

# Poster Discussion: Colorectal Cancer Posters 522-524

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# Disclosure slide

- Honorarium
  - Merck Serono
  - Roche
  - Amgen Hellas
- Research Grand
  - Merck Serono
  - Amgen

# Outline of the presentation

- Stage II and III colon cancer
- Molecular predictors
- DNA repair
- Critical Evaluation of posters 522-524
- Summary and conclusions

# Adjuvant Chemotherapy for stage III Colon Cancer

- 3 RCTs proved benefit for the addition of LOHP to 5FU/LV in 3 years DFS
  - MOSAIC HR: 0.77
  - NSABP C07 HR: 0.80
  - NO16986 HR: 0.80
- Selection should be based on individual characteristics and patient's preference

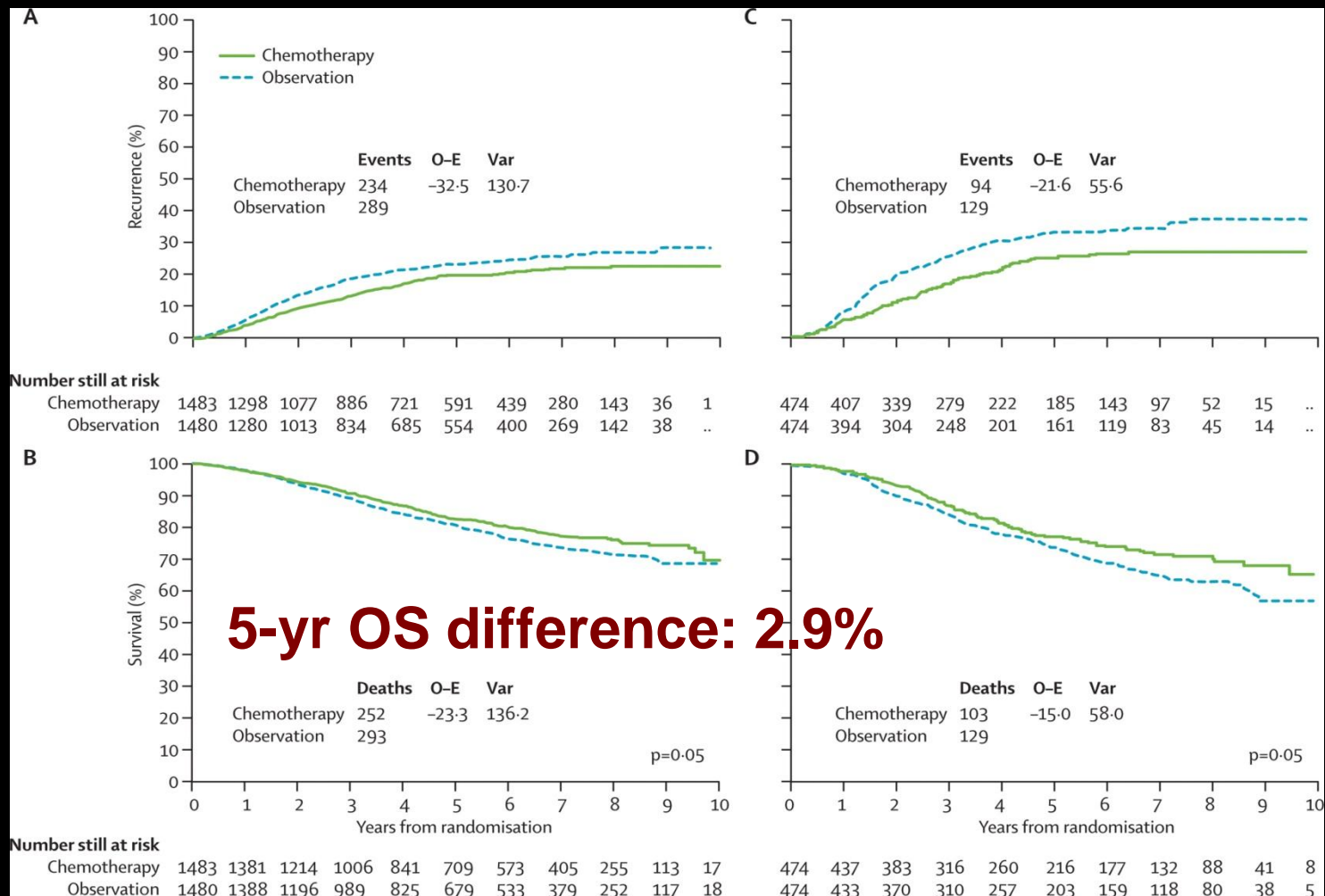
# Adjuvant Chemotherapy for stage II Colon Cancer

- For stage II colon cancer the role of chemotherapy is still debated
- The proportional risk reduction is similar in Stages II and III<sup>1</sup>
- The benefit obtained by FU-based chemo may be attributed to subsets of patients:
  - Females
  - right-sided colon tumors

<sup>1</sup>Grill S et al *J Clin Oncol*; 2004

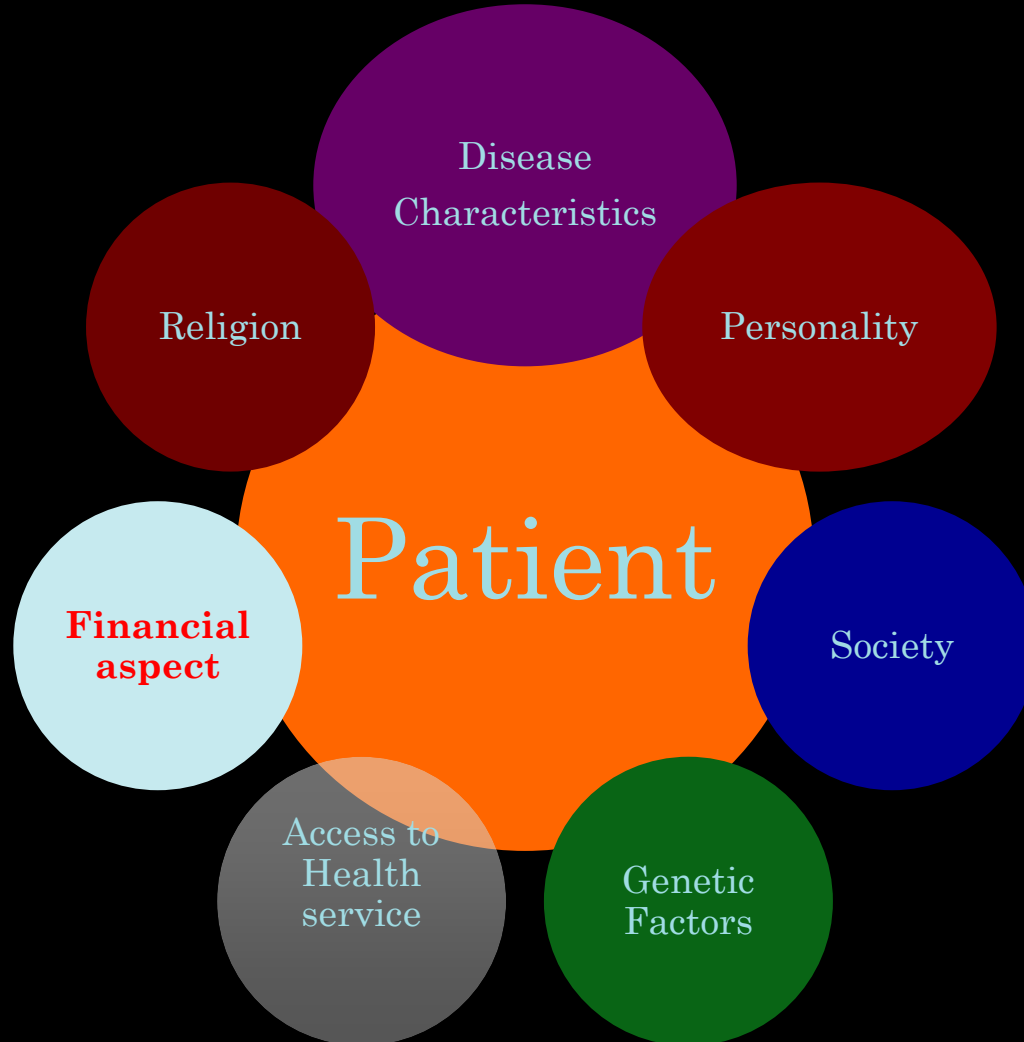
<sup>2</sup>Elsaleh H et al *Lancet*; 2000

# QUASAR RESULTS



Relative risk = 0.83 (95% CI, 0.71-0.97)  $p = .02$

# Adjuvant treatment in stage II colon cancer



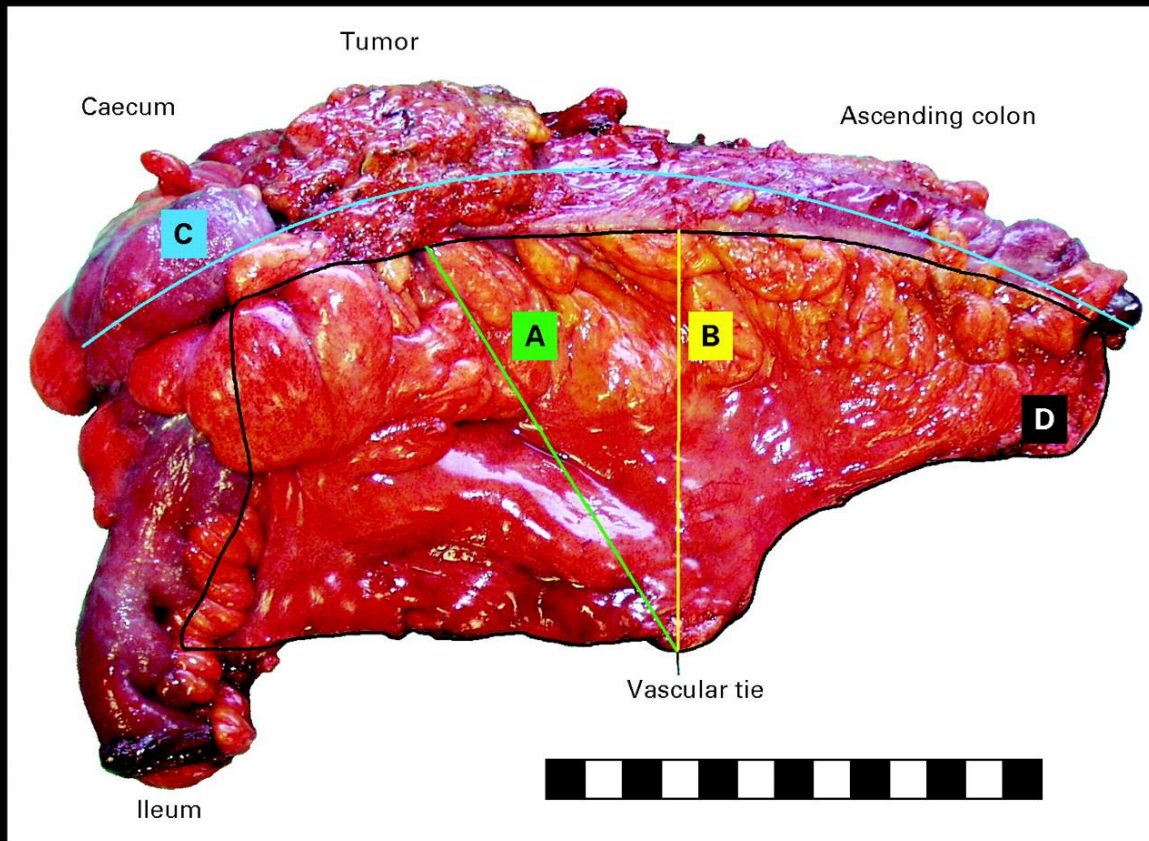
# Prognostic factors early CRC

Established	Potential
T4	
Obstruction/Perforation	tumour budding
Rupture during surgery	tumour type
< 12 lymph nodes retrieved and ratio	low volume/ less experience
V1, L1, PN1	
Poor differentiation (G 3/4)	
MSI status	

**None of these factors have been validated or tested prospectively**



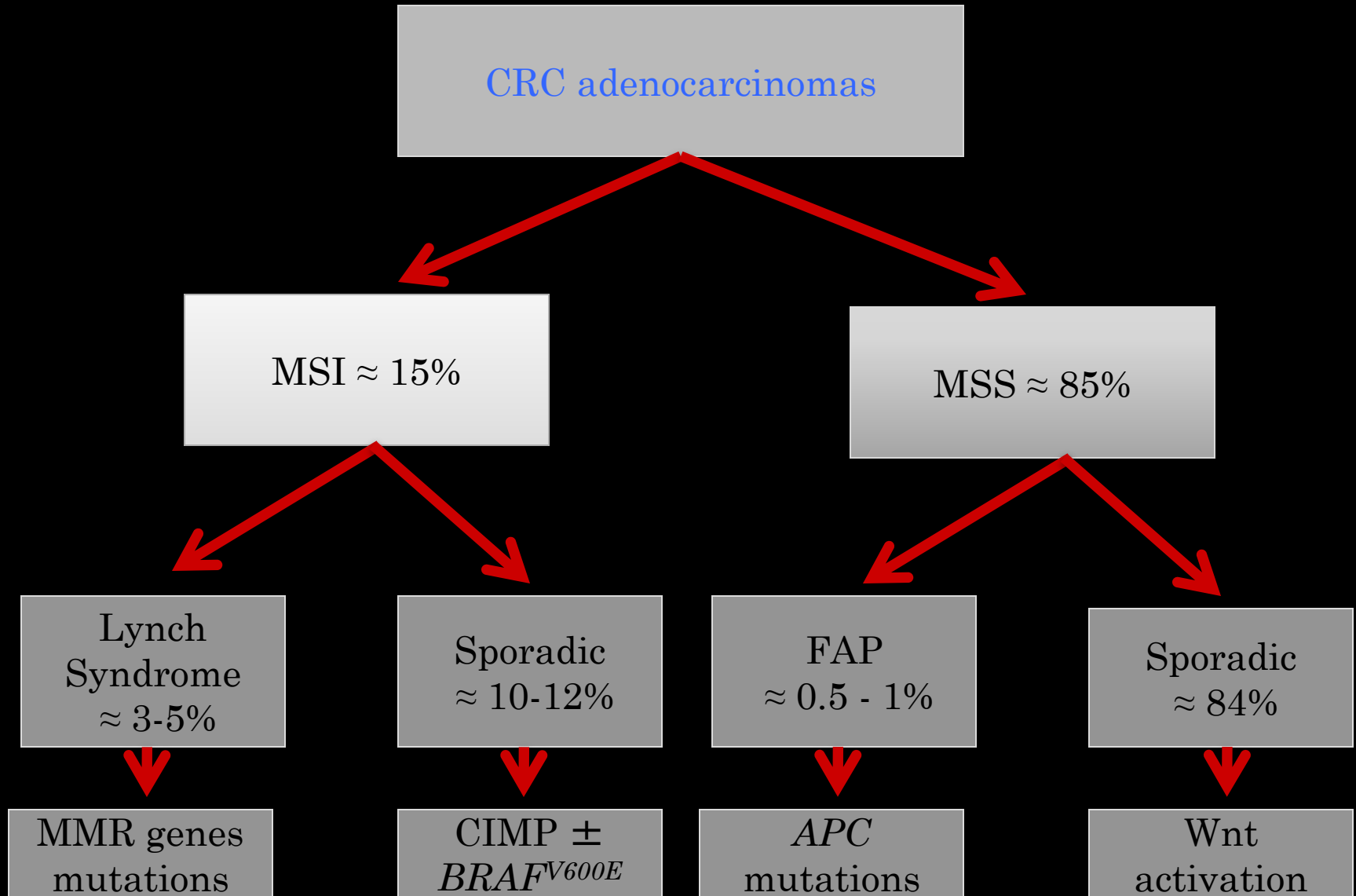
# Adjuvant chemotherapy can not rescue patients from inadequate surgery



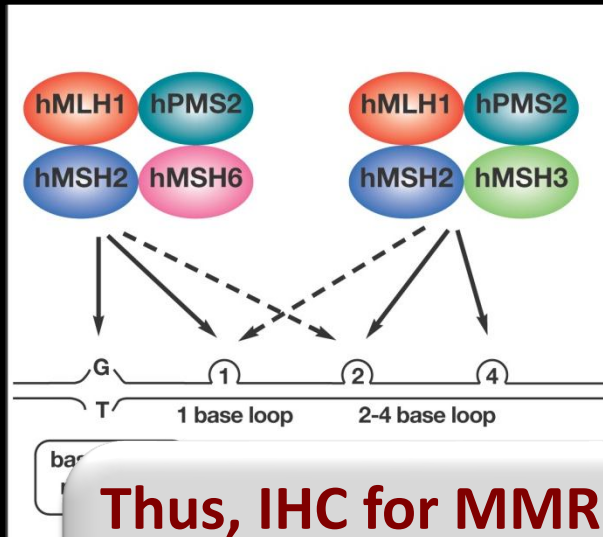
CME produced a 5-year survival rate > 89% in stage II-III

West, N. P. et al. J Clin Oncol; 28:272-278 2010

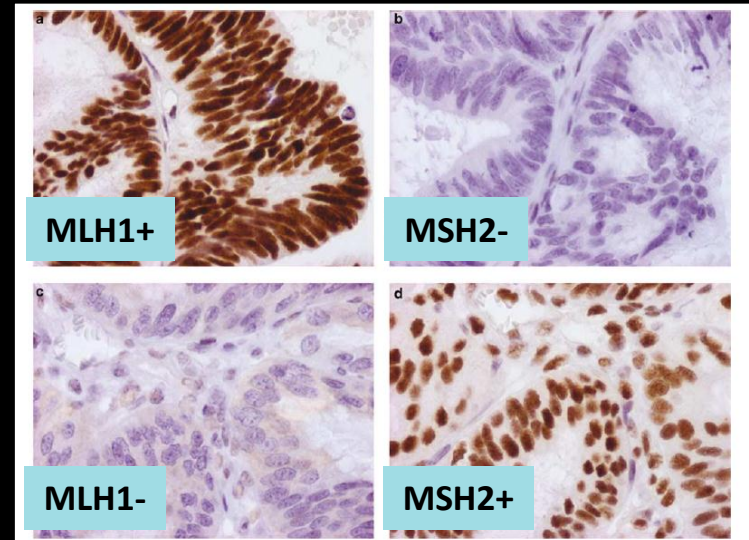
# “Cancers” of the Colon



# Mismatch Repair Deficiency (MMR-D):



IHC for MMR  
protein status



BAT 25

bp

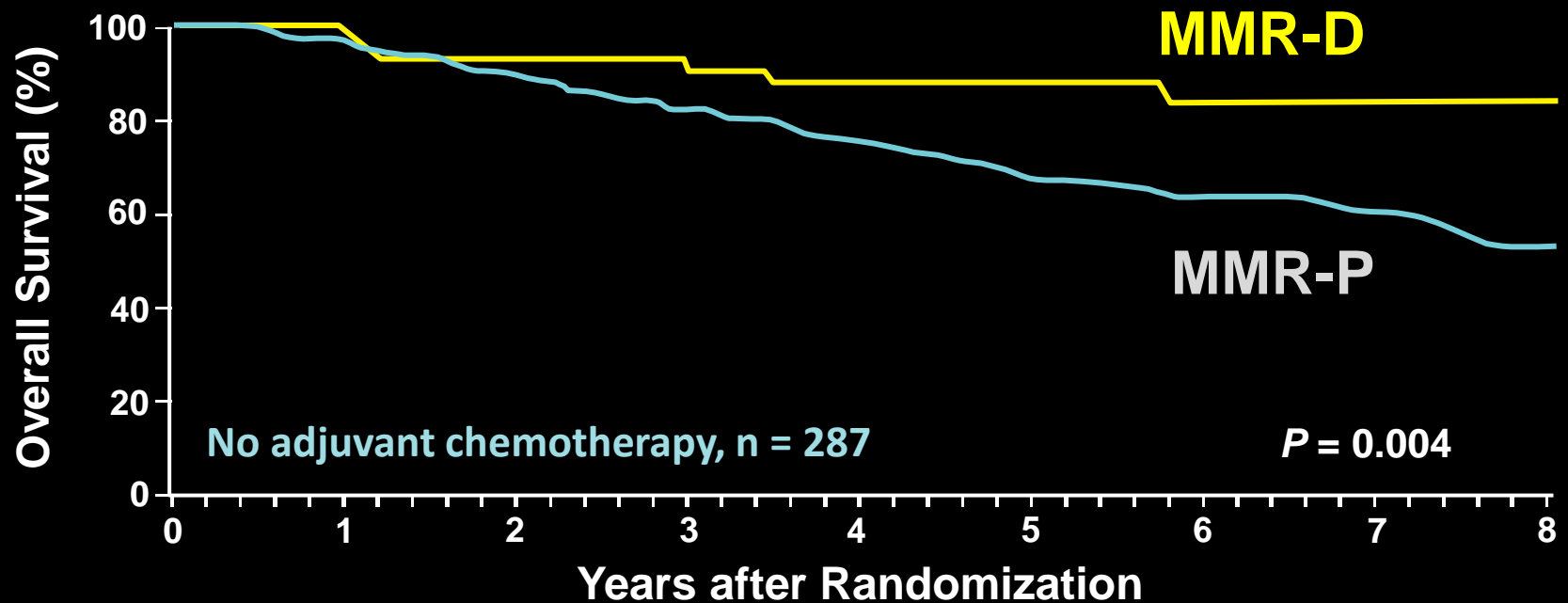
2000  
1500  
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**Thus, IHC for MMR proteins and PCR for MSI detect two manifestations of the same tumor biology:**

- **MMR-D is synonymous with MSI-H**
- **MMR-P is synonymous with MSI-L/MSS**

# MMR-D and Risk of Recurrence

Pooled Analysis of Stage II and III colon cancer patients (surgery alone)



**Multiple studies have consistently demonstrated that the ~15% of colon cancer patients with MMR-D tumors have markedly lower recurrence risk, particularly for stage II colon cancer patient.**

# Recommendations for MSI testing

## ESMO guidelines Ann Oncol 2012

*MSI-H/dMMR* patients have a proven better prognosis in stage II and III than low frequency MSI (MSI-L) or microsatellite stable (MSS) patients

*At this moment determination of any prognostic factor for therapeutic decisions is not recommended (except for MSI status for early stage colon cancer) [II, B].*

# Whole Genome Array

Training Set (stage I-IV) (n=188) <sup>(1)</sup>

Netherlands Cancer Institute, Leiden Medical Center, Slotervaart

Selection of Final 18-Gene Set & Algorithm

Development

## Standardization of Analytical Methods

In-silico Validation Study (stage I-III)  
public datasets (n=322)

Clinical Validation Study 1 (stage I-III)  
Institute Catala d'Oncologia Barcelona (*J Clin Oncol.* 2011;29:17-24)

Clinical Validation Study 2 (stage II)  
Munich Hospital Rechts der Isar (*J Clin Oncol* 28:15s (abstract 3513))

Clinical Validation Study 3 (stage II)  
Vall d'Hebron, MedUni Vienna, University of Ferrara

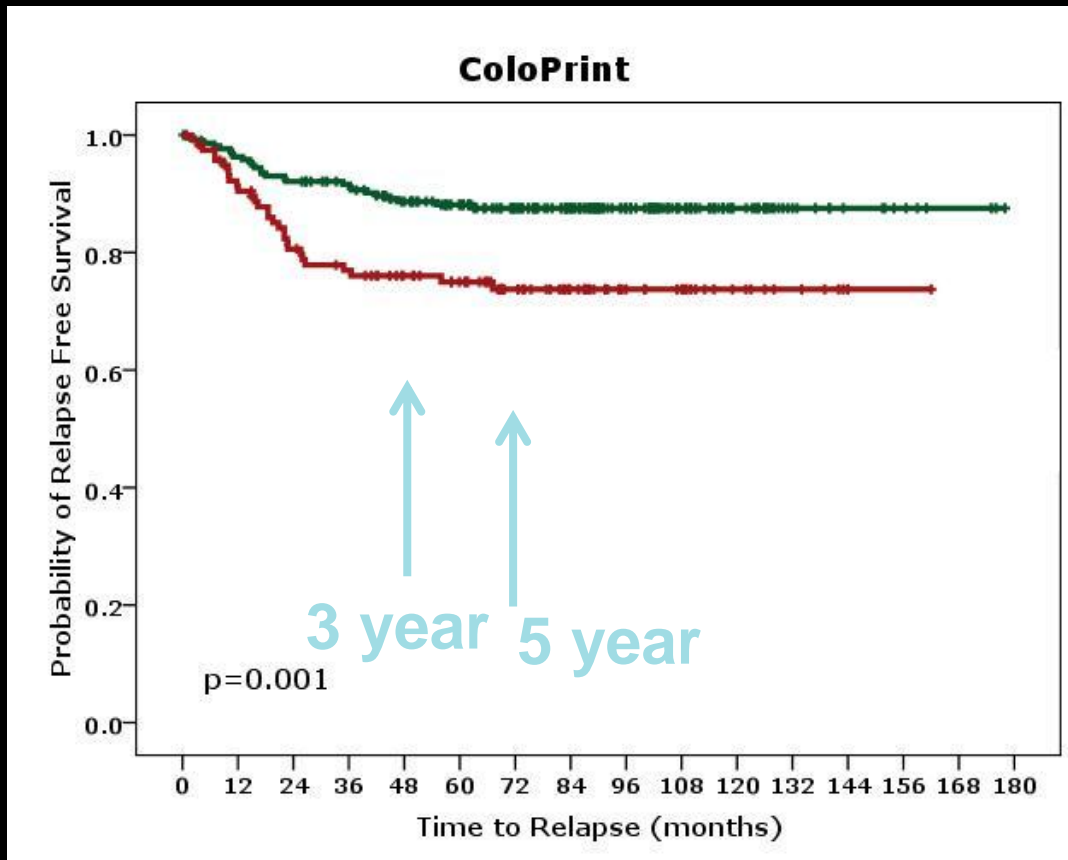
Clinical Validation Study 4 (stage II-III)  
MD Anderson (*ongoing*)

PARSC Prospective Study (stage II + III) - *ongoing*  
US, Asian, and European Center (N ~600 stage II)

Validation of ColoPrint

Pooled  
analysis

# Local, Regional and Distant Relapse in stage II and IIIA patients



**3-year RFS**

**Low Risk = 92% (88-95%)**

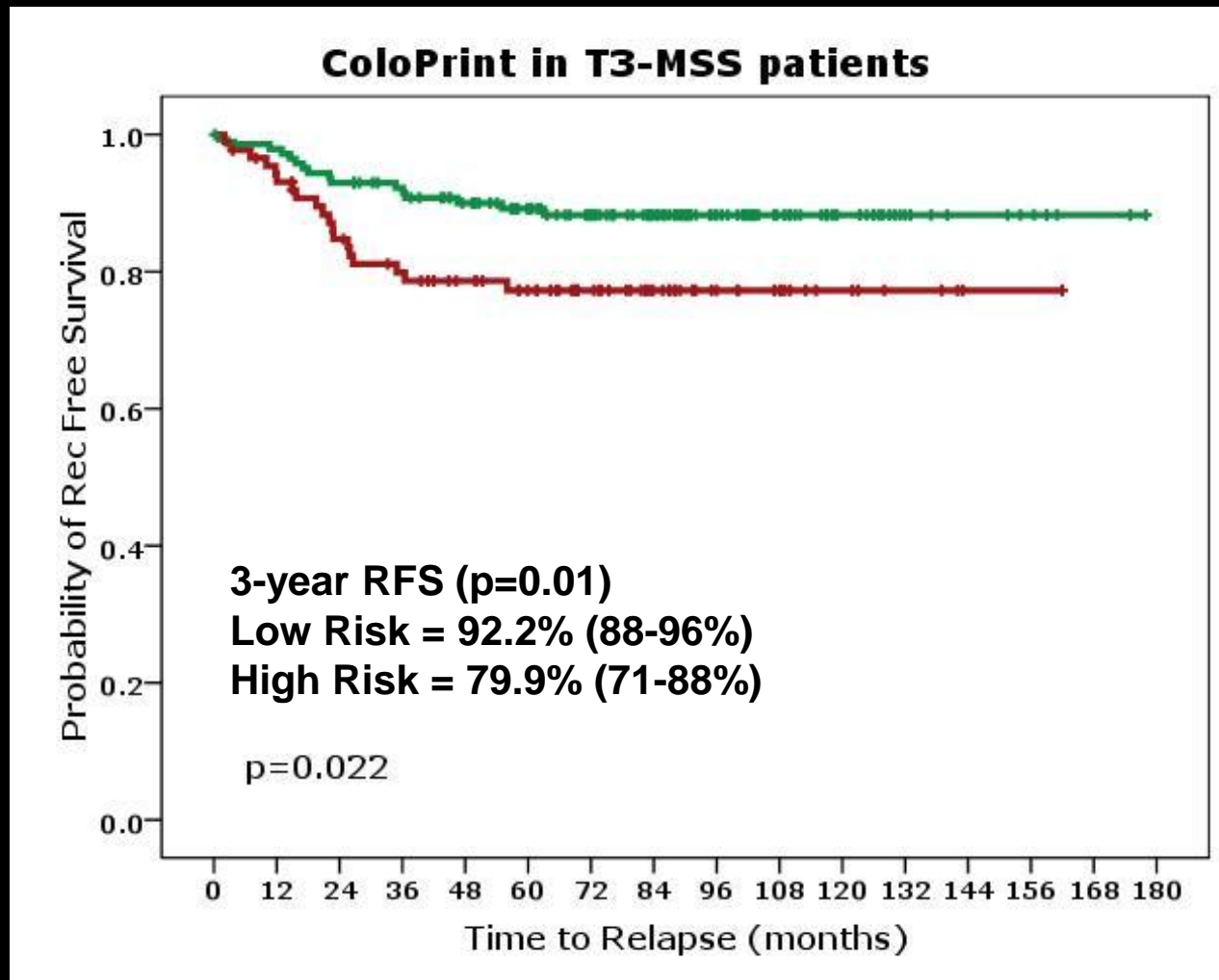
**High Risk = 77% (69-85%)**

**5-year RFS**

**Low Risk = 88% (84-92%)**

**High Risk = 75% (67-83%)**

# ColoPrint in patients with T3/MSS





# Bachleitner-Hofmann T et al: abst # 522PD

- Technically well validated assay
- Reports prognostic significance for recurrence only
- No survival data
- Adjuvant treatment not reported
- Quality of Surgery?

# The 12-Gene *Oncotype DX*® Colon Cancer Recurrence Score®

## Recurrence Score

### STROMAL

FAP  
INHBA  
BGN

### CELL CYCLE

Ki-67  
C-MYC  
MYBL2

GADD45B

## Reference Genes

ATP5E  
GPX1  
PGK1  
UBB  
VDAC2

Recurrence Score =  
– 0.15 × Stromal Group  
– 0.30 × Cell Cycle  
Group  
+ 0.15 × GADD45B

# Development and Validation of the 12-Gene Colon Cancer Recurrence Score Assay<sup>8-10</sup>

## Colon Cancer Technical Feasibility

### Development Studies (Surgery)

NSABP C-01/C-02 (n = 270)

Cleveland Clinic (n = 765)

### Development Studies (5FU/LV)

NSABP C-04 (n = 308)

NSABP C-06 (n = 508)

## Selection of Final Gene List & Algorithm

## Standardization and Validation of Analytical Methods

### Clinical Validation Study – Stage II Colon Cancer

QUASAR (N = 1436)

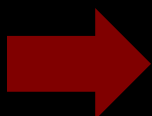
### Confirmation Study – Stage II Colon Cancer

CALGB 9581 (N = 690)

### Clinical Validation Study – Stage II/III Colon Cancer

5FU vs 5FU+Oxaliplatin

NSABP C-07 (N = 892)

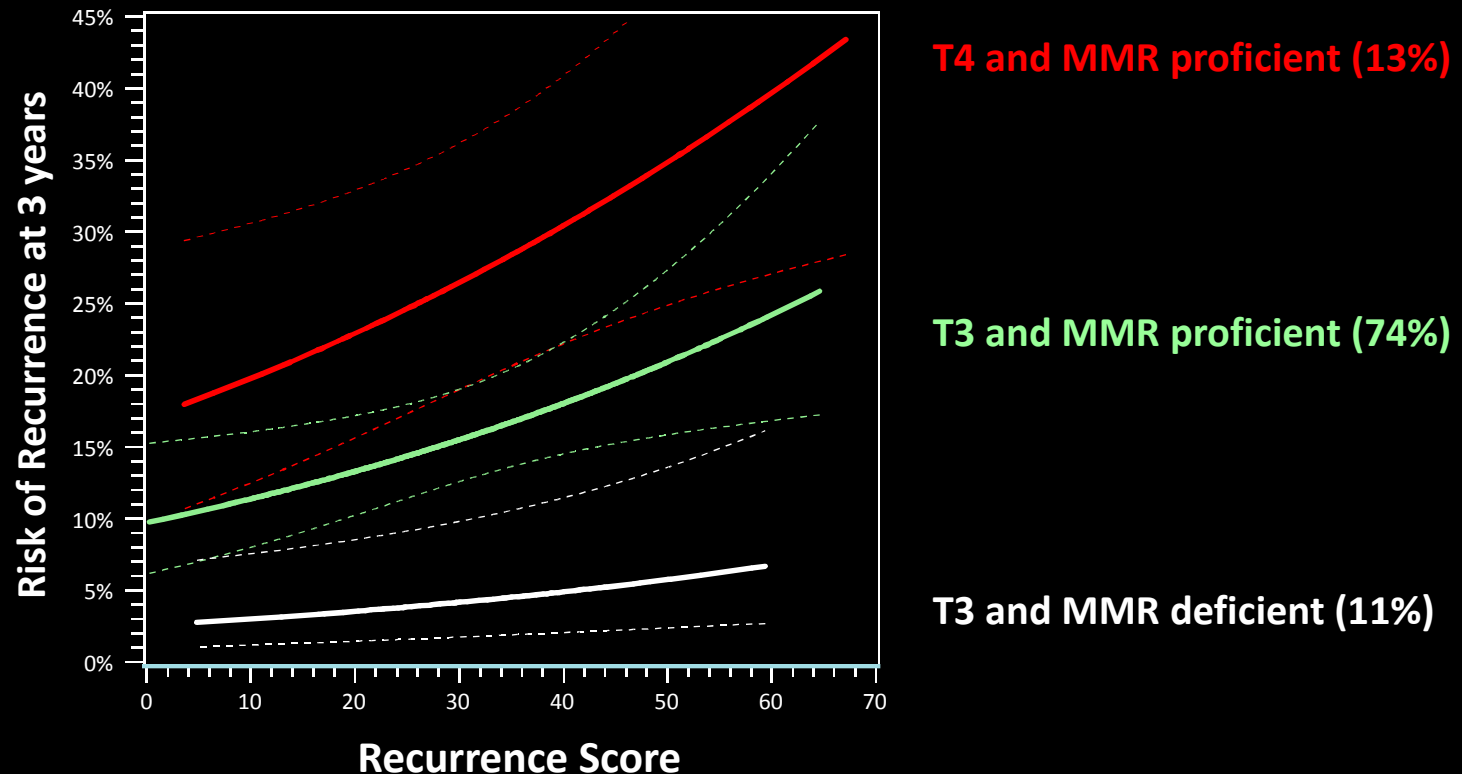


# QUASAR Validation Study

- Significant association between recurrence score and risk of recurrence at 3 yrs following surgery in pts receiving surgery alone  
( $n = 711$ ;  $P = .004$ )
  - Comparison of recurrence risk in high vs low recurrence score risk groups also significant (HR: 1.47;  $P = .046$ )
  - Prespecified clinical and pathologic covariates also significant in multivariate analysis in pts receiving surgery alone ( $n = 605$ )

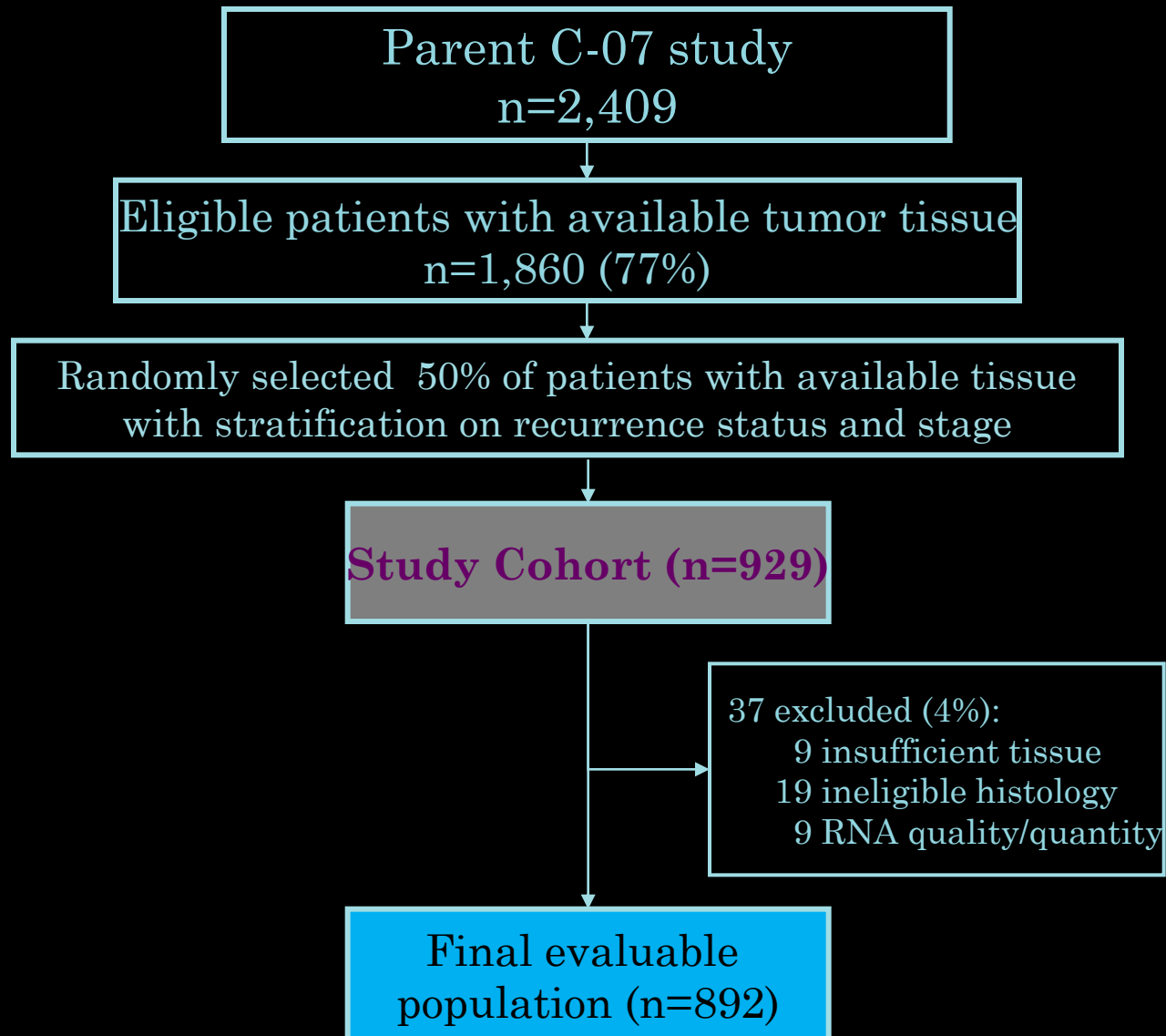
Clinical or Pathologic Variable	HR (95% CI)	P Value
MMR (deficient vs proficient)	0.32 (0.15-0.69)	< .001
Tumor stage (T4 vs T3)	1.83 (1.23-2.75)	.005
Tumor grade (high vs low)	0.62 (0.40-0.96)	.026
Number of nodes examined (< vs $\geq 12$ )	1.47 (1.01-2.14)	.040
LVI (present vs absent)	1.40 (0.88-2.23)	.175
Recurrence score (continuous, per 25 units)	1.61 (1.13-2.29)	.008

# QUASAR Results: Recurrence Score, T Stage, and MMR Deficiency

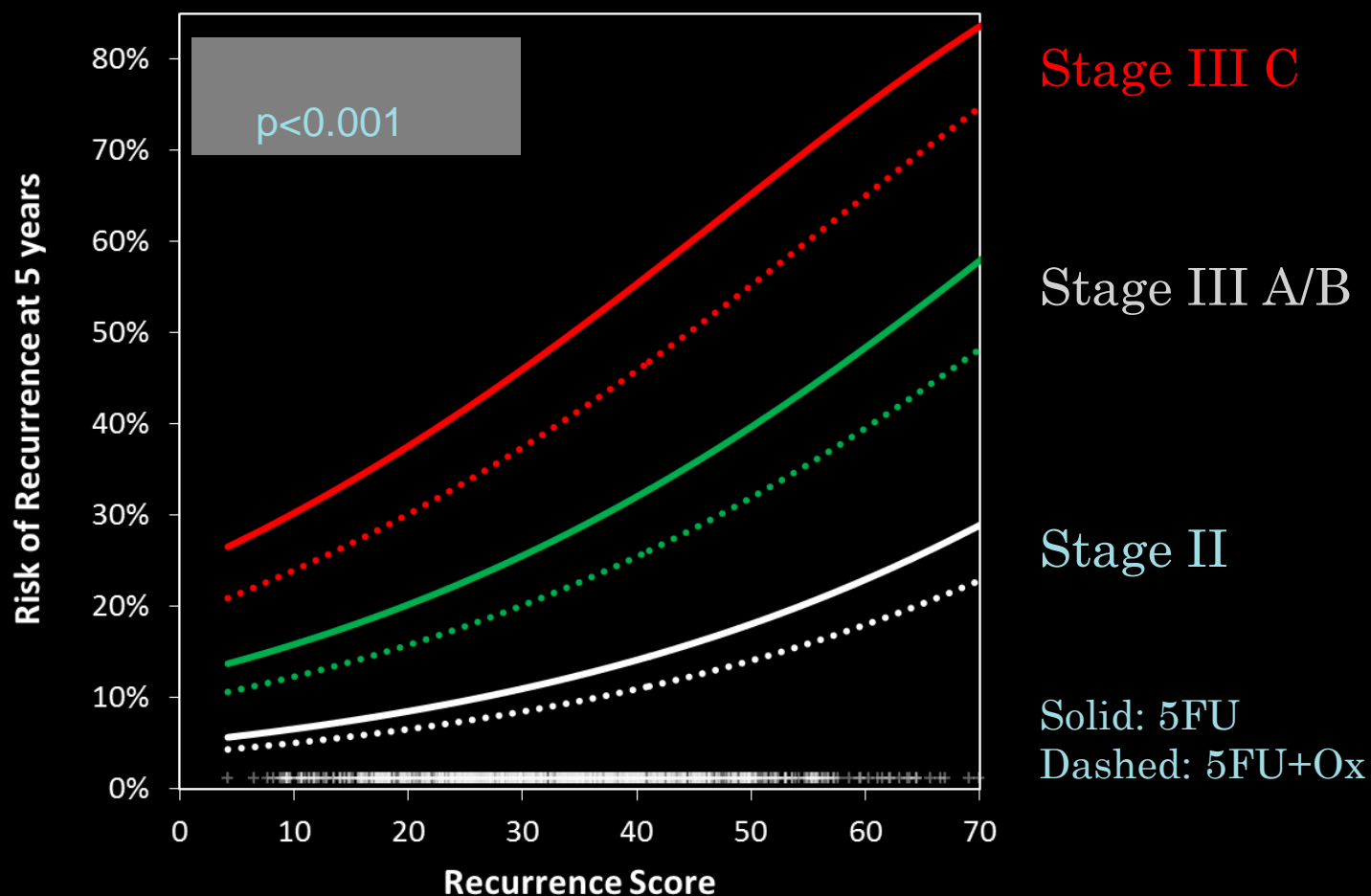


Rare patients (2% of all patients) with T4, MMR-D tumors had estimated recurrence risks that approximated (with large confidence intervals) those for patients with T3 stage, MMR-P tumors and were not included in this figure.

# Study Population: Validation of Recurrence Score



# Recurrence Score in Stage II & III Colon Cancer Patients in NSABP C-07 (n=892)



- With similar relative benefit of oxaliplatin added to adjuvant 5FU across the range of Recurrence Score results, absolute benefit of oxaliplatin increases with increasing Recurrence Score result, most apparently in stage II and stage IIIA/B patients

# Recurrence Score Beyond Clinical and Pathologic Covariates

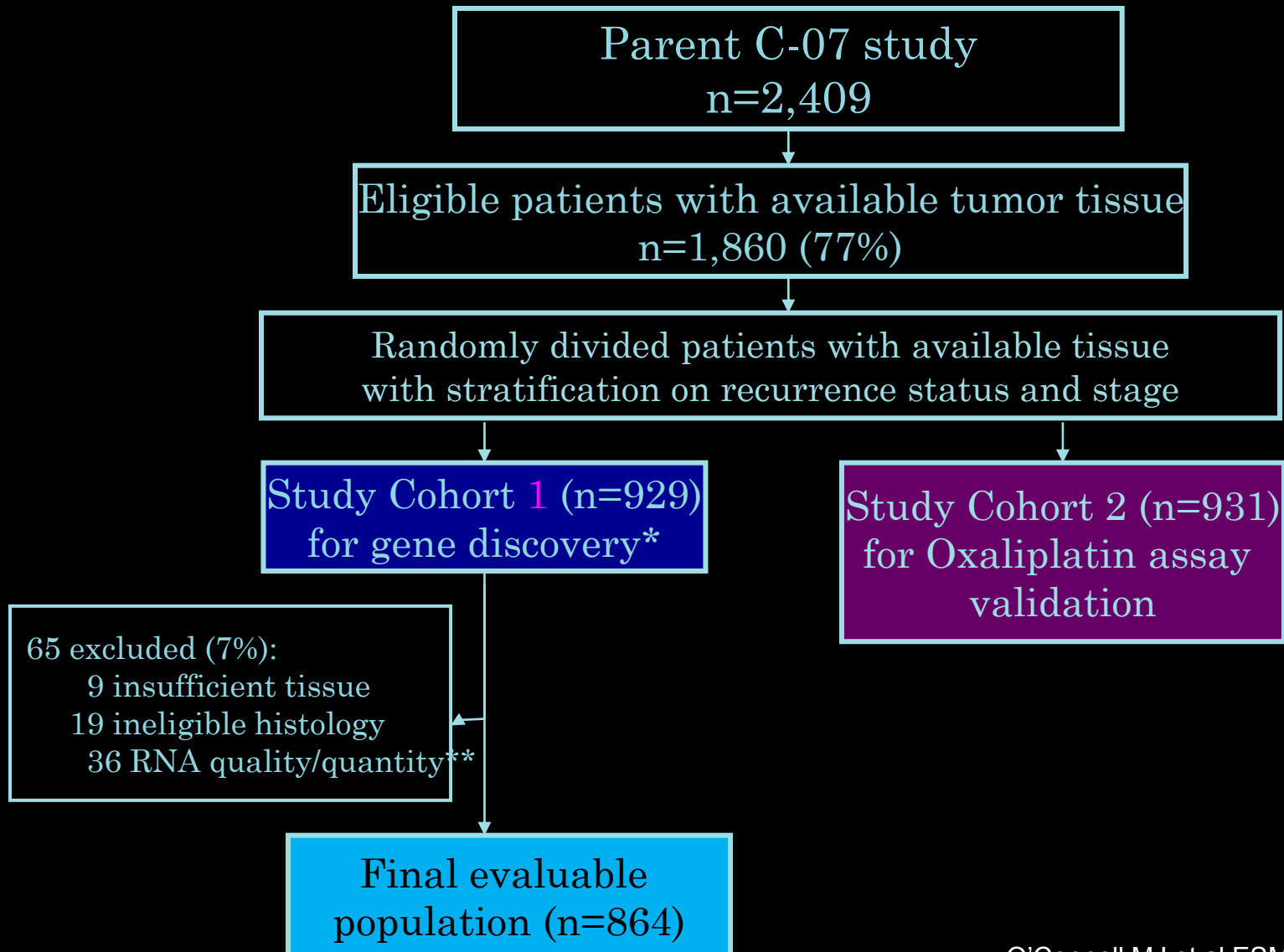
## *Pre-specified Multivariate Analysis (n=892)*

Variable	Value	HR	HR 95% CI	P value
Stage (by nodal status)	Stage III A/B vs II	0.97	(0.55,1.71)	<0.001
	Stage III C vs II	2.07	(1.16,3.68)	
Treatment	5FU+Ox vs 5FU	0.82	(0.64,1.06)	0.12
MMR	MMR-D vs MMR-P	0.27	(0.12,0.62)	<0.001
T-stage	T4 st II & T3-T4 st III vs T3 st II & T1-T2 st III	3.04	(1.84,5.02)	<0.001
Nodes examined	<12 vs ≥12	1.51	(1.17,1.95)	0.002
Tumor grade	High vs Low	1.36	(1.02,1.82)	0.041
<b>RS</b>	<b>per 25 units</b>	<b>1.57</b>	<b>(1.19,2.08)</b>	<b>0.001</b>

- The Recurrence Score value is significantly associated with risk of recurrence after controlling for effects of T and N stage, MMR status, number of nodes examined, grade and treatment.



# Study Population: Discovery of Oxaliplatin Benefit Genes



O'Connell MJ et al ESMO 2012: abst # 523PD

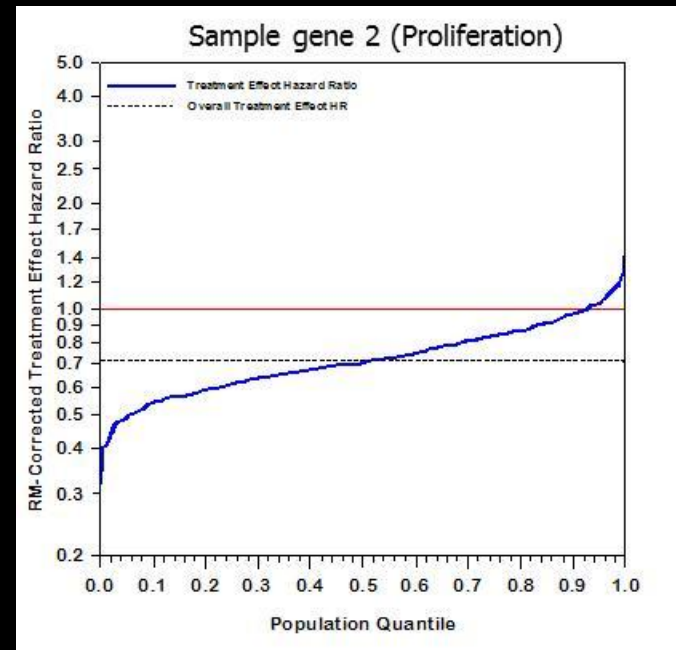
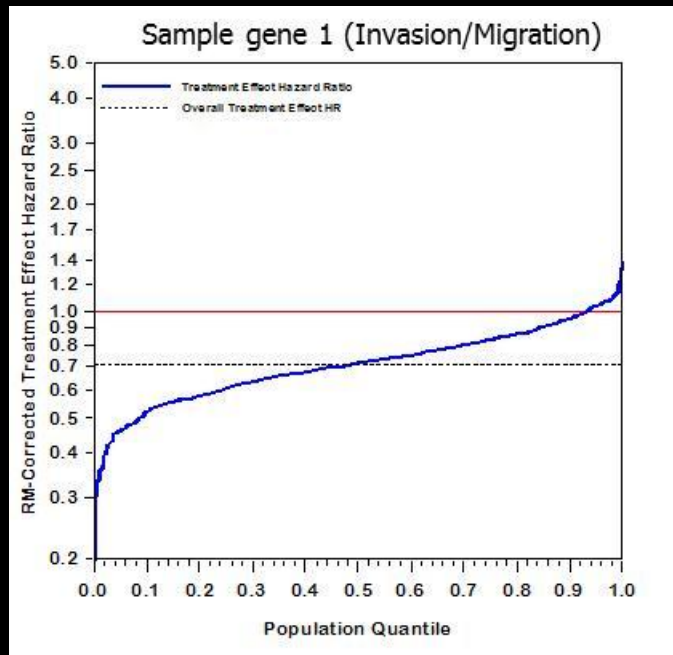
\* Same cohort as sampled for Recurrence Score validation study

\*\* RNA needed to assess >700 gene candidates

# Results

- We identified 16 genes predictive of oxaliplatin benefit controlling false discovery rate at 20%
  - Consistent performance for prediction of oxaliplatin benefit across various endpoints including RFI, DFS and Colon Cancer Specific Survival
  - Multiple biological pathways are represented
    - DNA Damage Repair
    - Apoptosis
    - Cell Cycle
    - Drug Metabolism/Transporter/Resistance
  - Initial models based on multiple genes show promising improvement in performance compared to single-gene models

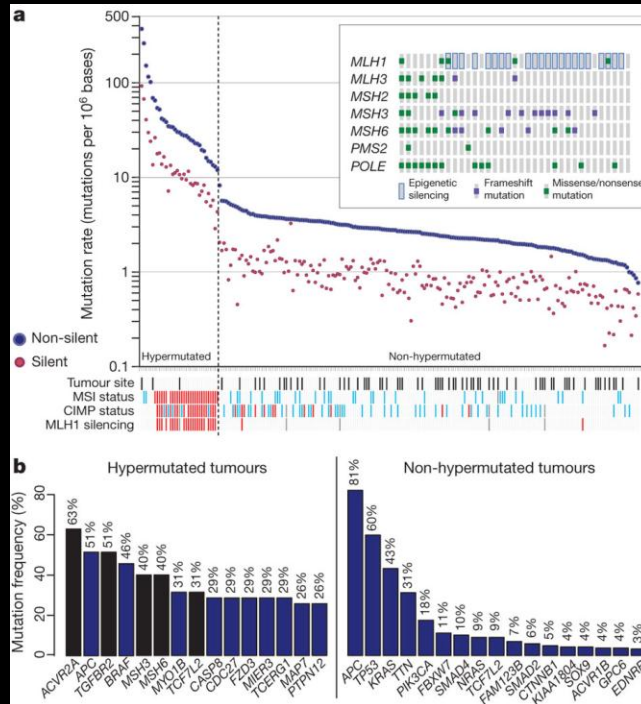
# Treatment Effect Predictiveness Curves Corrected for Regression to the Mean



# O'Connel MJ et al: abst # 523PD

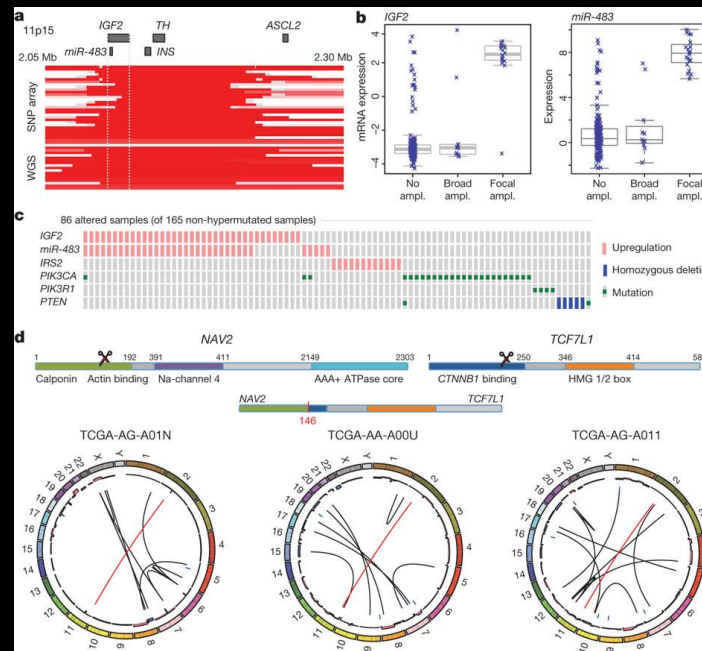
- Technically and clinically well validated assay
- Reports prognostic significance for recurrence only
- Clinically important information only in MMR-D T3 tumors
- No survival data
- The predictive assay for Oxaliplatin is promising
- Quality of Surgery?

# Complexity of genetic alterations in human CRC



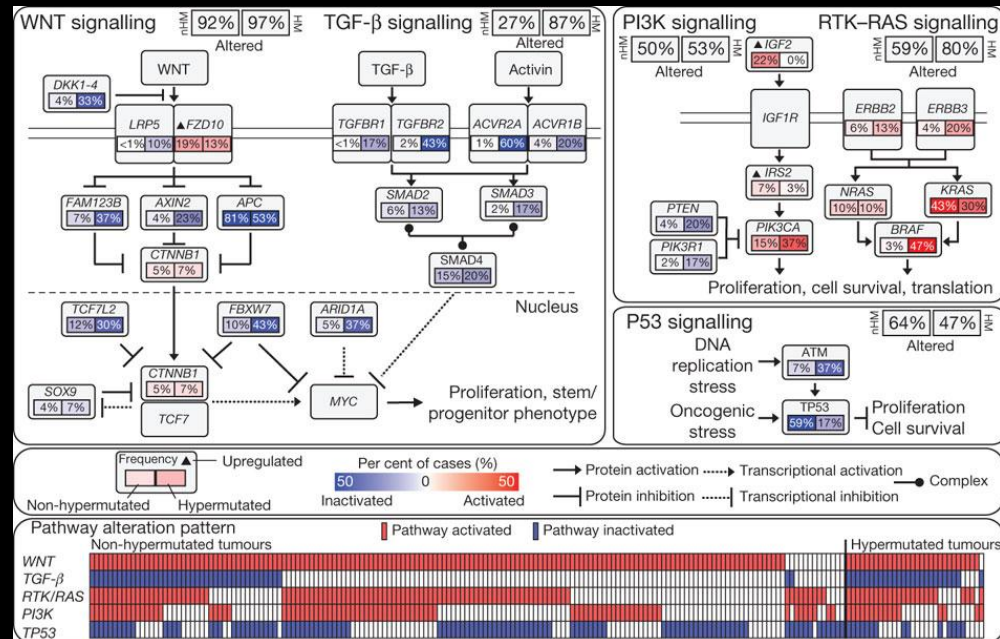
The Cancer Genome Atlas Network *Nature* **487**, 330-337 (2012) doi:10.1038/nature11252

# Copy-number changes and structural aberrations in CRC



The Cancer Genome Atlas Network *Nature* **487**, 330-337 (2012) doi:10.1038/nature11252

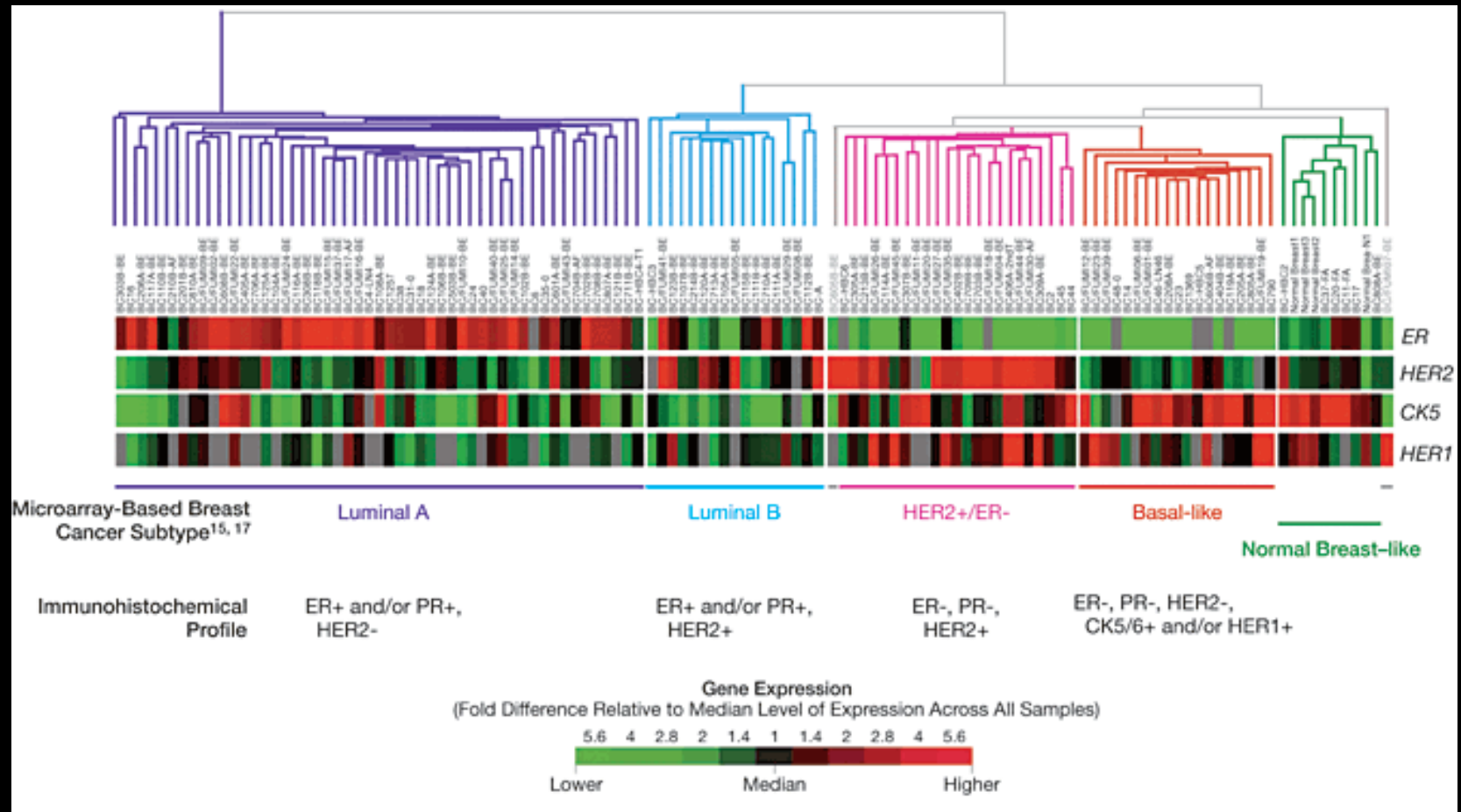
# Diversity and frequency of genetic changes leading to deregulation of signalling pathways in CRC



The Cancer Genome Atlas Network *Nature* **487**, 330-337 (2012) doi:10.1038/nature11252

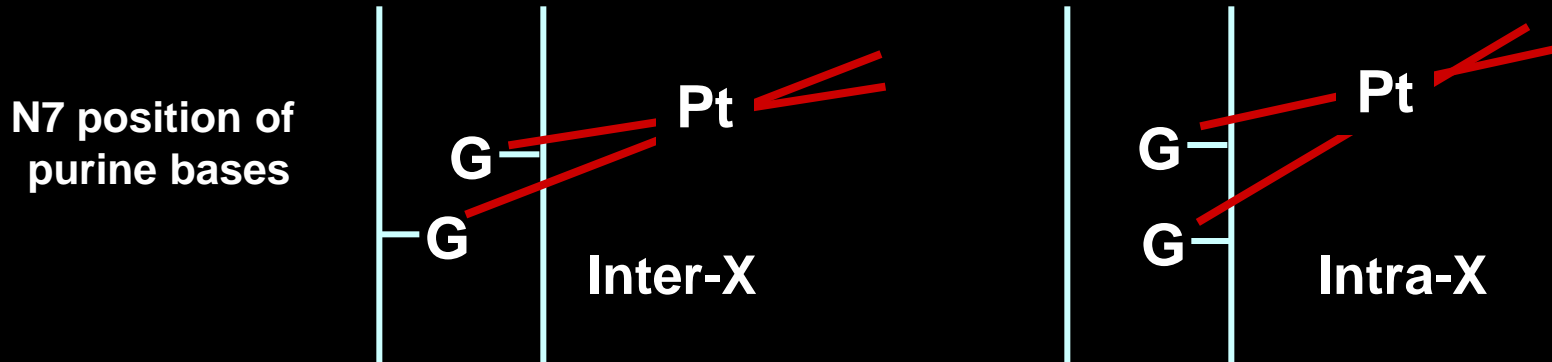
# Selection of therapeutic strategy

## upon tumor biology and clinical factors





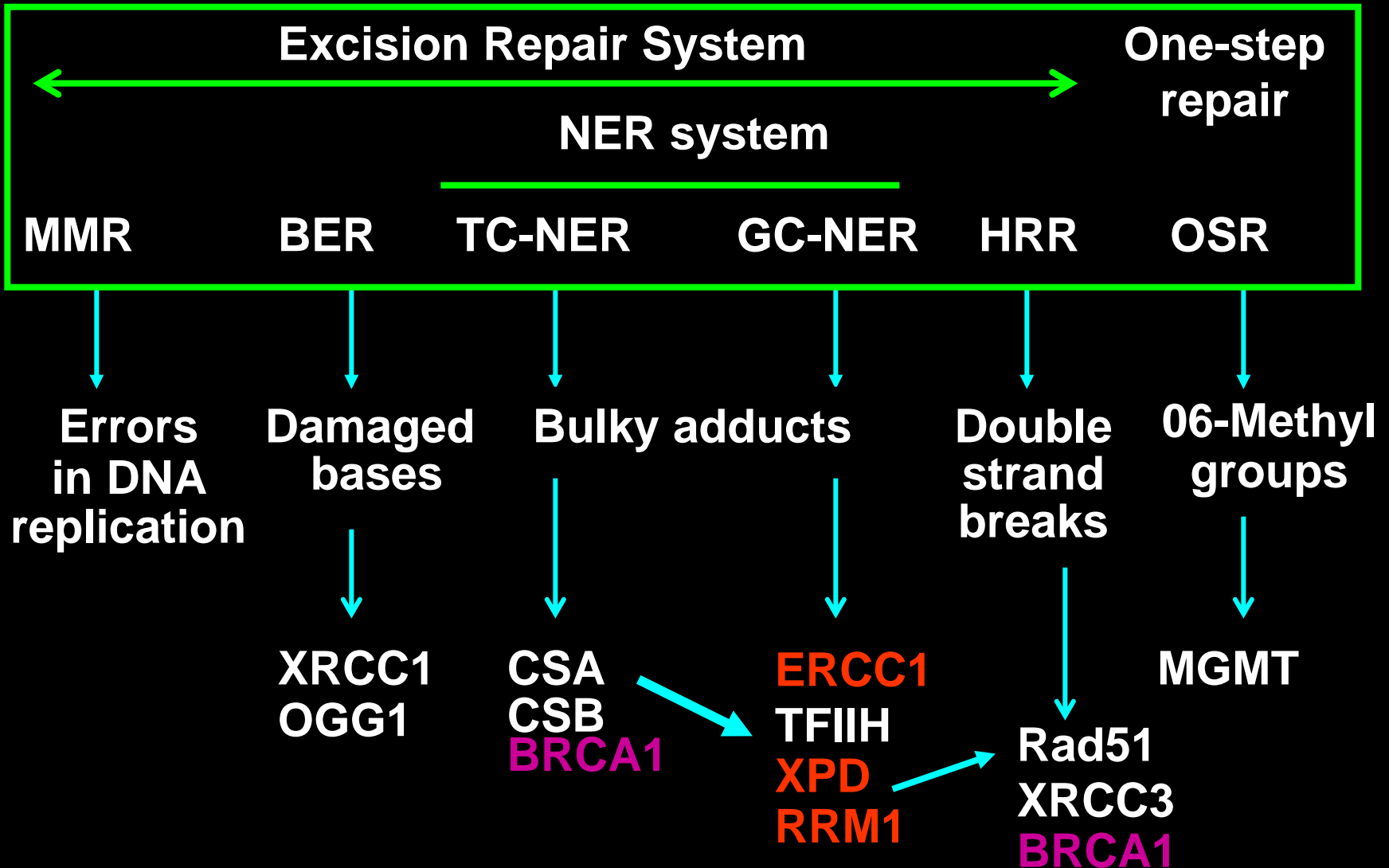
# Resistance to Platinum analogs: multifactorial

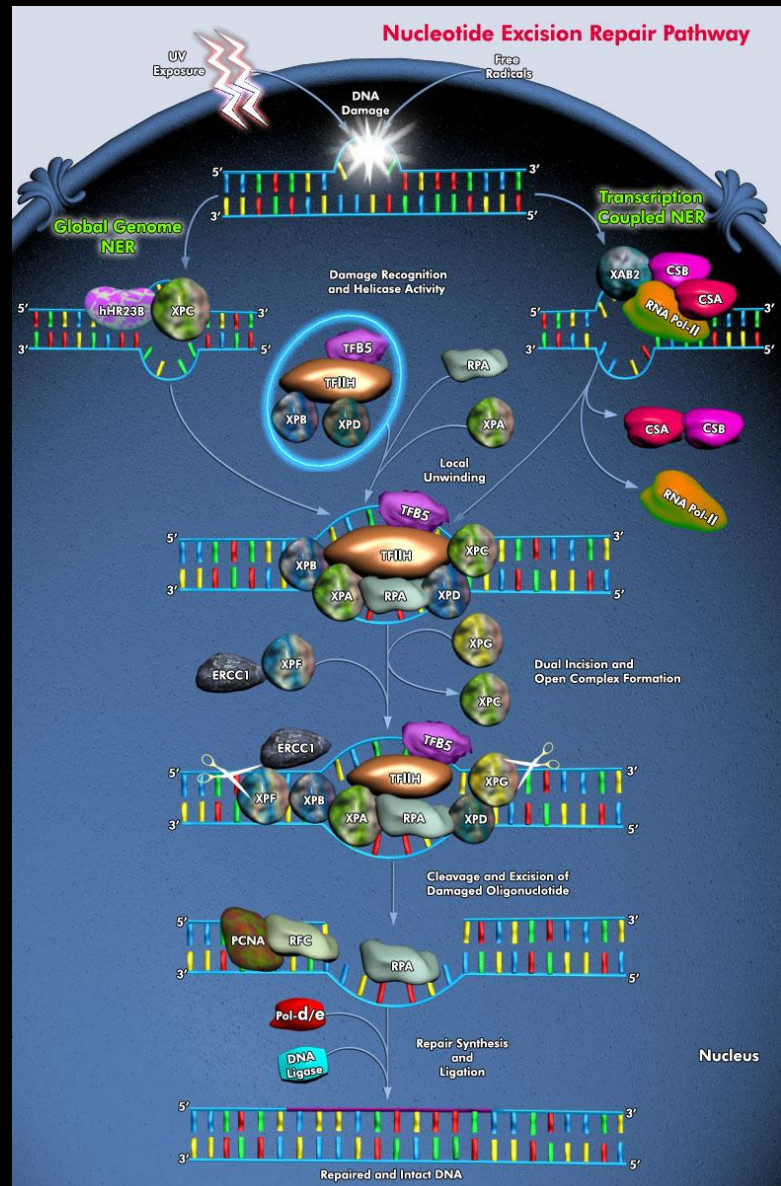


These agents react with DNA leading to the formation of inter- and intrastrand X-links that are the critical cytotoxic lesions.

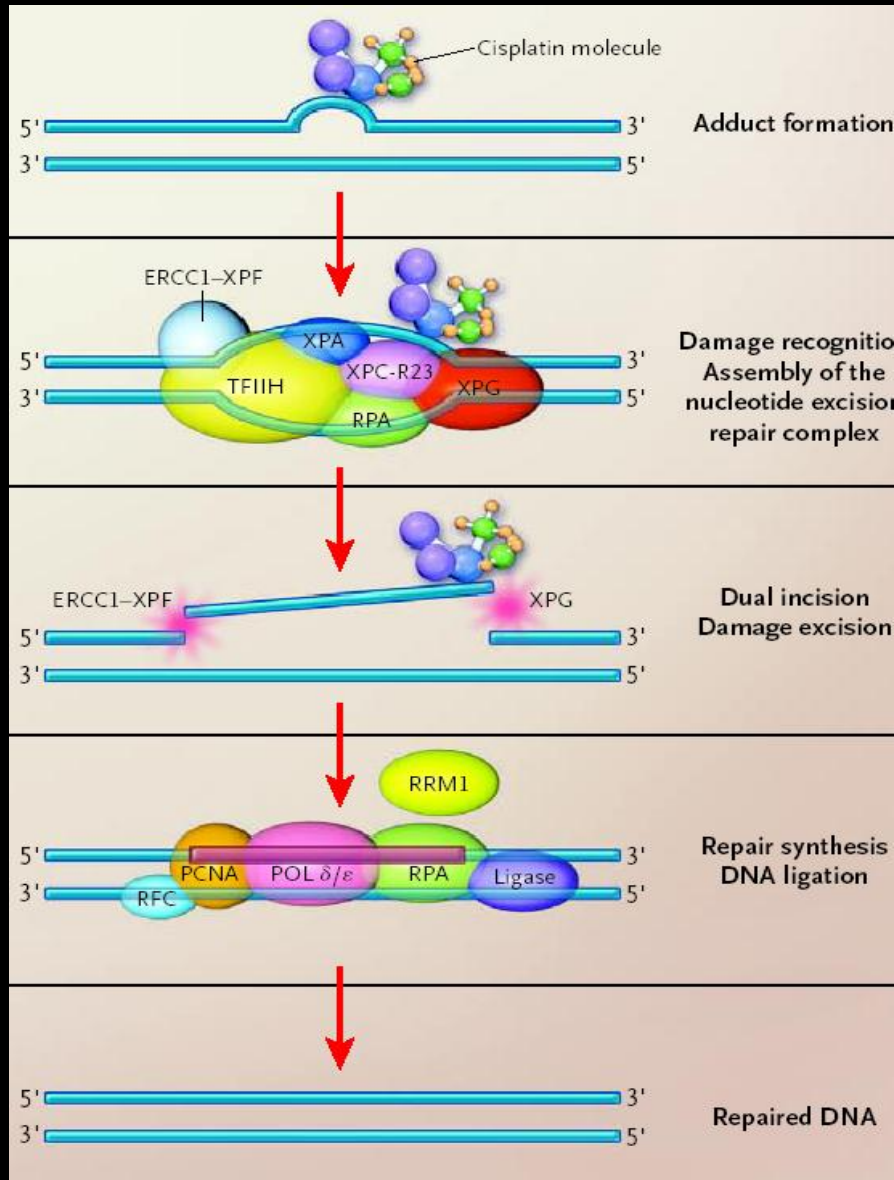
- Reduced cisplatin uptake and decreased drug accumulation
- Elevated levels of metallothionines and glutathione
- Enhanced tolerance of platinum damage in DNA
- Altered expression of regulatory genes
- Increased levels of DNA repair activity to remove CDDP adducts

# DNA Repair Systems





# NER: Nucleotide Excision Repair System



## **ERCC1:**

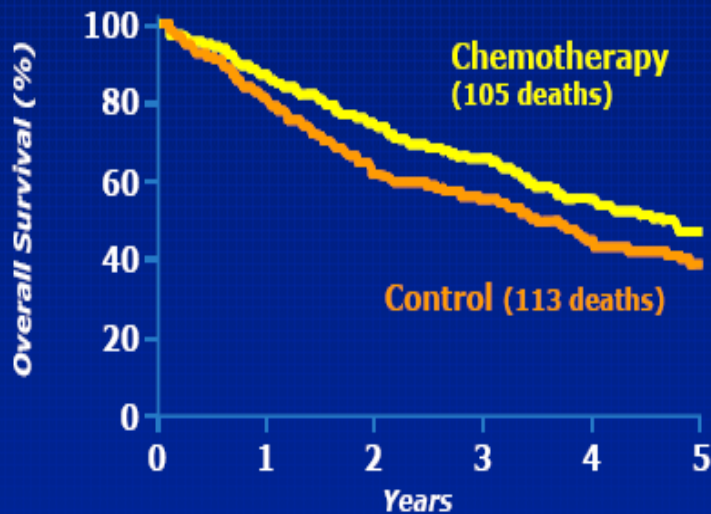
- 1) recognizes cisplatin DNA damage;
- 2) ERCC1/XPF, makes the 5' incision of the DNA damage.

# Summary of findings for the Prognostic and Predictive value of *ERCC1* in NSCLC

Reference	No of pts	pts	Group-CT	Method	Findings
Simon, Chest 2005	51		Resected-Retrospective	RT-PCR	prognostic; high expression of ERCC1 correlated with improved survival (94,6m vs. 35,5m; p=0,01)
Olaussen, NEJM 2006	761		Adjuvant-Cisplatin Retrospective Analysis	ICH	predictive; ERCC1-negative tumors benefit from cisplatin (56 vs. 50m; p=0,002 vs..0,4)
Lord, CCR 2002	56		Advanced-Gem/CDDP Retrospective Analysis	RT-PCR	predictive; low ERCC1 mRNA levels correlated with improved survival(15m vs 5m; p=0,09)
Ceppi, An Onc 2006	70		Advanced-Gem/CDD Retrospective analysis	RT-PCR	low ERCC1 mRNA levels correlated with longer survival (23 vs 12,4m; p=0,0001)
Rosell, PLOSone 2007	126		Resected chemonaive Retrospective analysis	RT-PCR	with longer survival (23 vs 12,4m; p=0,0001)
Cobo, JCO 2007	225		Advanced-DC Prospective III trial	RT-PCR	ERCC1 expression is predictive marker of response (47 vs. 37%; p=0,03)

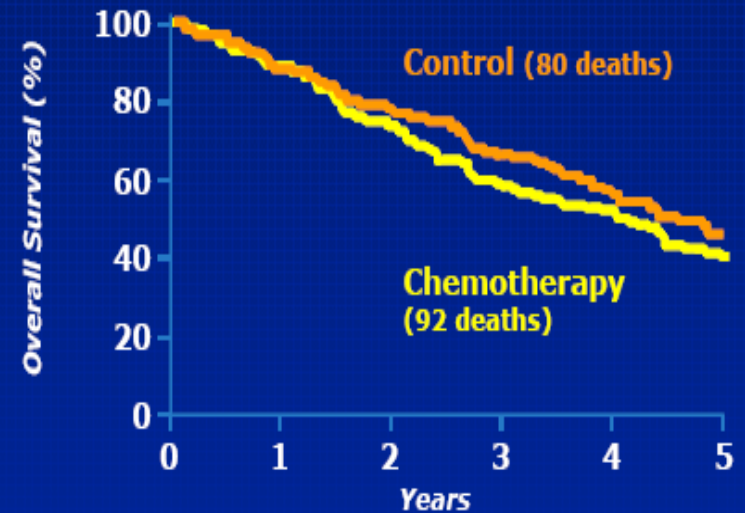
# IALT-Bio Study

## Patients with ERCC1 Negative Tumors



**Adjusted HR=0.65**  
**P=0.002**

## Patients with ERCC1 Positive Tumors



**Adjusted HR=1.14**  
**P=0.40**

**Patients with ERCC1-negative tumors benefit from adjuvant cisplatin-based CT  
but those with ERCC1 positive tumor do not**

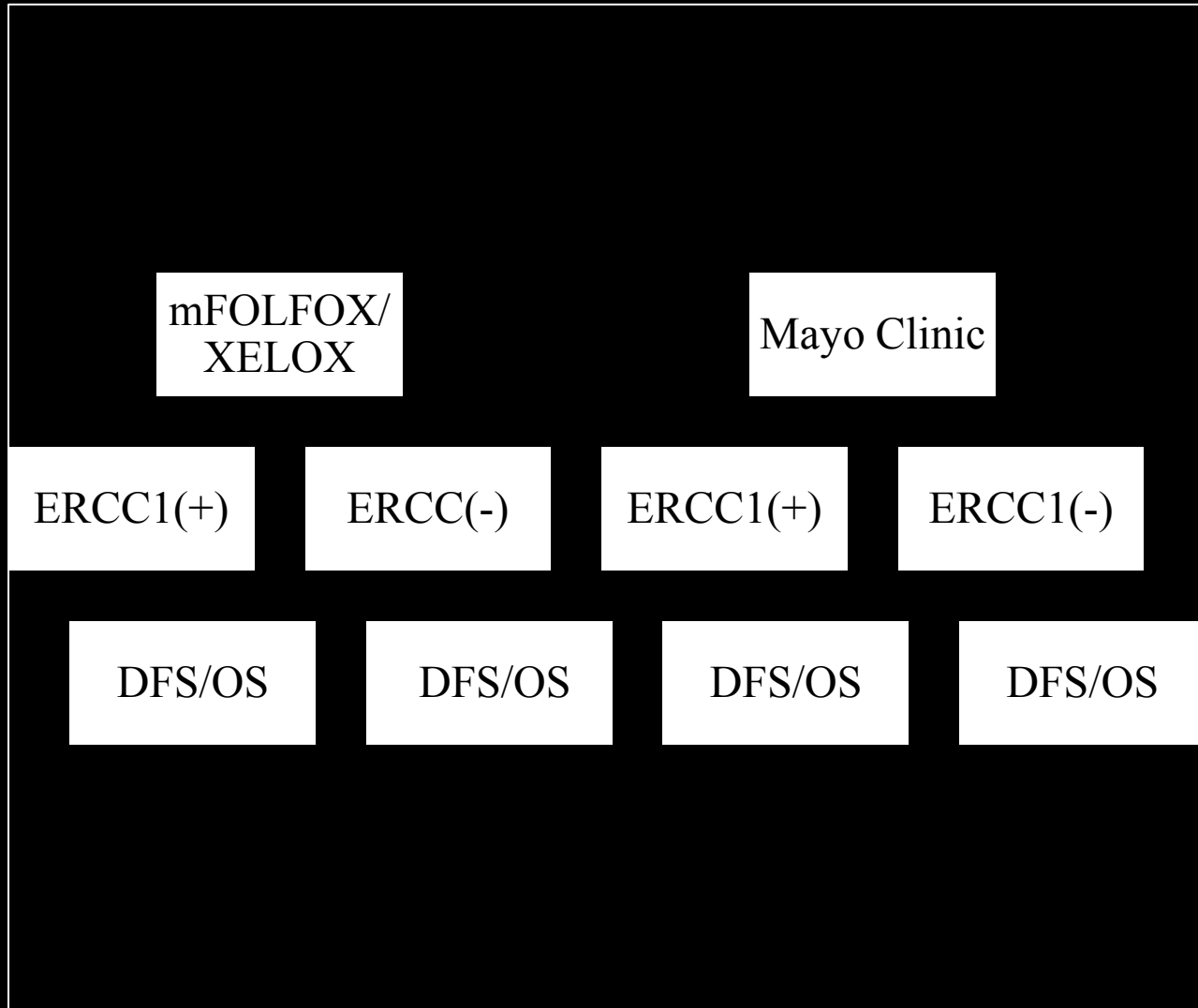
**Interaction test  $p=0.009$**

# *ERCC1* in NSCLC:

## A double-edged sword

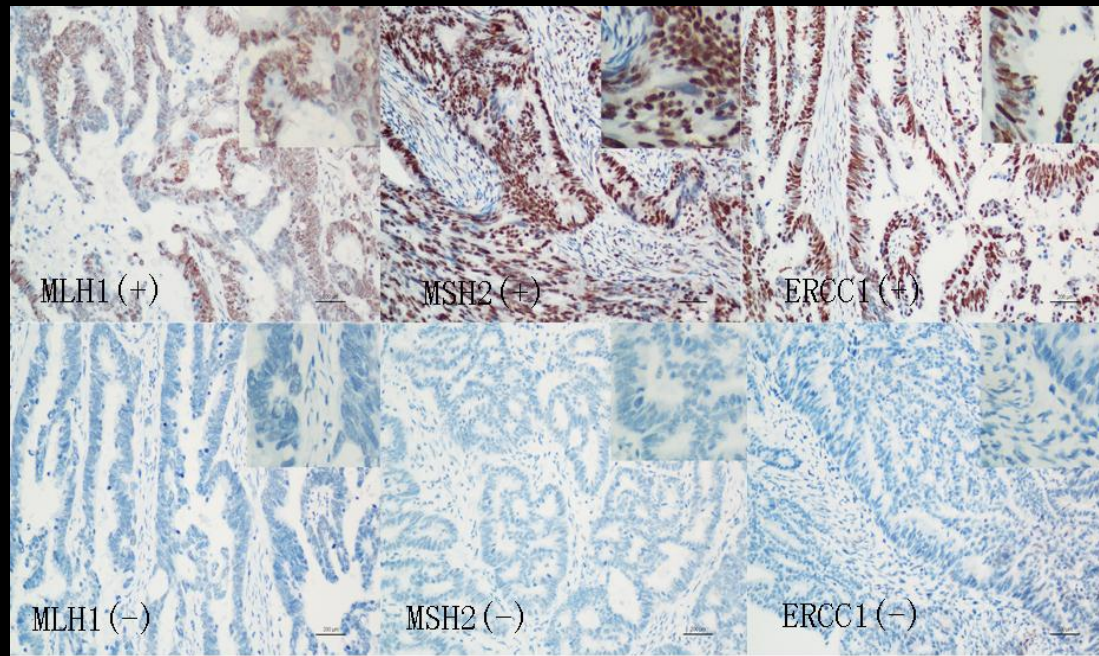
- *ERCC1* expression is clearly linked to platinum resistance
- It is, **at the same time**, a **favorable prognostic factor** in untreated patients with early NSCLC
  - Possible due to its role in cancer susceptibility
- Comparative studies of gene expression and IHC might be necessary

# STUDY DESIGN

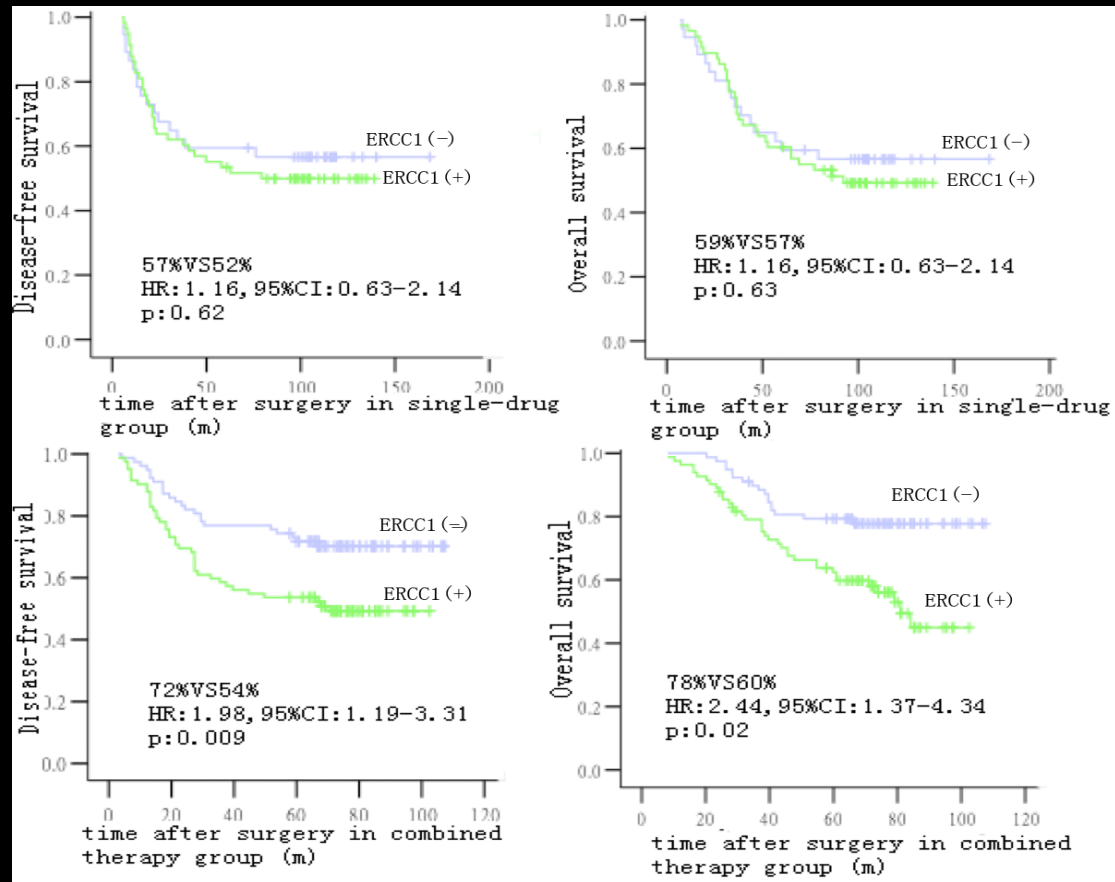




# IHC RESULT



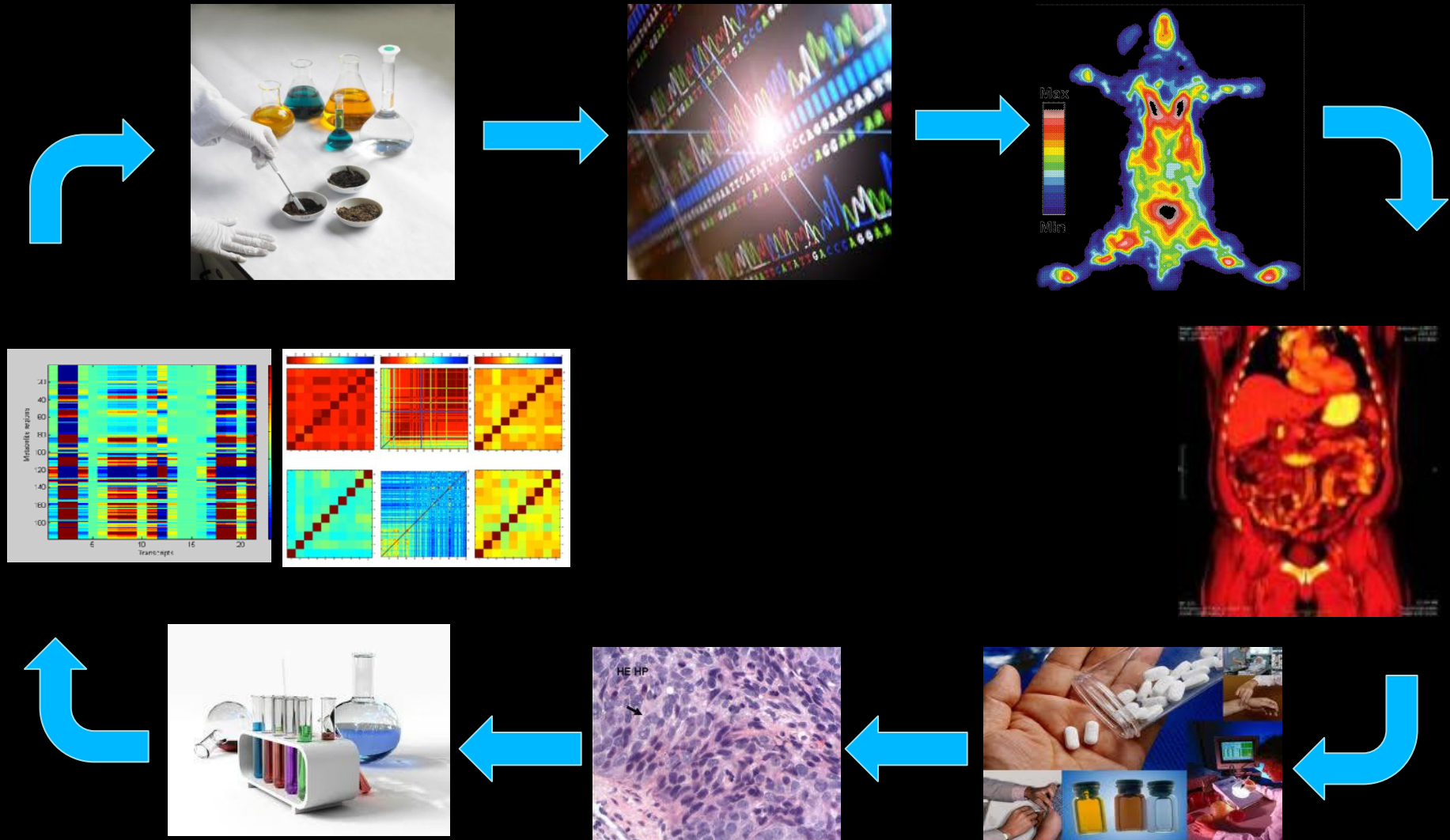
# Survival analysis



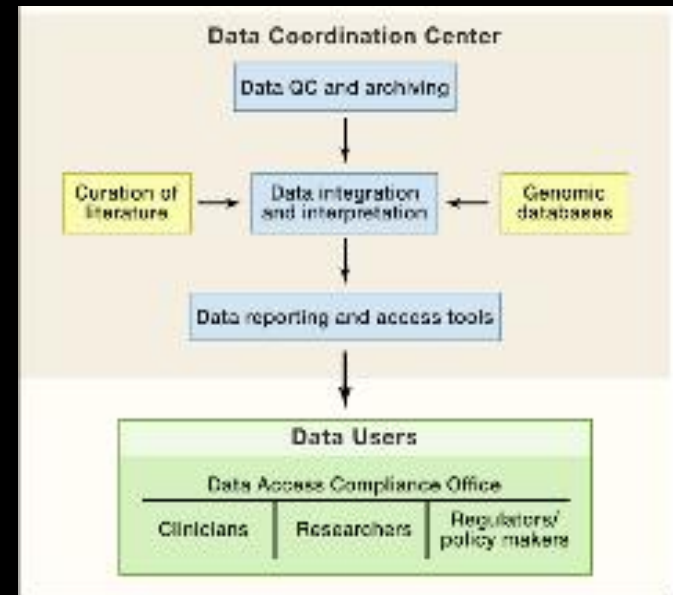
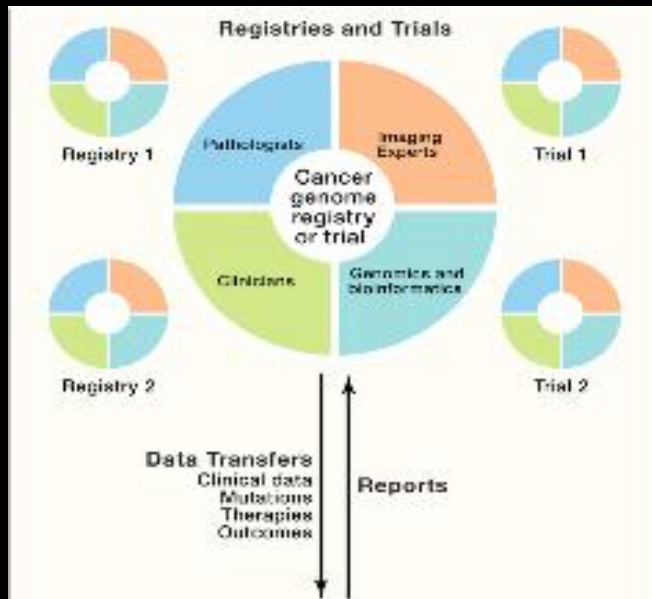
# Summary

- Two studies (522-523PD) with expression profiles:
  - Well validated
  - The biological information is missing
  - Limited clinical application (Oncotype DX in selected patient)
- An exploratory analysis (524PD) in a small data set
  - Use of a qualitative and not generally accepted assay
  - Single biomarker study
  - Hypothesis generating study only

# Re-defying RD in colon cancer



# Novel Models for Sharing Cancer Biomarkers Datasheets



# The way to move forward

## 4 P Cancer Medicine

- Predictive
  - information arising from personal genome sequences and longitudinal molecular, cellular and phenotypic measurements
- Personalized
  - large difference in individuals ultimately requires the use of the patient's own baseline healthy data
- Preventive
  - disease-perturbed molecular networks
- Participatory
  - Multidisciplinary collaboration-Patients partnership



# You may say I am a dreamer



but I am not the only one

Nor will man miss it. For what man has sought for is, indeed, neither pain nor pleasure, but simply Life. Man has sought to live intensely, fully, perfectly. .... It will be complete, and through it each man will attain to his perfection. The new Individualism is the new Hellenism.