

Specific and International Clinical Research for Older Patients with Cancer

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Conflicts of interest

- Receipt of grants/research supports
 - None
- Receipt of travel supports
 - AstraZeneca, Daiichi, Gilead, Novartis, Pfizer
- Receipt of honoraria
 - AstraZeneca, Daiichi, Eli Lilly, Incyte, Pfizer, Takeda
- Receipt of consultation fees
 - Daiichi, Menarini, Pfizer, Sandoz

Few older adults included in registration studies!

Breast cancer as an example

Agent Name	Approval	N	Age ≥ 65	N	Age ≥ 75
Palbociclib	2/2015	37	44%	8	10%
		86	25%		--
Everolimus	7/2012	290	40%	109	15%
Pertuzumab	6/2012	60	15%	5	1%
Eribulin mesylate	11/2010	121	15%	17	2%
Lapatinib	1/2010	34	17%	2	1%
		282	44%	77	12%
Ixabepilone	10/2007	45	10%	3	<1%
		32	13%	6	2.5%

Package Insert, “Geriatric Usage” section

CDK4/6i registration trials for EBC

Study	Design	All N	65+ N	75+ N
monarchE	≥4 pN+ 1-3 pN+ and pT≥5cm, grade III or Ki67≥ 20% Hormonotherapy ± abemaciclib 2 years	5637 51 yo (44-60)	850 (15.1%*)	153 (<3%)
PALLAS	Stage II-III Hormonotherapy ± palbociclib 2 years	5761 52 yo (45-61)	NR	NR
NATALEE	Stage II-III Hormonotherapy ± ribociclib 3 years	5101 52 yo (24-90)	NR	NR

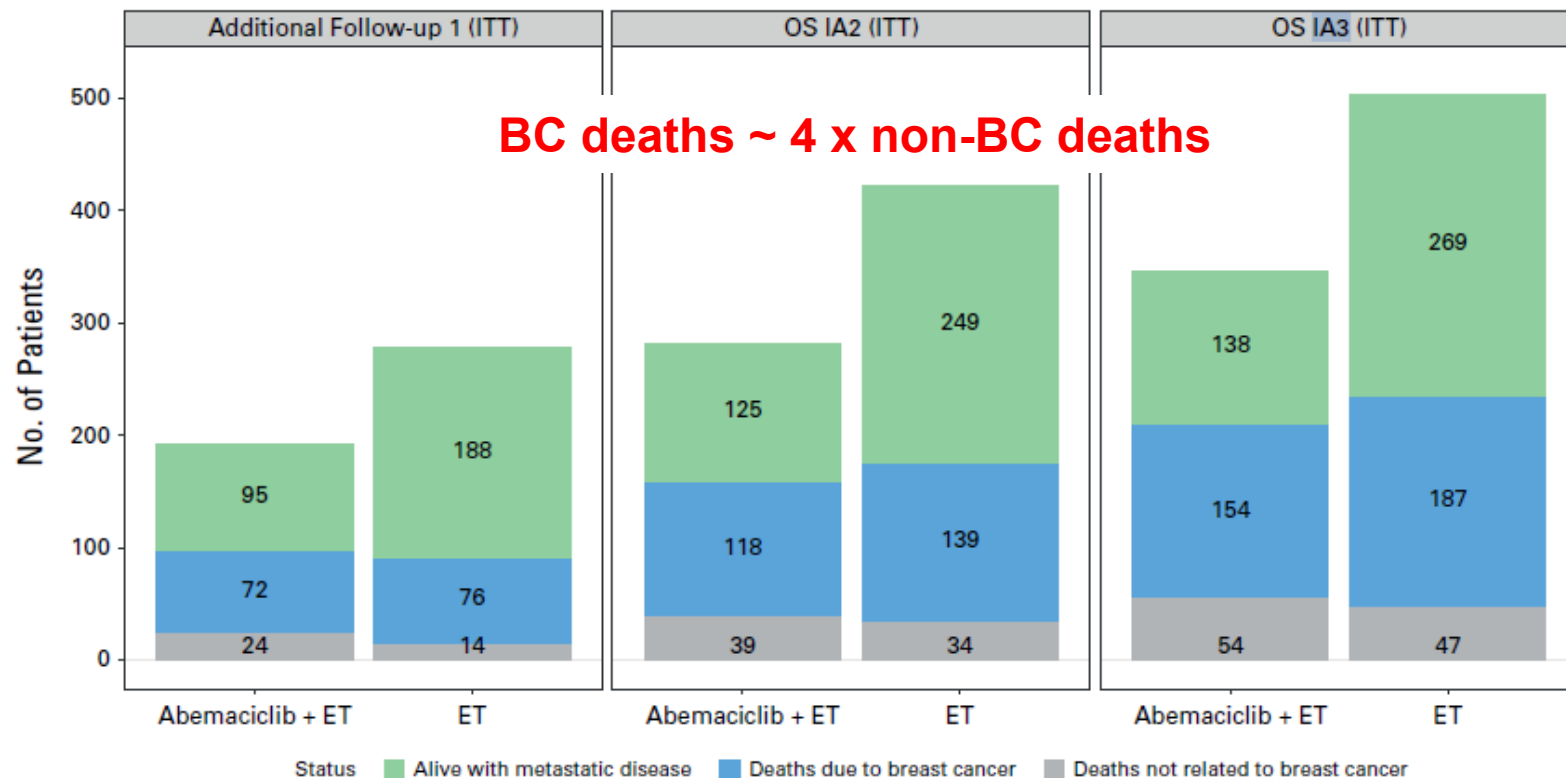
* ~80% < 75 yo

Trial population vs real life?

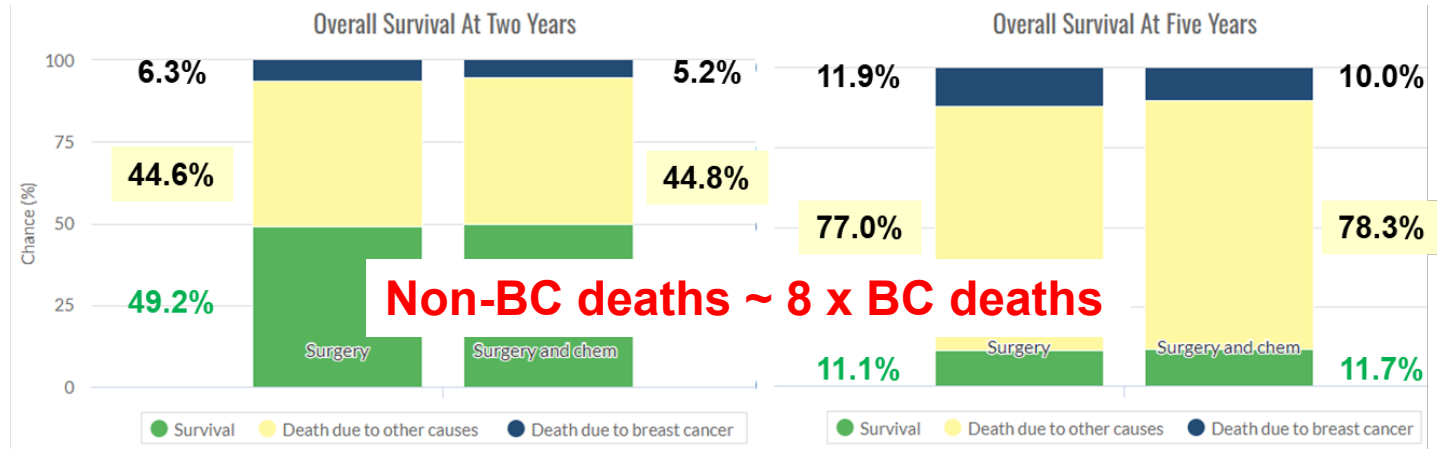


Older ones enrolled in standard explanatory trials are highly selected:

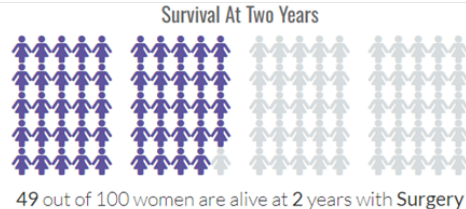
- younger
- w/ less comorbidities
- w/ less organ dysfunctions
- fitter



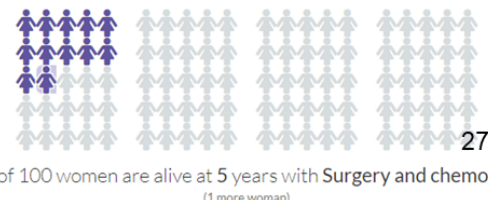
agegap.shef.ac.uk ± adjuvant chemo



80 yo
15 mm grade III
2 pN+
ADL restrictions
Diabetes mellitus
Mild renal failure
Previous non-metastatic cancer



+1



Gene expression profiles in 70+

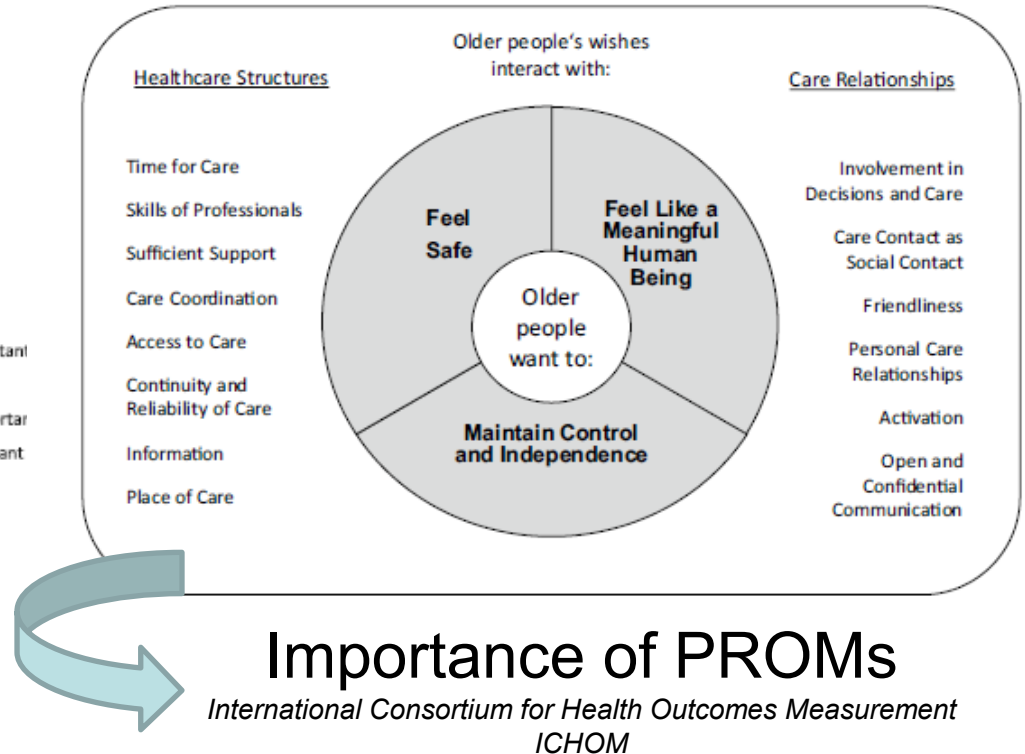
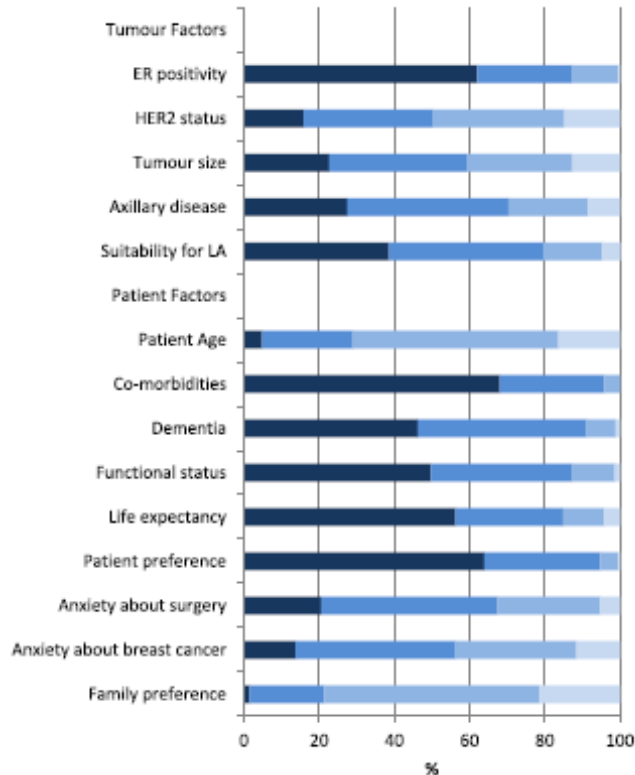
Trial	Age limit	Population 70+
MINDACT	≤ 70	0.8% (56/6.693)
TAILORx	≤ 75	6.8% RS 0-10 (111/1.626) 4.3% RS 11-25 (300/6.897)
RxPONDER	Any	11.6% RS ≤ 25 (581/5.018)

To be addressed in research for older ones

- **Multicomplexity**: usual exclusion if other conditions beyond the disease being studied
- **Settings**: reside in and get care in home, clinic, hospital, nursing home
- **Medical Tx can have both benefits and harms**: safety, harms of overtesting, over Tx, and polypharmacy, benefits of deprescribing
- **Palliative care** needed for many years toward the end of life, not just the 6 mths covered by hospice
- **Caregivers** well-being: include both members of the patient-care partner dyad

Need to move more toward research that abandons reductionism and fully embraces complexity, including webs of causation that incorporate social and environmental determinants of health

What counts? HCP vs patient?



Acceptability & willingness

West Haven Veterans Affairs

226 patients 60+: attitudes toward burden of Tx, possible outcomes, and likelihood

- Limited life expectancy (cancer, CHF, or COPD)
- Burden of Tx (length of the hospital stay, extent of testing, and invasiveness of interventions)

1. **Low-burden** Tx (restoring participant's current state of health) vs no Tx resulting in **death**

98.7% accept

2. **High-burden** Tx vs no treatment resulting in **death**

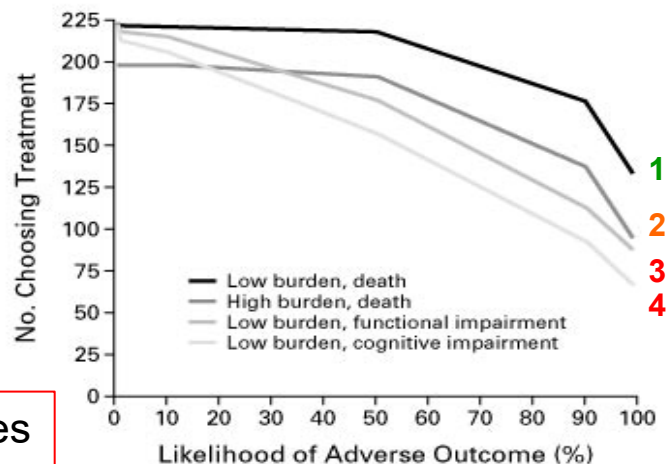
11% decline

3 & 4. **Low-burden** Tx vs survival w/ **severe functional or cognitive impairment**

74-89% decline

Likelihood of adverse functional and cognitive outcomes of Tx requires explicit consideration in older ones:

Death is not necessarily the most feared outcome



The "Time Toxicity" of Cancer Treatment

Time Toxicity

















Time spent coordinating treatments and in-visits to a health care facility (including travel and waiting), seeking urgent/emergent care for side effects, hospitalizations, and follow-up tests and rehabilitation.

Proposed Metric of Time Toxicity

Days with Physical Health Care System Contact

(a 1-hour lab visit = a 6-hour infusion = a 12-hour urgent care visit = an overnight hospitalization; all these are "all-day affairs")

Overall survival = Days With Physical Health Care System Contact + Home Days

Hypothetical Treatment	Clinical Trajectory	Overall Survival (in days)	Home Days
Option A (Chemotherapy)	         Frequent clinic visits Chemotherapy toxicity, hospitalization, and rehabilitation	150	90
Option B (No cancer-directed treatment)	       Short hospitalization for symptom control	120	115

Day 0

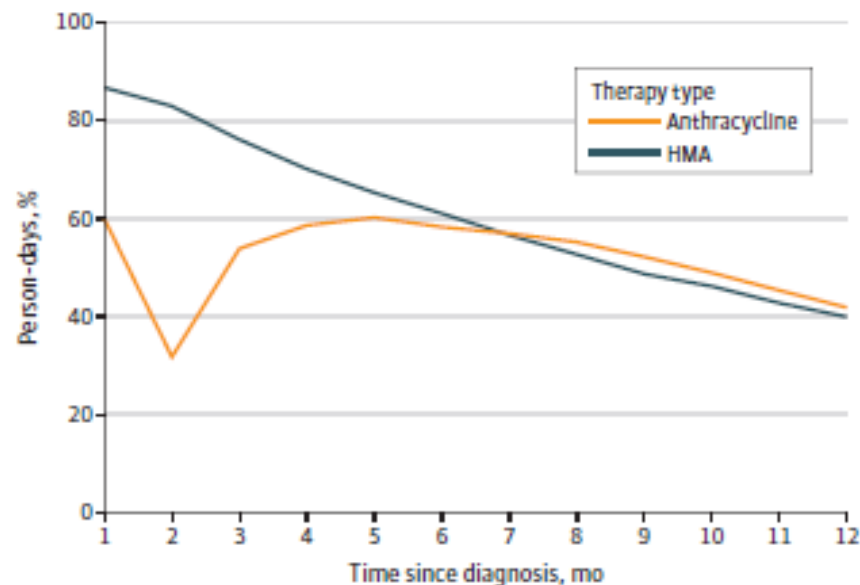
Day 30

Day 90

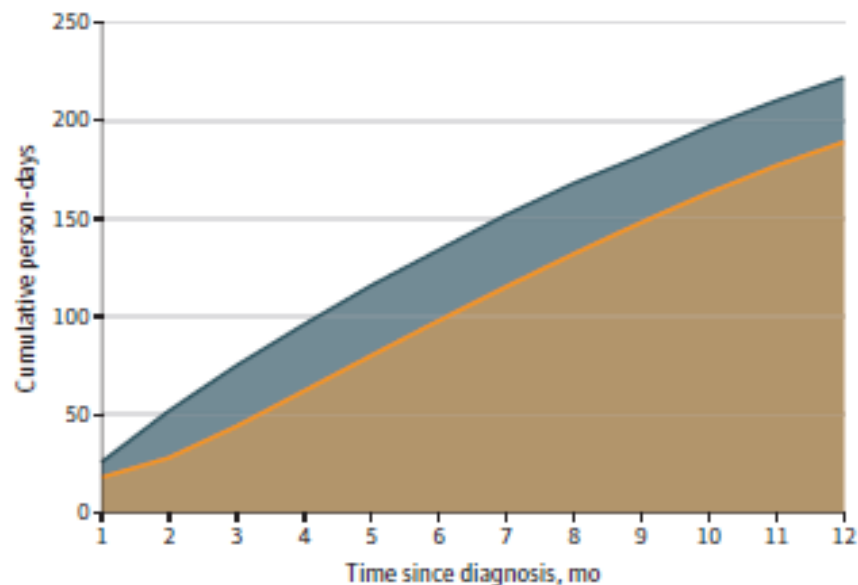
Day 180

With information on "Time Toxicity" and "Home Days", a clinician can better guide a patient regarding a treatment strategy that best aligns with the patient's goals.

A Adjusted percentage of person-days at home



B Adjusted cumulative person-days at home



A, Adjusted person-days at home achieved by patients who received anthracyclines (n = 2824) compared with hypomethylating agents (n = 2542) in the first 12 months following chemotherapy administration. B, The adjusted

cumulative person-days achieved by patients who received anthracyclines compared with hypomethylating agents in the first 12 months following chemotherapy.

66+ yo w/ new diagnosis of AML, SEER, 2004-2016

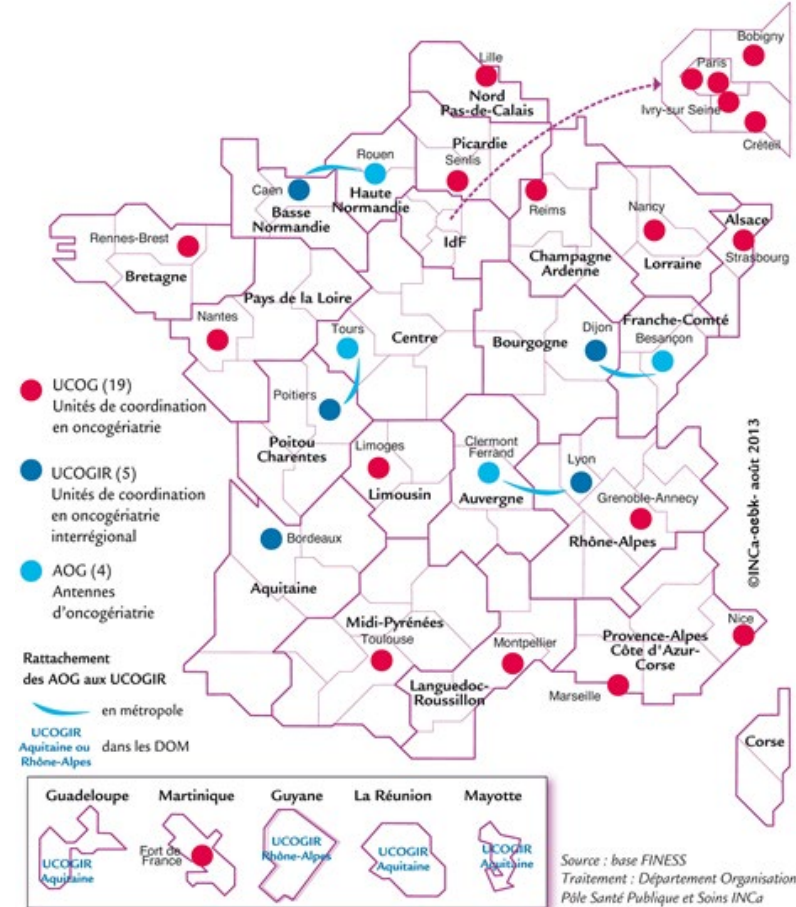
Home time!

Additional survival afforded by receiving anthracycline-based Tx entirely offset by admission to the hospital or to nursing facilities?

From UPCOG to UCOG 2005-2011



1. Collaboration between oncologists & geriatricians
2. Access
3. Specific research
4. Teaching
5. Information



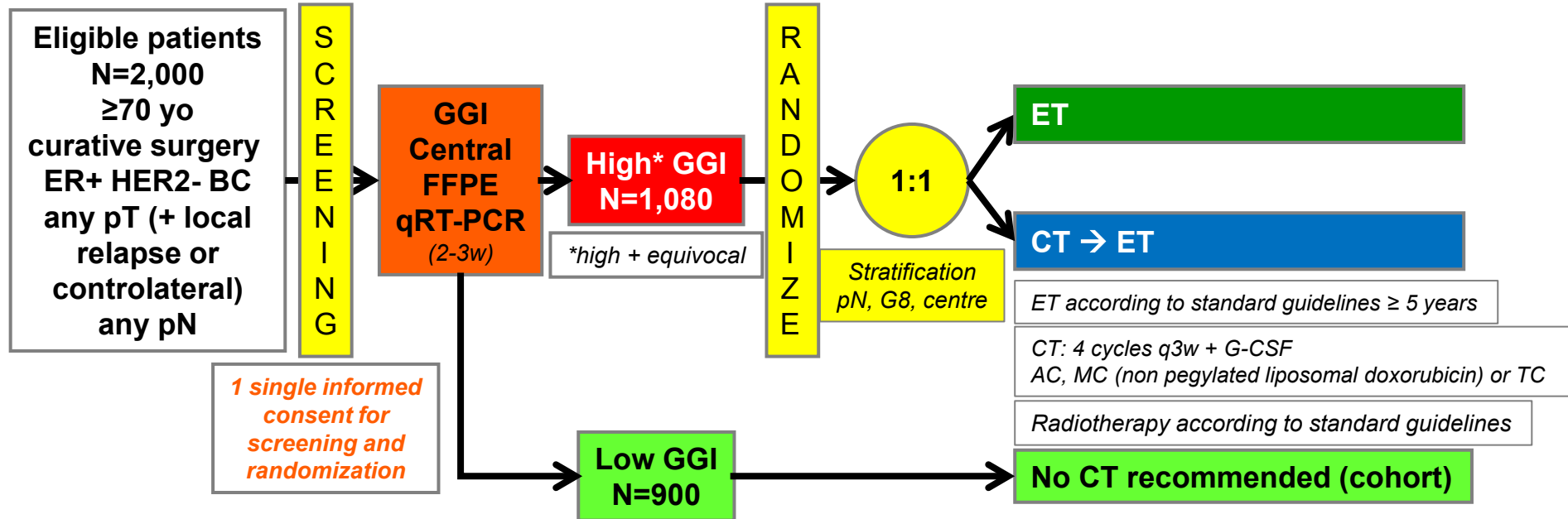
GERICO ≥ 2,500 patients

2002	Creation (F Pein & AC Braud)	Age	Phase	Primary endpoint	N	Ancillary	Publication
2002	G-01: X+VNR PO breast, lung, prostate	70+	II	ADL	80	PK	CROH 2010
	G-02: CT XELOX CCR M+	70+	II	ADL	60	PK	JGO 2011
2004	G-03: per op brachyXRT breast < 3 cm pN0	70+	II	Feasibility, QoL	40	Cost	Brachy 2013
2005	G-04: CT TxT q2w breast M+	70+	II	IADL	27/60	NA	Poster
	G-05: CT TxT q2w NSCLC M+	70+	II	IADL	5/60	NA	Poster
2006	G-06: CT adjuvant anthra (MC) breast ER-	70+	II	ADL	40	Will	CROH 2010
2009	G-09: breast M+ HER2+++ X + lapatinib	70+	II	Composite	4/52	NA	Poster
	Retrospective L1 CT M+ breast (Bergonié)	75+	Cohorte	Description	500	NA	CROH 2001
	DOGMES L1 DXR lipos (GINECO)	70+	II	RR	60	NA	EJC 2012
2010	G-10/GETUG P-03: CT TxT prostate + PK	75+	II R	Composite	66/60 :144	PK	Poster
	PRODIGE 20 (G-08): CT ± beva CCR M+	75+	IIR/III	Composite	102	CTC/RX	Pending
2011	ASTER 70s/G-11/PACS 10: CT adj breast RH+ HER2- GGI	70+	III	OS (competing risks)	1,080/2,000	TR, cost, acc	Poster, oral
2012	ELAN (PAIR ORL, GORTEC/GERICO)	70+	II/III	OS	446	NA	Poster
	SHS (cognition, acceptability, etc.)	70+	SHS	Qualitative res		NA	Poster
2014	UCGI-30 (G-12) XRT/CTneo vs XRT rectum	75+	III	R0 + IADL	420	acc	
	OSAGE (Besançon)		I/II	MTD, RR EOT	54		
2016	ASTER 2/3 + EORTC/BIG	70+	III	Outcome + QoL	1,200/2,500	Acc	
2017	MBC, SCSC, STS, palliative XRT						15

ASTER 70s Study Design

Adjuvant systemic treatment for ER+ HER2- BC in women over 70 according to GGI

Hypothesis: 4-year OS with CT → ET > 4-year OS with ET only if high GGI



All patients

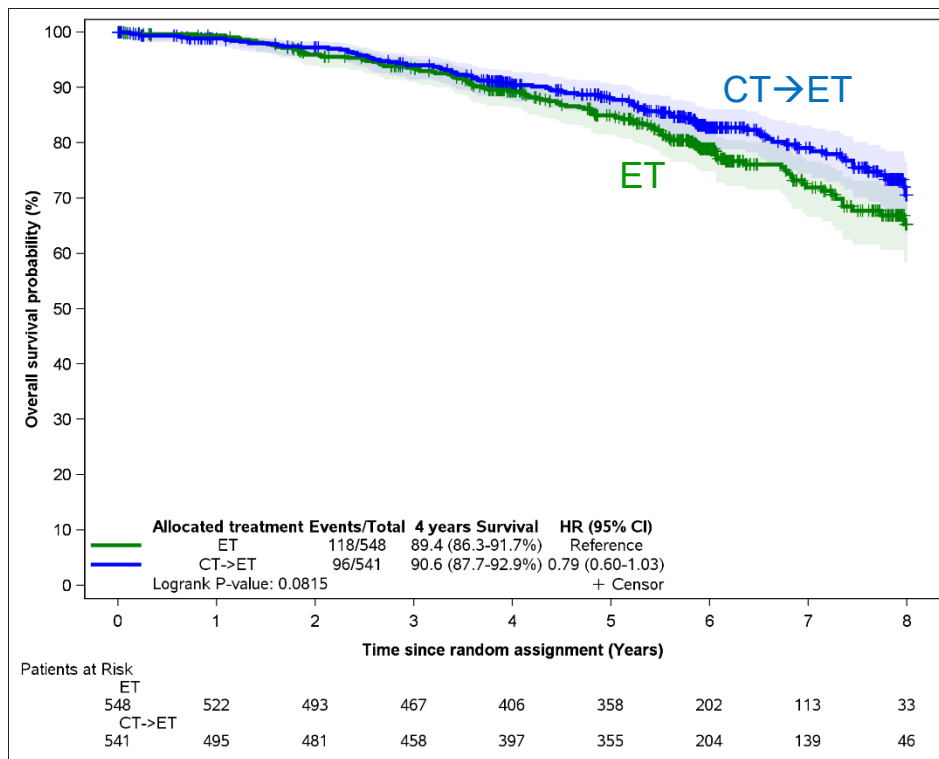
Lee score, G8, CCI, polypharmacy (baseline, 4 years)

Randomized patients

IADL, MMSE, QLQ C30 & ELD15, socioeconomic, willingness, blood & serum (baseline, 3 months, yearly x 4 years)

OS: ET — vs CT→ET — (intent to treat) (primary endpoint)

median follow-up
5.94 years



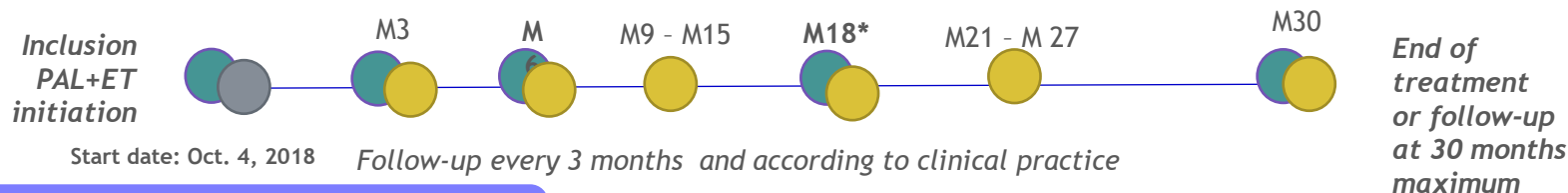
4-year OS	89.4 (86.3-91.7)
4-year OS	90.6 (87.7-92.9)
HR	0.79 (0.60-1.03)
p	0.08

PALOMAGE study design

- Patients with HR+ HER2- aBC; age ≥ 70 yrs (N=807)

COHORT A (N=400)

- ET sensitive and first line treatment for aBC



COHORT B (N=407)

- ET resistant and/or with prior aBC treatment

Primary endpoint

- Proportion of patients who permanently stopped treatment at 6 months (cohort B) and at 18 months (cohort A) for any reason (toxicity, patient's choice, progression or death)

Analysis

- Baseline characteristics (total population)
- Safety evaluation (population with PAL initiation)
 - All AEs/SAEs related or not to the treatment were assessed according to NCI-CTCAE V5.0 criteria at each visit and were described by severity grade

aBC=advanced breast cancer; CTCAE=The Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events; EORTC QLQ-30=European Organisation for Treatment of Cancer Quality of Life Questionnaire Core 30; ET=endocrine therapy; HER2-,human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 negative; HR+, hormone receptor positive; M=months; PAL=palbociclib.

EORTC 75111-10114

(Co-PI Hans Wildiers & Etienne Brain)



80 pts HER2+ MBC
≥ 70 Years ®
(≥65/≥60y with co-morbidity)

1:1

**Pertuzumab
+
Trastuzumab**

**Pertuzumab +
Trastuzumab +
metronomic CT**

→ **PD** → **T-DM1**

Primary endpoint

PFS at 6 months of PH or PHM

Secondary endpoints

OS, BCSS, toxicity, RR (RECIST v1.1),
HRQoL, evolution of GA during treatment

Stratification: ER/PgR, previous HER2 treatment, G8

Pertuzumab 840 mg loading dose, further 420 mg q3w iv

Trastuzumab 8 mg/kg loading dose, further 6 mg/kg q3w iv

Chemotherapy Metronomic chemotherapy: cyclophosphamide 50 mg/d po continuously

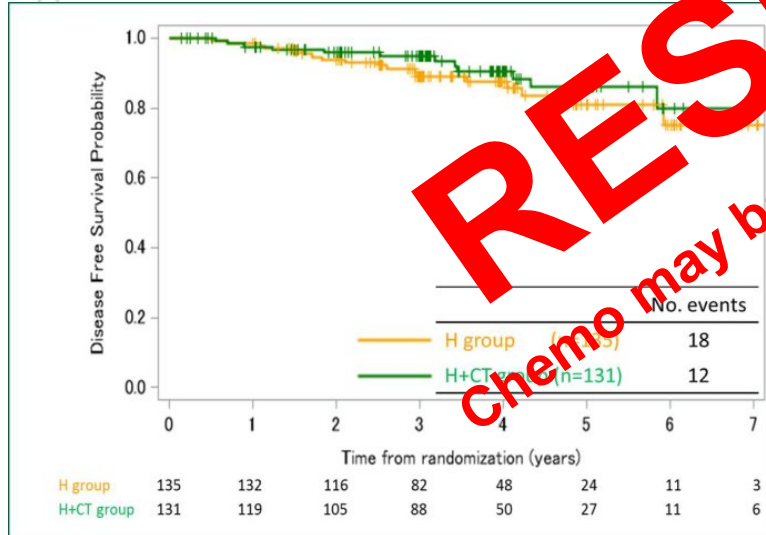
On progression Option to have **T-DM1** (3.6 mg/kg iv q3w) till progression

Randomized Controlled Trial of Trastuzumab With or Without Chemotherapy for HER2-Positive Early Breast Cancer in Older Patients

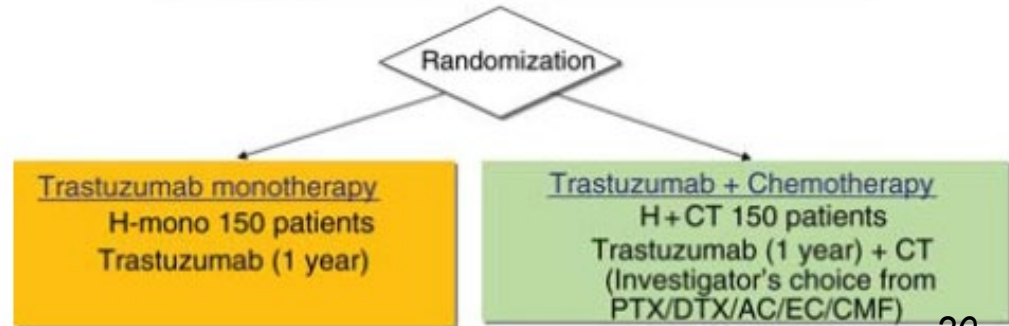


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275 patients
2009-2014
Non-inferiority
HR 1.22-1.69 β 20%
Follow-up 4.1 years (0.3-8)



HER2-positive elderly patient
Age: 70-80 years old
Stage: I (pT \geq 1 cm), IIA, IIB, IIIA / M0
HER2: IHC 3+ or FISH+



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Research

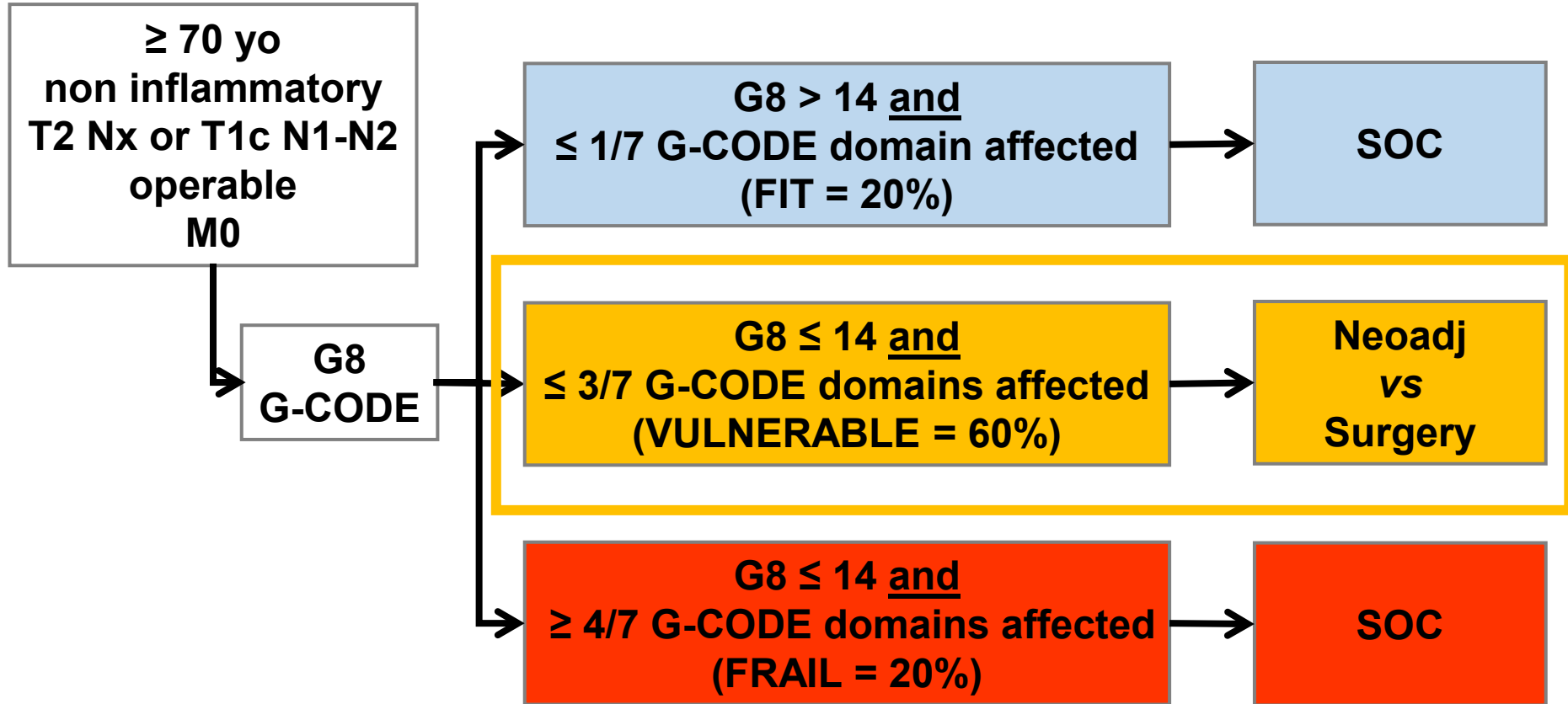
In progress; Not yet recruiting

Comparing Oral Drug Dosing Strategies in Older Patients with Metastatic Breast Cancer to Maximize Tolerance and Reduce Discontinuation: The CDK4/6 Inhibitor Dosing Knowledge (CDK) Study

500 patients \geq 65 yo
HR+/HER2- MBC
planned use of CDK4/6i
(PAL or RIB) + ET
1st time in metastatic setting

Indicated dose (start high, deescalate if needed)
versus (1:1)
titrated dose (start low, escalate if tolerated)
Primary objective = time to discontinuation of CDK4/6i

Screening for EORTC BCG 2338



* $G8$ score > 14 and $>1/7$ G-CODE domain affected are not plausible options

Tools for research in older ones

- **Measuring outcomes and consider factors important in older persons:** not just on maximizing the lifespan but also the health span (i.e. years free of disease and disability)
- **Data science and IA**, but most valuable information about patients (goals, preferences, life circumstances, social and psychological determinants) often missing from data sources
- **Real-time tracking of enrollment and representativeness**

Box. Core Concepts That Define Aging Research

Focus on maximizing function and quality of life

Falls, mobility, and physical function

Cognitive function and delirium

Multimorbidity

Person-centered outcomes and goals for care

Care across settings

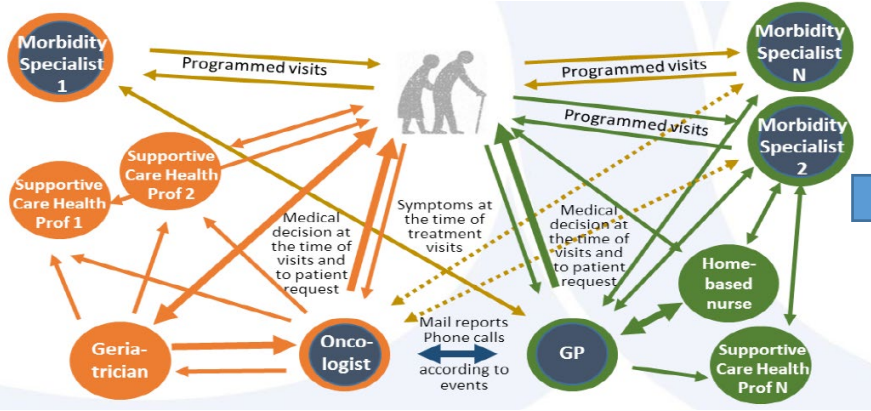
Prevention and avoidance of overtreatment (eg, less is more, avoidance of polypharmacy, deprescribing, patient safety)

Palliative care

Well-being of caregivers

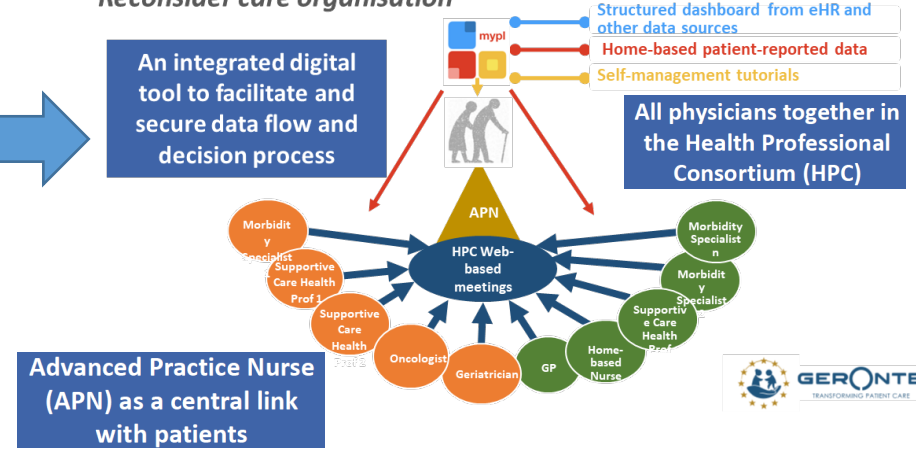
Social context of care

≥ 70 yo & ≥ 1 moderate/severe multimorbidity

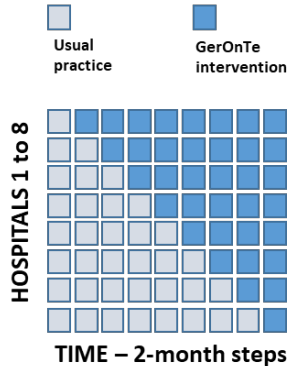


GERONTE patient-centred management

Reconsider care organisation



Stepped wedge design



• Two trials

- France and Belgium/Netherlands
- 8 centres per trial
- >634 patients per trial

• Investigating centers

- Three Referral Centers per trial
- Five Community Hospitals per trial

• Centers enter intervention arm by randomization

- Until the end of the trial
- Known from baseline

• Financial compensation at the end of the trial

Primary endpoint
Improve patient 6-month HRQoL

720 patients & 8 sites
Breast, colorectal, prostate, lung
90/site, 10 q2m, 30 mths



GERONTE
TRANSFORMING PATIENT CARE



Geriatric COre DatasEt (G-CODE)

(Delphi/RAND + Consensus Methods)



1. **Social environment:** Q1 “do you live alone?” + Q2 “do you have a person or caregiver able to provide care and support?”
2. **Autonomy:** Activities of Daily Living (ADL) (abnormal if <6/6) and 4- Instrumental ADL (IADL) (abnormal if <4/4)
3. **Mobility:** Timed Up and Go test (TUG) (abnormal if >20 sec)
4. **Nutrition:** unintentional weight loss (>10% in 6 months) and BMI (< 21)
5. **Cognitive status:** Mini-Cog (abnormal if <4/5)
6. **Mood:** Mini-Geriatric Depression Scale (Mini-GDS) (abnormal if $\geq 1/4$)
7. **Comorbidities:** updated Charlson index score



National & International validation

DIALOG = GERICO + UCOG

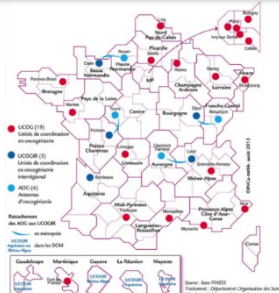
(intergroup of clinical research in GO labeled by INCa in 2014-2017-2022)

Today

Community



Scientific
Committee



UCOG
national
network

GERICO

unicancer

Conclusions

- Age is not a contra-indication to treatment for...
...nor to clinical trials!
- Age is an independent predictor of adverse outcomes associated with treatment for...
... especially when relying on results from trials run in younger adult population
- Clear information and consideration are crucial (semantic)
- No age-agnostic prognostic/predictive tool!
- Goals & preferences shift with time flow and life experience

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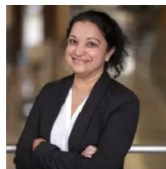
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**Optimising treatment
in older cancer patients
is precision medicine too!**

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