

# Use of Genomic Classifiers to Inform Therapeutic Decision-Making for Patients with ER-Positive Localized Breast Cancer

**Joseph A. Sparano, MD**

Professor of Medicine & Women's Health

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Associate Chairman, Department of Oncology

Montefiore Medical Center

Bronx, NY

Vice-Chair, ECOG-ACRIN

**Montefiore**



# Disclosures

<b>Advisory Committee</b>	AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, Cardinal Health, CStone Pharmaceuticals, Daiichi Sankyo Inc, Genentech, Novartis, Pfizer Inc, Roche Laboratories Inc
<b>Contracted Research</b>	Deciphera Pharmaceuticals Inc, Prescient Therapeutics, Radius Health Inc
<b>Data and Safety Monitoring Board</b>	Celgene Corporation, Roche Laboratories Inc

## Case Presentation: Dr Goetz

41 y/o female presented with a palpable left breast mass. Biopsy demonstrated invasive ductal carcinoma, grade 2. No lymphovascular invasion. Estrogen 100%, PR 100%, HER2 negative at 0.

Patient underwent lumpectomy and sentinel lymph node biopsy. Final pathology revealed a 1.4-cm invasive ductal carcinoma and sentinel lymph nodes were negative. 21 gene Recurrence Score<sup>®</sup> was 9.

# Case Presentation: Professor Johnston

38 year old pre-menopausal woman:

HR Manager, married with 5 year old daughter, no FH

## **March 2019:**

Symptomatic Left Breast Mass

2 cm M5 with micro-calcifications, U5

Axilla negative on USS

Core biopsy ER++ HER2 2+ IDC

BRCA 1/2 negative

## **April 2019:**

Left Mastectomy and Sentinel Node Biopsy:

1.8 cm grade II invasive ductal cancer

0/3 negative nodes, no LVI

ER 8, PR 5, HER2 D-DISH negative

## **Prognostic Scores:**

Nottingham Prognostic Index (NPI) =  $2.36 (0.2 \times 1.8 + 0 + 2) = 93\%$  5yr OS

Oncotype DX<sup>®</sup> Recurrence Score 21

# Case Presentation: Dr Burstein

A healthy 57 year old woman was found on screening mammography to have an abnormality in the left breast. She underwent core biopsy which revealed invasive ductal carcinoma, grade 3 of 3. The tumor was ER positive 90%, PR positive 50%, and HER2 negative (0) by IHC. She subsequently underwent lumpectomy and sentinel lymph node biopsy. The invasive cancer measured 1.3 cm in size, grade 3, LVI negative. There was a 3 mm focus of invasive cancer in one of 3 sentinel lymph nodes.

In addition to adjuvant endocrine therapy, would you:

- Give adjuvant chemotherapy for high grade, node positive breast cancer?
- Not give adjuvant chemotherapy because too low a stage?
- Order a 21 gene recurrence score to decide on whether to give chemotherapy?

# Role of Adjuvant Chemotherapy in Early Breast Cancer: Landscape in 2000

- U.S. N.I.H consensus panel in 2000 concluded “...*adjuvant ..chemotherapy ... should be recommended to the majority of women with localized breast cancer* regardless of lymph node, menopausal, or ... receptor status.”

Vol. 320 No. 8

CHEMOTHERAPY FOR BREAST CANCER — MANSOUR ET AL.

485

## EFFICACY OF ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY IN HIGH-RISK NODE-NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

### An Intergroup Study

EDWARD G. MANSOUR, M.D., ROBERT GRAY, Ph.D., AHMAD H. SHATILA, M.D., C.K. OSBORNE, M.D.,  
DOUGLASS C. TORMEY, M.D., Ph.D., KENNEDY W. GILCHRIST, M.D.,  
M. ROBERT COOPER, M.D., AND GEOFFREY FALKSON, M.D.

Mansour et al. N Eng J Med 1989; 320:485-490

## SPECIAL ARTICLE

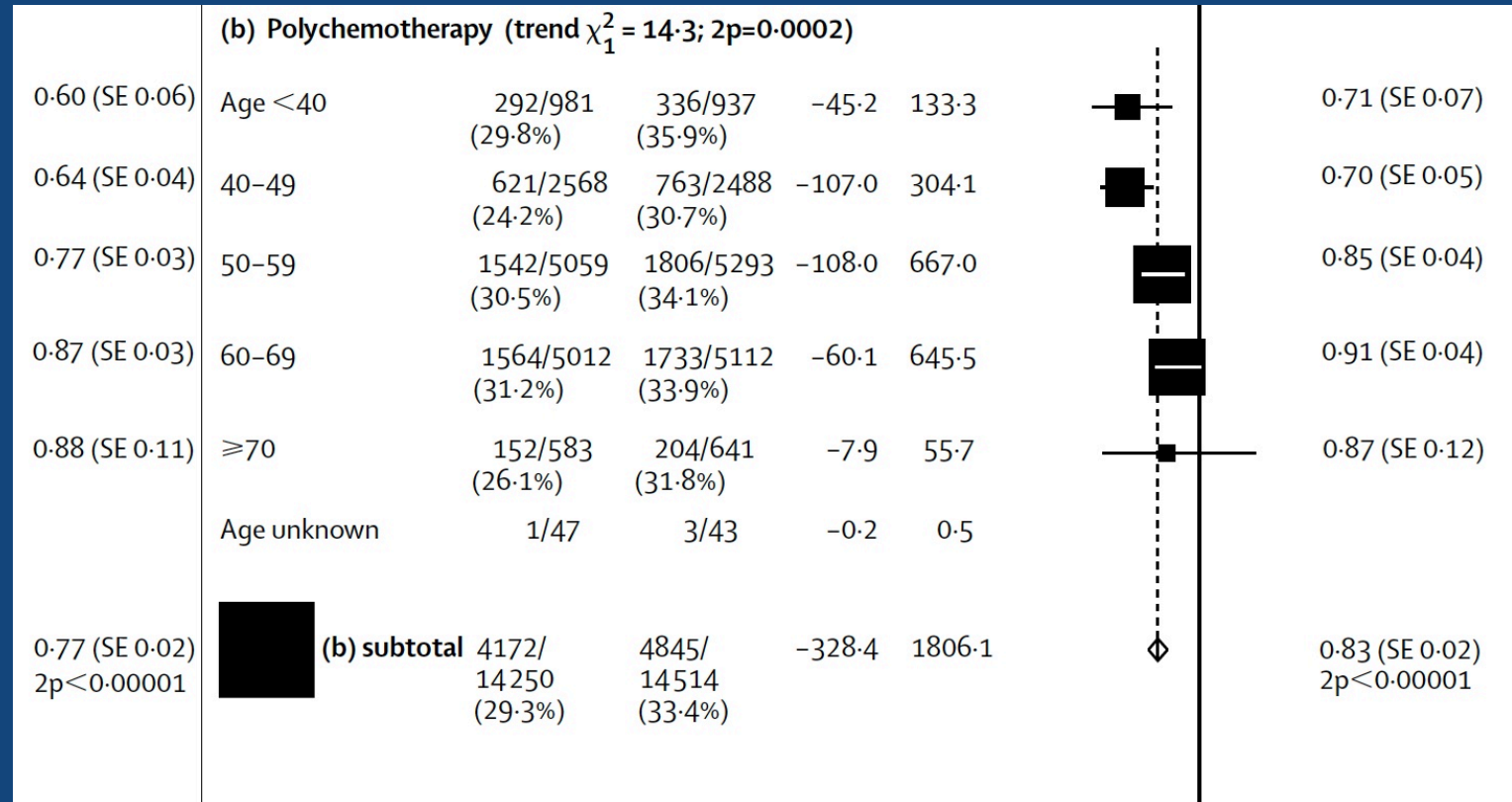
### National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference Statement: Adjuvant Therapy for Breast Cancer, November 1–3, 2000

*National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Panel\**

JNCI 2001; 93: 979-989

# Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group: Greater treatment effect of adjuvant chemotherapy with younger age

- “...polychemotherapy (eg, with FAC or FEC) reduces the annual breast cancer death rate ...
- ... by about **38% (SE 5)** for women **younger than 50 years of age** and ...
- ... by about **20% (SE 4)** for those of **age 50-69 years** ...
- ...largely irrespective of the use of tamoxifen and of ... (ER) status, nodal status, or other tumour characteristics.”

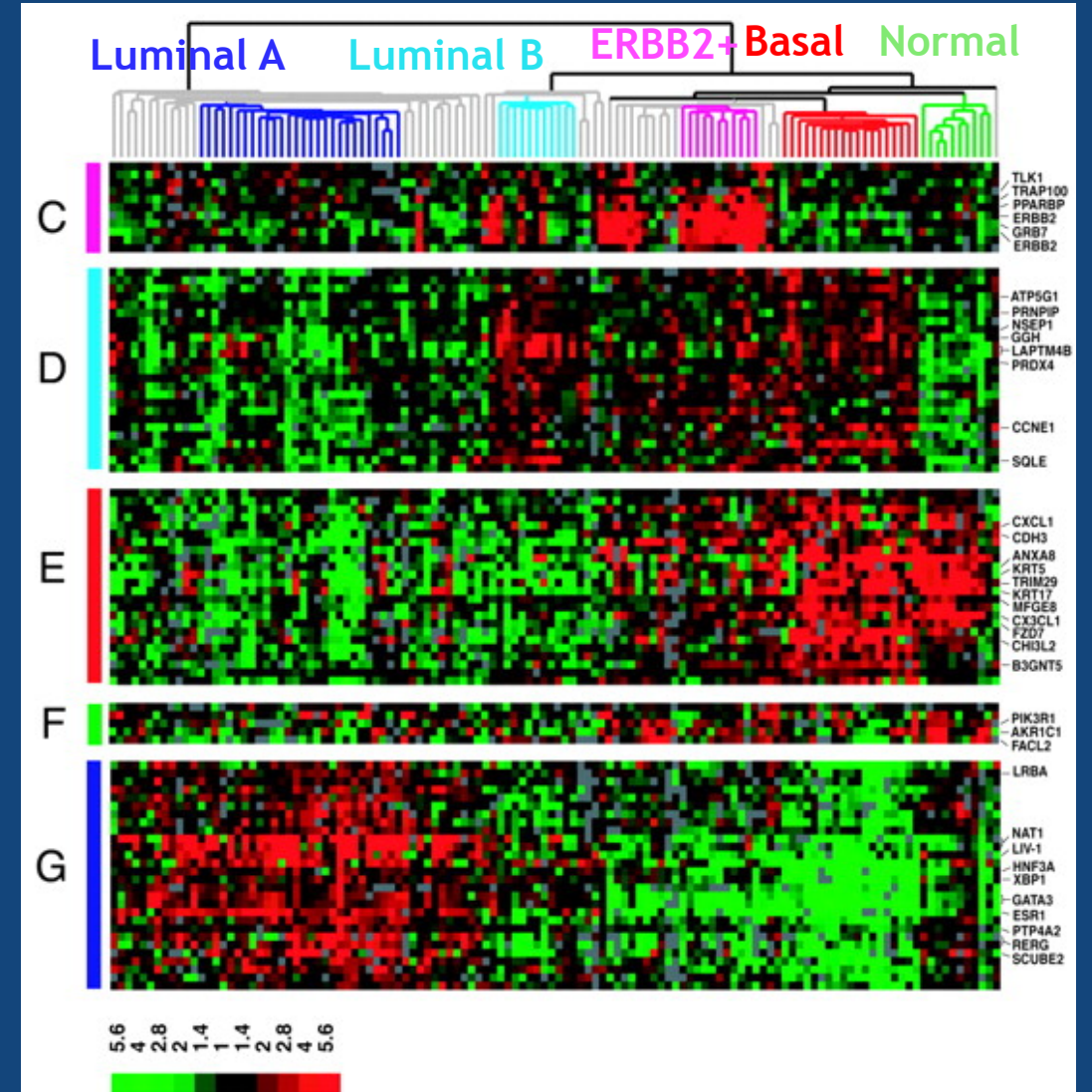


**Breast cancer mortality  
at 15 years**



# Gene Expression Assays in Breast Cancer

- **Unsupervised analysis**
  - Breast cancer is heterogeneous
  - Distinct subtypes
  - Prognosis varies by subtype (PAM50)
- **Supervised analysis**
  - Several other prognostic assays (21-gene, 70-gene, others)
  - Lack of concordance in prognostic classification



Sorlie et al PNAS 2003; 100(14): 8418-8423

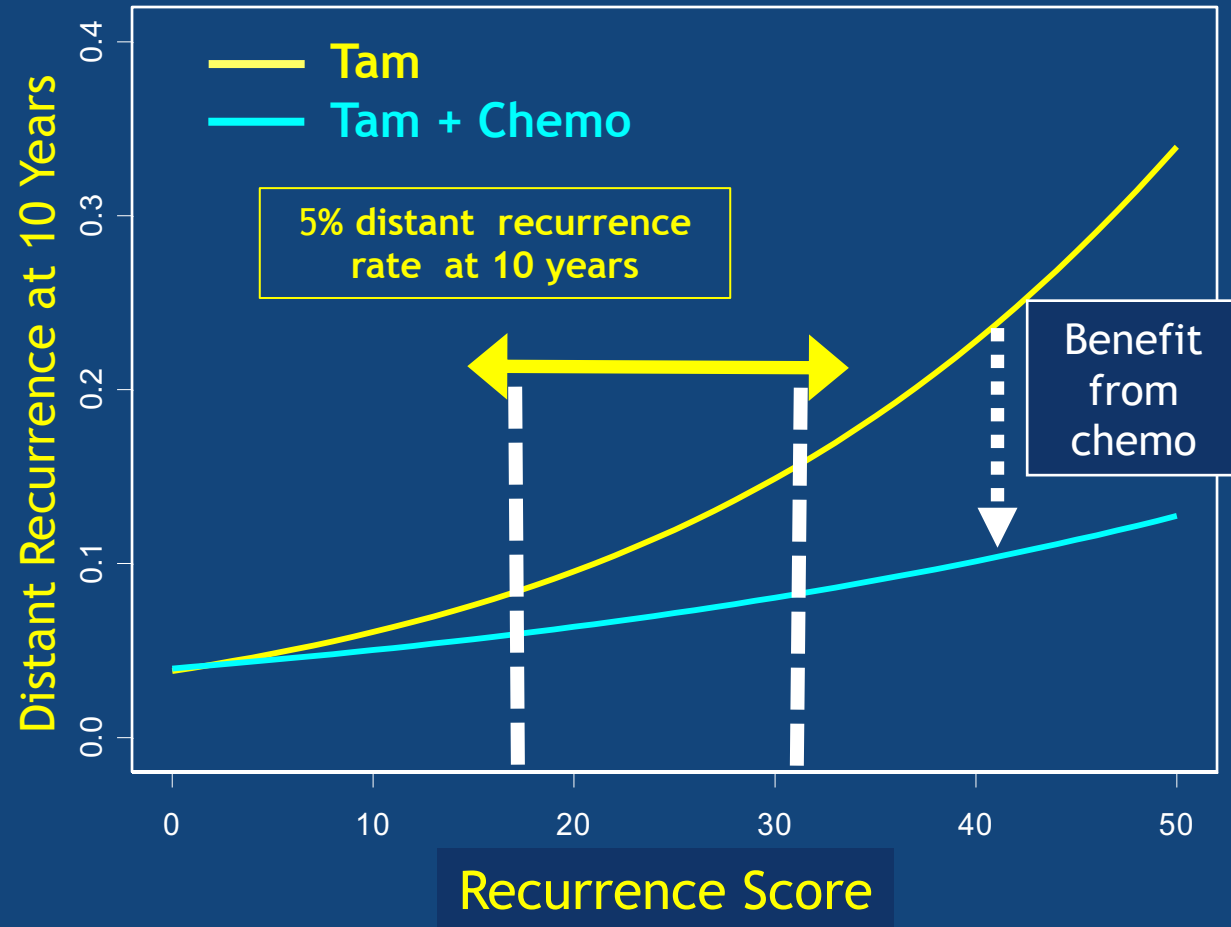
Bartlett JM et al. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2016;108(9)



# TAILORx: Rationale for Adjusting RS Ranges

- **TAILORx population excluded HER2+**
  - 21-gene assay includes HER2 module (*HER2*, *GRB7*) - higher recurrence
  - Most HER2+ tumors have high RS
  - Different RS distribution
- **RS assay used selectively in practice - therapeutic equipoise**
  - Typically int. grade tumors, 1-2 cm in size
  - More tumors in mid-range group
- **RS range adjusted for mid-range (B20)**
  - Preserve prediction in high risk group
  - Minimize potential for undertreatment

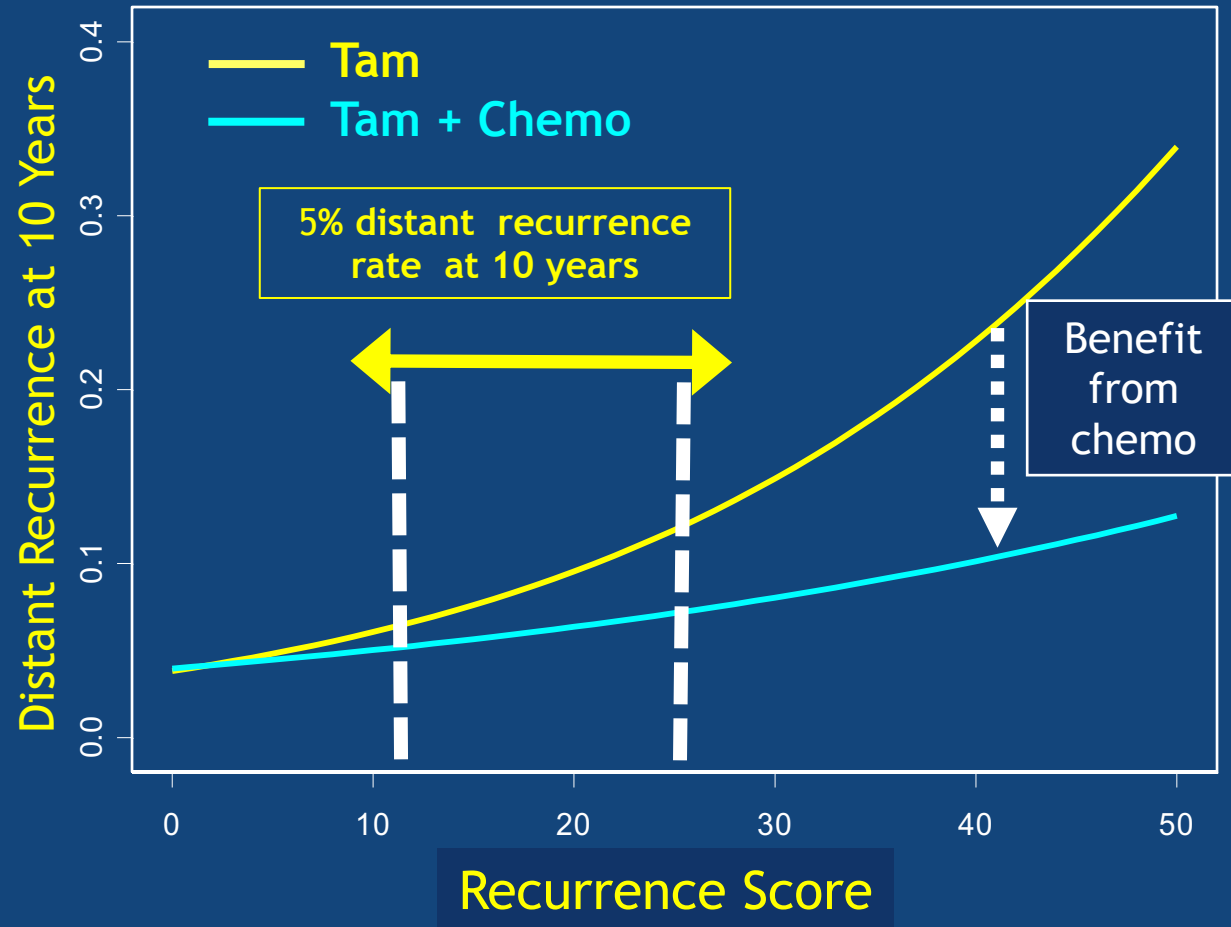
B20: Relationship Between Continuous RS and Distant Recurrence by Treatment



# TAILORx: Rationale for Adjusting RS Ranges

- **TAILORx population excluded HER2+**
  - 21-gene assay includes HER2 module (*HER2*, *GRB7*) - higher recurrence
  - Most HER2+ tumors have high RS
  - Different RS distribution
- **RS assay used selectively in practice - therapeutic equipoise**
  - Typically int. grade tumors, 1-2 cm in size
  - More tumors in mid-range group
- **RS range adjusted for mid-range (B20)**
  - Preserve prediction in high risk group
  - Minimize potential for undertreatment

B20: Relationship Between Continuous RS and Distant Recurrence by Treatment



# TAILORx: Treatment Assignment & Randomization

Accrued Between April 2006 - October 2010

## Key Eligibility Criteria

- Node-negative
- ER-pos, HER2-neg
- T1c-T2 (high-risk T1b)

Preregister - Oncotype DX RS (N=11,232)

Register (N=10,273)

## Statistical Design

- Non-inferiority - IDFS
- HR 1.332 (90 vs. 87% 5-yr DFS)
- Type I 10%, type II 5%
- Full info- 835 IDFS events

ARM A: Low RS 0-10  
(N=1629 evaluable)

ASSIGN

Endocrine Therapy (ET)

Mid-Range RS 11-25

(N=6711 evaluable)

**RANDOMIZE**

Stratification Factors: Menopausal  
Status, Planned Chemotherapy, Planned  
Radiation, and RS 11-15, 16-20, 21-25

ARM D: High RS 26-100  
(N=1389 evaluable)

ASSIGN

ET + Chemo

ARM B: Experimental Arm

(N=3399)

ET Alone

ARM C: Standard Arm

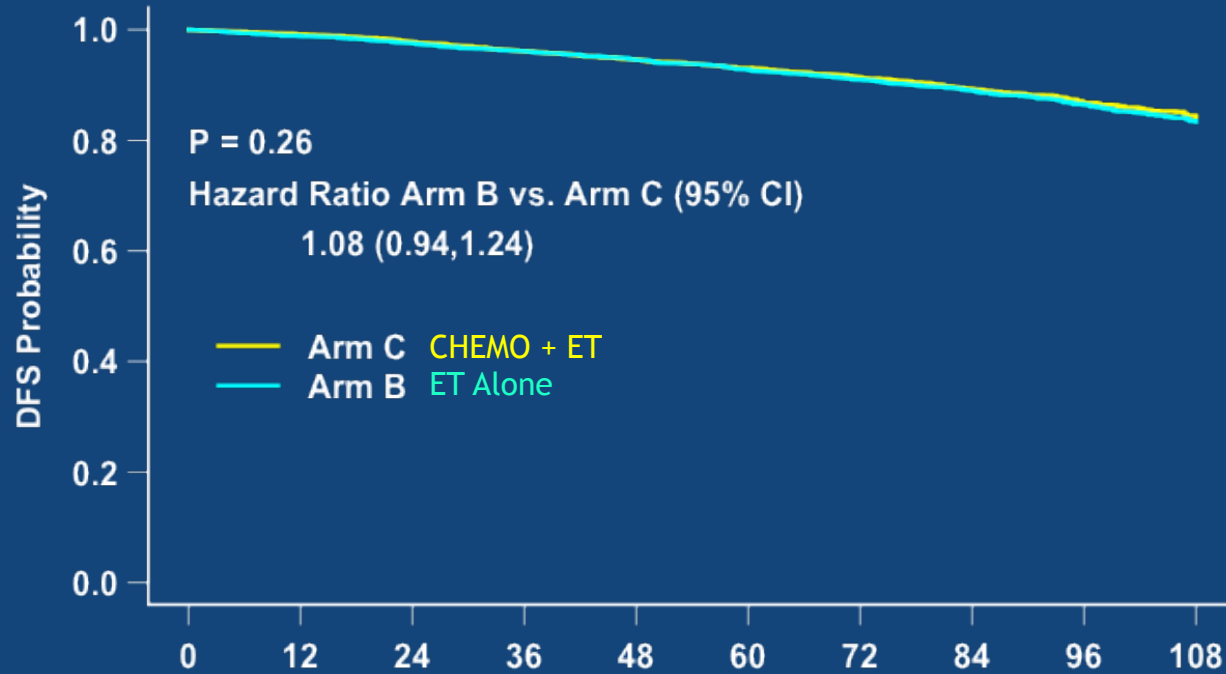
(N=3312)

ET + Chemo

# TAILORx Results - ITT Population: RS 11-25 (Arms B & C)

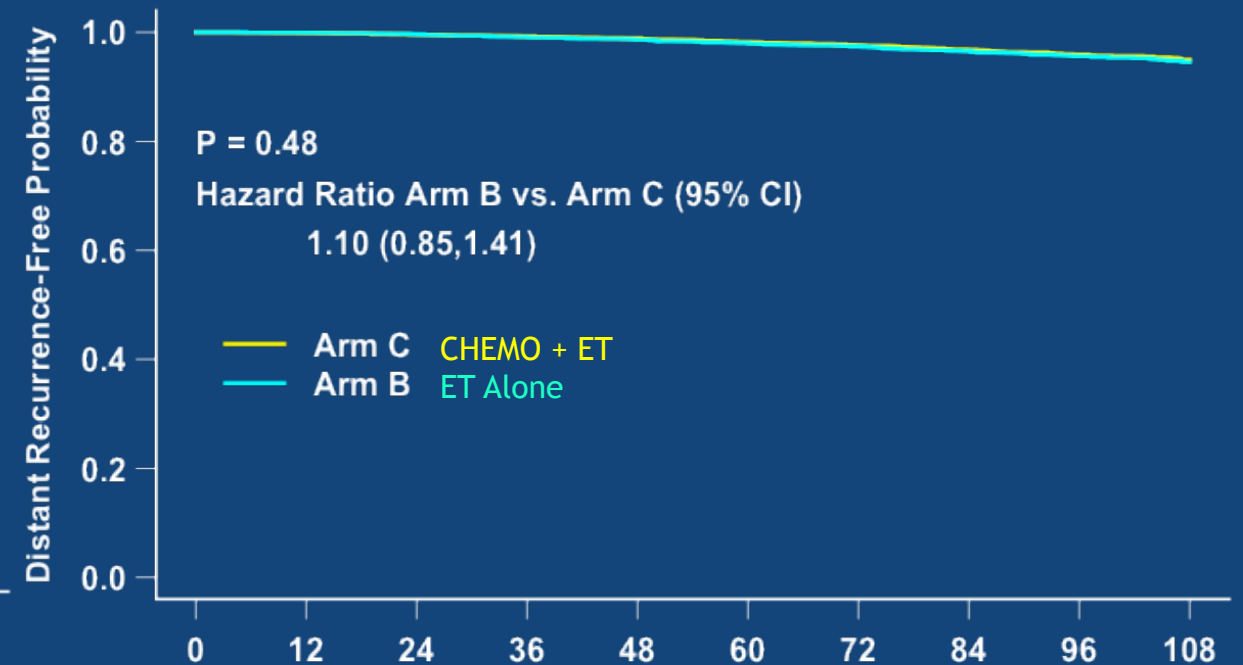
836 IDFS events (after median of 7.5 years), including 338 (40.3%) with recurrence as first event, of which 199 (23.8%) were distant

## Primary Endpoint Invasive Disease-Free Survival



Number at risk		Months									
—	3312	3204	3104	2993	2849	2645	2335	1781	1130	523	
—	3399	3293	3194	3081	2953	2741	2431	1859	1197	537	

## Secondary Endpoint Distant Relapse-Free Interval



Number at risk		Months									
—	3312	3215	3142	3059	2935	2734	2432	1866	1197	554	
—	3399	3318	3239	3147	3033	2833	2537	1947	1267	581	

# TAILORx: Impact of Clinical Risk (CR) on Prognosis by RS Group (N=9427) 30% clinical high risk & 70% clinical low risk

Grouped by RS

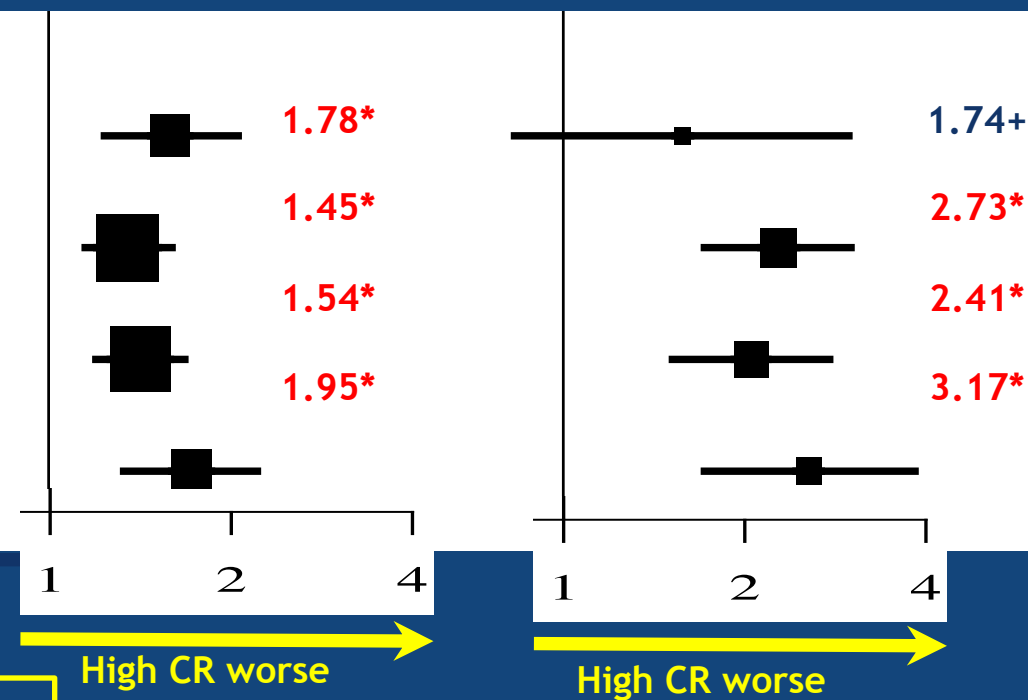
Total #/IDFS/DR events

IDFS Hazard Ratio

DRFI Hazard Ratio

All Patients (n=9427)

RS ≤ 10: Endocrine Therapy	1572/176/ 30
RS 11–25: Endocrine Therapy	3282/422/127
RS 11–25: Chemoendocrine Therapy	3214/389/113
RS > 25: Chemoendocrine Therapy	1359/184/ 96



## Multivariate model for distant recurrence in RS 11-25 group:

(N=6496 cases and 240 distant recurrences):

- Clinical risk: HR for high vs. low risk 2.42, p<0.001
- Continuous RS: HR 1.08, p<0.001 (HR for a 1 point higher RS)

**Hazard ratio > 1 - high clinical risk worse**  
 +95% CI overlap 1  
 \*95% CI don't overlap 1

Sparano et al. N Engl J Med 2019;380(25):2395-2405.

# TAILORx: Impact of Clinical Risk (CR) on Prediction of Chemotherapy Benefit by Age in RS 11-25 Group (ET vs. Chemo +ET)

Grouped by Clinical Risk and Age

Total #/#IDFS/DR events

IDFS Hazard Ratio

DRFI Hazard Ratio

All Patients, Low Clinical Risk 4799/541/129

All Patients, High Clinical Risk 1697/270/111

Age > 50, Low Clinical Risk 3173/361/ 80

Age > 50, High Clinical Risk 1180/204/ 73

Age <= 50, Low Clinical Risk 1626/180/ 49

Age <= 50, High Clinical Risk 517/ 66/ 38

1.07+

1.02+

0.93+

0.90+

1.45\*

1.56+

1.03+

1.18+

0.90+

0.95

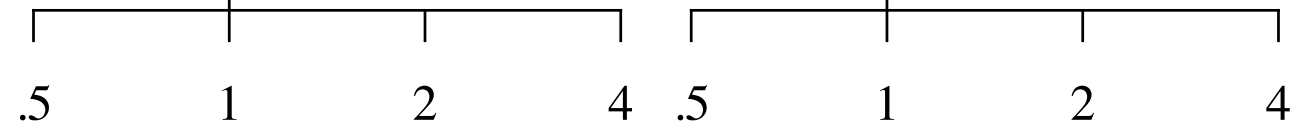
1.28+

1.80+

Hazard ratio > 1 - chemo better

+95% CI overlap with 1

\*95% CI don't overlap 1



Chemo better

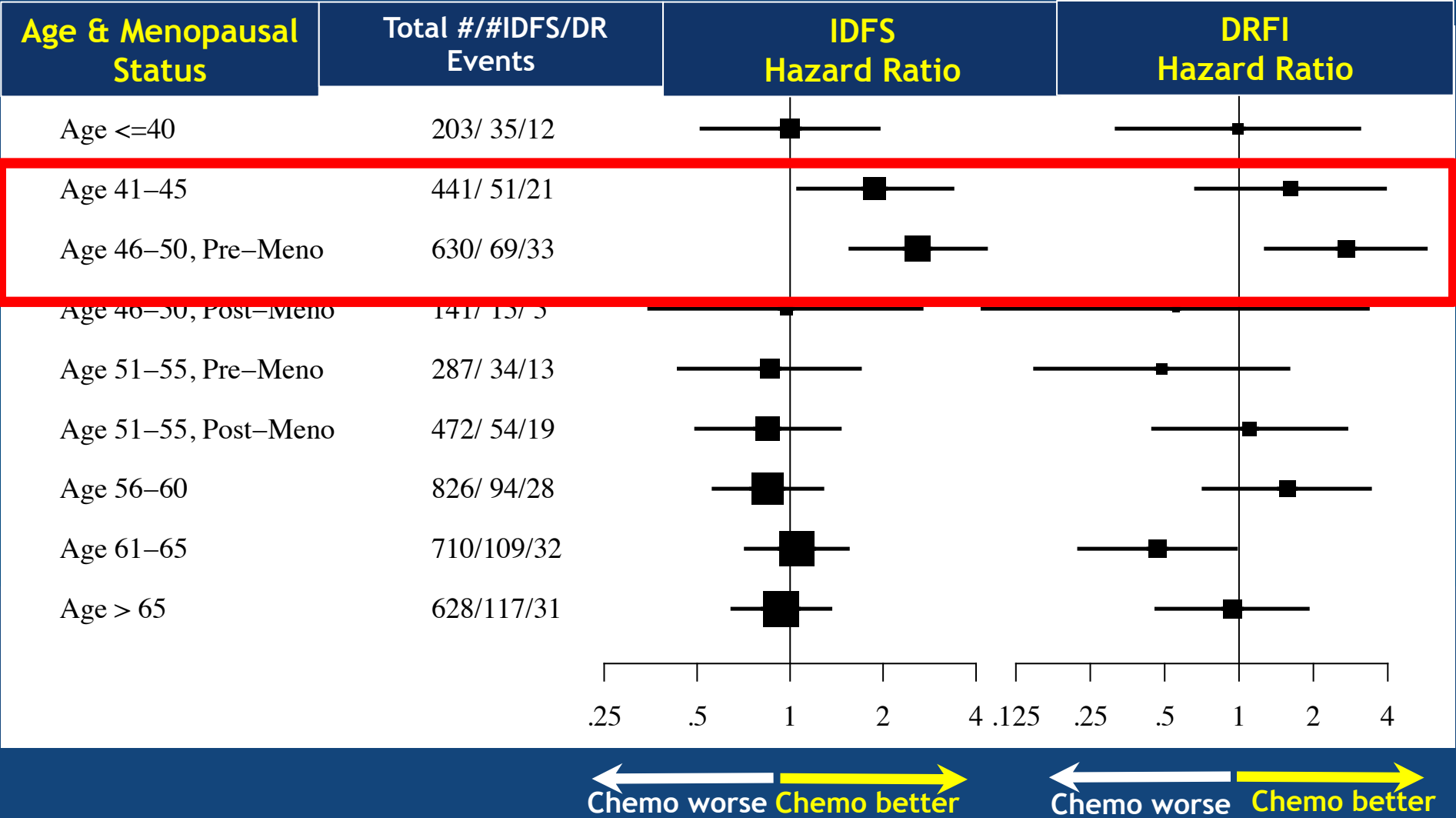
Chemo better

Sparano et al. N Engl J Med 2019;380(25):2395-2405.

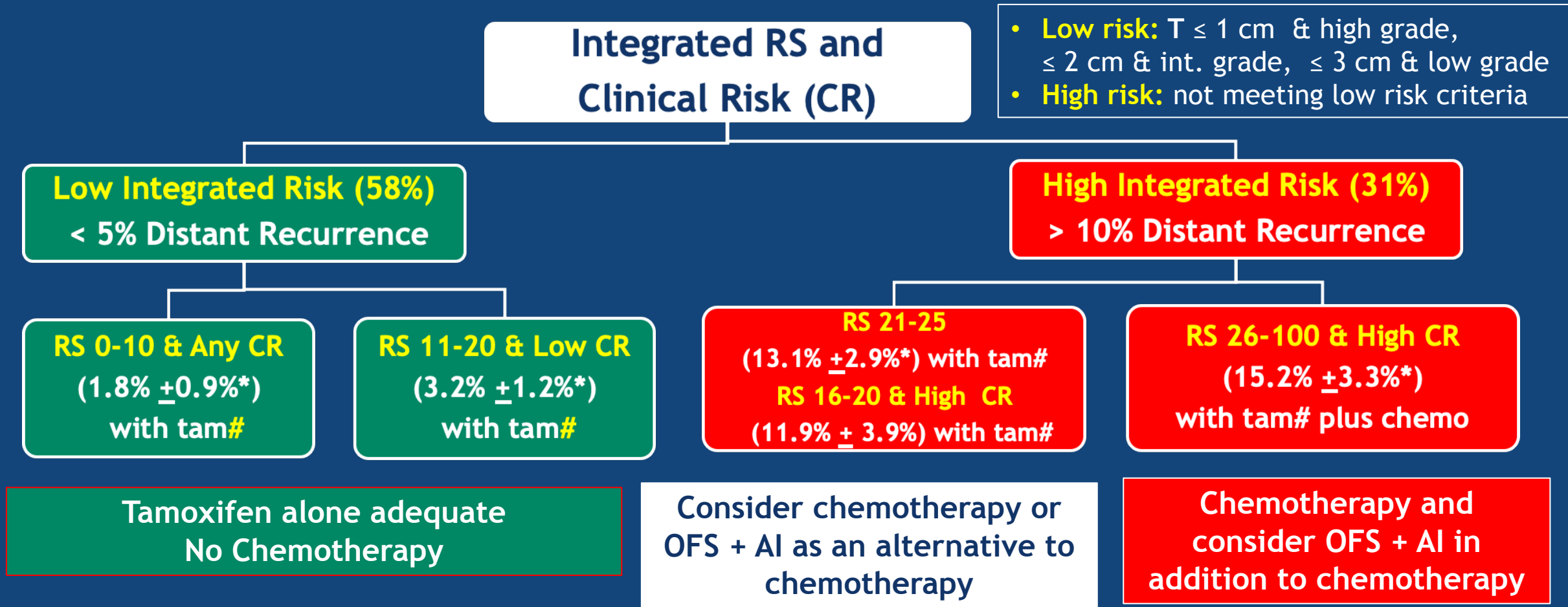
Joseph A. Sparano, MD @jsparano



# TAILORx: Exploratory Analysis - Impact of Age and Menopausal Status on Chemotherapy Benefit for RS 16-25



# Integrated Risk: Potential Clinical Utility of Integrated RS and Clinical Risk for Guiding Treatment in Women $\leq 50$ Years

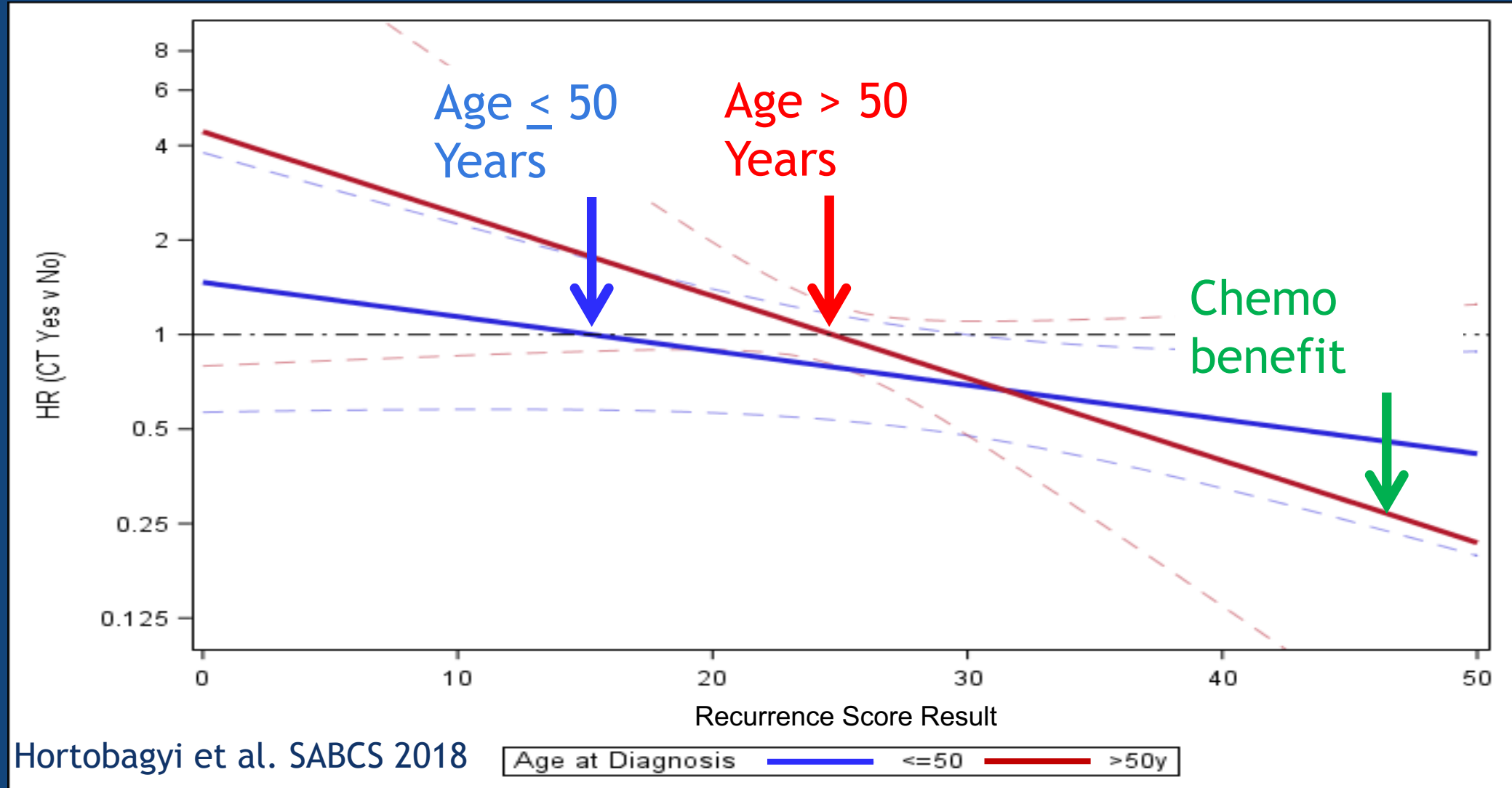


\*Kaplan Meier estimates of 9-year distant recurrence rates

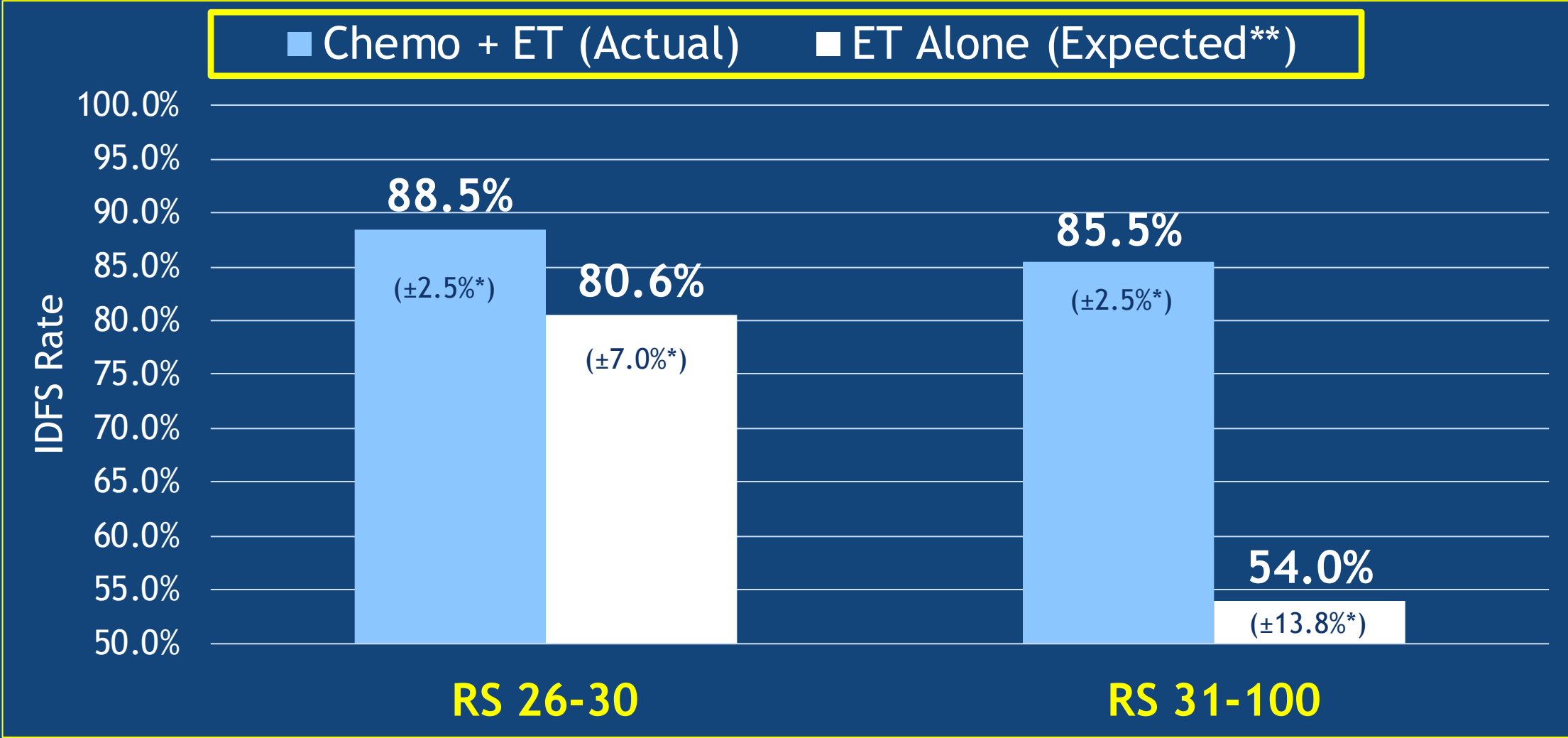
# tamoxifen in 78% (including 35% who crossed over to an AI), or OFS +/- AI in 13%; 9% AI other

# Prediction: Hazard Ratio for Chemotherapy Benefit as a Function of Continuous RS and Age (SEER)

Cox proportional hazards regression with propensity weighting (N=70,087)



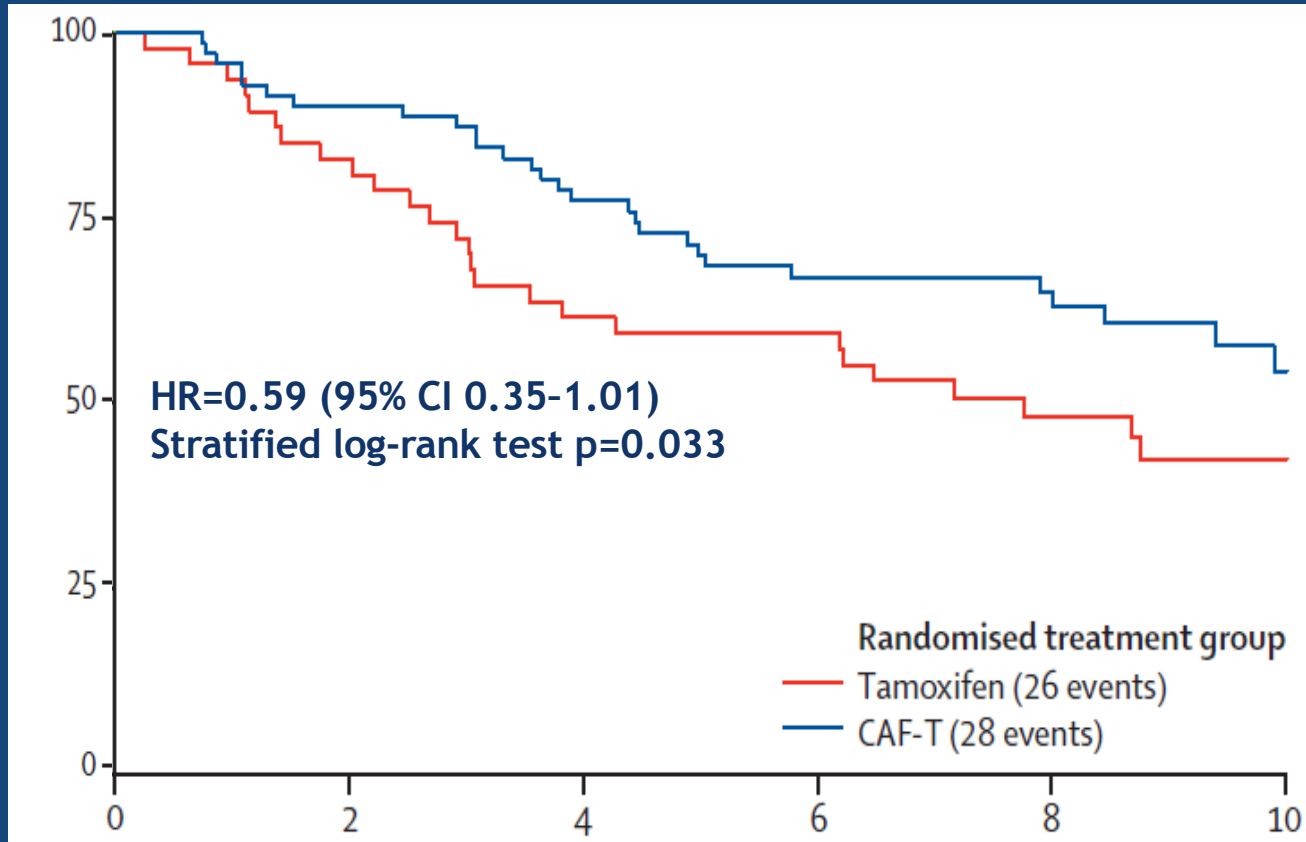
DRFI in RS 26-100 in TAILORx: Comparison of Actual Outcomes for Patients Treated with Chemo plus ET (N=1300) vs. Expected with ET Alone Stratified by RS (9-Yr Estimates)



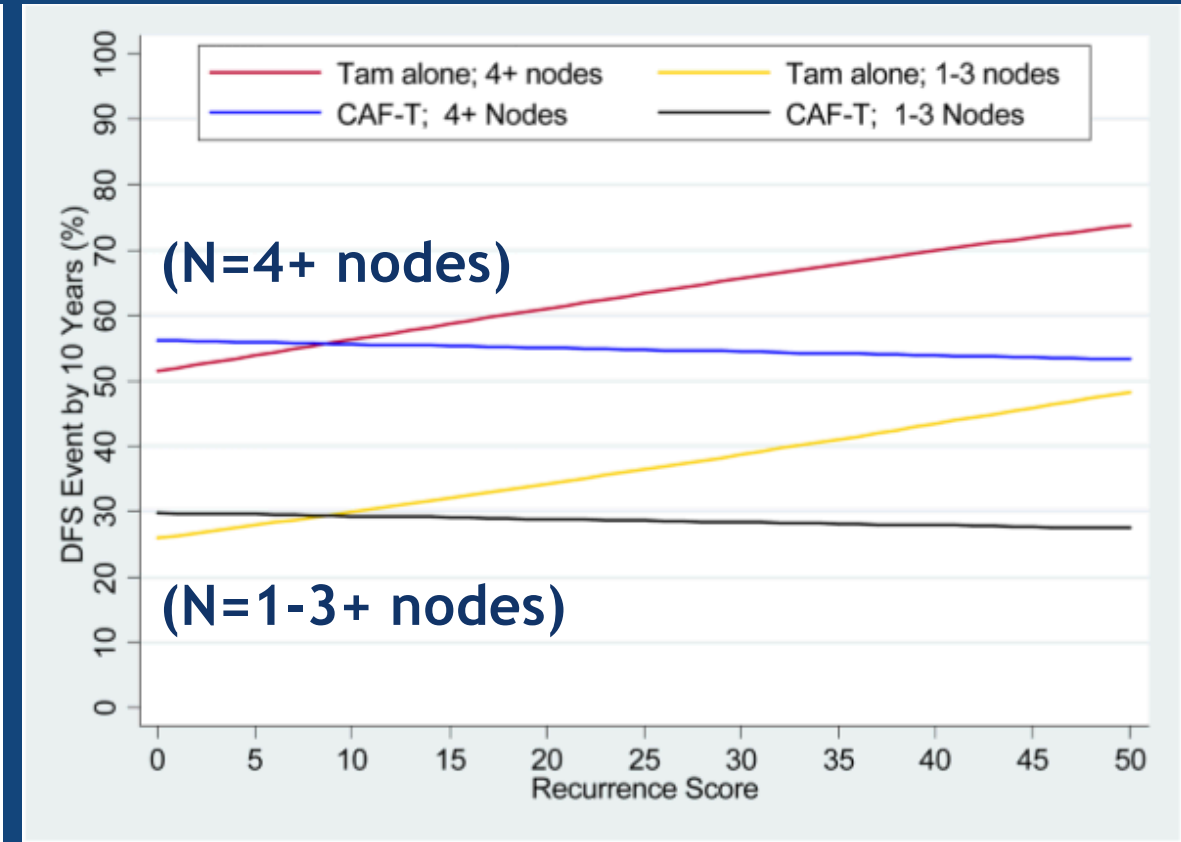
# Prognosis and Prediction in Node-Positive Breast Cancer (S8814)

(N=367 postmenopausal ER+, node-pos - tam x 5 years +/- CAF)

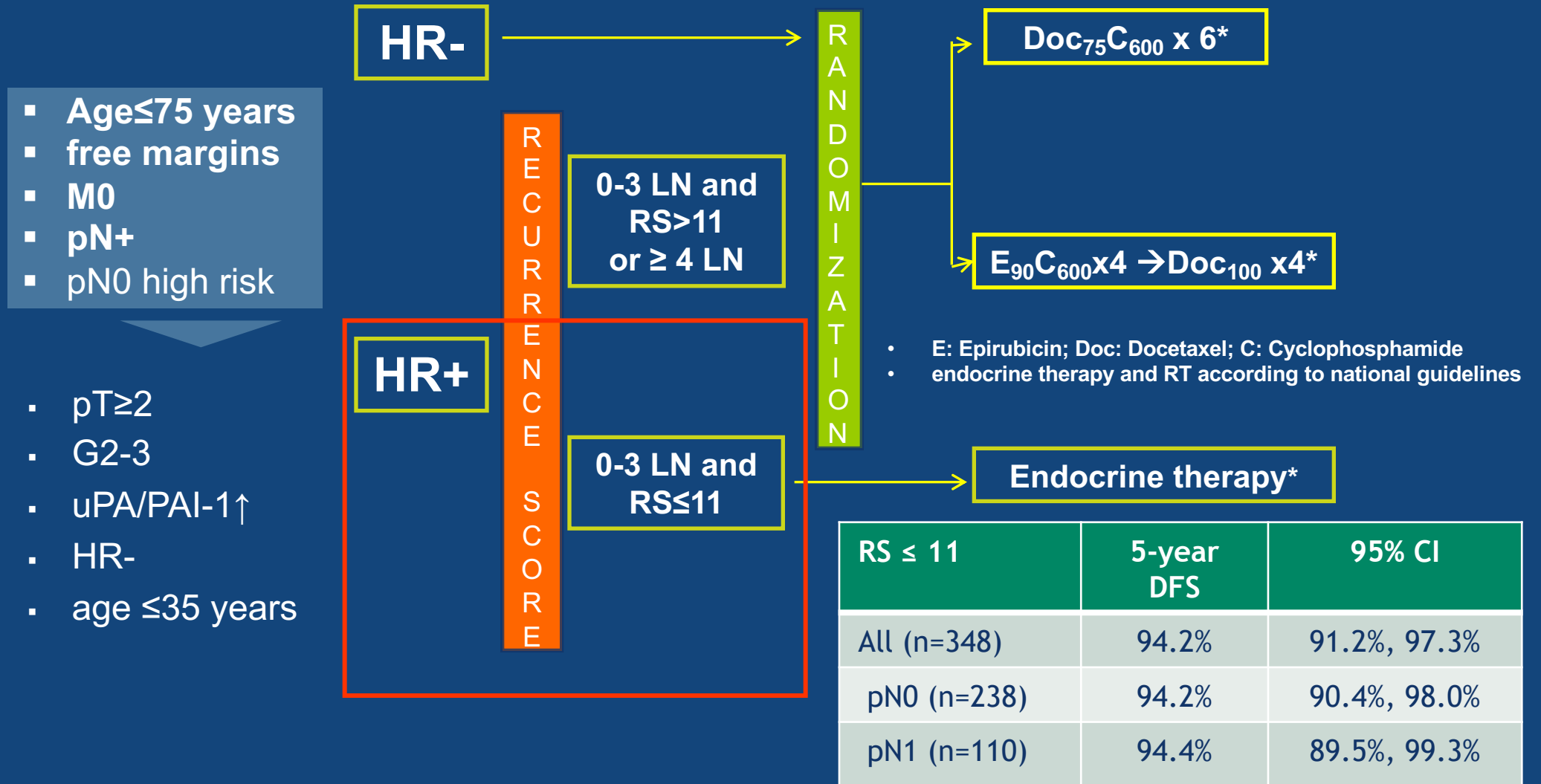
10-year DFS: RS  $\geq 31$



10-year DFS: Impact of Nodal Status and RS



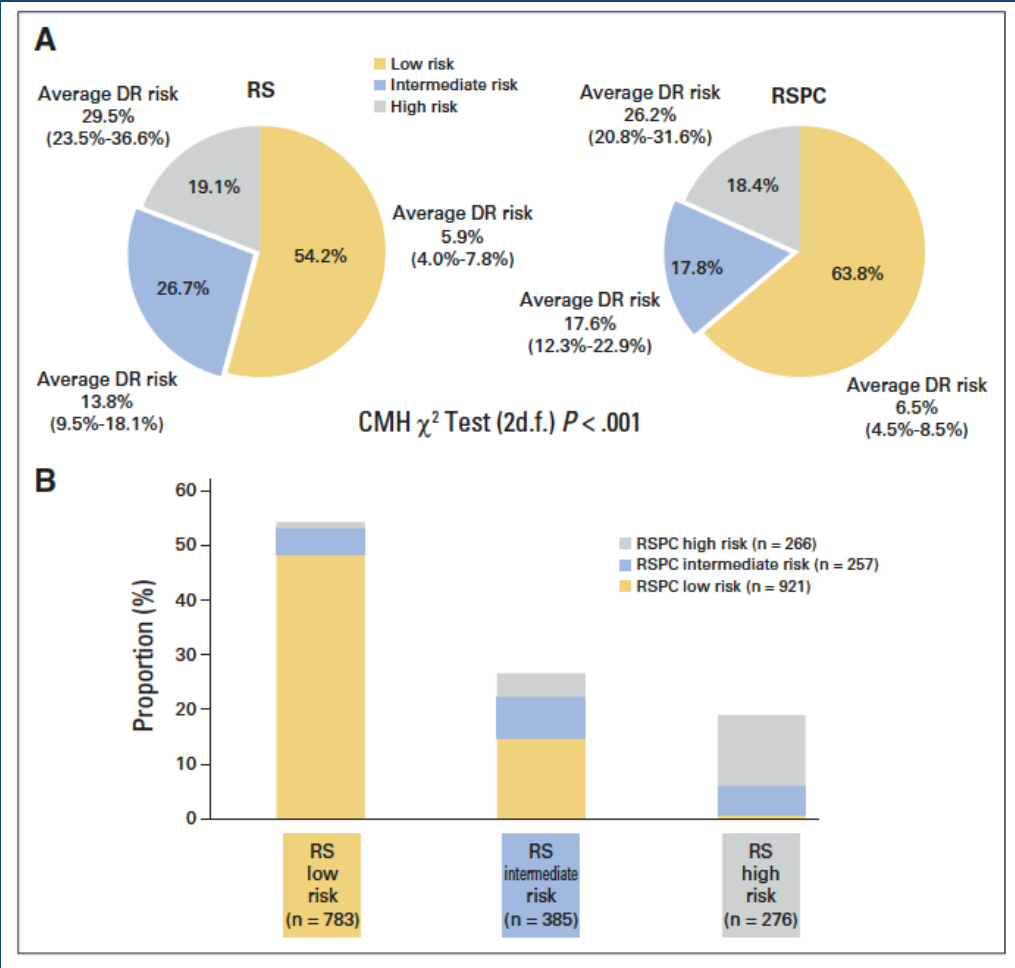
# Prognosis in Node-Positive Breast Cancer





# RSPC Model: RS Alone and Integrated With Pathologic and Clinical Factors

Tumor size = 2.5 cm (high clinical risk except *low grade*)



Age (years)	45	55	65
Endocrine Rx	Tamoxifen	AI	AI
RS 23	15%	12%	12%
Low grade	13%	10%	9%
Int. grade	17%	13%	12%
High grade	32%	24%	22%
RS 16	10%	8%	8%
Low grade	10%	7%	7%
Int. grade	13%	10%	9%
High grade	24%	18%	17%

**Clinical risk definitions (MINDACT criteria calibrated to Adjuvant! V8):**  
**Low risk:** T ≤ 1 cm & high grade, ≤ 2 cm & int. grade, ≤ 3 cm & low grade  
**High risk:** not meeting low risk criteria

# Genomic Classifiers in Early Breast Cancer: Conclusions

- Gene-expression assays provide prognostic information (Level 1AB - 2C)
  - ER+, HER2-negative breast cancer
  - Node-negative and low-volume node-positive disease (1-3+ axillary nodes)
- 21-gene assay (RS) provides predictive information (Level 1A & B)
  - Chemotherapy benefit (level 1B) in node-neg (B20) and node-pos (S8814) BCA for high RS
  - Lack of chemotherapy benefit (level 1A) in node-neg BCA with RS 0-25 (TAILORx)
  - “Preferred” assay in NCCN guidelines (V2.2018, 10/5/18), ASCO guidelines updated
  - Integrating clinicopathologic factors adds prognostic but not predictive information
    - Identifies women  $\leq 50$  yrs at high risk ( $\geq 10\%$ ) with tamoxifen alone who may benefit from OFS + AI, possibly as an alternative to chemotherapy (RS 21-25, or RS 16-20 & high CR)
  - Awaiting results of RxPONDER trial for RS 0-25 in 1-3 positive nodes for chemo benefit
- 70-gene assay provides prognostic information (Level 1A & B)
  - May be used in clinical high risk (1-3+ nodes) to spare chemotherapy
- Assays not interchangeable - lack of concordance in risk classification