

# **Chemotherapy in Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer: The Game is Changing....FAST**

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# Disclosures

- Consultant to Algeta, Bavarian-Nordic, Bayer, Sanofi, JNJ, Bellicum, BMS, Dendreon, Algeta, Pfizer, Oncogenex, Medivation, Takeda, TEVA, and Exelixis
- Investigator for Algeta, Bayer, Sanofi, Takeda, Algeta, Exelixis, Cougar, JNJ

# Cancer cells, like plants, adapt to harsh environments by clever adaptations



# **Where we have been....FDA Regulatory Approvals in Metastatic CRPC**

- **Estramustine-1981 Ancient History**
- **Strontium<sup>89</sup>-1993 Reduction in new onset of painful bone lesions after XRT + isotope**
- **Mitoxantrone + prednisone-1996 Reduction in pain**
- **Samarium<sup>153</sup>-1997 Reduction in bone pain**
- **Zoledronic acid-2002 Skeletal related event reduction**

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- **Docetaxel + prednisone-2004 Prolonged survival**

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- **Sipuleucel-T-2010 Prolonged Survival**
- **Cabazitaxel + prednisone-2010 Prolonged Survival**
- **Denosumab-2010 Skeletal related event reduction**
- **Abiraterone + prednisone-2011 Prolonged Survival**
- **Enzalutamide-2012 Prolonged Survival**

# Categorization of mCRPC Options Today

- Androgen axis manipulations
  - Antiandrogens (nilutamide/enzalutamide, etc.)
  - Androgen synthesis inhibitors (ketoconazole/abiraterone)
  - Corticosteroids (dexamethasone, etc.)
  - Estrogens (Estradiol patches, DES, etc.)
- Radiation
  - External beam, alpha emitters (radium-223) and beta-emitters (samarium-153 EDTMP, strontium-89, etc.)
- Immune Therapies
  - Sipuleucel T
- Chemotherapies
  - Taxanes (docetaxel, cabazitaxel), mitoxantrone, etc.
- Osteoclast targeted
  - Zoledronic acid, denosumab



<b>TRIAL</b>	<b>FRONT LINE</b>	<b>HR</b>	<b>Survival (months)</b>
<b>TAX 327</b>	<b>Docetaxel/prednisone vs mitoxantrone/prednisone</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>18.9 vs 16.5</b>
<b>IMPACT</b>	<b>Sipuleucel-T vs Control</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>25.8 vs 21.7</b>
<b>COU-AA-302</b>	<b>Abiraterone/prednisone vs Placebo/prednisone</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>NR vs. 27.2</b>
	<b>POST-DOCETAXEL</b>		
<b>TROPIC</b>	<b>Cabazitaxel/prednisone vs mitoxantrone/prednisone</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>15.1 vs 12.7</b>
<b>COU-AA- 301</b>	<b>Abiraterone/prednisone vs Placebo/prednisone</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>14.8 vs 10.9</b>
<b>AFFIRM</b>	<b>Enzalutamide vs Placebo</b>	<b>0.63</b>	<b>18.4 vs 13.6</b>
	<b>POST-DOCETAXEL or UNFIT or REFUSE</b>		
<b>ALSYMPCA</b>	<b>Radium-223/supportive care vs placebo/BSC</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>14.0 vs 11.2</b>

# “Post-Docetaxel” Space: Some Comments

- How many men actually receive docetaxel?
- The “post-docetaxel” setting is a regulatory distinction....is it also a biologic distinction?
- How much cross-resistance between taxanes and the AR axis targeted drugs?
- It is obvious that none of the new agents have been compared to one another
- The “post-abiraterone” and “post-enzalutamide” setting is becoming more important every day
- Abiraterone is moving up quickly in the “pre-docetaxel” space....COU-302 data and pending action at the FDA

# What is the optimal sequence in CRPC?

- Great question but nobody knows!
  - Reasonable to use less toxic therapies first
  - For today, stop debating the “best” choice. Treat your patients with a sense of urgency and try multiple therapies before the patient dies!
  - Which drug for which patient is a tremendously important research question.....
- Until we get smarter.....patients should have exposure to as many “active” drugs as possible
- Do not let the patient deteriorate too far, that limits future options....follow patients closely!



# **If abiraterone is moving up....We better start thinking about the post-abiraterone space**

- Potential mechanisms of resistance
- Patterns and timing of progressive disease
- Activity of therapies post-abiraterone

# **Resistance to CYP17A1 Inhibition with Abiraterone in Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer: Induction of Steroidogenesis and Androgen Receptor Splice Variants**

Elahe A. Mostaghel<sup>1,3</sup>, Brett T. Marck<sup>4</sup>, Stephen R. Plymate<sup>3,4</sup>, Robert L. Vessella<sup>5</sup>, Stephen Balk<sup>6</sup>, Alvin M. Matsumoto<sup>3,4</sup>, Peter S. Nelson<sup>1,2,3</sup>, and R. Bruce Montgomery<sup>3,4</sup>

**Does progression occur post-abiraterone with new ligands or ligand independent AR activation?**

# Effects of Abiraterone Acetate on Androgen Signaling in Castrate-Resistant Prostate Cancer in Bone

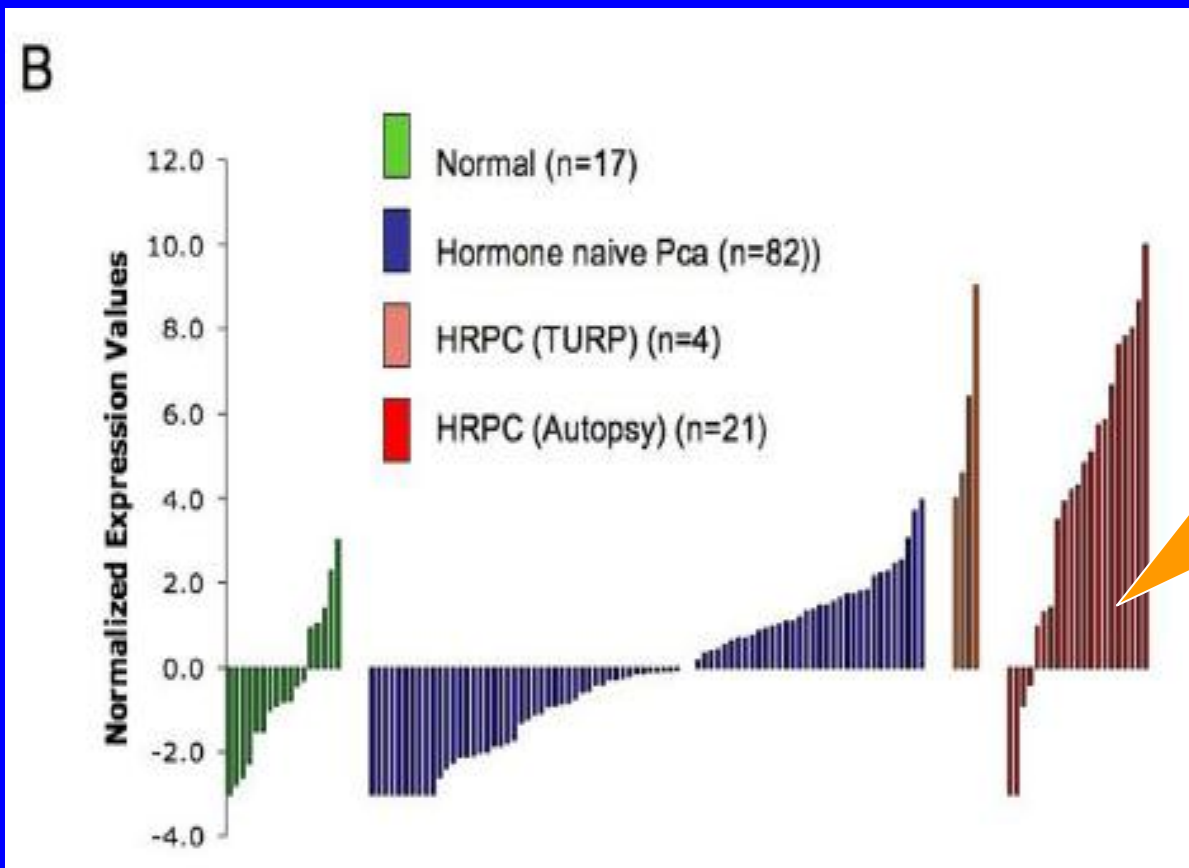
*Eleni Efsthathiou, Mark Titus, Dimitra Tsavachidou, Vassiliki Tzelepi, Sijin Wen, Anh Hoang, Arturo Molina, Nicole Chieffo, Lisa A. Smith, Maria Karlou, Patricia Troncoso, and Christopher J. Logothetis*

“Blood and bone marrow aspirate testosterone concentrations declined to <pg/ml levels and remained suppressed at progression.”

**Are splice variants responsible for  
abiraterone resistance and ligand  
independent AR activation?**

# AR Splice Variants are Readily Detected in Human Tumors

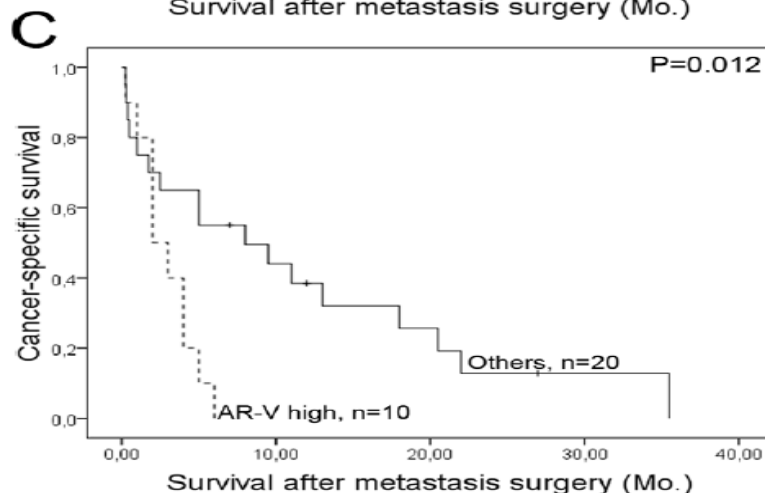
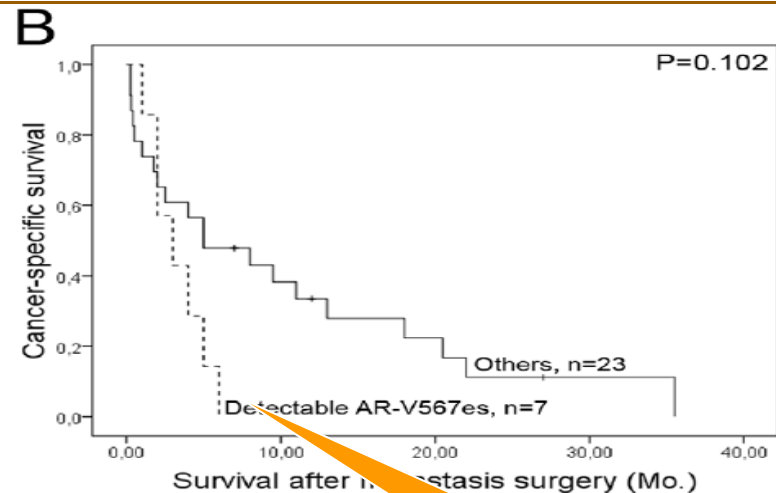
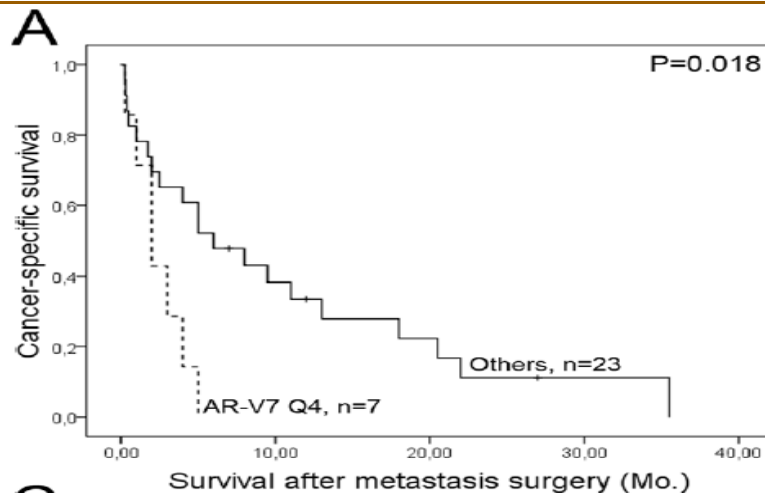
Hu et al. Cancer Research 69:16-22, 2009



AR Splice variants readily detected in CRPC tissue

# Expression of Androgen Receptor Splice Variants in Prostate Cancer Bone Metastases is Associated with Castration-Resistance and Short Survival

Emma Hörnberg<sup>1</sup>, Erik Bovinder Ylitalo<sup>1</sup>, Sead Crnalic<sup>2</sup>, Henrik Antti<sup>3</sup>, Pär Stattin<sup>2</sup>, Anders Widmark<sup>4</sup>, Anders Bergh<sup>1</sup>, Pernilla Wikström<sup>1\*</sup>



Survival dramatically compromised



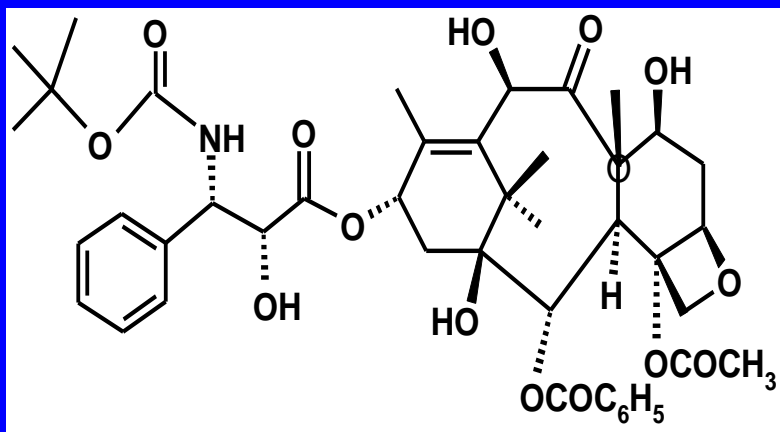
# Implications of progression in a ligand independent AR world

- Sequential CURRENT hormonal agents will not add much.....
  - The early data seem to support that concept
  - High degree of cross-resistance to the current androgen-axis targeted therapies
- What about taxanes?

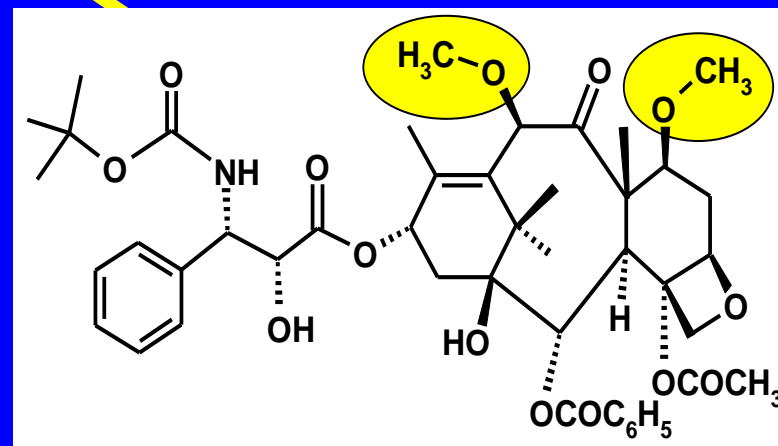
# **Antitumour activity of docetaxel following treatment with the CYP17A1 inhibitor abiraterone: clinical evidence for cross-resistance?**

J. Mezynski, C. Pezaro, D. Bianchini, A. Zivi, S. Sandhu, E. Thompson, J. Hunt, E. Sheridan, B. Baikady, A. Sarvadikar, G. Maier, A. H. M. Reid, A. Mulick Cassidy, D. Olmos, G. Attard<sup>\*,‡</sup> & J. deBono<sup>‡</sup>

- In 26% of patients, docetaxel resulted in PSA decline of at least 50%, with a median time to PSA progression of 4.6 months.
- Eight patients without a PSA decline on abiraterone were docetaxel-refractory.

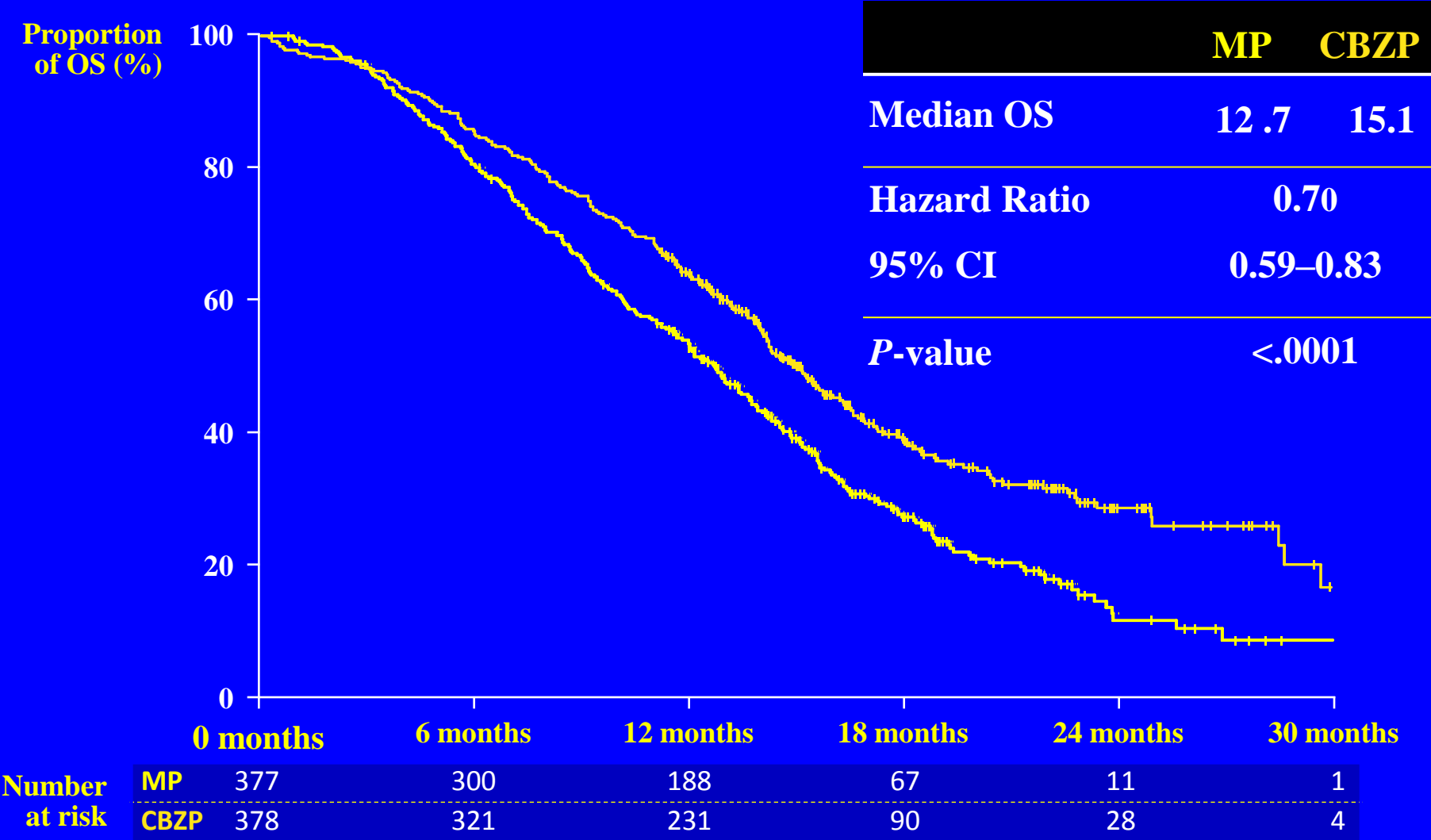


**Docetaxel**



**Cabazitaxel**

# Cabazitaxel: Overall Survival Post-Docetaxel



de Bono et al. Lancet, 376:1147-54, 2010

# Does Cabazitaxel have Activity in the Post-Abiraterone Space?

Abstract: 951

**RESPONSE TO CABAZITAXEL IN THE POSTCHEMOTHERAPY SETTING IN CRPC PATIENTS PREVIOUSLY TREATED WITH DOCETAXEL AND ABIRATERONE ACETATE**

L. Albiges<sup>1</sup>, S. Le Moulec<sup>2</sup>, Y. Loriot<sup>1</sup>, M. Gross Goupil<sup>3</sup>, T. De La Motte Rouge<sup>4</sup>, A. Guillot<sup>5</sup>, K. Fizazi<sup>6</sup>, C. Massard<sup>7</sup>

“Of 32 patients with PSA data available, 18 (56%) have had a 50% or greater PSA decline.”

# **Cabazitaxel: Is it better than docetaxel?**

## **Is the 25 mg/M2 dose optimal?**

- **FIRSTANA:** Cabazitaxel/prednisone at doses of 20 and 25 mg/M2 compared to docetaxel/prednisone for first line mCRPC
- **PROSELICA:** Cabazitaxel/prednisone at doses of 20 and 25 mg/M2 compared in post-docetaxelmCRPC



# What about combining taxanes with other novel agents?

- The docetaxel-combination graveyard is big!
  - DN-101, GVAX, bevacizumab, atrasentan, zibotentan, lenalidomide, aflibercept
  - So far, we have done a poor job of selecting agents to go forward in clinical trials
- The “hopefuls” in phase III
  - Dasatinib
  - Custirsen
  - Strontium-89

# **What taxane combinations are novel and being explored?**

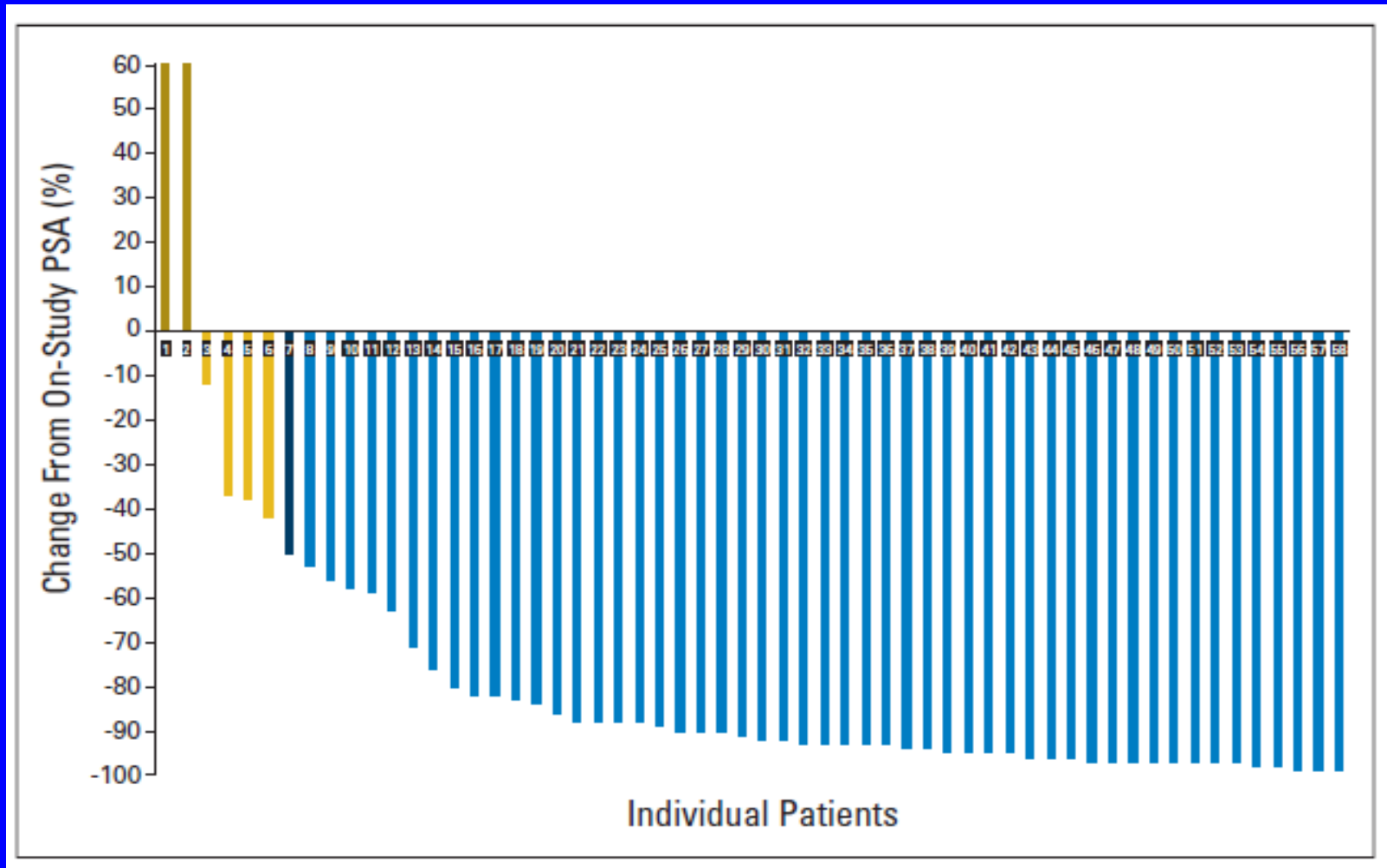
- Docetaxel + abiraterone
- Docetaxel + TAK-700
- Docetaxel + radium-223

# **Novel chemotherapies of interest?**

- Survey of this meetings abstracts demonstrate a remarkable void
- Aurora kinase inhibitors.....

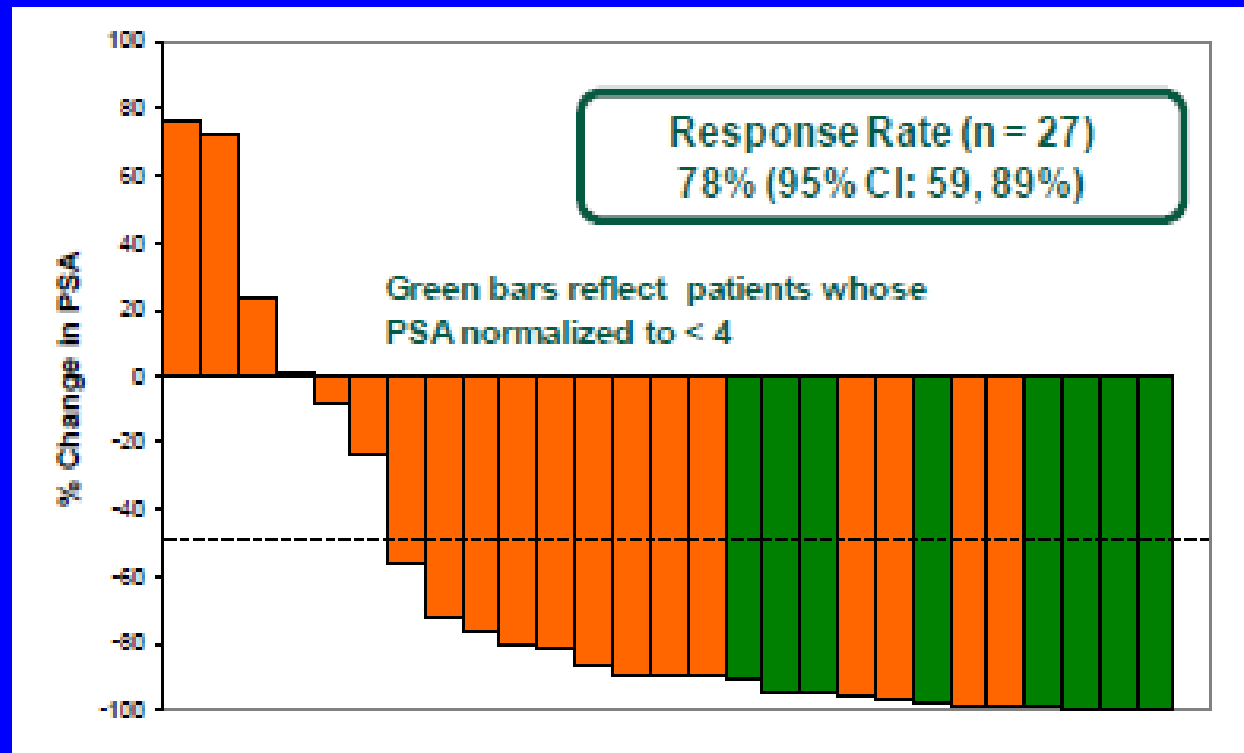
# Docetaxel/Bevacizumab/Thalidomide/Zoledronate

Dahut et al. JCO 28:2070-76, 2010



# Platins + Docetaxel

Dejager et al. J Clin Oncol 27:15s, 2009 (suppl; abstr 5140)



Is there a subset that really benefits from platinumums?  
Low PSA/neuroendocrine/small cell variants.....

# **Antibody Drug Conjugates**

## **Proof of Principle in Other Diseases**

- Can we now target cytotoxics better? Breast and Hodgkins for sure.....
- What about prostate?
- PSMA antibody drug conjugates?
- SLC44A4 antibody drug conjugates?



# Where do we go from here?

- Taxanes are a critical component in our armamentarium.....
- Can we do a better in terms of ensuring that we choose the best drug for an individual patient?
- Will combinations prove to be effective or will we remain in a sequential world?
- Antibody drug conjugates may point a way forward.....
- How are we going to afford it all?

# Cancer cells, like plants, adapt to harsh environments by clever adaptations

