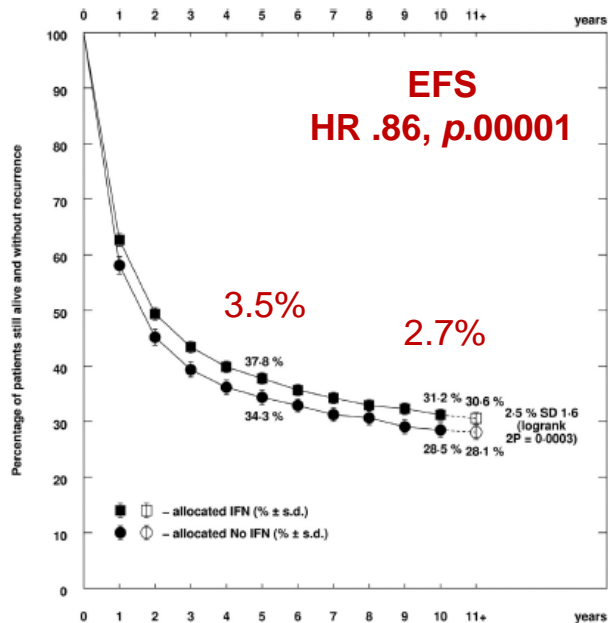


# Advances in the Adjuvant Setting: Systemic Therapy

Dr Ana Arance MD PhD  
Medical Oncology Department  
Hospital Clínic Barcelona

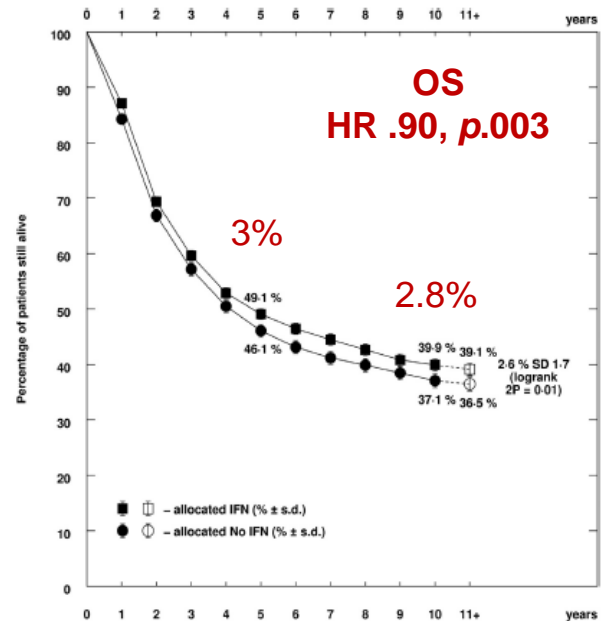
# Interferon



Events/person-years:

Treatment

IFN	1268/2723	446/1861	204/1599	111/1307	57/1662	45/816	26/926	17/467	7/333	8/246	14/886
No IFN	1067/1779	201/1178	132/859	71/523	35/703	25/582	25/873	6/332	13/217	3/107	7/507



Deaths/person-years:

Treatment

IFN	453/2264	402/2636	204/2135	203/1723	106/1376	68/1038	34/790	23/601	17/409	7/296	16/812
No IFN	383/2222	403/1743	223/1410	152/1105	88/963	52/770	29/621	15/462	11/268	8/206	11/627

## Ulceration:

Yes	624/898	421/545	-52.6	222.4	0.79 (0.66, 0.94)
No	856/1429	556/893	-17.1	310.8	0.95 (0.82, 1.10)
Unknown/Missing	733/1112	654/949	-42.6	322.6	0.88 (0.76, 1.01)

# Use of Adjuvant Therapy in Patients With Stage IIIB/IIIC Melanoma

## Real-World Data From the 2016 MELABIS Observational Study (France, Germany, UK)

Adjuvant Systemic Therapy Received, n (%)	France (n = 199)	Germany (n = 164)	UK (n = 195)	Overall (n = 558)
None	185 (93.0)	109 (66.5)	190 (97.4)	484 (86.7)
<b>Interferon</b>				
High dose	3 (1.5)	18 (11.0)	0	21 (3.8)
Intermediate dose	1 (0.5)	8 (4.9)	0	9 (1.6)
Low dose	0	25 (15.2)	0	25 (4.5)
Pegylated	0	3 (1.8)	0	3 (0.5)
Unknown <sup>b</sup>	1 (0.5)	0	0	1 (0.2)
Other <sup>c</sup>	9 (4.5)	1 (0.6)	5 (2.6)	15 (2.7)
<b>Disease progression, n (%)</b>				
Deceased	66 (33.2)	59 (36.0)	71 (36.4)	196 (35.1)
Any recurrence	131 (65.8)	100 (61.0)	120 (61.5)	351 (62.9)
Type of first occurrence				
Locoregional	57 (43.5)	39 (39.0)	48 (40.0)	144 (41.0)
Further progression to distant metastases	32 (57.1) <sup>d</sup>	17 (43.6)	26 (54.2)	75 (52.4)
Distant metastasis	74 (56.5)	61 (61.0)	72 (60.0)	207 (59.0)

**Considerable variation in use of adjuvant therapy (mostly interferon) between patients with stage IIIB/IIIC melanoma in Germany (≈ 33% use) and France/UK (3-7% use)**

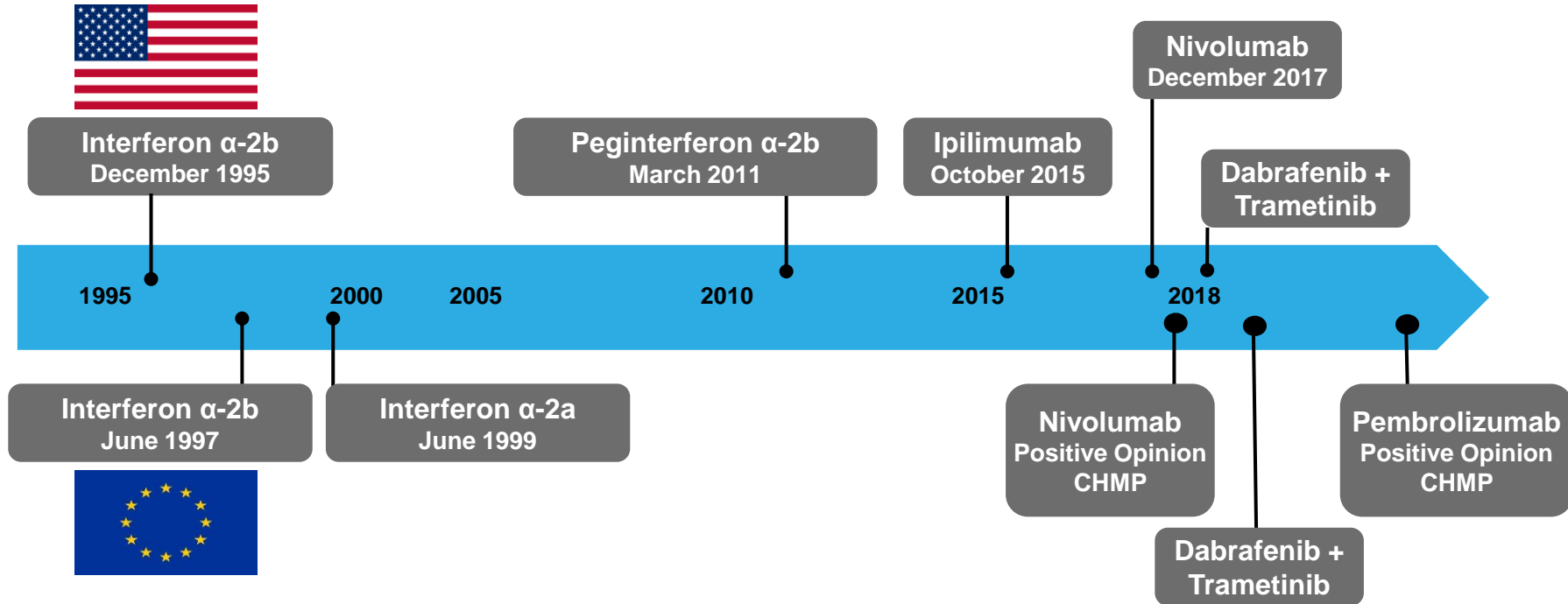
UK, United Kingdom.

<sup>a</sup> Diagnosis made between 1 January 2009 and 31 December 2011; <sup>b</sup> Unknown therapy given in a blinded clinical trial investigating therapies licensed for stage IIIA/B melanoma;

<sup>c</sup> Includes carboplatin/paclitaxel, bacillus Calmette-Guérin, radiotherapy and radiochemotherapy. In France, "other" also included 5 patients treated with interferon regimens at unspecified doses; <sup>d</sup> Data missing for 1 patient. Percentage equals the number of patients with further progression of locoregional recurrence divided by all patients with locoregional recurrence.

Harries M, et al. *Int J Clin Pract.* 2017;71:e12946.

# Approved Treatments for Melanoma in the Adjuvant Setting



# BRIM8

## Cohort 1

- Fully resected, high-risk **stage IIC, IIIA (lymph node metastasis > 1 mm), or IIIB** melanoma
- *BRAF* V600 mutation

N = 314

R  
1:1

Vemurafenib 960 mg BID × 52 wk  
(n = 157)

Placebo × 52 wk  
(n = 157)

## Cohort 2

- Fully resected, high-risk **stage IIIC** melanoma
- *BRAF* V600 mutation

N = 184

R  
1:1

Vemurafenib 960 mg BID × 52 wk  
(n = 93)

Placebo × 52 wk  
(n = 91)

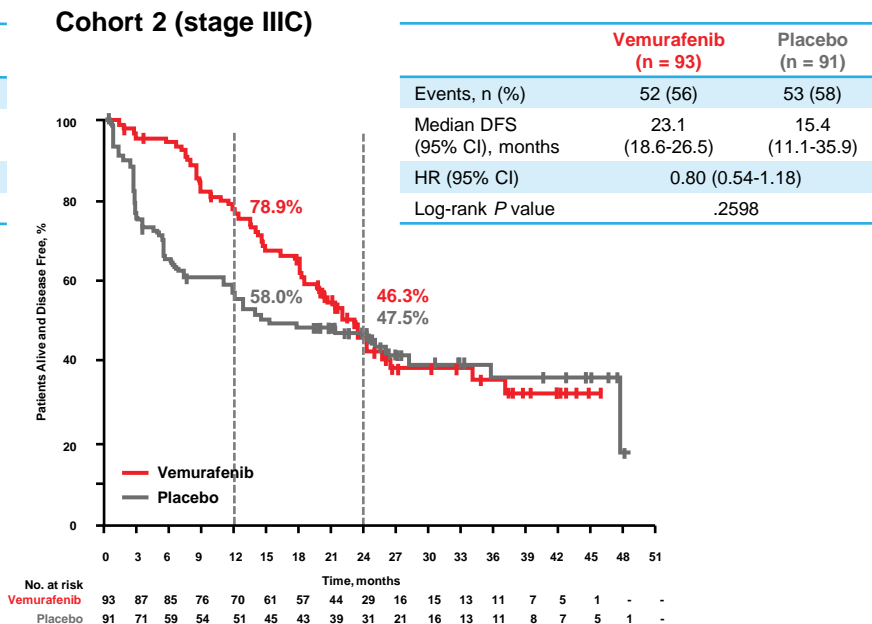
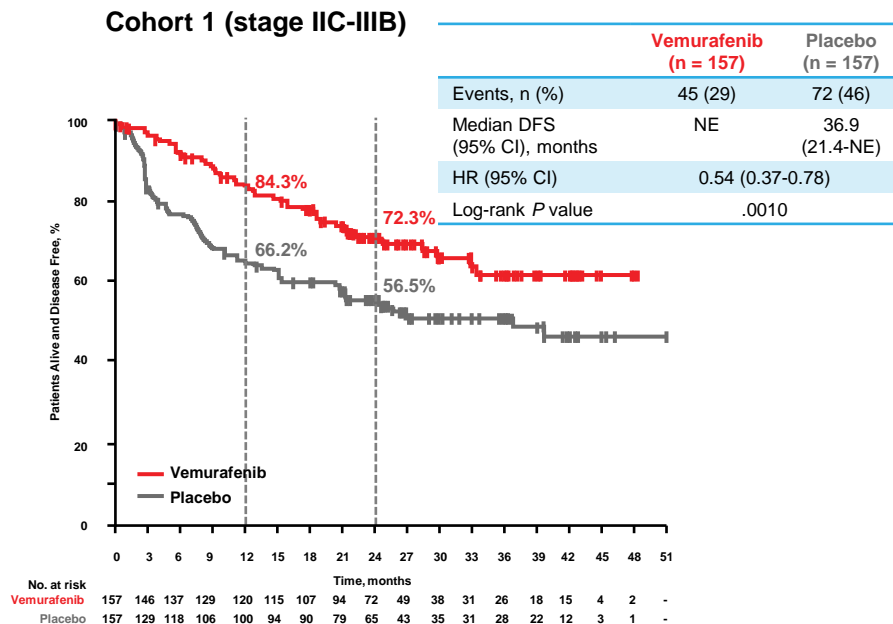
**Primary endpoint: DFS**

**Secondary endpoints:**  
DMFS, OS, safety, HRQOL

### Stratification

Cohort 1: disease stage and geographic region; Cohort 2: geographic region

# BRIM8: Vemurafenib Was Associated With Improved DFS vs Placebo



- P value for DFS in cohort 1 cannot be considered significant because the primary endpoint was not met in cohort 2

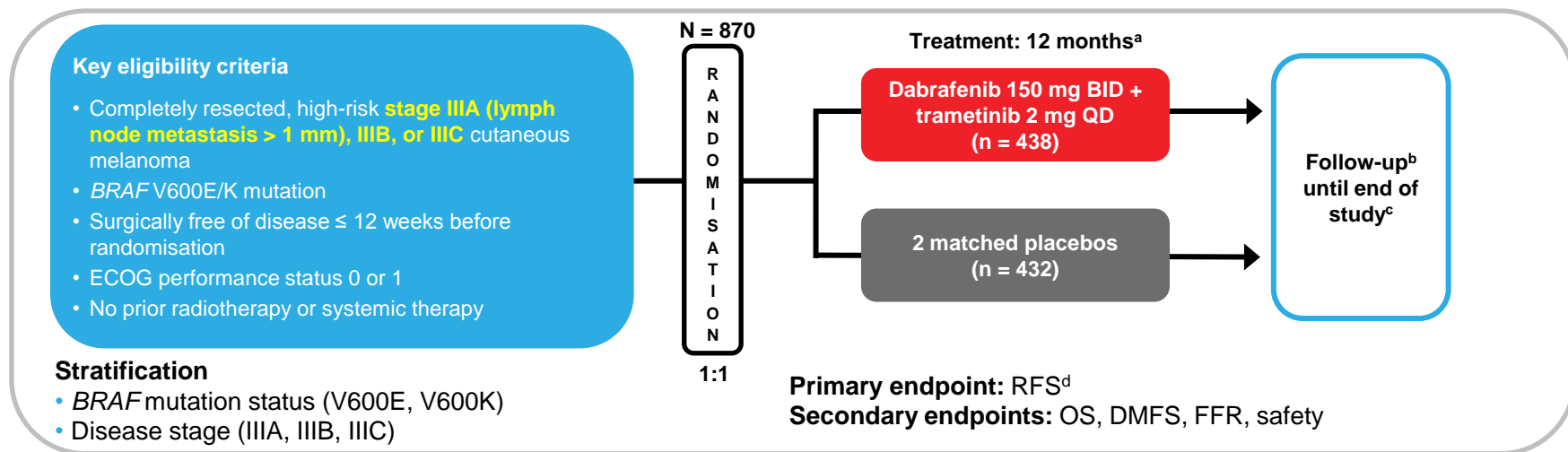
HR, hazard ratio; NE, not estimable.

Reprinted from Maio M, et al. *Lancet Oncol.* 2018 Feb 21 [ePub ahead of print]. Copyright 2018, with permission from Elsevier.

## BRIM8: Conclusions

- The primary disease-free survival end-point was not met in patients with resected stage IIIC *BRAF* V600 mutation-positive melanoma
- However, 1 year of adjuvant vemurafenib showed a numerical benefit in disease-free survival for patients with resected stage IIC–IIIA–IIIB disease

# COMBI-AD



ECOG, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group; FFR, freedom from relapse; QD, once daily; RFS, relapse-free survival.

<sup>a</sup> Or until disease recurrence, death, unacceptable toxicity or withdrawal of consent; <sup>b</sup> Patients were followed for disease recurrence until the first recurrence and thereafter for survival; <sup>c</sup> The study will be considered complete, and final OS analysis will occur when ≈ 70% of randomised patients have died or are lost to follow-up;

<sup>d</sup> New primary melanoma was considered an event.

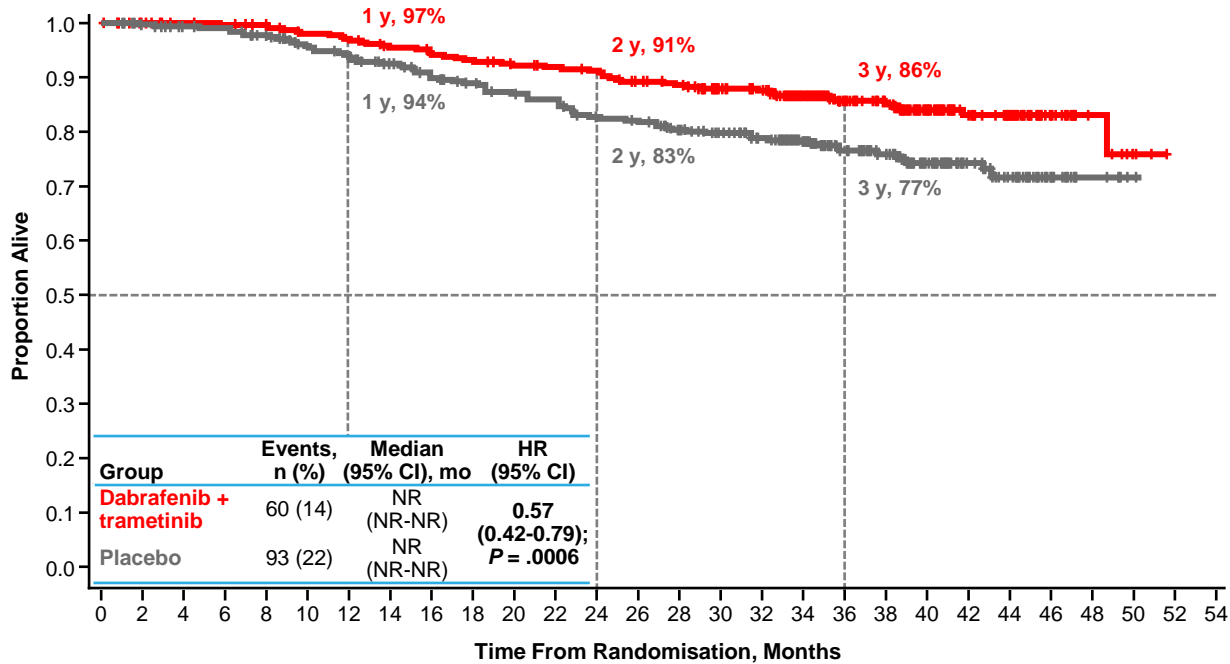
Long GV, et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2017;377:1813-1823.





# COMBI-AD: Dabrafenib + Trametinib Was Associated With Improved OS

Median follow-up, 33.6 months



No. at risk

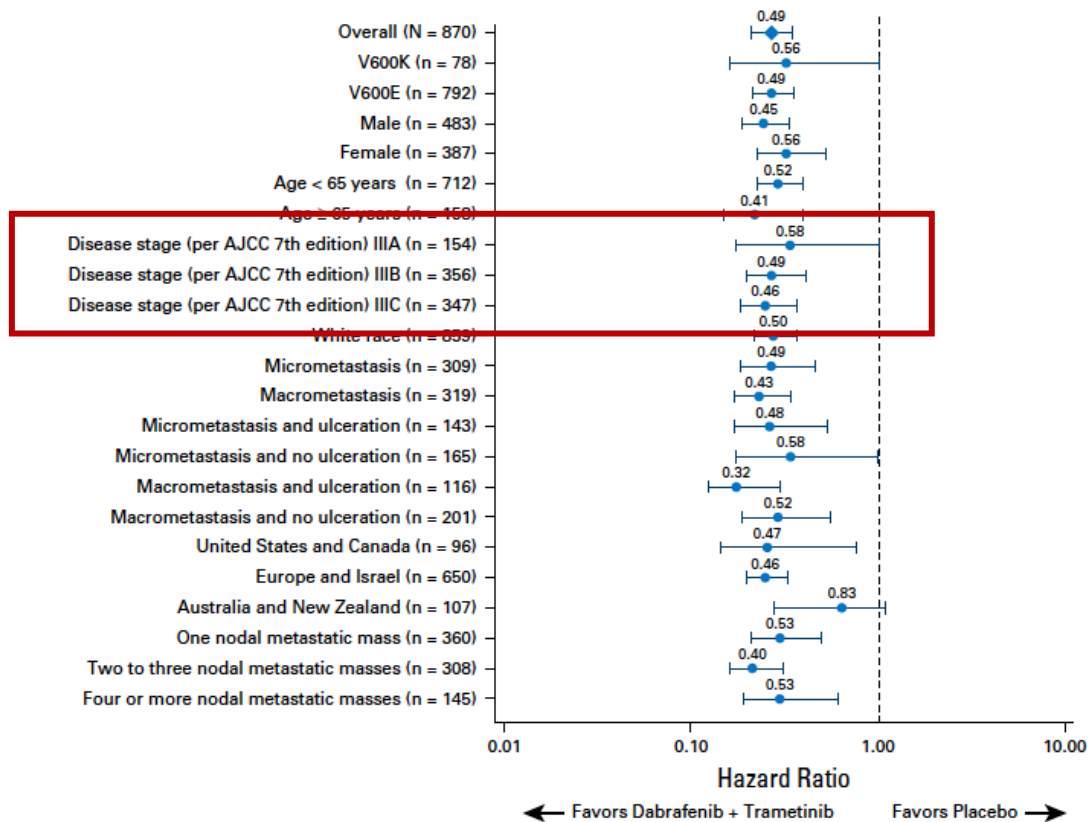
Dabrafenib + trametinib

438 426 416 414 408 401 395 387 381 376 370 366 362 352 328 301 291 233 180 164 105 82 67 28 12 5 0 0

Placebo

432 425 415 410 401 386 378 362 346 337 328 323 308 303 284 269 252 202 164 152 94 64 51 17 7 1 0 0

# COMBI-AD Primary Analysis: RFS by Subgroup



# COMBI-AD: Safety Summary

- In the primary analysis, the most common AEs in the dabrafenib + trametinib arm were pyrexia (63%) and fatigue (47%)

AE Category, n (%)	Dabrafenib + Trametinib (n = 435)	Placebo (n = 432)
Any AE	422 (97)	380 (88)
AE related to study treatment	398 (91)	272 (63)
Grade 3/4 AE related to study treatment	136 (31)	21 (5)
Any SAE	155 (36)	44 (10)
SAE related to study treatment	117 (27)	17 (4)
AE leading to dose interruption	289 (66)	65 (15)
AE leading to dose reduction	167 (38)	11 (3)
AE leading to treatment discontinuation <sup>a</sup>	114 (26)	12 (3)
Fatal AE related to study drug	0	0

14-16%  
COMBI-D & -V

Data cutoff: 30 June 2017.

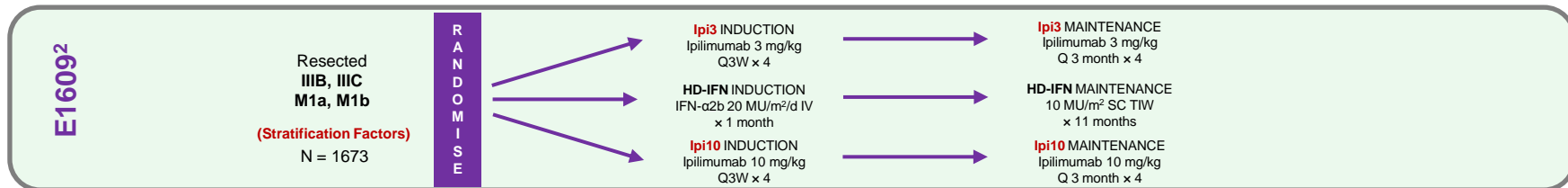
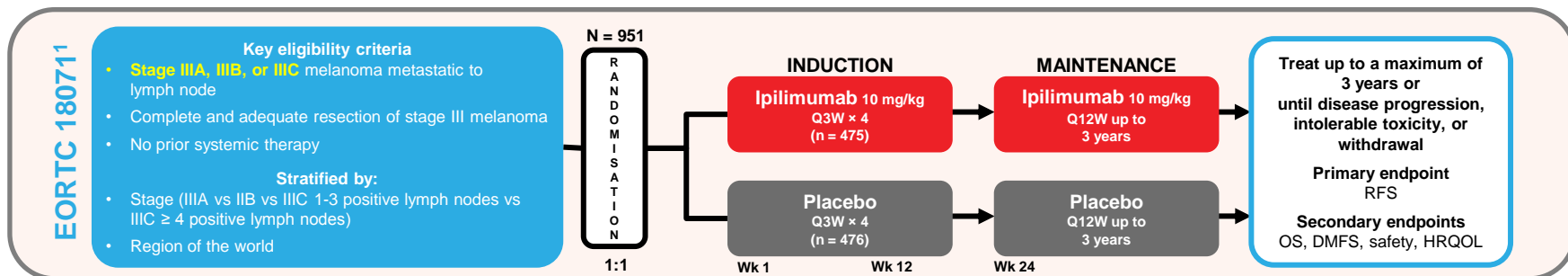
<sup>a</sup> Most common AEs leading to treatment discontinuation in the dabrafenib + trametinib arm were pyrexia (9%) and chills (4%).

Long GV, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2017;377:1813-1823; Hauschild A, et al. *ESMO.* 2017 .

## COMBI-AD: Conclusions

- Combined adjuvant dabrafenib + trametinib for patients with stage III *BRAF*-mutant melanoma was associated with improved RFS compared with placebo
- With a median follow-up of nearly 3 years, OS was also improved in the dabrafenib + trametinib arm vs the placebo arm
- Safety profile for dabrafenib + trametinib in the adjuvant setting was consistent with that in the metastatic setting for *BRAF*-mutant melanoma, and no new safety signals were observed

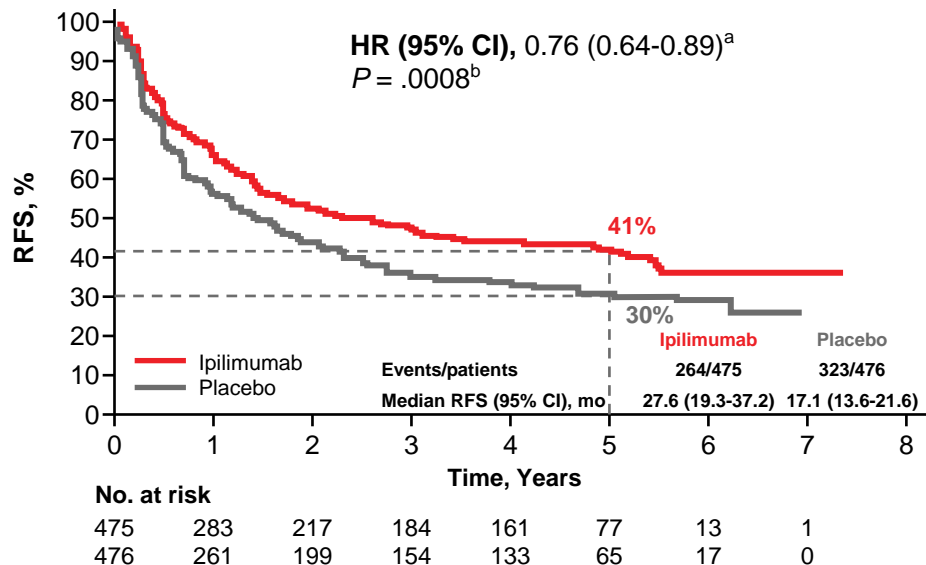
# Ipilimumab: EORTC 18071, E1609



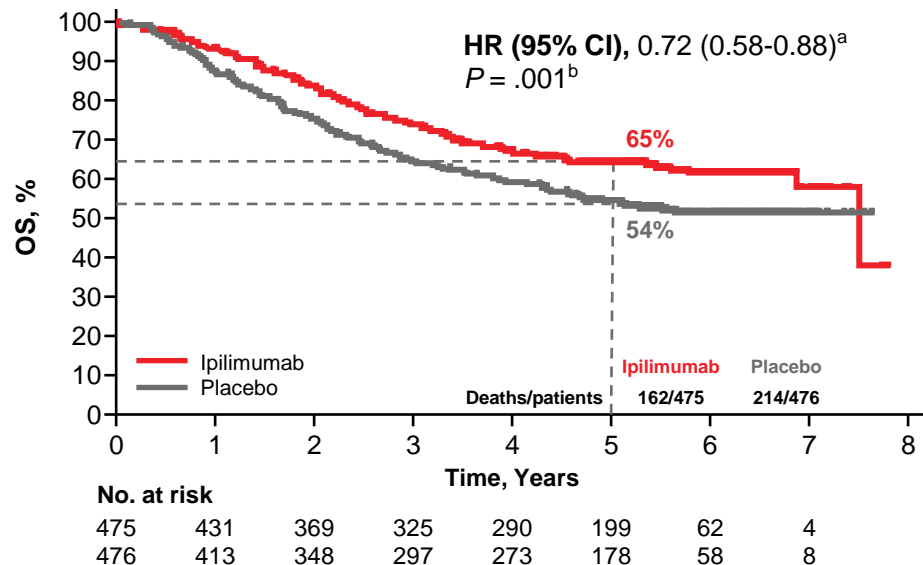
# EORTC 18071

## Randomised Phase 3 Trial of Adjuvant Ipilimumab 10 mg/kg vs Placebo in Resected Stage III Melanoma

### Recurrence-Free Survival



### Overall Survival



Note: RFS was per independent review committee.

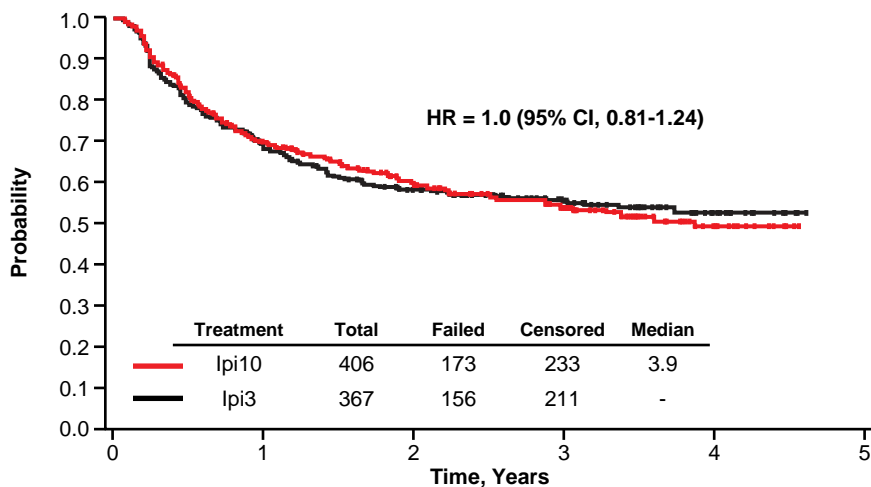
<sup>a</sup> Stratified by stage provided at randomisation; <sup>b</sup> Log-rank P value.

Eggermont AM, et al. *N Engl J Med.* 2016;375:1845-1855. Copyright © 2016 Massachusetts Medical Society. Reprinted with permission from Massachusetts Medical Society.

# E1609

## Randomised Phase 3 Trial of Adjuvant Ipilimumab 10 or 3 mg/kg vs High-Dose Interferon $\alpha$ -2b in Resected Stage III Melanoma

### Recurrence-Free Survival<sup>a</sup>



AE, % <sup>b</sup>	Ipi3 (n = 516)		Ipi10 (n = 503)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3/4	Any Grade	Grade 3/4
Any AE	98.4	53.3	100	65.4
Treatment-related AE	96.0	36.6	98.8	56.5
Treatment-related AE leading to discontinuation	34.9	25.0	53.7	42.9
Any immune-related AE	73.6	18.8	86.9	34.0

### Treatment-related deaths

- **Ipi3: 2 patients (0.4%)**—colitis/bowel perforation; colitis/death not otherwise specified
- **Ipi10: 8 patients (1.6%)**—colitis; colitis/colonic perforation; colitis; colitis/ventricular tachycardia; colitis/nervous system disorder; pneumonitis; thromboembolic event/hypopituitarism; cardiac arrest

<sup>a</sup> Based on an unplanned analysis of a subgroup of patients; RFS data for ipilimumab 10 mg/kg (Ipi10) vs 3 mg/kg (Ipi3) derived from a comparison of concurrently randomised patients only; <sup>b</sup> Based on all toxicity data as of 2 March 2017.

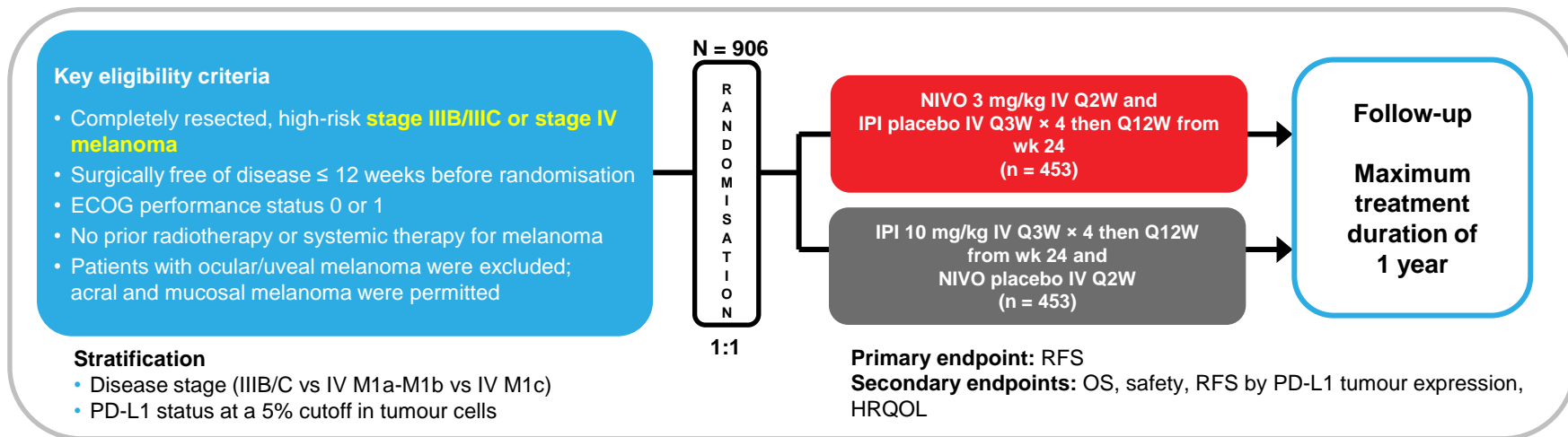
From Tarhini AA, et al. In: Proceedings from the American Society of Clinical Oncology; June 2-6, 2017; Chicago, IL [abstract 9500].



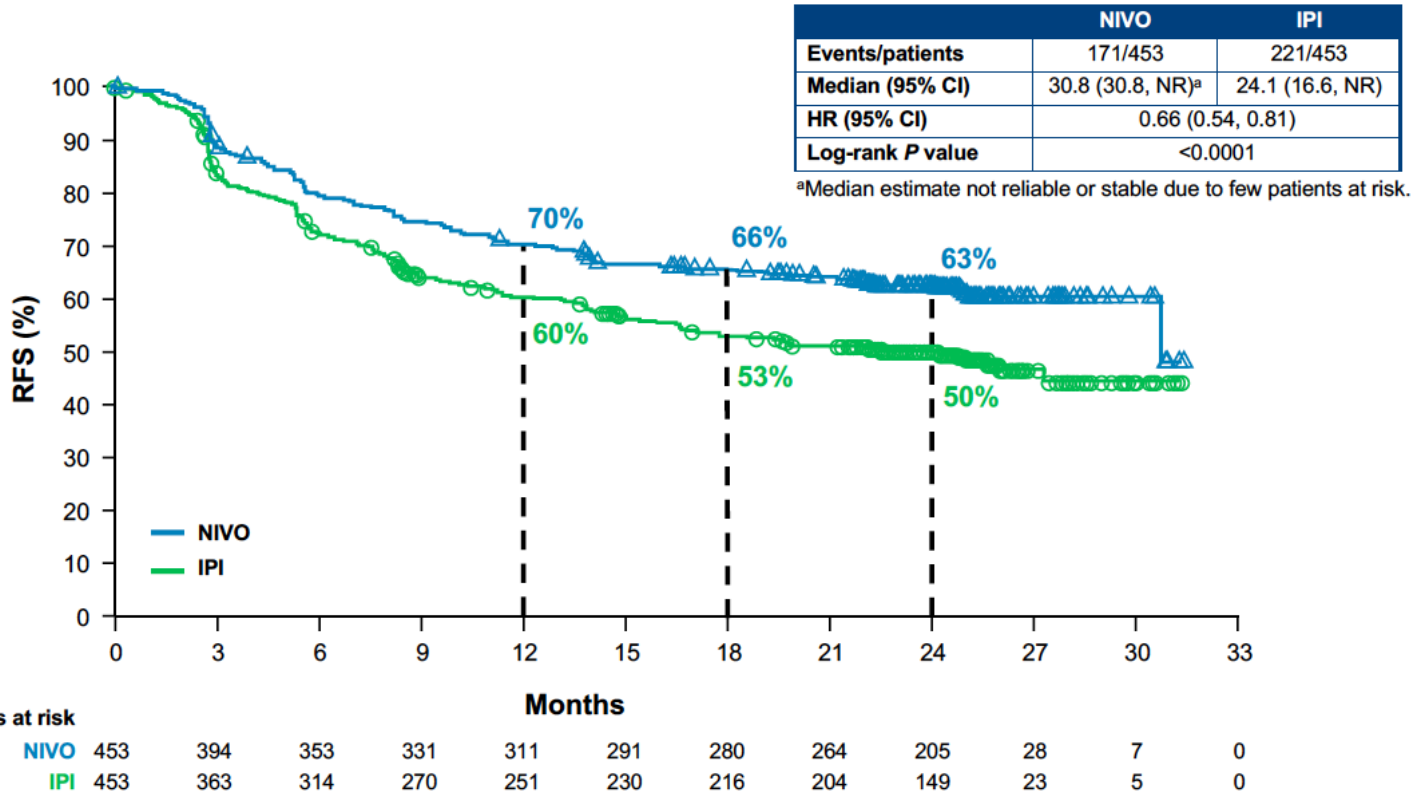
## EORTC 18071, E1609: Conclusions

- In the EORTC 18071 trial, ipilimumab 10 mg/kg was associated with a reduced risk of recurrence compared with placebo in patients with resected stage III melanoma
- An unplanned analysis of patients in the E1609 study demonstrated no difference in RFS between adjuvant ipilimumab 10 mg/kg vs 3 mg/kg
  - However, greater toxicity (including higher rates of AEs, treatment-related AEs leading to discontinuation and treatment-related deaths) was observed in the 10-mg/kg arm vs the 3-mg/kg arm
- Updated analyses, including the planned co-primary endpoints of RFS and OS for ipilimumab 3 mg/kg vs high-dose interferon, are expected

# CheckMate 238



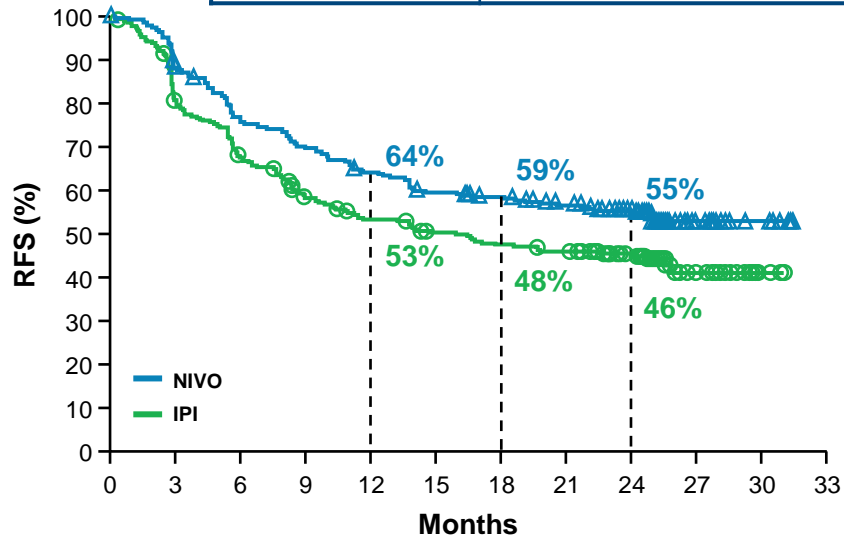
# CheckMate 238: Nivolumab Treatment Was Associated With Improved RFS vs Ipilimumab



# Subgroup Analysis of RFS: 5% PD-L1 Expression Level

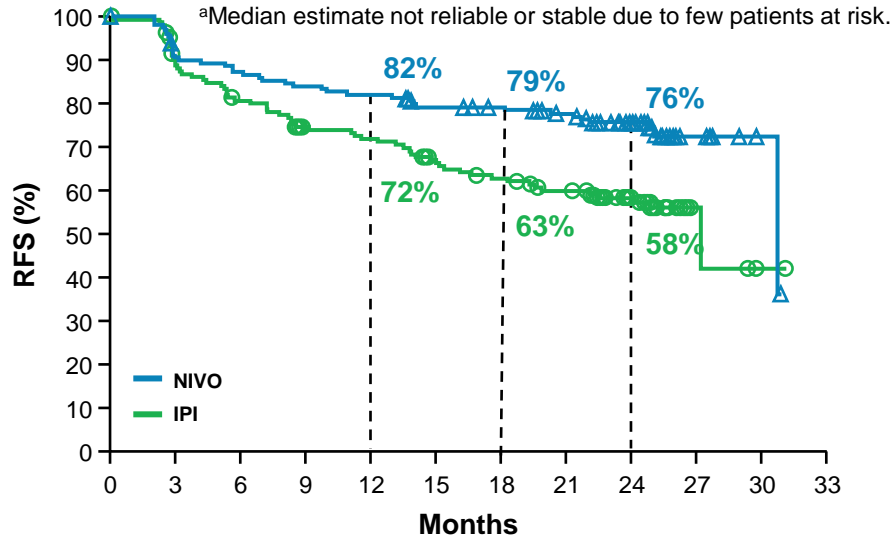
## PD-L1 <5%

	NIVO	IPI
Events/patients	123/275	151/286
Median (95% CI)	NR (21.7, NR)	15.9 (10.3, 25.5)
HR (95% CI)	0.73 (0.57, 0.92)	



## PD-L1 ≥5%

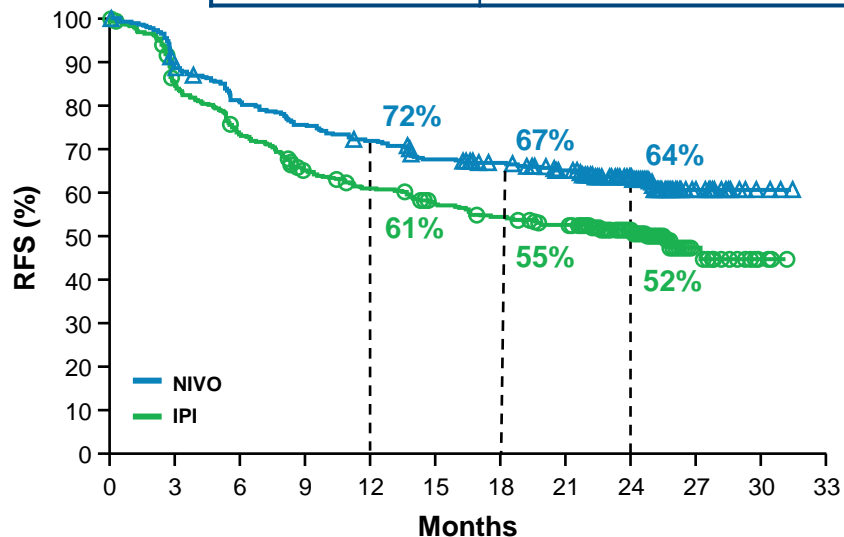
	NIVO	IPI
Events/patients	39/152	64/154
Median (95% CI)	30.8 (30.8, NR) <sup>a</sup>	27.2 (22.4, NR) <sup>a</sup>
HR (95% CI)	0.54 (0.36, 0.81)	



# Subgroup Analysis of RFS: Disease Stage III and IV

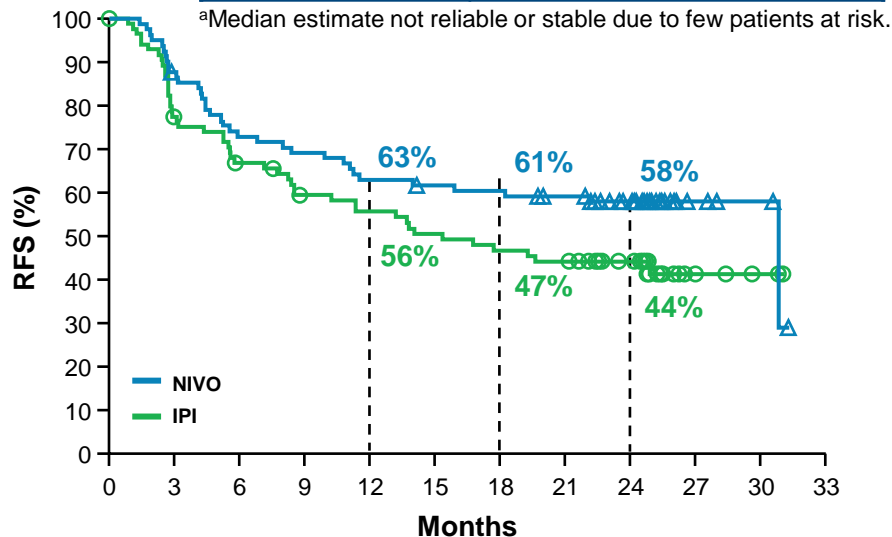
## Stage III

	NIVO	IPI
Events/patients	135/368	174/366
Median (95% CI)	NR	25.5 (16.6, NR)
HR (95% CI)	0.68 (0.54, 0.85)	



## Stage IV

	NIVO	IPI
Events/patients	35/82	47/87
Median (95% CI)	30.8 (15.9, NR) <sup>a</sup>	15.4 (8.5, NR)
HR (95% CI)	0.68 (0.44, 1.06)	

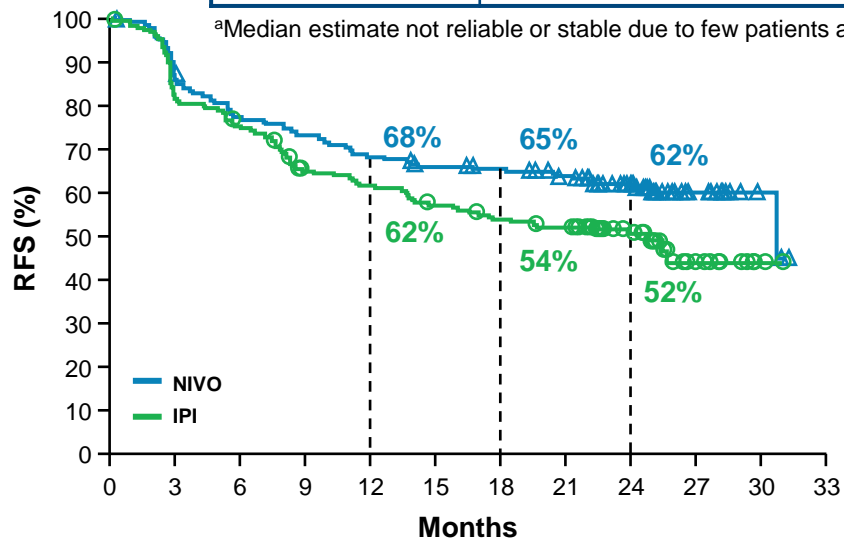


# Subgroup Analysis of RFS: *BRAF* Mutation Status

## *BRAF* Mutant

	NIVO	IPI
Events/patients	73/187	95/194
Median (95% CI)	30.8 (30.8, NR) <sup>a</sup>	24.6 (14.8, NR)
HR (95% CI)	0.73 (0.54, 0.99)	

<sup>a</sup>Median estimate not reliable or stable due to few patients at risk.

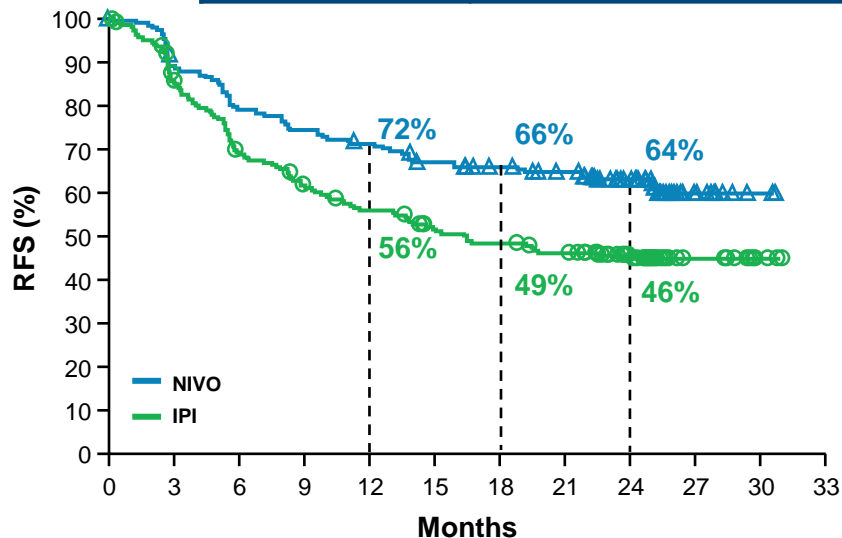


Number of patients at risk

NIVO	187	157	142	135	126	120	117	110	83	16	4	0
IPI	194	155	142	118	112	103	96	91	67	11	2	0

## *BRAF* Wild type

	NIVO	IPI
Events/patients	73/197	107/212
Median (95% CI)	NR	16.6 (11.4, NR)
HR (95% CI)	0.61 (0.45, 0.82)	



Number of patients at risk

NIVO	197	172	154	144	137	127	121	115	91	11	2	0
IPI	212	171	138	121	109	97	91	85	62	9	3	0

## CheckMate 238: Safety Summary

AE, n (%)	NIVO (n = 452)		IPI (n = 453)	
	Any Grade	Grade 3/4	Any Grade	Grade 3/4
Any AE	438 (97)	115 (25)	446 (98)	250 (55)
Treatment-related AE	385 (85)	65 (14)	434 (96)	208 (46)
Any AE leading to discontinuation	44 (10)	21 (5)	193 (43)	140 (31)
Treatment-related AE leading to discontinuation	35 (8)	16 (4)	189 (42)	136 (30)

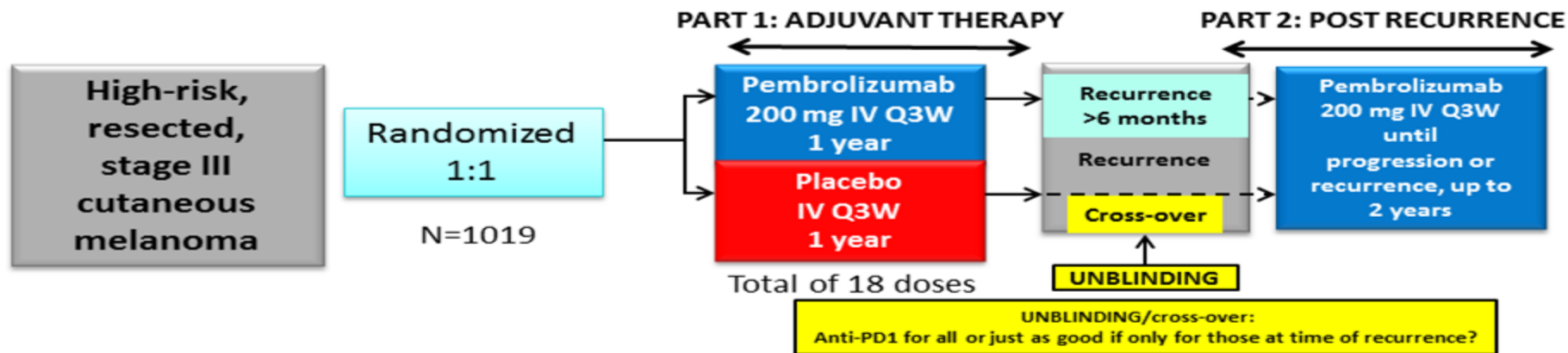
- No treatment-related deaths in the nivolumab arm
- 2 (0.4%) treatment-related deaths in the ipilimumab arm (marrow aplasia and colitis), both > 100 days after the last dose

## CheckMate 238: Conclusions

- Adjuvant nivolumab was associated with improved RFS compared with ipilimumab in patients with completely resected, high-risk stage IIIB/C or stage IV melanoma irrespective of *BRAF* mutation status
- Patients in the nivolumab arm experienced fewer grade 3/4 treatment-related AEs and fewer treatment-related AEs that led to discontinuation compared with the ipilimumab arm
  - 2 patients in the ipilimumab arm had treatment-related deaths, whereas no treatment-related deaths occurred in the nivolumab arm



# Keynote-54



## Stratification factors:

- ✓ **Stage:** IIIA (>1 mm metastasis) vs. IIIB vs. IIIC 1-3 positive lymph nodes vs. IIIC ≥4 positive lymph nodes
- ✓ **Region:** North America, European countries, Australia/New Zealand, other countries

## Primary Endpoints:

- RFS (per investigator) in overall population, and RFS in patients with PD-L1-positive tumors

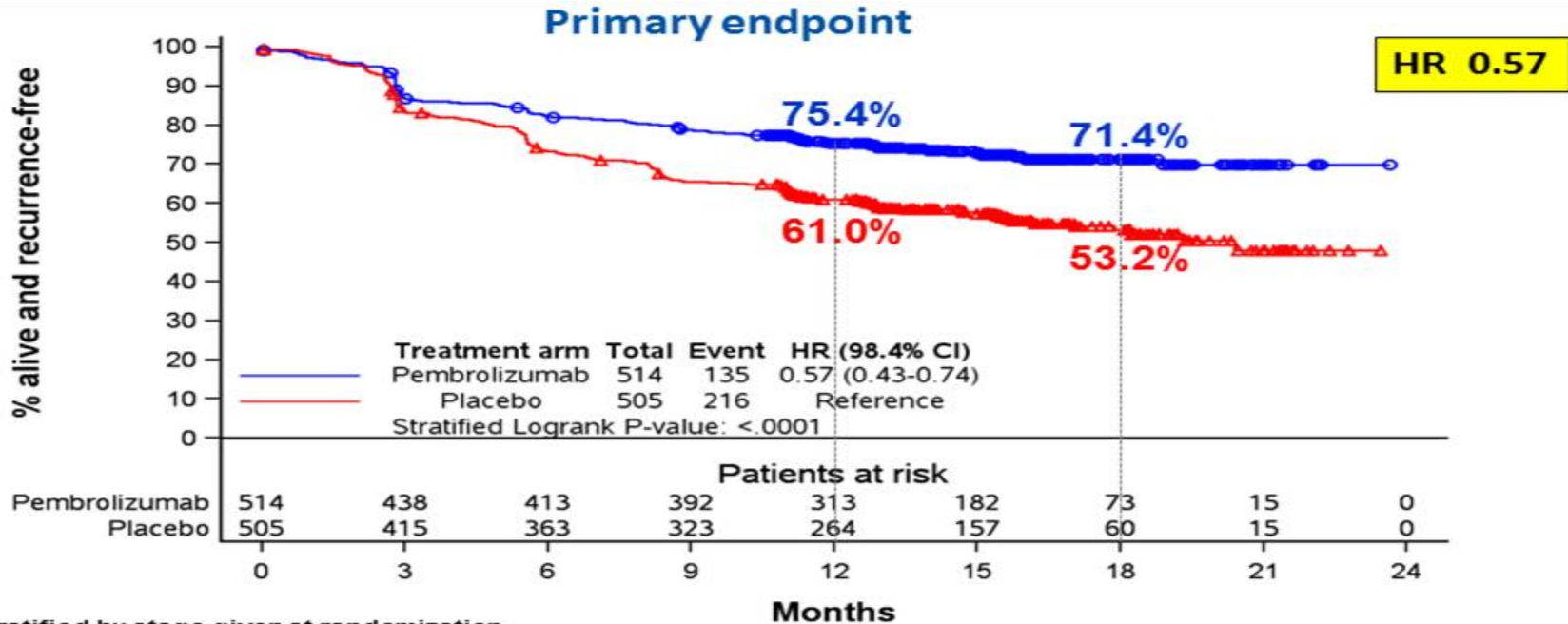
## Secondary Endpoints:

- DMFS and OS in all patients, and in patients with PD-L1-positive tumors; **Safety, Health-related quality of life**



*The future of cancer therapy*

# Keynote-54: Pembrolizumab Was Associated With Improved RFS

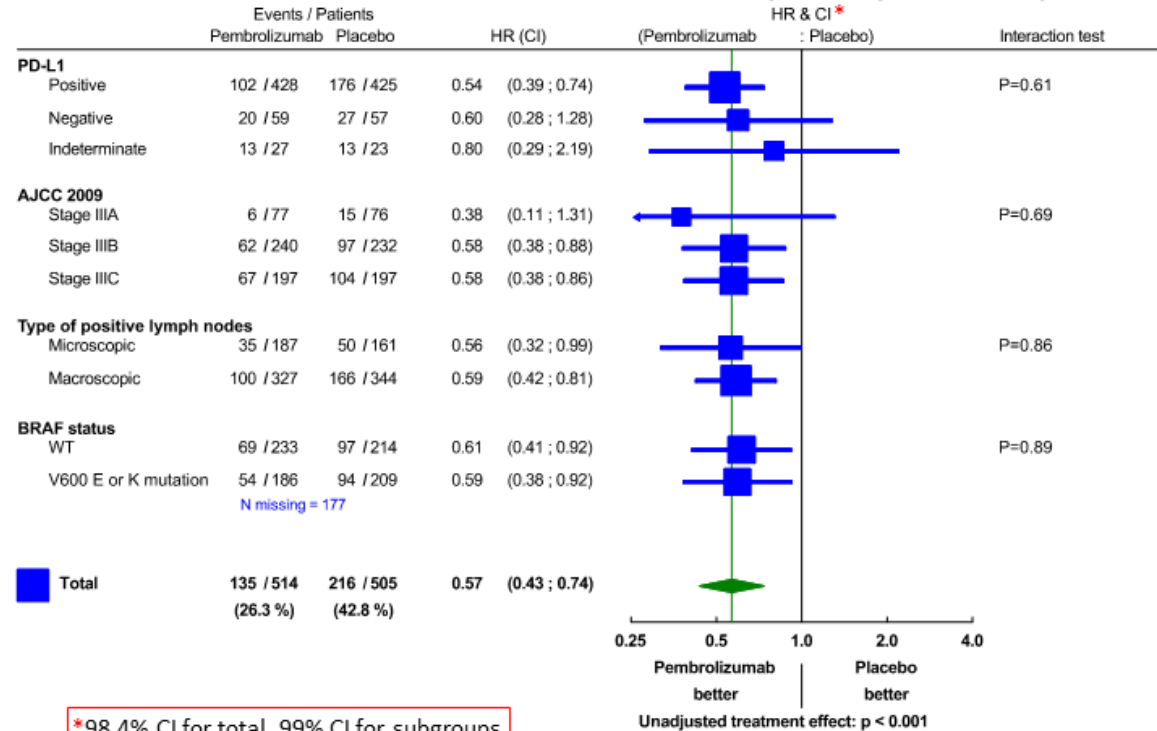


\*Stratified by stage given at randomization



*The future of cancer therapy*

# Recurrence-Free Survival: Subgroup Analysis



\*98.4% CI for total, 99% CI for subgroups

# Keynote-54: Safety

	Pembrolizumab (N=509)		Placebo (N=502)	
	Any grade	Grade 3-5	Any grade	Grade 3-5
Any adverse events (AE)	93.3	31.6	90.2	18.5
Any treatment-related AE	77.8	14.7	66.1	3.4
Fatigue/asthenia	37.1	0.8	33.3	0.4
Skin reactions	28.3	0.2	18.3	0
Rash	16.1	0.2	10.8	0
Pruritus	17.7	0	10.2	0
Diarrhea	19.1	0.8	16.7	0.6
Arthralgia	12.0	0.6	11.0	0
Nausea	11.4	0	8.6	0

1 (0.2%) Treatment-related death in Pembro arm Myositis

## Patient Disposition and Treatment

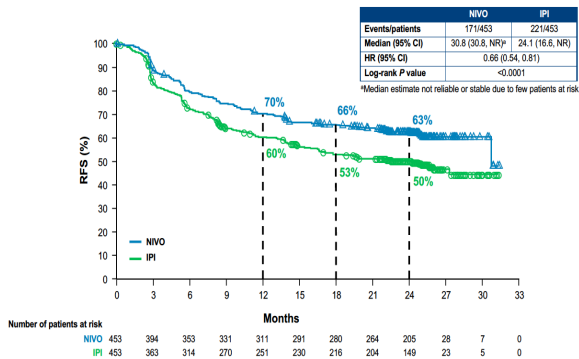
	Pembrolizumab (N=514)	Placebo (N=505)
Started allocated treatment	N=509	N=502
Reasons for discontinuation, %	96.3%	98.8%
Normal completion	55.4	58.6
Disease recurrence	21.4	35.7
Adverse event	13.8	2.2
Patient/investigator decision	3.5	1.2
Other malignancy	0.8	1.0
Non-compliance/Other reason	1.3	0.2
Still on treatment, %	3.7	1.2
Median (IQR) doses received per patient	18 (9-18)	18 (8-18)

## Keynote-54 : Conclusions

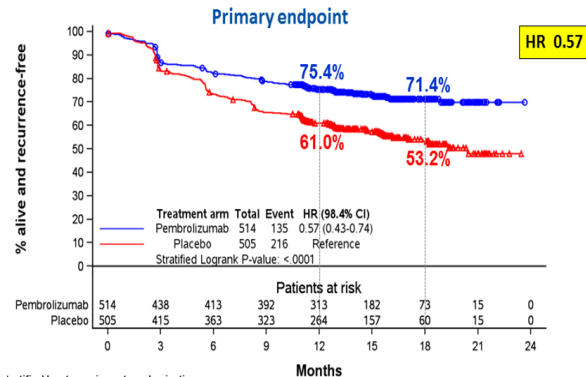
- Adjuvant pembrolizumab was associated with improved RFS compared with placebo in patients with completely resected, high-risk stage IIIA (>1mm), IIIB-C melanoma
- Favorable safety profile consistent with that observed in advanced melanoma.
  - 1 patient in the pembrolizumab arm had a treatment-related death.

# Systemic Adjuvant Therapy: Conclusions

Nivolumab  
vs  
Ipilimumab

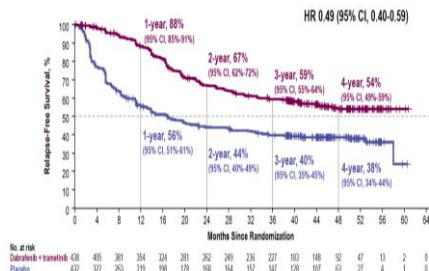


Pembrolizumab  
vs  
Placebo

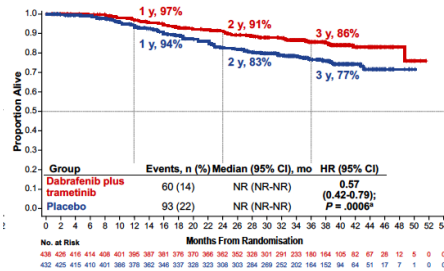


Dabrafenib +  
Trametinib  
vs  
Placebo

## RELAPSE-FREE SURVIVAL



## Overall Survival



Adjuvant Anti-PD-1 and Dabra+Trame have demonstrated improved clinical outcomes, including marked reductions in the risk of disease recurrence

# ADJUVANT TREATMENT: OPEN QUESTIONS

Stage III patients from these trials were required to have complete lymph node dissection:

- How do we integrate those results in the post MSLT-2 trial era?

CA209-915: Ipi + Nivo vs Nivo did not require CLND as a criterion for entry. So this trial will provide important information.



# ADJUVANT TREATMENT: OPEN QUESTIONS

BRAF MUT melanoma First choice: Adjuvant targeted therapy vs immunotherapy?

- No head to head comparison
- Nature of microscopic disease? Antigen release?
- Less tumoral clonal heterogeneity? Less capacity towards resistance?

IIIA vs IIIB vs IIIC vs M1?

- Role of T cell infiltrates, PD1/PDL1 axis
- Role of BRAF/MEKi immunomodulation

# Systemic Adjuvant Therapy: Conclusions

## BRAF WT patients:

- PD-1 blockade is the first choice
- Due to its reduced efficacy and increased toxicity compared to Nivolumab, Ipilimumab is no longer recommended

## BRAF MUTANT patients:

- Both PD-1 blockade and Dabrafenib + Trametinib are excellent options
- Toxicity profile and compliance should be decision factors
- Development of predictive biomarkers should be a priority to best select patients for targeted vs immunotherapy



Muchas Gracias

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