

## Plenary Session 2:

### ***Key Elements of a Successful Phase III Trial:***

Examples from the NCIC CTG



C.J. O'Callaghan *DVM MSc PhD*

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## **What is a "Successful" Trial?**

### **Academic Clinical Trialist's Perspective!**

- A well designed trial, properly conducted in a timely manner, resulting in high quality data, which is stringently analyzed and fully and transparently reported, providing valid information permitted future decision-making.
- NOT necessarily a positive trial...
  - a negative trial can be as important and may also change practice

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## What is a "Failed" Trial?

- A poorly designed or executed trial that, even if 'completed', fails to answer the question
  - biased, uninterpretable, inconclusive, underpowered, flawed, fraudulent
- A "well designed" trial that simply fails to accrue!
- Both = waste of time, effort, resources, huge opportunity cost

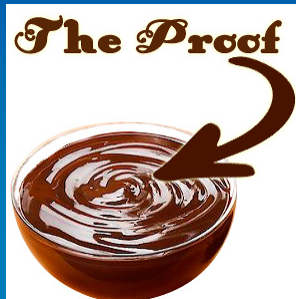
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## Surely its simple?

- DESIGN a clinical trial
- ACCRUE patients
- Collect DATA (+/- samples)
- ANSWER the question(s)



Smart people  
Careful planning  
Peer review  
Monitoring  
**Science**



Patient preference  
Investigator preference  
"Red Tape"  
**Intangibles**

**Eligibility Criterion\***

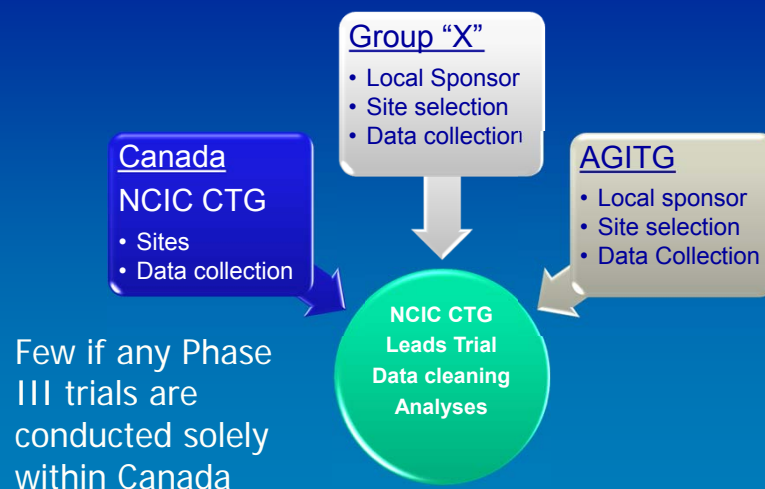
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## Design, Data & Analysis (The NCIC CTG Mantra)

- Hypothesis robust and well supported
- Valid design
  - Statistical components of design critical
- Consensus (collaborators, pharma) needed
  - Comparators / standard of care, placebo control
  - “Access” to IMP
    - regulatory status, funding status, availability of placebo, distribution, storage, shelf-life & extensions, packaging, labeling, inventory tracking, import/export requirements, shipping costs, temperature excursions
- Efficient conduct
  - Collect only relevant data/samples
  - Collect ‘necessary’ biospecimens (think to the future!)
- Ensure high quality
  - Clean data, conduct compliance & quality assurance activities (e.g. monitor, audit, pharmacovigilance, etc.)
  - Analysis and publication/dissemination

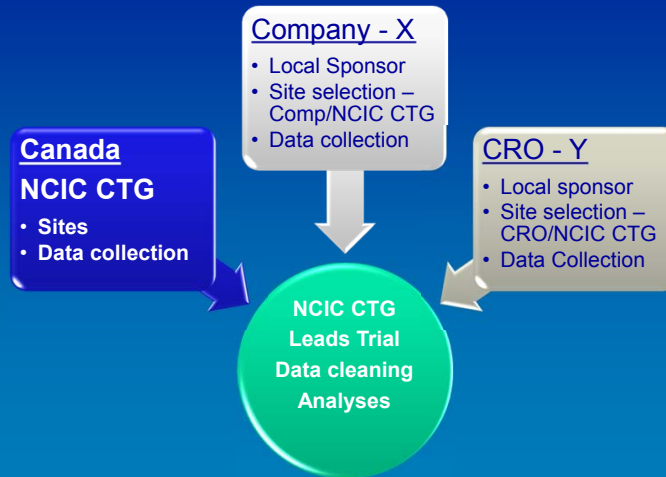
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## Creating Collaborators: The ‘Intergroup’ Trial Model



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## Creating Accrual: The 'International' Trial Model



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## Good Accrual

- Investigators are interested in putting patients on the study
- Sites/Institutions are interested and capable of in supporting Investigators
- Patients are interested in participating in the study... and are eligible to do so

**= rapid activation and timely accrual**

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## What makes a trial interesting?

- Relevant question that will change practice, NOT superseded by changing practice (equipoise)
- Promising data from earlier stage trials, other disease sites
- New, particularly 'novel', drugs or treatments always of interest
- Simple is more attractive – i.e. complexity as scientifically necessary
- Limited therapeutic options – e.g. end stage settings
- Good risk/benefit ratio (real or perceived)
- Unique - Not already planned, in progress... or complete!
- Well funded/resourced

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## Eligible?

Again, it sounds simple = Be sure patients...

- Meet the eligibility criteria
- Do not meet the ineligibility criteria

Sometimes "science" trumps pragmatism...

- Validity – e.g. population with disease of interest
- Ethics – e.g. consent
- Safety – e.g. comorbidity, pregnancy, baseline AEs
- Efficacy – e.g. prior (future) therapy, assessable for outcome, optimize potential
- Quality – e.g. surgical QA, S.O.C.

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## Funding and Resource

- Critical to resource and fund appropriately or run the risk of the trial failing
- Everything costs more than you think
  - Centrally & for participating sites
  - *"... per-patient clinical trials costs have gone up by a stunning 70% in just the past three years, with the largest increases coming in the pivotal Phase III trials required by the FDA. There, costs were up by over 85% \*\*."*
- Slower than expected accrual substantially increases costs → longer duration thus increased staffing costs

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*\*\*Clinical Operations: Benchmarking Per-Patient Costs, Staffing and Adaptive Design, Cutting Edge Information*

## ASIDE: Funding and Resource

1. Fund yourself
    - not feasible for phase III
  2. Apply for a peer-reviewed grant
    - e.g. CIHR = ↓15% success rate
  3. Submit proposal to a group
    - may still need #2 ± #4
  4. Submit proposal to a company
    - Supported proportionate to interest
    - Investigator/Sponsor independence?
- Faster timelines, more oversight, more demands...

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## MEDI4736 is Well Tolerated in NSCLC

	MEDI4736 10 mg/kg q2w n=143	MEDI4736 all doses <sup>a</sup> n=155
<b>All Events, n (%)</b>		
Any AE	98 (69)	109 (70)
Grade 3/4 AE	37 (26)	39 (25)
Serious AE	33 (23)	36 (23)
<b>Related Events<sup>b</sup> Only, n (%)</b>		
Any AE	40 (28)	45 (29)
Grade 3/4 AE	5 (4)	5 (3)
Serious AE	2 (1)	2 (1)
AEs leading to discontinuation	0	0
AEs leading to death	0	0

No colitis of any Grade and no Grade 3/4 pulmonary toxicities

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Brahmer et al. ASCO Abs 8021. Clinical Activity and Biomarkers of MEDI4736.

## BR31: A Phase III Prospective Double Blind Placebo Controlled Randomized Study of Adjuvant MEDI4736 in Completely Resected Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

- Stage IB (≥ 4cm), II, IIIA NSCLC
- Completely resected
- ECOG PS 0-1
- Stratified by:

Stage  
Pre-treatment PD-L1 status\*  
Prior adj. platinum-based chemo  
Centre

\*First 600 patients not selected for PD-L1 status, thereafter 500 PD-L1+ only =  
TOTAL Sample size = 1100

**MEDI4736**  
10mg/kg intravenously Q2W (6 mo)  
20mg/kg intravenously Q4W (6 mo)

2:1  
Randomization

19 infusions  
over 1 year

**PLACEBO**  
10mg/kg intravenously Q2W (6 mo)  
20mg/kg intravenously Q4W (6 mo)

**Primary Endpoint = DFS (PDL1+)**

**Secondary endpoints = DFS (all), OS, QoL**

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## Interesting?

- ✓ Relevant question that will change practice, NOT superseded by changing practice (equipoise)
- ✓ Promising data from earlier stage trials, other disease sites
- ✓ New, particularly 'novel', drugs or treatments always of interest
- ✗ Simple is more attractive – i.e. complexity as scientifically necessary
- ✗ Limited therapeutic options – e.g. end stage settings
- ± Good risk/benefit ratio (real or perceived)
- ✓ Unique - Not already planned, in progress... or complete!
- ± Well funded/resourced (CDN\$15,250 PCF)

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## How's it going so far?

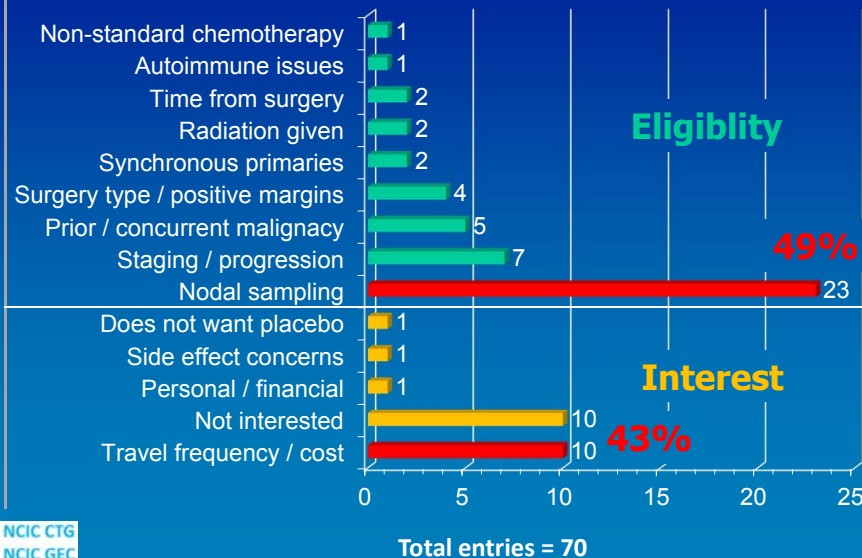
- Centrally activated = October 9, 2014
- First site locally activated = November 25, 2014 (47 days)
- First patient registered = January 29, 2015 (65 days)
- First patient randomized = February 24, 2015 (26 days)
- To-date (295 days from Central Activation)....
  - 49 of ~250 (20%) planned sites are locally activated
  - 8 patients registered (... 2 will not be randomized)
    - ~ **1 patient per site per every 24 months of activity**
  - 4 patients randomized
  - 70 patients reported as "screen failures"
    - **70/78 = 90% screen failure rate**

**Sample Size = 600 (all comers) + 500 PD-L1+ (~25% prevalence)**

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## BR.31 Submitted Screen Failures

Current as of July 30, 2015



## Eligibility – Lymph Node Sampling

As per protocol eligibility criteria:

- Lymph node mapping is defined by The International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) lymph node map.
- The nodal tissue must be labelled according to the recommendations of the American Thoracic Society.
- Surgeons are encouraged to dissect or sample all accessible nodal levels in accordance with the [European Society of Thoracic Surgeons guidelines](#).
  - Accordingly, a minimum of **3** (three) lobe specific mediastinal nodal stations (**N2**), one of which must include **station 7**, and at least **one N1** station - inclusive of the ones removed with the pulmonary specimen - **must have been sampled** at the end of the procedure.

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## Will BR.31 be a “Success” ?

YES! → WHY?



- Target sample size of 1100 patients
  - 250 sites active by 1Q2016
  - requires 4.4 pts/site
- Target accrual period of 3 years
  - ~2 years left = 2.2 pts/site/year
- Discussions ongoing:
  - ? Amend eligibility criteria w.r.t. lymph node sampling
  - ? Amend infusion frequency to monthly throughout
  - ? Add additional collaborators

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## Randomized Phase III Trial of Cetuximab + Best Supportive Care (BSC) versus BSC Alone in Patients with Pre-treated Metastatic EGFR-Positive Colorectal Cancer (NCIC CTG CO.17)

A trial of the  
**NCIC Clinical Trials Group**  
(NCIC CTG)  
and the  
**Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group**  
(AGITG)

NCIC Clinical Trials Group  
NCIC Groupe des essais cliniques



## Advanced Colorectal Cancer Therapeutics

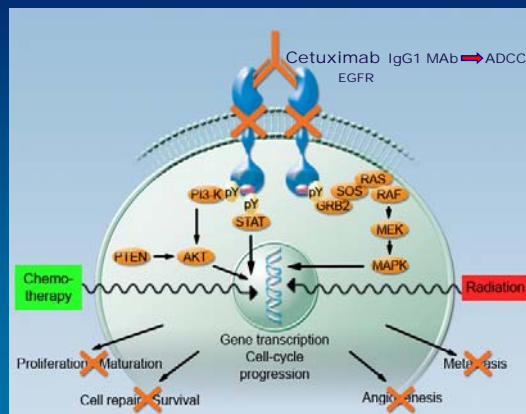
Chemotherapeutic	Survival Benefit Demonstrated
TS inhibitors (5-fluorouracil, capecitabine)	Yes <sup>1,2</sup>
Irinotecan	Yes <sup>3,4,5,6</sup>
Oxaliplatin	Yes <sup>7</sup>
<b>Biologically Targeted therapy</b>	
Bevacizumab (anti-VEGF) added to fluoropyrimidines	Yes <sup>8,9</sup>
Panitumumab (anti-EGFR)	No
Cetuximab (anti-EGFR)	No

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<sup>1</sup>Simonds, BMJ 2000; <sup>2</sup>Jonker, BJC 2000; <sup>3</sup>Cunningham, Lancet 1998; <sup>4</sup>Rougier, Lancet 1998; <sup>5</sup>Saltz, NEJM 2000; <sup>6</sup>Douillard, Lancet 2000; <sup>7</sup>Goldberg, JCO 2004; <sup>8</sup>Hurwitz, NEJM 2004

## Cetuximab: Multiple Mechanisms of Action

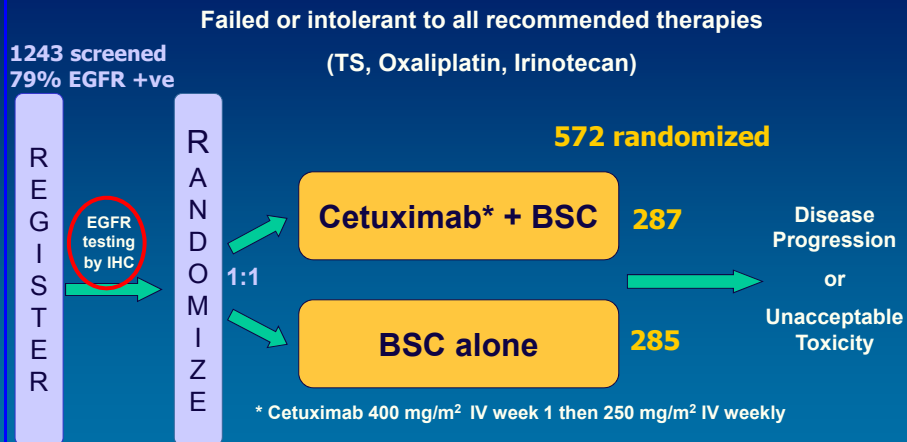
- IgG1 monoclonal antibody
- Binds to EGFR and competitively inhibits ligand binding (e.g. EGF)
- Blocks receptor dimerization, tyrosine kinase phosphorylation, and signal transduction
- IgG1-induced Antibody-Dependent Cell Cytotoxicity (ADCC)



## Cetuximab: Phase II Clinical Data

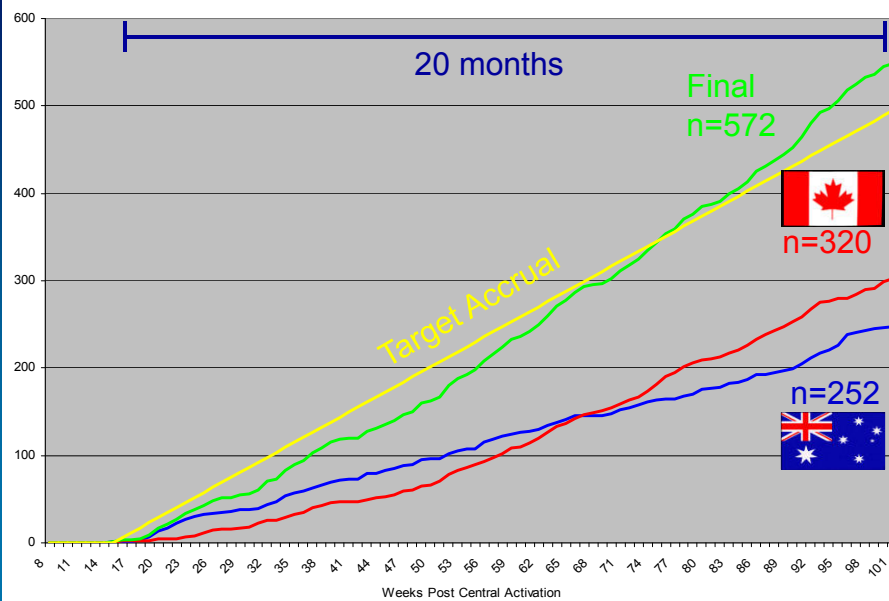
Study	Treatment	N	Efficacy	
			ORR	TTP
<b><u>Irinotecan Failure</u></b>				
<b>Saltz L.</b> <i>J Clin Oncol</i> 2004 (IMC 0141)	<b>Cetuximab</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>1.4 mo</b>
<b>Cunningham D.</b> <i>N Eng J Med</i> 2004 (EMR 007 / BOND)	<b>Cetuximab</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>1.5 mo</b>
	<b>Cetuximab + Irinotecan</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>22.9%</b>	<b>4.1 mo</b>
<b><u>Irinotecan, Oxaliplatin, Fluoropyrimidine Failure</u></b>				
<b>Lenz H-J.</b> <i>J Clin Oncol</i> 2006 (IMC 0144)	<b>Cetuximab</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>1.4 mo</b>

## NCIC CTG CO.17: Randomized Phase III Trial in mCRC



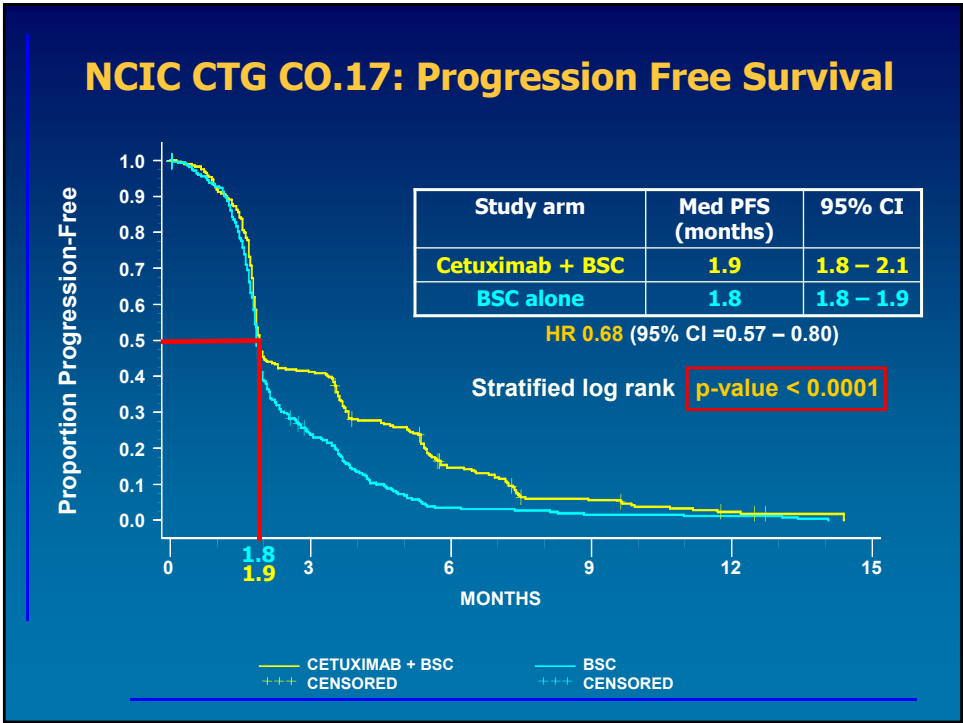
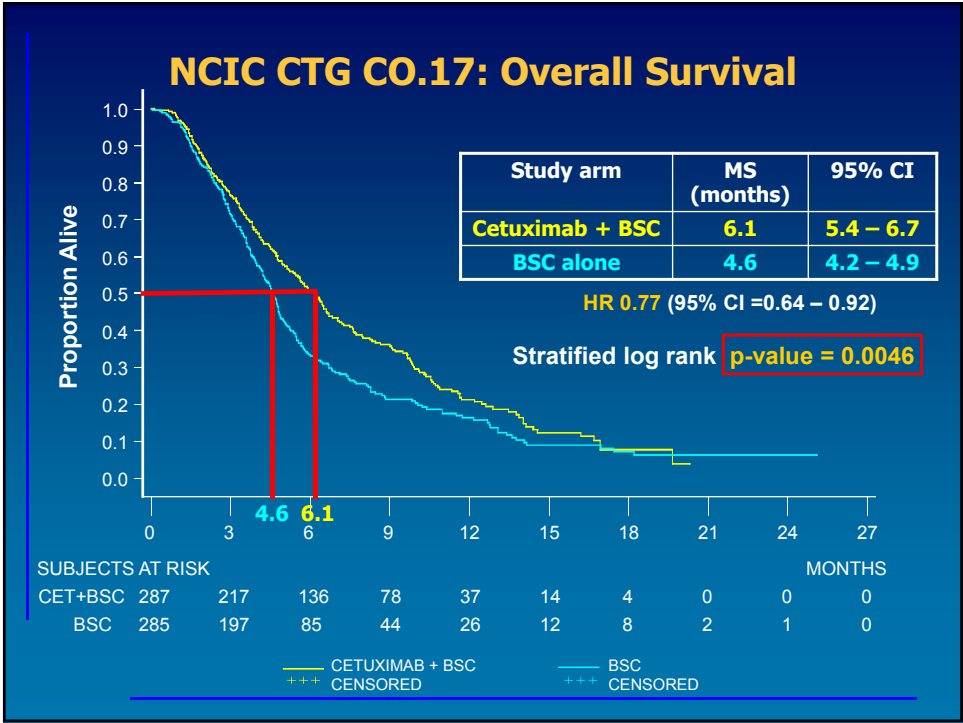
- **Primary Objective:** Overall Survival (5% alpha, 90% power, HR=0.74, 445 deaths)
- **Secondary:** Progression Free Survival, Objective Response Rate Safety, Quality of Life, Health Economics, Correlative Biomarkers (optional)

## NCIC CTG CO.17: Accrual



## CO.17 Top Accruing NCIC CTG Centres (/32)

Rank	Centre	# Patients
1	UHN – Princess Margaret Hospital (CAMP)	41 (7%)
2	Ottawa Health Research Institute (CAKO)	34
3	Cross Cancer Institute (CATW)	28
4	Odette Cancer Centre (CAMN)	22
5	CancerCare Manitoba (CARM)	21
6	BCCA – Vancouver Cancer Centre (CAVA)	19
7	Lakeridge Health Oshawa (CALO)	18
8	Hopital Charles LeMoyne (CAHO)	17
9	Allan Blair Cancer Centre (CASA)	13
10	CHUM - Hôpital Notre-Dame (CAHN)	11
11	Grand River Regional Cancer Centre (CANG)	10



## Proportion of Patients Who Had QoL Deterioration\* at 8 and 16 Weeks

Variable	Cetuximab + BSC	BSC	p-value**
<b>Week 8</b>			
Physical Function	24.9%	34.7%	0.051
Global Health Status	23.2%	38.3%	<b>0.004</b>
<b>Week 16</b>			
Physical Function	30.4%	43.4%	0.069
Global Health Status	31.3%	49.3%	<b>0.011</b>

\*Change score from baseline  $\leq -10$

\*\* From Fisher's exact test

## NCIC CTG CO.17: Primary Study Conclusions

- The safety profile of cetuximab monotherapy was acceptable and consistent with the reported incidence from previous mono-therapy studies
- Cetuximab significantly (but modestly) prolonged **Overall Survival** compared to Best Supportive Care in patients in which all other therapy had failed.
- **Progression Free Survival** and Response Rate were also significantly improved and **Quality of Life** significantly sustained with cetuximab over Best Supportive Care, but cost efficacy and utility values were high.

This was the first time single-agent biologic targeted therapy had shown a survival benefit in colorectal cancer.



*The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE*

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Cetuximab for the Treatment of Colorectal Cancer

Derek J. Jonker, M.D., Chris J. O'Callaghan, Ph.D., Christos S. Karapetis, M.D.,  
John R. Zalcberg, M.D., Dongsheng Tu, Ph.D., Heather-Jane Au, M.D.,  
Scott R. Berry, M.D., Marianne Krahn, M.D., Timothy Price, M.D.,  
R. John Simes, M.D., Niall C. Tebbutt, M.D., Guy van Hazel, M.D.,  
Rafal Wierzbicki, M.D., Christiane Langer, M.D., and Malcolm J. Moore, M.D.\*

### CO.17 Timeline

- "First Contact" = April 2002
- Protocol finalized = April 2003 (12)
- Contract signed = July 2003 (3)
- Central activation = Aug 2003 (1)
- First site activated = Nov 2003 (AGITG) , Dec 2003 (NCIC CTG) (3)
- First patient randomized = Dec 2003 (AGITG & NCIC CTG) (1)
- Last patient randomized = Aug 2005 (20)
- Clinical cut-off (data mature) = March 2006 (7)
- Database locked & final analysis = November 2006 (8)
- AACR plenary presentation = April 2007 (5)
- NEJM publication = November 2007 (7)

**Total = 5 years, 7 months**

## Was CO.17 a "Success" ?

*"A well designed trial, properly conducted in a timely manner, resulting in high quality data, which is stringently analyzed and fully and transparently reported?"*

**YES! —————> WHY?**

- ✓ Relevant question that will change practice, NOT superseded by changing practice (equipoise)
- ✓ Promising data from earlier stage trials, other disease sites
- ✓ New, particularly 'novel', drugs or treatments always of interest
- ± Simple is more attractive – i.e. complexity as scientifically necessary
- ✓ Limited therapeutic options – e.g. end stage settings
- X Good risk/benefit ratio (real or perceived) (BSC arm)
- ✓ Unique - Not already planned, in progress... or complete!
- ✓ Well funded/resourced (\$6,000 + \$150 EGFR negatives)

## CO.17 "the gravy"

### ... which patients benefited?

Median PFS the same in both arms

A reliable biomarker was needed:

- to provide an accurate prediction of who will respond/benefit from cetuximab
- to improve the therapeutic index
- to improve cost effectiveness of EGFR monoclonal antibody based therapy of pre-treated colorectal cancer

Ideally, the predictive value of the biomarker would need to be differentiated from its prognostic implications

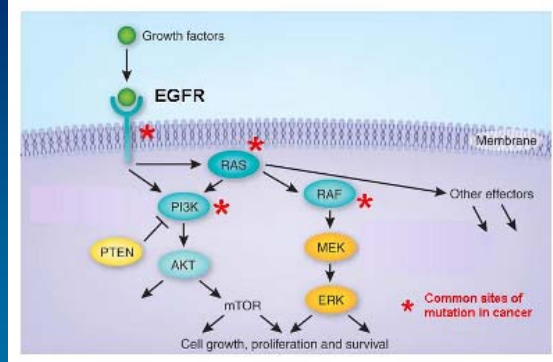
The *KRAS* mutation status of the tumour was proposed as a potential marker of response and a predictor of benefit

- Preliminary evidence from several single-arm studies
- Biological plausibility

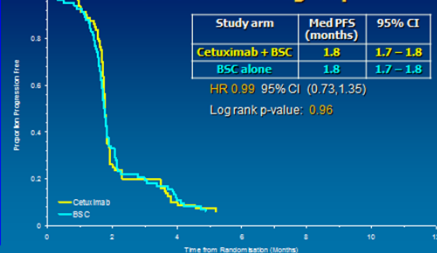


# The *KRAS* Oncogene

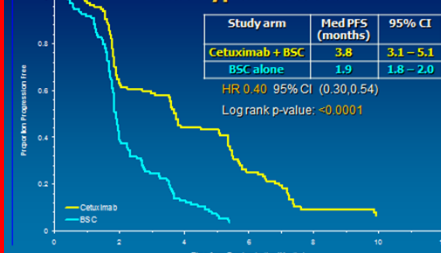
- *KRAS* is a small G-protein downstream of EGFR and is an essential self-inactivating component of the EGFR signalling cascade, normally cycling from GDP bound ("off" state) to GTP bound ("on" state) in response to receptor activation
- Mutations in the *KRAS* gene can lead to constitutive activation of *KRAS* independent of EGFR = "turning on" the signalling pathway.
- Inhibitors that are upstream of *KRAS*, eg EGFR receptor inhibitors, may be ineffective
- These activating *KRAS* mutations are among the most common oncogenic alterations in cancer (particularly at codons 12 and 13), occur in the early stages of carcinogenesis and can be detected by DNA extraction, amplification and sequencing techniques, even using FFPE tissue



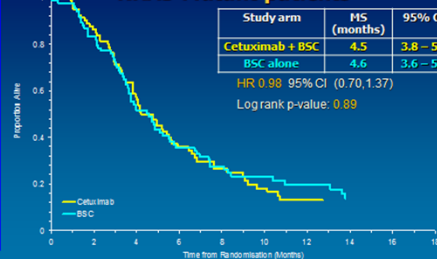
**NCIC CTG C0.17: PFS in the Mutant *KRAS* Subgroup**



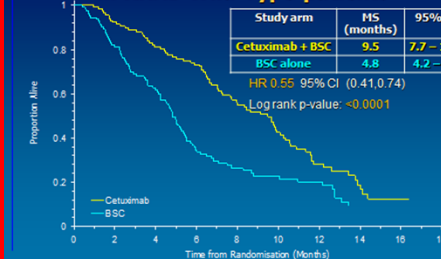
**NCIC CTG C0.17: PFS in the *KRAS* Wild-Type Patients**



**NCIC CTG C0.17: Overall survival in *KRAS* Mutant patients**



**NCIC CTG C0.17: Overall survival in *KRAS* Wild-Type patients**



# The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

OCTOBER 23, 2008

VOL. 359 NO. 17

## K-ras Mutations and Benefit from Cetuximab in Advanced Colorectal Cancer

Christos S. Karapetis, M.D., Shirin Khambata-Ford, Ph.D., Derek J. Jonker, M.D., Chris J. O'Callaghan, Ph.D.,  
Dongsheng Tu, Ph.D., Niall C. Tebbutt, Ph.D., R. John Simes, M.D., Haji Chalhah, M.D., Jeremy D. Shapiro, M.D.,  
Sonia Robitaille, M.Sc., Timothy J. Price, M.D., Lois Shepherd, M.D.C.M., Heather-Jane Au, M.D.,  
Christiane Langer, M.D., Malcolm J. Moore, M.D., and John R. Zalcberg, M.D., Ph.D.\*

VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 11 • APRIL 10, 2009

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

ORIGINAL REPORT

## Health-Related Quality of Life in Patients With Advanced Colorectal Cancer Treated With Cetuximab: Overall and KRAS-Specific Results of the NCIC CTG and AGITG CO.17 Trial

From the Cross Cancer Institute,  
Edmonton, Alberta; National Cancer  
Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group;  
and Departments of Oncology and  
Community Health and Epidemiology,  
Queen's University, Kingston; Princess  
Margaret Hospital, Toronto; Grand River  
Regional Cancer Centre, Kitchener; and

Heather-Jane Au, Christos S. Karapetis, Chris J. O'Callaghan, Dongsheng Tu, Malcolm J. Moore,  
John R. Zalcberg, Hagen Kennecke, Jeremy D. Shapiro, Sheryl Koski, Nick Pavlakis, Danielle Charpentier,  
David Wyld, Michael Jefford, Gregory J. Knight, Nadine M. Magoski, Michael D. Brundage,  
and Derek J. Jonker

JNCI Journal of the National Cancer Institute Advance Access published August 7, 2009

### ARTICLE

## Prospective Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Cetuximab in Metastatic Colorectal Cancer: Evaluation of National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group CO.17 Trial

Nicole Mittmann, Heather-Jane Au, Dongsheng Tu, Christopher J. O'Callaghan, Pierre K. Isogai,  
Christos S. Karapetis, John R. Zalcberg, William K. Evans, Malcolm J. Moore, Jehan Siddiqui, Brian Findlay,  
Bruce Colwell, John Simes, Peter Gibbs, Matthew Links, Niall C. Tebbutt, Derek J. Jonker, Working Group  
on Economic Analysis of the National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group, Australasian  
Gastrointestinal Interest Group

### CO.17 Other Metrics of "Success"

- Multiple (10+) peer-reviewed scientific presentations and publications in high-impact journals
  - Primary, secondary and unplanned post-hoc analyses of trial data and biological samples
- Multiple authorship positions for NCIC CTG investigators & fellows (... virtually every PI)
- Establish collaborative academic cooperative group partnership with AGITG (NHMRC CTC)
  - 6 GI trials + lung, brain, prostate, etc.
- Demonstrate NCIC CTG capability to run international multi-centre registrational phase III trials
- Correlative biomarker studies STILL ongoing

**Phase III randomized trial of  
cetuximab + either brivanib alaninate  
or placebo in patients with metastatic,  
chemotherapy refractory, *K-RAS* wild-  
type colorectal carcinoma:**

**The NCIC Clinical Trials Group and AGITG  
CO.20 trial**

NCIC Clinical Trials Group  
NCIC Groupe des essais cliniques



## Brivanib Alaninate

- Potent, orally available multikinase inhibitor targeting pathways driving tumour angiogenesis:
    - Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor (VEGFR)
    - Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor (FGFR)
- VEGFR-2 (IC<sub>50</sub> = 23 nM)      FGFR-1 (IC<sub>50</sub> = 150 nM)  
 VEGFR-3 (IC<sub>50</sub> = 10 nM)      FGFR-2 (IC<sub>50</sub> = 125 nM)  
    FGFR-3 (IC<sub>50</sub> = 68 nM)
- Study Rationale
    - Combination of two targeted agents
      - Cetuximab targets EGFR signalling driving tumour growth
      - Brivanib targets receptors driving tumour angiogenesis
    - Synergistic inhibition of EGFR and VEGFR/FGFR
    - Potent *in vivo* activity in xenograft models
    - Full doses of both drugs can be safely combined

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Jonker et al. Ann Oncol 2011; 22:1413-19; Garrett et al. Br J Cancer 2011; 105:44-52

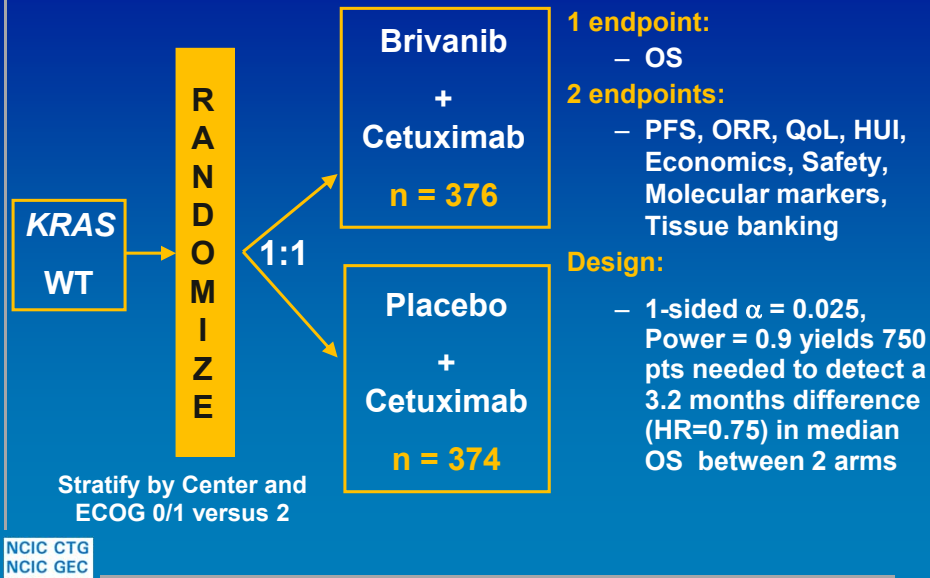
## NCIC CTG CO.20: Background

Retrospective analysis of <i>K-RAS</i> status demonstrated benefit from cetuximab only in wild-type tumors – NCIC CTG CO.17 correlative analysis	Retrospective phase III	<i>K-RAS</i> wt CET + BSC (n = 110)	<i>K-RAS</i> wt BSC (n = 105)
		OS = 9.5 m PFS = 3.7 m	OS = 4.8 m PFS = 1.9m
Retrospective analysis of <i>K-RAS</i> wild-type colorectal cancer patients treated with cetuximab + brivanib in a phase I/II trial	Retrospective phase I/II	<i>K-RAS</i> wt CET + BRIV	
		• PFS = 5.4 m (n = 24) • PFS = 10.9 m (n = 15 with no prior anti-EGFR therapy)	

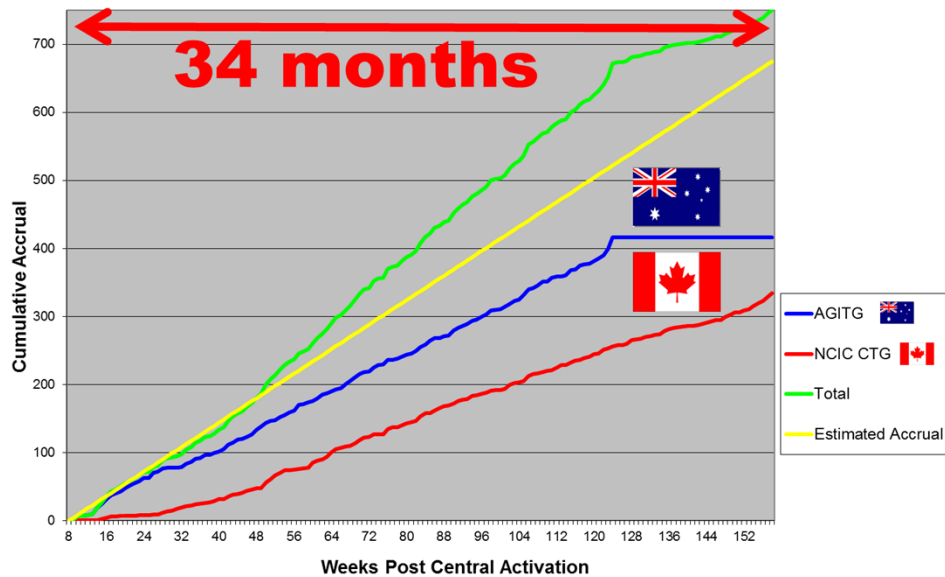
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Jonker et al. N Engl J Med 2007; 357:2040-8; Karapetis et al. N Engl J Med 2008; 359: 757-65; Garrett et al. Br J Cancer 2011; 105:44-52; Ayers et al. 2009 ASCO GI Cancers Symposium, abstract 375

## NCIC CTG CO.20: Schema



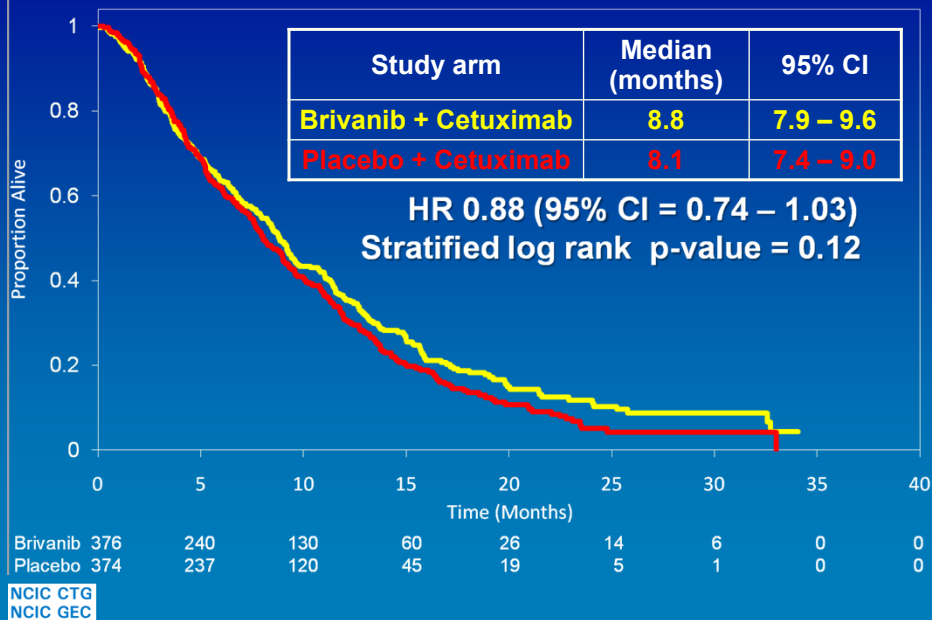
CO.20 Cumulative Randomisations



## CO.20 Top Accruing NCIC CTG Centres (/39)

Rank	Centre	# Patients
1	Ottawa Health Research Institute (CAKO)	48 (7%)
2	CHUQ – Pavillon Hôtel-Dieu de Québec (CAGQ)	42
3	UHN – Princess Margaret Hospital (CAMP)	31
4	Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Centre (CAAJ)	29
5	CHUM - Hôpital Notre-Dame (CAHN)	26
6	Cross Cancer Institute (CATW)	17
7	Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CAGH)	10
	Lakeridge Health Oshawa (CALO)	10
9	Allan Blair Cancer Centre (CASS)	9
	Hôtel Dieu de Lévis (CAGV)	9
	McGill University – Department of Oncology (CAHC)	9

## Overall Survival



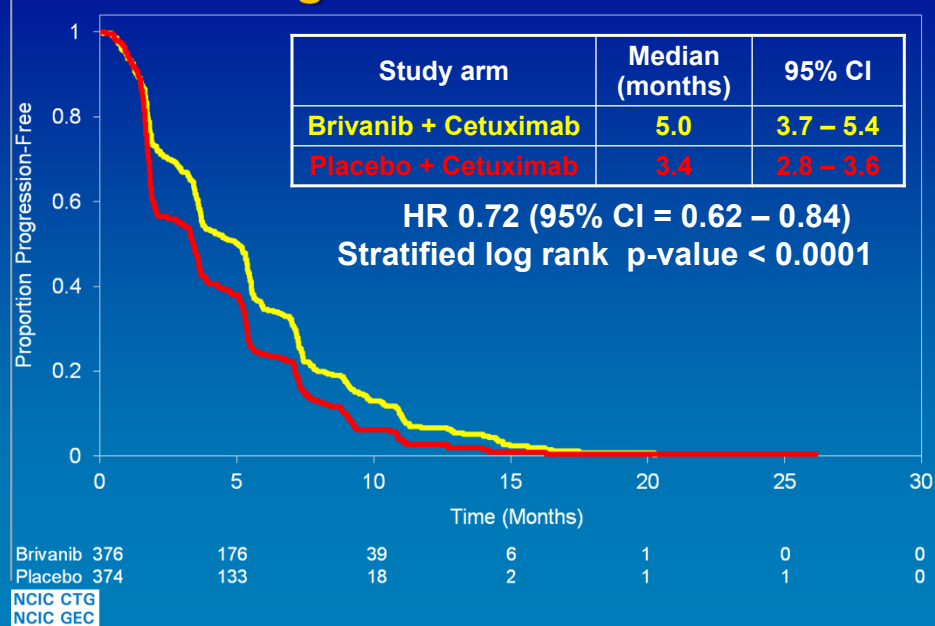


## Survival Result by Subgroups

Subset	Hazard Ratio and 95% CI	Median Survival	
		Brivanib + Cetuximab	Placebo + Cetuximab
All randomized	0.88 (0.74 – 1.03)	8.8 mo	8.1 mo
ECOG: 0-1 <b>90%</b>	0.84 (0.71 – 1.00)	9.2 mo	8.7 mo
2 <b>10%</b>	1.21 (0.74 – 1.98)	3.5 mo	4.8 mo
Age: <65	0.86 (0.69 – 1.08)	9.1 mo	8.8 mo
≥65	0.89 (0.69 – 1.13)	8.7 mo	7.6 mo
Gender: female	0.80 (0.60 – 1.05)	8.6 mo	7.7 mo
male	0.92 (0.75 – 1.13)	8.8 mo	8.5 mo
Prior VEGF: Yes	0.80 (0.62 – 1.05)	8.4 mo	7.5 mo
No	0.93 (0.76 – 1.15)	9.2 mo	8.5 mo
LDH: Normal	0.65 (0.46 – 0.92)	13.3 mo	10.8 mo
>ULN	0.99 (0.81 – 1.21)	7.9 mo	7.7 mo

NCIC CTG NCIC GEC Favours Brivanib Favours Placebo

## Progression Free Survival



## PFS Result by Subgroups

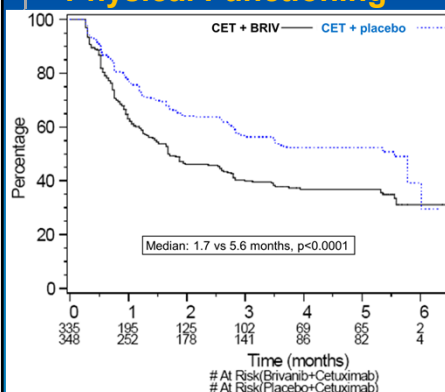
Subset	Hazard Ratio and 95% CI	Median PFS	
		Brivanib + Cetuximab	Placebo + Cetuximab
All randomized	0.72 (0.62 – 0.84)	5.0 mo	3.4 mo
ECOG: 0-1	0.71 (0.60 – 0.83)	5.2 mo	3.4 mo
2	0.88 (0.55 – 1.41)	2.9 mo	1.8 mo
Age: <65	0.74 (0.60 – 0.91)	5.2 mo	3.4 mo
≥65	0.70 (0.56 – 0.88)	4.3 mo	3.4 mo
Gender: female	0.64 (0.50 – 0.82)	4.7 mo	1.9 mo
male	0.75 (0.50 – 0.82)	5.2 mo	3.6 mo
Prior VEGF: Yes	0.67 (0.53 – 0.86)	5.0 mo	2.5 mo
No	0.77 (0.63 – 0.93)	4.9 mo	3.5 mo
LDH: Normal	0.66 (0.49 – 0.88)	5.4 mo	3.3 mo
>ULN	0.74 (0.62 – 0.90)	4.6 mo	3.6 mo

NCIC CTG NCIC GEC Favours Brivanib Favours Placebo

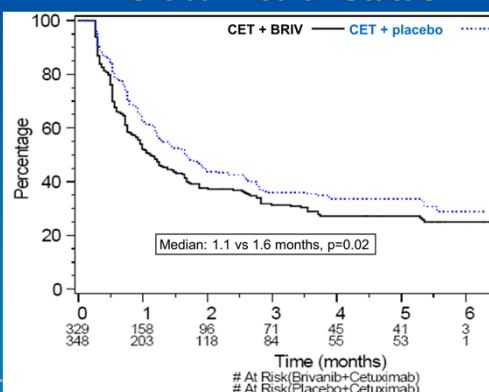
## NCIC CTG CO.20: Quality of Life

- 96% of patients assessable for QoL
- No imbalance in baseline QoL or compliance
- Co-primary QoL endpoints: Time to deterioration (≥ 10 points) on Physical Functioning and Global subscales of EORTC QLQ-C30

### Physical Functioning



### Global Health Status



## NCIC CTG CO.20: Grade 3+ On-Treatment Adverse Events

Adverse Event (all p<0.05)	Brivanib + Cetuximab n = 372	Placebo + Cetuximab n = 373
	No. of pts (%)	No. of pts (%)
Fatigue	94 (25)	39 (11)
Hypertension	39 (11)	4 (1)
Rash	38 (10)	20 (5)
Abdominal pain	36 (10)	19 (5)
Diarrhea	27 (7)	11 (3)
Dehydration	25 (7)	6 (2)
Anorexia	20 (5)	4 (1)
Overall non-hem AE incidence	290 (78)	198 (53)
AST elevation	62 (17)	21 (6)
ALT elevation	79 (21)	16 (4)
Hyponatremia	48 (13)	26 (7)
TSH elevation	90 (24)	14 (4)

## NCIC CTG CO.20: Treatment Dose Intensities

Drug	Dose Intensity Parameter	Brivanib + Cetuximab n = 372	Placebo + Cetuximab n = 373
		No. of pts (%)	No. of pts (%)
Cetuximab	≥ 90% Planned Intensity	213 (57)	311 (83)
	At least 1 dose reduction	132 (35)	40 (11)
	At least 1 dose omission	275 (74)	199 (53)
Brivanib/ Placebo	≥ 90% Planned Intensity	180 (48)	324 (87)
	At least 1 dose reduction	162 (44)	27 (7)
	At least 1 dose omission	301 (81)	188 (50)

## NCIC CTG CO.20: Treatment Discontinuations

	Brivanib + Cetuximab n = 372	Placebo + Cetuximab n = 373
	No. of pts (%)	No. of pts (%)
DC cetuximab due to AE	29 (8)	14 (4)
DC brivanib due to AE	81 (22)	12 (3)

- Most common reasons for discontinuation of cetuximab/brivanib were fatigue (5%), ALT (2%), AST (2%), dyspnea (2%)
- Only one death on brivanib arm was considered possibly related by investigator

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## NCIC CTG CO.20: Conclusions

In this phase III trial of Brivanib + Cetuximab *versus* Placebo + Cetuximab in metastatic, chemorefractory *K-RAS* wild-type colorectal cancer:

- the primary endpoint of improvement in overall survival was not met
- both objective response and progression free survival were improved
- time to deterioration on physical function and global health quality of life subscales worsened
- on-treatment adverse events were consistent with those reported for each drug given as monotherapy
- dose intensity of cetuximab was reduced when administered in combination with brivanib

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Phase III Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Study of  
Cetuximab Plus Brivanib Alaninate Versus Cetuximab Plus  
Placebo in Patients With Metastatic, Chemotherapy-Refractory,  
Wild-Type *K-RAS* Colorectal Carcinoma: The NCIC  
Clinical Trials Group and AGITG CO.20 Trial

Lillian L. Siu, Jeremy D. Shapiro, Derek J. Jonker, Chris S. Karapetis, John R. Zalcberg, John Simes,  
Felix Couture, Malcolm J. Moore, Timothy J. Price, Jehan Siddiqui, Louise M. Nott, Danielle Charpentier,  
Winston Liaw, Michael B. Sawyer, Michael Jefford, Nadine M. Magoski, Andrew Haydon, Ian Walters,  
Jolie Ringash, Dongsheng Tu, and Chris J. O'Callaghan

Quality of Life in Patients With *K-RAS*  
Wild-Type Colorectal Cancer

The CO.20 Phase 3 Randomized Trial

Jolie Ringash, MD<sup>1</sup>; Heather-Jane Au, MD<sup>2</sup>; Lillian L. Siu, MD<sup>3</sup>; Jeremy D. Shapiro, MD<sup>4</sup>; Derek J. Jonker, MD<sup>5</sup>;  
John R. Zalcberg, MD<sup>6</sup>; Malcolm J. Moore, MD<sup>7</sup>; Andrew Strickland, MD<sup>8</sup>; Rami Kotb, MD<sup>9</sup>; Mark Jeffery, MD<sup>10</sup>;  
Thierry Alcindor, MD<sup>11</sup>; Siobhan Ng, MD<sup>12</sup>; Muhammad Salim, MD<sup>13</sup>; Sabe Sabesan, MD<sup>14</sup>; Jay C. Easaw, MD<sup>15</sup>;  
Jenny Shannon, MD<sup>16</sup>; Fabyolla El-Tahche, PhD<sup>17</sup>; Ian Walters, MD<sup>18</sup>; Dongsheng Tu, PhD<sup>19</sup>;  
Christopher J. O'Callaghan, DVM<sup>19</sup>; on behalf of the NCIC Clinical Trials Group and  
the Australasian Gastrointestinal Trials Group

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## CO.20 Timeline

- "First Contact" = June 2005 (CO.17 Final Analysis = March 2006)
- Protocol finalized = August 2007 (26)
- Contract signed = December 2007 (4)
- Central activation = February 2008 (2)
- First pt rand = March 2008 (AGITG) , May 2008 (NCIC CTG) (2)
- Last patient randomized = February 2011 (34)
- Clinical cut-off (data mature) = March 2011 (1)
- Database locked & final analysis = September 2011 (6)
- GI ASCO oral presentation = January 2012 (4)
- ASCO oral (update of maturing data) = June 2012 (5)
- JCO publication (epub) = May 2013 (11)

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**Total = 7 years, 11 months**

## Was CO.20 a “Success” ?

*“A well designed trial, properly conducted in a timely manner, resulting in high quality data, which is stringently analyzed and fully and transparently reported?”*

**YES!**

- ✓ Relevant question that would change practice, NOT superseded by changing practice (equipoise)
- ± Promising data from earlier stage trials, other disease sites
- ✓ New, particularly ‘novel’, drugs or treatments always of interest
- ± Simple is more attractive – i.e. complexity as scientifically necessary
- ✓ Limited therapeutic options – e.g. end stage settings
- ✓ Good risk/benefit ratio (real or perceived) (all received Cetuximab)
- ✓ Unique - Not already planned, in progress... or complete!
- ✓ Well funded/resourced (\$9,000 + \$250 correlative samples)

NCIC Clinical Trials Group  
NCIC Groupe des essais cliniques



## Was CO.20 a “conventional” success?

**NO**

- primary endpoint was NOT met
- insufficient results for regulatory approval
- detrimental QoL
- will not change standard of practice

**BUT...**

- there IS evidence of activity and efficacy....

**Biomarker analyses are ongoing!!**

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The New England  
Journal of Medicine

# Thank You



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