

# Neoadjuvant behandling koloncancer stadium I-III?

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Region Syd



LUNDS  
UNIVERSITET

PGGI-kurs 241007



REGIONALT  
CANCERCENTRUM  
SYD

# Behandling

- Historiskt sett KIRURGI
- Fortfarande i princip alltid nödvändigt för bot

# Neo- och Adjuvant behandling

- Systemisk behandling före/efter kirurgi
- Slå ut mikrometastaser
- Minska risk för återfall
- Öka chans till bot

# Konverterings eller downsizing behandling

- Systemisk eller lokaliserad behandling före kirurgi
- Minska tumörvolym för att möjliggöra resektabilitet
- Förutsättning för chans till bot

**KOLONCANCER**

**Neoadjuvant behandling?**

**Konverteringsbehandling?**

Exstirpabelt

Inextirpabelt

Kirurgi

Ej fjärrmetastaser

Fjärrmetastaser

Radiokemoterapi  
alt kemo+/-ak

Resektabelt eller  
potentiellt resektabelt

Ej resektabelt

**Adjuvant behandling?**

Kombinationsbehandling, kirurgi +  
radio och/eller kemoterapi,  
neoadjuvant och/eller adjuvant

Palliation

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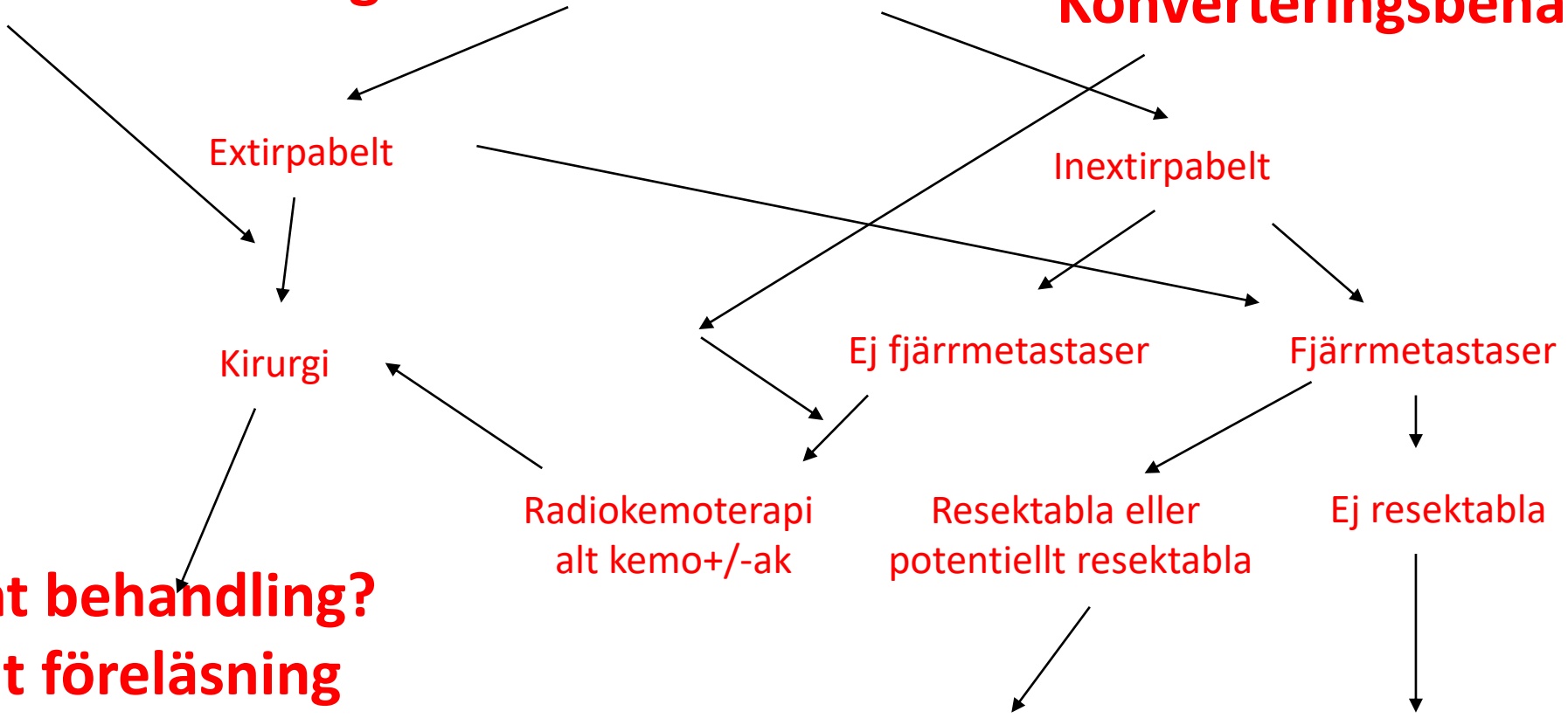
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**Adjuvant behandling?  
Separat föreläsning**

Kombinationsbehandling, kirurgi +  
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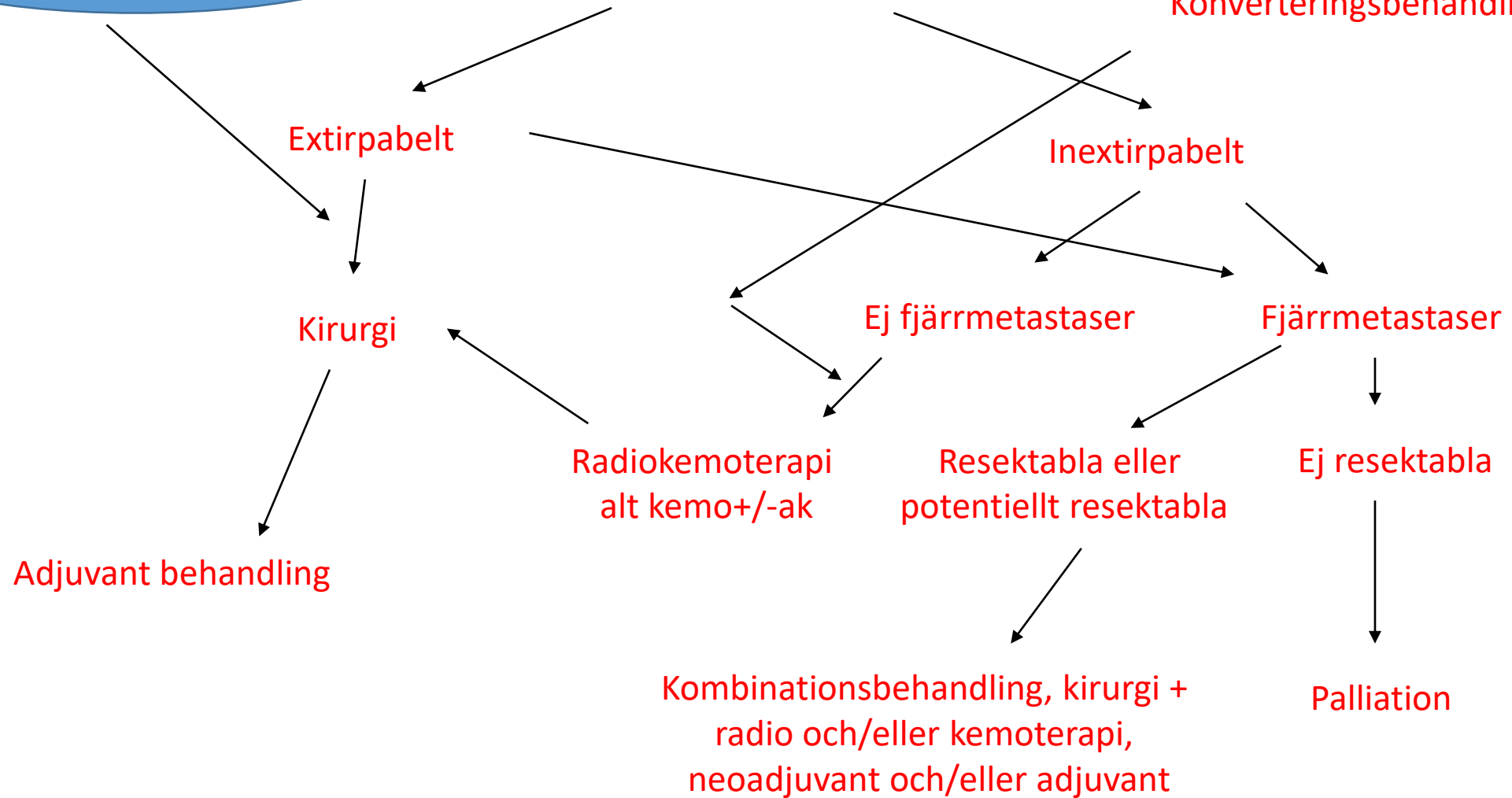
Palliation



# Neoadjuvant behandling?

## KOLONCANCER

Konverteringsbehandling?

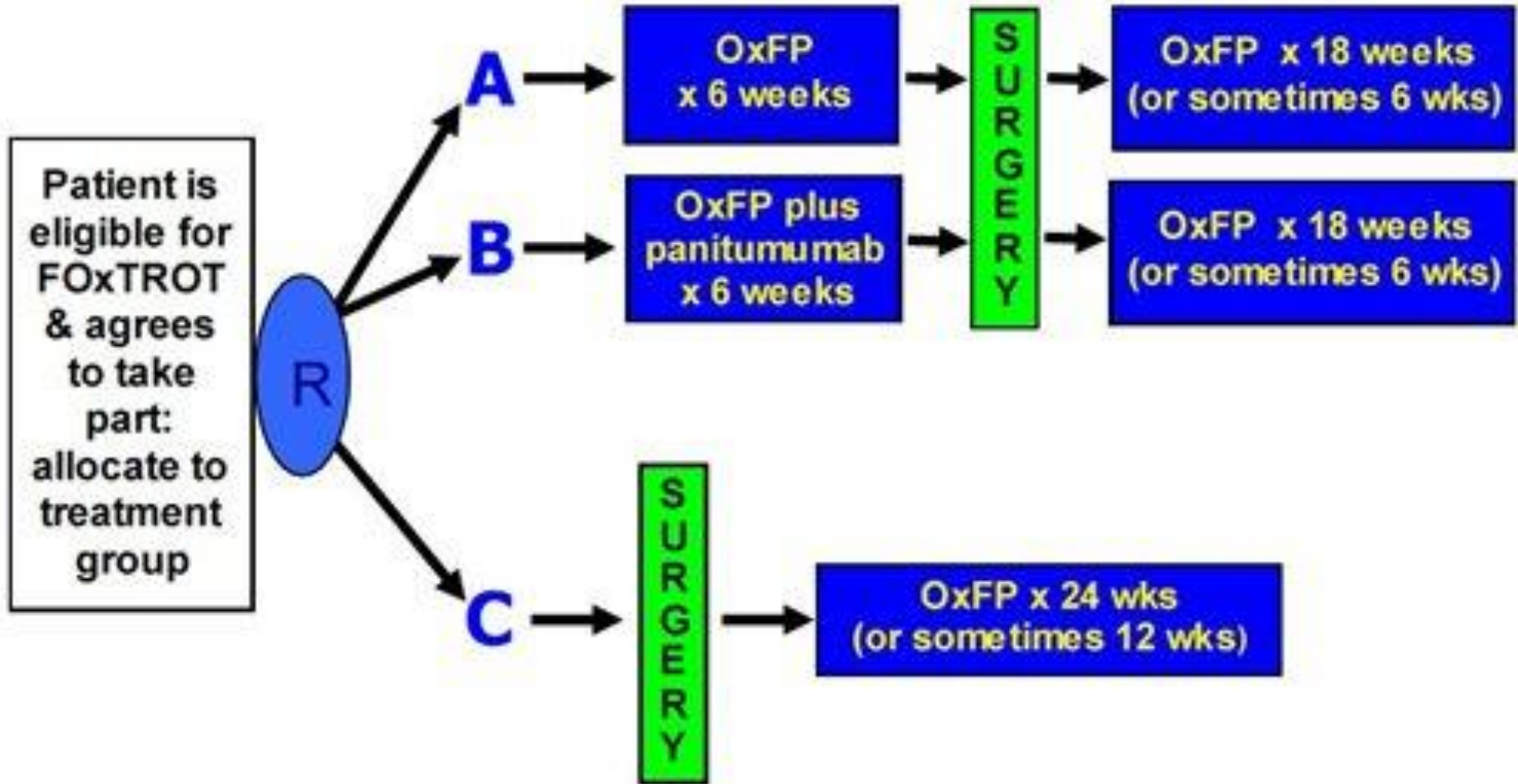


# Neoadjuvant terapi

- **FOxTROT**



# FOXROT



# Perioperative Complications

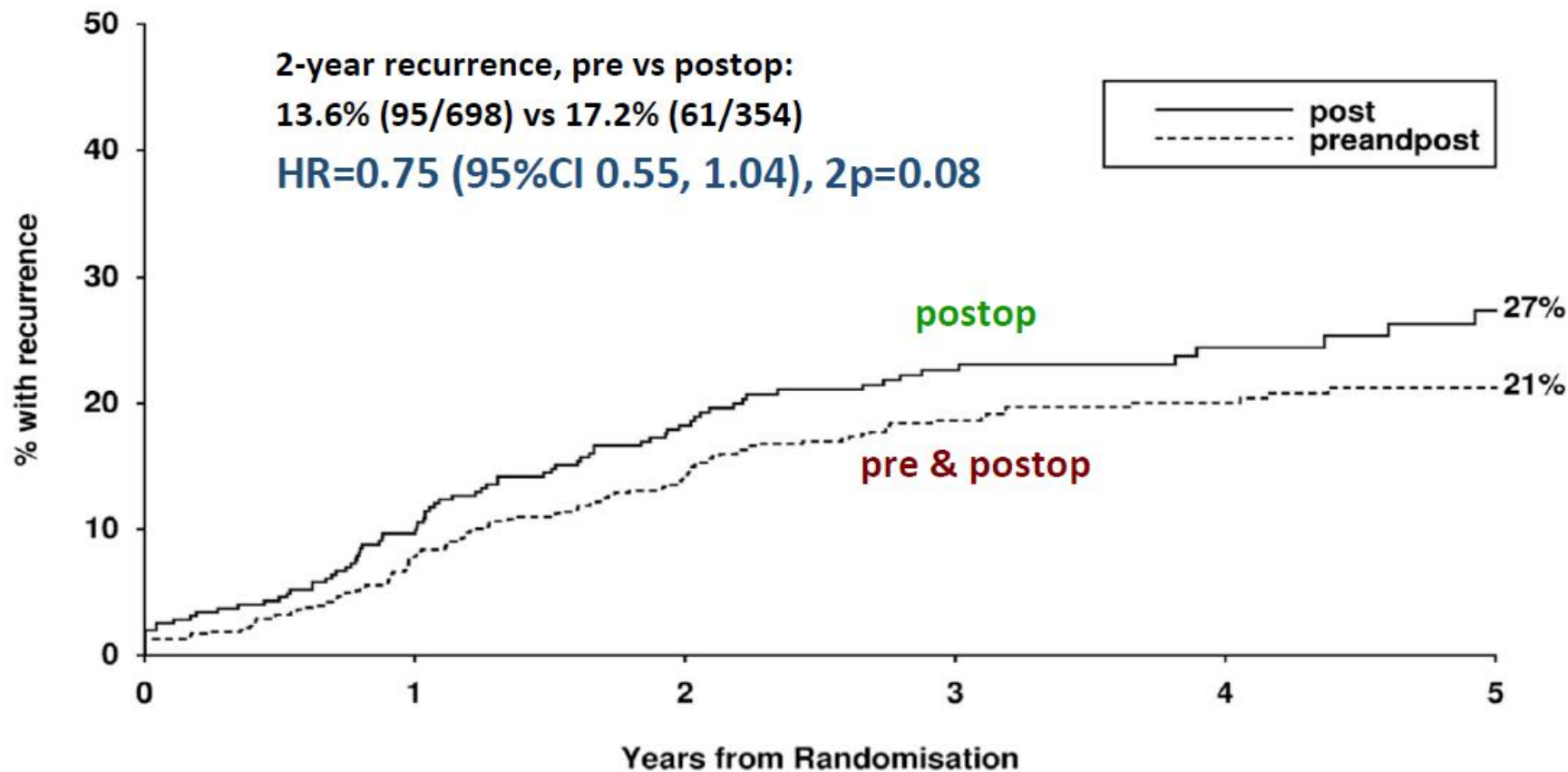


Underwent surgery	Pre&post n=684	Post n=351	
Procedure involved a stoma	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	p=0.18
Wound infection	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	p=0.85
Bronchopneumonia	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	p=0.16
PE ± DVT	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	p=0.18
Anastomotic leak or intra-abdo abscess	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	p=0.07
complication requiring further surgery	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	p=0.05
complication prolonging hospital stay	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>14.3%</b>	p=0.21
Death within 30 days	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	p=0.98

# Primary outcome: 2-year efficacy



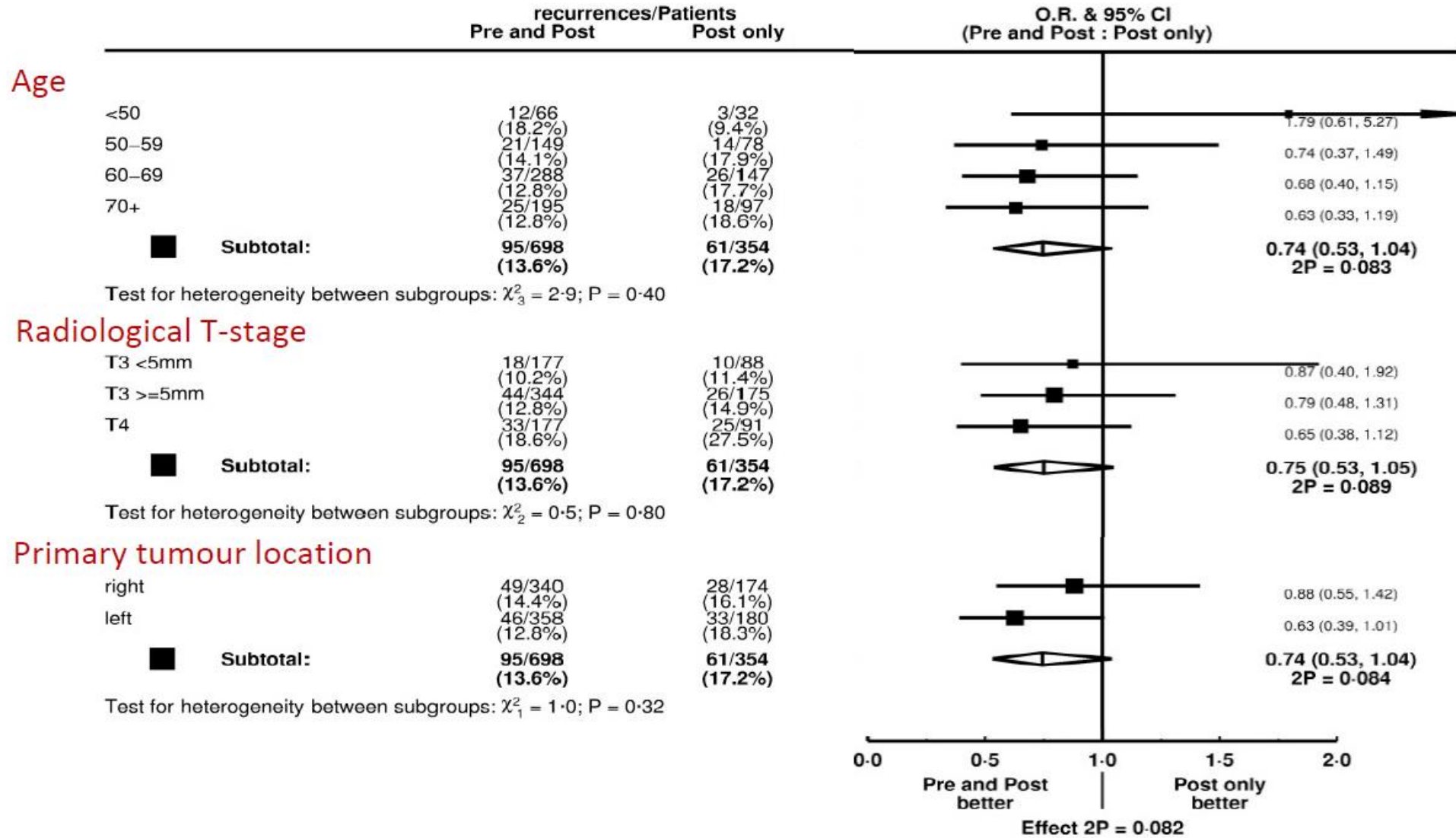
## Recurrence – by treatment allocation



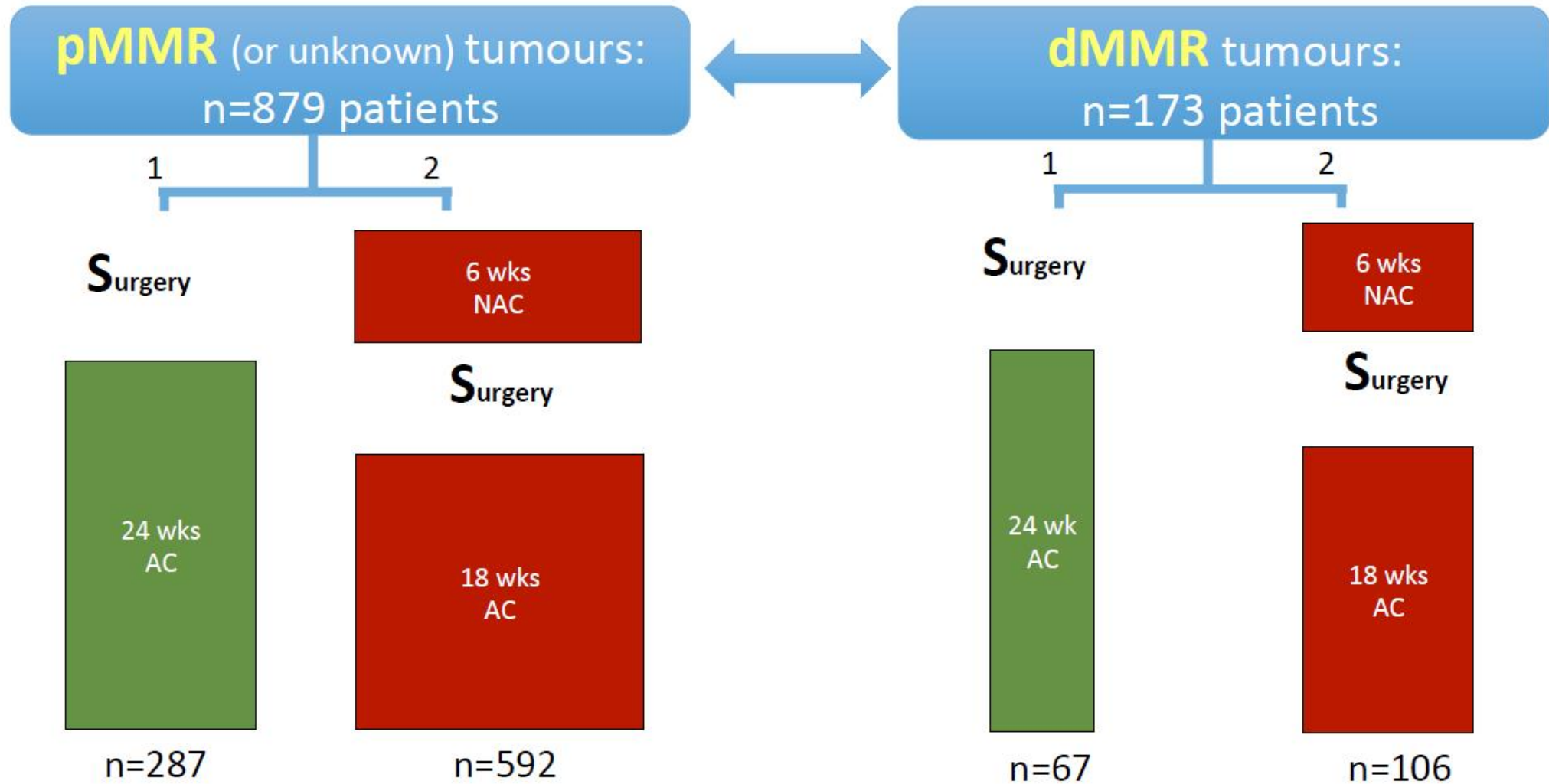
At risk:

	0	1	2	3	4	5
post	354	303	245	180	107	64
preandpost	698	618	541	375	224	144

# Primary outcome by baseline factors:



# Key subgroup analysis: MMR



## Subgroup analysis conclusion:

- **dMMR tumours:** no regression in most (but some pCRs); no benefit seen at 2 years.
- **pMMR tumours:** borderline significant impact on 2-year endpoint.

# FOxTROT – main conclusions



FOxTROT did not reach target significance for its primary endpoint

But: moving 6 weeks of chemotherapy ahead of surgery,  
*without major addition to the cost or patient burden...*

- was safe, with less major postoperative morbidity
- significantly downstaged tumours and reduced incomplete resections
- trended towards reduced 2-year relapse (HR=0.75; p=0.08) and long-term cancer-specific survival (HR=0.71; p=0.07)

...can be considered a new therapeutic option  
for locally advanced operable colon cancer

# FOxTROT – additional findings



- No benefit seen in dMMR cancers
- Inevitably some low-risk patients will receive 6 weeks chemo
  - 24% of our control arm patients had “low-risk” disease
- No benefit from adding panitumumab in unselected KRAS-wt
  - full analysis of enriched biomarker population ongoing - results soon
- Opportunity to assess tumour biology and adapt postop therapy



# OPTICAL

- Redovisades vid ASCO 2022, kinesisk studie, inkluderat 744 patienter
- Jämför neoadjuvant kemoterapi, FOLFOX/CAPOX i 3 månader, med standardbehandlingen operation direkt, denna gång på T3-4 tumörer.
- Igen sågs en tydlig effekt avseende downsizing histopatologiskt, däremot ingen ökad sjukdomsfri överlevnad

# NeoCol

- Redovisades ASCO 2023, dansk studie, inkluderat 250 patienter
- Jämfört standardbehandling, dvs operation, mot 3 cykler Capox eller fyra cykler Folfox, vid T3-4, N0-2 tumörer
- Adjuvant behandling gavs utifrån PAD kriterier och lokala guidelines.
- Studien visade varken OS eller DFS vinst
- Däremot gavs totalt mindre kemoterapi i studiearmen och analogt sågs downsizing av tumörerna.

# Hur göra med dMMR

- Vanligare i tidigare stadier
  - Cirka 20% av stadium II
  - Cirka 15% av stadium III
  - Cirka 5% av stadium IV
- 
- Vanligare ju mer proximal tumör
  - Koppling till Lynch syndrom (cirka 1/3 av alla med dMMR/MSI-H har Lynch)

## Neoadjuvant immune checkpoint inhibition in locally advanced MMR-deficient colon cancer: the NICHE-2 study

M. Chalabi<sup>1</sup>, Y. Verschoor, J. Van den Berg, K. Sikorska, G. Beets, A. Van Lent, C. Grootsholten, A. Aalbers, N. Buller, H. Marsman, E. Hendriks, P. Burger, T. Aukema, S. Oosterling, R. Beets-Tan, T.N. Schumacher, M.E. Van Leerdam, E.E. Voest, J.B. Haanen

<sup>1</sup>Dept. of Gastrointestinal Oncology, Netherlands Cancer Institute  
Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
September 11<sup>th</sup> 2022



# Mismatch Repair Deficient Colon Cancer

Approximately 10-15% of colon cancers are mismatch repair deficient (dMMR)

1/3 of dMMR colorectal cancers are associated with Lynch Syndrome

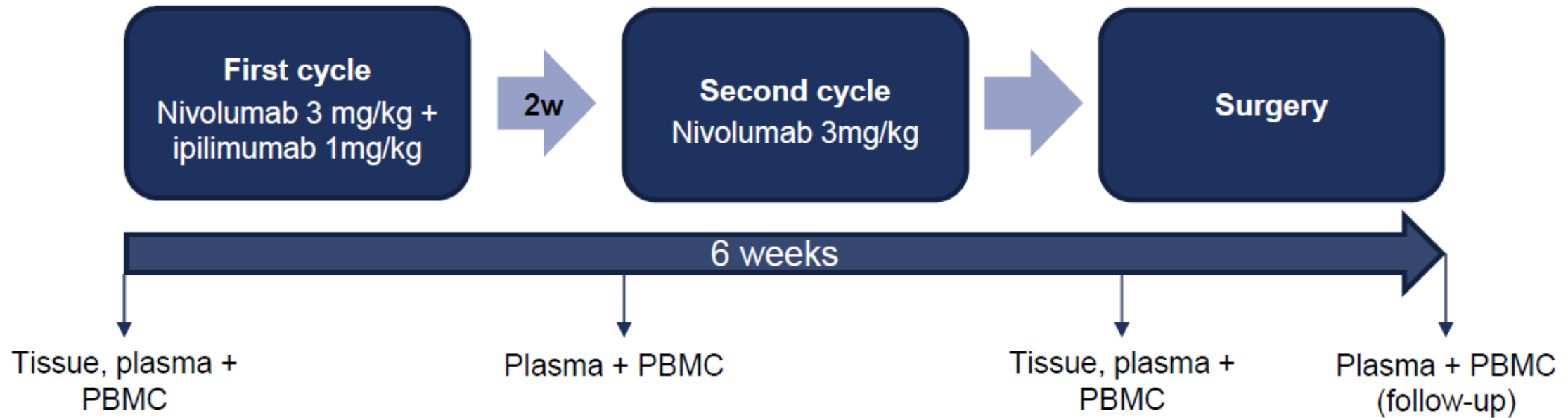
Recurrence rates of 20-40% for **stage III dMMR** tumors despite standard-of-care chemotherapy

- High-risk disease (T4 or N2) is highly associated with poor survival



# NICHE-2 study design

- Investigator-initiated, non-randomized multicenter\* study



\*6 participating hospitals in the Netherlands  
PBMC = peripheral blood mononuclear cells

# Study Objectives

## Primary Objectives

- Safety and feasibility
- 3-year disease-free survival (DFS)

## Secondary Objectives

- Major and complete pathologic response rate in post-treatment surgical specimen
- Circulating tumor DNA dynamics
- Translational research (DNA, RNA sequencing, single-cell sequencing, multiplex imaging)

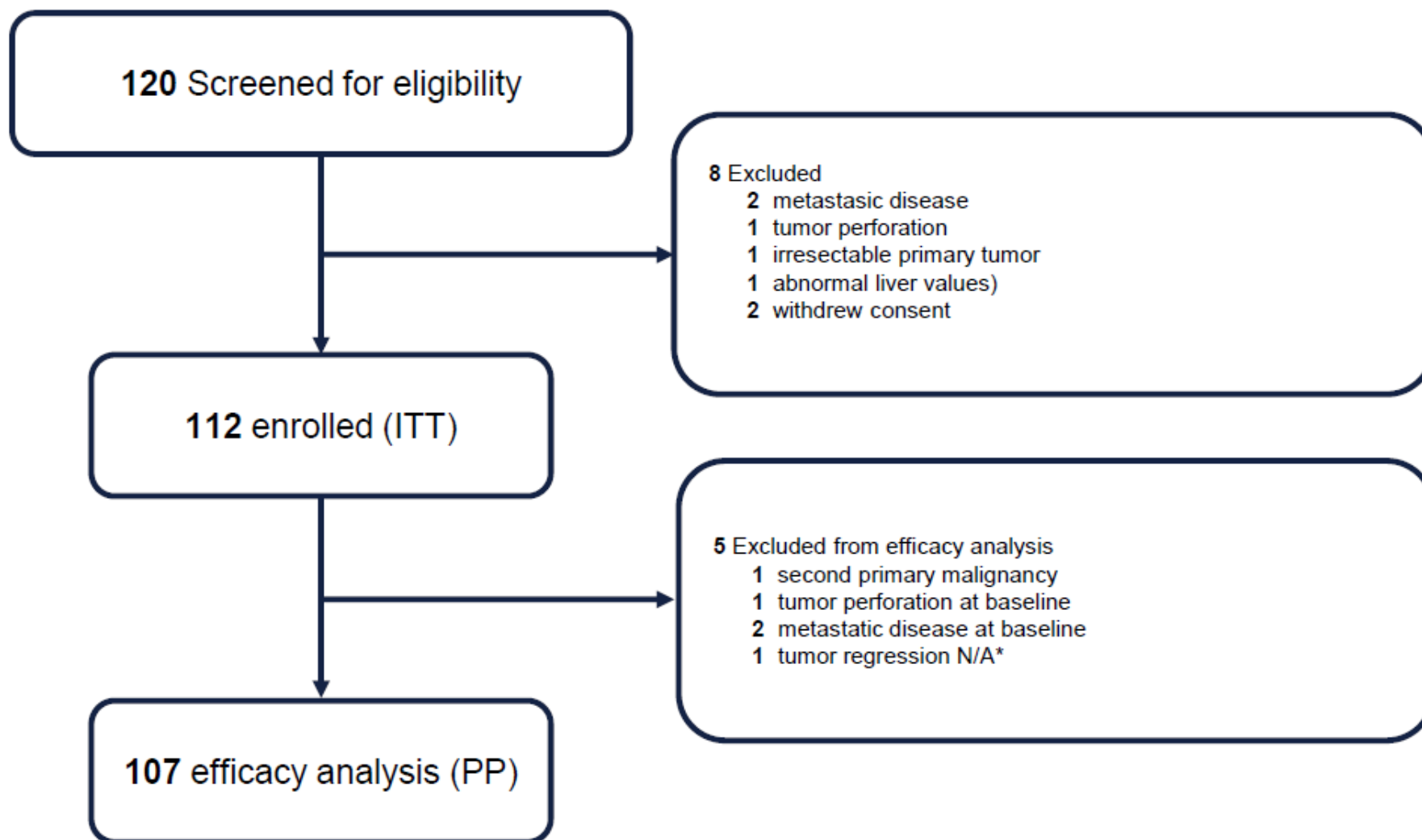


# Main Inclusion Criteria

- Non-metastatic, previously untreated dMMR colon adenocarcinoma
- cT3 and/or N+ disease based on radiologic staging\*
- No clinical signs of obstruction
- No clinical symptoms or radiologic suspicion of perforation
- No active autoimmune disease or other medical conditions requiring systemic steroid or immunosuppressive medications

\*Protocol revision October 2020 added a primary endpoint of 3-year DFS and a new cohort of 70 patients with at least T3 and/or N+ tumors  
Current data combine  $n=30$  from original cohort with new dMMR cohort

# Patient enrollment



# Results - Surgery

- All patients underwent surgery, with 100% R0 resections
- Median time from first dose (nivolumab + ipilimumab) to surgery = 5.4 weeks
- No new safety signals

98% of patients underwent timely surgery, meeting the safety primary endpoint

Surgery-Related Adverse Events ( <i>n</i> =112)	<i>n</i> (%)
Any	24 (21)
Grade $\geq$ 3	15 (13)
Anastomotic leakage or wound infections	6 (5)

# Pathologic Response Definitions

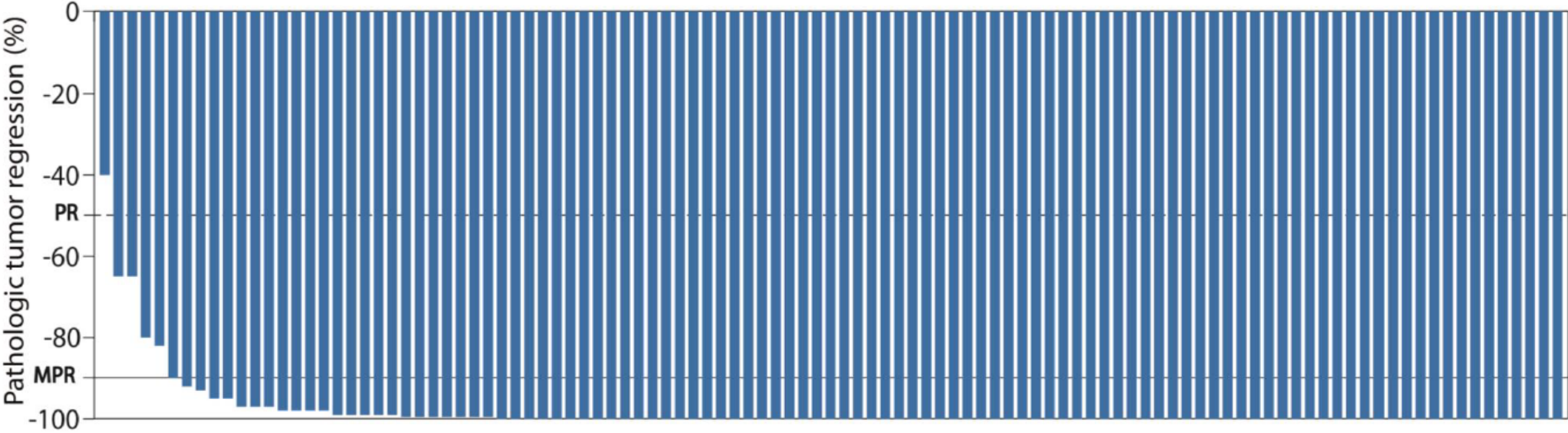
**Pathologic response:** 50% or less residual viable tumor (RVT)

**Major pathologic response (MPR):** 10% or less RVT

- Including tumors with pCR in the primary tumor, yet residual viable tumor in the lymph nodes

**Pathologic complete response (pCR):** 0% RVT in both the primary tumor bed **and** lymph nodes

# Major pathologic response in 95% of patients; 67% pCR



# Major pathologic response in 95% of patients; 67% pCR

Pathologic response (RVT)		Patients <i>n</i> = 107
<b>Yes</b>	(≤ 50%)	<b>106 (99%)</b>
<b>Major</b>	(≤10%)	<b>102 (95%)</b>
<b>Complete</b>	(0%)	<b>72 (67%)</b>
<b>Partial</b>	(10% - 50%)	4 (4%)
<b>No</b>	(≥50%)	<b>1 (1%)</b>

**Adjuvant chemotherapy (CTx)**

14 patients with ypN+ disease

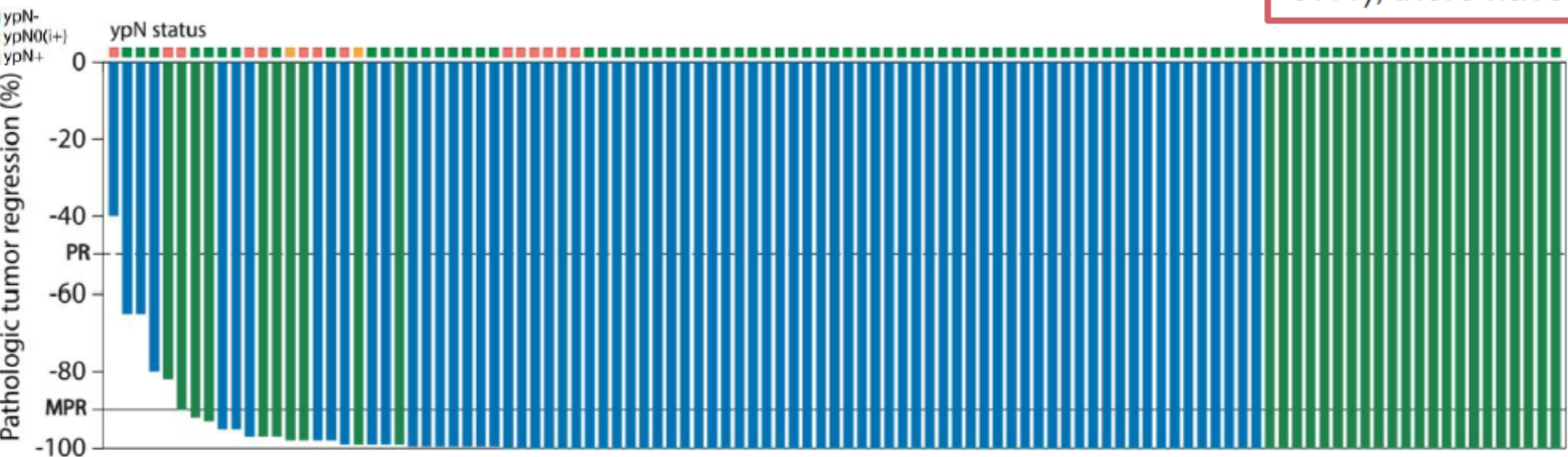
- 3 patients received adjuvant CTx\*
- 5 patients >70 years
- 6 patients refused

\* 1 non-responder, 1 partial responder and 1 MPR

**Disease recurrence**

With a median follow-up of 13.1 months (1.4 - 57.4), there have been no disease recurrences

RVT = residual viable tumor



Green bars = NICHE-1 cohort  
Blue bars = NICHE-2 cohort

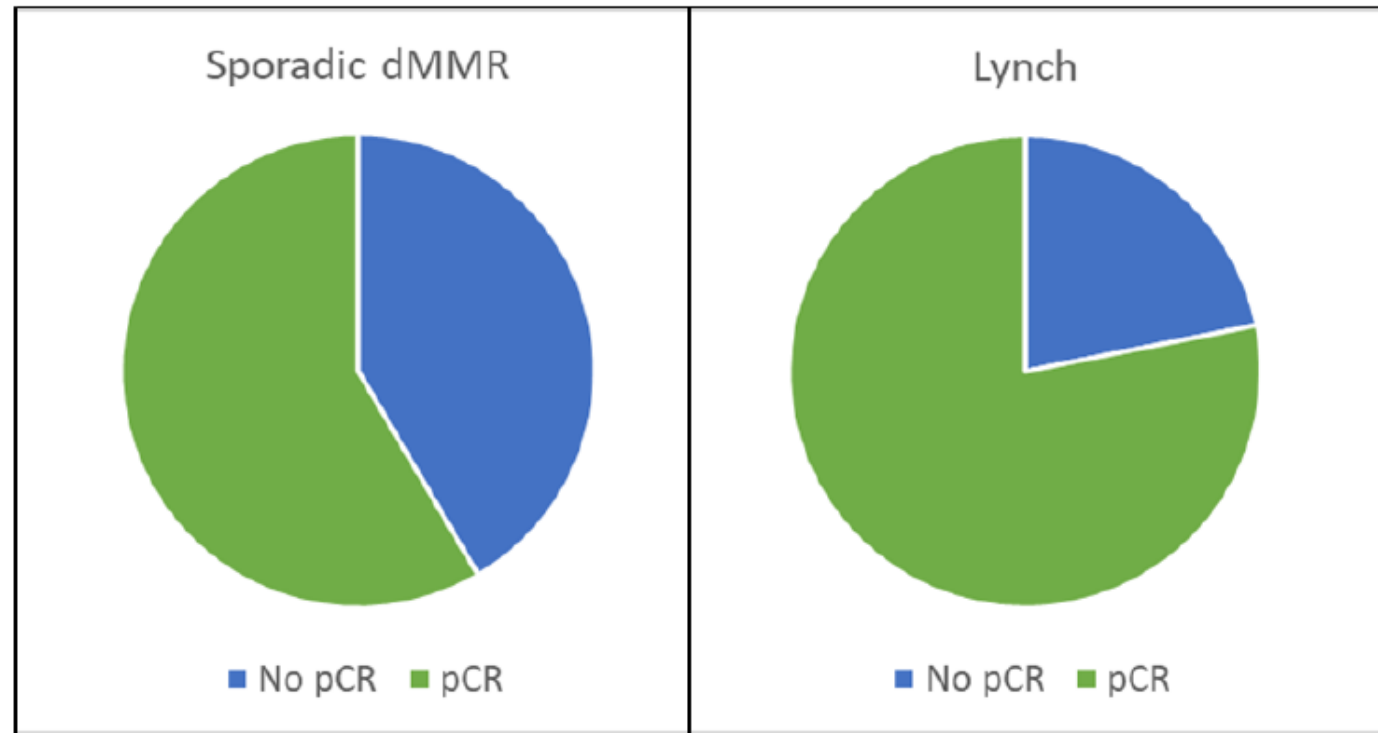
... of the author. Permission is required for re-use.

ypN- = tumor-free lymph nodes; ypN+ = lymph nodes with tumor, including micrometastases; ypN(i+) = lymph nodes with isolated tumor cells

# pCR rate according in Lynch vs sporadic tumors

	No pCR	pCR	
<b>Sporadic tumor</b> <i>n</i> = 65	27 (42%)	38 (58%)	<b>p = 0.056</b>
<b>Lynch Syndrome</b> <i>n</i> = 32	7 (22%)	25 (78%)	

N totals 97 patients in the per protocol population for whom Lynch status was available at data cut-off



# Conclusions

- With only 4 weeks of treatment, unprecedented major pathologic responses in 95% of patients with dMMR colon cancer, including 67% pathologic complete responses
- Treatment is well-tolerated with only 4% grade 3-4 immune-related adverse events
- No disease recurrences to date: 3-year disease-free survival data expected in 2023



# Future Directions

- Organ-sparing approaches in dMMR colon cancers to be considered in future studies
- Circulating tumor DNA dynamics and novel imaging techniques must be explored and may aid in organ preservation
- **Neoadjuvant immunotherapy has the potential to become standard of care for patients with dMMR colon cancer**

# AZUR 2

- A Phase 3, Open-Label, Randomized Study of Perioperative Dostarlimab Monotherapy Versus Standard of Care in Participants With Untreated T4N0 or Stage III dMMR/MSI-H Resectable Colon Cancer
- Planeras randomisering, 2:1, av 711 patienter
- Flera centra i Sverige är med

# KOLONCANCER

Vänstersidiga  
T4 eller N2,  
inga med dMMR,  
ingen hotande  
obstruktion?

Exstirpabelt

T1-3, N0-1  
+alla dMMR+  
alla högersidiga?

Folfox x 3

Kirurgi

Adjuvant behandling?

Inextirpabelt

Ej fjärrmetastaser

Fjärrmetastaser

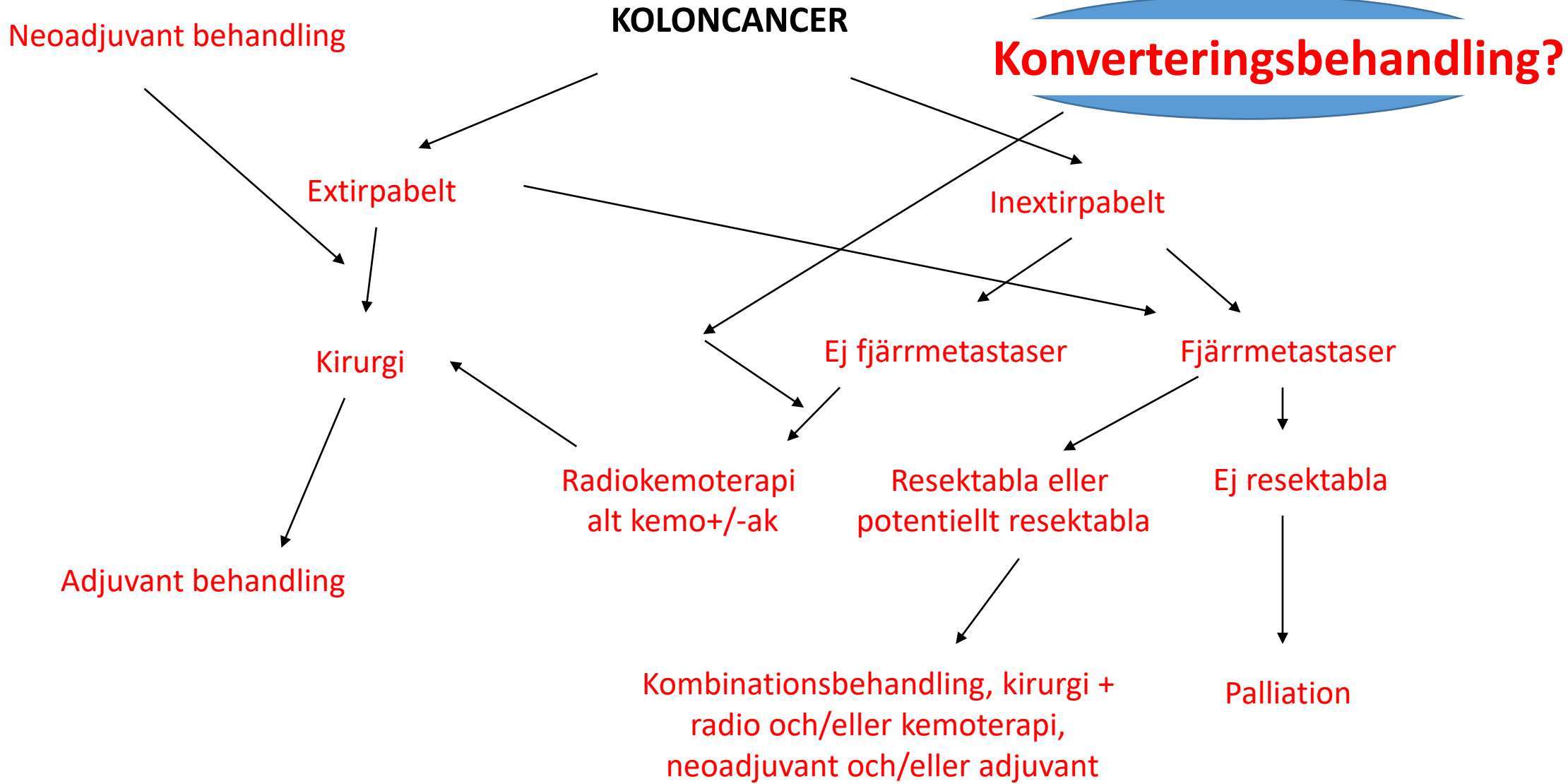
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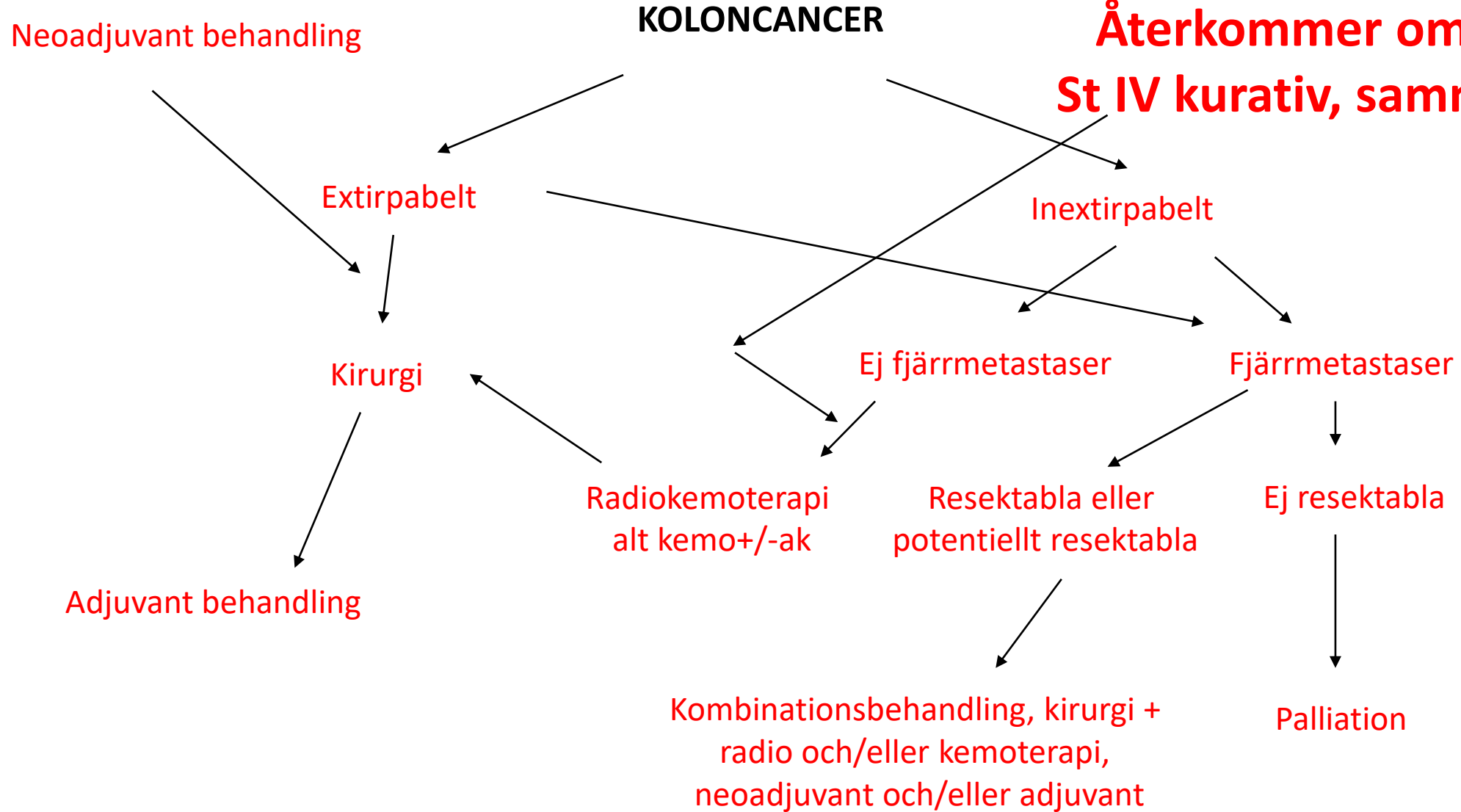
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# Konverteringsbehandling? Återkommer om det vid St IV kurativ, samma princip



# Preparatval utifrån situation

- Adjuvant och neoadjuvant behandling
  - Vi är ute efter mikroskopisk spridning, inte eg krympning
    - 5-FU analog ( tex Fluorouracil eller Capecitabin) ingår alltid
    - Oxaliplatin enda tillägg som bevisat förbättrar
- Konverteringsbehandling
  - Vi är i första hand ute efter krympning
    - Dubbel- eller trippelbehandling med 5-FU analog kombinerat med oxaliplatin och/eller irinotekan
    - EGFRi om RAS/RAF wt
    - Strålbehandling kan i vissa fall ingå

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# Sammanfattning

- Viktigt att skilja på pMMR/MSS vs dMMR/MSI-H
- Vid pMMR, operabelt
  - Vänstersidiga, WHO PS 0-1, ingen obstruktivitet, T4 eller N2, överväg neoadjuvant kemo (FOLFOX/CapOx i 6 veckor)
  - Övriga op direkt
- Vid dMMR, operabelt
  - Op direkt
  - OBS AZUR2
- Vid pMMR, konvertering
  - Maximal krympande behandling, dubbel/trippel kemo, ev med ak tillägg (RAS/RAF status)
- Vid dMMR, konvertering
  - Svårt, logiskt med immunterapi



# Tack för er uppmärksamhet

