

# ***Thermo-sensitive Drug Assisted Ablation***

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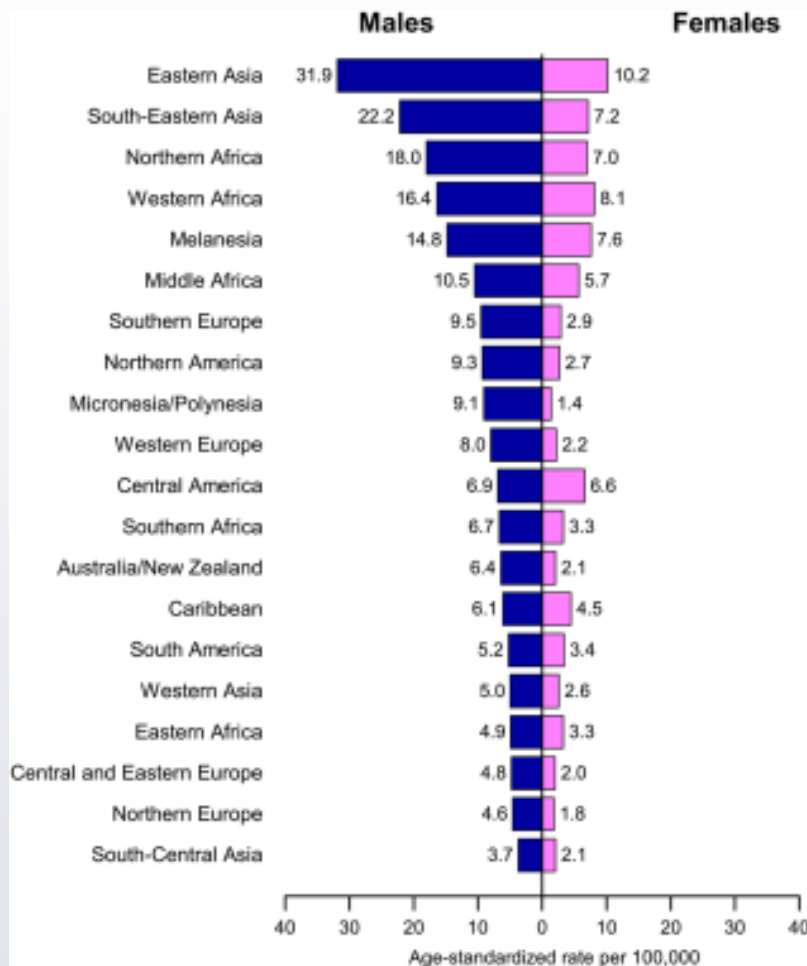
**Asian Conference on Tumor Ablation (ACTA 2016)**

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## Global Liver Cancer Statistics, 2012



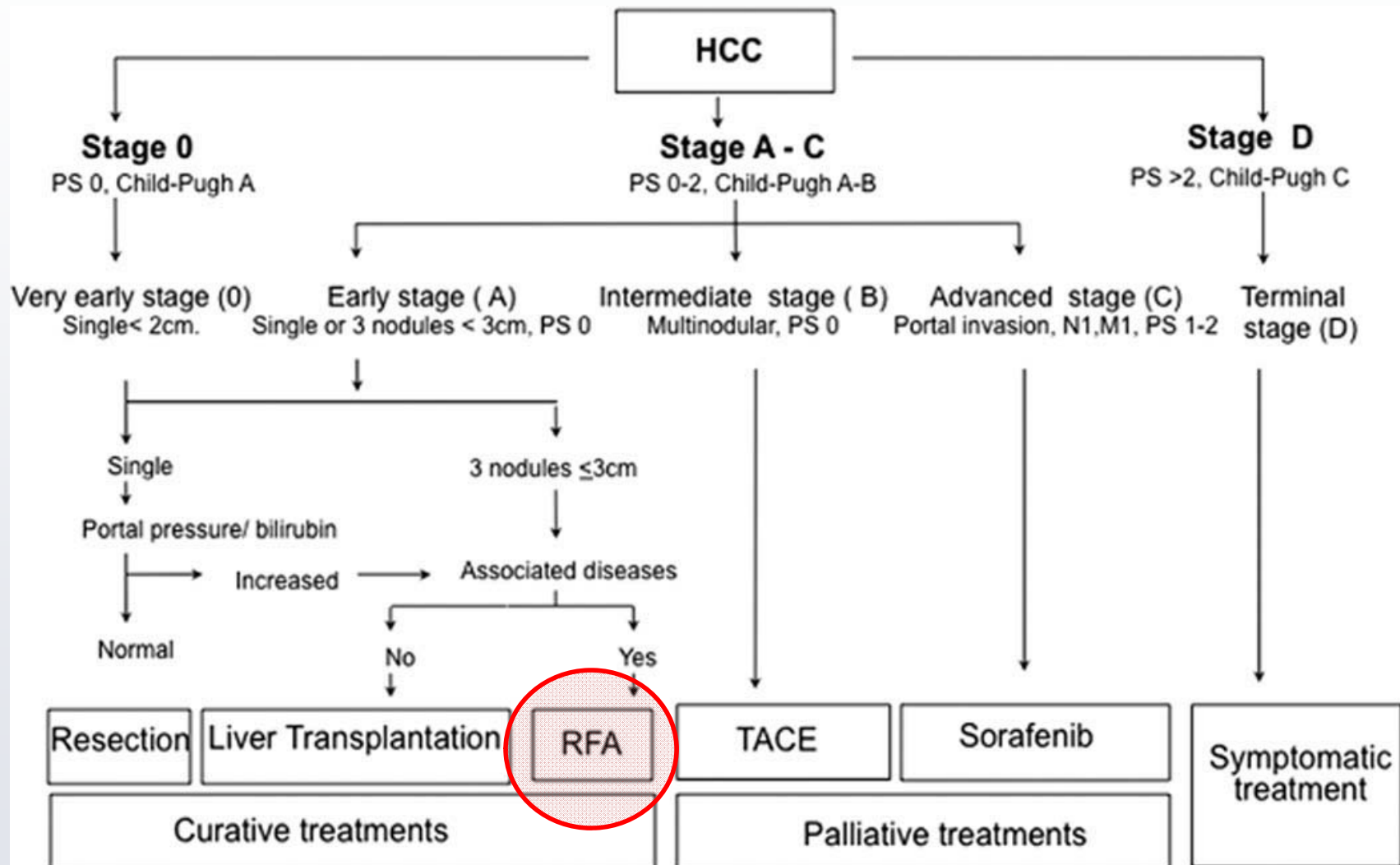
- 782,500 new cases and 745,500 deaths in 2012
- In men second leading cause of death worldwide
- China accounts for 50% total cases and deaths
- Rates are increasing in Oceania, Western Europe, Northern America due to increase in HCV & obesity
- Rates decreasing in China and Japan due to decrease in HCV and HBV

CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians

Volume 65, Issue 2, pages 87-108, 4 FEB 2015 DOI: 10.3322/caac.21262

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21262/full#caac21262-fig-0009>

# Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer Staging System



## RFA in Hepatocellular Carcinoma

- Standard Liver Cancer Staging Systems have recommended RFA for patients with early stage HCC
- However studies have shown that RFA can be safely used in early to intermediate sized tumors with comparable outcome to surgery (*Kudo et al, 2010; Hung et al, 2011; Hocquelet et al, 2015*)

## RFA in Intermediate Size HCC

- HCC > 3cm are difficult to cure
  - Difficult to obtain adequate margin around tumor
- Post RFA recurrence rate high
  - Greater than 40%
  - Large lesions cannot be treated within a single ablation zone
  - Viable tumor cells may be left in margins or clefts of ablation zones
- Multi-modality approach may be beneficial

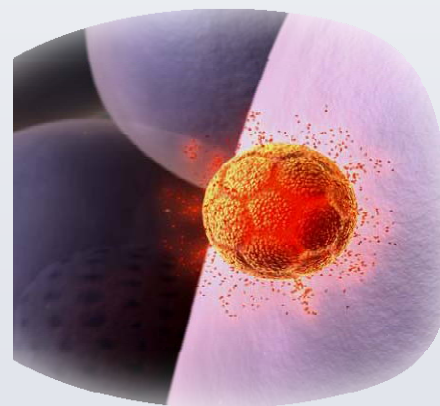
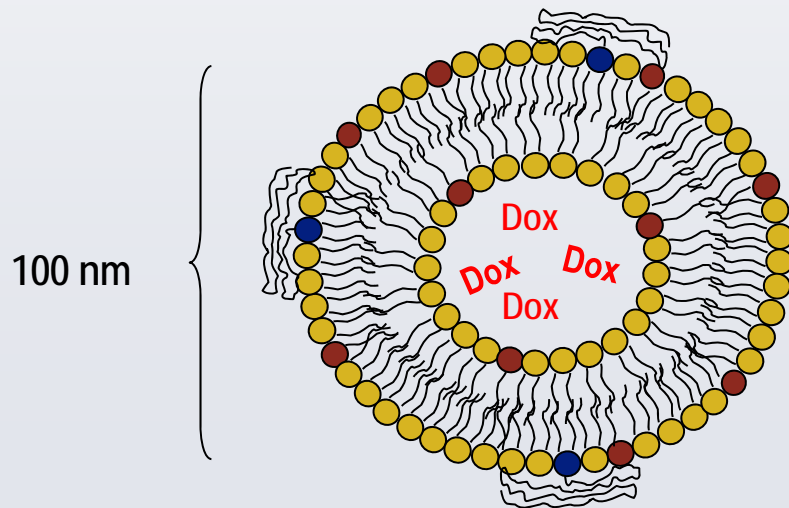
## Radiofrequency ablation-based combination therapies

- Surgery for resectable tumors and for unresectable tumors (efficacy additive)
  - RFA + partial hepatectomy
- Precede RFA with local treatment to downsize tumor (efficacy additive)
  - TACE + RFA
- Follow RFA with systemic therapy to eradicate residual tumor (efficacy additive)
  - RFA + Interferon
  - RFA + Sorafenib (or new molecular targeted agents)
  - RFA + Vitamin analogue
- **Simultaneous RFA and heat-enhanced, organ-specific chemotherapy (efficacy synergistic)**
  - RFA + Lyso-thermosensitive liposomal doxorubicin

Poon RT, et al. Future Oncol. 2011 Aug;7(8):937-45.

# ThermoDox Product Design Principles

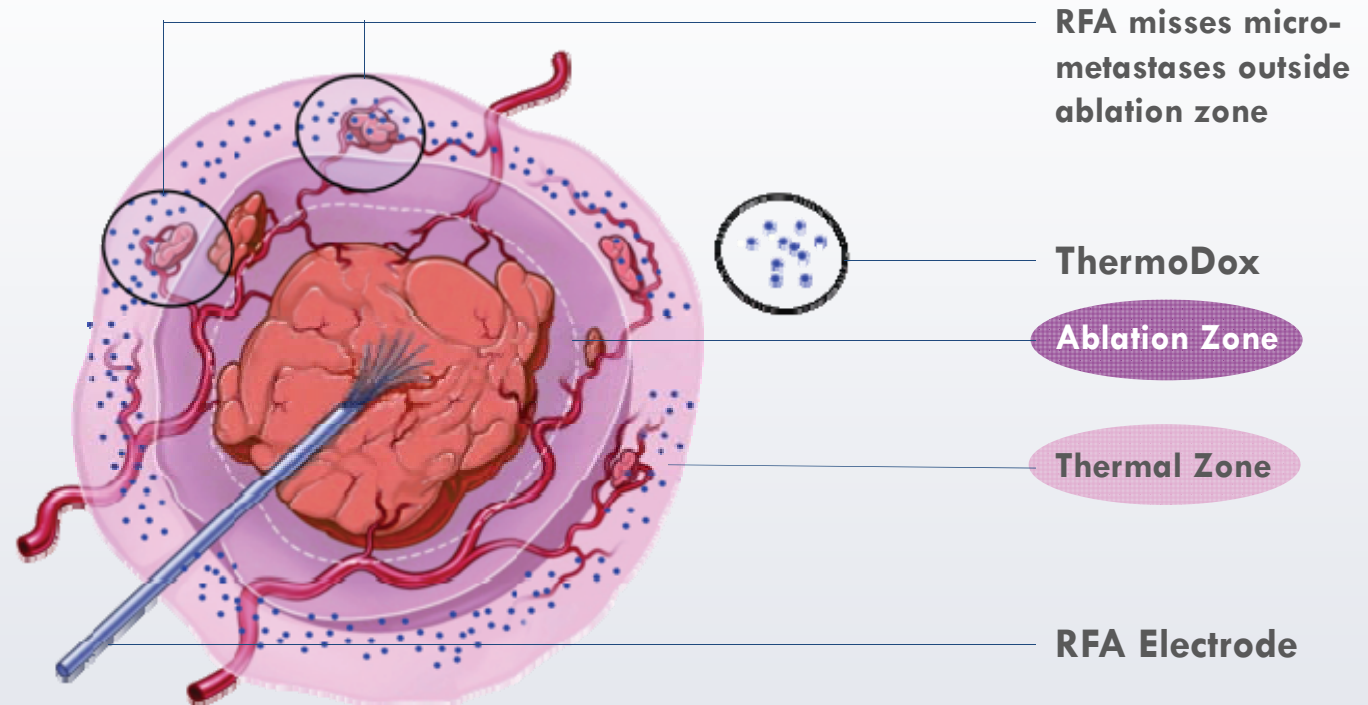
- Near complete encapsulation of Doxorubicin HCl
- Release of the encapsulated Doxorubicin with mild thermal warming ( $> 39.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Ability to provide adequate systemic circulation to allow Mononuclear Phagocytic System (MPS) and Enhanced Permeation and Retention (EPR) to concentrate at tumor target
- Heat inducing medical devices to warm the target tumor - initiating a rapid drug release in the targeted tumor vasculature



# ThermoDox + RF Liver Ablation

Expanding the Treatment Zone Addresses RFA Limitations

- ThermoDox infused IV ~15 minutes prior to sRFA
- RFA ablates tumor and creates a “Thermal Zone” in margin surrounding the tumor
- Doxorubicin is released in the “Thermal Zone” expanding treatment area and killing the metastases outside the ablation zone





# A Global Phase 3 Multi-Center Trial in HCC : HEAT Trial

## RFA + ThermoDox for HCC

<b>Primary Endpoint:</b>	Progression Free Survival
<b>Secondary Endpoints:</b>	Overall Survival, Time to Local Recurrence, Time to Definite Worsening and Safety

### General Eligibility:

- Non-resectable
- No previous treatment
- Child-Pugh A or B
- No more than 4 lesions
- At least 1 lesion >3 cm and none >7 cm

### Stratification:

- Lesion size: 3-5 cm and 5-7 cm
- RFA technique:
  - Open surgical
  - Laparoscopic
  - Percutaneous

Randomize  
1:1

n=350

ThermoDox  
plus RFA

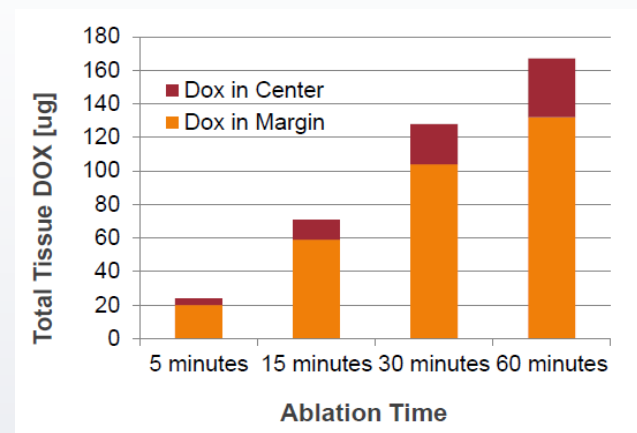
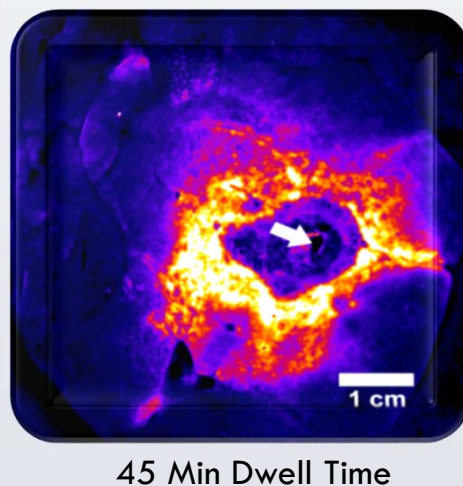
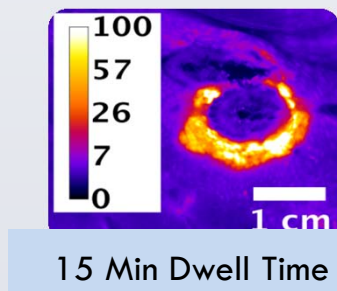
n=350

Dummy  
Infusion plus  
RFA

# RFA Dwell Time Matters!

## Learnings from the 700 patient HEAT Study

- When standardized for dwell time and lesion number, the ThermoDox patients demonstrated difference in Overall Survival
- The hypothesis that dwell time increases local doxorubicin concentration was then tested and demonstrated in computer simulation study
- The hypothesis was further tested and demonstrated in an in-vivo porcine model:



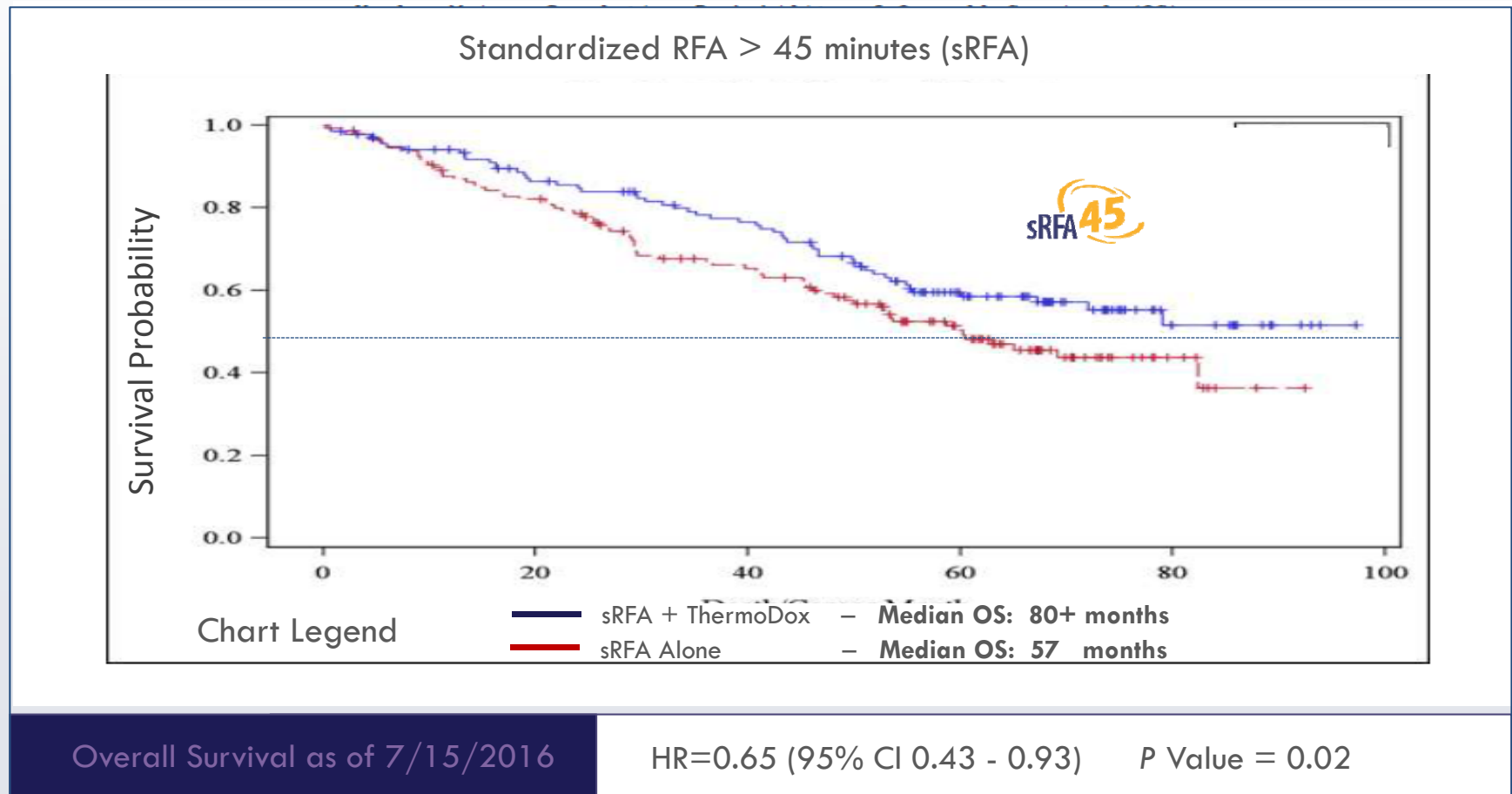
- Multivariate analysis points to RFA dwell time with ThermoDox as the factor correlating to significant improvement in survival

# ThermoDox: HCC

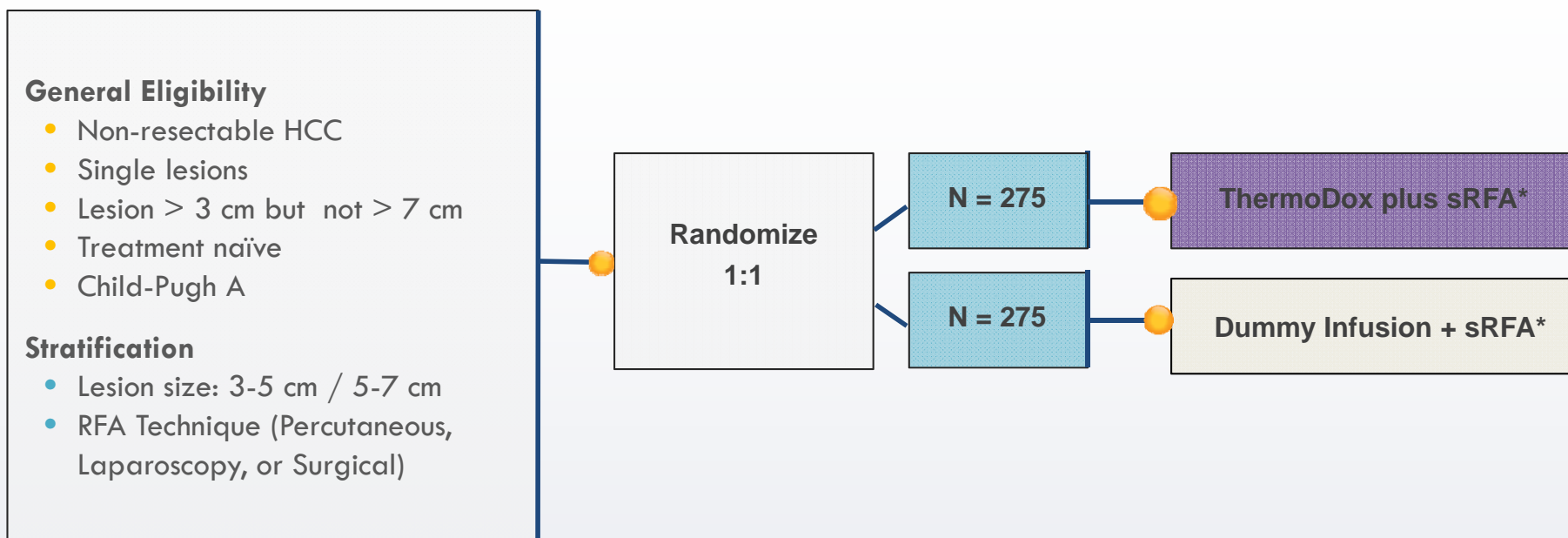
## Sub-Group Analysis of HEAT Study Data

### Greater than Two Years Overall Survival Benefit

285 Patients Followed Quarterly for 3 1/2 years




# Phase III OPTIMA Study Design



<b>Primary Endpoint</b>	<b>Overall Survival (OS)</b>
<b>Secondary Endpoints</b>	<b>Progression Free Survival; Safety</b>
<b>Interim Efficacy Analysis</b>	118 OS Events / HR < 0.61 158 OS Events / HR < 0.70
<b>Final Efficacy</b>	197 OS Events / HR < 0.75

First Patient Enrolled  
Q3 – 2014

~80 Clinical Sites in  
14 Countries

\*  Standardized Radiofrequency Ablation > 45 minutes

# Conclusion

- It will be promising if LTLD is proved to play role in controlling micrometastases of the target HCC and enables to get larger safety margins to prevent future recurrences.
- Further results of phase III trial of LTLD are expected.

# HEAT Investigators

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