

What is the feature of an optimal new agent?

Selective target versus multi-targeted versus combination

Jan Schellens MD PhD & Serena Marchetti MD PhD
ESMO 2012



Disclosure

- Research grants to NKI from:
 - Roche, Novartis, GSK, Eisai
- Investigator on ~30 phase I, II studies
- Member Dutch Medicines Evaluation Board
- Member SAG-Oncology EMA

Targeted Therapies since EMA registration of rituximab in 1998

Selective agents

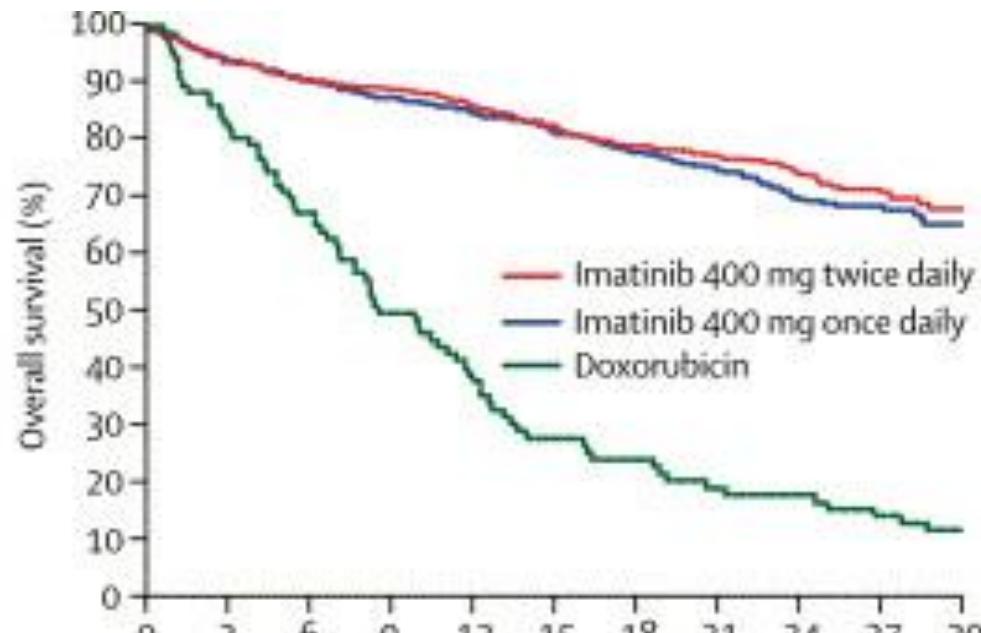
Drug	Main target
Rituximab	CD20
Trastuzumab	Her2
Alemtuzumab	CD52
Cetuximab	EGFR
Bevacizumab	VEGF
Panitumumab	EGFR
Ofatumumab	CD20
Brentuzumab vedotin	CD30-Ab drug conjugate
Erlotinib, gefitinib	EGFR
Vemurafenib	BRAF V600E
Crizotinib	ALK

Multi-targeted agents

Drug	Main target
Imatinib	BCR-ABL, CD117, PDGFR
Sunitinib	VEGFR1-3, PDGFR, CD117
Sorafenib	VEGFR2-3, C-, BRAF, CD117, FLT-3, PDGFR
Dasatinib	BCR-ABL, SRC
Tensirolimus	mTOR, immunosuppressive
Nilotinib	BCR-ABL, PDGFR
Lapatinib	EGFR, Her2
Everolimus	mTOR, immunosuppressive
Pazopanib	VEGFR1-3, multikinase,
Vandetanib	RET, VEGFR2, EGFR
Axitinib	VEGFR1-3, PDGFR, CD117

GIST survival: imatinib vs doxorubicin

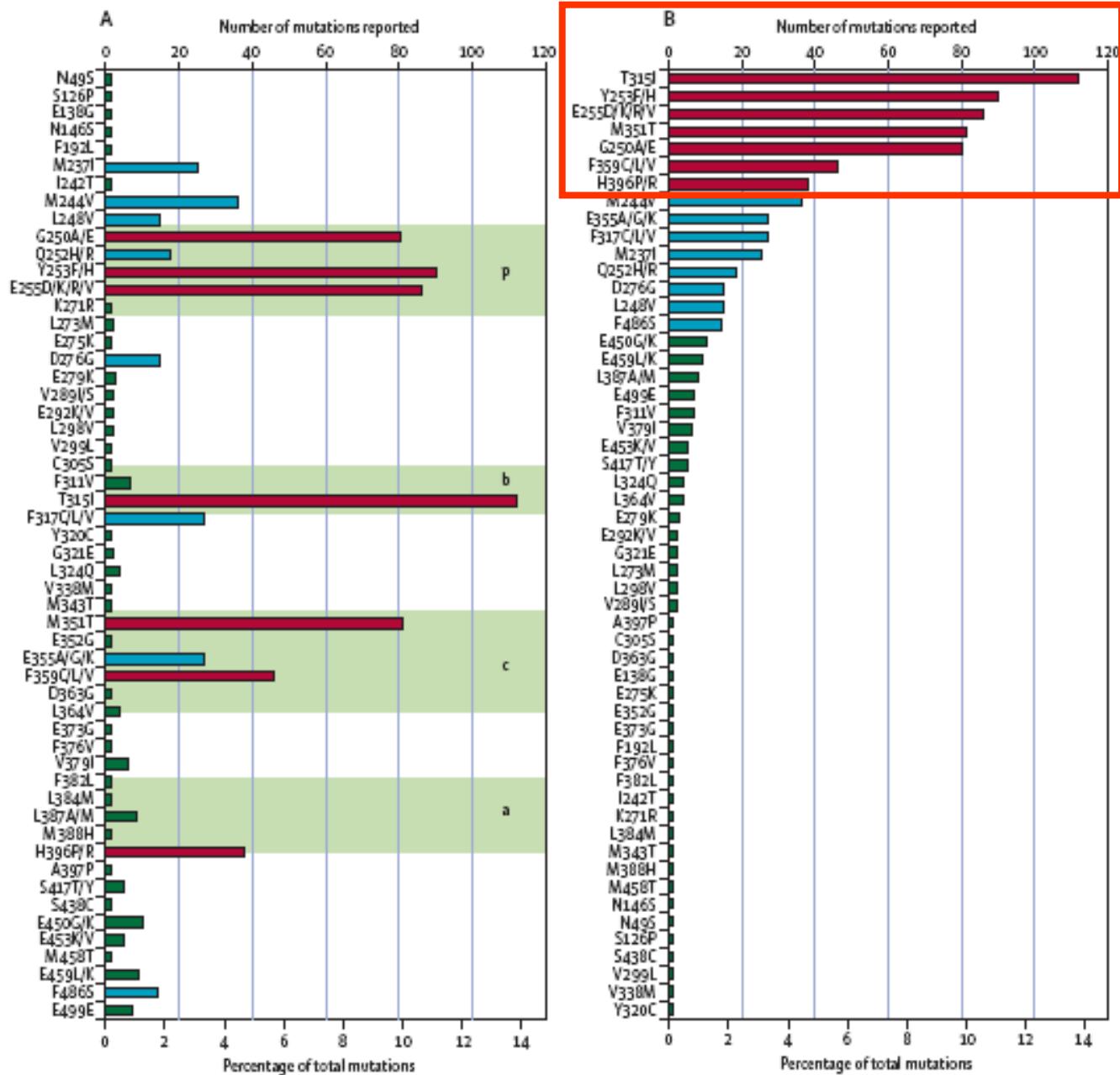
historical controls EORTC database



Number at risk

	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
Imatinib 400 mg once daily	473	423	387	315	192	49					
Imatinib 400 mg twice daily	473	427	399	323	201	51					
Doxorubicin	86	57	31	19	14	8					

Imatinib resistance induced by mutations in BCR ABL



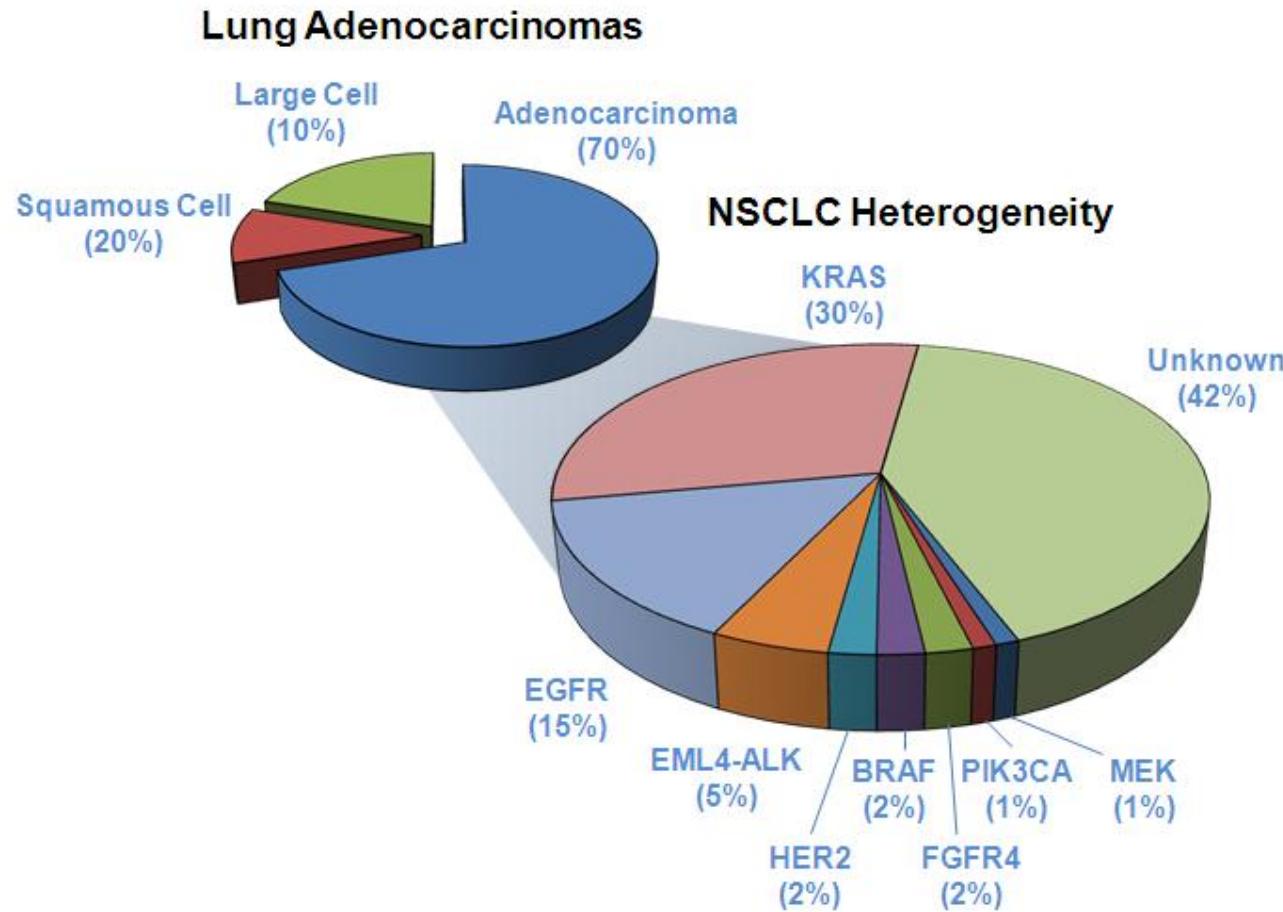
Apperley JF
Lancet Oncol
2007; 8: 2018

Reversal of imatinib resistance in KIT^{T670I} gatekeeper mutation

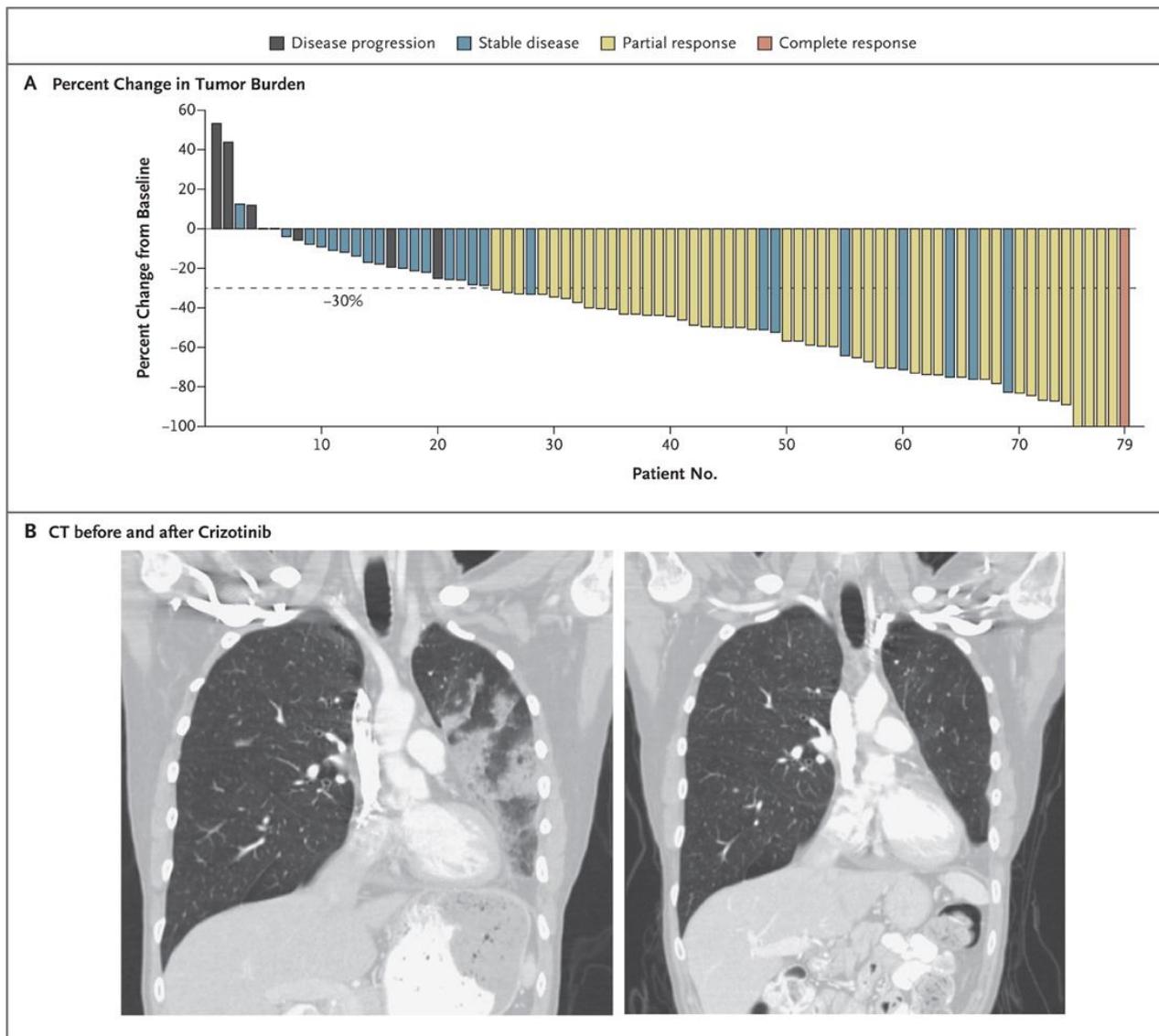
Mutations	Imatinib	Dasatinib	Sorafenib	Nilotinib
560Vdel/V654A	3,927	585	1,074	192
557-SWKdel/T670I	>10,000	>10,000	1,063	>10,000
V559D/D820Y	3,202	432	944	297
V560delNB22K*	NA	NA	NA	NA
V559D †	63	27	66	44
557-SWKdel †	460	58	211	83
502-503AY †	509	74	400	671
T670I	>10,000	7,543	918	>10,000
D820Y*	NA	NA	NA	NA
NB22K	>10,000	868	3,550	3,083

Values are given in IC₅₀ (nmol/L)

Biological subtypes non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)



Anti-tumor activity of crizotinib in EML4-ALK+ NSCLC

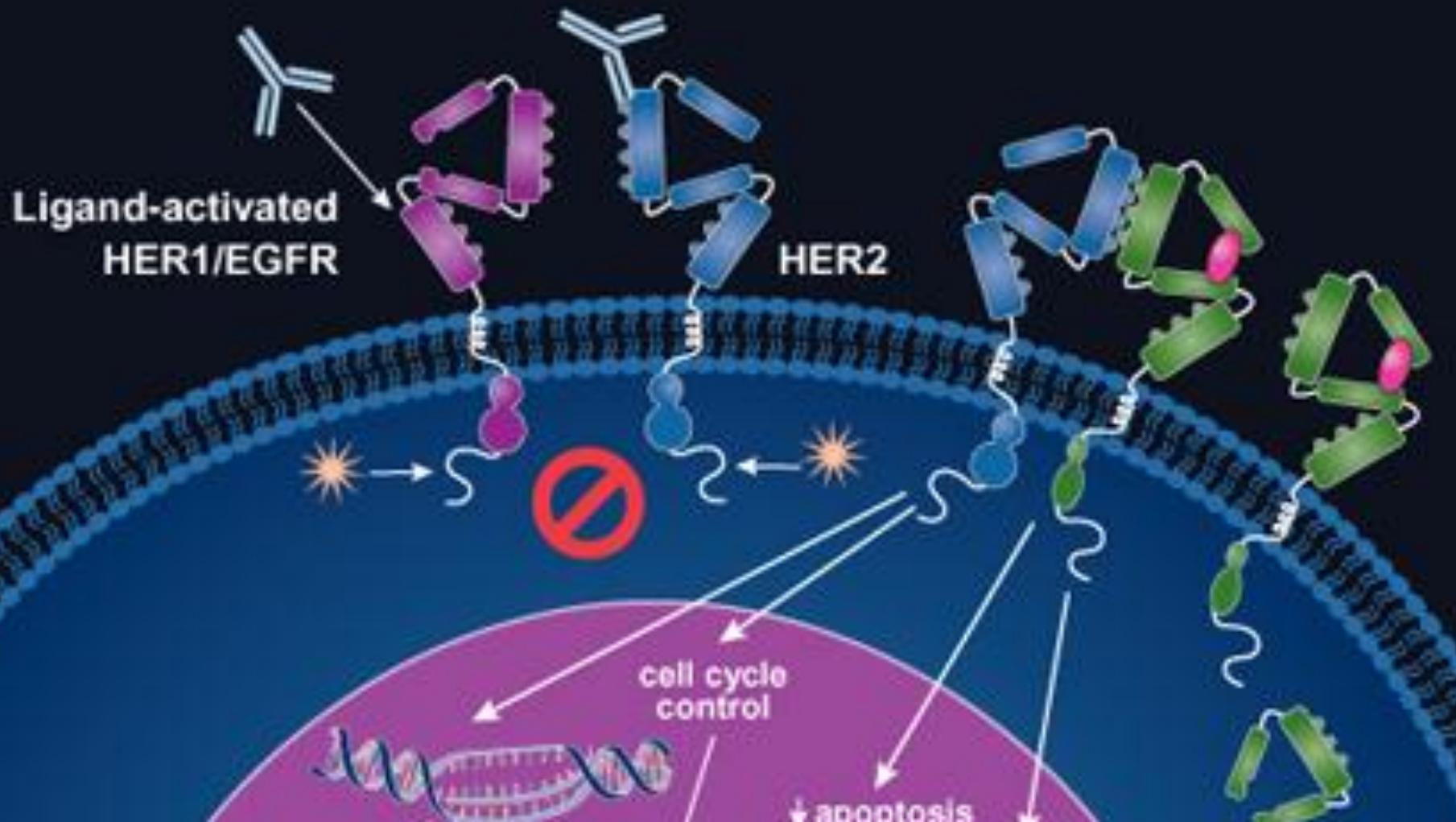


LDK378 is active in EML4-ALK xenografts & in crizotinib-resistant mutations (C1156Y)

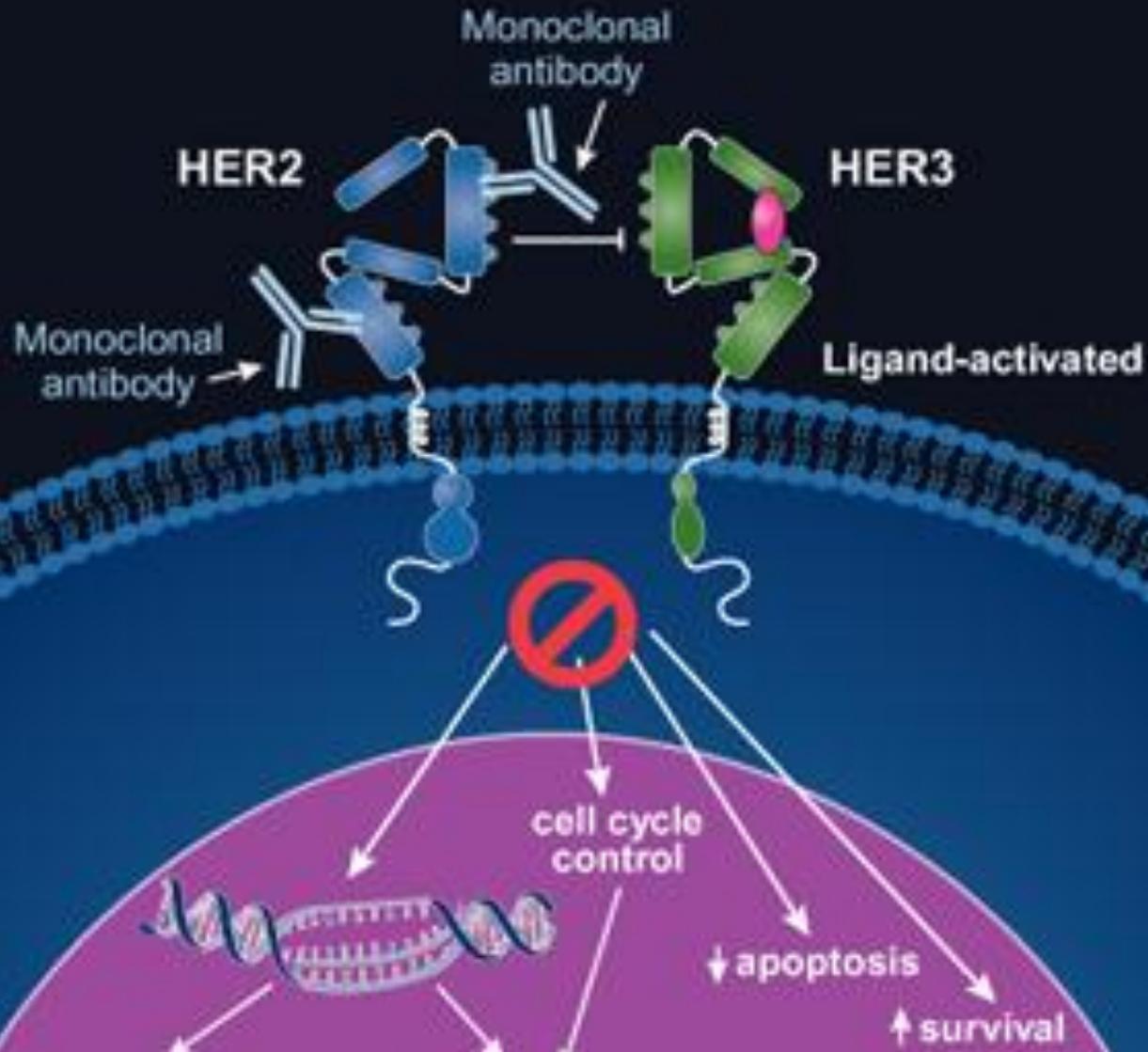
Treatment	Assay	LDK378 IC_{50} (μM)	Crizotinib IC_{50} (μM)
Enzymatic	ALK	0.00015	0.003
	MET	3.2	0.008
Cell-based	ALK	0.027	0.11
	MET	1.3	0.028

Response rate 81% (21/26) in patients with NSCLC treated at ≥ 400 mg/day who progressed on crizotinib

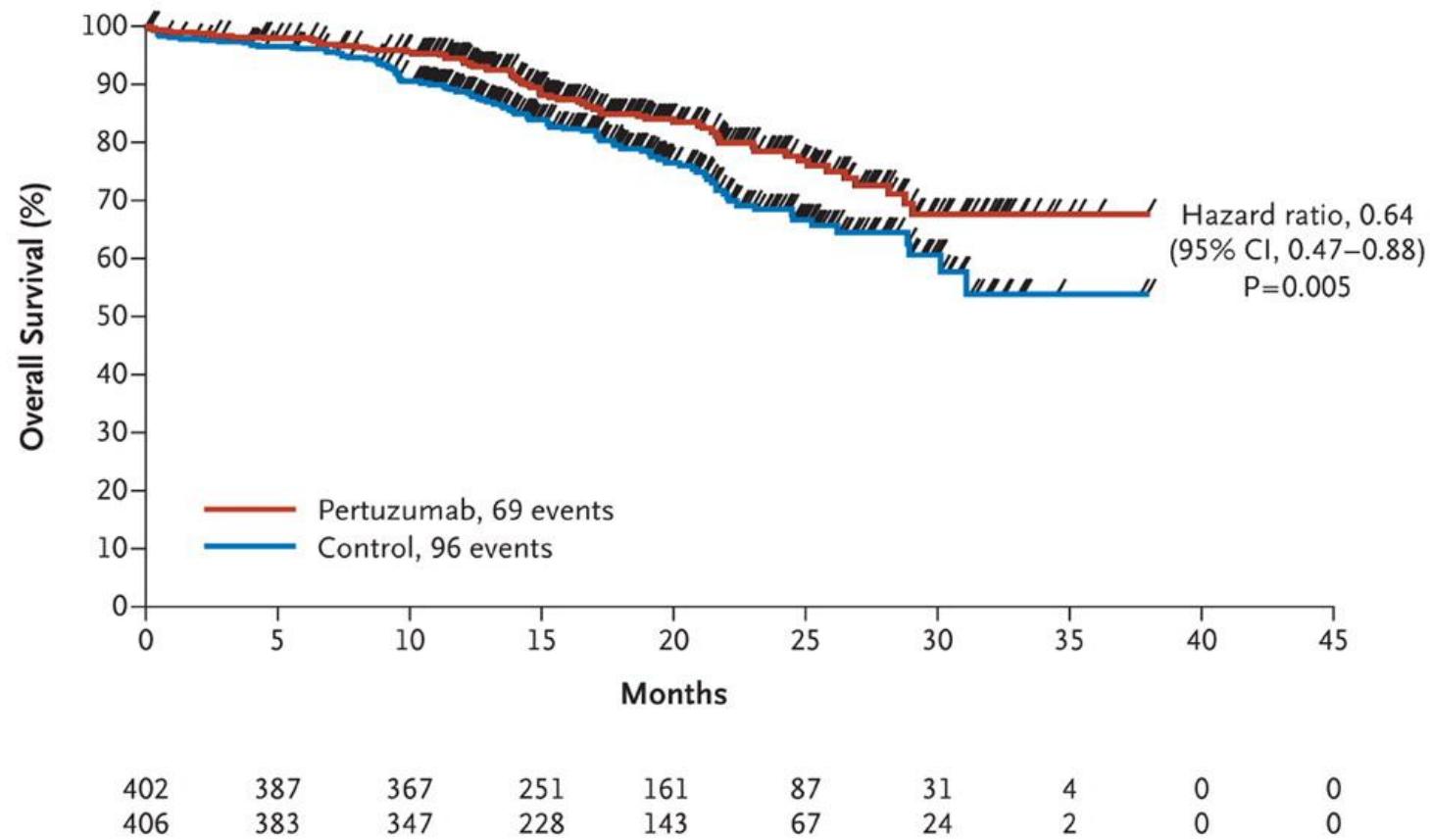
Trastuzumab effectively inhibits Her2 signaling



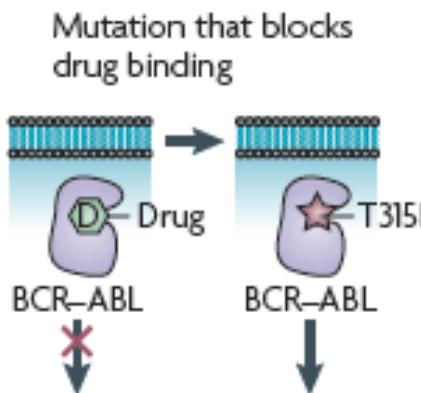
Unresponsiveness due to Her2-Her3 heterodimerization



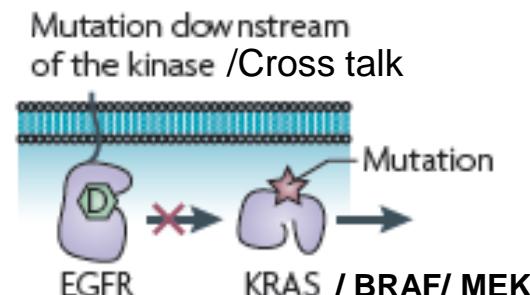
Inactivation of Her2 and Her2-Her3 trastuzumab + pertuzumab



Resistance to TKIs & MoAbs



Imatinib Sorafenib/
Nilotinib/
Dasatinib/....



BRAF V600 Melanoma
BRAFi BRAFi + MEKi

EML4-ALK C1156Y mut

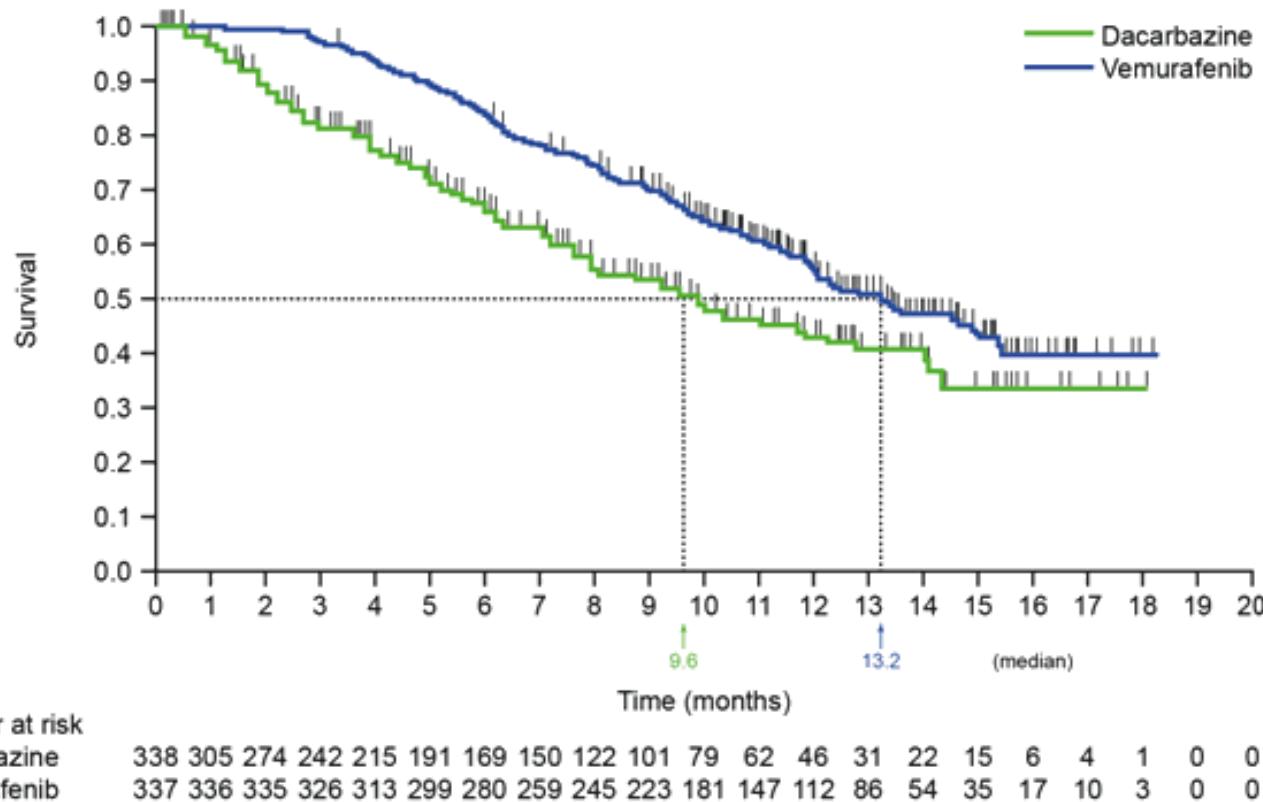
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Crizotinib LDK378

BRAF V600 CRC
BRAFi BRAFi + EGFRi

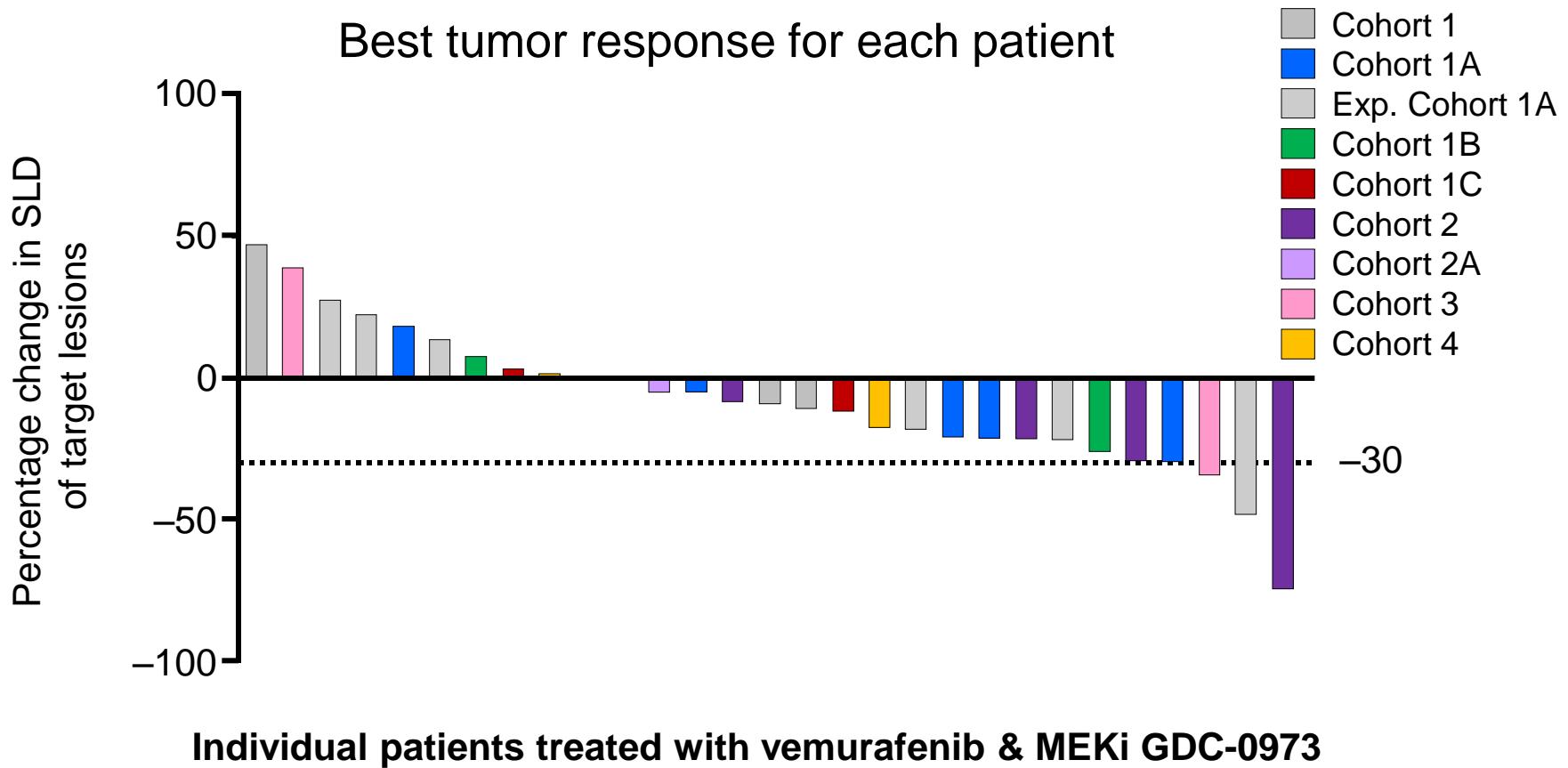
Vemurafenib in BRAF V600 melanoma

Kaplan-Meier curves of Overall Survival – previously untreated patients
[October 3, 2011 cut-off; HR 0.62 (0.49, 0.77)*]



Number of cross-over patients 81 (24%)

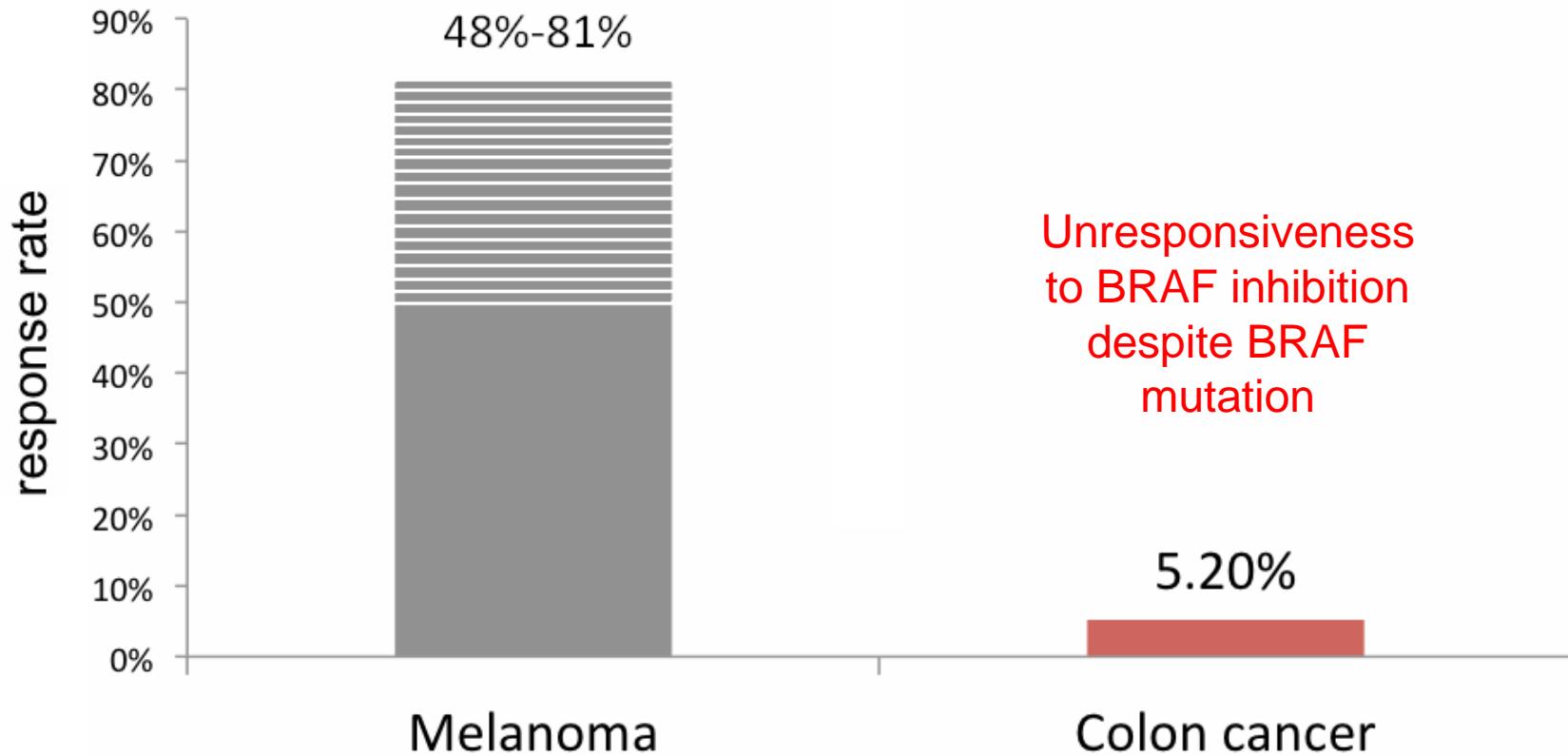
BRAFi + MEKi in BRAF V600 melanoma in vemurafenib progressors



Gonzalez et al. BRIM-7 study Proc. ESMO 2012;

Also strong indication of synergy with Dabrafenib + Trametinib [Weber et al. Proc ASCO 2012]

Vemurafenib response rate in BRAF mutant melanoma versus colon cancer

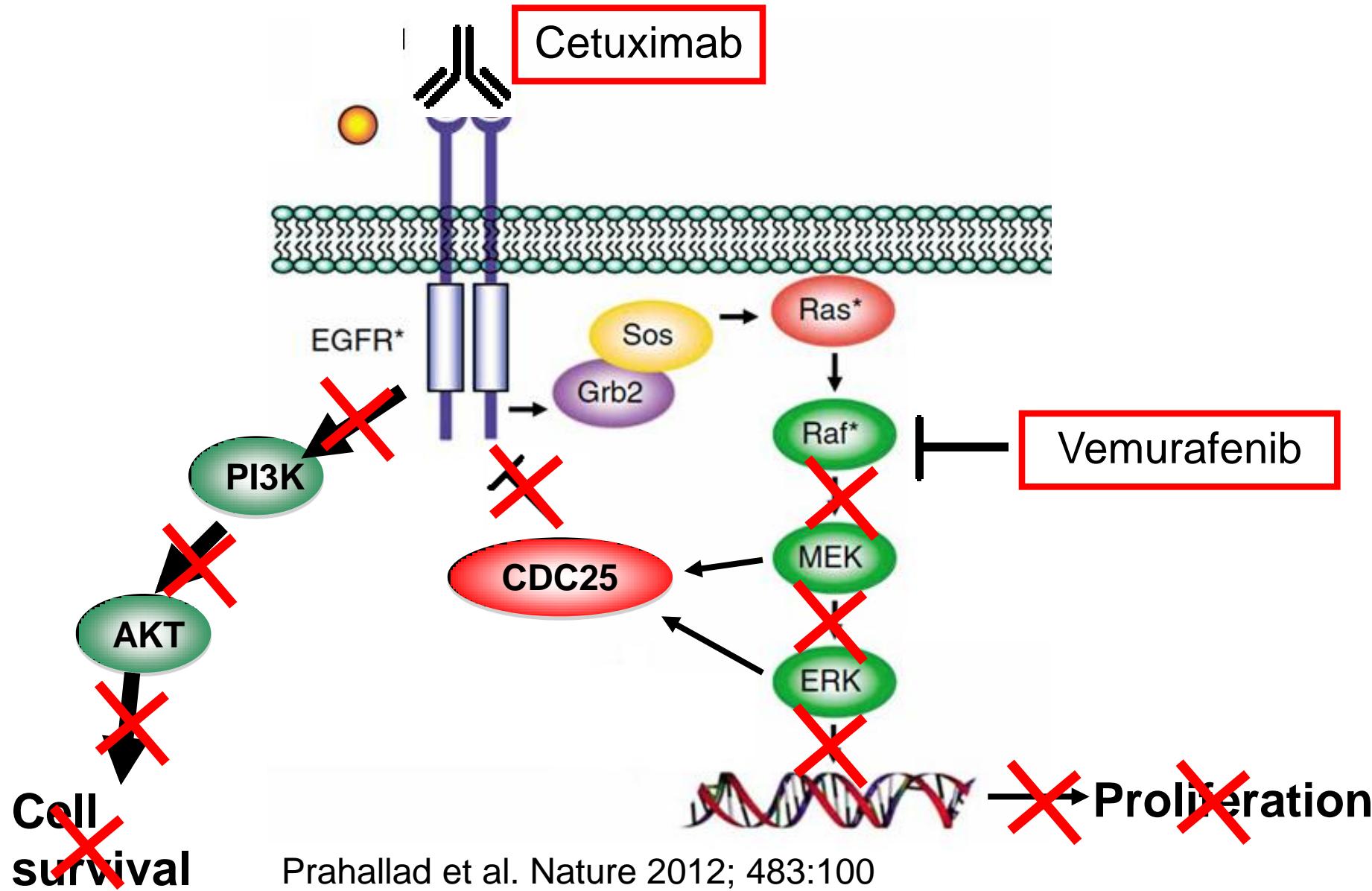


Flaherty et al. NEJM 2010

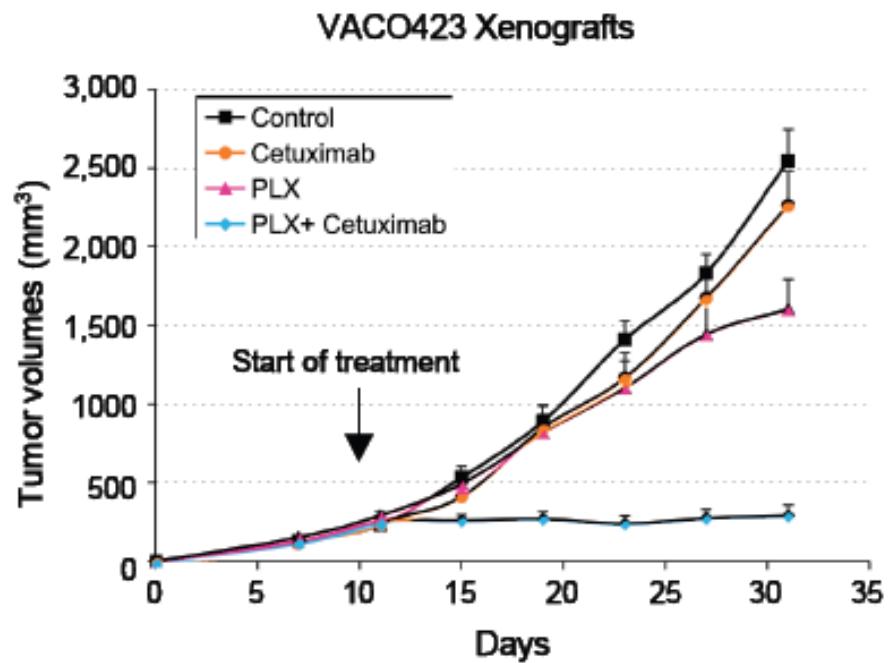
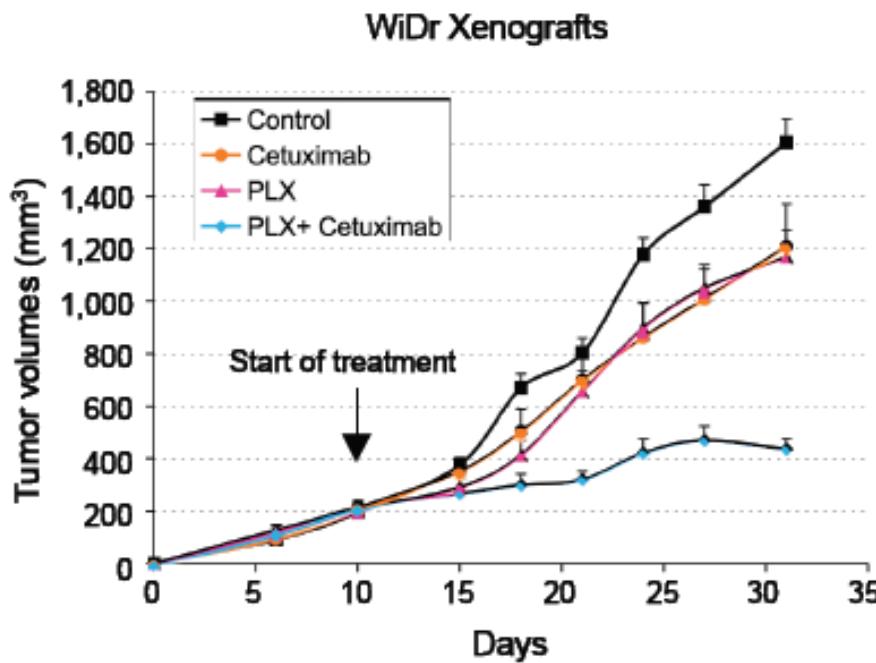
Kopetz et al. ASCO 2010

Chapman et al. NEJM 2011

Feedback regulation of EGFR by BRAF inhibition



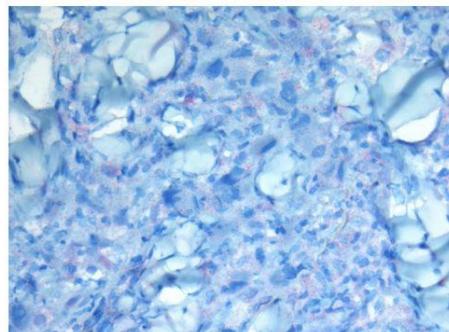
In vivo proof of the principle



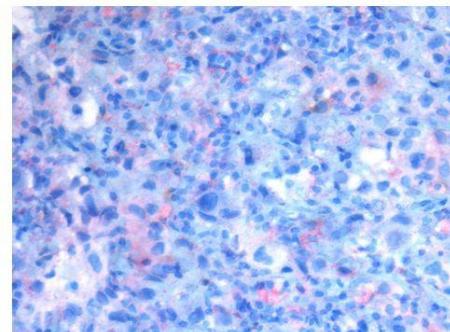
Two colon cancer models with BRAF mutation (and no KRAS mutation)

BRAF mutant melanomas upregulate EGFR during development of drug resistance

Patient #2

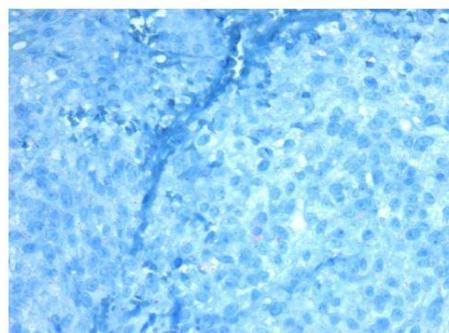


Before RAFi

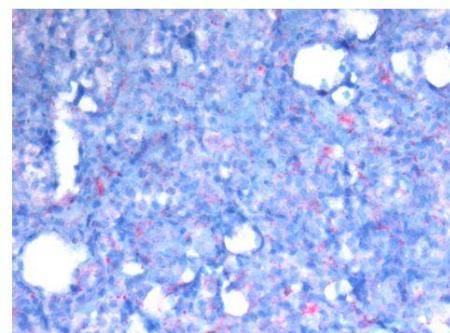


After RAFi

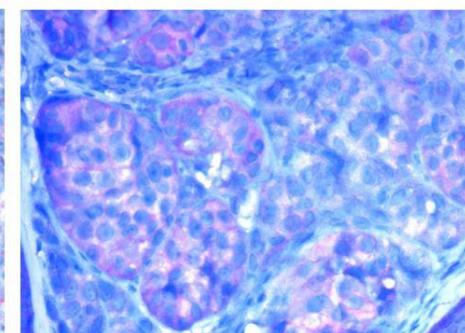
Patient #5



Before MEKi



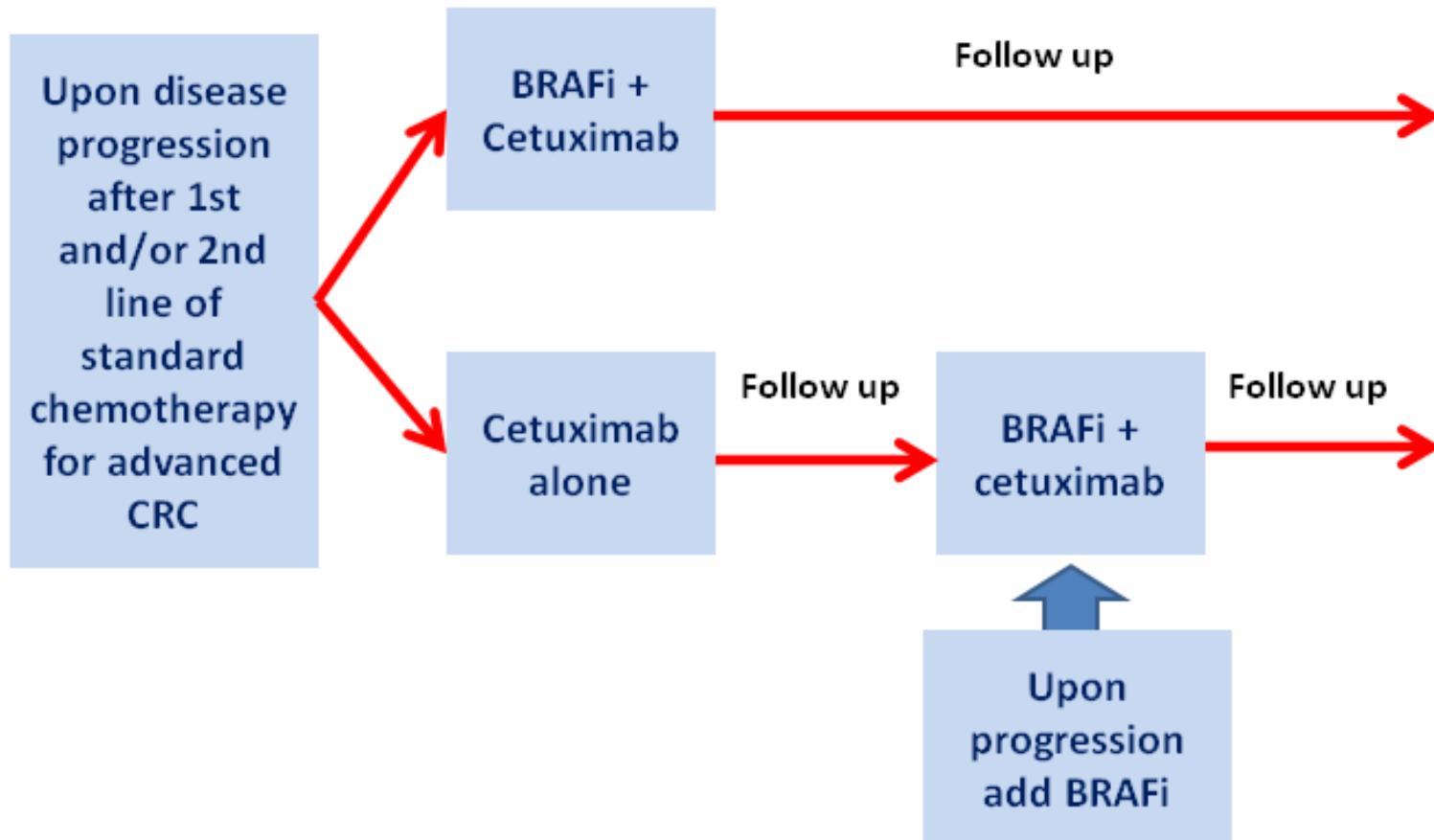
After MEKi (T1)



After MEKi (T2)

EGFR IHC in **red**

Proposed phase II/III study design to demonstrate proof of concept



What is the feature of an optimal new agent?

- It selectively engages a unique and dominant target in cancer tissue
- It can easily be combined with partnering agents to overcome tumor unresponsiveness
- It is completely devoid of normal tissue interactions and thus has excellent safety
- It can be given orally continuously
- It has unremarkable ADME
- It is cost-effective



Sobering remarks about selective agents

- Predictive biomarker needs to be determined
- Will often need to be given in combinations:
 - May show poorly predictable PK interactions
 - Oral drugs may show food-drug effects as well
 - Combinations may reduce compliance

However:

- Despite all this, selective drugs in biomarker driven trials have proven better outcome than (unselective) drugs in unselected populations