

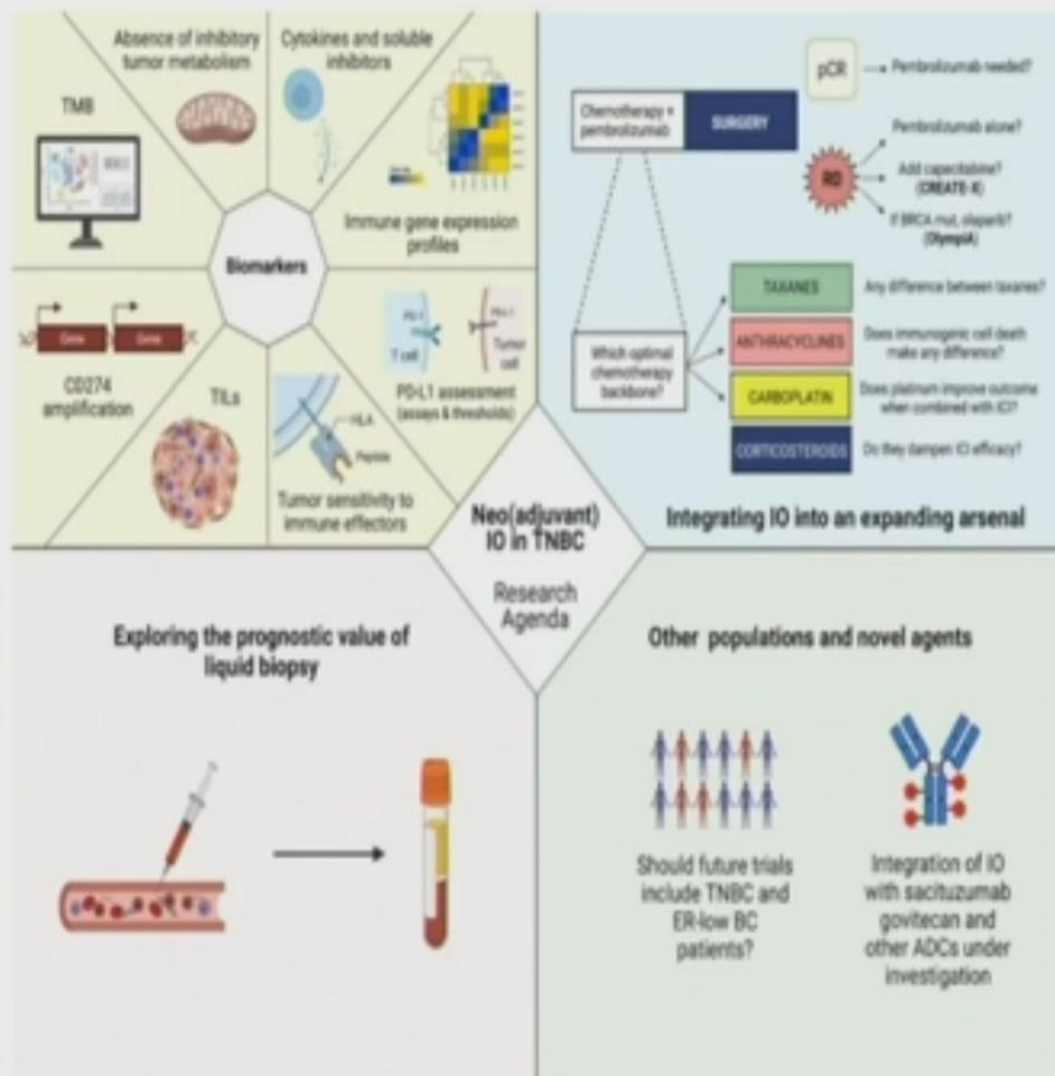
Integrating Immunotherapy in the Treatment Landscape of Patients
With Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

**Immunotherapy for Patients with Early Stage TNBC: Is the
Presence of Immune/Tumor Cells Required**

Prof. Dr. Sibylle Loibl

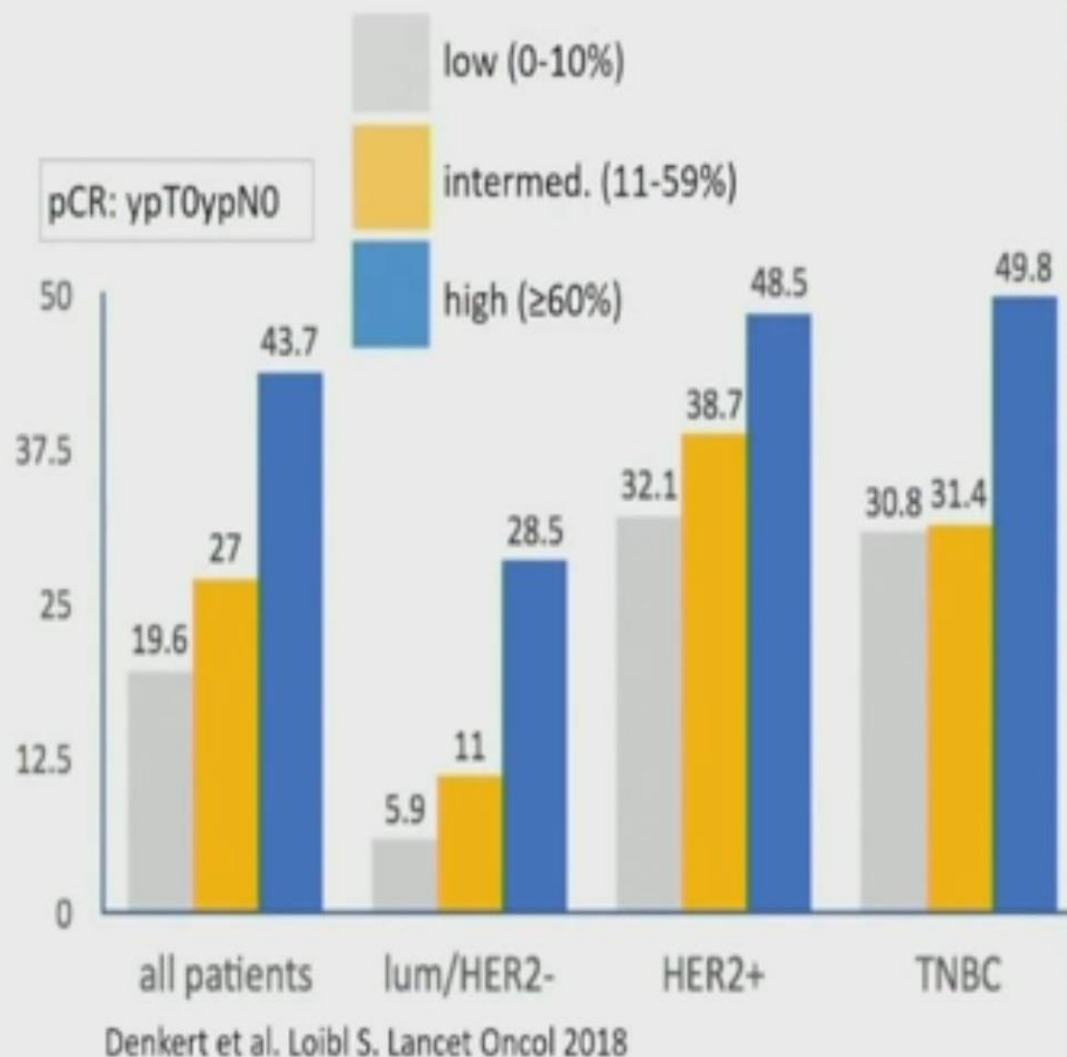
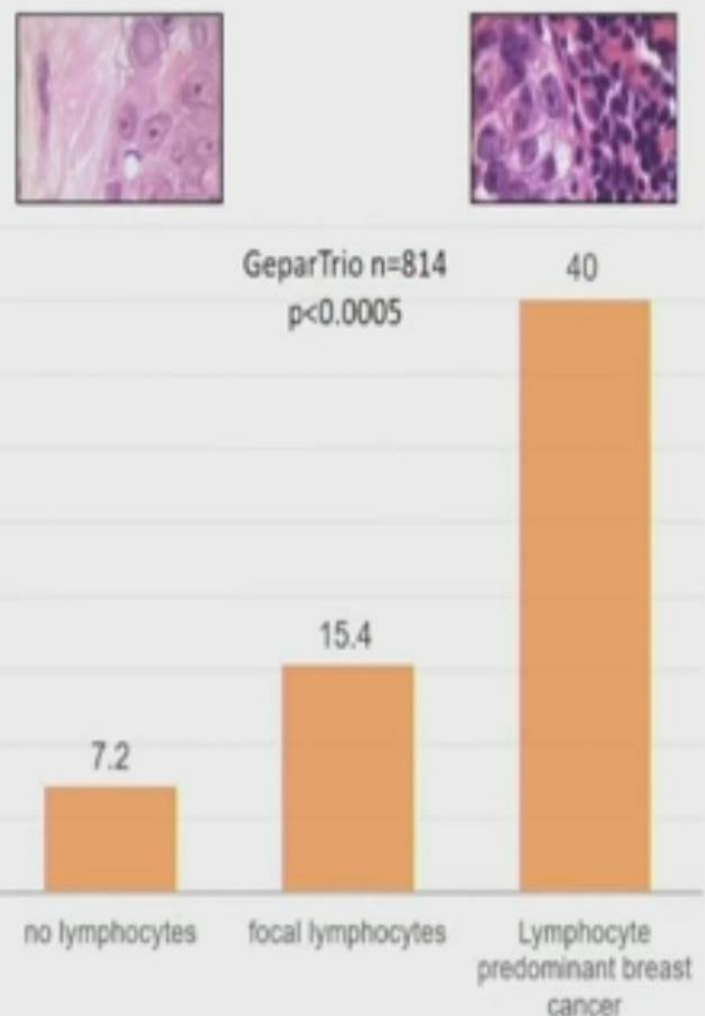
German Breast Group
Centre for Haematology and Oncology, Bethanien, Frankfurt
Goethe University Frankfurt

Where do we stand and what do we need to know



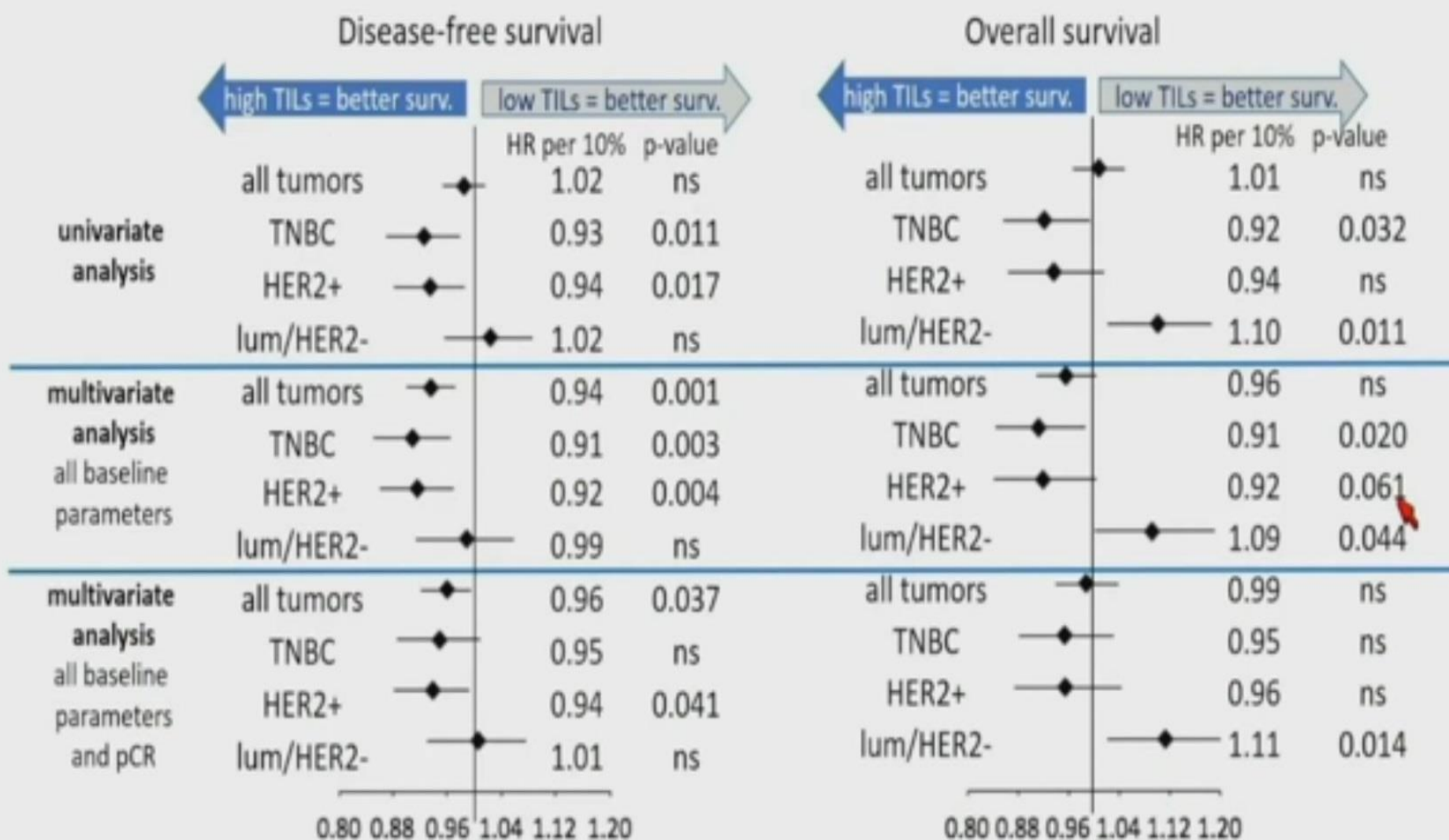
Tarantino P, et al. NPJ Breast Cancer 2022; doi: 10.1038/s41523-022-00386-1

TILs are linked to response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy in all subtypes



Denkert et al. J Clin Oncol 2010

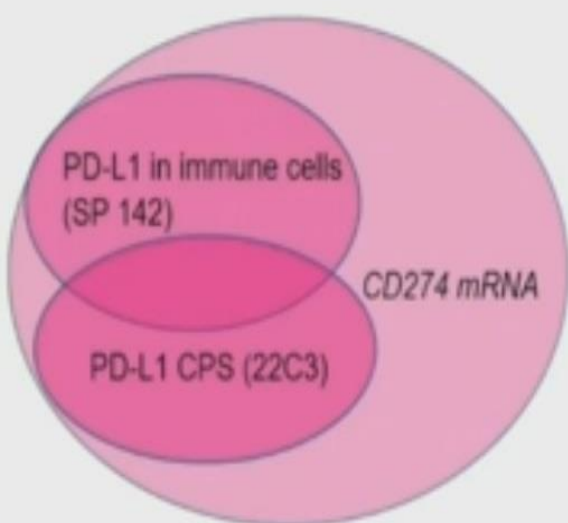
high TILs in pretreatment samples → improved survival in HER2+ and TNBC



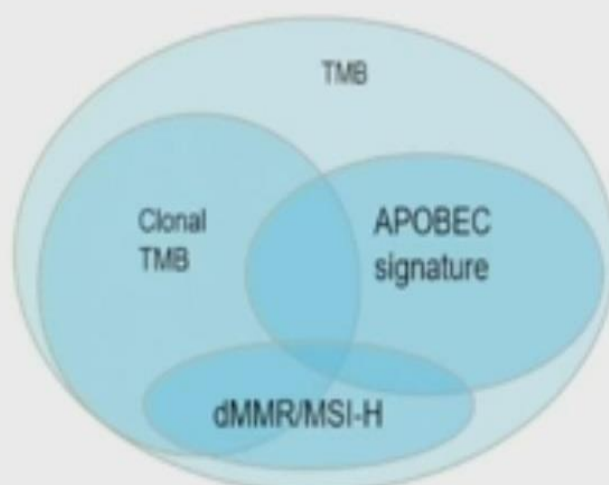
Denkert C et al. Loibl S. Lancet Oncol 2018

Markers Associated with Response to CPI

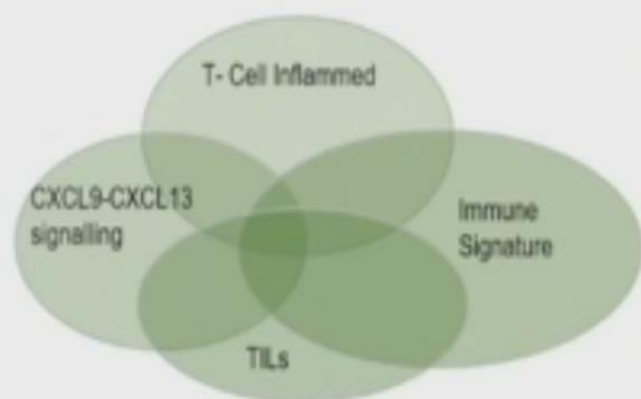
Immune Checkpoints



Tumor Mutations



Immune Cell Infiltration



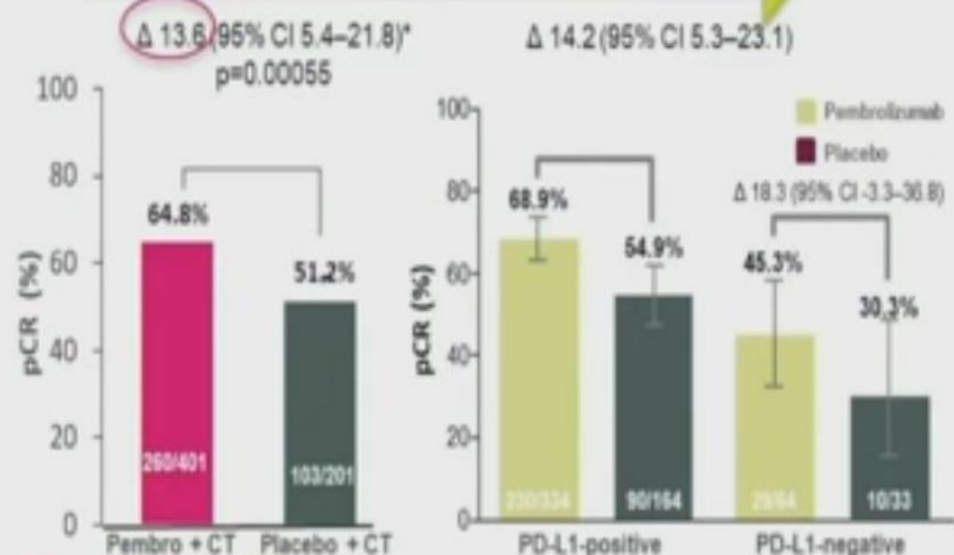
Adapted according to Bianchini G et al. Nature Reviews 2021

KN 522 pCR results

KEYNOTE-522¹ (IA1)

Pembrolizumab + CT vs placebo + CT in early TNBC

PD-L1 testing in eTNBC not necessary



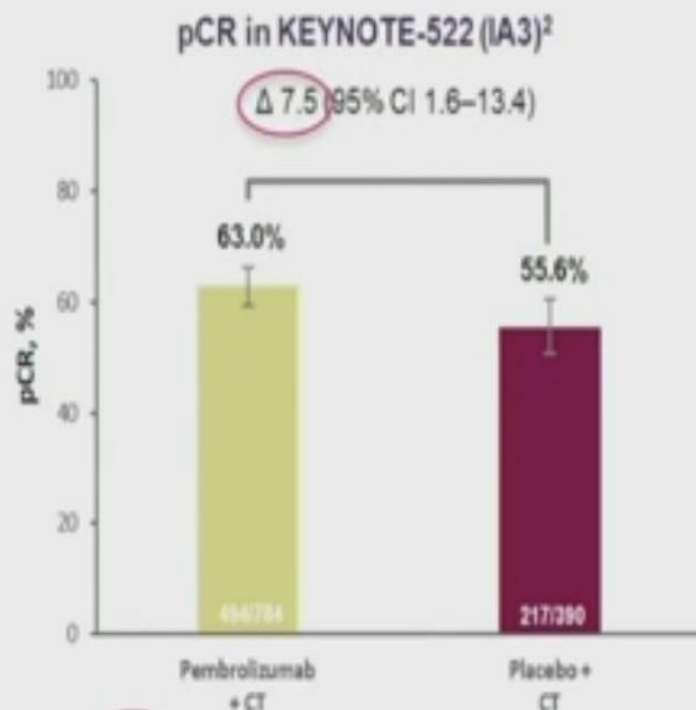
First 602 randomised participants eligible for pCR analysis
(Data cut-off date 24 September 2019)

PD-L1 assessed at a central laboratory using the PD-L1 IHC 22C3
pharmDx assay and measured as PD-L1 +ve if CPS ≥ 1

83% PD-L1 +

KEYNOTE-522 (IA3)²

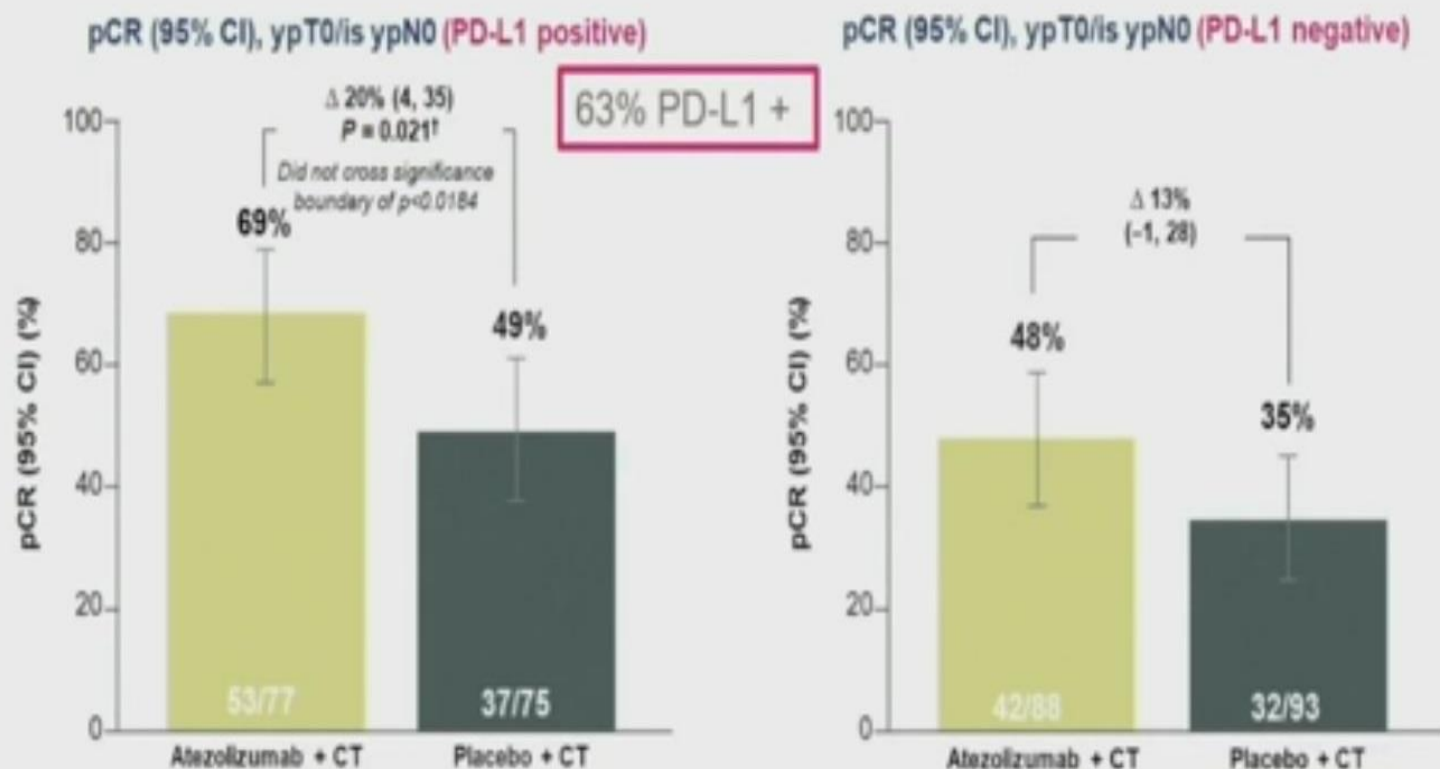
Pembrolizumab + CT vs placebo + CT in early TNBC



All 1174 participants in ITT
(Data cut-off date 23 March 2020)

Results on pCR by PD-L1 status in Impassion031

Impassion031
Atezolizumab + CT vs placebo + CT in early TNBC

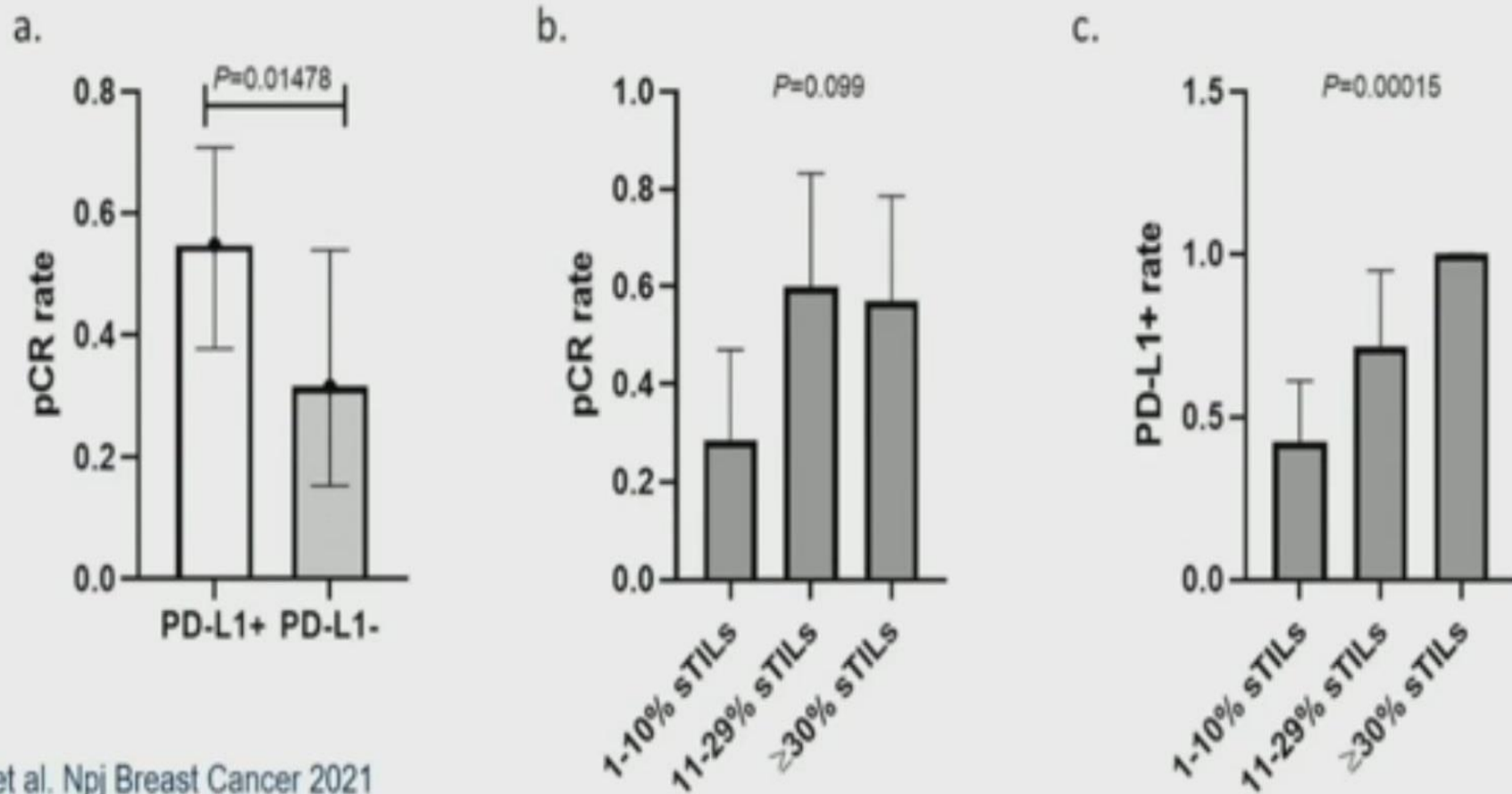


Mittendorf et al. Lancet 2020

PD-L1 testing in early TNBC not necessary

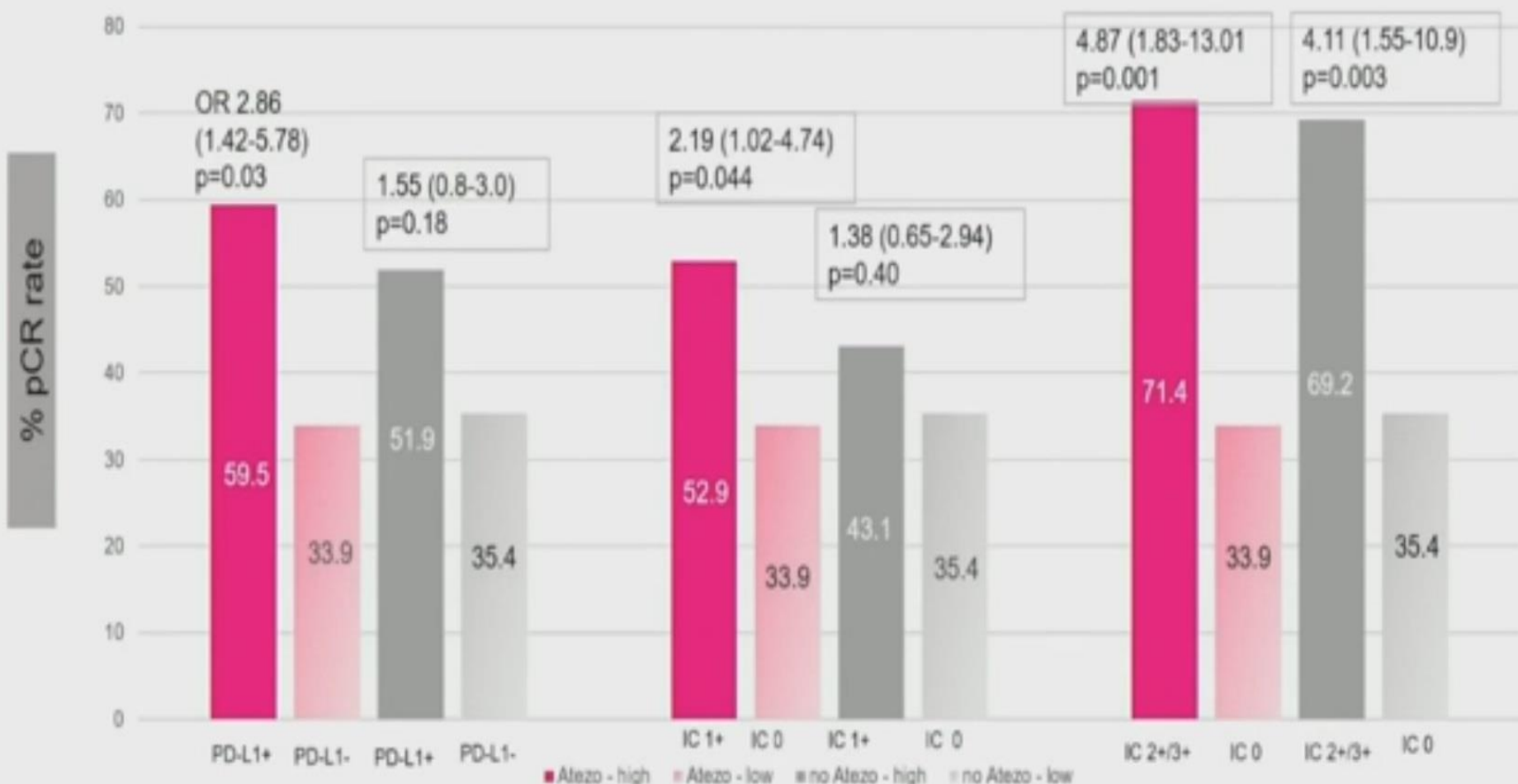
pCR in PD-L1 + and high TILs

Durvalumab 10mg/kg every 2 weeks plus nab-paclitaxel (100 mg/m²) and ddAC resulted in a pCR rate of **44%** (95% CI: 30–57%)



Foldi J et al. Npj Breast Cancer 2021

NeoTrip PD-L1, IC score and pCR



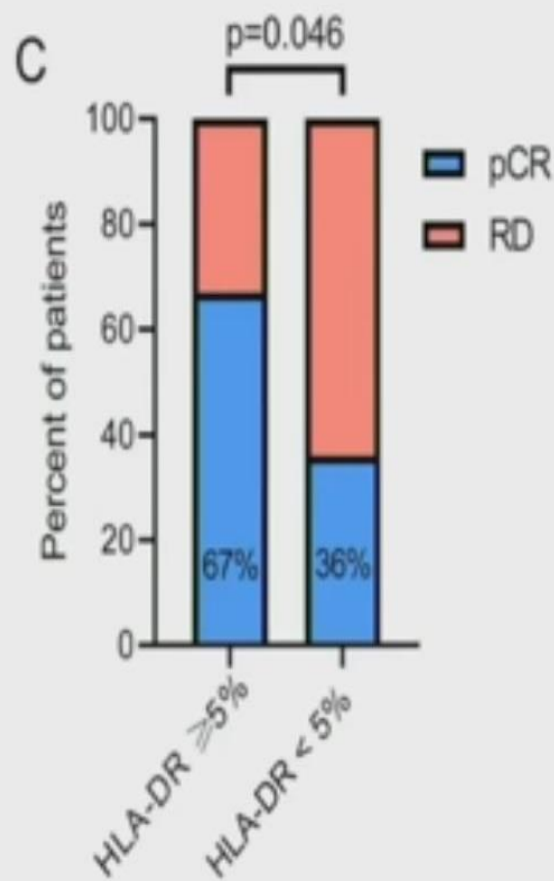
Gianni L et al. Annals Oncol 2022

NeoTrip – Multivariate Analysis for pCR

Variable	Effect	Odds ratio (95% CI)	P value
Treatment	Atezo versus no atezo	1.11 (0.88-1.40)	0.39
PD-L1 expression	Positive versus negative	2.08 (1.64-2.65)	<0.0001
Disease stage	Early high risk versus locally advanced	0.84 (0.66-1.06)	0.14

Gianni L et al. Annals Oncol 2022

Tumor-specific MHC-II/HLA-DR expression is associated with pathologic complete response to NAC and anti-PD-L1 inhibition

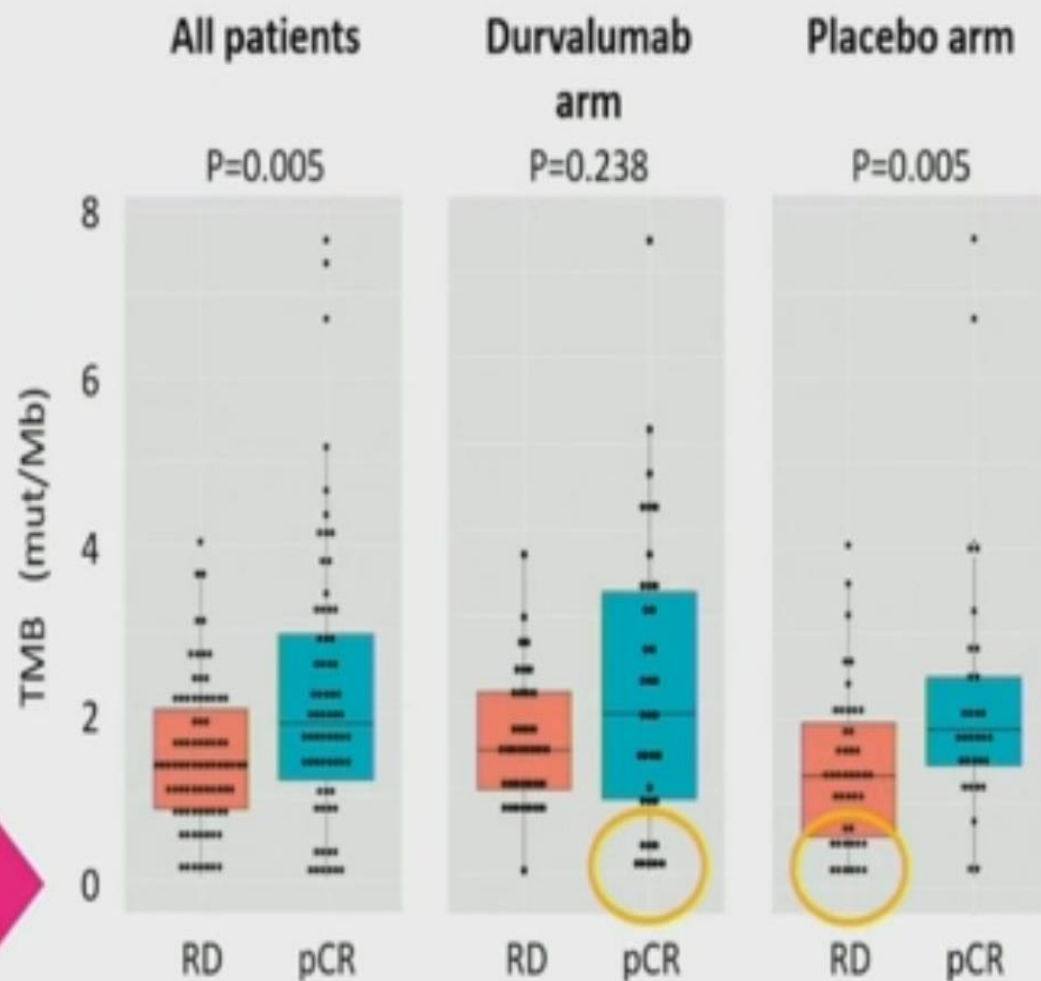


Gonzalez-Ericsson PI, et al. Clin Cancer Res 2022; <https://doi.org/10.1158/2F1078-0432.CCR-21-0607>

Association of pCR and TMB



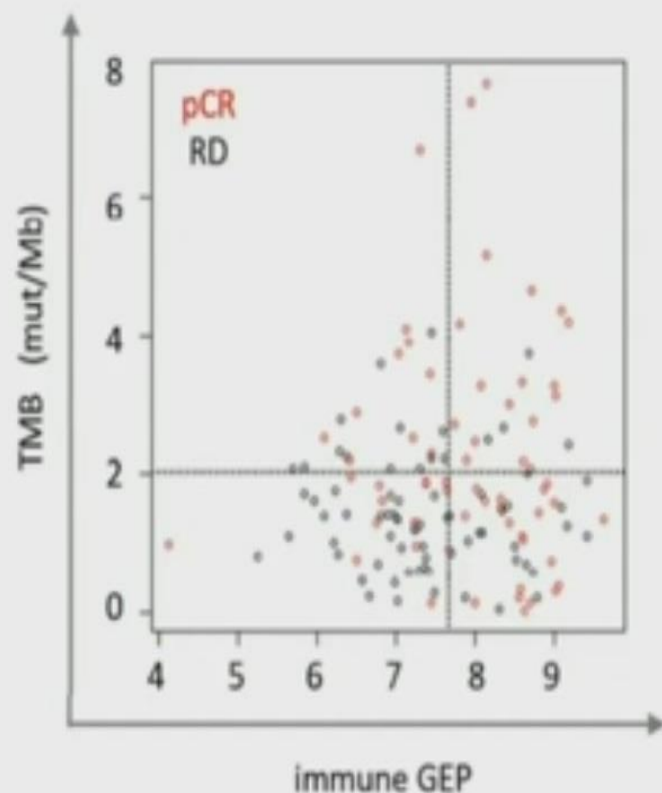
Cases with lowest TMB values experienced a pCR with durvalumab in contrast to placebo arm



Karn et al. 2020 Ann Onc PMID 32461104

TMB and Immune gene expression predict pCR

A

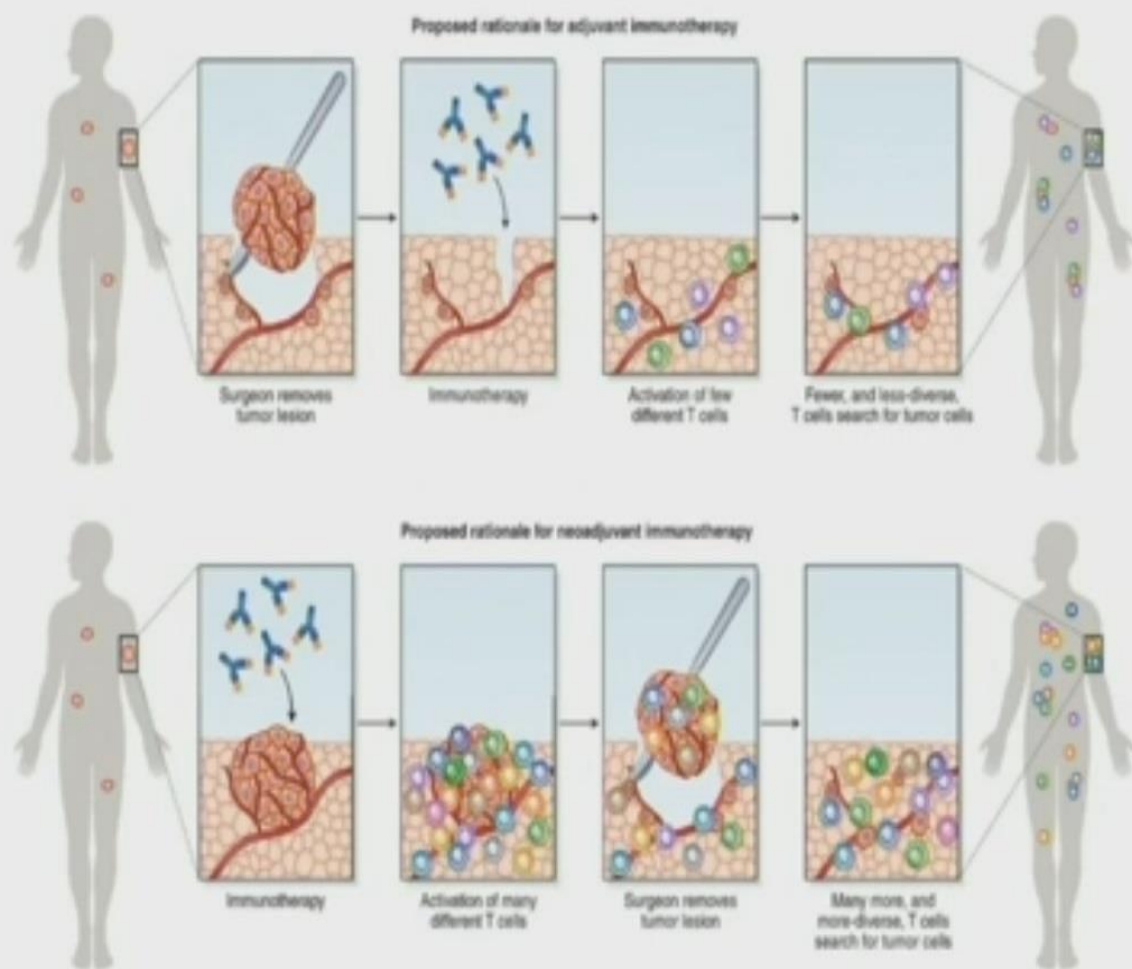


B



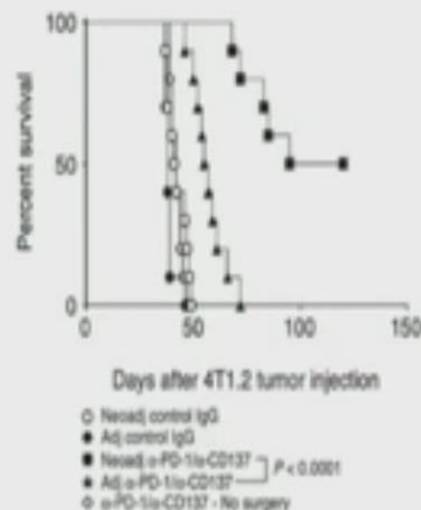
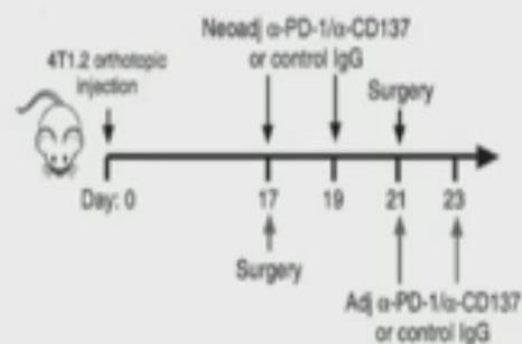
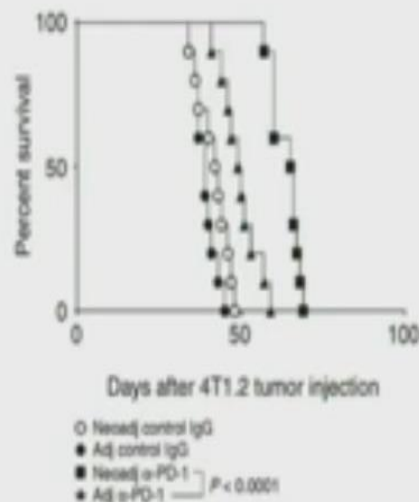
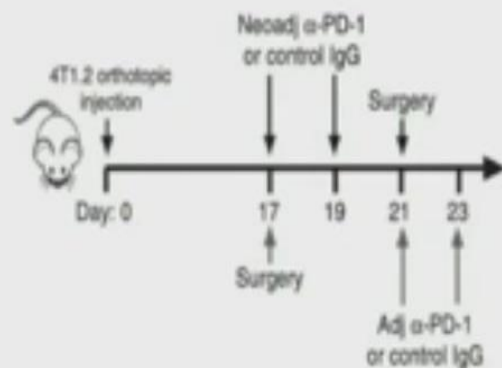
Karn T et al. Annals Oncol 2020

Adjuvant vs Neoadjuvant CPI Therapy



Versluis JM et al. Nature Med 2020

Mice receiving neoadjuvant IO live longer



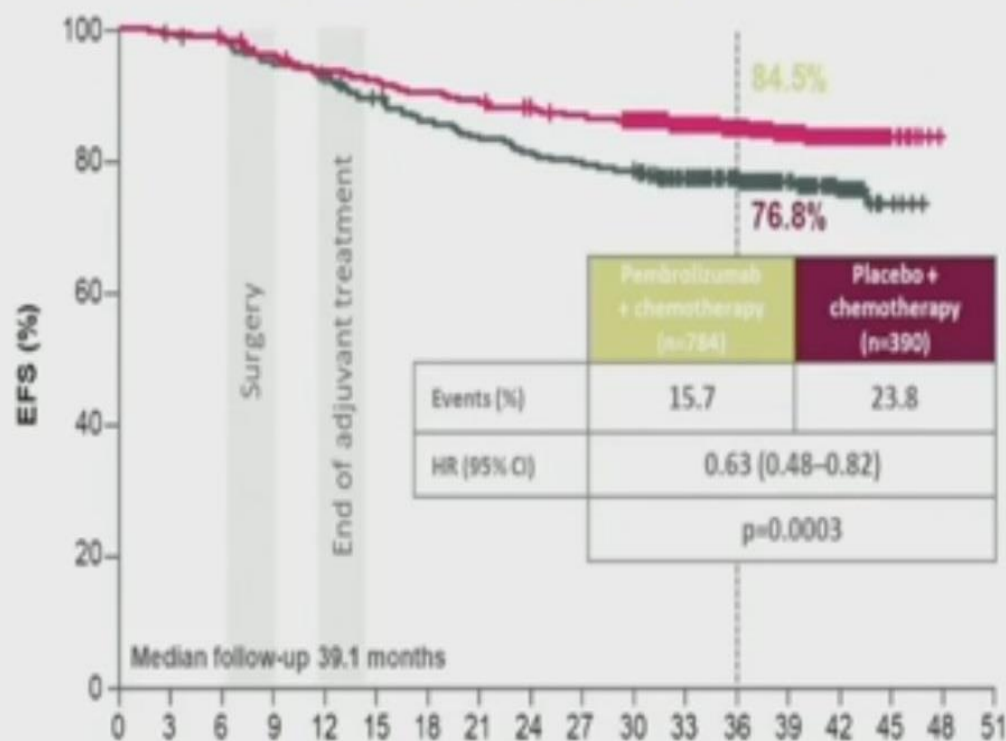
Liu et al. Cancer Discovery 2016

Survival Data with CPI as neoadjuvant therapy

EFS KN 522

KEYNOTE-522¹ (IA4) Pembrolizumab + CT vs placebo + CT in early TNBC

EFS in KEYNOTE-522 (IA4)¹



	Pembrolizumab + chemotherapy (n=784)	Placebo + chemotherapy (n=390)
Events (%)	15.7	23.8
HR (95% CI)	0.63 (0.48-0.82)	
	p=0.0003	

No. at risk

784	781	769	751	728	718	702	692	681	671	652	551	433	303	165	28	0	0
390	386	382	368	358	342	328	319	310	304	297	250	195	140	83	17	0	0

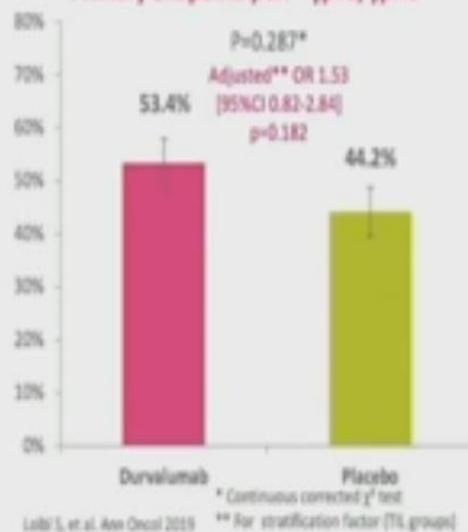
PD-L1_{-negative} (HR 0.48, 95% CI 0.28-0.85)

PD-L1_{+positive} (HR 0.67, 95% CI 0.49-0.92)

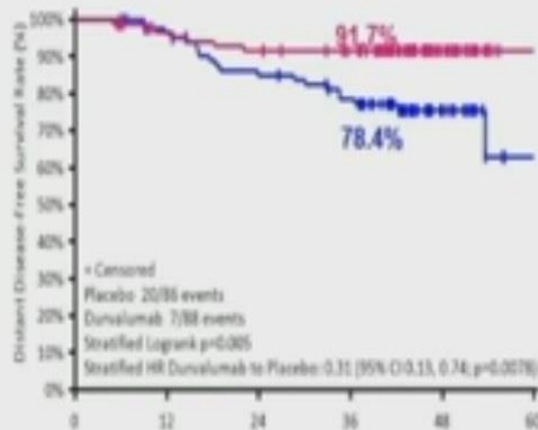
Schmid P et al. New Engl J Med 2022

GeparNUEVO clinical results

Primary endpoint: pCR – ypT0, ypN0



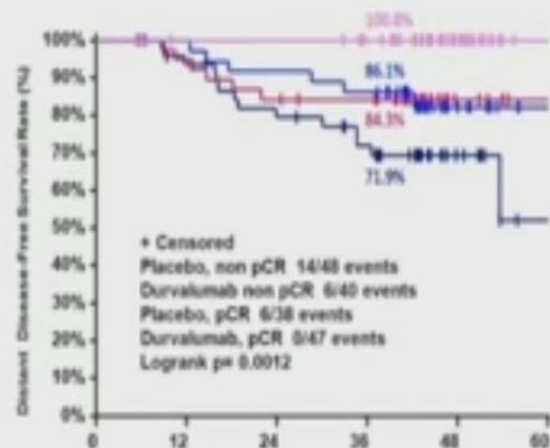
DDFS



Patients at risk:

	0	12	24	36	48	60
Placebo	86	78	67	59	56	0
Durvalumab	88	80	76	70	20	0

DDFS by pCR



Patients at risk:

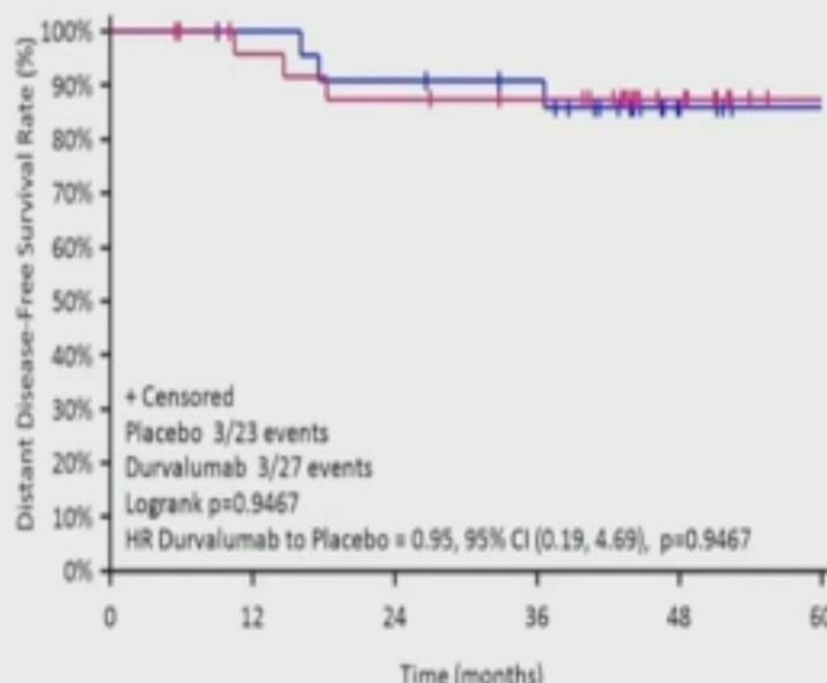
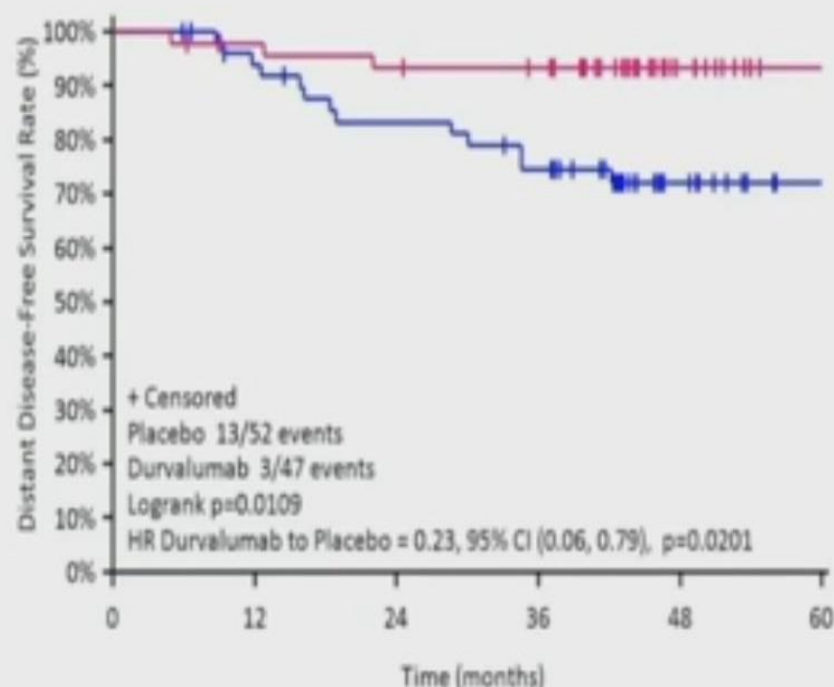
	0	12	24	36	48	60
Placebo, non pCR	48	42	34	28	8	0
Durvalumab, non pCR	40	36	32	30	5	0
Placebo, pCR	38	36	33	31	8	0
Durvalumab, pCR	17	17	17	17	15	0

Loibl S et al. Annals Oncol 2019 and ASCO 2021

DDFS according to treatment in TMB subgroups

Low TMB (Tertile 1 & 2)

High TMB (Tertile 3)



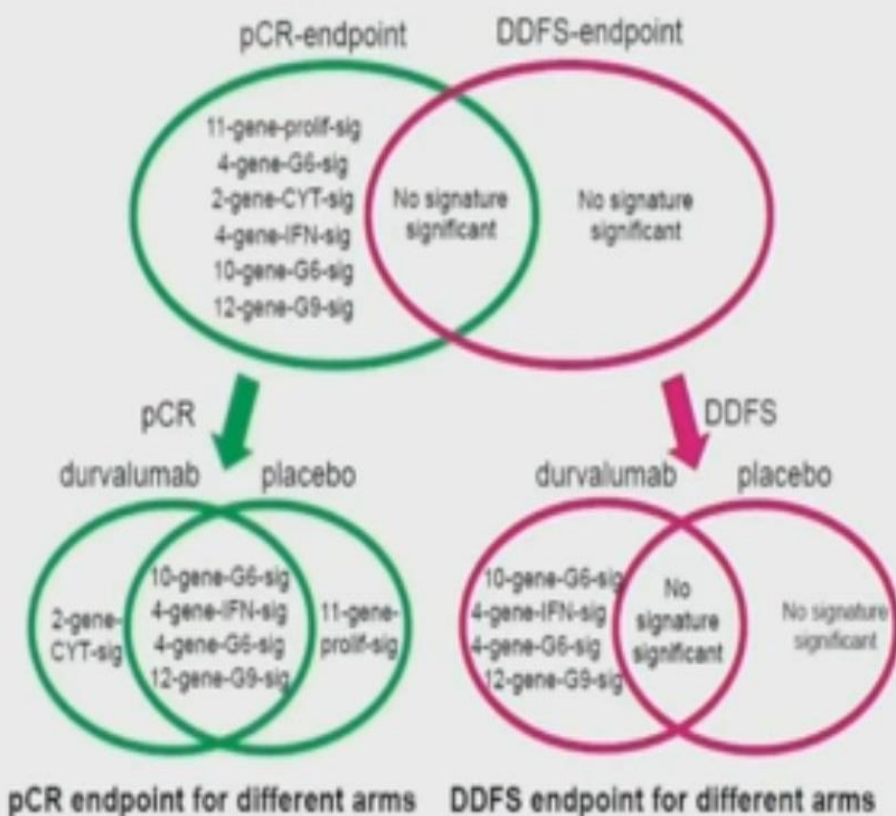
Placebo	52	45	39	34	10	0
Durvalumab	47	44	42	40	10	0

Placebo	23	22	20	18	4	0
Durvalumab	27	23	21	19	8	0

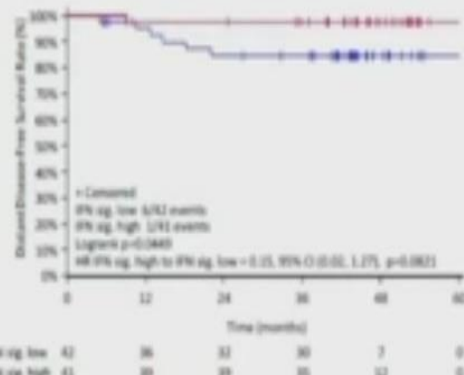
Karn T et al. ASCO 2022 #581

Immune genes predict response to Durvalumab

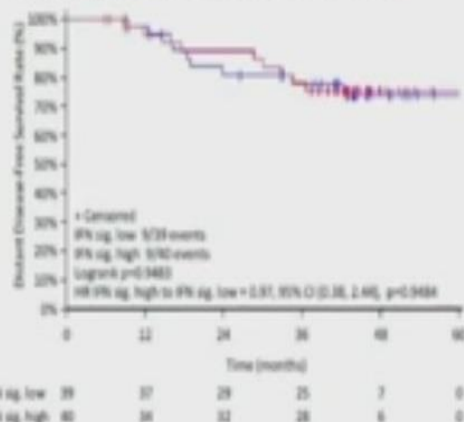
A Both therapy arms of GeparNuevo combined



B: IFN-signature in durvalumab arm



C: IFN-signature in placebo arm



Denkert C et al. ASCO 2022 #583

Conclusion

- Role of Immune Cells/Tumor Cells as Response Predictor for CPI in Early TNBC unclear at this point in time.
- Patients with sTILs at baseline and in residual tumor have a very good prognosis
- Immune Cells, Immune Genes, PD-L1 Expression and TILs **predict** pCR rate after NACT+/-CPI
- Immune Cells, PD-L1 Expression and TILs **do not predict** treatment effect of CPI added to NACT
- Immune signatures might be able **to predict** response to Durvalumab
- pCR **does not correlate** well with long-term outcome in TNBC after NACT+ CPI in contrast to chemotherapy alone
- Neoadjuvant CPI therapy might be superior to adjuvant CPI therapy – no evidence from clinical trials yet
- More biomarker data needed for long term outcome after CPI

Open Questions and Potential Trials

Do we need CPI after neoadjuvant therapy?

- TNBC
- NACT +CPI
- pCR
- No pCR with high TILs in RD

R

Continue CPI after surgery as per SOC

No further treatment

Is neoadjuvant CPI therapy better than adjuvant?

- TNBC

R

Adjuvant CPI

Neoadjuvant CPI