

Progetto **CANOA**

# **CARCINOMA MAMMARIO:**

## QUALI NOVITÀ PER IL 2015?

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

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Giovanni L. Pappagallo



Ospedaletto di Pescantina (VR) 10-11 aprile 2015

Villa Quaranta Park Hotel

## Lo studio BOLERO-1

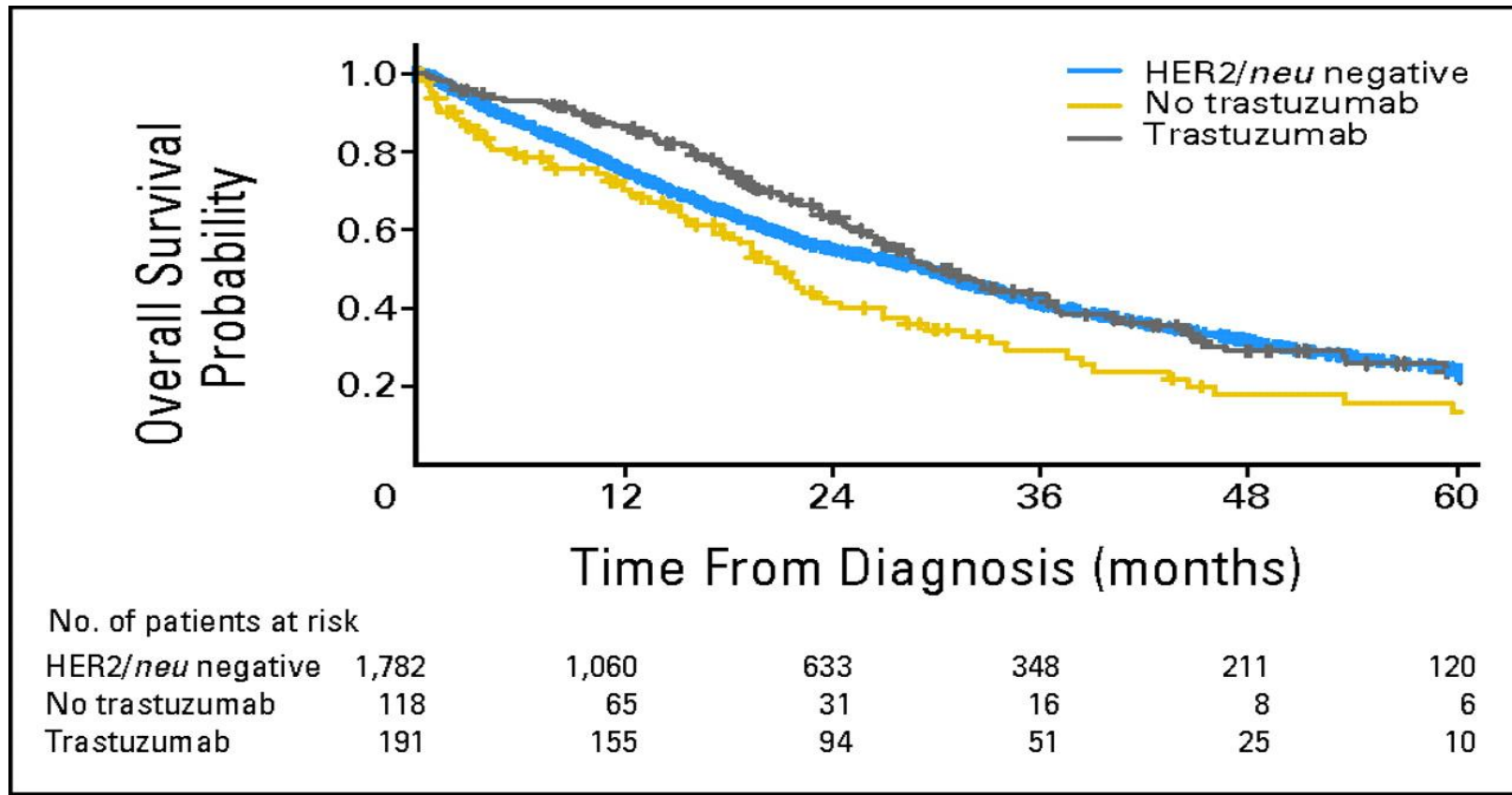
Quali potranno essere le  
future ricadute nella  
pratica clinica?

Antonella Ferro  
UO Oncologia  
Medica  
Trento

# TRASTUZUMAB

most important breakthrough in the management of BC

**Trastuzumab Has Changed the Natural History of HER2-Positive Breast Cancer**

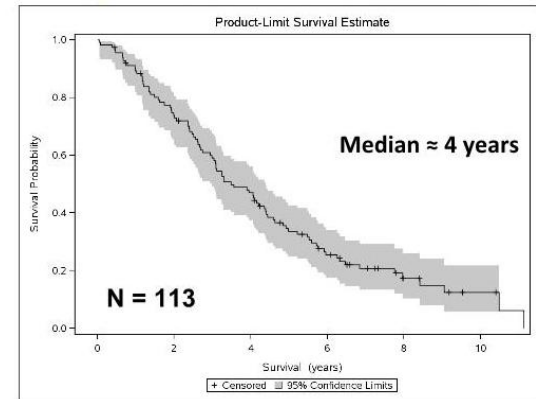


Dawood, S. et al. J Clin Oncol; 28:92-98 2010; Slamon DJ, et al. N Engl J Med. 2001;344:783-792. 2. Marty M, et al. J Clin Oncol. 2005;23:4265-4274.

# Need for further optimisation of HER2 + BC treatment

- The natural history of HER2-positive MBC has evolved with trastuzumab-based therapy with median OS after diagnosis of metastases now exceeding 3 years
- The disease has been transformed from a rapidly lethal illness to one in which episodes of disease progression are punctuated by long periods of tumor control
- Despite initial response to anti-HER2 therapy, approximately 50% of patients with HER2-positive MBC experience disease progression within a year, requiring further intervention to prolong life
- Therefore, novel agents and strategies that can delay resistance are needed for patients with HER2<sup>+</sup> advanced breast cancer

Overall Survival in Patients With Systemic Relapses in Post-Trastuzumab Era



Olsen et al, The Breast 2012

# Since Then....



A Plethora of gods and demigods....

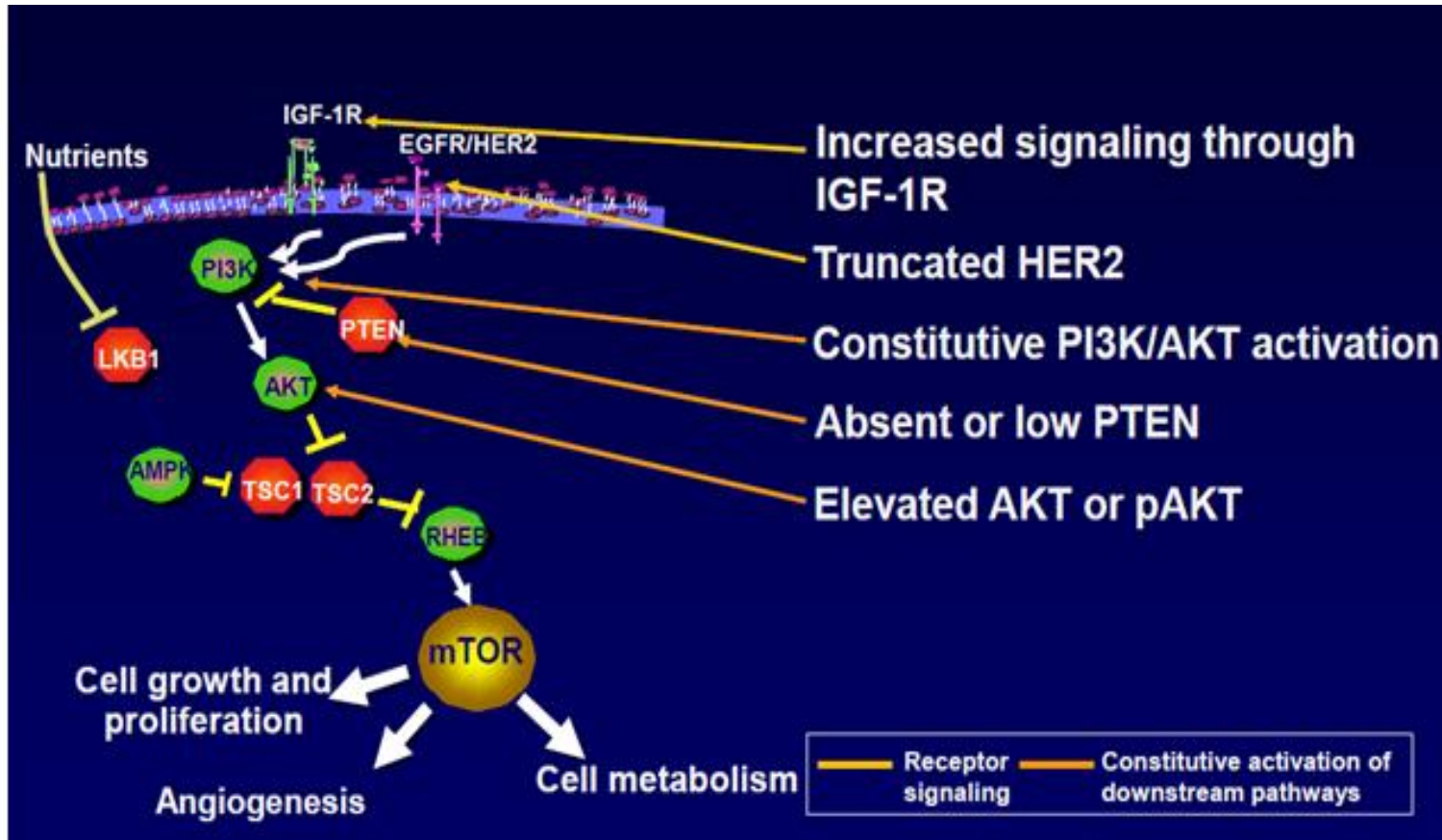
Trastuzumab = Zeus

Lapatinib, Pertuzumab, T-DM1...;

Who wins? Who marries whom? Who remains on the scene?

Who enters the scene first?

# Trastuzumab Resistance Mechanisms



Widakowich C, et al. *Anticancer Agents Med Chem.* 2008,8(5):488-496

Johnston SR. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2005;11(2 suppl):889s-899s.

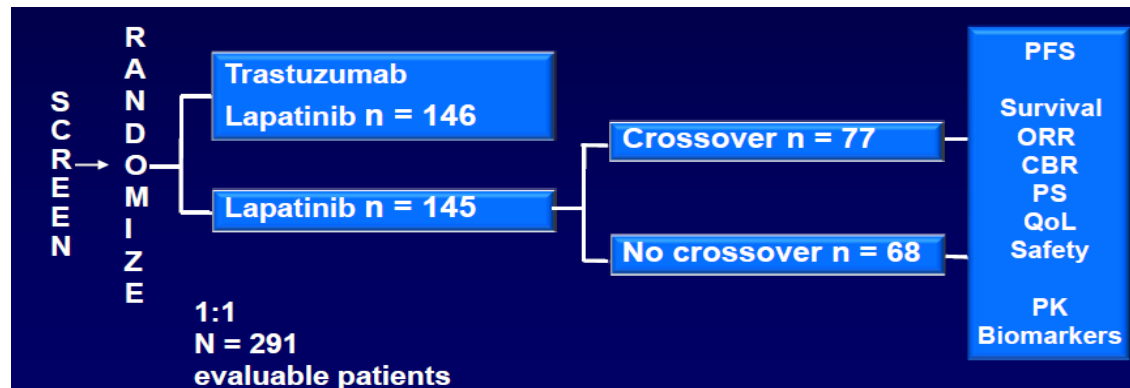
# How to improve outcomes and delay/overcome anti-HER2 resistance?

- Using other chemo-combinations (chemo doublet + H)
  - BCIRG 007 (TH vs TCH) *Valero V et al J Clin Oncol 29:149-156. 2011*
  - Trastuzumab + Pac vs Trastuzumab + Pac + Myocet *Baselga J et al; Ann Oncol 2014*
  - **NO**
- Using other newer anti-HER2 (lapatinib)
  - NCIC CTG MA.31 (Trastuzumab + Taxane vs Capecitabine + Taxane) *Gelmon KA et al; J Clin Oncol. 2015 Mar 16. pii: JCO.2014.56.9590*
  - **NO**
- Combination with other target agents
  - Tandem (Anastrozole vs Anastrozole + Trastuzumab) *kaufmann et al; JCO 2008*
  - Letrozole vs Letrozole + lapatinib) *Johnston et al; JCO 2009*
  - Electra (Letrozole vs Letrozole + Trastuzumab) *Houber J The Breast, 21 (1) , 27-33, 2012*
  - **Maybe**
- Combination with other antiHER2 (dual blockade)
  - **YES**

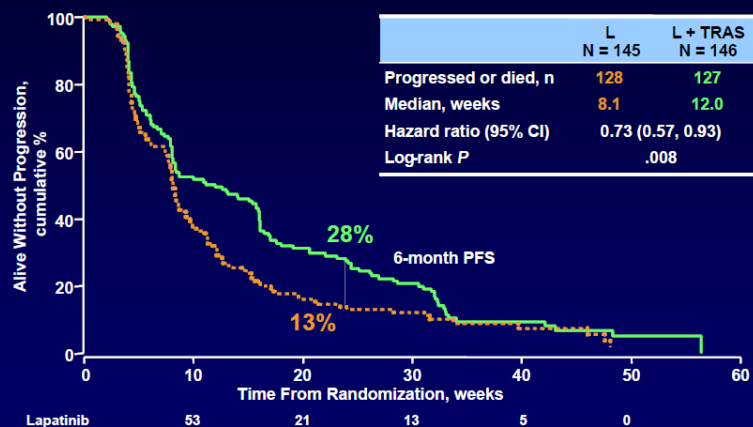


# Phase III Trial of Lapatinib in Combination With Trastuzumab for Patients With HER2-Positive Trastuzumab-Resistant MBC

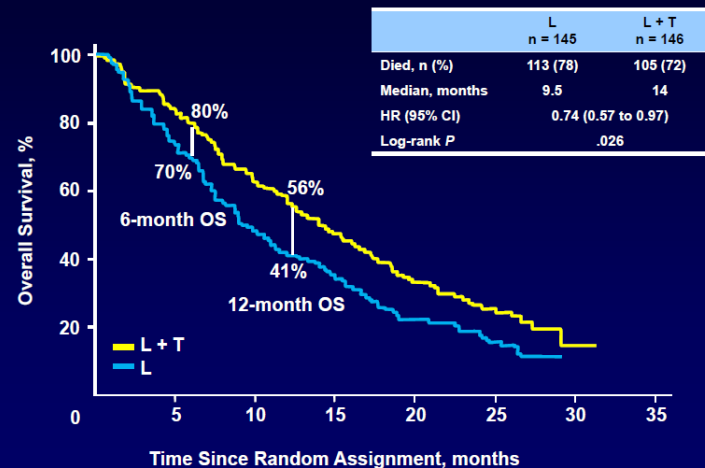
Pts with HER2+ MBC progressing on prior trastuzumab-based therapies



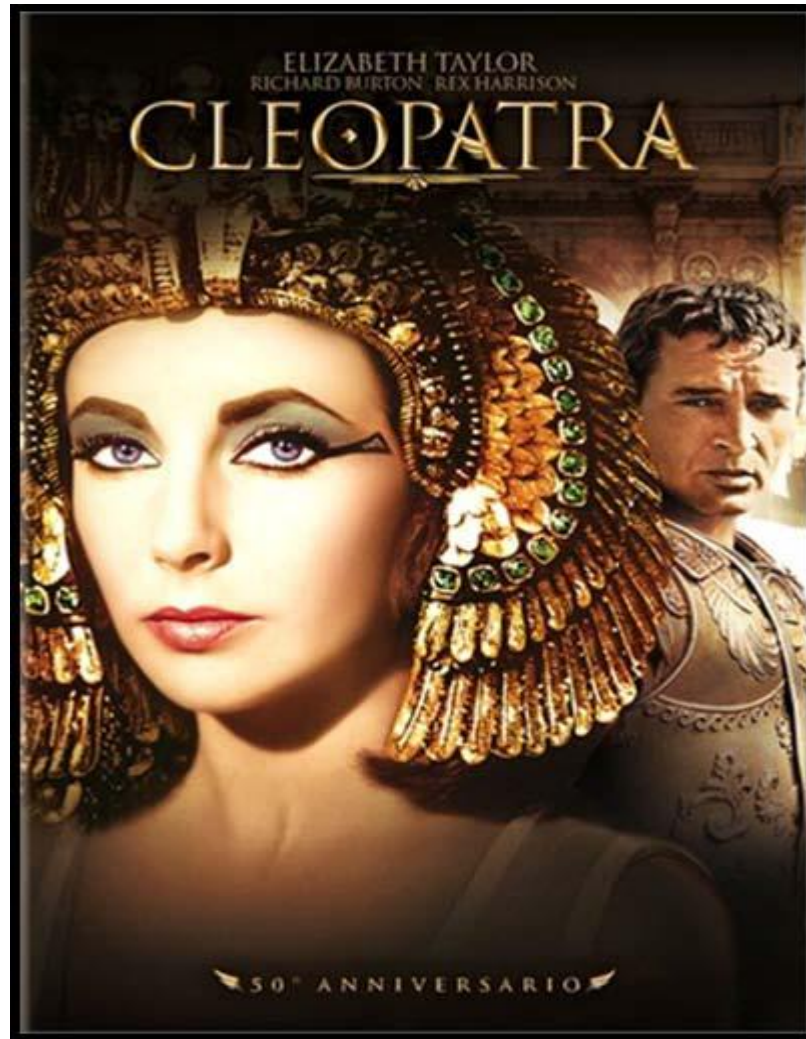
## Progression-Free Survival in ITT



## Overall Survival in ITT



Pertuzumab and Trasuzumab,  
the best performance in first line....





# CLEOPATRA: Study Design

- Phase 3 trial in first-line HER2<sup>+</sup> advanced breast cancer

N = 808

- Locally recurrent, unresectable, or metastatic HER2<sup>+</sup> breast cancer
- Not previously treated for metastatic disease
- (Neo)adjuvant chemotherapy with or without TRAS permitted
- Disease-free  $\geq$  12 months since (neo)adjuvant treatment
- Measurable or nonmeasurable disease
- ECOG PS of 0 or 1

Randomized  
1:1

Pertuzumab +  
trastuzumab + docetaxel

Placebo +  
trastuzumab + docetaxel

Therapy until disease progression  
or intolerable toxicity

Key endpoints:

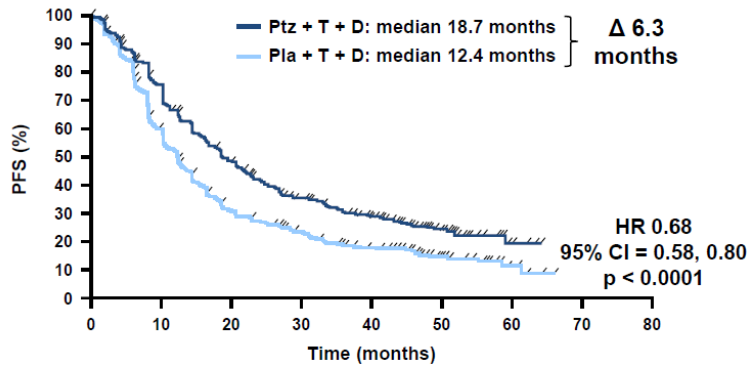
Primary: PFS (central)

Secondary: OS, PFS (investigator), ORR, safety

# CLEOPATRA: Results

## Updated PFS

Investigator-Assessed



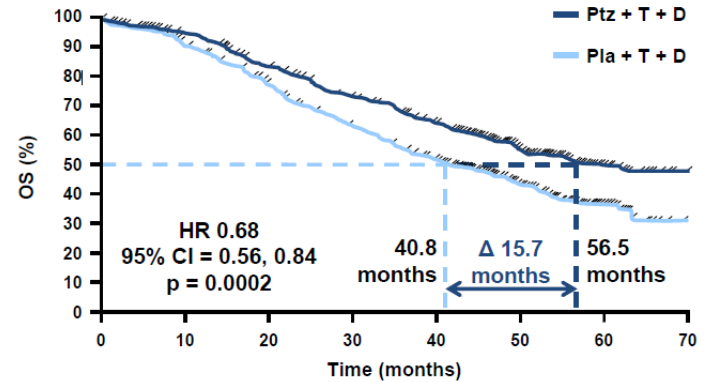
| n at risk   | 0   | 10  | 20  | 30  | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Ptz + T + D | 402 | 284 | 179 | 121 | 87 | 37 | 6  | 0  | 0  |
| Pla + T + D | 406 | 223 | 110 | 75  | 51 | 21 | 6  | 0  | 0  |

ITT population. Stratified by geographic region and neo/adjuvant chemotherapy.

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## Final OS Analysis

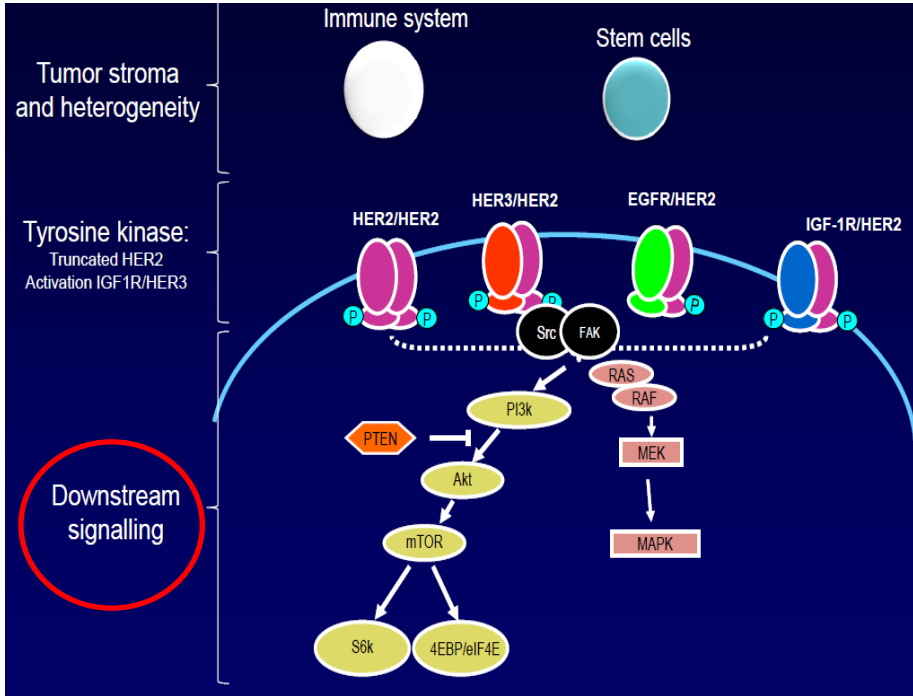
Median follow-up 50 months (range 0–70 months)



| n at risk   | 0   | 10  | 20  | 30  | 40  | 50  | 60 | 70 |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| Ptz + T + D | 402 | 371 | 318 | 268 | 226 | 104 | 28 | 1  |
| Pla + T + D | 406 | 350 | 289 | 230 | 179 | 91  | 23 | 0  |

ITT population. Stratified by geographic region and neo/adjuvant chemotherapy.  
CI, confidence interval; Pla, placebo; Ptz, pertuzumab.

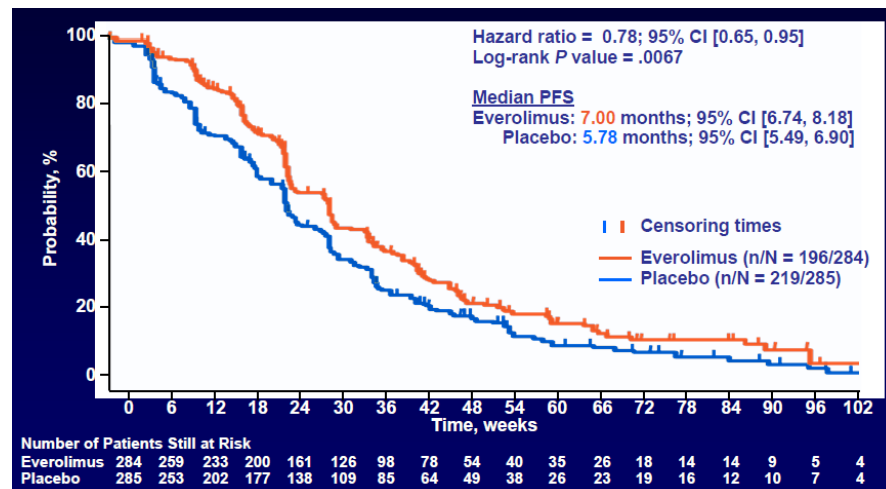
# Alternative target agents to overcome trastuzumab resistance in HER2+ disease



- Most other therapies studied in this setting have focused on continued HER2 inhibition.
- At least in part, resistance to trastuzumab is sustained by altered intracellular signalling
- Aberrant PI3K/AKT/mTOR Pathway Activation May Lead to HER2-Targeted Therapy Resistance
- mTOR is a key intracellular point of convergence for a number of cellular signaling pathways
- mTOR inhibition can sensitize HER2-overexpressing breast cancer to HER2-directed therapy
- To date, Everolimus is the first non-HER2-targeted therapy to address the underlying mechanism of trastuzumab resistance.

# Activity of the mTOR Inhibitor Everolimus in HER2<sup>+</sup> Breast Cancer

- In preclinical models, mTOR inhibitors synergize with trastuzumab and have shown to cause complete regression of mouse HER2<sup>+</sup> mammary tumours (Lu et al, 2007)
- EVE + TRAS and the chemotherapy PAC demonstrated promising activity in patients with HER2<sup>+</sup> advanced breast cancer who progressed during prior trastuzumab and taxane therapy (N = 55)
  - Overall response rate, 21.8%; clinical benefit rate, 36.4%
  - Median PFS, 5.5 months
  - Median OS, 18.1 months
- In BOLERO-3, the addition of EVE to TRAS + vinorelbine resulted in
  - Median PFS: 7 vs 5.78 months;  $P = .0067$ : a 22% reduction in the risk of progression
- Exploratory analysis of biomarkers in the BOLERO-3 trial suggests that the addition of everolimus may be most beneficial in patients with **low PTEN or high pS6 levels** (Jerusalem et al, 2013).



# Activity of the mTOR Inhibitor Everolimus in HER2<sup>+</sup> Breast Cancer

- BOLERO-1 was based on the evaluating whether inhibiting mTOR early in metastatic disease will help delay the development of resistance to HER2-targeted therapy

Other divinities to marry to the gods  
(Trastuzumab & Co)  
of Olympus?

# BOLERO-1/TRIO 019: Study Design

**N = 719**

- Locally advanced or metastatic HER2+ breast cancer
- No prior therapy for advanced or metastatic disease (except endocrine therapy)
- Prior (neo)adjuvant TRAS and/or chemotherapy allowed<sup>1</sup>
- Measurable disease or presence of bone lesions (lytic or mixed)

**Randomized  
2:1**

**Stratification factors:**

- Prior neo/adjuvant TRAS
- Visceral metastases

**Everolimus (10 mg PO daily) +  
Paclitaxel<sup>2</sup> + Trastuzumab<sup>3</sup>**

**Placebo +  
Paclitaxel<sup>2</sup> + Trastuzumab<sup>3</sup>**

Therapy until disease progression  
or intolerable toxicity<sup>4</sup>

## Endpoints

• **Primary: PFS (investigator-assessed)**

- Overall population and
- HR<sup>-</sup> subpopulation

• **Secondary:**

- OS, ORR, CBR, Time to response, Safety, Duration of response

<sup>1</sup>Discontinued > 12 mo before randomization;

<sup>2</sup>Paclitaxel: 80 mg/m<sup>2</sup> weekly;

<sup>3</sup>Trastuzumab: 4 mg/kg loading dose on day 1 at cycle 1 followed by 2 mg/kg weekly doses

<sup>4</sup>Patients could discontinue any study treatment due to AEs; other study treatments continued until disease progression or intolerable toxicity



# Difficult to beat Cleopatra

**Pertuzumab + Trastuzumab + docetaxel in first line**

**Everolimus + Trastuzumab + Paclitaxel in first line**



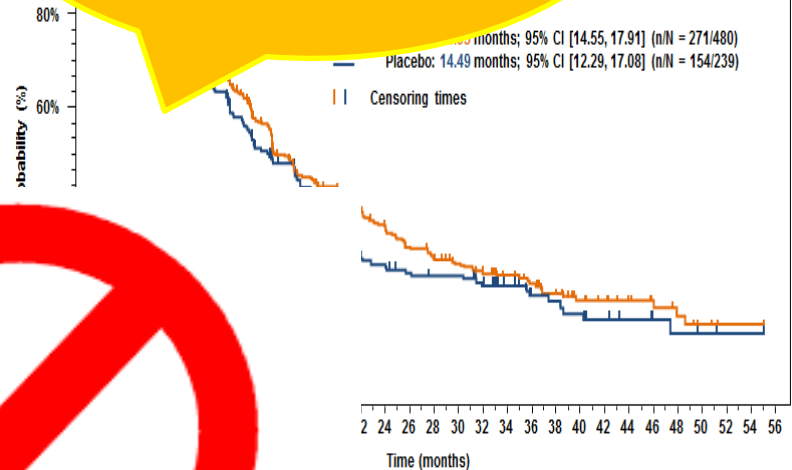
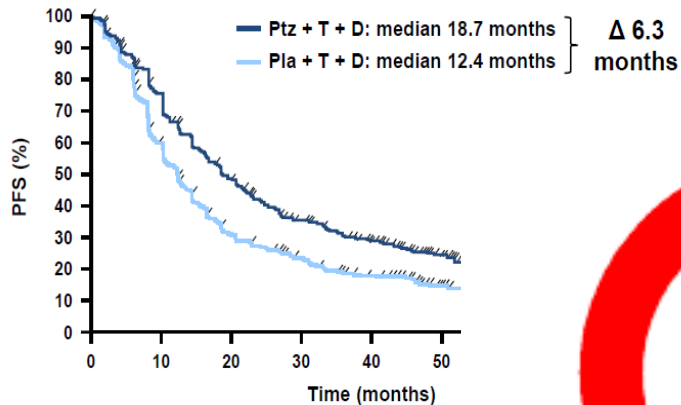
# Difficult to beat Cleopatra

## CLEOPATRA

Pertuzumab + Trastuzumab + docetaxel in first line

These data are from different trials and should not be compared directly

### Updated PFS Investigator-Assessed



| n at risk |             | 0   | 10  | 20  | 30  | 40 | 50 |
|-----------|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| —         | Ptz + T + D | 402 | 284 | 179 | 121 | 87 | 37 |
| —         | Pla + T + D | 406 | 223 | 110 | 75  | 51 | 21 |

ITT population. Stratified by geographic region and neo/adjuvant chemotherapy.

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | 94 | 80 | 72 | 63 | 58 | 48 | 42 | 35 | 26 | 21 | 17 | 13 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 7  | 43 | 38 | 36 | 36 | 31 | 24 | 17 | 15 | 12 | 9  | 7  | 6  | 4  | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

by prior use of trastuzumab (Y/N) and Visceral metastasis (Y/N) from IWRS.



# BOLERO-1 vs. CLEOPATRA: Baseline Characteristics

|                                  | BOLERO-1                         |                                  |                                  |                                  | CLEOPATRA <sup>1</sup>           |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                  | Full Population                  |                                  | HR <sup>-</sup> subpopulation    |                                  | Overall population               |                                  |
| Characteristic, %                | EVE +<br>TRAS + PAC<br>(N = 480) | PBO +<br>TRAS + PAC<br>(N = 239) | EVE +<br>TRAS + PAC<br>(N = 208) | PBO +<br>TRAS + PAC<br>(N = 103) | PTZ +<br>TRAS + DOC<br>(N = 402) | PBO +<br>TRAS + DOC<br>(N = 406) |
| Median age, years (range)        | 54 (23 - 86)                     | 52 (19 - 82)                     | 56 (29 - 85)                     | 53 (24 - 82)                     | 54 (46 - 60)                     | 54 (46 - 61)                     |
| Race                             |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
| Caucasian                        | 45                               | 41                               | 46                               | 38                               | 61                               | 58                               |
| Asian                            | 41                               | 44                               | 41                               | 46                               | 32                               | 33                               |
| Other                            | 14                               | 15                               | 13                               | 17                               | 7                                | 9                                |
| ECOG performance status          |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
| 0                                | 58                               | 62                               | 61                               | 63                               | 68                               | 61                               |
| 1                                | 42                               | 38                               | 39                               | 37                               | 31                               | 39                               |
| Extent of disease at study entry |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
| Locally advanced disease         | 7                                | 7                                | 8                                | 8                                | 22 non-visceral                  | 22 non-visceral                  |
| Metastatic disease               | 93                               | 93                               | 92                               | 92                               | 78 visceral                      | 78 visceral                      |
| Hormone receptor status          |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
| HR+                              | 57                               | 57                               | 0                                | 0                                | 47                               | 49                               |
| HR-                              | 43                               | 43                               | 100                              | 100                              | 53                               | 48                               |
| Visceral involvement             |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |                                  |
| Lung                             | 45                               | 43                               | 43                               | 41                               | NA                               | NA                               |
| Liver                            | 37                               | 46                               | 33                               | 49                               |                                  |                                  |
| Lung and liver                   | 15                               | 21                               | 14                               | 20                               |                                  |                                  |
| Bone involvement                 | 44                               | 49                               | 33                               | 45                               | NA                               | NA                               |

## BOLERO-1 vs. CLEOPATRA: Safety profile (> 25% in either study)

| AE/Grade, %            | BOLERO-1                      |         |         | CLEOPATRA <sup>1</sup>        |           |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------|
|                        | EVE + TRAS + PAC<br>(N = 472) |         |         | PTZ + TRAS + DOC<br>(N = 408) |           |
|                        | Any                           | Grade 3 | Grade 4 | Any                           | Grade 3/4 |
| <b>Non-hematologic</b> |                               |         |         |                               |           |
| Stomatitis             | 67                            | 13      | 0       | NA                            | NA        |
| Diarrhea               | 57                            | 9       | 0       | 68                            | 9         |
| Alopecia               | 47                            | <1      | 0       | 60                            | 0         |
| Rash                   | 40                            | 1       | 0       | 37                            | 1         |
| Cough                  | 40                            | <1      | 0       | NA                            | NA        |
| Pyrexia                | 39                            | 2       | 0       | NA                            | NA        |
| Fatigue                | 35                            | 5       | 0       | 38                            | 2         |
| Epistaxis              | 33                            | 0       | 0       | NA                            | NA        |
| Peripheral edema       | 33                            | 1       | 0       | 24                            | <1        |
| Nausea                 | 33                            | 1       | 0       | 44                            | 1         |
| Peripheral neuropathy  | 29                            | 4       | 0       | NA                            | NA        |
| Headache               | 28                            | 1       | 0       | NA                            | NA        |
| Vomiting               | 26                            | 1       | 0       | 25                            | 1         |
| Decreased appetite     | 23                            | 1       | 0       | 30                            | 2         |
| Mucosal inflammation   | NA                            | NA      | NA      | 27                            | 1         |
| Asthenia               | 20                            | 2       | 0       | 27                            | 2         |
| <b>Hematologic</b>     |                               |         |         |                               |           |
| Anemia                 | 31                            | 9       | 1       | NA                            | NA        |
| Neutropenia            | 38                            | 21      | 4       | 53                            | 49        |

# In today, tomorrow and... day after tomorrow clinical practice

- Everolimus in HER2 + disease not ascended to Olympus...confined to Tarturus??



success with

*the new  
treatment of HER2+*

HER2-  
treatment with results

Overall results of  
clinical trials and  
tumors

# HER 2 +MBC

Indolent and/or asymptomatic disease or non fit patient

Metastatic at diagnosis

ER pos

Oligometastatic disease

ER neg

I

IA + H /IA + Lapatinib \*  
Tax + H (+Pert)  
VNL + H

First line  
Tax w + H (± Pert)  
TXT 3 w + H

Txt+H (± Pert)  
VNL + H  
Cape +/-H

II

TDM1

TDM1

III

Cape+ lapatinib  
wTax + H  
GEM + H

Cape+ lapatinib

RR/SD

Loco-regional treatment on M and or T

Maintenance Hormonal Therapy +H

Maintenance H

\* In selected post-menopausal cases



**Aggressive and/or symptomatic disease or visceral crisis risk**

**Metastatic at diagnosis or after adjuvant H (> 12 months)**

**ER pos**

**Oligometastatic disease**

**ER neg**

**I**

Pertuzumab (P) + H + Taxanes

First line  
Pertuzumab (P) + H + Taxanes

Pertuzumab (P) + H + Taxanes

**II**

T-DM1

T-DM1

**III**

Lapatinib+ Cape  
Tax w + H  
VNL + H  
GEM +H

Lapatinib+ Cape  
Tax w + H  
VNL + H  
GEM +H

**RR/SD**

**Loco-regional treatment on M and or T**

**Maintenance Hormonal Therapy +H (+P in first line)**

**Maintenance H (+P in first line)**

Aggressive and/or symptomatic disease or visceral crisis risk

Trastuzumab - Resistant Disease (DFI < 12 months)

Limited data from recent studies

ER pos

ER neg

T-DM1

Pertuzumab (P) + H + Taxani  
(off label?  
Case Discussion

T-DM1

Pertuzumab (P) + H + Taxani  
(off label? Discussione caso per caso)

RR/SD

RR/SD

Maintenance Hormonal Therapy +H (+P in first line)

Maintenance H + ev P

Cape + lapatinib  
DDP +/- H  
GEM +/- H  
Cape +/-H

Cape + lapatinib  
CDDP +/- H  
GEM +/- H  
Cape +/-H

# BOLERO-1/TRIO 019

- The addition of everolimus to trastuzumab plus paclitaxel in the first-line MBC setting did not improve outcomes but did **provide a “signal”** in particular in the hormone receptor–negative subset.
- The data validate preliminary observations from other studies that the treatment effect of everolimus differs based on HR expression in patients with HER2-positive MBC in the absence of hormonal therapy
- In BOLERO-3 clinical benefit appeared more pronounced in the HR<sup>-</sup> subpopulation

|                               | PFS Hazard Ratio (95% CI) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HR <sup>-</sup> subpopulation | 0.65 (0.48-0.87)          |
| HR <sup>+</sup> subpopulation | 0.93 (0.72-1.20)          |

- Similar observations were described in recent phase 3 trials with other HER2-targeted agents, such as lapatinib, pertuzumab (CLEOPATRA), and T-DM1 (EMILIA), and in 7 trials in the neoadjuvant setting

# A Different Treatment Effect in the HR<sup>-</sup> Subpopulation

- In HER2<sup>+</sup> breast cancer, patients with HR<sup>-</sup> disease may derive greater PFS benefit from targeted therapies, since the absence of a functional hormone receptor may eliminate a potential escape mechanism for HER2-targeted therapies
- Substantial cross-talk exists between HER2 and ER pathways
- Inhibition of HER2 alone increases activation of ER transcription which may:
  - act as an escape mechanism from HER2-directed agents
  - provide alternative signals for the cells to survive
- The combination of everolimus and trastuzumab could be enhanced if the ER is inhibited concomitantly in HR<sup>+</sup>/HER2<sup>+</sup> population

# Considerations and future implications

- Ongoing studies are evaluating the benefits of adding PI3K/mTOR inhibitors to endocrine therapy and HER2-targeted therapy in HER2+, HR+ MBC:
  - **NCT02152943**: Everolimus, letrozole, and trastuzumab in patients with HER2+, ER+ ABC and other solid tumors
  - **NCT01791478**: BYL719 ( $\alpha$ -specific PI3K inhibitor), letrozole, and trastuzumab in patients with HER2+, ER+ ABC
- Evaluation of the combination everolimus/trastuzumab/endocrine therapy in HR+/HER2+++ mBC as
  - maintenance strategy post-chemotherapy ?????
  - Concomitantly to chemotherapy????
- Data extrapolated from Tam + Chemo (20 ys old) studies : NOT give them at the same time as chemotherapy.
- Perhaps that is wrong: other endocrine therapies work by different mechanisms
  - Some trials are now looking at adding other endocrine therapies like an aromatase inhibitor with chemotherapy

# Considerations and future implications

- The effect of everolimus might have been obscured by the use of paclitaxel, which inhibits tumors with PI3K alterations.
- To study trastuzumab plus everolimus without chemotherapy would be interesting for a better indication of reversing a component of HER2 therapy resistance
- Finally, pertuzumab and trastuzumab emtansine are being studied for adjuvant treatment of breast cancer and for first-line treatment of MBC
- How to use these agents after patients are exposed to pertuzumab/trastuzumab/lapatinib/TDM1 in the adjuvant setting is not known, but efficacy is likely to be lower than what has been reported to date????



# Future Directions: New Targeted Agents Being Investigated in Clinical Trials in HER-Positive Advanced Breast Cancer

