# mCRC Liver directed therapy – When and how?

Session XV: Liver and peritoneal metastases ESMO 16th World Congress on Gastrointestinal Cancer 27 Jun 2014

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# Disclosures in respect of this talk

Sirtex Medical;

- Advisory Boards / speaker
- Research funding
- Co-CI of FOXFIRE Phase III study

Merck KGA:

- Advisory Boards / speakerResearch funding
- Sanofi Aventis; Merck KGA; Pfizer, Roche; Bayer : - Advisory Boards / speaker

Research funding: CRUK; MRC; BRC-Imperial; NIHR

# Reality check, limitations &.....'unmet needs'



"I do not think I'm God. God-like, yes, but not God."

Liver surgery can cure patients with colorectal liver metastases...

> What are our current Benchmarks (?level 1 evidence)

## **Clinical Categories of CRC Liver Metastases?**

## <u>Cat A (Best)</u>: localised

 < 3–4 liver metastases Operable / surgical "cure":
 Ohemotherapy (FOLFOX) then Surgery

EORTC 40983 Intergroup
 phase III study

Nordlinger *et al Lancet* 2008; 371(9617): 1007–1016 & Lancet Oncol. 2013 Nov; 14(12):1208-15.

## **Clinical Categories of CRC Liver Metastases?**

Cat C (commonest / worst) :
Systemic disease – 'incurable'
+ liver metastases

Liver-only population (unselected) <13%</li>
R0 resection rate <6.5 % (?OS)</li>

 Median Overall Survival 18-25mths unselected
 \* plus 5-7.5 mths Selected (KRAS/ NRAS wt)

Minus 5 mths? (BRAF mt)

## **Clinical Categories of CRC Liver Metastases?**



- "potentially operable"
- no obvious systemic disease
  - Randomised surgical trials in this sub-group are <u>lacking</u>
  - no consensus of what / who is 'potentially operable'
  - These patients invariably also have extra-hepatic disease
  - $_{\odot}$  by defintion worse than Category A
  - CELIM study
  - New-EPOC preliminary data not encouraging

#### Liver surgery can cure (5yr) some patients with colorectal liver metastases (only) **Resectable CRC** liver metastases (>4): 5yrs OS 50% EORTC Intergroup phase III study 40983 Disease Free 30% Nordlinger et al Lancet 2008; 371(9617): 1007–1016 & Lancet Oncol. 2013 Nov;14(12):1208-15. 'Potentially' Resectable CRC liver metastases : **Prospective Studies in Molecular era** DFS 5yr OS **CELIM:** Disease-free survival after R0 resection 8% 5+ metastases Kras-wt selected R0 resected 49% 16% Not R0 resected 0% Folprecht, Lancet Oncology 2010

# *Liver surgery can cure (5yr)* <u>some</u> patients with colorectal liver metastases

Unselected CRC all-metastases : 5yrs OS 7% SEER

Unselected CRC all-metastases :5yrs OS10-15%Modern Trials population

# how do we increase this from a minority to the majority?

 More ... More Systemic Chemotherapy / Biologicals

 Quadruplets: 4 agent combinations now being used in CRC (e.g. TRIBE etc)

- Toxicity
- ? increase CR's and durability : Historically a failed strategy
- Paradox to approaches with de-escalation / Treatment Holidays
- Combination biological era now dawning will make this difficult

- Direct Tumour targeting (non-open or surgical)
- = <u>Visually targeted</u> Interventional (needles)
  - Intraoperatively or Radiologically
  - Thermal Ablation RFA (Cryo-ablation)
  - Microwave : Quicker
  - Nanoknife (U/S) Irreversible electroporation (IRE)
    - designed to avoid damaging endothelial cells and blood vessels
    - Damage appears Pro-apototic with little inflammation

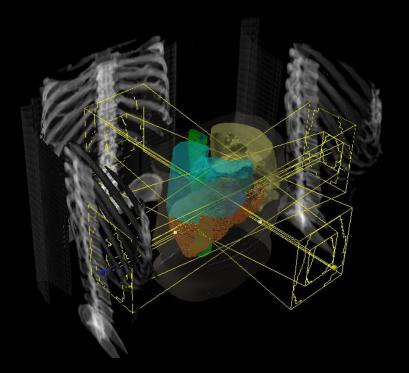
\*many others are and will be developed!\*

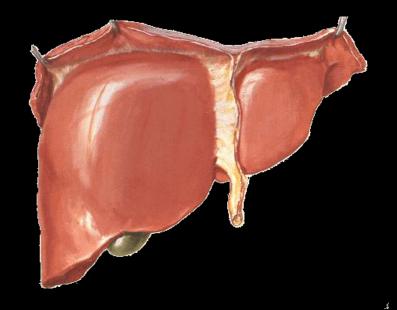
- Direct Tumour targeting External
- = <u>Visually targeted</u> Non-Interventional (no needles)
   Radiologically
  - HIFU : High-intensity focussed ultrasound
  - External Beam Radiotherapy
  - SBRT/ Highly conformal / IMRT / IMGRT
  - Cyberknife
  - Protons (Carbon)

- Direct Tumour ta
- = <u>Visuall</u> - Radiologi
  - HIFU
  - Exic – SBR7
  - Cyseria
  - Protons

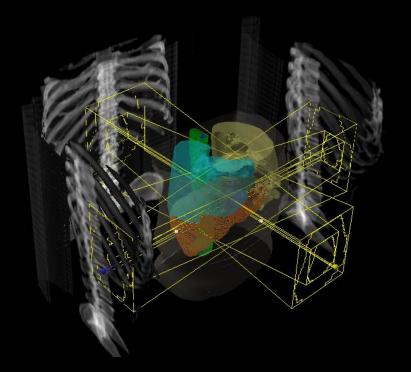
 Why would <u>Visually targeted</u> <u>approaches</u> <u>improve outcomes</u> <u>compared to Liver surgery</u> <u>in advanced disease ?</u>
 will be suitable for <u>select individual cases</u> no needles)

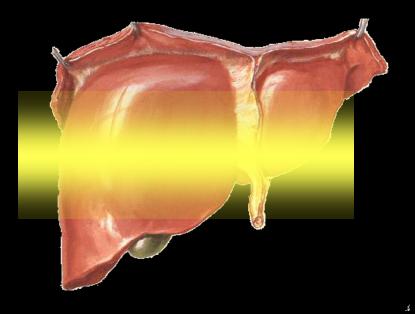
### Hepatic Structural Targetting, External Beam RT





### Hepatic Structural Targetting, External Beam RT





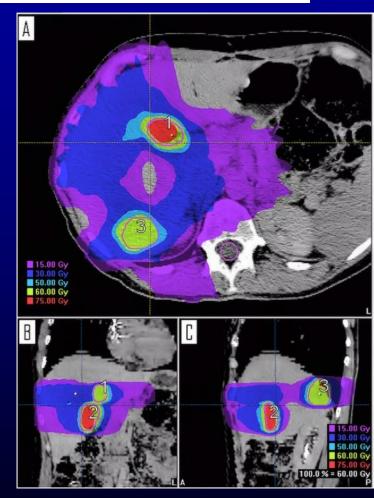


### Multi-Institutional Phase I/II Trial of Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy for Liver Metastases

Kyle E. Rusthoven, Brian D. Kavanagh, Higinia Cardenes, Volker W. Stieber, Stuart H. Burri, Steven J. Feigenberg, Mark A. Chidel, Thomas J. Pugh, Wilbur Franklin, Madeleine Kane, Laurie E. Gaspar, and Tracey E. Schefter

#### • Eligibility, n=46

- 1-3 liver metastases
- Solid tumors < 6cm</li>
- Liver and kidney function OK
  - Bili <3 mg/dL, alb > 2.5 g/dL
  - Liver enzymes <3xULN
  - No ascites
- No systemic therapy within 14 days pre- or post-SBRT
- Dose escalation to 20 Gy x 3
- Image guidance and breathing motion management
- Liver doses:
  - > 700 cc had to receive < 15 Gy</p>



Rusthoven, J Clin Oncol. 2009 & Lee.., Dawson. JCO, April 2009.

- Liver targeted via <u>loco-regional</u> Vascular supply-<u>Organ targeted</u>
  - Embolisation (Bland / TAE) inducing ischemia and infarction
  - Cytotoxic agents delivered to higher concentration
  - (HAI or Portal vein)
    - 5FU / FUDR
    - Oxaliplatin & Combinations
    - Drug eluting Beads: Irinotecan / Doxorubicin

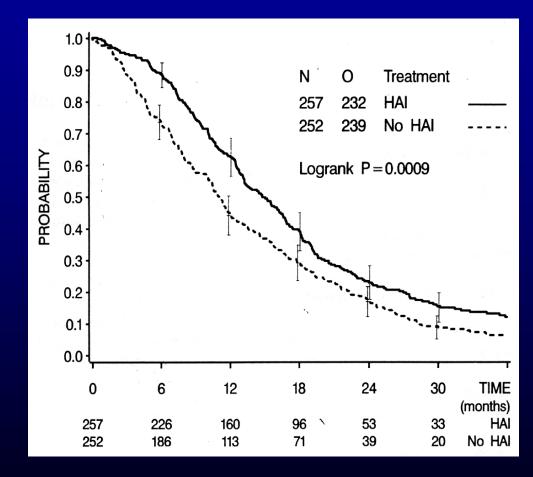
       combines embolisation

- Selective internal radiation (SIRT) / Brachytherapy)

• HAI Y90 resin V glass = radioembolisation

# Hepatic Arterial Infusion Therapy Meta Analysis (FP Era)

- Meta analysis of six randomized trials for survival
- Statistically significant improved response rate
   41% versus 14% (p<10<sup>-10</sup>)
- Statistically significant survival advantage
  - 14.5 months versus 10.1 months p=0.0009



Meta-analysis group, J Natl Cancer Inst. 1996; 6;88(5):252-8

# **Arterial Particle Comparison**

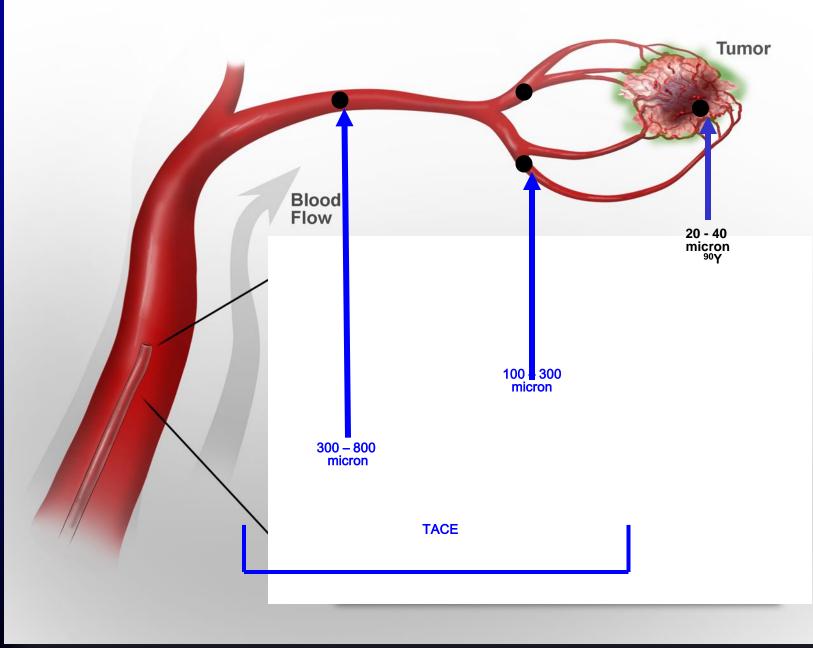
<sup>90</sup>Y-microspheres 25-35 microns

GOAL: implant tumor

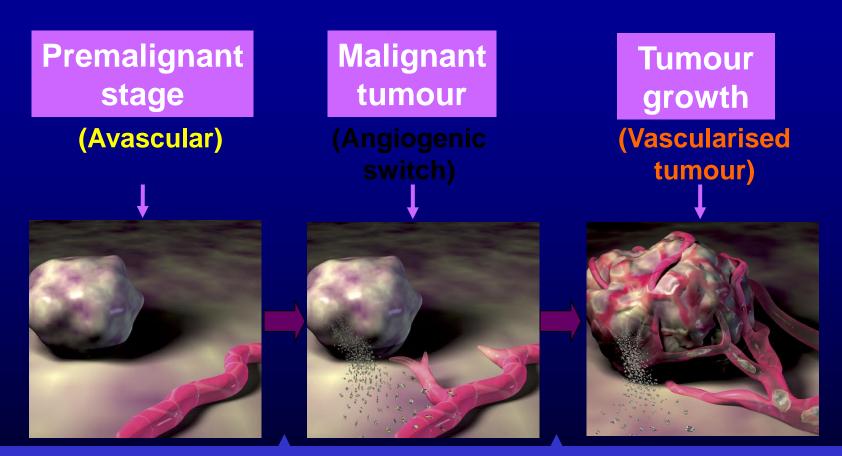
TAE, TACE and Drug Eluting Beads 100-700 microns

GOAL: block all blood to tumor

#### Morgan, Kennedy, Lewington et al. *Nature Reviews in Clinical Oncology* October 2010



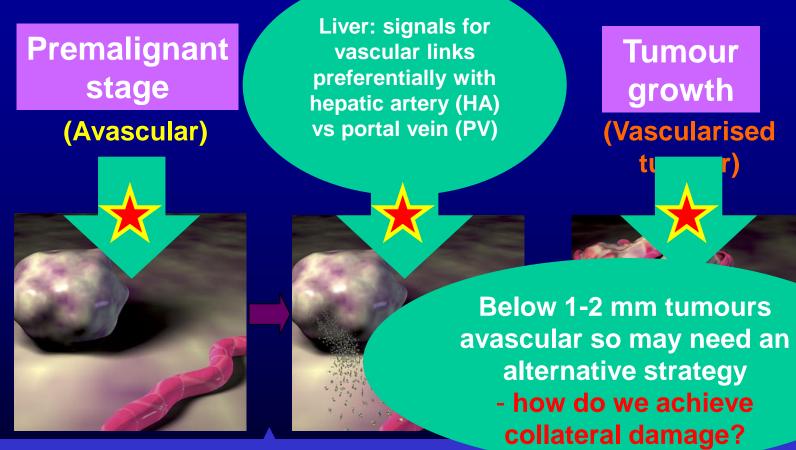
Angiogenesis is involved throughout tumour formation.....but micro-metastases remain avascular



Stages at which angiogenesis plays a role in tumour progression

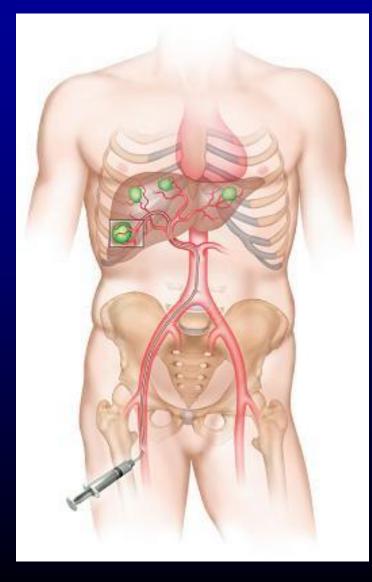
Adapted from Poon RT, et al. J Clin Oncol 2001;19:1207–25

Angiogenesis is involved throughout tumour formation.....but micro-metastases remain avascular

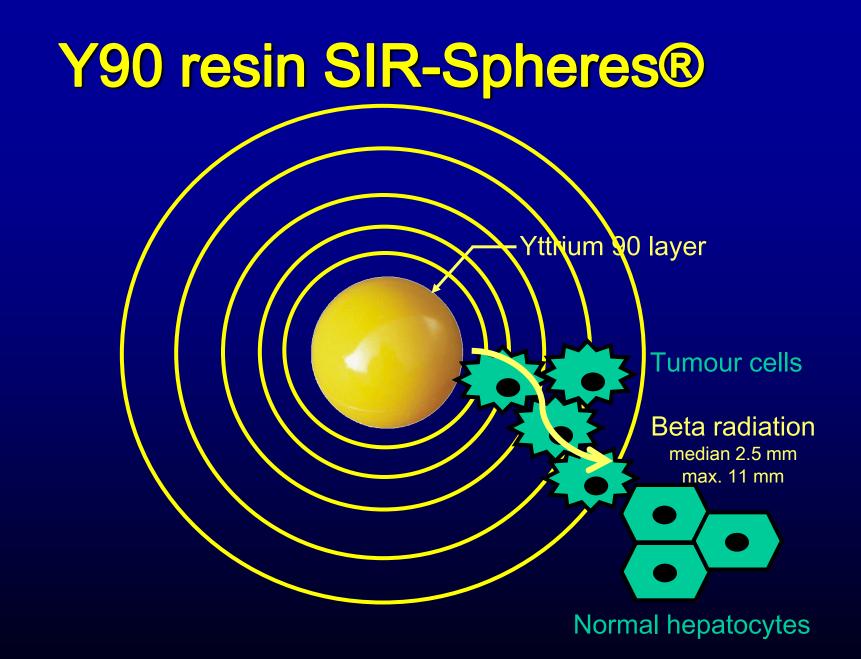


Stages at which angiogenesis plays a role in lumour progression

# Radioembolization/SIRT Yttrium 90 resin SIR-Spheres

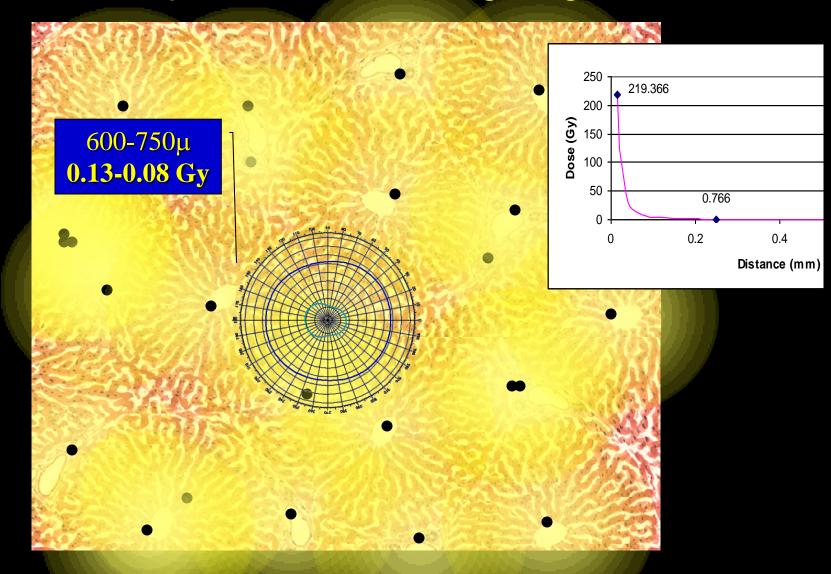








### **Hepatic Structural Targeting**



**DISTRIBUTION OPTIMIZES CROSS-FIRE (collateral) EFFECT** 

Tumour

Microspheres

in small vessels

Vein

Blood Vessels

Artery

Tumour

Artery

? Micro –

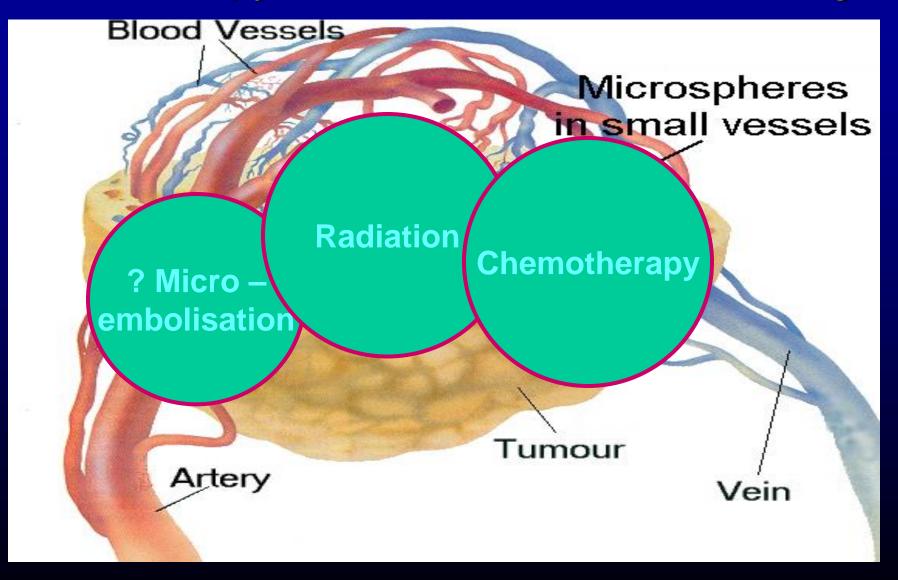
embolisation

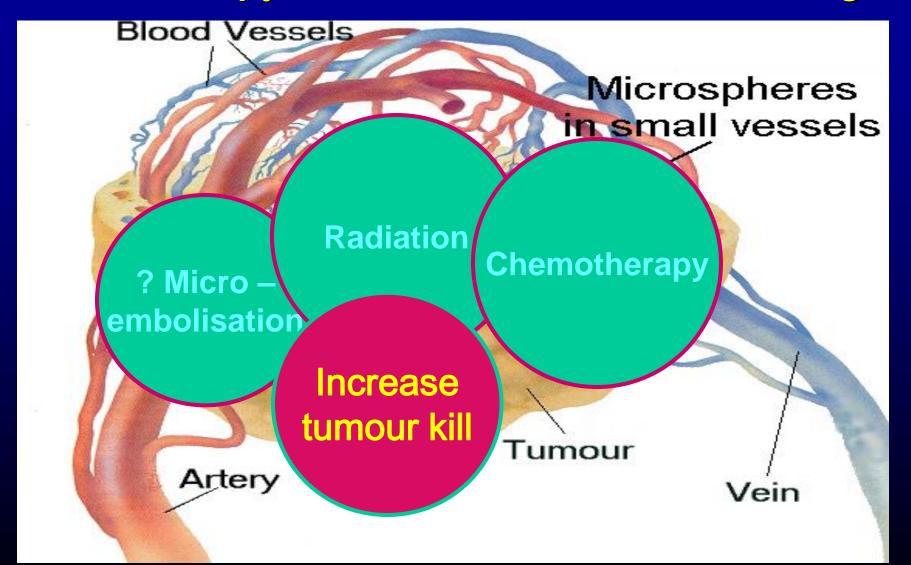
Blood Vessels

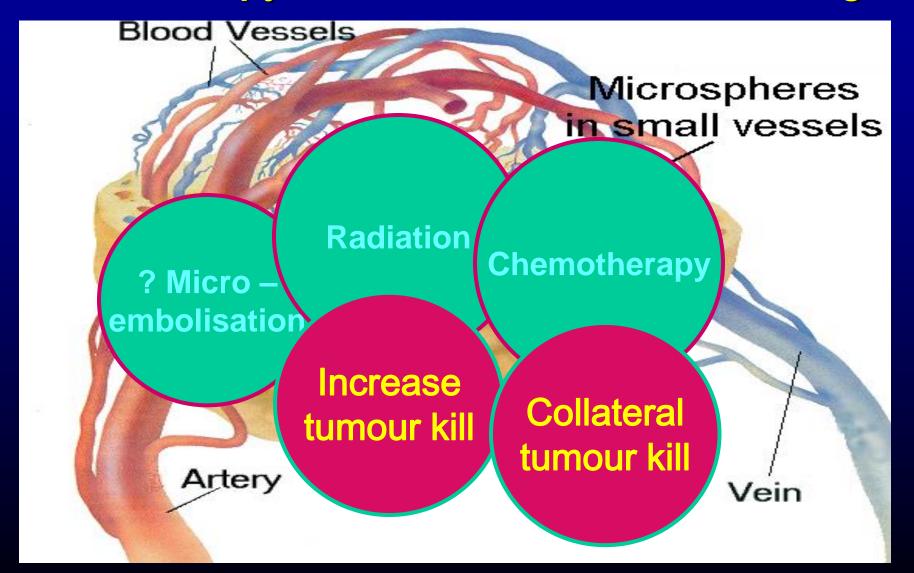
Vein

Microspheres

in small vessels







# Clinical

Trials Evidence of integrating technologies with standard of care:

- Lack of level one evidence
  - Integrating with chemotherapy CRC standards
  - but is rapidly evolving

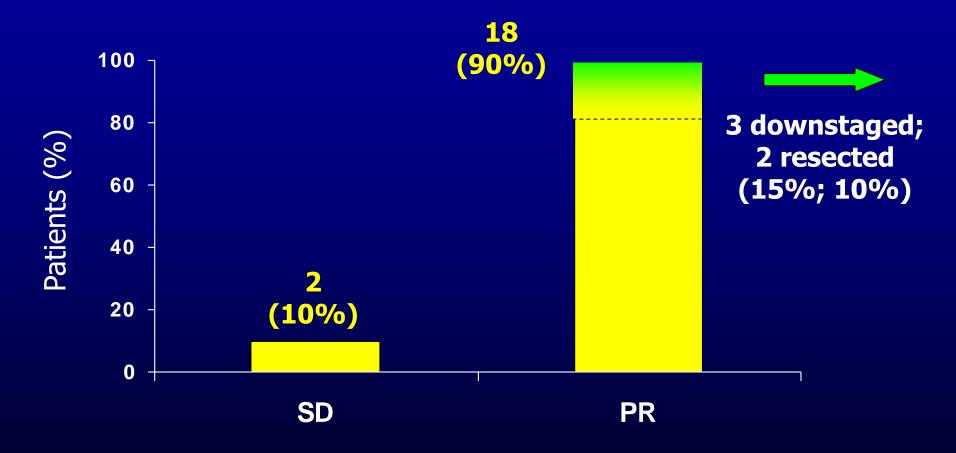
EORTC intergroup randomized study 40004 (CLOCC)\* evaluating the benefit of radiofrequency ablation (RFA) combined with chemotherapy (CT) for *unresectable* CRC liver metastases

- 60% had  $\geq$  4 Liver Mets
- median PFS
  - 16.8 months in the RFA + CT arm (95% CI, 11.7-22.1)
  - 9.9 months (9.3-13.7) in the CT arm (p = 0.025)
- the 30-months OS rate was:
  - 61.7% (95% CI, 48.21-73.93) in the RFA +CT arm
  - 57.6% (44.07-70.39) in the CT arm.
- first study that prospectively investigates the efficacy of RFA in combination with Chemotherapy and suggests synergy.....
   Even in palliation

\*J Clin Oncol 28:15s, 2010 (suppl; abstr 3526)

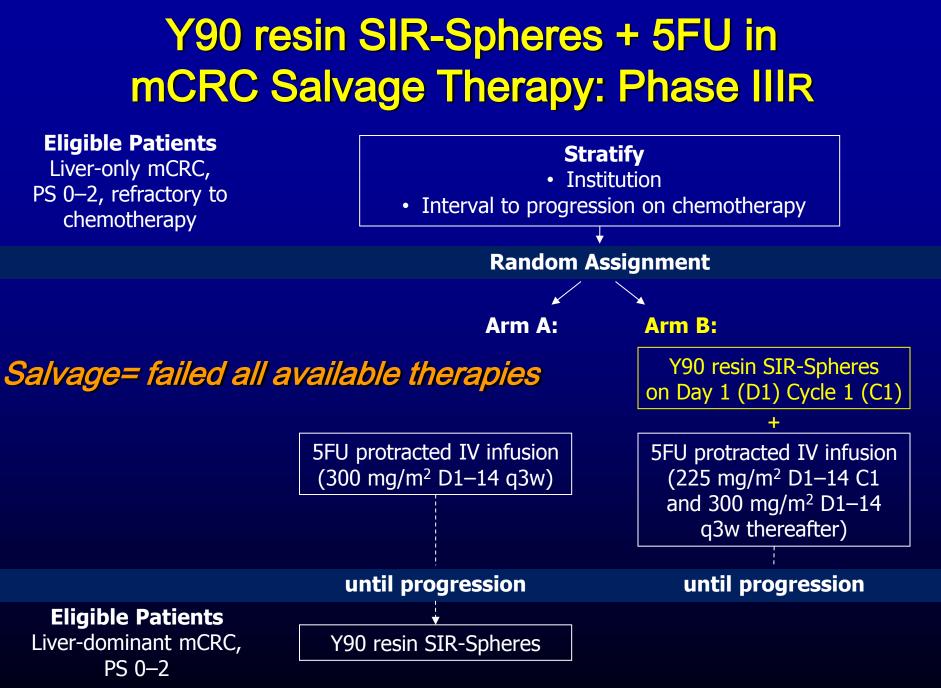
Ruers et al. 2010 ASCO Annual Meeting . Oral Abstract Session, Gastrointestinal (Colorectal) Cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2010; 28:15s, Abst. 3526.

### Y90 resin SIR-Spheres + FOLFOX4 in mCRC: Response Rate by RECIST Criteria



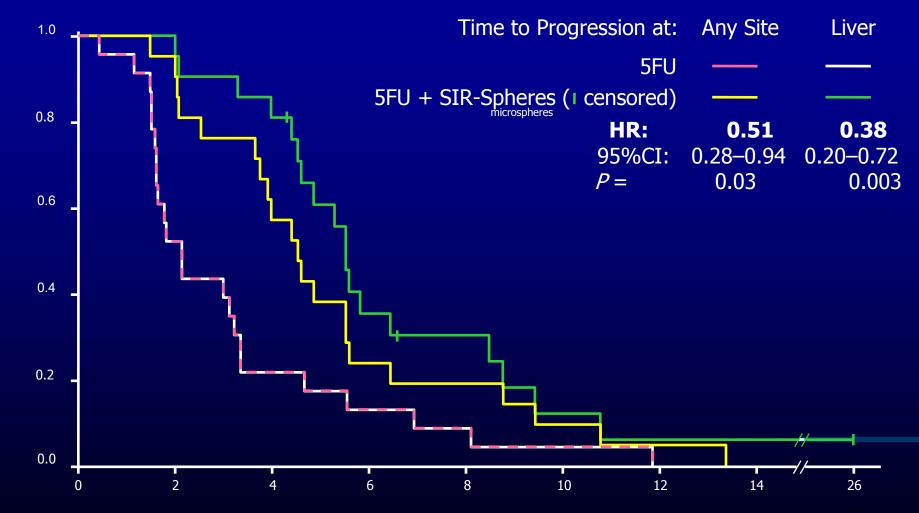
Comparative Phase III trial RECIST response FOLFOX4: 32–59%

Sharma RA *et al. J Clin Oncol* 2007; **25**: 1099–1106. Kalofonos H *et al. Ann Oncol* 2005; **16**: 869–877. Tournigand C *et al. J Clin Oncol* 2006; **24**: 394–400.



Hendlisz A et al. J Clin Oncol 2010; 28: 3687–3694.

### SIR-Spheres + 5FU in mCRC Salvage Therapy: Primary Endpoint – Time to Liver Progression



Time from Random Assignment (months)

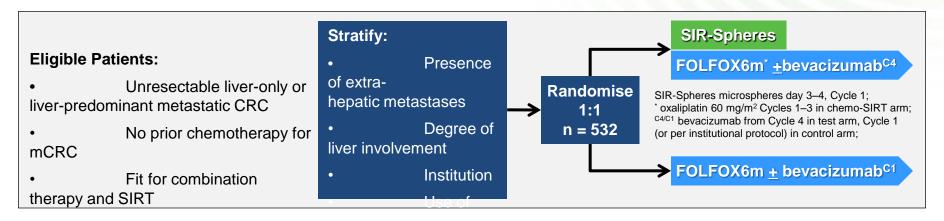
Hendlisz A et al. J Clin Oncol 2010; 28: 3687–3694.

Proportion of patients without progression

# **The SIRFLOX Study**

To assess the efficacy and safety of adding targeted radiation (SIR-Spheres<sup>®</sup> microspheres) to standard-of-care systemic chemotherapy (FOLFOX6m  $\pm$  bevacizumab), compared to FOLFOX6m chemotherapy ( $\pm$  bevacizumab) alone as 1<sup>st</sup>-line therapy in patients with non-resectable colorectal liver metastases, with or without evidence of extra-hepatic metastases

Design: Prospective open-label, multi-centre, multi-national RCT



Primary endpoint:	Progression-free survival (PFS)	Secondary endpoints:	PFS in liver Overall survival
Sponsor:	Sirtex		Response rate Quality of life
Pls:	Prof. Peter Gibbs; Prof. Guy van Hazel		Recurrence rate Toxicity
Status:	Completed recruitment April 2013		Resection rate

## Structure for the OS analysis; (Currently ~960 patients)

#### **Overall survival : > 1020 patients**

#### The SIRFLOX Study

Spheres" + FOLFOX versus FOLFOX Alone (with or without bevacizumab) in Patients with Unresectable Liver Metastases from Colorectal Cancer

Randomised controlled study evaluating SIR-Spheres microspheres in combination with FOLFOX chemotherapy vs. FOLFOX chemotherapy alone for the first-line treatment of unresectable liver-only or liver-predominant colorectal cancer metastases.

- PFS

- 532 patients



- OS in combination with SIRFLOX and FOXFIRE

~ 100 / 150 patients

#### The FOXFIRE Trial

Can Selective Internal Radiotherapy to Liver Metastases Improve Overall Survival for Patients Treated with OxMdG Chemotherapy as First-Line Treatment of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer?

Randomised controlled trial evaluating SIR-Spheres microspheres in combination with OxMdG chemotherapy vs. OxMdG chemotherapy alone for the first-line treatment of unresectable liver-only or liver-predominant colorectal cancer metastases.

OS in combination
with SIRFLOX
Up to 490 patients
332 patients

### Yttrium-90 glass microspheres studies

PARAMETER	STOP-HCC	EPOCH	YES-P
STUDY DESIGN	Phase III	Phase III	Phase III
PATIENT POPULATION	Unresectable HCC	mCRC to the liver who have failed 1st line chemotherapy	Unresectable HCC patients with portal vein thrombosis
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR	Riad Salem, MD Northwestern, Chicago, US	Mary Mulcahy, MD Northwestern, Chicago, US	Vincent Mazzaferro, MD Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy Riad Salem, MD Northwestern, Chicago, US
CONTROL ARM	Kinase Inhibitor	Second-line Chemotherapy	Kinase Inhibitor
TREATMENT ARM	TheraSphere <sup>®</sup> + Kinase Inhibitor	TheraSphere <sup>®</sup> + Second- line Chemotherapy	TheraSphere®
ENDPOINTS	Efficacy, Safety	Efficacy, Safety	Efficacy, Safety
LOCATION	Worldwide	Worldwide	Worldwide
# SITES	40	30	24
# PATIENTS	~400	~350	~350

# The loco-regional shuffle

### Local Ablation Systemic Chemo/Biol.

# Local/ Organ-directed Embolization

Surgical Resection

# Conclusions

- Non-chemotherapeutic approaches to liver metastases complement "standard of care" pathways with increasing evidence of clinical benefit
  - they also complement de-escalation strategies
- "loco-regional" radiotherapy to be added to the therapeutics options for treating inoperable liver dominant mCRC
  - Evidence is emerging on clinical benefit integrating "debulking strategies"
- Phase 3 trials with QOL and safety will determine the exact role of all the new strategies in inoperable liver-dominant mCRC

# Thank You !

