

# AACR IO

**DISCOVERY AND INNOVATION IN CANCER IMMUNOLOGY:  
REVOLUTIONIZING TREATMENT THROUGH IMMUNOTHERAPY**

February 23-26, 2025 | JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. Live | Los Angeles, CA

**AACR**

American Association  
for Cancer Research®

## **New Developments in Drugging the Adenosine Pathway**

Juan C. Jaen, Ph.D.

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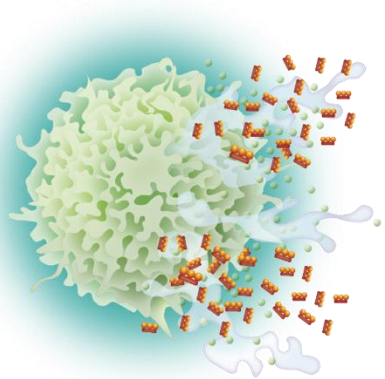
## Juan C. Jaen

I have the following relevant financial relationships to disclose:

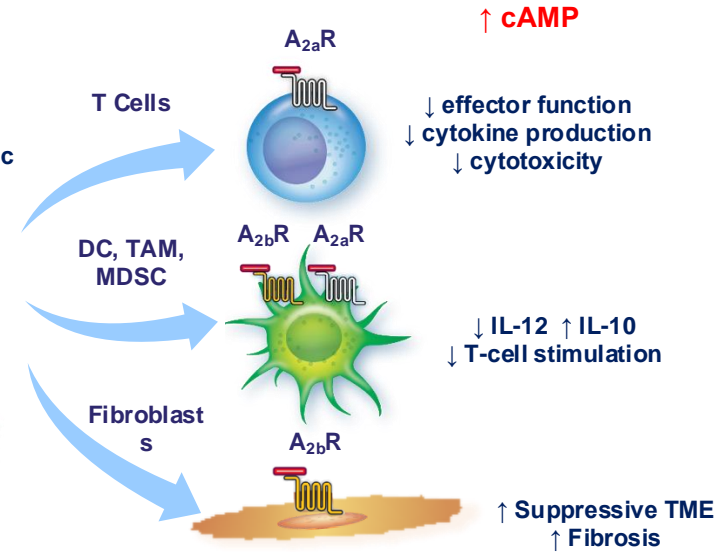
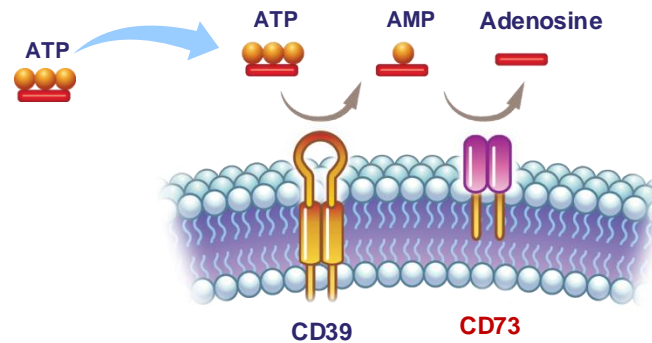
- Employee of: Arcus Biosciences
- Stockholder in: Arcus Biosciences, Hexagon Biosciences, Shasqi, Breakpoint Therapeutics

# The Tumor Microenvironment Continuously Produces Immunosuppressive Adenosine in Response to Cell Death

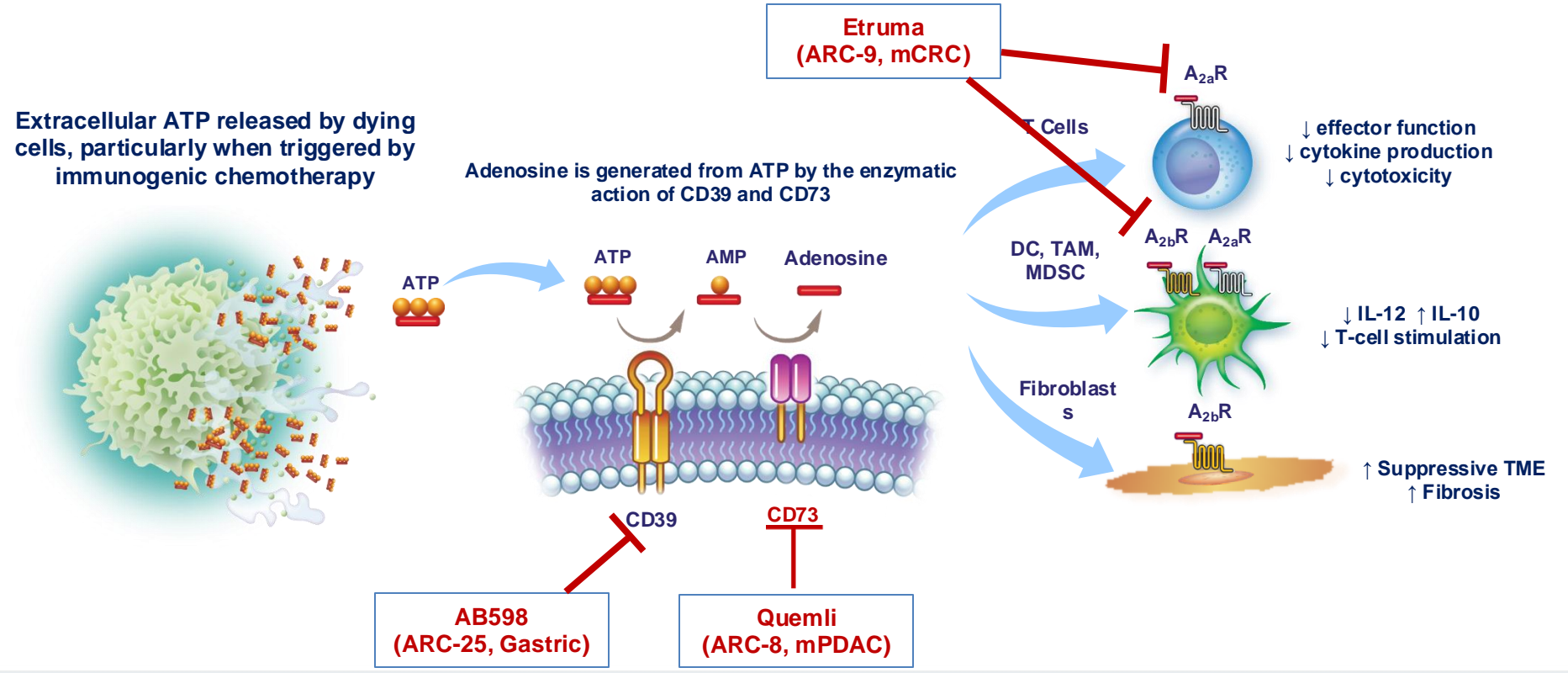
Extracellular ATP released by dying cells, particularly with immunogenic chemotherapy



Adenosine is generated from ATP by the enzymatic action of CD39 and CD73

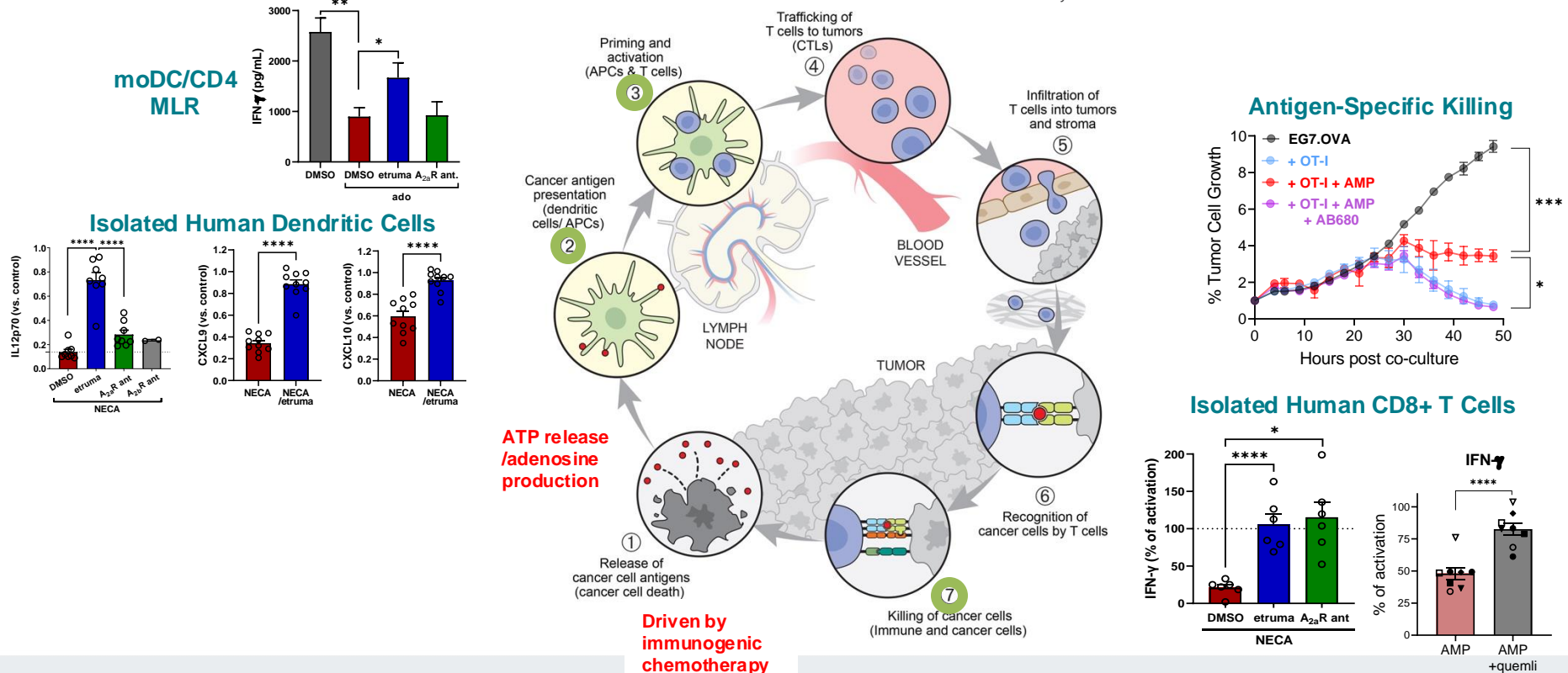


# Biological Impact of Quemliclustat and Etrumadenant on the Tumor Microenvironment

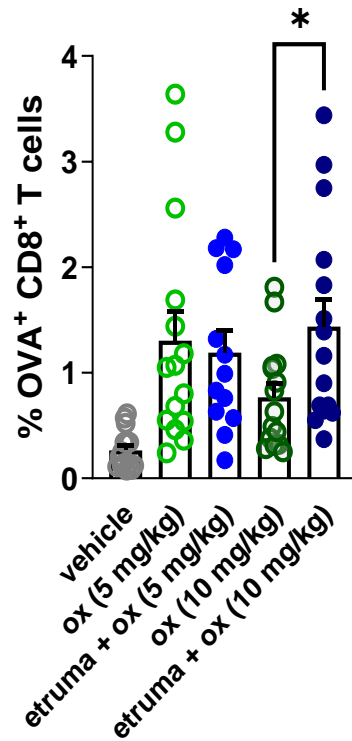
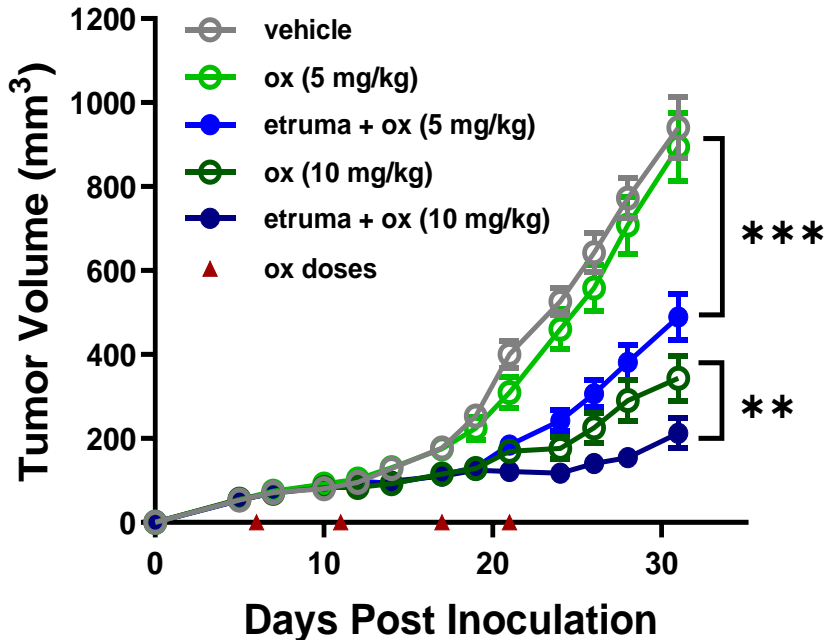


# Inhibition of Adenosine Axis Enhances Multiple Steps of the Cancer Immunity Cycle

Mellman et al. *Immunity*, 2023

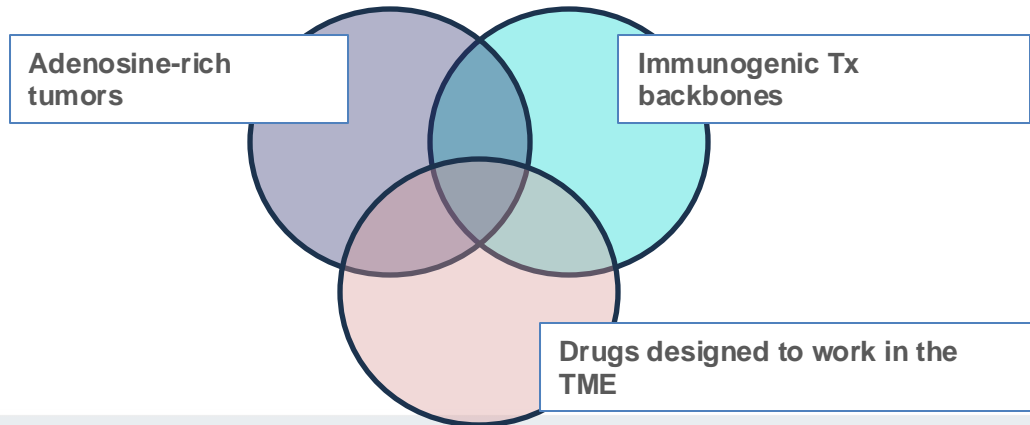


# Enhanced AT3-OVA Tumor Control and Immune Infiltration Caused by Etrumadenant + Platinum-based Chemotherapy



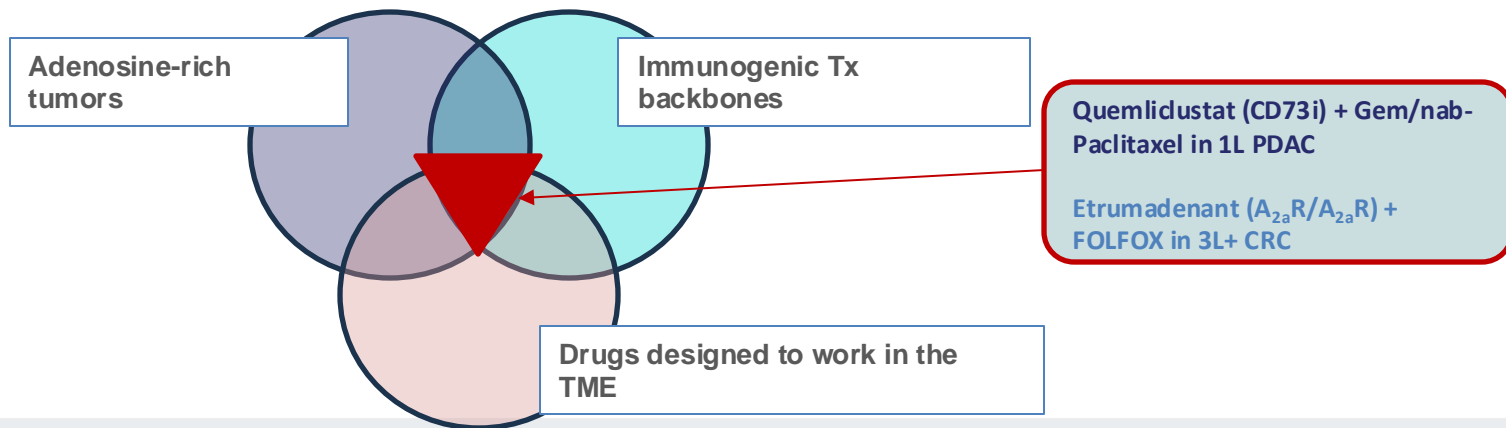
# Therapeutic Hypothesis

- Tumors with high capacity to convert ATP into adenosine will not experience the full anti-tumor immune response that would otherwise result from certain SOCs (e.g., platinum-containing chemo, radiation, etc.)
- Evaluate adenosine agents...
  - in combination with immunogenic backbones
  - in tumor types that contain high levels of adenosine / adenosine-generation machinery
- Clinical benefit will, most likely, be apparent as long-term PFS/OS improvement (resulting from improved adaptive immunity, TME remodeling, etc.)



# Therapeutic Hypothesis

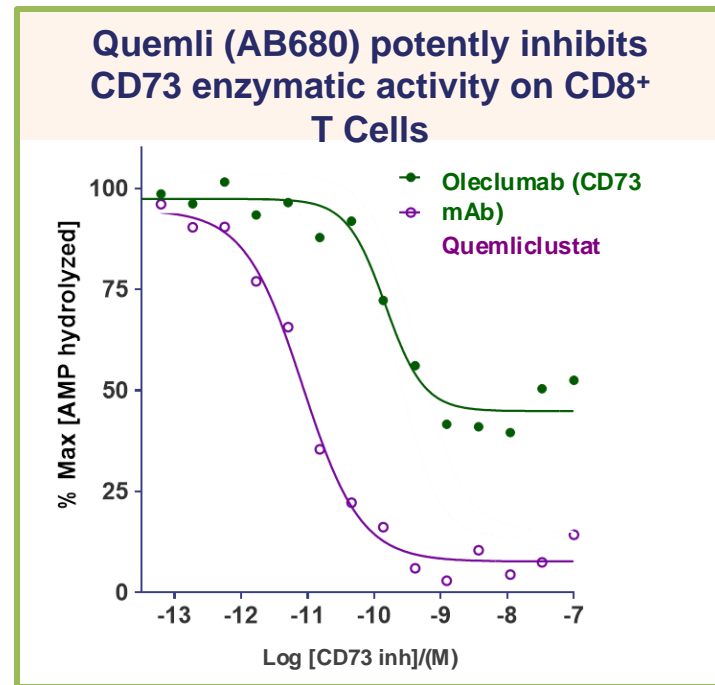
- Tumors with high capacity to convert ATP into adenosine will not experience the full anti-tumor immune response that would otherwise result from certain SOC's (e.g., platinum-containing chemo, radiation, etc.)
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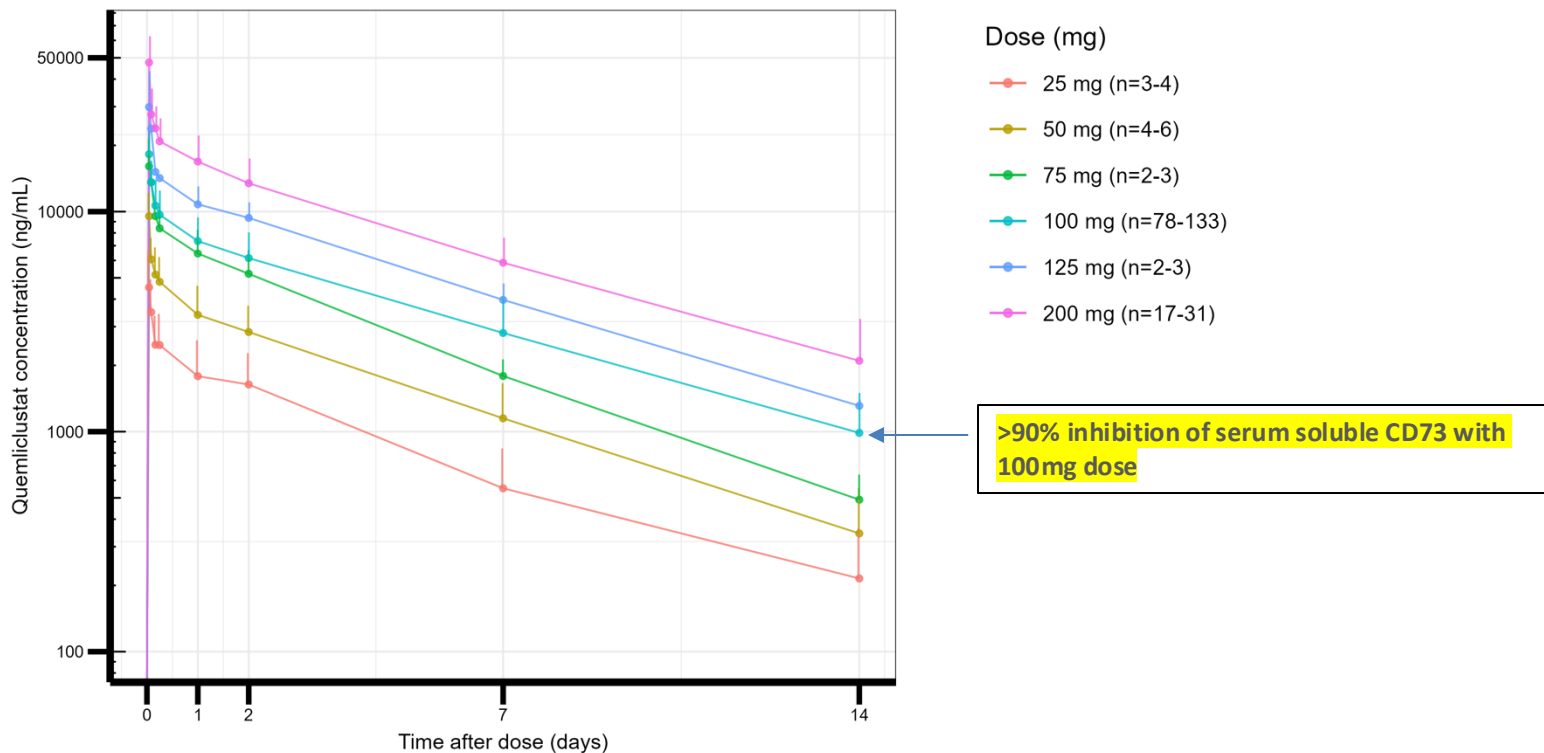
# Unlike Oleclumab, Quemliclustat is a Potent Inhibitor of Both Soluble and Cell-Bound CD73

Compound	Potency (IC <sub>50</sub> , nM)		
	Soluble hCD73	Cell surface CD73 (CD8 <sup>+</sup> )	Cell surface CD73 (CHO)
Quemliclustat	0.014	0.0084	0.047
Oleclumab	0.017	0.096	0.28



Oleclumab (MEDI9447) was synthesized by Arcus based on the following reports: Hay et al., Oncoimmunology (2016) 5, e1208875; Patent Appl. US 2016/0129108

# Human PK / PD Profile of Quemliclustat

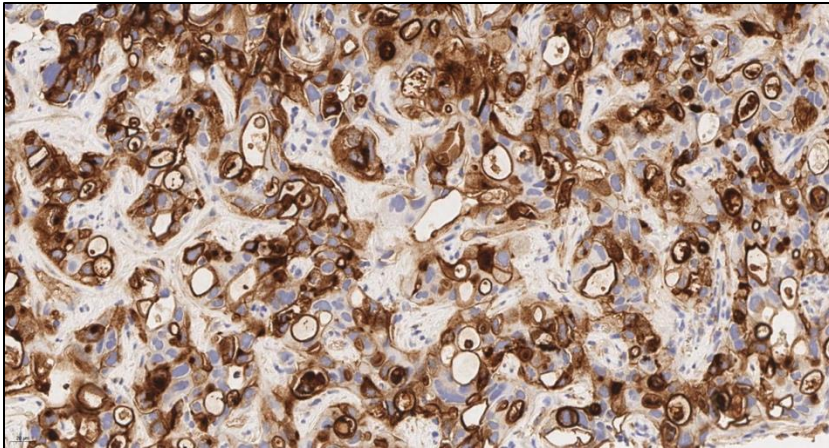


# Final Overall Survival Analysis for Quemliclustat (CD73 Inhibitor) and Zimberelimab ( $\alpha$ -PD-1) in Pancreatic Cancer (ARC-8 Study)

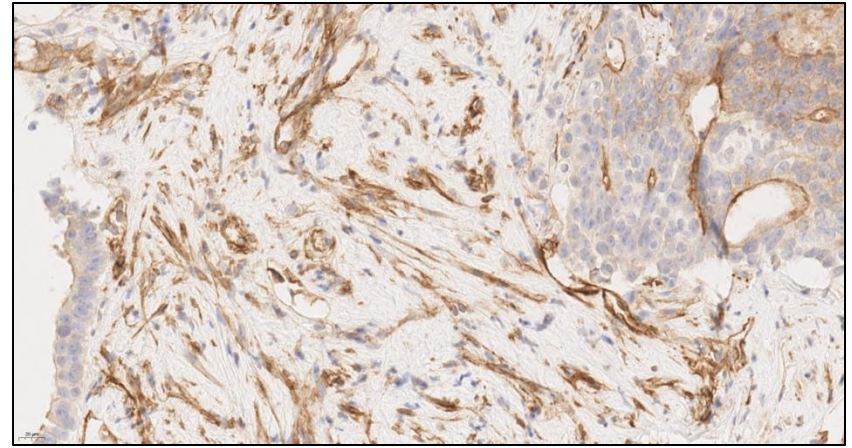
Data presented by Dr. Zev Wainberg at ASCO-GI (2024)

# CD73 is Abundantly Expressed on Multiple Cell Types in Pancreatic Cancer

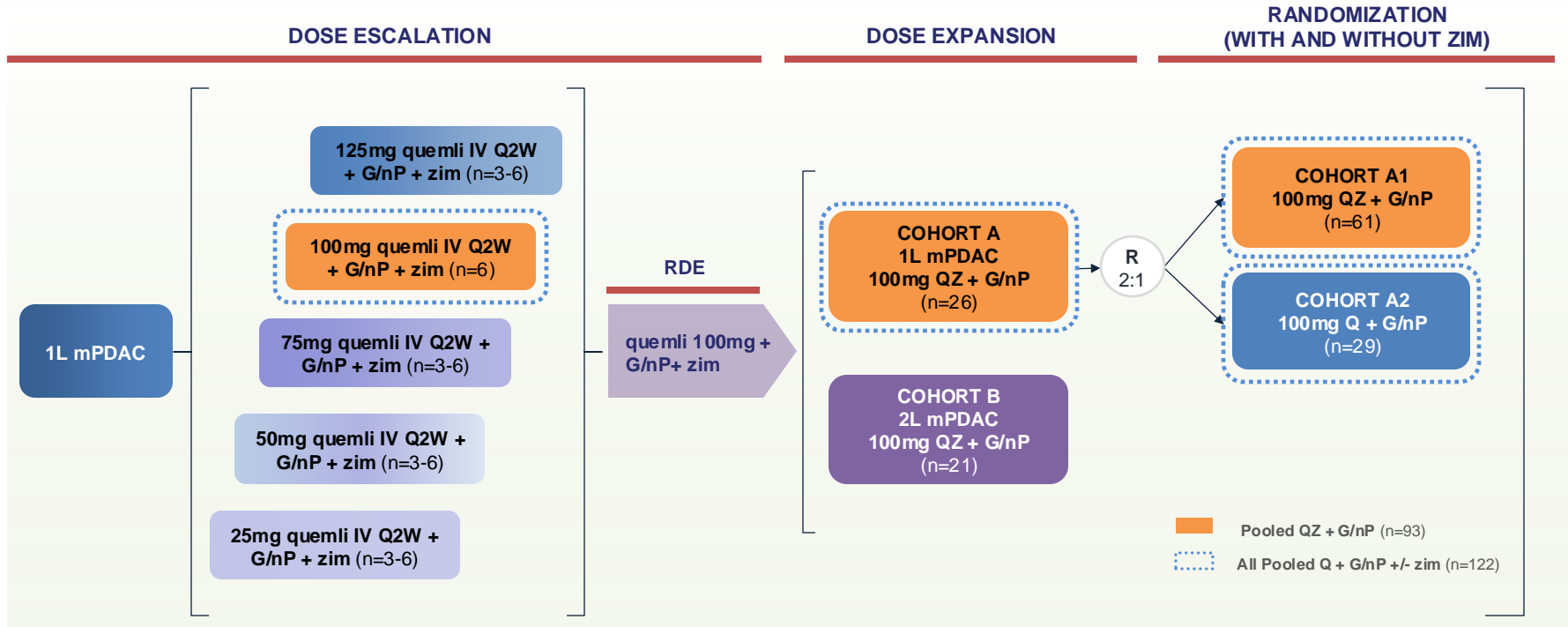
**Strong Cancer Cell Staining**



**Strong Stromal/Fibroblast Staining**



# ARC-8 Study Design Included Dose Escalation, Expansion and Randomized Portions



G/nP: gemcitabine/nab-paclitaxel; Q/queqli: queqliclustat; Z/zim: zimberelimab  
 NCT #: NCT04104672  
 Wainberg ZA, et al. ASCO GI, Jan 19, 2024, data cutoff: June 19, 2023

# ORR in Quemli-containing Cohorts Similar to Historical Data with Chemo Only

Wainberg ZA, et al. ASCO GI, Jan. 19, 2024, data cut off of June 19, 2023

	A2: Q+G/nP (n=29)	A1: QZ+G/nP (n=61)	Pooled Q100 QZ+G/nP (n=93)	All pooled Q100 Q(±Z)+G/nP (n=122)
ORR, % (95% CI)	41 (24, 61)	34 (23, 48)	38 (28, 48)	39 (30, 48)
Confirmed ORR, % (95% CI)	38 (21, 58)	25 (15, 37)	26 (17, 36)	29 (21, 38)
Median DOR, months (95% CI)	5.5 (4.1, 11.2)	3.7 (2.6, 10.5)	4.7 (3.3, 9.3)	5.4 (3.7, 9.3)
Median PFS, mo (95% CI)	8.8 (6.4, 12.6)	4.9 (3.7, 6.0)	5.4 (4.9, 7.3)	6.3 (5.4, 7.7)
Median OS, mo (95% CI)	19.4 (12.1, 23.0)	14.6 (10.6, 21.5)	13.9 (11.1, 18.7)	15.7 (12.4, 20.9)
12-mo OS, %	72.3	60.9	59.6	62.7
18-mo OS, %	54.2	43.5	39.3	42.8
Median OS follow-up, mo (95% CI)	21.1 (19.8, 22.3)	17.6 (16.6, 20.3)	20.3 (17.1, 24.6)	21.0 (19.0, 22.8)
Subsequent systemic anticancer therapy, %	48.3	42.6	46.2	46.7

Based on RECIST v1.1.  
DOR, duration of response; G/nP, gemcitabine/nab-paclitaxel; ORR, overall response rate; OS, overall survival; PFS, progression-free survival; Q, quemliclustat; RECIST, Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors; Z, zimberelimab.

# However, Promising Trends in PFS and, Particularly, OS

Wainberg ZA, et al. ASCO GI, Jan. 19, 2024, data cut off of June 19, 2023

	A2: Q+G/nP (n=29)	A1: QZ+G/nP (n=61)	Pooled Q100 QZ+G/nP (n=93)	All pooled Q100 Q(±Z)+G/nP (n=122)
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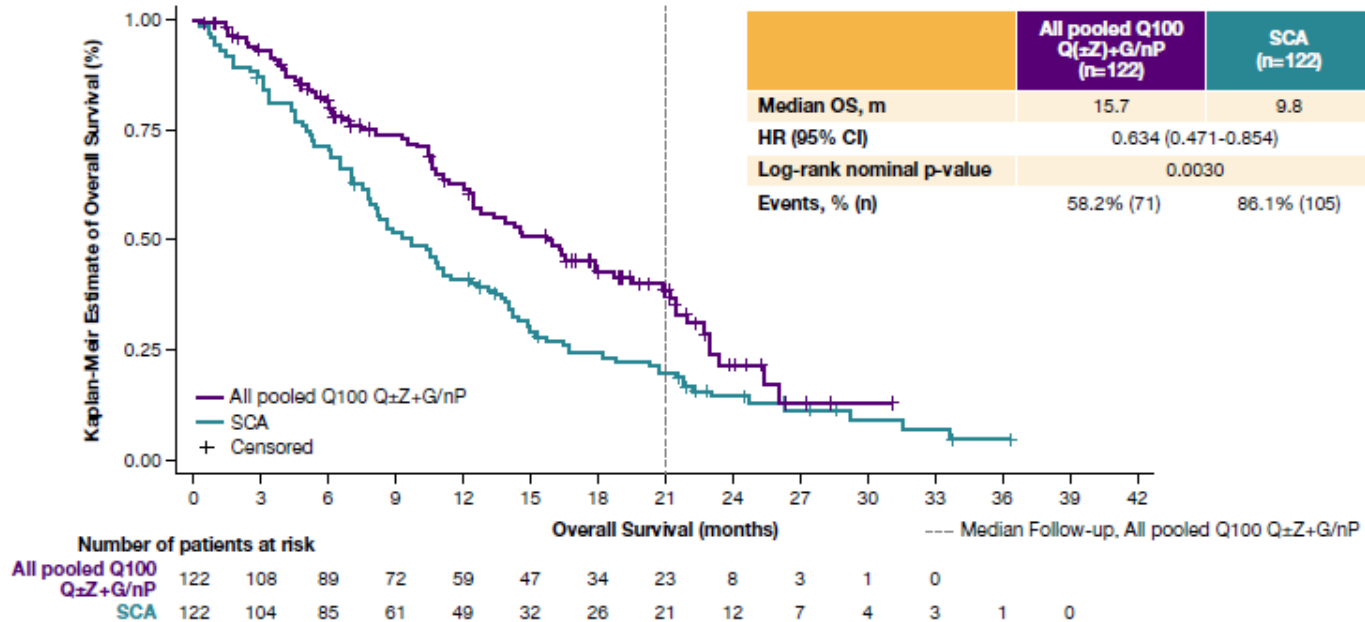
# Favorable OS for Patients With & Without Liver Metastasis

Liver Mets at Baseline	A2: Q + G/nP (n=17)	A1: QZ + G/nP (n=42)	Pooled Q100 QZ + G/nP (n=62)	All Pooled Q100 Q(±Z) + G/nP (n=79)	NAPOLI-3 (n=309)
Events (%)	11 (64.7)	26 (61.9)	40 (64.5)	51 (64.6)	242 (78.3)
<b>Median OS, months</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>8.6</b>
95% CI	10.0, 20.9	6.2, 17.9	8.1, 14.5	10.0, 15.7	
No Liver Mets at Baseline	A2: Q + G/nP (n=12)	A1: QZ + G/nP (n=19)	Pooled Q100 QZ + G/nP (n=31)	All Pooled Q100 Q(±Z) + G/nP (n=43)	NAPOLI-3 (n=78)
Events (%)	4 (33.3)	7 (36.8)	16 (51.6)	20 (46.5)	43 (55.1)
<b>Median OS, months</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>13.8</b>
95% CI	17.9, NE	14.6, NE	13.9, 25.4	17.9, 25.4	

BL: Baseline; CI: confidence interval; G/nP: gemcitabine/nab-paclitaxel; mets: metastasis; mOS: median overall survival; mos: months; NE: not estimable; OS: overall survival; Q: quercetin; Z: zoledronic acid  
 NAPOLI-3: Wainberg, et al. *The Lancet*. Sept 2023. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)01366-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01366-1). Data shown for the G/nP arm only  
 Wainberg ZA, et al. ASCO GI, Jan. 19, 2024, data cutoff of June 19, 2023



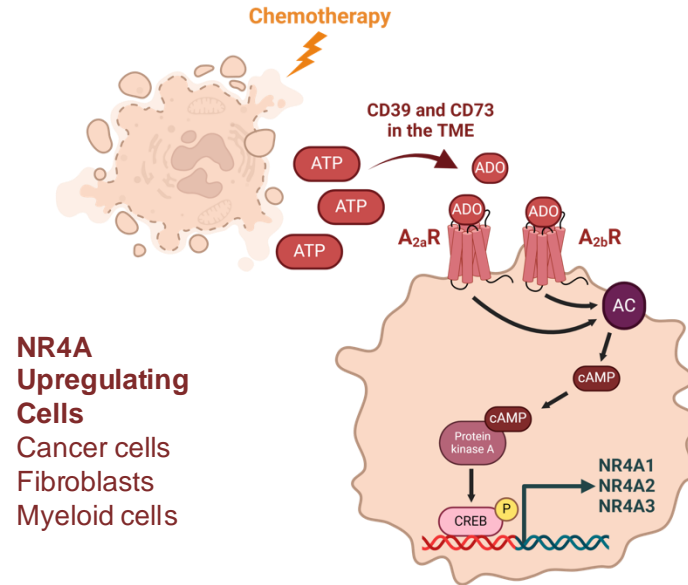
# Quemli-based Regimen Reduced Risk of Death by 37% and increased mOS by 5.9 months Compared to SCA



Wainberg ZA, et al. ASCO GI, Jan. 19, 2024, data cutoff of June 19, 2023

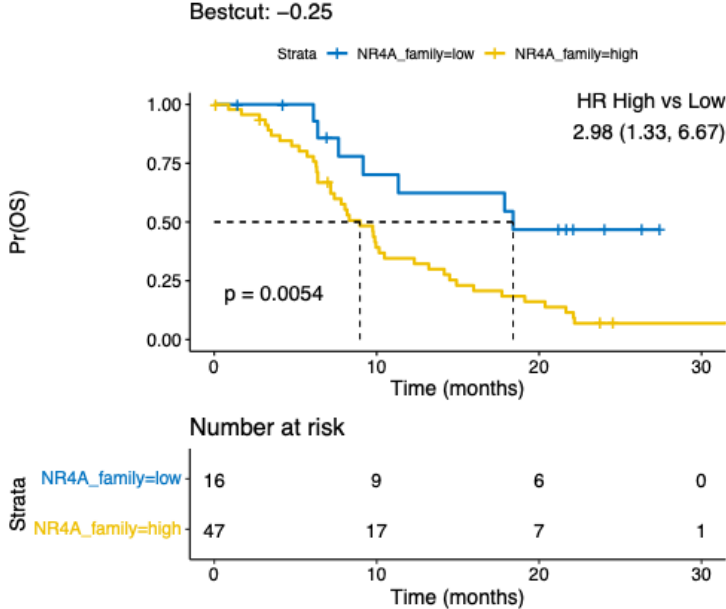
# NR4A Gene Expression is a Proxy for A<sub>2a</sub>R / A<sub>2b</sub>R Adenosine Receptor Signaling

- A<sub>2a</sub>R & A<sub>2b</sub>R receptors coupled to adenylate cyclase & drive increases in cAMP upon activation
- cAMP → PKA → pCREB → NR4A1-3 upregulation

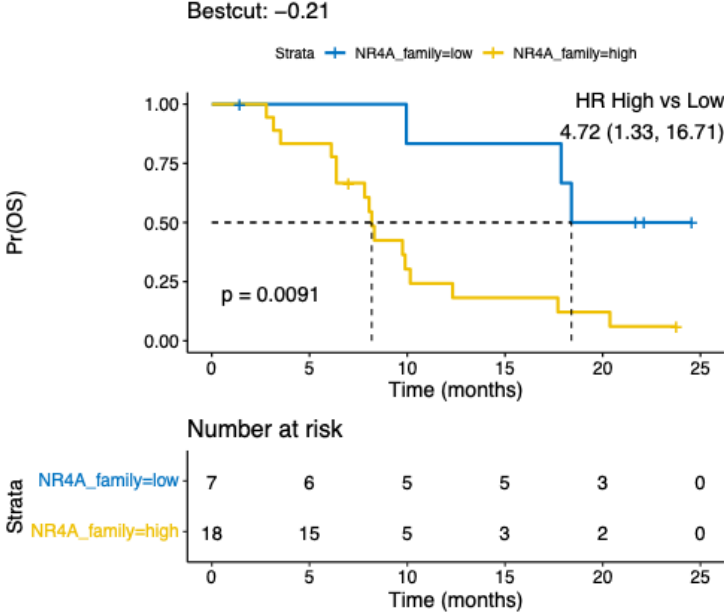


# NR4A(1-3) Expression is Associated with Poor OS (and PFS) in 1L mPDAC Patients Treated with Gem/nab-Pac (GA) – PRINCE Trial

## PRINCE Study (ALL PATIENTS)

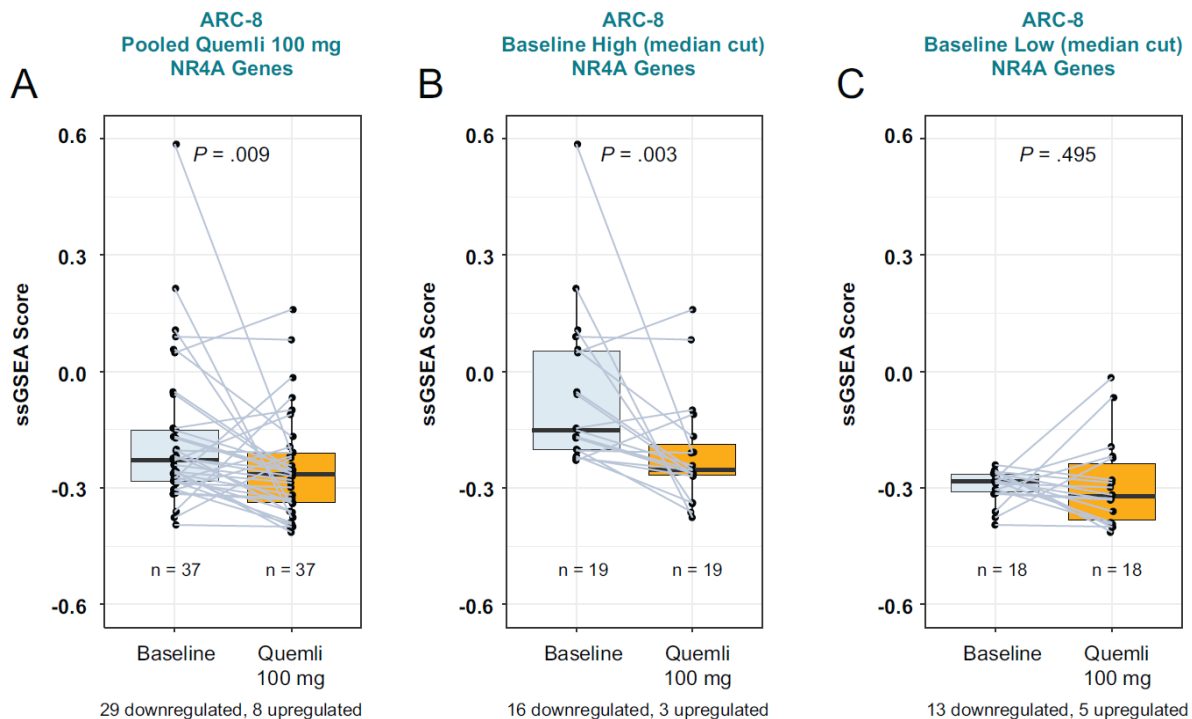


## PRINCE Study (GA + Nivo Cohort)



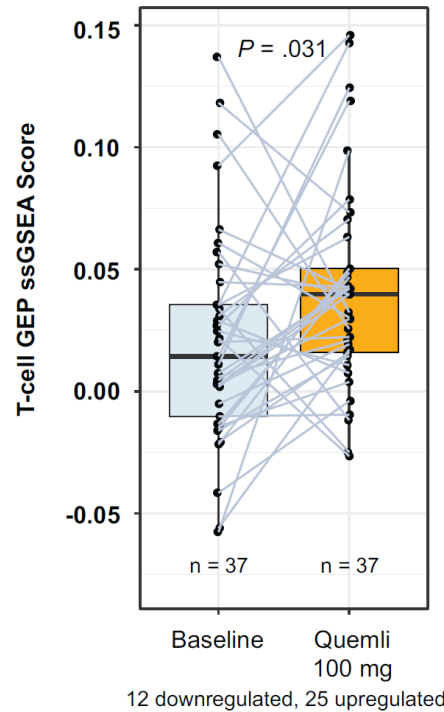
Transcriptional analysis performed by Arcus on published bulk mRNA data from the PRINCE Trial (NCT03214250); Padron et al., NATURE MEDICINE (2022)

# In ARC-8 Trial, NR4A Gene Expression is Downregulated by a Quemli-containing Regimen



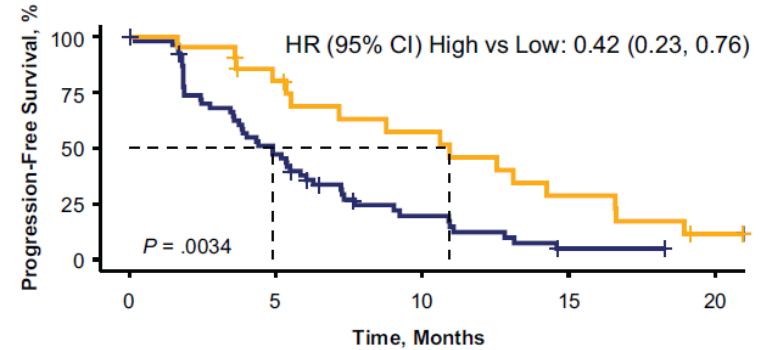
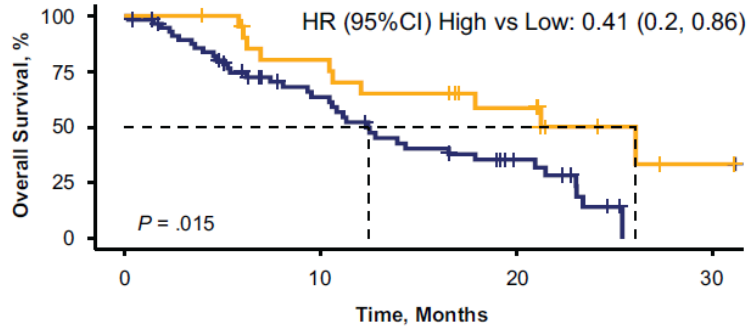
Kim et al., AACR Spec. Conf. Cancer Research (Pancreatic Cancer); Sept 15-18, 2024

# In the ARC-8 Trial, Treatment with a Quemli-containing Regimen Led to Increases in Tumor Inflammation



Kim et al., AACR Spec. Conf. Cancer Research (Pancreatic Cancer); Sept 15-18, 2024

# Patients with the High Baseline NR4A Expression Had Greater Benefit from a Quemli-containing Regimen



Number at Risk

Low NR4A genes	58	28	10	0
High NR4A genes	22	16	9	1

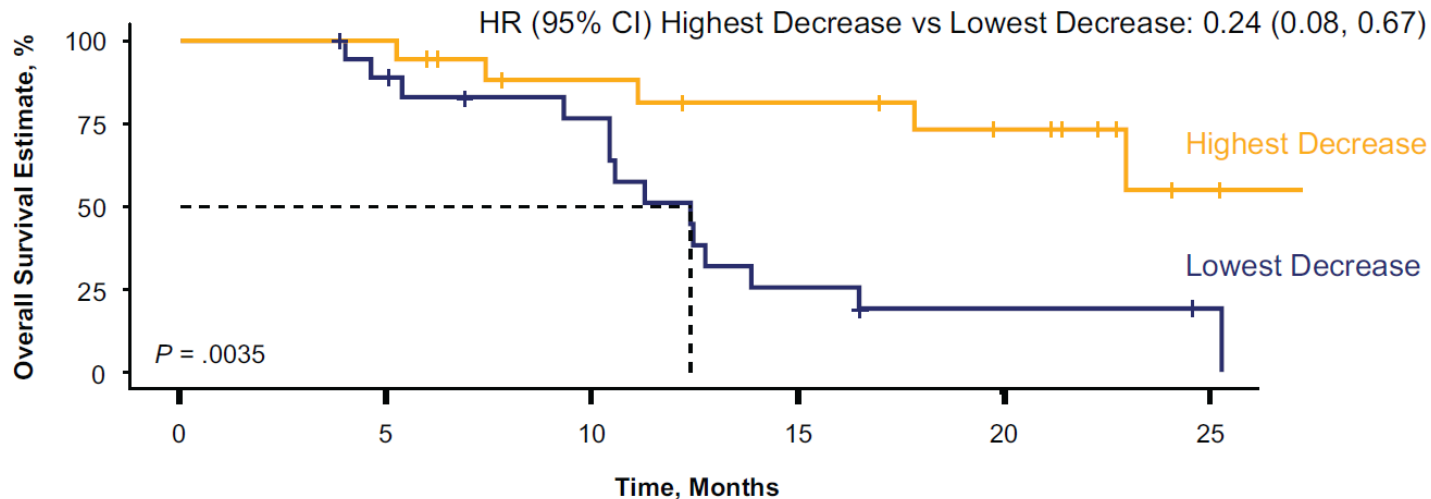
Number at Risk

Low NR4A genes	58	25	8	1	0
High NR4A genes	22	15	10	5	0

■ Lowest NR4A Expression ■ Highest NR4A genes

Kim et al., AACR Spec. Conf. Cancer Research (Pancreatic Cancer); Sept 15-18, 2024

# Patients with the Highest Decreases in Tumor NR4A Expression Experienced an OS Benefit in ARC-8 Trial



Number at Risk		0	5	10	15	20	25
Lowest Decrease	19	16	12	4	2	1	
Highest Decrease	18	18	13	11	8	2	

Kim et al., AACR Spec. Conf. Cancer Research (Pancreatic Cancer); Sept 15-18, 2024

# MORPHEUS-PDAC Study Design: Etruma (A2a/A2b) + Atezo + GnP vs GnP Standard of Care Control

**Phase Ib/II, global, open-label, randomized evaluation of atezolizumab (atezo) + etrumadenant (etruma) + chemotherapy (chemo) vs chemo alone in MORPHEUS-PDAC**

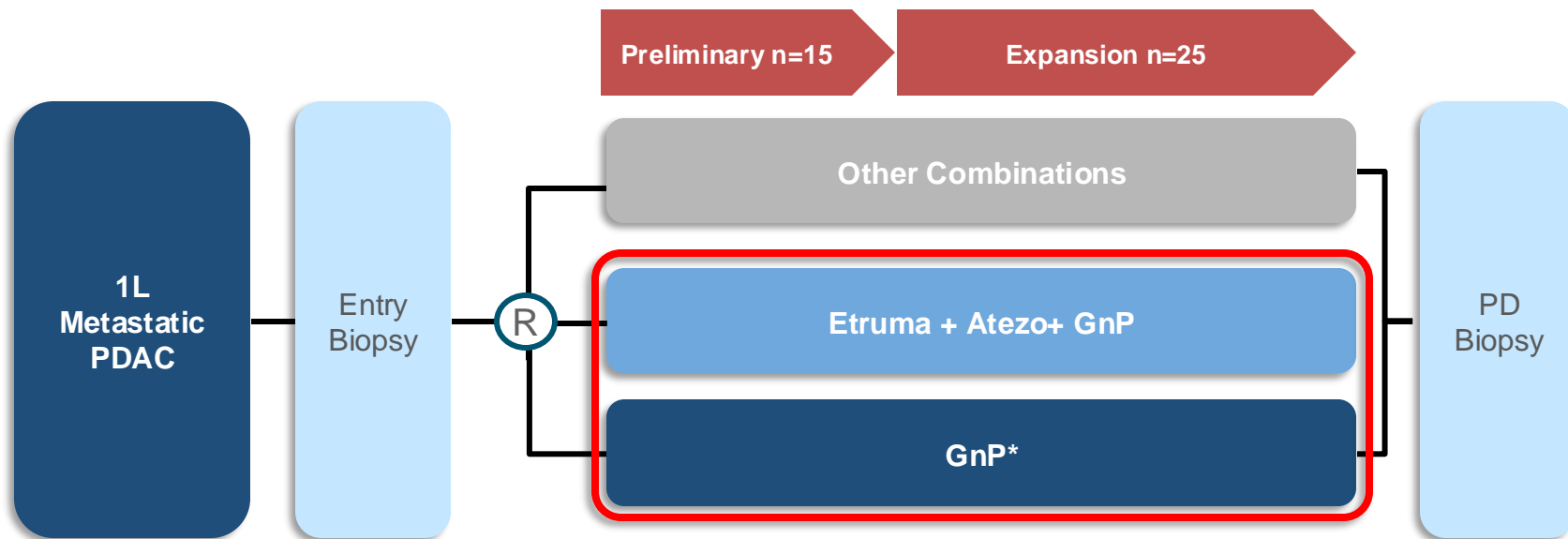
Kyu-pyo Kim,<sup>1</sup> Mariano Ponz-Sarvisé,<sup>2</sup> Teresa Macarulla,<sup>3</sup> Angela Alistar,<sup>4</sup> Eileen M. O'Reilly,<sup>5</sup> Mathew Boakye,<sup>6</sup> Hen Prizant,<sup>7</sup> Trista Xu,<sup>8</sup> Fiona Young,<sup>9</sup> Janet Lau,<sup>7</sup> Do-Youn Oh,<sup>10</sup> Jill Lacy<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Asan Medical Center, Seoul, Republic of Korea; <sup>2</sup>Cancer Center Clínica Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain; <sup>3</sup>Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Barcelona, Spain; <sup>4</sup>Atlantic Hematology Oncology, Atlantic Medical Group, Morristown, NJ, USA; <sup>5</sup>Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA; <sup>6</sup>Novus Biosciences, Hayward, CA, USA; <sup>7</sup>Genentech, Inc, South San Francisco, CA, USA; <sup>8</sup>F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Mezzanuga, Canada; <sup>9</sup>F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Welwyn Garden City, UK; <sup>10</sup>Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Republic of Korea; <sup>11</sup>Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA

Abstract CT212

Poster 15

AACR April 5-10, 2024; San Diego, CA

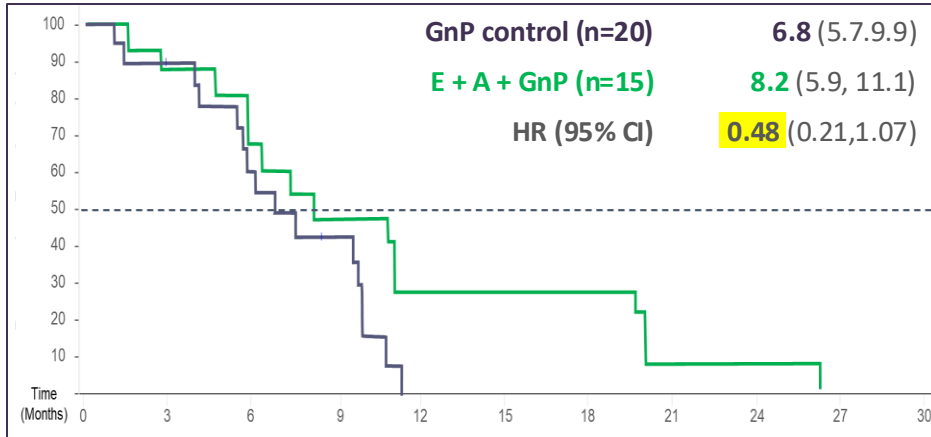


GnP = gemcitabine plus nab-paclitaxel

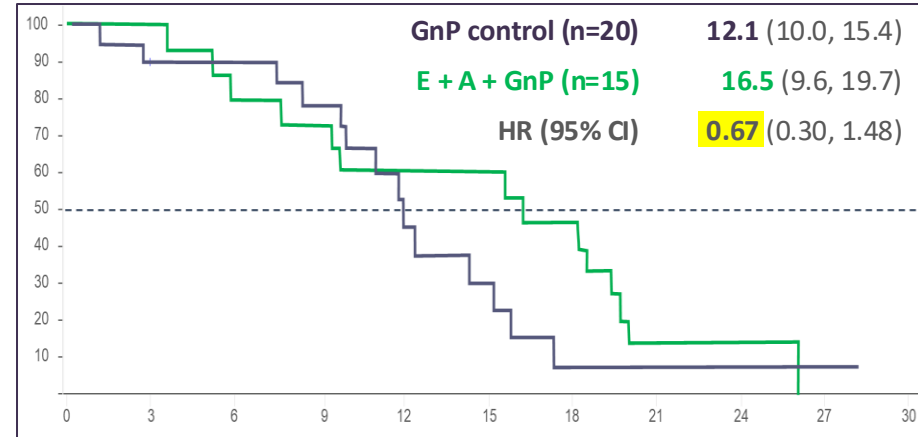


# MORPHEUS-PDAC: Etruma (A<sub>2a</sub>R/A<sub>2b</sub>R) + Atezo + GnP Showed Trends in Improved PFS and OS vs GnP Control

## Progression-free Survival



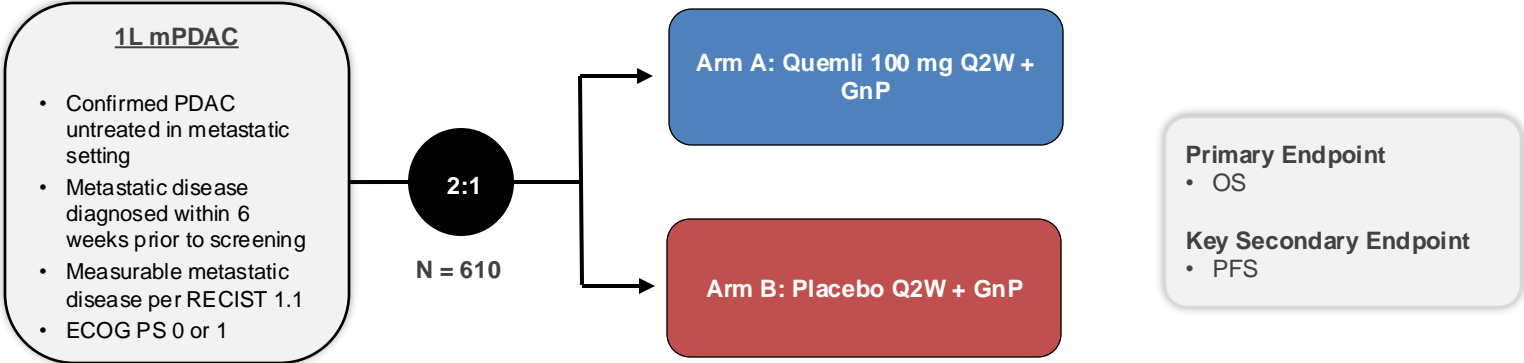
## Overall Survival



Adapted from Kim et al., AACR; April 5-10, 2024

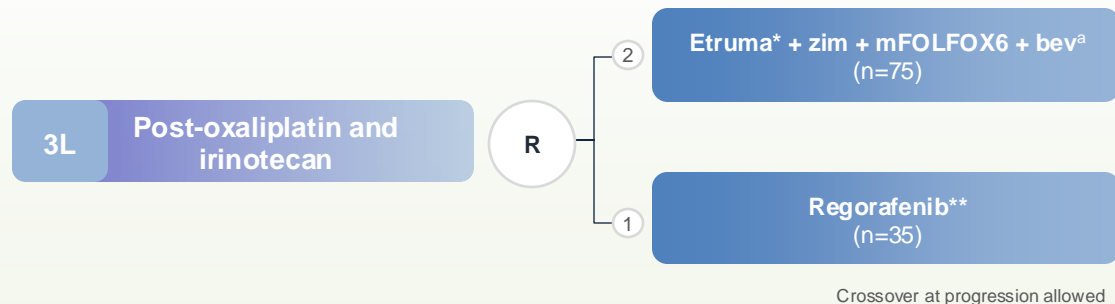
# PRISM-1: Ongoing Ph3 Randomized, Placebo Controlled, Double-Blind Study of Quemliclustat in 1L Metastatic PDAC

NCT06608927



GnP = gemcitabine plus nab-paclitaxel

# ARC-9 Cohort B: Etruma + Zim + mFOLFOX6 + Bevacizumab (EZFB) vs Regorafenib in 3L mCRC



## PRIMARY ENDPOINTS:

- PFS (investigator assessed)

## KEY SECONDARY ENDPOINTS:

- OS
- ORR (investigator assessed)
- Safety

## KEY INCLUSION CRITERIA

- Histologically confirmed unresectable mCRC
- Measurable disease per RECIST v1.1
- ECOG PS of 0 or 1
- Disease progression on or after treatment with oxaliplatin and irinotecan containing chemotherapy in combination with anti-VEGF(R) or anti-EGFR

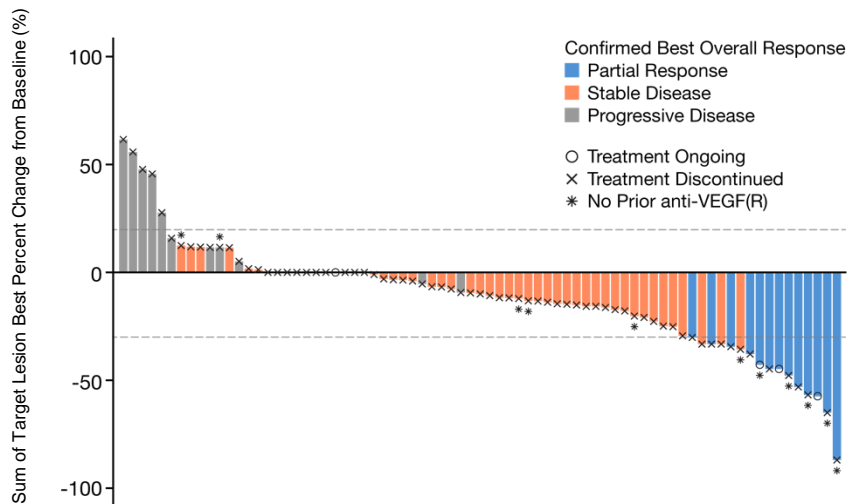
## KEY EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Prior treatment with immune checkpoint blockade therapies
- Mutation in the BRAF oncogene; patients with unknown BRAF status will be required to undergo testing at a local laboratory and provide results at screening

Presented by Wainberg et al. ASCO 2024, Jun. 2, 2022; data cut-off of November 13, 2023

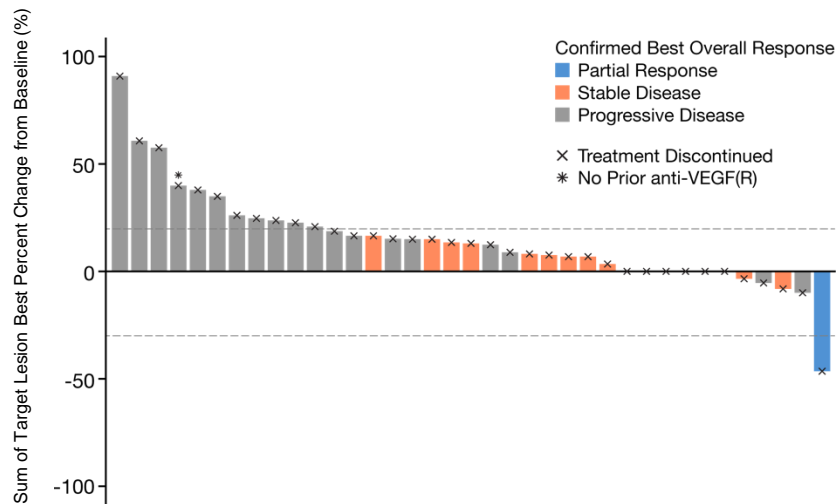
# Two-Thirds (66%) of Patients on EZFB Experienced Tumor Reduction

## EZFB



- Confirmed ORR for EZFB: 17.3%
- Median DOR for EZFB: 11.5 months

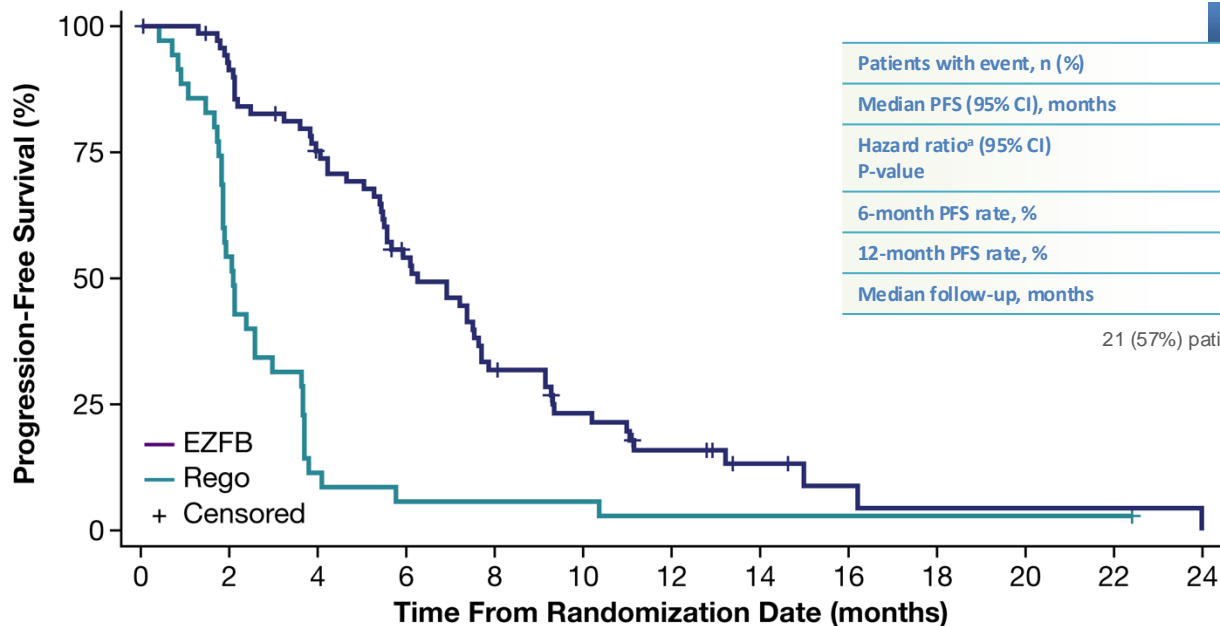
## Regorafenib



- Confirmed ORR for rego: 2.7%
- Median DOR for rego: N/A

Presented by Wainberg et al. ASCO 2024, Jun. 2, 2022; data cut-off of November 13, 2023

# EZFB Demonstrated Statistically Significant Improvement in PFS vs Rego



	EZFB	Rego
Patients with event, n (%)	58 (77)	34 (92)
Median PFS (95% CI), months	6.24 (5.49, 7.52)	2.07 (1.84, 2.96)
Hazard ratio <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	0.27 (0.17, 0.43)	
P-value	<0.001	
6-month PFS rate, %	54	6
12-month PFS rate, %	16	3
Median follow-up, months	20.4	

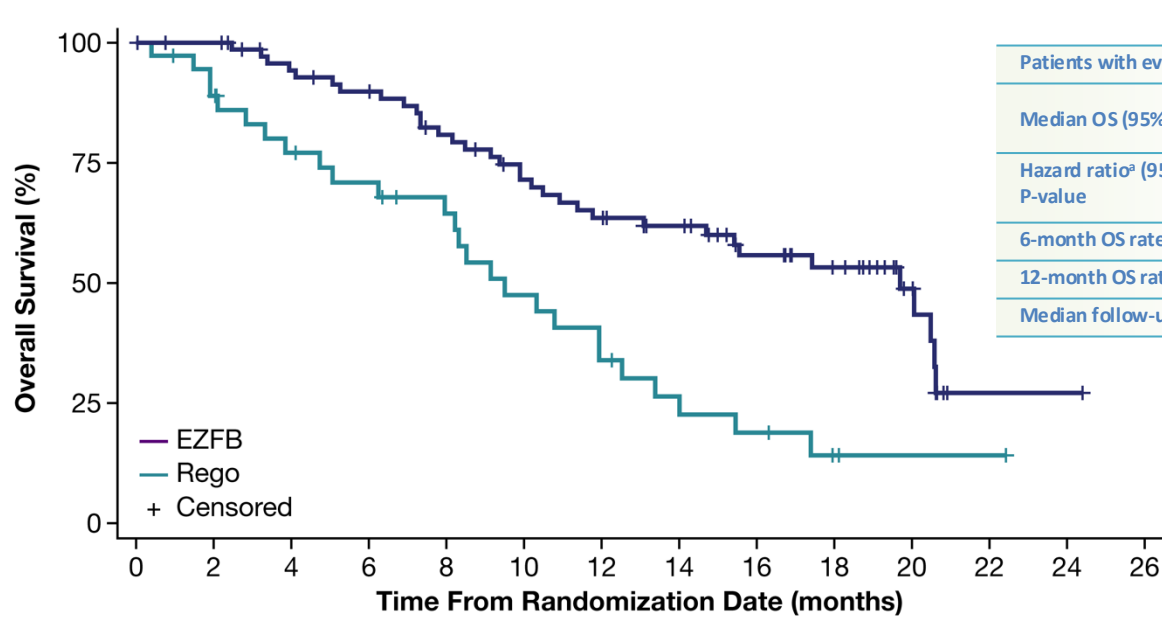
21 (57%) patients randomized to rego crossed over to EZFB

### Number of patients at risk

<b>EZFB</b>	75	63	50	34	20	13	8	4	2	1	1	1
<b>Rego</b>	37	19	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

Presented by Wainberg et al. ASCO 2024, Jun. 2, 2022; data cut-off of November 13, 2023

# EZFB Demonstrated Significant Improvement in OS vs Rego



	EZFB	Rego
Patients with event, n (%)	34 (45)	26 (70)
Median OS (95% CI), months	19.68 (14.69, 20.60)	9.49 (7.95, 12.52)
Hazard ratio <sup>a</sup> (95% CI)	0.37 (0.22, 0.63)	
P-value	<0.001	
6-month OS rate, %	90	71
12-month OS rate, %	64	34
Median follow-up, months	20.4	

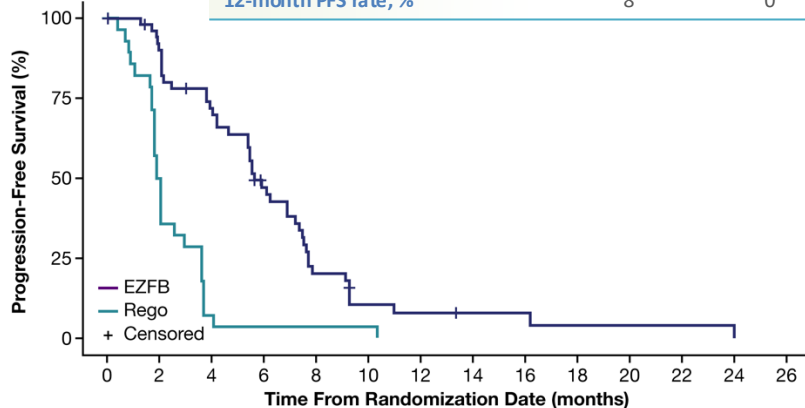
21 (57%) patients randomized to rego crossed over to EZFB

## Number of patients at risk

<b>EZFB</b>	75	73	65	61	53	45	40	35	26	20	10	1	1
<b>Rego</b>	37	32	26	23	19	14	10	6	5	2	1	1	0

# 5.7 Month Median PFS and 20 Month Median OS for EZFB in Patients With Liver Metastasis

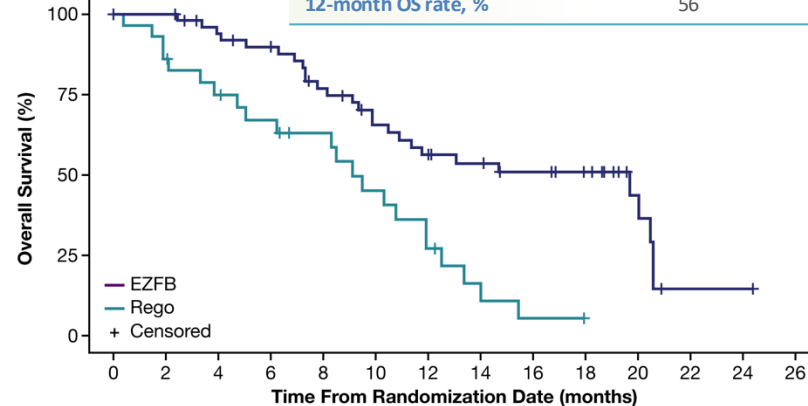
	EZFB	Rego
Patients with events , n (%)	45 (85)	28 (97)
Median PFS, months	5.65	1.97
Hazard ratio (95% CI)	0.19 (0.10, 0.35)	
6-month PFS rate, %	47	4
12-month PFS rate, %	8	0



Number of patients at risk

	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
<b>EZFB</b>	53	45	35	21	9	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	0
<b>Rego</b>	29	14	2	1	1	1	0							

	EZFB	Rego
Patients with events , n (%)	27 (51)	22 (76)
Median OS, months	19.68	9.13
Hazard ratio (95% CI)	0.36 (0.2, 0.66)	
6-month OS rate, %	90	67
12-month OS rate, %	56	27



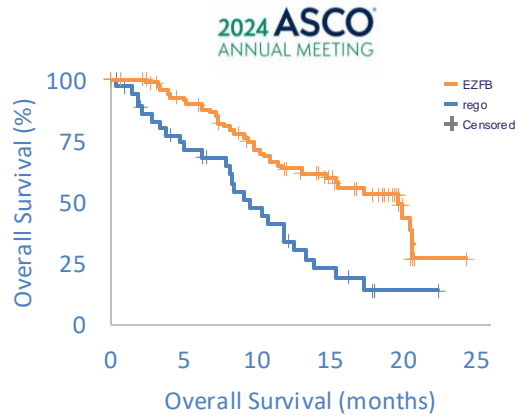
Number of patients at risk

	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
<b>EZFB</b>	53	52	46	43	35	28	24	21	18	13	6	1	1	0
<b>Rego</b>	29	25	20	17	14	10	6	2	1	0				

# Three Recent Clinical Datasets Demonstrate the Potential Benefits of Combining Adenosine Inhibition with Chemo

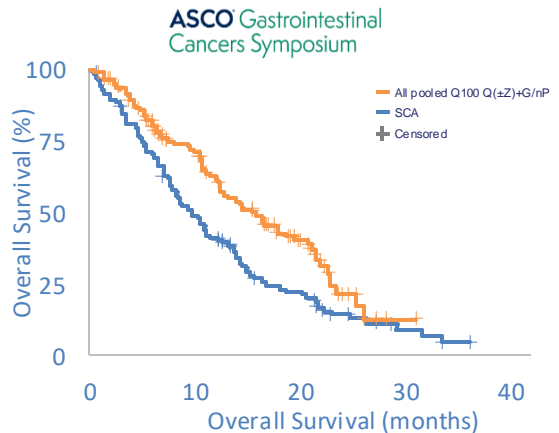
## 3L+ Colorectal Cancer **ARC-9**

**etruma** + zim + FOLFOX/bev vs. rego (n=112)



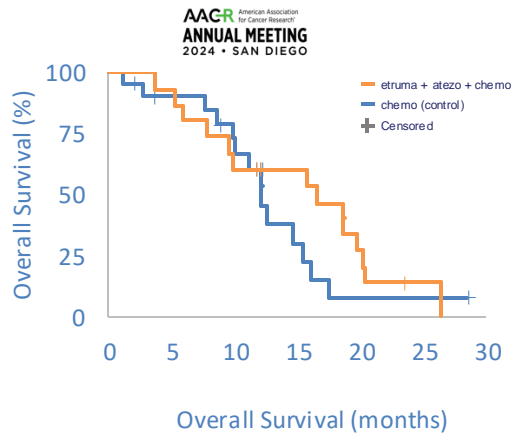
## 1L Metastatic PDAC **ARC-8**

**quemli** ± zim + G/nP (n=122)



## 1L Metastatic PDAC **MORPHEUS**

**etruma** + atezo + G/nP (n=35)



	EZFB	Rego	HR (95% CI)	Q(±Z)+G/nP	SCA	HR (95% CI)	etruma + atezo + chemo	Chemo	HR (95% CI)
mOS (mos)	19.68	9.13	0.36 (0.2 - 0.66)	15.7	9.8	0.63 (0.47 - 0.85)	16.5	12.1	0.67 (0.3-1.5)

↓ **63% reduction in risk of death**  
 ↑ **10.2 month increase in mOS vs. standard of care (rego)**

↓ **37% reduction in risk of death**  
 ↑ **5.9 month increase in mOS vs. matched synthetic control arm**

↓ **33% reduction in risk of death**  
 ↑ **4.4 month increase in mOS vs. standard of care (chemo)**



- Critical considerations:
  - Clinical setting (CD73 expression) – baseline or induced (e.g., radiation)
  - Immunogenic therapeutic backbone (e.g., platinum, taxane) to release ATP
  - Optimal molecules (e.g., complete CD73 inh, A<sub>2a</sub>R and A<sub>2b</sub>R dual blockade, etc.) / doses
- Emerging biomarker data supportive of the proposed MoA:
  - Treatment with queqli- or etruma-containing regimens drives reduction in “adenosine” signaling and increased tumor inflammation
  - High tumor baseline levels of “adenosine” (as inferred by CD73 or NR4A expression) are negative predictors of response to SOC. These are in fact the ones with better clinical outcomes.
- Next steps: advancement of these agents into pivotal studies (e.g., queqli in PRISM-1 (1L PDAC); etruma in advanced mCRC)