

# **Optimizing results: Chemoradiotherapy and Biologicals**

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# Role of Induction-/concomitant/consolidation CTx

Randomized Trials	Effect on pCR-Rates
EORTC 22921 FFCD 9203	<b>5-FU CRT &gt; RT</b>
ACCORD 12 STAR-01 NSABP R-04 PETACC-6	<b>Cape/Oxaliplatin-RT = Cape-RT</b> <b>5-FU/Oxaliplatin-RT = 5-FU-RT</b>
CAO/ARO/AIO-04 FORWARC	<b>5-FU/Oxaliplatin-RT &gt; 5-FU-RT</b>
Grupo Cancer de Recto 3 Study	<b>Induction-CAPOX + CAPOX-RT = CAPOX-RT</b>
TIMING Trial	<b>5-FU CRT + Consolidation-FOLFOX &gt; 5-FU CRT</b>

# CAO/ARO/AIO-17 (Phase II)

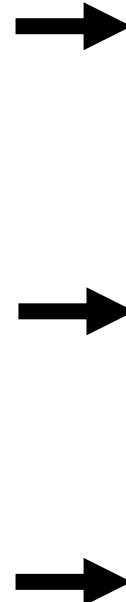
UICC-Stage II/III, <12 cm from anal verge

According to CAO/ARO/AIO-12

RT 50.4 Gy +  
5-FU/Oxaliplatin

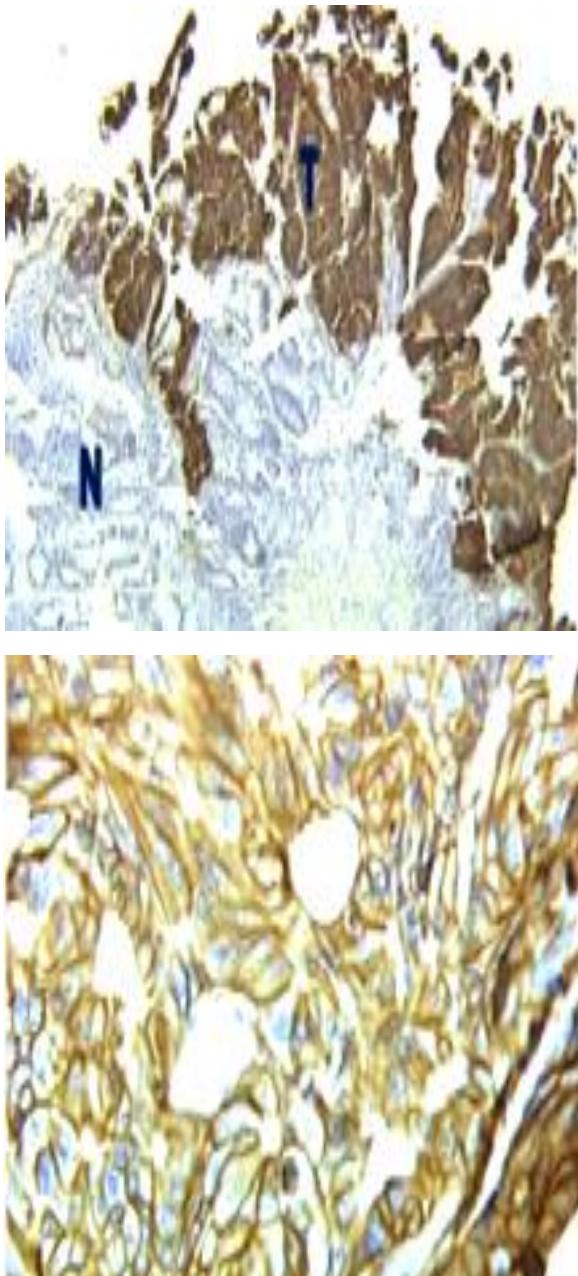
mFOLFOX6  
3#, q15

R  
E  
S  
T  
A  
G  
I  
N  
G



Primary endpoint: cCR (n=89), 3y loco-regional control

d 106



# EGFR as Predictive Biomarker

EGFR -



pCR: 8/35

29%

EGFR +



pCR: 2/52

4%

Giralt J. et al., Radiother Oncol 2005

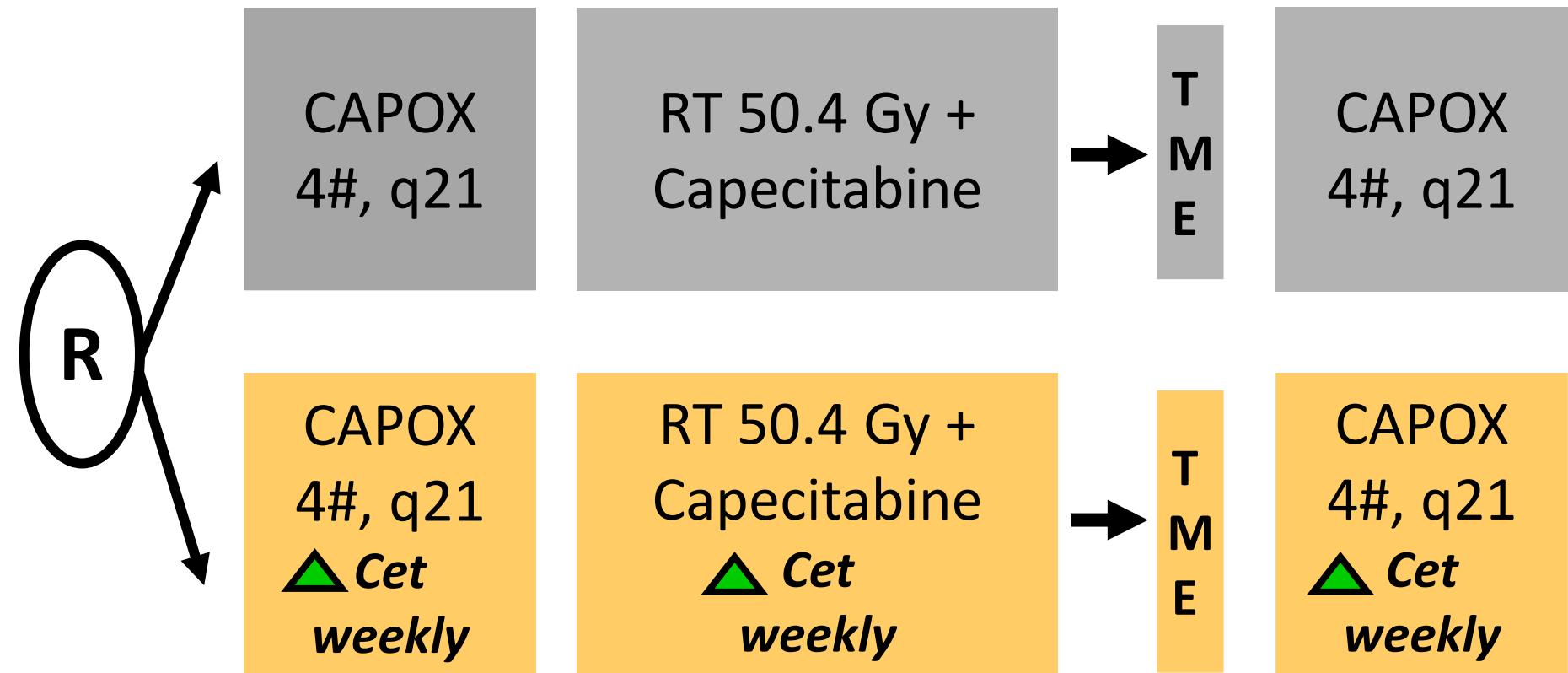
# Clinical trials with EGFR-Inhibition in RC

Series	n	Treatment	pCR
Bertolini, 2007	40	RT + 5-FU + <i>Cetuximab</i>	8%
Machiels, 2007	30	RT + Cape + <i>Cetuximab</i>	5%
Rödel, 2008	48	RT + Capox+ <i>Cetuximab</i>	9%
Horisberger, 2009	50	RT + Capiri+ <i>Cetuximab</i>	8%
Kim, 2011	40	RT + Capiri+ <i>Cetuximab</i>	23%
Helbling, 2013	68 KRAS WT	RT + Cape +/- <i>Panitumumab</i>	10% vs.18%

# EXPERT-C Trial (randomized phase II)

MRT- defined high risk:

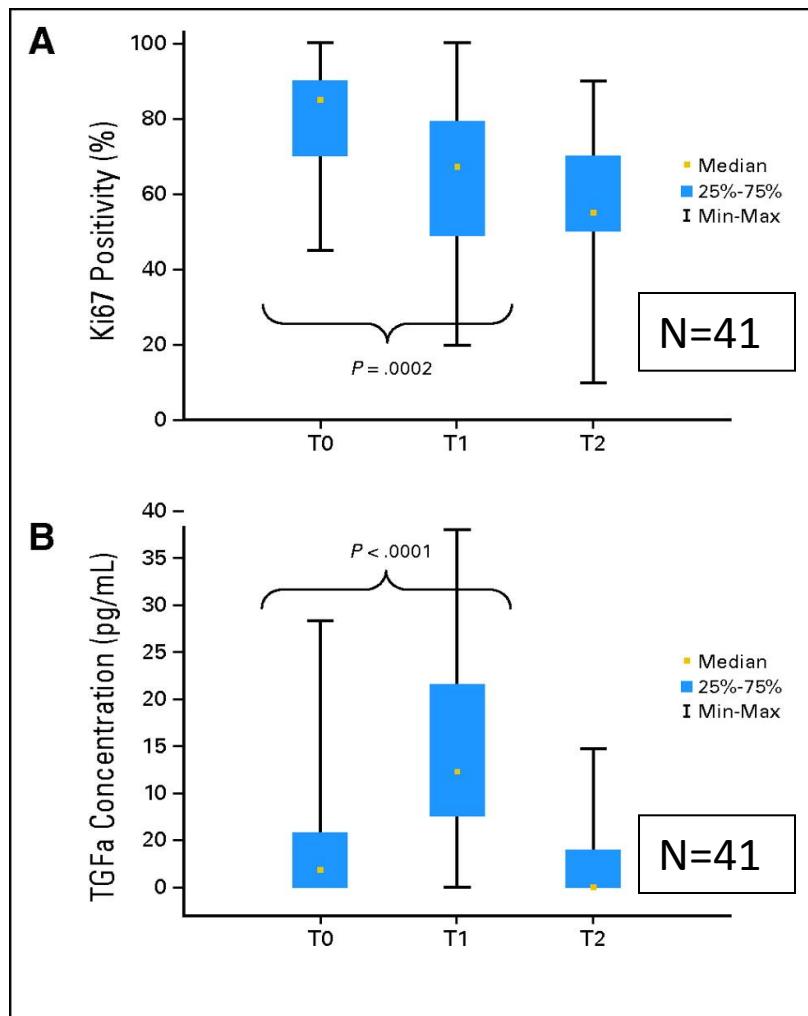
$\leq 1\text{mm}$  to mesorectal fascia,  $T3 \geq 5\text{mm}$ , low-lying T3, V1, T4



# EXPERT-C Trial (randomized phase II)

	<b>CAPOX</b> N=81 KRAS/BRAF wild type: n=44	<b>CAPOX+C</b> N=83 KRAS/BRAF wild type: n=46	P
pCR (primary endpoint)	7%	11%	ns
PFS at 3 years	81%	80%	ns
Relapse <6 / ≥6 mts	18% / 2%	2% / 15%	-
OS at 3 years	81%	96%	0.035

# Molecular Response to Cetuximab and Efficacy of Preoperative Cetuximab-Based Chemoradiation in Rectal Cancer



## Mikroarray:

Downregulation of genes involved in proliferation,

Upregulation of inflammatory gene expression

## K-ras status:

Not related to outcome parameters (TRG, DS, DFS)

# Phase I preop Bevacizumab/5-FU-RT

DAY            1        8        15      29      43      52

**50.4 Gy @ 1.8 Gy**



**Continuous 5-FU**

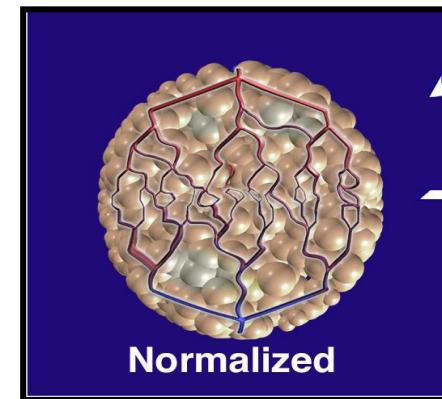
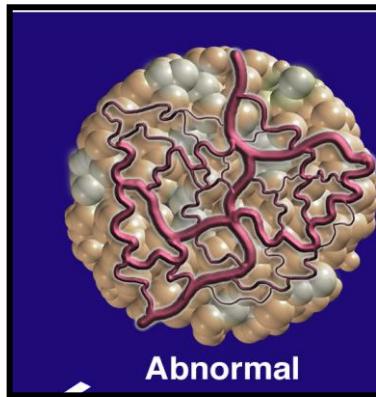


**BEV**



**5-10**

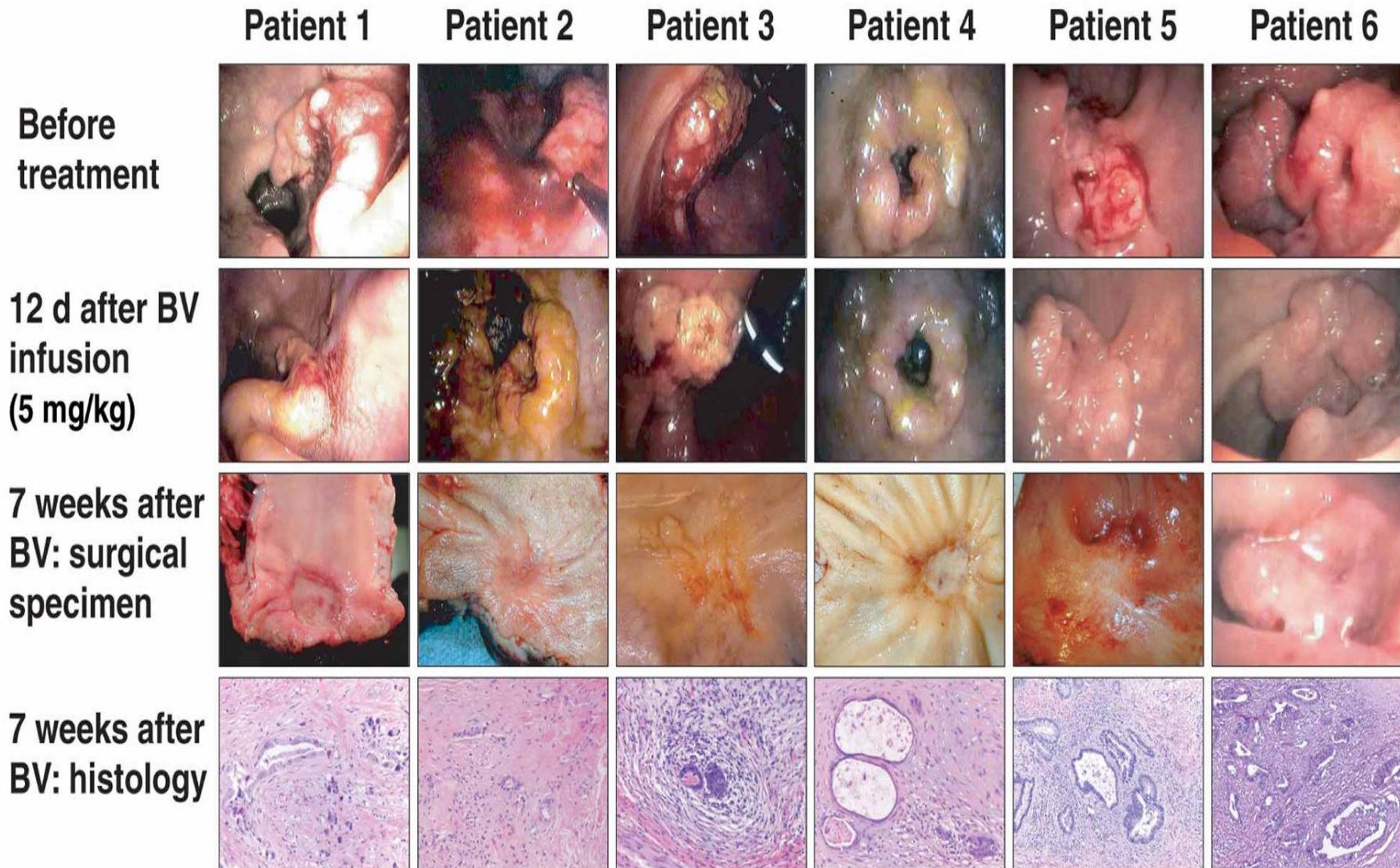
**mg/kg**



Willett CG et al., Nat Med 2004;10:145-7

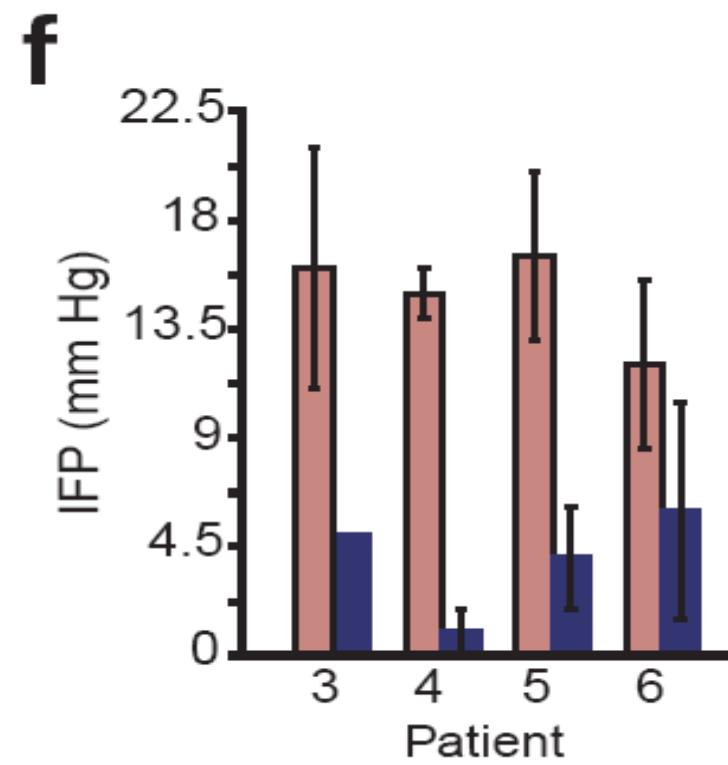
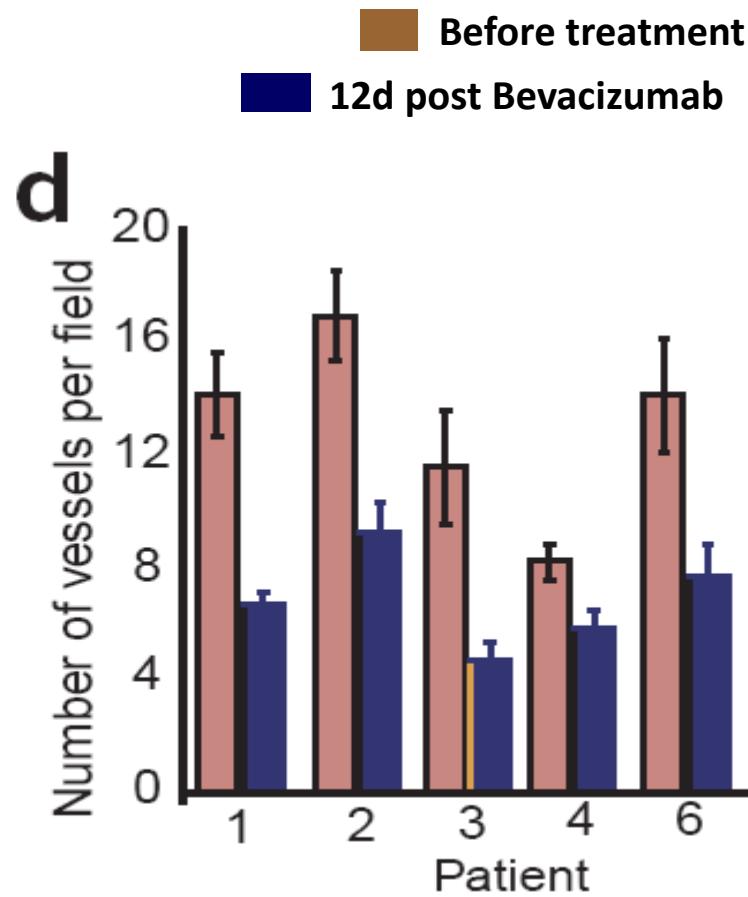
# Phase I preop Bevacizumab/5-FU-RT

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Willett CG et al., Nat Med 2004;10:145-7

# Response to anti-VEGF in RC



# Clinical trials (selection) with VEGF-Inhibition in RC

Series	n	Treatment	pCR	TOX/Postop complications
Willett, 2009	32	BV + RT + 5-FU	16%	Presacral abscess (2); Delayed healing (2); Wound infection (3); Hematoma (1); Ileus (2); neurogenic bladder (1); ...
Velenic, 2011	61	BV + RT + Cape	13%	Presacral abscess (12); Delayed healing (18); Anastomotic leackage (7) ...
Dellas, 2013	70	BV + RT + CAPOX	17%	Presacral abscess (1); Delayed healing (1); Anal fistula (1); ...
Salazar, 2015	90	BV + RT + Cape <b>vs</b> RT + Cape	16% <i>vs</i> 11% (p=0.5)	Grade 3-4 tox: 16% vs 13% Surgical: 43% vs 39%
AXEBEAM Verstraete, 2015	80	BV + RT + CAP <b>vs</b> BV + RT + CAPOX	(n=59) 11% <i>vs</i> 36%	<b>Translational study:</b> Decrease in MVD; <b>Small increase in hypoxia;</b> PDGFA, PDGF-BB; CA-IX , $\alpha$ -SMA as potential biomarkers for pCR

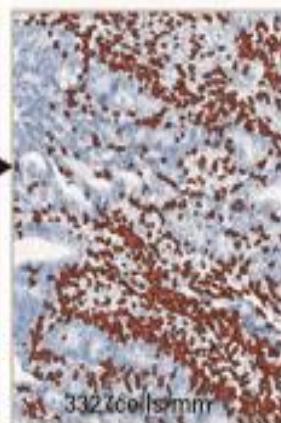
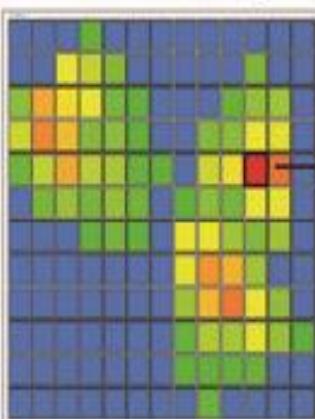
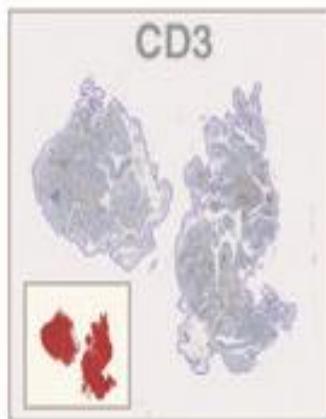
# ...beyond EGFR- and VEGF-Inhibition

Author/ Group	Mode of Action	Drug/Schedule	Comments
O'Neil; 2010	<b>Proteasome Inhibition</b>	Bortezomib + 5-FU/RT	Phase I (n=9); (DLT: diarrhea)
Ree; 2010	<b>Histone Deacetylase Inhibition</b>	Vorinostat + palliative RT 30 Gy in 10#	Phase I (n=17) (DLT: fatigue, anorexia, diarrhea)
Buijsen; 2013	<b>PI3-K/AKT Inhibition</b>	Nelfinavir + Cape/RT	Phase I (n=11) pCR 27% (DLT: cholangitis, liver- enzymes)
Moos; 2014	<b>RAF/MEK/ERK and VEGF-R</b>	Sorafenib + Cape/RT	Phase II (n=40) pCR 15% (Grade 4: 3% neutropenia; Grade 3: diarrhea)
Czito; 2017	<b>PARP Inhibition</b>	Veliparib + Cape/RT	Phase I (n=32); pCR 29%

# Chemoradiation and Immunotherapy?

B

Preoperative biopsies  
CD3 density



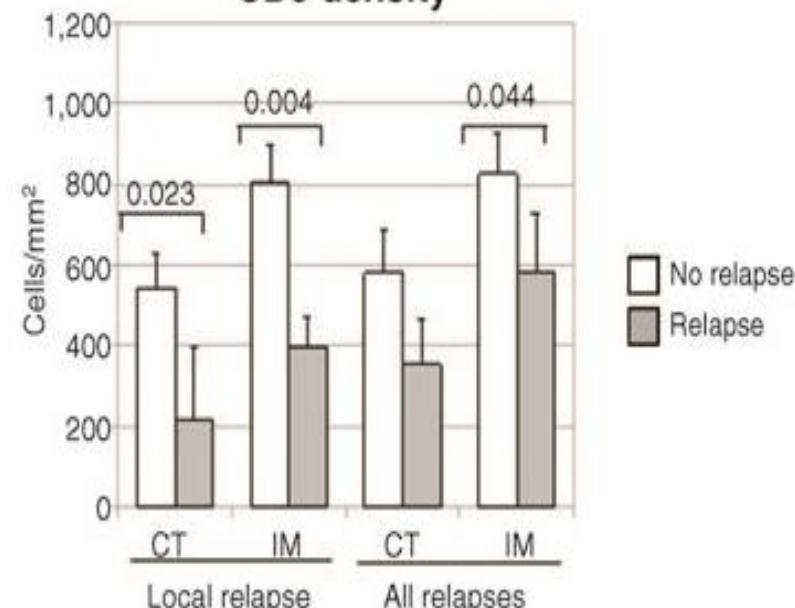
Response to pRCT

	Absence	Partial/complete
CD3 high	8 (28%)	20 (72%)
CD3 low	17 (63%)	10 (37%)

Fischer exact test = 0.015

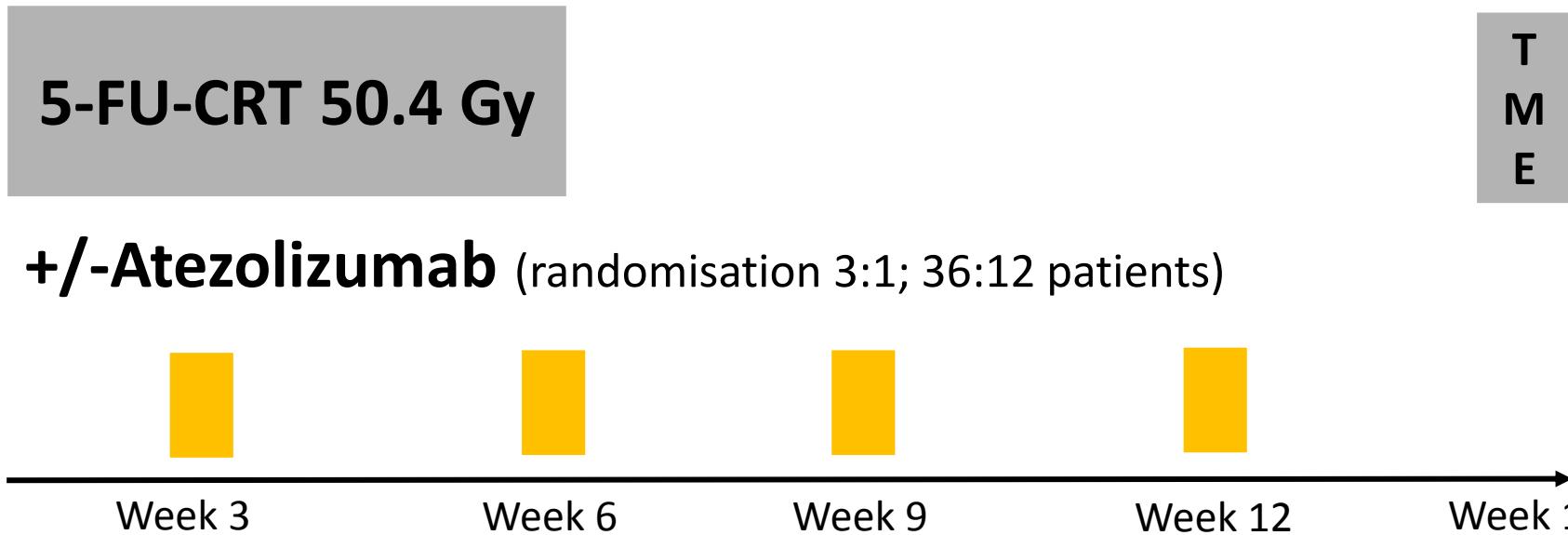
K2 P value = 0.022

Surgical specimen  
CD3 density



Anitei MG et al, Clin Cancer Res 2016

# PDL-1 Trial: Atezolizumab



## Translational Research:

Tumor samples week -1, (3), 15

Blood samples week -1, every 3 weeks

# Conclusions: CRT and biologicals

- Cape/5-FU CRT remains standard
- Addition of Oxaliplatin: unclear
- Sequence: CRT, consolidation-CTx, and prolonged interval to re-assessment: promising
- **EGRF-Inhibition, VEGF-Inhibition:** no role!
- Role of **other targeted agents** and **IT** ?
- Predictive molecular signatures for pCR after standard CRT: promising, but inconclusive