

ESMO Magnitude of Clinical Benefit Scale (ESMO-MCBS) for new anticancer therapies

Personal reflections

Prof Richard Sullivan MD PhD

www.instituteofcancerpolicy.org/

kcl.academia.edu/RichardSullivan

A standardised, generic, validated approach to stratify the magnitude of clinical benefit that can be anticipated from anti-cancer therapies: the European Society for Medical Oncology Magnitude of Clinical Benefit Scale (ESMO-MCBS)

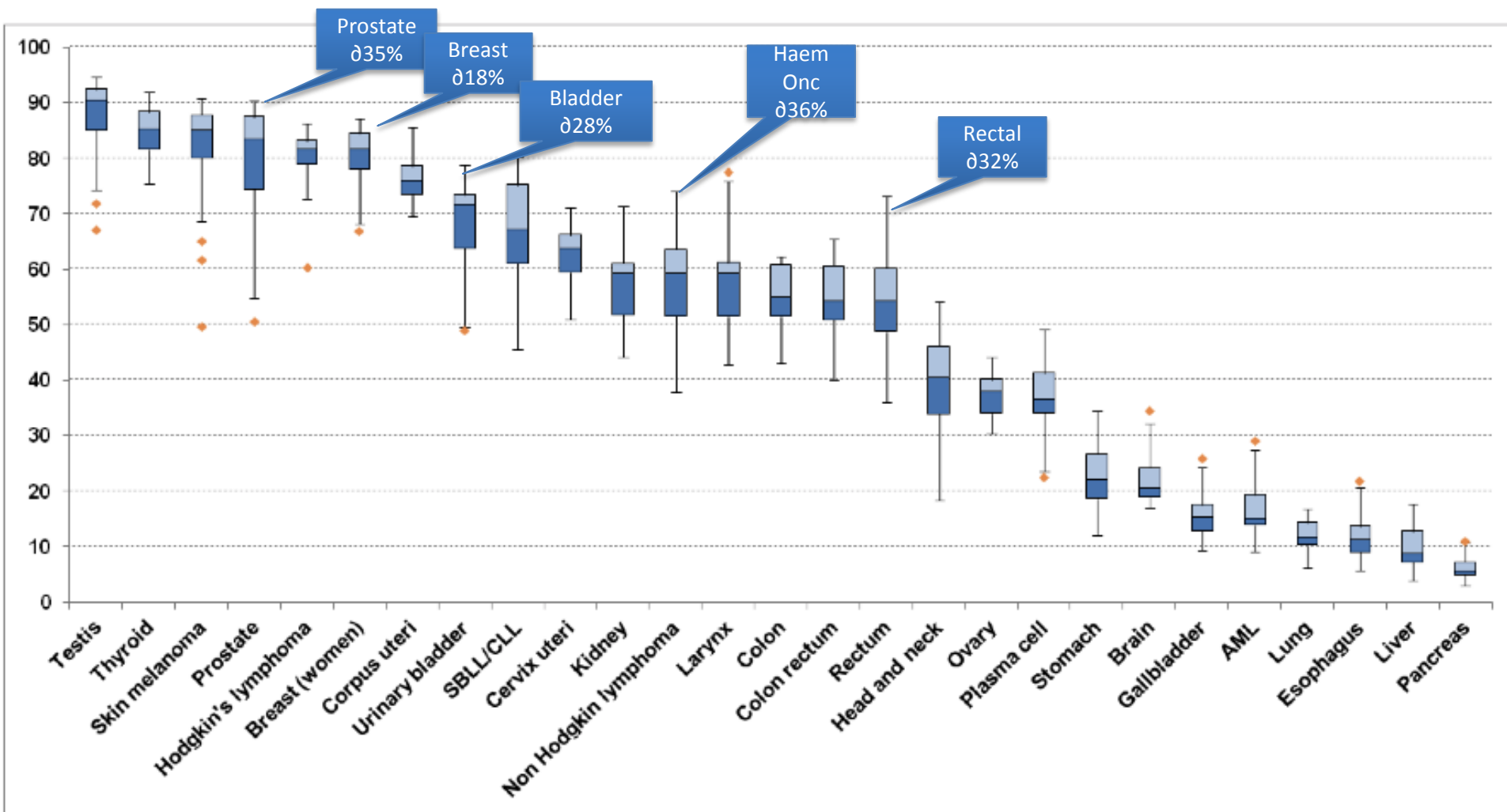
N. I. Cherny^{1*}, R. Sullivan², U. Dafni³, J. M. Kerst⁴, A. Sobrero⁵, C. Zielinski⁶, E. G. E. de Vries⁷
& M. J. Piccart^{8,9}

¹Cancer Pain and Palliative Medicine Service, Department of Medical Oncology, Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem, Israel; ²Kings Health Partners Integrated Cancer Centre, King's College London, Institute of Cancer Policy, London, UK; ³University of Athens and Frontiers of Science Foundation-Hellas, Athens, Greece; ⁴Department of Medical Oncology, Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital; ⁵Department of Medical Oncology, IRCCS San Martino IST, Genova, Italy; ⁶Division of Oncology, Medical University Vienna, Vienna, Austria; ⁷Department of Medical Oncology, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands; ⁸Jules Bordet Institute, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium; ⁹Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Why did we do this?

- **Affordable cancer care, particularly medicines**
- **Inequality and Access**
- **Cancer Outcomes across Europe**
- **Marketing Authorisation^a & Health Technology Assessments**
- **Research portfolios, design of clinical trials, relevance to improving population outcomes, driving zeitgeist of research**

^aDrugs, cancer and end of life care. Social Sci Med 2015, 131: 207-214



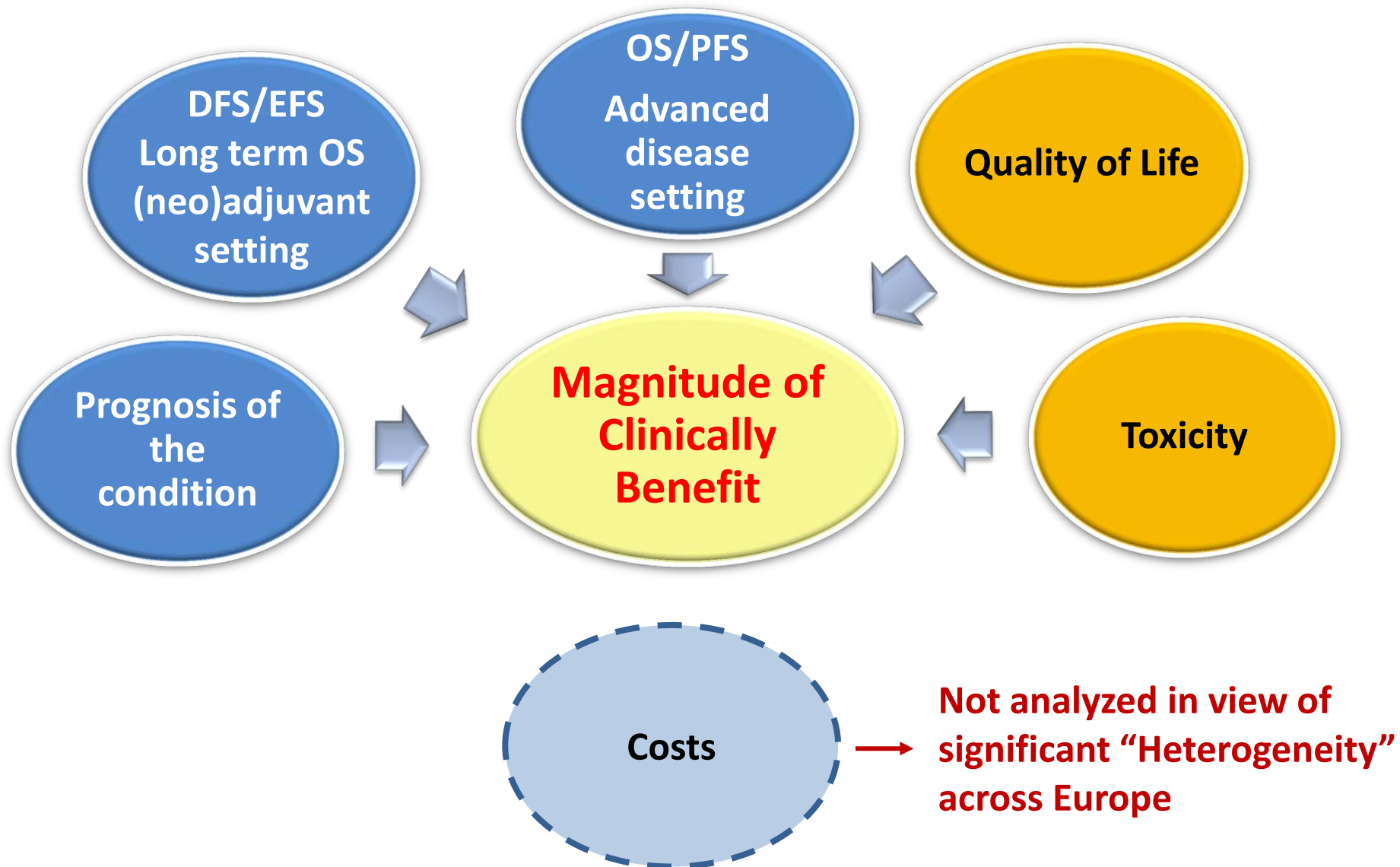
Range of cancer care health expenditures (in euro) on individual site specific cancers across Europe is huge

	(Euro)		Diff
Blood cancers	7,576 -	38,595	x5
Prostate	6,006 -	34,474	x6
Colorectal	8,421 -	26,215	x3
Bladder	1,117 -	13,370	x12
Breast	5,976 -	32,237	x5
Lung	5,511 -	29,121	x5

Expenditure range on medicines as a % of total is equally varied, and has NO correlation with outcomes

	% of total spend			Av
Blood cancers	5.4	-	54.8%	44.3%
Prostate	16	-	93.6%	78.4%
Colorectal	1.2	-	11.7%	7.9%
Bladder	6.7	-	36.3%	29.1%
Breast	14.2	-	83.6%	61.3%
Lung	0.8	-	11.1%	4.6%

Factors taken into account for ESMO-MCBS

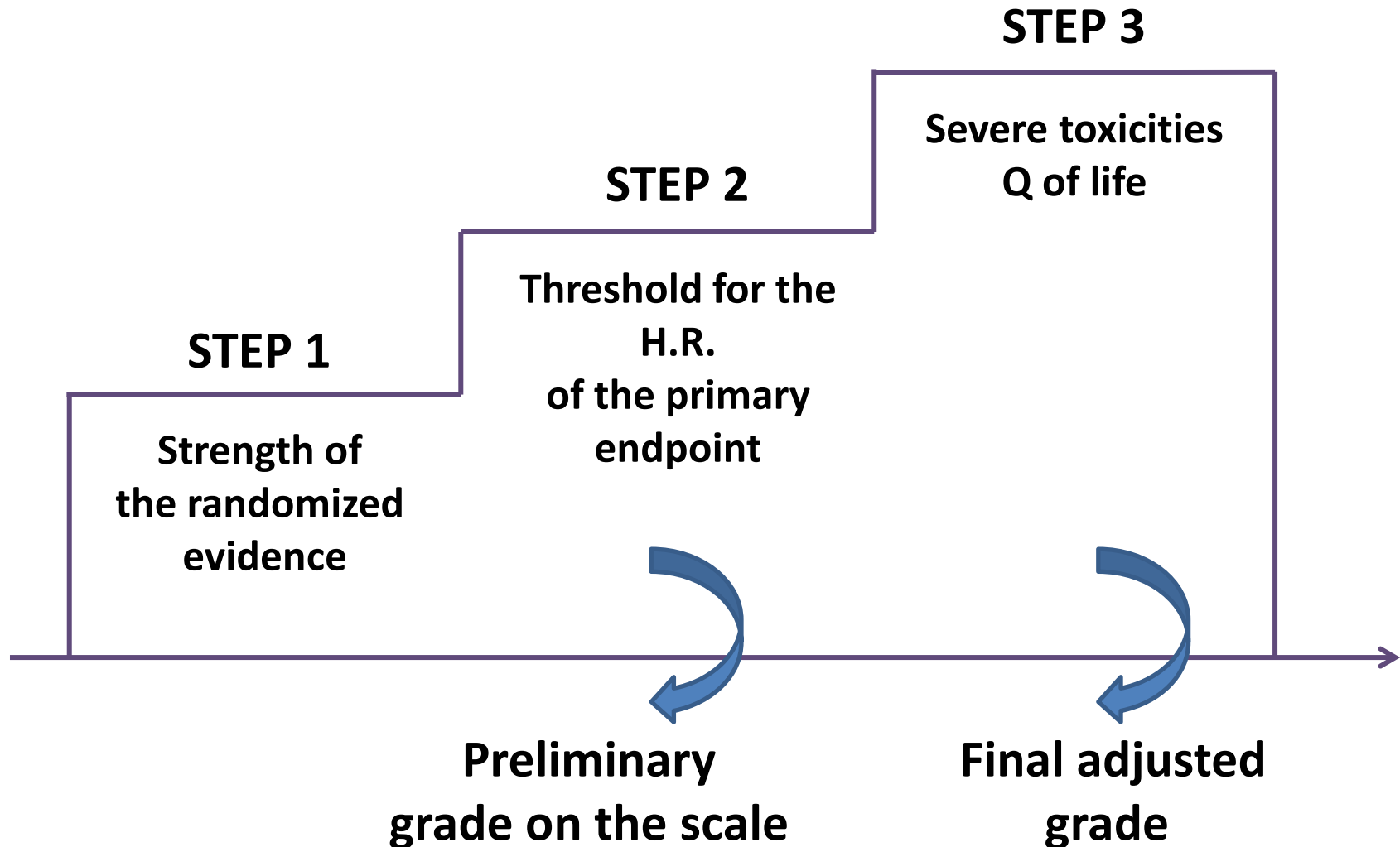


Underlying Premises ESMO-MCBS

- 1. Cure takes precedence over deferral of death**
- 2. Direct endpoints such as survival and QoL take precedence over surrogates such as PFS**
- 3. DFS in curative disease is a more valid surrogate than PFS (or RR) in non-curative disease**
- 4. Interpretation of the evidence for benefit derived from surrogate outcomes (such as PFS) may be influenced by secondary outcome data**

Using the ESMO-MCBS

3 critical steps



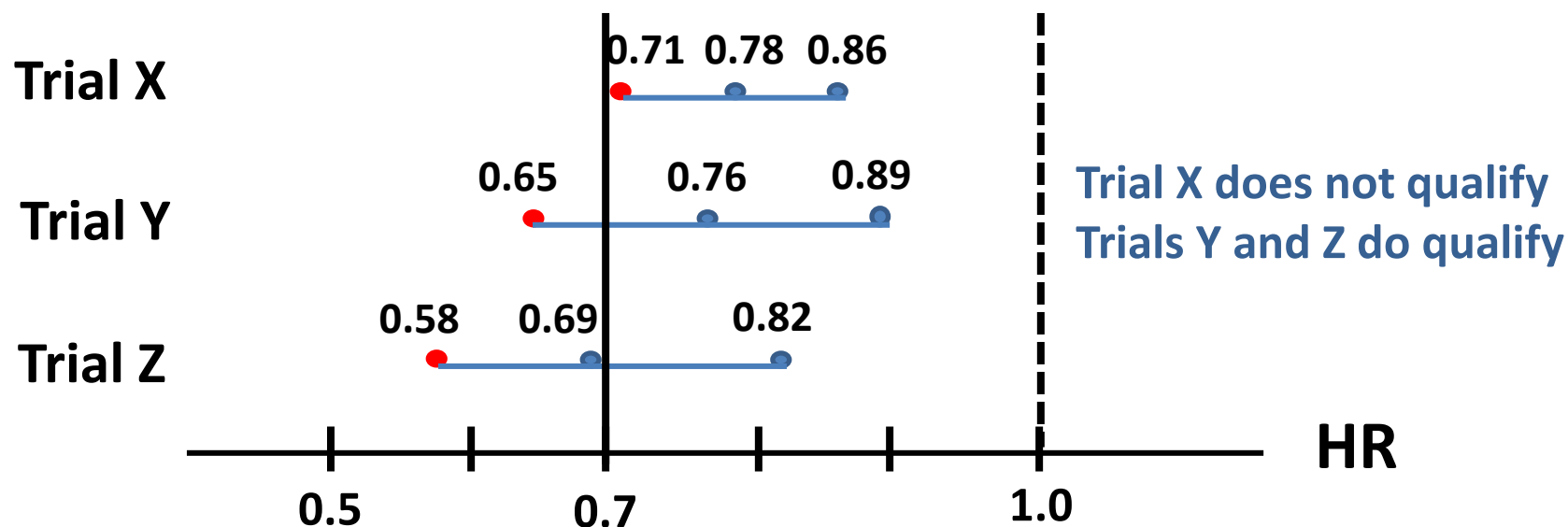


3 Rules, #2 ESMO-MCBS

- a. More than one outcome may be applicable
- b. For a required HR, not the point estimate but the lower limit of the 95% CI is used to take into account the variability of the estimate

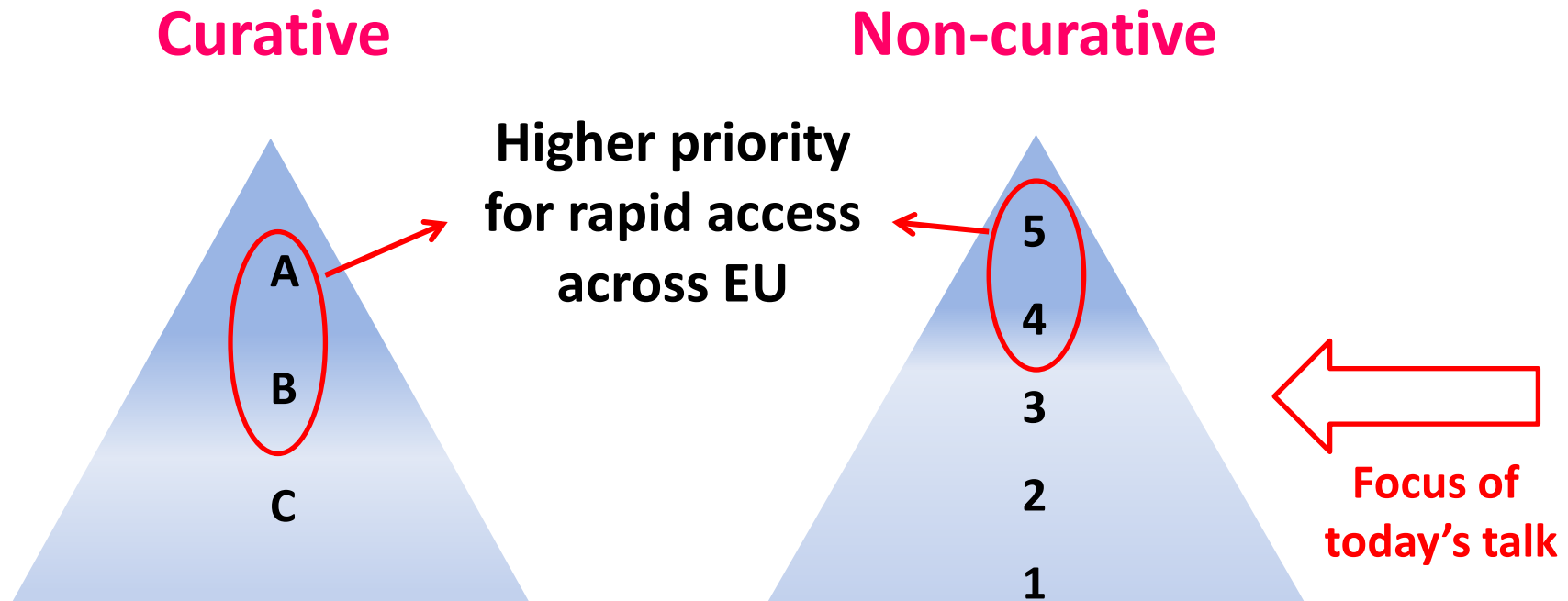
Example: for threshold set at $HR \leq 0.70$

it is the lower limit of the 95%CI which has to be ≤ 0.70



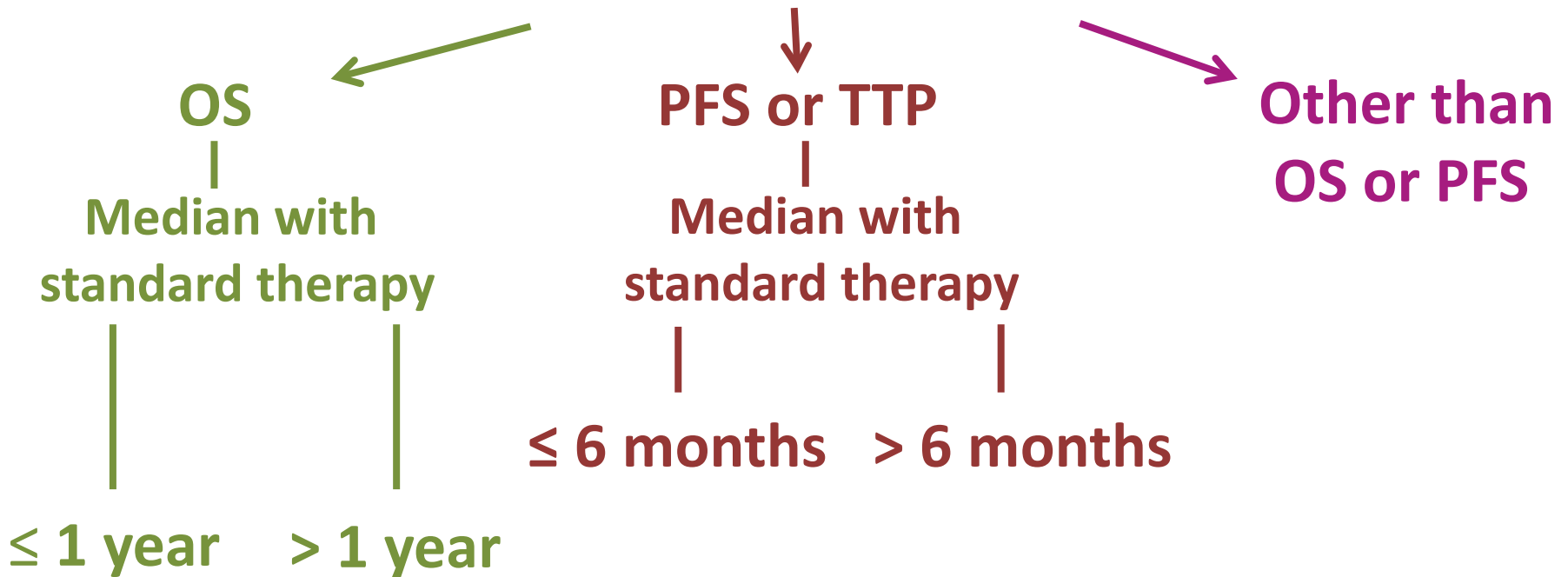
ESMO-MCBS substantial improvements

- Curative setting A & B or non-curative setting 5 & 4



ESMO-MCBS distinctions: for treatment with non-curative intent

Primary endpoint



- No downgrading for gr 3-4 toxicities
- Upgrade possible if less gr 3-4 tox a/o better Q of life

- Downgrading for gr 3-4 toxicities
- Upgrade possible if less gr 3-4 tox a/o better Q of life

Evaluation form 2a: treatments with non-curative intent, primary endpoint OS

IF median OS with the standard treatment is ≤ 1 year

Mark
with X if
relevant

Grade 4

HR ≤ 0.65 AND Gain ≥ 3 months

Increase in 2 year survival alone $\geq 10\%$

Grade 3

HR ≤ 0.65 AND Gain 2.5-2.9 months

Increase in 2 year survival alone 5- $<10\%$

Grade 2

HR $> 0.65-0.70$ OR Gain 1.5-2.4 months

Increase in 2 year survival alone 3- $<5\%$

Grade 1

HR > 0.70 OR Gain < 1.5 month

Increase in 2 year survival alone $< 3\%$

Evaluation form 2a: treatments with non-curative intent, primary endpoint OS

IF median OS with the standard treatment is > 1 year

Mark
with X if
relevant

Grade 4

HR ≤ 0.70 AND Gain ≥ 5 months

Increase in 3 year survival alone $\geq 10\%$

Grade 3

HR ≤ 0.70 AND Gain 3-4.9 months

Increase in 3 year survival alone 5- $<10\%$

Grade 2

HR > 0.70 - 0.75 OR Gain 1.5-2.9 months

Increase in 3 year survival alone 3- $<5\%$

Grade 1

HR > 0.75 OR Gain < 1.5 month

Increase in 3 year survival alone $<3\%$

Evaluation form 2a: treatments with non-curative intent, primary endpoint OS

Step 1

Preliminary magnitude of clinical benefit grade
(highest grade scored)

4	3	2	1

Step 2

Assessment QoL & grade 3-4 toxicities



Does secondary endpoint QoL show improvement

Are there statistically significantly < grade 3-4 toxicities impacting daily well-being*

*not including alopecia, myelosuppression, but rather chronic nausea, diarrhea, fatigue, etc.

Step 3

Adjustment: Upgrade 1 level if improved QoL or less toxicity or is shown

Final adjusted magnitude of clinical benefit grade

5	4	3	2	1

Field testing Breast Cancer

Medication	Trial	Setting	Primary outcome	PFS control	PFS gain	PFS HR	OS control	OS gain	OS HR	QoL	ESMO - MCBS
Chemo +/- trastuzumab	HERA	(Neo)Adjuvant HER-2 positive tumors	DFS	2 y DFS 77.4%	8.4%	0.54 (0.43-0.67)					A
T-DM1 vs capecitabine + lapatinib	EMILIA	2 nd line metastatic after trastuzumab failure	PFS & OS	6.4 m	3.2 m	0.65 (0.55-0.77)	25 m	6.8 m	0.68 (0.55-0.85)	Later deterioration	5
Trastuzumab + chemo +/- pertuzumab	CLEOPATRA	1 st line metastatic	PFS	12.4 m	6 m	0.62 (0.52-0.84)	40.8 m	15.7 m	0.68 (0.56-0.84)	~	4
Lapatinib +/- trastuzumab	EGF 104900	3 rd line metastatic	PFS	2 m	1 m	0.73 (0.57-0.93)	9.5 m	4.5 m	0.74 (0.57-0.97)		4
Capecitabine +/- lapatinib	Geyer, 2006	2 nd line metastatic after trastuzumab failure	PFS	4.4 m	4 m	0.49 (0.34-0.71)			NS		3
Eribulin vs other chemo	EMBRACE	3 rd line metastatic after anthracycline & taxane	OS				10.6 m	2.5 m	0.81 (0.66-0.99)		2
Paclitaxel +/- bevacizumab	Miller, 2007	1 st line metastatic	PFS	5.9 m	5.8 m	0.6 (0.51-0.70)			NS	~	2
Exemestane +/- everolimus	BOLERO-2	Metastatic after failure aromatase	PFS	4.1 m	6.5 m	0.43 (0.36-0.54)			NS	~	2

Field testing Lung Cancer

Medication	Trial	Setting	Primary outcome	PFS control	PFS gain	PFS HR	OS control	OS HR	QoL	Toxicity	ESMO-MCBS
Erlotinib vs carboplatin + gemcitabine	OPTIMEL, CTONG-0802	1 st line stage 3b/4 non-squamous + EGFR mutation	PFS	4.6 m	8.5 m	0.16 (0.10-0.26)				12% < serious adverse events	4
Erlotinib vs Pt-based chemo doublet	EURTAC	1 st line stage 3b/4 non-squamous + EGFR mutation	PFS, crossover allowed	5.2 m	4.5 m	0.37 (0.25-0.54)	19.5 m	NS		15% < severe adverse reactions	4
Gefitinib vs carboplatin + paclitaxel	IPASS	1 st line stage 3b/4 non-squamous + EGFR mutation	PFS, crossover allowed	6.3 m	3.3 m	0.48 (0.34-0.67)			↑	< toxicity	4
Afatinib vs cisplatin + pemetrexed	LUX Lung 3	1 st line stage 3b/4 non-squamous + EGFR mutation	PFS, crossover allowed	6.9 m	4.2 m	0.58 (0.43-0.78)			↑		4
		Del19/L858R		6.9 m	6.7 m	0.47 (0.34-0.65)			↑		4
Crizotinib vs chemo	Shaw 2013	1 st line stage 3b/4 non-squamous + ALK mutation	PFS, crossover allowed	3.0 m	4.7 m	0.49 (0.37-0.64)			↑	1% > toxic death	4
Crizotinib vs cisplatin + pemetrexed	Solomon 2014	1 st line stage 3b/4 non-squamous + ALK mutation	PFS	7.0 m	3.9 m	0.45 (0.35-0.60)			↑		4

My conclusions

1. Tool for assessing whether a 'valid trial' has produced a 'clinically meaningfully endpoint' as defined by a set of European medical oncologists and statisticians.
2. Will call into question clinical trial design *et al* ($n=3$ grade 5; $n=29$ grade 4; $n=40$ grades 3,2,1).
3. It is not about true value. No account of price/cost is taken but it starts the debate about one half of the equation
4. Will call into question why certain cancer medicines 'deserved' to have been given a marketing authorisation
4. Unclear what interface this will have with HTA

Acknowledgments

- **Task Force members**

Elizabeth de Vries, Co-chair

Richard Sullivan

Nathan Cherny

Urania Dafni

Martijn Kerst

Alberto Sobrero

Christoph Zielinski

- **ESMO ex Board**
- **ESMO Staff: Keith McGregor and Nicola Latino**
- **Numerous people who helped testing the scale**