

# Liver Metastases: A year in review 2020

C. T. Sofocleous, MD, PhD, FSIR, FCIRSE

Professor Interventional Radiology, Weill-Cornell Medical College  
Interventional Oncology; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



[sofoclec@mskcc.org](mailto:sofoclec@mskcc.org)

# Disclosures

- **Research Support:**

- National Institute of Health (NIH)

- R21 CA131763-01A1

- R21 CA128391-02

- R01 CA240569-01

- **Industry:**

- SIRTEX Medical Inc: Phase I Trial Y90 Post HAI: Clinical CRC 2013

- Angiodynamics/ Neuwave/ SOTA Medical/ HS Medical/ Perseon

- BTG: EPOCH Trial

- **Consultant, Advisory Boards:**

- J&J/ Ethicon
  - Terumo
  - BTG/Boston Scientific
  - SIRTEX
  - Varian

## Disease Related: Focus CRC

# Impact of patient, primary tumor and metastatic pattern including tumor location on survival in patients undergoing ablation or resection for colorectal liver metastases: A population-based national cohort study

Peter Scherman <sup>a, b, \*</sup>, Ingvar Syk <sup>c, d</sup>, Erik Holmberg <sup>e</sup>, Peter Naredi <sup>a, f</sup>, Magnus Rizell <sup>a, g</sup>

European Journal of Surgical Oncology xxx (xxxx) xxx

## Prospective Swedish registries:

CRC registry (SCRCR) with diagnosis between 2009-2013 cross checked for the presence of liver tumor (SweLiv):

1325 Patients: 300 (22.6%): 75 yo or older.

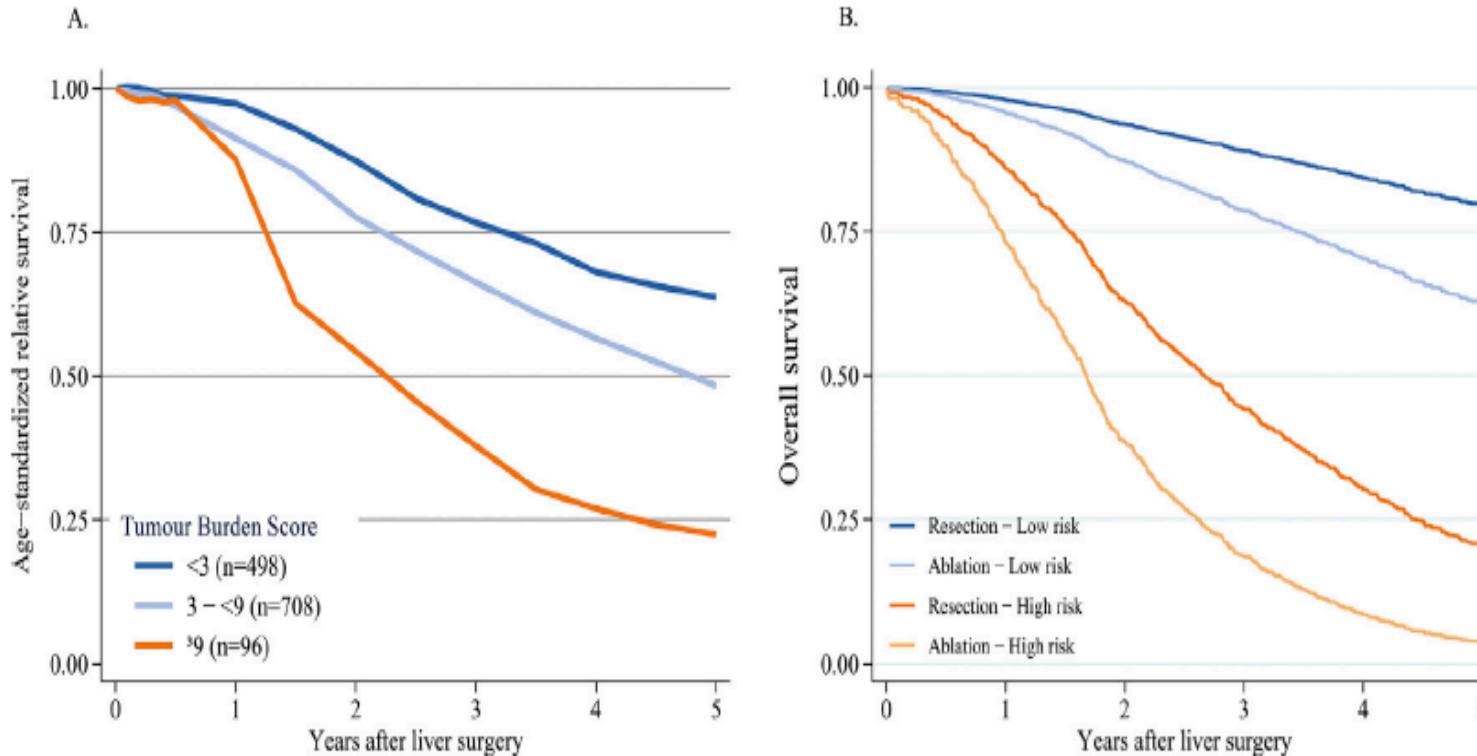
1098 (82.9%) treated by surgery only, 125 (9.4%) ablation only and 102 (7.7%) by Resection and ablation.

731/1325 (55.2%): synchronous and 594/1325 (44.8%) metachronous.

# Impact of patient, primary tumor and metastatic pattern including tumor location on survival in patients undergoing ablation or resection for colorectal liver metastases: A population-based national cohort study

Peter Scherman <sup>a, b, \*</sup>, Ingvar Syk <sup>c, d</sup>, Erik Holmberg <sup>e</sup>, Peter Naredi <sup>a, f</sup>, Magnus Rizell <sup>a, g</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Surgery, Institute of Clinical Sciences, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden



## No Margin Assessment and stratification

# Increasing age-related survival gap among patients with colorectal cancer: a population-based retrospective study

Yang Feng<sup>1,2</sup> · Shaobo Mo<sup>1,2</sup> · Weixing Dai<sup>1,2</sup> · Qingguo Li<sup>1,2</sup> · Guoxiang Cai<sup>1,2</sup> · Sanjun Cai<sup>1,2</sup> 

International Journal of Clinical Oncology (2020) 25:100–109  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10147-019-01538-3>

The Surveillance, Epidemiology and end Results (SEER) 9 registries for CRC diagnosis between 1975-2009

SEER 18: CRC diagnosis: 1973-2014:

CSS for patients < 54, 55-64, 65-74 and 75-84: Robust Increase in survival

BUT: for patients > 85 yo: No difference in OS between 1990-99 and 2000-12

Despite improved outcomes in OS during last 40 years this did not change in elderly patients.

**PRINCIPLES OF SURGERY**

**CRITERIA FOR RESECTABILITY OF METASTASES AND LOCOREGIONAL THERAPIES WITHIN SURGERY**

- **When hepatic metastatic disease is not optimally resectable based on insufficient remnant liver volume, approaches utilizing preoperative portal vein embolization<sup>13</sup> or staged liver resection<sup>14</sup>**

- **Ablative techniques may be considered alone or in conjunction with resection. All original sites of disease need to be amenable to ablation or resection.**
- **Arterially directed catheter therapy, and in particular yttrium 90 microsphere selective internal radiation, is an option in highly selected patients with chemotherapy-resistant/-refractory disease and with predominant hepatic metastases.**

Causes of death in patients with metastatic disease: liver failure, hepatic decompensation, and/or hepatic encephalopathy.

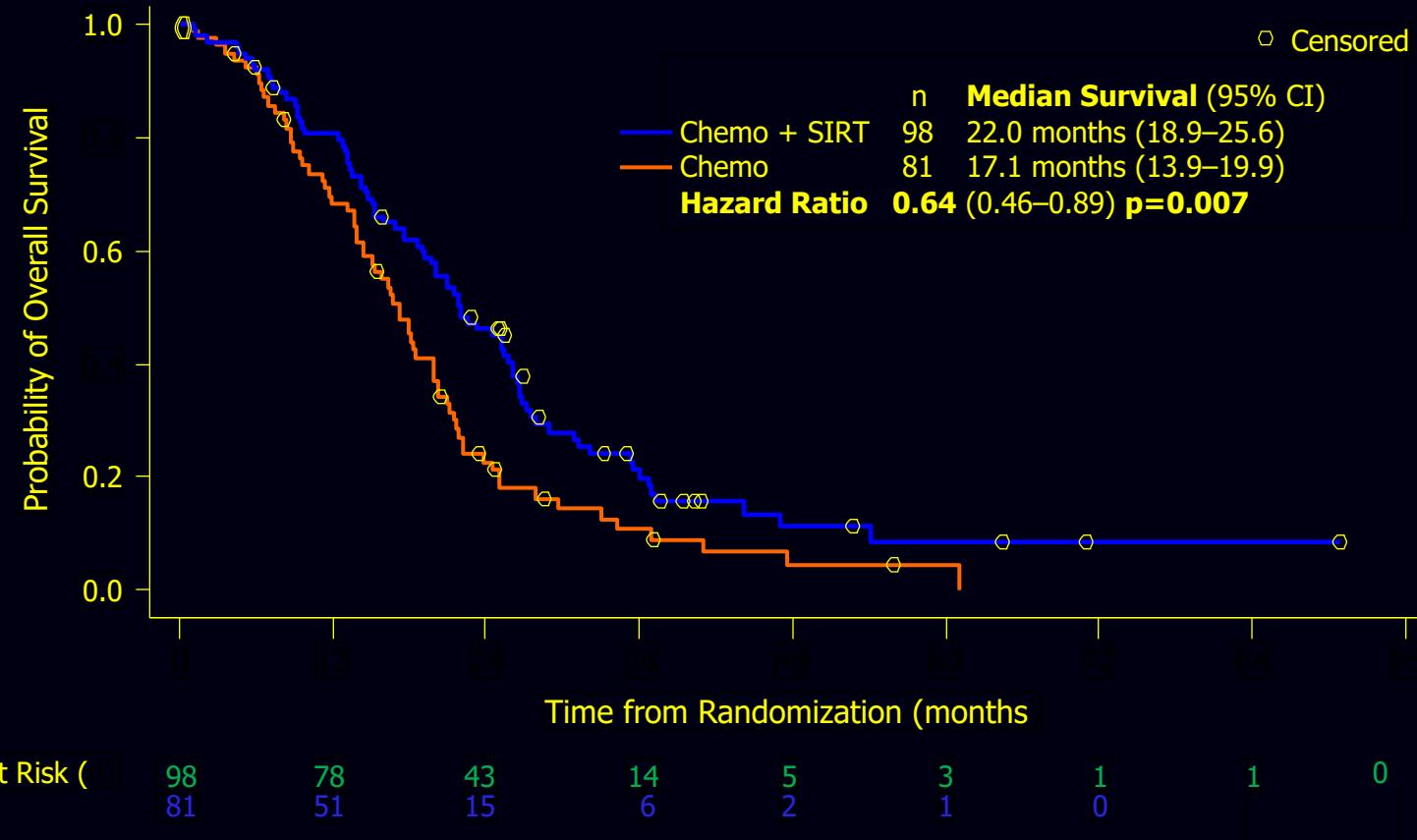
**In highly selected cases or in the setting of a clinical trial and should not be used indiscriminately in patients who are potentially surgically resectable.**

- **Re-resection can be considered in selected patients.<sup>15</sup>**

Y90

# OS for RCP/ mCRC Patients with Right-Sided Primary Tumours

For the 179/739 patients (24.2%) with a RSP tumor, OS was improved with the addition of SIRT (median, 22.0 vs. 17.1 months HR, 0.641; P: .008).

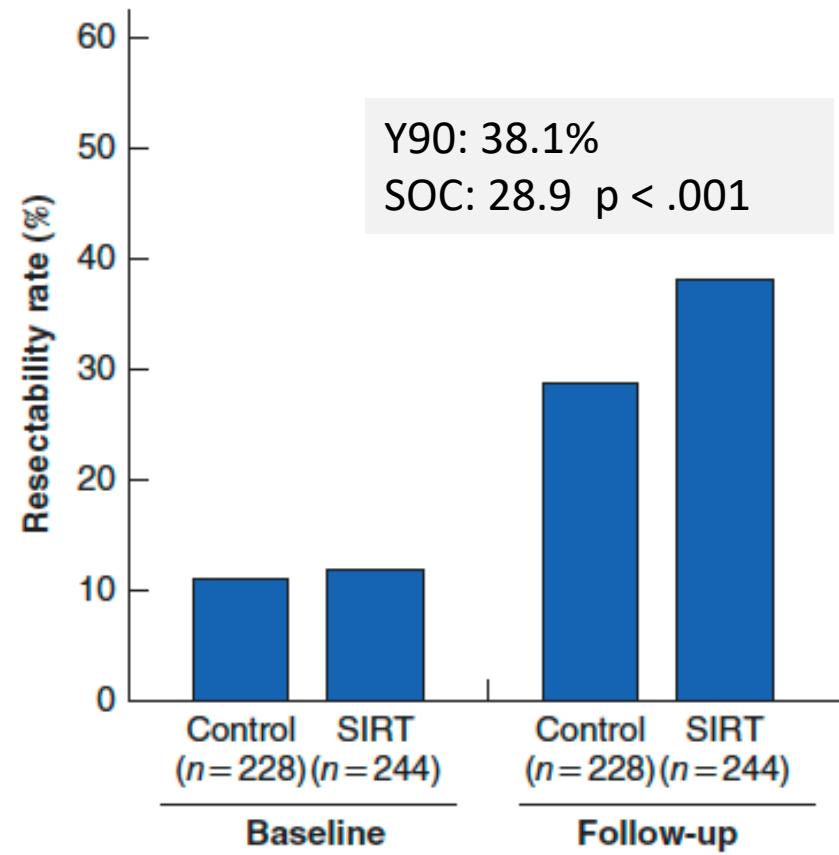


5 months prolongation of Median Survival and 36% protective effect against death

## Secondary technical resectability of colorectal cancer liver metastases after chemotherapy with or without selective internal radiotherapy in the randomized SIRFLOX trial

Fig. 3 Resectability of colorectal liver metastases

### a Whole cohort



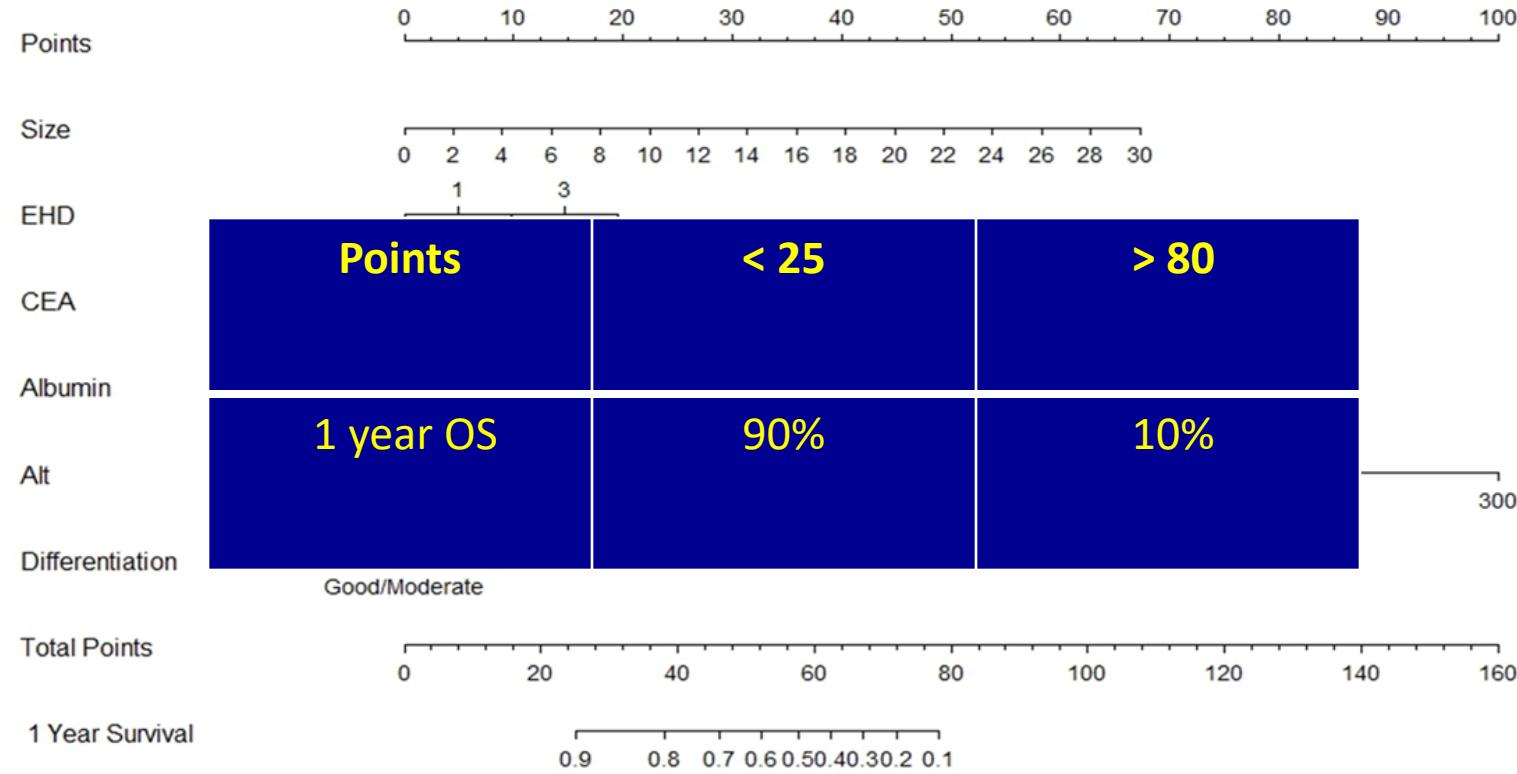
# Contralateral liver hypertrophy and oncological outcome following Y90 TARE

- Systematic literature search using the MEDLINE, EMBASE, and Cochrane libraries for studies published between 2008-2020 identified 16 studies, comprising 602 patients.
- Median kinetic growth rate per week of the contralateral liver lobe: 0.7%
- Local tumor control was 84%.
- Surgical resection after Y90 was carried out in 109/362 patients (30%).

Further work needed for the Role of Y90 as a means of Local control and liver remnant Hypertrophy in borderline resectable patients

# Factors Affecting Oncologic Outcomes of 90Y Radioembolization of Heavily Pre-Treated Patients With Colon Cancer Liver Metastases

103 patients; 77% EHD, Median OS: 11.4 months



**NOMOGRAM:** 1-year OS of patients with total points of **<25 vs. >80 was 90% and 10%**, respectively

Bootstrap resampling showed **good discrimination** (optimism corrected c-index=0.745) and **calibration** (mean absolute prediction error=0.299) of the nomogram

# Thermal Ablation

## A new sequential treatment strategy for multiple colorectal liver metastases: Planned incomplete resection and postoperative completion ablation for intentionally-untreated tumors under guidance of cross-sectional imaging\*

Masayuki Okuno <sup>a,1</sup>, Yoshikuni Kawaguchi <sup>a,1</sup>, Mario De Bellis <sup>a</sup>, Eduardo A. Vega <sup>a</sup>, Steven Y. Huang <sup>b</sup>, Kamran Ahrar <sup>b</sup>, Sanjay Gupta <sup>b</sup>, Jean-Nicolas Vauthey <sup>a</sup>, Bruno C. Odisio <sup>b,\*</sup>

Multiple CLM undergoing planned incomplete resection and Post-operative percutaneous image guided completion TA

Completion percutaneous TA: 23 vs IOP TA: 92 MWA more common in percutaneous Group (p: .001)

Complication rate PercTA vs IOP ablation: 21% vs 48% (p: 0.033)

5 year LTP: 31.7% vs 62.4% (p: 0.03)

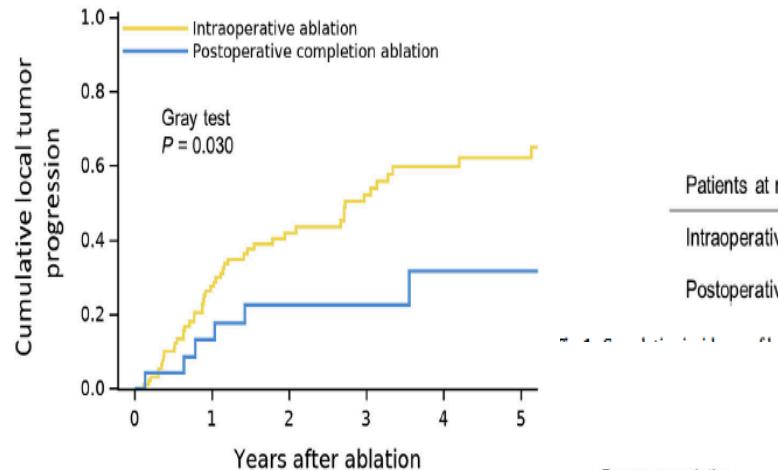
5 year OS : PercTA; 53% vs 42% (P:.407)

# A new sequential treatment strategy for multiple colorectal liver metastases: Planned incomplete resection and postoperative completion ablation for intentionally-untreated tumors under guidance of cross-sectional imaging\*

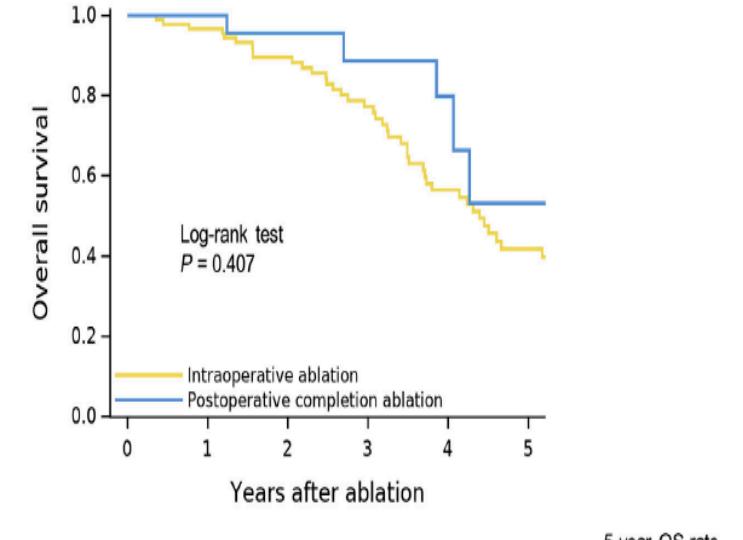
Masayuki Okuno <sup>a,1</sup>, Yoshikuni Kawaguchi <sup>a,1</sup>, Mario De Bellis <sup>a</sup>, Eduardo A. Vega <sup>a</sup>, Steven Y. Huang <sup>b</sup>, Kamran Ahrar <sup>b</sup>, Sanjay Gupta <sup>b</sup>, Jean-Nicolas Vauthey <sup>a</sup>, Bruno C. Odisio <sup>b,\*</sup>

M. Okuno et al. / European Journal of Surgical Oncology xxx (xxxx) xxx

A



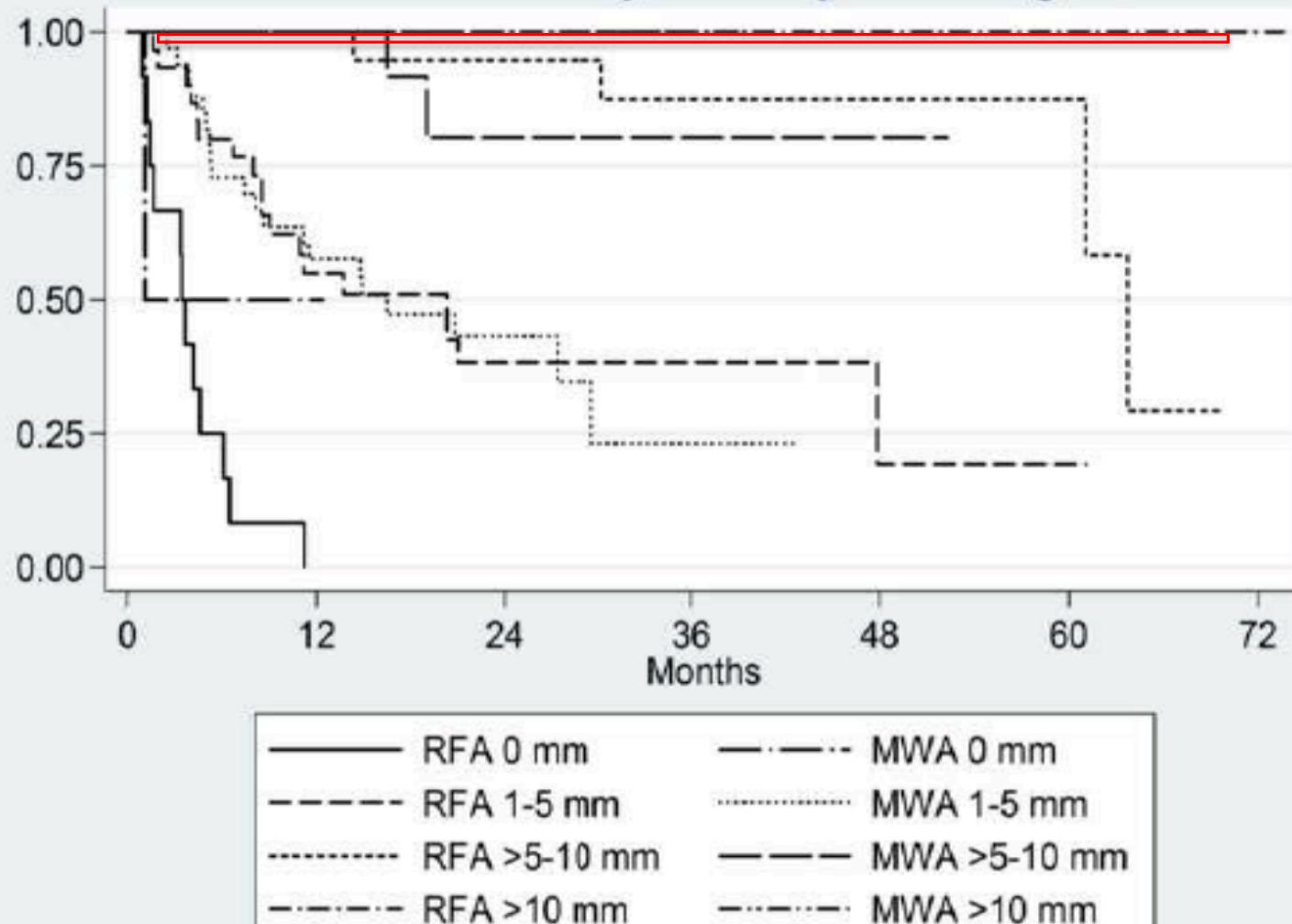
Patients at risk	5-year cumulative local recurrence rate								
	Intraoperative ablation	Postoperative completion ablation	92	60	36	26	16	13	62.4%
Intraoperative ablation	92	23	60	19	12	10	5	1	31.7%
Postoperative completion ablation	23	92	87	69	53	33	20		41.8%



Patients at risk	5-year OS rate					
Intraoperative ablation	92					
Postoperative completion ablation	23					

# NO LTP FOR MARGIN OVER 10 mm!

LTP free survival by modality and margin size



77 CLM RFA vs 60 MWA; Up to 5 cm

## Factors Associated with Local Tumor Control and Complications after Thermal Ablation of Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases: a 15-year Retrospective Cohort Study

2003-2017: 286 patients 415 CLM treated within 378 session (RFA: 213 and MWA: 165)

HAC 140/286

Post Liver Resection: 275/378: 73%

Recurrence after hepatectomy: (100), Hepatectomy+HAC (175)

Median F-U: 31 months

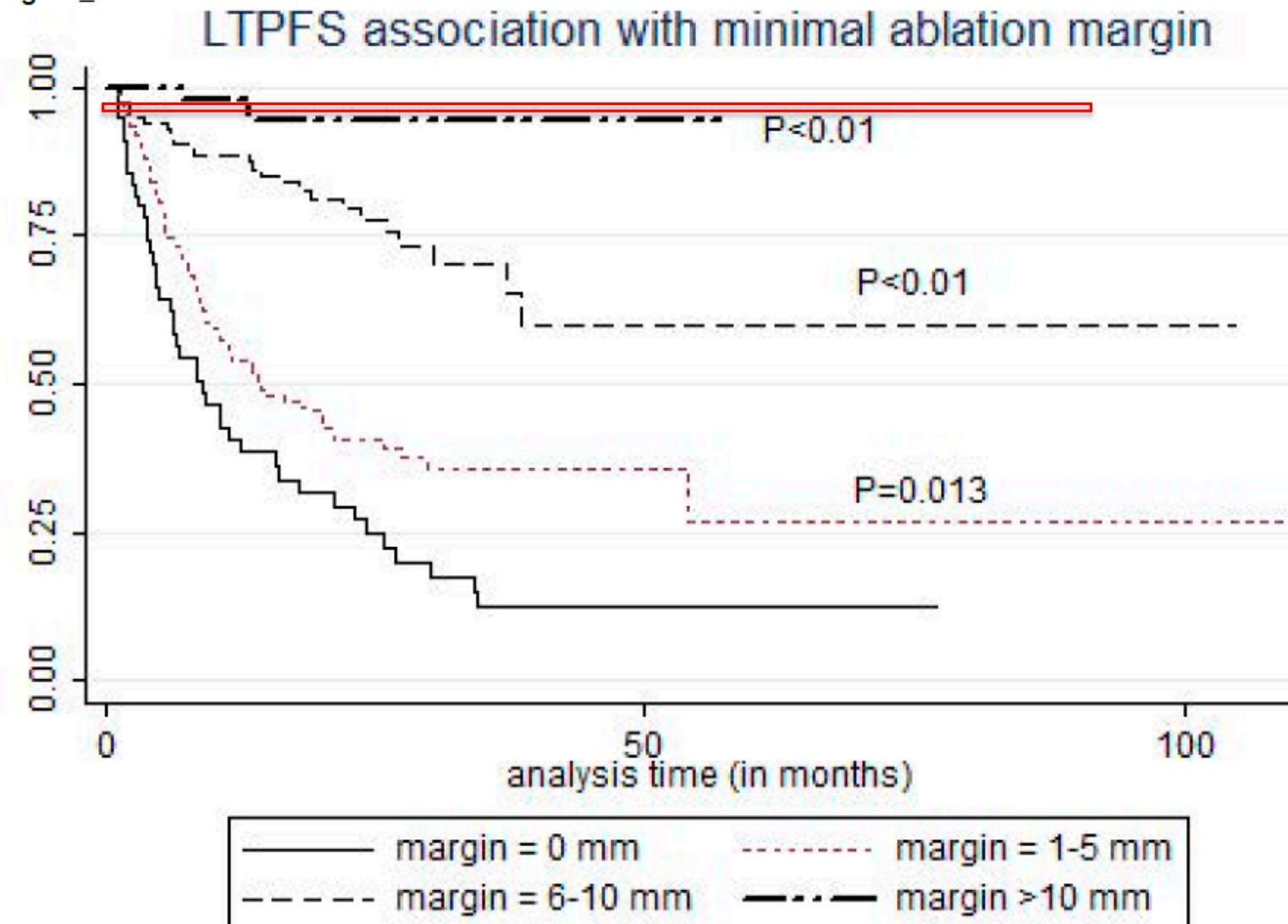
NO LTP for MM >10mm

Total Major Complications: 7.4%

Biliary complications ONLY in patients with Prior Hepatic Arterial Chemotherapy (HAC).

## Factors Associated with Local Tumor Control and Complications after Thermal Ablation of Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases: a 15-year Retrospective Cohort Study

Figure\_2



<b>Major complications post-liver thermal ablation</b>	
Complication type/description (n=378 procedures)	<b>Incidence</b>
<b>Biliary</b>	<b>15 (4%)</b>
Intrahepatic biloma, requiring drainage with additional sequelae: abscess (1) / abscess+ secondary biliary stricture + biliary leak (1)/ bacteremia (1)/ biliary fistula to abdominal wall (1) or biliary fistula to m. ileopsoas (1)	6
Secondary biliary stenosis, requiring intervention	3
Hyperbilirubinemia, requiring stenting (1)/ requiring intervention and prolonged hospitalization (1) resulting in bacteremia, requiring drainage (1)	3
Bilioenteric/biliogastric fistula with recurrent bacteremia or requiring intervention	2
Extrahepatic biloma + infection + bile leak, requiring intervention	1
<b>Liver vascular complications</b>	<b>7 (1.9%)</b>
Arterioportal fistula, requiring embolization	2
Hepatic pseudoaneurysm ± hematoma, requiring embolization	3
Retroperitoneal hematoma, requiring drainage	1
Bleeding into biliary tree	1
<b>Pulmonary complications</b>	<b>9 (2.4%)</b>
Pulmonary embolism ± pneumonia/bronchiolitis	2
Pneumothorax ± pleural effusion, requiring prolonged admission	2
SVC thrombosis/syndrome + pulmonary vein thrombosis + pulmonary embolism	1
Hemothorax, requiring thoracostomy and prolonged hospitalization	1
Pleural effusion + desaturation, requiring thoracentesis + prolonged hospitalization	1
Diaphragm injury + abscess + hydropneumothorax, requiring >48 h hospitalization	1
Pneumothorax + pneumomediastinum + pneumoperitoneum + subcutaneous emphysema due artificial hydropneumoperitoneum, requiring >48h hospitalization	1
<b>Other</b>	<b>2 (0.5%)</b>
In alcohol abuse patient SIADH+ Alcohol withdrawal syndrome + epistaxis, requiring intervention and prolonged hospitalization	1
Grade 3 abdominal pain + opioid-induced agitation/delirium with prolonged hospitalization	1
<b>Total number of major complications</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Total number of procedures with major complication(s)*</b>	<b>28 (7.4%)</b>

\*After five procedures patients developed two different major complications per procedure, this is why

**Table 3.** Factors associated with biliary and hepatic vascular complications

Complication risk factors	Biliary complications				Vascular complications		Local tumor progression			
	UVA		MVA		UVA		UVA		MVA	
	p	OR	p	OR	p	OR	p	SHR	p	SHR
Prior HAI therapy	<b>0.003</b>	20.0**	-	-	0.2	2.0	<b>0.032</b>	0.7	0.86	0.96
Pre-existing biliary dilatation*	<b>0.002</b>	7.2	<b>0.005</b>	5.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bevacizumab within 1 month*	<b>0.001</b>	9.5	<b>0.017</b>	14	0.07	4.6	-	-	-	-
Minimal ablation margins*	<b>0.007</b>	2.1	<b>0.015</b>	2.1	0.24	1.5	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.38	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.37
Location modality*	0.18	1.02	-	-	0.77	1.16	0.18	0.79	-	-
Tumor size (cm)*	0.33	1.25	-	-	0.57	0.82	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	1.39	<b>0.001</b>	1.3
Tumor number *	0.63	1.19	-	-	0.24	1.62	-	-	-	-
History of liver resection*	0.14	0.40	-	-	0.86	0.90	<b>0.017</b>	0.67	<b>0.039</b>	0.64
Number of FUDR infusions* (range, 1-40)	0.37	1.03	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KRAS mutation status	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.49	1.15	-	-

\*These factors association with biliary complications analysis was made only for the HAI patients' subgroup, since biliary complications occurred only in HAI patient population. \*\*Result is based on exact logistic regression analysis. In bold-statistically significant values. UVA - univariate analysis, MVA - multivariate analysis, HAI - hepatic artery infusion pump therapy; FUDR – fluorouridine, OR - odds ratio; SHR - sub-hazard ratio.

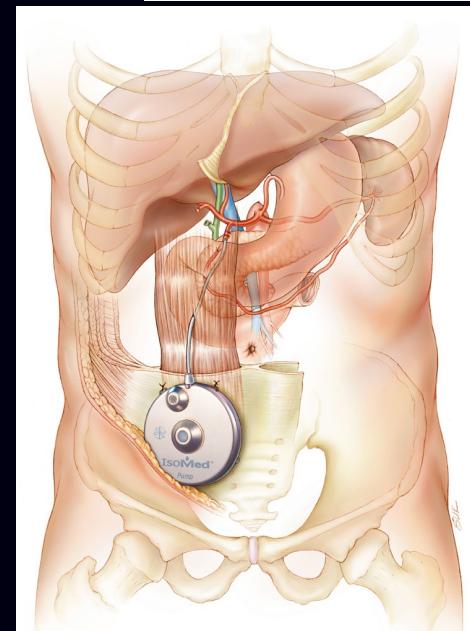
## Factors Associated with Local Tumor Control and Complications after Thermal Ablation of Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases: a 15-year Retrospective Cohort Study

**Table 4.** Biliary complications and local tumor progression rate, stratified based on minimal ablation margin size and HAI history.

Minimal ablation margin	0 mm	1-5 mm	6-10 mm	>10 mm
<i>Whole patients cohort*</i>				
Minor biliary complications	0/50 (0%)	4/128 (3%)	0/96 (0%)	3/40 (8%)
Major biliary complications	0/50 (0%)	6/128 (5%)	2/96 (2%)	6/40 (15%)
Total biliary complications incidence	0/50 (0%)	8/128 (6%)**	2/96 (2%)	9/40 (23%)
Local tumor progression rate	41/52 (79%)	79/132 (60%)	25/98 (26%)	0/39 (0%)
<i>Prior-HAI patients subgroup analysis</i>				
Minor biliary complications	0/22 (0%)	4/71 (6%)	0/53 (0%)	3/29 (10%)
Major biliary complications	0/22 (0%)	6/71 (8%)	2/53 (4%)	6/29 (21%)
Total biliary complications incidence	0/22 (0%)	8/71 (11%)**	2/53 (4%)	9/29 (31%)
Local tumor progression rate	18/22 (82%)	38/72 (53%)	13/54 (24%)	0/28 (0%)
<i>HAI-naïve patients subgroup analysis</i>				
Total biliary complication incidence	0/28 (0%)	0/57 (0%)	0/43 (0%)	0/11 (0%)
Local tumor progression rate	23/30 (77%)	41/60 (68%)	12/44 (27%)	0/11 (0%)

\* Total of 64 procedures were excluded from analysis: 33 due absence of imaging for minimal ablation margin assessment (contrast-enhanced CT within 6 weeks before treatment and/or at 4-8 weeks after treatment), 22 - due to multiple differing minimal ablation margins present following ablation of multiple tumors per procedure, 5 – due to coalescent ablation zones, 4 - due no follow-up). \*\* patient(s) had both minor and major complications per procedure. HAI-hepatic artery infusion

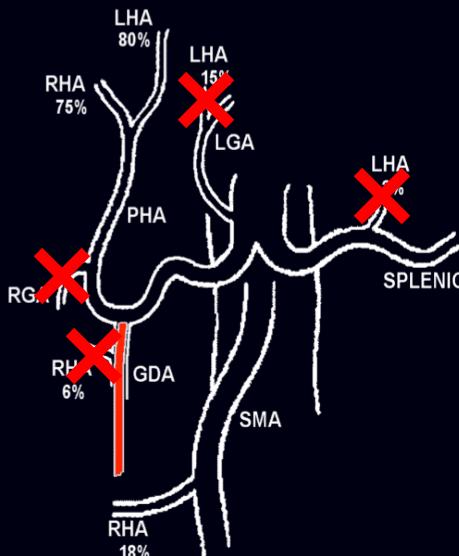
## Factors Associated with Local Tumor Control and Complications after Thermal Ablation of Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases: a 15-year Retrospective Cohort Study



### Hepatic Arterial Chemotherapy Group

MM	LTP	Biliary Complications
6-10 mm	24%	4%
> 10 mm	0	21%
P value	.0033	.0011

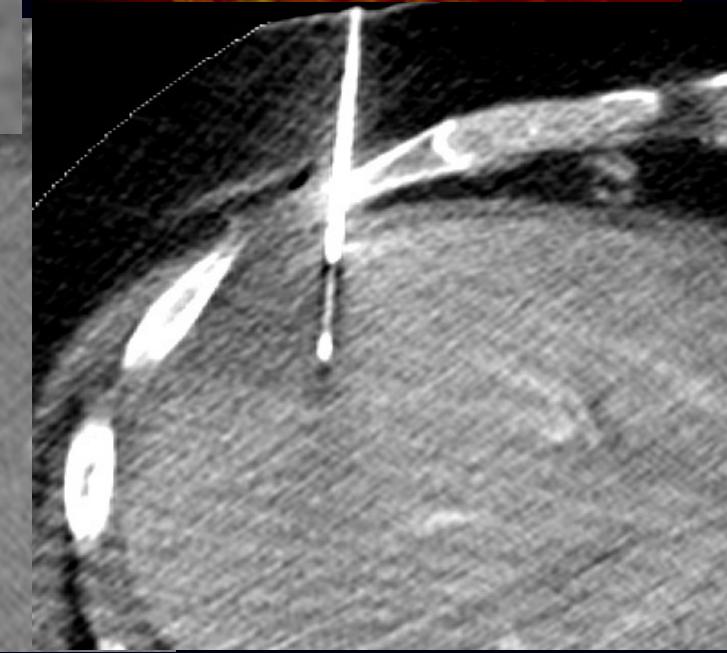
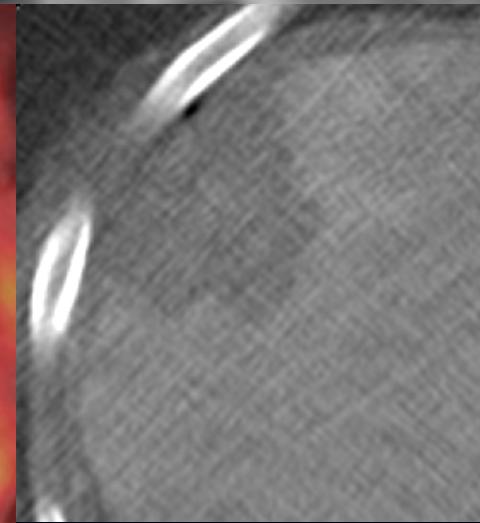
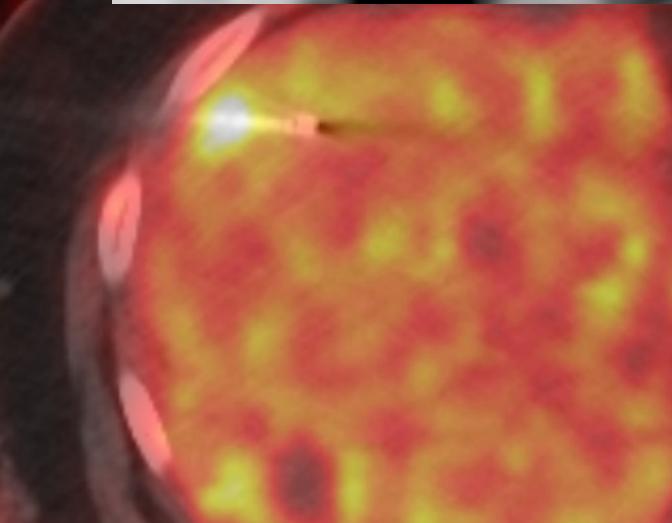
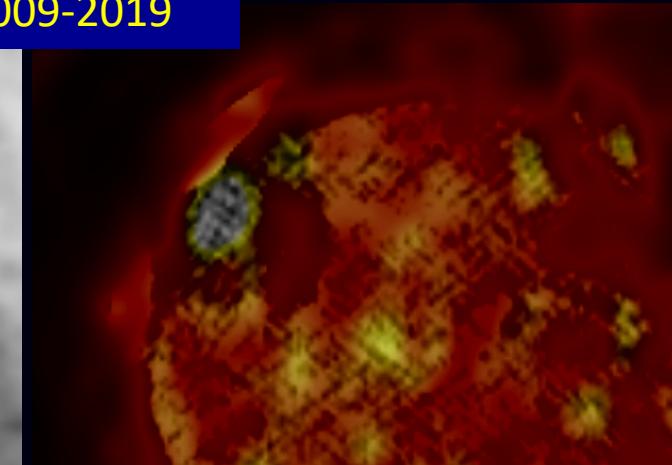
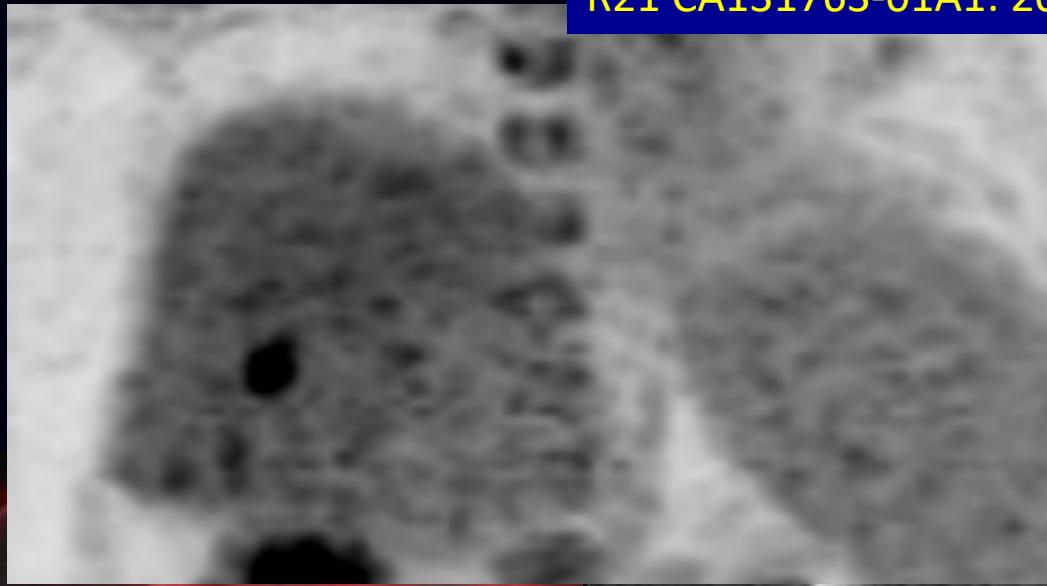
### Hepatic Arterial Chemotherapy Group Predictors of Complications



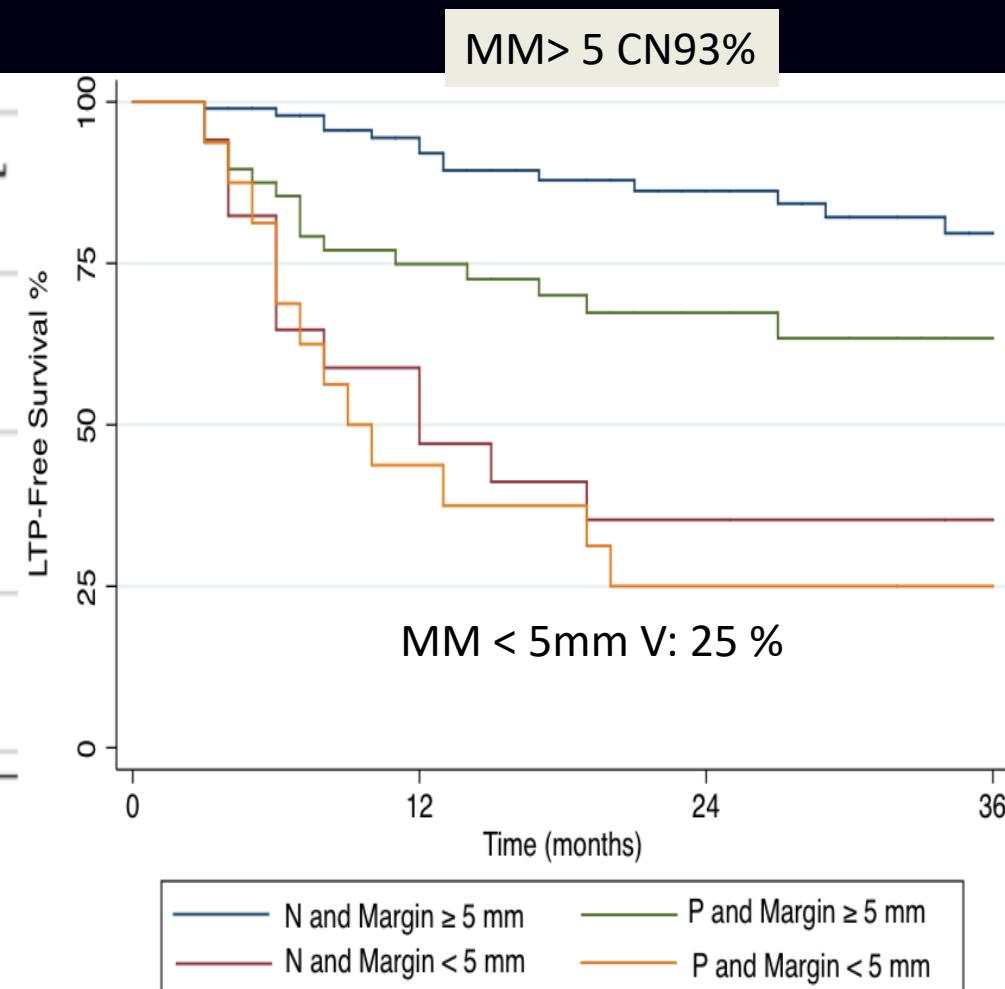
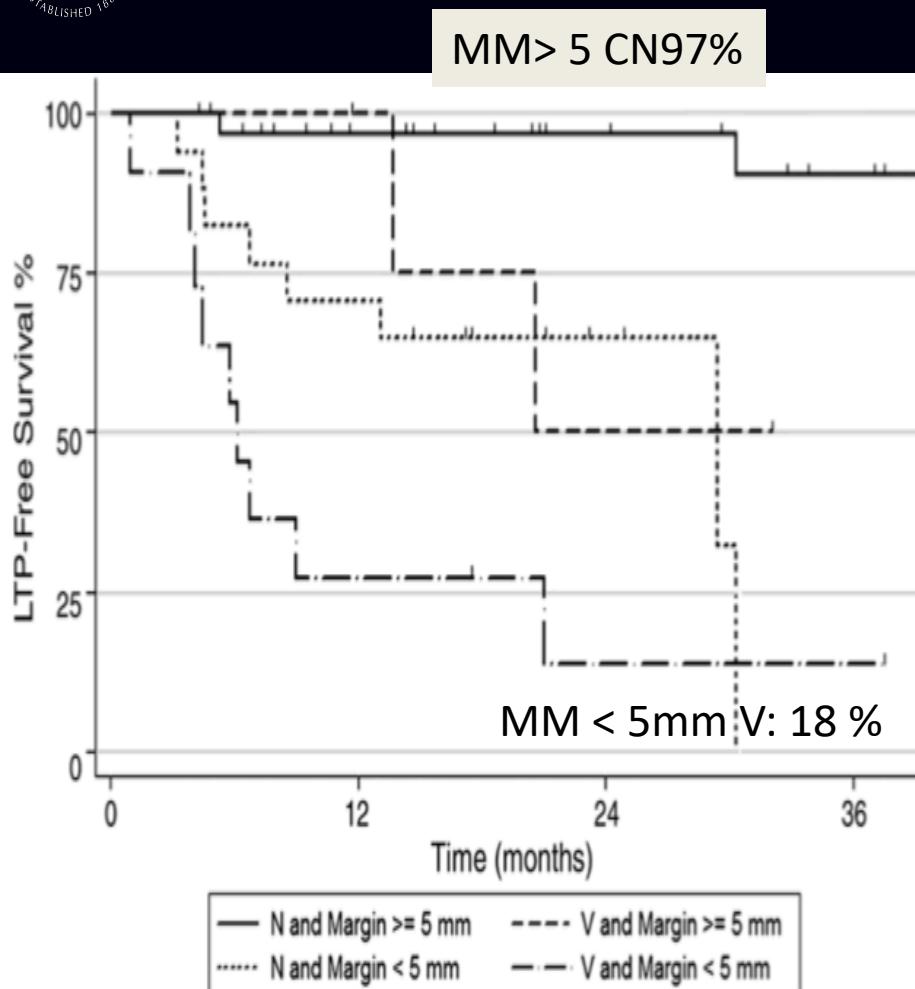
Prior Bevacizumab,  
Pre-existing Biliary Dilatation  
MM > 10mm

## PET /Fusion capabilities improve targeting and can be used to demonstrate and Biopsy the minimal Margin

R21 CA131763-01A1: 2009-2019



# 12 month-LTP of tumor-negative biopsy and margins $\geq 5$ mm: 7%



Sotirchos VS et al: Radiology. 2016 Sep;280(3):949-59

New data Vasiniotis Kamarinos N et al: ASCO 2020

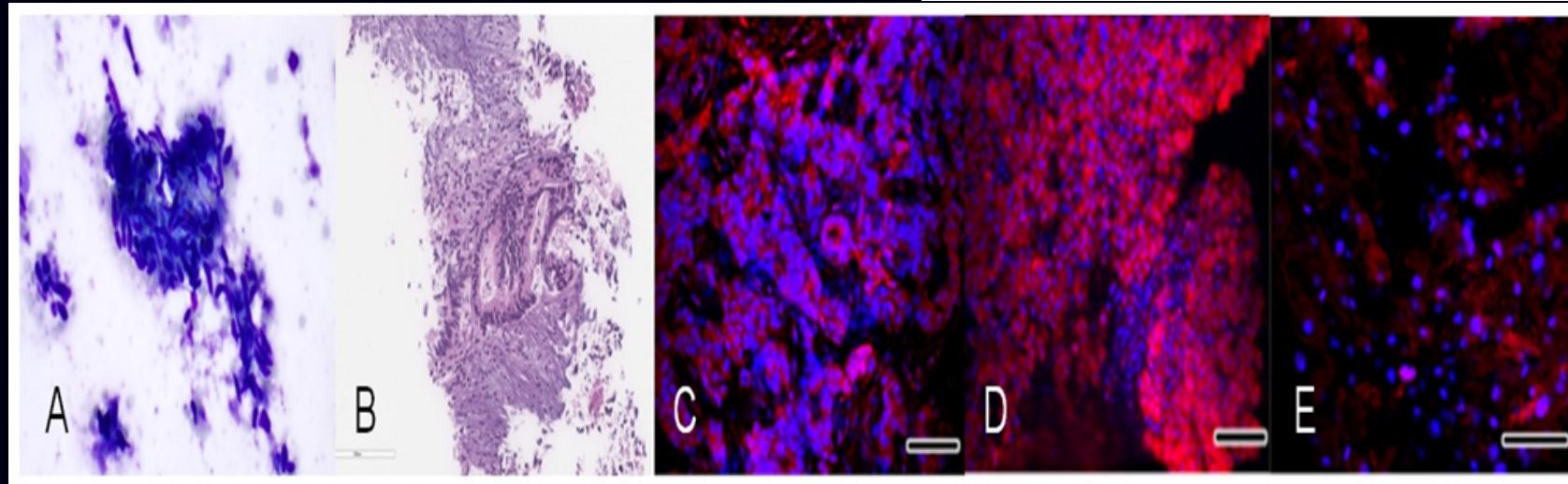
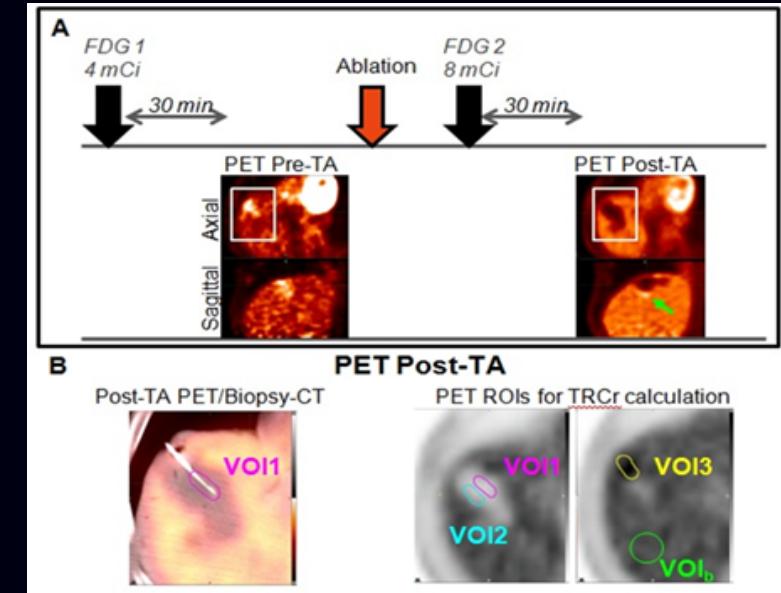
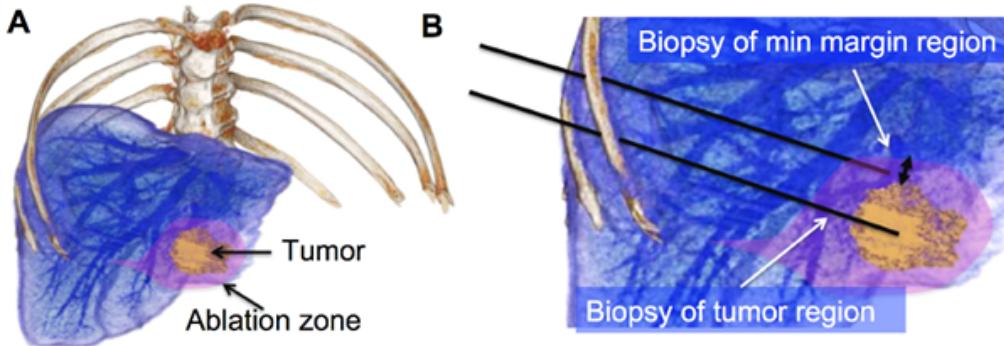
HR of LTP for narrow margins and positive tissue biopsy was 20.3

# **Optimizing Thermal Ablation for Colon Cancer Liver Metastases: Rapid Tissue Analysis Allowing for Immediate Retreatment; Metabolic Imaging Biomarker Validation; and Predictive Genetic Signatures**

**R01 CA240569-01  
IRB 19-332**

# Optimizing Thermal Ablation for Colon Cancer Liver Metastases

R01 CA240569-01  
IRB 19-332



# Liver Metastases Year in Review 2020

- Disease Biology critical Factor Impacting Outcomes after IO for CLM
- Y90 may prolong Survival in those CLM with Right Side primary Origin
- Y90 may provide liver remnant hypertrophy in addition to local control
- MM >10 mm (A0) is established as the optimal goal for CLM ablation, offering over 95% local tumor control
- A MM > 5 mm is the absolute minimum Requirement for acceptable Local Tumor Control
- When Combined with biopsy proven complete tumor necrosis a MM of 6-10 mm may provide same control as a 10 mm MM .
- For patients at high risk for biliary complications:  
A 6-10 MM margin, biopsy proven complete ablation and close follow-up may provide the safest strategy for long term Local tumor control