

# **SOFT TISSUE SARCOMA**

**“Exceptions”  
to “standard” medical treatment**



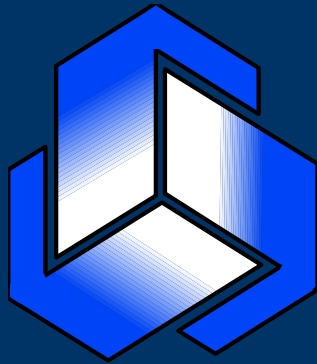
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# Potential conflicts of interest

	Empl	Cons	Stocks	Honor	Res (inst.)	Test	Travels
<i>Amgen Dompé</i>		●			●		
<i>ARIAD</i>		●					
<i>Bayer</i>		●			●		
<i>Blueprint Medicines</i>		●					
<i>Eisai</i>		●			●		
<i>Glaxo SK</i>		●			●		
<i>Lilly</i>		●			●		
<i>Merck SD</i>		●					
<i>Merck Serono</i>		●					
<i>Novartis</i>		●		●	●		●
<i>Pfizer</i>		●		●	●		
<i>PharmaMar</i>		●		●	●		●

# STS: advanced disease

$$R < \begin{matrix} \text{ADM 75 mg/sqm} \\ \text{ADM 75 mg/sqm + IFX 7.5 g/sqm} \end{matrix}$$



EORTC

Soft Tissue & Bone Sarcoma Group

## **Doxorubicin Versus CYVADIC Versus Doxorubicin Plus Ifosfamide in First-Line Treatment of Advanced Soft Tissue Sarcomas: A Randomized Study of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group**

By Armando Santoro, Thomas Tursz, Henning Mouridsen, Jaap Verweij, Will Steward, Reiner Somers, Jose Buesa, Paolo Casali, David Spooner, Elaine Rankin, Anne Kirkpatrick, Martine Van Glabbeke, and Allan van Oosterom

**Purpose:** The aim of this trial was to compare the activity and toxicity of single-agent doxorubicin with that of two multidrug regimens in the treatment of patients with adult advanced soft tissue sarcomas.

**Patients and Methods:** This was a prospective randomized phase III trial performed by 35 cancer centers within the Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC). Six hundred sixty-three eligible patients were randomly allocated to receive either doxorubicin 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (arm A), cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin, and dacarbazine (CYVADIC) (arm B), or ifosfamide 5 g/m<sup>2</sup> plus doxorubicin 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup> (arm C).

**Results:** The overall response rate was 24% (95% confidence interval, 20.7% to 27.3%) among eligible patients and 26% among assessable patients. No statistically significant difference was detected among the three study arms in terms of response rate (arm A, 23.3%; arm B, 28.4%; and arm C, 28.1%), remission duration

(median, 46 weeks on arm A, 48 weeks on arm B, and 44 weeks on arm C), or overall survival (median, 52 weeks on arm A, 51 weeks on arm B, and 55 weeks on arm C). The degree of myelosuppression was significantly greater for the combination of ifosfamide and doxorubicin than for the other two regimens. Cardiotoxicity was also more frequent in this arm, but other toxicities were similar.

**Conclusion:** In advanced soft tissue sarcomas of adults, single-agent doxorubicin is still the standard chemotherapy against which more intensive or new drug treatments should be compared. Combination chemotherapy cannot be recommended outside a controlled clinical trial with the exclusion of some subsets of sarcoma patients for whom significant tumor volume reduction may be an important end point of a chemotherapy regimen.

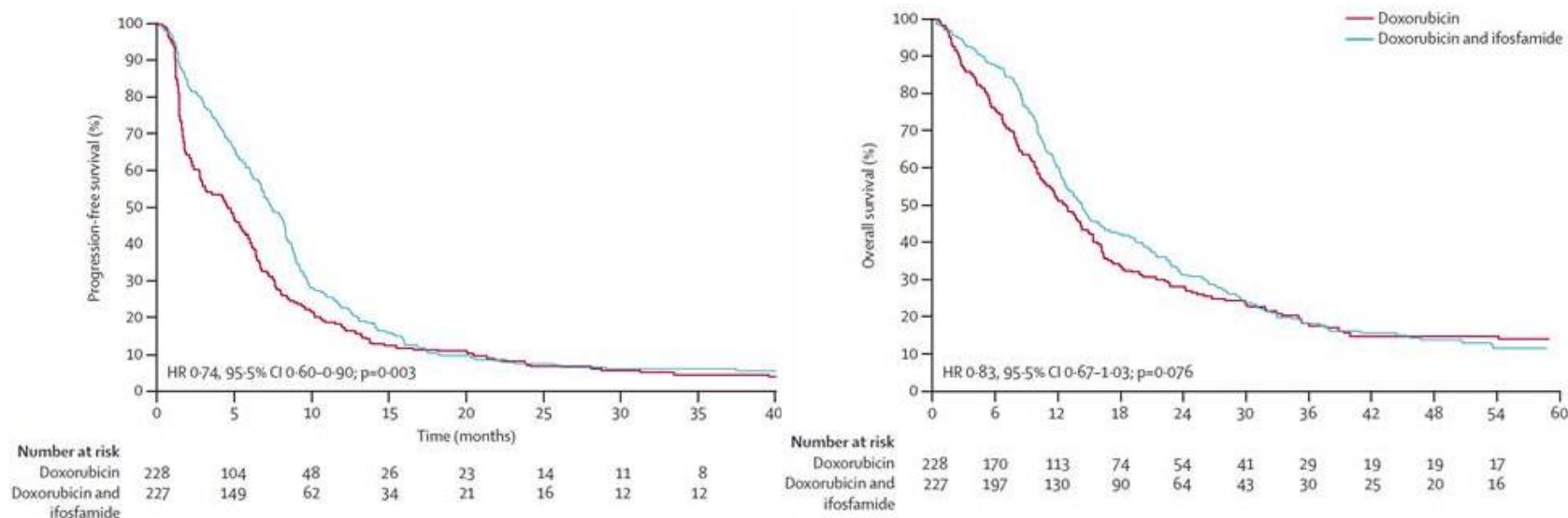
*J Clin Oncol* 13:1537-1545. © 1995 by American Society of Clinical Oncology.



# Doxorubicin alone versus intensified doxorubicin plus ifosfamide for first-line treatment of advanced or metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma: a randomised controlled phase 3 trial

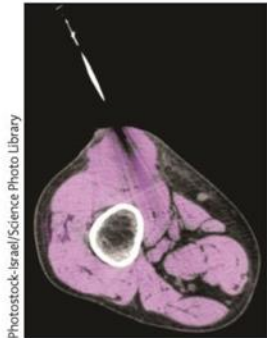


Ian Judson, Jaap Verweij, Hans Gelderblom, Jörg T Hartmann, Patrick Schöffski, Jean-Yves Blay, J Martijn Kerst, Josef Sufliarsky, Jeremy Whelan, Peter Hohenberger, Anders Krarup-Hansen, Thierry Alcindor, Sandrine Marreaud, Saskia Litière, Catherine Hermans, Cyril Fisher, Pancras CW Hogendoorn, A Paolo dei Tos, Winette T A van der Graaf, for the European Organisation and Treatment of Cancer Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group\*



**Lancet Oncol 2014;15:415**

## One step forward, two steps back



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See [Articles](#) page 415

Doxorubicin was shown to have activity against soft-tissue sarcomas in 1969.<sup>1</sup> Combination treatment with dacarbazine<sup>2</sup> and ifosfamide<sup>3</sup> improves responses but not progression-free survival or overall survival.<sup>4</sup> Single-agent doxorubicin is still standard treatment in much of Europe. Dose-intensive doxorubicin and ifosfamide, taking advantage of the steep dose-response curves for both drugs, results in high responses and improved progression-free survival and possibly overall survival.<sup>5,6</sup>

In *The Lancet Oncology*, Ian Judson and colleagues<sup>7</sup> report results of a randomised phase 3 study of 455 patients with metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma. Patients entering the study had to have disease progression within 6 weeks of study entry. Doxorubicin alone failed to prevent further progression in 32% of patients, while the combination failed in only 13%. The combination group had a higher overall response than the doxorubicin only group (26% vs

14%) and longer median progression-free survival (7·4 months vs 4·6 months). Judson and colleagues interpreted their data negatively, concluding that that the difference for the primary endpoint—overall survival—was not statistically significant. We believe that their findings provide convincing evidence that dose-intensive doxorubicin and ifosfamide is superior to doxorubicin alone. Readers should draw their own conclusions.

## Soft tissue and visceral sarcomas: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up<sup>†</sup>

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- Jean-Yves Blay, France (*Moderator*)
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- Stefan Bielack, Germany
- Bodil Bjerkehaugen, Norway
- Sylvie Bonvalot, France
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- Angelo Paolo Dei Tos, Italy
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- Rick Haas, Netherlands
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- Peter Hohenberger, Germany
- Rolf Issels, Germany
- Heikki Joensuu, Finland
- Ian Judson, UK
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- Saskia Litière, Belgium
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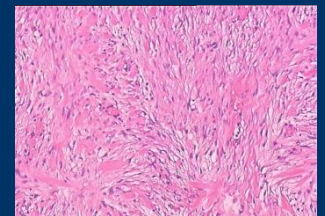
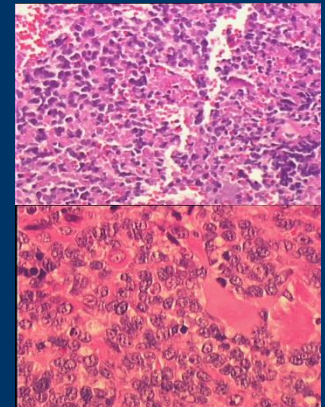
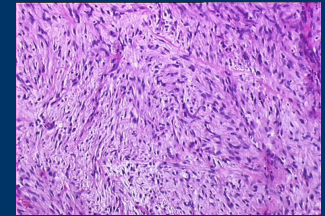
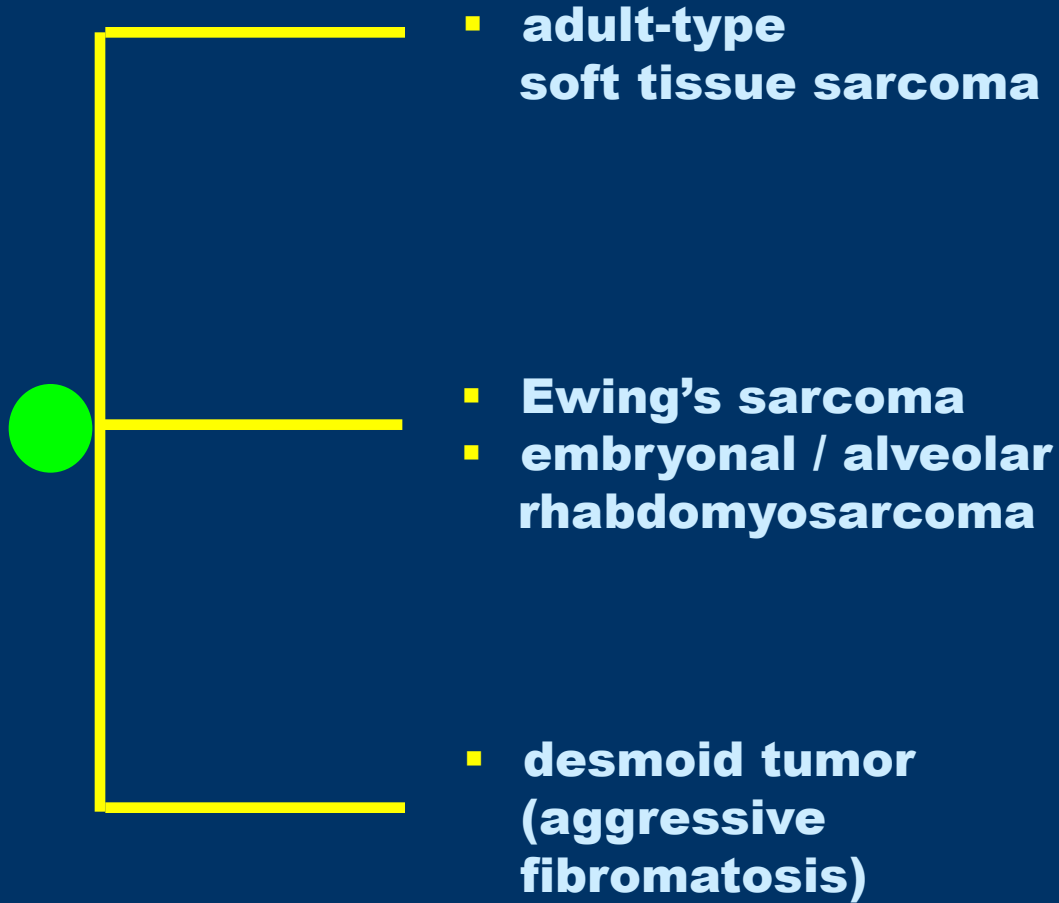
Standard chemotherapy is based on anthracyclines as the first-line treatment [I, A]. As of today, there is no formal demonstration that multiagent chemotherapy is superior to single-agent chemotherapy with doxorubicin alone in terms of overall survival (OS). However, a higher response rate can be expected, in particular in a number of sensitive histological types, according to several, although not all, randomised clinical trials [18, 19]. Therefore, multiagent chemotherapy with adequate-dose anthracyclines plus ifosfamide may be the treatment of choice, particularly when a tumour response is felt to be potentially advantageous and patient performance status is good.

In angiosarcoma, taxanes are an alternative option, given their high antitumour activity in this specific histological type [20] [III, B]. An alternative option is gemcitabine ± docetaxel [21] [V, B].

Doxorubicin plus dacarbazine is an option for multiagent first-line chemotherapy of leiomyosarcoma, where the activity of ifosfamide is far less convincing in available retrospective evidence, or solitary fibrous tumour [22] [V, B].

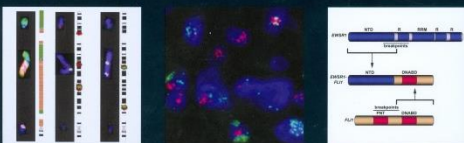
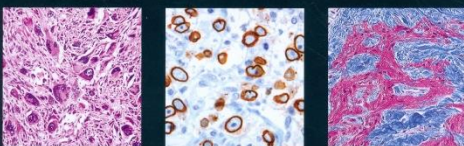
Imatinib is standard medical therapy for those rare patients with dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans who are not amenable to non-mutilating surgery or with metastases deserving medical therapy [23, 24] [III, A].

# The good old way...





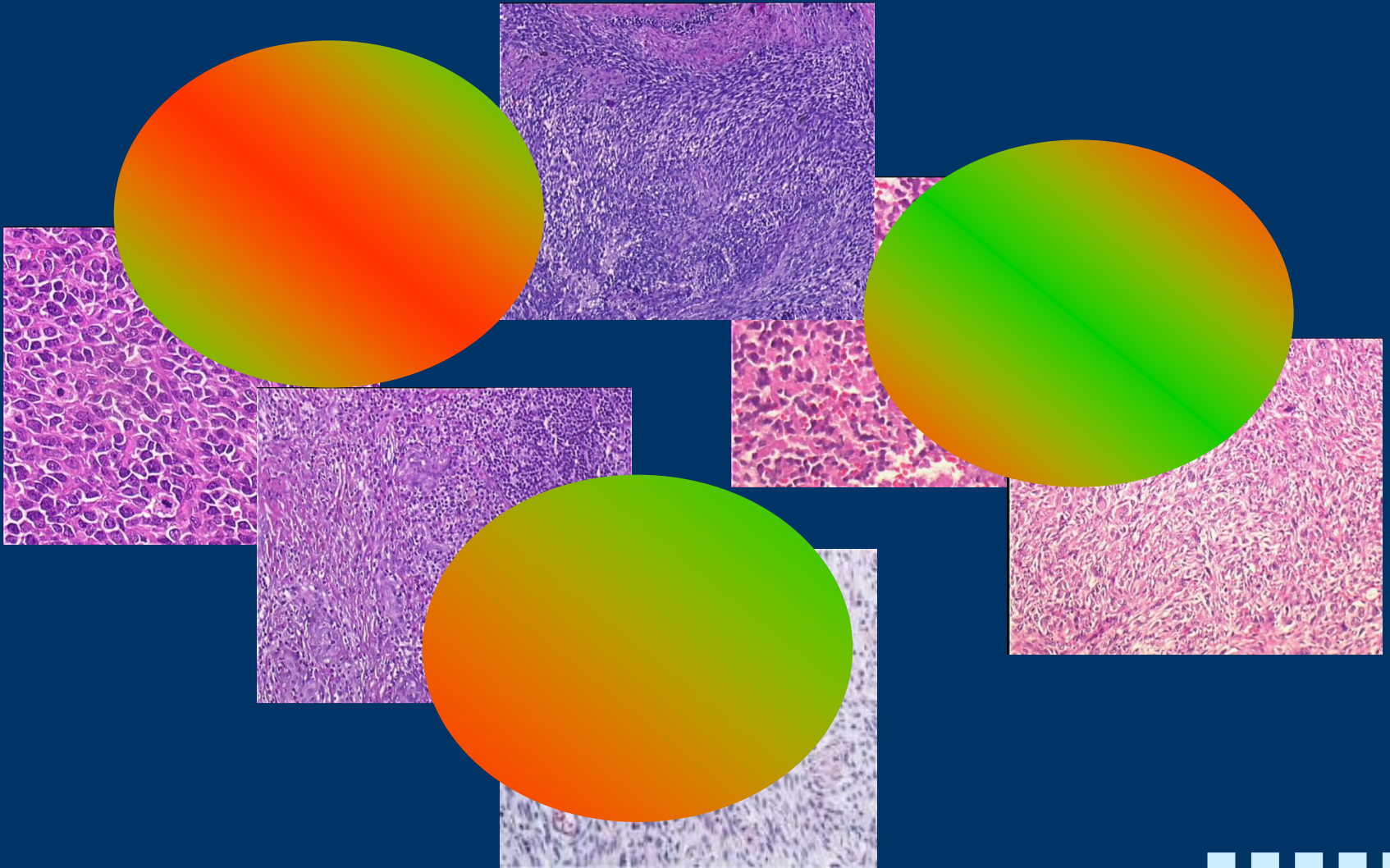
Edited by Christopher D.M. Fletcher, Julia A. Bridge, Pancras C.W. Hogendoorn, Fredrik Mertens



ADIPOCYTIC TUMOURS		
Lipoma	88000	Solitary fibrous tumour
Lipomatosis	88000	Solitary fibrous tumour, malignant
Lipomatosis of nerve	88000	Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumour
Liposarcoma/lipofibrosarcoma	88010	Low-grade myofibroblastic sarcoma
Angiolipoma	88012	Myofibroblastic fibrosarcoma
Myxipoma	88090	Infantile inflammatory fibroblastic tumour
Chondroid lipoma	88020	Atypical fibrosarcoma
Extra-renal angiolipoma	88020	Malignant
Extra-axial myelipoma	88100	Adult fibrosarcoma
Spindle cell liposarcoma	88110	Myofibrosarcoma
Hibernoma	88800	Low-grade fibromyxoid sarcoma
		Scarring spindle-cell fibrosarcoma
<b>Intermediate (locally aggressive)</b>		
Atypical lipomatous tumour	88001	<b>SO-CALLED RHOMBICOTIC TUMOURS</b>
Well-differentiated liposarcoma	88003	
<b>Malignant</b>		
Differentiated liposarcoma	88003	Teratogenic giant cell tumour
Myxoid liposarcoma	88003	Localized type
Pleomorphic liposarcoma	88003	diffuse type
Liposarcoma, not otherwise specified	88003	malignant
		Spindle cell liposarcoma histiocytoma
<b>FIBROBLASTIC / MYOFIBROBLASTIC TUMOURS</b>		
		<b>Intermediate (rarely metastasizing)</b>
		Plexiform fibrohistiocytic tumour
		Giant cell tumour of soft tissues
<b>Benign</b>		
Nodular fasciitis	88007	<b>SMOOTH MUSCLE TUMOURS</b>
Proliferative fasciitis	88007	
Proliferative myositis	88007	<b>Benign</b>
Myxoid fasciitis	88007	Deep isomyoma
Fibro-osteous pseudotumour of digit		<b>Malignant</b>
Isthmic fasciitis	88007	Lipofibrosarcoma (excluding skin)
Fibrous hamartoma of infancy		
Fibrosarcoma		<b>PERICYTIC (PERIVASCULAR) TUMOURS</b>
Juvenile hyaline fibromatosis		Germium tumour (rare variants)
Inclusion body fibrosarcoma		Gomangiopericytoma
Fibroma of tendon sheath	88130	Malignant perineurium tumour
Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	88250	Myopericytoma
Mammary-type myofibroblastoma	88250	Myofibroma
Catching aponeurotic fibroma	88260	Multiformisoma
Angiomyofibroblastic tumour	88260	Angiofibroma
Cuticular angiofibroma	88260	
Nuchal-type fibroma	88100	<b>SKELTAL MUSCLE TUMOURS</b>
Gardner fibroma	88100	
Catching fibrous tumour	88100	<b>Benign</b>
Fibrosarcoma (locally aggressive)	88131	Rhabdomyoma
Paraneurial fibrosarcoma	88131	Adult type
Dermoid-type fibrosarcoma	88211	Fetal type
Lipofibrosarcoma	88111	Giant type
Giant cell fibrosarcoma	88341	
<b>Intermediate (rarely metastasizing)</b>		
Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	88251	Embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma
Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	88251	(including botryoid, anaplastic)
		Atypical rhabdomyosarcoma
		(including solid, anaplastic)
		Myxoid rhabdomyosarcoma
		Spindle cell rhabdomyosarcoma

VASCULAR TUMORS OF SOFT TISSUE		Malignant	
Berigi		Malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor	90403
Hemangioma	91200	Epithelial malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor	90402
Sarcoma		Malignant lipoma	90610
Verruca	91200	Malignant granular cell tumor	90613
Angiosarcoma	91213	Ecdymothymoma	90219
Intravascular	91300		
Epithelial hemangioma	91250		
Angiosarcoma			
Lymphangioma	91700		
<b>TUMORS OF UNCERTAIN DIFFERENTIATION</b>			
<b>Berigi</b>		<b>Acute fibromyoma</b>	
Intermediate (locally aggressive)		Arteriofibrous myoma	80111
Angiosarcoma	91301	(including cellular sarcoma)	
Intermediate (early metastasizing)		Angiosarcoma	80400
Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80401
Intermediate (early metastasizing)	91361*	Angiosarcoma	80402
Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80403
Angiosarcoma	91361*	Angiosarcoma	80404
Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80405
Angiosarcoma	91361*	Angiosarcoma	80406
Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80407
Angiosarcoma	91403	Angiosarcoma	80408
<b>CHONDRO-OSSEOUS TUMORS</b>			
<b>Berigi</b>		<b>Angiosarcoma</b>	
Angiosarcoma	91333	Angiosarcoma	80301
Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80302
Angiosarcoma	91203	Angiosarcoma	80303
<b>CHONDRO-OSSEOUS TUMORS</b>			
<b>Berigi</b>		<b>Angiosarcoma</b>	
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Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80302
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Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80302
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Angiosarcoma	91333	Angiosarcoma	80301
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<b>CHONDRO-OSSEOUS TUMORS</b>			
<b>Berigi</b>		<b>Angiosarcoma</b>	
Angiosarcoma	91333	Angiosarcoma	80301
Angiosarcoma		Angiosarcoma	80302
Angiosarcoma	91203	Angiosarcoma	80303
<b>CHONDRO-OSSEOUS TUMORS</b>			
<b>Berigi</b>			

\* The morphology codes are from the International Classification of Diseases for Oncology (ICD-O) [876A]. Behaviour is coded /0 for benign tumours, /1 for unspecified, borderline or uncertain behaviour, /2 for carcinoma in situ and grade III intraepithelial neoplasia, and /3 for malignant tumours. \* The classification is modified from the previous WHO histological classification of tumours [875A] taking into account changes in understanding of these lesions. \* These new codes were approved by the IARC/WHO Committee for ICD-O in 2012.



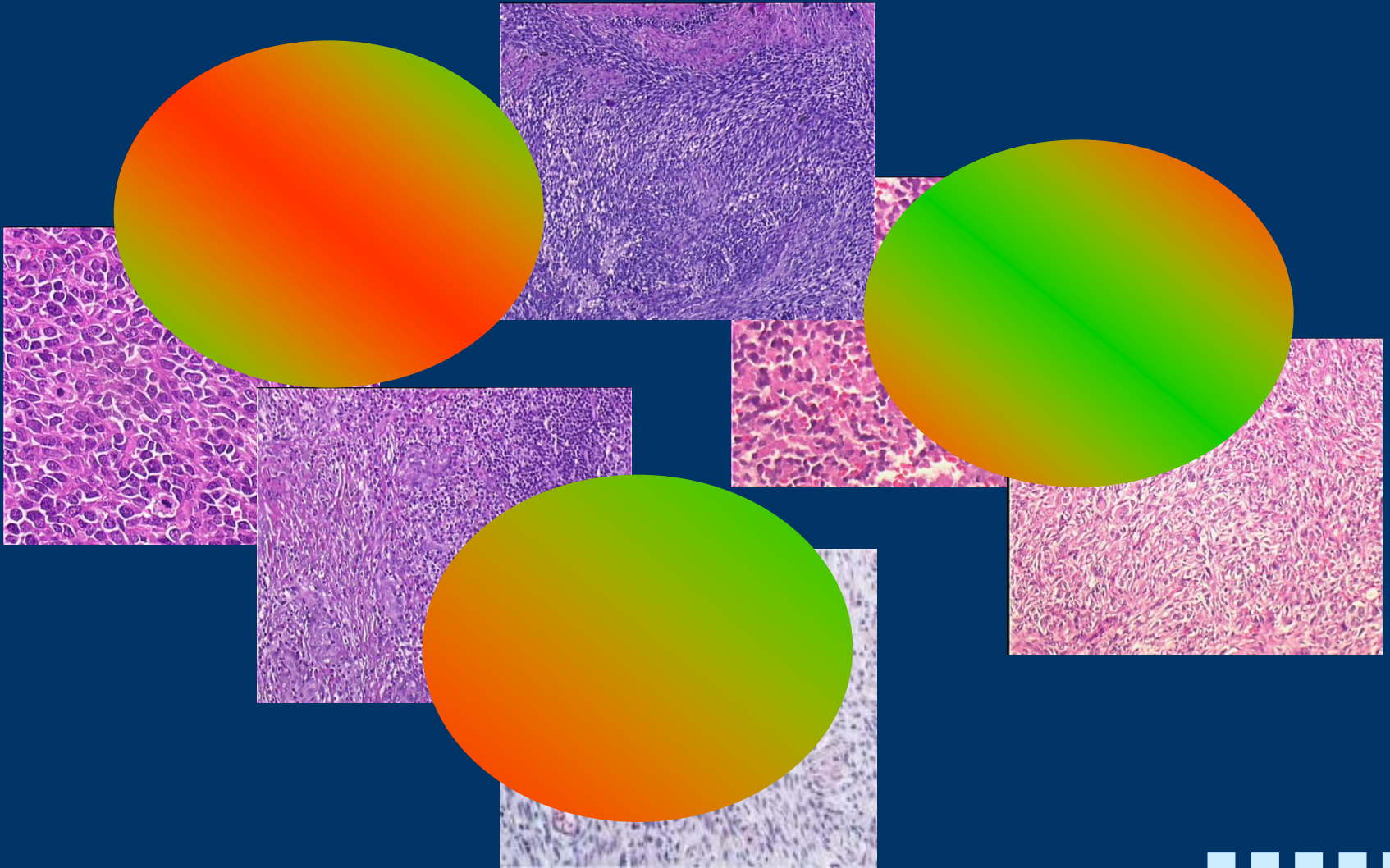


<b>Head &amp; neck</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>Superficial trunk</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Retroperitoneum</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Viscera</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Limbs</b>	<b>60%</b>

***R***







## PHASE II EVALUATION OF ADRIAMYCIN IN HUMAN NEOPLASIA

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JEFFREY A. GOTTLIEB, MD,§ LAURENCE H. BAKER, DO,||  
AND GIANNI BONADONNA, MD\*\*

Four hundred and seventy-two patients with treated with two or more doses of adriamycin risk" patients was 75 mg/m<sup>2</sup> every 3 weeks, was 60 mg/m<sup>2</sup> every 3 weeks. Objective rem patients, with best results noted in lymphom and carcinoma of the breast (16/50). Eighty occurred within three courses. Hematopoietic t of patients; nausea, vomiting, and/or stoma Changes in electrocardiograms were seen in 42 doses of adriamycin ranging from 45 mg/m congestive heart failure occurred in two patie 555 mg/m<sup>2</sup> and 825 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively. It is an active agent, most remissions occur pro toxic reactions appear to be cumulative.

### Sarcoma

Osteogenic sarcoma	5/9
Leiomyosarcoma	3/8
Fibrosarcoma	2/14
Rhabdomyosarcoma	3/11
Ewing's sarcoma	2/7
Chondrosarcoma	1/3
Liposarcoma	1/3
Hemangiosarcoma	2/3
Hemangiopericytoma	1/2
Neuroepithelioma	1/1
"Others"	0/3

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21/64

33%

# A Phase II Trial of Temozolomide in Patients with Unresectable or Metastatic Soft Tissue Sarcoma

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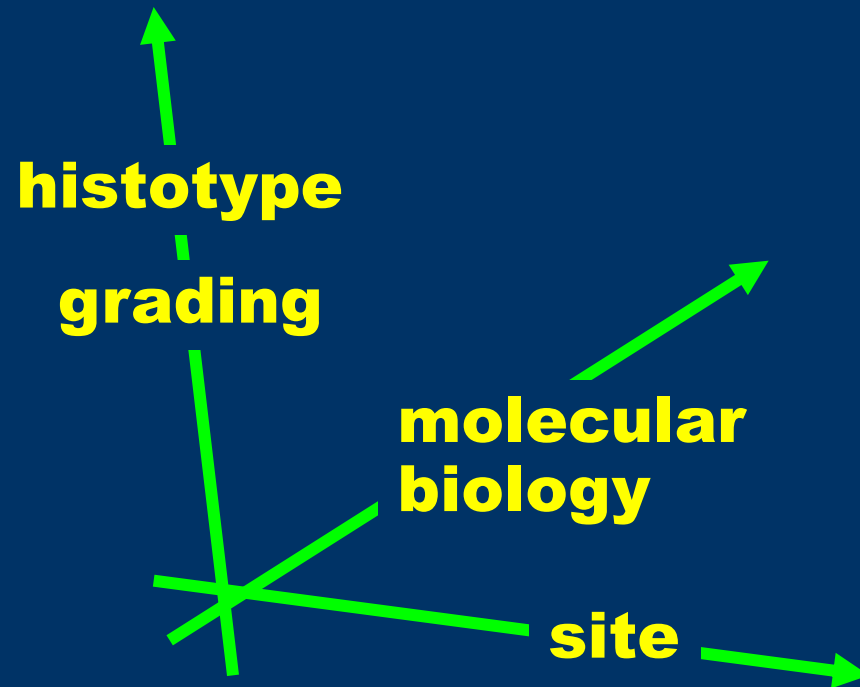
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## Response

Among the 25 evaluable patients, there were 2 objective responses (partial responses), 2 mixed responses, and 3 patients with stable disease that lasted > 6 months, for an overall objective response rate of 8%. All of these patients had leiomyosarcoma (of uterine and nonuterine origin).

**CONCLUSIONS.** Temozolomide at the dose schedule employed in the current study was tolerated well and had modest activity against previously treated unresectable or metastatic leiomyosarcoma of both uterine and nonuterine origin. *Cancer* 2003; 98:1942-6. © 2003 American Cancer Society.





## Management of Primary Retroperitoneal Sarcoma (RPS) in the Adult: A Consensus Approach From the Trans-Atlantic RPS Working Group

Trans-Atlantic RPS Working Group

### ABSTRACT

**Background.** Retroperitoneal soft tissue sarcomas (RPS) are rare tumors that include several well-defined histologic subtypes. Although surgery is the mainstay of curative therapy, no universally accepted recommendations concerning the best management have been developed to date. Optimization of the initial approach is critical for maximizing patient outcomes.

**Methods.** An RPS Trans-Atlantic Working Group was established in 2013. The primary aim was to evaluate the current evidence critically and to develop a consensus document on the approach to this difficult disease. The outcome applies to primary RPS that is nonvisceral in origin. The evaluation included sarcomas of major veins (inferior vena cava, renal vein, ovarian/testicular vein), undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma of the psoas, and uterine leiomyosarcoma (LMS). It excluded desmoid, lipoma and angiomyolipoma, gastrointestinal stromal tumors, visceral sarcomas such as those arising from the gut or its mesentery, uterine LMS, prostatic sarcoma, paratesticular/spermatic cord sarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma, alveolar/embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma, primitive peripheral neuro-ectodermal tumor, sarcoma arising from teratoma, carcinosarcoma, sarcomatoid carcinoma, clear cell sarcoma, radiation-induced sarcoma, paraganglioma, and malignant pheochromocytoma.

**Results.** Management of RPS was evaluated from diagnosis to follow-up, and a level of evidence was attributed to

each statement. This rare and complex malignancy is best managed by an experienced multidisciplinary team in a specialized referral center. The best chance of cure is at the time of primary presentation, and an individualized management plan should be made based on the statements included in this article.

**Conclusions.** International collaboration is critical for adding to the current knowledge. A prospective registry will be set up.

### Trans-Atlantic RPS Working Group

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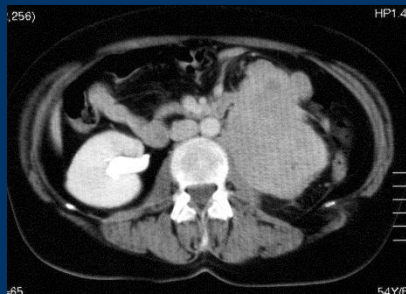
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**liposarcoma**



**leiomyosarcoma**



**solitary f. tumor**

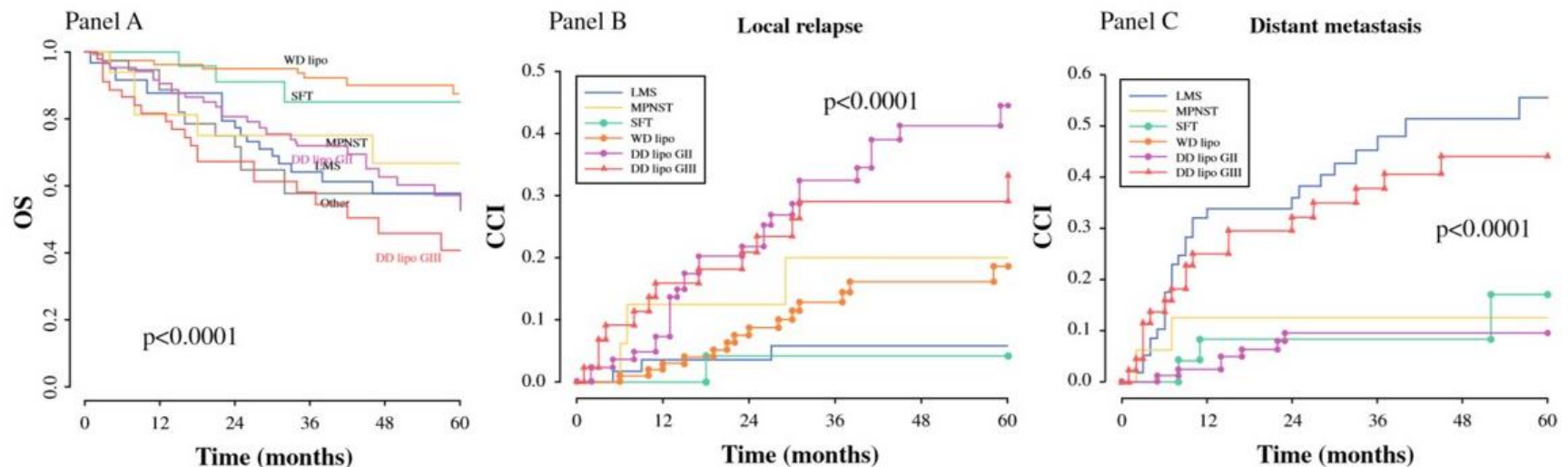


**MPNST**

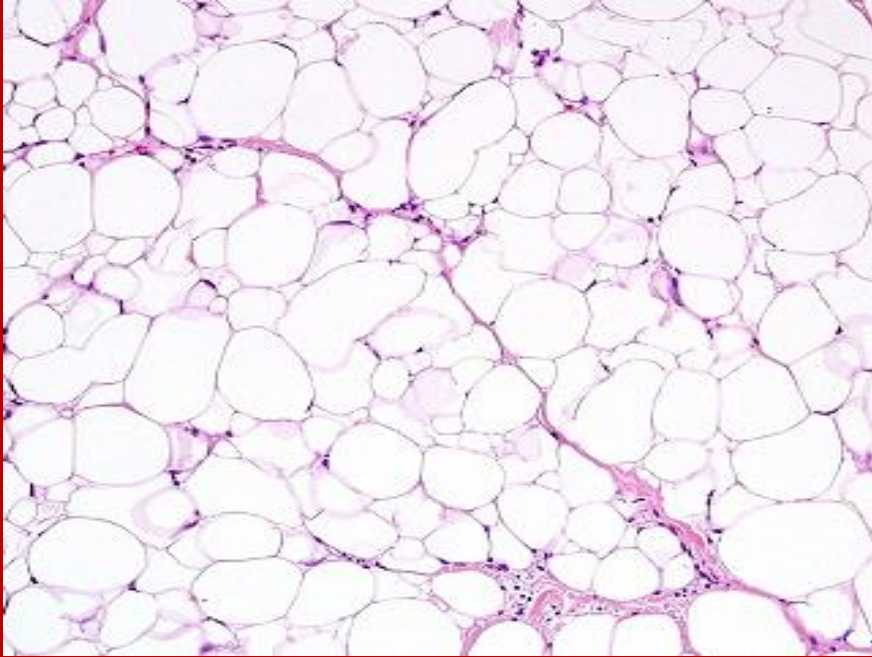
ORIGINAL ARTICLE – BONE AND SOFT TISSUE SARCOMAS

## Personalizing the Approach to Retroperitoneal Soft Tissue Sarcoma: Histology-specific Patterns of Failure and Postrelapse Outcome after Primary Extended Resection

Alessandro Gronchi, MD<sup>1</sup>, Rosalba Miceli, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Marc Antoine Allard, MD<sup>3</sup>, Dario Callegaro, MD<sup>1</sup>, Cecile Le Pécoux, MD<sup>4</sup>, Marco Fiore, MD<sup>1</sup>, Charles Honoré, MD<sup>3</sup>, Roberta Sanfilippo, MD<sup>5</sup>, Sara Coppola, MD<sup>3</sup>, Silvia Stacchiotti, MD<sup>5</sup>, Philippe Terrier, MD<sup>6</sup>, Paolo G. Casali, MD<sup>5</sup>, Axel Le Cesne, MD<sup>7</sup>, Luigi Mariani, MD<sup>2</sup>, Chiara Colombo, MD<sup>1</sup>, and Sylvie Bonvalot, MD, PhD<sup>3</sup>



# Liposarcoma, dedifferentiated

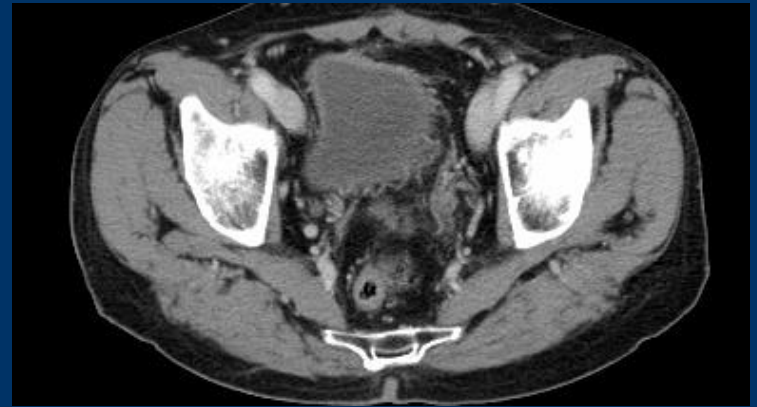




# **De-differentiated liposarcoma: continuous-infusion high-dose ifosfamide**



**0**



**cihdIFX x 3**

**cihdIFX**

**IFOSFAMIDE**

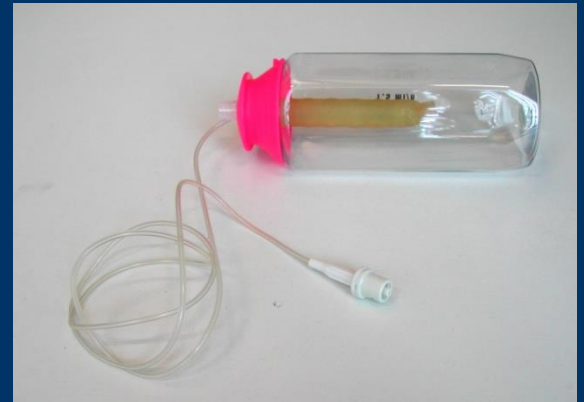
**7 g/sqm**

**Mesna**

**7 g/sqm**

**in Saline up to 250 mL (1,5 mL/h)**

**x 2 (14 g/sqm in 14 d) / 28 d**



*Clinical Study*

**Clinical Activity and Tolerability of a 14-Day Infusional Ifosfamide Schedule in Soft-Tissue Sarcoma**

Juan Martin-Liberal,<sup>1</sup> Salma Alam,<sup>1</sup> Anastasia Constantinidou,<sup>1</sup>  
Cyril Fisher,<sup>2</sup> Komel Khabra,<sup>3</sup> Christina Messiou,<sup>4</sup> David Olmos,<sup>5</sup> Scott Mitchell,<sup>6</sup>  
Omar Al-Muderis,<sup>1</sup> Aisha Miah,<sup>1</sup> Mark Linch,<sup>1</sup> Robin L. Jones,<sup>1</sup> Michelle Scurr,<sup>1</sup>  
Ian Judson,<sup>1</sup> and Charlotte Benson<sup>1</sup>

Sanfilippo et al. *Clinical Sarcoma Research* 2014, **4**:16  
<http://www.clinicalsarcomaresearch.com/content/4/1/16>



CLINICAL SARCOMA RESEARCH

RESEARCH

Open Access

High-dose continuous-infusion ifosfamide in advanced well-differentiated/dedifferentiated liposarcoma

Roberta Sanfilippo<sup>1\*</sup>, Rossella Bertulli<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Marrari<sup>1</sup>, Elena Fumagalli<sup>1</sup>, Silvana Pilotti<sup>2</sup>, Carlo Morosi<sup>3</sup>, Antonella Messina<sup>3</sup>, Angelo Paolo Dei Tos<sup>4</sup>, Alessandro Gronchi<sup>5</sup> and Paolo Giovanni Casali<sup>1</sup>

# **De-differentiated liposarcoma: Trabectedin**



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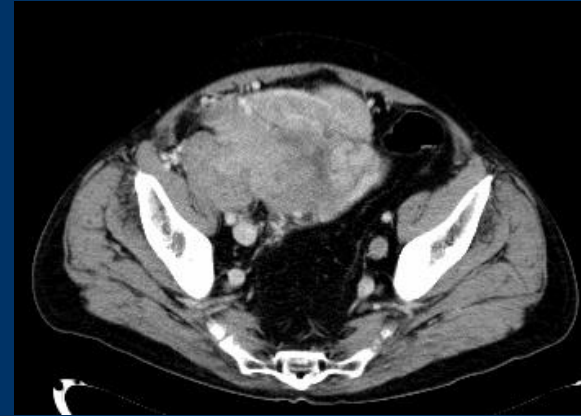


**TRAB x 16 mos**

# De-differentiated liposarcoma



0



EPI+IFX x 2

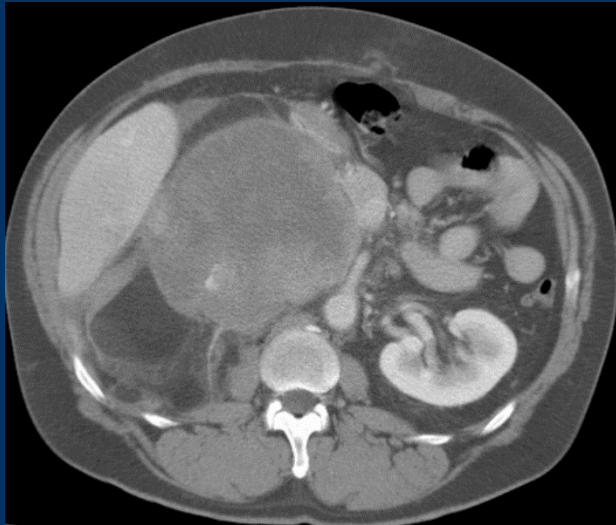


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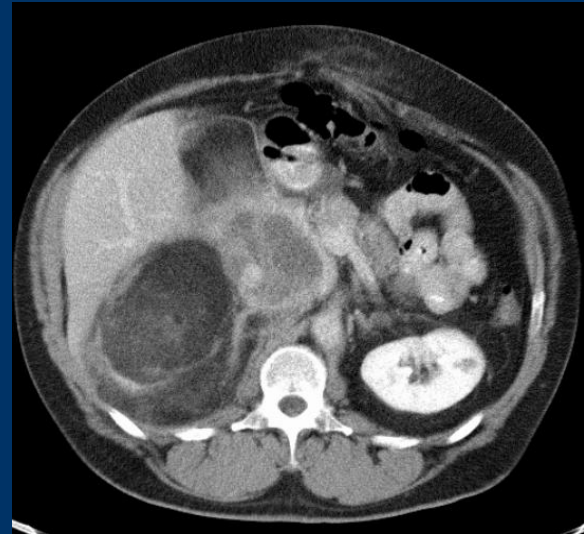


CIHD-IFX x 4

# De-differentiated liposarcoma



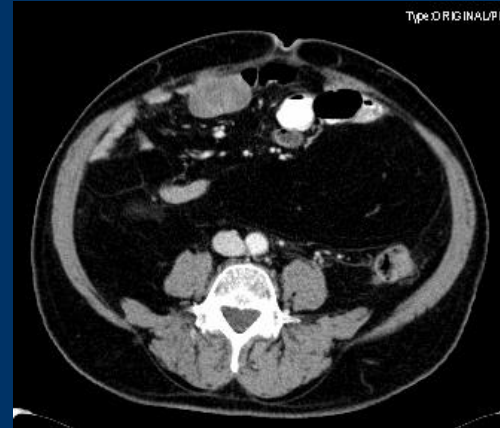
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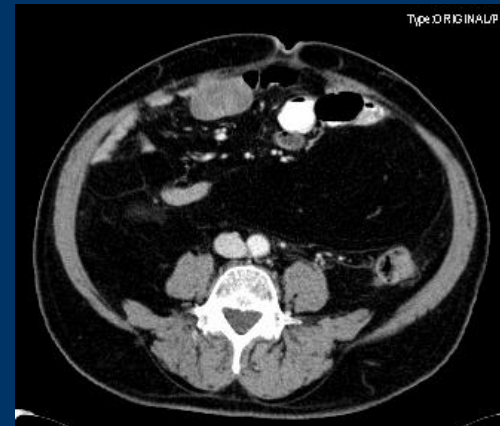
cihdIFX x 5

# Well differentiated liposarcoma

**0**



**EPI+IFX  
x 2**



**cihdIFX  
x 3**



**TRAB  
x 6**





# Effect of the MDM2 antagonist RG7112 on the P53 pathway in patients with MDM2-amplified, well-differentiated or dedifferentiated liposarcoma: an exploratory proof-of-mechanism study



Isabelle Ray-Coquard, Jean-Yves Blay, Antoine Italiano, Axel Le Cesne, Nicolas Penel, Jianguo Zhi, Florian Heil, Ruediger Rueger, Bradford Graves, Meichun Ding, David Geho, Steven A Middleton, Lyubomir T Vassilev, Gwen L Nichols, Binh Nguyen Bui

## Summary

**Background** We report a proof-of-mechanism study of RG7112, a small-molecule MDM2 antagonist, in patients with chemotherapy-naïve primary or relapsed well-differentiated or dedifferentiated MDM2-amplified liposarcoma who were eligible for resection.

**Methods** Patients with well-differentiated or dedifferentiated liposarcoma were enrolled at four centres in France. Patients received up to three 28-day neoadjuvant treatment cycles of RG7112 1440 mg/m<sup>2</sup> per day for 10 days. If a patient progressed at any point after the first cycle, the lesion was resected or, if unresectable, an end-of-study biopsy was done. The primary endpoint was to assess markers of RG7112-dependent MDM2 inhibition and P53 pathway activation (P53, P21, MDM2, Ki-67, macrophage inhibitory cytokine-1 [MIC-1], and apoptosis). All analyses were per protocol. This trial is registered with EudraCT, number 2009-015522-10.

**Results** Between June 3, and Dec 14, 2010, 20 patients were enrolled and completed pretreatment and day 8 biopsies. 18 of 20 patients had TP53 wild-type tumours and two carried missense TP53 mutations. 14 of 17 assessed patients had MDM2 gene amplification. Compared with baseline, P53 and P21 concentrations, assessed by immunohistochemistry, had increased by a median of 4.86 times (IQR 4.38–7.97;  $p=0.0001$ ) and 3.48 times (2.05–4.09;  $p=0.0001$ ), respectively, at day 8 (give or take 2 days). At the same timepoint, relative MDM2 mRNA expression had increased by a median of 3.03 times (1.23–4.93;  $p=0.003$ ) that at baseline. The median change from baseline for Ki-67-positive tumour cells was –5.05% (IQR –12.55 to 0.05;  $p=0.01$ ). Drug exposure correlated with blood concentrations of MIC-1 ( $p<0.0001$ ) and haematological toxicity. One patient had a confirmed partial response and 14 had stable disease. All patients experienced at least one adverse event, mostly nausea (14 patients), vomiting (11 patients), asthenia (nine patients), diarrhoea (nine patients), and thrombocytopenia (eight patients). There were 12 serious adverse events in eight patients, the most common of which were neutropenia (six patients) and thrombocytopenia (three patients).

**Discussion** MDM2 inhibition activates the P53 pathway and decreases cell proliferation in MDM2-amplified liposarcoma. This study suggests that it is feasible to undertake neoadjuvant biopsy-driven biomarker studies in liposarcoma.

**Funding** F Hoffmann-La Roche.

Lancet Oncol 2012; 13: 1133–40

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October 17, 2012

[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(12\)70474-6](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(12)70474-6)

See Comment page 1070

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(N Penel MD); Department of

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and Translational Research,

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M Ding PhD, D Geho MD,

S A Middleton PhD,

L T Vassilev PhD, G L Nichols MD);

and Roche Diagnostics,

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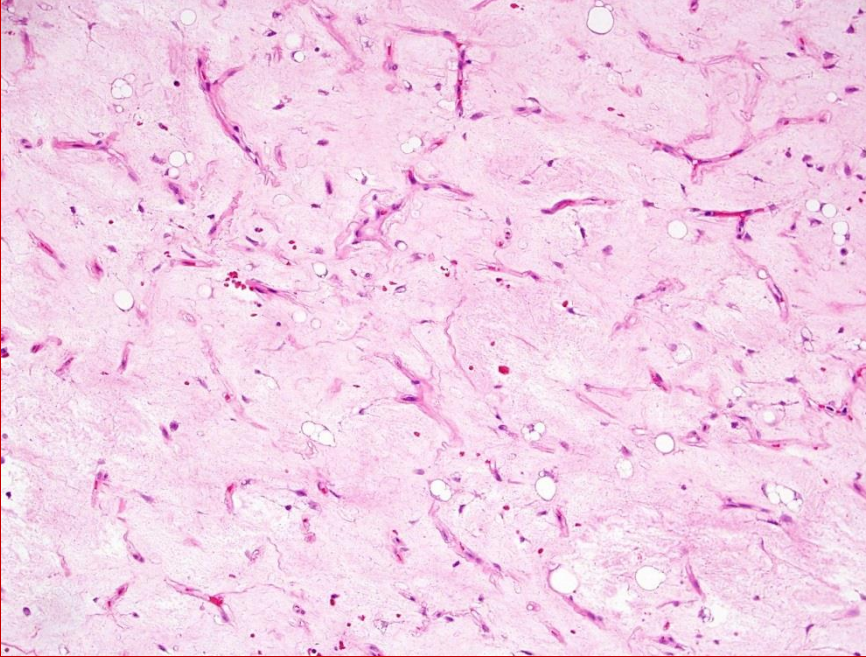
## Antiproliferative Effects of CDK4/6 Inhibition in CDK4-Amplified Human Liposarcoma *In Vitro* and *In Vivo*

Yi-Xiang Zhang<sup>1,2</sup>, Ewa Sicinska<sup>1,3</sup>, Jeffrey T. Czaplinski<sup>1,3</sup>, Stephen P. Remillard<sup>1,2</sup>, Samuel Moss<sup>1,3</sup>, Yuchuan Wang<sup>4</sup>, Christopher Brain<sup>5</sup>, Alice Loo<sup>5</sup>, Eric L. Snyder<sup>6,7</sup>, George D. Demetri<sup>1,2</sup>, Sunkyu Kim<sup>5</sup>, Andrew L. Kung<sup>8</sup>, and Andrew J. Wagner<sup>1,2</sup>

### Abstract

Well-differentiated/dedifferentiated liposarcomas (WD/DDLPS) are among the most common subtypes of soft tissue sarcomas. Conventional systemic chemotherapy has limited efficacy and novel therapeutic strategies are needed to achieve better outcomes for patients. The cyclin-dependent kinase 4 (*CDK4*) gene is highly amplified in more than 95% of WD/DDLPS. In this study, we explored the role of *CDK4* and the effects of NVP-LEE011 (LEE011), a novel selective inhibitor of *CDK4/CDK6*, on a panel of human liposarcoma cell lines and primary tumor xenografts. We found that both *CDK4* knockdown by siRNA and inhibition by LEE011 diminished retinoblastoma (RB) phosphorylation and dramatically decreased liposarcoma cell growth. Cell-cycle analysis demonstrated arrest at G<sub>0</sub>-G<sub>1</sub>. siRNA-mediated knockdown of RB rescued the inhibitory effects of LEE011, demonstrating that LEE011 decreased proliferation through RB. Oral administration of LEE011 to mice bearing human liposarcoma xenografts resulted in approximately 50% reduction in tumor <sup>18</sup>F-fluorodeoxyglucose uptake with decreased tumor biomarkers, including RB phosphorylation and bromodeoxyuridine incorporation *in vivo*. Continued treatment inhibited tumor growth or induced regression without detrimental effects on mouse weight. After prolonged continuous dosing, reestablishment of RB phosphorylation and cell-cycle progression was noted. These findings validate the critical role of *CDK4* in maintaining liposarcoma proliferation through its ability to inactivate RB function, and suggest its potential function in the regulation of survival and metabolism of liposarcoma, supporting the rationale for clinical development of LEE011 for the treatment of WD/DDLPS. *Mol Cancer Ther*; 13(9): 2184–93. ©2014 AACR.

# Liposarcoma, myxoid

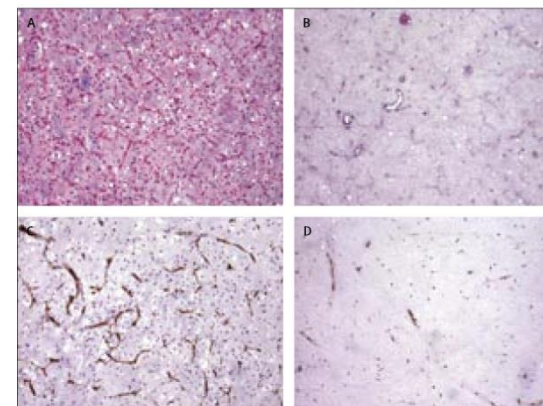
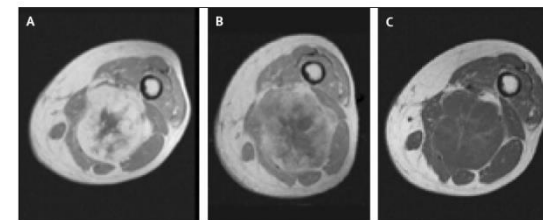
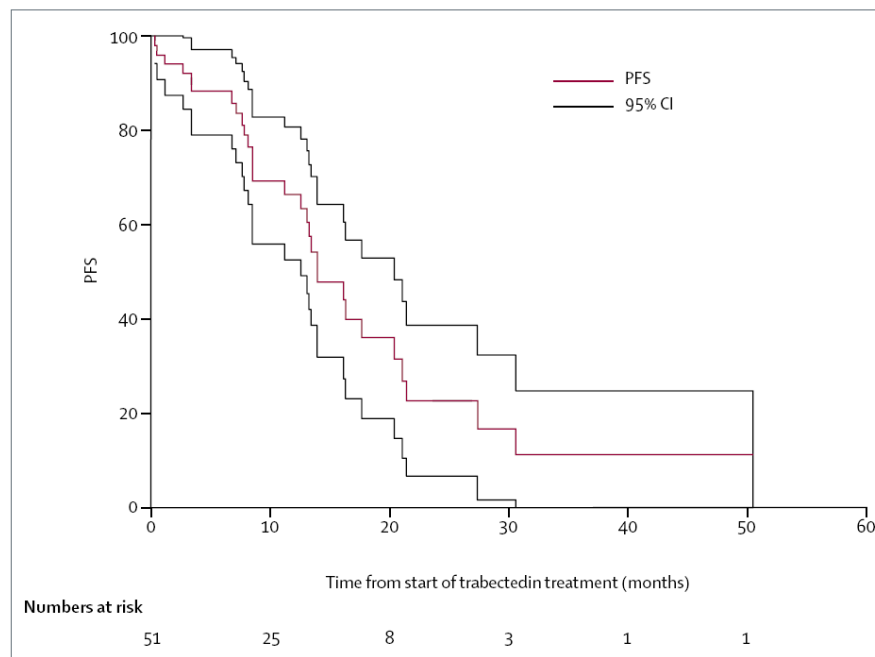


# Efficacy of trabectedin (ecteinascidin-743) in advanced pretreated myxoid liposarcomas: a retrospective study

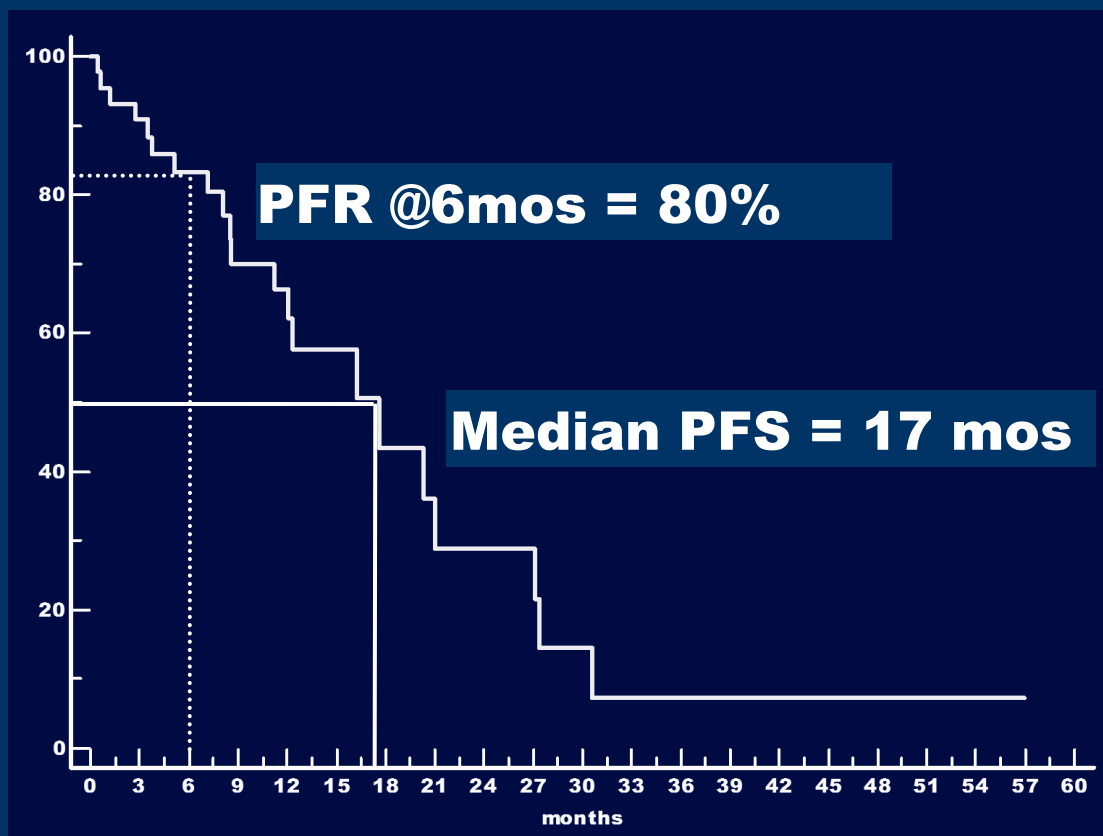


Federica Grosso, Robin L Jones, George D Demetri, Ian R Judson, Jean-Yves Blay, Axel Le Cesne, Roberta Sanfilippo, Paola Casieri, Paola Collini, Palma Dileo, Carlo Spreafico, Silvia Stacchiotti, Elena Tamborini, Juan Carlos Tercero, José Jimeno, Maurizio D'Incalci, Alessandro Gronchi, Jonathan A Fletcher, Silvana Pilotti, Paolo G Casali

*Lancet Oncol* 2007; 8: 595-602



# PFS



**median follow-up: 14 mos**

# Tumor response patterns



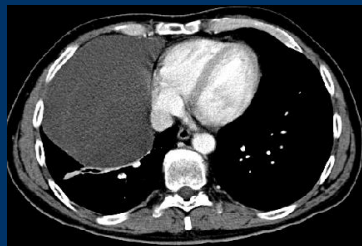
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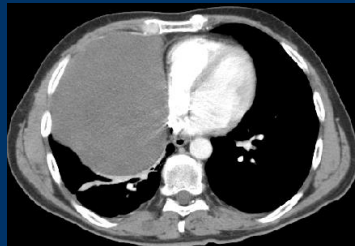
**Trabectedin x 3**



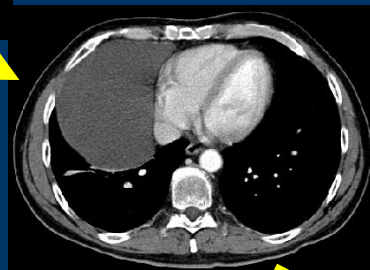
# Tumor response patterns



**0**



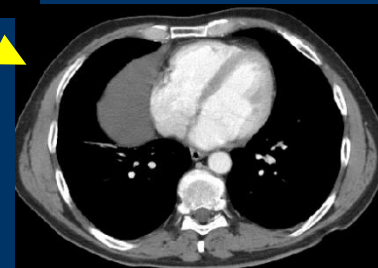
**+2 c**



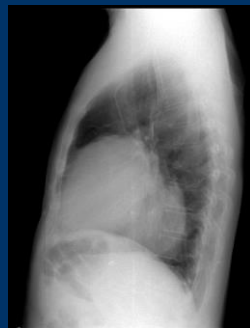
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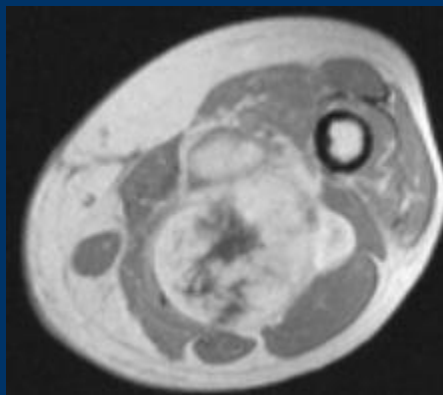


**+8 c**

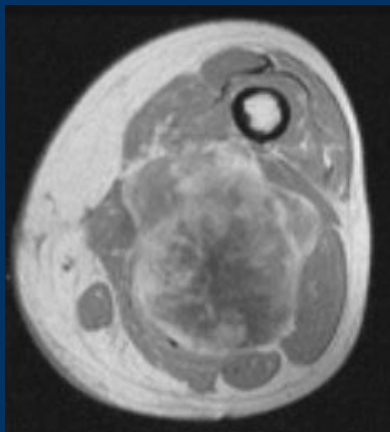


**+11 c**

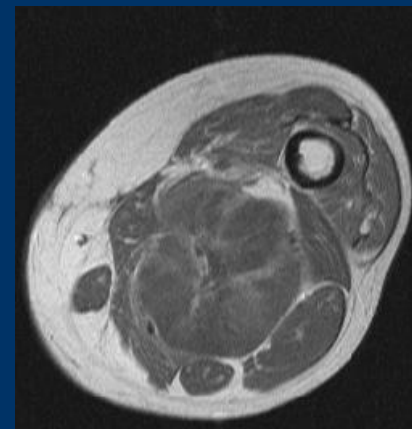




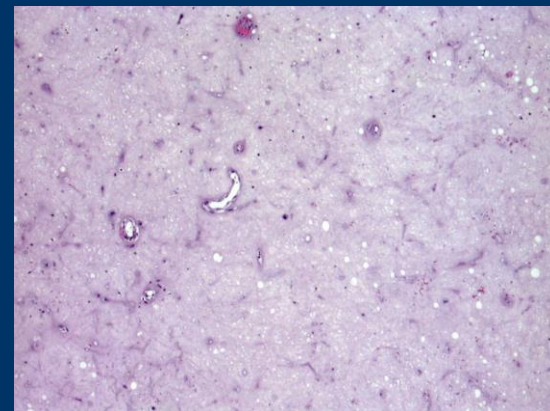
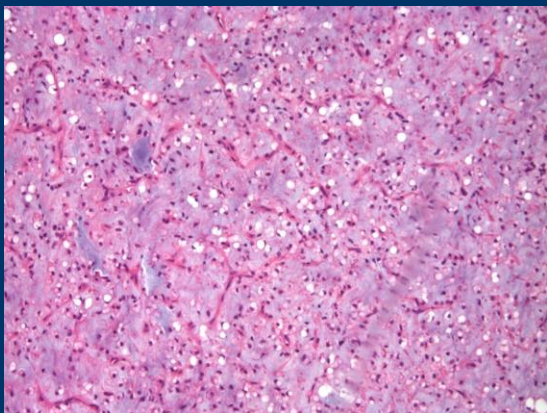
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**+ 1 c**



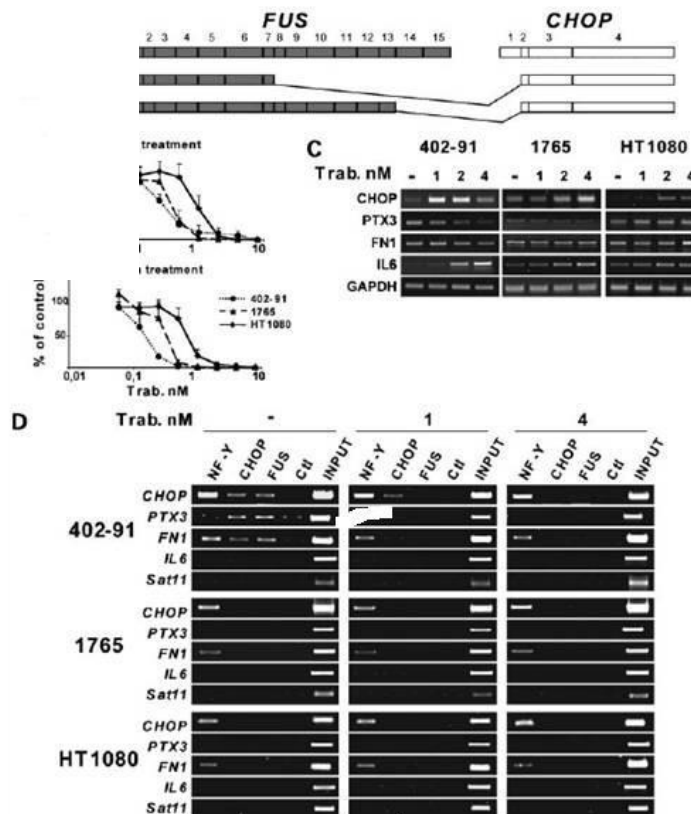
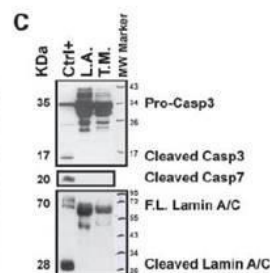
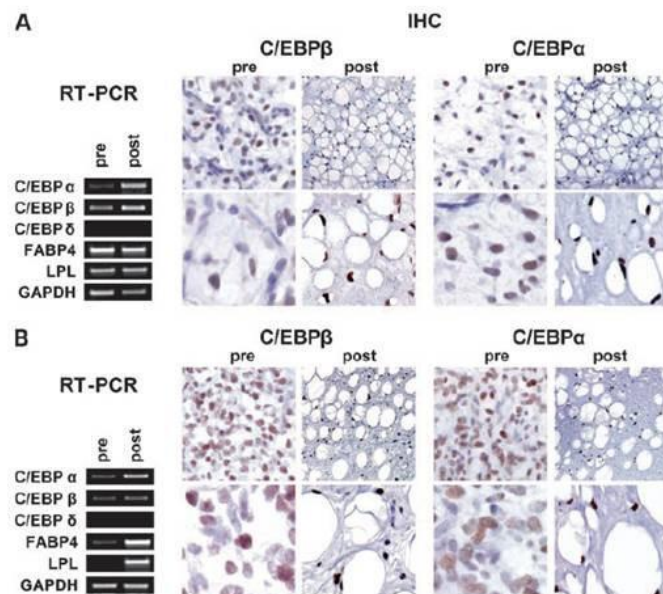
**+4 c**



# Trabectedin (ET-743) promotes differentiation in myxoid liposarcoma tumors

Claudia Forni,<sup>1</sup> Mario Minuzzo,<sup>1</sup> Emanuela Virdis,<sup>2</sup>  
 Elena Tamborini,<sup>2</sup> Matteo Simone,<sup>3</sup>  
 Michele Tavecchio,<sup>3</sup> Eugenio Erba,<sup>3</sup>  
 Federica Grosso,<sup>2</sup> Alessandro Gronchi,<sup>2</sup>  
 Pierre Aman,<sup>4</sup> Paolo Casali,<sup>2</sup> Maurizio D'Incalci,<sup>3</sup>  
 Silvana Pilotti,<sup>2</sup> and Roberto Mantovani<sup>1</sup>

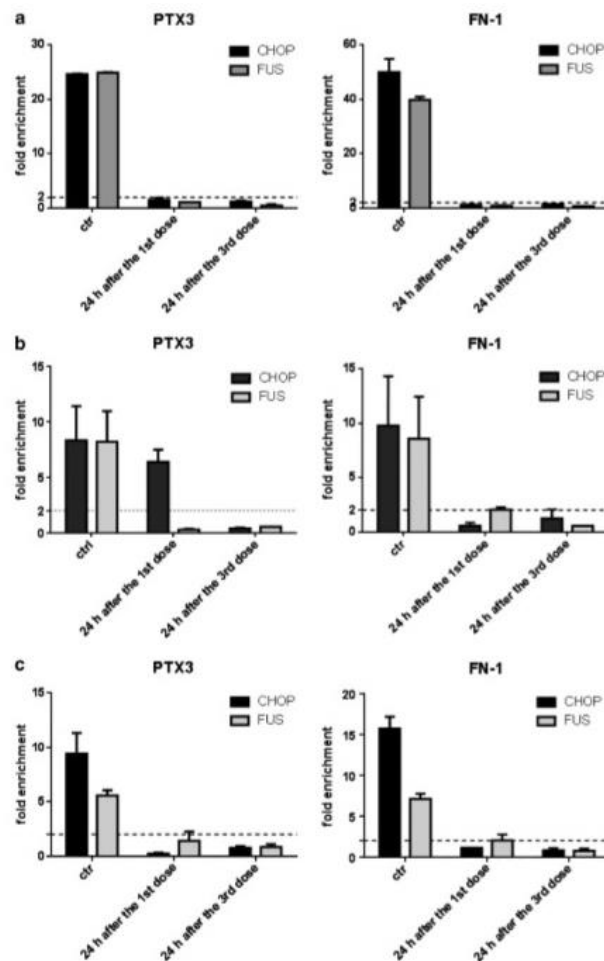
<sup>1</sup>Dipartimento di Scienze Biomolecolari e Biotecnologie, Università degli Studi di Milano; <sup>2</sup>Fondazione IRCCS, Istituto Nazionale Tumori; <sup>3</sup>Dipartimento di Oncologia, Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri, Milan, Italy; and <sup>4</sup>Lundberg Laboratory for Cancer Research, Department of Pathology, Göteborg University, Gothenburg, Sweden



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

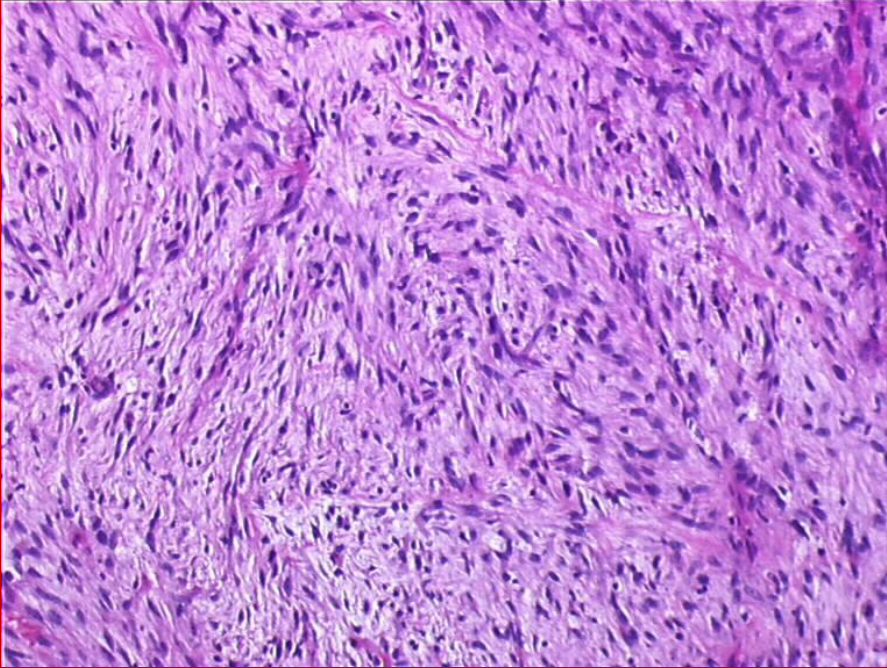
# Mode of action of trabectedin in myxoid liposarcomas

S Di Giandomenico<sup>1,8</sup>, R Frapolli<sup>1,8</sup>, E Bello<sup>1</sup>, S Uboldi<sup>1</sup>, SA Licandro<sup>1</sup>, S Marchini<sup>1</sup>, L Beltrame<sup>1</sup>, S Brich<sup>2</sup>, V Mauro<sup>2</sup>, E Tamborini<sup>2</sup>, S Pilotti<sup>2</sup>, P Casali<sup>3</sup>, F Grosso<sup>4</sup>, R Sanfilippo<sup>3</sup>, A Gronchi<sup>5</sup>, R Mantovani<sup>6</sup>, R Gatta<sup>6</sup>, CM Galmarini<sup>7</sup>, JMF Sousa-Faro<sup>7</sup> and M D'Incalci<sup>1</sup>



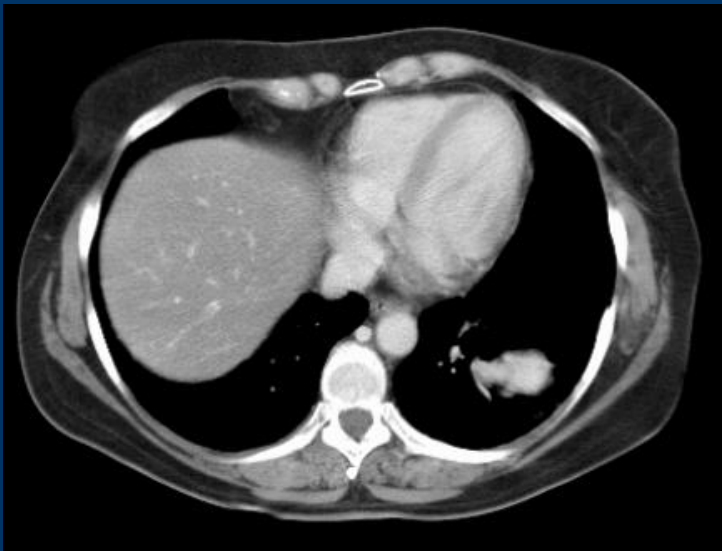


# Leiomyosarcoma

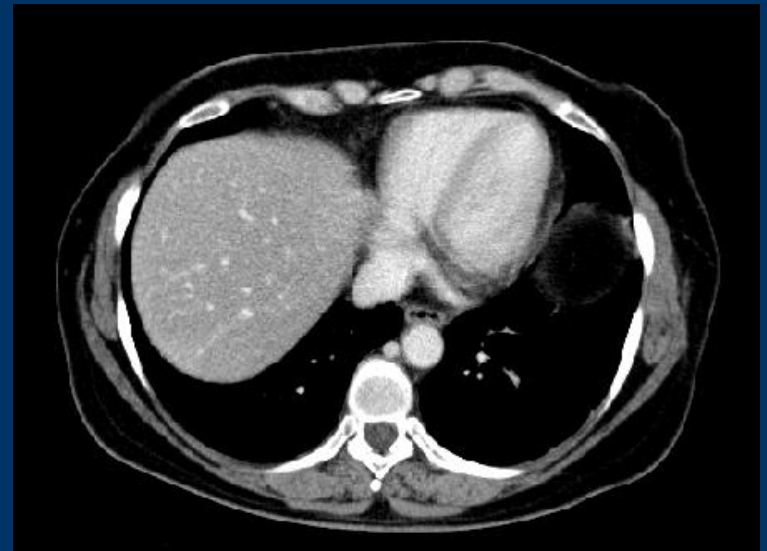




# Dacarbazine



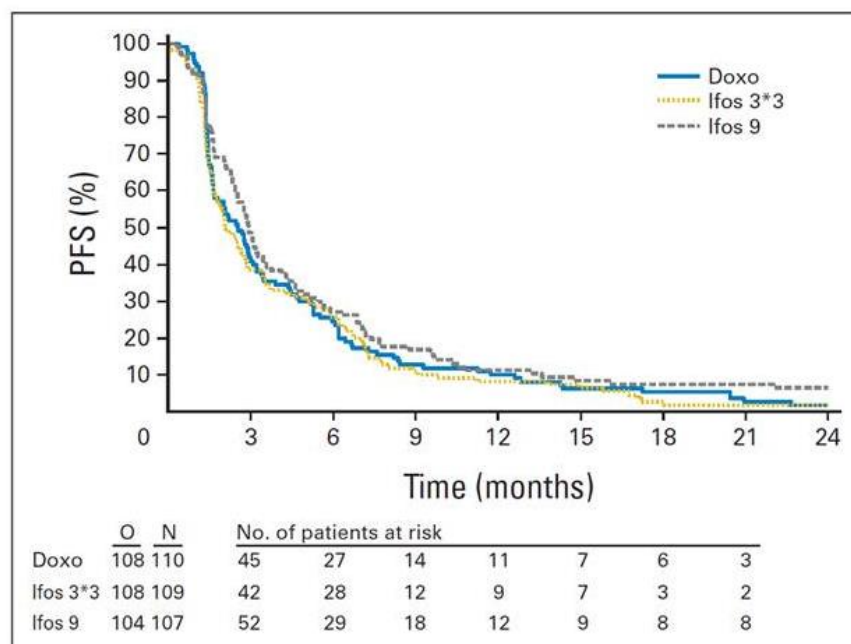
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**DTIC x 2**

# Phase III Trial of Two Investigational Schedules of Ifosfamide Compared With Standard-Dose Doxorubicin in Advanced or Metastatic Soft Tissue Sarcoma: A European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group Study

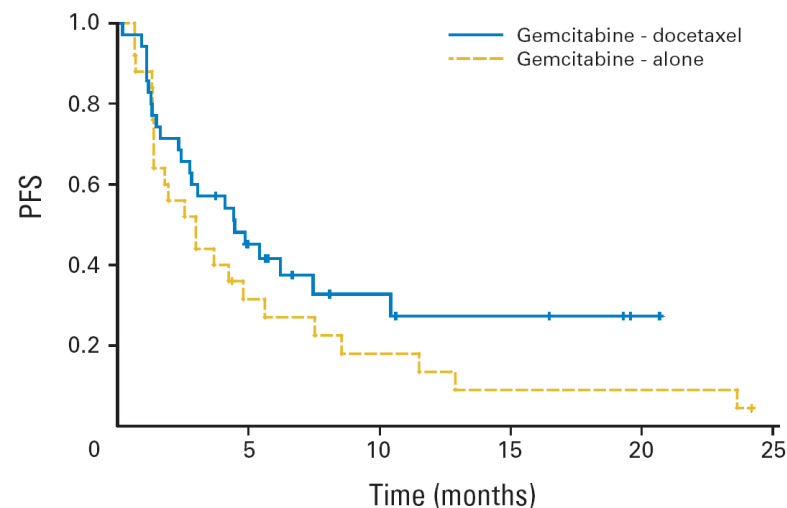
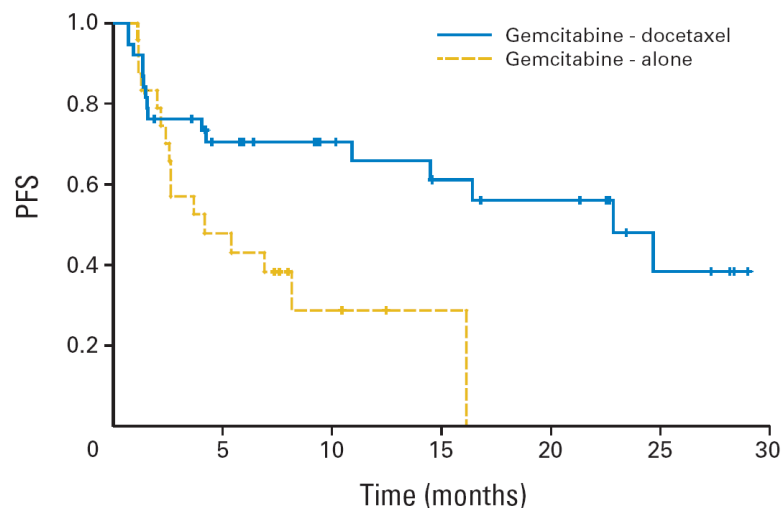
Paul Lorigan, Jaap Verweij, Zsuzsa Papai, Sjoerd Rodenhuis, Axel Le Cesne, Michael G. Leahy, John A. Radford, Martine M. Van Glabbeke, Anne Kirkpatrick, Pancras C.W. Hogendoorn, and Jean-Yves Blay



	Dox		Ifos 3*3		Ifos 9		Total		3-Year Survivors	
Condition	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Leiomyosarcoma									8/58	13.8
PR	2	13.3	1	4.8	1	4.5	4	6.9		
NC	10	66.7	10	47.6	10	45.5	30	51.7		
PD	3	20	8	38.1	7	31.8	18	31		
Synovial									2/23	8.7
PR	2	25	3	37.5	3	42.9	8	34.8		
NC	2	25	3	37.5	3	42.9	8	34.8		
PD	4	50	1	12.5	1	14.3	6	26.1		
Liposarcoma									5/32	15.5
PR	2	15.4			1	8.3	3	9.4		
NC	4	30.8	1	14.3	7	58.3	12	37.5		
PD	7	53.8	5	71.4	3	25	15	46.9		
GIST									3/28	10.7
PR			1	7.7			1	3.6		
NC	2	20	4	30.8	3	60	9	32.1		
PD	8	80	7	53.8	2	40	17	60.7		
Neurogenic									3/19	15.8
CR	1	12.5					1	5.3		
NC	3	37.5	3	50			6	31.6		
PD	4	50	3	50	3	60	10	52.6		

# Randomized Phase II Study of Gemcitabine and Docetaxel Compared With Gemcitabine Alone in Patients With Metastatic Soft Tissue Sarcomas: Results of Sarcoma Alliance for Research Through Collaboration Study 002

Robert G. Maki, J. Kyle Wathen, Shreyaskumar R. Patel, Dennis A. Priebe, Scott H. Okuno, Brian Samuels, Michael Fanucchi, David C. Harmon, Scott M. Schuetz, Denise Reinke, Peter F. Thall, Robert S. Benjamin, Laurence H. Baker, and Martee L. Hensley





Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Gynecologic Oncology 109 (2008) 313–315

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**Gynecologic  
Oncology**

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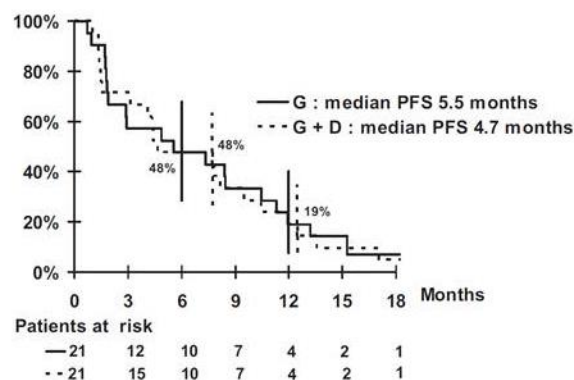
[www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno)

Editorial

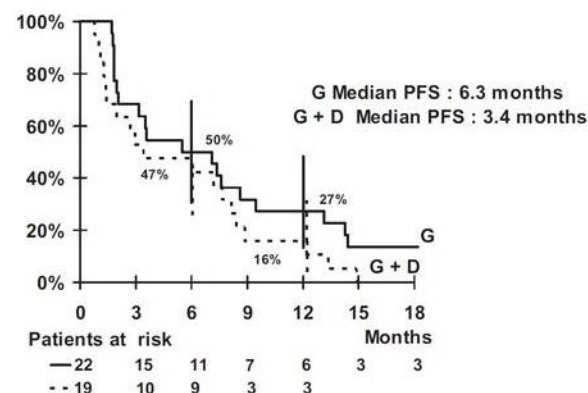
Gemcitabine/docetaxel—Welcome to a new standard

### Randomized Multicenter and Stratified Phase II Study of Gemcitabine Alone Versus Gemcitabine and Docetaxel in Patients with Metastatic or Relapsed Leiomyosarcomas: A Fédération Nationale des Centres de Lutte Contre le Cancer (FNCLCC) French Sarcoma Group Study (TAXOGEM study)

PATRICIA PAUTIER,<sup>a</sup> ANNE FLOQUET,<sup>c</sup> NICOLAS PENEL,<sup>d</sup> SOPHIE PIPERNO-NEUMANN,<sup>e</sup>  
NICOLAS ISAMBERT,<sup>g</sup> ANNIE REY,<sup>b</sup> EMMANUELLE BOMPAS,<sup>h</sup> ANGELA CIOFFI,<sup>a</sup> CORINNE DELCAMBRE,<sup>i</sup>  
DIDIER CUISSOL,<sup>j</sup> FRANCOISE COLLIN,<sup>f</sup> JEAN-YVES BLAY,<sup>k</sup> MARTA JIMENEZ,<sup>l</sup> FLORENCE DUFFAUD<sup>m</sup>



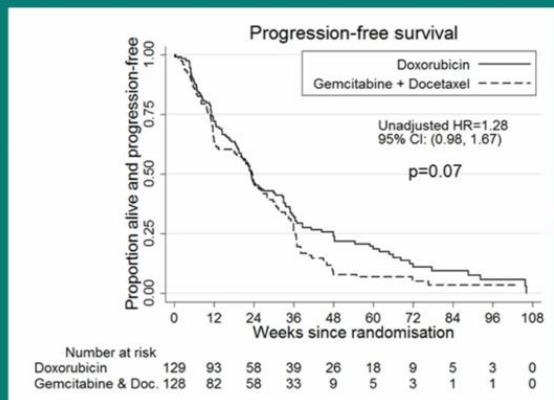
**Figure 1.** Kaplan-Meier curve of progression-free survival for the uterine leiomyosarcoma group.



**Figure 2.** Kaplan-Meier curve of progression-free survival for the nonuterine leiomyosarcoma group.

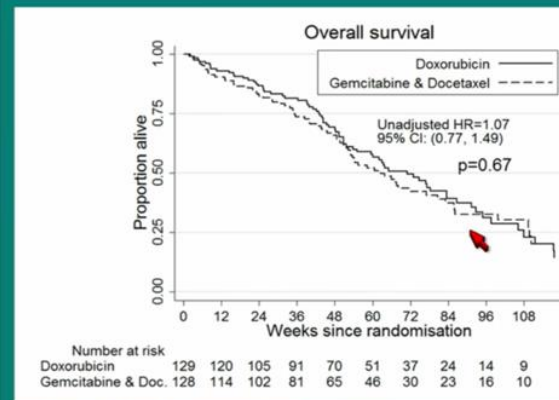


## Progression-free survival



	Median PFS (months)	24 week PFS
Dox	5.4	46.1%
GemDoc	5.5	46.0%

## Overall survival



	Median OS (mths)	24 week OS
Dox	16.4	86.7%
GemDoc	14.5	82.5%

**from: ASCO 2015 Virtual Meeting**

**Seddon B et al, ASCO 2015; #10500**

## Grade 3 or 4 adverse events

Adverse Event	Dox (N=128)	GemDoc (N=126)	P value
Any grade 3 or 4 AE	83 (64.8%)	90 (71.4%)	0.26
<b>Haematological</b>			
Anemia	10 (7.8%)	8 (6.3%)	0.65
Neutropenia	31 (24.2%)	24 (19.0%)	0.32
Thrombocytopenia	1 (0.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0.32
Leucopenia	10 (7.8%)	9 (7.1%)	0.84
Febrile neutropenia	26 (20.3%)	15 (11.9%)	0.07
<b>Non-haematological</b>			
Fatigue	8 (6.3%)	17 (13.5%)	0.05
Pain	10 (7.8%)	13 (10.3%)	0.49
Mucositis oral	16 (12.5%)	2 (1.6%)	0.001
Diarrhea	2 (1.6%)	10 (7.9%)	0.02
Thromboembolic event	7 (5.5%)	4 (3.2%)	0.37
Anorexia	5 (3.9%)	3 (2.4%)	0.49
Dyspnoea	3 (2.3%)	5 (4.0%)	0.46
Lung infection	5 (3.9%)	3 (2.4%)	0.49
Nausea	5 (3.9%)	3 (2.4%)	0.49

## Compliance to trial treatment

Reason	Dox (N=129)	GemDoc (N=128)
Total withdrawals during treatment	60 (47%)	80 (63%)
Disease progression	34 (57%)	39 (49%)
Symptomatic deterioration	4 (7%)	3 (4%)
Unacceptable toxicity	1 (2%)	13 (16%)
Serious adverse event	2 (3%)	2 (3%)
Death	5 (8%)	4 (5%)
Other	14 (23%)	19 (11%)

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PRESENTED AT: ASCO Annual Meeting

**from: ASCO 2015 Virtual Meeting**

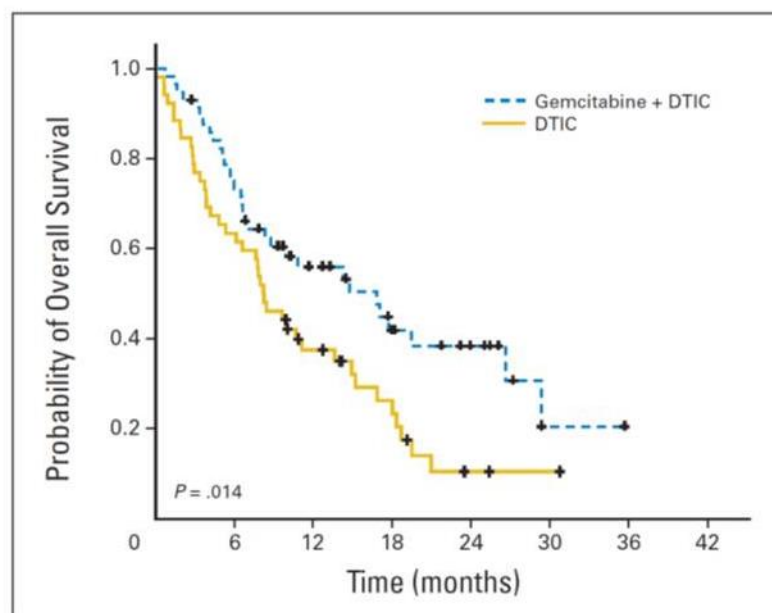
**Seddon B et al, ASCO 2015; #10500**

# Gemcitabine

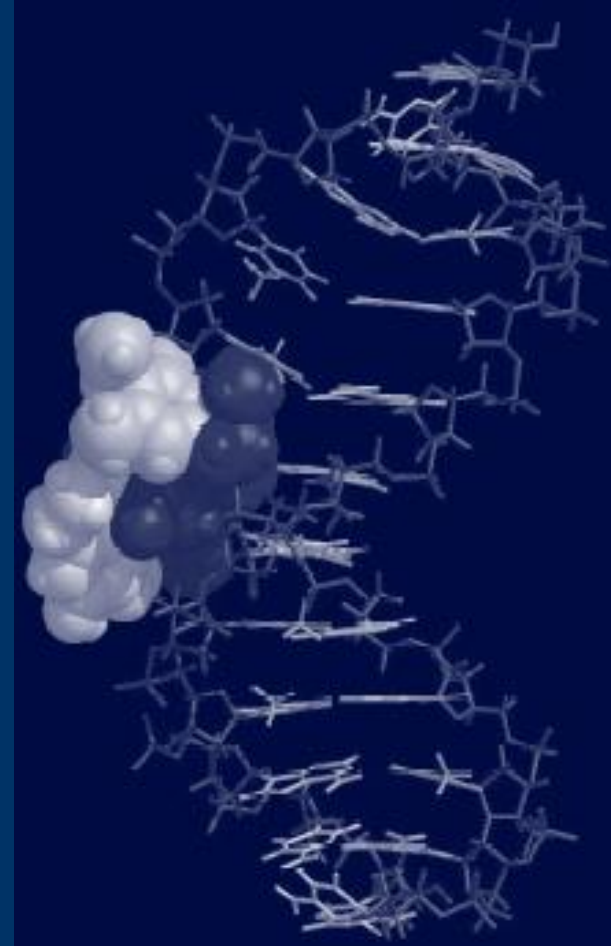
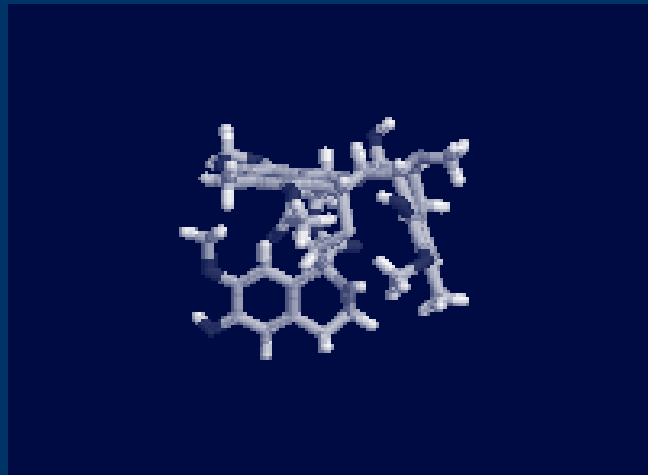
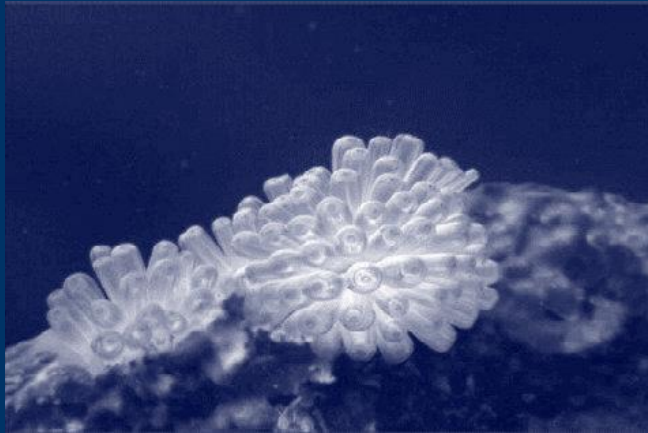


## Randomized Phase II Study Comparing Gemcitabine Plus Dacarbazine Versus Dacarbazine Alone in Patients With Previously Treated Soft Tissue Sarcoma: A Spanish Group for Research on Sarcomas Study

Xavier García-del-Muro, Antonio López-Pousa, Joan Maurel, Javier Martín, Javier Martínez-Trufero, Antonio Casado, Auxiliadora Gómez-España, Joaquín Fra, Josefina Cruz, Andrés Poveda, Andrés Meana, Carlos Pericay, Ricardo Cubedo, Jordi Rubió, Ana De Juan, Nuria Láinez, Juan Antonio Carrasco, Raquel de Andrés, and José M. Buesa†



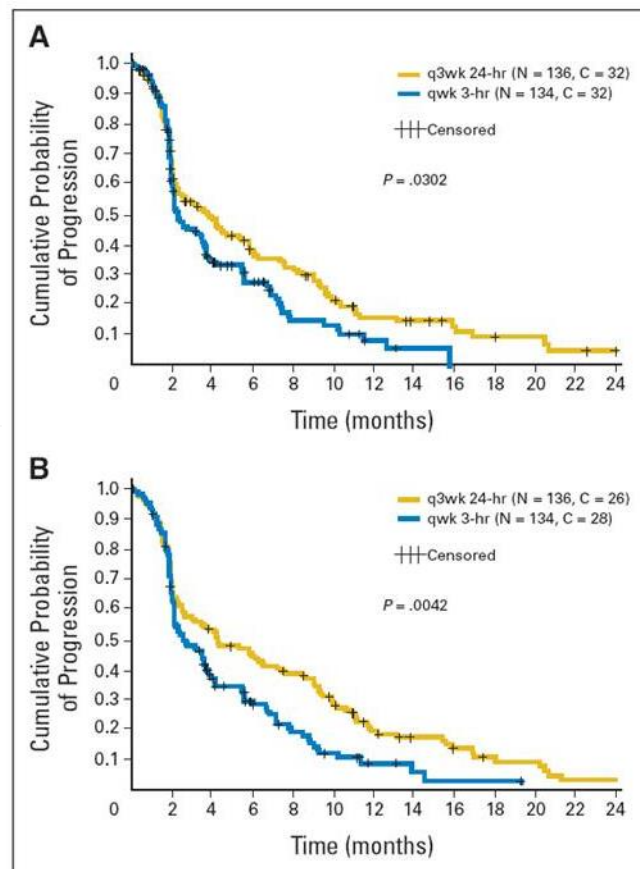
# Trabectedin





# Efficacy and Safety of Trabectedin in Patients With Advanced or Metastatic Liposarcoma or Leiomyosarcoma After Failure of Prior Anthracyclines and Ifosfamide: Results of a Randomized Phase II Study of Two Different Schedules

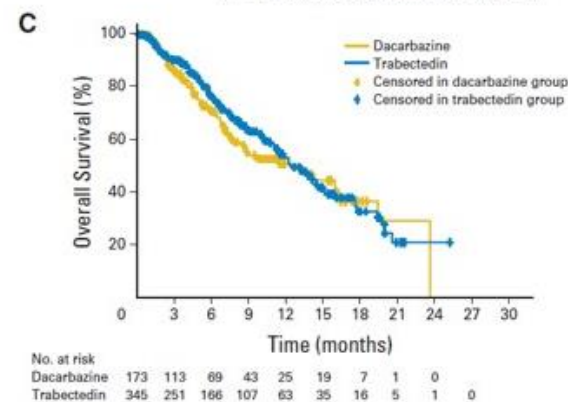
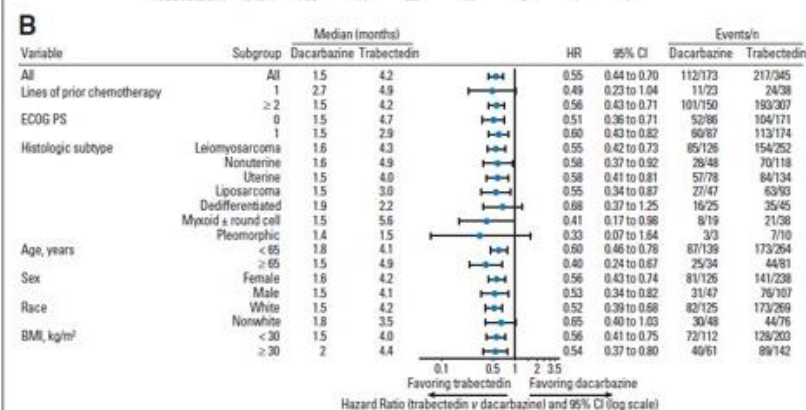
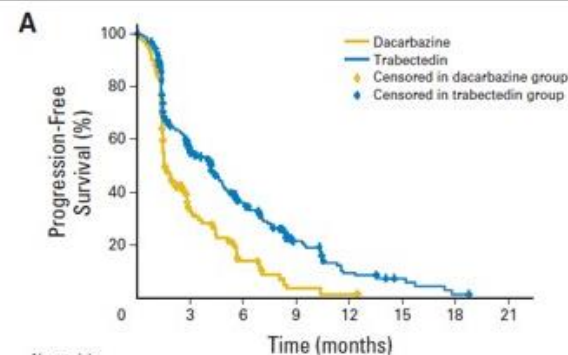
George D. Demetri, Sant P. Chawla, Margaret von Mehren, Paul Ritch, Laurence H. Baker, Jean Y. Blay, Kenneth R. Hande, Mary L. Keohan, Brian L. Samuels, Scott Schuetz, Claudia Lebedinsky, Yusri A. Elsayed, Miguel A. Izquierdo, Javier Gómez, Youn C. Park, and Axel Le Cesne



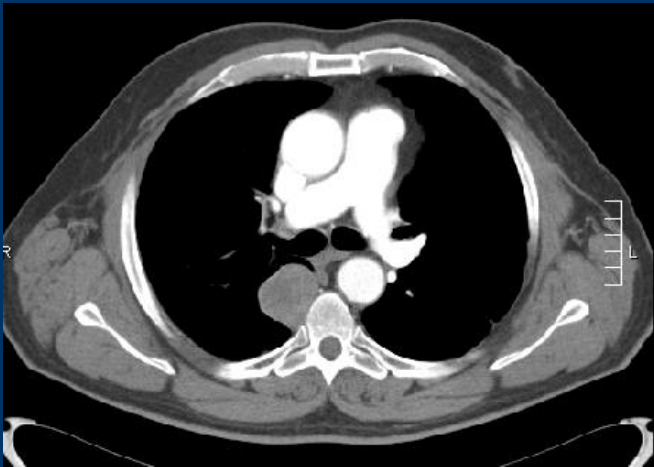
**Fig 2.** Kaplan-Meier plot of time to progression. (A) Independent review. (B) Investigator's assessment. qwk 3-hour, 3-hour IV infusion every week for 3 consecutive weeks of a 4-week cycle; q3wk 24-hour, 24-hour IV infusion once every 3 weeks; N, number of patients; C, censored patients.

# Efficacy and Safety of Trabectedin or Dacarbazine for Metastatic Liposarcoma or Leiomyosarcoma After Failure of Conventional Chemotherapy: Results of a Phase III Randomized Multicenter Clinical Trial

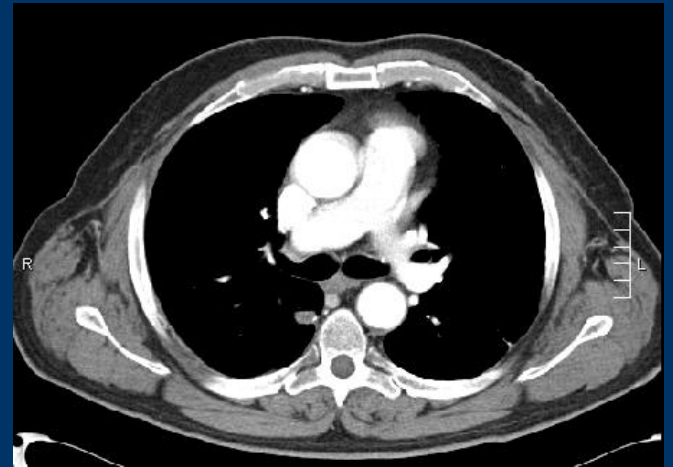
George D. Demetri, Margaret von Mehren, Robin L. Jones, Martee L. Hensley, Scott M. Schuetz, Arthur Staddon, Mohammed Milhem, Anthony Elias, Kristen Ganjoo, Hussein Tawbi, Brian A. Van Tine, Alexander Spira, Andrew Dean, Nushmia Z. Khokhar, Youn Choi Park, Roland E. Knoblauch, Trilok V. Parekh, Robert G. Maki, and Shreyaskumar R. Patel



# Leiomyosarcoma (4<sup>th</sup> line)



**0**



**TRAB x 6**

## Trabectedin in advanced uterine leiomyosarcomas: A retrospective case series analysis from two reference centers<sup>☆</sup>

Roberta Sanfilippo<sup>a,\*,1</sup>, Federica Grosso<sup>a,1,2</sup>, Robin L. Jones<sup>b,3</sup>, Susana Banerjee<sup>b</sup>, Silvana Pilotti<sup>c</sup>, Maurizio D'Incalci<sup>d</sup>, Angelo Paolo Dei Tos<sup>e</sup>, Francesco Raspagliesi<sup>f</sup>, Ian Judson<sup>b</sup>, Paolo Giovanni Casali<sup>a</sup>

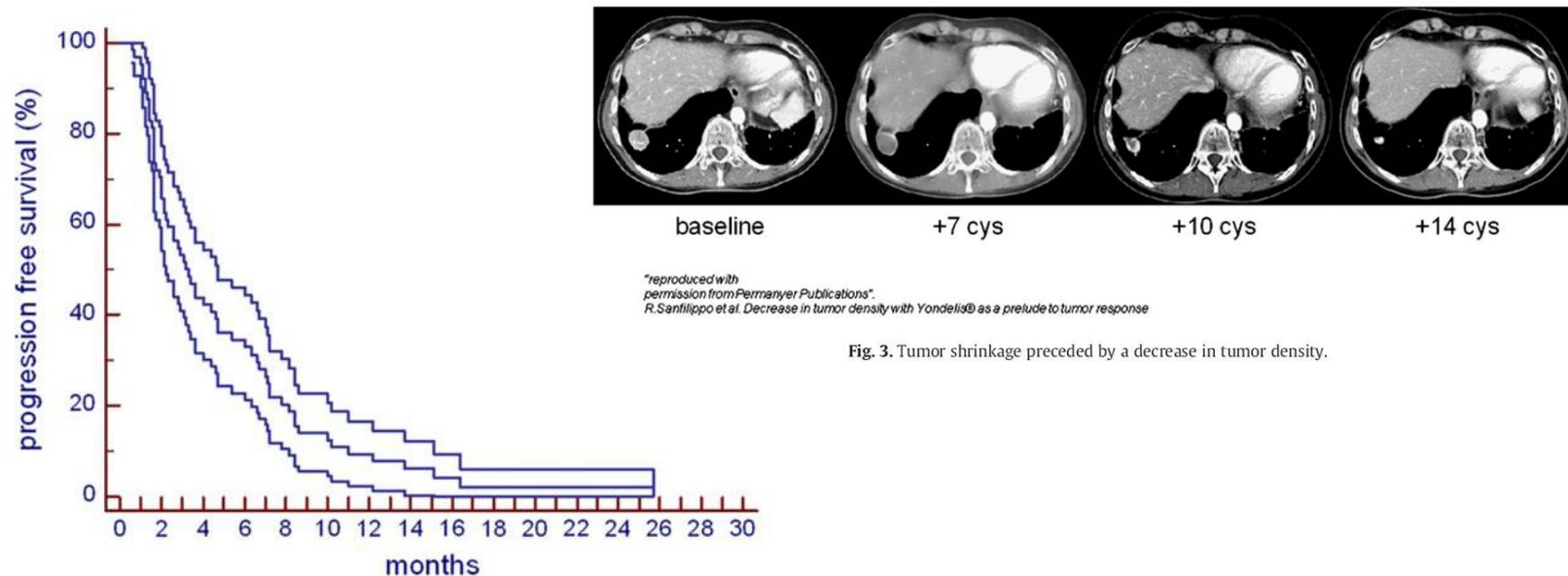
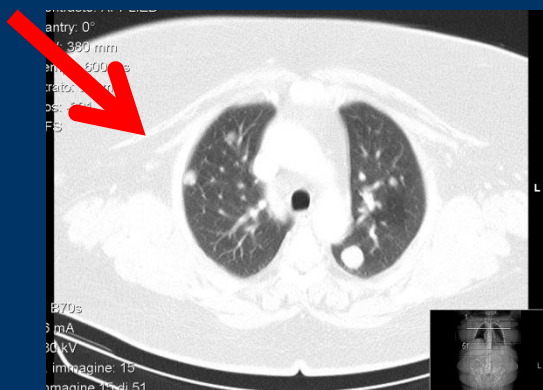
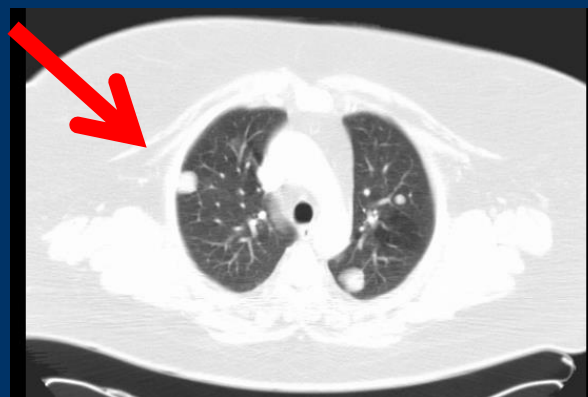


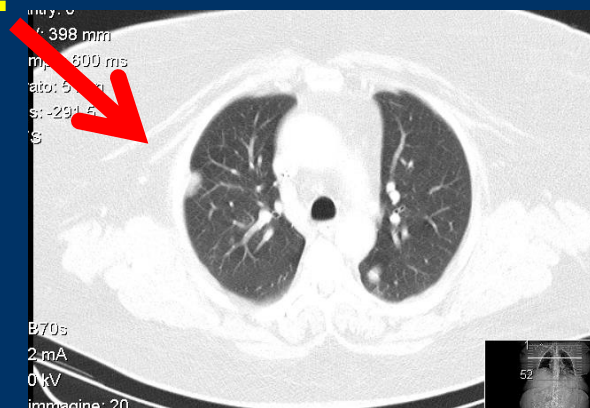
Fig. 3. Tumor shrinkage preceded by a decrease in tumor density.



0



**Trabectedin x 2**



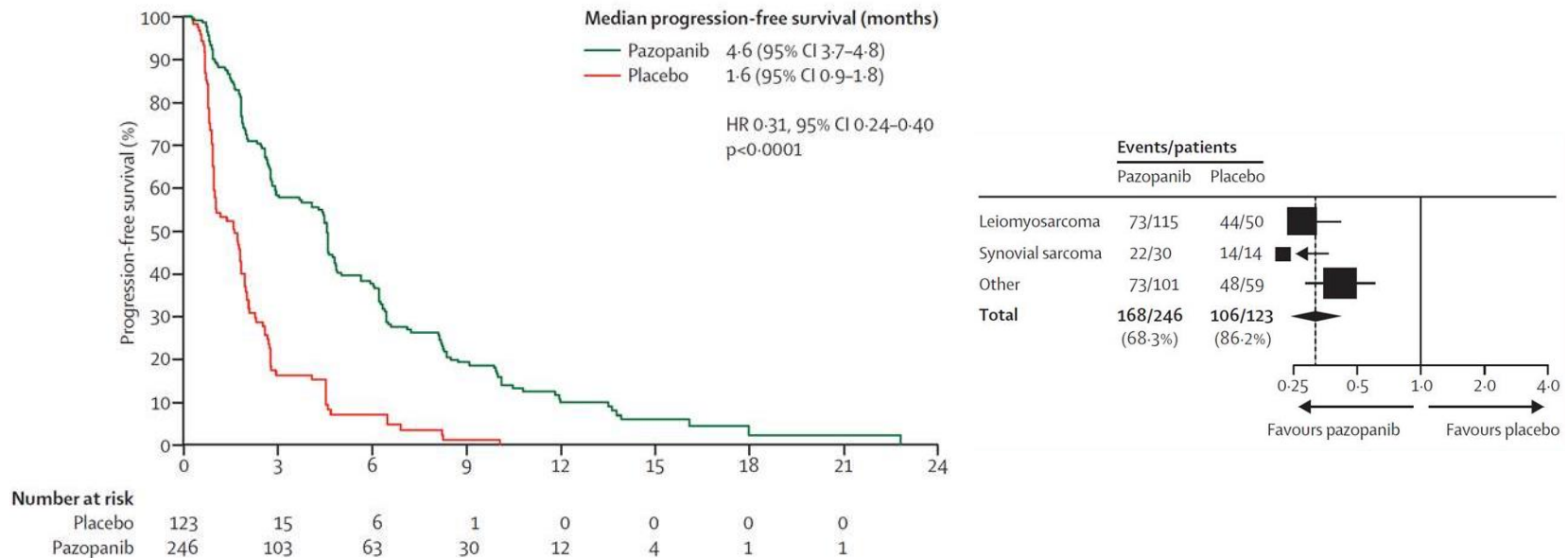
**Trabectedin x 10**



# Pazopanib for metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma (PALETTE): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial

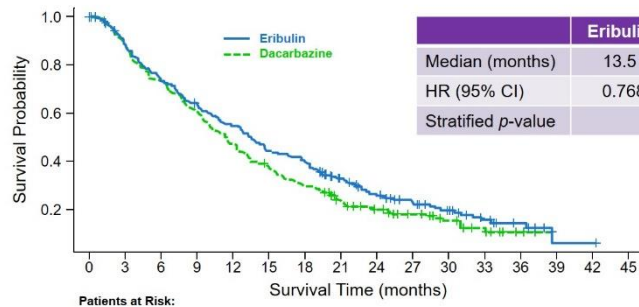


Winette T A van der Graaf, Jean-Yves Blay, Sant P Chawla, Dong-Wan Kim, Binh Bui-Nguyen, Paolo G Casali, Patrick Schöffski, Massimo Aglietta, Arthur P Staddon, Yasuo Beppu, Axel Le Cesne, Hans Gelderblom, Ian R Judson, Nobuhito Araki, Monia Ouali, Sandrine Marreaud, Rachel Hodge, Mohammed R Dewji, Corneel Coens, George D Demetri, Christopher D Fletcher, Angelo Paolo Dei Tos, Peter Hohenberger, on behalf of the EORTC Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group and the PALETTE study group



# Eribulin

## Primary endpoint: OS

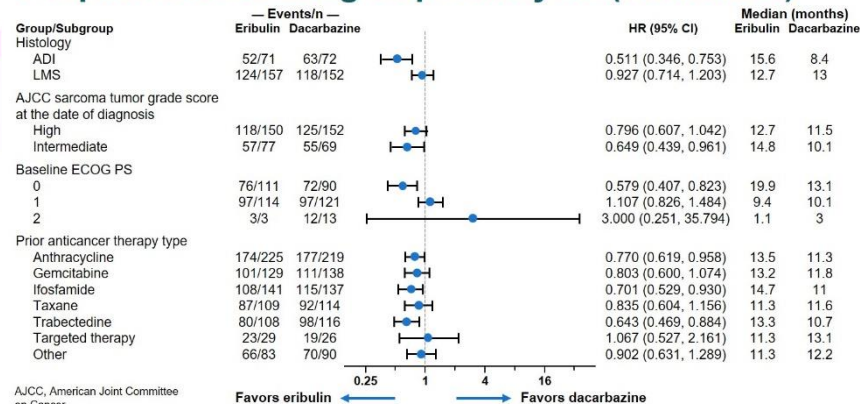


- The primary endpoint of OS was met, indicating a 2-month improvement in median OS with eribulin

CI, confidence interval.

	Eribulin	Dacarbazine
Median (months)	13.5	11.5
HR (95% CI)	0.768 (0.618, 0.954)	
Stratified p-value	0.0169	

## Preplanned OS subgroups analysis (continued)

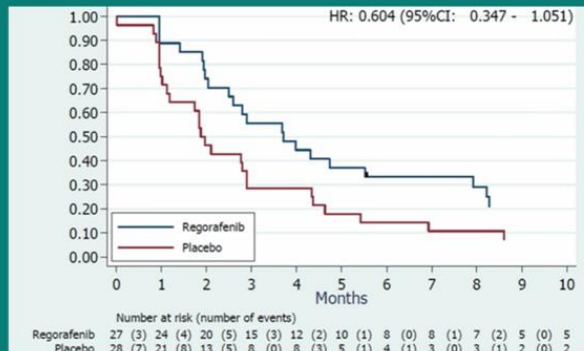


*from: ASCO 2015 Virtual Meeting*

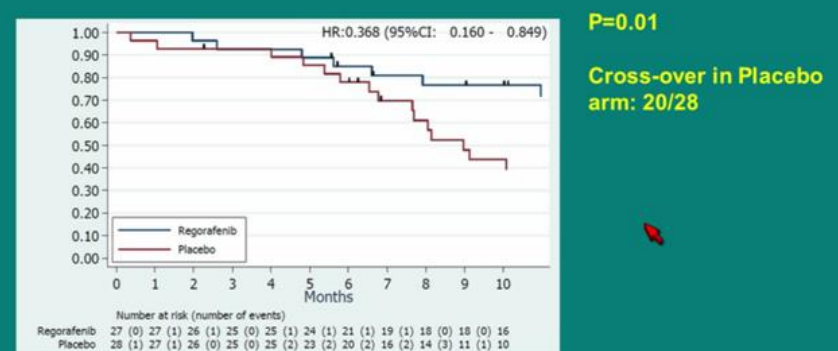
*Schoffski P et al, ASCO 2015; #10502*

# Regorafenib

## PFS - Leiomyosarcoma



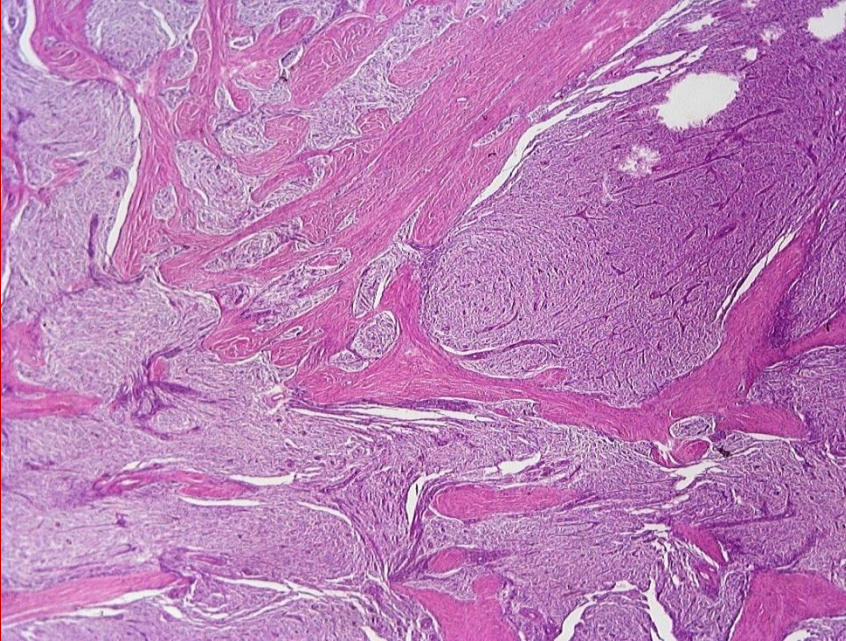
## OS - Leiomyosarcoma



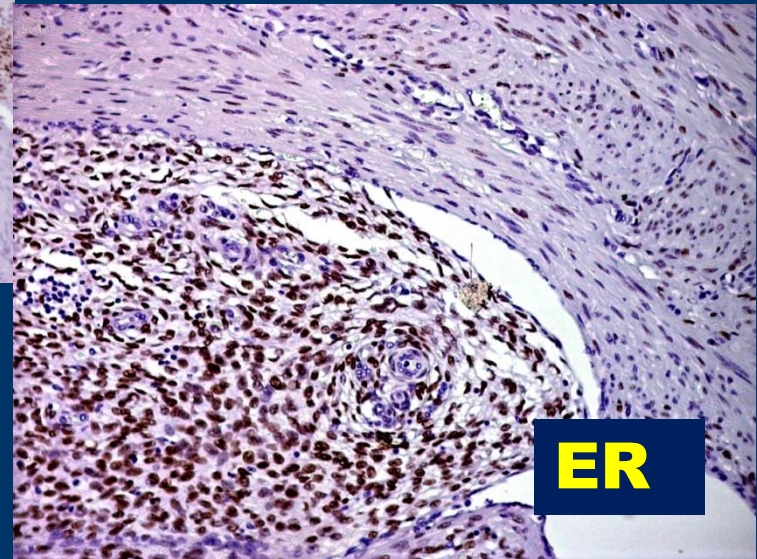
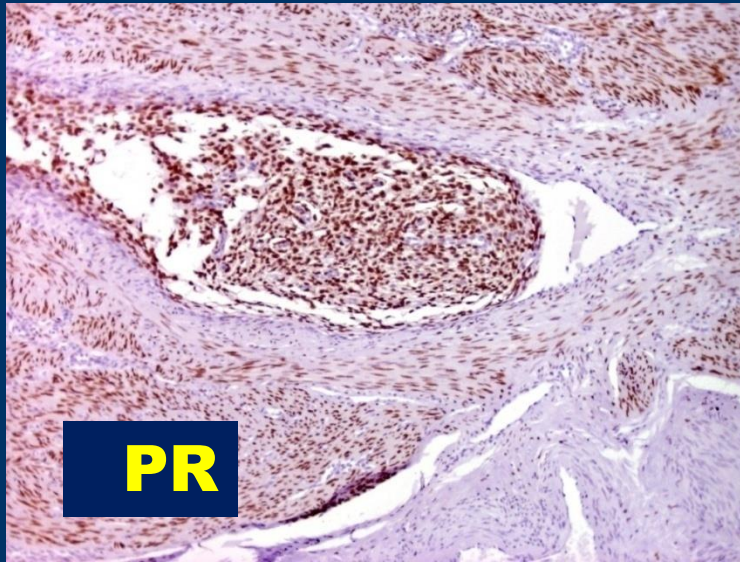
**from: ASCO 2015 Virtual Meeting**

**Mir O et al, ASCO 2015; #10504**

# Endometrial stromal sarcoma









# Progestins / Aromatase inhibitors



**0**



**+5 mos**

**Table 1. Overview of data on progestins for the treatment of uterine sarcomas, in both recurrent/metastatic setting and adjuvant settings.**

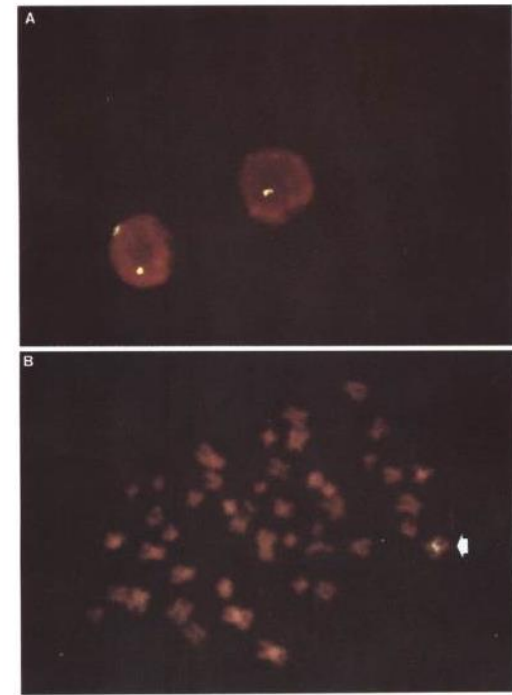
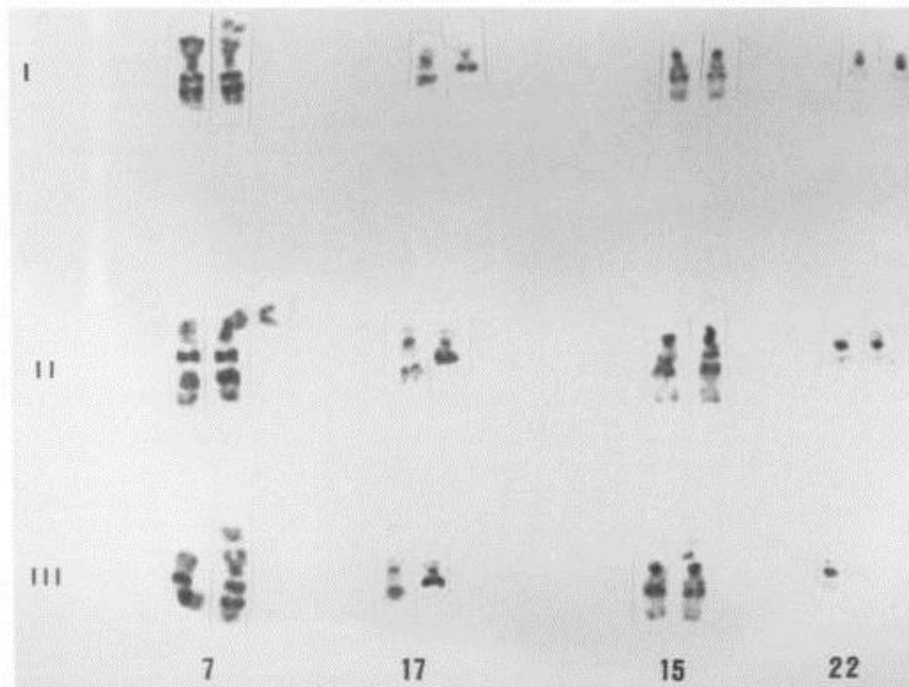
Study (year)	n	Treatment	Clinical response	Response duration (months)	Ref.
<b>ESS</b>					
<b>Metastatic setting: first line</b>					
Chu <i>et al.</i> (2003)	8/10	Meg/progestins NOS	4 CR/3 SD/1 PD	18–180	[18]
Pink <i>et al.</i> (2006)	3/10	MPA	1 CR/1 SD/1 PD	0/50/9	[31]
Dahhan <i>et al.</i> (2009)	8/11	Meg	4 CR/3 PR/1 SD	36–252/18–144/26	[41]
Ioffe <i>et al.</i> (2009)	5/7	Meg 4/Depot MPA (1)	1 PR/3 SD/1 PD	124/6–35/NA	[40]
Cheng <i>et al.</i> (2011)	30/47	Meg (28/30) mifepristone (3/30)	5 CR/3 PR/16 SD/6 PD	24	[20]
<b>Adjuvant setting</b>					
Katz <i>et al.</i> (1987)	2/9	Meg	2 NED	24–72	[72]
Chu <i>et al.</i> (2003)	13/24	Meg	9 NED/4 recurred	18–56	[18]
Malouf <i>et al.</i> (2010)	4/54	Meg	4 NED	NA	[22]
Cheng <i>et al.</i> (2011)	25/35	NOS	NED	132	[20]
<b>ULMS</b>					
<b>Metastatic setting: first line</b>					
Uchida <i>et al.</i> (1996)	1	MPA	PR	>45	[56]
Lo <i>et al.</i> (2005)	1	MPA	PR	19	[55]
Koivisto-Korander <i>et al.</i> (2007)	1/3	Mifepristone	1 PR/2 PD	>36	[57]
CR: Complete response; ESS: Endometrial stromal sarcoma; Meg: Megestrol; MPA: Medroxyprogesterone acetate; NA: Not applicable; NED: No evidence of disease; NOS: Not otherwise specified; PD: Progression of disease; PR: Partial response; SD: Stable disease; ULMS: Uterine leiomyosarcoma.					

**Table 2. Overview of data on aromatase inhibitors for the treatment of endometrial stromal sarcomas in both recurrent/metastatic setting and adjuvant settings.**

Study (year)	n	Treatment	Clinical response	Response duration (months)	Ref.
<i>Metastatic setting: first line</i>					
Spano <i>et al.</i> (2003)	2	Aminoglutethimide	2 CR	84–168	[6]
Leunen <i>et al.</i> (2004)	1	Letrozole	PR	36	[42]
Pink <i>et al.</i> (2006)	5	Letrozole	4 PR/1 PD	3–37/NA	[31]
Ioffe <i>et al.</i> (2009)	3	Letrozole	1 CR/2 PR	88–124/53	[40]
Dahhan <i>et al.</i> (2009)	3	Letrozole	2 PR/1 PD		[41]
Sylvestre <i>et al.</i> (2010)	1	Letrozole	1 CR	>24	[73]
<i>Metastatic setting: second line</i>					
Maluf <i>et al.</i> (2001)	1	Letrozole	PR	9	[59]
Spano <i>et al.</i> (2003)	1	Letrozole	1 CR	84	[6]
Shoji <i>et al.</i> (2010)	1	Anastrozole	1 PR	16	[43]
<i>Adjuvant setting</i>					
Malouf <i>et al.</i> (2010)	6/54	Als	NED	NA	[22]
AI: Aromatase inhibitor; CR: Complete response; NA: Not applicable; NED: No evidence of disease; PD: Progression of disease; PR: Partial response.					

# Endometrial Stromal Sarcoma t(7;17)(p15-21;q12-21) is a Nonrandom Chromosome Change

Paola Dal Cin, Magdy Sayed Aly, Ivo De Wever, Philippe Moerman,  
and Herman Van Den Berghe



# The Clinicopathologic Features of *YWHAE-FAM22* Endometrial Stromal Sarcomas: A Histologically High-grade and Clinically Aggressive Tumor

Cheng-Han Lee, MD, PhD,\*† Adrian Mariño-Enriquez, MD,\* Wenbin Ou, PhD,\*  
Meijun Zhu, PhD,\* Rola H. Ali, MD,† Sarah Chiang, MD,‡ Frédéric Amant, MD,§  
C. Blake Gilks, MD,† Matt van de Rijn, MD, PhD,|| Esther Oliva, MD,‡  
Maria Debiec-Rychter, MD,¶ Paola Dal Cin, PhD,\* Jonathan A. Fletcher, MD \*  
and Marisa R. Nucci, MD\*

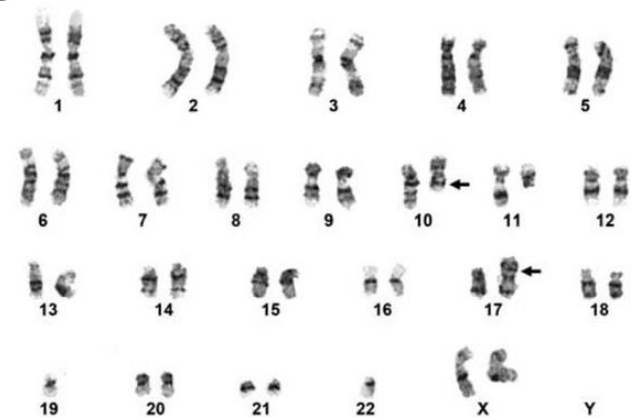
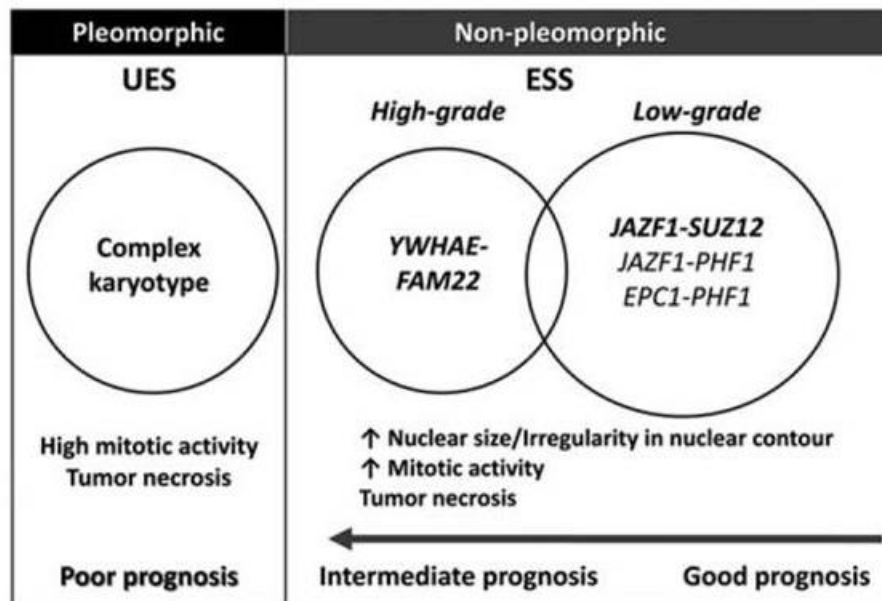


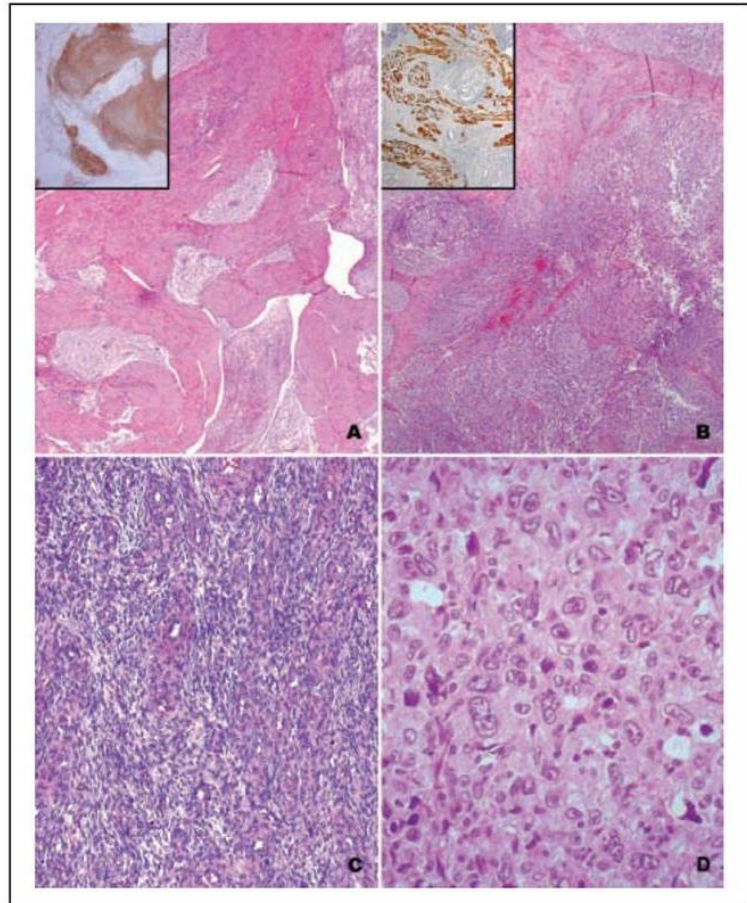
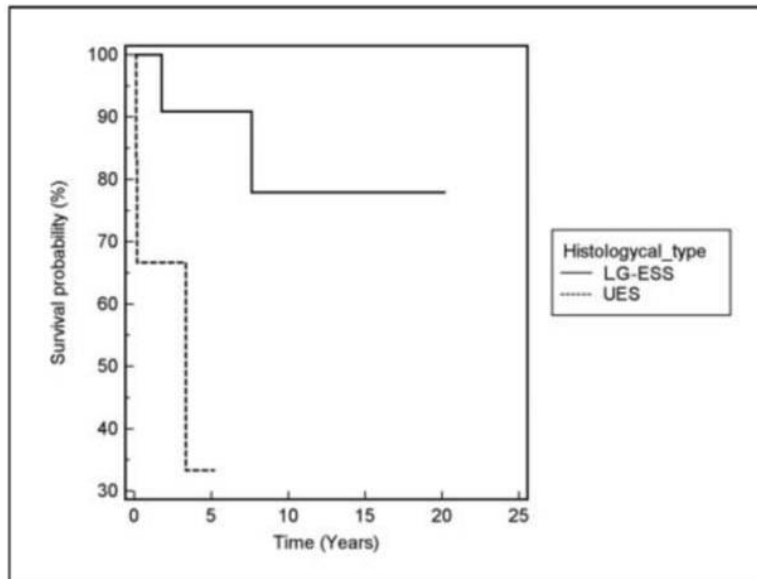
FIGURE 6. Karyotype of *YWHAE-FAM22* ESS (case 3, Table 1) showing t(10;17)(q22;p13) (arrows).






# Low-Grade Endometrial Stromal Sarcoma and Undifferentiated Endometrial Sarcoma: A Comparative Analysis Emphasizing the Importance of Distinguishing Between These Two Groups

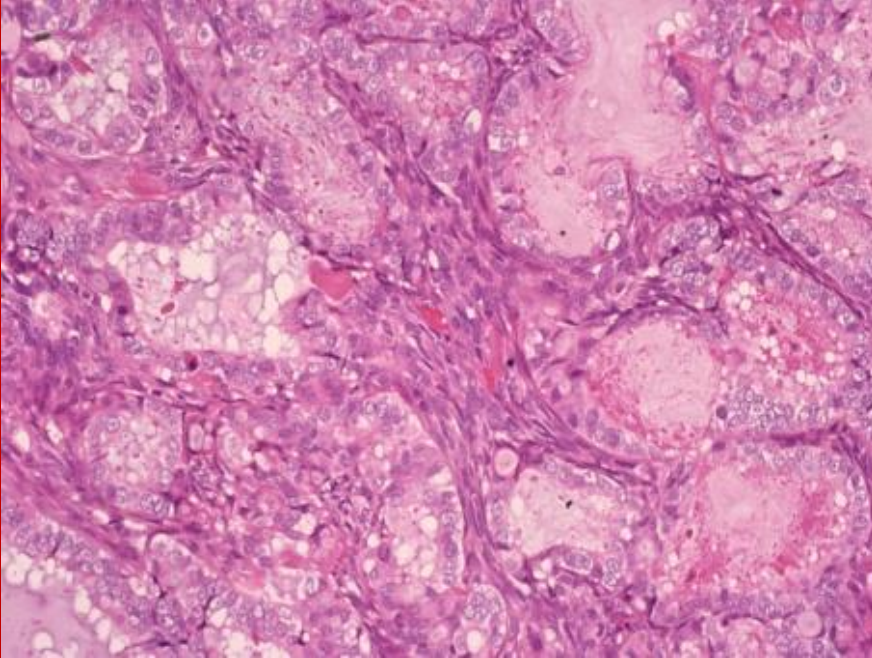
Carla Bartosch, MD,<sup>1</sup> Maria Isabel Exposito, MD,<sup>1,2</sup>  
and José Manuel Lopes, MD, PhD<sup>1,2,3</sup>

International Journal of Surgical Pathology  
18(4) 286–291  
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DOI: 10.1177/1066896909337600  
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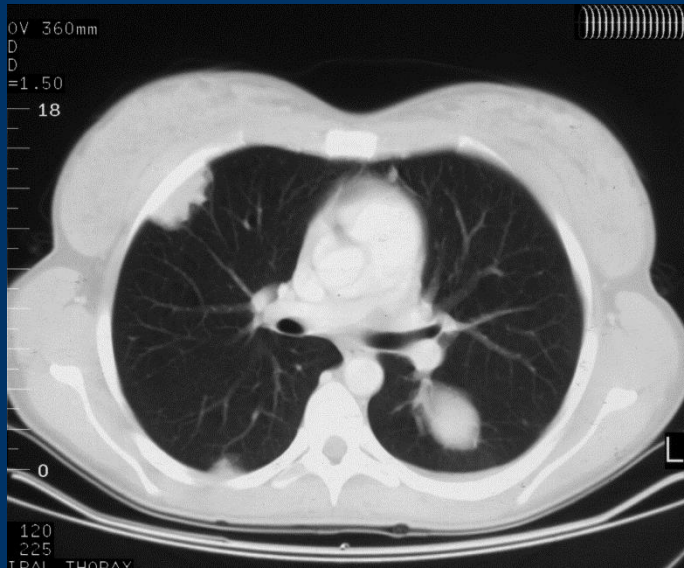


UUS*	HG ESS	LG ESS
 <p>Complex karyotype</p>	 <p><i>YWHAE- NUTM2</i></p>	 <p><i>JAZF1-SUZ12 JAZF1-PHF1 EPC1-PHF1 MEAF6-PHF1 ZC3H7B-BCOR MBTD1-CXorf67</i></p>
Post-menopausal	Pre- and post- menopausal	Peri-menopausal
<b>Poor prognosis</b> (no effective treatment)	<b>Intermediate prognosis</b> (adjuvant radiation/ chemotherapy strategy if stage 2 or higher)	<b>Good prognosis</b> (anti-estrogenic therapy)

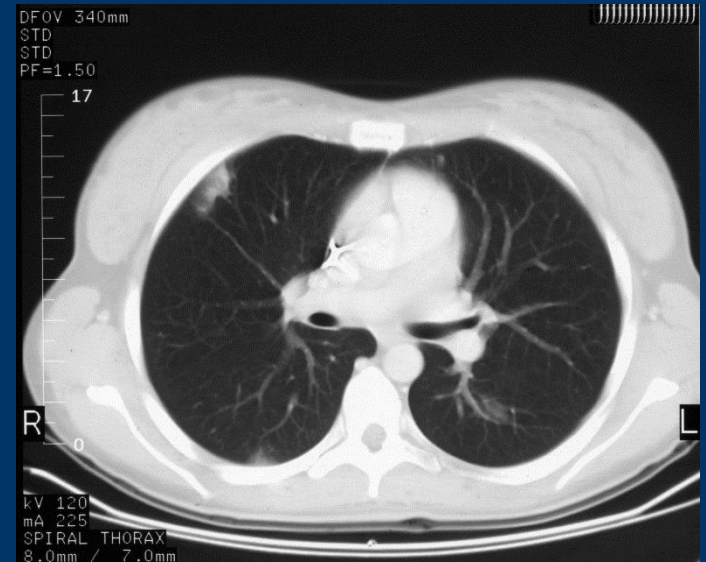
# Synovial sarcoma



# Synovial sarcoma: Ifosfamide



0



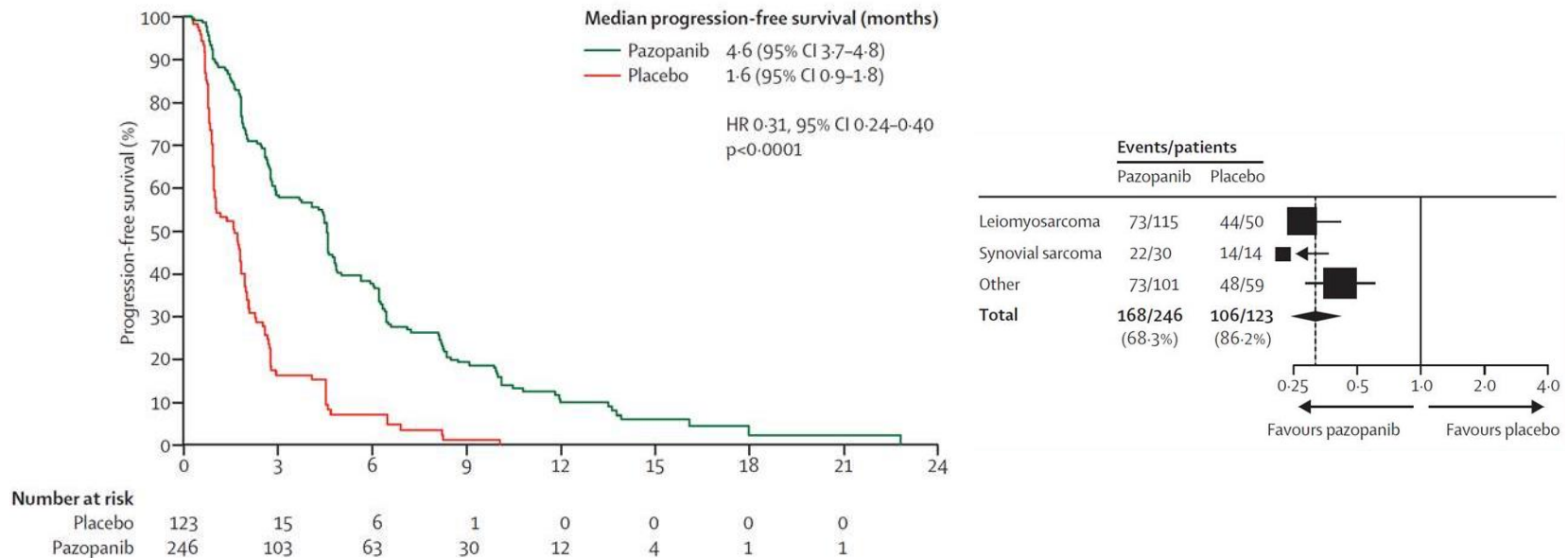
**cihdFX x 3 mos**



## Pazopanib for metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma (PALETTE): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial

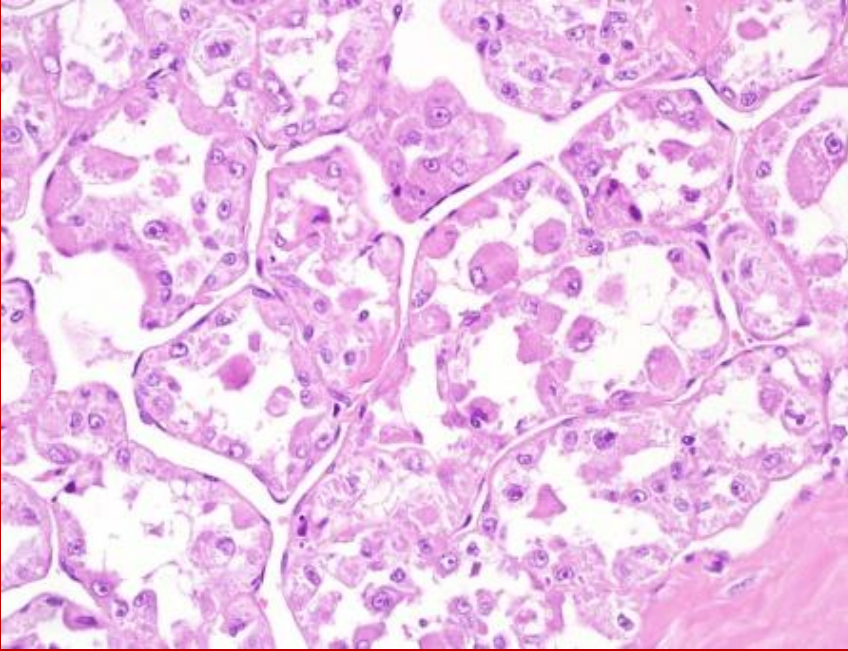


Winette T A van der Graaf, Jean-Yves Blay, Sant P Chawla, Dong-Wan Kim, Binh Bui-Nguyen, Paolo G Casali, Patrick Schöffski, Massimo Aglietta, Arthur P Staddon, Yasuo Beppu, Axel Le Cesne, Hans Gelderblom, Ian R Judson, Nobuhito Araki, Monia Ouali, Sandrine Marreaud, Rachel Hodge, Mohammed R Dewji, Corneel Coens, George D Demetri, Christopher D Fletcher, Angelo Paolo Dei Tos, Peter Hohenberger, on behalf of the EORTC Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group and the PALETTE study group





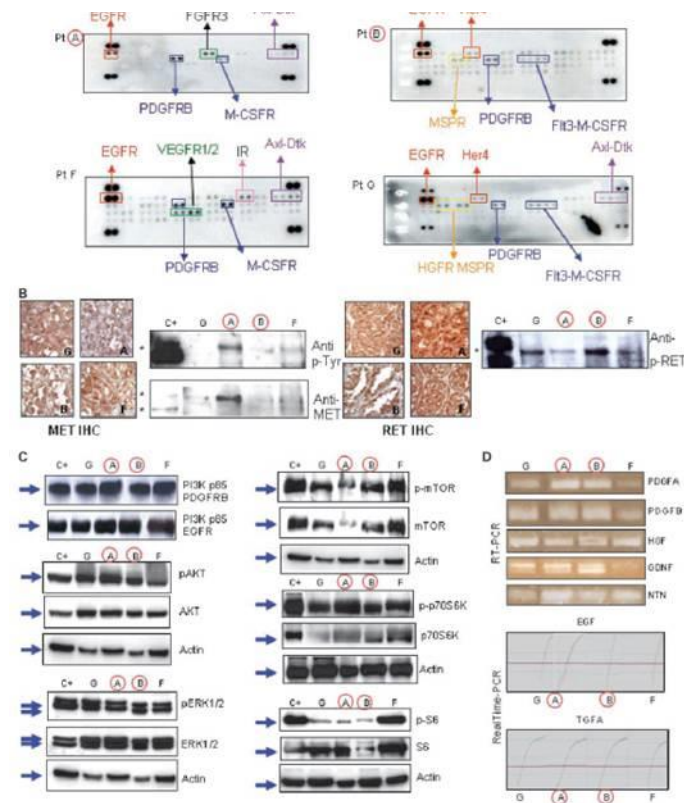
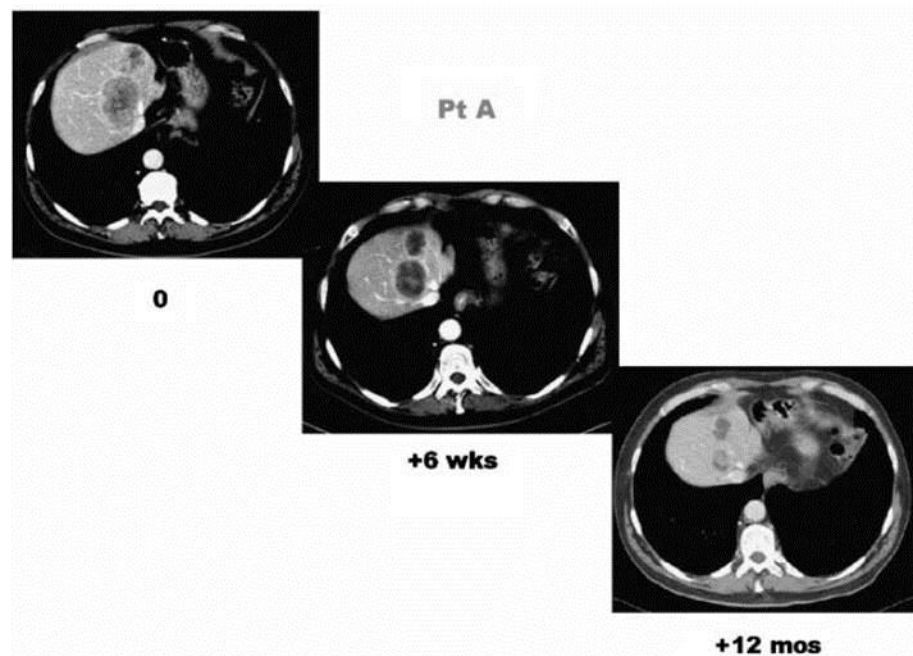
# Alveolar soft part sarcoma



## Cancer Therapy: Clinical

# Response to Sunitinib Malate in Advanced Alveolar Soft Part Sarcoma

Silvia Stacchiotti,<sup>1</sup> Elena Tamborini,<sup>2</sup> Andrea Marrari,<sup>1</sup> Silvia Brich,<sup>2</sup> Sara Arisi Rota,<sup>2</sup> Marta Orsenigo,<sup>2</sup> Flavio Crippa,<sup>3</sup> Carlo Morosi,<sup>4</sup> Alessandro Gronchi,<sup>5</sup> Marco A. Pierotti,<sup>2</sup> Paolo G. Casali,<sup>1</sup> and Silvana Pilotti<sup>2</sup>

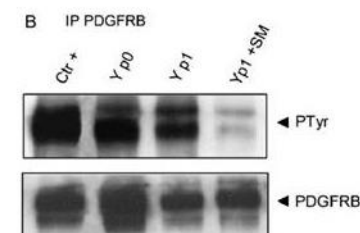
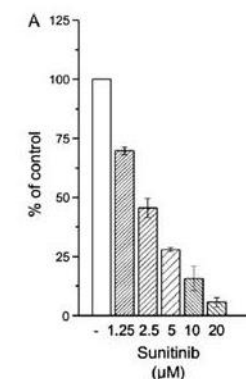
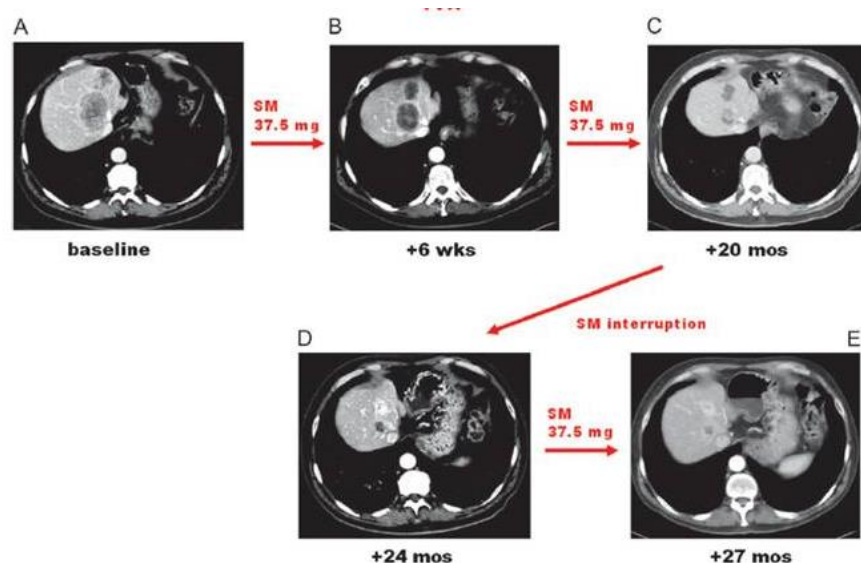


## Sunitinib in advanced alveolar soft part sarcoma: evidence of a direct antitumor effect

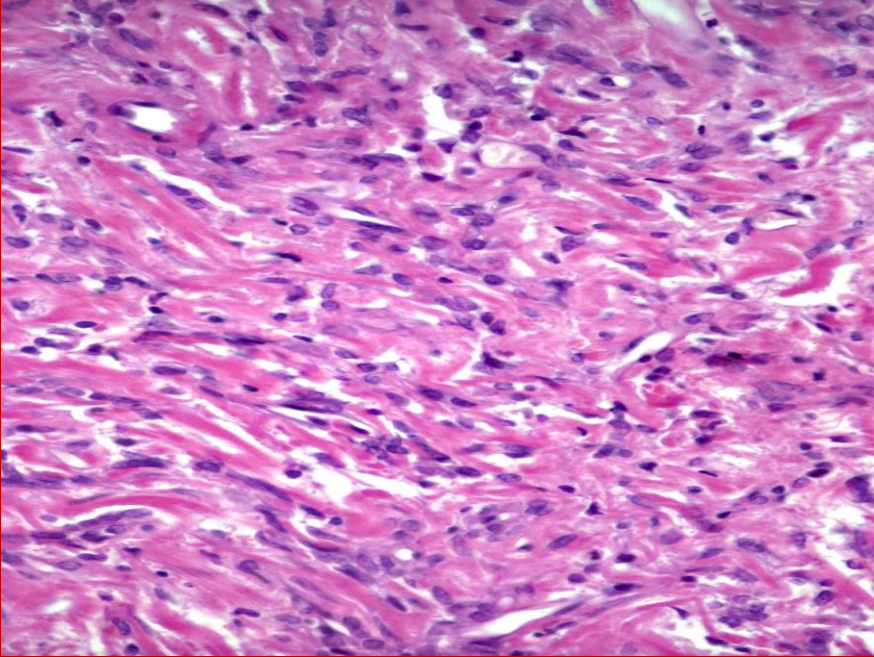
S. Stacchiotti<sup>1\*</sup>, T. Negri<sup>2</sup>, N. Zaffaroni<sup>3</sup>, E. Palassini<sup>1</sup>, C. Morosi<sup>4</sup>, S. Brich<sup>2</sup>, E. Conca<sup>2</sup>, F. Bozzi<sup>2</sup>, G. Cassinelli<sup>3</sup>, A. Gronchi<sup>5</sup>, P. G. Casali<sup>1</sup> & S. Pilotti<sup>2</sup>

Departments of <sup>1</sup>Cancer Medicine; <sup>2</sup>Pathology, Laboratory of Experimental Molecular Pathology; <sup>3</sup>Experimental Oncology and Molecular Medicine; <sup>4</sup>Radiology; <sup>5</sup>Surgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

Received 17 August 2010; revised 5 October 2010; accepted 6 October 2010



# Solitary fibrous tumor







## Response to chemotherapy of solitary fibrous tumour: A retrospective study<sup>☆</sup>

S. Stacchiotti<sup>a,\*</sup>, M. Libertini<sup>a</sup>, T. Negri<sup>b</sup>, E. Palassini<sup>a</sup>, A. Gronchi<sup>c</sup>, S. Fatigoni<sup>d</sup>,  
P. Poletti<sup>e</sup>, B. Vincenzi<sup>f</sup>, A.P. Dei Tos<sup>g</sup>, L. Mariani<sup>h</sup>, S. Pilotti<sup>h</sup>, P.G. Casali<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Adult Sarcoma Medical Oncology Unit, Department of Cancer Medicine, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>b</sup>Department of Pathology, Laboratory of Experimental Molecular Pathology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

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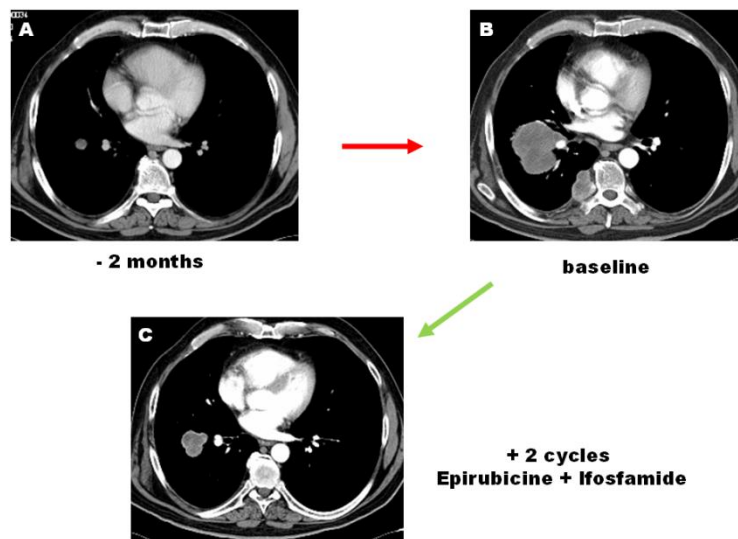
<sup>d</sup>Department Medical Oncology, Ospedale S. Maria, Terni, Italy

<sup>e</sup>Department Medical Oncology, Ospedale Rizzardi, Bergamo, Italy

<sup>f</sup>Department Medical Oncology, Campus BioMedico, Rome, Italy

<sup>g</sup>Department of Anatomic Pathology, General Hospital of Treviso, Treviso, Italy

<sup>h</sup>Unit of Clinical Epidemiology and Trial Organization, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy



**31 pts, 18 mal / 12 dediff**

**anthracyclin-based CT**

**RECIST:**

<b>20% PR</b>
<b>27% SD</b>
<b>53 PD</b>

**median PFS: 4 mos**





## Response to chemotherapy of solitary fibrous tumour: A retrospective study<sup>☆</sup>

S. Stacchiotti<sup>a,\*</sup>, M. Libertini<sup>a</sup>, T. Negri<sup>b</sup>, E. Palassini<sup>a</sup>, A. Gronchi<sup>c</sup>, S. Fatigoni<sup>d</sup>,  
P. Poletti<sup>e</sup>, B. Vincenzi<sup>f</sup>, A.P. Dei Tos<sup>g</sup>, L. Mariani<sup>h</sup>, S. Pilotti<sup>h</sup>, P.G. Casali<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Adult Sarcoma Medical Oncology Unit, Department of Cancer Medicine, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>b</sup>Department of Pathology, Laboratory of Experimental Molecular Pathology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

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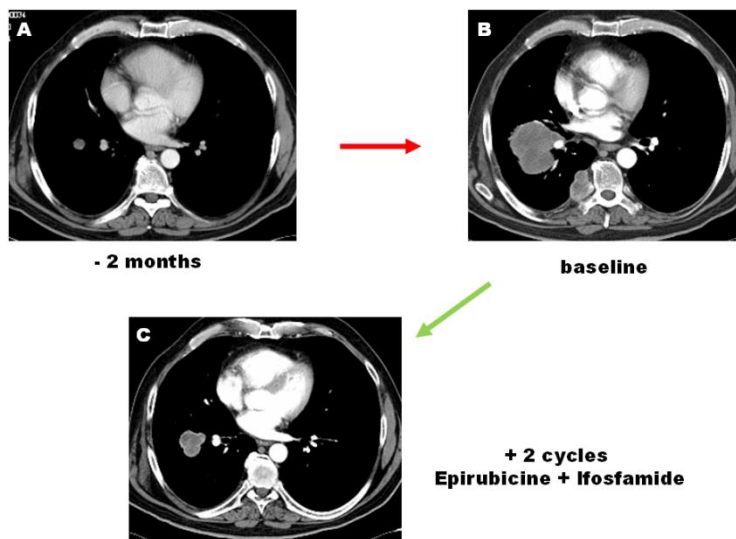
<sup>d</sup>Department Medical Oncology, Ospedale S. Maria, Terni, Italy

<sup>e</sup>Department Medical Oncology, Ospedale Rizzardi, Bergamo, Italy

<sup>f</sup>Department Medical Oncology, Campus BioMedico, Roma, Italy

<sup>g</sup>Department of Anatomic Pathology, General Hospital of Treviso, Treviso, Italy

<sup>h</sup>Unit of Clinical Epidemiology and Trial Organization, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy



**mal**

**RECIST: 11% PR**  
**median PFS: 3.5 mos**

**dediff**

**RECIST: 30% PR**  
**median PFS: 5 mos**

## Dacarbazine in Solitary Fibrous Tumor: A Case Series Analysis and Preclinical Evidence vis-à-vis Temozolomide and Antiangiogenics

S. Stacchiotti<sup>1</sup>, M. Tortoreto<sup>2</sup>, F. Bozzi<sup>3</sup>, E. Tamborini<sup>3</sup>, C. Morosi<sup>4</sup>, A. Messina<sup>4</sup>, M. Libertini<sup>1</sup>, E. Palassini<sup>1</sup>,  
D. Cominetti<sup>2</sup>, T. Negri<sup>3</sup>, A. Gronchi<sup>5</sup>, S. Pilotti<sup>3</sup>, N. Zaffaroni<sup>2</sup>, and P.G. Casali<sup>1</sup>

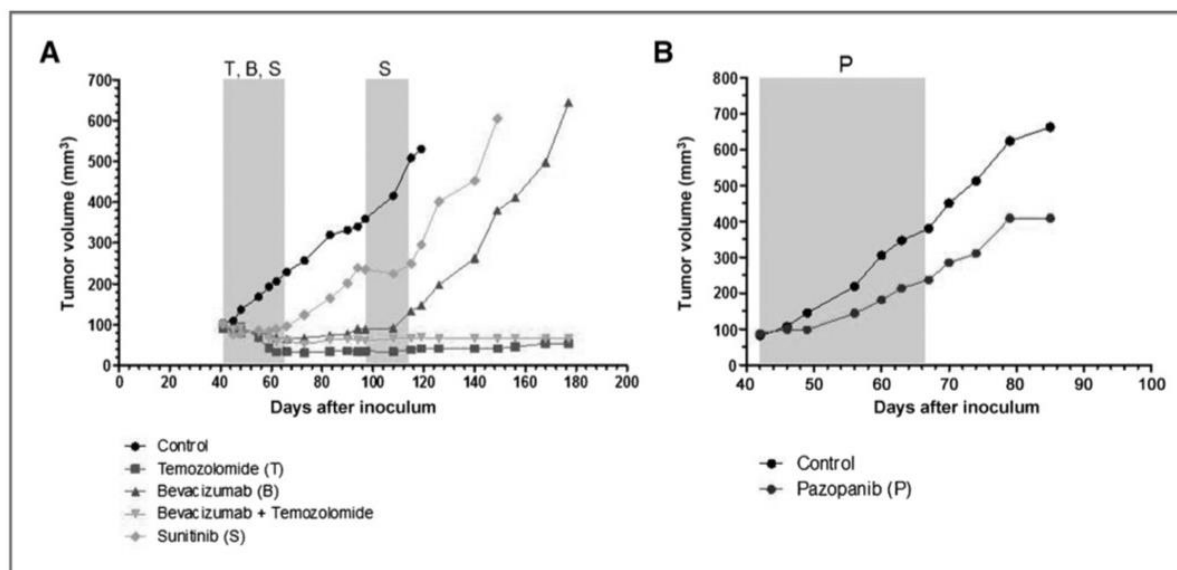
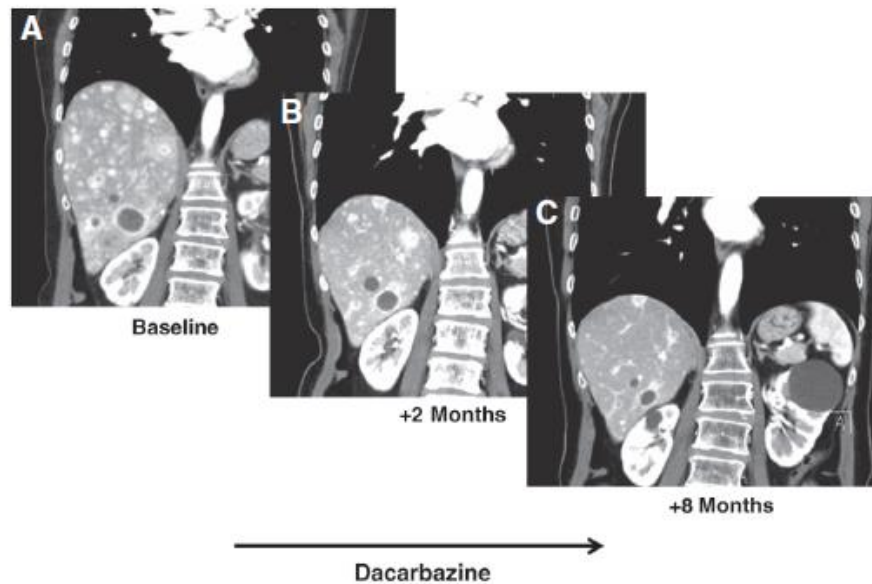


Figure 2. A, efficacy of oral temozolomide (50 mg/kg, q2-3d/w  $\times$  4w), intraperitoneal bevacizumab (4 mg/kg, q3-4d/w  $\times$  4w) alone and in combination, and oral sunitinib (40 mg/kg, qdx5d/w  $\times$  4w) against SFT xenotransplanted in SCID mice. The treatment duration is indicated by the gray bar. B, efficacy of oral pazopanib (100 mg/kg, qdx5d/w  $\times$  4w) against SFT xenotransplanted in SCID mice. The treatment duration is indicated by the gray bar.

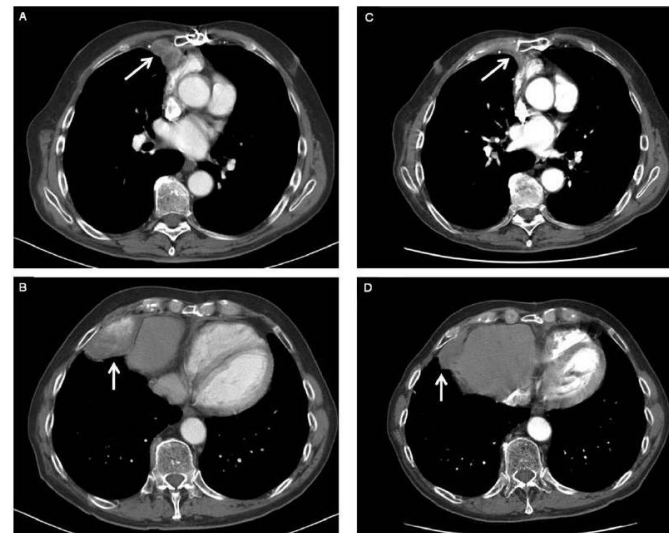
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# Activity of Temozolomide and Bevacizumab in the Treatment of Locally Advanced, Recurrent, and Metastatic Hemangiopericytoma and Malignant Solitary Fibrous Tumor

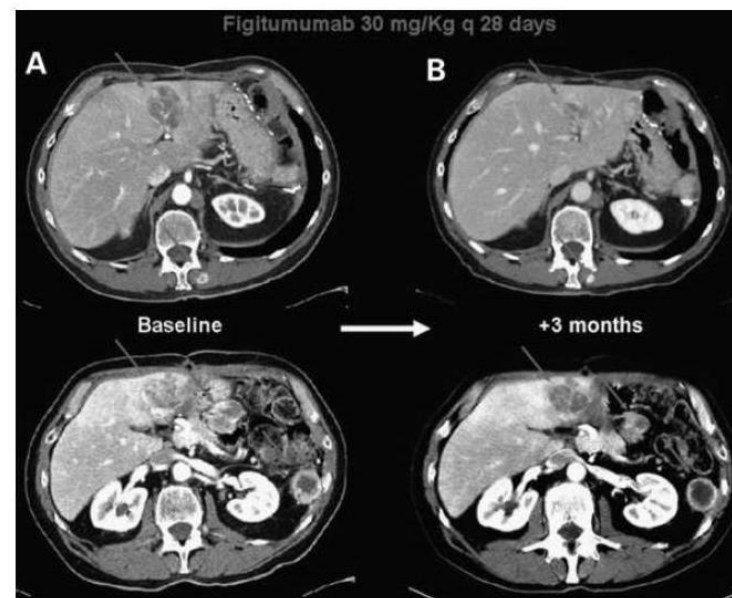
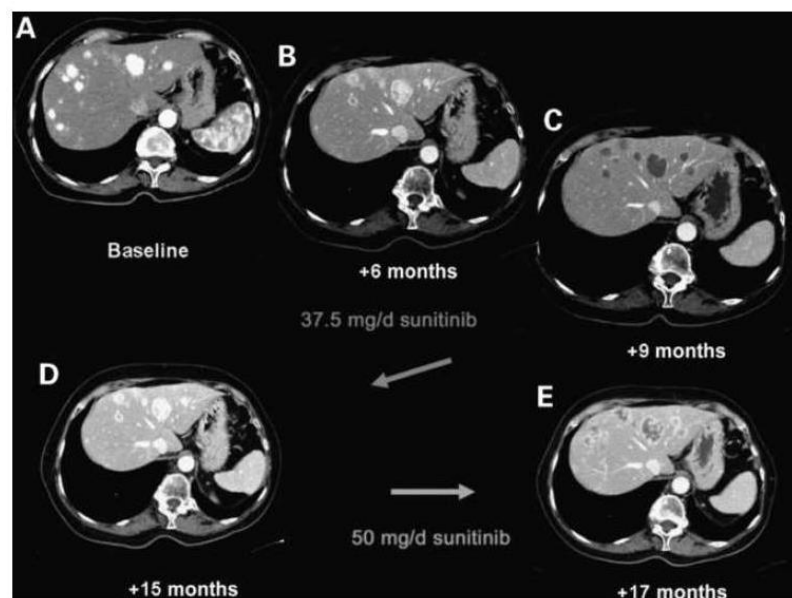
Min S. Park, MD<sup>1</sup>; Shreyaskumar R. Patel, MD<sup>1</sup>; Joseph A. Ludwig, MD<sup>1</sup>; Jonathan C. Trent, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Charles A. Conrad, MD<sup>2</sup>; Alexander J. Lazar, MD, PhD<sup>3</sup>; Wei-Lien Wang, MD<sup>3</sup>; Piyaporn Boonsirikamchai, MD<sup>4</sup>; Haesun Choi, MD<sup>4</sup>; Xuemei Wang, MS<sup>5</sup>; Robert S. Benjamin, MD<sup>1</sup>; and Dejka M. Araujo, MD<sup>1</sup>



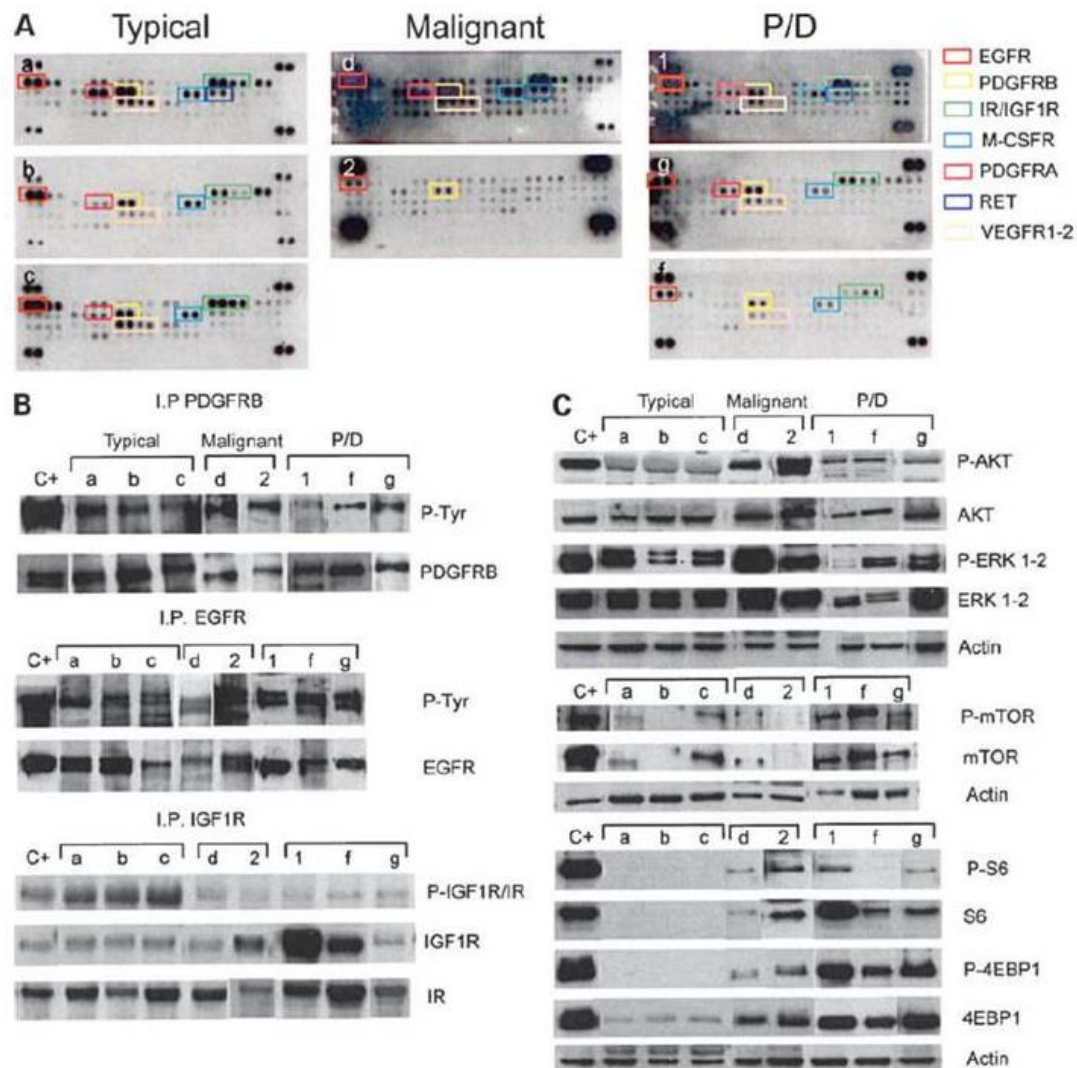
Patient No.	Tumor	Maximum Change in Tumor Size (%)	Maximum Change in Density (%)	Best Response (Choi Criteria)		Best Response (RECIST)	
1	HPC	−56.2	−41.3	PR	↓Size	↓HU	PR
2	SFT	−42.1	−67.6	PR	↓Size	↓HU	PR
3	SFT	−26.7	−16.2	PR	↓Size	↓HU	SD
4	HPC	−19.5	−19.1	PR	↓Size	↓HU	SD
5	HPC	−18.5	−39.4	PR	↓Size	↓HU	SD
6	SFT	−13.7	−83.1	PR	↓Size	↓HU	SD
7	SFT	−6.5	−23.7	PR	↓Size	↓HU	SD
8	HPC	−26.9	ND <sup>a</sup>	PR	↓Size		SD
9	HPC	−6.1	−28.7	PR		↓HU	SD
10	HPC	−3.4	−60.5	PR		↓HU	SD
11	HPC	4.9	−15.5	PR		↓HU	SD
12	HPC	0	ND <sup>a</sup>	SD			SD
13	HPC	4.6	4.4	SD			SD
14	HPC	15.5	5.4	PD			SD
Median		−10.1	−26.2				

## Sunitinib Malate and Figitumumab in Solitary Fibrous Tumor: Patterns and Molecular Bases of Tumor Response

Silvia Stacchiotti<sup>1</sup>, Tiziana Negri<sup>2</sup>, Elena Palassini<sup>1</sup>, Elena Conca<sup>2</sup>, Alessandro Gronchi<sup>3</sup>, Carlo Morosi<sup>4</sup>, Antonella Messina<sup>4</sup>, Ugo Pastorino<sup>3</sup>, Marco A. Pierotti<sup>5</sup>, Paolo G. Casali<sup>1</sup>, and Silvana Pilotti<sup>2</sup>









Original Research

# Preclinical and clinical evidence of activity of pazopanib in solitary fibrous tumour



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## KEYWORDS

Sarcoma  
Solitary fibrous tumour  
Pazopanib  
Sunitinib  
Tyrosine kinase  
Chemotherapy

**Abstract** **Background:** To explore the activity of pazopanib in solitary fibrous tumour (SFT). **Patients and methods:** In a preclinical study, we compared the activity of pazopanib, sorafenib, sunitinib, regorafenib, axitinib and bosutinib in a well-defined SFT (DSFT) xenograft model into Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) mice. Antitumor activity was assessed at their reported optimal dose when mean tumour volume (TV) was 80 mm<sup>3</sup>. Drug activity was assessed as TV inhibition percentage (TVi%). From May 2012, six consecutive patients with advanced SFT received pazopanib, on a national name-based programme. In one case sunitinib was administered after pazopanib failure.

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## RESEARCH

## Open Access

# Pazopanib as first line treatment for solitary fibrous tumours: the Royal Marsden Hospital experience

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## Abstract

**Background:** Solitary Fibrous Tumour (SFT) is a rare soft tissue neoplasm, described in several locations in the body. It is classified as intermediate malignant potential with low risk of metastasis and has a low tendency to recur after primary surgery.

**Methods:** We performed a prospective data collection of the patients with SFT presented to the Royal Marsden Hospital from January to December 2013, and treated with pazopanib in first line. Demographics, anatomic primary sites, treatment and survival outcomes were collected from patients' electronic records.

**Results:** 13 patients (54% female) were identified with a median age of 51 years (range 37–77). Most of the patients (77%) were diagnosed with extra-thoracic SFT. All the patients received first line treatment with pazopanib for metastatic disease. Median overall survival (OS) was 13.3 months. Median progression free survival (PFS) was 4.7 months. No statistically significant difference was found in OS and PFS between primary thoracic SFT and primary extra-thoracic SFT. According to RECIST, one partial response (8%) and eight disease stabilizations (73%) were found as best responses. Using Choi criteria, there were 5 partial responses (46%) and 4 stabilizations (36%).

**Conclusion:** Our prospective data confirm that anti-angiogenic drugs are active in SFT. PFS and overall response do not appear significantly lower than other reported series on the same disease. Furthermore, pazopanib is a drug already licensed in soft tissue sarcomas and these data suggest its activity also in this particular subtype of sarcomas.

**Keywords:** Pazopanib, Solitary fibrous tumour, SFT, Sarcoma

## Introduction

Solitary Fibrous Tumour (SFT) is a rare soft tissue neoplasm, initially thought to occur exclusively within the thorax [1] and now known to arise from all anatomical sites [2]. In the past, SFT has also been called hemangiopericytoma, a term used over the years to describe a wide variety of tumours with some common morphological characteristics. Different biological entities have progressively been identified for this category, and most of them are now recognized as SFTs [3].

Recently, SFTs have been described in several locations also outside the thoracic cavity, including head and

neck, abdomen, retroperitoneum, and other soft tissue sites [4–6].

SFTs are classified as having intermediate malignant potential with low risk of metastasis under the WHO classification [7] and they have a low tendency to recur after primary surgery [8]. However, the clinical behaviour is hard to predict and several prognostic factors have been considered in order to assess the behaviour of the disease. In a recent analysis of a large cohort of SFTs, the size and the mitotic index have been proposed as factors to consider after primary surgery which may help to stratify the follow-up of the patients that might have an increased risk of recurrence [5]. Generally, treatment for metastatic SFTs is not curative and is of palliative intent.

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Original Research

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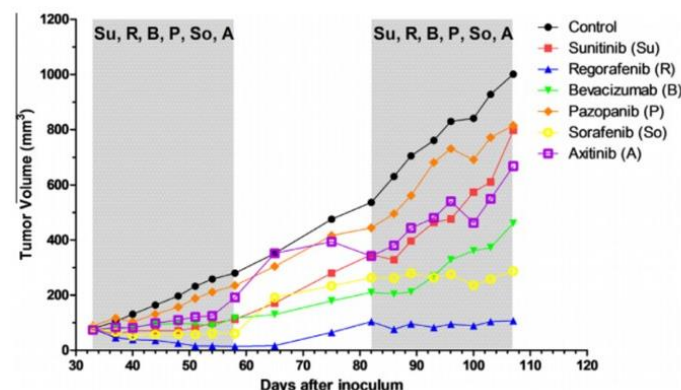
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<sup>1</sup> These authors equally contributed to the paper.

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Original Research

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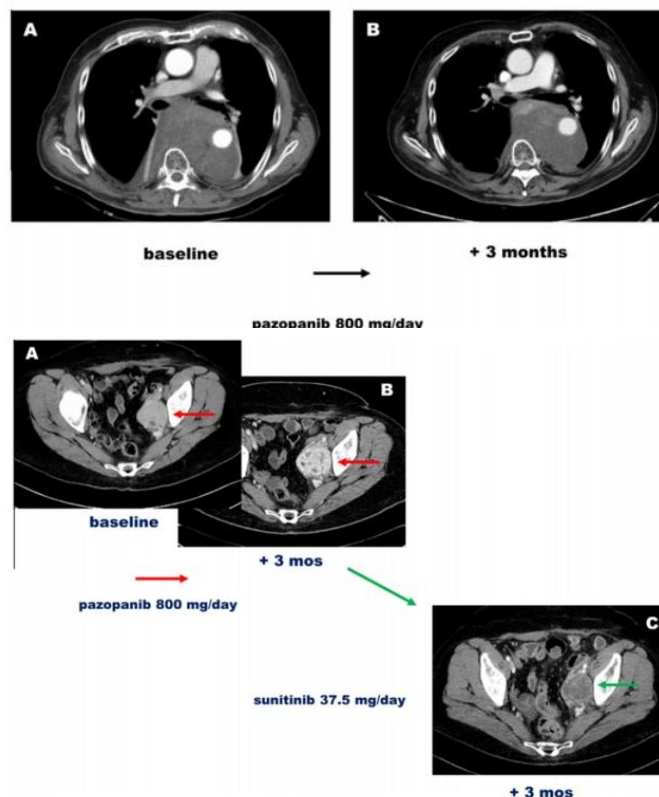
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<sup>1</sup> These authors equally contributed to the paper.

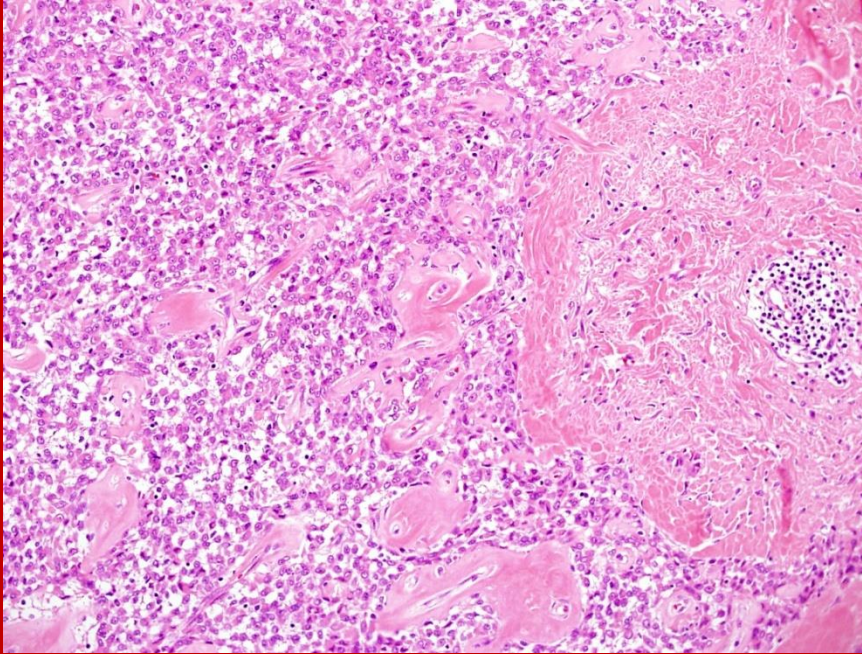
**Keywords:** soft tissue sarcoma; solitary fibrous tumour; anti-angiogenic therapy; anti-tumour response; myeloid-derived suppressor cells; tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes; tumour microenvironment; immunohistochemistry

## **Adaptive immune contexture at the tumour site and downmodulation of circulating myeloid-derived suppressor cells in the response of solitary fibrous tumour patients to anti-angiogenic therapy**

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# PEComas



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Sirolimus for Angiomyolipoma in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex or Lymphangioleiomyomatosis

John J. Bissler, M.D., Francis X. McCormack, M.D., Lisa R. Young, M.D.,  
Jean M. Elwing, M.D., Gail Chuck, L.M.T., Jennifer M. Leonard, R.N.,  
Vincent J. Schmithorst, Ph.D., Tal Laor, M.D., Alan S. Brody, M.D.,  
Judy Bean, Ph.D., Shelia Salisbury, M.S., and David N. Franz, M.D.

From the Divisions of Nephrology and Hypertension (J.J.B.), Pulmonary Medicine (L.R.Y.), Neurology (G.C., J.M.L., D.N.F.), Radiology (V.J.S., T.L., A.S.B.), and Biostatistics (J.B., S.S.), Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center; and the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine (F.X.M., L.R.Y., J.M.E.) — both in Cincinnati. Address reprint requests to Dr. Bissler at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, MLC 7022, 3333 Burnet Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039, or at [john.bissler@cchmc.org](mailto:john.bissler@cchmc.org).

Drs. McCormack, Young, and Franz contributed equally to the article.

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Baseline



12 Months

# REPORTS

- mount height and radius estimates.
23. The marine portion of the STODP data set derive from STODP (R. J. Van Wyckhouse, Tech. Rep. TR-233 [U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office, NOD, Washington, DC, 1972] and contain numerous artifacts caused by the combination of poor data coverage, gridding of contour interval of depth soundings, and topographic gridding methodology [W. H. F. Smith, *J. Geophys. Res.* **69**, 1051 (1964)].
24. R. A. Duncan and D. A. Clague, in *The Ocean Basins and Margins*, A. E. M. Nairn, R. G. Davis, B. Uyeda, Eds. (Plenum, New York, 1985), pp. 83-121; R. C. Jaramel and D. A. Clague, *Rev. Geophys.* **16**, 57 (1977); C. Y. Yen and L. W. Kienke, *Proc. ODP Sci. Rep.* **100**, 607 (1982).
25. J. P. Morgan, W. J. Morgan, E. Price, *J. Geophys. Res.* **100**, 2045 (1995).
26. U. S. West Side, *Geology* **19**, 337 (1991).
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28. R. D. Miller, W. R. Row, J. Y. Royer, L. M. Satterly, J. G. Sclater, *J. Geophys. Res.* **93**, 5211 (1988).
29. Actual regression of the envelope in Fig. 3 gives  $VGG(a) = 91.8 + 10.9 \sqrt{Z}$ . This is inverted to yield the empirical relation
- $$\text{pseudo age} = \text{seafloor age} - \left[ \frac{VGG(a) - 91.8}{10.9} \right]^2 \quad (1)$$
30. The flexural modeling also allowed numerical estimation of crustal volumes.
31. R. G. Sclater, *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* **60**, 105 (1982).
32. W. H. F. Smith, thesis, Columbia University (1960).
33. The Ontonagon ophiolite was emplaced during two distinct episodes at ~121 Ma and ~80 Ma [C. Benoit and J. Mahoney, *Science* **266**, 1367 (1994)]; the Mantle plateau also formed at ~121 Ma, whereas the Hess rise (80 to 100 Ma) and the Mid-Pacific Mountains (75 to 130 Ma) have longer ranges or ages. The oldest plateau is Shastley rise (156 to 146 Ma) [R. Larson and P. Olson, *Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.* **107**, 437 (1991)].
34. I thank W. Smith for providing the VGG grid. Supported by NSF grant EAR-9003402. School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, University of Hawaii, contribution no. 4517.

17 April 1997; accepted 19 June 1997

## Identification of the Tuberous Sclerosis Gene TSC1 on Chromosome 9q34

Marjon van Slechtenhorst, Ronald de Hoogt, Caroline Hermans, Mark Nellist, Bart Janse, Senna Verhoef, Dick Lindhout, Ans van den Ouweland, Dicky Halley, Janet Young, Marijnn Burley, Steve Jeremiah, Karen Woodward, Joseph Nahmias, Margaret Fox, Rosemary Ekong, John Osborne, Jonathan Wolfe, Sue Povey, Russell G. Snell, Jeremy P. Chadwick, Alistair C. Jones, Maria Tachataki, David Ravine, Julian R. Sampson, Mary Pat Reeve, Paul Richardson, Friederike Wilmer, Cheryl Munro, Trevor L. Hawkins, Tina Sepp, Johari B. M. Ali, Susannah Ward, Andrew J. Green, John R. W. Yates, Jolanta Kwiatkowska, Elizabeth P. Henske, M. Priscilla Short, Jonathan H. Haines, Sergiusz Jozwiak, David J. Kwiatkowski\*

Tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) is an autosomal dominant disorder characterized by the widespread development of distinctive tumors termed hamartomas. TSC-determining loci have been mapped to chromosomes 9q34 (TSC1) and 16p13 (TSC2). The TSC1 gene was identified from a 900-kilobase region containing at least 30 genes. The 8.0-kilobase TSC1 transcript is widely expressed and encodes a protein of 130 kilodaltons (hamartin) that has homology to a putative yeast protein of unknown function. Thirty-two distinct mutations were identified in TSC1, 30 of which were truncating, and a single mutation (2105delAAAG) was seen in six apparently unrelated patients. In one of these six, a somatic mutation in the wild-type allele was found in a TSC-associated renal carcinoma, which suggests that hamartin acts as a tumor suppressor.

TSC is a systemic disorder in which hamartomas occur in multiple organ systems, particularly the brain, skin, heart, lungs, and kidneys (1, 2). In addition to its distinct clinical presentation, two features serve to distinguish TSC from other familial tumor syndromes. First, the tumors that occur in TSC are very rare in the general population, such that several TSC lesions are, by them-

selves, diagnostic of TSC. Second, TSC hamartomas rarely progress to malignancy. Only renal cell carcinomas occur at increased frequency in TSC (~2.5%) and with earlier age of onset; it appears to arise in TSC renal hamartomas, termed angiomylipomas (3). Nonetheless, TSC can be a devastating condition, as the cortical tubers (brain hamartomas) frequently cause epilep-

sy, mental retardation, autism, or attention deficit-hyperactive disorder, or a combination of these conditions (1, 4).

TSC affects about 1 in 6000 individuals, and ~65% of cases are sporadic (5). Linkage of TSC to chromosome 9q34 was first reported in 1987, and this locus was denoted TSC1 (6). Later studies provided strong evidence for locus heterogeneity (7) and led to the identification of chromosome 16p13 as the site of a second TSC locus (denoted TSC2) (8). The TSC2 gene was identified by positional cloning, and the encoded protein, denoted tuberous sclerosis protein, was the GTPase-activating protein with homology to a proteinase triphosphatase (GTPase) activating protein (GAP) for ras, a Ras-related GTPase (9).

The focal nature of TSC-associated hamartomas has suggested that TSC1 and TSC2 may function as tumor suppressor genes. The occurrence of inactivating germline mutations of TSC2 in patients with tuberous sclerosis (9-11) and of loss of heterozygosity (LOH) at the TSC2 locus in about 50% of TSC-associated hamartomas (12-14) supports a tumor suppressor function for TSC2. In contrast, LOH at the TSC1 locus has been detected in <10% of TSC-associated hamartomas (13, 14), suggesting the possibility of an alternative pathogenic mechanism for lesion development in patients with TSC1 disease.

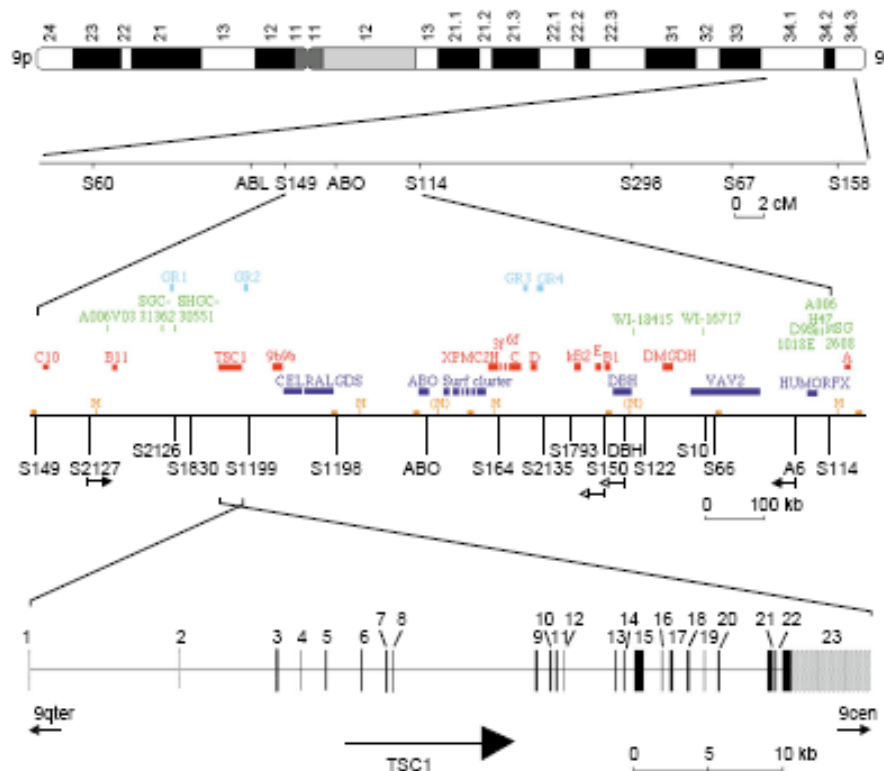
As part of a comprehensive strategy to identify TSC1, we identified 11 microsatellite markers from the 14-Mb TSC1 region and developed an overlapping contig (with only a single gap of 20 kb) of cosmid, P1

### The TSC1 Consortium:

M. van Slechtenhorst, R. de Hoogt, C. Hermans, M. Nellist, S. Verhoef, C. Lindhout, A. van den Ouweland, D. Halley, Department of Clinical Genetics, Erasmus University and University Hospital, Rotterdam, Netherlands.  
J. Young, M. Burley, S. Jeremiah, K. Woodward, J. Nahmias, M. Fox, R. Ekong, J. P. Chadwick, S. Povey, MRC Human Biochemical Genetics Unit and Gator Laboratory, University College London, London NW1 2NS, UK.  
J. Osborne, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AT, UK.  
R. G. Snell, J. P. Chadwick, A. C. Jones, M. Tachataki, D. Ravine, J. R. Sampson, Institute of Medical Genetics, University of Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff CF4 4XN, Wales, UK.  
M. P. Reeve, P. Richardson, F. Wilmer, C. Munro, T. L. Hawkins, Wellcome Institute, MRC Center for Genome Research, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA.  
T. Sepp, J. B. M. Ali, S. Ward, A. J. Green, J. R. W. Yates, Department of Medical Genetics, University of Cambridge, Addenbrooke's NHS Trust, Cambridge CB2 2QQ, UK.  
M. P. Short, Department of Child Neurology, University of Chicago School of Medicine, Chicago, IL 60637, USA.  
J. H. Haines, Molecular Neurogenetics Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital, 149 1st Street, Boston, MA 02114, USA.  
S. Jozwiak, Children's Hospital, Children's Health Center, 44-736 Warsaw, Poland.  
J. Kwiatkowski, E. P. Henske, D. J. Kwiatkowski, Division of Experimental Medicine and Medical Oncology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA 02115, USA.

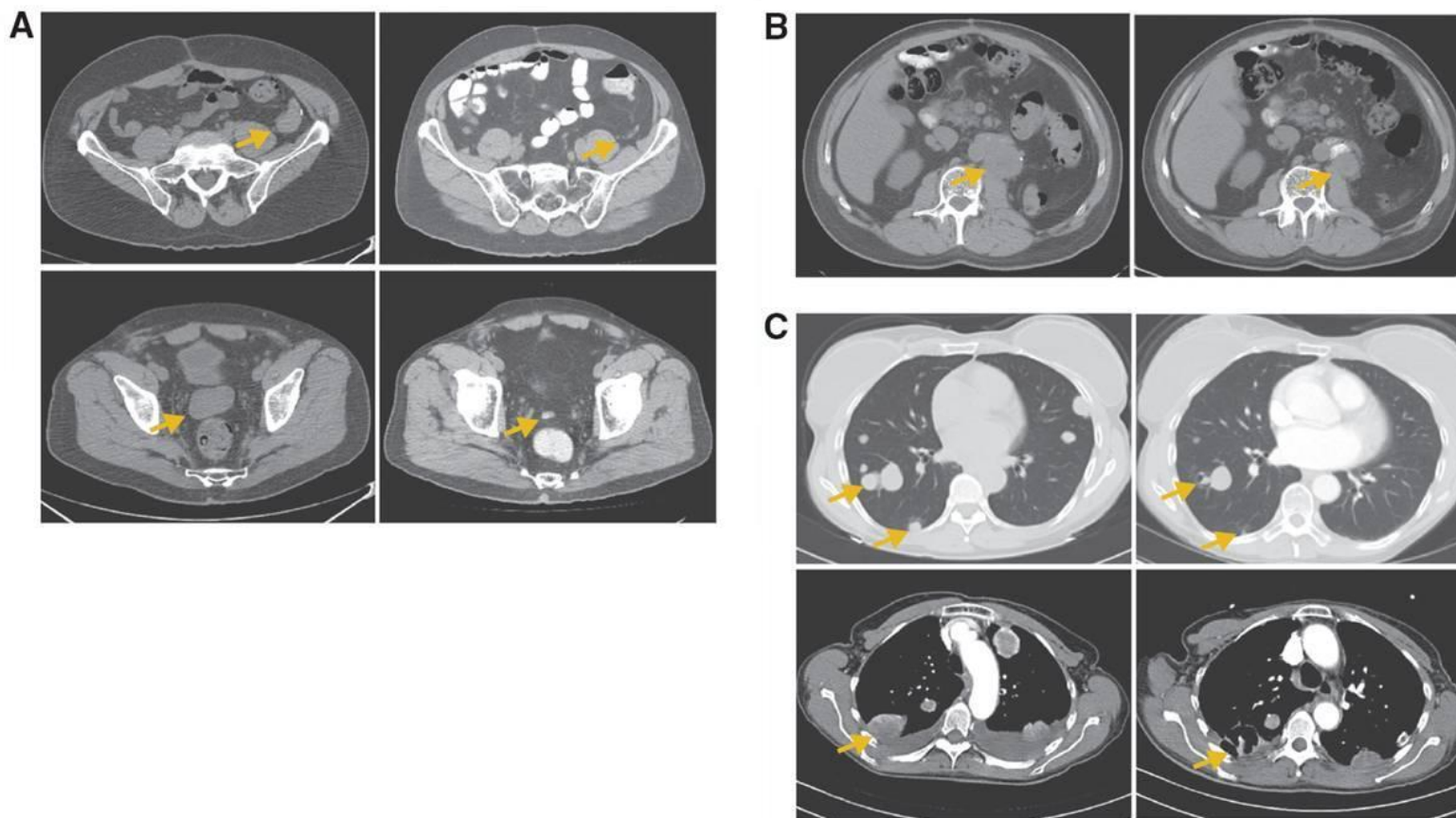
\*To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: kwiatkowsk@rics.bwh.harvard.edu

Downloaded from www.sciencemag.org on September 24, 2010



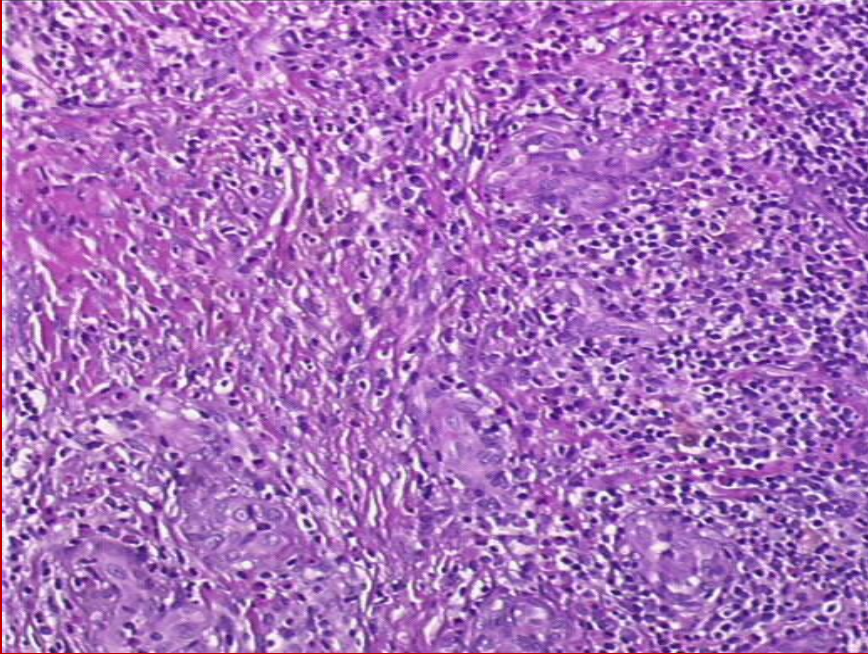
## Clinical Activity of mTOR Inhibition With Sirolimus in Malignant Perivascular Epithelioid Cell Tumors: Targeting the Pathogenic Activation of mTORC1 in Tumors

Andrew J. Wagner, Izabela Malinowska-Kolodziej, Jeffrey A. Morgan, Wei Qin, Christopher D.M. Fletcher, Natalie Vena, Azra H. Ligon, Cristina R. Antonescu, Nikhil H. Ramaiya, George D. Demetri, David J. Kwiatkowski, and Robert G. Maki





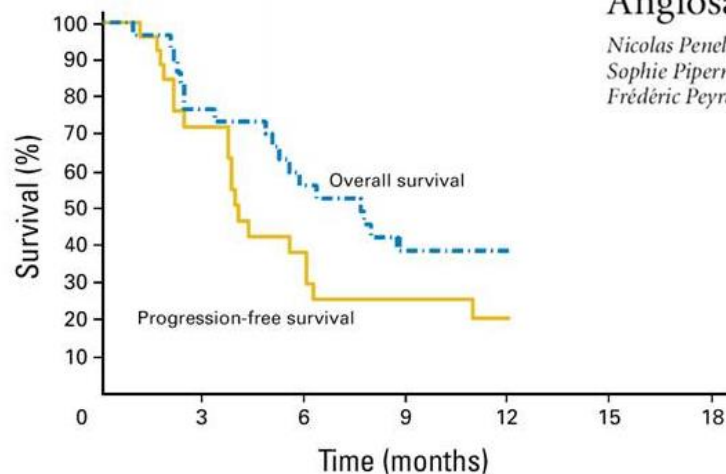
# Angiosarcoma





## Phase II Trial of Weekly Paclitaxel for Unresectable Angiosarcoma: The ANGIOTAX Study

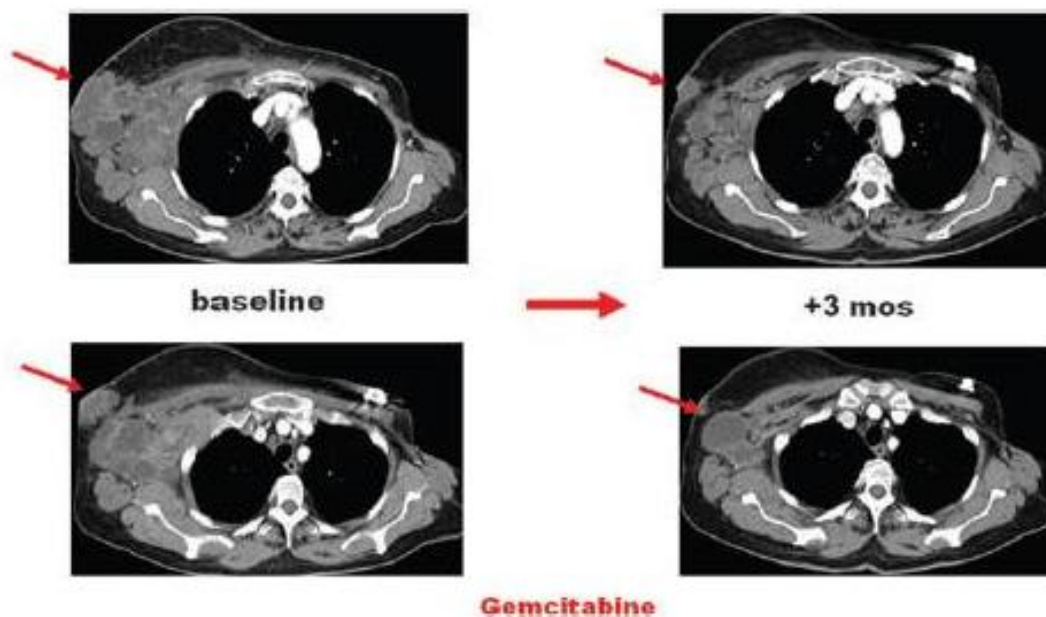
Nicolas Penel, Binh Nguyen Bui, Jacques-Olivier Bay, Didier Cupissol, Isabelle Ray-Coquard, Sophie Piperno-Neumann, Pierre Kerbrat, Charles Fournier, Sophie Taieb, Marta Jimenez, Nicolas Isambert, Frédéric Peyrade, Christine Chevreau, Emmanuelle Bompas, Etienne G.C. Brain, and Jean-Yves Blay



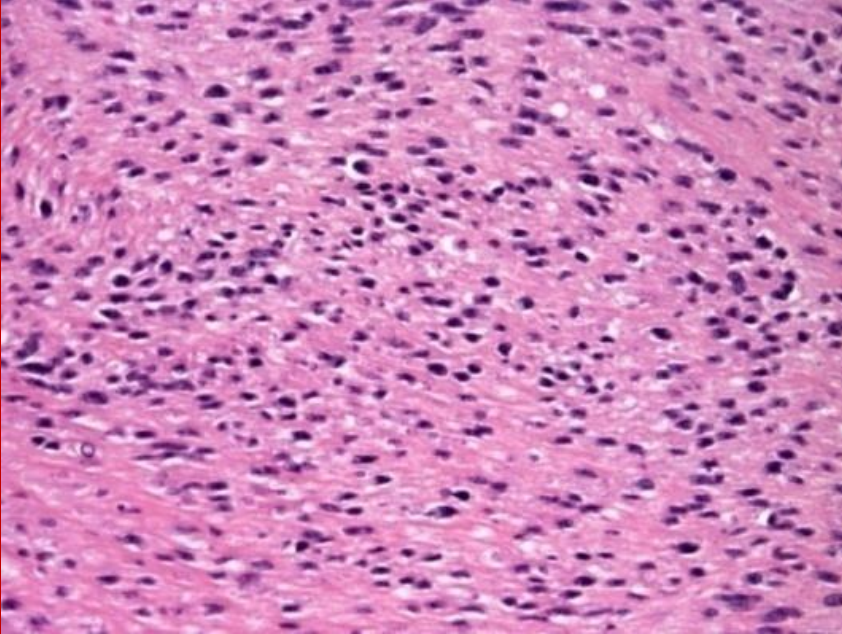
Patient	Baseline Disease Characteristics	Clinical and Histologic Response	Outcome
11	Relapsed multinodular radiation-induced angiosarcoma	Partial response after 6 cycles Mastectomy Complete histologic response	Disease-free survival, 19 months after inclusion
13	Primary multinodular angiosarcoma with rapid evolution	Partial response after 4 cycles Mastectomy Complete histologic response	Disease-free survival, 17 months after inclusion
17	Multinodular radiation-induced angiosarcoma with skin ulceration and rapid progression	Stable disease after 5 cycles Mastectomy Complete histologic response in 2 nodules but persistent disease in third nodule (10 mm, grade 3)	Diagnosis of glioblastoma at 8 months, death at 9 months

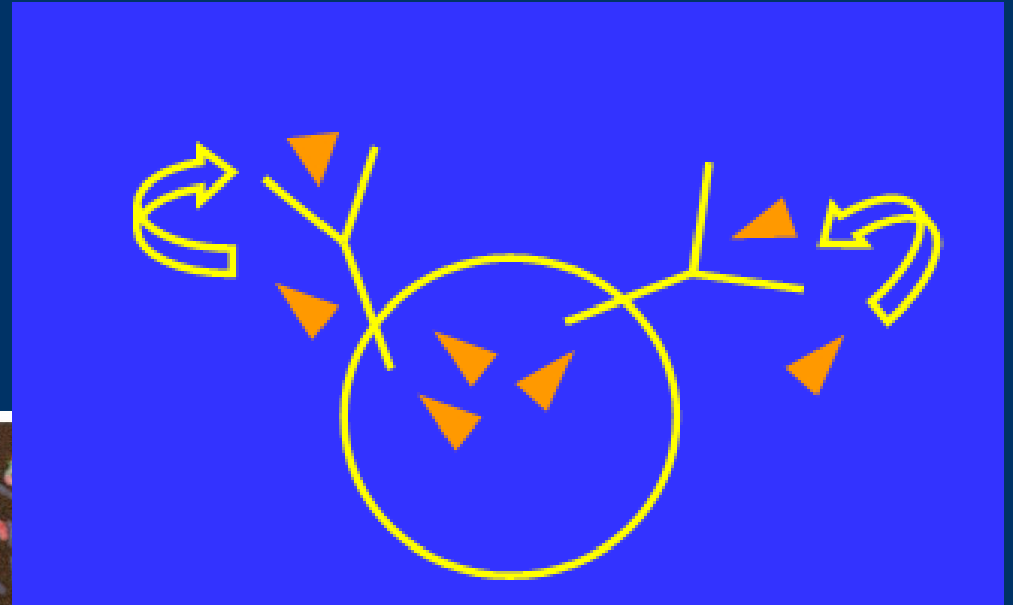
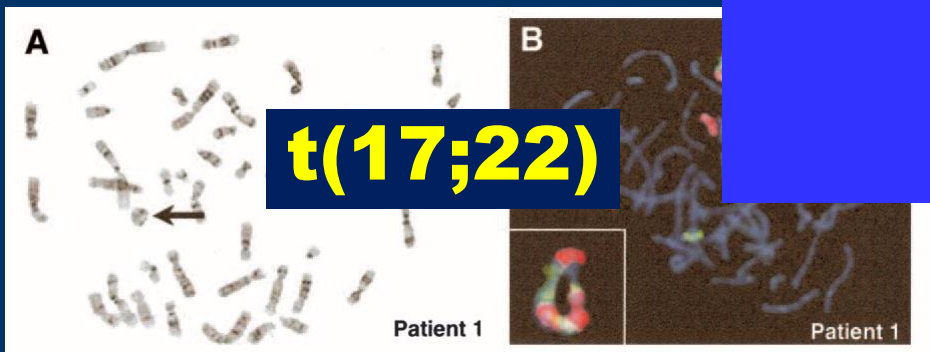
## **Gemcitabine in advanced angiosarcoma: a retrospective case series analysis from the Italian Rare Cancer Network**

S. Stacchiotti<sup>1</sup>, E. Palassini<sup>1</sup>, R. Sanfilippo<sup>1</sup>, B. Vincenzi<sup>2</sup>, M. G. Arena<sup>3</sup>, A. M. Bochicchio<sup>4</sup>, P. De Rosa<sup>5</sup>, A. Nuzzo<sup>6</sup>, S. Turano<sup>7</sup>, C. Morosi<sup>8</sup>, A. P. Dei Tos<sup>9</sup>, S. Pilotti<sup>9</sup> & P. G. Casali<sup>10</sup>



# Dermatofibrosarcoma



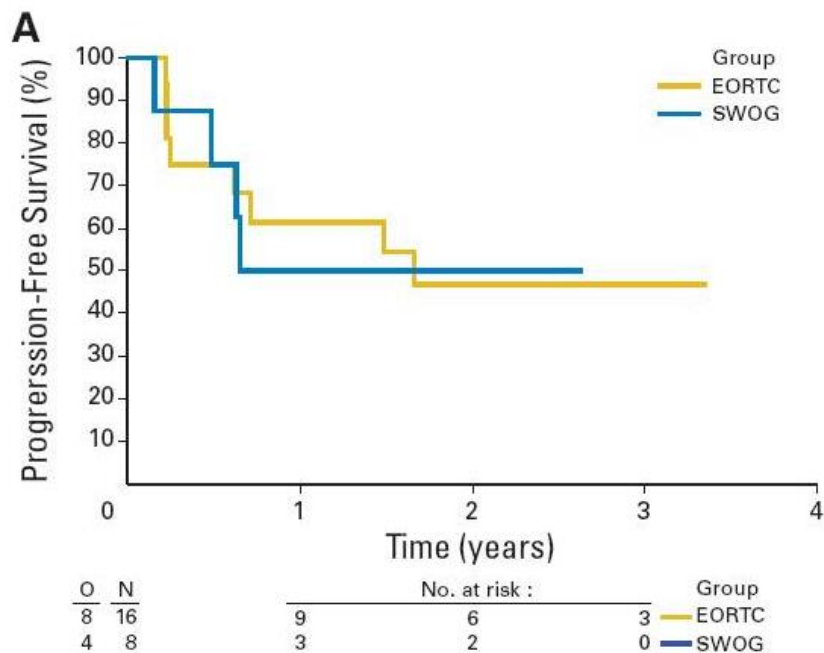
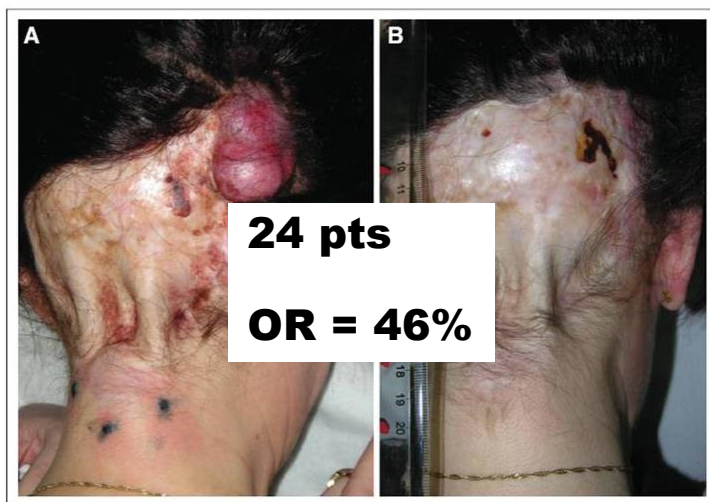


**COL1A1-PDGFB**

**→ PDGFB**

# Imatinib Mesylate in Advanced Dermatofibrosarcoma Protuberans: Pooled Analysis of Two Phase II Clinical Trials

Piotr Rutkowski, Martine Van Glabbeke, Cathryn J. Rankin, Włodzimierz Ruka, Brian P. Rubin, Maria Debiec-Rychter, Alexander Lazar, Hans Gelderblom, Raf Sciort, Dolores Lopez-Terrada, Peter Hohenberger, Allan T. van Oosterom, and Scott M. Schuetze







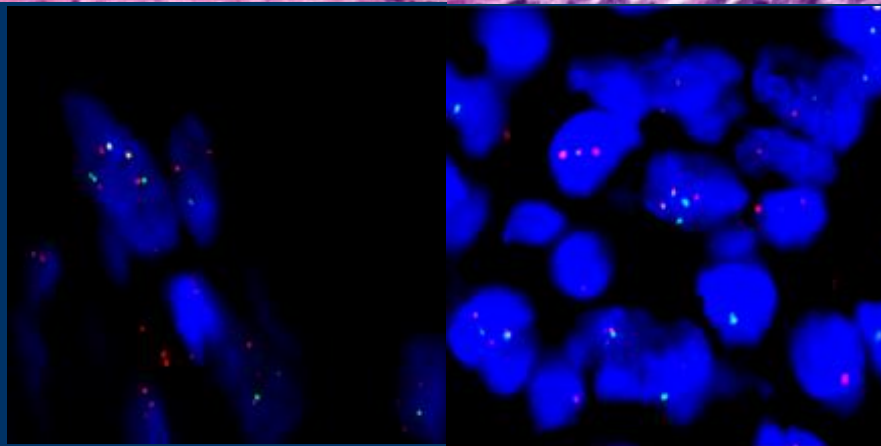
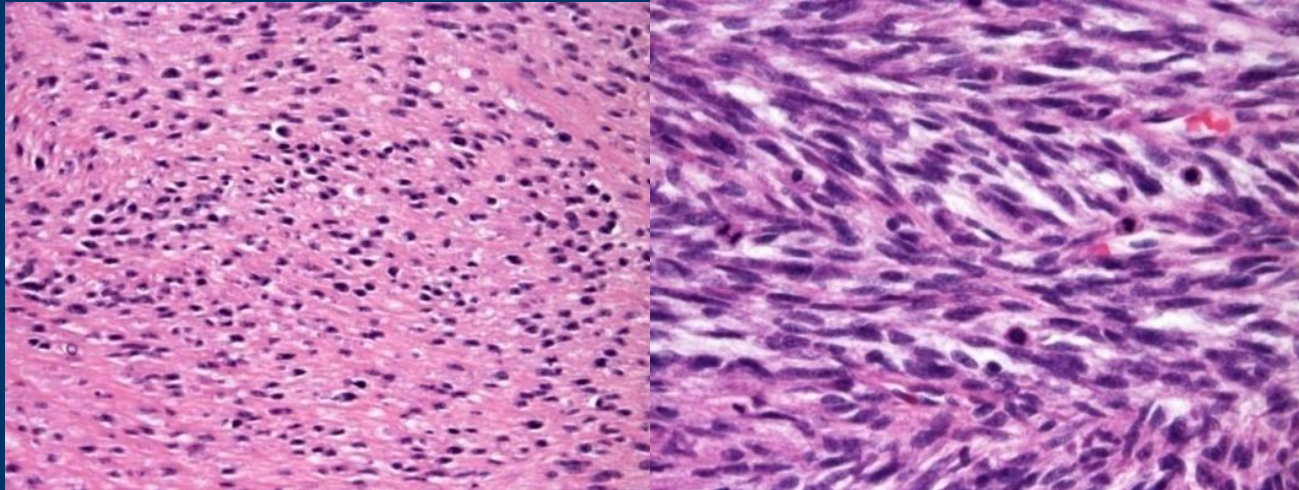


**IM 400 mg/d x 8 mos**





# FS-DFSP



## Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans-derived fibrosarcoma: clinical history, biological profile and sensitivity to imatinib

Silvia Stacchiotti<sup>1</sup>, Florence Pedeutour<sup>2</sup>, Tiziana Negri<sup>3</sup>, Elena Conca<sup>3</sup>, Andrea Marrari<sup>1</sup>, Elena Palassini<sup>1</sup>, Paola Collini<sup>3</sup>, Frederique Keslair<sup>2</sup>, Carlo Morosi<sup>4</sup>, Alessandro Gronchi<sup>5</sup>, Silvana Pilotti<sup>2</sup> and Paolo G. Casali<sup>1</sup>

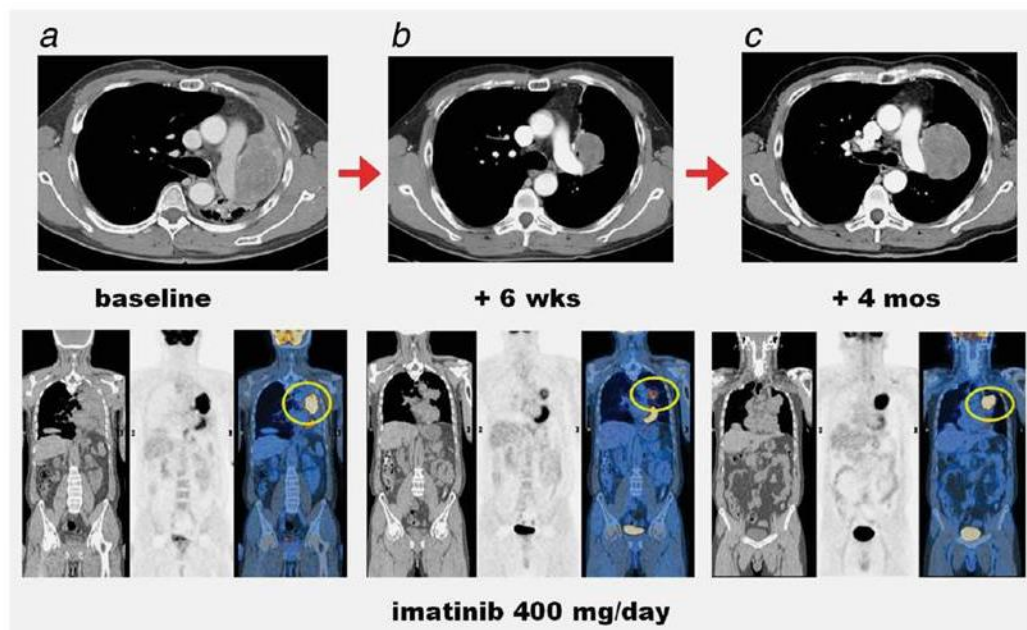
<sup>1</sup>Adult Sarcoma Medical Oncology Unit, Department of Cancer Medicine, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>2</sup>Laboratory of Solid Tumors Genetics, University of Nice-Sophia-Antipolis, CNRS UMR 6543, Nice University Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Nice, France

<sup>3</sup>Anatomic Pathology Unit 2, Department of Diagnostic Pathology and Laboratory, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>4</sup>Department of Radiology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>5</sup>Department of Surgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy





## Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans-derived fibrosarcoma: clinical history, biological profile and sensitivity to imatinib

Silvia Stacchiotti<sup>1</sup>, Florence Pedeutour<sup>2</sup>, Tiziana Negri<sup>3</sup>, Elena Conca<sup>3</sup>, Andrea Marrari<sup>1</sup>, Elena Palassini<sup>1</sup>, Paola Collini<sup>3</sup>,  
 Frederique Keslair<sup>2</sup>, Carlo Morosi<sup>4</sup>, Alessandro Gronchi<sup>5</sup>, Silvana Pilotti<sup>2</sup> and Paolo G. Casali<sup>1</sup>

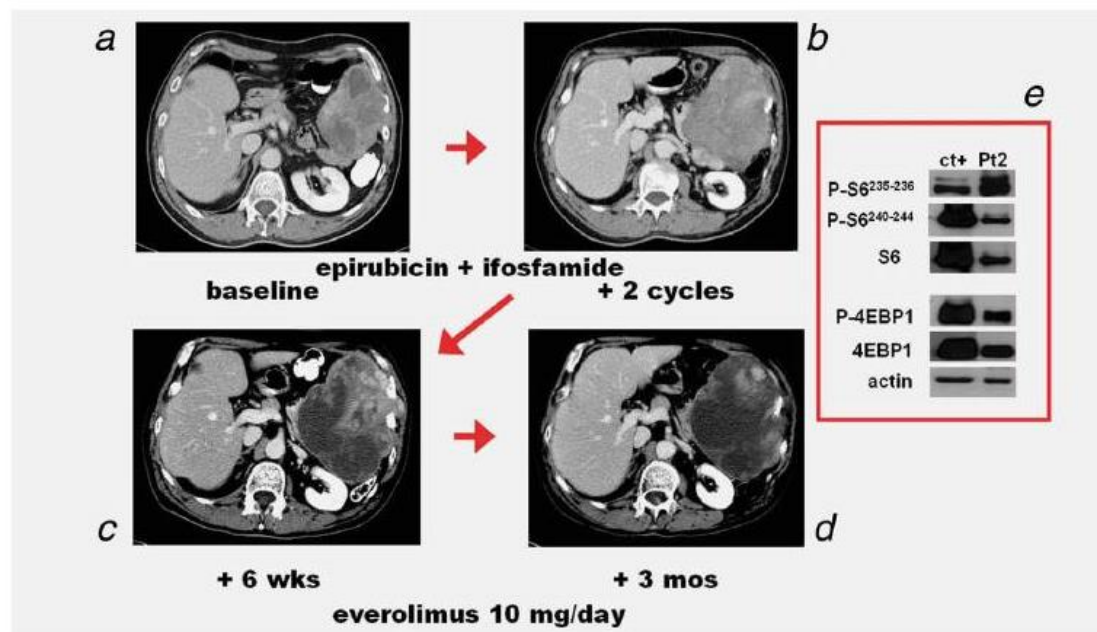
<sup>1</sup>Adult Sarcoma Medical Oncology Unit, Department of Cancer Medicine, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>2</sup>Laboratory of Solid Tumors Genetics, University of Nice-Sophia-Antipolis, CNRS UMR 6543, Nice University Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Nice, France

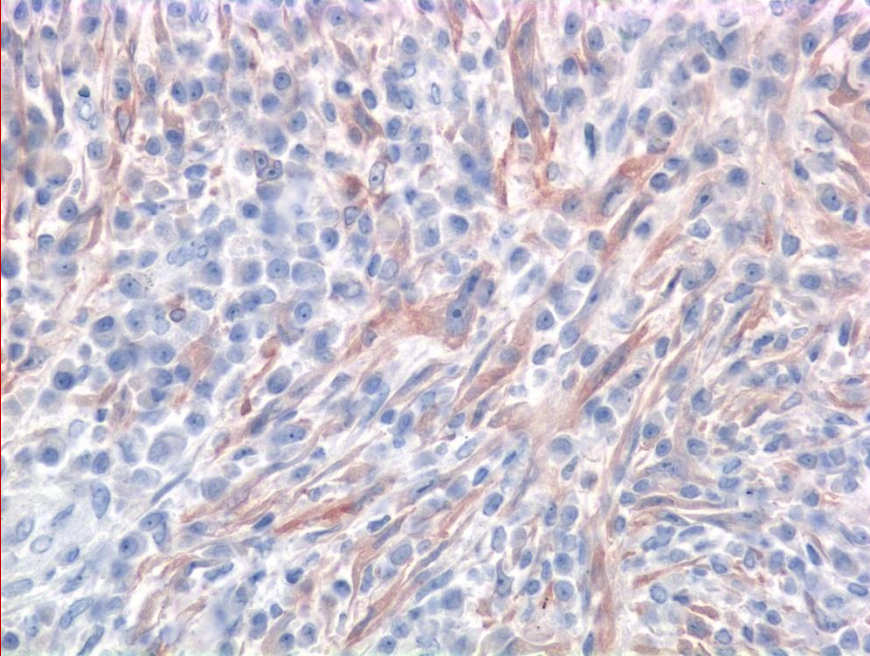
<sup>3</sup>Anatomic Pathology Unit 2, Department of Diagnostic Pathology and Laboratory, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>4</sup>Department of Radiology, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy

<sup>5</sup>Department of Surgery, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan, Italy



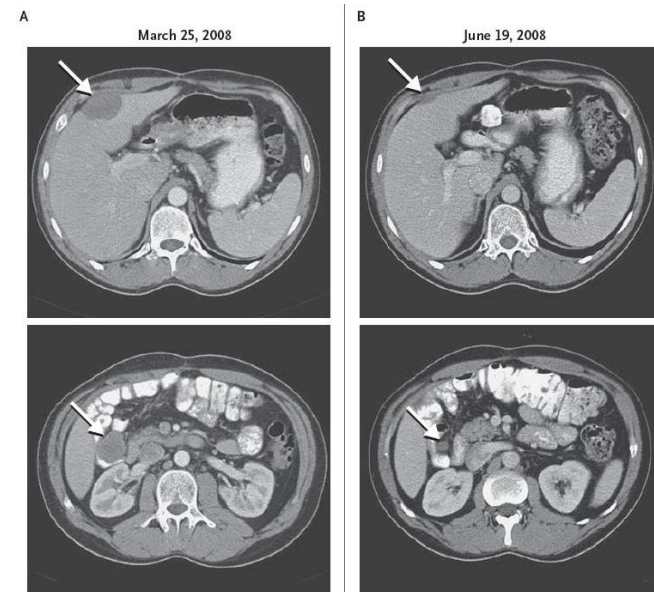
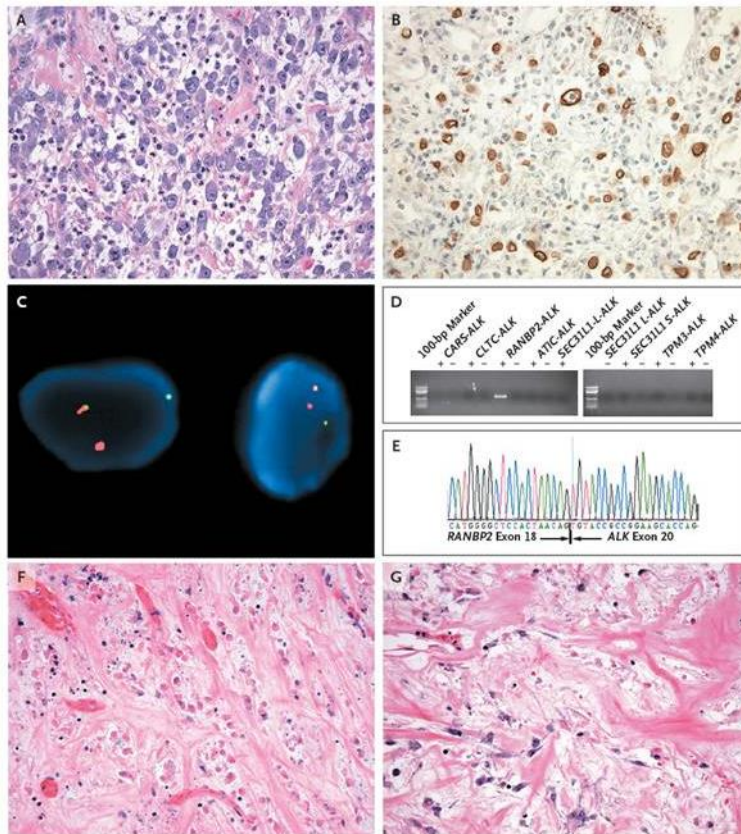
# Myofibroblastic inflammatory t.



BRIEF REPORT

# Crizotinib in ALK-Rearranged Inflammatory Myofibroblastic Tumor

James E. Butrynski, M.D., David R. D'Adamo, M.D., Ph.D., Jason L. Hornick, M.D., Ph.D., Paola Dal Cin, Ph.D., Cristina R. Antonescu, M.D., Suresh C. Jhanwar, Ph.D., Marc Ladanyi, M.D., Marzia Capelletti, Ph.D., Scott J. Rodig, M.D., Ph.D., Nikhil Ramaiya, M.D., Eunice L. Kwak, M.D., Jeffrey W. Clark, M.D., Keith D. Wilner, Ph.D., James G. Christensen, Ph.D., Pasi A. Jänne, M.D., Ph.D., Robert G. Maki, M.D., Ph.D., George D. Demetri, M.D., and Geoffrey I. Shapiro, M.D., Ph.D.

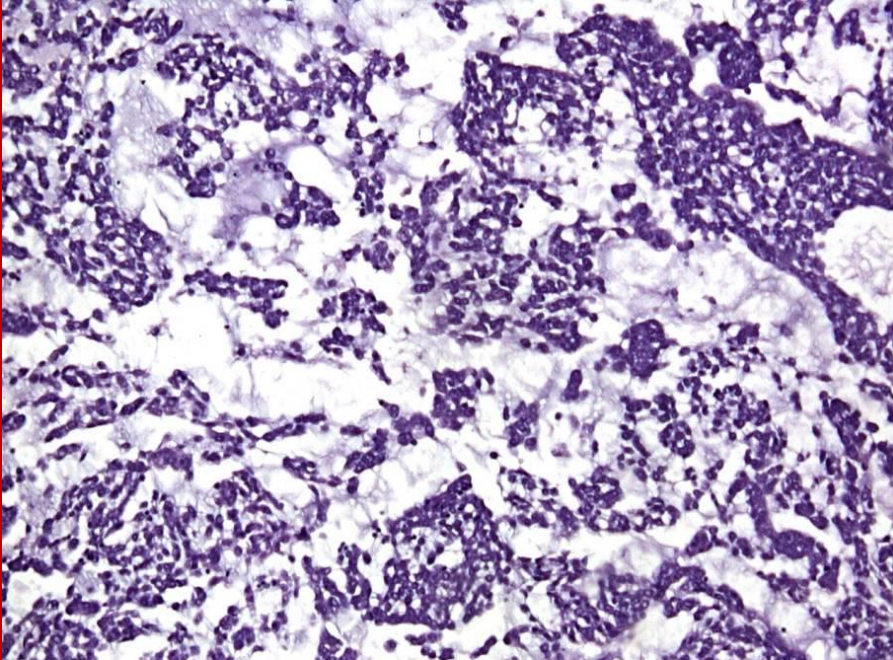


N Engl J Med 2010;363:1727-33.

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# Extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma



# Activity of sunitinib in extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma ☆



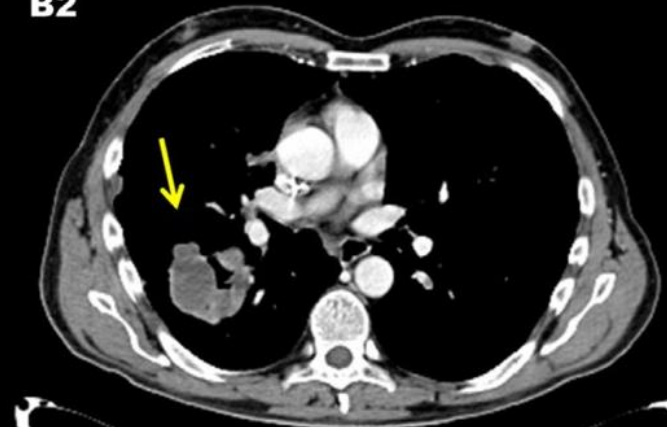
S. Stacchiotti<sup>a,\*</sup>, M.A. Pantaleo<sup>b,1</sup>, A. Astolfi<sup>c</sup>, G.P. Dagrada<sup>d</sup>, T. Negri<sup>d</sup>,  
A.P. Dei Tos<sup>e</sup>, V. Indio<sup>c</sup>, C. Morosi<sup>f</sup>, A. Gronchi<sup>g</sup>, C. Colombo<sup>g</sup>, E. Conca<sup>d</sup>,  
L. Toffolatti<sup>e</sup>, M. Tazzari<sup>h</sup>, F. Crippa<sup>i</sup>, R. Maestro<sup>j,1</sup>, S. Pilotti<sup>d,1</sup>, P.G. Casali<sup>a,1</sup>

**B1**



**baseline**

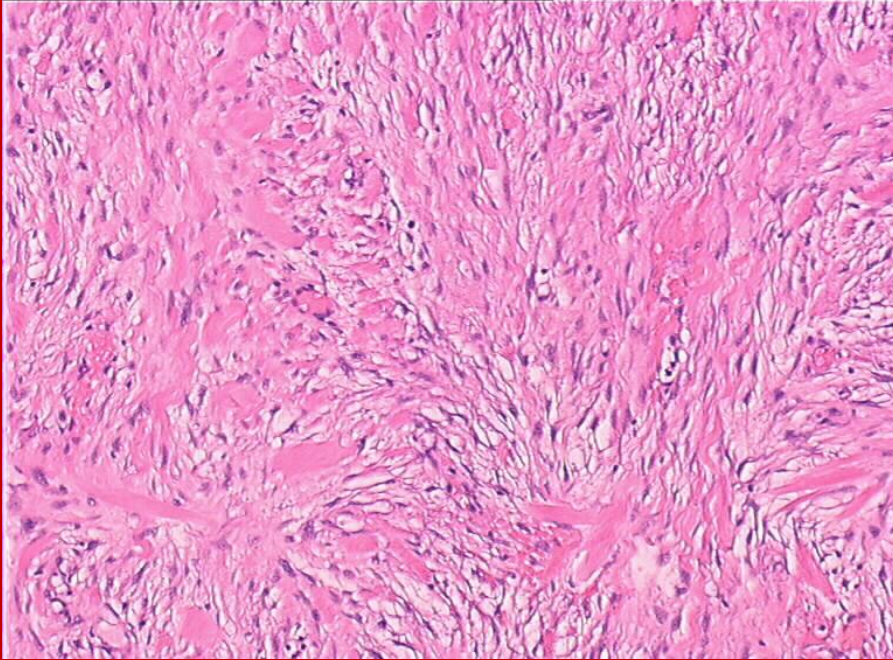
**B2**



**+6 mos**



# Desmoid tumors (AF)





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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Primary or recurring extra-abdominal desmoid fibromatosis: Assessment of treatment by observation only

O. Barbier<sup>a,\*</sup>, P. Anract<sup>a</sup>, E. Pluot<sup>b</sup>, F. Larouserie<sup>c</sup>,  
F. Sailhan<sup>a</sup>, A. Babinet<sup>a</sup>, B. Tomeno<sup>a</sup>



Figure 4 Normal curve of the length of evolution of primary extra-abdominal desmoid fibromatosis managed by surveillance.

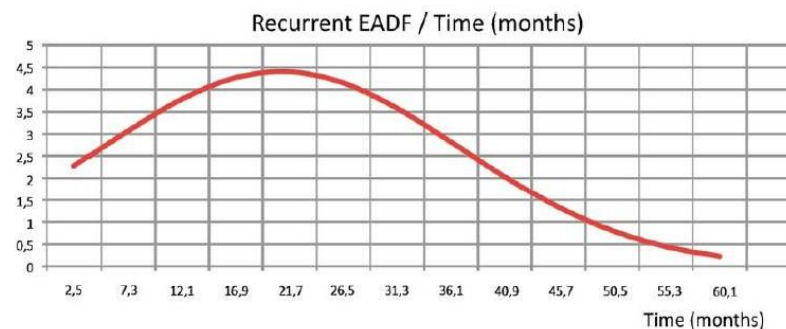


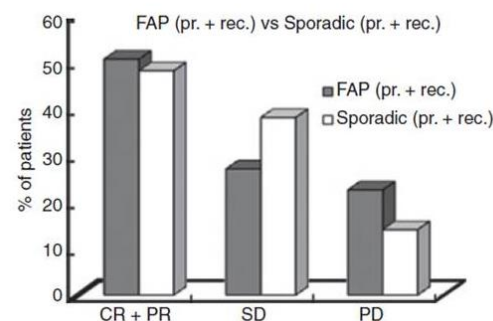
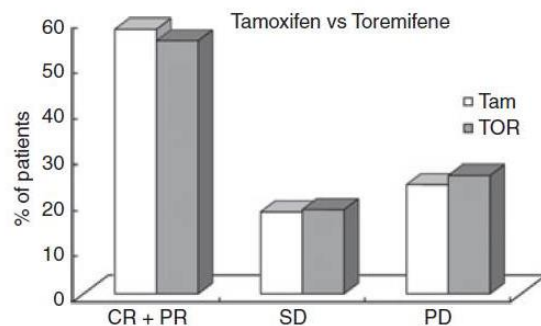
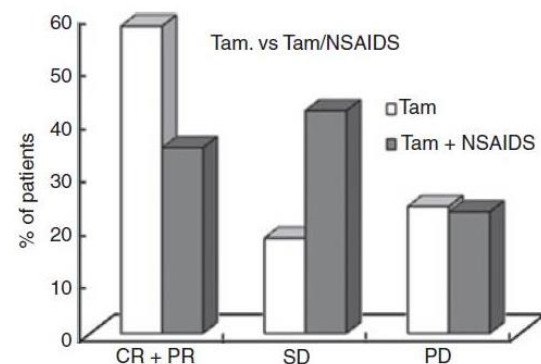
Figure 5 Normal curve of the length of evolution of recurrent extra-abdominal desmoid fibromatosis managed by surveillance.

# Anti-oestrogen therapy in the treatment of desmoid tumours: a systematic review

D. Bocale\*, M. T. Rotelli\*, A. Cavallini† and D. F. Altomare\*

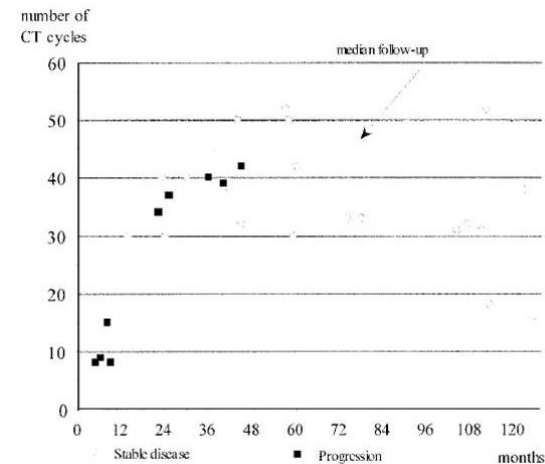
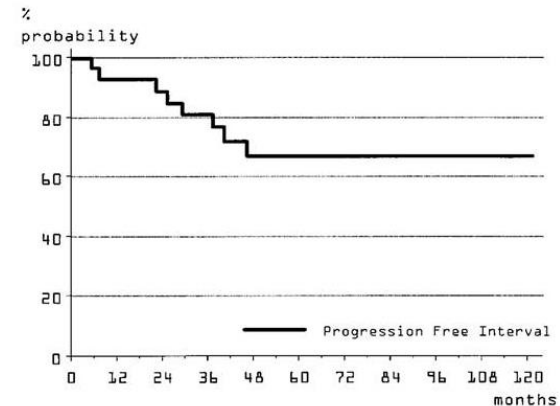
\*Department of Emergency and Organ Transplantation, General Surgery and Liver Transplantation Units, University 'Aldo Moro' of Bari, Bari, Italy and

†Laboratory of Biochemistry, Scientific Institute for Digestive Diseases, IRCCS 'Saverio de Bellis', Castellana G., Bari, Italy



# Low-Dose Chemotherapy with Methotrexate and Vinblastine for Patients with Advanced Aggressive Fibromatosis

Alberto Azzarelli, M.D.<sup>1</sup>  
Alessandro Gronchi, M.D.<sup>1</sup>  
Rossella Bertulli, M.D.<sup>2</sup>  
John D. Tesoro Tess, M.D.<sup>3</sup>  
Dario Baratti, M.D.<sup>1</sup>  
Elisabetta Pennacchioli, M.D.<sup>1</sup>  
Paltia Dileo, M.D.<sup>2</sup>  
Alessandro Rasponi, M.D.<sup>1</sup>  
Andrea Ferrari, M.D.<sup>5</sup>  
Silvana Pilotti, M.D.<sup>4</sup>  
Paolo G. Casali, M.D.<sup>2</sup>



# Chemotherapy in patients with desmoid tumors: a study from the French Sarcoma Group (FSG)

D. Garbay<sup>1</sup>, A. Le Cesne<sup>2</sup>, N. Penel<sup>3</sup>, C. Chevreau<sup>4</sup>, P. Marec-Berard<sup>5</sup>, J.-Y. Blay<sup>6</sup>, M. Debled<sup>1</sup>, N. Isambert<sup>7</sup>, A. Thyss<sup>8</sup>, E. Bompas<sup>9</sup>, O. Collard<sup>10</sup>, S. Salas<sup>11</sup>, J.-M. Coindre<sup>12</sup>, B. Bui<sup>1</sup> & A. Italiano<sup>1\*</sup>

Protocol	Drugs
Mesna, adriamycin, ifosfamide, dacarbazine	Doxorubicin 20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (day 1–day 3) Ifosfamide 2.5 g/m <sup>2</sup> (day 1–day 3) Dacarbazine 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (day 1–day 3) 21 days cycle
Adriamycin, dacarbazine	Doxorubicin 20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (day 1–day 3) Dacarbazine 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (day 1–day 3) 21 days cycle
Metronomic etoposide	Oral etoposide 75 mg/day for 21 days of 28 days cycle
Metronomic cyclophosphamide	Oral cyclophosphamide 50 mg/day for 21 days of 28 days cycle
Doxorubicin	Doxorubicin 60–75 mg/m <sup>2</sup> 21 days cycle
Methotrexate–vinblastine	Vinblastine 6 mg/m <sup>2</sup> Methotrexate 30 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (J1, J8, 15, 21) 28 days cycle
Methotrexate	Methotrexate 30 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (J1, J8, 15, 21) 28 days cycle
Vinorelbine	Vinorelbine 20 mg/m <sup>2</sup> (J1, J8) 21 days cycle



# Targeted therapies

	Study design	Treatment schedule	Patients (n)	Response
<b>Imatinib</b>				
Heinrich et al.	Retrospective	800mg daily	19	3 (16%)
Penel et al.	Phase II	400mg daily	40	4/35 (12%)
Chugh et al.	Phase II	600mg daily (BSA $\geq 1.5\text{m}^2$ ), 400mg daily (BSA 1.0 - 1.5m <sup>2</sup> ), or 200mg daily (BSA $< 1.0\text{m}^2$ )	51	3 (6%)
<b>Sorafenib</b>				
Gounder et al.	Retrospective	400mg daily	26	6/24 (25%)
<b>Sunitinib</b>				
Cheol Jo et al.	Phase II	37.5mg daily	19	5 (26%)

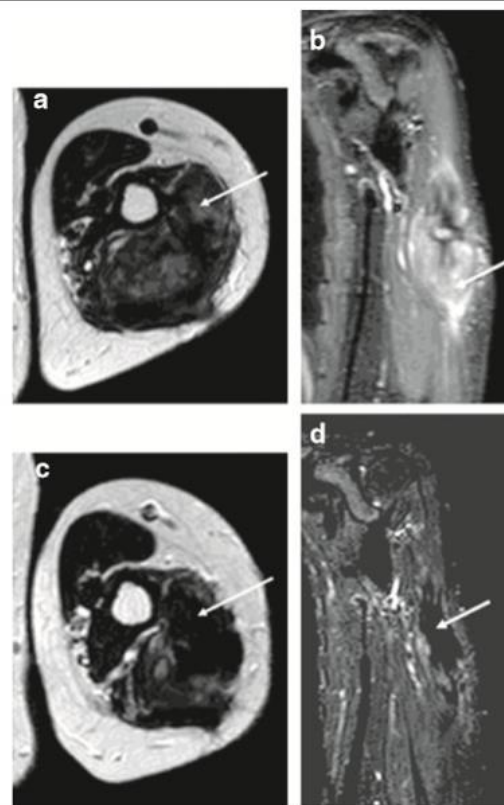


CASE REPORT

Open Access

## Pazopanib is an active treatment in desmoid tumour/aggressive fibromatosis

Juan Martin-Liberal<sup>1\*</sup>, Charlotte Benson<sup>1</sup>, Heather McCarty<sup>2</sup>, Khin Thway<sup>1</sup>, Christina Messiou<sup>1</sup> and Ian Judson<sup>1</sup>



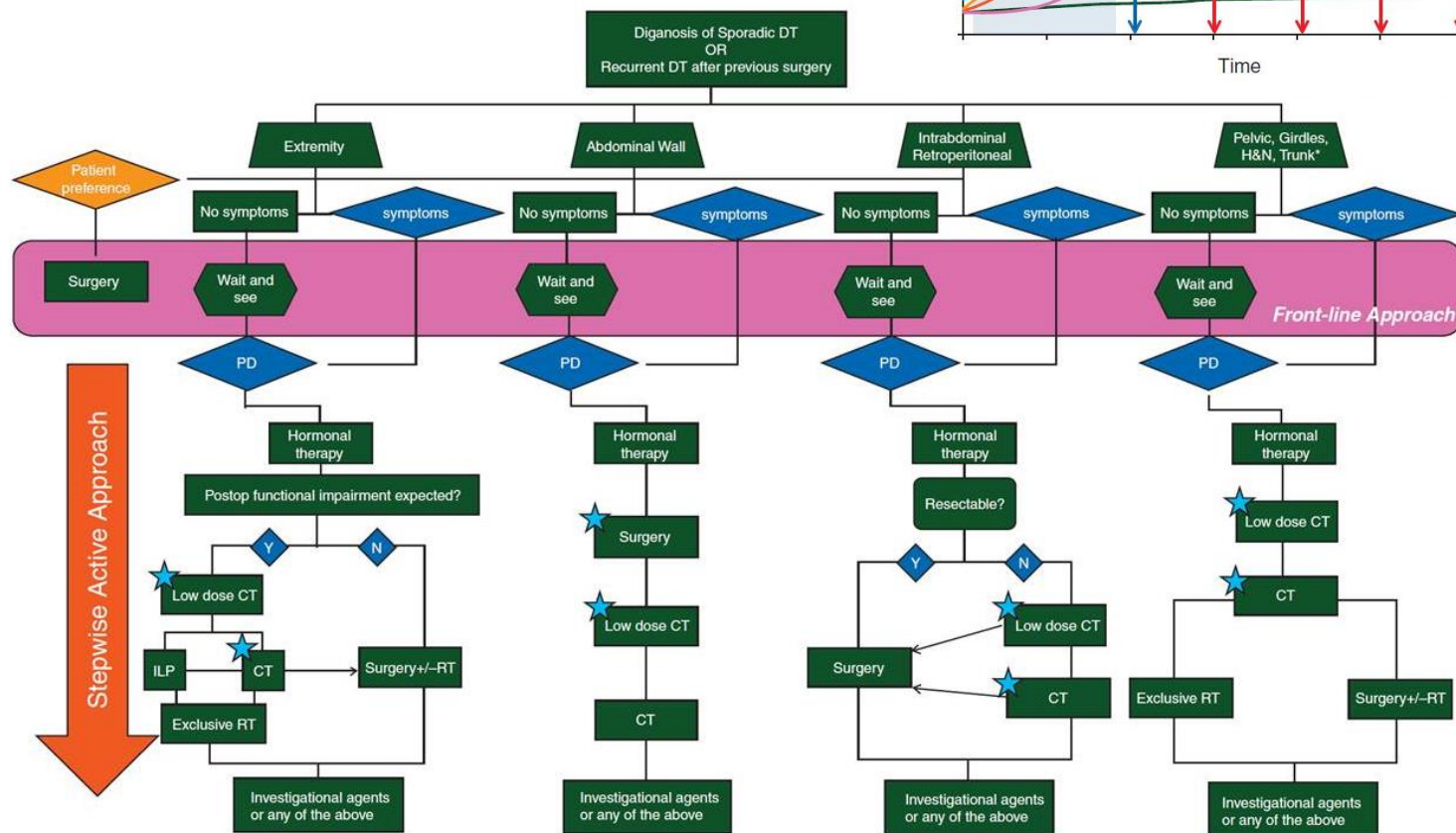
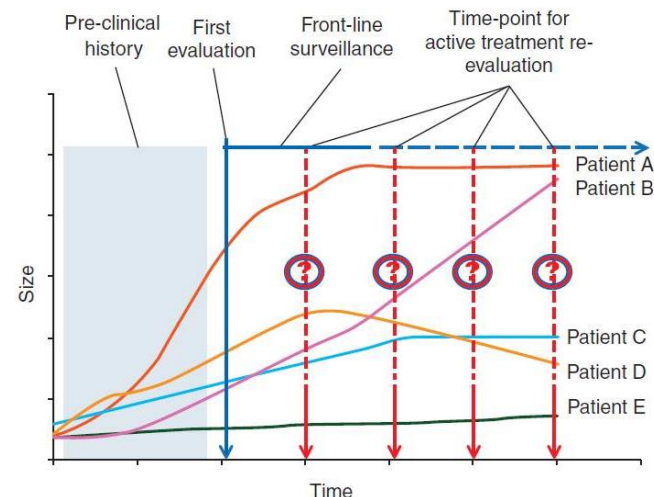
**Figure 2** Axial T2 weighted and coronal STIR MRI images of the proximal left arm at baseline (a and b) and following 11 months of pazopanib (c and d). A large focus of fibromatosis expands the triceps muscle and following 11 months of treatment reduced in size from 10.2 cm in maximum craniocaudal dimension to 8.0 cm. Predominantly intermediate/high signal tissue (a and b, arrows) showed a marked reduction in signal (c and d, arrows) indicating diminished cellularity.

# review

Annals of Oncology 00: 1–6, 2013  
doi:10.1093/annonc/mdt485

## Sporadic desmoid-type fibromatosis: a stepwise approach to a non-metastasising neoplasm—a position paper from the Italian and the French Sarcoma Group

A. Gronchi<sup>1\*</sup>, C. Colombo<sup>1</sup>, C. Le Péchoux<sup>2</sup>, A. P. Dei Tos<sup>3</sup>, A. Le Cesne<sup>4</sup>, A. Marrari<sup>5</sup>, N. Penel<sup>6</sup>, G. Grignani<sup>7</sup>, J. Y. Blay<sup>8</sup>, P. G. Casali<sup>5</sup>, E. Stoeckle<sup>9</sup>, F. Gherlinzoni<sup>10</sup>, P. Meeus<sup>11</sup>, C. Mussi<sup>12</sup>, F. Gouin<sup>13</sup>, F. Duffaud<sup>14</sup>, M. Fiore<sup>1</sup>, S. Bonvalot<sup>15</sup> & on behalf of ISG and FSG



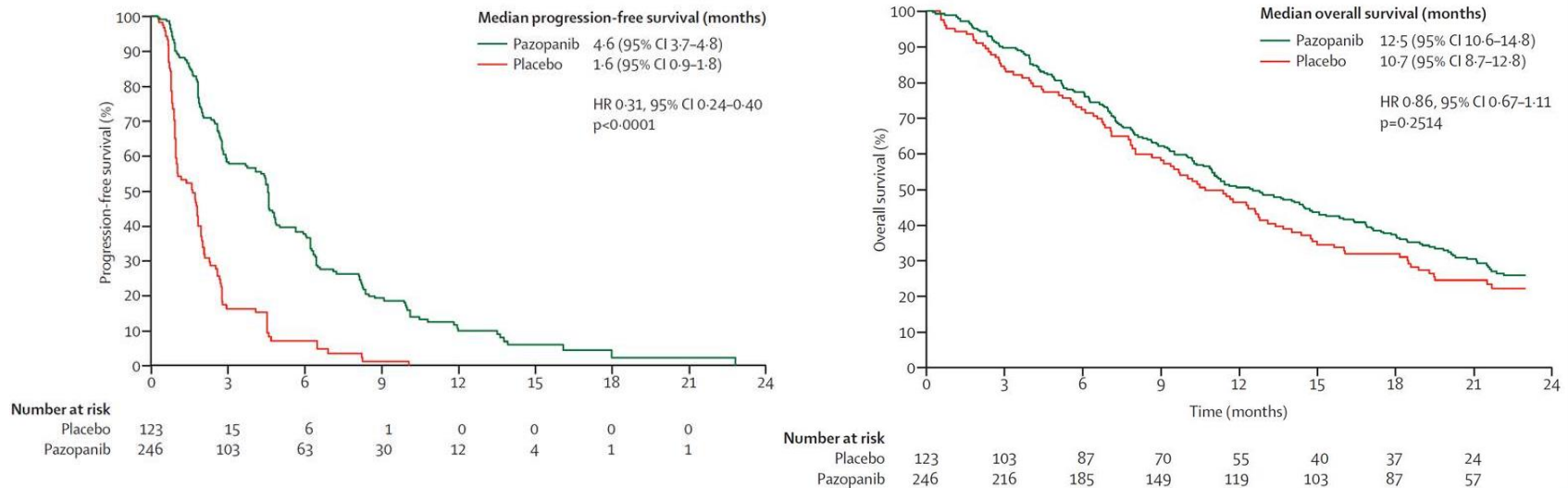
**R**





## Pazopanib for metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma (PALETTE): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial

Winette T A van der Graaf, Jean-Yves Blay, Sant P Chawla, Dong-Wan Kim, Binh Bui-Nguyen, Paolo G Casali, Patrick Schöffski, Massimo Aglietta, Arthur P Staddon, Yasuo Beppu, Axel Le Cesne, Hans Gelderblom, Ian R Judson, Nobuhito Araki, Monia Ouali, Sandrine Marreaud, Rachel Hodge, Mohammed R Dewji, Corneel Coens, George D Demetri, Christopher D Fletcher, Angelo Paolo Dei Tos, Peter Hohenberger, on behalf of the EORTC Soft Tissue and Bone Sarcoma Group and the PALETTE study group

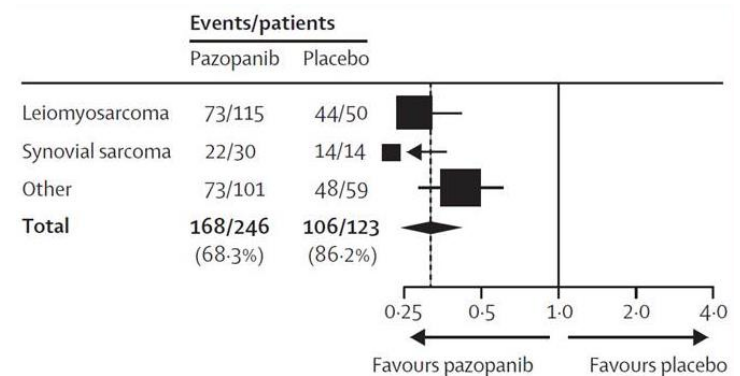
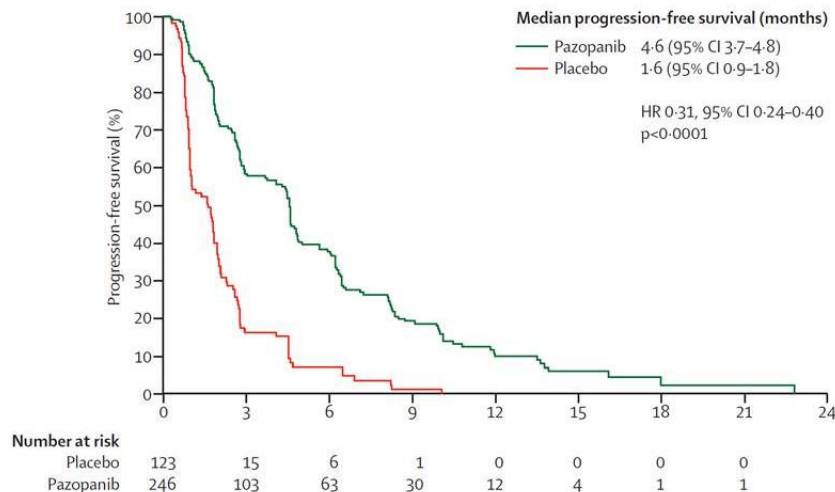




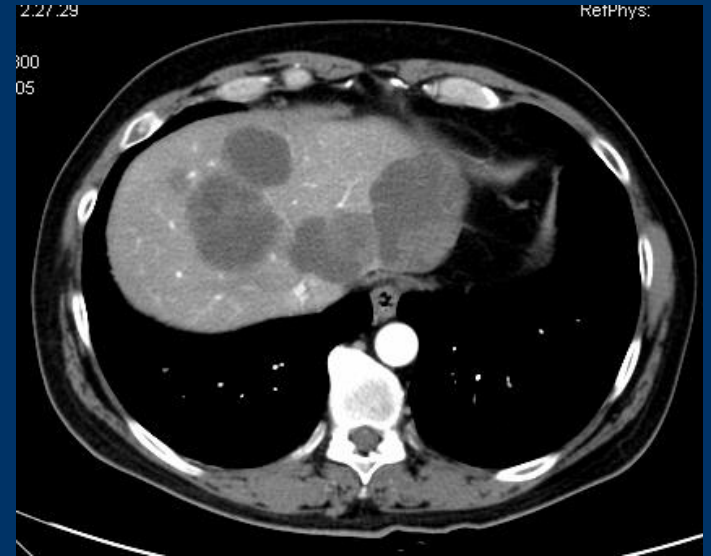
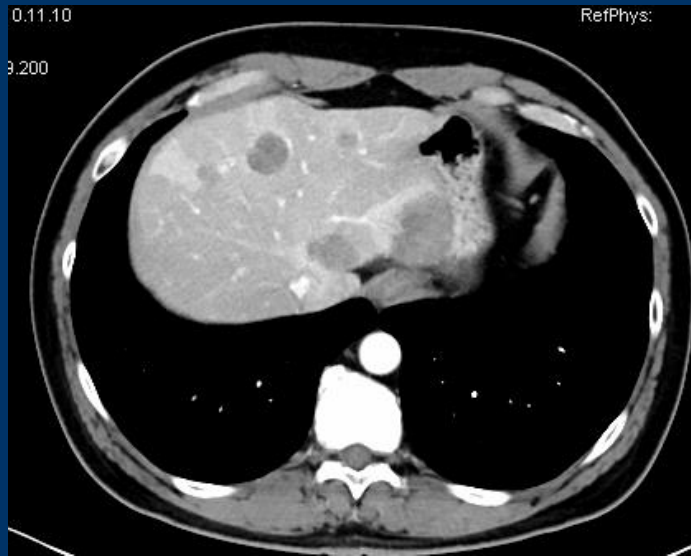
## Pazopanib for metastatic soft-tissue sarcoma (PALETTE): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase 3 trial



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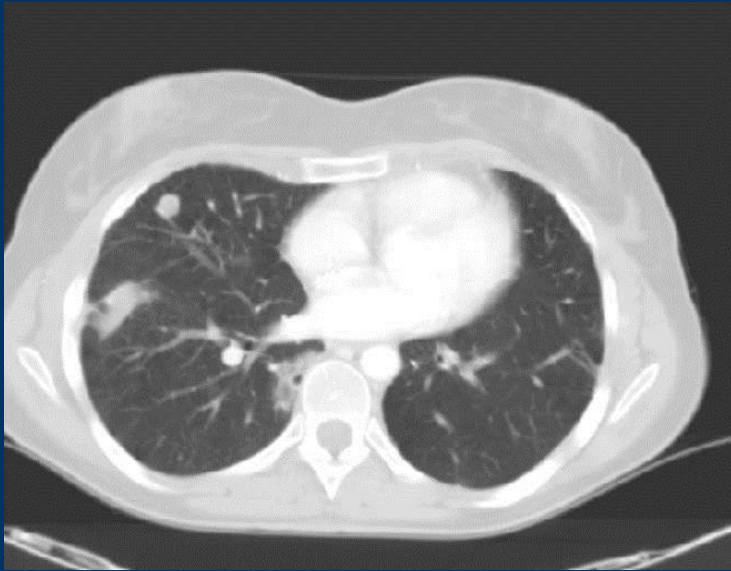
# Leiomyosarcoma



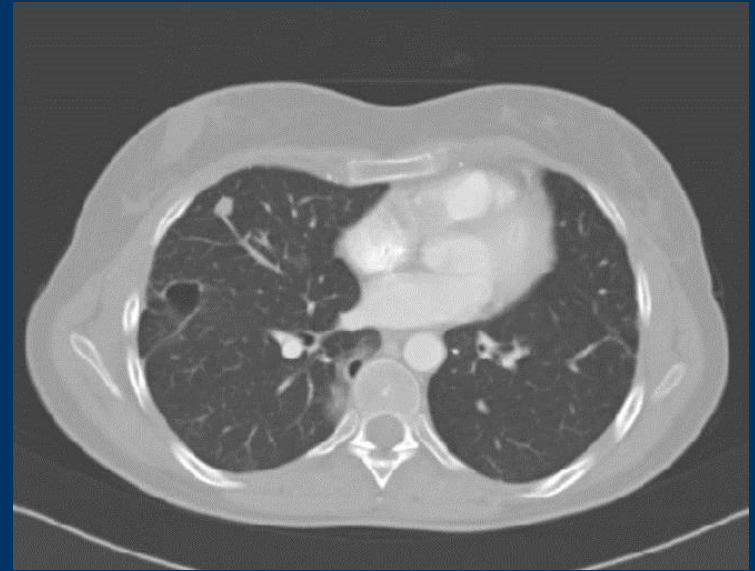
# Uterine leiomyosarcoma, 4<sup>th</sup> line



# Synovial sarcoma, 4<sup>th</sup> line



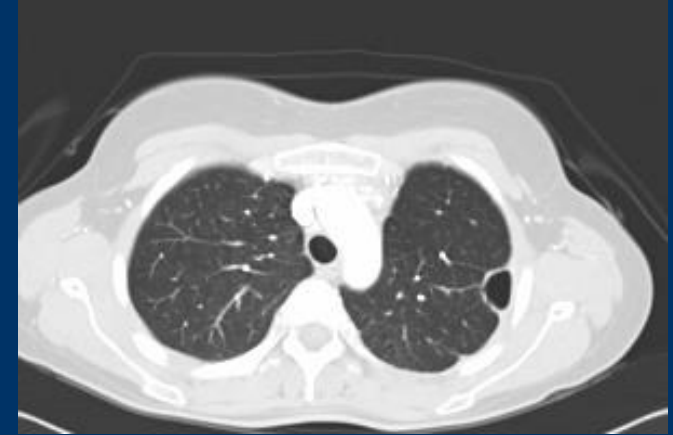
0



4 wks

# Synovial sarcoma, 4<sup>th</sup> line

0



8 mos





# MPNST, RT-induced, 4<sup>th</sup> line



**0**

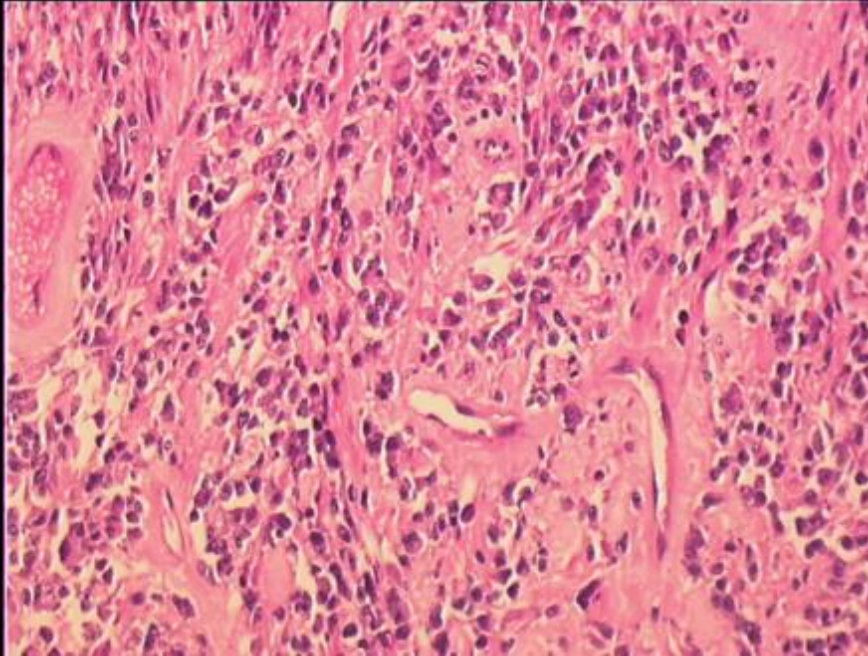


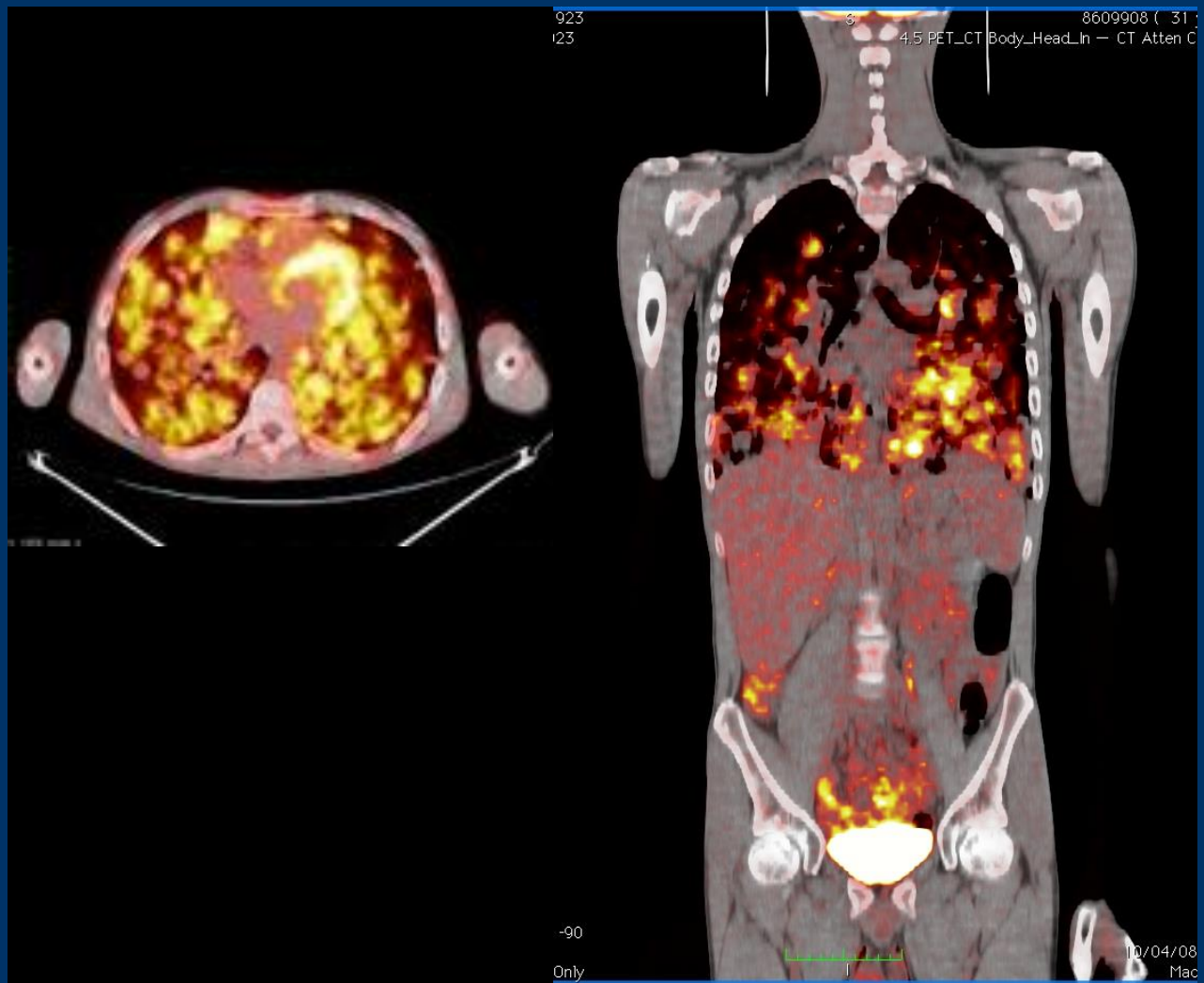
**7 d**



**2 mos**

# MPNST



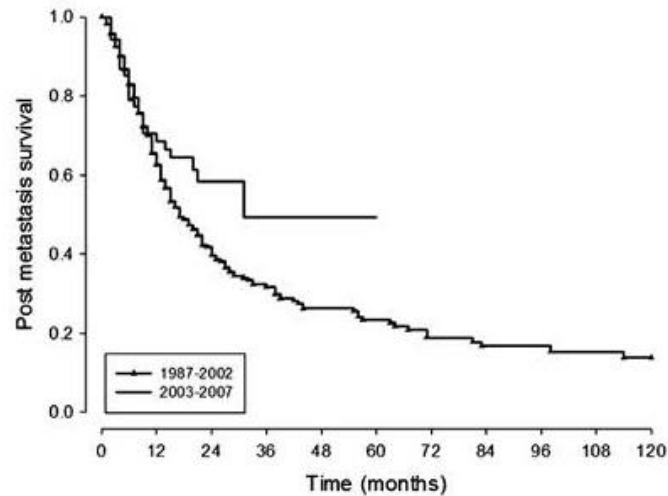


original article

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doi:10.1093/annonc/mdq643  
Published online 17 January 2011

## Primary extremity soft tissue sarcomas: outcome improvement over time at a single institution

A. Gronchi<sup>1\*</sup>, R. Miceli<sup>2</sup>, C. Colombo<sup>1</sup>, P. Collini<sup>3</sup>, S. Stacchiotti<sup>4</sup>, P. Olmi<sup>5</sup>, L. Mariani<sup>2</sup>, R. Bertulli<sup>4</sup>, M. Fiore<sup>1</sup> & P. G. Casali<sup>4</sup>



**Gronchi a et al, Ann Oncol 2011;22:1675**

**Soft tissue and visceral sarcomas: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up†**

- Paolo G. Casali, Italy (*Moderator*)
- Jean-Yves Blay, France (*Moderator*)
- Alexia Bertuzzi, Ireland
- Stefan Bielack, Germany
- Bodil Bjerkehagen, Norway
- Sylvie Bonvalot, France
- Ioannis Boukovinas, Greece
- Paolo Bruzzi, Italy
- Angelo Paolo Dei Tos, Italy
- Palma Dileo, UK
- Mikael Eriksson, Sweden
- Alexander Fedenko, Russian Federation
- Andrea Ferrari, Italy
- Stefano Ferrari, Italy
- Hans Gelderblom, Belgium
- Robert Grimer, UK
- Alessandro Gronchi, Italy
- Rick Haas, Netherlands
- Kirsten Sundby Hall, Norway
- Peter Hohenberger, Germany
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- Michael Montemurro, UK
- Carlo Morosi, Italy
- Piero Picci, Italy
- Isabelle Ray-Coquard, France
- Peter Reichardt, Germany
- Piotr Rutkowski, Poland
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- Daniel Vanel, Italy
- Eva Wardelmann, Germany

After failure of anthracycline-based chemotherapy, or the impossibility to use it, the following criteria may apply, although high-level evidence is lacking:

- Patients who have already received chemotherapy may be treated with ifosfamide, if they did not progress on it previously. High-dose ifosfamide (around 14 g/m<sup>2</sup>) may be an option also for patients who have already received standard-dose ifosfamide [25, 26] [IV, C].
- Trabectedin is a second-line option [II, B] and is approved for advanced previously treated STS in the EU. It has proved effective in leiomyosarcoma and liposarcoma [27]. In myxoid liposarcoma, a high antitumour activity was described. A peculiar pattern of tumour response has been reported, with an early phase of tissue changes preceding tumour shrinkage [28]. Clinical benefit with trabectedin was also obtained in other histological types.
- One trial showed that gemcitabine + docetaxel is more effective than gemcitabine alone as second-line chemotherapy, with special reference to leiomyosarcoma and undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma, but data are conflicting and toxicity is different [29] [II, C]. Gemcitabine was shown to have anti-tumour activity in leiomyosarcoma and angiosarcoma also as a single agent.
- Dacarbazine has some activity as a second-line therapy (mostly in leiomyosarcoma and solitary fibrous tumour). The combination of dacarbazine and gemcitabine was shown to improve the OS and PFS over dacarbazine in a randomised trial [30] [II, B].
- A randomised trial showed a benefit in PFS averaging 3 months for pazopanib given up to progression to advanced, previously treated, STS patients (excluding liposarcomas) [31]. Thus, it is an option in non-adipogenic STS [I, B].

Best supportive care alone is an alternative for pre-treated patients with advanced STS, especially if further-line therapies have already been used in the patient.



**Soft tissue and visceral sarcomas: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up†**

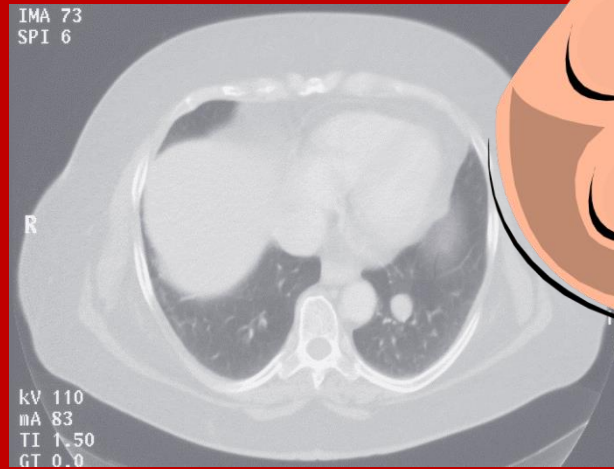
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With reference to selected histological types, there is anecdotal evidence of activity of several molecular targeted agents, building on consistent preclinical data. Examples are:

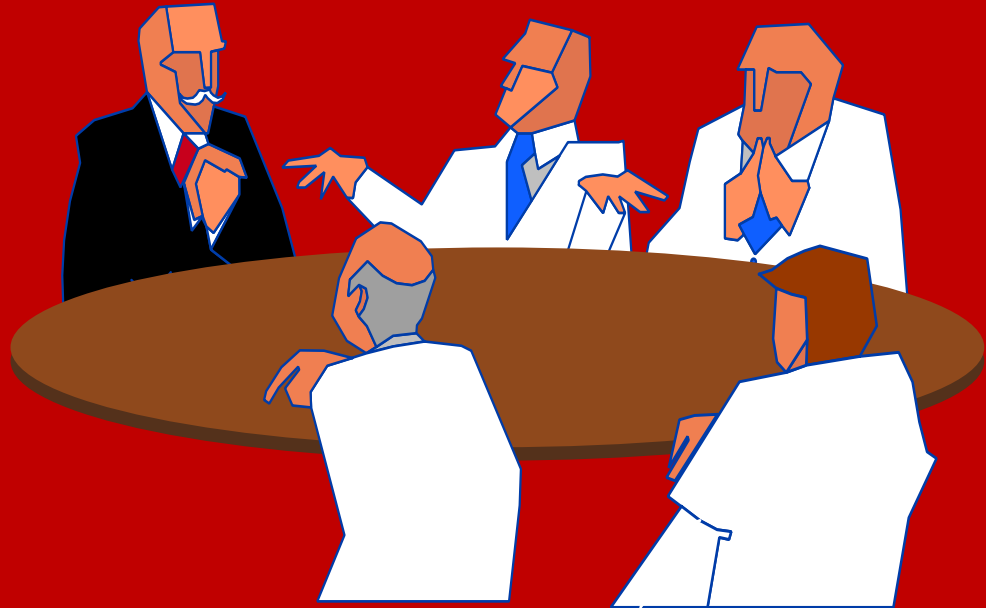
- mammalian target of rapamycin inhibitors in malignant perivascular epithelioid cell tumours (PEComas), which are often associated with the loss of tuberous sclerosis complex 1 (TSC1)/TSC2 [32];
- crizotinib in inflammatory myofibroblastic tumour associated with anaplastic lymphoma kinase translocations [33];
- sunitinib and cediranib in alveolar soft part sarcoma, where the molecular target is as yet unclear [34, 35]
- sunitinib in solitary fibrous tumours, where the molecular target is as yet unclear [36].

These patients can be sent to reference centres, to be treated accordingly, preferably within clinical studies or prospective clinical recordings [III, C].

# Surgery of isolated lung metastases



# Multidisciplinary “tumor boards”





## review

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### Rare Cancers Europe (RCE) methodological recommendations for clinical studies in rare cancers: a European consensus position paper

P. G. Casali<sup>1\*</sup>, P. Bruzzi<sup>2</sup>, J. Bogaerts<sup>3</sup> & J.-Y. Blay<sup>4</sup> on behalf of the Rare Cancers Europe (RCE) Consensus Panel

<sup>1</sup>Adult Mesenchymal Tumour Medical Oncology Unit, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Milan; <sup>2</sup>Clinical Epidemiology Unit, National Institute for Cancer Research, Genova, Italy; <sup>3</sup>European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), Brussels, Belgium; <sup>4</sup>Department of Medical Oncology, Centre Léon Bérard, Centre de Recherche en Cancérologie, Université de Lyon, Lyon, France

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While they account for one-fifth of new cancer cases, rare cancers are difficult to study. A higher than average degree of uncertainty should be accommodated for clinical as well as for population-based decision making. Rules of rational decision making in conditions of uncertainty should be rigorously followed and would need widely informative clinical trials. In principle, any piece of new evidence would need to be exploited in rare cancers. Methodologies to explicitly weigh and combine all the available evidence should be refined, and the Bayesian logic can be instrumental to this end. Likewise, Bayesian-design trials may help optimize the low number of patients liable to be enrolled in clinical studies on rare cancers, as well as adaptive trials in general, with their inherent potential of flexibility when properly applied. While clinical studies are the mainstay to test hypotheses, the potential of electronic patient records should be exploited to generate new hypotheses, to create external controls for future studies (when internal controls are impractical), to study effectiveness of new treatments in real conditions. Framework study protocols in specific rare cancers to sequentially test sets of new agents, as from the early post-phase I development stage, should be encouraged. Also the compassionate and the off-label settings should be exploited to generate new evidence, and flexible regulatory innovations such as adaptive licensing could convey new agents early to rare cancer patients, while generating evidence. Though validation of surrogate end points is problematic in rare cancers, the use of an updated notion of tumor response may be of great value in the single patient to optimize the use of therapies, all the more the new ones. Disease-based communities, involving clinicians and patients, should be regularly consulted by regulatory bodies when setting their policies on drug approval and reimbursement in specific rare cancers.

**Key words:** rare cancers, clinical trials, research methodology

- **Clinical decision-making**
- **Methods to combine evidence**
- **New study designs**
- **Surrogate end points**
- **Organization of studies**

REPORTS FROM PAST EVENTS / Rare Cancers Conference 2012

### Rare Cancers Conference 2012



#### Exploring ways to improve clinical research on rare cancers

Date : 01 Mar 2012

Organised by the [European Society for Medical Oncology \(ESMO\)](#) and [Rare Cancers Europe](#), the Rare Cancers Conference, held on 10 February 2012 in Brussels, provided a multi-stakeholder platform for rare cancer and rare disease experts from across Europe to exchange views and share insights into what can be done to improve the methodology of clinical research on rare cancers.

The first two conference sessions offered an overview of rare cancers and associated challenges for clinical research and drug development and also presented a variety of (potential) solutions as well as best practice examples. Where traditional frequent clinical research approaches are not possible, due to the small numbers of patients, it is particularly challenging to make sure that rare cancer patients are not being left without appropriate clinical research and therapeutic progress.

The third session of the conference therefore also highlighted the need for reaching a broad multi-stakeholder consensus on a set of recommendations on improving the methodology of clinical research on rare cancers. These recommendations will be the product of an ongoing multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder online consensus discussion, promoted by Rare Cancers Europe. They will focus on best methods, including innovative ones, for clinical research on rare cancers, and rare subgroups of frequent cancers, with the goal of encouraging:

- clinical researchers to exploit innovative solutions for the design and analysis of clinical studies;
- clinicians to exploit innovative solutions for the combination of all available knowledge;
- regulators to accept evidence built through these solutions;
- clinicians' and patients' communities to exploit all forms of collaboration to put together as large series as possible for prospective and retrospective clinical and translational research;
- methodologists to advance research into new methodological solutions better fitting the needs of studies on small series

All interested stakeholder groups are encouraged to actively participate in this open discussion, the result of which will be a consensus paper to be publicly presented in autumn 2012. This paper could then be used for related advocacy efforts. All parties interested in joining this discussion are invited to [contact Rare Cancers Europe](#).

# R CANCERS EUROPE

Joining forces for action



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