



USC University of  
Southern California

CANCER AND BLOOD DISEASE INSTITUTE

# **PEDIATRIC SOFT TISSUE SARCOMA**

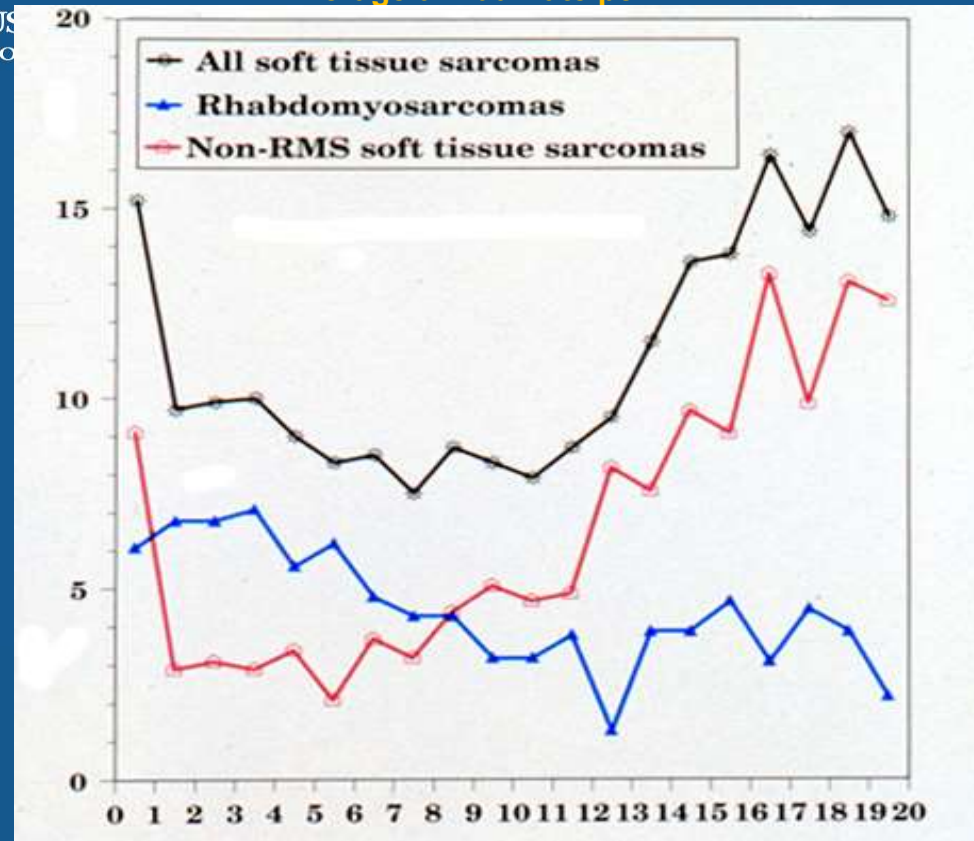
**SARCOMA EXCHANGE, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021**

**LEO MASCARENHAS, MD MS**

# Pediatric Soft Tissue Sarcomas

- Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS)
  - Clinical approach and standard treatments
  - Ongoing frontline and upcoming frontline trials
- Non-Rhabdomyosarcoma Soft Tissue Sarcoma (NRSTS)
  - Recently completed frontline clinical trials
  - Molecularly targeted treatment

Average annual rate per



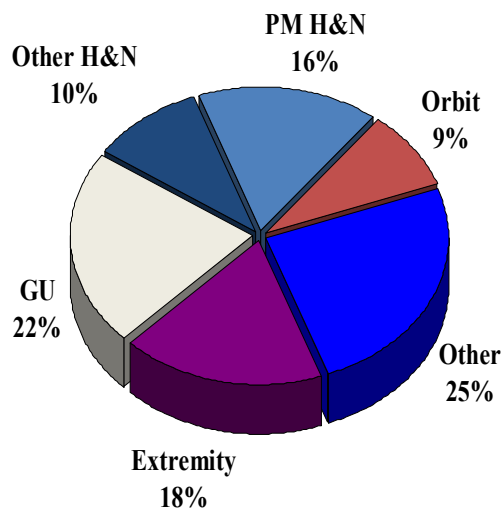
Age (in years) at

Soft tissue sarcoma age-specific incidence rates by histology (SEER 1976-94 combined)  
(SEER Pediatric Monograph, NIH Pub. No.99-4649, 1999)

# RHABDOMYOSARCOMA

## Clinical Presentation

Mass, +/- pain, +/- disturbance in function



## Patterns of Spread

**Lymphatic:** 40% of paratesticular and 20% of extremity tumors

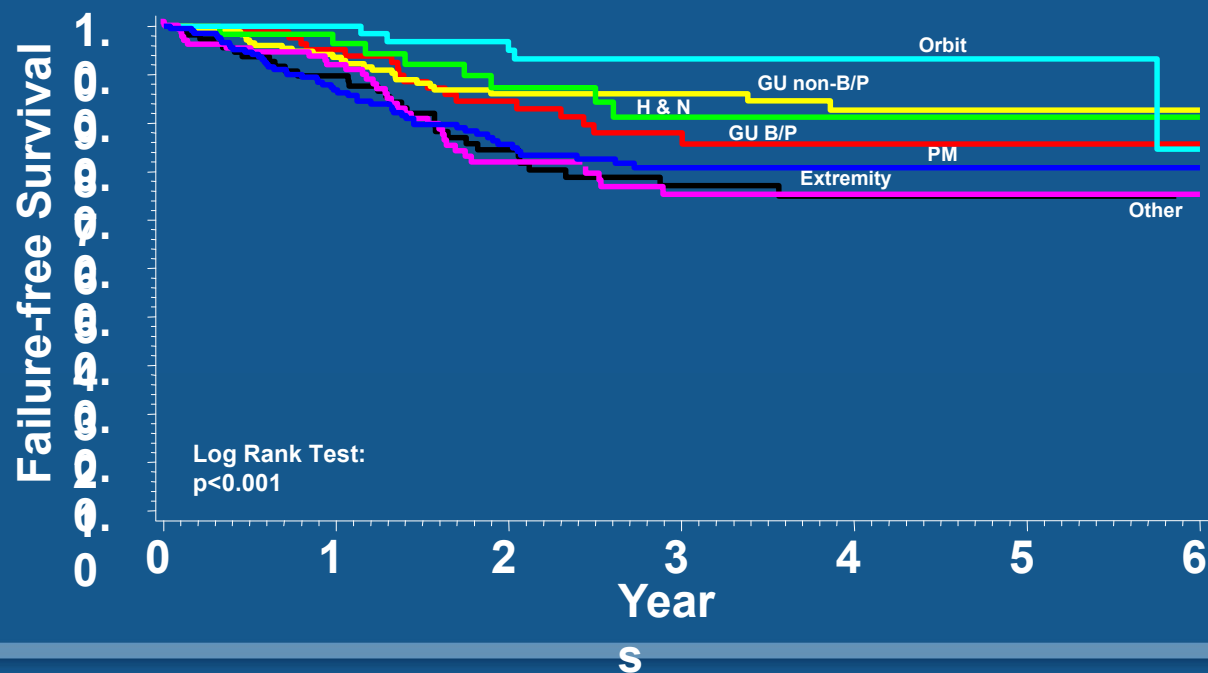
**Hematogenous:** 10-20% at diagnosis (lung, bone, bone marrow, liver)

**CNS extension:** 50% of parameningeal (cranial nerve palsies, erosion of cranial bone, direct intracranial growth)

Children's  
Hospital  
LOS ANGELES  
We Treat Kids



## Failure-free Survival, IRS-IV for Patients with Local/Regional Tumors by Primary Site



## STAGING MADE EASY

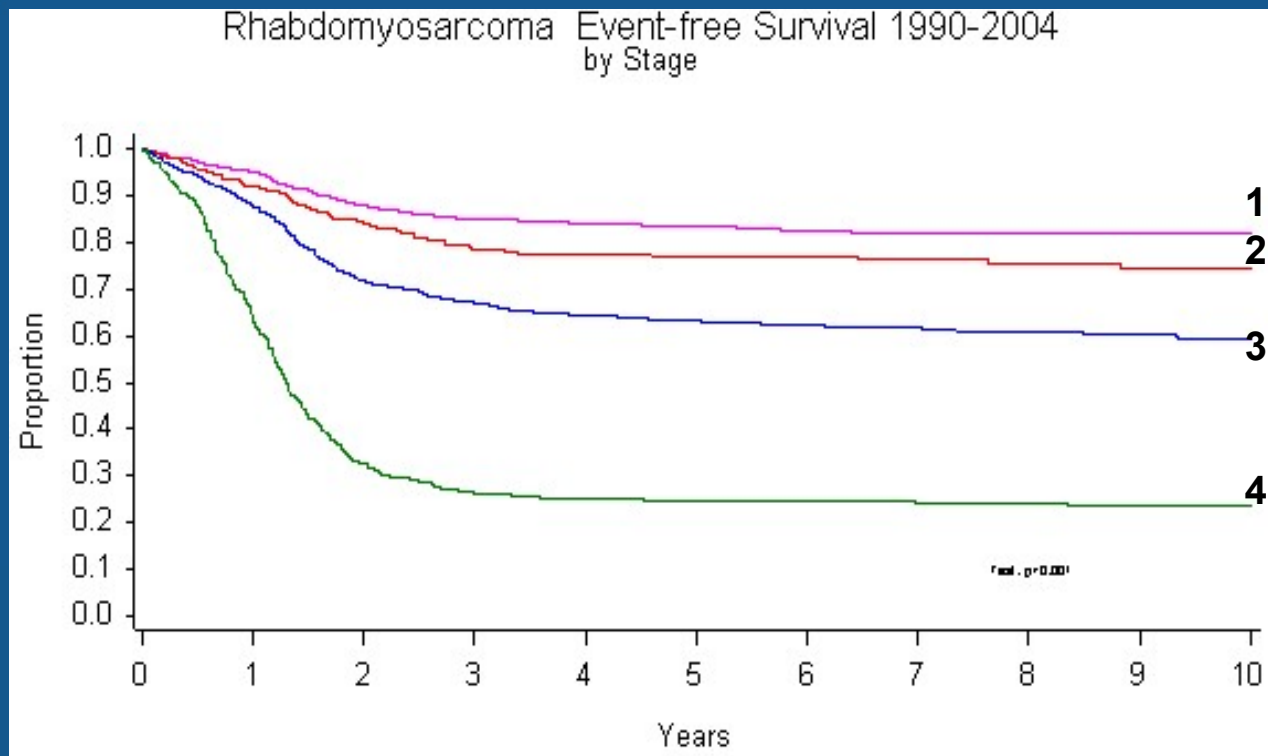
**Stage 1:** Any tumor arising in a favorable site independent of size and lymph node involvement.

**Stage 2:** Tumors less than 5 cm in size arising from an unfavorable site without lymph node involvement.

**Stage 3:** Tumors greater than 5 cm in size arising from an unfavorable site or any size tumor arising from an unfavorable site with lymph node involvement.

**Stage 4:** Any tumor irrespective of site or size with distant metastases.





Courtesy J. Anderson Ph.D.  
Statistician- STS Committee  
Children's Oncology Group



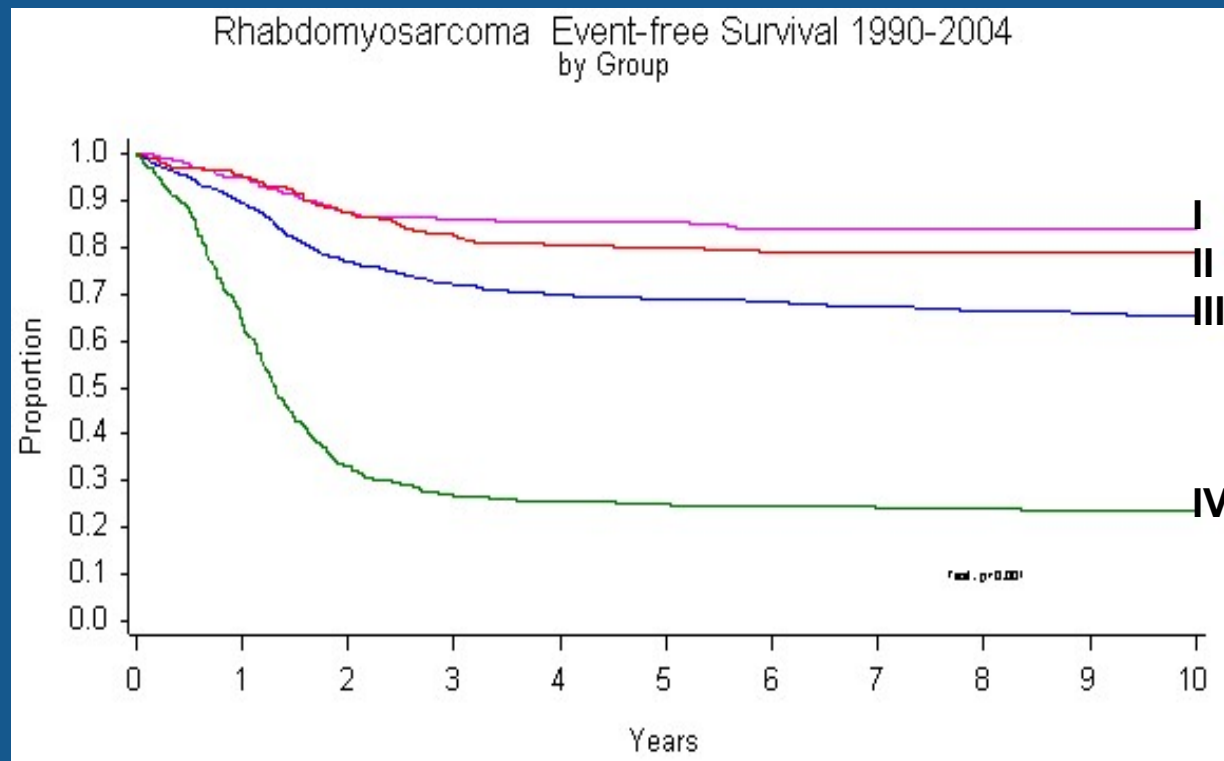
## GROUPING MADE EASY

Group I: No residual disease (gross or microscopic).

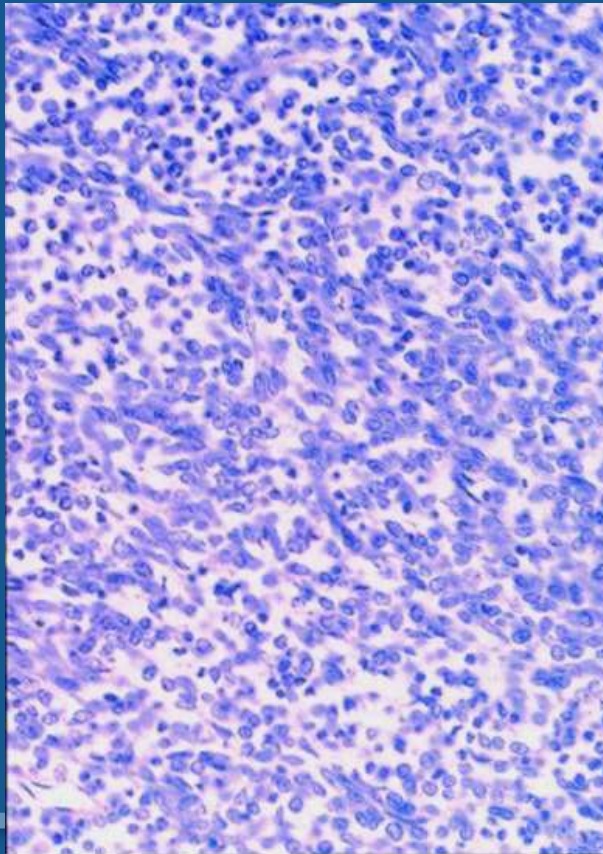
Group II: Microscopic residual disease.

Group III: Gross residual disease.

Group IV: Distant metastases.



Courtesy J. Anderson  
Ph.D.  
Statistician- STS



# Embryonal RMS (ERMS)

## Pathology

60-70% of cases

Simulates immature skeletal muscle

MyoD, Myogenin expressed

## ERMS Variants:

Solid (“embryonal”); favorable

Botryoid (polypoid grossly); very favorable

Spindle cell (leiomyomatous with cross striations); very favorable

# Alveolar RMS (ARMS)

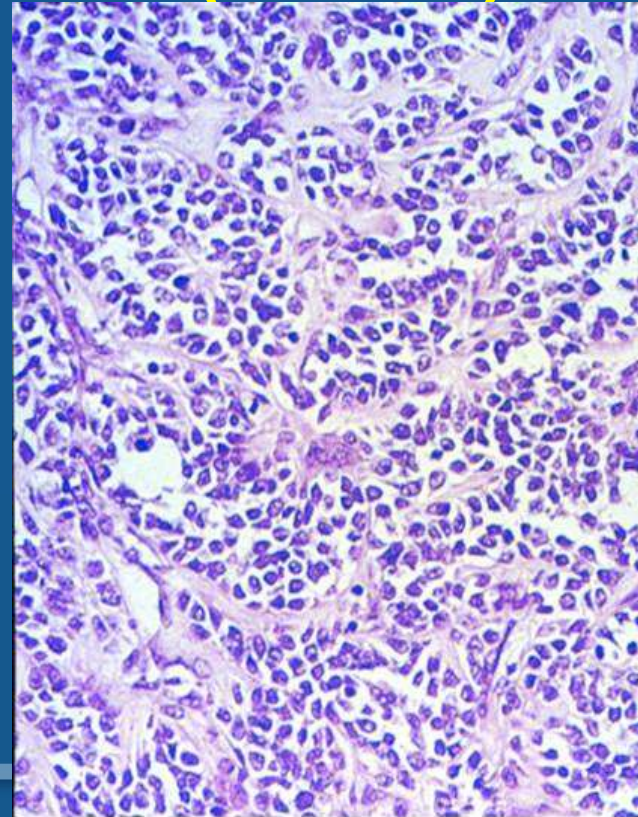
## Pathology

20% of cases

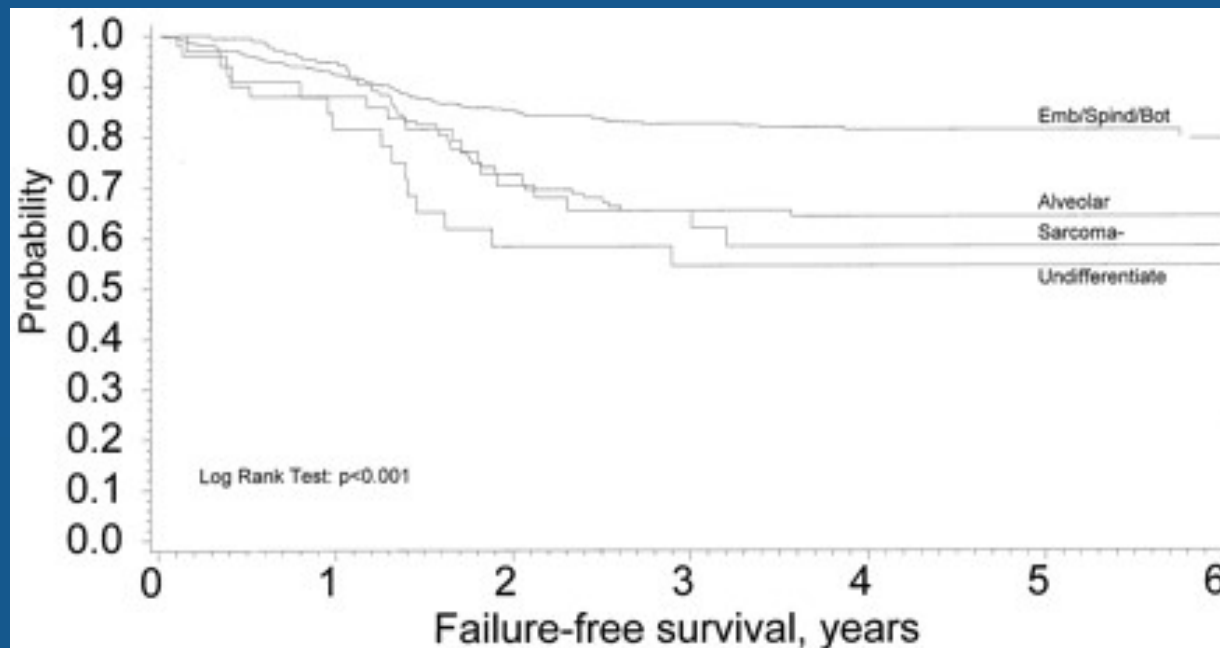
Growth pattern reminiscent of pulmonary alveoli with fibrovascular septa

MyoD, Myogenin expressed

Associated with either a  $t(2;13)(q35;q14)$  or  $t(1;13)(p36;q14)$ , extremity primary, lymph node involvement, and unfavorable prognosis



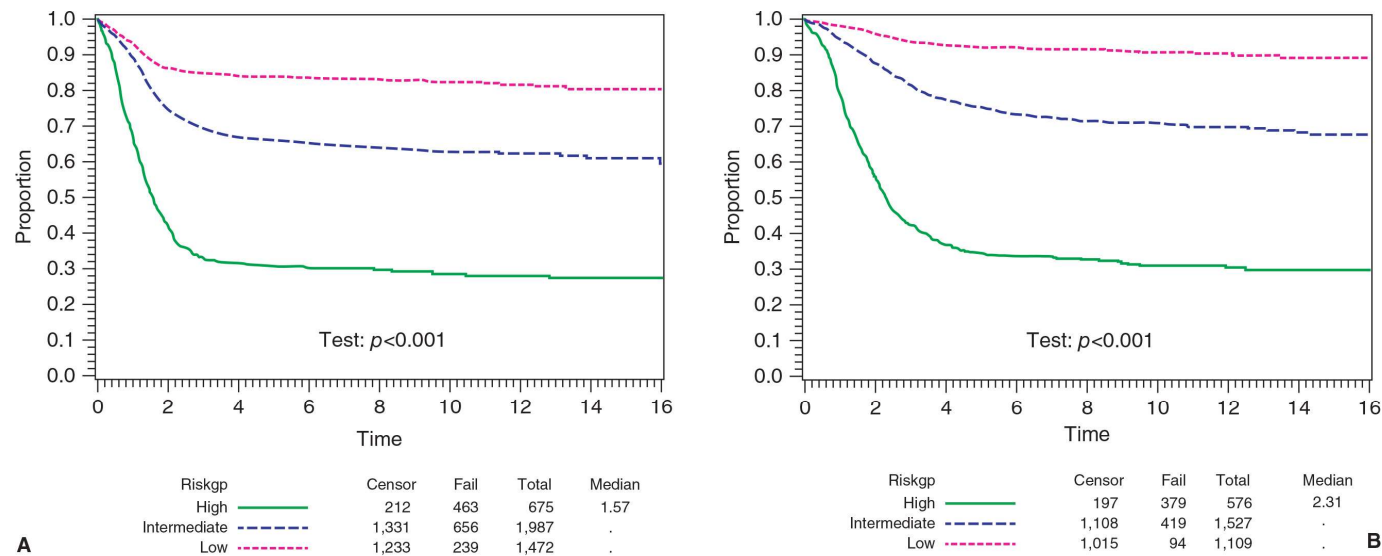
## Outcome by histology, COG



## COG RMS Stratification, circa 2003-2015

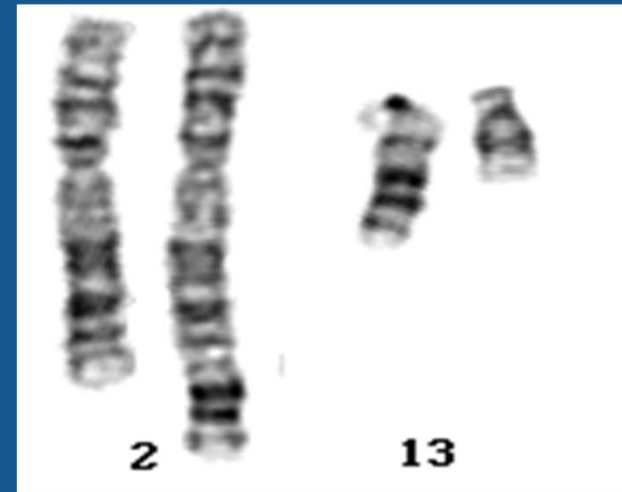
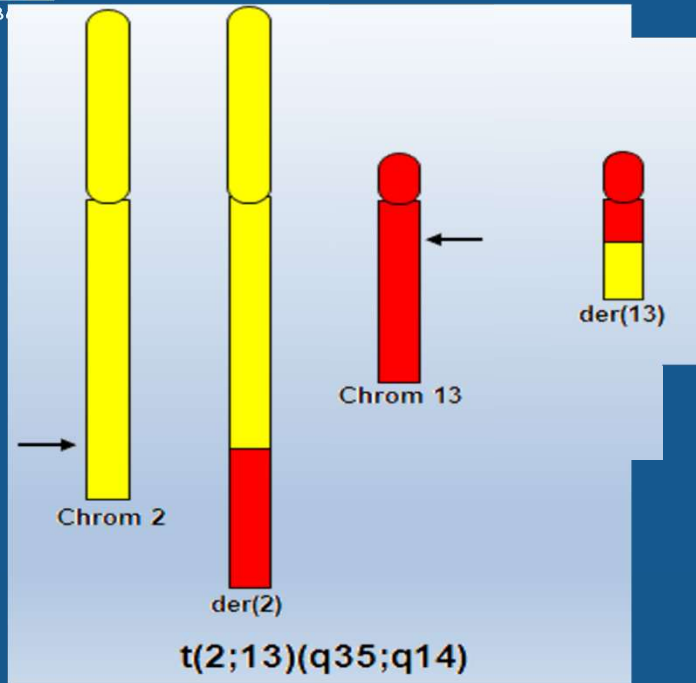
Risk Group	Stage	Group	Histology	COG study	Therapy
Low, subset 1	1	I-II	ERMS	ARST0331	VACx4, VAx4 24 weeks
	1	III (orbit)			
	2	I-II			
Low, subset 2	1	III (non-orbit)	ERMS	ARST0331	VACx4, VAx12 48 weeks
	3	I-II			
Intermediate	2-3	III	ERMS	ARST0531	VAC vs VAC/VI 42 weeks
	1-3	I-III	ARMS		
High	4	IV	ERMS	ARST08P1	VI/VDC/IE/VAC IGF-1R Ab, Temozolomide
			ARMS		

# RMS Outcome by Risk Group: 1984-2012



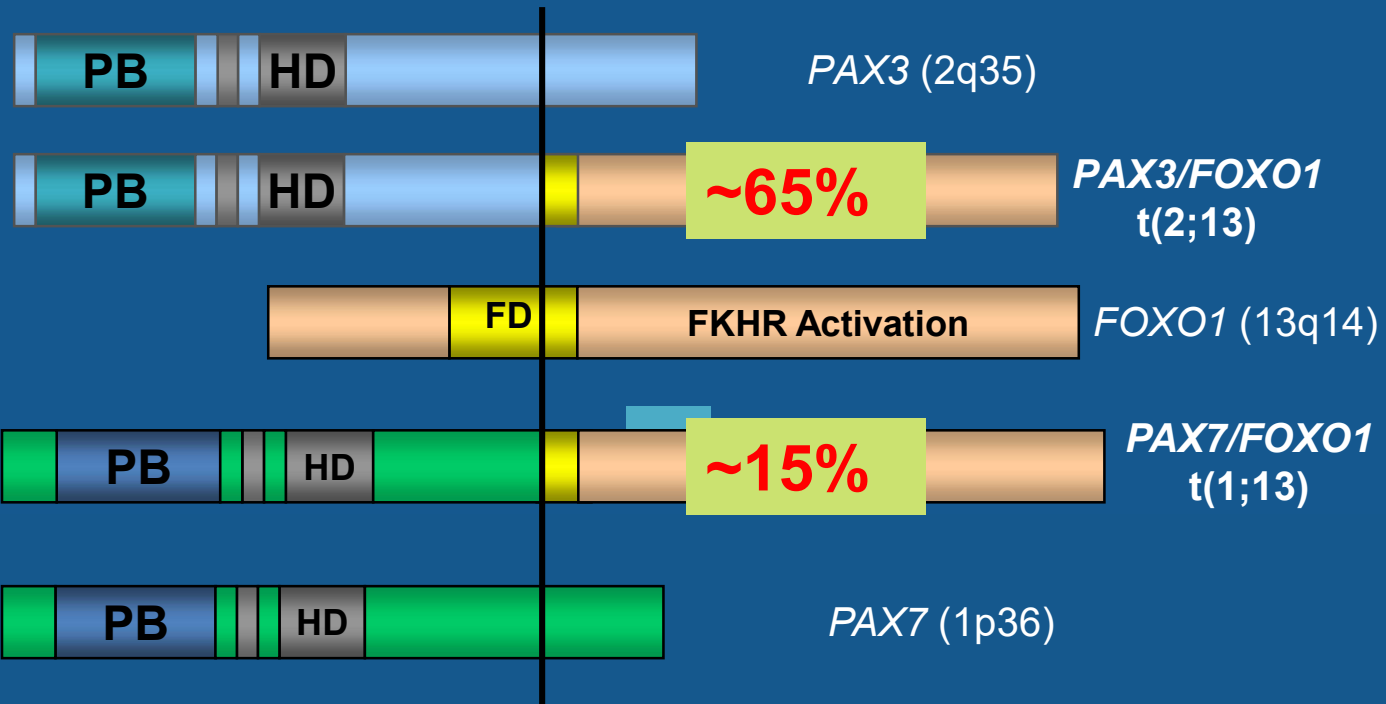
Principles and Practice of Pediatric Oncology, Seventh Edition; data from James Anderson, Children's Oncology Group



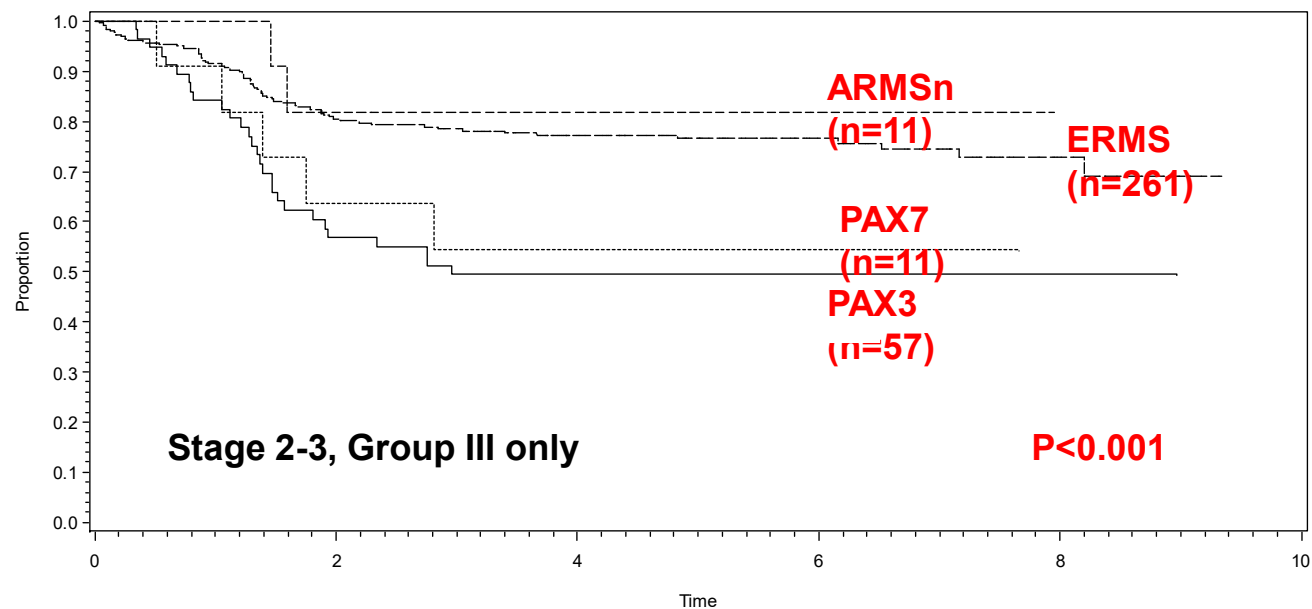


First described by Turc-Carel et al  
1987

## PAX/FOXO1 Fusion: ARMS



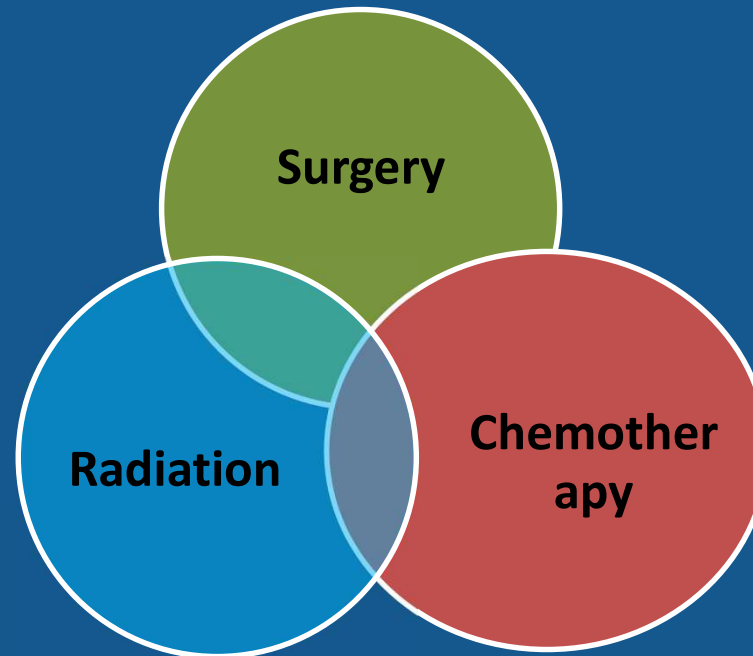
## FOXO1 fusion and outcome



## COG RMS Stratification, current

Risk Group	Stage	Group	Age	Fusion	COG study	Therapy
Low	1	I-II	Any	FOXO1-	None	VACx4, VAx4 24 weeks
	1	III (orbit)				
	2	I-II				
Intermediate	1	III (non-orbit)	Any	FOXO1-	ARST1431	VAC/VI +/- TEM 42 weeks, VRL/CY 24 weeks
	3	I-II		FOXO1-		
	2-3	III		FOXO1-		
	1-3	I-III		FOXO1+		
	4	IV	< 10 yr	FOXO1-		
High	4	IV	> 10 yr	FOXO1-	None currently	
			Any	FOXO1+		

## Treatment of RMS



Multimodality treatment with surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy has led to an overall survival of > 70% for all patients with rhabdomyosarcoma

# **SURGERY**

- **Excision of primary tumor upfront whenever possible without causing major functional or cosmetic deficits**
- **Primary re-excision for residual tumor**
- **Special anatomic sites requiring surgical assessment of lymph nodes:**
  - **paratesticular (ISRLND/sampling)**
  - **extremity (node sampling)**
- **Second look surgery during treatment sometimes done for residual tumor**

## **RADIATION**

- **Local/regional relapse rates (IRS-IV): local (51%), regional (17%), and distant (32%)**
- **Patients with Group I embryonal tumors do not receive RT**
- **Treatment usually begins during weeks 3 – 18 of therapy**
  - **parameningeal (early for ICE)**
  - **vaginal**
- **Treatment volume is determined by pretreatment (pre-surgical) tumor size**
- **Doses of 3600 - 5040 cGy generally used; dose depends on Group (microscopic vs gross disease), primary site, nodal involvement, histology, and whether second look surgery performed**



## Rhabdomyosarcoma is radiosensitive

IRS IV (1991-1997) radiation outcomes

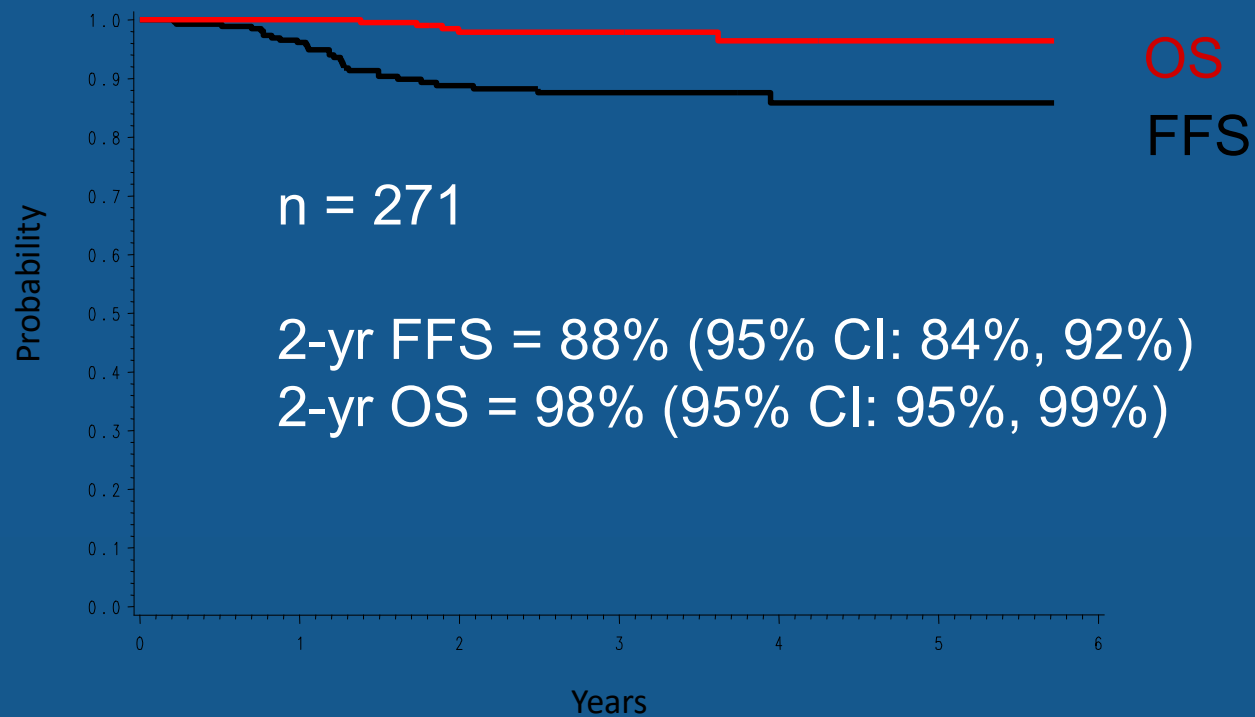
5-yr local control for unresected RMS

- Extremity 96%
- Orbit 95%
- Bladder/prostate 90%
- Head and neck 88%
- Parameningeal 84%
- Other 90%.

# **CHEMOTHERAPY**

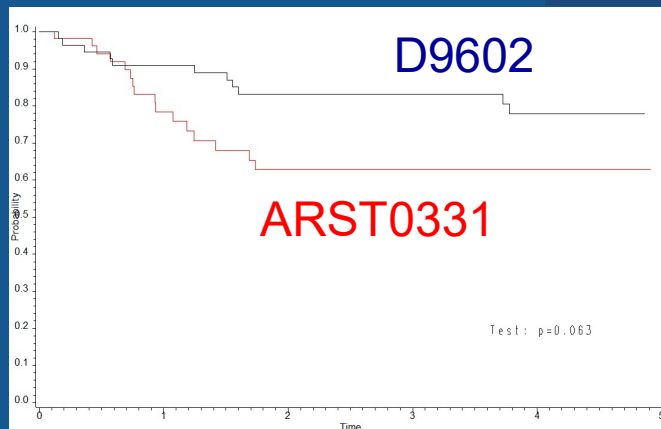
- **Local and systemic tumor control**
- **Multi-agent/intensive/governed by risk-group**
- **Standard: vincristine, dactinomycin, and cyclophosphamide (VAC)**
- **Other active agents: irinotecan, topotecan, doxorubicin, etoposide, and ifosfamide**

## ARST0331: Subset 1

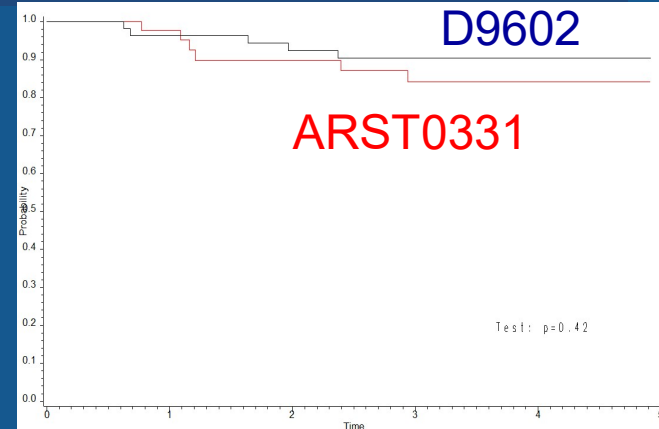


Walterhouse DO, JCO 2014 32:3547-3552

## ARST0331: Subset 2



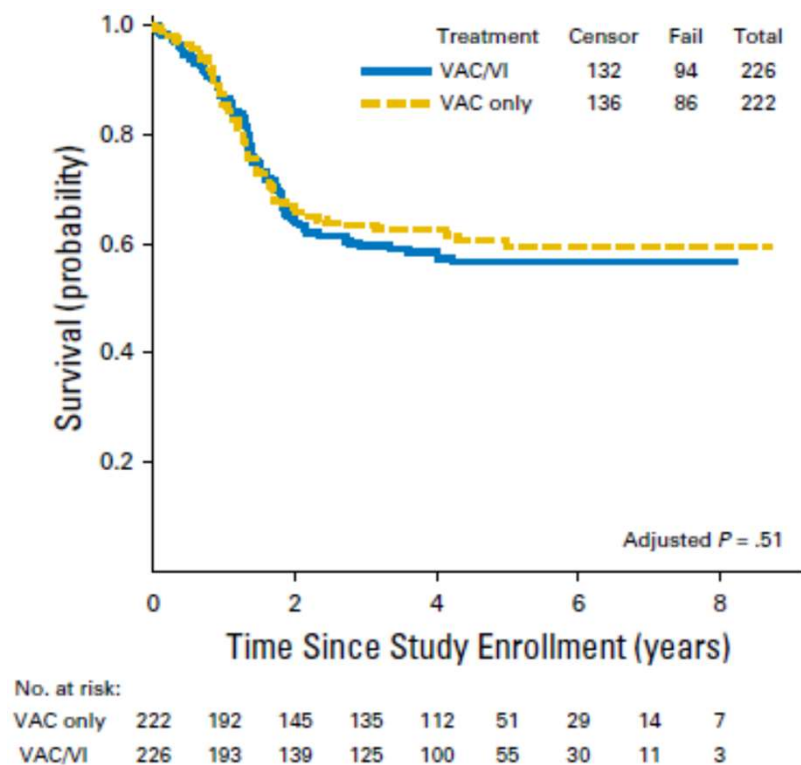
**FFS**



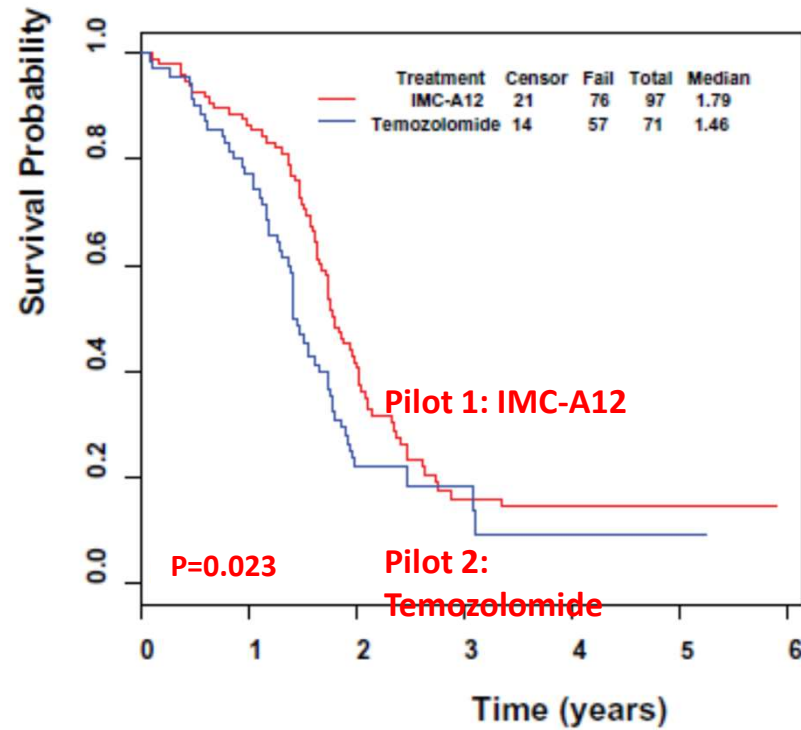
**OS**

Walterhouse DO, Cancer. 2017 Jul 15;123(12):2368-2375

## ARST0531: VAC, VAC/VI EFS similar

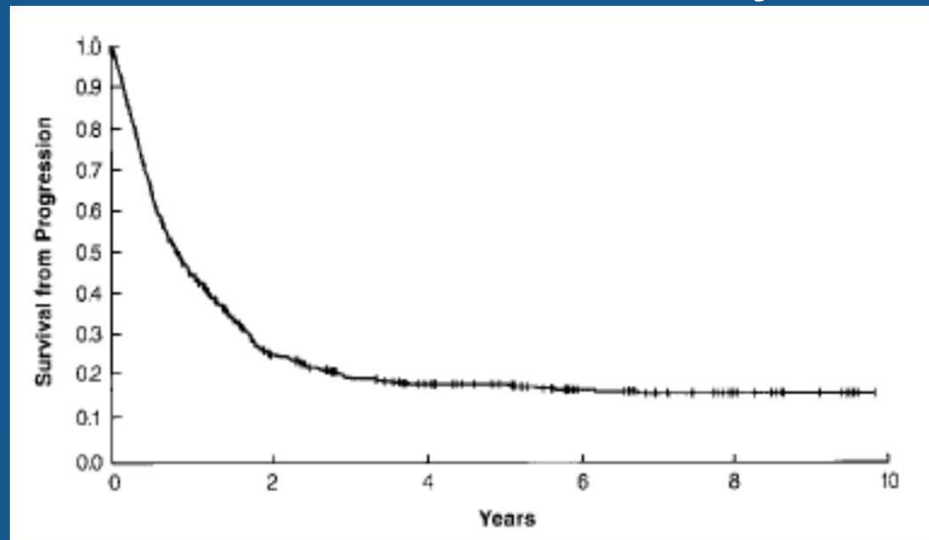


# ARST08P1: Event-free survival



## Relapsed Rhabdomyosarcoma

Majority of patient with relapsed rhabdomyosarcoma have a survival rate of less than 10% at 5 years.

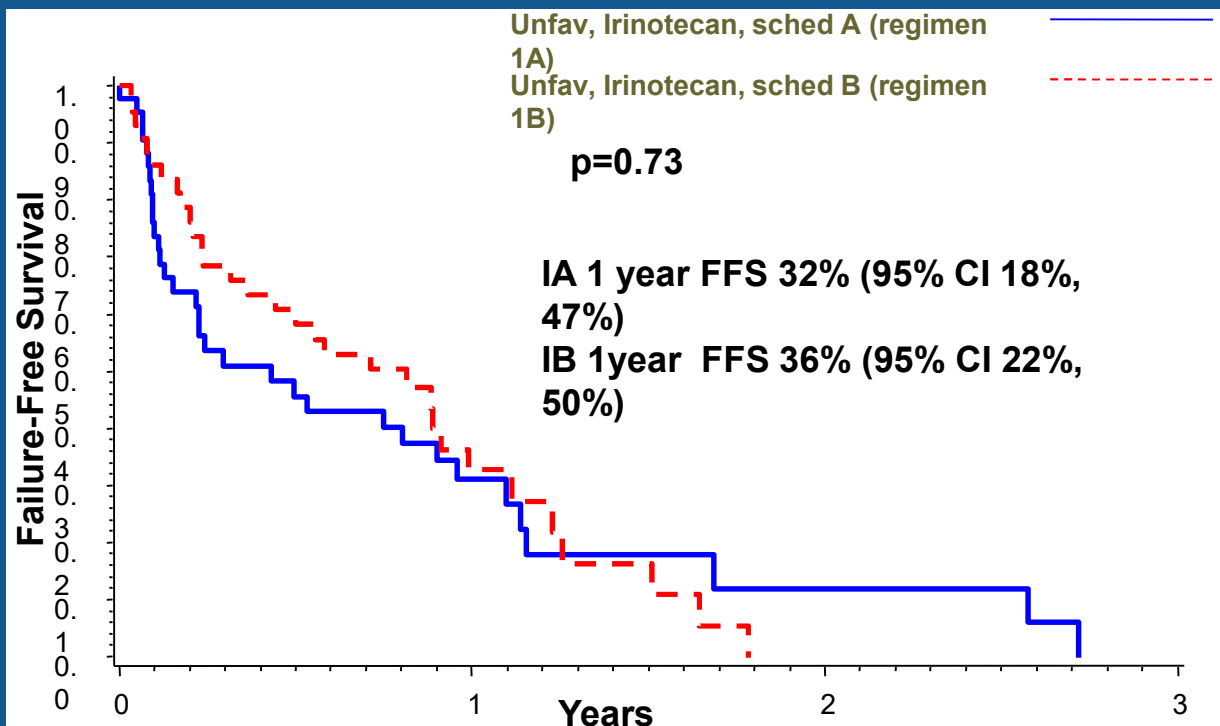


Survival of patients with rhabdomyosarcoma treated on IRS-III, IRS-IVP and IRS IV after relapse or disease progression-

Pappo et al, JCO 17 (11) 1999: 3487-3493

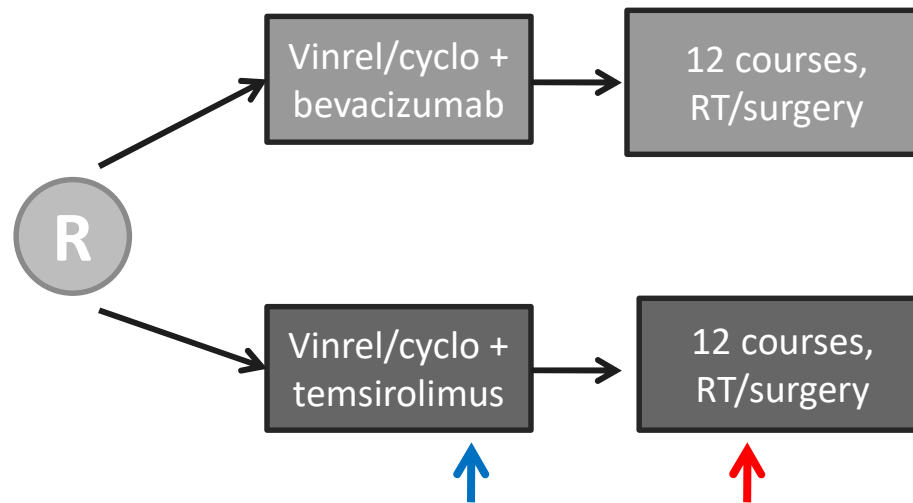


## Failure-free Survival



Mascarenhas L et al, October 2010, JCO

# ARST0921 Study Design



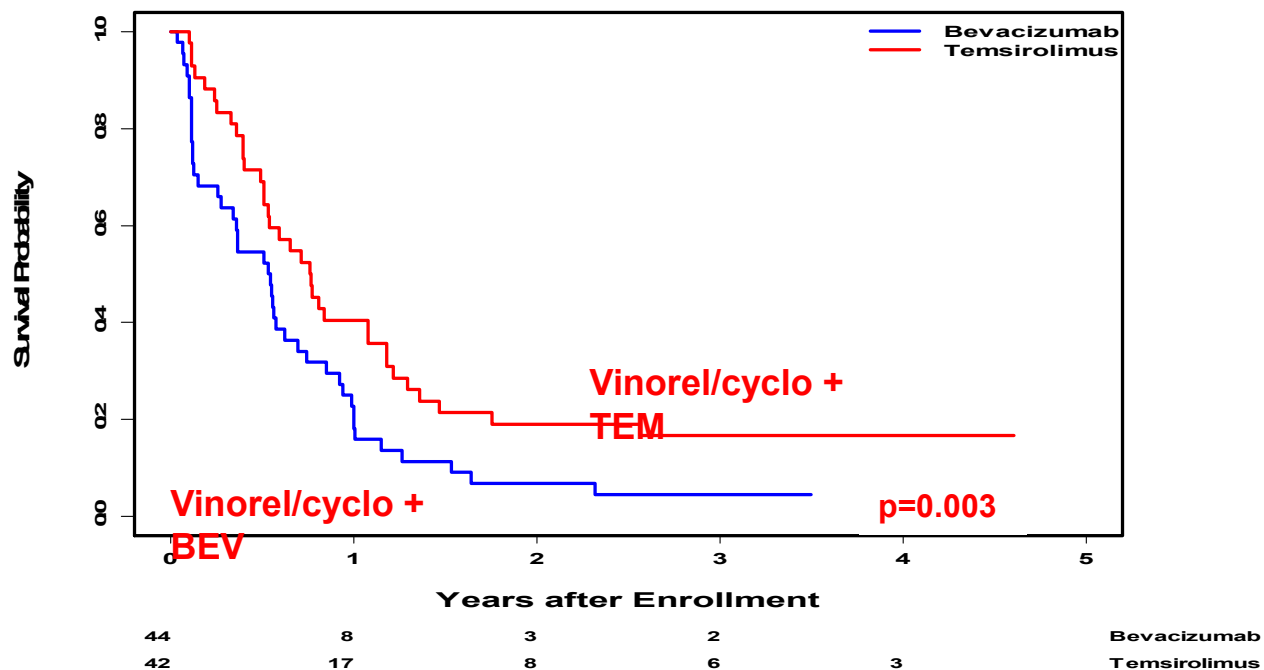
Secondary aim: RR @ 6 weeks

Primary aim: EFS

**Opened October 2010**

**Closed July 2013**

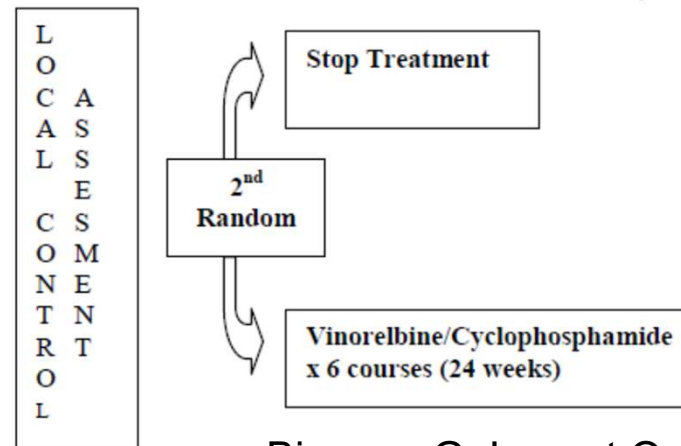
## ARST0921: Event-free survival



Mascarenhas L, JCO 2019 Nov 1;37(31):2866-2874

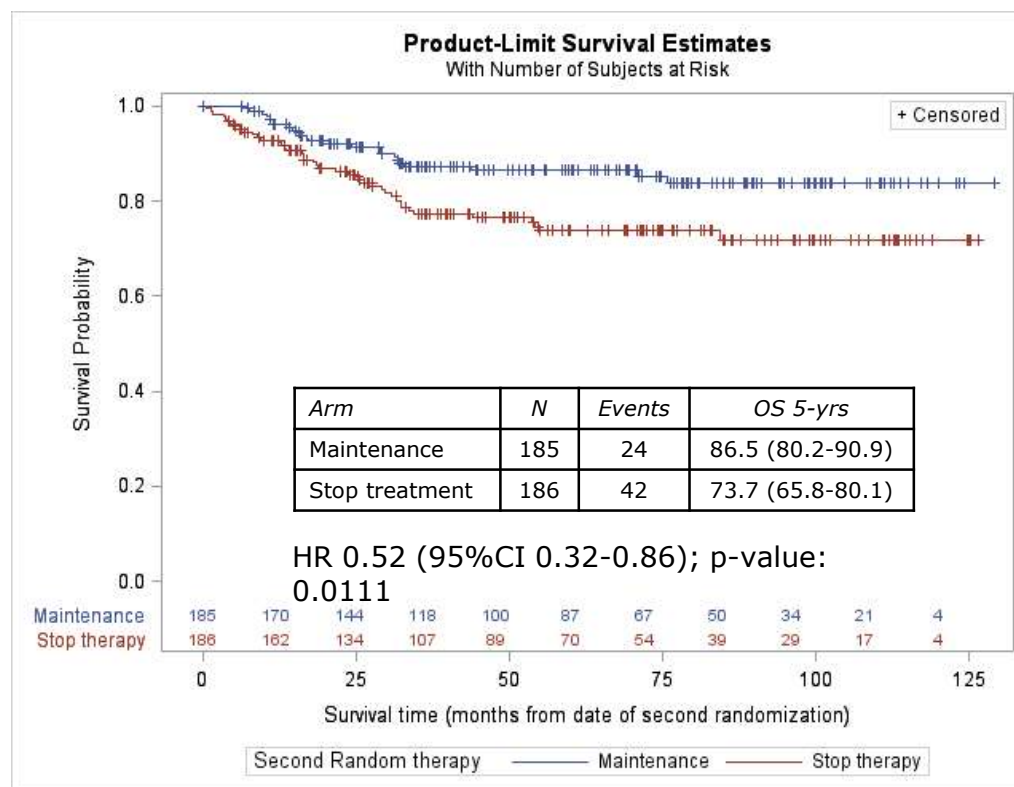
# EpSSG RMS 2005: Study Design

- EpSSG RMS 2005 was a prospective phase III international, multi-institutional, non-blinded **double randomized clinical trial**.
- Patients in complete remission at the end of standard treatment will be randomized 1:1 (second randomization) to stop the therapy or to continue for 6 more months with the vinorelbine-cyclo regimen.
- **Primary end point** for the maintenance question is **disease free survival**, measured as time from date of second randomisation up to relapse or death.



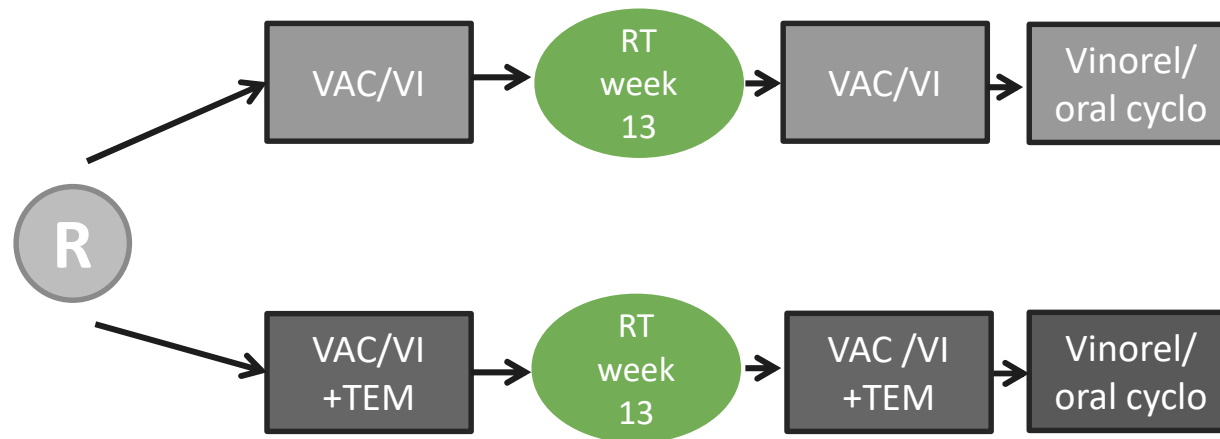
Bisogno G, Lancet Oncol. 2019 Nov;20(11):1566-1575

## EpSSG RMS 2005: Overall Survival



Bisogno G, Lancet Oncol. 2019 Nov;20(11):1566-1575

# ARST1431 Study Design



Open: May 2016

Suspend: September 2016

Reopen: January 2018

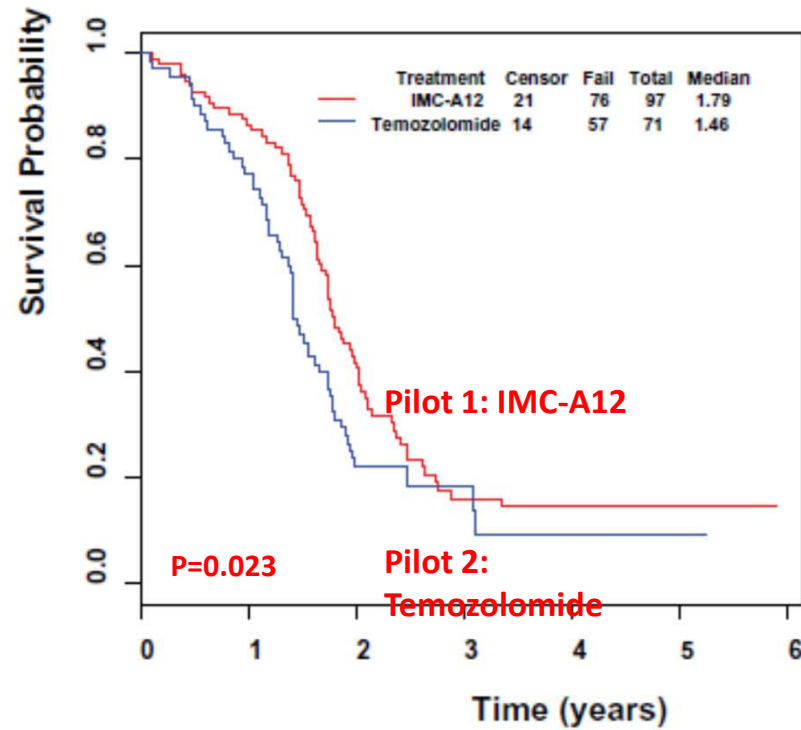
Suspend: August 2018

Reopen: December 2018

**42 weeks + 24 weeks maintenance**

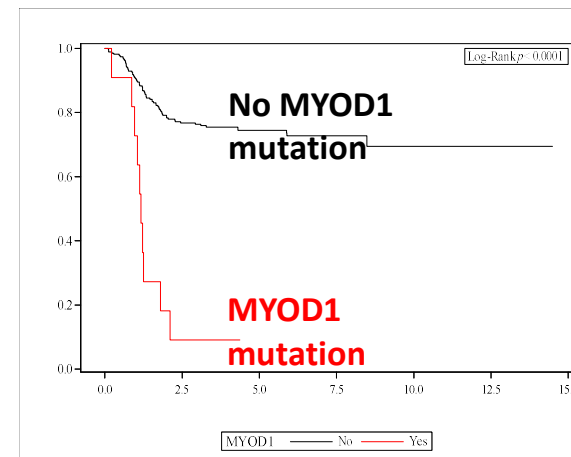
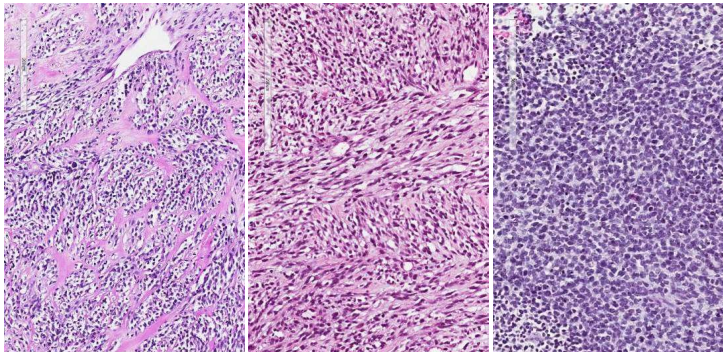
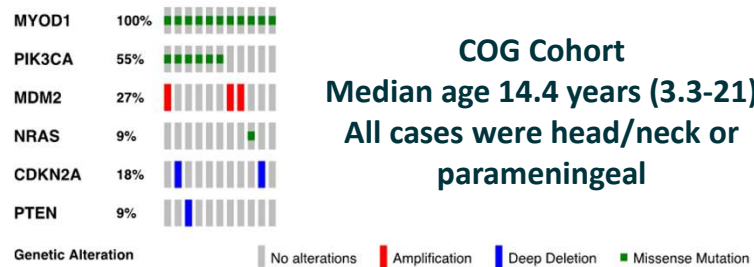
**12.6 g/m<sup>2</sup> total cyclophosphamide**

# ARST08P1: Event-free survival

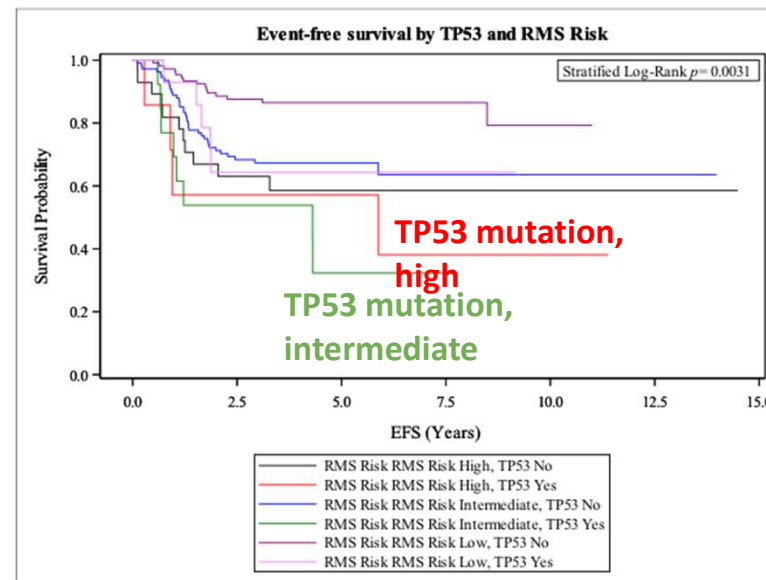
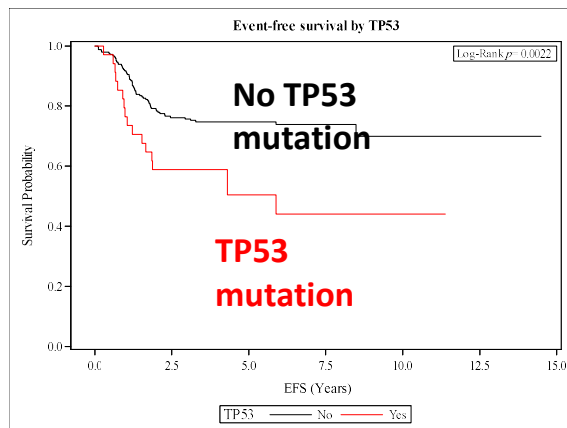




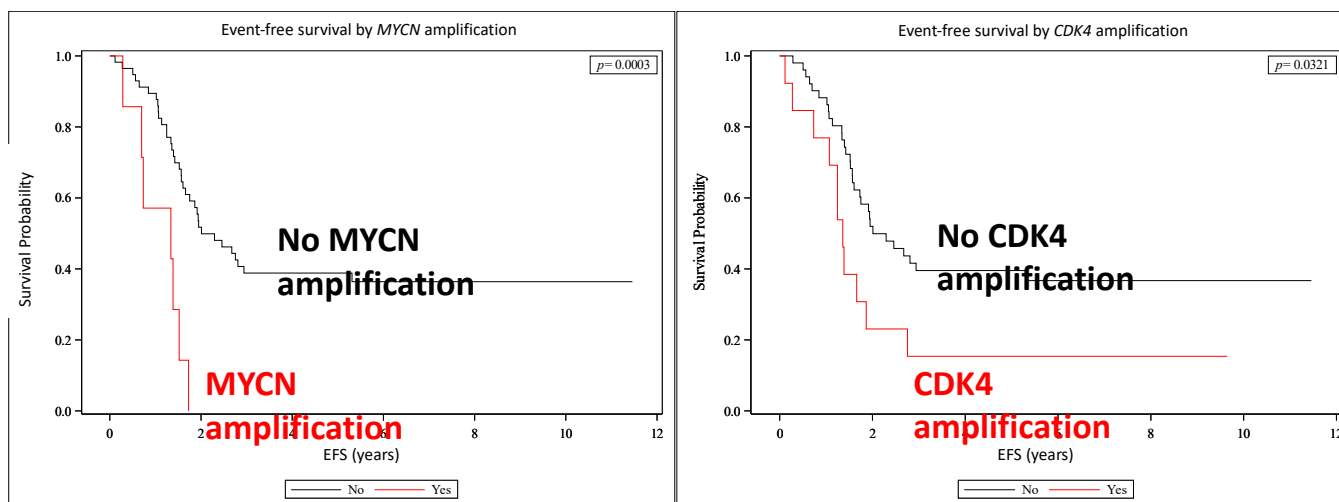
# FN: MYOD1 mutation very unfavorable



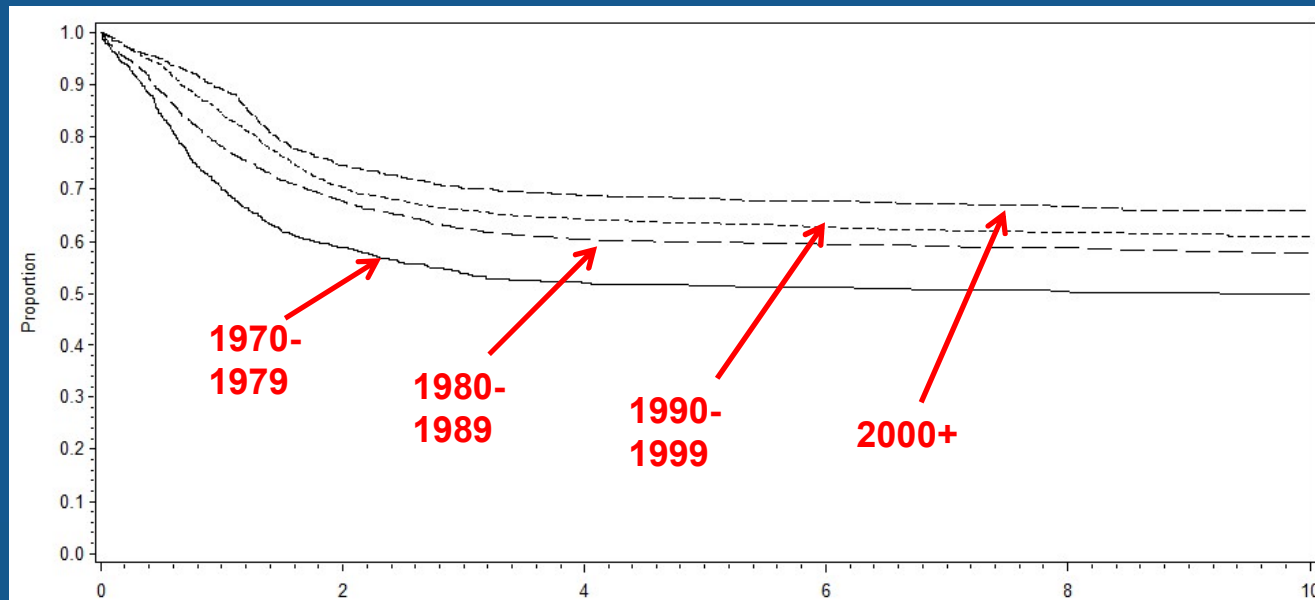
## FN: TP53 mutation unfavorable



## FP: MYCN, CDK4 amp unfavorable

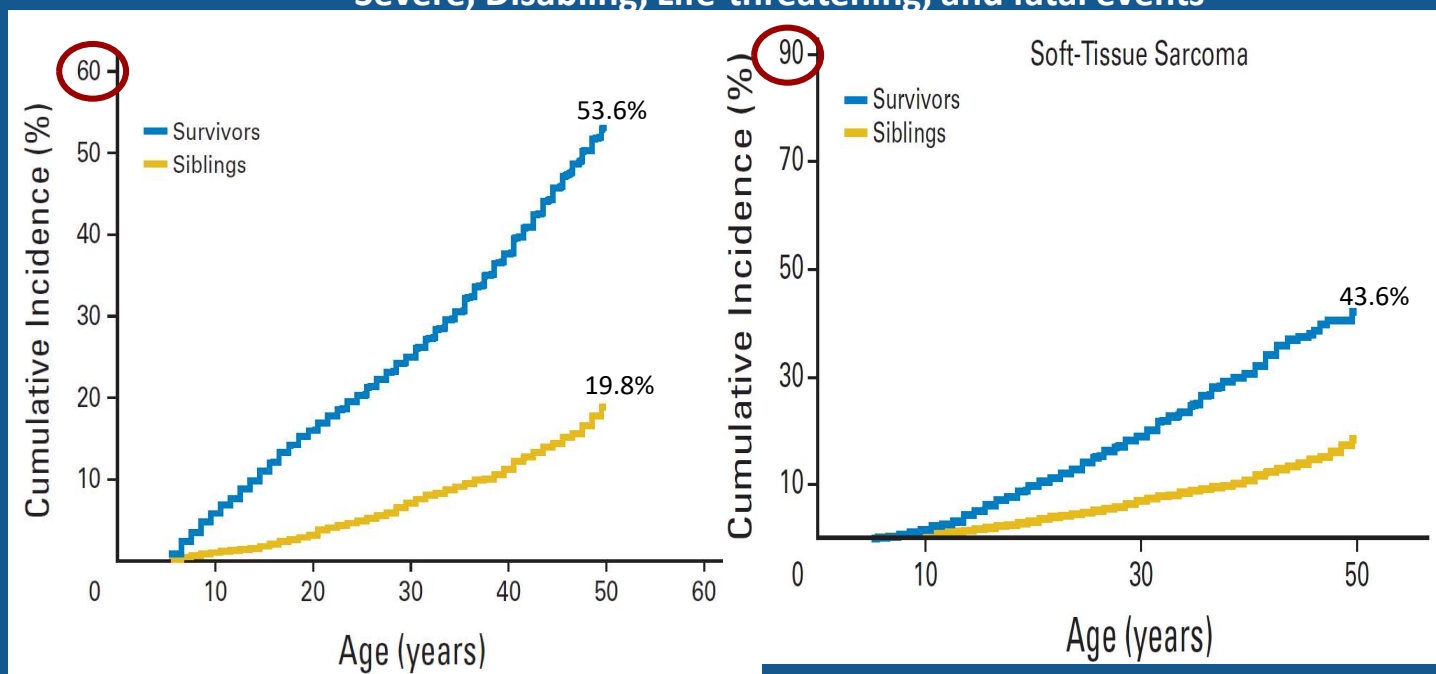


## Improved RMS Outcome



## Long-term morbidity: aging cancer survivors

Severe, Disabling, Life-threatening, and fatal events



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JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

- **Aging STS survivors have significantly increased risk of long-term health-related complications**
  - Tumor location
  - Young age at treatment
  - Multimodal approach for cure
- **Primary prevention is integral to decreasing the long-term burden due to health-related complications**
  - Limit radiation dose/field
  - Novel surgical approaches for local control
  - Reduce lifetime cumulative doses/exposures to treatments which can result in severe-disabling complications
- **Multi-disciplinary care and lifelong monitoring/surveillance integral to maintaining well-being**

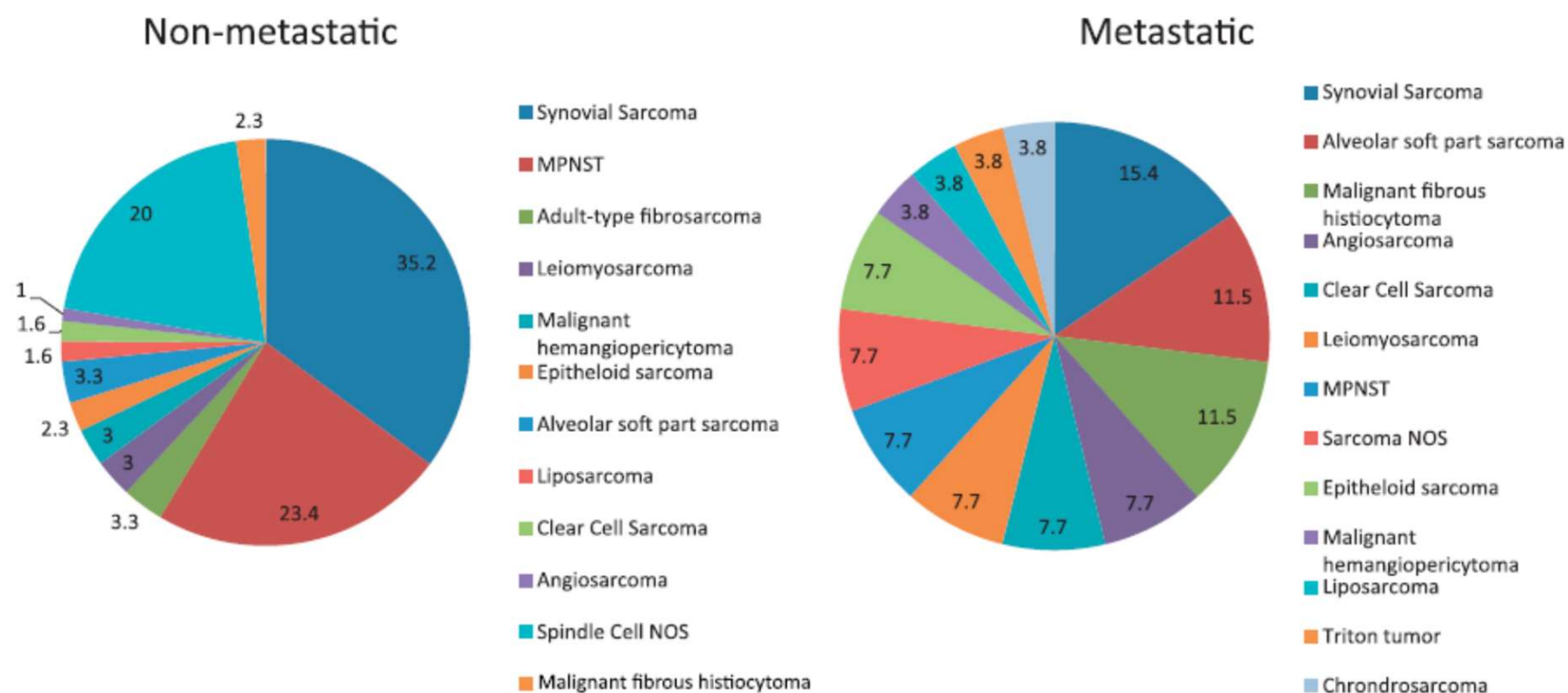


Fig. 3. Distribution of histologic subtypes of nonrhabdomyosarcoma soft-tissue sarcoma stratified into metastatic and nonmetastatic tumors at presentation. MPNST, malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor; NOS, tumor not otherwise specified.



# A risk-based treatment strategy for non-rhabdomyosarcoma soft-tissue sarcomas in patients younger than 30 years (ARST0332): a Children's Oncology Group prospective study

*Sheri L Spunt, Lynn Million, Yueh-Yun Chi, James Anderson, Jing Tian, Emily Hibbitts, Cheryl Coffin, M Beth McCarville, R Lor Randall, David M Parham, Jennifer O Black, Simon C Kao, Andrea Hayes-Jordan, Suzanne Wolden, Fran Laurie, Roseanne Speights, Ellen Kawashima, Stephen X Skapek, William Meyer, Alberto S Pappo, Douglas S Hawkins*



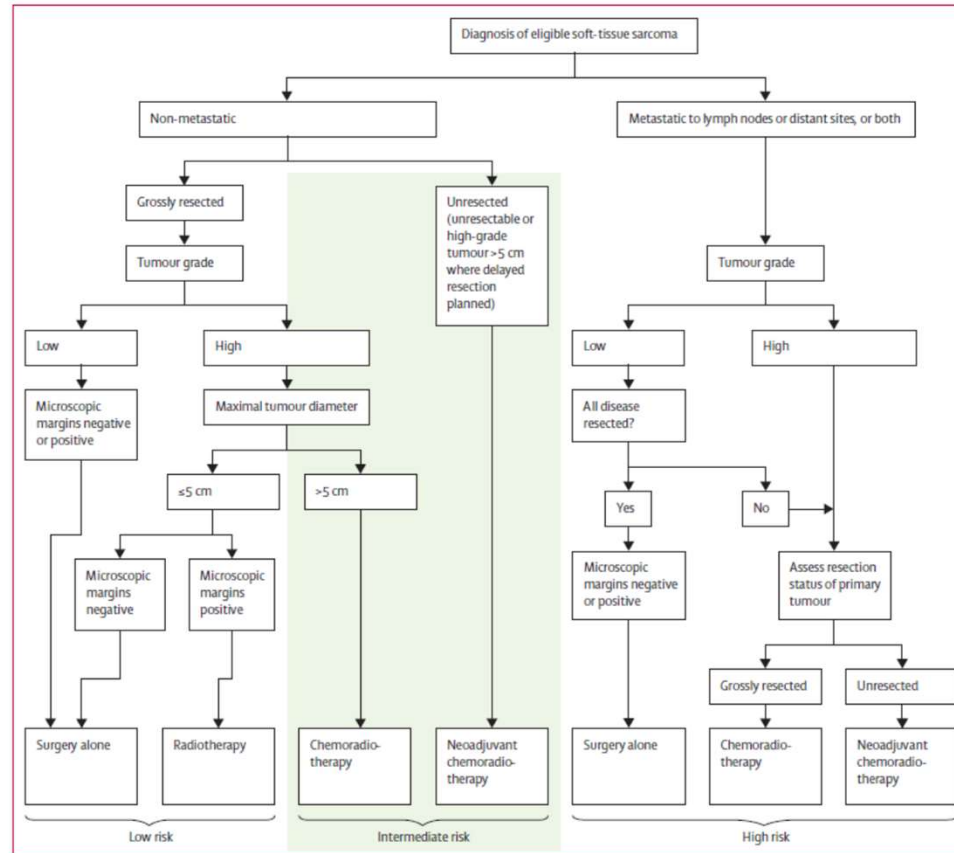


Figure 1: Risk group and treatment assignment

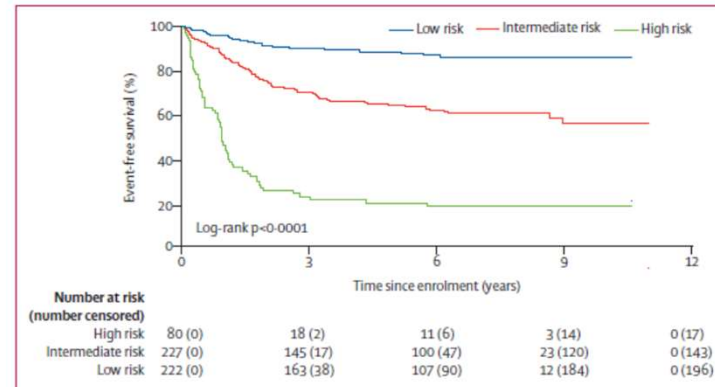


Figure 4: Estimated event-free survival by risk group

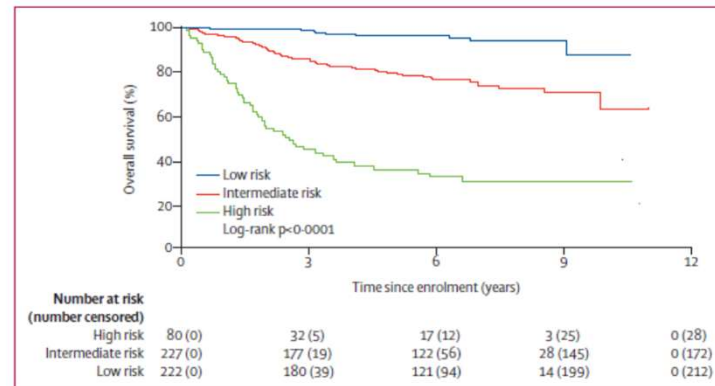


Figure 5: Estimated overall survival by risk group

# Pathological response in children and adults with large unresected intermediate-grade or high-grade soft tissue sarcoma receiving preoperative chemoradiotherapy with or without pazopanib (ARST1321): a multicentre, randomised, open-label, phase 2 trial

*Aaron R Weiss\*, Yen-Lin Chen\*, Thomas J Scharschmidt\*, Yueh-Yun Chi, Jing Tian, Jennifer O Black, Jessica L Davis, Julie C Fanburg-Smith, Eduardo Zambrano, James Anderson, Robin Arens, Odion Binitie, Edwin Choy, Justin W Davis, Andrea Hayes-Jordan, Simon C Kao, Mark L Kayton, Sandy Kessel, Ruth Lim, William H Meyer, Lynn Million, Scott H Okuno, Andrew Ostrenga, Marguerite T Parisi, Daniel A Pryma, R Lor Randall, Mark A Rosen, Mary Schlapkohl, Barry L Shulkin, Ethan A Smith, Joel I Sorger, Stephanie Terezakis, Douglas S Hawkins†, Sheri L Spunt†, Dian Wang†*

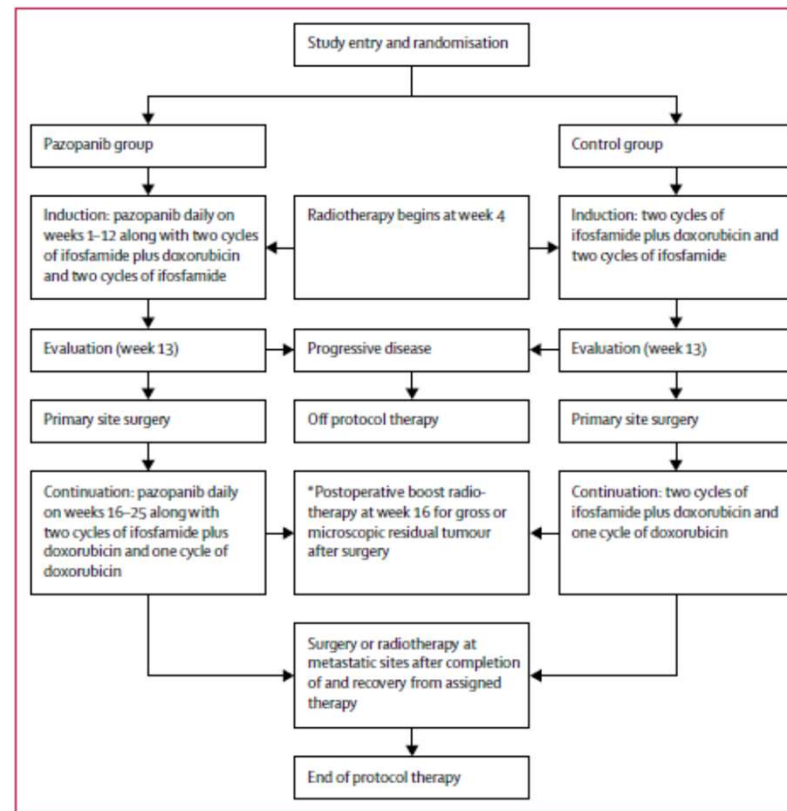


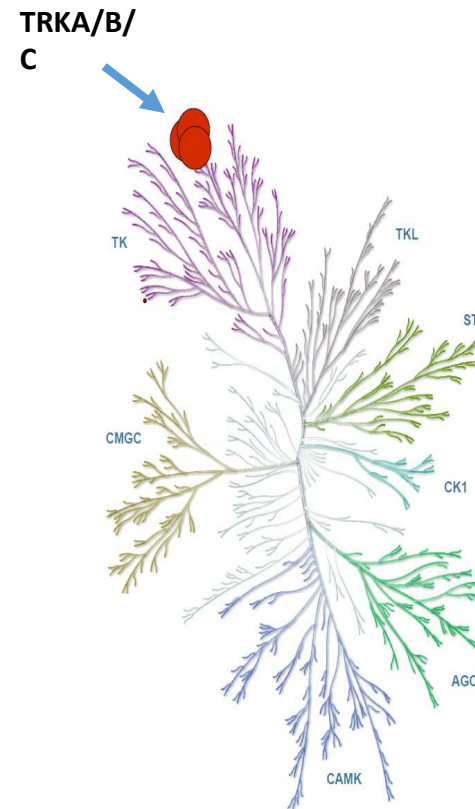
Figure 1: Study design

	Regimen A (n, %)	Regimen B (n, %)	p value
Pathologic response			
≥ 90%	14 (58.3%)	4 (22.2%)	0.029
< 90 %	10 (41.7%)	14 (77.8%)	

Sarcomas with fusion genes					
Fusion genes involving TET genes					
	Gene (N-C)	Chromosomal location	Clinical Significance	Proposed function of gene product	Detection Method
Ewing's/PNET	EWSR1-FU1 EWSR1-ERG	t(11;22)(q24;q12) t(11;22)(p22;p12)	Diagnostic EWSR1	Overexpression of Oncogene e.g. MYC	IHC (FU1) Karyotype
<b>IGF1R/mTOR inhibitors/PARPi/LSDi Spice Switch/GAMPER Oligos</b>					
	FUS-FEV EWSR1-ZSG				
Desmoplastic Small Round Cell Tumor	EWSR1-WT1 EWSR1-ATF1	t(11;22)(p13;q12)	Diagnosis	up-regulates oncogenic factors e.g. PDGF, IL2Rβ, BA1ALP3, TALL11,MLF1	IHC (WT1) FISH (EWSR1 break-apart probe) Karyotype
<b>IGF1R/? CHK1i</b>					
Clear cell sarcoma(CCS)					FISH (EWSR1 break apart probe), PCR
<b>cMET/HGF inhibitor/PD-1i</b>					
Angiomatoid Fibrous Histiocytoma	FUS-ATF1 EWSR1-ATF1 EWSR1-CREB1	t(12;16)(q13;p11) t(12;22)(q13;q12) t(2;22)(q33;q12)	Diagnosis		FISH
Extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma	EWSR1-NR4A3 TAF2N-NR4A3 TCF12-NR4A3 TFG-NR4A3	t(9;22)(q22;q12) t(9;17)(q22;q11)	Diagnosis		FISH, RT-PCR (NR3A3-EWS fusion)
<b>TKIs/Trabectedin</b>					
Myxoid/ round cell liposarcoma	FUS-DDIT3 FUS-ATF1	t(12;16)(q13;p11)	Diagnosis, Prognosis	Overexpression of MDM2	FISH (FUS break-apart probe)
<b>Trabectedin/PI3Ki/NYESO(aTcell)/Eribulin</b>					
Low Grade Fibromyxoid Sarcoma / HSCT	FUS-CREB3L2 FUS-CREB3L1	t(7;16)(q33;p11) t(11;16)(p11;p11)	Diagnosis		FISH (FUS break-apart probe), RT-PCR
Fusion genes involving RTK genes					
Congenital mesoblastic nephroma	ETV6-NTRK3	t(12;15)(p13;q25)	Diagnosis		FISH, RT-PCR
Congenital fibrosarcoma	ETV6-NTRK3	t(12;15)(p13;q25)	Diagnosis		FISH, RT-PCR
Inflammatory myofibroblastic tumor	TPM3-ALK TPM4-ALK CLTC-ALK RANBP2-ALK	t(2;5)(p21;q35) t(2;5)(p21;q35) t(2;5)(p21;q35) t(2;5)(p21;q35)			IHC (ALK protein) FISH, RT-PCR
<b>ALK inhibitors</b>					
Fusion genes involving chromatin remodeling genes					
Synovial sarcoma	SS18-SSX1	t(X;18)(p11;q11)	Diagnosis		FISH (SYT probe), RT-PCR, IHC (TLE1 protein)
<b>PDGFRAi/NYESO/EZH2i/TORC1-2i</b>					
	TLE1 gene				
Endometrial stromal sarcoma	JAZF1-SUZ12 JAZF1-PHF1 EPCL-PHF1	t(7;17)(p15;q21) t(7;17)(p15;q21) t(7;17)(p15;q21)	Diagnosis		RT-PCR
<b>Hormonal blockade</b>					
Fusion genes involving growth factors genes					
Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans	PDGFRB-TRAF3 PDGFRB-TRAF3	t(17;22)(p11;p13) t(17;22)(p11;p13)	Diagnosis	Upregulate the expression of PDGFR	FISH, RT-PCR
<b>PDGFRB inhibitors</b>					
Giant Cell Fibroblastoma	COL1A1-PDGFB	t(17;22)(p11;p13)	Diagnosis		FISH, RT-PCR
<b>RANKL inhibitors</b>					
Other type of fusion genes					
Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma	PAX3-PAX7 PAX3-MLL7	t(2;13)(p25;p14) t(2;13)(p25;p14)	Diagnosis		FISH (FOXO1A Break-apart probe), Karyotype, RT-PCR
<b>FGFR4 inhibitors</b>					
Alveolar soft part sarcoma					IHC (TFE3), RT-PCR
Aneurysmal bone cyst	CDH11-USP6 THRAP3-USP6 CNBP-USP6 OMD-USP6	t(16;17)(p11;p17) t(1;17)(p11;p17) t(9;17)(p11;p17) t(17;17)	Diagnosis		FISH, RT-PCR
<b>VEGF/METi/PD-1i</b>					
Tenosynovial giant tumor	COL6A				
Hemangiopericytoma	ACTB-G				
Pericytoma					
Sarcomas with specific oncogenic mutation					
Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumors	KIT or PDGFRA		Diagnosis, Prognosis	Antitumor Treatment	IHC (C-Kit), PCR
<b>TKIs/MEK inhibitors</b>					
Rhabdoid tumor	SMARCB1	t(22;22)	Diagnosis	LOH	IHC (loss of INI1)
Atypical lipomatous tumor/ Well-differentiated liposarcoma	MDM2 and CDK4			Cyclin dependent kinase	FISH (MDM2, CDK4 amplification)
<b>MDM2/CDK4 inhibitors</b>					
Fibromatosis	APC inactivation	Trisomy 20 Deletion			IHC (β catenin)
<b>TKIs/GSI/Notchi</b>					

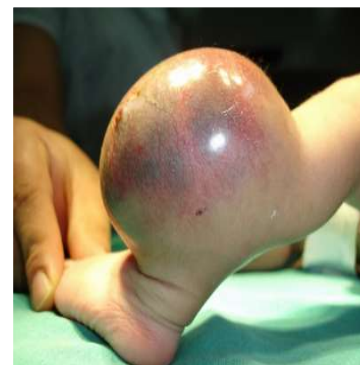
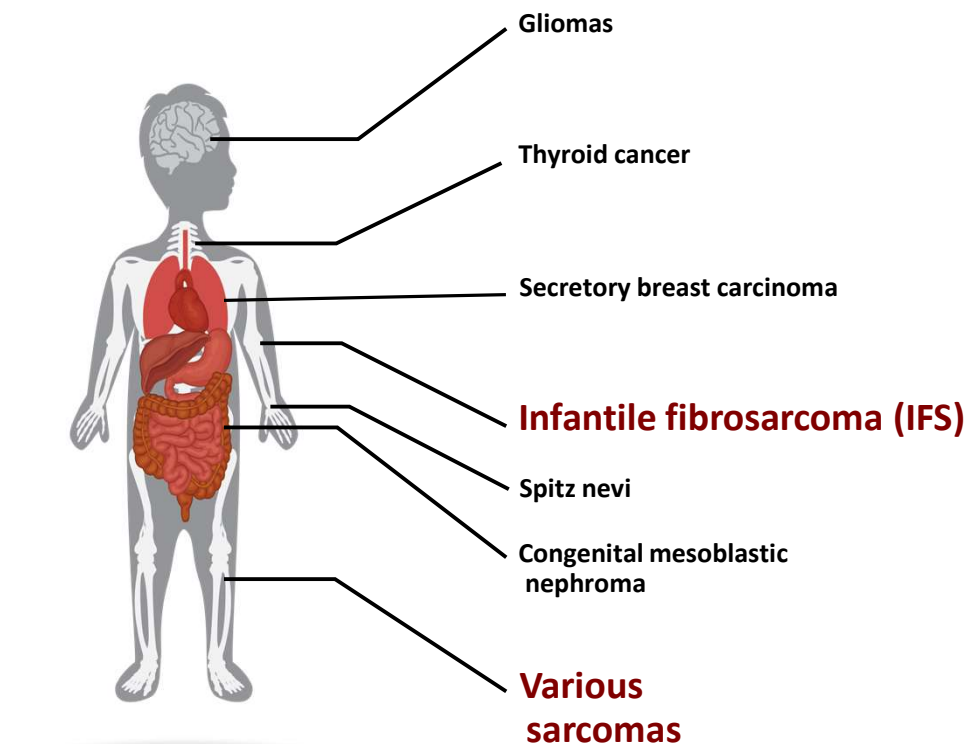
- Larotrectinib is the first and only selective pan-TRK inhibitor in clinical development
- Highly potent against TRKA, TRKB, TRKC (5–11 nM IC<sub>50</sub> in cellular assays)
- Highly selective
- High response rate in adult and pediatric patients with TRK fusions

## Larotrectinib (LOXO-101)



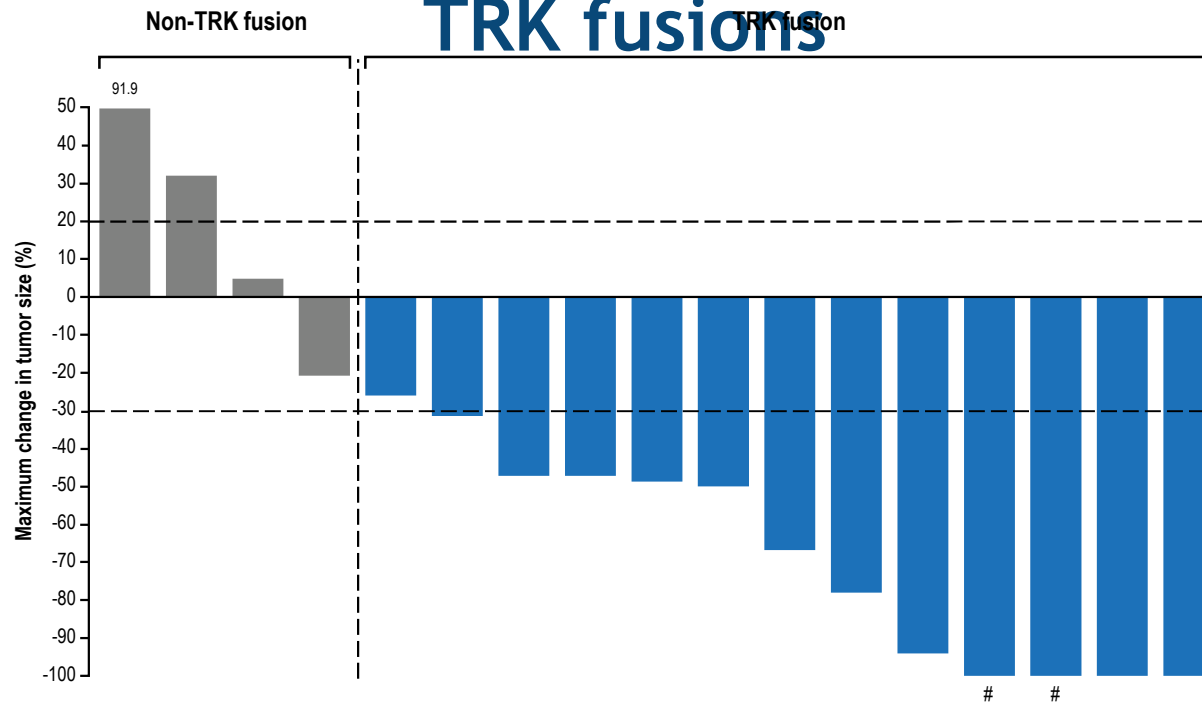


## TRK fusions seen in diverse range of pediatric tumors





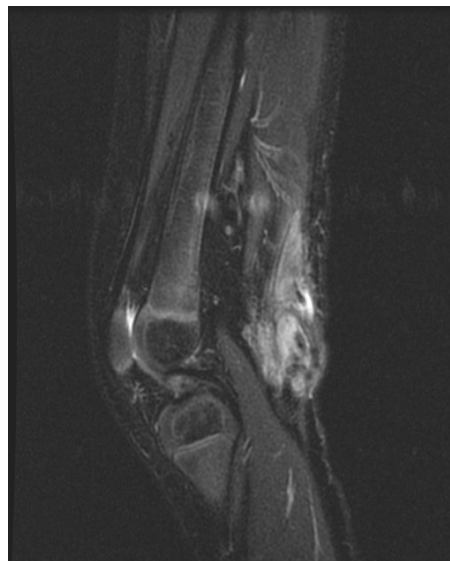
# High response rate in children with TRK fusions



Note: 3 Non-TRK fusion patients not shown due to clinical disease progression without post-baseline tumor measurements. 4 TRK fusion patients not shown due to having non-measurable disease (n=2) or no disease assessments yet/continuing treatment (n=2). #Pathologic CR



**Baseline**



**Start of Cycle  
3**

2 yo girl with infantile fibrosarcoma  
2 cycles of vincristine/ actinomycin-  
D/ cyclophosphamide →  
progression → amputation was only  
alternative

---

4 cycles larotrectinib → PR →  
referred for surgery

Pathologic complete response with  
clear margins (R0 resection); >98%  
necrosis

No functional deficit post-surgery

Off larotrectinib x 18 months and  
no evidence of disease

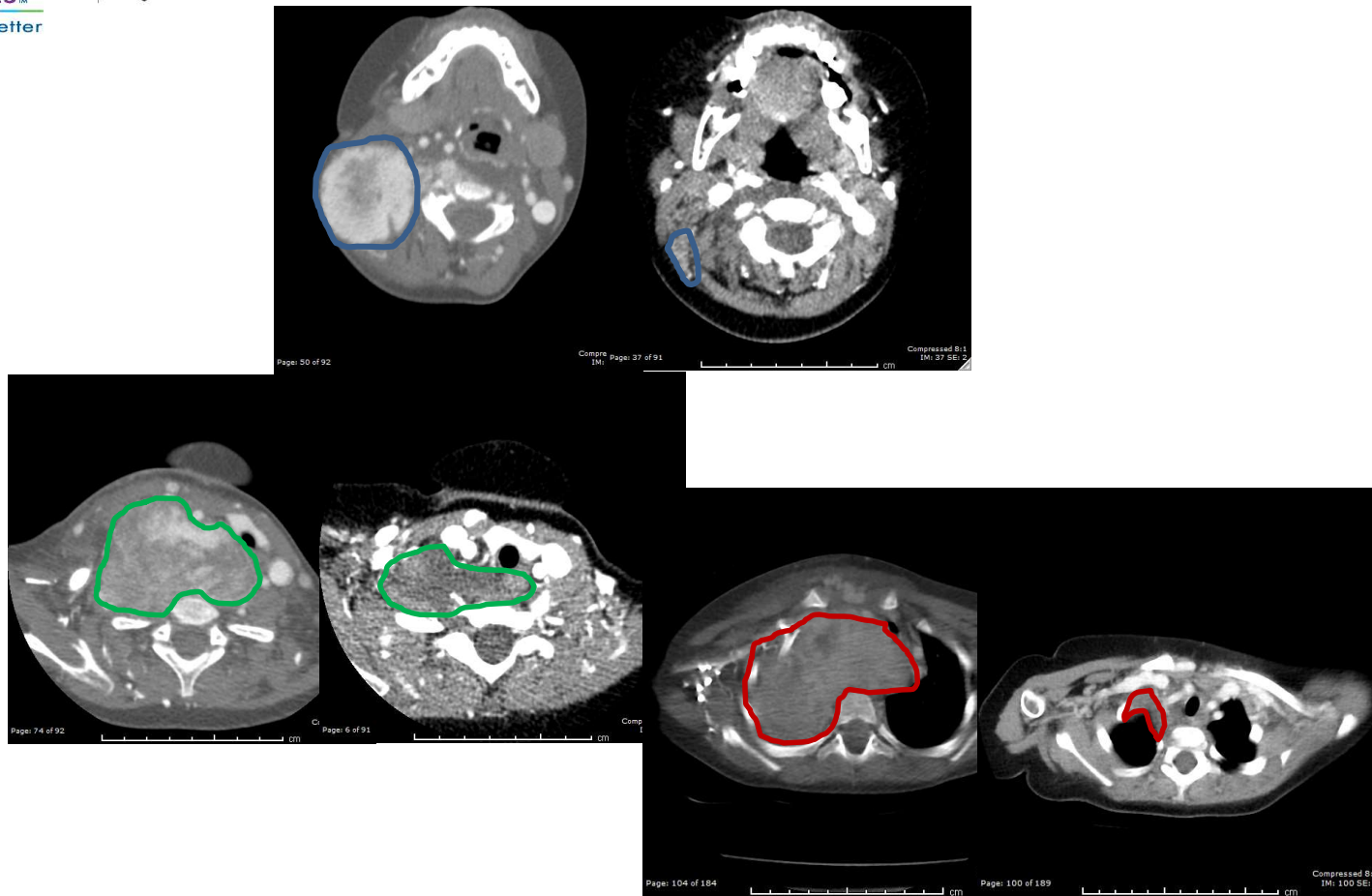
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Efficacy of Larotrectinib in *TRK* Fusion–Positive Cancers in Adults and Children

A. Drilon, T.W. Laetsch, S. Kummar, S.G. DuBois, U.N. Lassen, G.D. Demetri, M. Nathenson, R.C. Doebele, A.F. Farago, A.S. Pappo, B. Turpin, A. Dowlati, M.S. Brose, L. Mascarenhas, N. Federman, J. Berlin, W.S. El-Deiry, C. Baik, J. Deeken, V. Boni, R. Nagasubramanian, M. Taylor, E.R. Rudzinski, F. Meric-Bernstam, D.P.S. Sohal, P.C. Ma, L.E. Raez, J.F. Hechtman, R. Benayed, M. Ladanyi, B.B. Tuch, K. Ebata, S. Cruickshank, N.C. Ku, M.C. Cox, D.S. Hawkins, D.S. Hong, and D.M. Hyman

### Larotrectinib for paediatric solid tumours harbouring *NTRK* gene fusions: phase 1 results from a multicentre, open-label, phase 1/2 study

*Theodore W Laetsch\*, Steven G DuBois\*, Leo Mascarenhas, Brian Turpin, Noah Federman, Catherine M Albert, Ramamoorthy Nagasubramanian, Jessica L Davis, Erin Rudzinski, Angela M Feraco, Brian B Tuch, Kevin T Ebata, Mark Reynolds, Steven Smith, Scott Cruickshank, Michael C Cox, Alberto S Pappo\*, Douglas S Hawkins\**



# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

## New Cancer Drugs Aim to Offer Alternatives To Chemo



Michelle shows a hang nail to Dr. Leo Mascarenhas, deputy director of the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases at CHLA and one of Michelle's doctors. Dr. Mascarenhas oversaw part of the clinical trial that Michelle is in.

## **PEDIATRIC SARCOMAS**

- 1. Are there patients where we can limit morbidity?**
- 2. How do we pick which drug to study?**
- 3. In which group of patients can we study them most efficiently?**
- 4. What is the best method to study them?**
- 5. What about tumor heterogeneity?**



