

# **The Role of the Experimental Therapeutics and Rare Tumor Committee (ETRRTC) in Drug Development**

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**Chief, Hematology and Oncology**

**Deputy Director**

**Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**Columbia University School of Medicine**

**New York, NY**



# Conflicts

- None

# Rare Cancer Definitions

- Nearly 20% (1 in 8) of all cancers diagnosed in adults ages 20 and older are rare (approximately 208,000 new cases in 2017).
- No set definition
- FDA “rare disease” called “Orphan” disease defined as “A disease or condition with a prevalence less than 200,000 persons in the United States”
- The NCI definition for “rare cancers” fewer than 15 cases per 100,000 people per year.
- European Union (RARECARE)<sup>2</sup> defined rare cancers as those with fewer than 6 cases per 100,000 people per year.

# The Problem with Rare Cancers

- Small populations
- Heterogeneity between and within diseases
- Complex biology making them poorly understood
- Many are life threatening illnesses with unmet medical need
- Lack of effective treatments and treatment guidelines
- Often delay in diagnosis
- The 5-year survival rate inferior for patients with rare cancers is inferior compared to those with common cancers (Europe: 47% vs 67%\*)
- Affects children and adolescents

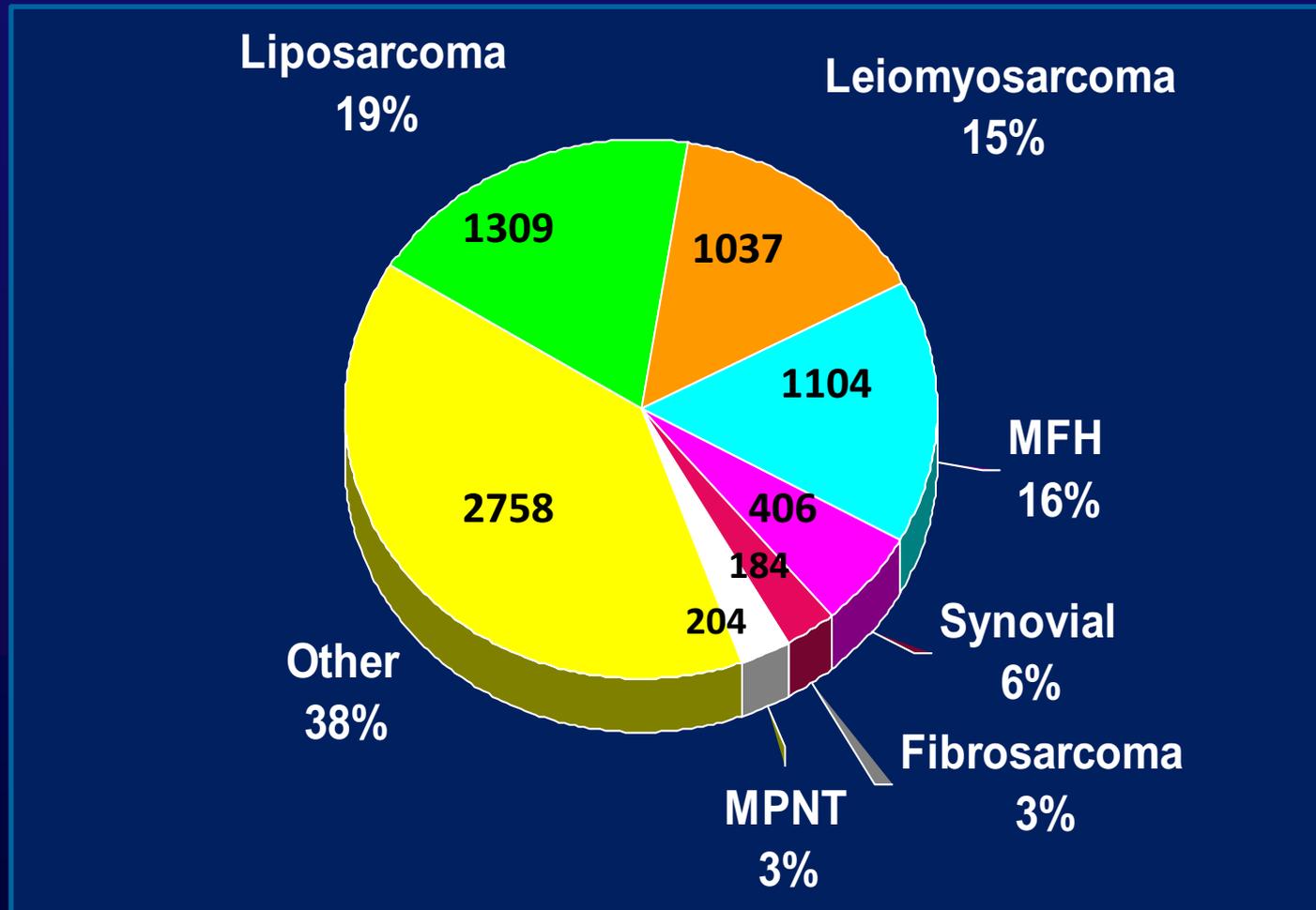
*\*Gatta G, Ciccolallo L, Kunkler I, et al. Survival from rare cancer in adults: a population-based study. Lancet Oncol. 2006;7:132-140*

# ETRTC Goals

- **Establish new treatment paradigms for patients with rare cancers**
- **Identify and evaluate new agents based on compelling preclinical data**
- **Utilize the cooperative group network (i.e. the Alliance) to provide drug access to patients with rare cancers throughout the United States**

# Soft Tissue Sarcoma Heterogeneity

(50+ Soft Tissue Sarcoma Subtypes each with a unique biology, half with specific genetic alterations)



*n* = 7002

# Cytotoxic Chemotherapy for Sarcomas

## CHEMOTHERAPY

## Single Agent Response Rate

- Doxorubicin 10-20% RR
- Ifosfamide 10-20% RR
- Gemcitabine 10-20% RR
- Dacarbazine (DTIC) 5-10% RR
- Erubilin 4% RR

(liposarcoma only)

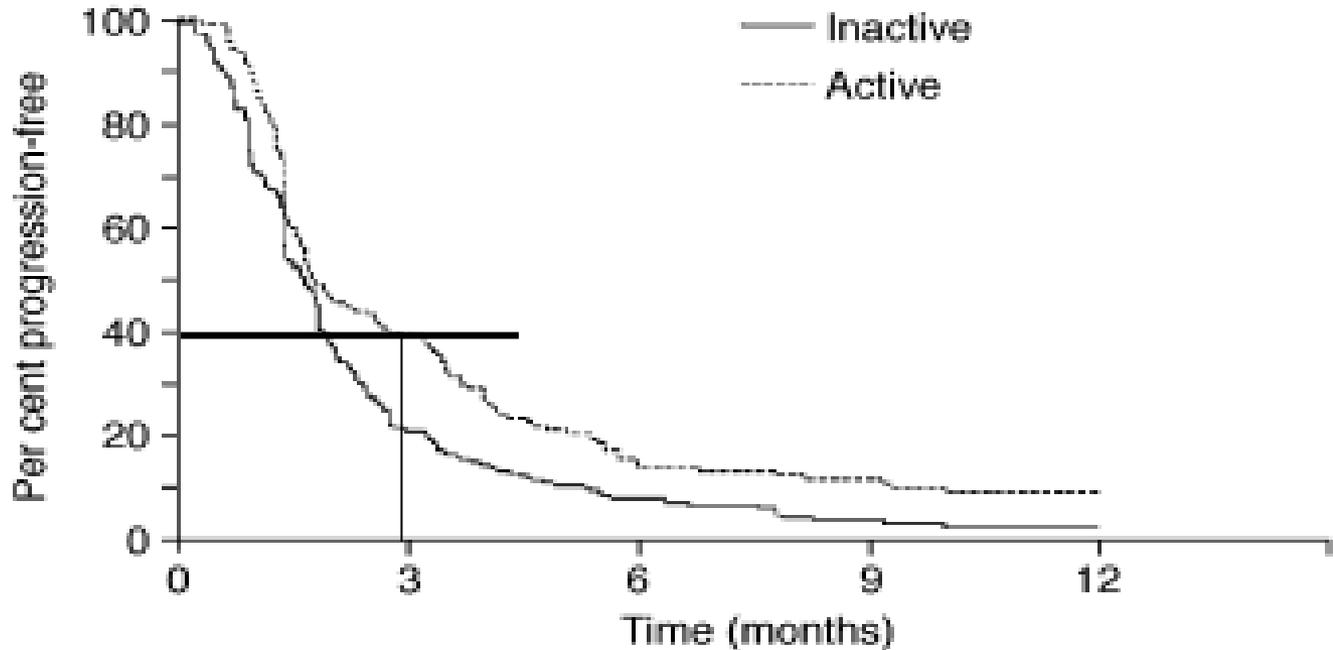
(approved on  
mOS: 13.5 m vs  
11.5 m with DTIC)

- Trabectedin 6% RR

(myxoid lipo and leiomyo only)

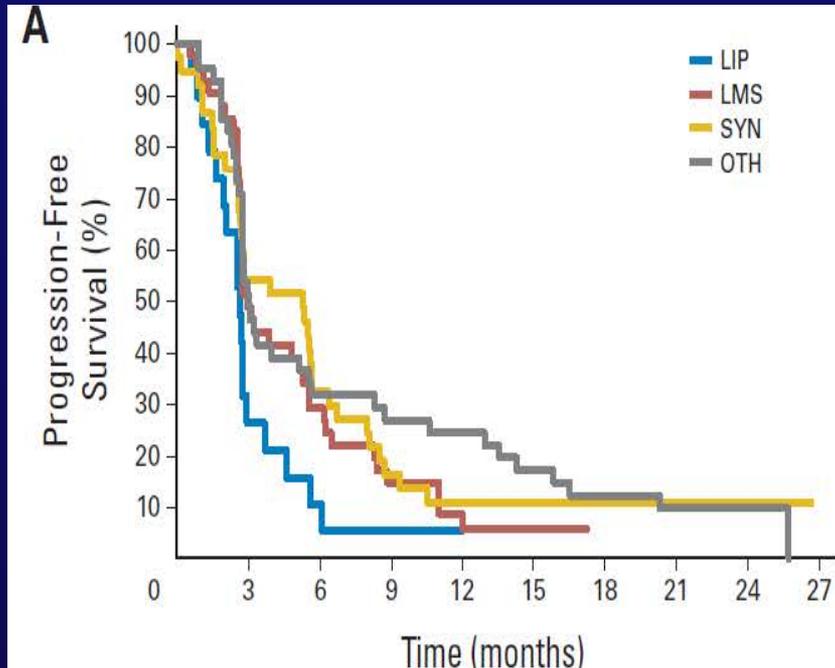
(approved on  
mPFS: 4.2 m vs  
1.5 m with DTIC)

# “Active” Second/Third Line Therapies in Sarcoma: mPFS $\geq 40\%$ at 12 weeks (EORTC data set)



O	N	Number of patients at risk:				
221	234	47	16	5	1	—
136	146	55	18	14	11	- - -

# Pazopanib RTKi Approved for All Non-Adipocyte Sarcomas



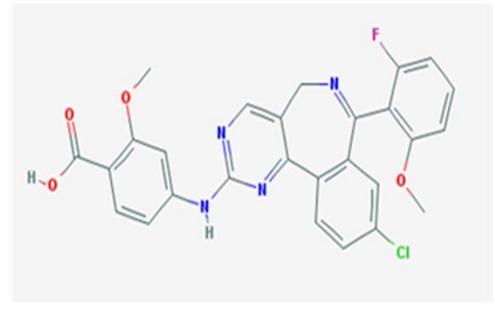
Subtype	PFR <sub>12</sub>
<b>Adipocytic</b>	<b>26%</b>
<b>Leiomyosarcoma</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>Synovial</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>39%</b>

*PFR<sub>12</sub> > 40% considered promising for second line based on historical controls.*

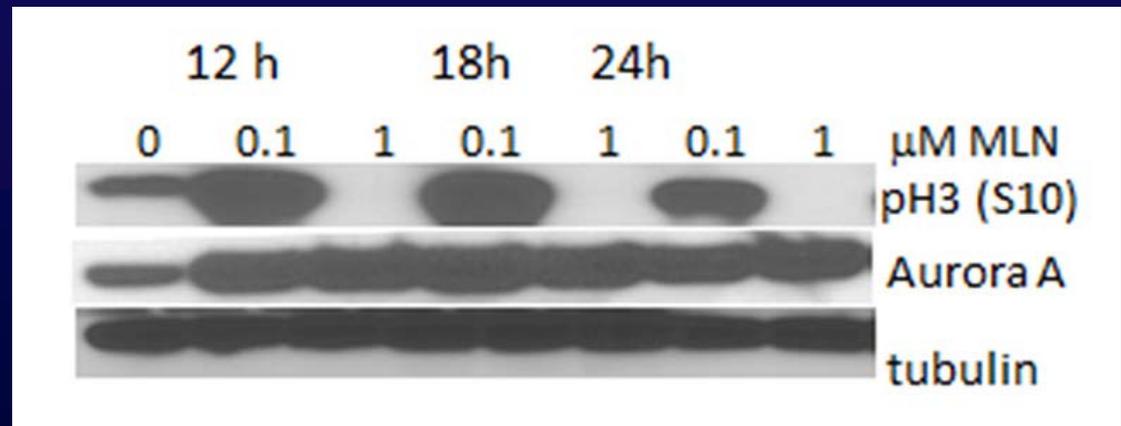
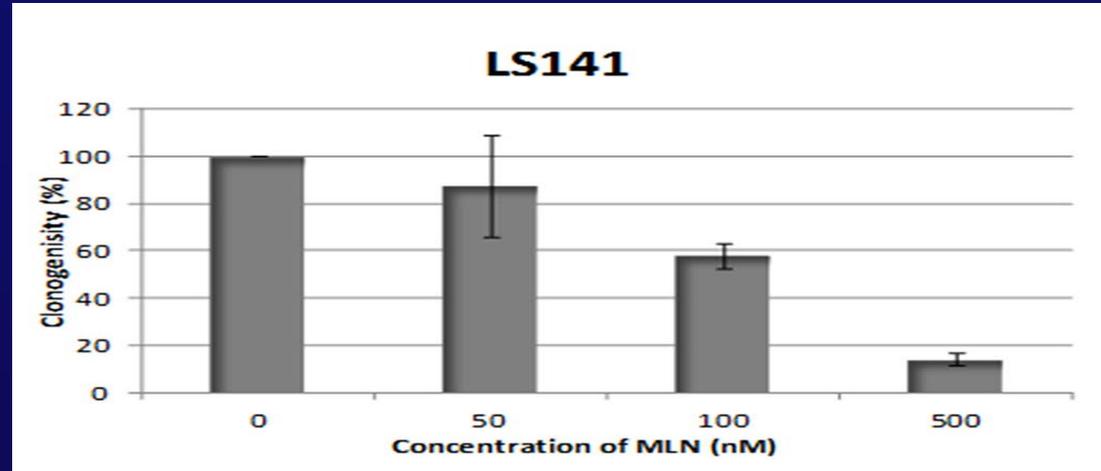
**in the subsequent phase III study limited to non-adipocytic sarcomas: pazopanib improved PFS vs placebo. (4.6 mos vs 1.6 mos, HR = 0.31, p < 0.0001) leading to FDA approval.**

# MLN8237 (Alisertib)

## Inhibitor of Aurora A (B) or Both?

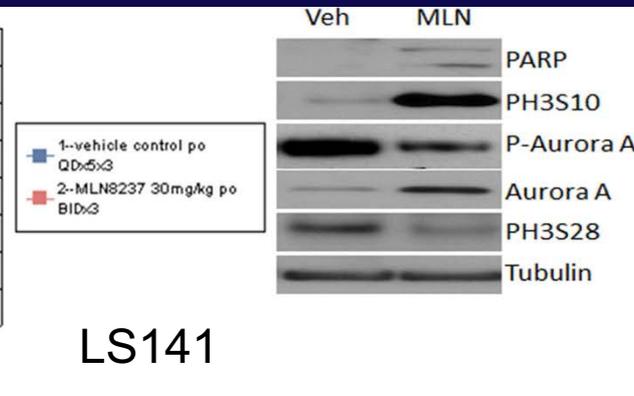
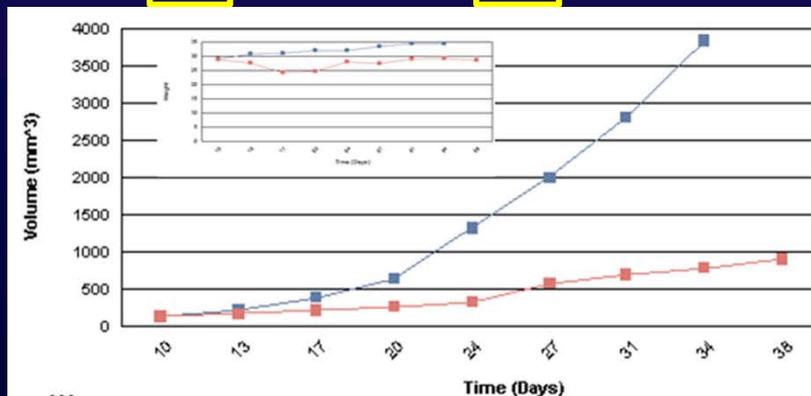
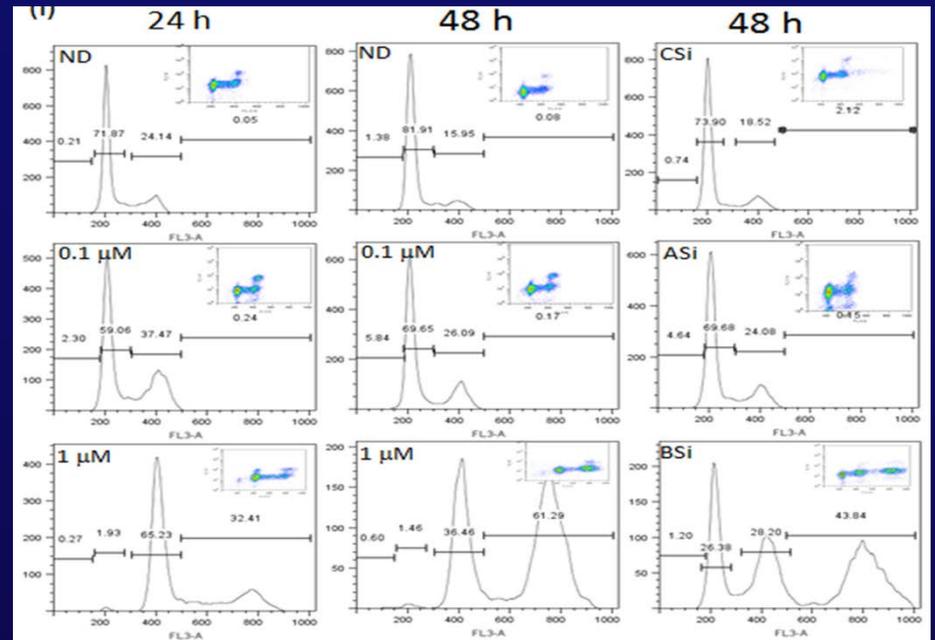
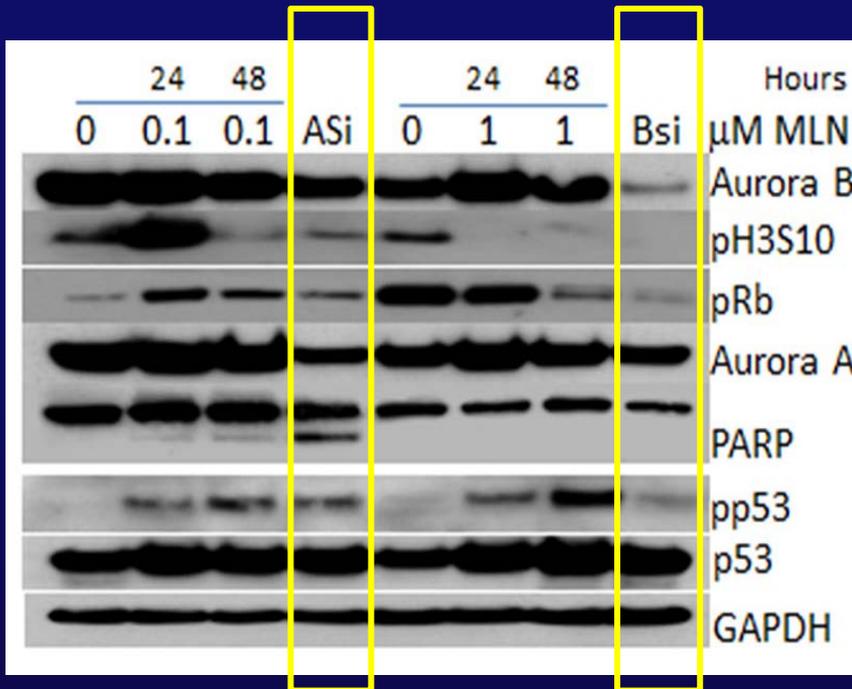


Cell line	IC 50 in nM
LS141	75
DDLS	200
SAOS2	50
A673	50
MPNST	100-200
SKLMS	50
SKUT1	50-100
SKUT1B	10-50
ST88	100-200
CHP100	50-100



# MLN8237 (Alisertib) Inhibitor of Aurora A (B) or Both?

LS141



LS141

# Alliance A091102: Phase II Study of MLN8237 (Alisertib) in Advanced/Metastatic Sarcoma

Study Chair: Mark A. Dickson, MD

Primary endpoint: ORR

Secondary endpoints: PFS and OS

Patients enrolled in 5 separate cohorts:

- Cohort 1: liposarcoma
- Cohort 2: leiomyosarcoma
- Cohort 3: undifferentiated sarcoma
- Cohort 4: malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor
- Cohort 5: other sarcomas

Simon two-stage design for each cohort:

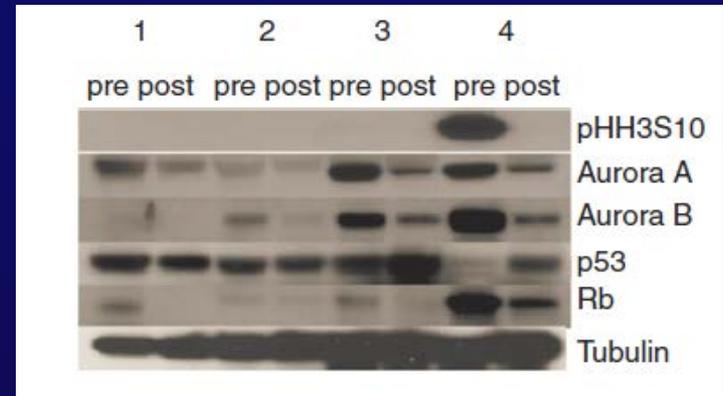
- Treat 9 patients. If  $\geq 1$  response, enroll additional 16.
- Treatment: Alisertib 50mg PO bid x 7 days, every 21 days
- Correlatives:
  - Pre- and on-treatment tumor biopsies
  - Pre- and on-treatment FLT-PET scans
- Study activation 8/22/2012

# Alliance A091102: Phase II Study of MLN8237 (Alisertib) in Advanced/Metastatic Sarcoma

Study Chair: Mark A. Dickson, MD

Total accrual: 72 patients

Cohort	N
1: Liposarcoma	12
2: Leiomyosarcoma (non-uterine)	10
3: Undifferentiated Sarcoma	13
4: Malignant Peripheral Nerve Sheath Tumor	10
5: Other Sarcomas	27



**Results:** 2 confirmed PRs in angiosarcoma (cohort 5) and 1 unconfirmed PR in dediff chondrosarcoma. 3 patients (chondro, UPS, ASPS) remain on study with stable disease).

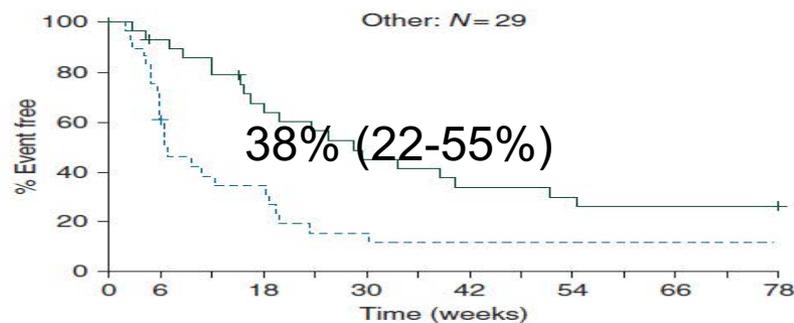
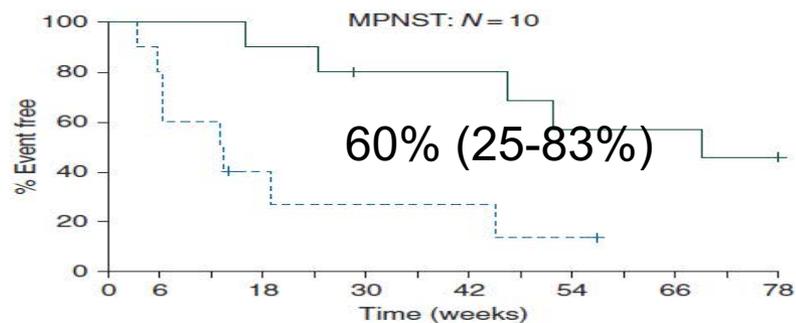
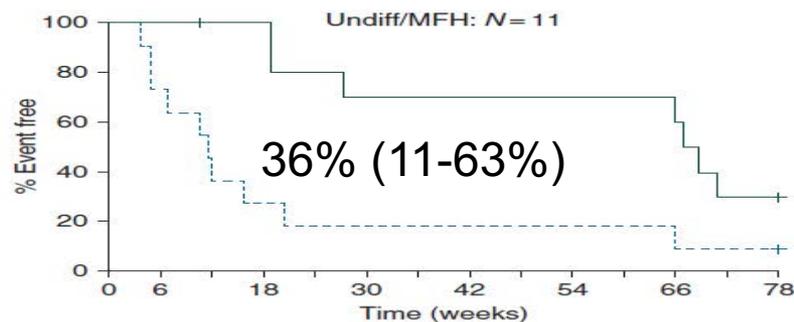
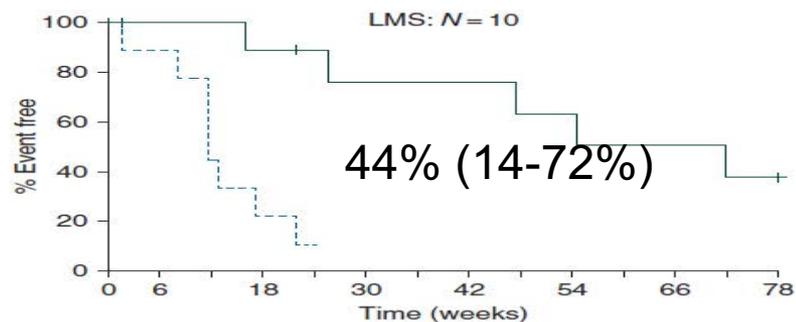
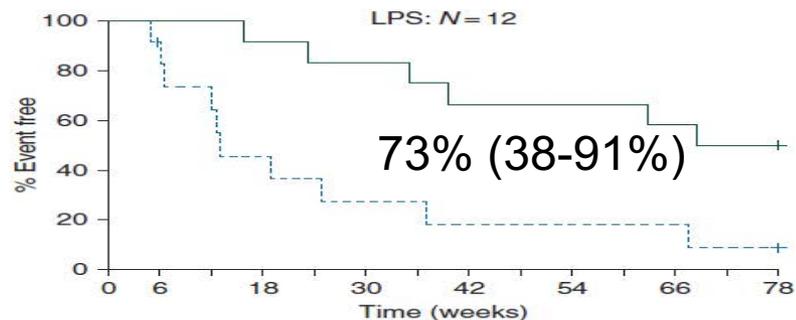
**Correlates:** Aurora B effect, pH3S10 (suppressed), pRb (inhibited)

**Toxicity:** Principally neutropenia, mucositis, hand-foot syndrome

**Results reported at ASCO 2014.**

**Annals of Oncology 27: 1855–1860, 2016**

# Alisertib: % PF (95 CI) at 12 Weeks by Cohort ( $\geq 40\%$ considered promising)



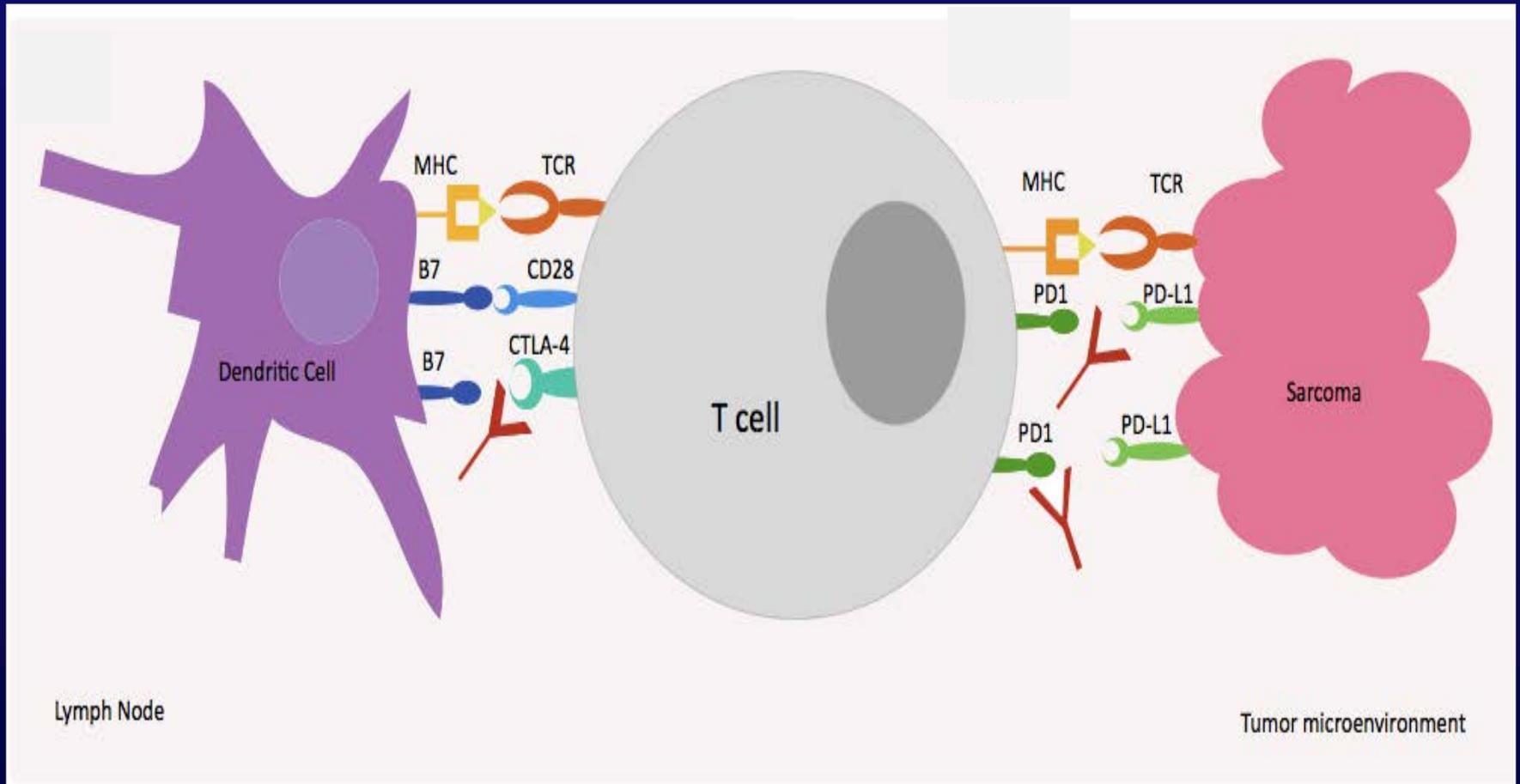
**Alliance A091401:  
A multi-center phase II study of  
nivolumab +/- ipilimumab  
for patients with metastatic sarcoma**

**Sandra P. D'Angelo<sup>1</sup>, Michelle R. Mahoney<sup>2</sup>, Brian A. Van Tine<sup>3</sup>, James Atkins<sup>4</sup>, Mohammed M. Milhem<sup>5</sup>, William D. Tap<sup>1</sup>, Cristina R. Antonescu<sup>1</sup>, Elise Horvath<sup>6</sup>, Gary K. Schwartz<sup>7</sup>, Howard Streicher<sup>8</sup>**

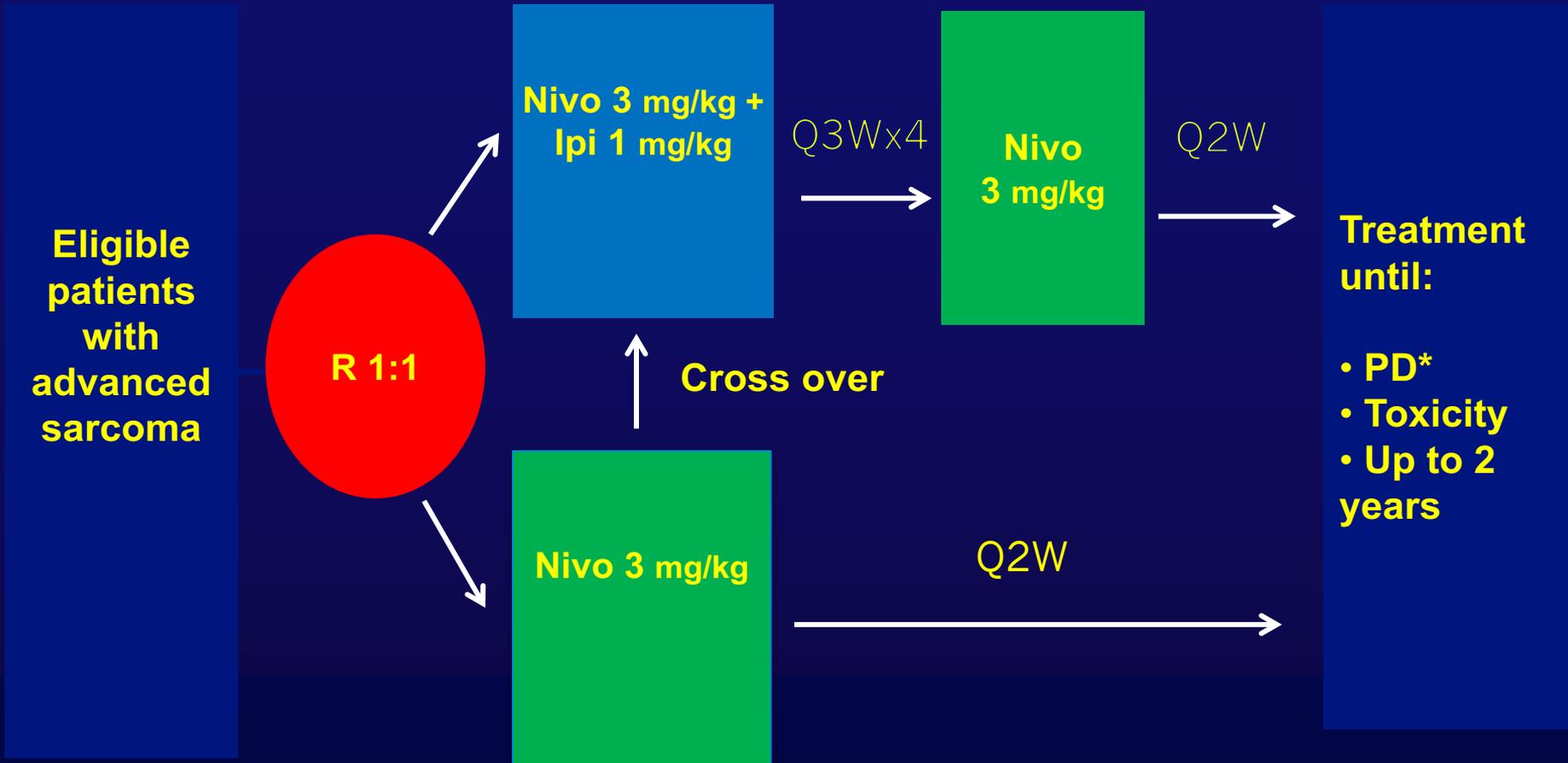
1. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center 2. Alliance Statistics and Data Center, Mayo Clinic 3. Washington University School of Medicine 4. Southeast Clinical Oncology Research Consortium NCORP, Winston-Salem, NC 5. University of Iowa/Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center 6. Astellas 7. Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center 8. National Cancer Institute, Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program, Investigational Drug Branch, Bethesda, MD



# Ipilimumab & Nivolumab



# Study Design



\* Treatment beyond PD allowed in 1<sup>st</sup> 12 wks; 4 wk confirmation required to continue.

# Patient Characteristics (n=85)

	Nivolumab n= 43 (%)	Nivolumab + Ipilimumab n= 42 (%)
<b>Age (Mean, Range)</b>	53 (21-76)	54 (27- 81)
<b>Male</b>	22 (51)	19 (45)
<b>ECOG PS 0</b>	28 (65)	24 (57)
<b>Histology</b>		
Angiosarcoma	0	3 (7)
Bone	5 (12)	4 (10)
LMS	15 (35)	14 (33)
LPS (Well/Dediff)	3 (7)	2 (5)
Sarcoma, NOS	2 (5)	1 (2)
Spindle cell sarcoma	5 (12)	6 (14)
Synovial sarcoma	2 (5)	2 (5)
UPS/MFH	5 (12)	6 (14)
Other	6 (14)	4 (10)
<b>At least 3 Prior Therapies</b>	26 (60)	26 (62)

Accrual completed  
In 6 weeks !!!!

**Bone:**

Chondrosarcoma,  
Osteosarcoma,  
Ewing's sarcoma

**Other:**

ASPS, Epithelioid  
sarcoma, mSFT,  
MPNST, PECOMA,  
Myxofibrosarcoma

Presented by:  
Sandra P.  
D'Angelo

# Safety Overview (Treated Patients)

	Nivolumab n=42 (%)		Nivolumab +Ipilimumab n=42 (%)	
	Any grade	Grade 3- 4	Any grade	Grade 3- 4
<b>Adverse Events (AEs)</b>	42 (100)	17 (40)	42 (100)	20 (48)
<b>Treatment Related AEs</b>	28 (67)	<b>3 (7)</b>	29 (69)	<b>6 (14)</b>
<b>Serious Adverse Events (SAEs)</b>	19 (45)	13 (31)	20 (42)	12 (29)
<b>Treatment Related SAEs</b>	3 (7)	1 (2)	6 (14)	4 (10)

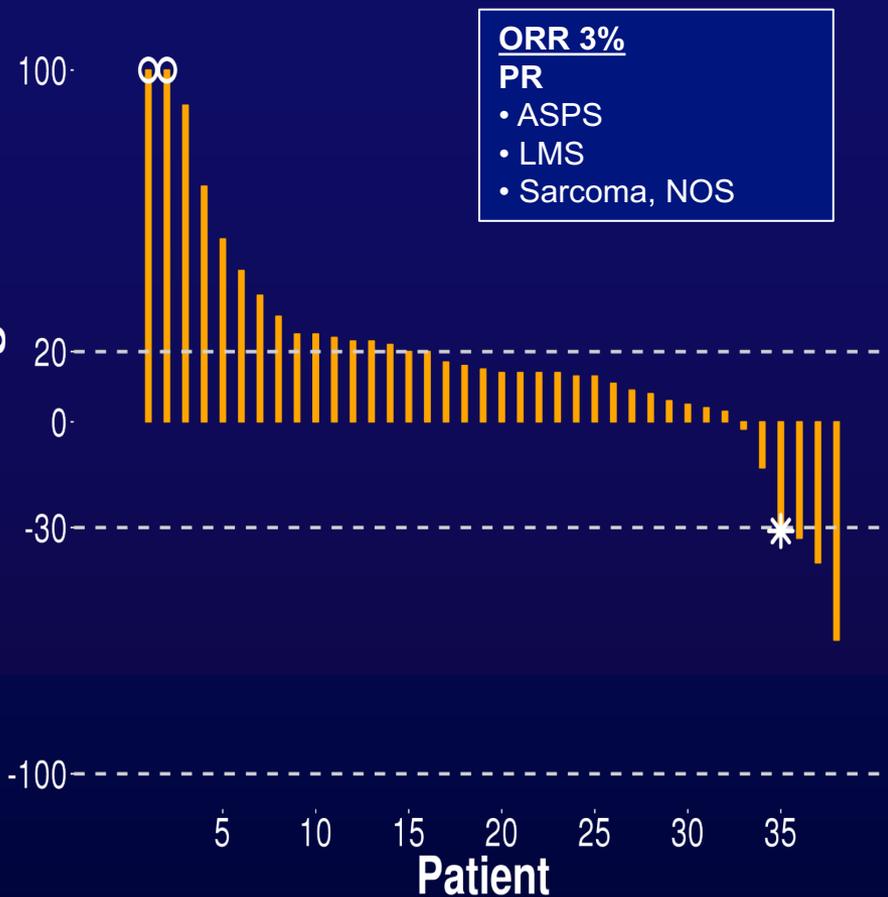
\* There were 11 deaths (5 Single Agent, 6 Dual Agent) unrelated to study treatment

# Summary of Response

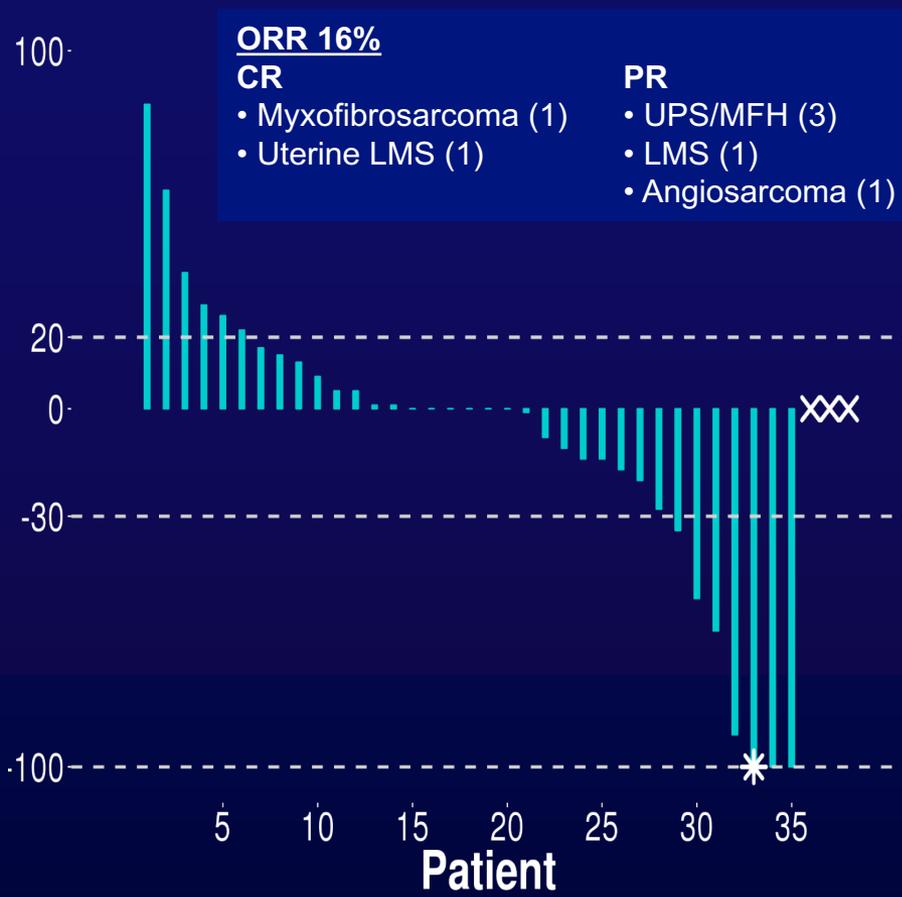
	Nivolumab (n=38)	Nivolumab + Ipilimumab (n=38)
<b>Best Objective Status (n, %)</b>		
CR	0	2 (5)
PR	3 (8)	5 (13)
SD	15 (39)	19 (50)
PD	20 (53)	10 (27)
Death/No Assessment	0	2 (5)
<b>ORR (Confirmed, CR + PR)</b>	<b>2, 5%</b> (90% CI 1-15%)	<b>6, 16%</b> (90% CI 7-29%)
<b>Clinical Benefit Rate (CR + PR + SD)</b>	<b>18%</b> (90% CI 1 - 32%)	<b>29%</b> (90% CI 17-43%)

# Waterfall Plots with Nivo and Nivo/IPI

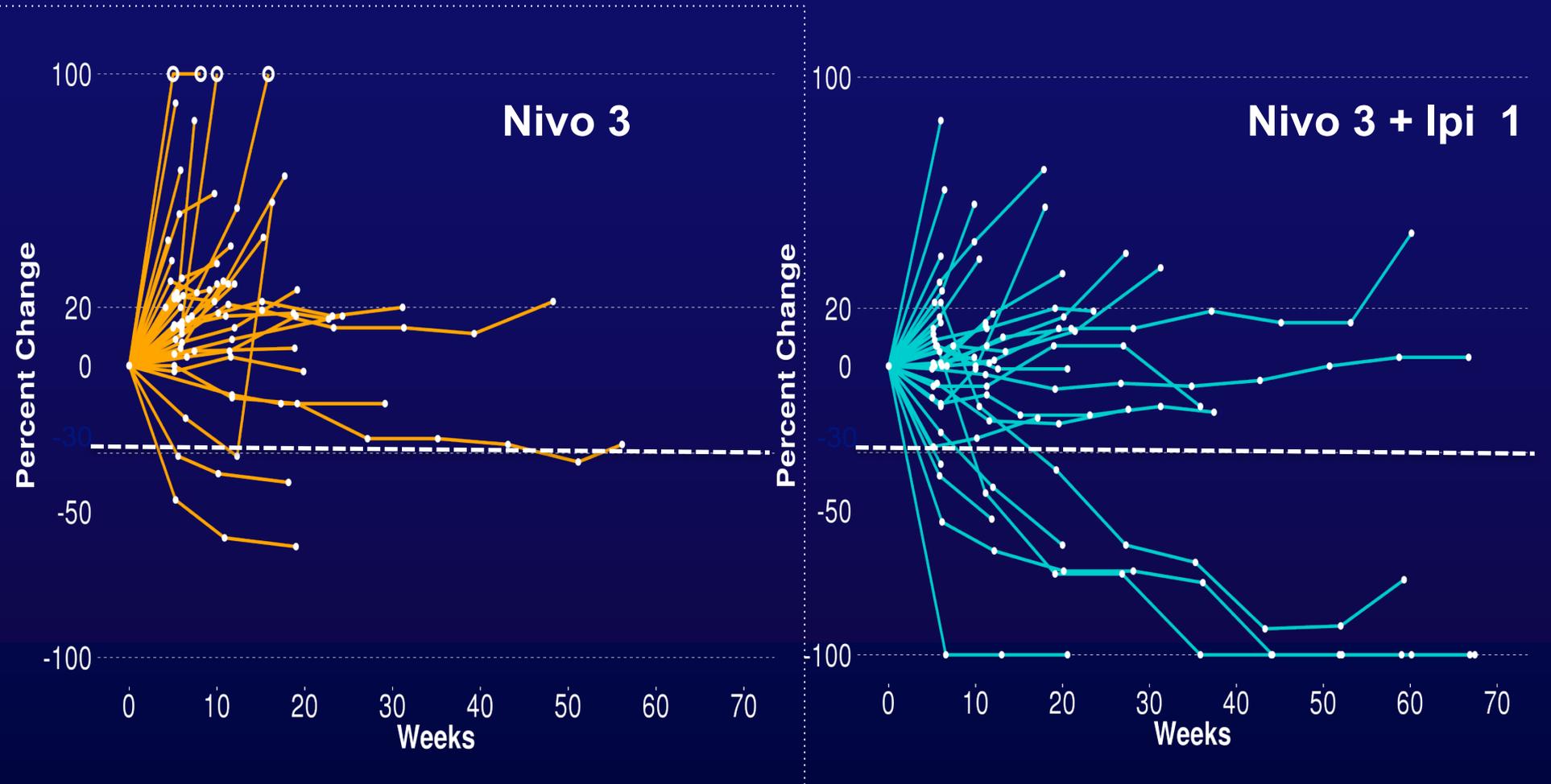
## Nivo 3



## Nivo 3 + Ipi 1

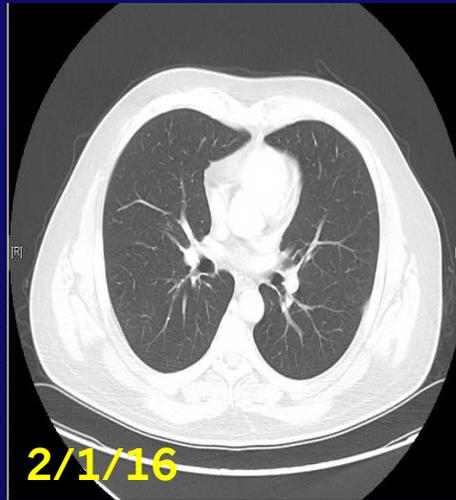
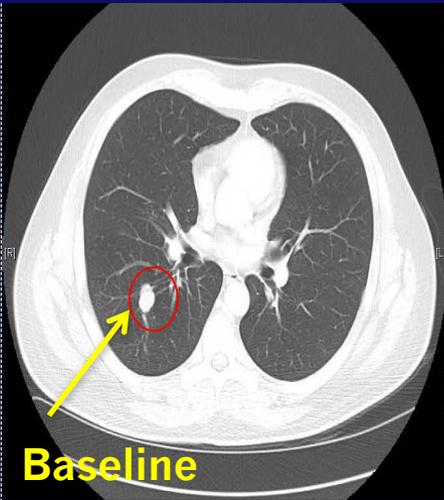


# Kinetics of Response

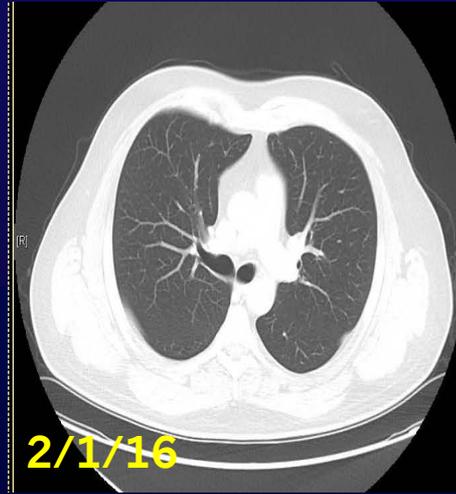
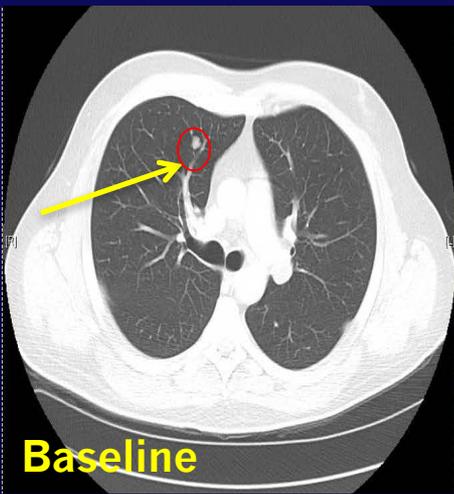


Presented by: Sandra P. D'Angelo

# 55 yo man with metastatic myxofibrosarcoma

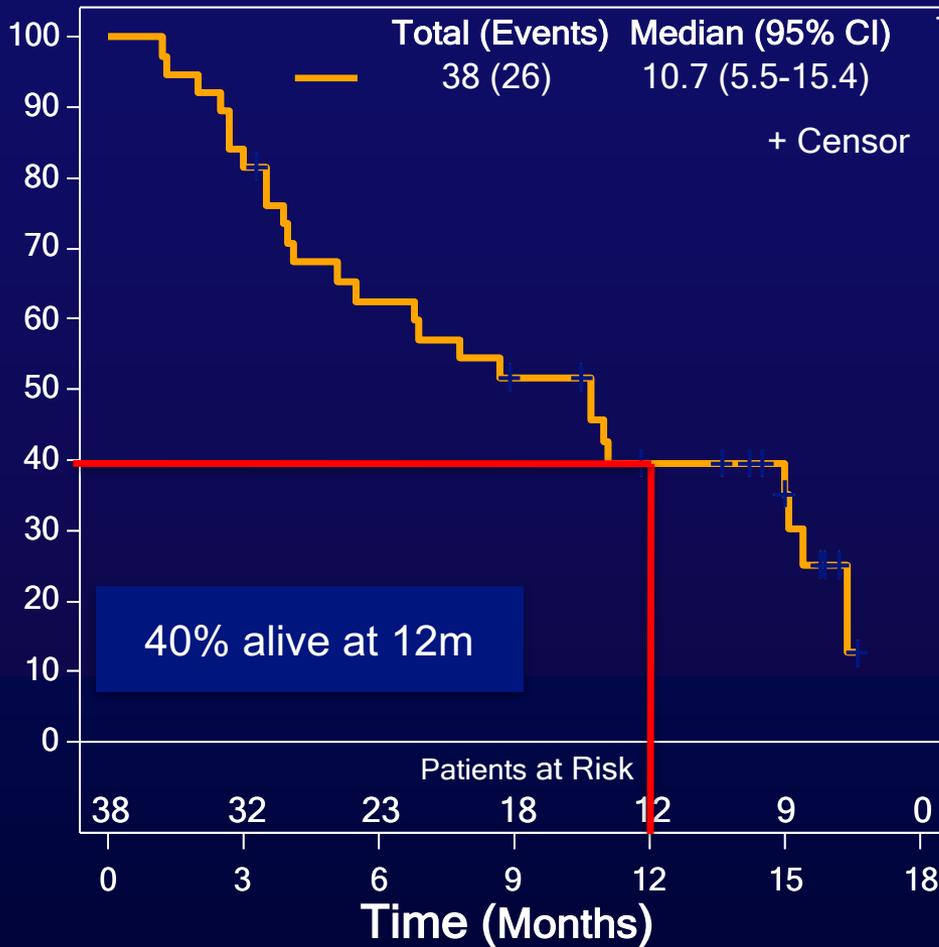


- 10/20/15 Initiated nivo 3 ipi 1
- 12/1/15 sp 3 cycles CT w PR
- 2/1/16 CT w CR
- 4/5/17 sustained CR

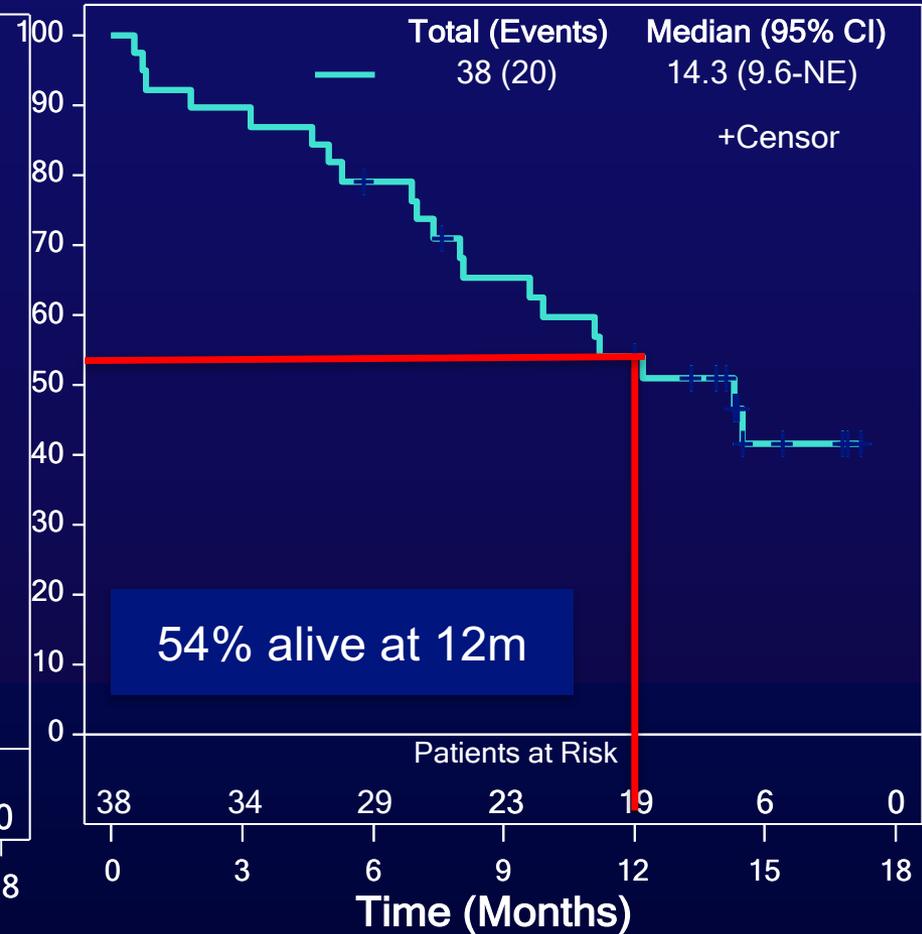


# Overall Survival (months)

## Nivo 3



## Nivo 3 + Ipi 1



# Conclusions

Nivolumab 3mg/kg with Ipilimumab 1mg/kg was safe and well tolerated despite higher Grade 3/4 TRAE compared to monotherapy (14% vs 7%)

**Combination cohort met its primary endpoint; thereby justifying further study**

- **ORR 16% in heavily treated, unselected metastatic sarcoma patients**
- **Responses seen in LMS, Myxofibrosarcoma, UPS/MFH and Angiosarcoma**

Survival at 1 year for combination cohort exceeds expectations for this patient population as 54% of patients are alive at 12 months

**Expansions in LPS, UPS/MFH (and GIST) have been approved the expansions are now open**

**Correlative analyses** on-going including PD-L1 analysis, TIL characterization, whole exome sequencing

**A091105**

**A Phase III, Double Blind, Randomized,  
Placebo-Controlled Trial of Sorafenib in  
Desmoid Tumors or Aggressive  
Fibromatosis (DT/DF)**

**Study Chair: Mrinal Gounder**

**Statistician(s): Michele Mahoney, Lindsay Renfro and  
Marylou Dueck**

**Protocol Chair: Elise Horvath**

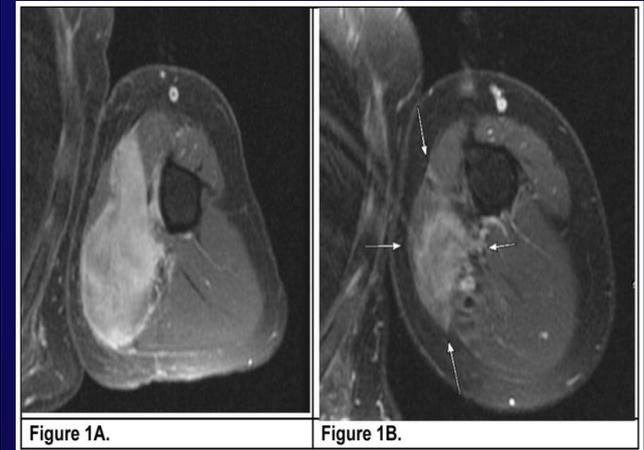
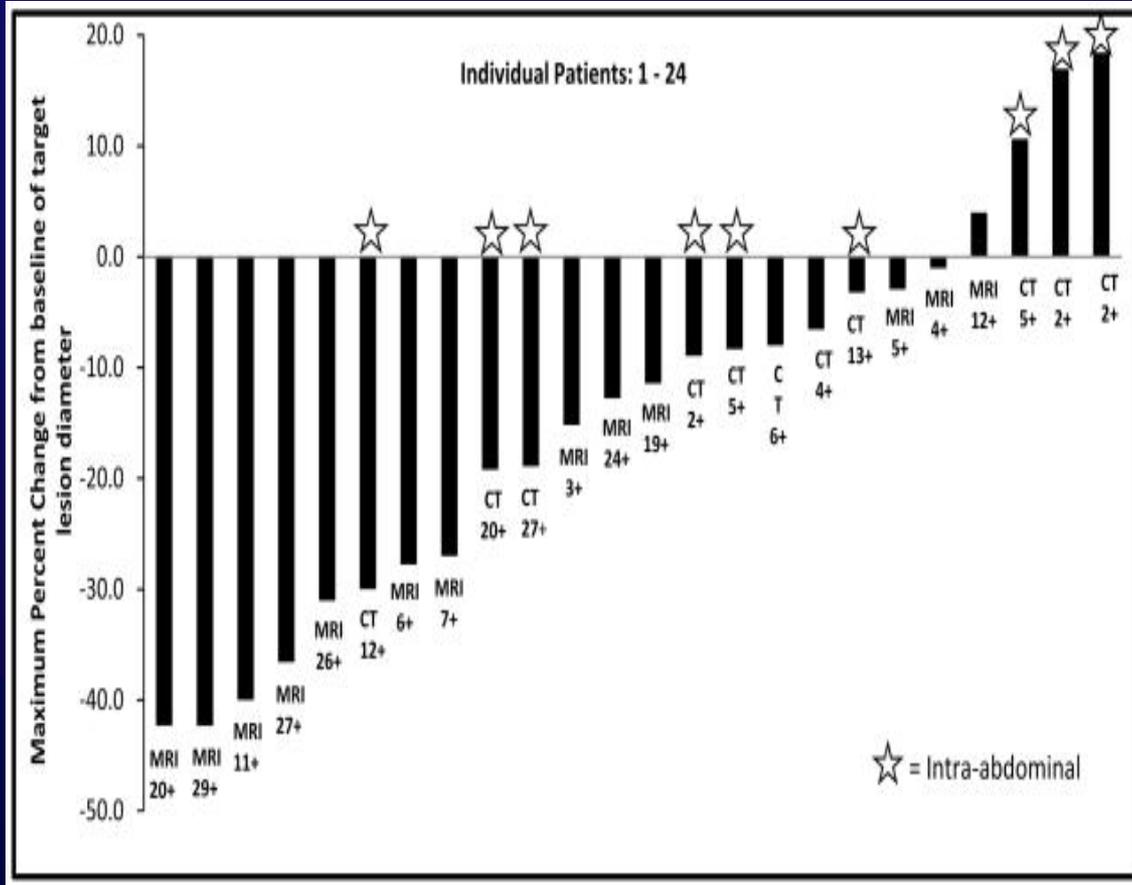
**ECT Chair: Gary Schwartz**

**Pathology Chair: Narasimhan Agaram**

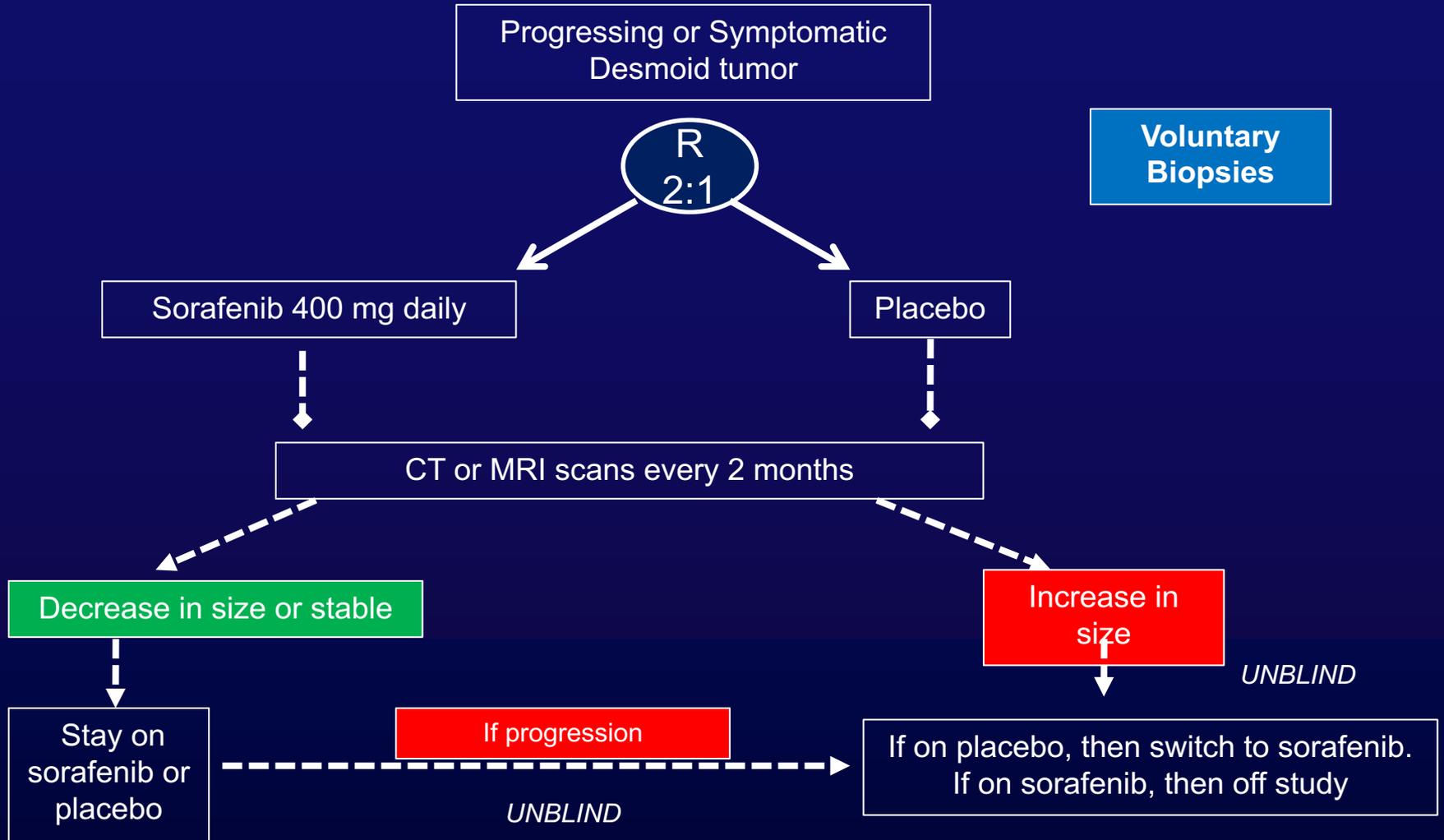
**Imaging Chair: Robert Lefkowitz**

**QOL Chair: Ethan Basch**

# Sorafenib in Desmoid Tumors



# Study schema/design



Primary objective: Sorafenib (PFS 15 months) vs. placebo (6 months): HR of 0.4

# Study Status/Update

- **First patient enrolled in July 2015**
- **Last patient enrolled in December 2015**
- **140+ Alliance sites and Canadian sites activated.**
- **88 patients enrolled in 17 months: 5 pts/month**
- **Study on HOLD. Data analysis ongoing.**
- **FDA R01 awarded to Mrinal Gounder to support tissue correlates**

**A Randomized Phase II Study of MLN-0128  
vs. Pazopanib in Patients with Locally  
Advanced (Unresectable) and/or Metastatic  
Sarcoma (AO91302)**

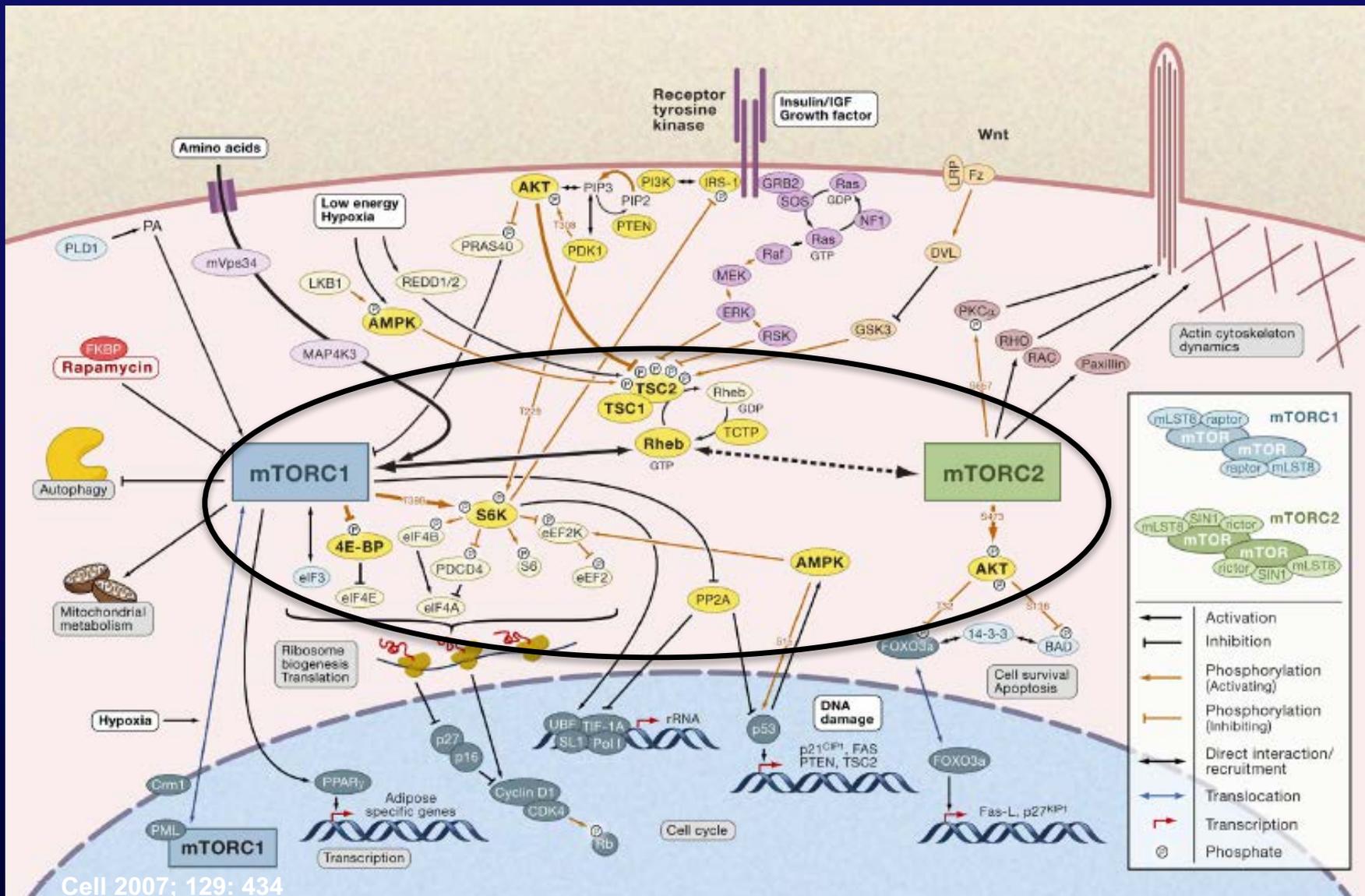
**Study Chair: William Tap**

**Statistician(s): Michele Mahoney, Lindsay  
Renfro and Marylou Dueck**

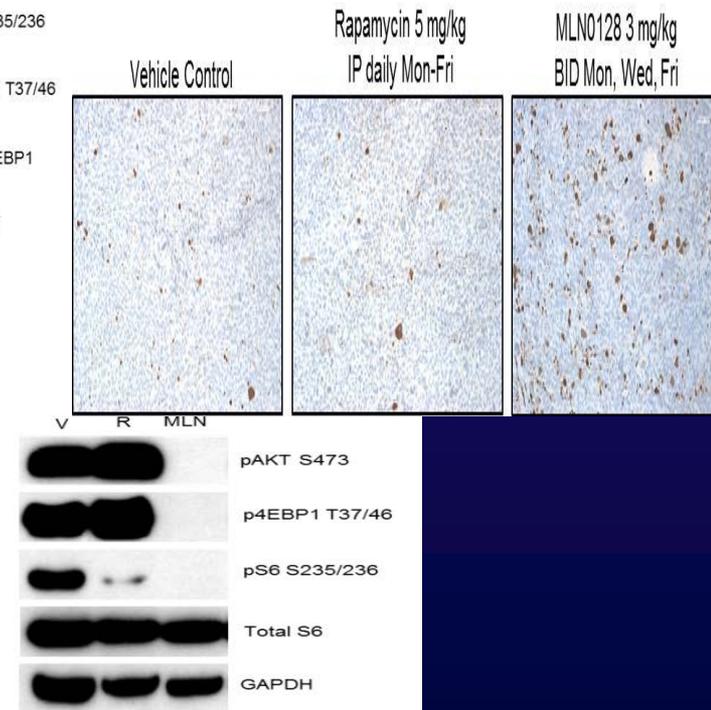
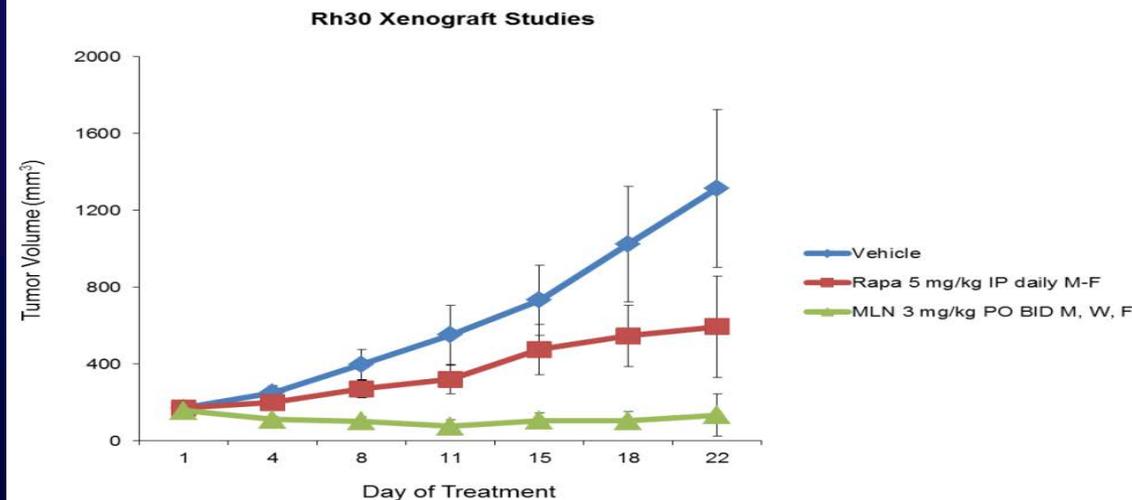
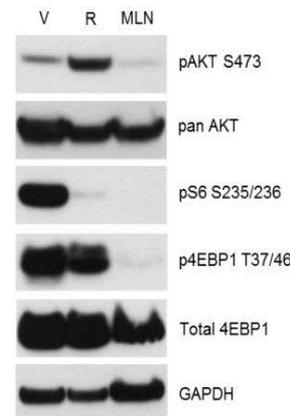
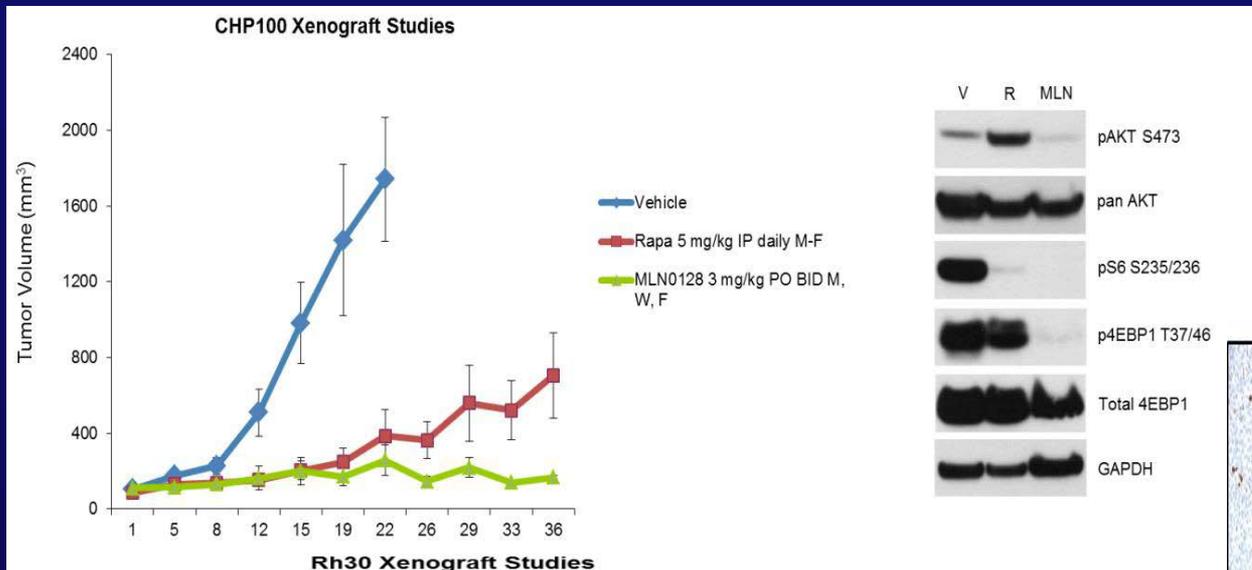
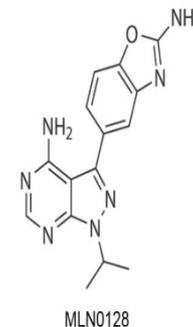
**ECT Chair: Gary Schwartz**

**Pathology Chair: Fabrizio Remotti**

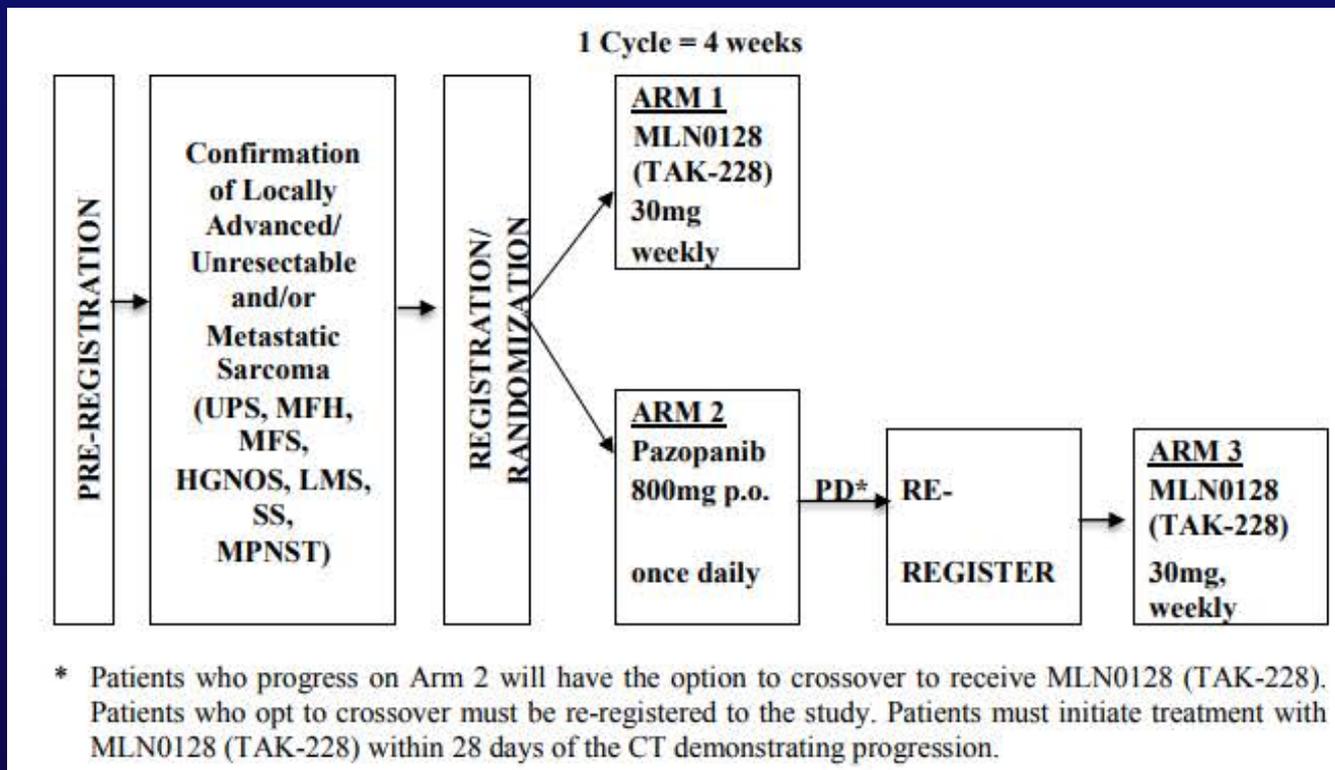
# Targeting Downstream Effector Molecules Torc1 and Torc2



# MLN0128 (Torc1/Torc2) Inhibitor Inhibits Sarcoma Induces Apoptosis in vivo



# Randomized Phase II Study of MLN0128 vs Pazopanib



Primary end-point, median Progression Free Survival:

Median PFS of 7 months MLN-0128 will be considered promising, relative to 4.6 months for pazopanib (HR 0.66; one-sided statistical test overall alpha of 0.15.)

Planned accrual 98 patients; Futility interim analysis

**Phase Ib  
3+3 Design  
Dose Level 0: 10 mg MLN0128  
Dose Level 1: 20 mg MLN0128  
Dose Level 2: 30 mg MLN0128**

- 3 pts enrolled, Dose level 0
- 3 pts enrolled, Dose level 2
- 3 pts enrolled, Dose level 3
- No DLT
- Phase 2 study: opened, on hold for pazopanib toxicity, amendment forthcoming to reduce the pazopanib dose to 400 mg/day

**Randomized Phase II study in RAI-refractory  
Hurthle Cell Thyroid Cancer:  
Sorafenib vs Sorafenib/Everolimus (A091302)**

**Eric Sherman - PI**

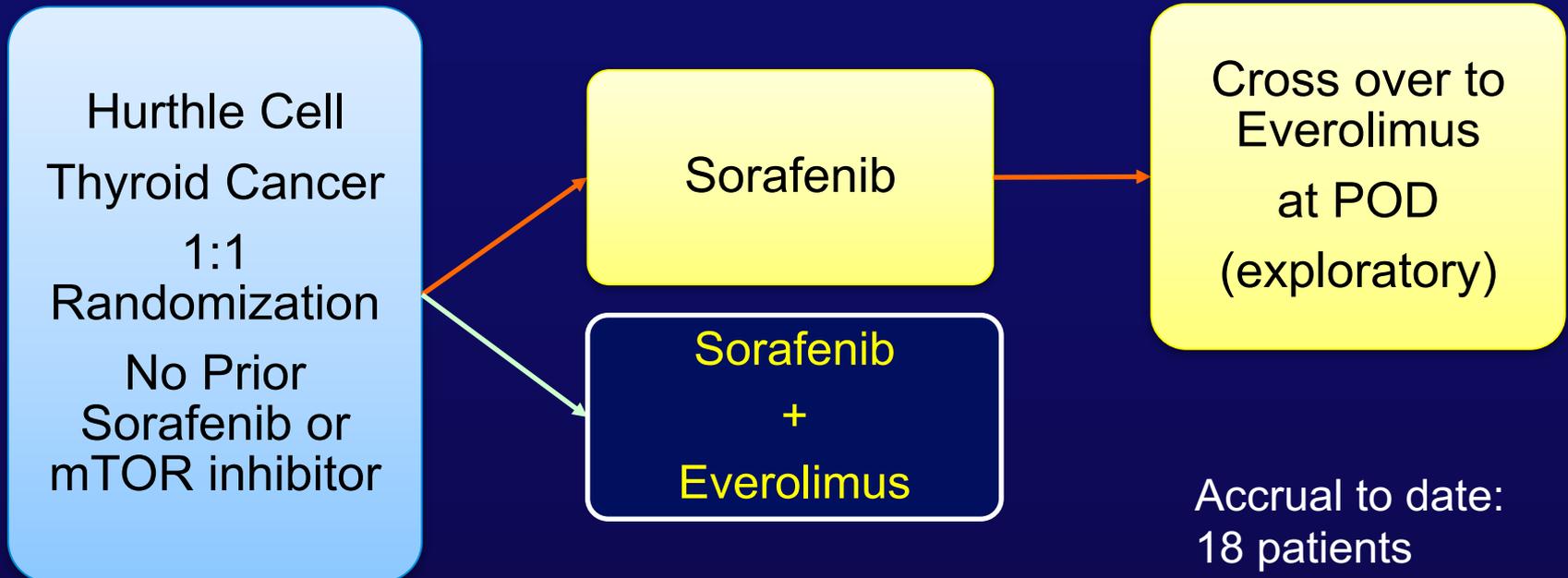
**Nathan Foster - Statistician**

# Study rationale

- **Hurthle Cell Thyroid Cancer is a Rare Tumor**
  - Prevalence 4.2/100,000 or 13,500 cases in US total
- **More aggressive than other differentiated thyroid CA**
  - 5-year mortality 65% if distant mets present
- **Genomic data suggest Hurthle Cell different than Follicular/Papillary thyroid cancers**
  - Common mutations seen in Papillary and Follicular cancers not seen in Hurthle Cell
  - Gene amplification for activation of PI3K-AkT-mTOR pathway

# Study schema/design

## First prospective study in only Hurthle Cell



Primary Objective: Increase in median PFS 4.5 to 9 months with addition of Everolimus to Sorafenib compared to Sorafenib alone  
Previous target 56 patients (28 in each arm)  
Now target is 30 patients (15 in each arm)

**A Phase II Study of Enzalutamide  
(NSC#766085) for Patients with  
Androgen Receptor Positive Salivary  
Cancer (A091404)**

**PI: Dr. Alan L. Ho**

**ECOG-ACRIN, SWOG co-chair: Dr. Barbara Burtness**

**NRG Co-chair: Dr. Eric Sherman**

**Community Oncology Co-chair: Dr. Roscoe Morton**

**Pathologist: Dr. Nora Katabi**

**Biostatistician: Nathan Foster, MS**

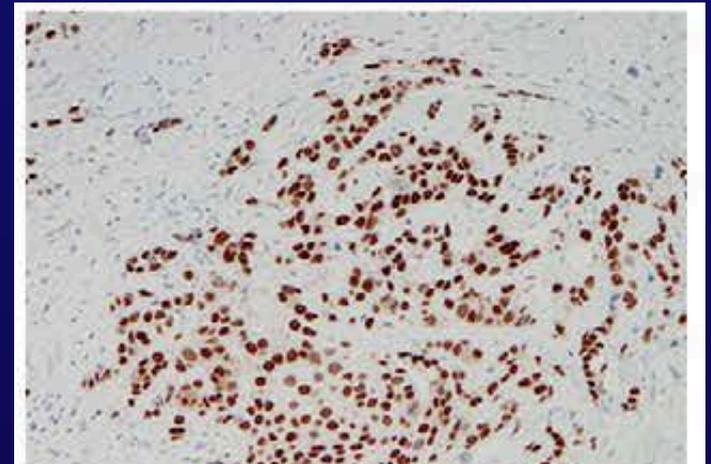
# Study rationale

Significant AR expression is high in salivary duct carcinomas (SDC) and adenocarcinoma NOS subtypes (not in normal salivary tissue)

- 43-100% positivity in SDC
- 21-29% in adenocarcinoma NOS

(also carcinoma ex pleomorphic adenoma, basal cell adenocarcinomas)

## *AR IHC in SDC*



*Williams, MD, et. al. Am J. Surg. Pathol. 31(11): 1645-1652, 2007.*

*Locati et. al., Ann Oncol., 2003.  
Locati et. al., Ann Oncol., 2003.  
Jaspers et. al., J. Clin. Oncol., 2011.  
Locati et. al., Cancer Biol Ther, 2014.*

# Study rationale



- 7 AR-positive salivary cancer patients treated with combined androgen blockade (GnRH agonist + antiandrogen (bicalutamide or cyproterone))
  - 3 adenoca; 3 SDC; 1 mucoepidermoid (?)
  - **1 CR, 4 PRs, 1 SD, 1 PD**
  - Unpublished update of the data with now 16 patients with **3 CRs/4 PRs (RR of 44%) and median TTP of 12 months** (range 2-43 mos)
- 10 SDCs treated with ADT (bicalutamide +/- GnRH agonist)
  - **2 PRs, 3 SD, 5 PD**
  - Median PFS of 12 months
  - 1 response was seen in a female patient
- Two case reports of response to abiraterone in AR + salivary adenocarcinoma NOS (one responder tumor was Her2 amplified).

*Locati et. al., Ann Oncol., 2003.*

*Locati et. al., Ann Oncol., 2003.*

*Jaspers et. al., J. Clin. Oncol., 2011.*

*Locati et. al., Cancer Biol Ther, 2014*

# Study objectives/stats plan

## *Patients with AR-pos SGCs*

- AR IHC will be done locally
- RECIST v1.1 measureable disease
- Previous chemotherapy CAB/ADT allowed



**Enzalutamide 160 mg PO daily (28 day cycles)**

w/ RECIST evaluation q2-3 cycles

Primary Endpoint: Rate of best overall response (BOR)

Optimal 2-stage design:  $H_0 = 5\%$ ,  $H_1 = 20\%$ ; Type 1 = 5% and Power = 90%

Need at least 2 response in the first 21 patients to enroll an additional 20 patients (n=41)

Goal: At least 5 responses out of the total 41

Secondary Endpoint: PFS, OS, safety/tolerability

# Lab correlative/biomarkers

- Patients must be offered the opportunity to consent to the substudy, which does not require participation in all aspects of the substudy.
- Genomic/transcriptomic profiling in:
  - Archival tissues
  - Research blood draw
  - Research biopsies (Pre-therapy and at time of progression)
- Funding has been provided by Astellas for the research biopsies (\$5000 per patient).

**A Phase 2 Study of Efatutazone, an Oral PPAR-  
gamma Agonist, in Combination with Paclitaxel  
in Patients with Advanced Anaplastic Thyroid  
Cancer (A091305)**

Robert C. Smallridge, MD (Study Co-Chair)

Michael Menefee, MD (Study Co-Chair)

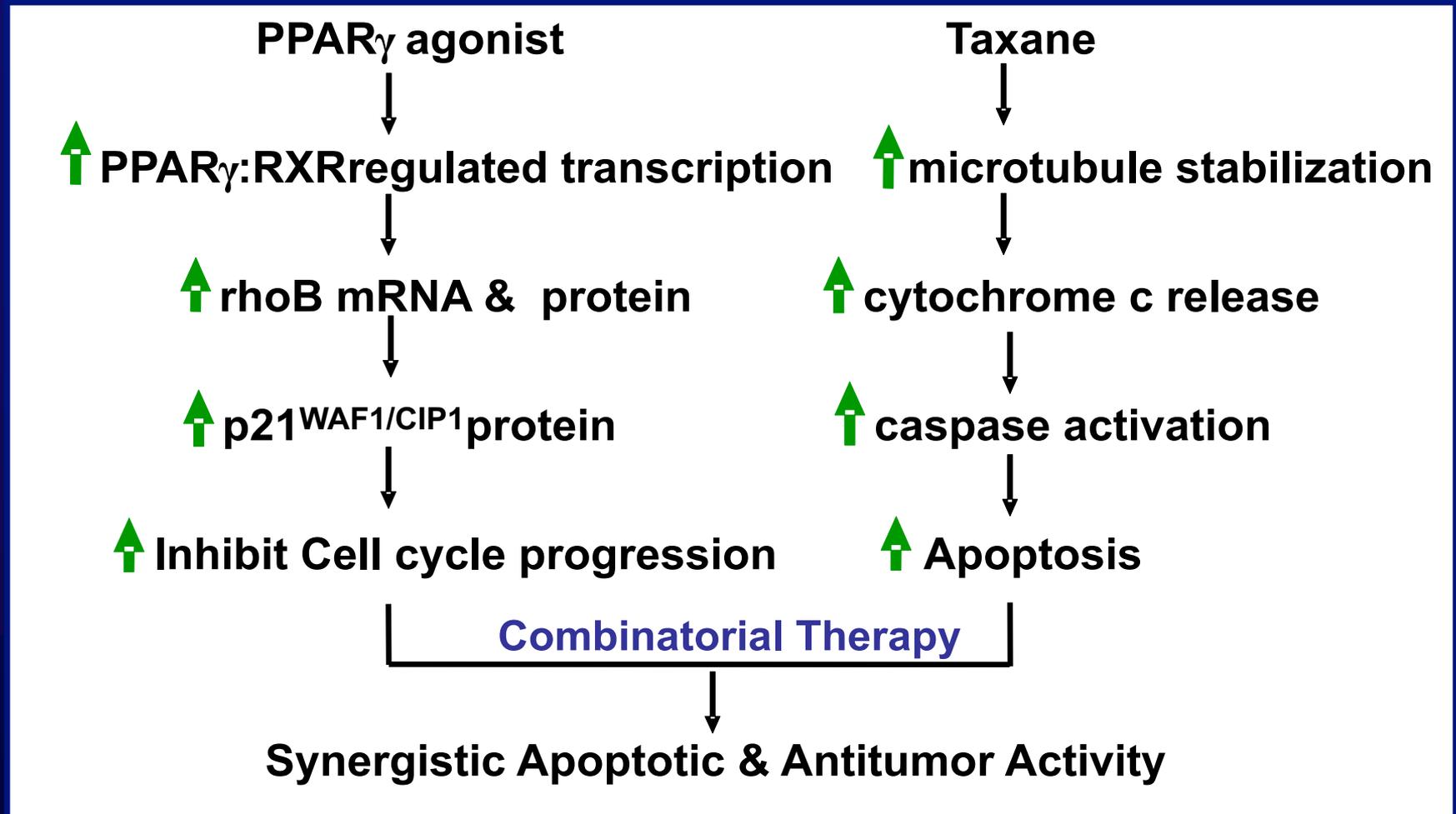
Balkrishna Jahagirdar, MD (Community Oncology Co-Chair)

John A. Copland, PhD (Correlative Study Co-Chair)

Nate Foster (Study Statistician)

Mayo Clinic

# Synergistic antitumor activity of PPAR $\gamma$ agonist and taxane



## **Efatutazone, an Oral PPAR- $\gamma$ Agonist, in Combination With Paclitaxel in Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer: Results of a Multicenter Phase 1 Trial**

R. C. Smallridge, J. A. Copland, M. S Brose, J. T. Wadsworth, Y. Houvras, M. E. Menefee, K. C. Bible, M. H. Shah, A. W. Gramza, J. P. Klover, L. A. Marlow, M. G. Heckman, and R. Von Roemeling

Mayo Clinic (R.C.S., J.A.C., M.E.M., L.A.M., M.G.H.), Jacksonville, Florida 32224; Abramson Cancer Center (M.S.B.), University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104; Emory University Hospital (J.T.W.), Atlanta, Georgia 30322; Weill Cornell Medical College (Y.H.), New York, New York 10021; Mayo Clinic (K.C.B.), Rochester, Minnesota 55905; The Ohio State University (M.H.S.), Columbus, Ohio 43210; National Cancer Institute (A.W.G.), Bethesda, Maryland 20892; University of Colorado School of Medicine (J.P.K.), Aurora, Colorado 80045; and Daiichi Sankyo Pharma Development (R.V.R.), Edison, New Jersey 08837

***(J Clin Endocrinol Metab 98: 2392–2400, 2013)***

**A Phase II Study of the Peroxisome  
Proliferator-Activated Receptor Gamma Agonist, CS-7017  
(Efatutazone) in Patients with  
Previously Treated, Unresectable Myxoid Liposarcoma  
(A091202)**

- Study Chair:** Michael Pishvaian, MD, PhD  
*Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center,  
Georgetown University*
- Study Co-Chairs:** Dennis Priebat, MD, PhD – community oncology co-chair  
*Medstar Washington Hospital Center*  
Priscilla Furth, MD – correlative science co-chair  
*Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center,  
Georgetown University*  
Christopher D.M. Fletcher MD FRCPATH – study pathologist  
*Brigham & Women's Hospital*
- Study Statistician:** Nathan Foster, MS  
*Mayo Clinic*

# Upcoming Trials...

**Neoadjuvant Ipilimumab plus Nivolumab and  
Surgical Resection of High-Risk Localized,  
Loco-regionally Advanced, or Recurrent  
Mucosal Melanoma (Alliance A091603)**

**Study PIs: Alexander N. Shoushtari, MD**

**Richard D. Carvajal, MD**

**Statistician: Jacob Allred**

**Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy + anti-PD1  
antibody (pembrolizumab) in advanced  
Merkel Cell Carcinoma  
(A091605)**

**PI: Jason Luke, M.D. (Alliance ET Committee)**

**Co-PI: Steve Chmura, M.D. PhD (NRG/Alliance Radiation  
Committees)**

**The University of Chicago Medicine & Biological Sciences**

**A Randomized Phase II Study of CDX-1401 (fully human anti-DEC205 fused to NY-ESO-1 antigen) in Combination with Atezolizumab in NY-ESO-1 Positive Synovial Sarcoma (A091607)**

**Alliance Study Chair: Steven Robinson, MBBS**

**COG: Rajkumar Venkatramani, MD**

**Statistician: Michelle Mahoney, MS**

**Phase II Study of Atezolizumab in  
Combination with Obinutuzumab (ant-CD20)  
for Metastatic HPV+ head and neck cancer  
(A091704)**

▪

**Maria Matsangou, MD**

**Assistant Professor,**

**Developmental Therapeutics Program, Division of Hematology and Oncology  
Department of Medicine, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine**

**and**

**Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center**

**Phase II randomized study of Avelumab plus  
Cetuximab vs. Cetuximab alone  
in Advanced Cutaneous Squamous Cell  
Carcinoma (cSCC) (A091701)**

**Dan P Zandberg MD\***  
**Assistant Professor of Medicine**  
**University of Maryland Greenebaum Cancer Center**

**Jacob Allred MS Mayo Clinic**  
**Lindsay Renfro Ph.D Mayo Clinic**

**\*Alliance Scholar Award, 2017**

# Conclusion

- **ETRTC is a home for rare cancer clinical trial initiatives in the United States**
- **Provides investigators opportunities to test new hypotheses in rare cancers where few therapeutic options exists**
- **It provides patients with rare cancers access to the latest advances in cancer therapy and the opportunity to participate in national clinical trials**
- **The ETCRC encourages participation of young investigators as a step in career development**
- **It encourages the testing of new scientific principles and encourages the translation of preclinical discoveries into cancer medicine**