

FOLLOW UP OF EARLY BREAST CANCER: WORKING FOR A 2023 CONSENSUS

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Responsabile scientifico
STEFANIA GORI



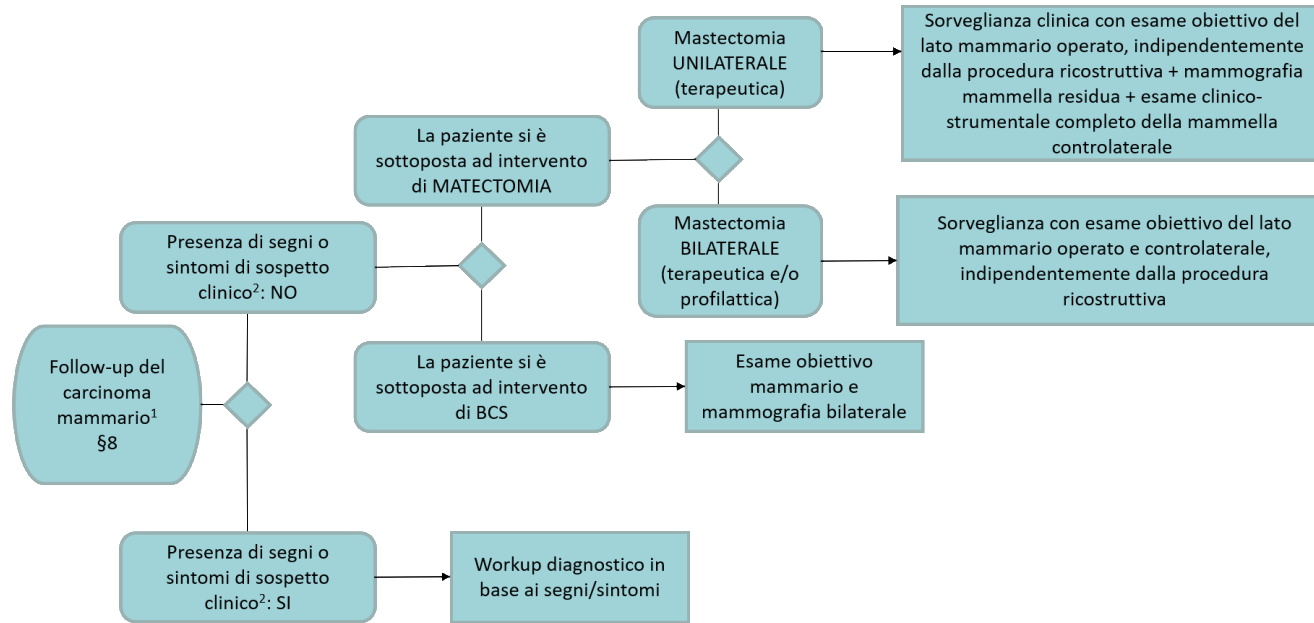
**Il follow up nel carcinoma mammario: quali obiettivi?
Quali evidenze della letteratura scientifica?**

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Disclosure

Honoraria for advisory board and consultancy: Roche, Novartis, Lilly, Seagen, Daiichi Sankyo, Astra Zeneca, Merck, Exact Sciences

BC Follow up according to the AIOM GLs



Nota 1- i pazienti sono valutati con visita ed anamnesi clinica ad intervalli periodici. Il follow-up dovrebbe includere: educazione del paziente al riconoscimento di sintomi di rilevanza oncologica, il counselling genetico (se impronta eredo-familiare), l'assunzione di stili di vita protettivi, il counselling per la salute sessuale e per la protezione della fertilità. Inoltre, è raccomandata la valutazione della salute dell'osso e gli interventi terapeutici antiassorbitivi (denosumab/bifosfonati) nei casi di menopausa prematura, uso di AI, età > 65 anni. La sorveglianza cardiologica è indicata in casi selezionati.

Nota 2 - Possibili sintomi clinici meritevoli di workup diagnostico: inspiegato calo ponderale; inspiegato dolore osseo ad eziologia incerta che persiste nel tempo nonostante i trattamenti antalgici; inspiegato dolore addominale; modifiche nelle abitudini intestinali; inspiegato dolore toracico o dispnea; cefalea di nuova insorgenza e/o sintomi neurologici.
BCS, chirurgia mammaria conservativa

AIOM recommendations

LINEE GUIDA
2021



Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione
MOLTO BASSA	Nel programma di follow up del carcinoma mammario operato l'esame obiettivo può essere eseguito ogni 3-6 mesi durante i primi 3 anni e quindi ogni 6-12 mesi per i due anni successivi e quindi annualmente ¹⁻⁷	Condizionata a favore

Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione
BASSA	Nel programma di follow up del carcinoma mammario operato la mammografia, per la ghiandola residua e/o controlaterale, dovrebbe essere eseguita con regolarità e a cadenza annuale ⁸⁻¹³	Forte a favore

Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione
ALTA	In assenza di sospetti clinici individuali o di programmi personalizzati, il cosiddetto follow up "intensivo" non dovrebbe essere raccomandato. In particolare, l'uso di indagini strumentali quali la radiografia del torace; l'ecografia addominale, la TC encefalo-torace-addome; la TC-PET con FdG; la scintigrafia ossea, come anche la determinazione dei marcatori tumorali (CEA, CA 15.3) non dovrebbero fare parte delle indagini routinarie di follow up in assenza di sospetto clinico di ripresa di malattia ^{26-33,37,38,40} .	Condizionata a sfavore

AiOM recommendations (cont.)

LINEE GUIDA
2021



Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione
ALTA	Nei casi di trattamento adiuvante con <i>antiaromatasi</i> , dovrebbe essere valutata la salute dell'osso, con mineralometria ossea e test endocrinologici e considerata la terapia con anti-riassorbitivi ossei (denosumab/bifosfonati) per ridurre il rischio di eventi fratturativi durante il trattamento anti-estrogenico ⁶⁴⁻⁷³	Forte a favore

durante la terapia e a 18 e 24 mesi dall'inizio della cura

Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione
BASSA	Nei casi di trattamento (neo)adiuvante a base di <i>trastuzumab</i> , la sorveglianza della funzionalità cardiaca dovrebbe essere eseguita prima dell'inizio del trattamento e quindi ogni 3 mesi	Condizionata a favore

Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione
ALTA	In caso di trattamento con tamoxifene, la valutazione ginecologica iniziale e quindi a cadenza annuale dovrebbe essere raccomandata, associando l'ecografia transvaginale solo in casi selezionati ^{116,118-122,124-126}	Forte a favore

Qualità globale delle evidenze	Raccomandazione clinica	Forza della raccomandazione clinica
BASSA	L'adozione di uno stile di vita protettivo, che comprenda interventi dietetici (per il controllo del sovrappeso/obesità) e l'esercizio fisico regolare, può essere suggerito a tutte le pazienti operate di tumore al seno, per il miglioramento della qualità di vita e la riduzione del rischio di recidiva tumorale ^{139,142,143-152,154,155,158,159,165,166,170-172} .	Condizionata a favore

A global minimalist approach

	ASCO	ESMO	AIOM
Hx & physical exam	Every 3-6m (yrs 1-3) Every 6m (yrs 4-5) Every 1yr (yrs >5)	Every 3-6m (yrs 1-3) Every 6m (yrs 4-5) Every 1yr (yrs >5)	Every 3-6m (yrs 1-3) Every 6m (yrs 4-5) Every 1yr (yrs >5)
Self exam	No	No	No
MX (Breast US/MRI)	Yearly (only selected pts)	Yearly (only age <35y, BD/strong family Hx, genetics)	Yearly (selected pts/strong family Hx, genetics)
Chest Xray	No	No	No
CT scan	No	No	No
Pelvic exam	No	Yearly on TAM	Yearly on TAM
Blood test	No	Limited to pts in ET	No
Tumor markers	No	No	No
DXA	Limited to AI (TAM in OFS)	Limited to AI (or OFS)	Limited to AI
Abdominal US	No	No	No
Bone scan	No	No	No
PET-CT/WB MRI	No	No	No

Why the FU is minimalist ?

The GIVIO Trial was launched in 1986

N 1320 pts eBC up to 70y; mFU 71 m

Asymptomatic ^b	39	31	26	21
Symptomatic at routine visit	46	37	47	38
Symptomatic between routine visits	40	32	50	41

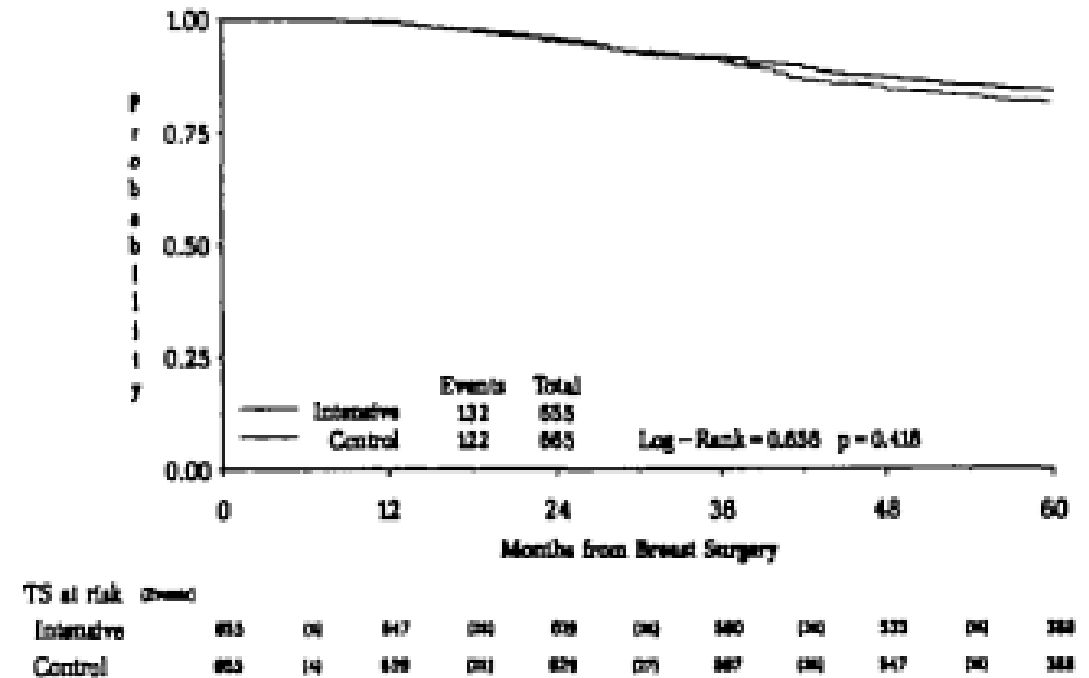
^a In six cases (2%) modalities of patients' presentation were unknown.

^b Method of detection: Intensive arm: physical examination (5 cases), chest X-ray (17), bone scan (8), liver echography (7), blood tests (2); Control arm: physical examination (17 cases), chest X-ray (5), liver echography (2), blood tests (2).

Similar QoL perception in experimental vs standard arm

OS (mFU 7y): 20% deaths in control vs 18% in intensive

The mean time to detection DM: 53m in intensive vs 54m for controls



A Liberati Ann Oncol 1995

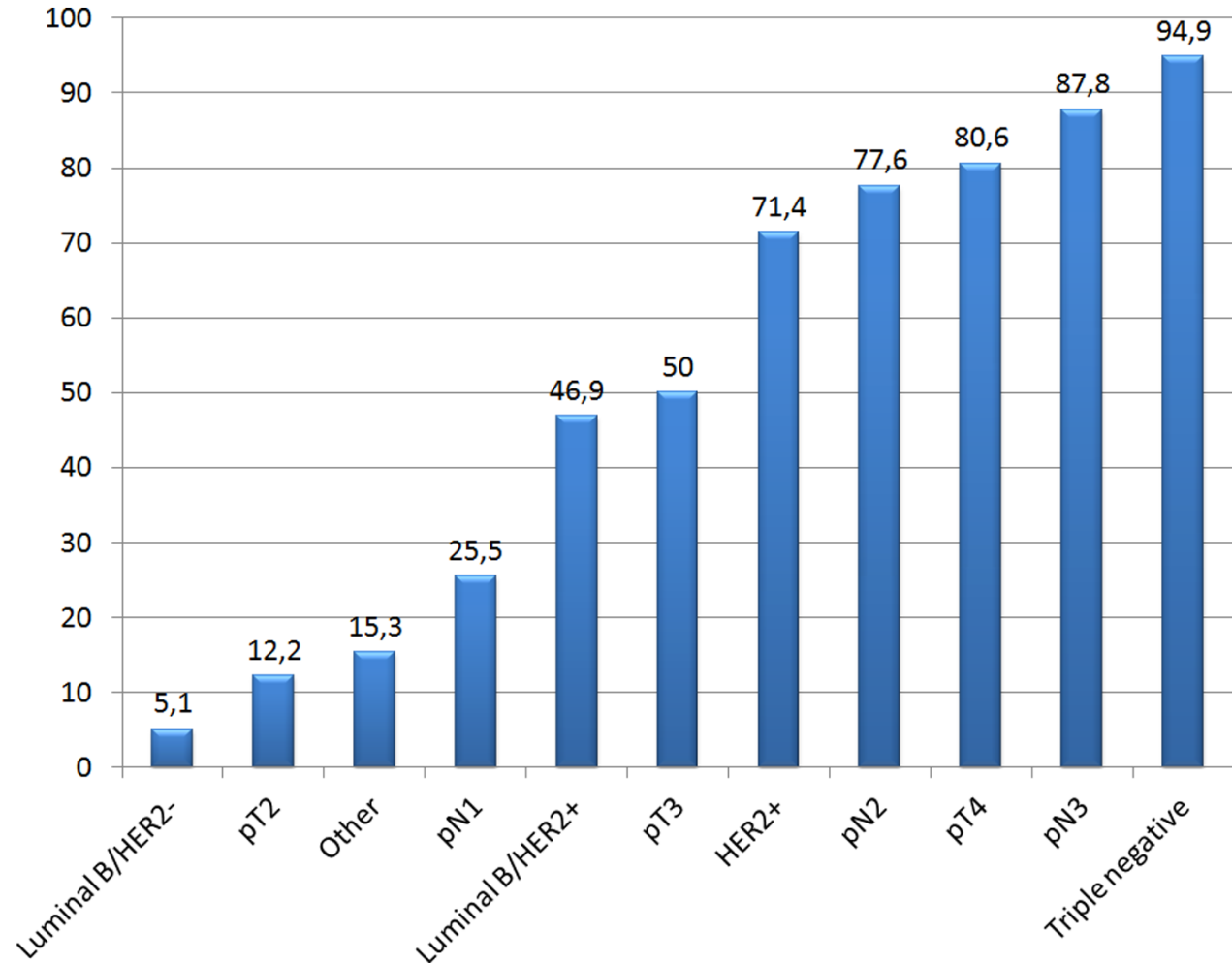
+ Rosselli Del Turco JAMA 1994

Do the physicians apply the minimalist approach?

BC “Tailored Follow-up” in Italian Oncology Units

Tumor stage (pT4, pN2-pN3), HER2-pos and TNBC for patients at high risk definition

90% of participating Italian oncology units declare they do not apply the minimal BC follow-up



BC “Tailored Follow-up” in Italian Oncology Units

FU survey in 125 Italian medical oncology units (2013)

80% of interviewed referents performs the so called “tailored follow-up”:
- high intensity for high risk, -
- low intensity for low risk

	<i>At diagnosis</i>			<i>At follow-up</i>		
	<i>At diagnosis</i>					
	<i>NO</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>p value</i>	<i>NO</i>	<i>YES</i>	<i>p value</i>
	No. (%)	No. (%)		No. (%)	No. (%)	
<i>Blood chemistry tests</i>						
Low risk	9 (9.4)	87 (90.6)	0.25	14 (14.6)	82 (85.4)	0.16
High risk	4 (4.2)	92 (95.8)		7 (7.3)	89 (92.7)	
<i>Tumor markers</i>						
Low risk	21 (21.7)	76 (78.3)	0.002	15 (15.5)	82 (84.5)	0.03
High risk	6 (6.2)	91 (93.8)		5 (5.5)	92 (94.5)	
<i>Chest radiograph</i>						
Low risk	7 (7.3)	89 (92.7)	0.23	36 (37.5)	60 (62.5)	0.005
High risk	12 (13.0)	81 (87.0)		17 (18.3)	76 (81.7)	
<i>Liver ultrasound</i>						
Low risk	9 (9.4)	87 (90.6)	0.99	29 (30.2)	67 (69.8)	<0.0001
High risk	8 (8.6)	85 (91.4)		8 (8.6)	85 (91.4)	
<i>Bone scan</i>						
Low risk	40 (41.3)	57 (58.7)	<0.0001	69 (73.4)	25 (26.6)	0.006
High risk	3 (3.1)	94 (96.9)		50 (53.2)	44 (46.8)	
<i>Whole-body CT scan</i>						
Low risk	88 (91.7)	8 (8.3)	<0.0001	87 (93.5)	6 (6.5)	<0.0001
High risk	64 (66.7)	32 (33.3)		61 (63.6)	32 (34.4)	
<i>Whole-body PET/CT scan</i>						
Low risk	94 (98.9)	1 (1.1)	0.007	81 (96.4)	3 (3.6)	0.08
High risk	75 (89.3)	9 (10.7)		75 (89.3)	9 (10.7)	

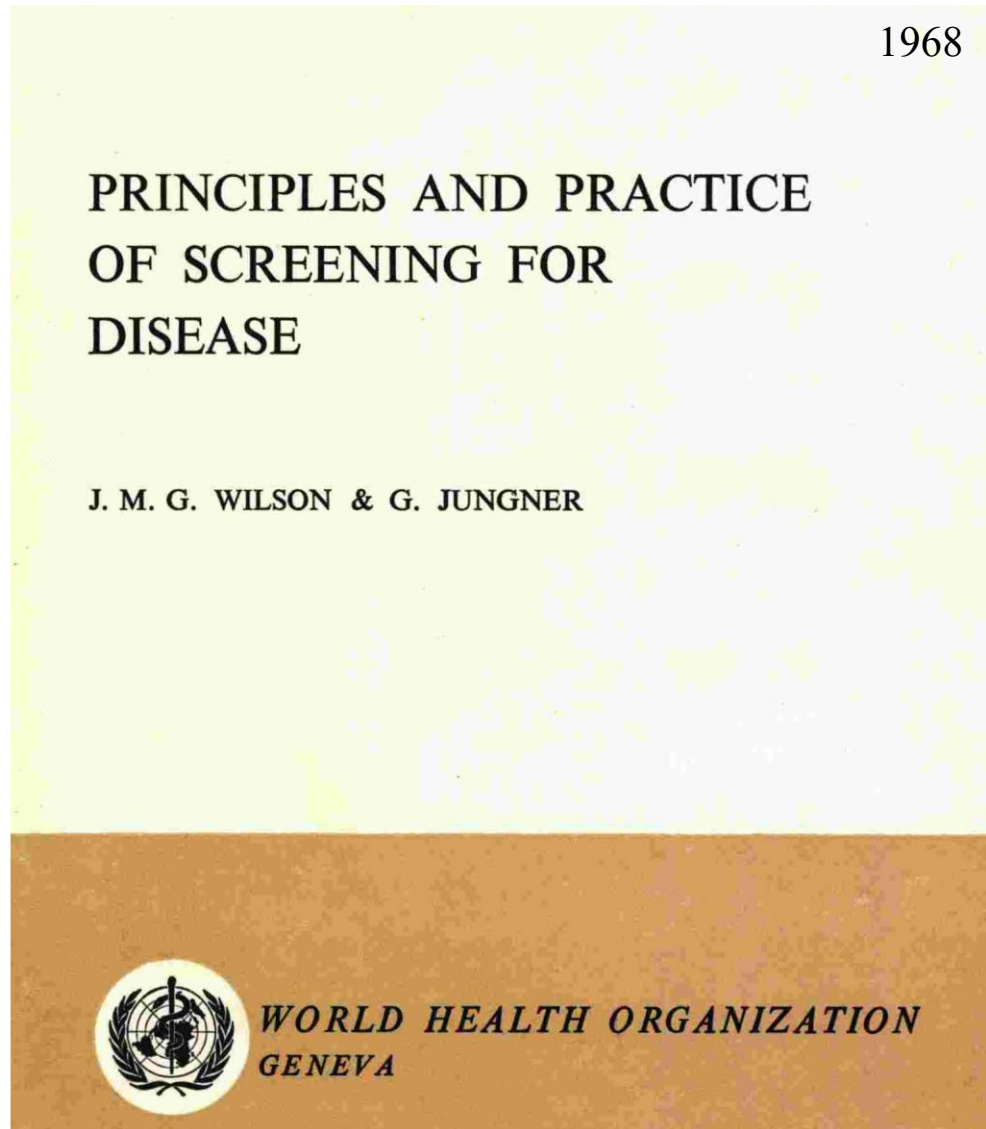
Is this clinical attitude a «malpractice» ?

Screening/Prevention: a public health initiative	

Disease Diagnosis/Rx: A patient-centred decision	

The playing field and the rules

Screening and prevention for disease



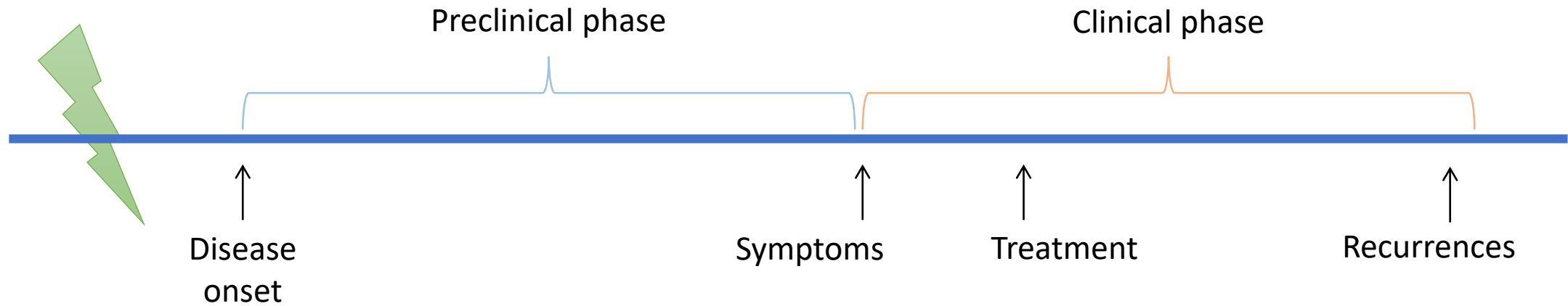
”...the presumptive identification of unrecognized disease or defect by the application of tests, examinations, or other procedures which can be applied rapidly.

Screening tests sort out apparently well persons who probably have a disease from those who probably do not.

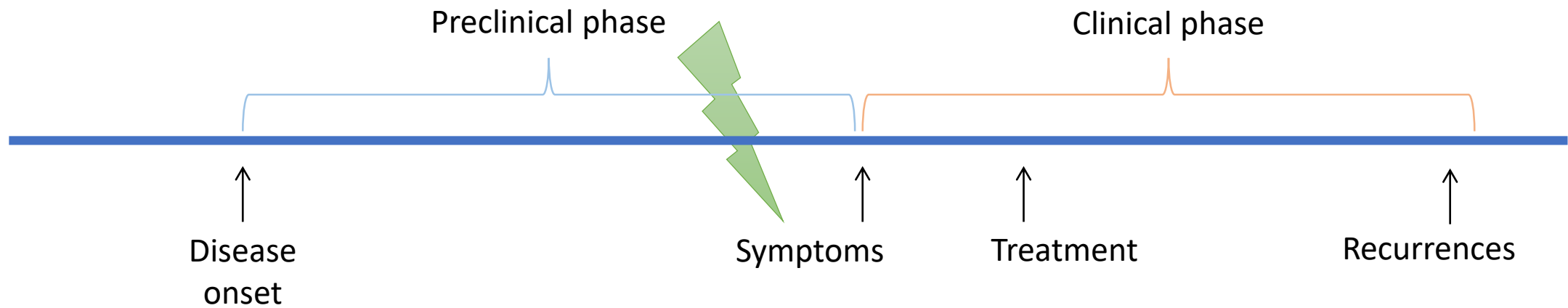
A screening test is not intended to be diagnostic.

Persons with positive or suspicious findings must be referred to their physicians for diagnosis and necessary treatment...”

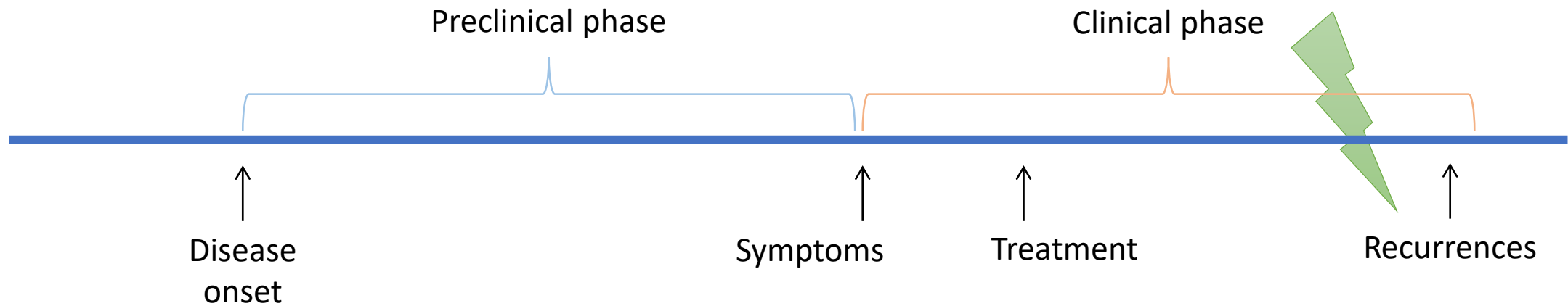
Primary Prevention: Life styles



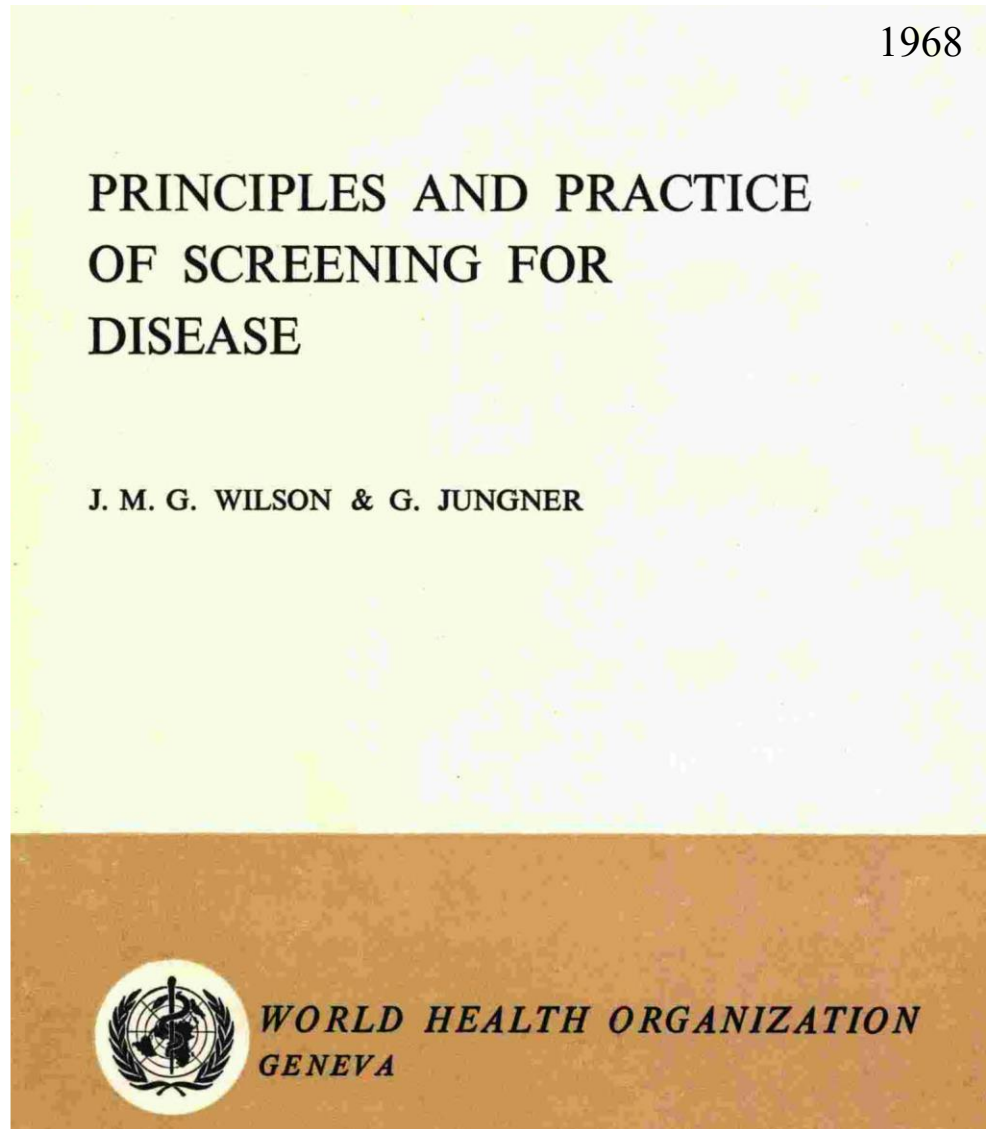
Secondary Prevention: Screening



Tertiary Prevention: Follow up



Screening and Prevention: Rules and Regs

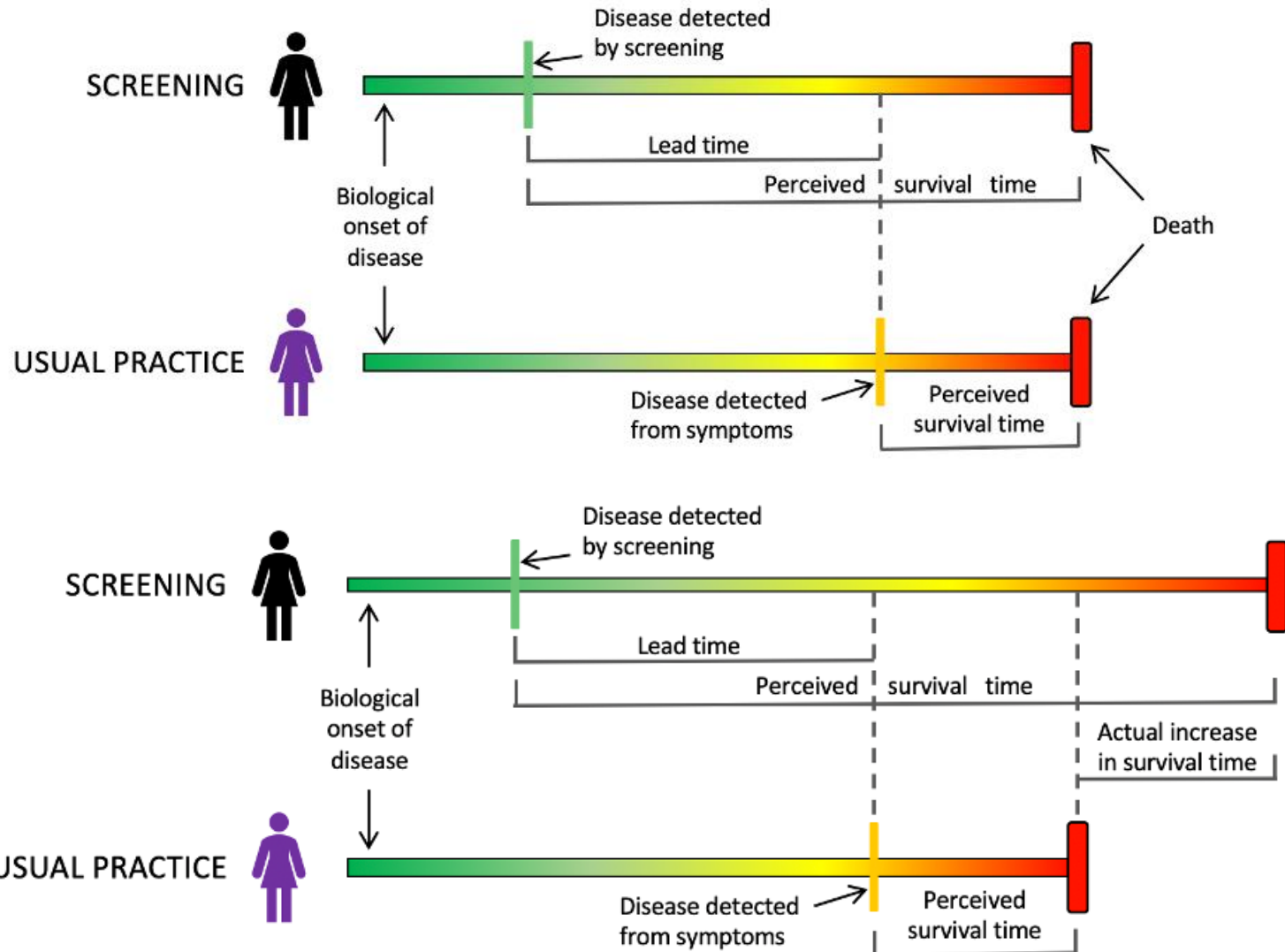


The screening/prevention approach requires:

- 1) A prevalent disease (i.e. 10%)**
- 2) An accurate, acceptable & sustainable test**
- 3) A predicted survival gain**

A gain in survival vs. diagnostic anticipation

Overdiagnosis and Lead/Length-time bias



Lead time: early detection simply increases the period over which a metastasis is observed

Length time bias cases with a long preclinical phase and therefore presumably less aggressive are more likely to be detected by a screening program.

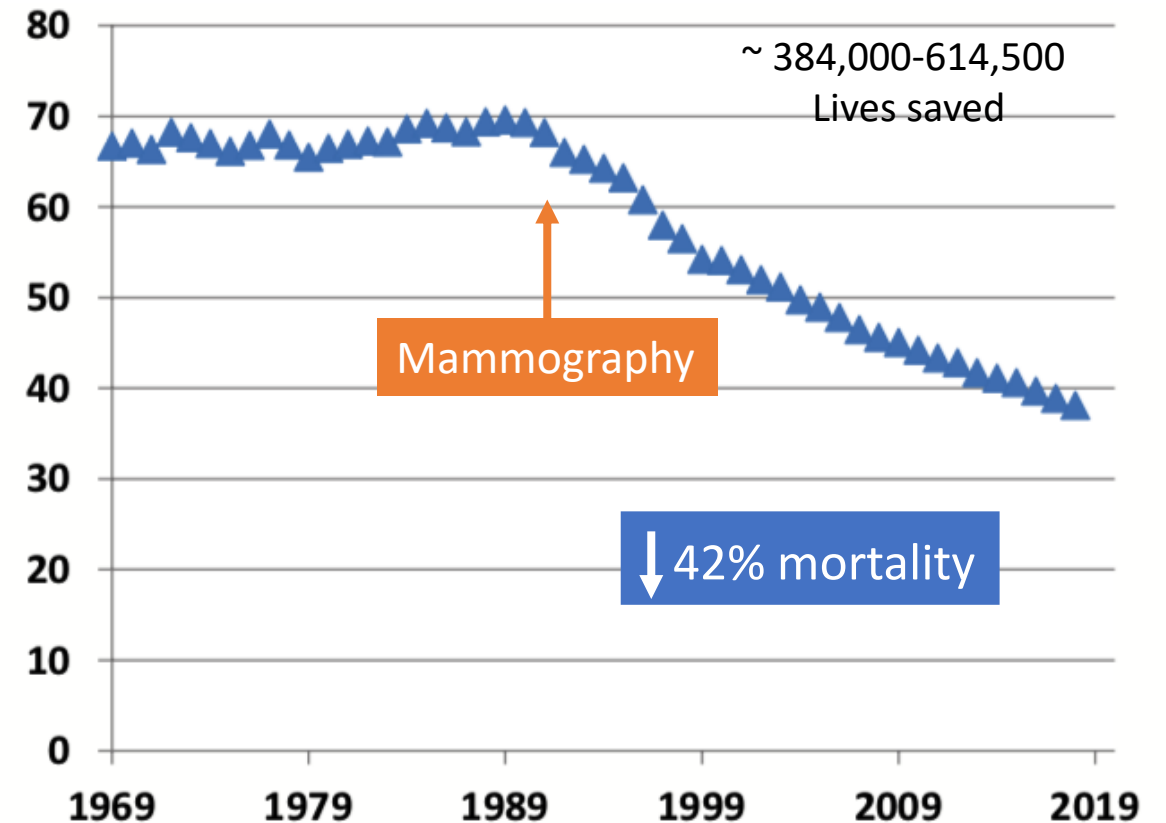
Some common beliefs around FU

A common belief #1

The FU is intended to seek and cure BC recurrences

Intensive BC FU has failed to anticipate diagnosis and gain in survival based on 2 main dated RCTs

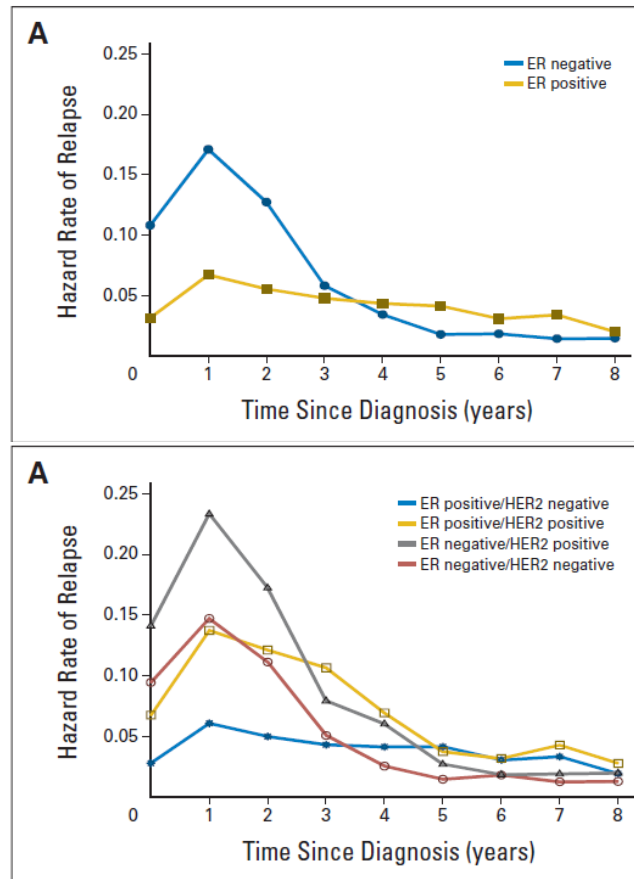
Mammography Screening has reduced BC deaths



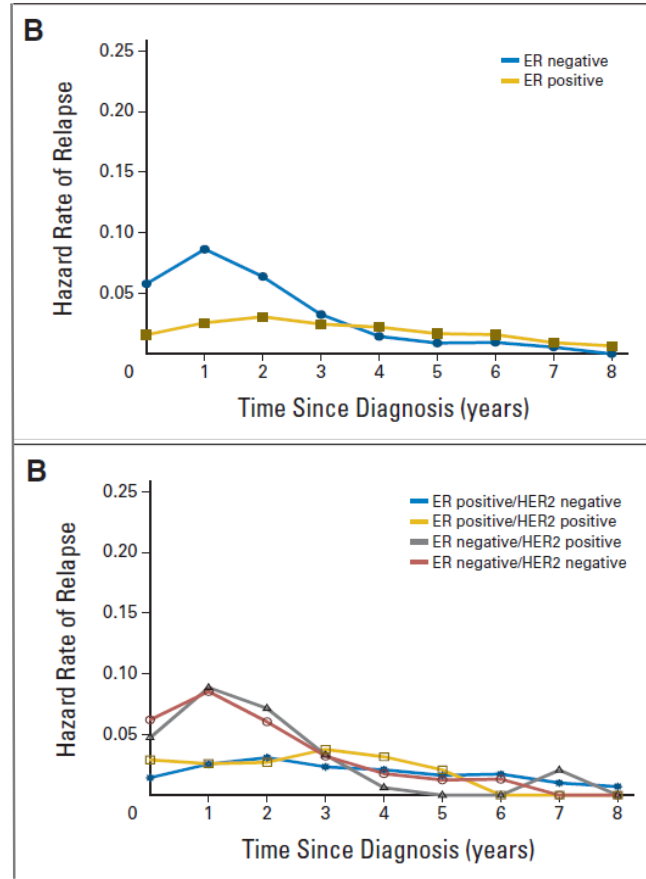
A common belief #2

The new drugs provide unprecedented opportunities to cure BC

1986-1992



2004-2008



2015-2022

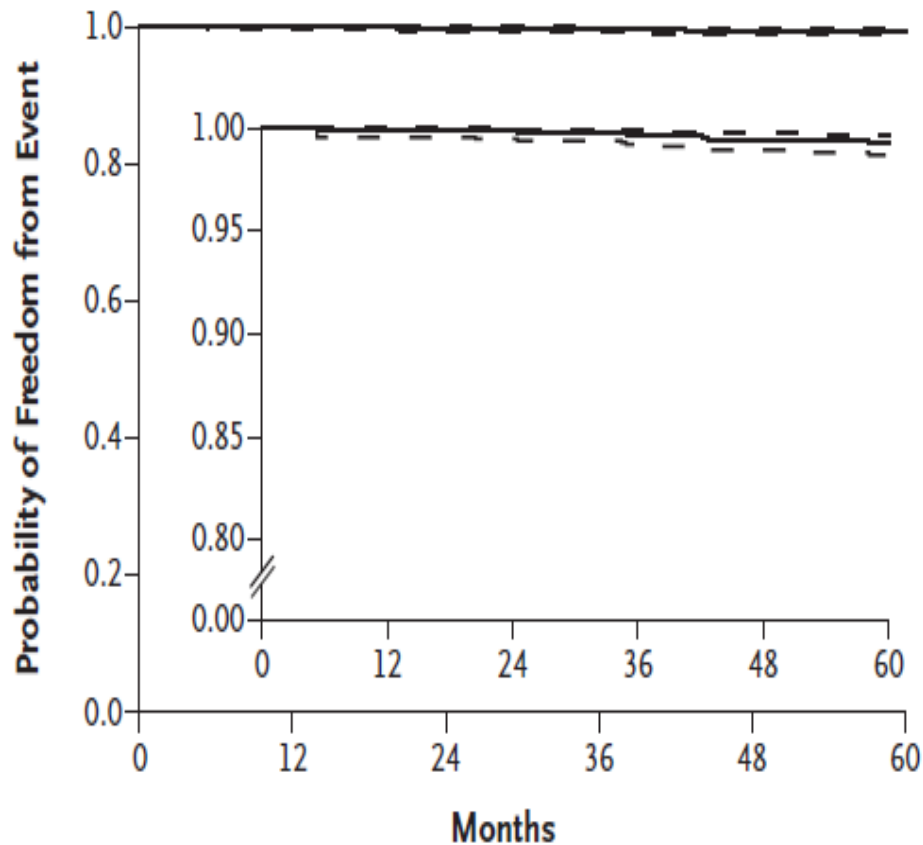
Best modern drugs tend to move to the adj setting

- T-DM1 in postNAC HER2+
- Pertuzumab in adj HER2+
- Abemaciclib in adj HR+
- Olaparib in adj gBRCAm
- Pembro in (neo)adj TN

A common belief #3

All BC need to be surveilled up to 5 year from diagnosis

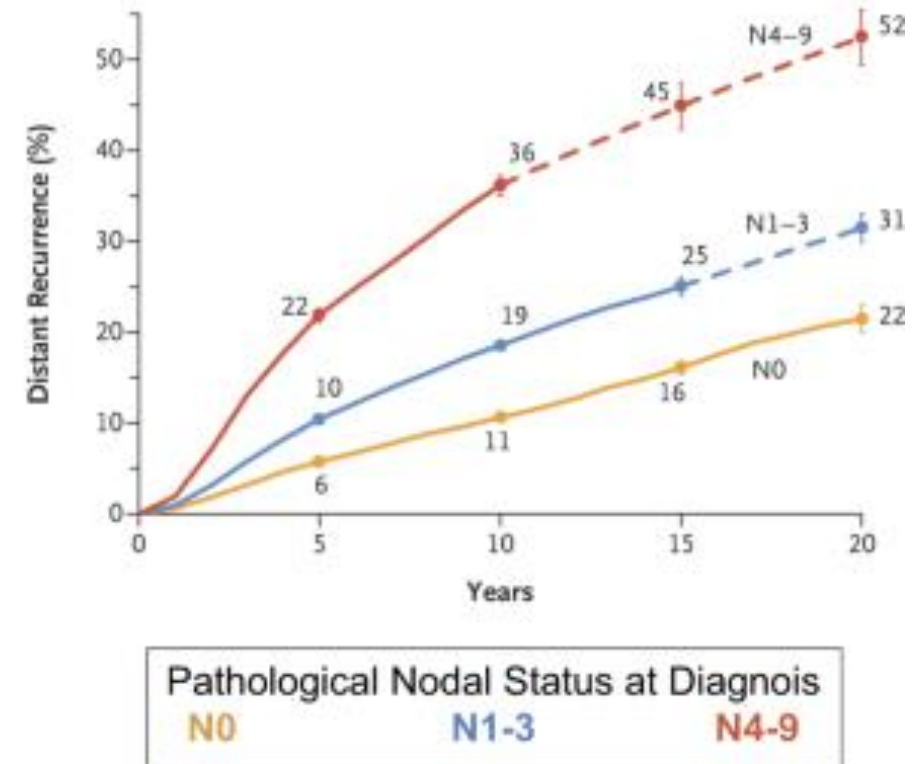
Freedom from Recurrence of Breast Cancer at Distant Site



Sparano NEJM 2018

BCs need 17 yrs of DFS to be called cured

Recurrence in ER+ Disease



Pan NEJM 2019

A common belief #4

The BC follow up has to be managed by medical oncologists

Radiol med (2016) 121:891–896
DOI 10.1007/s11547-016-0676-8



BREAST RADIOLOGY

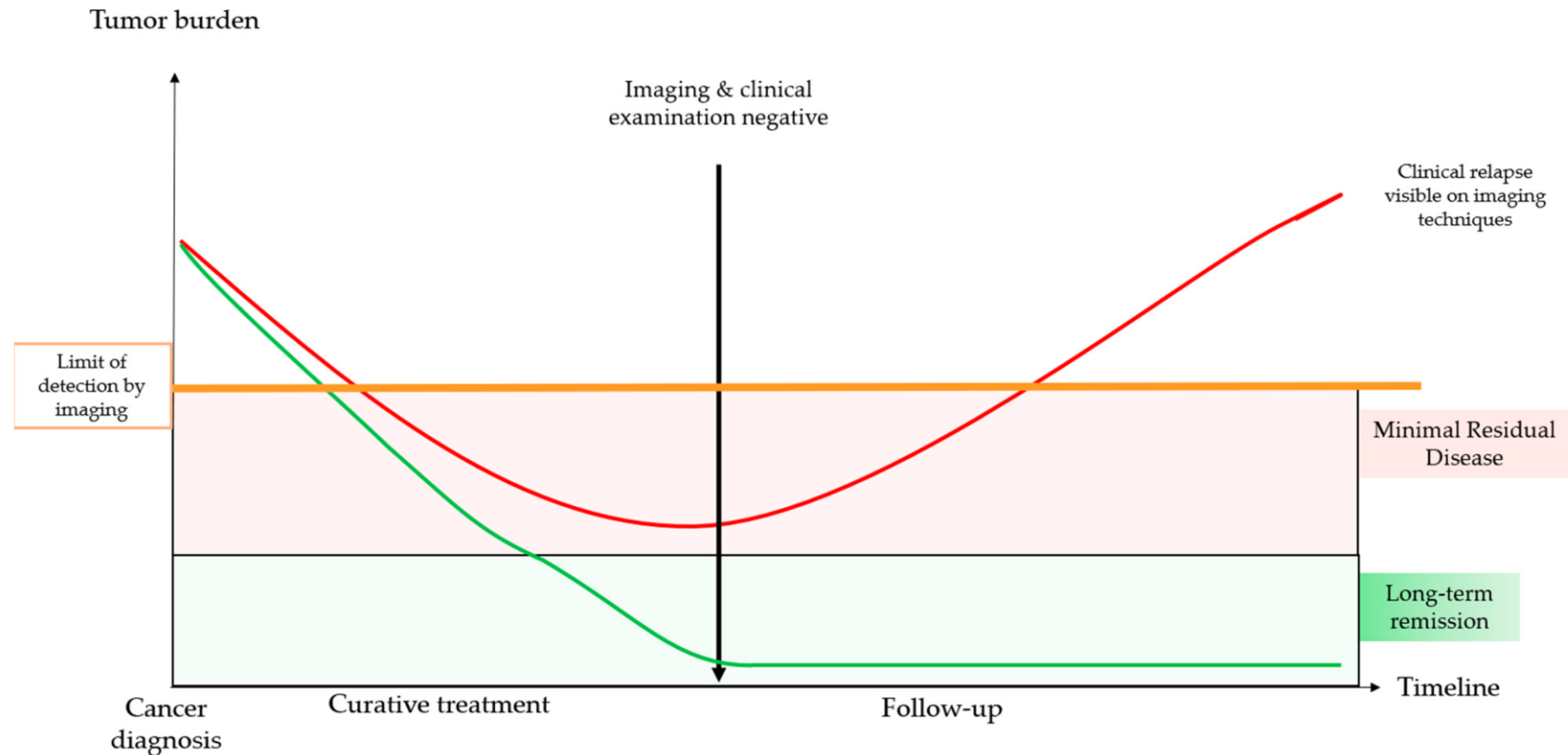
Recommendations for breast imaging follow-up of women with a previous history of breast cancer: position paper from the Italian Group for Mammography Screening (GISMa) and the Italian College of Breast Radiologists (ICBR) by SIRM

Lauro Bucchi¹ · Paolo Belli² · Eva Benelli³ · Daniela Bernardi⁴ · Beniamino Brancato⁵ · Massimo Calabrese⁶ · Luca A. Carbonaro⁷ · Francesca Caumo⁸ · Beatrice Cavallo-Marincola⁹ · Paola Clauser^{10,11} · Chiara Fedato¹² · Alfonso Frigerio¹³ · Vania Galli¹⁴ · Livia Giordano¹⁵ · Paola Golinelli¹⁶ · Giovanna Mariscotti¹⁷ · Laura Martincich¹⁸ · Stefania Montemezzi¹⁹ · Doralba Morrone⁵ · Carlo Naldoni²⁰ · Adriana Paduos¹⁵ · Pietro Panizza²¹ · Federica Pediconi⁹ · Fiammetta Querci²² · Antonio Rizzo²³ · Gianni Saguatti²⁴ · Alberto Tagliafico²⁵ · Rubina M. Trimboli⁷ · Chiara Zuiani¹¹ · Francesco Sardanelli^{7,26} 

BC follow-up should be planned taking in consideration a 1 % annual rate of LR recurrences and new IBCTs during 20 yrs and be based on a regional/ district invitation system, as for the screening in healthy population

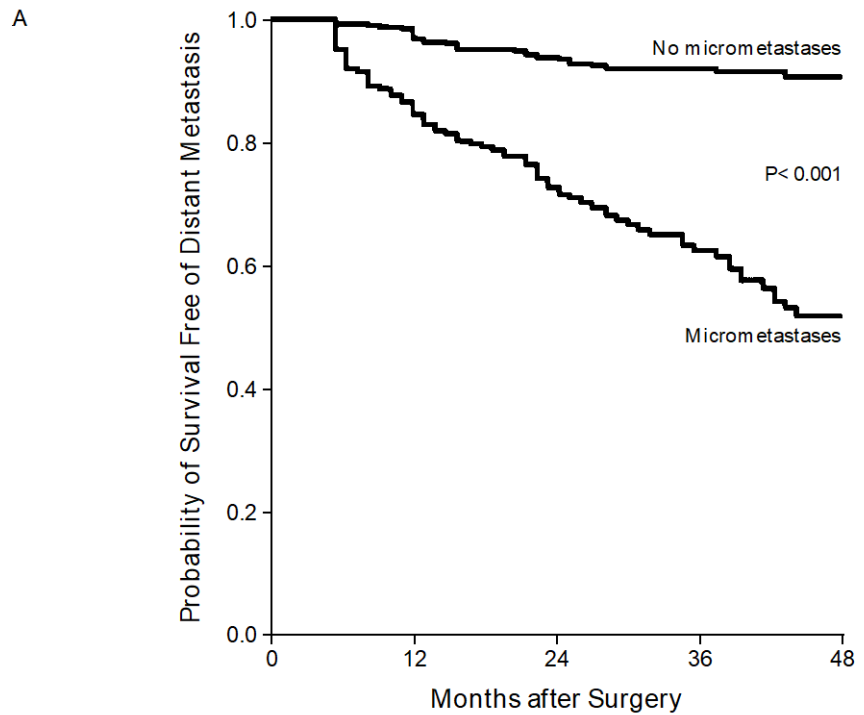
A common belief #5

Serial Rx imaging represents the mainstay of BC follow up

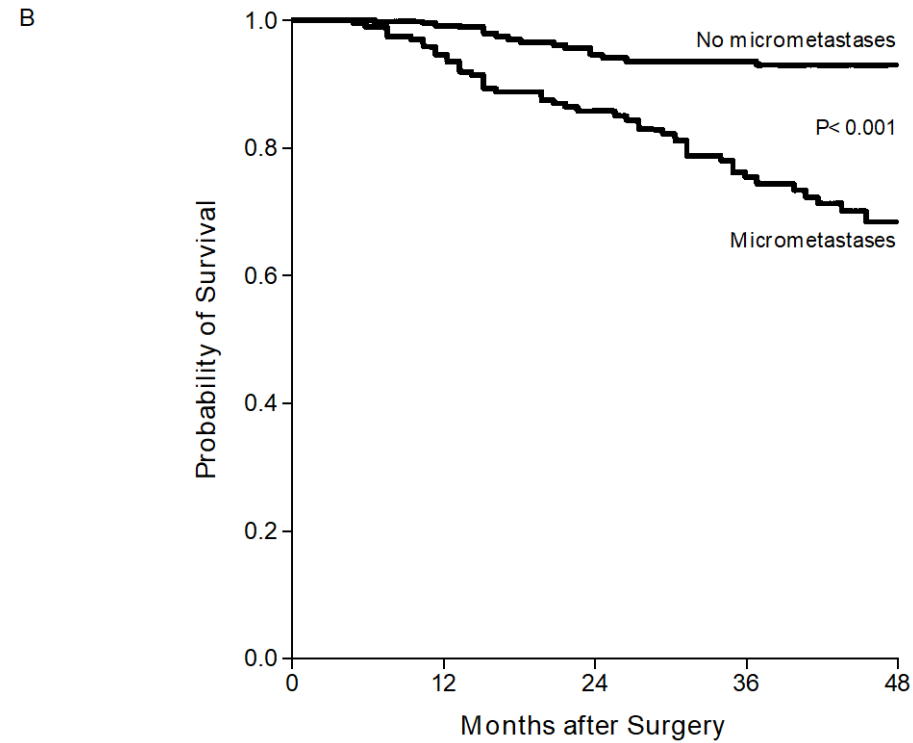


DCT: German trial

Disseminated tumor cells in the bone marrow of eBC, with no otherwise overt metastasis, are predictive of poor patients outcomes

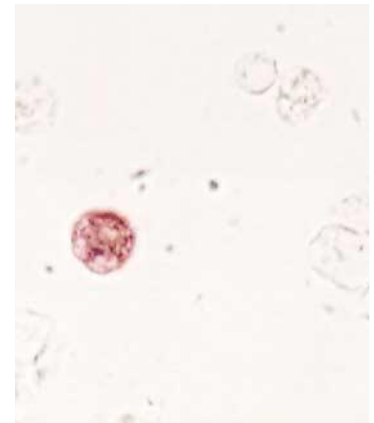


NO. AT RISK					
No micrometastases	353	346	275	191	92
Micrometastases	199	170	121	75	34



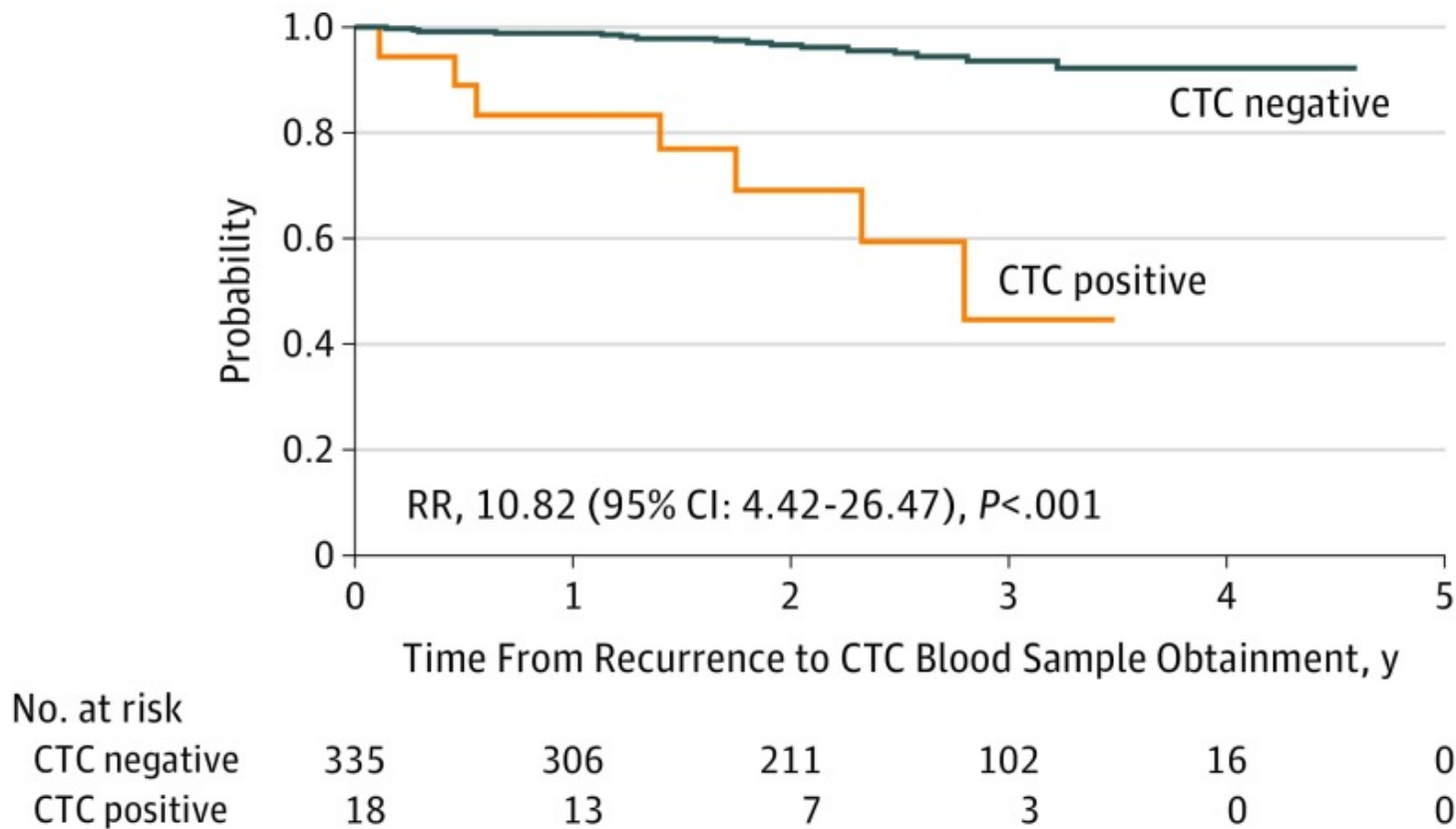
NO. AT RISK					
No micrometastases	353	350	280	193	95
Micrometastases	199	189	138	91	44

A cluster of eight micromets cells



CTC: French trial (SUCCESS)

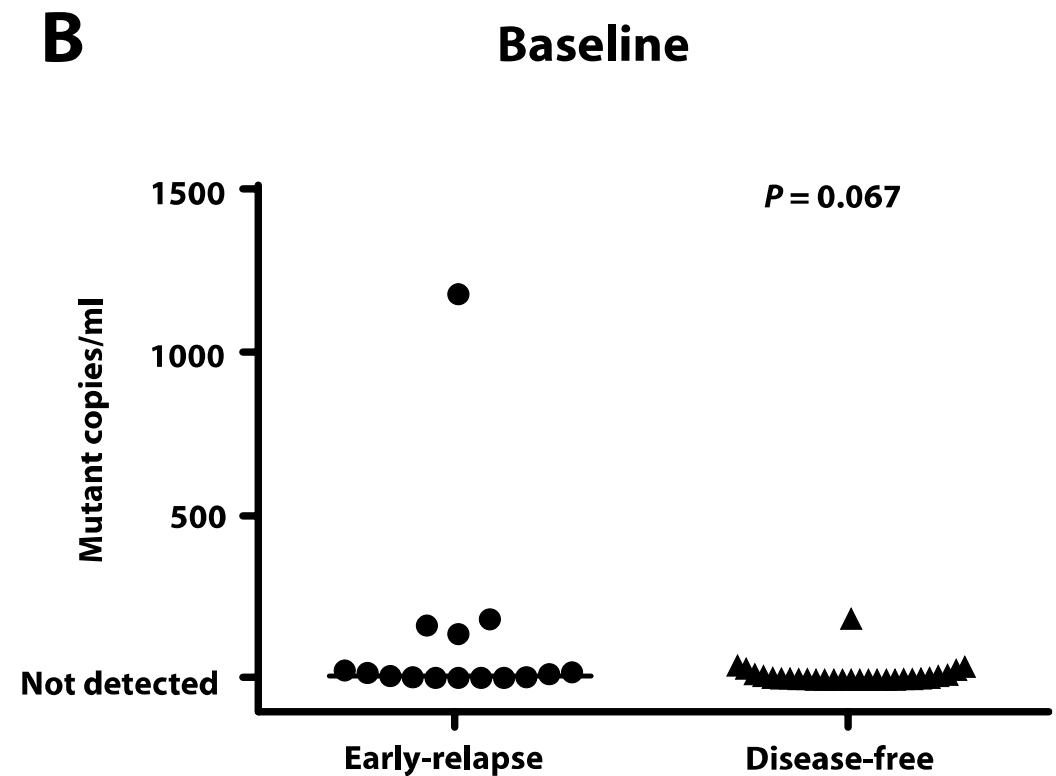
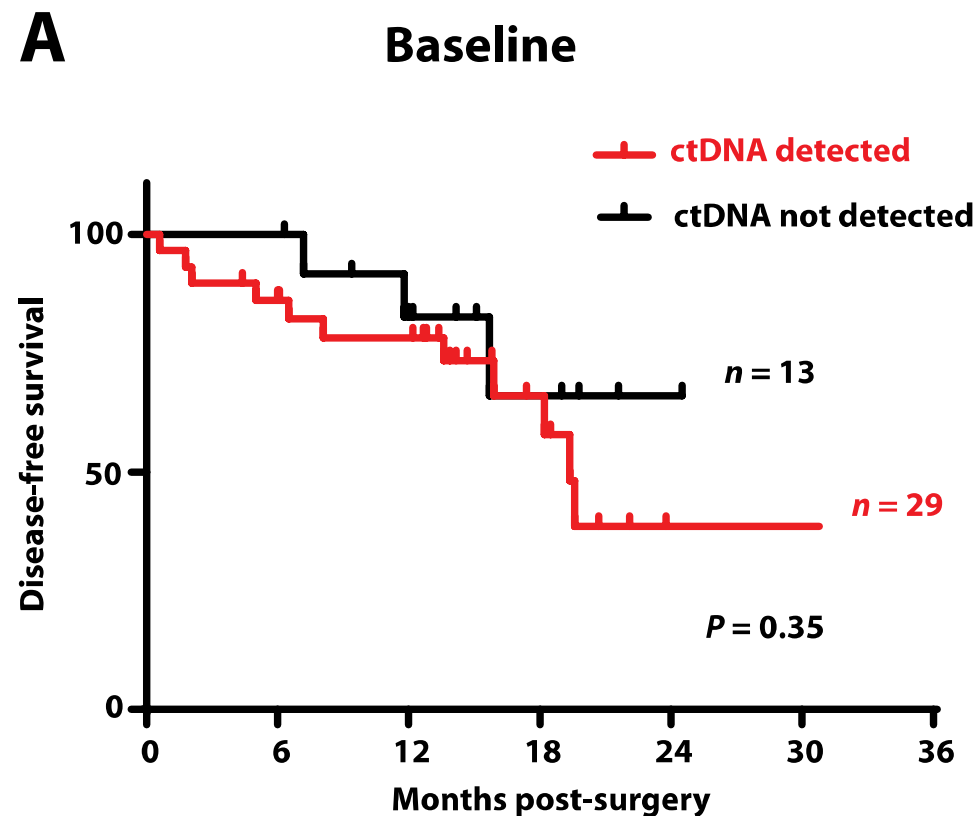
CTC were detectable in 5% of eBC after diagnosis (>5y) and were associated with a higher risk of recurrence among pts with HR-pos BC.



ctDNA: UK Trial

Tissue-informed ctDNA can be detected in blood in the early phase of BC

Early relapse is not predicted by analysis of baseline ctDNA (N:55 receiving NAC)

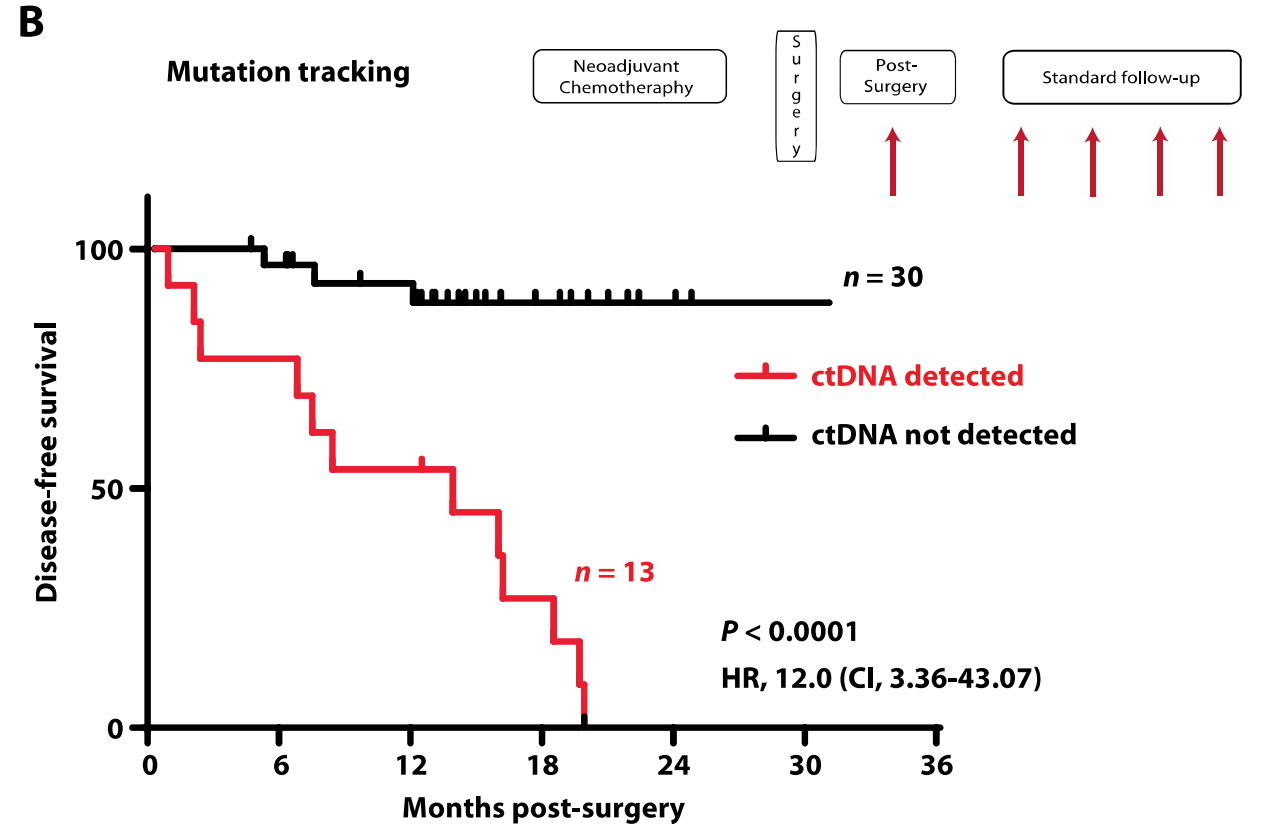
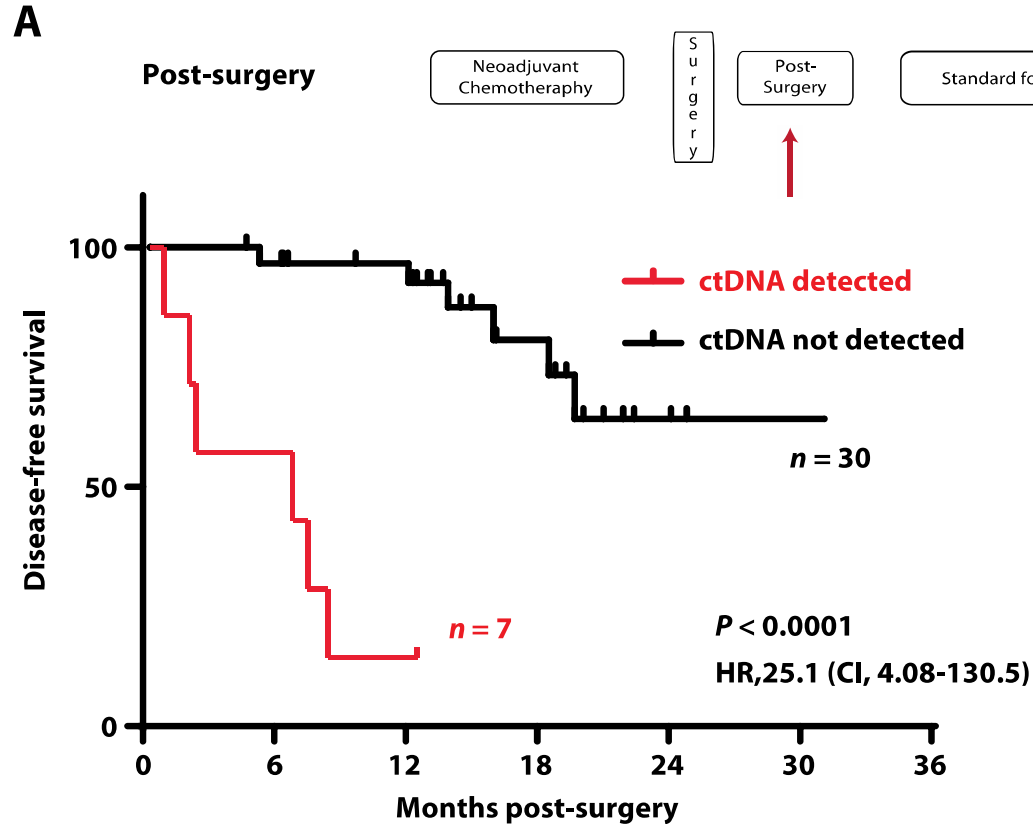


ctDNA UK Trial

Mutation tracking in serial plasma samples predicts early relapse: median lead-time 7.9m

DFS according to the detection of ctDNA in the first postsurgical plasma sample

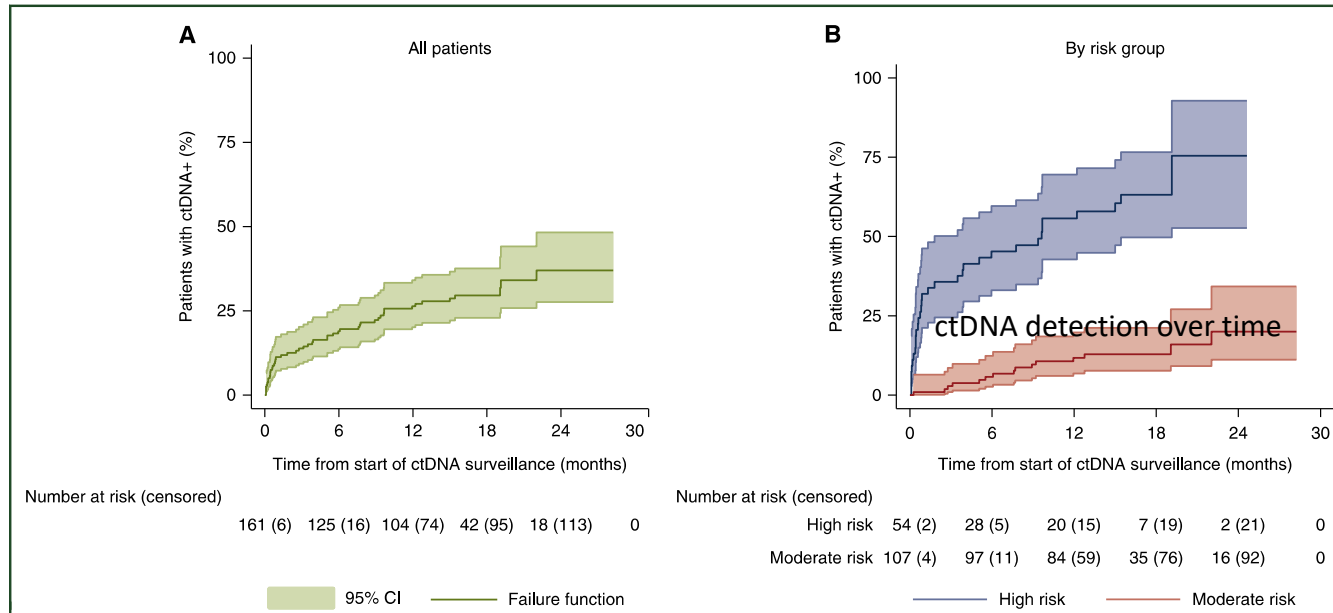
Disease-free survival according to the detection of ctDNA in serial follow-up samples



c-TRAK TN Trial (first prospective Ph2 study testing the clinical utility of ctDNA in guiding Rx)

ctDNA mutation to detect MRD and trigger intervention (Pembro) in pts with moderate/high risk eTNBC

ctDNA detection over time (digitalPCR every 3m) N:208 92% with trackable mutation



ctDNA was detected at the rate anticipated, with 27% (44/161) of patients having ctDNA detected during the first 12 months

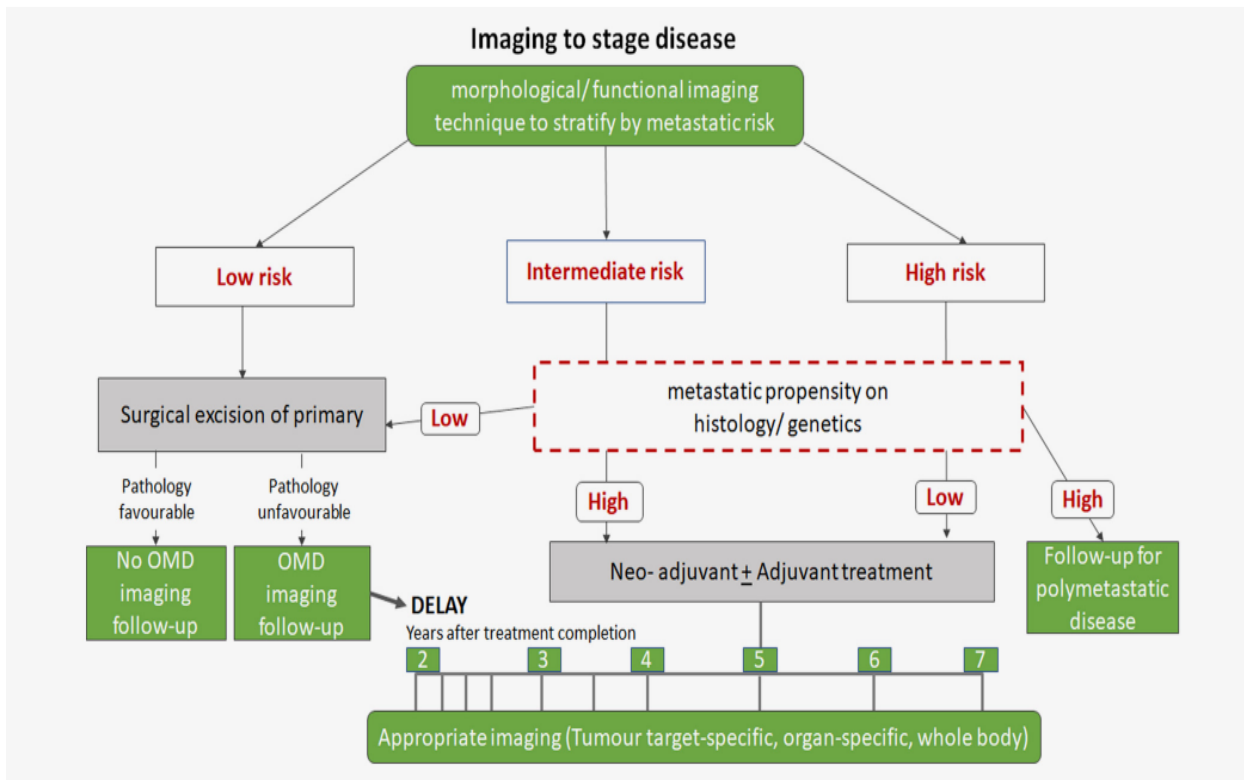
Of the 45 patients allocated to intervention (Pembro), 72% (23/32) had metastatic disease on staging at the time of ctDNA detection with little difference between high vs moderate risk groups

Early BC trials monitoring ctDNA in the (neo)adjuvant

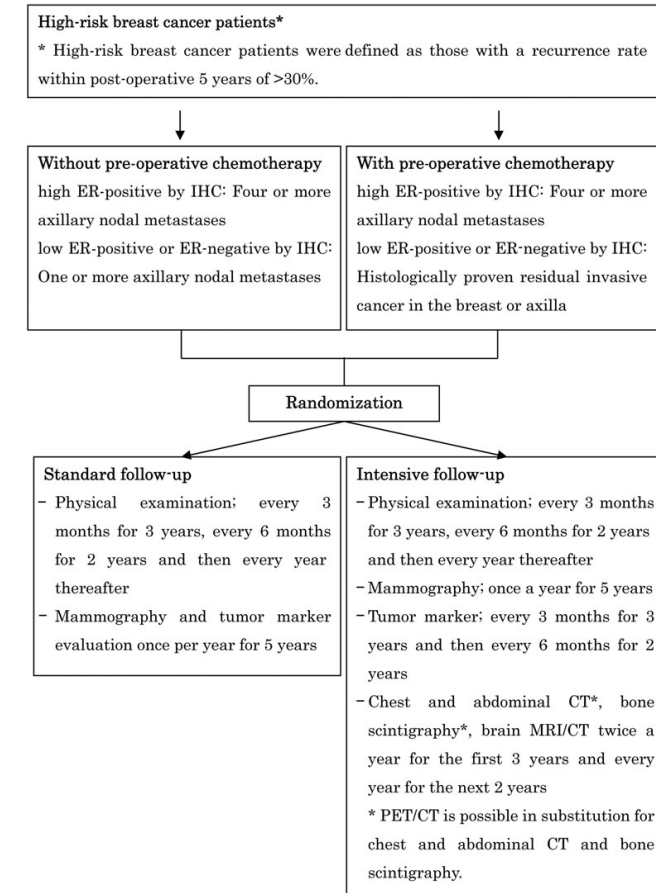
Study	Technique	Method	ctDNA/Total SAMPLES	Main Findings
Riva et al. (2017)	ddPCR	Customized panel to track TP53 mutations previously characterized in tumor tissue	38/41	Customized panel detected 75% at baseline; Slow decrease in ctDNA during neoadjuvant chemotherapy was associated with shorter survival
Garcia-Murillas et al. (2019)	ddPCR	Primary tumor was sequenced and personalized tumor-specific ddPCR was used	101/170	ctDNA detection during follow up was associated with a high rate of relapse
Rothé et al. (2019) (NeoAllto trial)	ddPCR	PIK3CA and/or TP53 mutations	69/455	ctDNA detection before neoadjuvant anti-HER2 therapy was associated with low pCR rates
McDonald et al. (2019)	Targeted digital sequencing (TARDIS)	Exome sequencing of tumor biopsies and analysis of dozens to hundreds of mutations in serial plasma samples	33/33	TARDIS results were informative in 100% of the samples; Patients with pCR showed a large decrease in ctDNA concentration during therapy
Radovich et al. (2020)	NGS	Commercial platform covering multiple genes. (FoundationACT® or FoundationOneLiquid Assay®)	142/196	Detection of ctDNA and CTCs in triple-negative breast cancer patients after neoadjuvant therapy was associated with disease recurrence
Magbanua et al. (2021)	NGS	Personalized ctDNA test to detect up to 16 patient-specific mutations	61/84	Lack of ctDNA clearance predicted poor response and metastasis
Po-Han Lin et al. (2021)	NGS	Deep sequencing of a target gene panel (14 genes)	60/90	The presence of ctDNA after neoadjuvant therapy was a robust marker for predicting relapse in stage II-to-III breast cancer patients

A risk-based approach for order imaging FU

An imaging workflow for detection of oligometastatic disease



INSPIRE trial (Japan)



To conclude

Nowdays, the aims of the FU are:

- To detect early local recurrences or contralateral breast cancer;
- To evaluate and treat therapy-related complications (such as menopausal symptoms, osteoporosis and second cancers);
- To motivate patients continuing adjuvant ET;
- To provide support and information in order to enable a return to normal life after BC.

To conclude (cont.)

In perspective

- BC FU is intended as a preventive public health initiative with the final goal to improve survival in apparently healthy women with Hx of BC
- Few and dated evidence suggest a minimalist BC FU approach: modern trial are expected to confirm/reconsider this attitude
- The current «one fits all solution» may be sub-optimal and targeted FU solution should be investigated
- The promise of new diagnostics and therapeutics should be challenged in a innovative FU model