

con il Patrocinio dell'Associazione Italiana di Oncologia Medica



Progetto **CANOA**  
**CARCINOMA  
MAMMARIO:**

**QUALI NOVITÀ PER IL 2015?**

“Saper leggere” uno studio clinico per migliorare la pratica clinica

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Ospedaletto di Pescantina (VR) 10-11 aprile 2015

Villa Quaranta Park Hotel

PROGRAMMA

## **Ruolo della soppressione ovarica in aggiunta al tamoxifene in premenopausa**

Quale ruolo nella pratica clinica?

Grazia Arpino

Universita' di Napoli Federico II

# What are the Questions?

- For premenopausal women with hormone responsive early stage breast cancer, how much is enough?
  - Should all/any women have their ovaries suppressed?
    - SOFT
  - If OFS, tamoxifen or an AI?
    - SOFT and TEXT combined analysis
  - In whom can we avoid chemotherapy?
    - No randomized trial
    - Inferential data from SOFT/TEXT and ABCSG12
  - Is the bang worth the buck?
    - Toxicity in SOFT
- *How long should hormone therapy be given?*
- *What is the role of adjuvant bisphosphonates?*

## Breast Cancer in Premenopausal Women

- Most frequent cancer diagnosis in women worldwide
- Most common cause of cancer death
- Age at diagnosis in the US (estimates for 2013)
  - 21% in women < age 50 (~49,000)
  - 4.7% in women < age 40 (~11,000)
  - Hormone receptor positive still the most common subtype
  - Incidence, particularly in younger women, has increased in the last decade

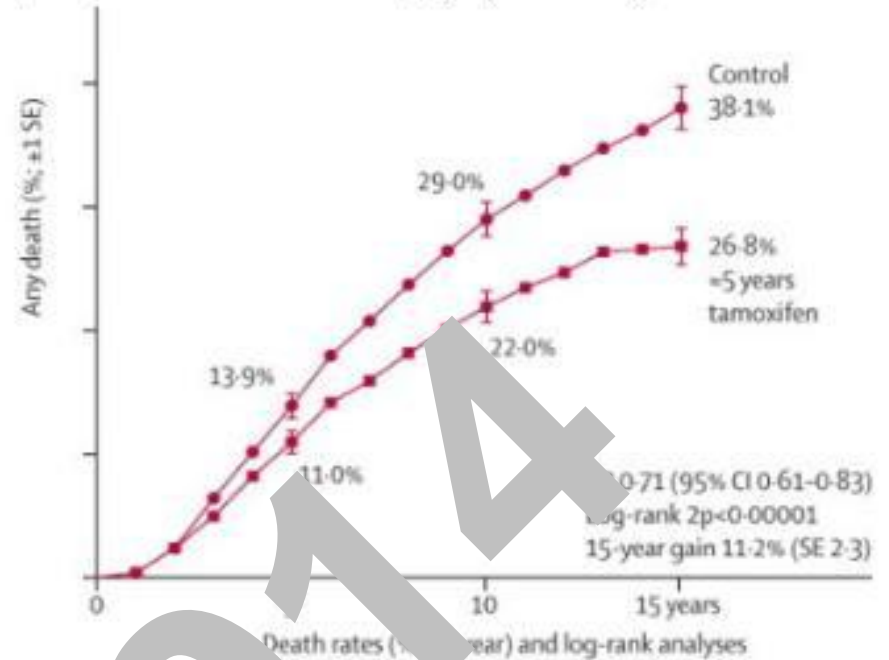
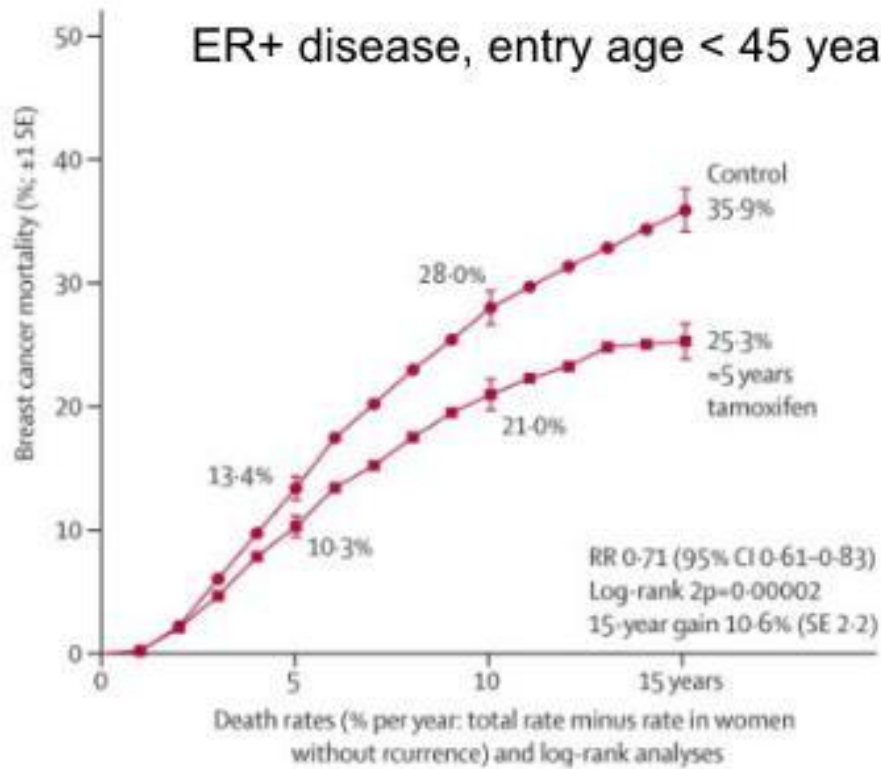
## DEFINITION OF MENOPAUSE

Clinical trials in breast cancer have utilized a variety of definitions of menopause. Menopause is generally the permanent cessation of menses, and as the term is utilized in breast cancer management includes a profound and permanent decrease in ovarian estrogen synthesis. Reasonable criteria for determining menopause include any of the following:

- Prior bilateral oophorectomy
- Age  $\geq 60$  y
- Age  $< 60$  y and amenorrheic for 12 or more months in the absence of chemotherapy, tamoxifen, toremifene, or ovarian suppression and follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) and estradiol in the postmenopausal range
- If taking tamoxifen or toremifene, and age  $< 60$  y, then FSH and plasma estradiol level in postmenopausal ranges

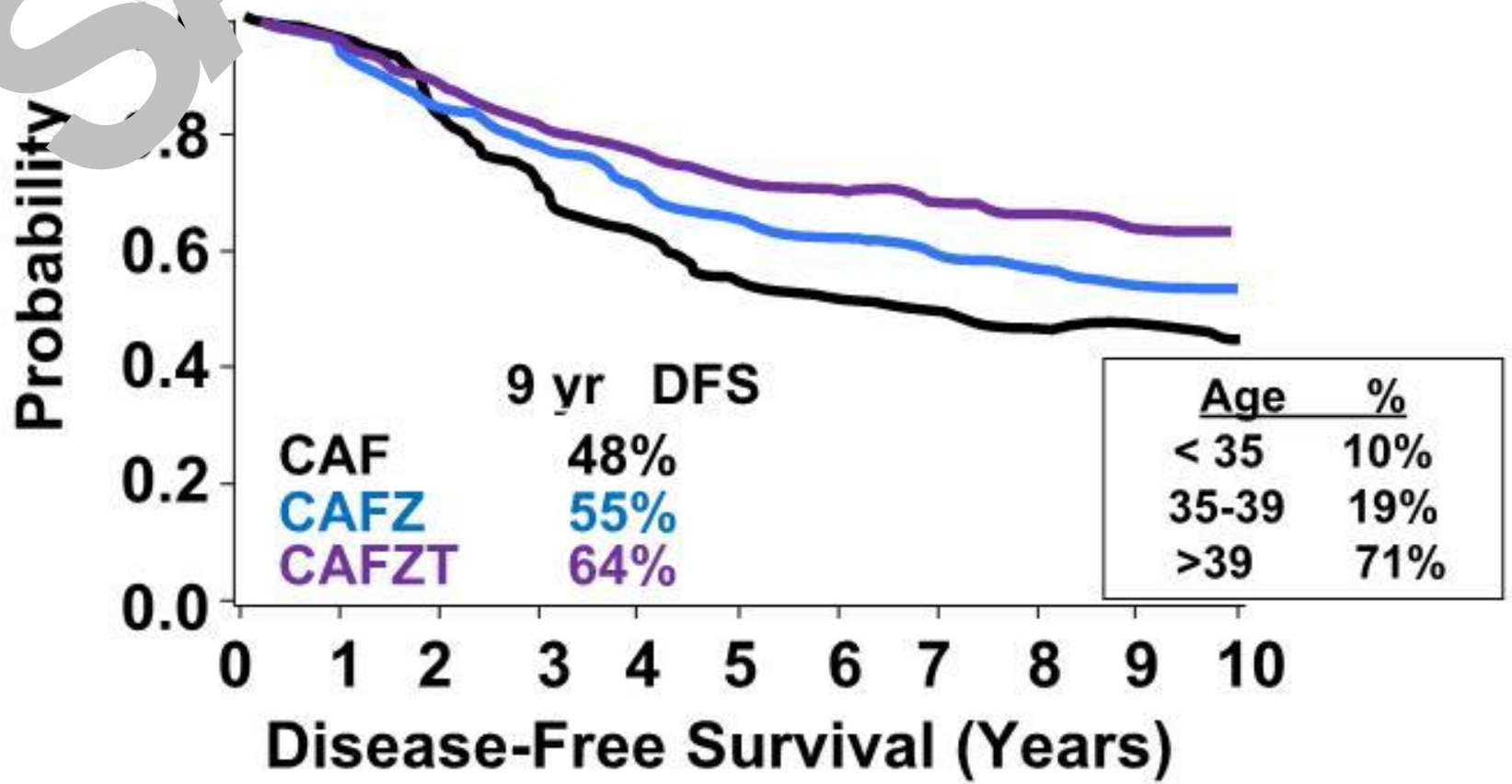
It is not possible to assign menopausal status to women who are receiving an LHRH agonist or antagonist. In women premenopausal at the beginning of adjuvant chemotherapy, amenorrhea is not a reliable indicator of menopausal status as ovarian function may still be intact or resume despite anovulation/amenorrhea after chemotherapy. For these women with therapy-induced amenorrhea, oophorectomy or serial measurement of FSH and/or estradiol are needed to ensure postmenopausal status if the use of aromatase inhibitors is considered as a component of endocrine therapy.

# Outcome at 15 years with Tamoxifen



# Disease-Free Survival for Women Under 40

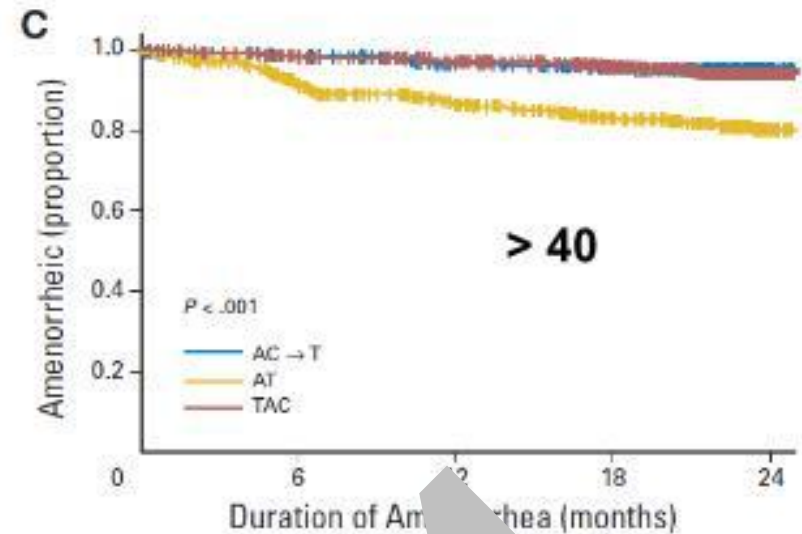
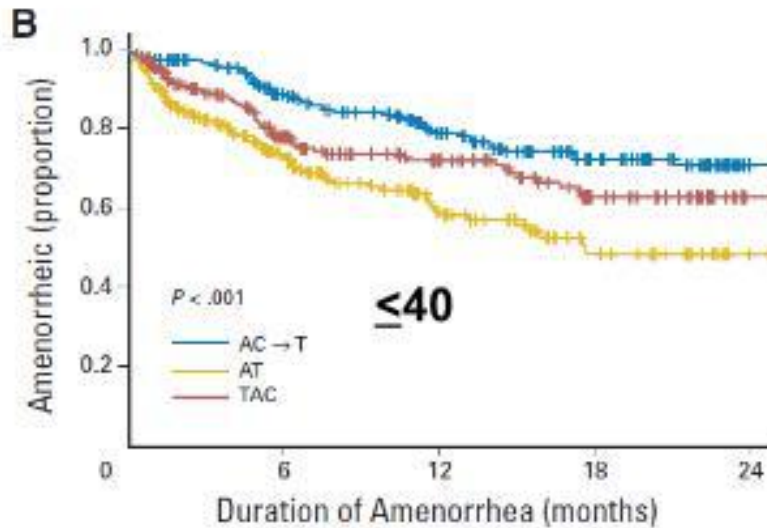
Year 9 DFS: INT 0101 (n=436/1500, all N+)



Davidson et al. J Clin Oncol, 2005

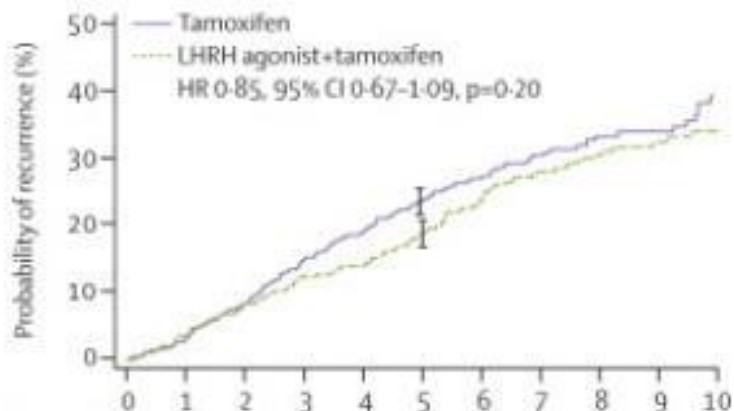


# NSABP B30: Impact of Type of Chemotherapy and Age on Amenorrhea and Outcome

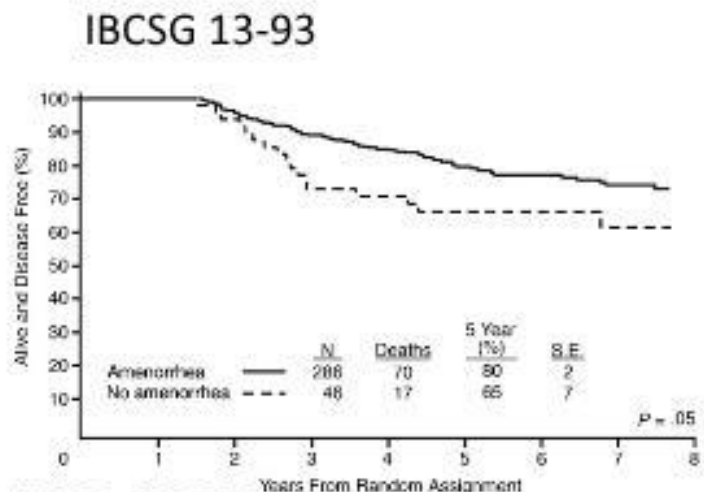


- NSABP B30 substudy (Swain et al, NEJM 2010)
  - 1885 women, N+, receiving chemotherapy
  - In women with ER+ disease:
    - Amenorrhea for  $\geq 6$  months predicted improved OS (HR 0.52,  $P=0.002$ ) and DFS (0.51,  $P<0.001$ )

# The Paradox of Tamoxifen and OFS

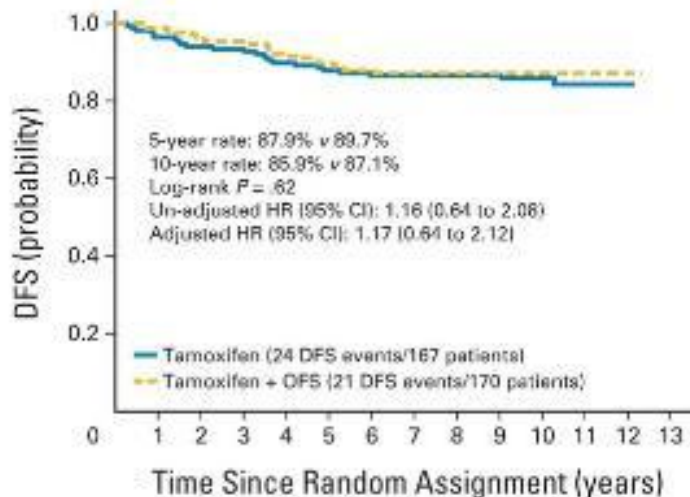


Cuzick J, et al. Lancet 2004;369:1711



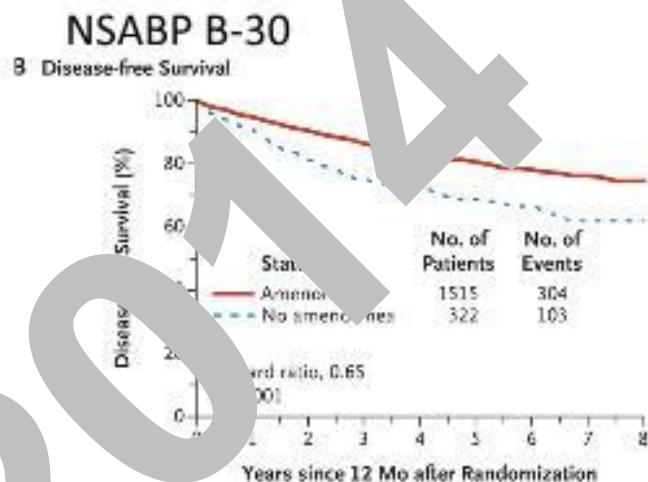
IBCSG, JCO 2006; 24:1332-1341

## B E3193 Tamoxifen ± OFS (no chemo)



No. at risk	167	161	155	154	147	141	136	131	130	118	88	24	2	0
Tamoxifen	167	161	155	154	147	141	136	131	130	118	88	24	2	0
Tamoxifen + OFS	170	166	160	156	148	141	137	133	124	105	65	8	0	0

Tevaarwerk A J et al. JCO 2014;32:3948-3955



Swain SM et al. N Engl J Med 2010;363:2268-2270.



# Meta-Analysis of LHRH Agonists as Adjuvant Therapy for Premenopausal Women with HR+ Breast Cancer

- 9,022 women with HR+ disease; 6.8 years med FU
- Tamoxifen +/- LHRH agonist
  - No significant decrease in risk of recurrence (HR .85) or death after recurrence (HR 0.84)
- Chemotherapy +/- tamoxifen: addition of LHRH agonist provides modest benefit
  - Reduction in risk of recurrence of 12.2% (HR .88)
  - Reduction in risk of death after recurrence of 15.1% (HR .85)
- As effective as chemotherapy regimens used in these trials (no taxanes, mostly non-anthracycline)
  - Suboptimal use of tamoxifen

Meta-analysis of LHRH agonists as adjuvant treatment  
in premenopausal patients with ER + breast cancer:  
Recurrence risk by age

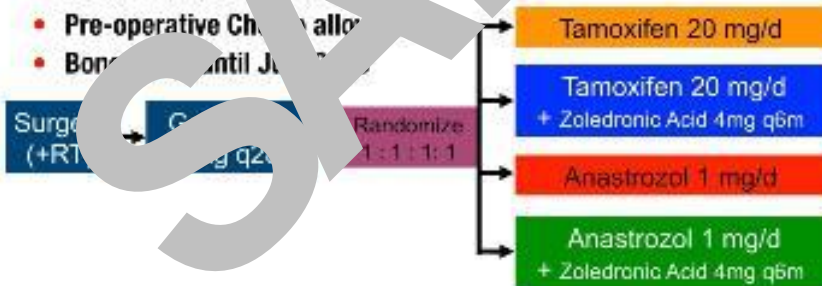
• < 35 years	HR 0.66
• 35-39 years	HR 0.77
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• 40-44 years	HR 0.96
• 45-49 years	HR 1.03
• ≥ 50 years	HR 0.85

**N=9022**

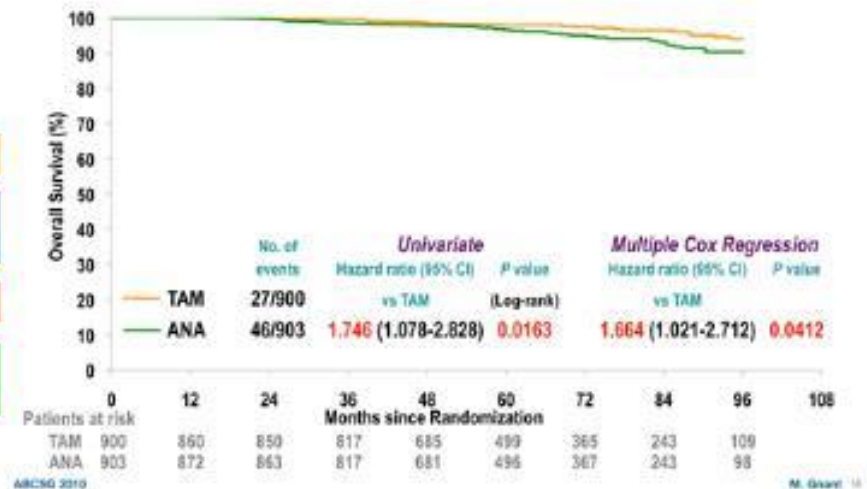
Significant interaction for recurrence of **age** for addition of LHRH agonist to chemotherapy with or without tamoxifen (p=0.046)

## ABCSS-12 Trial Design

- Recruitment 1999-2006
- 1,803 premenopausal patients
- Stage I&II, <10cm nodes, ER+ Lymph Node
- Duration of treatment 5 years
- Pre-operative Chemotherapy allowed
- Bone metastasis until July 2008



## Overall Survival: ANA vs. TAM



- Patient/tumor characteristics
  - 23%  $\leq$  40 yrs of age
  - 76% T1, 30% node +, 20% grade 3
- 95% of women are alive at 7.9 years median FU
- Worse survival with AI
  - Inadequate OFS?
- Role of zoledronate?
  - At 8 years, numerical advantage but loss of significance for DFS & OS

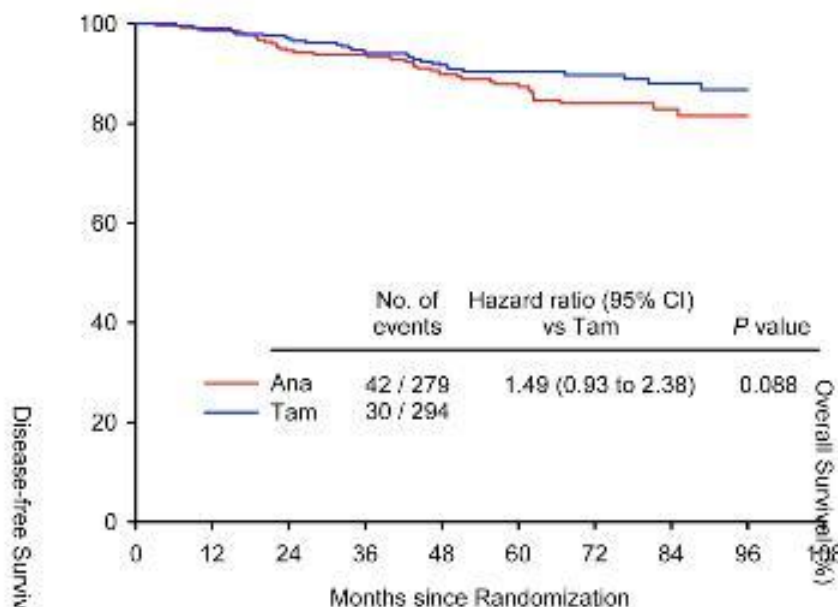


**ABCSG-12 BMI**

# Predictive Impact of BMI – Overweight/Obese

## Disease Free Survival

Overweight+obese



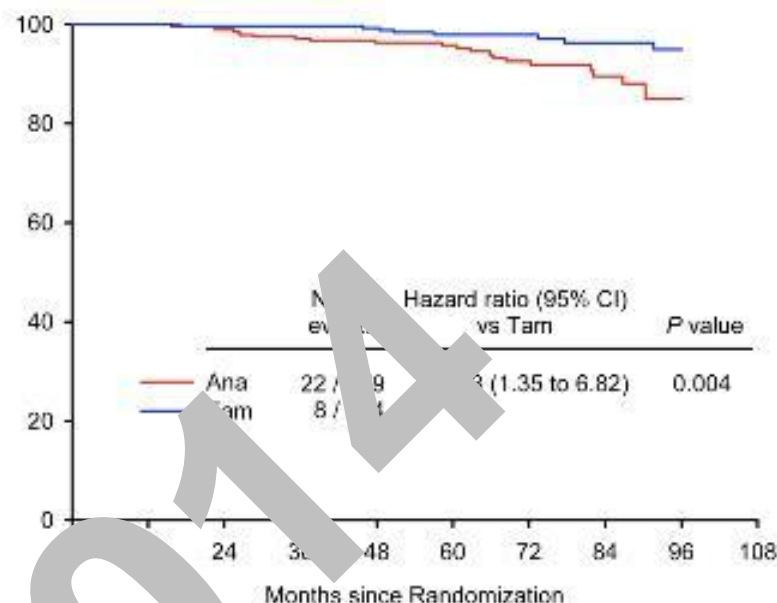
No. at risk:	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96
Ana	279	274	262	250	204	156	108	69	34
Tam	294	289	278	260	223	168	123	86	43

**Cox Model**

**Hazard Ratio: 1.47** CI 95% (0.90-2.40) **p=0.12**

## Overall Survival

Overweight+obese



No. at risk:	0	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108
Ana	279	278	259	219	173	119	74	38	
Tam	294	285	274	240	181	133	95	46	

**Cox Model**

**Hazard Ratio: 3.23** CI 95% (1.39-7.53) **p=0.006**

# TEXT and SOFT Designs

Enrolled 1003-  
Premenopausal  
 $\leq 12$  weeks after  
surgery  
Planned OFS  
No planned chemo  
OR planned chemo

R  
A  
N  
D  
O  
M  
I  
Z  
E

TEXT: 2672

Tamoxifen+OFS x 5 yr

Exemestane+OFS x 5 yr

Joint Analysis  
N=4690

Median FU  
5.7 years

SOFT Primary Analysis  
N=2033

Premenopausal  
 $\leq 12$  weeks after  
surgery  
No chemo  
OR  
Remain  
premenopausal  $\leq 8$   
mos after chemo

R  
A  
N  
D  
O  
M  
I  
Z  
E

SOFT: 3047

Tamoxifen x 5 yrs (1018)

Tamoxifen+OFS x 5 yr (1015)

Exemestane+OFS x 5 yr  
(1014)

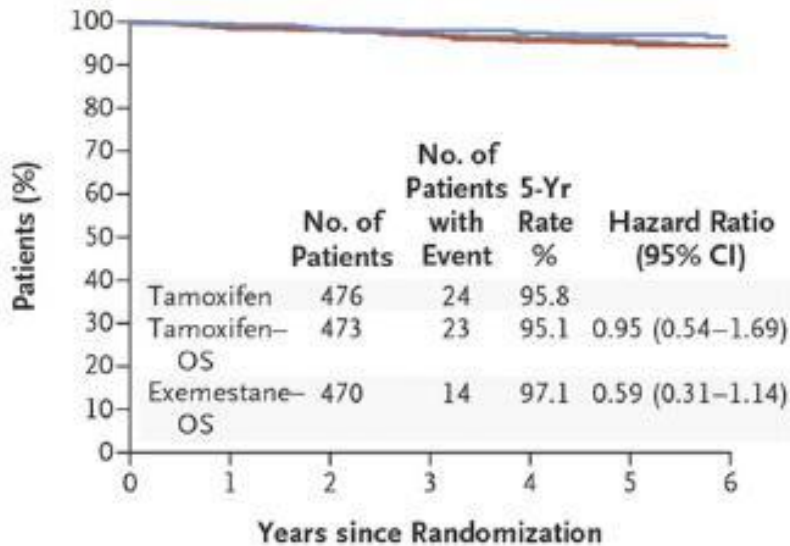
Median FU  
5.6 years



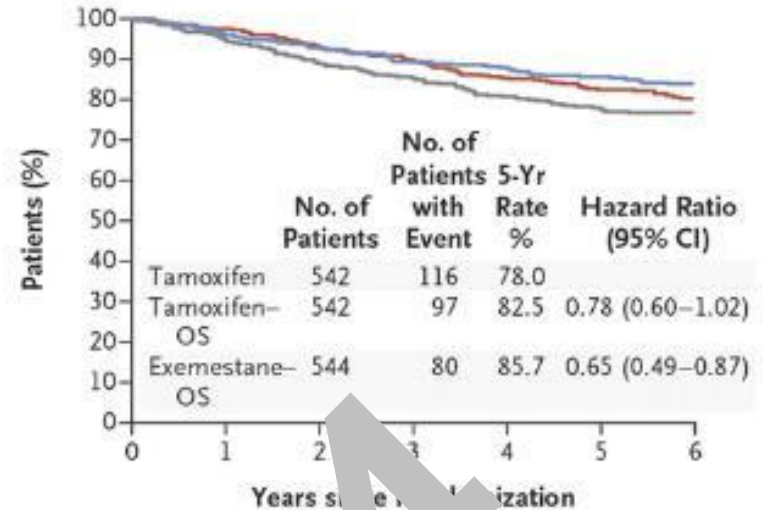
# Resolving the Paradox: SOFT / TEXT

## The role of ovarian suppression in premenopausal ER+ breast cancer

No Chemotherapy, Freedom from Breast Cancer



Chemotherapy, Freedom from Breast Cancer



Clinical Assessment  
Chemotherapy  
Benefit from OFS

Low Risk  
No  
No

Higher Risk  
Yes  
Yes

DFS: women < 35 years old

Tam 68%  
Tam + OFS 79%  
Exe + OFS 83%

## Results:

### Biology and Risk Drive Benefit of Ovarian Suppression

- BCFI in premenopausal women who retain ovarian production of estrogen following adjuvant chemotherapy
  - T + OFS > T
  - E + OFS >> T
- This difference is even greater in women < 35 yrs of age

Endpoint		Absolute improvement at 5 years	
		HR (95% CI)	
		T + OFS v. T	E + OFS v. T
Premenopausal after chemo	BCFI	4.5% 0.78 (.60-1.02)	11.7% 0.65 (.49-.87)
	DRFI	1.2% 0.87 (.64-1.17)	4.2% 0.72 (.52-.98)
BCFI in < 35 yo (94% received chemo)		11.5%	15.7%

DRFI: distant recurrence-free interval; BCFI: breast cancer free interval;

# TEXT vs SOFT Joint Analysis

Endpoint		Absolute improvement at 5 years
		E + OFS vs T + OFS
All patients completed	BCFI	4%
	DRFI	1.8%
No chemotherapy (TEXT only)	BCFI	3% (HR 0.41)
		<u>TEXT vs SOFT</u>
Premenopausal after/with chemo	BCFI	5.5 vs 3.9%
	DRFI	3.4 vs 2.6%

- TEXT, no chemotherapy: 21% node positive, 16% < 40, 19% T > 2 cm

# Cost of Treatment: Toxicity

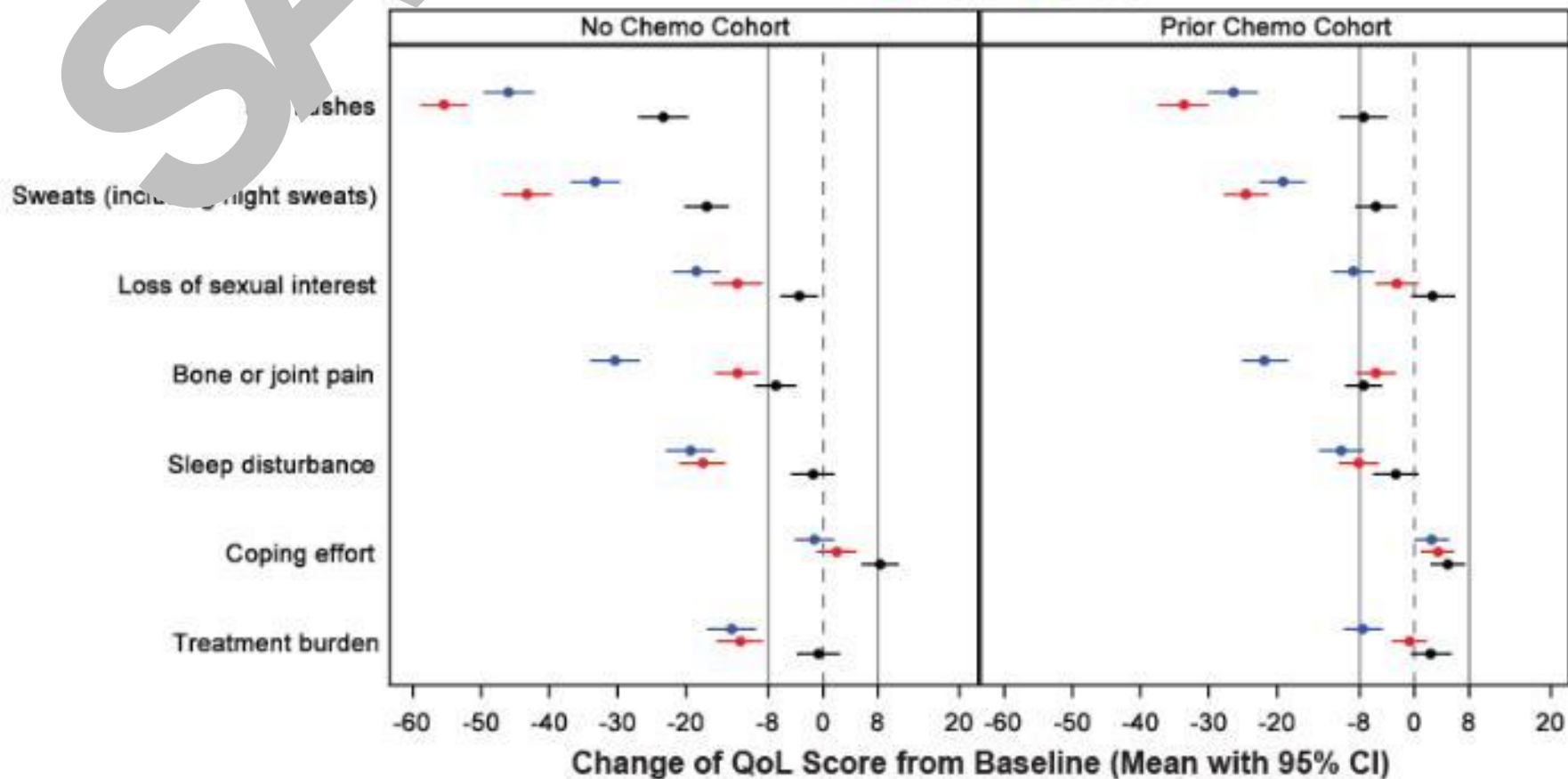
- **15% stopped OFS by 2 years, 22% by 3 years.**
- **Provider reported, clinically important**
  - Depression reported in ~ 50%, 4% severe, 5% increase with OFS
  - Increase in menopausal symptoms, osteoporosis, insomnia most marked
- **Patient reported (85% of trial population)**
  - No difference in global QOL with use of OFS in primary analysis despite differences in endocrine symptoms
    - Global QOL indicators do not reflect important endocrine effects
  - Endocrine differences are less pronounced after 3 years
    - Compliance or adjustment to menopause?
  - Endocrine toxicity overall less in women with prior chemotherapy



# Treatment Effect: by Cohort

Changes from baseline to month 6 for selected indicators

● T ● T+OFS ● E+OFS



(± 8 is the minimal clinically meaningful change of QoL scores)



# Take Home Points and Additional Thoughts

- Successful international collaboration
  - Accrual period 8 years
- Rigorous definition of menopausal status
- Clear and stringent definition of hormone receptor positive disease
  - >10% by IHC
- Long follow-up planned; tissue analyses offer great potential
- Excellent and careful assessment of patient reported outcomes
- Its still early! Short follow-up for distant recurrence and overall survival
- Attention needs to be paid to management of toxicity
  - Endocrine symptoms
  - Depression
  - Hypertension
  - Bone health
- Risk vs benefit requires individualization
- Role of genomic tests in decision making for intermediate risk patients?

# Advising Patients on Ovarian Suppression: risk stratification

Risk	<u>Higher</u> typically stage II or III, intermediate-high grade		<u>Intermediate</u> Higher anatomic stage, lower risk biology; lower stage, higher risk biology	<u>Lower</u> typically stage I, lower-grade
Age	< 35	40+		40+
Chemo?	Yes	Yes*		No
OFS	Yes	Discuss		No
Tablet	Tamoxifen or AI			Tamoxifen

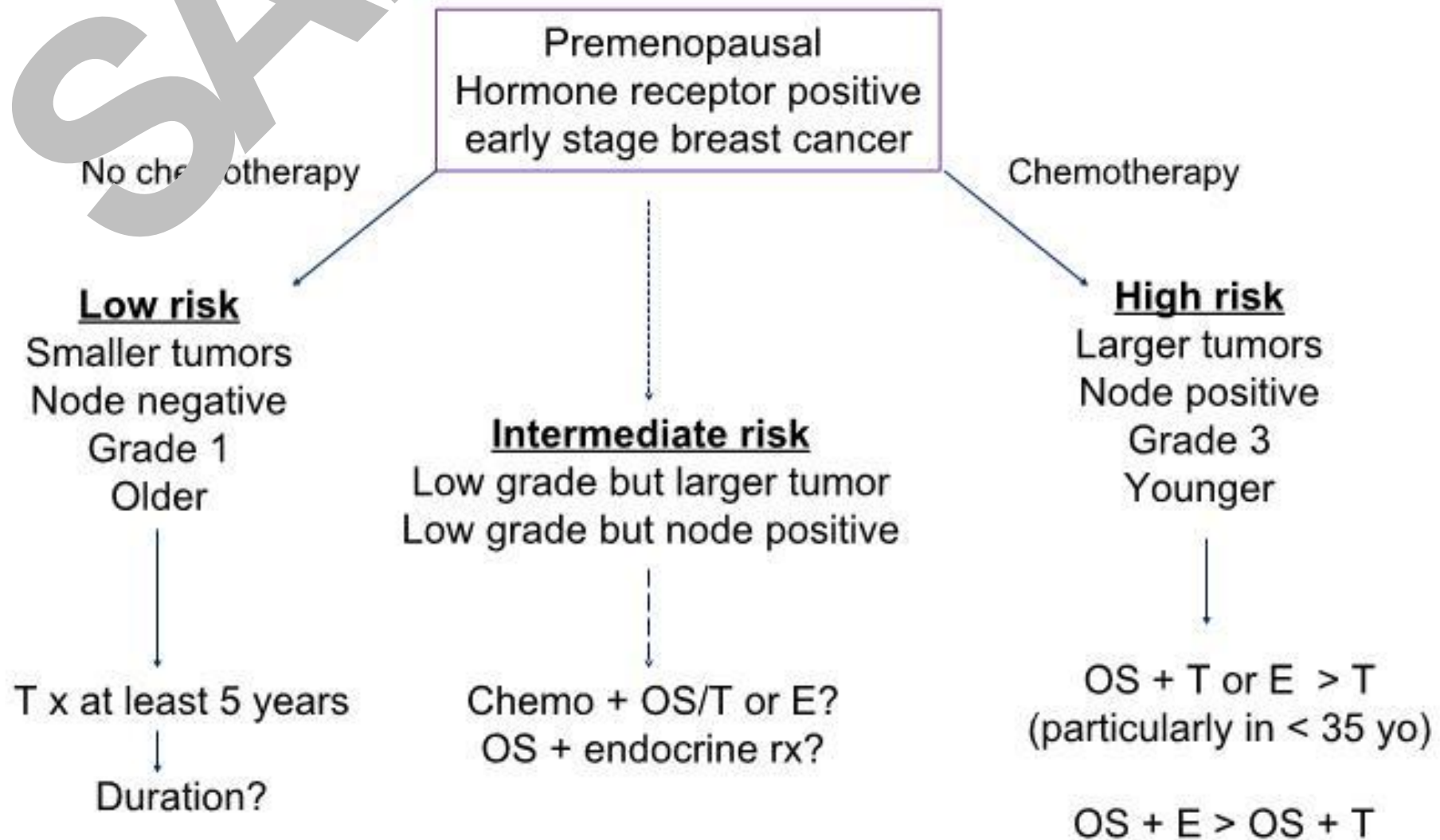
\*more likely to experience chemotherapy-induced amenorrhea

# Advising Patients on Ovarian Suppression: risk stratification

Risk	<u>Higher</u> typically stage II or III, intermediate-high grade		<u>Intermediate</u> Higher anatomic stage, lower risk biology; lower stage, higher risk biology	<u>Lower</u> typically stage I, lower-grade
	Age	< 35	40+	Variable
Chemo?	Yes	Yes*	±	No
OFS	Yes	Discuss	?	No
Tablet	Tamoxifen or AI		Tamoxifen	Tamoxifen

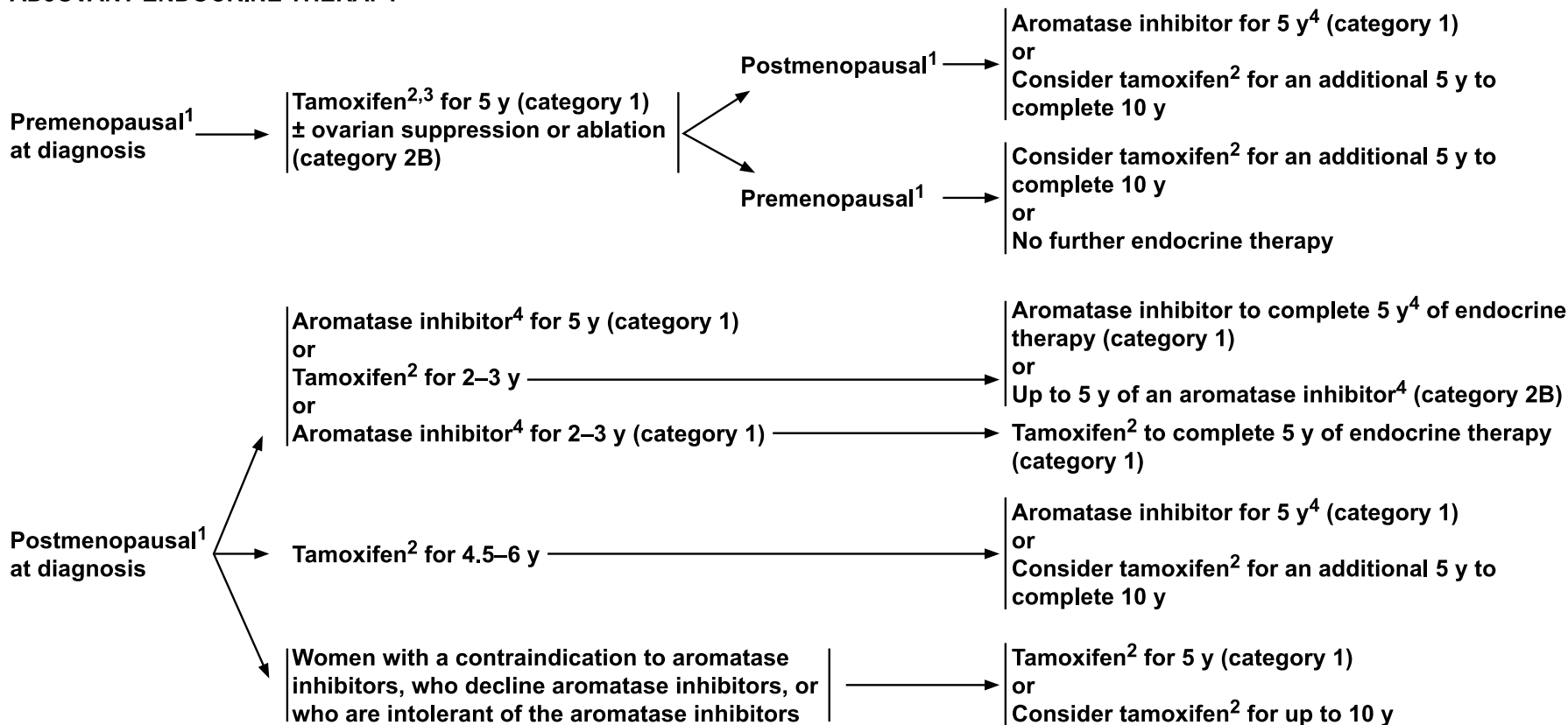
\*more likely to experience chemotherapy-induced menorrhagia

# 2014: New Algorithm for Premenopausal Hormone Receptor Positive Disease?





### ADJUVANT ENDOCRINE THERAPY



<sup>1</sup>See [Definition of Menopause \(BINV-L\)](#).

<sup>2</sup>Some SSRIs like fluoxetine and paroxetine decrease the formation of endoxifen, 4-OH tamoxifen, and active metabolites of tamoxifen, and may impact its efficacy. Caution is advised about coadministration of these drugs with tamoxifen. However, citalopram and venlafaxine appear to have minimal impact on tamoxifen metabolism. At this time, based on current data the panel recommends against CYP2D6 testing for women being considered for tamoxifen therapy. Coadministration of strong inhibitors of CYP2D6 should be used with caution.

<sup>3</sup>Aromatase inhibitor for 5 y + ovarian suppression may be considered as an alternative option based on SOFT and TEXT clinical trial outcomes. Pagani O, Regan M, Walley B, et al. Adjuvant Exemestane with Ovarian Suppression in Premenopausal Breast Cancer. *N Engl J Med* 2014; 371:107-118.

<sup>4</sup>The panel believes the three selective aromatase inhibitors (ie, anastrozole, letrozole, exemestane) have shown similar anti-tumor efficacy and toxicity profiles in randomized studies in the adjuvant and neoadjuvant settings. The optimal duration of aromatase inhibitors in adjuvant therapy is uncertain.

**Note:** All recommendations are category 2A unless otherwise indicated.

**Clinical Trials:** NCCN believes that the best management of any cancer patient is in a clinical trial. Participation in clinical trials is especially encouraged.