

# Understanding and Tracking Resistance to Mechanism-Targeted Therapies in GIST:

## A look to the future

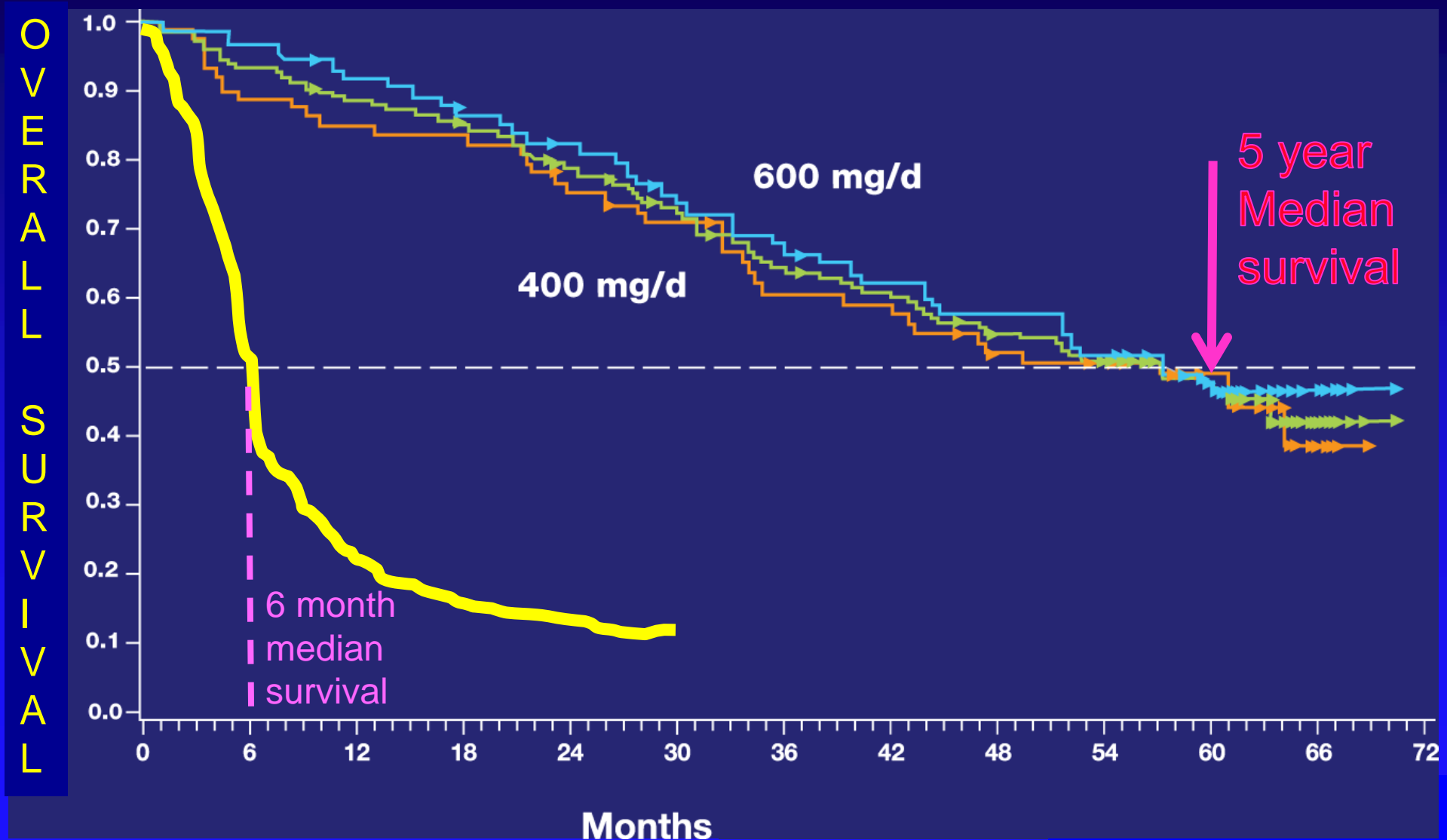
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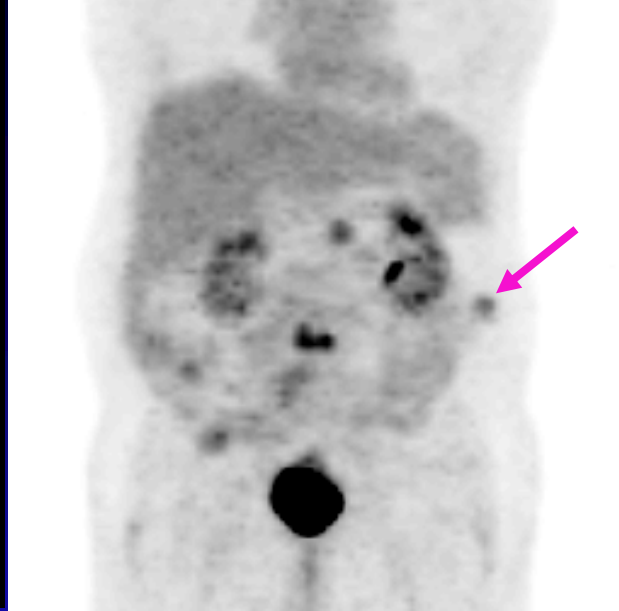
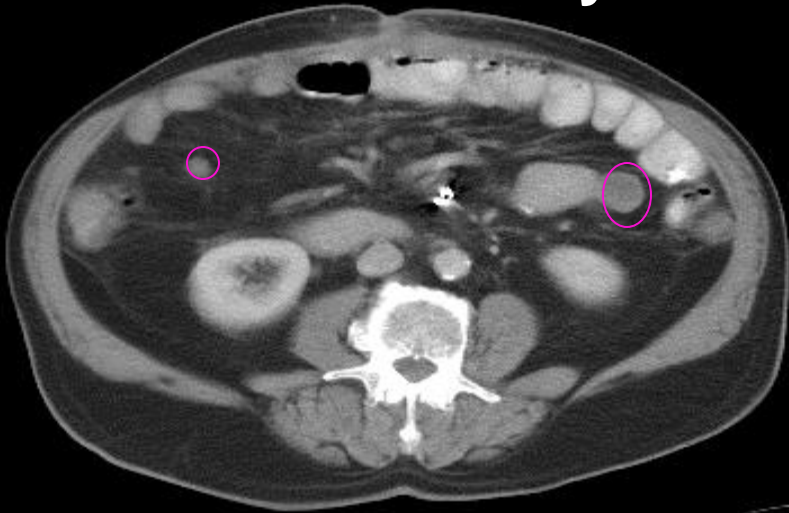
ESMO Sarcoma and GIST Educational Meeting  
Milan, ITALY 18 February 2014



# 10-fold improvement in overall survival for patients with metastatic GIST treated with TKI therapies

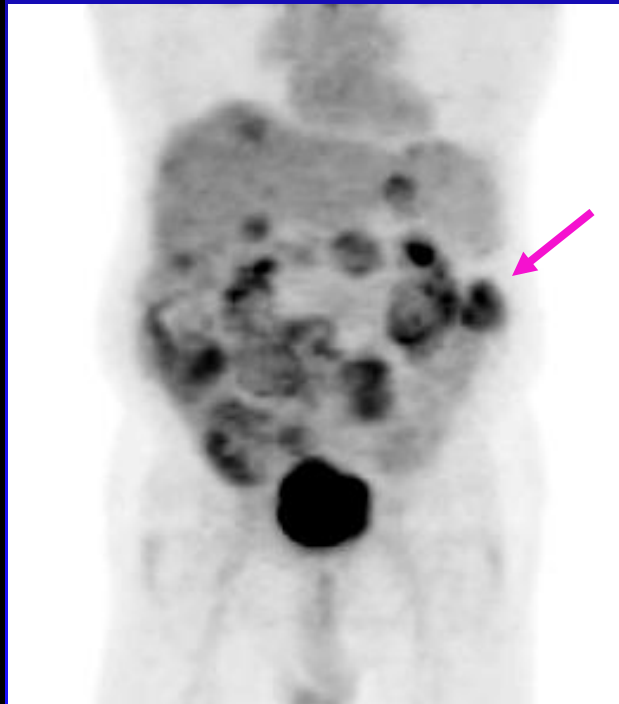
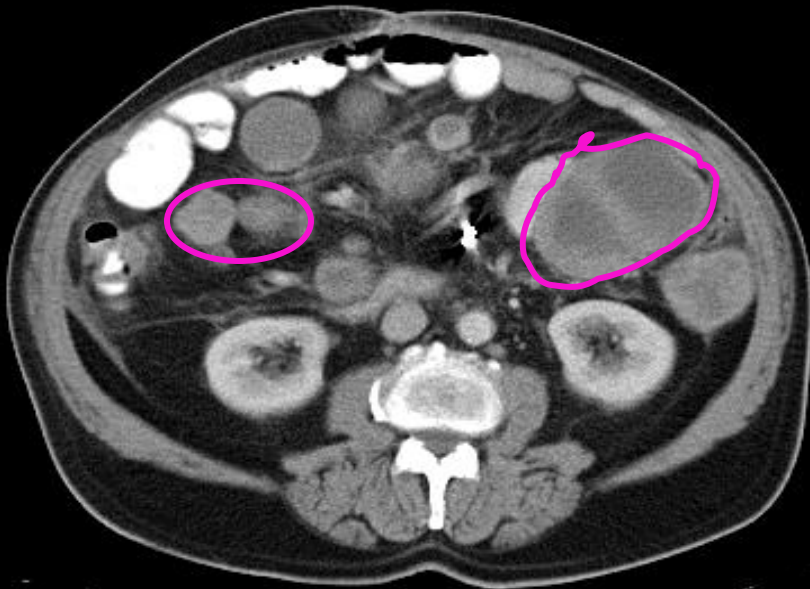


5 July 2000



**Primary  
Resistance  
to Imatinib  
in GIST**

18 September 2000



# GIST is one “cancer diagnosis” with several distinct molecular subtypes occurring with different frequencies

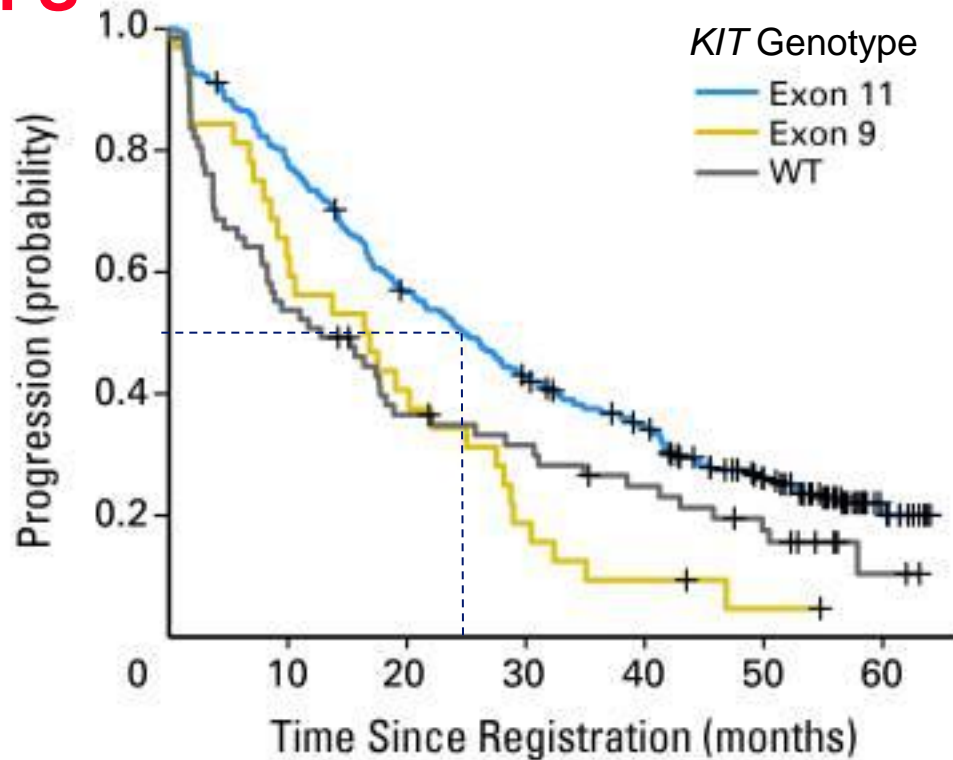
GIST GENOTYPE	Metastatic GIST Frequency	Primary Localized GIST Frequency
<i>KIT</i> Exon 11 mutation	67%	60%
<i>KIT</i> Exon 9 mutation	10%	7%
Wild-type <i>KIT</i> + <i>PDGFRA</i> with <i>SDH</i> mutation	14%	12%
<i>PDGFRA</i> mutant	0%	20%
<i>PDGFRA</i> Exon 18 mutation	6%	N/A
Rare mutants at first presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>KIT</i> mutant: Exons 13 &amp; 17</li> <li>– <i>PDGFRA</i> mutant : Exons 12 &amp; 14</li> <li>– <i>BRAF</i> mutant V600E</li> </ul>	2% 1% <1%	2% 1% <1%

SDH = succinate dehydrogenase.

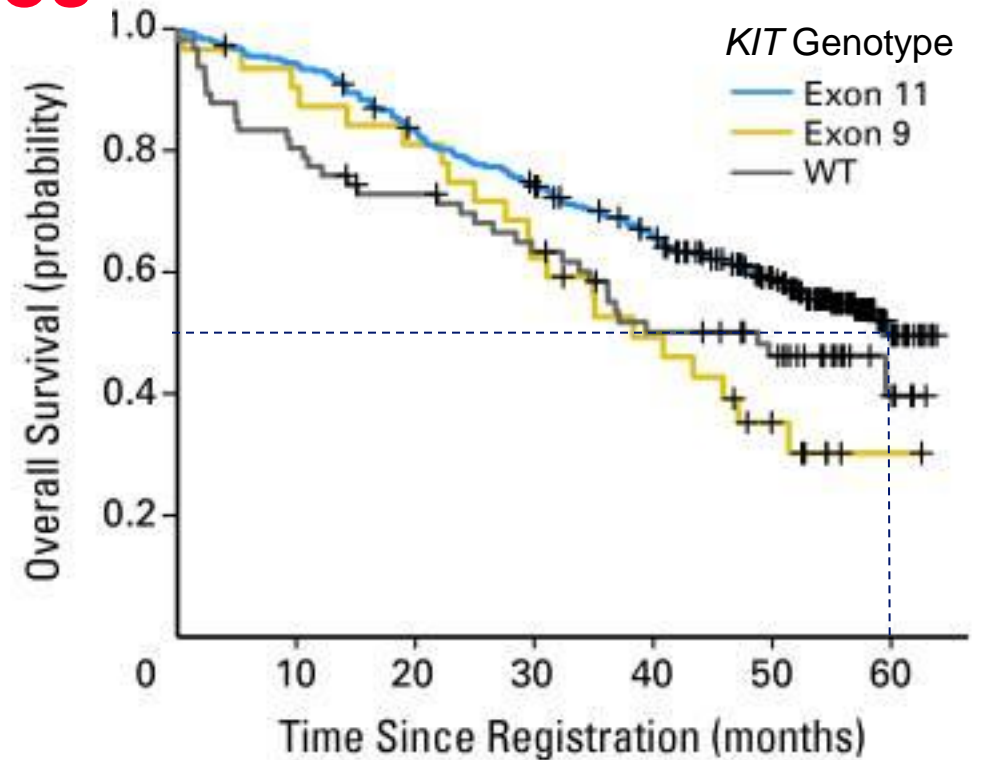
# Patients Identify with Molecular Medicine



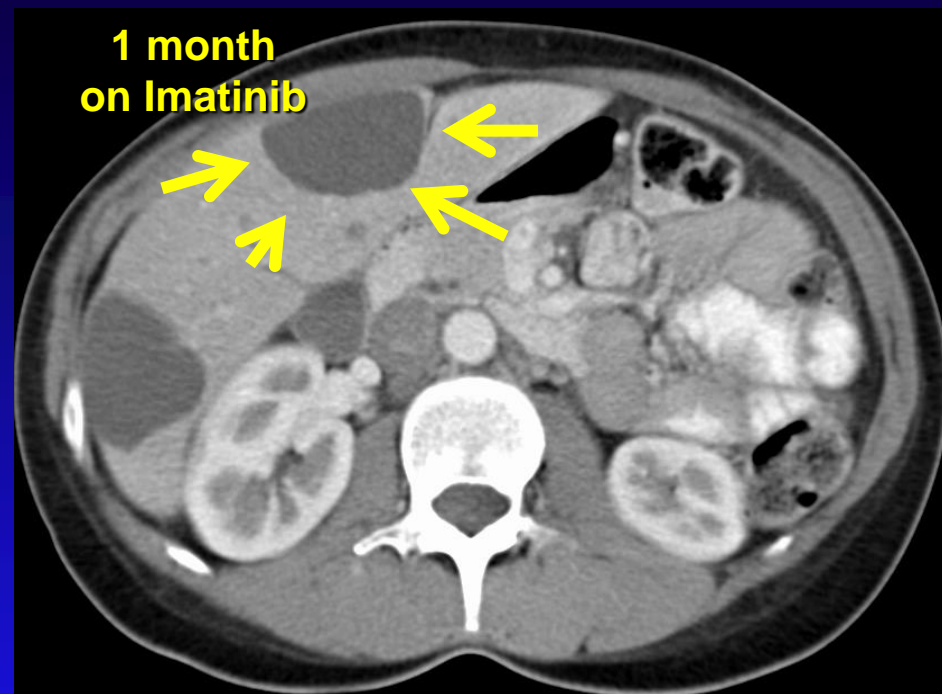
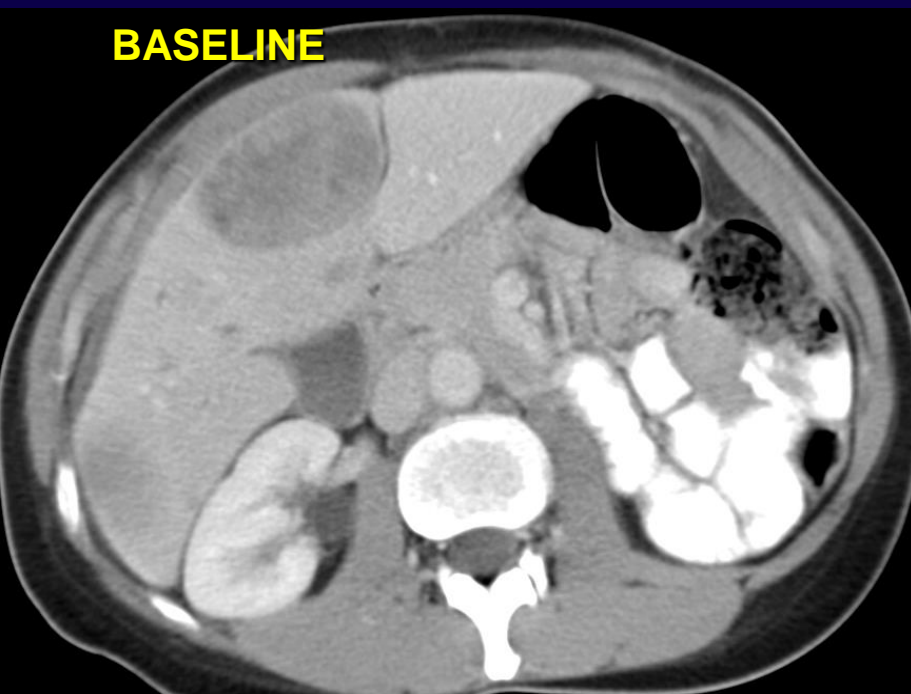
**PFS**



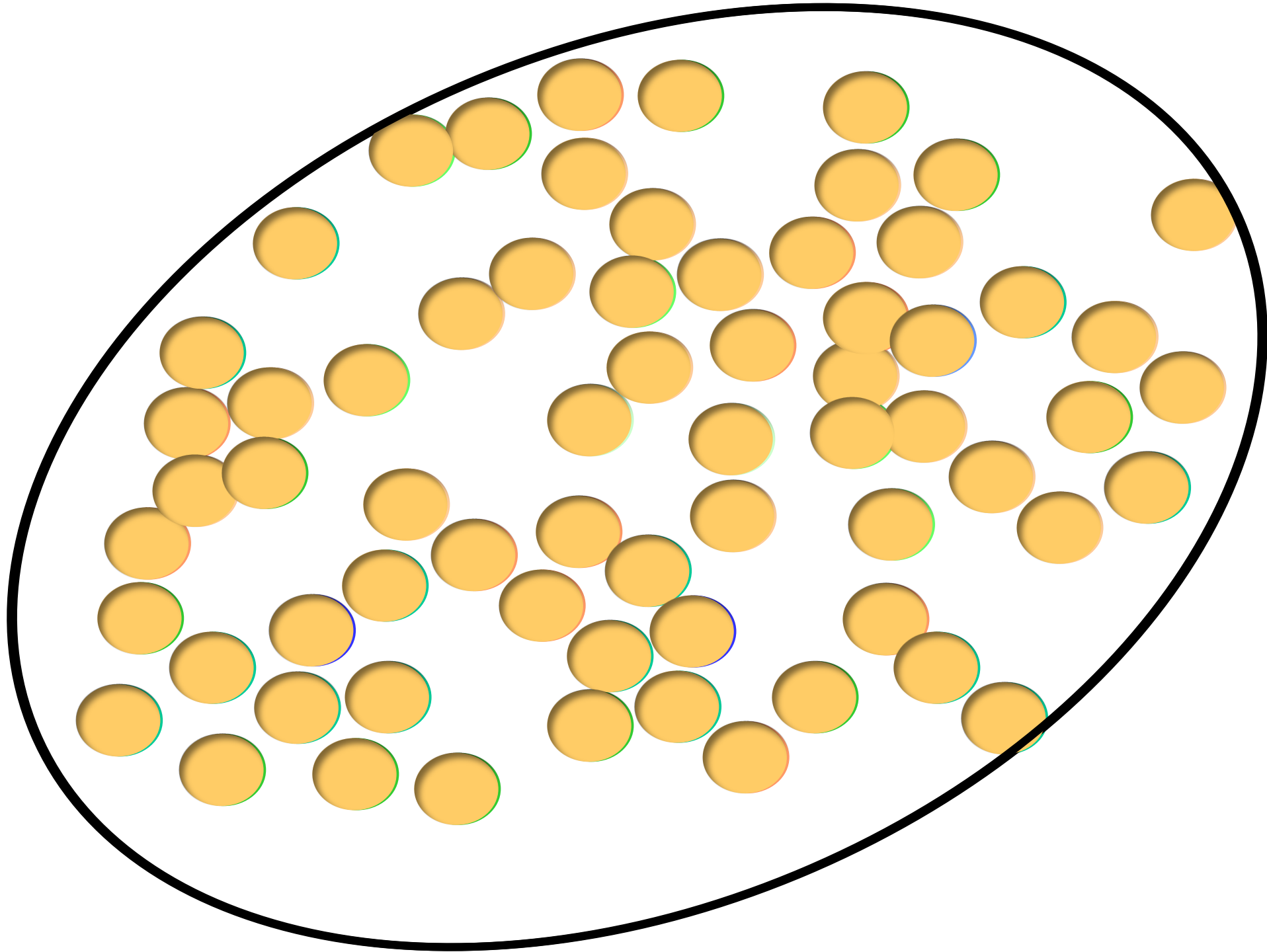
**OS**



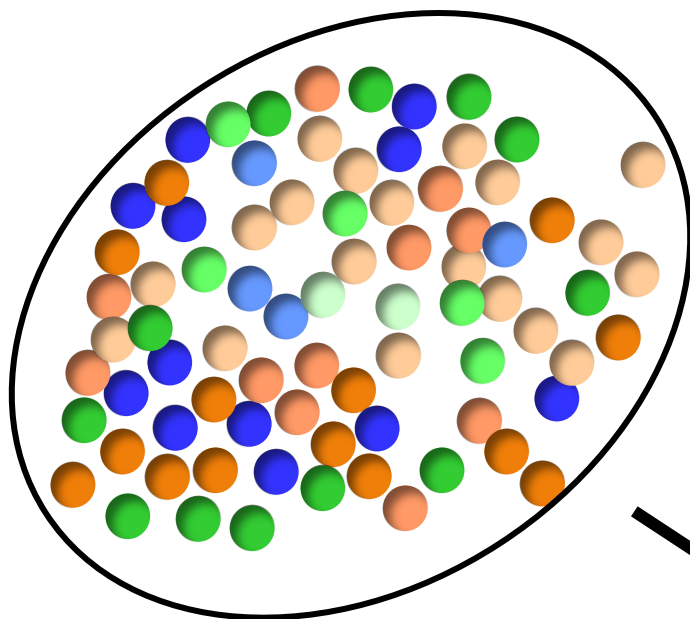




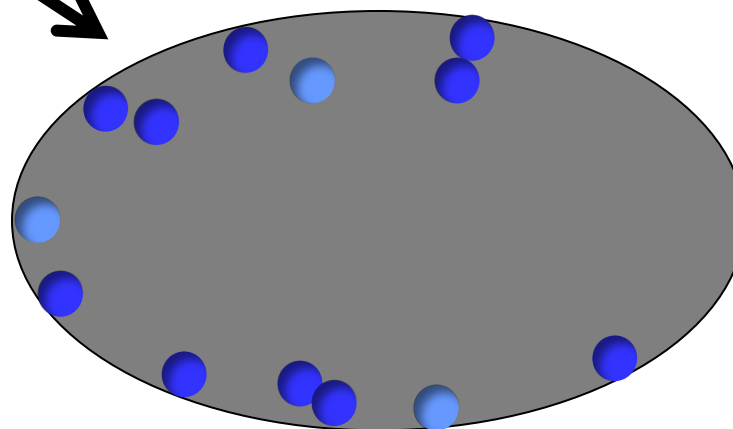
- Why do we not obtain more complete responses with TKI therapy in GIST?
- What preserves the shape of the residual hypocellular tumor mass?
  - Tumor cell heterogeneity and stromal interactions?
  - Functional resistance to TKI therapy







**TKI Therapy of GIST**



# KIT Activation Is Rapidly Inhibited in GIST Patients Receiving Imatinib Treatment – but REACTIVATES with Progression

Baseline

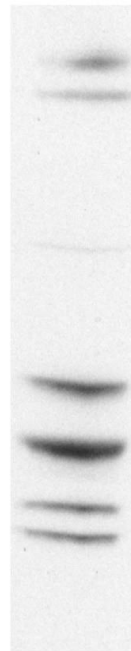
5 days  
on drug

Progression

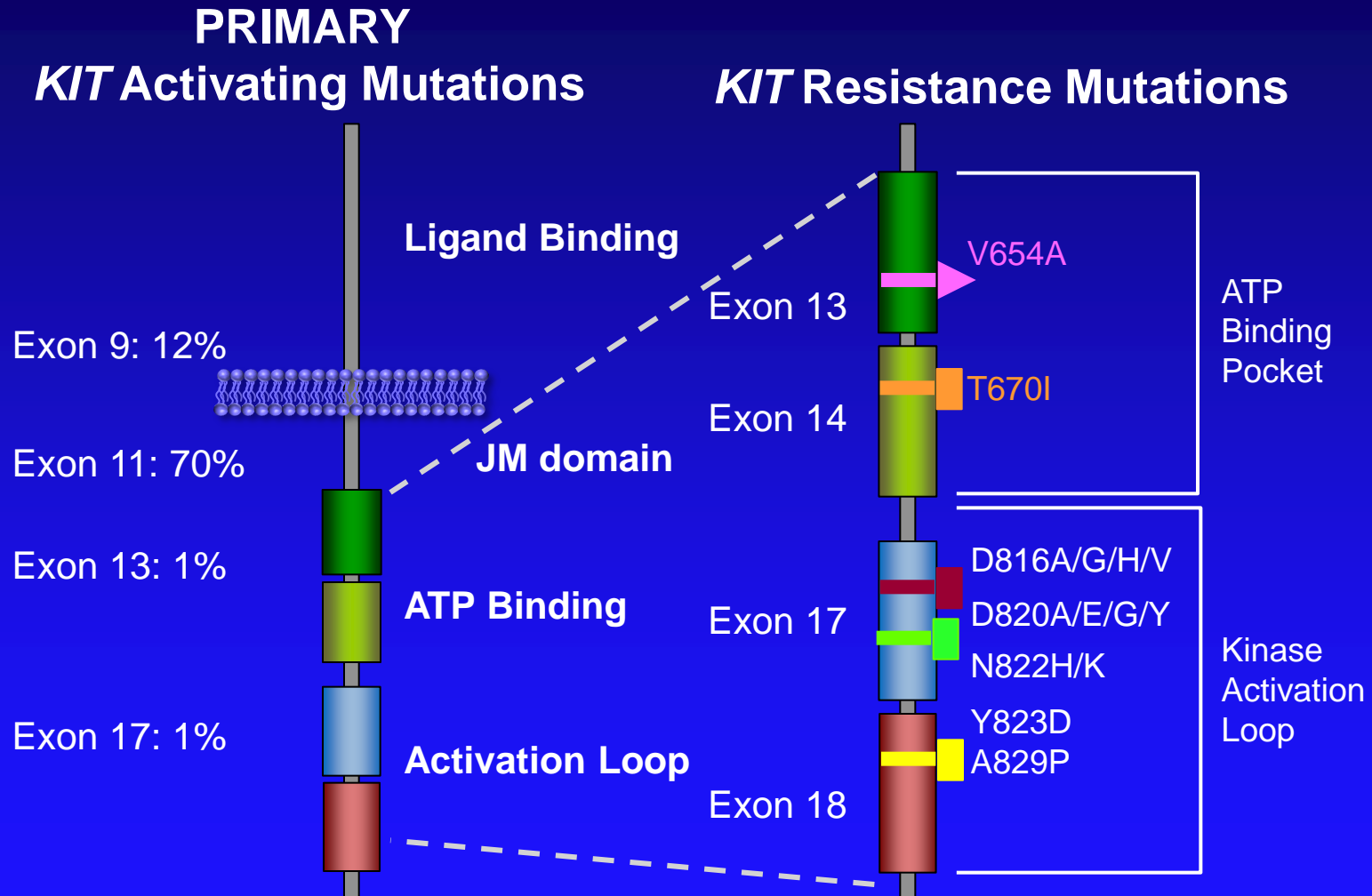
phosphoKIT Y703

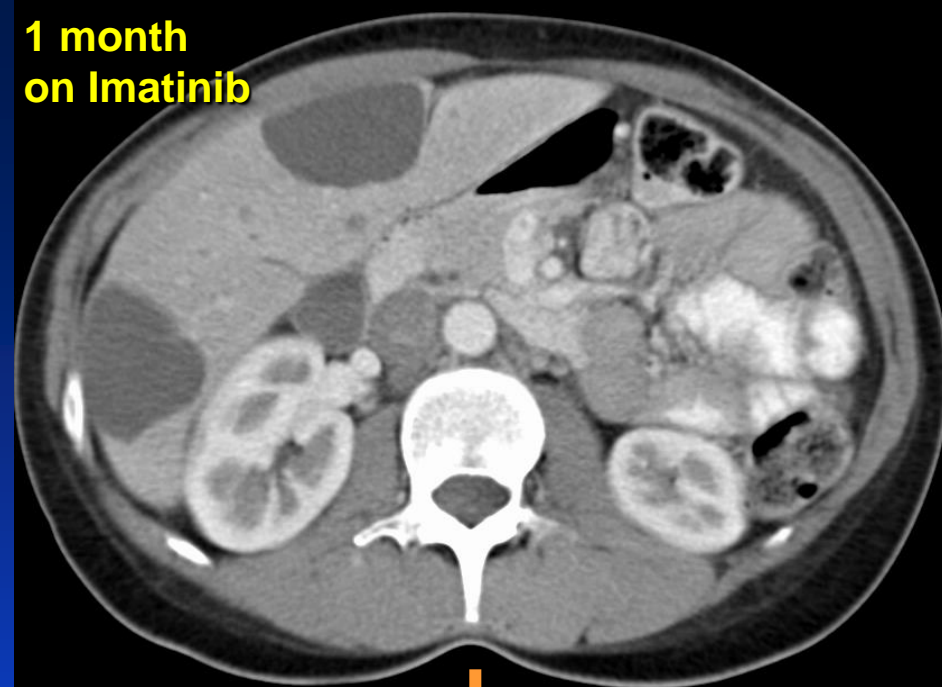
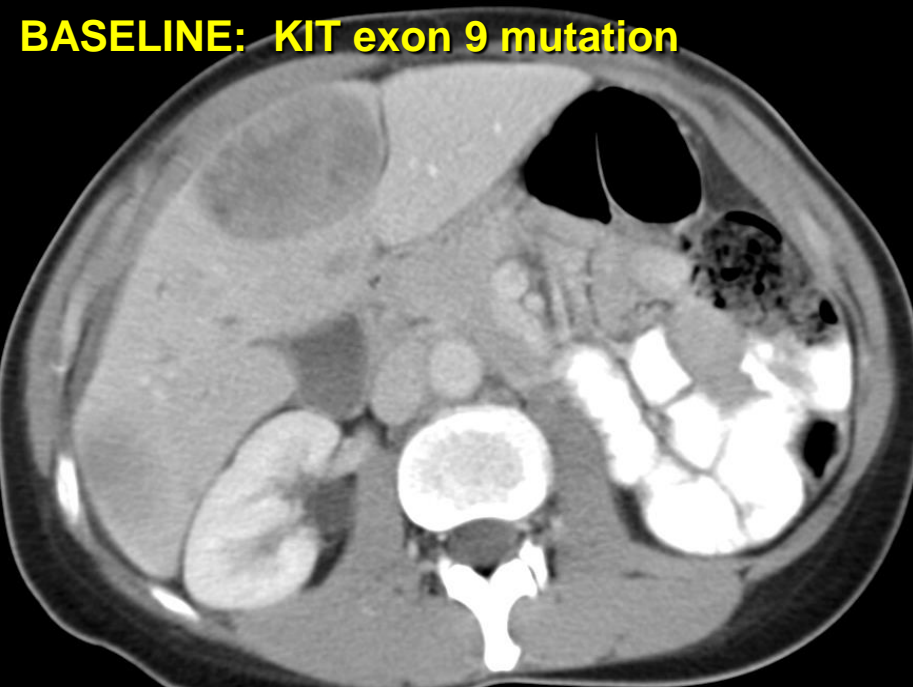
phosphoAKT

phosphoMAPK

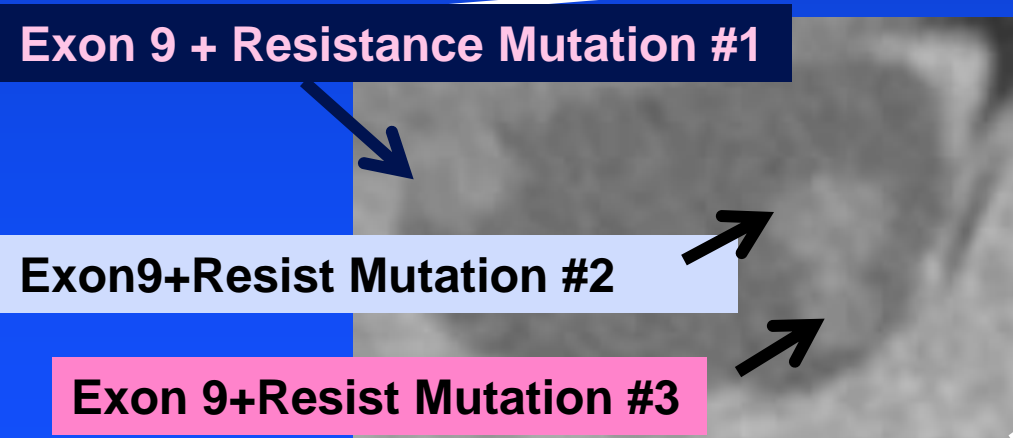
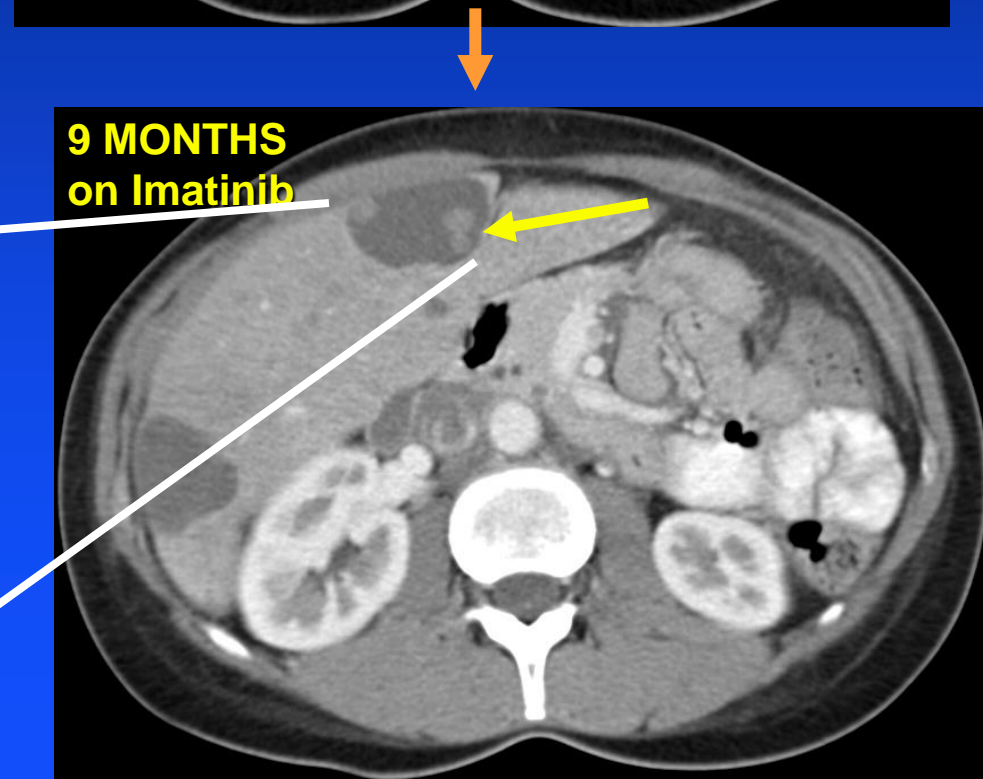


# TKI Resistance in *KIT*-mutant GIST is generally caused by secondary *KIT* mutations





**Response in GIST followed by  
polyclonal evolution**



# The Challenge of Multiple Progressing Tumors in Metastatic GIST Failing TKI Therapy



## 46 Tumors

All started with Exon 9 *KIT* Mutant  
but now demonstrate  
>10 different secondary  
resistance mutations in *KIT*



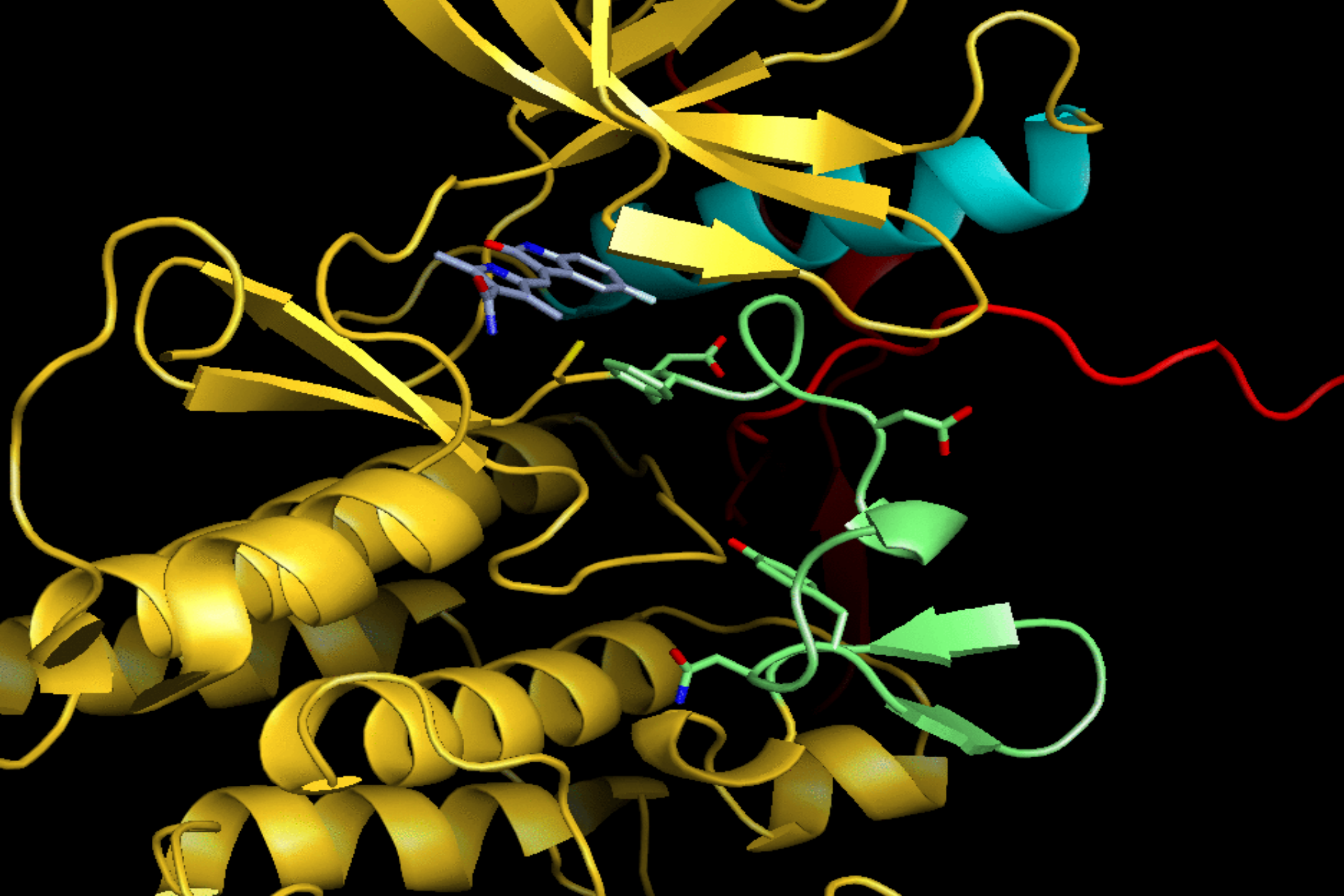
# The Emergence of GIST Clones Resistant to TKIs Complicates “Personalized Medicine”



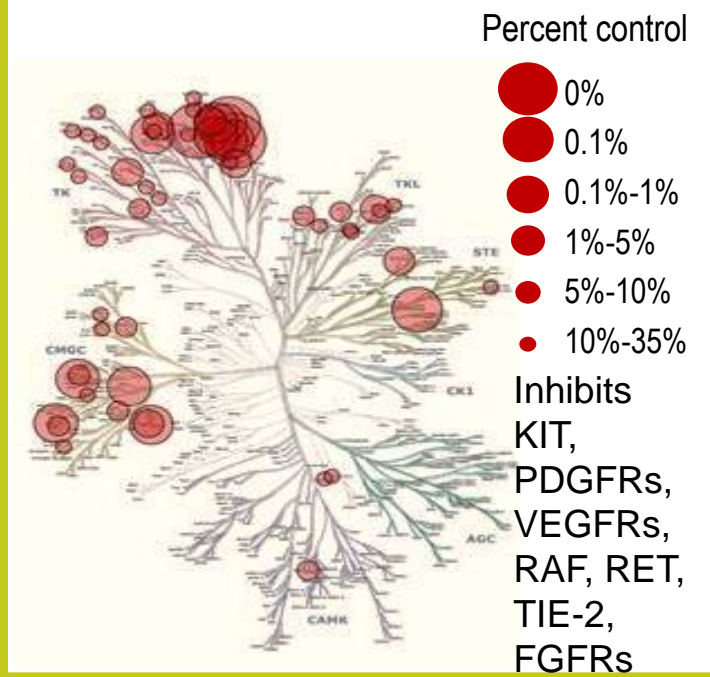
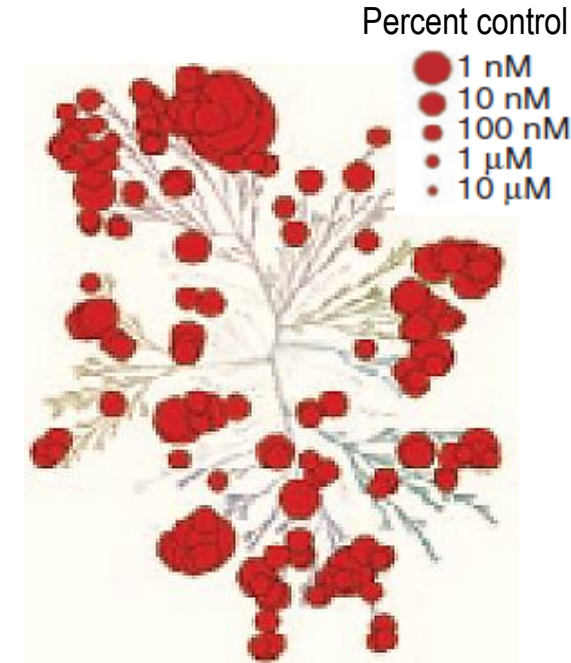
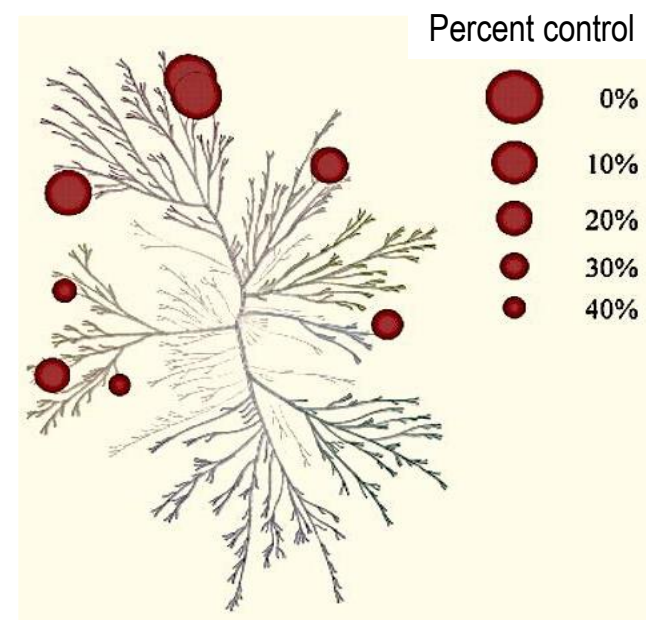
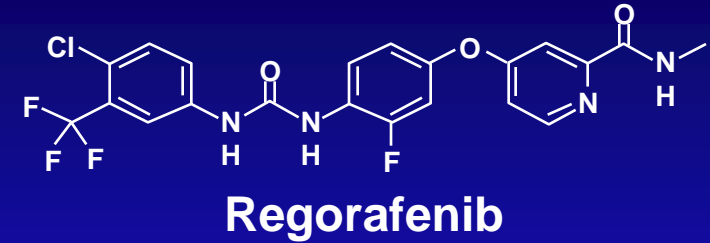


# Limitations of Tumor Biopsies – and a Possible New Solution

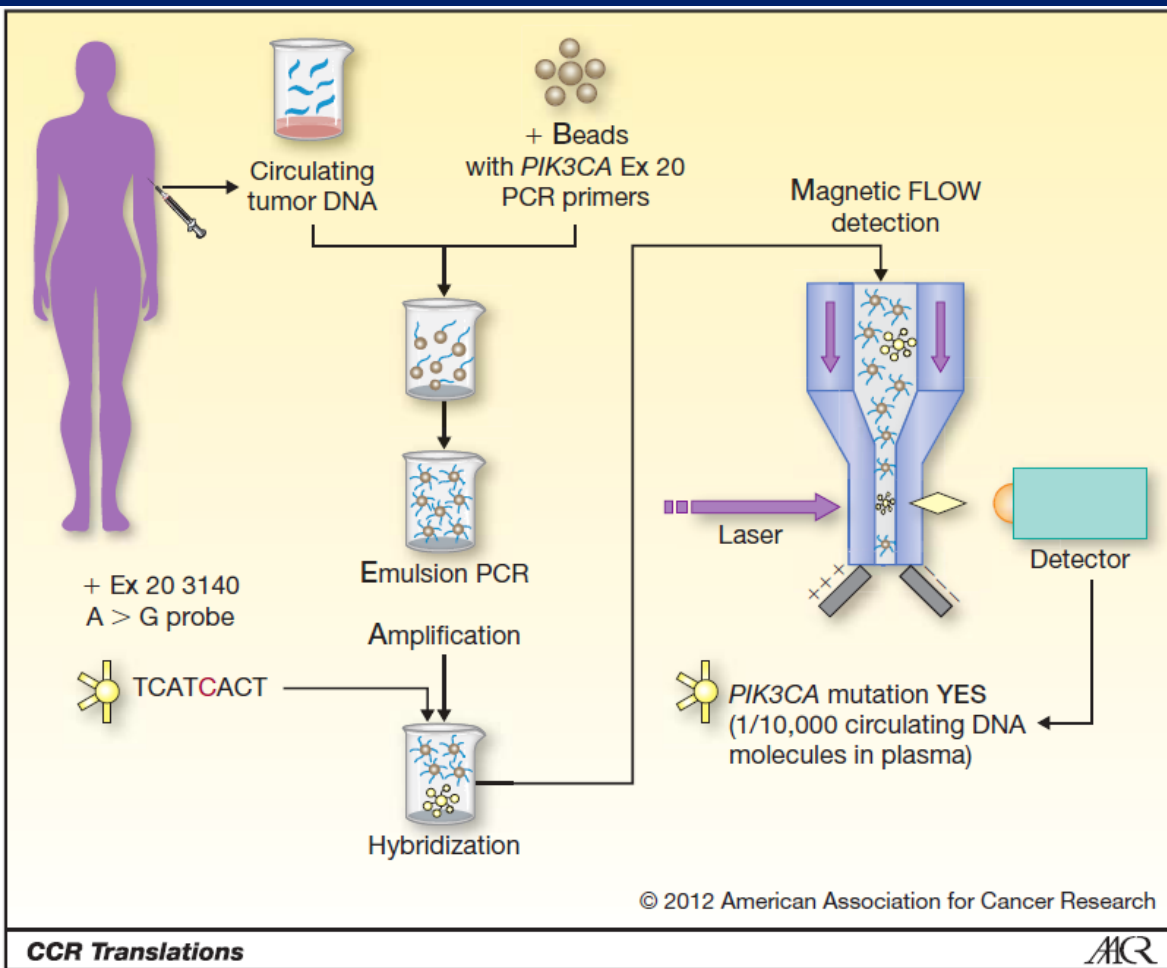
- Tumor (“tissue”) biopsies may be problematic, because tumors are heterogeneous and only certain tumors (or even only certain parts of any given tumor) are sampled
- Tumor biopsies are invasive in patients with most solid tumors which are deep in internal organs
- Tumor cells are constantly dying and “leaking” DNA into the bloodstream
- A sophisticated assay of blood may be able to document a comprehensive picture of all the mutations in any given patient
- The “Liquid Biopsies” provide a potential alternative that may circumvent the limitations and risks of traditional tumor biopsies



# KIT inhibitors



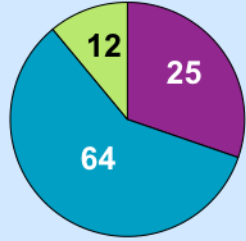
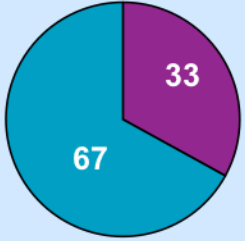
# Mutational Analysis of Circulating DNA in Plasma via BEAMing Technology



## • **B**eads, **E**mulsions, **A**mplification, **M**agnetics (done with *Inostics*):

- laboratory steps: pre-amplification, emulsion PCR, hybridization, flow cytometry
- detection of tumor-associated mutations using circulating free DNA from **plasma**
- Exquisitely sensitive detection:  
1 mutant allele in 10,000 normal alleles
- BEAMing can be used for multiple genes:
  - cancers: colorectal, breast, lung, GIST
  - genes: KRAS, BRAF, EGFR, PIK3CA
  - over 2,000 samples analyzed
- Ideal concept to detect emergence of gene mutations which can make tumors resistant to targeted therapies

# Mutational analysis of DNA from plasma (BEAMing) and tumor tissue (sequencing)

	Plasma (BEAMing)	Tumor tissue
Patients with data, n (%)	163 (82)	102 (51)
Any <i>KIT</i> mutation (primary or secondary) detected, % of samples	58	66
Primary <i>KIT</i> mutations, % of samples		
Exon 9	15	18
Exon 11	12*	43
Secondary <i>KIT</i> mutations, % of samples	47	12
	 <p>■ Exon 13/14 ■ Exon 17/18 ■ Both</p>	
Other mutations detected, % of samples		
<i>PDGFRA</i>	1	3
<i>KRAS</i>	(1 of 2 samples)	2
<i>BRAF</i>	0	0

\* BEAMing assays were not designed to detect most common primary *KIT* exon 11 deletion mutations



# High Concordance of Mutation Detection in patient-matched plasma and tissue samples

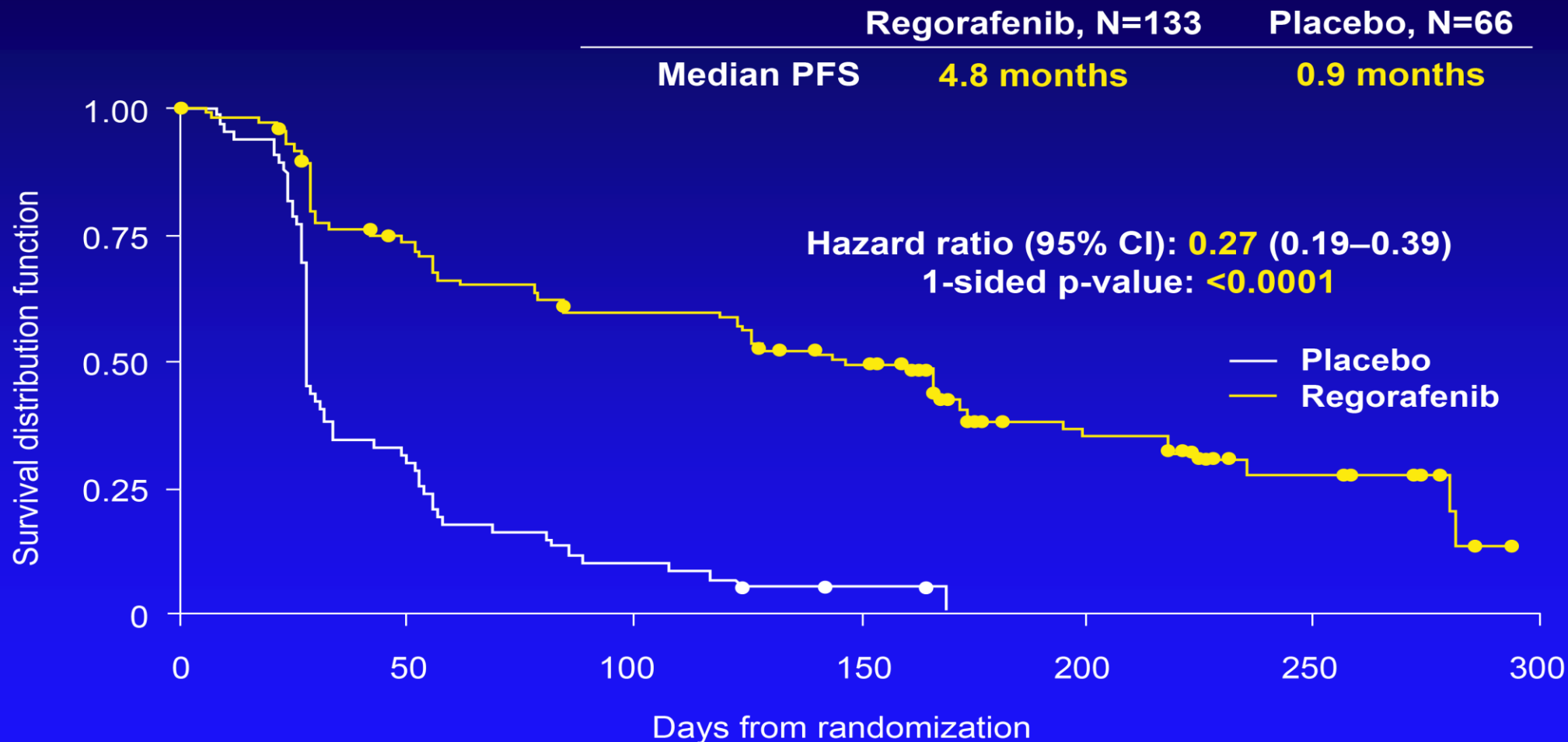
- 100% concordance for primary *KIT* exon 9 mutations  
– 18 patients with subject-matched data\*
- 79% concordance for primary *KIT* exon 11 mutations  
– 11 of 14 patients
- 91% overall concordance for primary *KIT* exons 9 and 11  
– 29 of 32 patients

\*Two discordant cases were confirmed to have exon 9 insertions by external testing

Plasma or Tumor detection of <i>KIT</i> exon 9 or other mutations		
Patient no.	<i>KIT</i> mutation detected	
	<i>Plasma BEAMing</i>	<i>Tissue sequencing</i>
1	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
2	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
3	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT
4	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
5	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	(external: exon 9 MUT)
6	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	Exon 9 INS
7	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	Exon 9 INS
8	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
9	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
10	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
11	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	(external: exon 9 MUT)
12	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
13	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
14	Exon 9 INS + exons 17 & 18 MUT	Exon 9 INS
15	Exon 9 INS	Exon 9 INS
16	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	Exon 9 INS
17	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	Exon 9 INS
18	Exon 9 INS + exon 17 MUT	Exon 9 INS

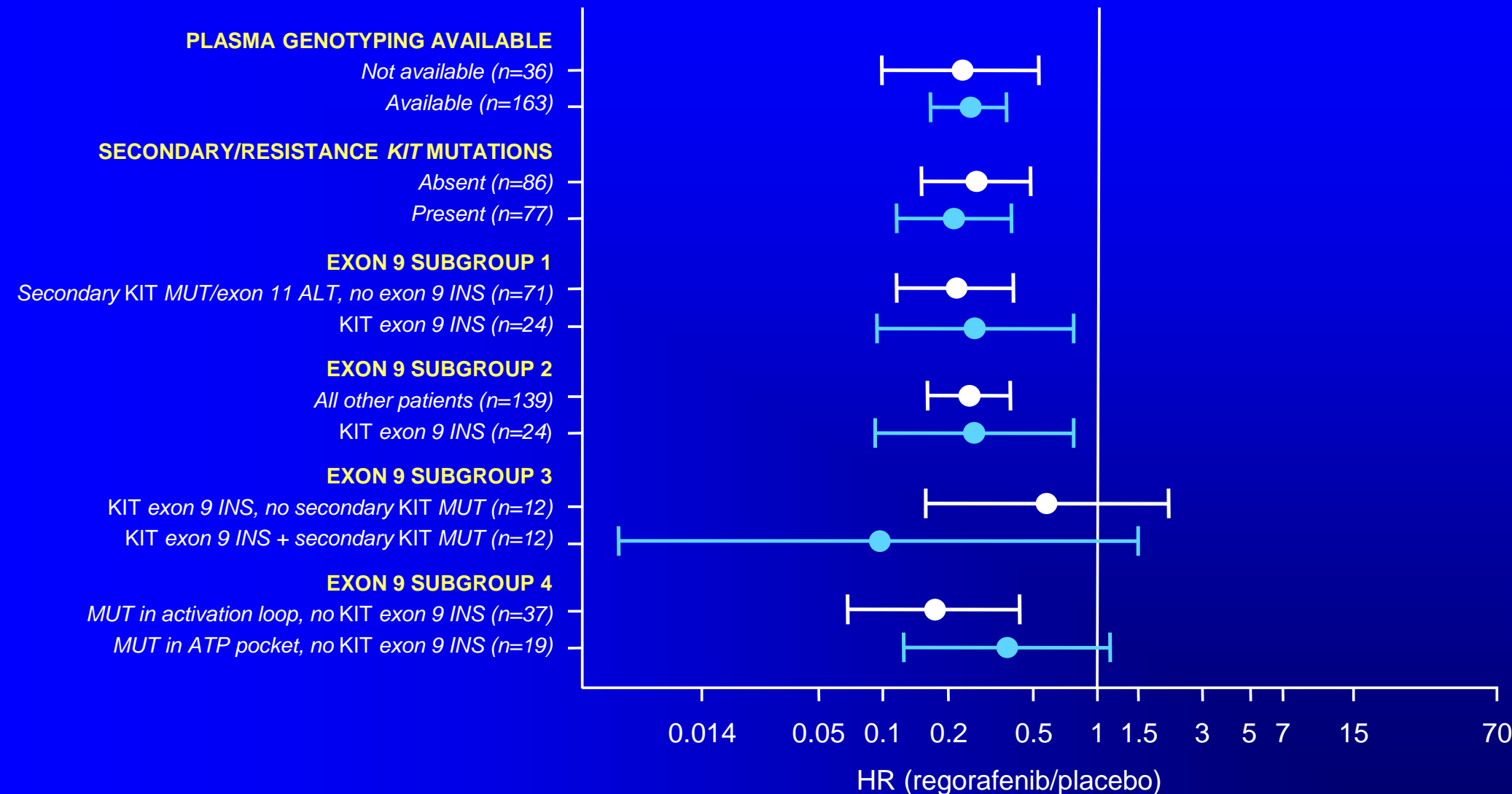


# Phase III data supporting regorafenib FDA registration in GIST



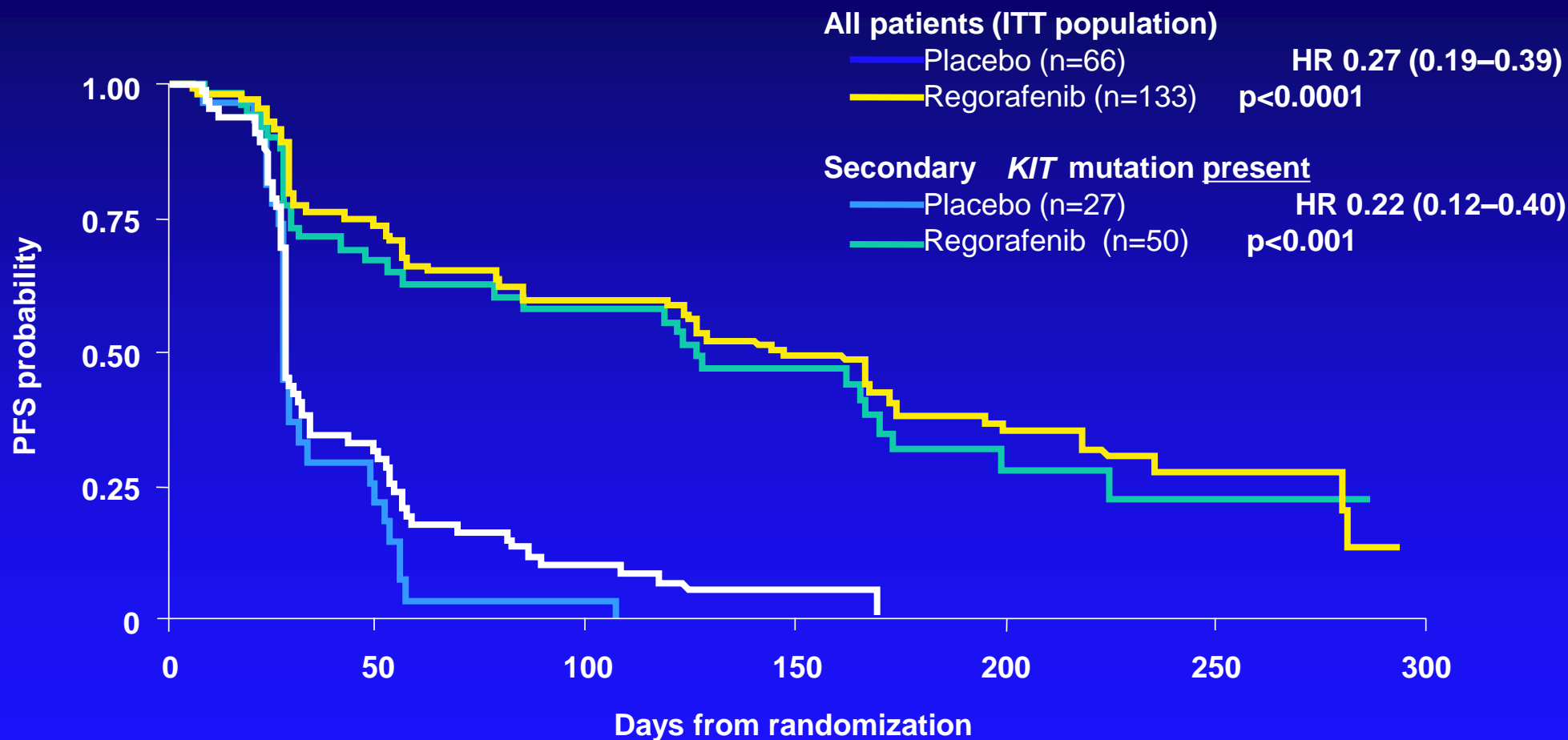
**Regorafenib significantly improved PFS vs placebo ( $p < 0.0001$ );  
primary endpoint met**

# Correlating Mutations detected in plasma DNA with Clinical Outcomes (benefit with regorafenib)



**Regorafenib shows disease control benefit (improved PFS) over placebo in all mutation subgroups**

# Regorafenib shows benefit over placebo in GIST with secondary *KIT* mutations detectable in circulating free DNA assay



ITT curves from Demetri GD *et al. Lancet* 2013; 381: 295–302

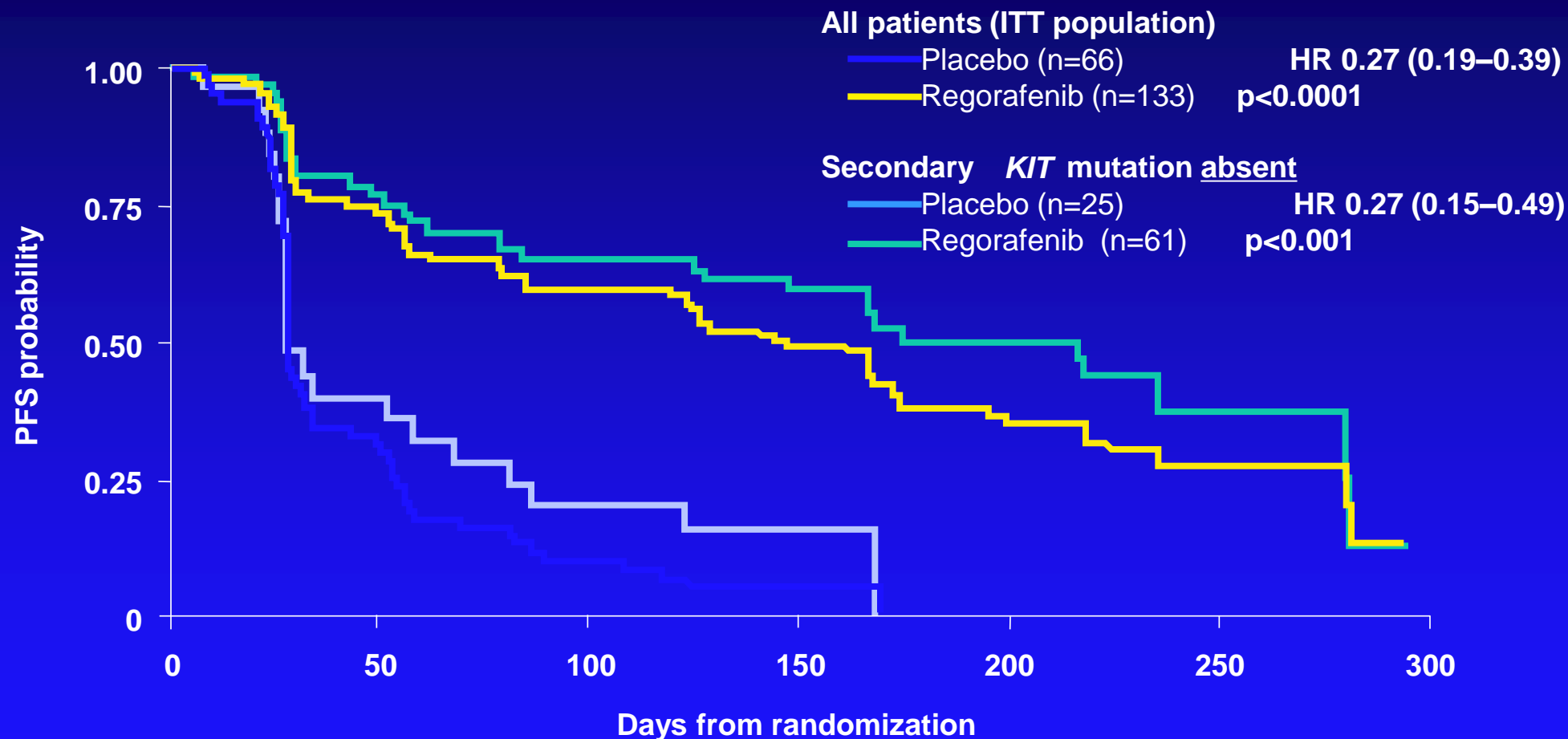


LUDWIG  
CENTER

DANA-  
FARBER/  
HARVARD



# Regorafenib shows benefit over placebo in GIST with no secondary *KIT* mutations detectable in circulating free DNA assay



ITT curves from Demetri GD *et al. Lancet* 2013; 381: 295–302

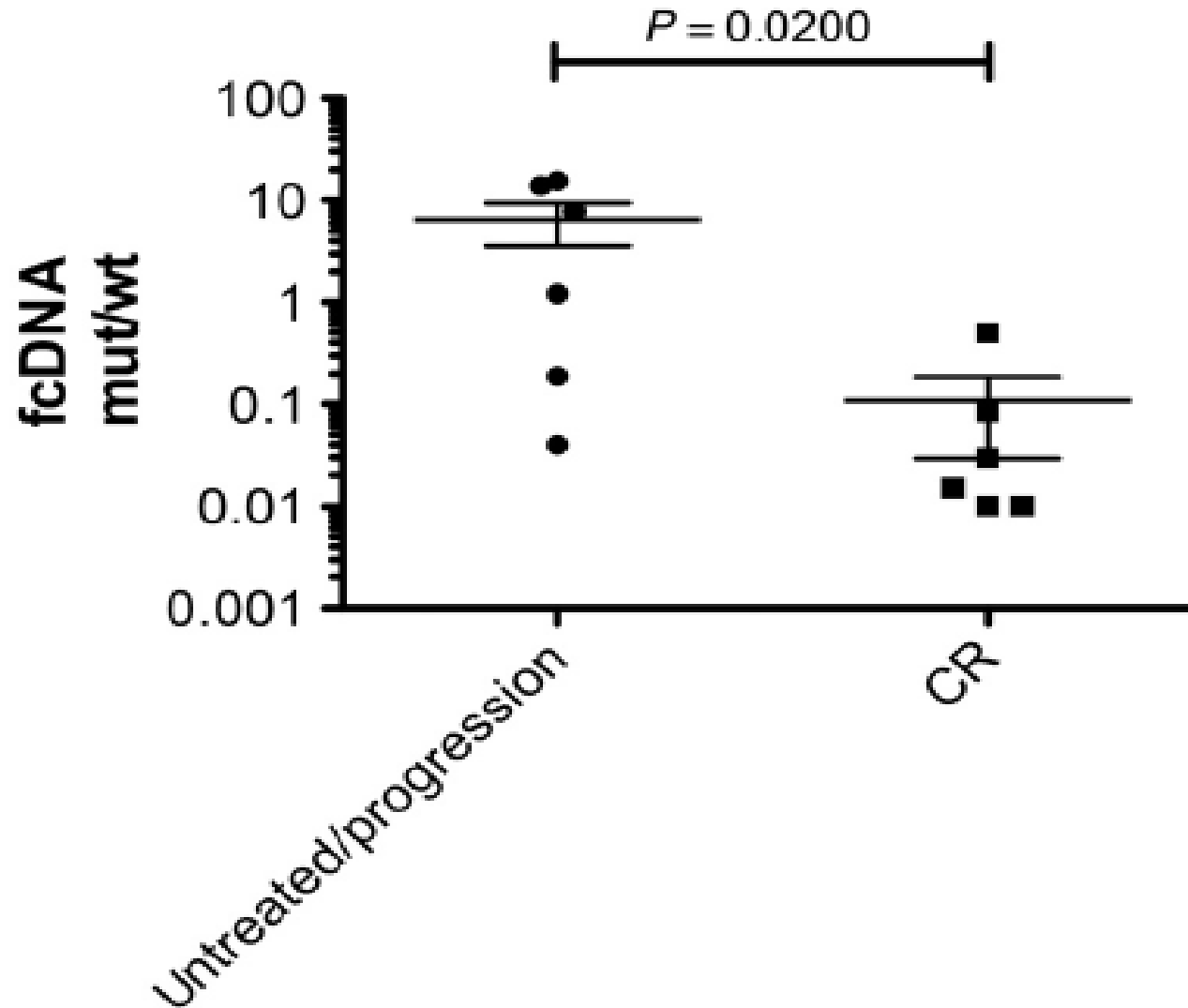


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CENTER

DANA-  
FARBER/  
HARVARD

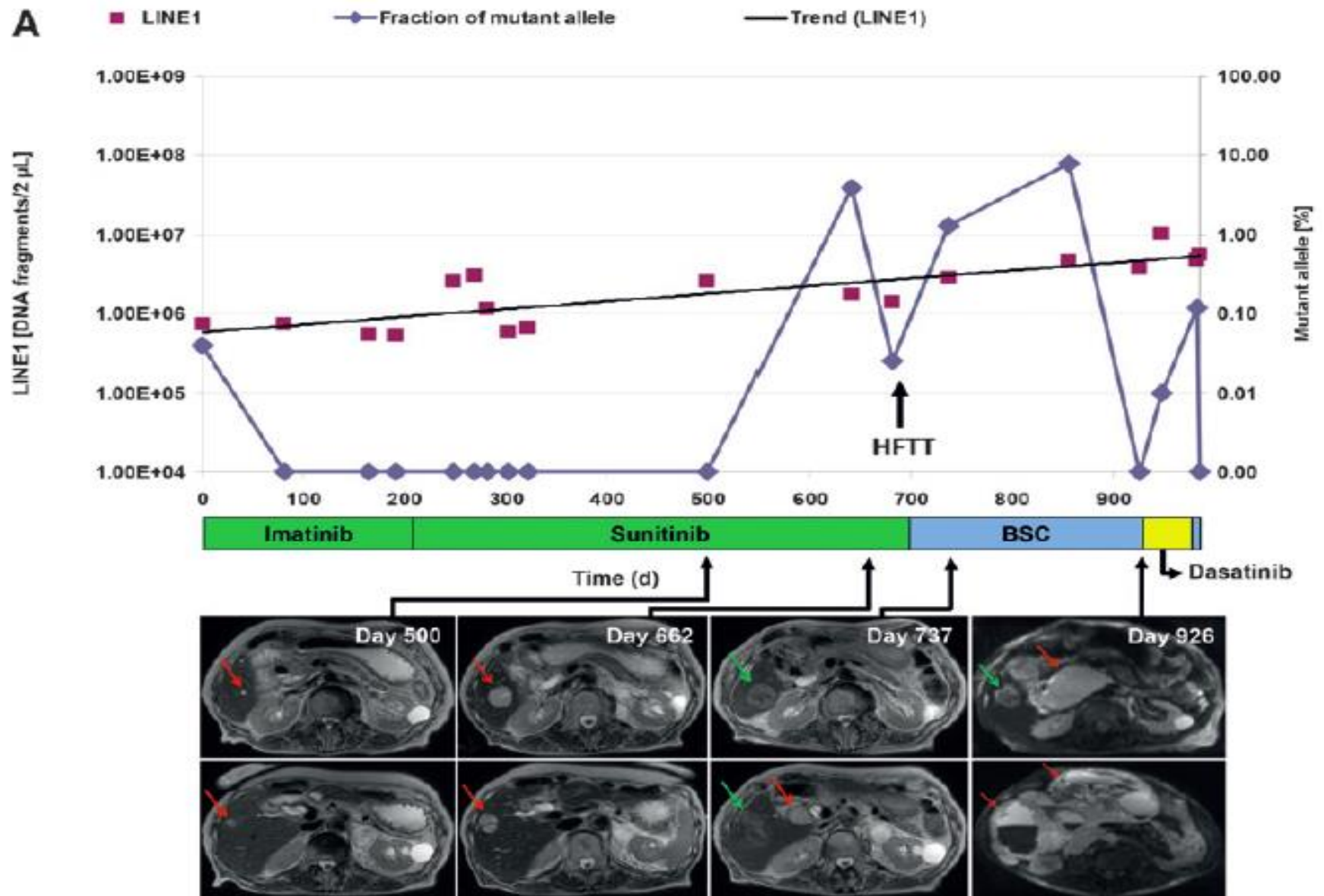


# Mutant fcDNA correlates with clinical disease status (active/resistant vs. “CR”)



Maier J et al. Clin Cancer Res 2013;19:4854-4867

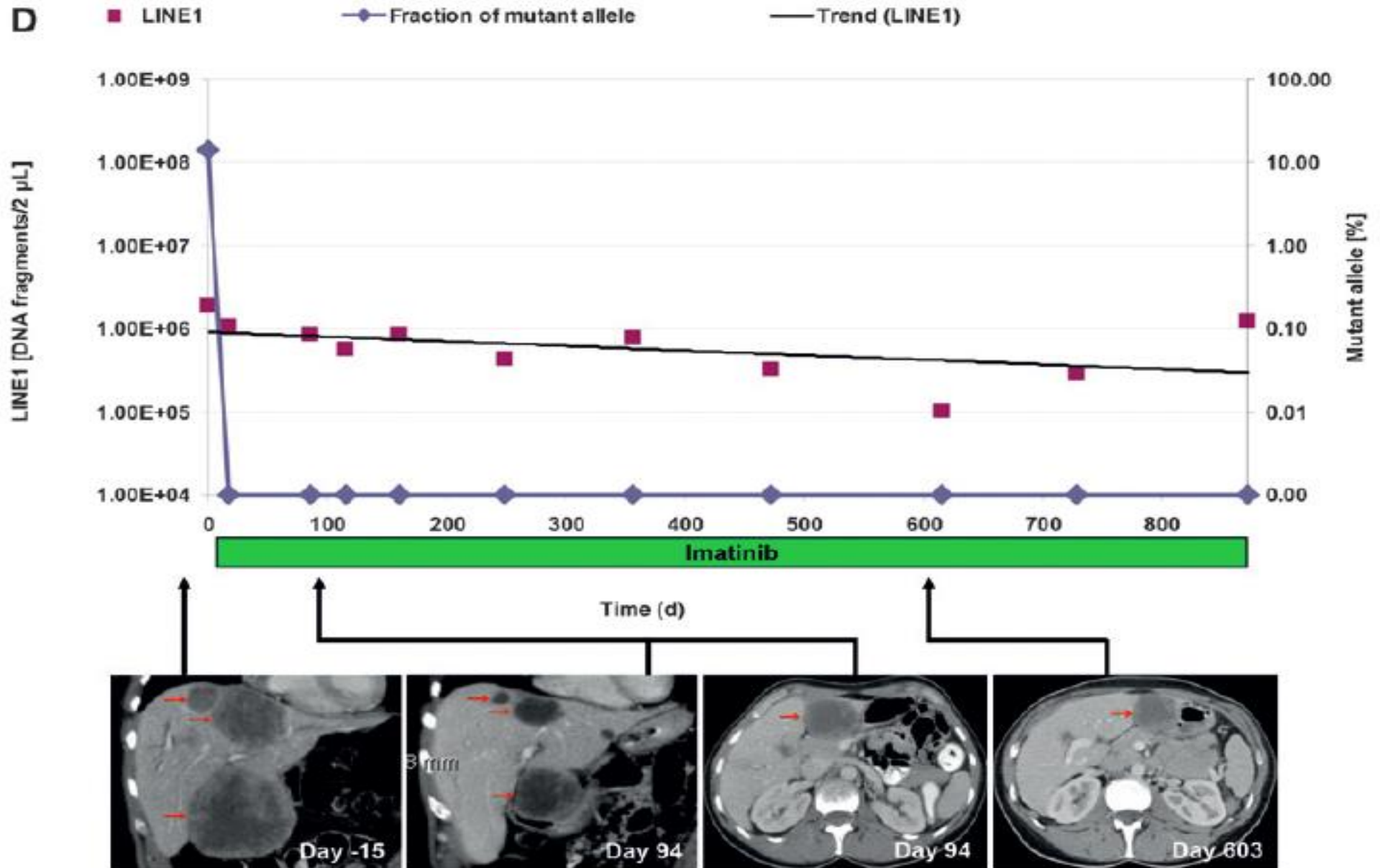
# Mutant fcDNA in correlation with clinical response in individual patients over time.



Maier J et al. Clin Cancer Res 2013;19:4854-4867



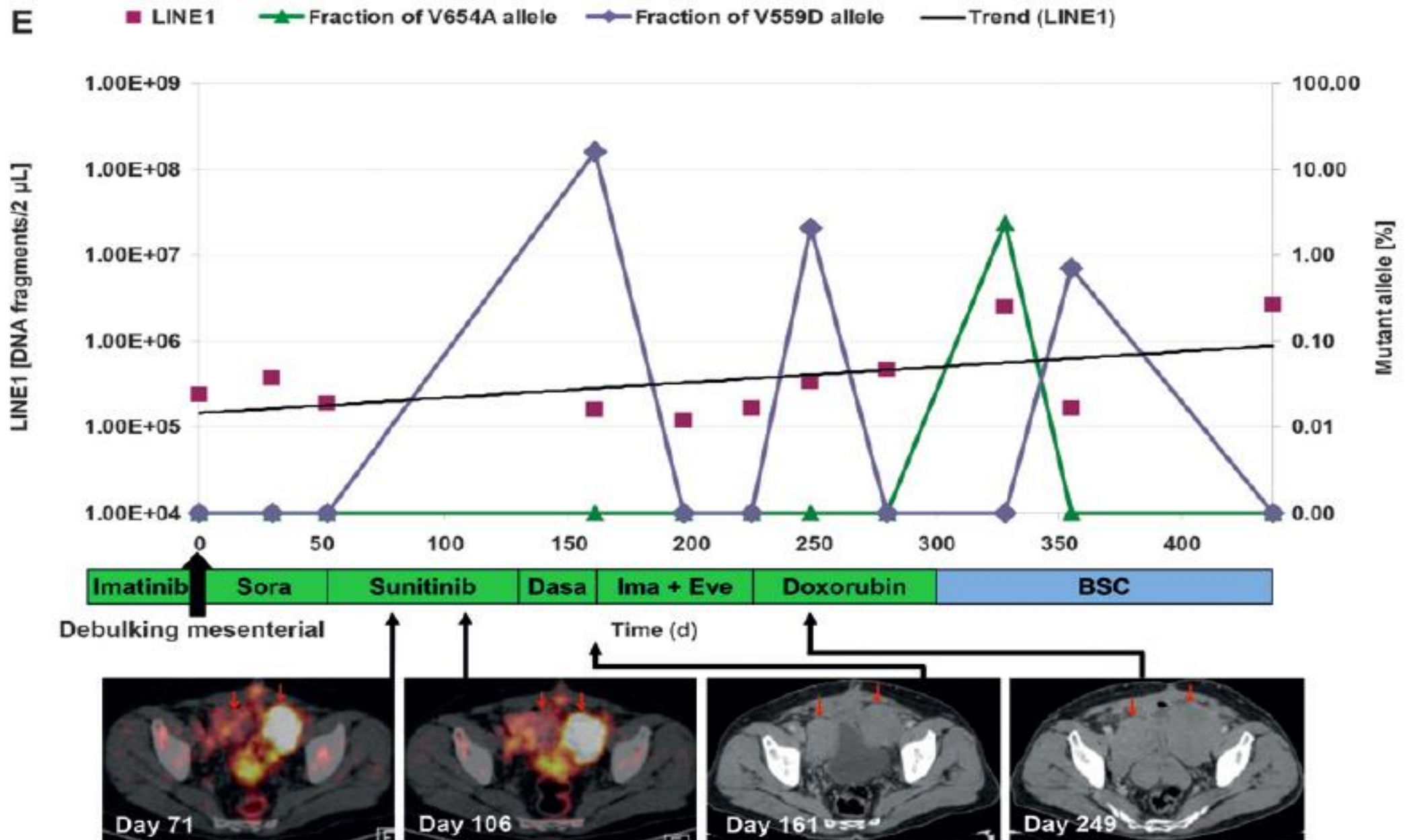
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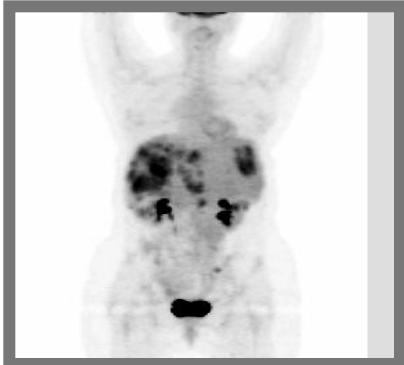
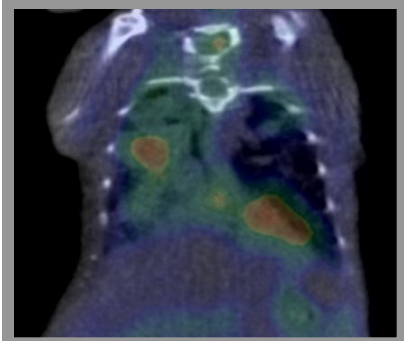
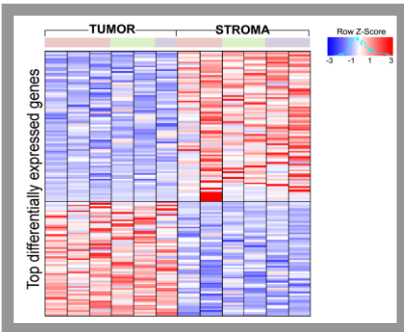
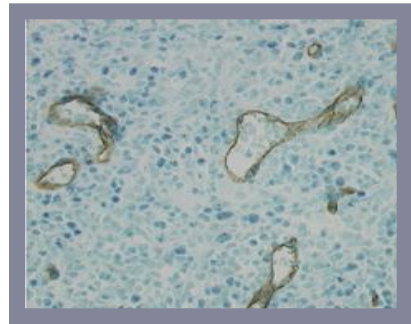
# Mutant fcDNA in correlation with clinical response in individual patients over time.

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# Next steps forward

- *Continuing research to expand free plasma DNA sensitivity*
- *Next-gen sequencing (NGS) on plasma for discovery detection of new mutations (rather than previously identified mutations)*
- Other biomarkers of resistance to be identified
  - For research use
  - For clinical use



Thanks to all the patients, their families  
and all our collaborative colleagues  
worldwide!