



## **Genome Sequencing in Cancer Research and Therapy**

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# Genome Sequencing in Cancer Research and Therapy

Stefan Fröhling

*National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT) Heidelberg  
German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)  
Heidelberg University Hospital*

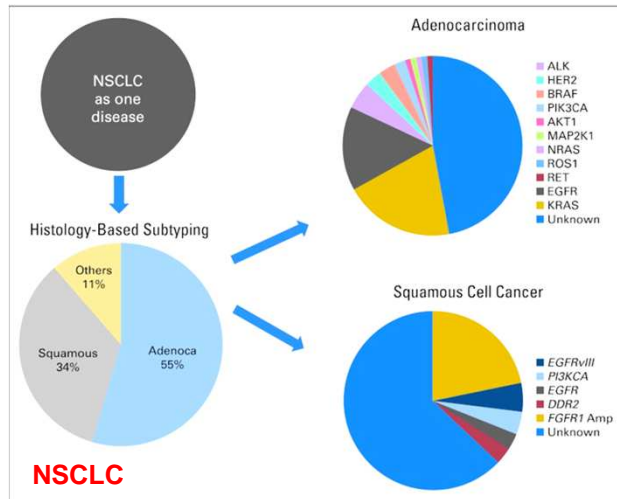
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IMBS Symposium: Science, Ethics and Society

*Freiburg, August 28, 2015*

# Cancer Genome Sequencing

## Pathogenetic Insights and Clinical Impact

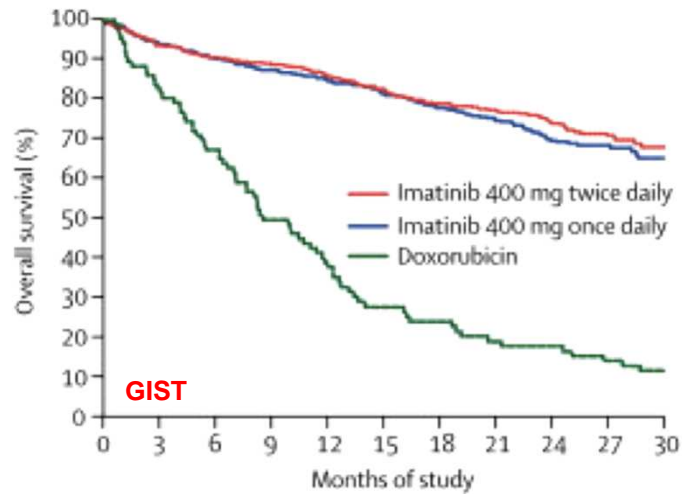


Common cancers as multiple rare diseases of the same organ, demanding unique therapies

*Li et al. J Clin Oncol 2013*

### Distinct mutations shared across multiple cancers

*BRAF*<sup>V600E/K</sup> in melanoma; thyroid, lung, colorectal, ovarian, gastric, esophageal, head and neck cancer; gastrointestinal stromal tumor; glioma; hairy-cell leukemia; multiple myeloma; etc.

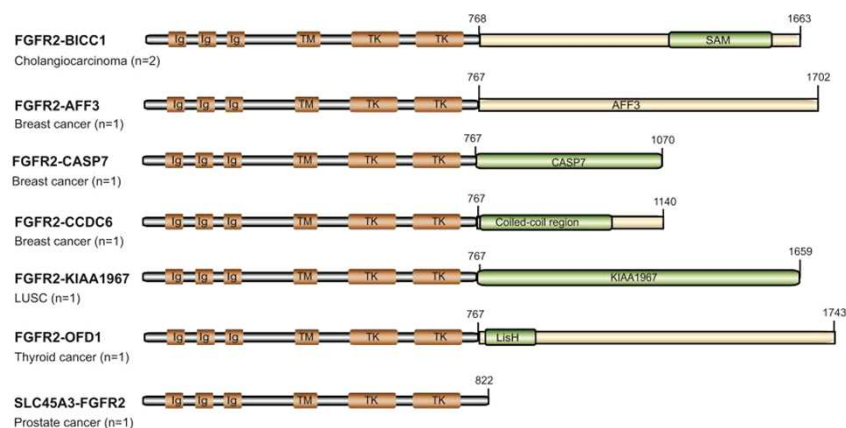


Improved clinical outcome through genotype-directed therapy

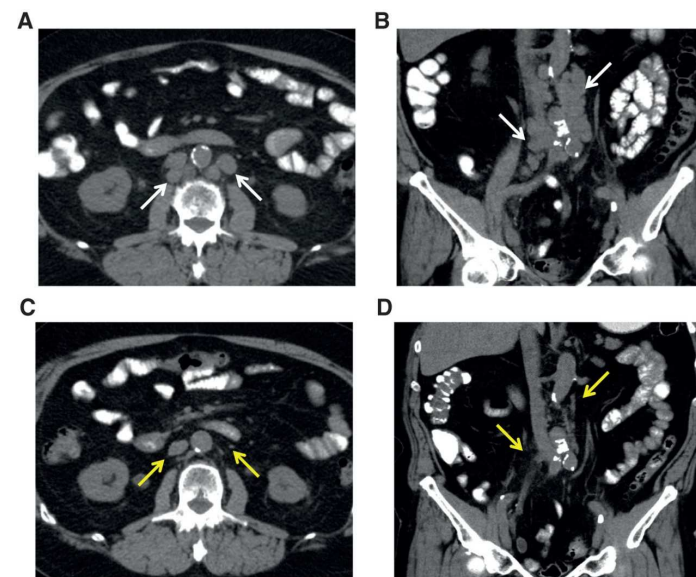
*Verweij et al. Lancet 2004*

# Cancer Genome Sequencing

## "N = 1" Studies



Targetable FGFR fusions in diverse cancers  
*Wu et al. Cancer Discov 2013*

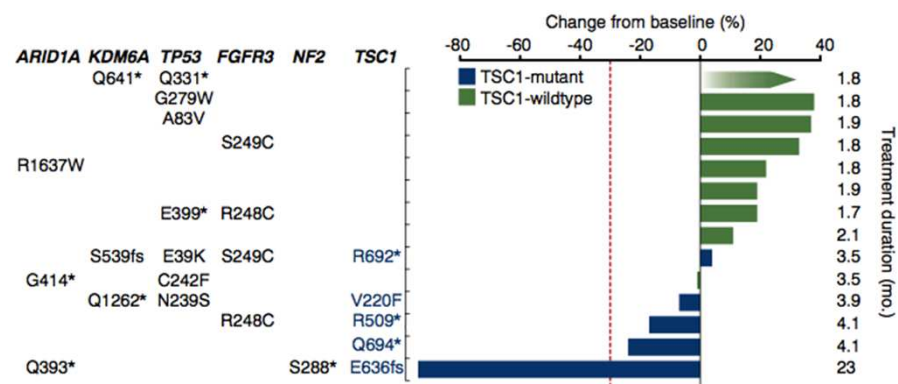


Activating mTOR mutations in urothelial carcinoma

*Wagle et al. Cancer Discov 2014*

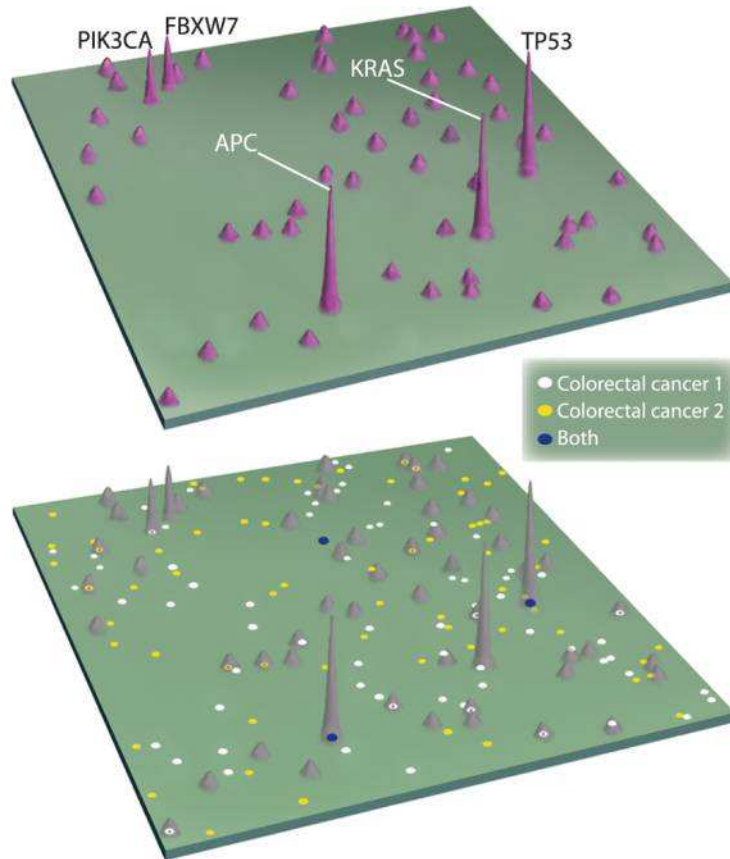
Inactivating TSC1 mutations in urothelial carcinoma

*Iyer et al. Science 2012*



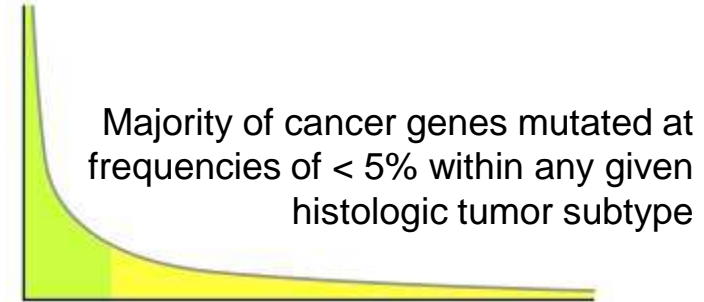
# Cancer Genome Sequencing

## *Importance of Rare Mutations*



Gene “mountains” and “hills”  
*Wood et al. Science 2007*

The Cancer Genome Atlas  *Understanding genomics to improve cancer care*

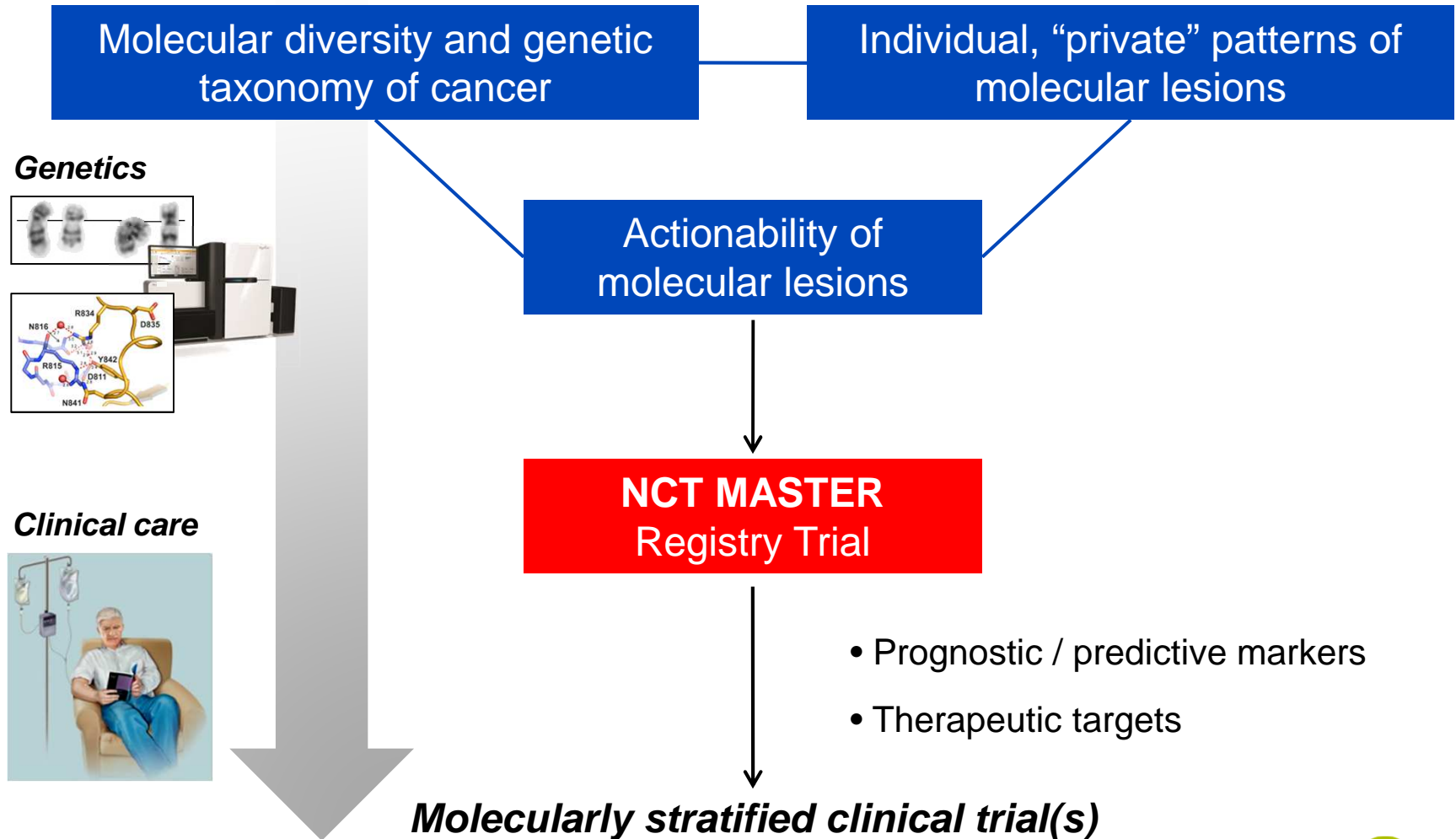


“Long tail” pattern of actionable cancer gene alterations

*TCGA Pan-Cancer Analysis*  
*Lawrence et al. Nature 2013*

# NCT MASTER

## *Molecularly Aided Stratification for Tumor Eradication Research*

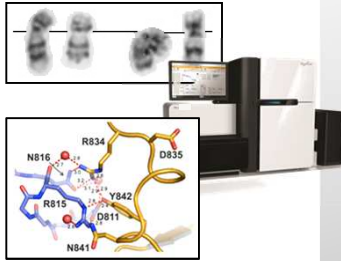




# NCT MASTER

## *Eligibility and Objectives*

### Genetics



### Clinical care



### Eligibility

- Patients younger than 51 years
- Patients with rare cancers
  - Incidence of less than 1/100,000 per year
- Measurable disease activity
- No curative treatment available
- Karnofsky Performance Status of at least 70%
- Life expectancy of at least 6 months

### Objectives

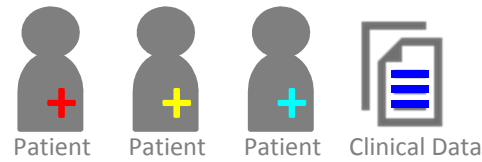
- Prospective exome and transcriptome sequencing within clinical context
- Interdisciplinary evaluation and formulation of treatment recommendations
- Translation into individualized patient care

DKFZ-HIPO

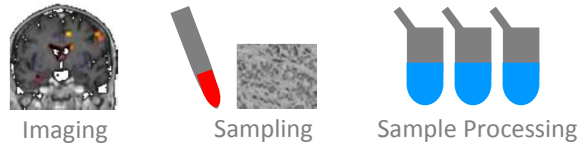


Day 1

Enrollment



Diagnosis



Omics



Bioinformatics  
Clinical Report



Day 42

Molecular  
Tumor Board



Individualized  
Therapy



Response,  
Resistance &  
Prevention



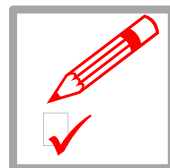
Data Collection & Storage



# Enrollment

## *NCT MASTER Protocol*

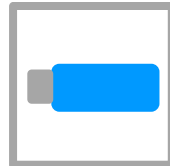
Umbrella protocol for implementing precision oncology at NCT, consenting every patient for:



- Questionnaires – Health and Behavior



- Molecular Analysis



- Data Storage



- Clinical Data Analysis



- Recontact for Clinical Trials

# Diagnosis

## *NCT POP / DKFZ-HIPO Sample Processing Lab*

### SOP-Guided Preparation of Analytes

#### **Tasks**

- Sample registration and barcoding
- Sample preparation
- Nucleic acid extraction
- Quality assessment and identity check
- Sample submission to core facility
- Documentation
- Methods development and optimization
- Sample management and storage

#### **Submissions in 2014**

- |                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| • Exome sequencing         | 958          |
| • Whole-genome sequencing  | 183          |
| • Transcriptome sequencing | 298          |
| • SNP array profiling      | 283          |
| • Expression profiling     | 46           |
| • Methylation profiling    | 164          |
| • <b>Total</b>             | <b>1,932</b> |



# Omics, Bioinformatics, Clinical Report

## High-Throughput Sequencing Unit

### Tasks

- Automated library preparation
- Highly parallel sequencing using Illumina technology
- 14 HiSeq 2000, 2 HiSeq 2500 systems

## Clinical Bioinformatics

### Tasks

- Automated alignment
- Variant calling, selection of somatic mutations
- Gene expression analysis
- Annotation with COSMIC, Cancer Gene Census, potential drugs and pathways

## Translational Oncology

### Task

- Clinical interpretation of molecular data

## Molecular Pathology

### Task

- Validation of actionable genetic alterations



# NCT MASTER

## *Precision Oncology Tumor Board*



Translational  
Oncology

Referring  
Physicians

Pathology

Friday, 2:30 PM  
NCT, Room K4

Bioinformatics

Sample  
Processing Lab

Sequencing  
Facility

### **Clinical case**

- Referring physicians

### **General characteristics (number of alterations, mutation patterns etc.)**

- Bioinformatics

### **Presentation of potentially actionable lesions**

- Translational Oncology

### **Discussion of potential clinical implications**

- All

### **Precision Oncology Outpatient Clinic**

- Communication of results
- Initiation/monitoring of therapy

# Tumor Board Report



NATIONALES CENTRUM FÜR TUMORERKRANKUNGEN HEIDELBERG

gegründet von:  
Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum  
Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg  
Thoraxklinik Heidelberg  
Deutsche Krebskreuzbank

## Beschluss Tumorboard

Zweitmeinung:  ja  nein  fehlende Angabe  
 Abrechnung:  Poli. Beh.  Stationär  amb. Mitb./Nachstat.  
 amb. SZ  Privatpatient

<b>Patient:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Geb.-Datum:</b> [REDACTED]
Station/Ambulanz: NCT Leitstelle	Arzt: Prof. Dr. Stefan Fröhling
Konf.-Datum: 17.01.2014	
Erforderliche Fachärzte	

ICD	
Erstdiagnose:	Hepatisch metastasiertes retroperitoneales LMS

Chronologie	Hepatisch metastasiertes retroperitoneales LMS; Z. n. neoadjuvanter Bestrahlung des Primärtumors, multiplen Operationen und Chemotherapie mit Doxorubicin/Ifosfamid; zuletzt palliative Chemotherapie mit Trabectedin bei inoperablen Lebermetastasen, hierunter Progress der hepatischen Metastasierung und V. a. neu aufgetretene Lungenmetastasen
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Fragestellung an die Konferenz:	Therapierelevante genetische Veränderungen?
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**Beteiligte der Konferenz:**  
**Translationale Onkologie:** Prof. Fröhling, Dr. Heining, Prof. Glimm, Fr. Dr. Richter  
**DKFZ:** Prof. Sultmann  
**Medizinische Onkologie:** FOA PD Dr. Dr. Ungerechts, FOA Dr. Haag, FOA Dr. Vallet  
 Schlegel Nicole, Vinzens Andrea

**Konferenzbeschluss:**

- Nachweis einer Amplifikation des *FGFR1*-Gens, validiert mittels FISH; Rationale für den Einsatz eines FGFR-Inhibitors, nach Möglichkeit im Rahmen einer klinischen Studie (rekrutierende Phase 1-Studie in Köln und Essen, ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT01004224)
- Nachweis einer heterozygoten Mutation (K218E) des Tumorsuppressorgens *PTPN12*, validiert mittels Sanger-Sequenzierung; möglicherweise assoziiert mit aberranter Aktivierung von Rezeptortyrosinkinasen, insbesondere EGFR, ERBB2 und PDGFRB; mögliche Rationale für den Einsatz von Tyrosinkinaseinhibitoren (z. B. Erlotinib, Lapatinib, Imatinib)

**Verantwortlicher für den Konferenzbeschluss:** Prof. Fröhling  
 Die durchgeführte Analyse (Exom-Sequenzierung) und die daraus abgeleitete Therapieempfehlung sind „research grade“. Es handelt sich nicht um eine qualitätsgesicherte, diagnostisch belastbare Untersuchung im engeren Sinne. Ebenso ist die Wirksamkeit der genannten zielgerichteten Therapie bei der vorliegenden Erkrankungsentität nicht durch klinische Studien gesichert.



Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg

Pathologisches Institut | Postfach 10 15 1 | 69003 Heidelberg

# Validation Report

Pathologisches Institut  
Geschäftsführender Direktor:  
Prof. Dr. med. P. Schirmacher

Abt. Allgemeine Pathologie und pathologische Anatomie  
Ärztlicher Direktor:  
Prof. Dr. med. P. Schirmacher  
Stellvertretender Arzt, Direktor:  
Prof. Dr. med. W. Weichert

## Ergebnis der Mutationsvalidierung im Rahmen des Personalisierten Onkologie Programms (POP)

### Patienteninformation

Name: [REDACTED]

Geburtsdatum: [REDACTED]

### Zu validierende Mutation

Chromosom	Position (hg19)	Gensymbol
7		PTPN12

Typ	Referenz-Allel	Varianten-Allel	Variante	Varianten-Frequenz
SNP	A	G	p.K218E	35%

### Ergebnis der Sanger-Sequenzierung:

- Die Mutation wurde bestätigt
- Die Mutation wurde nicht bestätigt

### Bemerkung:



HD, 17.1.14 [Signature]

Ansprechpartner (Pathologie):  
V. Endris (56-35596); R. Penzel (56-39907)

Die durchgeführte Analyse ist „research grade“, es handelt sich nicht um eine qualitätsgesicherte, diagnostisch belastbare Untersuchung im engeren Sinne.



**High**

**Evidence**

***Level 1***

**A:** Drug is approved for the same tumor type harboring the specific biomarker.

**B:** Predictive value of the biomarker or clinical effectiveness of the corresponding drug in a molecularly stratified cohort was demonstrated in an adequately powered prospective study or a meta-analysis.

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***Level 2***

**A:** Predictive value of the biomarker or clinical effectiveness of the drug in a molecularly stratified cohort was demonstrated in a prospective trial with biomarkers as a secondary objective or an adequately powered retrospective cohort or case-control study in the same tumor type.

**B:** Predictive value of the biomarker or clinical effectiveness of the drug in a molecularly stratified cohort was demonstrated by clinical data in a different tumor type.

**C:** Case study or single unusual responder indicates the biomarker is associated with response to the drug, supported by scientific rationale.

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***Level 3***

Preclinical data (in vitro or in vivo models and functional genomics) demonstrate that the biomarker predicts response of cells to drug treatment.

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***Level 4***

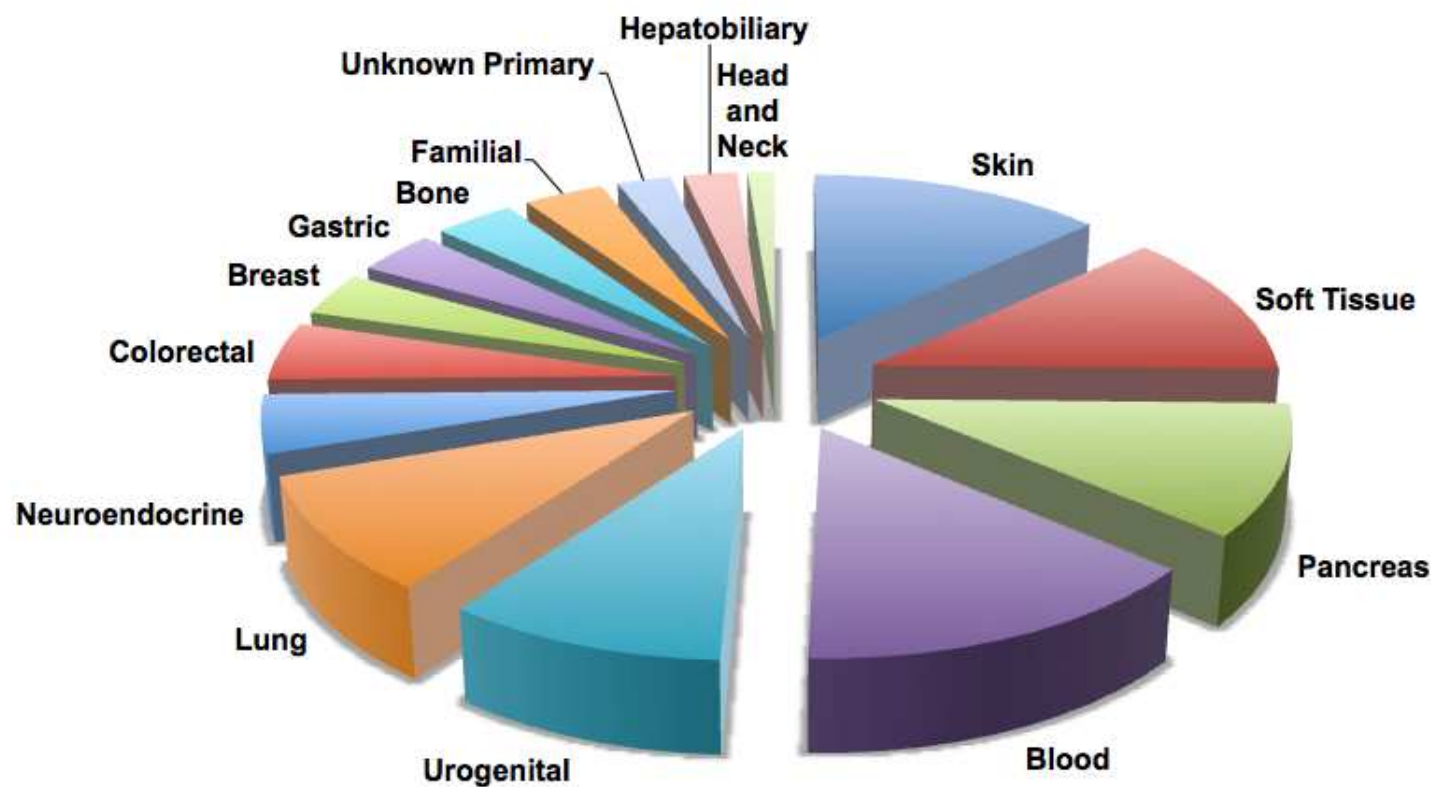
Biological rationale exists that links the drug to the altered signaling pathway or relevant basket. No reported clinical or preclinical data on the response to the drug.

**Low**



# NCT MASTER

## *Current Status*



### July 2015

Registered	$N = 384$
Eligible	$N = 322$
Completed	$N = 260$
Discussed	$N = 212$
Recommendation	$N = 125$ (59%)
Treatment	$N = 38$ (18%)

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## *Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*

### Findings With Established Clinical Implications **by Histology**

Disease	Mutation	Clinical Action
Melanoma	BRAF p.V600R ERBB4 p.P172F	Vemurafenib, dabrafenib Lapatinib
Uveal melanoma	GNAQ p.Q209L/P/R	Trametinib, selumetinib
Basal-cell carcinoma	PTCH1 p.648_650del	Vismodegib
Multiple myeloma	BRAF p.V600E	Vemurafenib, dabrafenib
Myxoid liposarcoma	PIK3CA p.C420R/p.E545K PTEN p.R130G	PI3K/AKT inhibitors, everolimus, temsirolimus
Gastrointestinal stromal tumor	KIT p.V560D PDGFRA p.D842V	Imatinib Crenolanib
Ovarian cancer	TSC2 p.R505X	Everolimus, temsirolimus
Breast cancer	PIK3CA p.E545K TSC1/2 <sup>del</sup> FGFR1 <sup>amp</sup>	PI3K/AKT inhibitors, everolimus, temsirolimus FGFR inhibitors
Pulmonary adenocarcinoma	EGFR p.T790M TSC2 <sup>mut</sup>	AZD9291 Everolimus, temsirolimus
Carcinoma of unknown primary	EGFR p.745_750del PIK3CA p.E545K	Erlotinib PI3K/AKT inhibitors, everolimus, temsirolimus

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

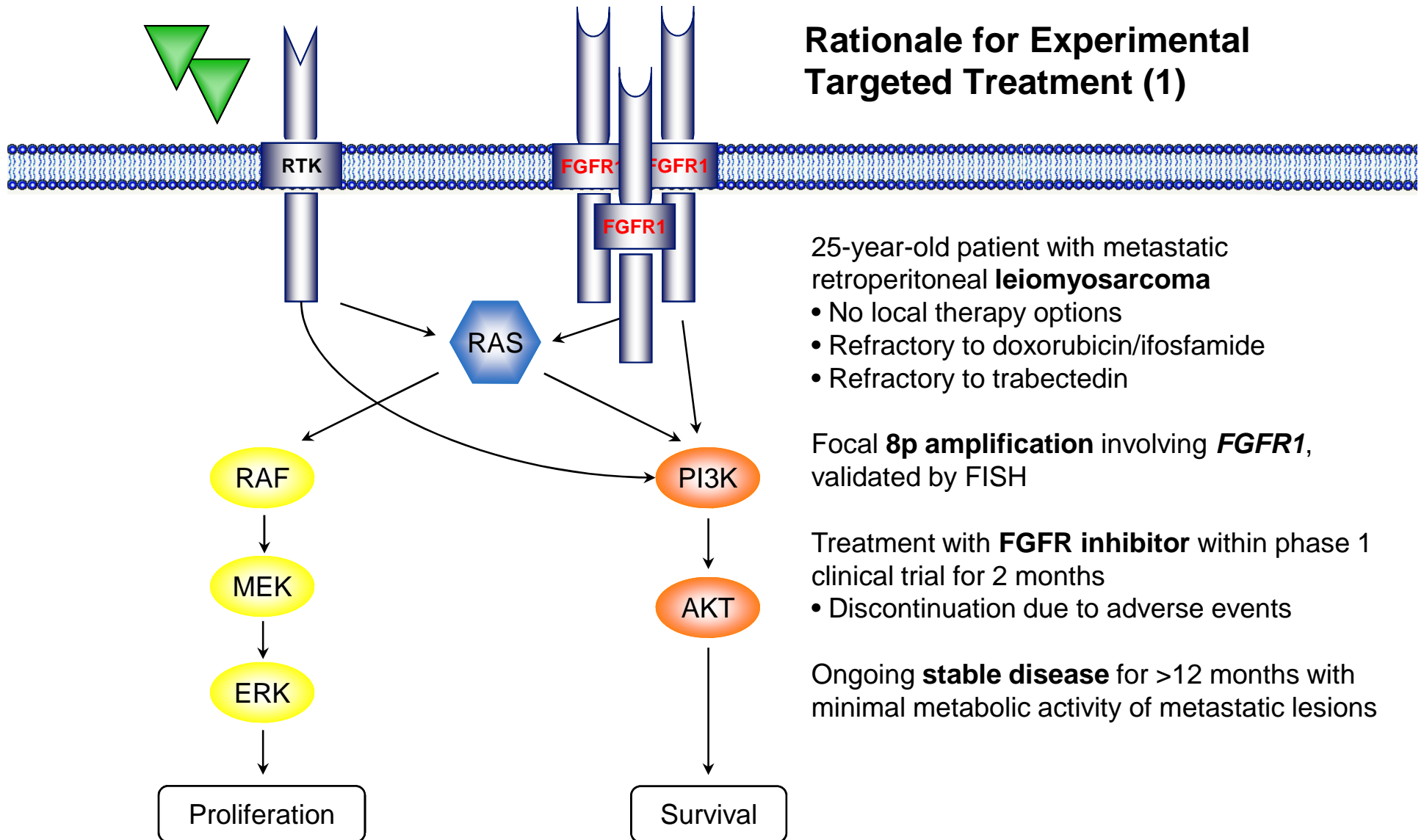
## *Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*

### Findings With Established Clinical Implications **by Gene/Pathway**

Mutation	Disease	Clinical Action
BRAF p.V600R/p.V600E	Multiple myeloma Melanoma	Vemurafenib, dabrafenib
PIK3CA p.C420R/p.E545K	Breast cancer Myxoid liposarcoma Carcinoma of unknown primary	PI3K/AKT inhibitors, everolimus, temsirolimus
TSC1 <sup>mut</sup> /TSC1 <sup>del</sup> TSC2 <sup>mut</sup> /TSC2 <sup>del</sup>	Esophageal adenocarcinoma Gastric cancer Breast cancer Ovarian cancer Pulmonary adenocarcinoma	Everolimus, temsirolimus
FGFR1 <sup>amp</sup>	Breast cancer Leiomyosarcoma T-cell prolymphocytic leukemia	FGFR inhibitors
KIT p.V560D/p.D579del	Gastrointestinal stromal tumor Sinonasal undifferentiated carcinoma	Imatinib
ERBB2 <sup>amp</sup> /p.D769Y	Colorectal cancer Cholangiocarcinoma Gallbladder carcinoma Plexiform schwannoma	Trastuzumab, pertuzumab, lapatinib, neratinib

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

*Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*



## Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (1)

25-year-old patient with metastatic retroperitoneal **leiomyosarcoma**

- No local therapy options
- Refractory to doxorubicin/ifosfamide
- Refractory to trabectedin

Focal **8p amplification** involving **FGFR1**, validated by FISH

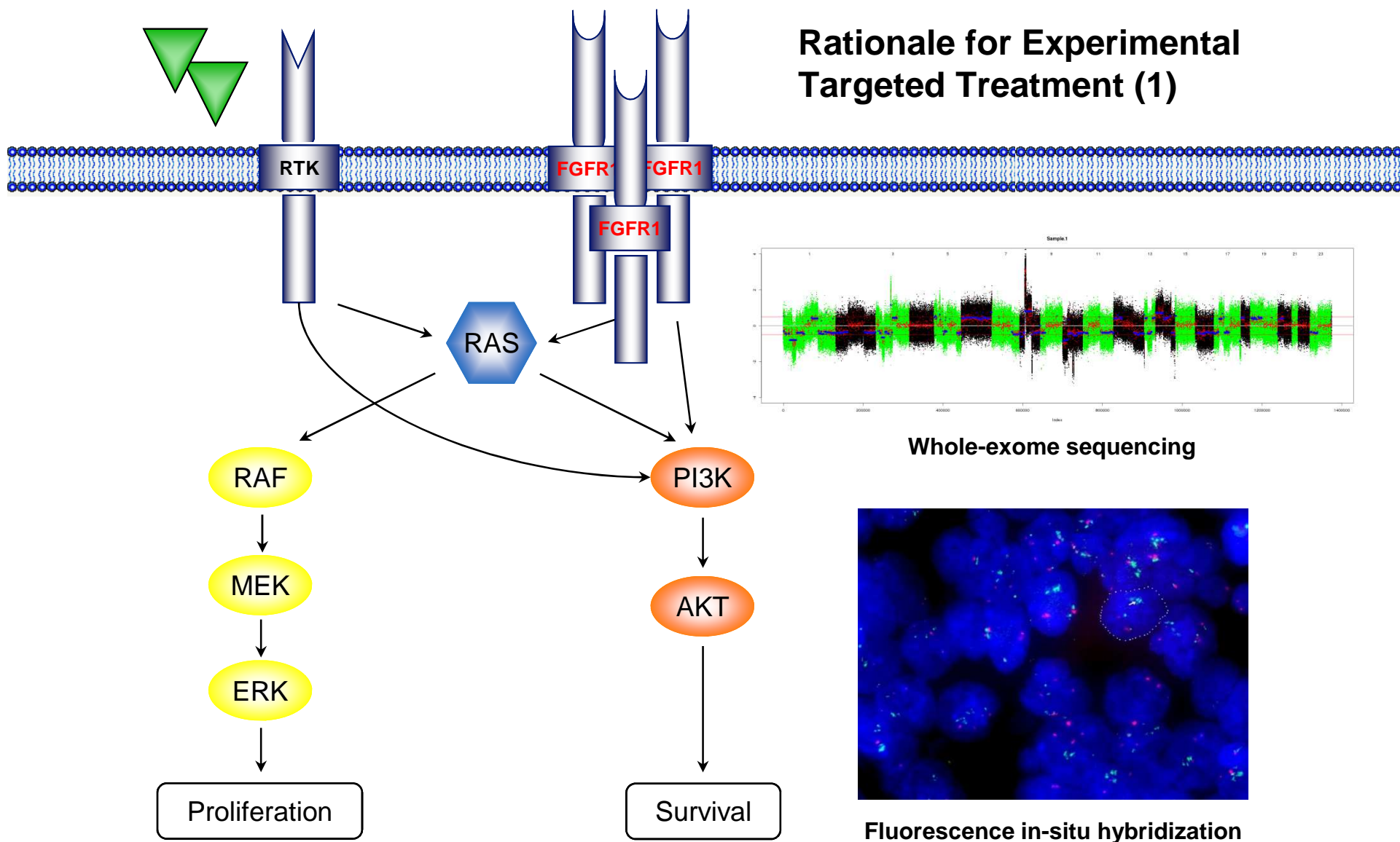
Treatment with **FGFR inhibitor** within phase 1 clinical trial for 2 months

- Discontinuation due to adverse events

Ongoing **stable disease** for >12 months with minimal metabolic activity of metastatic lesions

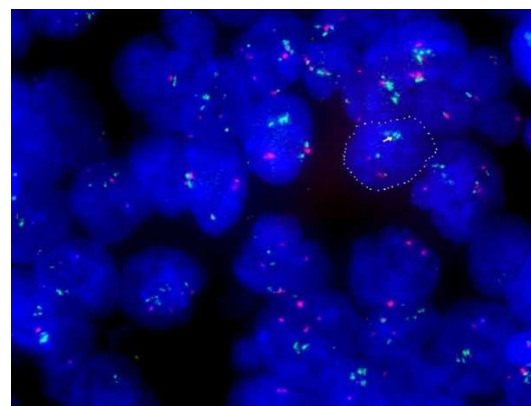
# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

*Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*



## Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (1)

Whole-exome sequencing

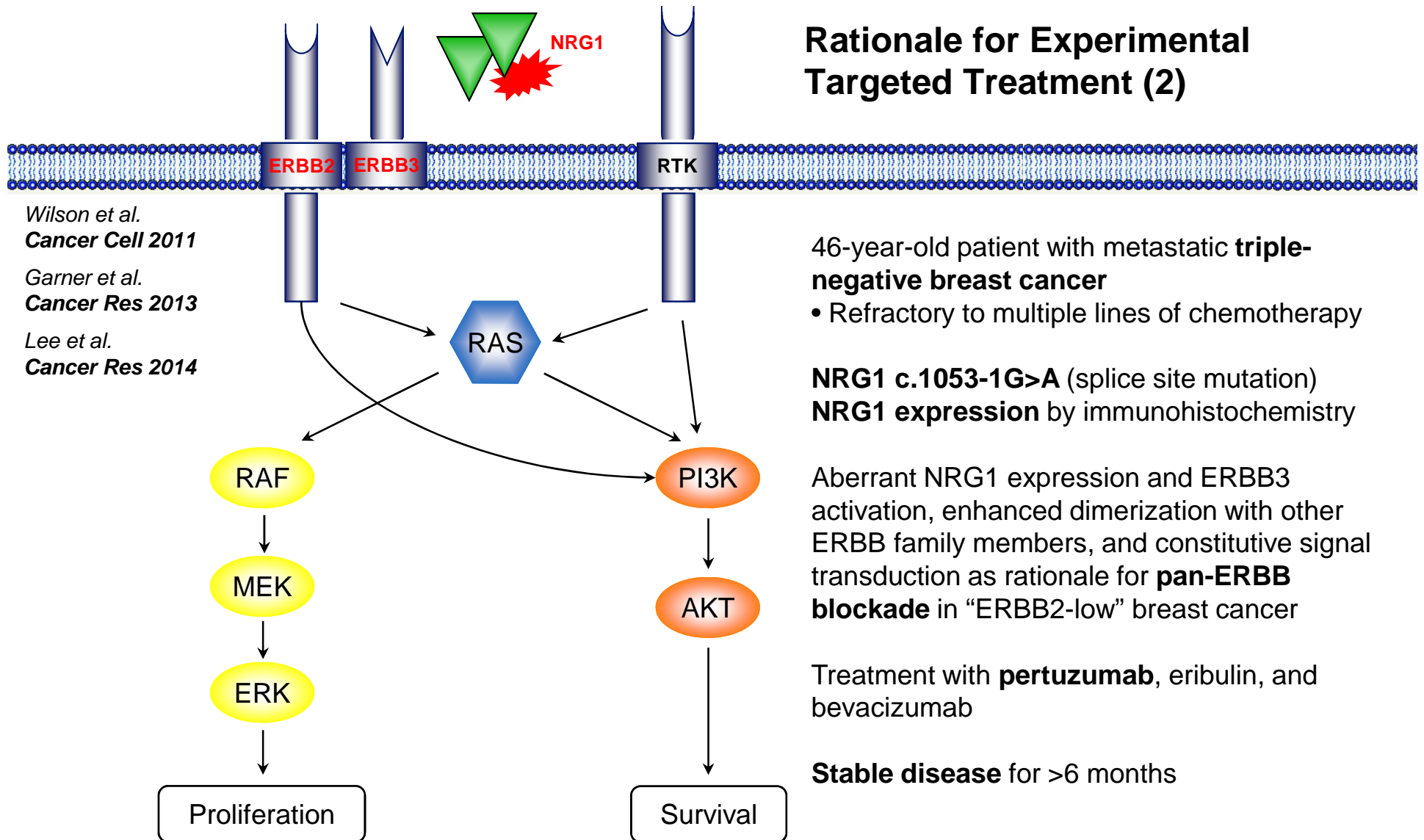


Fluorescence in-situ hybridization

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER

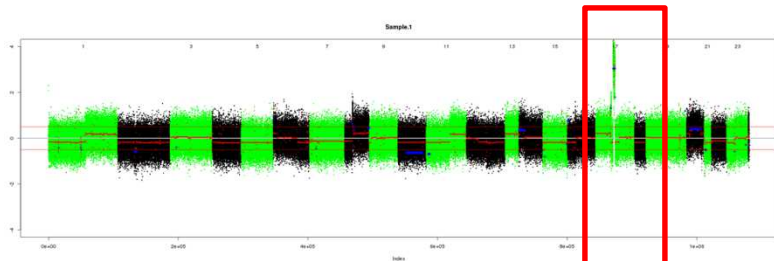
### Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (2)



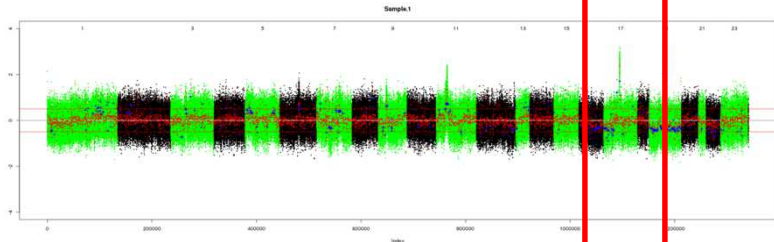


# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

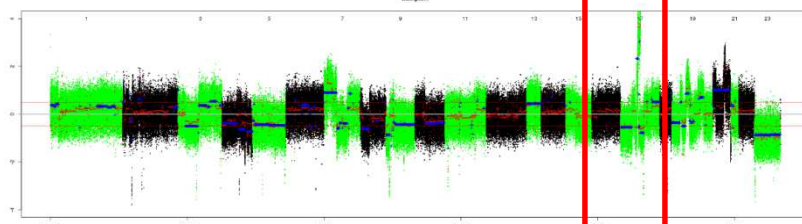
## *Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*



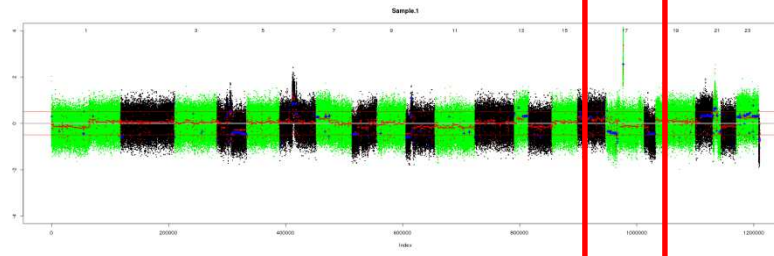
CRC



GBC\*



CCC



CCC

## Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (3)

**ERBB2 amplification and overexpression** in gastrointestinal cancers

- KRAS<sup>WT</sup> colorectal cancer (n=3)
- Gallbladder carcinoma (n=1)
- Cholangiocarcinoma (n=1)

Aberrant ERBB2 expression and constitutive signal transduction as rationale for **ERBB2 blockade** with trastuzumab, pertuzumab, or lapatinib

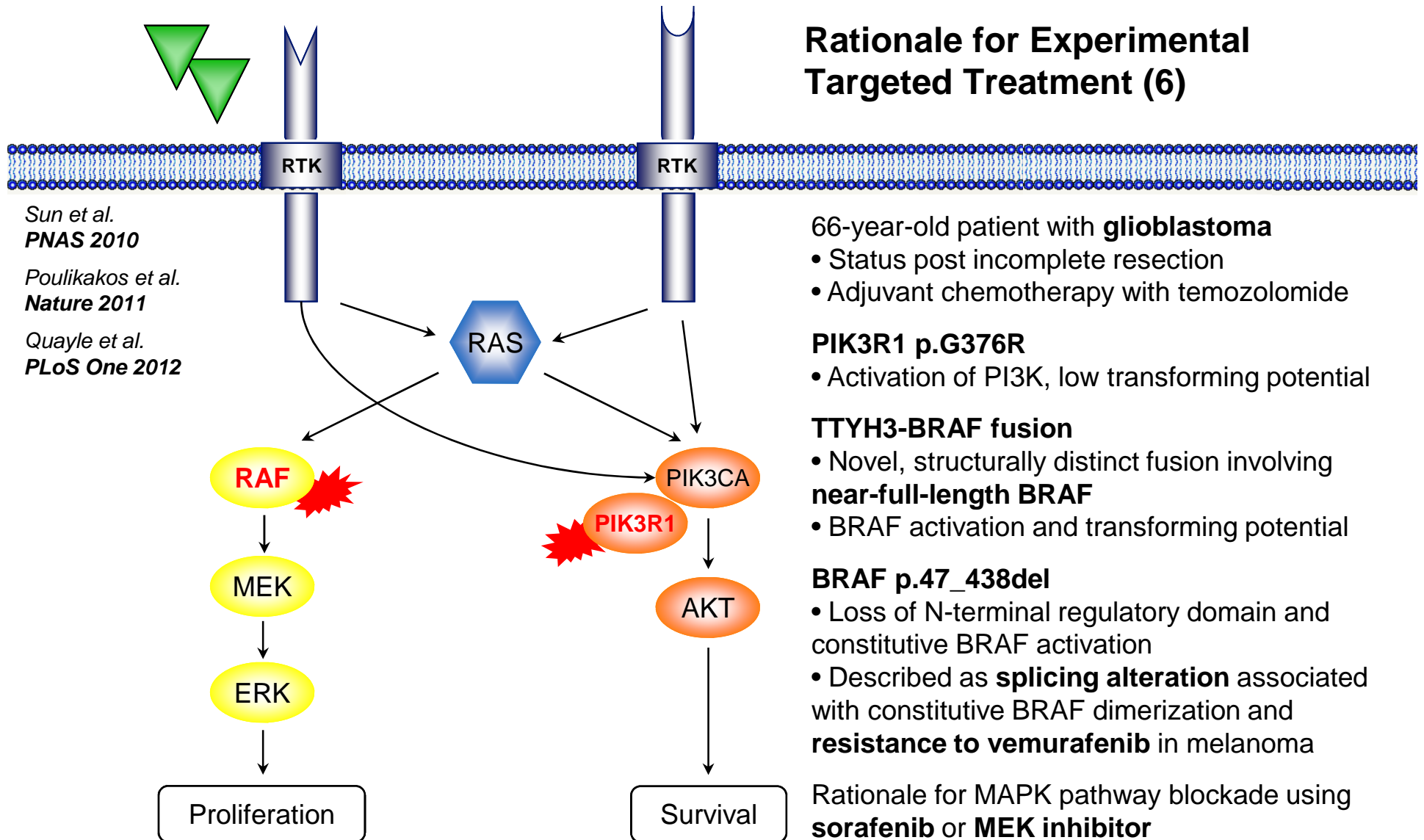
\*Ongoing **partial remission** in a 37-year-old patient with metastatic **gallbladder carcinoma** treated with **trastuzumab, pertuzumab, and nab-paclitaxel** since 11/2014

### HERACLES Trial

Trastuzumab/lapatinib in patients with heavily pretreated, ERBB2<sup>amp</sup>, KRAS<sup>WT</sup> colorectal cancer; DCR: 78%; median TTP: 5.5 months  
*Siena et al. ASCO Annual Meeting 2015*

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER



Sun et al.  
*PNAS* 2010

Poulikakos et al.  
*Nature* 2011

Quayle et al.  
*PLoS One* 2012

### Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (6)

66-year-old patient with **glioblastoma**

- Status post incomplete resection
- Adjuvant chemotherapy with temozolomide

**PIK3R1 p.G376R**

- Activation of PI3K, low transforming potential

**TTYH3-BRAF fusion**

- Novel, structurally distinct fusion involving near-full-length BRAF
- BRAF activation and transforming potential

**BRAF p.47\_438del**

- Loss of N-terminal regulatory domain and constitutive BRAF activation
- Described as **splicing alteration** associated with constitutive BRAF dimerization and **resistance to vemurafenib** in melanoma

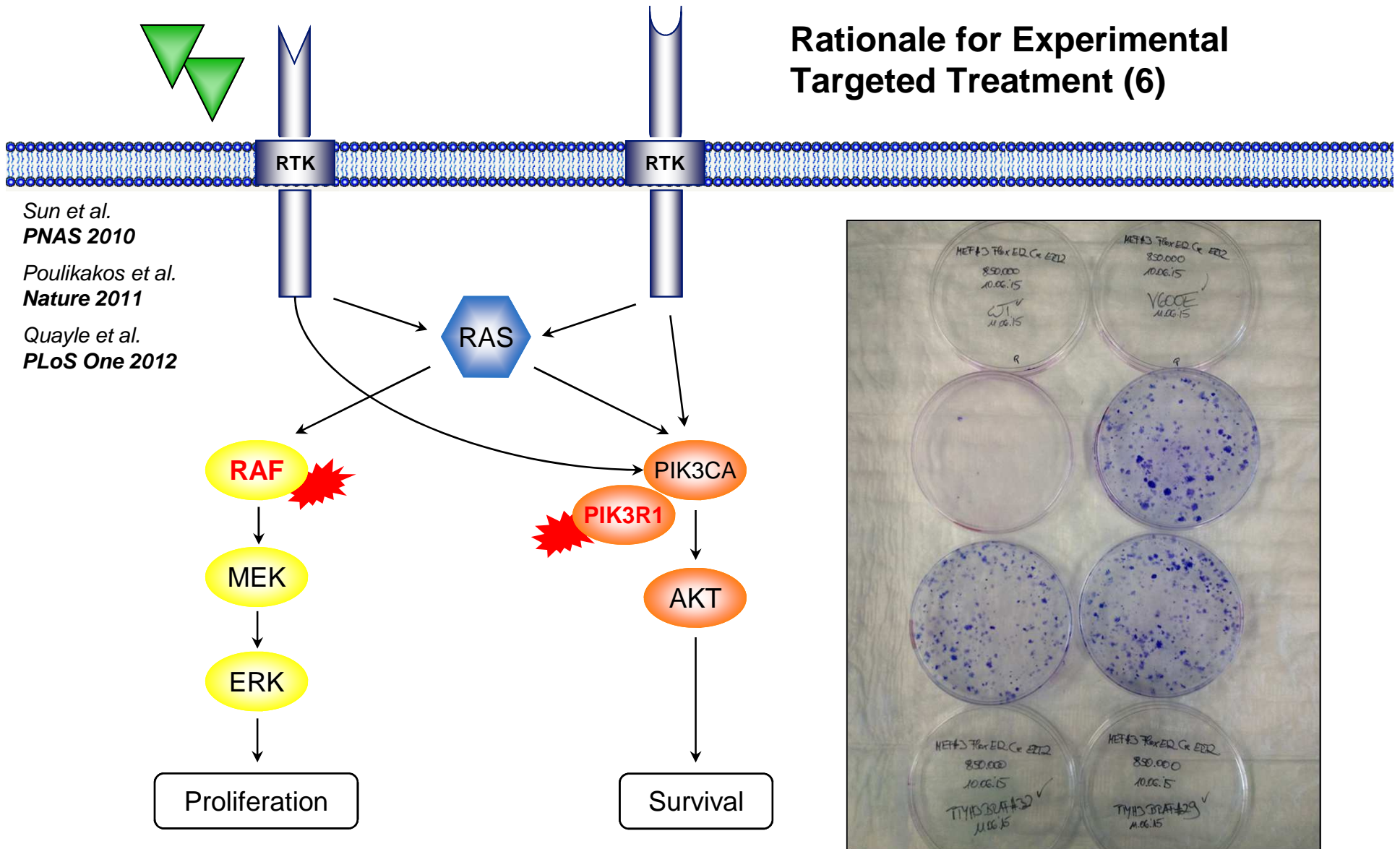
Rationale for MAPK pathway blockade using **sorafenib** or **MEK inhibitor**

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER

Tilman Brummer  
University of Freiburg

### Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (6)



Sun et al.  
*PNAS* 2010

Poulikakos et al.  
*Nature* 2011

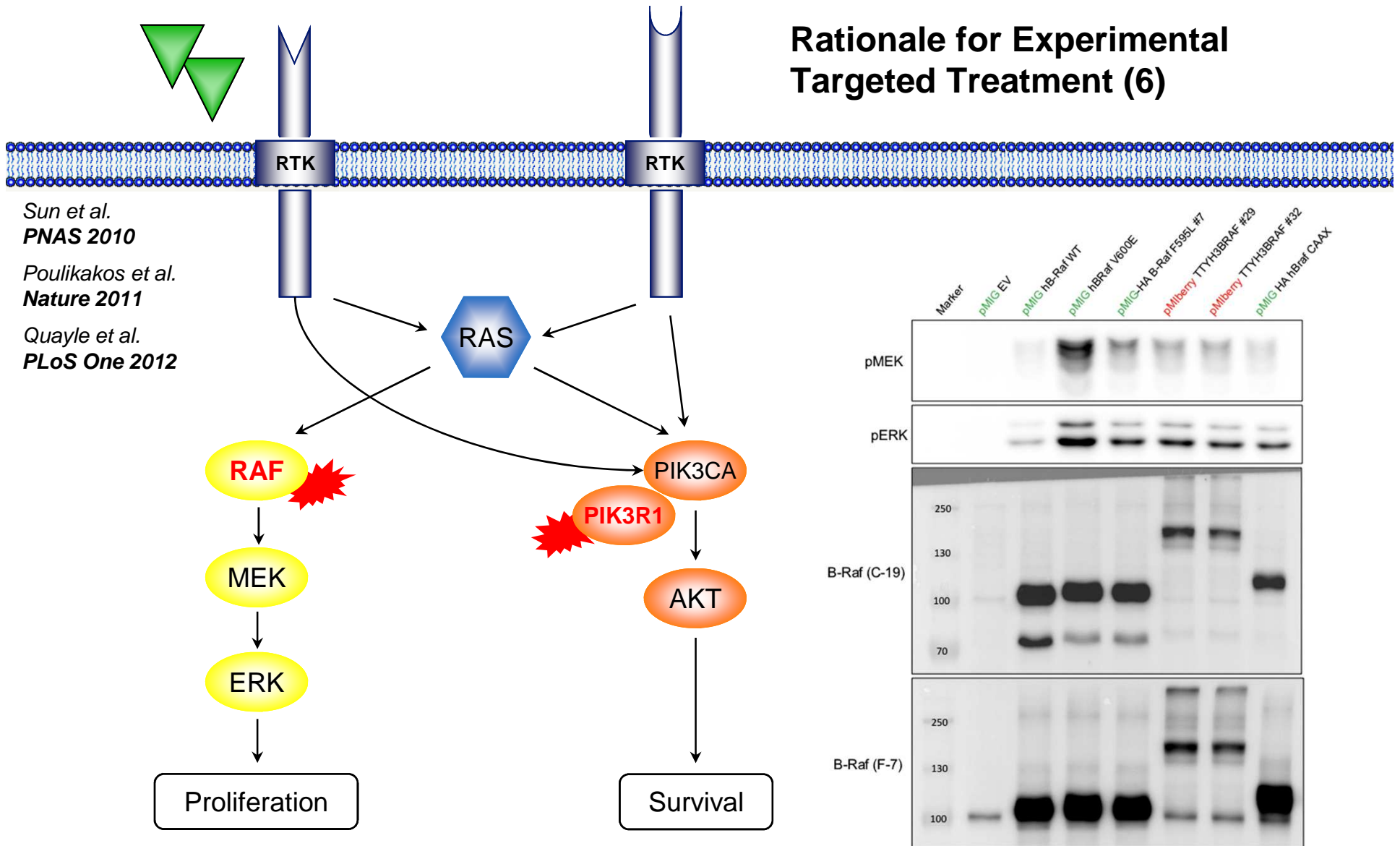
Quayle et al.  
*PLoS One* 2012

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER

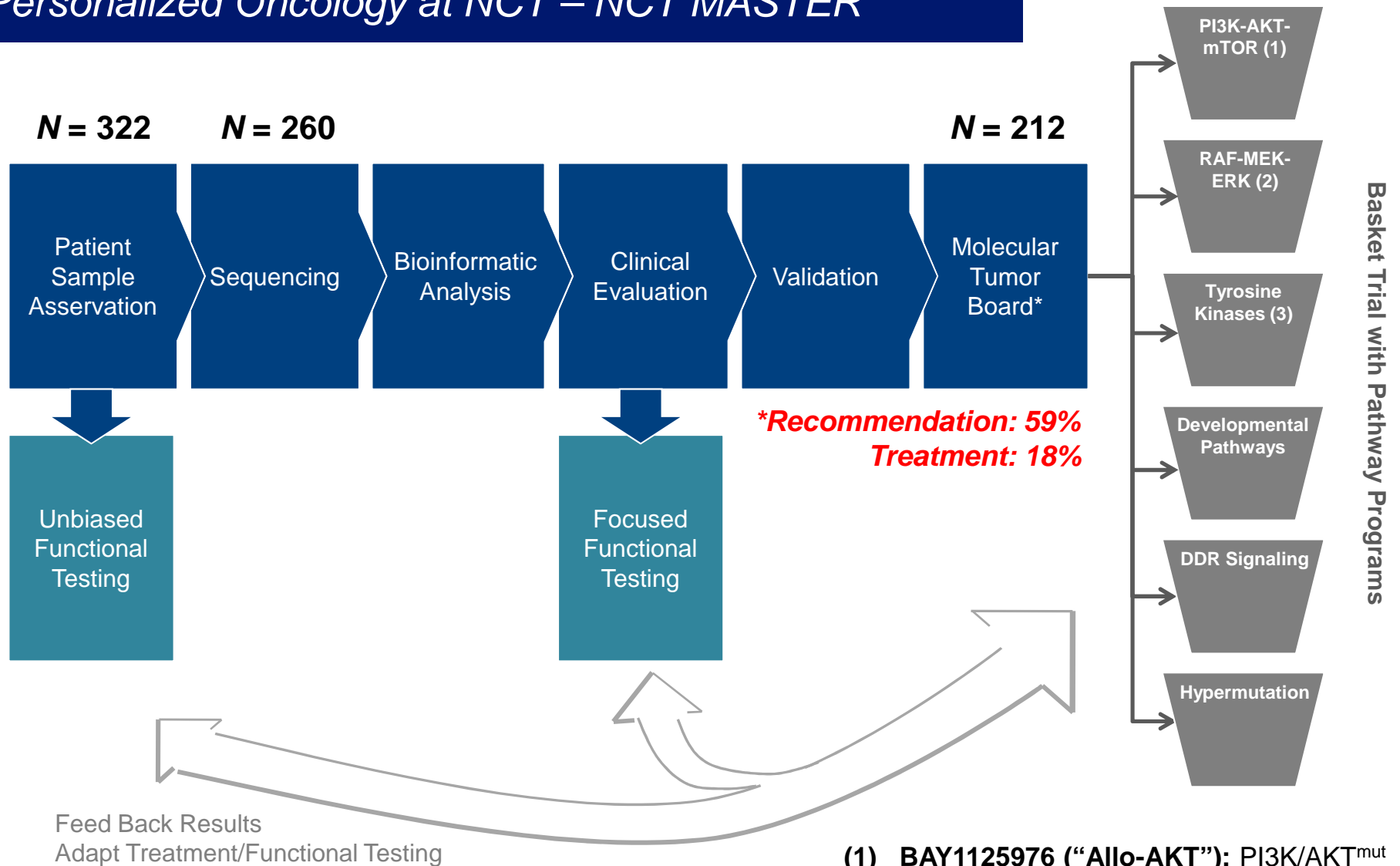
Tilman Brummer  
University of Freiburg

### Rationale for Experimental Targeted Treatment (6)



# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## *Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*



- (1) BAY1125976 (“Allo-AKT”): PI3K/AKT<sup>mut</sup>
- (2) BRF117019 (“ROAR”): BRAF<sup>V600E</sup>
- (3) EORTC 90101 (“CREATE”): ALK/MET<sup>abn</sup>

Stefan Fröhling, Stefan Gröschel, Christoph Heining, Hanno Glimm  
 Claudia Scholl (Functional Genomics)  
 DKTK: Frankfurt/Mainz, Munich, Dresden (Berlin, Essen, Freiburg)

# MOLECULAR STRATIFICATION PROGRAMS

## *Mi-Oncoseq vs. UCSD PREDICT vs. NCT MASTER*

<b>Program</b>	<b>Analyses</b>	<b>Patients</b>	<b>Actionable<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Mi-Oncoseq	WES RNA-seq	369	59%	23%	Response
UCSD PREDICT	Panel-seq (236 genes)	347	–	25%	Response, PFS, OS <sup>2</sup>
NCT MASTER	WES RNA-seq	212	59%	18%	Response

<sup>1</sup>Rationale for drug in development or off-label use of approved drug; prediction of response to treatment; predisposing germline alteration

<sup>2</sup>**SD/PR/CR:** 35% vs. 16% ( $P=0.02$ ); **PFS:** 4 vs. 3 months ( $P=0.04$ ); **PFS2/PFS1  $\geq 1,3$ :** 45% vs. 19% ( $P=0.004$  and  $P=0.06$ ); trend for superior PFS following treatment „matched directly“ vs. „matched indirectly“ ( $P=0.1$ ); **OS:** 14 vs. 11 months (NS)



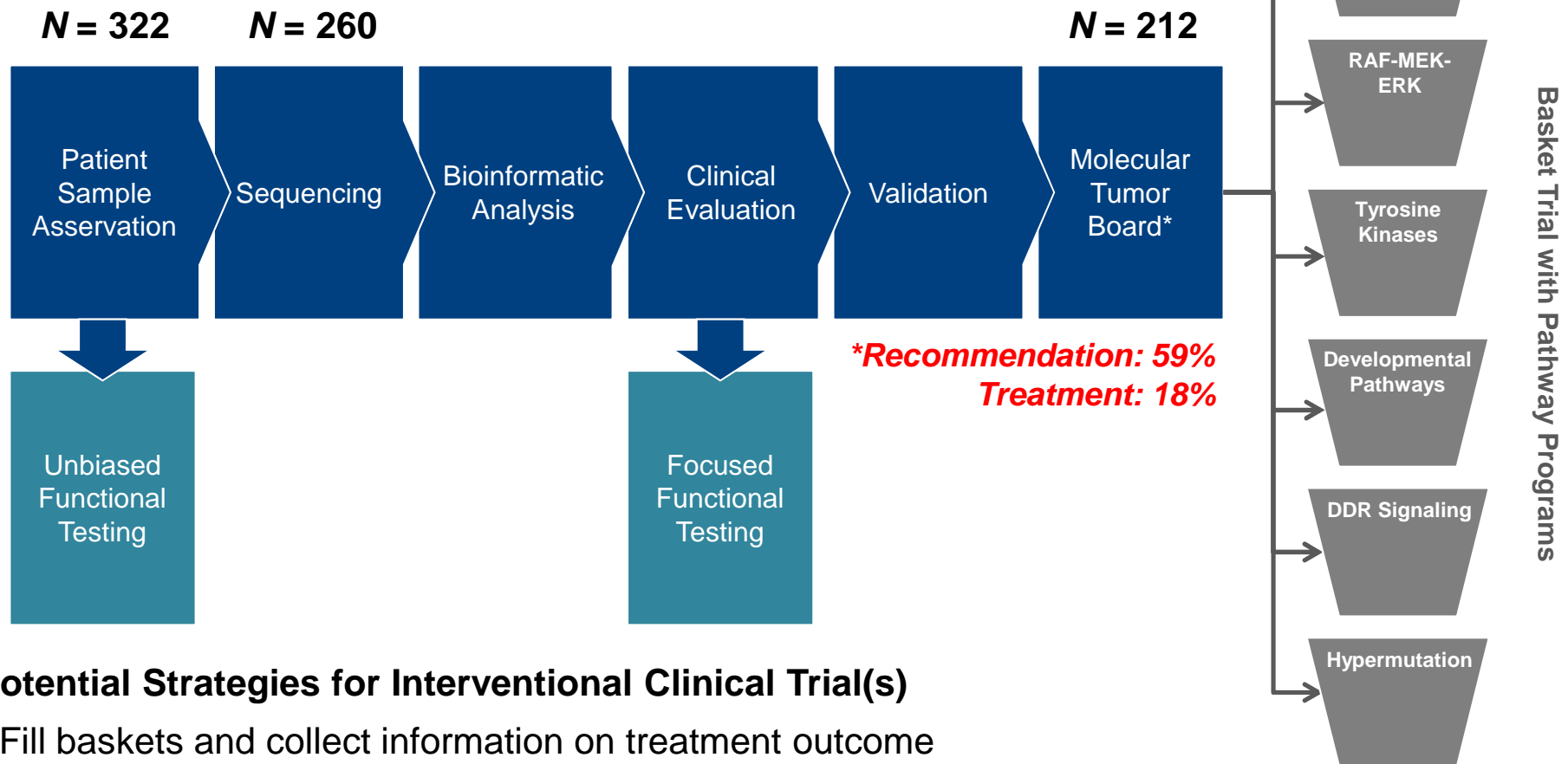
# LONG-TERM OUTCOME OF STRATIFIED THERAPY

## *Meta-Analysis of Targeted Treatment Strategies*

- **UC San Diego, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Institut Gustave Roussy, WIN Consortium, ASCO**
- **570 phase 2 trials; 32,149 patients; targeted agents as monotherapy; 641 treatment arms**
- **Therapy according to biomarker vs. unselected treatment**
- **Superior outcome compared to conventional chemotherapy through targeted therapy according to biomarker (“matched directly” and “matched indirectly”)**
  - Response, PFS, OS (each  $P < 0.0001$ )
  - Toxicity ( $P < 0.001$ )
- **Inferior outcome compared to conventional chemotherapy through unselected “targeted” therapy**
  - Response, PFS (each  $P < 0.0001$ )
  - OS ( $P = 0.048$ )
- **Better outcome with targeted approaches based on genomic alterations (mutations) vs. aberrant expression (RNA, protein) as biomarker**
  - Response, PFS, OS (each  $P < 0.05$ )

# NCT MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS PROGRAM

## *Personalized Oncology at NCT – NCT MASTER*



### Potential Strategies for Interventional Clinical Trial(s)

- Fill baskets and collect information on treatment outcome
- Identify successful baskets (OR or SD for  $\geq 6$  months in  $\geq 2/10$  patients)
- Define trial design, for example:
  - “Randomization” between patients receiving genomics-guided treatment and patients receiving standard of care (due to logistical or regulatory reasons etc.)

*In collaboration with Annette Kopp-Schneider and Axel Benner, Division of Biostatistics, DKFZ*

## NCT / DKFZ

### *Translational Oncology*

Stefan Fröhling, Christoph Heining,  
Stefan Gröschel, Hanno Glimm

### *Medical Oncology*

Dirk Jäger and Team

## NCT POP / DKFZ-HIPO

### *Sample Processing / Coordination*

Christina Geörg, Katja Oehme,  
Daniela Richter, Katja Beck

### *Board of Directors*

Peter Lichter, Roland Eils,  
Christof von Kalle

## DKFZ

### *Sequencing Core Facility*

Stephan Wolf and Team

### *Clinical Bioinformatics*

Barbara Hutter, Benedikt Brors

## Heidelberg University

### *Molecular Pathology*

Volker Endris, Roland Penzel,  
Albrecht Stenzinger, Wilko  
Weichert, Peter Schirmacher



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