

# Neoadjuvant Melanoma Trials

## Data Collection and Endpoint Selection

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**Melanoma**  
Research Alliance



# Disclosures

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- Stockownership: Uniti Cars, Neon Therapeutics, Forty Seven



# International Neoadjuvant Melanoma Consortium

Advancing treatment for patients with melanoma by facilitating collaborations in neoadjuvant clinical and translational research.

Policy Review



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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Neoadjuvant systemic therapy in melanoma: recommendations of the International Neoadjuvant Melanoma Consortium



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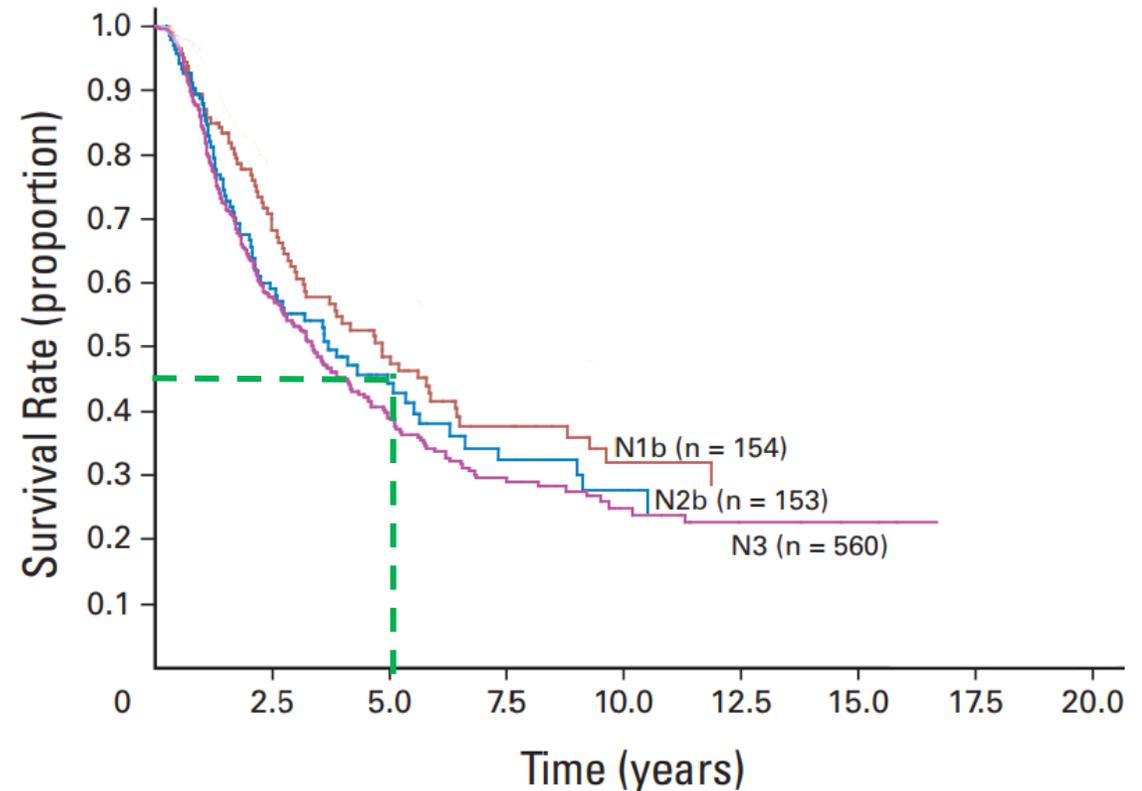
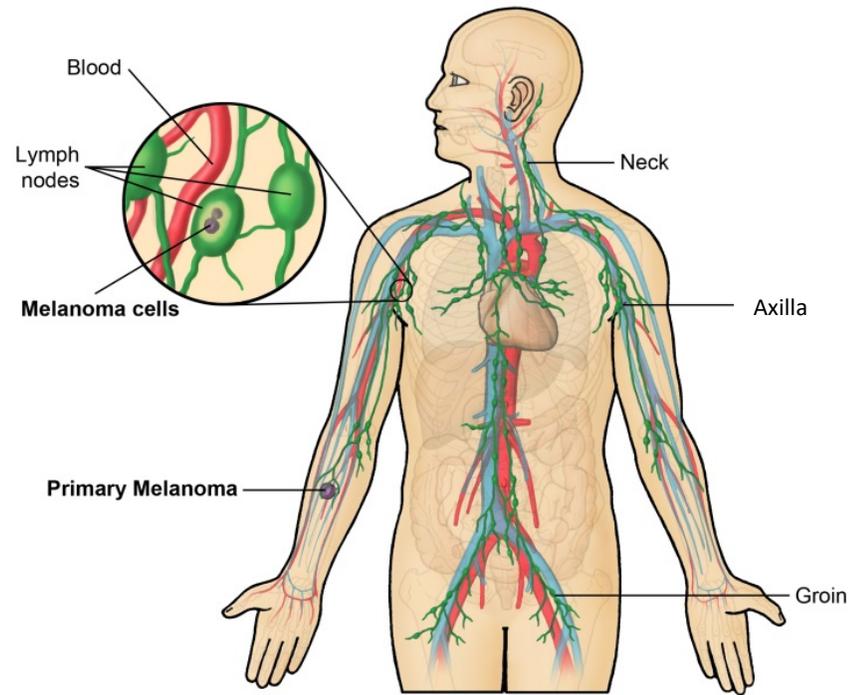
Advances in the treatment of metastatic melanoma have improved responses and survival. However, many patients *Lancet Oncol* 2019; 20: e378–89

## Pathological assessment of resection specimens after neoadjuvant therapy for metastatic melanoma

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# The outcome of high risk stage III melanoma patients is poor

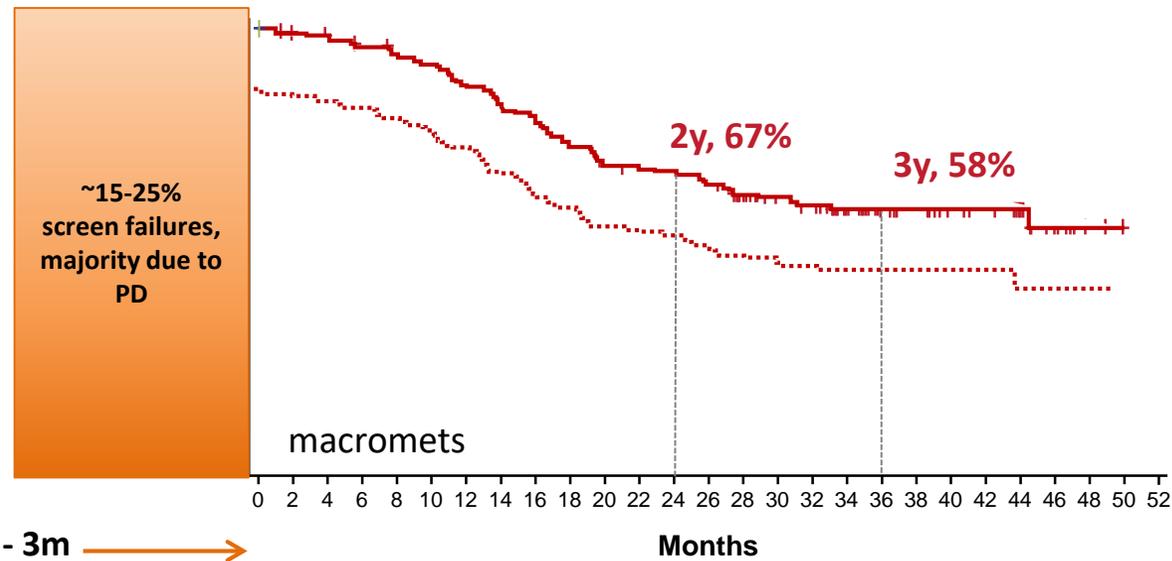
After surgery +/- RT the 5 year OS is only 30-60%<sup>1-3</sup>



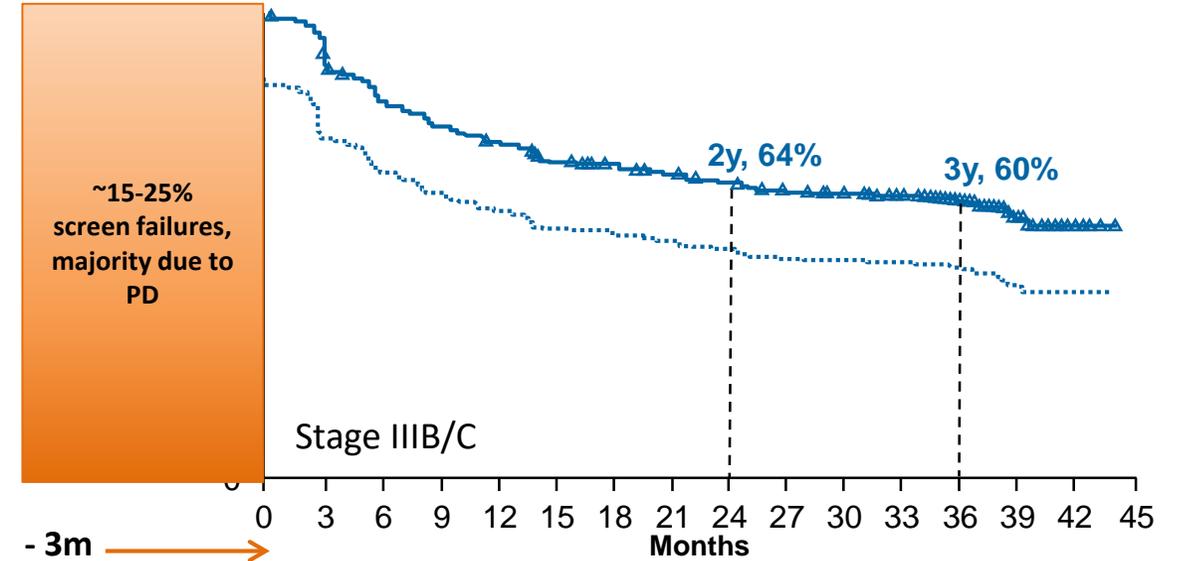
# The EFS outcome of high risk stage III melanoma patients is poor

- Adjuvant therapy improved the RFS, but EFS remains poor<sup>4,5</sup>

**Dabrafenib + Trametinib**

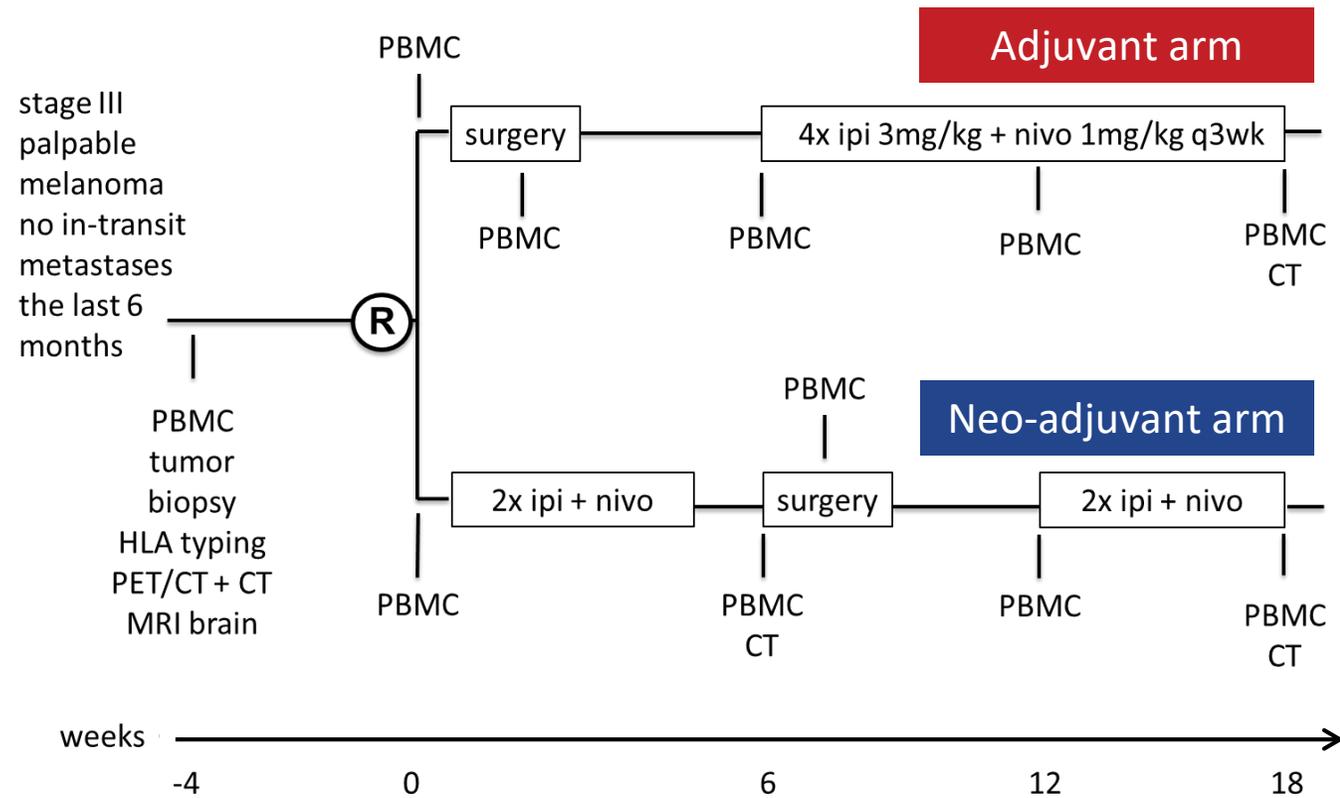


**Nivolumab**



Adapted from Menzies et al ASCO 2019

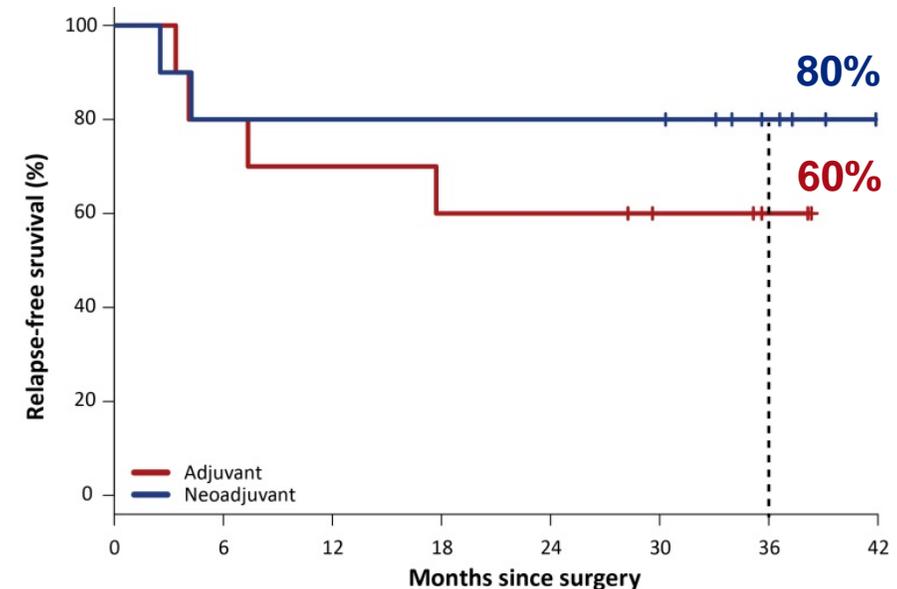
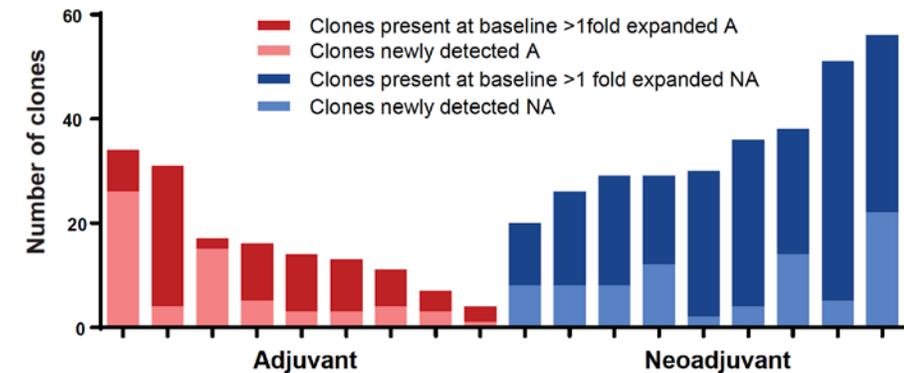
# Neoadjuvant versus adjuvant checkpoint inhibition (IPI+NIVO) in macroscopic stage II melanoma – OpACIN



# What did we learn from OpACIN?

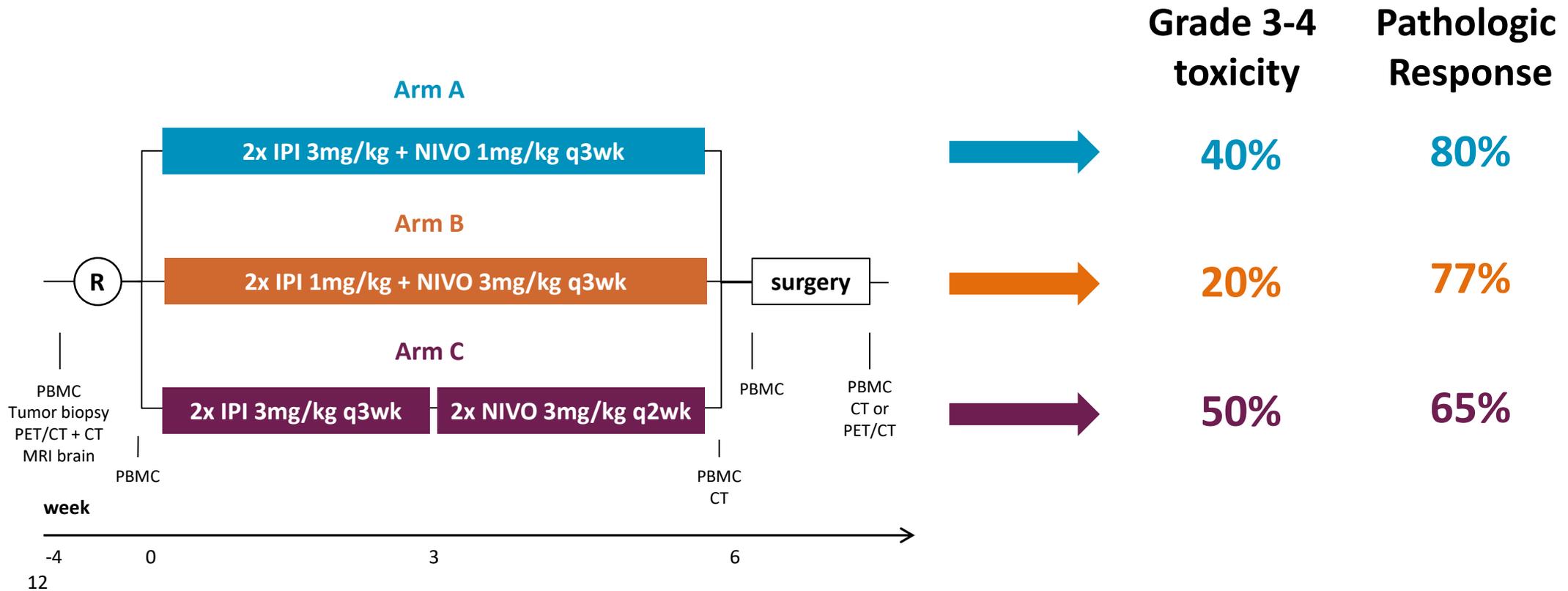
## Neoadjuvant IPI + NIVO:

- Did not delay surgery
- Was superior compared to adjuvant therapy in expanding tumor-resident TCR clones
- The pathologic response rate was high (**78%**)
- None of the patients with pathologic response have relapsed
- highly toxic with **90%** grade III/IV adverse events



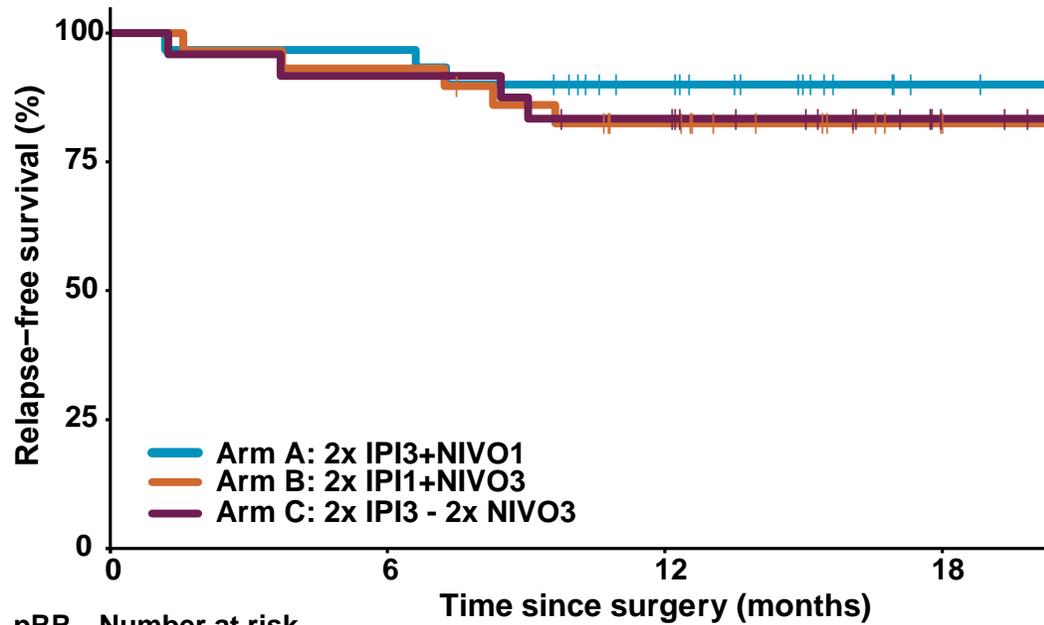
Number at risk	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42
Adjuvant	10	8	7	6	6	4	2	0
Neoadjuvant	10	8	8	8	8	8	4	0

# Multicenter Phase 2 Study to Identify the Optimal neo-Adjuvant Combination Scheme of Ipilimumab and Nivolumab – OpACIN-neo



# 18-months Relapse-free survival – OpACIN-neo

According to treatment arm

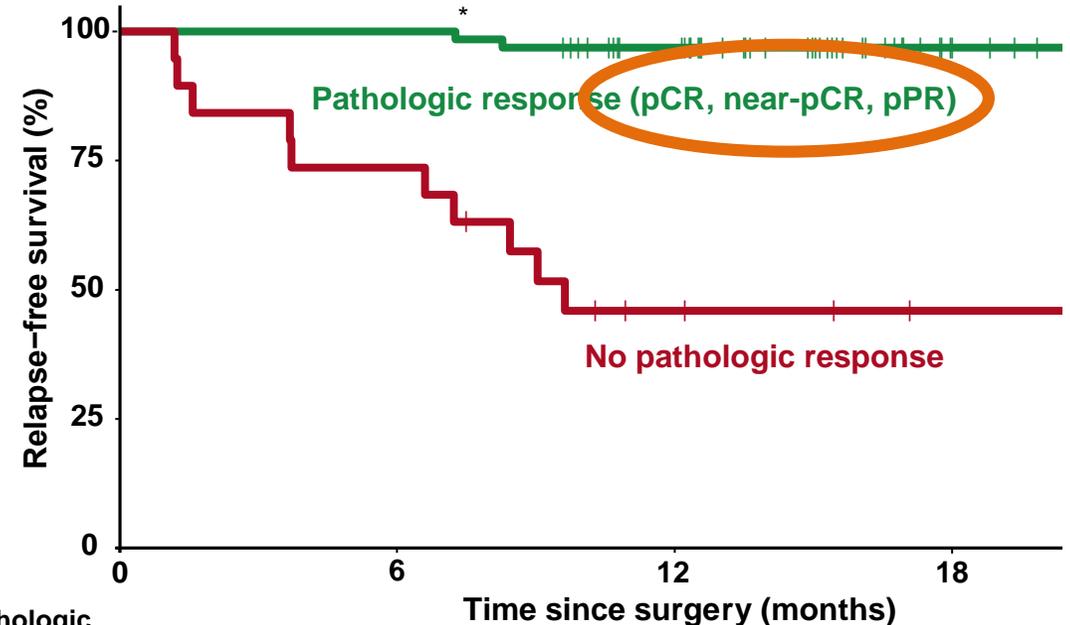


Arm	pRR	Number at risk
A	80%	30
B	77%	29
C	65%	24

Time since surgery (months)

pRR = pathologic response rate

According to pathologic response



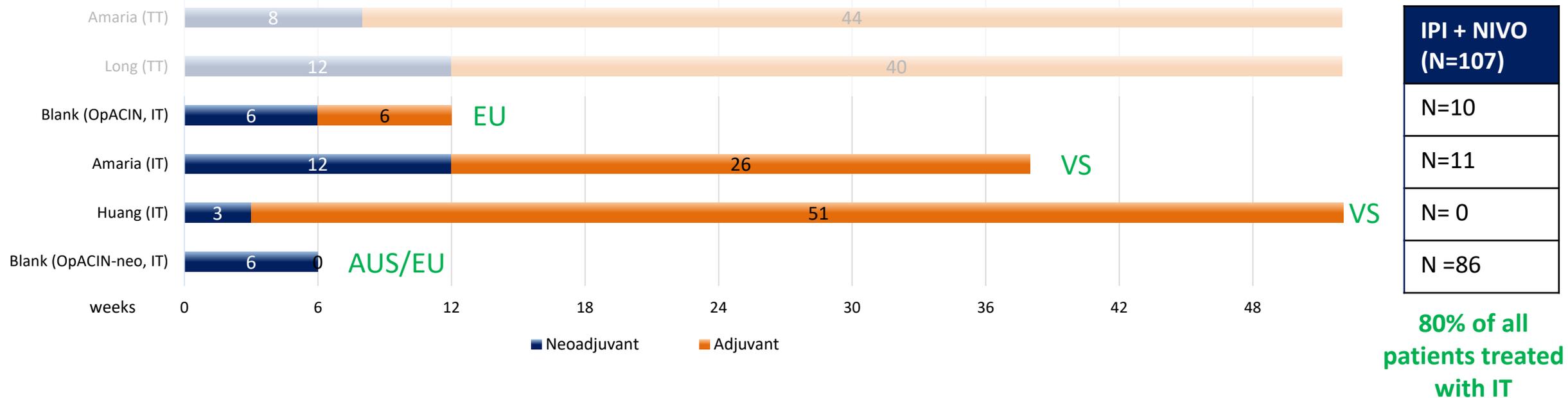
Pathologic response	Number at risk
Yes	64
No	19

\* patient died due to toxicity without signs of melanoma relapse

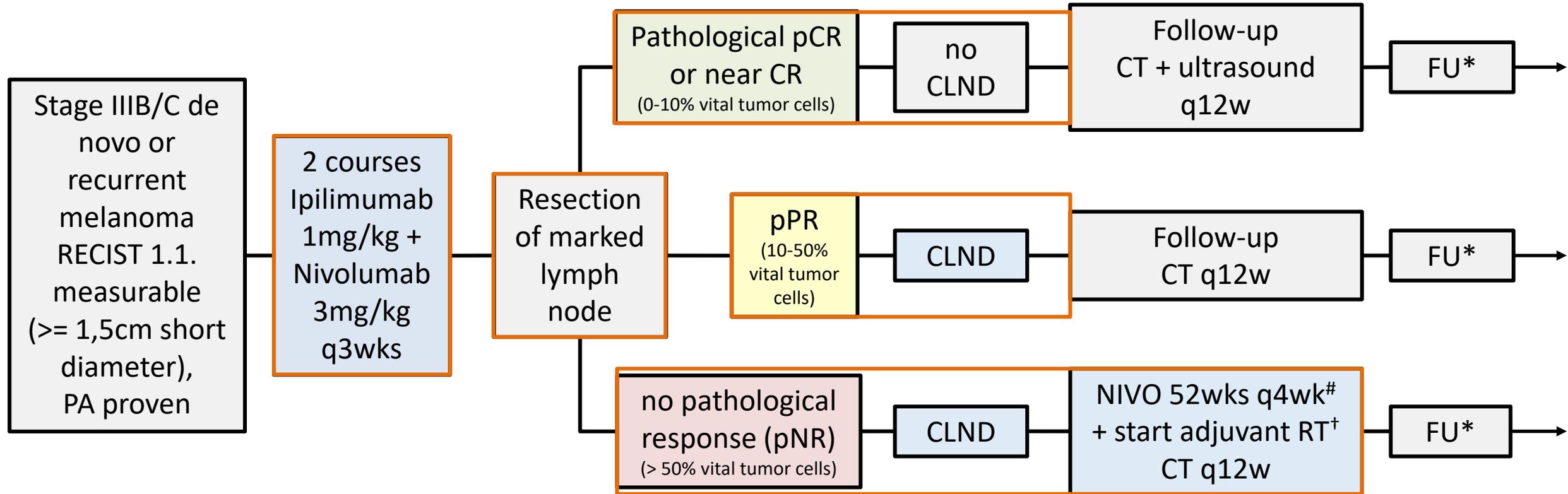
**Pathologic response correlates with outcome!**

# INMC pooled analysis

- Pooled data from 6 modern NST clinical trials conducted across the INMC.
- Pts with RECIST measurable, surgically resectable, clinical stage III melanoma with nodal metastases **who underwent surgery** were included.
- Baseline disease characteristics, treatment regimen, pathologic response and RFS were examined.



# Personalized Response-driven Adjuvant therapy after Combination of neoadjuvant Ipilimumab and Nivolumab in stage IIB/C melanoma - PRADO



PET/CT  
CT neck thorax abdomen  
MRI brain  
Lab + PBMC  
Feces collection  
Tumor biopsy  
Lymph node marker placement

Excision marked lymph node  
CT  
Lab + PBMC  
Feces collection

CLND = Complete Lymph node dissection

CT  
Lab + PBMC

\* According to institutes standard  
# BRAF+MEK inhibition in BRAF V600E/K patient is allowed according to patient's and treating physician's decision when available  
† Adjuvant radiotherapy according to patient's and physician's decision

-4      0      6      12      64

# The pathologic response in the largest lymph node is representing the whole lymph node bed

*(MeMaLoc substudy of OpACIN-neo)*

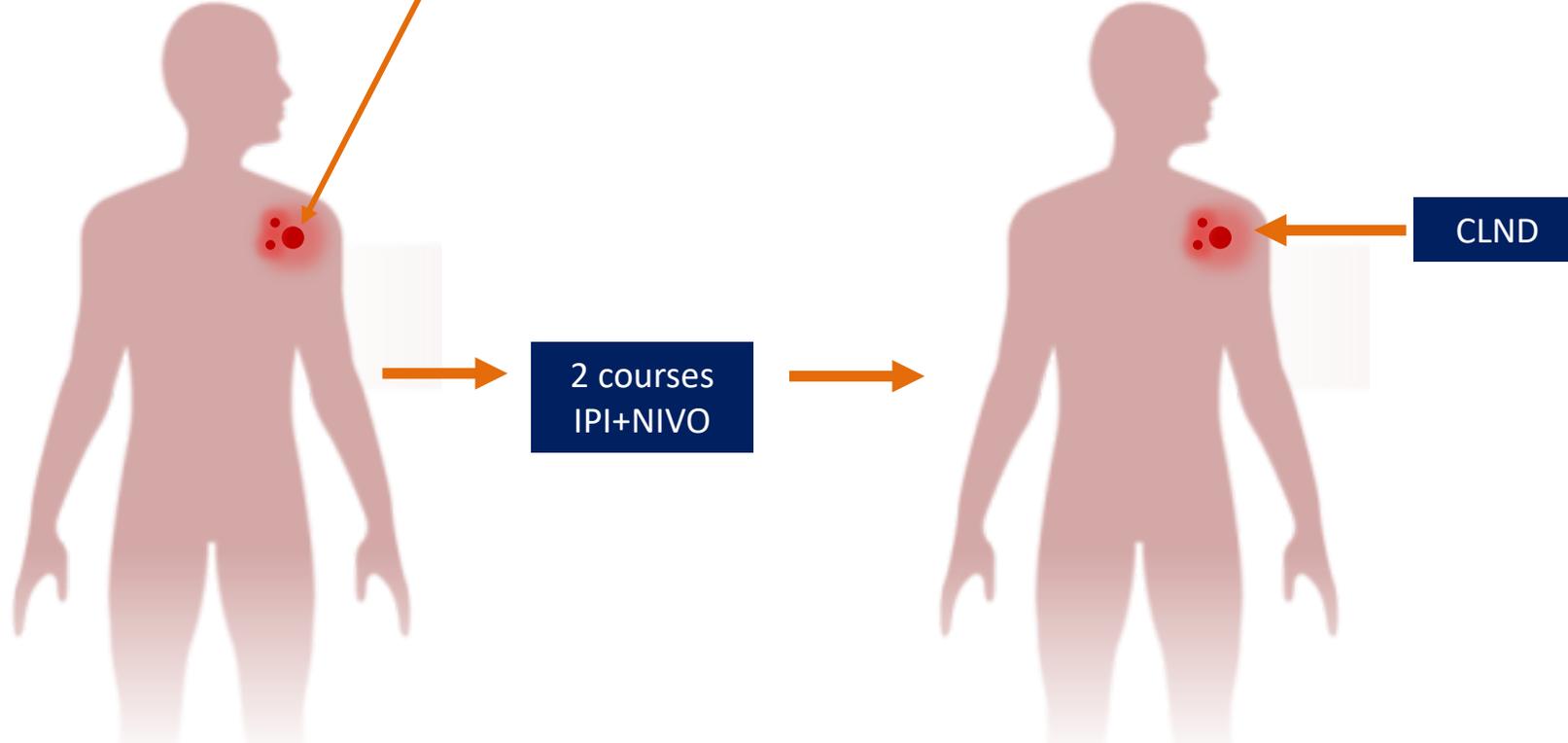
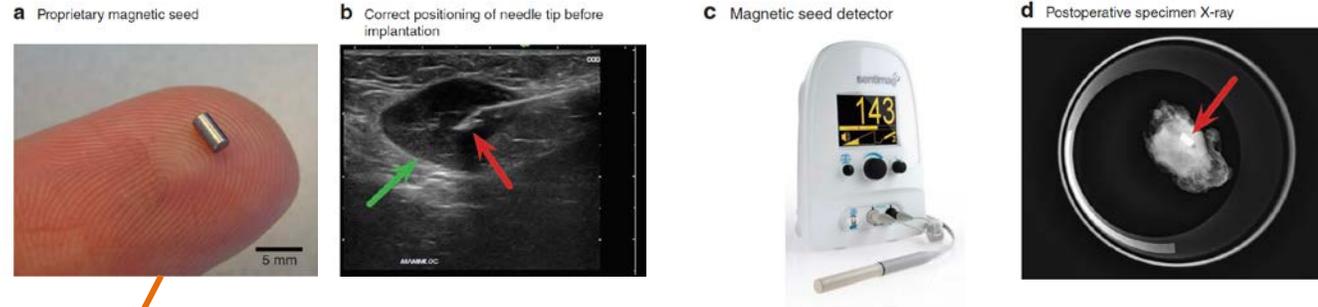
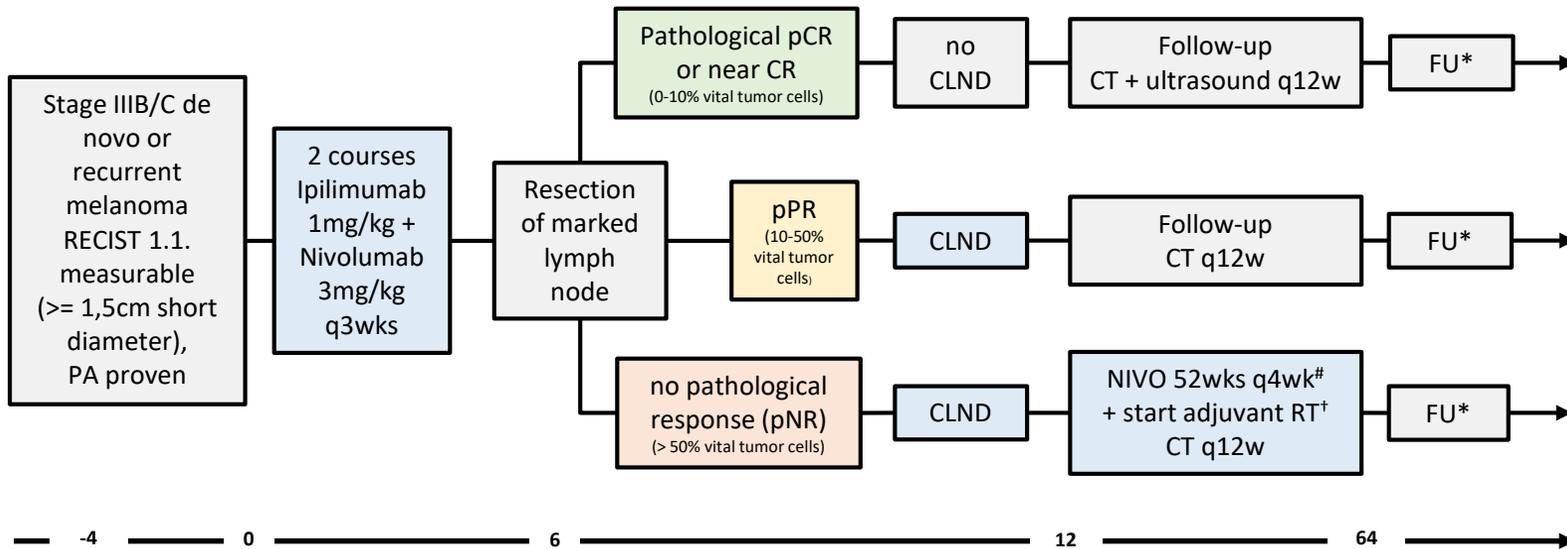


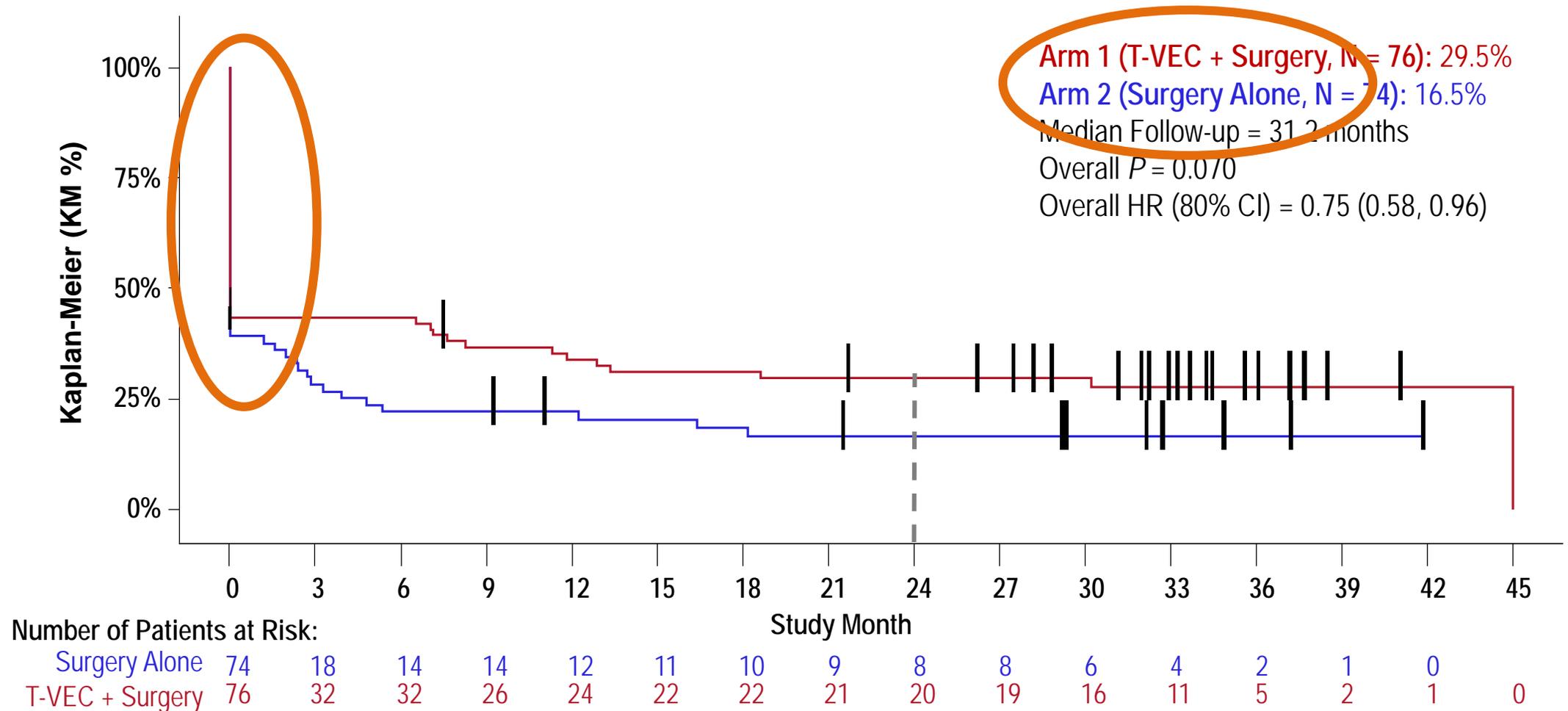
Table 1 Overall results	
	No. of patients* (n = 12)
Seed <i>in situ</i> (days)†	23 (21–27)
Skin to seed distance on ultrasound imaging (mm)†	10 (5–15)
<b>Surgery</b>	
Transcutaneous detection	12
Retrieval rate	12
System Usability Scale score†	98 (90–100)
<b>Pathology</b>	
Total node count per patient†	24 (16–34)
Node count with evidence of viable or treated tumour†	2 (1–3)
<b>Response</b>	
Index node	
pCR	7
Near-pCR	3
pPR	1
pNR	1
Total basin	
pCR	7
Near-pCR	3
pPR	1
pNR	1
Index node congruent with total basin	12

# What have we learned from PRADO so far?



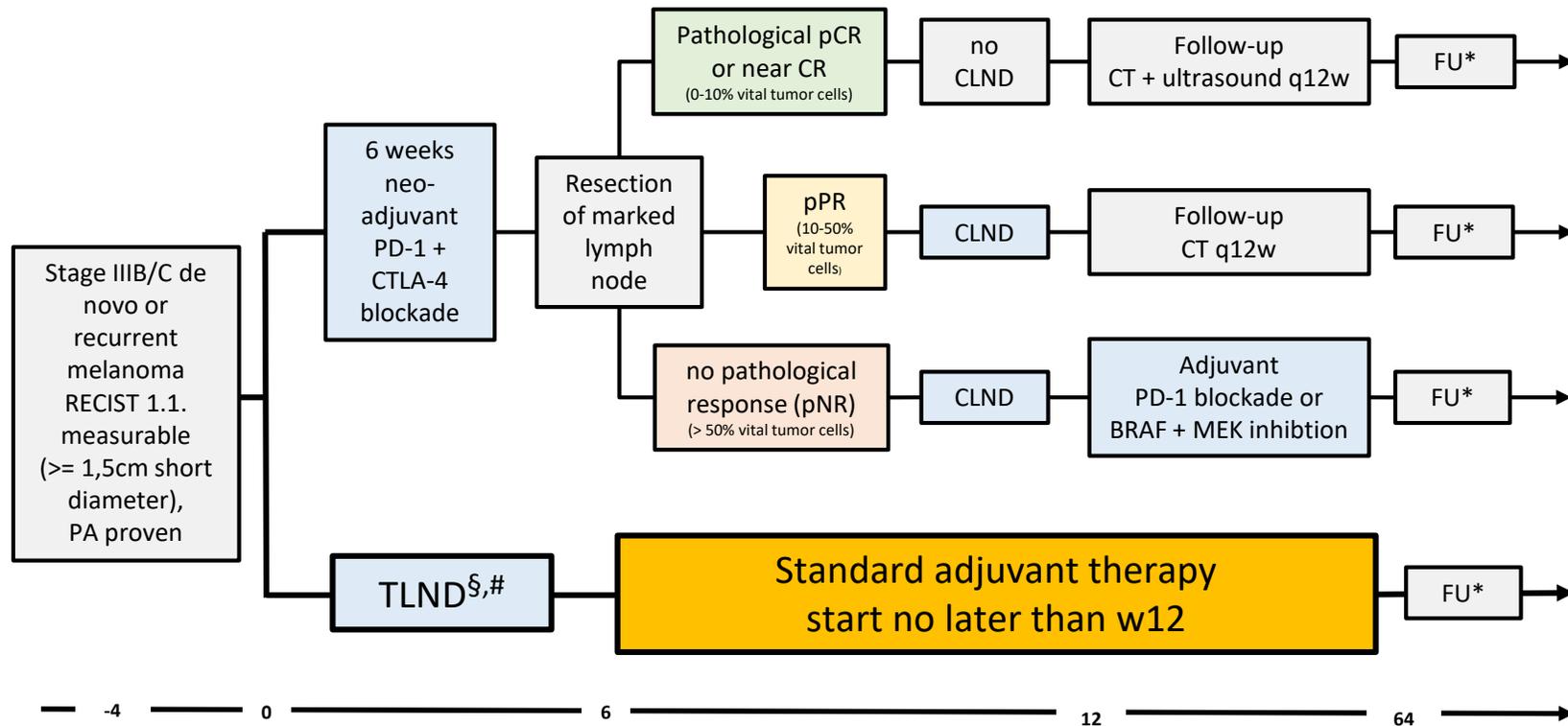
- IPI1+NIVO3 scheme is again **well tolerated**
- Pre-treatment application of marker in **index LN is feasible**
- **Fast pathologic evaluation** of marked LN is feasible
- Timing of **CLND within 3 weeks** post marked LN resection and start **adjuvant** therapy (if needed) **at week 12** is feasible (NKI & MIA experience)
- **Parallel RT** to NIVO or DAB+TRAM is **feasible**

# RFS is not advisable in neoadjuvant randomized trials: T-VEC neoadjuvant versus upfront surgery



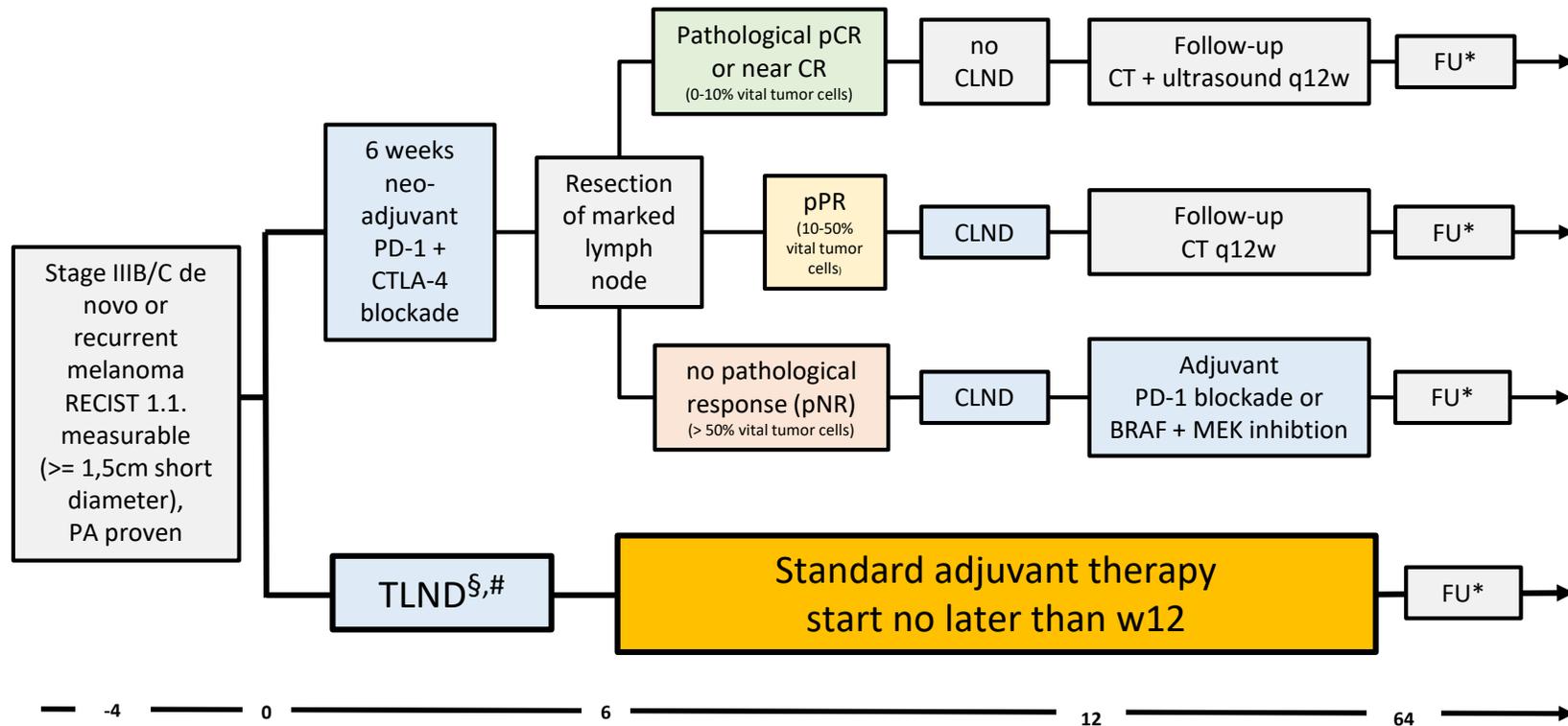
ITT Analysis Set: 150 patients enrolled and randomized

# Remaining questions for a phase 3 trial



- Response-driven scheme? Adjuvant versus only FU in MPR patients?
- Primary endpoint EFS ?
- Event also non-melanoma death? Elderly populations!
- Index LN approach versus TLND?
- Stratify for BRAF status? How fast BRAF status available
- Stratify continents?

# Remaining questions for a phase 3 trial



- Timing of CLND within 3 weeks post marked LN resection feasible?
- Start adjuvant therapy (if needed) at week 12 broadly feasible?
- Pathology fast enough? pRR or MPR as surrogate markers?
- Adjuvant RT parallel NIVO or DAB+TRAM in NR patients?
- How to deal with change to other adjuvant therapy in non-MPR which will be reality

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## Collaborators OpACIN-Neo trial

**Georgina Long**

**Alexander Menzies**

**Richard Scolyer**

MIA surgical and trial team

**Johan Hansson**

Karolinska Institute surgical and trial team

## International Melanoma Neoadjuvant Consortium

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<https://melanoma-inc.org>

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