

# ALK & ROS1: First-Line and Mechanisms of Resistance

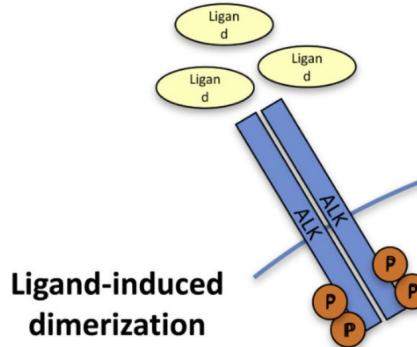
Julia Rotow, MD

The Miami Cancer Meeting, April 2023



# ALK Fusion+ NSCLC

## Normal ALK Activation



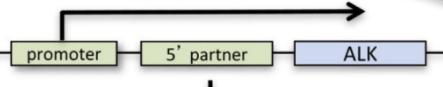
## Ligand-induced dimerization

- Developmentally regulated
- Adult human expression restricted to small intestine, nervous system and testes

## ALK Fusions

### Gene Fusions

- Promoter of 5' gene fusion partner drives expression of developmentally silenced ALK
- 5' fusion partner dimerization domains mediate activation of ALK



### JAK/STAT

### PI3K/AKT

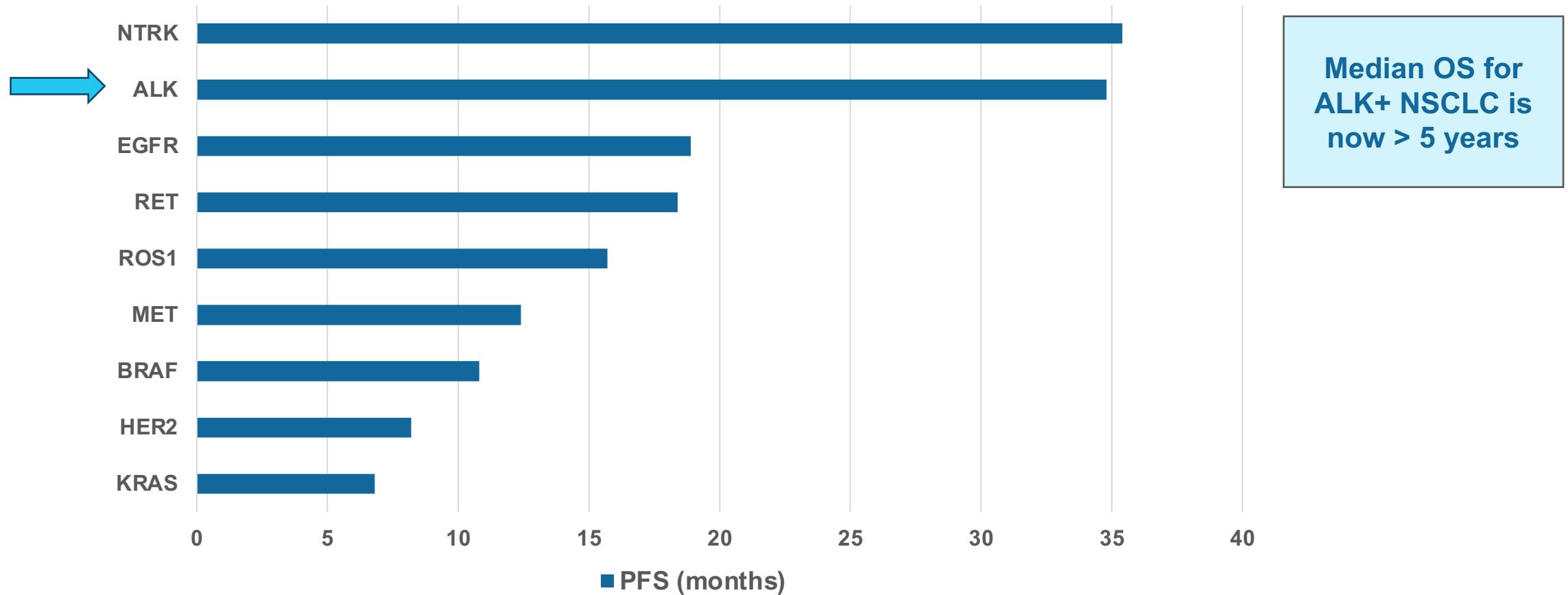
### MEK/ERK

Proliferation  
Differentiation  
Anti-apoptosis

- 4% of lung adenocarcinomas will be ALK fusion positive
- Majority are the EML4-ALK fusion
- Associated with absent history of tobacco use
- Percent ALK+ increases to nearly 20% in patients <40 years old at diagnosis

*Camidge and Doebele. Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology. 2012; 9(268);  
Sacher et al. JAMA Oncology. 2016;2(3):313-320*

# Median PFS is variable for actionable targets



Soria et al 2018, Wolf et al 2021, Mok et al 2020, Drilon et al 2020, Drilon et al 2022, Planchard et al 2022, Drilon et al 2022, Li et al 2022, Skoulidis et al 2021

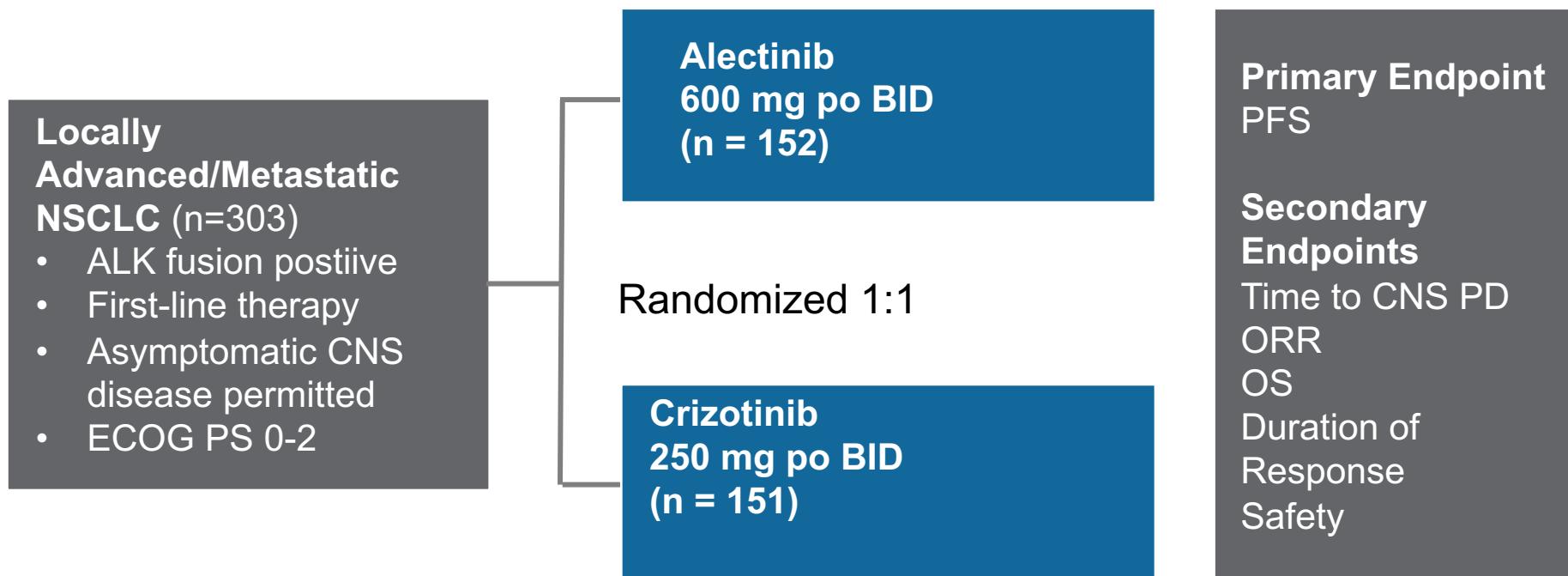
# First-line TKIs for ALK+ NSCLC

Drug	Trial Name	Median PFS
Crizotinib >> Chemotherapy 1L	PROFILE 1014	10.9 vs 7.0 mo
Ceritinib >> Chemotherapy 1L	ASCEND-4	16.6 vs 8.1 mo
Alectinib >> Crizotinib 1L	ALEX	34.8 vs 10.9 mo
Brigatinib >> Crizotinib 1L	ALTA-1L	24.0 vs 11.1 mo
Lorlatinib >> Crizotinib 1L	CROWN	3 yr PFS 64% vs 19%

Peters et al. NEJM. 2017;377(9):829-838; Solomon et al. Lancet Respiratory Medicine. 2023. 11(4):354-366; Soria et al Lancet 2017; Solomon et al. J Clin Oncol. 2018;36(22):2251-2258; Camidge et al. NEJM;379(21):2027-2039.

# Study Schema – ALEX

A randomized, open-label, phase 3 study

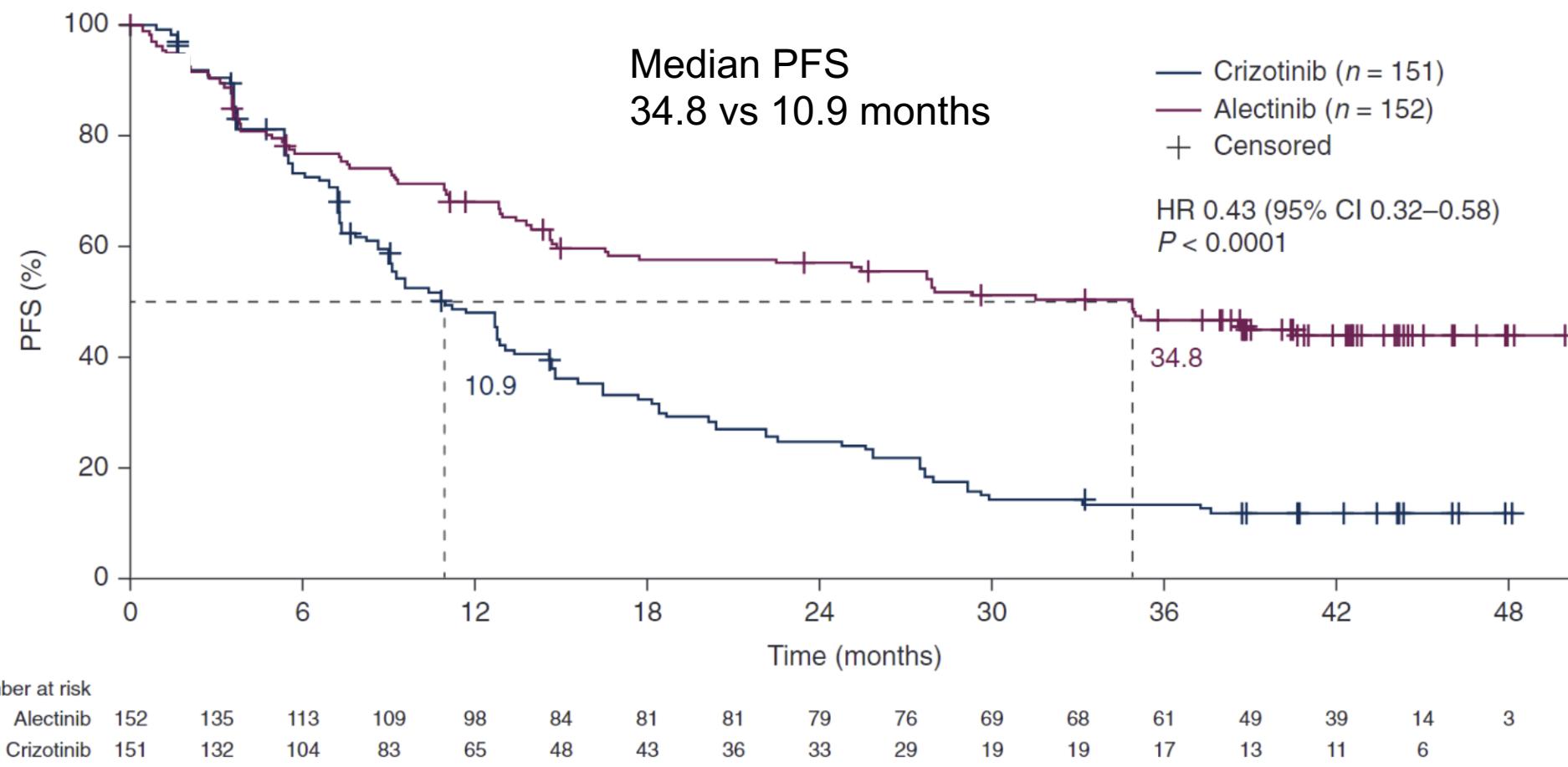


Post-progression crossover not allowed on study

Local therapy to asymptomatic CNS progression allowed on study

CNS and systemic serially in all patients

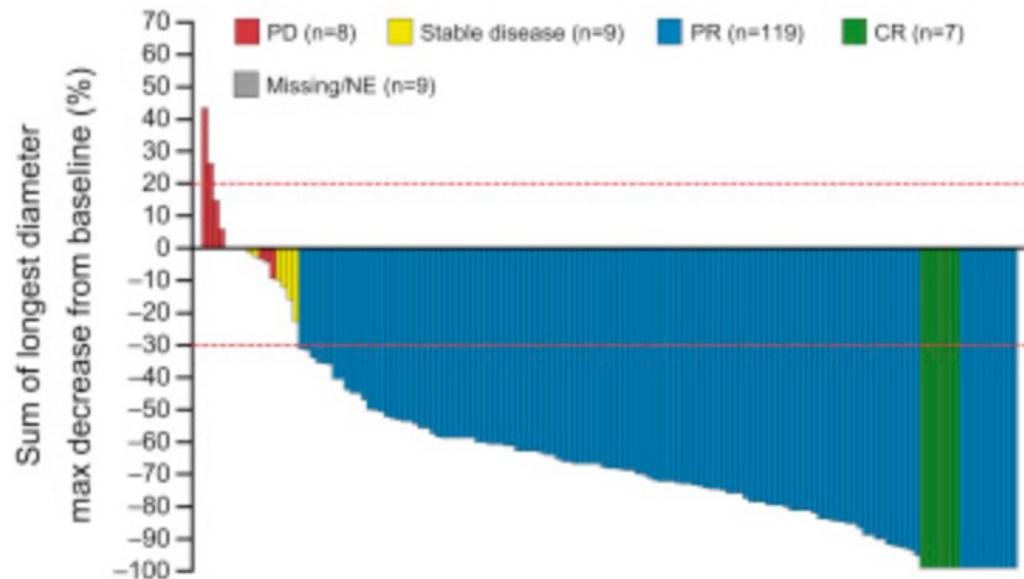
# ALEX Study Investigator Assessed PFS



Mok et al. Annals of Oncology. 2020;31(8):1056

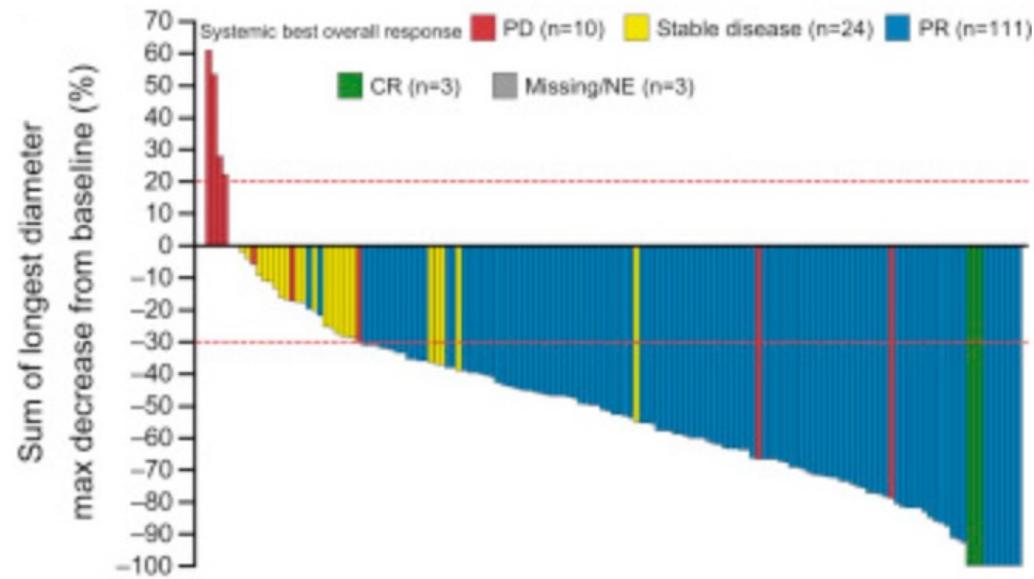
# ALEX Study – Best Response

Alectinib



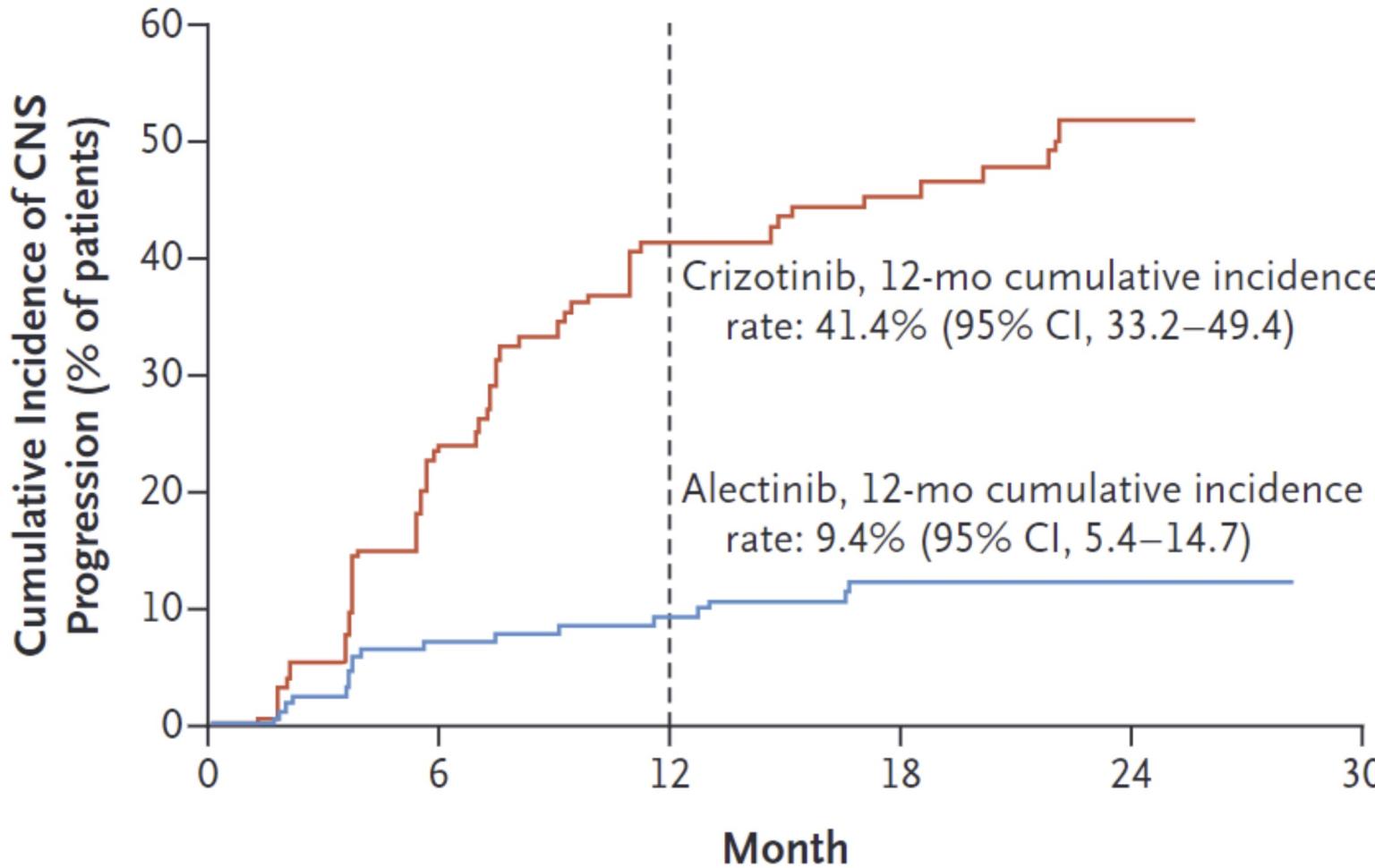
ORR 82.9%  
CR 4%  
PR 79%

Crizotinib



ORR 75.5%  
CR 1%  
PR 74%

# ALEX Study – CNS Activity



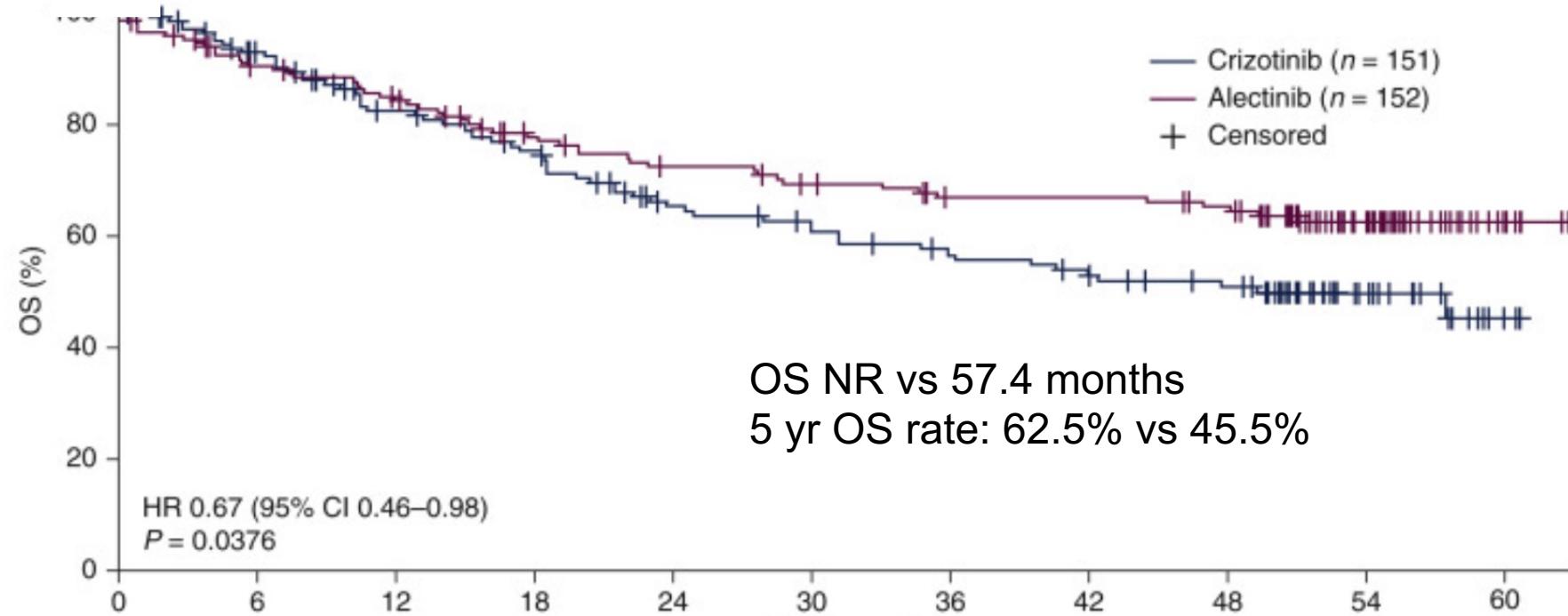
**Alectinib CNS ORR:** 78.6%  
CNS CR rate: 20%

**Crizotinib CNS ORR:** 40%

Peters et al. NEJM. 2017.

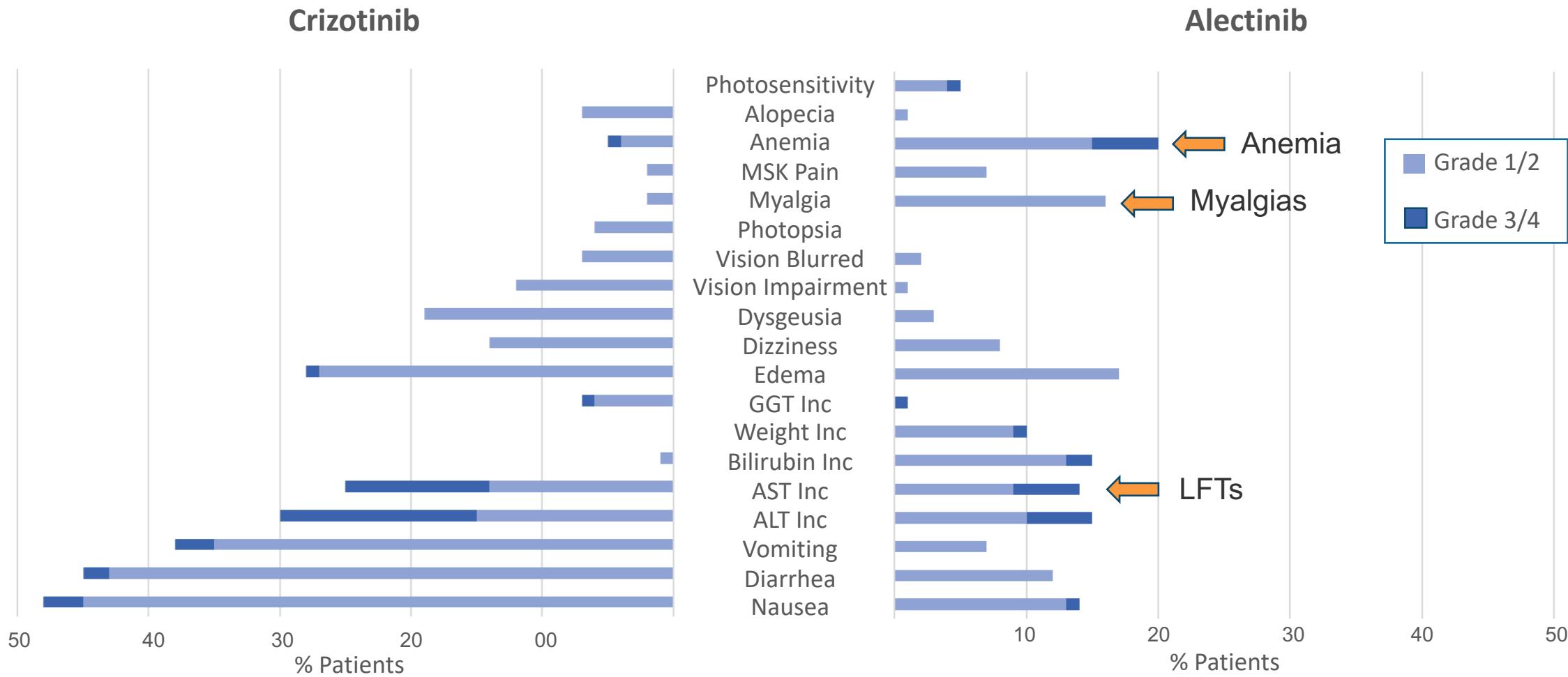
# ALEX: Overall Survival Analysis

A



Mok et al. Annals of Oncology. 2020;31(8):1056

# ALEX Safety



**13% d/c rate for adverse effects  
21% dose reduction rate**

**11% d/c rate for adverse effects  
16% dose reduction rate**

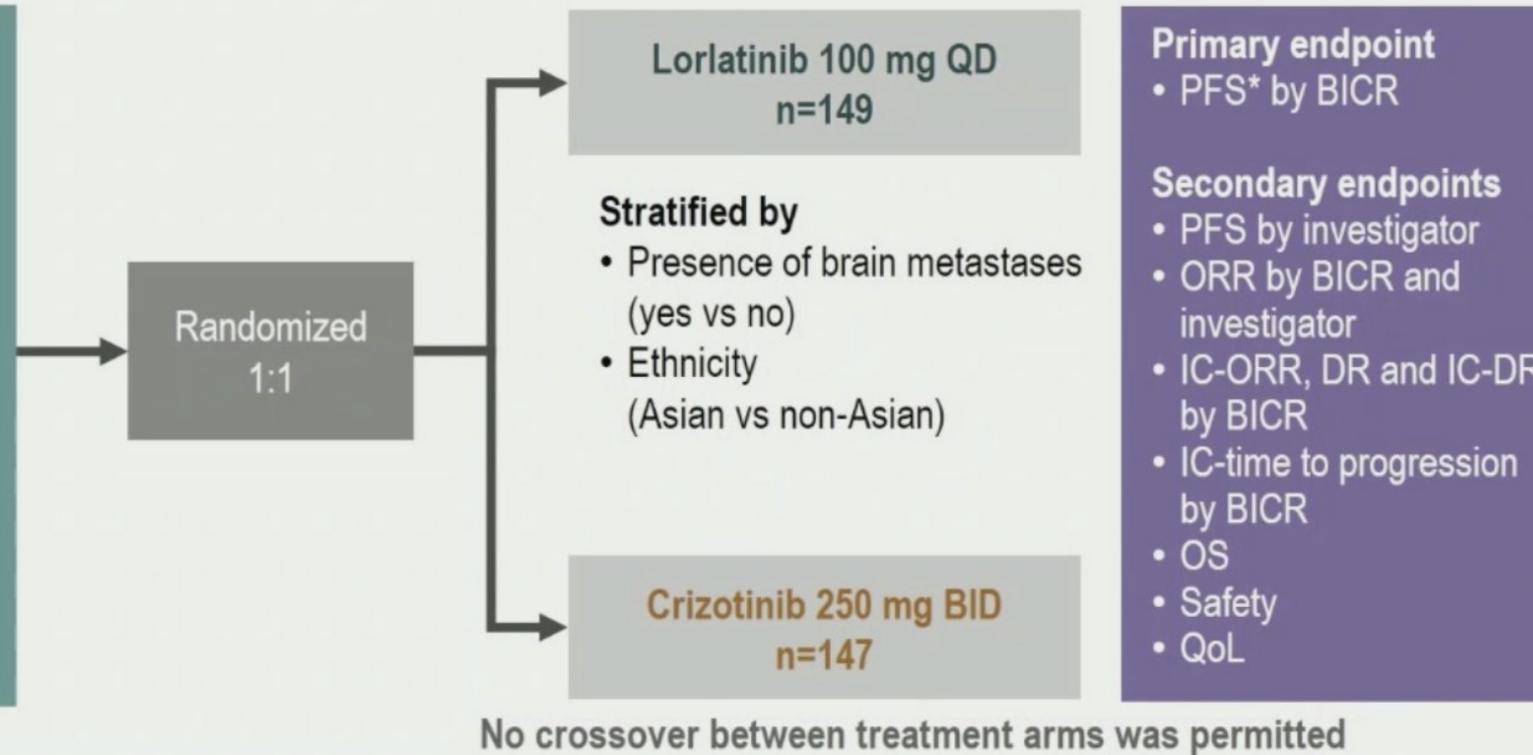
# CROWN Trial – 1L Lorlatinib vs Crizotinib

VIRTUAL ESMO congress  
2020

## CROWN Study Design

### Key Eligibility

- Stage IIIB/IV ALK+ NSCLC
- No prior systemic treatment for metastatic disease
- ECOG PS 0-2
- Asymptomatic treated or untreated CNS metastases were permitted
- $\geq 1$  extracranial measurable target lesion (RECIST v1.1) with no prior radiation required



### Primary endpoint

- PFS\* by BICR

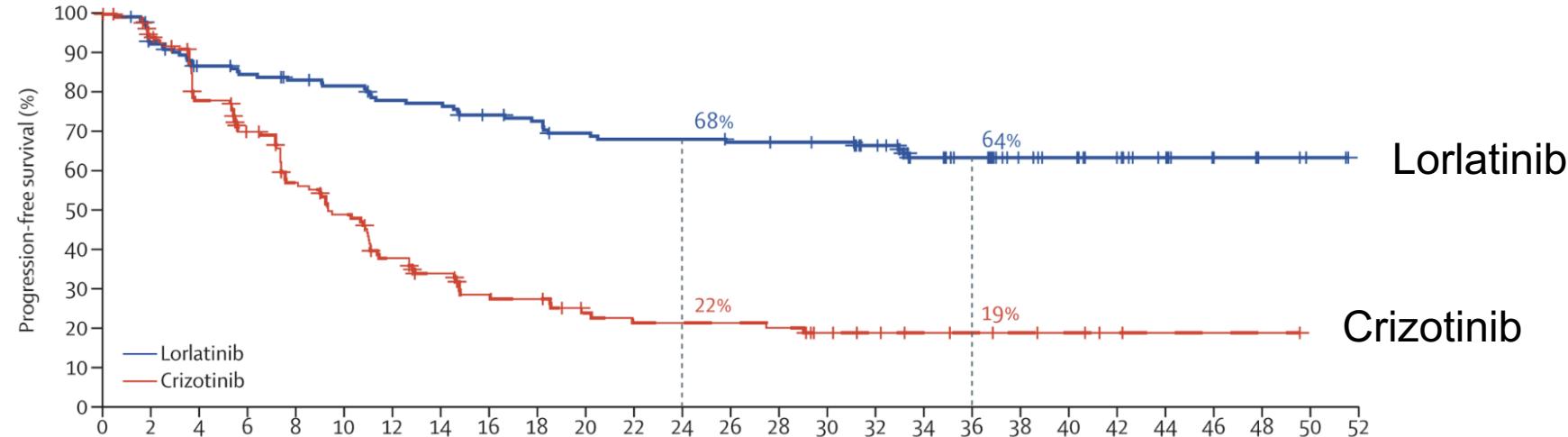
### Secondary endpoints

- PFS by investigator
- ORR by BICR and investigator
- IC-ORR, DR and IC-DR by BICR
- IC-time to progression by BICR
- OS
- Safety
- QoL

Presented by Benjamin Solomon. ESMO 2020. LBA2\_PR

# CROWN: 1L Lorlatinib vs Crizotinib, Three-year Update

## Progression Free Survival

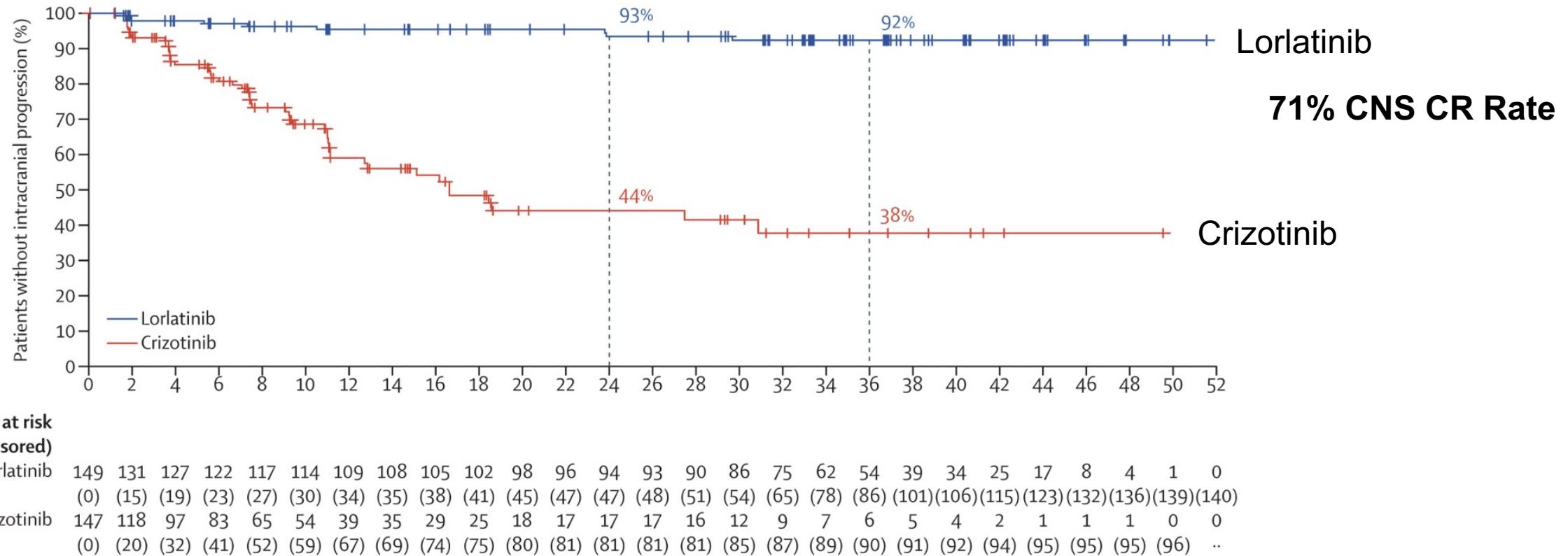


	3 year PFS	vs Crizotinib
Alectinib (ALEX)	46.5%	13.5%
Lorlatinib (CROWN)	64%	19%

*Alectinib and Lorlatinib have not been compared in a study*

# CROWN: 1L Lorlatinib vs Crizotinib

## CNS Progression Free Survival

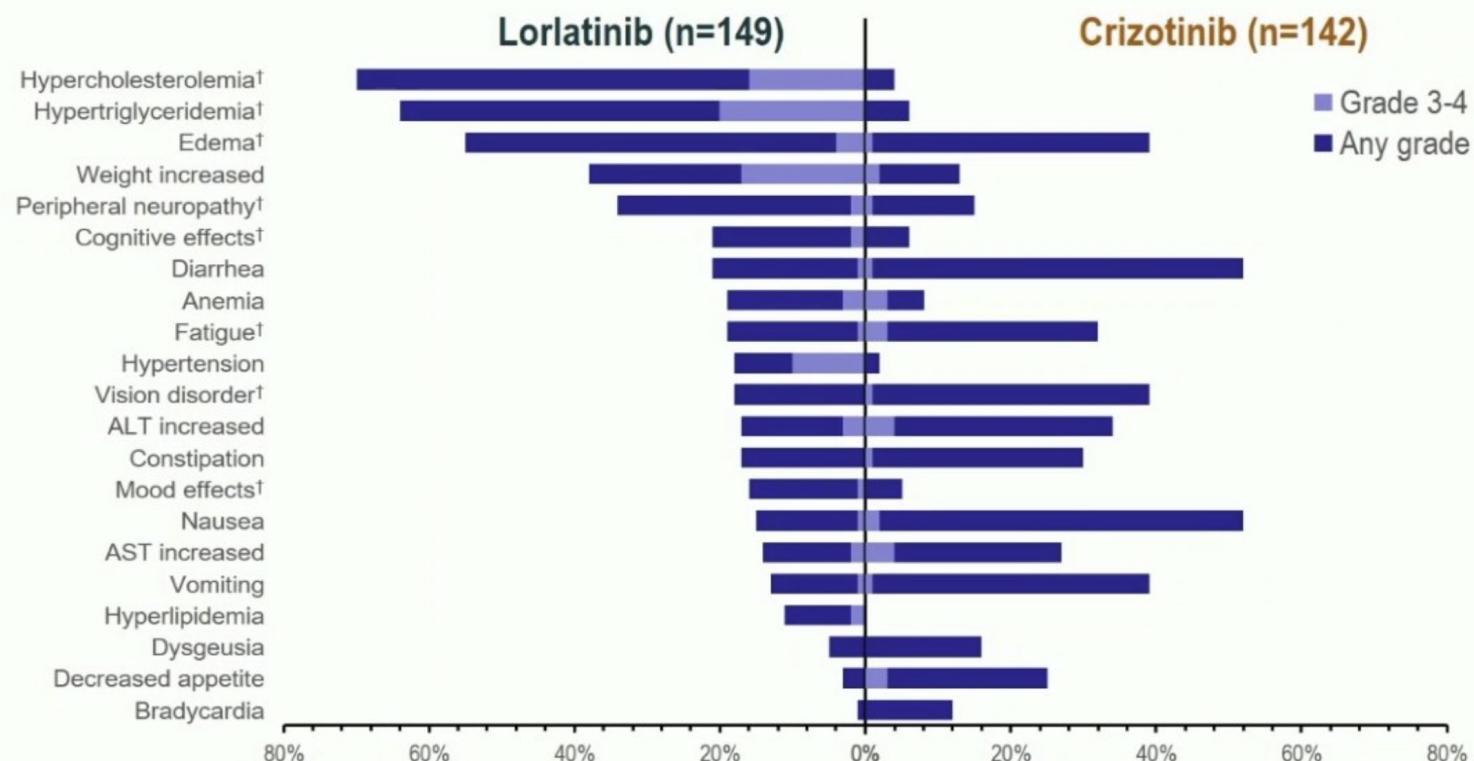


Solomon et al. Lancet Resp Med. 2022

# Lorlatinib Adverse Effects

VIRTUAL ESMO congress

## All Causality Adverse Events with $\geq 10\%$ Difference in Frequency



†Cluster term

ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase.

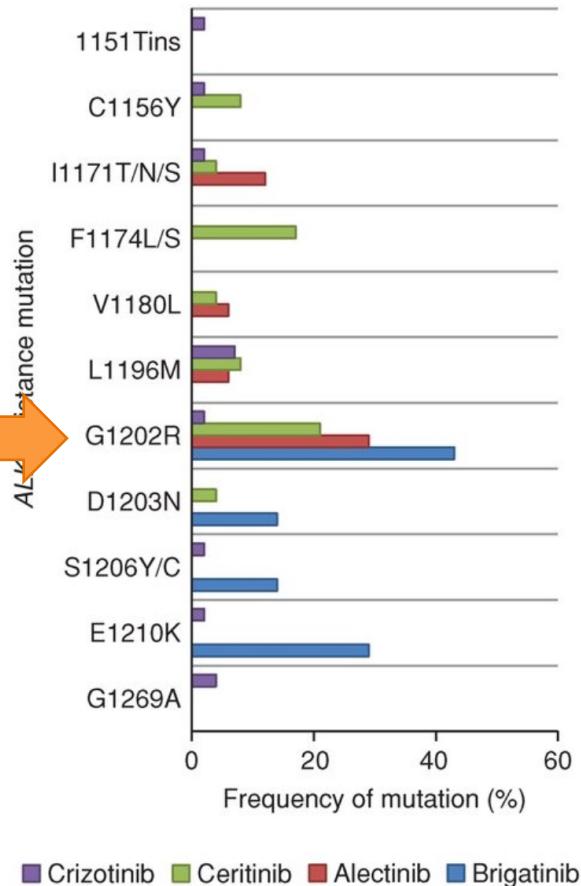
Discontinuation Rate 7%  
Dose Reduction Rate 21%

Discontinuation Rate 10%  
Dose Reduction Rate 15%

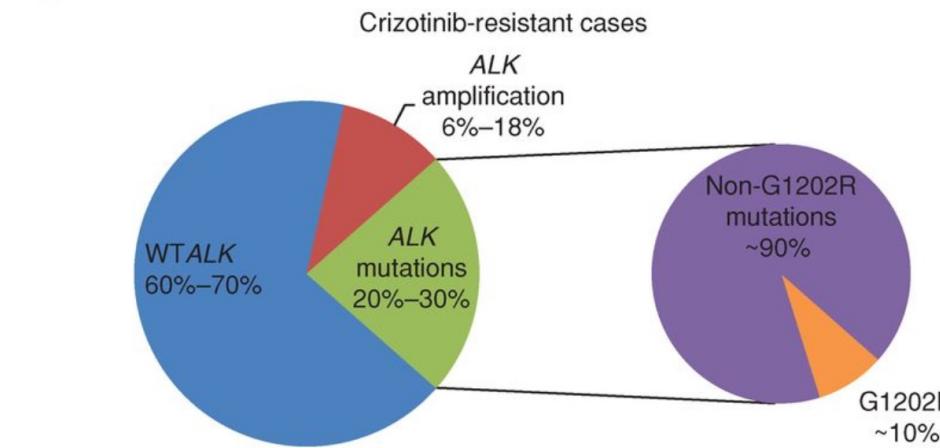
Solomon et al. ESMO 2020. LBA2

# Resistance to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation ALK TKIs

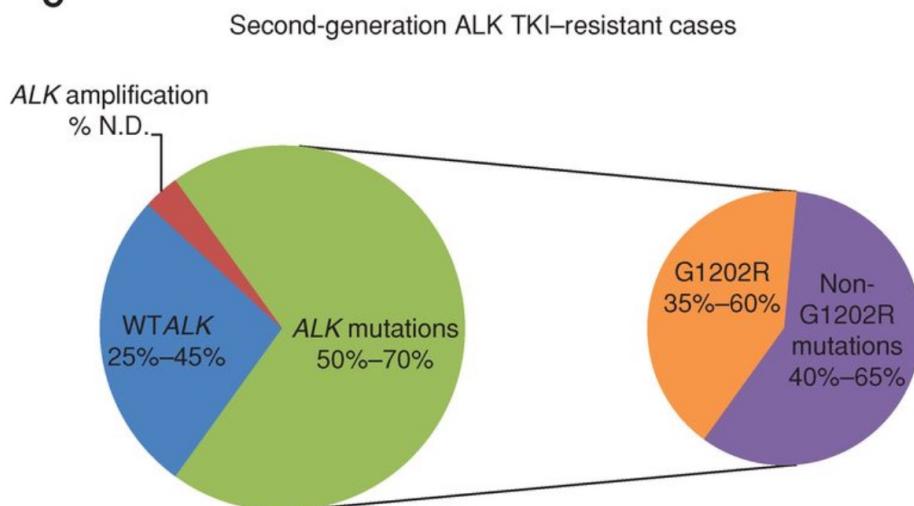
A



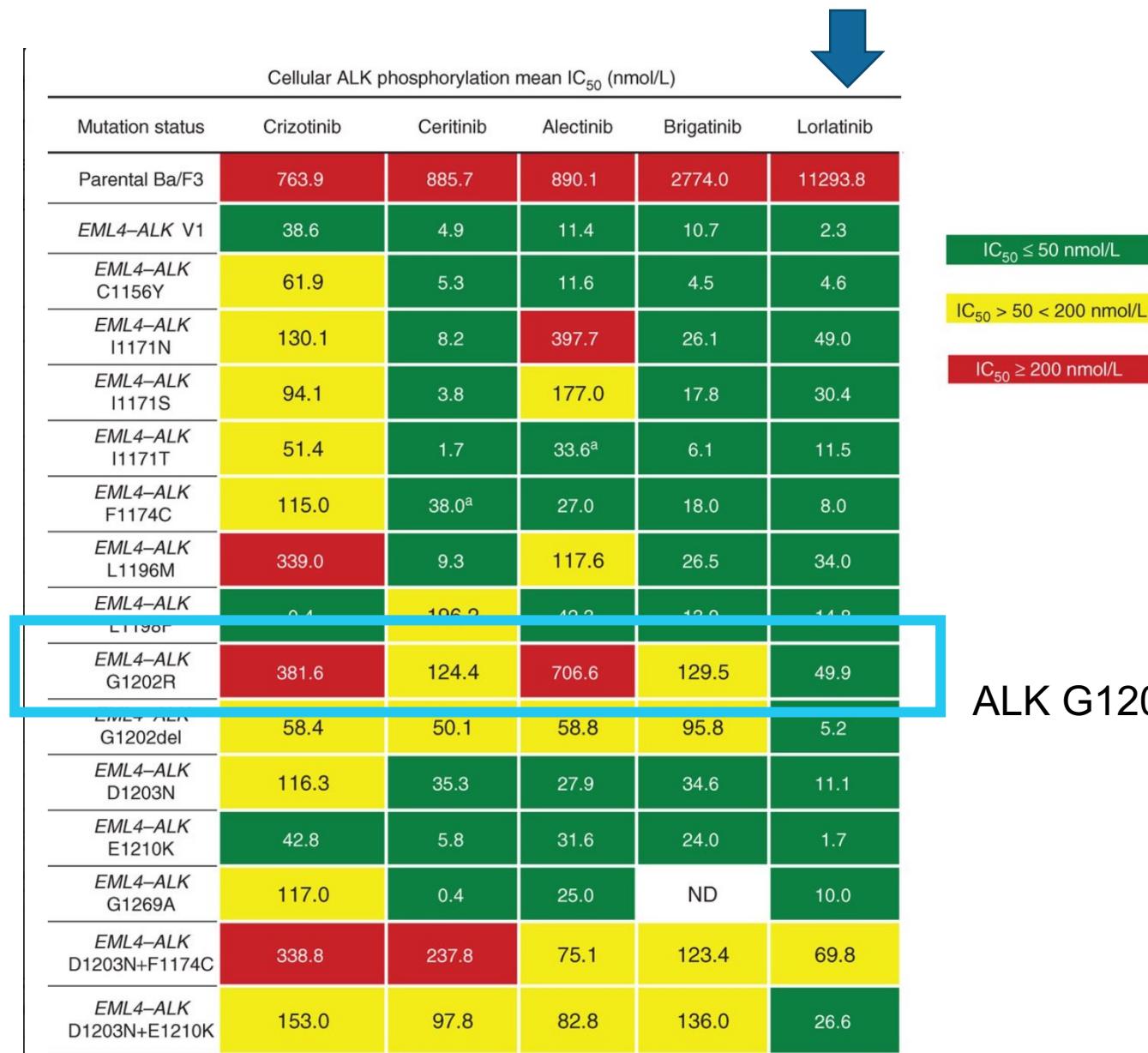
B



C



Lin et al. Cancer Discov. 2017; 7(2):137



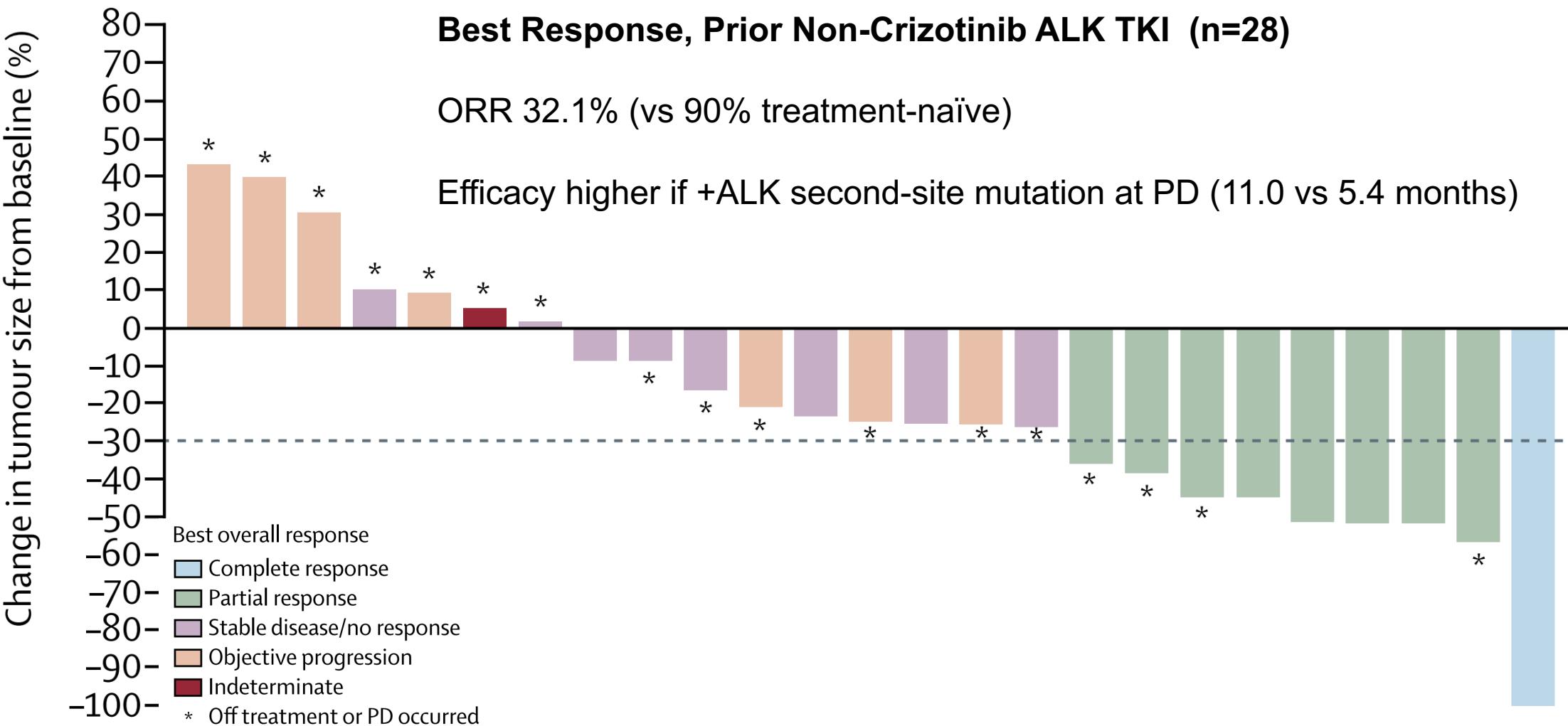
**The ALK inhibitors vary in their activity against acquired ALK mutations**

**The G1202R produces resistance to all approved ALK inhibitors except lorlatinib**

ALK G1202R Mutation

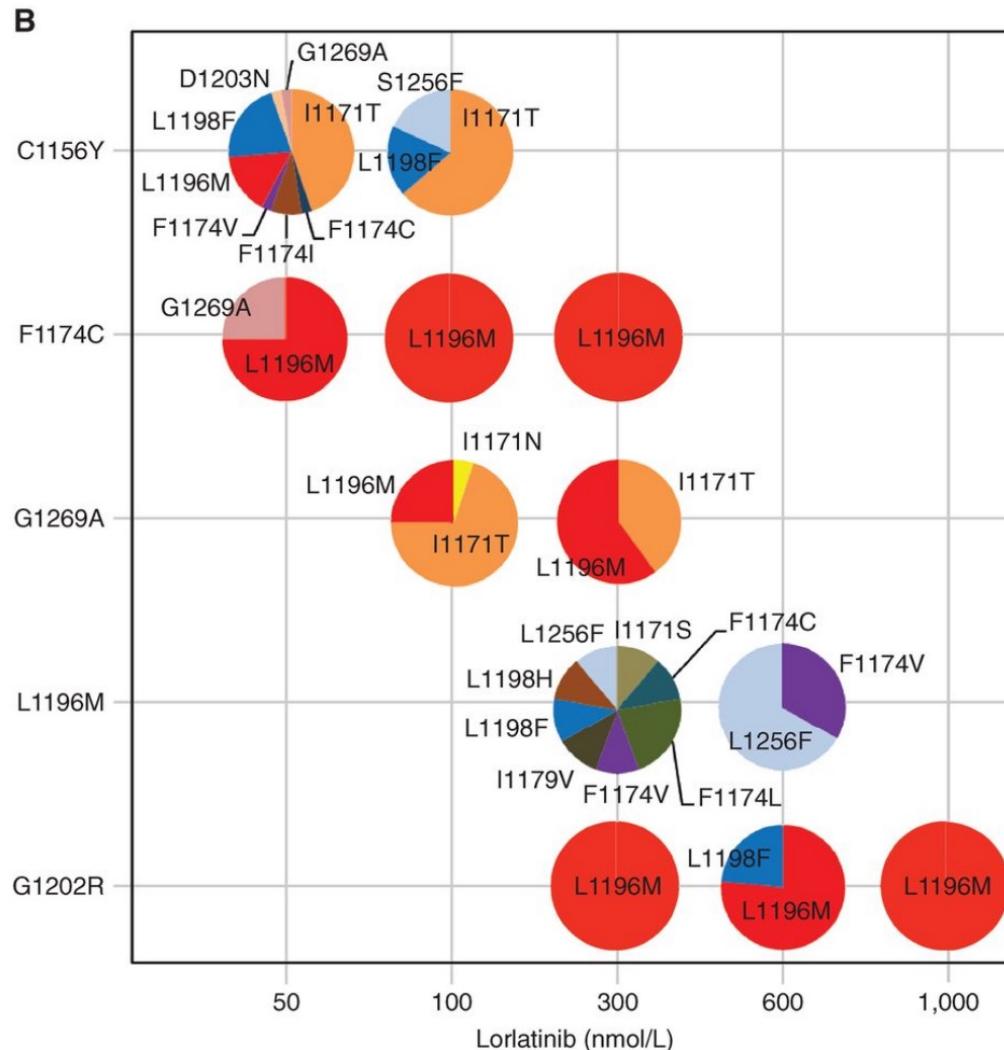
Gainor et al. Cancer Discovery. 2016

# Lorlatinib activity in the 2L+ Setting



Solomon et al. Lancet Oncol. 2018; 19(120):1654; Shaw et al. J Clin Oncol. 2019; 37(16):1370.

# Lorlatinib Resistance



*C1156Y (crizotinib resistance as single mutation) + L1198F (lorlatinib resistance) resensitizes to crizotinib*

*I1171N compound mutations → Sensitive to the FLT3 inhibitor Gilteritinib in preclinical studies*

*L1196M + G1202R → resistance to all approved ALK TKIs*

Yoda et al. *Cancer Discovery*. 2018; 8(6):714-29, Mizuta et al. *Nature Communications*. 2021;12:1261,  
Shaw et al. *NEJM*. 2016;374(1):54-61, Okada et al. *EBioMedicine*. 2019;41:105-19

	Prior Treatment	MET Fusion/Mutation	MET/CEP7 ratio (FISH)	MET CN (tissue NGS)	MET CN (plasma)
MGH049		--	3	--	--
MGH902		No	3.9	--	--
MGH9134		No	2.5	--	--
MGH962		No	7.3	--	2.6
MGH9106		No	>25	--	--
MGH075		No	Focal*	--	--
MGH9085		No	--	16	--
MGH9226		No	--	19	2.8
MGH939		—	>25	--	2.5
MGH9284 (Pericardial)	ST7-MET	1.1	--	--	
MGH9284 (Pleural)	No	2.4	--	--	
MGH915 (Pleural)	ST7-MET	5.2	--	2.4	
MGH915 (Axilla)	No	5.7	--	2.4	
MGH960	No**	1	--	2.2	
MGH9158	No**	--	--	4.9	
MGH9224	No**	--	--	6.1	
MGH9133	Ex14 skip	1	--	<2.1	

Legend:  
█ Crizotinib  
█ Ceritinib  
█ Brigatinib  
█ Alectinib  
█ Lorlatinib

## MET Amplification at ALK Inhibitor Resistance

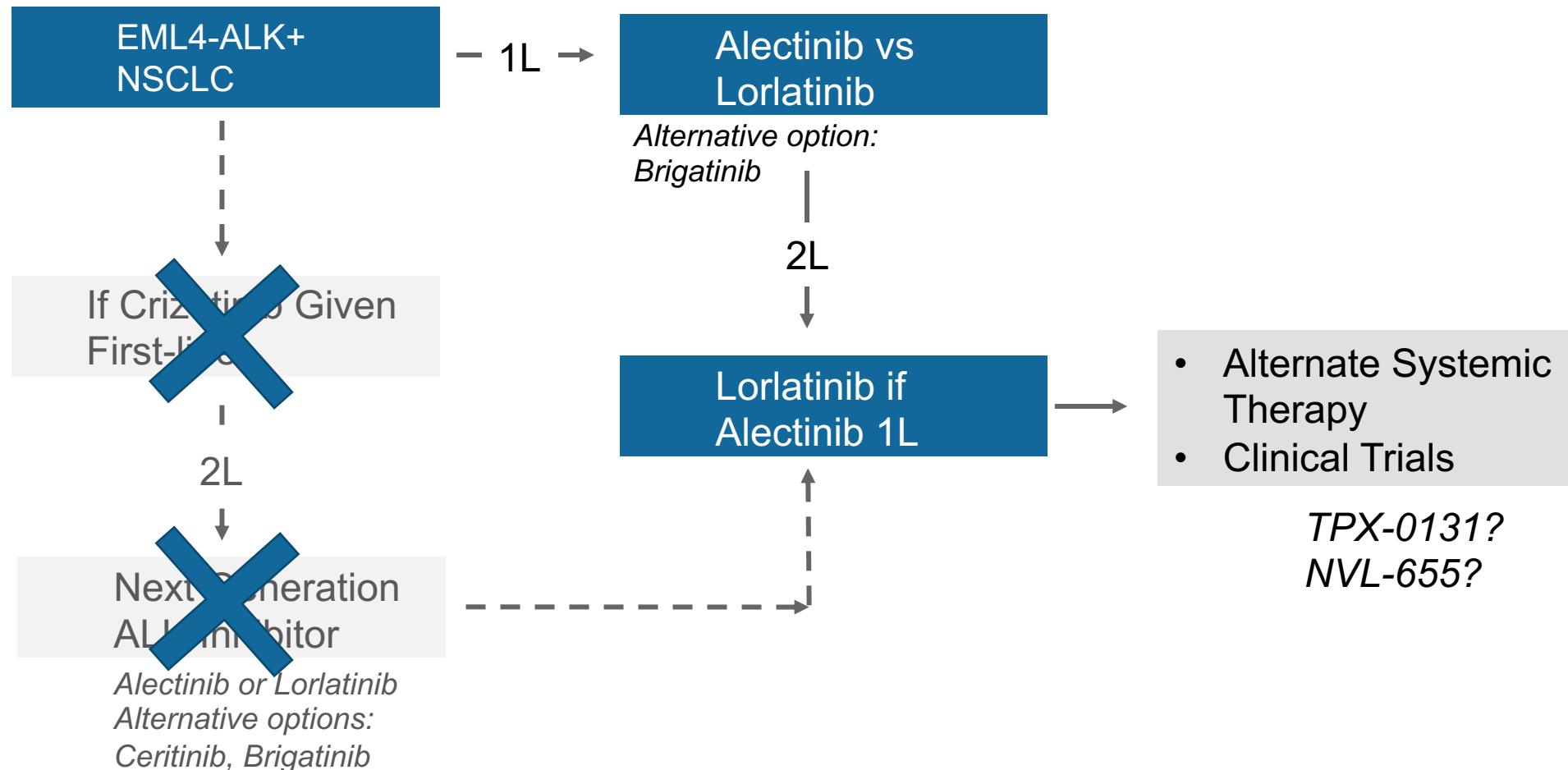
15% Rate of MET amplification

- 12% After 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation ALK Inhibitors
- 22% After Iorlatinib

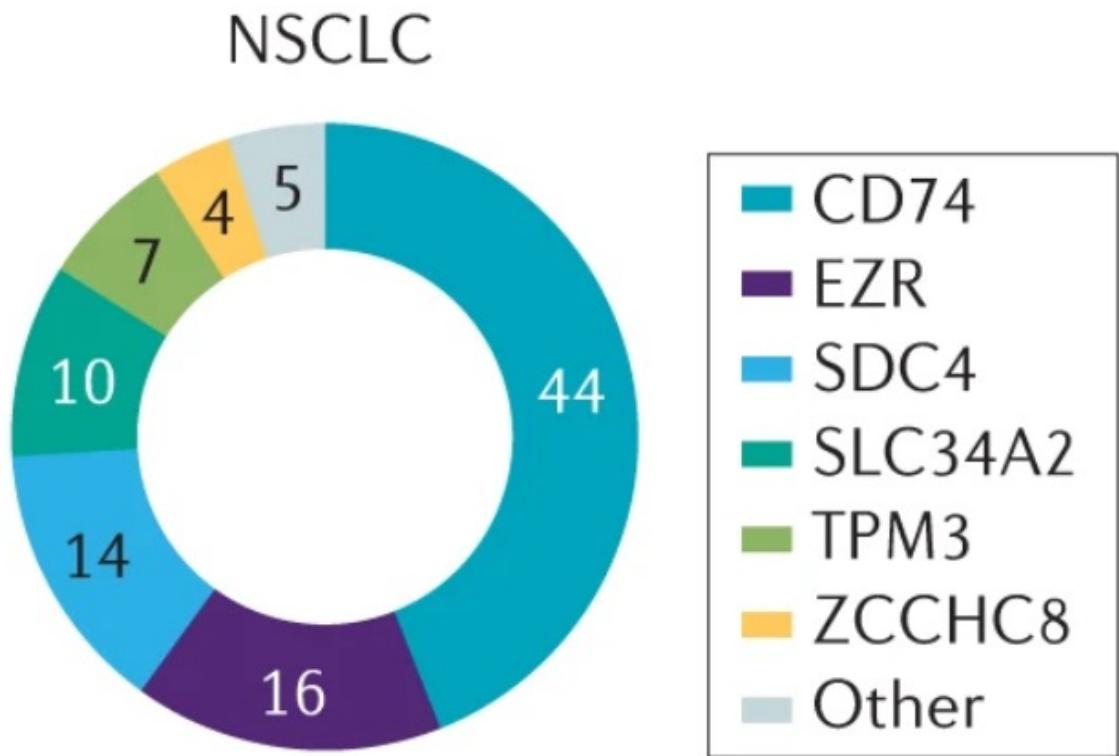
Two-patient case series with short duration responses to MET inhibition

- Crizotinib monotherapy 10 weeks PFS
- Crizotinib + Iorlatinib 3 months PFS

# Management of ALK NSCLC in 2023

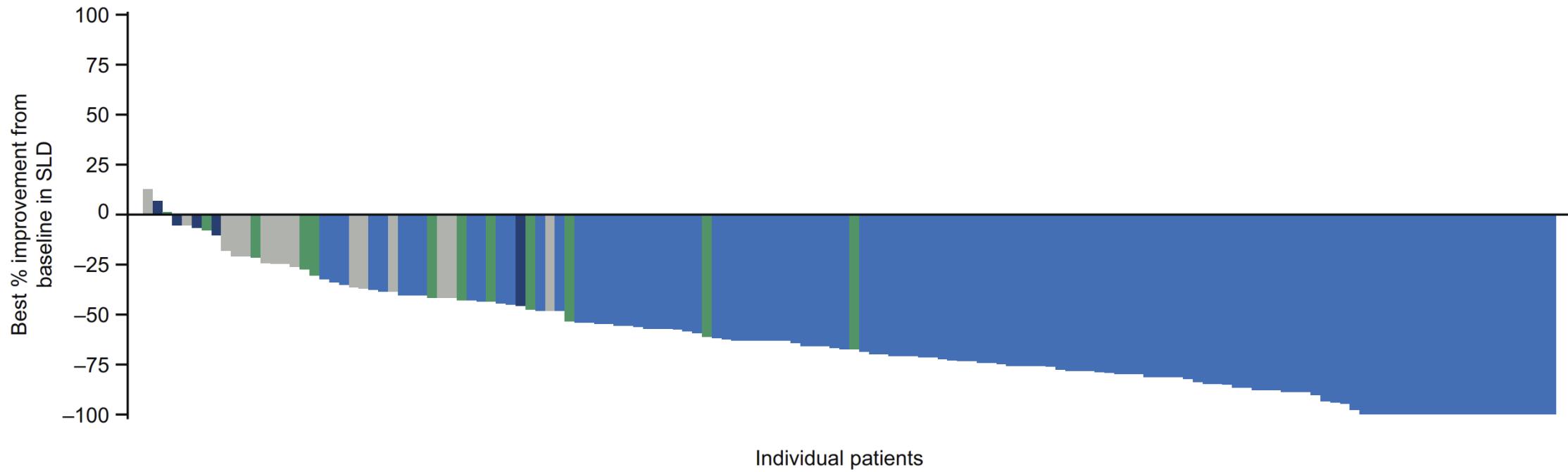


# ROS1 Fusions in NSCLC



- 1-2% of lung adenocarcinomas
- 80% occur in patients with no history of tobacco use
- Median age 50

# Entrectinib for ROS1+ NSCLC - Preferred if CNS involvement



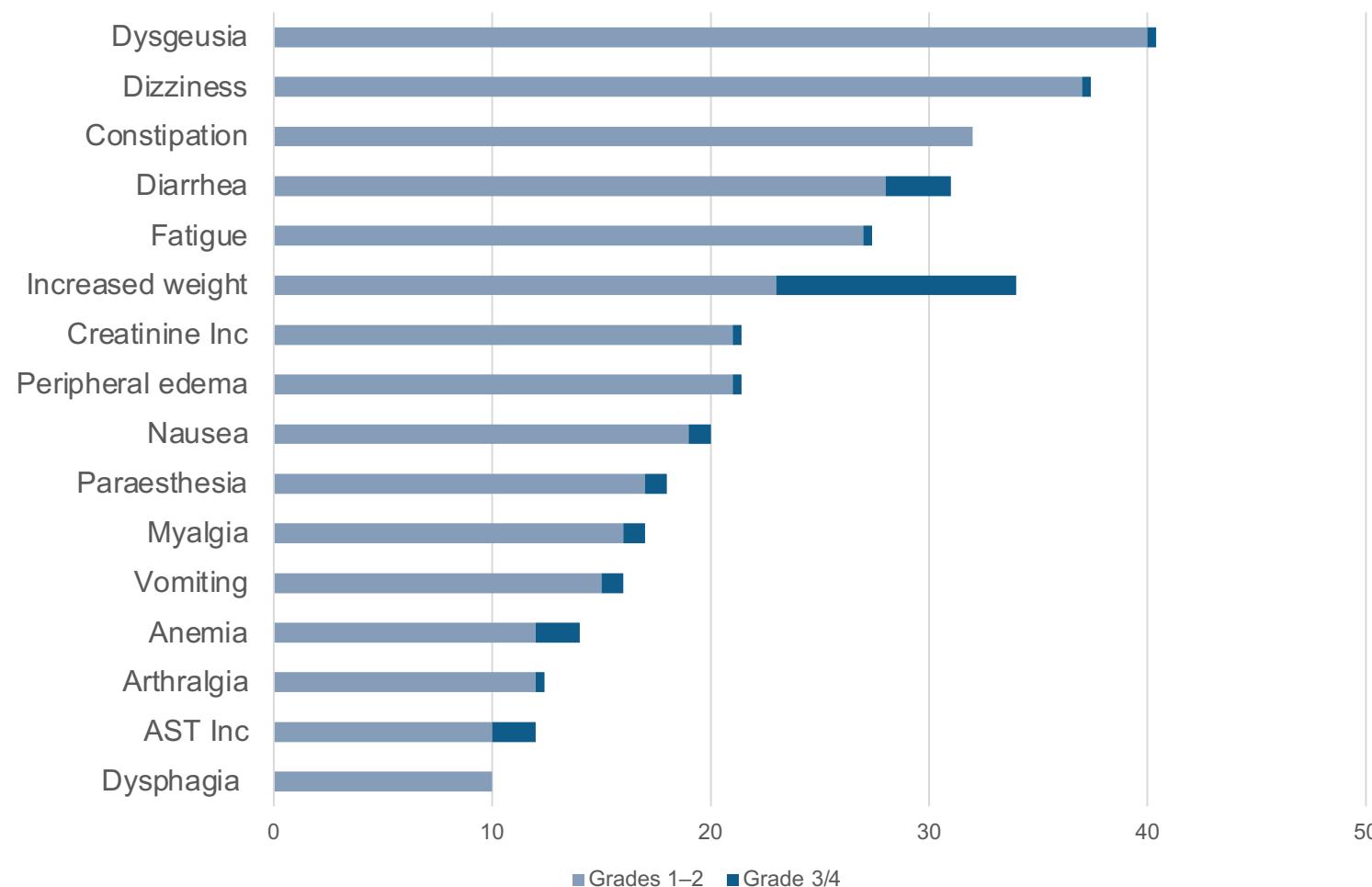
N = 53

ORR 68%, median PFS 15.7 months

**CNS Response Rate 80%**

Drilon et al. JTO Clinical and Research Reports. 2022;3(6):100332

# Entrectinib Treatment-Related Adverse Events

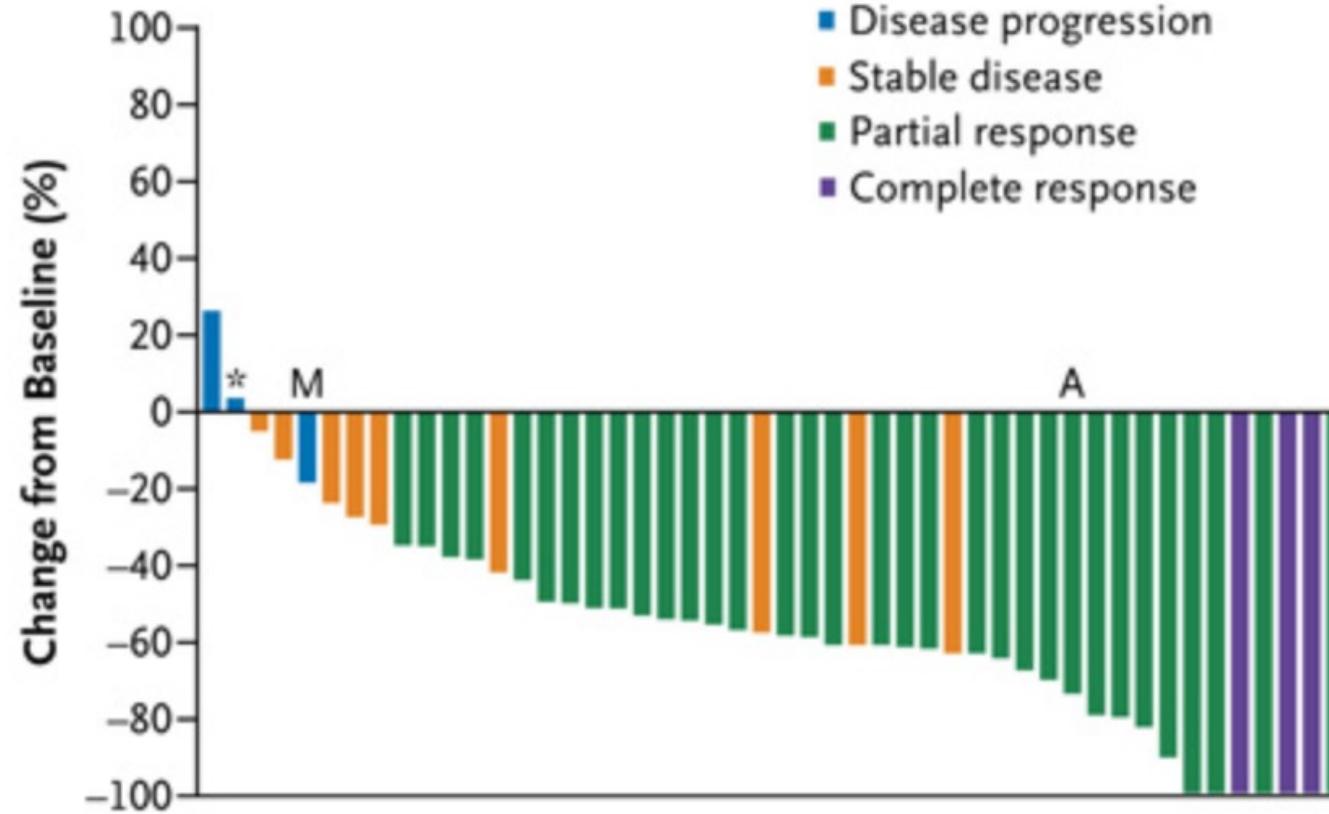


>10% Rate

Drilon et al. JTO Clinical and Research Reports. 2022;3(6):100332

# Crizotinib for ROS1+ NSCLC

## Best Response



N=53

ORR 72%

Median PFS 19.3 months

Median OS 51.4 months

**Poor CNS activity**

Shaw et al. NEJM. 2014; 37(21):1963. Shaw et al. Ann Oncol. 2019; 30(7):1121.

**Table 4. Treatment-related AEs reported in ≥10% of patients**

Event	ROS1-rearranged NSCLC (N = 53)	
	Any grade, n (%)	Grade 3, n (%)
Any AE <sup>a</sup>	53 (100)	19 (36)
Vision disorder <sup>b</sup>	46 (87)	0 (0)
Nausea	27 (51)	1 (2)
Edema <sup>b</sup>	25 (47)	0 (0)
Diarrhea	24 (45)	0 (0)
Vomiting	20 (38)	2 (4)
Elevated transaminases <sup>b</sup>	19 (36)	2 (4)
Constipation	18 (34)	0 (0)
Bradycardia <sup>b</sup>	11 (21)	0 (0)
Fatigue	11 (21)	0 (0)
Dizziness <sup>b</sup>	10 (19)	0 (0)
Dysgeusia	10 (19)	0 (0)
Hypophosphatemia	9 (17)	8 (15)
Decreased appetite	8 (15)	1 (2)
Neutropenia <sup>b</sup>	8 (15)	5 (9)
Rash	7 (13)	0 (0)

<sup>a</sup>Independent of the 10% cut-off used in this table; no grade 4 or 5 treatment-related AEs were reported.

<sup>b</sup>Clustered term comprising AEs that represent similar clinical symptoms/syndromes.

AE, adverse event; NSCLC, non-small-cell lung cancer.

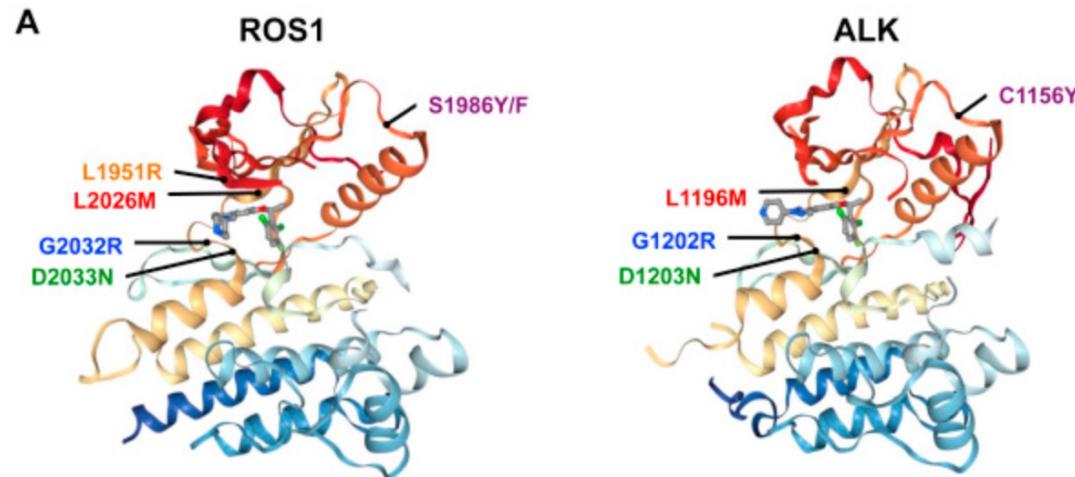
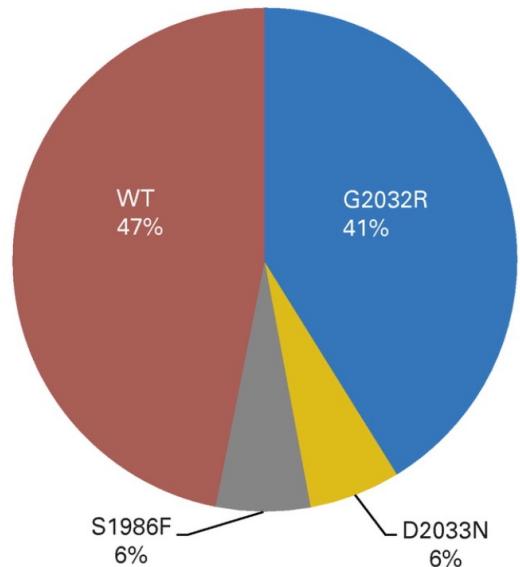
# Crizotinib for ROS1+ NSCLC Adverse Effects

Consisted with known crizotinib safety profile

- 87% Vision disorder
- 51% Nausea
- 47% Edema
- 36% AST or ALT Elevation

Shaw et al. Ann Oncol. 2019; 30(7):1121.

# ROS1 TKI Resistance

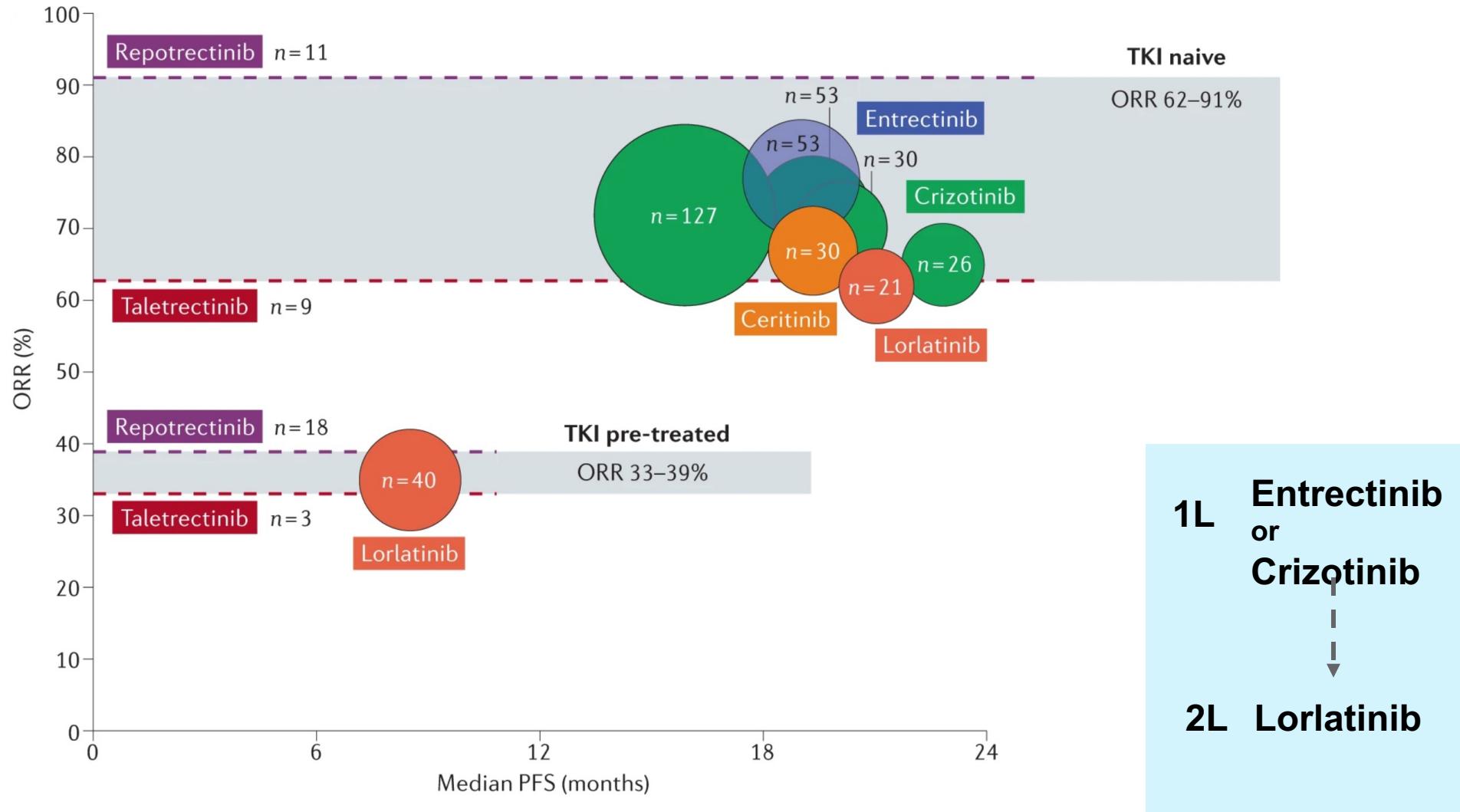


**G2032R Solvent Front = dominant second site mutation**  
Repotrectinib clinical trials ongoing

IC <sub>50</sub> (nmol/L)	Crizotinib	Entrectinib	Lorlatinib	Repotrectinib	Cabozantinib	Ceritinib	Brigatinib	Taletrectinib	Alectinib
<b>Parental</b>	840.5	1801.0	>3000	1218.0	>3000	1117.0	>3000	>3000	1207.0
<b>G2032R</b>	609.6	436.3	196.6	23.1	17.5	346.4	472.7	53.3	1091.0
<b>L2000V</b>	37.1	25.9	2.5	10.1	7.6	124.9	78.9	29.8	985.0
<b>L2086F</b>	536.8	440.0	>3000	587.9	3.6	226.9	159.3	1265.0	672.5
<b>S1986F/L2000V</b>	159.4	36.1	2.4	7.2	5.1	86.9	62.5	20.3	1080.0
<b>S1986F/L2086F</b>	469.7	344.2	>3000	241.2	1.3	154.8	48.5	662.6	919.9
<b>G2032R/L2086F</b>	498.6	335.4	>3000	248.9	5.0	573.9	450.9	744.2	1254.0
<b>S1986F/G2032R</b>	594.4	718.5	990.6	65.1	70.1	614.7	717.0	105.4	1137.0
<b>S1986F/G2032R/L2086F</b>	562.8	1111.0	2131.0	1178.0	9.4	1116.0	1341.0	2432.0	1150.0

IC<sub>50</sub> ≤ 50 nmol/L  
50 nmol/L < IC<sub>50</sub> < 200 nmol/L  
IC<sub>50</sub> ≥ 200 nmol/L

# So, how do you choose among ROS inhibitors?



- First-line treatment options for ALK+ NSCLC include alectinib and lorlatinib
- Both entrectinib and crizotinib are reasonable first-line treatment options for ROS1+ NSCLC
- Resistance to targeted therapy is heterogeneous and includes both on- and off-target mechanisms
- Next-generation TKIs may offer activity at acquired TKI resistance