## New Developments in GI Malignancies

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#### **Developments**

- I. New techniques and procedures
  - EUS -- NOTES
  - Robotics-- SIRT
- II. New approaches to older procedures
  - Staged hepatectomy
  - Portal vein embolization
- III. Evolution of philosophy
  - Expanded indications for hepatectomy
  - The intact primary

#### I. Technical Advancements

#### **Endoscopic Ultrasound**

- Diagnosis: good for pancreas
- T stage: esophagus, stomach, rectum
- N stage: able to biopsy
- Cancer therapy

#### Gene Mediated Cytotoxic Immunotherapy for Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma

- Phase I clinical trial
  - Arm A: resectable
  - Arm B: locally advanced
- Intratumoral injection of HSVthymidine kinase vector followed by anti-herpetic prodrug in conjunction with:
  - Arm A: surgery
  - Arm B: chemoradiation

#### Gene Mediated Cytotoxic Immunotherapy for Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma

- Diagnosis confirmed by EUS
- Virus injected by EUS into tumor followed by 2 weeks of Valacyclovir
- Arm A: surgery with repeat injection of virus into resection bed
- Arm B: repeat intratumoral injection during chemoradiation

#### **Gene Mediated Cytotoxic Immunotherapy for Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma**

- 24 patients treated
- Toxicities
  - Grade 3: 5 patients (pain, azotemia)
  - Grade 4: none
- 2 patients on Arm A alive at nearly 2 years
- 6 patients on Arm B alive at 5-34 months

#### **NOTES**

- Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery
- No skin incisions
- Useful for identifying occult metastases or obtaining tissue from suspicious lesions

# Minimally Invasive Surgery

## Preoperative Considerations

- Site of tumor
- Tumor size/invasion
- Obesity
- Previous surgery
- Must be able to find tumor/polyp
- · Possibility of converting to open

#### **Data**

What difference does it make?

#### **Laparoscopic Colectomy**

- Return of bowel function 1-2 days sooner
- Less need for narcotics
- Quicker return of lung function
- Length of stay ~1 day less
- May be influenced by biased expectations

#### **Laparoscopic Colectomy**

- Return to work and quality of life
  - No statistical difference
  - Anecdotally improved
- Cost
  - Equipment costs and OR time are greater
  - May be balanced by shorter hospital stay
- Operative Time 30-60 minutes longer

#### **COST Trial**

**Clinical Outcomes of Surgical Therapy Study Group** 

- 872 patients with colonic adenocarcinoma
- Recurrence
  - 16% laparoscopic
  - 18% open
- Survival
  - 86% laparoscopic
  - 85% open
- Post-operative stay
  - 5 days laparoscopic
  - 6 days open

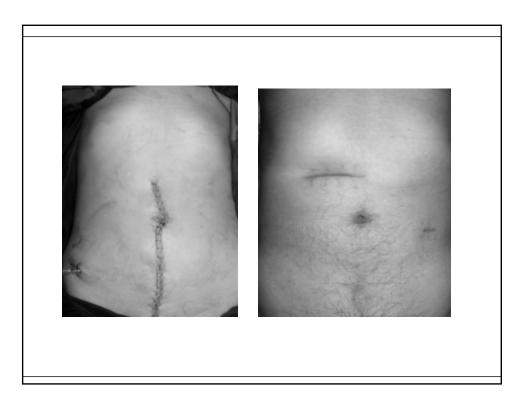
N Engl J Med 2004;350:2050-9

### COST Trial Clinical Outcomes of Surgical Therapy Study Group

- 5 year data
- Disease-free 5 year survival
  - 68.4% Open
  - 69.2% Laparoscopic
- Overall survival
  - 74.6% Open
  - 76.4% Laparoscopic
- Recurrence
  - 21.8% Open
  - 19.4% Laparoscopic

Ann Surg 2007;246:655-64





# Robotic Surgery

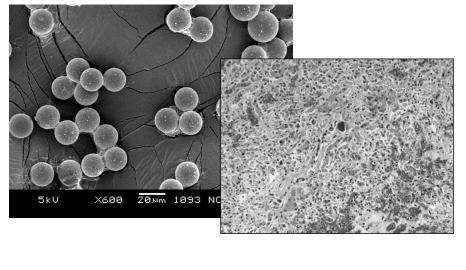


#### **No Surgery?**

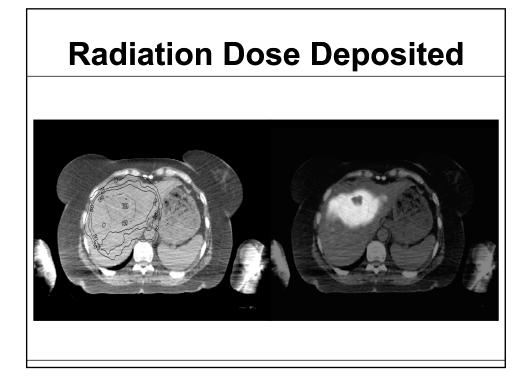
# Selective Internal Radiotherapy (SIRT)

- Radiolabelled particles (Y90)
  - TheraSpheres® MDS Nordion (HCC)
  - SIRSpheres SIRTex (CRC)
- Injected through hepatic artery
- High dose radiation to tumor
- Low dose radiation to liver
- β particle emission
  - 2-3mm of penetration

### Microspheres



# Delivery of Microspheres



#### II. New Approaches

#### 2-Stage Hepatectomy

- 16 patients with bilobar disease
- Major resection at 1<sup>st</sup> stage in 8 (no deaths)
- Chemotherapy pre- and post-operative
- 3 patients progressed (1 intra- and 2 extra-)
- Major resection at 2<sup>nd</sup> stage in 8 (2 deaths)
- 4 liver recurrences (3<sup>rd</sup> resection in 3)
- Median survival 31 months from 2<sup>nd</sup> and 44 months from 1<sup>st</sup> resections

Adam et al. Ann Surg 2000

#### 2-Stage Hepatectomy

- 33 patients with "unresectable" CRCM
- 1st stage: clearance of left-sided disease
- Right PVE ± segment IV
- 2<sup>nd</sup> stage (5-8 weeks): major hepatectomy
- No deaths
- 2 stages completed in 28 (progression in 5)
- 3-yr survival from 2<sup>nd</sup> stage 54%, median not reached

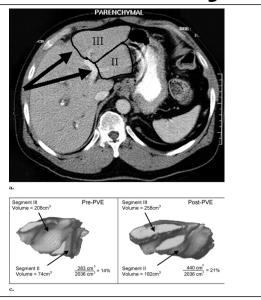
Jaeck et al. Ann Surg 2004

#### **Portal Vein Embolization**

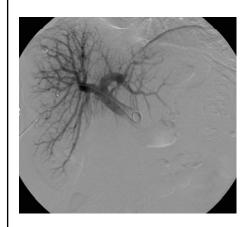
- First described in 1990
- Occlusion of blood flow to all tumorbearing liver
- Hypertrophy of future liver remnant (FLR)
- Atrophy of embolized segments
- Recommended if FLR <20% in healthy liver (<30% if heavily pretreated)</li>

#### **Preoperative Volumetry**

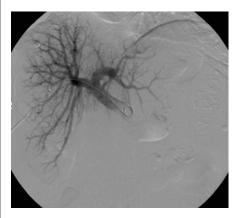
 3-D reconstruction of CT images

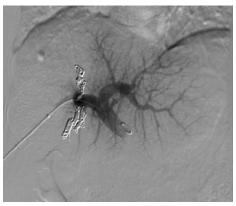


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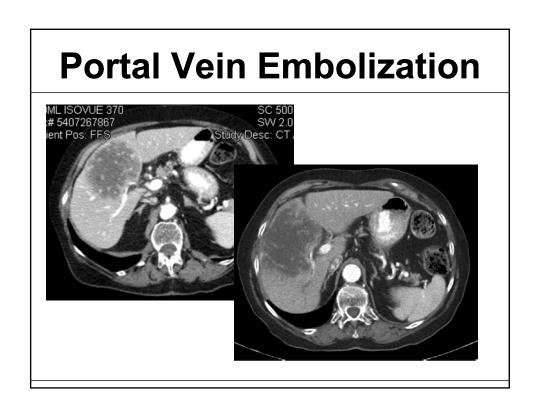
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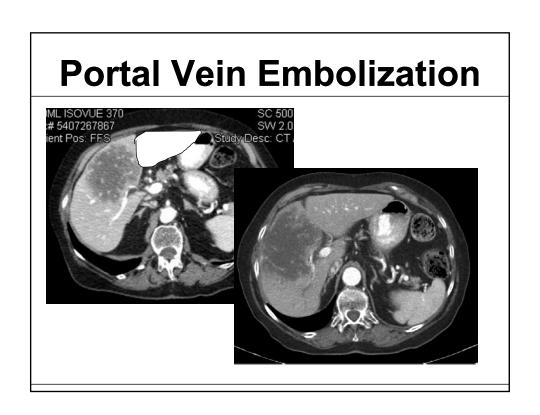


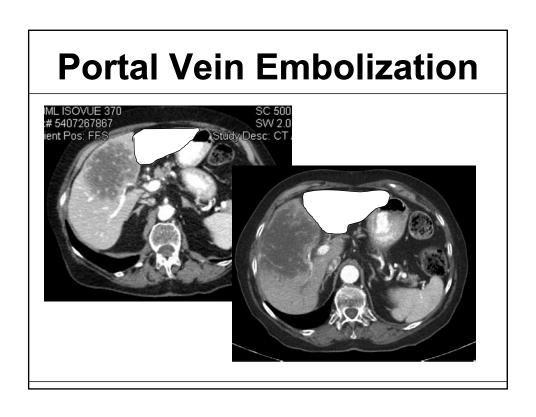


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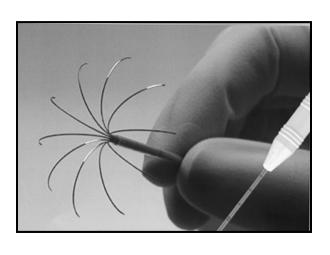


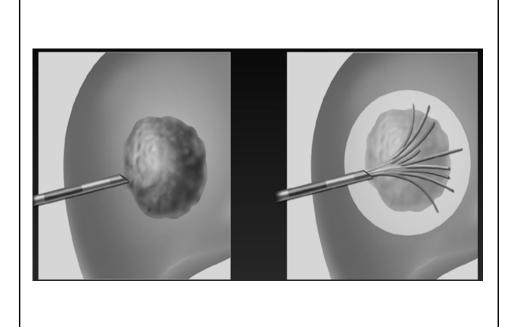






#### **Radiofrequency Ablation**





#### **RFA**

- Limited damage to surrounding liver
- Can be done in OR or radiology
- Limited by tumor size
- User-dependent
- Higher local recurrence rates (vs. resection)
- Efficacy: open > laparoscopic > percutaneous

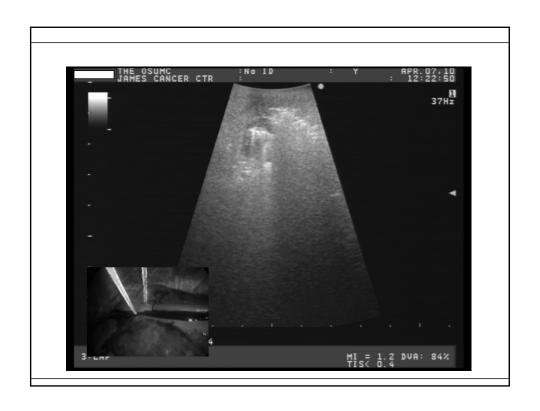
#### Role of RFA

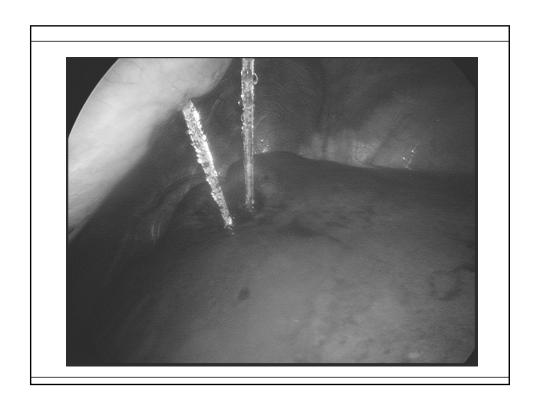
- Adjunct to resection
- Few, small unresectable tumors
- Unfit patient

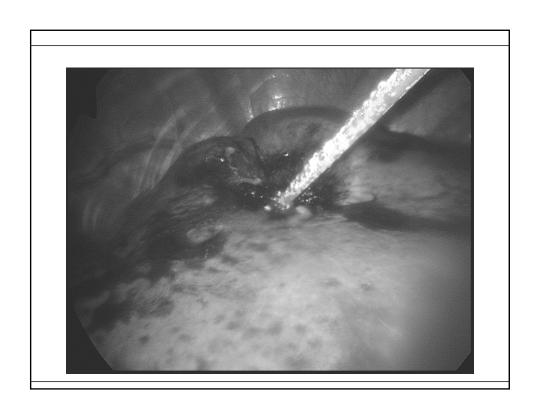
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#### III. Philosophic Evolution

#### What does "operable" mean?

- · Defined in relative terms
  - Based on expertise, resources, attitude
- "High-risk surgery"
  - Knowledge of internal liver anatomy
  - Operative techniques
  - Mortality 20% (1980s) → <5% (2000s)</p>
- "Poor outcomes"
  - Better imaging (spiral CT, MRI, PET, I/O U/S)
  - Better patient selection
  - Better chemotherapy

#### **Traditional Dogma**

- Definitions of inoperable disease
  - Bilobar disease
  - >4 lesions
  - Extrahepatic disease
  - Lesion >5 cm
  - Synchronous disease

#### **Debunking Dogma**

#### **Bilobar Disease**

- Tomlinson et al. 2007
  - Actual 10+ year survivors (N=102)
  - 25% had bilateral disease resected
    - 29% for 2-5 and 5-10 year survivors (P=NS)
- Bolton et al. 2000
  - Simple (N=121) vs complex (N=44) resections
  - 98% of complex had bilobar disease (vs 0%)
  - Similar perioperative mortality (9% vs. 5%)
  - Similar survival (36% 5-yr, median 43 months)

#### **Bilobar Disease**

- Fong et al. 1999
  - 1001 resections
  - 40% bilobar disease
  - 5-yr survival 29% vs. 38%
  - Not predictive by multivariate analysis (p=0.4)

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#### **Tumor Number**

- Pawlik et al. 2006
  - 159 patients with ≥4 lesions
  - Median 5 lesions (4 14)
  - Resection ± RFA in 94%
  - Overall survival: median 62 months, 5-yr 51%
- Kornprat et al. 2007
  - 98 patients with ≥4 lesions
  - Median 5 lesions (4 15)
  - Overall survival: median 41 months, 5-yr 33%

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#### **Extrahepatic Disease**

- Elias et al. 2005
  - 308 resections, 84 (27%) with EHD
  - EHD not predictive of survival
    - 5-yr survival 34% vs. 28%
- Kornprat et al. 2007
  - Multiple liver mets, 18% with EHD
  - Predictor of poor outcome
  - Median survival 32 months

#### SSO/AHPBA/SSAT Consensus

"The presence of extrahepatic disease should no longer be considered an absolute contraindication to hepatic resection provided .... complete resection of both intra- and extrahepatic disease is feasible."

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# The Modern Era of Liver Surgery for CRC Metastases

#### **New Rules**

- Complete resection a must
  - Negative liver margins
  - All extrahepatic disease
- Preservation of 2 contiguous segments
- Preservation of vascular inflow, outflow, and biliary drainage
- Preservation of adequate future liver remnant (>20% in healthy liver)

# Asymptomatic Colorectal Primary

#### **Traditional Dogma**

- Must resect primary
  - Risk of obstruction
  - Risk of bleeding
  - Nidus for more metastases

#### **Unresected Primary CRC**

- 233 patients with stage IV CRC and intact primary tumor
- All received modern chemotherapy
- 89% never required intervention
- 7% required emergency surgery
- 4% required other intervention (eg stent)

Poultsides et al. JCO 2009

## Updates On Gastrointestinal Malignancies

Tanios Bekaii-Saab, MD

Medical Director, Gastro-intestinal Cancer Program
Division of Medical Oncology
Department of Pharmacology
OSUCCC – Arthur James Cancer Hospital

#### **Gastrointestinal Malignancies**

- Lung (1.4 million deaths)
- Stomach (740 000 deaths)
- Liver (700 000 deaths)
- Colorectal (610 000 deaths)
- Breast (460 000 deaths)



http://www.who.int factsheet N°297 February 2011

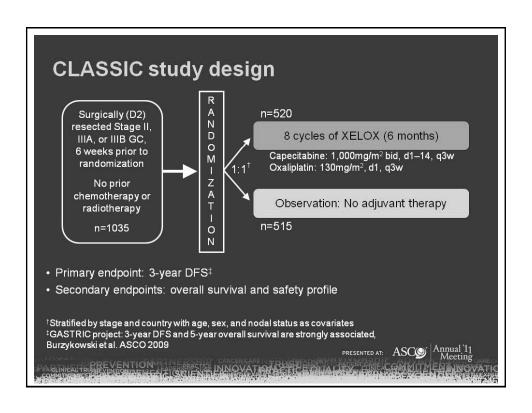
Courtesy of Florian Lordick, MD

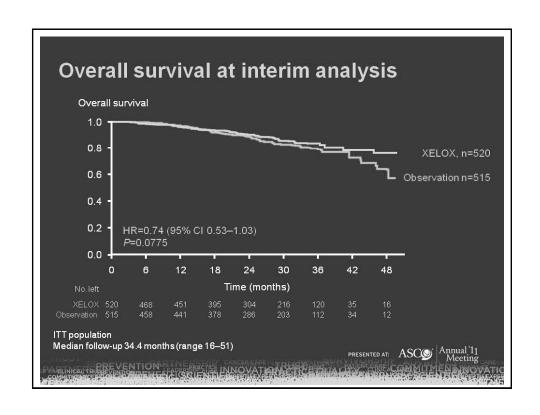
# Gastric and Gastro-Esophageal Cancers

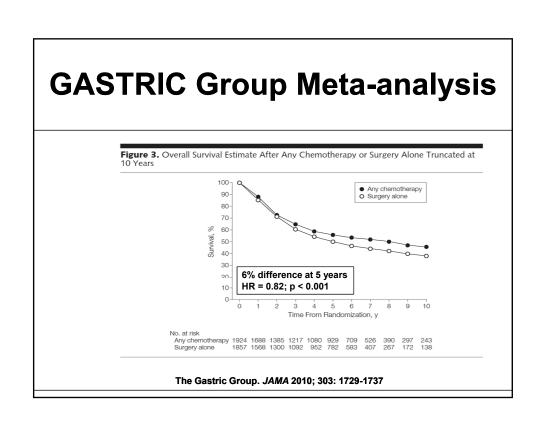
#### Introduction: Epidemiology

- 35,000 new cases a year with 25,000 deaths
- 3 entities:
  - Squamous cell carcinoma of the esophagus
  - Adenocarcinoma of the distal esophagus, GE junction and proximal stomach
  - Adenocarcinoma of the distal stomach
- Esophageal cancer is the most rapidly growing cancer in the USA and is affecting middle aged Caucasian males mostly. Its incidence rate is 6 times, and its mortality 7 times what it was in the 1970s.

#### **Early Stage Disease**





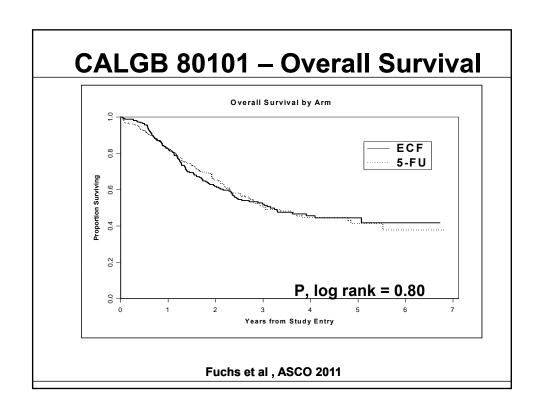


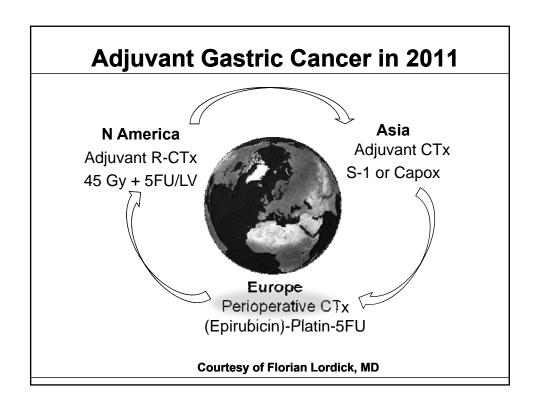
Postoperative adjuvant chemoradiation for gastric or GE junction adenocarcinoma using ECF before and after 5-FU/radiotherapy compared to bolus 5-FU/LV before and after 5-FU/radiotherapy:

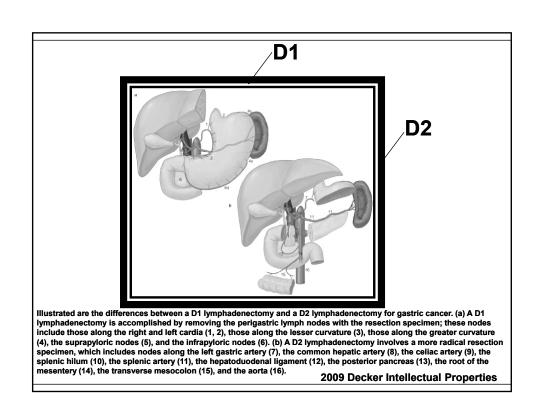
Intergroup trial CALGB 80101

CS Fuchs, JE Tepper, D Niedzwiecki, D Hollis, HJ Mamon, RS Swanson, DG Haller, T Dragovich, SR Alberts, G Bjarnson, CG Willett, PC Enzinger, RM Goldberg, AP Venook, RJ Mayer









#### **D2** Resection rates across studies

#### Classic

D2 Resection 100%

Median 42 lymph nodes examined (range 9-127)

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**US INT 0116 (SWOG 9008)** 

Macdonald et al. 2001

D2-Resection 10%

D1-Resection 36%

D0-Resection 54%

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US INT 0116 (SWOG 9008) Macdonald et al. 2001

D2-Resection 10%

D1-Resection 36%

D0-Resection 54%

**UK MAGIC** 

Cunningham et al. 2006

D2-Resection

41%

D1-Resection
Other Resections

19% 40%

## What have we learned about localized gastric/GE cancers?

- Surgical approach determines the optimal adjuvant treatment strategy
  - Asia: Radical resection (D2)
    - Adjuvant chemotherapy
  - U.S.: Sub-radical resection (≤ D 1)
    - Adjuvant chemoradiation

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  - U.S.: Sub-radical resection (≤ D 1)
    - Adjuvant chemoradiation
- Awaiting data on adjuvant CRT vs. chemotherapy
  - ARTIST (capecitabine/cisplatin compared with resected gastric cancer with D2 nodal dissection trial - when surgery is controlled, is adjuvant radiation necessary?

## What have we learned about localized gastric/GE cancers?

- Is a neoadjuvant approach feasible and better?
  - Neoadjuvant much more likely to receive therapy (SAKK)
  - EORTC 40954 3 months neoadjuvant chemo trends towards better
  - No randomized neoadjuvant CRT gastric studies reported yet
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- Data with targeted therapies, more aggressive chemotherapy
  - MAGIC 2 ECF +/- bevacizumab

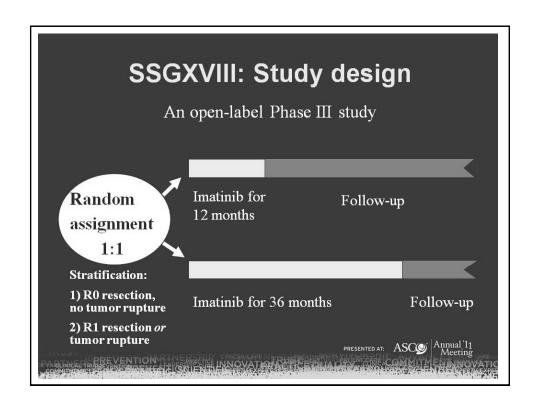
### Gastro-esophageal Cancers : Advanced disease

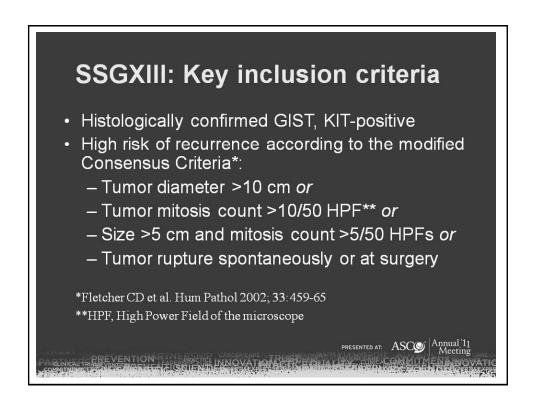
- Marginal differences between doublets and triplets that perhaps do not justify the differences in toxicities.
- Trastuzumab should be considered as an option added to a platinum and 5FU in the presence of Her-2 overexpression
  - LOGIC Trial
    - Rand Ph III, HER 2+ gastric cancer
    - Capecitabine + oxaliplatin +/- lapatinib
- 2nd line Irinotecan has a proven benefit in advanced gastric cancer and should be offered to patients with a PS 0-2 (Park et al Abs 4004, ASCO 2011 and Thuss-Patience P. Eur J Cancer; 2011)

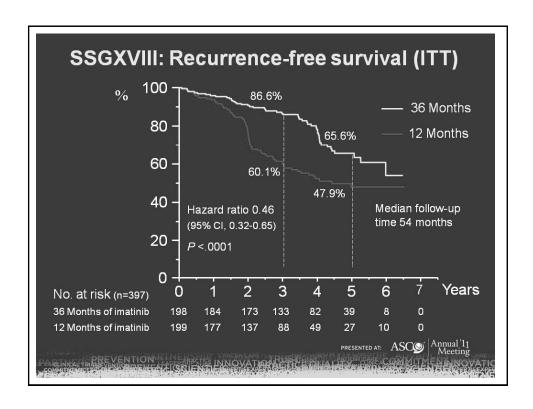
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**GIST** 



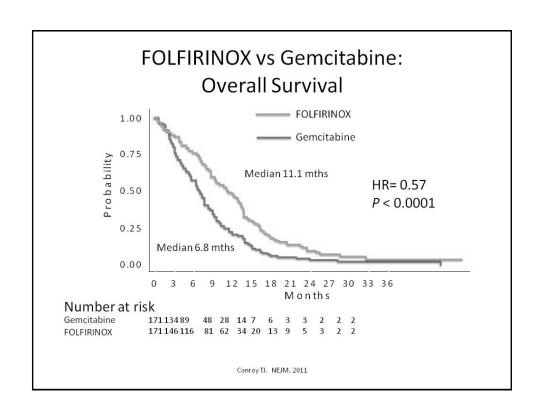




# Conclusions: Adjuvant GIST

- 3 years adjuvant imatinib is better than 1 year in high risk patients
  - Well tolerated
  - Cost benefit?

#### **Pancreas Cancer**



# Conclusions: Pancreas Cancer

- Pancreas cancer has consistently been the most lethal cancer
  - Less than 5% of patients diagnosed with it actually survive it.

# Conclusions: Pancreas Cancer

- Pancreas cancer has consistently been the most lethal cancer
  - Less than 5% of patients diagnosed with it actually survive it.
- Adjuvant:
  - Gemcitabine or 5FU remain the standard for treating patients with resected pancreas cancer based on best Level 1 evidence!!
  - The role of radiation remains unanswered.

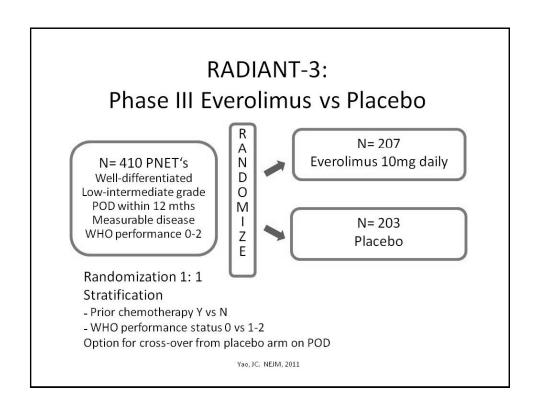
# **Conclusions:** Pancreas Cancer

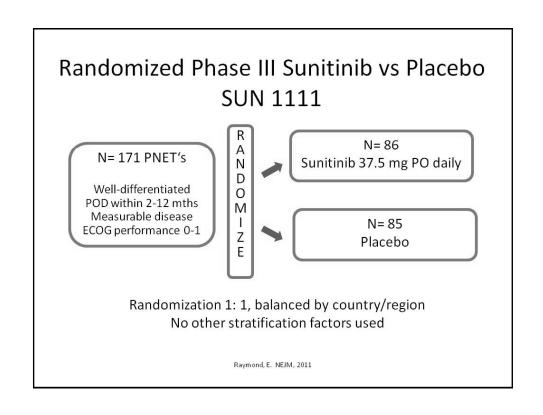
- · Advanced disease (First Line):
  - Gemcitabine combinations remains a SOC for most patients with PS 0-1. Fluoropyrimidines?
  - Novel taxanes seem to hold promise. No role for abraxane in pancreas cancer for now, awaiting phase III studies
  - FOLFORINOX can be considered an option for excellent PS patients with no biliary obstruction?
    - FOLFOX or FOLFIRI?
    - Neo-adjuvant?
    - Confirms the need to move to non-gemcitabine backbones

## Pancreas Neuroendocrine Tumors (PNET's)

- · Rare malignancies
  - 1.3% of all pancreas malignancies
  - 2-4 per million
  - 1,000 yr new diagnoses US, rising incidence
- Variable natural history, median OS with metastases > 2 yrs
- FDA drug approvals
  - 1982 Streptozotocin (+/- 5FU, doxorubicin)
  - 1998 Somatostatin (symptomatic NET's)

Yao, JC. Ann Surg Oncol, 2007. Moertel, CG. NEJM, 1980. Jensen, RT. Cancer, 2008





# Efficacy of Sunitinib and Everolimus: Pancreatic NET Randomized Trials

	Sunitinib (n=171)	Everolimus (n=410)
Median PFS	11.4 mos (vs. 5.5 mos in placebo arm)	11.0 mos (vs 4.6 mos in placebo arm)
Overall Response Rate (RECIST)	9.3%	5%
Partial Response or Stable Disease	72%	78%
Survival Advantage Demonstrated?	No*	No*

<sup>\*</sup>Pts on placebo in either study received study drug following progression

Raymond et al, NEJM 2011; 364: 501-513; Yao et al, NEJM 2011; 364: 514-523

### Adverse Events in Sunitinib and Everolimus Treatment Arms: Pancreatic NET Phase III Trials

SUNITINIB		EVEROLIMUS			
Event	All Grades (%)	Grade 3-4 (%)	Event	All Grades (%)	Grade 3-4 (%)
Diarrhea	59	5	Stomatitis	64	7
Nausea	45	1	Rash	49	1
Asthenia	34	5	Diarrhea	34	3
Vomiting	34	0	Fatigue	31	2
Fatigue	32	5	Infections	23	2
Hypertension	26	10	Pneumonitis	13	5

Raymond et al, NEJM 2011; 364: 501-513; Yao et al, NEJM 2011; 364: 514-523

### What should the Sequence of Therapy in Symptomatic Pateints with PNET be?

 Initiating targeted therapy is reasonable in most patients with symptoms, clinically significant tumor burden, or PD on chemotherapy

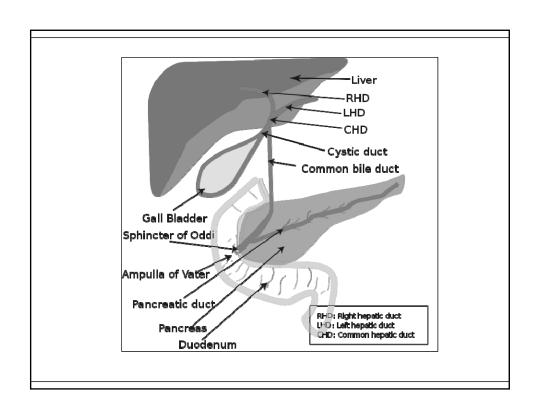
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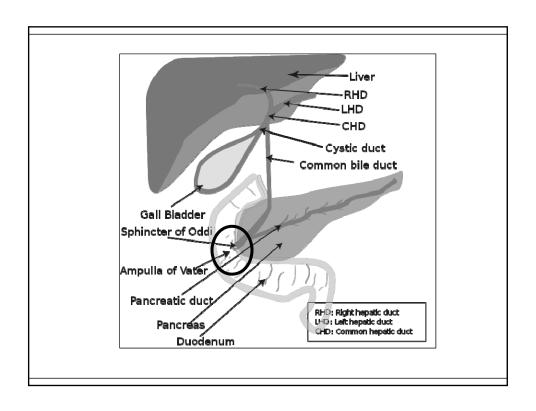
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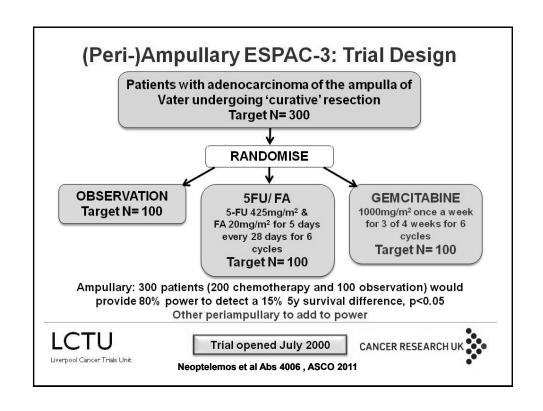
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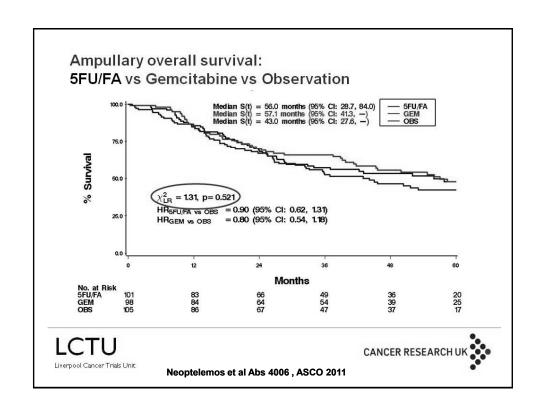
- Initiating targeted therapy is reasonable in most patients with symptoms, clinically significant tumor burden, or PD on chemotherapy
- Streptozocin or TMZ-based therapy considered where tumor response is required or patients had PD on targeted therapy
- Future studies will consider options such as new targets and combination studies.

### **Ampullary Cancer**



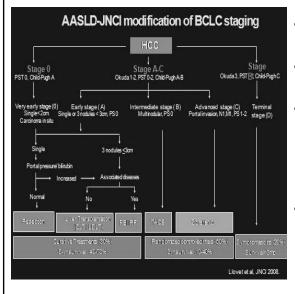




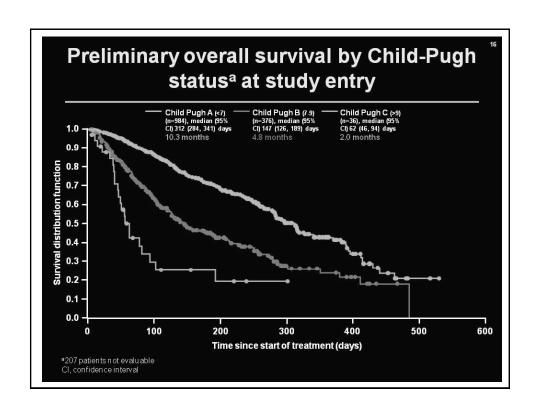


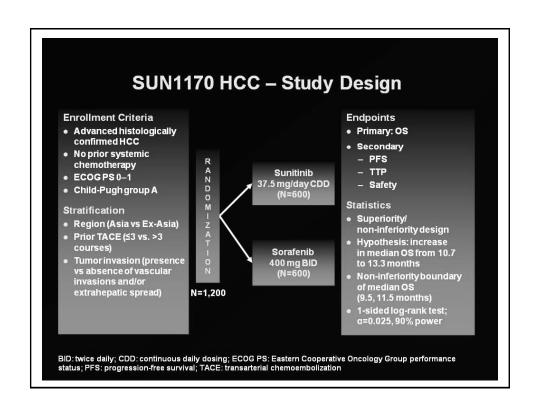
# Hepatocellular Cancer (HCC)

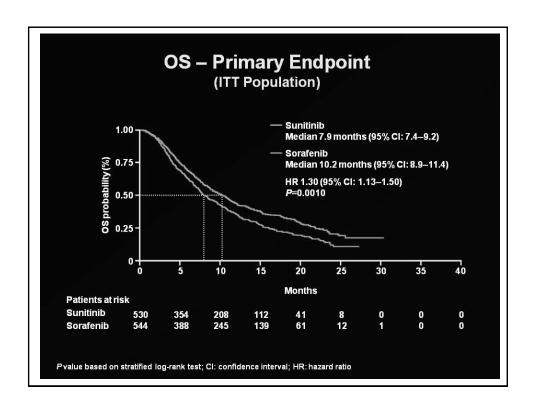
#### **Introduction: HCC**



- 5<sup>th</sup> most common cancer worldwide
- 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of mortality worldwide
- Sharp rise in the USA and the rest of the world because of a hepatitis C epidemic.
- Sorafenib in Child's Pugh A patients is SOC in advanced disease







#### **Conclusions: HCC**

- Sorafenib remains the SOC for treating patients with advanced HCC for patients with Child's Pugh A
  - Sorafenib can be used with relative safety in the C-P B HCC population. Optimal dose remains to TBD.
  - No data in CP-C

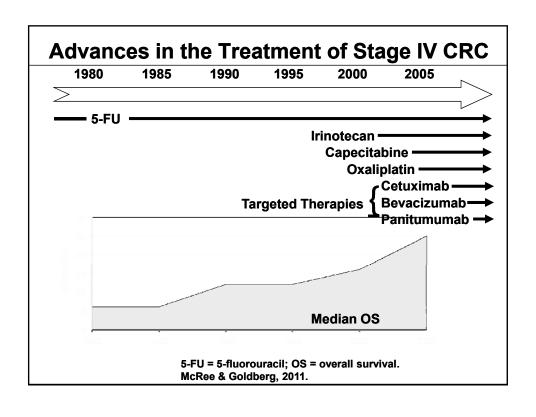
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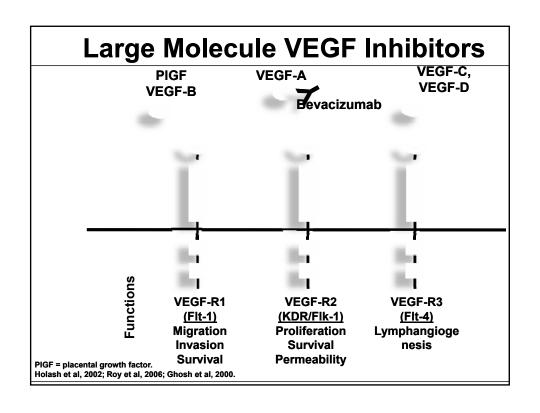
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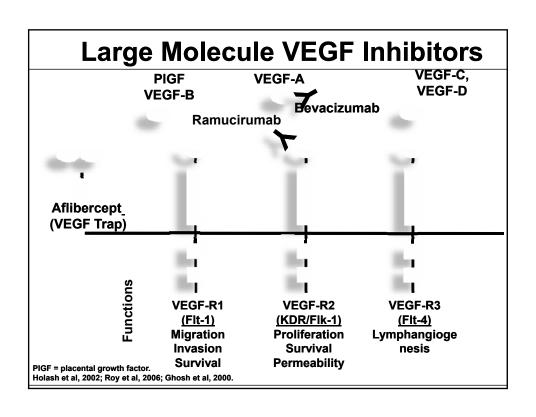
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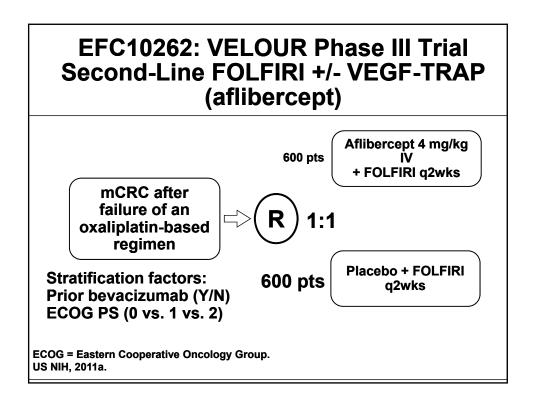
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- A better tolerated VEGFR agent would be welcome
  - Sunitinib does not fill this role
  - Others may, including bevacizumab
  - Studies of brivanib and linifanib vs. sorafenib continue

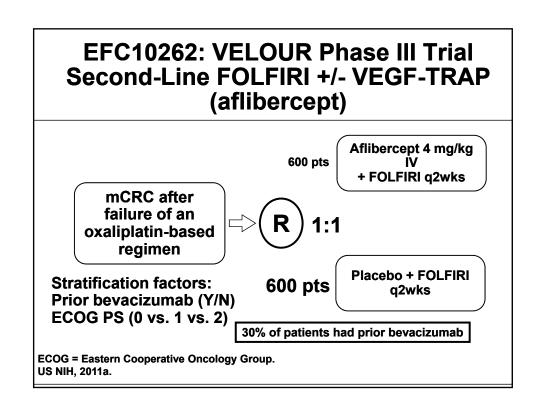
### **Colorectal Cancer**











#### Safety - Most Frequent AEs, With ≥ 5% Difference in Incidence Between Treatment Arms, Excluding Anti-VEGF **Class Events**

Safety Population, % of patients	Placebo, N = 605		Aflibercept N = 611	
PT, SOC, HLT*	All Grades	Grade 3/4	All Grades	Grade 3/4
Diarrhea	56.5	7.8	69.2	19.3
Neutropenia**	56.3	29.5	67.8	36.7
Complicated neutropenia		2.8		5.7
Asthenic conditions (HLT)	50.2	10.6	60.4	16.9
Stomatitis & ulceration (HLT)	34.9	5.0	54.8	13.7
Thrombocytopenia**	33.8	1.7	47.4	3.3
Infections (SOC)	32.7	6.9	46.2	12.3
Decrease appetite	23.8	1.8	31.9	3.4
Weight decreased	14.4	0.8	31.9	2.6
Palmar plantar erythrodysaesthesia	4.3	0.5	11.0	2.8
Skin hyperpigmentation	2.8	0	8.2	0
Dehydration	3.0	1.3	9.0	4.3

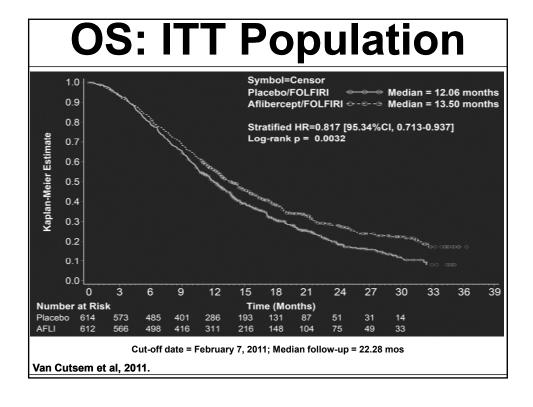
<sup>\*</sup> PT = preferred term; SOC = system organ class; HLT = high level term.
\*\* From lab.
Van Cutsem, 2011.

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Palma AEs leading to trea	tment d	iscontinu	uation:	2.8
Skin r AFL: 26.6%				0
Dehy PL: 12.1%				4.3

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Van Cutsem, 2011



### Optimized Medical Therapy of Advanced CRC

- 1. Identify the goal of therapy
  - RR only matters for
    - Conversion therapy of liver metastases or
    - If patient is symptomatic from his tumor burden
  - For most patients gain of time and maintaining QOL is more important
- 2. Treat to progression and perhaps beyond?
  - Be mindful about toxicities, stop oxaliplatin before neurotoxicity develops
  - Some select patients can have CFI

CFI = chemotherapy-free intervals. NCCN, 2011.

### Optimized Medical Therapy of Advanced CRC (cont.)

- 3. Expose patients to all potentially active agents
  - These agents are the oncologist's tools to keep patients alive
  - Use fluoropyrimidine-based combinations as default backbone, reserve sequential single agent therapy for select patients
- 4. Reutilize chemotherapeutic agents (in different combinations?) in the course of the therapy
  - Continuum of care vs. distinct lines of therapy

NCCN, 2011.