

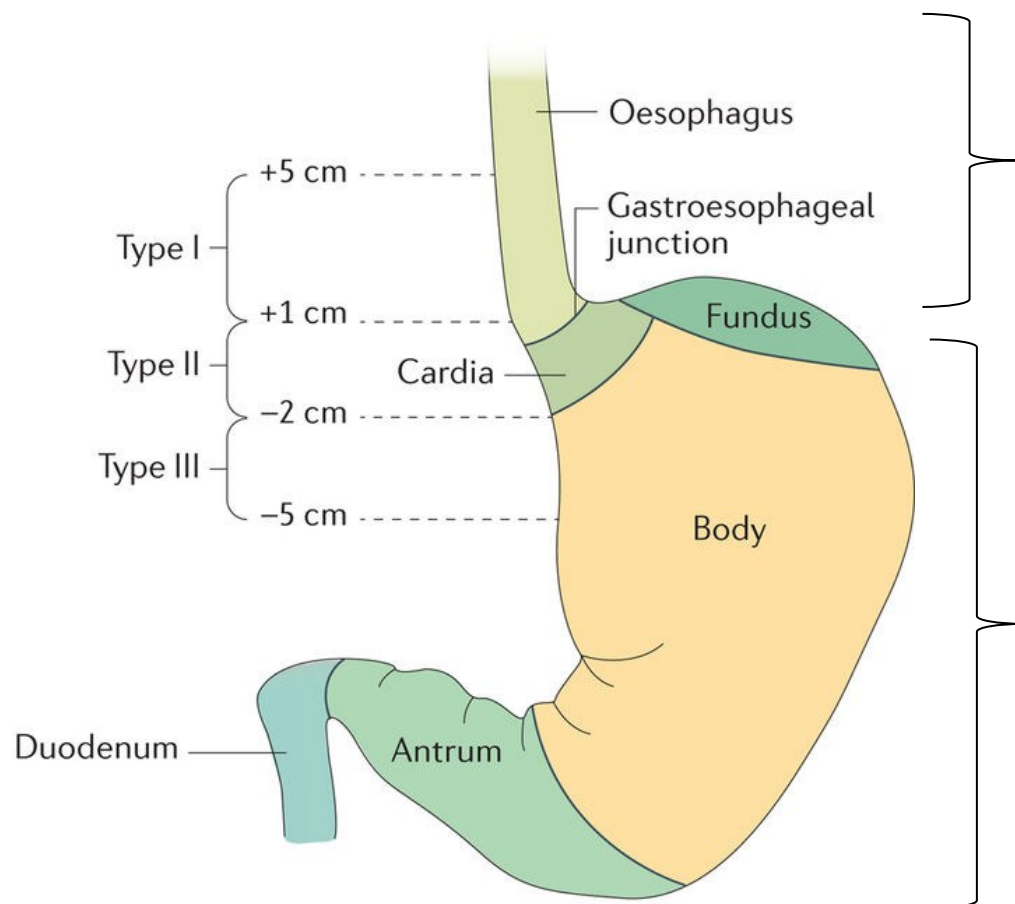
NEO- AND ADJUVANT TREATMENT FOR GASTRIC CANCER: THE ROLE OF CHEMOTHERAPY

Frank Peters internist-oncoloog
Zuyderland MC Heerlen-Sittard-Geleen

symposium Upper GI & HPB oncologie 28 mrt maastricht



GASTRIC AND GASTROESOPHAGEAL CANCER NOMENCLATURE

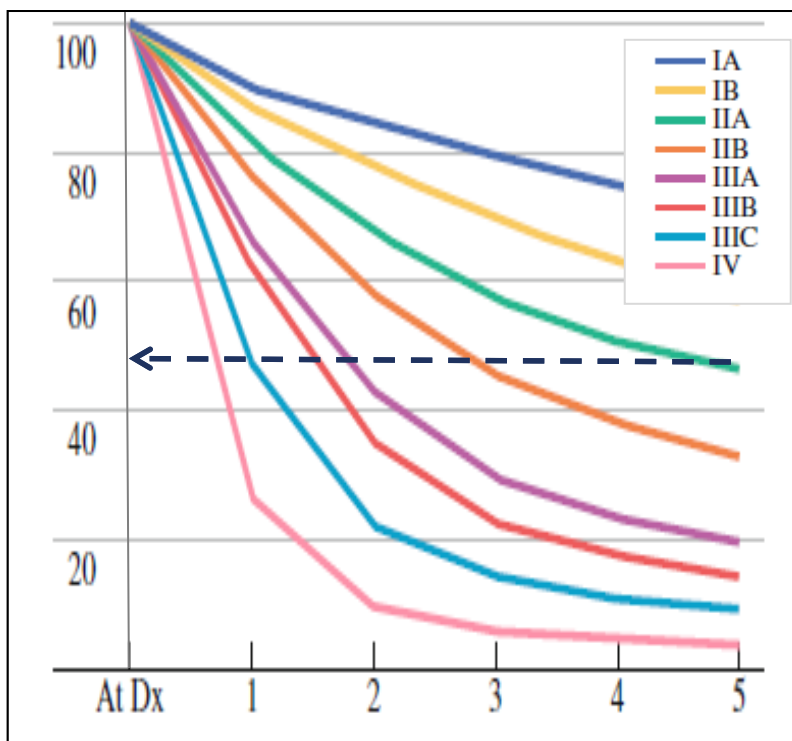


Lower oesophageal, gastroesophageal junction
adenocarcinoma
→ ESMO Oesophageal Cancer Guidelines

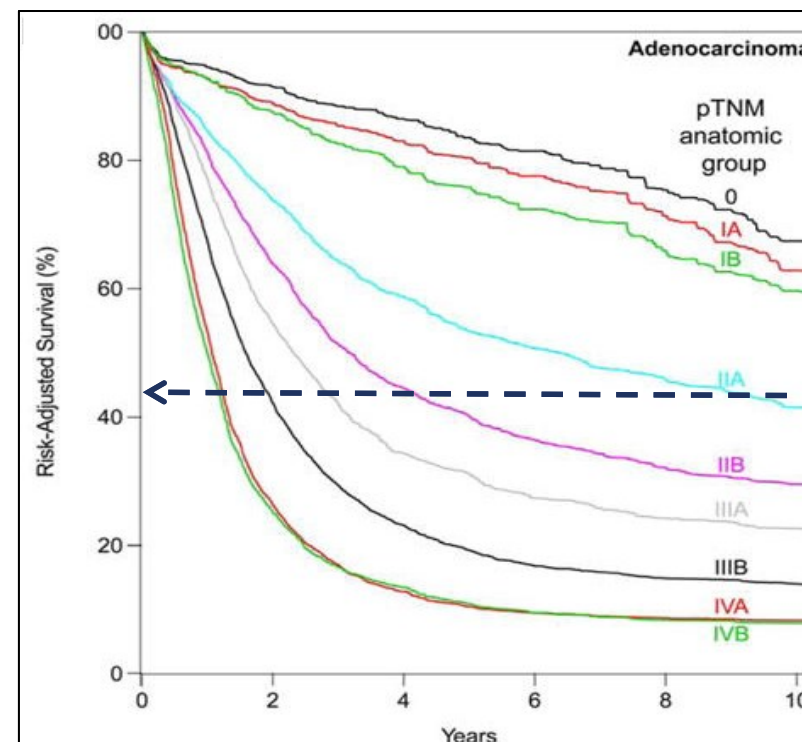
Gastric cancer
→ ESMO Gastric Cancer Guidelines

Nature Reviews | Disease Primers

SURVIVAL FROM OG CANCER WITH SURGERY ALONE



Gastric cancer OS surgery alone



Oesophageal adeno OS surgery alone

Treatment in addition to surgery is required for most patients

NEOADJUVANT AND PERIOPERATIVE CHEMOTHERAPY

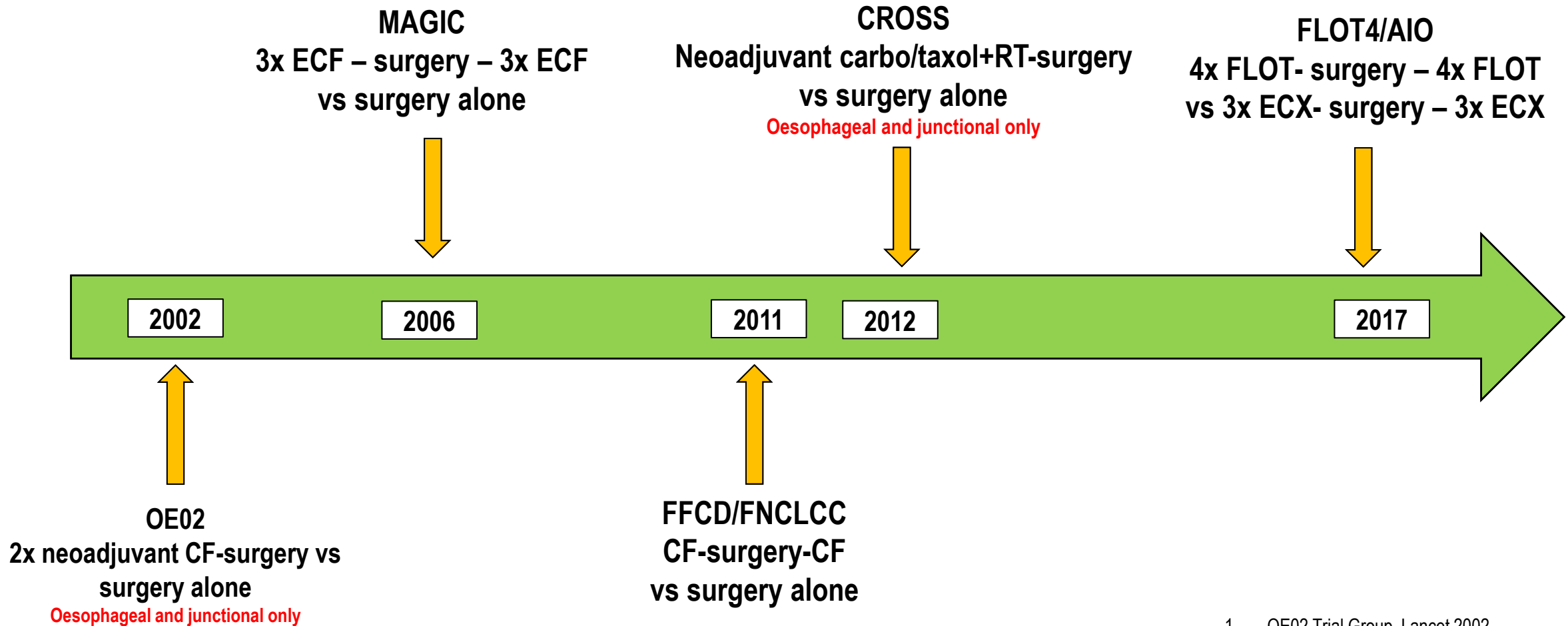


AIMS OF NEOADJUVANT AND PERI-OPERATIVE CHEMOTHERAPY

- ◆ Downstage the tumour
- ◆ Increase R0 resection rate
- ◆ Treat micrometastatic disease
- ◆ Improve overall survival

Neoadjuvant and perioperative chemotherapy is more commonly used in non-Asian countries where tumours are frequently locally advanced and require downstaging prior to successful resection

EVOLUTION OF NEOADJUVANT AND PERI-OPERATIVE (CHEMO)THERAPY 2002 - 2017

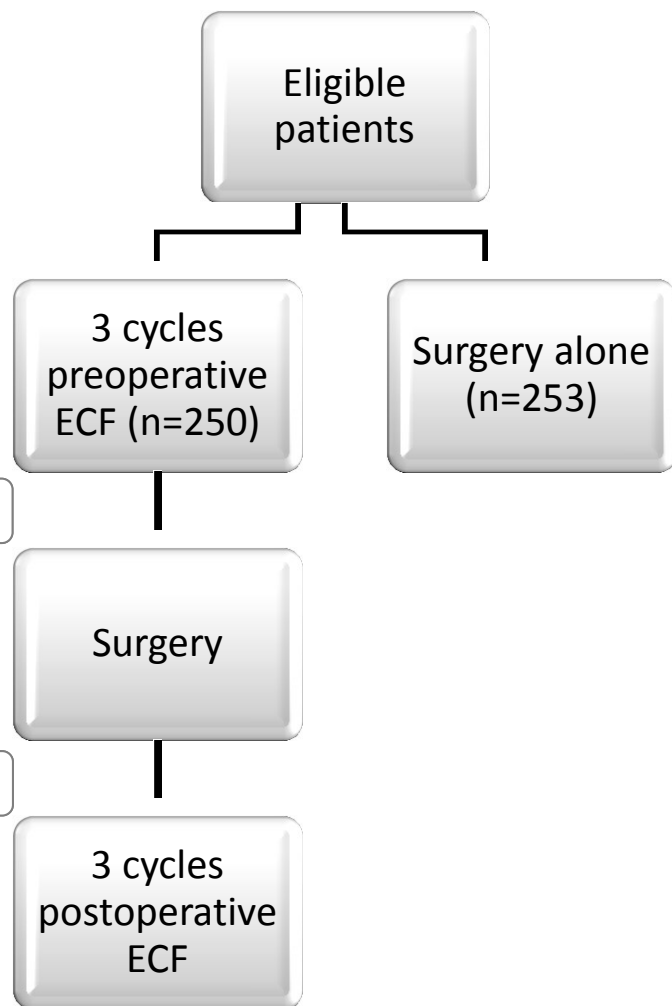


CF, cisplatin + 5-fluorouracil; ECF epirubicin + CF; FLOT. 5-fluorouracil, leucovorin, oxaliplatin, docetaxel

1. OE02 Trial Group, Lancet 2002
2. Cunningham D, *et al.* N Engl J Med 2006.
3. Ychou M, *et al.* J Clin Oncol. 2011
4. Van Hagen *et al.* N Engl J Med 2012
5. Al-Batran S, *et al.* ASCO Annual Meeting 2017



MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL MAGIC TRIAL



Eligibility criteria

Stage \geq II gastric, gastroesophageal junction, or lower oesophageal adenocarcinoma (after 1999)
No metastases
ECOG 0-1

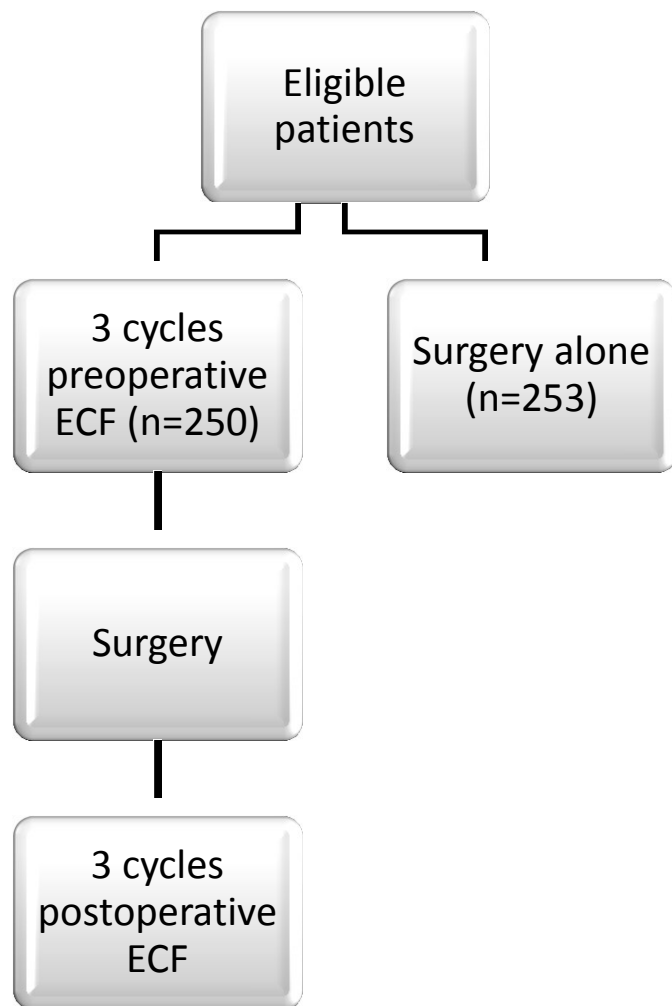
MAGIC preoperative patient characteristics

	Surgery alone	Chemo + surgery
Median age	62	62
Sex		
Male	191 (75%)	205 (82%)
Female	62 (25%)	45 (18%)
Site of disease		
Gastric	187 (74%)	185 (74%)
Oesophagus	36 (14%)	37 (15%)
GOJ	30 (12%)	28 (11%)

ECF, epirubicin 50mg/m², cisplatin 60mg/m² and continuous 5-fluorouracil 200mg/m²/d



MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL MAGIC TRIAL



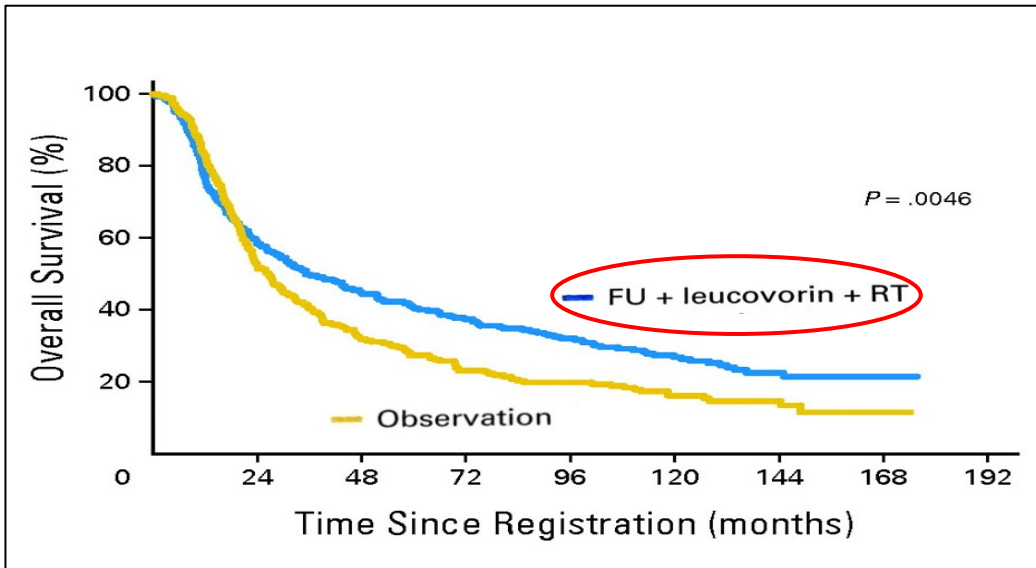
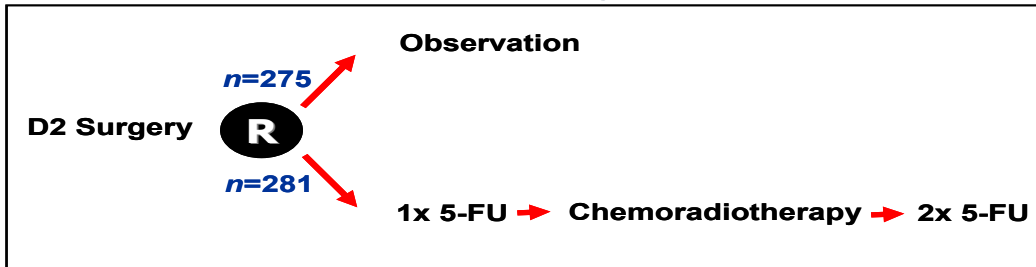
MAGIC post-operative patient characteristics		
	Surgery alone	Chemo + surgery
Surgery		
Curative	66/250 (66%)	↑ curative resections 169/244 (69%)
Palliative	70/250 (28%)	44/244 (18%)
Other	17/250 (6%)	27/244 (13%)
ypT stage		↑ early T stage
T1	16/193 (8%)	27/172 (16%)
T2	55/193 (29%)	62/172 (36%)
T3	106/193 (55%)	75/172 (44%)
T4	16/193 (8%)	8/172 (4%)
ypN Stage (gastric)		↑ early N stage
N0	42/156 (27%)	42/135 (31%)
N1	68/156 (43%)	72/135 (53%)
N2	34/156 (23%)	19/135 (14%)
N3	12/156 (8%)	2/135 (2%)

Peri-operative chemotherapy leads to tumour **downstaging**

evidence-based (neo-)adjuvant strategies (1)



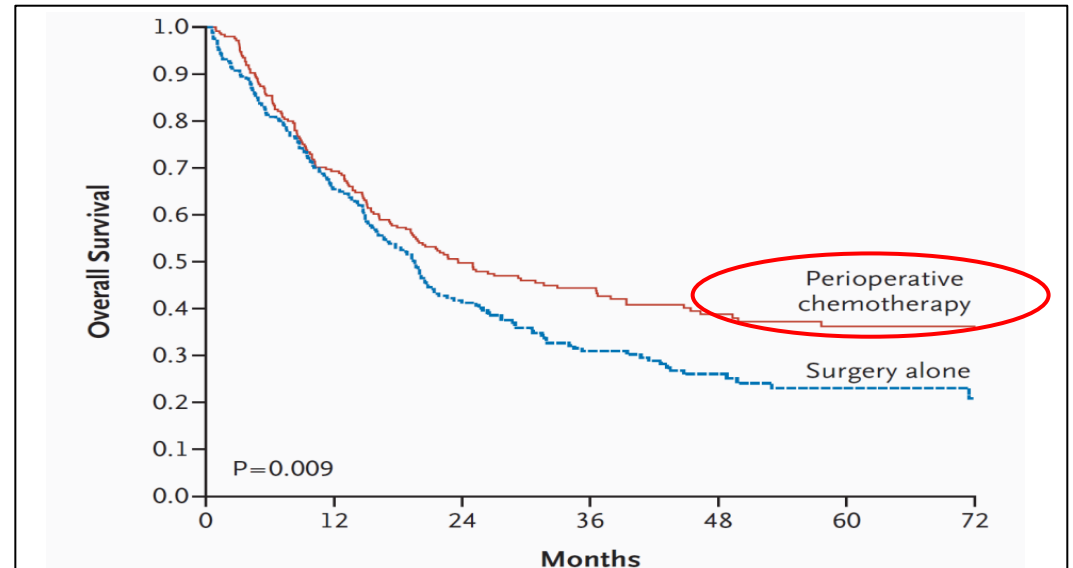
SWOG-Intergroup 0116 Trial



Macdonald et al. NEJM 2001; Smalley et al. JCO 2012

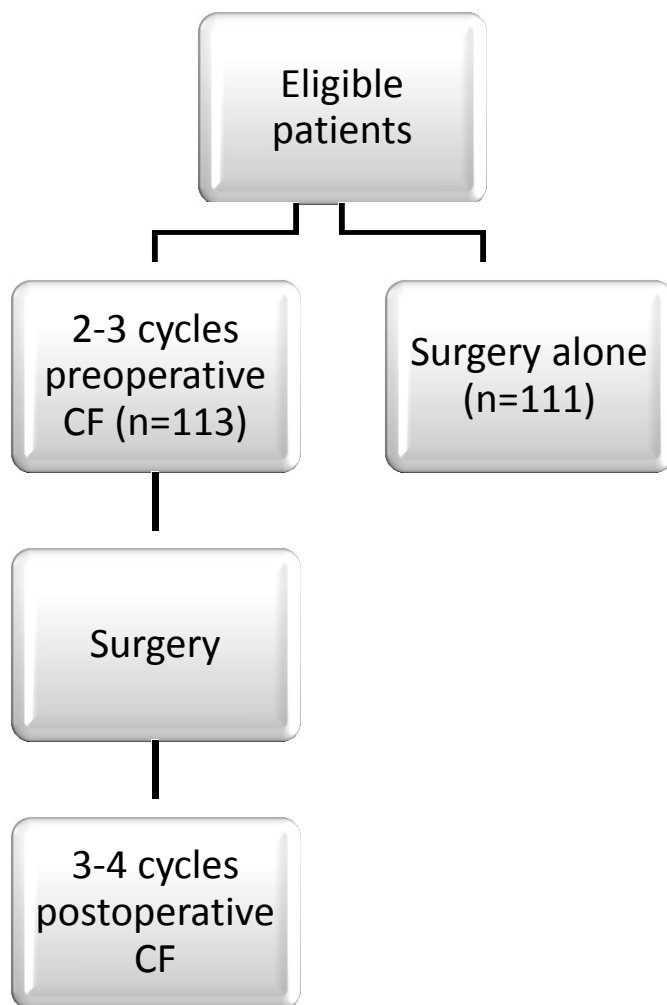


MAGIC Trial



Cunningham et al. NEJM 2006

FFCD/FNCLCC TRIAL



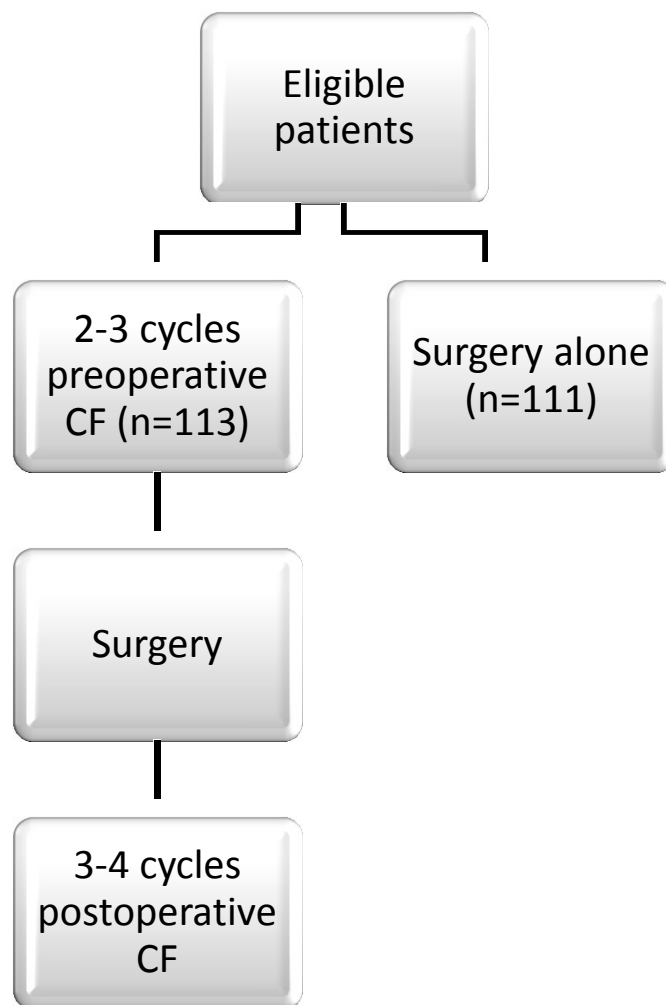
Eligibility criteria

Lower oesophageal or GOJ adenocarcinoma (gastric after 1998)
No metastases
ECOG 0-1

FFCD/ACCORD preoperative patient characteristics

	Surgery alone	Chemo + surgery
Median age	63	63
Sex		
Male	91 (82%)	96 (85%)
Female	20 (18%)	17 (15%)
Site of disease		
Gastric	28 (13%)	27(9%)
Oesophagus	15 (25%)	10 (24%)
GOJ	70 (62%)	74(67%)

FFCD/FNCLCC TRIAL

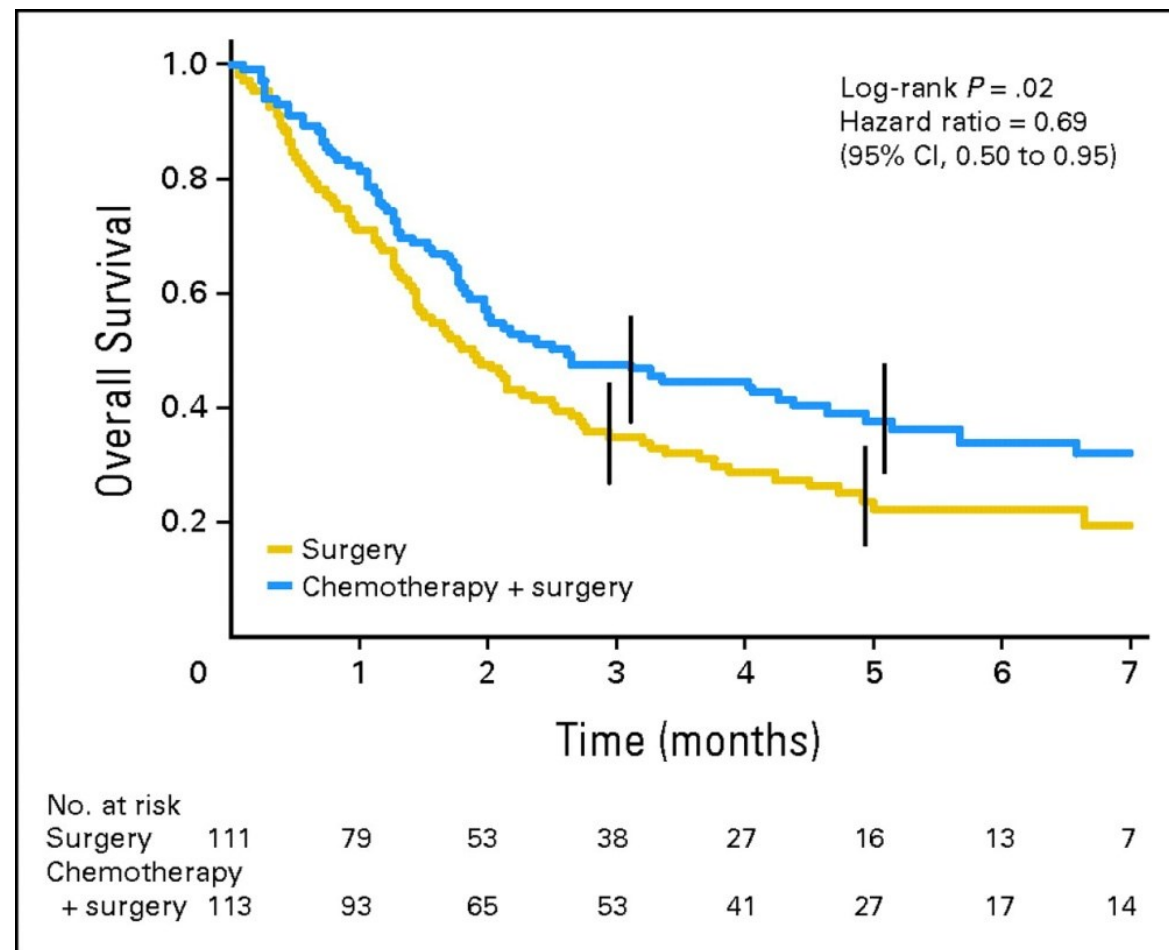
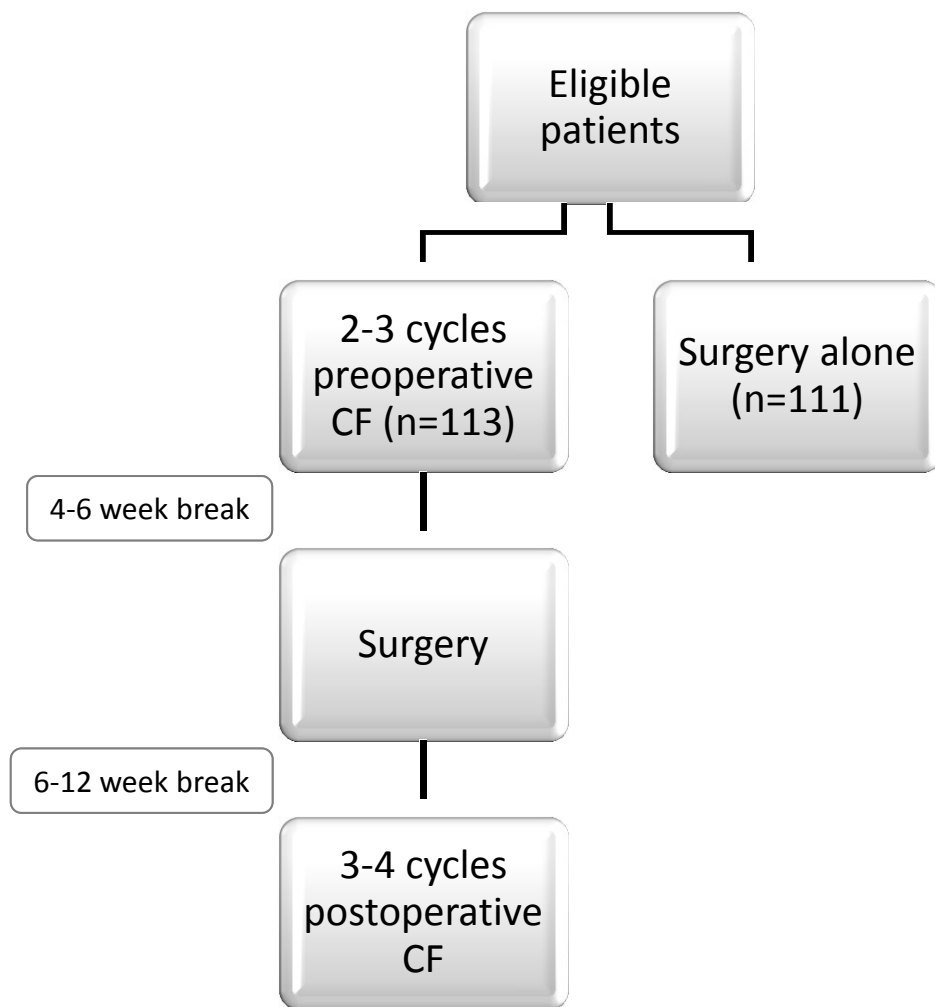


FFCD/FNCLCC post-operative patient characteristics		
	Surgery alone	Chemo + surgery
Surgery		↑ curative surgery
No resection	11 (10%)	7 (6%)
R0	81(74%)	95(87%)
R1	6 (5%)	4 (4%)
R2	11(10%)	2(2%)
Rx	1(1%)	1(1%)
ypT stage		↑ early T stage
T0	(8%)	3 (3%)
T1-2	(29%)	38 (39%)
T3-4	(55%)	57 (58%)
ypN Stage (gastric)		↑ early N stage
N0	17 (20%)	32(33%)
N+	68 (80%)	66(67%)

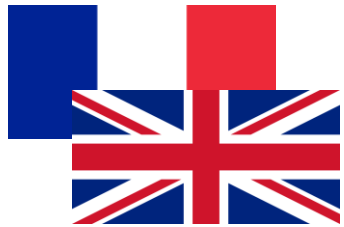
Peri-operative chemotherapy leads to tumour **downstaging**



FFCD/FNCLCC TRIAL



Absolute benefit in OS 14% (24% surgery vs. 38% chemo + surgery)



LESSONS FROM MAGIC AND FFCD TRIALS

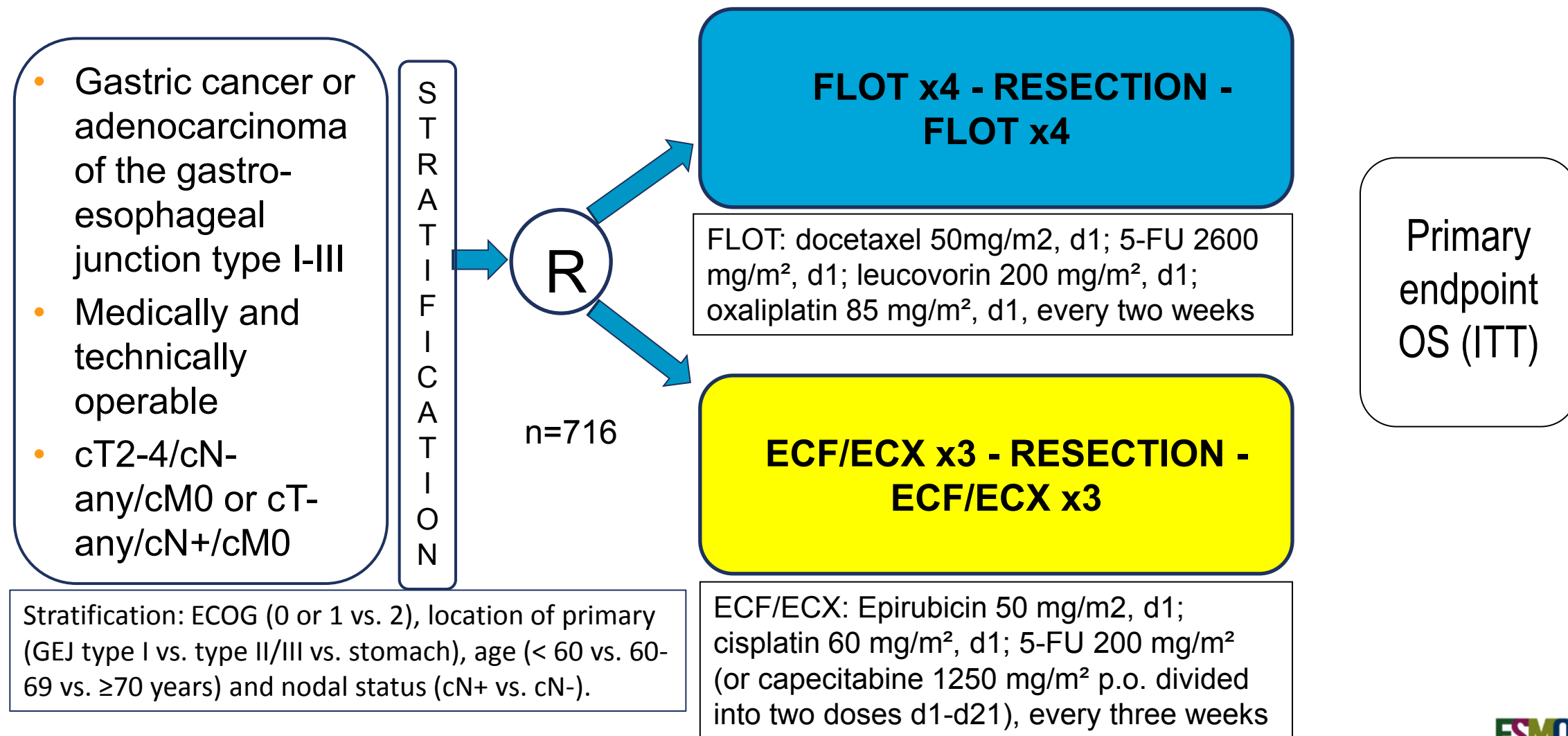


1. ~10% of patients will not complete pre-operative chemotherapy
2. Approximately 50% of patients are not fit enough for post operative chemotherapy

	MAGIC 3 cycles ECF	FFCD/FNCLCC 2-3 cycles CF
Pre-operative chemotherapy	3 cycles: n= 215 (91%)	1 cycle: n=11 (10%) 2 cycles: n=85 (75%) 3 cycles: n= 13 (12%) 87% had minimum 2 cycles
Surgery	229 (92%)	109 (97%)
Post-operative chemotherapy	Any chemotherapy: n=137 (55%) 3 cycles: n= 104 (42%)	Any chemotherapy: n=54 (50%) 1 cycle: n=6 (6%) 2 cycles: n=7 (6%) 3 cycles: n= 16 (15%) 4 cycles: n=25 (23%)



NEW HORIZON IN PERI-OPERATIVE CHEMOTHERAPY





FLOT BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS



	ECF/ECX N=360		FLOT N=356	
Age				
median	62	-	62	-
>=70	87	24%	85	24%
Sex				
male	265	74%	268	75%
ECOG PS				
0	254	71%	246	69%
1	103	29%	109	31%
2	3	1%	1	<1%
Location				
GEJ Siewert type 1	85	24%	80	23%
GEJ Siewert type 2 or 3	115	32%	118	33%
Stomach	160	44%	158	44%



FLOT VS ECF/X SURGICAL OUTCOMES



	ECF/ECX (n=360)	FLOT (n=356)	
Resection surgery	313/360(87%)	336/356 (94%)	0.001
R0 resection rate	276/360 (77%)	300/356 (84%)	0.011
Any surgical complication	188/341 (55%)	188/345 (55%)	
Median duration hospital stay	16 days	15 days	
Death 90 days	26 (8%)	16 (5%)	

- ✓ Peri-operative FLOT chemotherapy increases the proportion of patients who undergo surgical resection and increases the R0 resection rate compared to ECF/ECX
- ✓ Surgical morbidity and mortality was not increased by use of FLOT chemotherapy



FLOT VS ECX PATHOLOGICAL OUTCOMES

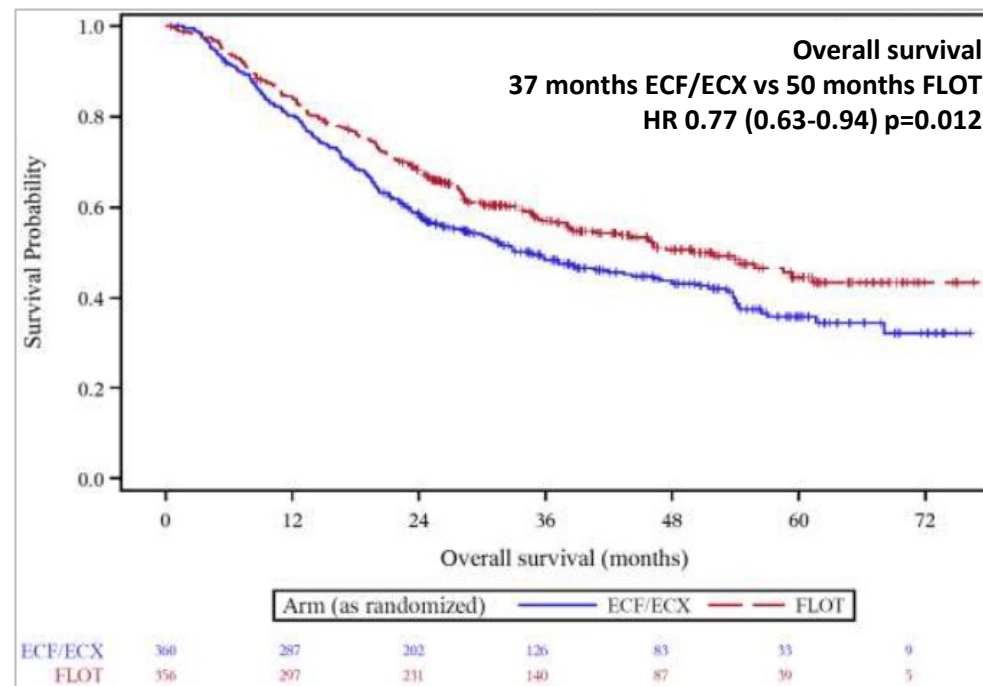
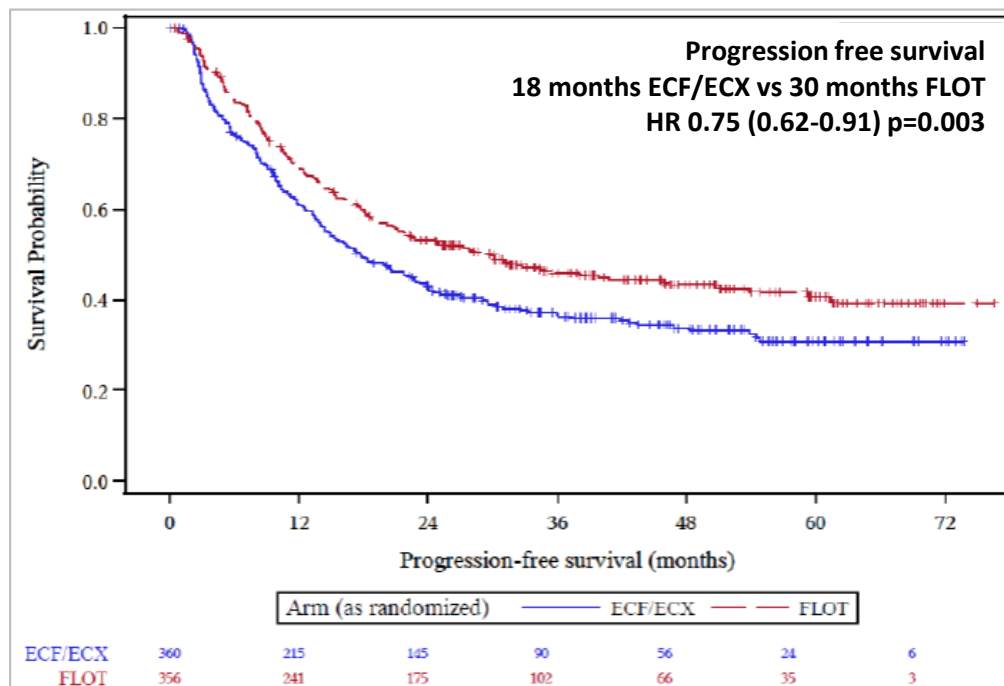


	ECF/ECX (n=360)	FLOT (n=356)	
ypT stage			
≤T1	53 (15%)	88(25%)	0.001
T2	44 (12%)	44(12%)	
T3	175 (49%)	165(46%)	
T4	47(13%)	37(10%)	
NA	41(11%)	22(6%)	
ypN stage			
N0	146(41%)	174(49%)	0.029
N1	44(12%)	55(16%)	
N2	54(15%)	47(13%)	
N3	73(20%)	57(16%)	
NA	43(12%)	23(7%)	

✓ Peri-operative FLOT chemotherapy increases the proportion of patients have pathological early stage tumours compared to ECF/X



FLOT IMPROVES PFS AND OS COMPARED TO ECF/X



Projected PFS rates		
	ECF/X	FLOT
2 year	43%	53%
3 year	37%	46%
5 year	31%	41%

Projected OS rates		
	ECF/X	FLOT
2 year	59%	68%
3 year	48%	57%
5 year	36%	45%



FLOT VS ECF/X TOXICITY



Grade 3-4 >5%	ECF/ECX (N=354)	FLOT (N=354)	P-value (Chi-Square)
Diarrhea	13 (4%)	34 (10%)	0.002
Vomiting	27 (8%)	7 (2%)	<0.001
Nausea	55 (16%)	26 (7%)	0.001
Fatigue	38 (11%)	25 (7%)	
Infections	30 (9%)	63 (18%)	<0.001
Leukopenia	75 (21%)	94 (27%)	
Neutropenia	139 (39%)	181 (51%)	0.002
Sensory	7 (2%)	24 (7%)	0.002
Thromboembolic	22 (6%)	9 (3%)	0.03
Anemia	20 (6%)	9 (3%)	0.04



FLOT VS ECF/X TREATMENT TOLERABILITY

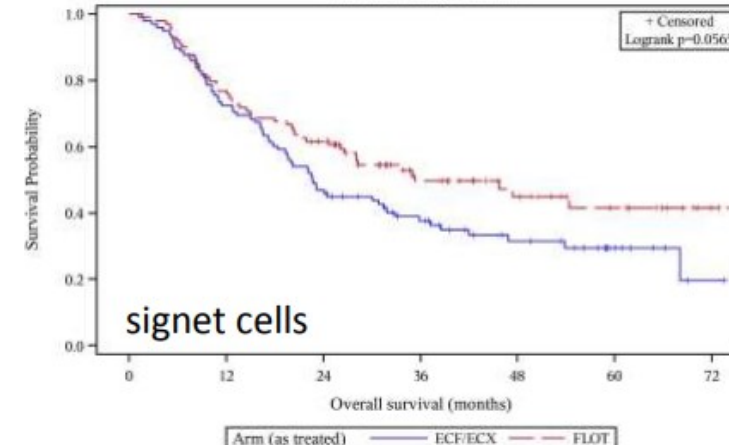
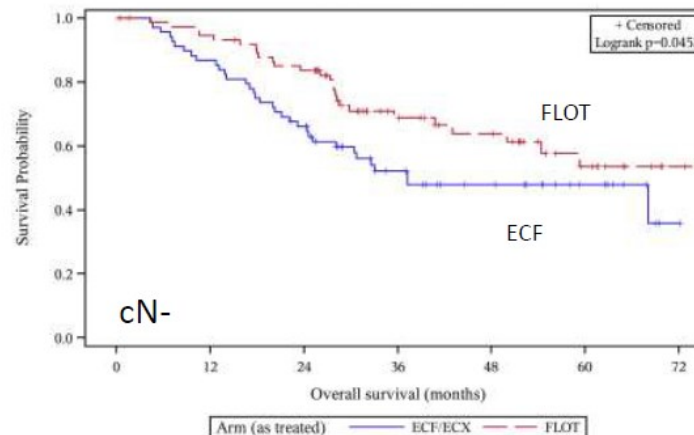
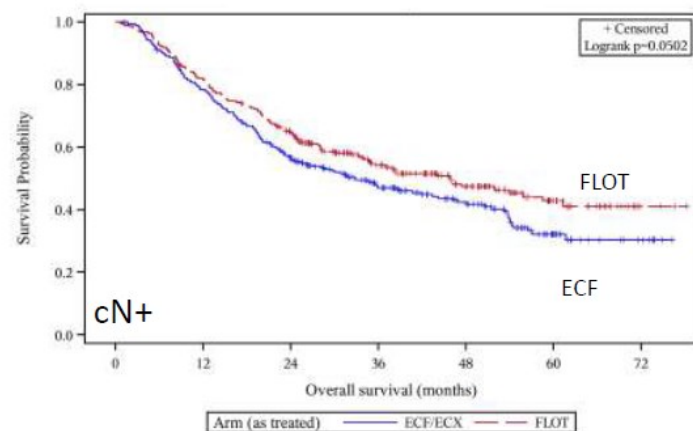
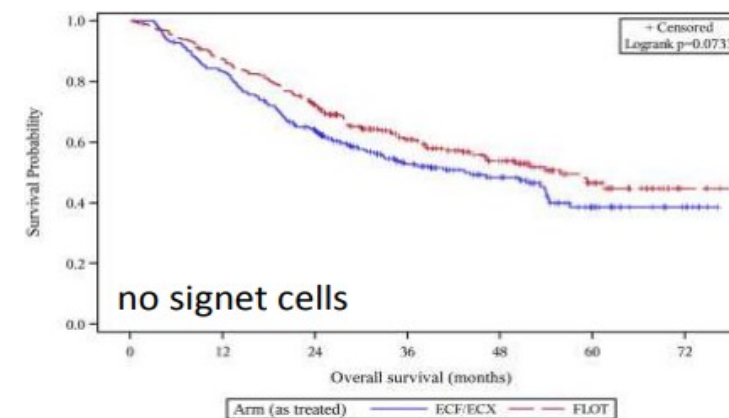
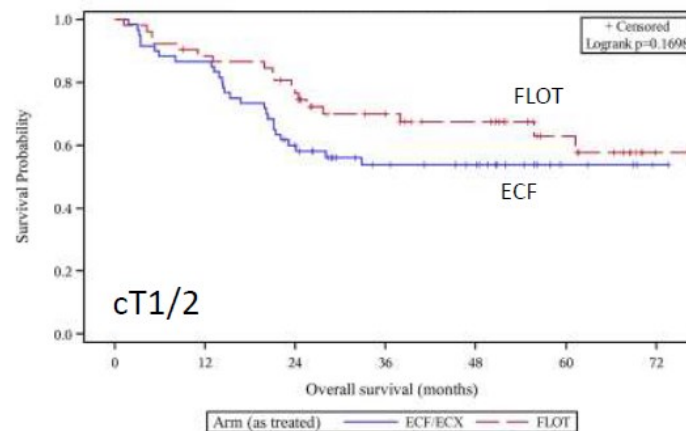
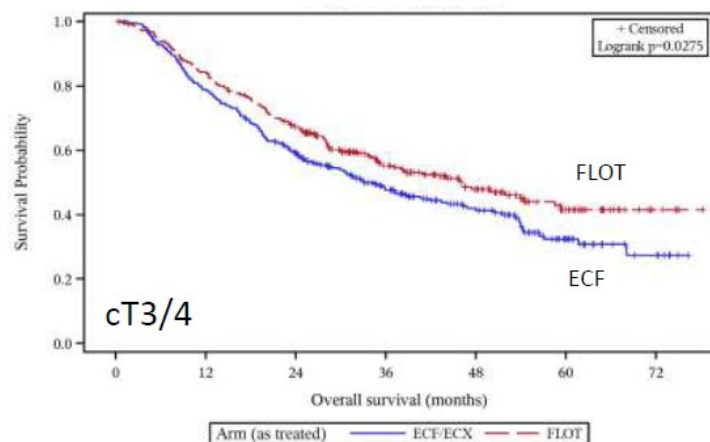


	ECF/ECX (n=360)	FLOT (n=356)
Completed pre-operative chemo	327 (91%)	320 (90%)
Surgery	340 (94%)	336 (94%)
Started post-operative chemo	187 (52%)	213 (60%)
Completed protocol post-op chemo	133 (37%)	162 (46%)

✓ Patients treated with FLOT were more likely to commence post-operative chemotherapy, and those who commenced post-operative FLOT were more likely to complete post-operative chemotherapy



BENEFIT OF FLOT IN ALL PROGNOSTIC GROUPS



PERI-OPERATIVE CHEMOTHERAPY:

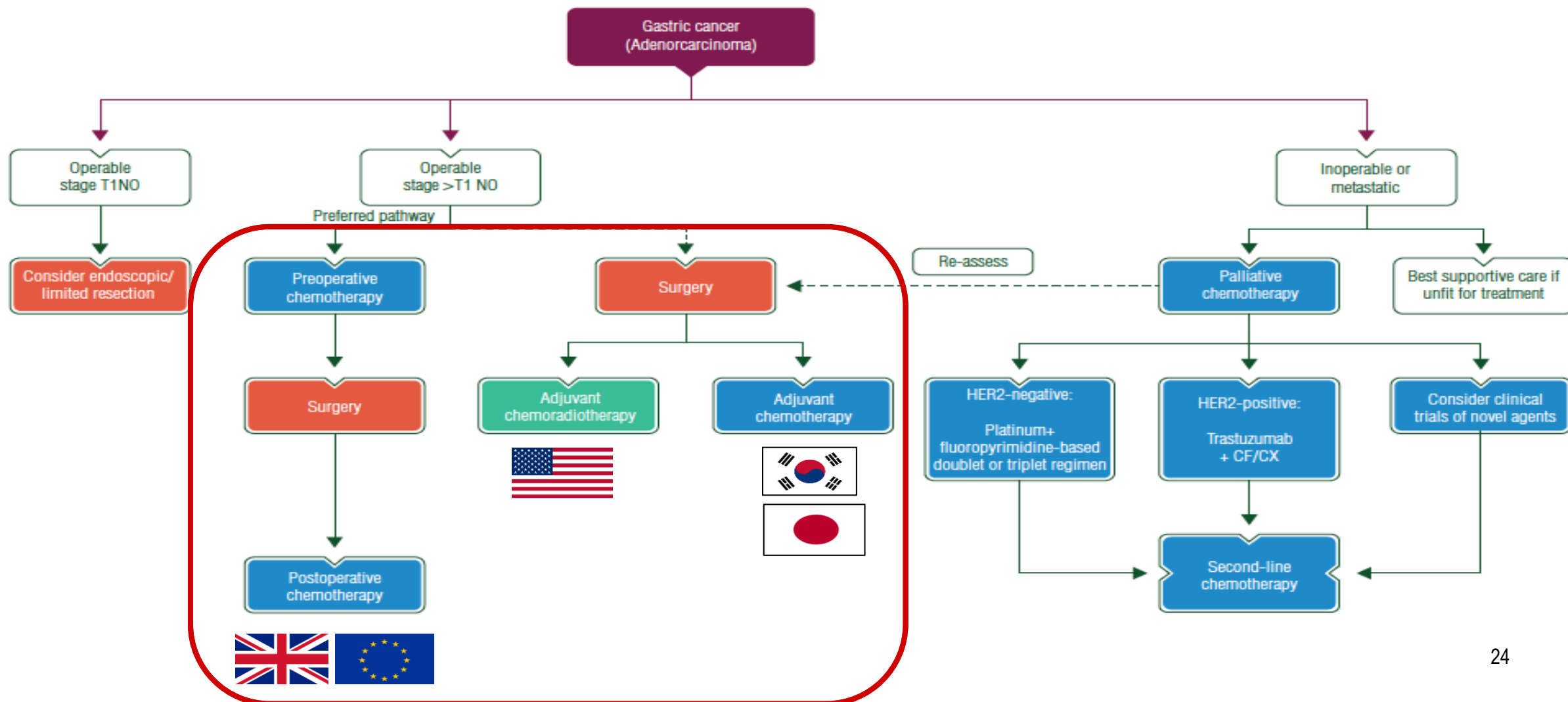
5 year projected OS with FLOT is **45%**, therefore there is still **more work** to do to improve survival for patients treated with peri-operative chemotherapy

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY

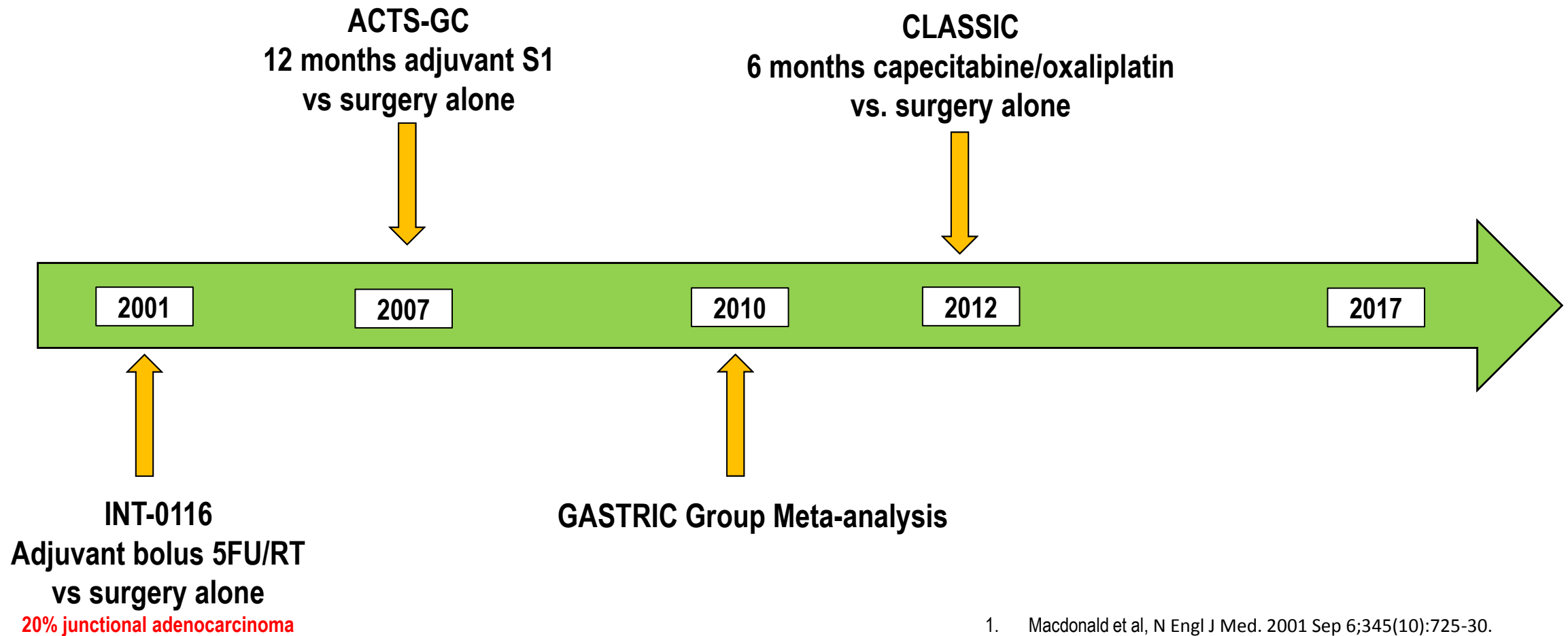
Gastric cancer: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up[†]

Annals of Oncology 27 (Supplement 5): v38–v49, 2016
doi:10.1093/annonc/mdw350

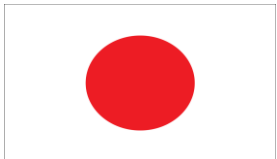
E. C. Smyth¹, M. Verheij², W. Allum³, D. Cunningham⁴, A. Cervantes⁵ & D. Arnold⁶ on behalf of the ESMO Guidelines Committee*



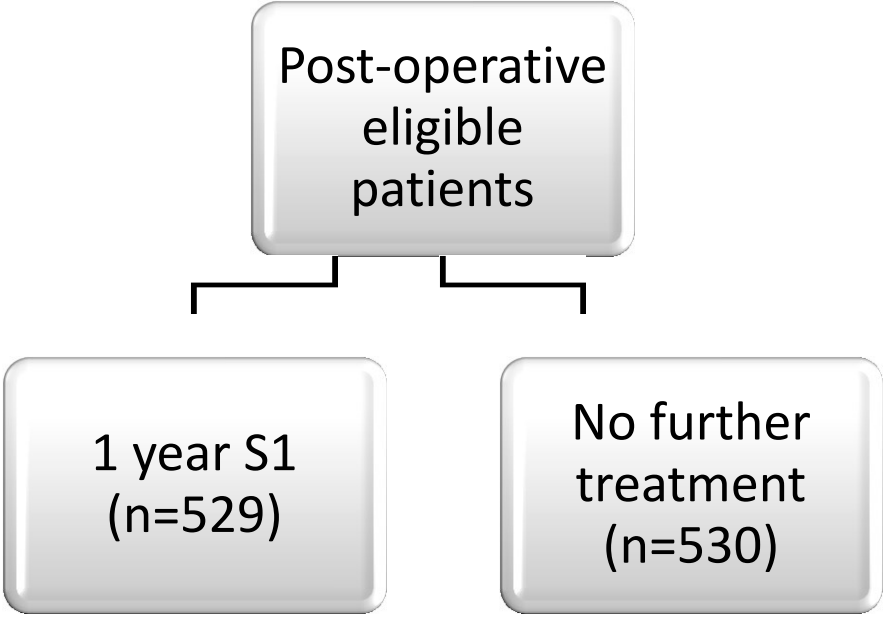
EVOLUTION OF ADJUVANT (CHEMO)THERAPY FOR GASTRIC CANCER 2001 - 2017



1. Macdonald et al, N Engl J Med. 2001 Sep 6;345(10):725-30.
2. Sakuramoto et al, N Engl J Med. 2007 Nov 1;357(18):1810-20.
3. Bang et al, Lancet. 2012 Jan 28;379(9813):315-21.
4. Pignon et al, JAMA. 2010 May 5;303(17):1729-37.



ACTS-GC TRIAL



Primary Endpoint
Overall survival

Secondary endpoints
Relapse free survival & safety

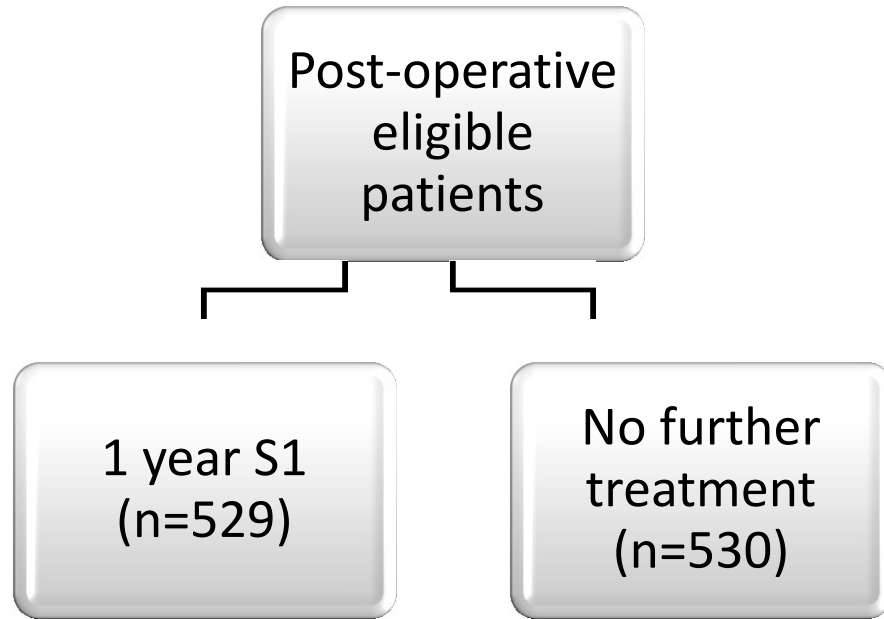
S1, 40mg/m2/d x 28 days followed by 2 week break x 1 year

Eligibility criteria
Stage ≥ II (no T1), IIIA or IIIB gastric adenocarcinoma
D2 resection minimum

ACTS-GC patient characteristics		
	Surgery alone	Chemo + surgery
Median age	63	63
Sex		
Male	369 (70%)	367 (71%)
Female	161(30%)	162(29%)
Stage of cancer		
II	282 (53%)	264 (50%)
III	213 (40%)	224 (42%)
IV	35 (7%)	40(8%)



ACTS-GC TRIAL



Primary Endpoint

Overall survival

Secondary endpoints

Relapse free survival & Safety

Update ESMO 2017 OPAS-1 study
6 months of S1 not inferior to 12 months

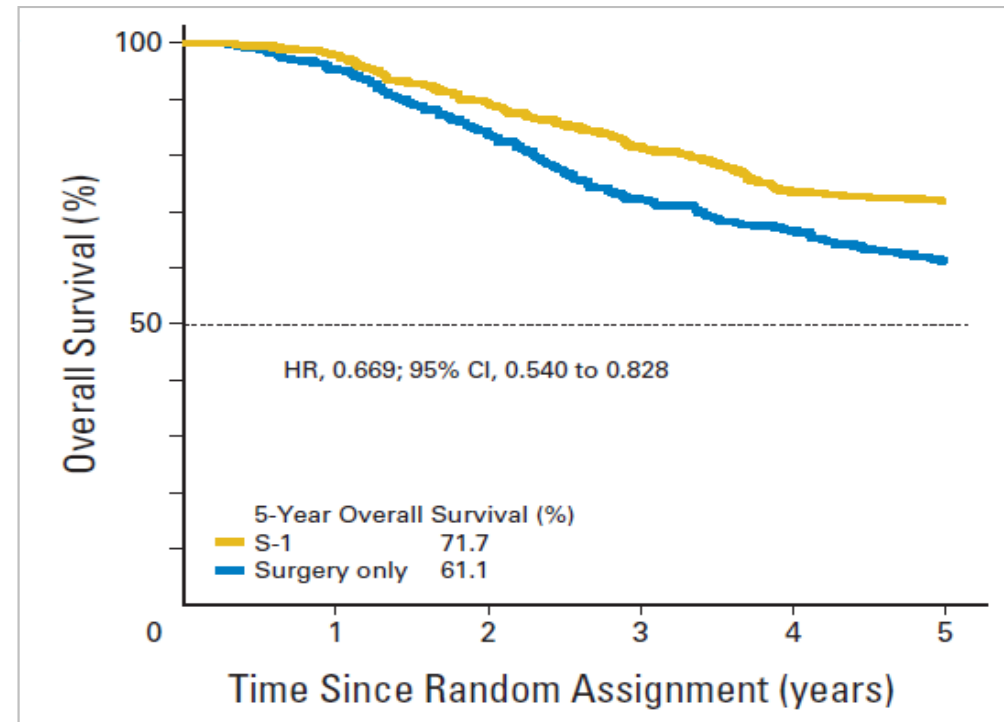
Updated 5 year survival S1 vs surgery alone

All patients 5 year OS 72% vs. 61%

Stage II 5 year OS 84% vs 71%

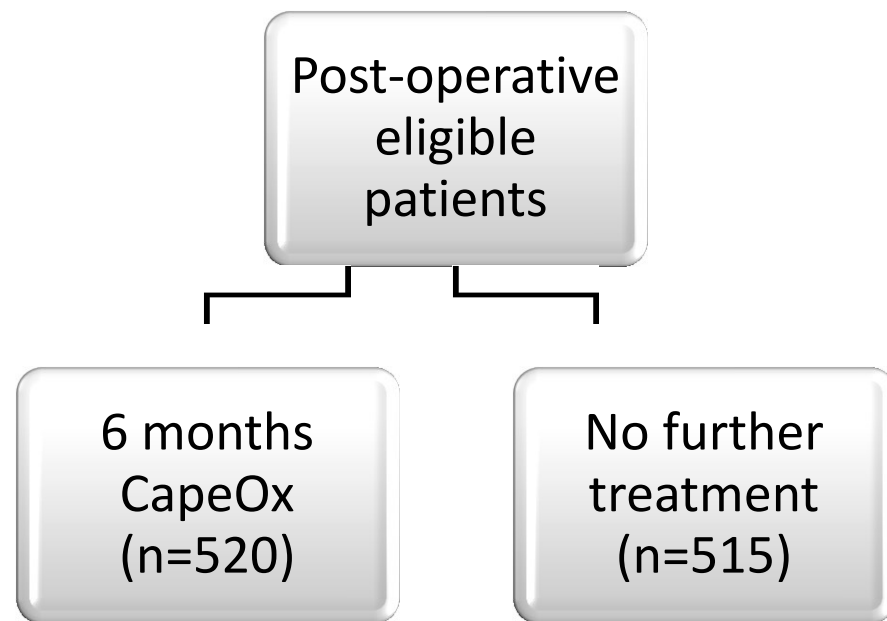
Stage IIIA 5 year OS 67% vs 57%

Stage IIIB 5 year OS 50% vs 44%





CLASSIC TRIAL



Primary Endpoint
3 year disease free survival
Secondary endpoints
Overall survival & safety

Eligibility criteria

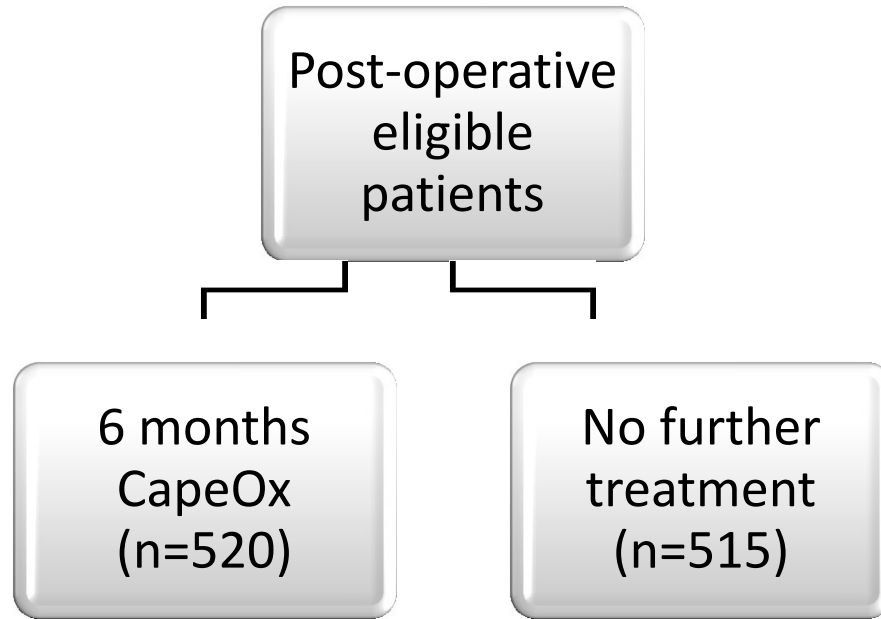
Stage \geq II, IIIA or IIIB gastric adenocarcinoma
D2 resection minimum

CLASSIC patient characteristics

	Surgery alone	Chemo + surgery
Median age	56	56
Sex		
Male	358 (70%)	373 (72%)
Female	157(30%)	147(28%)
Stage of cancer		
II	261 (51%)	253(49%)
III	253 (49%)	266(51%)
IV	1 (<1%)	0 (0%)



CLASSIC TRIAL



Primary Endpoint
3 year disease free survival
Secondary endpoints
Overall survival & safety

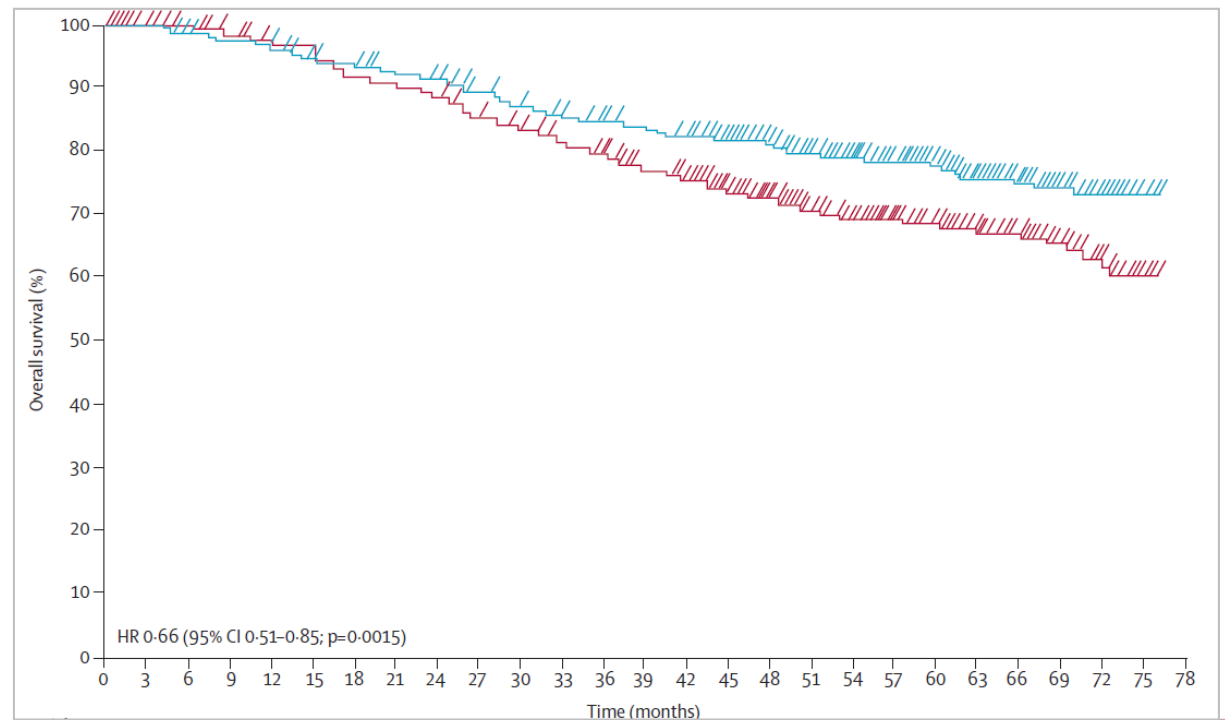
5 year updated survival CapeOx vs surgery alone

All patients 5 year OS 78% vs 69%

Stage II 5 year OS 88% vs 79%

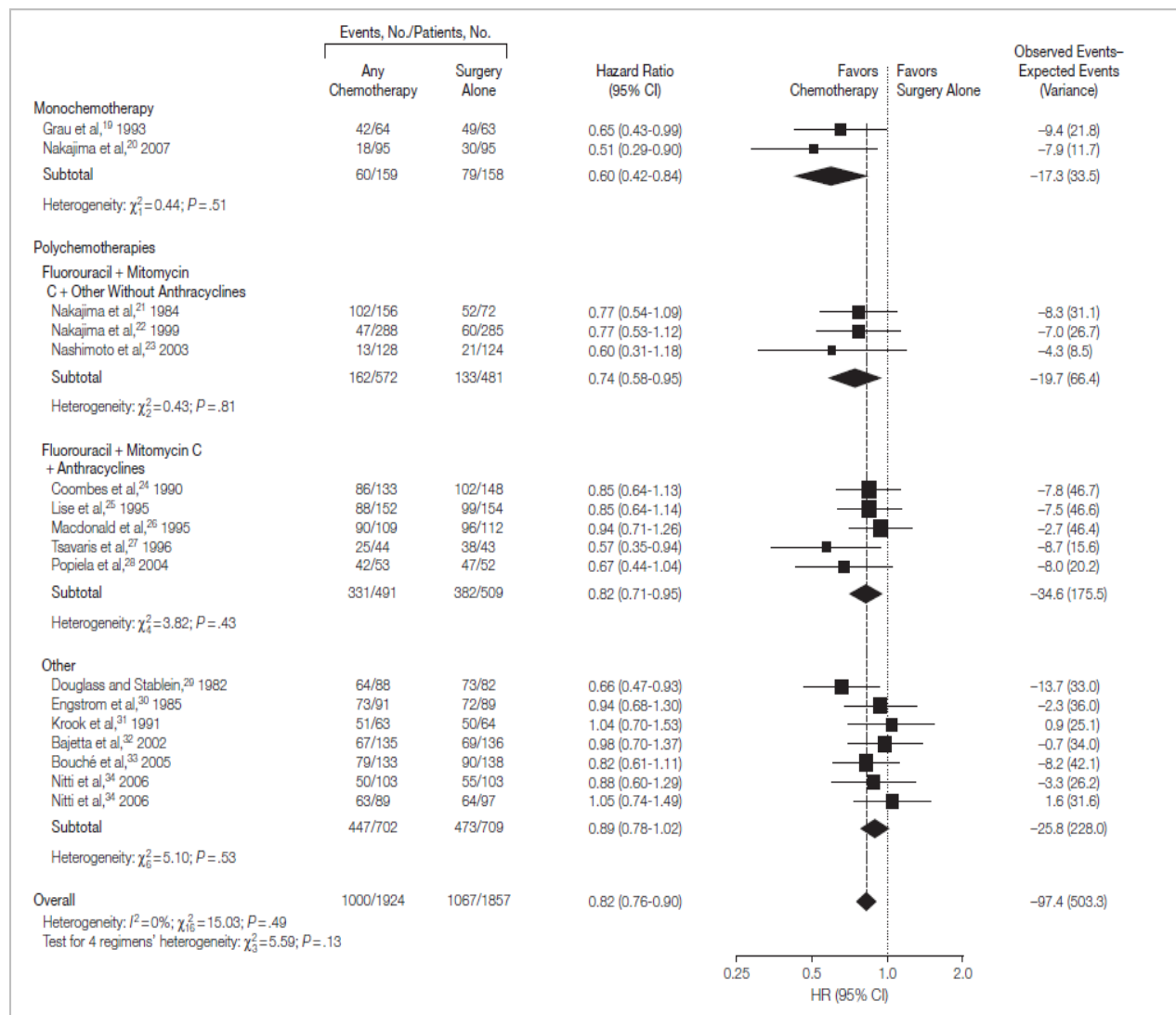
Stage IIIA 5 year OS 70% vs 63%

Stage IIIB 5 year OS 66% vs 45% (compare ACTS GC 50% vs. 44%)



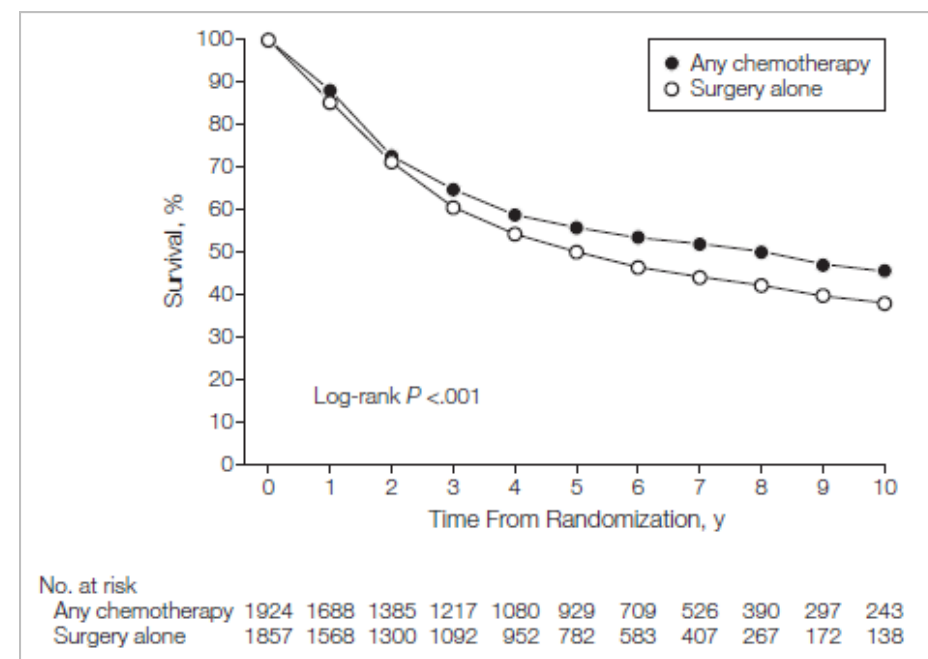
Noh et al, *Lancet Oncol.* 2014 Nov;15(12):1389-96.

ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY FOR NON-ASIAN PATIENTS

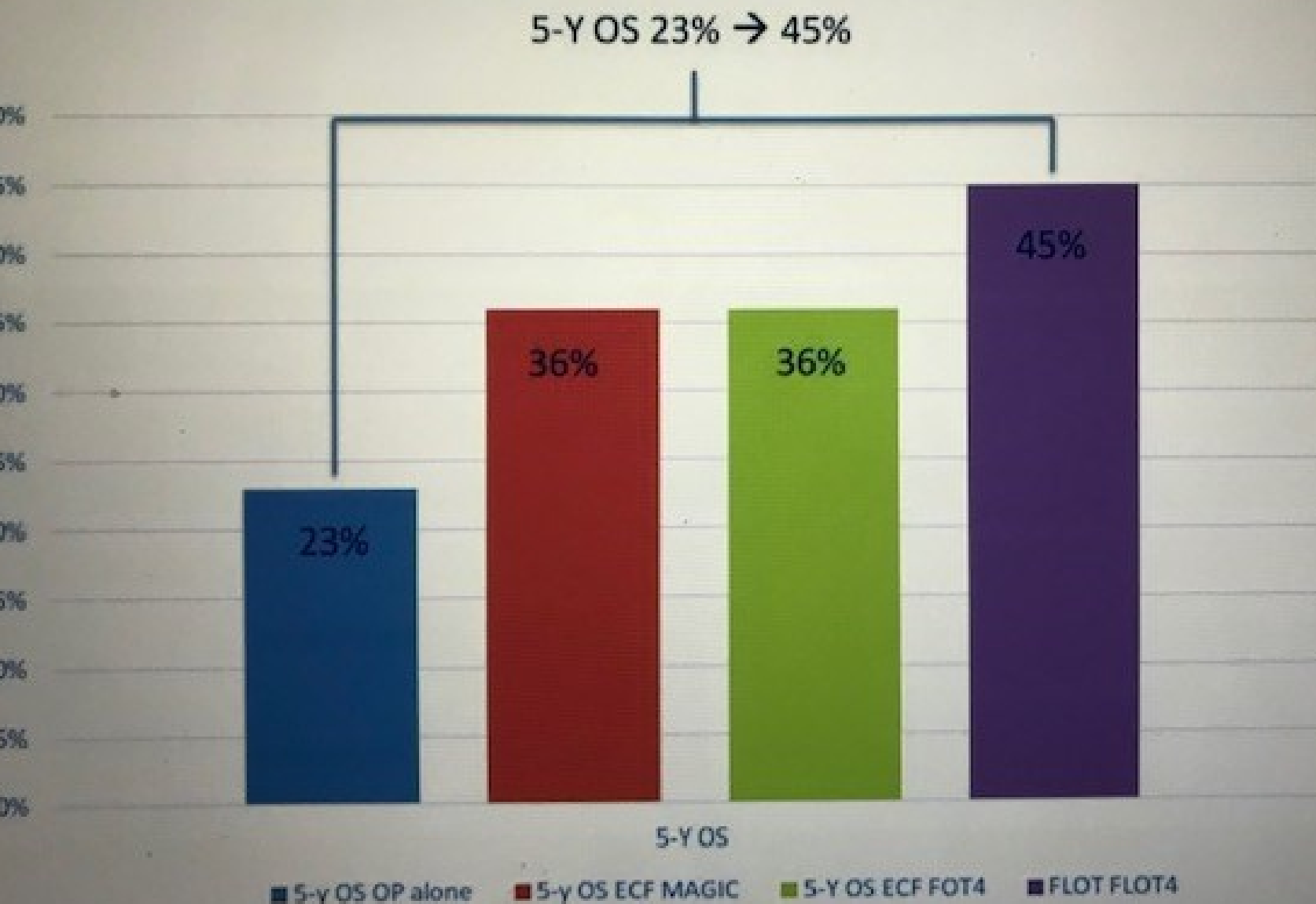


Neoadjuvant or peri-operative chemotherapy is preferred due to the downstaging effects associated with this.

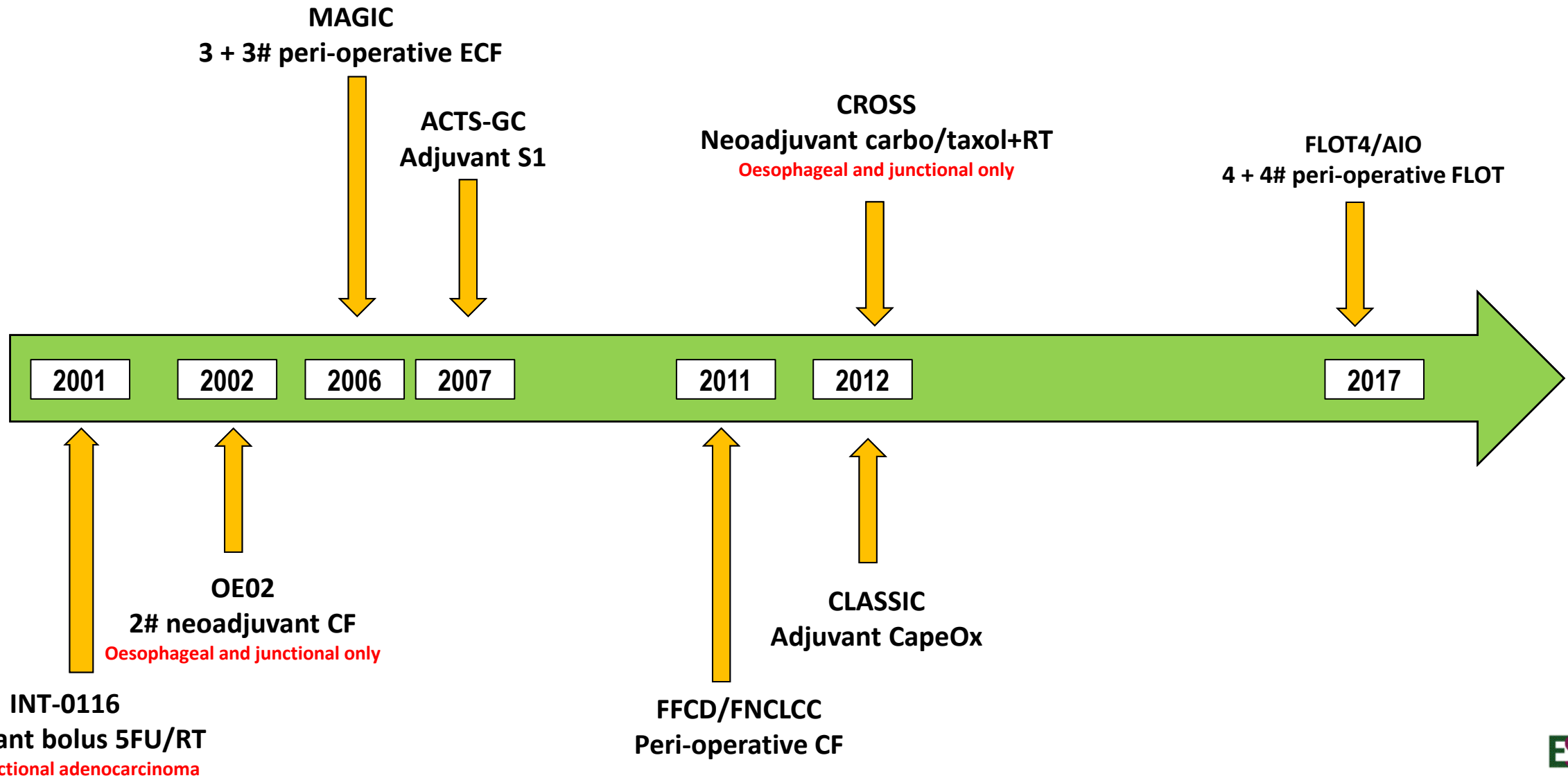
The GASTRIC group meta-analysis suggests a 5.8% absolute OS benefit at 5 years (55.3% to 49.6%) for patients treated with adjuvant chemotherapy .



Since 2006: 5-Y OS nearly doubled compared with surgery alone



EVOLUTION OF (NEO)ADJUVANT TREATMENT 2002 - 2017





critics trial



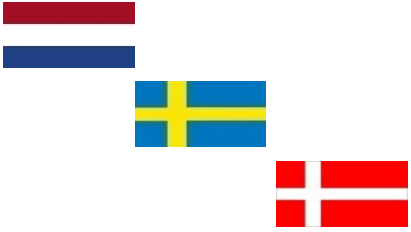
Chemotherapy versus chemoradiotherapy after surgery and preoperative chemotherapy for resectable gastric cancer (CRITICS): an international, open-label, randomised phase 3 trial



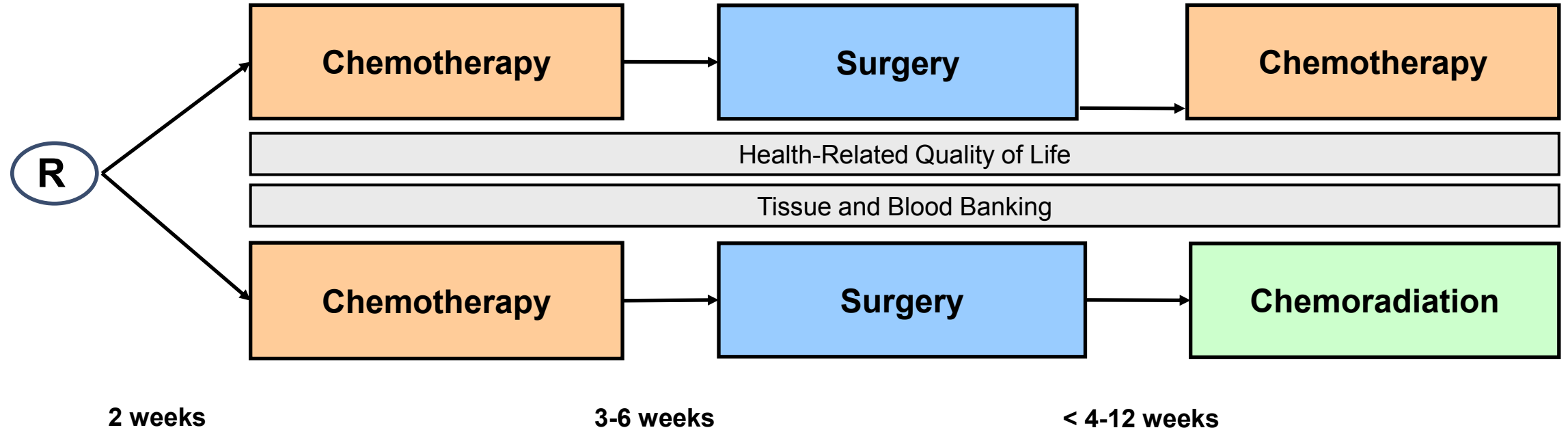
Annemieke Cats, Edwin P M Jansen*, Nicole C T van Grieken, Karolina Sikorska, Pehr Lind, Marianne Nordsmark, Elma Meershoek-Klein Kranenbarg, Henk Boot, Anouk K Trip, H A Maurits Swellengrebel, Hanneke W M van Laarhoven, Hein Putter, Johanna W van Sandick, Mark I van Berge Henegouwen, Henk H Hartgrink, Harm van Tinteren, Cornelis J H van de Velde†, Marcel Verheij†, for the CRITICS investigators‡*

AIM:

To improve survival by combining optimal local and systemic therapy

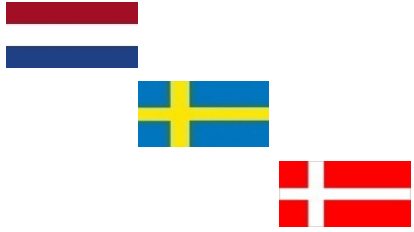


study design



Stratification for:

- **Center**
- **Histological type (intestinal, diffuse, mixed, unknown)**
- **Tumor localisation (gastro-oesophageal junction, proximal, mid, distal stomach)**



treatment details



Chemotherapy: Pre-operative and post-operative: 3x ECC or EOC q 3 wks

*Epirubicin 50 mg/m² d1, Cisplatin 60 mg/m² d1, Capecitabine 1000 mg/m² bid days 1-14
mg/m² d1 Capecitabine 625 mg/m² bid days 1-21*

Epirubicin 50 mg/m² d1, Oxaliplatin 130

Surgery: (Sub)total gastrectomy or oesophagocardiac resection *en bloc*
nodes

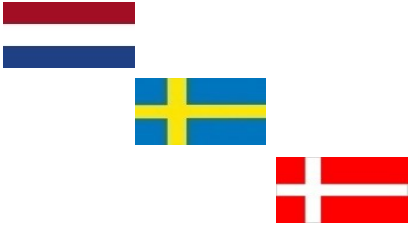
with N1 and N2 lymph

*D1+ resection: lymph node stations 1-9 and 11; no splenectomy or pancreatectomy
Removal of ≥15 lymph nodes*

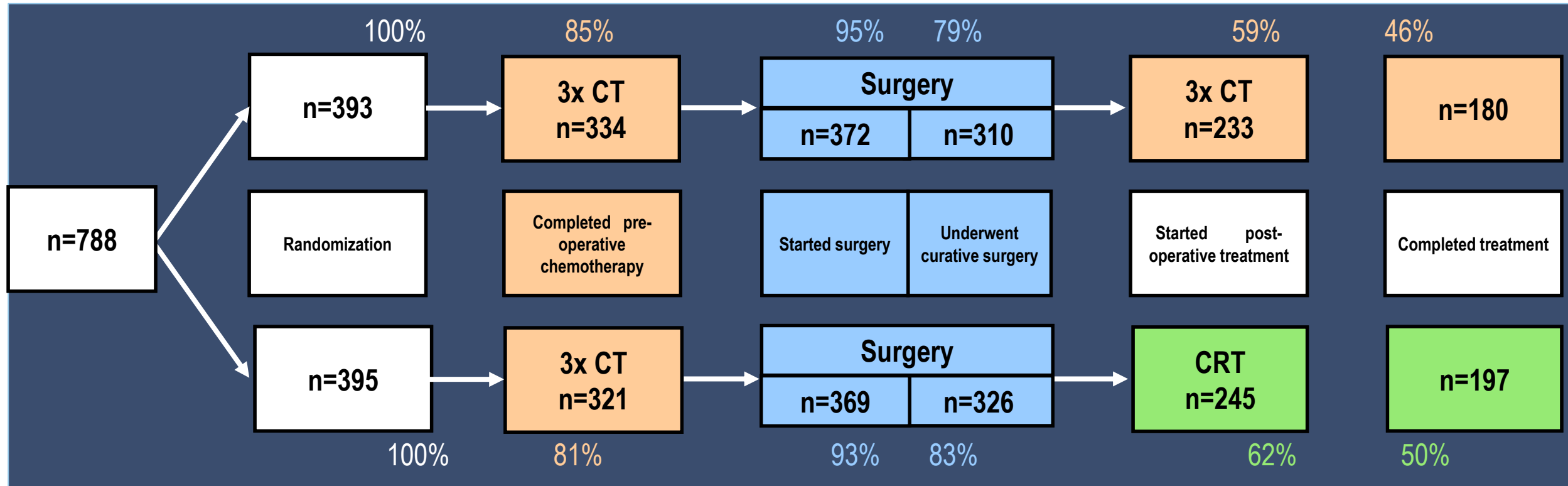
Chemoradiation: Post-operative: 45 Gy in 25 fractions combined with CC

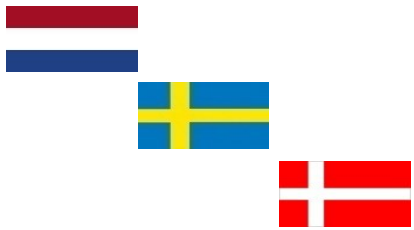
*3D-CRT or IMRT; CTV includes tumor bed, anastomoses, draining lymph node stations
Capecitabine 575 mg/m² bid / ddwd*

Concurrent during RT: Cisplatin 20 mg/m² weekly;



study profile





Main Reasons for no post-operative therapy



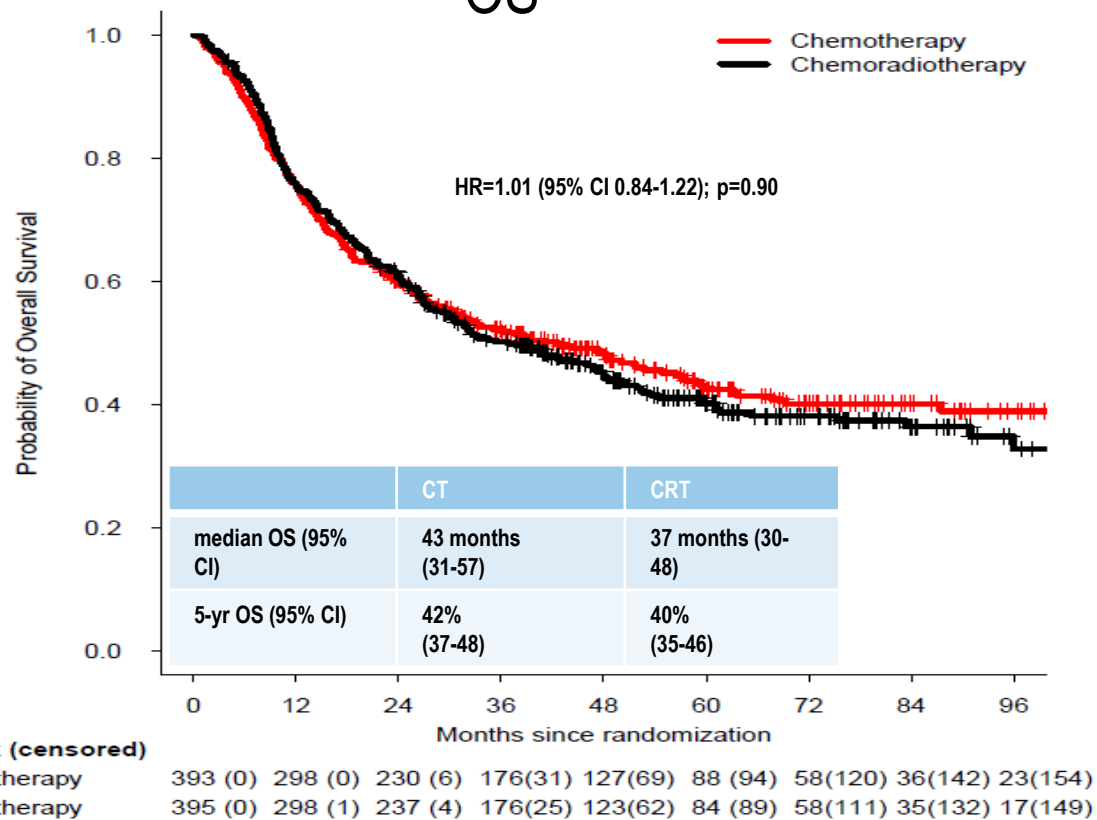
	CT <i>n</i> = 393	CRT <i>n</i> = 395
	<i>n</i> (%)	<i>n</i> (%)
Progressive or irresectable disease	81 (21)	67 (17)
Death	17 (4)	10 (3)
Treatment-related toxicity	28 (7)	34 (9)
Refusal or poor condition	22 (6)	24 (6)

CT = chemotherapy
CRT = chemoradiotherapy

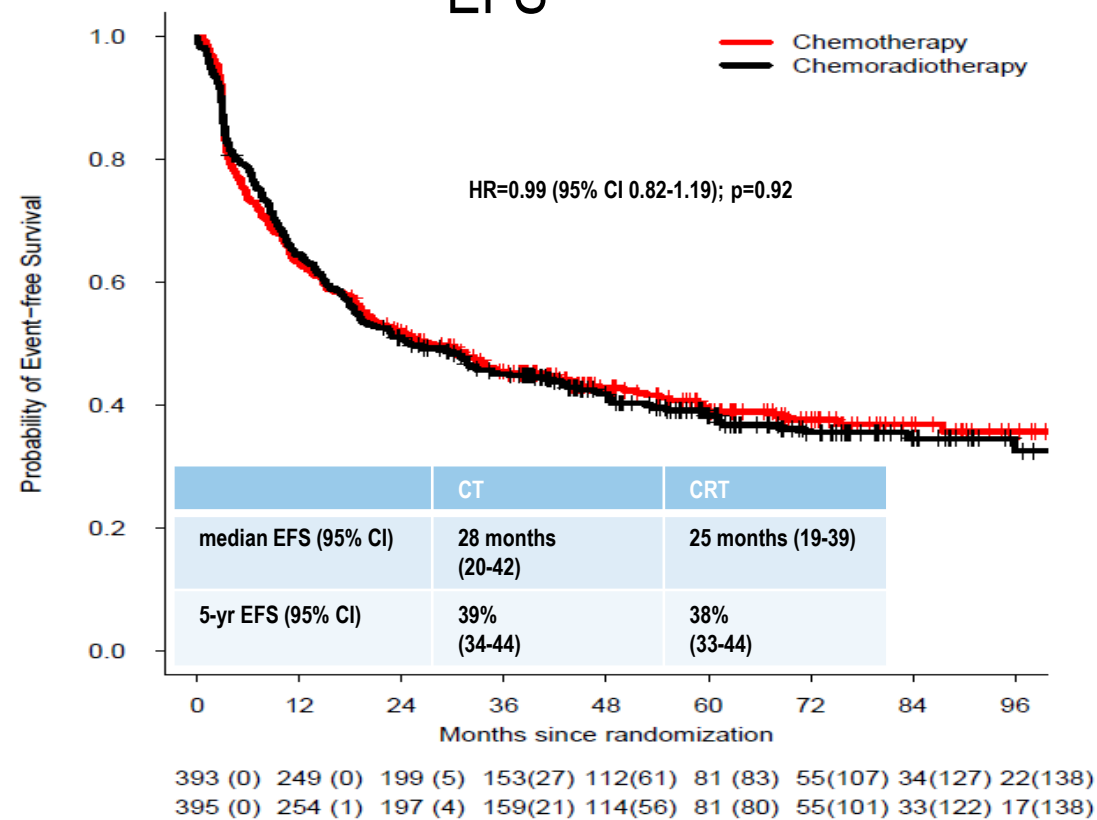
survival



OS



EFS



rationale critics I



PATIENT COMPLIANCE IN (NEO)ADJUVANT STUDIES IN GASTRIC CANCER

Studie	Behandelgroep	Behandeling afgerond (%)
SWOG	S→CRT	64%
MAGIC	CT→S→CT	42%
ACTS-GC	S→CT	66%
CLASSIC	S→CT	67%
ARTIST	S→CT	75%
	S→CRT	82%
ST03	CT→S→CT	40%
	CT+B→S→CT+B	37%
TOPGEAR part 1	CT→S→CT	58%
	CT→CRT→S→CT	45%
FLOT4-AIO	CT→S→CT (3xECF/ECX)	37%
	CT→S→CT (4xFLOT)	50%

Rationale



CONCEPTS

- ♦ Pre-operative treatment is associated with better patient compliance than post-operative regimens
- ♦ Pre-operative treatment increases the likelihood of disease downsizing/ downstaging and radical R0 resections
- ♦ Pre-operative paclitaxel/carboplatin-based concurrent chemotherapy and DOC chemotherapy are effective, feasible and safe regimens

AIM

- ♦ To optimize pre-operative treatment resectable gastric cancer

CROSS STUDY

Dutch study

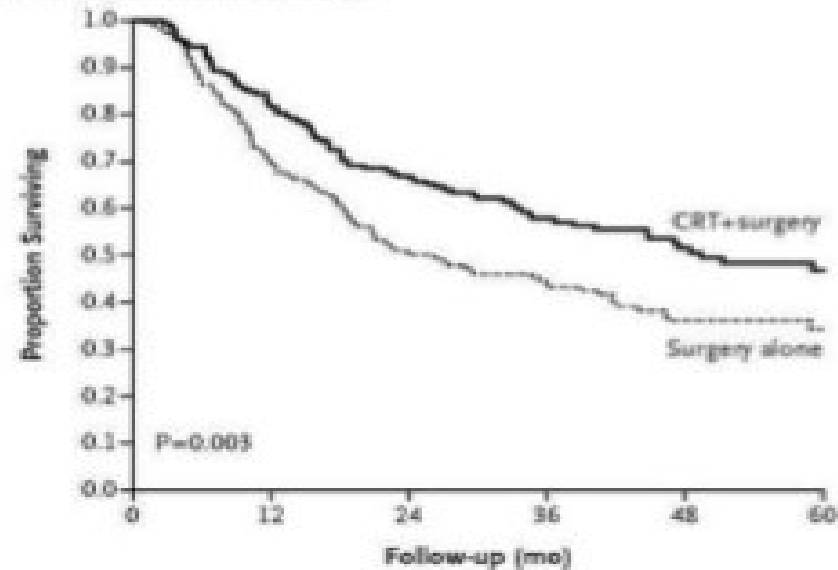


Baseline characteristics

	Neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy plus surgery (n=178)	Surgery alone (n=188)
Age, years	60 (55–67)	60 (53–66)
Sex		
Women	44 (25%)	36 (19%)
Men	134 (75%)	152 (81%)
Tumour histology		
Squamous cell carcinoma	41 (23%)	43 (23%)
Adenocarcinoma	134 (75%)	141 (75%)
Could not be established	3 (2%)	4 (2%)
Tumour length, cm	4 (3–6)	4 (3–6)
Tumour location		
Proximal third oesophagus	4 (2%)	4 (2%)
Middle third oesophagus	25 (14%)	24 (13%)
Distal third oesophagus	104 (58%)	107 (57%)
Oesophagogastric junction	39 (22%)	49 (26%)
Missing data	6 (3%)	4 (2%)

Survival in CROSS study

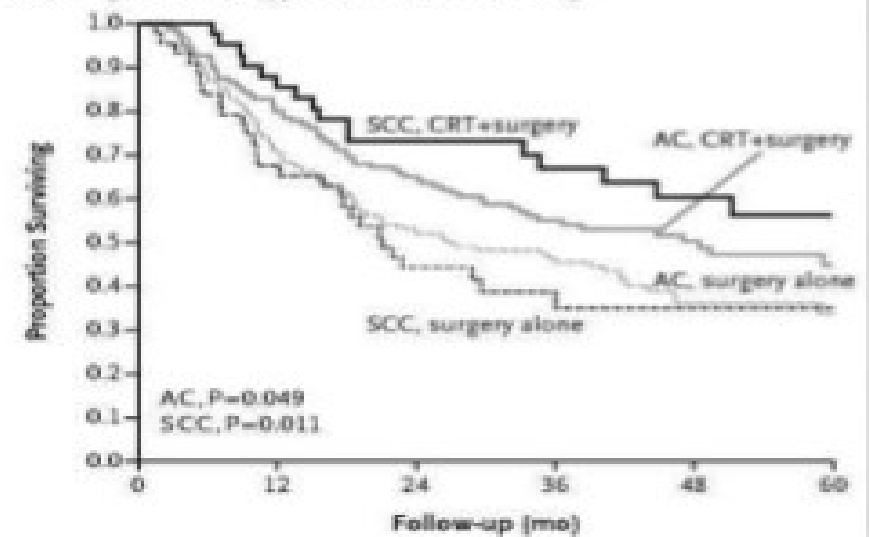
A Survival According to Treatment Group



No. at Risk

	0	12	24	36	48	60
CRT+surgery	178	145	119	75	49	28
Surgery alone	188	131	94	62	33	17
Total	366	276	213	137	82	45

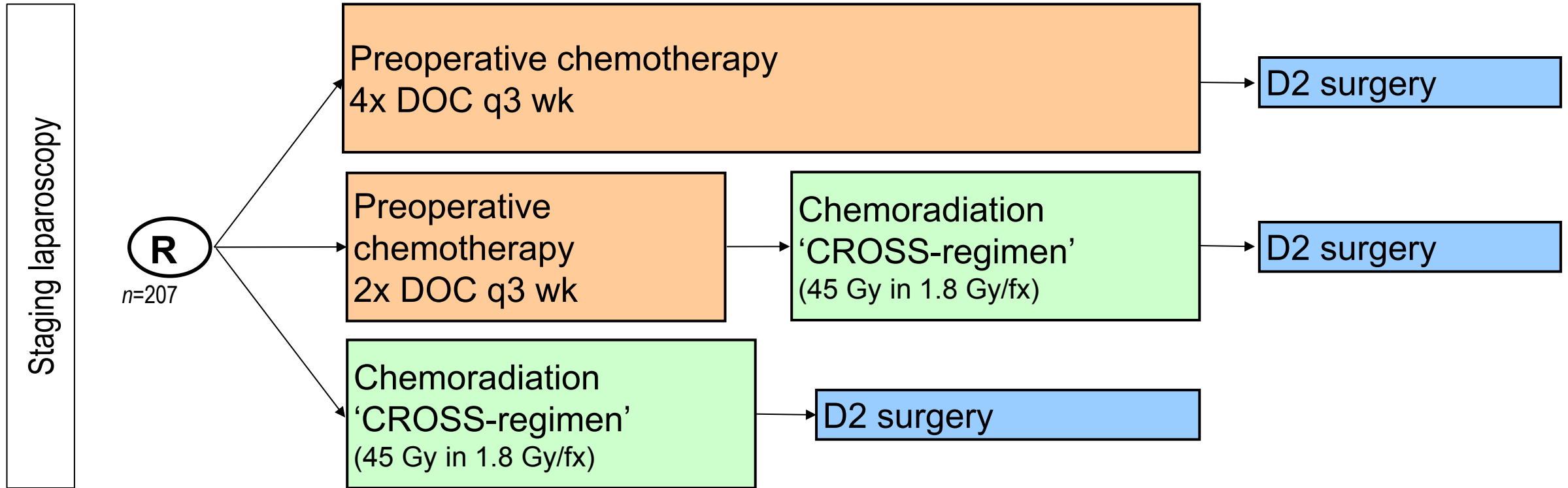
Survival According to Tumor Type and Treatment Group



No. at Risk

	0	12	24	36	48	60
AC, CRT+surgery	134	107	87	53	34	18
AC, surgery alone	141	99	73	50	25	10
SCC, CRT+surgery	41	35	30	21	15	8
SCC, surgery alone	43	29	19	11	8	4
Total	359	270	209	135	82	40

CRITICS II



DOC: docetaxel 50 mg/m² d1, oxaliplatin 100 mg/m² d1, Capecitabine 850 mg/m² bid days 1-14

CROSS: carboplatin AUC 2, paclitaxel 50 mg/m² 5x weekly during chemoradiotherapy

CONCLUSIONS

For treatment of resectable gastric and gastroesophageal cancer:

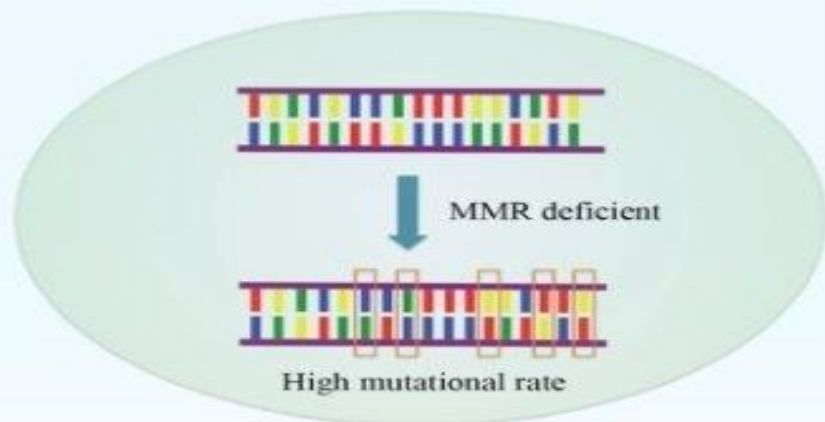
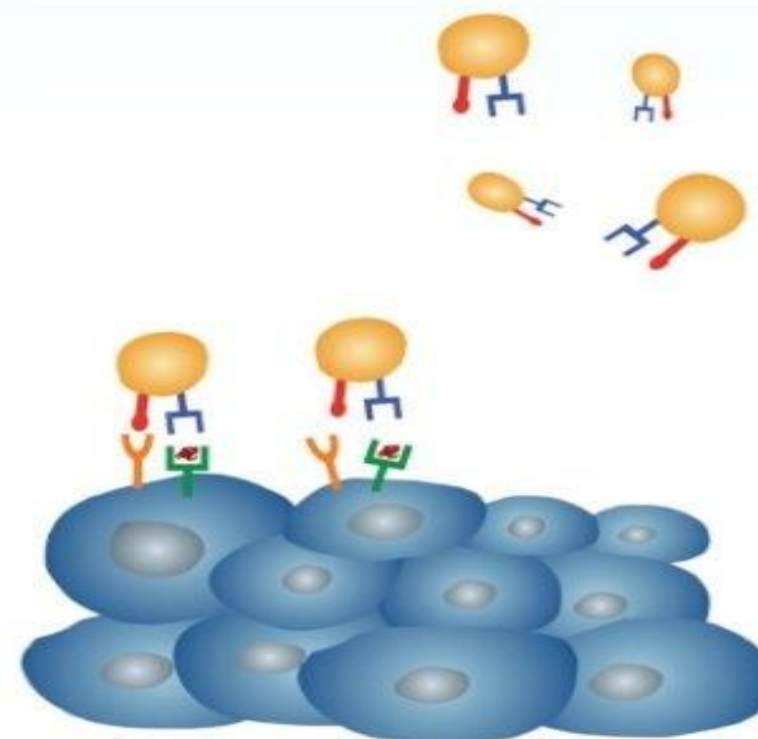
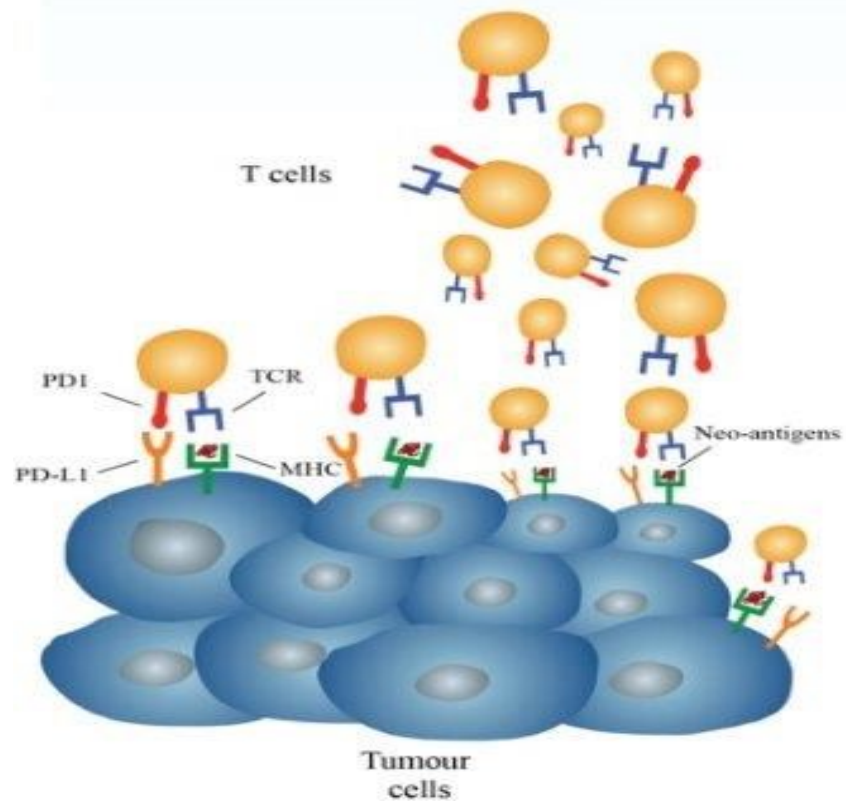
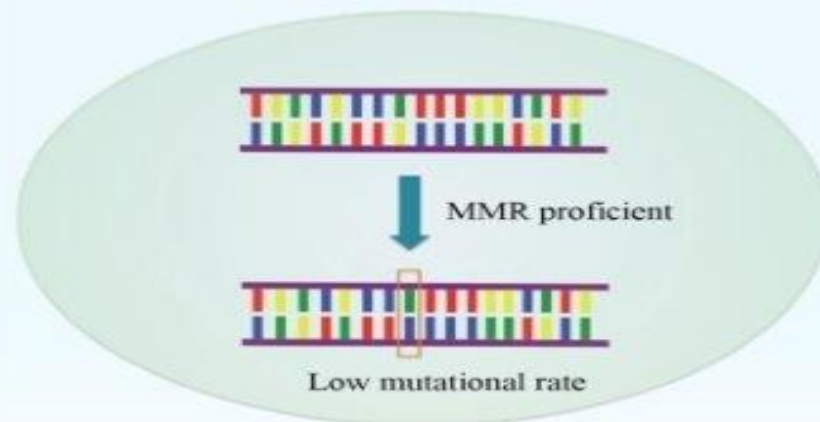
Correct staging and multidisciplinary approach are essential.

For **gastric** adenocarcinoma **peri-operative chemotherapy** is preferred.

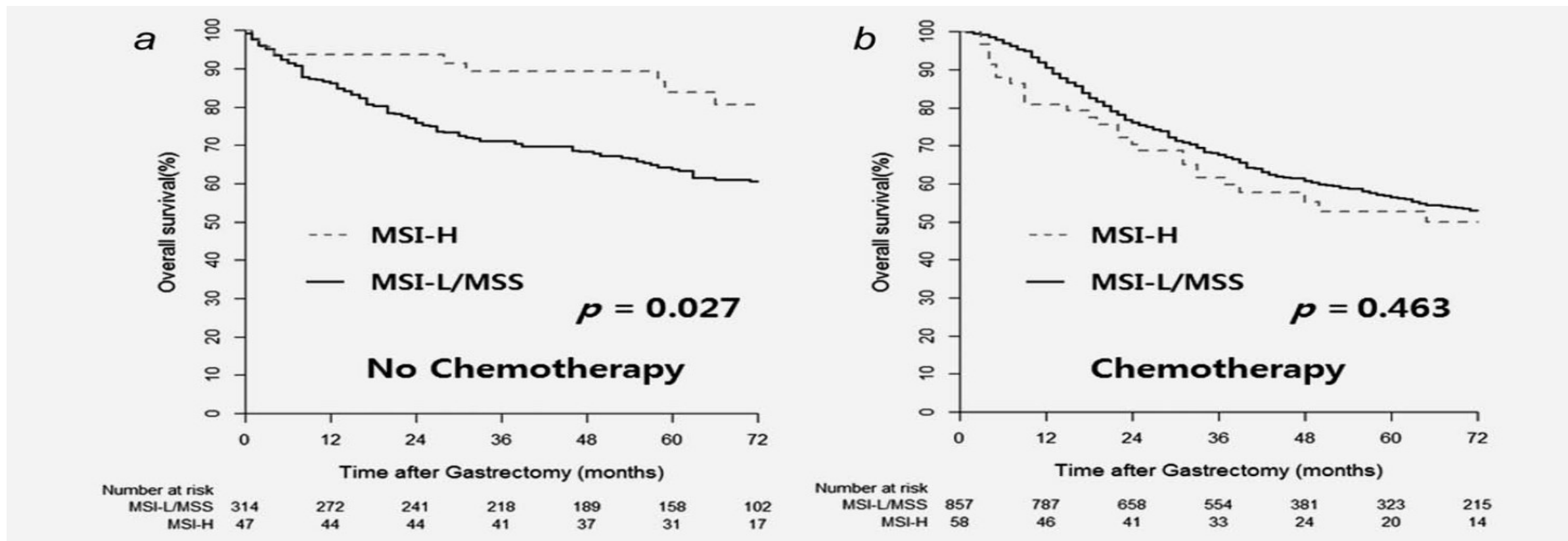
- adjuvant chemotherapy and chemoradiotherapy are possible if a patient has not had any treatment before surgery

For oesophageal and gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma **peri-operative chemotherapy** or **neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy** are both validated options.

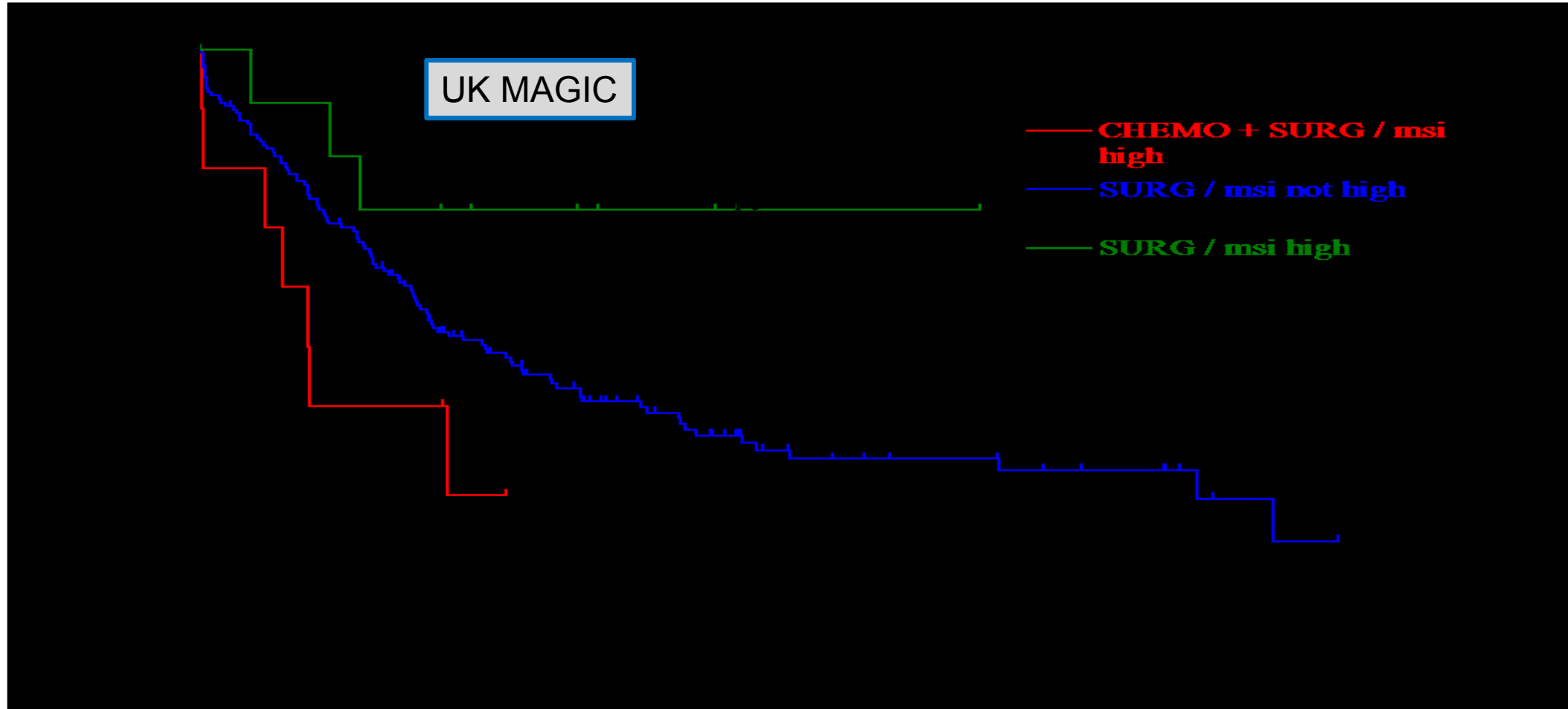
FUTURE DIRECTIONS

A**MSI
Tumour****B****MSS
Tumour**

MSI-H Gastric Cancer – Postoperative Chemotherapy



MSI-H Gastric Cancer – Perioperative Chemotherapy



MSI-H Gastric Cancer Stage IV

Response to Pembrolizumab according to MSI Status (n=174)

Response ^a	MSI-High (n=7)		Non-MSI-High (n=167)	
	%	95% CI	%	95% CI
ORR	57.1	18.4-90.1	9.0	5.1-14.4
CR	14.3	0.4-57.9	2.4	0.7-6.0
PR	42.9	9.9-81.6	6.6	3.3-11.5
DCR	71.4	29.0-96.3	22.2	16.1-29.2

Perioperative Projects Gastric Cancer

Inclusion criteria :

- to be defined in detail, e.g.
- Pt eligible for perioperative treatment and potentially eligible for the clinical trials
- Availability of sufficient tumor material
- Informed consent for screening

Step 1:

HER-2+
MSI-
testing

Step 2: proposition of a clinical trial or biobanking

If HER-2
positive

« INNOVATION »

If MSI-high

Immunotherapy study

.....

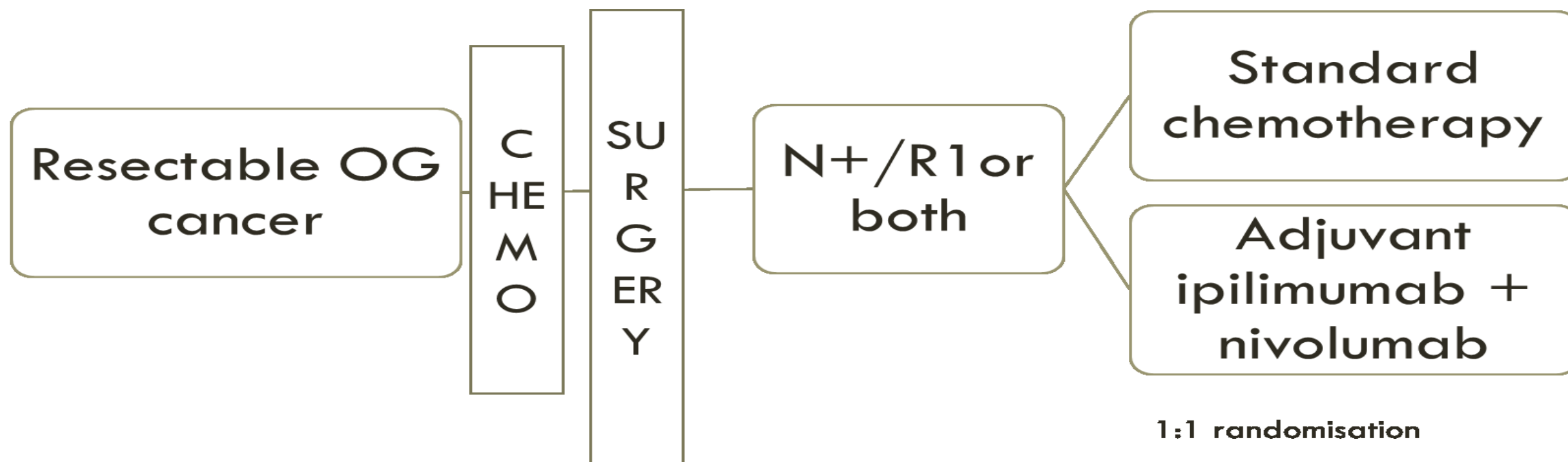
.....screening for other biomarkers and further trials may be added in the future

Poor Chemo
Response

Adjuvant Immunotherapy

Immuno Therapy for Patients at High Risk of Relapse

EORTC Study 1707 VESTIGE
(design)



DANK

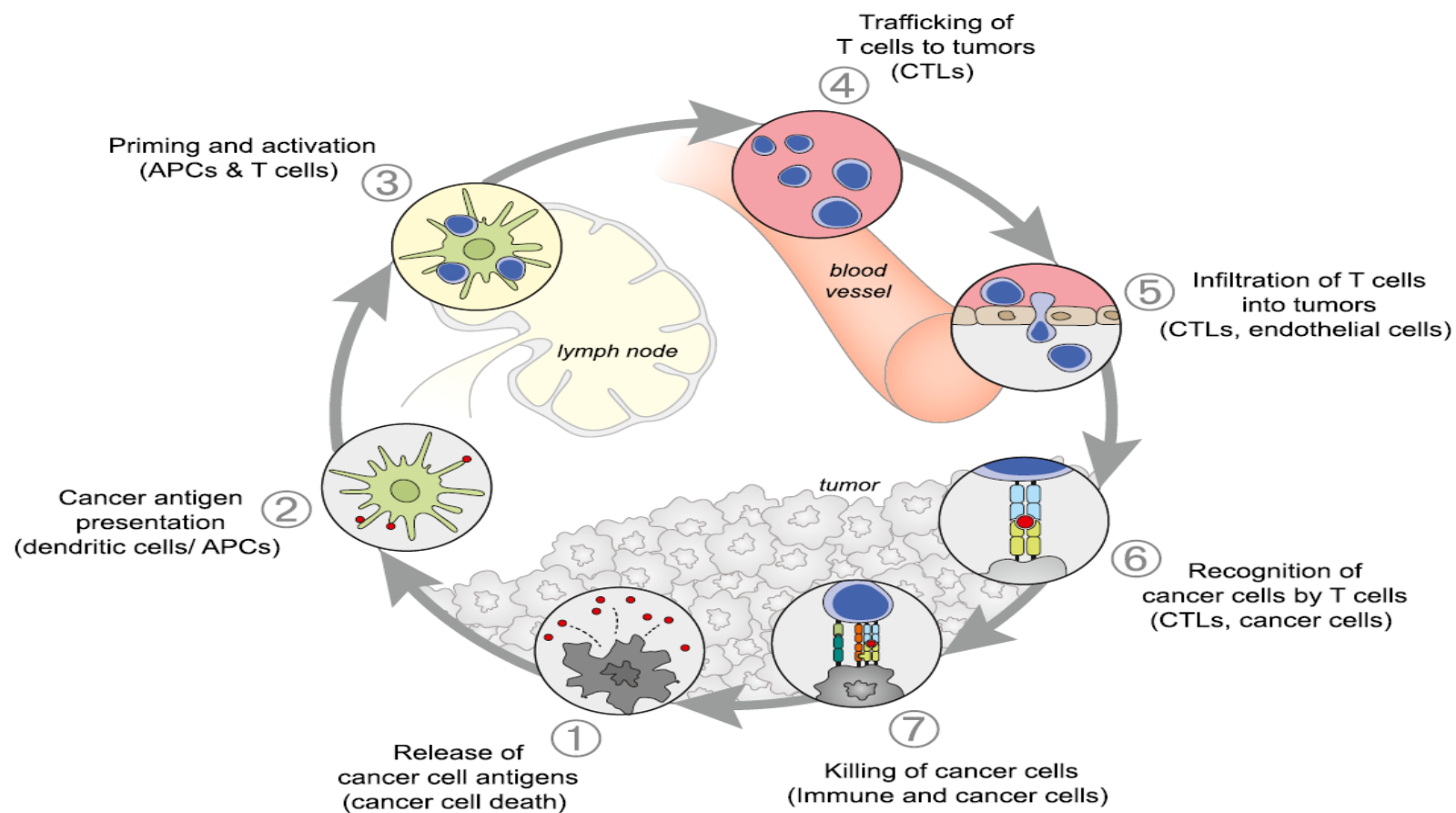
Voor bijdrage aan deze presentatie

- ♦ **Elizabeth C. Smyth,**
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- ♦ **Florian Lordick**
 - ♦ Professor of Oncology
 - ♦ Director University Cancer Center Leipzig (UCCL)
- ♦ **Annemieke Cats**
 - ♦ Department gastrointestinal Oncology
 - ♦ Netherlands Cancer Institute

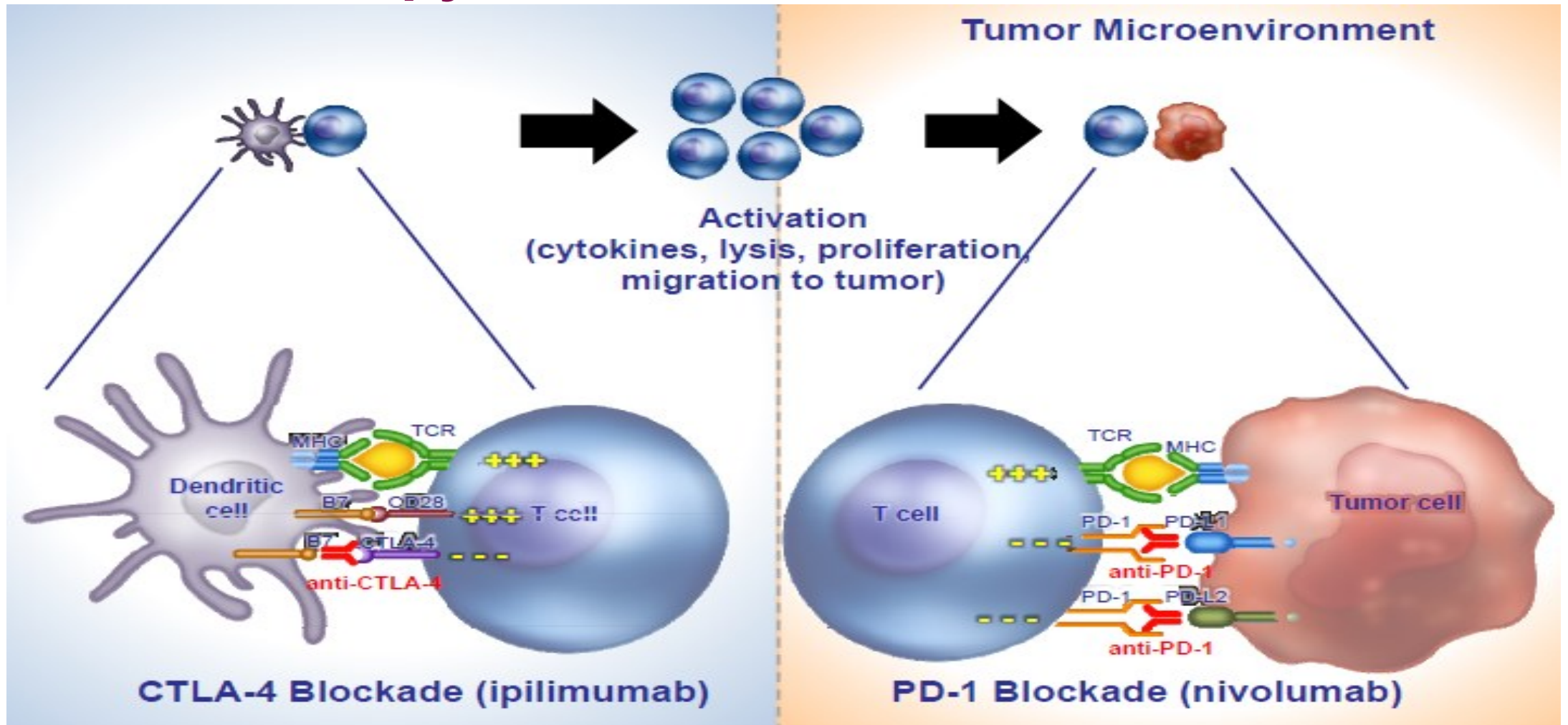
Back up slices

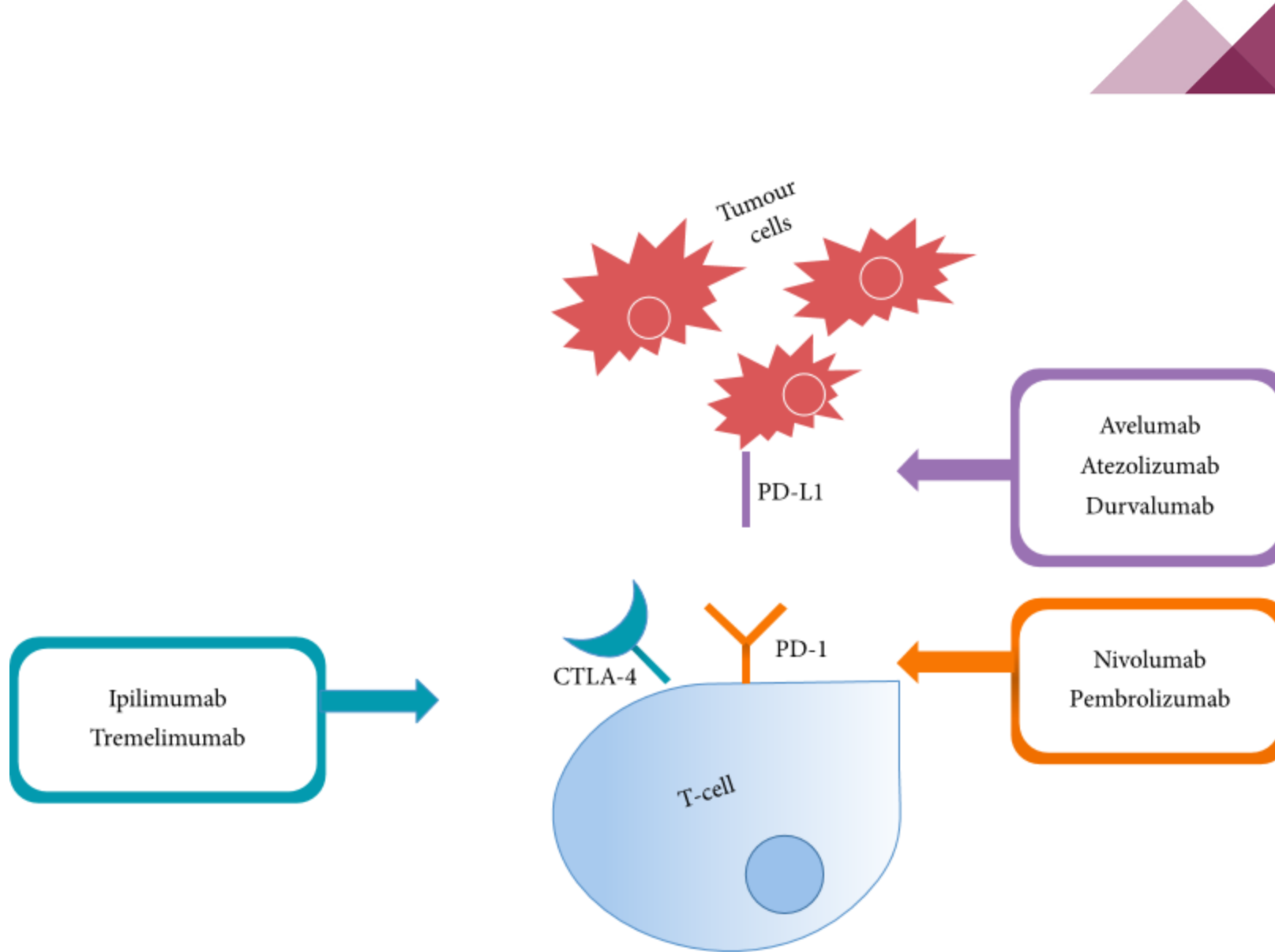
Immune-Therapy

The immune therapy cycle

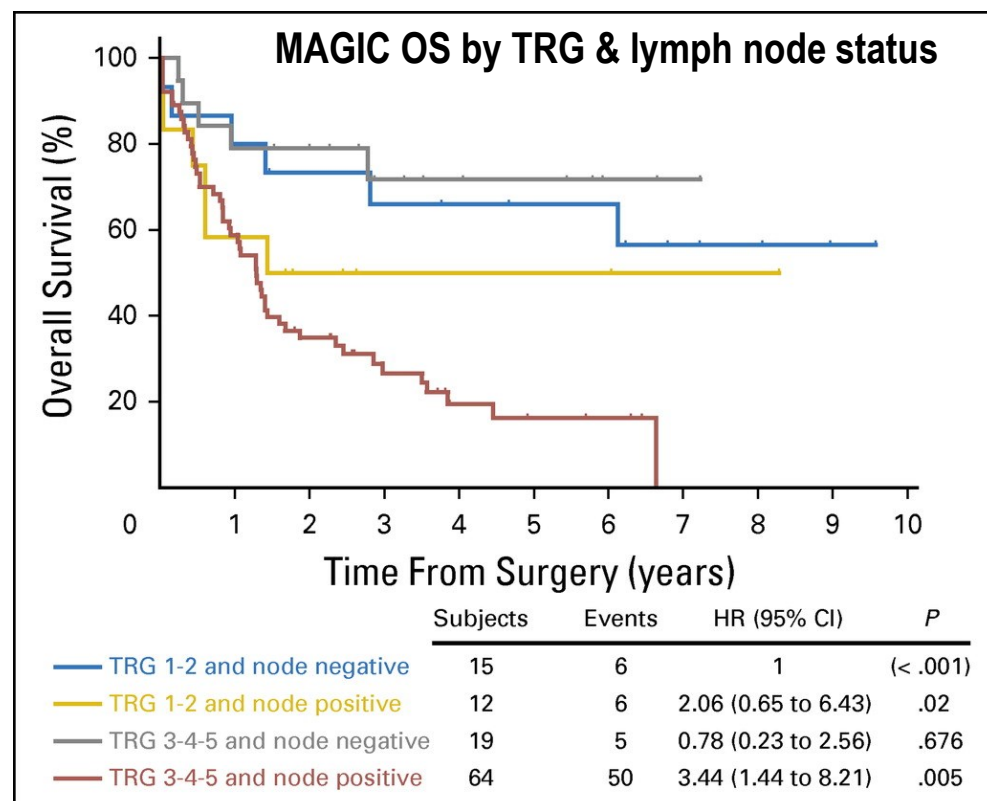


Immune-Therapy

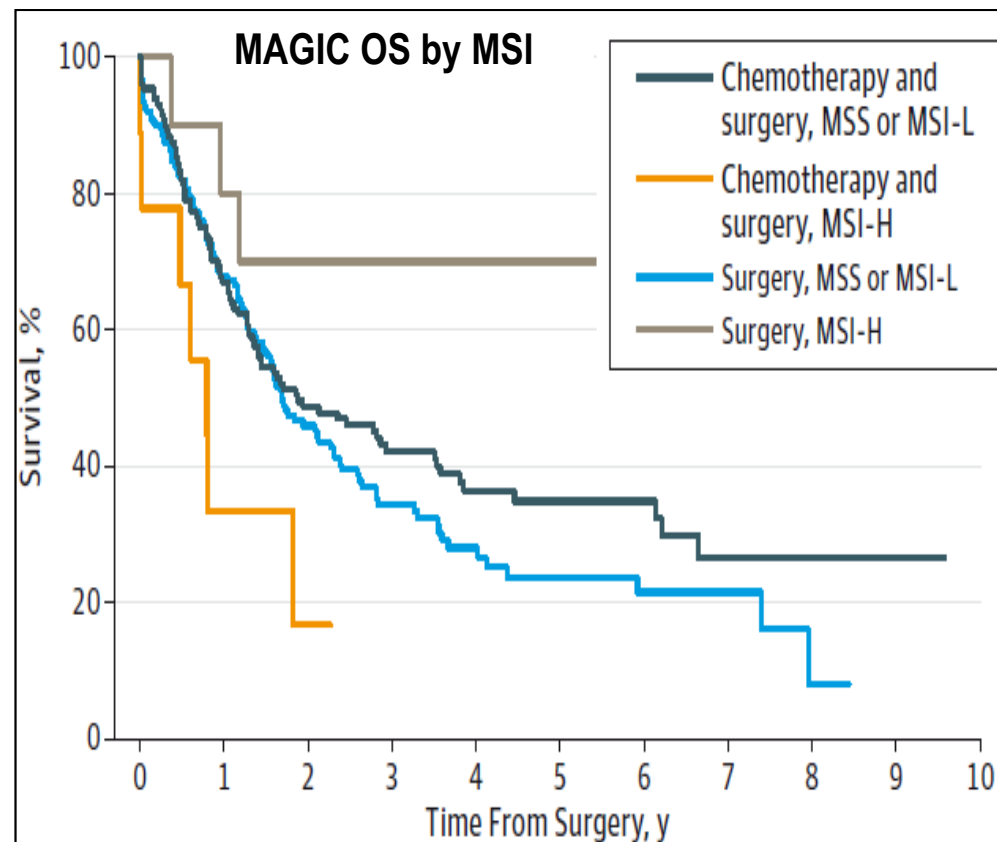




RISK STRATIFICATION AND PERSONALISED TREATMENT



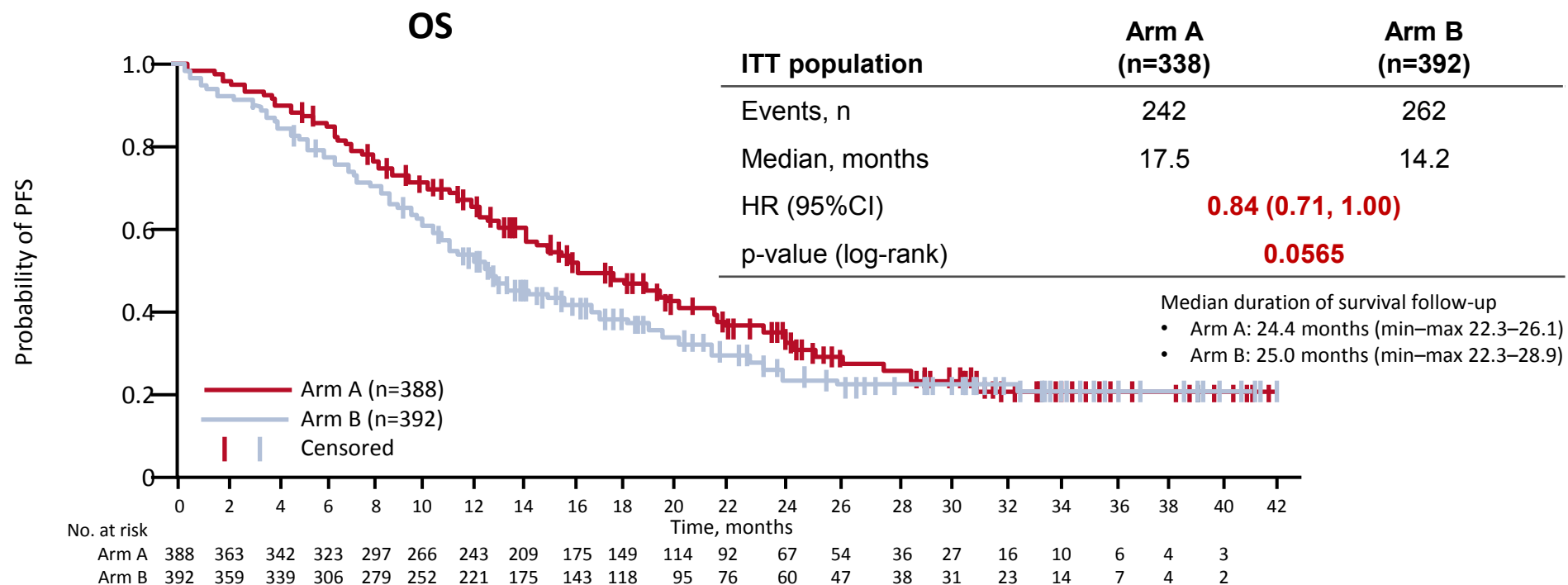
Limited pathological response and post operative lymph node metastases identify patients with a poor prognosis following peri-operative chemotherapy



MSI-H (microsatellite unstable) gastric cancer does not benefit from peri-operative chemotherapy

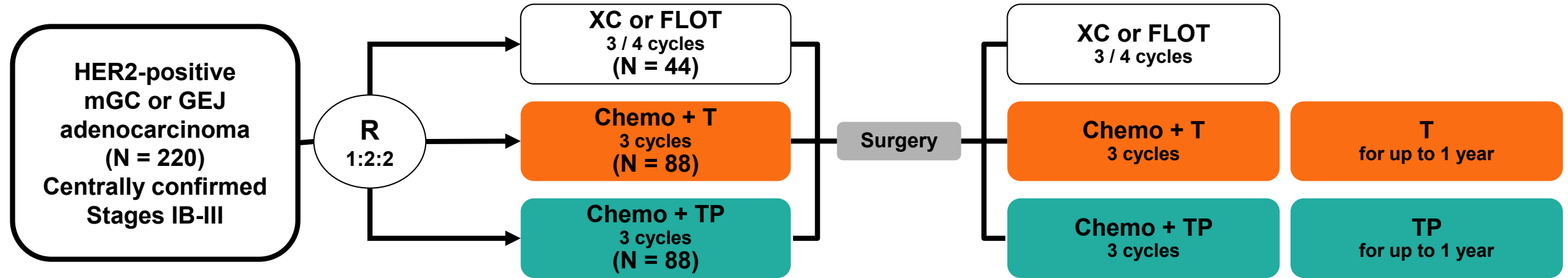
In future, trials might be guided by these and other emerging biomarkers to determine best treatment for each patient

Pertuzumab – Trastuzumab – JACOB Study



	Arm A (n=388)	Arm B (n=392)	HR (95%CI)
mPFS, months	8.5	7.0	0.73 (0.62, 0.86)
Response rate (%)	56.7	48.3	Difference 8.4 (0.9, 15.9)

Perioperative INNOVATION study



T: Trastuzumab; P: Pertuzumab

- **Primary endpoint:** histopathological near complete response (<10% viable tumour cells) after neoadjuvant therapy
- **Stratification:** histological subtype (intestinal/non-intestinal); Korea versus Europe; stage II versus III; node positive versus node negative





