

Immune-mediated adverse event incidence, timing and association with efficacy in the Phase 3 TOPAZ-1 study of durvalumab or placebo plus gemcitabine and cisplatin in advanced biliary tract cancer

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Objective

- This analysis investigated the incidence, timing and association with efficacy of immune-mediated adverse events (imAEs) in the Phase 3 TOPAZ-1 study of durvalumab or placebo plus gemcitabine and cisplatin (GemCis) as first-line treatment for advanced biliary tract cancer (BTC)

Conclusions

- Most imAEs were grade 1 or 2 and manageable, and imAEs did not lead to an increase in the number of participants discontinuing study treatment
- imAEs occurred most frequently within 3 months but could occur at any time during the study, with median time to onset that varied according to imAE type
- Durvalumb plus GemCis was associated with an overall survival (OS) benefit versus placebo plus GemCis, irrespective of imAE occurrence
- Consistent with other studies, imAEs may be associated with greater OS benefit¹; however, participant numbers were low for this analysis, and further investigation is warranted into this association
- imAEs could be managed based on the treatment guidelines; thus, people with BTC who experience imAEs can be considered for continued treatment with durvalumab plus GemCis

Plain language summary

Why did we perform this research?
The analysis described here was performed to assess side effects associated with the immune system in the TOPAZ-1 study: how often they occurred, their timing in relation to treatment and if they were associated with the length of time participants with BTC remained alive after being treated with durvalumab plus GemCis anti-cancer therapy

How did we perform this research?
Participants were treated with either durvalumab plus GemCis or placebo plus GemCis. Side effects were categorised as being associated with the immune system by an algorithm. They were counted and the time they began was recorded. The length of time participants remained alive was measured and linked to side effects associated with the immune system

What were the findings of this research?
Side effects associated with the immune system were mild and did not lead to more participants stopping treatment. The timing of side effects associated with the immune system varied. Participants benefited from treatment with durvalumab plus GemCis, regardless of whether or not they experienced side effects associated with the immune system

What are the implications of this research?
This research, alongside other research from the TOPAZ-1 study, supports durvalumab plus GemCis as a first treatment for advanced BTC

Where can I access more information?
Information about the medicines being used in this study and the people who could participate can be found here: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03875235>
Previous results from this study can be found here: <https://evidence.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/EVIDoaa2200015>

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Introduction

- GemCis chemotherapy has been the first-line standard of care for advanced BTC worldwide for over a decade²⁻⁵
- At a planned interim analysis of TOPAZ-1 (NCT03875235), a statistically significant increase in OS was observed in participants treated with durvalumab plus GemCis versus placebo plus GemCis⁶
 - Based on the results of the TOPAZ-1 study, durvalumab plus GemCis is recommended for the first-line treatment of advanced BTC⁷
- Durvalumab is an immune checkpoint inhibitor targeting programmed cell death ligand-1 (PD-L1), and thus may cause imAEs
 - imAEs have been reportedly associated with improved OS for anti-PD-L1 immunotherapies¹

Results and interpretation

Immune-mediated adverse events

- imAEs occurred in more participants in the durvalumab arm than in the placebo arm⁶ (Table 1)
- The incidence of grade 3 or 4 imAEs⁶ or serious imAEs was low in both arms (Table 1)
- Overall, 20 out of 43 (46.5%) participants with an imAE in the durvalumab arm and 8 out of 16 (50%) participants with an imAE in the placebo arm had an imAE that resolved (Table 1)
- The most common imAEs by category (>1% of participants in either arm) were hypothyroid events, dermatitis / rash, hepatic events and adrenal insufficiency (Figure 2)

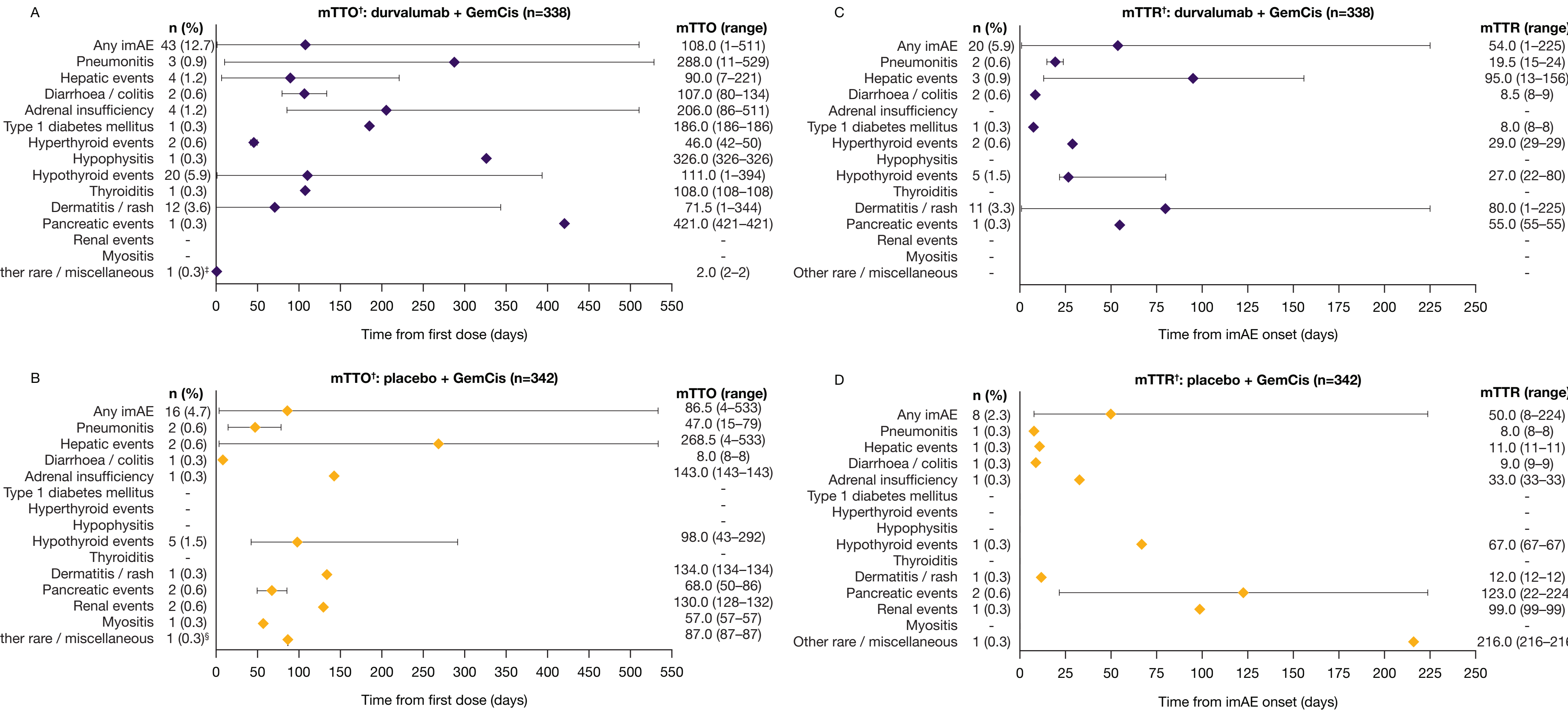
Table 1. Incidence of immune-mediated adverse events*

	Durvalumab + GemCis (n=338)	Placebo + GemCis (n=342)
Participants with any imAE, n (%) ^a	43 (12.7)	16 (4.7)
Possibly related to study medication, n (%)	38 (11.2)	14 (4.1)
Grade 3 or 4, n (%) ^b	8 (2.4) ^c	5 (1.5) ^b
Serious, n (%)	6 (1.8)	5 (1.5)
With outcome of death, n (%)	0	1 (0.3) ^d
Leading to treatment discontinuation, n (%)	3 (0.9) ^e	4 (1.2) ^{*,f}
Median time to onset (range), days ^g	108.0 (1–511)	86.5 (4–533)
Participants with resolved imAEs, n (%)	20 (5.9)	8 (2.3)
Median time to resolution (range), days ^g	54.0 (1–225)	50.0 (8–224)

*One participant may have more than one imAE. ^bIn participants with any imAE (time to onset) or resolved imAEs (time to resolution); ^cPneumonitis (n=1), alanine aminotransferase increased (n=1), immune-mediated hepatitis (n=1), diarrhoea (n=1), diabetic ketoacidosis (n=1), rash maculo-papular (n=3), immune-mediated arthritis (n=1); ^dPneumonitis (n=1), autoimmune hepatitis (n=1), diarrhoea (n=1), hypernatremia (n=1), arthritis (n=1); ^ePolymyositis (n=1); ^fInterstitial lung disease (n=1), alanine aminotransferase increased (n=1), rash maculo-papular (n=1); ^gPneumonitis (n=1), autoimmune hepatitis (n=1), blood creatine increased (n=1), polymyositis (n=1)

GemCis, gemcitabine and cisplatin; imAE, immune-mediated adverse event

Figure 2. Time to onset (A, B) and resolution (C, D) of immune-mediated adverse events by AESI category*

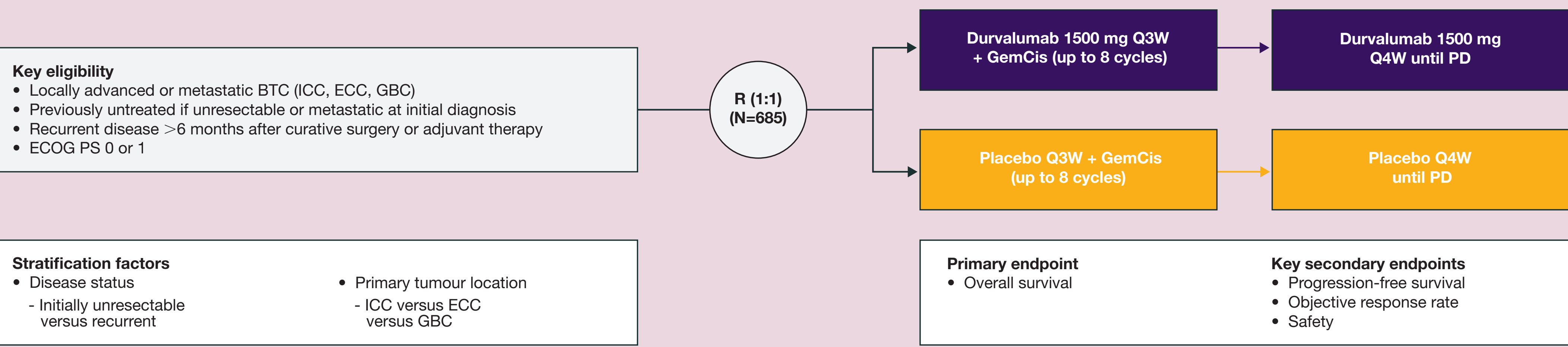


*One participant may have more than one imAE. ^aIn participants with an imAE; ^bimmune-mediated arthritis; ^carthritis
AESI, adverse event of special interest; GemCis, gemcitabine and cisplatin; imAE, immune-mediated adverse event; mTTO, median time to onset; mTTR, median time to resolution

Methods

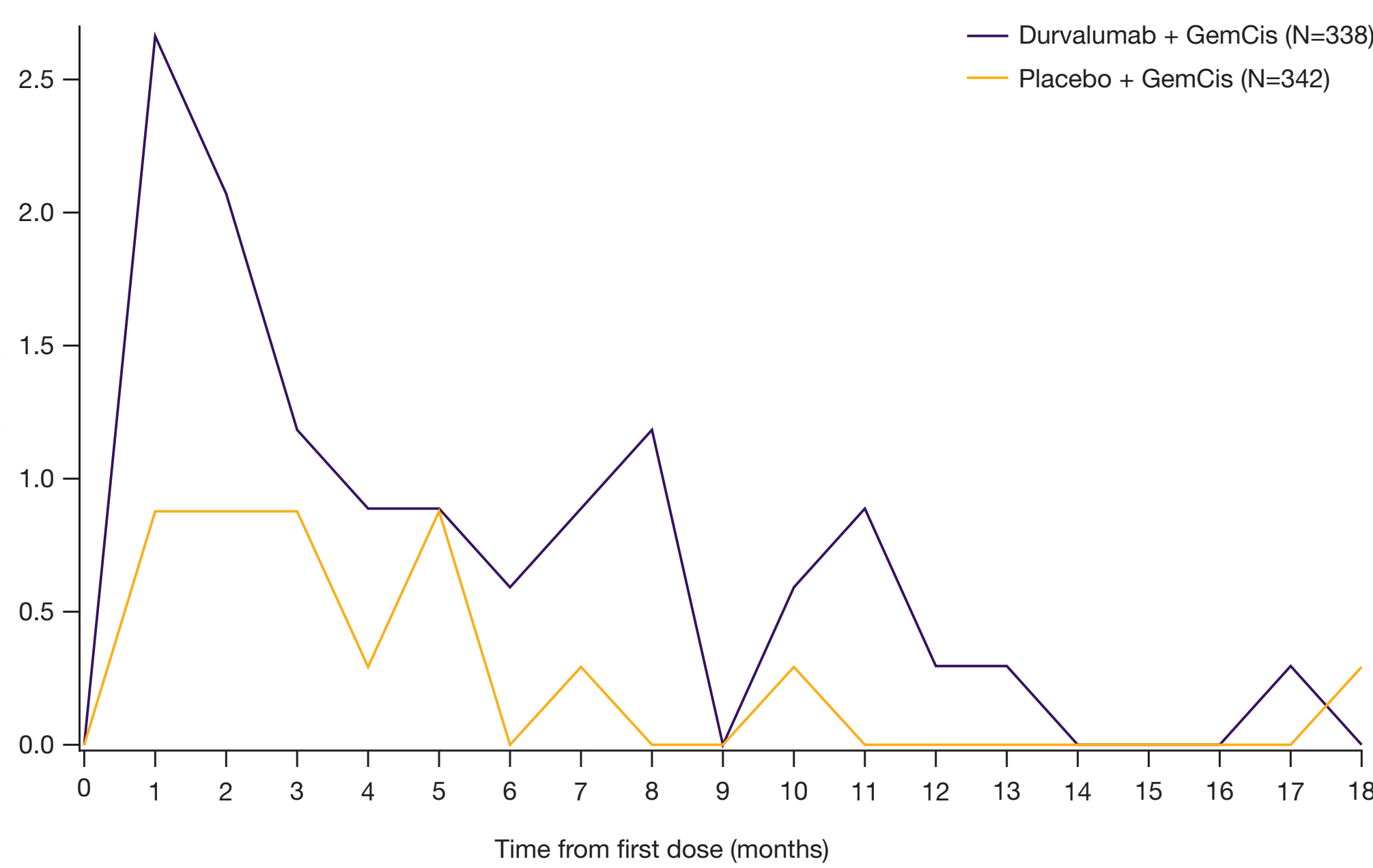
- TOPAZ-1 is a randomised, double-blind, global, Phase 3 study evaluating the efficacy and safety of durvalumab plus GemCis as first-line treatment for participants with advanced BTC (Figure 1)
- imAEs are AEs of special / possible interest linked to drug exposure with a likely immune-mediated mechanism and no clear alternate aetiology
 - Incidences of imAEs were calculated by programmatic adjudication
- OS hazard ratio (HR) was calculated using a Cox model with treatment as the only covariate, and median OS was calculated using the Kaplan-Meier method

Figure 1. Study design of TOPAZ-1



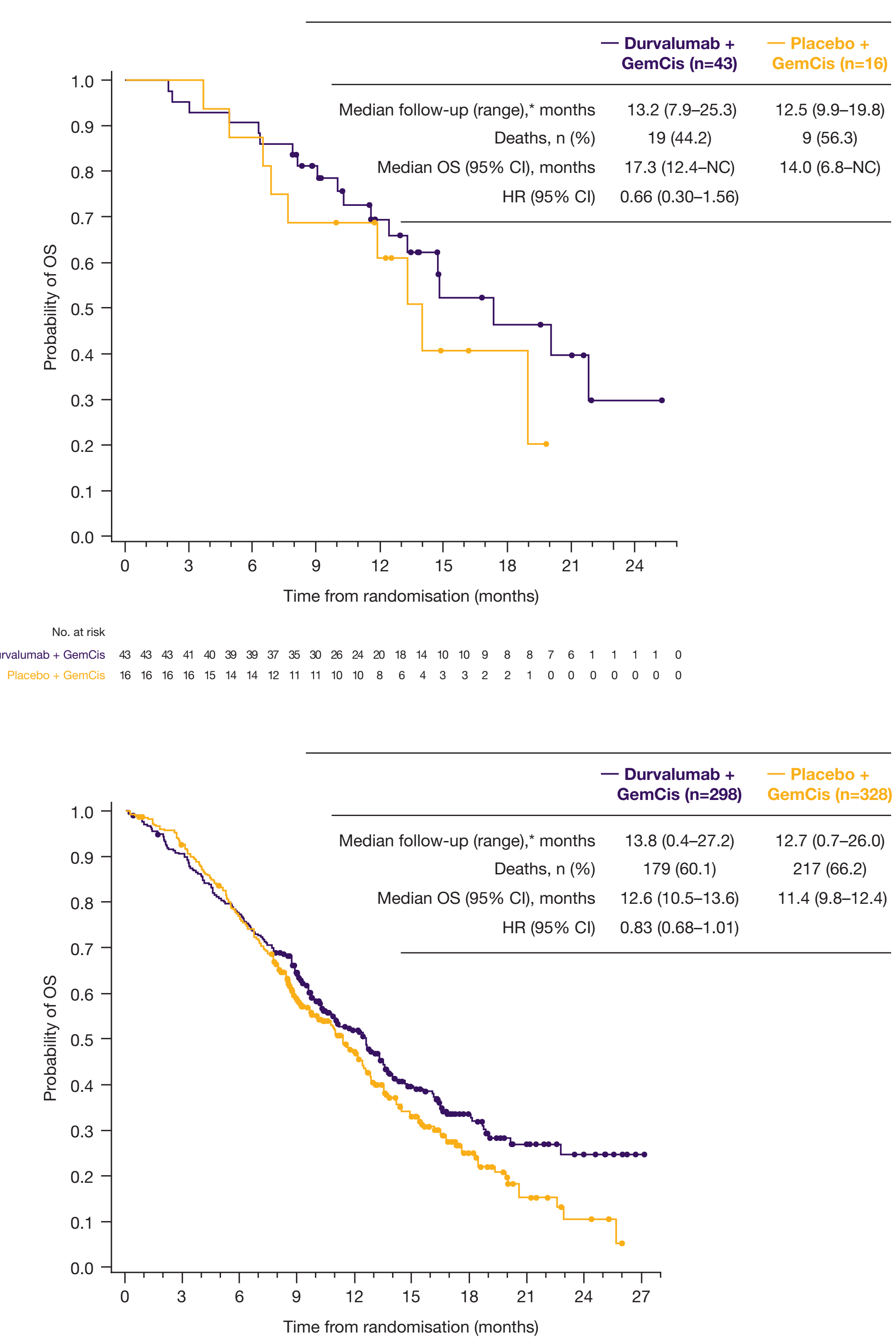
BTC, biliary tract cancer; ECC, extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma; ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; GBC, gallbladder cancer; GemCis, gemcitabine and cisplatin; ICC, intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma; PD, progressive disease; PS, performance status; Q3 / Q4W, every 3 / 4 weeks; R, randomised

Figure 3. Percent of participants with immune-mediated adverse events over time



The percentage of participants with at least one imAE out of the total number of participants in each treatment arm over time is shown
GemCis, gemcitabine and cisplatin; imAE, immune-mediated adverse event

Figure 4. Overall survival for durvalumab versus placebo for participants (A) with or (B) without an immune-mediated adverse event



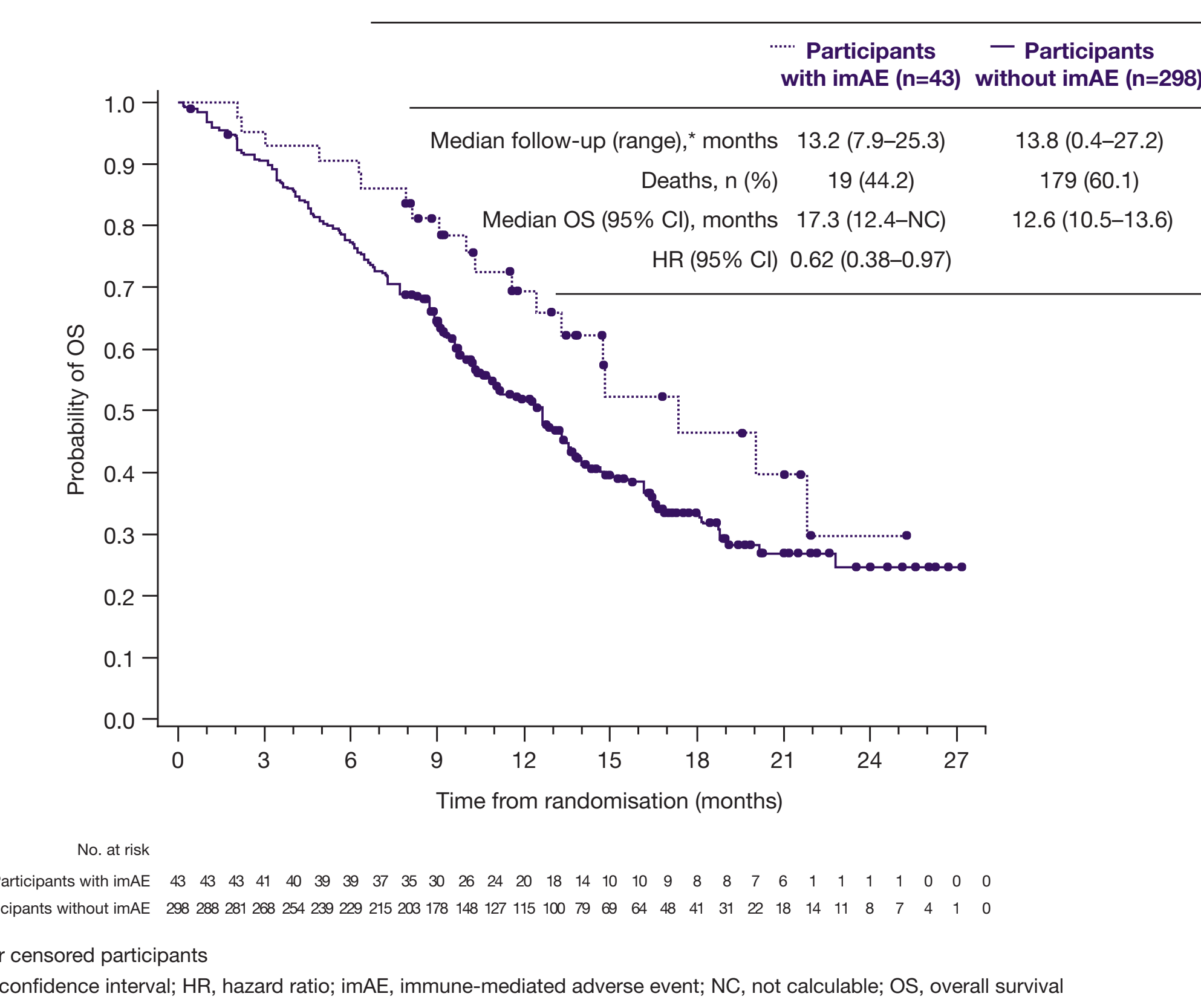
*For censored participants
CI, confidence interval; GemCis, gemcitabine and cisplatin; HR, hazard ratio; NC, not calculable; OS, overall survival

Table 2. Treatment for immune-mediated adverse events

	Durvalumab + GemCis (n=338)	Placebo + GemCis (n=342)
Participants with any imAE, n (%) ^a	43 (12.7)	16 (4.7)
Systemic corticosteroids	27 (8.0)	12 (3.5)
High-dose steroids	13 (3.8)	10 (2.9)
Endocrine therapy	22 (6.5)	5 (1.5)
Other immunosuppressant	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)

GemCis, gemcitabine and cisplatin; imAE, immune-mediated adverse event

Figure 5. Overall survival by immune-mediated adverse event occurrence in the durvalumab arm



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Disclosures

MH, JX*, HK, KH and NR are employees of and hold stock in AstraZeneca. LA and D-YO report membership on an advisory board for AstraZeneca. D-YO and HT report research grants from AstraZeneca. LA, AS, JC and MP report invited speaker roles for AstraZeneca. MP is a principal investigator for AstraZeneca (non-financial). RG, S-SY, JOP and GV report no conflicts of interest related to AstraZeneca. Full author disclosures are available with the published abstract.
*At the time the study was conducted

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