

con il Patrocinio dell'Associazione Italiana di Oncologia Medica



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

**QUALI NOVITÀ PER IL 2013?**

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

Coordinatori scientifici:

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Giovanni L. Pappagallo

Comitato Scientifico:

Emilio Briò

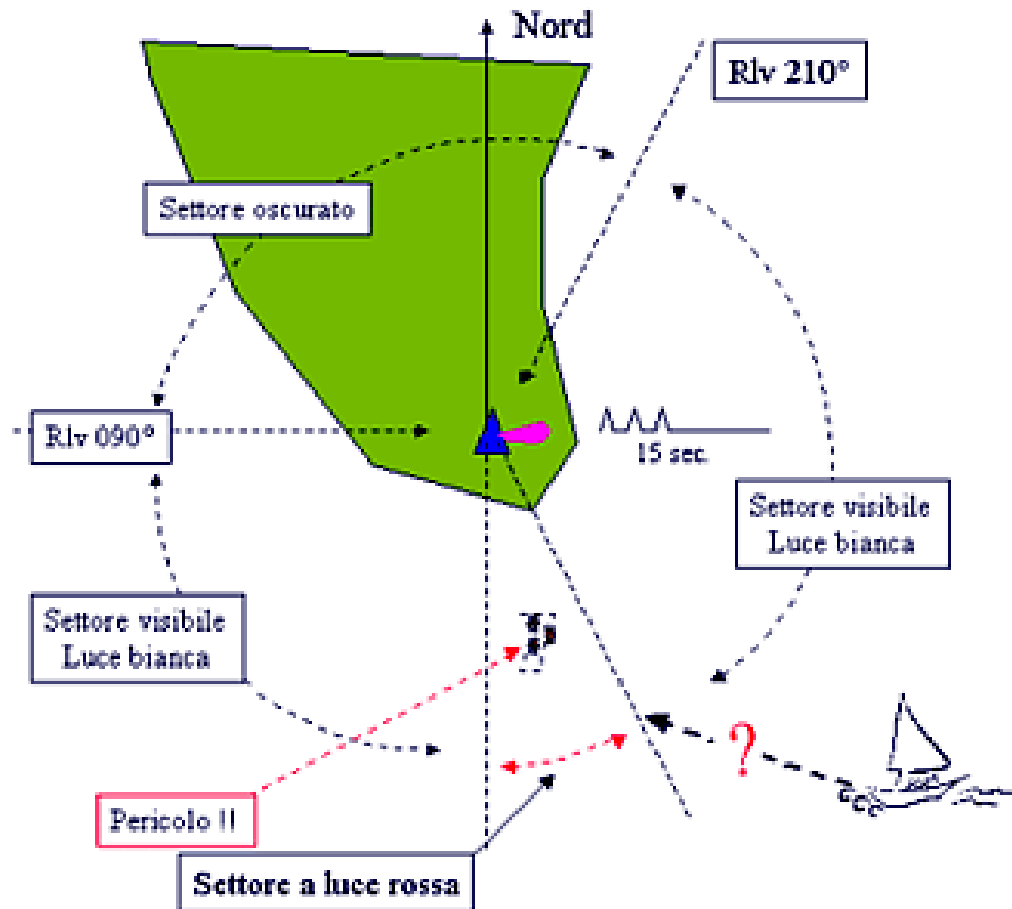
Massimo Di Maio

Jennifer Foglietta

Alessia Levaggi



Negrar - Verona 22-23 marzo 2013  
Ospedale Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria



# Statistical Methods

- **Non inferiority randomized trial**

- 2% variation in terms of absolute difference of recurrence
- The 95% CI HR should not cross the 1.15 boundary

- 1040 D

4 years

- HR were

- **Accrued**

Vista la **migliore tollerabilità** del trattamento in esame "A", si è disposti ad accettarne una eventuale minore efficacia rispetto al trattamento standard "B" purché questa non vada oltre un margine M



# Cardiac toxicity

	12 months (n=1690)	6 months (n=1690)	P
Cardiac events*	5.7%	1.9%	<0.0001
LVEF** < 50%			.04
LVEF** < 50% and			071
LVEF** > 50% and			NS

**RR 6 mesi / 12 mesi 0.3333  
(LC95% 0.2247 – 0.4945)  
↓185 eventi / 1000 pazienti**

\* Investigator reported events (composite with clinical and LFEV finding)

\*\* Based on more than > 25,000 assessments



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	12 months (n=1690)	6 months (n=1690)	P
Cardiac events*	5.7%	1.9%	<0.0001
LVEF** < 50%	6.3%	4.7%	0.04
LVEF** < 50% and ↓ > 10%	4.8%	3.6%	0.071
LVEF** > 50% and			NS

**RR 6 mesi / 12 mesi 0.7453  
(LC95% 0.5614 – 0.9895)**

**↓78 eventi / 1000 pazienti**

Based on more than > 25,000 assessments



# Cardiac toxicity

	12 months (n=1690)	6 months (n=1690)	P
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LVEF** < 50%	6.3%	4.7%	0.04
LVEF** < 50% and ↓ > 10%	4.8%	3.6%	0.071
LVEF** > 50% and ↓ > 15%	7.4%	7.0%	NS

**RR 6 mesi / 12 mesi 0.7531  
(LC95% 0.5439 – 1.0427)**

**↓58 eventi / 1000 pazienti**

/ finding)





# Cardiac toxicity

	12 months (n=1690)	6 months (n=1690)	P
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LVEF** > 50% and ↓ > 15%	7.4%	7.0%	NS

**RR 6 mesi / 12 mesi 0.9440  
(LC95% 0.7408 – 1.2029)**

**↓20 eventi / 1000 pazienti**

# Statistical Methods

- **Non inferiority randomized trial**
  - 2% variation in terms of absolute difference of recurrence
  - The 95% CI HR should not cross the 1.15 boundary
  - 1040 D
  - 4 years
  - HR were
- **Accrua**

**Vista la migliore tollerabilità del trattamento in esame "A", si è disposti ad accettarne una eventuale minore efficacia rispetto al trattamento standard "B" purché questa non vada oltre un **margin M****





European Medicines Agency  
*Pre-authorisation Evaluation of Medicines for Human Use*

London, 27 July 2005  
Doc. Ref. EMEA/CPMP/EWP/2158/99

**COMMITTEE FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE  
(CHMP)**

**GUIDELINE ON THE CHOICE OF THE NON-INFERIORITY MARGIN**

The choice of delta must always be justified on both clinical and statistical grounds. It always needs to be tailored specifically to the particular clinical context and no rule can be provided that covers all clinical situations.

# Statistical Methods

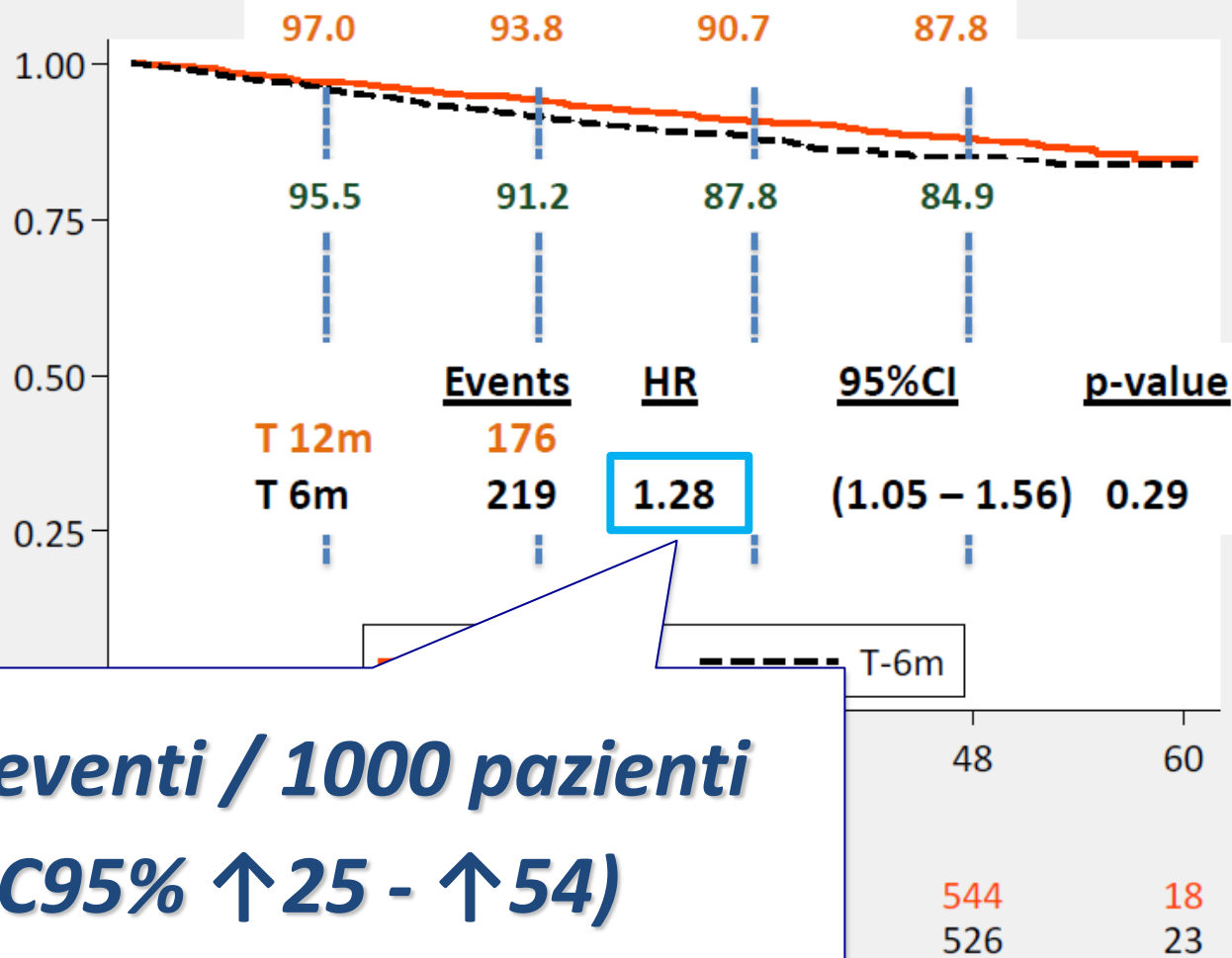
- **Non inferiority randomized trial**
  - 2% variation in terms of absolute difference of recurrence
  - The 95% CI HR margins should not cross the 1.15 boundary
  - 1040 DFS events required for 80% power at 5% level

**or**

- 4 years of accrual and at least 2 years of follow-up
- HR were estimated from the stratified Cox model

- **Accrual target: 3400 patients**

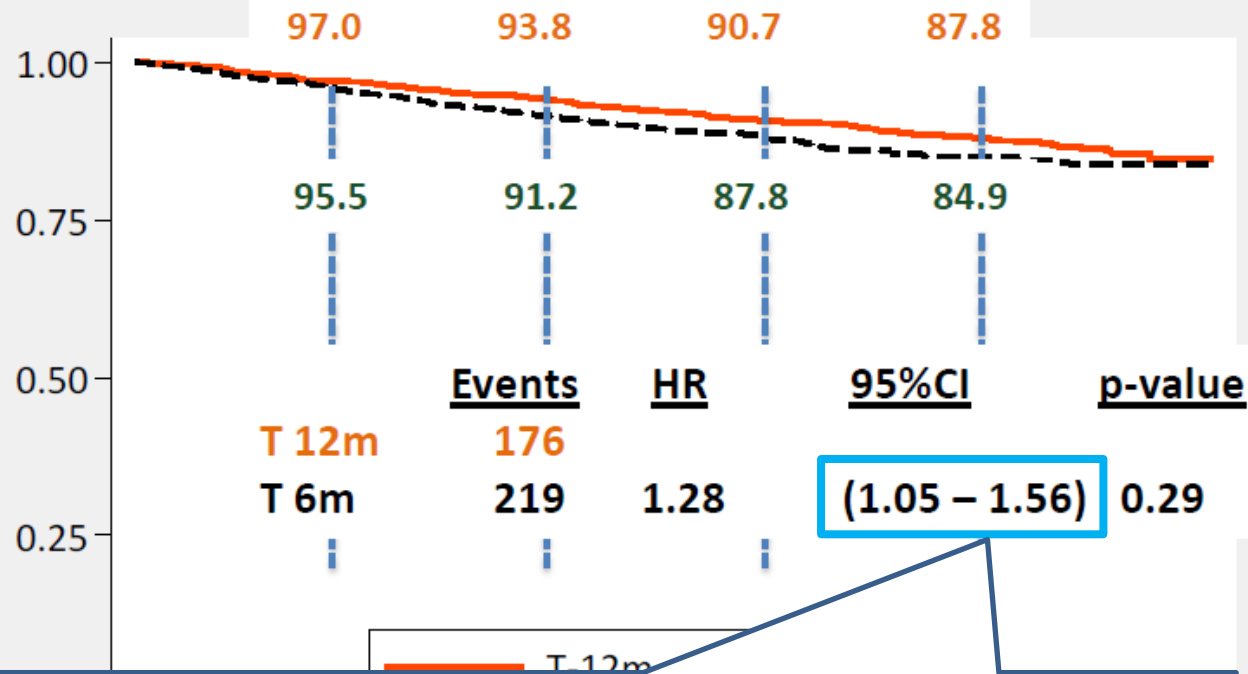
# Disease Free Survival



**↑27 eventi / 1000 pazienti  
(LC95% ↑25 - ↑54)**

\* Cox model stratified by ER status and concomitant chemotherapy

# Disease Free Survival



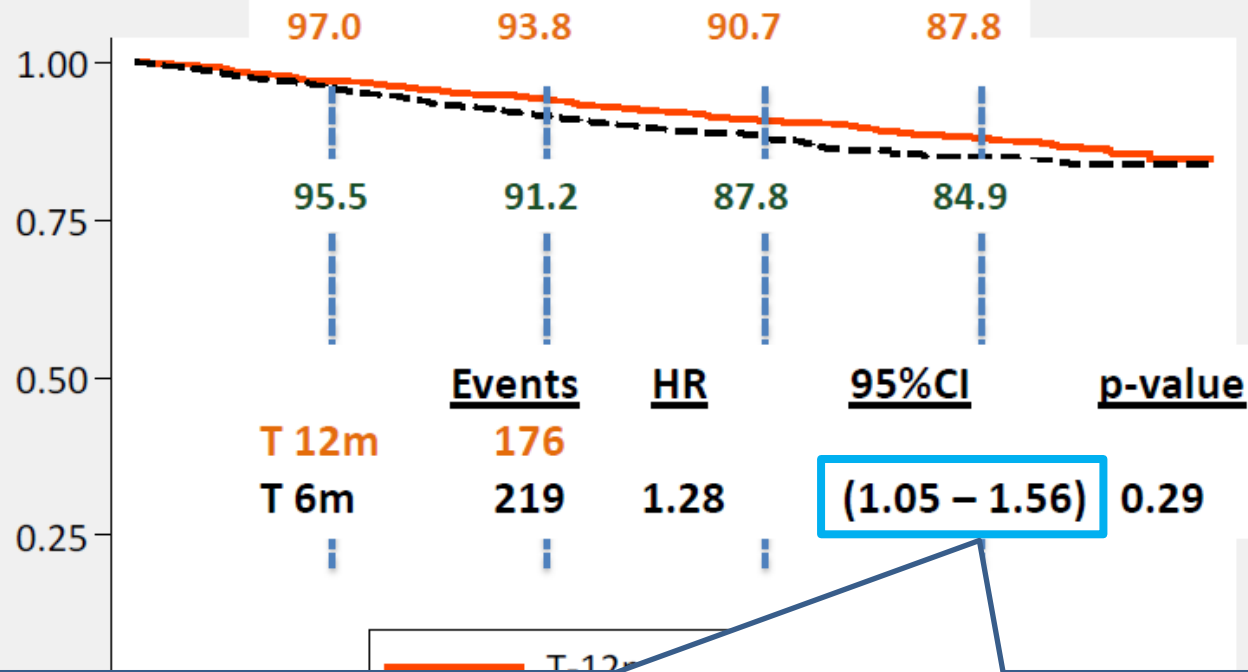
***1.56 > 1.15 = lo studio ha fallito la dimostrazione di non-inferiorità***

\* Cox model stratified by ER status and concomitant chemotherapy

# PHARE CONCLUSIONS

- **Observed HR 1.28 (CI: 1.05-1.56) so inconclusive in terms of noninferiority**

# Disease Free Survival



*L'intervallo di confidenza risiede completamente a destra della linea di equivalenza... **evidenza di inferiorità?***



# PHARE CONCLUSIONS

- Observed HR 1.28 (CI: 1.05-1.56) so inconclusive in terms of noninferiority
- Since Lower CI  $> 1.0$ , conclude that 12 mo is better than 6 mo and increase in HR for 6 mo is at least 5%, not sure if less than 15%

# Through the looking glass: understanding non-inferiority

Jennifer Schumi\* and Janet T Wittes

*Trials* 2011, **12**:106

One focuses on the upper bound for this non-inferiority comparison; what happens at the lower end of the CI is not the primary concern.

The purpose of the trial is to estimate the upper bound of the CI, not to establish a point estimate of the treatment effect.

Bear in mind that the opposite of 'non-inferior' is not 'inferior'; it is 'not non-inferior'.

# Reporting of Noninferiority and Equivalence Randomized Trials

## An Extension of the CONSORT Statement

Gilda Piaggio, PhD

Diana R. Elbourne, PhD

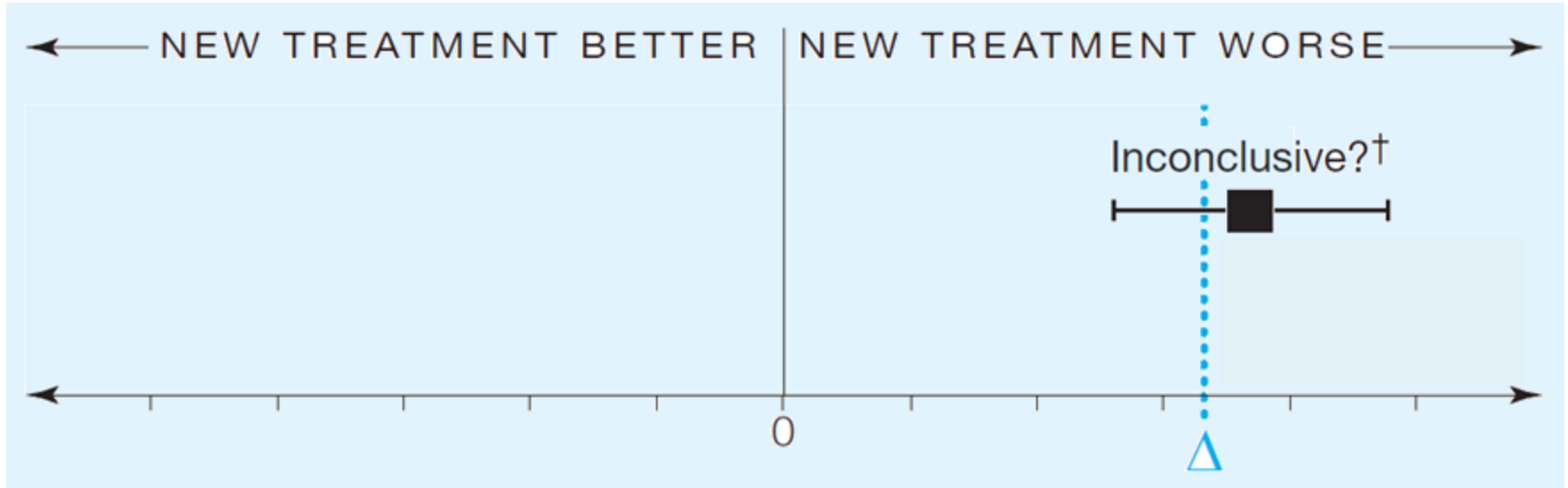
Douglas G. Altman, DSc

Stuart J. Pocock, PhD

Stephen J. W. Evans, MSc

for the CONSORT Group

*JAMA. 2006;295:1152-1160*



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† This CI is inconclusive in that it is still plausible that the true treatment difference is less than  $\Delta$ , but the new treatment is significantly worse than the standard.

# PHARE CONCLUSIONS

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- Since Lower CI  $> 1.0$ , conclude that 12 mo is better than 6 mo and increase in HR for 6 mo is at least 5%, not sure if less than 15%

**Significantly worse  
≠ (clinically) inferior**

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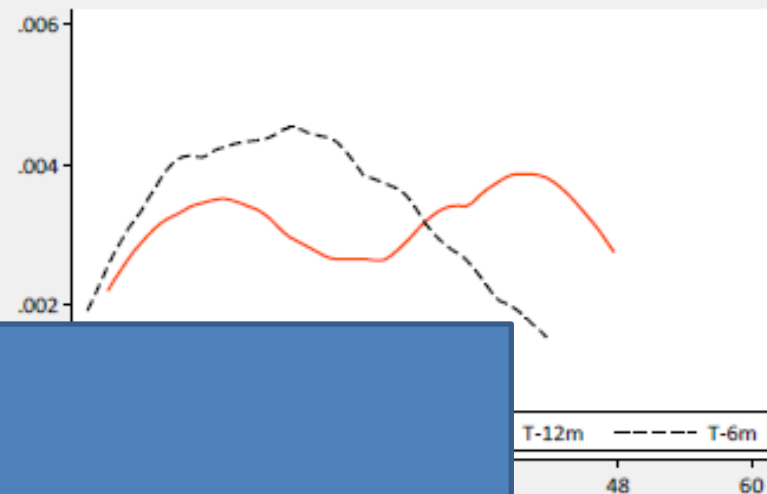
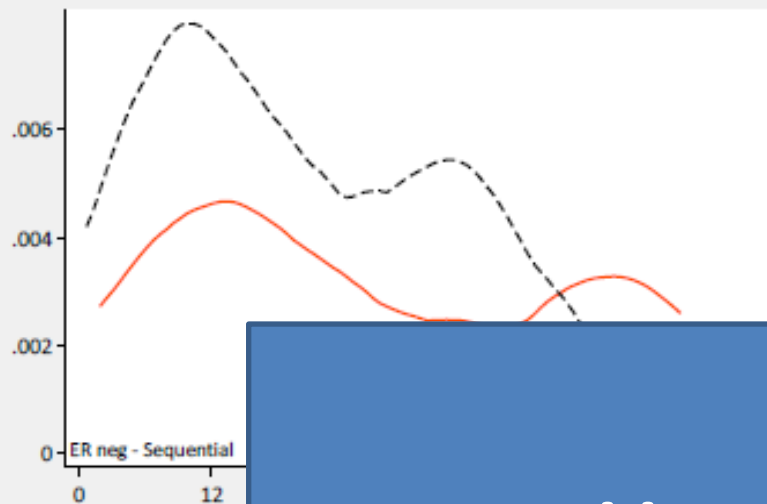
# PHARE CONCLUSIONS

- Observed HR 1.28 (CI: 1.05-1.56) so inconclusive in terms of noninferiority
- Since Lower CI  $> 1.0$ , conclude that 12 mo is better than 6 mo and increase in HR for 6 mo is at least 5%, not sure if less than 15%
- 395 events much less than planned 1040 events, so if trial had continued may have been able to statistically show HR with 6 mo greater than 15% with tighter point estimates



# Objective and strategy of subgroup analysis

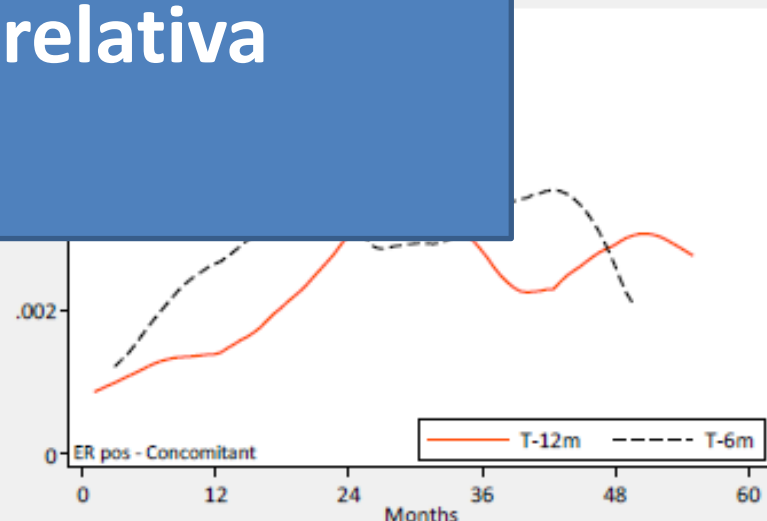
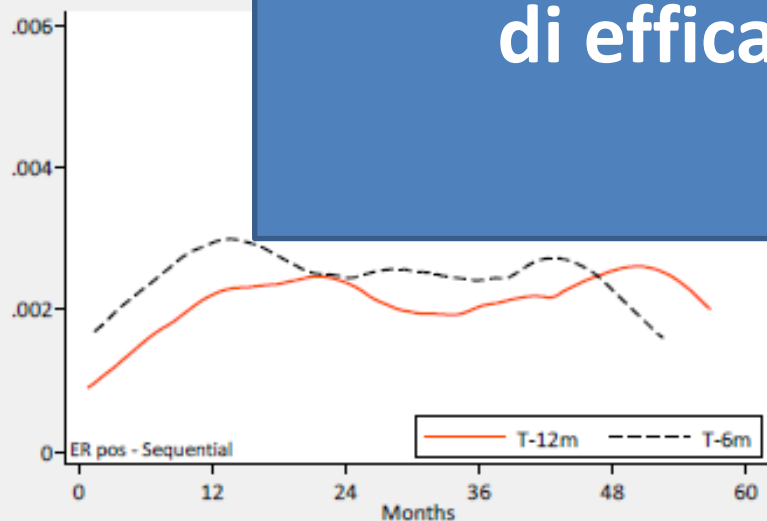
- The aim of this analysis was to assess the trastuzumab duration effects for specific subgroups
  - Identified by pre-defined stratification factors
    - Estrogen receptor status
    - Sequential or concomitant administration of trastuzumab with chemotherapy
- Assess heterogeneity by interaction tests
  - 0.10 significance level



ER

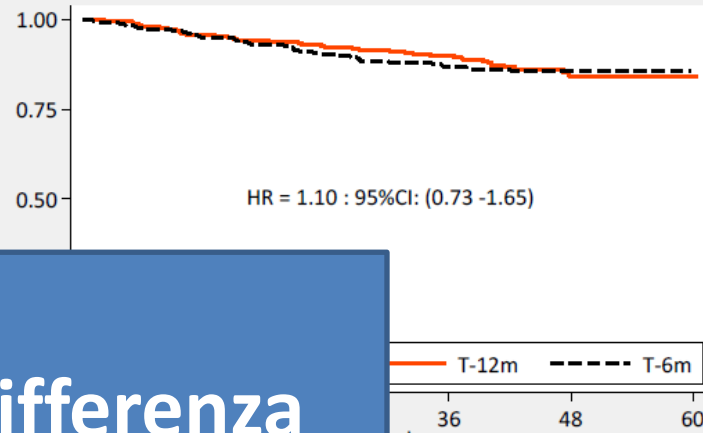
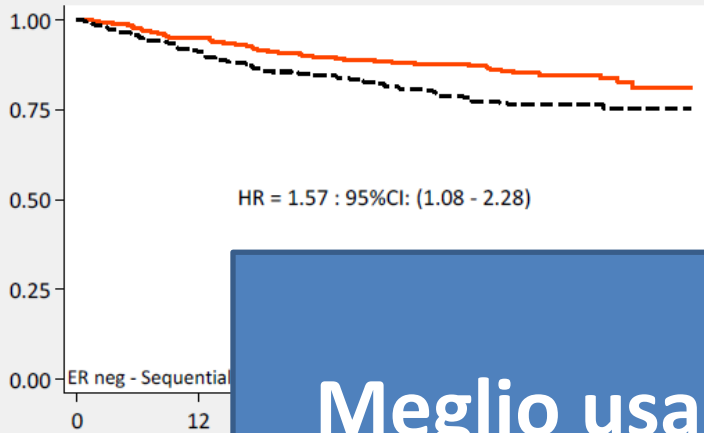
ant

In tutti i sottogruppi HR =  
non appropriato indicatore  
di efficacia relativa

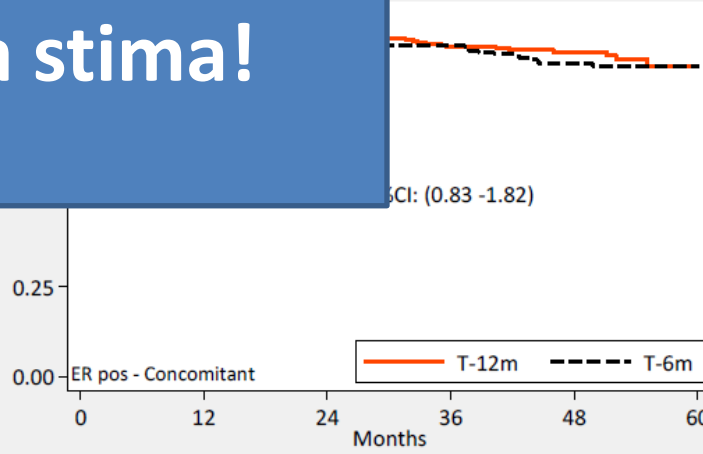
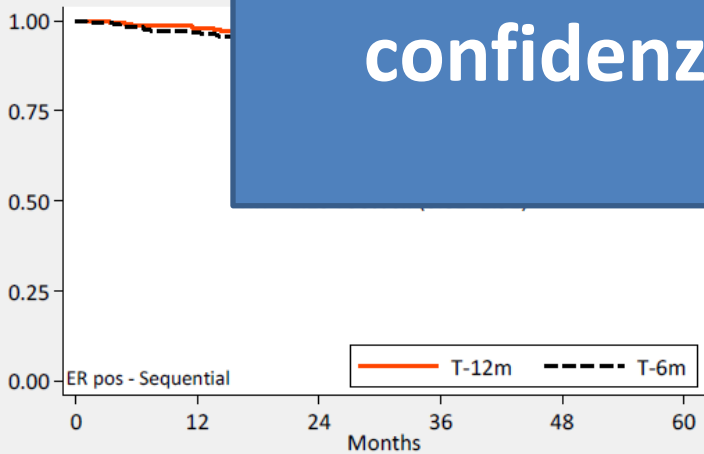


ER(+), sequential

ER(+), concomitant



**Meglio usare la differenza assoluta tra le curve... ma attenzione ai limiti di confidenza della stima!**



ER(+), sequential

ER(+), concomitant

# Come valutare la Qualità delle Evidenze disponibili in Letteratura

RATING QUALITY OF EVIDENCE AND STRENGTH OF RECOMMENDATIONS

## GRADE: an emerging consensus on rating quality of evidence and strength of recommendations

The members of the Grade Working Group

BMJ | 26 APRIL 2008 | VOLUME 336 924

Graduazione della qualità delle prove.

<b>Livello qualità</b>	<b>Significato</b>	<b>Conseguenza</b>
Alta	Alto grado di confidenza nei risultati	È molto improbabile che ulteriori studi possano cambiare la fiducia nella stima di effetto
Moderata	Discreto grado di confidenza nei risultati	È probabile che ulteriori studi possano confermare o cambiare la fiducia nella stima di effetto
Bassa	I risultati sono poco credibili	È necessaria ulteriore ricerca per ottenere stime affidabili sugli effetti positivi e negativi dell'intervento
Molto bassa	I dati esaminati sono totalmente inaffidabili	Non è possibile fare affidamento sulle stime di effetto disponibili

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Study design

RCTs ⊕⊕⊕⊕

observational studies ⊕⊕○○

## Determinants of quality

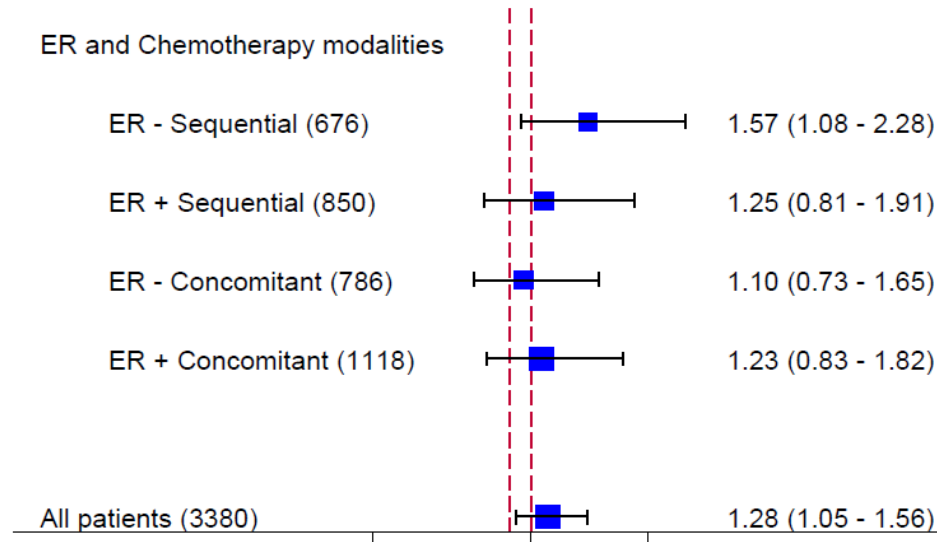
5 factors that can **lower** quality

1. limitations of detailed design and execution  
*(risk of bias criteria)*
2. Inconsistency *(or heterogeneity)*
3. Indirectness *(PICO and applicability)*
4. Imprecision *(number of events and confidence intervals)*
5. Publication bias





## Conclusion



### DFS endpoint: downgrade (-3) HIGH → VERY LOW

- 395 events observed / 1040 planned
- non proportional hazards (subgroup analysis)
- wide confidence limits (subgroup analysis)