



Endometrial Cancer – Molecular Driven Management: Role of Immunotherapy

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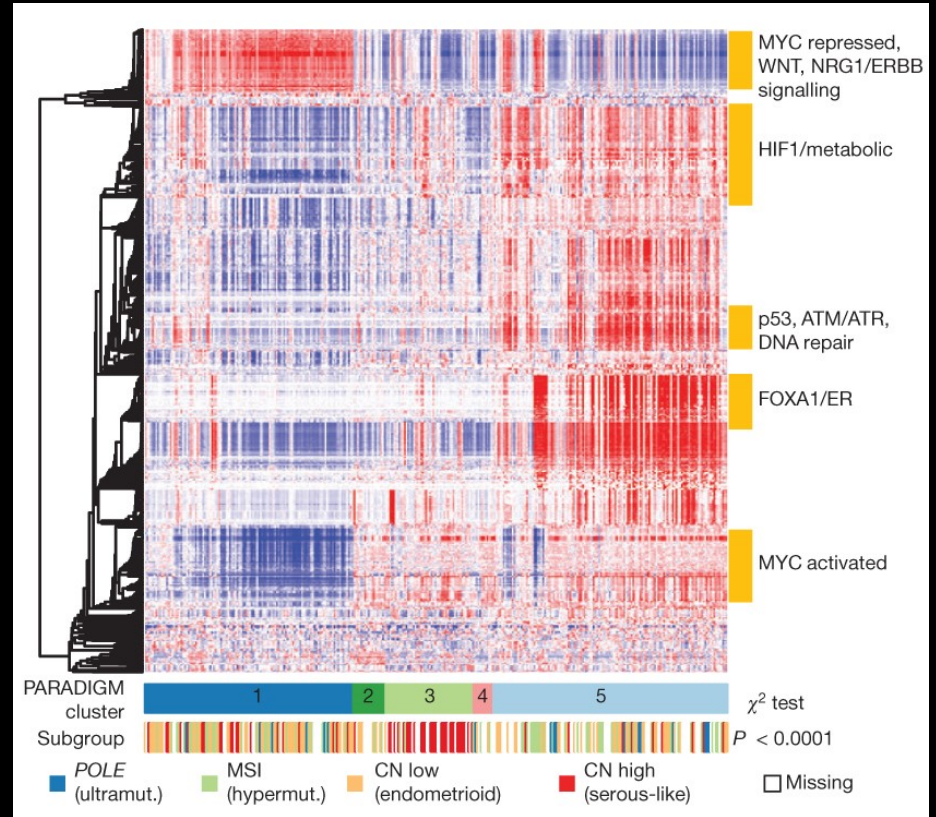
Declaration of interests

- **Funded Research:** EU, FWF, Astra Zeneca, Roche
- **Honoraria/Expenses:** Roche, Novartis, MSD, Pharmamar, Astra Zeneca, GSK
- **Consulting/Advisory Board:** Roche, Novartis, MSD, Astra Zeneca, Pfizer, Pharmamar, ImmunoGen, Daiichi Sankyo, Biontech, Novocure, Eisai, GSK, Abbvie, Seagen

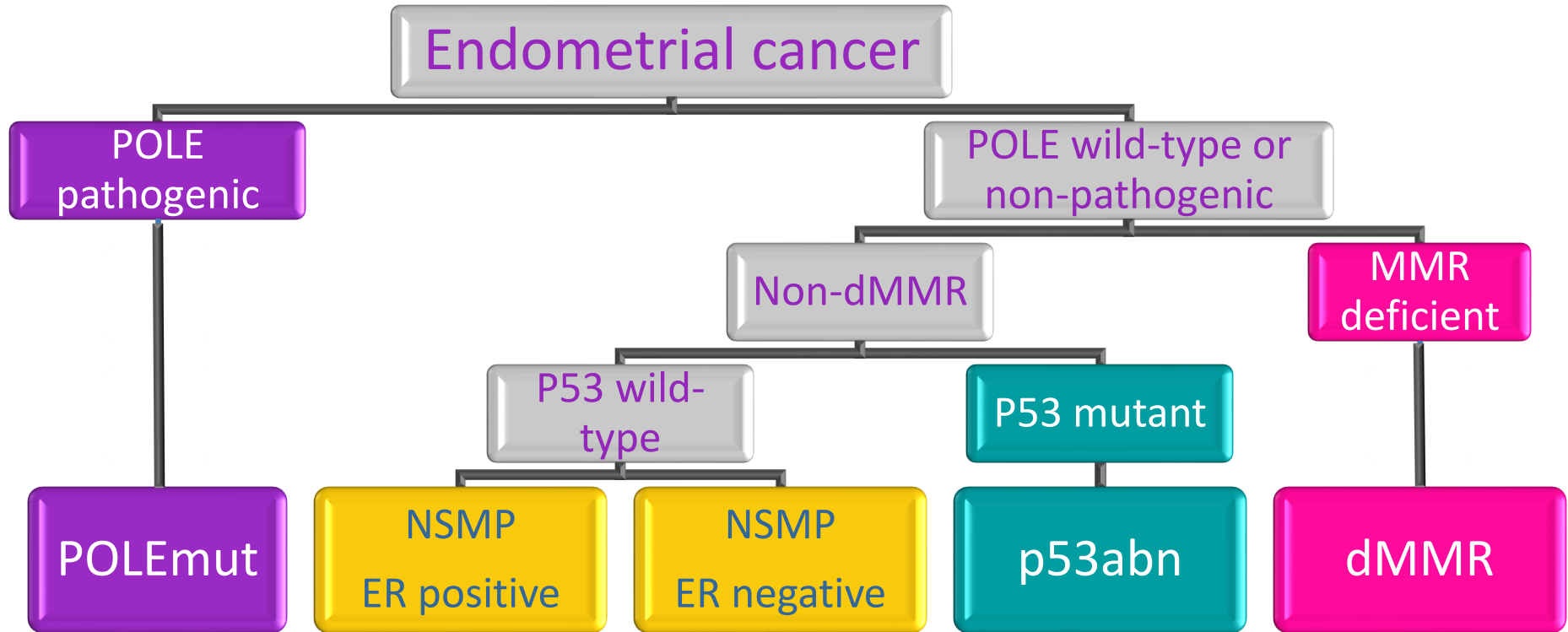
Cancer: There isn't only one disease



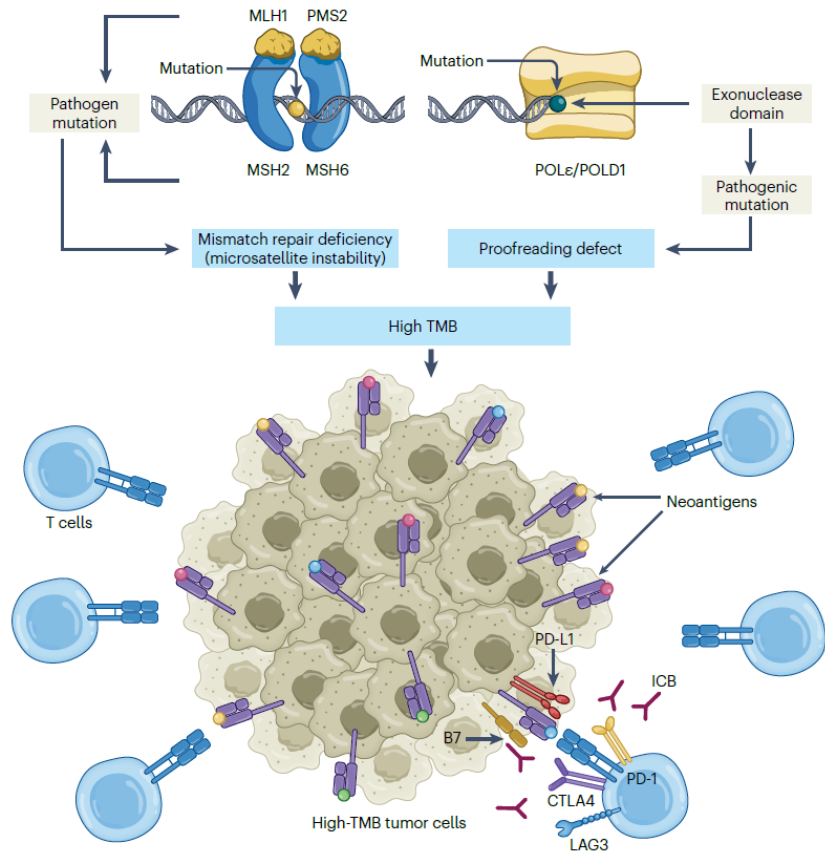
Cancer: There isn't only one disease



Molecular classification of endometrial cancer



MMRd and POLE-mutated tumors display high TMB and sensitivity to immunotherapy



- MMRd and *POLE*-mutant tumors contain DNA repair defects responsible for the accumulation of mutations → high TMB.
- As a consequence, they exhibit elevated numbers of mutation-associated neoantigens.
- Presentation of these neoantigens by MHC-I molecules can facilitate tumor recognition by CD8+ T cells and immune-mediated cancer cell killing.
- Immunotherapy can restore anti-tumor immunity and generate durable tumor responses in patients with either somatic or germinal MMRd or *POLE* mutations.

Expression of IFN-gamma and PD-1 was significantly higher in "HOT" tumors

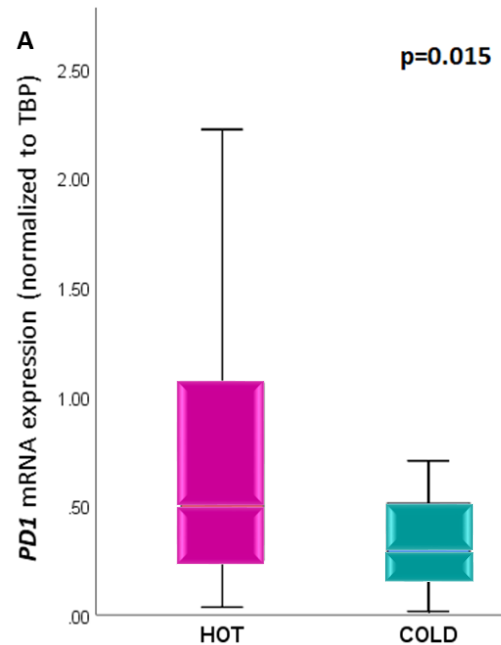
"Hot" tumors

- MMRd
- POLE

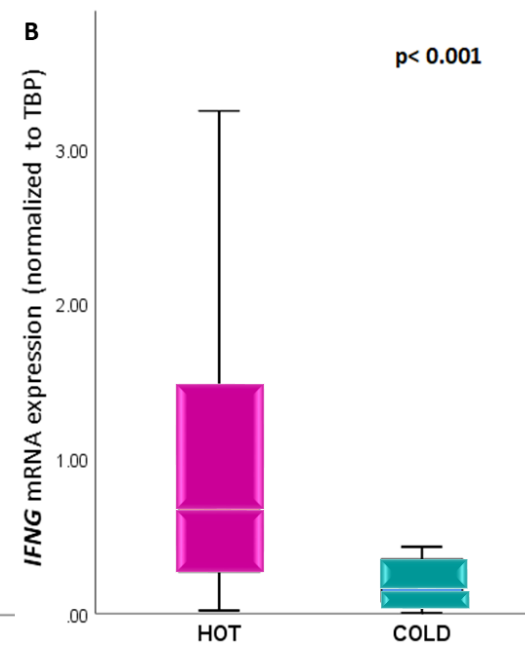
"Cold" tumors

- P53abn
- NSMP

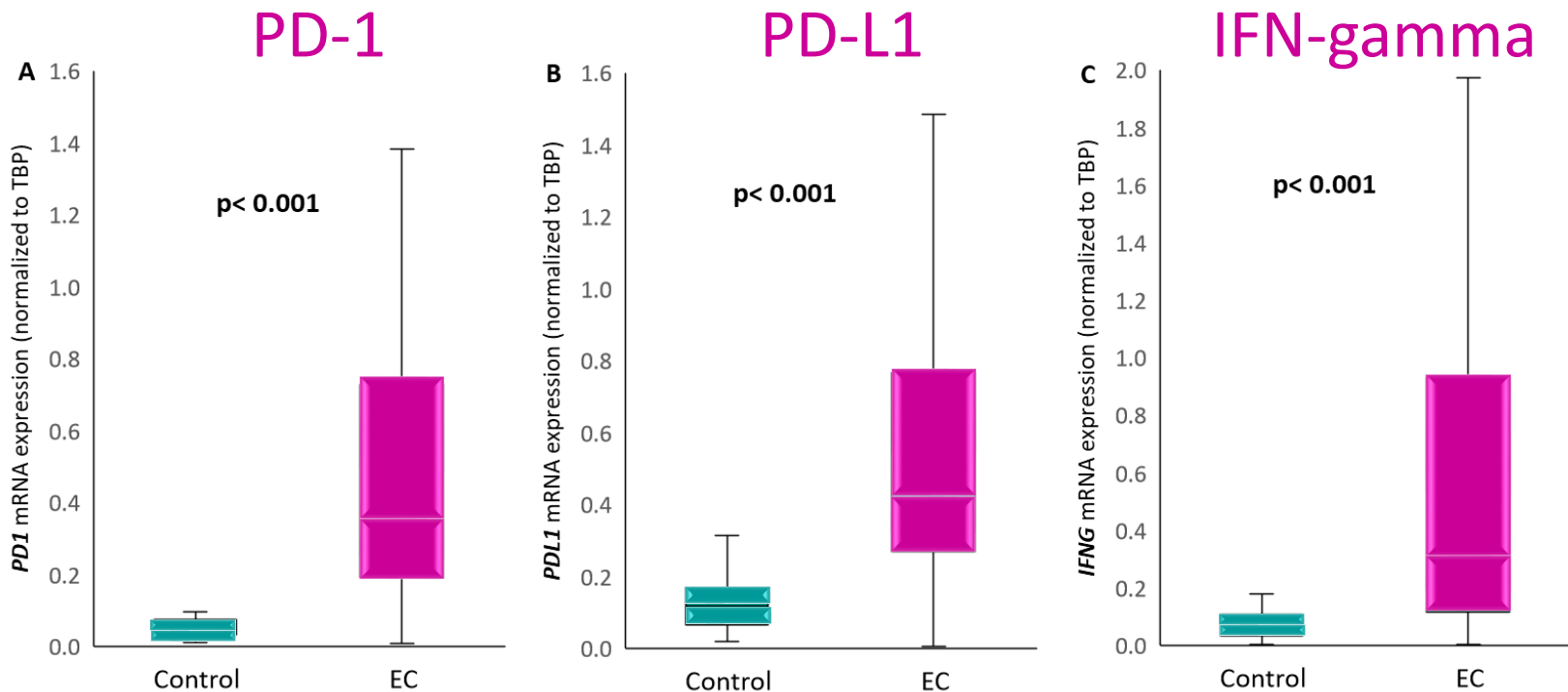
PD-1



IFN-gamma

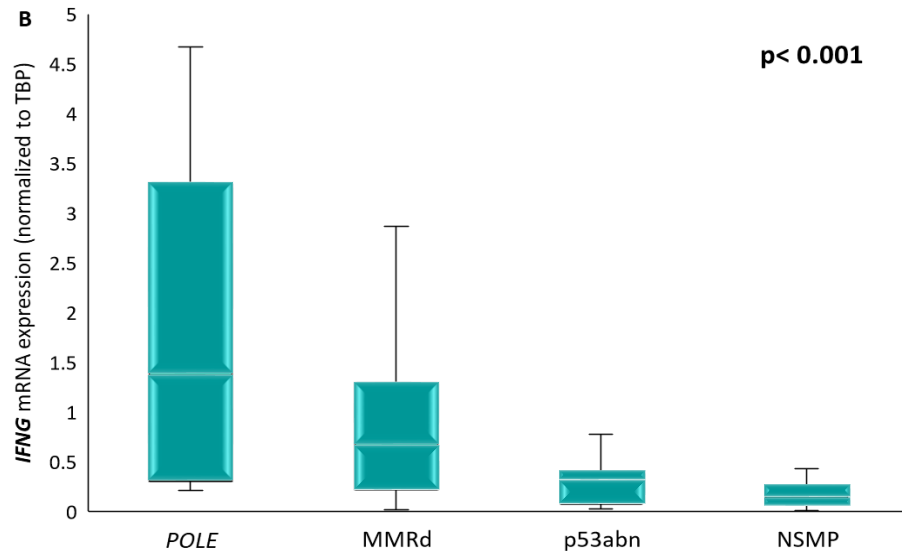


IFN-gamma, PD-1 and PD-L1 mRNA expression are significantly increased in Endometrial carcinoma tissue compared to the control group

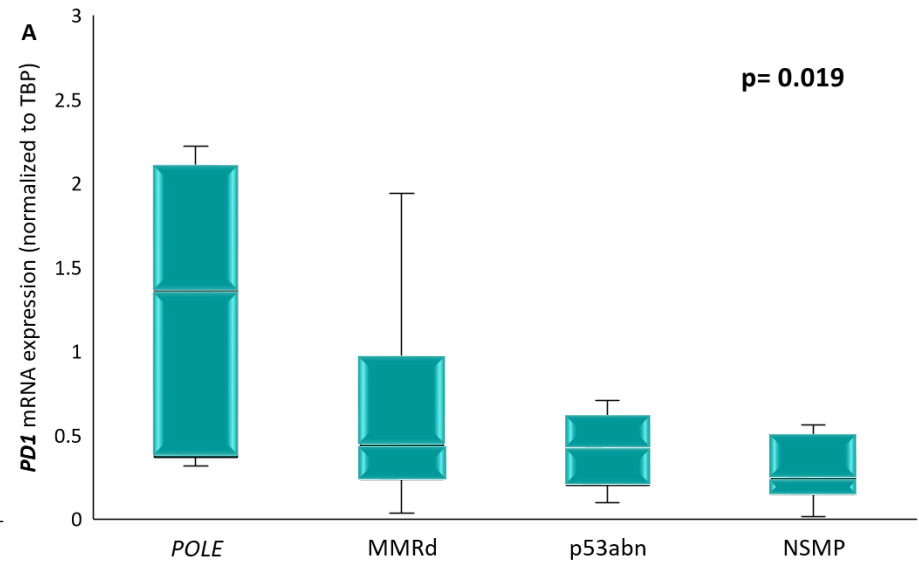


Expression of IFN-gamma and PD-1 was highest in POLE mutated tumors

IFN-gamma

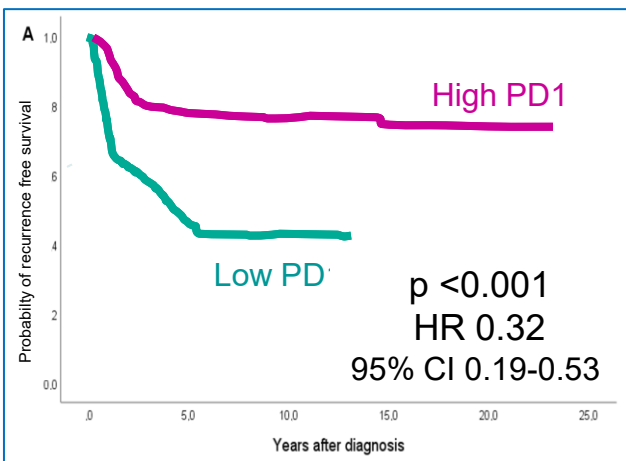


PD-1

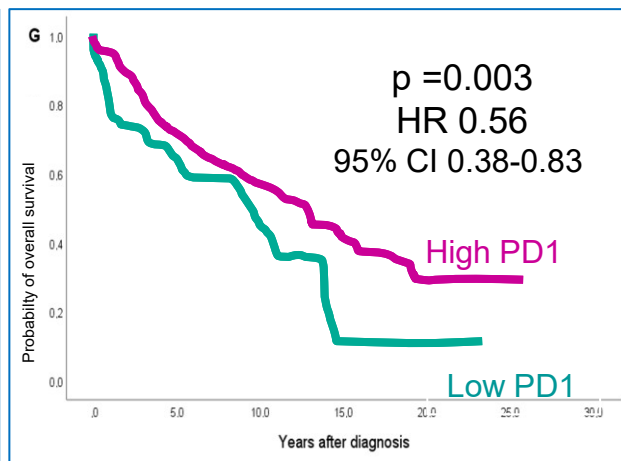


High expression of PD-1 was associated with better outcome: RFS, OS, and DSS

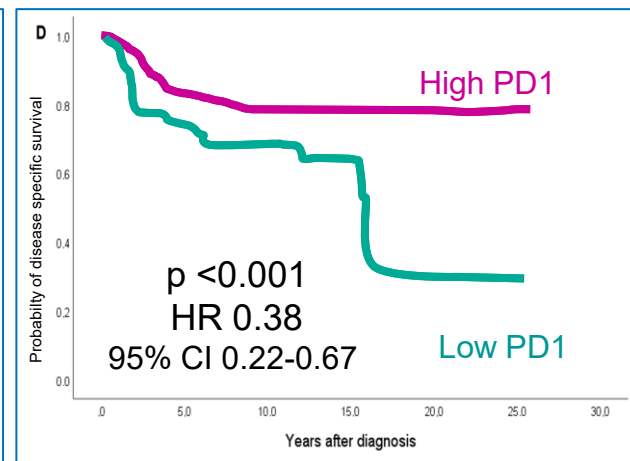
RFS



OS



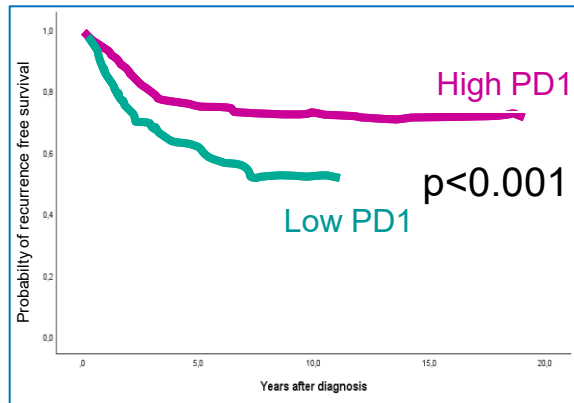
DSS



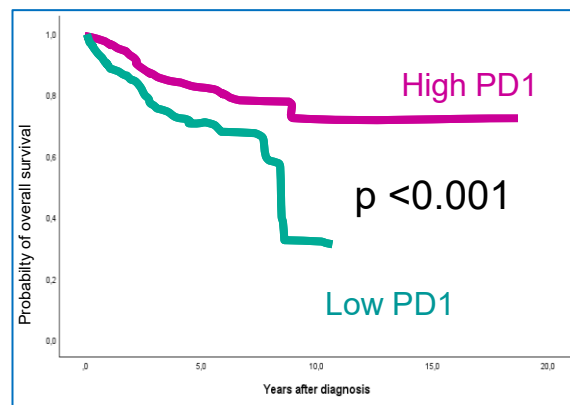
Innsbruck
Cohort

High expression of PD-1 was associated with better outcome: RFS, OS, and DSS

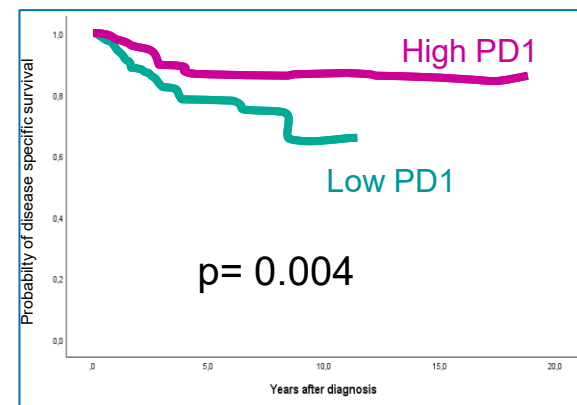
RFS



OS



DSS



THE CANCER GENOME ATLAS



Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Efficacy in Endometrial Cancer

MMR-d

Study

Drug

N

ORR(%)

KEYNOTE
158:
O'Malley
(2019+22)

Pembrolizumab

79

48%

GARNET:
Oaknin (2022)

Dostarlimab

143

46%

PHAEDRA:
Antill (2019)

Durvalumab

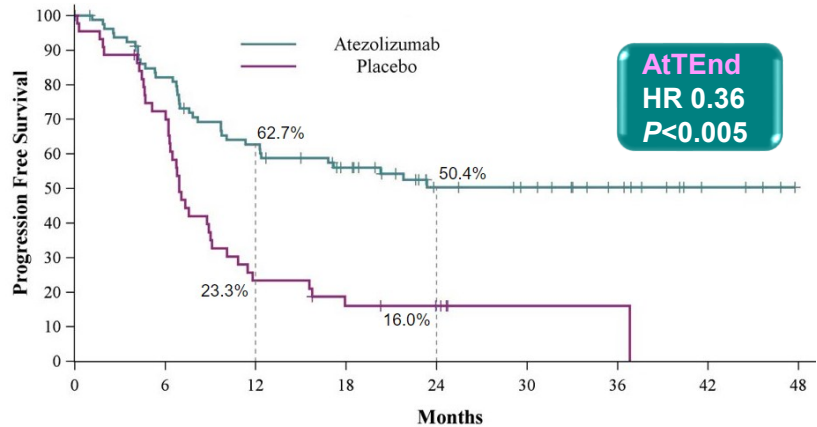
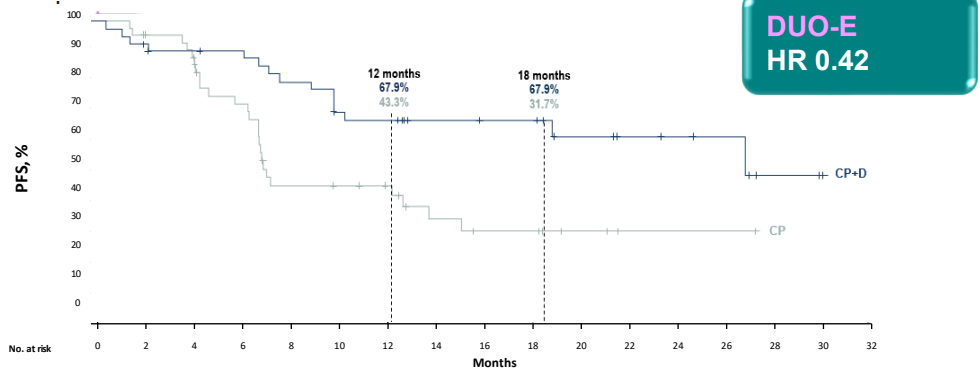
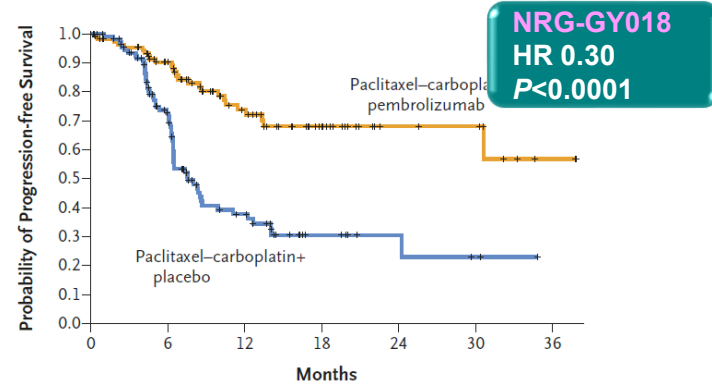
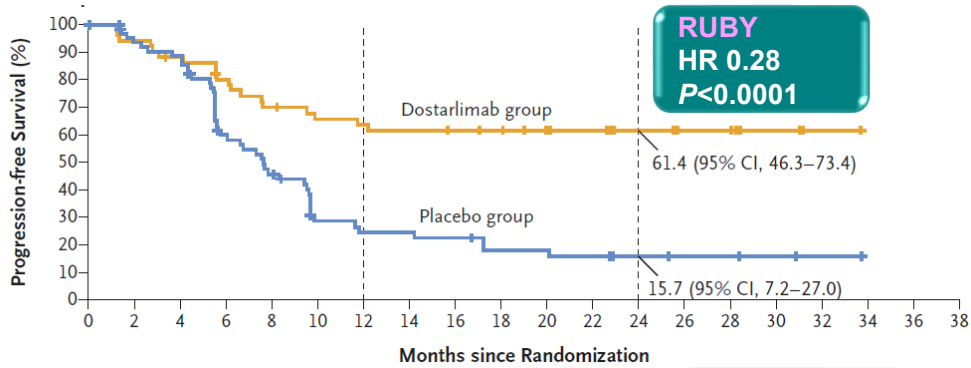
35

43%

Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Efficacy in Endometrial Cancer

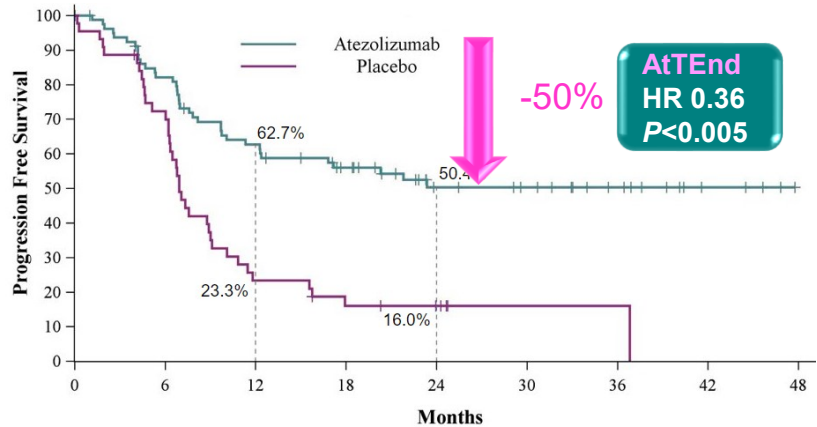
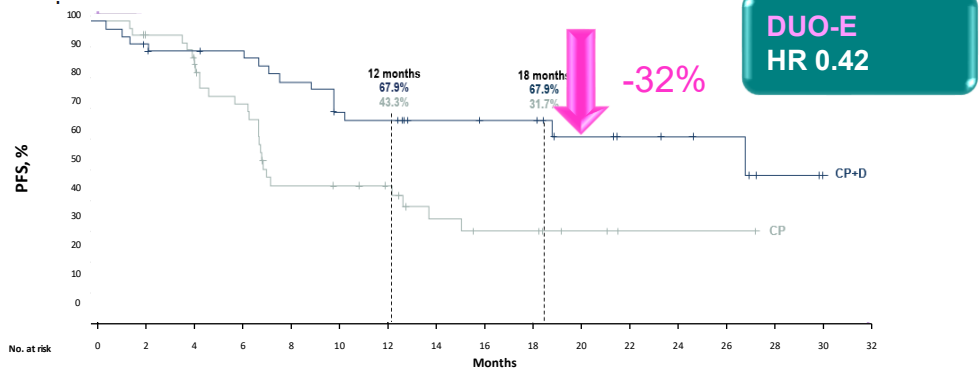
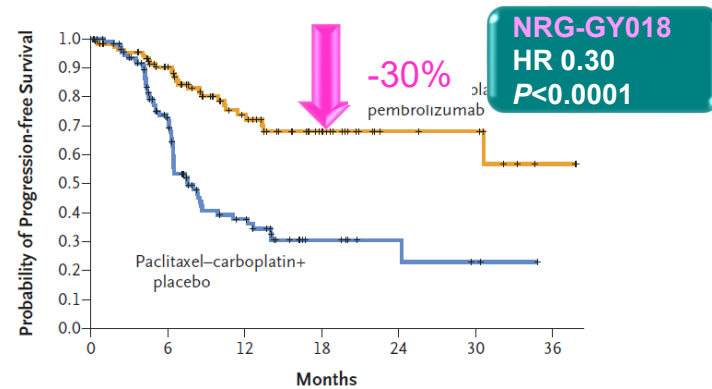
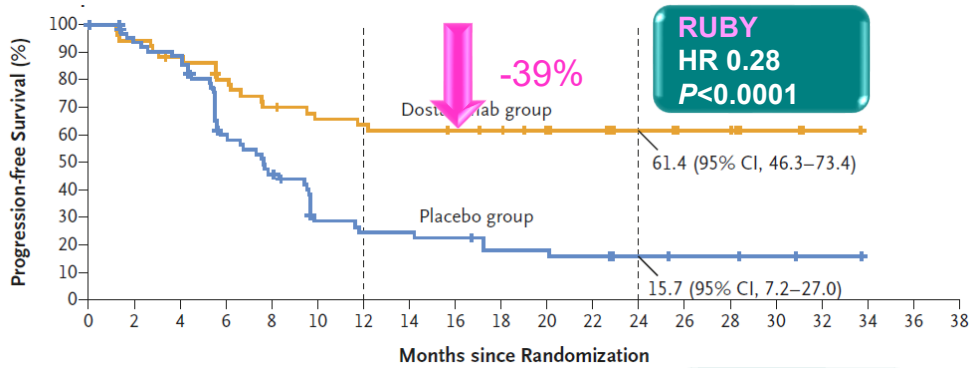
Study	Drug	MMR-d		Non MMR-d	
		N	ORR(%)	N	ORR(%)
KEYNOTE 158: O'Malley (2019+22)	Pembrolizumab	79	48%	107	11%
GARNET: Oaknin (2022)	Dostarlimab	143	46%	156	15%
PHAEDRA: Antill (2019)	Durvalumab	35	43%	36	3%

Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor plus Chemotherapy in First-line Endometrial Cancer: PFS in dMMR Tumors



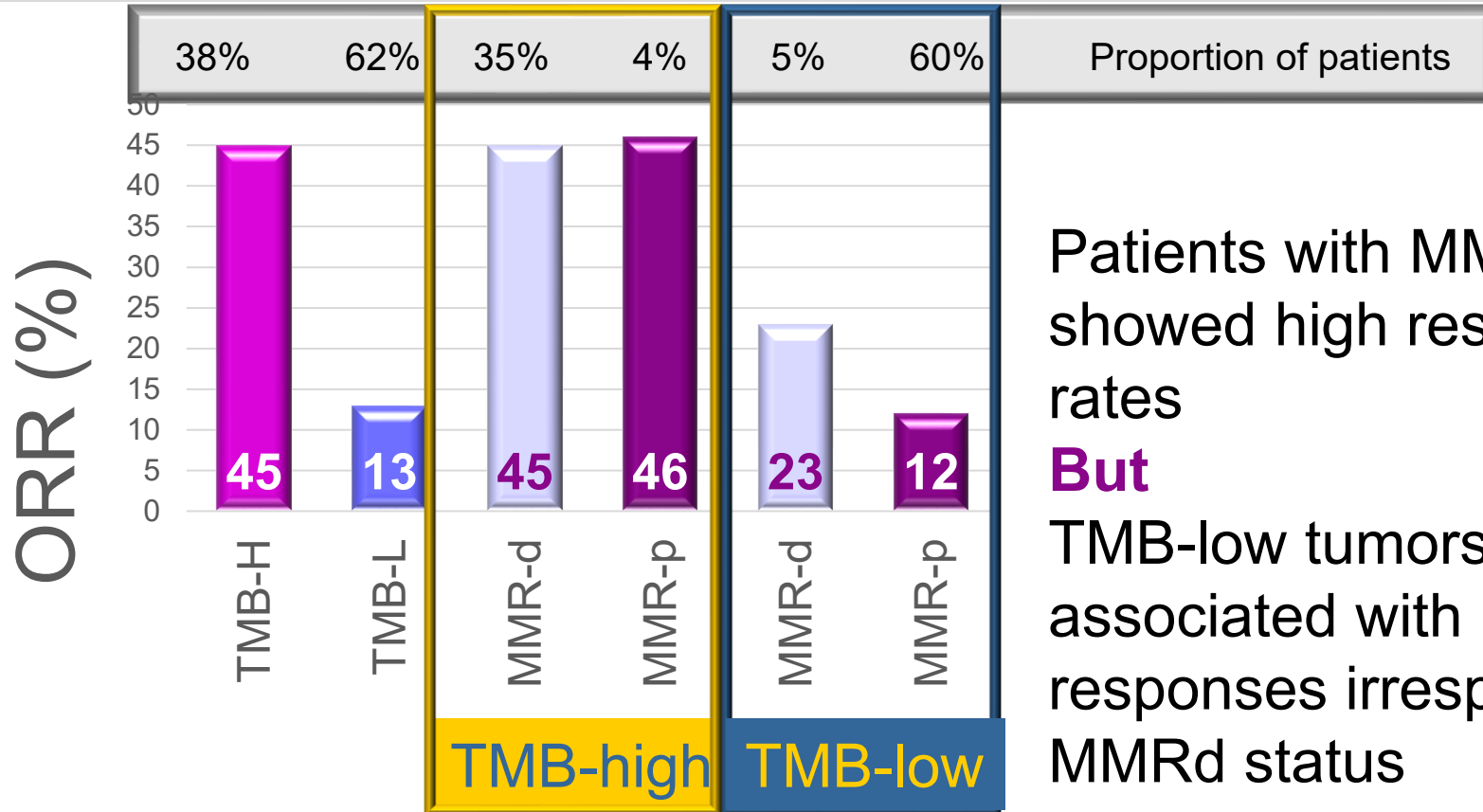
Mansoor R. Mirza et al. NEJM August 2023, Ramez N. Eskander et al. NEJM August 2023, Westin SN, et al. J Clin Oncol 2024, Nicoletta Colombo et al., Lancet Oncol 2024

Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor plus Chemotherapy in First-line Endometrial Cancer: PFS in dMMR Tumors



Mansoor R. Mirza et al. NEJM August 2023, Ramez N. Eskander et al. NEJM August 2023, Westin SN, et al. J Clin Oncol 2024, Nicoletta Colombo et al., Lancet Oncol 2024

Garnet trial and Tumor Mutational Burden (TMB)



Patients with MMR-d showed high response rates

But

TMB-low tumors were associated with lower responses irrespective MMRd status

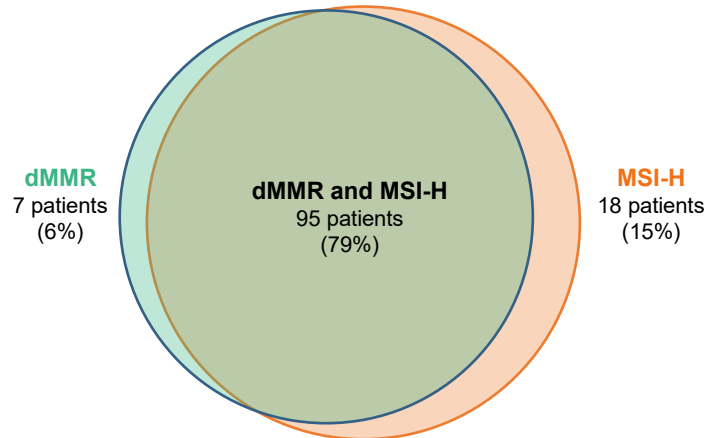
Correlation between dMMR and MSI-H status in DUO-E

dMMR and MSI-H concordance (N=451)

subpopulation, n	dMMR	pMMR	
MSI-H	95	18	113/451 patients (25%)
MSI equivocal/stable	7	331	
	102/451 patients (23%)		426/451 patients (94%)



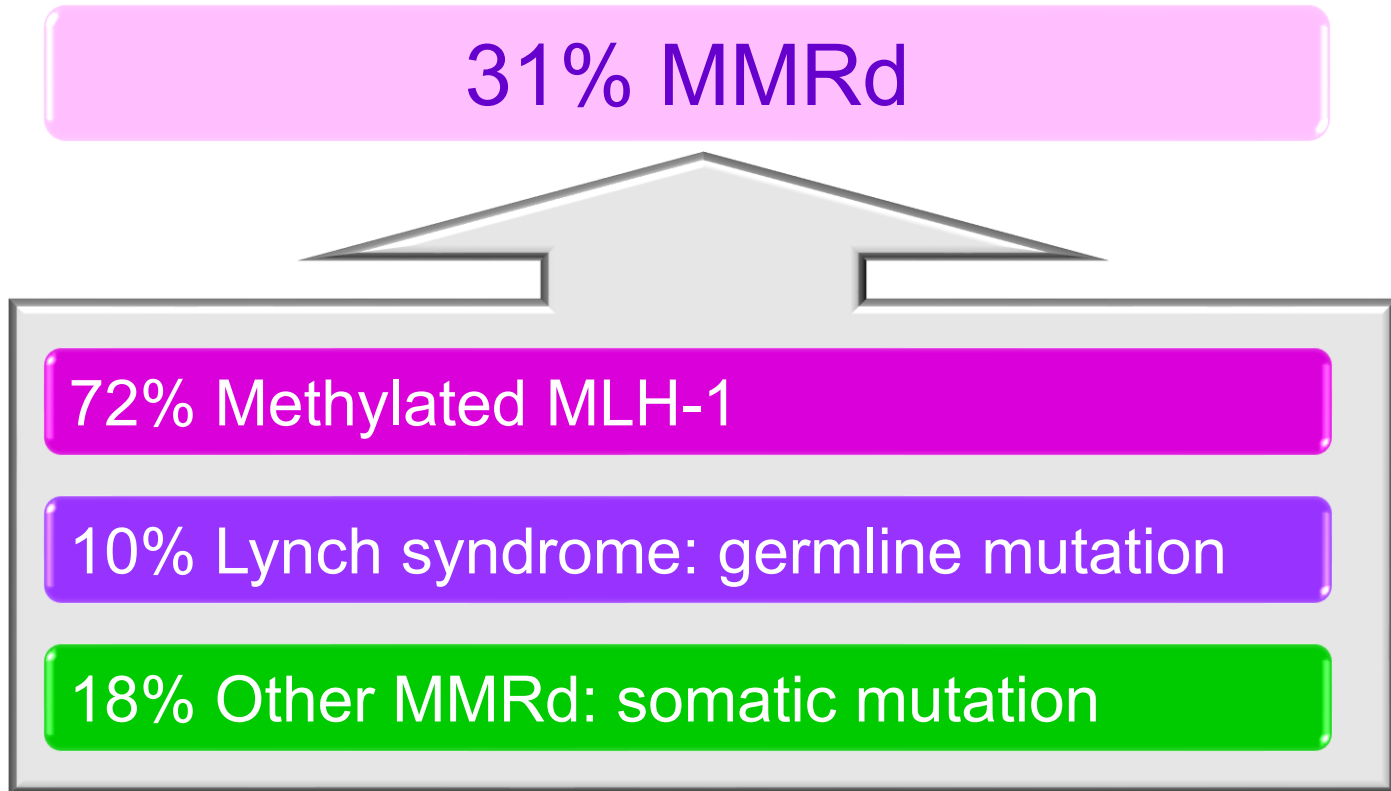
Overlap between the dMMR and MSI-H subpopulations (N=120)



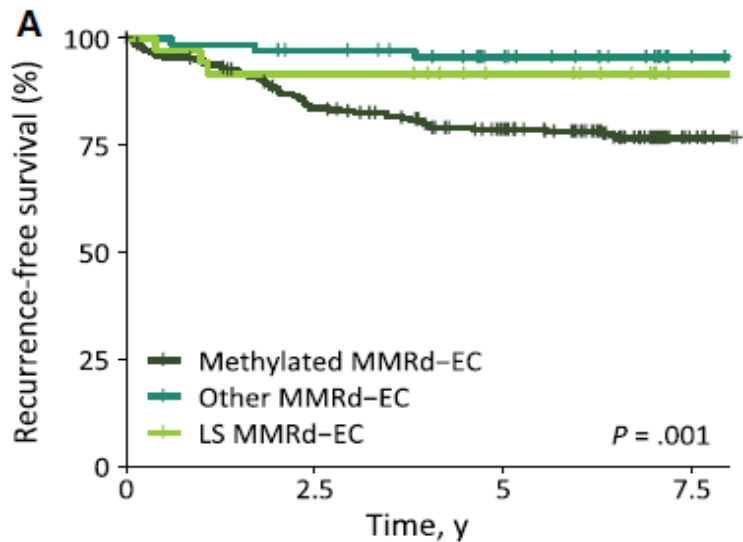
- 451 patients had known MSI status*
- 25% of patients with known MSI status had MSI-H tumours
- 23% of patients with known MSI status had dMMR tumours.† 20% of patients in the ITT population had dMMR tumours
- MSI-H status was highly concordant with dMMR status (94% overall percentage agreement)
- Of the patients from the combined dMMR/MSI-H subpopulation with known MSI status (N=120), 79% (n=95) had both dMMR and MSI-H tumours

MSI score ranges from >0.0041 to <0.0124 . Overall status is defined as 'High' if ≥ 0.0124 . *MSI status was evaluated using the tissue-based FoundationOne®CDx test (Foundation Medicine, Inc.); †MMR status was evaluated using the Ventana MMR RxDx panel (Roche Diagnostics, Rotkreuz, Switzerland).

Use of DNA Mismatch-Repair Analysis in Endometrial Cancer to Guide Decisions about Treatment, Prevention, and Screening



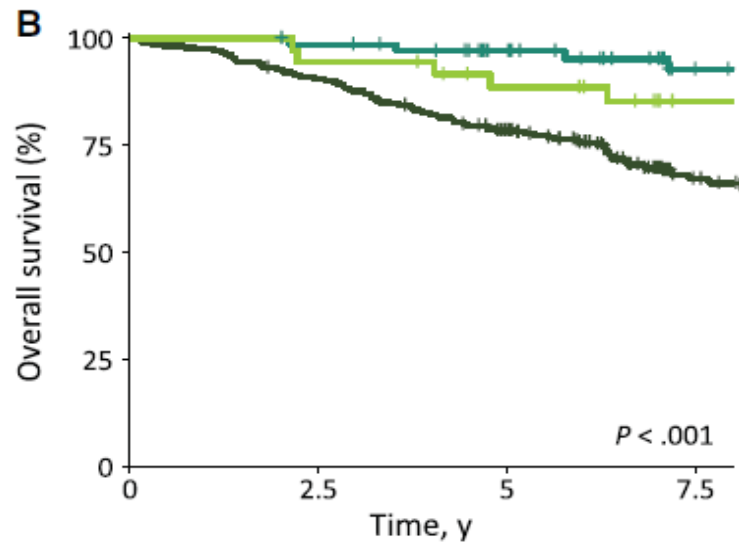
Prevalence and Prognosis of Lynch Syndrome and Sporadic Mismatch Repair Deficiency in Endometrial Cancer



No. at risk

	0	2.5	5	7.5
■	275	222	189	123
■	69	65	54	35
■	36	33	28	20

Time (years)



No. at risk

	0	2.5	5	7.5
■	275	248	207	131
■	69	67	56	35
■	36	34	29	21

Time (years)

Note: Kaplan-Meier survival curves for recurrence-free survival (A) and overall survival (B) for patients with methylated mismatch repair deficient (MMRd), other MMRd and Lynch syndrome (LS) associated MMRd endometrial cancer (EC). All cases with MMRd phenotype are included in this analysis, including cases with a concurrent POLE variant affecting function (POLEmut-MMRd-EC). P values reflect 2-sided log-rank test.

Post Hoc Analysis of Objective Response Rate by Mismatch Repair Protein Dimer Loss/Mutation Status in Patients with Mismatch Repair Deficient Endometrial Cancer Treated with Dostarlimab

- Most MLH1 loss was not accompanied by mutations, consistent with the estimated rate in the dMMR population¹⁻⁴

	Patients, N	Responders, n	ORR, % (95% exact CI)	DOR median (95% CI), mo
Cohort A1 (dMMR/MSI-H EC)	143	65	45.5 (37.1–54.0)	NR (38.9–NR)
Cohort A1 patients with available mutation data	101	—	—	—
MLH1 loss by IHC (any pattern)^a	78	31	39.7 (28.8–51.5)	NR (38.9–NR)
MLH1 loss by IHC (any pattern) and mutation in <i>MLH1</i> or <i>PMS2</i> genes	7 (9%)	3	42.9 (9.9–81.6)	NR (NR–NR)
MLH1 loss by IHC (any pattern) and no mutation in <i>MLH1</i> or <i>PMS2</i> genes	71 (91%)	28	39.4 (28.0–51.7)	NR (38.9–NR)

^aOther: any other pattern of loss that is not exclusively MLH1–PMS2 or MSH2–MSH6 dimer loss. This group includes 17 patients with loss of expression of 1 MMR protein, 13 with loss of 3 proteins, 1 with loss of 2 proteins that are not a canonical dimer, and 2 with MMR unknown/MSI-H status. ^bThis group includes 66 patients with loss of the MLH1–PMS2 dimer and 12 with another pattern.

dMMR, MMR deficient; EC, endometrial cancer; IHC, immunohistochemistry; MMR, mismatch repair; MSI-H, microsatellite instability-high.

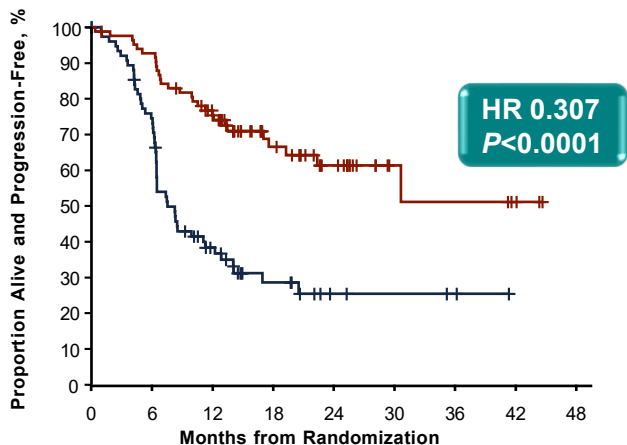
1. Pasanen, A, et al. *Mod Pathol* 2020;33:1443–1452. 2. Kurpiel B et al. *Int J Gyn Pathol* 2022;41:1-11. 3. Buchanan DD, et al. *J Clin Oncol* 2014;32:90-100. 4. Kahn RM et al. *Cancer* 2019;125:3172-3183.

Tinker AV et al. Presented at the International Gynecologic Cancer Society (oral poster). September 29 - October 1, 2022; New York, USA

PFS by Methylation Status in dMMR Population

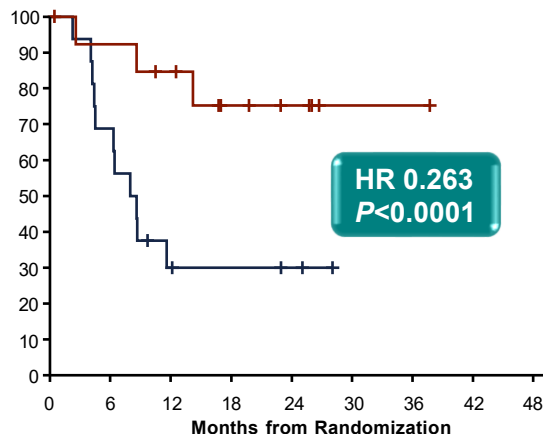
Methylation Pembro + CP vs Placebo + CP

	Events n/N	Median (95% CI), mo	HR (95% CI)
Placebo + CP	51/77	7.5 (6.4–11.3)	0.307 (0.19–0.49) P < 0.0001
Pembro + CP	28/83	NR (22.3–NR)	



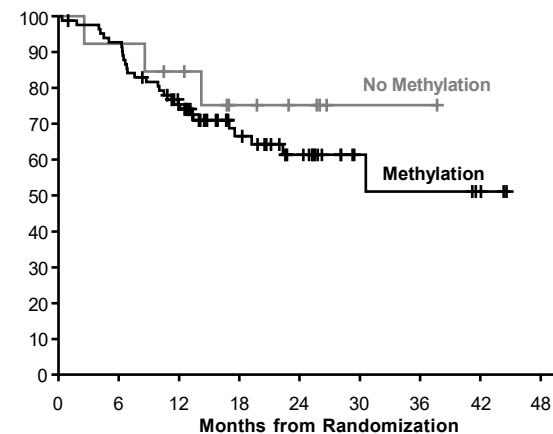
No Methylation Pembro + CP vs Placebo + CP

	Events n/N	Median (95% CI), mo	HR (95% CI)
Placebo + CP	11/17	8.3 (4.4–NR)	0.263 (0.07–0.99) P = 0.0172
Pembro + CP	3/13	NR (14.2–NR)	



Methylation Status Pembro + CP Arm

	Events n/N	Median (95% CI), mo
No Methylation	3/13	NR (14.2–NR)
Methylation	28/83	NR (22.3–NR)



Number at risk (Cumulative number censored)

	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Placebo + CP	77 (2)	55 (3)	23 (9)	11 (16)	4 (22)	3 (23)	2 (24)	0 (26)	
Pembro + CP	83 (0)	76 (1)	56 (7)	30 (28)	18 (38)	6 (50)	5 (50)	3 (52)	0 (55)

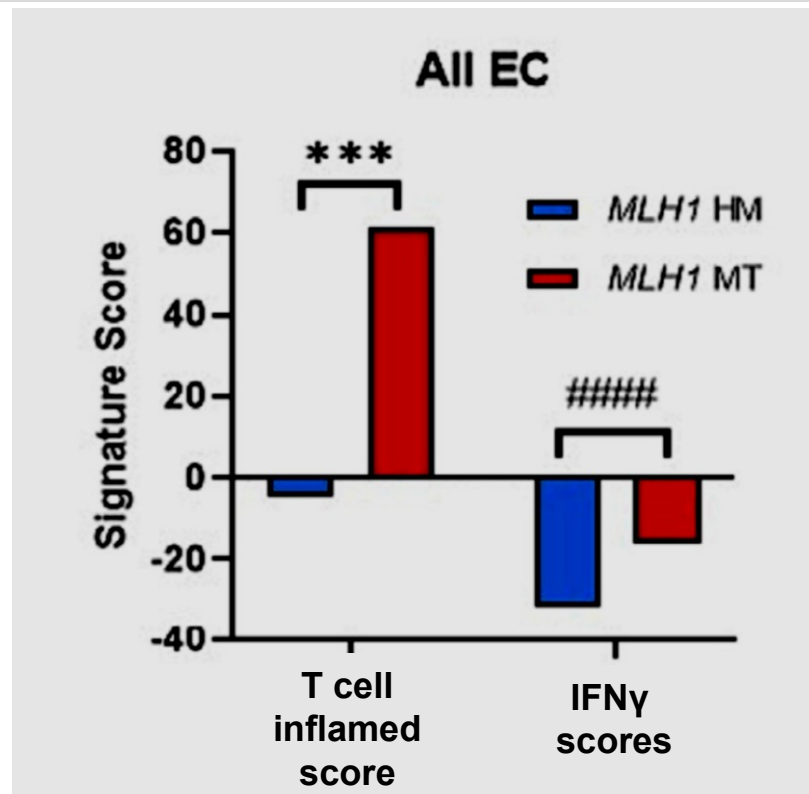
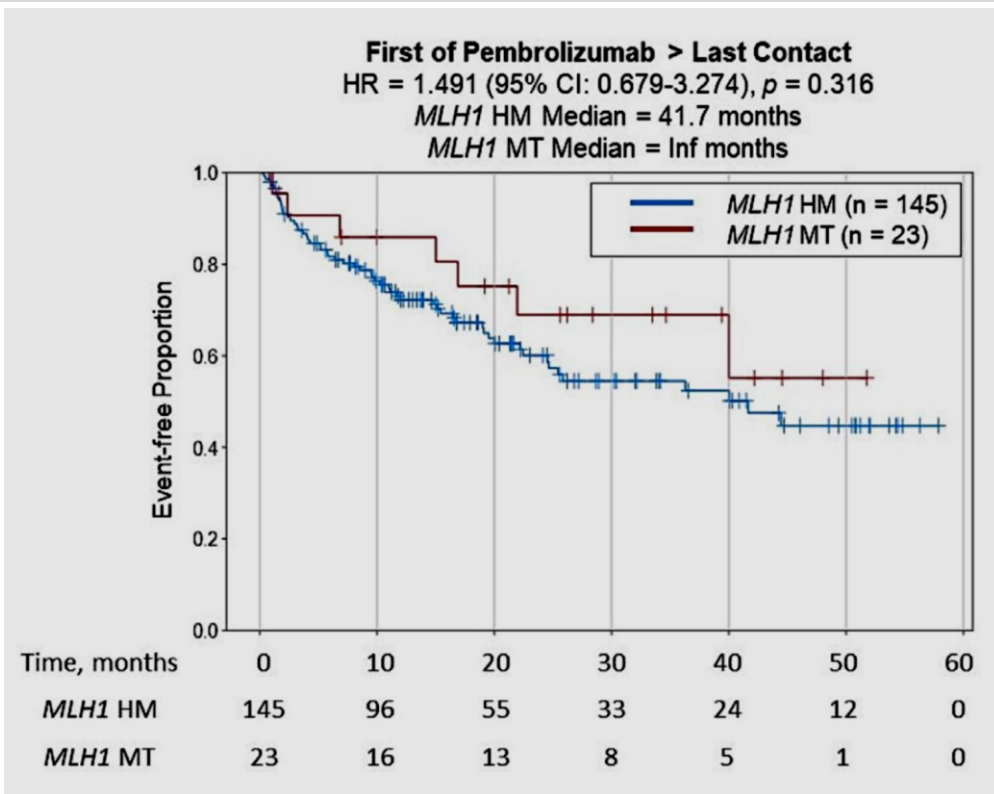
Number at risk (Cumulative number censored)

	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
Placebo + CP	17 (0)	11 (1)	4 (2)	3 (3)	2 (4)	0 (6)			
Pembro + CP	13 (0)	12 (0)	10 (1)	6 (4)	4 (6)	1 (9)	1 (9)	0 (10)	

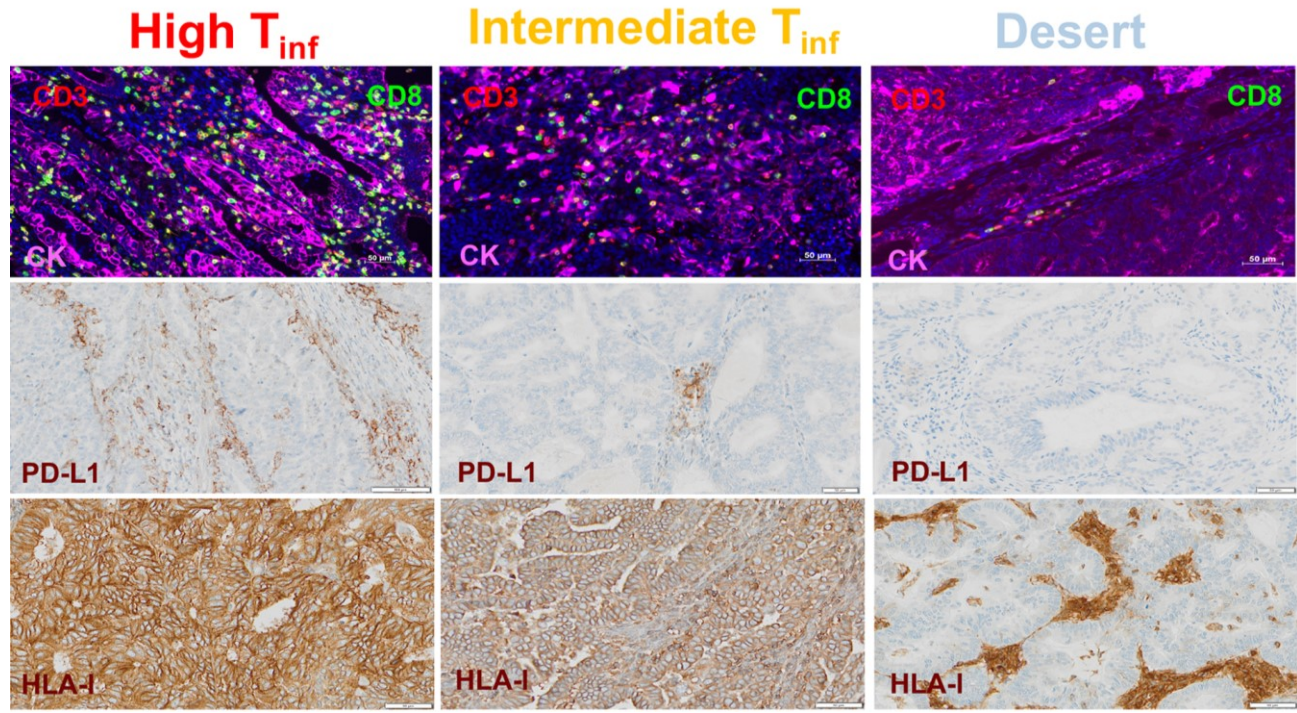
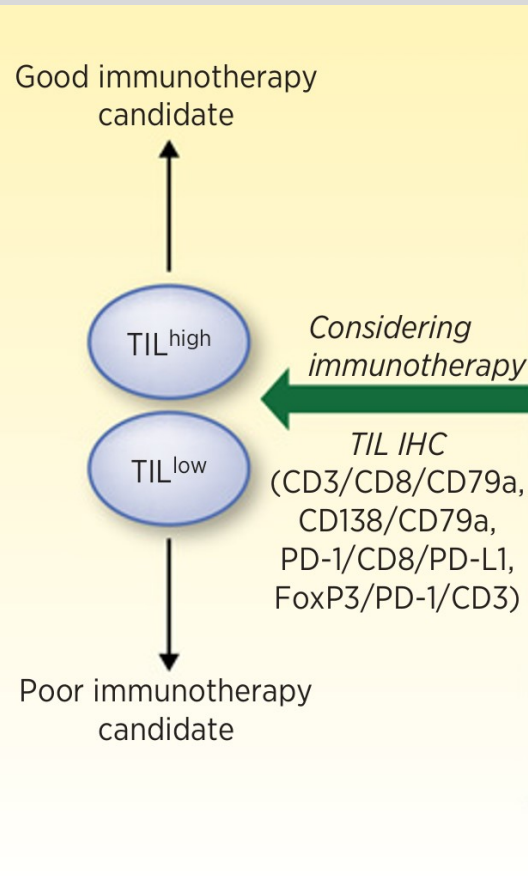
Number at risk (Cumulative number censored)

	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
No Methylation	13 (0)	12 (0)	10 (1)	6 (4)	4 (6)	1 (9)	1 (9)	0 (10)	
Methylation	83 (0)	76 (1)	56 (7)	30 (28)	18 (38)	6 (50)	5 (50)	3 (52)	0 (55)

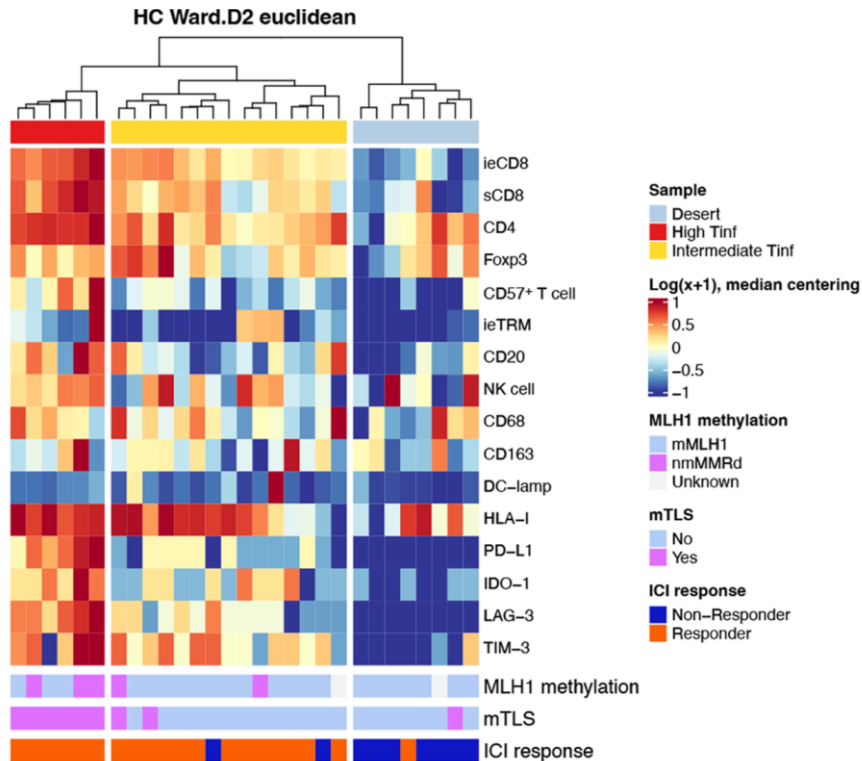
Differential outcomes and immune checkpoint inhibitor response among endometrial cancer patients with MLH1 hypermethylation versus MLH1 “Lynch-like” mismatch repair gene mutation*



Immune predictors of response to immune checkpoint inhibitors in mismatch repair- deficient endometrial cancer



Immune predictors of response to immune checkpoint inhibitors in mismatch repair- deficient endometrial cancer



High T_{inf} cluster (21%):

- highest terminally- differentiated CD57+ T cell, CD20+ cell, and NK cell infiltration.
- Preserved HLA- I and all harbored mTLS.
- Highest expression of immune co- regulators.
- **100% ICI- Responder**

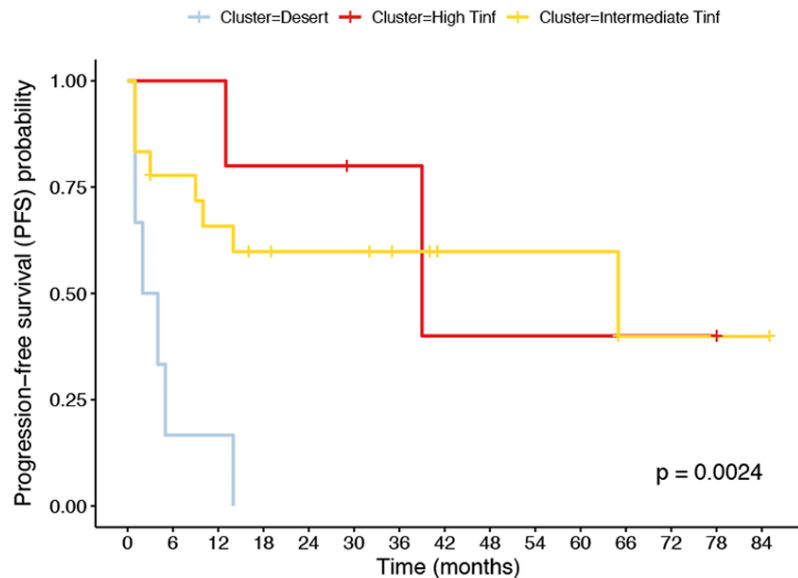
Intermediate T_{inf} (62%)

- Moderate infiltration of CD8+ cytotoxic and CD4+ helper T cells and reduced terminally differentiated CD57+ T cells, CD20+ cells, and NK cells,
- Most of the tumors had MLH1 promoter methylation
- **87% ICI- Responder**

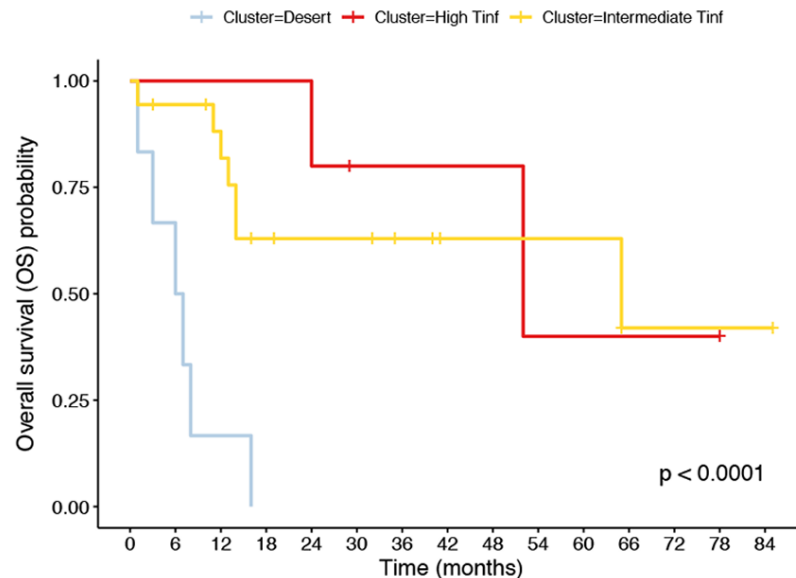
Desert cluster (28%)

- Lowest levels of CD8+ cytotoxic, ieTRM, and terminally differentiated CD57+ T cells.
- They were uniformly PD- L1 negative.
- **13% ICI-Responder**

Immune predictors of response to immune checkpoint inhibitors in mismatch repair- deficient endometrial cancer



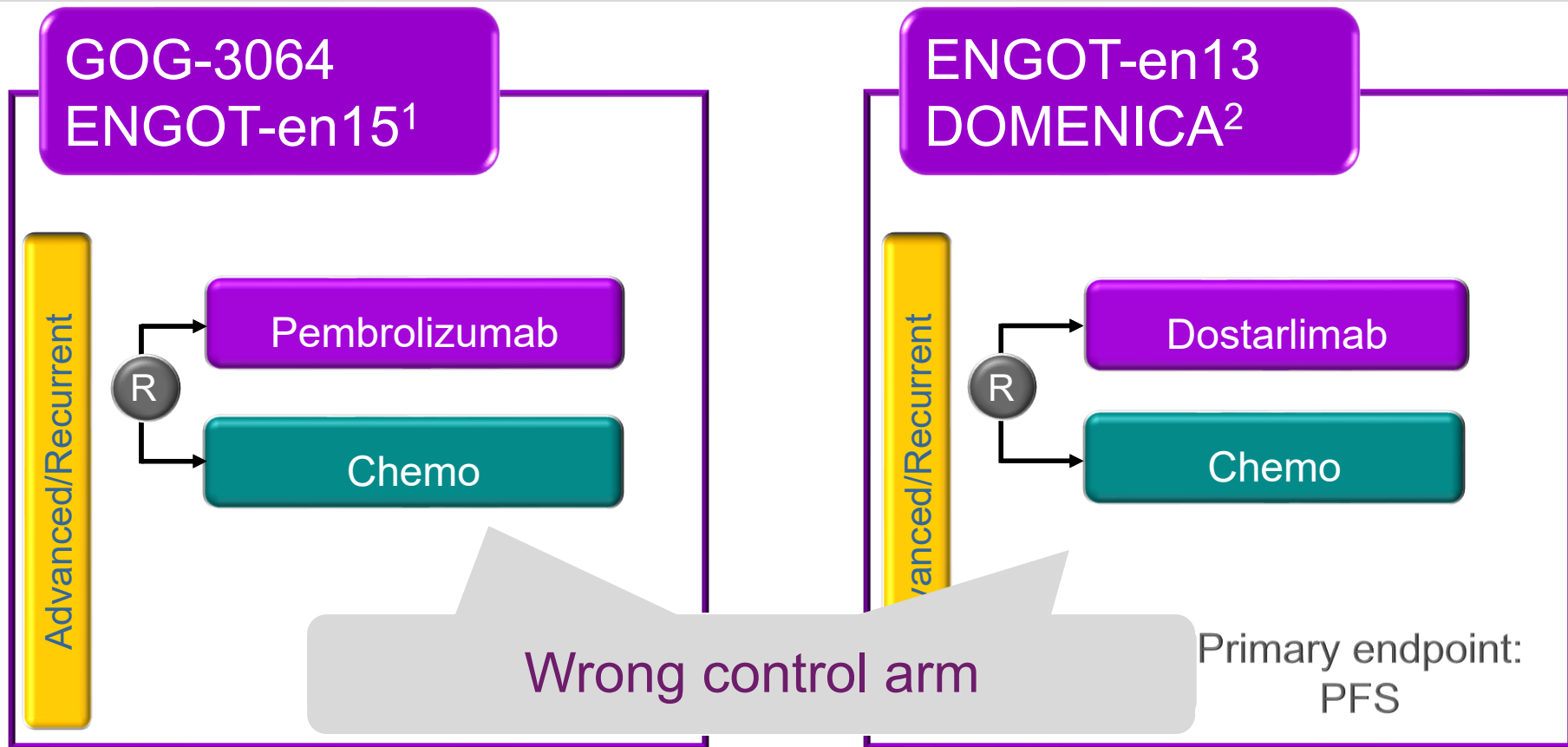
Number at risk (number censored)



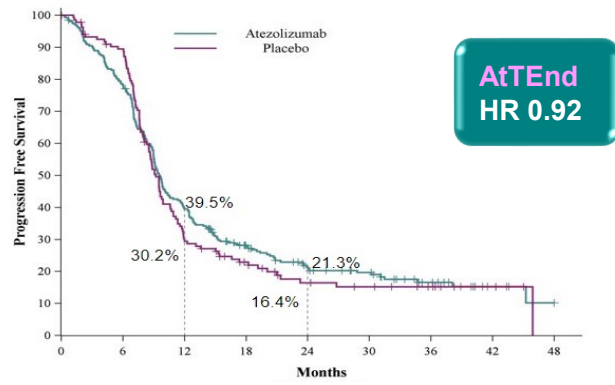
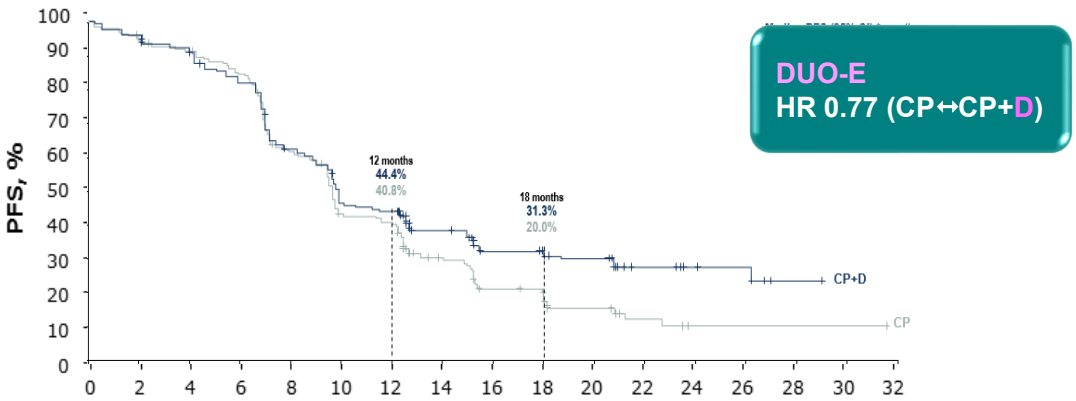
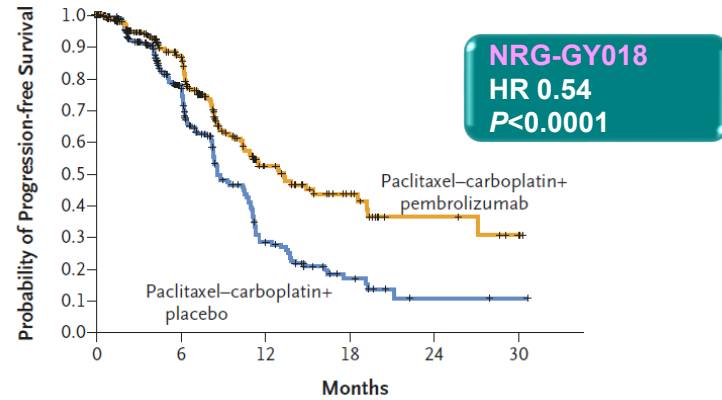
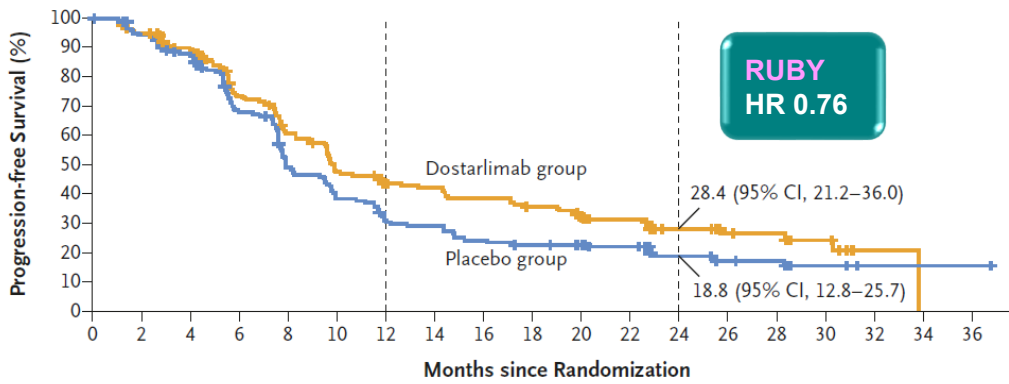
Number at risk (number censored)

— Assessment of immune response (rather than molecular subtype) may better predict response to immunotherapy (0)
(3)
(10)

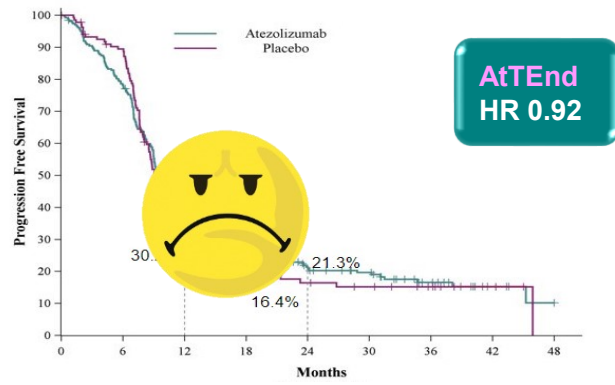
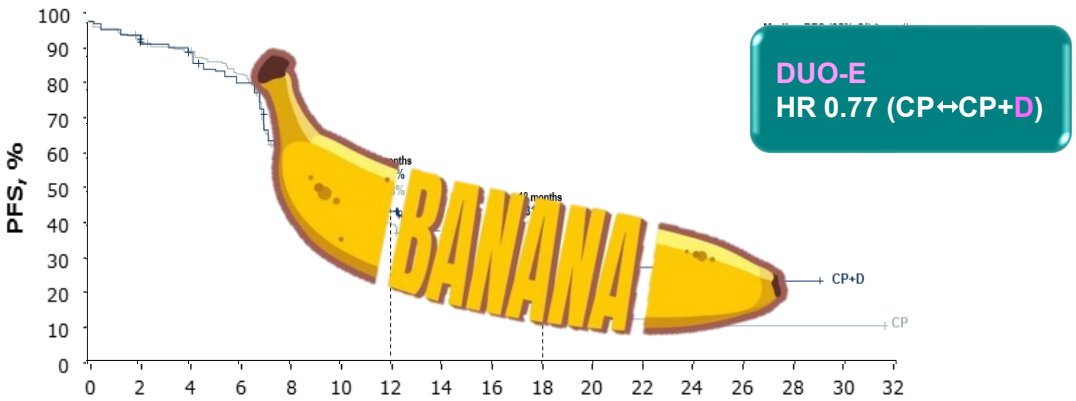
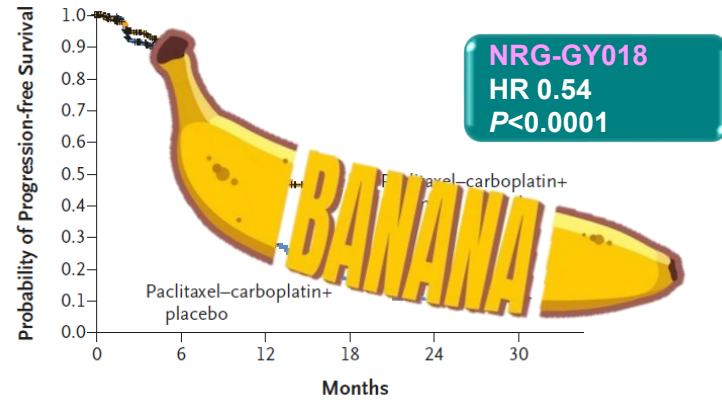
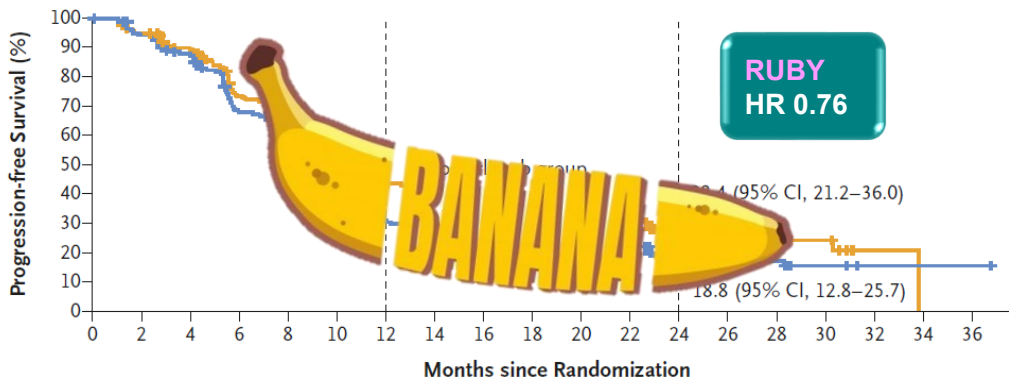
Ongoing Phase III Trials in dMMR Endometrial Carcinoma



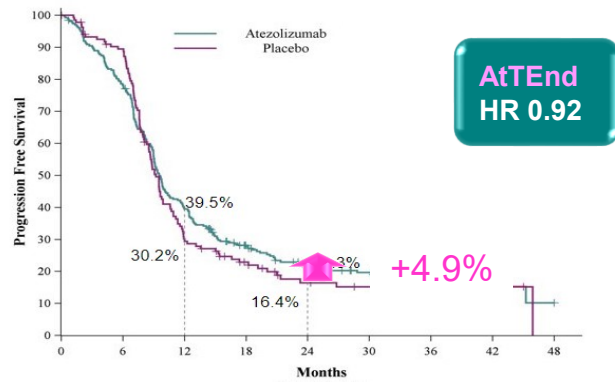
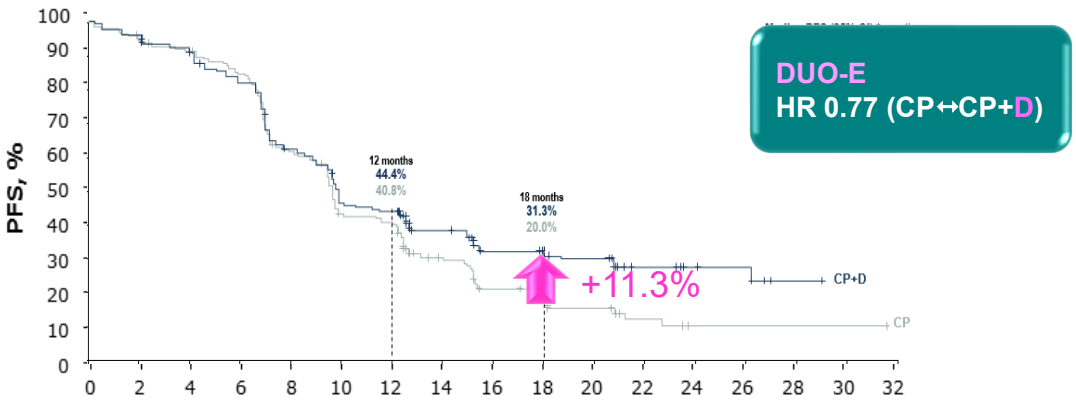
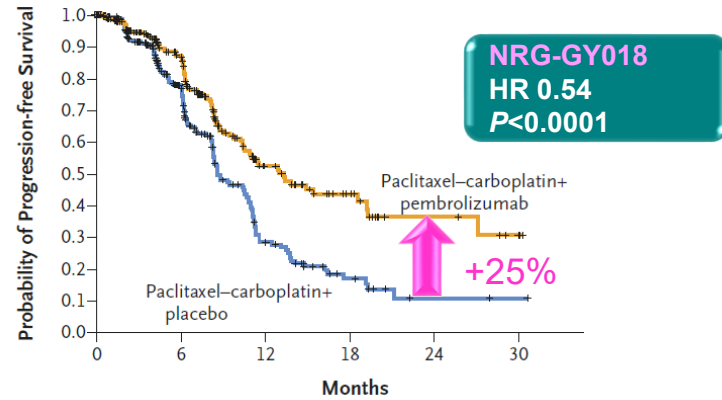
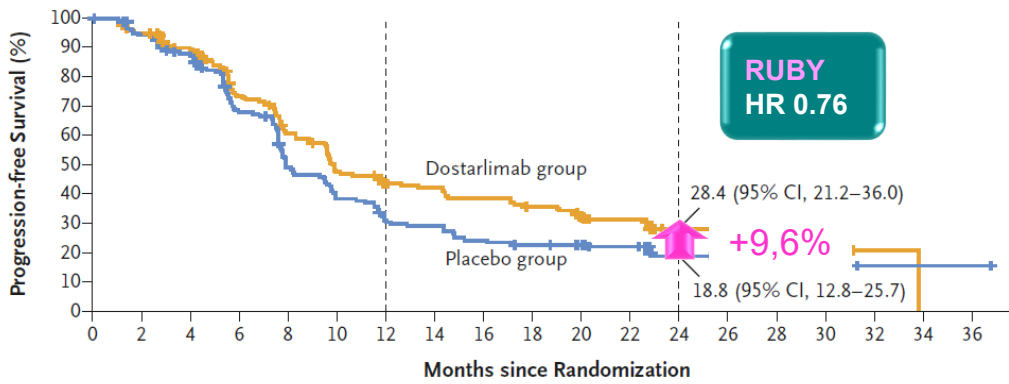
Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor plus Chemotherapy in First-line Endometrial Cancer: PFS in pMMR Tumors



Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor plus Chemotherapy in First-line Endometrial Cancer: PFS in pMMR Tumors

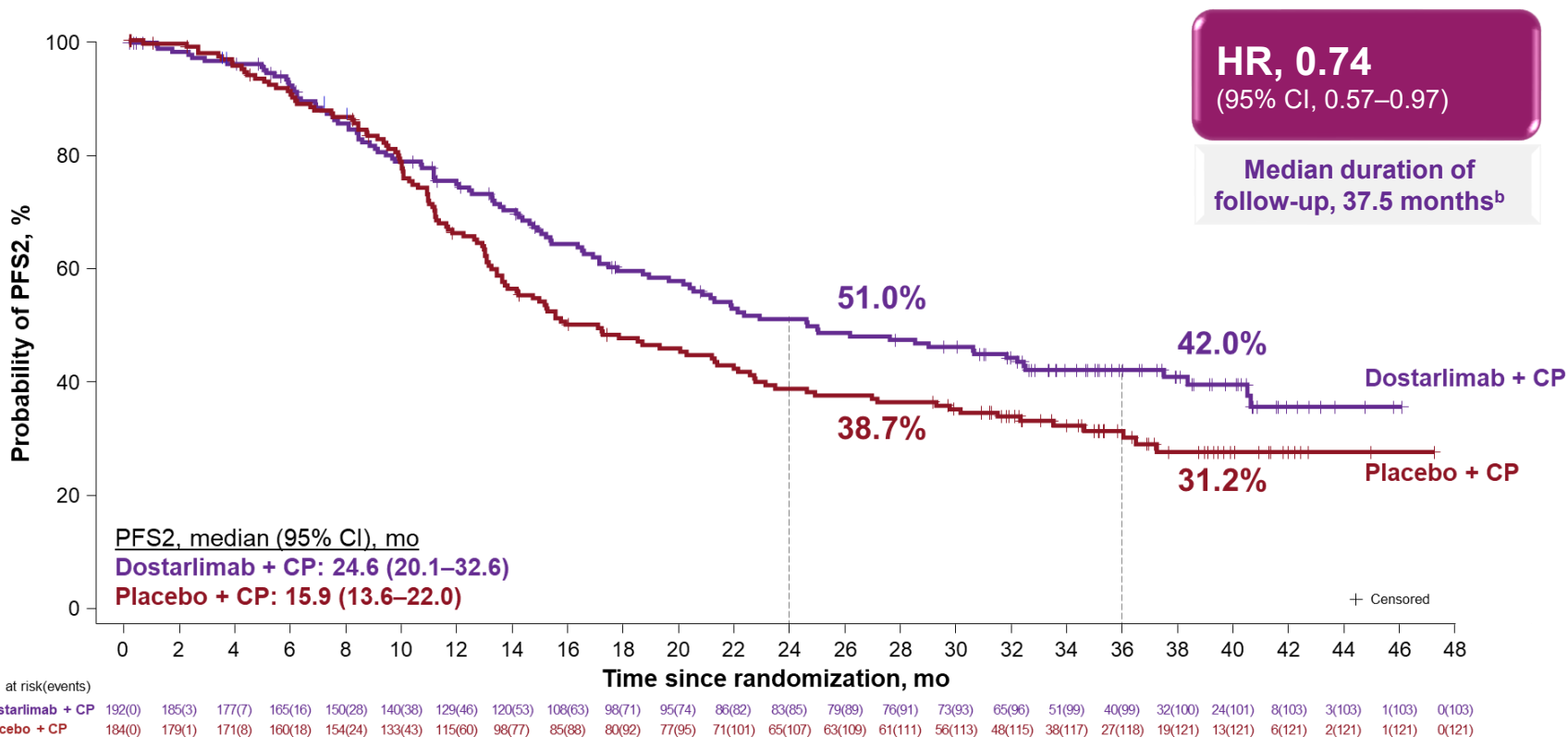


Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor plus Chemotherapy in First-line Endometrial Cancer: PFS in pMMR Tumors

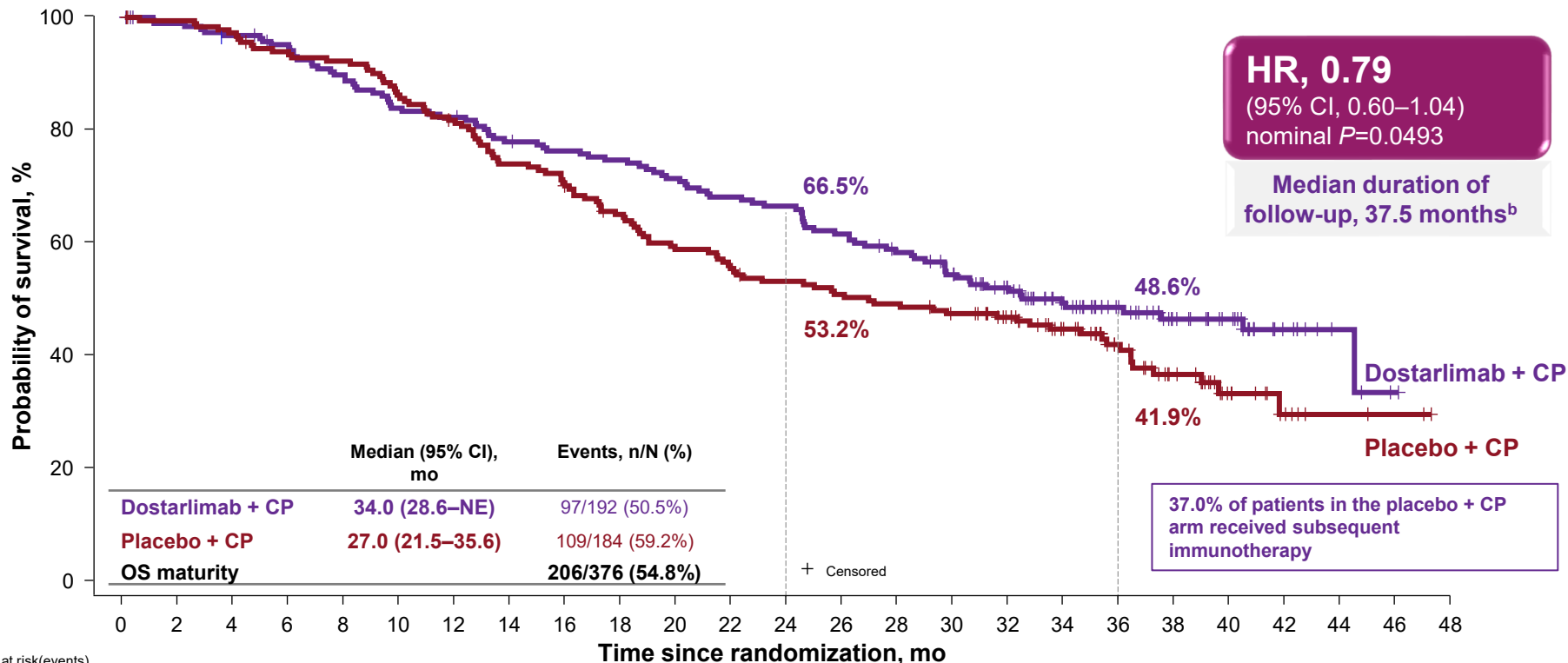


Mansoor R. Mirza et al. NEJM August 2023, Ramez N. Eskander et al. NEJM August 2023, Nicoletta Colombo et al., ESMO 2023, Shannon N. Westin, et al. ESGO 2023

RUBY I: Clinically Meaningful Difference in PFS2 in the MMRp/MSS Populations

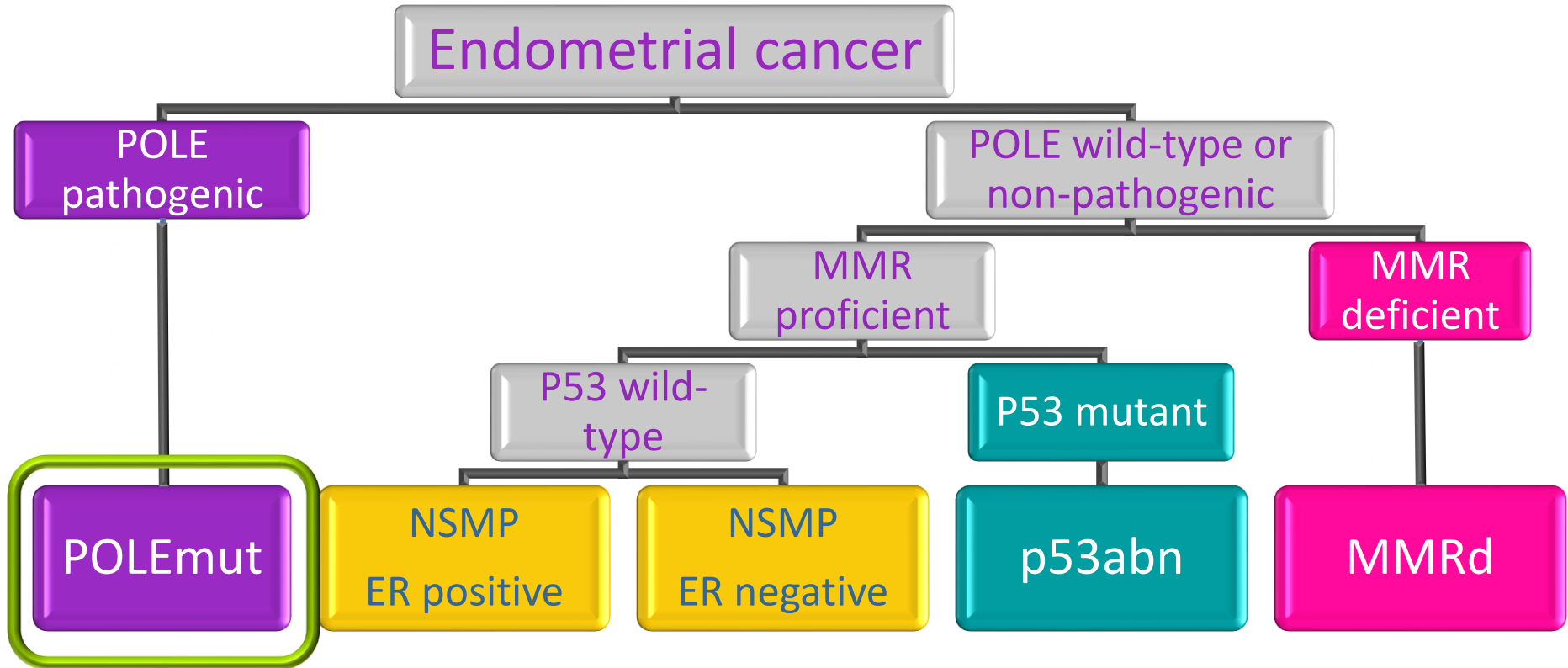


RUBY I: Clinically Meaningful OS Difference in MMRp/MSS^a

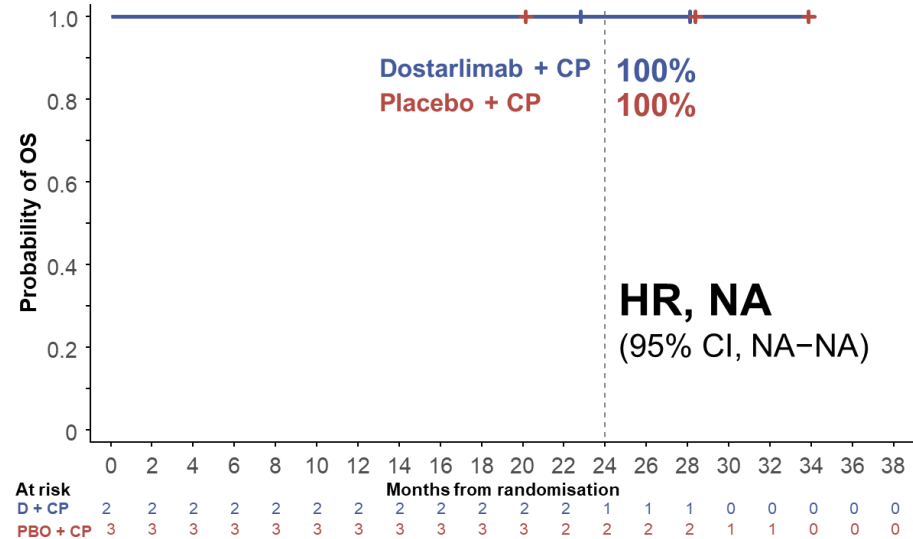
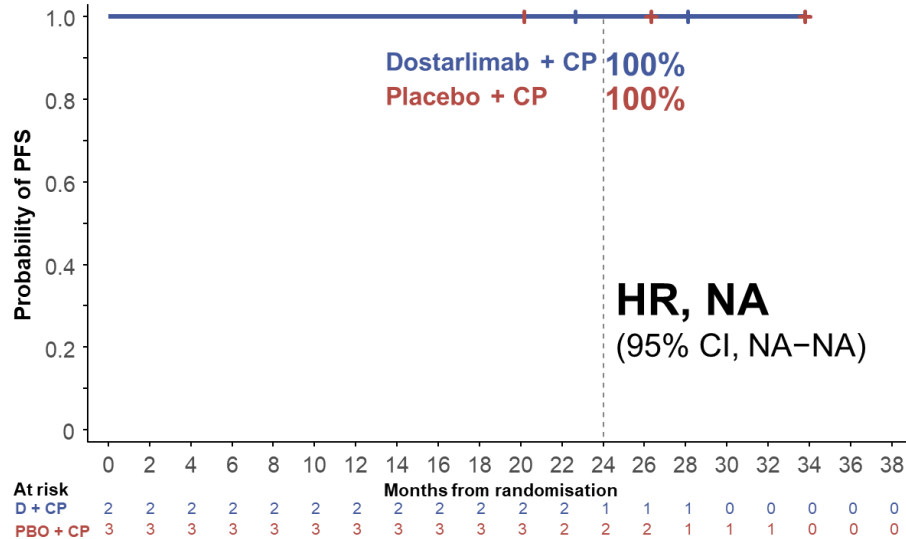


No. at risk (events)	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
Dostarlimab + CP	192(0)	187(2)	182(6)	175(11)	165(21)	156(30)	153(33)	144(41)	140(44)	137(47)	131(53)	125(59)	122(62)	113(71)	105(77)	96(84)	84(88)	67(91)	51(93)	38(95)	29(95)	11(96)	4(96)	1(97)	0(97)
Placebo + CP	184(0)	181(1)	177(5)	169(12)	167(14)	155(26)	146(34)	133(47)	125(54)	115(63)	104(74)	98(80)	93(84)	89(88)	86(91)	81(94)	73(95)	59(98)	41(101)	28(106)	15(108)	7(109)	3(109)	2(109)	0(109)

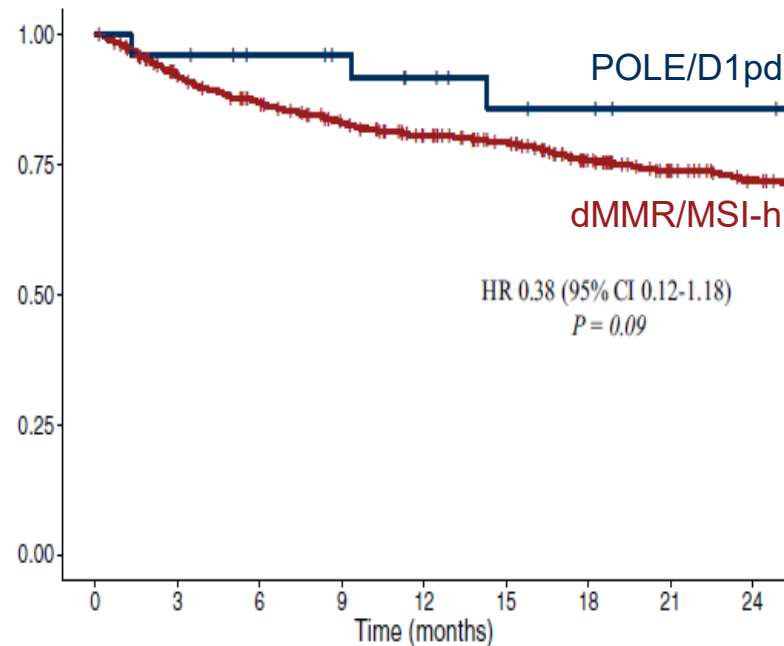
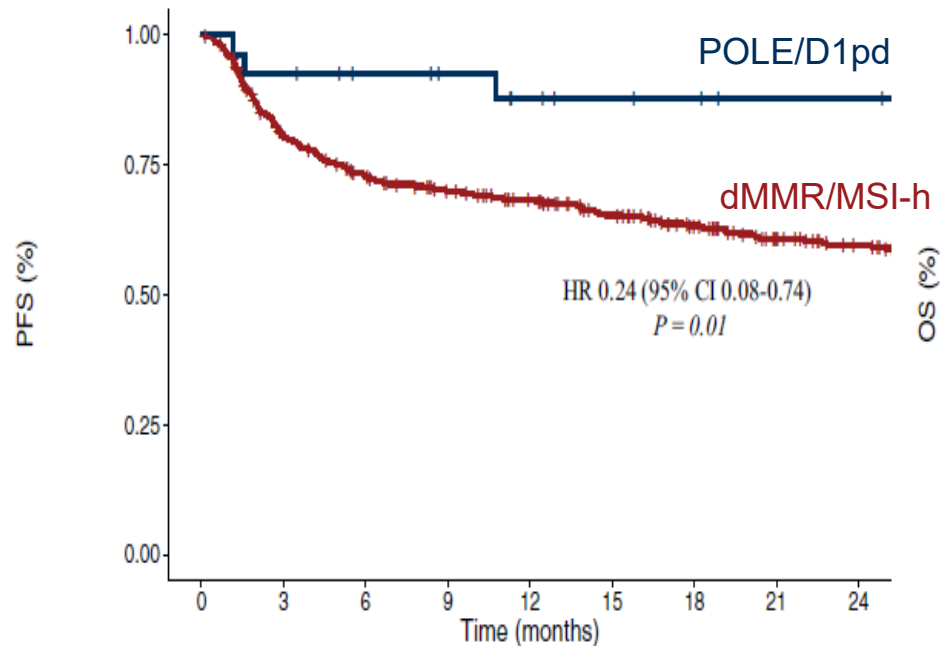
Molecular classification of endometrial cancer



ENGOT-EN6-NSGO/GOG-3031/RUBY: PFS and OS in POL ϵ mut



Immune checkpoint inhibitors for POLE or POLD1 proofreading-deficient metastatic colorectal cancer

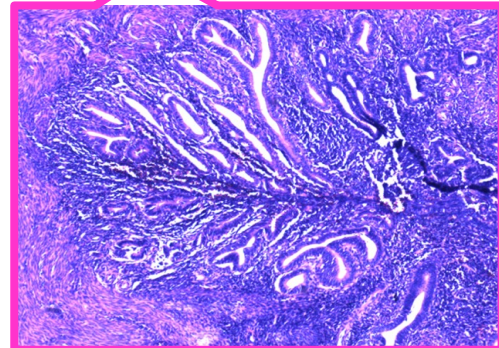
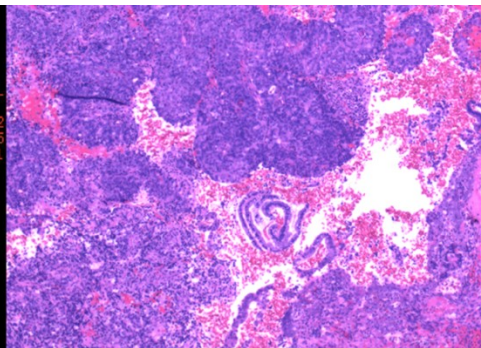
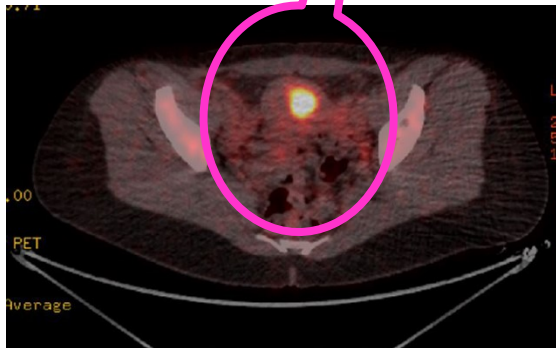


Patients with POLE and POLD1 proofreading deficiency mCRC showed more favorable outcomes compared to dMMR/MSI-H mCRC to treatment with ICIs in terms of tumor response and survival.

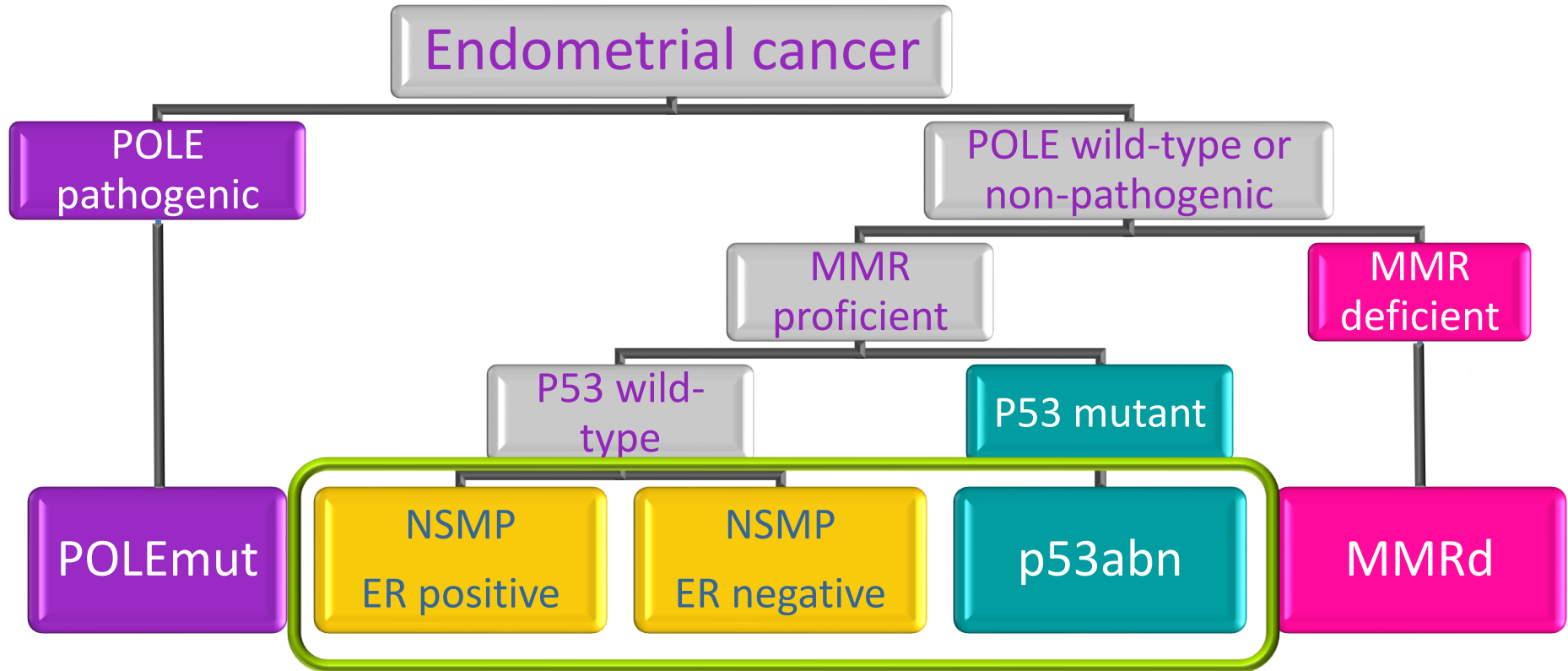
Brain metastasis and *POLE* mutated endometrial cancer



- 31-year-old patient presented to the neurologic emergency
- Brain MRI showed a lesion
- Whole body FDG PET CT detected a hypermetabolic area in the uterus
- The brain lesion was resected
- Histologic workup showed a poorly differentiated carcinoma
- D&C confirmed the same histology
- POLEm
- 3 cycles of single agent pembrolizumab
- Hysterectomy: pCR (complex endometrial hyperplasia, but no invasive carcinoma)

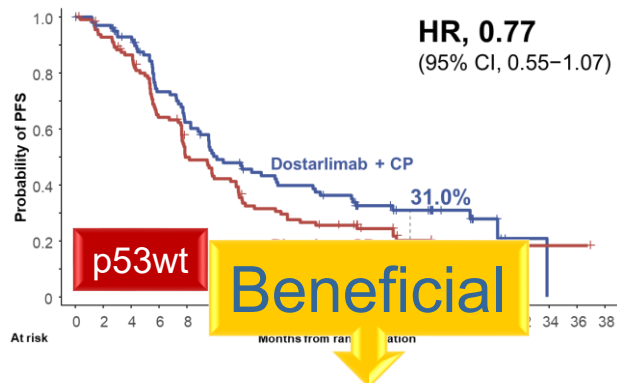


Molecular classification of endometrial cancer

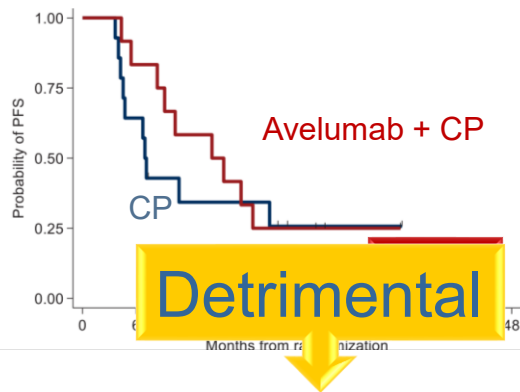


IO and PFS in non-dMMR TP53mut and TP53wt

ENGOT-en6/RUBY

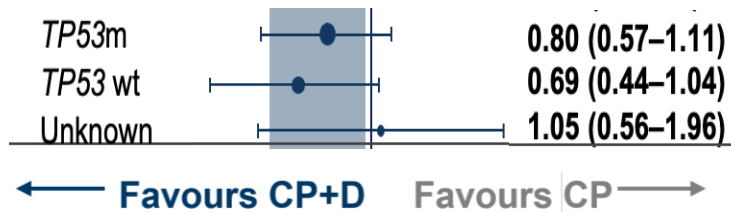
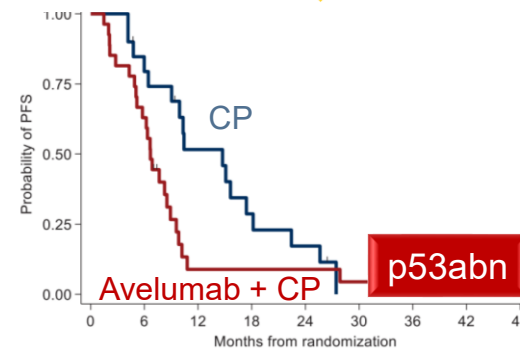
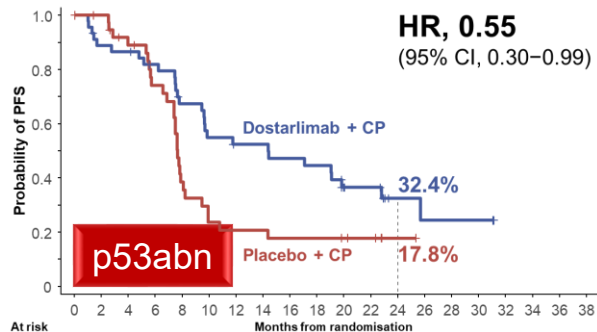


MITO END-3



DUO-E

Indifferent



**GO BACK AND
START AGAIN**

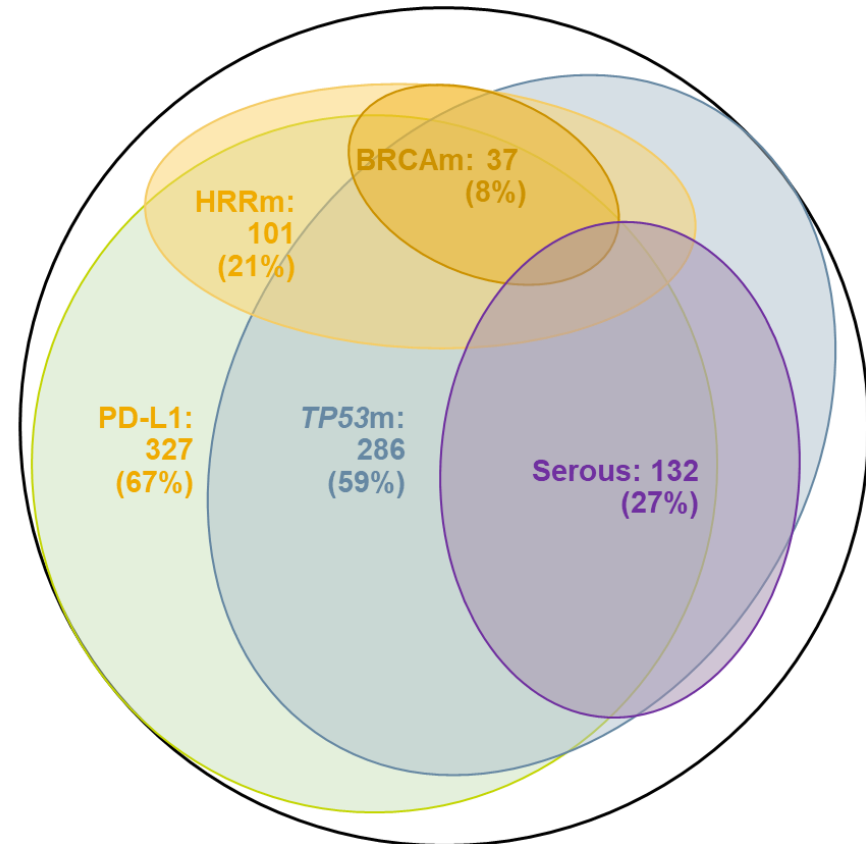
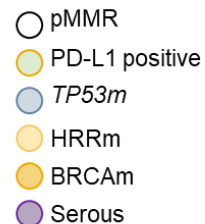


pMMR biomarker-known subpopulation: co-prevalence of biomarkers

The pMMR biomarker-known (n=486) subpopulation was heterogeneous, with a large overlap of biomarkers:

- 84% of patients were positive for one or more biomarkers
- PD-L1 positive and *TP53m* were the most prevalent biomarkers

	PD-L1 positive	<i>TP53m</i>	HRRm	BRCAm	<i>POLEm</i>	Serous
PD-L1 positive	67%	44%	16%	6%	2%	20%
<i>TP53m</i>	44%	59%	14%	6%	2%	24%
HRRm	16%	14%	21%	8%	2%	6%
BRCAm	6%	6%	8%	8%	1%	3%
<i>POLEm</i>	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	0%
Serous	20%	24%	6%	3%	0%	27%



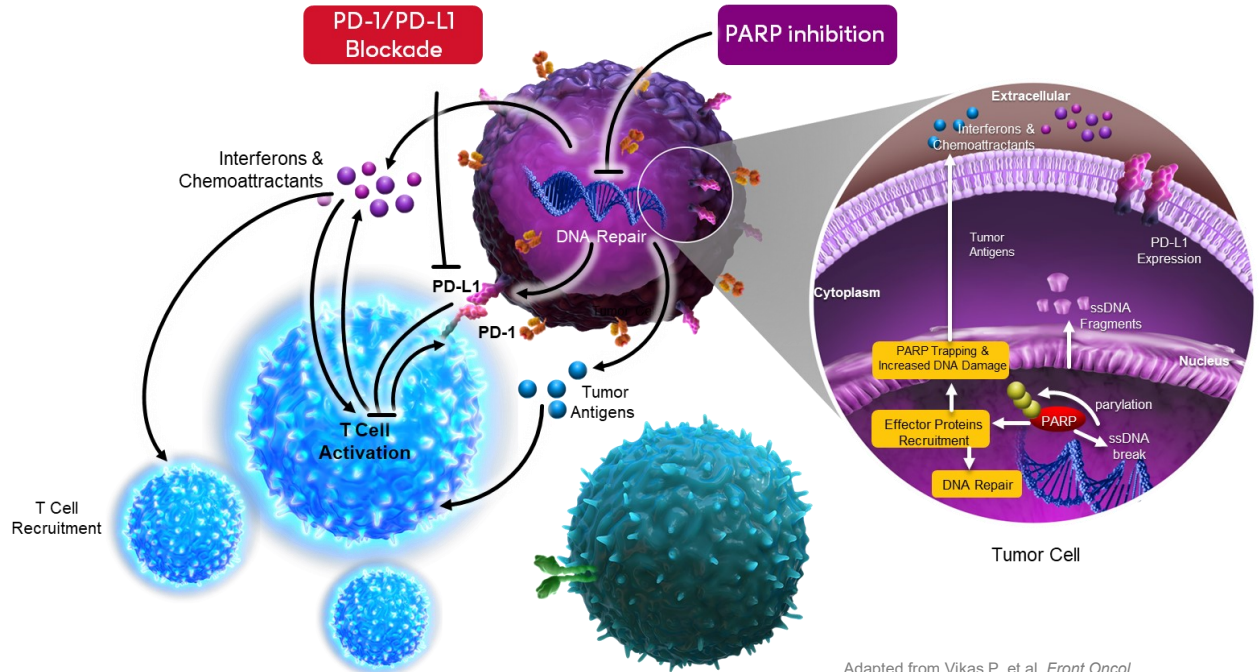
Rationale for combining PARPi and anti-PD-(L)1¹⁻³

Some ECs have HRD and high **PARP1** expression, suggesting therapeutic potential of PARP inhibitors²

PARP-Inhibition increase generation of neoantigens through the alteration of the DNA repair

PARP-Inhibition increased expression of PD-L1

PARP-1 Inhibition decreased T_{reg}



Adapted from Vikas P, et al. *Front Oncol.* 2020;10:570.

DNA = deoxyribonucleic acid; EC = endometrial cancer; HRD = homologous recombination deficiency; PARP poly(adenosine diphosphate-ribose) polymerase; PARPi = poly(adenosine diphosphate-ribose) polymerase inhibitor; PD-1 = programmed cell death-1;

PD-L1 = programmed cell death ligand-1; ssDNA = single-stranded DNA.

1. Jiao S, et al. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2017;23:3711-3720. 2. Arciuolo DT, et al. *Int J Mol Sci.* 2022;23:11684. 3. Vikas P, et al. *Front Oncol.* 2020;10:570. 4. Mirza MR, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2021;32:S770-S771. 5. Westin SH, et al. Presented at European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Annual Meeting, October 20-24, 2023; Madrid, Spain; Presentation #LBA41.

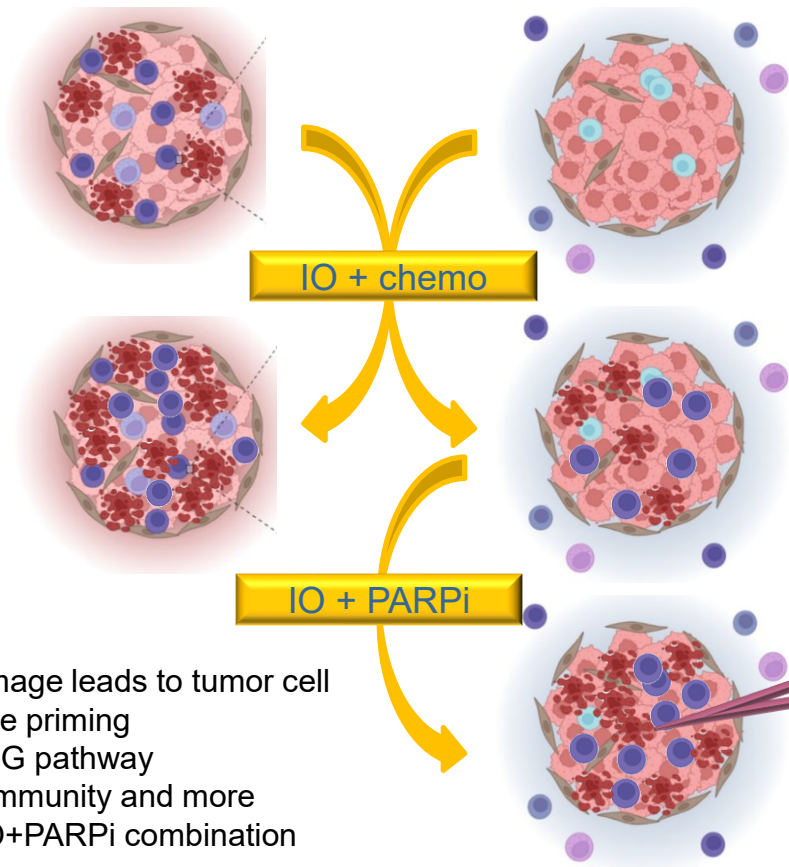
dMMR

pMMR

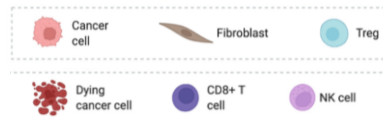
- CD8+ T cells and NK cells are present in tumor
- Suppression of immune-suppressive cell types

- Blockade of PD-1/PD-L1 with IO drives prolonged anti-tumor immunity and durable clinical activity in dMMR tumors, with limited potential for further enhancement

- PARPi induced DNA damage leads to tumor cell death and further immune priming
- Activation of cGAS/STING pathway
- More robust anti-tumor immunity and more durable benefit for the IO+PARPi combination



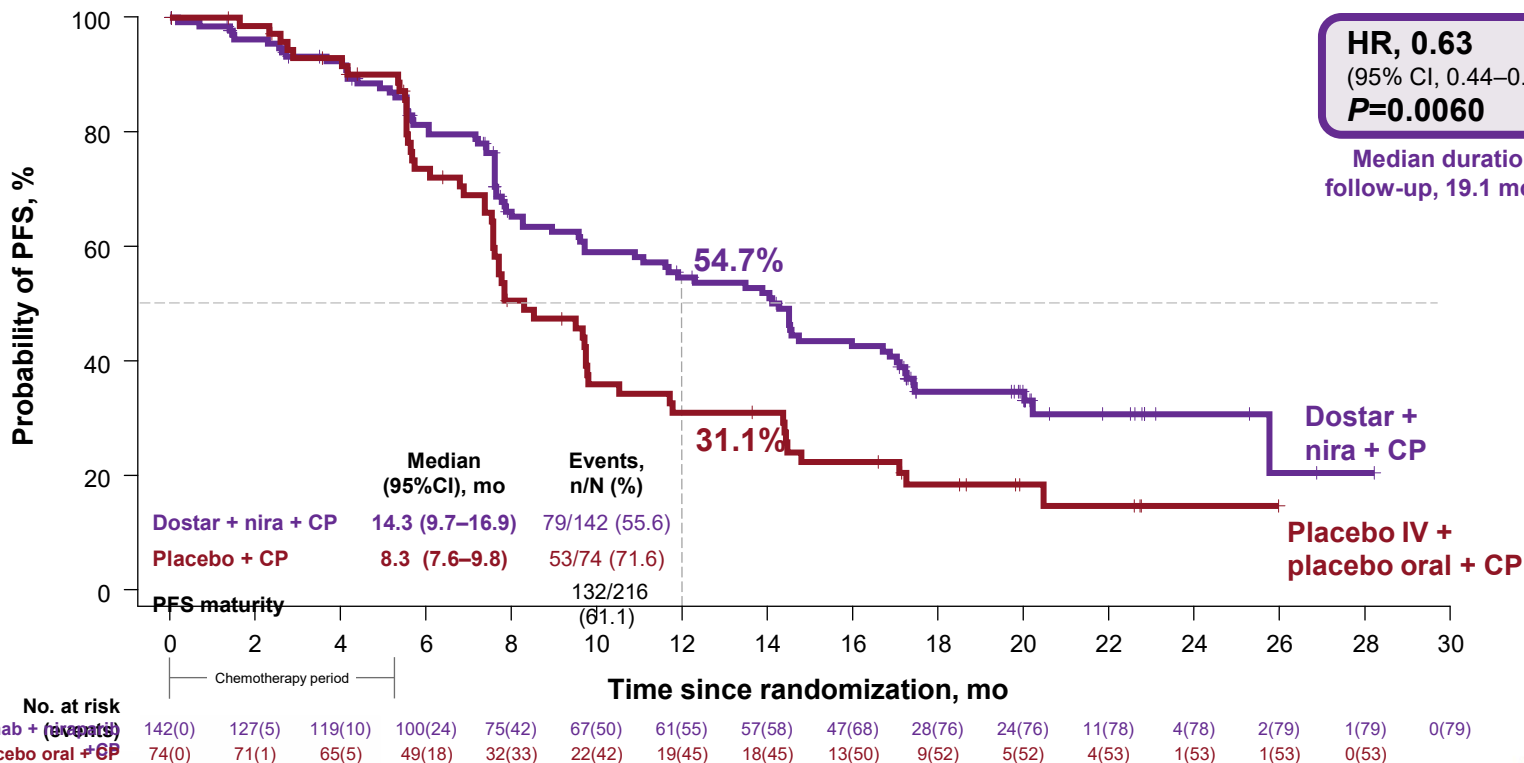
- Exclusion of CD8+ T cells and NK cells from the tumor
 - Immunesuppressive immune cells in tumor (Tregs)
 - Immunotherapy limited efficacy
-
- Blockade of PD-1/PD-L1 leads to more limited anti-tumor immunity in pMMR tumours





Statistically Significant PFS Benefit in MMRp/MSS Population

Primary endpoint



^aMedian expected duration of follow-up.

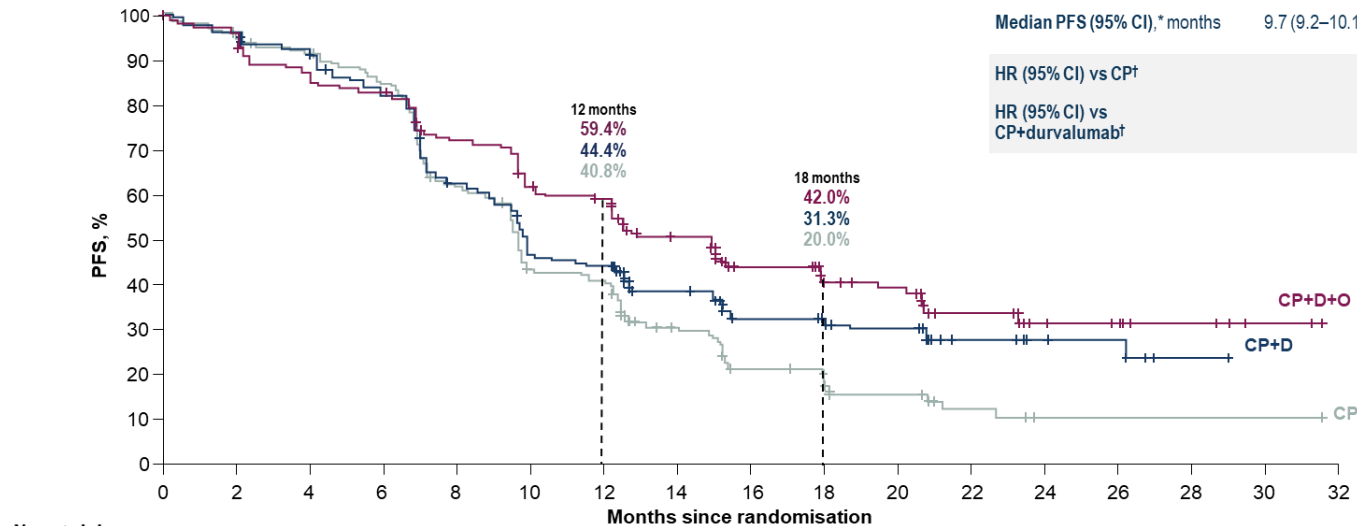
CP, carboplatin-paclitaxel; dostar, dostarlimab; HR, hazard ratio; MMRp, mismatch repair proficient; MSS, microsatellite stable; nira, niraparib; PFS, progression-free survival.



DUO-E: pMMR PFS

Prespecified Exploratory Subgroup Analyses

PFS: pMMR (80% of population)



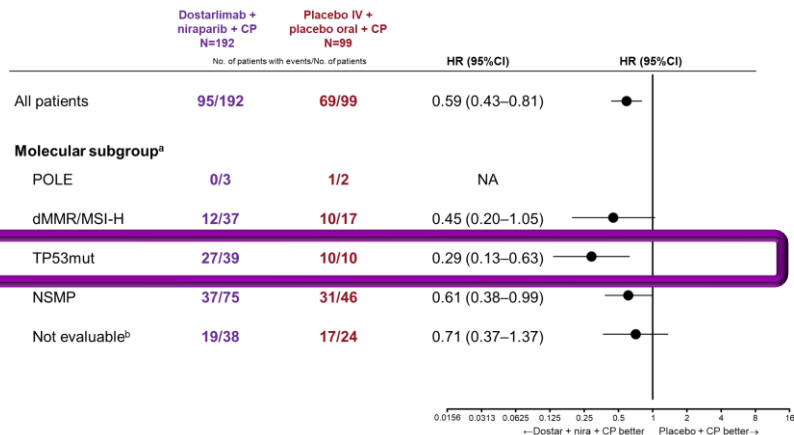
No. at risk

	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32
CP	192	178	170	156	113	77	73	40	25	21	13	7	1	1	1	1	0
CP+D	192	182	169	152	113	83	79	53	36	31	27	15	8	7	2	0	0
CP+D+O	191	183	164	157	134	114	107	75	46	35	31	19	12	10	5	2	0

	CP N=192	CP+D N=192	CP+D+O N=191
Events, n (%)	148 (77.1)	124 (64.6)	108 (56.5)
Median PFS (95% CI),* months	9.7 (9.2–10.1)	9.9 (9.4–12.5)	15.0 (12.4–18.0)
HR (95% CI) vs CP†		0.77 (0.60–0.97)	0.57 (0.44–0.73)
HR (95% CI) vs CP+durvalumab‡			0.76 (0.59–0.99)

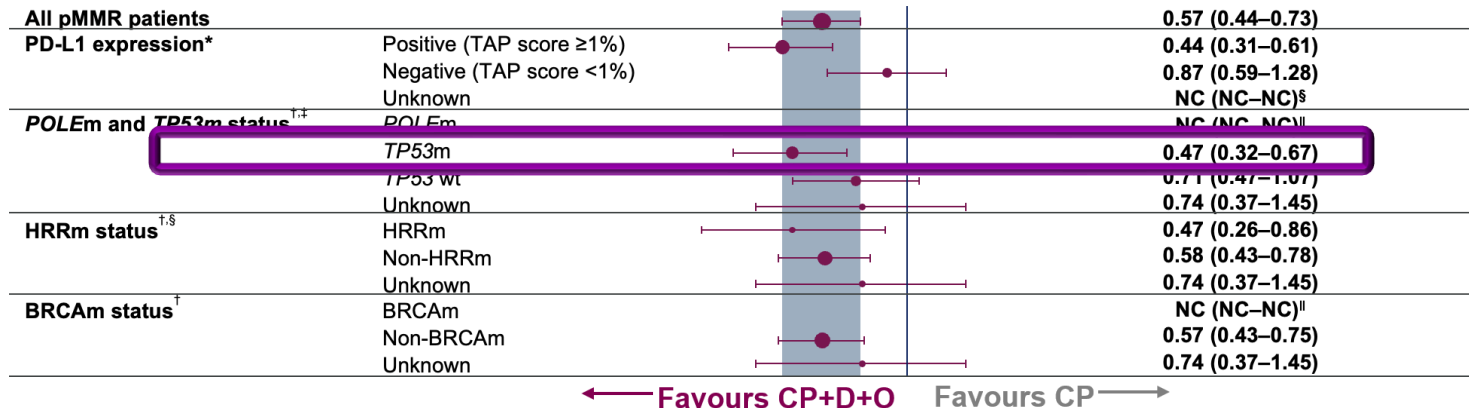
Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor +PARPi in non-dMMR TP53mut

ENGOT-en6
/RUBY II



In the words of the economist Ronald Coarse:

“If you torture the data enough, it will confess to anything.”



DUO-E

Endometrial Cancer – Molecular Driven Management: Role of Immunotherapy

- IO plus chemotherapy is effective in endometrial carcinoma
- ...not all patients respond
- Molecular characterisation: dMMR/POLE/NSMP/p53abn
- POLEm might respond better than dMMR to IO therapy (according mCRC)
- p53abn should not be used as selection criterion for IO therapy
- Assessment of immune response (rather than molecular subtype) may better predict response to immunotherapy





...bright future for immunotherapy

foto©marth