

## GIST:

## Medical and Multidisciplinary Therapy

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# DISCLOSURES FOR GEORGE D. DEMETRI, MD

Consulting fees received from Janssen, Bayer, EMD-Serono (Merck KGA), Lilly, Sanofi, Daiichi-Sankyo, Pfizer, Novartis, Ziopharm, Ariad, Polaris, KyMab, Genocera, Nektar, Caris Life Sciences, WCG

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Patent licensed to Novartis from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute with royalties paid directly to DFCI

Equity in Blueprint Medicines, Kolltan, and G1 Therapeutics

Board of Directors of Blueprint Medicines

# Newsweek

03.28.2014

## SOLVING CANCER

YOU CAN'T CURE WHAT YOU  
DON'T UNDERSTAND

$(X + Y = -C)$   $(X + Y = -C)$   $(X + Y = -C)$   $(X + Y = -C)$

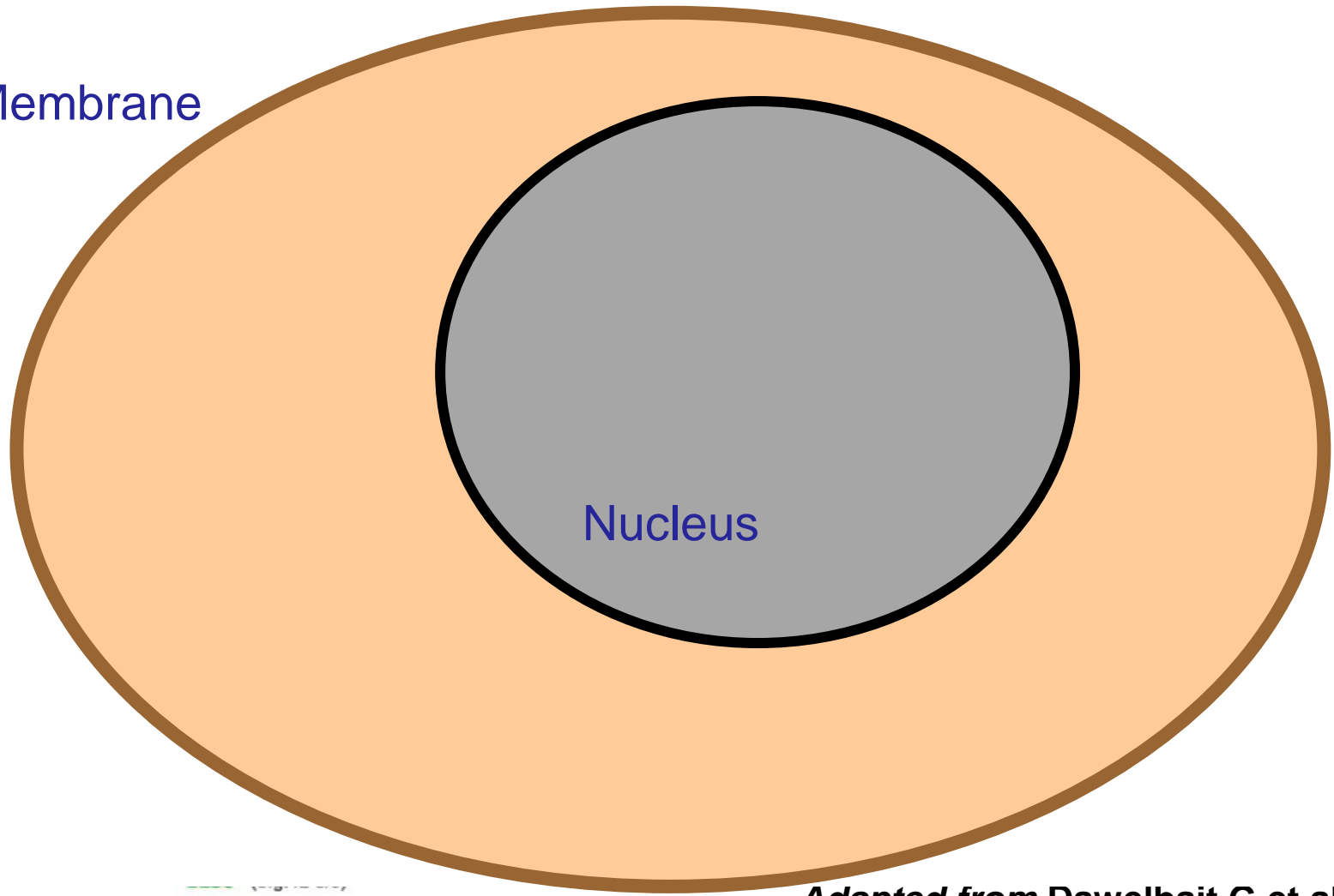
*In the war against cancer, the enemy remains poorly defined. This group of scientists is hoping to change that—and is making enemies of its own. Priest + Grace*

# The Disease is the Medium, The Mechanism is the Message

- ◆ Understanding the basic mechanisms of GIST at the molecular level
- ◆ Diagnosing patients correctly
- ◆ Understanding clinically relevant GIST variations
- ◆ Understanding resistance to overcome barriers to cure

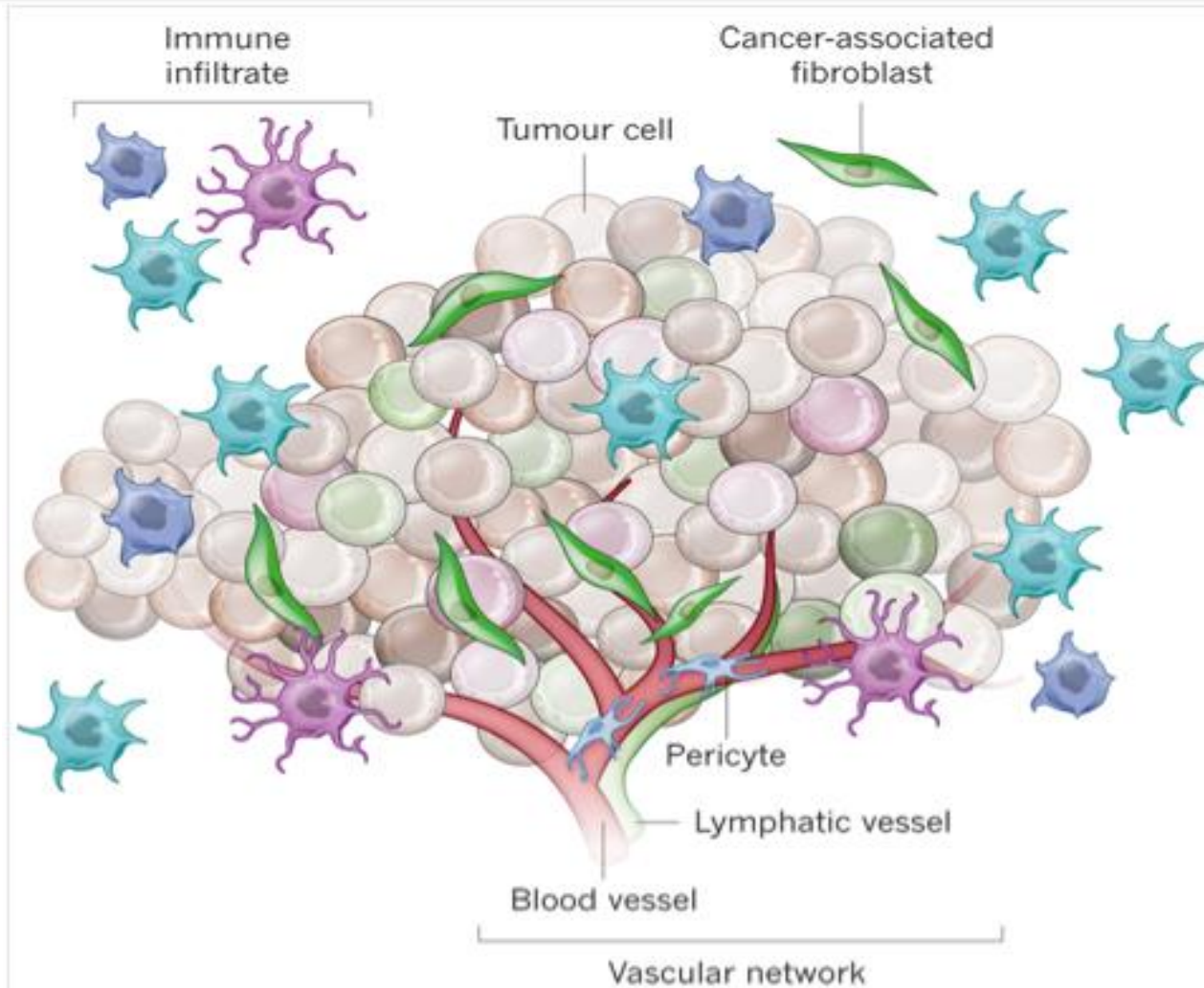
**Research has helped us to understand  
which mechanisms drive cancer cells**

Cell Membrane



Nucleus

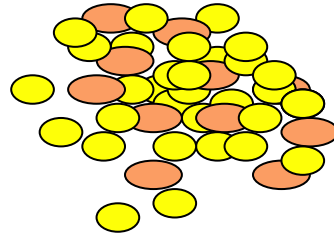
# Tumor cells are only one part of an ecosystem – How to make the whole ecosystem extinct?



**We need to identify the switches that sustain cancer cell survival and growth**

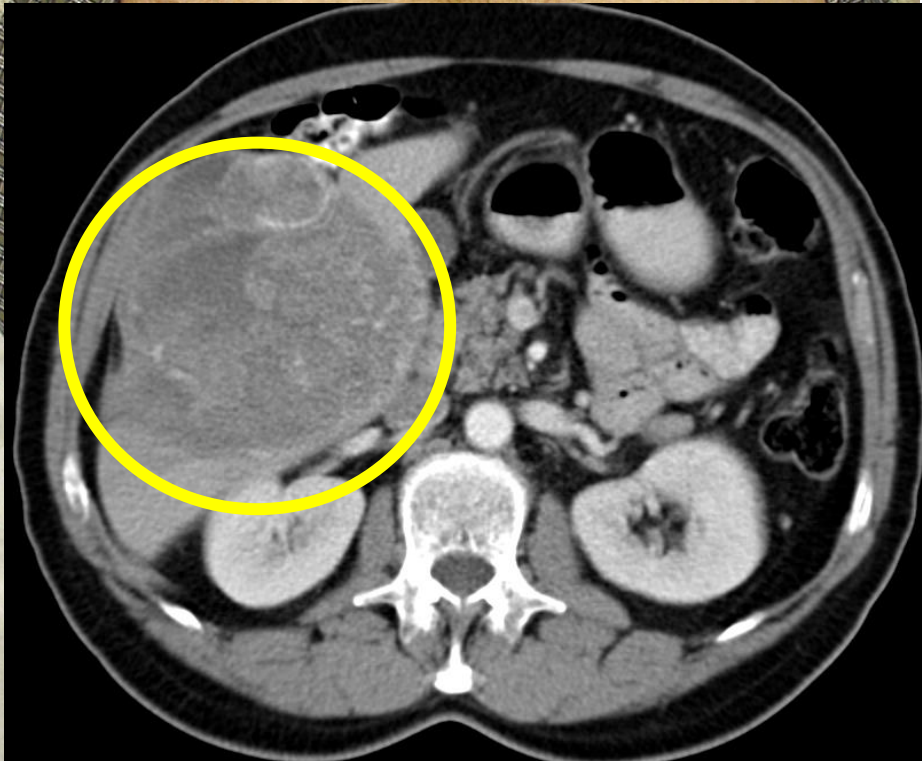


**ON**





There was no effective  
systemic medical therapy  
for GIST prior to  
Kinase Inhibitors





# The Enabling Discovery Linking KIT to GIST

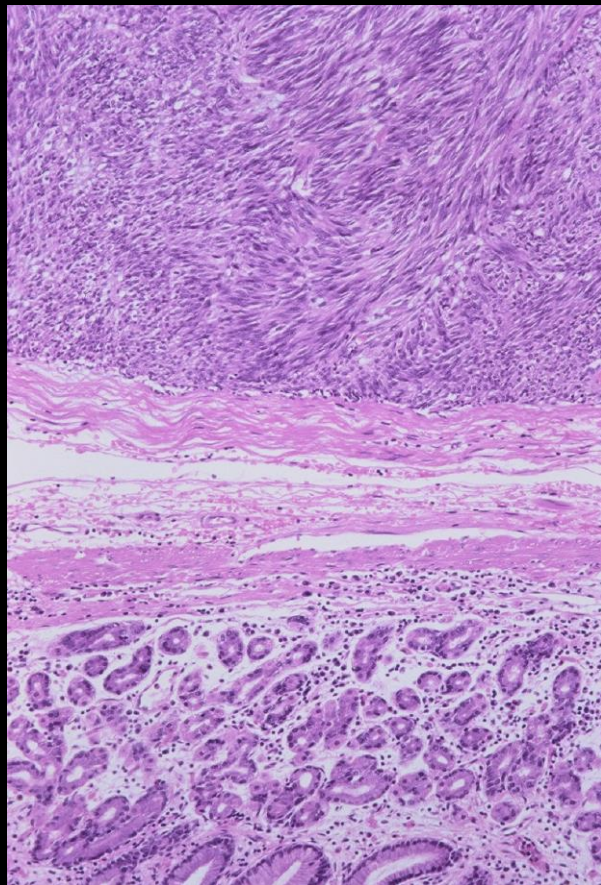
## Gain-of-Function Mutations of *c-kit* in Human Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors

Seiichi Hirota,\* Koji Isozaki,\* Yasuhiro Moriyama,  
Koji Hashimoto, Toshiro Nishida, Shingo Ishiguro,  
Kiyoshi Kawano, Masato Hanada, Akihiko Kurata,  
Masashi Takeda, Ghulam Muhammad Tunio, Yuji Matsuzawa,  
Yuzuru Kanakura, Yasuhisa Shinomura, Yukihiro Kitamura†

**Science 279:577-580, 1998**

# Detection of KIT by Immunohistochemical Staining in GIST

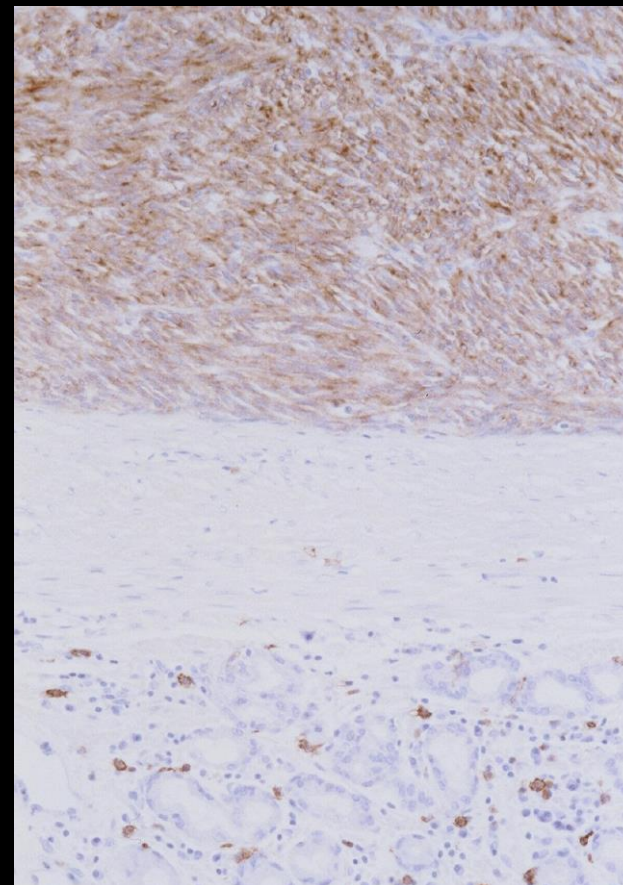
H+E Stain



← TUMOR →

← Normal  
Small  
Intestine →

CD117 IHC Stain



CDM Fletcher, MD

# **The first GIST patient on imatinib: January 2000**

## **Clinical Development**

### **STI571/STI571B**

#### **Protocol No. CSTI571B2221**

### **An Individual Supply, Pilot Study to Determine the Efficacy and Safety of STI571 in a Patient with a Progressing Metastatic Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumour**

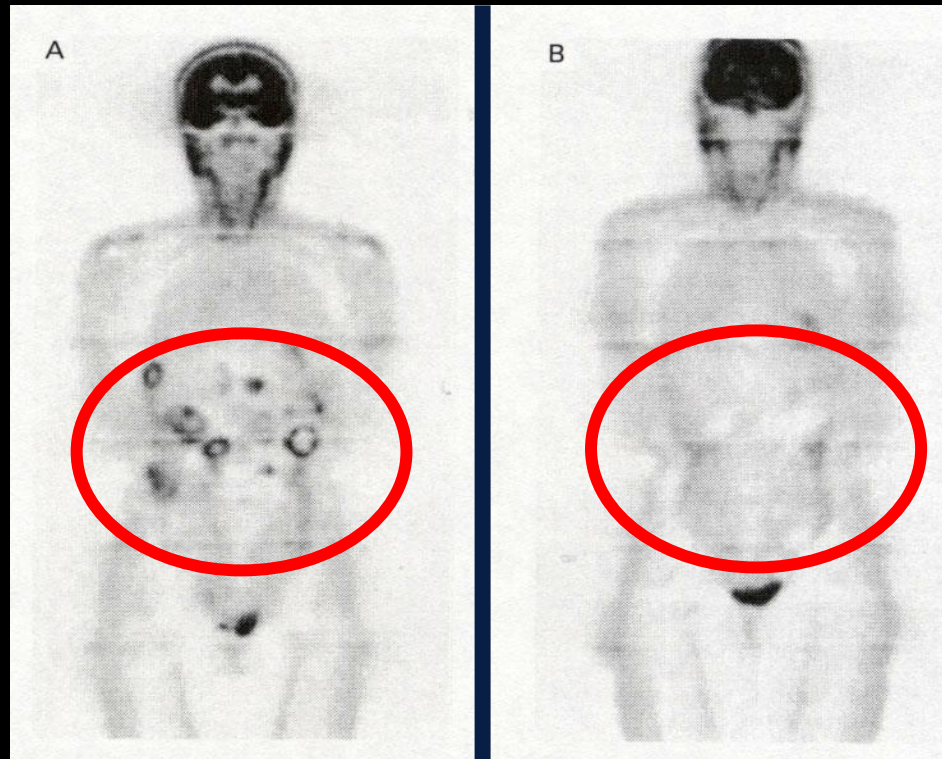
**Document Type:** Clinical Study Protocol

**Development Phase:** I

**Document Status:** Final

**Release Date:** February 18 2000

# Imatinib Induces Major Response in the First Patient with Metastatic GIST



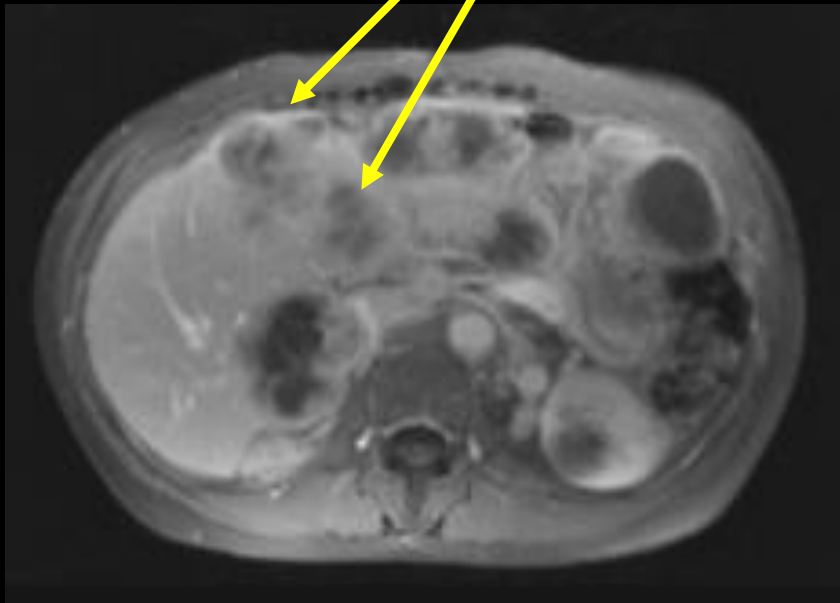
March 3, 2000

April 5, 2000

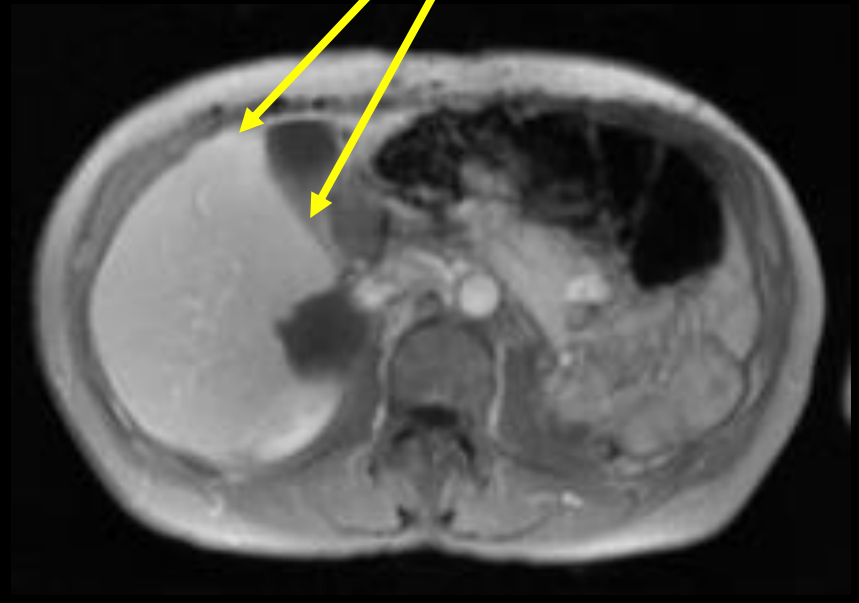
Joensuu H, et al. NEJM 2001; 344: 1052-6

SARCOMA & GIST CONFERENCE 2016

**GIST liver metastases disappear  
after 4 weeks of treatment with STI571 (imatinib, Glivec)**



**BASELINE**



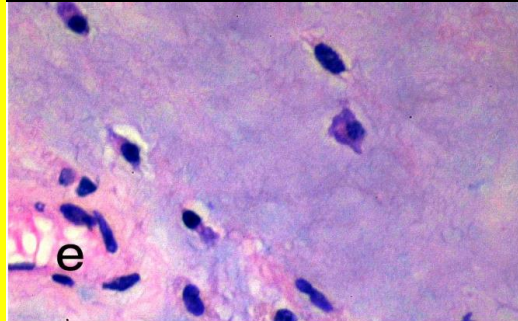
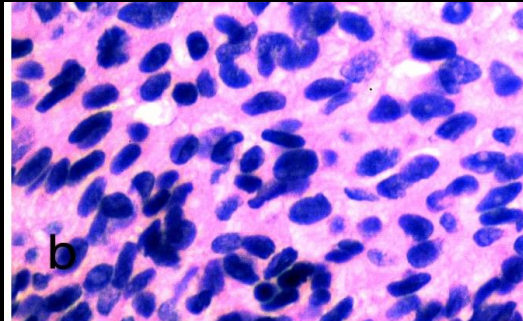
**AFTER 4 weeks Rx**



GIST Biopsy  
Before Imatinib

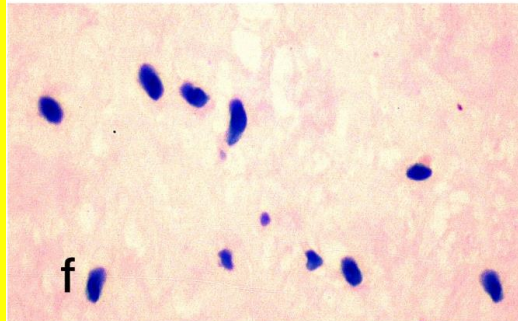
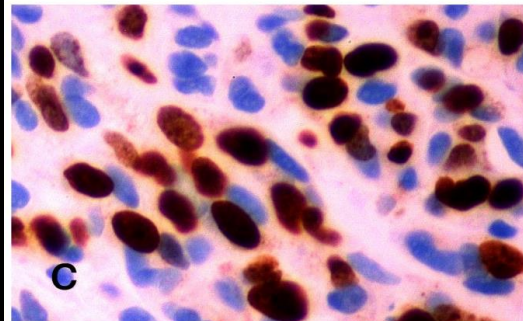
GIST Biopsy  
After Imatinib

H+E



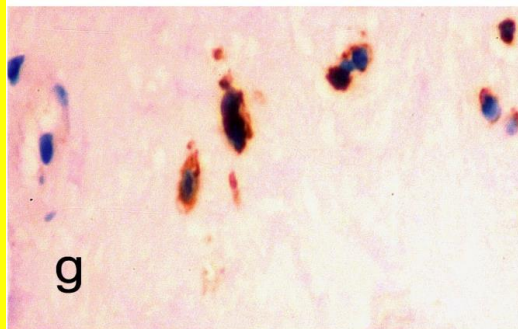
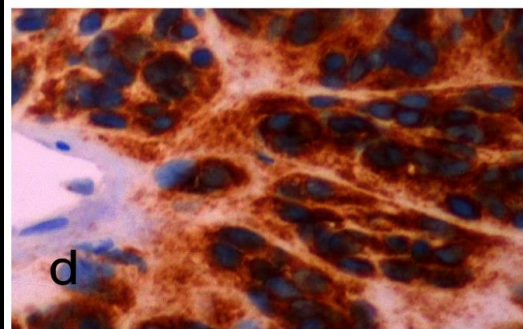
H+E

Ki-67  
(proliferation)



Ki-67

CD117  
(KIT)



CD117

Joensuu, et al. N Engl J Med.2001; (344): 1052-1056

SARCOMA & GIST CONFERENCE 2016

# **Rapid movement to the next big step: April 2000**

Clinical Development

Compound STI 571

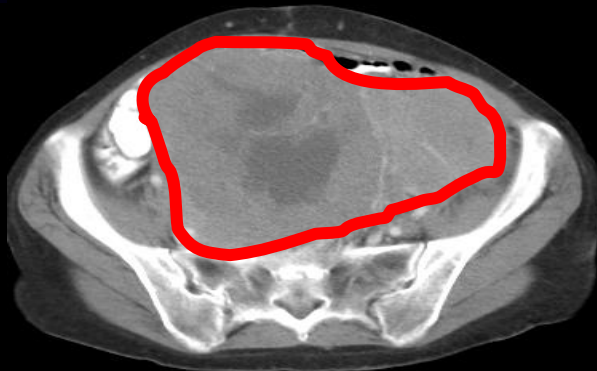
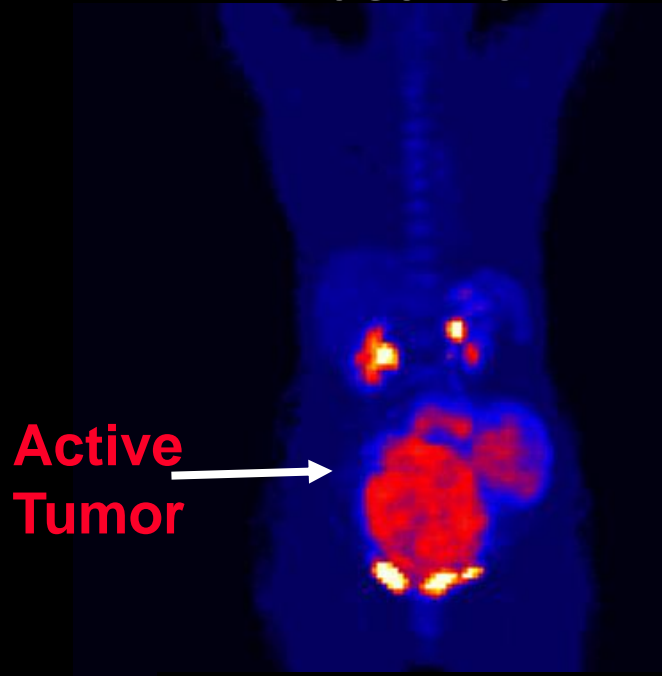
Protocol No. CSTI571B2222

**A Phase II Study of STI571 in Patients with  
Unresectable or Metastatic Malignant  
Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors Expressing c-kit**

**Author(s):** George D. Demetri, M.D.; Renaud Capdeville M.D.; Sasa  
Dimitrijevic, Ph.D.

# The First U.S. GIST Patient Treated with Imatinib: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School

**Baseline**

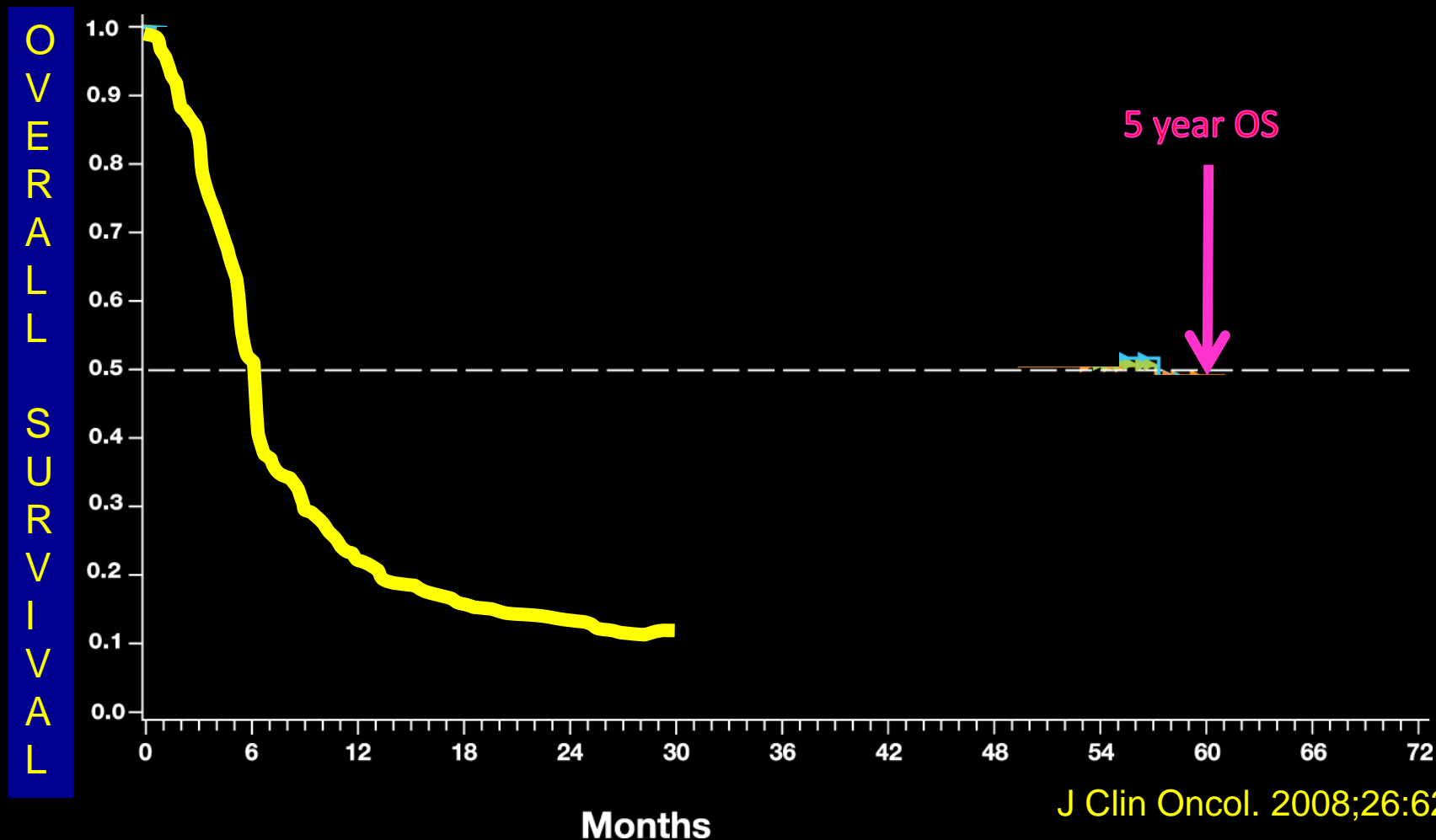


# Imatinib Benefits the Majority of Patients with Metastatic GIST

Best Response			All patients N = 147 (%)	
Partial Response			97 (66%)	83% Benefit
Stable Disease			25 (17%)	
Progression or Non-evaluable			25 (17%)	

*Demetri et al. Update from N Engl J Med 2002*

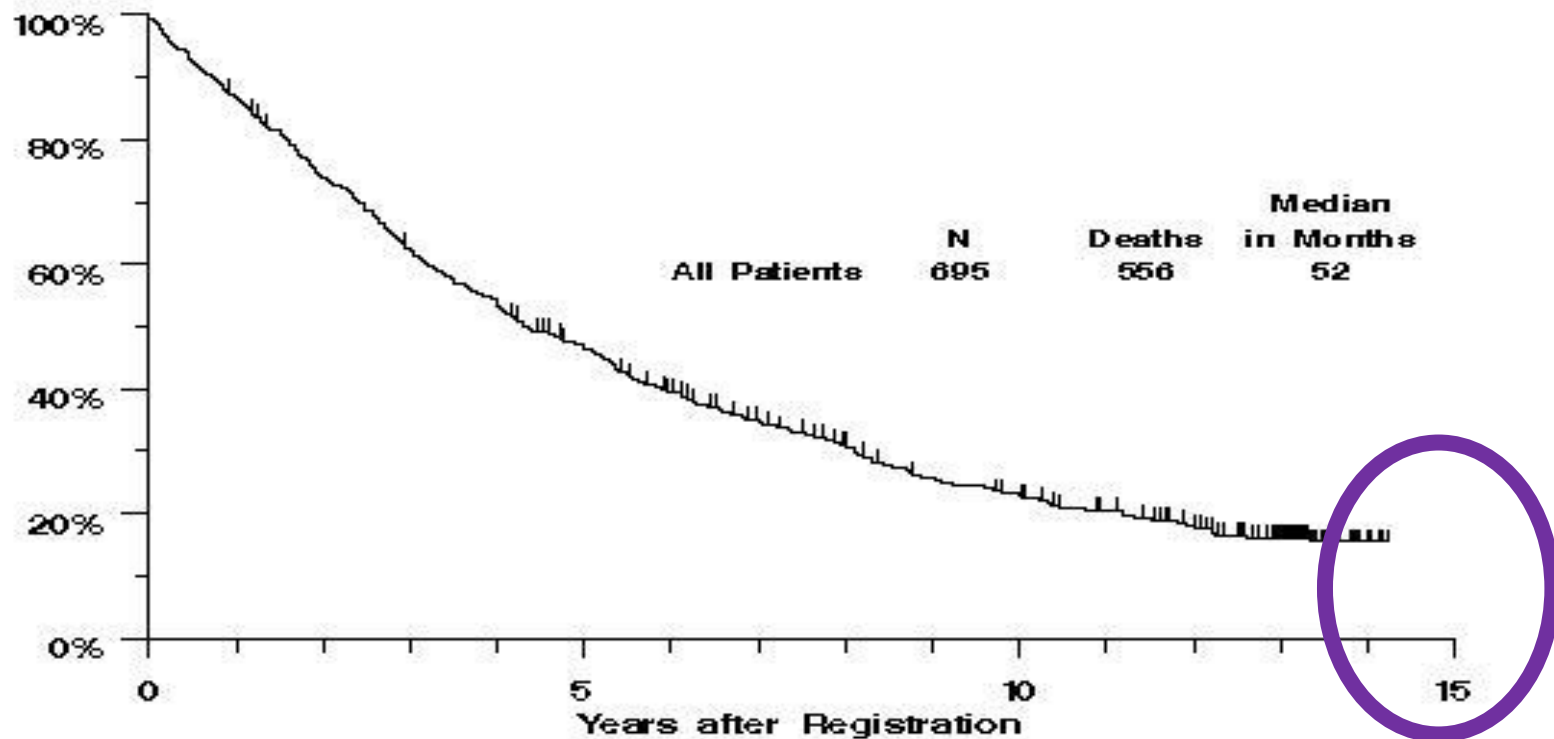
# Significant improvement in overall survival for metastatic GIST patients treated with imatinib



J Clin Oncol. 2008;26:620-625



# Long Term Survival in GIST Patients: S0033 Intergroup US-Canada Trial



# Different Structural Variants of Kinase Targets in GIST

**KIT**

**Single Dominant Mutation per patient:  
Site of mutation differs between patients**

**PDGFRA**

**WILD TYPE in both  
KIT and PDGFRA (13%) –  
RESISTANT**

← Exon 9 (8%) - **SENS**

← Exon 11 (76%) - **SENSITIVE**

← Exon 13 (1%) - **+/-SENS**

← Exon 17 (1%) - **RES**

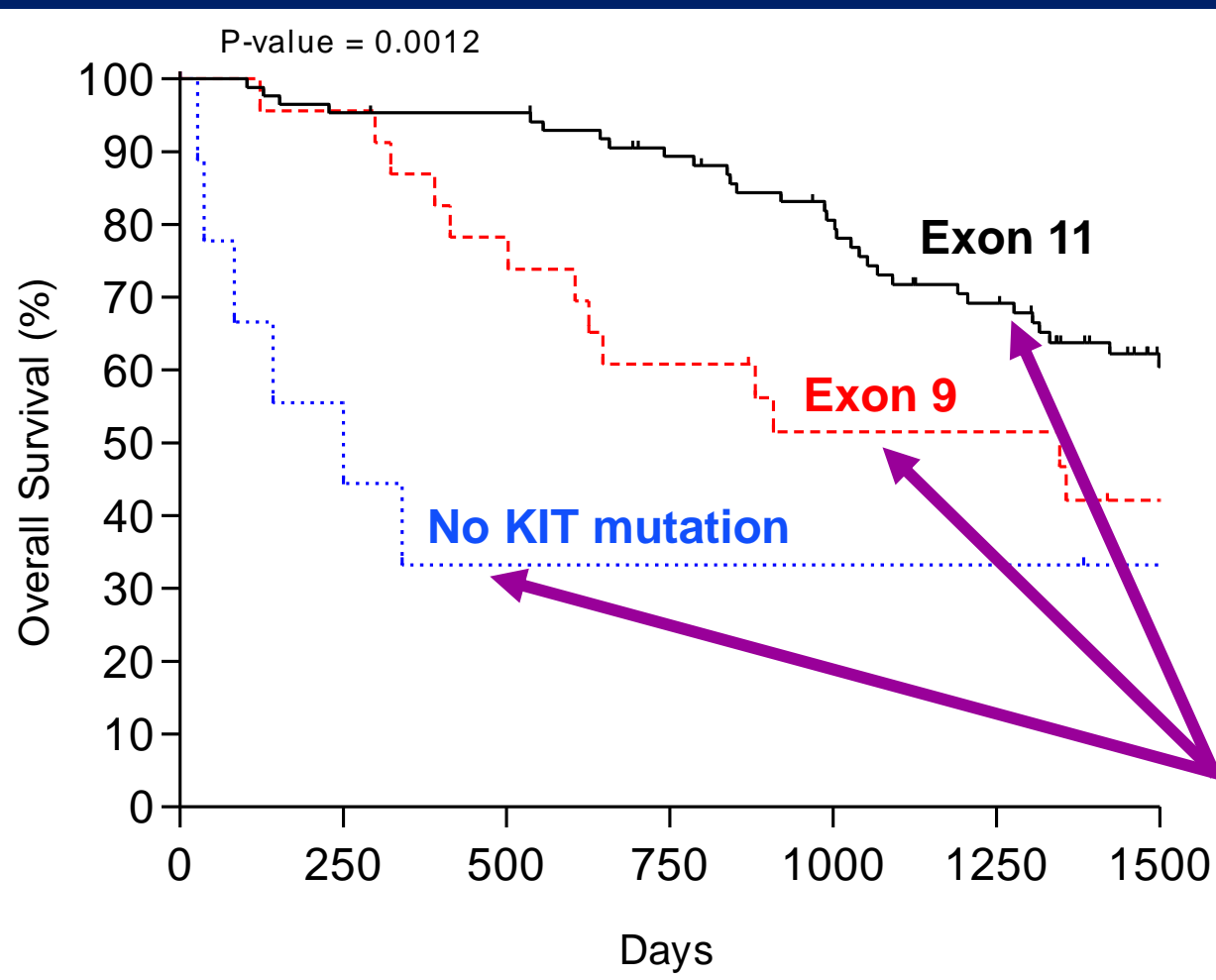
**Membrane**

← Exon 12 (0.3%) - **SENS**

**Cytoplasm**

← Exon 18 D842V (0.6%) - **RES**

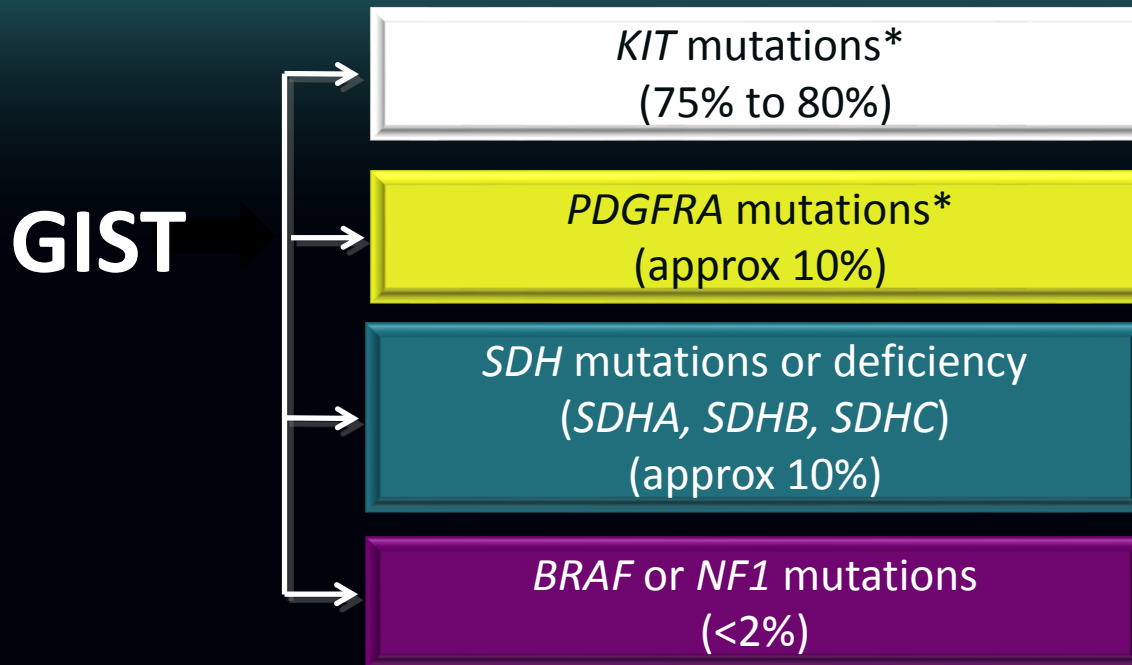
# Describing and Dissecting Imatinib Failure



**Different Genotypic and Structural Variants Fail Imatinib Therapy at Different Rates**

Heinrich, Corless,  
Blanke, Joensuu,  
von Mehren, Demetri  
2006

# There are clinically important differences in GIST between patients



\* SPECIFIC MUTATIONAL SUBTYPES can impact patient outcomes

**KIT** exon 11 mutations predict most benefit with imatinib

**KIT** exon 9 mutations may progress faster on standard dose imatinib

**PDGFRA** D842V mutation:

good risk in primary localized GIST , worse outcomes in metastatic GIST

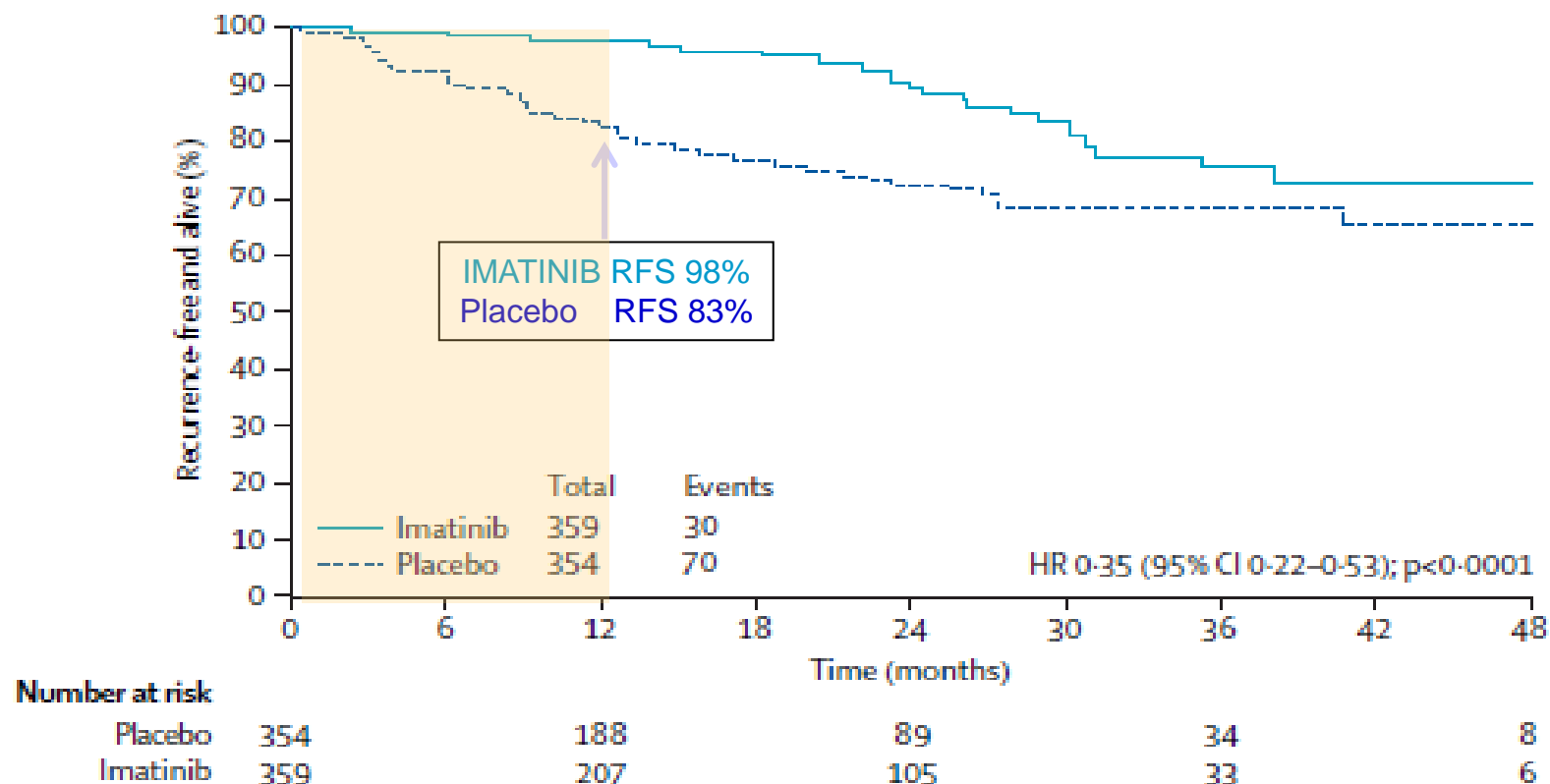
# Variable Affecting RISK of Recurrence for Primary Localized GIST

Tumor Parameters		RISK OF RECURRENCE (%)			
Size	Mitotic Count	Stomach	Duodenum	Jejunum / Ileum	Rectum
≤ 2 cm	≤ 5 per 50 HPFs	0	0	0	0
> 2, ≤ 5 cm		2	8	4	9
> 5, ≤ 10 cm		4	} 34	24	} 57
> 10 cm		12		52	
≤ 2 cm	> 5 per 50 HPFs	0*	*	50*	54
> 2, ≤ 5 cm		16	50	73	52
> 5, ≤ 10 cm		55	} 86	85	} 71
> 10 cm		86		90	

\* Too few cases

Adapted from Miettinen and Lasota. *Sem Diag Pathol.* 2006; 23(2):70-83.

# Adjuvant Imatinib Improves Recurrence-Free Survival in Primary GIST: ACOSOG Z9001

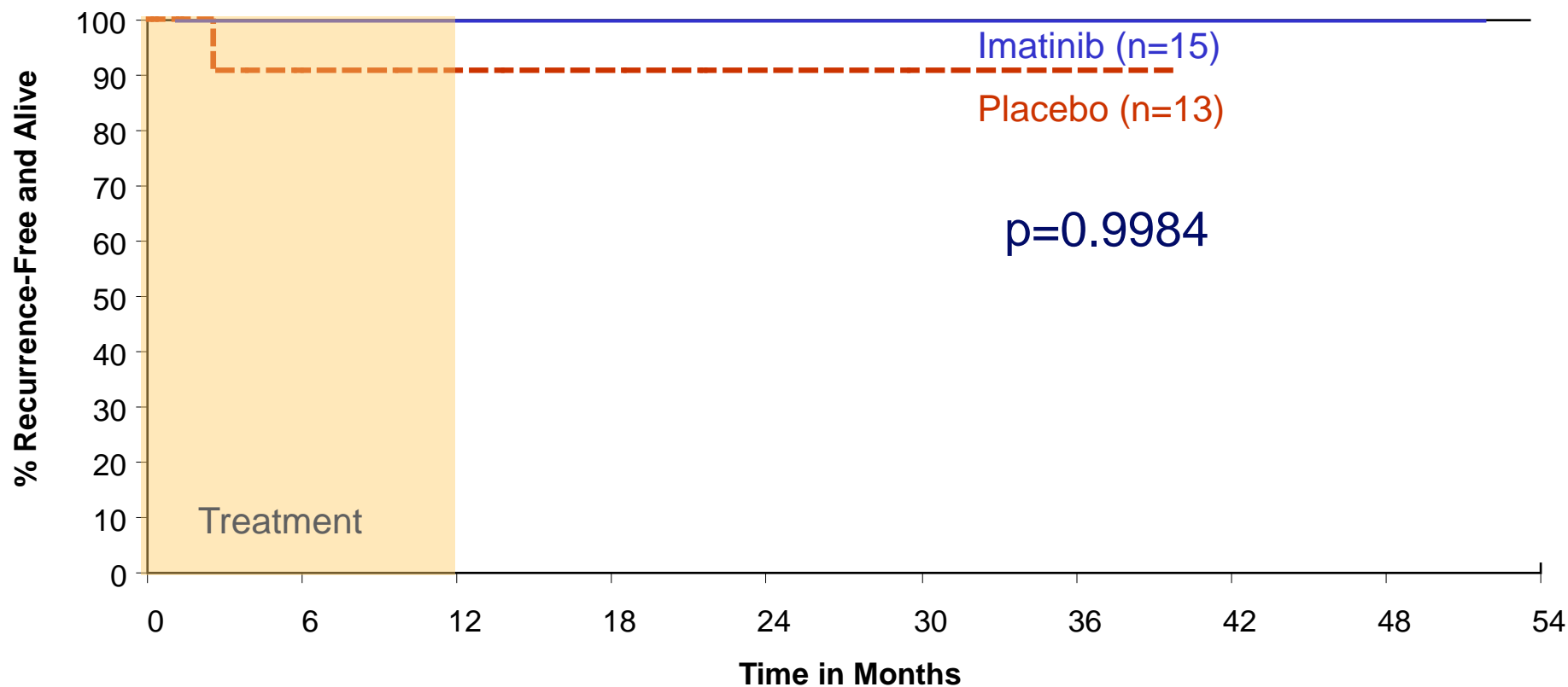


DeMatteo et al. *Lancet*. 2009; 373(9669):1097-104.



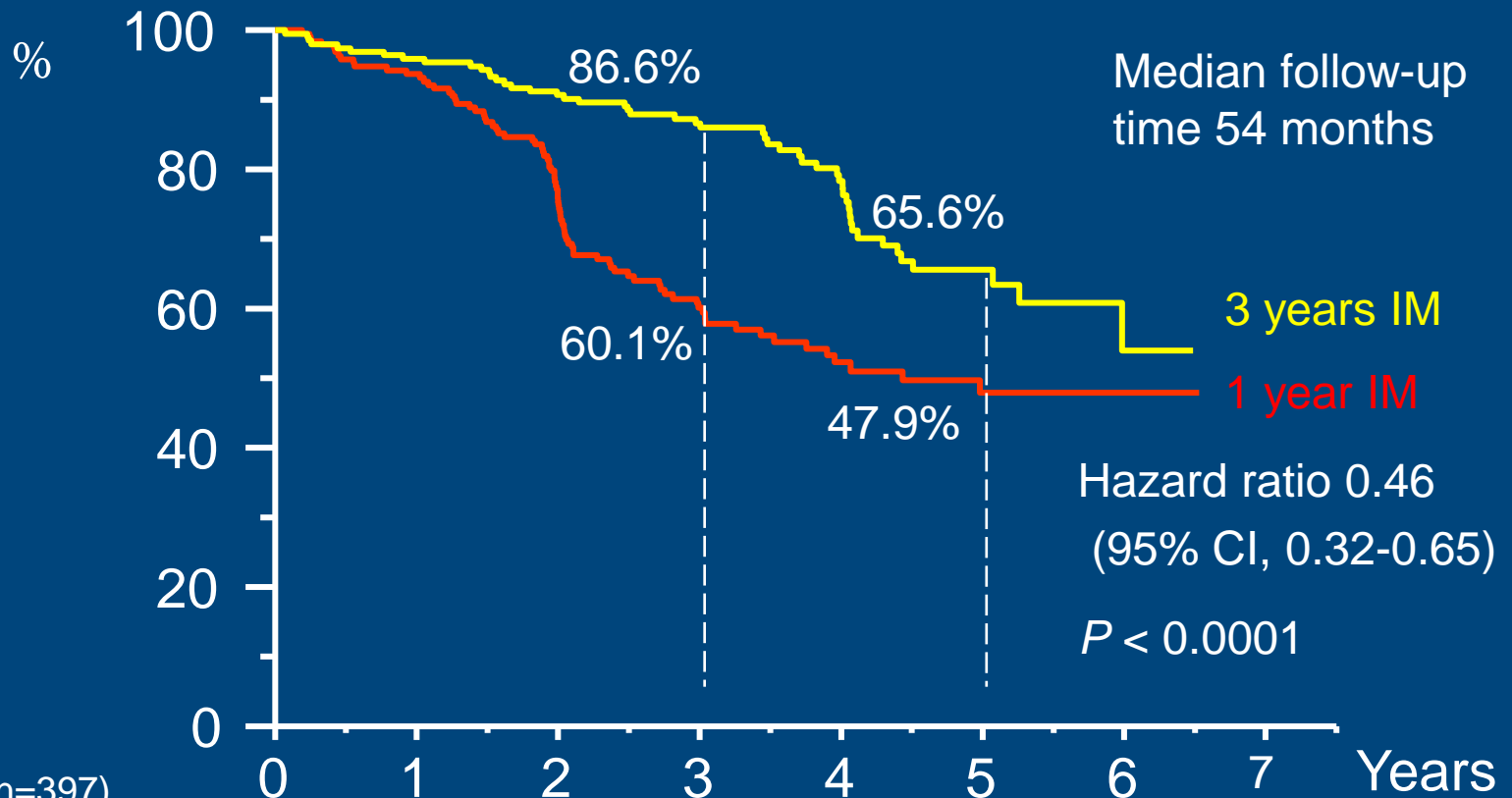
# Not all GIST patients benefit from adjuvant imatinib

## NO IMATINIB BENEFIT for GIST with PDGFRA D842V Mutation



Corless et al. ASCO 2010 and  
JCO online March 17, 2014; DOI:10.1200/JCO.2013.51.2046.

# Improved Recurrence-Free Survival with 3 yrs vs. 1 yr of Adjuvant Imatinib in GIST



No. at risk (n=397)

36 Months of imatinib

198 184 173 133 82 39 8 0

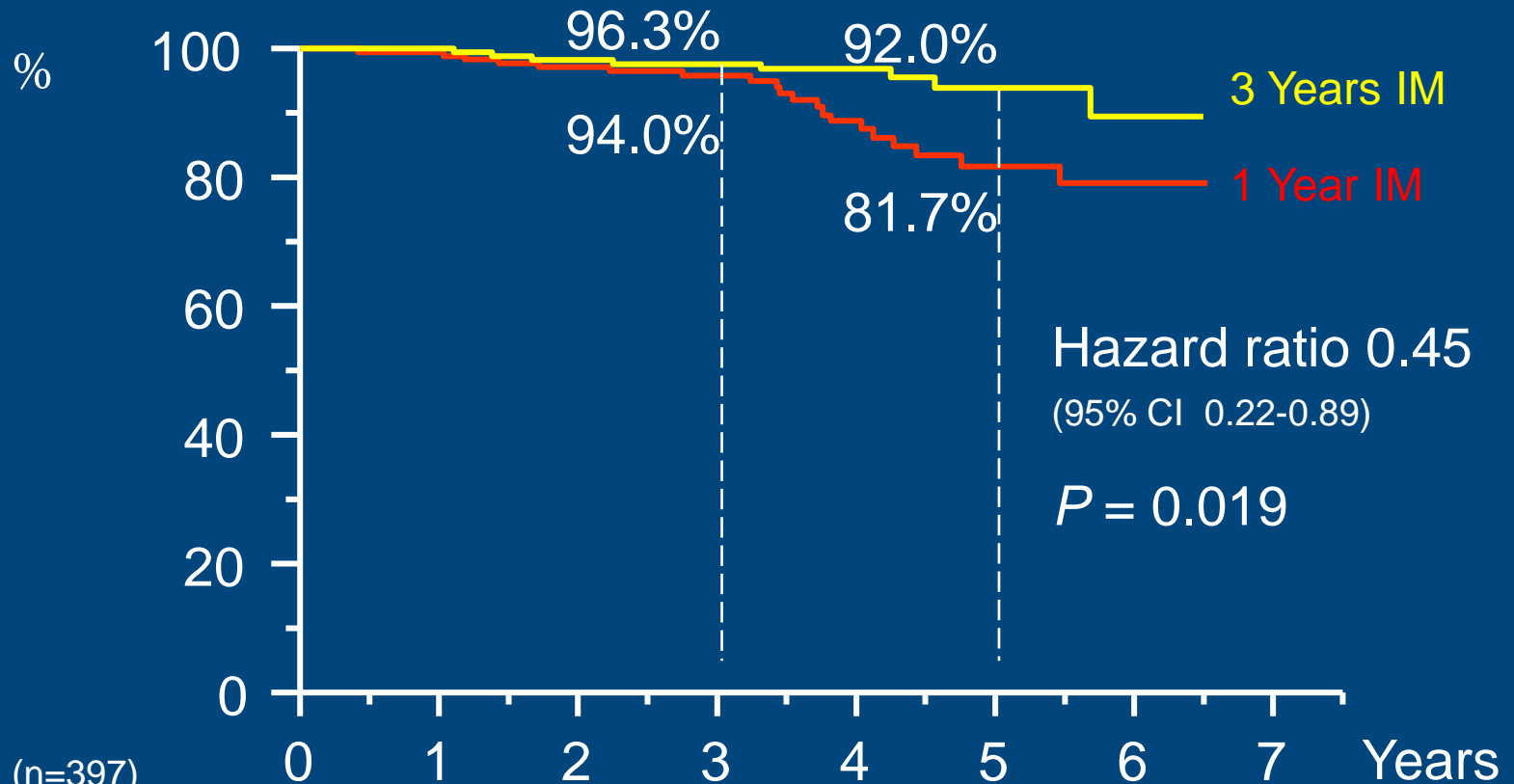
12 Months of imatinib

199 177 137 88 49 27 10 0

Joensuu H, et al

JAMA. 2012;307(12):1265-1272

# Improved Overall Survival with 3 yrs vs. 1 yr of Adjuvant Imatinib in GIST



No. at risk (n=397)

36 Months of imatinib	198	192	184	152	100	56	13	0
12 Months of imatinib	199	188	176	140	87	46	20	0

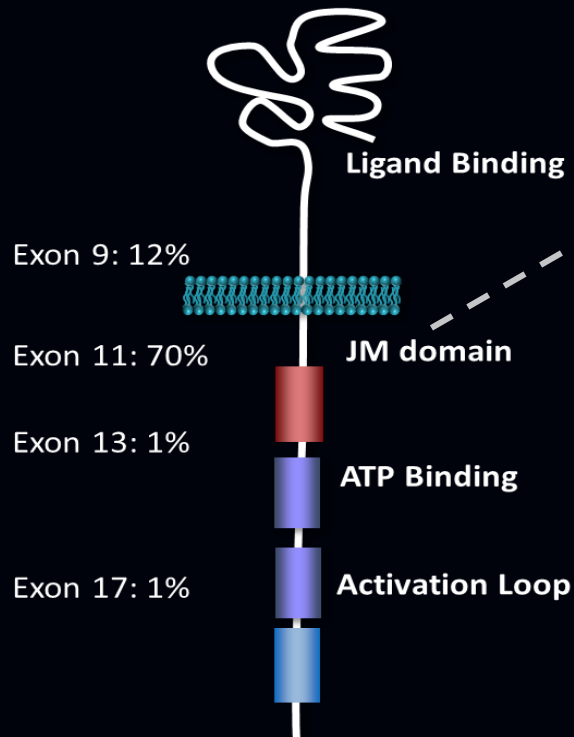
Joensuu H, et al

JAMA. 2012;307(12):1265-1272

# Resistance to Kinase Inhibition in *KIT*-Mutant GIST Is Generally Caused by Secondary *KIT* Mutations

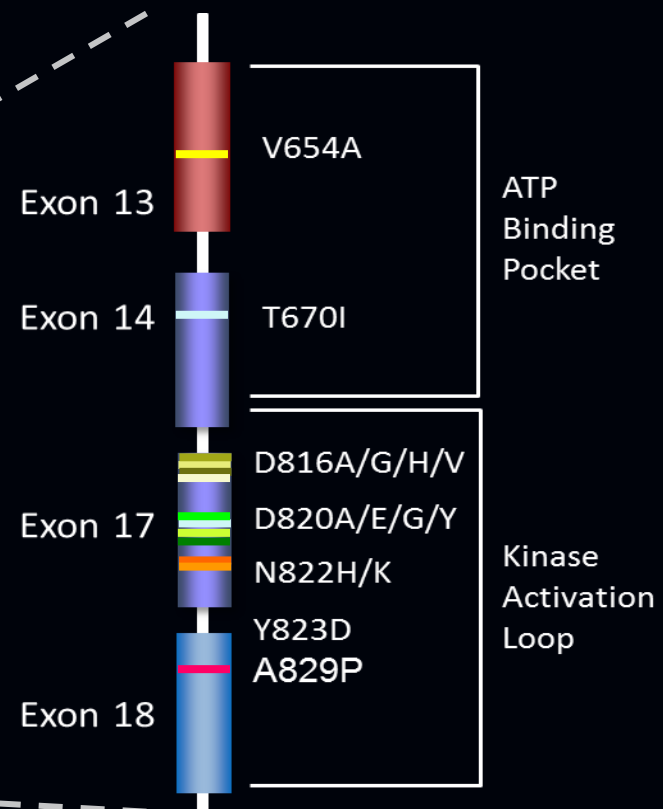
## PRIMARY *KIT* Activating Mutations

GIST is addicted to signals from the primary mutant kinase

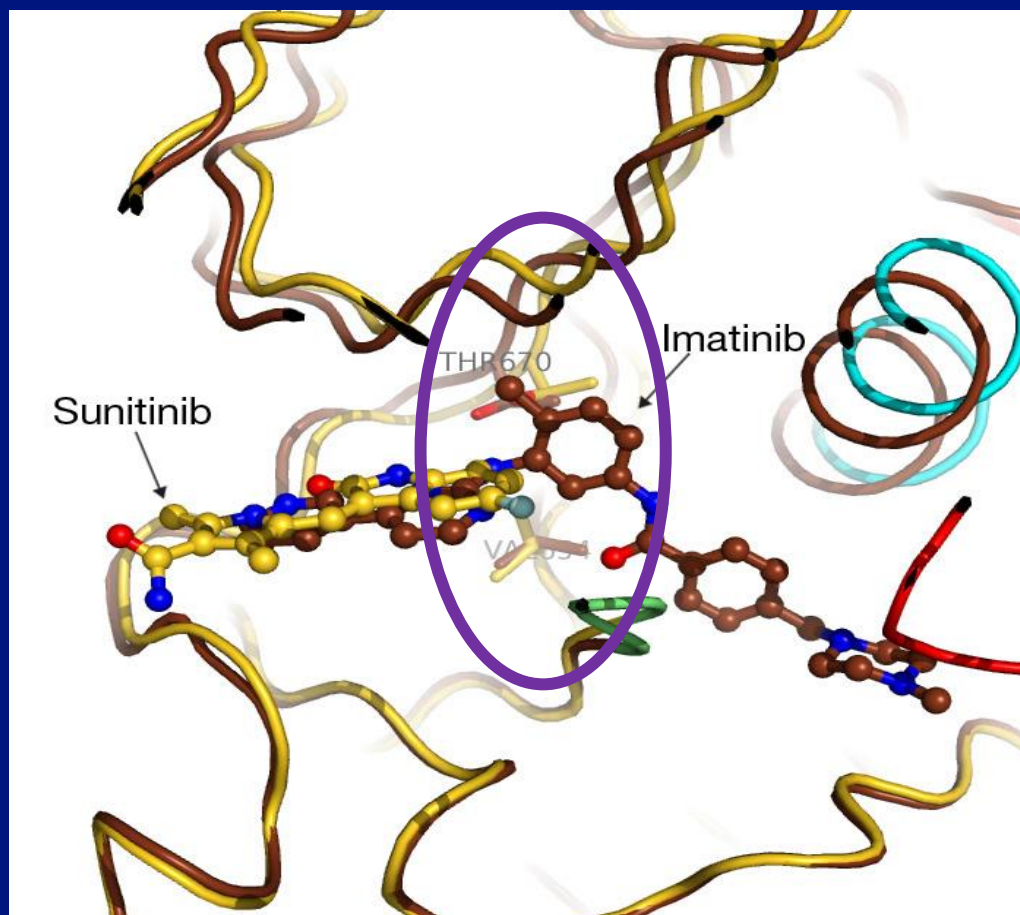


## *KIT* Resistance Mutations

Clonal expansion of multiple secondary mutations in TKI-resistant GIST

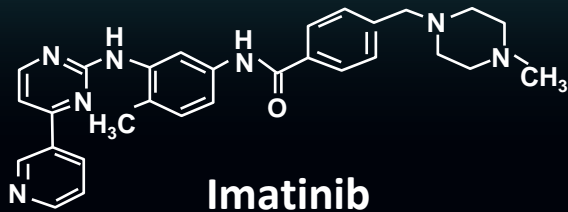


# Sunitinib overcomes resistance to imatinib by fitting into the mutated KIT binding pocket

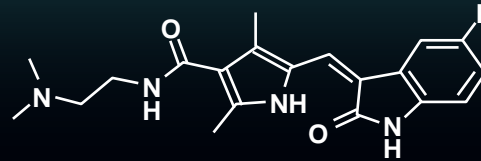


Courtesy of  
K Gajiwala,  
Pfizer Oncology  
<sup>1</sup>Gajiwala et al.  
*Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*  
2009;106:1542  
<sup>2</sup>Mol et al. *J Biol Chem*  
2004;279:31655

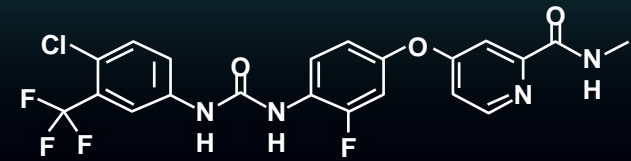
# There are now 3 different Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors (TKIs) approved for therapy of metastatic GIST



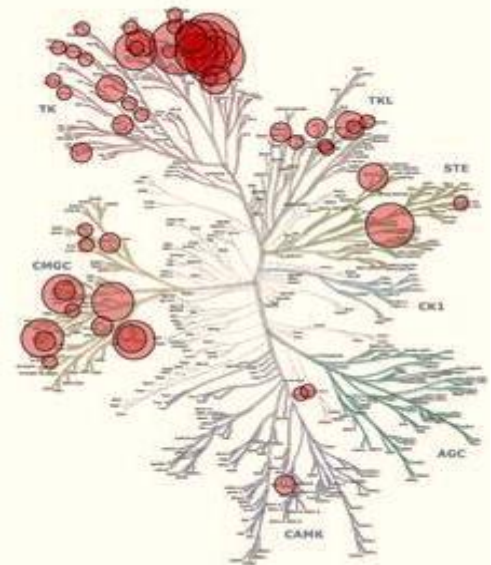
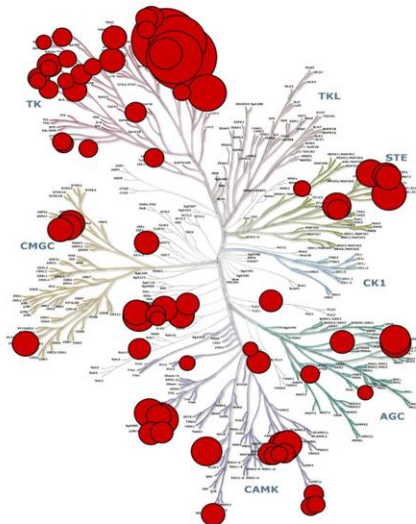
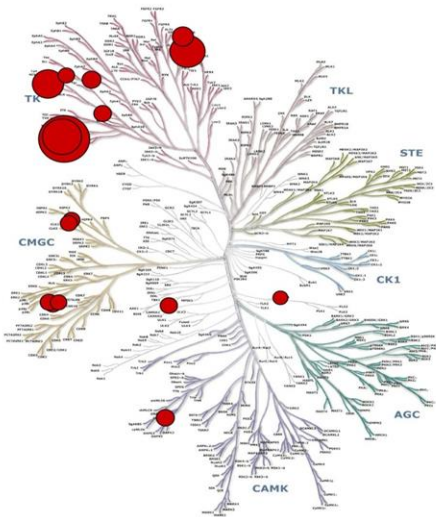
**Imatinib**



**Sunitinib**

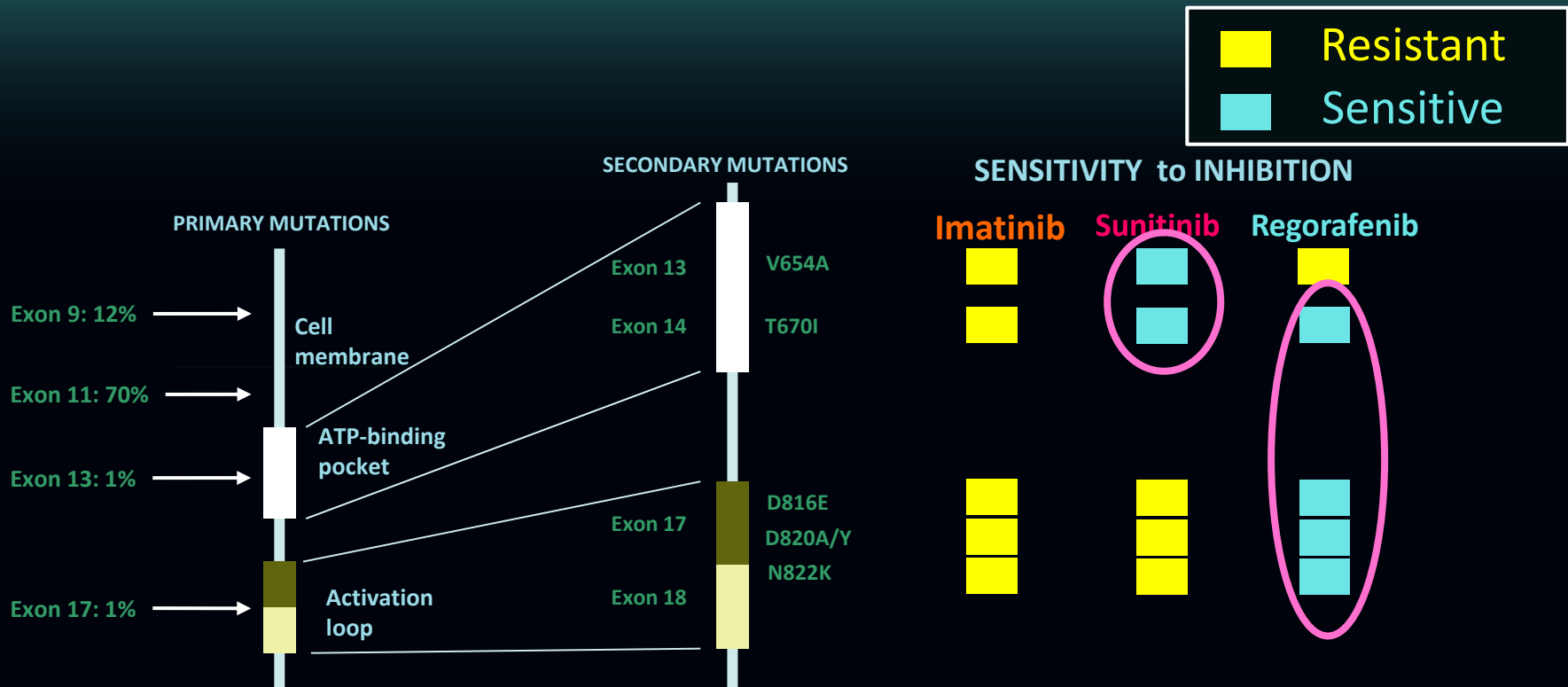


**Regorafenib**





# Overcoming dual resistance to imatinib and sunitinib with regorafenib



Regorafenib has activity in GIST cells with KIT *primary* exon 11 mutations and secondary KIT exon 17 imatinib-resistant mutations, but is less active against KIT exon 13 (V654A) mutations compared to sunitinib

# Why are GIST patients not cured with TKI Therapy?

- ◆ We do not really know...
  - ◆ D842V *PDGFRA*-specific and Exon 17 *KIT*-specific inhibitors
  - ◆ BRAF-specific drugs
  - ◆ Metabolic targeting of SDH-mutant GIST
- ◆ Insufficient kinase inhibition?
  - ◆ BRAF mutants need >95% inhibition for activity
- ◆ Other GIST cell survival pathways?

# Other New Options for Metastatic GIST

- ◆ Mutation-specific therapies
  - ◆ D842V *PDGFRA*-specific and Exon 17 *KIT*-specific inhibitors
  - ◆ BRAF-specific drugs
  - ◆ Metabolic targeting of SDH-mutant GIST
- ◆ Anti-KIT targeting monoclonal antibodies
- ◆ New combinations with TKIs
  - ◆ Inhibitors of MEK, FGFR
  - ◆ Immuno-oncology approaches
- ◆ Consider referral to clinical trials at every step in GIST management

# OTHER LEARNINGS

GIST Management has been a model for translational and clinical oncology multidisciplinary research

- . The global sarcoma community has worked together effectively to advance research and improve patient outcomes
- . Collaborations with regulatory agencies, national groups, patient advocacy groups and biopharma have accelerated progress
- . Costs remain a concern for sustainability of cancer care in the era of combinations
- . Rapid and focused trials have been the model for efficient development of new therapies
- . Thanks to everyone who has been a part of this over nearly two decades!