

# Neoadjuvant Therapy in Lung Cancer

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*#MelanomaNeoadjuvant*

# Disclosures

- Advisory Board/Consultant – AstraZeneca, BMS
- Steering Committee for Clinical Trials – AstraZeneca, BMS, Janssen
- Research funding (to institution) – AstraZeneca, BMS, Corvus, Kyowa, Novartis,
- Investigational use of drugs will be discussed in context of ongoing research studies

# Cresting Wave

## Perioperative IO in Lung Cancer

- Ct.gov search for PD-(L)1 drug names and “surgery”
  - total of 302 actively recruiting perioperative IO trials across tumor types
  - 162/302 involve neoadjuvant anti-PD-(L)1
  - 56 neoadjuvant anti-PD-(L)1 NSCLC trials on [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)



# Current approach & prognosis for potentially resectable NSCLC

Stage	TNM	Treatment	5 Year OS
Stage IA/B	T1-2N0M0	Sx vs SBRT	77-92%
Stage IIA/B	T1-2N1M0 T3N0M0	CTx => Sx Sx => CTx	53-60%
Stage IIIA	T3N1M0 T4N1-0M0 T1-3N2M0	CRT vs CRT + Sx vs CTx + Sx vs Sx + CTx vs Sx vs CRT??????	36%
Stage IIIB	T1-3N3M0 T4N2-3M0	CRT	13-26%

# Perioperative therapy in NSCLC Historic Perspective - Adjuvant

## Meta-analysis: Lung Adjuvant Cisplatin Evaluation (LACE)

5 studies since 1995

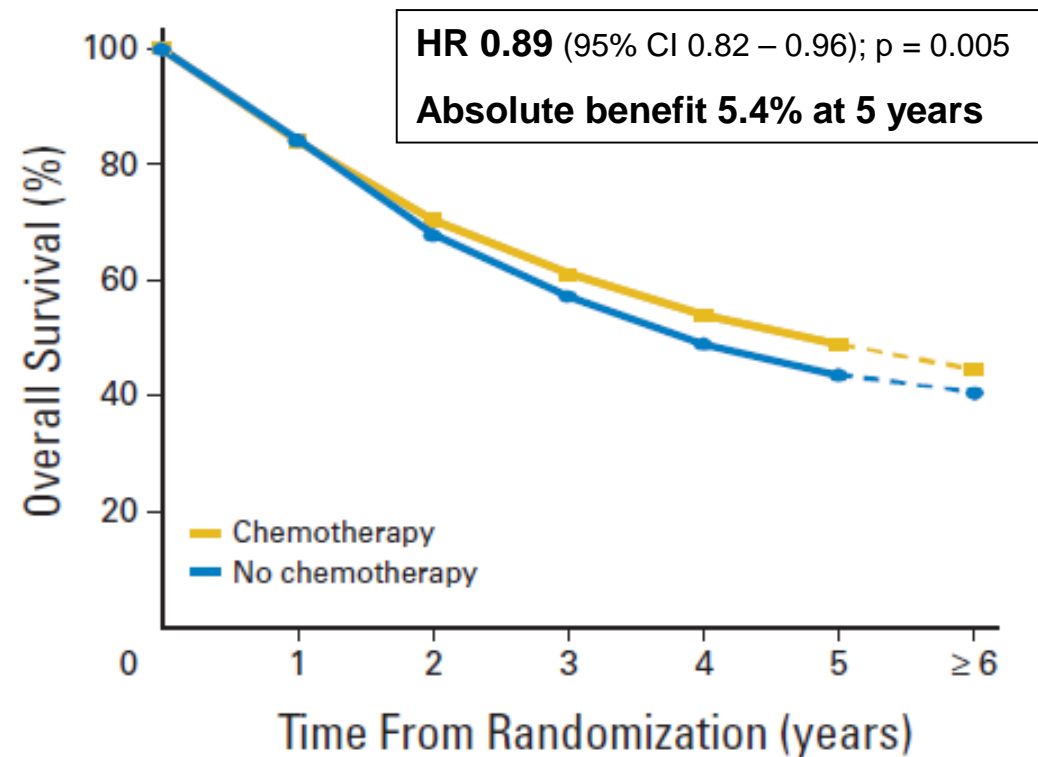
- BLT, ALPI, IALT, JBR.10, ANITA

Pooled individual data

- 4585 patients

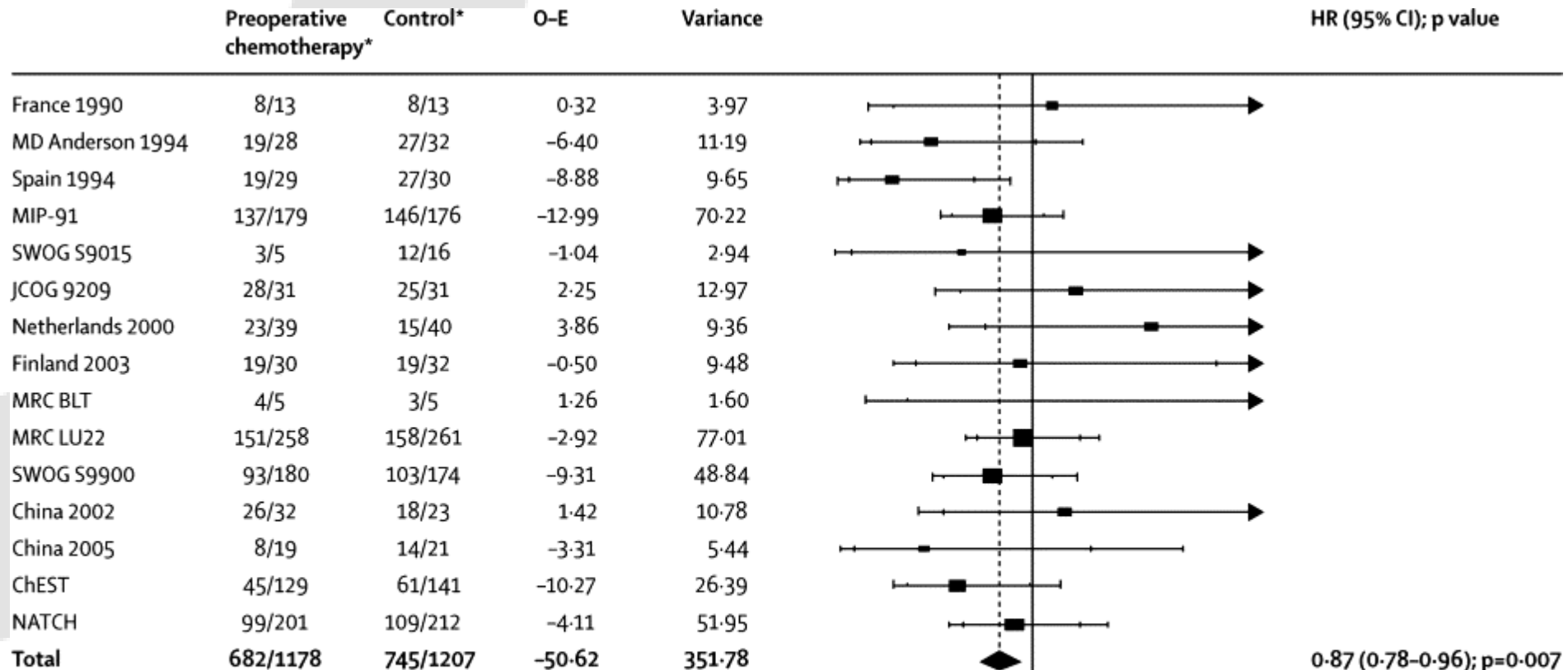
Chemotherapy

- ↓6.9% lung CA death
- ↑1.4% non-CA death



# Perioperative therapy in NSCLC

## Historic Perspective - Neoadjuvant



### Overall HR

0.87 (0.78-0.96). p=0.007 (fixed effect)

0.86 (0.75-0.98), p=0.03 (random effects)

Heterogeneity:  $\chi^2=18.75$ , df=14, p=0.18,  $I^2=25\%$

# Drug Development in Lung Cancer

- IO & targeted therapy drug development mandates a new paradigm for resectable NSCLC
  - hundreds of candidate agents in development
  - timeline from phase 1 to 3 has shortened to 2-3 yrs
  - potential read out within 5 years of FIH study
- 2016-2019 - New FDA approved indications in advanced NSCLC

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**27**

- 2004-2019 – New systemic therapies for resectable NSCLC

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# Current Approaches, Opportunities and Barriers

- In United States – approximately 50:50 split between neoadjuvant chemotherapy and chemoradiation for stage IIIA NSCLC
- Growing interest in neoadjuvant IO – educational sessions at all national thoracic surgery meetings in 2019
- Nearly all patients seen first by surgeons
  - incentive to resect + some concerns about progression

# Limitations of Adjuvant Therapy Trials Lung Cancer

- Median time from enrollment of first patient to publication of study results for phase 3 adjuvant NSCLC studies (1990-2016)

**11 years**

- Absence of significant correlative science that may help enrich for benefit
  - given patient population, toxicity of chemotherapy, and modest benefit to date

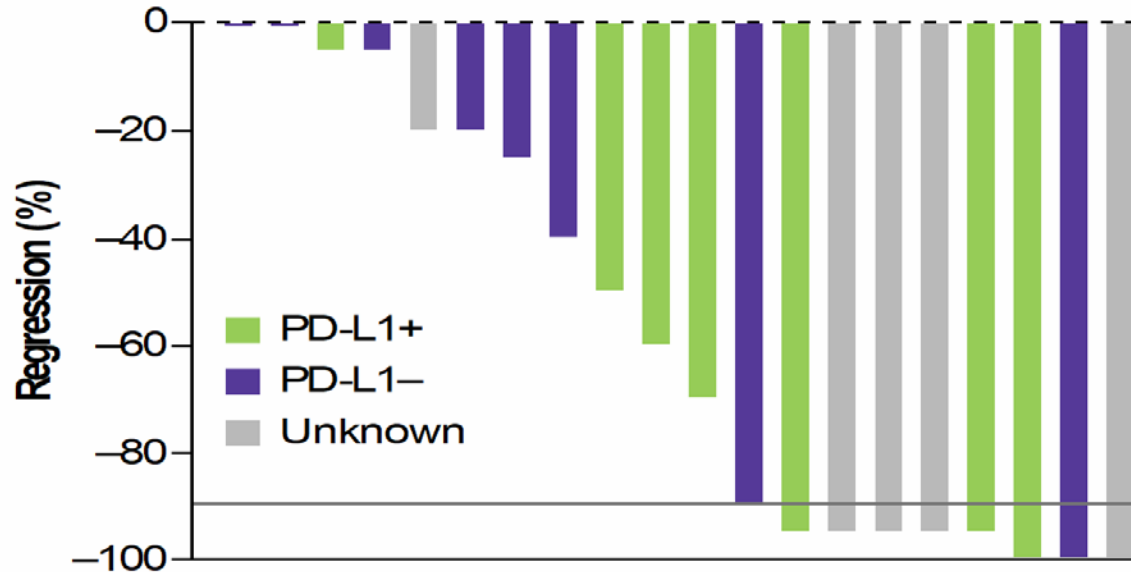
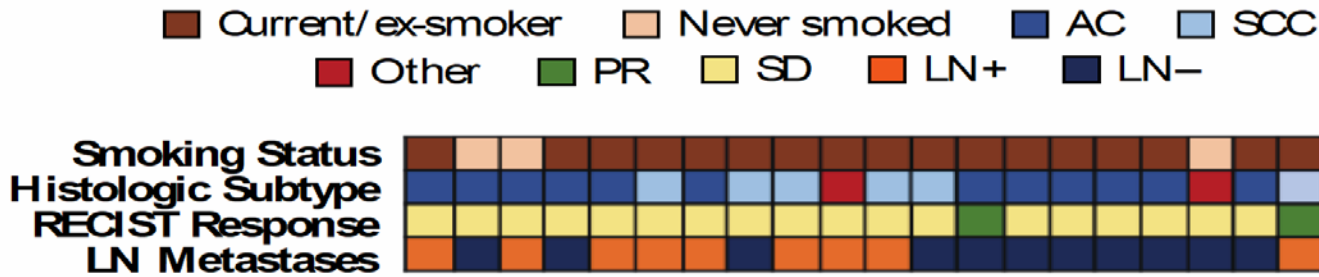
# Endpoints for Neoadjuvant Studies

- DFS and OS are long term endpoints for early stage lung cancer trials and take years to mature
- Surrogate endpoints such as pathologic complete response (pCR) are used for breast cancer neoadjuvant studies; pCR historically has been rare after neoadjuvant chemo for lung cancer
- Major pathologic response (MPR;  $\leq 10\%$  residual viable tumor cells in the primary) occurs  $\sim 20\%$  after neoadjuvant chemotherapy and may predict DFS<sup>1</sup>

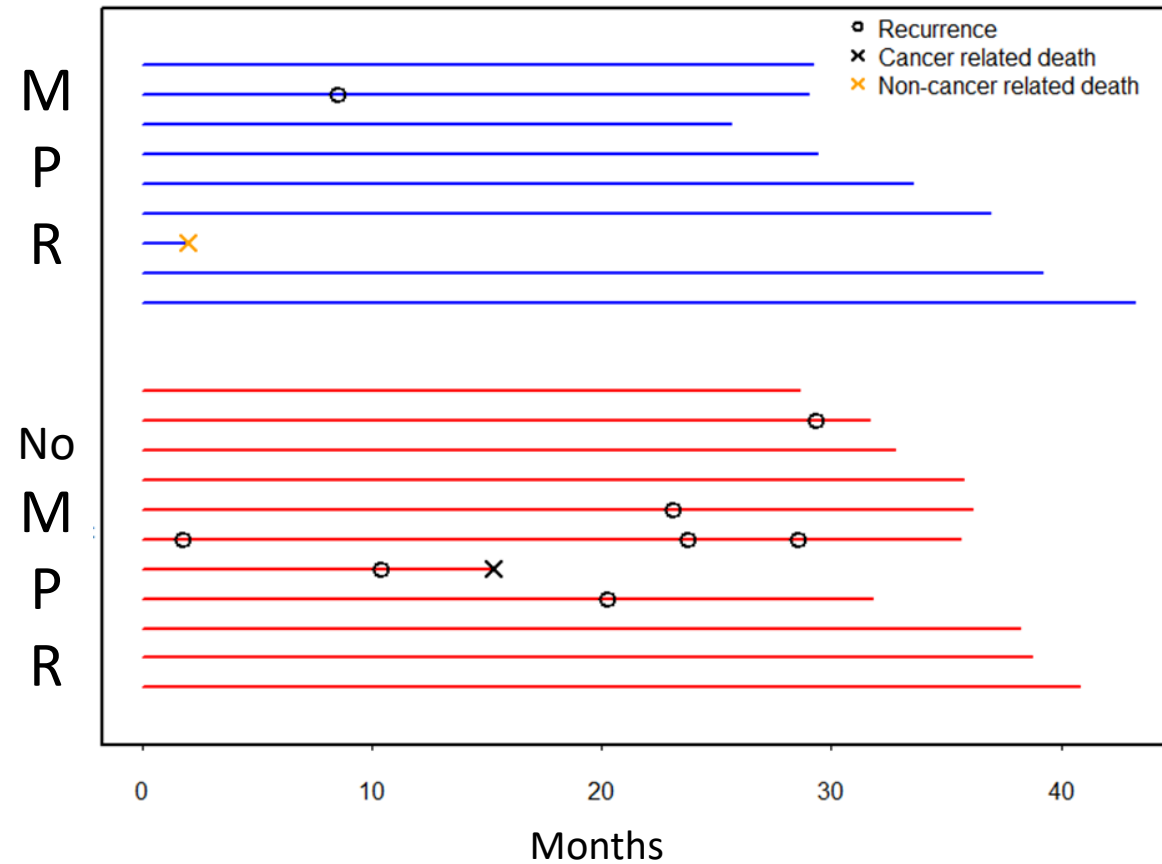
Percentage of residual viable tumor following neo-adjuvant chemotherapy	Hazard Ratio for death
1-10%	1.00
11-30%	2.51 (95% CI 0.91-6.96)
31-50%	3.39 (95% CI 1.40-8.22)
51-70%	4.57 (95% CI 1.98-10.52)
71-100%	4.78 (95% CI 2.06-11.11)

# Initial Experience with Neoadjuvant PD-1 Blockade

Percentage of Pathological Regression, According to Subgroup

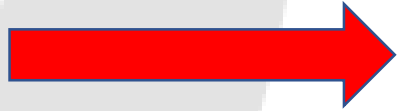


Longer Term Follow Up

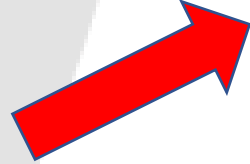


# Opportunities for interdisciplinary correlative science

**ANNALS OF  
ONCOLOGY**



**Immune-related pathologic response criteria**  
- Cottrell, Taube et al.



**Clinical Cancer Research**



**Compartmental analysis of T cell repertoire**  
- Zhang, Smith et al.



**Dynamics of ctDNA during neoadjuvant therapy**  
- Anagnostou, Forde et al.



**Surgical outcomes after neoadjuvant PD-1 blockade**  
- Broderick, Bott et al.



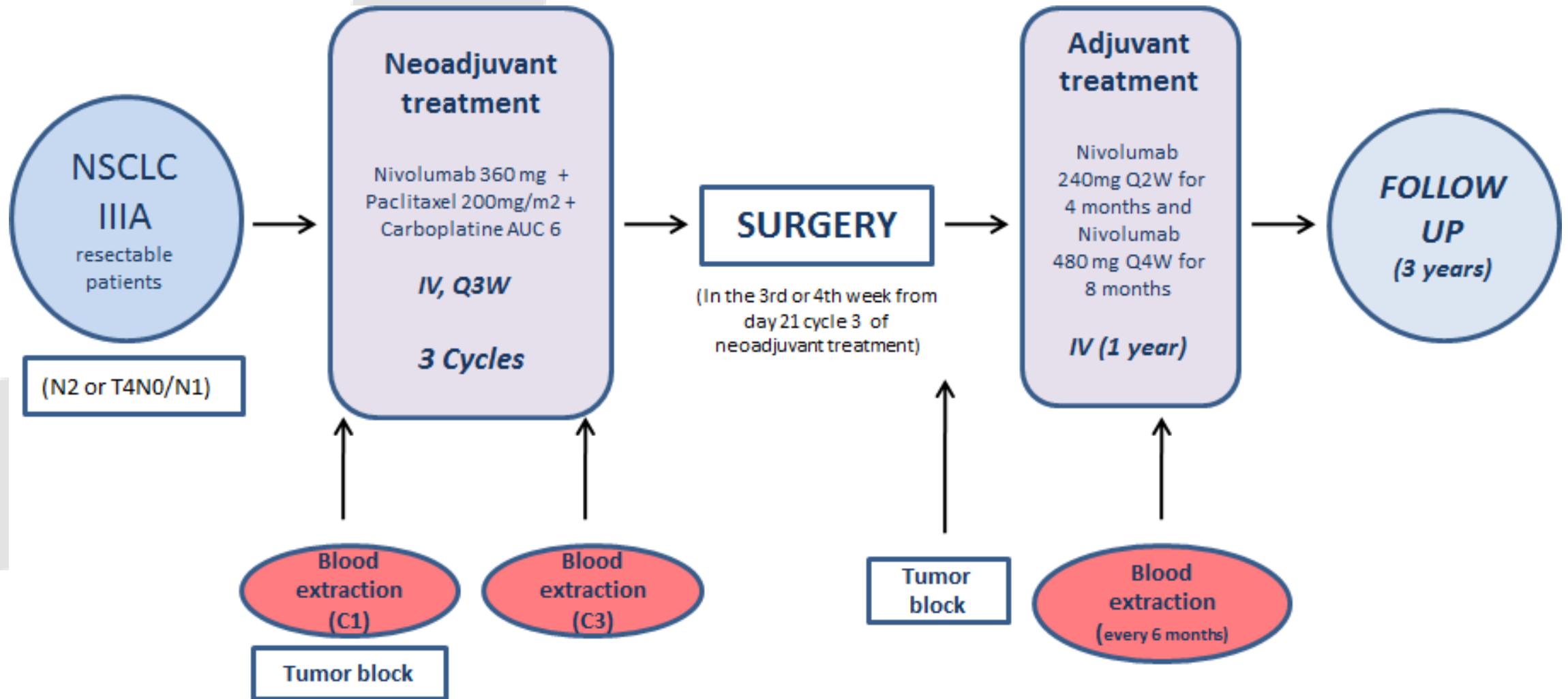
# Neoadjuvant PD(L)1 is safe & feasible with encouraging MPR rates

Study (phase)	No. Patients	Therapy	No. Cycles	MPR rate	MPR association with RECIST	MPR association with TMB	MPR association with PD-L1
JHH/MSKCC (Ib/II)	22	Nivolumab	2	45% (9/20)	No	Yes	No
NEOSTAR (II)	44	Nivolumab & Nivo/Ipi	3	19% (4/21)*	Yes	---	Yes
LCMC3 (II)	101	Atezolizumab	2	19% (15/77)	Yes	No	No

MPR rate: 23.7% (28/118)

MPR with neoadjuvant chemotherapy ~20%

# NADIM - Neoadjuvant Chemo-Nivolumab



Pathologic Complete  
Response of 61% vs. historic  
control with neoadjuvant  
chemo of ~5%

NSC  
IIIA  
resectable  
patients

(N2 or T4N0/N)

Tumor block

Blood extraction (C3)

Tumor block

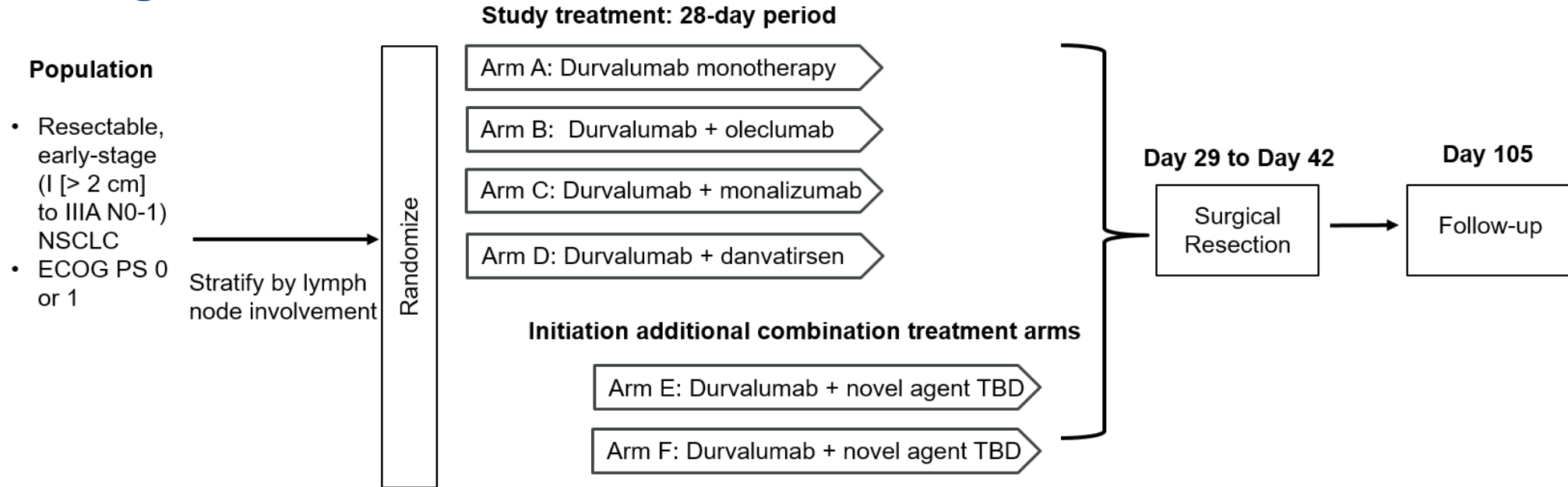
Blood extraction (every 6 months)

FOLLOW UP (3 years)

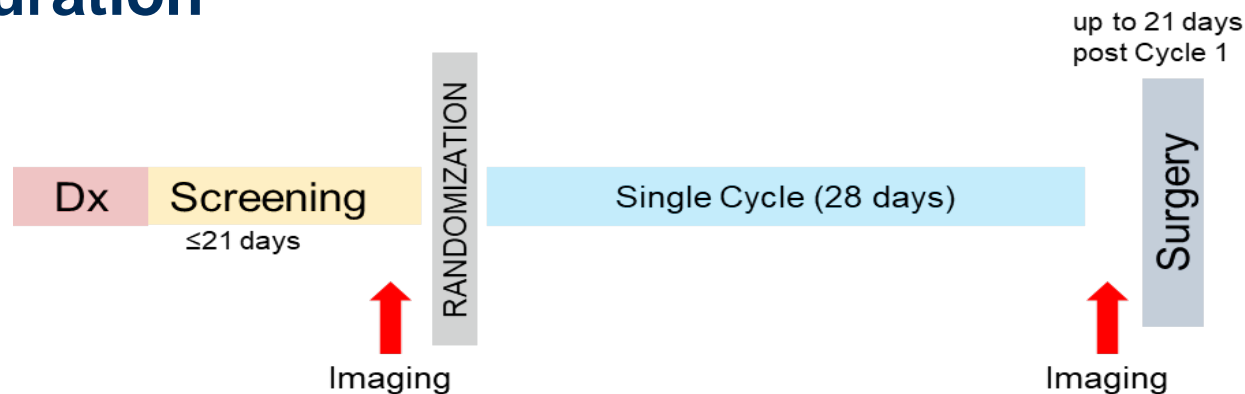


# Novel Designs – Platform Neoadjuvant Studies: NeoCOAST

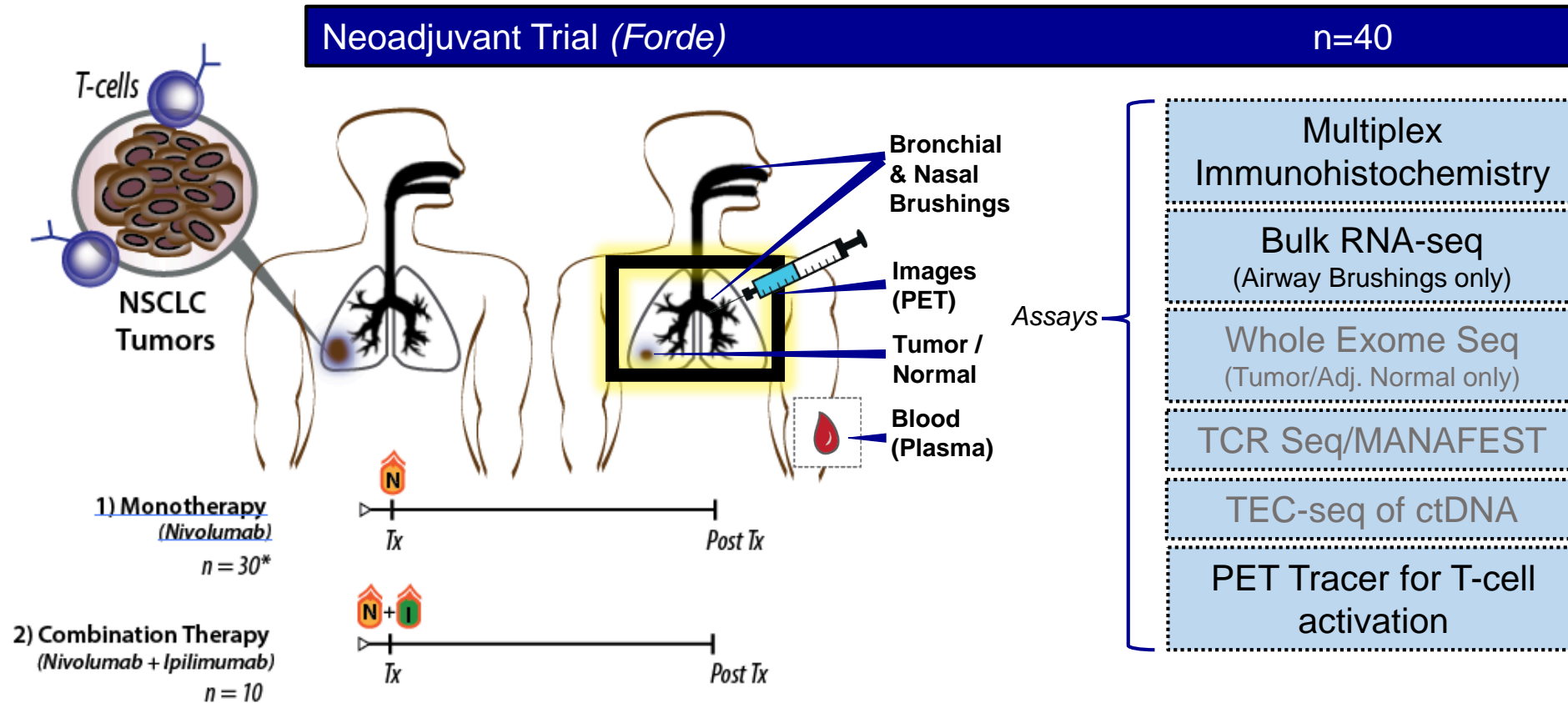
## Study Design



## Study Period Duration



# Study Design: Predicting Therapeutic Response to Immunotherapy



**Deliverable:** Discover cellular, molecular and imaging features that distinguish patients who respond to neoadjuvant nivolumab +/- chemotherapy

## Conclusions

- Neoadjuvant IO-based trials
  - accelerate drug development
  - offer crucial insights to guide rationale combination therapy
- Platform studies offer the opportunity to rapidly evaluate pathologic response to novel combinations
- Buy in from multidisciplinary cancer care team is vital
  - surgeons, pulmonary, rad onc, med onc and patient advocates
- Enthusiasm is building in lung cancer community with initial phase 3 results expected in 2020