

Stephanie Lheureux

- ▶ Targeting mTOR & PI3CA

Targeting PI3K/Akt/mTor pathway

Are you ready for the challenge?

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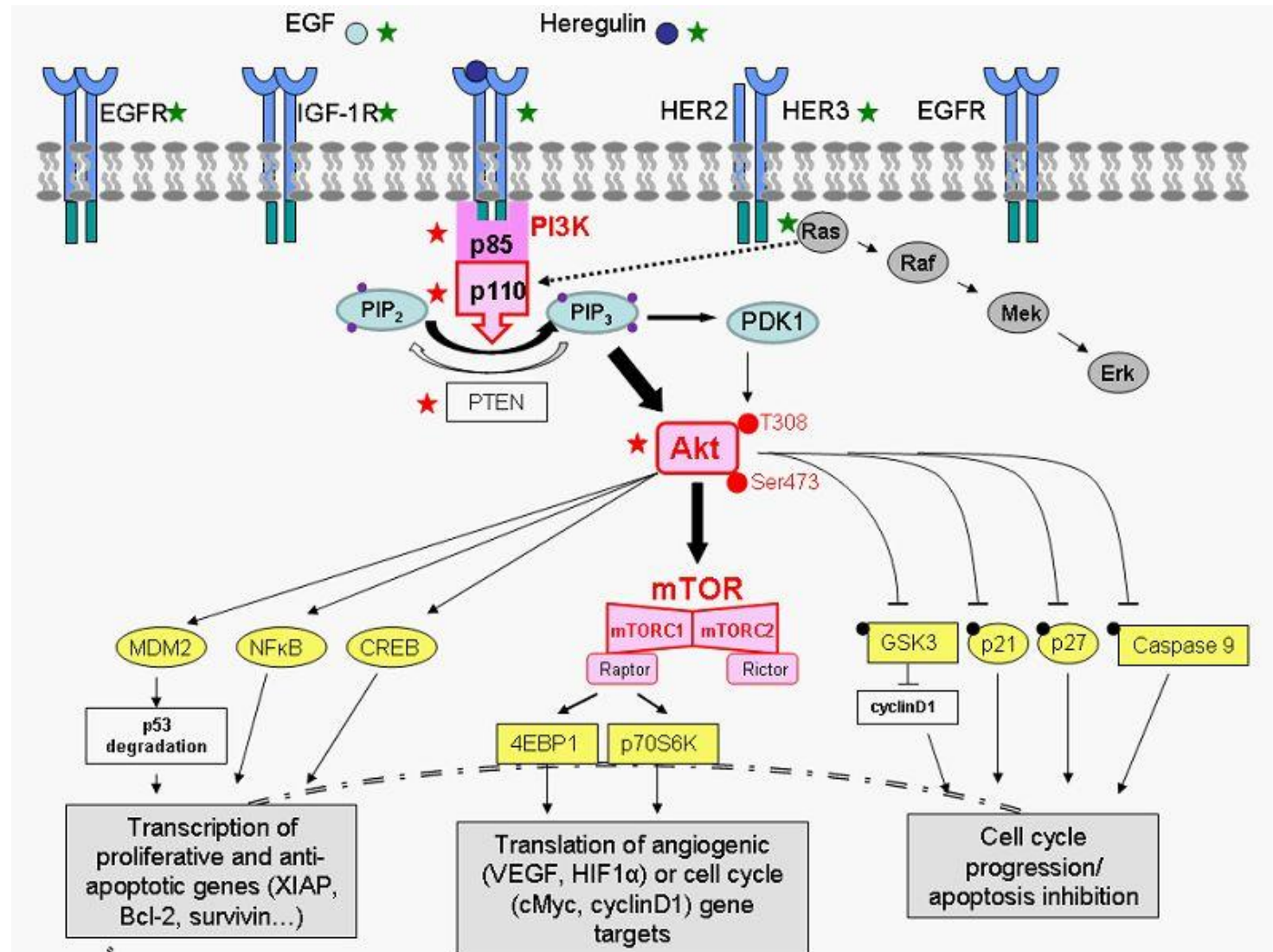


PI3K Pathway & Regulation

Key Aspects of Cancer Biology
Glucose Uptake & Metabolism,
Cellular Growth & Survival

- * **Upstream Activation of PI3K pathway**
 - *Directly*: via Growth Factor Receptor & Ligands
 - *Indirectly*: Cross-talk - Ras pathway

- * **Intrinsic Activation of PI3K pathway**
 - Gain of Function Mutation
Amplification PI3K-AKT
 - Loss of negative regulator PTEN
(*Inactivating mutation – CN loss – Homozygous deletion*)



PI3K pathway & Cancer

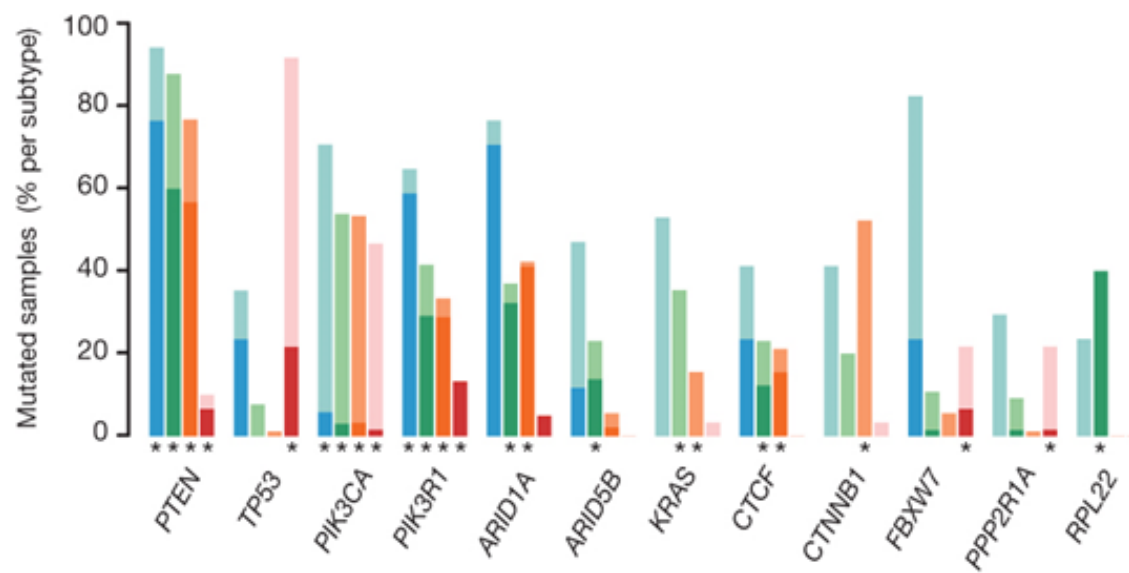
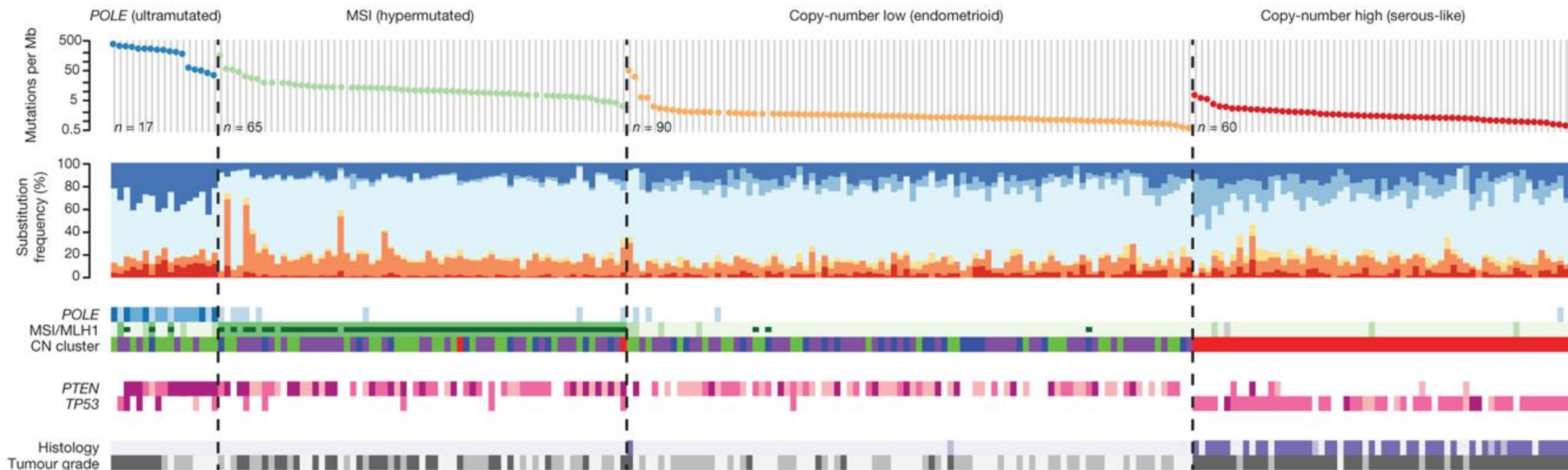
Significantly Mutated Genes from 20 cellular processes in cancer identified in 12 cancer types.

	BLCA	BRCA	COAD/READ	GBM	HNSC	KIRC	AML	LUAD	LUSC	OV	UCEC	Pan-Cancer	
MAPK signalling	0.0	0.8	45.1	0.7	0.3	0.2	4.0	26.3	1.2	0.6	20.0	6.7	KRAS
	7.1	2.5	1.0	11.0	2.7	1.7	1.0	11.8	10.3	3.8	3.5	4.4	NF1
	3.1	7.2	0.0	2.1	1.0	1.2	0.0	1.8	1.7	0.3	3.5	2.7	MAP3K1
	2.0	0.4	3.6	2.1	1.0	0.2	0.0	6.6	4.6	0.6	0.9	1.5	BRAF
	2.0	0.1	8.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	7.5	1.8	0.6	0.6	2.6	1.5	NRAS
	0.0	4.1	2.6	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.3	1.3	1.4	MAP2K4
	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.0	1.8	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.7	MAPK8IP1
PI(3)K signalling	17.4	33.6	17.6	11.0	20.6	2.9	0.0	4.4	14.9	0.6	52.2	7.8	PIK3CA
	3.1	3.8	1.0	30.7	1.3	4.3	0.0	2.2	8.1	0.6	63.5	9.7	PTEN
	1.0	2.5	2.1	11.4	1.7	0.5	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.3	30.9	4.4	PIK3R1
	2.0	1.2	0.0	0.3	2.0	0.5	0.5	11.4	5.8	1.0	0.4	1.9	TLR4
	2.0	0.4	0.5	2.4	2.7	0.7	0.0	5.3	7.5	1.0	1.3	1.7	PIK3CG
	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.3	0.9	AKT1
TGF-β signalling	2.0	0.4	9.8	0.3	2.0	0.5	0.0	3.1	2.9	0.0	0.0	1.4	SMAD4
	3.1	0.4	2.6	0.7	3.0	0.2	0.0	0.9	1.7	1.0	1.3	1.1	TGFBR2
	0.0	0.7	3.6	0.0	1.3	1.0	0.0	2.2	1.2	0.3	1.7	1.0	ACVR1B
	1.0	0.5	5.7	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.3	0.9	SMAD2
	1.0	0.5	2.6	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.9	1.2	0.0	0.4	0.6	ACVR2A
Wnt/β-catenin signalling	4.1	0.5	81.9	0.3	4.0	1.4	0.0	9.2	4.0	2.2	5.7	7.3	APC
	2.0	0.1	4.7	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.0	3.5	1.7	0.6	28.3	2.9	CTNNB1
	3.1	0.1	3.6	0.3	1.7	0.2	0.0	0.9	0.6	0.3	2.6	0.9	AXIN2
	2.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.7	0.0	2.2	1.2	0.3	1.3	0.8	TBL1XR1
	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.3	SOX17

PI3K and Endometrial Cancer

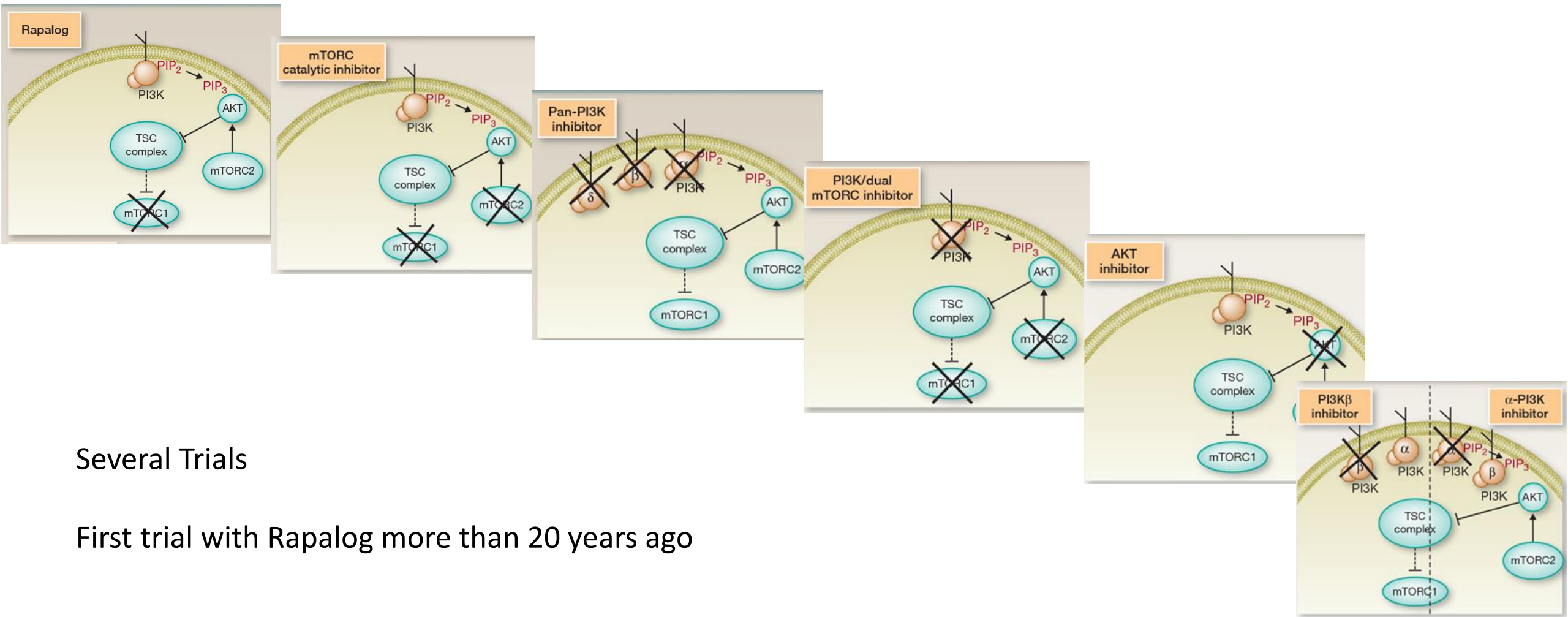
Incidence of Genetic Alterations in Type I & II

Gene (reference)	Incidence of genetic aberrations in endometrial cancer, %	
	Type I	Type II
<i>PTEN</i> (12)		
Sequence abnormalities	70	35
Protein loss	75	43
<i>PIK3CA</i> (13, 14)	41–52	33–38
<i>PIK3R1</i> (14, 15)	21–43	12–17
<i>AKT1</i> (16)	2	Undetected
RTKs		
<i>HER2</i> amplification (17)	3	18
<i>HER2</i> overexpression (17, 18)	8	18–31
<i>FGFR</i> (19, 20)	12–16	~1
EGFR overexpression (21, 22)		~50–80
<i>KRAS</i> (23, 24)	13–26	2



- **POLE (Ultramutated)**: Highest rate of PTEN (94%), PI3KCA (71%), and PIK3R1 (65%) Alterations
- **MSI (Hypermuted)**: KRAS – PTEN Mutations frequent
- **Copy Number Low (Endometrioid)**: PTEN, PIK3CA and beta-catenin Mutations
- **Copy Number High (Serous-like)**: p53 most altered (92%), PI3K (47%) and PTEN (11%) – HER2 amplifications (25%)

Drug Development for Target



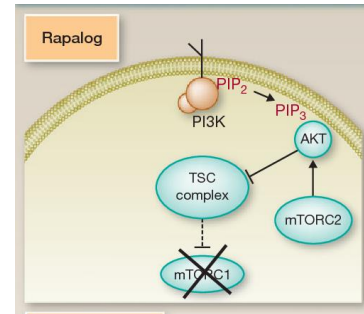
Several Trials

First trial with Rapalog more than 20 years ago

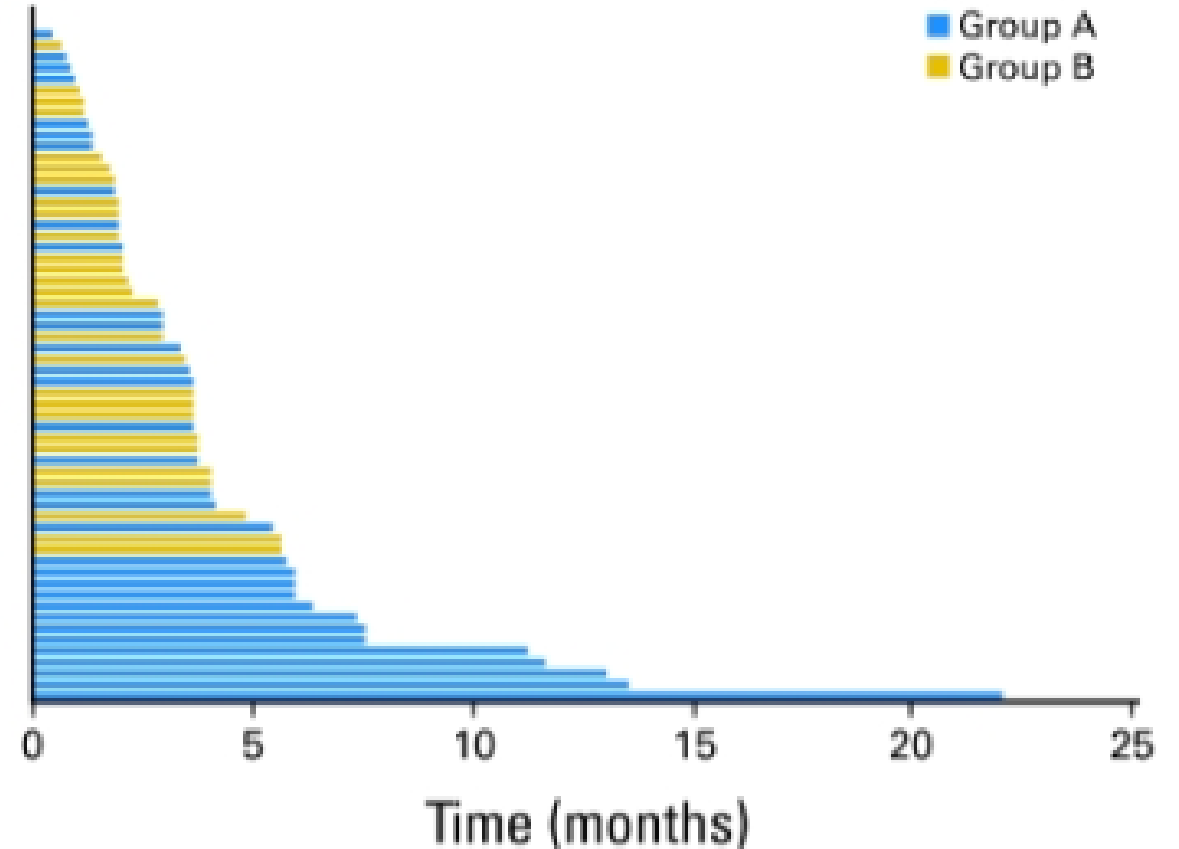
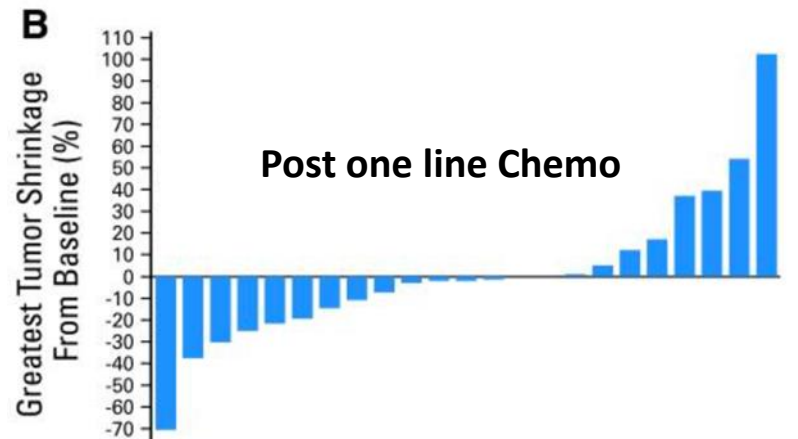
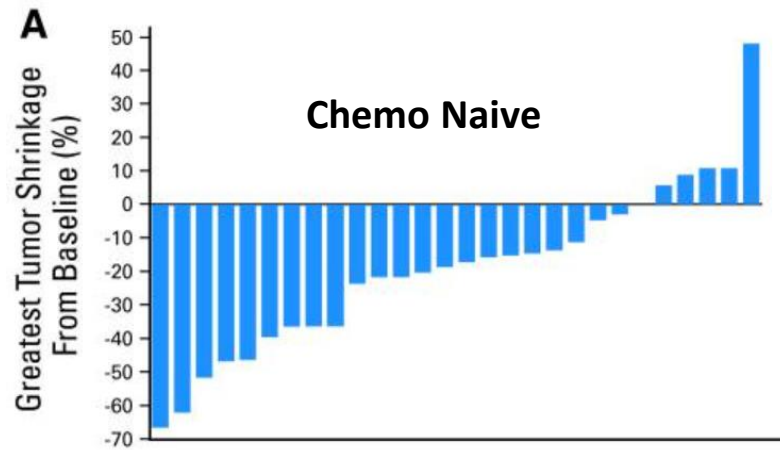
Lheureux et al 2014 Exp Opin Investig Drugs

A. Myers, CCR 2013

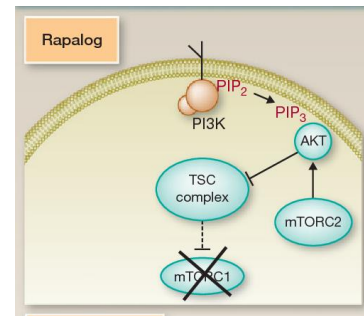
Temsirolimus – Single Agent



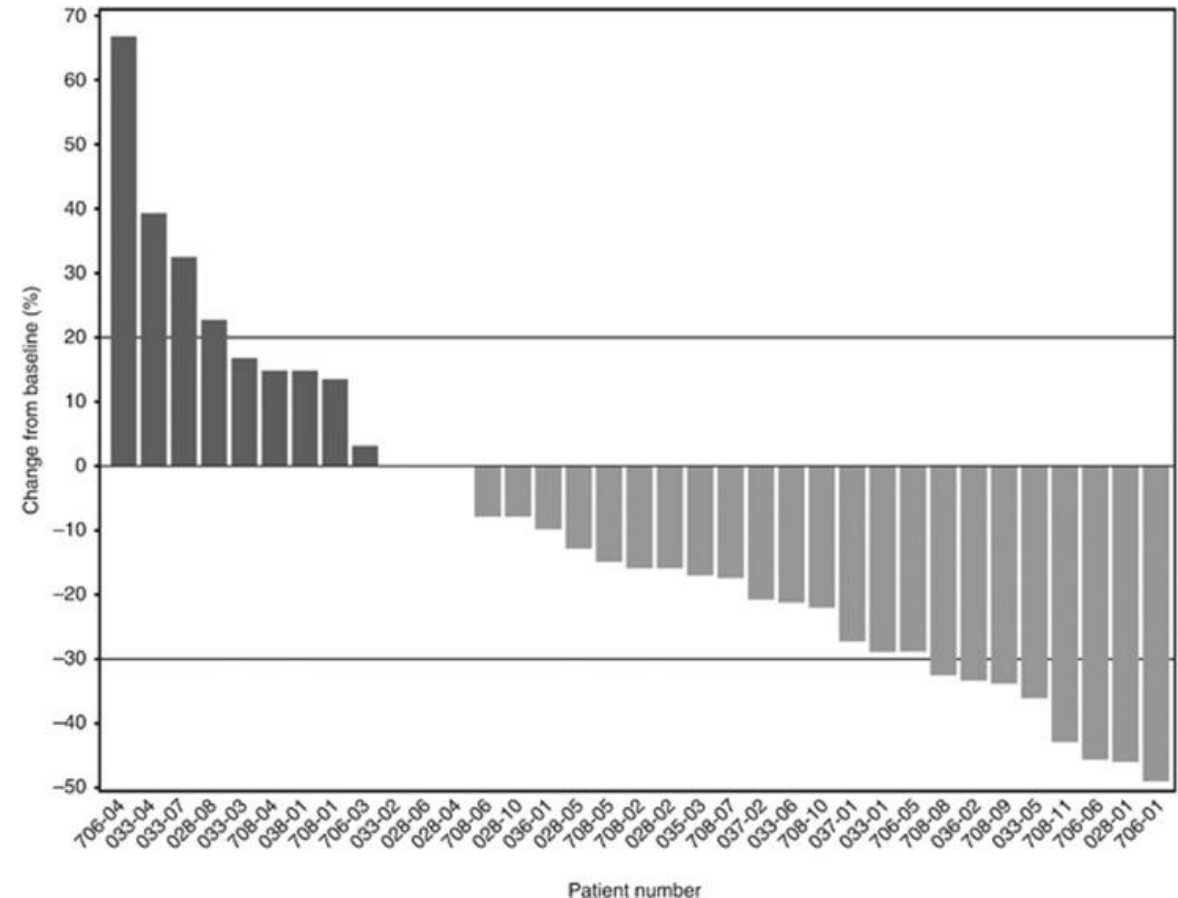
Recurrent or Metastatic Endometrial Cancer – Single Arm – 2 Cohorts



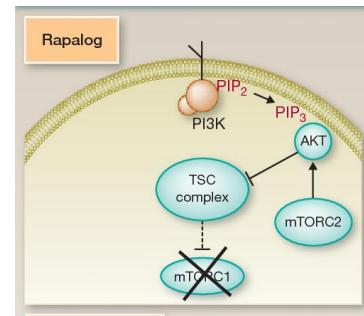
Ridaforolimus – Single Agent



- **Open-label**, Multicentre, Phase 2
- Advanced - Metastatic Endometrial Cancer
- Ridaforolimus 12.5 mg IV OD for 5 consecutive days every 2 weeks in a 4-week cycle
- **AE:** Diarrhoea (58%) and Mouth sores (56%)
- **Most common grade ≥ 3 :** Anaemia (27%) and Hyperglycaemia (11%)

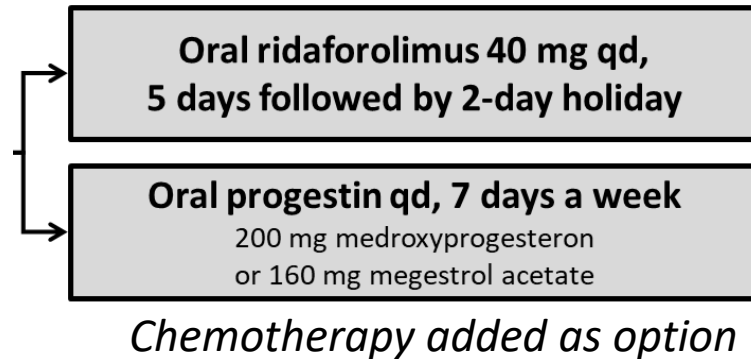


Ridaforolimus – Single Agent



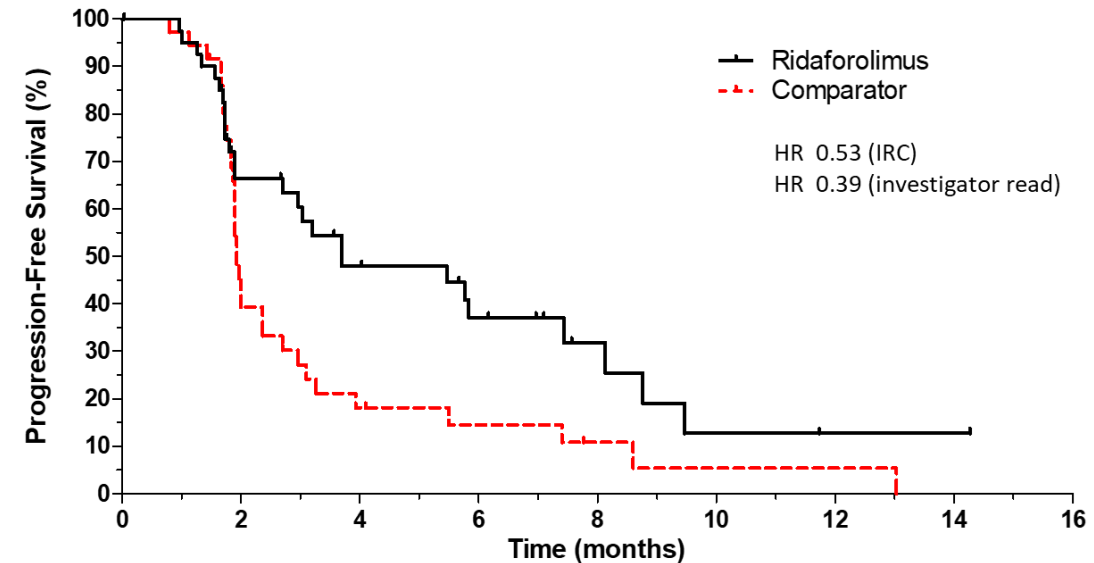
Randomized – Open label

Metastatic/Recurrent EC
 Progressive disease post
 1 or 2 lines of chemotherapy
 No hormonal therapy



Treatment discontinuation due to AE: 33% with Ridaforolimus vs 6% with the Comparator

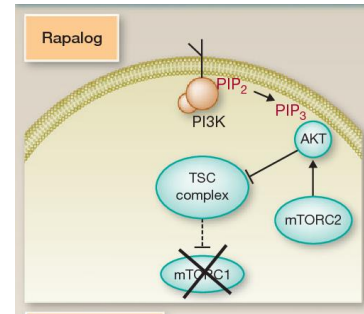
Common (> 10%) grade 3 toxicities: Hyperglycemia, Anemia, and Diarrhea



n at risk	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
Ridaforolimus	48	23	14	10	5	1	1	1	0
Comparator	47	13	6	4	2	1	1	0	0

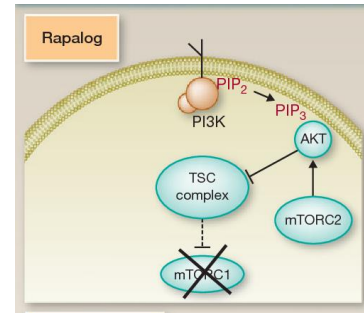
	Ridaforolimus (N=48)		Comparator (N=47)	
	IRC	Investigator read	IRC	Investigator read
Median survival, months	3.6	5.6	1.9	1.9

Everolimus – Single Agent



- Progressive or Recurrent endometrial cancer who had received one or two prior chemotherapeutic
- Histologically-confirmed Endometrioid Endometrial Adenocarcinoma. Serous, clear cell, carcinosarcoma, sarcoma, or other histologic subtypes were excluded.
- Of the 28 evaluable patients
 - No complete or partial response
 - Median duration of SD = 4.5 months (range 2 –10)
- 49% of pts required dose reduction to 5 mg daily because of stomatitis (n=10), hyperglycemia (n=3), thrombocytopenia, hypertriglyceridemia, rash and fever.

Everolimus – Single Agent

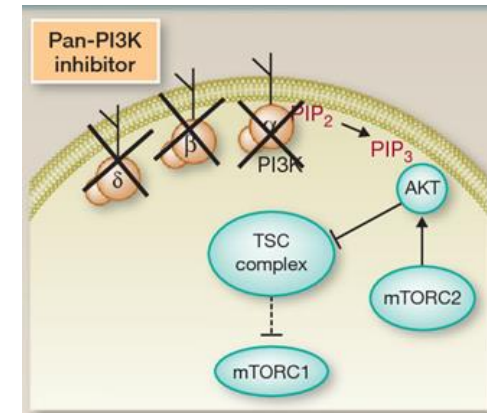


Everolimus: Second- or Third-line treatment of Advanced EC - ENDORAD phase II trial

	Total Population (N=44)		Endometrioid histology (n=28)		Serous histology (n=11)		Other histology (n=5)	
	3 Months	6 Months	3 Months	6 Months	3 Months	6 Months	3 Months	6 Months
Response, n (%)								
Partial response	2 (5)	4 (9)	1 (4)	3 (11)	1 (9)	1 (9)	0	0
Stable disease	14 (32)	12 (27)	10 (36)	8 (29)	2 (18)	2 (18)	2 (40)	2 (40)
Progressive disease	25 (57)	25 (57)	15 (54)	15 (54)	8 (73)	8 (73)	2 (40)	2 (40)
Not evaluable	3 (6)	3 (6)	2 (7)	2 (7)	0	0	1 (20)	1 (20)

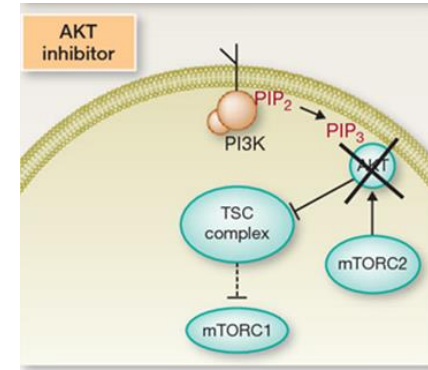
Median duration of response was 3.1 months

Pi3K inhibitor – Single Agent

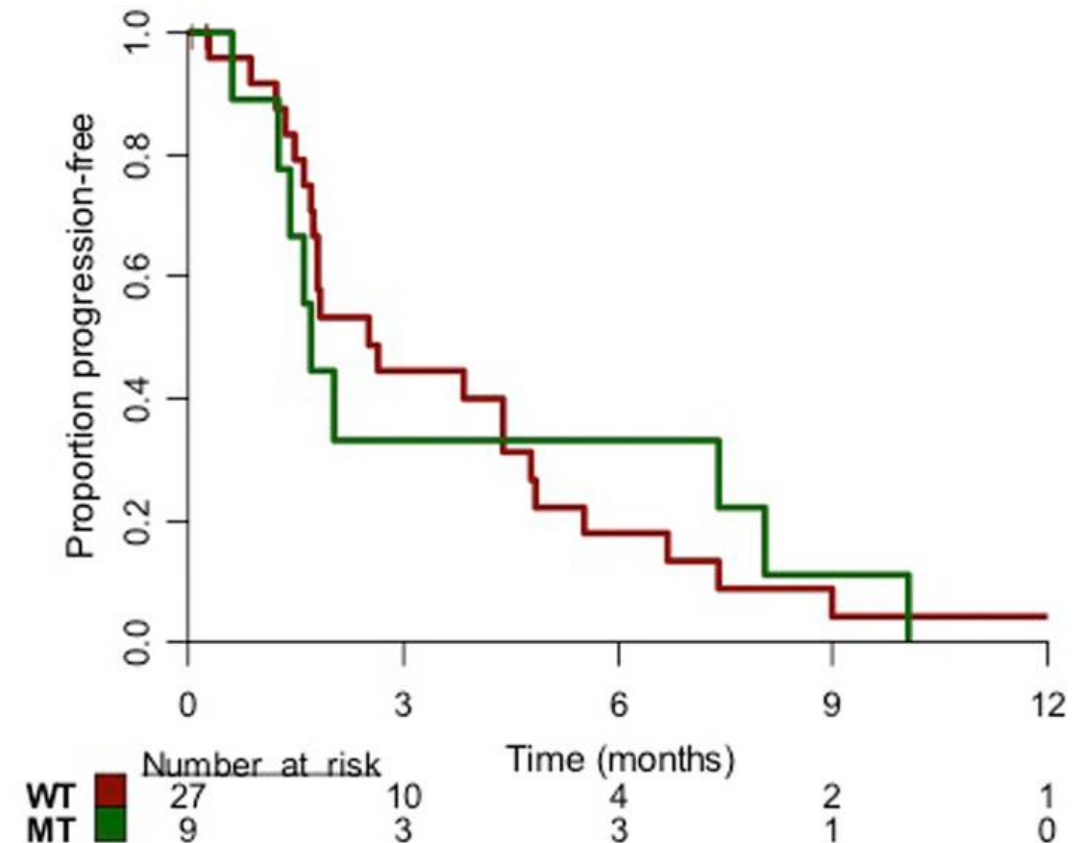


- **Pilaralisib** – Single Arm
 - Recurrent EC up to two prior lines of chemotherapy.
 - Most Common AE: were rash (40.3%), diarrhea (37.3%) and fatigue (28.4%).
 - In 67 pts: ORR = 6.0% - PFS > 6 months was 11.9%
 - Clinical activity not associated with any molecular alteration of the PI3K pathway.
- **BKM120** – Single Arm
 - Recurrent EC - no more than one prior chemotherapy regimen
 - Stratified by Low & High-grade histology
 - Unfavourable safety profile: Grade 3/4 tox including cutaneous rash (54%), depressive events (47%), and anxiety (40%)
 - Minimal anti-tumour activity

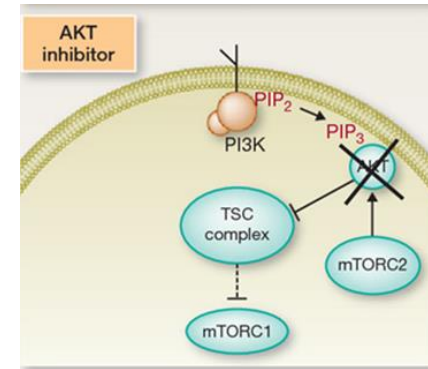
AKT inhibitor – Single Agent



- Phase 2 - MK-2206
- Recurrent EC all histologies except carcinosarcoma
- Biomarker stratification: PI3K mutation
- 36 evaluable patients: 1 PR – Limited Activity
- 40% of patients requiring a dose reduction for a dermatologic-related adverse event
- Exploratory Analysis: Only serous histology linked to greater than 6 months PFS when compared to other histologies



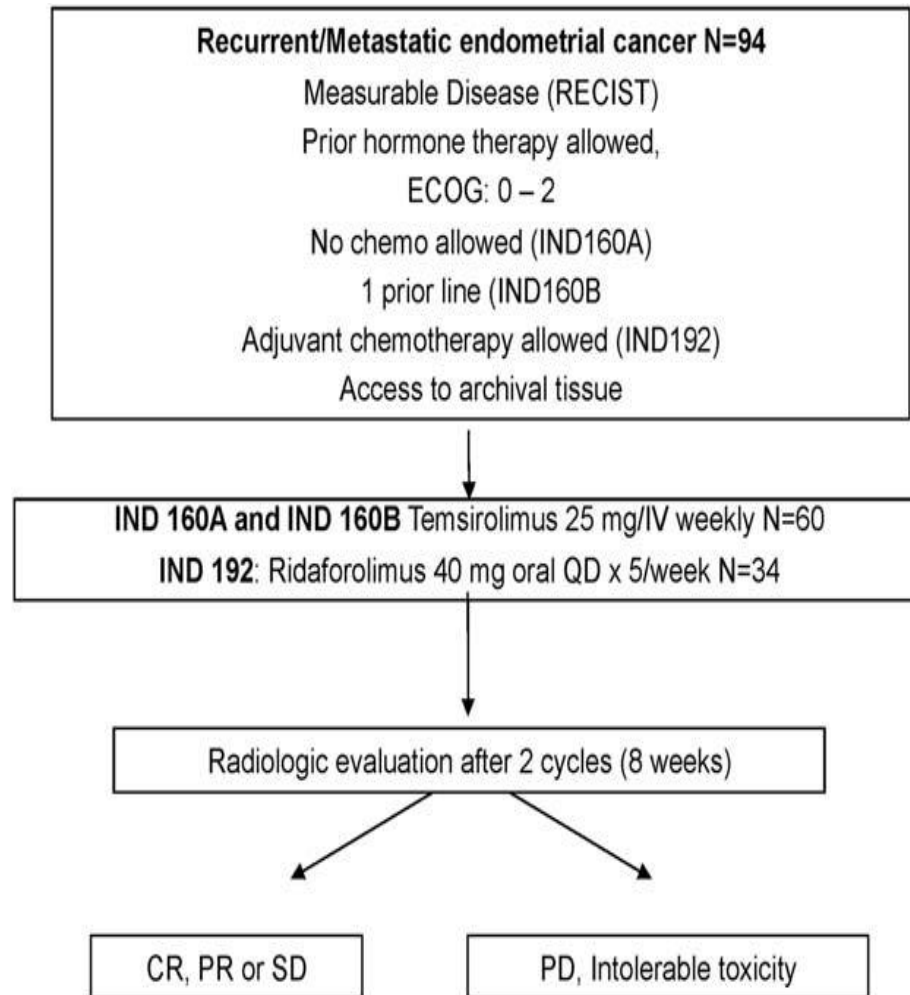
AKT inhibitor – Single Agent



- Phase II, single-stage of MK-2206 in pts with Advanced or Recurrent High-grade Serous Endometrial Cancer, who had received up to two lines of prior therapy
- MK-2206 (135 mg) orally once per week, in continuous 28-day cycles.
- 14 patients received treatment
- Limited Activity
 - Median PFS = 2 months (95% CI: 1.6 to 4.4)
 - Median OS = 6.4 months (95% CI: 5.1 to not reached)

Biomarkers

Retrospective Analyses

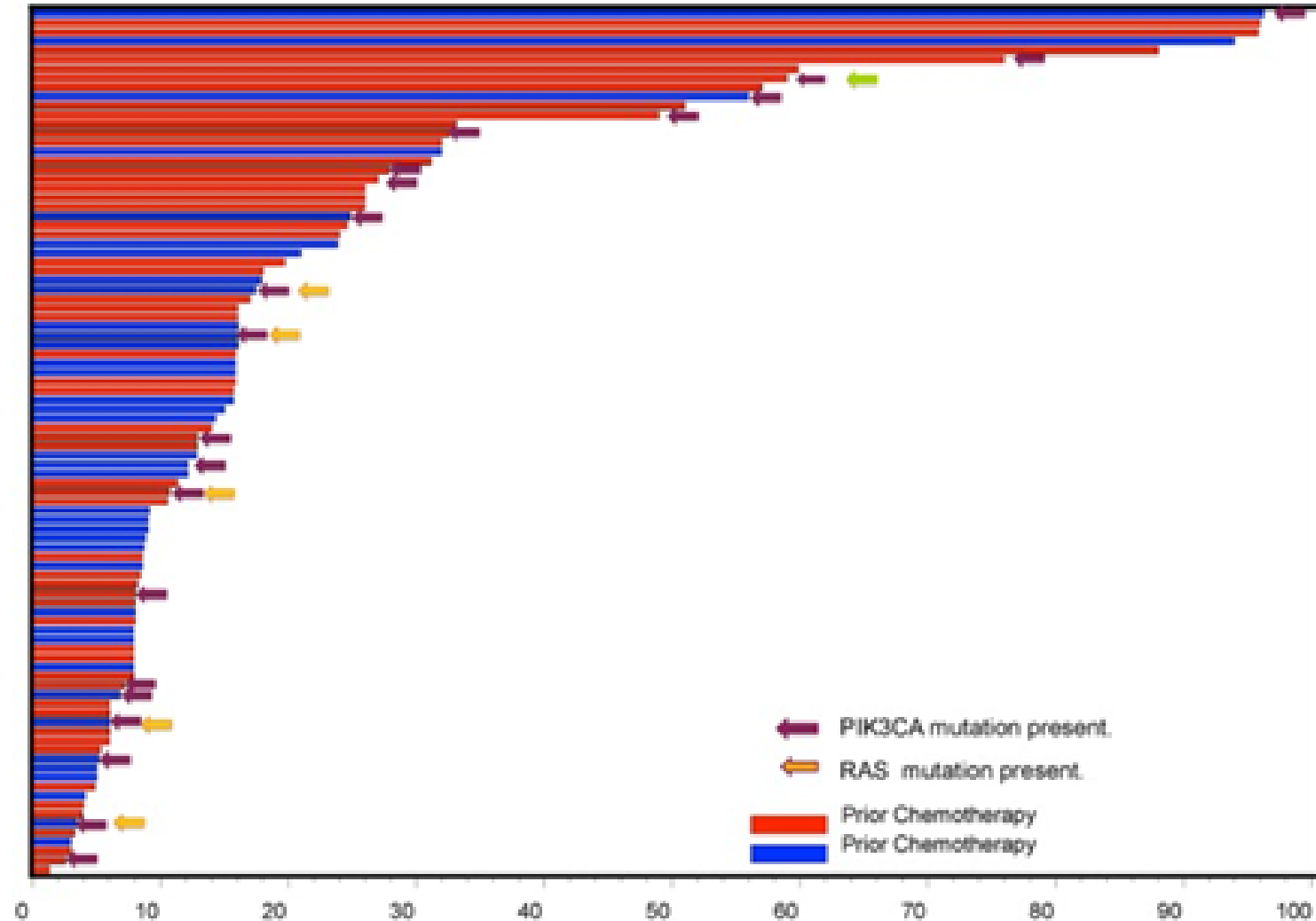
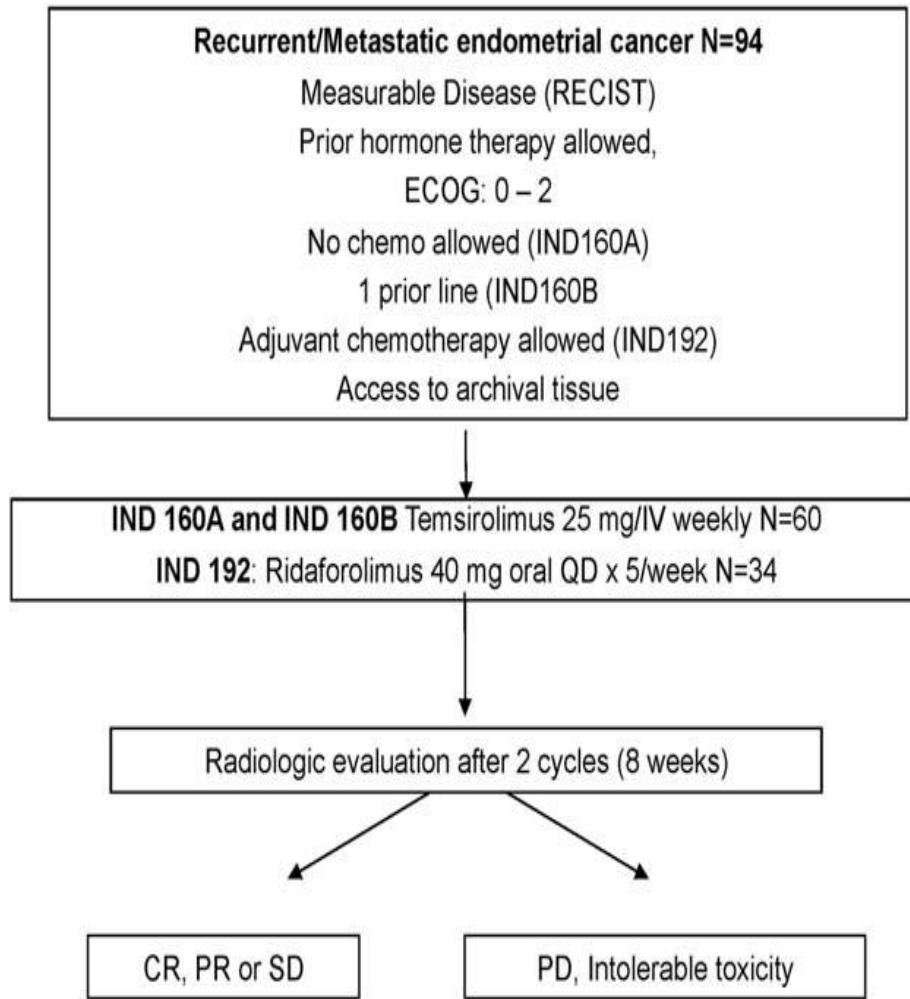


No Correlation with PTEN Expression

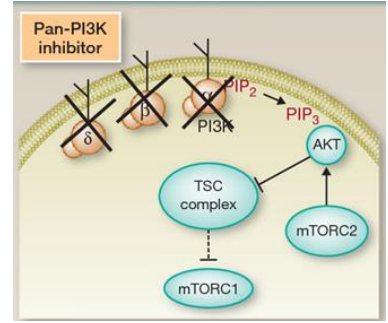
Group	No.	Response (% ^a)	<i>P</i>	Progression (% ^a)	<i>P</i>
<hr/>					
PTEN expression			0.46		.35
Negative	46	3 (6.5)		12 (26.1)	
Positive	39	5 (12.8)		14 (35.9)	
Stathmin expression			0.89		.34
Negative	2	0 (0.0)		1 (50.0)	
Weak	21	2 (9.5)		5 (23.8)	
Moderate	27	2 (7.4)		7 (25.9)	
Strong	15	2 (13.3)		7 (46.7)	
Histologic subtype			0.74		.69
Endometrioid	66	6 (9.1)		19 (28.8)	
Clear cell	4	0 (0.0)		0 (0.0)	
Serous	12	2 (16.7)		3 (25.0)	

Retrospective Analyses

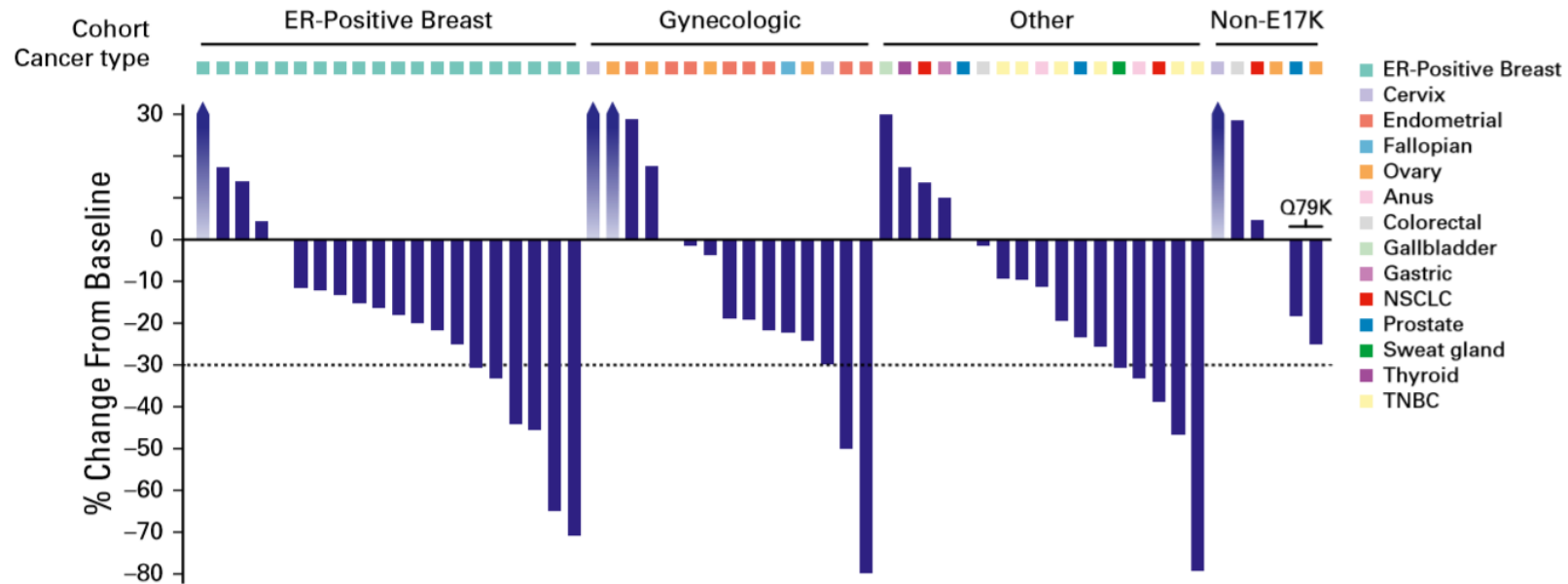
Higher responses in chemo-naïve patients



Target AKT – Specific Mutation

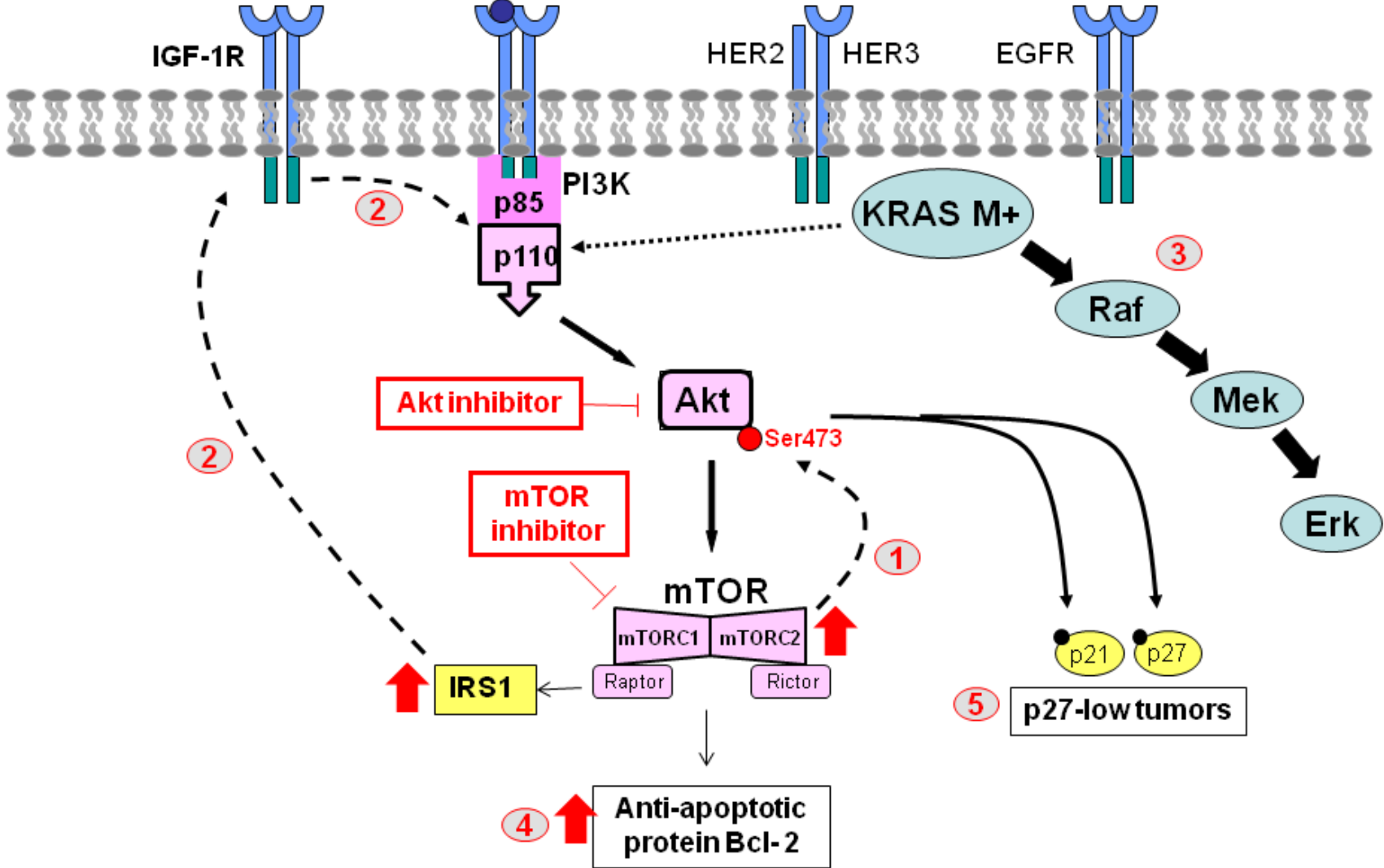


- **Basket Trial** – AZD5363 – pan-AKT kinase Inhibitor in Solid Tumors With AKT1 Mutations
- AKT1 E17K Mutant tumors
- Gyne: Median of 5 lines of prior therapy – median PFS = 6.6 months



Mechanisms of Resistance

Pathway Dependence: Cross Talks & Adaptation



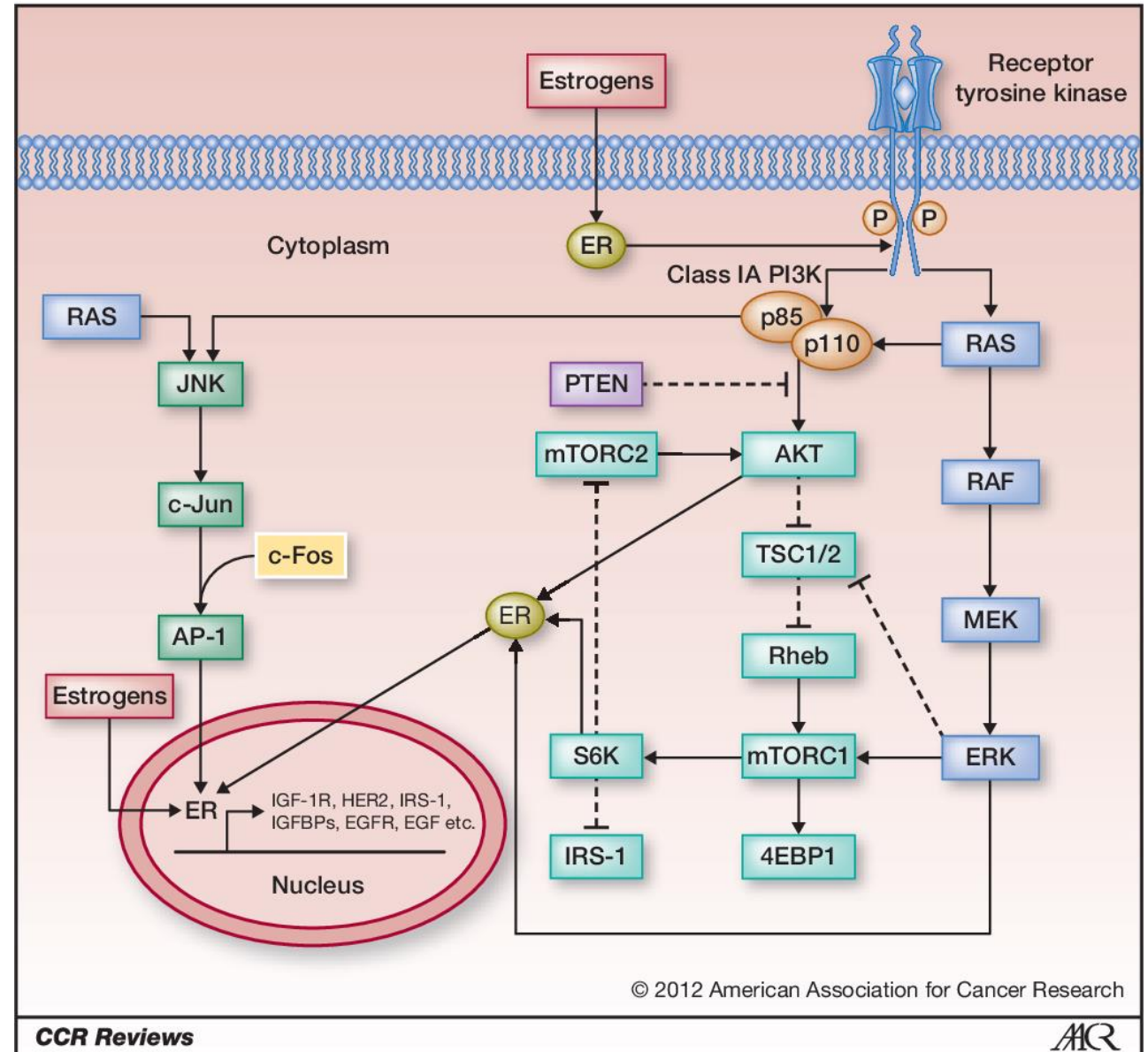
Other Factors

- Drug / off-on Target Effect
 - Importance of PK/PD data
 - Dose / Schedule
 - Ensure pathway inhibition
 - Drug Engineering
- Tumor Context – Level of addiction to PI3K inhibition
 - Metabolic
 - Histologic
 - Mutational – presence / absence of other mutations
- Heterogeneity – Sub-clonal mutation
- Patient Selection



➔ Combination therapy to avoid primary & acquired Resistance

Targeting Other Signaling pathways



Combination of PI3K and MEK inhibition

- Recurrent EC Measurable disease
- All Histologies eligible except carcinosarcoma
- Plan for randomized, phase II, open label trial to compare the MEK inhibitor-trametinib, alone or combination with the AKT inhibitor - GSK2141795

AFTER Patient safety lead-in.

- High Level of Toxicity → Trial stopped
- A reduced dose was better tolerated, however, Insufficient Activity

→ Potential to target other kinase in the Ras pathway

Combination with Hormonal Therapy

Temsirolimus + Alternating Megestrol acetate & Tamoxifen

- High rate of thromboembolic disease (5/22 pts) in the combination arm → STOP Early
- Addition of megestrol & tamoxifen did not enhance the activity of temsirolimus: RR 14 vs 22%

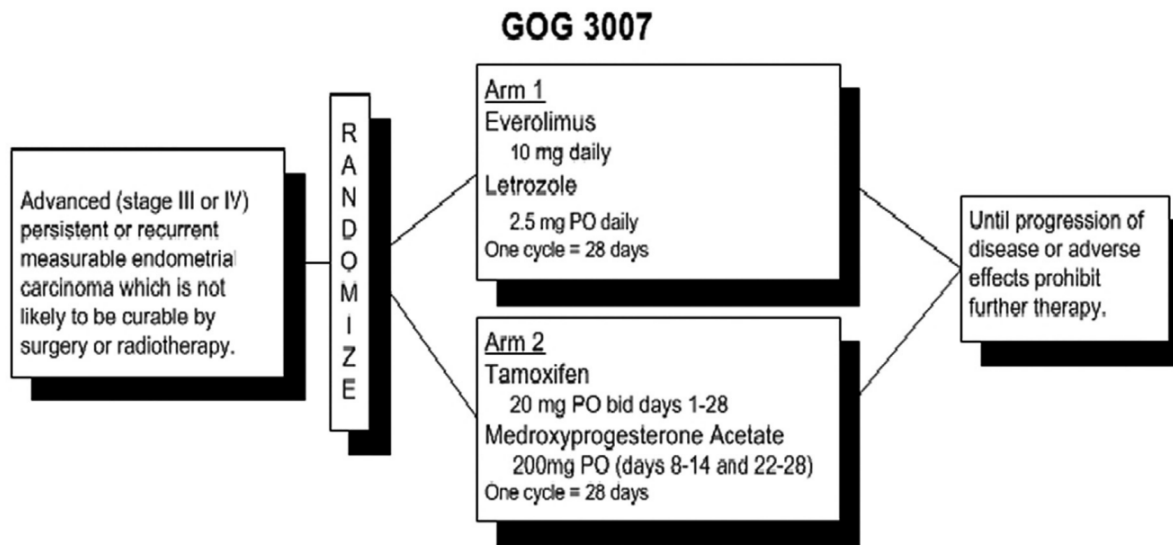
Fleming G et al, Gynecol Oncol 2014

Everolimus + Letrozole

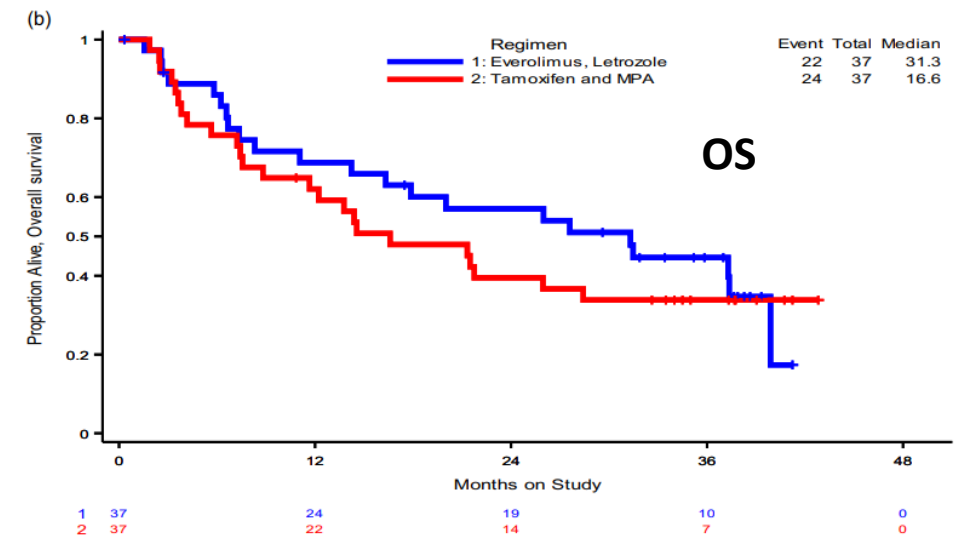
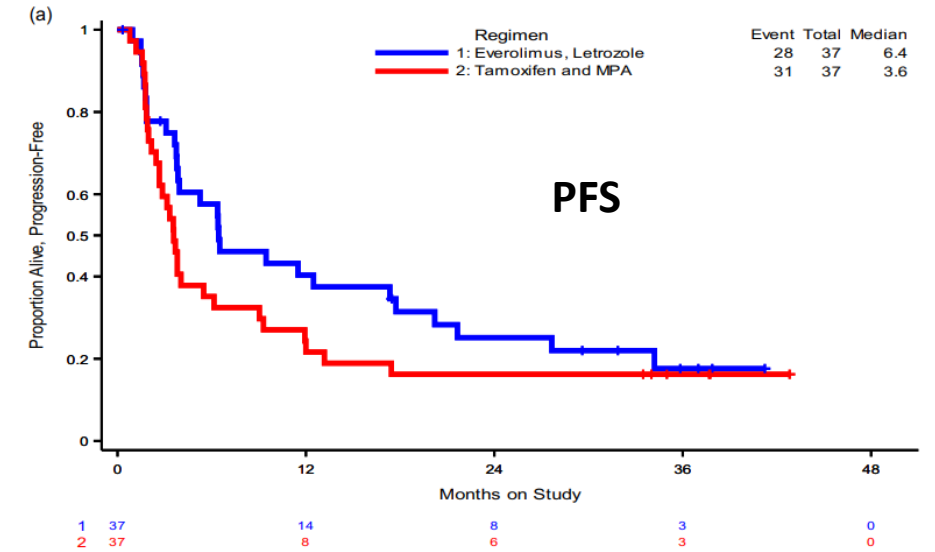
- Trial was hormone Receptor agnostic - Up to two prior cytotoxic regimen
- CBR = 40% and ORR = 32%
- None of the patients discontinued treatment as a result of toxicity
- Correlative Analyses
 - Serous histology: Predictor of Lack of Response
 - Endometrioid histology & *CTNNB1* mutations: Response to everolimus & letrozole

Slomovitz BM et al, JCO 2015

mTOR inhibitor + Hormonal Therapy

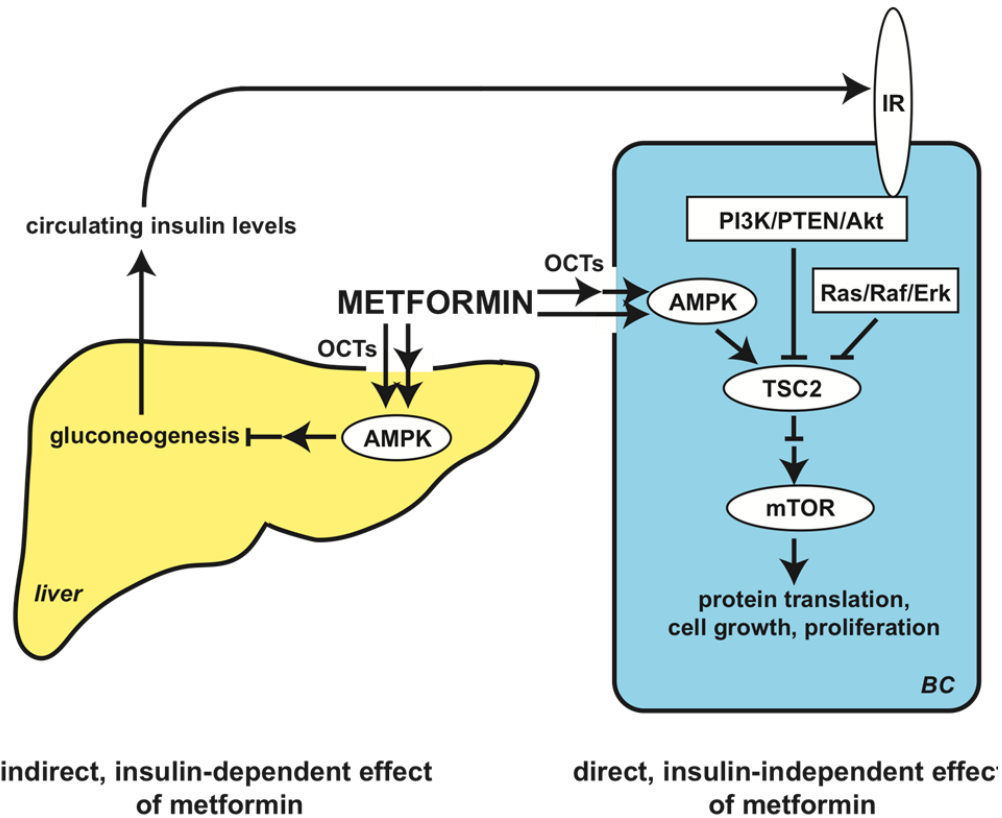


- Everolimus & letrozole: Similar RR compared to hormonal therapy (24 vs 23%)
- Median PFS: 6.3 mths for everolimus & letrozole vs 3.8 mths
- PFS Benefit improved when compared to the hormonal regimen in pts chemotherapy naïve at recurrence (21.6 vs 6.6 mths)

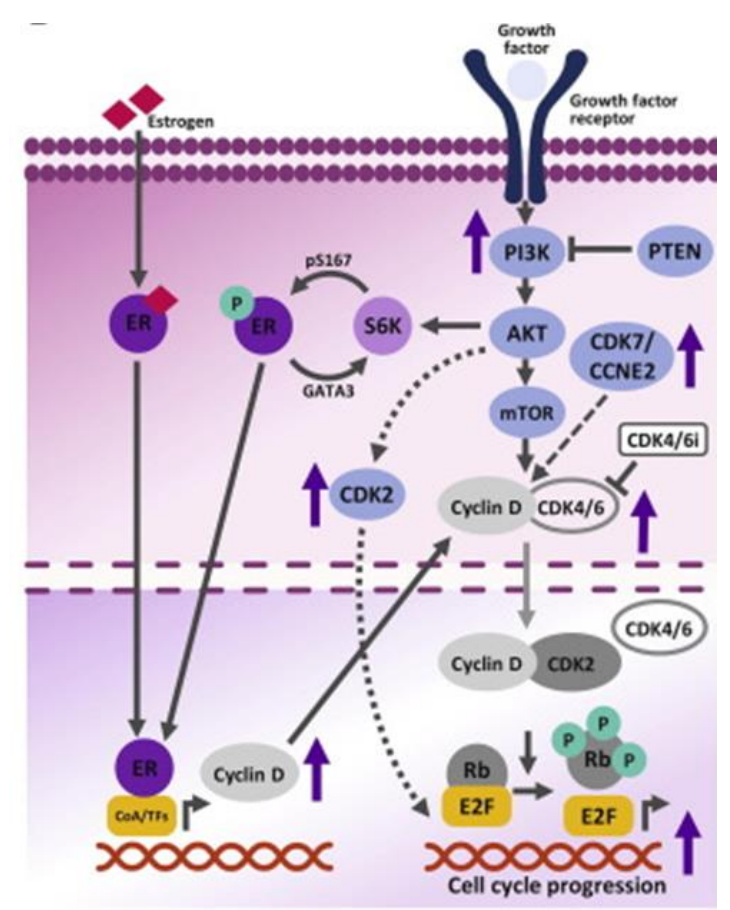
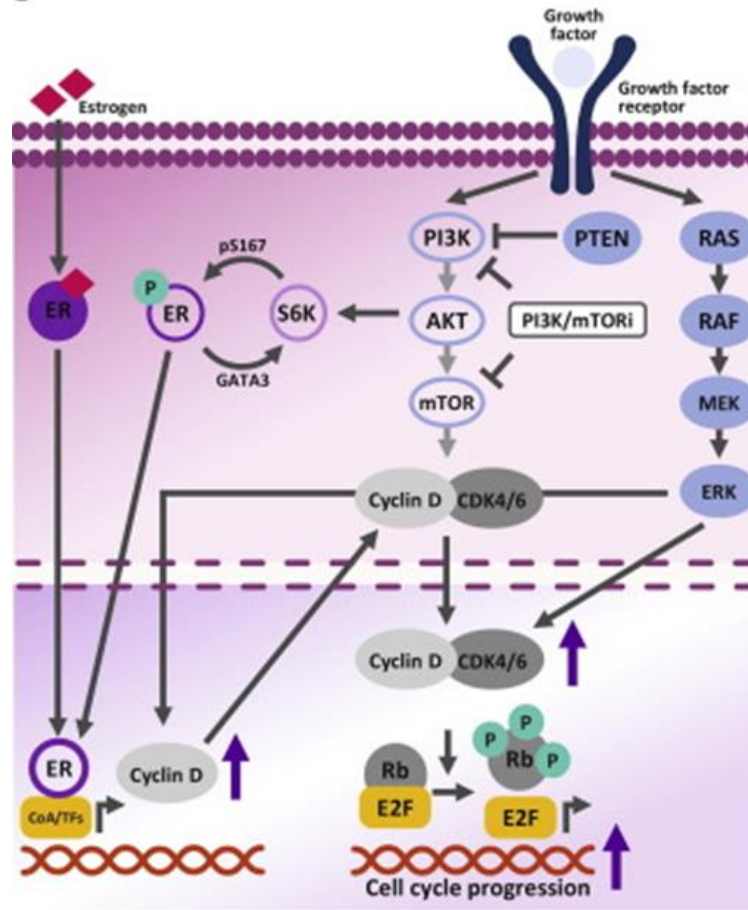
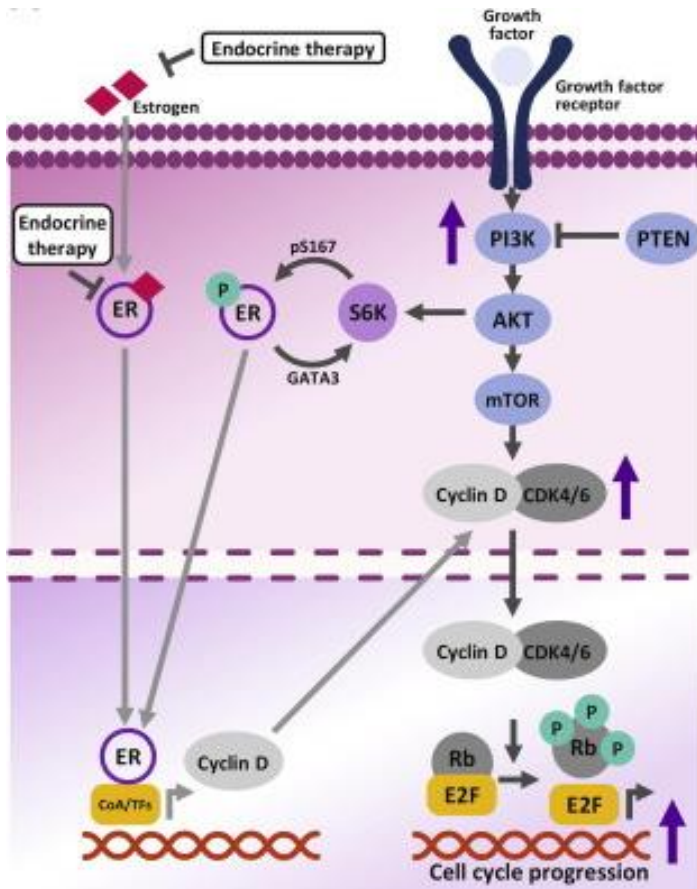


What about Triplet Combination

- Phase II study: **Everolimus & Letrozole & Metformin**
- Recurrent Endometrioid or mixed-endometrioid EC (n=54) - No more than two prior chemotherapy regimens
- **CBR = 50% & ORR= 28%**
- Median duration of response: 7 mths – PFS6m of 41%.
- **PgR status by IHC:** Correlation with response
CBR =90% & ORR = 45% for tumor PgR expression
- Presence of PTEN or PIK3CA mutation not associated with response to mTOR inhibition
- No association between KRAS status & response



Other triplet Combination Strategies



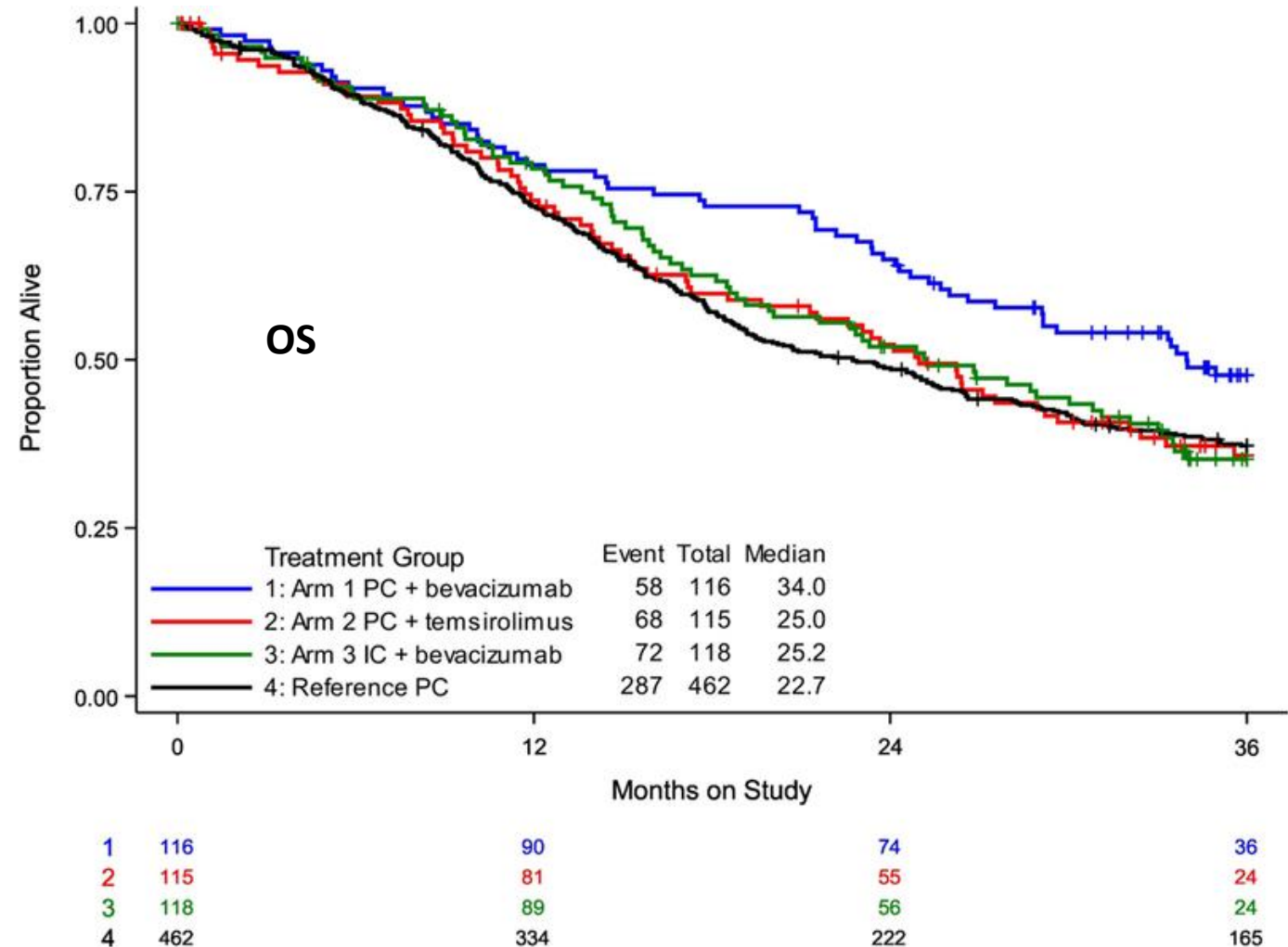
Cortés et al. Cancer Treat Rev 2017

➔ Phase II study of everolimus, letrozole, and the cyclin-dependent kinase (CDK) 4/6 inhibitor ribociclib

Combination with DNA Damage Agent

Chemotherapy

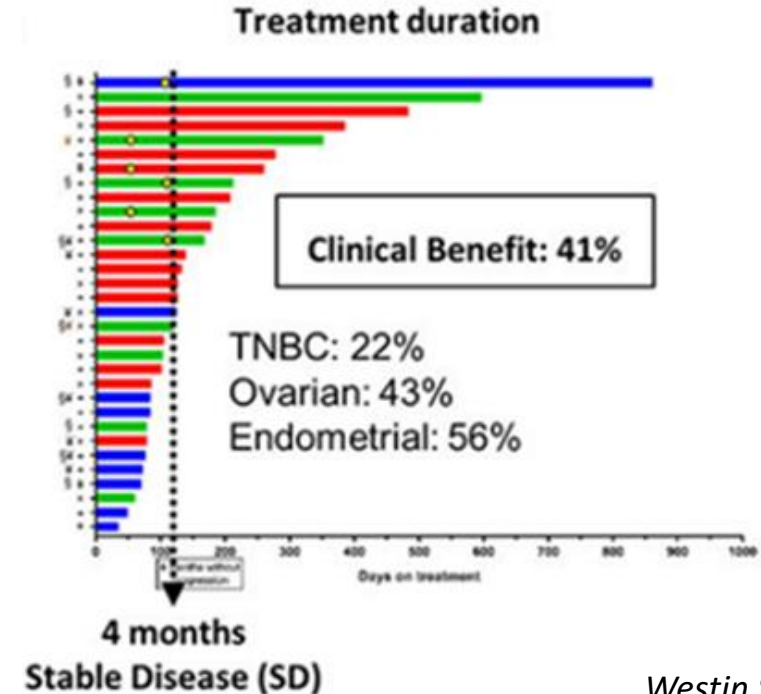
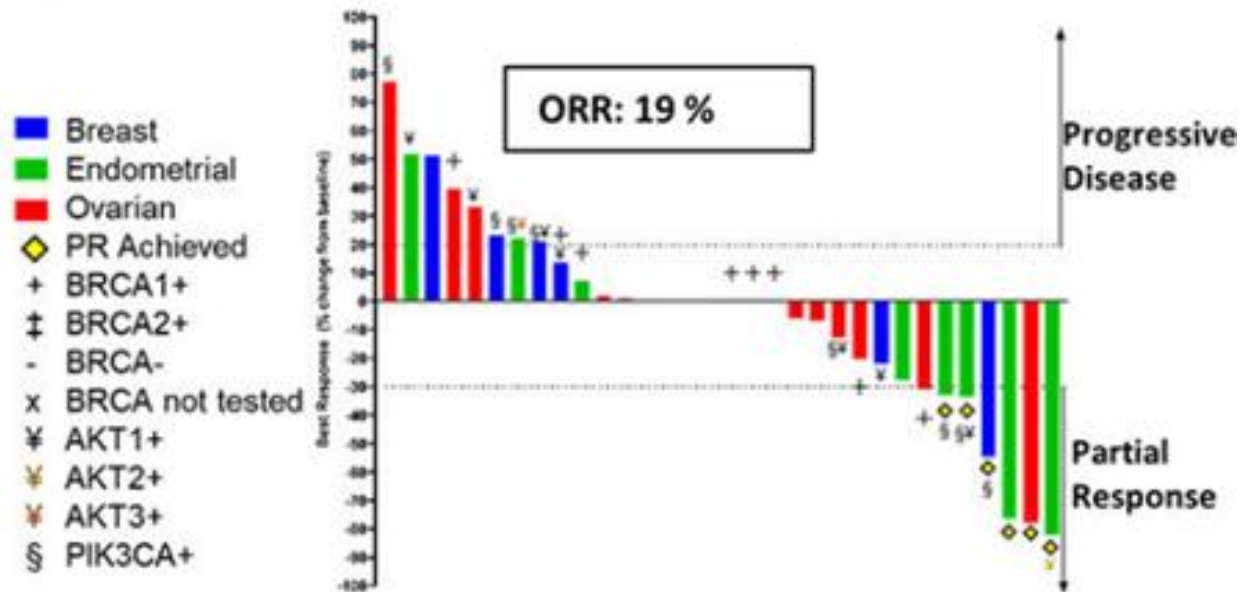
- A phase II study - three-arm design:
paclitaxel/carboplatin/bevacizumab -
paclitaxel/carboplatin/ temsirolimus -
ixabepilone/carboplatin/bevacizumab
- Primary therapy for measurable stages
III and IV or recurrent EC



Combination with DNA Damage Agent

PARP + AKT inhibitors

- Olaparib & Capivasertib
- Correlations between response & immune activity, cell cycle alterations and DNA damage response.
- Therapy resistance associated with receptor tyrosine kinase and RAS-MAPK pathway activity, metabolism and epigenetics.



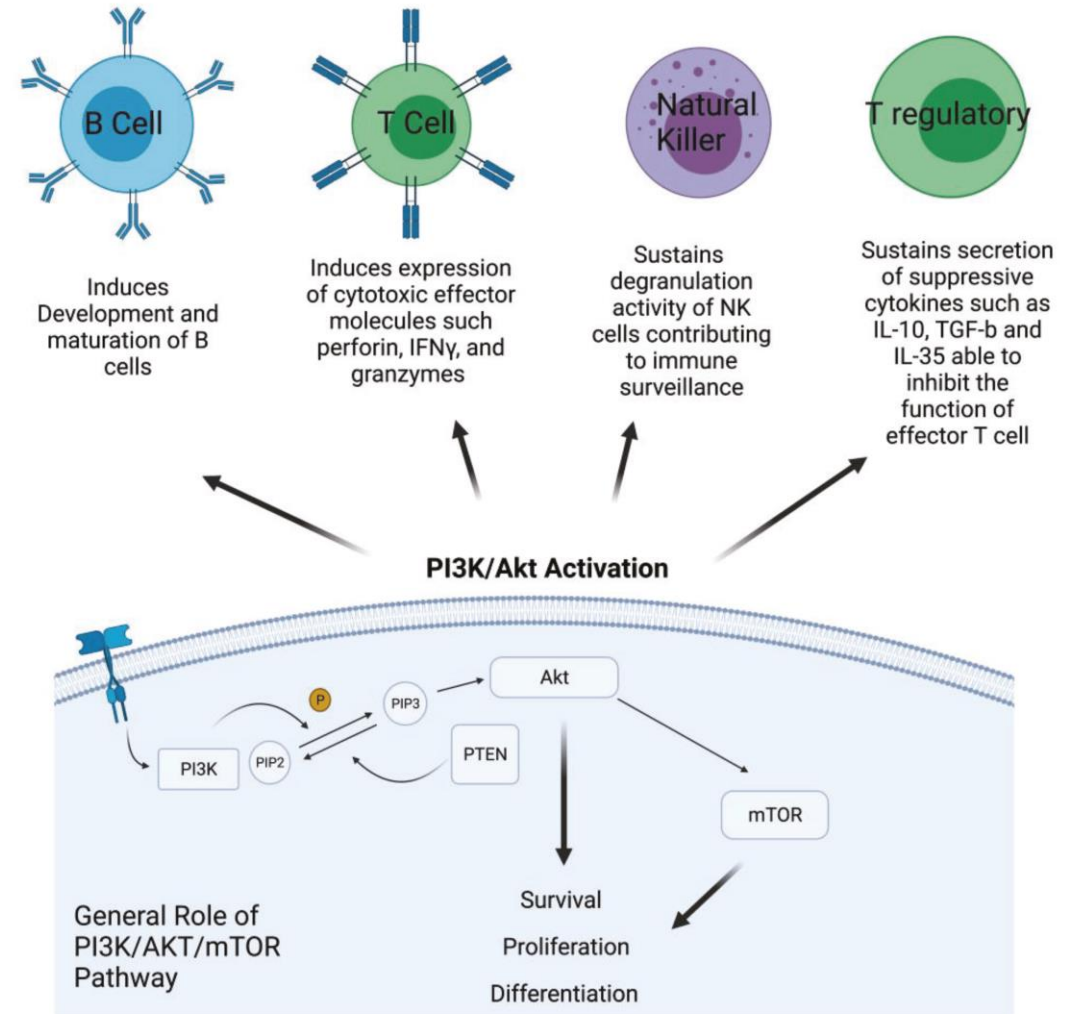
Pi3K & microenvironment

Angiogenesis combination

- Temsirolimus + bevacizumab
- Promising ORR 24.5% and PFS6m of 46.9%
- BUT significant toxicity – 38.8% stopped due to side effects
- 2 Gastro-intestinal Vaginal fistulas, 2 intestinal perforations and 1 grade 4 thrombosis

mTOR in optimizing the immune response

- **PI3K/Akt Pathway: The Indestructible Role of a Vintage Target as a Support to the Most Recent Immunotherapeutic Approaches**
- PI3Ks: Emerging as critical factors in regulating anti-tumor immunity
 - by either promoting an immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment
 - or by controlling the activity & the tumor infiltration of cells involved in the immune response.
- Significant pharmaceutical efforts are dedicated to inhibiting the PI3K pathway, with the main goal to target the tumor and, at the same time, to enhance the anti-tumor immunity

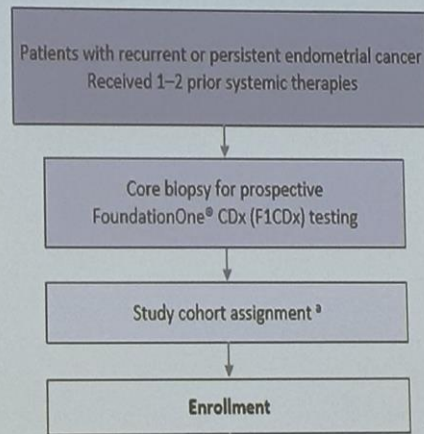


Basket Trial

AFT-50 EndoMap: A Phase IB/II Multi-Cohort Study of Targeted Agents With Atezolizumab for Patients With Recurrent or Persistent Endometrial Cancer (NCT04486352)

Eligibility criteria:

- Recurrent EC
- ≥1 prior chemotherapy (platinum &/or taxane)
- ≤2 prior chemotherapy regimens
- No prior CITs

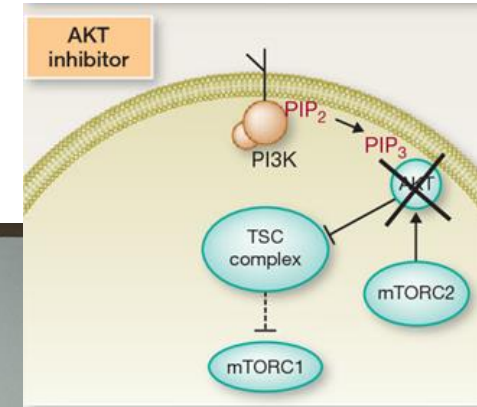
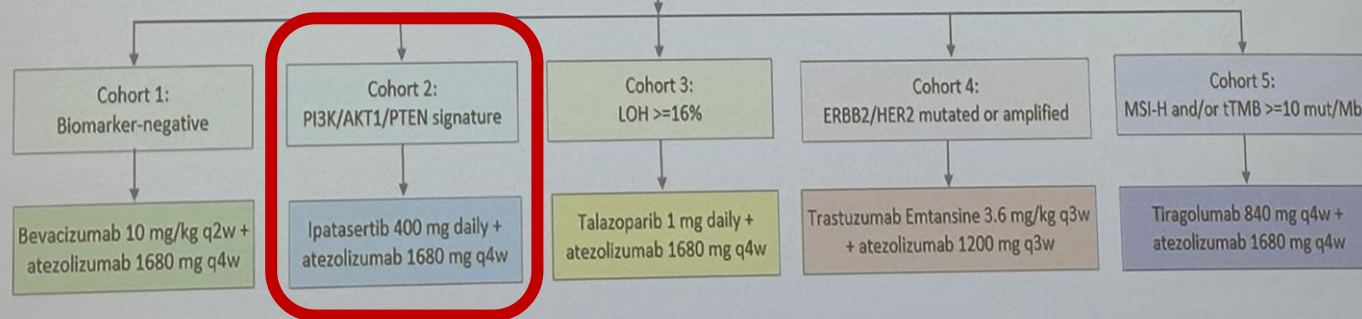


Primary endpoint:

ORR

Secondary endpoints:

- 6-month PFS
- DCR
- DoR
- 2-year PFS
- OS
- Safety



EndoMAP. NCT04486352. Updated April 21, 2021. Accessed June 6, 2021.

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04486352>

PI: B Slomovitz, Co-PI: E Cantillo, A Secord, J Moroney, E Alvarez

Conclusion

- Importance of well designed Clinical trials

- Translational Analyses

- Biomarkers
- Pharmacodynamics
- Alternative to tissue

- Creative Drug Engineering

- Data Integration - AI

- ➔ Combination - Schedule

What is Necessary for a “Druggable” Target

- Tumor or process has an **identifiable** target
- Tumor or process demonstrates oncogenic **addiction** or is a result of gene alteration
- The pathological target **informs** the disease process (**prognostic** implication)
- Target can be **engaged** (either activated or inactivated) or **leveraged** (synthetic lethality)
- Therapeutic intervention produces **benefit** (**predictive** implication)



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Thank you