

# Management of Refractory Thyroid Cancer

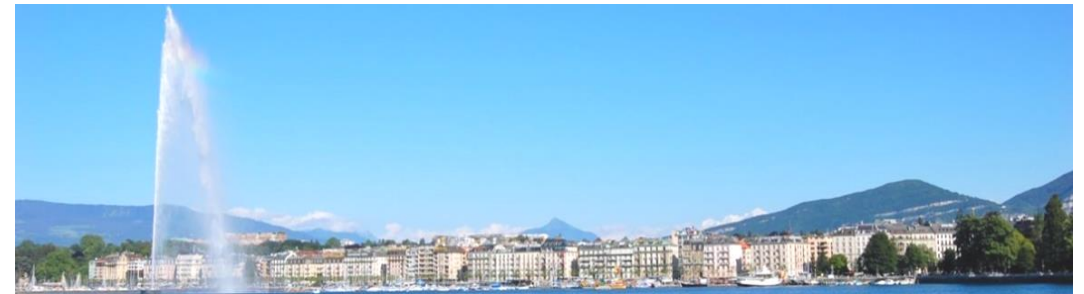
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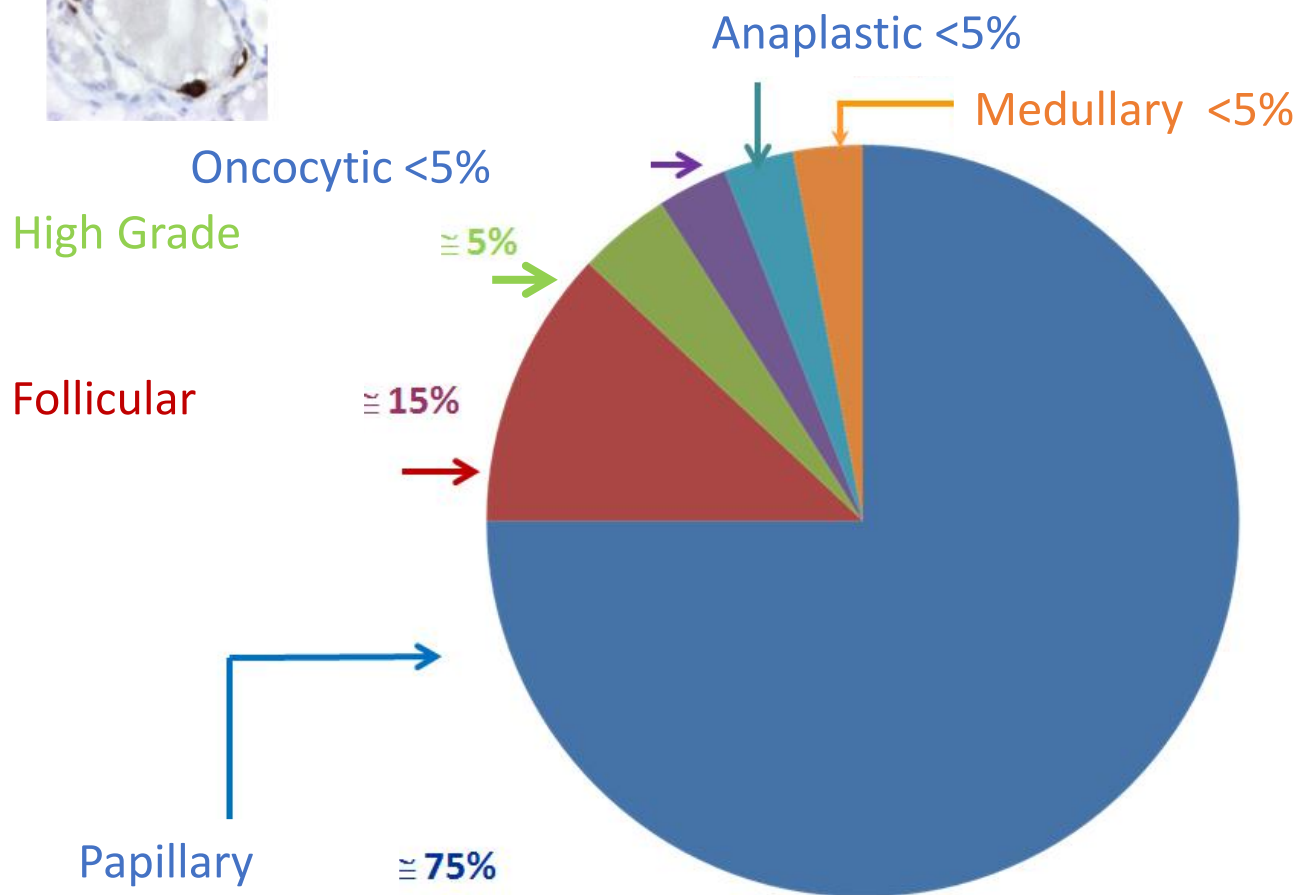
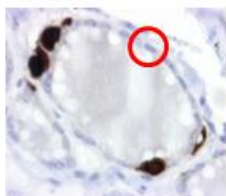
27<sup>th</sup> March 2024



# Honoraria for lectures, advisory boards

- Bayer
- Eisai
- Lilly

# Thyroid Cancer



95% of all TC are follicular-cell derived TC with an excellent prognosis

- 5 year Survival : 98.3%
- Specific Mortality : 0,4/100 000 habitants

## Advanced TC are rare

RAIR Metastatic /locally advanced TC  
Anaplastic TC  
Metastatic MTC

# Malignant Neoplasmes

NIFTP  
TUMP: Tumors with unknown malignancy potential  
Trabecular hyalinizing tumor

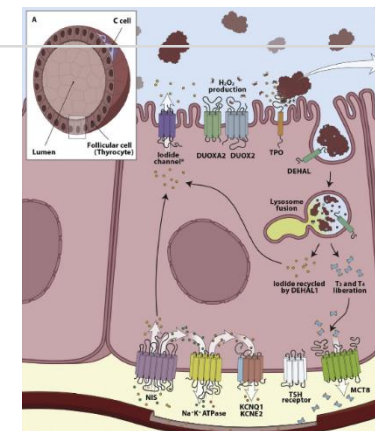
- Papillary Carcinoma (with subtypes)
- Follicular Carcinoma
- Oncocytic Carcinoma
- Invasive encapsulated follicular variant papillary carcinoma
- High grade Carcinoma
  - Differentiated Carcinoma High grade (mitosis  $\geq 5/2\text{mm}^2$  or necrosis)
  - Poorly differentiated (mitosis  $\geq 3/2\text{mm}^2$  and/or necrosis)

# OMS 2022

A Tumor marker : Thyroglobulin

**Treatment** : Surgery, RAI according to prognostic factors, **Systemic treatment in case of advanced disease**

**Treatment :** - Surgery if R0 (R1?) is possible, Radio-chemotherapy +/- TKI Immunotherapy  
- No Tg, NO RADIOACTIVE IODINE

Carvalho *et al.* 2017

# Molecular alterations in Thyroid Cancer

All patients with advanced disease need to have a molecular testing

|                                   | Radioactive Iodine<br>Refractory TC | Anaplastic TC | Medullary TC  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Mutation burden                   | Very low                            | Low           | Very Low      |
| BRAF alterations                  | <b>33%</b>                          | 45%           | -             |
| RAS mutation                      | 28%                                 | 24%           | -             |
| <b>RET fusion</b>                 | <b>6%</b>                           | <b>&lt;1%</b> | -             |
| <b>RET mutation</b>               | -                                   | -             | <b>60-90%</b> |
| <b>NTRK fusions</b>               | ≈ 1%                                | ≈ 1%          | -             |
| <b>ALK mutation/translocation</b> | ≈ 1%                                | ≈ 1%          | -             |
| PIK AKT mTOR pathway              | 10%                                 | 35%           | -             |
| C MET                             | < 1%                                | -             | 1-5%          |

# Follicular- derived thyroid cancer with distant (except anaplastic)

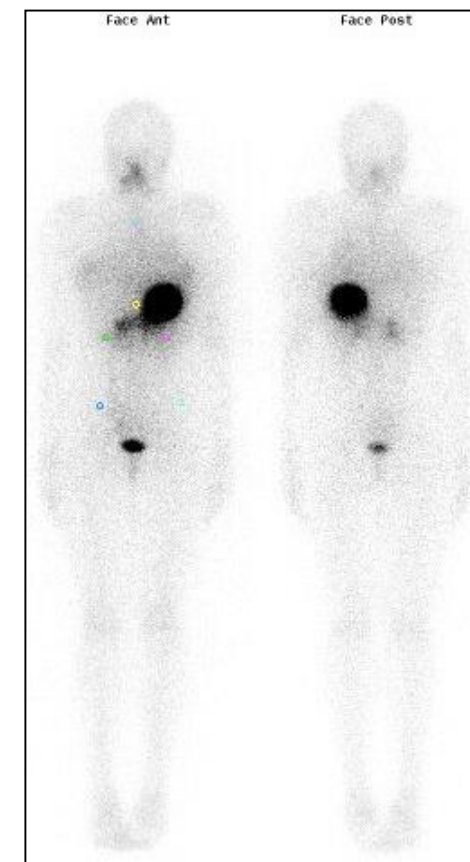
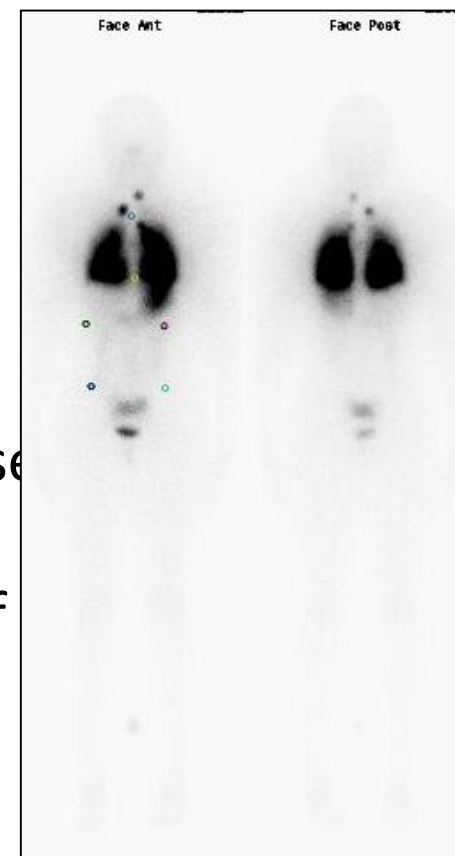
- **In less than < 10% of the patients**
- Present at initial diagnosis (synchronous) : 50%
- Lung and Bone ++
- Have RAI uptake in 2/3 des cas



# Treatment of distant metastases with radioactive

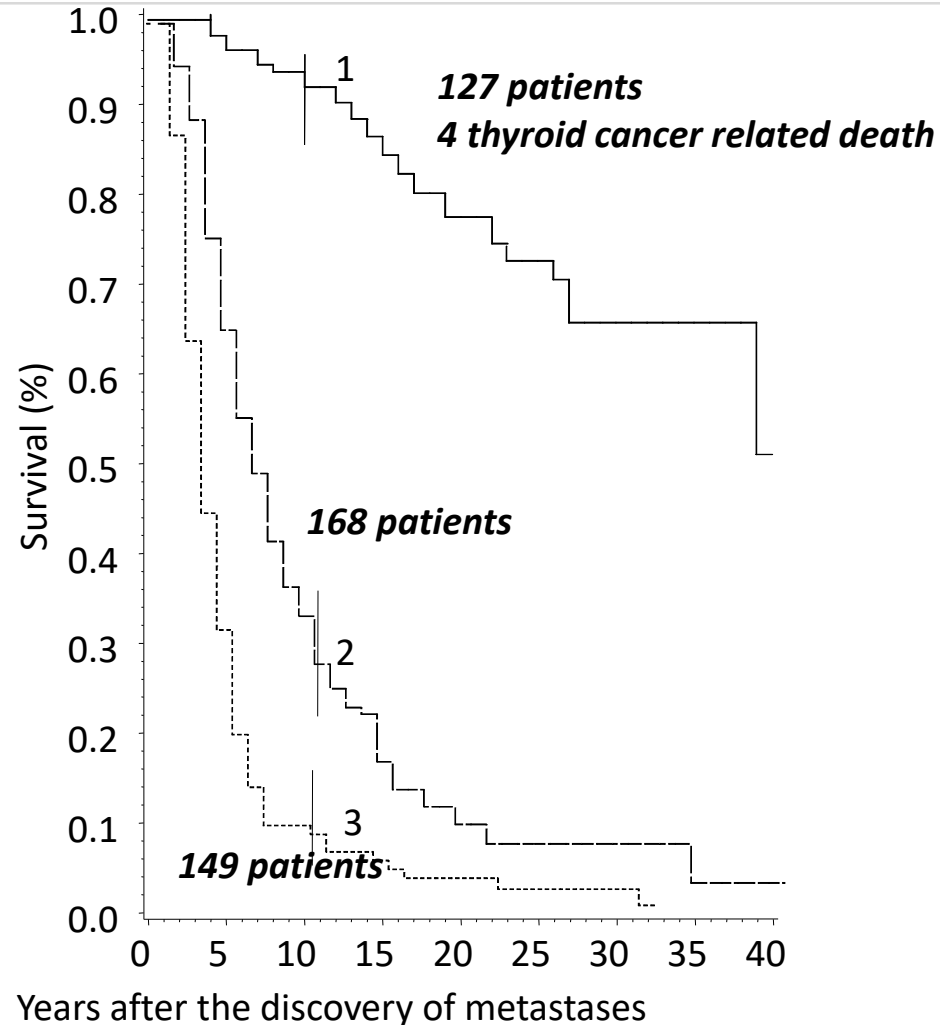
- If the first post therapeutic Whole Body Scan shows Iodine in the distant metastases :
  - Repeat treatment every 6 months for 2 years
- As long as
  - \* abnormal uptake on the WBS persists
  - \* conventionnal imaging shows a tumor response
- TSH goal is  $<0.1\text{mUI/L}$  between RAI administrations, if well tolerated

**1/3 of the all patients with distant mets are cured with  $^{131}\text{I}$**



After 4 treatment with 100  
(3.7 GBq) I-131

# Overall Survival in patients with distant metastases treated with RAI



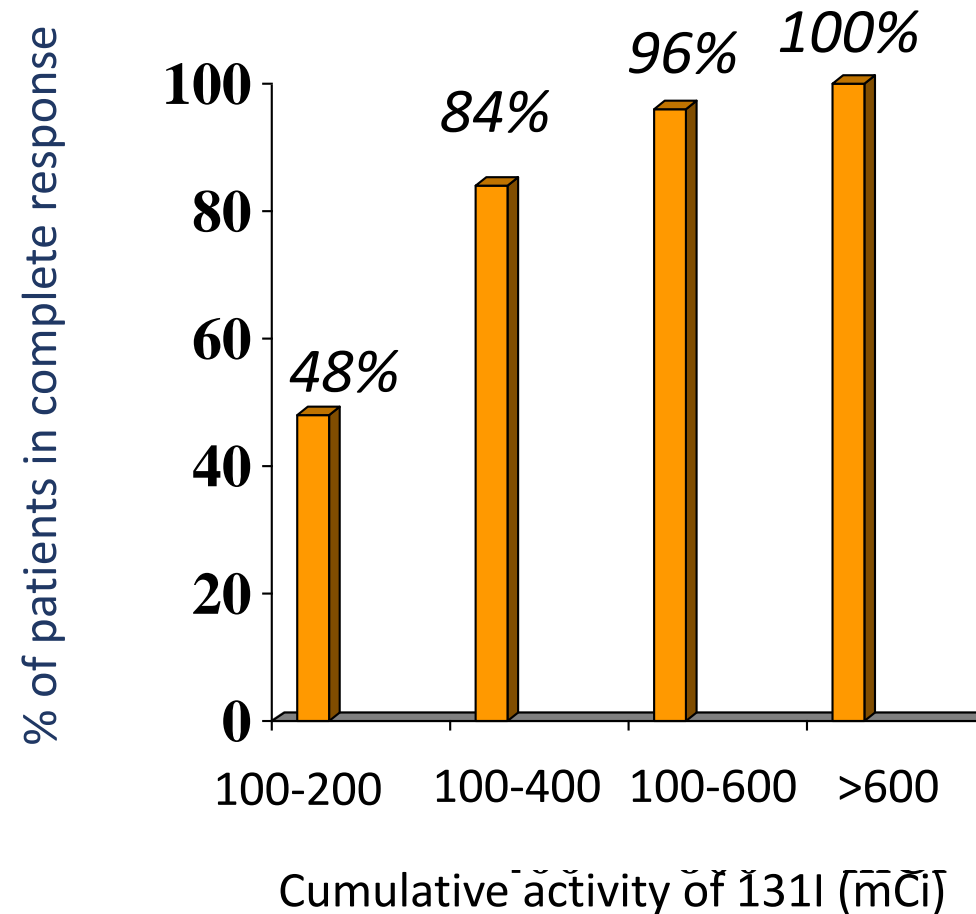
- Group 1: patients cured with  $^{131}\text{I}$  :  
RAI uptake in the distant metastases → Complete Response
  - Age < 40 years
  - Well differentiated thyroid Cancer
  - Small Size lesion
- Groups 2 and 3 : not cured with  $^{131}\text{I}$   
Iodine uptake in all, some or no lesions
  - Older age
  - Bigger size



# Complete response according to the cumulative RAI administered

444 patients with distant metastases  
→ 127 achieved complete response

**Rates of cure according to the cumulated activity of RAI**



# Definition of RAI refractoriness

- Absence of RAI uptake in any of the lesions : at initial diagnosis or during after treatments
- Absence of RAI uptake in one of the lesion
- Tumor progression (Morphologic) within 12 months of a RAI treatment
- Discussed criteria : the persistence of disease after the administration of a cumulated activity  $\geq 600$  mCi

**SPECIAL ARTICLE**

# ESMO Clinical Practice Guideline update on the use of systemic therapy in advanced thyroid cancer

S. Filetti<sup>1</sup>, C. Durante<sup>2</sup>, D. M. Hartl<sup>3,4</sup>, S. Leboulleux<sup>5,6</sup>, L. D. Locati<sup>7,8</sup>, K. Newbold<sup>9</sup>, M. G. Papotti<sup>10</sup> & A. Berruti<sup>11</sup>, on behalf of the ESMO Guidelines Committee<sup>+</sup>

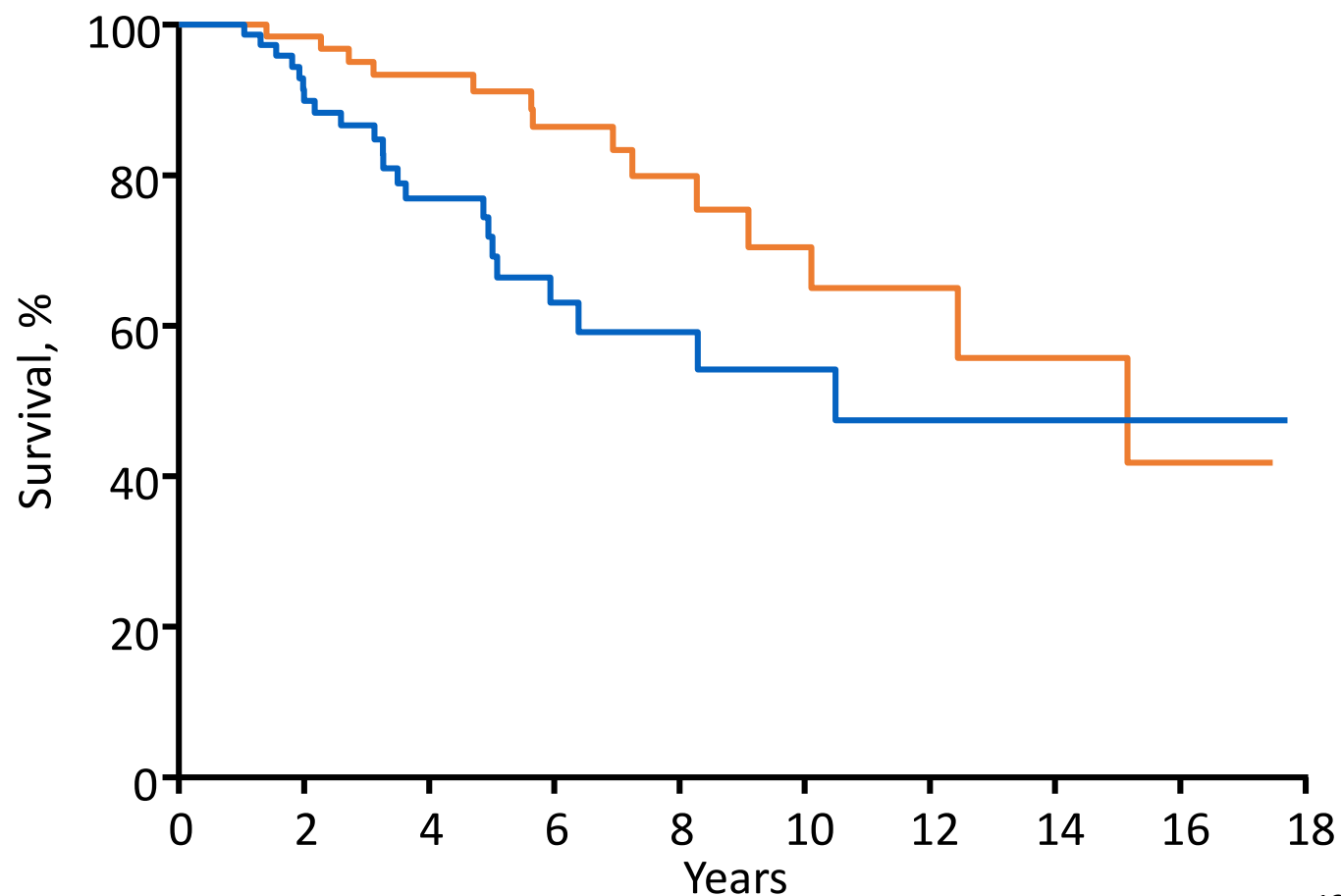
# Treatment of RAIR DTC

- Goal of L-T4 treatment : TSH < 0.1 mU/L

n=450

|  | Median |         |
|--|--------|---------|
|  | all    | > 45 yr |
| <span style="color: orange;">—</span> TSH suppressed | 15 yr  | 10 yr   |
| <span style="color: blue;">—</span> TSH unsuppressed | 11 yr  | 6 yr    |

p < 0.01    p < 0.005



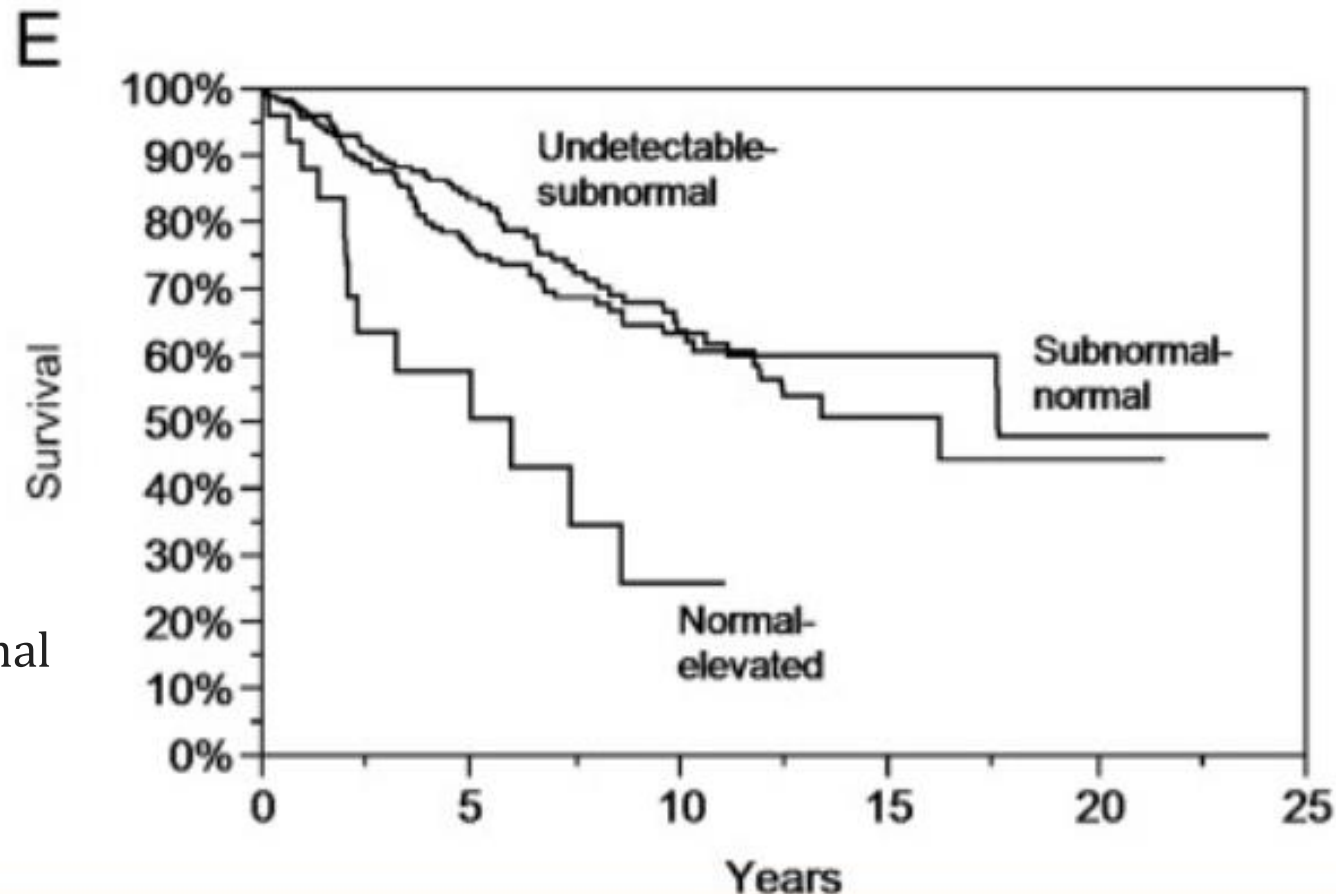
# TSH levels and OS in patients with distant metastases

- Goal of L-T4 treatment : TSH < 0.4 mU/L

TSH undetectable (TSH score = 1),  
TSH subnormal but detectable (TSH score = 2),  
TSH normal (TSH score = 3),  
TSH elevated (TSH score = 4).

## Mean TSH score :

- \* 1.0–1.99 : undetectable to subnormal (<0.1)
- \* 2.0–2.99 : moderate THST (subnormal to normal TSH levels); (TSH <0.1-0.4)
- \* 3.0–4, (TSH 0.4-4) nonsuppressed THST : (normal to elevated TSH levels)



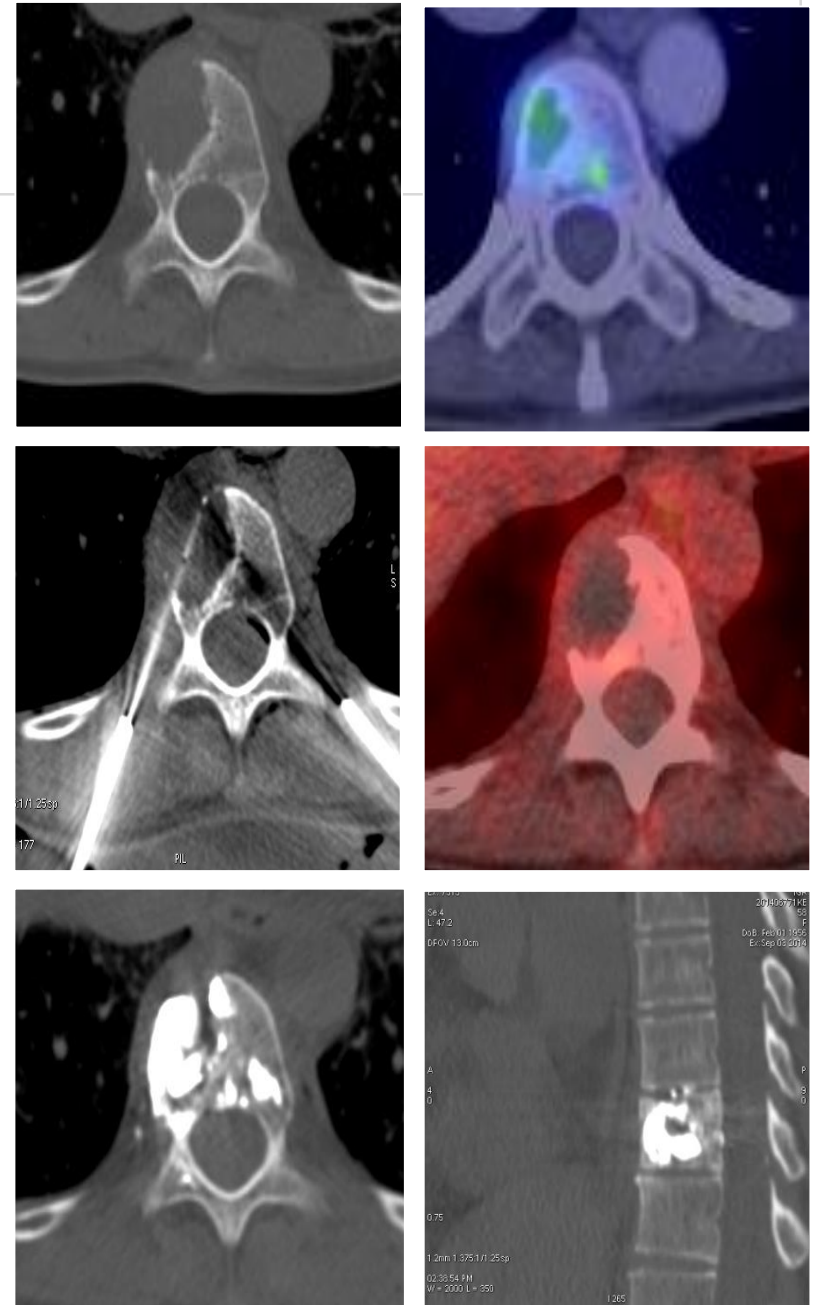
# Treatment of RAIR DTC

- Goal of L-T4 treatment :  $\text{TSH} < 0.1 \text{ mU/L}$
- Always consider local treatment first within a multidisciplinary board  
: surgery, external beam radiation, radiofrequency, cryo-ablation

# Is a local treatment necessary ?

Is the lesion threatful for a critical organ?  
Is the patient oligometastatic?  
How many lesions are progressive?

**Cryoablation + Cimentoplasty  
= Local control and consolidation**



# Treatment of RAIR DTC

- Goal of L-T4 treatment : TSH < 0.1 mU/L
- Always consider local treatment first within a multidisciplinary board : surgery, external beam radiation, radiofrequency, cryo-ablation
- Imaging every 6 months
  - If stable: monitoring
  - If progression (RECIST criteria: 20% in 6-15 months): Need for systemic treatments (Targeted therapies)

Tumor mass

Rate of tumor growth

Symptoms

Location of the Metastasis

Age

Co-morbidities

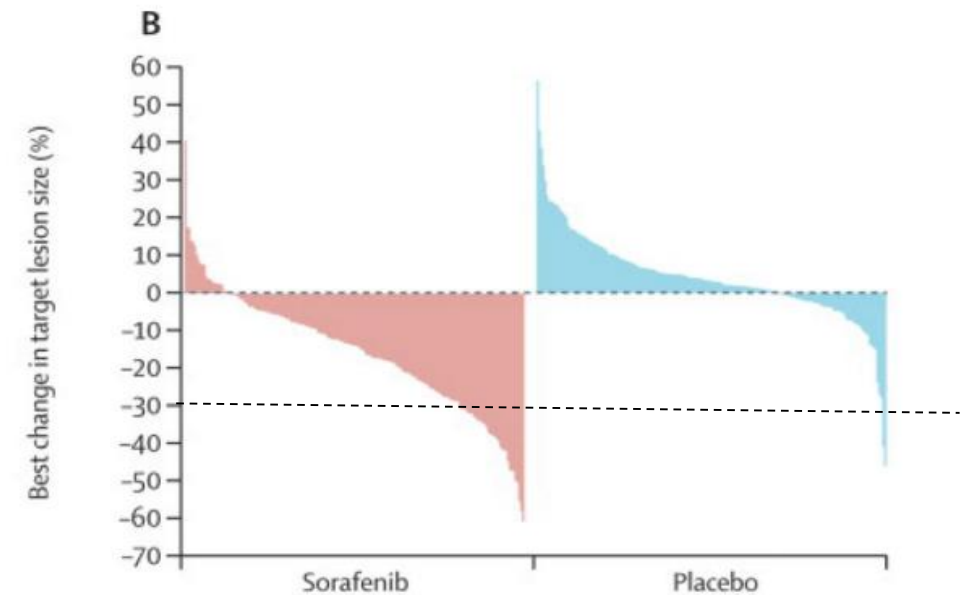
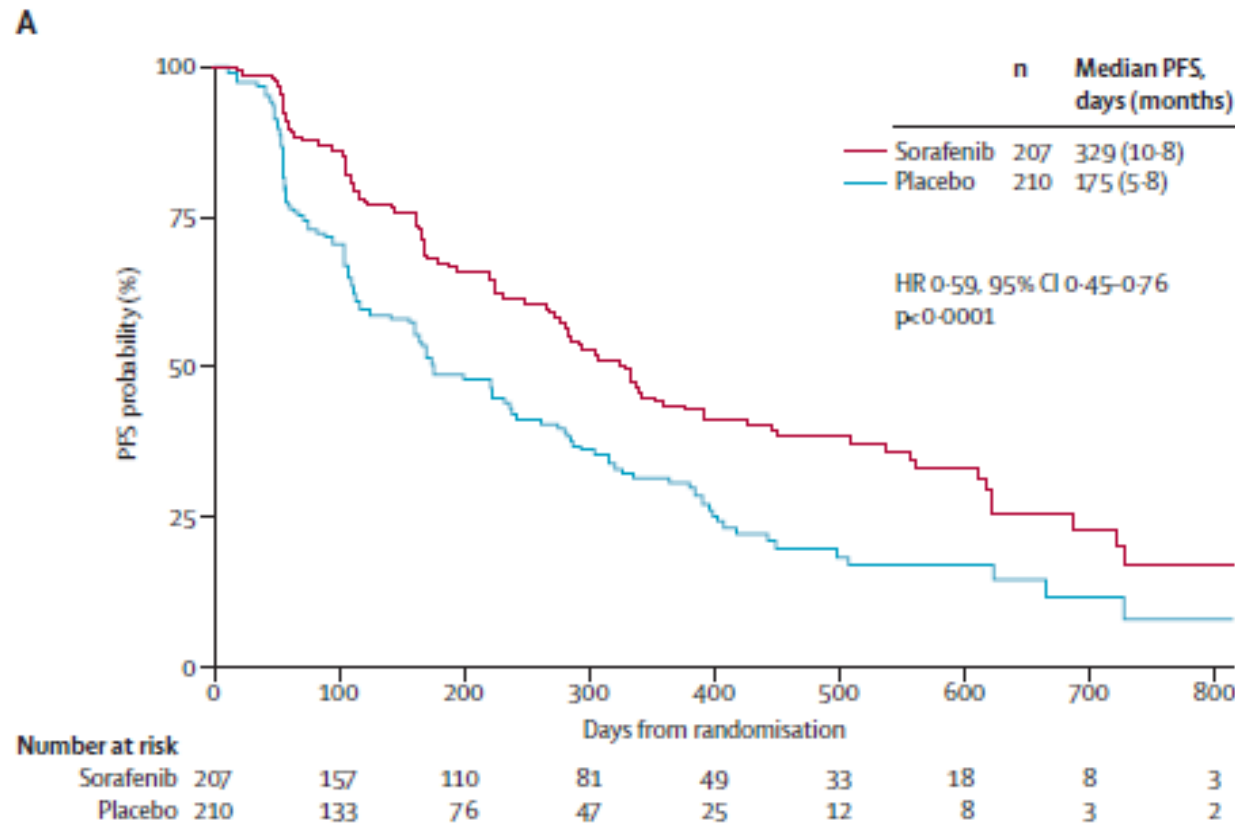


# Treatment of advanced MTC

- ~~Goal of L-T4 treatment: TSH < 0.1 mU/L~~ Search for hereditary MTC : take in charge pheo and hyperparathyroidism if necessary
- Always consider local treatment first within a multidisciplinary board  
: surgery, external beam radiation, radiofrequency, cryo-ablation
- Imaging every 6 months
  - If stable: monitoring
  - If progression (RECIST criteria: 20% in 6-15 months): Need for systemic treatments  
(Targeted therapies)
    - Tumor mass
    - Rate of tumor growth
    - Symptoms
    - Location of the Metastasis
    - Age
    - Co-morbidities

# Sorafenib improves Progression-Free Survival (PFS) in DTC

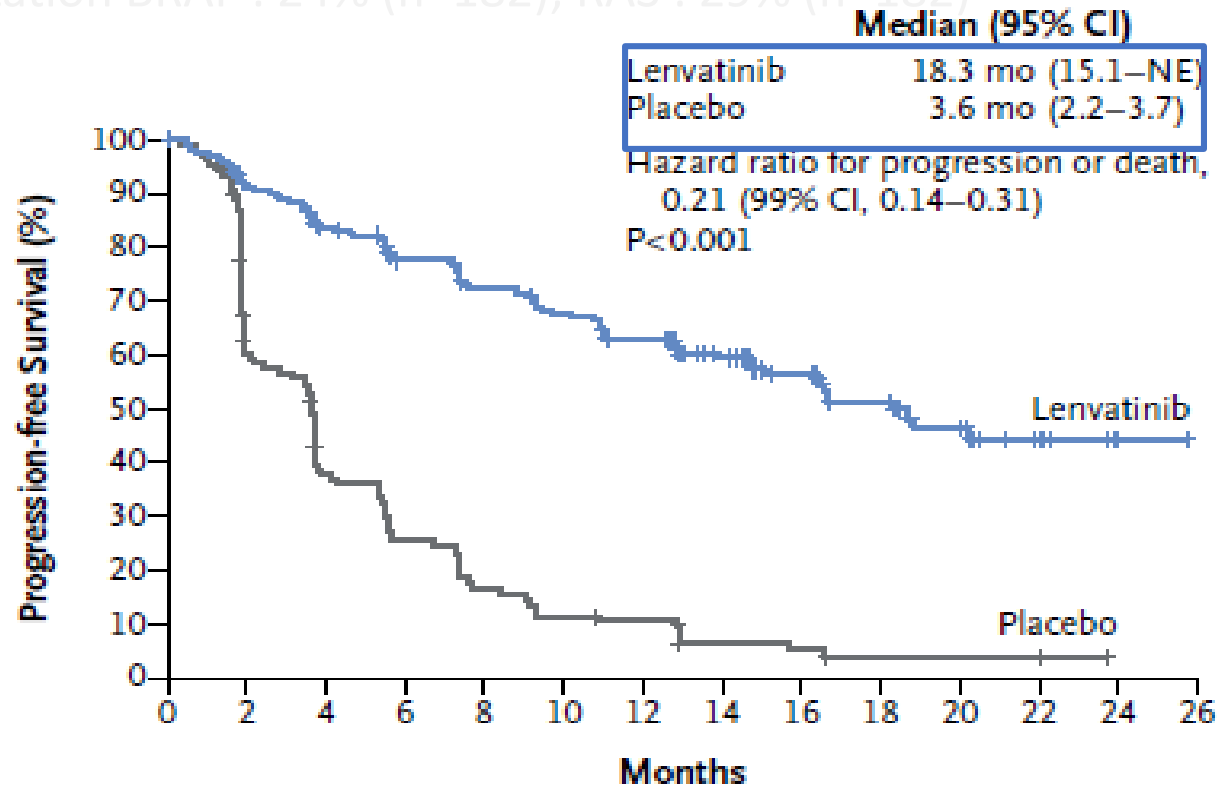
- 417 radioactive iodine refractory DTC patients
- Phase III trial, placebo vs sorafenib 1:1; 800mg/d with cross over
- Mutations on 256 samples: BRAF: 30%; RAS: 20%



**Response rate : 12%, length : 16.4 months**

# SELECT: lenvatinib improves PFS in DTC

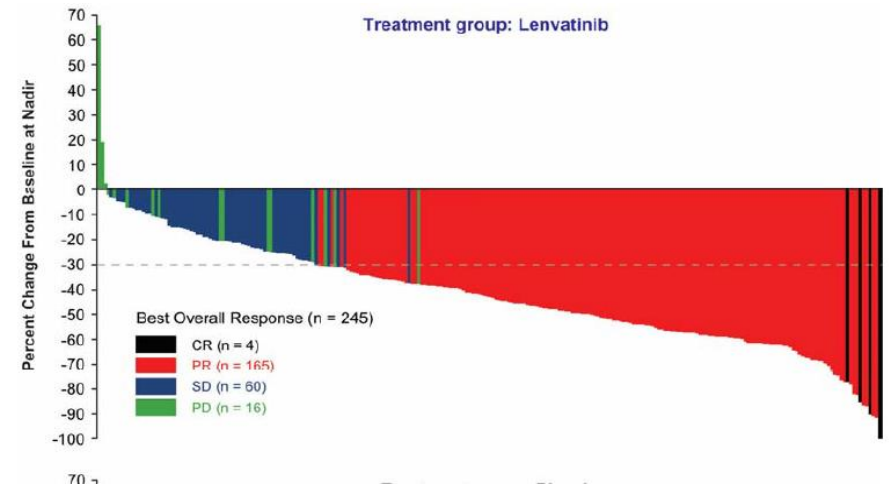
- 392 radioactive iodine refractory DTC patients
- Phase III trial, placebo vs lenvatinib 2:1; 24 mg/d with cross over
- Mutation BRAF : 24% (n=182); RAS : 29% (n=182)



## No. at Risk

|            |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| Lenvatinib | 261 | 225 | 198 | 176 | 159 | 148 | 136 | 92 | 66 | 44 | 24 | 11 | 3 | 0 |
| Placebo    | 131 | 71  | 43  | 29  | 19  | 13  | 11  | 5  | 4  | 2  | 2  | 2  | 0 | 0 |

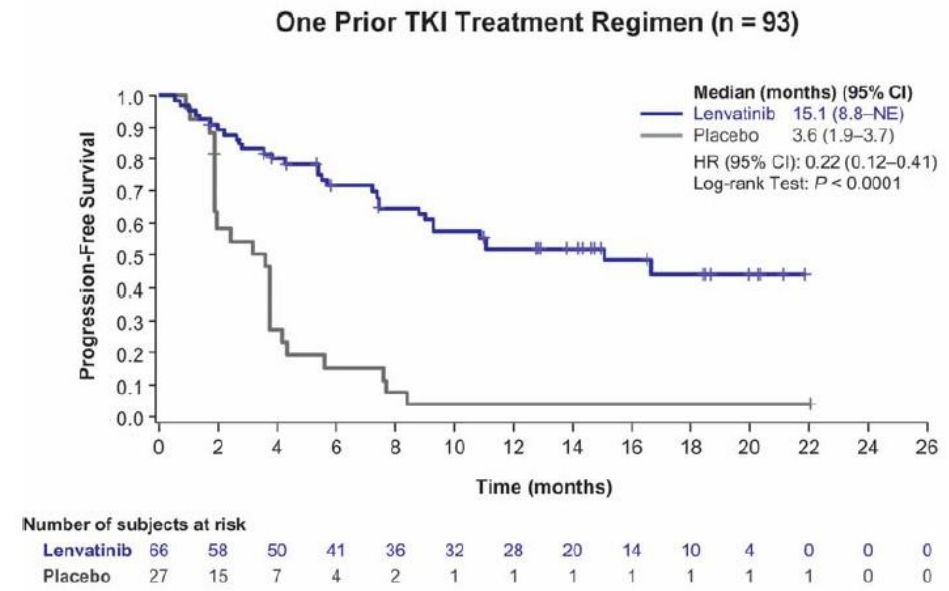
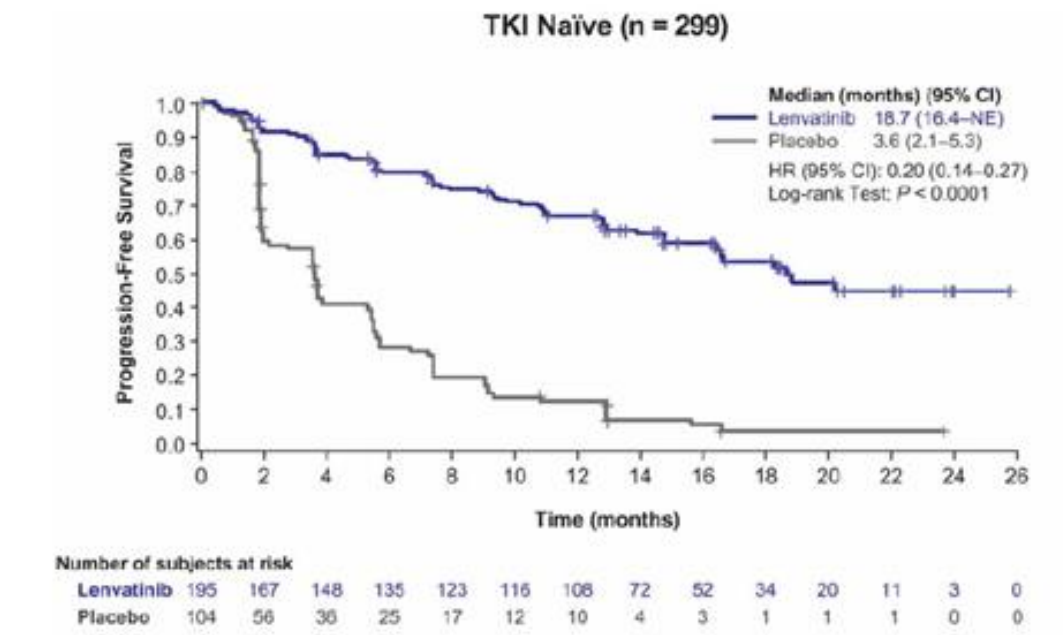
Schlumberger et al., 2015



Response rate = 65%

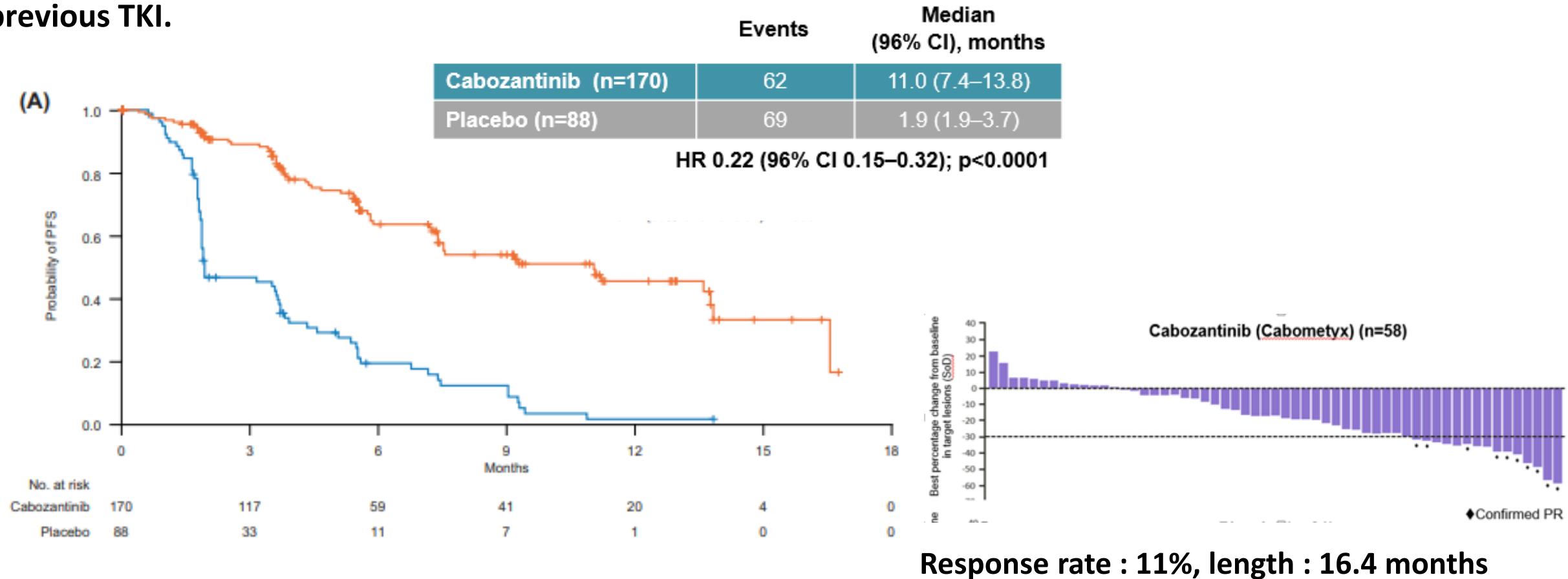
# Lenvatinib improves PFS in TKI naïve & TKI pre-treated patients

|              | TKI naïve  |         | Other prior TKI treatment |         |
|--------------|------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
|              | lenvatinib | placebo | lenvatinib                | placebo |
| PFS (months) | 16.7       | 3.6     | 15.1                      | 3.6     |



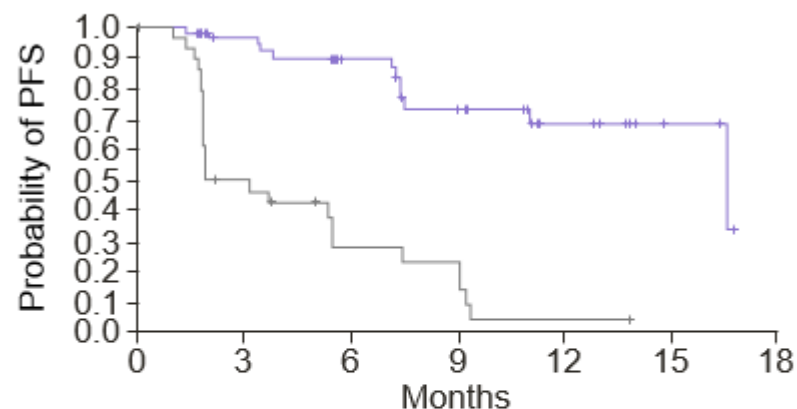
# Cabozantinib : Improvement in PFS as 2nd line treatment

**COSMIC : Placebo Randomized trial with Anti VEGFR 2<sup>nd</sup> line: Cabozantinib vs placebo after progression on a previous TKI.**



# Cabozantinib : Improvement in PFS according to previous line

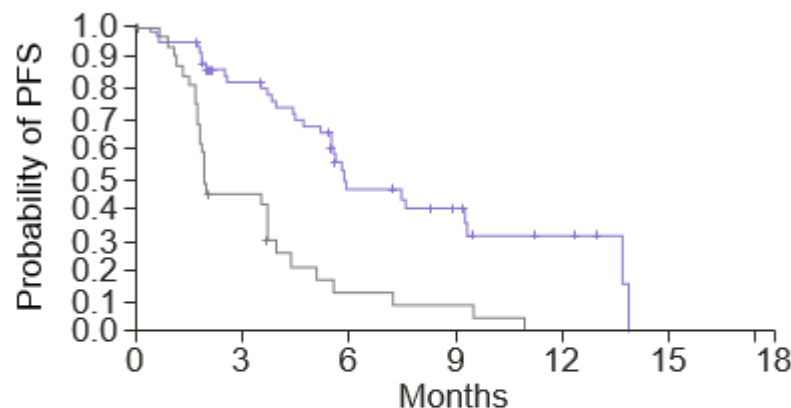
**Prior sorafenib/no lenvatinib**



|                        | Events | Median<br>(96% CI), months |
|------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Cabozantinib<br>(n=63) | 12     | 16.6 (11.0–NE)             |
| Placebo<br>(n=33)      | 24     | 3.2 (1.9–5.5)              |

HR 0.13 (95% CI 0.06–0.26)

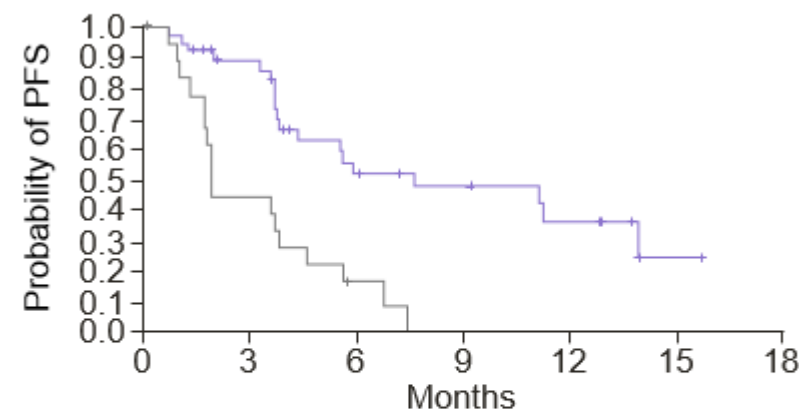
**Prior lenvatinib/no sorafenib**



|                        | Events | Median<br>(96% CI), months |
|------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Cabozantinib<br>(n=68) | 31     | 5.8 (5.1–9.3)              |
| Placebo<br>(n=34)      | 28     | 1.9 (1.7–3.7)              |

HR 0.28 (95% CI 0.16–0.48)

**Prior lenvatinib and sorafenib**



|                        | Events | Median<br>(96% CI), months |
|------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Cabozantinib<br>(n=39) | 19     | 7.6 (3.8–13.8)             |
| Placebo<br>(n=21)      | 17     | 1.9 (1.8–3.8)              |

HR 0.27 (95% CI 0.13–0.54)

# Lenvatinib for RAIR TC from prospective data to real life

|                          |           | Patients<br>N | Response Rate<br>% | Median PFS<br>(months) |                                      |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Schlumberger et al, 2015 |           | 392           | 65%                | 18.3                   |                                      |
|                          |           |               |                    |                        | Did not fulfill<br>SELECT criteria % |
| Berdelou et al, 2018     | France    | 75            | 31                 | 10                     | 77                                   |
| Locati et al, 2019       | Italy     | 94            | 36                 | 19.2                   | 43                                   |
| Aydermili et al, 2020    | Dutch     | 39            | 38                 | 9.5                    | 67                                   |
| Jerkovich et al, 2020    | Argentina | 22            | 36                 | 13.7                   |                                      |
| Masaki et al 2020        | Japan     | 42            | 60                 | 13.8                   |                                      |
| Song et al 2020          | Korea     | 43            | 42                 | 21.8                   |                                      |
| Porcelli et al, 2021     | Italy     | 23            | 26                 | 25                     |                                      |
| Koehler et al 2021       | Germany   | 53            | 68                 | 12                     |                                      |

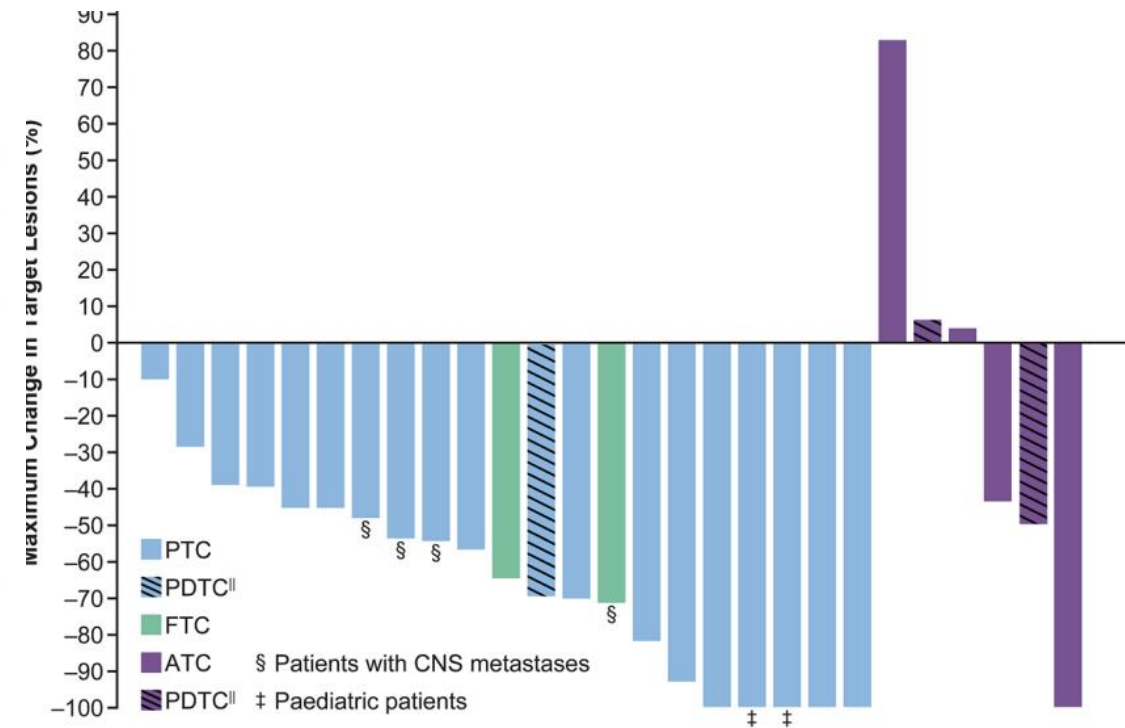
# Anti NTRK efficacy in tumors with NTRK rearrangement

|               |            | n                | Complete Response<br>Rate % | Partial Response<br>Rate % | Median duration<br>response (months) |
|---------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Larotrectinib | Drilon, 18 | 155 (all cancer) | 16                          | 63                         | 35.2                                 |
| Entrectinib   | Doebele 20 | 54 (all cancer)  | 7                           | 50                         | 10                                   |



# DTC with NTRK rearrangement : efficacy of larotrectinib

|   | PTC/FTC<br>(n=22)* | ATC<br>(n=7)        | All patients with TRK<br>fusion-positive TC<br>(N=29) |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Evaluable patients, n</b>            | 21                 | 7                   | 28  |
| <b>ORR, % (95% CI)</b>                  | 86 (64–97)         | 29 (4–71)           | 71 (51–87)  |
| <b>Best response, n (%)<sup>†</sup></b> |                    |                     |   |
| Complete response                       | 2 (10)             | 0                   | 2 (7)   |
| Partial response                        | 16 (76)            | 2 (29)              | 18 (64)   |
| Stable disease                          | 3 (14)             | 1 (14)              | 4 (14)  |
| Progressive disease                     | 0                  | 3 (43)              | 3 (11)  |
| Not determined                          | 0                  | 1 (14) <sup>‡</sup> | 1 (4)   |



Based on Data on 200 patients in all cancer types → approval was given

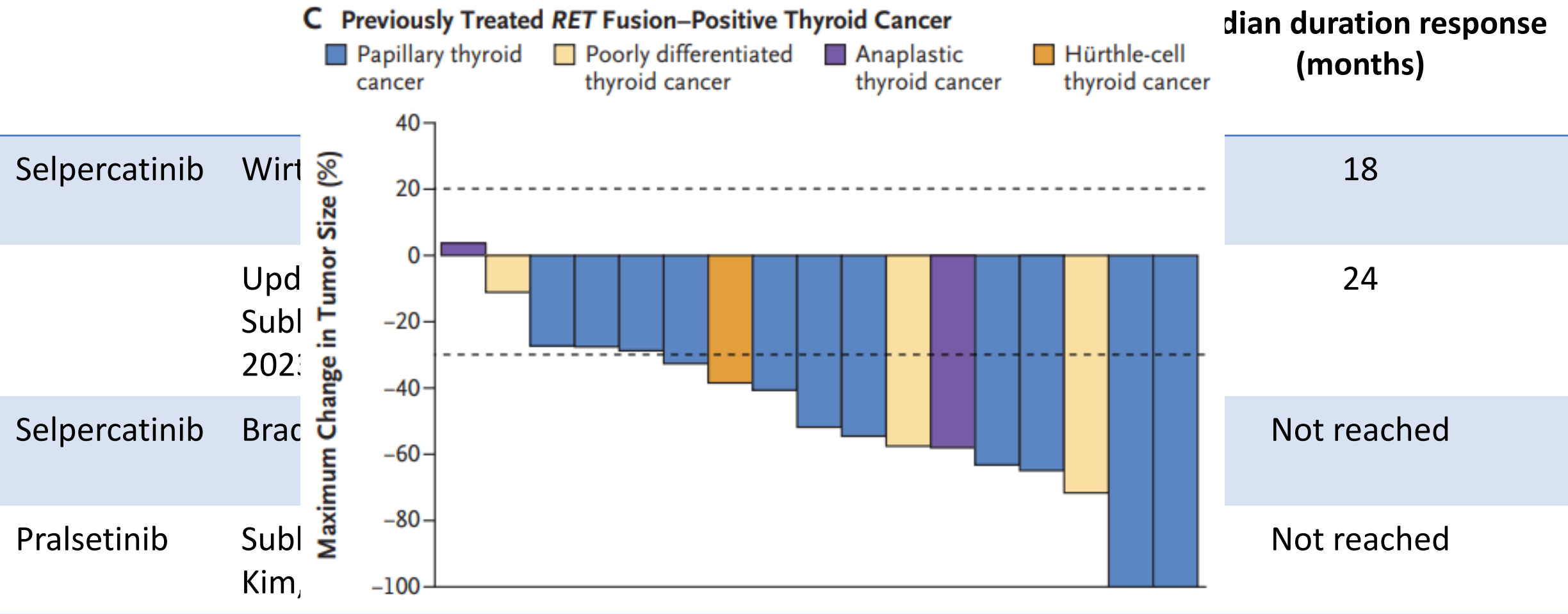
# Anti NTRK in tumors with with NTRK rearrangement

|   |           | FDA approval   | EMA approval | HAS                           |
|---|-----------|--|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Larotrectinib<br>VITRAKVI<br>(100mg 2/day in adult) | Anti NTRK | Adult and pediatric with NTRK fusion<br>(2018)                         |              | 2021: restriction to sarcomas |
| Entrectinib<br>ROZLYTREK<br>(600 mg 1/day in adult) | Anti NTRK | Adults and adolescents aged $\geq 12$ years<br>with NTRK fusion (2020) |              | 2021: unfavorable             |

# Follicular cell derived thyroid cancer with RET fusion

|               |                        | n                            | Complete Response % | Partial Response % | Median duration response (months) |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Selpercatinib | Wirth, 20              | 19 <b>previously treated</b> | 5                   | 74                 | 18                                |
|               | Update Subbiah 2023    | 22 <b>previously treated</b> | 14                  | 77                 | 24                                |
| Selpercatinib | Bradford, 21           | 8 <b>treatment naive</b>     | 12.5                | 88                 | Not reached                       |
| Pralsetinib   | Subbiah, 21<br>Kim, 21 | 9 previously treated         | 0                   | 89                 | Not reached                       |

# Follicular cell derived thyroid cancer with RET fusion



EMA approval : Adults with RET fusion-positive thyroid cancer in adults previously treated with sorafenib or lenvatinib or both (2021)

# BRAF mutated TC : anti BRAF and anti MEK

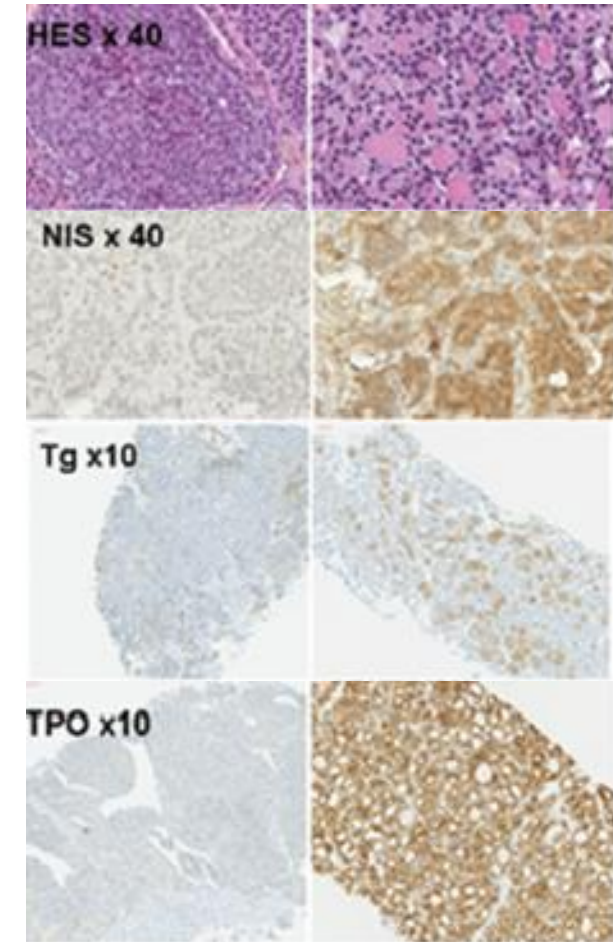
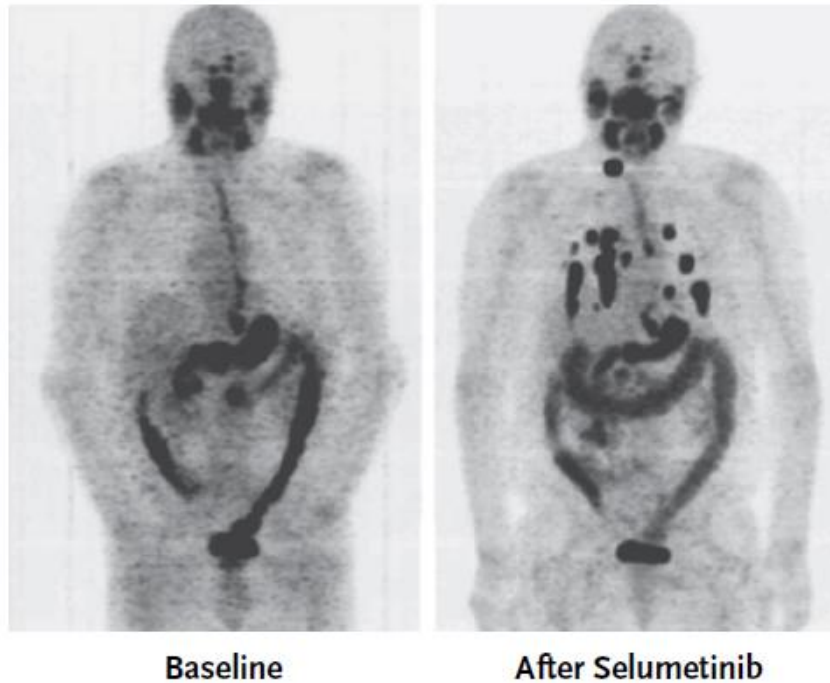
|                                 |                           | Line | n  | Complete Response % | Partial Response % | Median Duration of response (months) | Median PFS (months) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------|----|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Busaidy 2022 Randomized Phase 2 | Dabrafenib                | >2   | 26 | 0                   | 35                 | 18.3                                 | 24.5                |
|                                 | Dabrafenib & Trametinib   | >2   | 27 | 0                   | 30                 | 15.4                                 | 15.1                |
| Tahara 2014 Phase 2             | Encorafenib + binimetinib | >1   | 17 | 0                   | 47                 | NR                                   | NR                  |

Phase III trial dabrafenib-trametinib or placebo vs. placebo (second line) - NCT04940052

# Redifferentiation is overcoming insensitivity to RAI

Redifferentiation is defined the re expression of genes involved in iodine metabolism

Redifferentiation is the appearance / re appearance of RAI uptake



Baseline                      After dabrafenib

# Redifferentiation in RAIR TC with a BRAF mutation

|                      |  | N  | Genetics          | Increase of RAI uptake<br>(according to)  | Ttt with<br>RAI | CR | Partial<br>Response          |
|----------------------|--|----|-------------------|---|-----------------|----|------------------------------|
| Ho, 2012             | Selumitinib<br>+/- Iode 131                            | 9  | <i>BRAFV600E</i>  | 4 (60%)<br>( <sup>124</sup> I PET-CT)     | 1               | 0  | <b>11% (best PR)</b>         |
| Rothenberg,<br>2015  | Dabrafenib<br>+/- Iode 131                             | 10 | <i>BRAF V600E</i> | 6 (60%)<br>(Dc <sup>131</sup> I WBS)      | 6               | 0  | <b>20% (best PR)</b>         |
| Dunn, 2018           | Vemurafenib<br>+/- Iode 131                            | 12 | <i>BRAF V600E</i> | 4 (40%)<br>(Dc <sup>131</sup> I WBS)      | 4               | 0  | <b>25%<br/>(best PR)</b>     |
| Tchekmedyan,<br>2022 | Vemurafenib + anti-<br>ErbB3mAbCDX-337<br>+/- Iode 131 | 6  | <i>BRAF V600E</i> | 5 (80%)<br>( <sup>124</sup> I PET-CT)     | 5               | 0  | <b>33%<br/>(6 months PR)</b> |
| Weber, 2022          | Dabrafenib + Trametinib<br>+/- Iode 131                | 6  | <i>BRAF V600E</i> | 2 (33%)<br>( <sup>124</sup> I PET-CT)     | 6               | 0  | <b>17%</b>                   |
| Leboulleux,<br>2023  | Dabrafenib + Trametinib<br>+/- Iode 131                | 21 | <i>BRAF V600E</i> | 20 (95%)<br>(post-T <sup>131</sup> I WBS) | 21              | 1  | <b>38%<br/>(6 months PR)</b> |

# Redifferentiation in RAIR TC with a RAS mutation

|                             |                             | N  | Genetics | Increase of RAI uptake<br>(according to) | Ttt with<br>RAI | CR | PR                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----|----------|--|-----------------|----|----------------------|
| Ho, 2012 NEJM               | Selumitinib<br>+/- Iode 131 | 5  | RAS      | 5 (100%)<br>( <sup>124</sup> I PET-CT)   | 5               | 0  | 80% (best PR)        |
| Leboulleux,<br>2023 Thyroid | Trametinib<br>+/- Iode 131  | 10 | RAS      | 6 (60%)<br>(post-T WBS)                  | 10              | 0  | 20%<br>(6 months PR) |
| Burman, 2022<br>ASCO        | Trametinib<br>+/- Iode 131  | 25 | RAS      | 22 (88%)<br>( <sup>124</sup> I PET-CT)   | 15              | 0  | 32%<br>(6 months PR) |

Academic Promising,  
No randomized trials  
No Phase 3 Trial



# Redifferentiation in real life

|                  |      | RAI restoration | Best RECIST tumor response |                  |
|------------------|------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------|
|                  |      |                 | Complete Response          | Partial Response |
| Oncogenic driver | BRAF | 37% (7/18)      | 0                          | 6% (1/18)        |
|                  | RAS  | 92% (11/12)     | 0                          | 8% (1/12)        |
|                  | RET  | 25% (1/ 4)      | 1 (25%)                    | 0                |

# RAIR Follicular cell derived TC : Pembrolizumab

|                     | RAIR DTC (n=27) | ATC (n=16)     |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| CR % (n)            | 0%              | 6% (1)         |
| <b>PR % (n)</b>     | <b>11% (3)</b>  | <b>19% (3)</b> |
| SD % (n)            | 19% (5)         | 6% (1)         |
| PD % (n)            | 63% (17)        | 56% (9)        |
| NE                  | 7% (2)          | 13% (2)        |
| Median PFS (months) | 2.6             | 2.6            |

# RAIR Follicular cell derived TC : Lenvatinib-Pembrolizumab

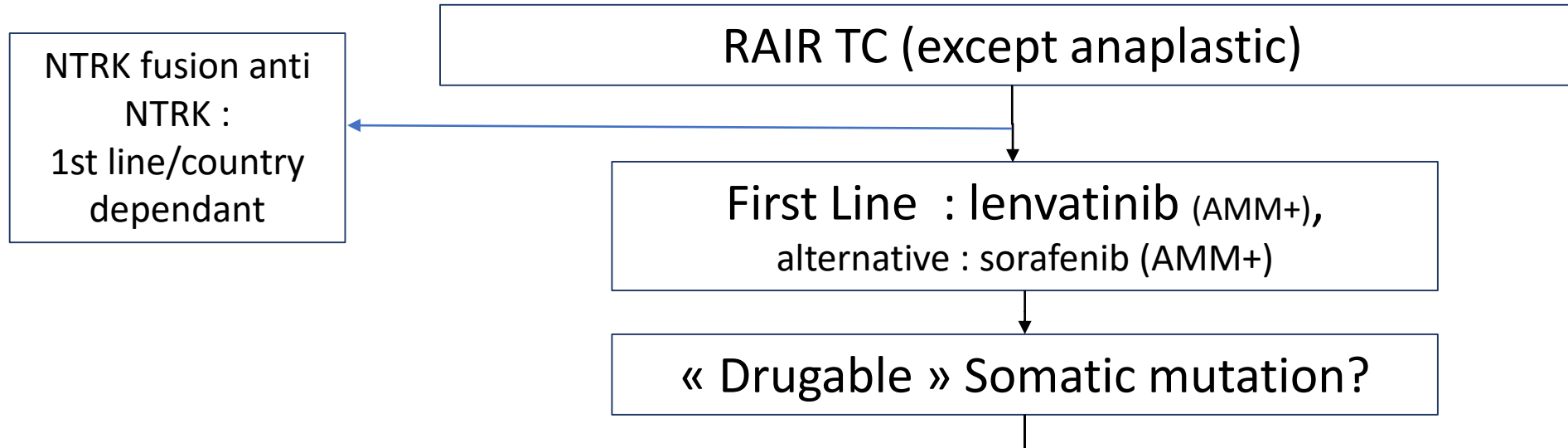
|                                | RAIR DTC               |   |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|---|
|                                | Treatment naive (n=28) | Pembro added<br>after lenvatinib failure (n=24) |
| CR % (n)                       | 0%                     | 0   |
| PR % (n)                       | 64%                    | 17%   |
| SD % (n)                       | 32% (4)                | 83%   |
| PD % (n)                       |                        | 0   |
| Median PFS (months)<br>(95%CI) | NE (16.1-NE)           | 11 (7.1-NE)                                     |

**Trials : REGOMUNE : regorafenib + avelumab : a single-arm, open-label, phase II trial**

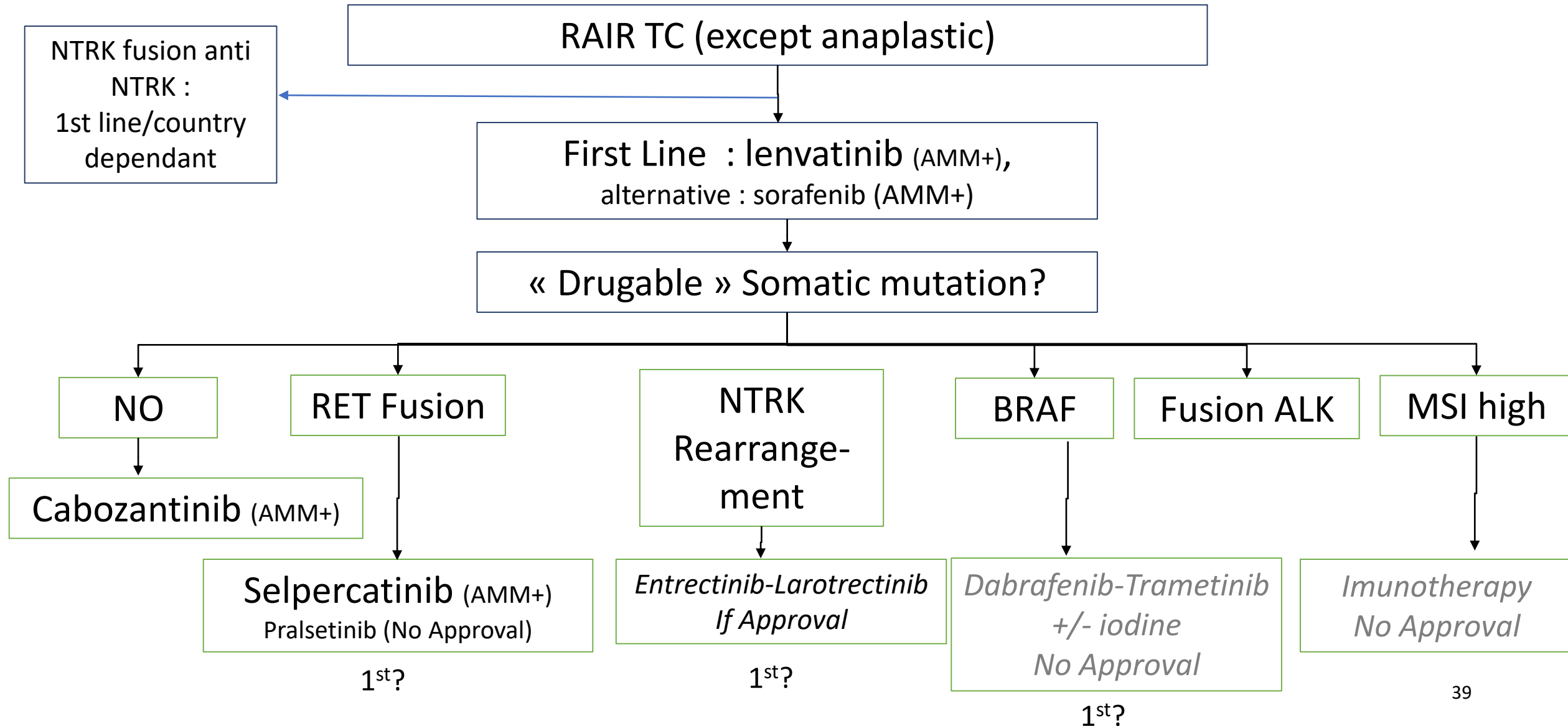
# RAIR Follicular cell derived TC : PIK,AKT,MTOR PATHWAY

|                     |            | Line | n  | Complete Response % | Partial response % | Duration of Response | PFS (median, months) |
|---------------------|------------|------|----|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Schneider, 2017     | Everolimus | >1   | 28 | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>           | -                    | 9                    |
| Hanna, 2018         | Everolimus | >1   | 33 | <b>0</b>            | <b>3</b>           | -                    | 12.9                 |
| Borson-Chazot, 2018 | Buparlisib | >1   | 43 | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>           | -                    | na                   |

# Systemic therapy



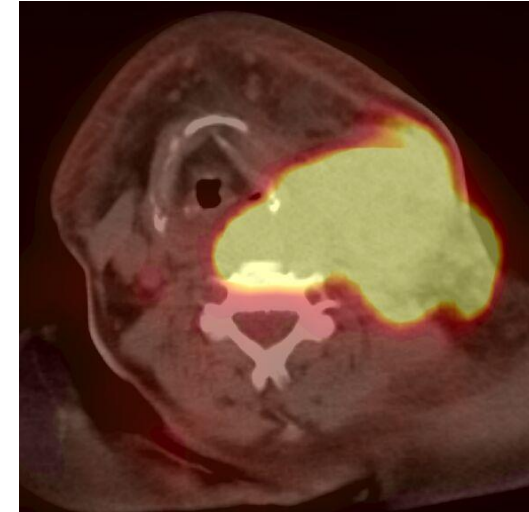
# Systemic therapy



# RAIR Follicular cell derived TC : Access to systemic therapy

|            |               | FDA approval  | EMA approval   |
|------------|---------------|---|--|
| Anti VEGFR | Sorafenib     | Patients with locally recurrent or metastatic, progressive, RAI DTC (2013 & 2014)                               |  |
|            | Lenvatinib    | Patients with locally recurrent or metastatic, progressive, RAI DTC (2015)                                      |  |
|            | Cabozantinib  | Patients with locally recurrent or metastatic, progressive, RAI DTC, <b>second line</b> (2021, 2022)            |  |
| Anti NTRK  | Larotrectinib | Adult and pediatric with NTRK fusion (2018)   |  |
|            | Entrectinib   | Adults and adolescents aged ≥12 years with NTRK fusion (2020)   |  |
| Anti RET   | Selpercatinib | <b>Adult and pediatric ≥12 years</b> of age with advanced/ metastatic RET fusion-positive thyroid cancer (2020) | Adults with RET fusion-positive thyroid cancer in adults <b>previously treated with sorafenib or lenvatinib or both (2021)</b> |
|            | Pralsetinib   | <b>Adult and pediatric ≥12 years</b> of age with advanced/ metastatic RET fusion-positive thyroid cancer (2020) | No   |

# Anaplastic Thyroid Carcinoma: An Emergency





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## SPECIAL ARTICLES

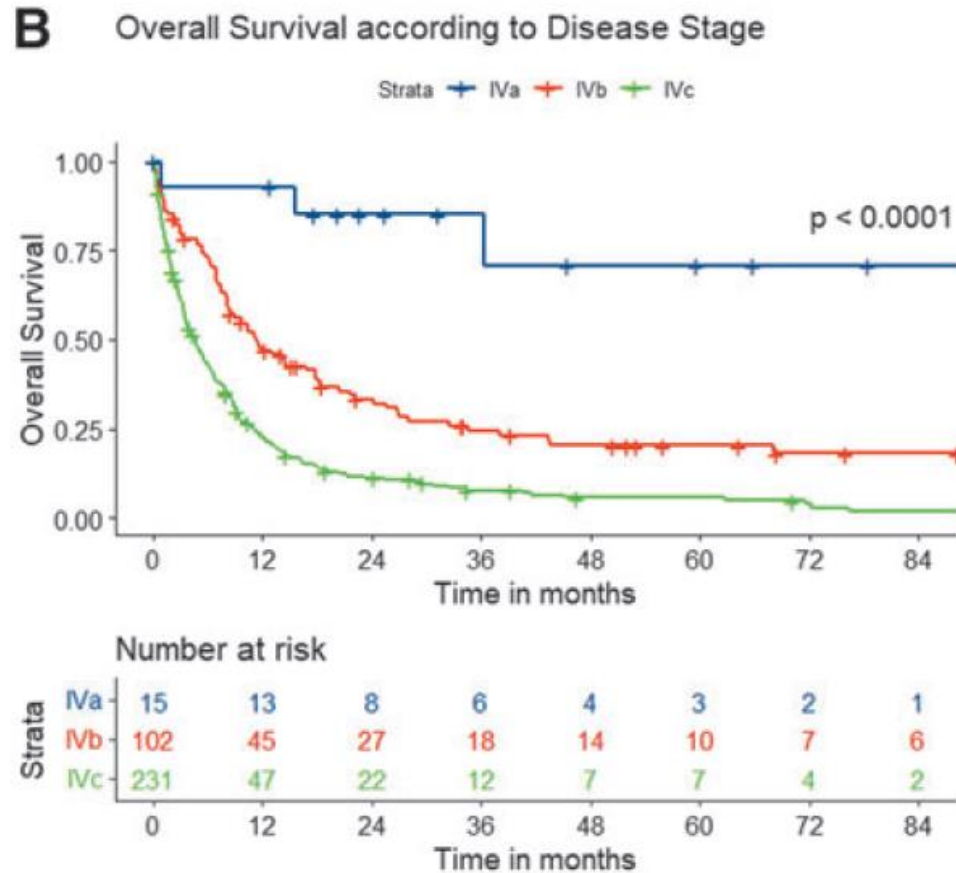
# 2021 American Thyroid Association Guidelines for Management of Patients with Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer

American Thyroid Association Anaplastic Thyroid  
Cancer Guidelines Task Force

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Ashok Shaha,<sup>17</sup> Robert Smallridge,<sup>18</sup> and Carol K. Wong-Clark\*

# Anaplastic carcinoma: a very poor prognosis

Kebebew et al. 2005, Registre SEER 516 patients : Median Survival : 3 months



| Stage |  | Median OS | 12-months-OS |
|-------|--|-----------|--------------|
| IVa   | Intra-thyroïdal<br>T1-T3a, N0, M0                  | NR        | 93%          |
| IVb   | Extra-thyroid<br>extension<br>pT3b, pT4, ou N1, M0 | 11.4      | 11.4%        |
| IVc   | IVC:<br>All T, all N, M1                           | 4.6       | 4.6%         |

# Treatment Principals

## - Chemotherapy (Partial Response Rate $\approx$ 10%)

| Treatment    | Protocols and Dose  |
|--------------|---|
| Chemotherapy | Every 3 or 4 weeks  |
|              | Doxorubicin (60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) + Cisplatin (120 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) every 4 weeks  |
|              | Paclitaxel (175 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) + Carboplatin (AUC 5) every 3 weeks                 |
|              | Docetaxel (60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) + Doxorubicin (60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) every 3–4 weeks |
|              | Paclitaxel (135–200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) every 3–4 weeks                                 |
|              | Doxorubicin (60–75 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) every 3 weeks                                    |
|              | Every week  |
|              | Paclitaxel 50–100 mg/m <sup>2</sup> + Carboplatin AUC2                                  |
|              | Docetaxel (20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> ) + Doxorubicin (20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> )                 |
|              | Paclitaxel (30–60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> )   |
|              | Docetaxel (20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> )   |

## - External Beam Radiation

Bifractionated

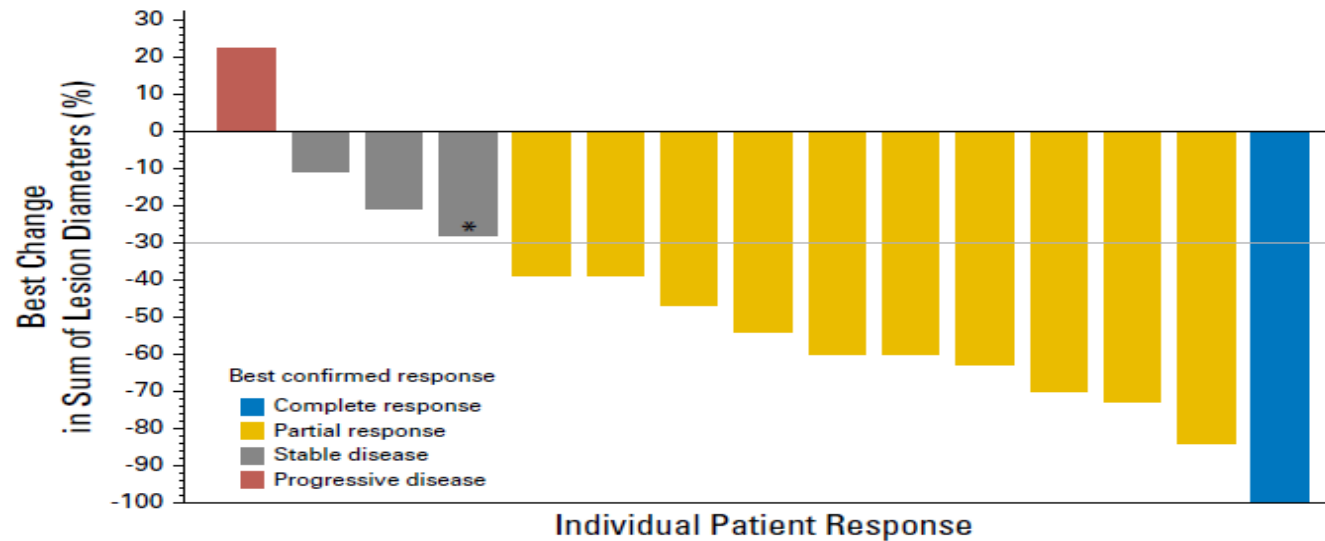
## - Best Supportive Care

**Except in case of drugable somatic mutation : BRAF**

# Dabrafenib-Trametinib for BRAF mutated ATC

|                     | n  | Median RR | 12-month Kaplan-Meier estimate of duration of response |
|---------------------|----|-----------|--|
| Subbiah et al, 2018 | 15 | 67%       | 90%.   |
| Subbiah et al, 2022 | 36 | 53%       | 42%  |

**A**

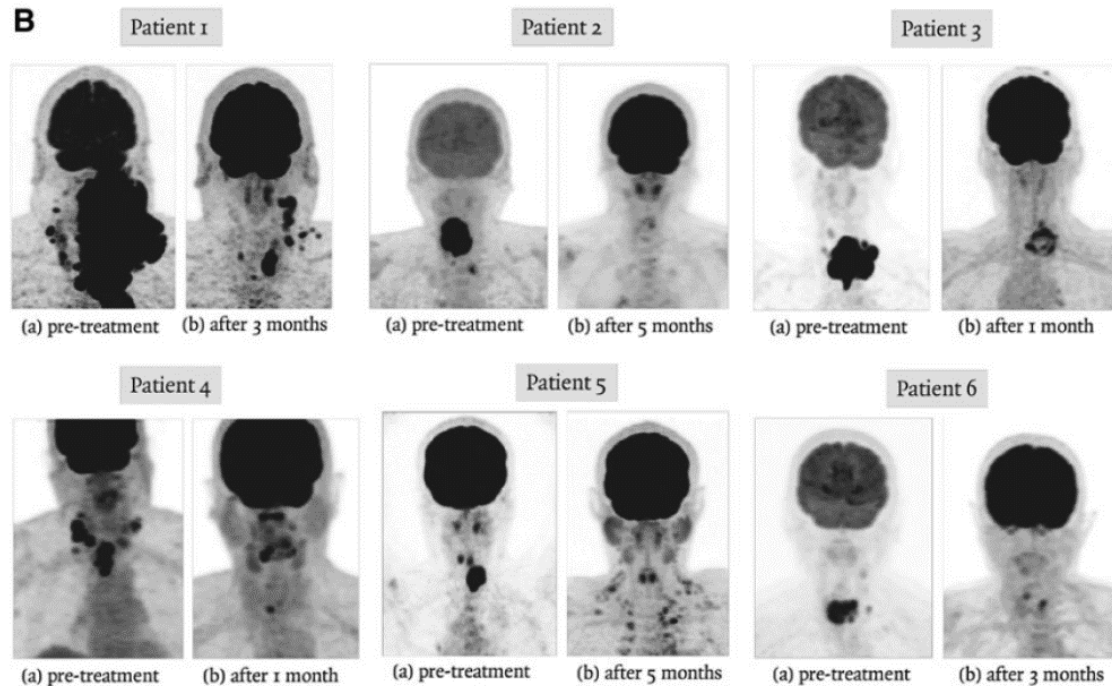


FDA approved

# Dabrafenib-Trametinib for BRAF mutated ATC: from prospective data to real life

|                      | n  | Median RR | 12-month Kaplan-Meier<br>estimate of duration of<br>response | Median OS  |
|----------------------|----|-----------|--|------------|
| Subbiah et al, 2018  | 15 | 67%       | 90%.   |            |
| Subbiah et al, 2022  | 36 | 53%       | 42%  |            |
|                      |    |           |  |            |
|                      |    | Median RR | Median PFS   | Median OS  |
| Iyer et al, 2018     | 6  | 50%       | 5.2 months   | 9.3 months |
| Lorimer et al , 2023 | 17 | 88%       | 4.7 months   | 6.9 months |
| Bueno et al , 2023   | 5  | 60%       | 5 months   |            |

# Neo-adjuvant treatment with Dabrafenib-Trametinib

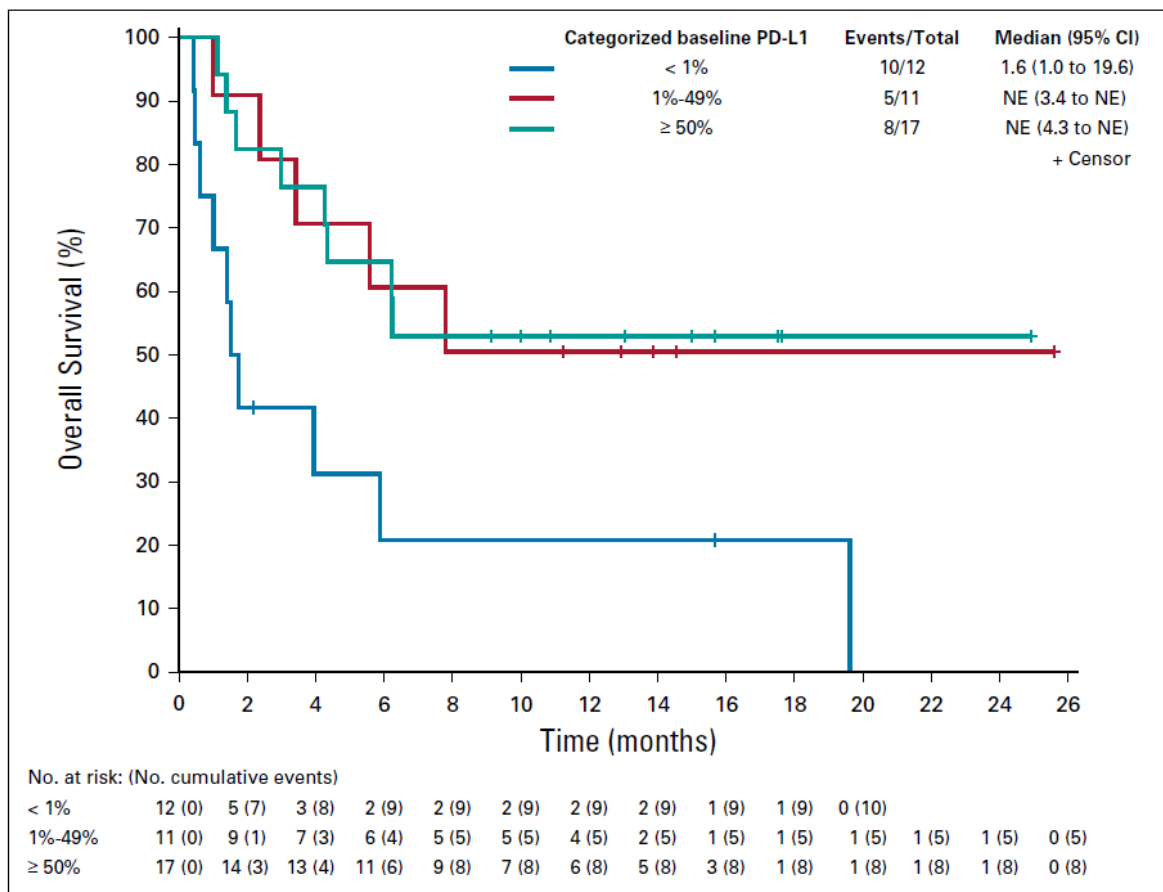


- High response rate
- Short length of response
- Neoadjuvant treatment for 2-4 months...monthly CT evaluation: rechallenge surgeons after each CT scan

# ATC et Anti PD1 Spartalizumab

|   | ATC (n=42)        |                    |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
|   | RECIST 1.1        | irRECIST           |
| <b>ORR (95%CI)</b>                              | <b>19% (9-34)</b> | <b>24% (12-39)</b> |
| CR % (n)  | 7% (3)            | 7% (3)             |
| PR % (n)  | 12% (5)           | 17% (7)            |
| Median duration of response<br>(months) (95%CI) | NE                | NE                 |
| Median PFS (months) (95%CI)                     | 1.7 (1.2-1.9)     | 1.7(1.2-2)         |

# Overall Survival increased if PDL-1 is expressed

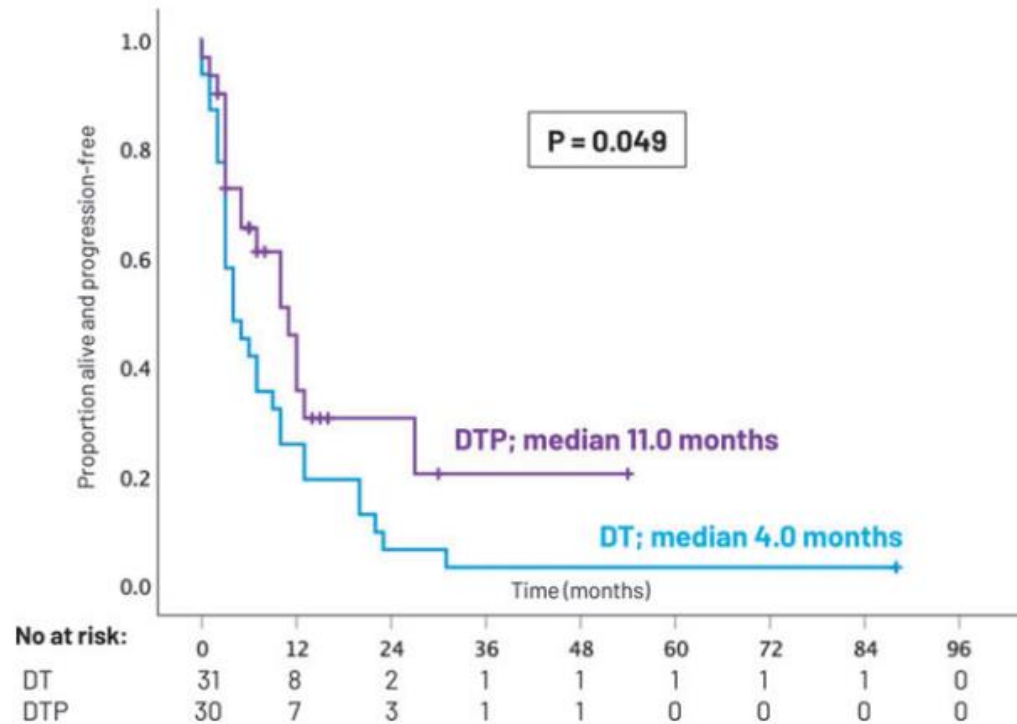


|               | PDL1 neg<br><1% | PDL1 1-<br>49% | PDL1 ≥<br>50% |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 year<br>PFS | 0%              | 20%            | 29%           |
| Median<br>OS  | 1.6             | NR             | NR            |

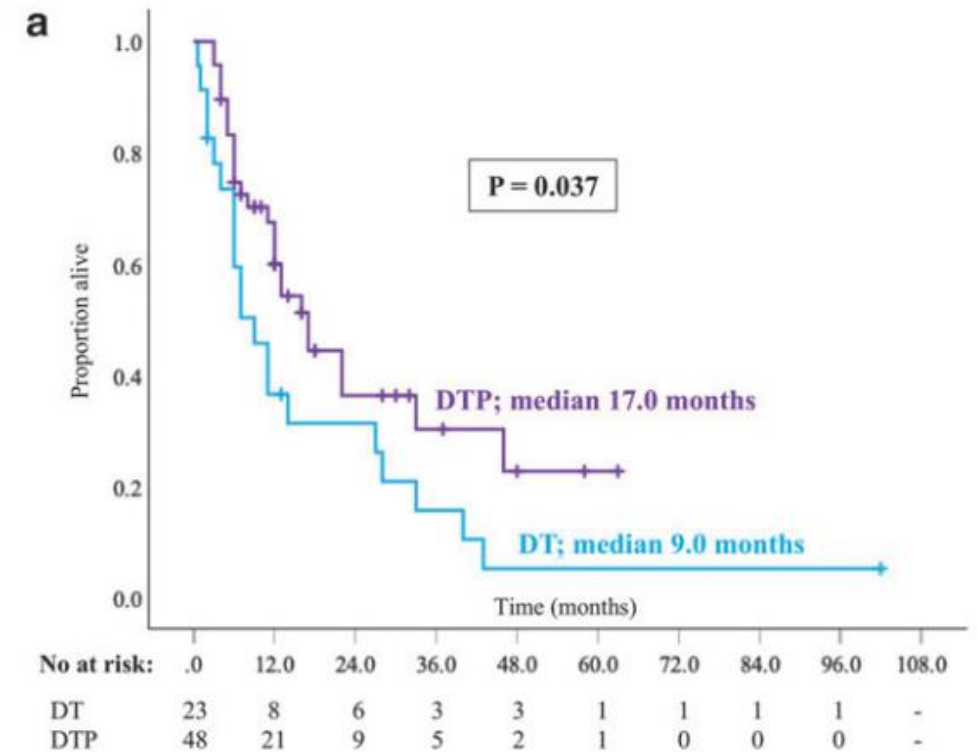


# ATC : Combination of dabrafenone + pembrolizumab

Retrospective single-center study of patients with BRAFm-ATC treated with first-line BRAF-directed therapy  
Dabrafenone vs. dabrafenone and pembrolizumab



PFS

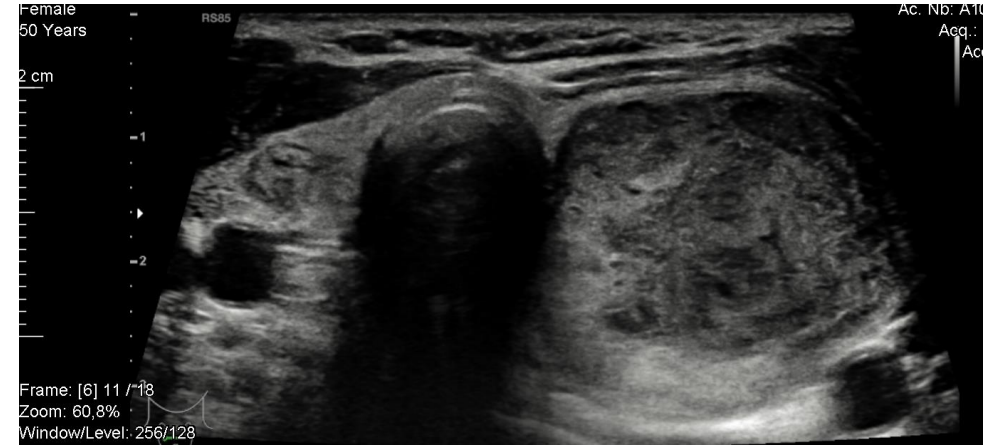


OS

A 50-year-old woman with a 4 cm EU TIRADS 5 thyroid nodule- Bethesda VI undergoes a total thyroidectomy with central neck dissection.

Pathology shows a 3.8 cm intra thyroid with 2 components;  
papillary thyroid cancer component : 65%  
anaplastic thyroid cancer (35%)

Mutations in RB1, DNMT3, PTEN, HNF1A, ATRX et TP53  
No mutation in NRAS, BRAF, TERT.



Postoperative neck and chest CT scan shows two 5 mm lung nodules.

What would you do ?

- A. Start levothyroxine treatment to obtain a TSH level of 0.1 mUI/L
- B. Administer  $^{131}\text{I}$  (3.7GBq, 100 mCi) after TSH stimulation
- C. Obtain a postoperative Tg level and decide  $^{131}\text{I}$  administration based on Tg level
- D. Start chemotherapy and external beam radiation.
- E. A lung biopsy and start tyrosine kinase treatment

# OMS 2022: C cell derived carcinoma

## **Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma : Endocrine Tumor**

### **International MTC Grading System :**

High-grade MTC : at least 1 of the 3 criteria :

- Mitotic Index  $\geq 5$  per 2 mm<sup>2</sup>
- And/or proliferative index Ki67  $\geq 5\%$ ,
- And/or tumor necrosis

Tumor marker : calcitonin

Hereditary in 1/3 of the cases : proto-oncogène RET mutation : Autosomic dominant transmission

Multiple endocrine neoplasia : phéochromocytoma +/- hyperparathyroïdism

# Genetic Alterations in MTC

Hereditary Forms : RET mutation RET : 100%

NEM2 : CMT +/- pheochromocytoma-hyperparathyroidism

Sporadic

| Author         | N Tumor | RET+ RAS- | RET+ RAS+ | RET- RAS+ | Other mutations (%)                          |
|----------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Moura, 2011    | 65      | 60        | 2%        | 26        | Na   |
| Boichard, 2012 | 50      | 68        | 0         | 26        | Na   |
| Agrawal 2013   | 57      | 75        | 0         | 16        | MDC1 :5%                                     |
| Ciampi 2013    | 188     | 43        | 0         | 10        | Na   |
| Simbolo 2014   | 20      | 65        | 0         | 20        | STK11 (5%)                                   |
| Ji, 2015       | 71      | 51        | 0         | 24        | STK 11 (13%), MLH1 (5%), MET                 |
| Heilman 2016   | 30      | 87        | 0         | 10        | CCND1 (9%) CDKN2A (9%), FGF19 (9%), VHL (6%) |
| Romei 2016     | 70      | 91.4%     | -         | 8.6%      | none   |

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## MTC : Anti VEGFR: Randomized phase III trials

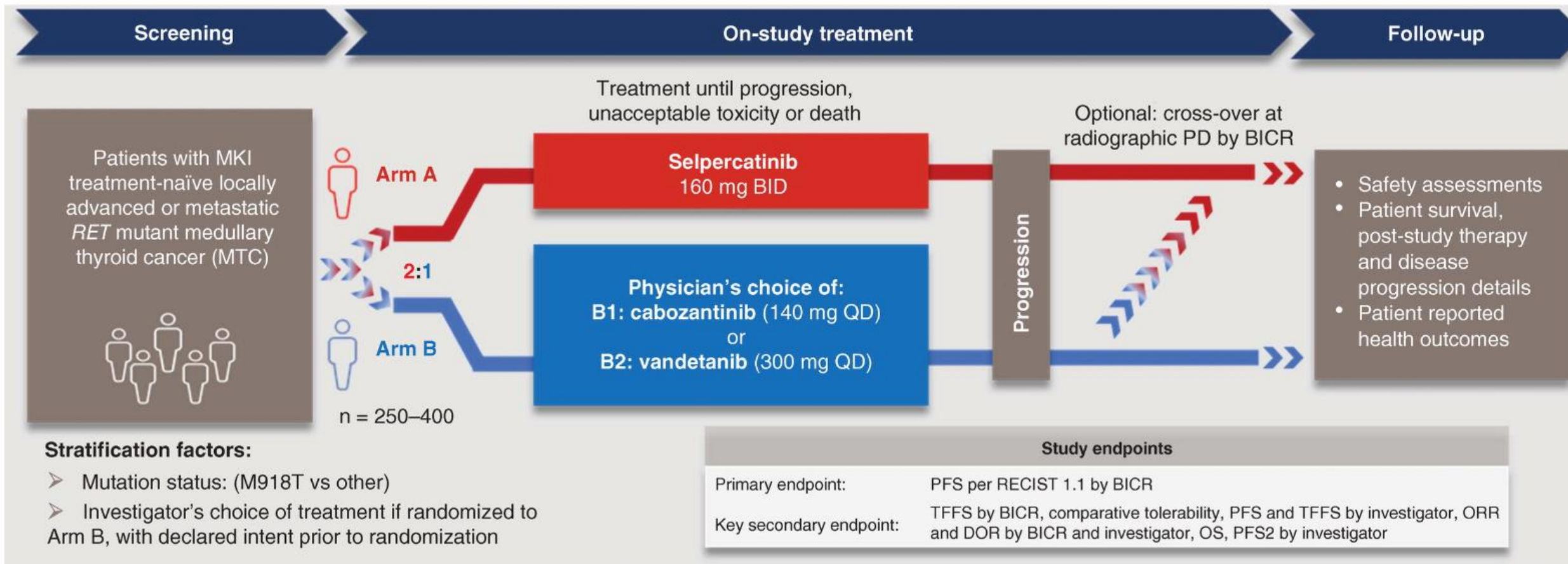
|                             | <b>n</b> | <b>CR<br/>%</b> | <b>PR<br/>%</b> | <b>Duration of R<br/>(median, months)</b> | <b>PFS<br/>(median, months)</b> |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Vandetanib<br>Wells 2011    | 331      | 0               | 45              | Not reached                               | > 30 (V) vs 19.3 (P)            |
| Cabozantinib<br>Elisei 2013 | 330      | 0               | 28              | 14.6                                      | 4 (C ) vs 11.2 (P)              |

# MTC WITH RET MUTATION: Selpercatinib: (LIBRETTO- 001) (Retsevmo<sup>®</sup>)

| Patients with MTC and RET mutation           |                            |  |
|--|----------------------------|--|
|  | Previously treated (n=55)* | Treatment naive (n=88)   |
| <b>ORR (95%CI)</b>                           | <b>69% (55-81)</b>         | <b>71% (60-80)</b>   |
| CR % (n)                                     | 9% (5)                     | 11% (10)   |
| PR % (n)                                     | 60% (33)                   | 61% (54)   |
| SD % (n)                                     | 25% (14)                   | 23% (20)   |
| PD % (n)                                     | 2% (1)                     | 2% (2)   |
| Median duration of response (months) (95%CI) | NE                         | 23.6 (NE-NE)<br>(subject to changes, on less than 10% of the events) |

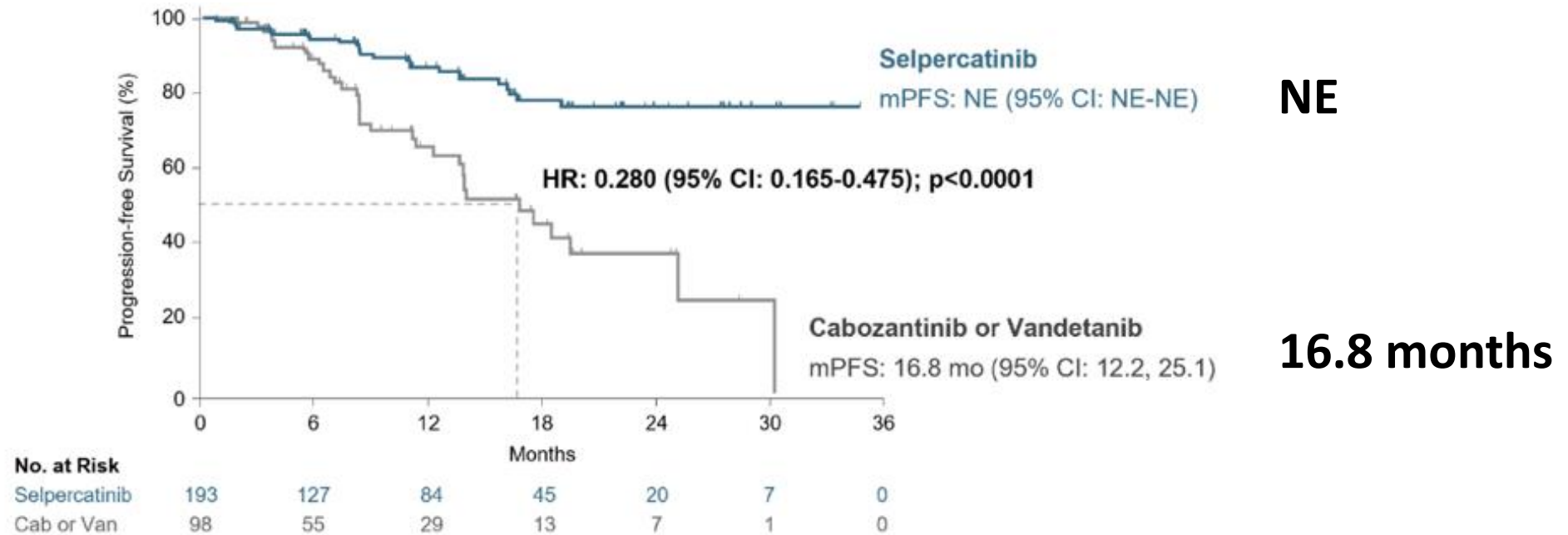
\*: central review

# Selpercatinib Phase III: 1st vs 2<sup>nd</sup> ligne of treatment in MTC a Phase 3 Trial: Libretto





# Progression Free Survival (Blinded Independent Central Review)



**Selpercatinib demonstrated a statistically significant improvement in PFS**

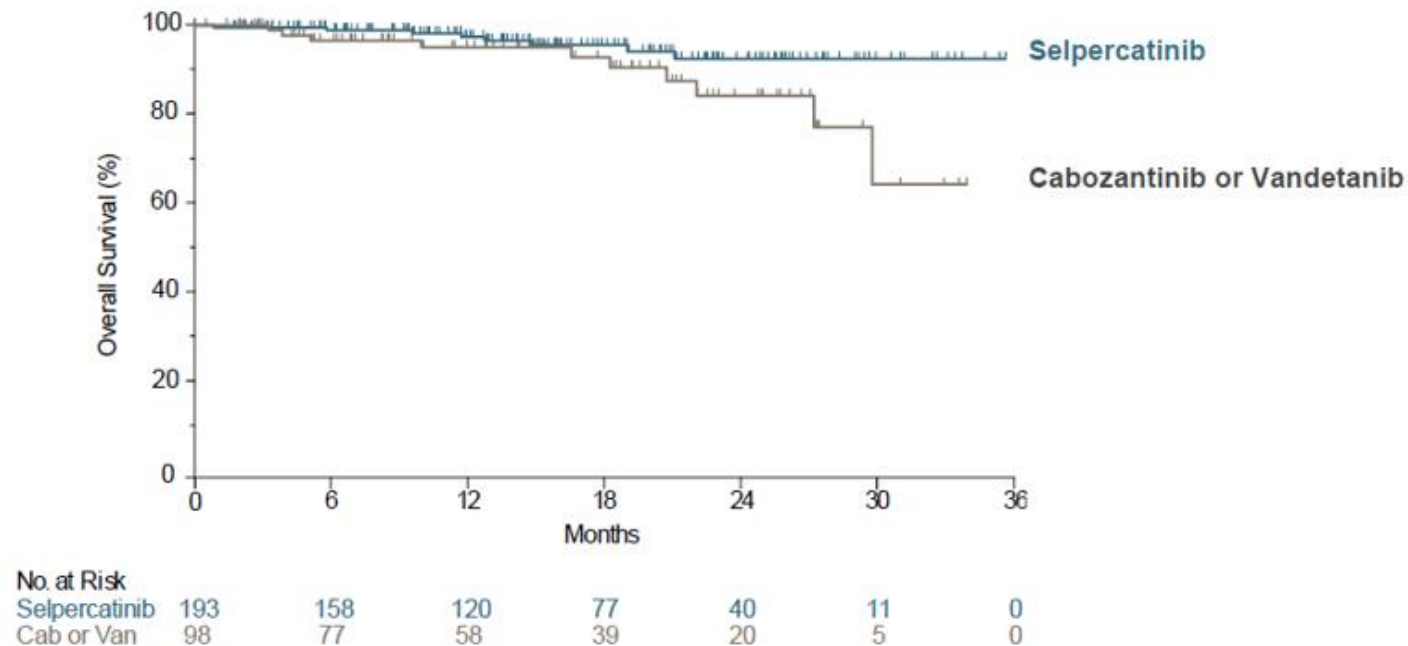
- Median follow-up of 12 months
- Investigator-assessed PFS was similar with a hazard ratio of 0.187 (95% CI: 0.109-0.321); p<0.0001<sup>†</sup>
- The study was considered positive for PFS if the two-sided p-value was <0.0033; therefore, this trial met its primary endpoint for evidence of efficacy

# Overall Response Rate

| Outcomes                       | Selpercatinib<br>(N= 193) | Cabozantinib or<br>Vandetanib<br>(N= 98) |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| ORR, % (95% CI) <sup>1</sup>   | 69.4 (62.4, 75.8)         | 38.8 (29.1, 49.2)                        |
| Best overall response, no. (%) |                           |  |
| Complete response              | 23 (11.9)                 | 4 (4.1)                                  |
| Partial response               | 111 (57.5)                | 34 (34.7)                                |
| Median DOR, mo (95% CI)        | NE (NE, NE)               | 16.6 (10.4, NE)                          |

Overall response rate by RECIST 1.1 was higher and responses were more durable with selpercatinib

# Overall Survival



- At the time of the interim analysis, 18 deaths (8 deaths on selpercatinib, 10 deaths on cab or van) were observed at median follow-up of 15 months
- 94.8% of patients were alive on selpercatinib and 85.7% on control arm
- 24 patients (77.4% of those eligible to crossover) elected to receive selpercatinib; 19 of whom remained on treatment at the data cutoff date
- HR: 0.374 (95% CI, 0.147 to 0.949);  $p=0.0312^1$

<sup>1</sup> Nominal value

Approval in first line pending

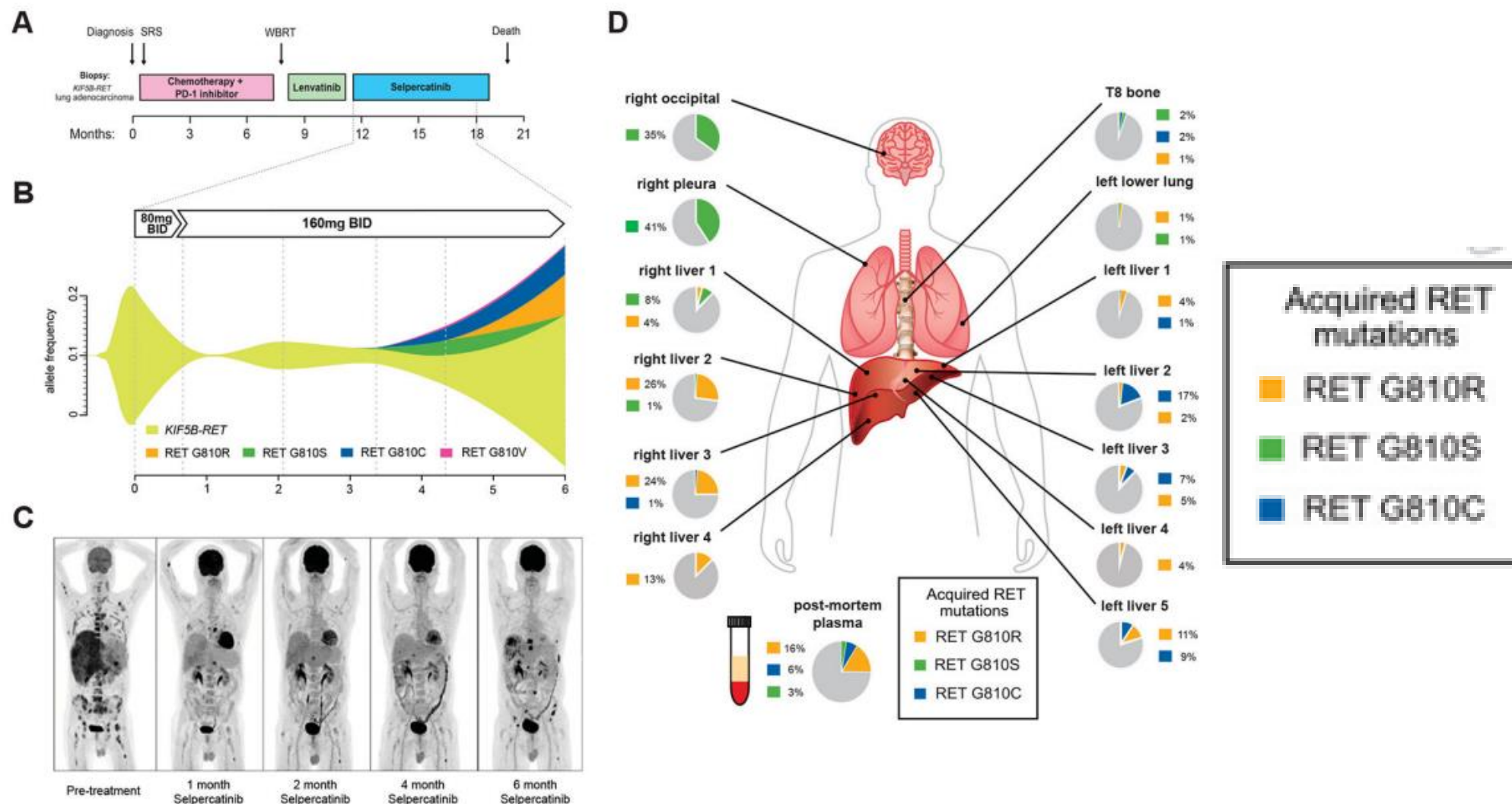
# What should we give after progression on selpercatinib?

|               | Selpercatinib | Cabozantinib or vandetanib |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| 12 months PFS | 86.8 %        | 65.7%                      |
| 24 months PFS | 76.4%         | 37.2%                      |

## Two main mechanisms of resistance to selective RET inhibitors

- on-target mutations impairing drug binding : solvent front
- activation of alternative signaling pathways allowing bypass of RET inhibition
  - acquired KRAS, HRAS, NRAS and BRAF mutations
  - KRAS amplifications
  - MET and FGFR1 amplifications

# Multiple Solvent front mutations in a patients with SCLC treated with selpercatinib



# On target mutations

**Table 3.** Mechanisms of resistance and IC<sub>50</sub> (μM) for each drug.

| Mutation Status |       | Cabozantinib<br>[112] | Vandetanib<br>[112] | Lenvatinib<br>[112] | Ponatinib<br>[112] | Selpercatinib<br>[109] | Pralsetinib<br>[109] |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Gatekeeper      | V804M | 4.26                  | 5.83                | 5.42                | 0.0339             | 0.0559                 | 0.0168               |
|                 | V804L | 3.22                  | 6.10                | 10.60               | 0.43 [60]          | 0.0172                 | 0.0018               |
| Solvent front   | G810A | 0.22                  | 2.76                | 0.11                | 0.008 [60]         | -                      | -                    |
|                 | G810R | -                     | -                   | -                   | -                  | 2.744                  | 2.650                |
|                 | G810S | 1.05                  | 5.47                | 0.67                | -                  | 0.8802                 | 0.3906               |
|                 | G810C | -                     | -                   | -                   | -                  | 1.227                  | 0.6417               |
| Other           | S904F | -                     | 0.908 [98]          | -                   | -                  | -                      | -                    |
|                 | Y806C | -                     | 0.933 [113]         | -                   | -                  | 0.1744                 | 0.2958               |
|                 | Y806N | 4.76                  | 5.86                | 1.93                | -                  | 0.1498                 | 0.2925               |
|                 | V738A | 1.20                  | 1.05                | 2.35                | -                  | 0.2388                 | 0.1775               |

The IC<sub>50</sub> values are mean (95% confidence interval). In red: resistant; in green: non-resistant. Values refers to BaF3 cell line, exception for Vandetanib Y806C value obtained in HEK 293.

# Mechanism of resistance : activation of alternative signaling pathways more frequent than solvent front?

Among 26 MTC patients treated with RETi,

14 patients with pre and post selpercatinib molecular profile

→ **By pass mechanism of resistance in 75% of the case**

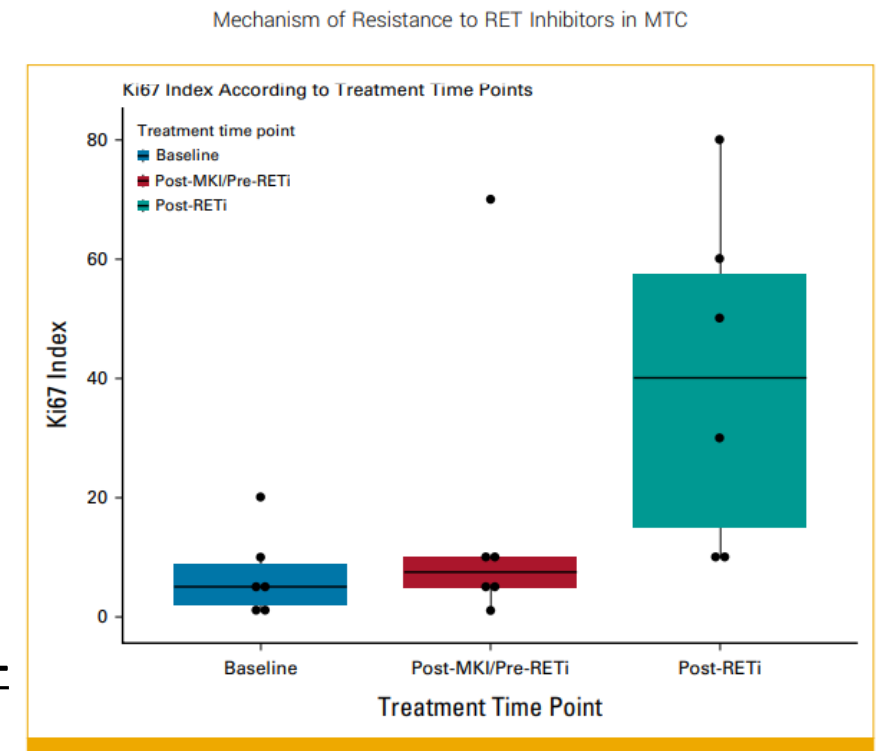
RAS gene mutations (50%),  
FGFR2 fusion  
ALK fusions

→ solvent front mutation: 25%

MYC p.P44L. RET solvent front  
hinge region mutations

6 patients with tumor samples from initial thyroidectomy, pre- and post-RETi

→ increase of the mean Ki 67-index of 7%, 17% and 40%  
Hadoux, et al 2023



**FIG A1.** Box plot of Ki67 index in MTC tumor sampled at diagnosis, after MKI/before RETi, and after RETi. MKI, multikinase inhibitor; MTC, medullary thyroid carcinoma; RET, rearranged during transfection; RETi, selective RET inhibitor.

# To assess the efficacy of vande /cabo after progression under selpercatinib

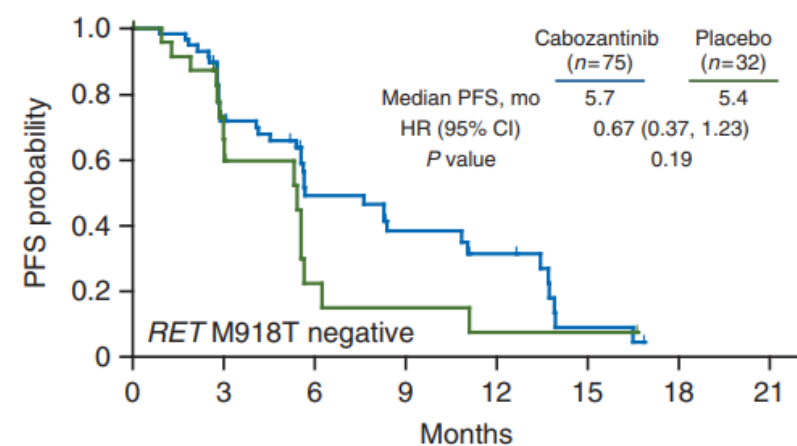
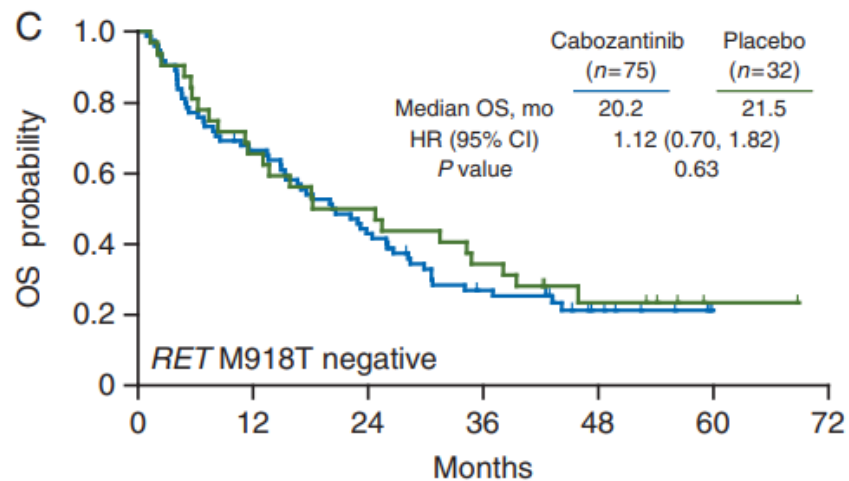
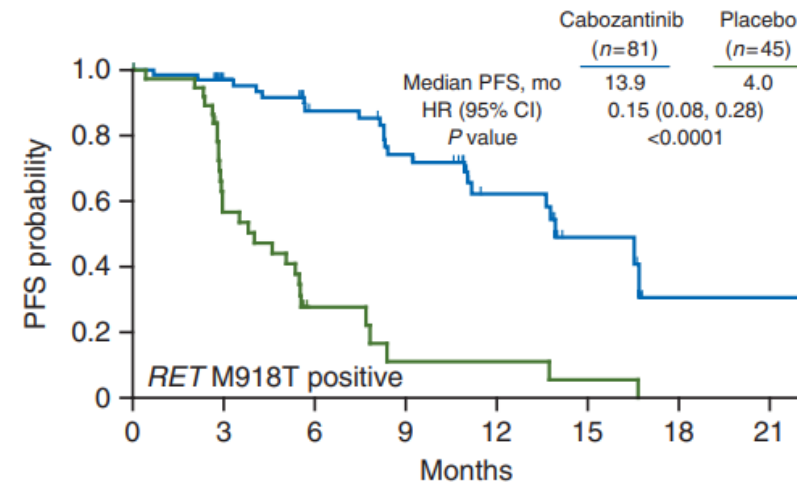
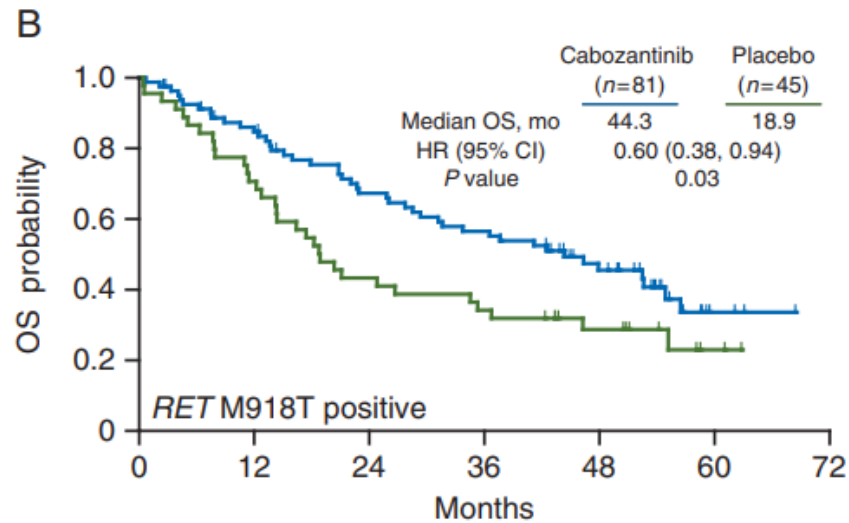
Longer follow-up data from the LIBRETTO 531 study  
Efficacy according to the type of resistance mechanism



# Patients without RET mutations

| Author         | N Tumor | RET+ RAS-<br>% | RET+ RAS+<br>% | RET- RAS+<br>% | Other mutations (%)                          |
|----------------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Moura, 2011    | 65      | 60             | 2%             | <b>26</b>      | Na   |
| Boichard, 2012 | 50      | 68             | 0              | <b>26</b>      | Na   |
| Agrawal 2013   | 57      | 75             | 0              | <b>16</b>      | MDC1 :5%                                     |
| Ciampi 2013    | 188     | 43             | 0              | <b>10</b>      | Na   |
| Simbolo 2014   | 20      | 65             | 0              | <b>20</b>      | STK11 (5%)                                   |
| Ji, 2015       | 71      | 51             | 0              | <b>24</b>      | STK 11 (13%), MLH1 (5%), MET                 |
| Heilman 2016   | 30      | 87             | 0              | <b>10</b>      | CCND1 (9%) CDKN2A (9%), FGF19 (9%), VHL (6%) |
| Romei 2016     | 70      | 91.4           | -              | <b>8.6</b>     | none   |

# Effect of cabozantinib on OS et PFS according to the RET status : the EXAM trial



# Chemotherapy in MTC

| Drugs                                    | n  | Partial Response |                         |
|--|----|------------------|-------------------------|
| CVD                                      | 7  | 2                | Averbuch et al 1988     |
| CVD                                      | 9  | 1                | Deutschbein et al       |
| Dacarbazine +5FU                         | 5  | 3                | Orlandi et al 1994      |
| Dacarbazine +5FU / 5FU streptozotocine   | 20 | 3                | Schlumberger et al 1995 |
| Dacarbazine +5FU / Doxo- streptozotocine | 20 | 3                | Nocera et al 2000       |
| Dacarbazine +5FU                         | 4  | 3                | Marchand et al 2016     |
| Capecitabine-Temozolomide                | 1  | 1                | Lacin et al 2015        |

# Refractory Thyroid Cancer

## Rares Tumors

Include : DTC that are RAIR, All ATC and MTC with residual disease

**Network of healthcare expertise**  
**Data bases**  
**TRIALS FOR UNMET NEEDS**

**DTC :** LT4

Local treatments

Systemic treatments in case of progressive disease- high tumor burden

Mostly anti VEGFR -→ Rare actionable somatic mutations that need to be searched

**Anaplastic thyroid carcinomas:** Urgent treatment

Chemo-Radiation

Rare actionable mutations, that need to be searched

**MTC :** Hereditary and sporadic forms: RET mutation

Local treatments

Systemic treatments in case of progressive disease- high tumor burden

Anti RET: 1st line treatment...

**Thanks for your attention**

