

# RT of the bladder: clinical practice and recent advancements



Ananya Choudhury

MA, PhD, MRCP, FRCR

Chair and Honorary Consultant in Clinical Oncology

Group Leader Translational Radiobiology



**#BLADDR22**

 **@achoud72**

# Conflicts of interest

- Research funding from CRUK, PCUK, MRC, NIHR, PCUK, Elekta AB
- Honoraria from Bayer PLC, Janssen, AZ, ASTRO, ASCO, Roche, Merck
- Editor in Chief, BMJ Oncology



# Outline

- Optimal pathway for bladder preservation
- Technological advances
- Combining radiation and immune checkpoint inhibitors

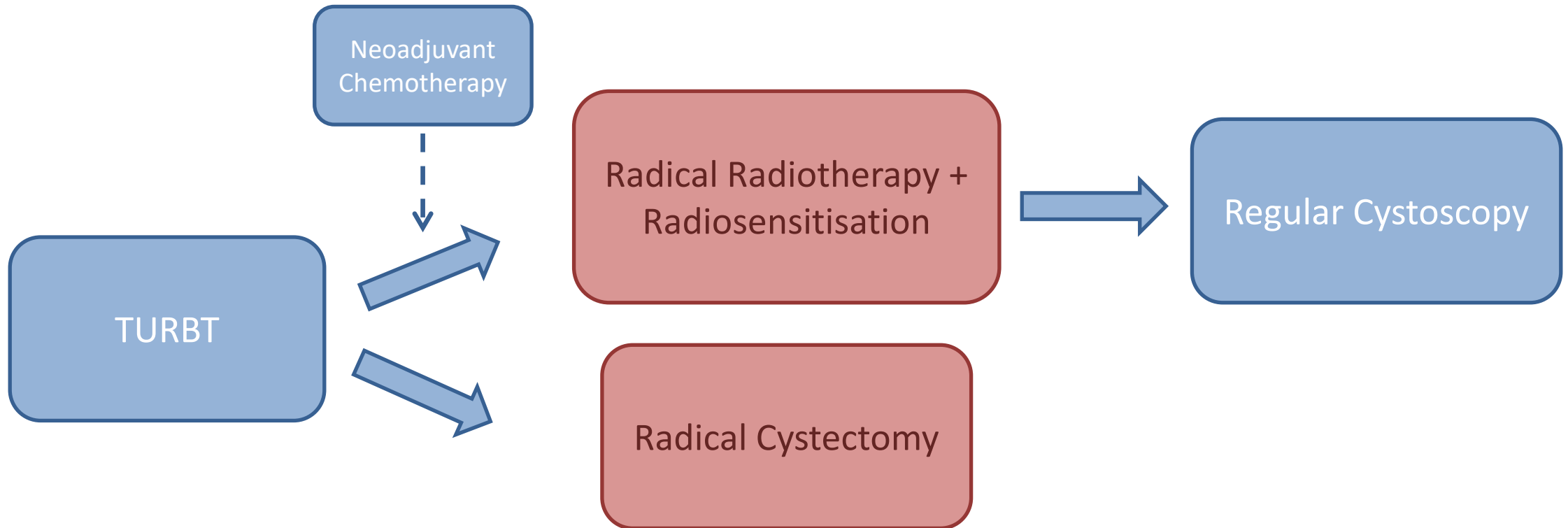


# Optimal patients for radical radiotherapy treatment

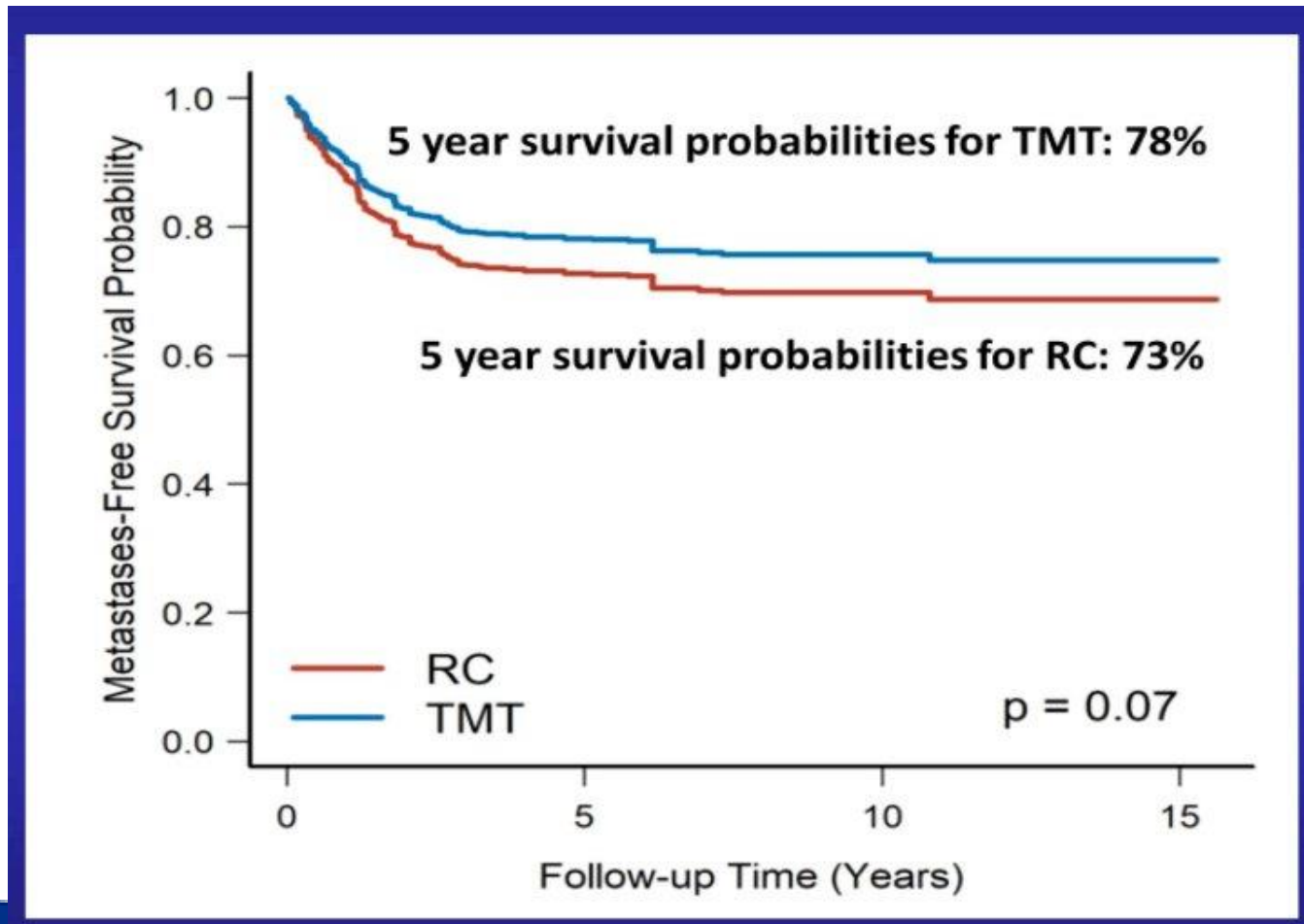
- Localised-disease muscle-invasive cancer
- Maximal Trans-Urethral Resection of Bladder
- Good bladder function
- WHO PS  $\leq 3$



# Management of localised muscle-invasive bladder cancer



# Contemporary data: Multi-institutional comparison



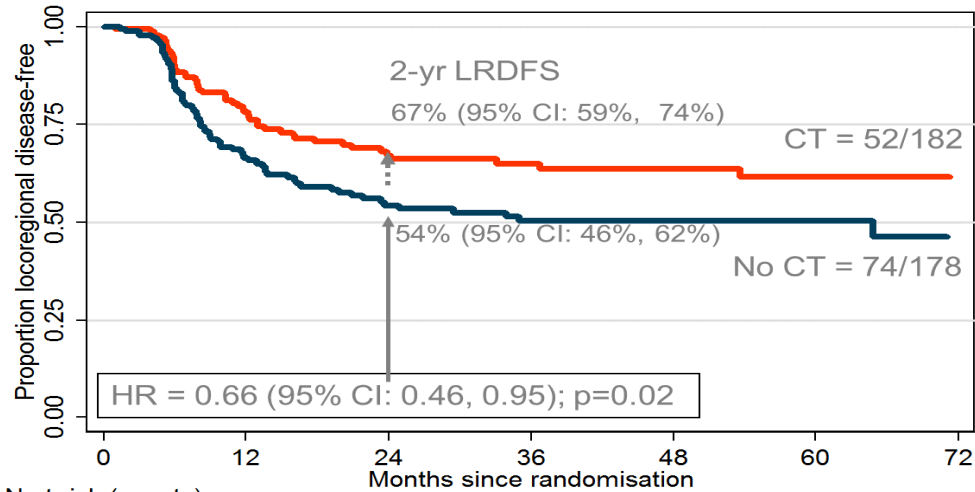
Trimodality approach favoured:  
Distant failure-free survival  
(82 vs 78%;  $p=0.14$ )

Overall survival  
(78 vs 66%;  $p<0.001$ )

Cause-specific survival  
(85 vs 78%,  $p=0.02$ )

# Radiosensitisation is better than radiotherapy alone

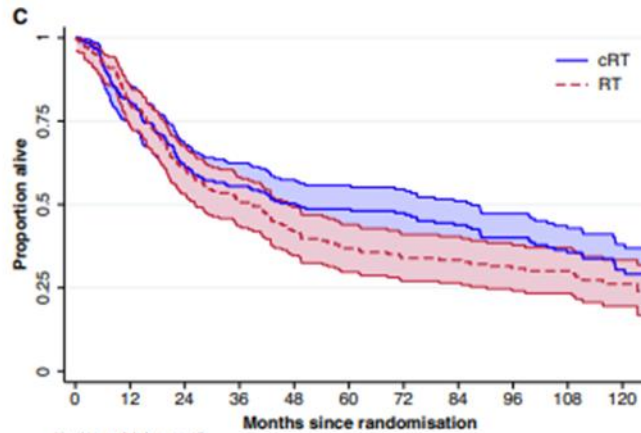
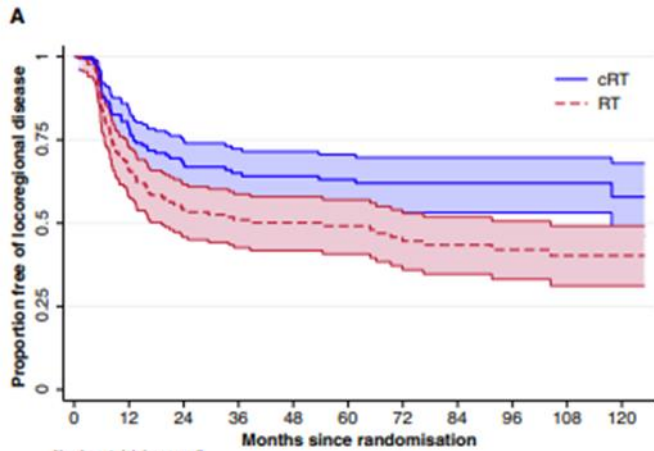
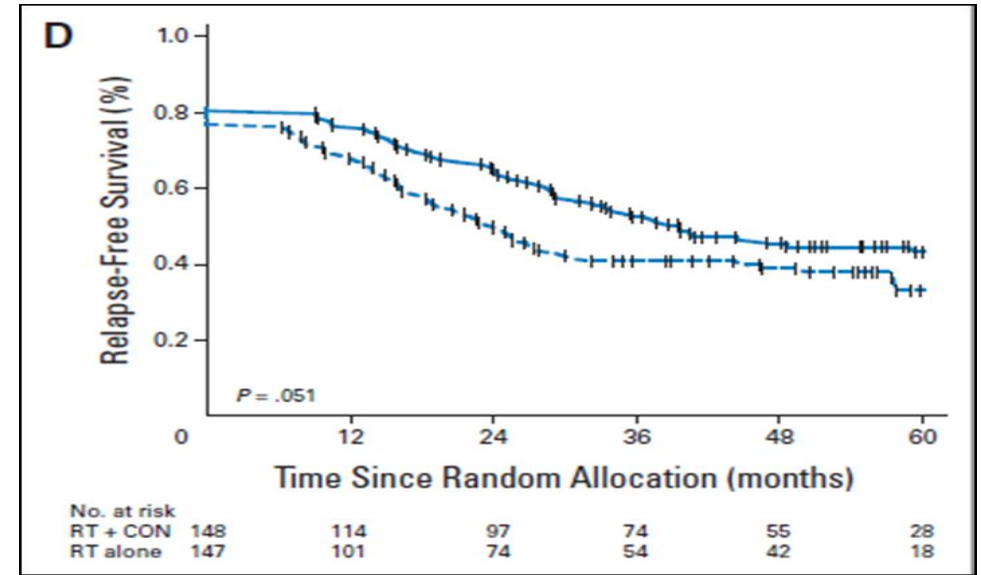
## BC2001



N at risk (events)

|       |     |      |     |      |    |     |    |     |    |     |    |     |    |
|-------|-----|------|-----|------|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| CT    | 182 | (34) | 106 | (14) | 71 | (2) | 51 | (1) | 41 | (1) | 23 | (0) | 11 |
| No CT | 178 | (53) | 94  | (16) | 62 | (4) | 48 | (0) | 25 | (0) | 18 | (1) | 9  |

## BCON



Number at risk (censored)

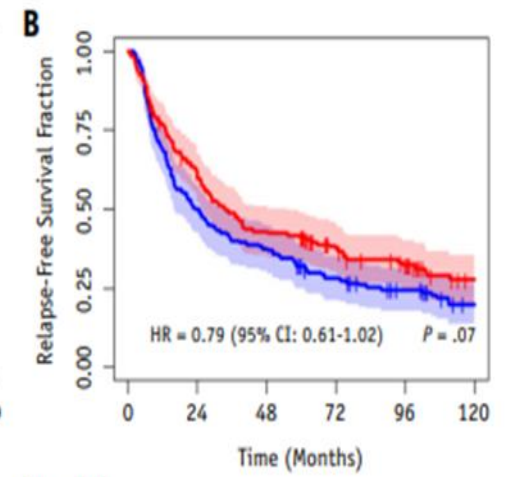
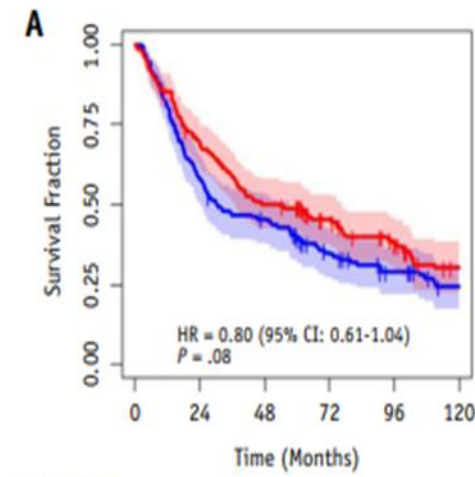
|     |     |          |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |          |         |
|-----|-----|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|---------|
| cRT | 182 | 110 (38) | 77 (57) | 68 (53) | 65 (55) | 62 (50) | 54 (74) | 46 (32) | 38 (100) | 22 (156) | 8 (119) |
| RT  | 178 | 97 (27)  | 72 (25) | 62 (41) | 53 (43) | 46 (25) | 38 (58) | 36 (30) | 28 (67)  | 23 (71)  | 13 (81) |

Shaded areas represent 95% pointwise confidence bands

Number at risk (censored)

|     |     |         |         |        |        |        |        |         |         |         |         |
|-----|-----|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| cRT | 182 | 145 (2) | 111 (2) | 97 (5) | 88 (5) | 85 (5) | 80 (8) | 71 (11) | 59 (17) | 45 (20) | 25 (40) |
| RT  | 178 | 141 (2) | 107 (2) | 90 (2) | 73 (3) | 64 (2) | 58 (4) | 57 (4)  | 47 (10) | 36 (20) | 18 (24) |

Shaded areas represent 95% pointwise confidence bands



No. at Risk

|           |     |     |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| RT:       | 162 | 94  | 72 | 49 | 35 | 25 |
| RT + CON: | 162 | 111 | 80 | 59 | 44 | 27 |

No. at Risk

|           |     |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| RT:       | 162 | 81 | 61 | 42 | 31 | 19 |
| RT + CON: | 161 | 95 | 67 | 48 | 36 | 20 |

James et al. N Engl J Med. 2012 Apr 19;366(16):1477-88. Hoskin et al. J Clin Oncol. 2010 Nov 20;28(33):4912-8.

Hall et al. Eur Urol. 2022 Sep;82(3):273-279. Song et al. Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2021 Aug 1;110(5):1407-1415



# Current radiosensitisation: UK practice

|                         | 20 fractions | 32 fractions |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>N</b>                | <b>150</b>   | <b>131</b>   |
| Receiving NAC           | 77 (51%)     | 56 (43%)     |
| Gemcitabine/cisplatin   | 65(84%)      | 49(88%)      |
| Accelerated MVAC        | 4 (5%)       | 0            |
| Carboplatin/gemcitabine | 1(1%)        | 7 (12%)      |
| Other                   | 7 (9%)       | 0            |
| <b>N</b>                | <b>137</b>   | <b>112</b>   |
| Receiving CRS           | 92 (67%)     | 78 (70%)     |
| 5FU/Mitomycin           | 36 (39%)     | 63(81)%      |
| Gemcitabine             | 36 (39%)     | 6 (8%)       |
| Cisplatin               | 3 (3%)       | 1 (1%)       |
| Carbogen/nicotinamide   | 17 (18%)     | 7(9%)        |
| Both NAC and CRS        | 58 (39%)     | 51 (39%)     |
| No NAC/CRS              | 36 (24%)     | 32 (24%)     |

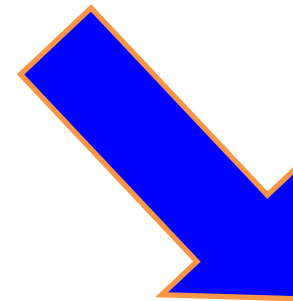
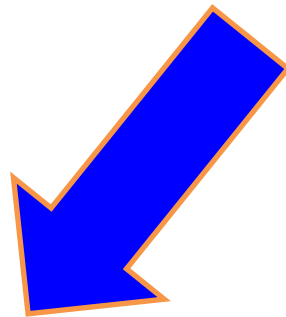
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# Conventional fractionation radiotherapy was the standard of care...

Bladder cancer radiotherapy

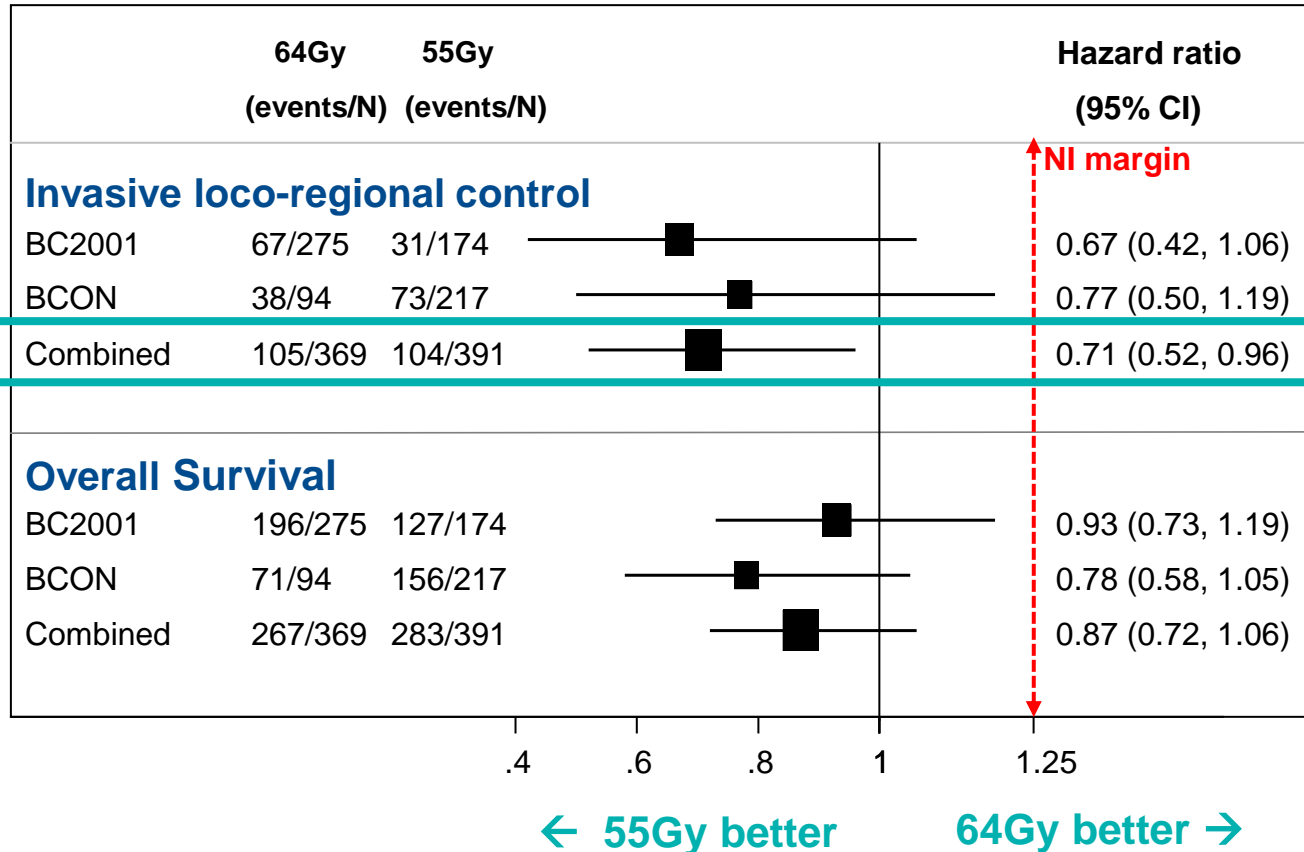


64 Gy in 32 doses over  
6.5 weeks

55 Gy in 20 doses over  
4 weeks



# 64Gy vs 55Gy comparison – ILRC & OS

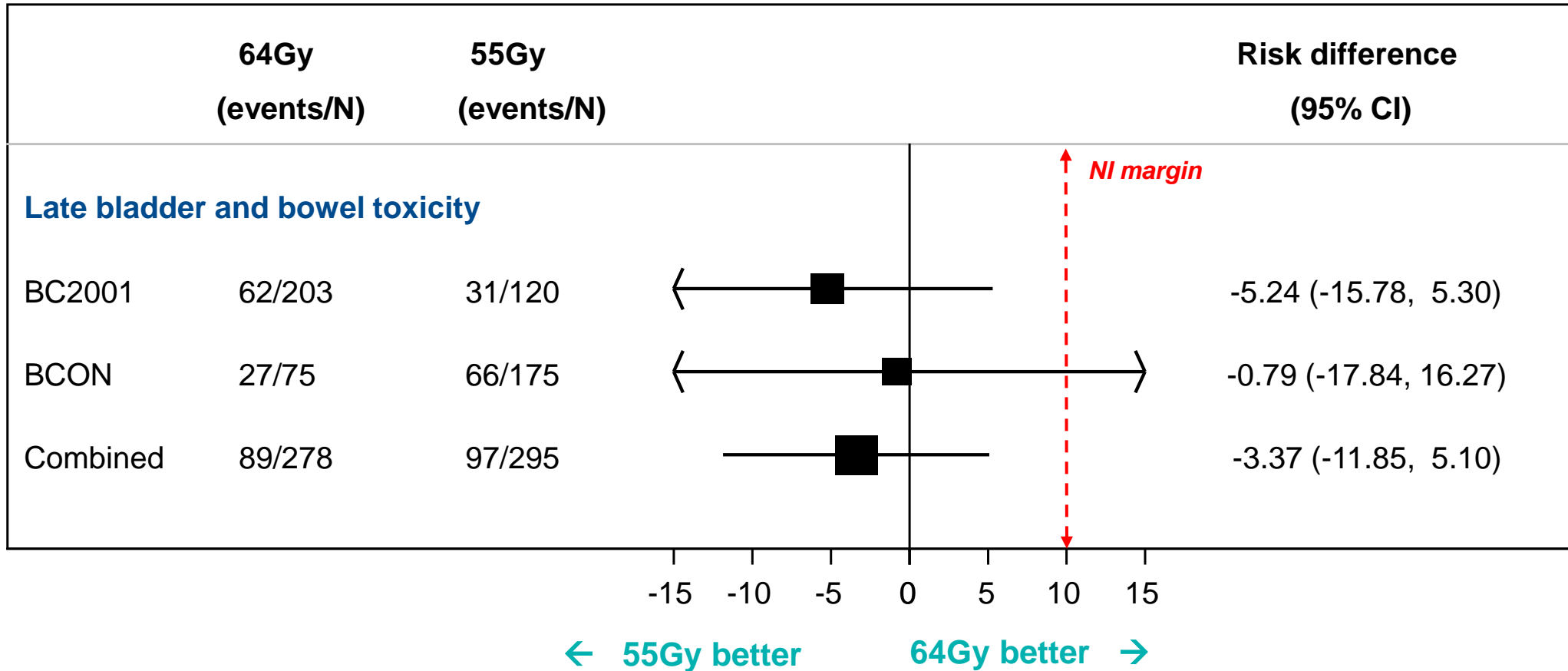


**95% CI excludes non-inferiority margin (p-value < 0.001) AND excludes null difference (superiority p-value 0.026)**

55Gy ILRC benefit also seen in patients receiving RT alone: HR 0.72 [CI 0.49-1.05]



# 64Gy vs 55Gy comparison – Late toxicity





# A shorter radiotherapy course reduces risk of **bladder cancer** coming back over five years

32 smaller doses

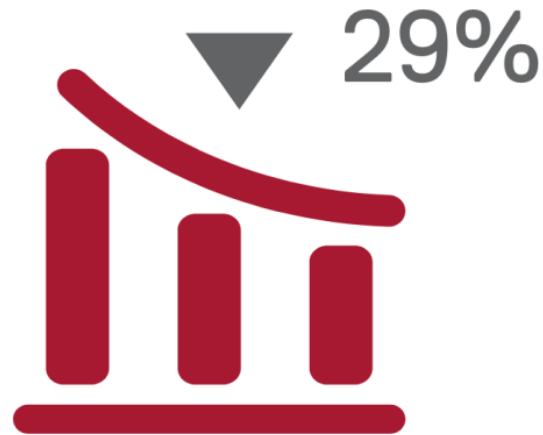


20 larger doses

vs



**Two different** radiotherapy schedules compared by researchers

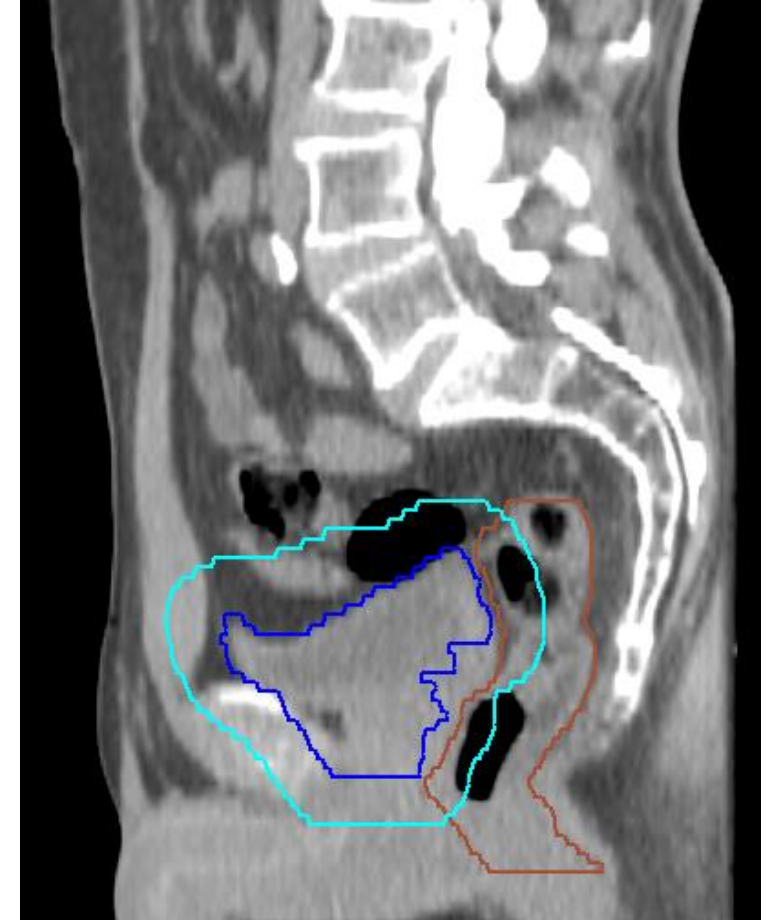
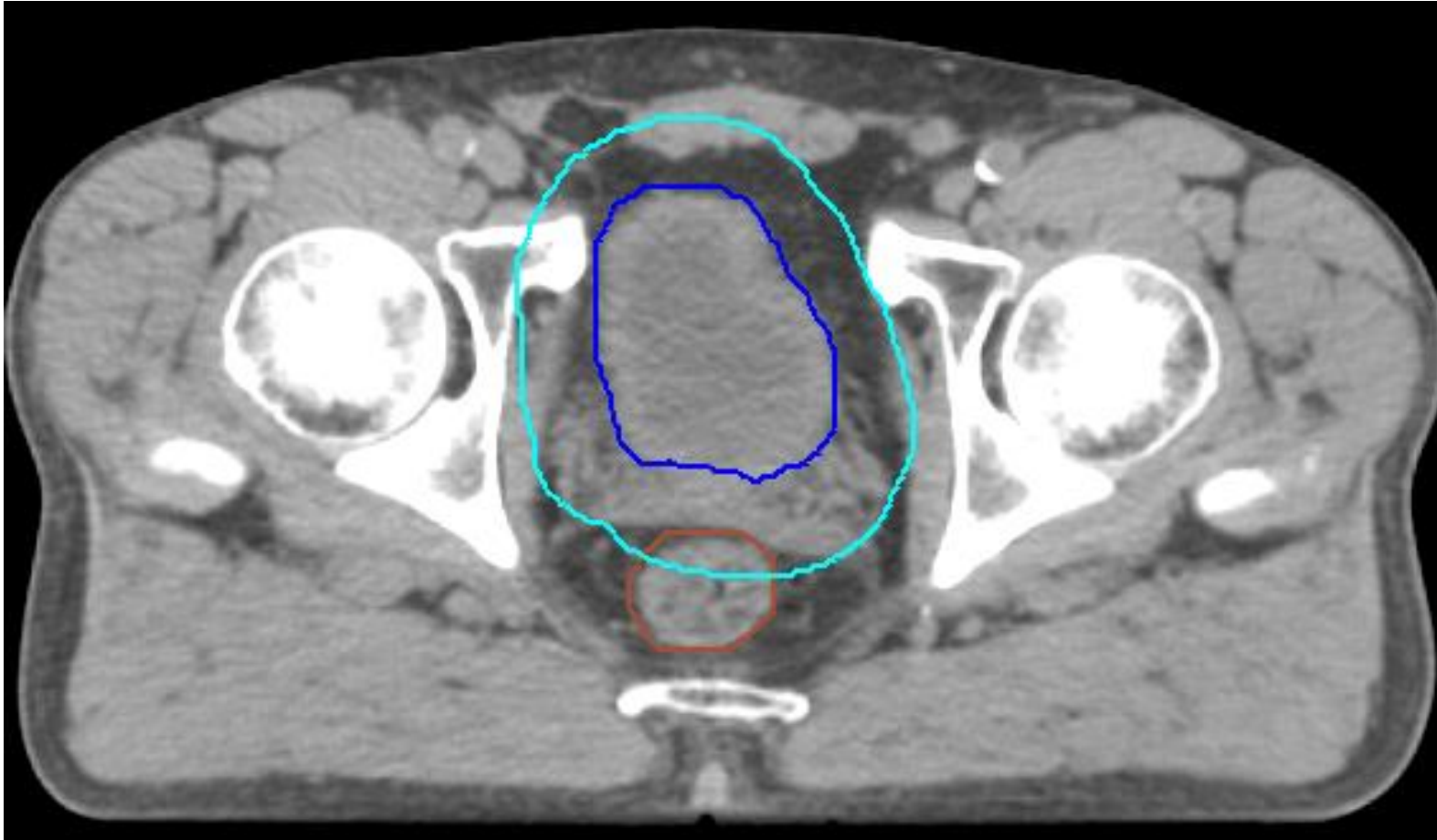


**29 per cent** lower risk of cancer coming back on shorter course



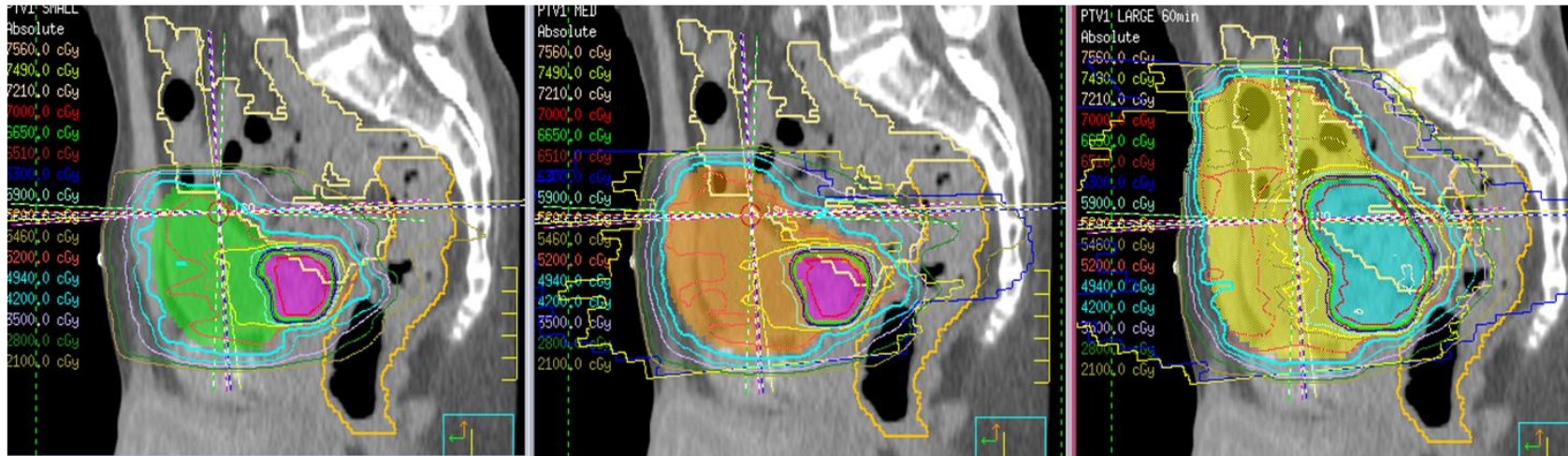
**12 fewer** hospital visits per patient - reducing Covid-19 related risk

# 3-D conformal radiotherapy reduces toxicity



# Further advances in radiotherapy: Adaptive radiotherapy with Plan of the Day 'PoD'

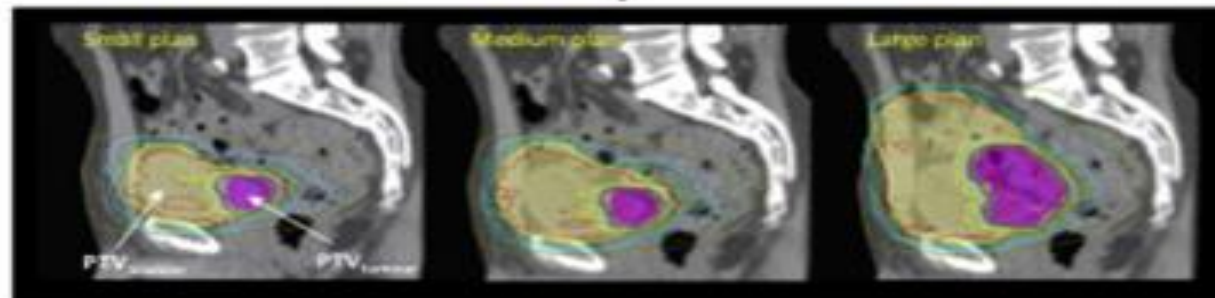
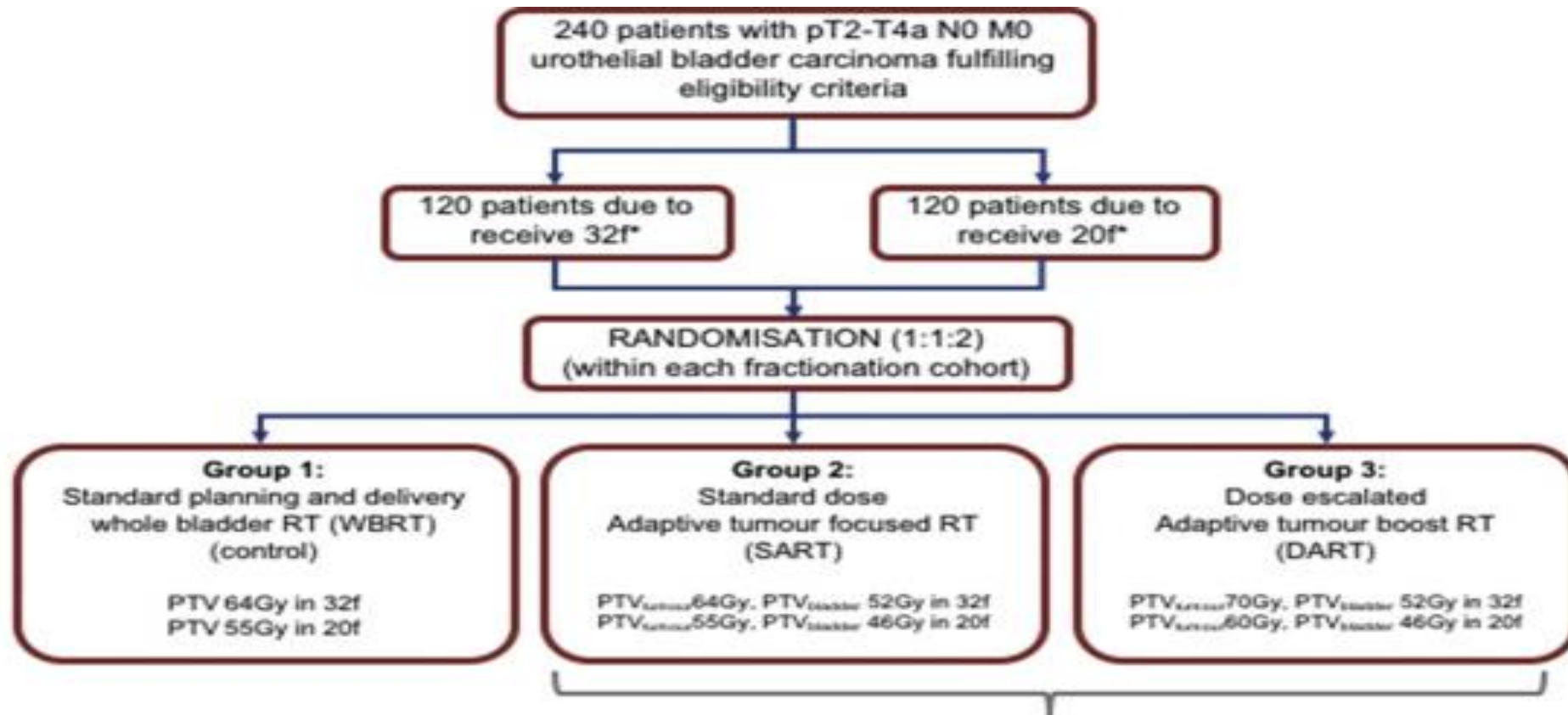
Coronal planning CT scans to illustrate 3 plans for daily selection



Process for Plan selection



# The RAIDER Study: results at ASCO GU23?



Adaptive radiotherapy strategy using library of 3 plans for treatment delivery in SART and DART arms. Plan selection dependent on anatomy as seen on pre-treatment CBCT acquired at each fraction.



# MR-image guided radiotherapy

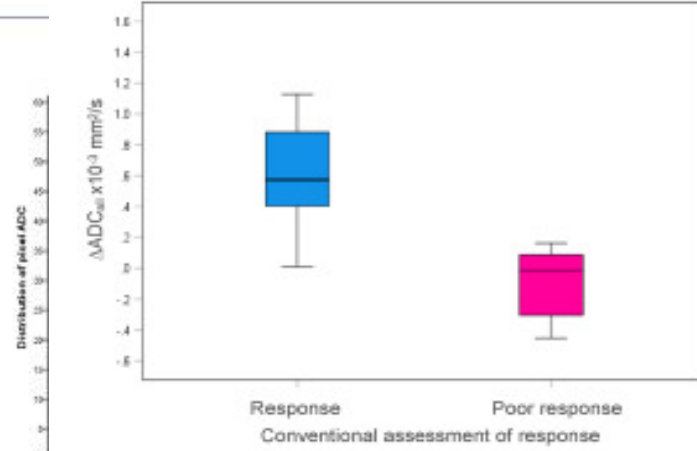
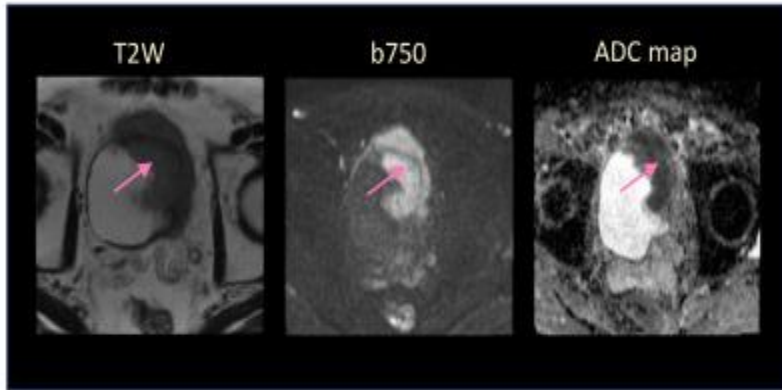
Adapting for daily bladder changes



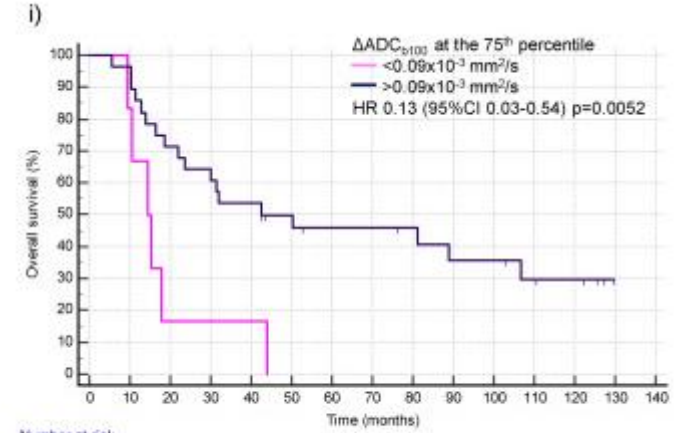


# Functional MRI in radiotherapy

Baseline MRI analysis



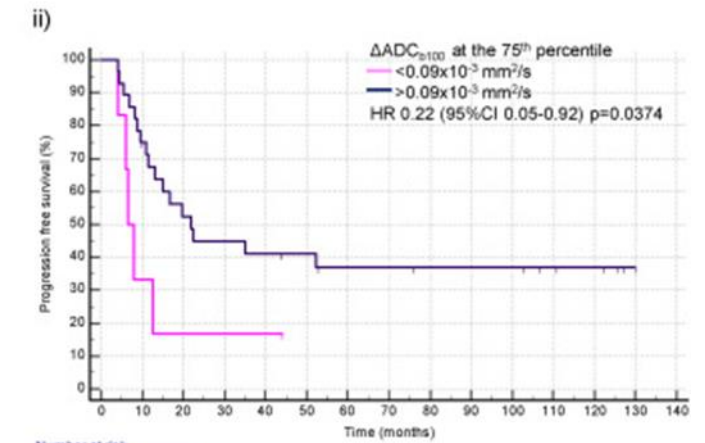
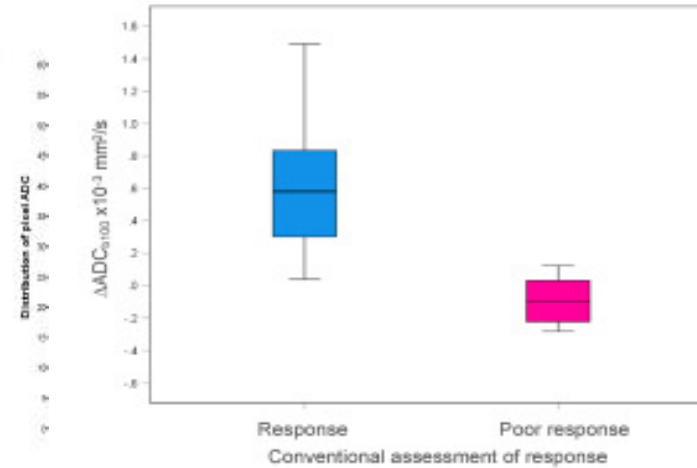
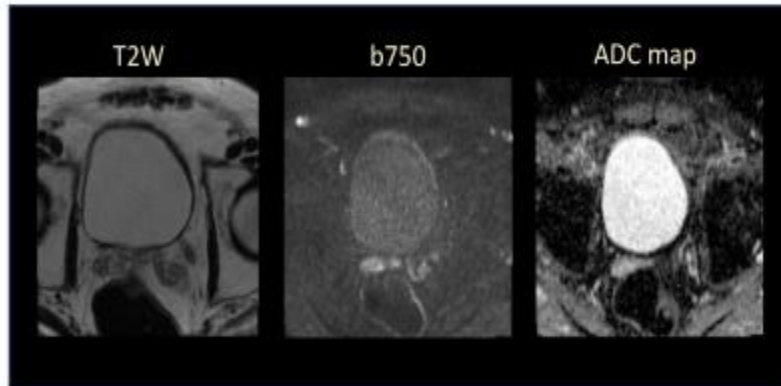
d)



Number at risk

|   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Group: $<0.09 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ | 6  | 5  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Group: $>0.09 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ | 28 | 27 | 20 | 17 | 15 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 0 |   |   |   |   |   |

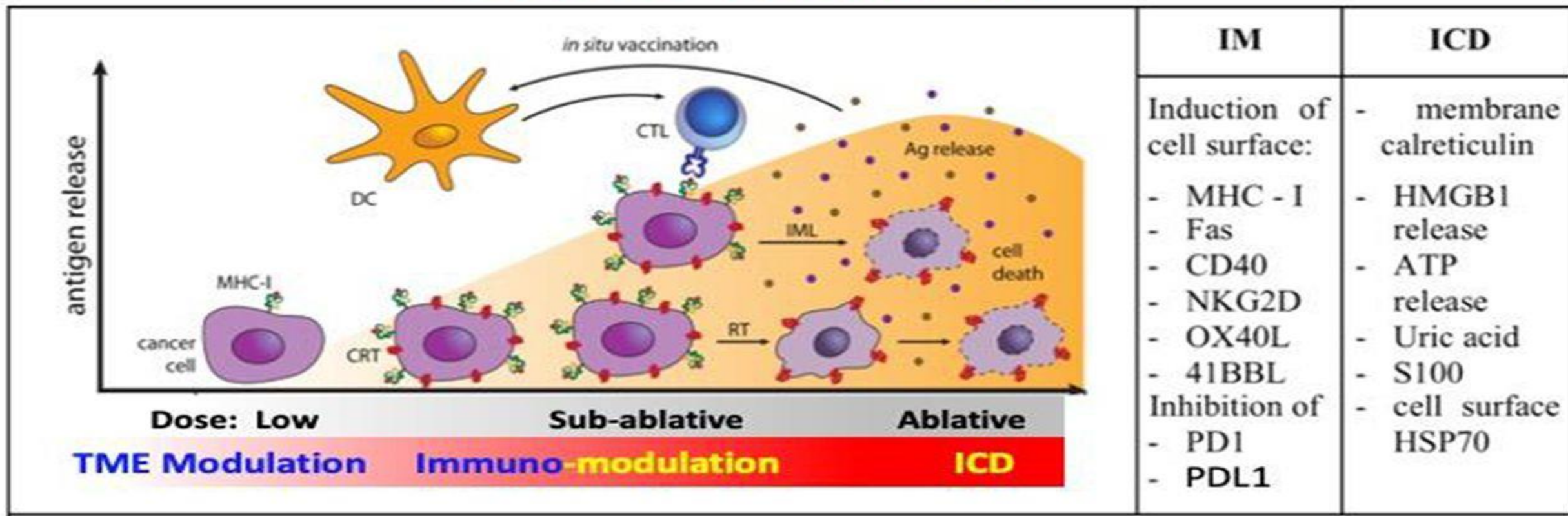
Post radiotherapy MRI analysis



Number at risk

|   |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Group: $<0.09 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ | 6  | 2  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Group: $>0.09 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ | 28 | 20 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 0 |   |   |   |   |

# Radiation Immunogenicity



## TMEM-RT

Tumor microenvironment modulating RT  
~ 0.5 Gy x 4

## ImRT SBRT

Immunomodulatory RT  
~ 8 Gy x 3  
~ 6 Gy x 5

## IART SRS / SABR

Immunoablative RT  
~ 34 Gy x 1  
~ 18 Gy x 3  
~ 10 Gy x 5

# Phase I clinical trials published: more to come....

- Significant toxicity with 36 Gy in 6 weekly fractions (2/6 DLT)
- Significant toxicity with 50 Gy in 20 fractions with weekly gem (4/8 colitis)
- Largest phI: 26 patients across three arms: combination of anti-PD-1 & anti-CTLA4 increases toxicity

Table 4 - CTCAE-scored adverse events per regimen

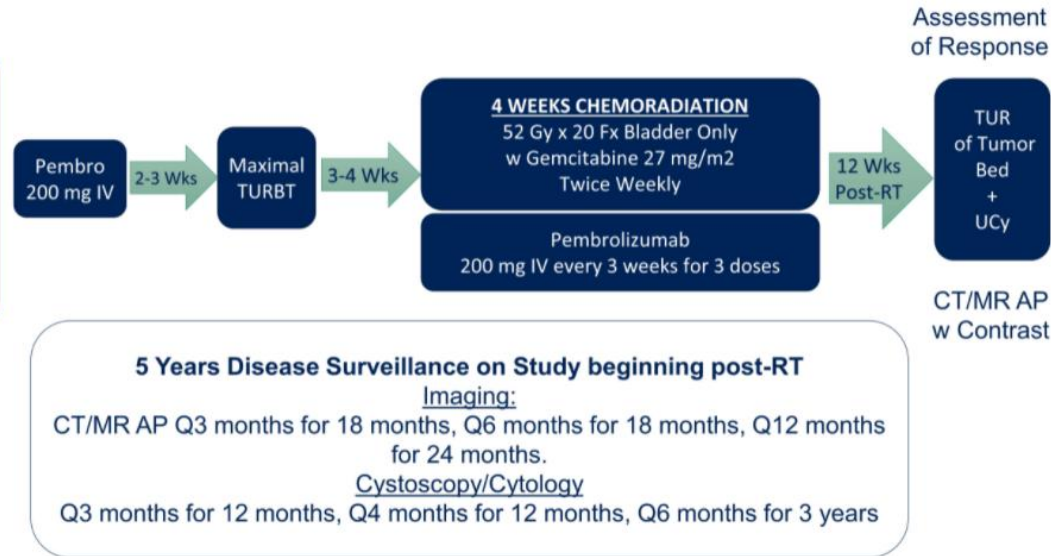
| Adverse events   | NIVO480 |        | NIVO3 + IPI1 |        |        |        | IPI3 + NIVO1 |        |        |
|------------------|---------|--------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|--------|--------|
|                  | All     | 3      | All          | 3      | 4      | 5      | All          | 3      | 4      |
| Any event        | 9 (90)  | 1 (10) | 10 (100)     | 3 (30) | 1 (10) | 1 (10) | 10 (100)     | 5 (50) | 1 (10) |
| Gastrointestinal | 8 (80)  |        | 9 (90)       | 2 (20) | 1 (10) |        | 6 (100)      | 3 (50) |        |



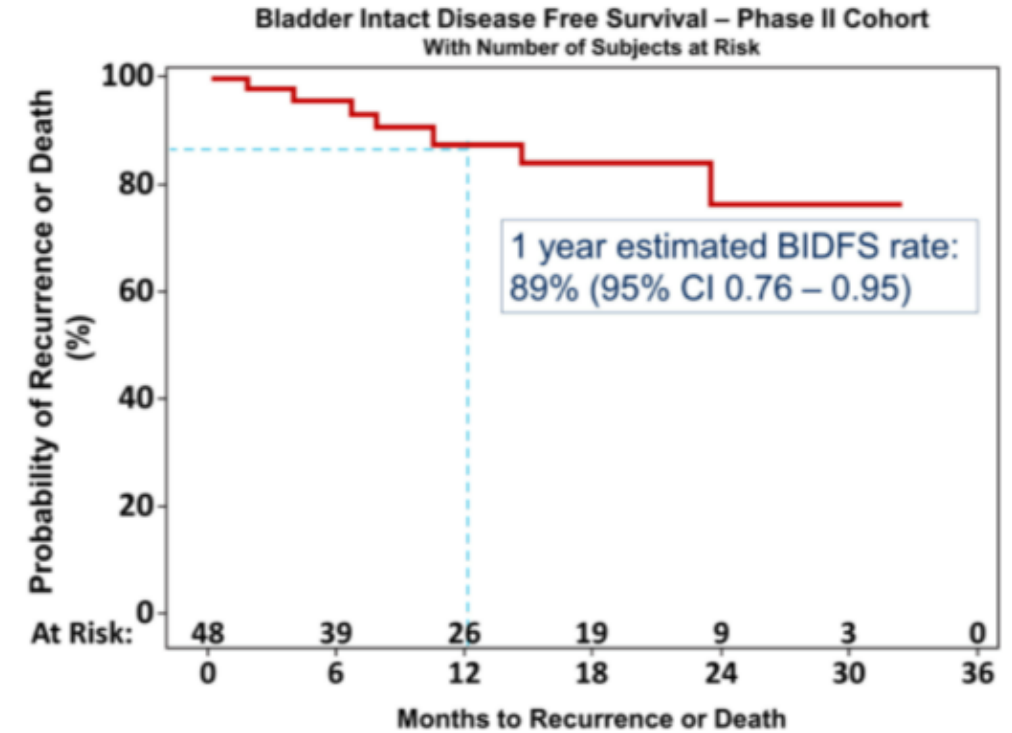
# Concurrent IO: Pembrolizumab/Gemcitabine

## KEY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- UC Histology Mixed Allowed
- cT2-T4aN0M0
- ECOG PS 0 or 1
- RC ineligible/refusing
- No Perioperative ChemoTx



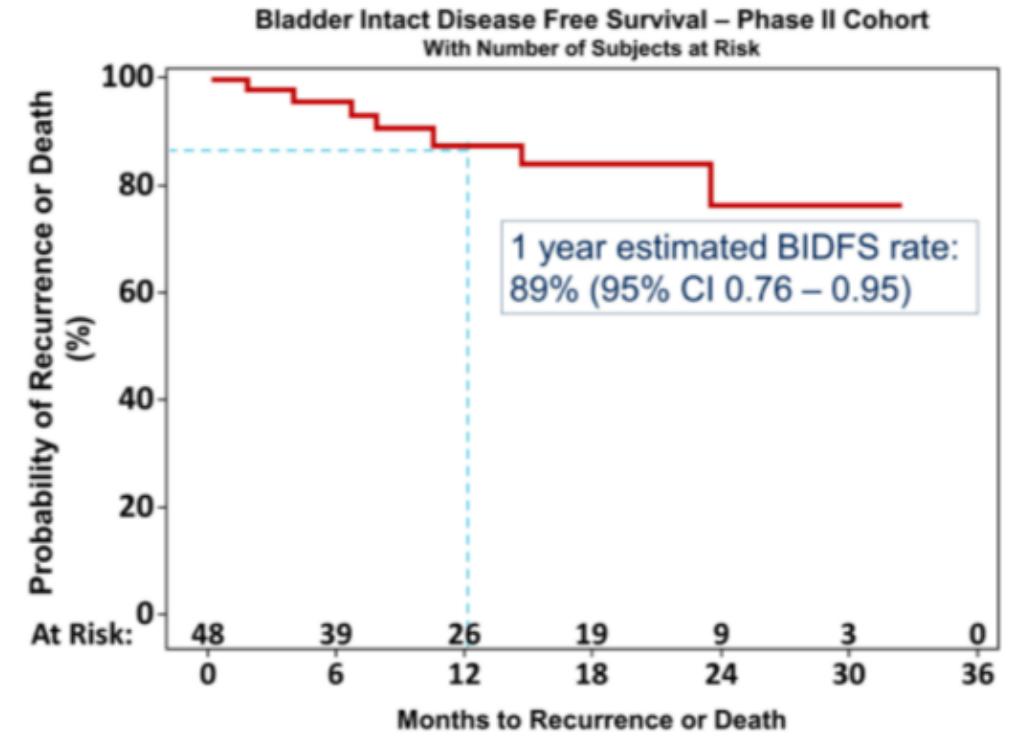
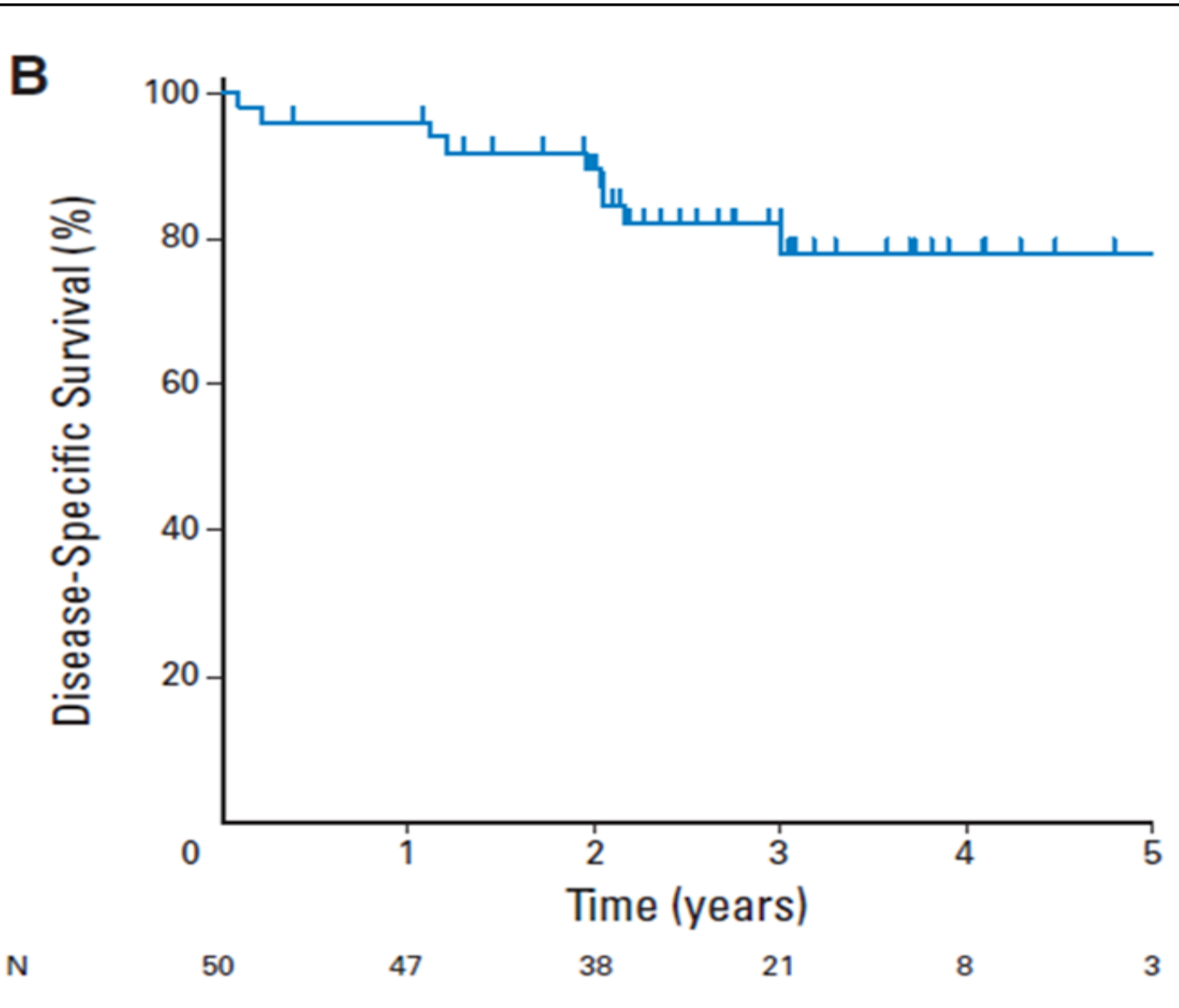
|                            | Grade 1 & 2 | %     |                            | Grade 3 & 4 | %    |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------|----------------------------|-------------|------|
| Fatigue                    | 20          | 41.7% | Diarrhea                   | 2           | 4.2% |
| Nausea                     | 17          | 35.4% | Lymphocyte Count Decreased | 2           | 4.2% |
| Diarrhea                   | 16          | 33.3% | Colitis                    | 2           | 4.2% |
| Urinary Urgency            | 14          | 29.2% | Fatigue                    | 1           | 2.1% |
| Rash Maculopapular         | 11          | 22.9% | Anemia                     | 1           | 2.1% |
| Platelets Decreased        | 11          | 22.9% | Urinary Tract Pain         | 1           | 2.1% |
| Anorexia                   | 10          | 20.8% | Abdominal Pain             | 1           | 2.1% |
| Anemia                     | 8           | 16.7% | Hypokalemia                | 1           | 2.1% |
| White Blood Cell Decreased | 8           | 16.7% | Hyponatremia               | 1           | 2.1% |
| Urinary Tract Pain         | 6           | 12.5% | Urinary Tract Infection    | 1           | 2.1% |
| Alanine Aminotransferase   | 6           | 12.5% | Neutropenia                | 1           | 2.1% |
| Aspartate Aminotransferase | 6           | 12.5% | Febrile Neutropenia        | 1           | 2.1% |
| Vomiting                   | 6           | 12.5% | Protein Losing Enteropathy | 1           | 2.1% |
| Chills/Cold/Flu            | 5           | 10.4% | Immune-Related             |             |      |
| Pruritus                   | 5           | 10.4% | Polyneuropathy             | 1           | 2.1% |
| Neutrophil Count Decreased | 5           | 10.4% | Colonic Perforation        | 1           | 2.1% |
| Abdominal Pain             | 4           | 8.3%  |                            |             |      |



Balar et al. (Presented at ASCO 2021)

Choudhury et al. J Clin Oncol. 2011 Feb 20;29(6):733-8.

# Concurrent IO: Pembrolizumab/Gemcitabine

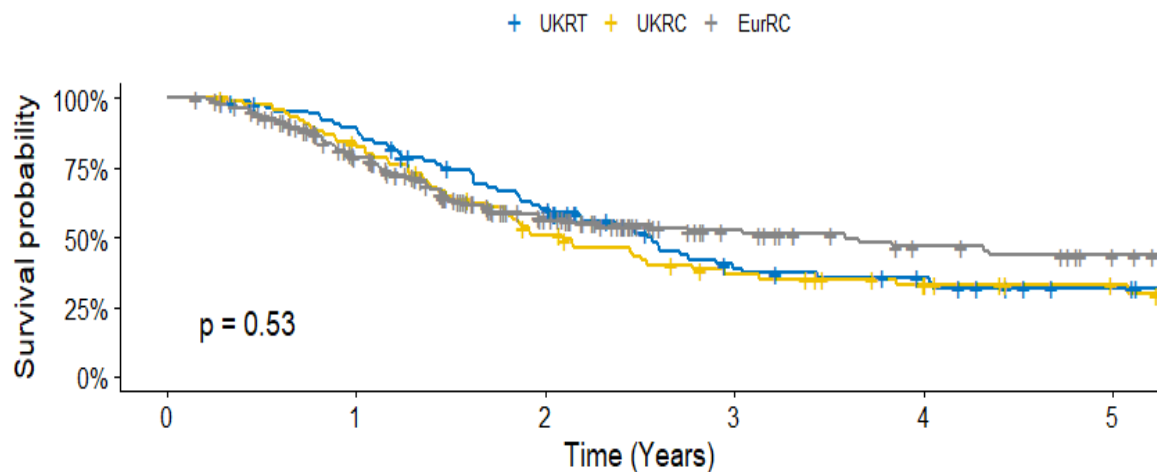


Balar et al. (Presented at ASCO 2021)

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# Outcomes of N+ disease with radiotherapy and surgery

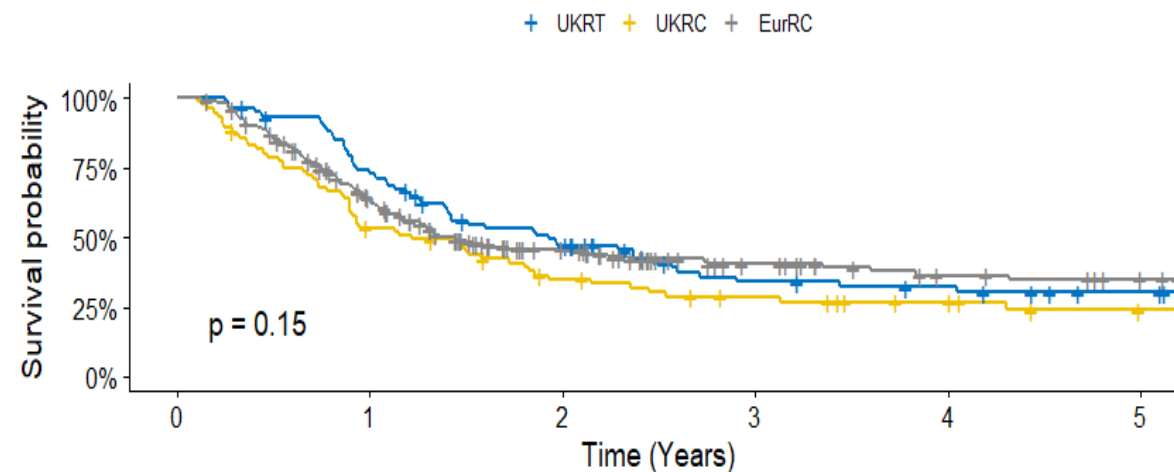
Overall Survival



|       | 0   | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|-------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| UKRT  | 87  | 76  | 48 | 24 | 19 | 12 |
| UKRC  | 76  | 61  | 35 | 22 | 16 | 10 |
| EurRC | 238 | 161 | 78 | 43 | 30 | 21 |

Time (Years)

Progression Free Survival



|       | 0   | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|-------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| UKRT  | 87  | 63  | 37 | 20 | 17 | 12 |
| UKRC  | 76  | 39  | 23 | 16 | 11 | 6  |
| EurRC | 238 | 135 | 67 | 38 | 26 | 19 |

Time (Years)



# Conclusions

- Outcomes of radiotherapy with radiosensitisation are comparable to surgery with long term data now available
- Advanced technology is improving delivery of radiation
- Further data required on combining radiation and immunotherapy
- N+ disease has a poor prognosis; outcomes with surgery and radiation are equivalent



# Questions?



 **@achoud72**

The Christie 