

# Are We Ready?

Professor Tony Mok

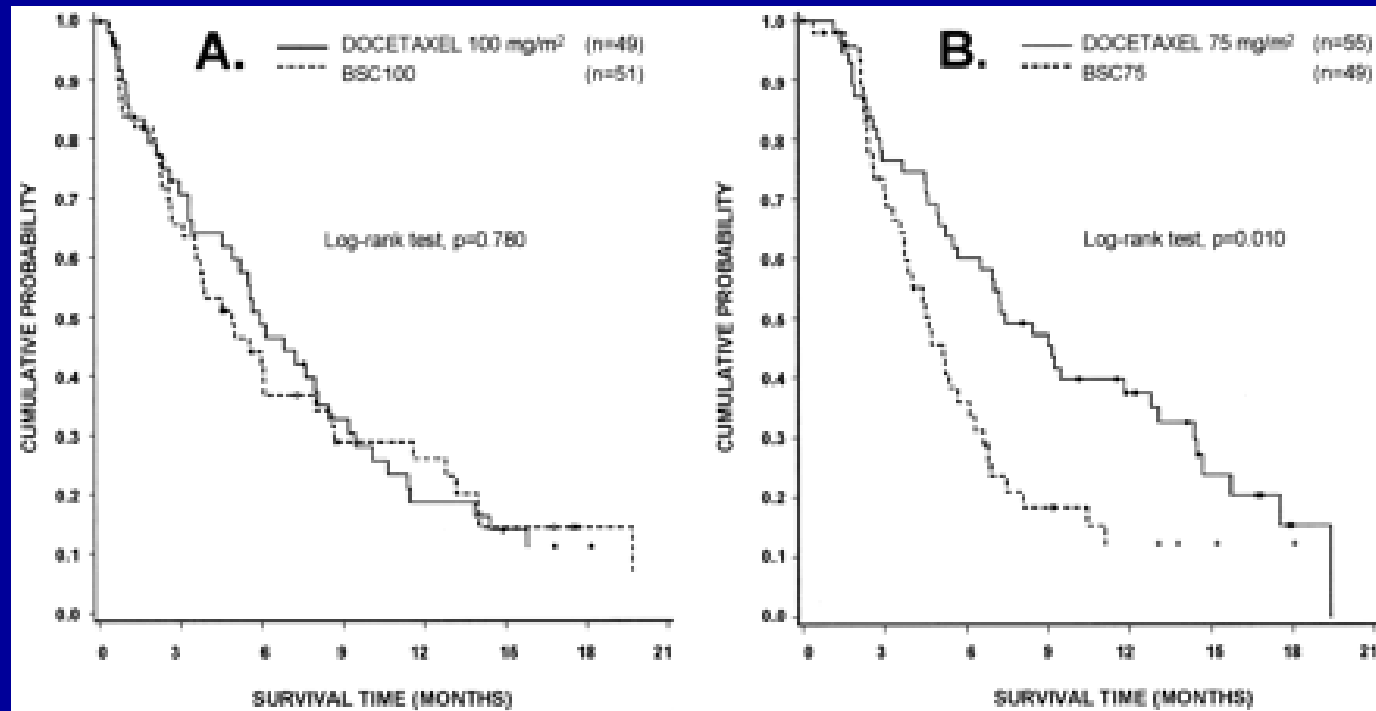
Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation Professor  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Are We Ready  
to Integrate Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor  
(ICI) as a **New Standard Therapy** for  
Advanced Stage NSCLC?



# Humble standard therapy (Single agent docetaxel vs BSC)

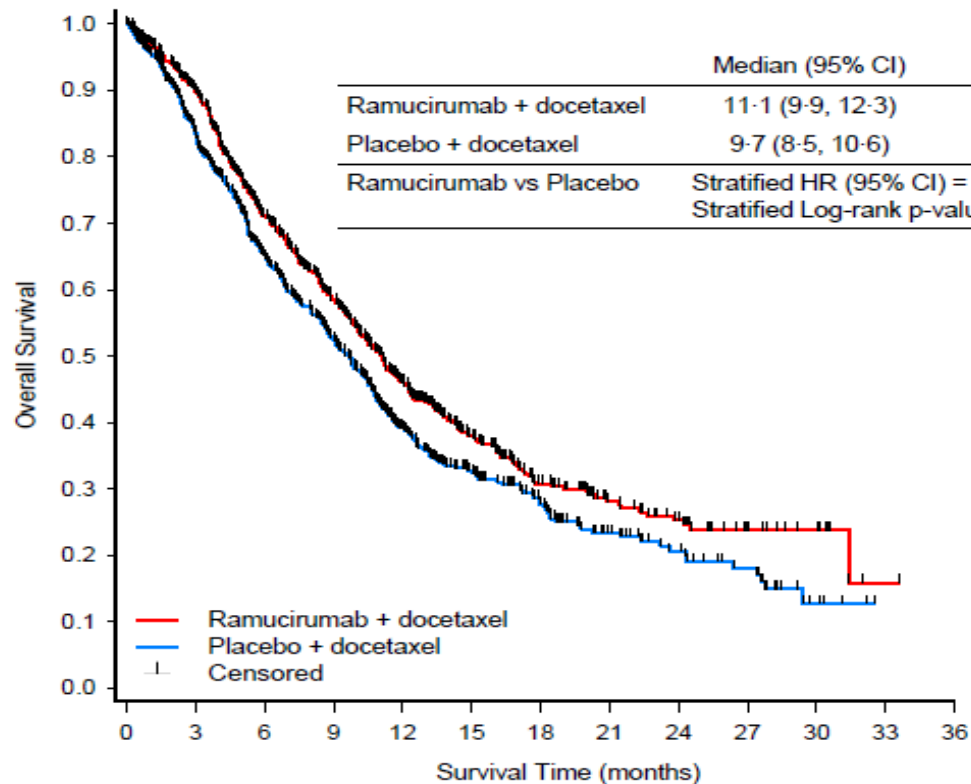


Tumor response rate: 7.1%

Median OS: 7.5 vs 4.6 months p=0.01



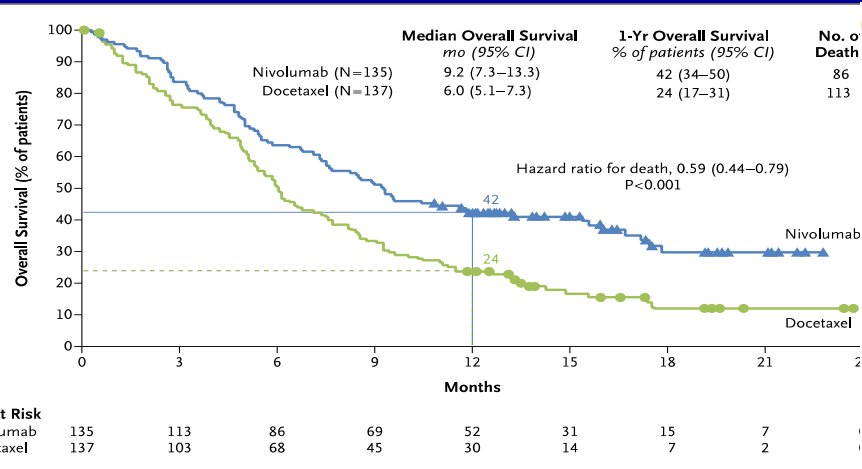
# Ramucirumab/docetaxel is better than docetaxel





# Nivolumab is better than docetaxel

## Checkmate 017

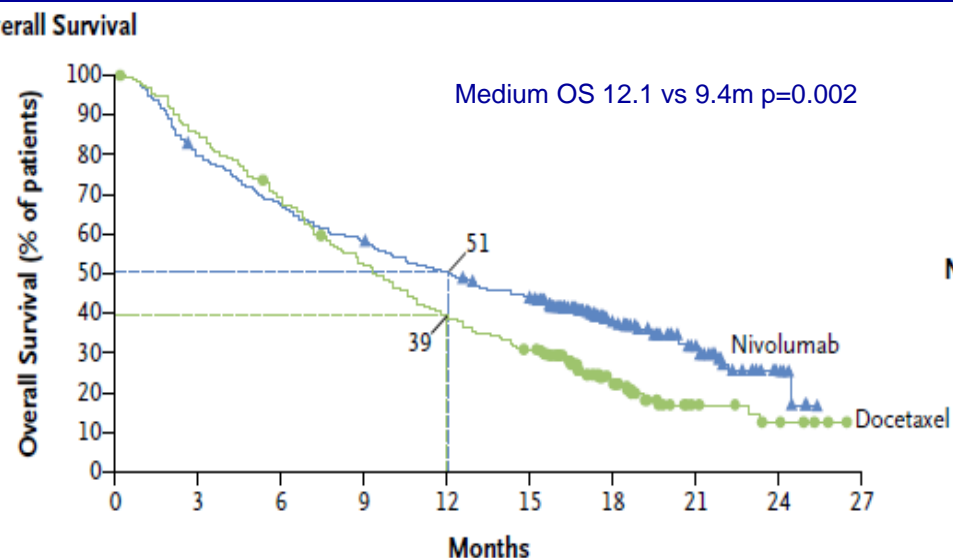


**Figure 1. Kaplan–Meier Curves for Overall Survival.**

The analysis included all the patients who underwent randomization. Symbols indicate censored observations, and horizontal lines the rates of overall survival at 1 year.

Squamous cell carcinoma

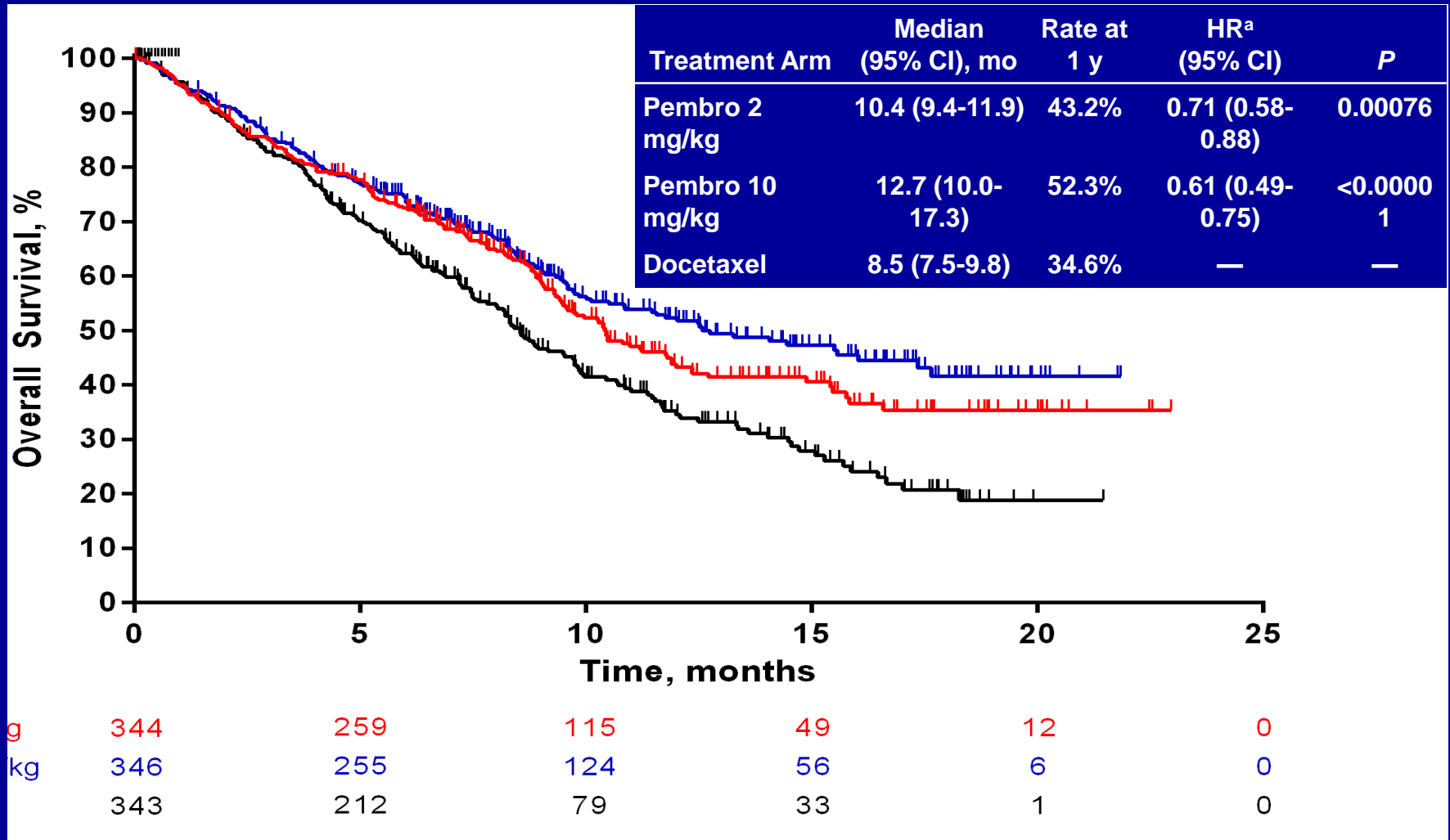
## Checkmate 057



Non-squamous cell carcinoma



# Pembrolizumab is better than Docetaxel (KEYNOTE 010)





“Taller or bigger” represents a new standard

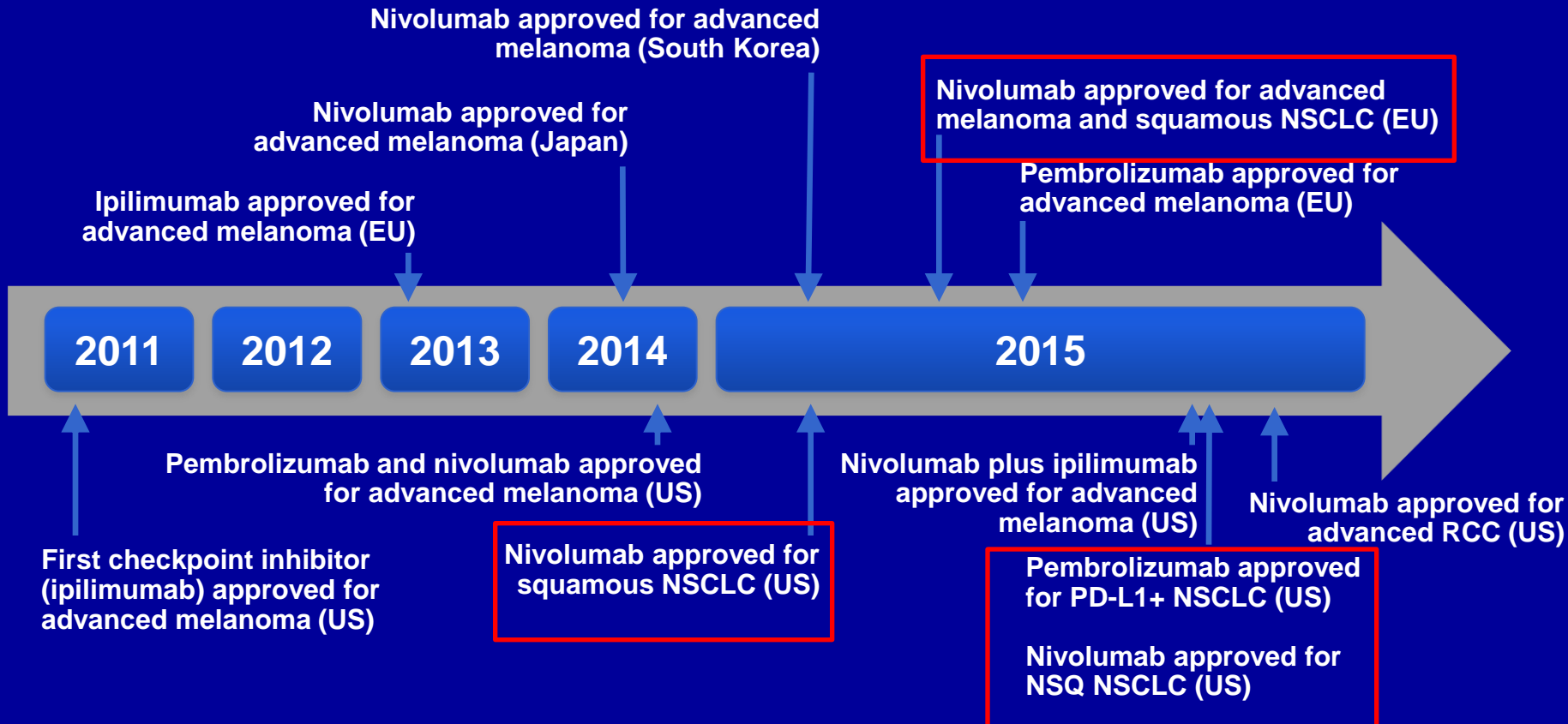


Docetaxel

Is ICI taller or bigger than Arnold or just Danny?



# Approval of Nivolumab and Pembrolizumab for lung cancer in 2015







Keynote

VERSUS



Checkmate



# Key outcomes (total population)

	KEYNOTE 010		Checkmate 057		Checkmate 017	
RR	Pembro 2mg/kg	18%	Nivo	19%	Nivo	20%
	Pembro 10mg/kg	18.5%	Doc	9%	Doc	9%
	Docetaxel	9.3%				
PFS (Total)	Pembro 2mg/kg	3.9m	Nivo	4.2m	Nivo	3.5m
	Pembro 10mg/kg	4.0m	Doc	2.3m	Doc	2.8m
	Docetaxel	4.0m				
OS (Total)	Pembro 2mg/kg	10.4m	Nivo	12.2m	Nivo	9.2m
	Pembro 10mg/kg	12.7m	Doc	9.2m	Doc	6.0m
	Docetaxel	8.5m				



# Key distinctive features

	<b>KEYNOTE 010</b>	<b>Checkmate 057</b>	<b>Checkmate 017</b>
Line of chemotherapy	One line or more	One line	One line
Histology	Non-squamous and squamous cell ca	Non-squamous cell ca	Squamous cell ca
Biomarker (PDL1 expression)	Prospective (44% archival, 56% new biopsy )	Retrospective	Retrospective
Drug dose	2mg/kg q3w 10mg/kg q3w	3mg/kg q2w	3mg/kg q2w
Primary Endpoints	PFS/OS Total population PFS/OS >50% stratum	OS Total population	OS Total population



# Getting ready by addressing some practical questions

Should ICI be used as second or third line therapy?

Should all patients be tested for PD-L1 status prior to ICI?

What is the optimal dose?

Is ICI cost-effective?



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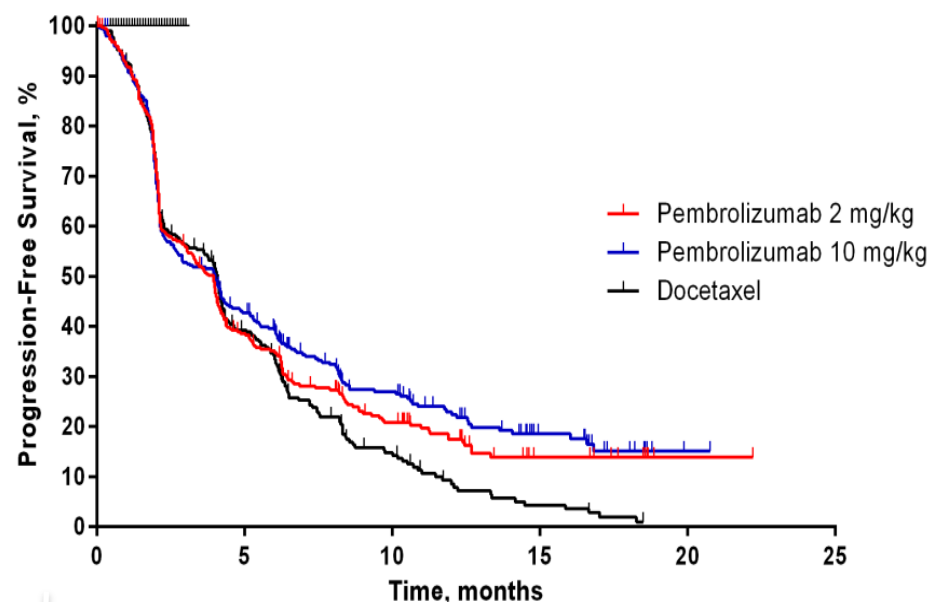
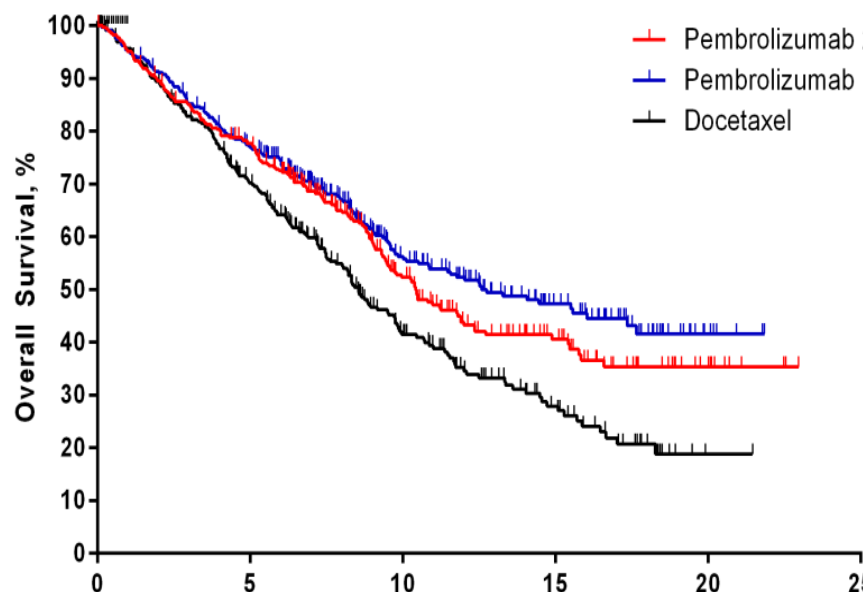


# KEYENOTE 010: Baseline Characteristics

	<b>Pembro 2mg/kg Q3W n = 344</b>	<b>Pembro 10 mg/kg Q3W n = 346</b>	<b>Docetaxel n = 343</b>
Histology, %			
Squamous	22.1	23.1	19.2
Nonsquamous	69.8	70.5	70.0
Other/unknown	11.0	6.4	10.8
<i>EGFR</i> mutant, %	8.1	9.2	7.6
<i>ALK</i> translocated, %	0.6	1.2	0.6
Prior adjuvant therapy, %	1.7	2.0	0.9
Prior neoadjuvant therapy, %	0.3	0.3	0
Prior lines of therapy, %			
1	70.6	67.9	68.5
2	300 patients in third line		21.9
≥3			8.5
Unknown			0.3



# KEYNOTE 010: OS and PFS (Total population including 30% of patients with 3<sup>rd</sup> line therapy)



Treatment Arm	Median (95% CI), mo	Rate at 1 y	HR <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	P
Pembro 2 mg/kg	10.4 (9.4-11.9)	43.2%	0.71 (0.58-0.88)	0.00076
Pembro 10 mg/kg	12.7 (10.0-17.3)	52.3%	0.61 (0.49-0.75)	<0.0000
Docetaxel	8.5 (7.5-9.8)	34.6%	—	—

Treatment Arm	Median (95% CI), mo	Rate at 9 mo	HR <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	P
Pembro 2 mg/kg	3.9 (3.1-4.1)	22.9%	0.88 (0.74-1.05)	0.07424
Pembro 10 mg/kg	4.0 (2.7-4.3)	27.5%	0.79 (0.66-0.94)	0.00401
Docetaxel	4.0 (3.1-4.2)	15.9%	—	—



# Key outcomes (total population)

	KEYNOTE 010		Checkmate 057		Checkmate 017	
RR	Pembro 2mg/kg	18%	Nivo	19%	Nivo	20%
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OS (Total)	Pembro 2mg/kg	10.4m	Nivo	12.2m	Nivo	9.2m
	Pembro 10mg/kg	12.7m	Doc	9.2m	Doc	6.0m
	Docetaxel	8.5m				

Brahmer et al NEJM 2014; Borghaei et al NEJM 2015; Herbst et al ESMO Asia 2015



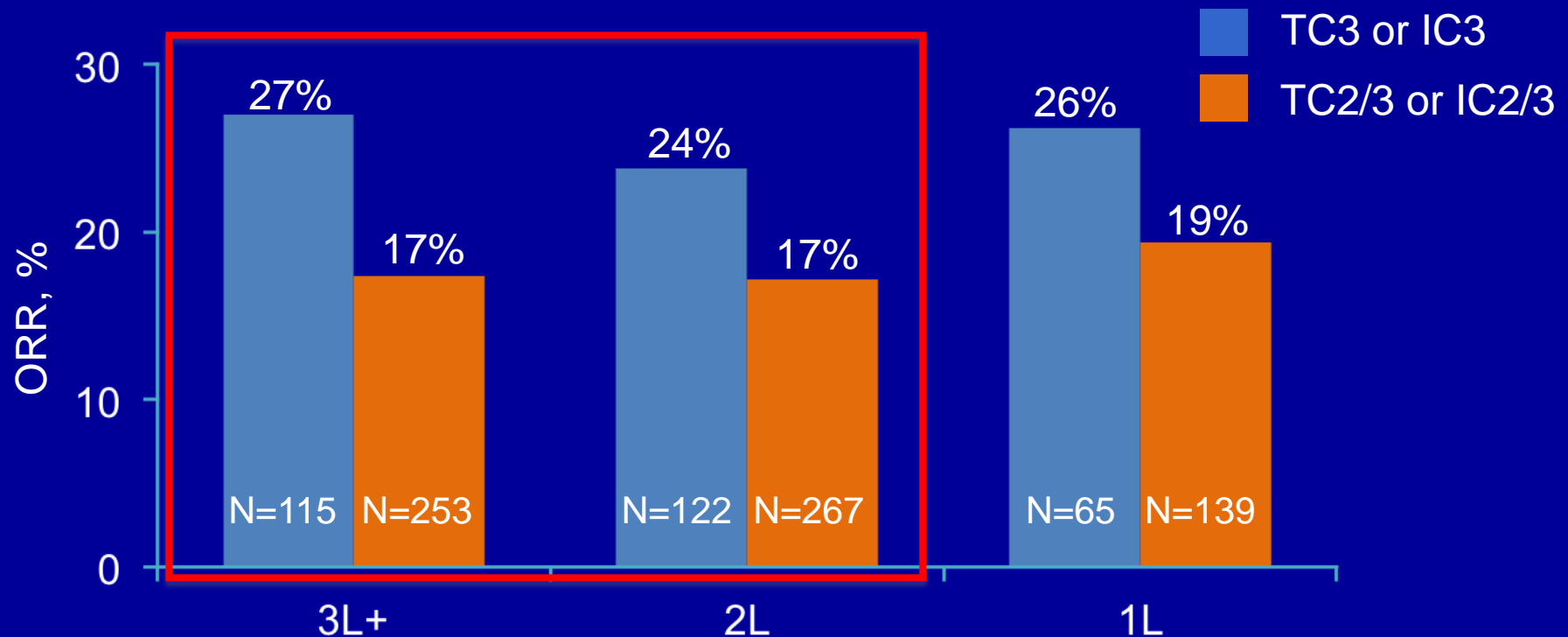
# KEYNOTE 001: Line of prior therapy

Prior treatment	2mg/kg q3w	10mg/kg q3w	10mg/kg q2w	Total
0	4	45	45	94 (19.0%)
1	2	RR 19.4% PFS 3.7 months OS 12.0 months		74(14.9%)
2	0			119(14.9%)
3	0	60	46	106(21.4%)
4 or more	0	59	43	102 (20.6%)



# BIRCH: IRF-assessed ORR by Line of Therapy

## *TC3 or IC3 and TC2/3 or IC2/3 groups*



- BIRCH met its primary endpoint in all predefined subgroups per protocol-specified criteria
- Majority of responses were ongoing (>61% in TC3 or IC3)
- Median DoR was 7 mo in 3L+, NR in 1L/2L in TC3 or IC3, although follow-up is limited
- IRF- and INV-assessed ORR (per RECIST v1.1) were similar. In TC3 or IC3, e.g. 27% vs 29% in 3L+; 24% vs 25% in 2L; and 26% vs 31% in 1L, respectively



# Getting ready by addressing some practical questions

Should ICI be used as second or third line therapy?

Should all patients be tested for PD-L1 status prior to ICI?

What is the optimal dose?

Is ICI cost-effective?



# What did Roy say about PD-L1 biomarker 6 months ago?

## However, we still have some work to do on the endgame!




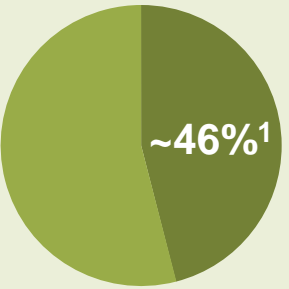
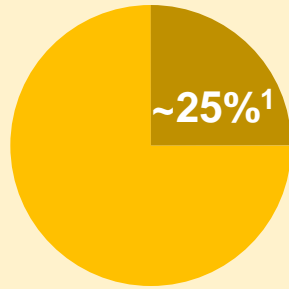
2. Should this PD-L1 biomarker assay be used for patient selection?

**No- Not Yet**

- It is intriguing but for now only hypothesis generating
- Not prospectively stratified and incomplete (22 percent have no measurement))
- While it does improve OR, PFS and OS - even the group <1% appears to have at least equal activity to docetaxel with less toxicity
- Issues with archival tissue, heterogeneity and scoring
- Future markers must be developed to enable safe and effective combinations



# PD-L1 expression as biomarker

	Atezolizumab	Nivolumab	Pembrolizumab
Detection antibody <sup>1</sup>	SP142	28-8	22C3
IHC platform <sup>1</sup>	Ventana	Dako	Dako
Tested cells	NSCLC (IC and TC) UBC (IC)	Lung (TC)	NSCLC (TC) UBC (TC and stroma)
Estimated PD-L1 prevalence in NSCLC	<p>16%*<sup>2</sup> </p> <p>37%*<sup>2</sup> </p> <p>68%*<sup>2</sup> </p>	<p>PD-L1+ as <math>\geq 5\%</math> of TCs</p>  <p>~46%<sup>1</sup></p>	<p>PD-L1+ as <math>\geq 50\%</math> of TCs</p>  <p>~25%<sup>1</sup></p>

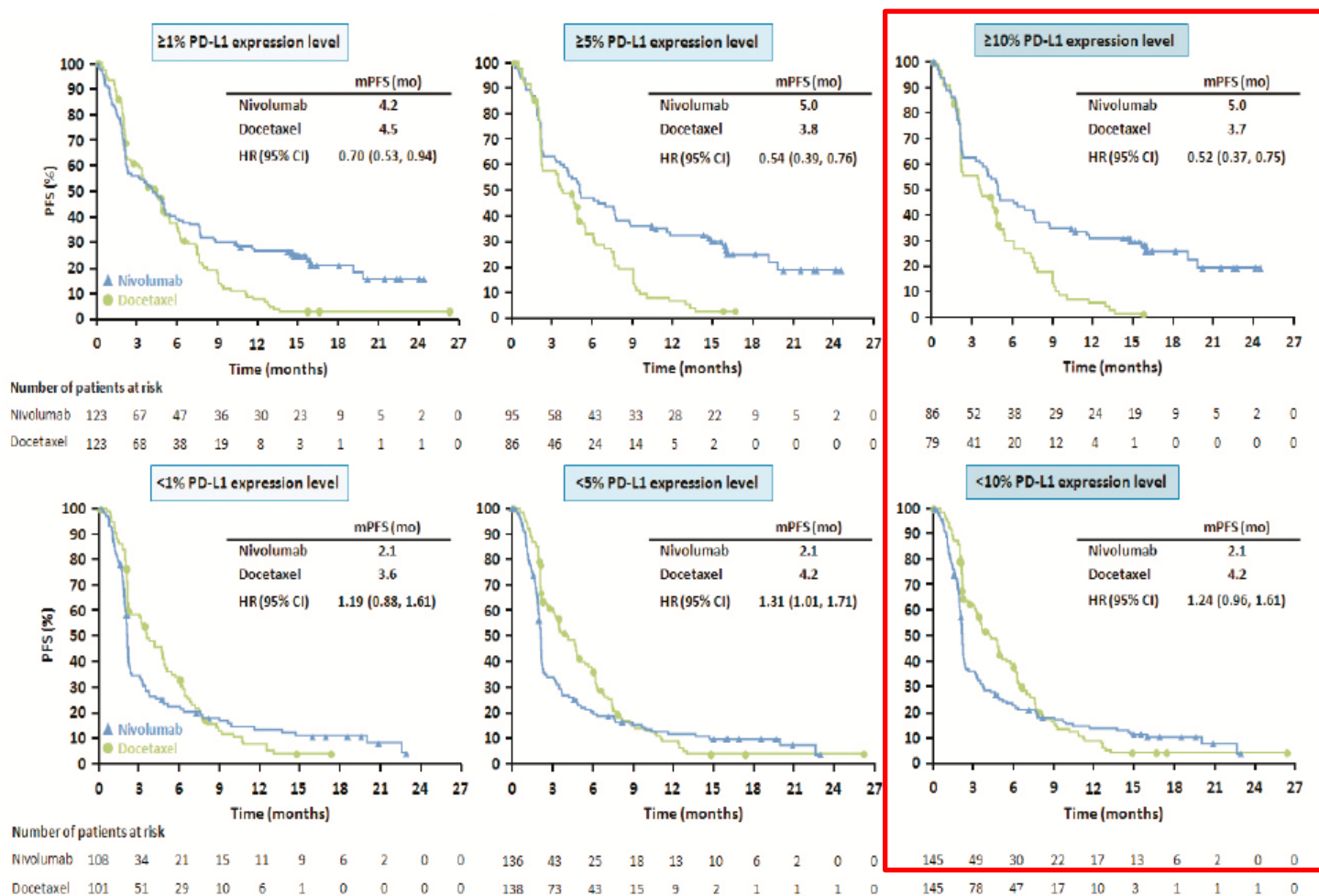
\*TC3 or IC3 = TC  $\geq 50\%$  or IC  $\geq 10\%$  PD-L1+; TC2/3 or IC2/3 = TC or IC  $\geq 5\%$  PD-L1+; TC1/2/3 or IC1/2/3 = TC or IC  $\geq 1\%$  PD-L1+; TC0 and IC0 = TC and IC  $< 1\%$  PD-L1+, respectively  
UC = urothelial carcinoma

1. Kerr, et al. J Thorac Oncol 2015  
2. Spira, et al. ASCO 2015



# Checkmate 057 PFS by PD-L1 status

Figure S8A. Kaplan-Meier Plots of Progression-free Survival at the 1%, 5% and 10% PD-L1 Expression Levels.





# Tumor Proportion Score (TPS) Immunohistochemical Staining by 22C3 antibody



## Definition and prevalence of TPS in KEYNOTE 001

Strongly positive defined as >50%: 23.2%

Weakly positive defined as 1-49%: 37.6%

Negative defined as ≤1%: 39.2%

## Prevalence of TPS in KEYNOTE 010 (n=2222)

Strongly positive: 28.5%

Weakly positive: 33.9%

Negative: 33.6%

Staining intensity: 0+  
PD-L1 = 0% positive

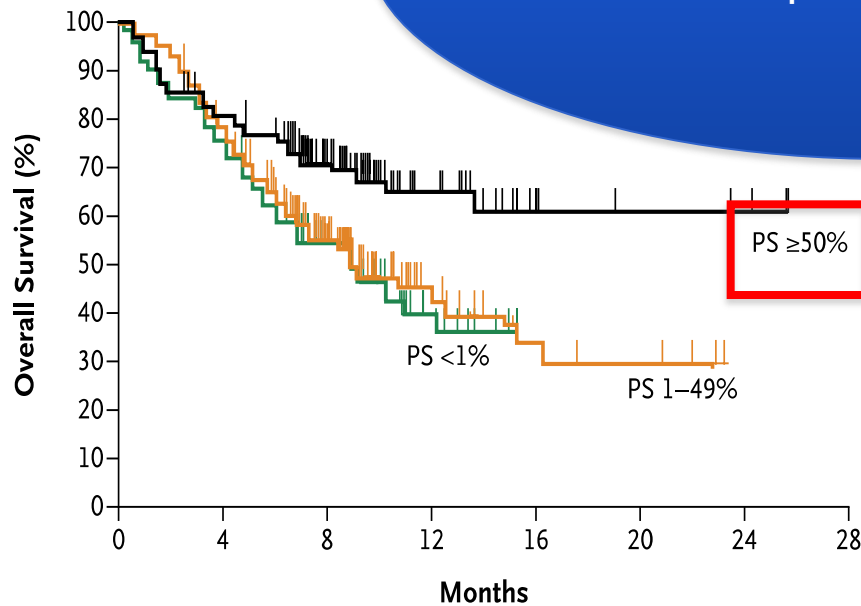
**PD-L1-Negative**



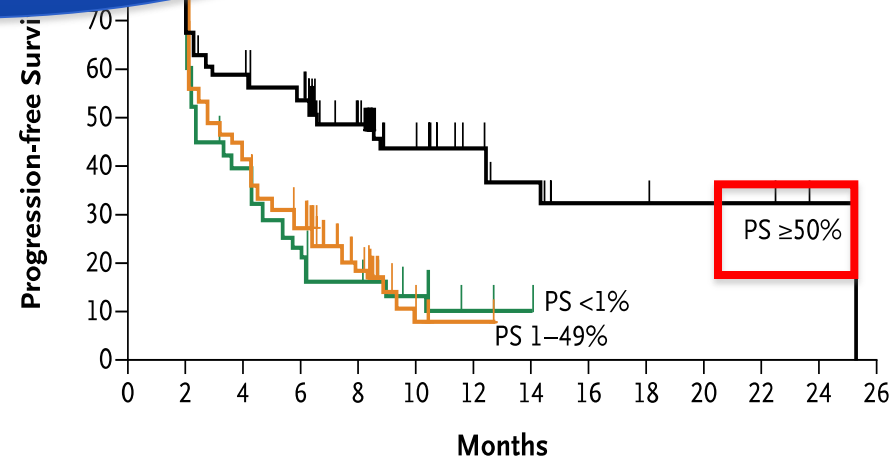
# KEYNOTE 001: PFS and OS

FDA approval of pembrolizumab  
for PD-L1 positive lung cancer

A All Patients



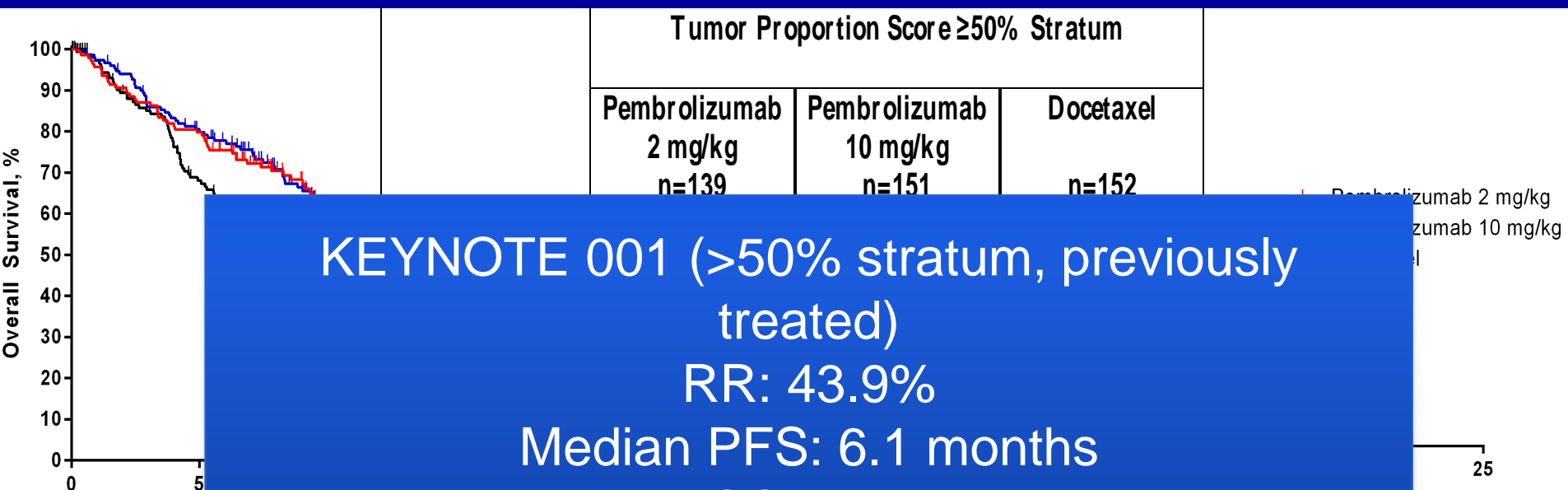
Overall survival



Progression free survival



# KEYNOTE 010 (>50% Stratum): PFS and OS



KEYNOTE 001 (>50% stratum, previously treated)

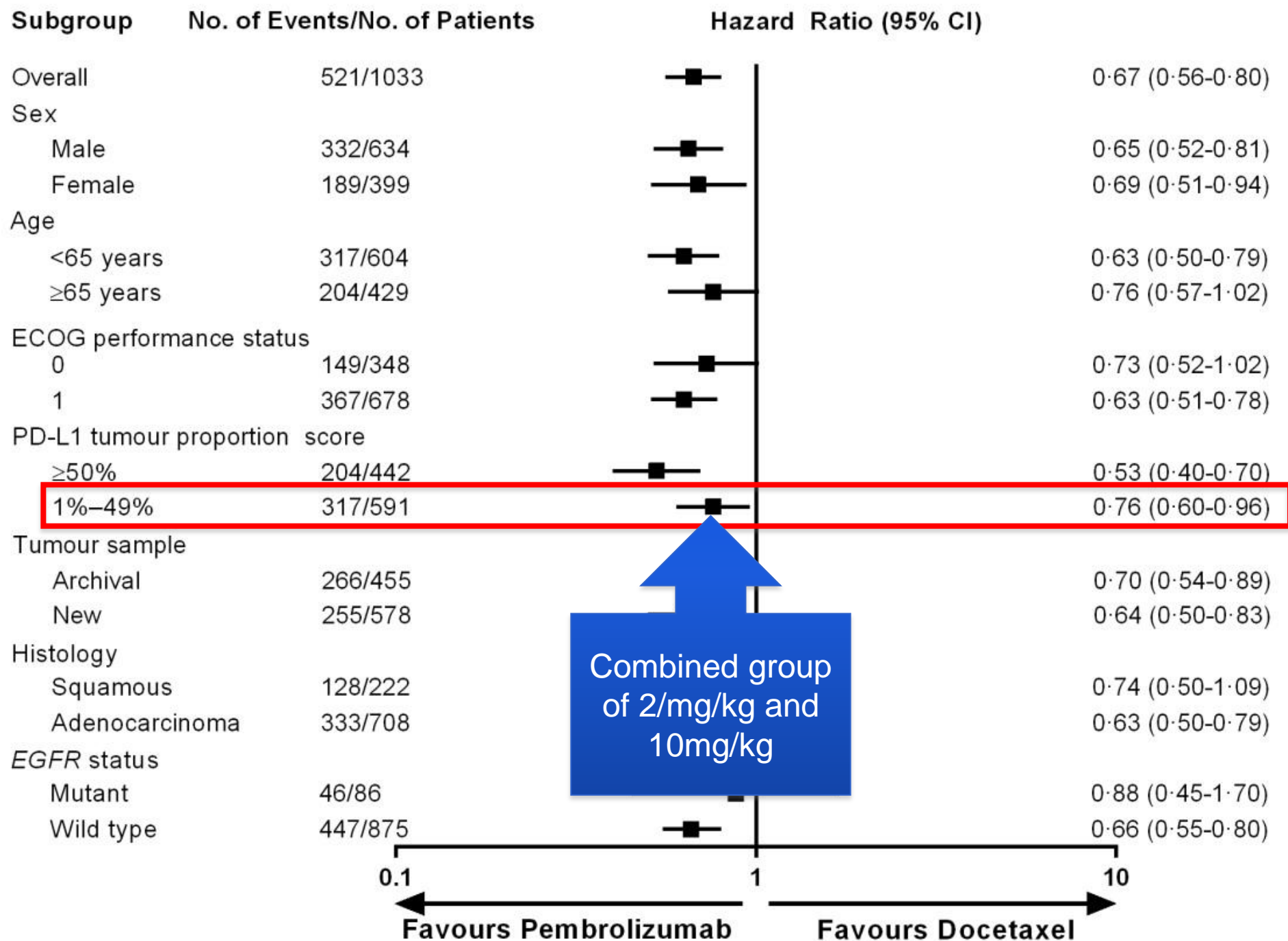
RR: 43.9%

Median PFS: 6.1 months

Median OS: Not reached

Treatment Arm	Median (95% CI), mo	Rate at 1 y	HR (95% CI)	P	Treatment Arm	Median (95% CI), mo	Rate at 9 mo	(95% CI)	P
Pembro 2 mg/kg	14.9 (10.4-NR)	53.4%	0.54 (0.38-0.77)	0.00024	Pembro 2 mg/kg	5.0 (4.0-6.5)	35.5%	0.59 (0.44-0.78)	0.00012
Pembro 10 mg/kg	17.3 (11.8-NR)	58.1%	0.50 (0.36-0.70)	0.00002	Pembro 10 mg/kg	5.2 (4.1-8.1)	37.8%	0.59 (0.45-0.78)	0.00007
Docetaxel	8.2 (6.4-10.7)	38.0%	—	—	Docetaxel	4.1 (3.6-4.3)	19.2%	—	—







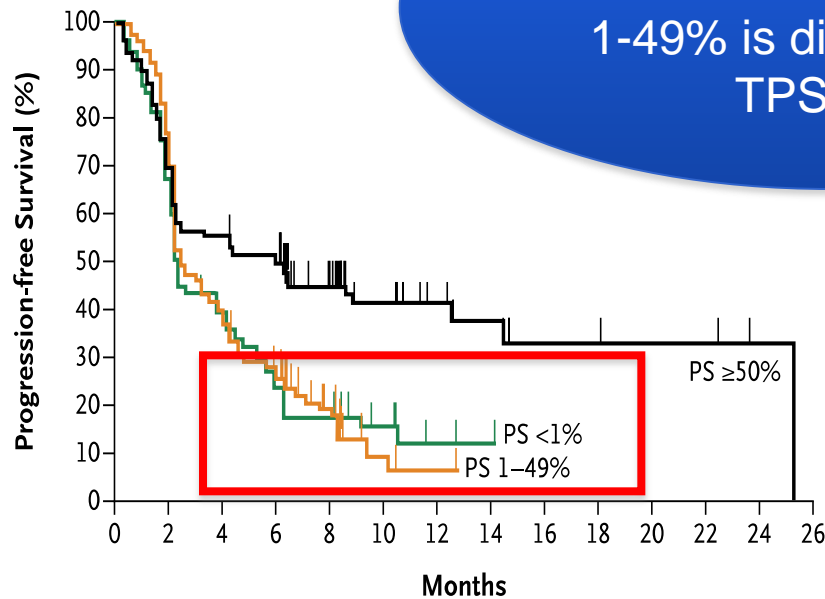
What about patients with  $<1\%$   
tumor proportion score?



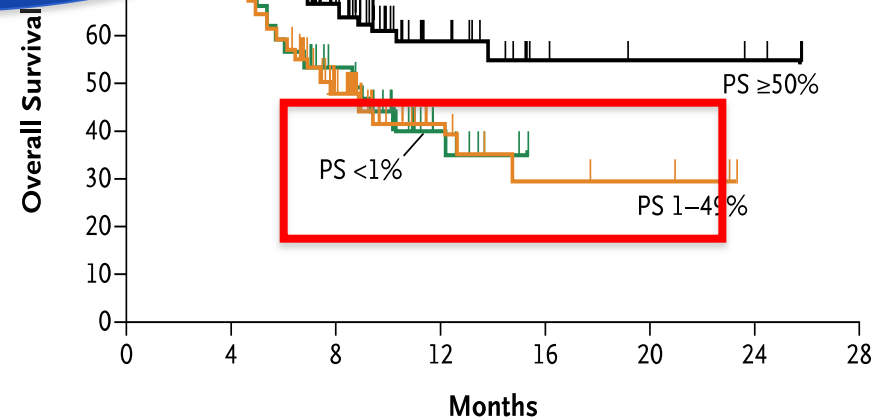
# KEYNOTE 001: PFS and OS in the previously treated patients

We cannot say the survival outcomes of TPS 1-49% is different from TPS <1%

B Previous Treatment



PFS



OS



>50% stratum benefit  
significantly from 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>  
line pembrolizumab  
(KEYNOTE 010)

1-49% stratum benefit  
moderately from 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> line  
pembrolizumab  
(KEYNOTE 010)

<1% stratum is not  
different from 1-49%  
(KEYNOTE 001)

Why should we test then?



# Getting ready by addressing some practical questions

Should ICI be used as second or third line therapy?

Should all patients be tested for PD-L1 status prior to ICI?

What is the optimal dose?

Is ICI cost-effective?



# We didn't know 2mg/kg works in NSCLC

KEYNOTE-001.<sup>24-26</sup> The interpretation of response among patients receiving 2 mg per kilogram is limited by the lack of data for that dose. The 2-mg dose is being evaluated in a recently enrolled cohort of KEYNOTE-001, as well as in the phase

**Table 1.** Clinical Characteristics of the Total Population (N = 495)

Characteristic	2 mg/kg Q3W	10 mg/kg Q3W	10 mg/kg Q2W	Total
	n = 6	n = 287	n = 202	N = 495



# KEYNOTE 010 helps to define the dose of pembrolizumab at 2mg/kg

	KEYNOTE 010			
RR	Pembro 2mg/kg	18%	>50% stratum	
	Pembro 10mg/kg	18.5%		
	Docetaxel	9.3%		
PFS (Total)	Pembro 2mg/kg	3.9m	Treatment Arm	Median (95% CI), mo
	Pembro 10mg/kg	4.0m	Pembro 2 mg/kg	5.0 (4.0-6.5)
	Docetaxel	4.0m	Pembro 10 mg/kg	5.2 (4.1-8.1)
OS (Total)	Pembro 2mg/kg	10.4m	Treatment Arm	Median (95% CI), mo
	Pembro 10mg/kg	12.7m	Pembro 2 mg/kg	14.9 (10.4-NR)
	Docetaxel	8.5m	Pembro 10 mg/kg	17.3 (11.8-NR)



# Similar incidence of immune related toxicity

<b>Pembrolizumab</b>	<b>2mg q3w (all grade)</b>	<b>2mg q3w (grade 3-5)</b>	<b>10mg q3w (all grade)</b>	<b>10mg q3w (grade 3-5)</b>
Hypothyroidism	8.3%	0	8.2%	0
Pneumonitis	4.7%	2.1%	4.4%	2.0%
Hyperthyroidism	3.5%	0	5.8%	0.3%
Colitis	1.2%	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%
Skin reaction	1.2%	0.9%	2.0%	1.7%



Can we give lower than 2mg/kg?



# Lower than standard dose (nivolumab)

Dose of Anti-PD-1 Antibody	Objective Response† <i>no. of patients/ total no. of patients</i>	Objective-Response Rate‡  % (95% CI)	Duration of Response§  <i>mo</i>	Stable Disease ≥24 wk  <i>no. of patients/ total no. of patients</i> % (95% CI)		Progression-free Survival Rate at 24 wk¶  % (95% CI)
Non-small-cell lung cancer						
Squamous						
1.0 mg/kg	0/5	0		0/5	0	0
3.0 mg/kg	3/6	50 (12–88)	ND	0/6	0	50 (10–90)
10.0 mg/kg	3/7	43 (10–82)	ND	0/7	0	43 (6–80)
All doses	6/18	33 (13–59)	ND	0/18	0	33 (12–55)
Nonsquamous						
1.0 mg/kg	0/12	0		1/12	8 (0.2–39)	14 (0–37)
3.0 mg/kg	3/13	23 (5–54)	ND	2/13	15 (2–45)	37 (10–64)
10.0 mg/kg	4/31	13 (4–30)	ND	2/31	6 (0.8–21)	21 (6–36)
All doses	7/56	12 (5–24)	ND	5/56	9 (3–20)	22 (11–34)



Past practice of defining dose by MTD (maximum tolerated dose)

Pembrolizumab 2mg/kg = 10 mg/kg  
(in efficacy and toxicity)

Dose is  
defined by  
minimal  
effective dose  
(MED)

This is not the  
MTD



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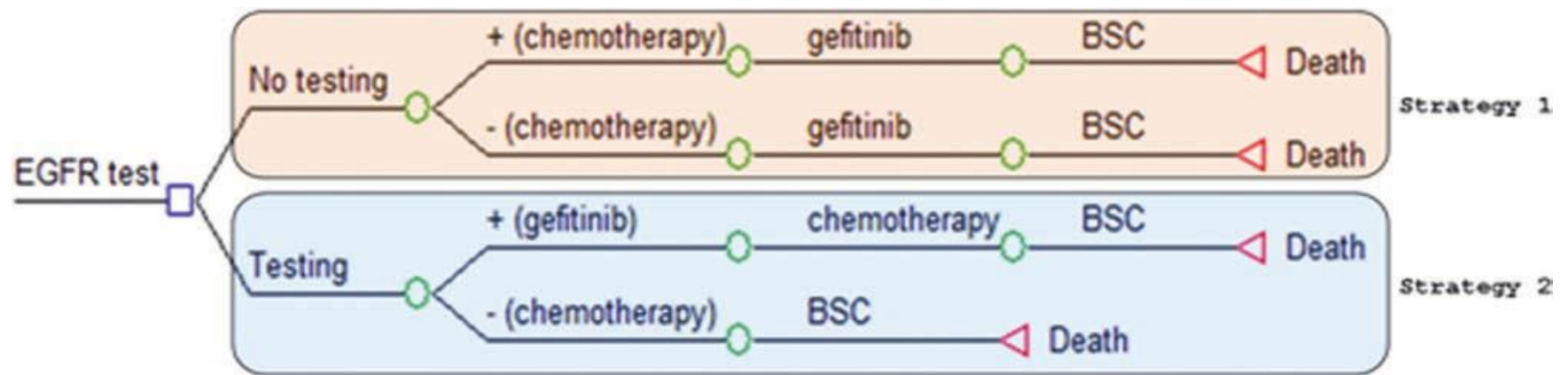
What is the optimal dose?

Is ICI cost-effective?



# Cost-Effectiveness of Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Mutation Testing and First-Line Treatment With Gefitinib for Patients With Advanced Adenocarcinoma of the Lung

Gilberto de Lima Lopes Jr, MD, MBA, FAMS<sup>1,2</sup>; Joel E. Segel<sup>3</sup>; Daniel S. W. Tan, MBBS<sup>4</sup>; Young K. Do, MD, MPH, PhD<sup>3</sup>; Tony Mok, MD<sup>5</sup>; and Eric A. Finkelstein, PhD, MHA<sup>3</sup>



**Table 2.** Costs and QALYs Associated With Each Treatment Arm

Arm	Cost	Incremental Cost	QALYs	Incremental QALYs
Standard treatment (no EGFR testing followed by first-line chemotherapy and gefitinib in the second line)	\$47,100	—	0.87	—
EGFR testing followed by first-line gefitinib for EGFR <sup>+</sup> and second-line chemotherapy	\$44,700	−\$2,400	0.91	0.04



# This model may not be applicable to ICI

- Lack of a clear-cut biomarker for patient selection
- Monthly cost of ICI is at least three times more than Gefitinib





Cost USD\$4500 in Hong Kong



# If only 100mg vial is available



= 1.7mg/kg

= USD\$4500 every 3 weeks

Availability of 20mg  
vials may improve cost-  
effectiveness



= 3.3mg/kg or

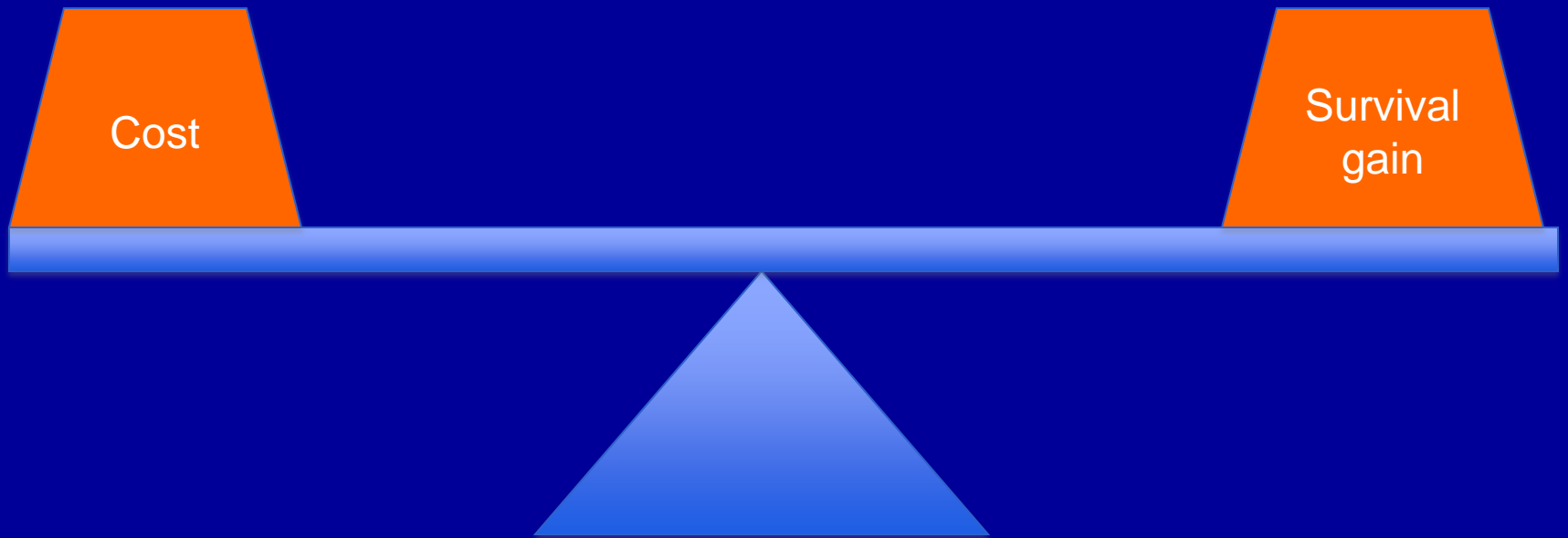
= 2mg/kg (wasted 80mg)

= USD\$9000 every 3 weeks

60kg  
Asian Male



# Cost and survival gain





# Cost and survival gain





# What KEYNOTE 010 teaches us?

ICI can be given either as second or third line therapy

Patients with TPS >50% benefit most from ICI but the study design preclude the use of TPS <1% as negative predictor.

Optimal dose for pembrolizumab should be 2mg/kg but not sure if we can go lower

Cost-effectiveness is a highly debatable



Are we ready for immune checkpoint inhibitors for advanced non-small-cell lung cancer? 

Mok and Loong Lancet ePub Dec 19 2015

# Are We Ready?

Yes, we are ready!

*Almost*



But I am surely ready for this !!!!



# STAR THE FORCE AWAKENS WARS

The title 'STAR WARS THE FORCE AWAKENS' is displayed in a large, bold, yellow-outlined font. The letters are filled with various scenes and characters from the movie. The 'S' in 'STAR' shows a desert landscape. The 'T' shows a close-up of a droid's head. The 'A' shows a close-up of Rey. The 'R' shows a close-up of a droid's head. The 'W' in 'WARS' shows a close-up of a droid's head. The 'A' shows a close-up of a droid's head. The 'R' shows a close-up of a droid's head. The 'S' shows a close-up of a droid's head. The words 'THE FORCE AWAKENS' are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font between 'STAR' and 'WARS'.