

# Future B.C. strategies



# The example of HER2 positive B.C. !

**Martine J. Piccart-Gebhart, MD, PhD**

**Jules Bordet Institute, Brussels, Belgium**

**Université Libre de Bruxelles**

**Breast International Group (BIG aisbl), Chair**

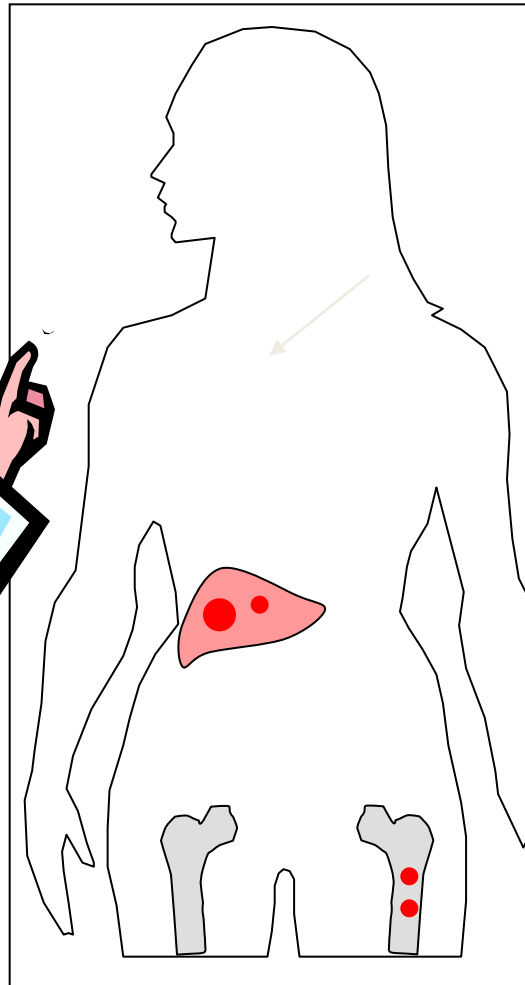
# TRASTUZUMAB PRESCRIPTION BY MEDICAL ONCOLOGISTS IN 2012

**I use the gun only if the primary tumor is HER2+ !**

**I use the gun each time the target is present !**



# TREATING HER2 POSITIVE BC IN 2020

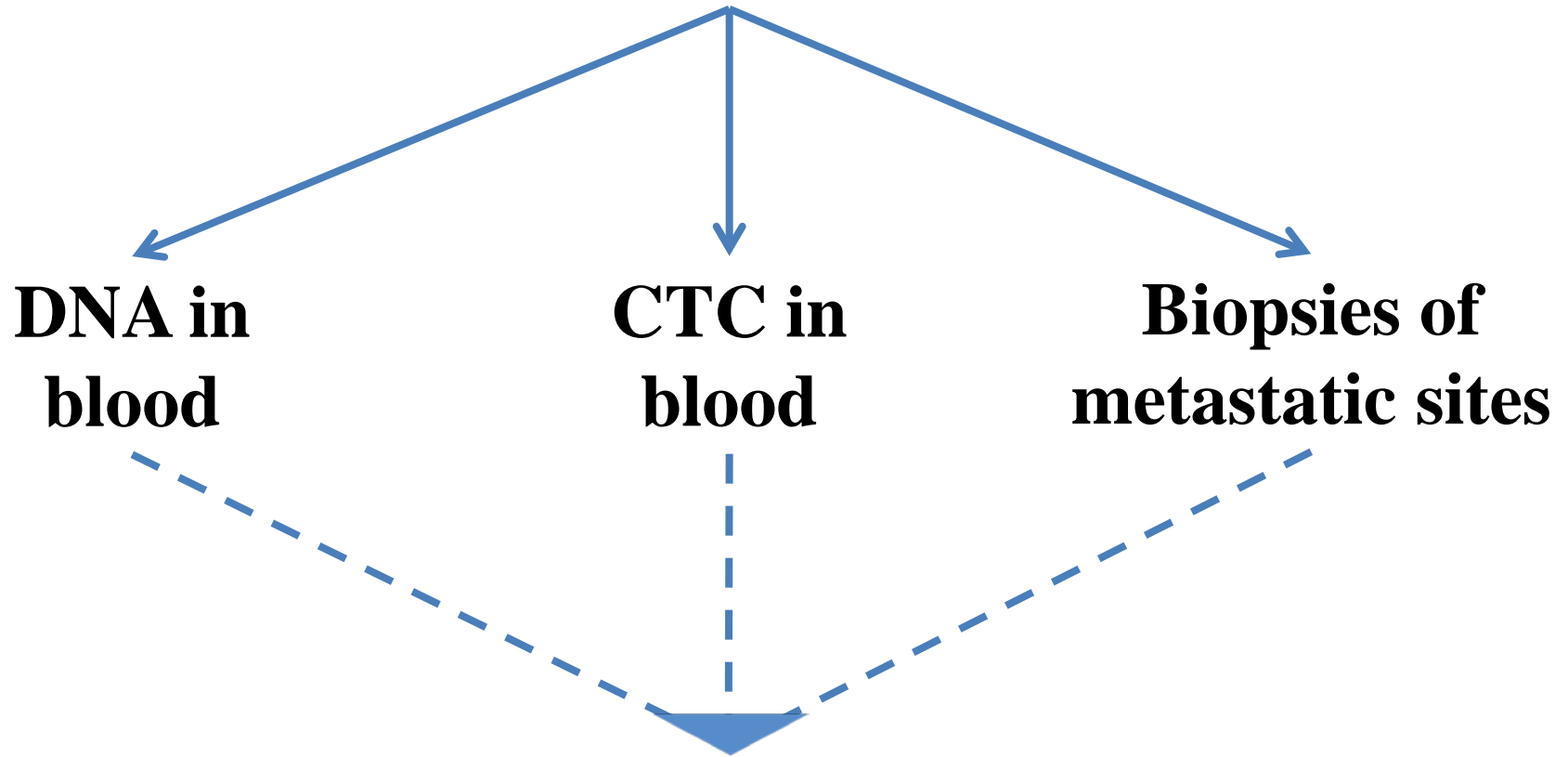


**Better molecular  
diagnostic tests**



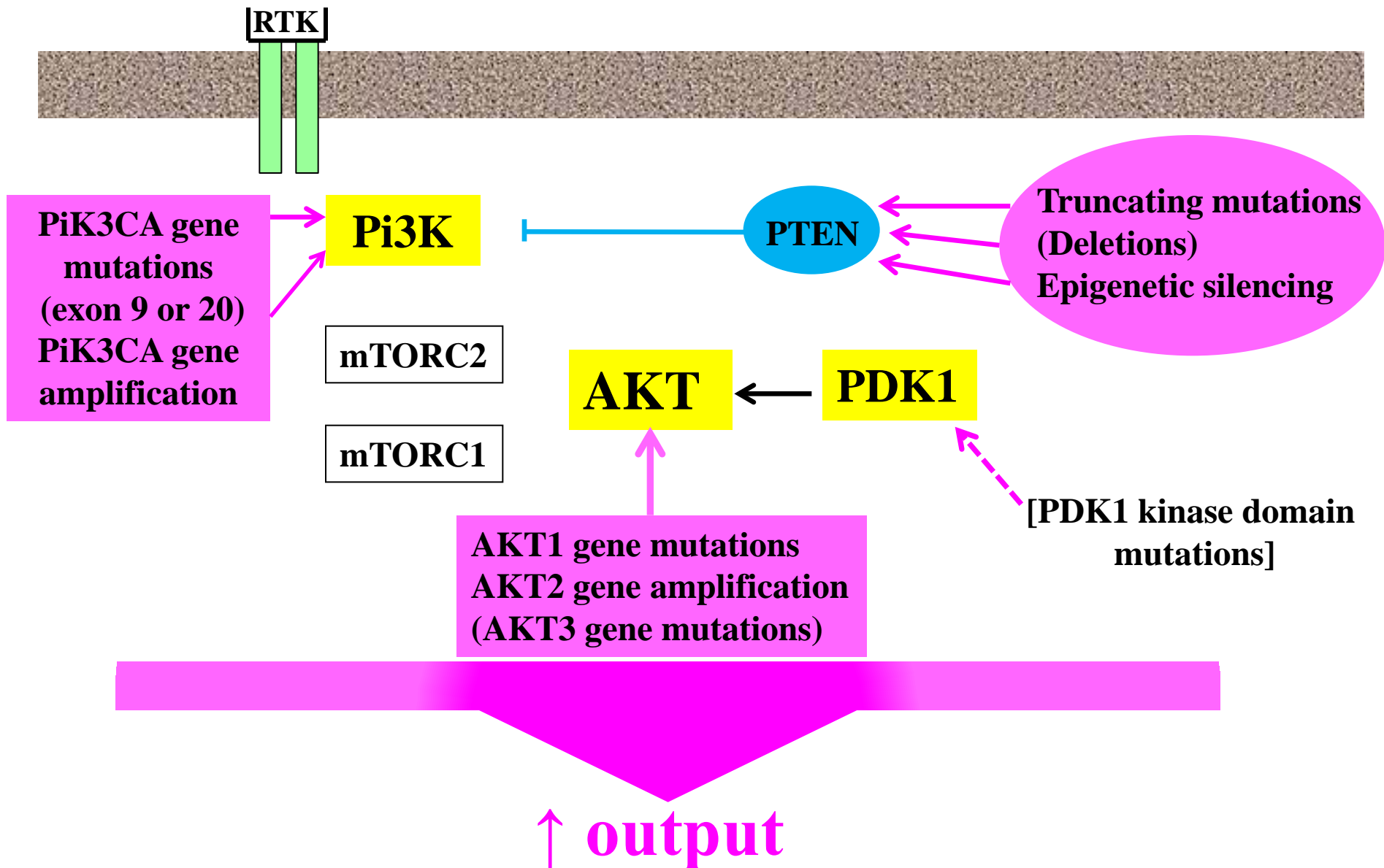
**Better imaging  
tests**

# Better diagnostic tests for HER2 positive BC

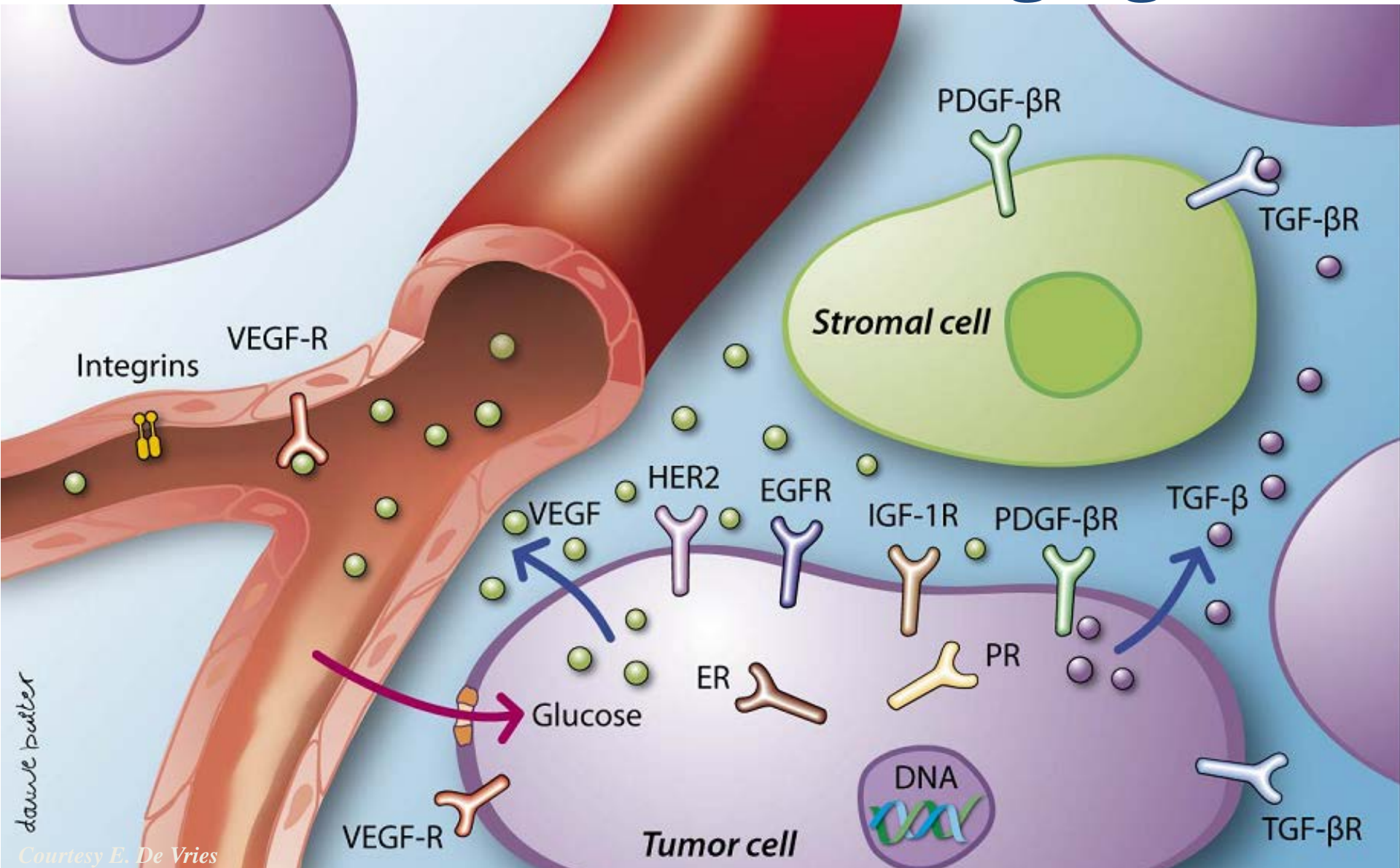


- **Dissection of alterations in the Pi3K/MEK signalling cascade**
- **Presence or not of an immune gene signature**

# Genetic aberrations of the Pi3K signaling pathway in breast cancer



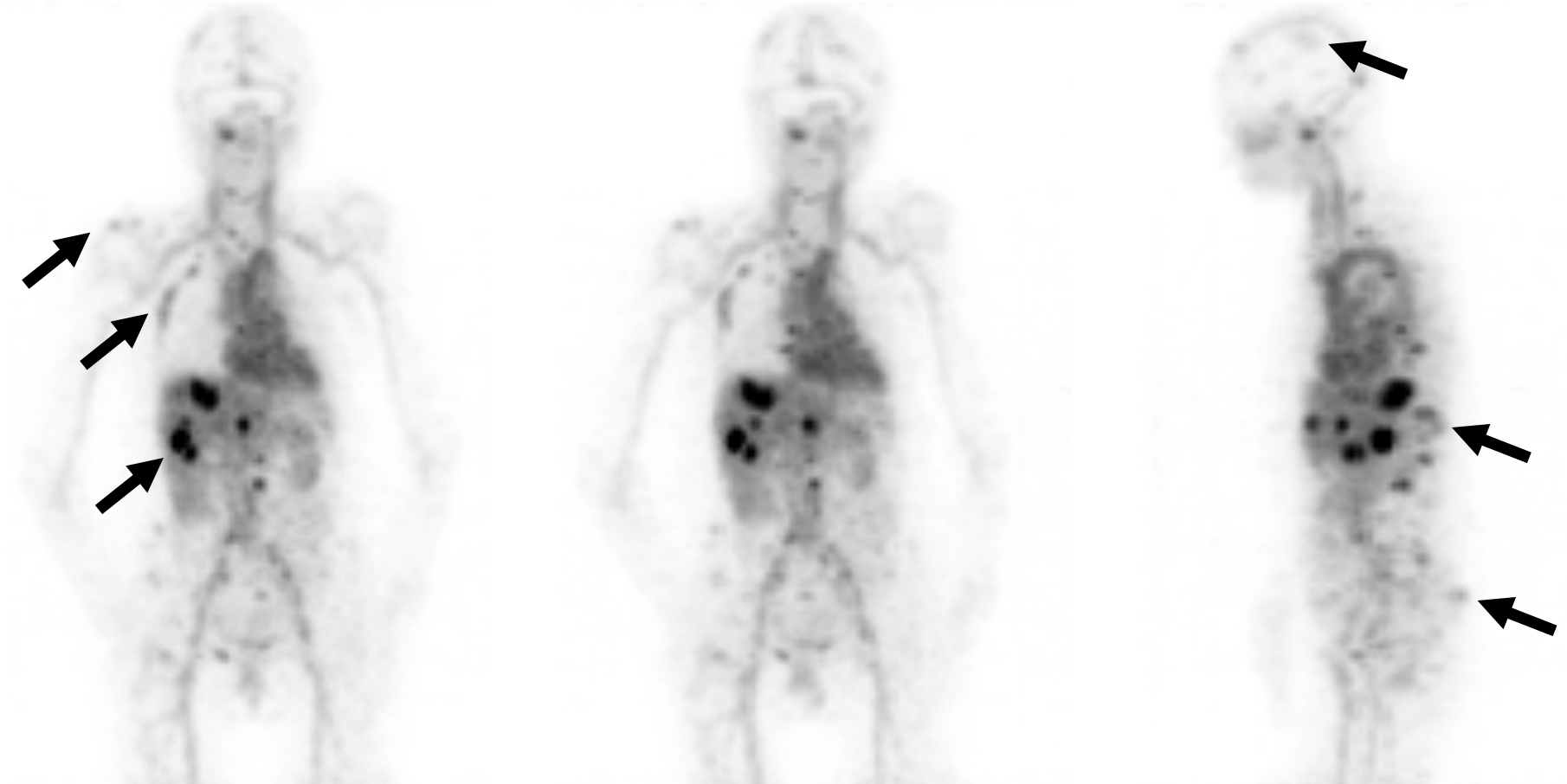
# Targets for ligands: molecular tumor imaging



dawne baister

Courtesy E. De Vries

# $^{89}\text{Zr}$ -trastuzumab tumor visualization during trastuzumab treatment

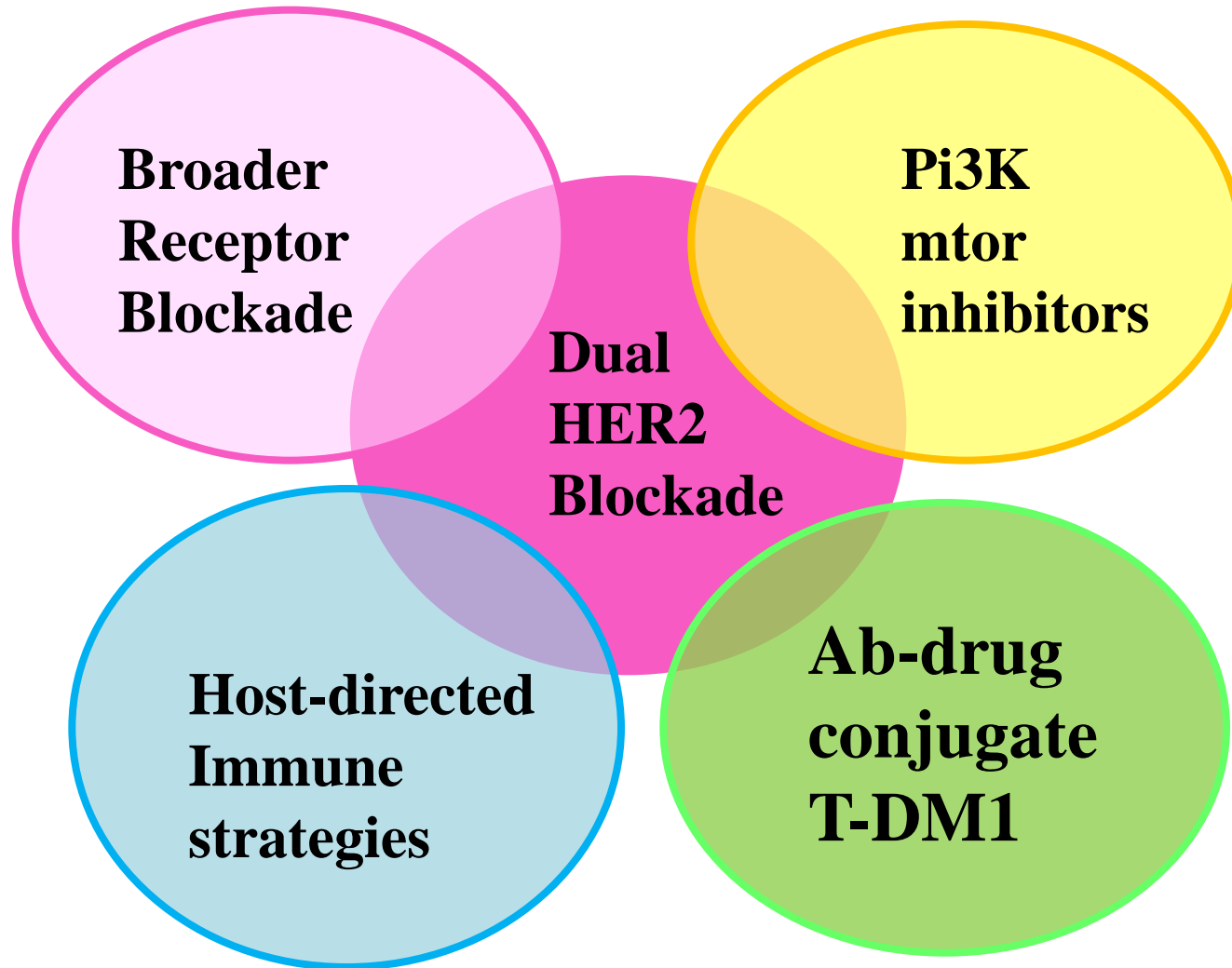


**Day 4**

*Courtesy E. De Vries*

# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

---



*Of note, not all potential future strategies are illustrated here... !*




# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

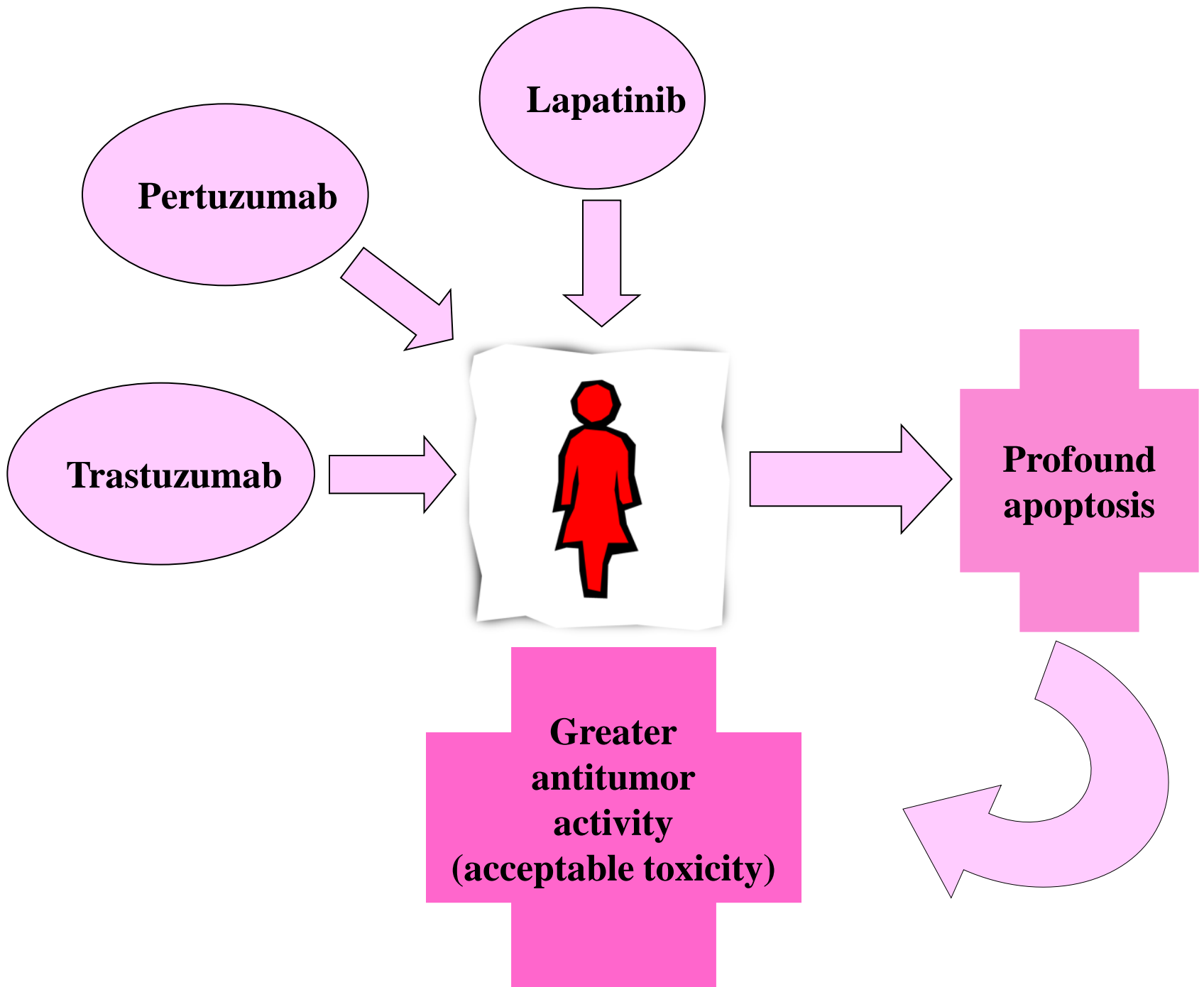
---

**1.**

**Dual HER2 blockade**

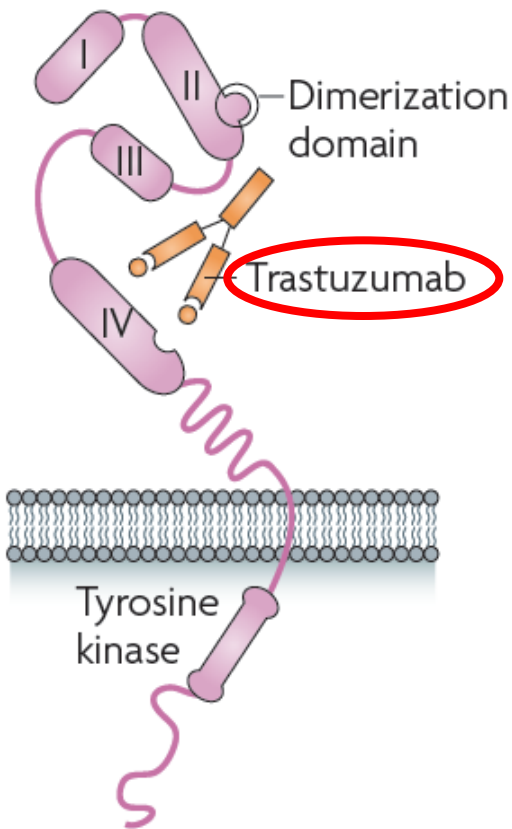


**Dramatic  
results in case  
of HER2  
pathway  
addiction !**

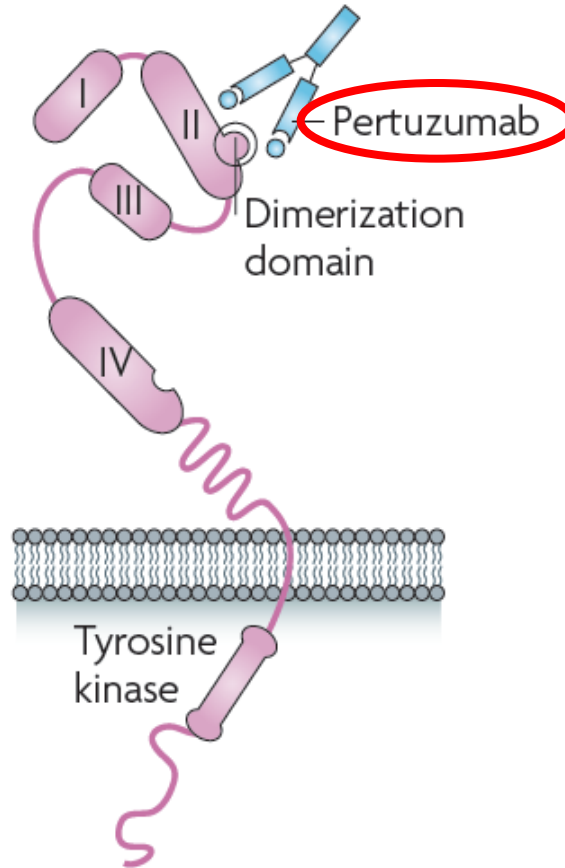


# Anti HER2 therapies used in combination

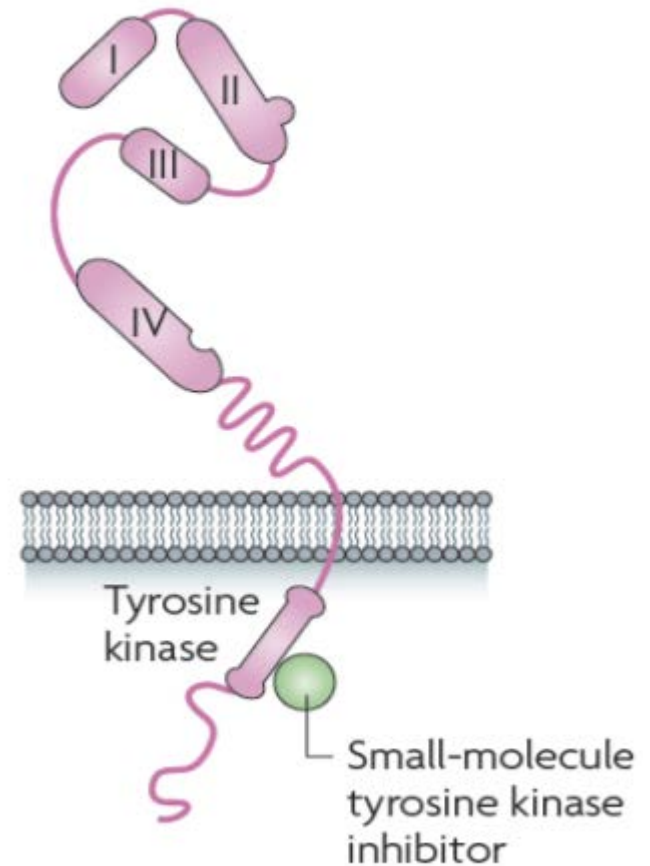
**a** Inhibition through direct antibody binding



**b** Inhibition through dimerization inhibition



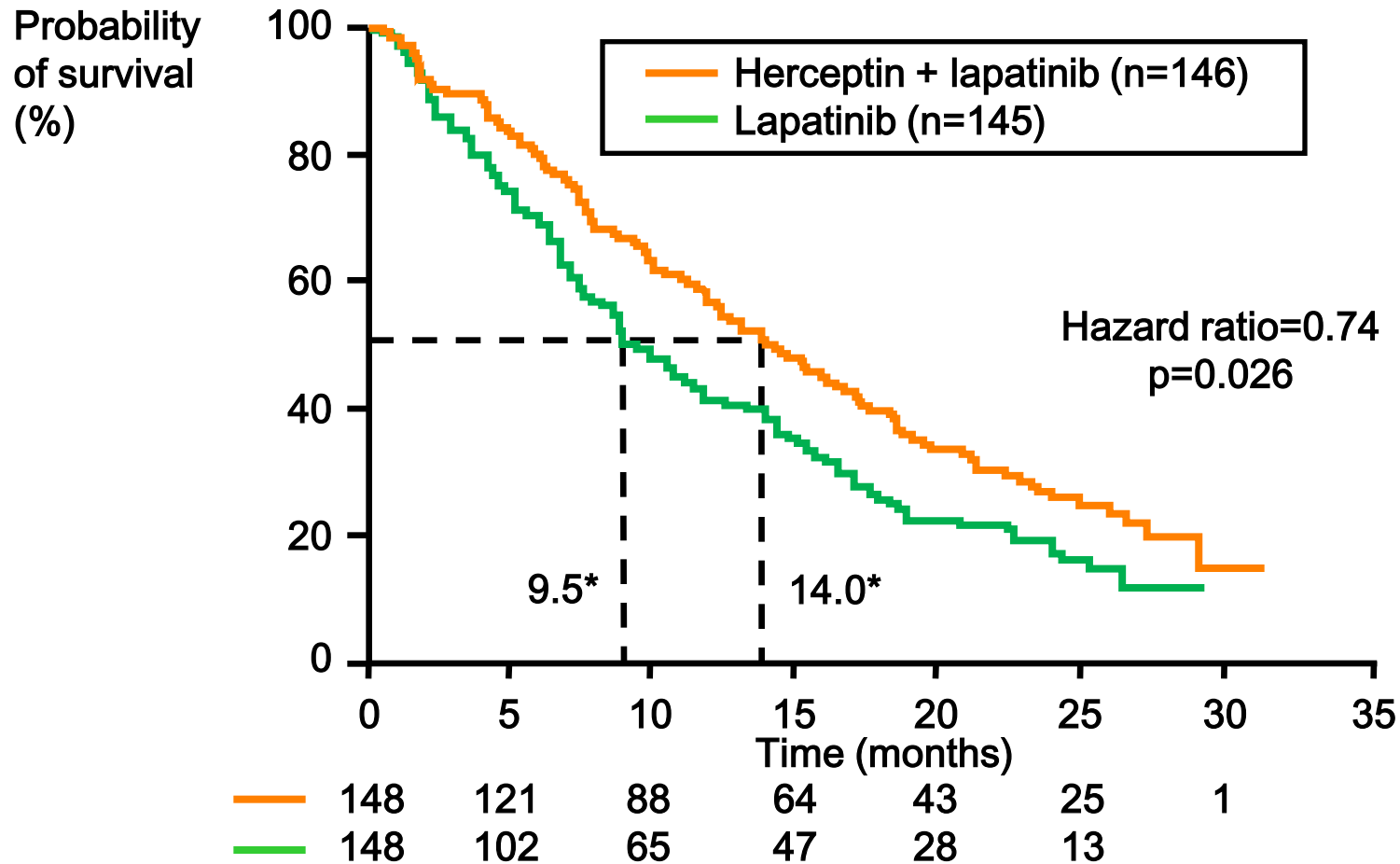
**c** Inhibition of tyrosine kinase activity



**Lapatinib**

**Dual HER2 targeting  
works  
in  
advanced disease !**

# EGF104900: significant OS benefit with Herceptin + lapatinib following disease progression



\* Median OS (months)

Not within EMEA-approved indication for Herceptin

*Blackwell et al 2010*



# CLEOPATRA TRIAL

(Baselga et al, SABCS 2011)

**HER2 positive M.B.C.**  
- centrally confirmed  
- only one line of HT for M.B.C. allowed  
**N = 808**

1 : 1

N = 402

**Pertuzumab + trastuzumab**  
( 840 mg → 420 mg q3wks)

**P.D.**

**Docetaxel**  
≥ 6 cycles

H.R. PFS = 0.75  
(80 % power, 381 events)

N = 406

**Placebo + trastuzumab**  
( 8 mg/kg → 6 mg/kg q3wks)

**P.D.**

**Docetaxel**  
≥ 6 cycles

**Prior (neo)adj CTX 47 %**  
**Prior trastuzumab 10 %**  
**Measurable disease 84 %**  
**ER and PgR- 50 %**

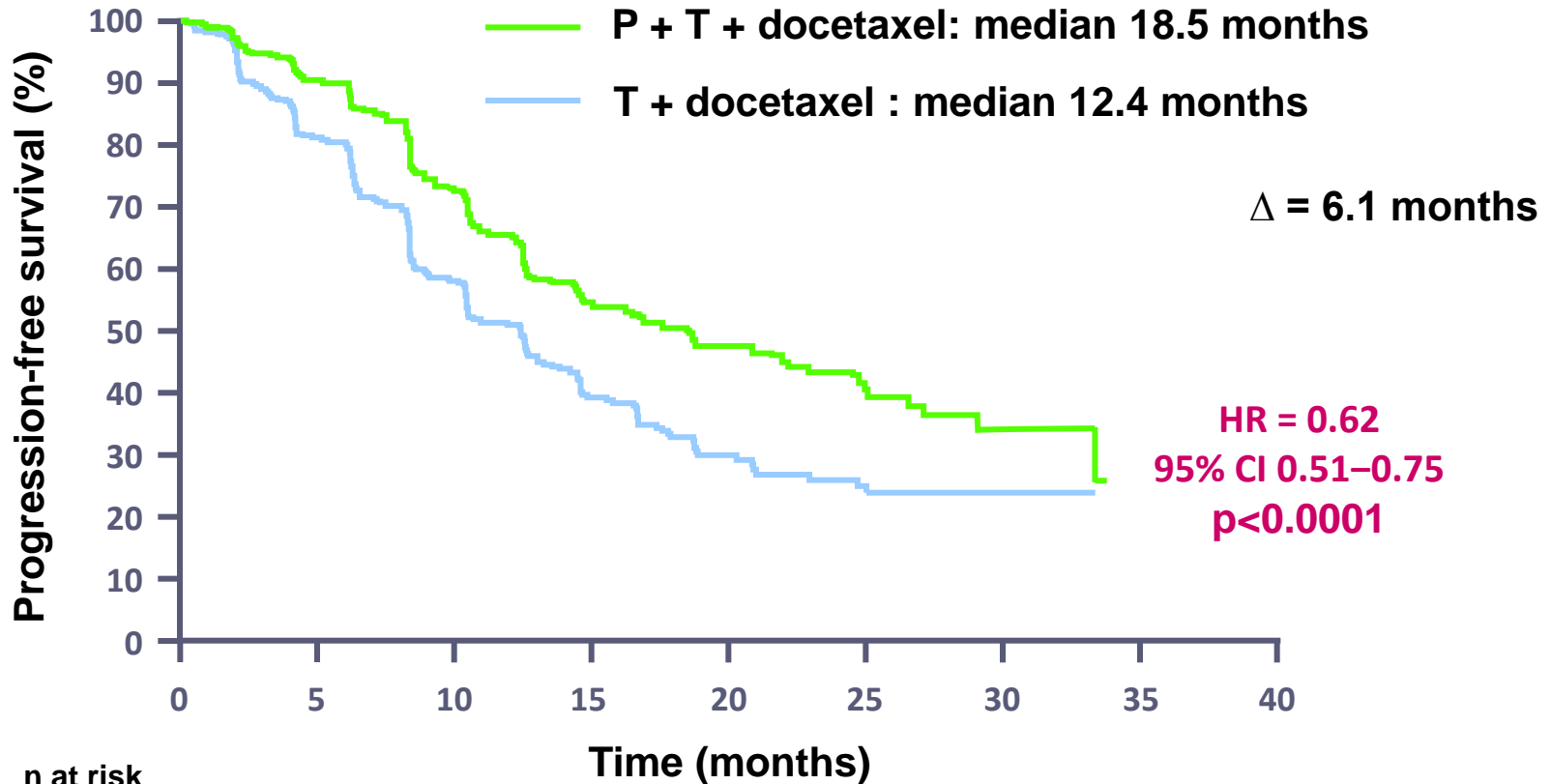
**Median n° docetaxel # received = 8 (both arms)**  
**Median time on any treatment: 18 m vs 12 m**

**CLEOPATRA PATIENT POPULATION**

# Cleopatra trial in advanced HER2+ BC : pertuzumab plus trastuzumab superior to trastuzumab

Primary endpoint: Independently assessed PFS

n = 433 PFS events



D, docetaxel; PFS, progression-free survival; Pla, placebo; P, pertuzumab; T, trastuzumab



**Dual HER2 targeting  
works  
in  
the neo-adjuvant setting !**

# Lessons learned from neoadjuvant trials investigating dual HER2 blockade

**NEO ALTO**  
N = 450

**Trastuz. + Lapatinib**  
+ Paclitaxel

PCR  
51%

**Trastuzumab +**  
**Paclitaxel**

PCR  
29%

**Lapatinib +**  
**Paclitaxel**

PCR  
25%

**NEOSPHERE**  
N = 417

**Trastuz. + Pertuz.**

PCR  
17%

**Trastuz. + Pertuz.**  
+ Docetaxel

PCR  
46%

**Trastuzumab +**  
**Docetaxel**

PCR  
29%

**Pertuzumab +**  
**Docetaxel**

PCR  
24%

**TRYPHAENA**  
N = 225

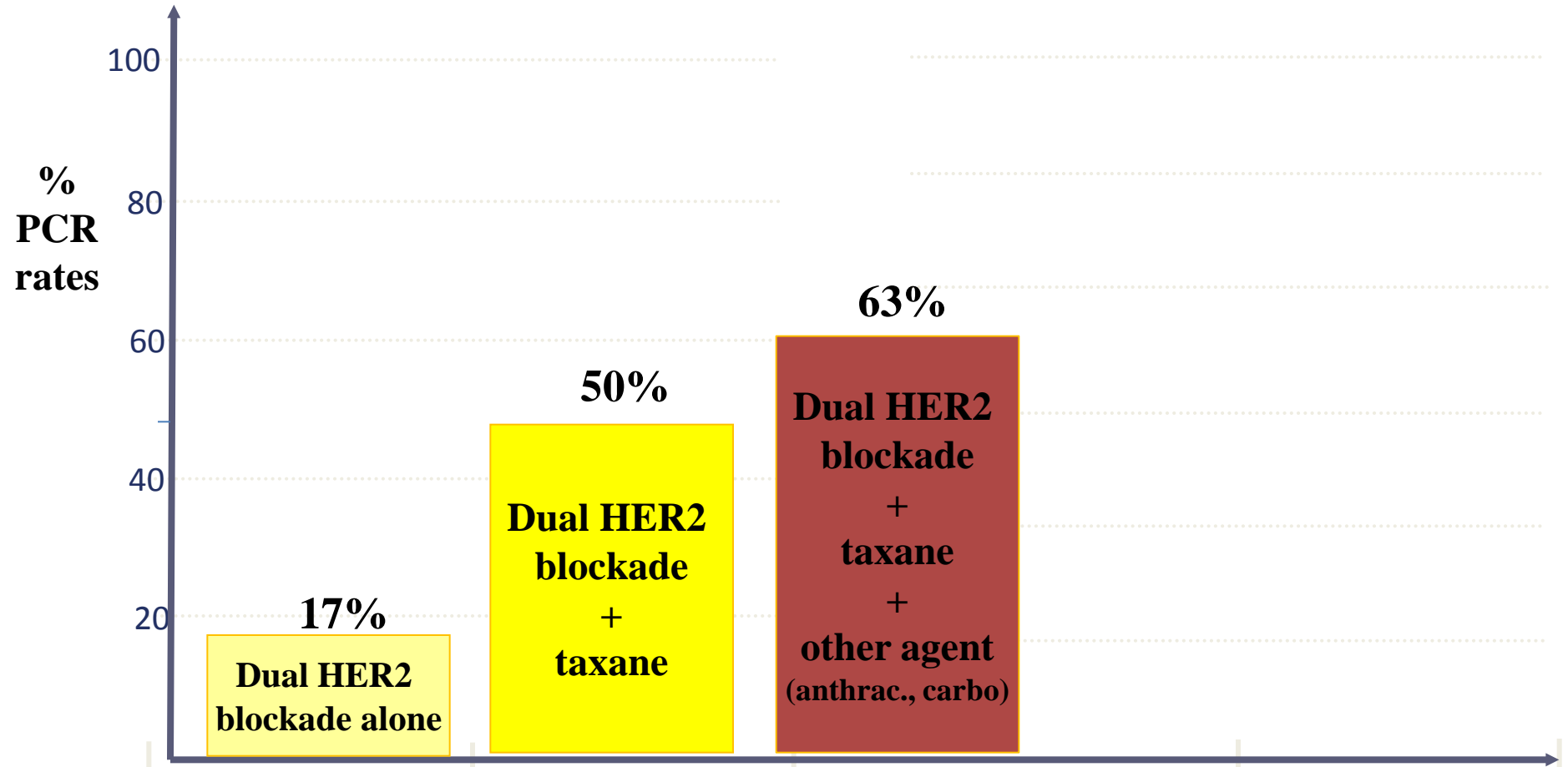
**Trastuz. + Pertuz.**  
+ Docetaxel  
+ carboplatin

PCR  
66%

**Trastuz. + Pertuz.**  
**FEC** → docetaxel  
a. Sequential  
b. Concomitant

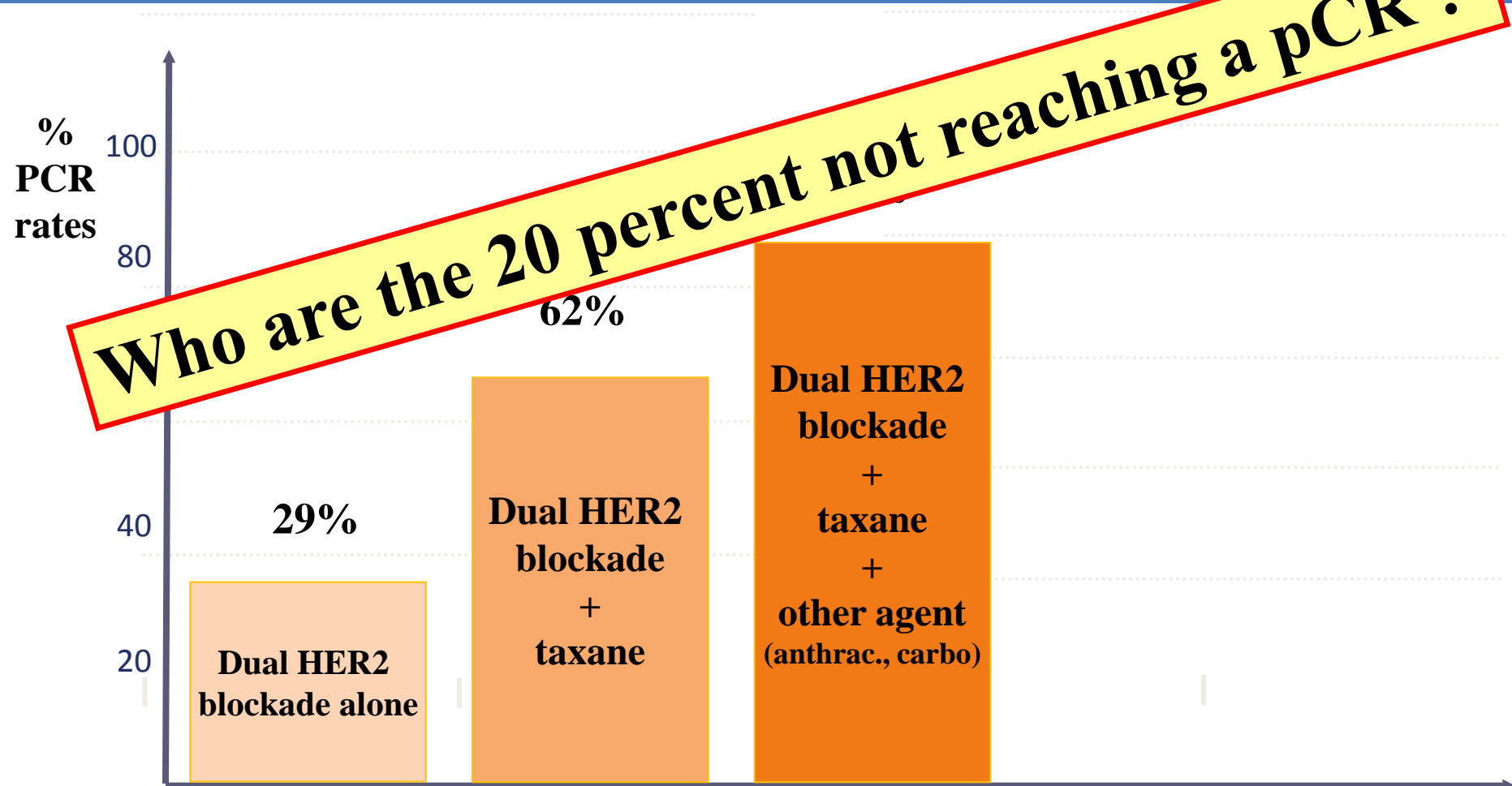
PCR  
57%  
62%

# Results obtained with dual HER2 blockade alone or with chemotherapy



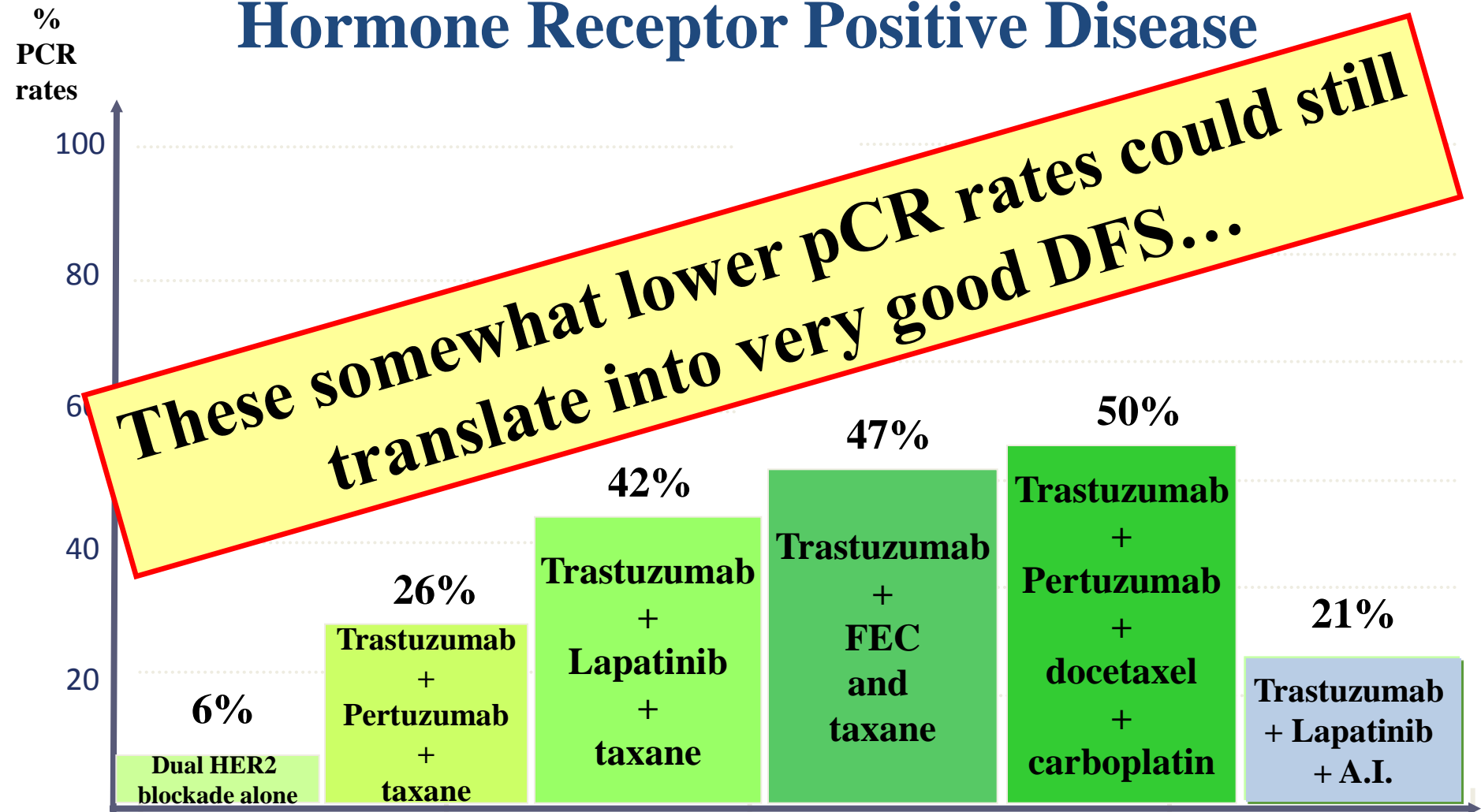
*Based on NeoSphere, NeoAlto, Tryphaena*

# Results obtained with dual HER2 blockade alone or with chemotherapy in Hormone Receptor Negative Disease



*Based on NeoSphere, NeoAlto, Tryphaena*

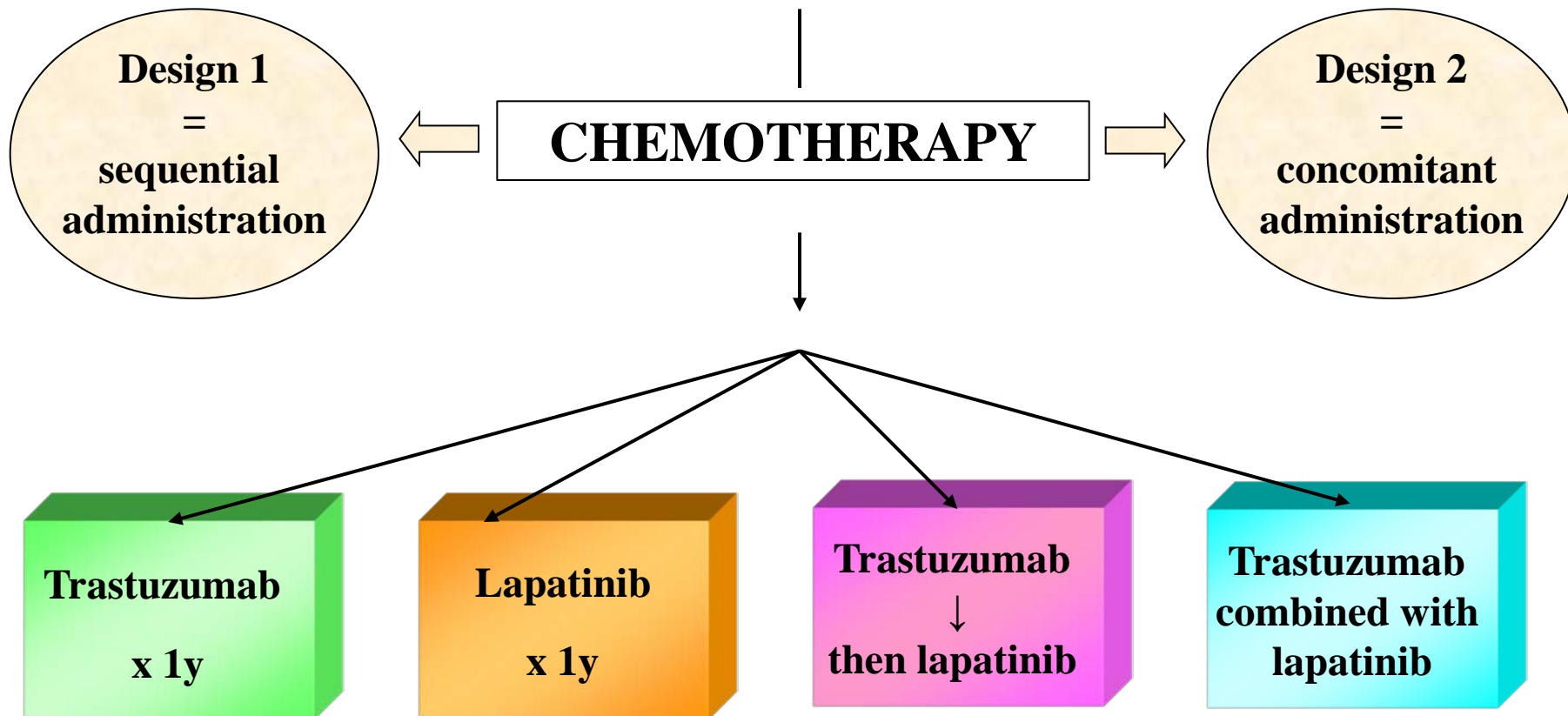
# Results obtained with dual HER2 blockade alone or with chemotherapy in Hormone Receptor Positive Disease



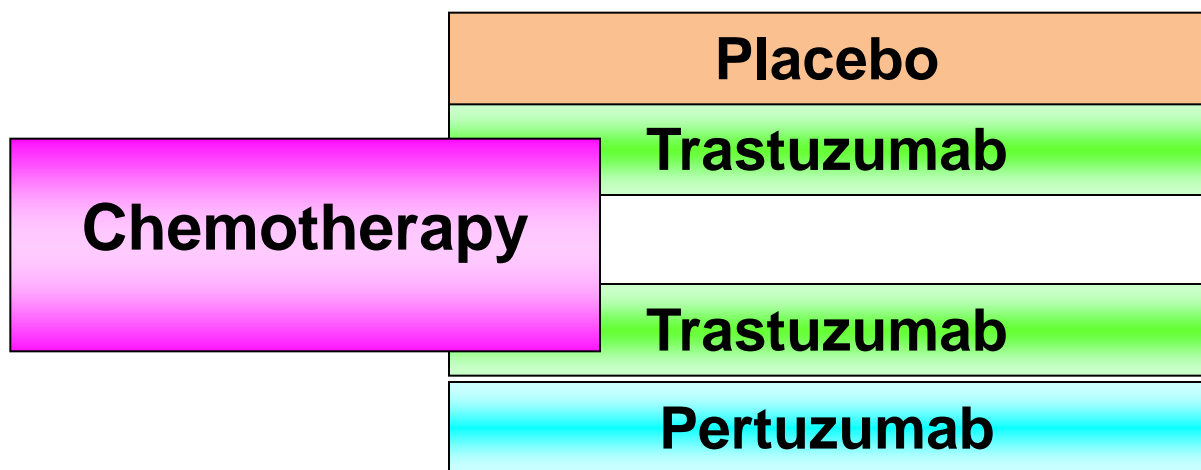
*Based on NeoSphere, NeoAlto, Tryphaena, J. Chang Trial*

**Dual HER2 targeting  
tested  
in  
pivotal trials !**

**8000 women with HER2 positive breast cancer**



# The new pivotal BIG trial for HER2+ breast cancer : APHINITY



**N = 3800**



**Target HR : 0.75 (80% power)**



# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

---

**2.**

**Broader receptor blockade**

# Broader receptor blockade is a concept being developed by several companies... !

## ➤ « Ab cocktails » directed at :

- **HER2 + HER3 + HER1**
- **HER2 + IGF1R or cMet**
- **and so on...**

More profound and complete downregulation of receptors with less possibility of « escape » ?

## ➤ **HER1 + HER2 ± HER4 TKI :**

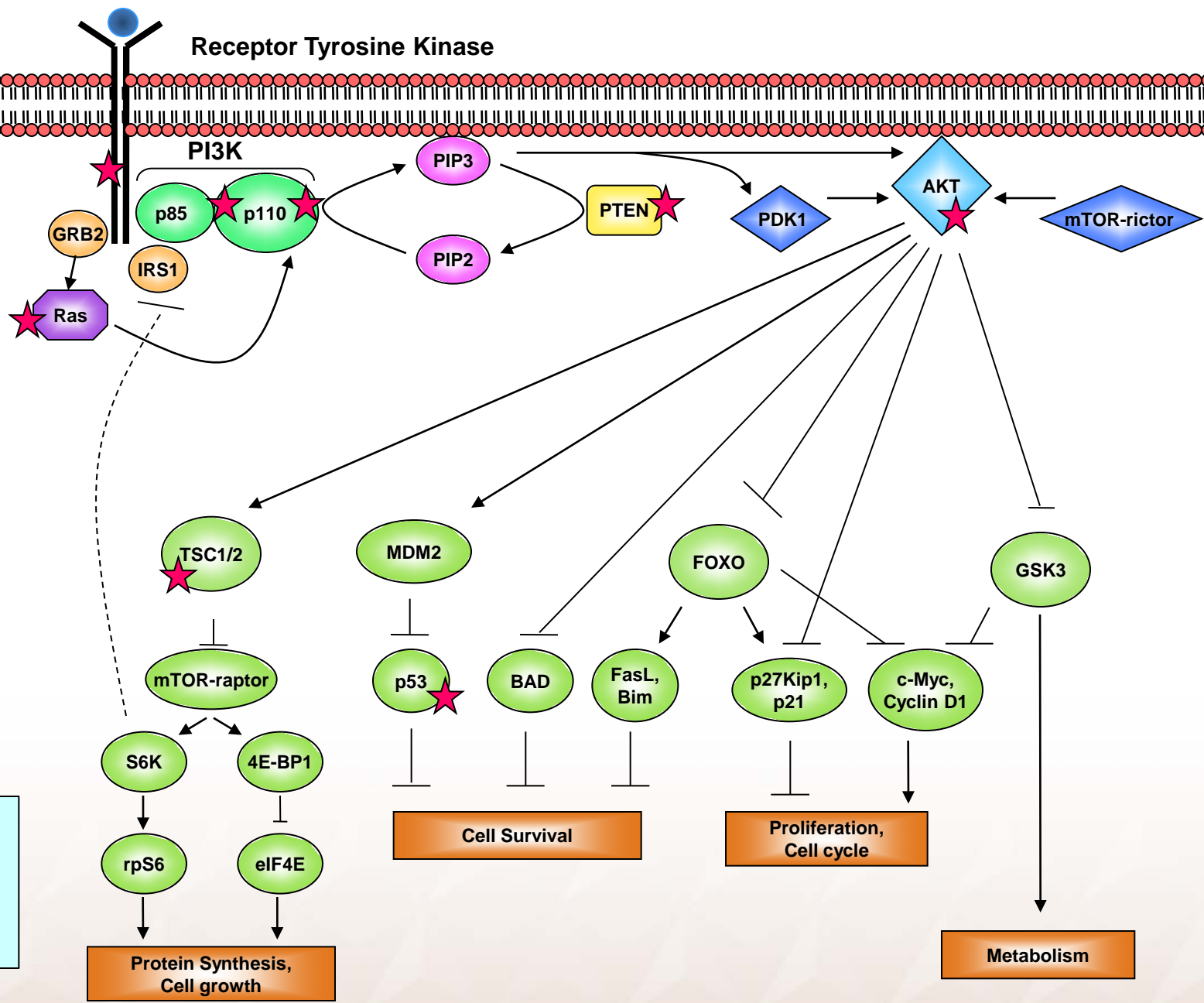
- **Neratinib / Afatinib**

# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

---

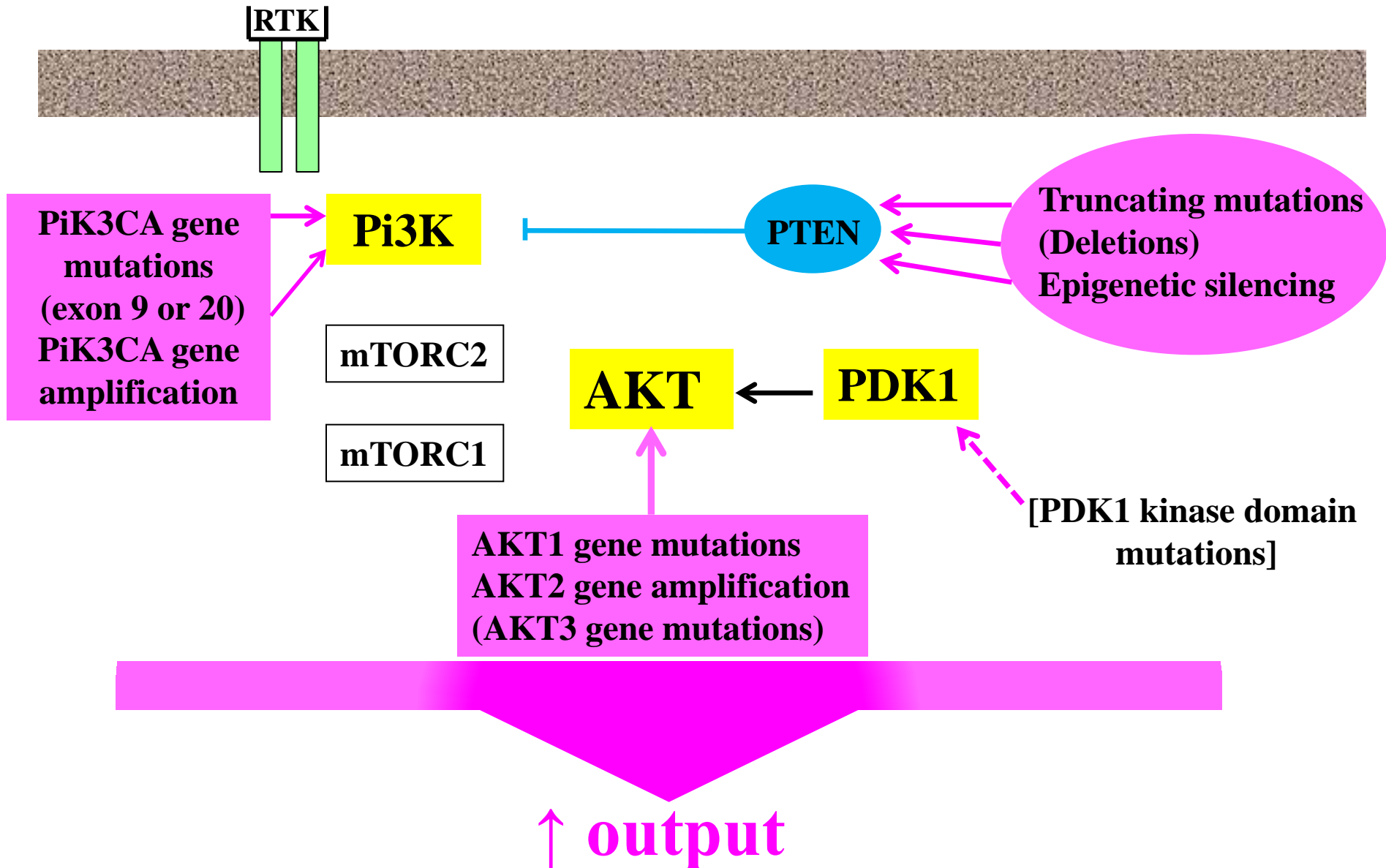
**3.**

**Pi3K / mtor inhibitors**



★  
**Activating  
 Mutations  
 or  
 Deletions**

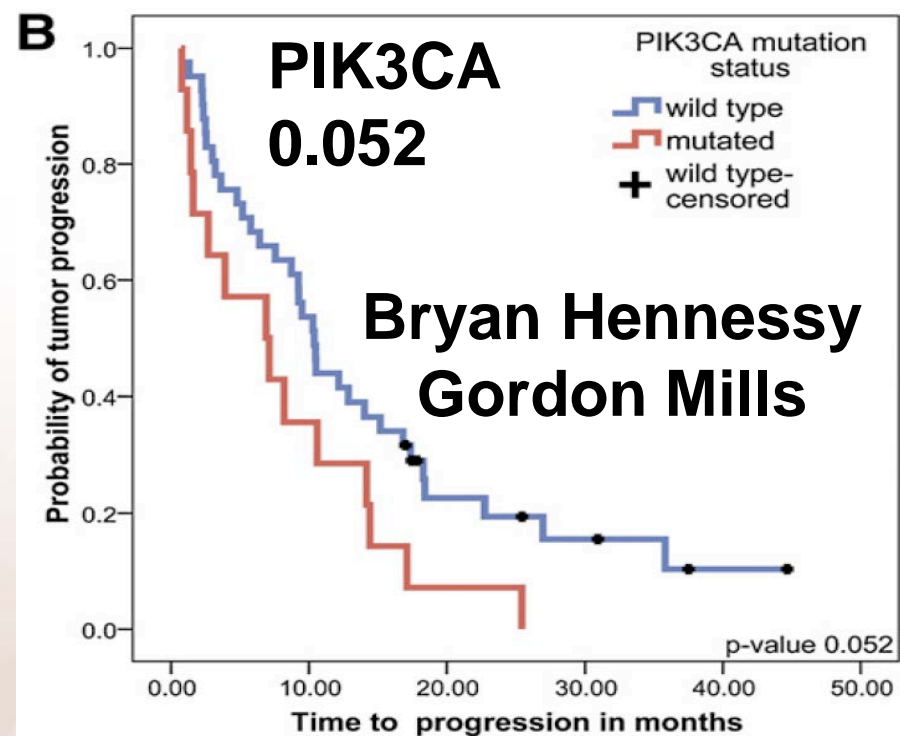
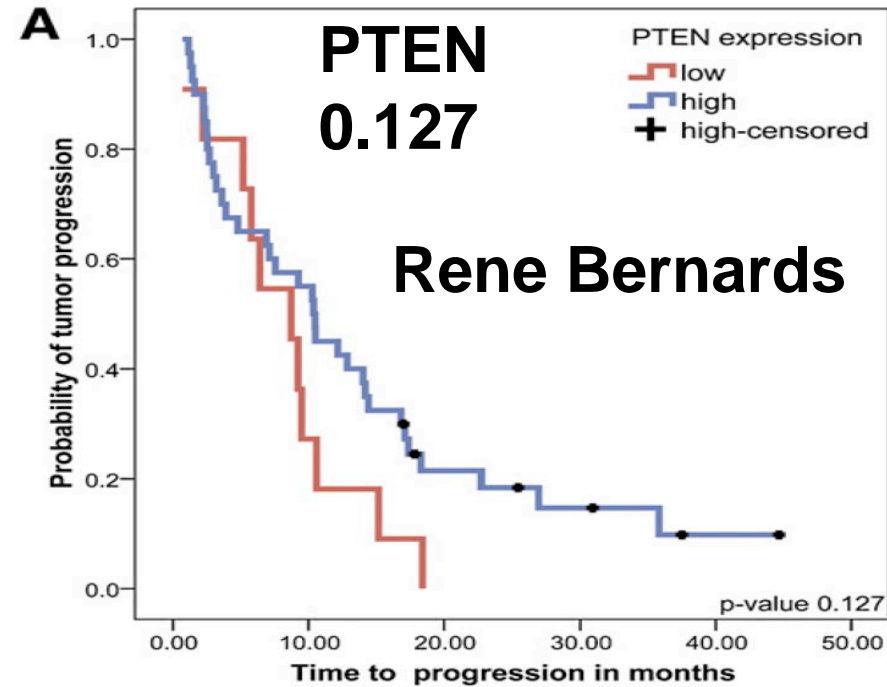
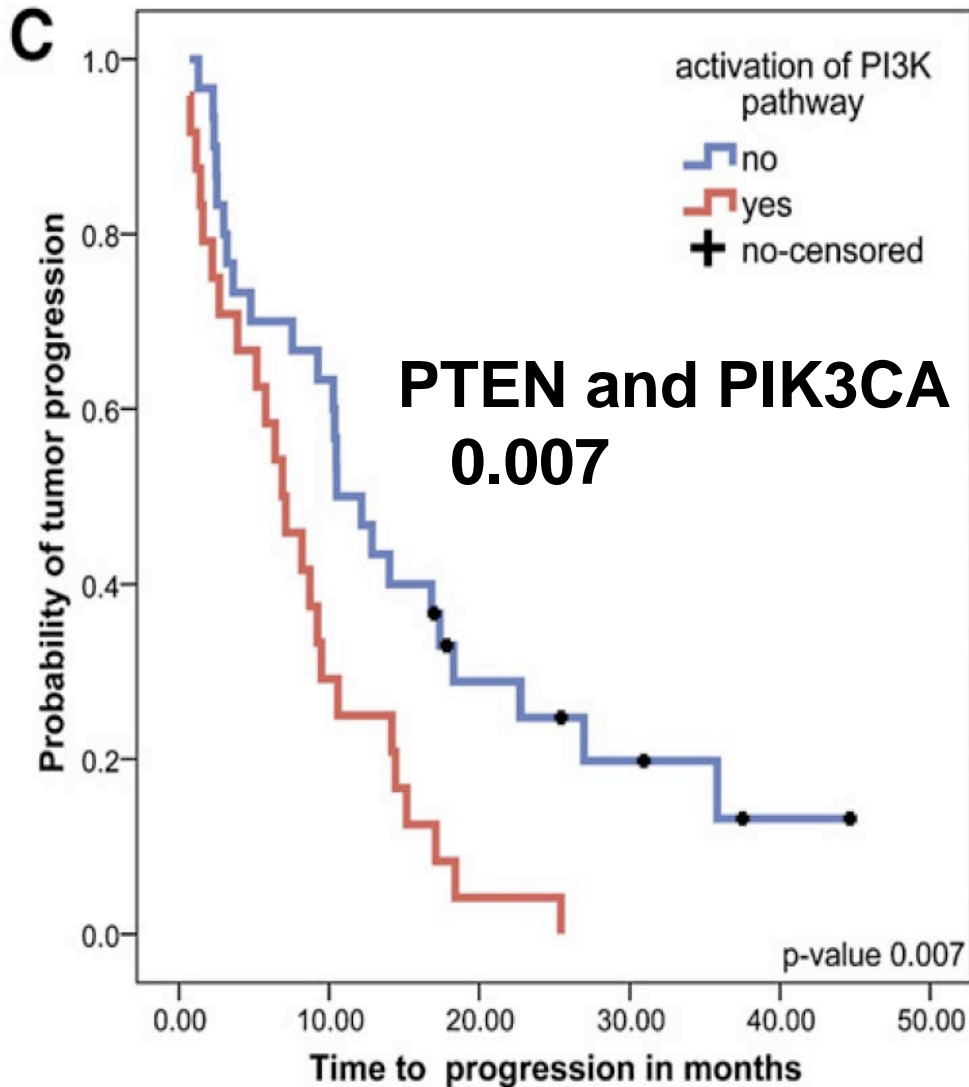
# Genetic aberrations of the Pi3K signaling pathway in breast cancer



# Frequency of mutations in the PIK3CA and PTEN genes in 547 human breast cancers

Breast Cancer Subtype	Mutation			
	<i>PIK3CA</i> catalytic domain*	<i>PIK3CA</i> other	<i>PIK3CA</i> total	<i>PTEN</i>
<b>All breast tumors</b>	73/547 (13.3%)	44/547 (8.0%)	<b>117/547 (21.4%)</b>	2/88 (2.3%)
<b>HR+</b>	48/232 (20.7%)	32/232 (13.8%)	<b>80/232 (34.5%)</b>	2/58 (3.4%)
ER+PR+	39/186 (21%)	22/186 (11.8%)	<b>61/186 (32.8%)</b>	1/48 (2.1%)
ER+PR-	9/41 (22%)	10/41 (24.4%)	<b>19/41 (46.3%)</b>	1/8 (12.5%)
ER-PR+	0/5 (0%)	0/5 (0%)	<b>0/5 (0%)</b>	0/2 (0%)
<b>HER2+</b>	13/75 (17.3%)	4/75 (5.3%)	<b>17/75 (22.7%)</b>	0/10 (0%)
<b>Triple Negative</b>	12/240 (5.0%)	8/240 (3.3%)	<b>20/240 (8.3%)</b>	0/20 (0%)

# Integrative analysis of PI3K pathway predicts response to trastuzumab



## **mTORC1 inhibitors (Rapalogs)**

- **Temsirolimus**
- **Everolimus**



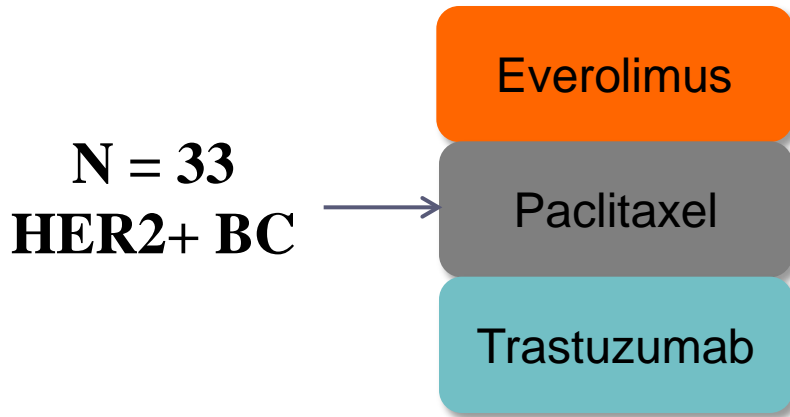
# Trastuzumab and mTOR Inhibitor

Trastuzumab + Everolimus

2 trials (one with chemotherapy)

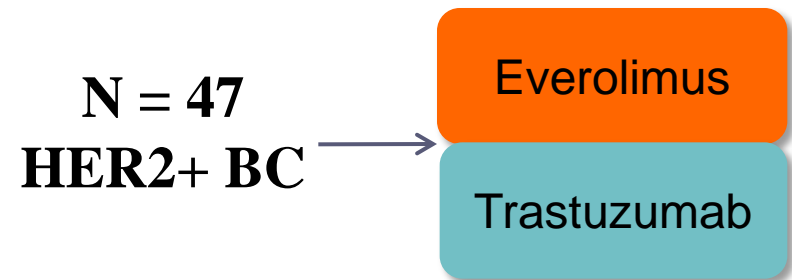
Prior trastuzumab therapy

## Trial 1: Phase Ib



Everolimus dose escalation: 5mg daily, 10mg daily, 30mg/wk

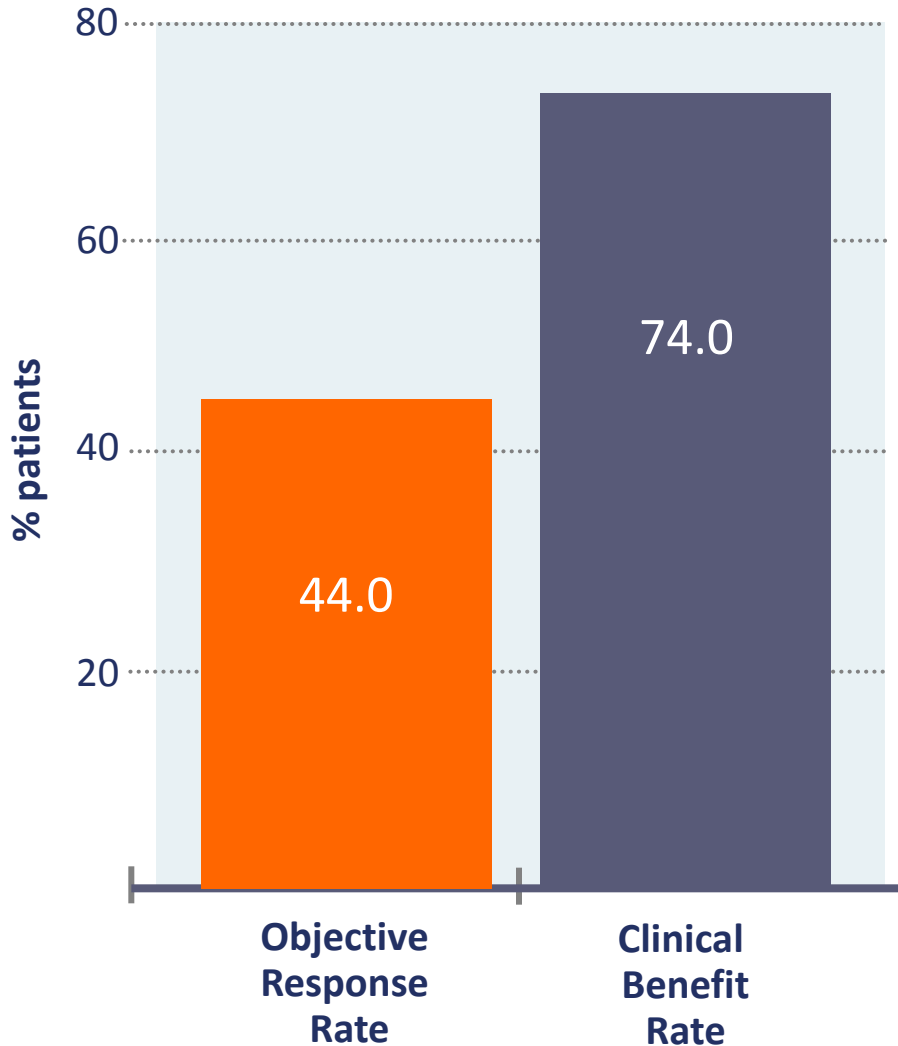
## Trial 2: Phase I/II



(≥ 1 trastuzumab-based therapy for MBC)

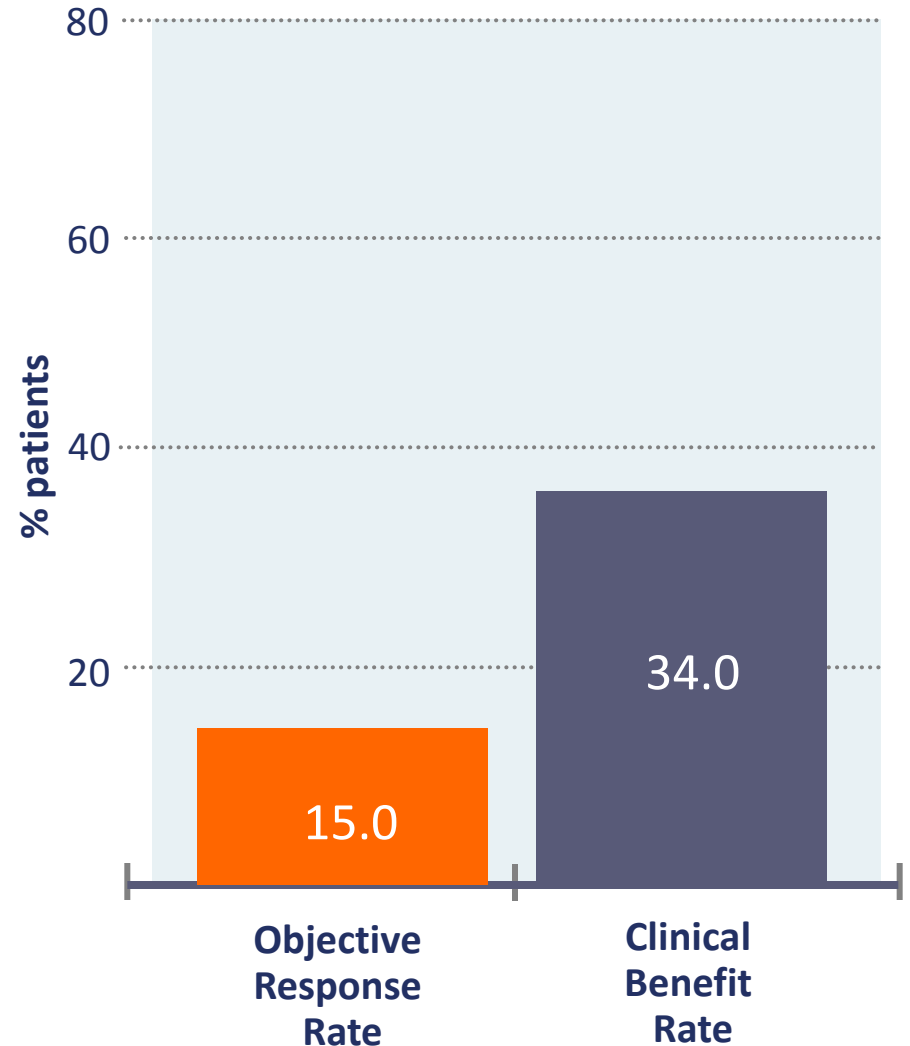
# Trastuzumab and mTOR Inhibitor

**Trial 1:** Everolimus + Paclitaxel + Trastuzumab



Median PFS = 34 wks (95% CI 29.1 -40.7wks)

**Trial 2:** Everolimus + Trastuzumab



Median PFS = 4.1 months

# BOLERO 3

HER2+

Phase III Randomised, double blind, placebo controlled  
Resistant to trastuzumab and pre-treated with taxane

**Will the results be as impressive as those of Bolero2 for luminal cancer ?**

N=572

Locally advanced  
metastatic

(locally)  
trastuzumab  
vinorelbine

Trastuzumab  
+ Vinorelbine

Primary Outcome  
PFS

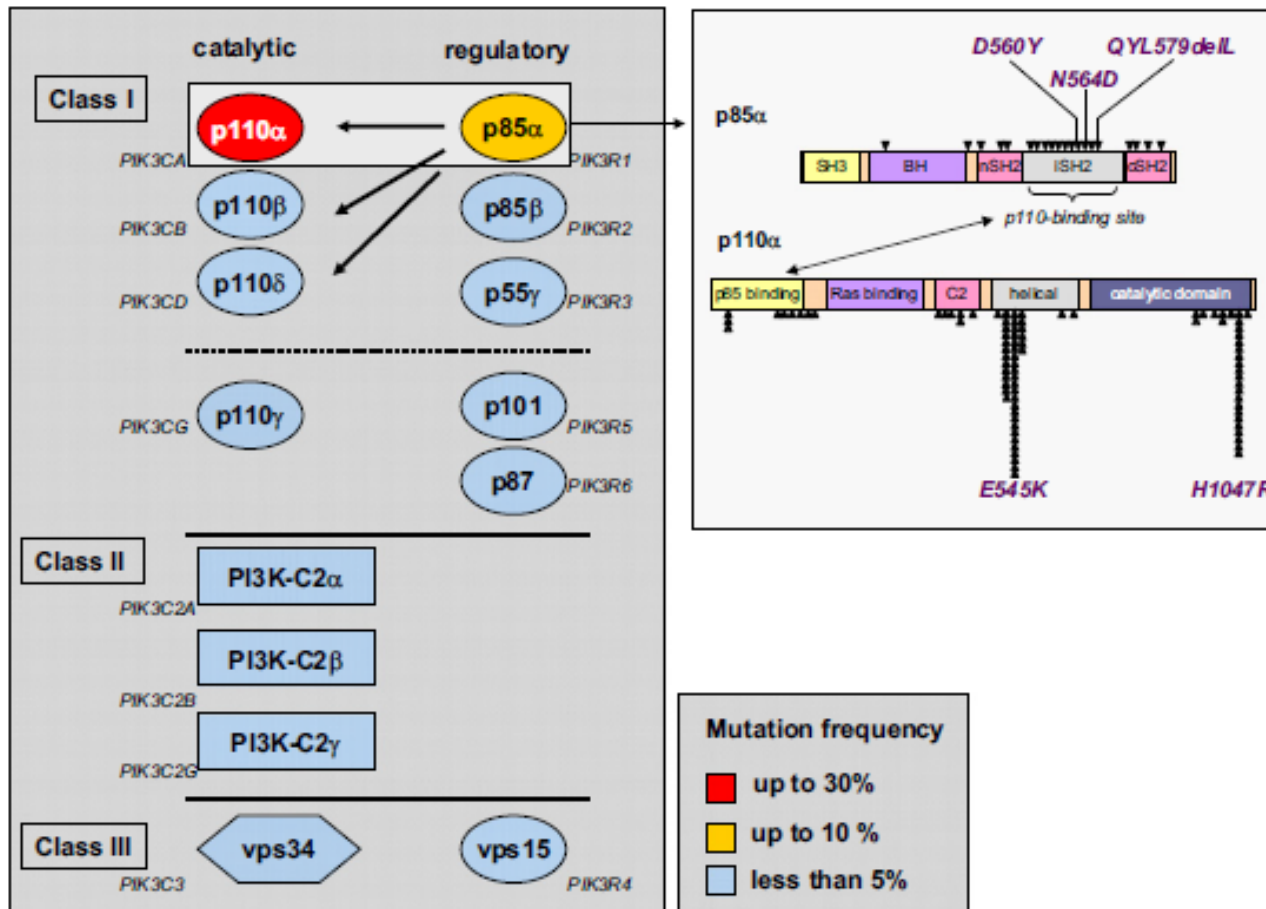
Results Expected End 2012

NCT01007942

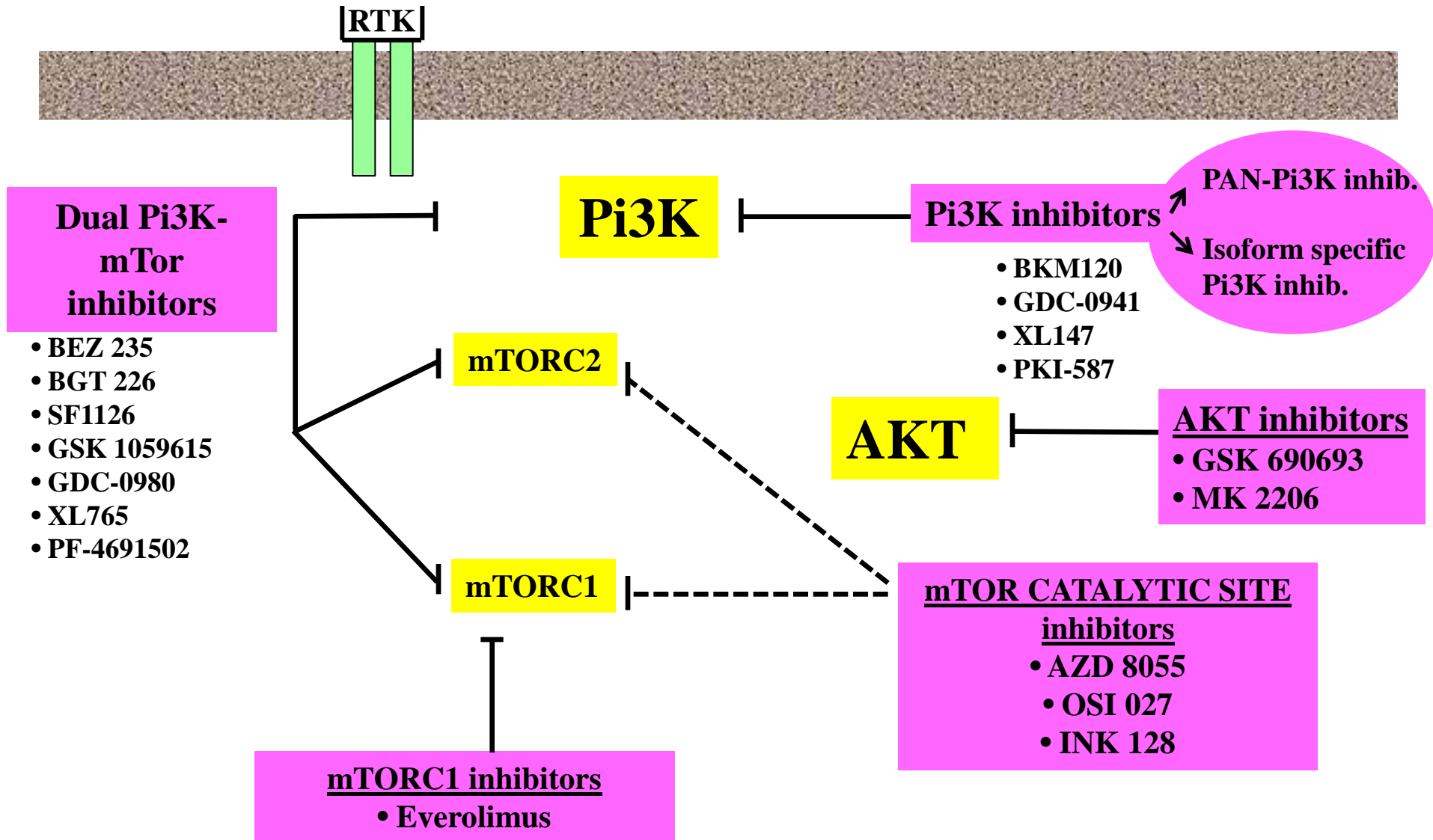
# Conclusions from NeoSphere biomarker analyses

- HER2 expression (H-score) associated with sensitivity to pertuzumab
- **PIK3CA mutations in exon 9 linked to lack of sensitivity to HER2-directed MAb's**
- Intrinsic differences between HER2-positive tumors based on hormone receptor status
- No predictive role for truncated forms of the HER2 receptor including p95<sup>HER2</sup>
- **So far none of the analyses provided clinically useful assays for patient and/or regimen selection in addition or alternative to the conventional assessment of HER2 by IHC or FISH**

# Cancer mutations in Pi3K family members

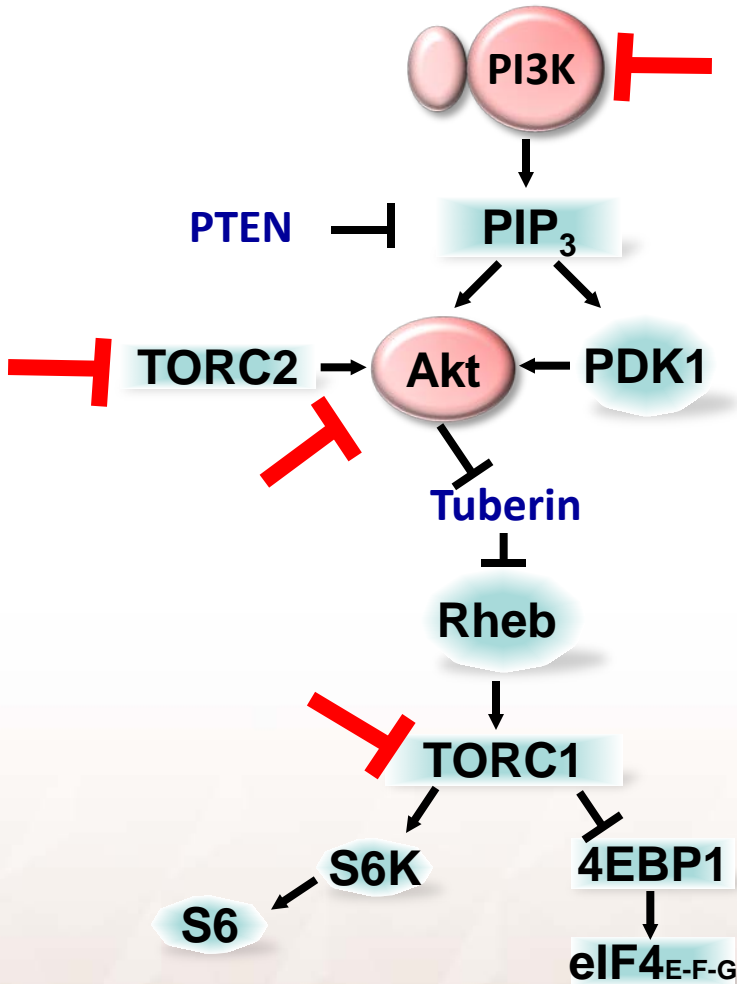


# Pi3K pathway inhibitors



# Strategies to target the PI3K pathway

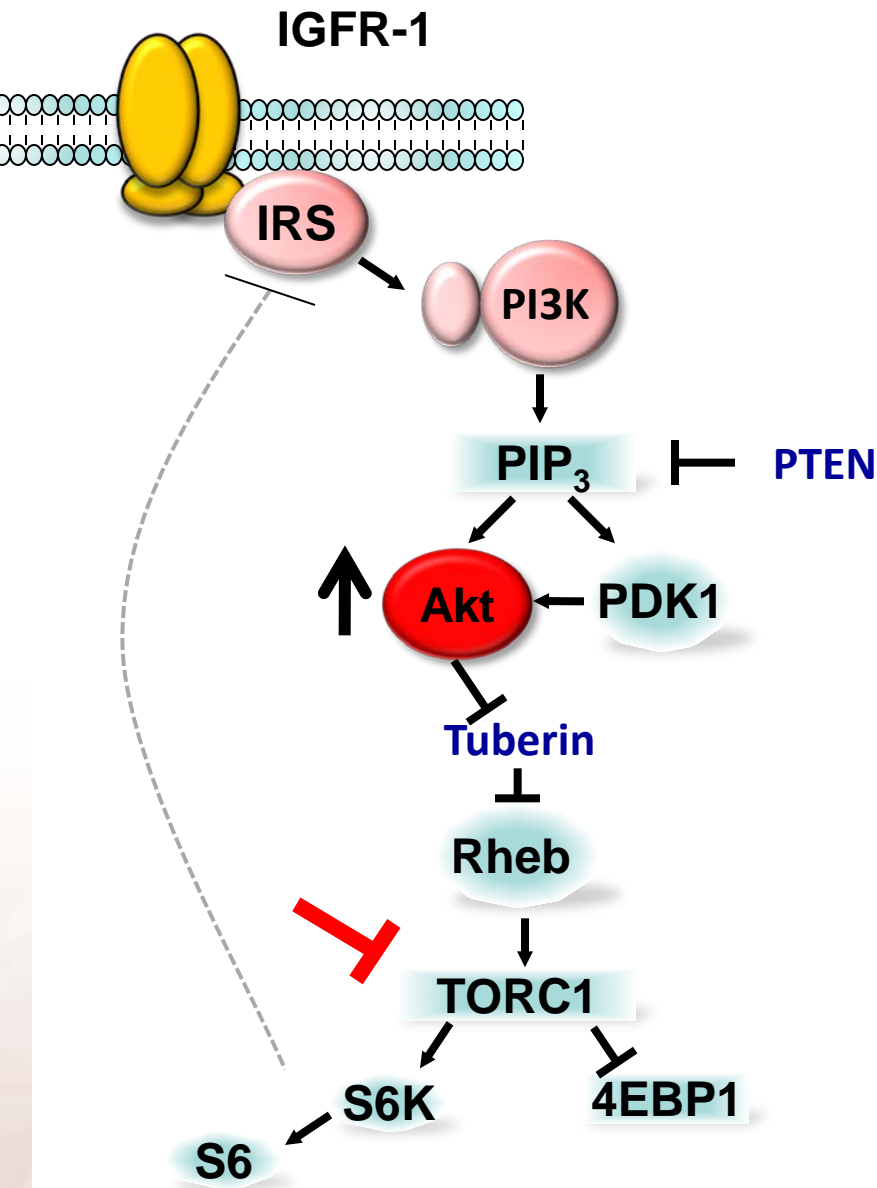
## Issues to address



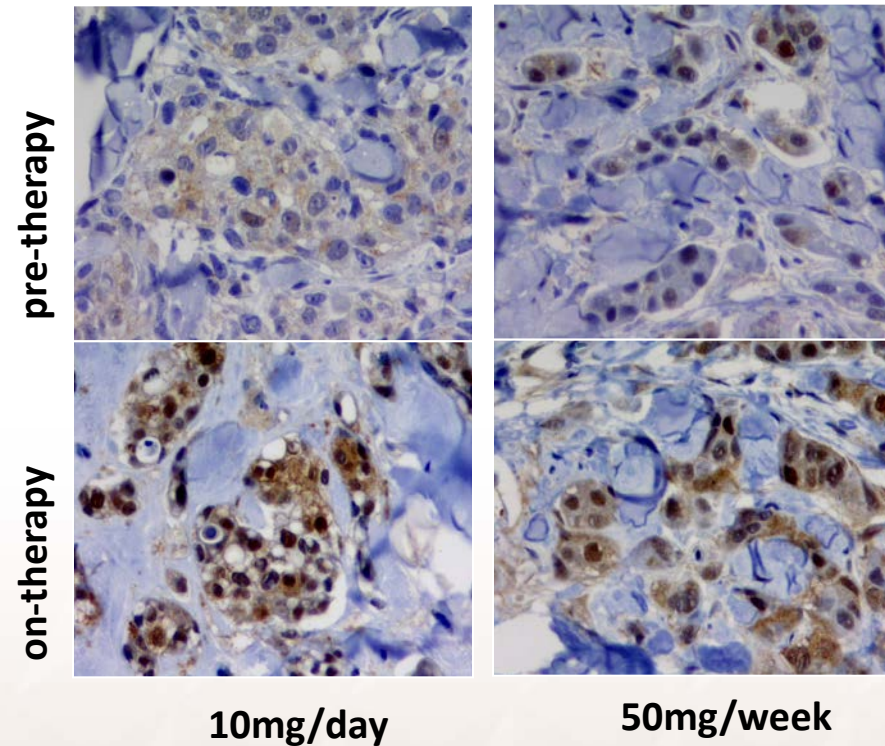
- Best target on the pathway?
  - Will toxicities differ?
    - Probably yes
    - It may preclude combinatorial approaches
  - Diverse clinical activity profile?
  - Will activity be dependent on specific mutations?
  - Will specific inhibitors have an improved safety profile?
- Patient selection
  - Mutational status to be known upfront
- Activation of compensatory pathways

# PI3K Compensatory Pathways

Rapalogs Activate Akt



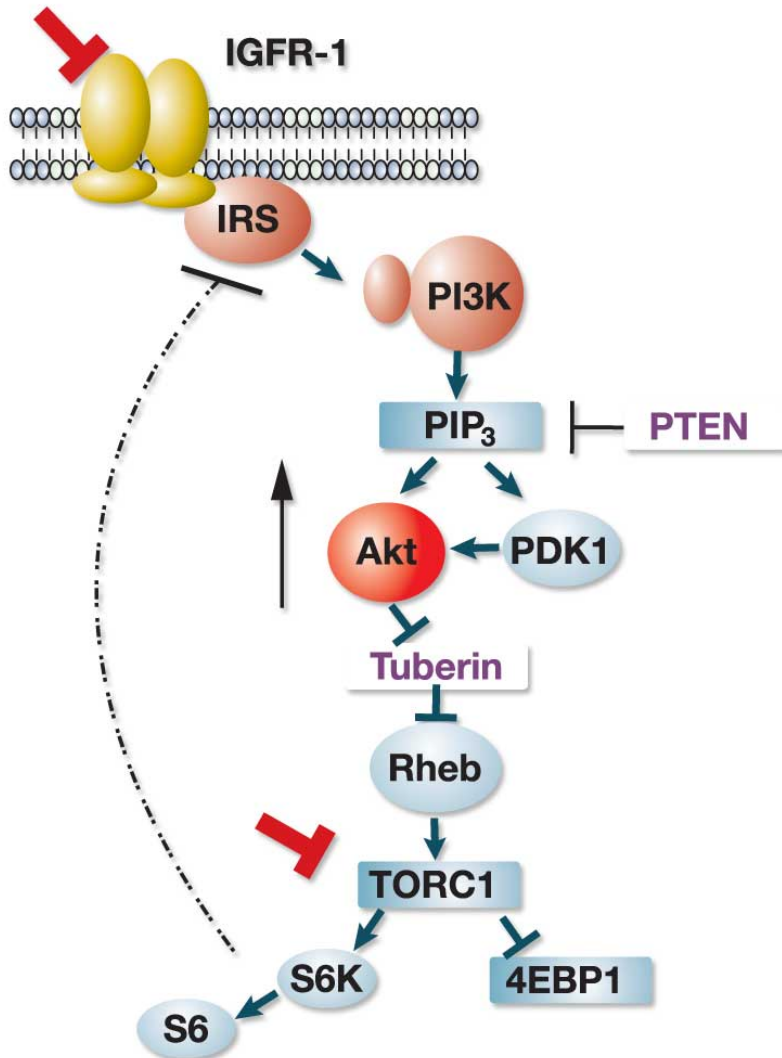
## Phase I Everolimus Study Tumor pAkt





# Targeting Compensatory Pathways

Suppress IGF-1R plus mTOR to prevent compensation by tumor cells

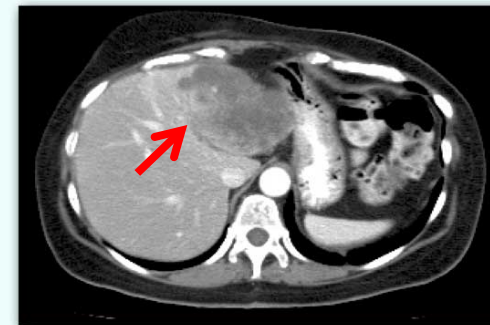


Patient had received 7 prior treatments

Before therapy

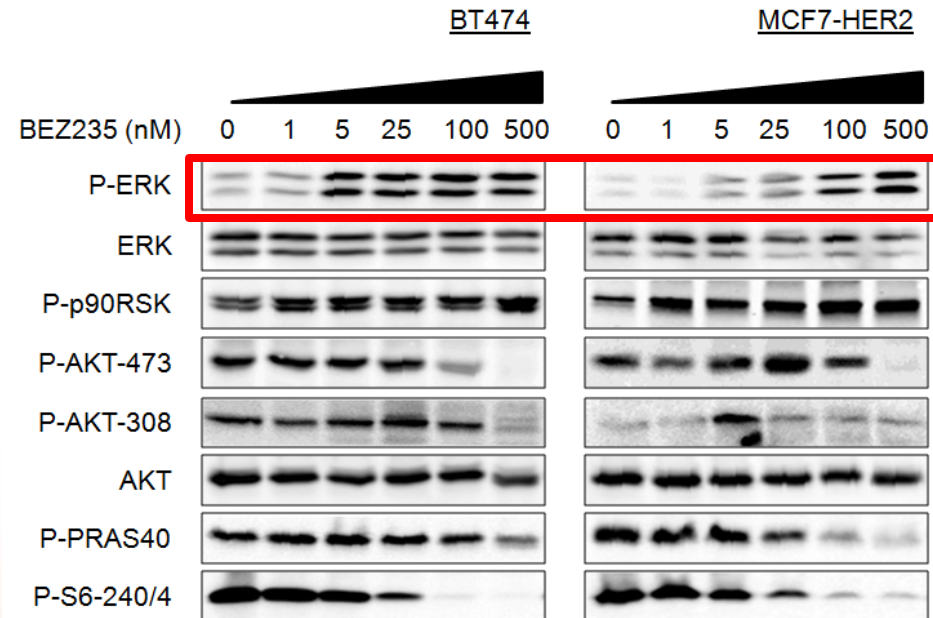
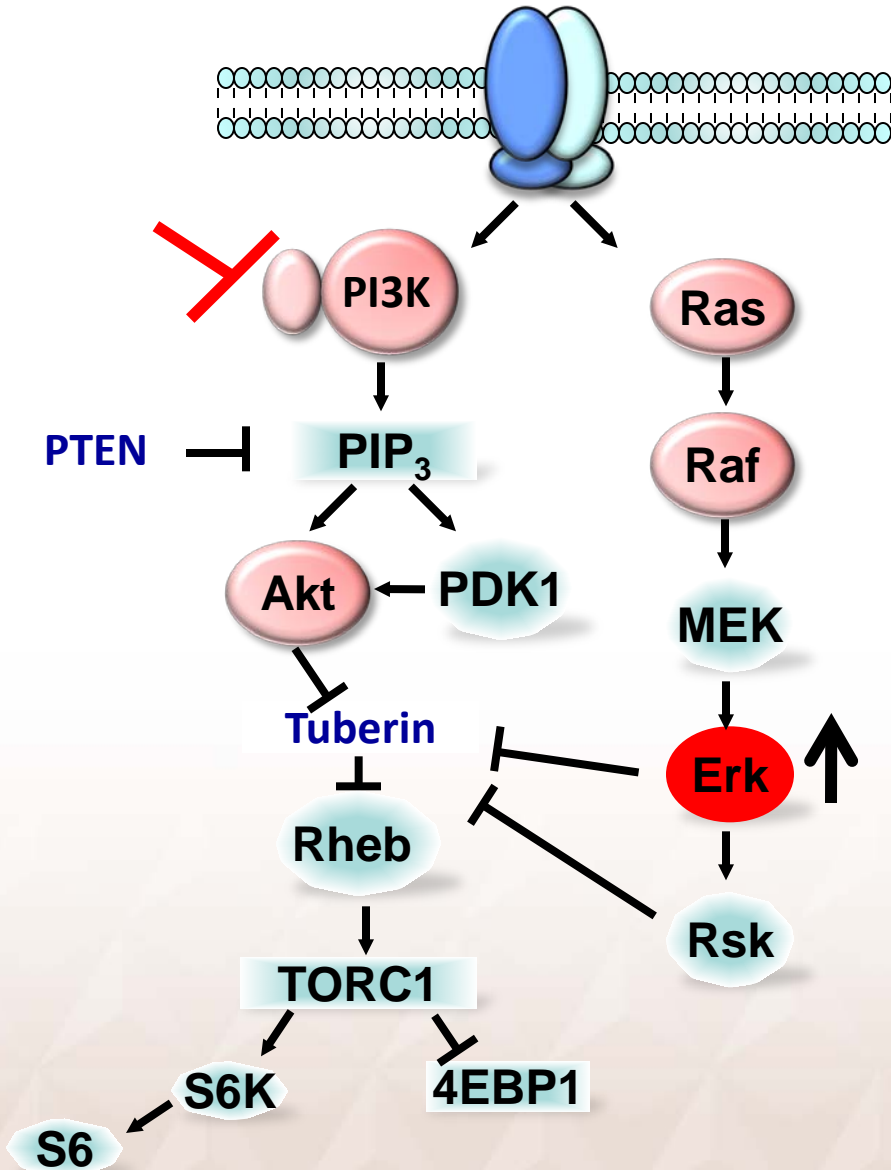


2 months later



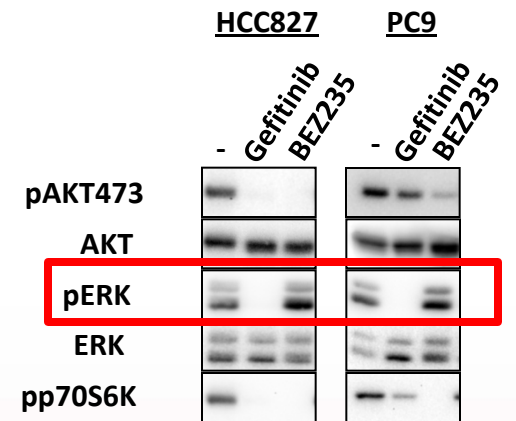
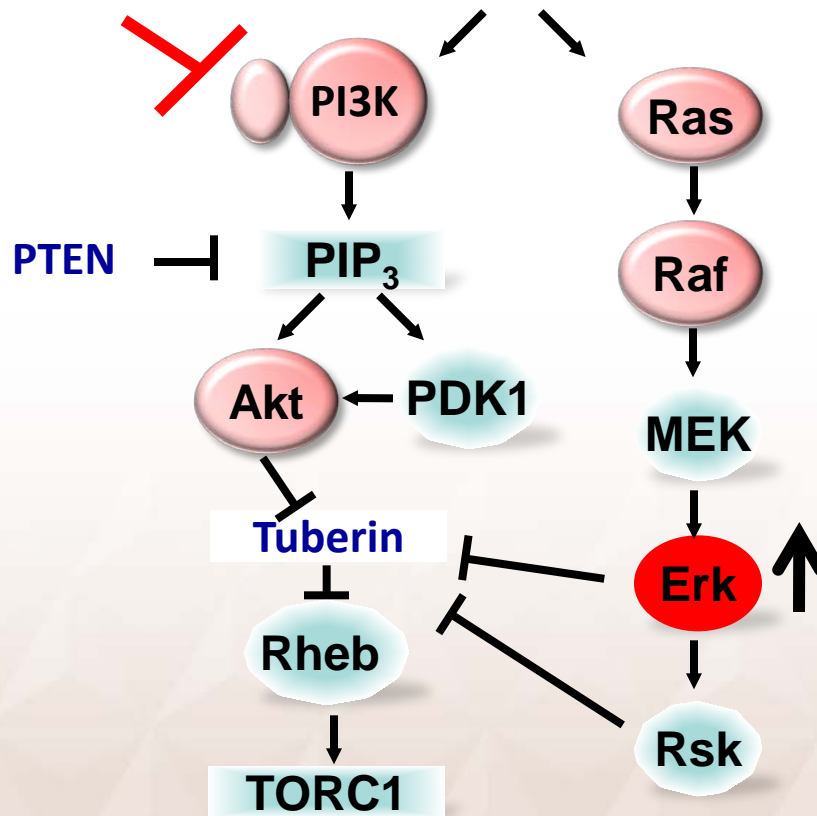
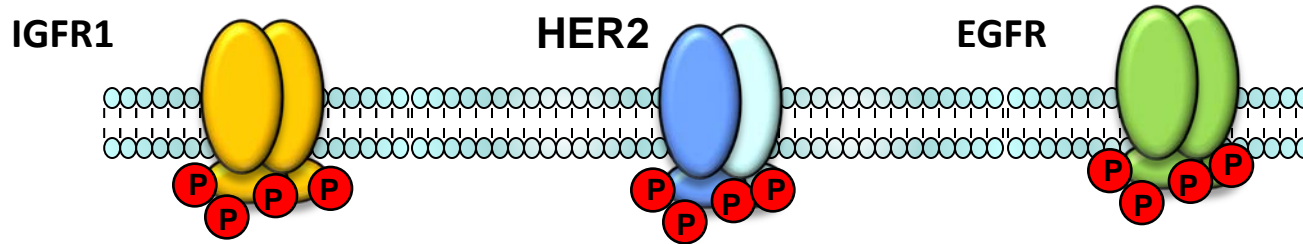
# PI3K Compensatory Pathways

## PI3k inhibitors Activate ERK pathway



# PI3K Compensatory Pathways

## PI3K inhibitors Activate ERK pathway via enhanced RTK signaling

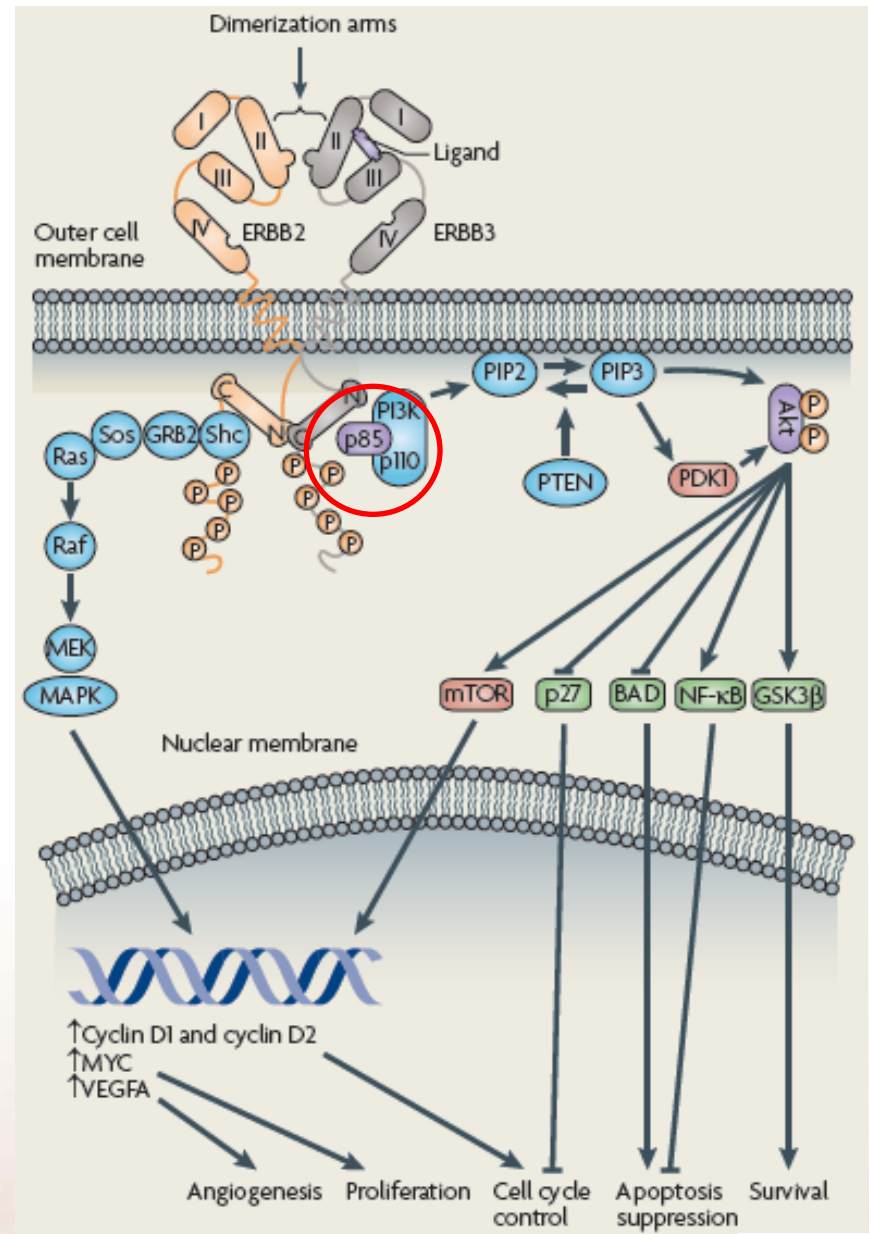


EGFR-mutated

(Faber et al, PNAS, 2009)

# ERBB3 and PI3K activation

ERBB3 activates the PI3K-Akt pathway directly through direct binding to the p85 subunit of PI3K.



**In the future we will monitor  
patients  
for the activation  
of compensatory pathways !**

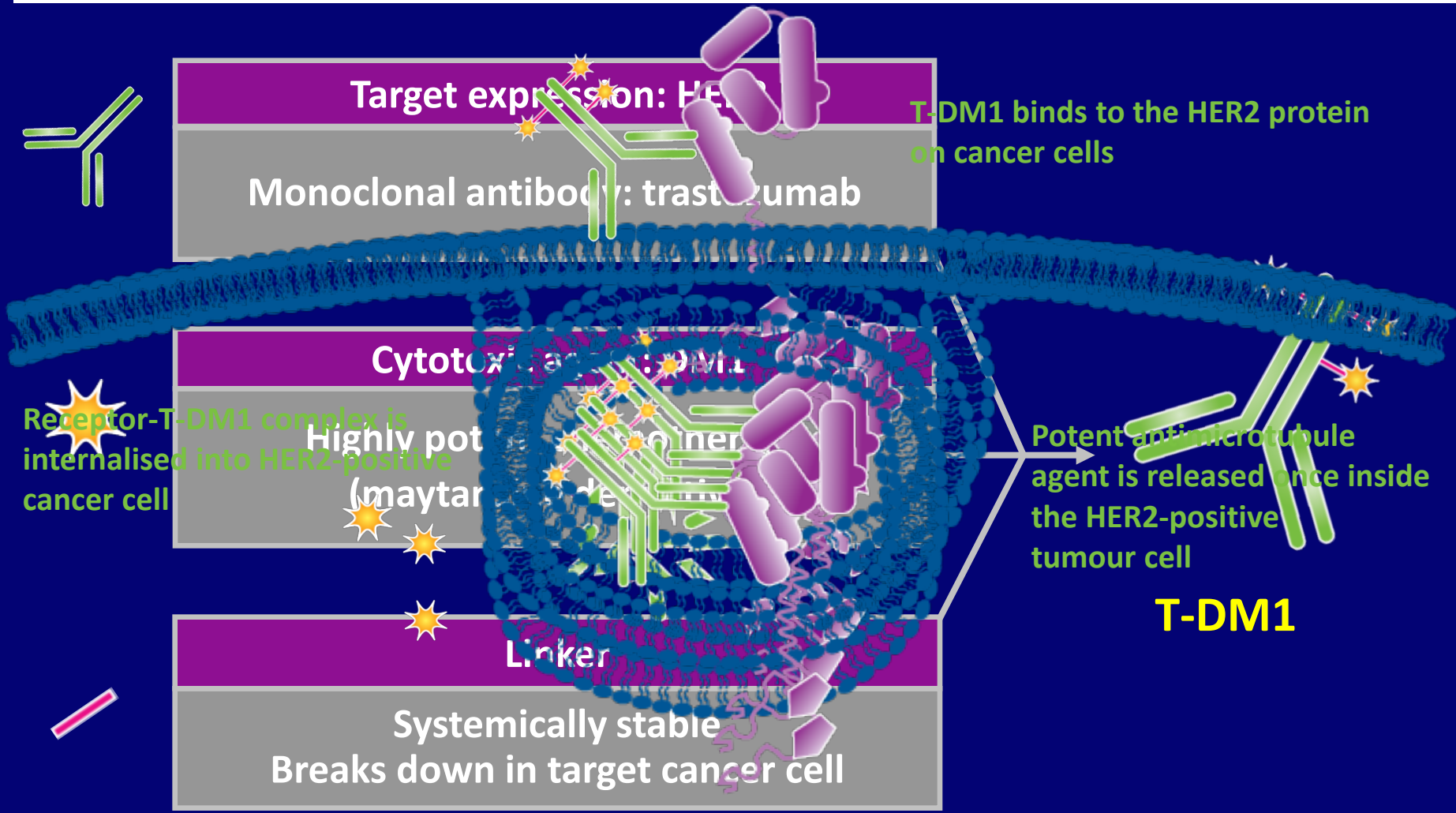
# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

---

4.

**Antibody-drug conjugate: T-DM1**

# T-DM1: selective HER2-targeting antibody with highly-toxic payload to HER2+ (AIDC) tumour cells

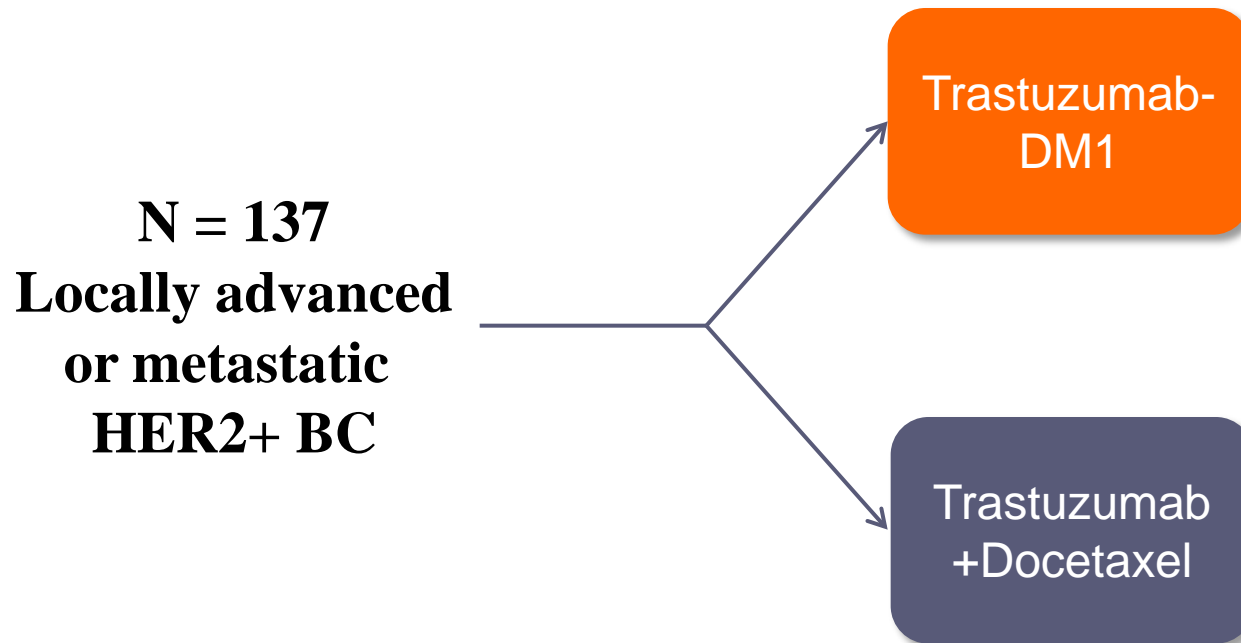


# Early signal of Trastuzumab-DM1 activity

First Line Trastuzumab-DM1

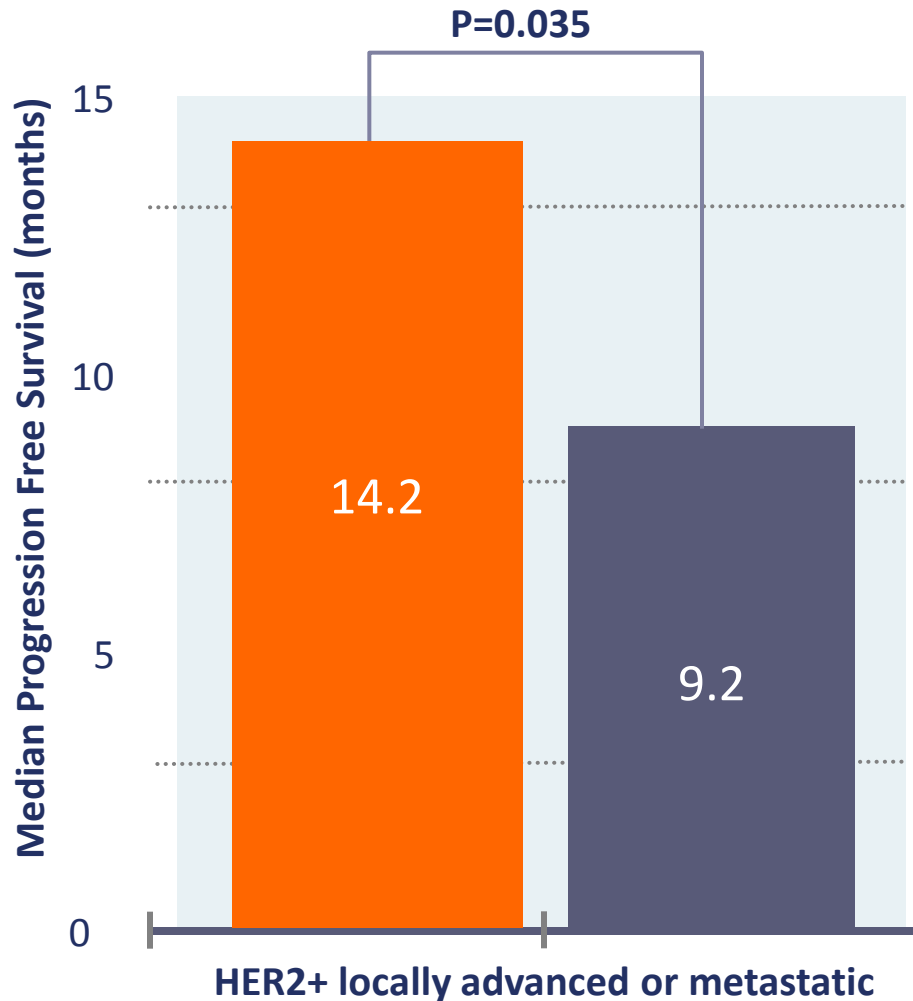
Phase II open label

Anti HER2 Naive





# Early signal of Trastuzumab-DM1 activity : improved progression free survival



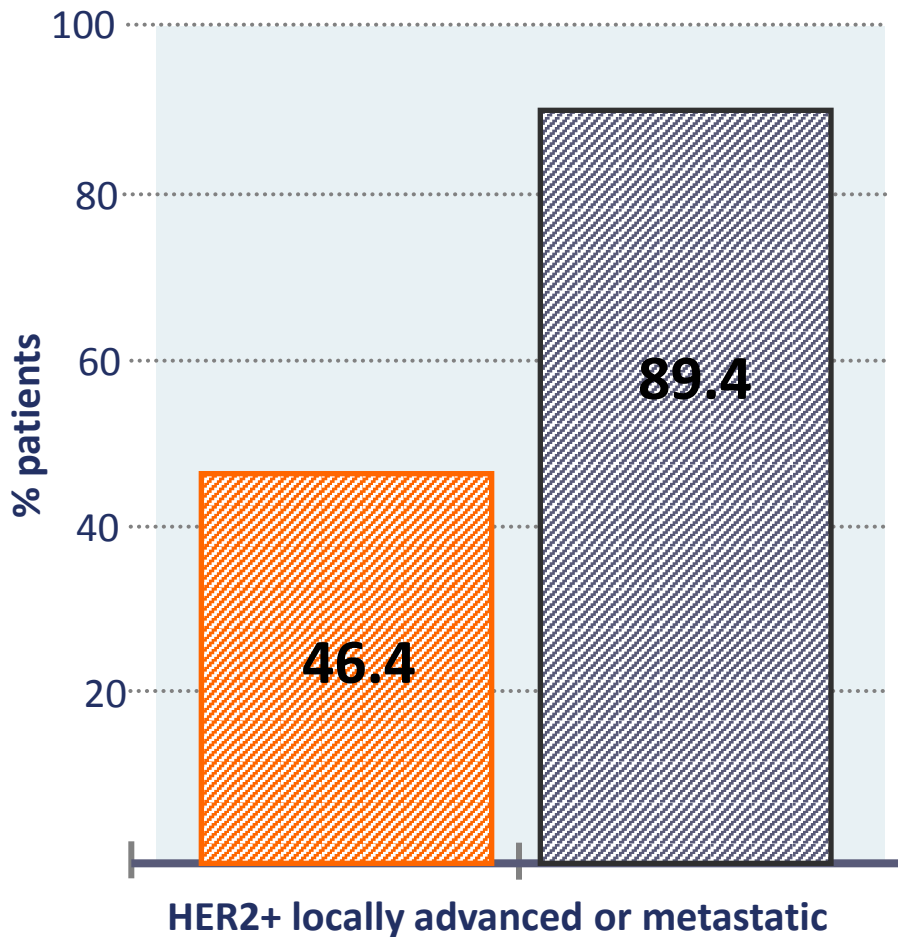
**HR = 0.59, P=0.035**

Treatment with trastuzumab-DM1 reduced the probability of disease progression or death by **41%** compared to treatment with Herceptin plus chemotherapy.

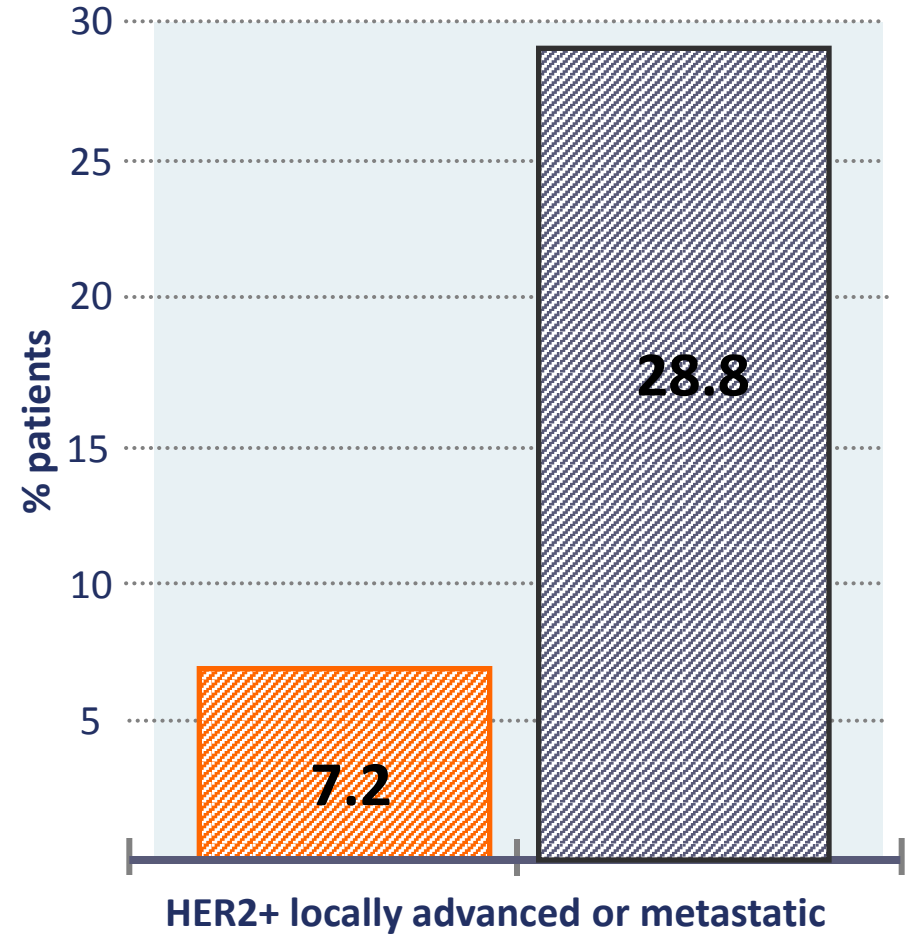
○ Trastuzumab-DM1      ○ Trastuzumab + Docetaxel

# Improved toxicity-profile of Trastuzumab-DM1

## Grade 3 toxicity



## Discontinuation due to side effects



○ Trastuzumab-DM1      ○ Trastuzumab + Docetaxel

**HER<sub>2</sub> positive B.C. : advanced disease**  
**TDM<sub>1</sub> associated with better quality of life**  
**than docetaxel + trastuzumab**

---

**TDM<sub>1</sub> > docetaxel + trastuzumab**  
**for all the following patient-reported**  
**outcomes !**

- **Physical well-being (FACT-B)**
- **« Lack of energy »**
- **« Bothered by side effects »**
- **« Feeling ill »**
- **« Forced to spend time in bed »**
- **« Trouble meeting needs of family »**

**T-DM1 in the context  
of  
dual HER2 blockade**

...

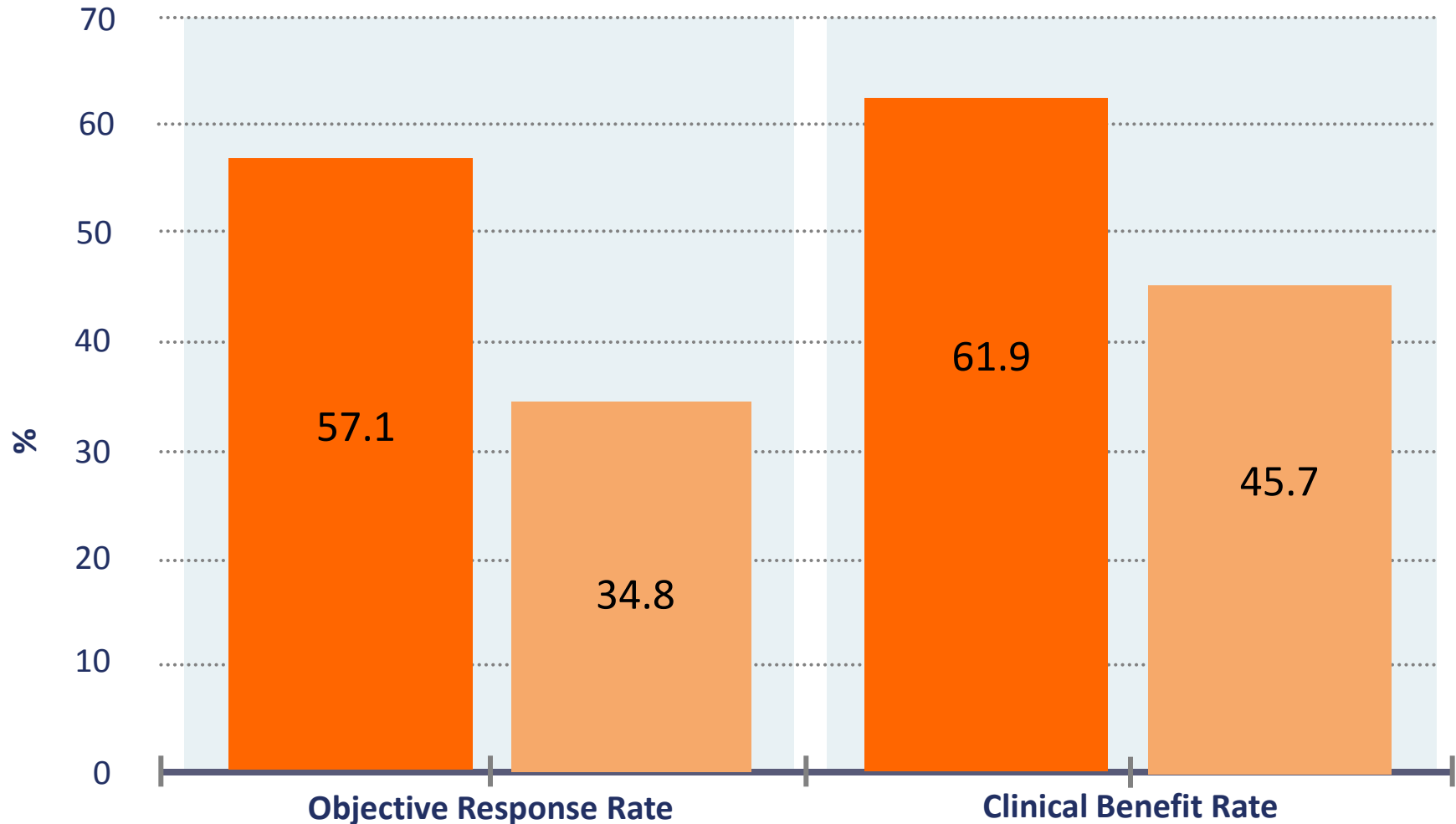
# T-DM1 in Combination with Pertuzumab

Trastuzumab-DM1 + Pertuzumab

Phase Ib/II single arm

No prior T-DM1 or pertuzumab

○ First Line    ○ Relapsed



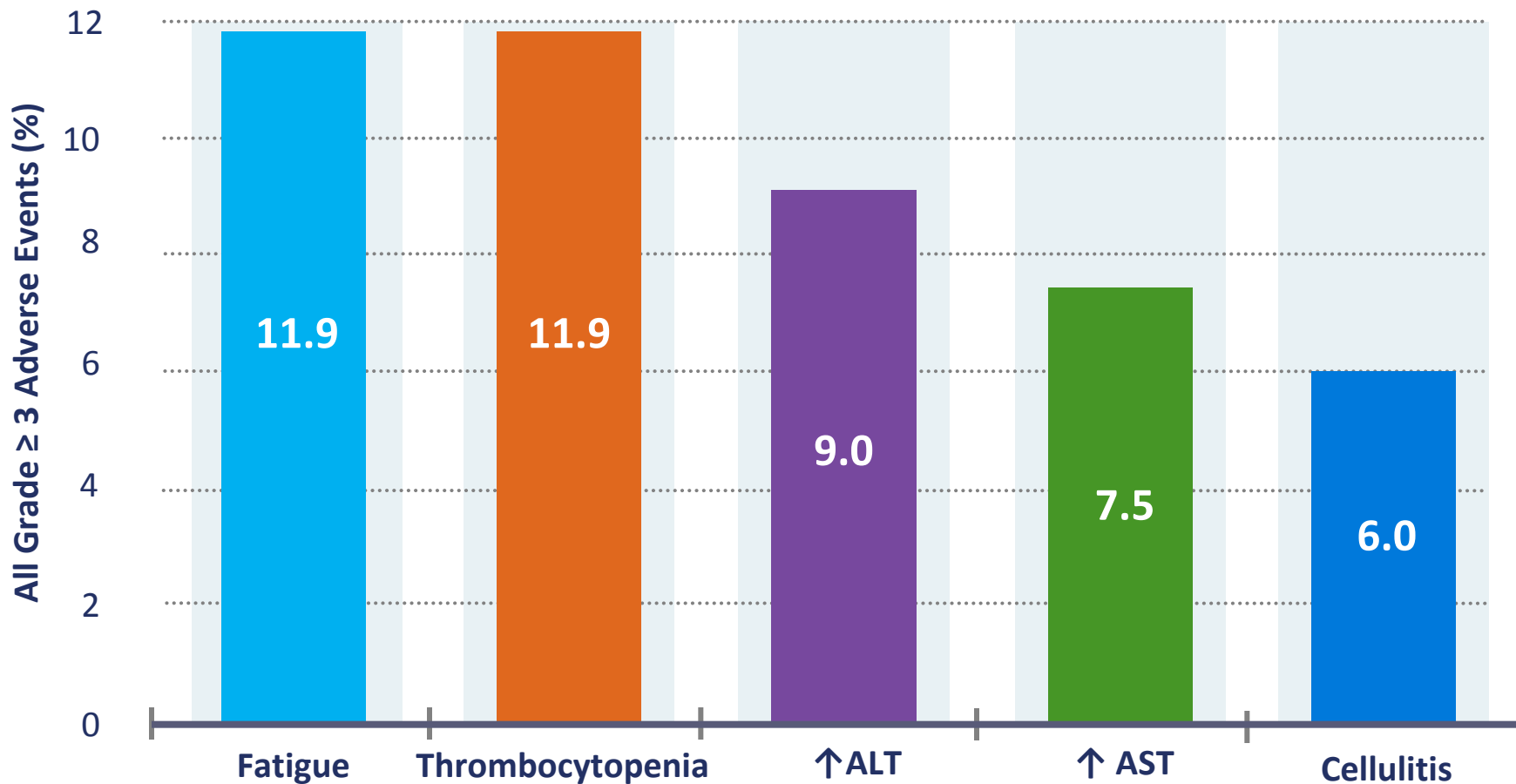
\* Median number of prior systemic agents in metastatic setting (range) = 6.0 (2-14)

Dieras V et al, 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual SABC, 2010; P3-14-01

# Safety of Trastuzumab-DM1 + Pertuzumab

Most Adverse events were Grade  $\leq 2$

Cardiac toxicity: 1 discontinuation due to LVEF dysfunction



# Clinical development of TDM1

Advanced BC  
First Line

MARIANNE  
(Phase III)

T-DM1 + Pertuzumab  
Vs.  
Trastuzumab + taxane

Results 2014

# Clinical development of TDM1

Advanced BC  
First Line

MARIANNE  
(Phase III)

T-DM1 + Pertuzumab  
Vs.  
Trastuzumab + taxane

Results 2014

Advanced BC  
Second Line

EMILIA  
(Phase III)

T-DM1  
Vs.  
Lapatinib + Capecitabine

Results 2012



# Clinical development of TDM1

Advanced BC  
First Line

MARIANNE  
(Phase III)

T-DM1 + Pertuzumab  
Vs.  
Trastuzumab + taxane

Results 2014

Advanced BC  
Second Line

EMILIA  
(Phase III)

T-DM1  
Vs.  
Lapatinib + Capecitabine

Results 2012

Early Stage  
BC

Adjuvant and  
Neoadjuvant  
(Phase II)

T-DM1 post anthracycline

Results 2014

**We are likely to witness  
the development  
of new members  
in this family... !**

# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

---

**5.**

**Host-directed immune strategies**

# Biological Processes Associated with Breast Cancer Clinical Outcome Depend on the Molecular Subtypes

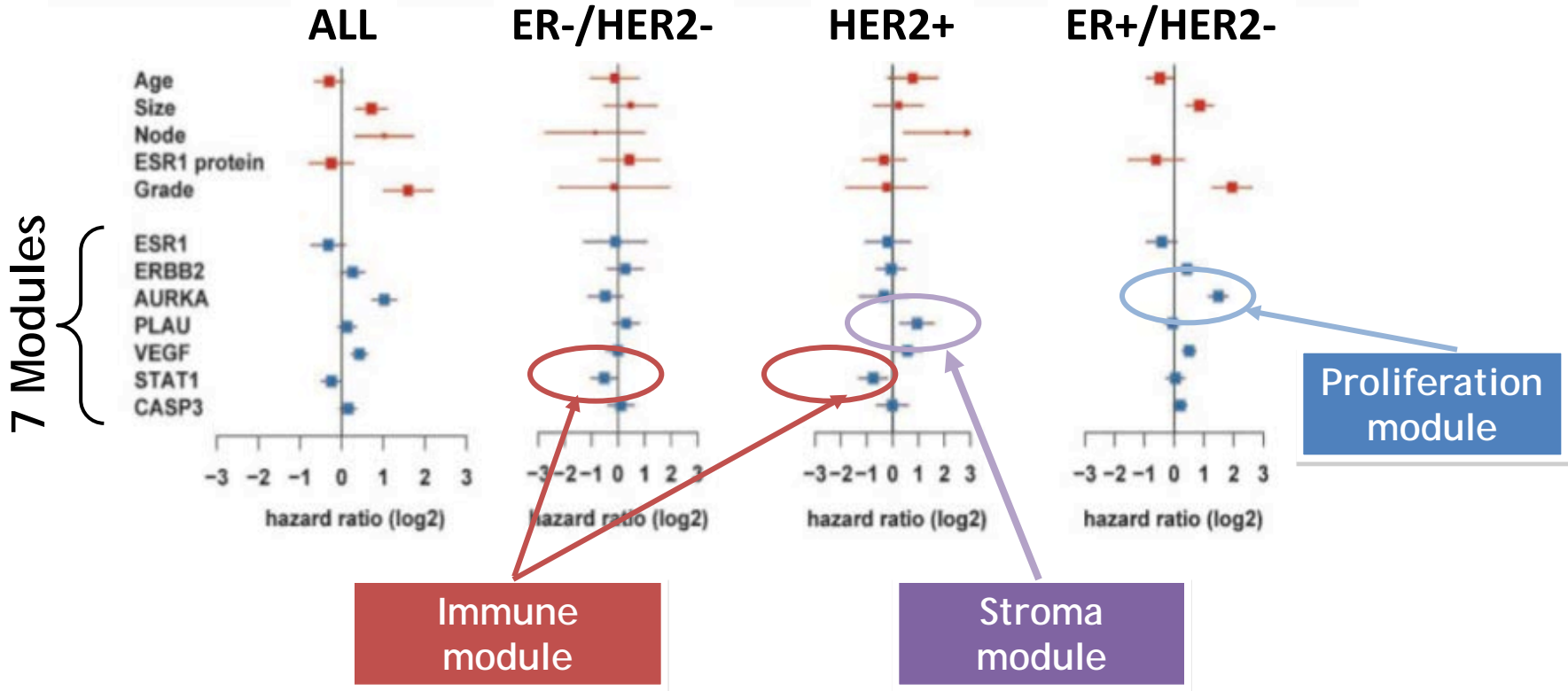
Christine Desmedt,<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Haibe-Kains,<sup>1,2</sup> Pratyaksha Wirapati,<sup>3,4</sup> Marc Buyse,<sup>5</sup> Denis Larsimont,<sup>1</sup> Gianluca Bontempi,<sup>2</sup> Mauro Delorenzi,<sup>3,4</sup> Martine Piccart,<sup>1</sup> and Christos Sotiriou<sup>1</sup>

## Gene Modules

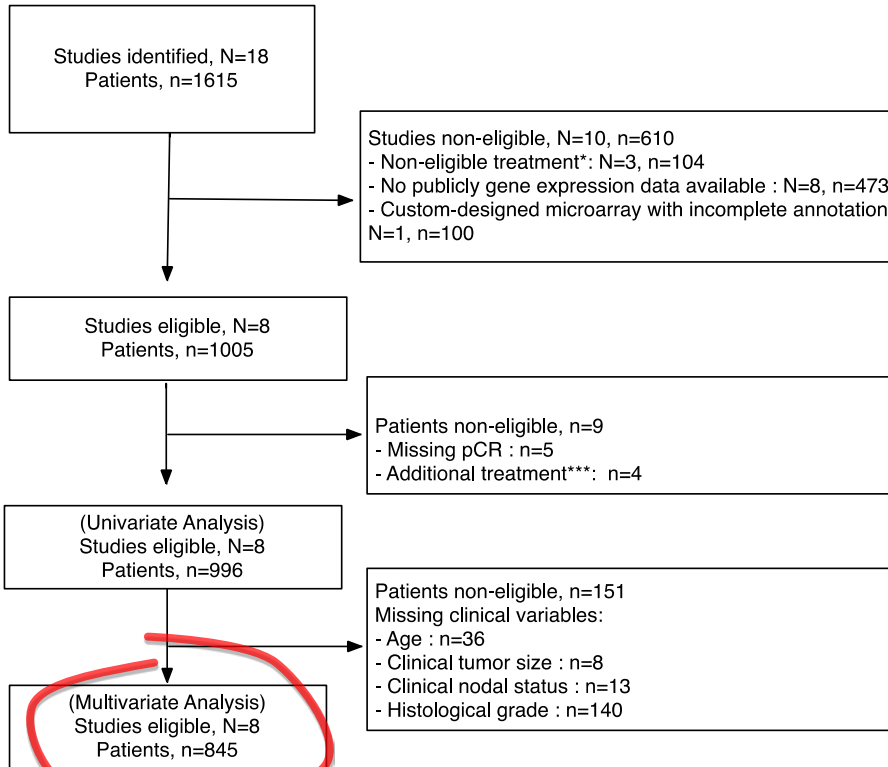
AURKA=proliferation

STAT1=immune

PLAU=stroma



# Pooled analysis of gene expression studies to predict neoadjuvant (taxanes and/or anthracyclines) chemotherapy response



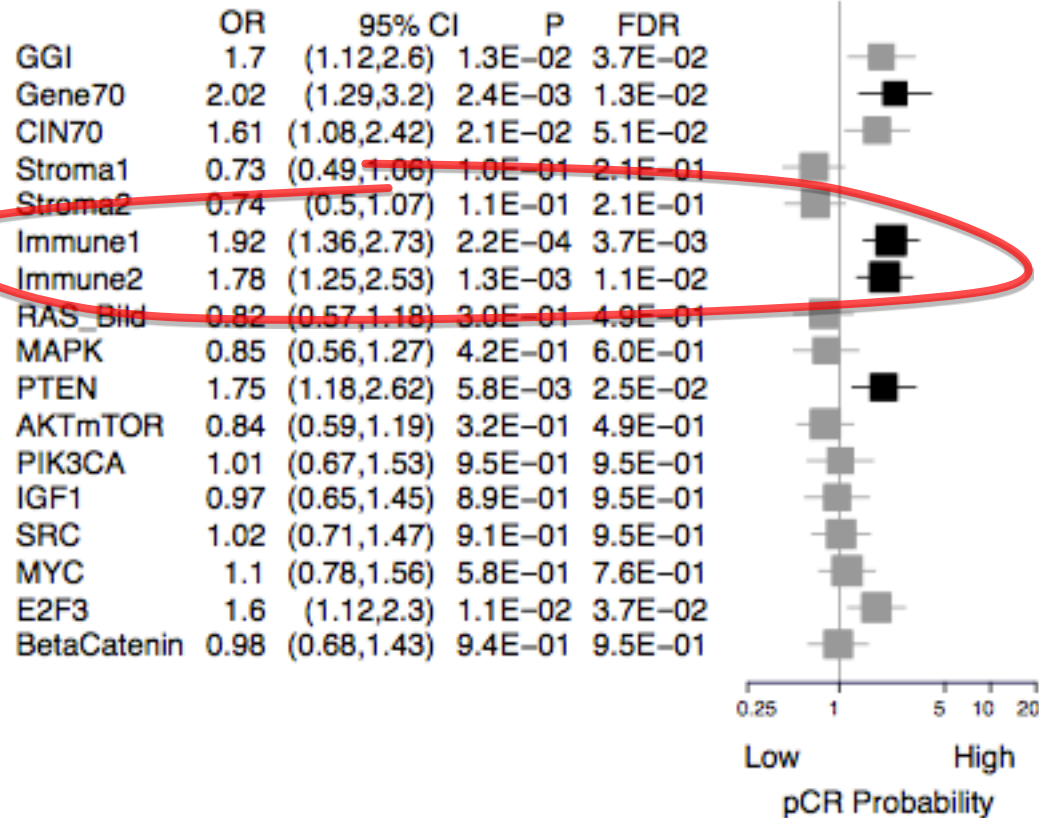
Several molecular processes (including immune signatures) and molecular pathways

? Response to chemotherapy

# Immune signatures are associated with better response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy in breast cancer beyond clinico-pathological characteristics

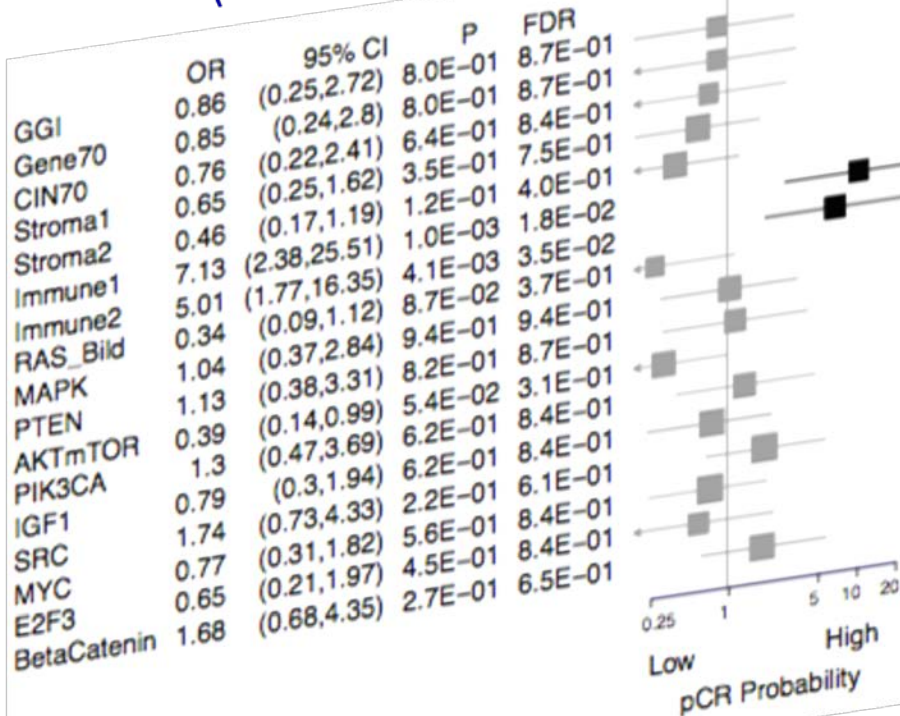
## ALL patients

(N=845 pts; pCR=189)

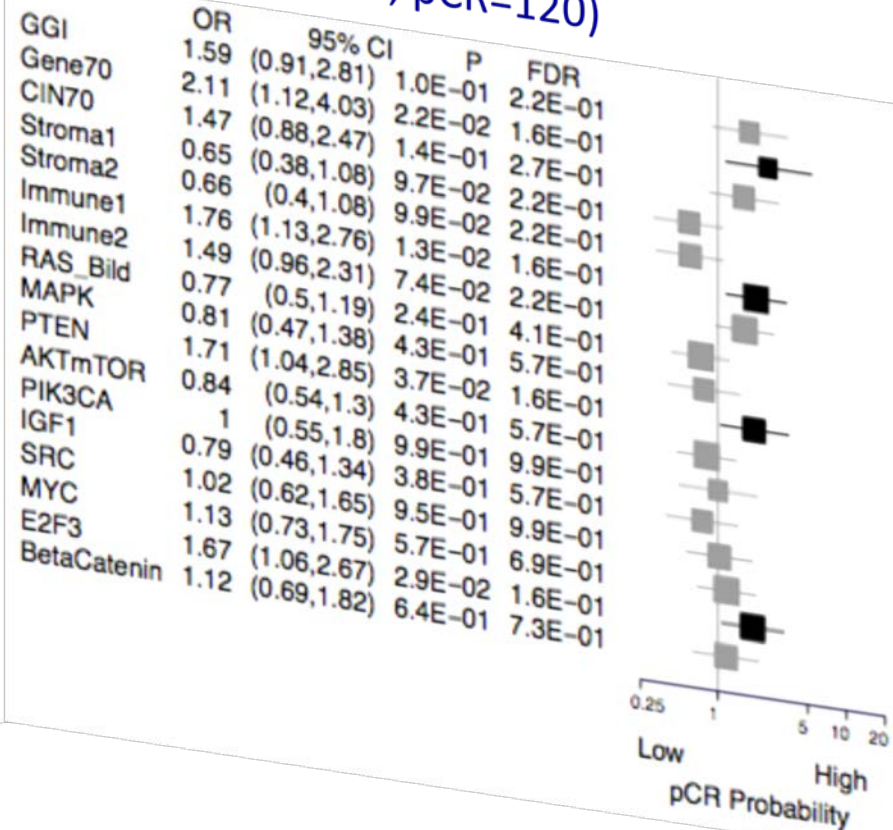


# Mainly seen in HER2+ and ER-/HER2- BC

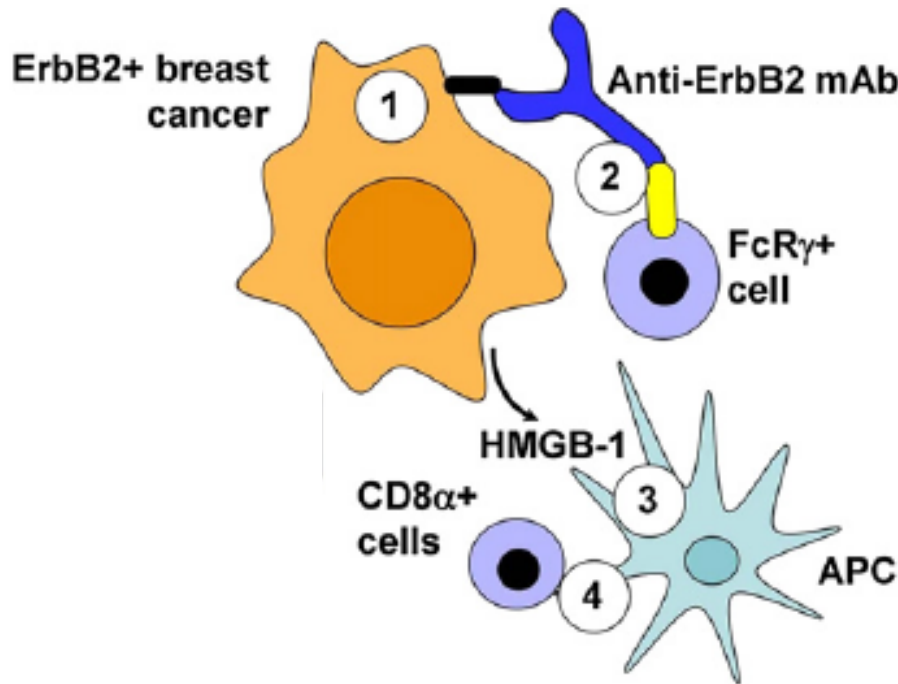
**HER2+**  
(N=118 pts; pCR=42)



**ER-/HER2-**  
(N=394 pts; pCR=120)



# A revised mechanism of action of Trastuzumab



HMGB-1 = High Mobility Group Box 1 Protein

(1+2)

Trastuzumab recruits Fc receptor expressing cells such as NK cells

(3)

ADCC (or HER2 signaling blockade) causes cell death and the release of “death signals” such as HMGB-1, which triggers the activation of Antigen presenting cells (APC)

**(4) As a result CD8-dependent adaptive anti-tumor immunity is generated**



# Future treatment strategies in HER2 positive BC

## Host-directed immune strategies

---

- **Boosting « ADCC »...**
- **Boosting adaptive anti-tumor immunity...**
  - **anti-CTLA4 antibody to eliminate the brake on T-cell activation ?**

# Winning the battle against HER2 positive BC !



**The greatest challenge of  
tomorrow in  
HER2 positive B.C.**

**=**

**The tailoring of the  
anti-HER2 strategies !**

**Thank you !**