



# **The Evolving Paradigm of Precision Medicine in Lung Cancer: what Oncologist and Advocacies can do**

Prof Silvia Novello, MD

*University of Turin*

*Department of Oncology*

*silvia.novello@unito.it*



- ✓ Thermo Fisher Scientific and its affiliates are not endorsing, recommending or promoting any use or application of Thermo Fisher Scientific products by third parties during this seminar.
- ✓ Information and materials presented or provided by third parties as-is and without warranty of any kind, including regarding intellectual property rights and reported results.
- ✓ Parties presenting images, text and material represent they have the right to do so.
- ✓ Speaker is provided honorarium for this presentation.
- ✓ The products from Thermo Fisher Scientific displayed in this presentation are labeled as follows: “For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.”

### Silvia Novello Disclosures

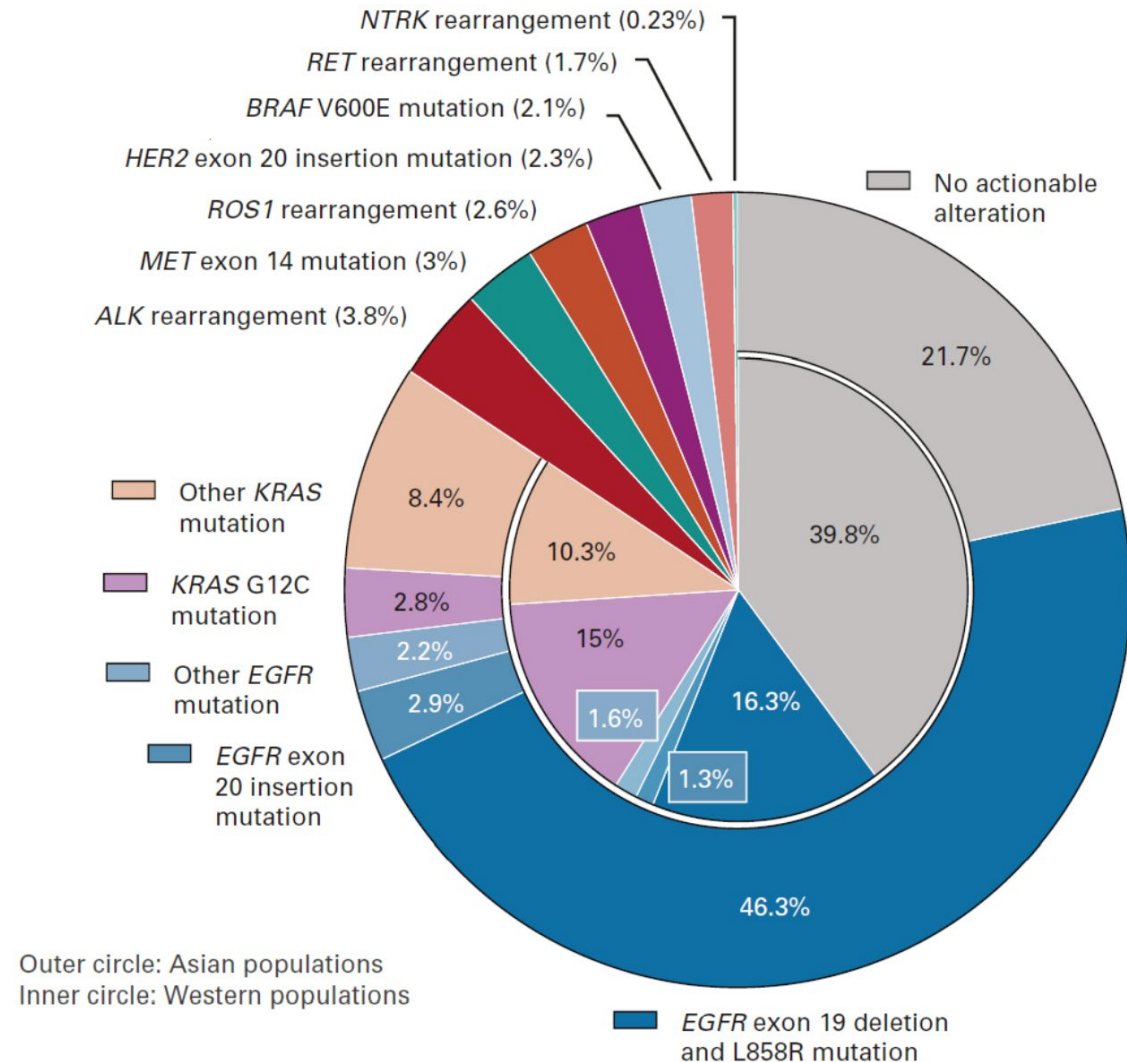
Personal fees for an invited speaker from Amgen, AstraZeneca, BeiGene, Eli Lilly, MSD, Novartis, Takeda, Pfizer, Roche, ThermoFisher

Personal fees for advisory boards from Amgen, BI, Pfizer, Roche, Sanofi, Takeda, Janssen, GSK

Research funding to institution from BI, MSD

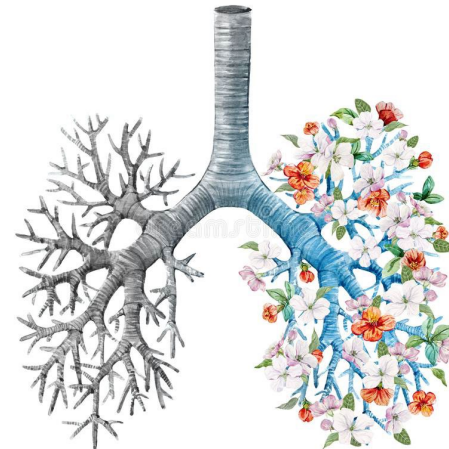
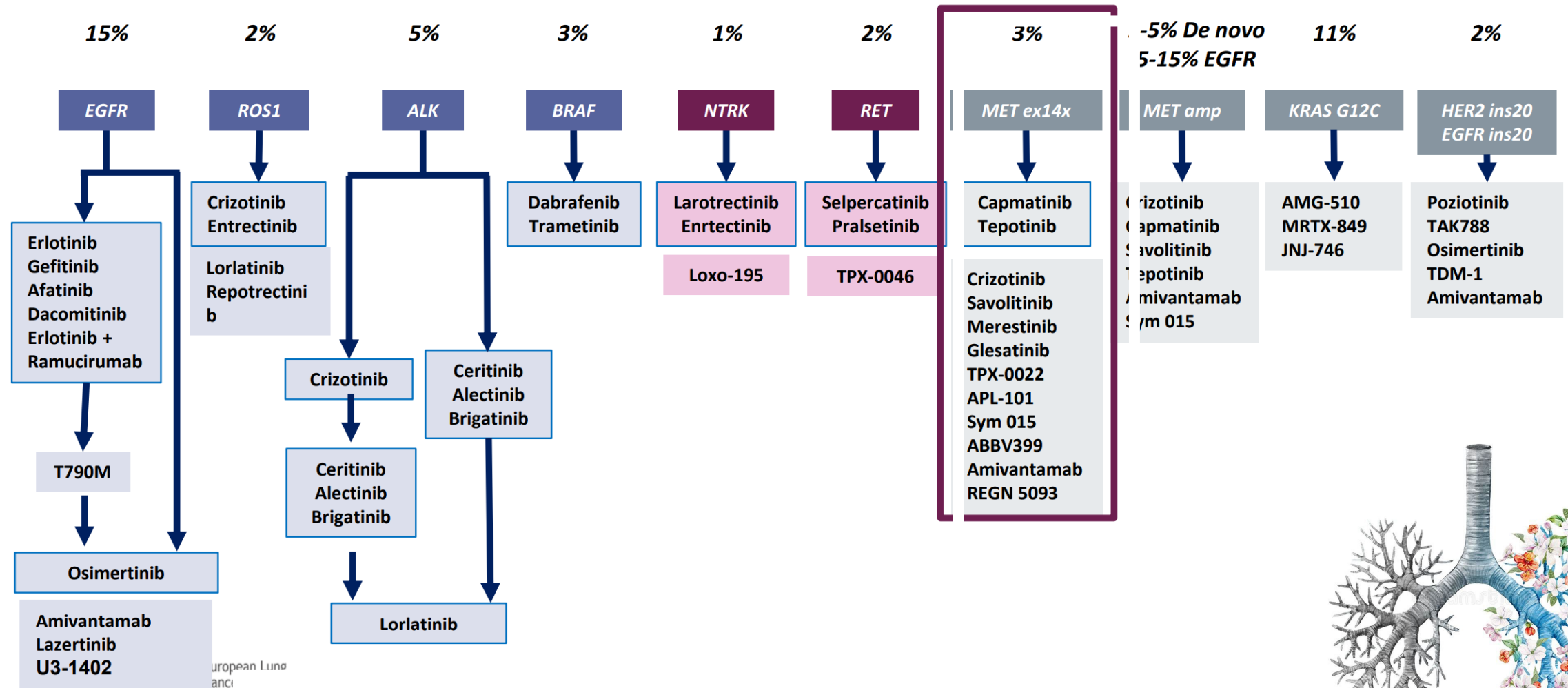
# Awareness of several targets

## Frequency of targetable oncogenic driver molecular alterations in NSCLC

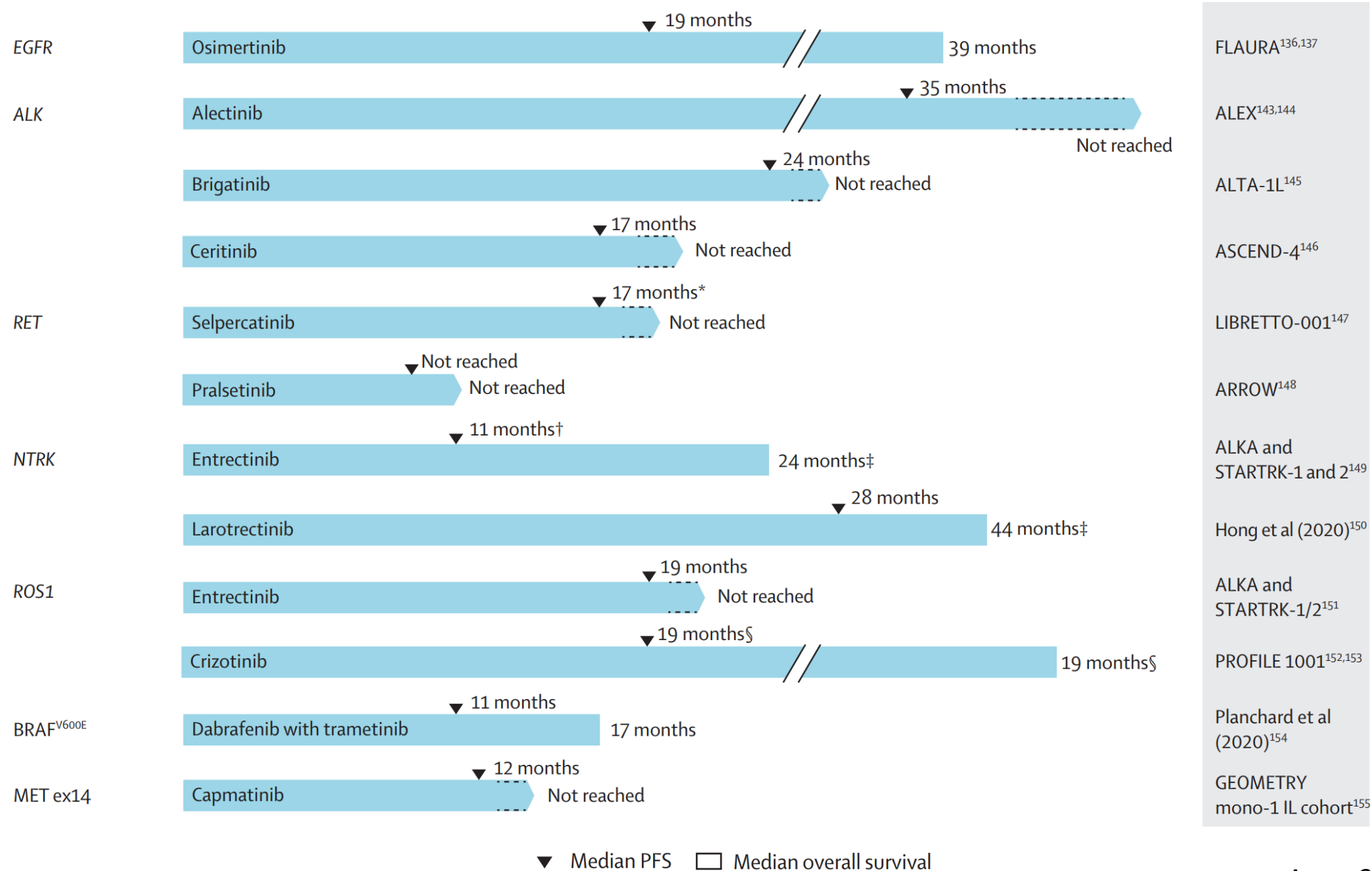


# Awareness of several effective drugs

## Targeted therapies in NSCLC

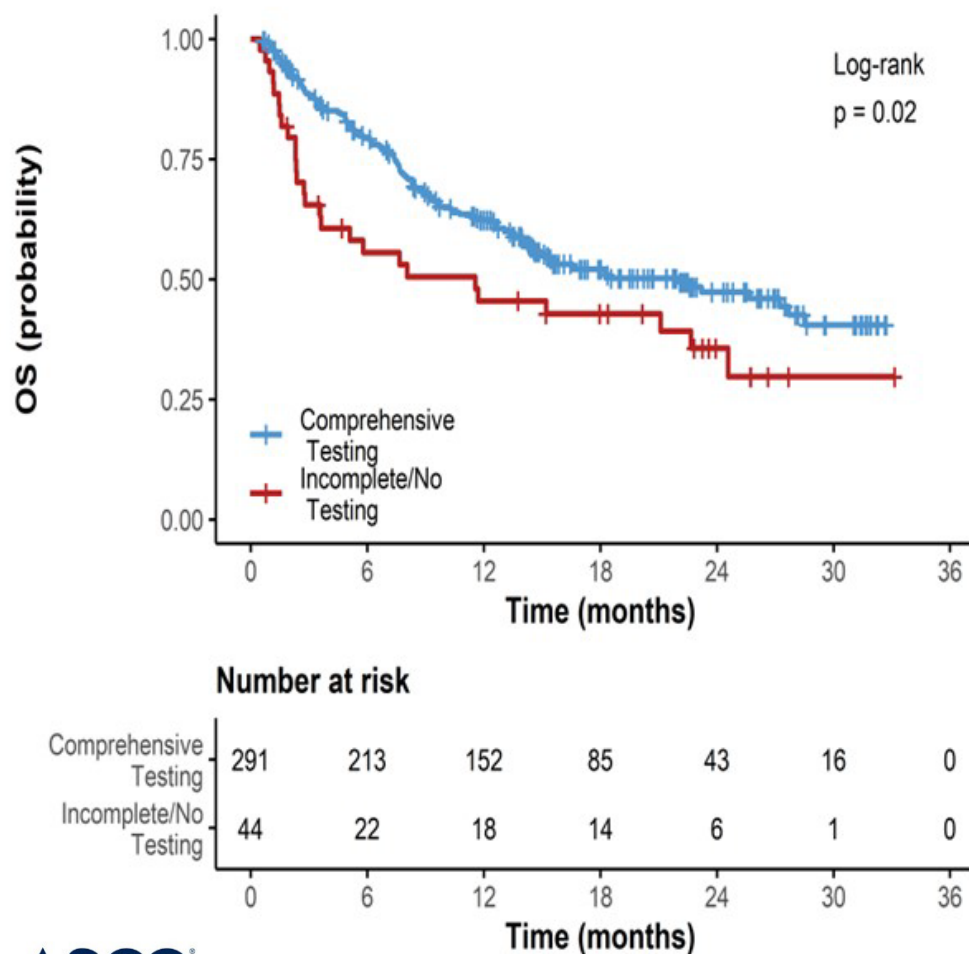


# PFS and OS in oncogene addicted NSCLC pts treated with targeted therapies

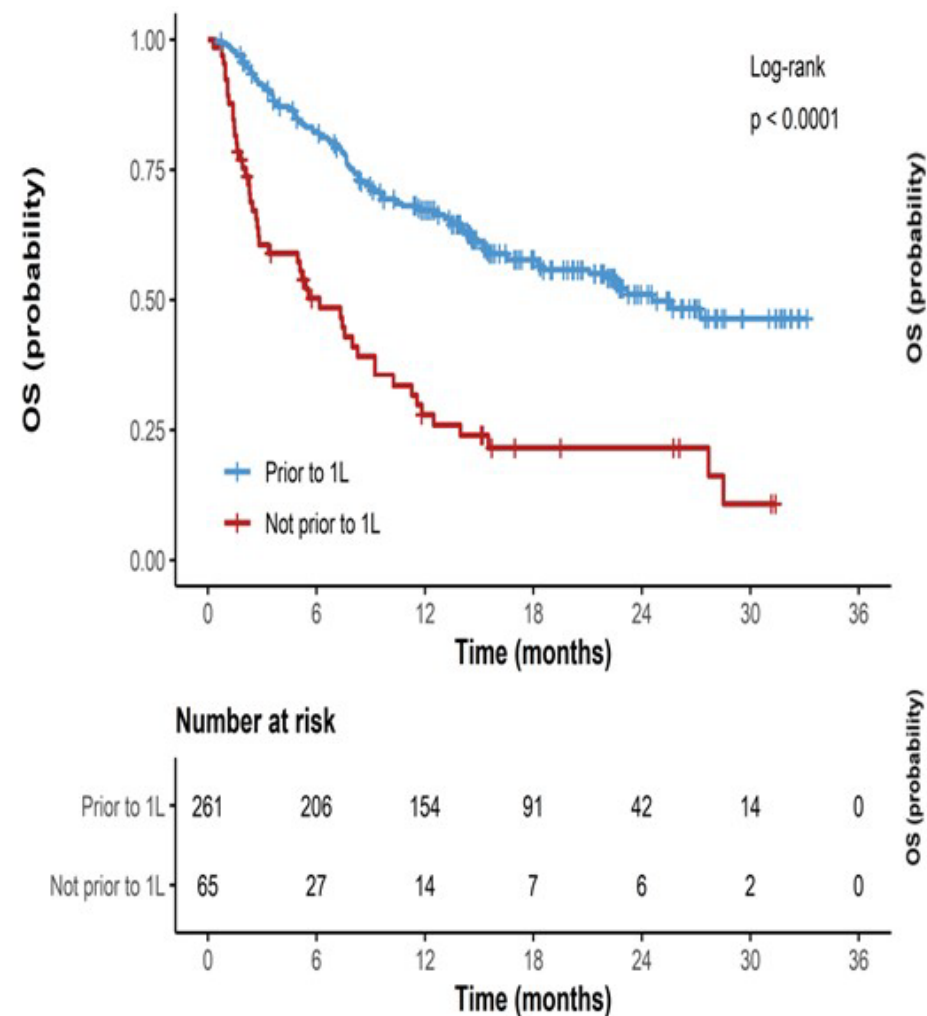


# Comprehensive Molecular Genotyping is associated with improved survival

OS of patients with comprehensive testing compared to patients with **incomplete/no testing**

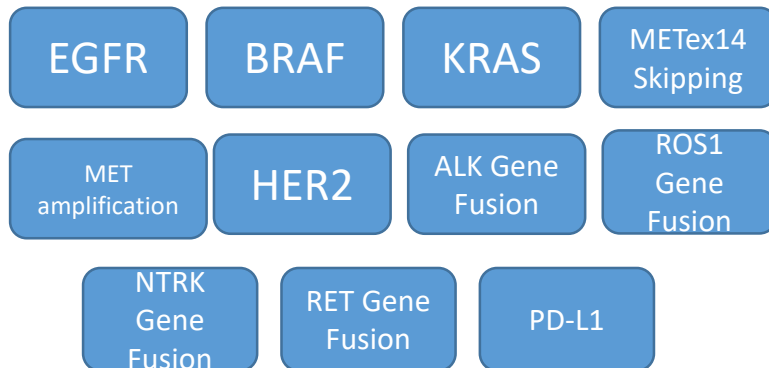


OS of patients with comprehensive testing prior to 1L treatment compared to patients **without results available prior to 1L**





# Increased need for molecular testing: What guidelines say



Version 3.2022, 03/16/22 © 2022 National Comprehensive Cancer Network® (NCCN®)



(to be updated)

Biomarker	Method	Use	LoE, GoR
EGFR mutation	Any appropriate, validated method, subject to external quality assurance	To select those patients with EGFR-sensitising mutations most likely to respond to EGFR TKI therapy	I, A
ALK rearrangement	Any appropriate, validated method, subject to external quality assurance. FISH is the historical standard but IHC is now becoming the primary therapy-determining test, provided the method is validated against FISH or some other orthogonal test approach. NGS is an emerging technology	To select those patients with ALK gene rearrangements most likely to respond to ALK TKI therapy	I, A
ROS1 rearrangement	FISH is the trial-validated standard. IHC may be used to select patients for confirmatory FISH testing but currently lacks specificity. NGS is an emerging technology. External quality assurance is essential	To select those patients with ROS1 gene rearrangements most likely to respond to ROS1 TKI therapy	II, A
BRAF mutation	Any appropriate, validated method, subject to external quality assurance	To select those patients with BRAF V600-sensitising mutations most likely to respond to BRAF inhibitor, with or without MEK inhibitor therapy	II, A
PD-L1 expression	IHC to identify PD-L1 expression at the appropriate level and on the appropriate cell population(s) as determined by the intended drug and line of therapy. Only specific trial assays are validated. Internal and external quality assurance are essential	To enrich for those patients more likely to benefit from anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 therapy. For pembrolizumab, testing is a companion diagnostic for nivolumab and atezolizumab, testing is complementary	I, A

ALK, anaplastic lymphoma kinase; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; FISH, fluorescent *in situ* hybridisation; GoR, grade of recommendation; IHC, immunohistochemistry; LoE, level of evidence; MEK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; NGS, next-generation sequencing; NSCLC, non-small cell lung cancer; PD-1, programmed cell death protein 1; PD-L1, programmed death-ligand 1; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor.

# Molecular testing

IHC	FISH	PCR	NGS
<b>Protein expression, gene fusion products</b>	<b>Gene rearrangements</b>	<b>Point mutations, small deletions/insertions Digital PCR may identifies rearrangements</b>	<b>Point mutations, small deletions/insertions, copy number alterations and rearrangements</b>
<b>Turn-around time:</b> 1-7 days	<b>Turn-around time:</b> 1-7 days	<b>Turn-around time:</b> 1-3 days	<b>Turn-around time:</b> 3-14 days
<b>Benefits:</b> Low cost Available in most laboratories Small amount of tissue needed	<b>Benefits:</b> Low cost Available in most laboratories Small amount of tissue needed	<b>Benefits:</b> Rapid test results, Available in most laboratories, Cost effective	<b>Benefits:</b> Greater ability to identify novel or heterogeneous variants; Higher sample throughput, Cost effective, Tests a wide mutational gene panel concurrently
<b>Drawbacks</b> Limited number of alterations Sequential testing (additional biopsy/material, more time, more costs)	<b>Drawbacks</b> Limited number of alterations Sequential testing (additional biopsy/material, more time, more costs) Fusion partner must be known	<b>Drawbacks</b> Limited number of alterations Sequential testing (additional biopsy/material, more time, more costs) Limited set of known variants	<b>Drawbacks</b> Reports can be challenging to interpret Sampling can miss tumor heterogeneity



# ESMO guidelines for NGS testing



## REVIEW

### Recommendations for the use of next-generation sequencing (NGS) for patients with metastatic cancers: a report from the ESMO Precision Medicine Working Group

F. Mosele<sup>1</sup>, J. Remon<sup>2</sup>, J. Mateo<sup>3</sup>, C. B. Westphalen<sup>4</sup>, F. Barlesi<sup>1</sup>, M. P. Lokkema<sup>5</sup>, N. Normanno<sup>6</sup>, A. Scarpa<sup>7</sup>, M. Robson<sup>8</sup>, F. Meric-Bernstam<sup>9</sup>, N. Wagie<sup>10</sup>, A. Stenzinger<sup>11</sup>, J. Bonastre<sup>12,13</sup>, A. Bayle<sup>12,13</sup>, S. Michiels<sup>12,13</sup>, I. Bièche<sup>14</sup>, E. Rouleau<sup>15</sup>, S. Jezdic<sup>16</sup>, J.-Y. Douillard<sup>16</sup>, J. S. Reis-Filho<sup>17</sup>, R. Dienstmann<sup>18</sup> & F. André<sup>1,19,20\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Medical Oncology, Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, France; <sup>2</sup>Department of Medical Oncology, Centro Integral Oncológico Clara Campal (HM-CIOCC), Hospital HM Delfos, HM Hospitales, Barcelona; <sup>3</sup>Clinical Research Program, Vall Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO) and Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Barcelona, Spain; <sup>4</sup>Comprehensive Cancer Center Munich and Department of Medicine III, University Hospital, LMU Munich, Munich, Germany; <sup>5</sup>Department of Medical Oncology, Erasmus MC Cancer Center, Rotterdam, the Netherlands; <sup>6</sup>Cell Biology and Biotherapy Unit, Istituto Nazionale Tumori, Fondazione G. Pascale – IRCCS, Naples; <sup>7</sup>ARC-Net Research Centre and Department of Diagnostics and Public Health – Section of Pathology, University of Verona, Verona, Italy; <sup>8</sup>Breast Medicine and Clinical Genetics Services, Department of Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York; <sup>9</sup>Department of Investigational Cancer Therapeutics, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston; <sup>10</sup>Department of Medical Oncology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA; <sup>11</sup>Institute of Pathology, University Hospital Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany; <sup>12</sup>Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Gustave Roussy, University Paris-Saclay, Villejuif; <sup>13</sup>Oncostat U1018, Inserm, University Paris-Saclay, labeled Ligue Contre le Cancer, Villejuif; <sup>14</sup>Department of Genetics, Institut Curie, Paris Descartes University, Paris; <sup>15</sup>Cancer Genetic Laboratories, Department of Medical Biology and Pathology, Gustave Roussy Cancer Campus, Villejuif, France; <sup>16</sup>Scientific and Medical Division, European Society for Medical Oncology, Lugano, Switzerland; <sup>17</sup>Department of Pathology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, USA; <sup>18</sup>Oncology Data Science Group, Molecular Prescreening Program, Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology, Barcelona, Spain; <sup>19</sup>Inserm, Gustave Roussy Cancer Campus, UMR981, Villejuif; <sup>20</sup>Paris Saclay University, Orsay, France

Mosele F. et al  
Ann Oncol 2020

Table 2. Summary recommendations

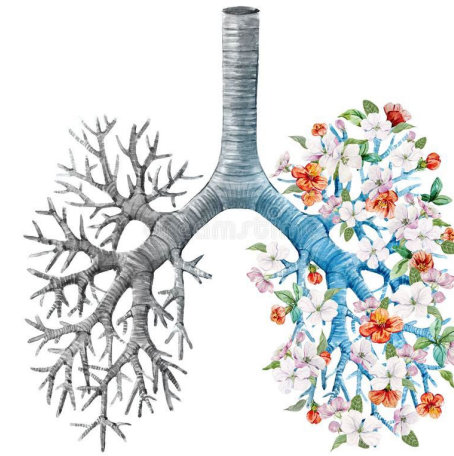
Tumour types	General recommendations for daily practice	Recommendation for clinical research centres	Special considerations for patients
Lung adenocarcinoma	Tumour multigene NGS to assess level I alterations. Larger panels can be used only on the basis of specific agreements with payers taking into account the overall cost of the strategy (drug included <sup>a</sup> ) and if they report accurate ranking of alterations. NGS can either be done on RNA or DNA, if it includes level I fusions in the panel.	It is highly recommended that clinical research centres perform multigene sequencing in the context of molecular screening programmes in order to increase access to innovative drugs and to speed up clinical research. This is particularly relevant in breast, pancreatic and hepatocellular cancers where level II–IV alterations are numerous.	Using large panels of genes could lead to few clinically meaningful responders, not detected by small panels or standard testings. In this context and outside the diseases where large panels of genes are recommended, ESMO acknowledges that a patient and a doctor could decide together to order a large panel of genes, pending no extra cost for the public health care system, and if the patient is informed about the low likelihood of benefit.
Squamous cell lung cancers	No current indication for tumour multigene NGS		
Breast cancers	No current indication for tumour multigene NGS		
Colon cancers	Multigene tumour NGS can be an alternative option to PCR if it does not result in additional cost.		
Prostate cancers	Multigene tumour NGS to assess level I alterations. Larger panels can be used only on the basis of specific agreements with payers taking into account the overall cost of the strategy and if they report accurate ranking of alterations.		

**ESMO guidelines recommend NGS testing in advanced adenocarcinomas giving the number of ESCAT grade I targets in NSCLC**

..But not all that glitters is gold

...last year

2021 ASCO<sup>®</sup>  
ANNUAL MEETING



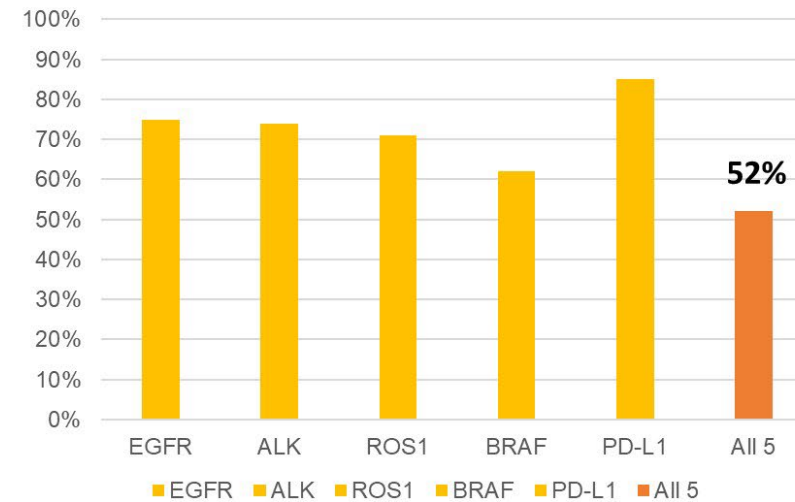
## The US Oncology Network of community oncology practices



Screening by NGS in patients with NSCLC  
N=3474 from Apr.18 to Mar.20

### Biomarker testing rates

*Oct 19-Mar 20*



Robert, ASCO 2021

# Challenges in the Implementation of Precision Medicine in Clinical Practice

## **DISEASE-SPECIFIC**

Tumor evolution  
Spatial heterogeneity  
Difficult to access metastatic biopsies  
Tissue quality

## **TECHNOLOGY ACCESS**

Inequalities in healthcare access  
Test for individual biomarker vs multiplexed profiling

## **DATA INTERPRETATION**

Rapid knowledge development  
Data sharing  
Expertise at molecular tumor boards

## **PRACTICE**

Availability of investigations  
Expertise  
Funding

## **DATABASES**

## **TRIALS**

## **DRUGS**

## **CLINICAL SUPPORT**

Integrated Data  
Multidisciplinary Tumor Board

# Implementation of Precision Medicine in Clinical Practice

## TWO EXAMPLES

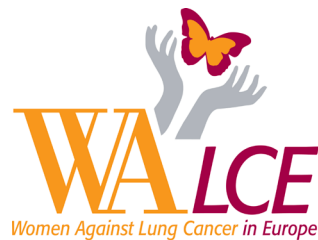
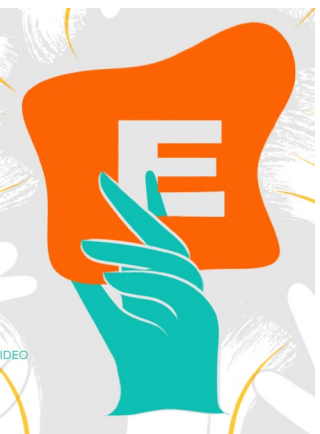
# EPROPA

## (European Program for ROutine testing of Patients with Advanced lung cancer)

EPROPA launched in December 2020, is a program addressed at European patients with advanced NSCLC.

It represents an effective diagnostic and therapeutic opportunity that allows patients to have a broad and complete molecular characterization with the optimization of the management of the biopsy material and the time required for the outcome of the molecular analysis.

WALCE - [www.womenagainstlungcancer.org](http://www.womenagainstlungcancer.org) – [www.epropa.eu](http://www.epropa.eu)





# EPROPA: goals

*European Program for ROutine testing of Patients with Advanced lung cancer*



**Increasing Patient Access to  
NGS-molecular screening**

**Increasing Patient Access to  
biomarker-driven clinical trials**

## Increasing Patients' Access to NGS Molecular Screening

Patient case/Tumor samples are derived from his **doctor**

**Molecular Tumor Board**

- Free shipping of tissue samples
- Free Comprehensive Molecular Profiling
- Economic and logistic support to patients and one caregiver moving throughout Europe

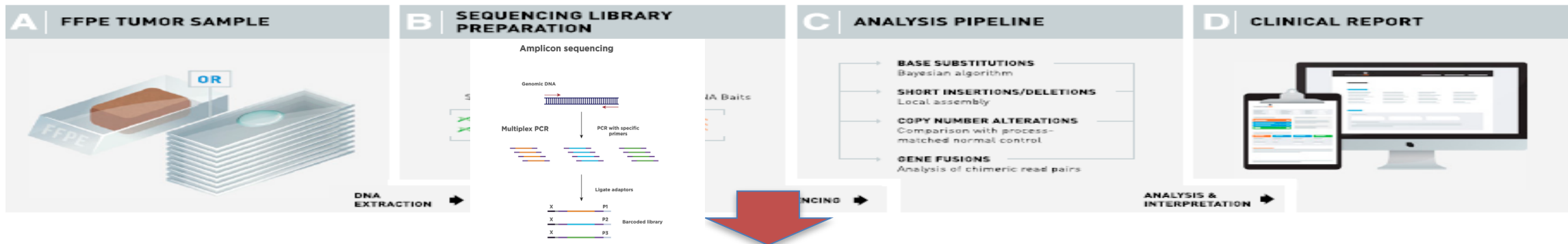
**Oncologist**

**Surgeon**

**Molecular Pathol.**

**Molecular Biol.**

**Bioinformatics**



**Molecular Screening**

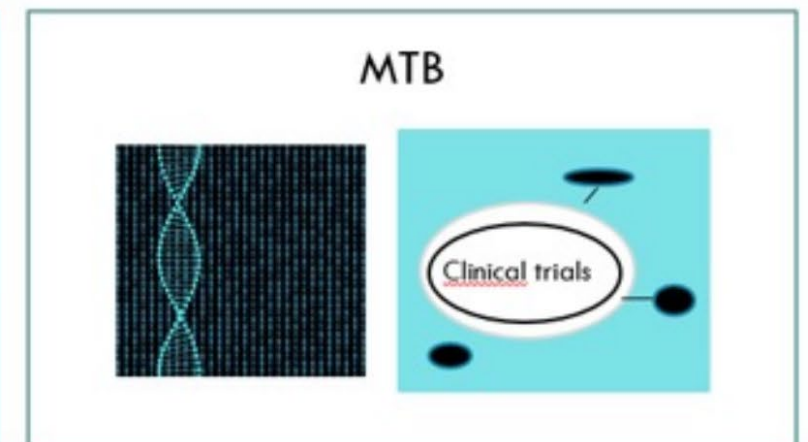
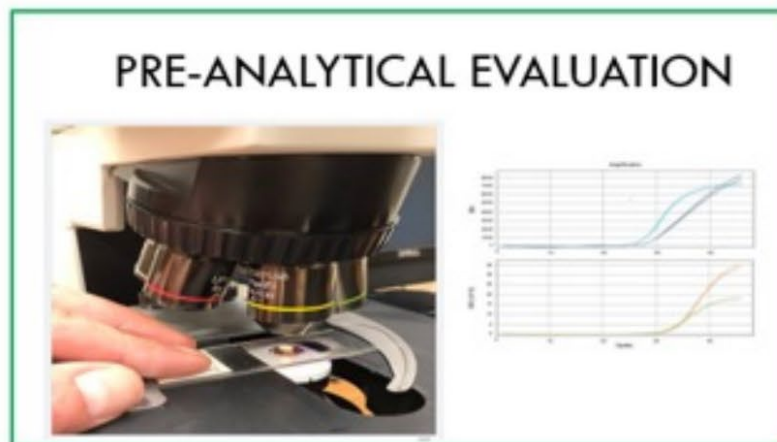
**Report with therapeutic proposal**

**Discussion with patient and his doctor**

**Overall Turnaround Time: 7-10 days**



- FFPE DNA/RNA extraction, quantifications and quality control; amplicon-based NGS analysis;
- Molecular data check within genomic database (Clinvar – NCBI - NIH, COSMIC, Polyphen)



## (European Program for ROutine testing of Patients with Advanced lung cancer)



I am a  
patient



I am a  
doctor

[www.epropa.eu](http://www.epropa.eu)

✎ This section contains useful information for both patients and caregivers.

⊕ What is EPROPA?

⊕ How can I participate?

⊕ What should I do in case of "positive" results?

⊕ How can I find a clinical trial according to EPROPA results?

⊕ Why should I ask my doctor to participate?

⊕ Will test results always allow me to receive a specific personalized therapy?

⊕ What is a clinical trial?

**Promotional materials:**  
landing page, poster, flyer for  
clinicians and for patients



**How can I participate?**  
If your oncologist considers your participation to EPROPA program suitable for your clinical situation, you will be asked to sign an Informed Consent. After this procedure, your biopsy specimen will be sent to the Central Laboratory of the Department of Oncology of the University of Turin (Italy).



**What will EPROPA do for my patient?**

The platform will give free-of-charge molecular screening of tumor samples. WALCE will coordinate a close collaboration between you and Academia and this will give the opportunity to match molecular characteristics and ongoing biomarker-driven clinical trials. In the case the results will open the opportunity to enter in a dedicated clinical trial and the patient accepts to participate to this, EPROPA will help patients to reach the closest site where such study is available, covering the cost of journey and staying for both patient and one of his/her caregivers during the experimental treatment. However, as the treating physician, you will follow all the steps of the process and you will mediate every choice during your patient's journey. EPROPA project is not intended at all to substitute your professionalism.



# (European Program for ROutine testing of Patients with Advanced lung cancer)



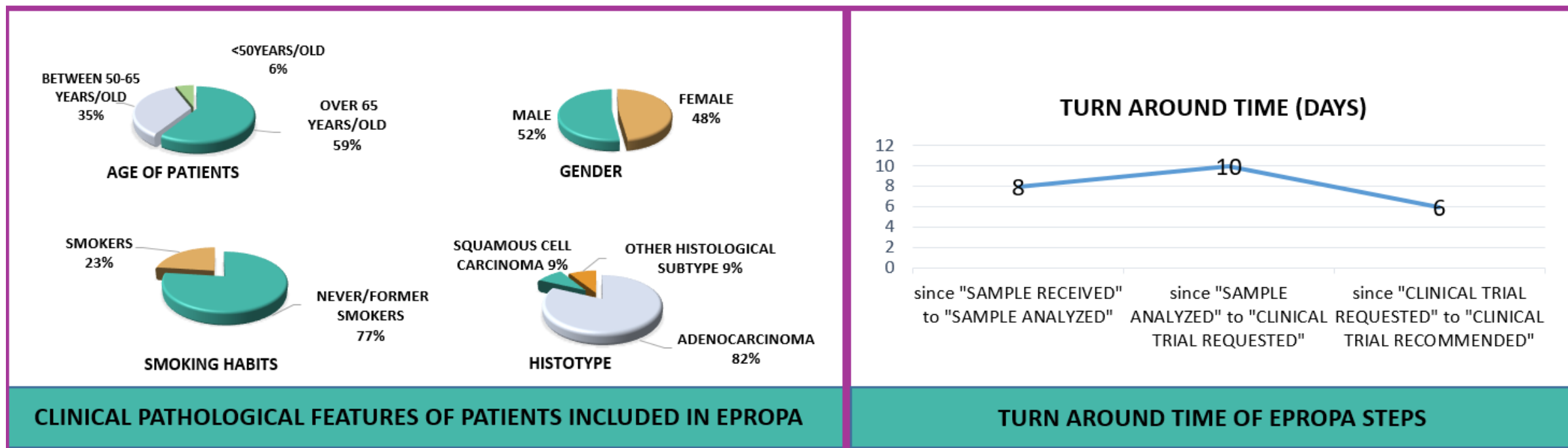
POSTER:  
Greek  
Slovenian  
Spanish  
Portuguese  
  
Polish  
Romanian  
Serbian  
Italian

# EPROPA Update (1/2)

**Number of patients registered: 205**

**Number of centers registered: 27**

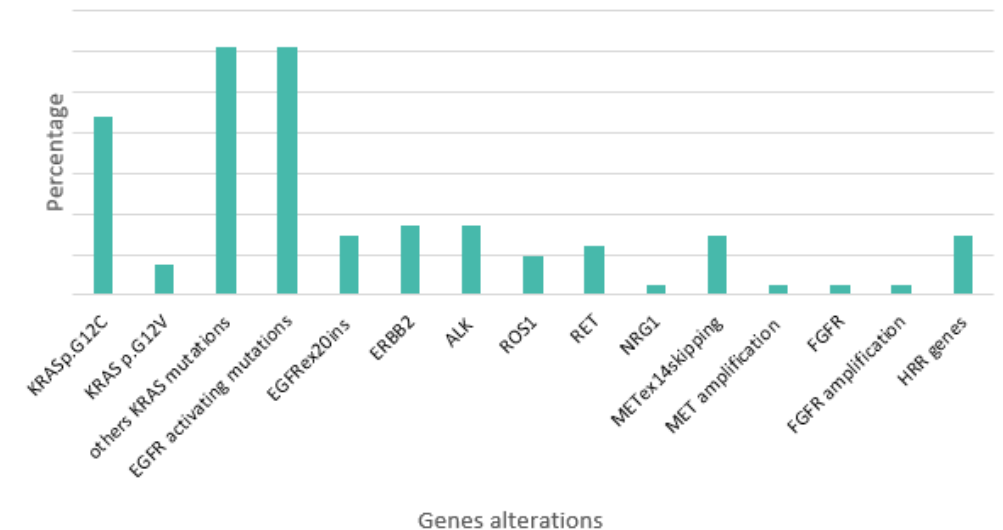
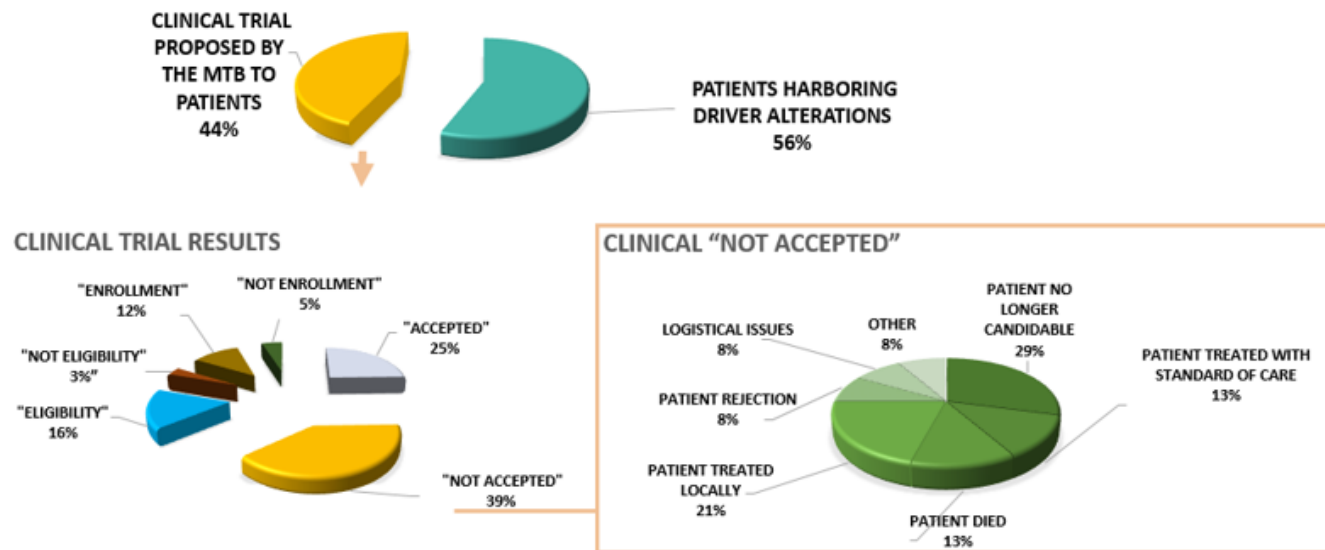
**Number of active European countries: 6**



**Number of patients registered: 205**

**Number of centers registered: 27**

**Number of active European countries: 6**



**CLINICAL TRIAL RESULTS AND ENROLLMENT IN EPROPA**

**PATHOGENIC MOLECULAR ALTERATIONS (%)  
DETECTED IN EPROPA**

# Female, 65 years old, never smoker, stage IVA

February 22<sup>th</sup> 2021

FNA left lung lesion

Histological evaluation: lung mucinous adenocarcinoma cells

**NGS analysis by Ion Torrent Platform  
(Oncomine Dx Target Test - Thermo Fisher Scientific):**

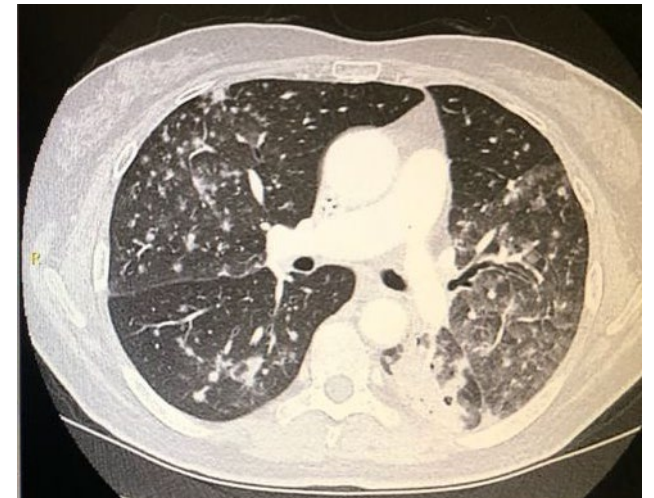
EGFR/BRAF/KRAS/ERBB2: wild-type

ALK/ROS1/RET: not rearranged

METex14skipping: negative

PD-L1 IHC: negative

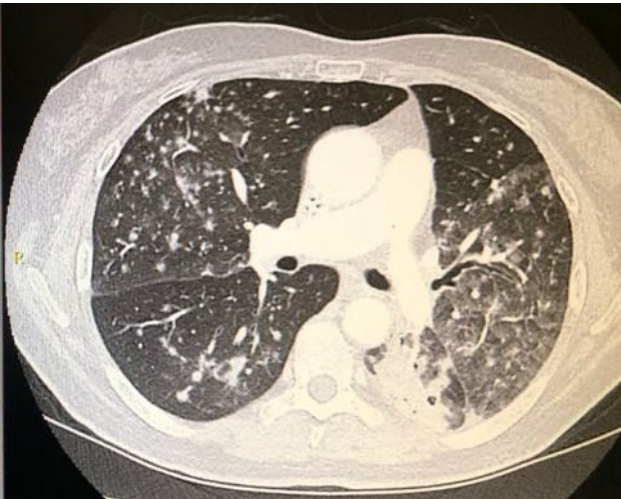
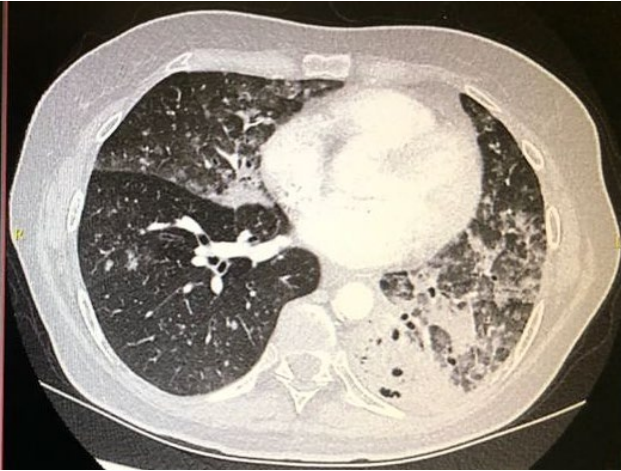
→ 1st line chemo-immunotherapy recommended





# Chemo-Immunotherapy activity in WT NSCLC patient

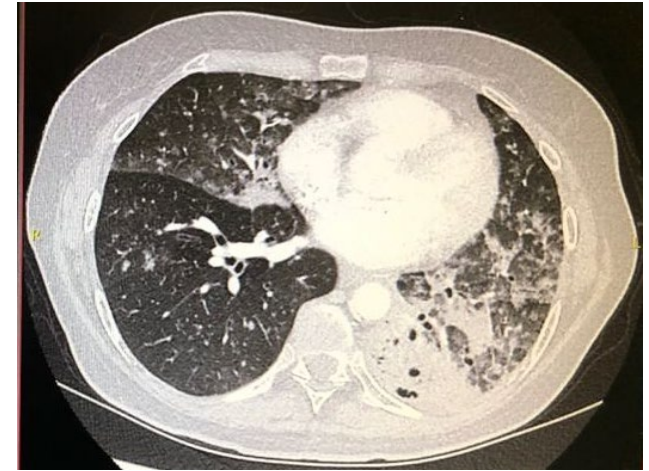
Baseline Feb 2021



## CT-scan Report after 3 months

- SD of the voluminous lesion in the left inferior lobe
- Occurrence of left pleural effusion
- Increase of the multiple lung bilateral parenchymal nodules

After 3 months May 2021





# Expanded biomarker panel by EPROPA NGS profiling

May 11<sup>th</sup> 2021

NGS analysis by Ion Torrent Platform (161 genes) (Oncomine Comprehensive Panel v3 - Thermo Fisher Scientific\*):

## NRG1-SCDA rearrangement

To learn more about reviewing your results, visit the [help guide](#).

Summary Oncomine Fusions Functional Population Ontologies Pharmacogenomics QC Preferences

Search Go

Filter	Ref	Observed Allele	Type	Gene
PASS	C	.	GENE_EXPRESSION	ALK
PASS	G	.	EXPR_CONTROL	MYC
PASS	G	.	GENE_EXPRESSION	ALK
PASS	T	.	GENE_EXPRESSION	ALK
PASS	T	.	EXPR_CONTROL	HMBS
PASS	G	.	EXPR_CONTROL	MRPL13
PASS	C	.	EXPR_CONTROL	ITGB7
PASS	G	.	EXPR_CONTROL	LRP1
PASS	A	.	EXPR_CONTROL	TBP
PASS	C	.	FUSION	SDC4(4) - NRG1(6)

Filter Options

Variants

- Filtered In Variants (10)
- Hidden Variants (0)
- Filtered Out Variants (4022)

Samples

- DNA Sample: E047D\_APR20210503\_v1
  - Gender : Unknown
  - Percentage Cellularity : 90
  - Sample Type : DNA
- Fusions Sample: E047R\_APR20210503\_RNA\_v1
  - Gender : Unknown
  - Percentage Cellularity : 90
  - Sample Type : RNA

Chromosome

All

Filter Chains

Default Fusions View (5....)

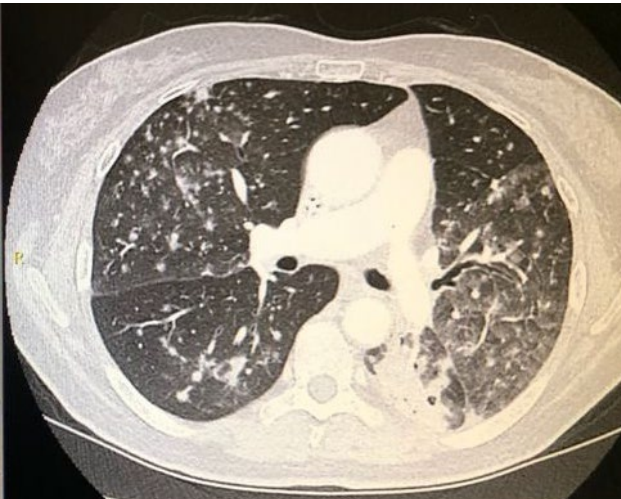
Filter chain query applied:

1 - 10 of 10 items

→ Phase I-II clinical trial testing Monoclonal Antibody in NRG1+ solid tumors (Milan)

# NRG1 Inhibitor (MoAb) activity in NRG1-rearranged NSCLC patient

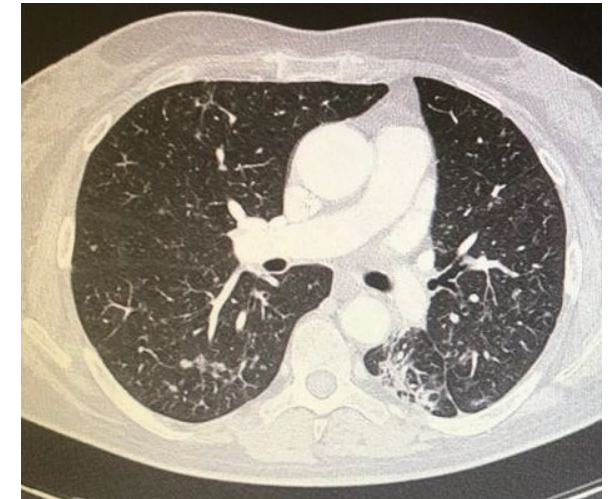
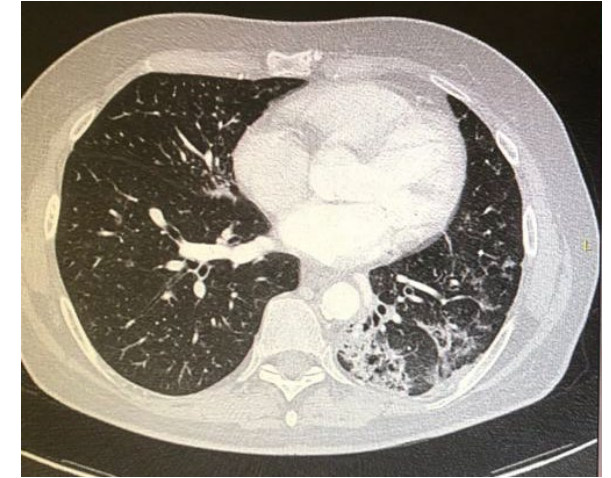
Baseline May 2021



## CT-scan Report after 3 months

- Partial regression of the voluminous lesion in the left inferior lobe
- Regression of left pleural effusion
- Partial regression of the multiple lung bilateral parenchymal nodules

After 3 months August 2021



## The patient's voice:

*"I have stage 4 mucinous adenocarcinoma of the lung. These words may be enough to describe my situation. If today I am still here I owe it to the competence and the humanity of my oncologist for having promptly offered me the possibility of carrying out a test for the identification of molecular alterations through a program developed by WALCE. The results of the molecular tests came after an exhausting third cycle of chemotherapy and found a genetic mutation "treatable" with an experimental molecular therapy. From May 2021, every 15 days with my daughter, I go to Milan supported by the Association and there I undergo molecular the treatment without incurring any financial expense. I am happy to have had the opportunity to do these tests and to continue receiving assistance."*

**(Felicina, 66 years old - Turin - Italy)**

## The voice of the Italian Centers

*"The study in NGS in our reality is not yet reimbursed and, for about three months thanks to EPROPA program, the reality of our patients with lung cancer has completely changed. The effectiveness of this project confirms the need to centralize the molecular characterization in highly specialized centers with the availability of NGS and a dedicated team for the analysis and interpretation of the results with the aim of optimizing the diagnostic-therapeutic path of patients with lung cancer ."*

**(Dr. Claudio Sini - John Paul II Hospital of Olbia - Medical Oncology and CPDO Unit)**

PROMOTED BY

ENDORSED BY



*Supported by unrestricted grants of:*



BeiGene

MERCK



AstraZeneca



Lilly

AMGEN



NOVARTIS



ThermoFisher  
SCIENTIFIC



<https://biomarkersatlas.com/>



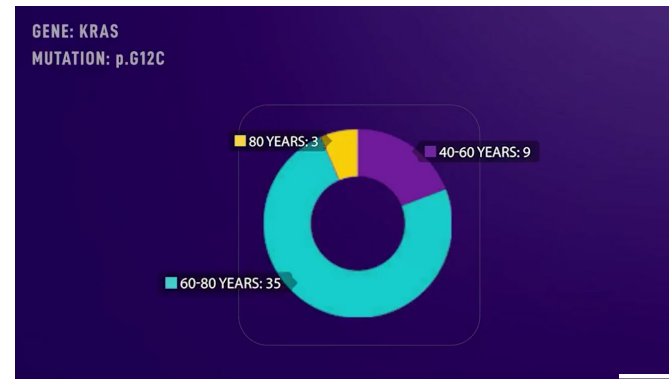
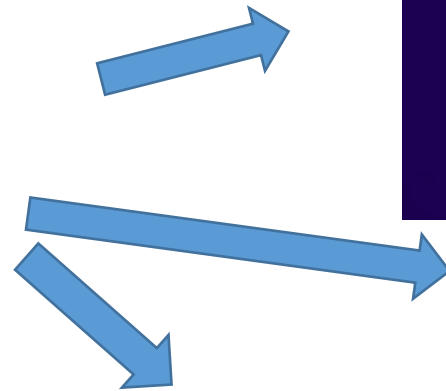
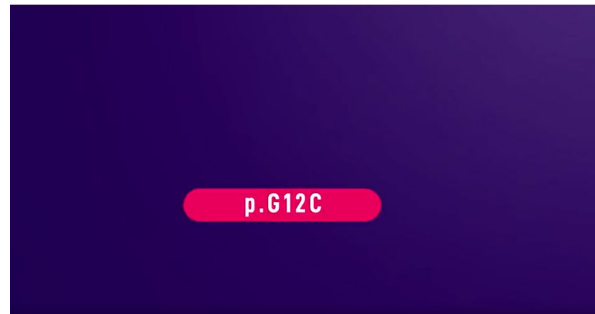
**The application of innovative techniques and methods of analysis allows [Biomarkers Atlas](#) to guarantee complete, easily accessible and always updated data on gene mutations affecting DNA.**

- A real-world mutation knowledge-based system to support the healthcare personnel in the clinical management of oncogene-addicted NSCLC patients.
- An overview of the mutation subtypes and testing practice across >10 Italian institutions in order to cover all clinically relevant genomic alterations within the actionable biomarkers in the setting of advanced NSCLC.
- 5 different categories (sex, age, smoking status, tumor histotype, and PD-L1) are also collected from included patients with metastatic NSCLC and matched with their molecular background.



<https://biomarkersatlas.com/>

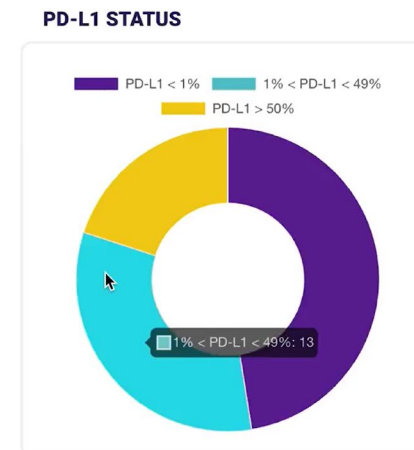
Analyze available data to get insight about pt characteristics and the correlation with a specific mutational status



age



smoking habit



PDL1 expression

# https://biomarkersatlas.com/

Each mutation reported in the biomarkers ATLAS is connected to pubmed indexed references and *clinicaltrials.gov*

Q type and start your search

c.34G>T - p.G12C

KRAS

- Colon
- Lung

NRAS

METHODOLOGIES

NGS (Next Generation Sequencing)

RT-qPCR (Real Time Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction)

SS (Sanger Sequencing)

HRMA (High- Resolution Melting Analysis)

MassArray (Mass Spectrometry)

Pyro (Pyrosequencing)

FOUND A CLINICAL STUDY

NIH

U.S. National Library of Medicine

ClinicalTrials.gov

Filters

Apply

Clear

Status

Recruitment ⓘ :

☐ Not yet recruiting

☒ Recruiting

☐ Enrolling by invitation

☐ Active, not recruiting

☐ Suspended

☐ Terminated

☐ Completed

☐ Withdrawn

☐ Unknown status†

Expanded Access ⓘ :

+

Eligibility Criteria

Age ⓘ :

years OR

Showing: 1-10 of 42 studies

10

studies per page

Show/Hide Columns

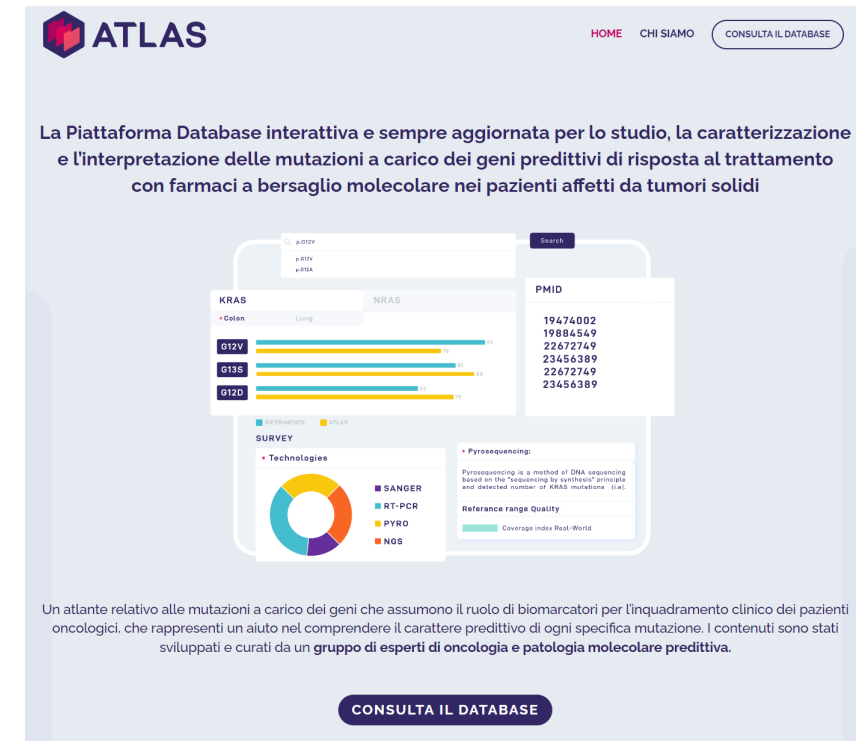
Row	Saved	Status	Study Title	Conditions	Interventions	Locations
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recruiting	<a href="#">Study of the CDK4/6 Inhibitor Palbociclib (PD-0332991) in Combination With the MEK Inhibitor Binimetinib (MEK162) for Patients With Advanced KRAS Mutant Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lung Cancer</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drug: Binimetinib</li><li>Drug: Palbociclib</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dana Farber Cancer Institute Boston, Massachusetts, United States</li><li>Massachusetts General Hospital Boston, Massachusetts, United States</li></ul>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recruiting	<a href="#">Phase 3 Study of MRTX849 (Adagrasib) vs Docetaxel in Patients With Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer With KRAS G12C Mutation</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Metastatic Non Small Cell Lung Cancer</li><li>Advanced Non Small Cell Lung Cancer</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drug: MRTX849</li><li>Drug: Docetaxel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Research Site Santa Rosa, California, United States</li><li>Research Site Whittier, California, United States</li><li>Research Site Grand Junction, Colorado, United States</li><li>(and 118 more...)</li></ul>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recruiting	<a href="#">Binimetinib and Hydroxychloroquine in Patients With Advanced KRAS Mutant Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer</li><li>KRAS Mutation-Related Tumors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Drug: Binimetinib Pill</li><li>Drug: Hydroxychloroquine Pill</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States</li></ul>



# <https://biomarkersatlas.com/>

## Update

- 62 unique genomic alterations across 4 different genes  
(n= 35 EGFR, n=20 KRAS, n=5 NRAS and n=2 BRAF)
- Molecular data of 608 advanced NSCLC patients
- Complete clinical data of 269 patients



**The program is expanding to include a total of 23 Italian institutions during the course of 2022**

# Towards a real precision medicine



*Knowing more about the patient*

**2**

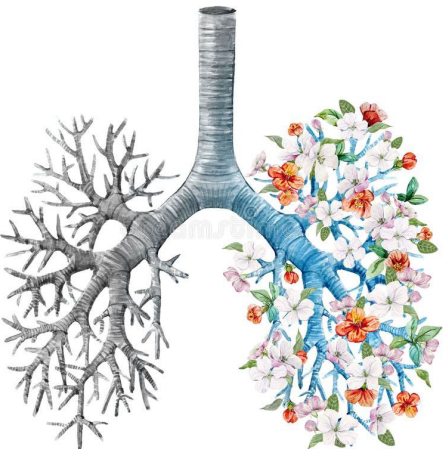
*Knowing more about the tumor*

**3**

*Knowing more about the target*

**4**

*Knowing more about the drug*



**TOWARDS A REAL EQUITABLE CANCER CARE**