

# Biomarker studies in S1314: The CoXEN Trial

David J. McConkey, PhD, Chair  
Translational Medicine  
SWOG GU Committee

## Disclosures

- Grant support: Astra-Zeneca, Janssen, Rainier Pharmaceuticals
- Honoraria: Janssen, Rainier, H3 Biomedicine

NON FDA Approved use of drugs or products referenced in this presentation – None.

David J. McConkey, PhD

## Background

- Cisplatin-based combination neoadjuvant chemotherapy is the standard of care in eligible patient with muscle-invasive, localized disease
  - Both Gemcitabine + Cisplatin (GC) and dose-dense MVAC (dd-MVAC: Methotrexate, Vinblastine, Doxorubicin + Cisplatin) are acceptable regimens
- The use of this therapy, despite category 1 support, remains suboptimal
- There are no predictive biomarkers in use for cytotoxic chemotherapy in this setting

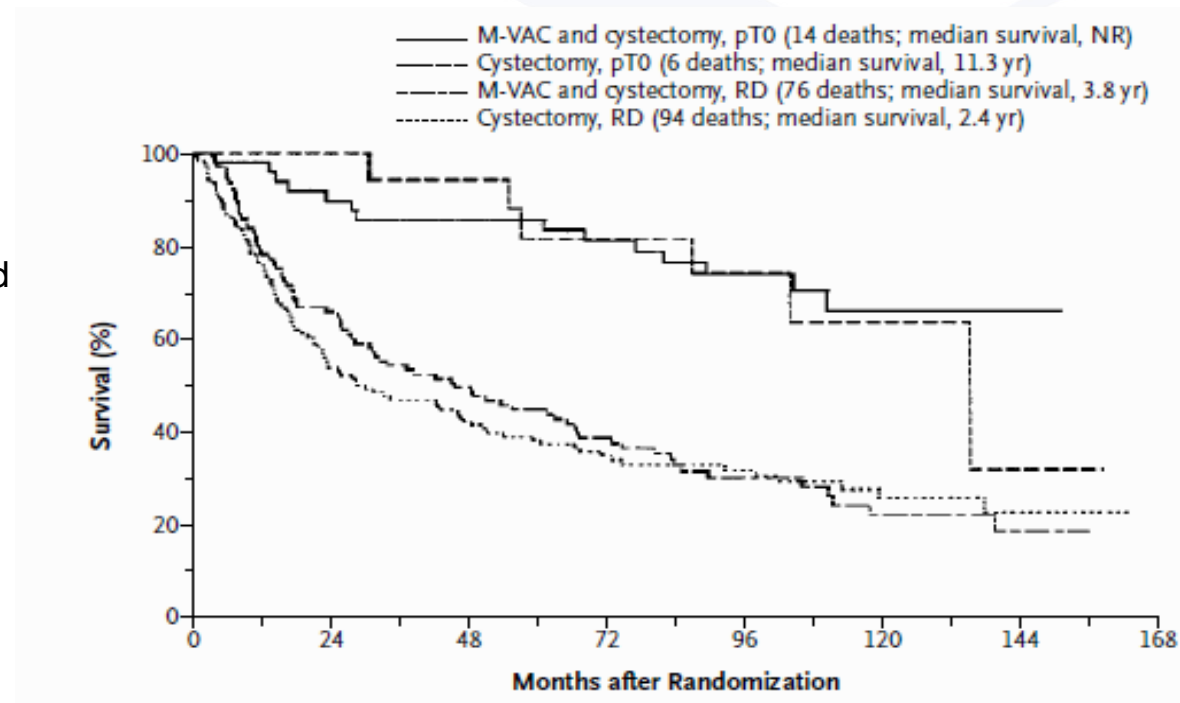
# Downstaging as a surrogate for survival

- Radical cystectomy – removes primary tumor and lymph nodes (extent: S1011)
- Downstaging to <pT2 (i.e., no muscle-invasive disease) is associated with excellent outcomes
- In this setting, chemosensitivity of the primary tumor is considered a surrogate for the sensitivity of sub-clinical metastatic disease
- *However, the correlation is not perfect (i.e., disconnect with ctDNA, Dyrskjot, JCO 2019)*

# Neoadjuvant chemotherapy in bladder cancer

## SWOG 8710:

- Rate of pT0 was 38% with chemotherapy and 15% without
- 8 year survival
  - pT0 ~75%
  - > pT0 ~30%



*N Engl J Med* 2003; 349:859-866

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**NCI WORKSHOP**

**NOVEL NEOADJUVANT THERAPY FOR BLADDER CANCER**

**AGENDA**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> FROM 8:00 AM – 6:45 PM ET**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7:30 AM – 1:15 PM ET**

**GAITHERSBURG MARRIOTT WASHINGTONIAN CENTER**  
**9751 WASHINGTONIAN BLVD**  
**GAITHERSBURG, MD**

**ROOM: SALONS EFG (FOR MAIN SESSION)**

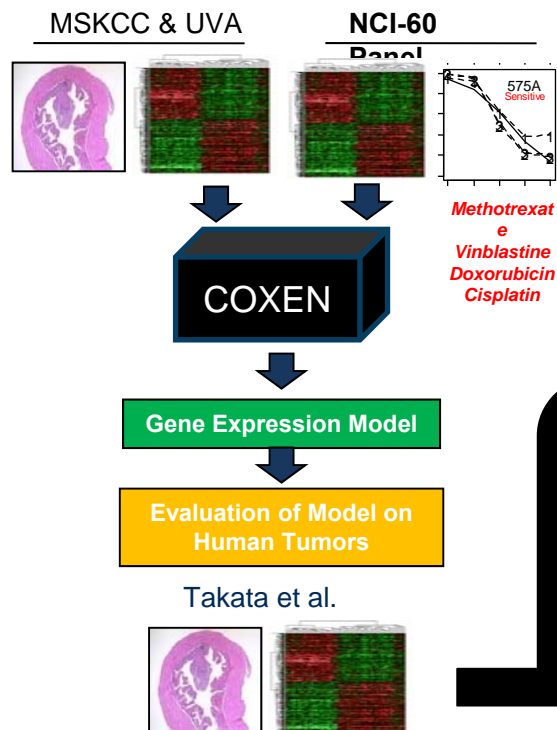
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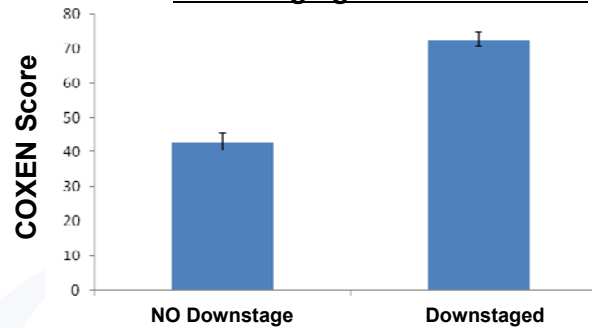
Session 1: Candidate biomarkers (McConkey and Theodorescu)

*S1314 TM was the product of the meeting.*

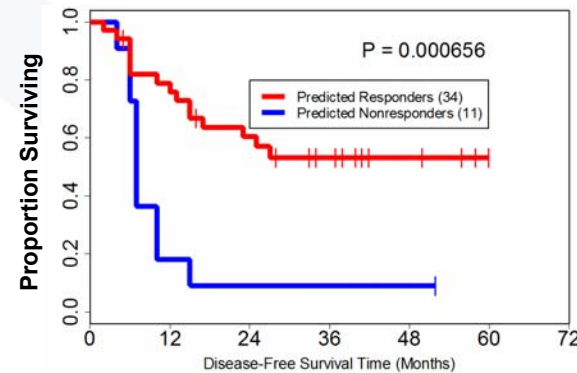
# The CoXEN algorithm



**Downstaging vs. COXEN Score**

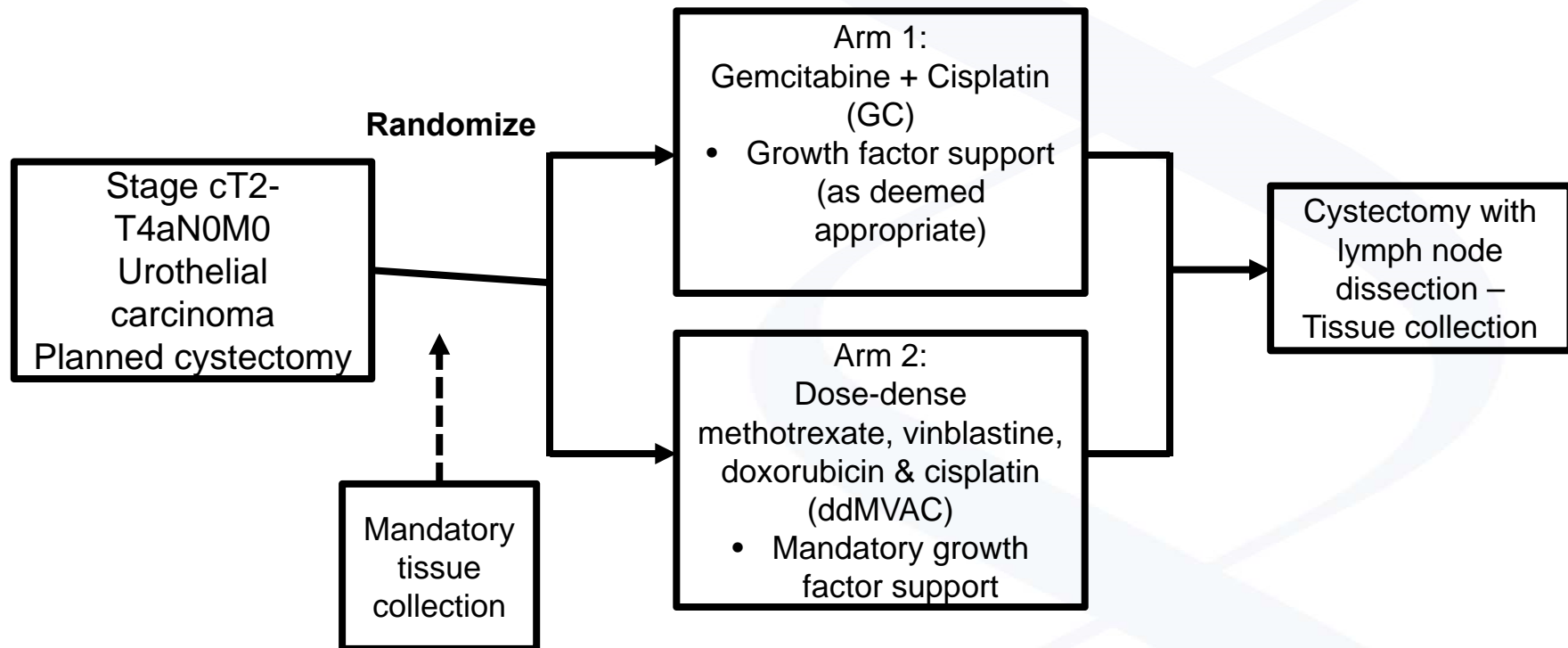


Downstaging defined as  $\leq pT1$  or  $\leq T1$  after two courses of MVAC



Ref: Clin Can Res  
2005;11(7): 2625  
Tx: Neoadjuvant MVAC  
(N=45) + surgery or XRT  
Outcome: Downstaging,  
Overall survival

# Trial schema





# Integrated translational medicine

- CoXEN (Theodorescu, Flaig): ***primary objective***
- miRNA-based molecular subtypes (Dinney, Choi, McConkey)
- Molecular subtypes (Lerner, Choi, others)
- DDR mutations (Rosenberg, Iyer, Plimack)
- SNPs associated with drug metabolism (O'Donnell)

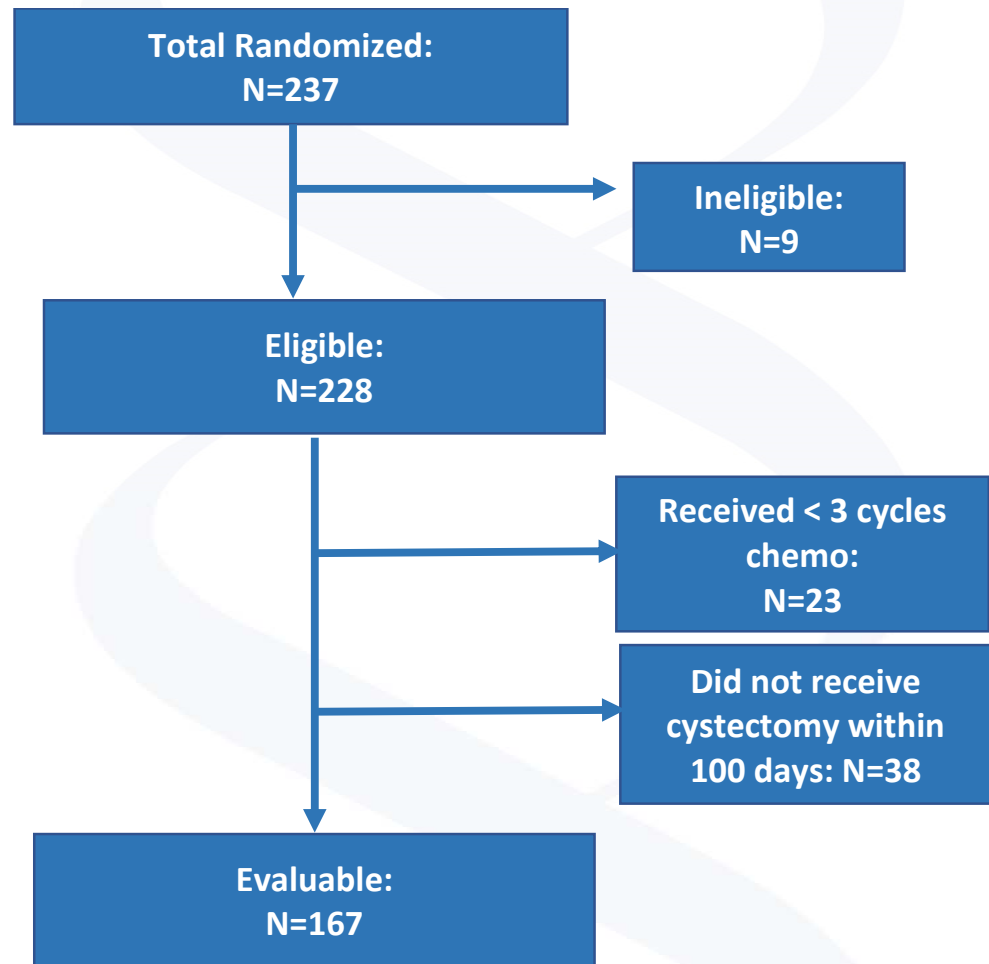
## BISQFP funding

- RNA isolation and Affymetrix gene expression profiling (Flaig, Theodorescu)
- RNA and DNA isolation and Nanostring miRNA expression profiling (Dinney, Choi and McConkey)
- Blood germline and tumor MSK IMPACT panel exome sequencing (Rosenberg)

# Tissue collection and processing

- Collected 20 unstained slides per patient
- 10x went to ALMAC for RNA isolation and Affymetrix gene expression profiling (HU133 chips)
- 5x went to MDACC for RNA and DNA extraction and miRNA profiling (NanoString)
- *5x remain in the SWOG tissue bank (Nationwide)*

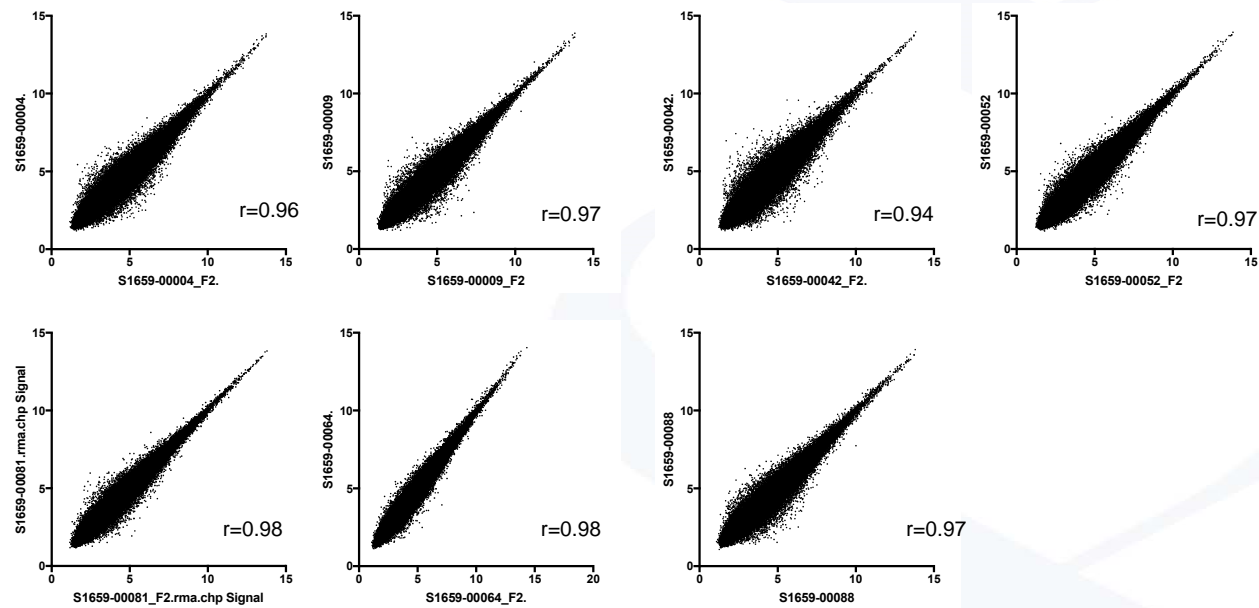
# CONSORT Diagram

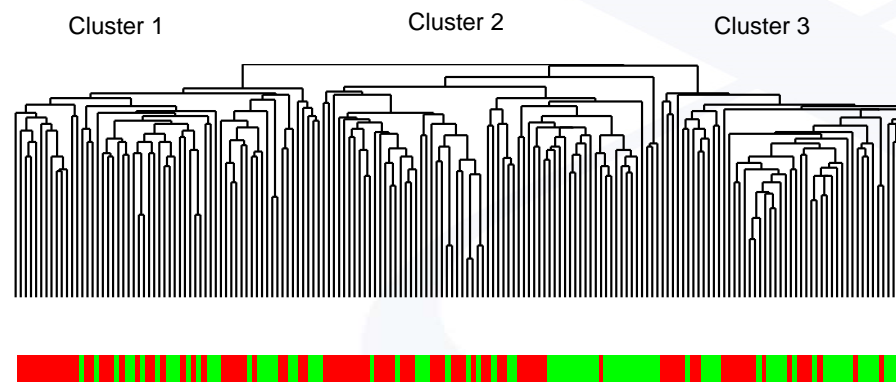


## Pathologic response by treatment arm in evaluable subjects

	N=167	GC (N=82)	ddMVAC (N=85)
<b>Chemotherapy Response</b>			
<b>CR (pT0)</b>		28 (35%)	27 (32%)
<b>PR (downstaged to <math>\leq</math>T1)</b>		12 (15%)	20 (24%)
<b><i>CR + PR</i></b>		40 (50%)	47 (56%)
<b>Non-responders</b>		42 (50%)	38 (44%)

Correlation of repeat samples between Batch 1 and 2





Red :Batch 2  
Green: Batch 1

# S1314: Primary Analysis

Coxen Score	Outcome	Arm	Number	Odds Ratio**	95% CI**	P-value**
<b>GC*</b>	pT0	<b>GC</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>(0.82, 8.36)</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>GC*</b>	≤pT1	<b>GC</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1.75</b>	<b>(0.60, 5.34)</b>	<b>0.30</b>
<b>ddMVAC*</b>	pT0	<b>ddMVAC</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>(0.42, 2.95)</b>	<b>0.82</b>
<b>ddMVAC*</b>	≤pT1	<b>ddMVAC</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>(0.37, 2.27)</b>	<b>0.86</b>
<b>GC*</b>	≤pT1	<b>Both</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>2.33</b>	<b>(1.11, 4.89)</b>	<b>0.02</b>
<b>ddMVAC*</b>	≤pT1	<b>Both</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>(0.46, 1.75)</b>	<b>0.76</b>

Moderate Spearman correlation between GC and MVAC Coxen scores: 0.39

*\* favorable based on prespecified algorithm and dichotomous cut point*

*\*\* adjusted for two stratification factors – clinical stage at baseline (T2 vs T3, T4a), PS (0 vs 1)*

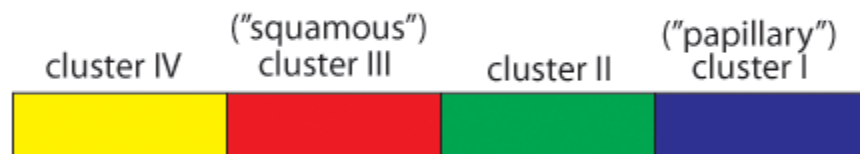




UNC



MDACC

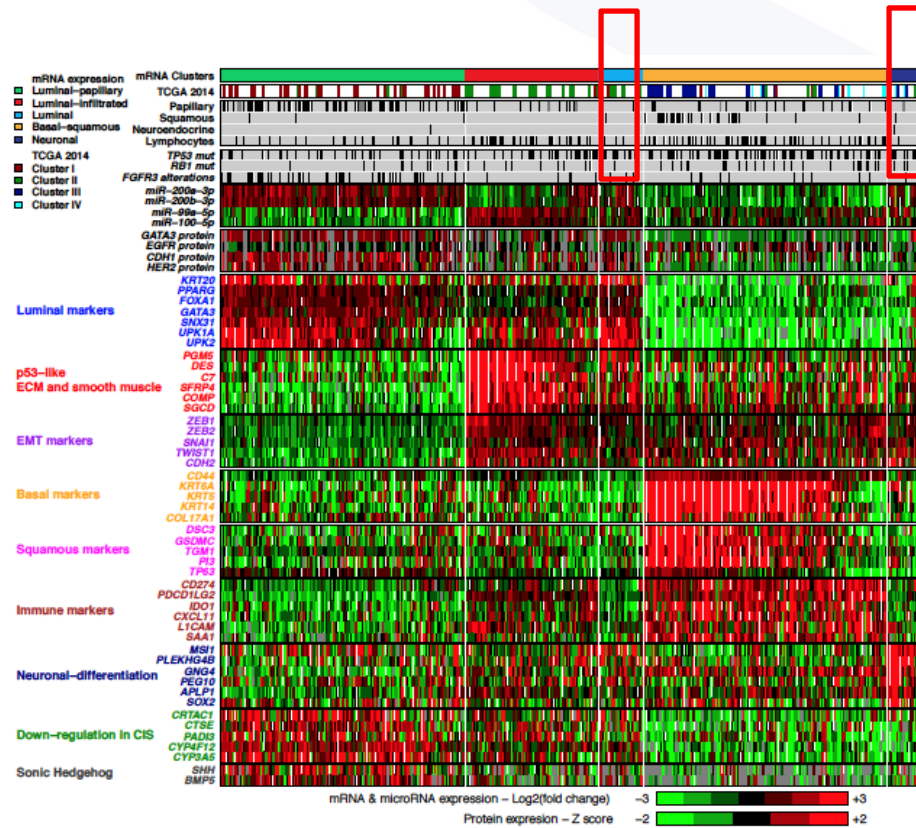


TCGA

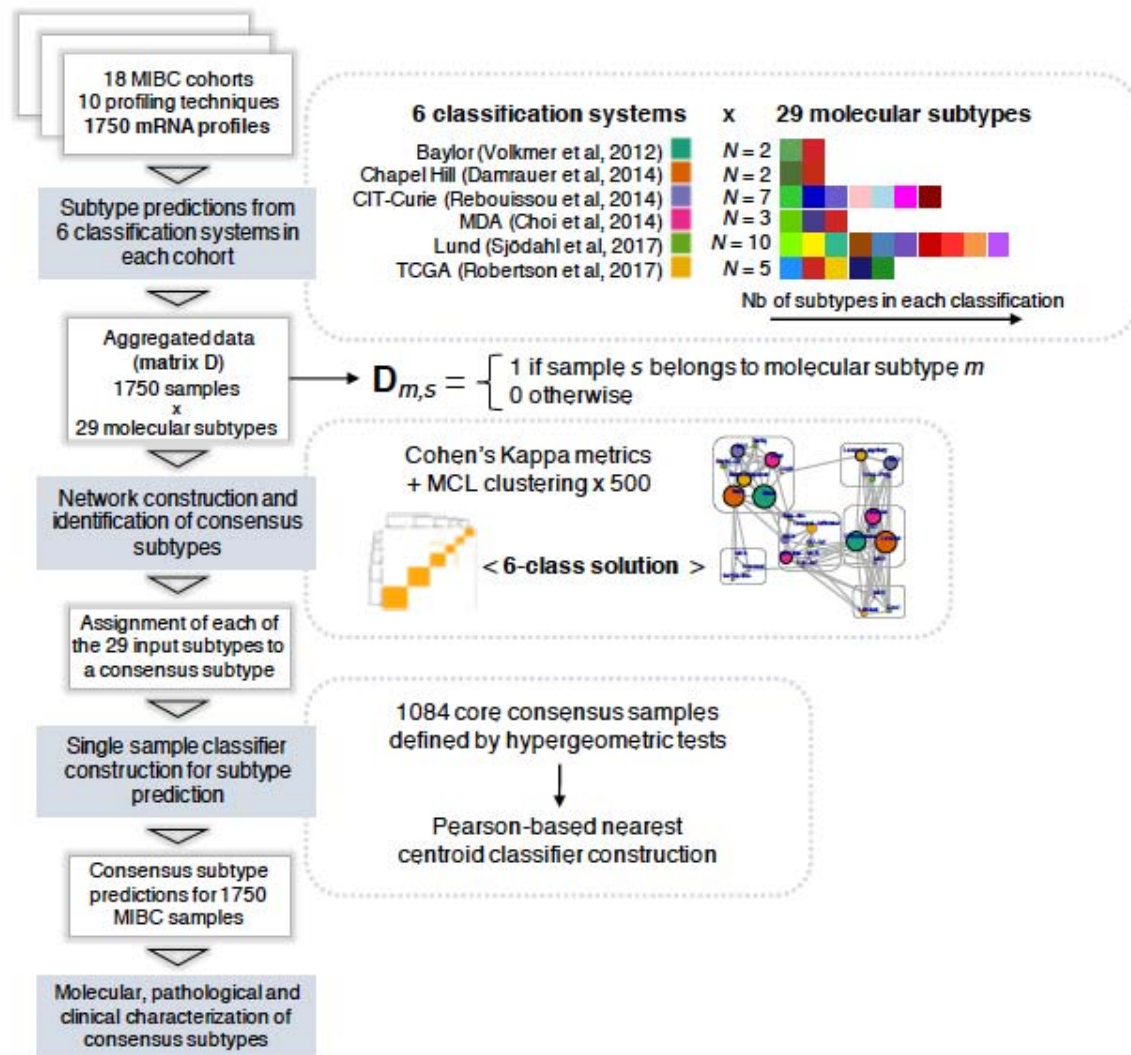








Breast

# TCGA final analyses: k = 5



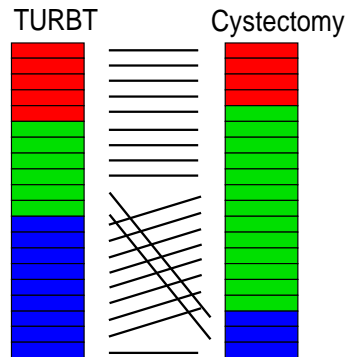
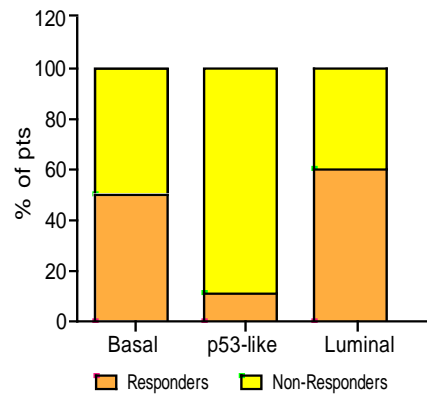
Cell, 2017



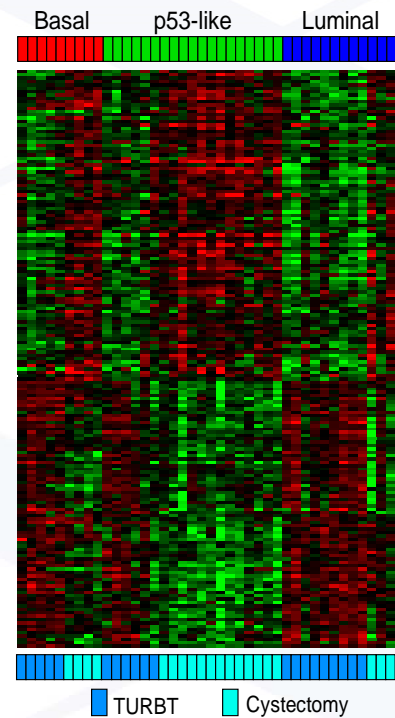
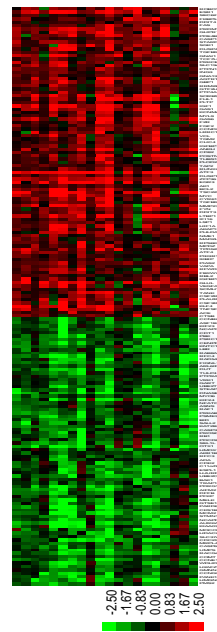
% of MIBC	24%		8%	15%	15%	35%	3%
Class Name	Luminal Papillary (LumP)	Luminal Non-Specified (LumNS)	Luminal Unstable (LumU)	Stroma-rich	Basal/Squamous (Ba/Sq)	Neuroendocrine-like (NE-like)	
							
Differentiation	Urothelial / Luminal				Basal	Neuroendocrine	
Oncogenic mechanisms	FGFR3 + PPARG + CDKN2A -	PPARG +	PPARG + E2F3 +, ERBB2 + Genomic instability Cell cycle +		EGFR +	TP53 -, RB1 -, Cell cycle +	
Mutations	<i>FGFR3</i> (40%), <i>KDM6A</i> (38%)	<i>ELF3</i> (35%)	<i>TP53</i> (76%), <i>ERCC2</i> (22%) TMB +, APOBEC +		<i>TP53</i> (61%), <i>RB1</i> (25%)	<i>TP53</i> (94%) <i>RB1</i> (39%)*	
Stromal infiltrate		Fibroblasts		Smooth muscle Fibroblasts Myofibroblasts	Fibroblasts Myofibroblasts		
Immune infiltrate				B cells	CD8 T cells NK cells		
Histology	Papillary morphology (59%)	Micropapillary variant (36%)			Squamous differentiation (42%)	Neuroendocrine differentiation (72%)	
Clinical	T2 stage +	Older patients + (80+)			Women + T3/T4 stage +		
Median overall survival (years)	4	1.8	2.9	3.8	1.2	1	

\* 94% of these tumors present either RB1 mutation or deletion

# Relationship between subtype membership and NAC response

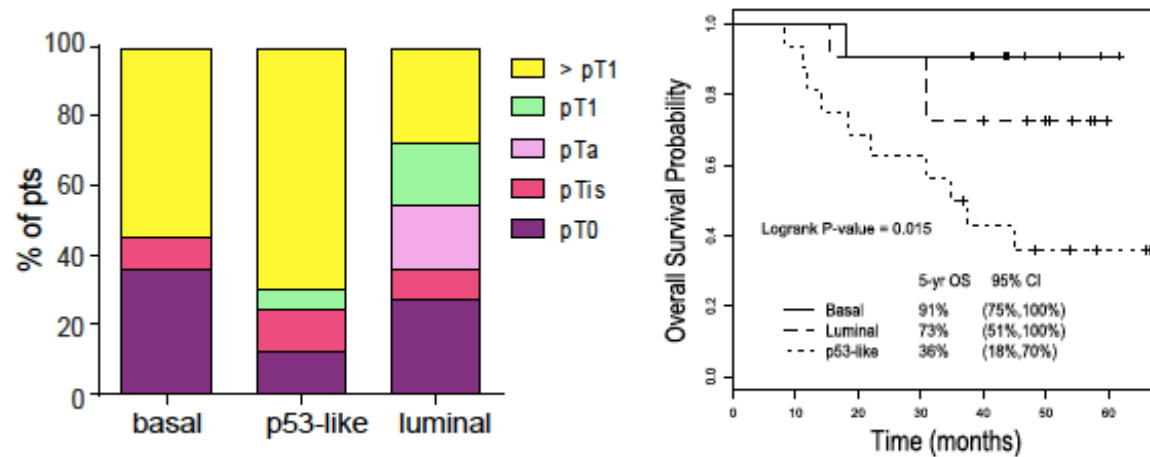


Basal p53-like Luminal



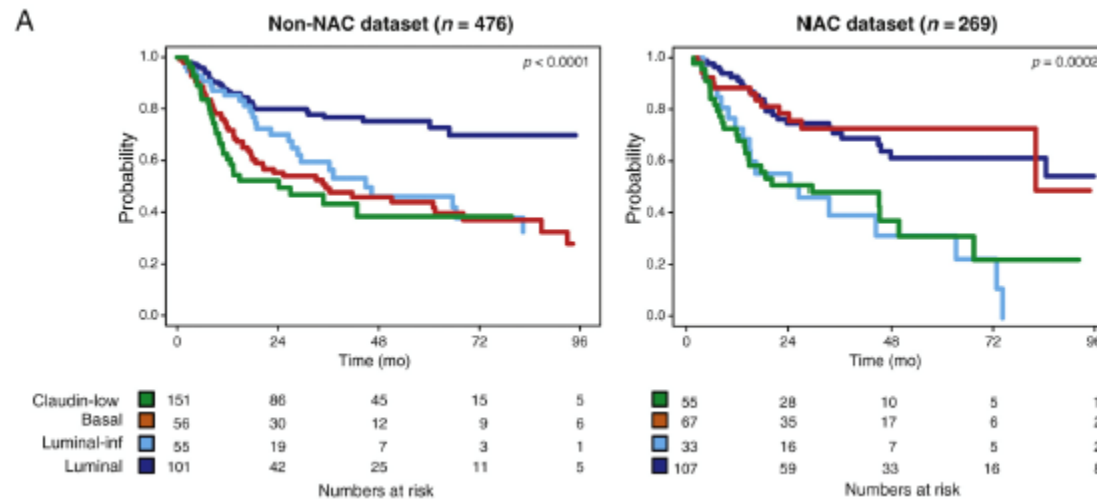
TURBT Cystectomy

## Molecular subtypes: prognostic for survival



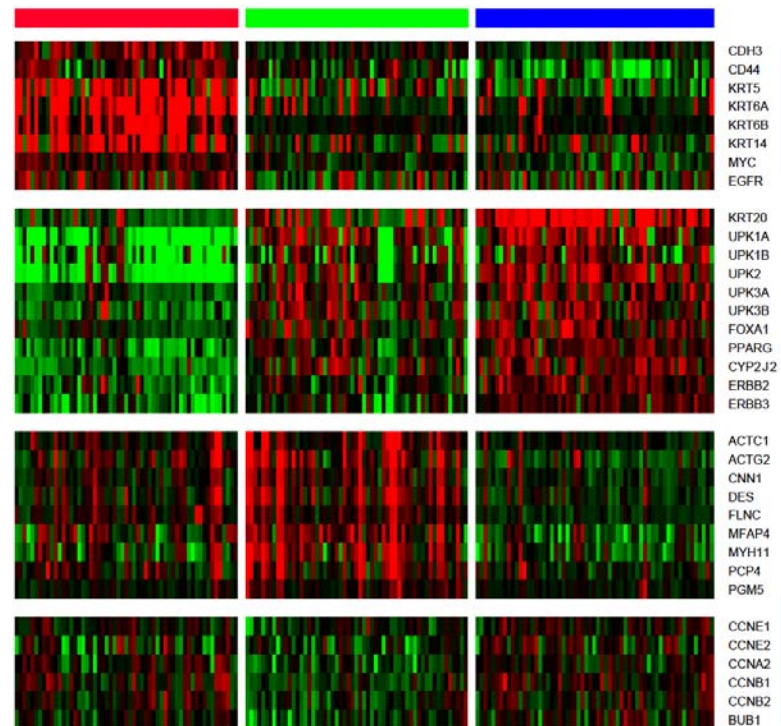
Siefker-Radtke, Eur Urol 2016

# Basal tumors and NAC benefit



Seiler et al, Eur Urol 2017

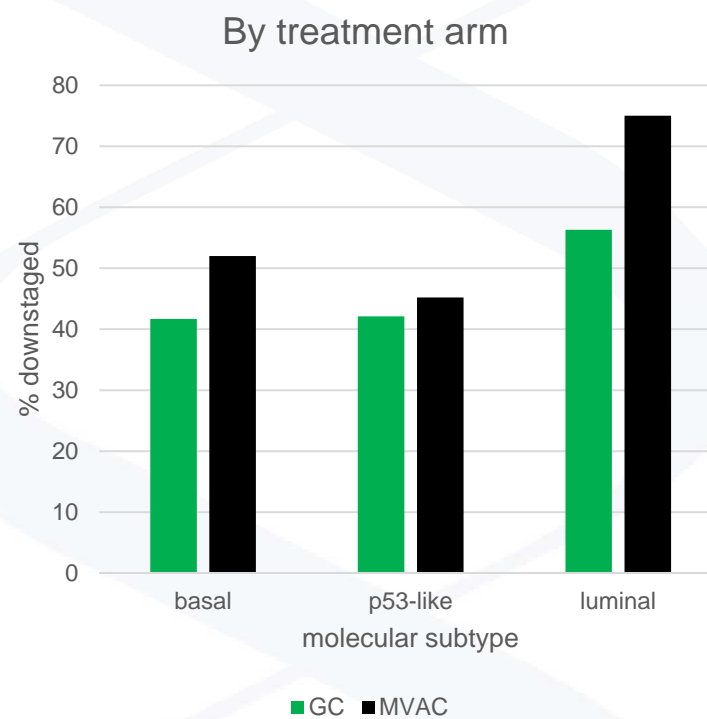
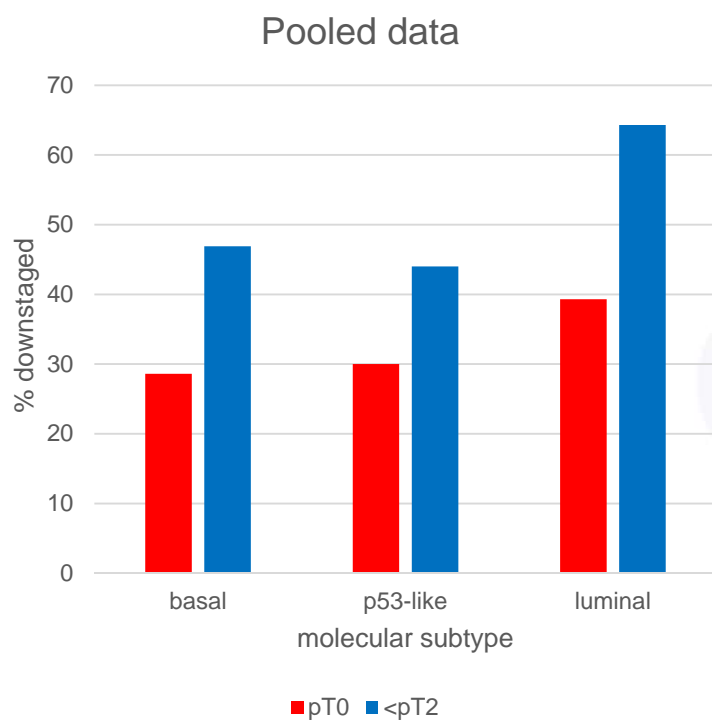
# MD Anderson subtypes in S1314



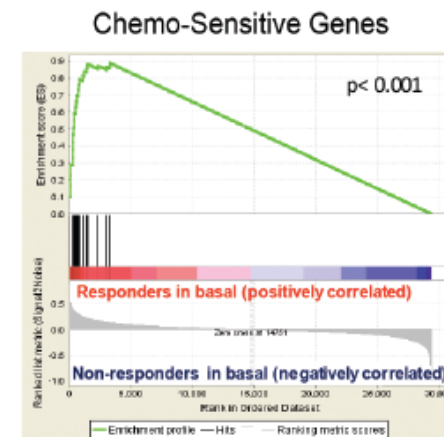
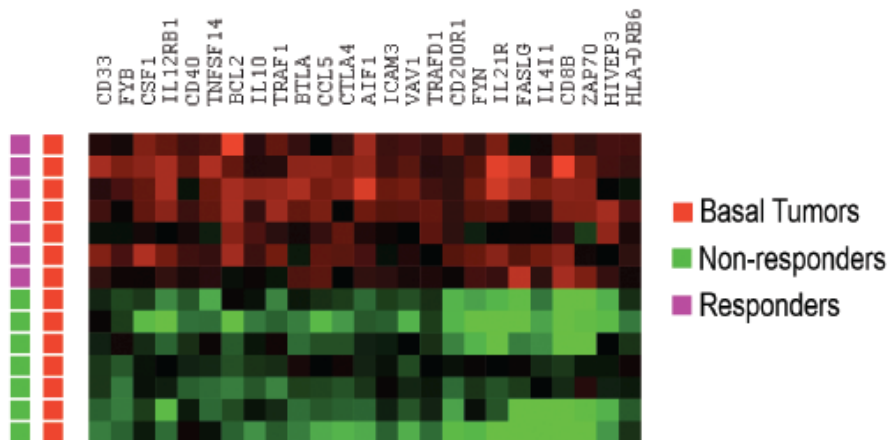
oneNN subtype assignments



# Relationship with downstaging



# MVAC-sensitive basal tumors were infiltrated with lymphocytes



## Future plans

- Train a CoXEN classifier on cisplatin alone, and reapply to the S1314 dataset
- Apply the other molecular subtyping algorithms to the Affy dataset and correlate with downstaging
- Use the leftover RNA at MDACC to perform RNAseq (Theodorescu)
- *Correlate molecular subtype membership with survival (18-24 months from now)*
- *ctDNA?*

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Somatic *ERCC2* Mutations Correlate with Cisplatin Sensitivity in Muscle-Invasive Urothelial Carcinoma

Eliezer M. Van Allen<sup>1,2</sup>, Kent W. Mouw<sup>3,4</sup>, Philip Kim<sup>5</sup>, Gopa Iyer<sup>6,7</sup>, Nikhil Wagle<sup>1,2</sup>, Hikmat Al-Ahmadie<sup>6,8</sup>, Cong Zhu<sup>2</sup>, Irina Ostrovnaya<sup>9</sup>, Gregory V. Kryukov<sup>2</sup>, Kevin W. O'Connor<sup>3</sup>, John Sfakianos<sup>5</sup>, Ilana Garcia-Grossman<sup>7</sup>, Jaegil Kim<sup>2</sup>, Elizabeth A. Guancial<sup>10</sup>, Richard Bambury<sup>7</sup>, Samira Bahl<sup>12</sup>, Namrata Gupta<sup>2</sup>, Deborah Farlow<sup>2</sup>, Angela Qu<sup>1</sup>, Sabina Signoretti<sup>11</sup>, Justine A. Barletta<sup>11</sup>, Victor Reuter<sup>6,8</sup>, Jesse Boehm<sup>2</sup>, Michael Lawrence<sup>2</sup>, Gad Getz<sup>2,12</sup>, Philip Kantoff<sup>1</sup>, Bernard H. Bochner<sup>3,6</sup>, Toni K. Choueiri<sup>1</sup>, Dean F. Bajorin<sup>6,7</sup>, David B. Solit<sup>6,7,13</sup>, Stacey Gabriel<sup>1</sup>, Alan D'Andrea<sup>3,4</sup>, Levi A. Garraway<sup>1,2</sup>, and Jonathan E. Rosenberg<sup>6,7</sup>

EUROPEAN UROLOGY 68 (2015) 959–967

available at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)  
journal homepage: [www.europeanurology.com](http://www.europeanurology.com)



European Association of Urology



## Platinum Priority – Bladder Cancer

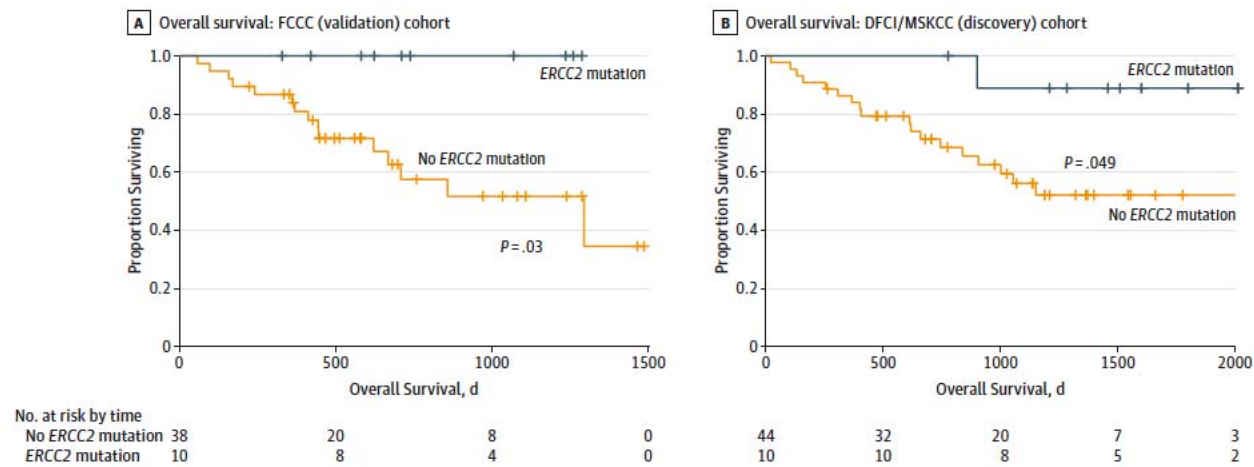
Editorial by Cyrill A. Rentsch, Frank Stenner, Christian Ruiz and Lukas Bubendorf on pp. 968–969 of this issue

# Defects in DNA Repair Genes Predict Response to Neoadjuvant Cisplatin-based Chemotherapy in Muscle-invasive Bladder Cancer

Elizabeth R. Plimack<sup>a,\*</sup>, Roland L. Dunbrack<sup>a</sup>, Timothy A. Brennan<sup>b</sup>, Mark D. Andrade<sup>a</sup>, Yan Zhou<sup>a</sup>, Ilya G. Serebriiskii<sup>a</sup>, Michael Slifker<sup>a</sup>, Katherine Alpaugh<sup>a</sup>, Essel Dulaimi<sup>a</sup>, Norma Palma<sup>b</sup>, Jean Hoffman-Censits<sup>c</sup>, Marijo Bilusic<sup>a</sup>, Yu-Ning Wong<sup>a</sup>, Alexander Kutikov<sup>a</sup>, Rosalia Viterbo<sup>a</sup>, Richard E. Greenberg<sup>a</sup>, David Y.T. Chen<sup>a</sup>, Costas D. Lallas<sup>c</sup>, Edouard J. Trabulsi<sup>c</sup>, Roman Yelensky<sup>b</sup>, David J. McConkey<sup>d</sup>, Vincent A. Miller<sup>b</sup>, Erica A. Golemis<sup>a</sup>, Eric A. Ross<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA, USA; <sup>b</sup> Foundation Medicine Inc., Cambridge, MA, USA; <sup>c</sup> Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA, USA; <sup>d</sup> MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA

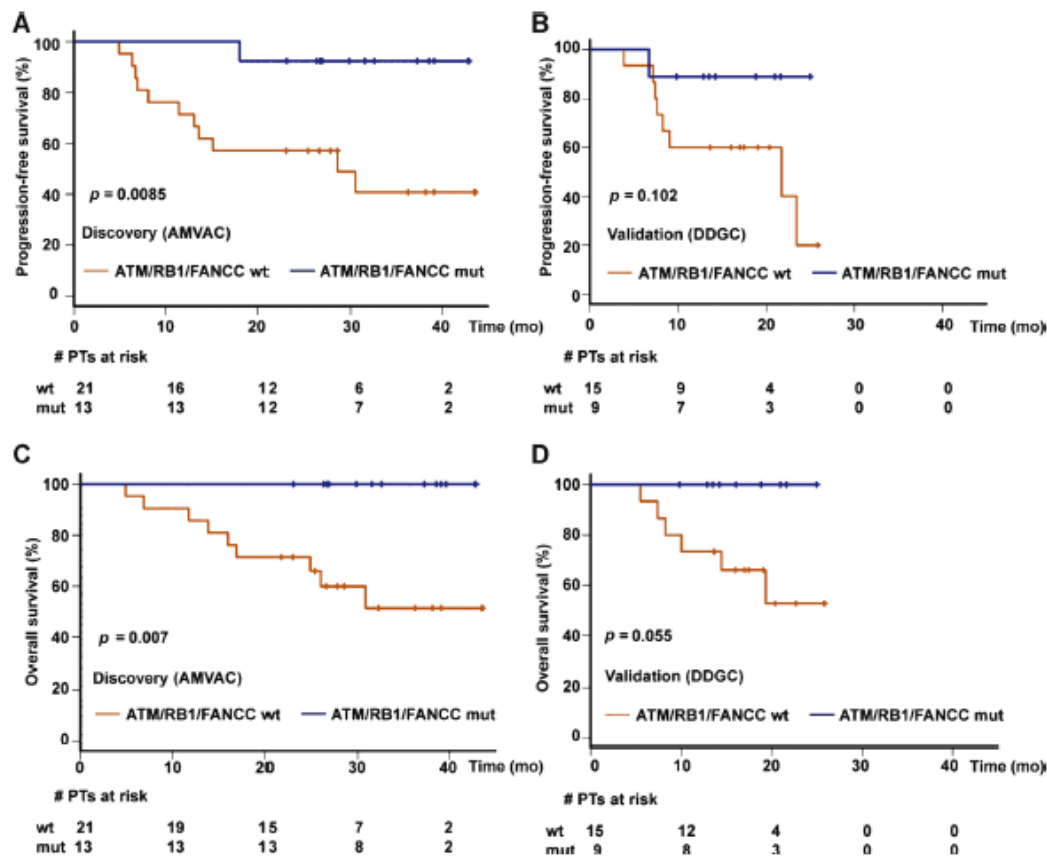
**Figure. Overall Survival With and Without Somatic *ERCC2* Mutations**



A, Overall survival with and without somatic *ERCC2* mutations in the current (Fox Chase Cancer Center [FCCC]) validation cohort. Kaplan-Meier analysis of overall survival by the presence or absence of a somatic *ERCC2* mutation. There is a statistically significant difference in survival (log-rank test;  $P = .03$ ).  
 B, Overall survival with and without somatic *ERCC2* mutations in a previously

reported<sup>1</sup> (Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center [DFCI/MSKCC] combined) discovery cohort. Kaplan-Meier analysis of overall survival by the presence or absence of a somatic *ERCC2* mutation. There is a statistically significant difference in survival, log-rank test ( $P = .049$ ).

David Liu, MD, MPH, MS  
 Elizabeth R. Plimack, MD, MS  
 Jean Hoffman-Censits, MD  
 Levi A. Garraway, MD, PhD  
 Joaquim Bellmunt, MD, PhD  
 Eliezer Van Allen, MD  
 Jonathan E. Rosenberg, MD



## Ongoing studies

- Amendment to allow panel DNA exome sequencing (MSK IMPACT and Caris) was approved
- BISQFP funding is in place for MSK IMPACT
- DNA from MDACC will be sent to MSK
- Germline DNA will be isolated at MSKCC and shared with Peter O'Donnell
- Correlate ctDNA and CTCs with path responses and outcomes (Goldkorn, R01)

## For the future

- Public Affy and Illumina RNAseq datasets
- Residual ALMAC RNA
- 5x unstained slides
- Urine
- Post-treatment tumors



# The SWOG S1314 team

Tom Flaig (Colorado)  
Cathy Tangen (FHCRC)  
Melissa Plets (FHCRC)  
Dan Theodorescu (Cedars-Sinai)  
Dan Gustafson (Colorado State)  
Scott Lucia (Colorado)  
Seth Lerner (Baylor)  
Amir Goldkorn (USC)  
Colin Dinney (MDACC)

Woonyoung Choi (JHMI)  
I-Ling Lee (MDACC)  
Megan Fong (JHMI)  
Sia Daneshmand (USC)  
Aijai Alva (Michigan)  
Matt Milowski (UNC)  
Gary MacVicar (Illinois CancerCare)  
Bruno Bastos (Baptist Health)  
Ian Thompson (San Antonio)