

# Hepatocellular Carcinoma

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# Hepatocellular Carcinoma

Epidemiology

Screening

Diagnosis

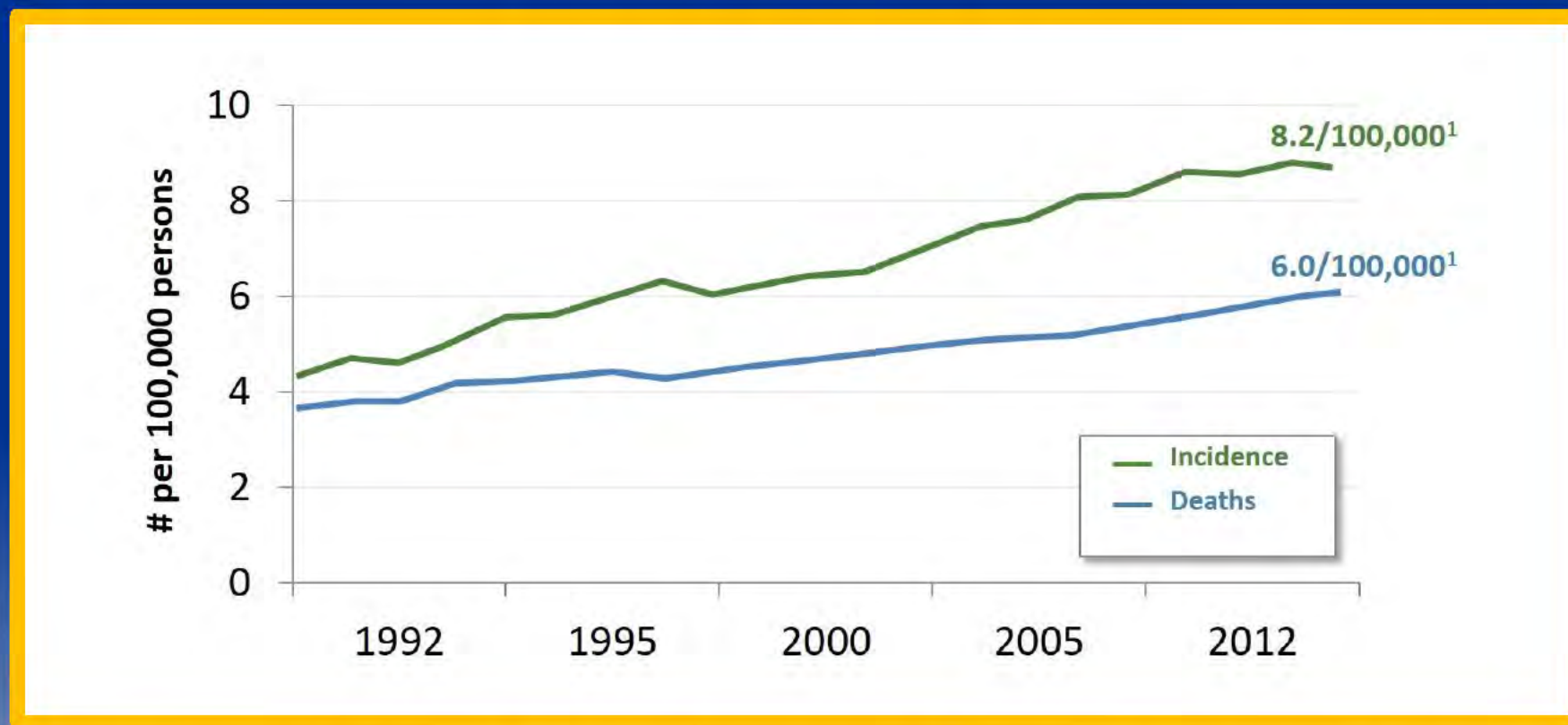
Staging

Treatment



# Epidemiology

# Liver Cancer Incidence and Death Rates in the US



90% are  
HCC

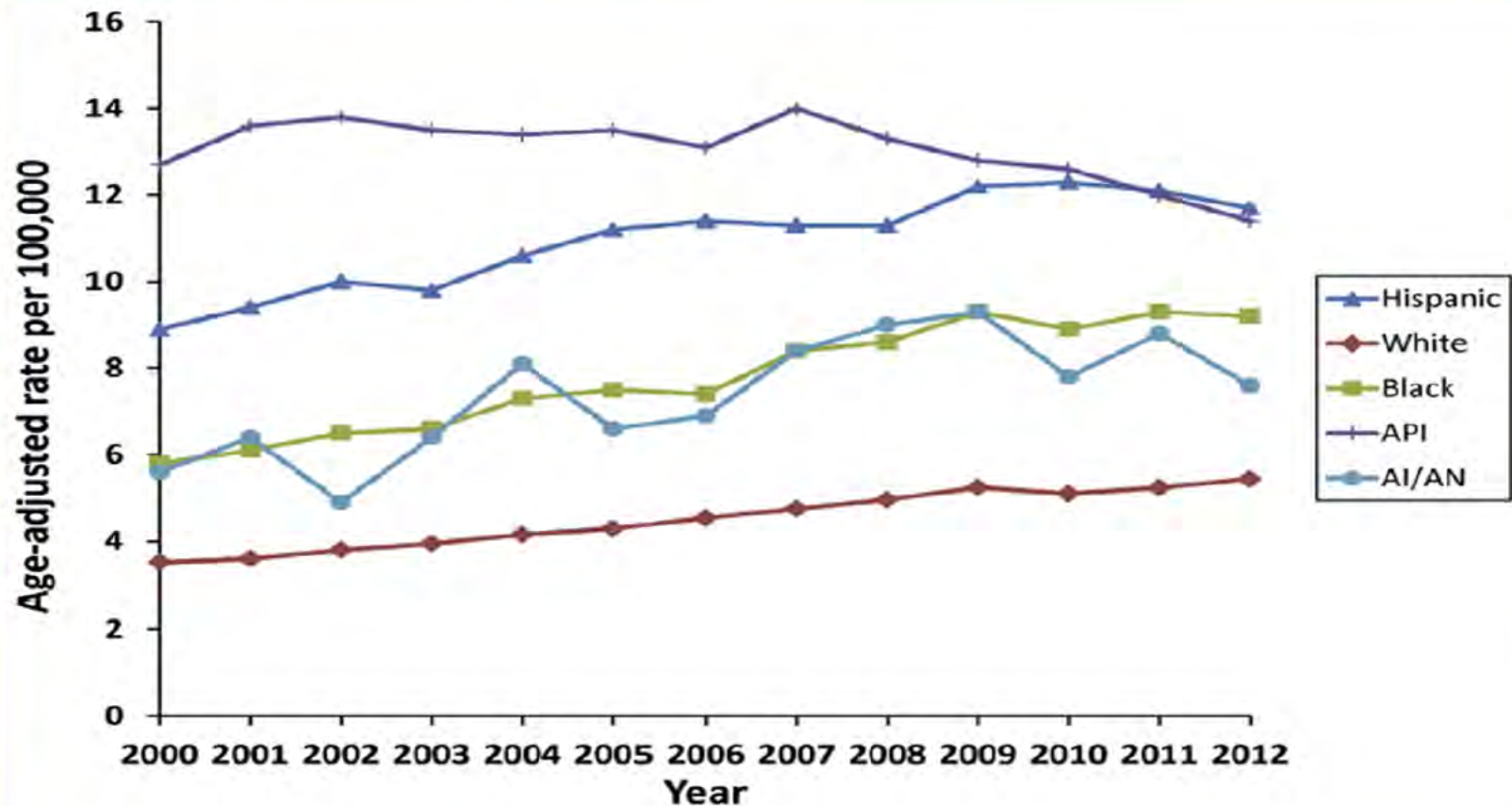
- Since 1980, the incidence of liver and intrahepatic bile duct cancer has more than tripled<sup>2</sup>.

1. National Cancer Institute. Available at: <http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/livibd.html>. Accessed February 7, 2016;

2. American Cancer Society. Available at: <http://www.cancer.org/acs/groups/content/@research/documents/document/acspc-047079.pdf>. Accessed February 7, 2016.

# HCC Epidemiology in USA

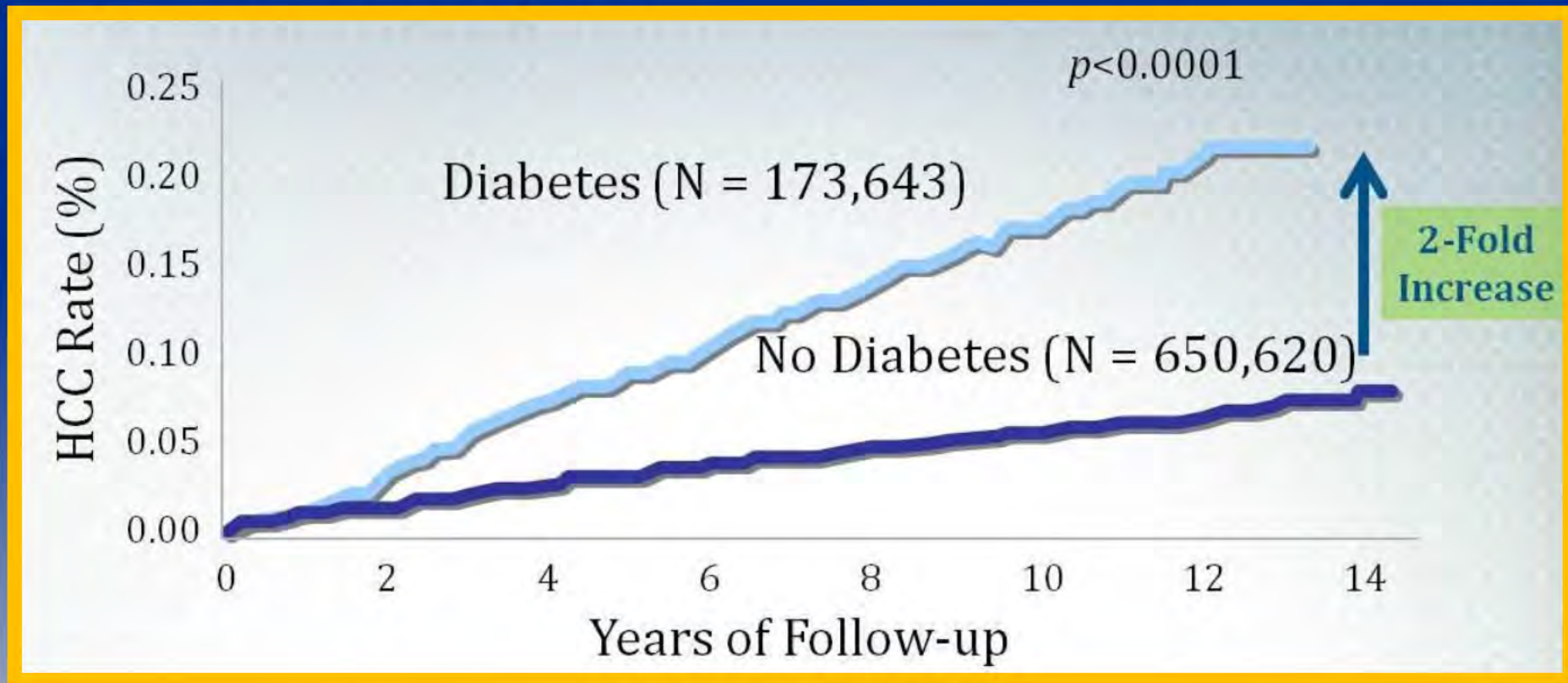
Fifth most common Cancer and second cause of Cancer-Related Death in the World  
236,960 cases of HCC diagnosed in the US between 2000 and 2012



# Diabetes and HCC Risk

Diabetes significantly increases HCC Risk; OR, 2.5 [95% CI, 1.9-3.2]

- Independent of alcohol use <sup>1</sup>
- Independent of viral hepatitis <sup>1</sup>



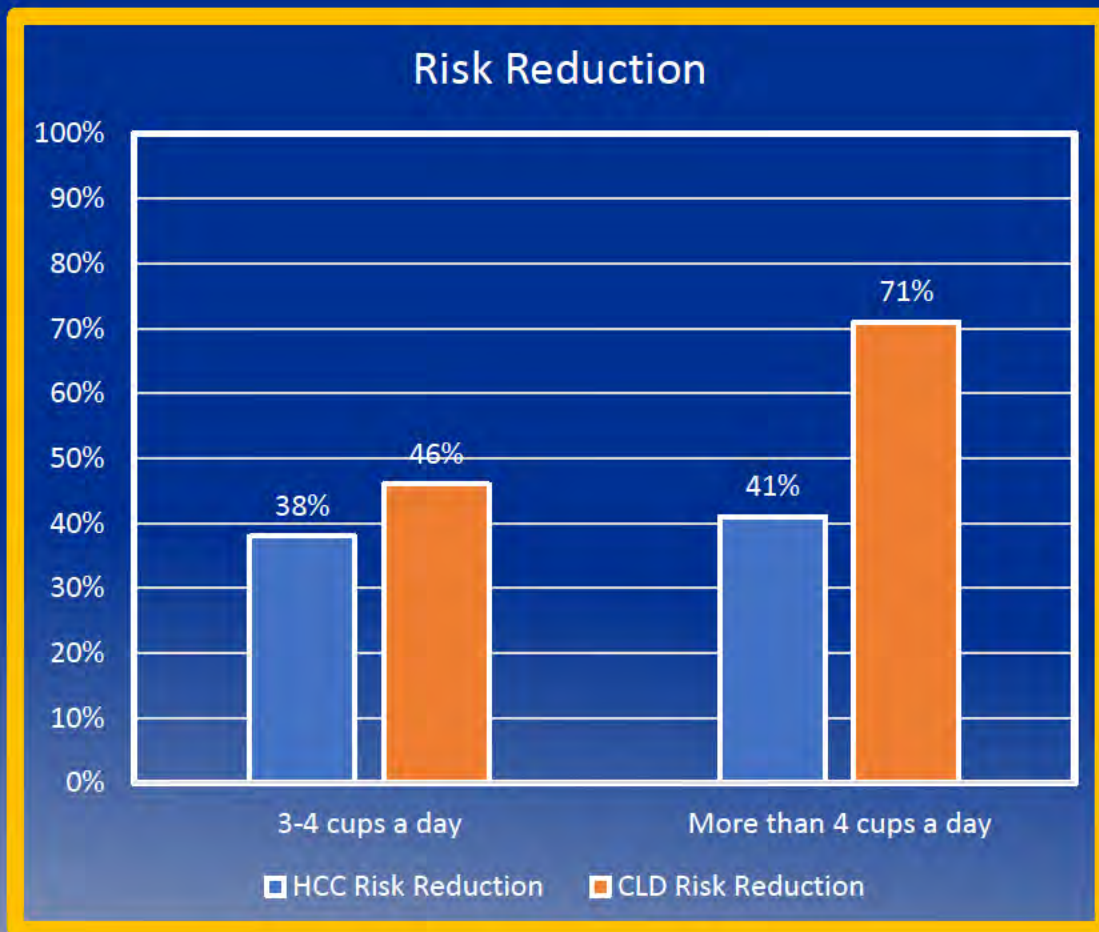
1. El-Serag HB, et al. Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2006;4:369-380

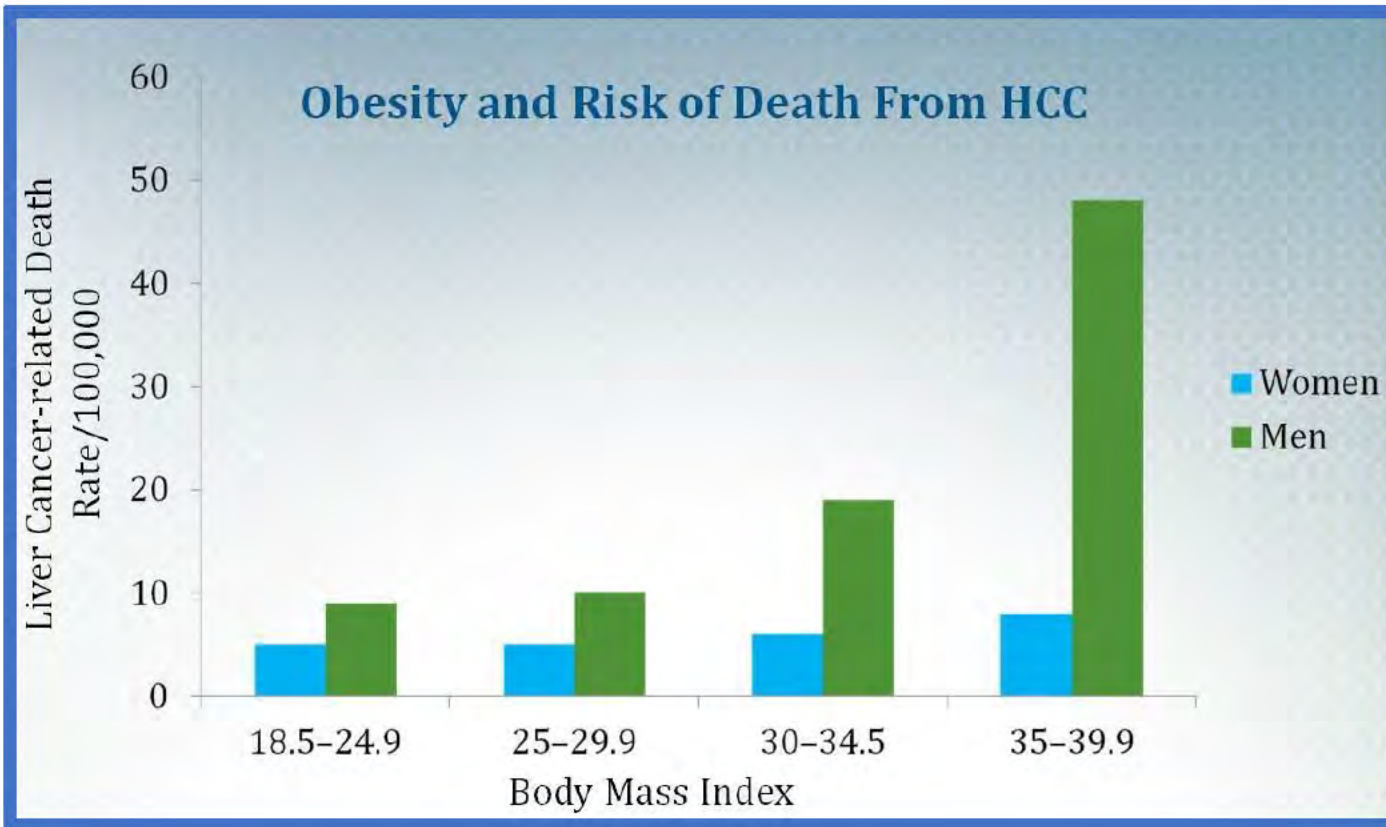
2. El-Serag HB, et al. Gastroenterology. 2004;126:460-468

# Association of coffee intake with reduced incidence of liver cancer and death from chronic liver disease in the US multiethnic cohort

Setiawan VW et al. Gastroenterology. 2015 Jan;148(1):118-25

- Large Prospective study: Multi-ethnic Cohort (MEC): >215,000 participants
  - Designed to assess diet, lifestyle and genetic risks for cancer and chronic disease.
  - CA and Hawaii: established 1993-1996
- Looked at CLD, HCC and coffee consumption
- Equal for **decaf and caffeinated**
- Equal among all ethnic groups and gender
- Results were also independent of BMI, smoking status, alcohol intake and Diabetes status.





# Obesity and Risk of Death from HCC

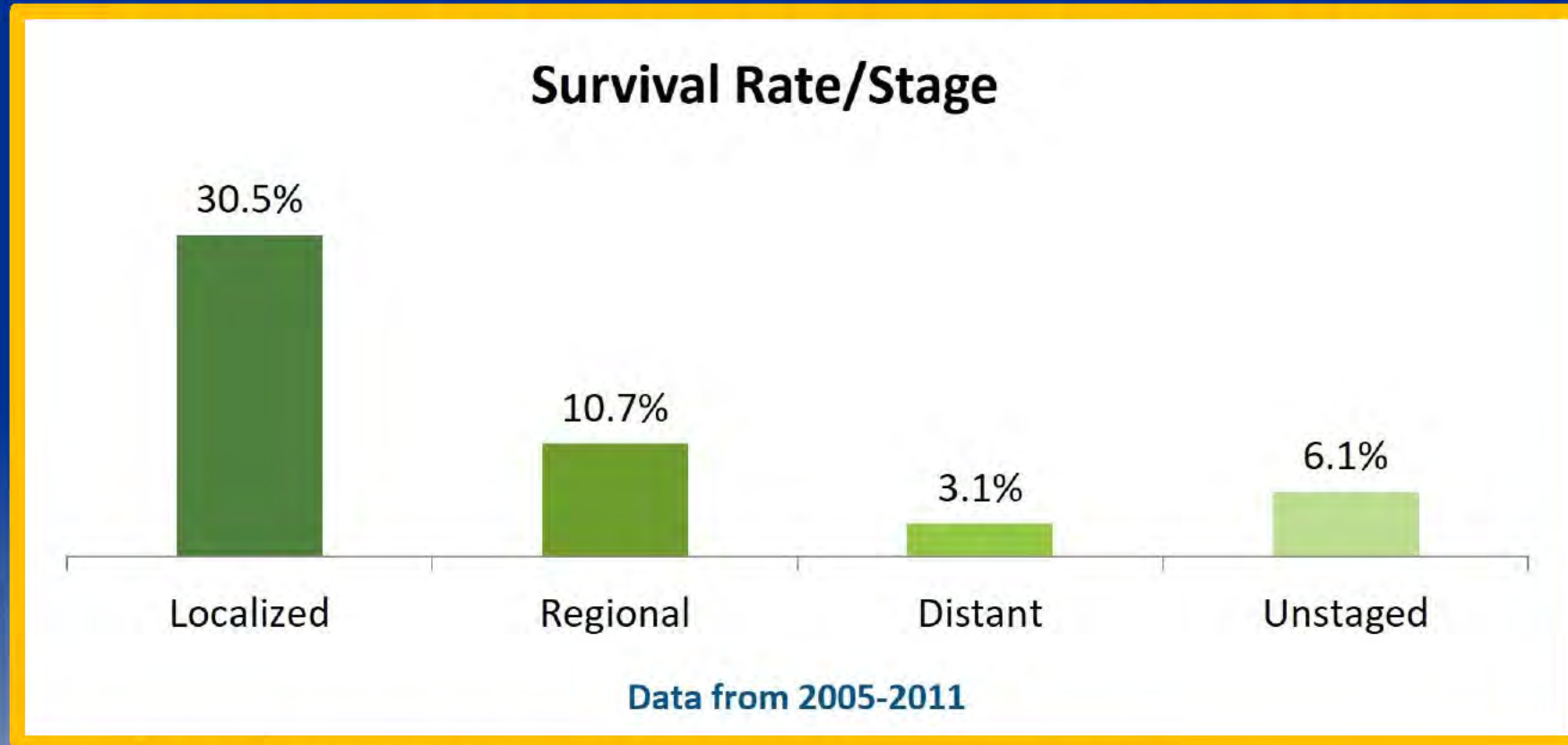
Calle EE, et al. N Engl J Med.  
2003;348:1625-1638

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# Screening for HCC

# HCC: Prognosis

- 5-year survival is substantially worse when liver cancer is diagnosed at a late stage<sup>2</sup>:

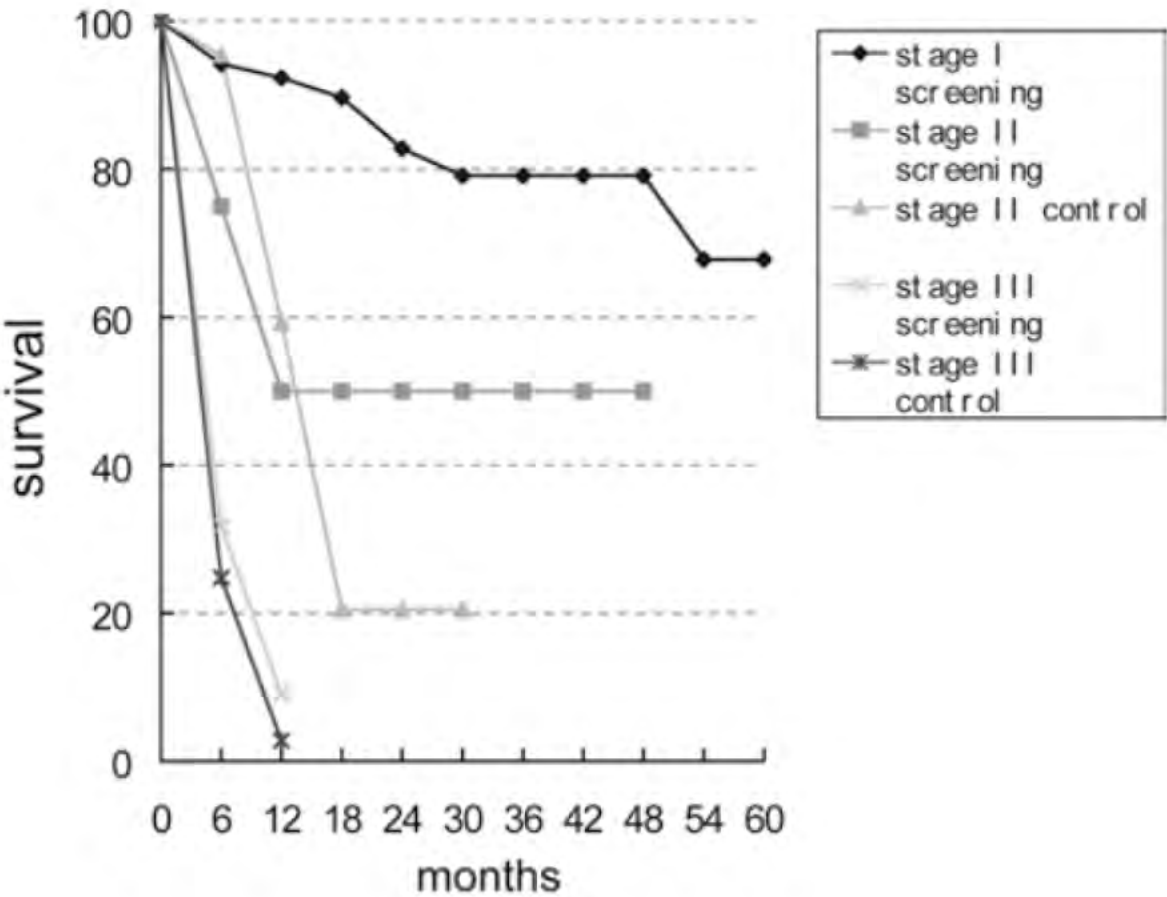


- Majority of patients are diagnosed at a late stage<sup>1,2</sup>

1. Llovet J.M. et al. Lancet 2003;362:1907-1917

2. National Cancer Institute. Available at: <http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/livibd.html>. Accessed February 7, 2016.

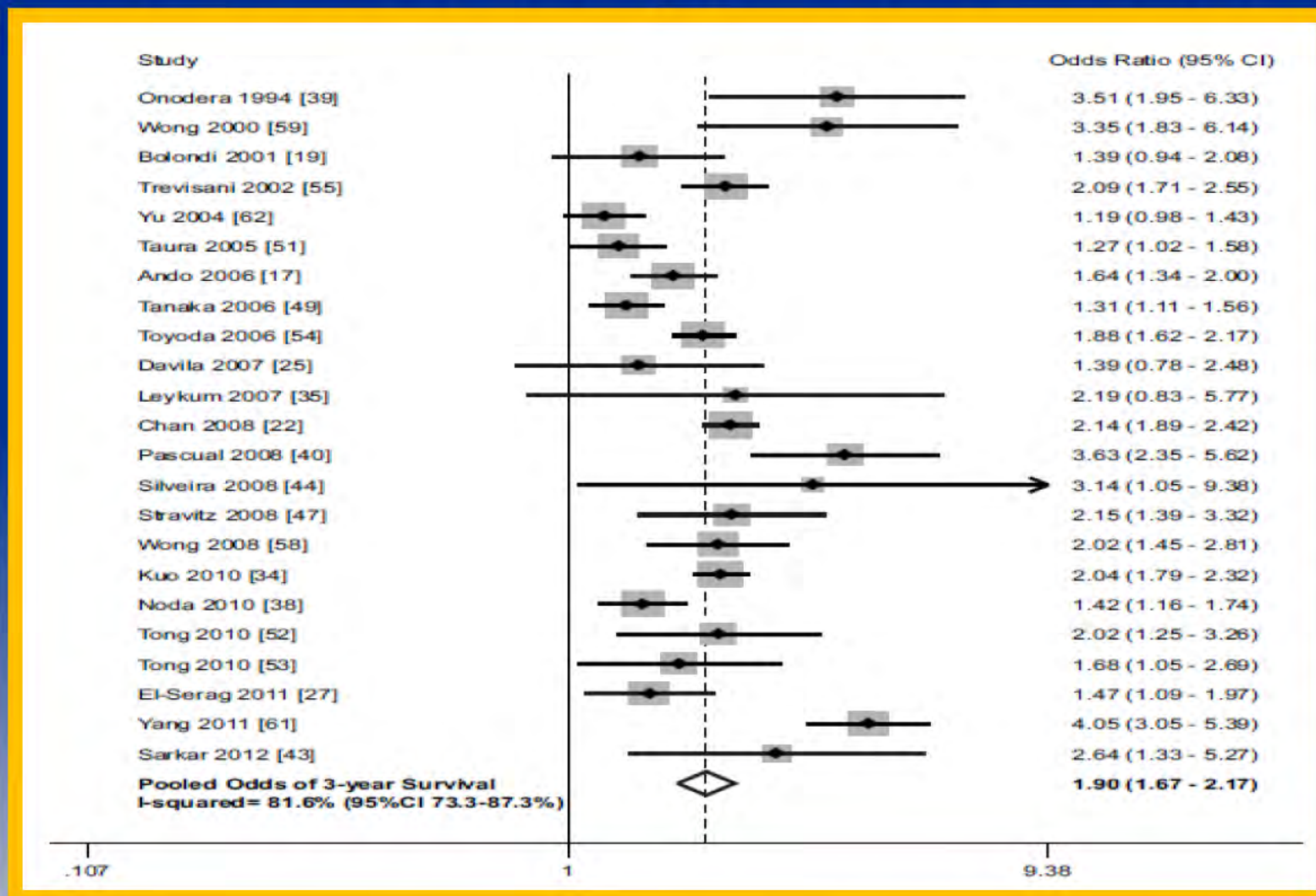
# Surveillance reduces HCC-related mortality in chronic hepatitis B



| Variable                | Screen Group (n=9373) | Control Group (n=9443) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| HCC cases               | 86                    | 67                     |
| % Stage I               | 60.5%                 | 0%                     |
| % Curative treatment    | 46.5%                 | 7.5%                   |
| # HCC death             | 32                    | 54                     |
| Mortality (per 100,000) | 83.2                  | 131.5                  |
| Rate Ratio              | 0.63 (0.4-0.9)        |                        |

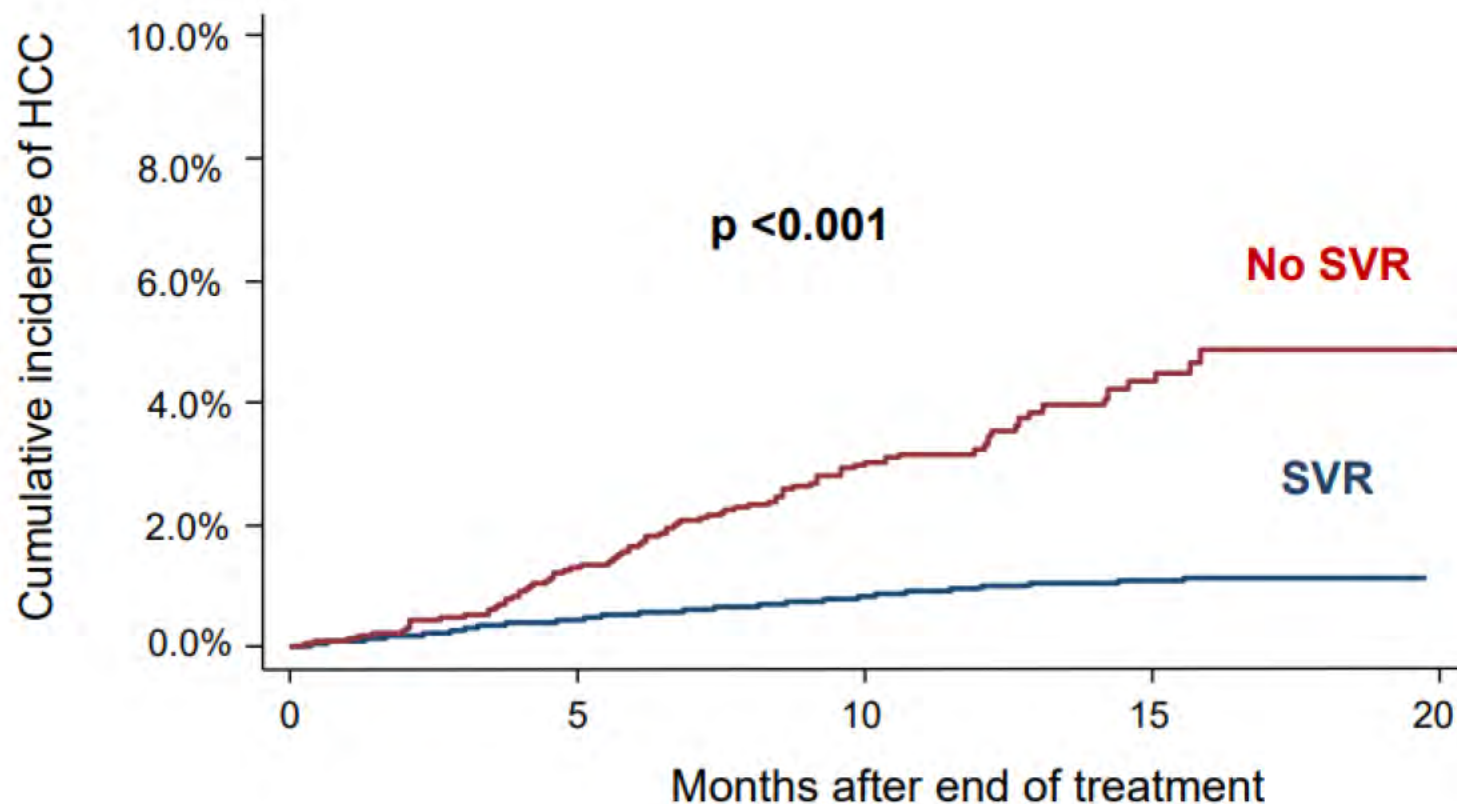
# Screening and Surveillance of HCC

HCC Surveillance is Associated With Improved Survival in Patients With Cirrhosis



1.90-fold improved odds of 3-year survival

# Patients with SVR have decreased albeit continued risk of HCC



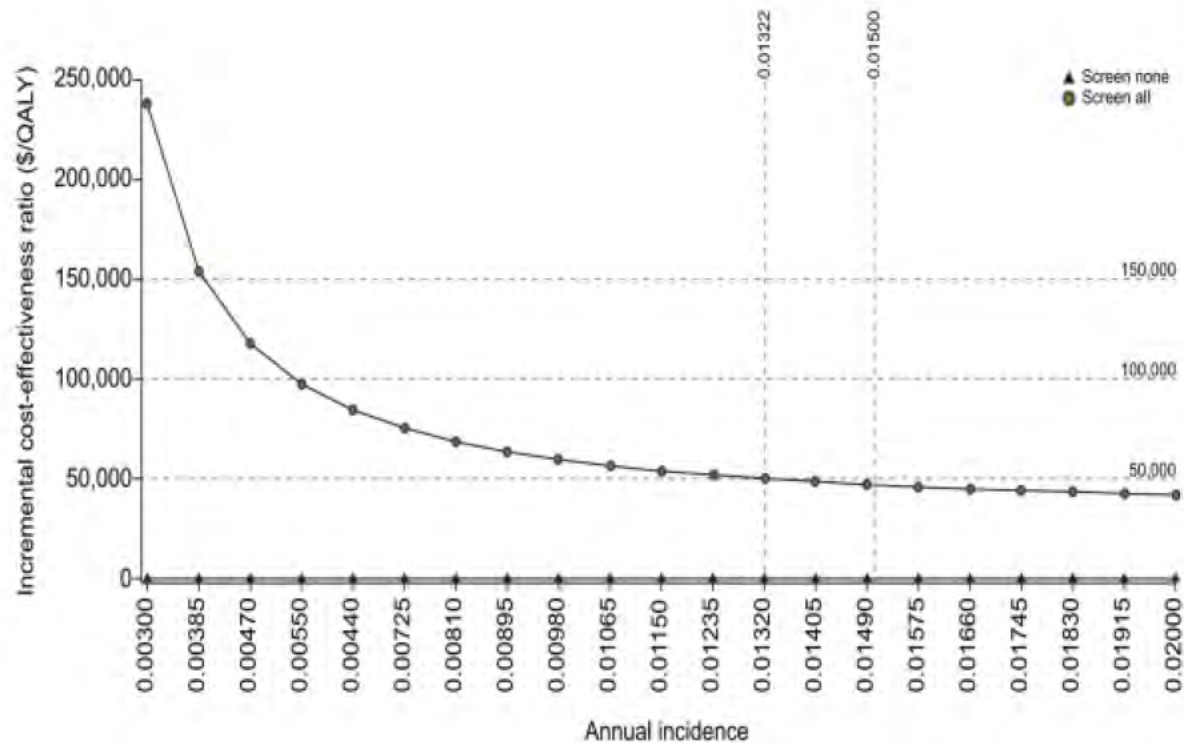
# Groups with Surveillance Benefit for HCC

| Population group                                      | Threshold for Surveillance Efficacy | HCC Incidence                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Asian male hepatitis B carriers over age 40           | 0.2                                 | 0.4%-0.6% per year                           |
| Asian female hepatitis B carriers over age 50         | 0.2                                 | 0.3%-0.6% per year                           |
| Hepatitis B carrier with family history of HCC        | 0.2                                 | Incidence higher than without family history |
| African and/or North American blacks with hepatitis B | 0.2                                 | HCC occurs at a younger age                  |
| Hepatitis B carriers with cirrhosis                   | 0.2-1.5                             | 3%-8% per year                               |
| Hepatitis C cirrhosis                                 | 1.5                                 | 3%-5% per year                               |
| PBC Stage 4 (cirrhosis)                               | 1.5                                 | 3%-5% per year                               |
| Genetic hemochromatosis and cirrhosis                 | 1.5                                 | Unknown, but probably >1.5% per year         |
| Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency and cirrhosis          | 1.5                                 | Unknown, but probably >1.5% per year         |
| Other cirrhosis                                       | 1.5                                 | Unknown                                      |

# Groups with Uncertain Surveillance Benefit for HCC

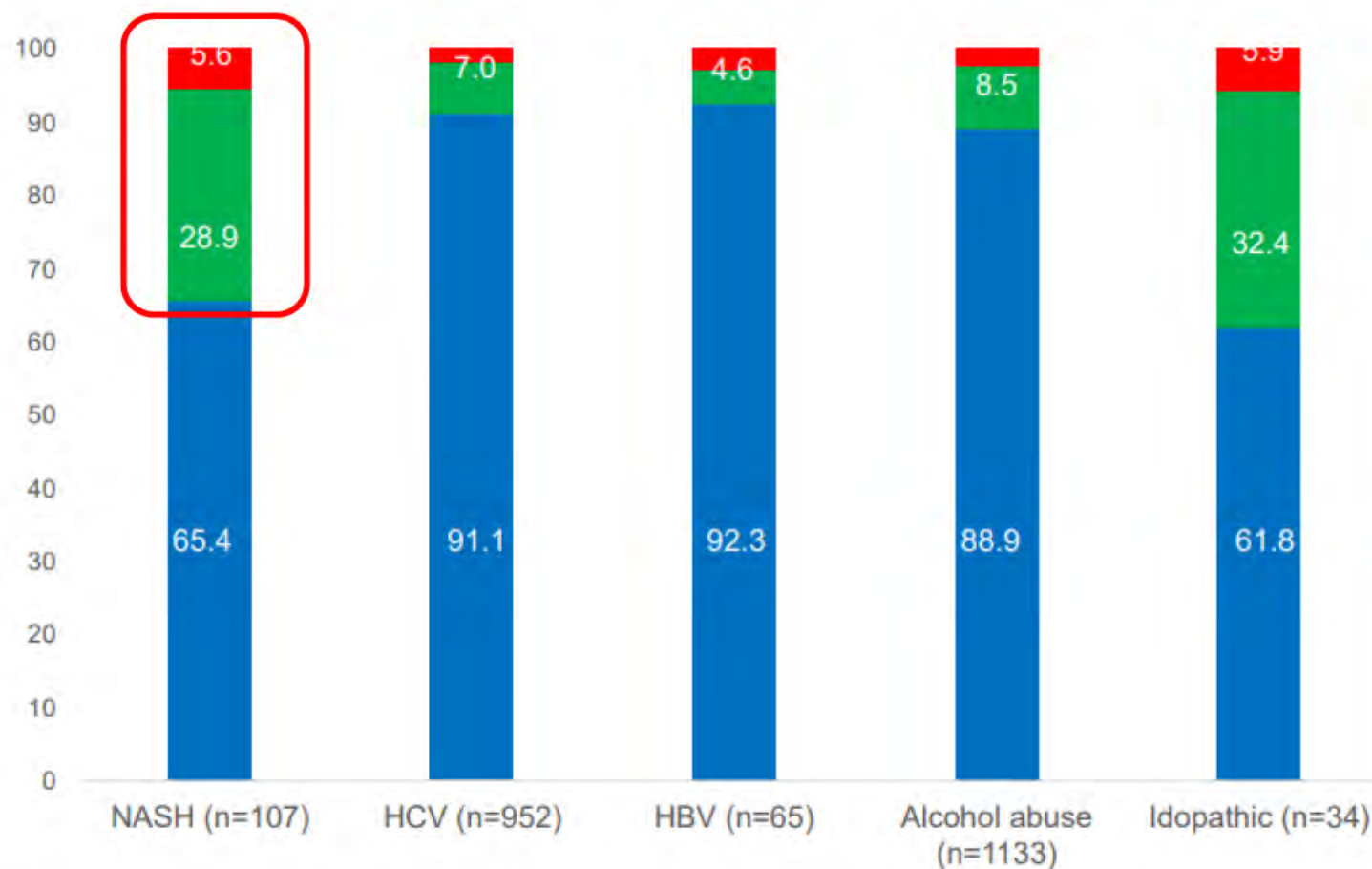
| Population group                                                                            | Threshold for Surveillance Efficacy | HCC Incidence   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Hepatitis B carriers younger than 40 (males) or 50 (females), without family history of HCC | 0.2                                 | < 0.2% per year |
| Hepatitis C with stage 3 fibrosis                                                           | 1.5                                 | < 1.5% per year |
| NAFLD without cirrhosis                                                                     | 1.5                                 | < 1.5% per year |

# Surveillance does not appear to be cost effective in those with advanced fibrosis but without cirrhosis



| Population                           | HCC incidence | Surveillance   | ICER vs no surveillance, \$/QALY |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Base case F3/F4 with IFN-induced SVR | 0.5%/y        | None           | -                                |
|                                      |               | US every 6 mo  | 106,792                          |
|                                      |               | US every 12 mo | 72,105                           |
| 0.5%/y age-stratified                |               | None           | -                                |
|                                      |               | US every 6 mo  | 48,432                           |
|                                      |               | US every 12 mo | 37,201                           |
| Cirrhosis with IFN-induced SVR       | 1.39%/y       | None           | -                                |
|                                      |               | US every 6 mo  | 48,729                           |
|                                      |               | US every 12 mo | 72,105                           |
| Cirrhosis with DAA-induced SVR       | 1.82%/y       | None           | -                                |
|                                      |               | US every 6 mo  | 43,229                           |
|                                      |               | US every 12 mo | 34,307                           |
| F3 with IFN-induced SVR              | 0.23%/y       | None           | -                                |
|                                      |               | US every 6 mo  | 484,160                          |
|                                      |               | US every 12 mo | 204,708                          |
| F3 with DAA-induced SVR              | 0.34%/y       | None           | -                                |
|                                      |               | US every 6 mo  | 188,157                          |
|                                      |               | US every 12 mo | 111,667                          |

# Many NASH HCC patients do not have cirrhosis

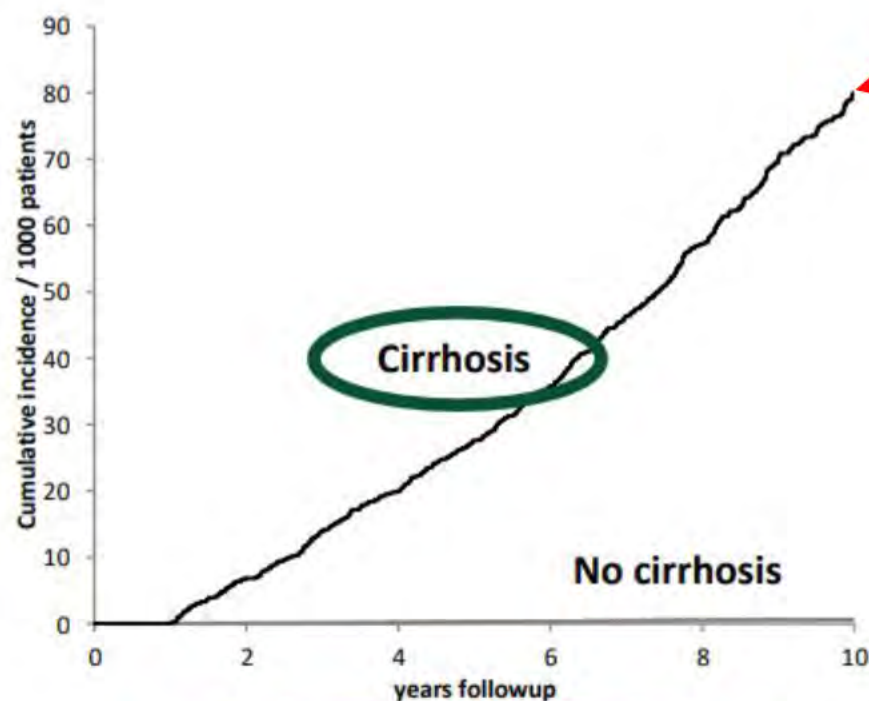


**Very high probability non-cirrhotic:** Histology and no features on imaging

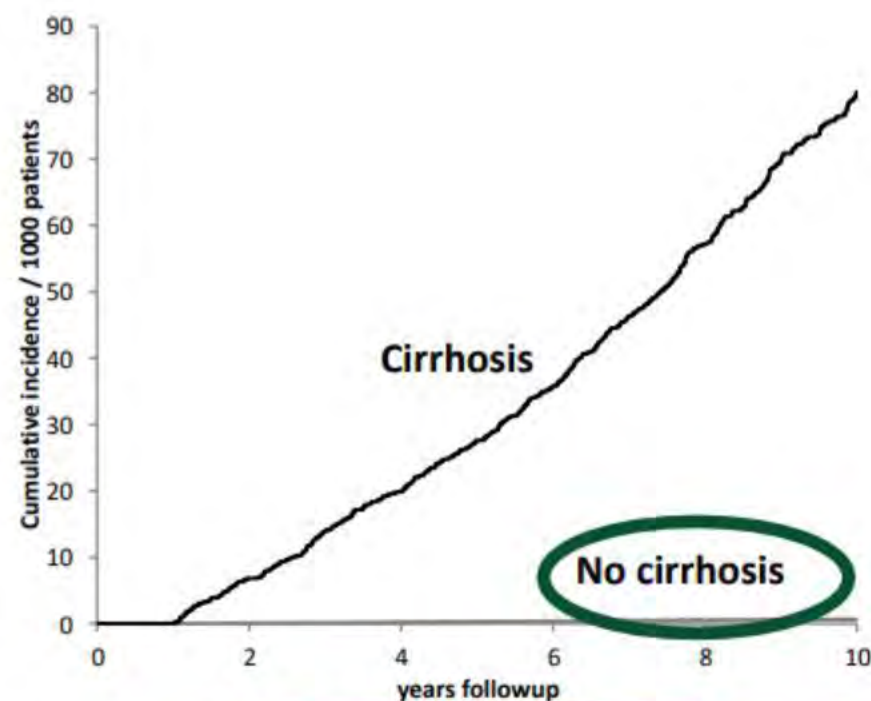
**High probability non-cirrhotic :** APRI <1; no features on imaging; NL albumin, plt, INR

# HCC risk in patients with NASH restricted to those with cirrhosis

N= 4235 cirrhosis; 292,366 no cirrhosis



1.06 per 100 patient-years



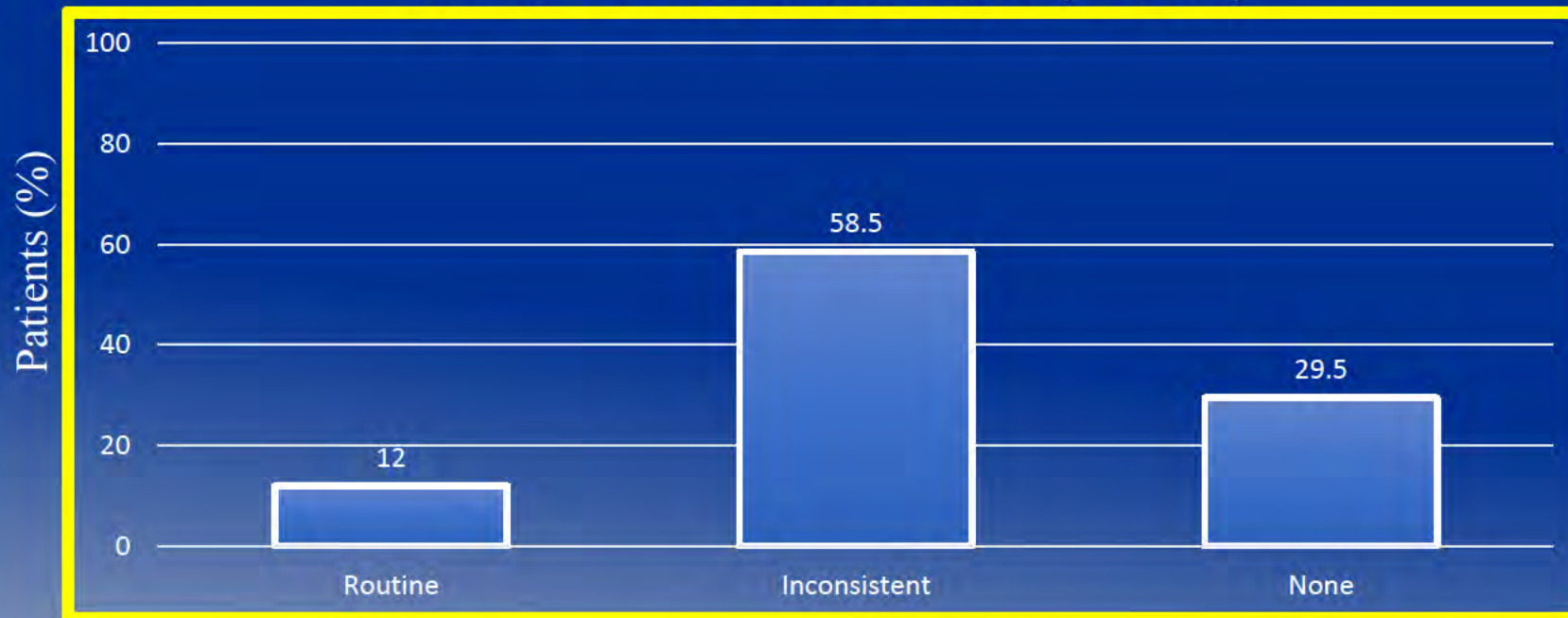
0.008 per 100 patient-years

**Despite the large number of Non-cirrhotic NASH-HCC  
Surveillance is not indicated in Non-Cirrhotic NASH**

# HCC Surveillance Practices

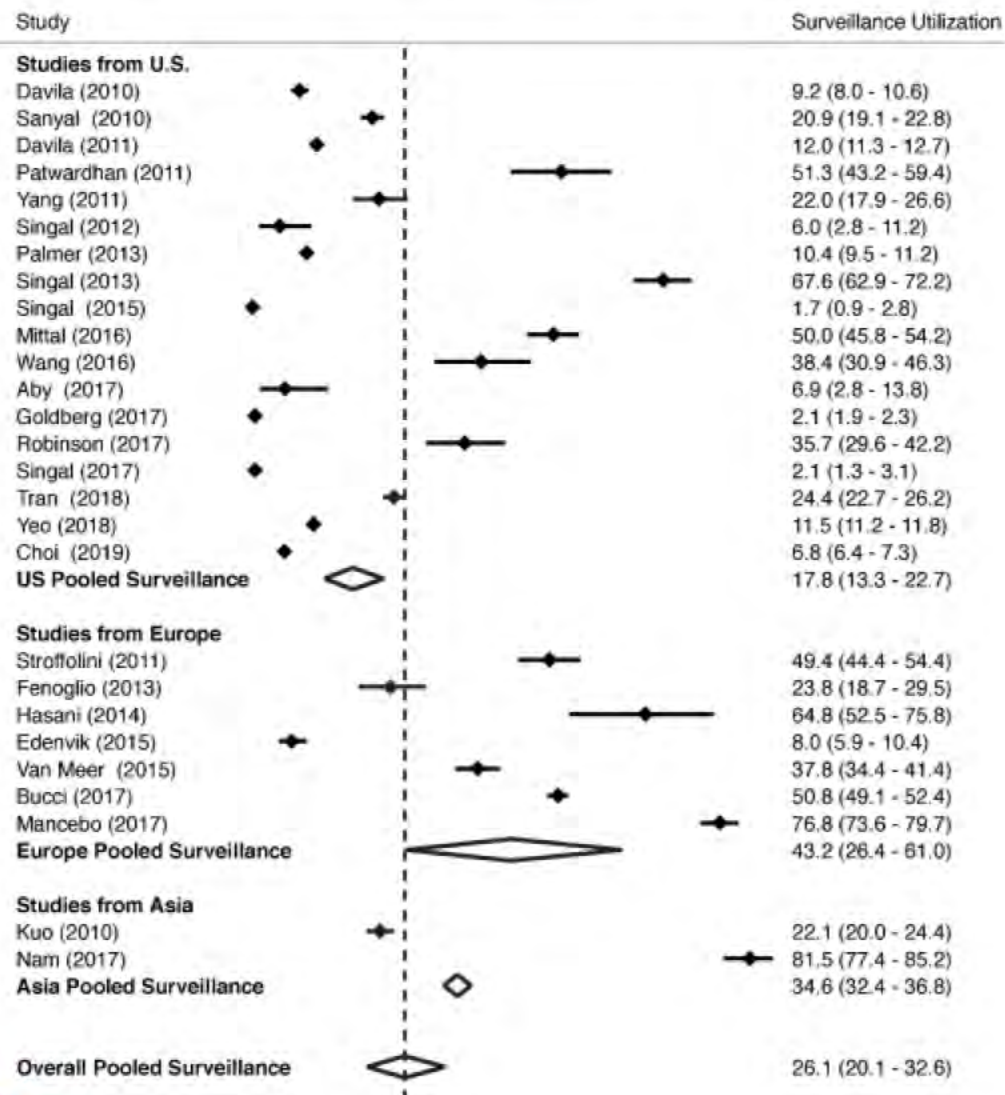
Even Very High-Risk Patients Rarely Receive Routine Surveillance

Annual HCC Surveillance With Either US or AFP in  
Patients With HCV and Cirrhosis (N=9369)



Routine testing = tests done during at least 2 consecutive years in the 4 years after diagnosis of cirrhosis;  
inconsistent testing =  $\geq 1$  test during the same timeframe but not routine. AFP=alpha-fetoprotein; US=ultrasound;  
**Davila JA et al. *Ann Intern Med.* 2011;154:85-93.**

# HCC screening is underused in clinical practice



Identified 29 studies between Jan 2010 – Aug 2018

Pooled surveillance estimate was only 26.1%

- Lower surveillance in US studies vs. Europe and Asia (17.8% vs. 43.2% and 34.6%)
- Higher surveillance in GI/Hepatology clinics vs. academic primary care clinics and population-based cohorts (73.7% vs. 29.5% and 8.8%)

Consistent correlates included higher surveillance with GI/Hepatology subspecialty care and increased number of clinic visits and lower surveillance in patients with NASH or alcohol-related cirrhosis.

# Surveillance Testing Method

Modified from: Marrero JA et al. Hepatology, VOL. 68, NO. 2, 723-750, 2018

Ultrasound + Alpha-Fetoprotein, every 6 months.

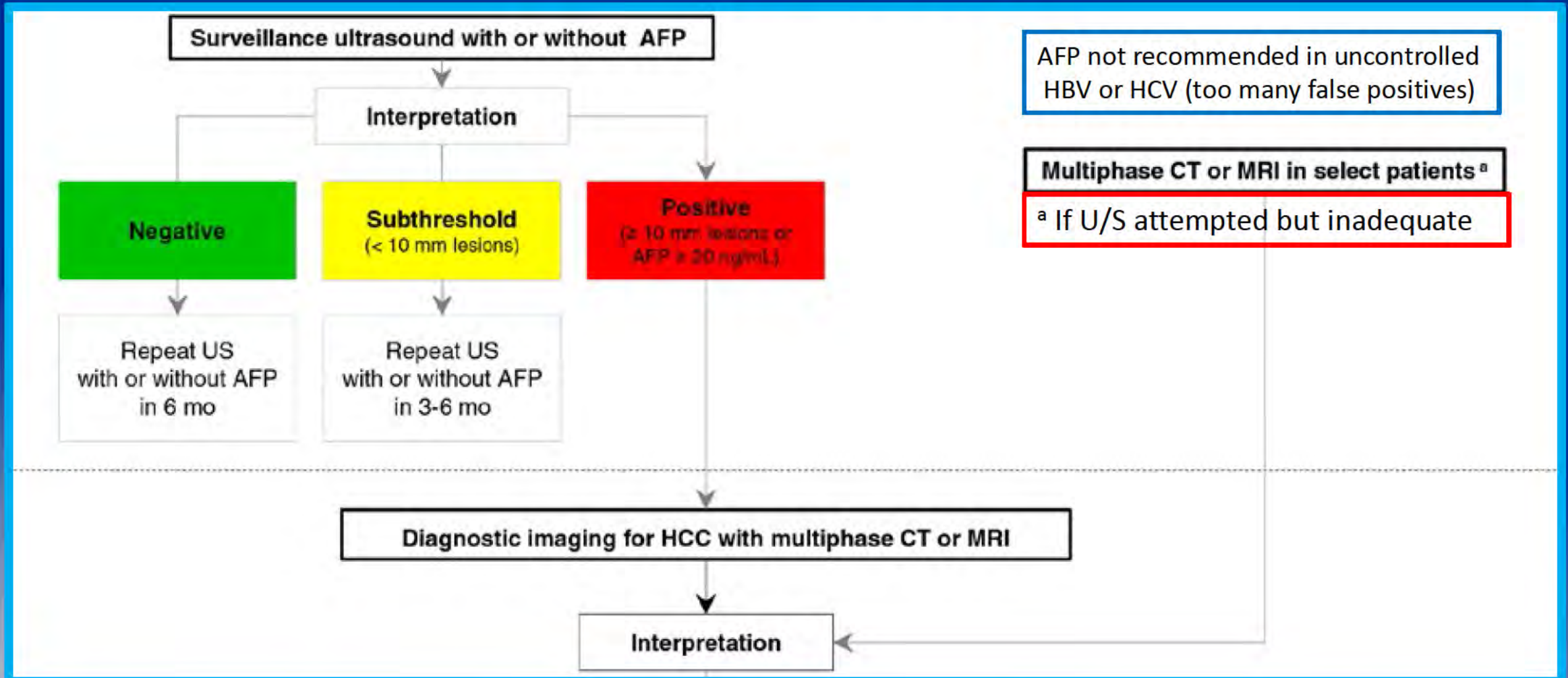
- Not recommended in cirrhosis with Child's class C unless on the transplant waiting list (low anticipated survival).
- AFP not recommended in uncontrolled HBV or HCV (too many false (+))
- Multiphase CT and MRI are not recommended as the primary modality for surveillance. **May be utilized in:**
  - Select patients with a high likelihood of having an inadequate Ultrasound
  - If Ultrasound is attempted but inadequate.

**RECALL:** US lesions 1 cm or larger, or AFP higher than 20 ng/mL (or raise > 5 ng/mL/month) should be followed with Multi-phase CT Scan or Four-phase MRI, "liver mass" protocol.

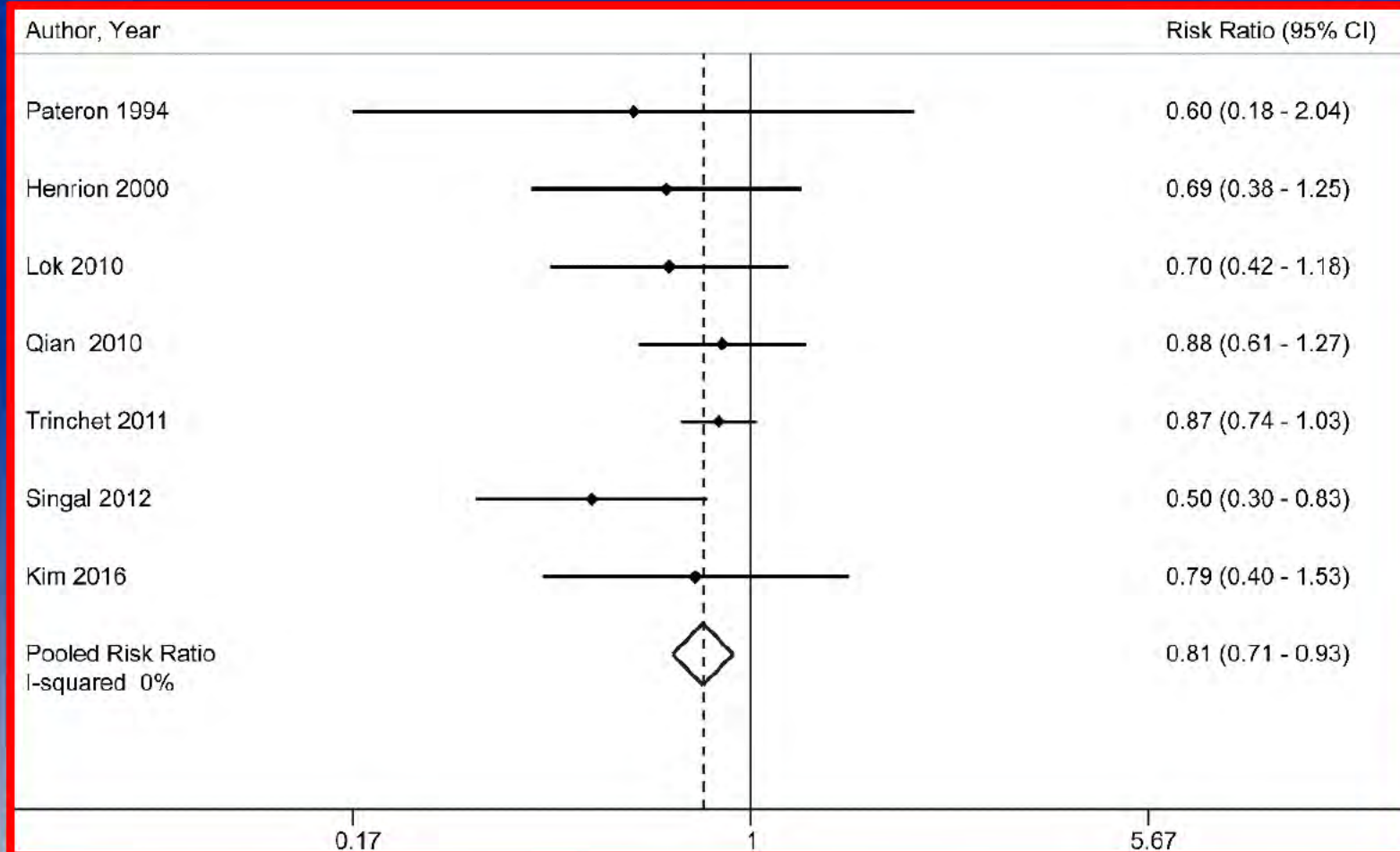
- Lesions < 1 cm should be followed with U/S +/- AFP in 3-6 months.

# HCC Surveillance

## AASLD Practice Guidance 2018



# Accuracy of Ultrasound +/- AFP for Early HCC



## Sensitivity

Ultrasound: 45% (30-62%)

US + AFP: 63% (48-75%)

## Specificity

Ultrasound: 92% (85-96%)

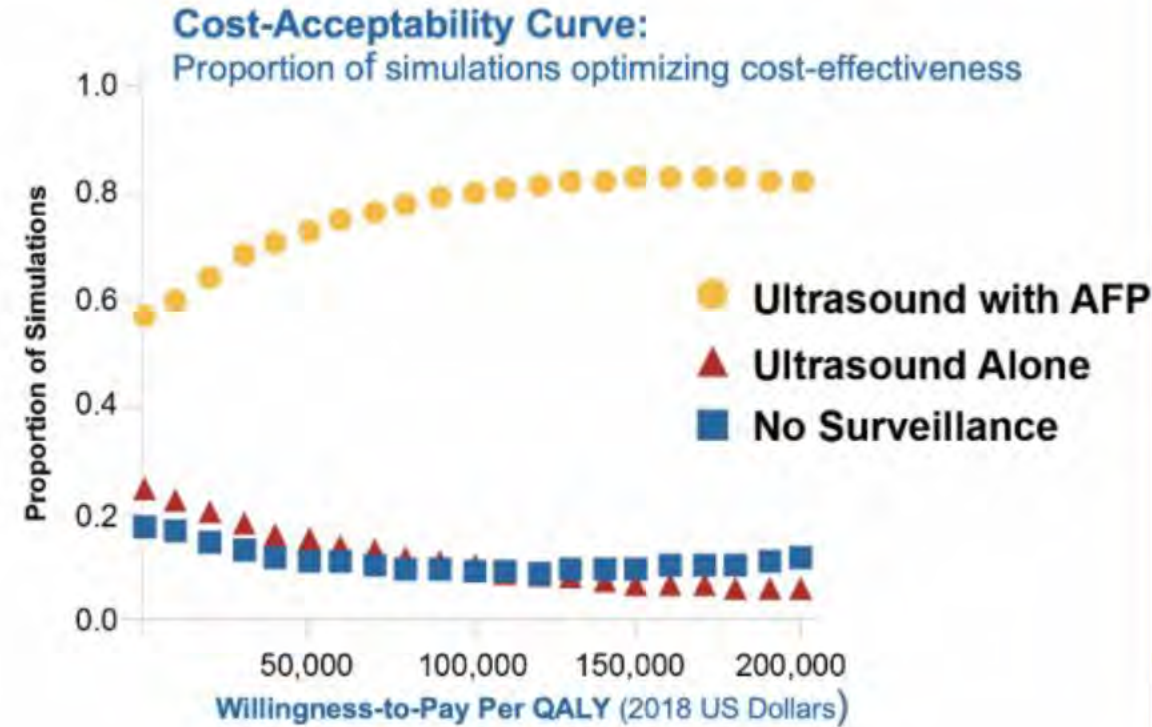
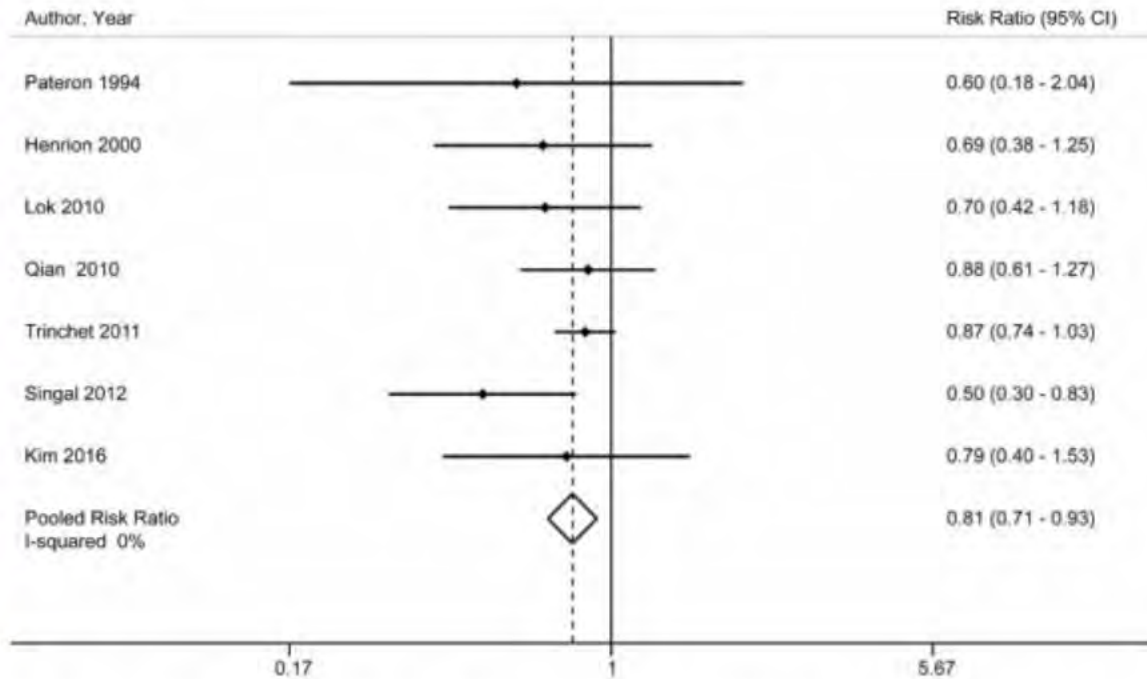
US + AFP: 84% (77-89%)

## Diagnostic odds ratio

Ultrasound: 7 (3-15)

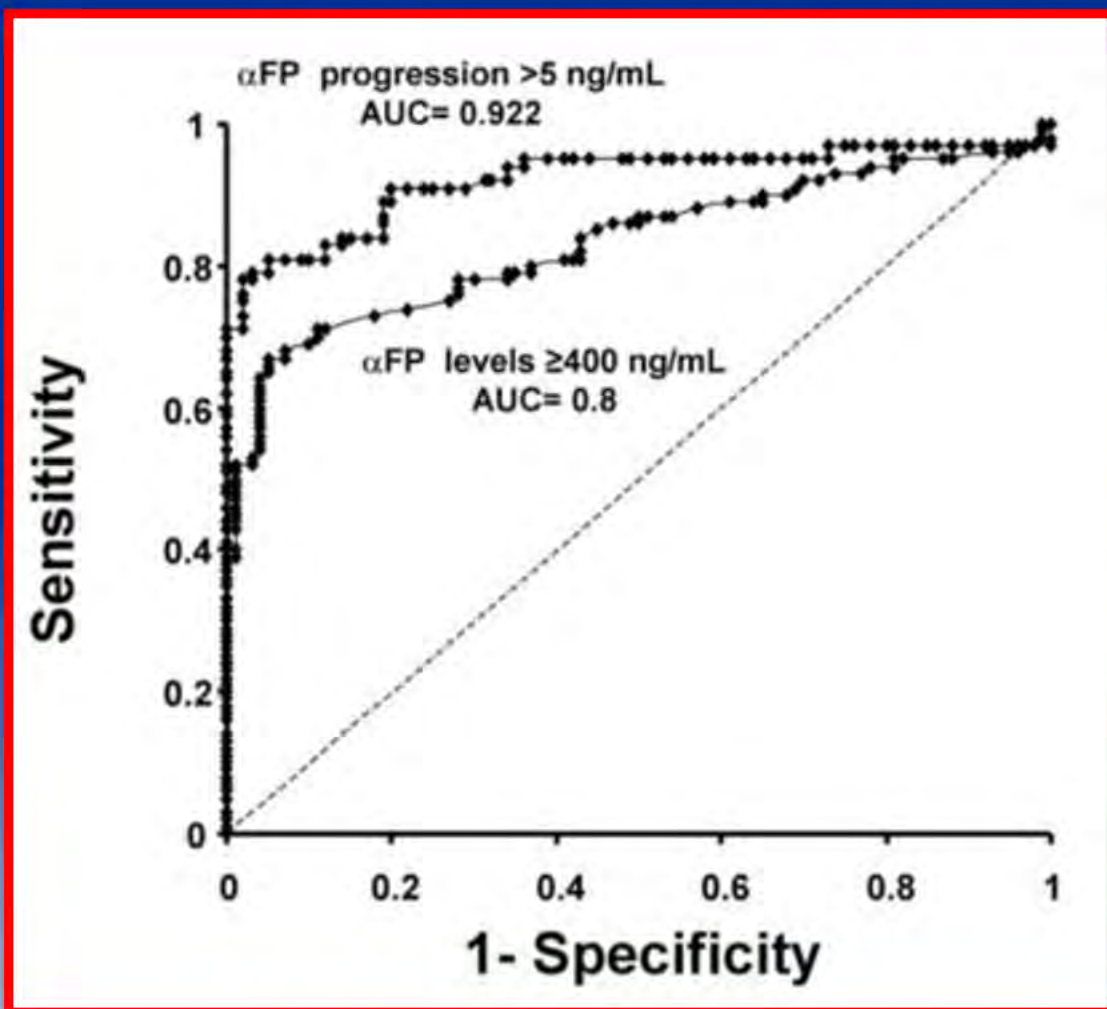
US + AFP: 8 (3-23)

# AFP appears to be of benefit for early HCC detection



Sensitivity of US with vs without AFP for early-stage HCC:  
63% vs. 45% ( $p=.002$ )

# Progressive Rise of AFP over Time



| $\alpha$ FP                    | HCC Prevalence (%) | PPV (%) | NPV (%) |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|
| $\geq 200$ ng/ml               | 10                 | 97.58   | 93.4    |
|                                | 5                  | 95.03   | 96.7    |
| $\geq 400$ ng/ml               | 10                 | 95.7    | 91.86   |
|                                | 5                  | 91.4    | 95.97   |
| Elevation $\geq 7$ ng/ml/month | 10                 | 98.7    | 96.92   |
|                                | 5                  | 97.4    | 98.52   |

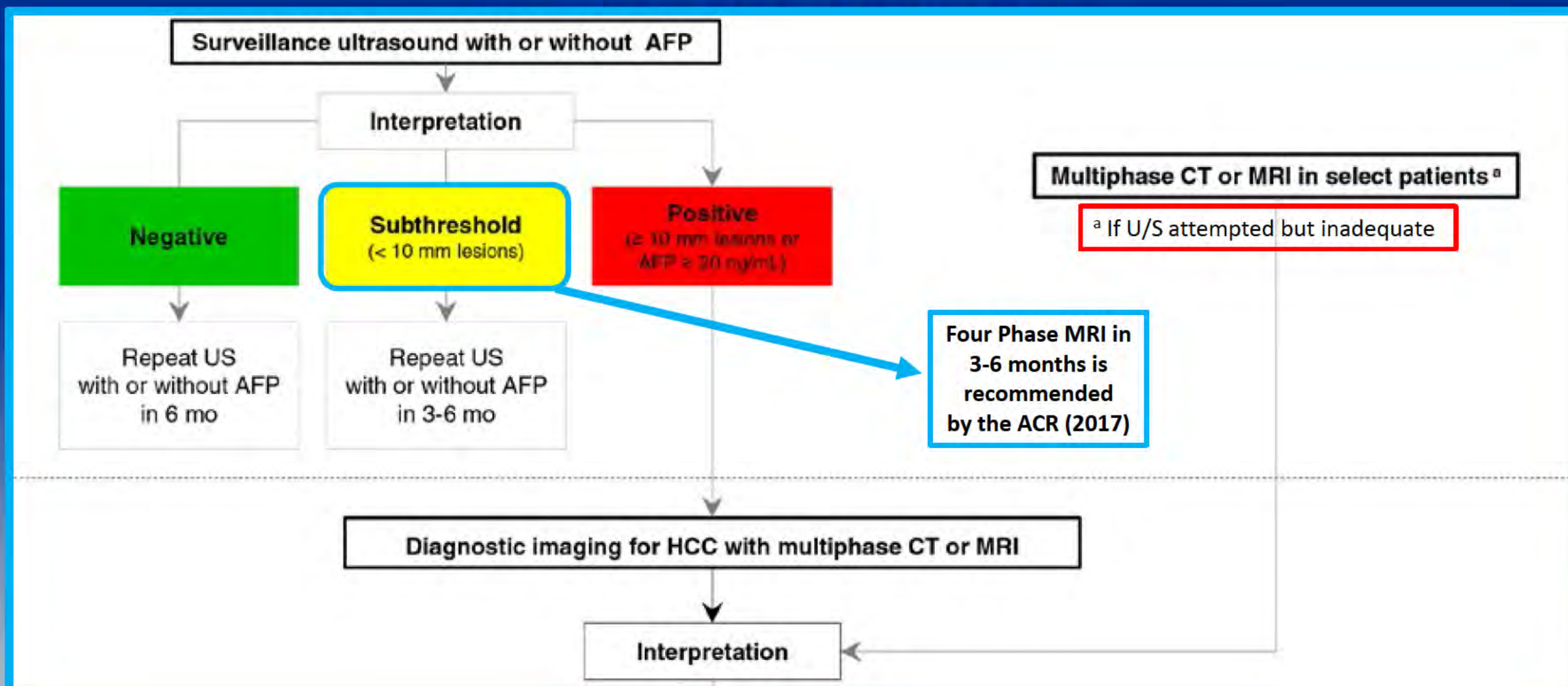
**AFP is NOT very useful in Uncontrolled HCV and/or HBV**



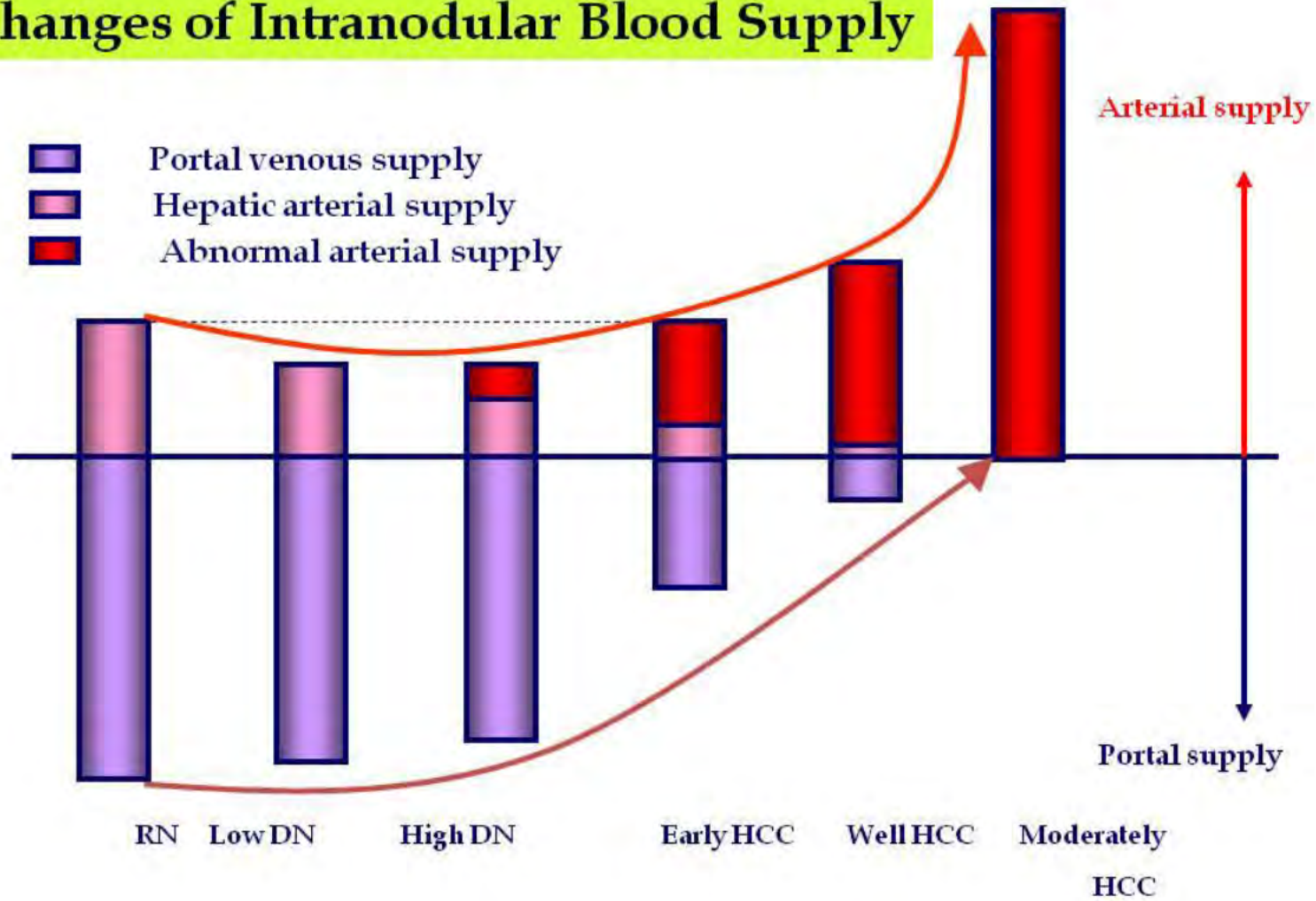
# Diagnosis of HCC

# HCC Surveillance every 6 months

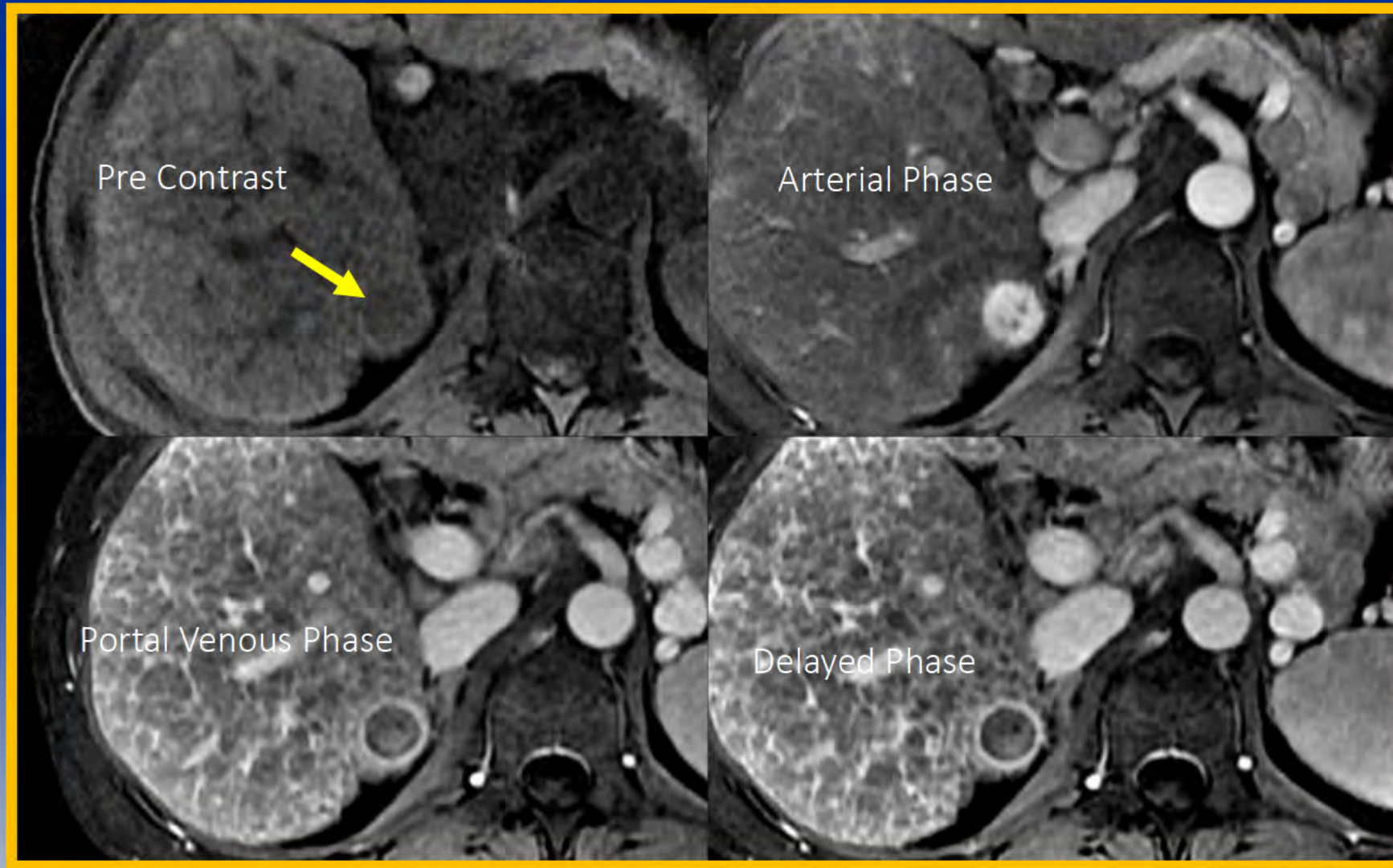
## AASLD Practice Guidance 2018



## Stepwise Hepatocarcinogenesis and Changes of Intranodular Blood Supply



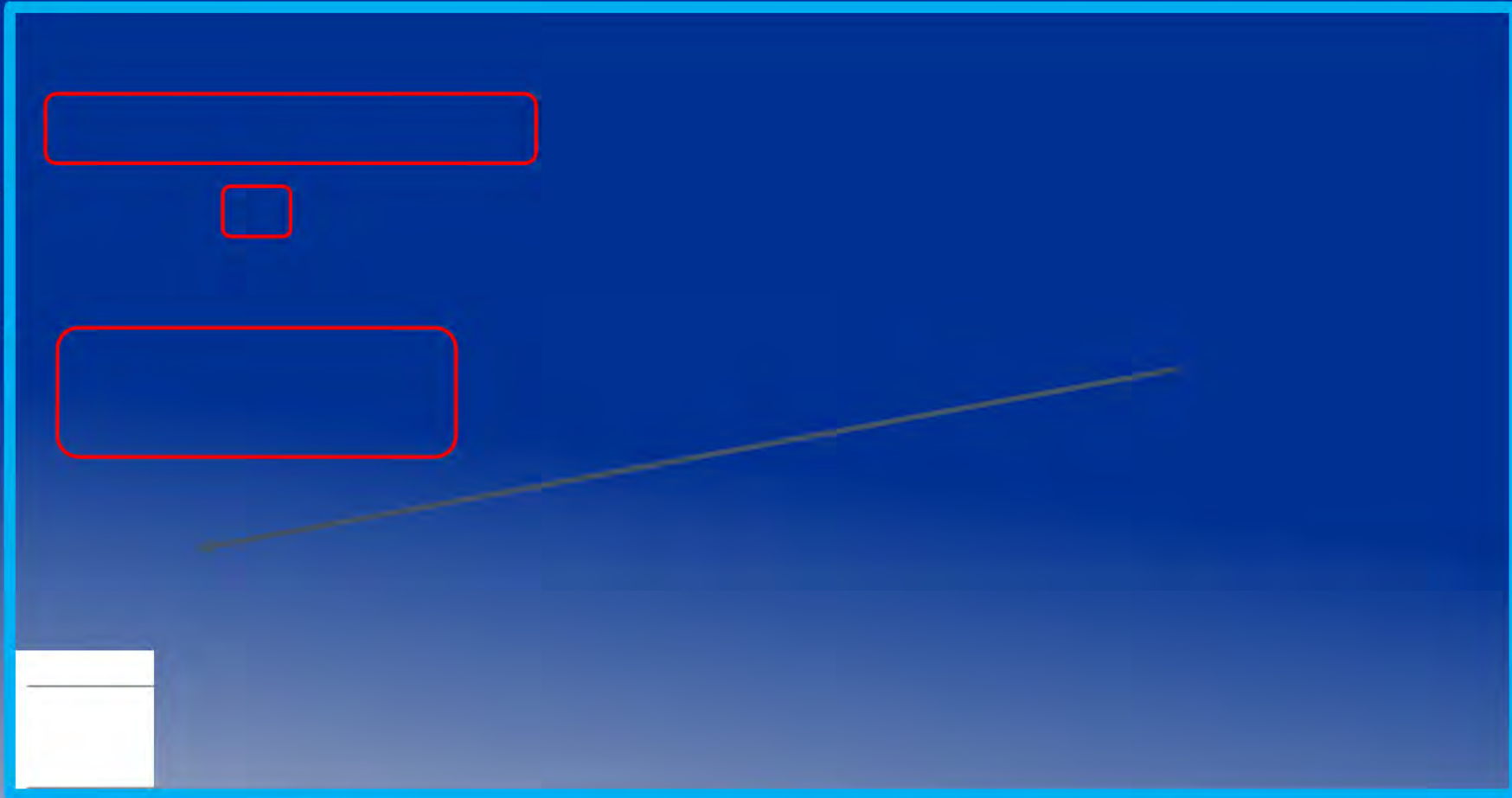
# Four Phase Imaging of Hepatocellular Carcinoma



# Li-RADS Criteria for HCC Diagnosis 2018

<https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Reporting-and-Data-Systems/LI-RADS/CT-MRI-LI-RADS-v2018> (accessed 9/7/2019)

LR-3= Intermediate  
LR-4= Probably HCC  
LR-5= Definitely HCC



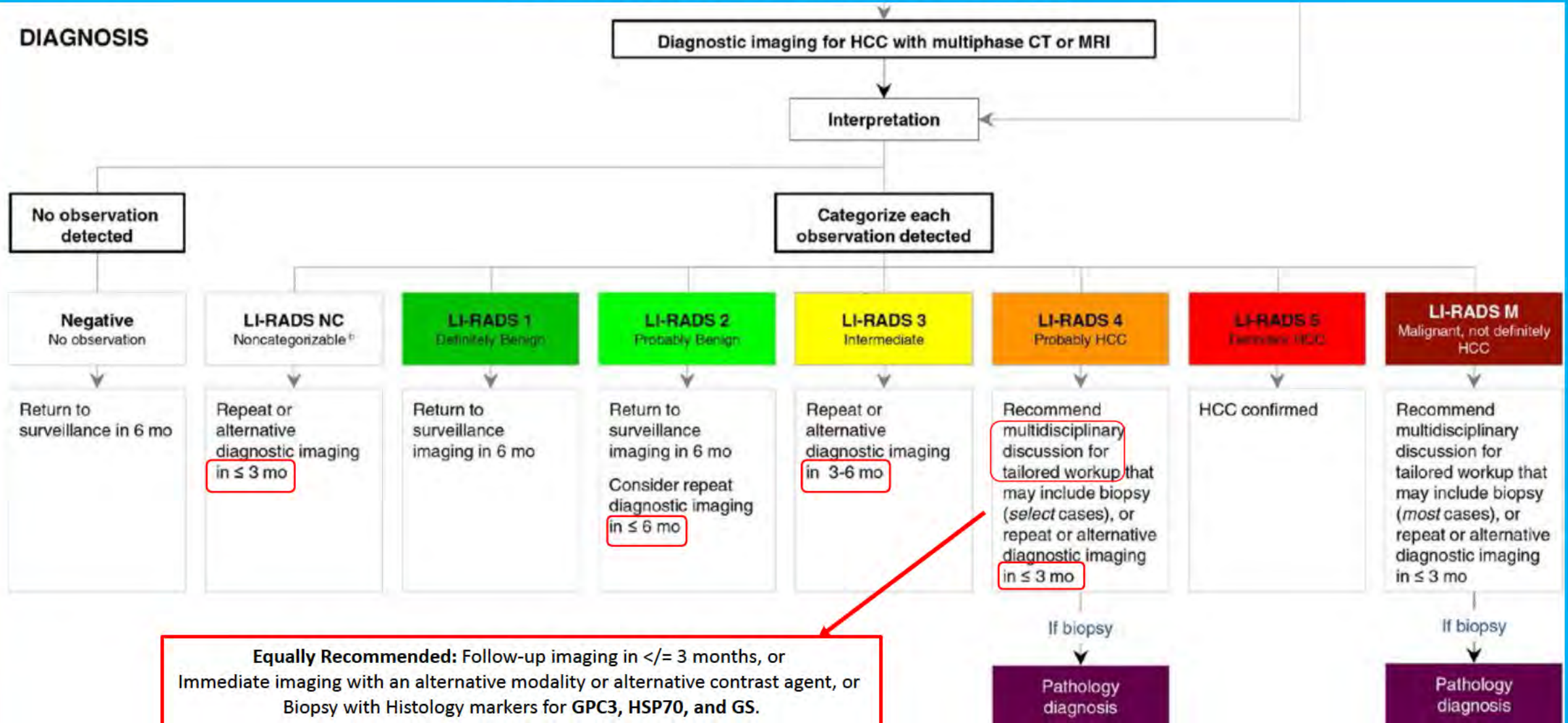
**Threshold of growth = size increase of a mass by  $\geq 50\%$  in  $\leq 6$  months**

# Evaluation of Cirrhosis with Liver Nodule $\geq 1$ cm or AFP $> 20$ ng/mL

## AASLD Practice Guidance 2018

Marrero JA et al. Hepatology, VOL. 68, NO. 2, 723-750, 2018

### DIAGNOSIS



# Probability of Malignancy and HCC by LiRADS

van der Pol CB et al. Gastroenterology 156; 976-986, 2019

| Probability    | LiRADS 1 | LiRADS 2 | LiRADS 3 | LiRADS 4 | LiRADS 5 | LiRADS M |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Malignancy (%) | 0        | 14       | 40       | 80       | 97       | 93       |
| HCC (%)        | 0        | 13       | 38       | 74       | 94       | 36       |

# Staging and Treatment of HCC

# HCC Treatment

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HCC Treatment

```
graph TD; A[HCC Treatment] --> B[Management of Cirrhosis]; A --> C[Treatment of the Cancer]
```

A flowchart illustrating the components of HCC treatment. The main title 'HCC Treatment' is at the top. Below it, a central box labeled 'HCC Treatment' branches into two sub-topics: 'Management of Cirrhosis' and 'Treatment of the Cancer'.

Management of  
Cirrhosis

Treatment of  
the Cancer

# Treatment Options for HCC

## Surgical Therapy

- Tumor Resection
- Liver Transplantation

## Loco-Regional Therapy

- RFA, MWA, PEI
- Embolization: TACE, TAE, Radio-embolization (Yttrium-90 beads)

## Radiotherapy

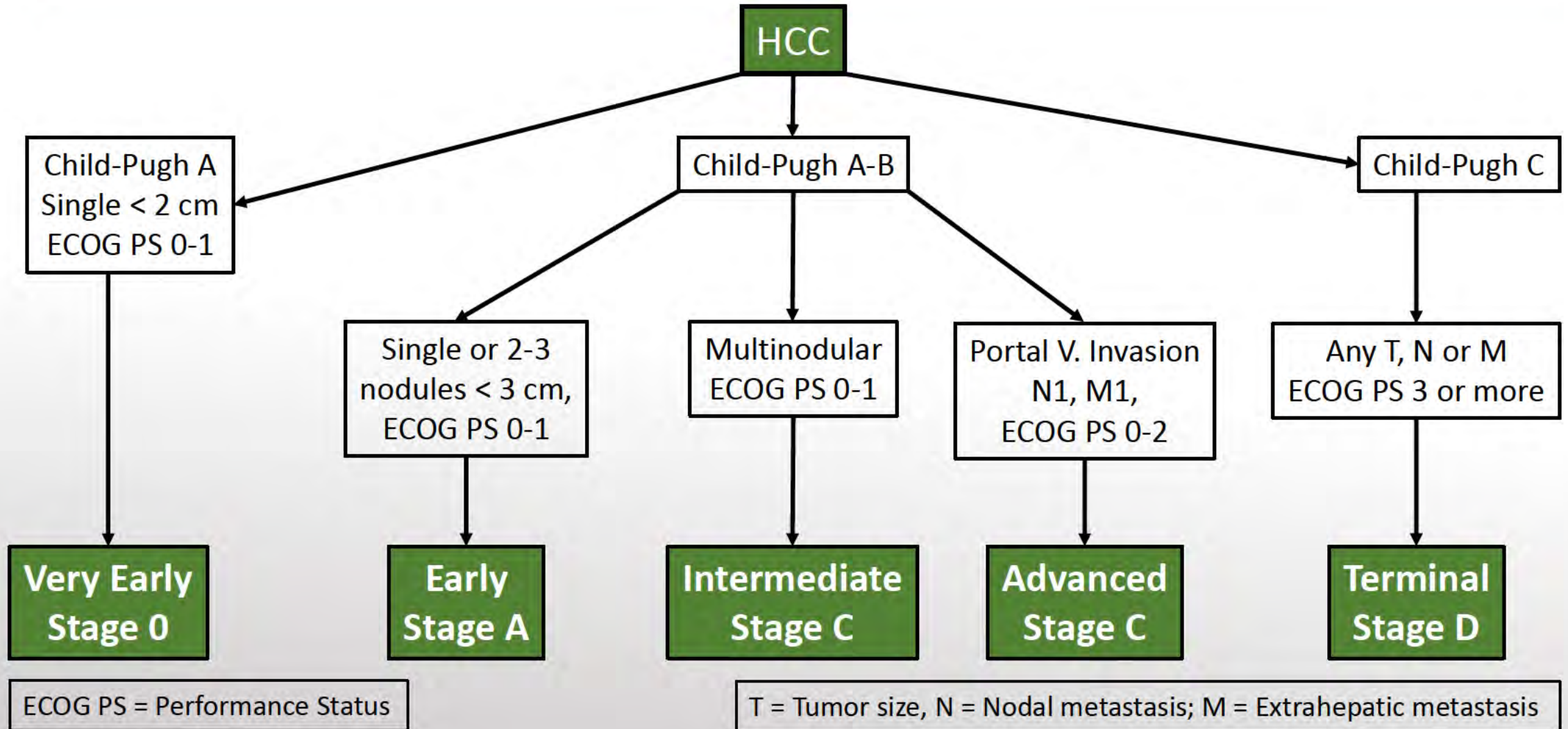
- Stereotactic body radiation Therapy (SBRT)

## Systemic Medical Therapy

## Immunotherapy

# BCLC Staging of HCC

Modified from: Marrero JA et al. Hepatology, VOL. 68, NO. 2, 723-750, 2018



# Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) Performance Status & HCC Treatment Options

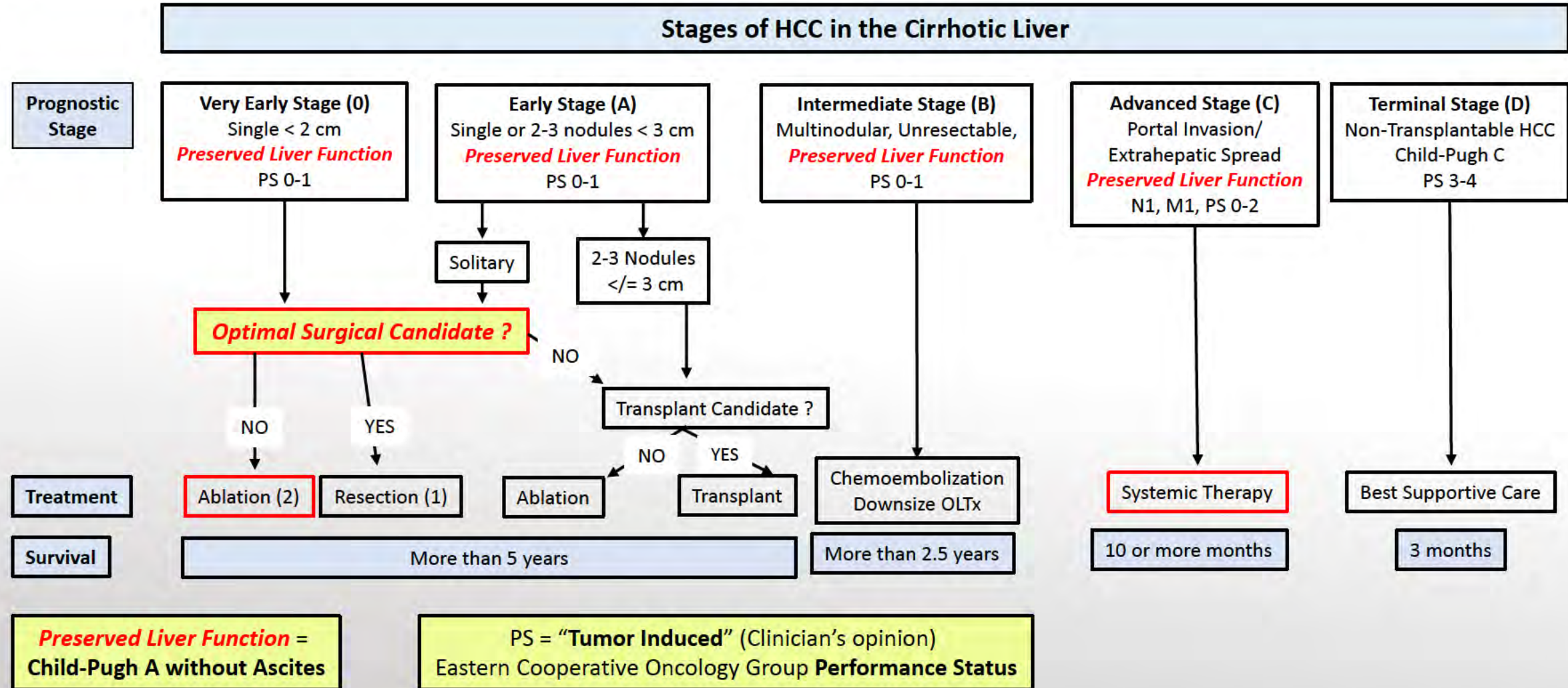
\* {

| GRADE | ECOG PERFORMANCE STATUS                                                                                                                                                | BCLC OPTIONS                                                                                        |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PS 0  | <b>Fully active</b> , able to carry on all pre-disease performance without restriction                                                                                 | Resection, or Ablation,<br>TACE, or TARE,<br>Systemic Therapy.<br>Transplant, Downsize + Transplant |
| PS 1  | <b>Restricted</b> in physically <b>strenuous activity</b> but ambulatory and able to carry out work of a light or sedentary nature, e.g., light housework, office work | Resection, or Ablation<br>TACE, or TARE<br>Systemic Therapy,<br>Transplant, Downsize + Transplant   |
| PS 2  | Ambulatory and <b>capable of all selfcare</b> but unable to carry out any work activities; <b>up and about more than 50% of waking hours</b>                           | TACE, or TARE,<br>Systemic Therapy,<br>Transplant, Downsize + Transplant                            |
| PS 3  | Capable of <b>only limited selfcare</b> ; confined to <b>bed or chair more than 50% of waking hours</b>                                                                | Best Supportive Care,<br>Transplant (?)                                                             |
| PS 4  | Completely disabled; cannot carry on any selfcare; <b>totally confined to bed or chair</b>                                                                             | Best Supportive Care                                                                                |
| PS 5  | Dead                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                     |

\* TUMOR INDUCED (Physician Opinion)

# Management and Prognosis of HCC

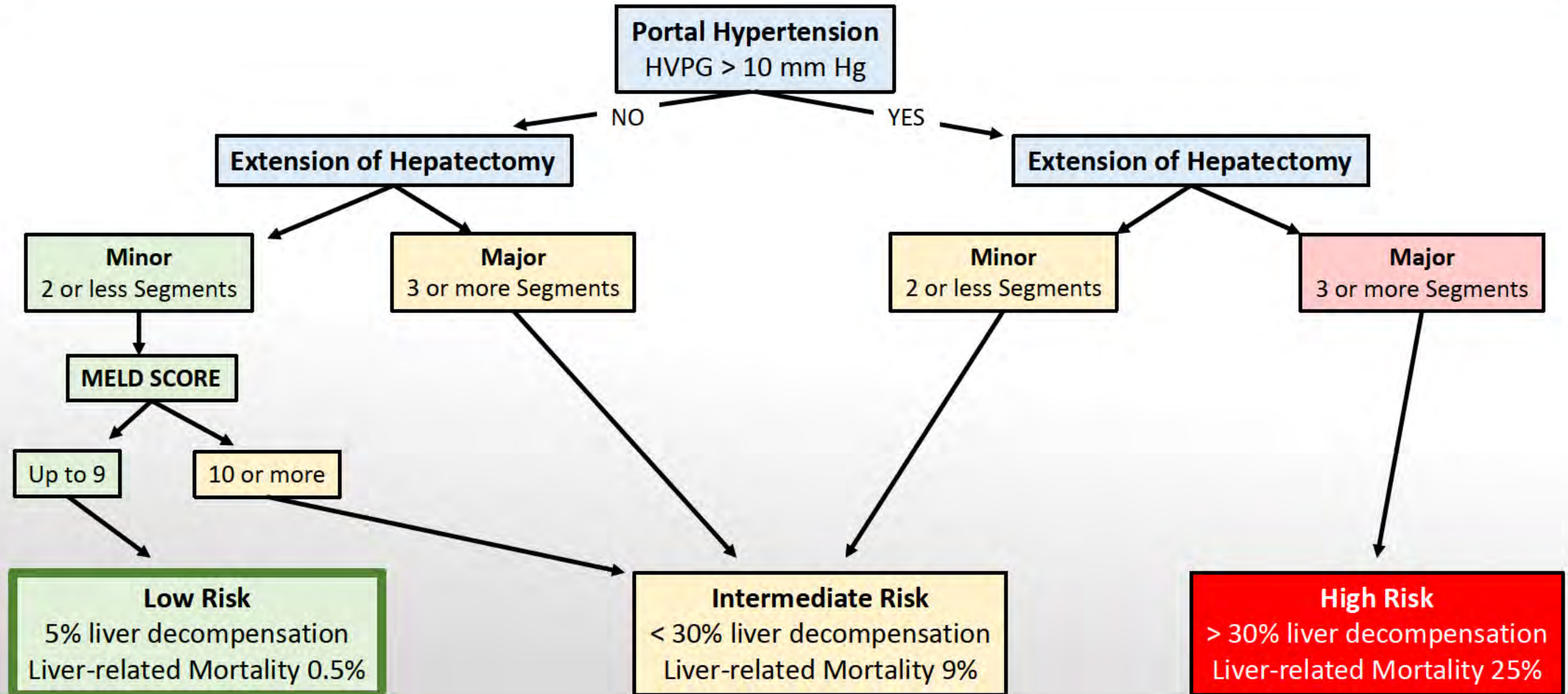
Modified from: Journal of Hepatology 2018 vol.69; 182-236



# Optimal Surgical Candidate

## Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer

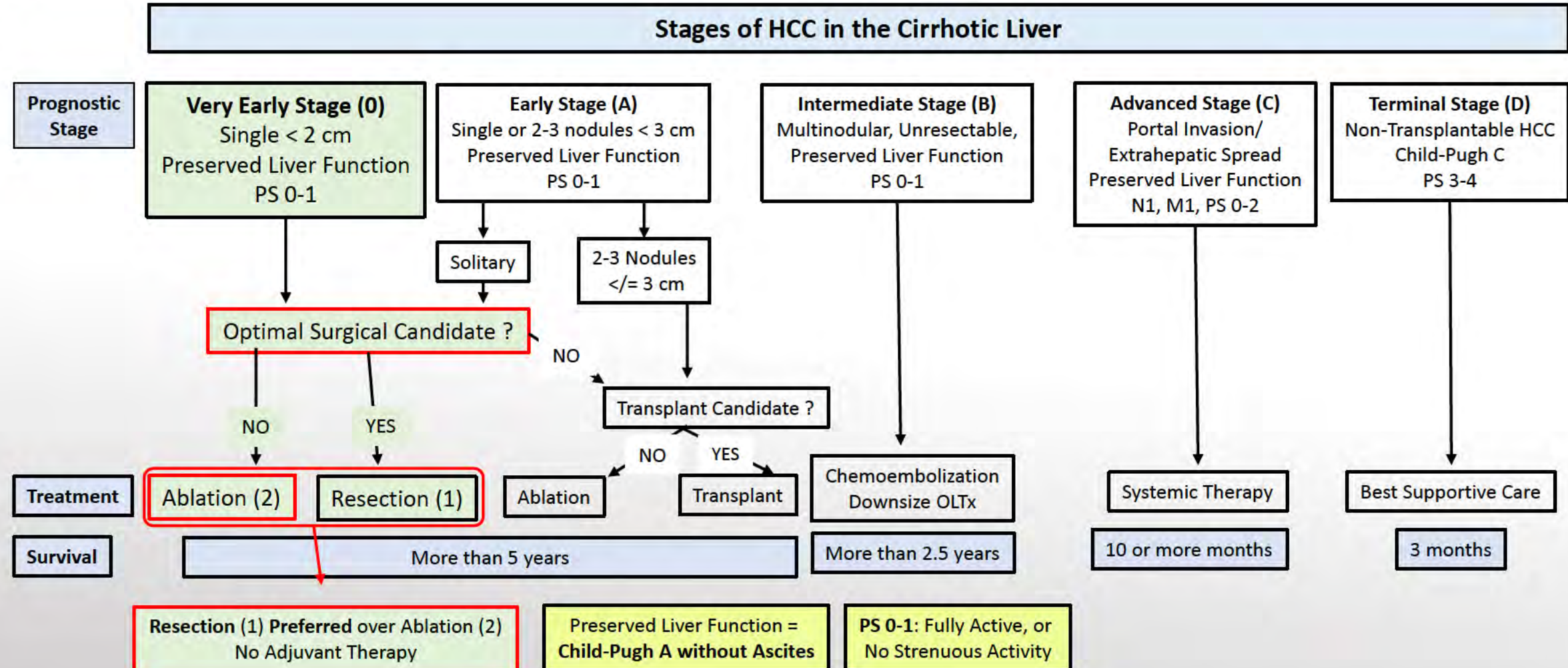
Modified from: Journal of Hepatology 2018, Vol. 69: 182-236



# Management and Prognosis of HCC

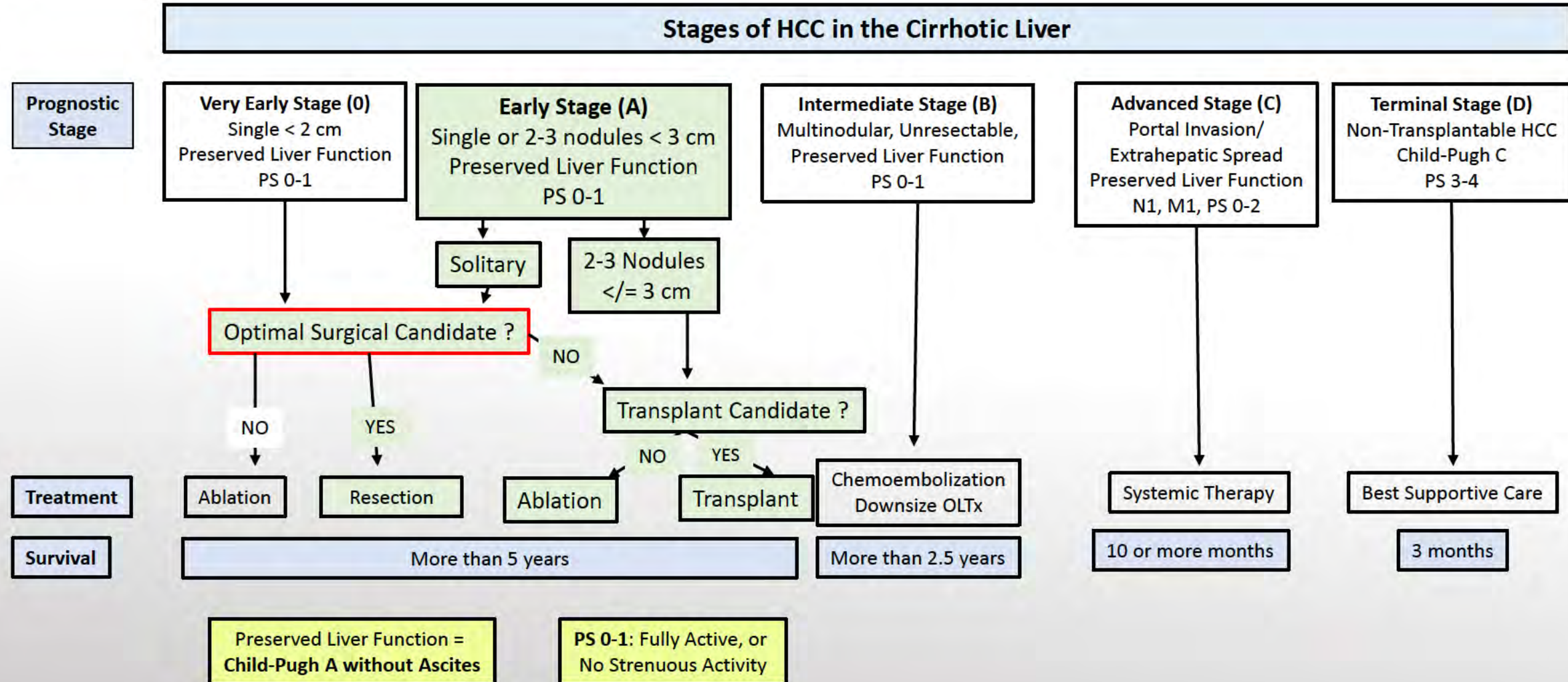
## Very Early Stage

Modified from: Journal of Hepatology 2018 vol.69; 182-236



# Management and Prognosis of HCC Early Stage

Modified from: Journal of Hepatology 2018 vol.69; 182-236

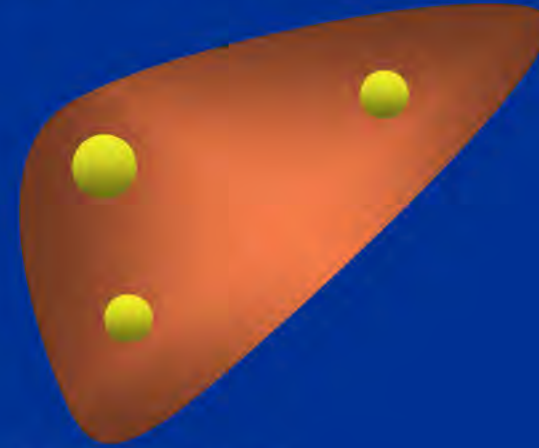


# UNOS: Liver Transplantation for HCC: Milan Criteria

Single tumor, at least 2 cm  
and not > 5 cm



Up to 3 tumors, none > 3 cm



**Plus:**

Absence of macroscopic vascular invasion,  
absence of extrahepatic spread

- **5-year survival with transplantation: ~70%**
  - **5-year recurrence rates: <15%**

# UNOS Criteria for Liver Transplantation for HCC

Liver CT or MRI of abdomen showing tumor(s) that meet Li-RADS Class 5 criteria and either:

- One lesion greater than or equal to 2 cm and less than or equal to 5 cm in size.
- Two or three lesions each greater than or equal to 1 cm and less than or equal to 3 cm in size.

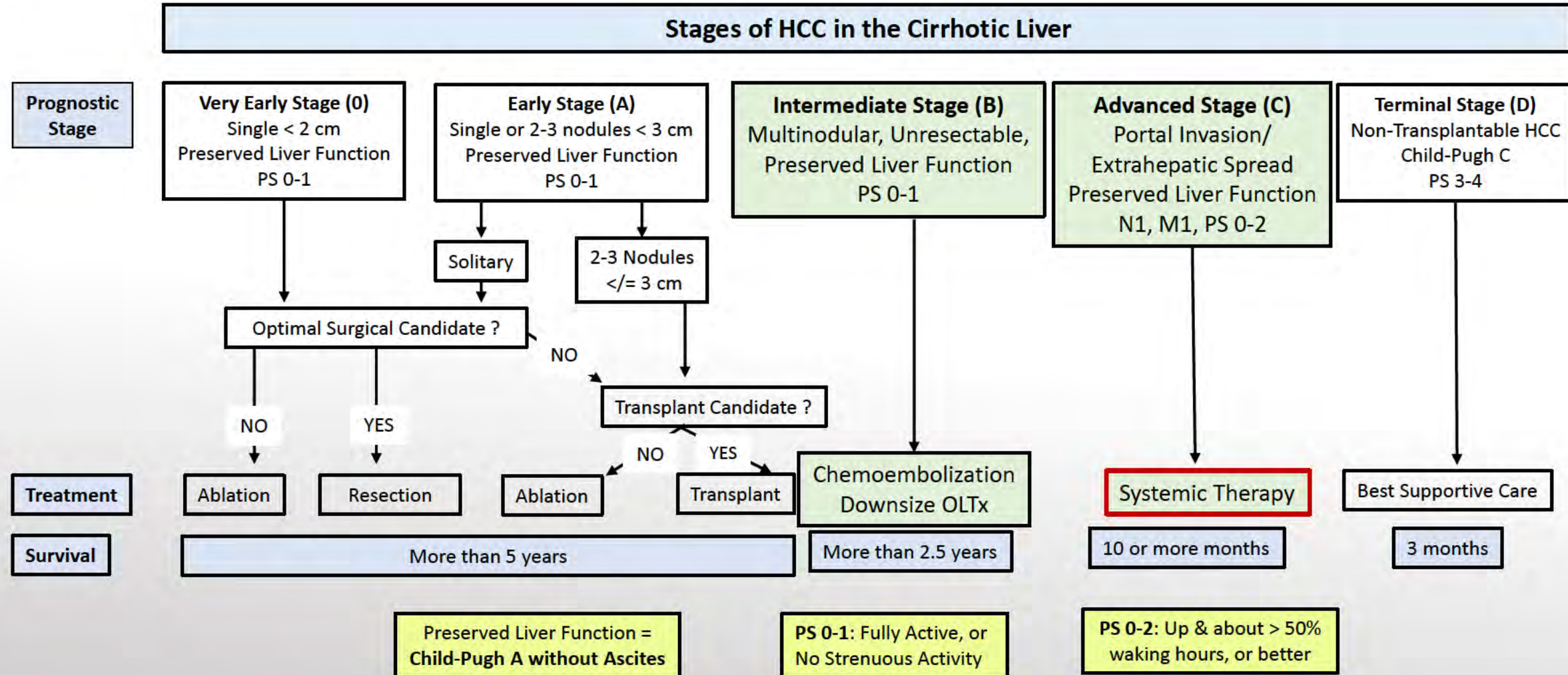
CT of chest that rules out metastatic disease

AFP < 1000

- If patient has history of AFP > 1000, then the AFP needs to fall below 500 after LRT to be eligible for transplantation

## Management and Prognosis of HCC Intermediate and Advanced Stage

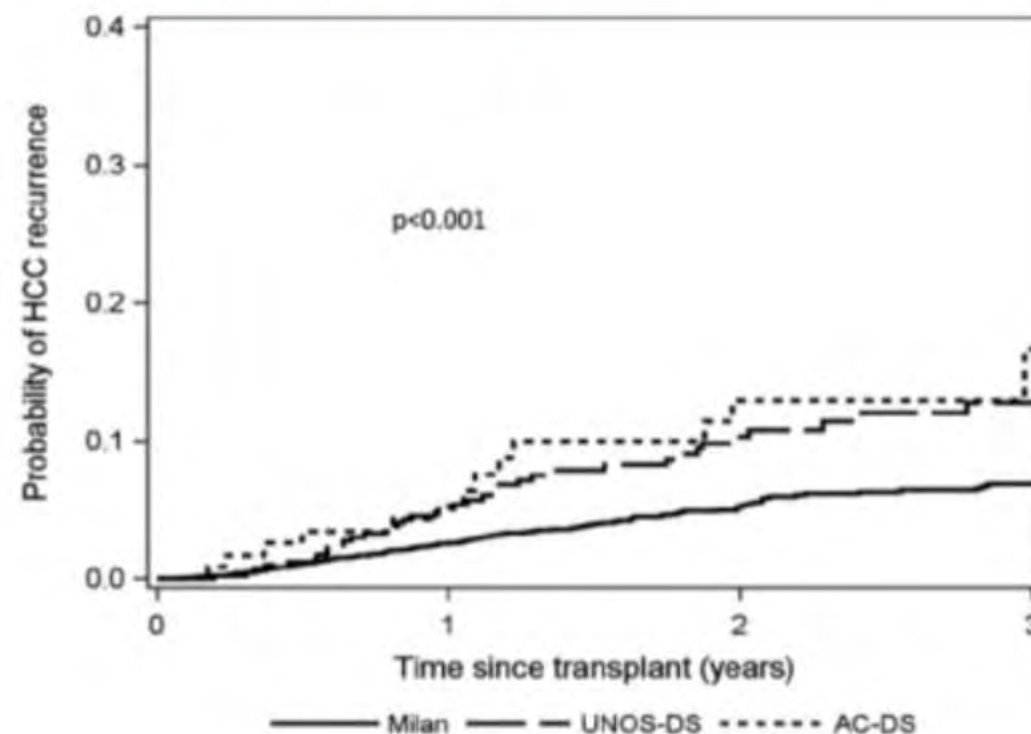
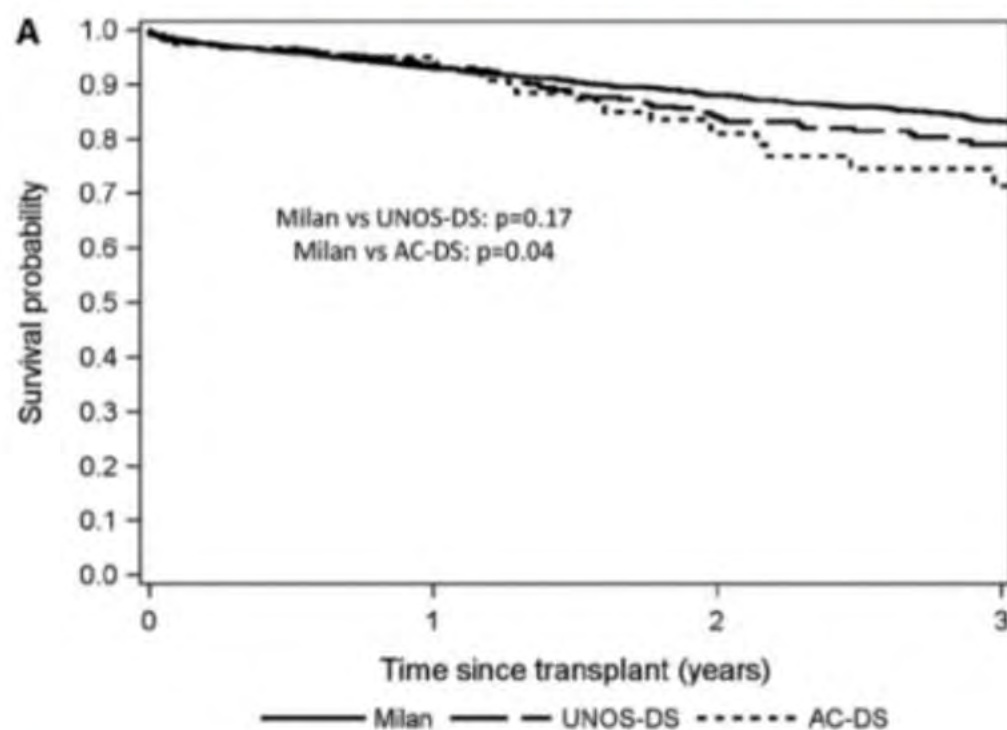
Modified from: Journal of Hepatology 2018 vol.69; 182-236



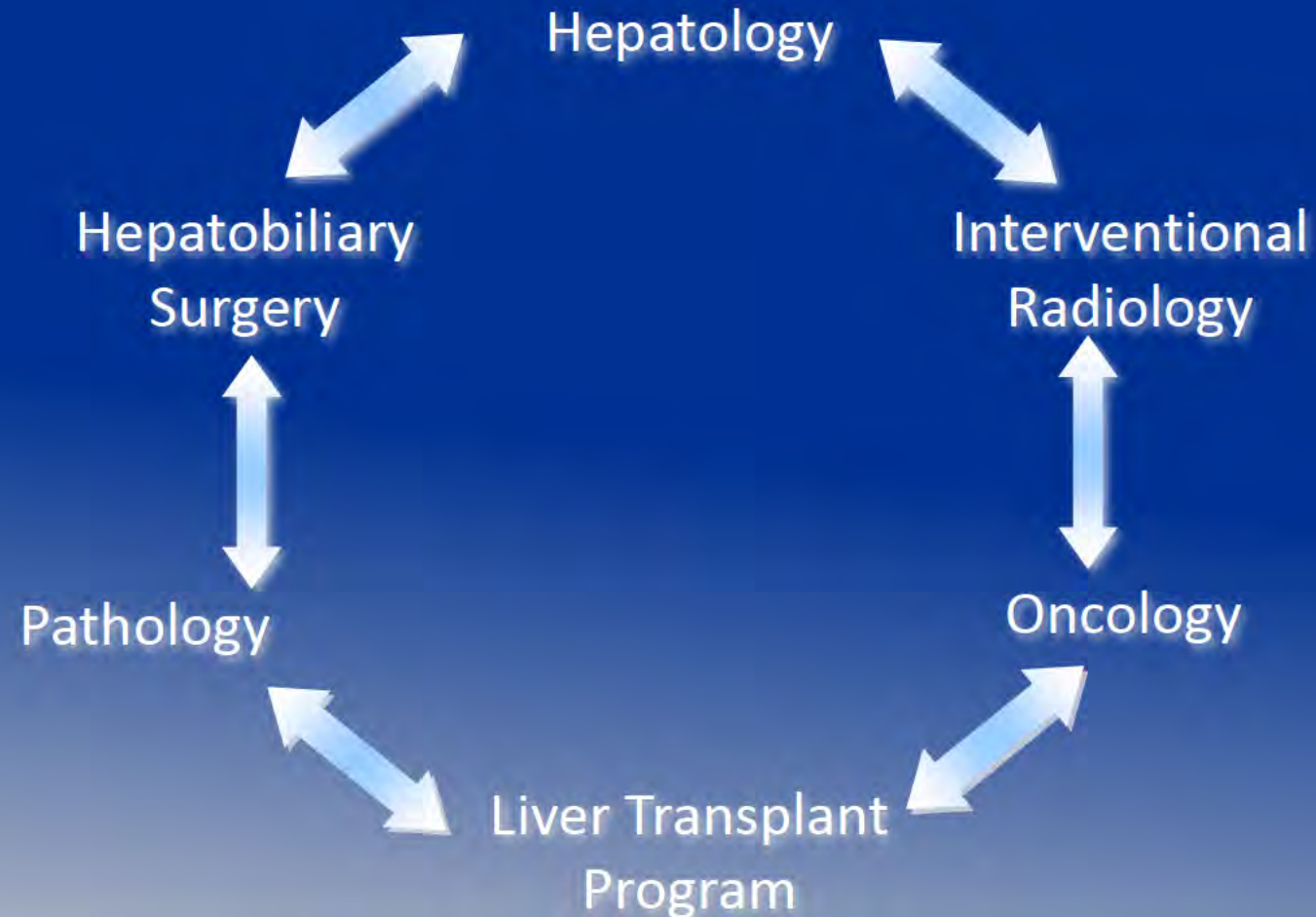
# Patients within UNOS-DS criteria can achieve good survival

Multicenter study of patients undergoing LT from 2012-2015  
comparing downstaged patients (n=422) vs. within Milan (n=3276) vs. beyond Milan (n=121)

UNOS-DS: One HCC >5 and  $\leq 8$  cm, two to three HCC >3 cm and  $\leq 5$  cm and diameter  $\leq 8$  cm,  
or four to five lesions each  $\leq 3$  cm and diameter  $\leq 8$  cm



# Management of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Requires a Multidisciplinary Approach



## Multidisciplinary Care Is Associated with Improved Outcomes

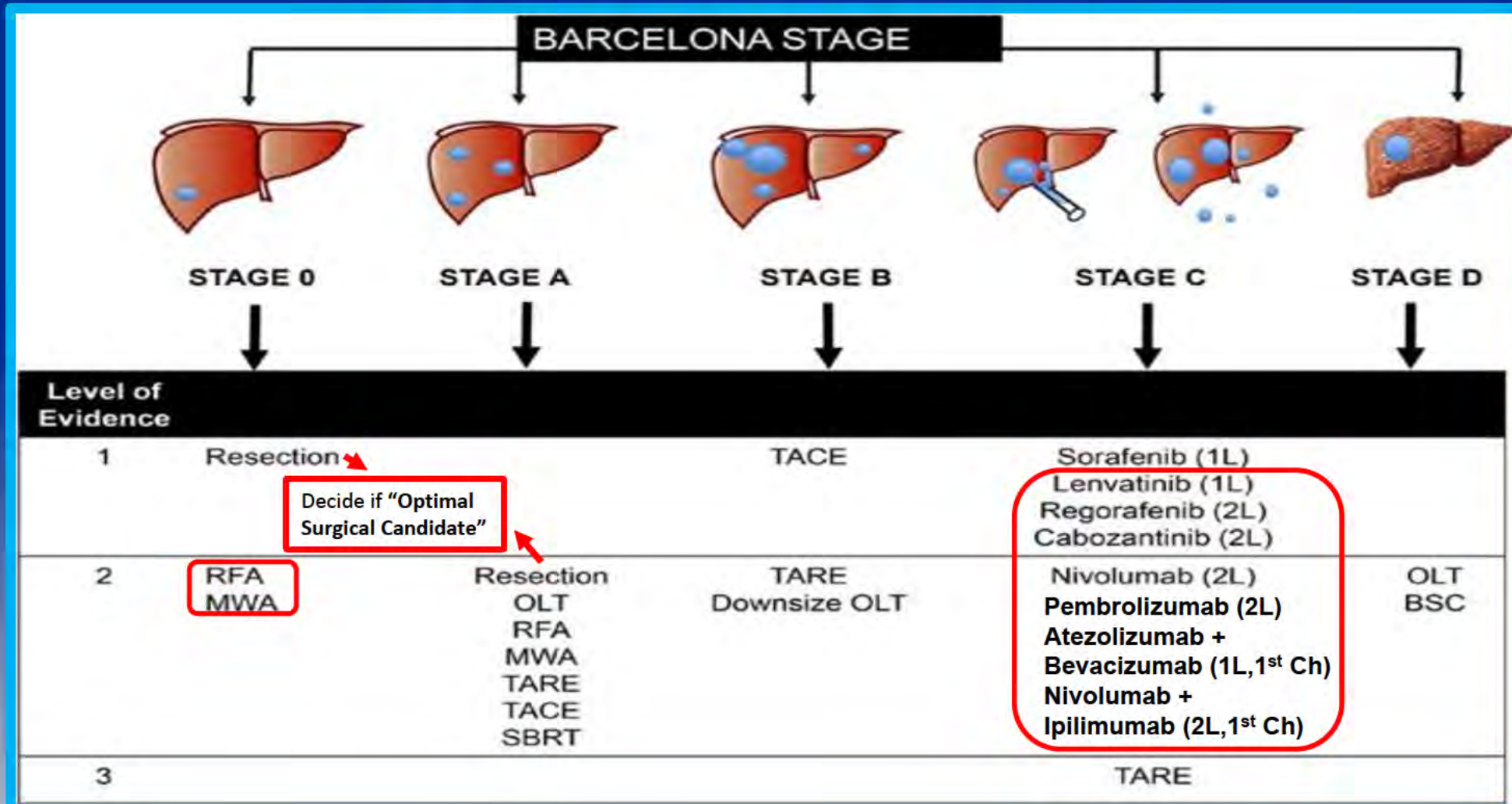
- Chang, et al. *HPB*. 2008; Zhang, et al. *Curr Oncol*. 2013; Yopp, et al. *Ann Surg Oncol*. 2014; Stark, et al. *ILCA*. 2012; Charriere, et al. *J Surg Oncol*. 2017; Gaba, et al. *Ann Hepatol*. 2013; Dyson, et al. *J Hepatol*. 2014

| Study          | # Patients | Description                          | Outcomes                                                                      |
|----------------|------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yopp 2014      | 355        | Single day MDT clinic and conference | Improved early detection, curative treatment, time to treatment, and survival |
| Zhang 2013     | 343        | Single day MDT clinic                | Changed imaging/pathology interpretation and therapy plan                     |
| Chang 2008     | 183        | Fluid referrals and joint conference | Improved early detection, curative treatment, and survival                    |
| Stark 2012     | 122        | Single day MDT clinic and conference | Improved rates of any treatment                                               |
| Charriere 2017 | 387        | MDT conference                       | Improved survival                                                             |
| Gaba 2013      | 167        | MDT conference                       | Increased access to curative therapies and transplantation, improved survival |
| Dyson 2014     | 632        | Centralized team                     | Improved referral to specialty care, improved early detection                 |

# Treatment Recommendation for HCC

## AASLD Practice Guidance 2018

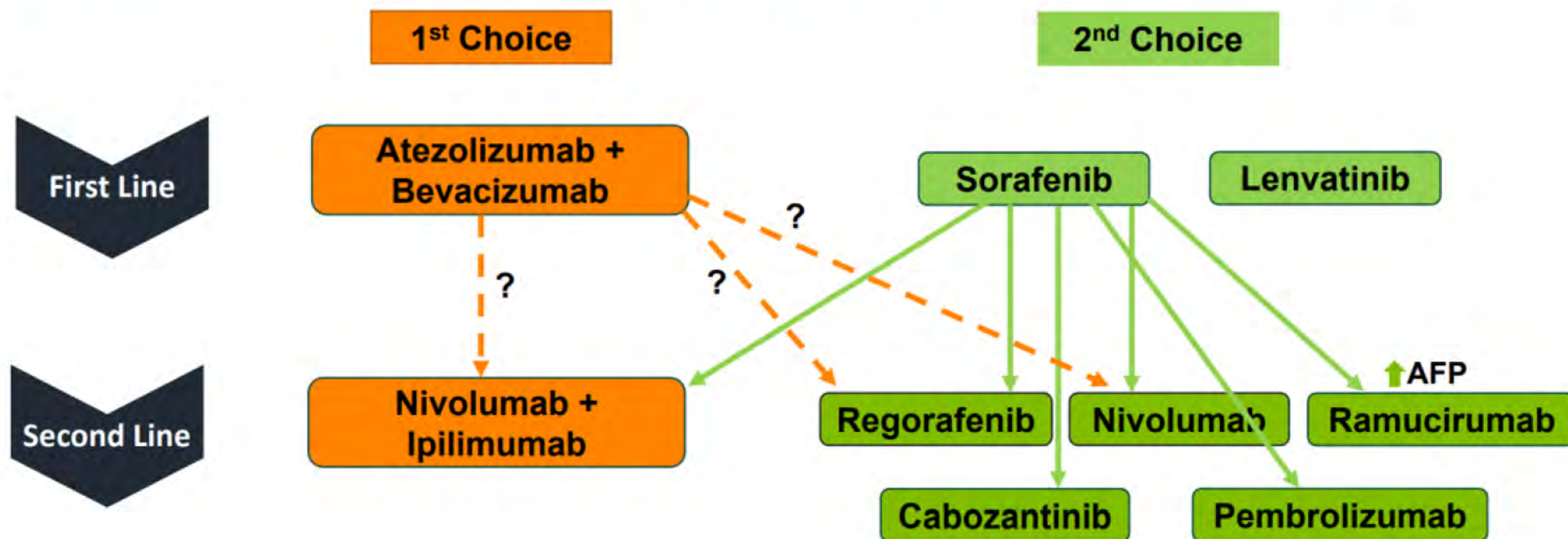
Marrero JA et al. Hepatology, VOL. 68, NO. 2, 723-750, 2018



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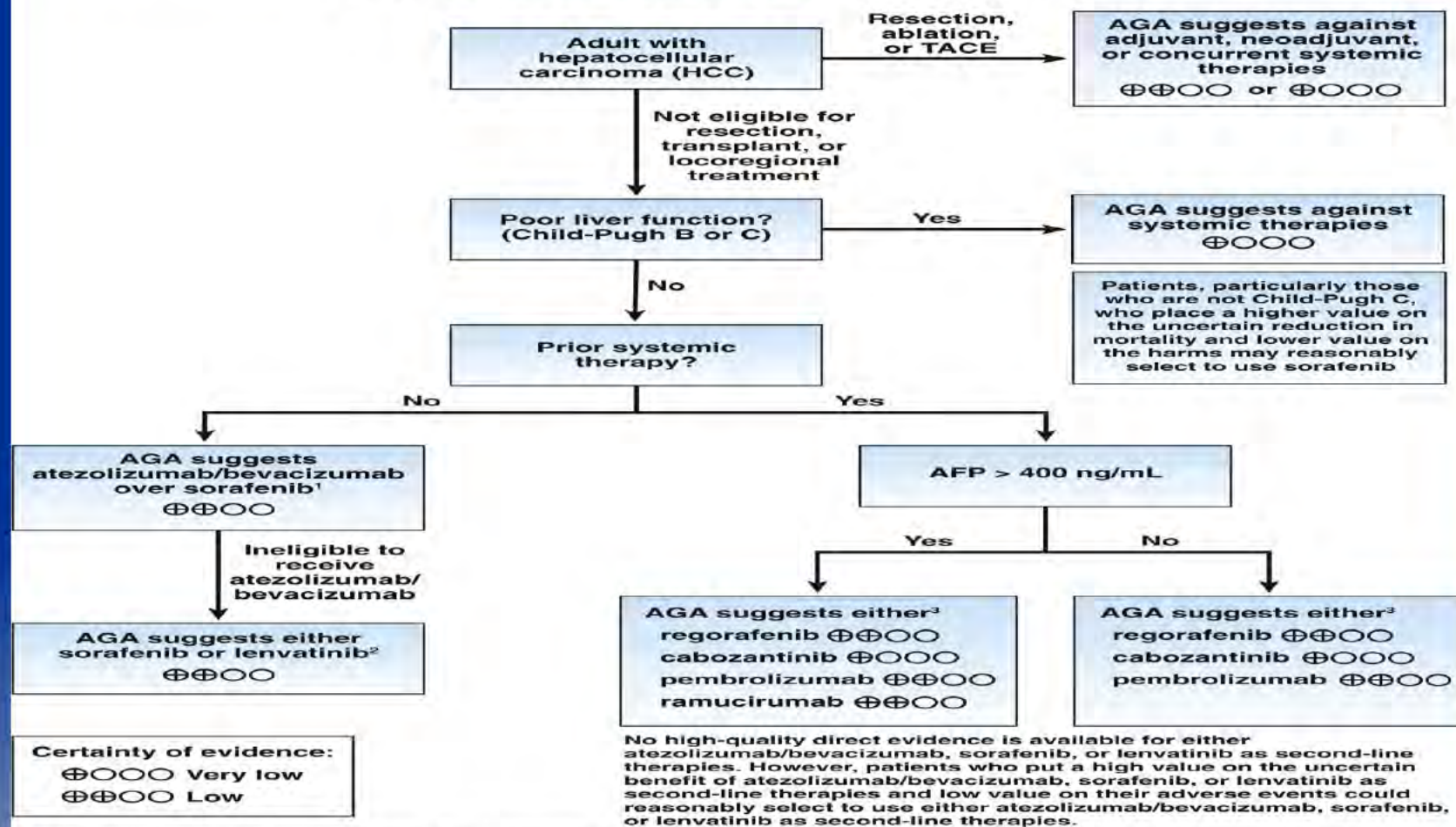
# Systemic Medical Therapy for HCC

# Current Therapeutic Options in Advanced HCC



# Systemic Therapy for Hepatocellular Carcinoma

## Clinical Decision Support Tool



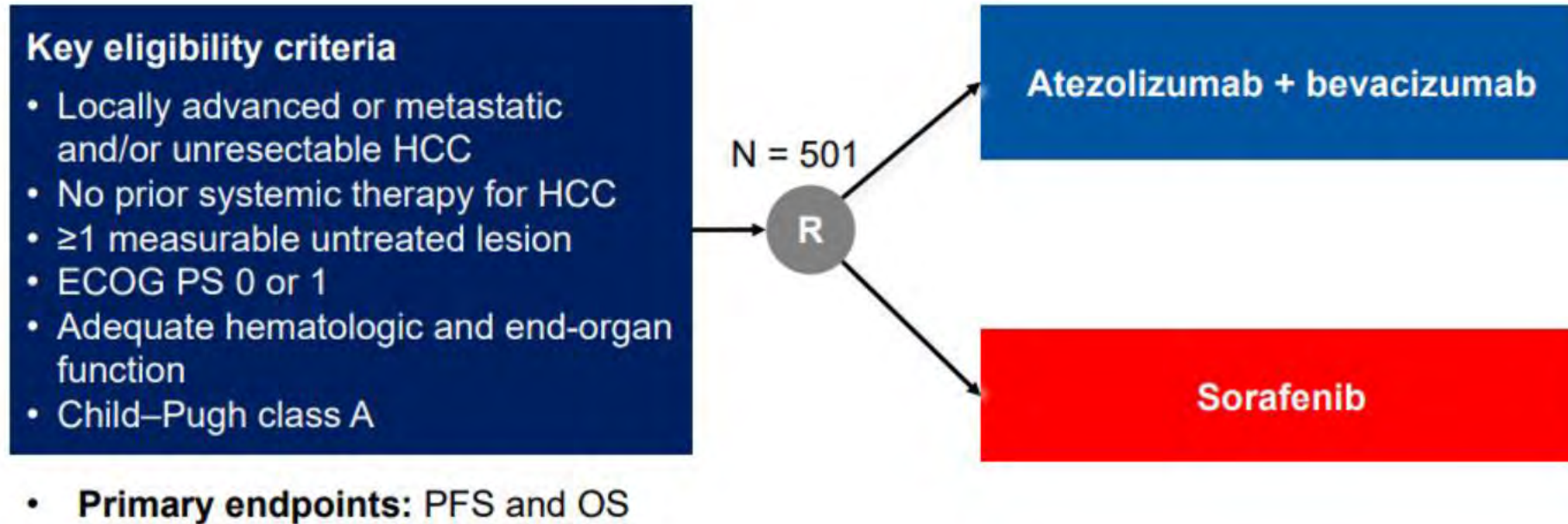
<sup>1</sup>Esophageal varices screening and treatment prior to starting treatment is recommended. Although no prior studies compared atezolizumab/bevacizumab versus lenvatinib, the results of the REFLECT trial suggest that sorafenib and lenvatinib are comparable.

<sup>2a</sup>Patients who place a higher value on delayed radiologic disease progression and lower value on the increase in adverse events (both serious and leading to discontinuation of the drug) may reasonably choose lenvatinib.

<sup>2b</sup>Patients who place a higher value on blood pressure control and a lower value on the adverse skin reactions would reasonably select sorafenib.

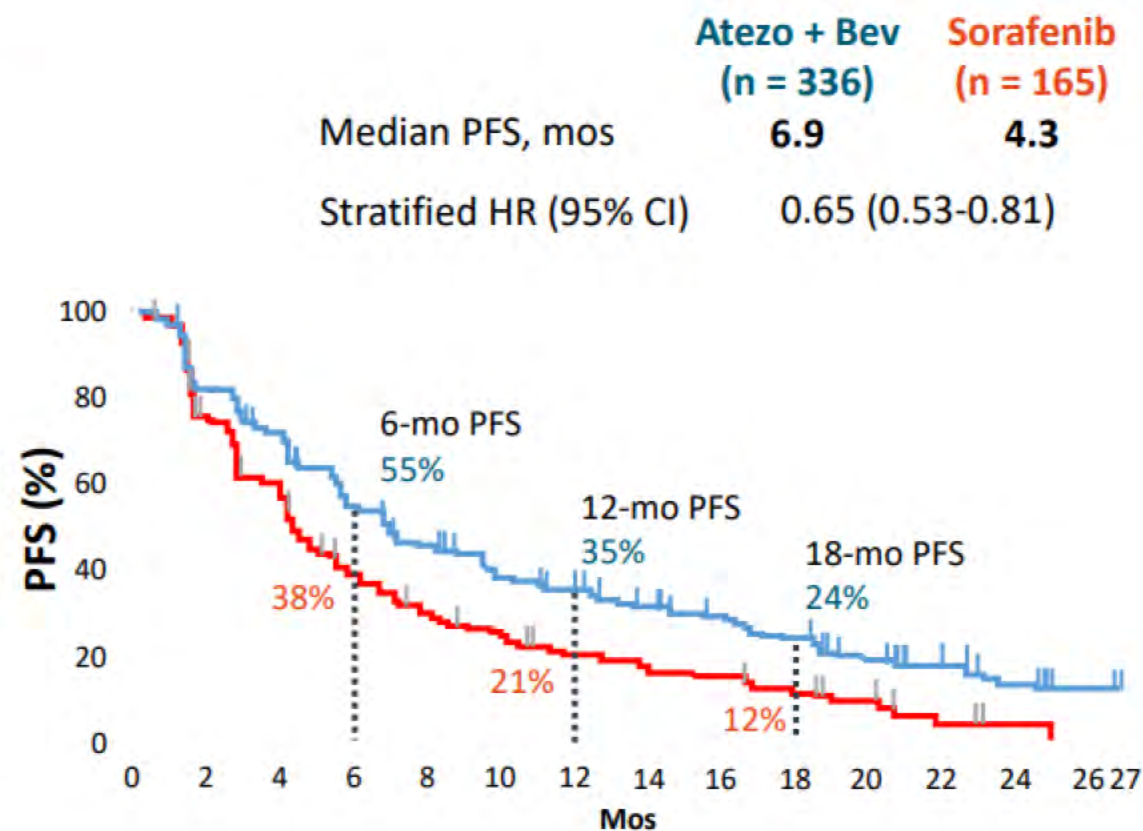
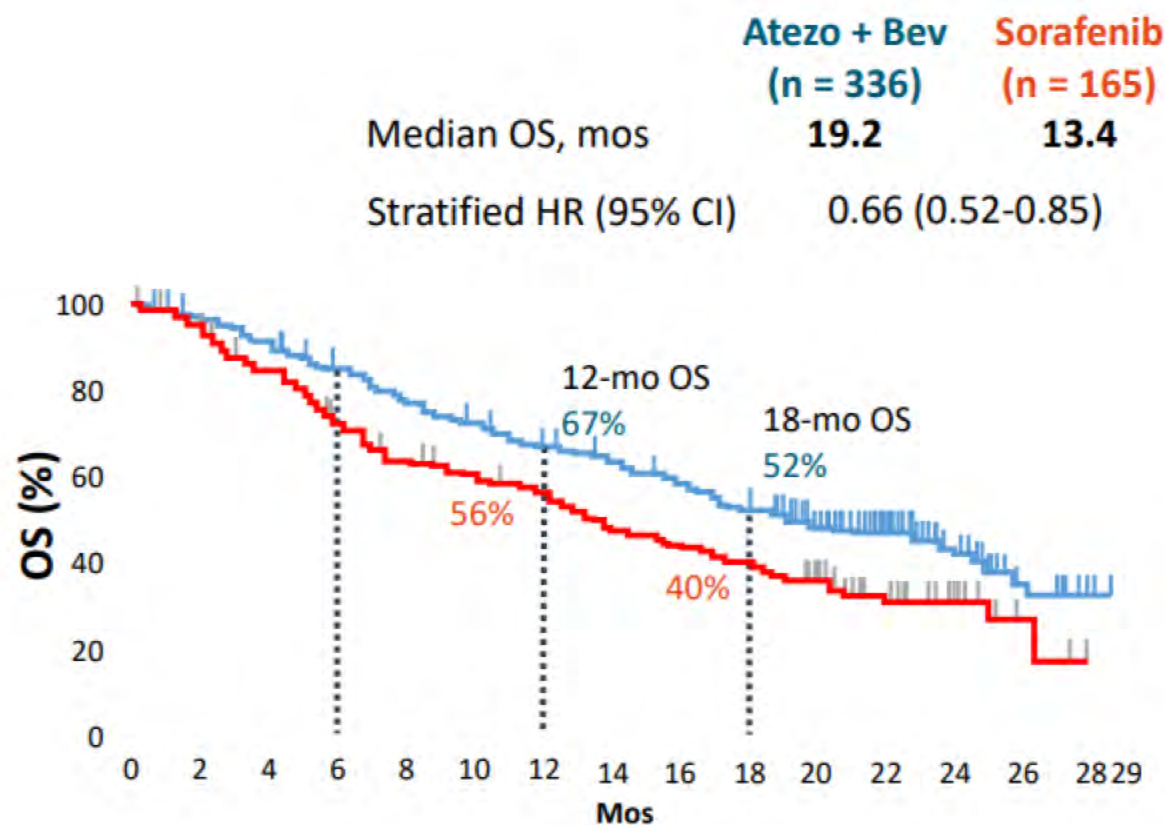
<sup>3</sup>Patients who place a higher value on adverse effects associated with any of the second-line therapies (regorafenib, cabozantinib, pembrolizumab, or ramucirumab) and lower value on the reduction in mortality (1.2 to 2.8 months) may reasonably decline second-line therapies.

# IMBrave150: Atezolizumab/Bevacizumab vs. Sorafenib



***All patients were required to have recent EGD to risk stratify risk of bleeding***

# Atezolizumab and bevacizumab is new standard of care for patients with advanced-stage HCC



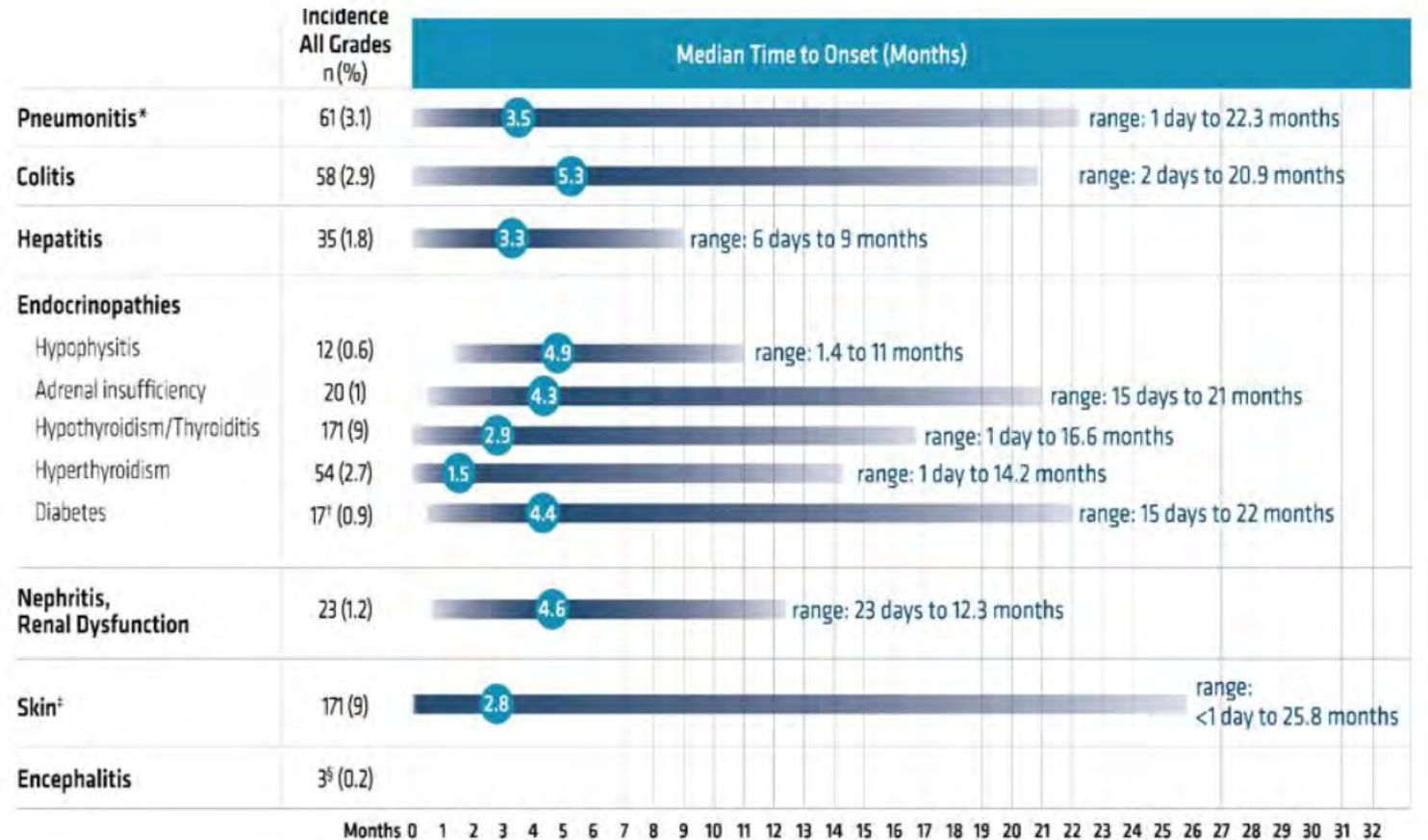
Immunotherapy  
Related Adverse  
Effects (irAEs)  
Menzies et al.  
Ann Oncol 2016

PD-1 blockade associated with less irAEs than CTLA-4 antibodies

In melanoma trials of nivolumab, 24% required immunosuppressive therapy for management of irAEs

- Need for immunosuppression did not affect response to drug

## Immune Related Adverse Events (irAEs)



Infusion-related reactions in 6.4%

## Immunotherapy Adverse Effects



Patients should be monitored closely during treatment for immune-mediated Endocrinopathies, Pneumonitis, **Colitis**, **Hepatitis**, nephritis, etc.



Hormone replacement may be necessary



Corticosteroids are the mainstay of therapy for immune related side effects



Dose delay may be required in up to 1/3 of patients



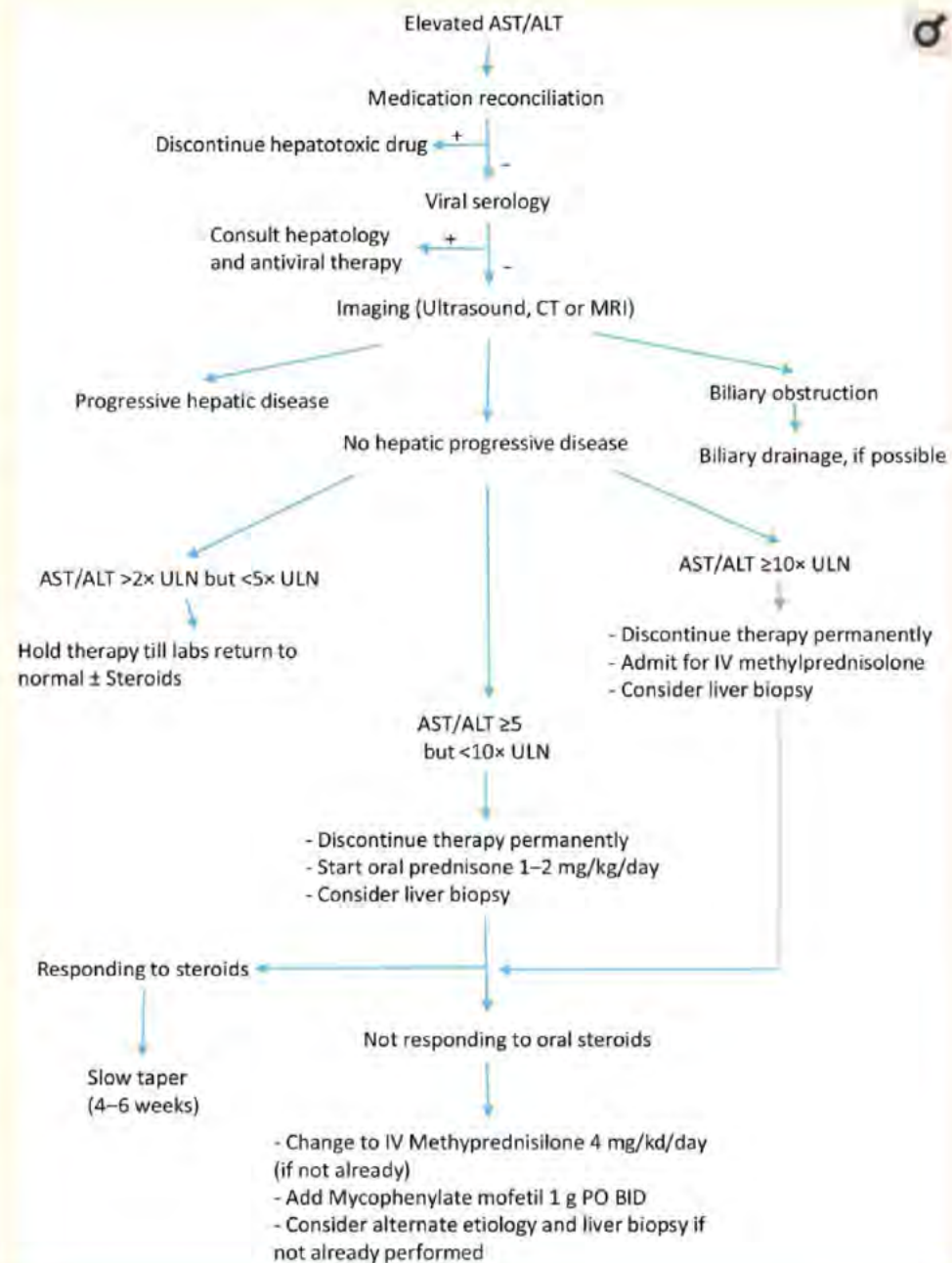
11% discontinue therapy due to AEs



Some fatal reactions have been reported

## Check-point Inhibitor-Related Hepatitis

J Gastrointest Oncol. 2018 Feb; 9(1): 220–224



# AIH vs Checkpoint Inhibitor (ICI) Hepatitis

|                                 | Autoimmune Hepatitis          | ICI Hepatotoxicity                                                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gender                          | Female predominant            | Equal sex incidence                                                              |
| Symptoms                        | Malaise, jaundice             | Fever, rash                                                                      |
| Antibody—ANA, ASMA              | Positive                      | Negative or low titer                                                            |
| Gamma globulin level            | Increased                     | Normal range                                                                     |
| Histology                       | Interface hepatitis, fibrosis | Hepatitis (lobular, pan-lobular, centrilobular, granulomatous). Portal fibrosis. |
| Cell infiltration               | Plasma cell: CD4+ CD8+        | Histiocyte: CD4+ CD8+                                                            |
| Recurrence after ICI withdrawal | Yes                           | No                                                                               |

ANA—antinuclear antibody, ASMA—anti-smooth-muscle antibody.

## Histology

**Anti-PD-1/PD-L1:** acute hepatitis with lobular inflammation, acidophilic bodies and centrilobular necrosis.

**CTLA-4 inhibitors:** central vein endotheliosis and granulomatous hepatitis.

**Immune Mediated Cholangitis:** bile duct injury (100%), portal inflammation (87.5%), ductular reaction (54.2%), bile duct loss (16.7%), cholestasis (29.2%) and lobular injury (45.8%)

# ICI Immune-Mediated Cholangitis

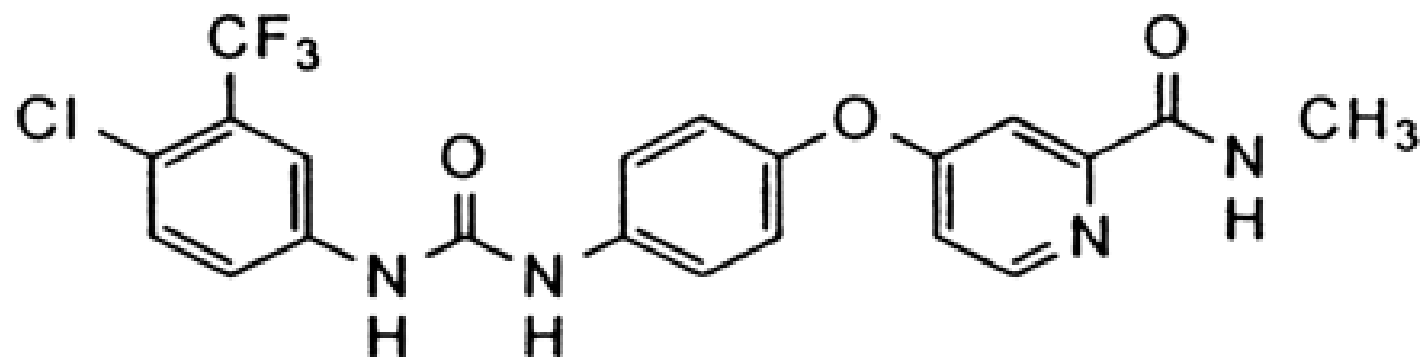
Pi, Borui et al. European Journal of Gastroenterology & Hepatology: September 1, 2021

- **Patients:** 53 patients; gender 35M/18W; age 43-89.
- **Injury Type:** 12 with small-ducts type, 29 with large-ducts type and 12 with mixed type cholangitis.
- **Drug Type:** 47 anti-PD-1 therapy, 3 anti-PD-L1 therapy, 1 anti-CLTA-4 and 2 anti-PD-1/PD-L1 + anti-CLTA-4 therapy.
- **Number of ICIs cycles until IMC onset:** five (range, 1–27).
- **Biochemistry:** Median Alkaline Phosphatase 1328 (237-4635) being higher in large duct disease; Median ALT 156 (31-1536).
- **Histology:** bile duct injury (100%), portal inflammation (87.5%), ductular reaction (54.2%), bile duct loss (16.7%), cholestasis (29.2%) and lobular injury (45.8%)

# Immunotherapy-Related Hepatitis

|                                                                              | Immunotherapy Recommendations and monitoring                                                                                                                 | Treatment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AST/ALT <3x ULN<br>Total bilirubin <1.5x ULN                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue therapy</li> <li>Monitor labs 1-2x/week</li> </ul>                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| AST/ALT 3-5x ULN<br>Total bilirubin 1.5-3x ULN                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold therapy until recovered</li> <li>Monitor labs every 3 days</li> </ul>                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prednisone 0.5-1 mg/kg/d if persists more than 3-5 days</li> <li>Taper over at least 1 month</li> </ul>                                                                                             |
| AST/ALT 5-20x ULN<br>Total bilirubin 3-10x ULN                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanently discontinue</li> <li>Monitor labs every 1-2 days</li> </ul>                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methylprednisolone 1-2 mg/kg</li> <li>If no improvement after 3 days, consider mycophenolate mofetil or azathioprine (test for TPMT deficiency)</li> <li>Taper steroids around 4-6 weeks</li> </ul> |
| AST/ALT >20x ULN<br>Total bilirubin >10x ULN<br>Decompensated liver function | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanently discontinue</li> <li>Inpatient monitoring</li> <li>Consider transfer to tertiary care facility</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methylprednisolone 2 mg/kg</li> <li>If no improvement after 3 days, consider mycophenolate mofetil</li> <li>Taper steroids around 4-6 weeks</li> </ul>                                              |

In Immune-Mediated Cholangitis the treatment is longer (4-6 months or longer);  
Pred 60 mg/d + UDCA; taper steroids after resolution of inflammation in F/U Liver biopsy)



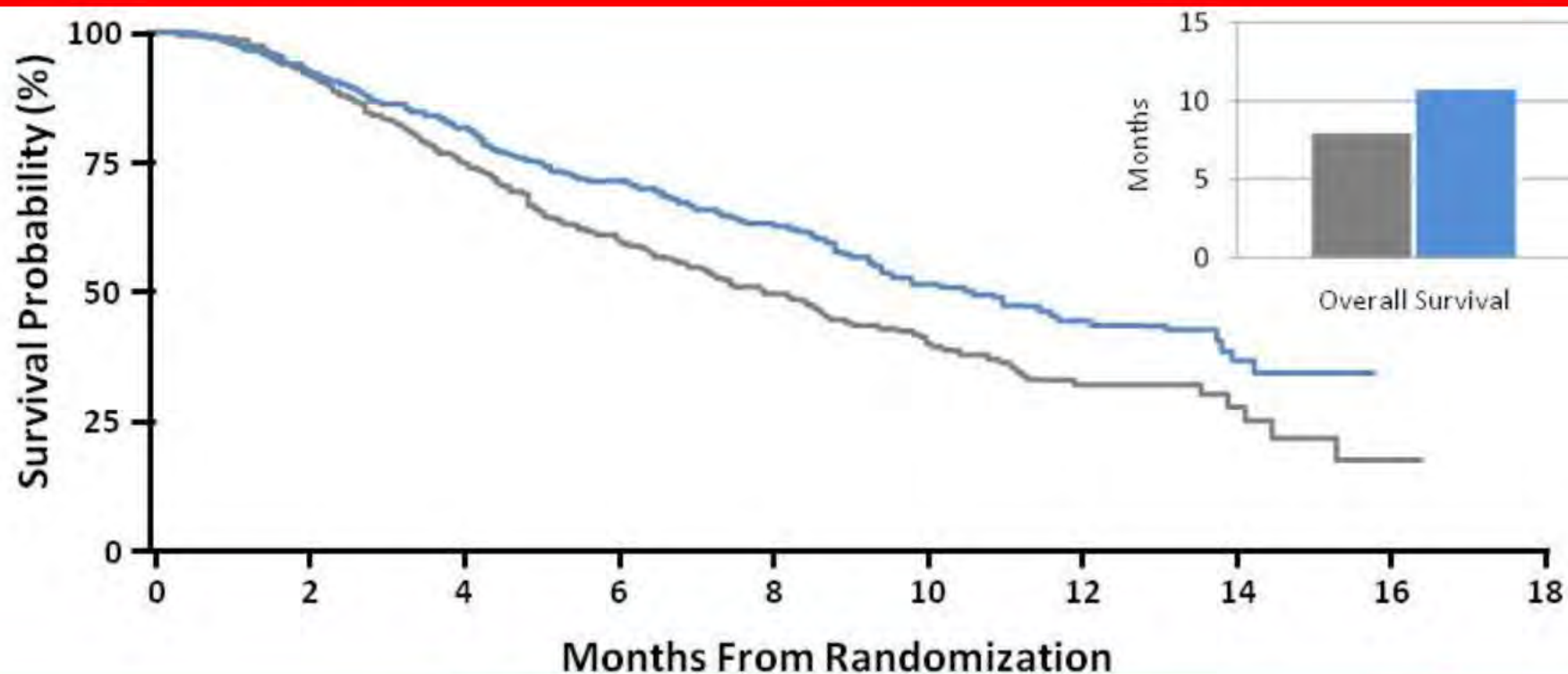
# Sorafenib

- SORAFENIB, is a oral multikinase inhibitor
- It is active against:
  - Serine/threonine kinases c-Raf and B-Raf
  - Receptor tyrosine kinases: e.g. VEGFR 2 (Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Receptor), PDGFR (Platelet Derived Growth Factor Receptor), c-Kit receptor

# Phase 3 SHARP Trial

## Overall Survival (Intention-to-treat)

|           |                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sorafenib | Median Overall Survival (n=299) = <b>10.7 months (95% CI, 9.4-13.3)</b> |
| Placebo   | Median Overall Survival (n=303) = <b>7.9 months (95% CI, 6.8-9.1)</b>   |
|           | <b>HR: 0.69; 95% CI, 0.55-0.87; <math>P &lt; 0.001</math></b>           |



# Phase 3 SHARP Trial

## Adverse Effects

|                    | Sorafenib |           | Placebo   |           |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Adverse Reaction   | Any Grade | Grade 3/4 | Any Grade | Grade 3/4 |
| Fatigue            | 46%       | 10%       | 45%       | 14%       |
| Weight loss        | 30%       | 2%        | 10%       | 1%        |
| Hand Food Skin Rxn | 21%       | 8%        | 3%        | <1%       |
| Hypertension       | 9%        | 4%        | 4%        | 1%        |
| Alopecia           | 14%       | 0%        | 2%        | 0%        |
| Diarrhea           | 55%       | 10%       | 25%       | 2%        |
| Anorexia           | 29%       | 3%        | 18%       | 3%        |

Patients with grade 2 HFSR within one month of initiation had longer Overall Survival (28.9 months vs 16.8 months) Zhao et al. International Journal of Cancer 2016;139(4):928-37

# Lenvatinib

Oral multiple tyrosine kinase inhibitor

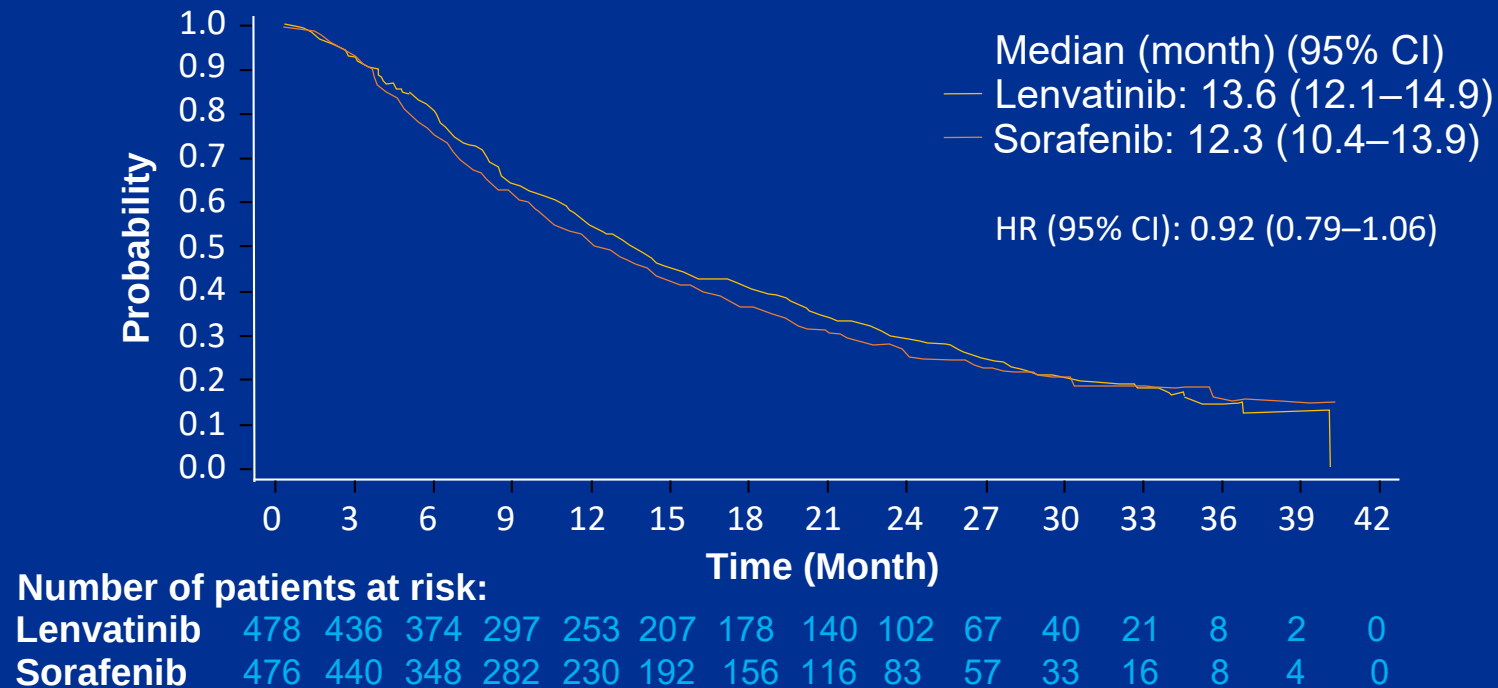
Mainly active against VEGFR1, VEGFR2, and VEGFR3

Also inhibits FGFR1, 2, 3, and 4, PDGFR, KIT, RET

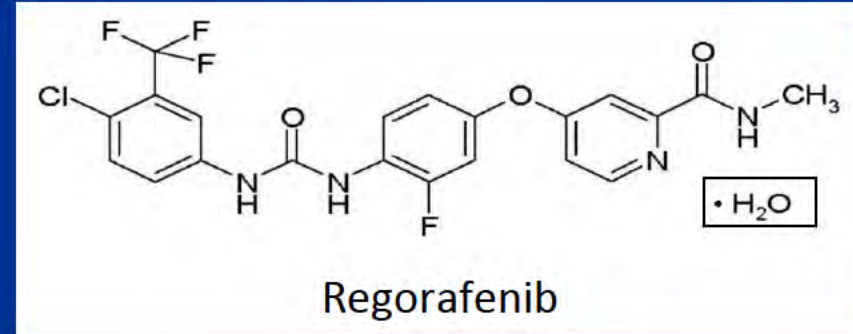
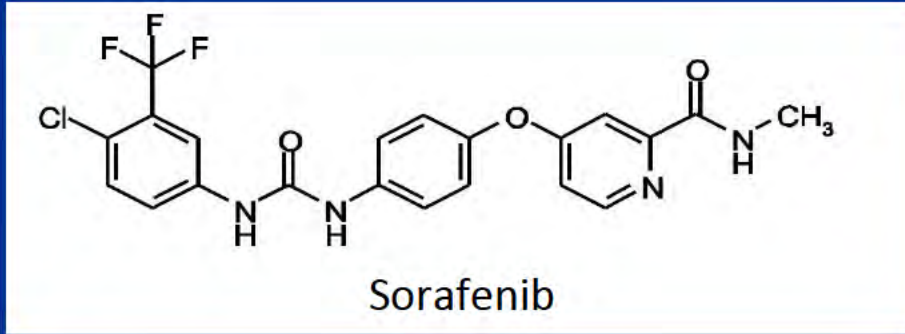
**REFLECT:** Lenvatinib 8 mg or 12 mg daily (based on body weight) vs Sorafenib

- 954 patients enrolled globally
- BCLC B or C, Child-Pugh A, ECOG PS  $\leq 1$
- No prior systemic therapy
- No portal vein invasion allowed
- Primary endpoint OS with target of non-inferiority

# REFLECT: Primary Endpoint



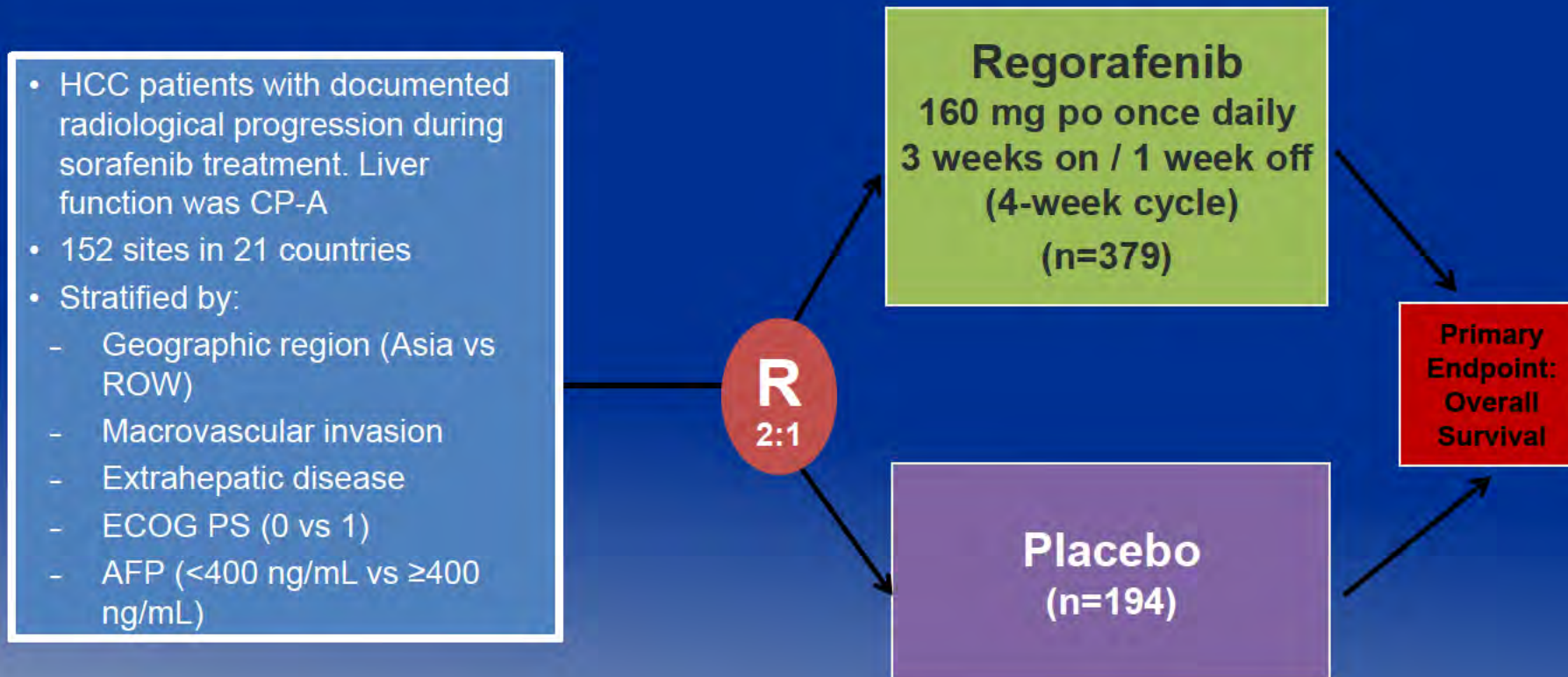
# Regorafenib



- REGORAFENIB, is also an oral multikinase inhibitor
- It is active against:
  - Protein kinases involved in angiogenesis, oncogenesis, metastasis and tumor immunity
  - Very similar to sorafenib in structure and function.
  - More potent than sorafenib

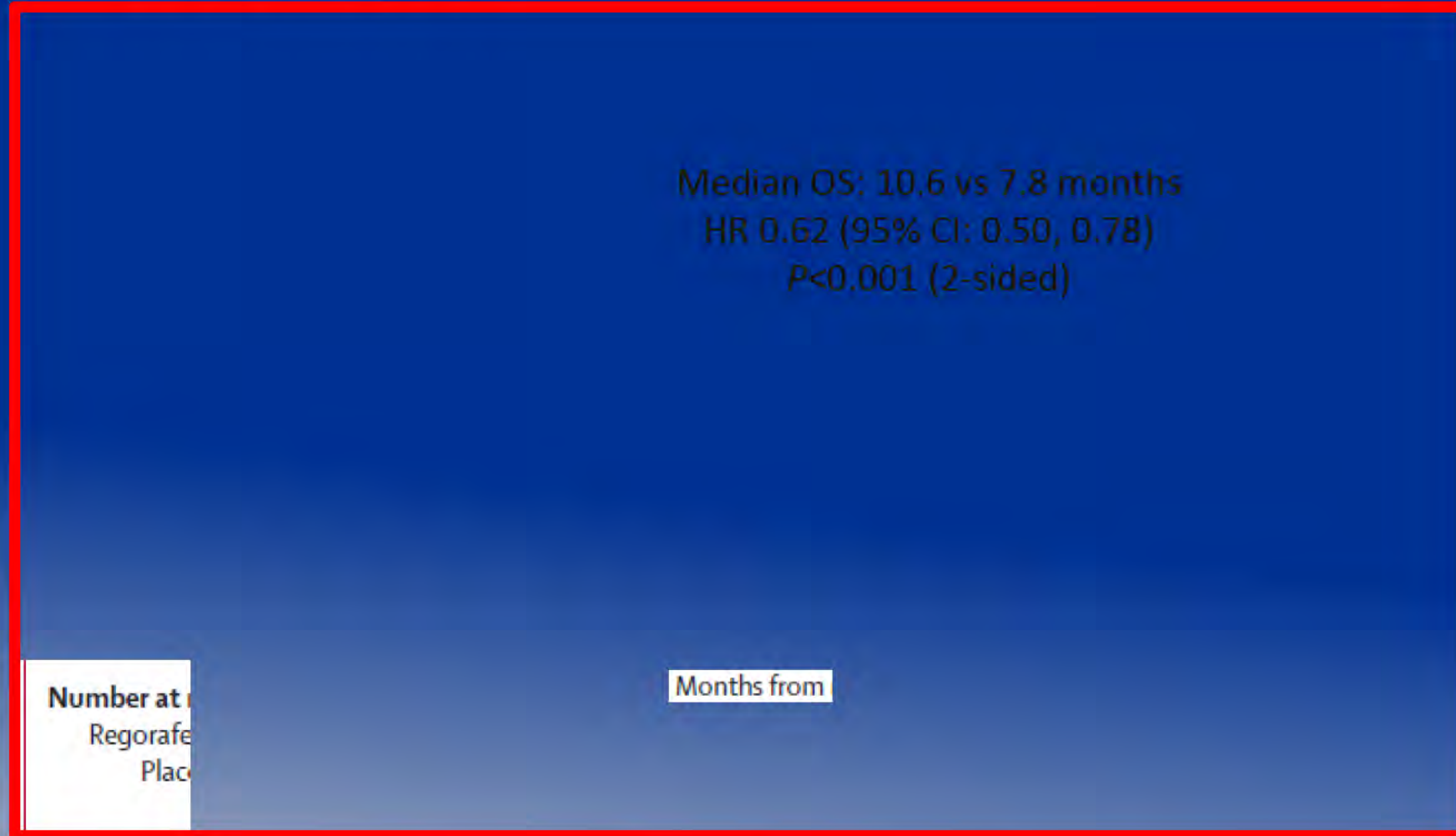
# RESORCE Trial Design

Regorafenib for HCC patients who progressed on Sorafenib

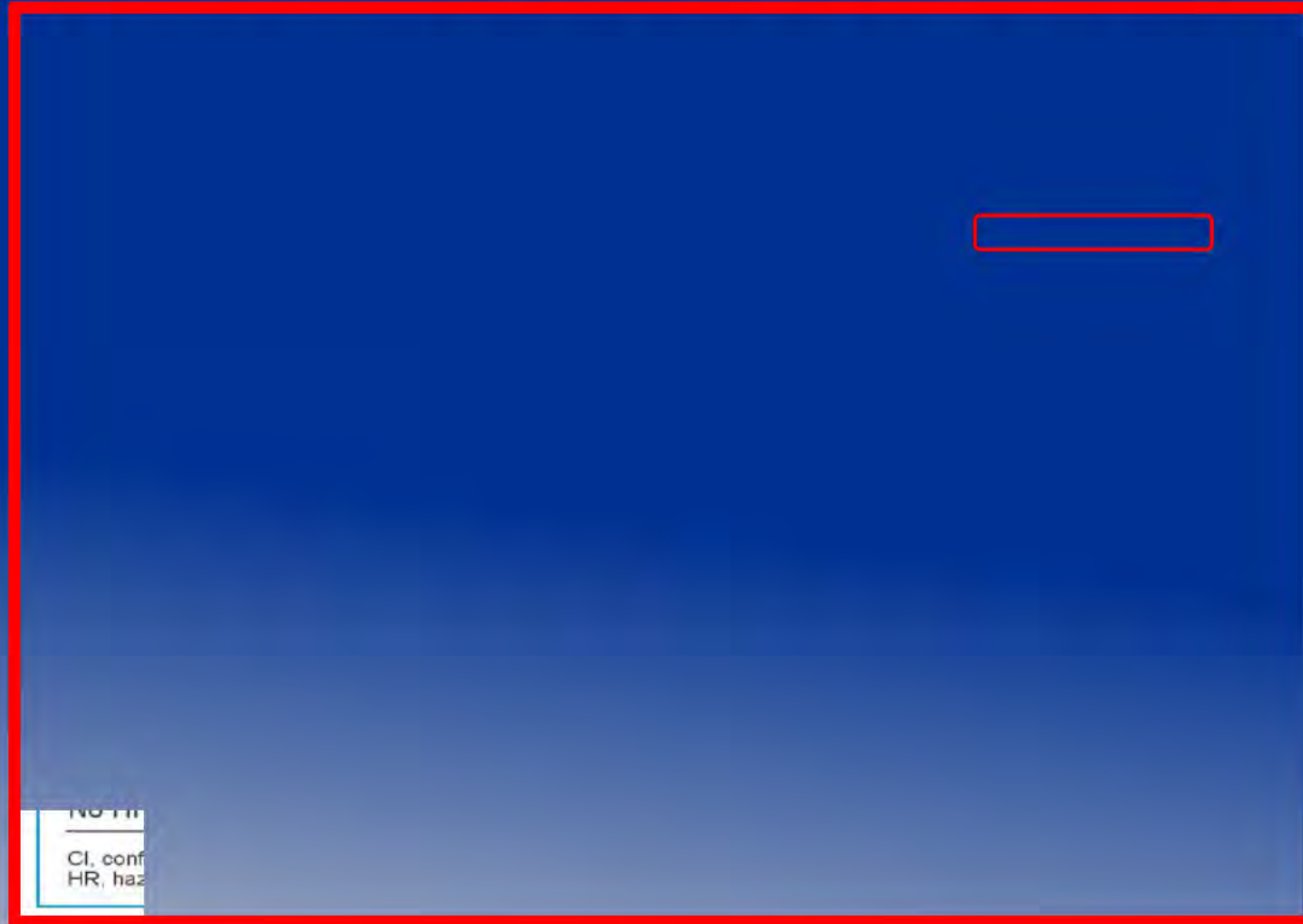


# RESORCE Trial - Results

## Overall Survival (OS)



# HFSR May Mean Improved OS with Regorafenib

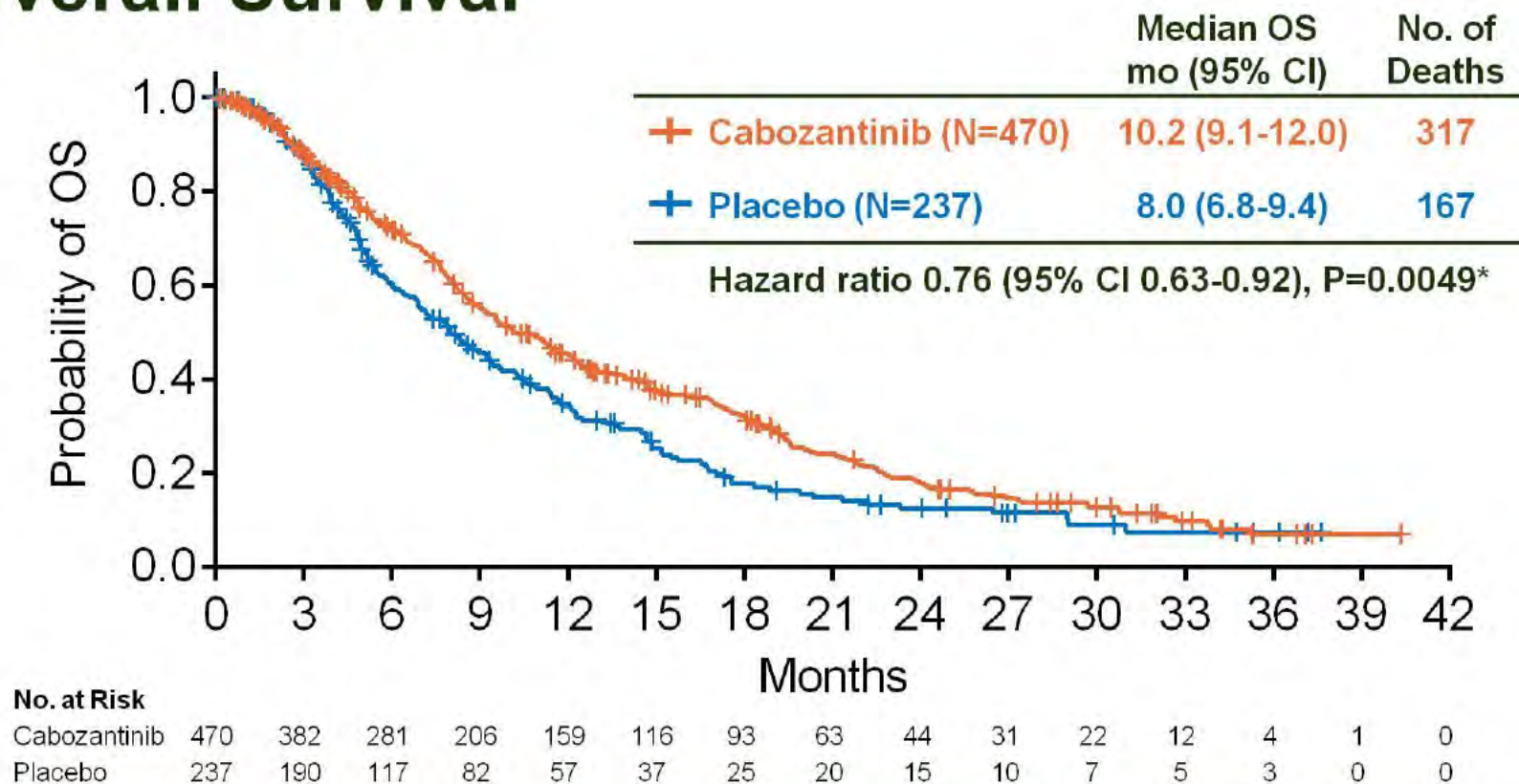


# Cabozantinib

- Oral multiple tyrosine kinase inhibitor
- Active against VEGFR1, VEGFR2, and VEGFR3
- Also inhibits MET and AXL – which play a role in invasion and metastases and resistance to anti-angiogenic therapy
- High expression of MET and AXL may be associated with poor prognosis in HCC
- **CELESTIAL:** Cabozantinib 60 mg daily vs Placebo randomized 2:1
  - 773 patients enrolled
  - Patients must have progressed after systemic treatment, up to 2 prior systemic treatments allowed
  - BCLC B or C, CTP A, ECOG PS  $\leq 1$
  - HBV 40%, HCV 22%, other 40%
  - 5 months median duration of sorafenib prior to enrollment

# Cabozantinib in Second Line Treatment

## Overall Survival



\*Critical p-value  $\leq 0.021$  for second interim analysis

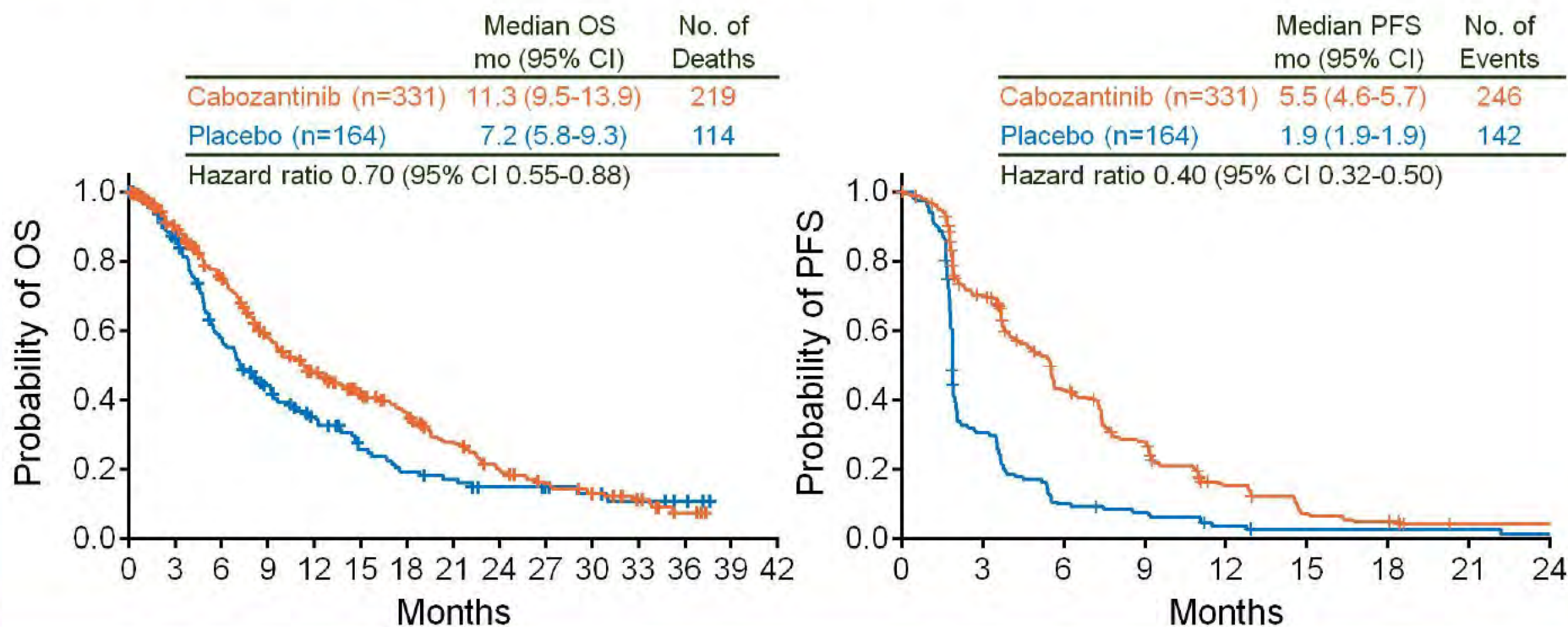
PRESENTED AT: **2018 Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium** | #GI18

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# Cabozantinib in Second Line Treatment

## Overall Survival and Progression-free Survival Sorafenib as only prior therapy for HCC



PRESENTED AT: **2018 Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium** | #GI18

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# Nivolumab

Nivolumab is FDA approved for patients with HCC who have previously failed sorafenib (accelerated approval)

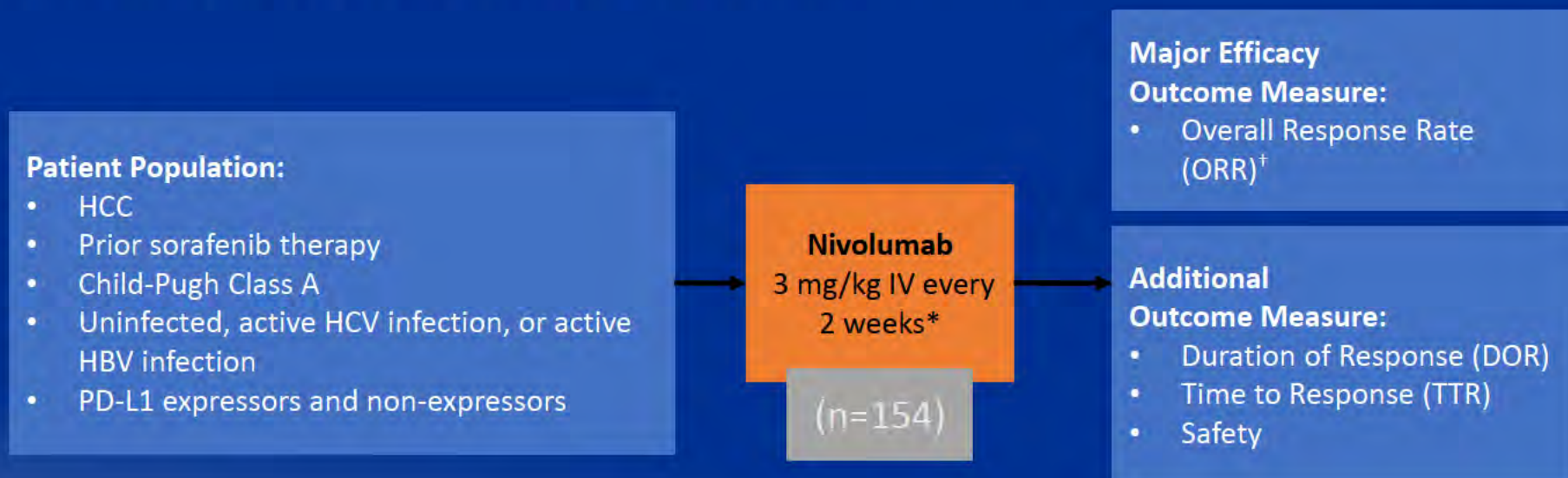
**Nivolumab in patients with advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (CheckMate 040): an open-label, non-comparative, phase 1/2 dose escalation and expansion trial**



*Anthony B El-Khoueiry,\* Bruno Sangro,\* Thomas Yau, Todd S Crocenzi, Masatoshi Kudo, Chiun Hsu, Tae-You Kim, Su-Pin Choo, Jörg Trojan, Theodore H Welling 3rd, Tim Meyer, Yoon-Koo Kang, Winnie Yeo, Akhil Chopra, Jeffrey Anderson, Christine dela Cruz, Lixin Lang, Jaclyn Neely, Hao Tang, Homa B Dastani, Ignacio Melero*

# Nivolumab in Patients Previously Treated with Sorafenib

## CheckMate 040 Study Design and Result



- Included a phase 1/2, multicenter, open-label study conducted in patients with HCC who progressed on or were intolerant to sorafenib
- The trial excluded patients with infection with HIV and active co-infection with HBV/HCV or HBV/HDV
- Patients were required to have an AST and ALT of no more than five times the ULN and total bilirubin of less than 3 mg/dL
- **RESULT: Disease control rate in all patients by BICR (RECIST v1.1) was 55.9%**

# Pembrolizumab for Second Line Treatment in HCC

## KEYNOTE 224 Study

Zhu et al, ASCO GI 2018

### Study Design

- Key eligibility criteria

- ≥18 y
- Pathologically confirmed HCC
- Progression on or intolerance to sorafenib treatment
- Child Pugh class A
- ECOG PS 0-1
- BCLC Stage C or B disease
- Predicted life expectancy >3 mo

Pembrolizumab  
200 mg Q3W  
for 2y or until PD,  
intolerable toxicity,  
withdrawal of consent  
or investigator decision

Survival  
follow-up

- Response assessed Q9W
- Primary endpoint: ORR (RECIST v1.1, central review)
- Secondary endpoint: DOR, DCR, PFS, OS. and safety and tolerability

# Pembrolizumab for Second Line Treatment in HCC KEYNOTE 224 Study

Zhu et al, ASCO GI 2018

## Anti-tumor Activity

| Response <sup>†</sup>      | Total N=104<br>n (%) | 95% CI <sup>‡</sup> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| ORR (CR+PR)                | 17 (16.3)            | 9.8 - 24.9          |
| Disease control (CR+PR+SD) | 64 (61.5)            | 51.5 - 70.9         |
| Best overall response      |                      |                     |
| CR                         | 1 (1.0)              | 0.0 - 5.2           |
| PR                         | 16 (15.4)            | 9.1- 23.8           |
| SD                         | 47 (45.2)            | 35.4 - 55.3         |
| PD                         | 34 (32.7)            | 23.8 - 42.6         |
| No Assessment <sup>§</sup> | 6 (5.8)              | 2.1-12.1            |

<sup>†</sup>Confirmed best response by independent central review per RECIST v1.1. <sup>‡</sup>Based on binomial exact confidence interval method. <sup>§</sup>Subjects who had a baseline assessment by investigator review or central radiology but no post-baseline assessment on the data cutoff date including discontinuing or death before the first post-baseline scan. Data cutoff date: Aug 24, 2017.

Thank you for your  
attention

# Major Guidelines Recognize the Importance of Routine Surveillance in High-Risk Populations

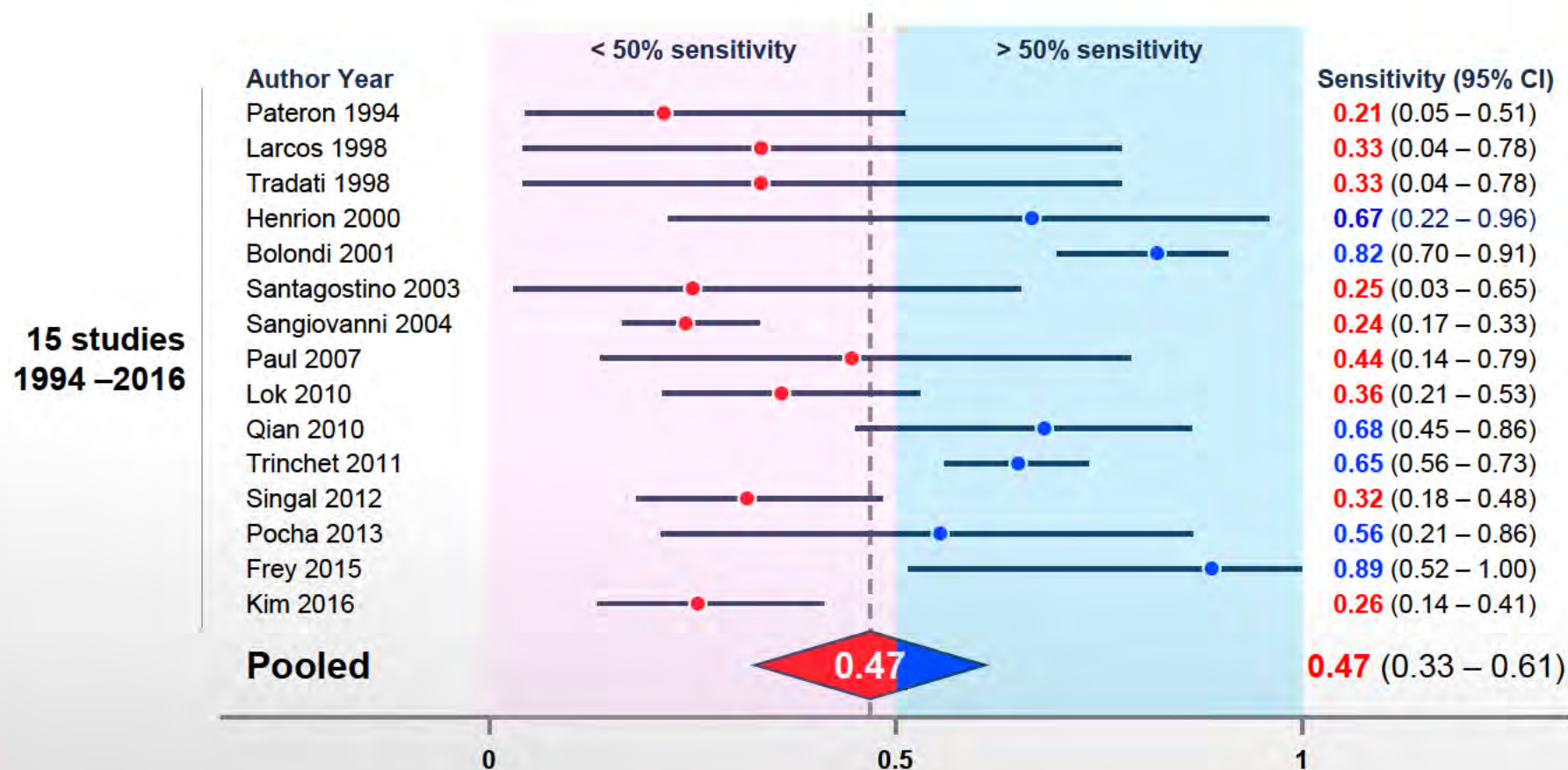
| Society/Institution                                                               | Guidelines                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AASLD</b> <sup>1</sup><br>American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases | US +/- AFP every 6 months                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>EASL</b> <sup>2</sup><br>European Association for the Study of the Liver       | US +/- AFP every 6 months                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>APASL</b> <sup>3</sup><br>Asian-Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver | AFP + US every 6 months                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>NCCN</b> <sup>4</sup><br>National Comprehensive Cancer Network                 | AFP + US every 6-12 months                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>VA</b> <sup>5</sup><br>United States Department of Veterans Affairs            | AFP + US every 6-12 months                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>JSH-HCC</b> <sup>6</sup><br>Japan Society of Hepatology                        | High-risk: US every 6 months + AFP/DCP/AFP-L3 every 6 months<br>Very high risk: US every 6 months + AFP/DCP/AFP-L3 every 6 months + CT/MRI (optional) every 6-12 months |

AFP not useful in uncontrolled HCV or HBV

AFP=alpha-fetoprotein; AFP-L3=*Lens culinaris* agglutinin-reactive fraction of AFP; CT=computerized tomography; DCP=des-γ-carboxyprothrombin; MRI=magnetic resonance imaging.

1. Bruix J et al. *Hepatology*. 2011;53:1020-1022; Marrero JA et al *Hepatology*. 2018;68(2):723-750 2. EASL, EORTC. *J Hepatol*. 2012;56(4):908-943; 3. Omata M et al. *Hepatol Int*. 2010;4(2):439-474; 4. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) for Hepatobiliary Cancers v1.2016. © National Comprehensive Cancer Network, Inc. 2016. All rights reserved. Accessed February 10, 2016; 5. US Dept of Veterans Affairs. Available at: <http://www.hepatitis.va.gov/pdf/2009HCC-guidelines.pdf>. Accessed September 23, 2015; 6. Kokudo N et al. *Hepatol Res*. 2015;45.

# Sensitivity of Ultrasound Alone for Early HCC



Thank you for your  
attention