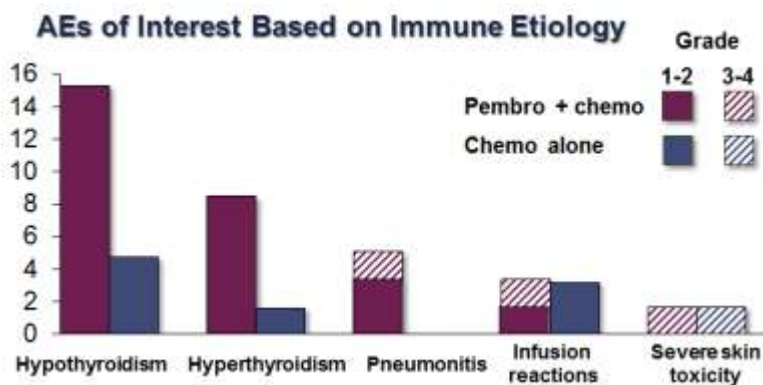
# Safety profile in combo-immuno treatments



## CheckMate 012 Safety Results

	Nivolumab 3 mg/kg + Ipilimumab 1 mg/kg		Nivolumab Alone
	Ipilimumab Dosed Every 12 wk	Ipilimumab Dosed Every 6 wk	
N	38	39	52
Any grade TRAE, %	82	72	71
Grade 3-4 TRAE, %	37	33	19
Discontinuation due to TRAE, %	11	13	10

Hellmann MD, et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2016;349(suppl).



## Key-points regarding safety of Immunotherapy

- **Toxicities with IOi are different than with standard chemo**
- **PD-1 and PD-L1 inhibitor safety profiles appear similar**
- **Most toxicities are manageable, low-grade, reversible, and potentially time sensitive.  
Rarely lead to treatment discontinuation**
- **Presentation of side effects can be subtle (endocrinopathies) or rapid (pneumonitis)!!!**
- **Combinations w/ CTLA-4 antibodies have more severe toxicity**
- **Suspension of dosing and early use of steroids maximize safety, with no loss of efficacy**

# Agenda

- Rationale for checkpoint inhibitors
- Available evidence
- Side effects and management
- **Conclusions**



# Conclusions

- We are only at the beginning of the IO revolution in thoracic oncology
- In 2L of NSCLC (EGFR-wt/ ALK-wt), different PD-1/PD-L1 inhibitors (Atezo|Nivo|Pembro) improves efficacy outcomes, regardless histology
  - Gender and age: no influence
  - PS: all available data are in PS0-1 (activity in PS to be explored)
  - Smoking history in general is associated with better response e more outcome benefit
- In patients at risk of death within the first 3 months ( NSqNSCLC patients with poorer prognostic features and/or aggressive disease when combined with lower or no tumor PD-L1 expression ) IO is probably not indicated (based on Nivo post-Hoc Landmark analysis CheckMate-057)
- Safety and tolerability offered by IO represent an important end-point in 2<sup>nd</sup>-line setting .
- Pembrolizumab is the new standard care for pts with PD-L1  $\geq 50\%$ , EGFRwt/ALKwt, steroids-free (Not yet approved in Italy) [ $\simeq 15/20\%$ ]
- Different combo treatment in first-line setting are under evaluation and appear very promising considering efficacy endpoints.

# Articulated conclusions

## Second-line setting

Atezolizumab | Nivolumab | Pembrolizumab beat docetaxel!

Undirect comparison is not the best way to compare these IO agents:

- **Nivolumab:** 2 different prospectively histology-based trials, regardless PD-L1
- **Pembrolizumab:** 2 different doses (2/10 mg/kg), 2 different PD-L1 evaluation (PD-L1  $\geq 1/50\%$ ), combo results about histology
- **Atezolizumab:** regardless histology and PD-L1 expression

PD-L1 expression appear to be not critical for 2<sup>nd</sup> -line immunotherapy with Nivolumab (plus clinical selection) and Atezolizumab; mandatory in first-line with Pembrolizumab.  
Under evaluation considering combo-treatments in first-line.

## First-line setting

Safety will be potentially limiting with some combinations

It is unclear whether combinations will obviate the need for a biomarker

Oncogene-addicted disease (i.e EGFR/ALK/ROS1 driven) needed a tailored trials.  
Nowadays, IO not the best indication in this setting.

**THANK YOU**  
**for your attention**

[antonio.passaro@ieo.it](mailto:antonio.passaro@ieo.it)