

ILCA

International Liver Cancer Association

Priming Knowledge in
Liver Cancer across Disciplines



Image-Guided Ablation: Current Status and Future Prospects

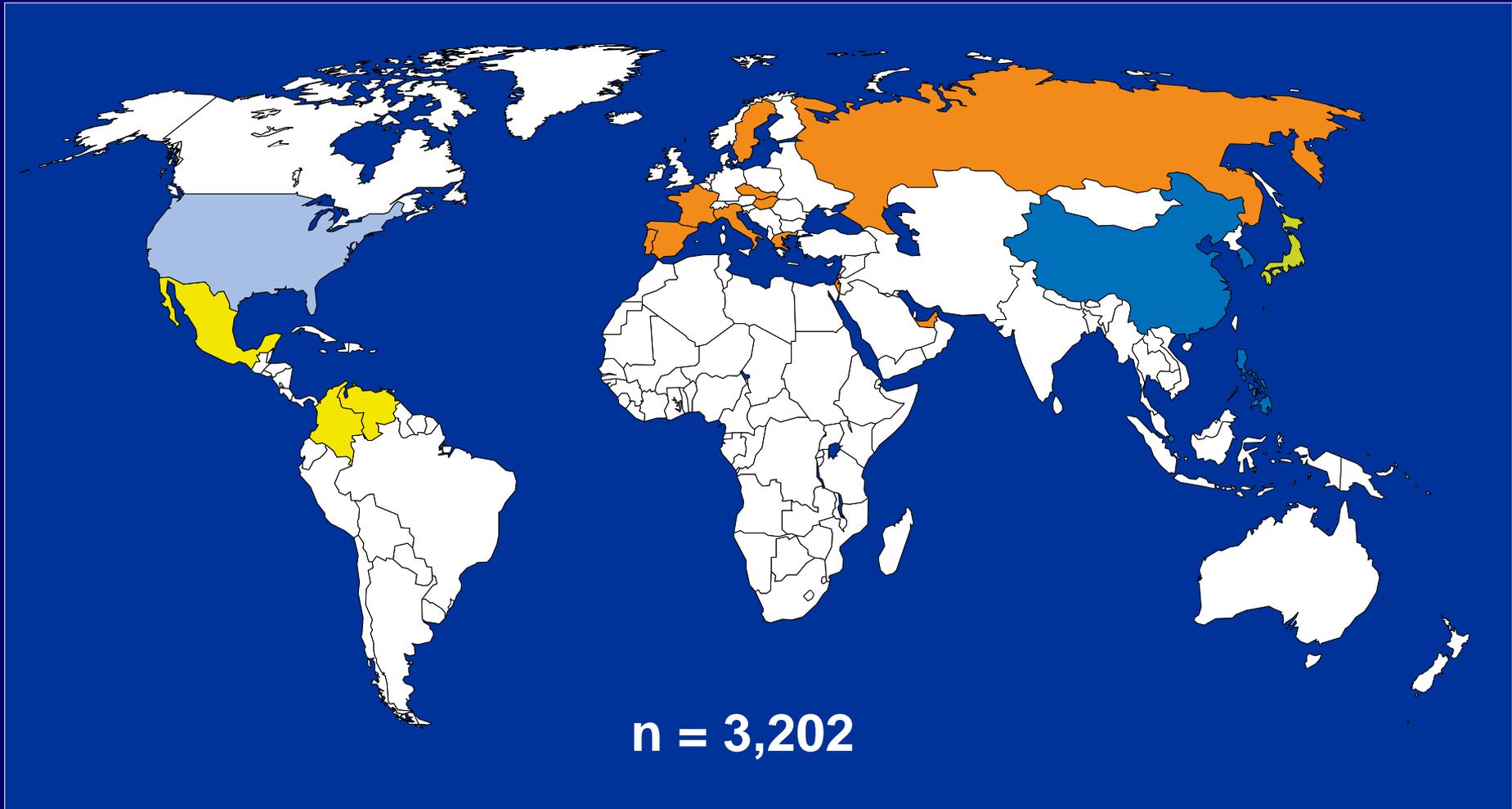
Riccardo Lencioni, MD, FCIRSE, FSIR, EBIR

Professor and Director, Diagnostic Imaging and Intervention

University of Pisa School of Medicine, Pisa, Italy

riccardo.lencioni@med.unipi.it

GIDEON: The Largest Global Observational Study Completed in HCC (n = 3,202)



GIDEON: The Largest Global Observational Study Completed in HCC (n = 3,202)

Pre-Sorafenib Therapy for HCC by Geographical Region

%	AP n=928	EU n=1113	LA n=90	USA n=563	Japan n=508	Overall N=3202
All LRTs	67.2	43.5	27.8	49.4	84.4	57.5
TACE	60.3	33.1	13.3	37.1	71.3	47.2
Conventional TACE (Lipiodol) *	90.2	59.2	83.3	40.7	82.3	73.9
DEB-TACE *	2.9	36.1	16.7	39.7	1.7	15.9
Surgical treatment	24.2	15.5	5.6	9.4	43.3	21.1
Ablation	15.5	20.2	17.8	12.6	50.0	22.2

* For patients who received TACE: n=1511; AP=560, EU=368, LA=12, USA=209, Japan=362;
AP, Asia-Pacific; LA, Latin America; LRTs, Loco-Regional Therapies

EASL-EORTC Clinical Practice Guidelines: Management of HCC



Clinical Practice Guidelines

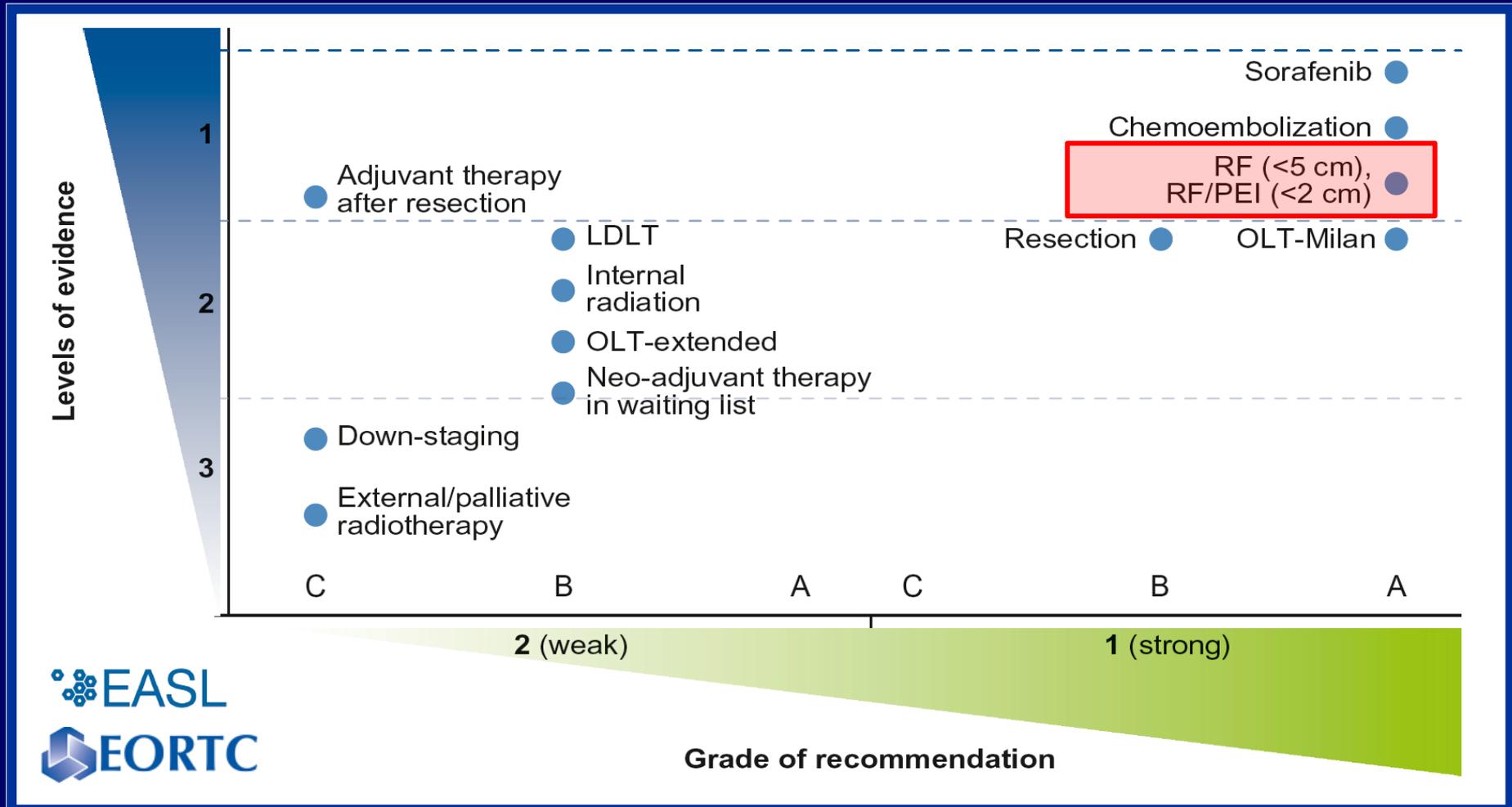


EASL–EORTC Clinical Practice Guidelines: Management of hepatocellular carcinoma

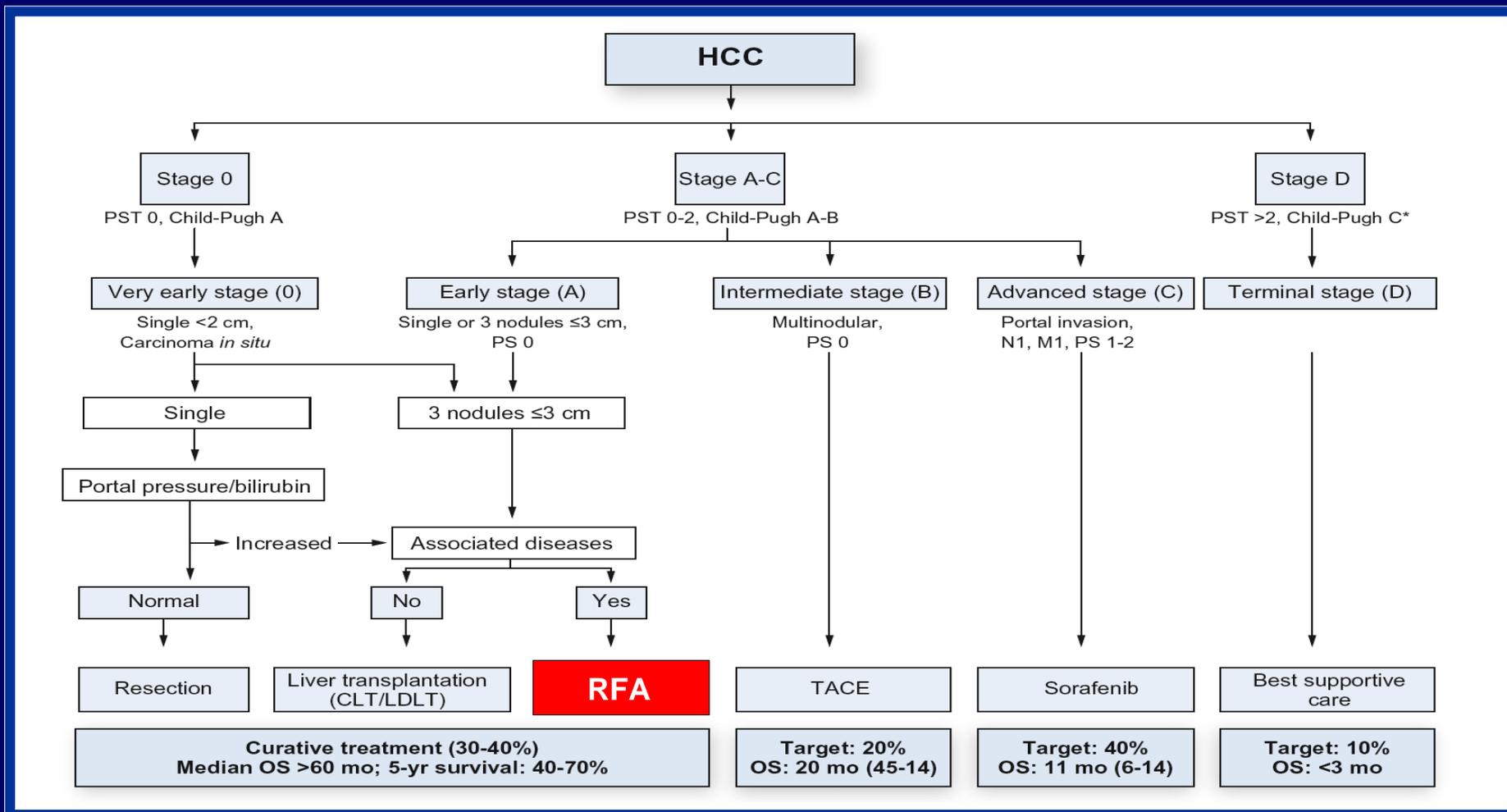
European Association for the Study of the Liver*,
European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer

Contributors: Chairmen: Josep M. Llovet (EASL); Michel Ducreux (EORTC). **Clinical Practice Guidelines Members:** Riccardo Lencioni; Adrian M. Di Bisceglie; Peter R. Galle; Jean Francois Dufour; Tim F. Greten; Eric Raymond; Tania Roskams; Thierry De Baere; Michel Ducreux; and Vincenzo Mazzaferro. **EASL Governing Board Representatives:** Mauro Bernardi. **Reviewers:** Jordi Bruix; Massimo Colombo; Andrew Zhu.

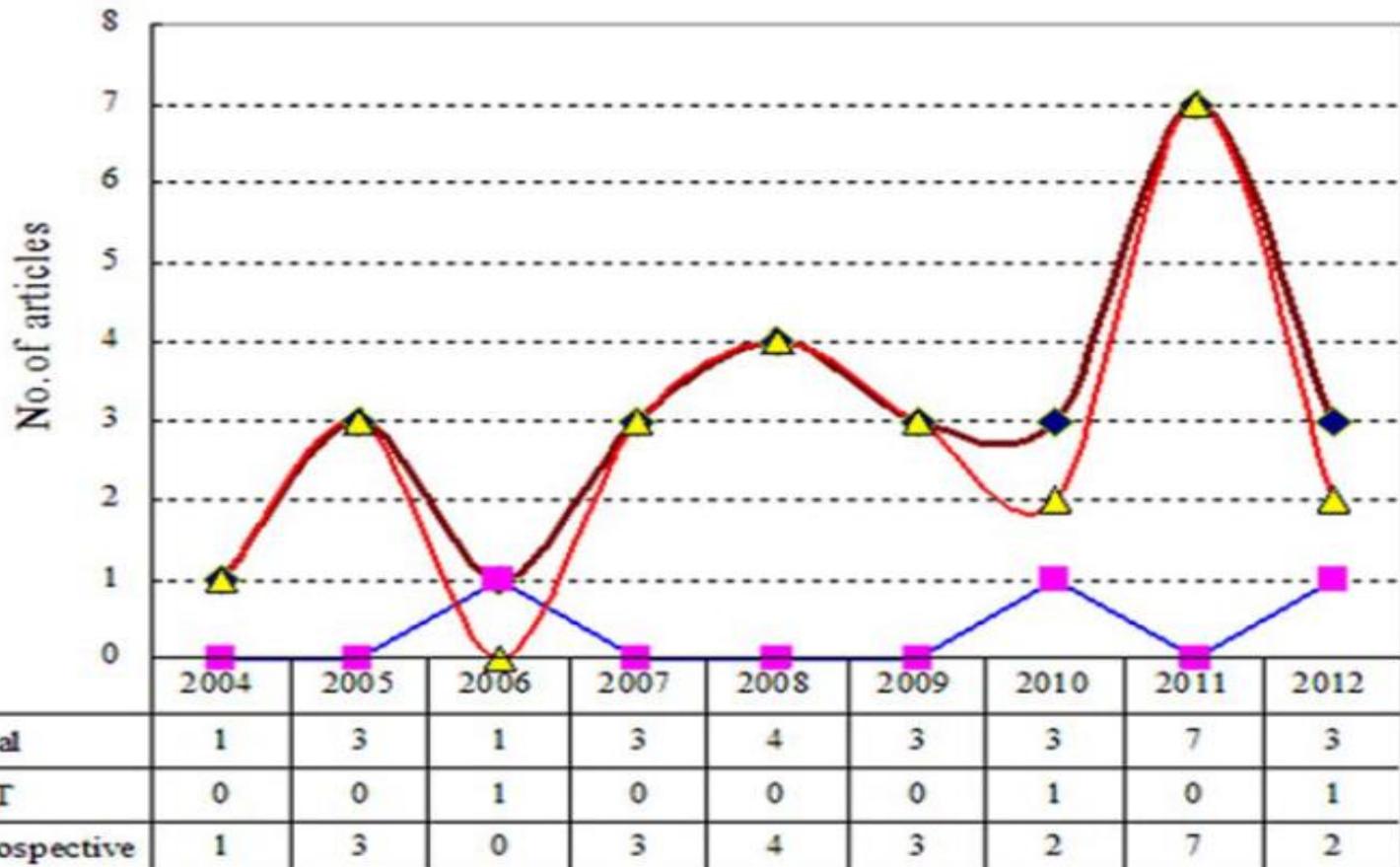
Treatment Options for HCC: Levels of Evidence and Grade of Recommendation



EASL-EORTC Clinical Practice Guidelines: BCLC Staging and Treatment Strategy

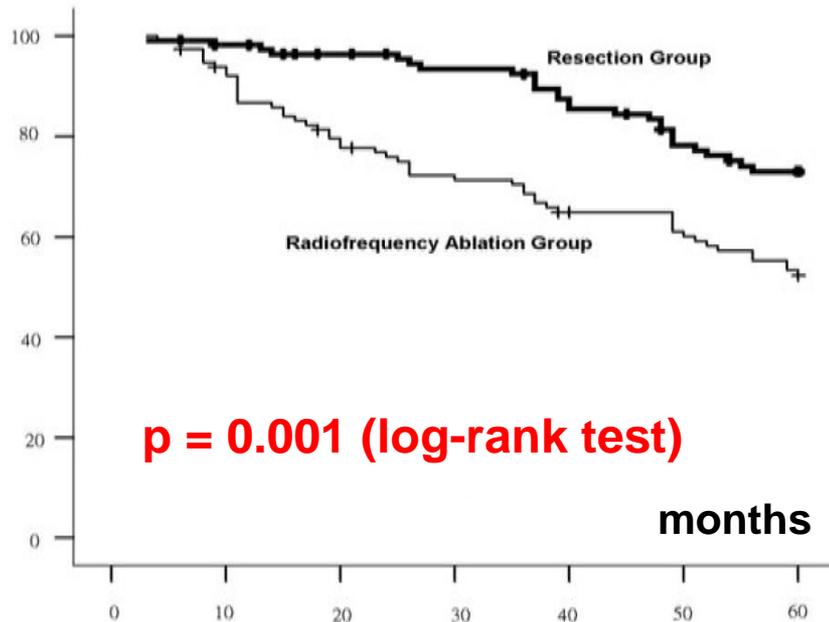


Resection versus RFA for Early-Stage HCC: Bibliometric Map of Clinical Trials



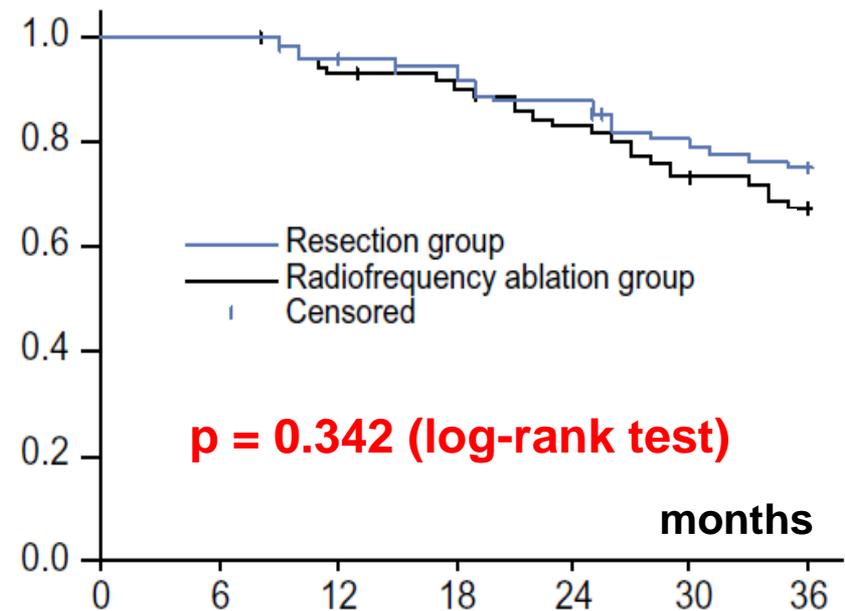
Resection vs RFA: Randomized Clinical Trials Included Tumors of Different Stages

Overall Survival



- 230 patients, **94% Child A**
- Single ≤ 5 cm, up to 3 ≤ 3 cm

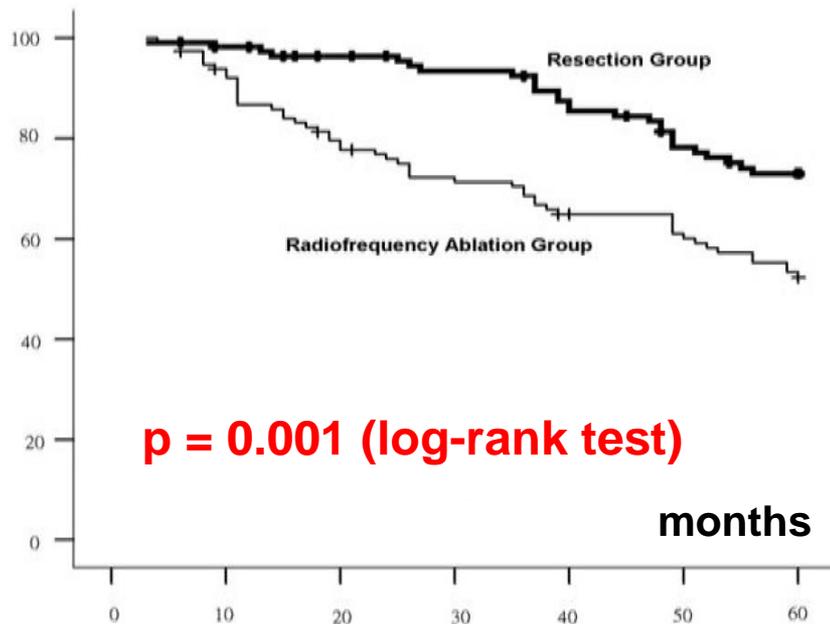
Overall Survival



- 168 patients, **49% Child A**
- Up to 2 HCC tumors ≤ 4 cm

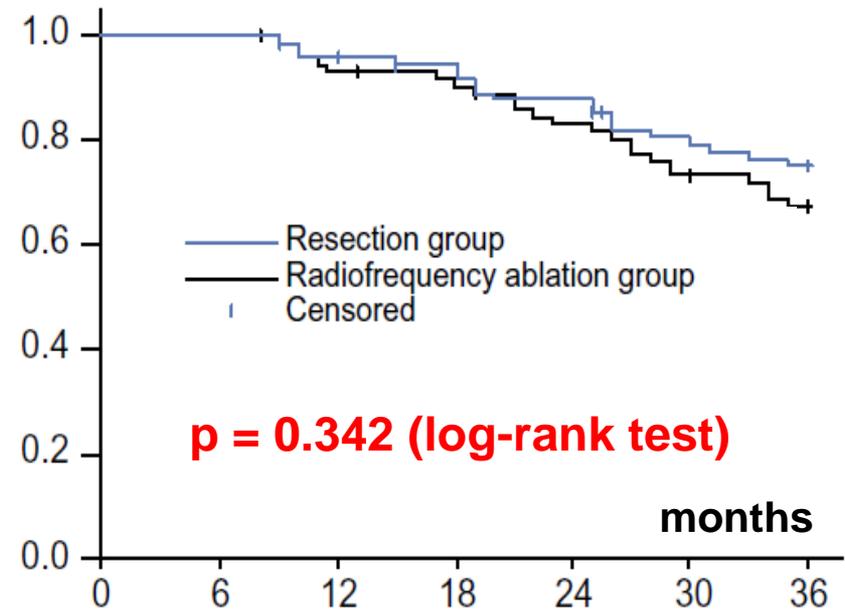
Resection vs RFA: Randomized Clinical Trials Included Tumors of Different Stages

Overall Survival



- 230 patients, 94% Child A
- **Single ≤ 5 cm, up to 3 ≤ 3 cm**

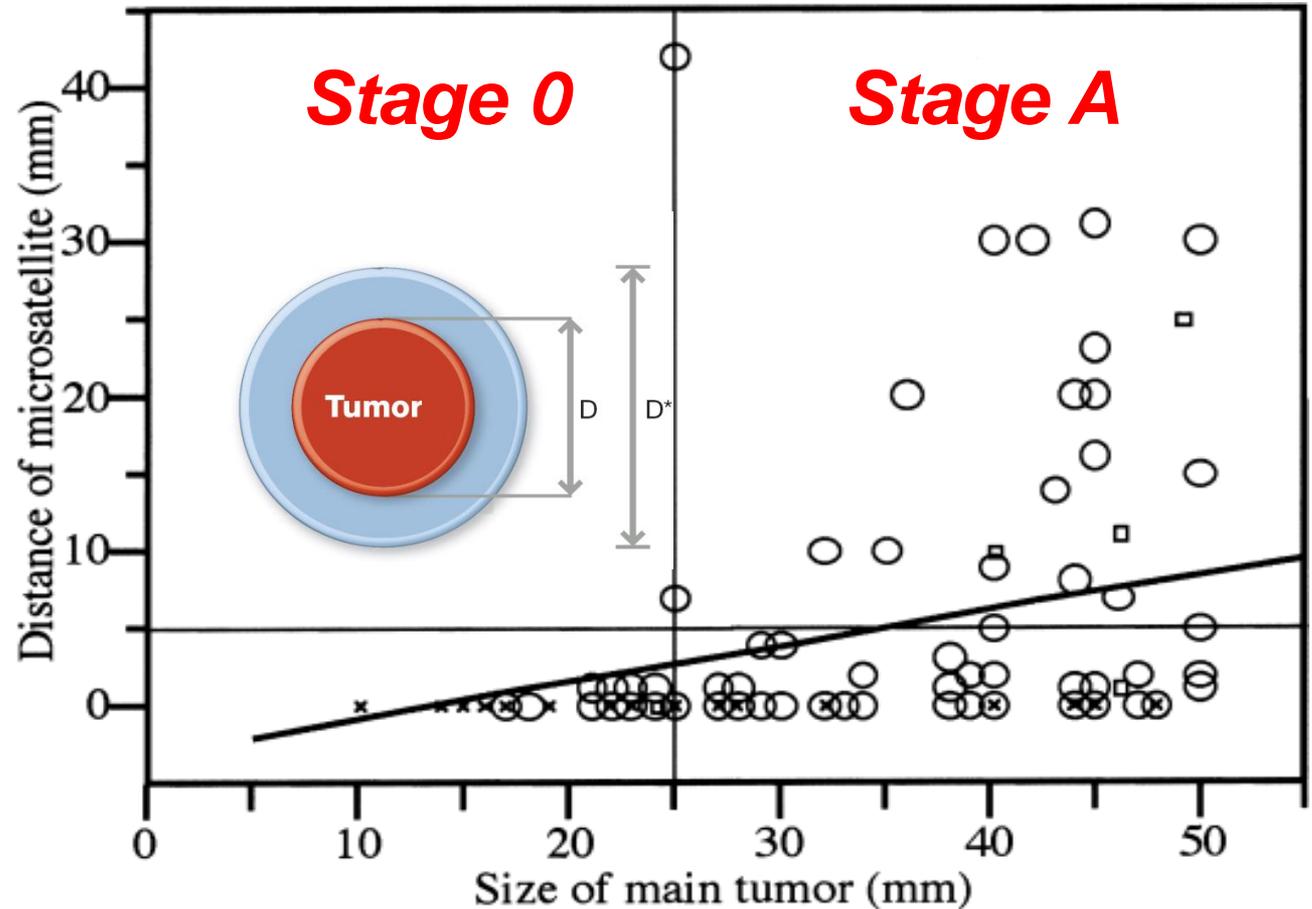
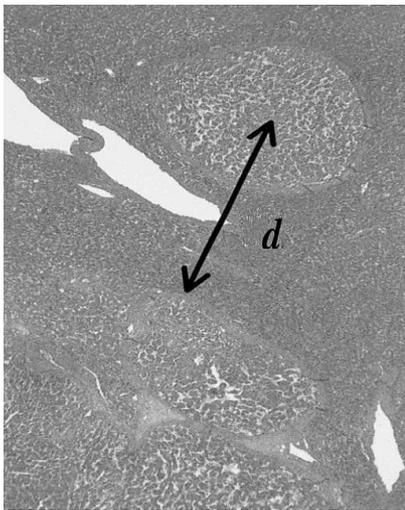
Overall Survival



- 168 patients, 49% Child A
- **Up to 2 HCC tumors ≤ 4 cm**

Stage 0 (Very Early) vs Stage A (Early) HCC: Frequency and Distribution of Microsatellites

- 46% of patients with single HCC < 5

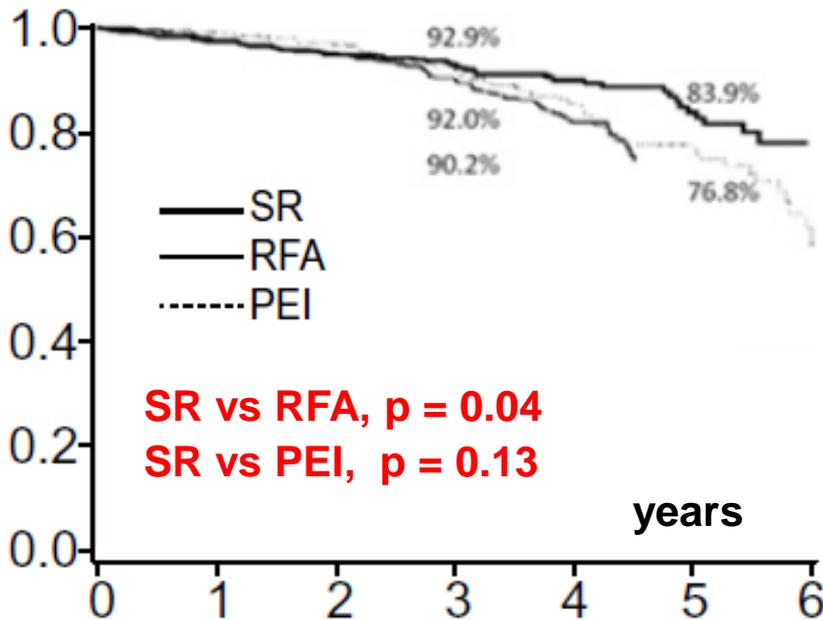


RFA: Histologic Outcome in Explanted Liver Specimens

Variables	Histologic Outcome		P Value*
	Successful RF Treatment	Unsuccessful RF Treatment	
Tumor size			
≤2.5 cm	26 (87)	4	.017
>2.5 cm	9 (53)	8	
≤3.0 cm	29 (83)	6	.050
>3 cm	6 (50)	6	
Location			.009
Nonperivascular	28 (88)	4	
Perivascular	7 (47)	8	
Sex			.29
Male	22	10	
Female	13	2	
RF device			.66
Cool-tip [†]	7	1	
Expandable [‡]	28	11	
Patient age (y)			.32
Mean	54.5	57.4	
Standard deviation	±10.6	±7.9	

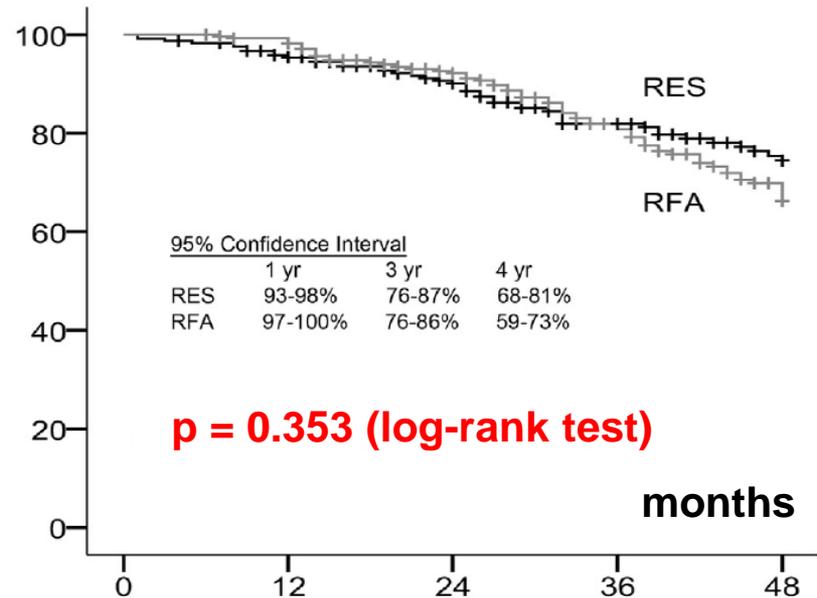
Resection vs RFA for Solitary Small Tumors: Nationwide Surveys

Overall Survival



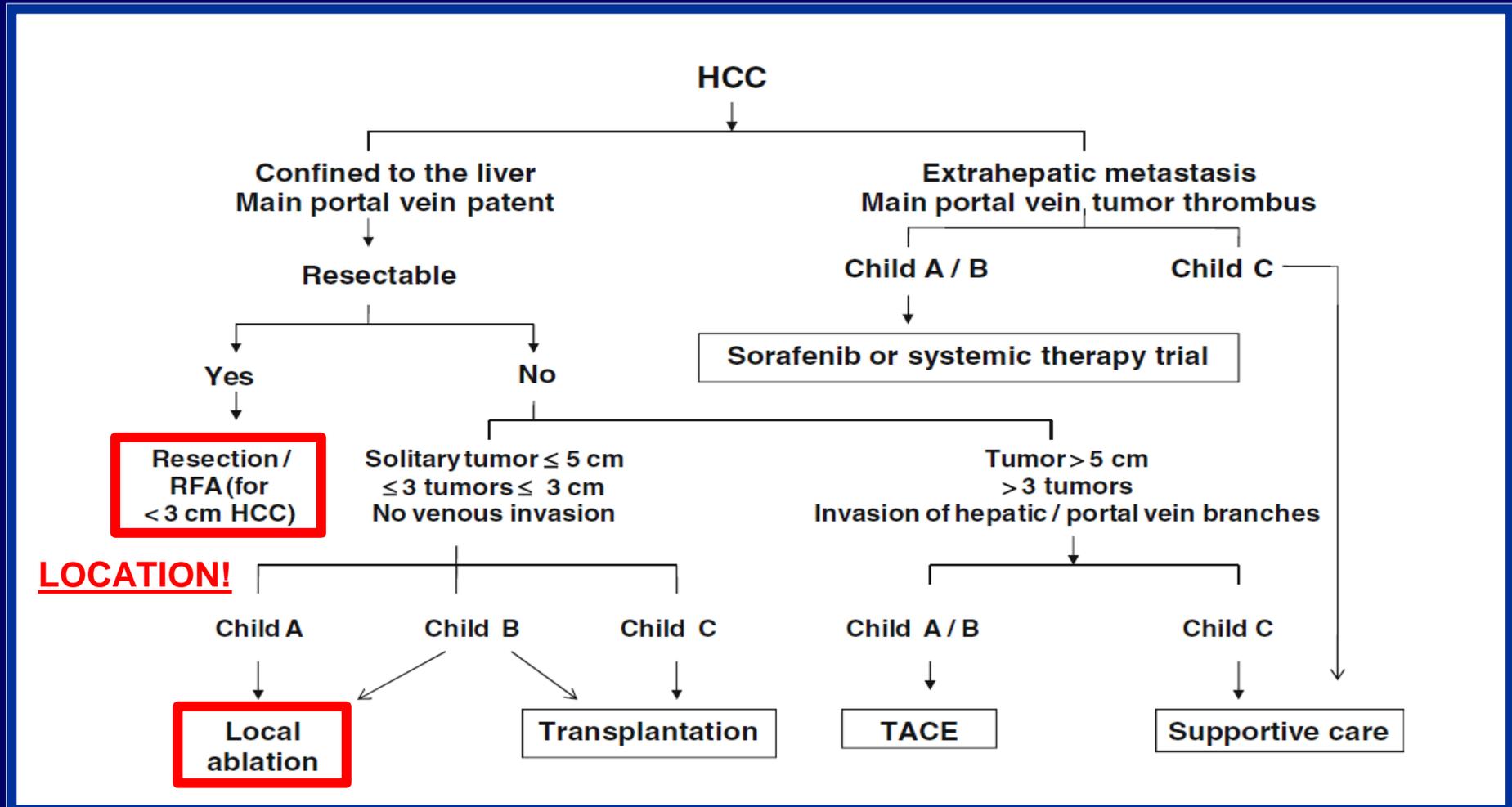
- Japanese Survey (n = 2,560)
- Single HCC ≤ 2 cm, Child A

Overall Survival



- Italian Survey (n = 544)
- Single HCC ≤ 3 cm, Child A

APASL Consensus Recommendations: The Two Roles of Ablation in HCC Treatment



Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer (BCLC): Staging System – Update 2011

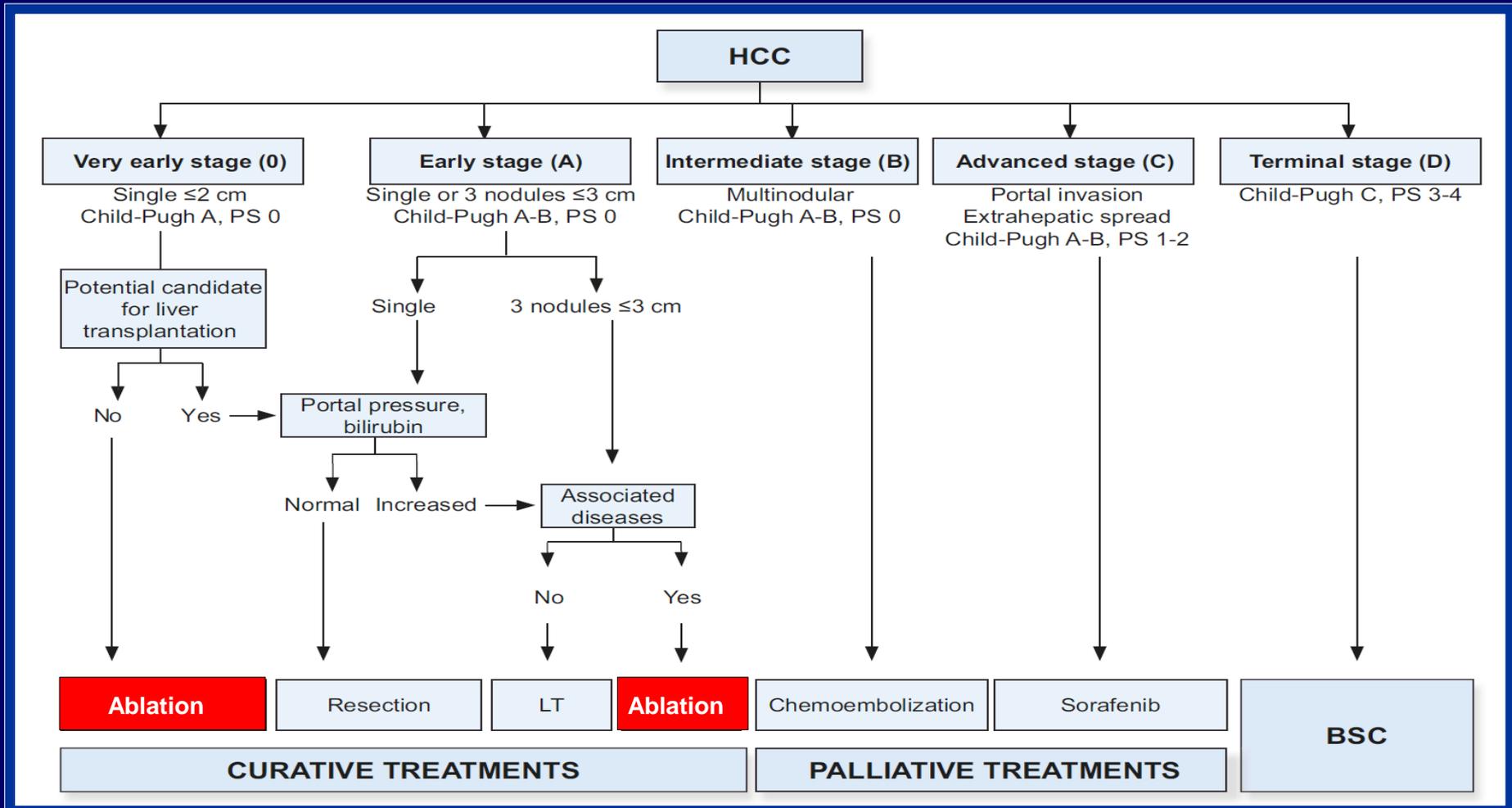


Image-Guided Ablation of HCC: Evolving Methods and Techniques

**Ablation Enhancers
(Thermally-Sensitive Drug Carriers)**

Radiofrequency Ablation

```
graph TD; RFA[Radiofrequency Ablation] --> AE["Ablation Enhancers  
(Thermally-Sensitive Drug Carriers)"]; RFA --> FU[Focused Ultrasound]; RFA --> MA[Microwave Ablation]; RFA --> LA[Laser Ablation]; RFA --> CA[Cryoablation]; RFA --> IE[Irreversible Electroporation];
```

Focused Ultrasound

Microwave Ablation

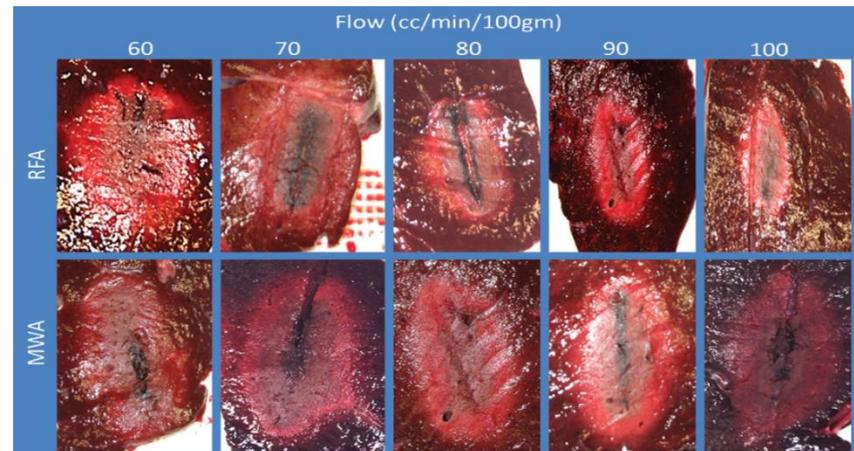
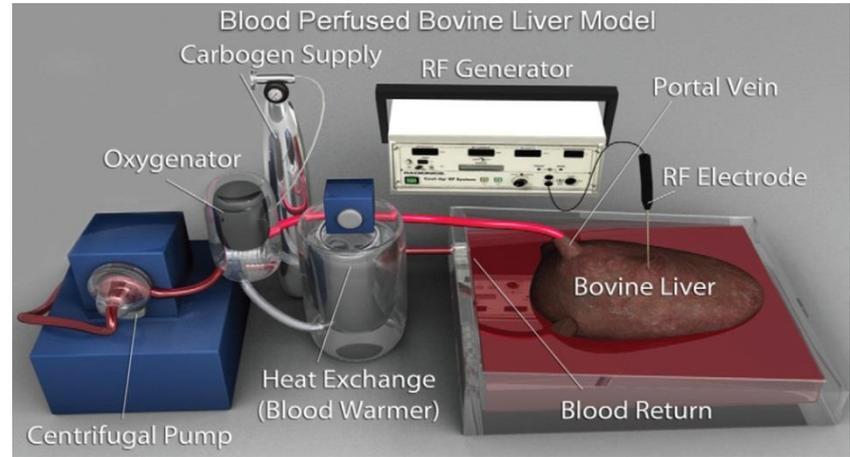
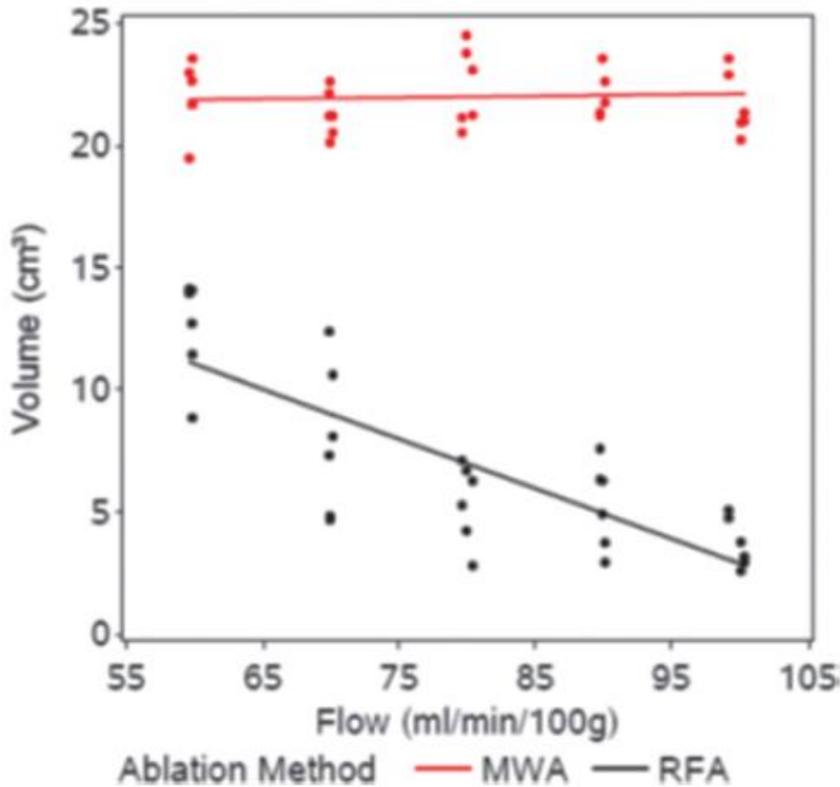
Laser Ablation

Cryoablation

Irreversible Electroporation

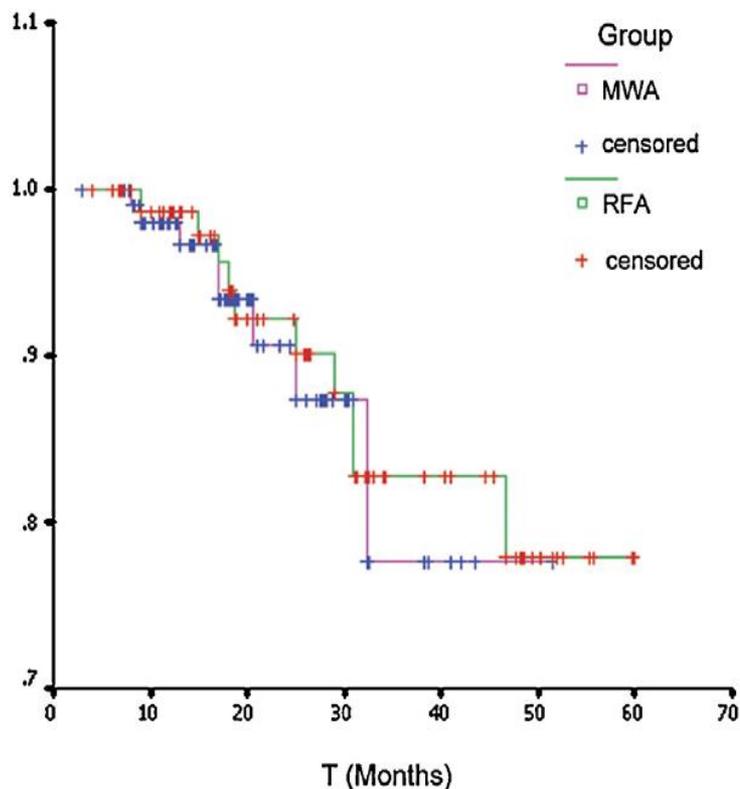
Microwave vs Radiofrequency Ablation: Experimental Findings

Figure 6



Microwave vs Radiofrequency Ablation: Retrospective Studies

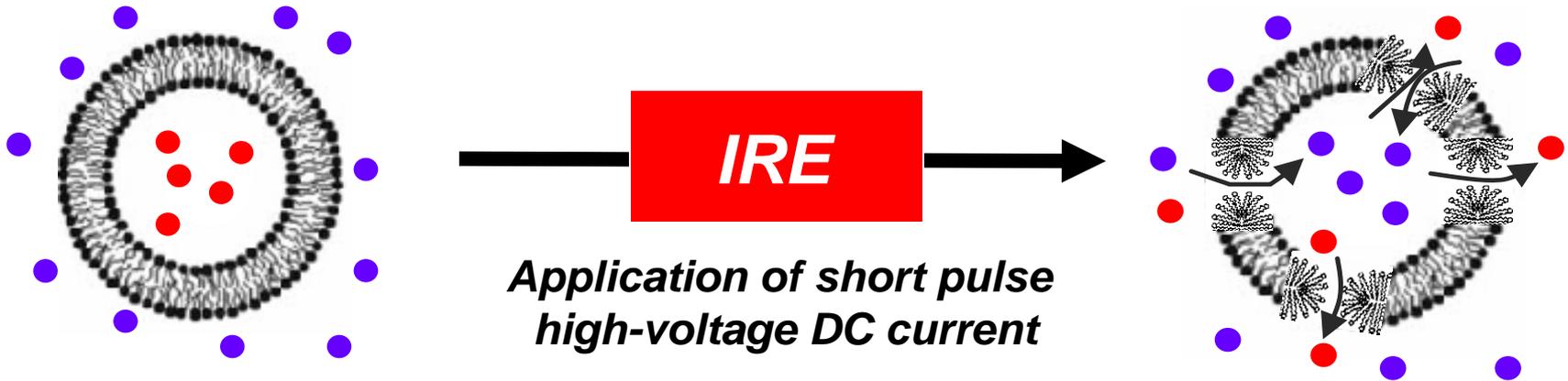
Overall Survival (n = 198)



Complications (n = 879)

Serious complication	RFA (%)	MWA (%)
Intra-peritoneal bleeding	1 (0.27)	2 (0.31)
Portal vein thrombosis	ND	1 (0.15)
Intra-hepatic haematomas	1 (0.27)	ND
Bile leak	1 (0.27)	2 (0.31)
Biloma	ND	1 (0.15)
Bile duct injury	ND	1 (0.15)
Liver dysfunction	1 (0.27)	4 (0.61)
Liver abscess	3 (0.80)	1 (0.15)
Intestinal perforation	1 (0.27)	ND
Diaphragmatic hernia	ND	2 (0.31)
Haemothorax	2 (0.53)	1 (0.15)
Intractable pleural effusion	2 (0.53)	5 (0.76)
Tumour implantation	1 (0.27)	ND
TOTAL	13 (3.5)	20 (3.1)

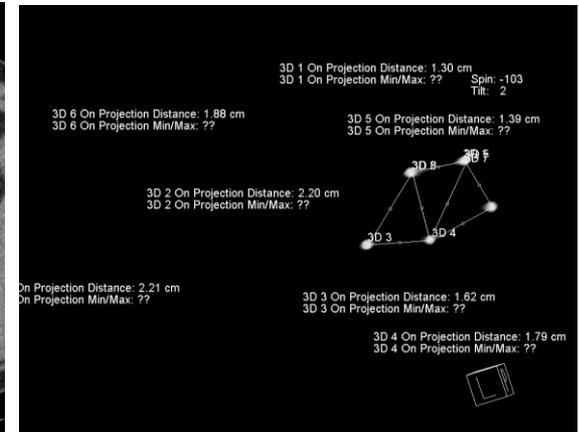
Irreversible Electroporation (IRE): A Novel, Non-Thermal Ablation Technique



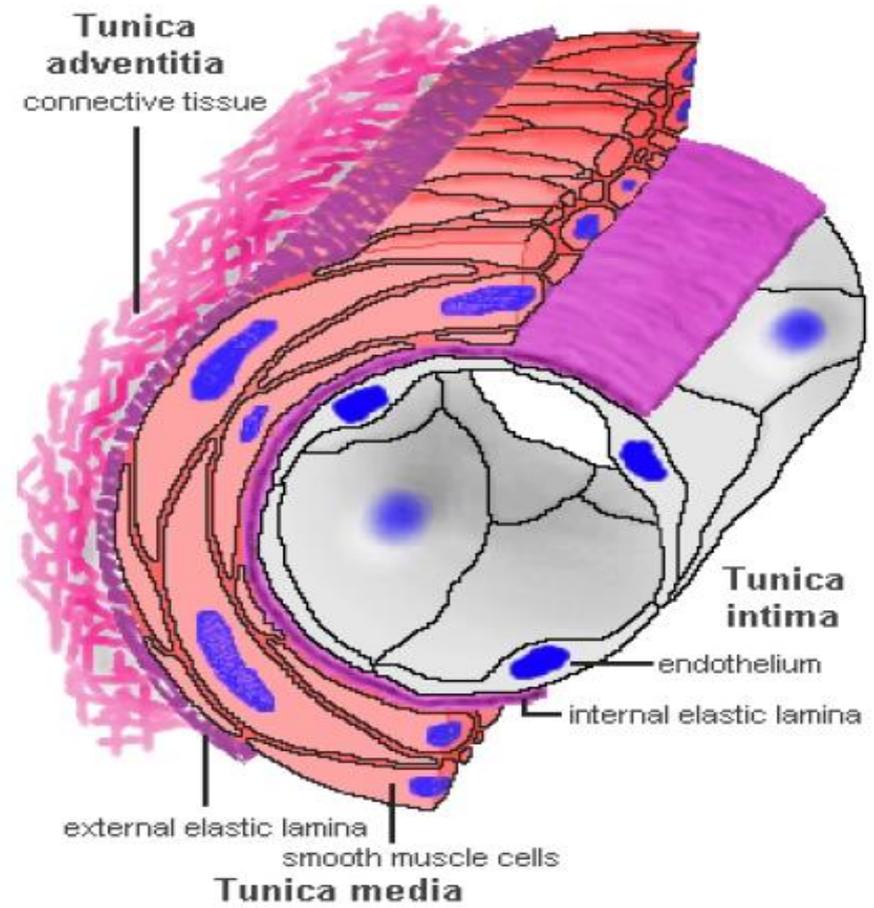
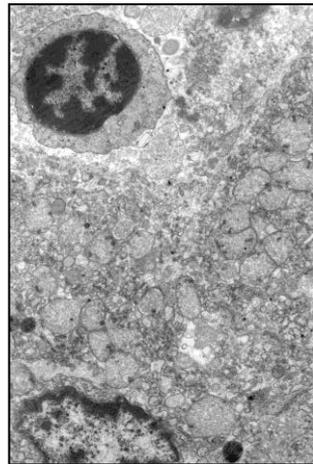
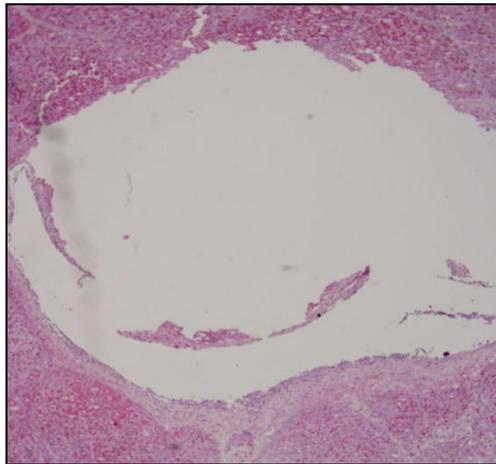
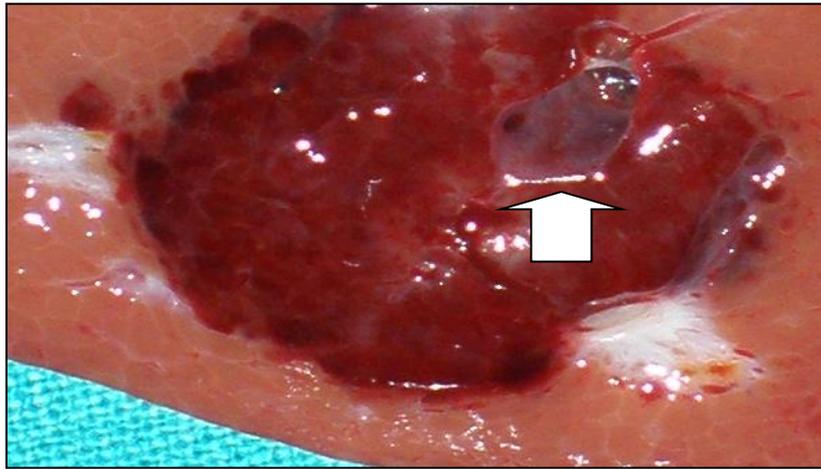
P+	P-	Voltage	Pulse Length	Num Pulses	V/cm	Distance
4	5	3000	70	90	1500	2.0
1	2	2850	70	90	1500	1.9
2	3	2850	70	90	1500	1.9
3	4	2850	70	90	1500	1.9
5	1	2850	70	90	1500	1.9
1	6	2550	70	90	1500	1.7
3	6	2550	70	90	1500	1.7
5	6	2400	70	90	1500	1.6
6	2	2400	70	90	1500	1.6
6	4	2400	70	90	1500	1.6

Default Setting: 1500 Volts/cm, Linear

Probe Dock And Exposure: Dock Probes, UnDock Probes

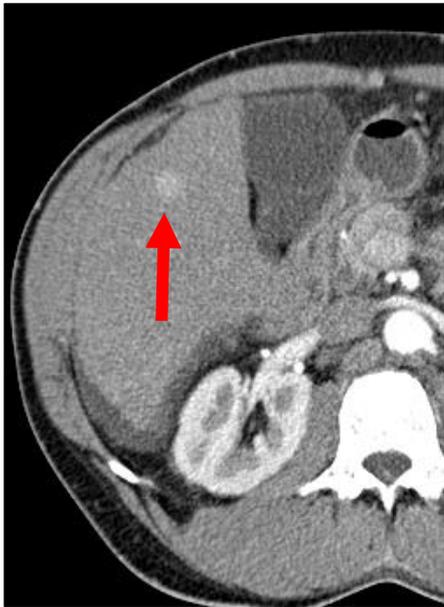


Irreversible Electroporation (IRE): Experimental Findings

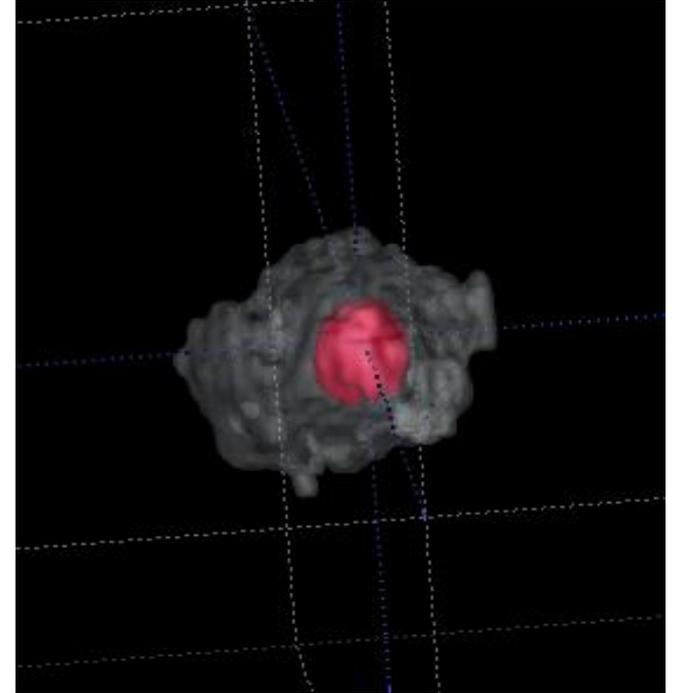
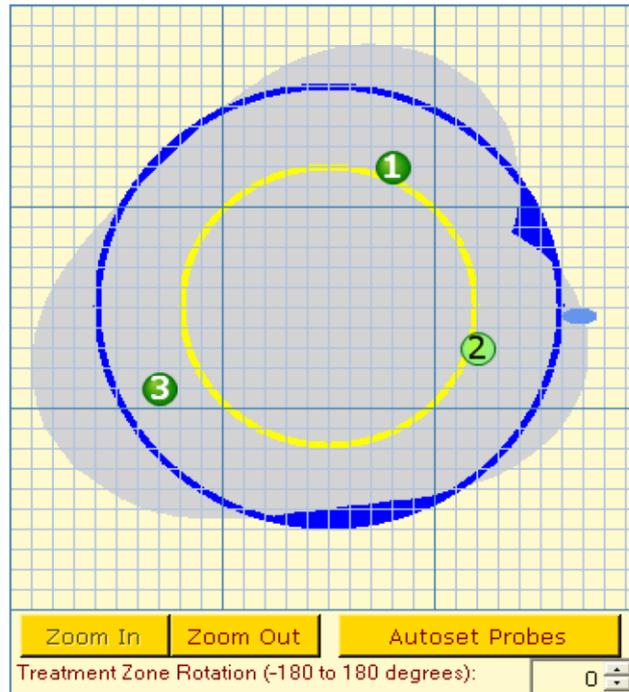


A Prospective Phase II Trial Using IRE for the Treatment of Early-Stage HCC

- Multicenter study (26 subjects, 5 European centers)
- Primary endpoint: response by mRECIST, 2-year follow-up



Baseline



A Prospective Phase II Trial Using IRE for the Treatment of Early-Stage HCC

- Multicenter study (26 subjects, 5 European centers)
- Primary endpoint: response by mRECIST, 2-year follow-up



Baseline



72 hours



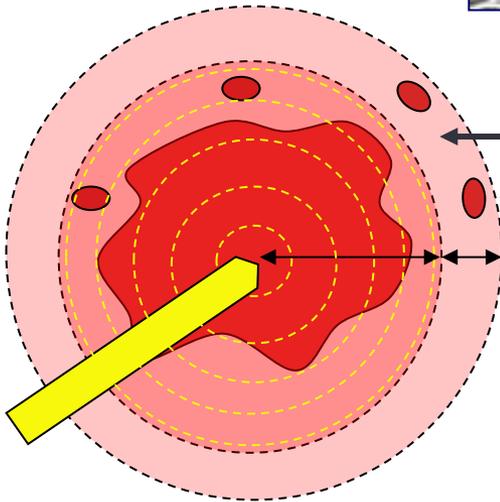
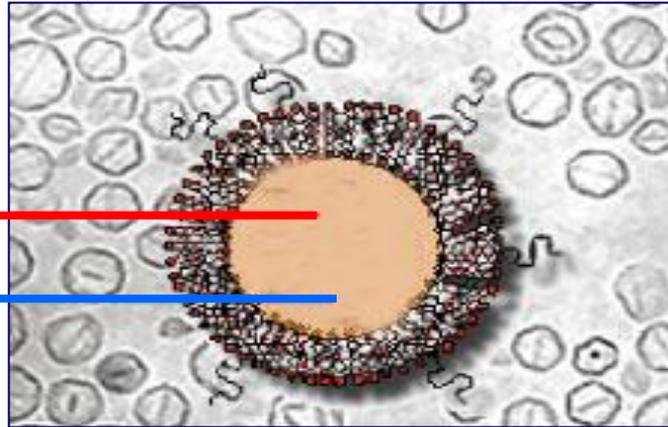
6 months



24 months

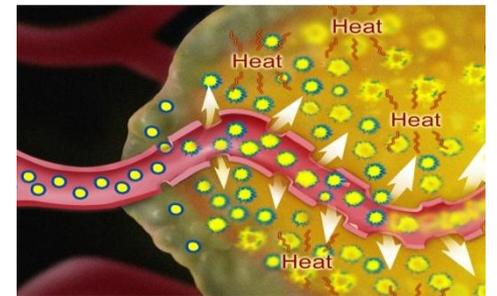
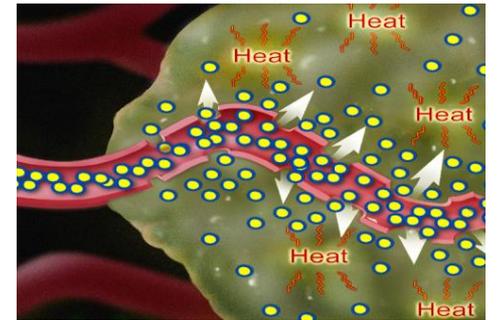
RFA in Combination with Heat-Activated Liposomal Encapsulation of Doxorubicin

Doxorubicin
(Other drugs)



39- 50°C

**high concentration
of doxorubicin
deposited by
ThermoDox
(Celsion Corporation)**



HEAT Trial: A Phase III Randomized Controlled Study of RFA + ThermoDox vs RFA Alone

The logo for the HEAT trial, featuring the word "HEAT" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A yellow swoosh underline is positioned beneath the letters "H", "E", and "A".

A Phase III, Randomized, Double-Blinded, Dummy-Controlled Study of the Efficacy and Safety of ThermoDox® in Combination with RFA Compared to RFA Alone in the Treatment of HCC

Inclusion Criteria

- HCC 3-7 cm
- ≤ 4 tumors
- Candidate for RFA
- Child-Pugh A-B
- No prior treatment

Randomization

50 mg/m² ThermoDox

Dummy infusion

n = 701

Primary Endpoint

- PFS

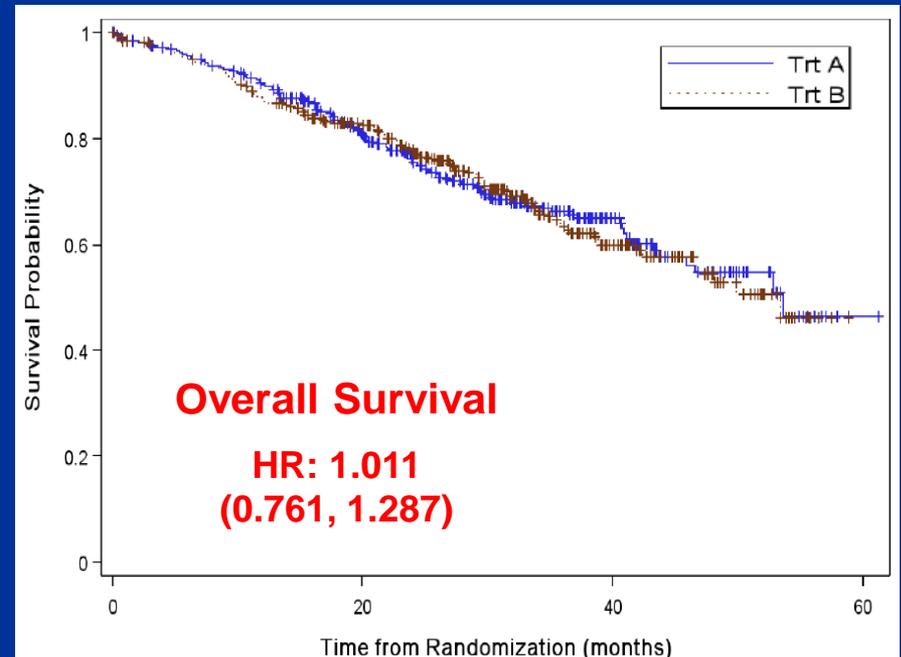
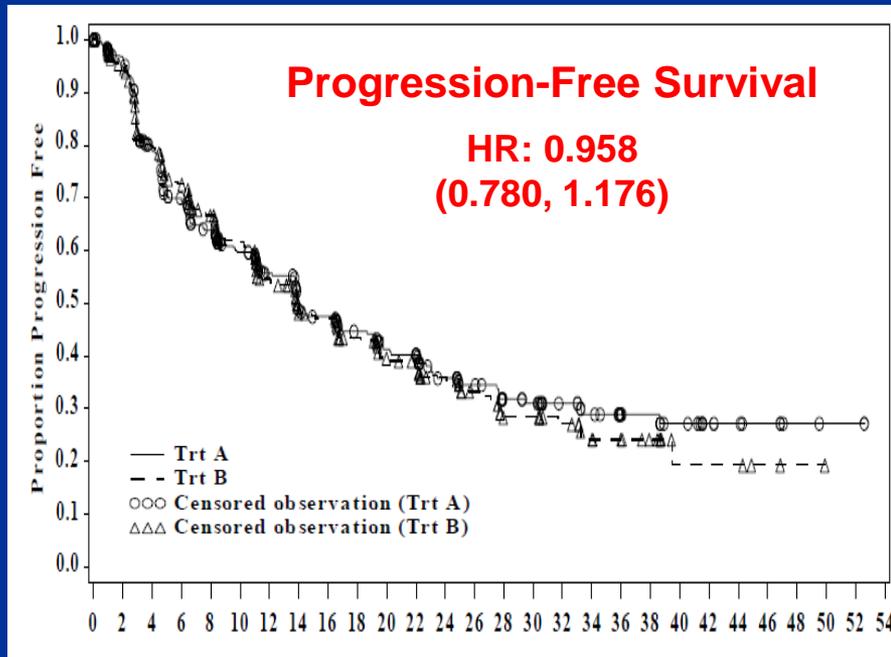
Secondary Endpoints

- OS
- TTLR
- Safety
- Others

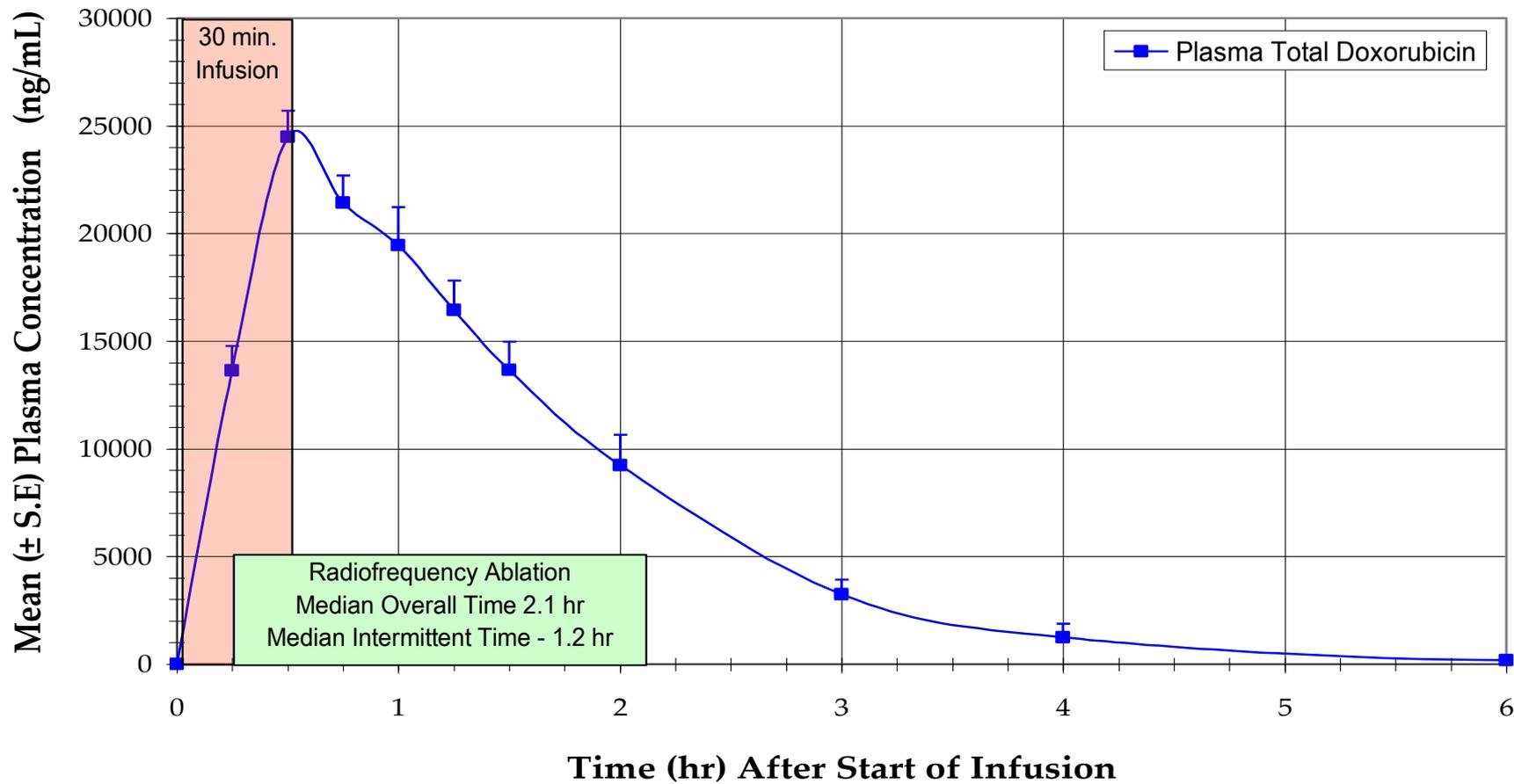
HEAT Trial: A Phase III Randomized Controlled Study of RFA + ThermoDox vs RFA Alone



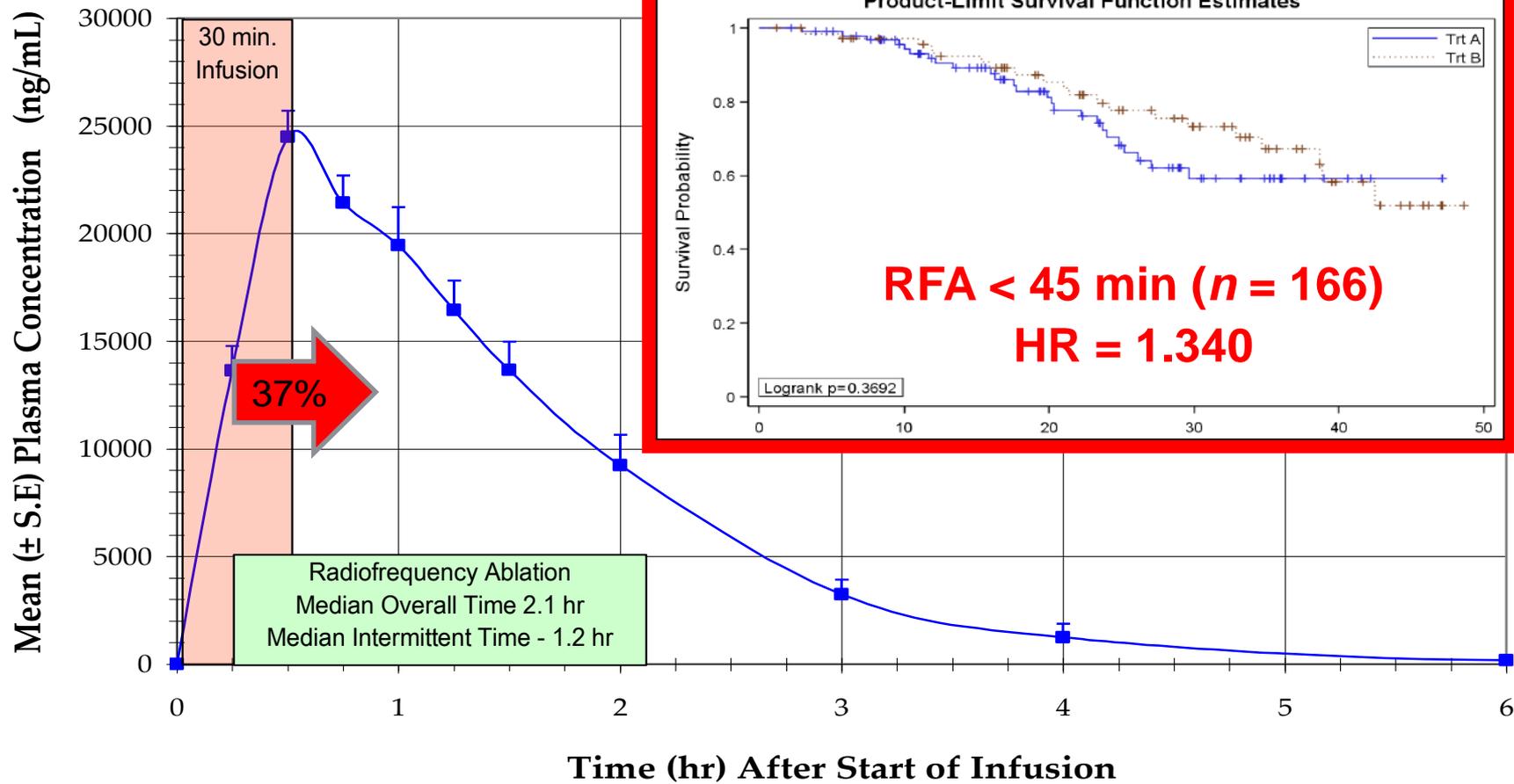
A Phase III, Randomized, Double-Blinded, Dummy-Controlled Study of the Efficacy and Safety of ThermoDox® in Combination with RFA Compared to RFA Alone in the Treatment of HCC



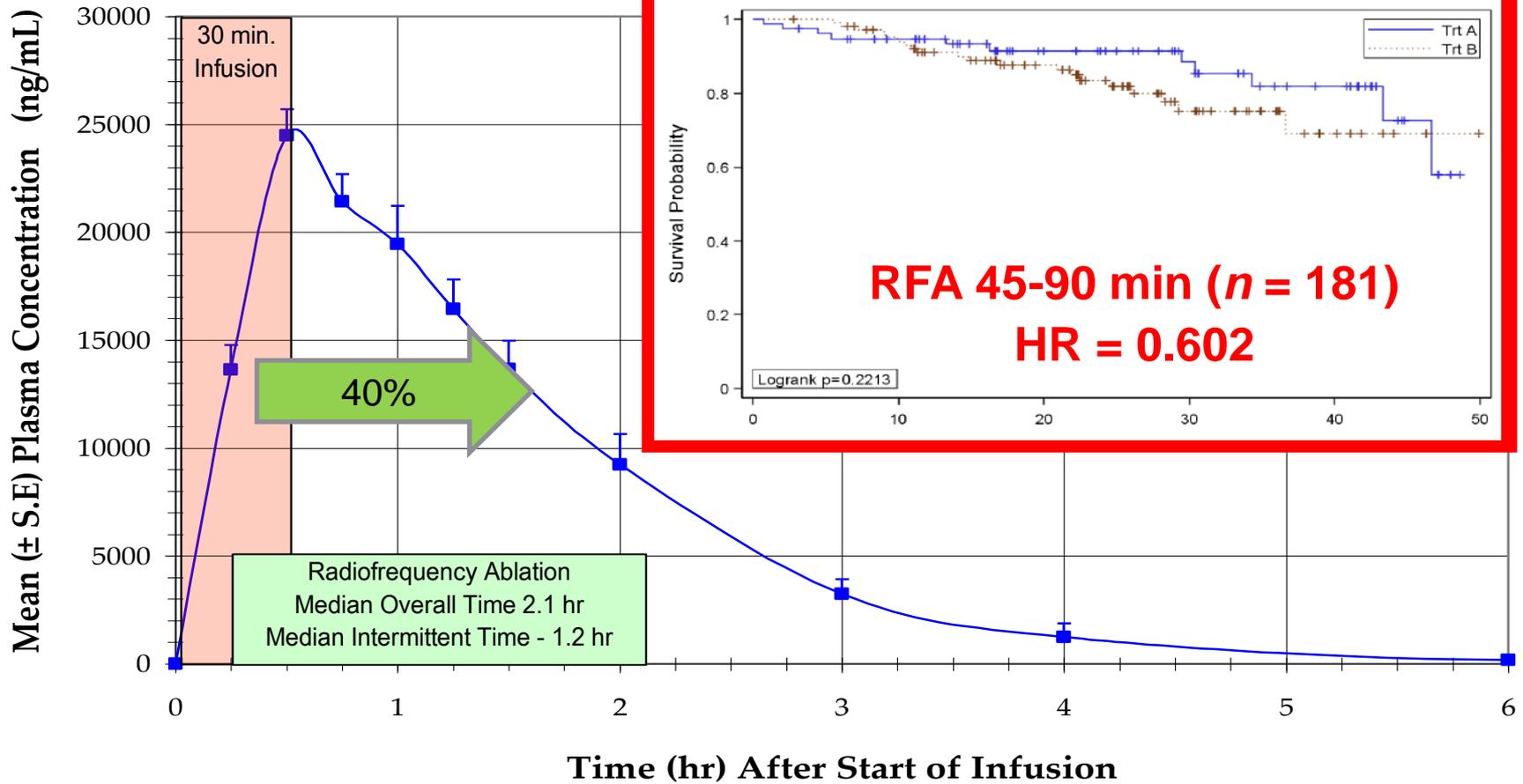
HEAT Trial: A Phase III Randomized Controlled Study of RFA + ThermoDox vs RFA Alone



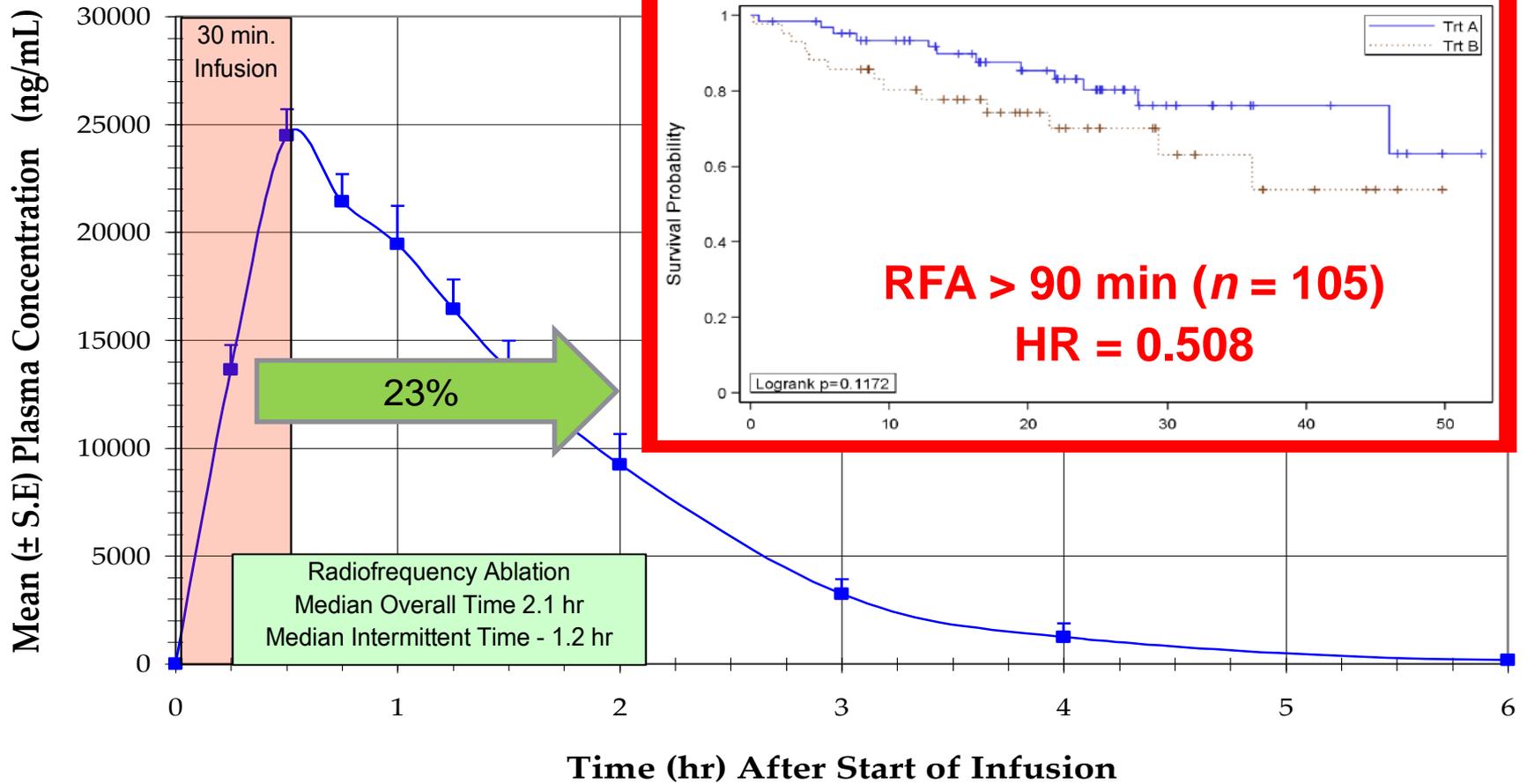
HEAT Trial: A Phase III Randomized Controlled Study of RFA + ThermoDox vs RFA Alone



HEAT Trial: A Phase III Randomized Controlled Study of RFA + ThermoDox vs RFA Alone

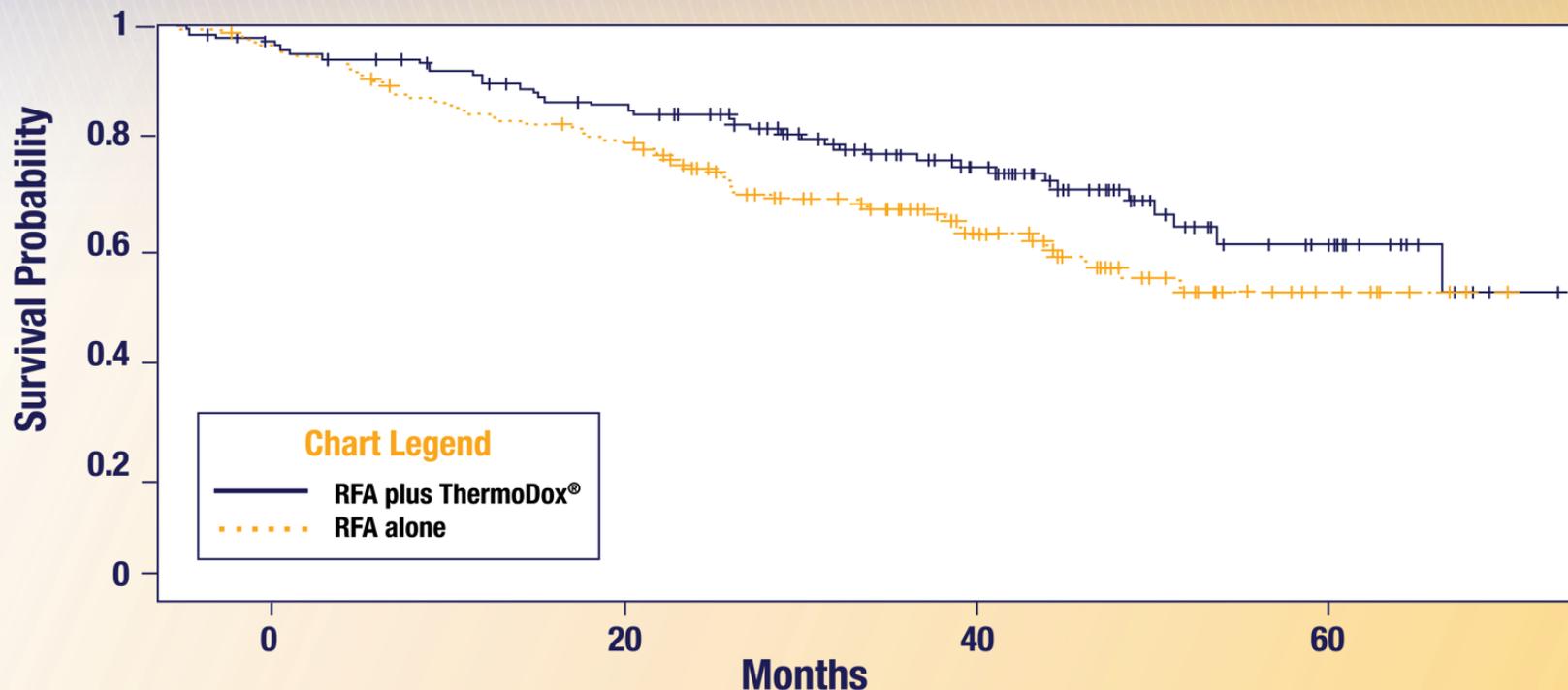


HEAT Trial: A Phase III Randomized Controlled Study of RFA + ThermoDox vs RFA Alone



Sub-Group Analysis of HEAT Study Data: 285 Patients with Optimized RFA (>45 mins)

Product-Limit Survival Function Estimates



Overall Survival as of 6/30/2014

HR=0.639 (95% CI 0.419–0.974) P Value=0.037

The Study Design Difference- Optimizing both RFA & Chemo

The new OPTIMA protocol

104-13-302

differs substantially

from the earlier 700 patient

Phase III trial

- **Optimized thermal ablation**
(by requiring multiple overlapping RFA ablation cycles)
- **Optimized doxorubicin tumor tissue concentration**
(by heating the target area for at least 45 minutes to concentrate a therapeutic amount of doxorubicin in tumor tissue)
- **Eligibility limited to patients with a single HCC lesion**
- **Overall Survival is the primary endpoint**

Percutaneous Ablation for HCC in 2014: Take-Home Points

- **Resection and RFA are equally effective for stage 0 (very early) HCC tumors**
 - ***Complementary vs competitive: location, location, location!***

Percutaneous Ablation for HCC in 2014: Take-Home Points

- **Resection and RFA are equally effective for stage 0 (very early) HCC tumors**
 - ***Complementary vs competitive: location, location, location!***
- **Ablation is recommended for stage A (early) HCC in patients who are not optimal surgical candidates**
 - ***Novel technologies (MWA, IRE) seem to be able to overcome some of the limitations of RFA: data, data, data!***

Percutaneous Ablation for HCC in 2014: Take-Home Points

- **Resection and RFA are equally effective for stage 0 (very early) HCC tumors**
 - ***Complementary vs competitive: location, location, location!***
- **Ablation is recommended for stage A (early) HCC in patients who are not optimal surgical candidates**
 - ***Novel technologies (MWA, IRE) seem to be able to overcome some of the limitations of RFA: data, data, data!***
- **The high rate of incomplete response / recurrence after RFA remains a major unmet medical need**
 - ***Research on novel drugs / new carriers is a top priority***