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*Gene expression profiling  
for targeted cancer treatment*

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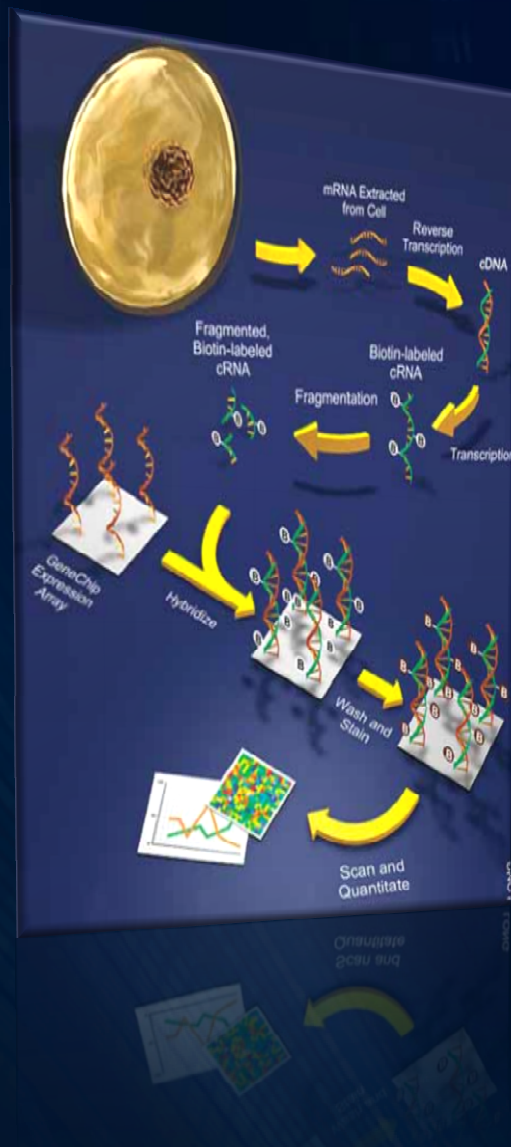
## *Current landscape of cancer care*

1. In the past 7 years, nearly 900 independent oncology practices in the United States have closed, been acquired by a hospital or merged with another entity, according to the Community Oncology Alliance. Several hundred more are struggling financially.
2. As expenses rise, reimbursements decline and regulatory burdens intensify, some experts suggest the trend will continue.
3. Others suggest independent providers who are willing **to adapt** to the evolving health care environment **and embrace creative strategies** can find ways to thrive.

HemOnc today, October 10, 2014

# *the research bench to the physician's tool for diagnosis and treatment*

## *Gene expression profiling → experiment design*



1. core biopsies from tumor and normal tissue preserved in RNA-later
2. RNA extraction and QC - clean, intact RNA will ensure the generation of high quality microarray data
3. synthesis of double stranded cDNA from the RNA sample using reverse transcriptase and an oligo dT primer
4. in vitro transcription (IVT) reaction that produces amplified amounts of biotin-labeled antisense mRNA
5. cRNA fragmentation using heat and  $Mg^{+2}$  (this fragmentation reduces the cRNA to 25-200 bp fragments)
6. cRNA hybridization at 45 degrees Celsius for 18 hours
7. Staining the chip (U133 Plus 2.0) with a fluorescent molecule (streptavidin-phycoerythrin) that binds to the biotin
8. series of washes and stains binds the biotin and provides an amplified fluor that emits light when excited. The chip is then scanned and the images processed using Affymetrix software, GeneChip Operating Software
9. MAS file types are generated: Experiment File \*.EXP, Image Data File \*.DAT, Cell Intensity File \*.CEL, Probe Array Results File \*.CHP, Report File \*.RPT, and MAGE-ML \*.XML
10. Importing CEL file into Elsevier Pathway Studio software.

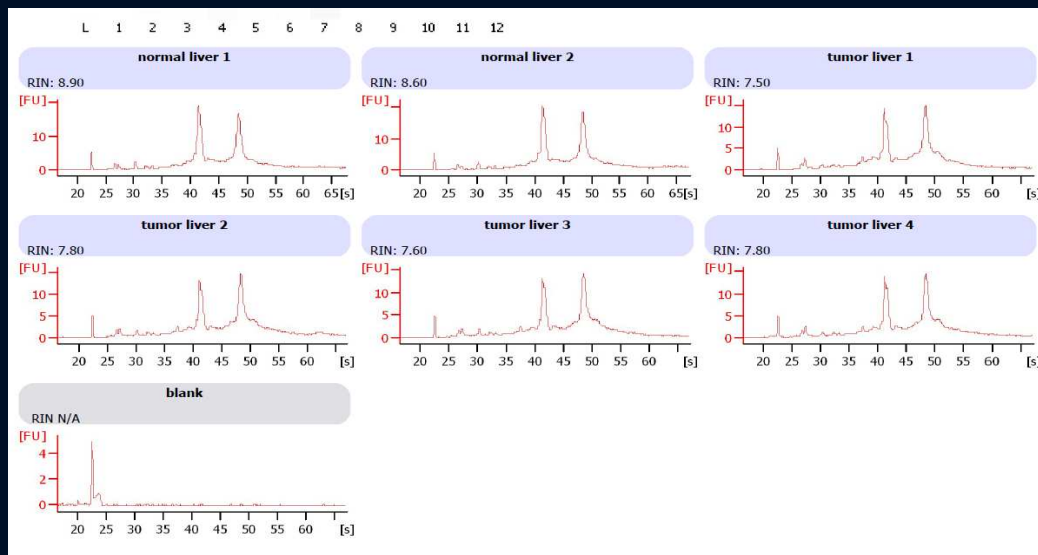
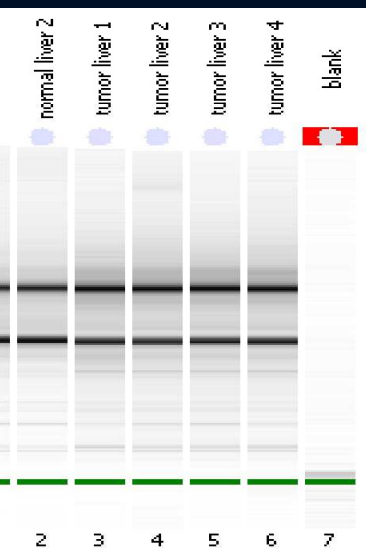
# First patient

67-year old Caucasian female diagnosed with moderate to poorly differentiated hepatocellular carcinoma with associated necrosis

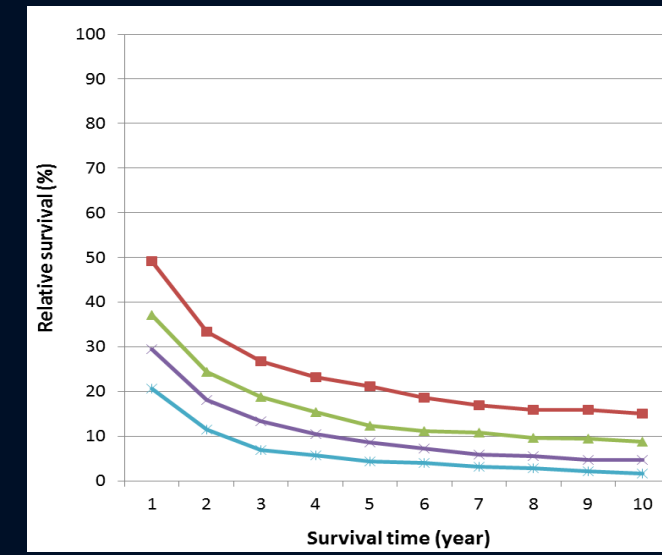
CT scan shows 9.0x7.2x5.7 cm right hepatic lobe mass

Biopsy of hepatocellular carcinoma involving an ascending colon in the right lateral abdominal wall, segments 5 and 6 from the liver and 11 benign lymph nodes

Biopsies of liver tumor as well as some of the normal liver parenchymal cells were sent for gene expression profile analysis



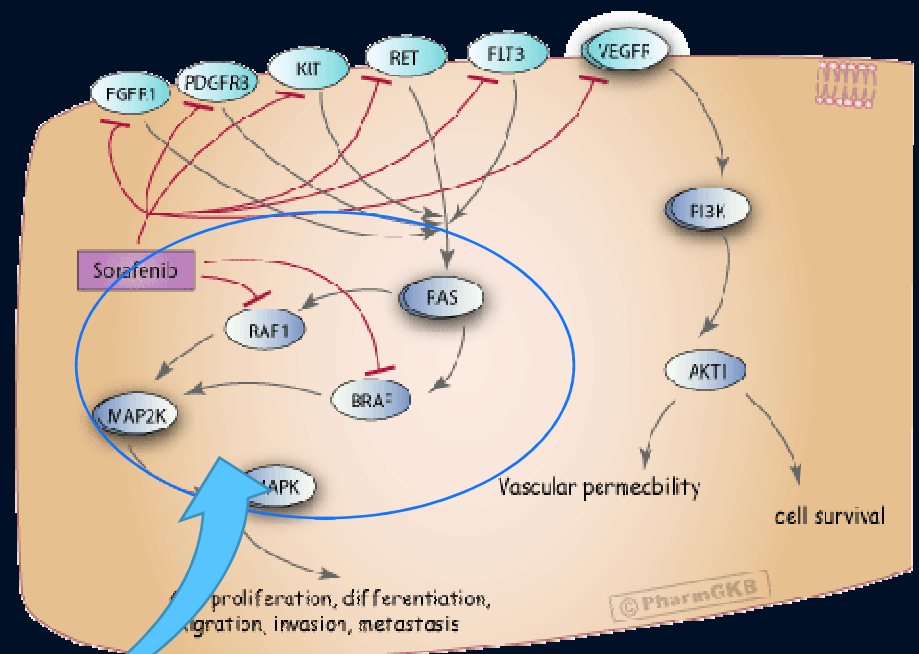
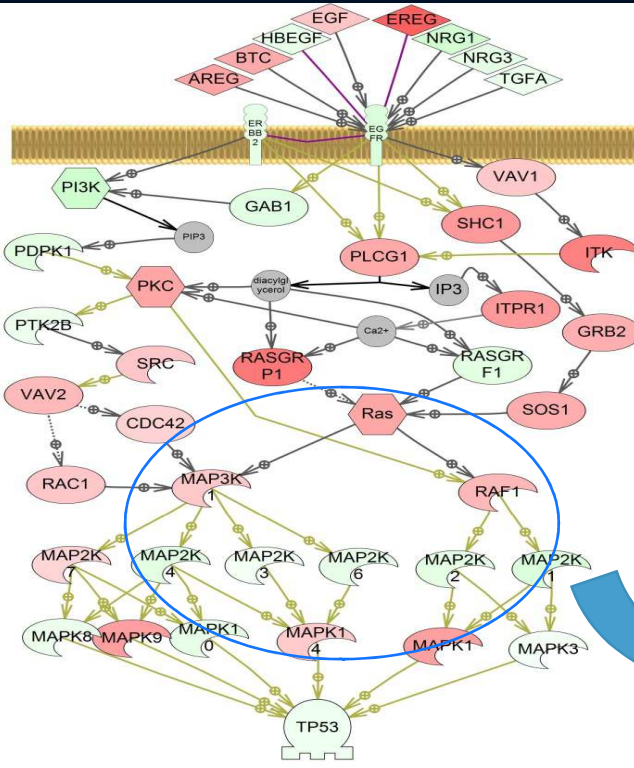
Liver cancer survival in women by survival time



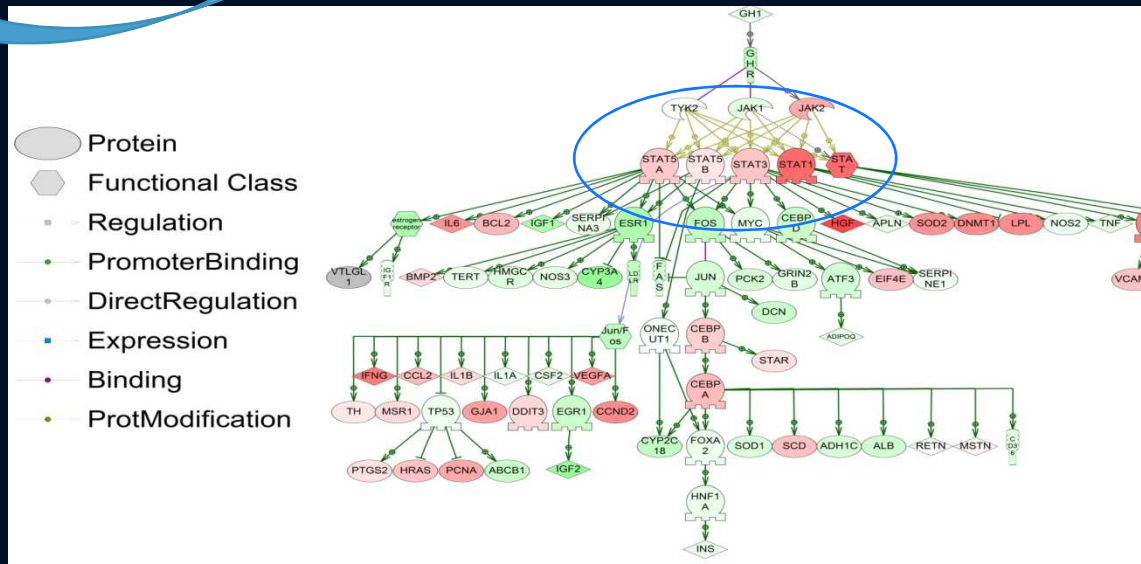
The figure shows survival rates for liver cancer by survival time and age for the US male and female between 1980 and 2000

ant signal transduction pathways through which  
 ocellular carcinoma has proliferate is through  
 e Raf- Ras-MEK-Map kinase pathway.

n  
 onal Class  
 Molecule  
 ation  
 icalReaction  
 ansport  
 Regulation  
 ng  
 odification



pathways within her hepatocellular carcinoma  
 JAK-STAT  
 SMAD - RUNX2  
 AKT1-FOXO1-IGFBP1  
 RUNT - VEGFA



patient arranged to receive Sorafenib 400 mg twice a day at least six months

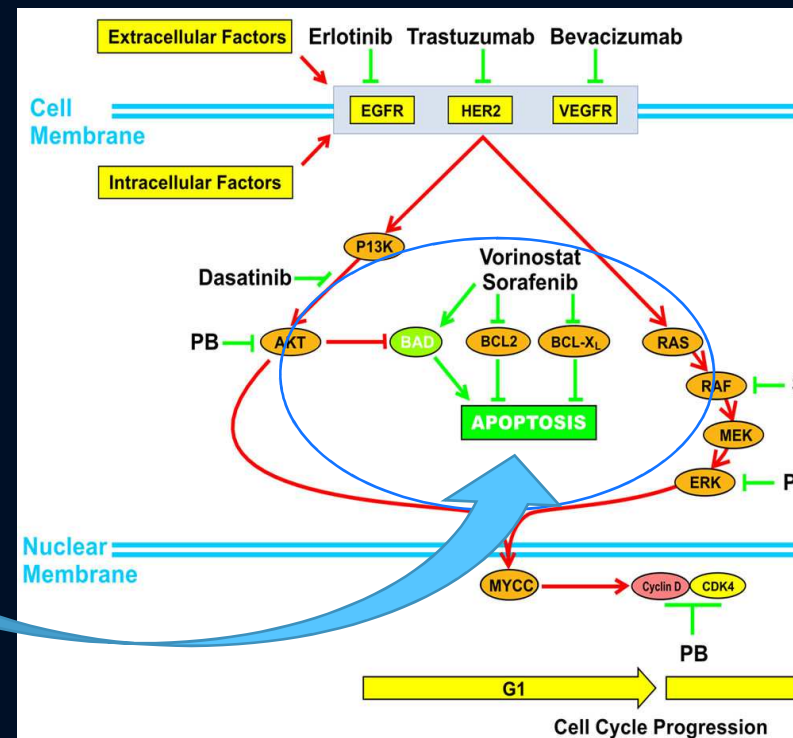
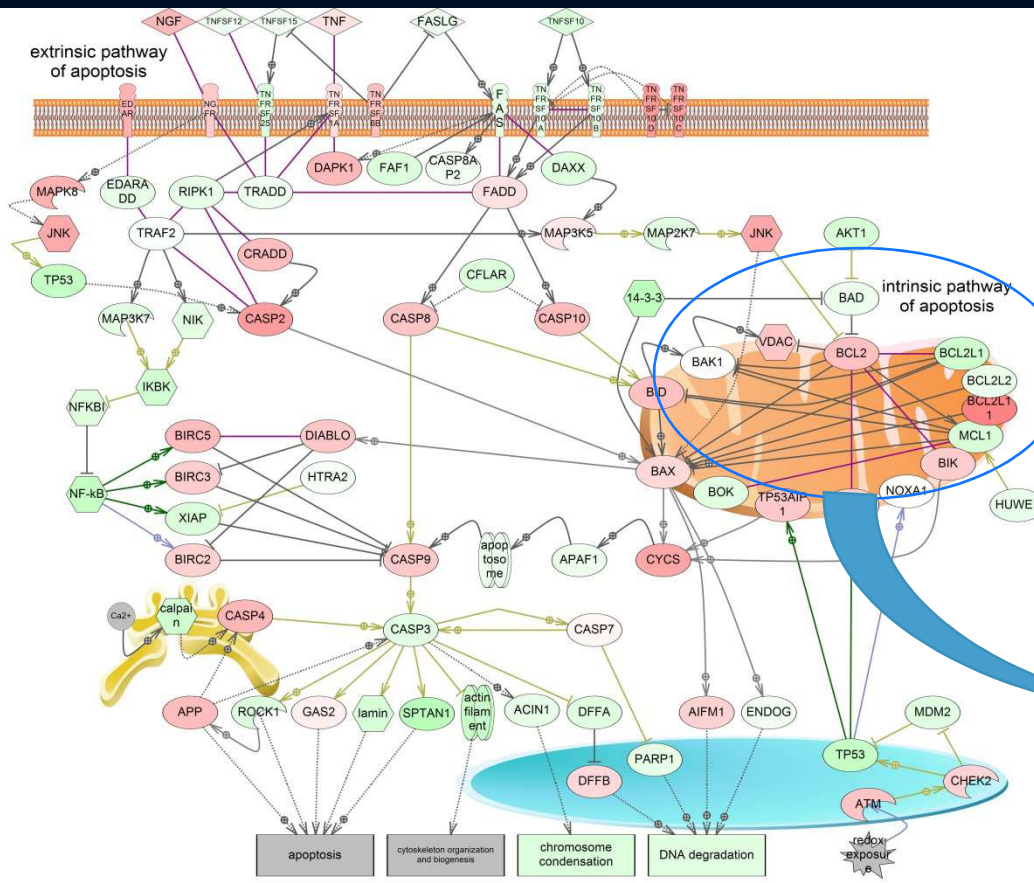
evaluation of residual disease with gene expression profile using mesenteric lymph node material from small bowel

patient referred to Virginia, Massey Cancer Center to look at being randomized in the clinical trial (ClinicalTrials.gov)

trial number: NCT01075113) looking at combinations of molecular targeted therapies inducing apoptosis (Vorinostat) in

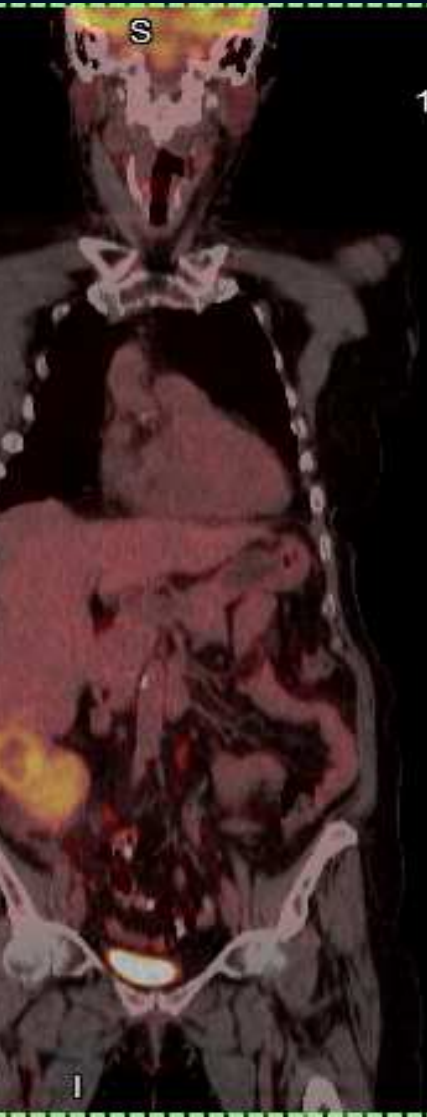
the dominant pathway, which were blocked by Sorafenib: EGFR-Ras-Raf-MEK-Map kinase-ERK pathway.

Protein  
Process  
Functional Class  
Complex  
Small Molecule  
Treatment  
Regulation  
Motor Binding  
Transport  
Regulation  
Expression  
Binding  
Modification

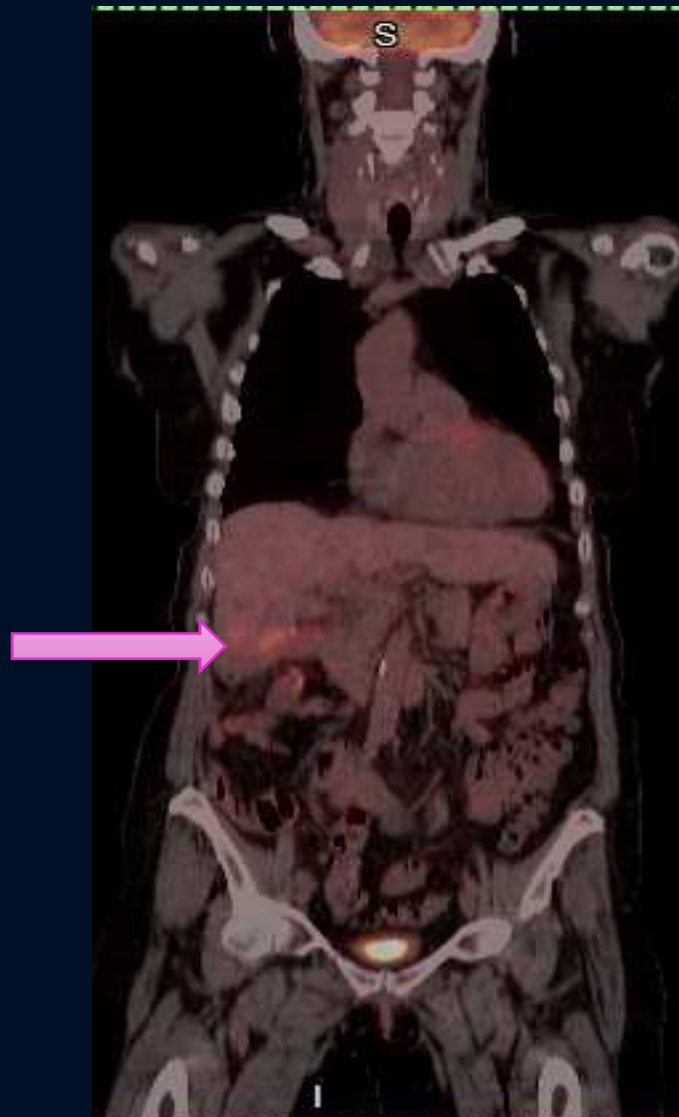


A phase I trial is studying the side effects and best dose of vorinostat when given together with sorafenib tosylate in treating patients with advanced liver cancer. Sorafenib may stop the growth of tumor cells by blocking some of the enzymes needed for cell growth or by blocking blood flow to the tumor. Giving sorafenib tosylate together with vorinostat may kill more tumor cells. - [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)

*Before and after treatment*



Before treatment  
PET/Scan-July, 2013



After resection and **Sorafenib** 400 mg  
twice a day (six months)-PET/Scan



After **NCT01075113** clinical trial **Sorafenib** plus  
Massey Cancer Center, Virginia, June 2014-P

## *First patient summary*

- ✓ Continue the clinical trial
- ✓ Patient has outlived Overall Survival estimates based on standard of care treatment and continues to have normal quality of life with intermittent grade I hand-foot syndrome from her Sorafinib + Voronistat treatments on Clinical trial and to this date in time appears to be in clinical remission.



CT/Scan from 10-October-20



## *Second patient*

67-year old Caucasian female diagnosed in 2011 in Florida with stage I breast cancer, miss-labeled as ER+ /PR+ , and treated with paclitaxel/Cyclophosphamide (4 cycles) followed by hormonal therapy

Local recurrence in 2013 and diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer with mets in the right lung and her brain (diagnosed macrophage practice for the first time after moving to North Carolina)

Re-diagnosed (initial tumor block from Florida) as ER-/PR- and treated with radiation for the brain met and 2 cycles of paclitaxel/Cyclophosphamide (dose dense standard of care therapy, based on ASCO and NCCN guidelines) for the breast cancer mets

Brain met responded to the radiation treatment but the lung met did not respond to AC chemotherapy and core biopsies were performed from the lung met

Treatment was switched to Gemcitabine (standard of care) until the gene expression profiling data was processed

Gene expression profiling reveals:

ER -, PR-, Her2Neu- confirming pathology findings as a triple negative breast cancer metastasis

Cell invasion through: connective tissue growth factor (CTGF)->fibronectin 1 (FN1) ->integrin  $\alpha$ -5 pathway

Cell cycle is activated through transcription factor activator E2F and viral oncogene MYBL2

Angiogenesis is up-regulated through VEGF

Based on the tumor pathways , bevacizumab (recombinant human monoclonal antibody that blocks angiogenesis by inhibiting VEGF) was added to her treatment to decrease blood vessel ingrowth to her tumor from angiogenesis

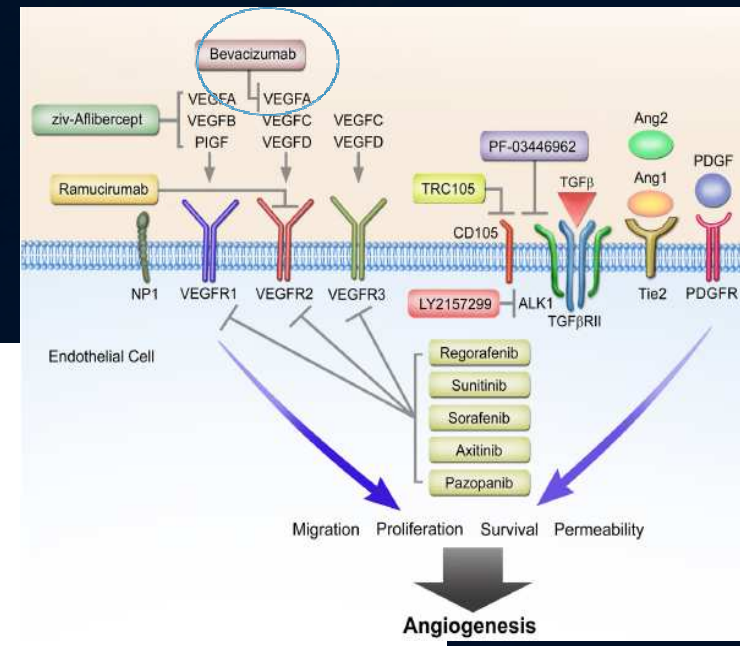
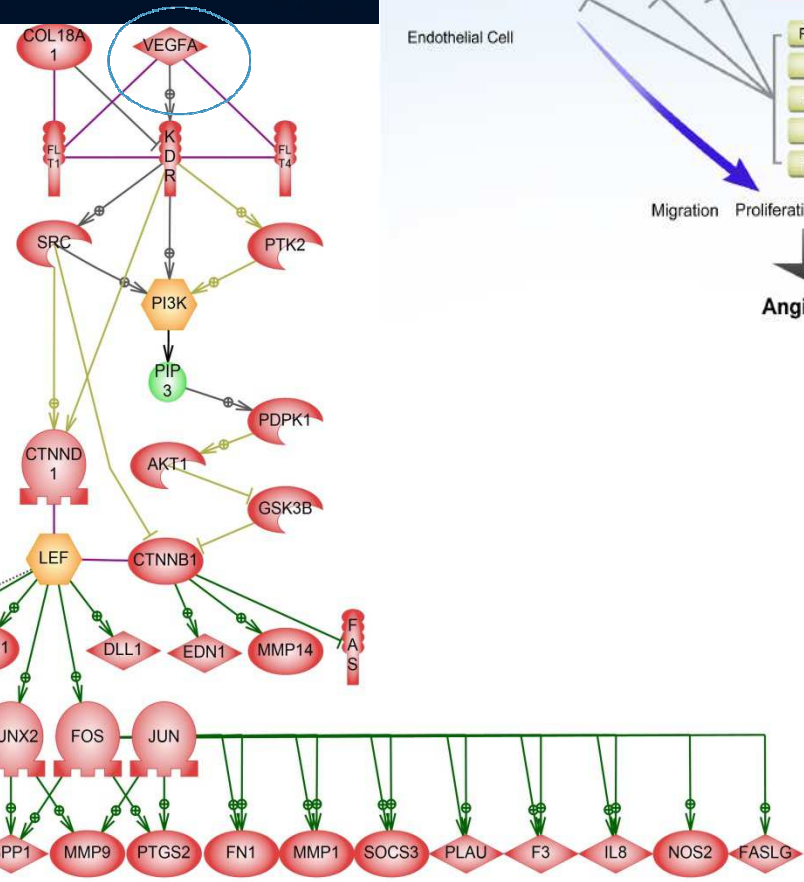
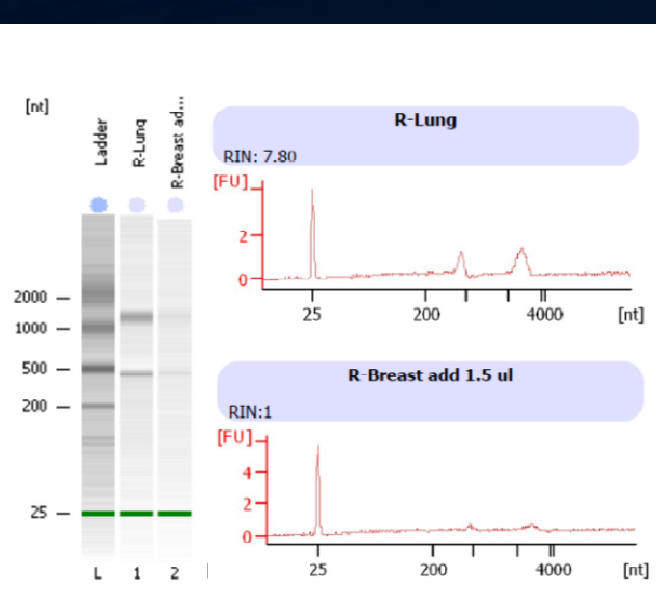
Follow up scan showed considerable decreasing on the lung met to the size that allowed it to be resected follow up by 2 more cycles of bevacizumab plus Gemcitabine

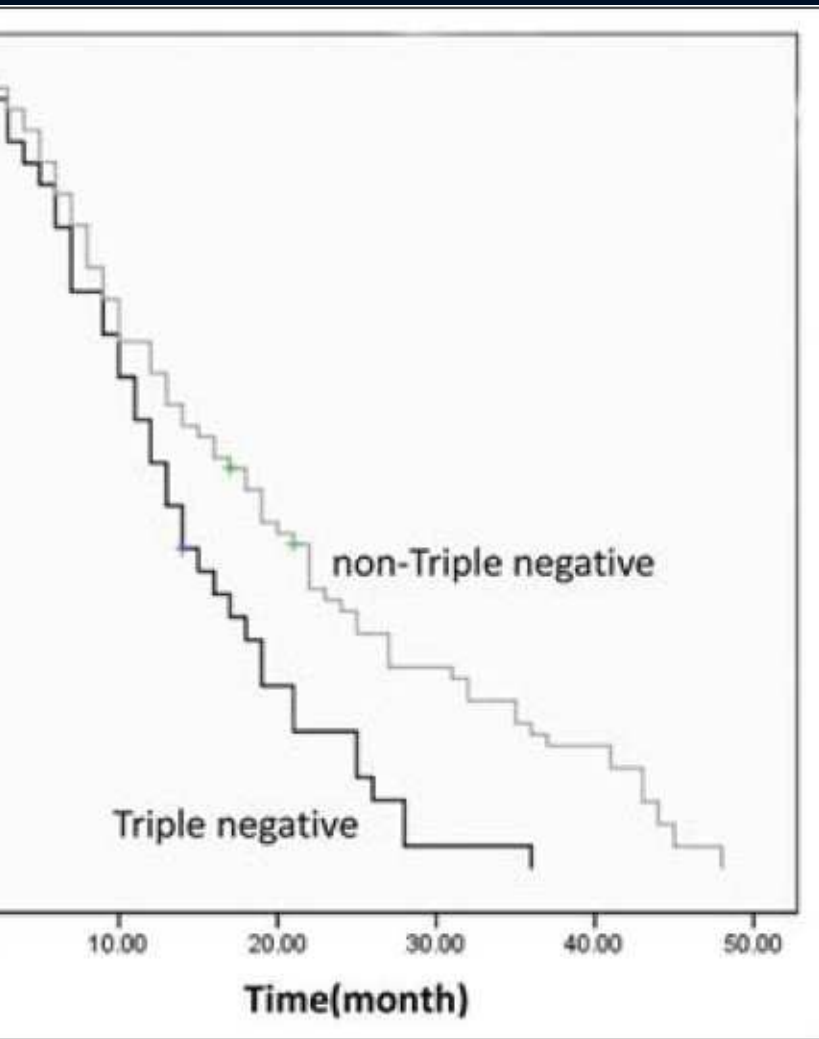
During the treatment, bone mets developed and she received 10 days of radiation as a palliative treatment

Progression of disease and next scan is scheduled for November 2014

# second patient — tumor signaling pathway

Protein  
 Functional Class  
 Small Molecule  
 Regulation  
 Chemical Reaction  
 Motor Binding  
 Act Regulation  
 Lipid  
 Modification

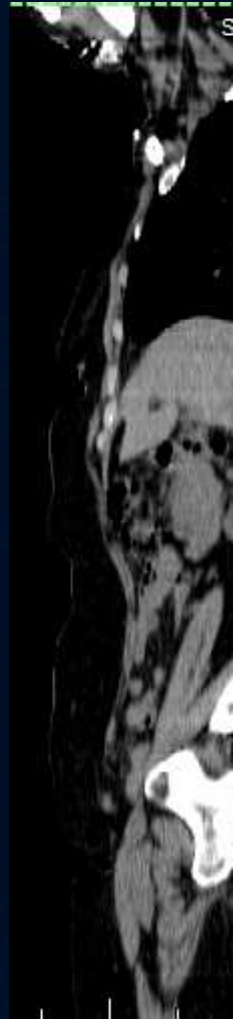




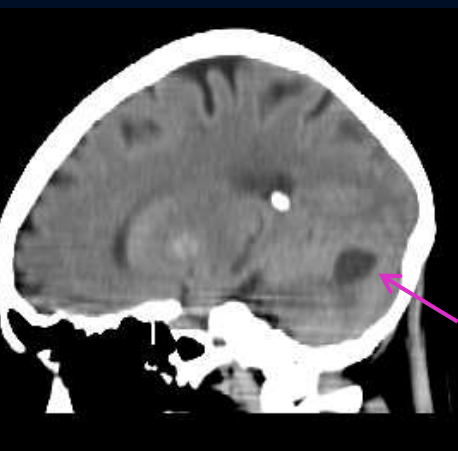
Lung met  
before treatment  
12 September 2013  
PET/Scan



No lung met  
after treatment  
8 July 2014  
PET/Scan



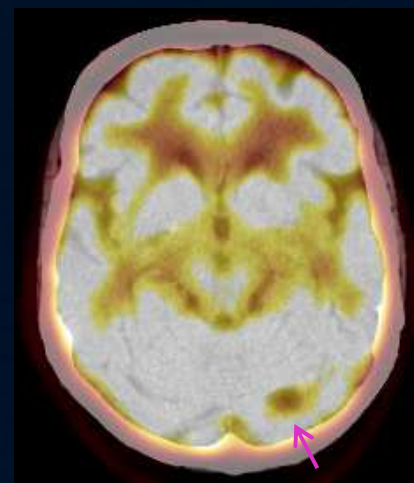
No lung met  
after treatment  
8 July 2014  
CT/Scan



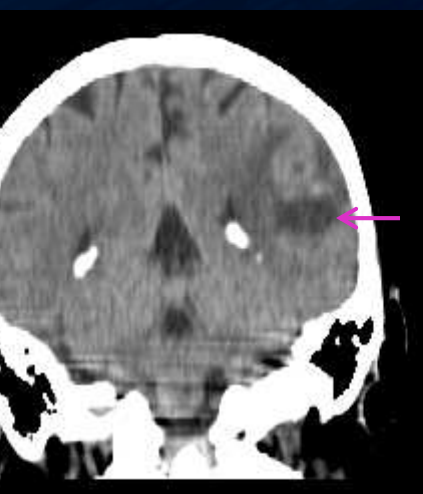
pt-2013: left cerebellum met  
CT/Scan



8-july-2014: left cerebellum no change in size  
CT/Scan



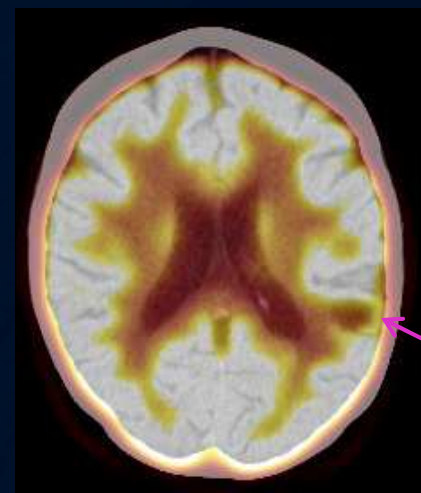
8-july-2014: left cerebellum no  
hyper-metabolic activity PE



pt-2013: left parietal met  
CT/Scan



8-july-2014: left parietal no change in size  
CT/Scan



8-july-2014: left parietal no in  
hyper-metabolic activity PE

## *Second patient summary*

No clinical signs or symptoms of disease and next PET/CT scan is scheduled for November 2014

Patient has outlived Overall Survival estimates based on standard of care treatments and continues to have normal quality of life

## *Third patient*

67-year old Caucasian male diagnosed in 2009 with stage IV colon cancer

- Removal of sigmoid colon
- Radiofrequency ablation for two liver lesions
- Treated for surgical site infection
- Refused to have chemotherapy (adjuvant therapy) initially after the surgery

Local recurrence in 2013 with multiple mets in the liver and lung; core biopsies were performed from the liver met for gene expression profiling

In February 2014 started standard of care modified FOLFOX6 regimen every 2 weeks with 5-FU CADD pump

- FOLFOX6 = 5-FU + Oxaliplatin + Leucovorin

Gene expression profiling reveals:

1. Tumor grows due to mitotic activation

2. FoxMP1 activation in the tumor → FoxMP1 confers resistance to many drugs including chemo drugs

3. Drug metabolism pathways are active → bad outcome because tumor adapts to liver and liver's function is drug metabolism

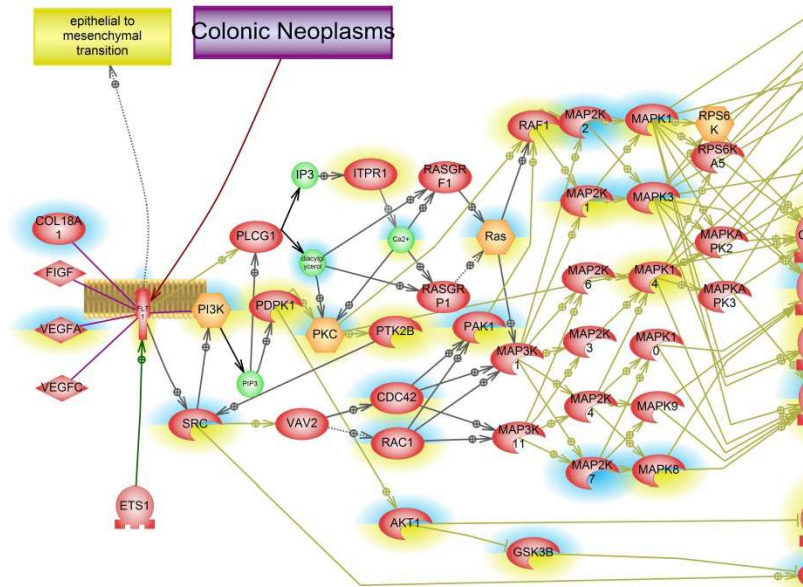
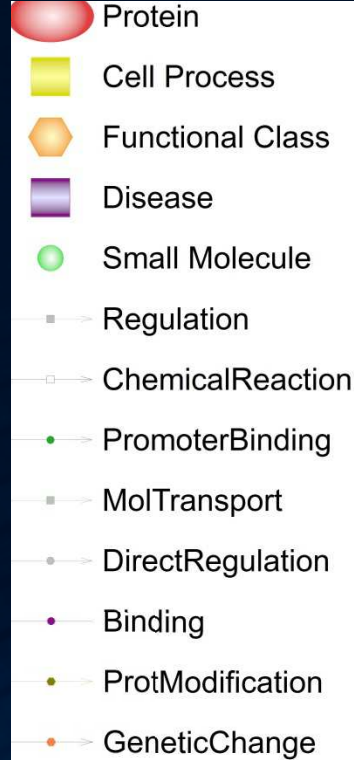
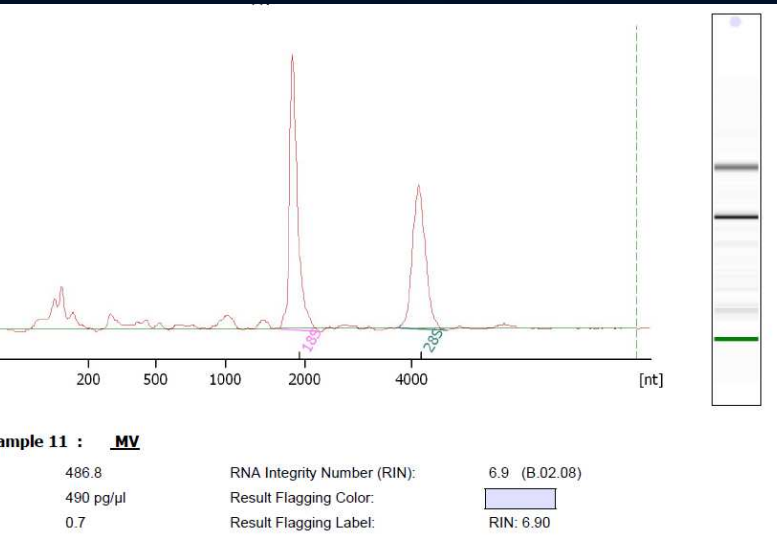
4. Angiogenesis is up-regulated through VEGF

Based on the tumor pathways

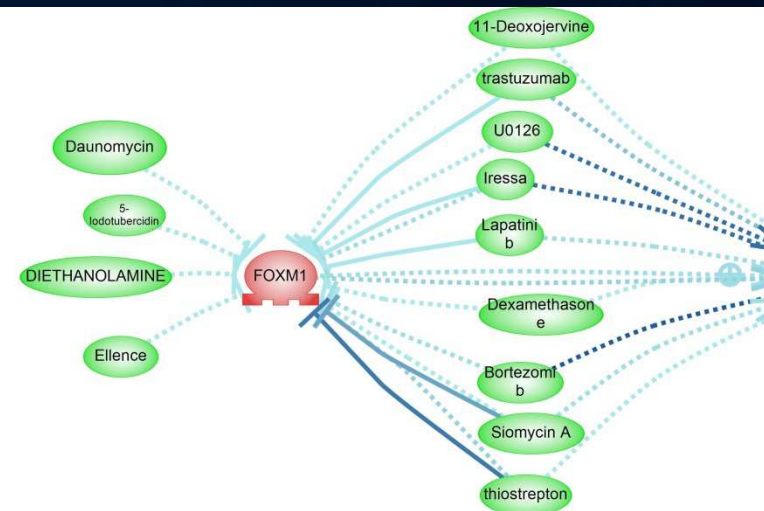
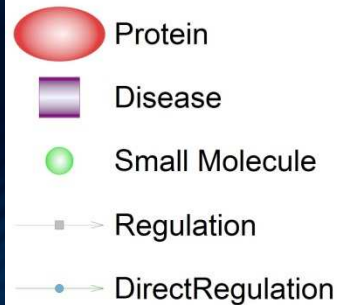
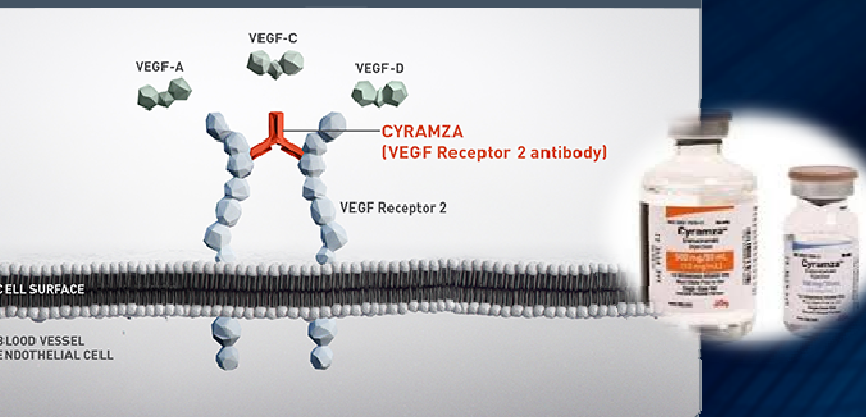
- Dexamethazone (blocks FoxMP1) was added to his original treatment (FOLFOX6) but without oxaliplatin to decrease resistance to chemo drugs; the other FoxMP1 inhibitors are not FDA approved for colon cancer
- Potential to use Ramucirumab – a VEGF Receptor 2 antagonist that specifically binds and blocks activation of VEGF Receptor 2 and blocks binding of VEGFA receptor which binds VEGF-A, VEGF-C, and VEGF-D ligands
- September 2014, a pharma company announced use of Ramucirumab in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer showed benefit in overall survival

In July 2013 the patient was on hold from the toxicity of chemo treatment due to: typhilitis, pneumatosis of the colon (thickened colonic wall) and pulmonary embolism; started back on treatment in August 2014 but after 3 cycles decided to not have a second round of chemotherapy at that time.

# Third patient tumor signaling pathway

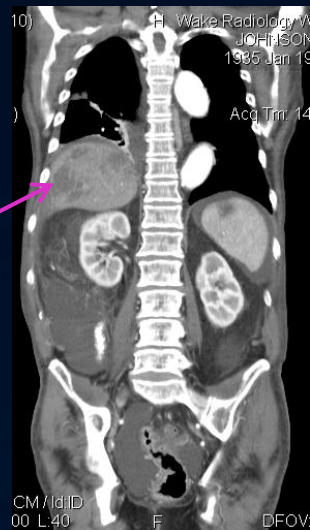


CYRAMZA BLOCKS MULTIPLE LIGANDS BY BINDING A SINGLE RECEPTOR<sup>1</sup>



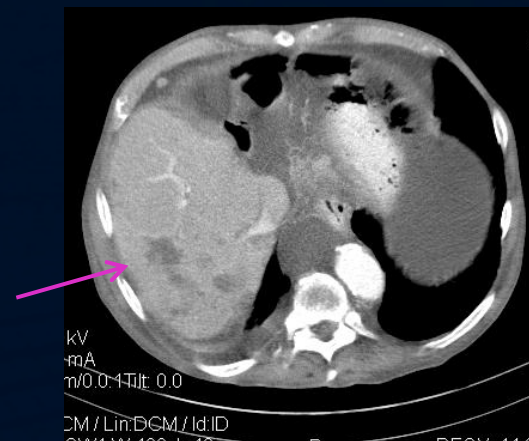


March-2014  
Transverse CT/Scan

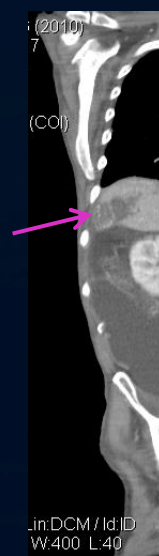


10-march-2014  
Coronal CT/Scan

After adding dexamethasone to his regimen, scan shows decreasing number of mets

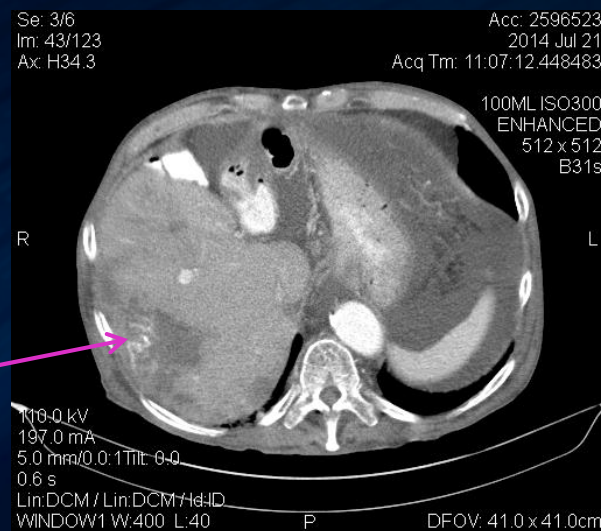


19-may-2014  
Transverse CT/Scan

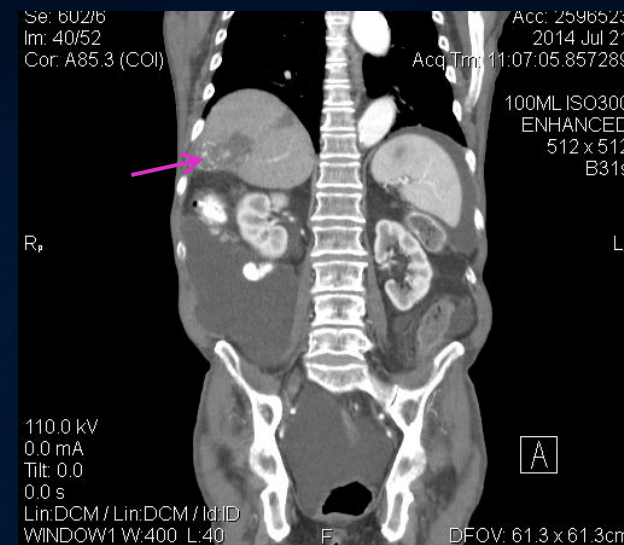


19-may-2014  
Coronal CT/Scan

2 months off chemotherapy shows no increase in number of mets but some increase in the size of existing mets



Transverse 21-july-2014 CT/Scan



Coronal 21-july-2014 CT/Scan



## *Third patient summary*

Patient seen 2 weeks ago is able to walk with a walker, eat meals and enjoy time with family

Patient is still alive with better quality of life at the present time while on a treatment break.  
He may elect to restart therapy with Ramucirumab

Stage Distribution and Five-year Relative Survival by Stage at Diagnosis for 2003-2009, All Races,		
Stage at Diagnosis	Stage Distribution (%)	Five-year Relative Survival (%)
Localized (confined to primary site) – stage I and II	40	90.3
Regional (spread to regional lymph nodes) – stage III	36	70.4
Distant (cancer has metastasized) – stage IV and recurrent cancer	20	12.5
Unknown (unstaged)	5	33.6

From: <http://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/colorect.html#survival>

*Learning lesson and how a small independent oncology practice  
will survive in the next 10 years and more*

Every patient with metastatic cancer should have gene expression profiling performed on their tumor to allow the science to dictate which proliferation pathways to block with molecularly targeted drugs to force apoptosis of their cancer cells, to look at the blueprint of the tumor cells before selecting treatment – as opposed to using standard of care cytotoxic drugs based on treating a heterogeneous population of patients with the same cancer without having looked at the tumor blueprint, relying on physician preferences created by guideline committees (“blindfold and pin the tail on the donkey”)

For patients with metastasis or who exhausted all the treatment options, gene expression profiling changes the prognosis and management for the majority of patients.

Patients for whom the GEP test was performed had longer median survival than that historically reported for patients with the same diagnosis and stage of disease.

This is projected not only to increase overall survival, but also decrease toxicity of treatment, and improve quality of life.

THANK YOU