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# Resistance mechanisms to ADT and androgen signaling agents

Philip Kantoff, MD

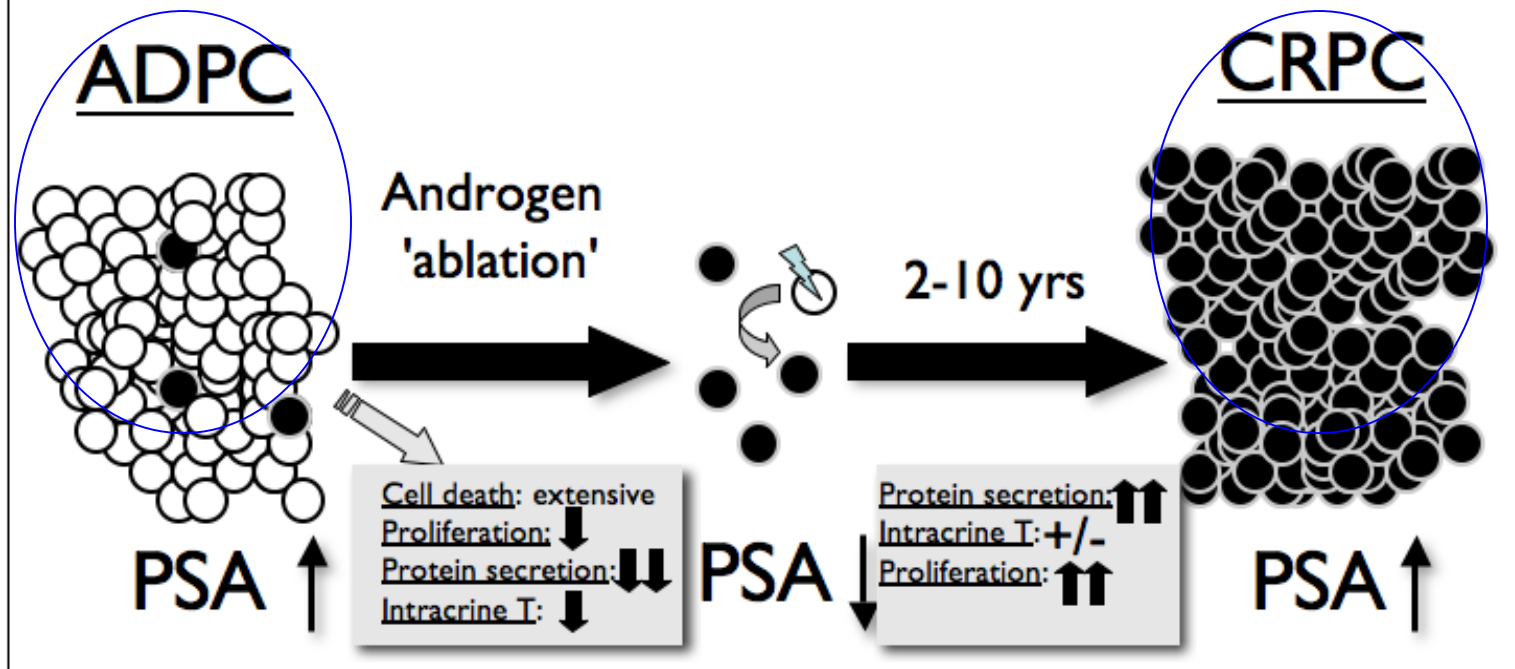
Chairman Department of Medicine

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



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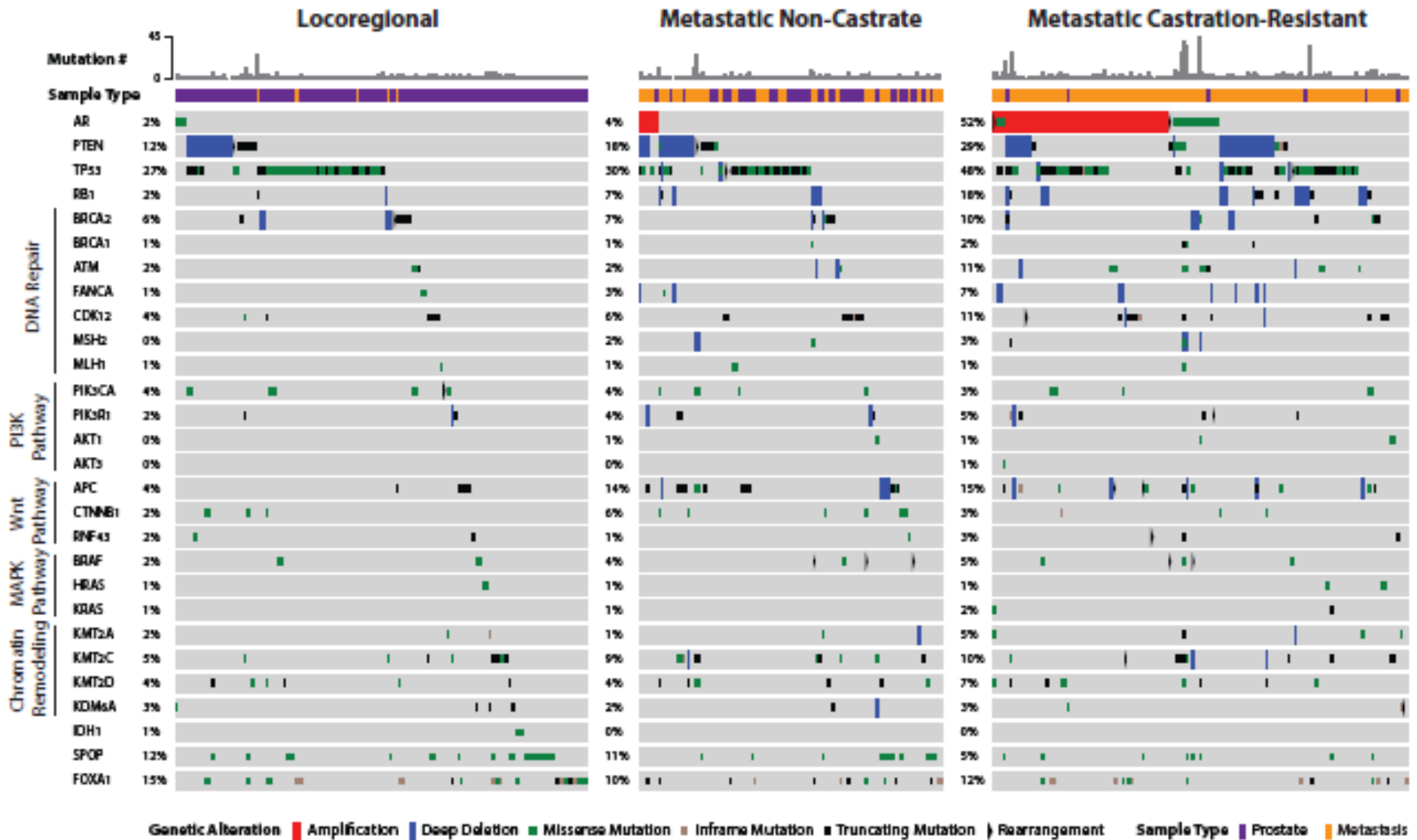
## Hypothesis: Selection and Propagation of Rare Clone/Mutation



- androgen dependent cell
- CRPC



# Mutational Landscape Across Disease States

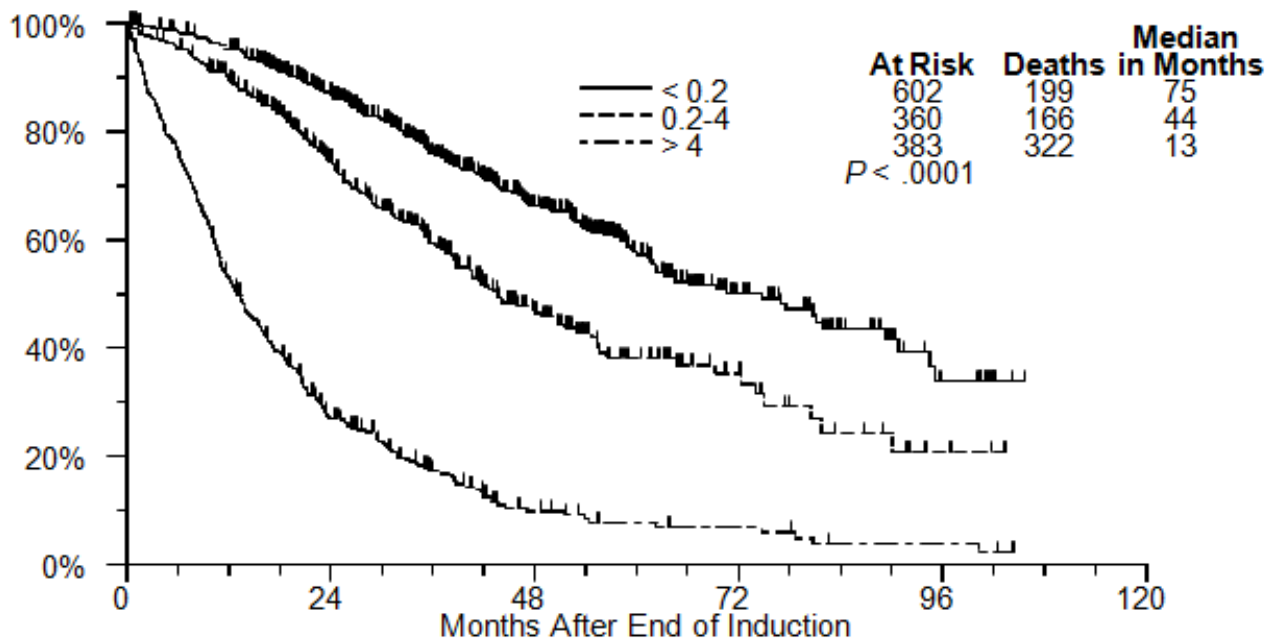


# **HETEROGENEITY OF TREATMENT RESPONSE**

# Overall Survival in M+ Patients as Determined by Nadir PSA 7 months after ADT



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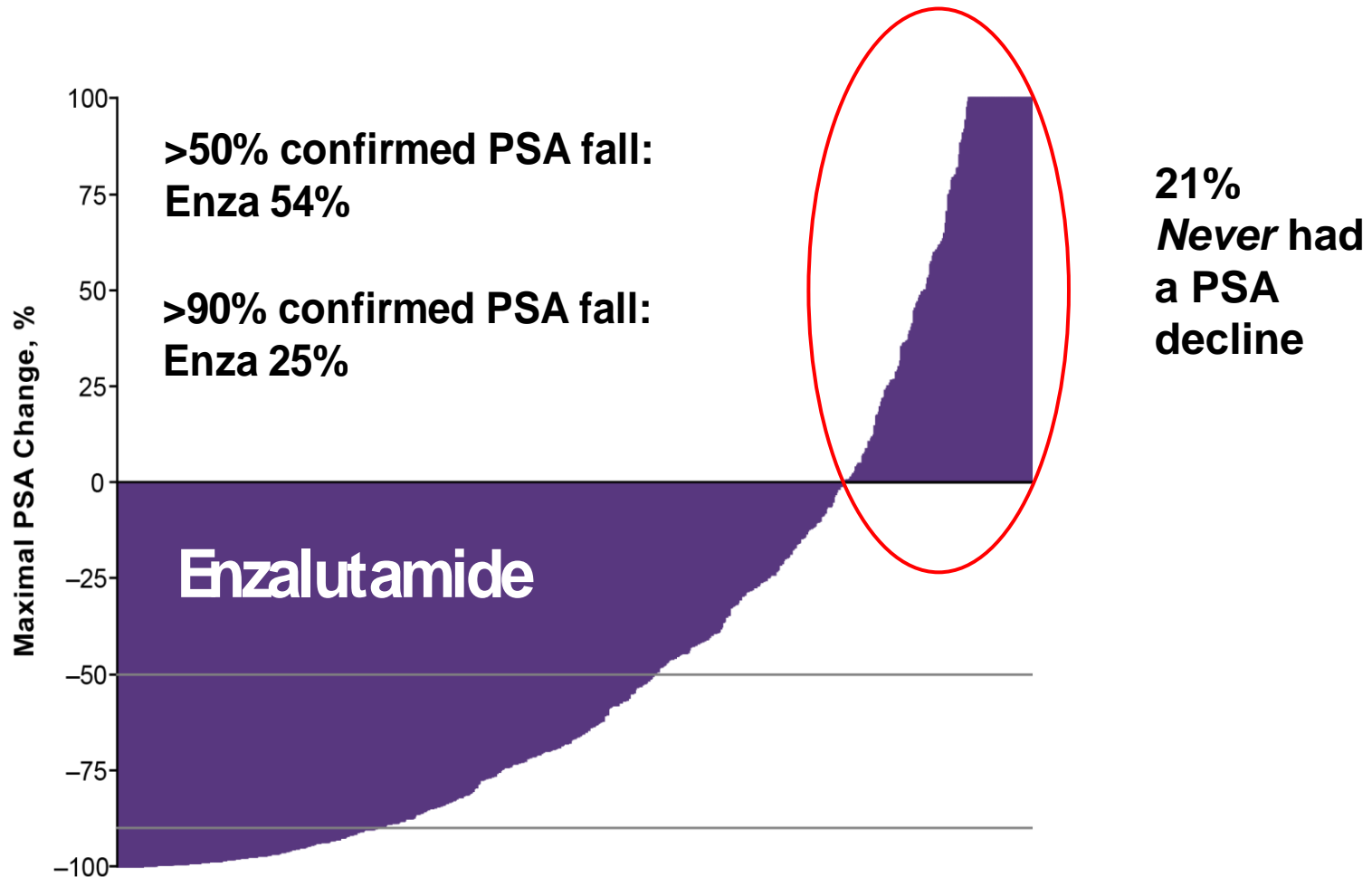


At Risk			
Undetected	453	206	60
Normalized	213	72	19
Neither	91	17	7

Hussain et al (JCO 2006)

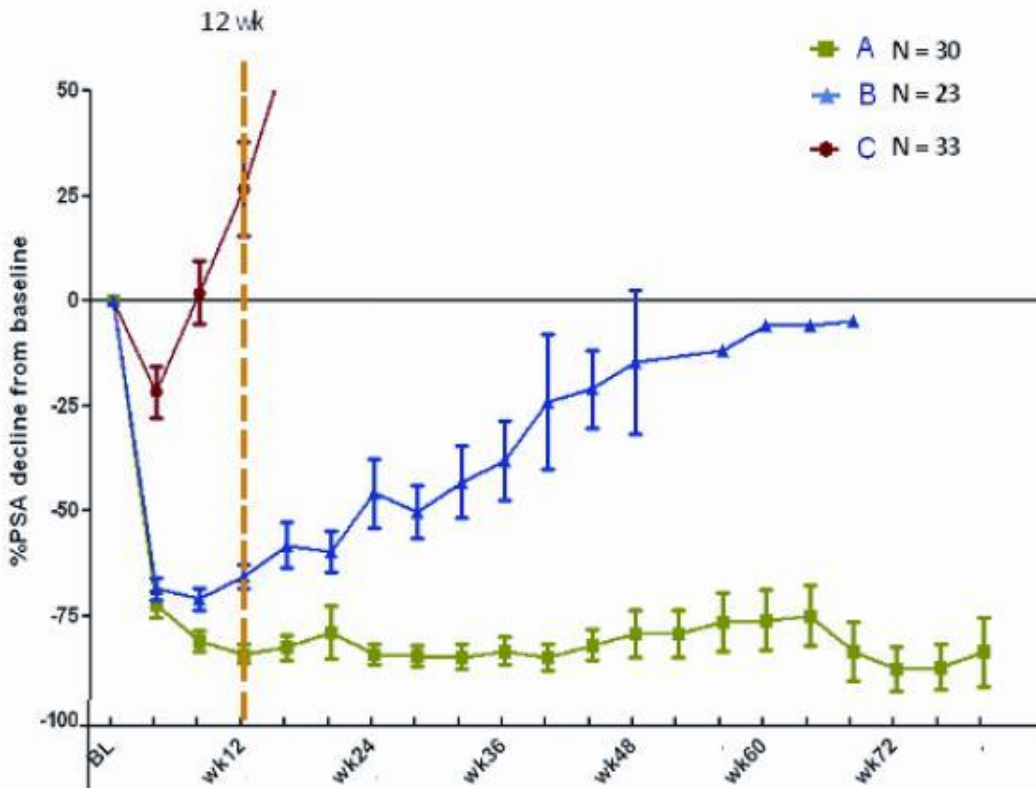


# Response to enzalutamide: Phase 3 (AFFIRM)-Similar for apalutamide and abiraterone



# Two-Thirds of Patients With mCRPC Have Tumors With Intermediate or Full Resistance to AR-Targeting Agents

Post-therapy PSA change patterns in patients treated with AR targeting agents in mCRPC



A. Resistance (*nonresponse*: no significant durable decline in PSA)

B. Intermediate Resistance (*drifters*: rapid PSA decline, followed by slow increase)

C. AR Sensitive (*responders*: dramatic and durable PSA decline)



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# **RESISTANCE MECHANISMS**



# Importance of Persistent AR Pathway Signaling in CRPC-Persistent Ligand

- Genetic evidence-AR-Mutated or amplified AR
- Persistent AR expression and expression of androgen regulated genes “androgen signature”
- “Persistent intratumoral ligand”-T or DHT or precursors

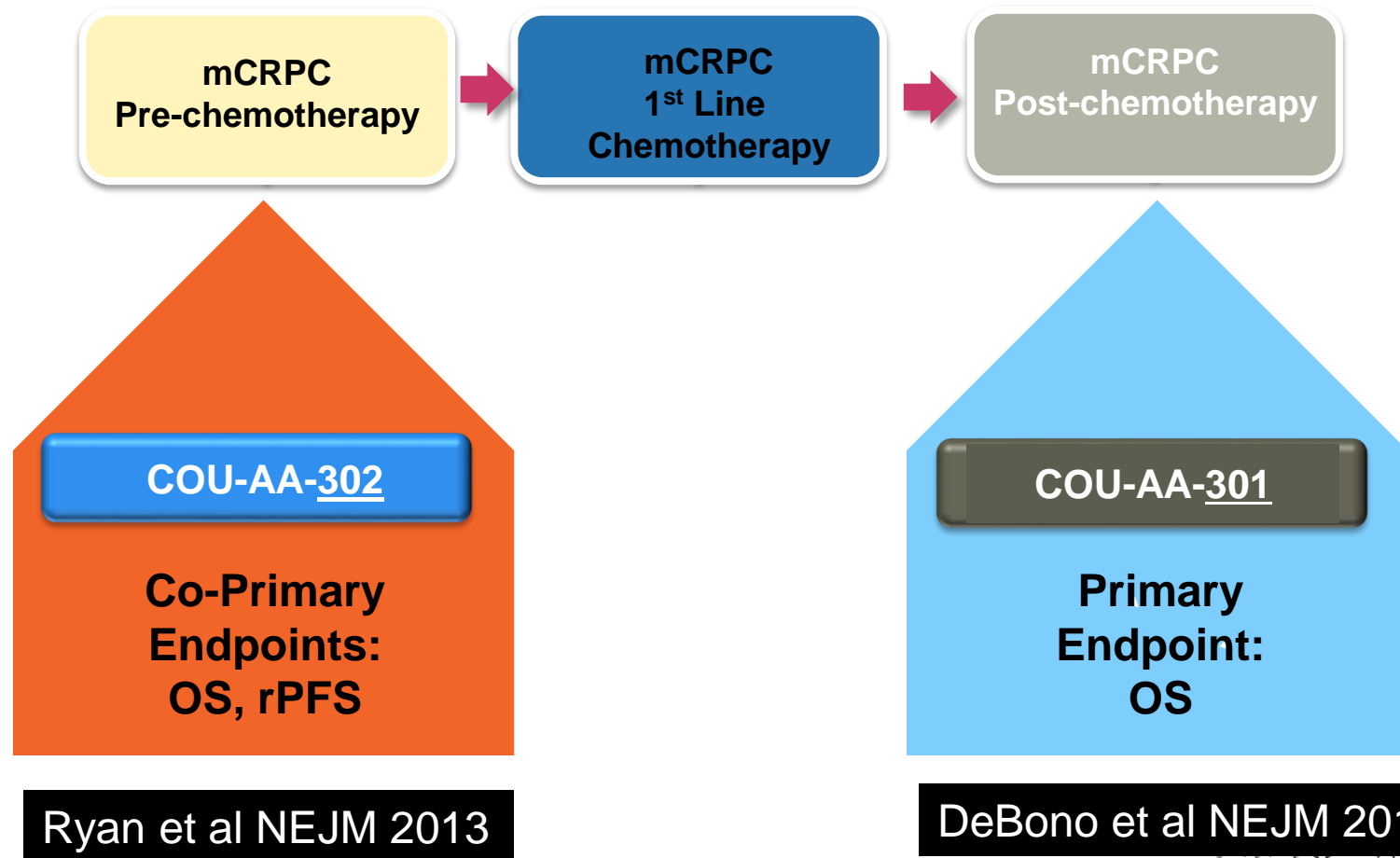


# Androgen Signaling Pathway Inhibitors

- CYP 17, 20 lyase inhibitors-androgen biosynthesis inhibitors
  - Abiraterone acetate
  
- Antiandrogens-block AR action
  - Enzalutamide



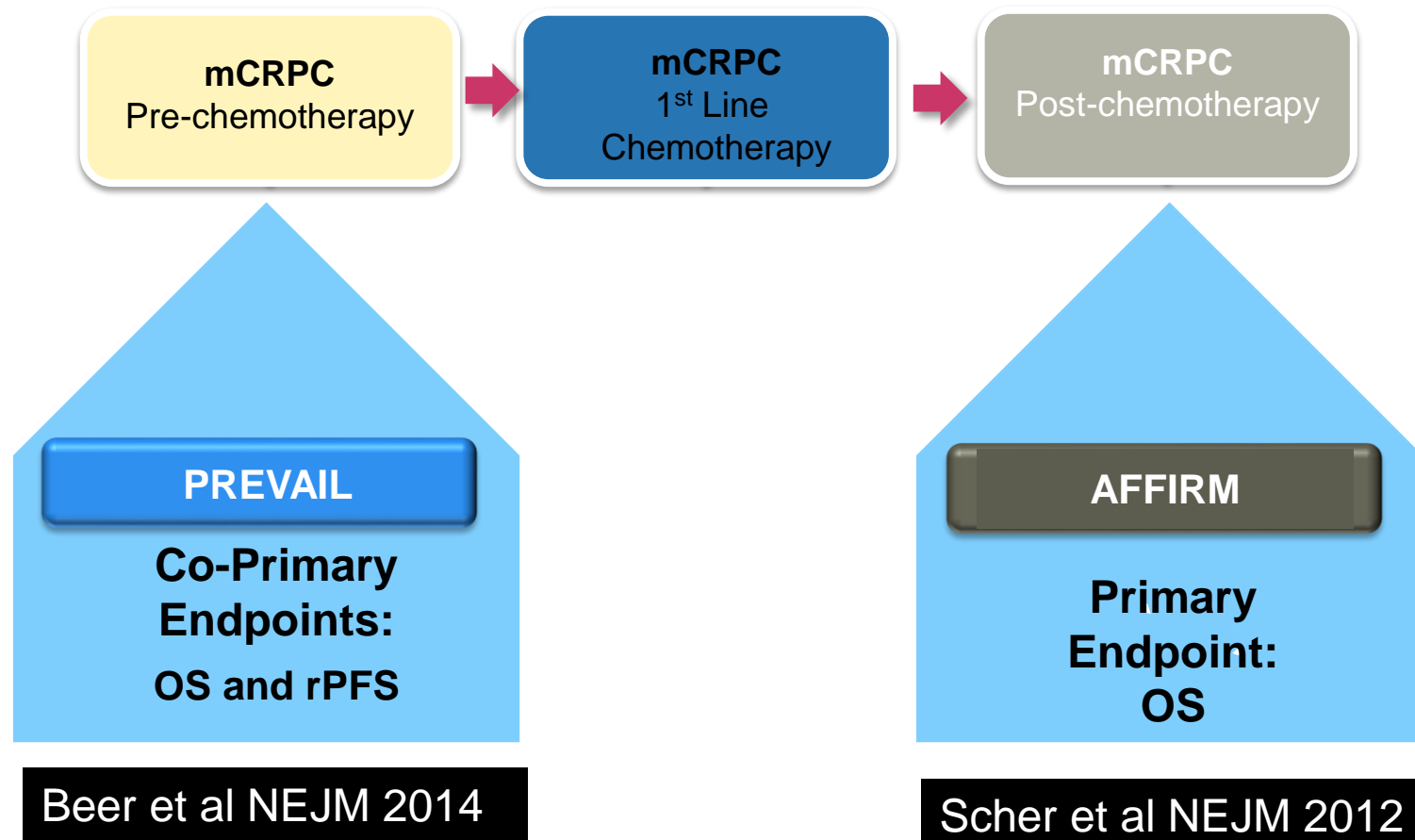
# Abiraterone acetate in mCRPC Pre and Post-Chemotherapy\*



\*FDA approved indications

# Enzalutamide in mCRPC

## Pre and Post-Chemotherapy\*



\*FDA approved indications

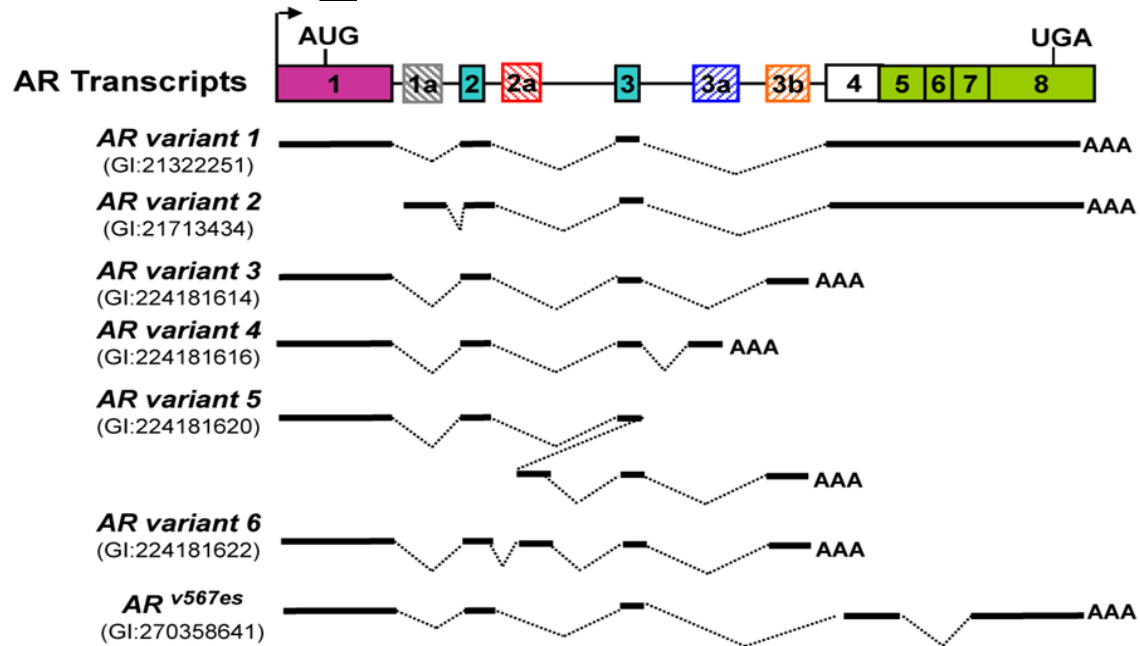


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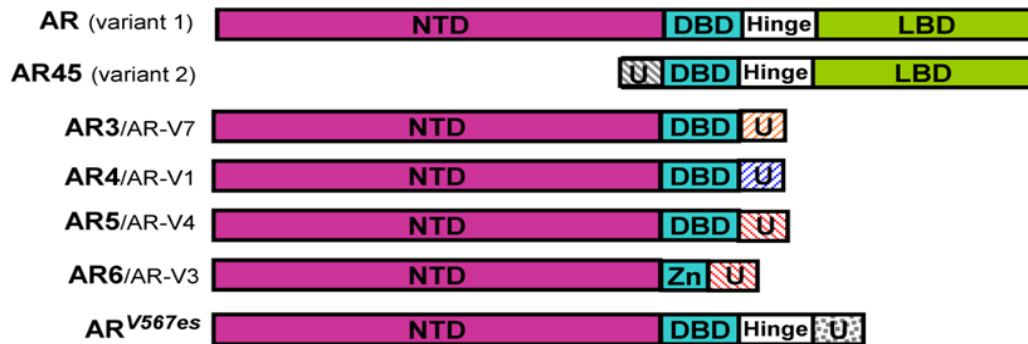
# Acquired Resistance to ADT/Abiraterone/Enzalutamide

- Androgen receptor mediated mechanisms
  - AR amplification-
  - AR splice variants
  - Activating mutations in AR
    - F876L with enzalutamide
    - AR mutants responsive to progesterone after abiraterone

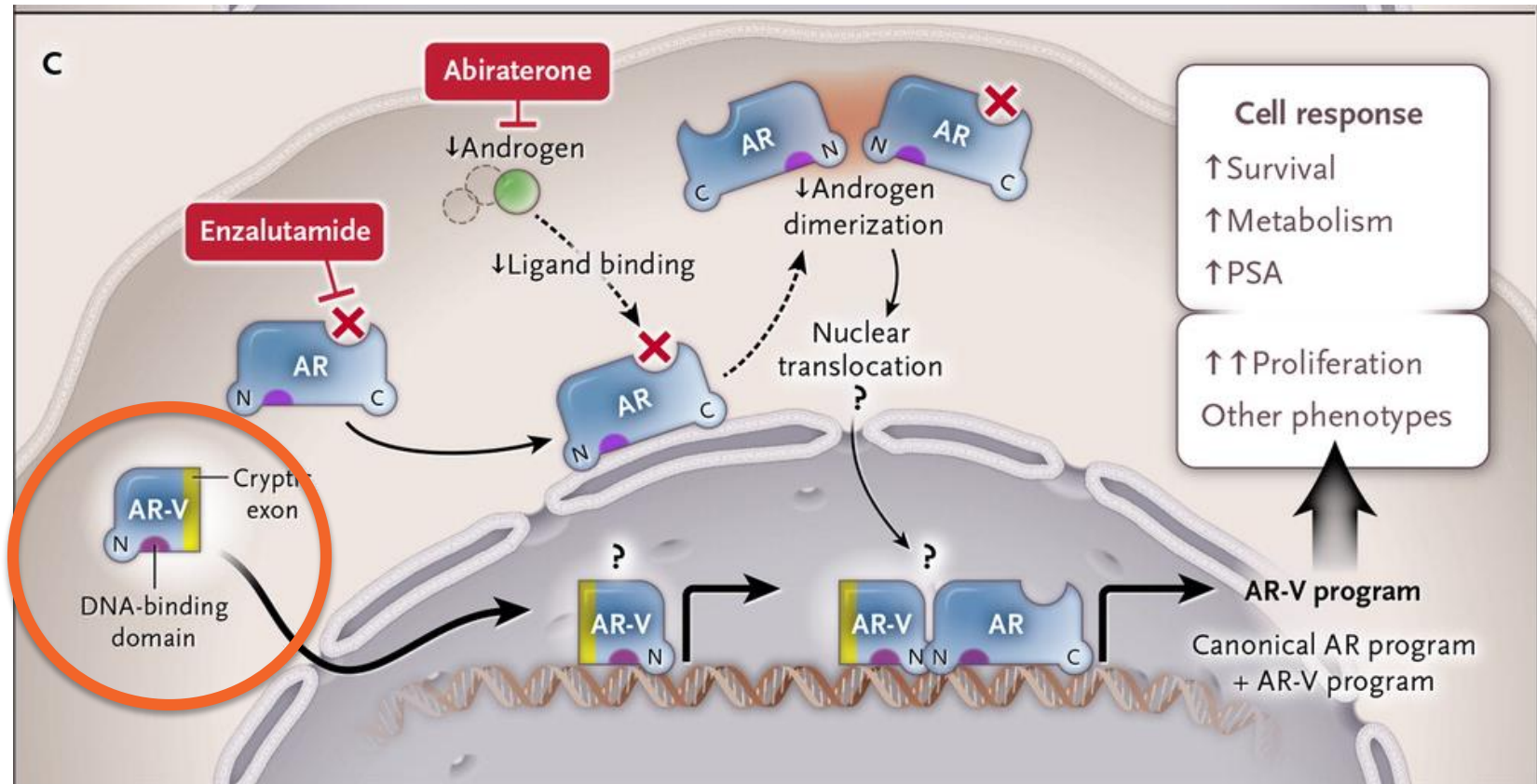
# AR Splice Variants



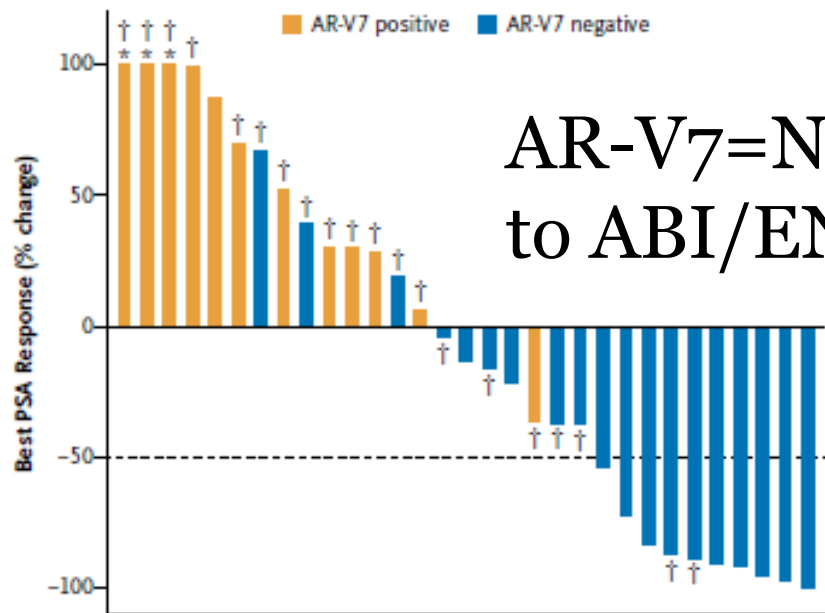
## AR Proteins



# AR Variants associated With Resistance to AR-Targeted Therapy

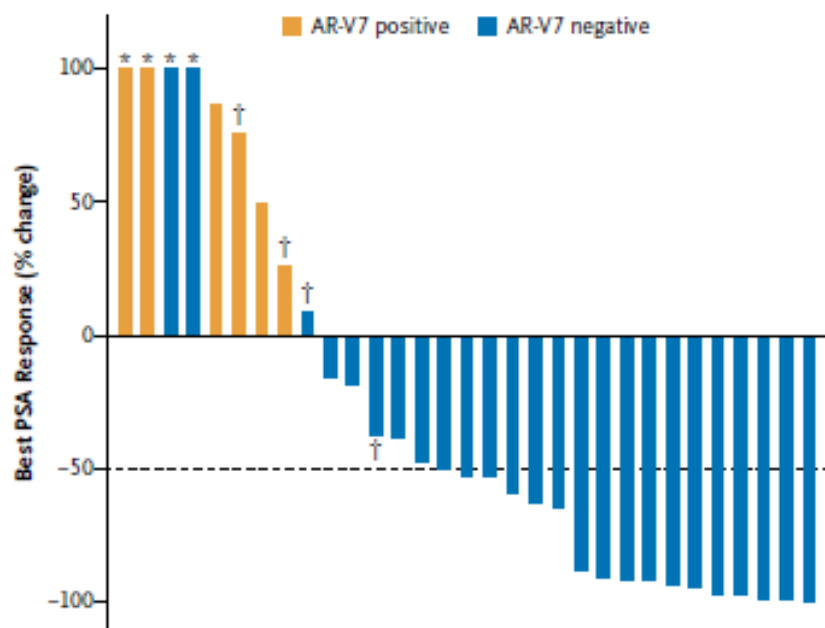


A Enzalutamide-Treated Patients



AR-V7=Non-Responders to ABI/ENZA

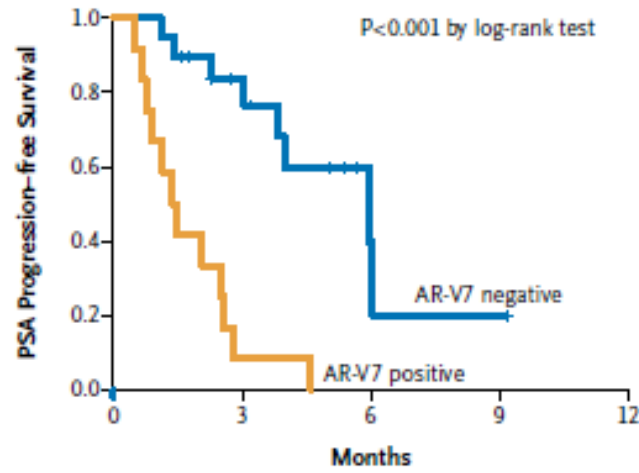
B Abiraterone-Treated Patients



Antonarakis et al  
NEJM 2014



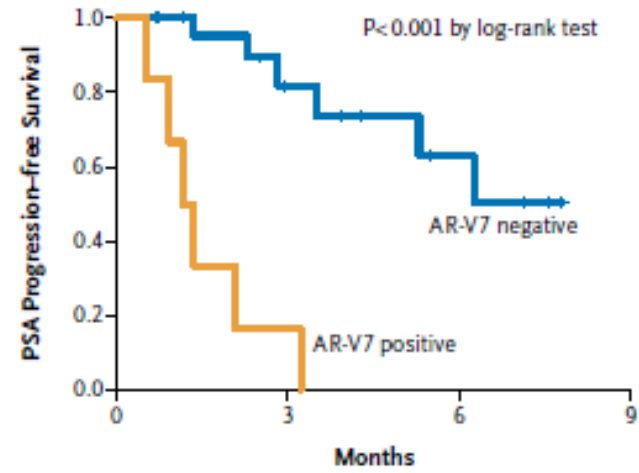
**A Enzalutamide-Treated Patients**



**No. at Risk**

AR-V7 negative	19	12	2	1	0
AR-V7 positive	12	1	0	0	0

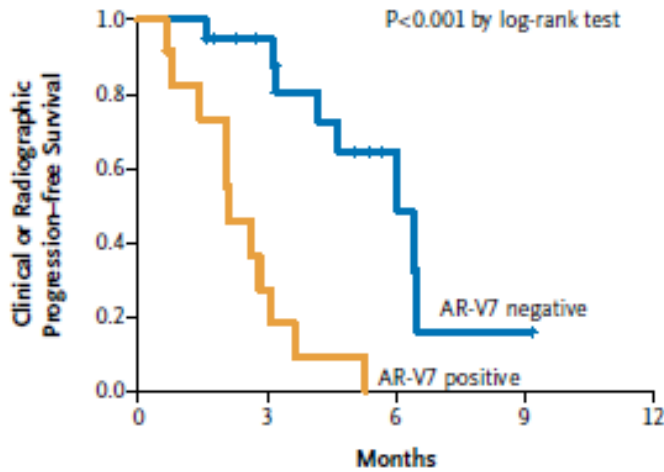
**B Abiraterone-Treated Patients**



**No. at Risk**

AR-V7 negative	25	10	5	0
AR-V7 positive	6	1	0	0

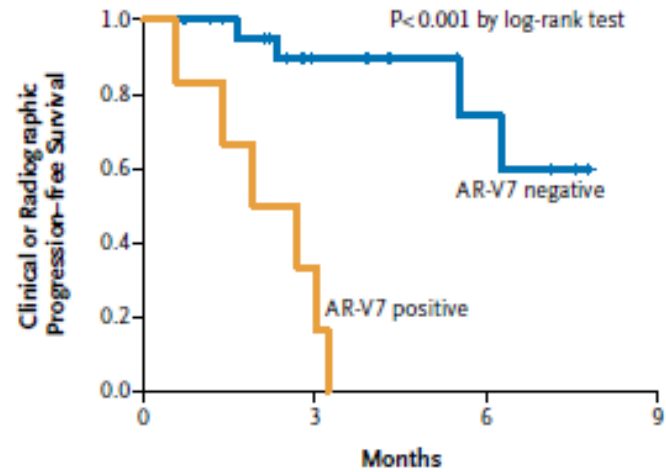
**C Enzalutamide-Treated Patients**



**No. at Risk**

AR-V7 negative	19	14	4	1	0
AR-V7 positive	12	3	0	0	0

**D Abiraterone-Treated Patients**



**No. at Risk**

AR-V7 negative	25	11	5	0
AR-V7 positive	6	2	0	0

# Epigenetic Mechanism-Androgen Receptor Targets are Distinct in HSPC and CRPC

Cell

## Androgen Receptor Regulates a Distinct Transcription Program in Androgen-Independent Prostate Cancer

Qianben Wang,<sup>1,2,3,4,\*</sup> Wei Li,<sup>3,4</sup> Yong Zhang,<sup>4</sup> Xin Yuan,<sup>5</sup> Kexin Xu,<sup>1</sup> Jindan Yu,<sup>5</sup> Zhong Chen,<sup>2</sup> Rameen Beroukhi,<sup>1,7</sup> Hongyun Wang,<sup>5</sup> Mathieu Lupien,<sup>1,13</sup> Tao Wu,<sup>8</sup> Meredith M. Regan,<sup>4</sup> Clifford A. Meyer,<sup>4</sup> Jason S. Carroll,<sup>9</sup> Arjun Kumar Manrai,<sup>4</sup> Olli A. Jänne,<sup>10</sup> Steven P. Balk,<sup>5</sup> Rohit Mehra,<sup>5</sup> Bo Han,<sup>5</sup> Arul M. Chinnaiyan,<sup>5</sup> Mark A. Rubin,<sup>11</sup> Lawrence True,<sup>12</sup> Michelangelo Fiorentino,<sup>1</sup> Christopher Fiore,<sup>1</sup> Massimo Loda,<sup>1</sup> Philip W. Kantoff,<sup>1</sup> X. Shirley Liu,<sup>4,\*</sup> and Myles Brown<sup>1,\*</sup>



# Acquired Resistance to ADT/Abiraterone/Enzalutamide

- Androgen receptor mediated mechanisms
  - AR amplification-
  - AR splice variants
  - Activating mutations in AR
    - F876L with enzalutamide
    - AR mutants responsive to progesterone after abiraterone

# Acquired Resistance to ADT/Abiraterone/Enzalutamide

- Androgen receptor mediated mechanisms
  - Activating mutations in AR
  - AR amplification
  - AR splice variants
- **Up-regulation of other steroidogenic enzymes**



Cell



Volume 154, Issue 5, 29 August 2013, Pages 1074–1084

Article

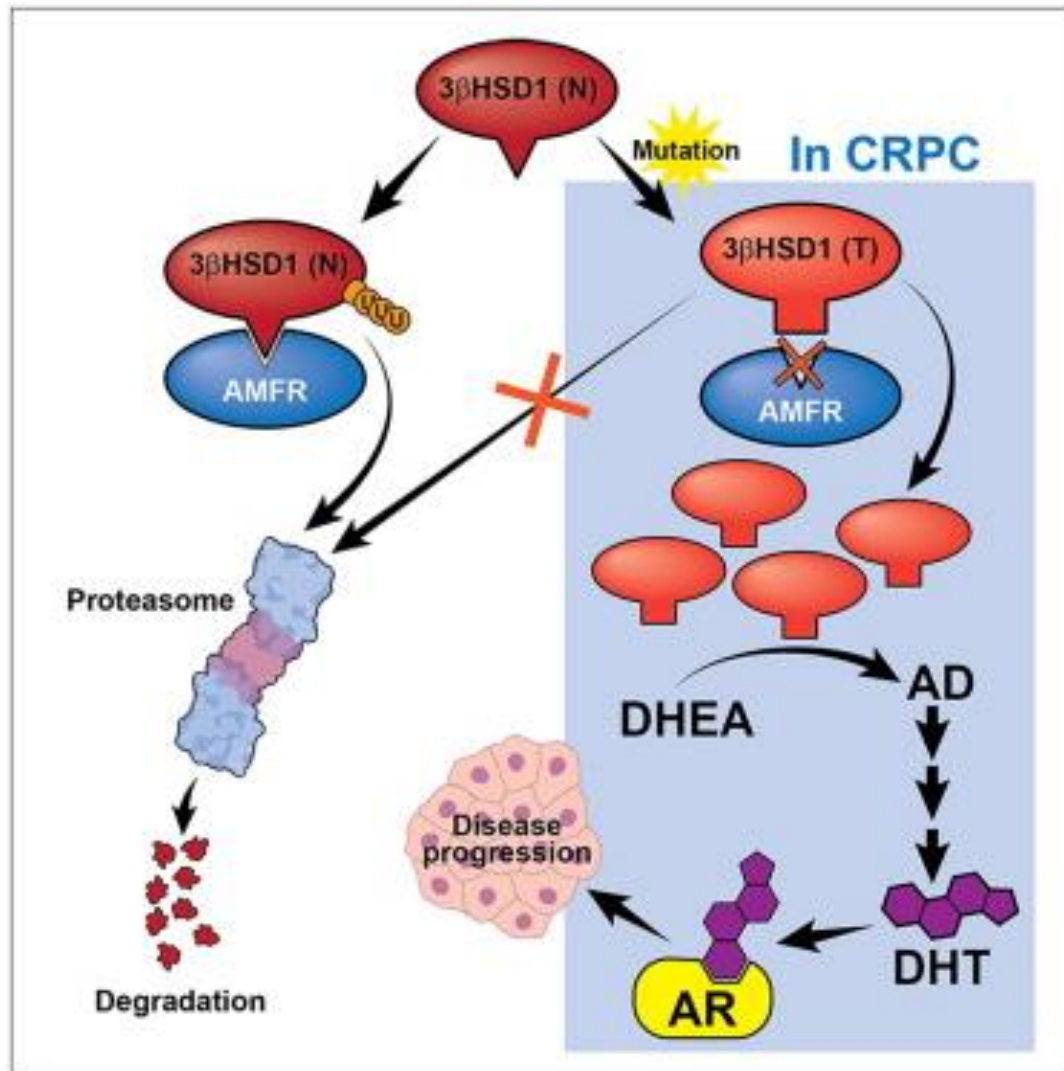
## A Gain-of-Function Mutation in DHT Synthesis in Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer

Kai-Hsiung Chang<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Rui Li<sup>4</sup>, Barbara Kuri<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Yair Lotan<sup>5</sup>, Claus G. Roehrborn<sup>5</sup>, Jiayan Liu<sup>8</sup>, Robert Vessella<sup>9</sup>, Peter S. Nelson<sup>9,10</sup>, Payal Kapur<sup>5</sup>, Xiaofeng Guo<sup>7</sup>, Hamid Mirzaei<sup>7</sup>, Richard J. Auchus<sup>8</sup>, Nima Sharifi<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>  



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# Mutation in $3\beta$ HSD1 Facilitates Conversion of Precursors to DHT



# Resistance to ADT/Abiraterone/Enzalutamide

- Androgen receptor mediated mechanisms
  - Activating mutations in AR
  - AR amplification
  - AR splice variants
- Up-regulation of other steroidogenic enzymes
- **GR- (or PR-) mediated transcriptional activation**

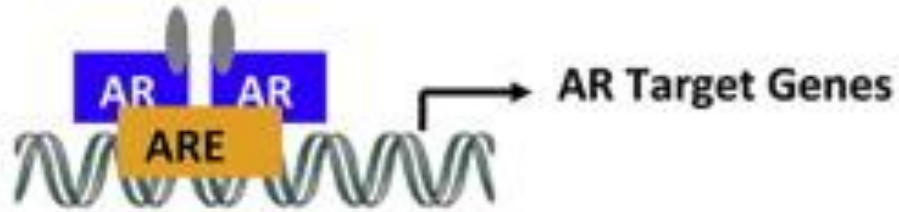
Article

## Glucocorticoid Receptor Confers Resistance to Antiandrogens by Bypassing Androgen Receptor Blockade

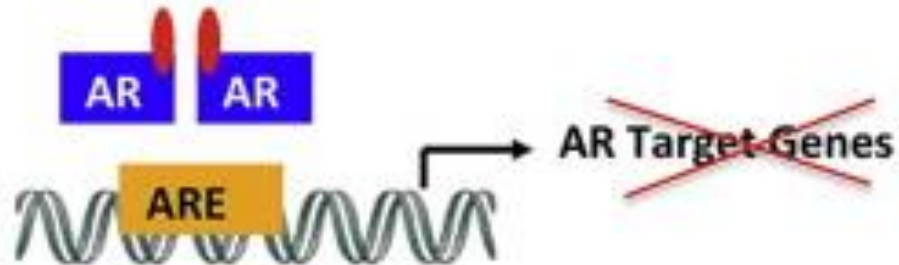
Vivek K. Arora<sup>1,2</sup>, Emily Schenkein<sup>1</sup>, Rajmohan Murali<sup>1,3</sup>, Sumit K. Subudhi<sup>2</sup>, John Wongvipat<sup>1</sup>, Minna D. Balbas<sup>1,4</sup>, Neel Shah<sup>1,4</sup>, Ling Cai<sup>1</sup>, Eleni Efstathiou<sup>5</sup>, Chris Logothetis<sup>5</sup>, Deyou Zheng<sup>5</sup>, Charles L. Sawyers<sup>1,7</sup>  



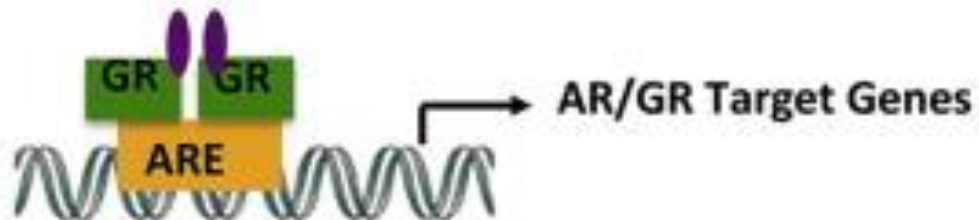
### Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC)



### Enzalutamide-Sensitive CRPC



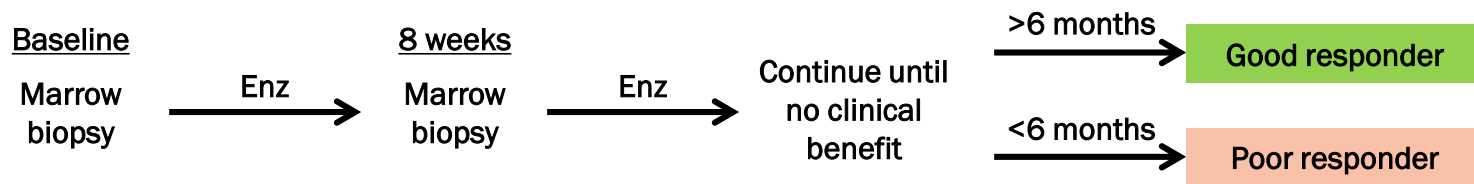
### Enzalutamide-Resistant CRPC



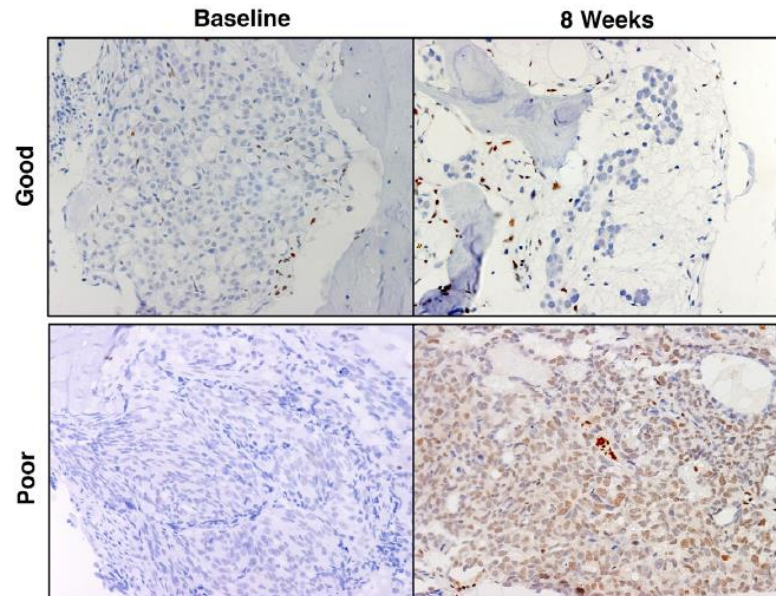
● Androgen    ● Enzalutamide    ● Glucocorticoid

# Glucocorticoid Receptor Activation Post-Enzalutamide Treatment

- Acquired resistance to enzalutamide can be associated with increased expression of the glucocorticoid receptor (GR)



PSA decline	Good	Poor
>50%	11	1
<50%	2	13



# Resistance to ADT/Abiraterone/Enzalutamide

- Androgen receptor mediated mechanisms
  - Activating mutations in AR
  - AR amplification
  - AR splice variants
- Upregulation of other steroidogenic enzymes
- GR- (or PR-) mediated transcriptional activation
- **Activation of other pathways**

27 – **Androgen transporters**



# Androgen Transporters

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY



Official Journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology

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Institution: NORTH SHORE MEDICAL CENTER

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## *SLCO2B1* and *SLCO1B3* May Determine Time to Progression for Patients Receiving Androgen Deprivation Therapy for Prostate Cancer

Ming Yang, Wanling Xie, Elahe Mostaghel, Mari Nakabayashi, Lillian Werner, Tong Sun, Mark Pomerantz, Matthew Freedman, Robert Ross, Meredith Regan, Nima Sharifi, William Douglas Figg, Steven Balk, Myles Brown, Mary-Ellen Taplin, William K. Oh, Gwo-Shu Mary Lee↓ and Philip W. Kantoff

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### This Article



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**CORRECTION:**  
Author

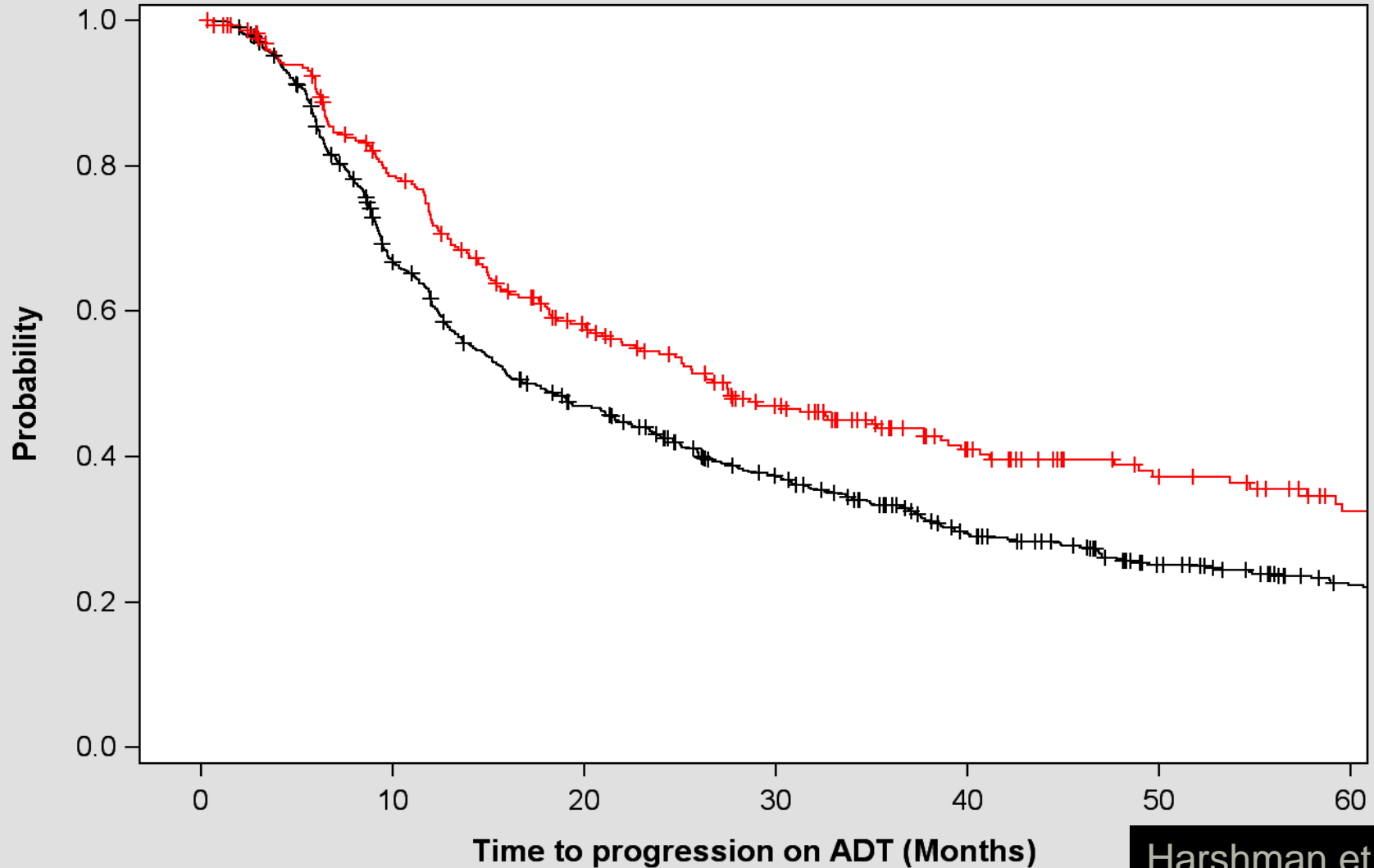
# Statins block androgen transporters

Original Investigation

## Statin Use at the Time of Initiation of Androgen Deprivation Therapy and Time to Progression in Patients With Hormone-Sensitive Prostate Cancer

Lauren C. Harshman, MD; Xiaodong Wang, PhD; Mari Nakabayashi, MD; Wanling Xie, MS; Loana Valenca, MD; Lillian Werner, MS; Yongjiang Yu, PhD; Aaron M. Kantoff, BS; Christopher J. Sweeney, MBBS; Lorelei A. Mucci, ScD; Mark Pomerantz, MD; Gwo-Shu Mary Lee, PhD; Philip W. Kantoff, MD

# Statins (utilize androgen transporter) and duration of response to ADT



Statin use at ADT start — 0 — 1

Harshman et al JAMA  
ONC 2015

# Ligand and AR Independent Mechanisms-The Latest Stages

- Alternative molecular signaling pathways



# A randomized phase II cross-over study of abiraterone + prednisone vs enzalutamide for patients with metastatic, castration-resistant prostate cancer

Kim N. Chi, Matti Annala, Katherine Sunderland, Daniel Khalaf, Daygen Finch, Conrad D. Oja, Joanna Vergidis, Muhammad Zulfiqar, Kevin Beja, Gillian Vandekerkhove, Martin Gleave, Alexander W. Wyatt

British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver, BC; Institute of Biosciences and Medical Technology, Tampere, Finland; BC Cancer Agency - Vancouver Centre, Vancouver, BC; BC Cancer Agency - Centre for the Southern Interior, Kelowna, BC; British Columbia Cancer Agency, Fraser Valley Centre, Vancouver, BC; British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver Island Centre, Victoria, BC; BC Cancer Agency, Abbotsford, BC; Vancouver Prostate Centre, Department of Urologic Sciences, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC; Vancouver Prostate Centre, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

PRESENTED AT: **ASCO ANNUAL MEETING '17** | **#ASCO17**

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Chi et al Canc Disc

2018



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# Study Schema

Plasma and Whole Blood

Plasma and Whole Blood

Plasma and Whole Blood

- Treatment naïve metastatic CRPC
- Eligible for treatment with ABI or ENZA
- N = 200

Randomize 1:1

Abiraterone 1000 mg  
Prednisone 10 mg

Enzalutamide 160 mg

Progression 1

Enzalutamide 160 mg

Abiraterone 1000 mg  
Prednisone 10 mg

Progression 2

Primary Objective  
• Response and Time to PSA progression (TTP) after 2nd line therapy

Secondary Objectives  
• TTP/TTPP with 1<sup>st</sup> line therapy  
• PSA decline from baseline  
• Correlation with deep targeted sequencing of cfDNA

ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT02125357

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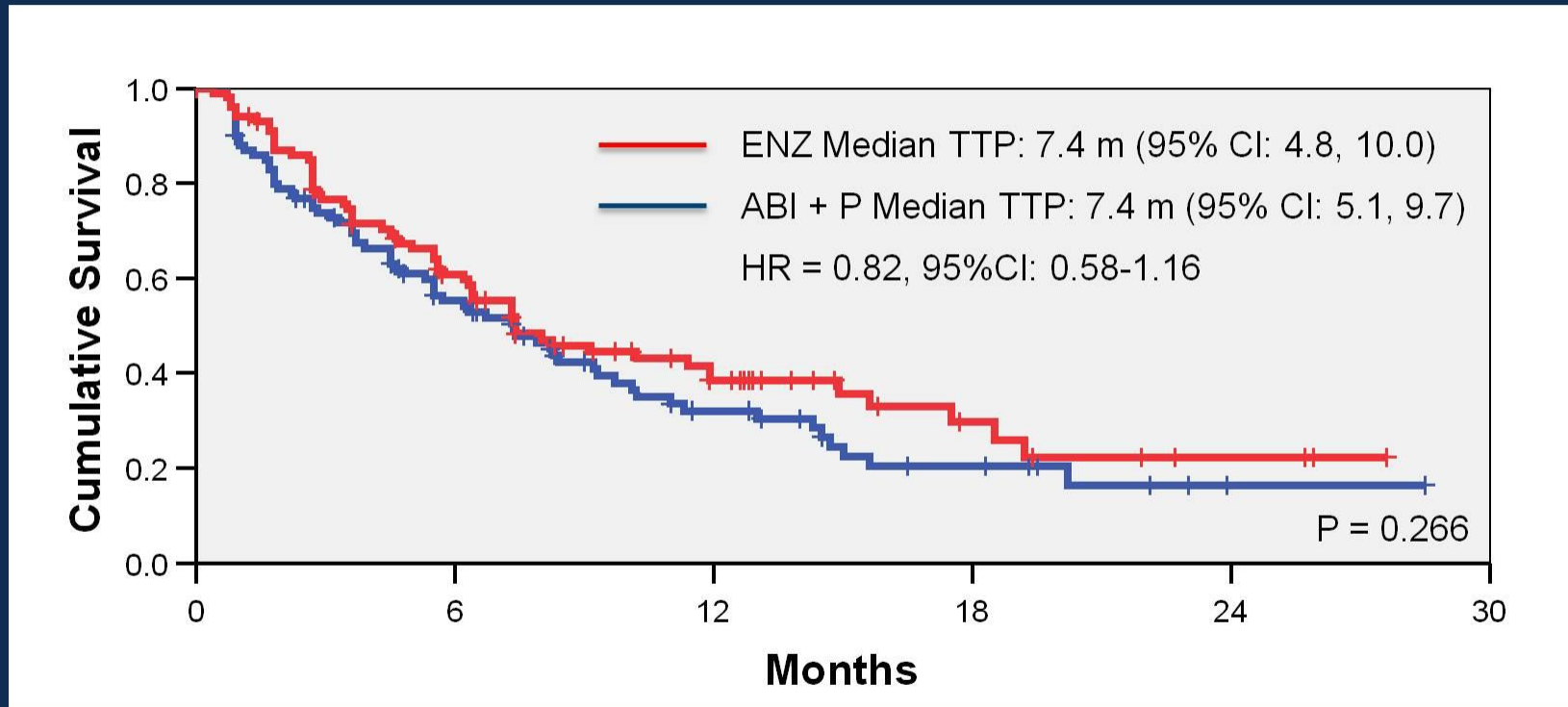
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# Time to Progression



\*First of confirmed PSA progression (PCWG3), clinical or radiological progression, or death from disease

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# Genomic Correlates with TTP

Genomic Alteration	Median TTP Positive vs Negative* (months)	Univariate		Multivariate***	
		HR	P-value	HR	P-value
BRCA2/ATM truncating mutation	1.8 vs 8.0	6.14 (3.35-11.26)	<0.001	5.34 (2.84-10.03)	<0.001
TP53 inactivation**	3.3 vs 10.2	2.78 (1.92-4.03)	<0.001	2.21 (1.38-3.55)	0.001
PI3K pathway	3.3 vs 10.4	2.73 (1.91-3.90)	<0.001	1.95 (1.31-2.90)	<0.001
AR amplification	5.0 vs 9.3	2.05 (1.43-2.93)	<0.001	1.29 (0.85-2.09)	0.271
RB1 inactivation**	3.6 vs 8.2	2.03 (1.36-3.04)	<0.001	1.45 (0.95-2.21)	0.08
SPOP mutation	7.3 vs 7.4	1.00 (0.51-1.97)	1.00		
AR mutation	6.2 vs 7.4	1.02 (0.53-1.95)	0.95		

Includes patients without detectable ctDNA; \*\* Mutation, deletion, or rearrangement

\*\*\* MVA includes trial arm, presence of quantifiable ctDNA, and clinical prognostic factors (LDH, ALP, Visceral Mets, ECOG PS)

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# Ligand and AR Independent Mechanisms-The Latest Stages

- Alternative molecular signaling pathways
- Evolution of AR and PSA negative cells
- Acquisition of neuroendocrine differentiation



# **CROSS RESISTANCE**

# Cross-Resistance: Abiraterone and Enzalutamide

	Therapy	Prior Therapy	PSA <sub>50</sub>	ORR	PFS
Noonan et al 2013	Abiraterone	Enzalutamide	4%	0%	3.9 mo
Loriot et al 2013	Abiraterone	Enzalutamide	8%	8%	2.7 mo
Smith et al 2014	Abiraterone	Enzalutamide			2.8 mo
Schrader et al 2013	Enzalutamide	Abiraterone	28%	3%	–
Badrising et al 2013	Enzalutamide	Abiraterone	21%	–	3.0 mo
Cheng et al 2014	Enzalutamide	Abiraterone	20%	–	–

Noonan KL, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2013;24(7):1802-1807.

Loriot Y, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2013;24(7):1807-1812.

Smith, et al., ASCO GU. 2014

Schrader AJ, et al. *Ann Oncol.* 2014;65(1):30-36.

Badrising S, et al. *Cancer.* 2014;120(7):968-975

Cheng et al. ASCO 2014



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# PSA Responses Diminish With Second-Line AR Therapy

	ENZA → ABI		ABI → ENZA	
	First Line	Second Line	First Line	Second Line
≥50% PSA Decline	55-60%	4-8%	38-46%	13-29%





# Conclusions

- Understanding the persistence of the androgen signaling pathway in CRPC has been transformative
- Cross resistance occurs between agents
- Numerous mechanisms of resistance
- We need validated and easily accessible biomarkers to guide therapy





# Thank you



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