

# **Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma: Novel Genetic Signatures and Therapeutic Targets**

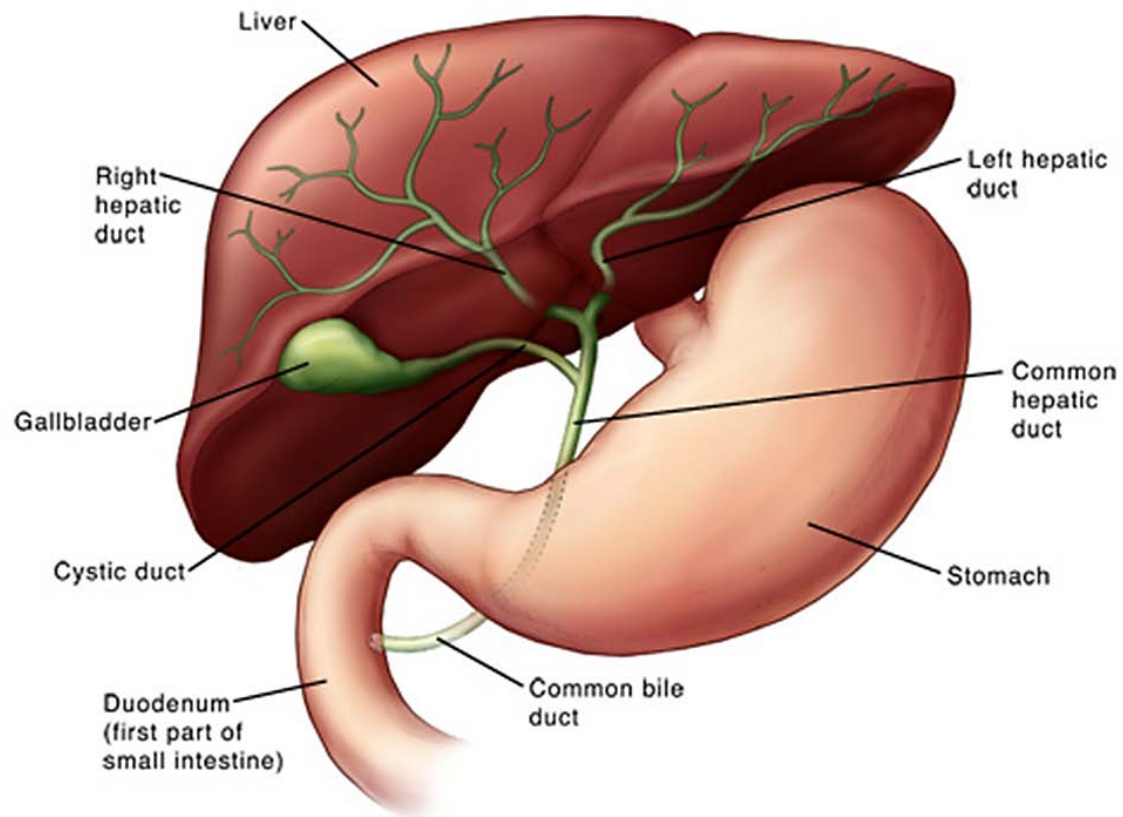
**Andrew X. Zhu, MD, PhD**

**2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Phase 1 and  
Early Phase Clinical Trials, Hong Kong**

# Discussion Points

- Epidemiology trends
- Diagnostic challenge
- Current standard treatment options
- New insights on the genetic landscape
- Evolving novel targets
- Future perspectives

# Biliary tract cancer | Subtypes



# Risk factors for Cholangiocarcinoma

## General

- Age > 65 yrs
- Obesity
- Diabetes

## Inflammatory diseases

- Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis
- Hepatolithiasis
- Biliary tract stone disease
- Biliary-enteric anastomosis
- Liver cirrhosis

## Congenital

- Choledochal cysts
- Caroli's disease
- Congenital hepatic fibrosis

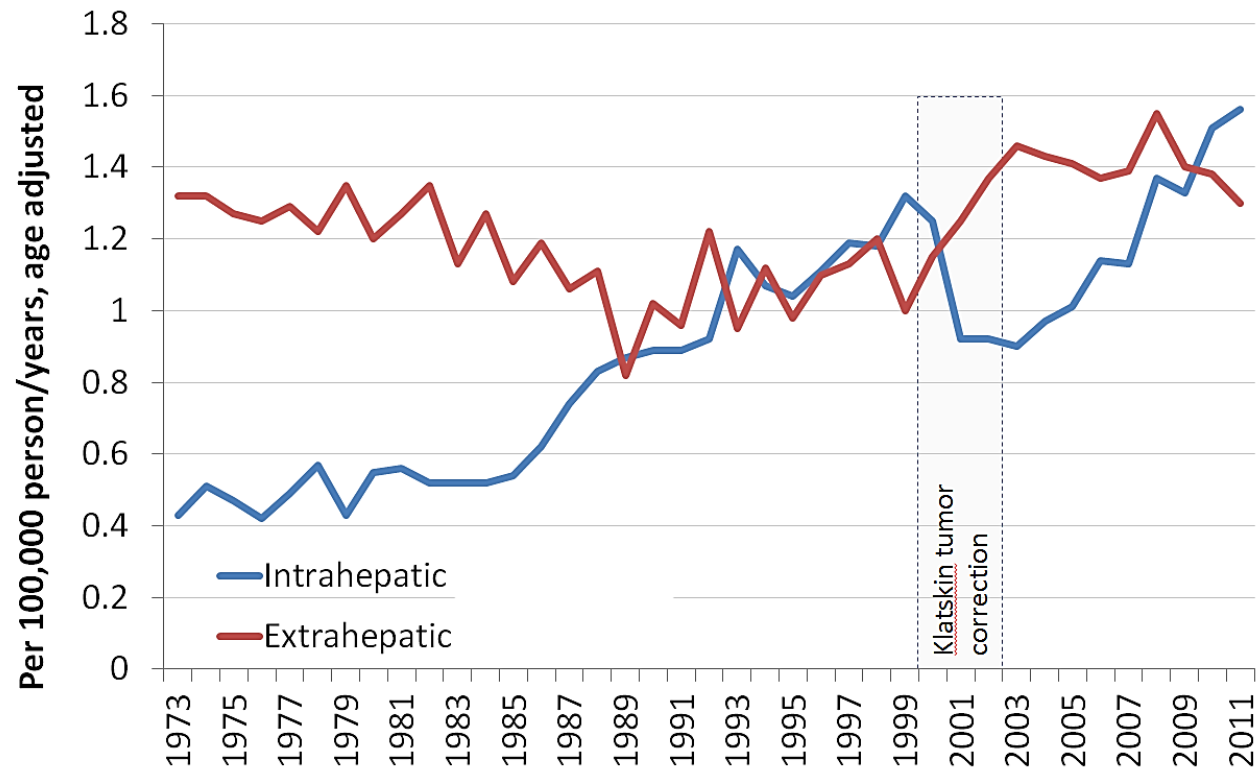
## Infectious diseases

- *Opisthorchis viverrini* (liver flukes)
- *Clonorchis sinensis* (liver flukes)
- Hepatitis C
- Hepatitis B
- HIV

## Drugs, toxins or chemicals

- Alcohol
- Smoking
- Thorotrast (1920-1950, x300-fold)
- Dioxin
- Vinyl chloride
- Nitrosamines
- Asbestos
- Oral Contraceptive Pill
- Isoniazid

# Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (ICC): Rising incidence



Saha, Zhu, Fuchs, Brooks, SEER 9 data, unpublished

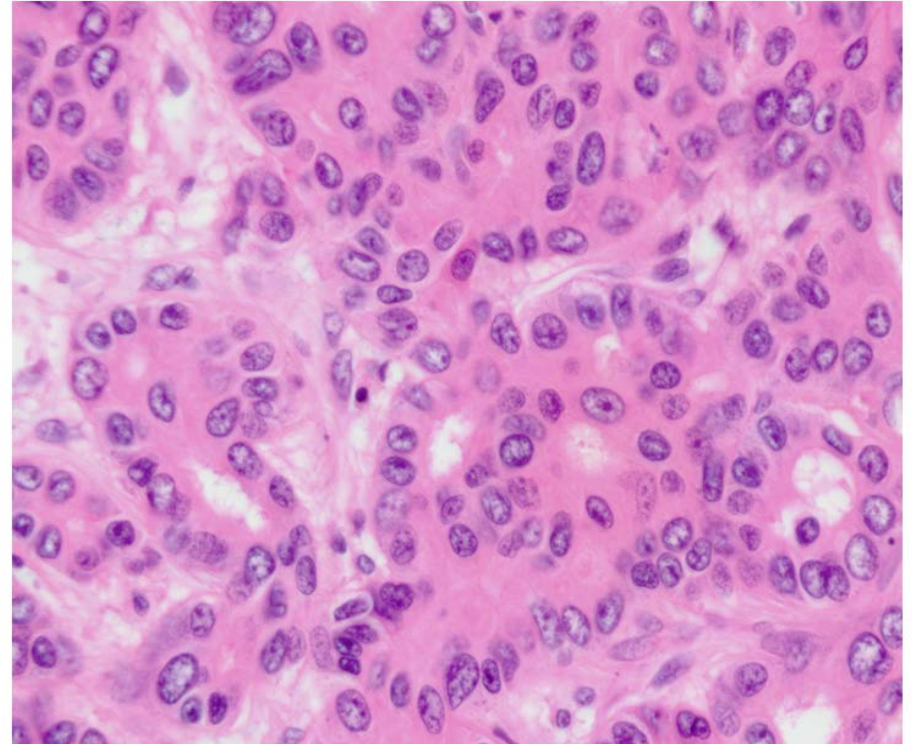
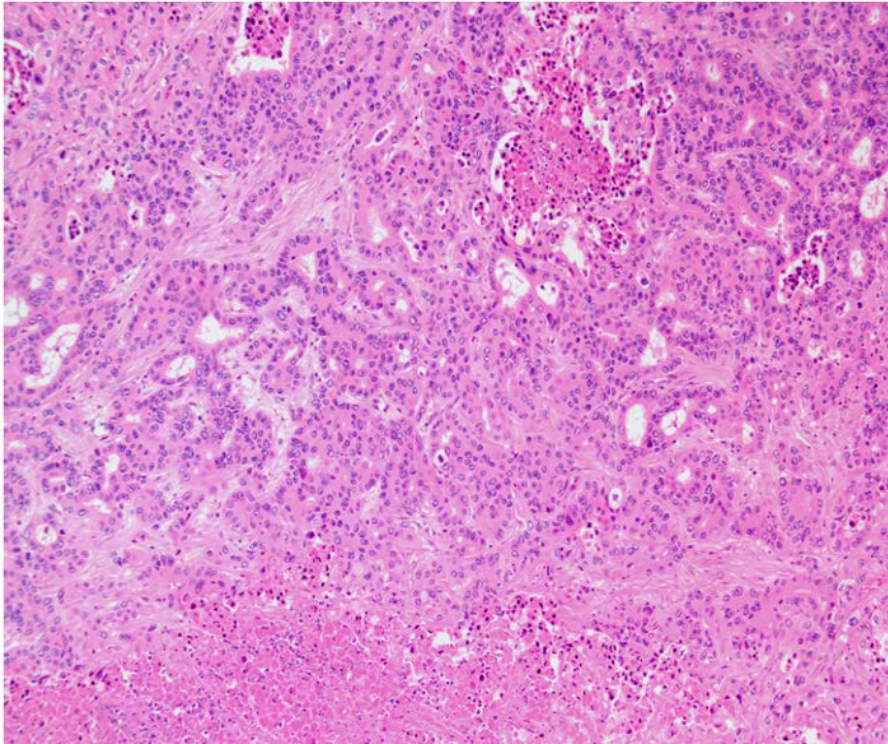
## **Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma: Most common cause of carcinoma of unknown primary**

<b>Predicted tissue of origin</b>	<b>Number of patients (n=253)</b>	<b>%</b>
Biliary tract (gallbladder, bile ducts)	52	21
Urothelium	31	12
Colorectum	28	11

# Cholangiocarcinoma

## IHC

CK7, CK19, CA19-9 positive, CEA diffusely positive in the cytoplasm, and CK20, CDX2 negative





# Novel Branched DNA-Enhanced Albumin RNA In Situ Hybridization Technology

**66 of 69 IHCCs (96%) were positive for albumin expression**

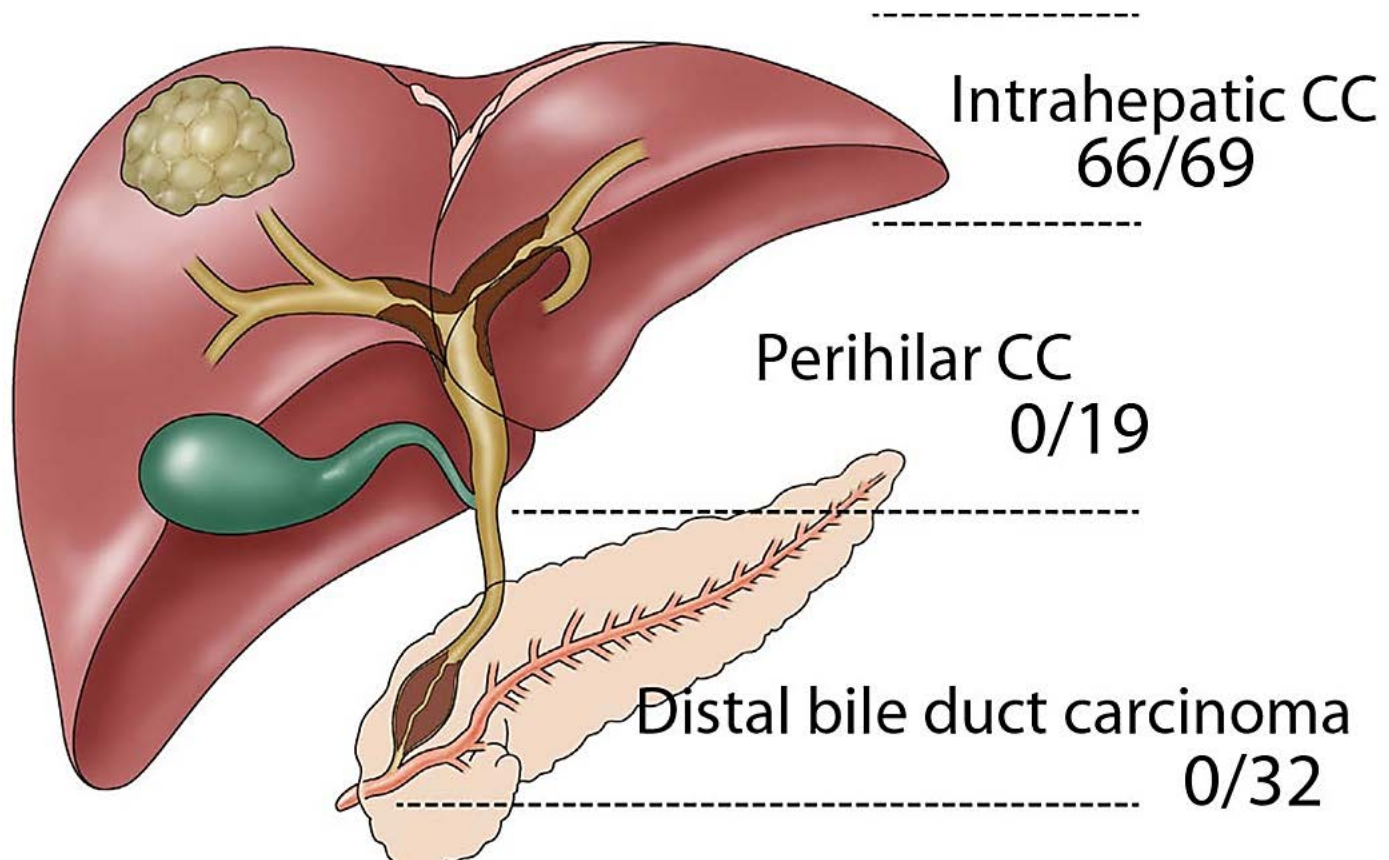
- 8 of 8 well-differentiated (100%)
- 41 of 43 moderately-differentiated (95%)
- 17 of 18 poorly-differentiated (94%)

**42 of 42 HCCs (100%) were positive for albumin expression**

**0 of 351 non-hepatic carcinomas were positive for albumin expression**

- This group included adenocarcinomas from the lung (N =22), esophagus (N =40), stomach (N =72), colon (N =40), gallbladder (N=10), pancreas (N =95), urogenital tract (N=8), ovary (N=8), and endometrium (N=8)
- Additionally, 22 carcinomas metastatic to the liver from known primary tumors of the colon, breast and lung were evaluated



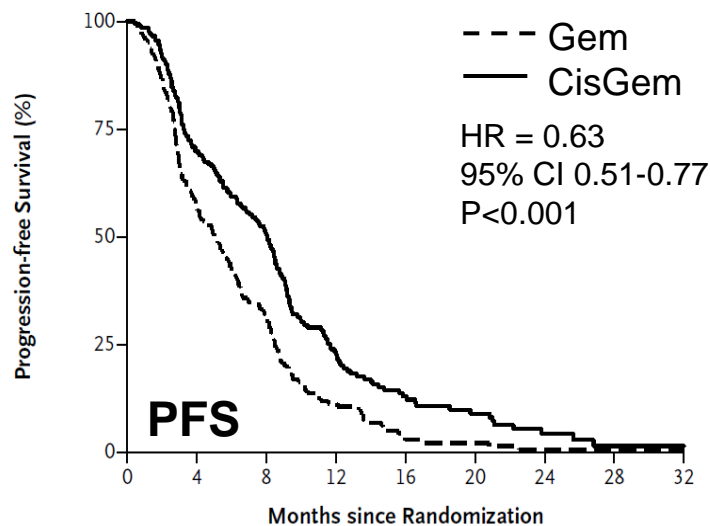


Courtesy of Dr. Vikram Deshpande

# Treatment of Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma

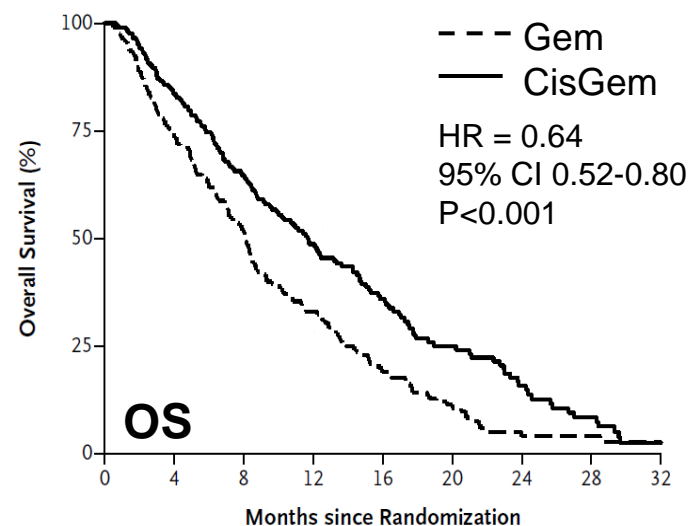
- Surgical resection: the only potentially curative regimen
- No definitive benefit for adjuvant chemo, radiation or chemoradiation therapy
- For unresectable cancer:
  - Decompression of obstructive biliary tree: important palliative regimen
  - Consideration of local-regional therapy
  - Systemic chemotherapy
  - Best supportive care

# Level 1 evidence: Cisplatin + gemcitabine



# at risk

Gem	206	115	56	18	4	3	1	1	1
CisGem	204	140	95	36	18	10	4	1	1



# at risk

Gem	206	151	97	53	28	15	4	3	2
CisGem	204	167	120	76	51	28	17	8	2

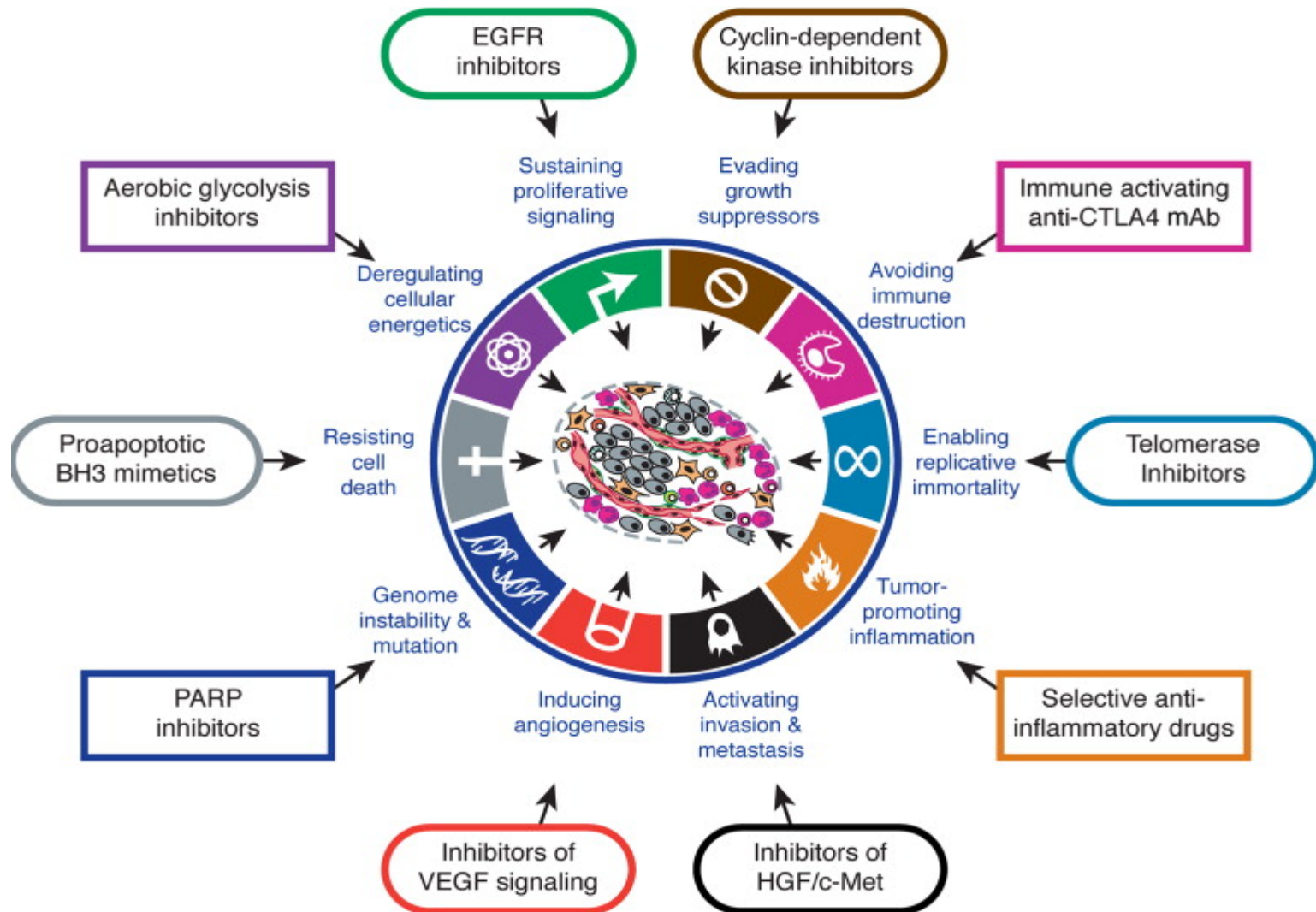
Study	Reference	PFS (months)		OS (months)	
		Gem	CisGem	Gem	CisGem
ABC-02	Valle <i>NEJM</i> 2010	5.0	8.0	8.1	<b>11.7</b>
BT-22	Okusaka <i>BJC</i> 2010	3.7	5.8	7.7	<b>11.2</b>

*Valle et al. NEJM 2010; Okusaka et al, Br J Cancer 2010*

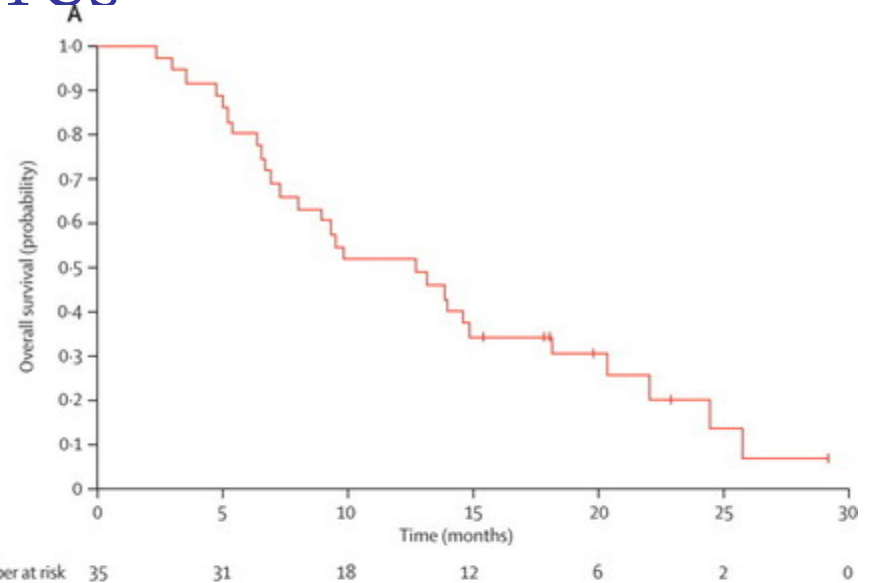
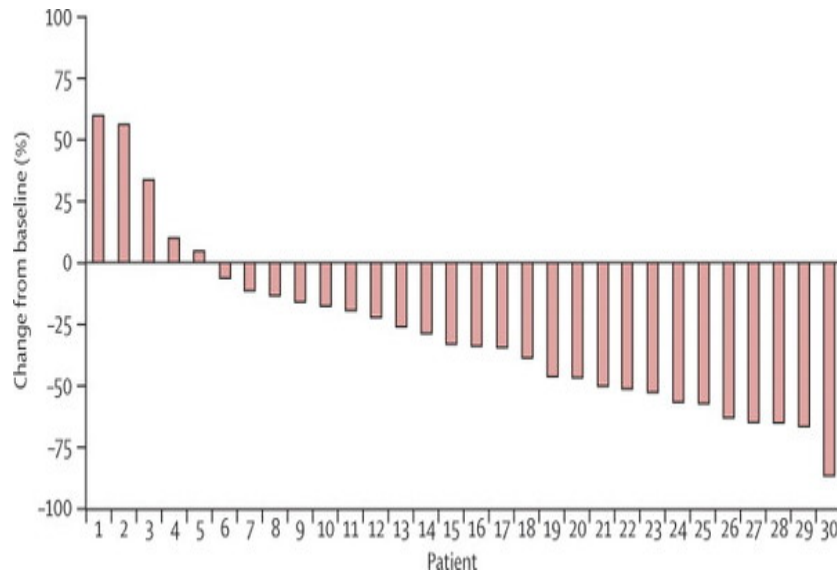
# Second Line Treatment for Advanced BTCs

- Large retrospective study from Princess Margaret Hospital: 378 received first line chemo and 96 (25%) received 2<sup>nd</sup> chemo
- RR and SD for 2<sup>nd</sup> line chemo: 9% and 34%, respectively
- PFS and OS for 2<sup>nd</sup> line chemo: 2.8 m and 7.5 m respectively

# Therapeutic Targeting of the Hallmarks of Cancer



# Phase II study with GEMOX–Bevacizumab in advanced BTCs

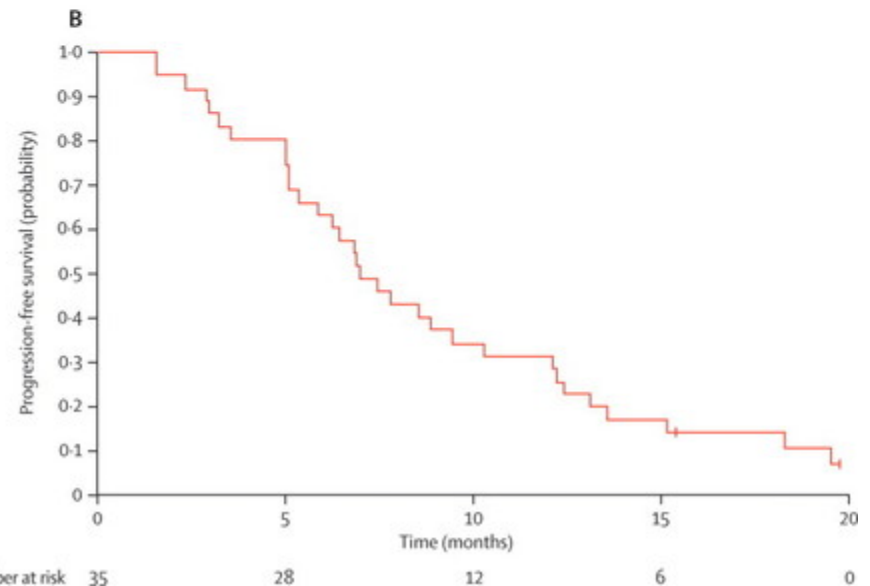


35 patients treated

RR: 40%, SD: 29%

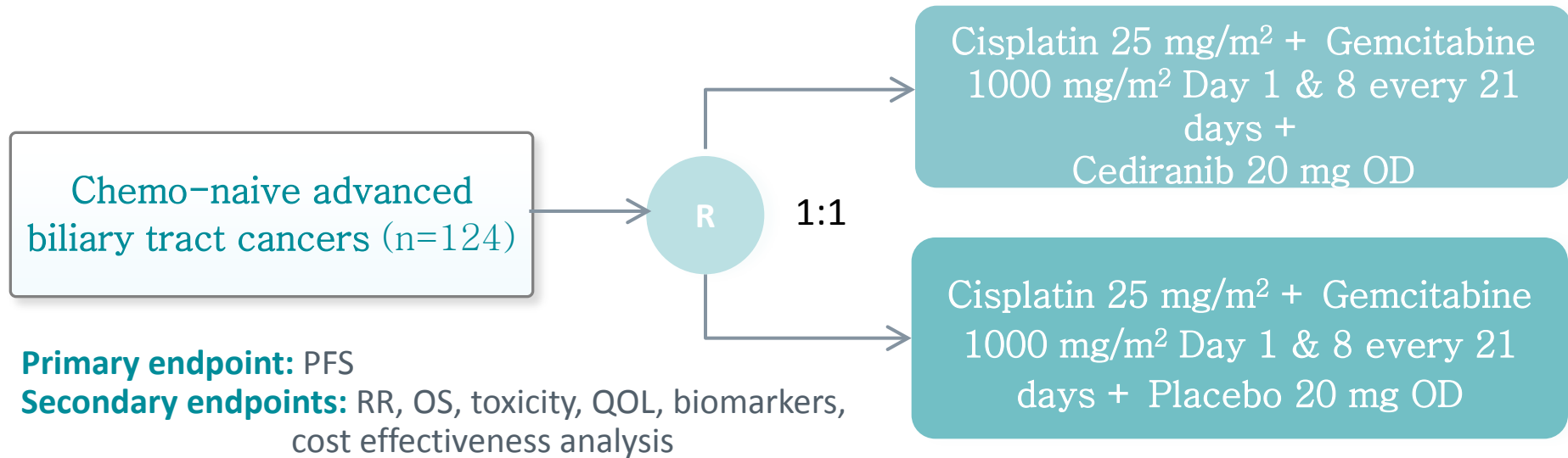
PFS: 7.0 months (95% CI, 5.3–10.3 months)

Median OS: 12.7 months (95% CI, 7.3–18.1 months)



Zhu et al, *Lancet Oncol*, 2010

# ABC-03: A randomized phase II trial of cediranib or placebo in combination with cisplatin/gemcitabine (CisGem) in advanced biliary tract cancer



Outcome	Gem/Cis + Cediranib (n=62)	Gem/Cis (n=62)	Hazard ratio (95% Ci)	p-value
PFS, mths	8	7.4	0.93 (0.65-1.35)	0.72
OS, mths	14.1	11.9	0.86 (0.58-1.27)	0.44
ORR, %	44	19		0.0036

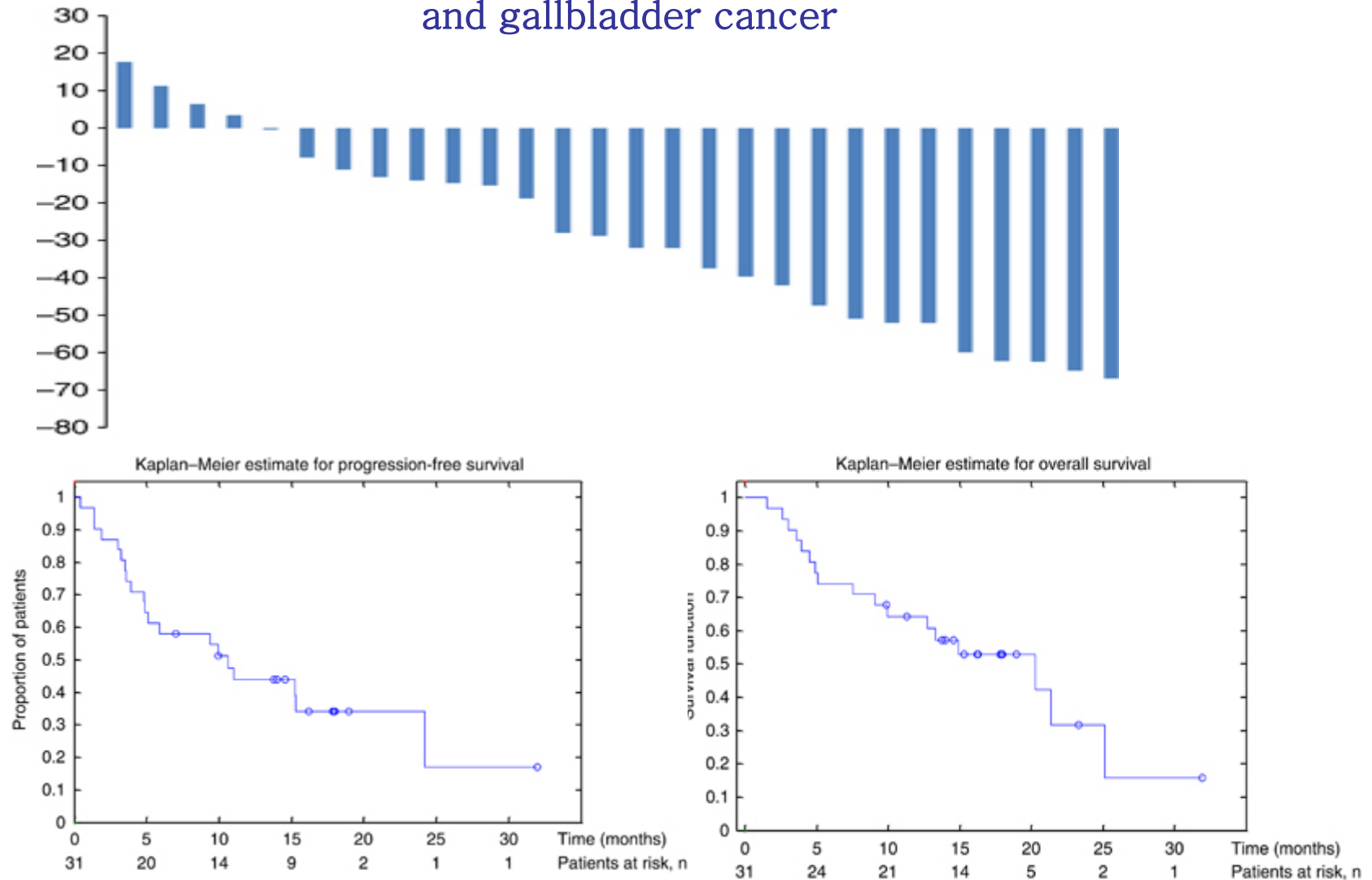


# EGFR inhibition: 3 negative randomized studies

Study	Regimens	Phase	RR (%)		Median PFS (months)		Median OS (months)	
			Chemo alone	With biological	Chemo alone	With biological	Chemo alone	With biological
Malka <sup>1</sup>	GemOx +/- cetuximab	2	23	23	5.5	6.1	12.4	11.0
Chen <sup>2</sup>	GemOx +/- cetuximab	2	15	27	4	7.1	8.8	10.3
Lee <sup>3</sup>	GemOx +/- erlotinib	3	16	30	4.2	5.8	9.5	9.5
ABC-02 <sup>4</sup>	CisGem (for reference)		26		8.0		11.7	

<sup>1</sup> Malka *Lancet Oncol* 2014, <sup>2</sup> Chen *J Clin Oncol* 2013, <sup>3</sup> Lee *Lancet Oncol* 2012, <sup>4</sup> Valle *NEJM* 2010

# Phase II study of gemcitabine, oxaliplatin in combination with panitumumab in KRAS wild-type unresectable or metastatic biliary tract and gallbladder cancer

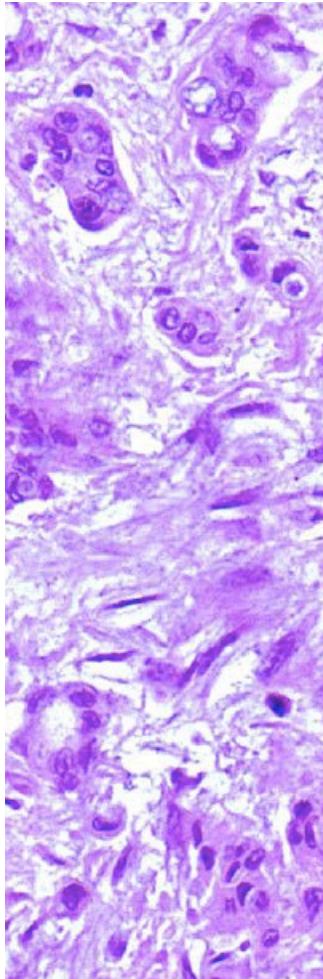


RR 45%, Median PFS 10.6m, Median OS 20.3m

# Phase II Study of Selumetinib in Metastatic BTCs

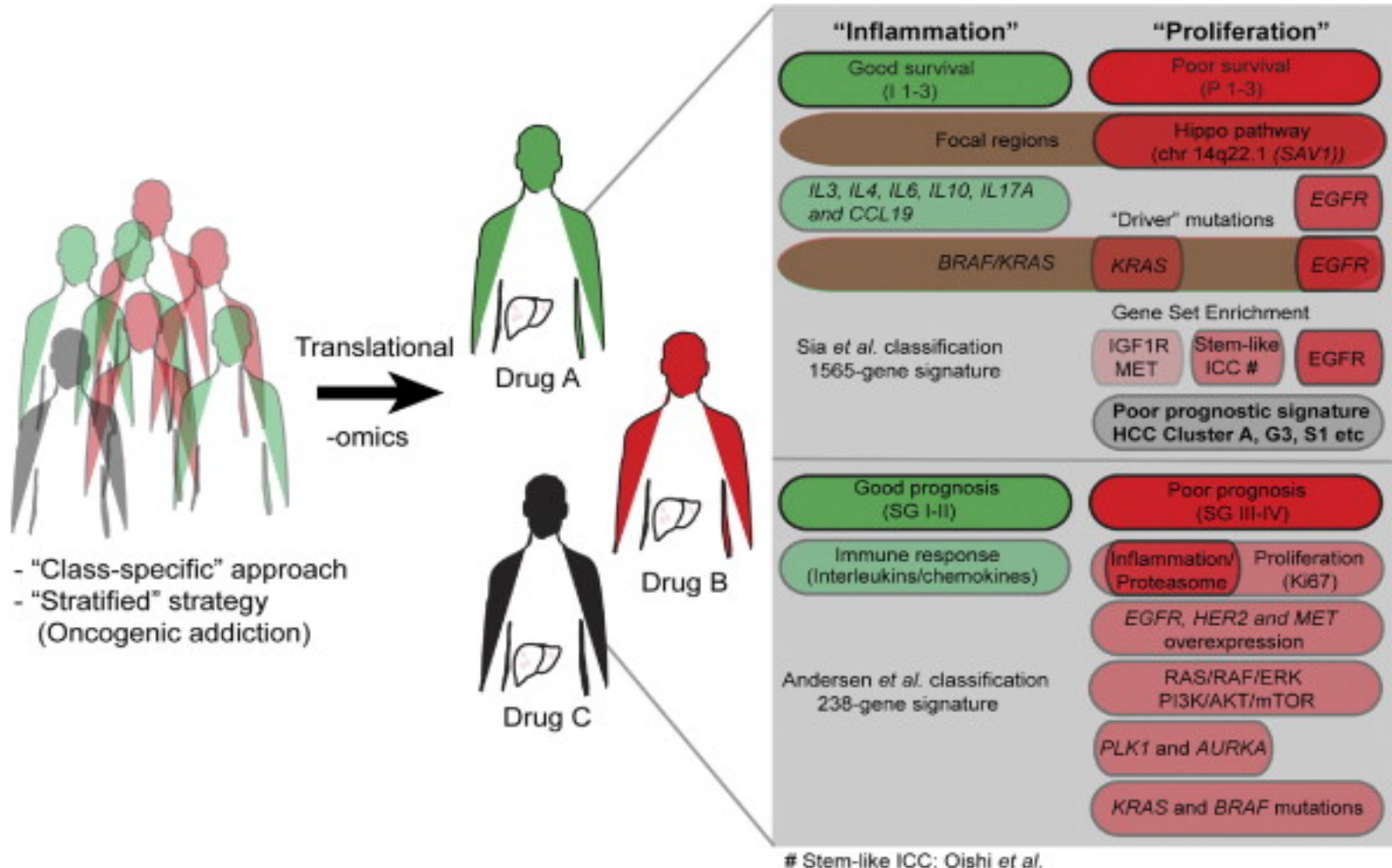
- 28 pts treated: 39% had one prior systemic chemo
- Clinical outcome: RR 12%, SD (67%), PFS 3.7 months, OS 9.8 months
- Rash (90%) and xerostomia (54%)
- No *BRAF* V600E mutations were found
- Absence of pERK staining was associated with lack of response

# Biliary Tract Cancer: Genetics



- KRAS ~ 20-40%
- EGFR ~5-20%
- HER2NEU ~10-20% GBC
- PI3K ~5-10%
- P16/INK4A ~40%
- P53 ~50%
- SMAD4 ~30%
- LKB1
- A wide spectrum of gross chromosomal abnormalities.

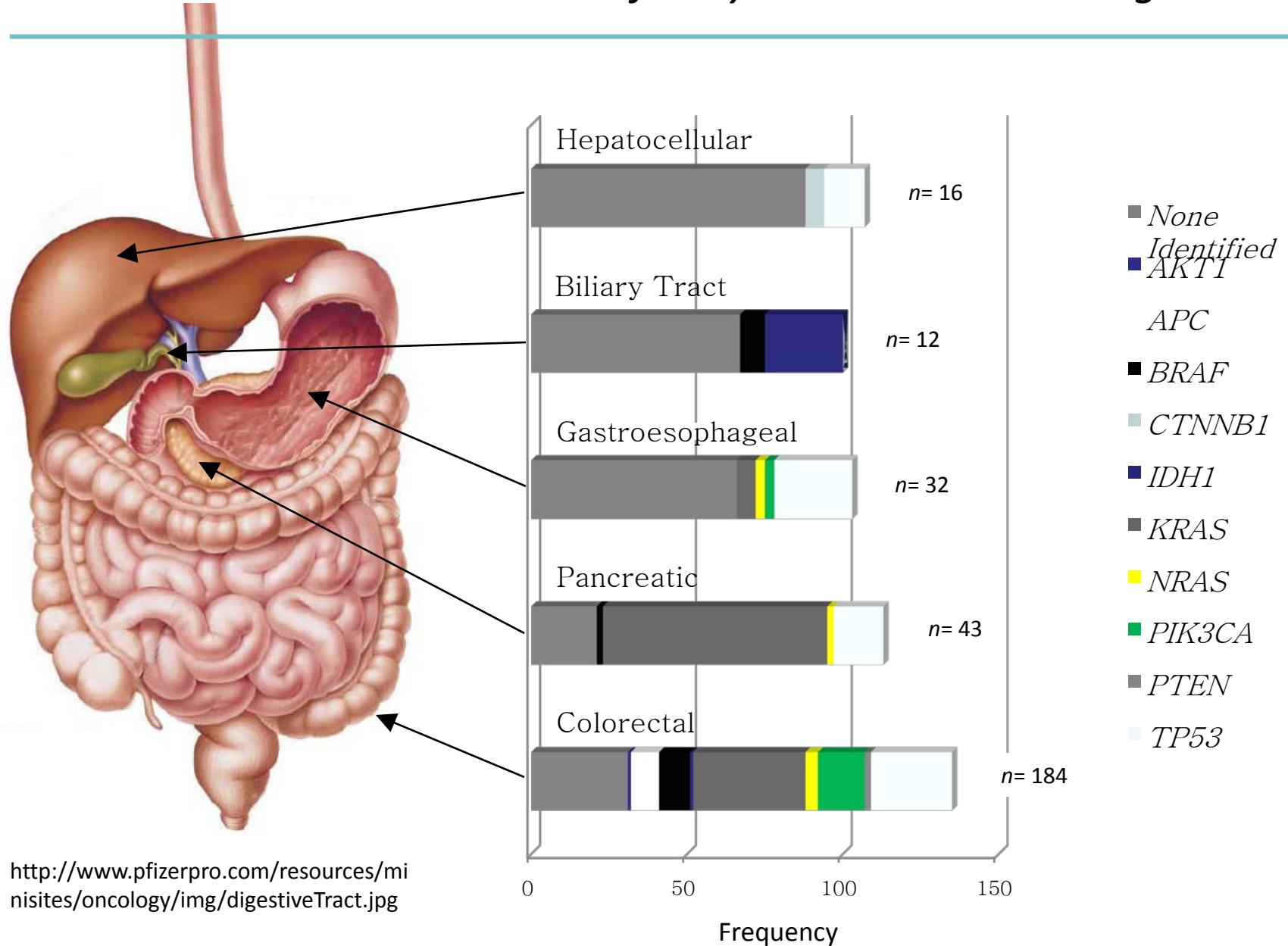
# Classification and characterization of intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma



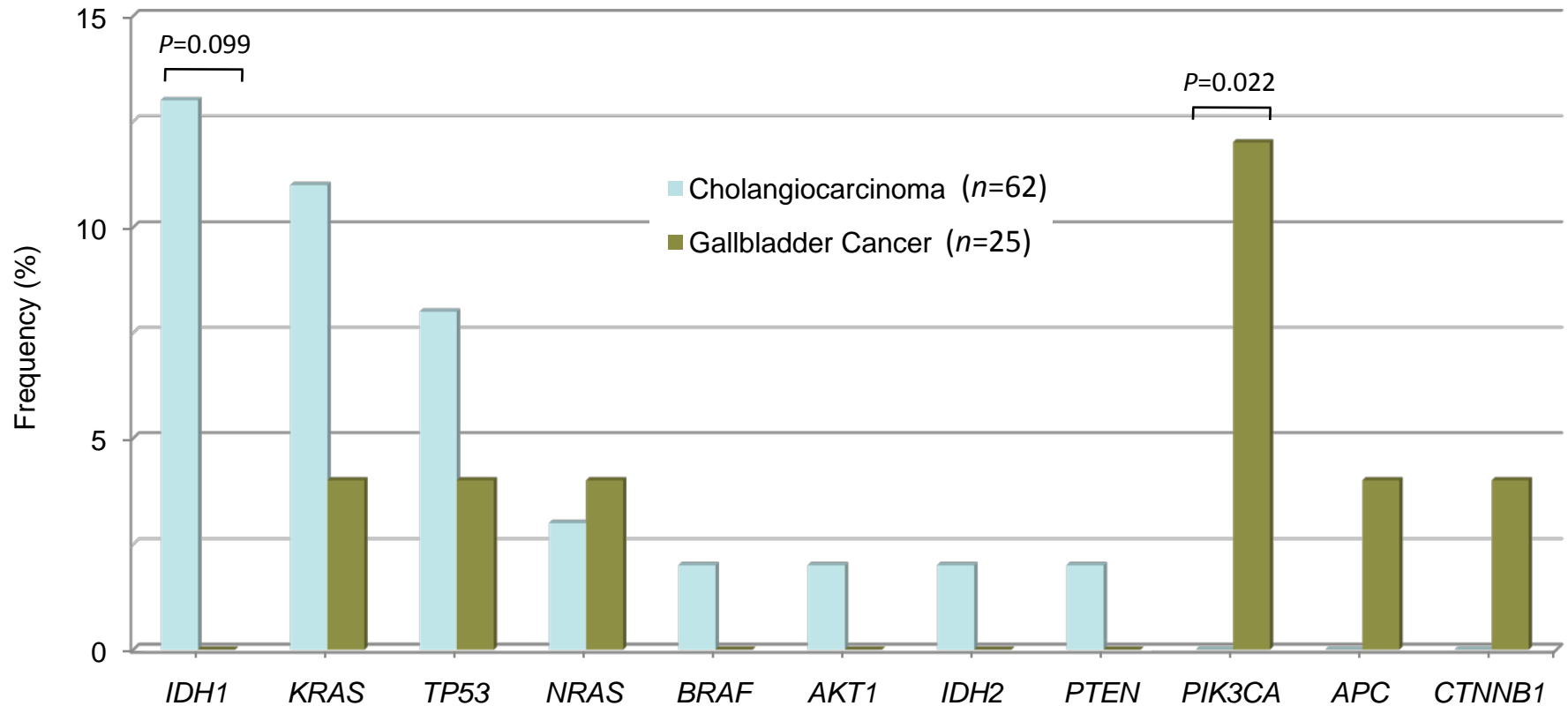
Anderson JB et al, Gastroenterology, 2012

Sia D et al, Gastroenterology, 2013

# SNaPshot Mutational Profile by Gastrointestinal Organ



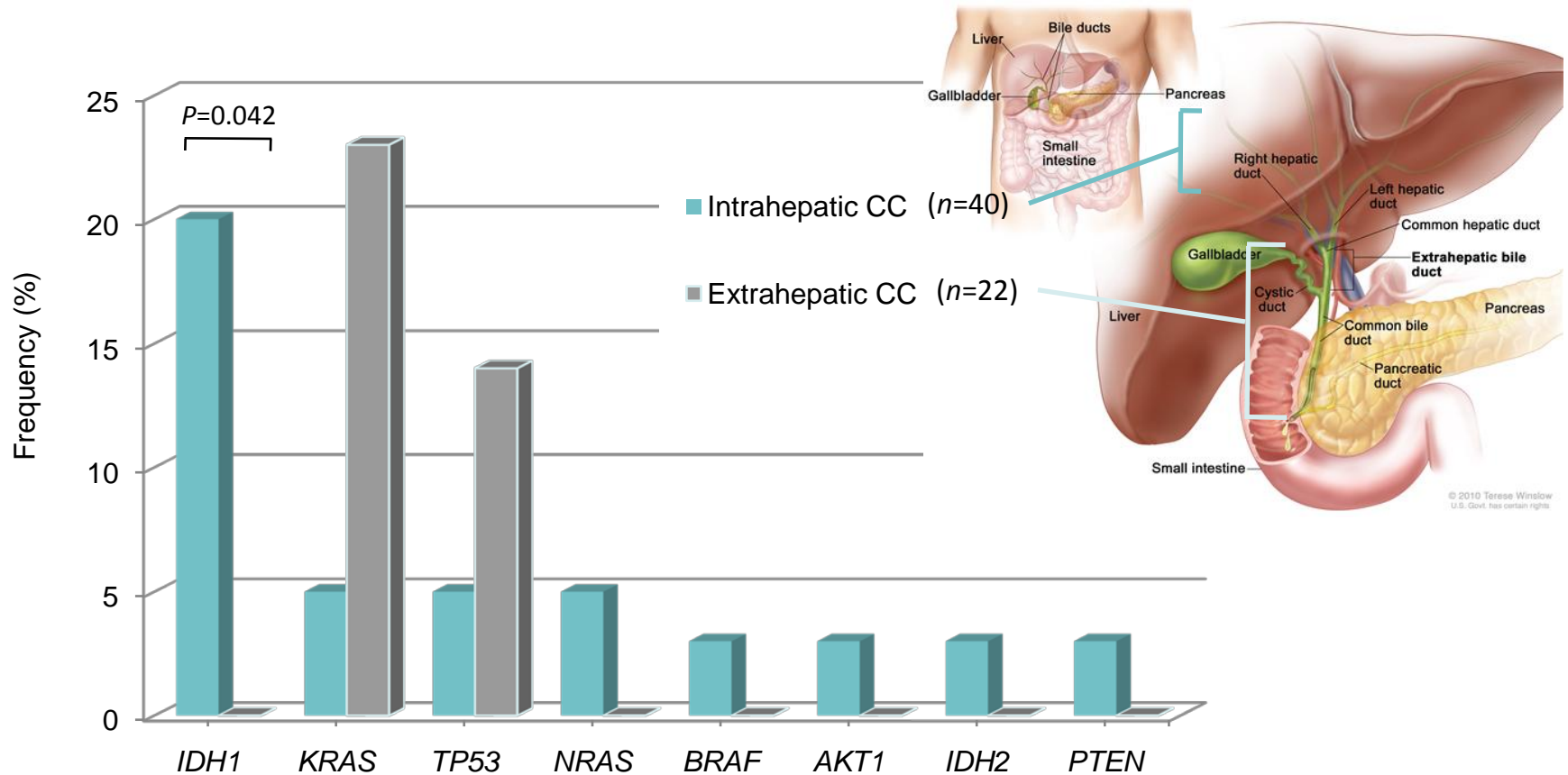
# Biliary Tract Cancers Are Genetically Diverse



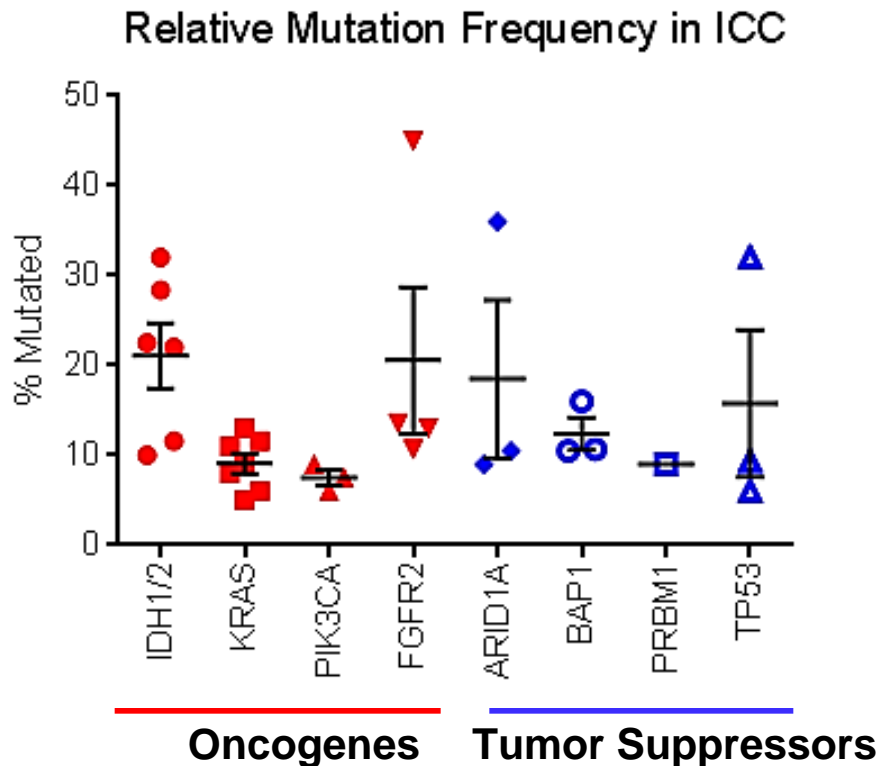


# IDH1 and IDH2 Mutations Specifically in Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinomas

<http://www.cancer.gov/images/cdr/live/CDR659742-571.jpg>



# IDH mutations found in 10-35% of ICC



Desphande *BMC Cancer* 2011

Borger *The Oncologist* 2012

Voss *Human Pathology* 2013

Sia *Gastroenterology* 2013

Ross *The Oncologist* 2014

Jiao *Nature Genetics* 2013

Chan-on *Nature Genetics* 2013

Wang *Oncogene* 2012

Riener *Genes Chromosomes Cancer* 2008

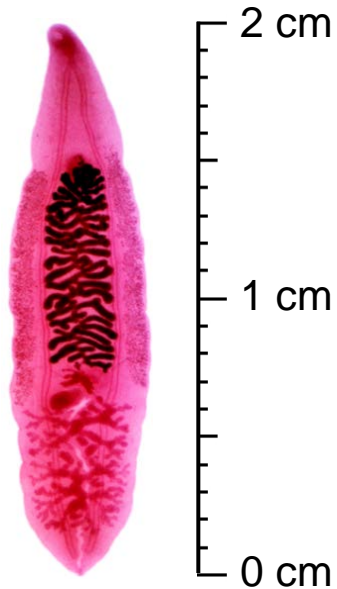
Wu *Cancer Discovery* 2013

Graham *Human Pathology* 2014

Arai *Hepatology* 2014

Sia *Nature Communications* 2015

# Differential genetics of liver fluke associated vs non-liver fluke associated biliary tract cancer

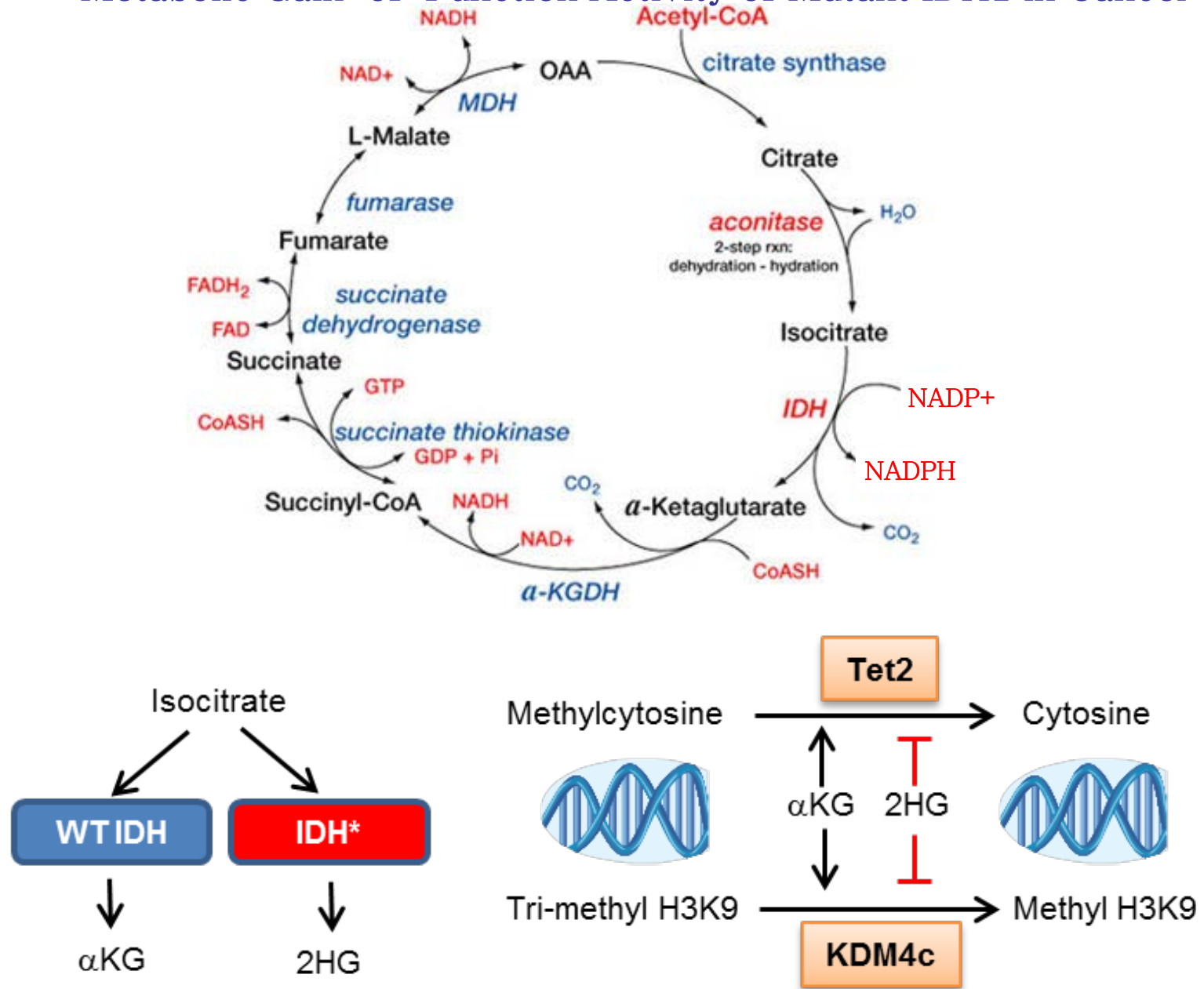


Cochineal and haematoxylin

Gene	O. viverrini (%)	Non-O. viverrini (%)	FDR
TP53	39.8	9.3	$1.16 \times 10^{-5}$
SMAD4	19.4	5.8	0.029
MLL3	13	3.5	0.071
GNAS	5.6	0	0.071
IDH1/2	2.8	9.3	0.107
ROBO2	5.6	2.3	0.381
RNF43	7.4	3.5	0.391
KRAS	13.9	11.6	0.673

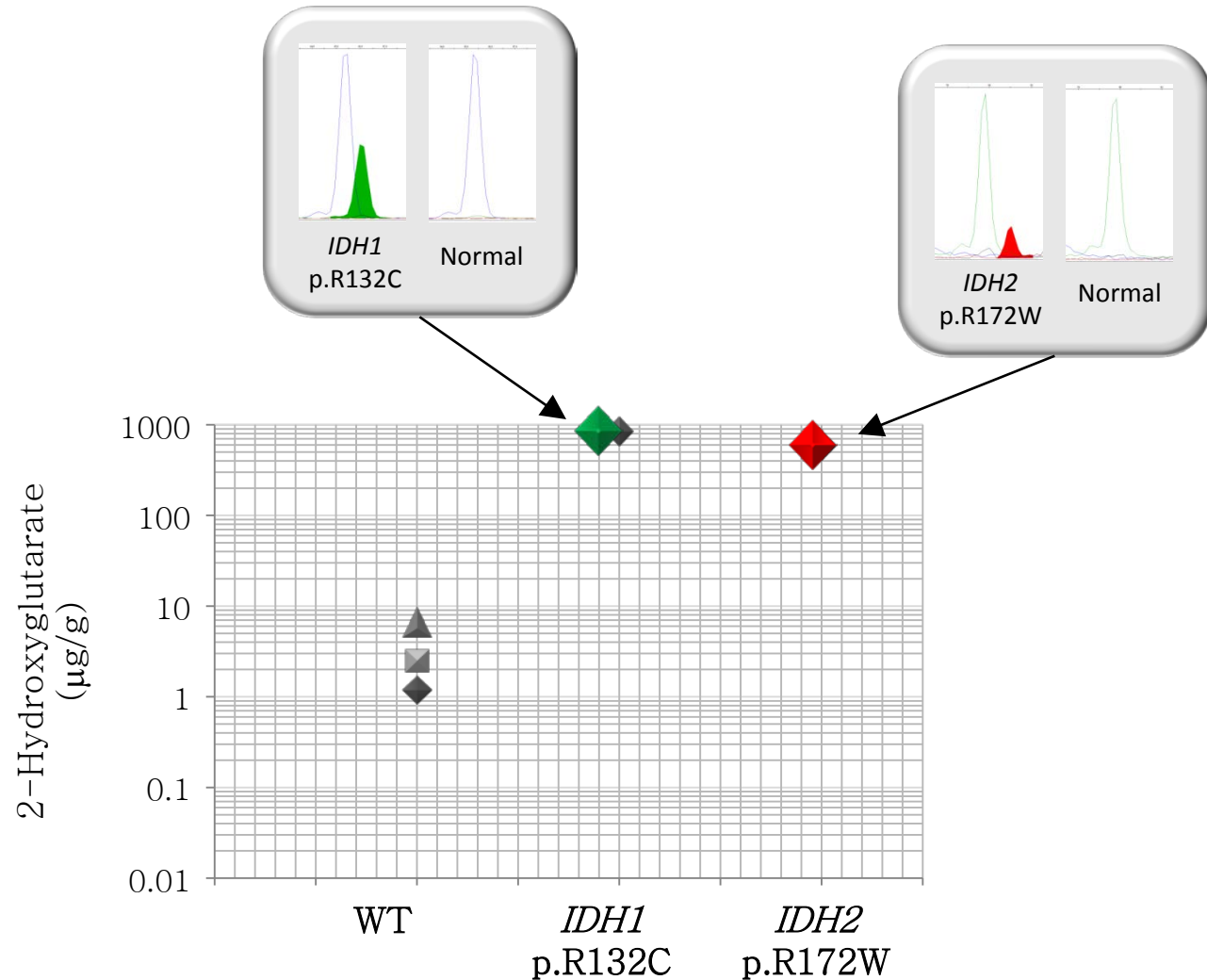
Adapted from Chan-on *Nature Genetics* 2013

# Metabolic Gain-of-Function Activity of Mutant IDH1 in Cancer

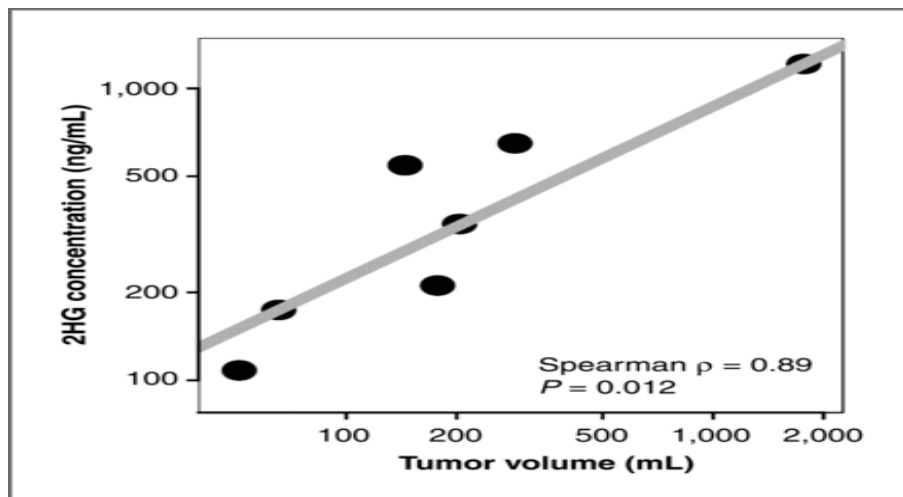
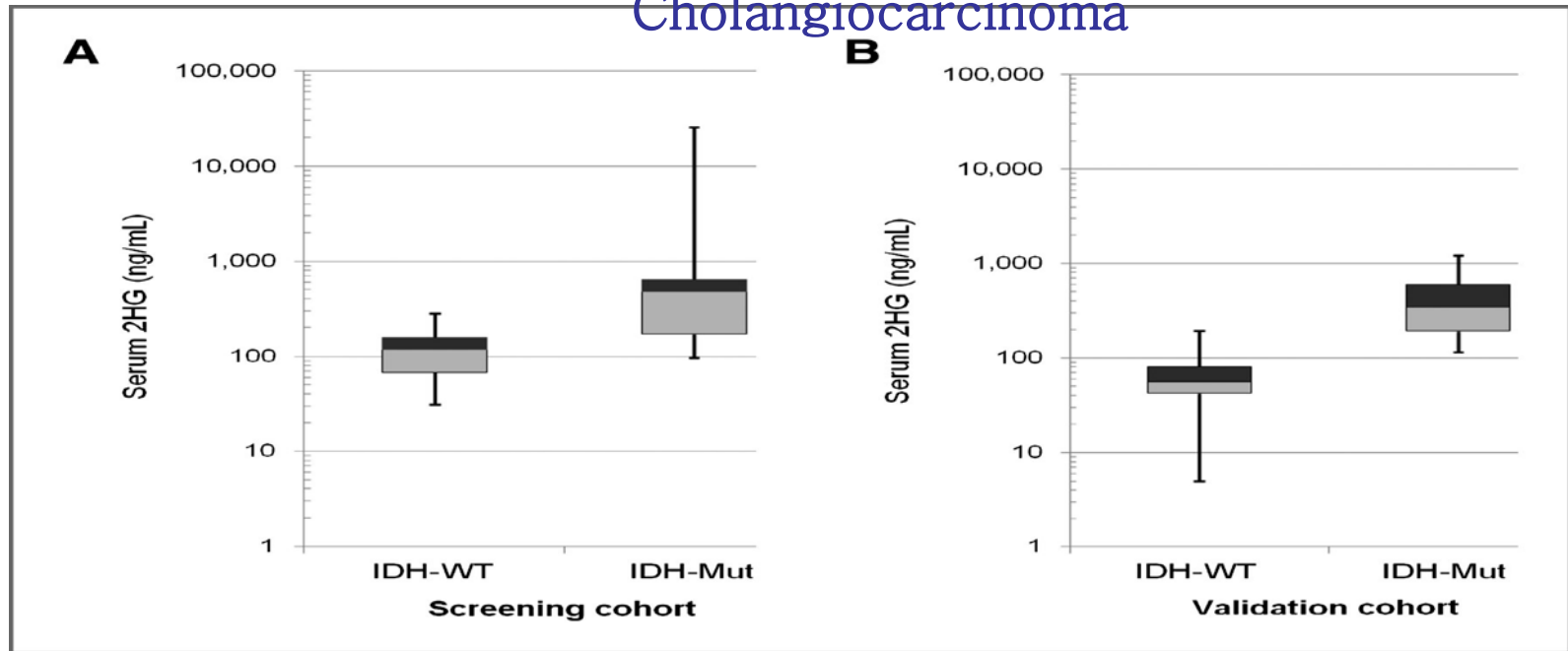


Adapted from Lu, C., Thompson, CB. *Cell Metabolism*,

# IDH1/2 Mutations in Cholangiocarcinoma Are Associated with Tumor 2HG Accumulation



# Circulating Oncometabolite 2-Hydroxyglutarate Is a Potential Surrogate Biomarker in Patients with *IDH*-Mutant Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma

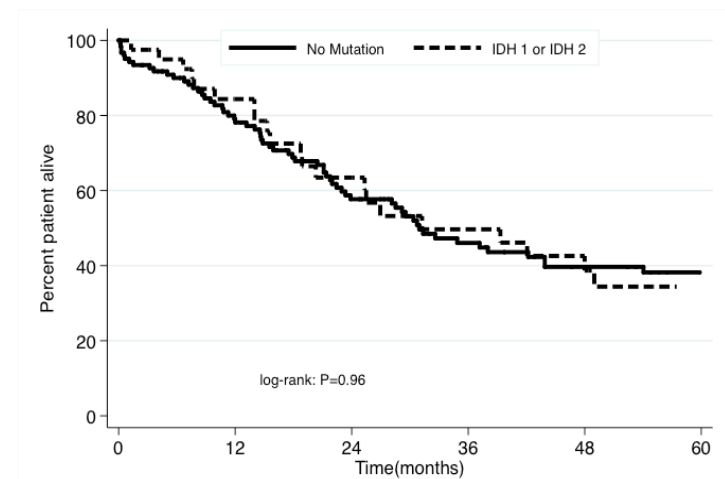
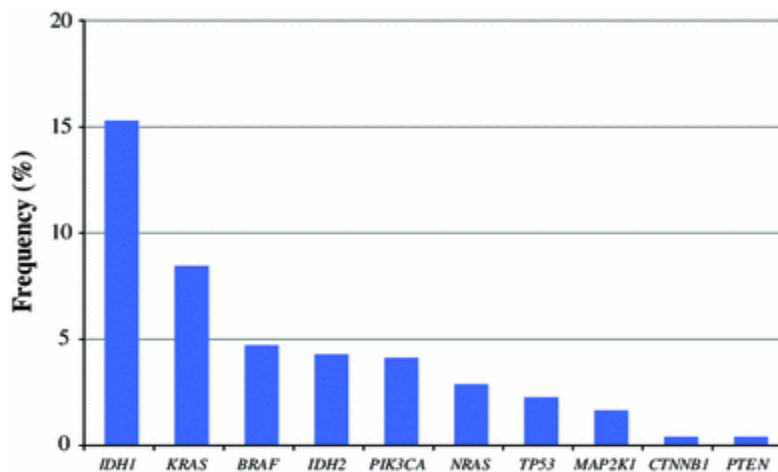


- Serum 2HG in the screening cohort and validation cohort were significantly elevated in patients with *IDH1/2*-mutant ( $P < 0.001$ );
- Levels of 2HG directly correlated with tumor burden in *IDH1/2*-mutant cases ( $P < 0.05$ )

# Prognostic Significance of IDH Mutations in The International ICC Collaborative Group

- Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
- Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD
- University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- Fundeni Clinical Institute of Digestive Disease, Bucharest, Romania
- Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
- Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, Brussels, Belgium
- Queen Mary Hospital, The University of Hong Kong, China

All patients undergoing liver resection for ICC between 1973 and 2013 (n=200)

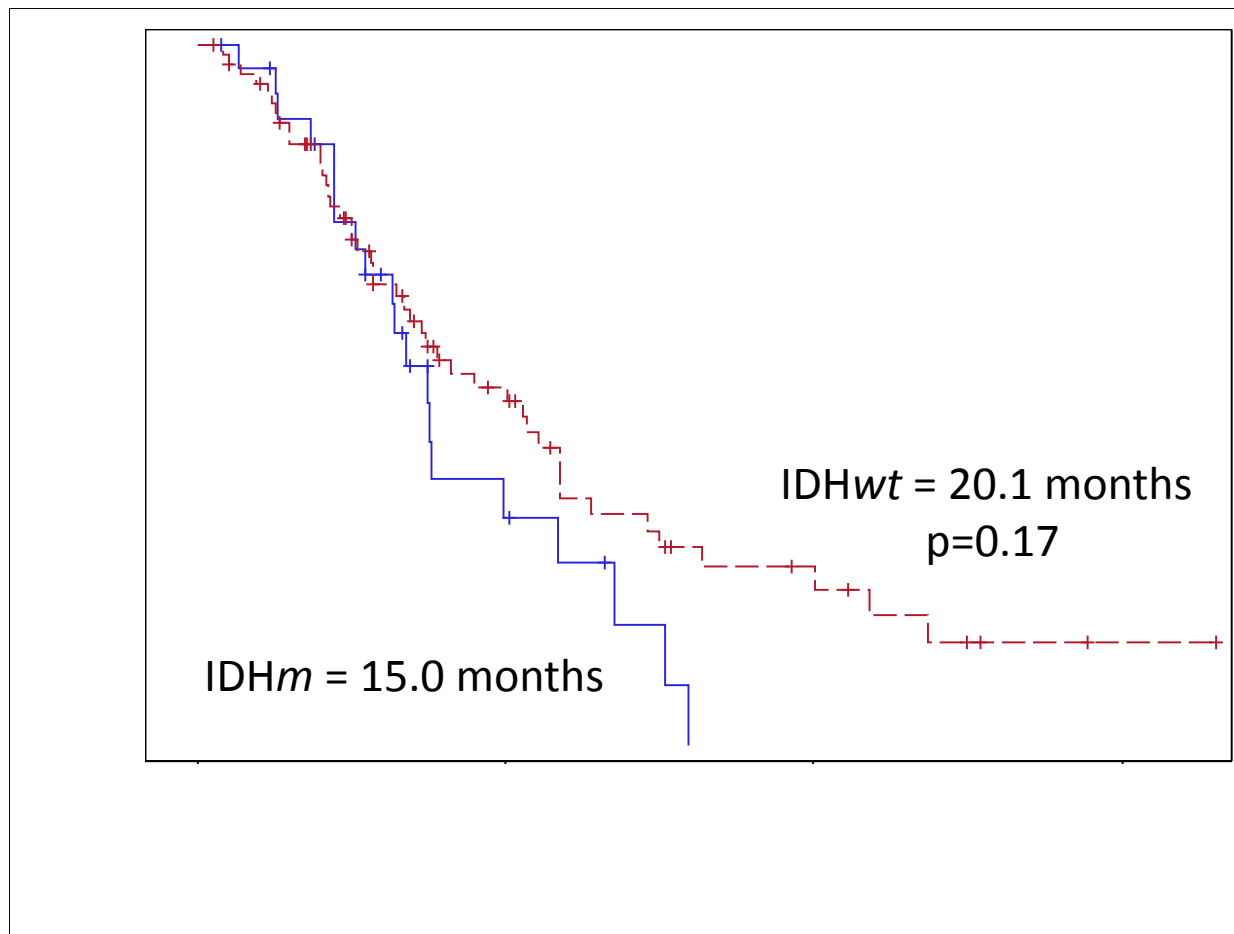




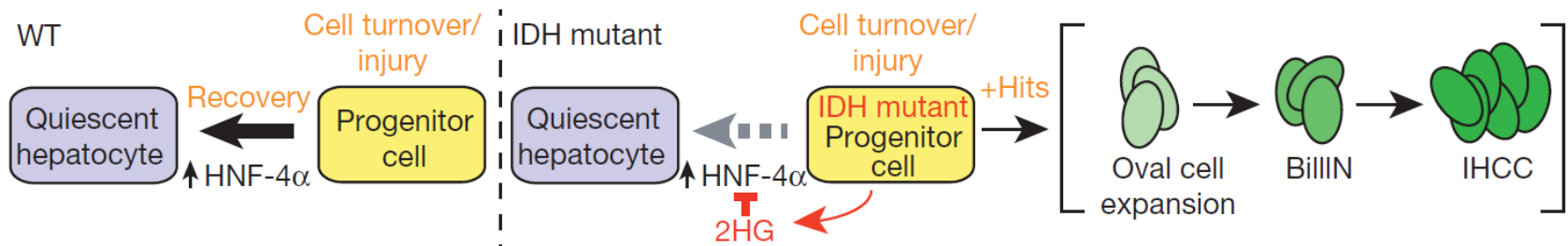
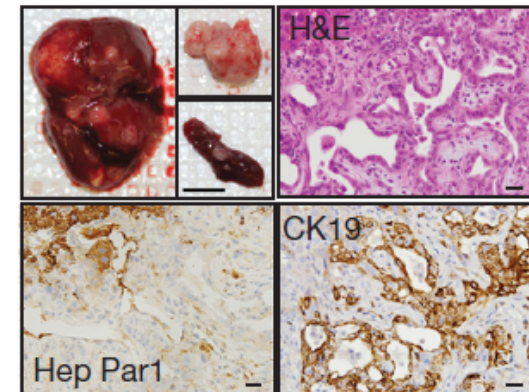
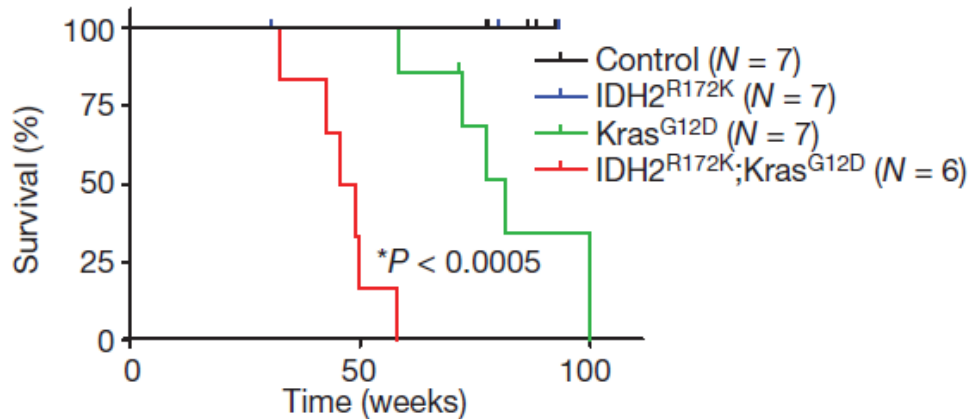
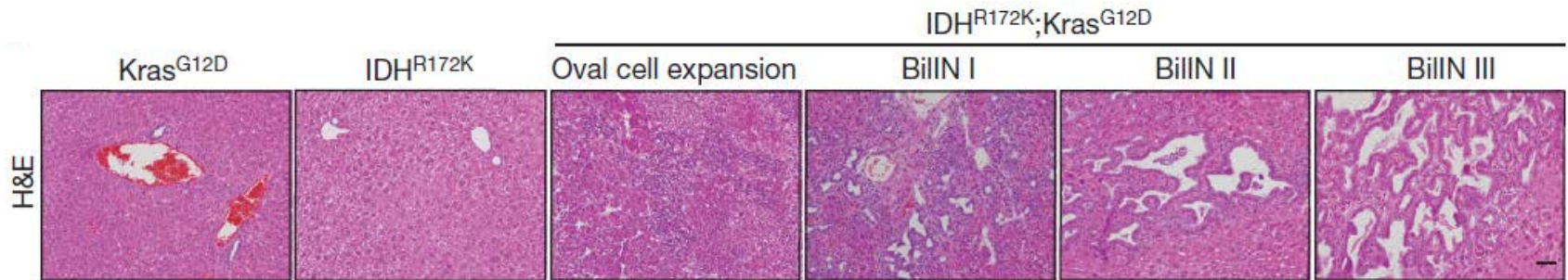
## Baseline Characteristics for Patients with Advanced IDH mutant vs IDH wildtype Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma

	IDH mutants (n=30)	IDH wild type (n=74)	p-value
<b>Median age at diagnosis (range)</b>	59 (24-77)	61 (23-83)	0.26
<b>Male Gender [n, (%)]</b>	12 (40%)	35 (47%)	0.50
<b>Median Baseline CA19-9 (range)*</b>	34.5 (1-533)	118.0 (1-94432)	0.04
<b>Median Tumor Volume (range)*</b>	184.0 (1.87-1074.0)	118.7 (0.8-1487.5)	0.40
<b>Median Ratio of CA19-9 to Tumor Volume (range) *</b>	0.51 (0.0045-4.25)	1.37 (0.0034-846.2)	0.04
<b>Median Baseline total bilirubin (mg/dL)*</b>	0.5 (0.3-6.3)	0.6 (0.1-22.1)	0.75
<b>Site of Metastasis at any time [n, (%)]</b>			
Liver	23 (76.7%)	57 (77.0%)	0.78
Lymph node	14 (46.7%)	48 (64.9%)	0.06
Lung	9 (30.0%)	31 (41.9%)	0.24
Peritoneum	7 (23.3%)	24 (32.4%)	0.32
Bone	7 (23.3%)	10 (13.5%)	0.26
Other	0 (0%)	9 (12.2%)	0.06
<b>Histology [n, (%)]</b>			0.28
Well differentiated	2 (6.7%)	7 (9.46%)	
Well to Moderately differentiated	0 (0%)	1 (1.35%)	
Moderately differentiated	7 (23.3%)	24 (32.4%)	
Moderately to Poorly differentiated	2 (6.7%)	9 (12.2%)	
Poorly differentiated	11 (36.7%)	13 (17.6%)	
<b>Presentation [n, (%)]</b>			0.76
Primary Unresectable or Metastatic	21 (70.0%)	54 (73.0%)	
Recurrent Metastatic	9 (30.0%)	20 (27.0%)	

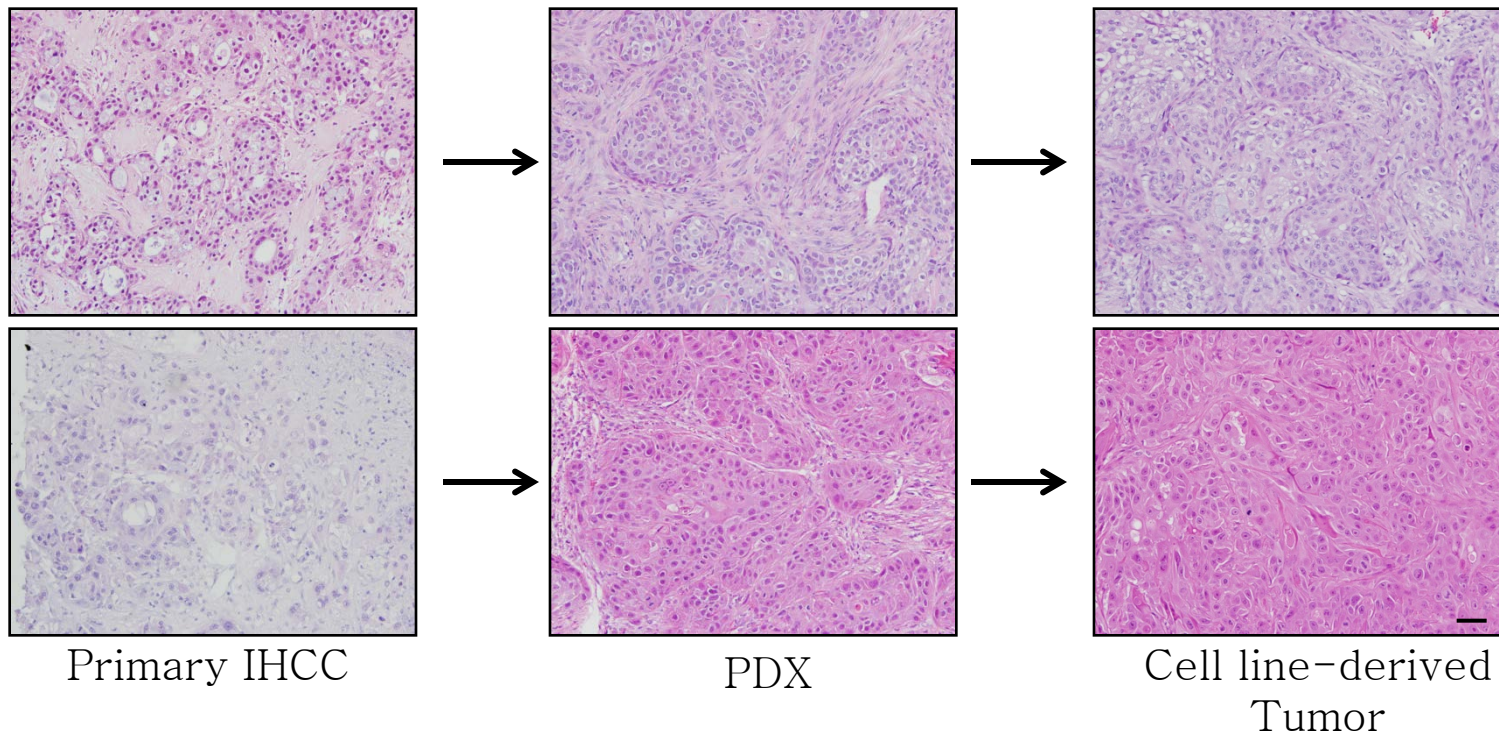
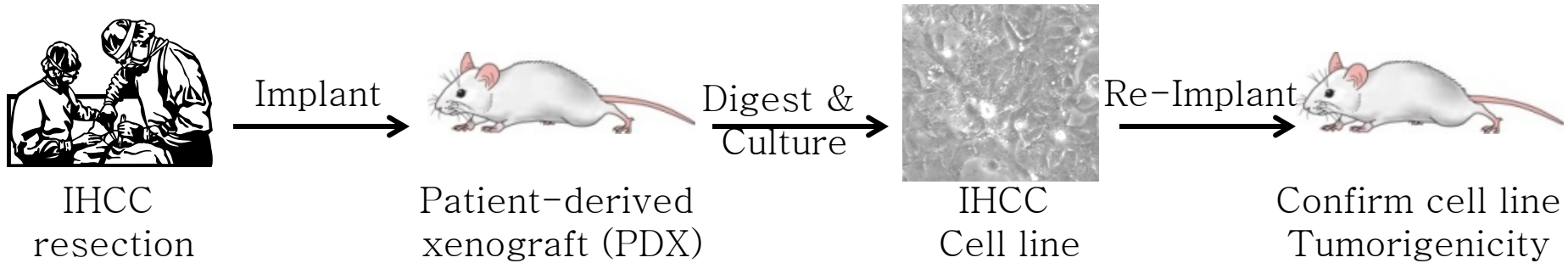
# Overall survival of patients with IDH<sub>m</sub> versus IDH<sub>wt</sub> unresectable or metastatic intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma



# Mutant IDH cooperates with Kras<sup>G12D</sup> to drive ICC pathogenesis

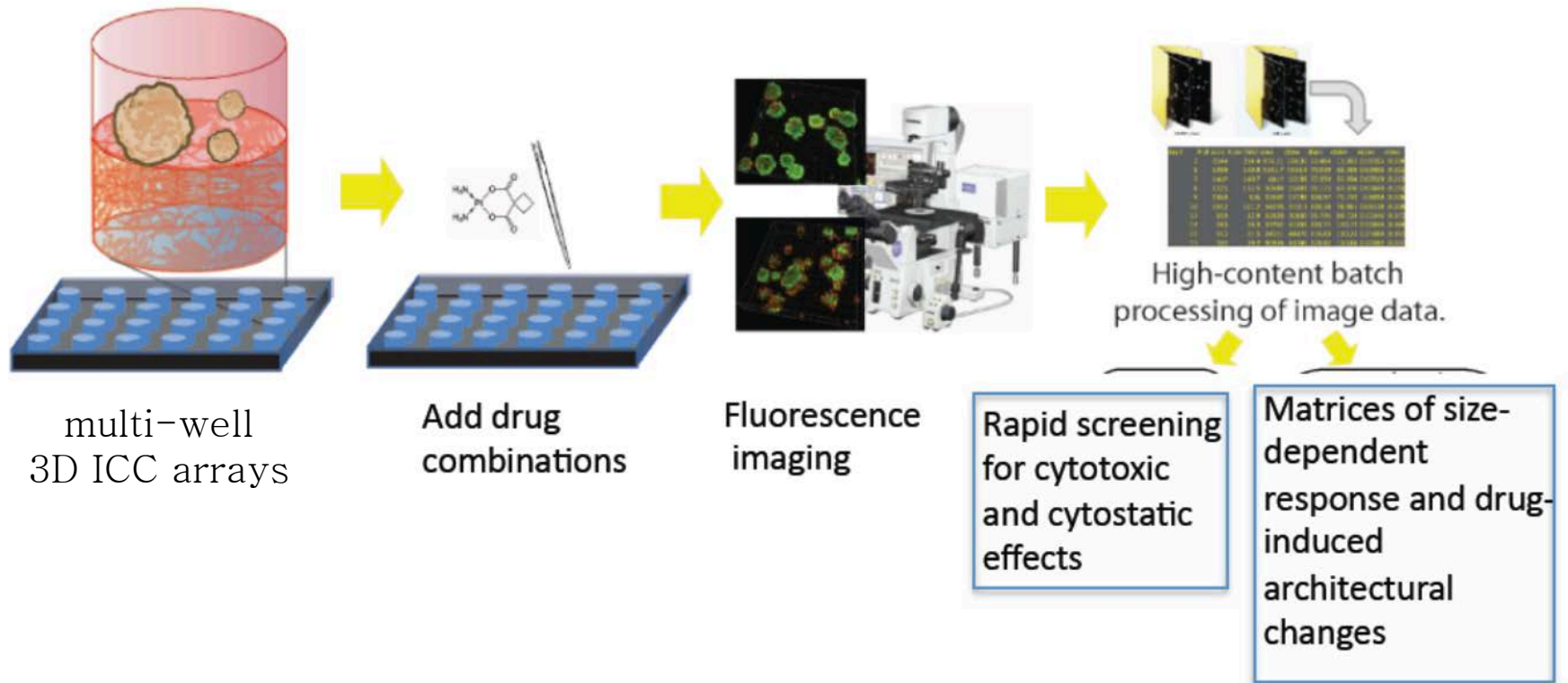


# MGH IHCC cell line/PDX protocol

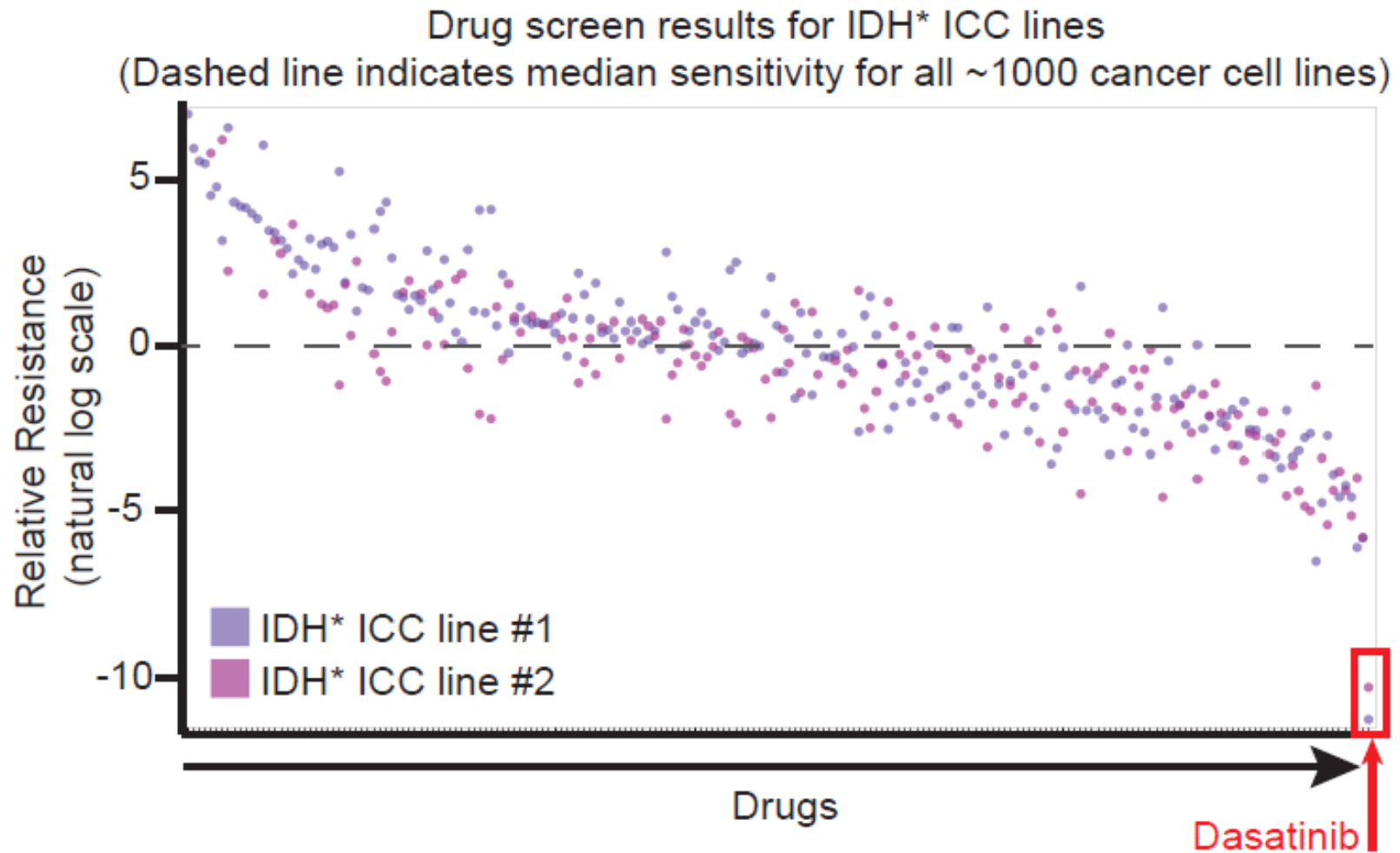




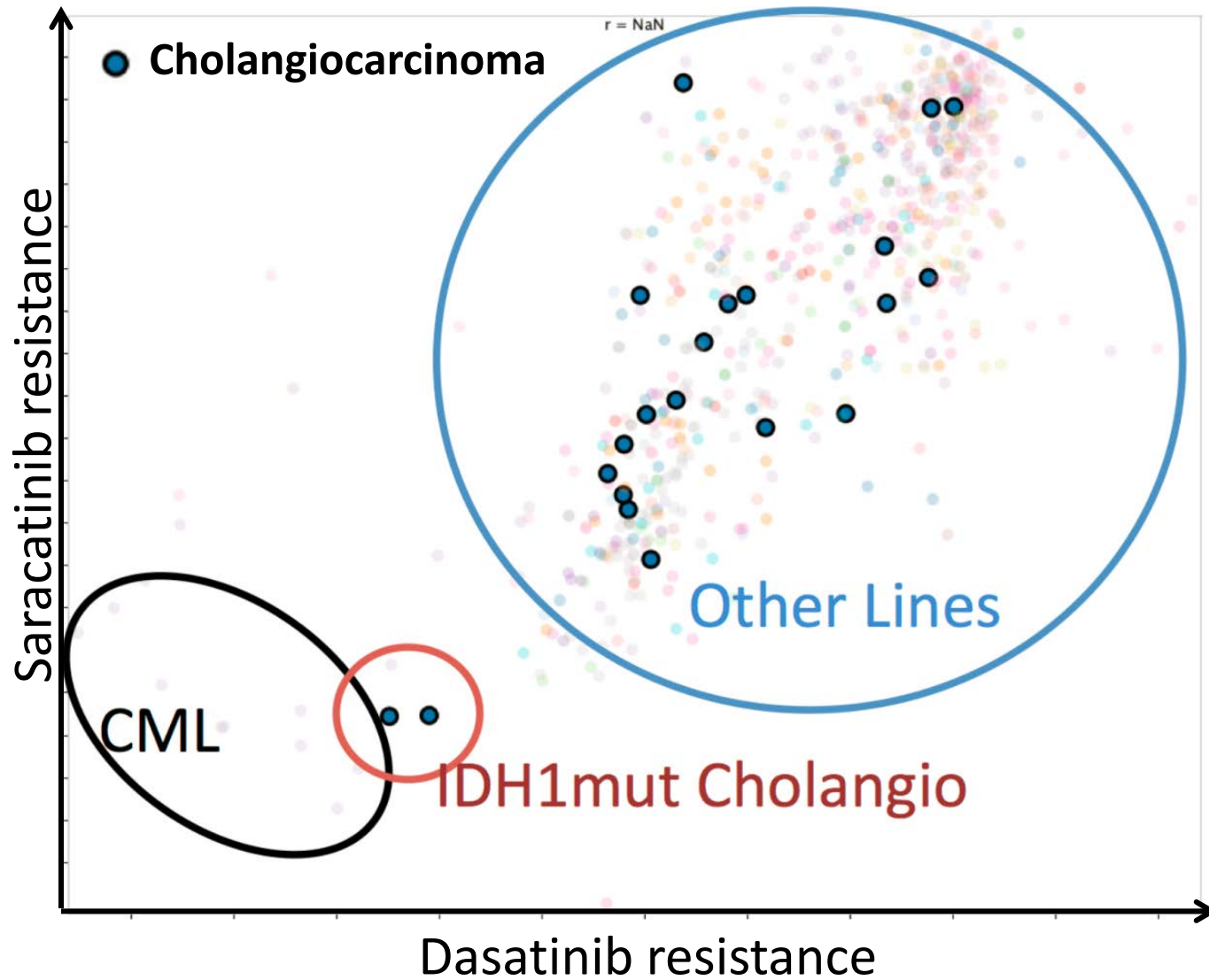
# Combination drug screens in genetically-defined ICC cell lines



# Mutant IDH ICC lines are highly sensitive to dasatinib

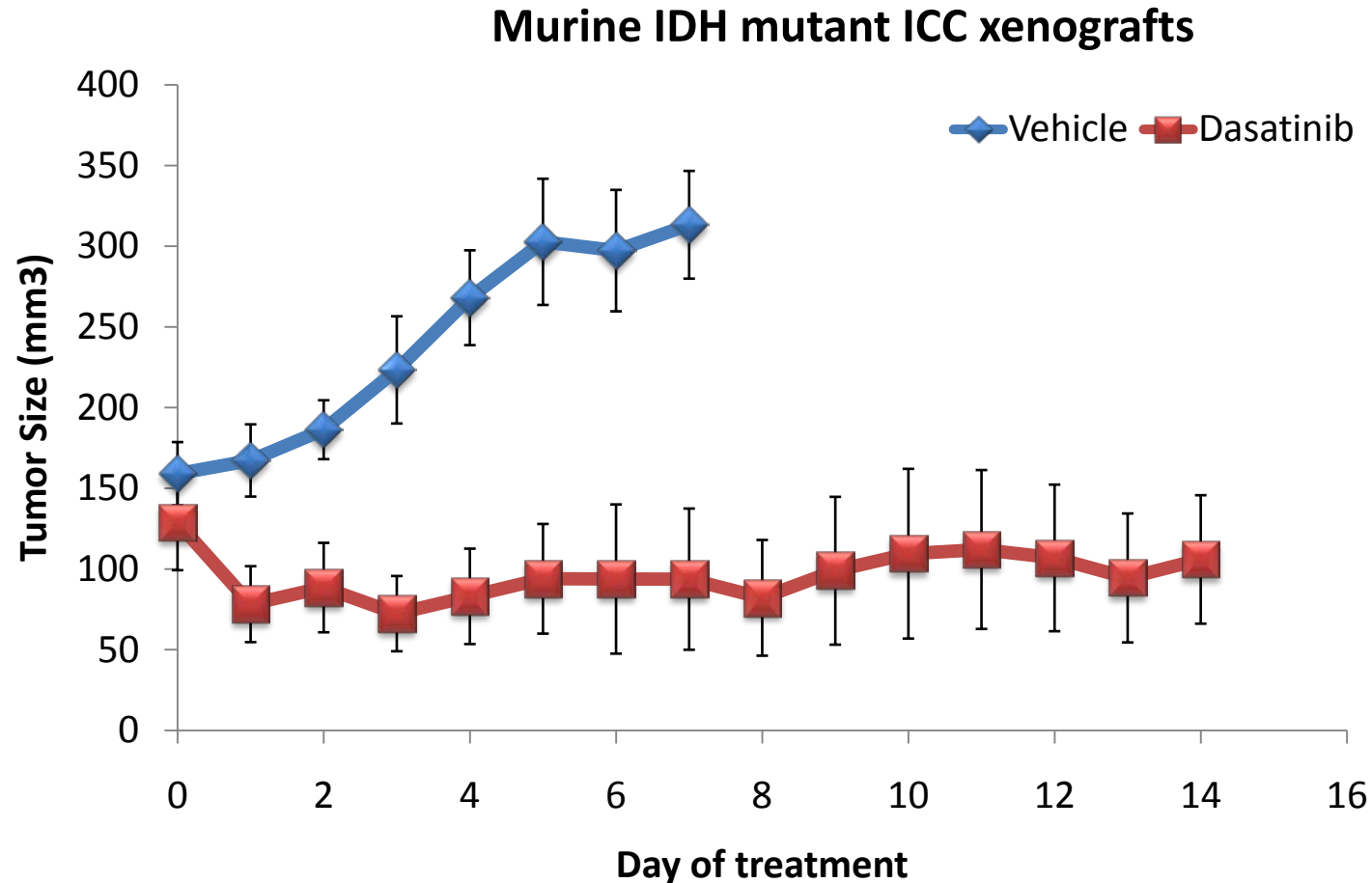


# High throughput drug screen reveals extreme sensitivity of IDH mutant ICC to Src family kinase (SFK) inhibitors





# Dasatinib induces sustained regression of IDH mutant ICC xenografts



# Phase II trial of dasatinib in patients with isocitrate dehydrogenase (IDH)-mutant advanced intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma

- Advanced ICC
- *IDH1* or *IDH2* mutations
- ECOG PS 0-1
- Good organ functions
- Dasatinib at 100 mg daily continuously
- Two stage design
- NCT02428855

# Phase I Study of AG-120, a First-in-Class, Potent Inhibitor of the IDH1 Mutant Protein, in Patients with Advanced IDH1-Mutant Solid Tumors

**Single-arm, dose escalation, 3+3 study (ClinicalTrials.gov NCT02073994)**

## **Key objectives:**

- Safety and tolerability
- Identify the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) and/or recommended phase 2 dose (RP2D)
- Characterize pharmacokinetics, evaluate the pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic (PK/PD) relationship (2-HG)
- Characterize preliminary clinical activity

## **Population:**

- Subjects with advanced solid tumors with an IDH1 mutation

## **Treatment:**

- Single-agent AG-120 administered continuously, oral dosing once (QD) or twice (BID) daily in 28-day cycles
- Eight dose levels explored: 100 mg BID, and 300, 400, 500, 600, 800, 900 and 1200 mg QD

## **Tumor assessments:**

- RECIST v1.1 criteria for solid tumors other than glioma
- RANO criteria for glioma

RECIST, response evaluation criteria in solid tumors; RANO, response assessment in neuro-oncology

# Baseline Characteristics

	Total treated N=62
Median age, years (range)	56 (23–88)
ECOG status at baseline, n (%)	
0	21 (34)
1	41 (66)
Gender (M/F)	29/33
Tumor types, n (%)	
Cholangiocarcinoma	25 (40)
Chondrosarcoma	12 (19)
Glioma	20 (32)
Grade I-II	9
Grade III-IV	11
Other*	5 (8)
Median prior lines of therapy, n (range)	3 (1–6)

\*Colitis-associated, neuroendocrine, adenocarcinoma, small intestine, and ovarian cancers

# Safety Summary

- No DLTs observed
- MTD was not reached
- All SAEs occurred in one patient each (N=18/62):
  - Acute kidney injury, acute respiratory failure, anemia, ataxia, brain herniation, confusional state, cystitis, urinary tract infection, headache, hyponatremia, joint effusion, esophageal varices hemorrhage, partial seizures, seizure, bacteremia, superior vena cava syndrome, vertebral fracture, urosepsis
- No treatment-related deaths\*
- Median duration of AG-120 exposure = 2 months (range 0–13)
- No dose reductions, 9 (15%) subjects had dose interruptions

\*2 deaths occurred > 20 days after last AG-120 dose. Neither were deemed related to treatment (anemia and respiratory failure): 1 subject discontinued due to disease progression; 1 subject discontinued due to AE.

# Most Frequent Adverse Events

(In  $\geq 10\%$  of Patients, Regardless of Relationship) N=62

- AG-120 well tolerated to date in this patient population

AE	All Grades, n (%)	Grade $\geq 3$ , n (%)
Patients experiencing $\geq 1$ AE	55 (89)	21 (34)
Most frequent AEs:		
Nausea	16 (26)	-
Diarrhea	10 (16)	-
Vomiting	10 (16)	-
Anemia	9 (15)	3 (5)
Electrocardiogram QT prolonged	9 (15)	2 (3)
Fatigue	8 (13)	-
Headache	7 (11)	2 (3)
Peripheral edema	7 (11)	1 (2)
Abdominal pain	6 (10)	-
Ascites	6 (10)	1 (2)

\*Other Grade  $\geq 3$  events in  $\geq 2$  patients: hypophosphatemia 2 (3%), hyponatraemia 2 (3%)

# PK/PD Supports 500 mg PO QD Dose for Expansion

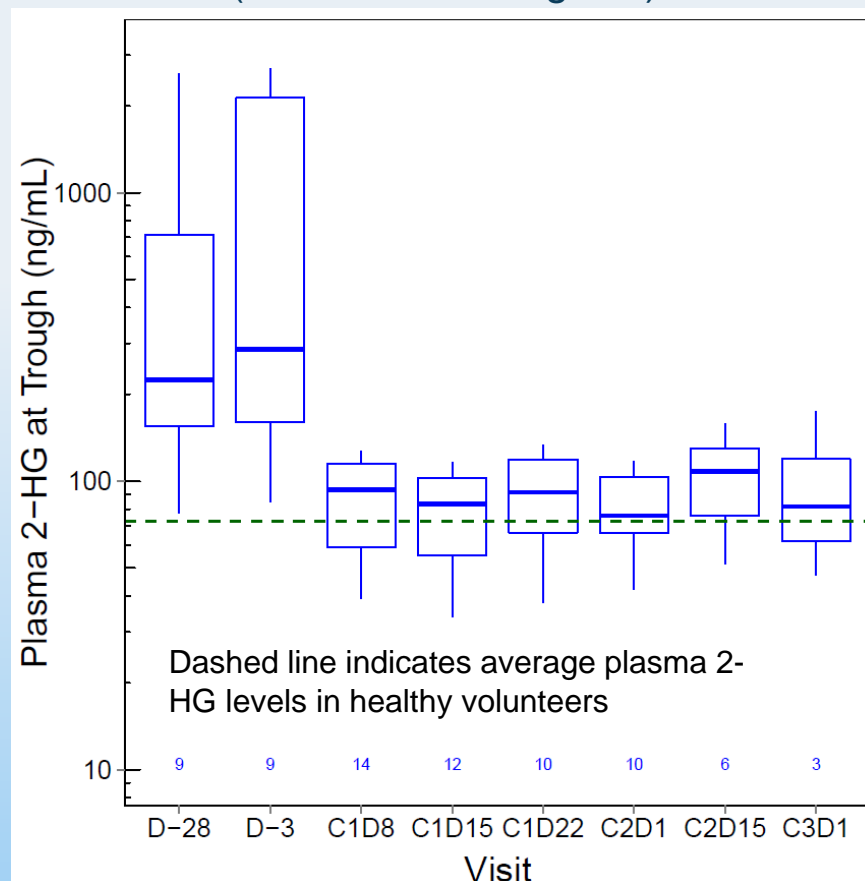
## Pharmacokinetics

- High plasma AG-120 exposure, above projected efficacious level
- Long half life ( $71.4 \pm 63.4$  hr)
- Non-dose-proportional increases in plasma exposure above 500 mg QD

## Pharmacodynamics

- 2-HG inhibition is observed
- Plasma 2-HG reduced to levels seen in healthy volunteers (up to 98% inhibition)

2-HG in non-glioma patients  
(Dosed at 500 mg QD)



Box indicates median and inter-quartile range (IQR)  
Whiskers extend to the highest/lowest value that is within 1.5\*IQR  
The number indicates the number of patients

# Best Overall Response

(Efficacy Evaluable Subjects<sup>1</sup>)

	Chondrosarcoma n=11	Cholangiocarcinoma n=20	Glioma n = 20	Other n=4	Total N=55
Best response, n (%)					
PR	-	1 (5)	-	-	1 (2)
SD	7 (64)	11 (55)	10 (50)	1 (25)	29 (53)
PD	2 (18)	6 (30)	10 (50)	3 (75)	21 (38)
UNK/Not Assessed	2 (18)	2 (10)	-	-	4 (7)
Clinical Benefit Rate at Month 6 <sup>2</sup> , n/N (%)	5/9 (56)	6/14 (43)	4/16 (25)	0/2	15/41 (37)

Glioma response assessments are based on RANO criteria; non-glioma are based on RECIST v1.1 criteria

Complete responses (CR) not observed

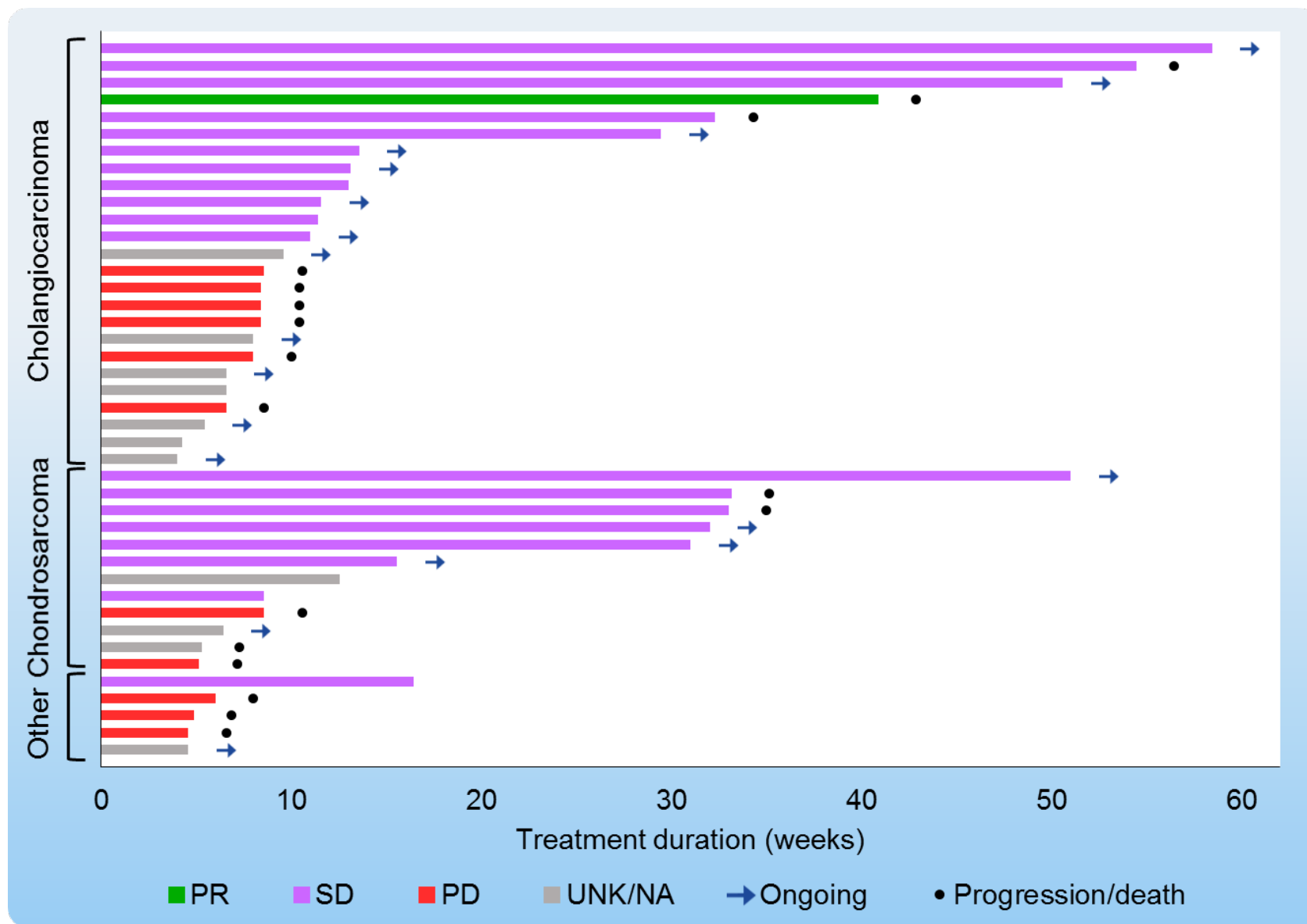
PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; PD, progressive disease; UNK, unknown

<sup>1</sup>Includes subjects who had baseline and at least one post baseline tumor assessment or discontinued prematurely

<sup>2</sup>Defined as CR/PR/SD; among subjects whose treatment started at least 6 months prior to the data cut-off date of 3 Sep 2015









# Duration on Treatment: Non-Glioma Solid Tumors



All 42 treated patients as of data cut-off 3 Sep 2015

PR, partial response; SD, stable disease; PD, progressive disease; UNK/NA, unknown/not assessed

# FGFR2 translocations in Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma

FGFR2	Fusion Partner
	BICC1
	TACC3
	KIAA1598
	MGEA5
	AHCYL1
	PPHLN1

## References

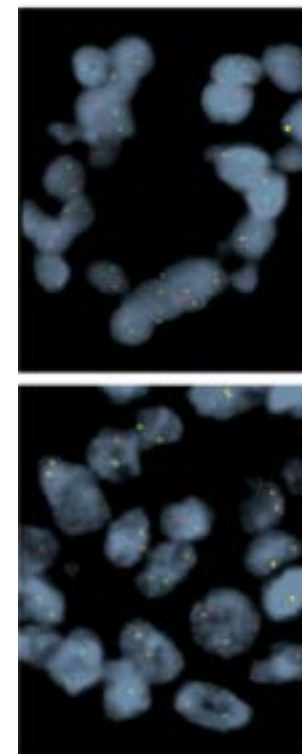
**Wu** *Cancer Discovery* 2013  
2 reported cases of FGFR2-BICC1

**Borad** *PLoS Genetics* 2014  
3 reported cases of FGFR2-BICC1, FGFR2-TACC3, FGFR2-MGEA5 (3/6)

**Arai** *Hepatology* 2013  
translocations occur in 13.6% of 9/66 IHCCs  
reported FGFR2-AHCYL1, FGFR2-BICC1

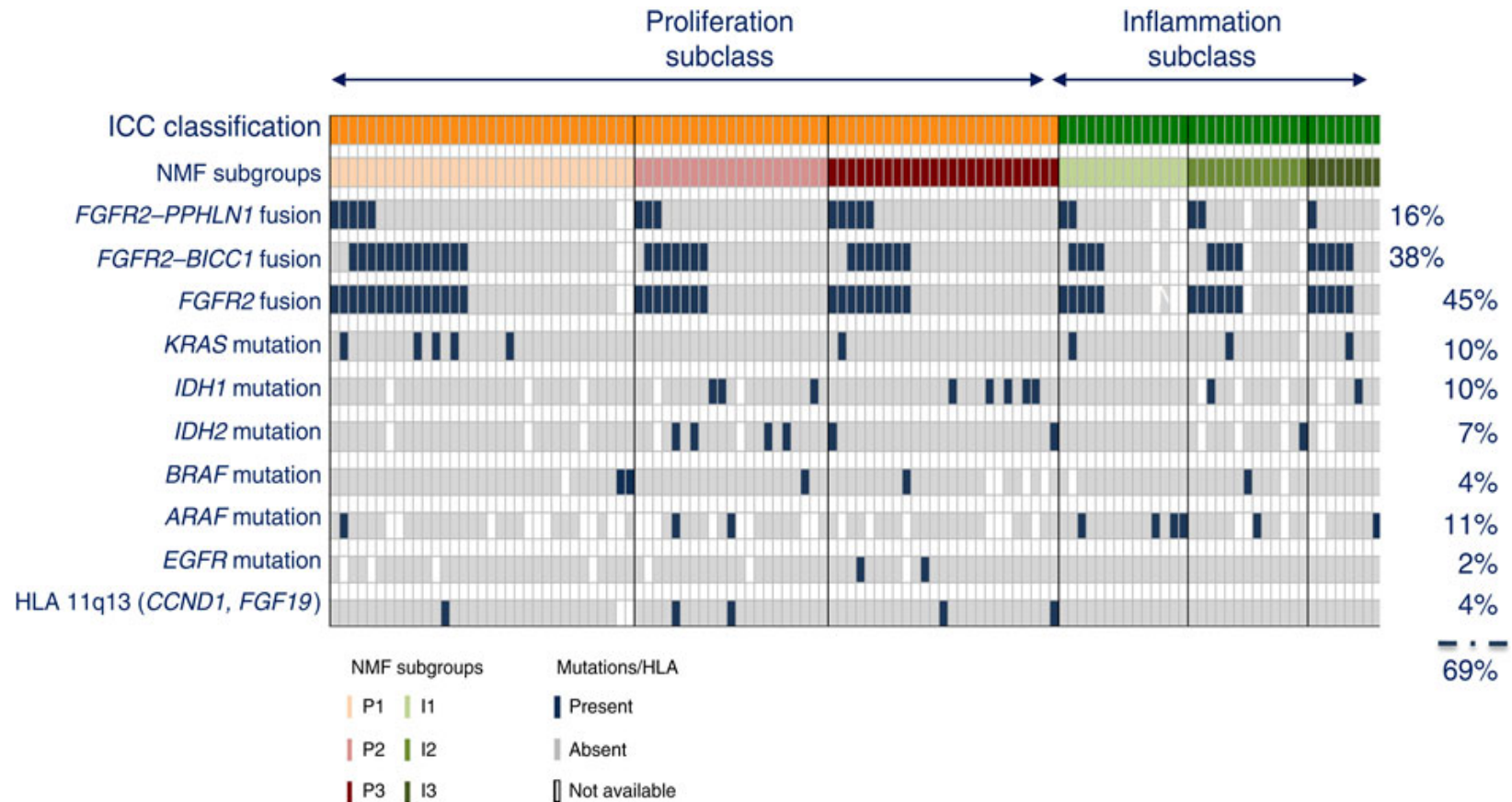
**Ross** *Oncologist* 2014  
FGFR2-KIAA1598, FGFR2-BICC1, FGFR2-TACC3 (3/28 samples)

**Sia** *Nat Commun* 2015  
Translocations occur in ~45% of IHCCs  
FGFR2-PPHLN1 (16%)



5' FGFR2  
3' FGFR2

# Novel actionable FGFR2–PPHLN1 fusion and ARAF mutations in ICC



# Safety and Efficacy of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) in Patients With Advanced Biliary Tract Cancer: Interim Results of KEYNOTE-028 (N=23)

Best Response	n	% (95% CI)
Complete response	0	0 (0.0–14.8)
Partial response	4	17.4 (5.0–38.8)
Stable disease	4	17.4 (5.0–38.8)
Progressive disease	12	52.2 (30.6–73.2)
No assessment <sup>b</sup>	3	13.0 (2.8–33.6)

<sup>a</sup>One patient was excluded from evaluation of best overall response because the baseline tumor scan was performed outside of the protocol-mandated period of 28 days before the first pembrolizumab dose.

<sup>b</sup>Patients who discontinued therapy before the first postbaseline tumor evaluation because of clinical progression (n = 2) or adverse events (n = 1).

Bang YJ et al, The European Cancer Congress 2015

# Ongoing targeted trials in cholangiocarcinoma

Target	Drug	Phase	Line of treatment	NCT number
<b>IDH1</b>	AG-120	I	2nd & beyond	NCT02073994
	IDH305	I	2nd & beyond	NCT02381886
<b>IDH2</b>	AG-221	I/II	2nd & beyond	NCT02273739
<b>FGFR2</b>	BAY1187982	I	2nd & beyond	NCT02368951
	ARQ087	I	2nd & beyond	NCT01752920
	BAY1179470	I	Any	NCT01881217
	AZD4547	I	Any	NCT00979134
	BGJ398	II	2nd & beyond	NCT02150967
	Ponatinib Hydrochloride	II	2nd & beyond	NCT02265341
<b>MEK</b>	Selumetinib	II	1st/2nd	NCT00553332
	Selumetinib + Gem + Cis	I/II	Any	NCT01242605
<b>mTOR</b>	Everolimus	I	2nd & beyond	NCT00949949
<b>AKT</b>	MK2206	II	2nd	NCT01425879

Immune therapy with checkpoint inhibitors

# Future perspectives and conclusions

- GemCis is the current standard systemic therapy and there is unmet need for developing more effective systemic therapies (advanced and adjuvant)
- Applying genomic technology and molecular classification critically and timely in ICC
- Genetic heterogeneity and newly identified actionable targets (IDH, FGFR) have provided the opportunity for drug development in ICC
- Innovative and efficient clinical trials through collaborations leading to practice changing new treatment for cholangiocarcinoma

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