

# Clinical trial endpoints relevant to patients/society for rare tumours

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# Disclosure

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- Honorarium: Taiho

# Consensus Report of the NCI Neuroendocrine tumor Clinical Trials Planning Meeting

- Clinical trials of novel systemic agents for advanced NET
  - Overall survival not a practical endpoint
  - In general, PFS is recommended as the primary end point for phase III studies, as well as for phase II studies where a delay in progression is expected in the absence of significant radiologically defined tumour response



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Current perspective

## Poor correlation between progression-free and overall survival in modern clinical trials: Are composite endpoints the answer?

Eitan Amir <sup>a,\*</sup>, Bostjan Seruga <sup>b</sup>, Ryan Kwong <sup>a</sup>, Ian F. Tannock <sup>a</sup>, Alberto Ocaña <sup>a,c</sup>

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COMMENTS AND CONTROVERSIES

## Progression-Free Survival: Meaningful or Simply Measurable?

Christopher M. Booth and Elizabeth A. Eisenhauer, *NCIC Clinical Trials Group, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada*

# Correlation of PFS with OS in advanced solid tumours

Tumour primary site	Correlation of PFS to OS
Colorectal Cancer <sup>1</sup>	✓
Melanoma <sup>2</sup>	✓
Renal cell carcinoma <sup>3</sup>	✓
Glioblastoma <sup>4</sup>	✓
Locally advanced NSCLC <sup>5</sup>	✓
Advanced NSCLC <sup>6</sup>	~
Breast Cancer <sup>7</sup>	×
Gastric Cancer <sup>8</sup>	×
Neuroendocrine tumour	????

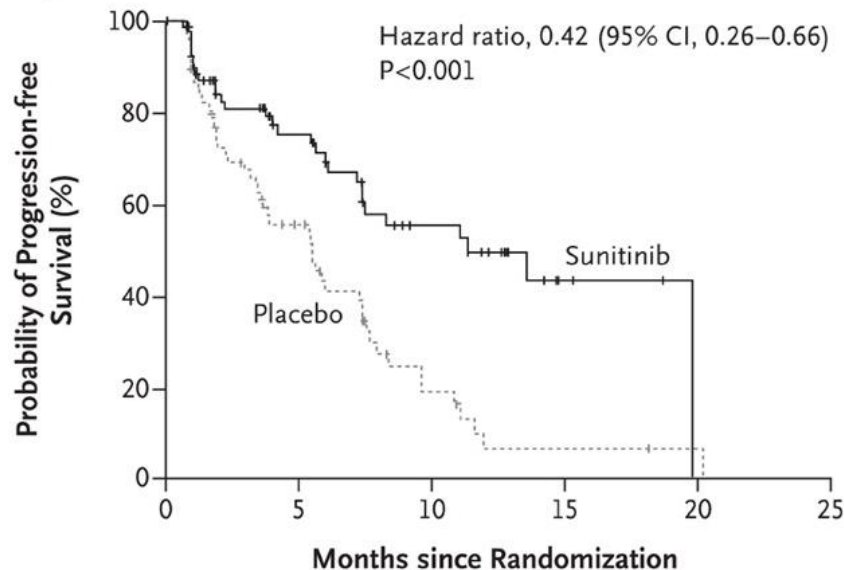
<sup>1</sup>Buyse et al J Clin Oncol 2007; <sup>2</sup>Flaherty et al Lancet Oncol 2014; <sup>3</sup>Halabi et al Cancer 2014;

<sup>4</sup>Han et al Neuro Oncol 2013; <sup>5</sup>Mauguen et al Lancet Oncol 2013; <sup>6</sup>Laporte et al BMJ Open 2013

<sup>7</sup>Burzykowski et al J Clin Oncol 2008; <sup>8</sup>Paoletti et al J Natl Cancer Inst 2013

# PFS vs. OS

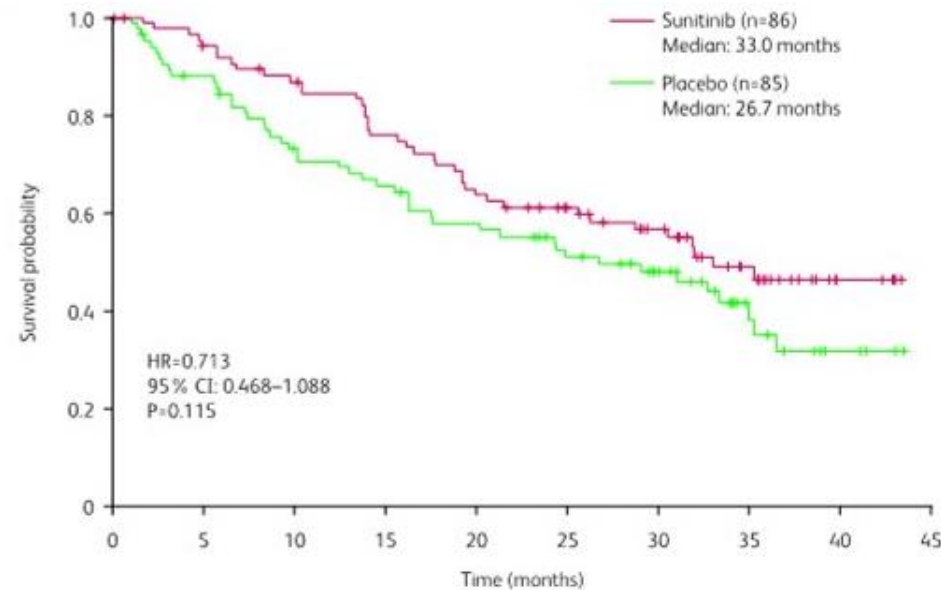
## PFS: Sunitinib vs placebo<sup>1</sup>



No. at Risk					
Sunitinib	86	39	19	4	0
Placebo	85	28	7	2	1
			SU	PBO	

Median PFS 11.4 months 5.5 months  
HR: 0.42; 95% CI: 0.26-0.66; p<0.001

## OS: Sunitinib vs placebo<sup>2</sup>

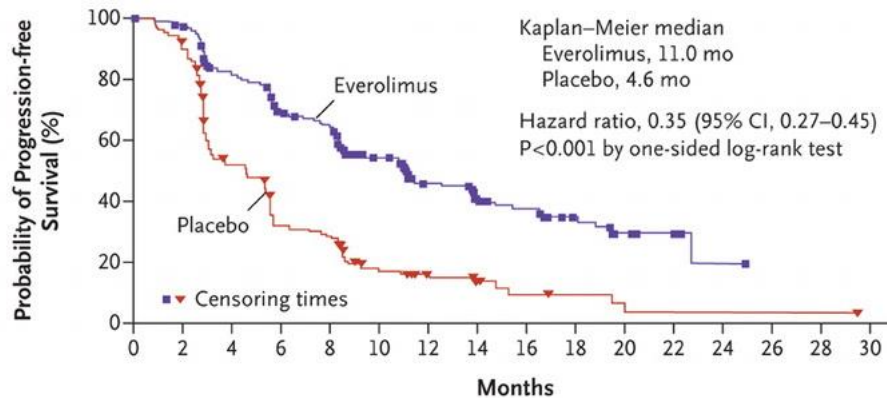


Number of patients at risk										
Sunitinib	86	79	72	62	52	43	33	19	5	0
Placebo	85	72	58	52	45	36	27	12	4	0
						SU	PBO			

Median OS 33 months 26.7 months  
HR: 0.71; 95% CI: 0.47-1.09; p=0.11

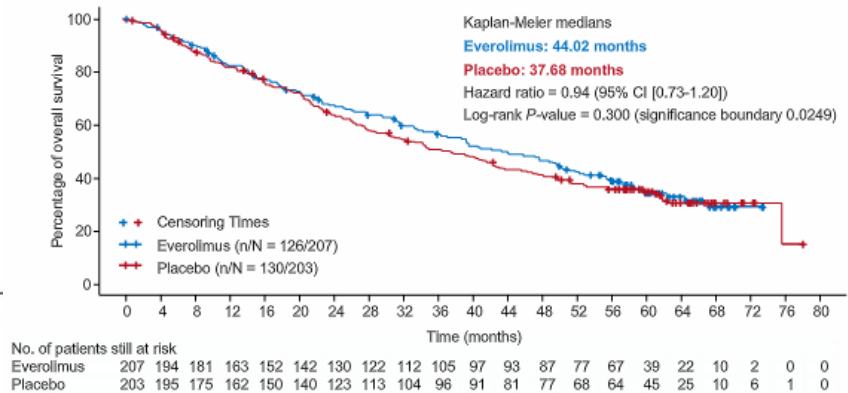
# PFS vs. OS

## PFS: Everolimus vs placebo<sup>1</sup>



	EVE	PBO
Median PFS	11.0 months	4.6 months
HR: 0.35; 95% CI: 0.27-0.45; p<0.001		

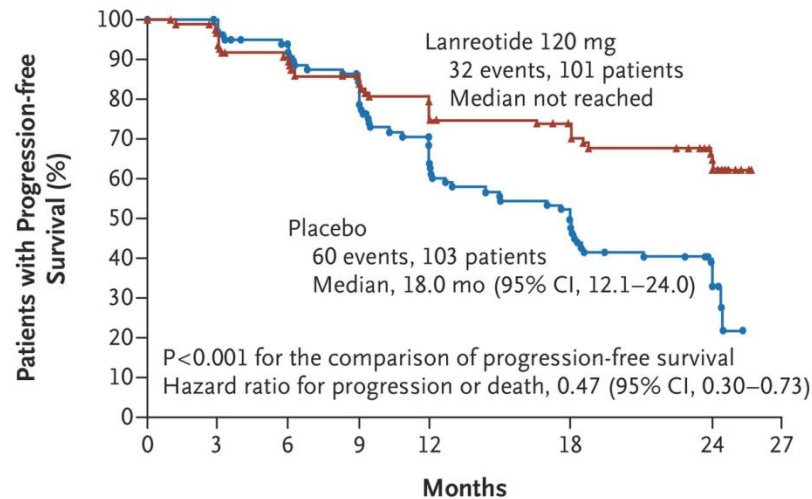
## OS: Everolimus vs placebo<sup>2</sup>



	EVE	PBO
Median OS	44 months	37.7 months
HR: 0.94; 95% CI: 0.73-1.20; p=0.30		

# PFS vs. OS

## PFS: Lanreotide vs placebo



No. at Risk

Lanreotide	101	94	84	78	71	61	40	0
Placebo	103	101	87	76	59	43	26	0

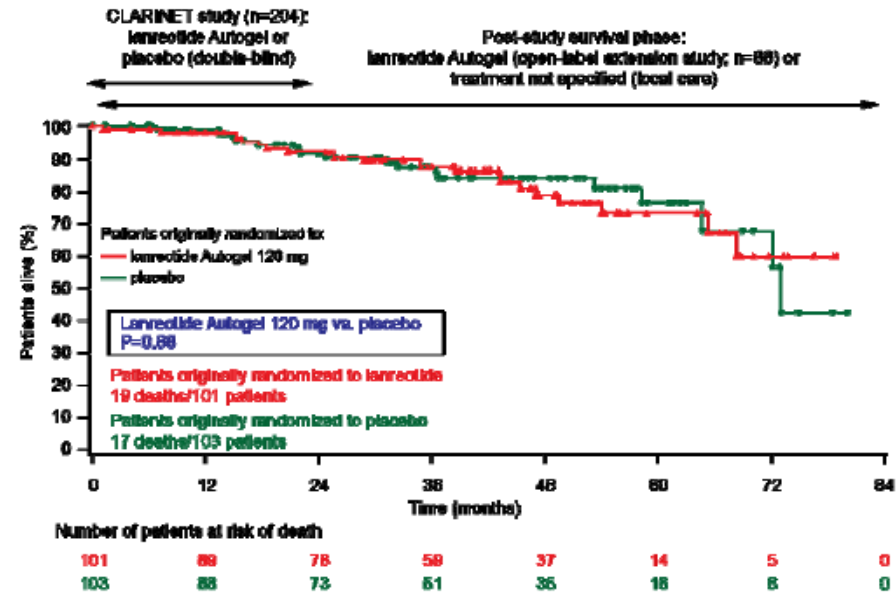
LAN

PBO

Median PFS Not reached 18 months

HR: 0.47; 95% CI: 0.30-0.73;  $p < 0.001$

## OS: Lanreotide vs placebo





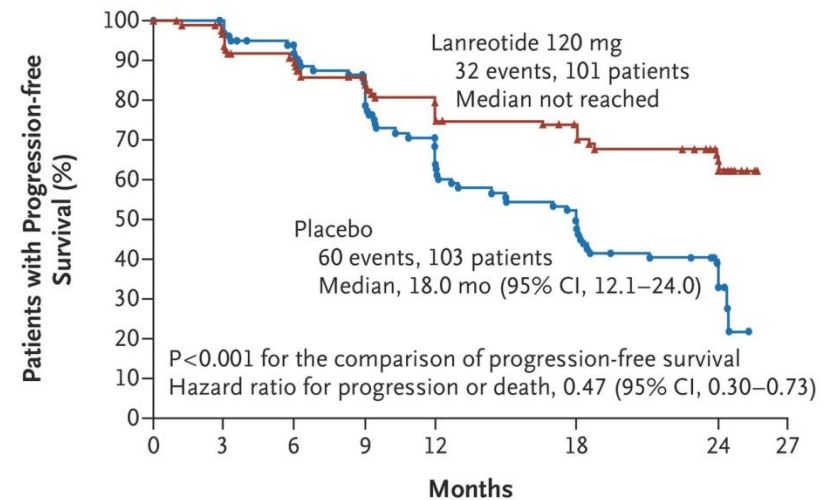
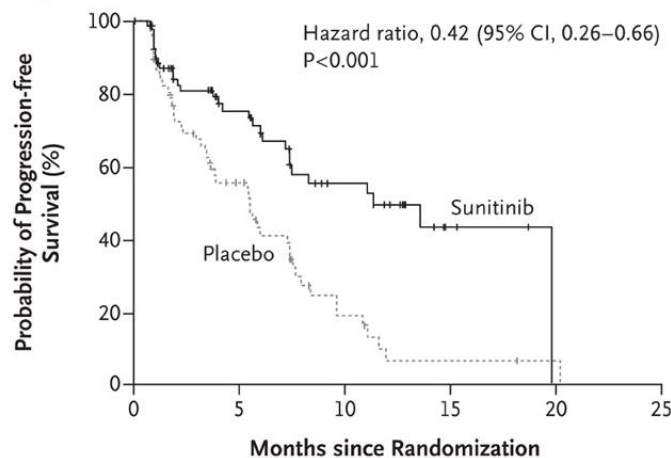
# Is there an association between PFS and QoL in solid tumours?

- Only 4 studies assessed this –
  - 1 in colorectal cancer (panitumumab)
  - 2 in breast cancer (lapatinib)
  - 1 in renal cell cancer (pazopanib)
- All reported that being progression free had a statistically significant positive association with better QoL  $\pm$  ↓disease symptoms
- ?? Publication bias

# RCTs of neuroendocrine tumours

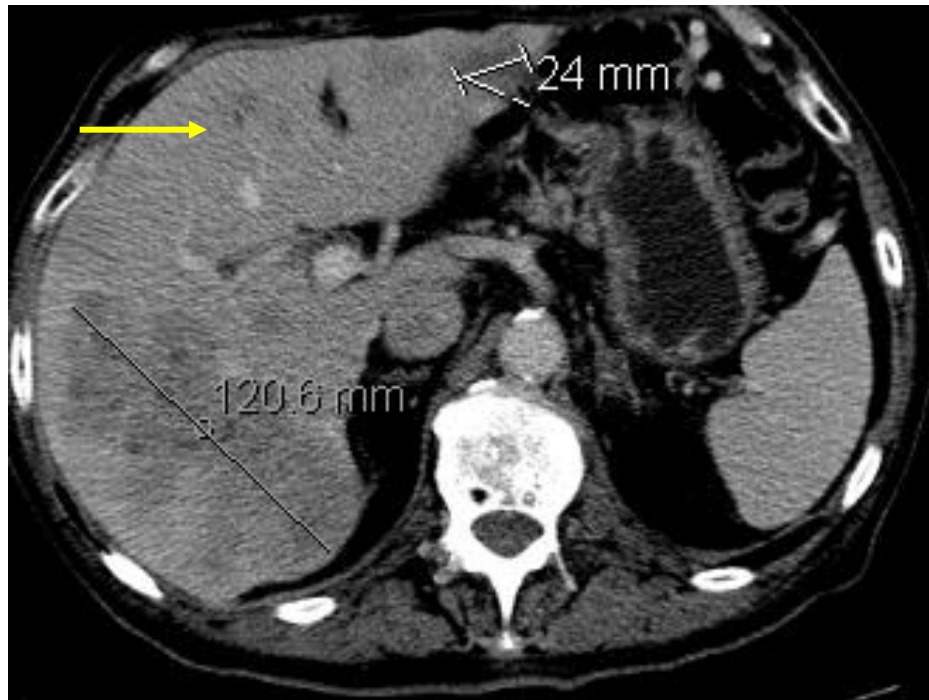
↑PFS ≠ ↑QoL

Study	n	Treatment arms	QoL instrument	Results
A6181111 <sup>1</sup>	144	Sunitinib vs. Placebo	EORTC QLQ c30	Global health status non-significant
CLARINET <sup>2</sup>	204	Lanreotide vs. Placebo	EORTC QLQ c30	Global health status non-significant



# Pancreatic NET with liver metastases: disease progression but asymptomatic

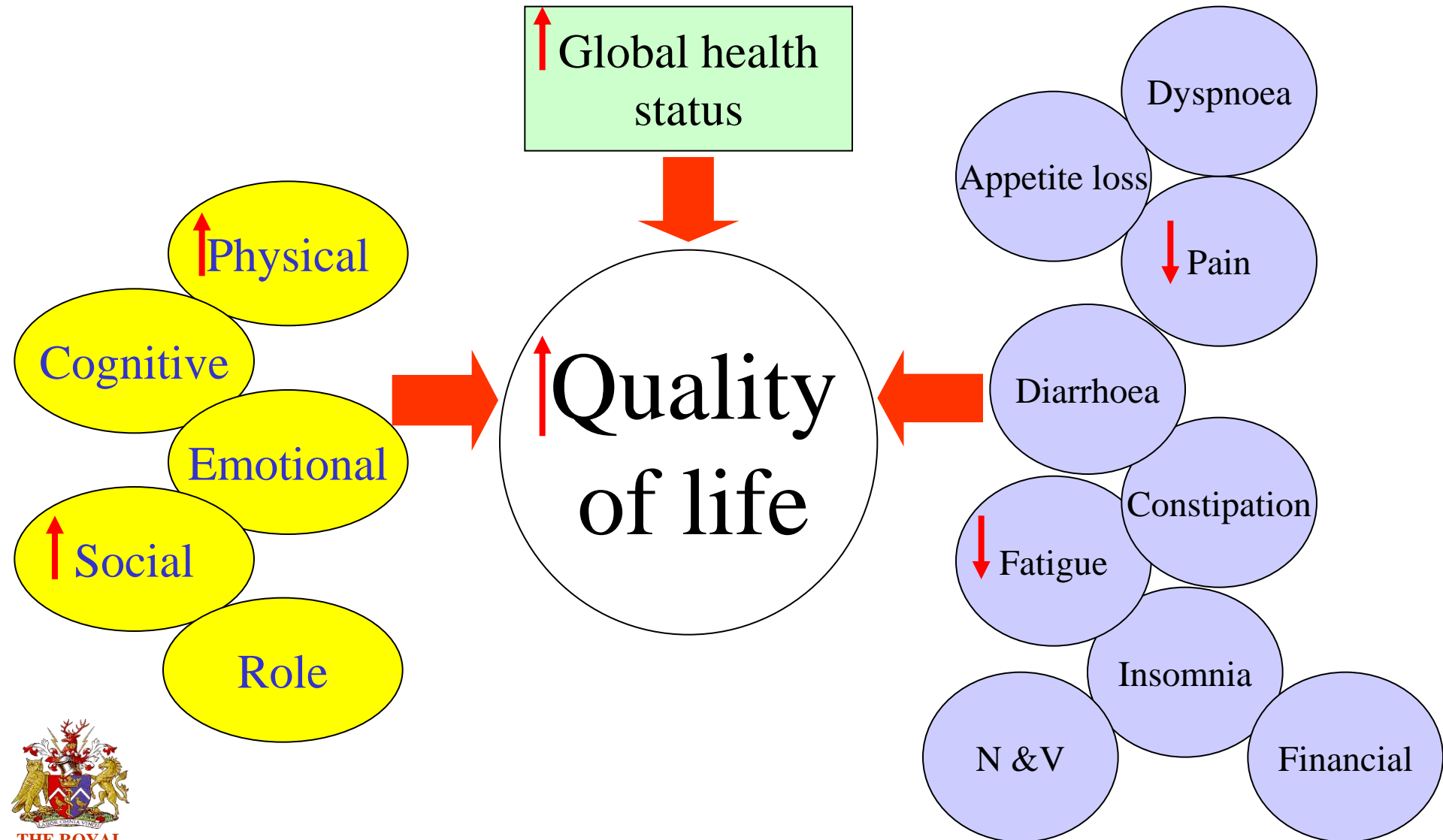
October 2012



September 2013



# Health related quality of life (QoL) is a multidimensional assessment



# Is QoL different in neuroendocrine tumour (NET) compared to other GI cancer?

- Younger age (median age was 56 in study population)
  - Family, social and financial issues important
- Functioning NETs:
  - Carcinoid – skin flushing, diarrhoea and wheezing
  - Zollinger-Ellison syndrome – GI ulceration, diarrhoea
  - Insulinoma – hypoglycaemia, fits, collapses and sweating
  - Glucagonoma – diabetes and rash
  - VIPoma – severe secretory diarrhoea
  - Somatostatinoma – gallstones, steatorrhoea
- “Rare” disease prompts uncertainty of quality of care
- Studies showed QoL in patients with neuroendocrine tumours significantly worse than general population (at least for Scandinavian), but not consistently so<sup>1-4</sup>

# EORTC QLQ – GI.NET 21

			During the past week:	Not at all	A little	Quite a bit	Very much
Endocrine	{	31. Did you have hot flushes?		1	2	3	4
		32. Have you noticed or been told by others that you looked flushed/red?		1	2	3	4
		33. Did you have night sweats?		1	2	3	4
Gastrointestinal	{	34. Did you have abdominal discomfort?		1	2	3	4
		35. Did you have a bloated feeling in your abdomen?		1	2	3	4
		36. Have you had a problem with passing wind/gas/flatulence?		1	2	3	4
		37. Have you had acid indigestion or heartburn?		1	2	3	4
		38. Have you had difficulties with eating?		1	2	3	4
Treatment related Side effects	{	39. Have you had side-effects from your treatment? (If you are not on treatment please circle N/A)	N/A	1	2	3	4
		40. Have you had a problem from repeated injections? (If not having injections please circle N/A)	N/A	1	2	3	4
Disease related worries	→	41. Were you worried about the tumour recurring in other areas of the body?		1	2	3	4
Social function	→	42. Were you concerned about disruption of home life?		1	2	3	4
Disease related worries	→	43. Have you worried about your health in the future?		1	2	3	4
Social function	→	44. How distressing has your illness or treatment been to those close to you?		1	2	3	4
Weight concern	{	45. Has weight loss been a problem for you?		1	2	3	4
		46. Has weight gain been a problem for you?		1	2	3	4
Disease related worries	→	47. Did you worry about the results of your tests? (If you have not had tests please circle N/A)	N/A	1	2	3	4
Pain	→	48. Have you had aches or pains in your muscles or bones?		1	2	3	4
Social function	→	49. Did you have any limitations in your ability to travel?		1	2	3	4
			During the past four weeks:				
Communication	→	50. Have you had problems receiving adequate information about your disease and treatment?		1	2	3	4
Sexuality	→	51. Has the disease or treatment affected your sex life (for the worse)? (If not applicable please circle N/A)	N/A	1	2	3	4

# QoL measurement in RCTs of neuroendocrine tumours

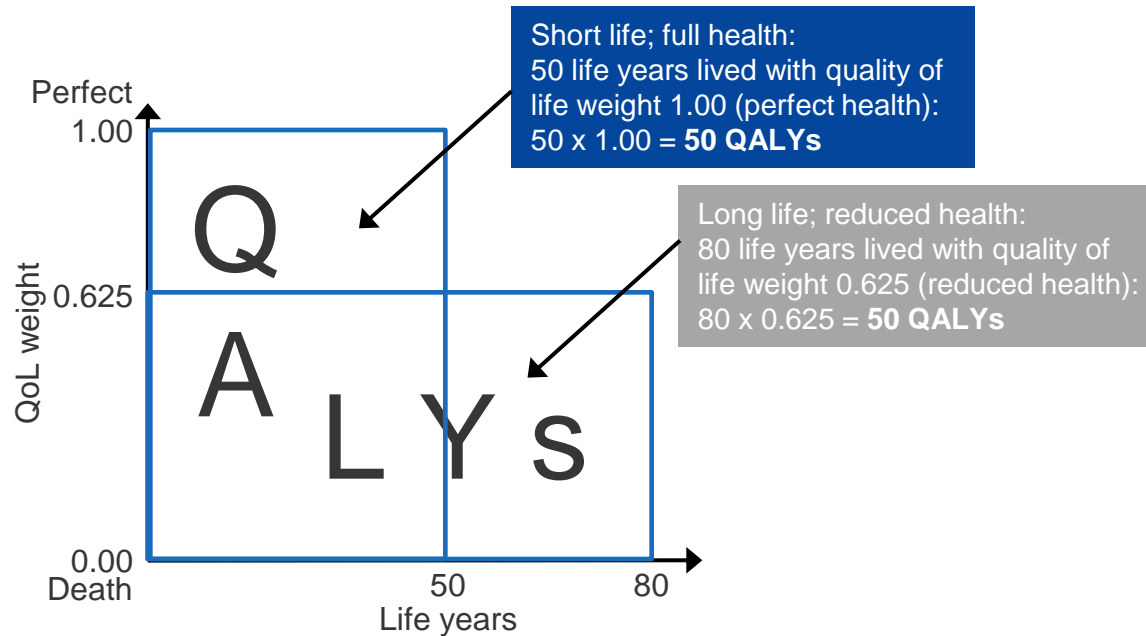
Study	n	Treatment arms	QoL instrument	Results
O'toole et al <sup>1</sup>	33	Lanreotide vs. Octreotide	Nottingham Health Profile	Non-significant
Arnold et al <sup>2</sup>	109	Short acting octreotide vs. short acting octreotide+ interferon- $\alpha$	EORTC QLQ c30	Global health status* worse with combination
PROMID <sup>3</sup>	85	Octreotide LAR vs. Placebo	EORTC QLQ c30	Global health status* non-significant

\*Only global health status results were reported

<sup>1</sup>O'toole et al Cancer 2000; <sup>2</sup>Arnold et al Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol 2005;

<sup>3</sup>Rinke et al J Clin Oncol 2009

# Cost-effectiveness analysis: Quality-adjusted life-year (QALY)



Treatment → initial improvement in QoL

Then adverse events might lead to worse QoL than no treatment

Then treated patient had a longer life despite lower QoL

$$\text{Cost Utility Ratio} = \frac{\text{Cost of Intervention A} \textit{ minus } \text{Cost of Intervention B}}{\text{No. of QALYs by Intervention A} \textit{ minus } \text{No. of QALYs by Intervention B}}$$



# Rare tumours of the GI tract

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Cancers	Incidence
GEP NET	23 per million
GIST	6.5-14.5 per million
Extranodal MALT	11 per million

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# High cost drugs reimbursement in the UK

Tumour	Incidence (per million)	High Cost Drugs	Reimbursement
GEP NET	23	Everolimus Sunitinib	✓ NCDF ✓ NCDF
GIST	6.5-14.5	Imatinib Sunitinib Regorafenib	✓ NICE ✓ NICE ✓ NCDF
MALT	11	Rituximab	NHS



NCDF: National Cancer Drug Fund

NICE: National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

NHS: National Health Service

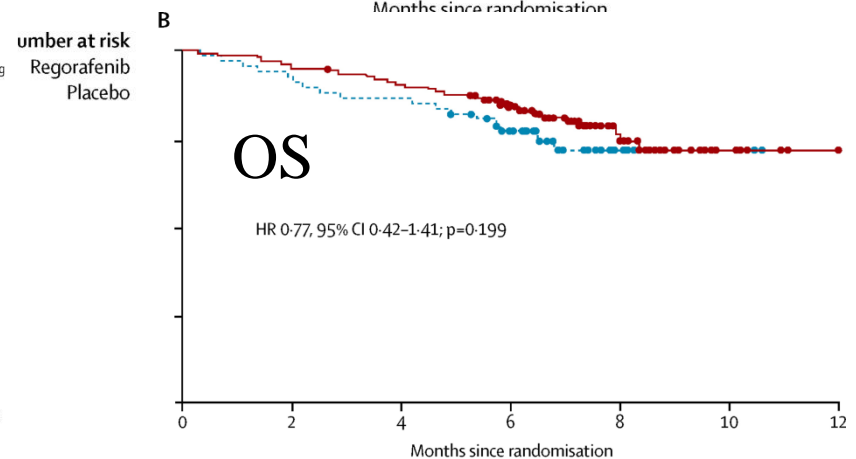
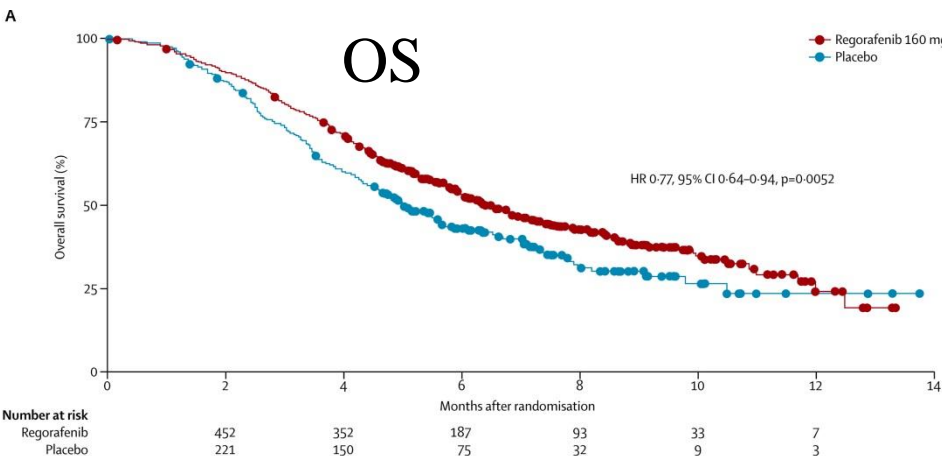
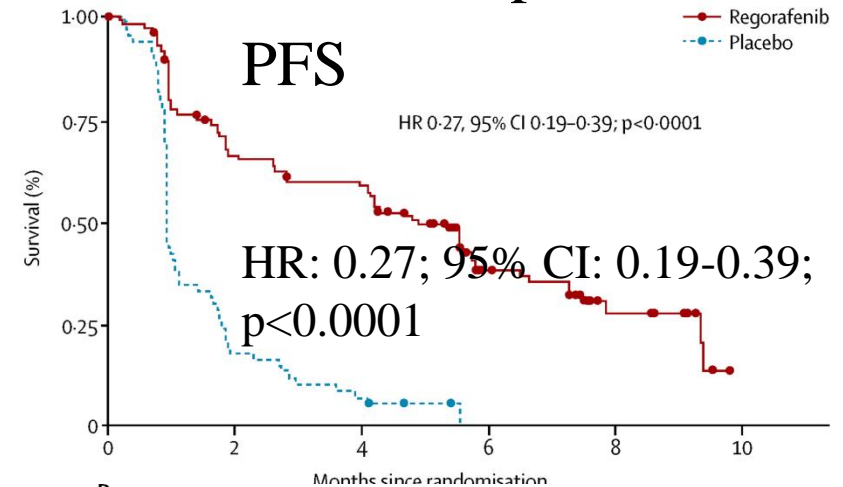
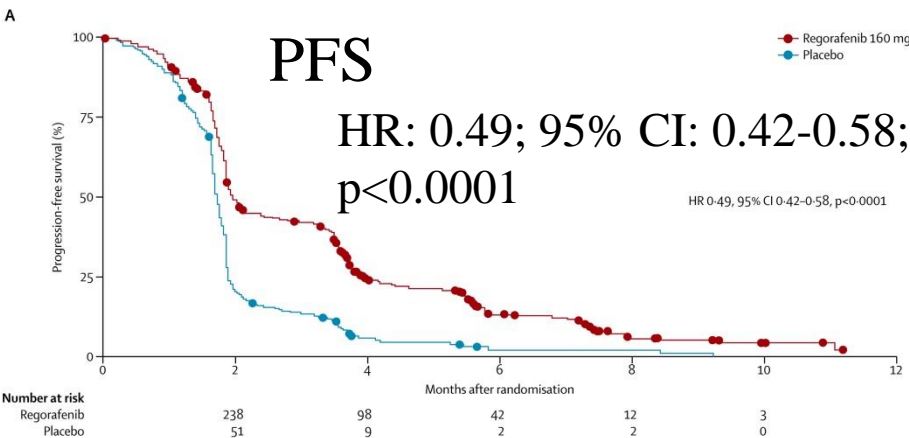
# Regorafenib for CRC and GIST

Colorectal Cancer<sup>1</sup>

Incidence: 470 per million

GIST<sup>2</sup>

A Incidence: ~10 per million



HR: 0.77; 95% CI: 0.64-0.94;  
p=0.0052

HR: 0.77; 95% CI: 0.42-1.41;  
p=0.199

<sup>1</sup>Grothey et al Lancet 2013; <sup>2</sup>Demetri et al Lancet 2013

# Conclusions

- Clinical trials on rare tumours with long overall survival pose challenge on defining an optimal primary endpoint
- Progression free survival is preferred but have significant limitations
- Quality of life measurement using the current available instruments does not correlate with survival outcome
- Society may be more willing to pay for more expensive treatment for rare cancers rather than common cancers given similar efficacy outcome, as there are less financial burden

# Acknowledgement

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