

# Obesity, Energy Balance and Colorectal Cancer Survivorship

Jeffrey Meyerhardt, MD, MPH  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, MA

# Colorectal Cancer Epidemiology

- **Estimated 141,210 cases of CRC in 2011**
  - Fourth most common cancer in US
    - Third most commonly diagnosed cancer in men
    - Third most commonly diagnosed cancer in women
- **Estimated 49,380 deaths from CRC in 2011**
  - Second leading cause of cancer deaths in US

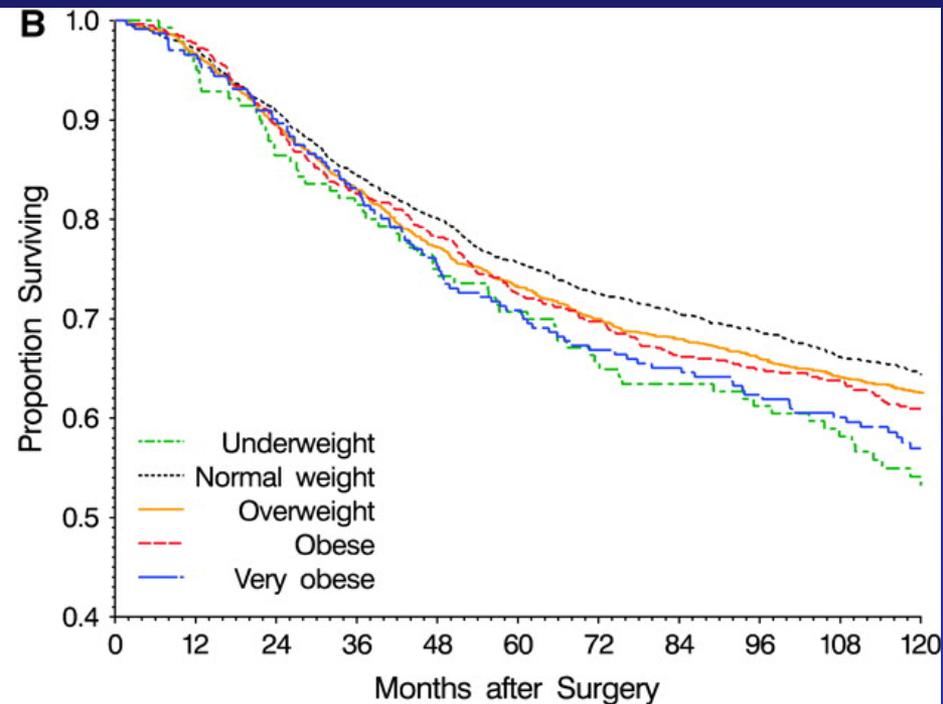
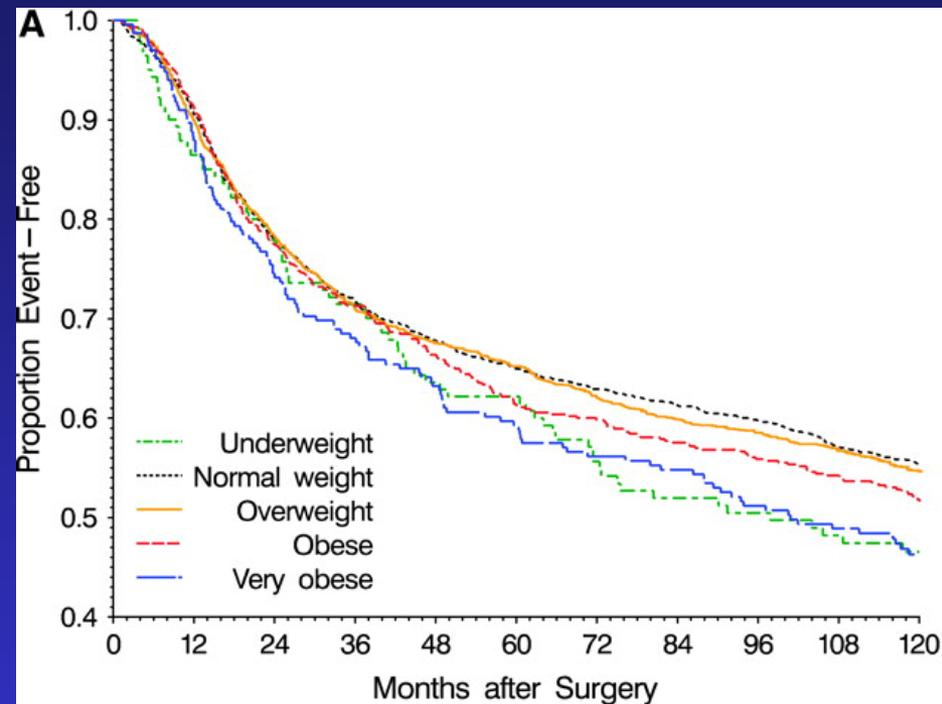
# Adiposity and Colorectal Cancer Risk

- **Meta-analysis of 28 cohort studies demonstrated 3% increased risk of colorectal cancer for every 1 kg/m<sup>2</sup> increase in BMI**
  - **Stronger association for colon cancer than rectal cancer in most studies**

# Adiposity and Colorectal Cancer Recurrence and Progression

- Data only starting to emerge in past 8 years
- Early stage disease
  - Micrometastases may be present and effects of obesity or other energy balance factors may impact on growth
- Advanced disease
  - Similar effects on growth and further metastatic potential

# NSABP and Body Mass Index



Disease-free and overall survival by body mass index (BMI) category in 4288 patients from National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project randomized clinical trials for Dukes B and C colon cancer

Author	Years	N	Outcome	Hazard Ratio (95% CI) or P value (compared to normal weight)
Tartter	1976-1979	279	Recur Rate	P = 0.003 for above median weight
Meyerhardt	1988-1992	3759	DFS	1.11 (0.94-1.30) BMI $\geq$ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			OS	1.11 (0.96-1.29) BMI $\geq$ 30 kg/m
Meyerhardt	1990-1992	1792 rectal	DFS	1.10 (0.91-1.32) BMI $\geq$ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			OS	1.09 (0.90-1.33) BMI $\geq$ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			Local Recur	1.31 (0.91-1.88) BMI $\geq$ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Dignam	1989-1994	4288	DFS	1.06 (0.93-1.21) BMI 30-34.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> 1.27 (1.05-1.53) BMI $\geq$ 35 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Meyerhardt	1999-2001	1053	DFS	1.00 (0.72-1.40) BMI 30-34.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> 1.24 (0.84-1.83) BMI $\geq$ 35 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
			OS	0.90 (0.61-1.34) BMI 30-34.9 kg/m <sup>2</sup> 0.87 (0.54-1.42) BMI $\geq$ 35 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Hines	1981-2001	496	OS	0.77 (0.61-0.97) BMI $\geq$ 25 all stages 0.92 (0.65-1.30) stage I-II 0.92 (0.59-1.45) stage III 0.58 (0.37-0.90) stage IV

# 89803 and Change in Weight

	Adjusted Hazard ratio (95% CI)	
> 5 kg weight loss	1.39 (0.69 – 2.79)	} P <sub>trend</sub> = 0.13
2.1 – 5 kg weight loss	1.15 (0.54 – 2.44)	
+/- 2 kg change	Referent	} P <sub>trend</sub> = 0.90
2 – 4.9 kg weight gain	1.11 (0.66 – 2.06)	
> 5 kg weight gain	1.19 (0.73 – 1.94)	

# Body Mass Index in Colon Cancer Patients over Past Decade

	< 21	21-24.9	25-29.9	30-34.9	≥ 35
INT-0089 (1988-92)	14 %	34 %	34 %	13 %	5 %
89803 (1999-2001)	8 %	26 %	36 %	20 %	10 %

---

% change in a decade

- 43%	- 24%	+ 6%	+ 54%	+ 100%
-------	-------	------	-------	--------

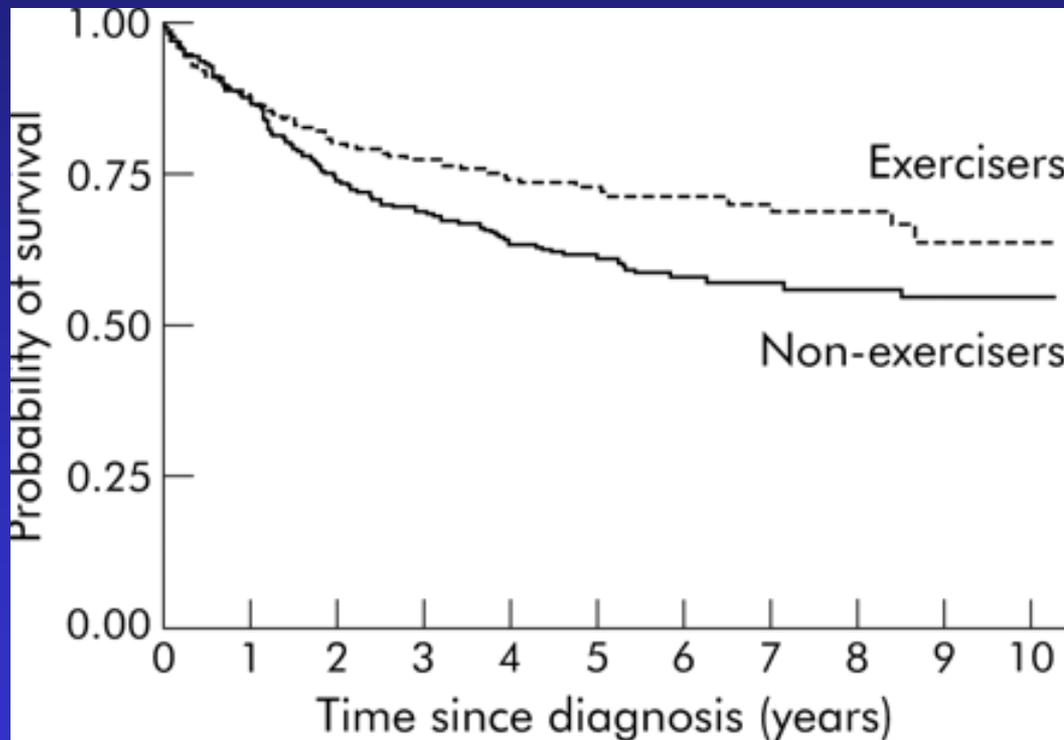
# Other Energy Balance Factors and Colorectal Cancer Outcomes

# Physical Activity and Colorectal Cancer

- Many studies have looked at physical activity and quality of life during treatment or beyond treatment for colorectal cancer patients
  - Most observational
  - Few intervention (single arm or different ways of intervening)
  - Only 1 RCT of exercise intervention v control specific to colorectal cancer patients – contamination of control limits conclusions

# Physical Activity and Colorectal Cancer

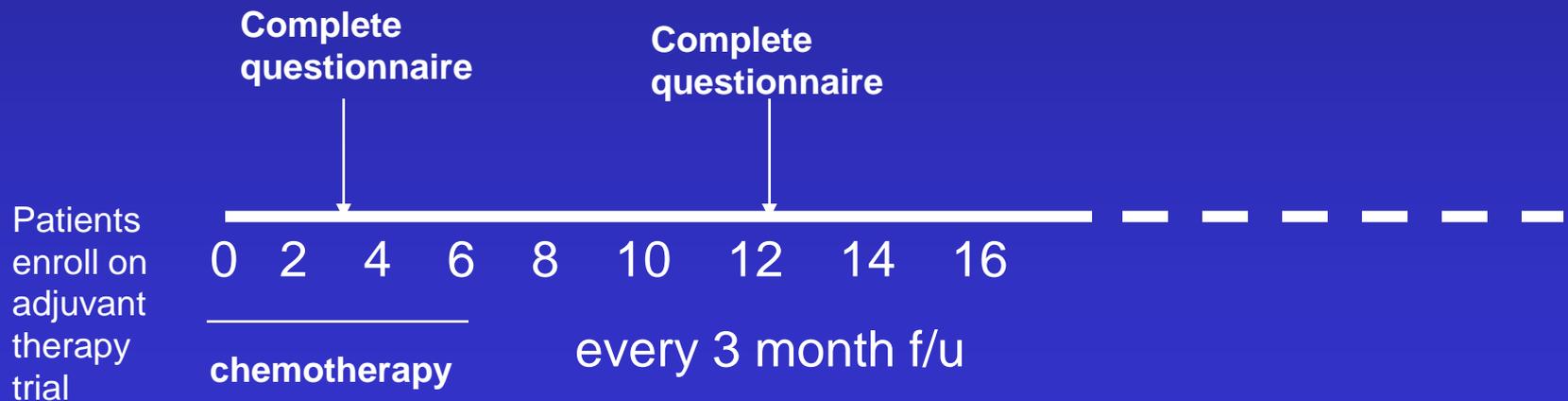
- Cohort study from Australia of 526 colorectal cancer patients with pre-diagnosis physical activity assessment



Colorectal cancer specific survival

# CALGB 89803

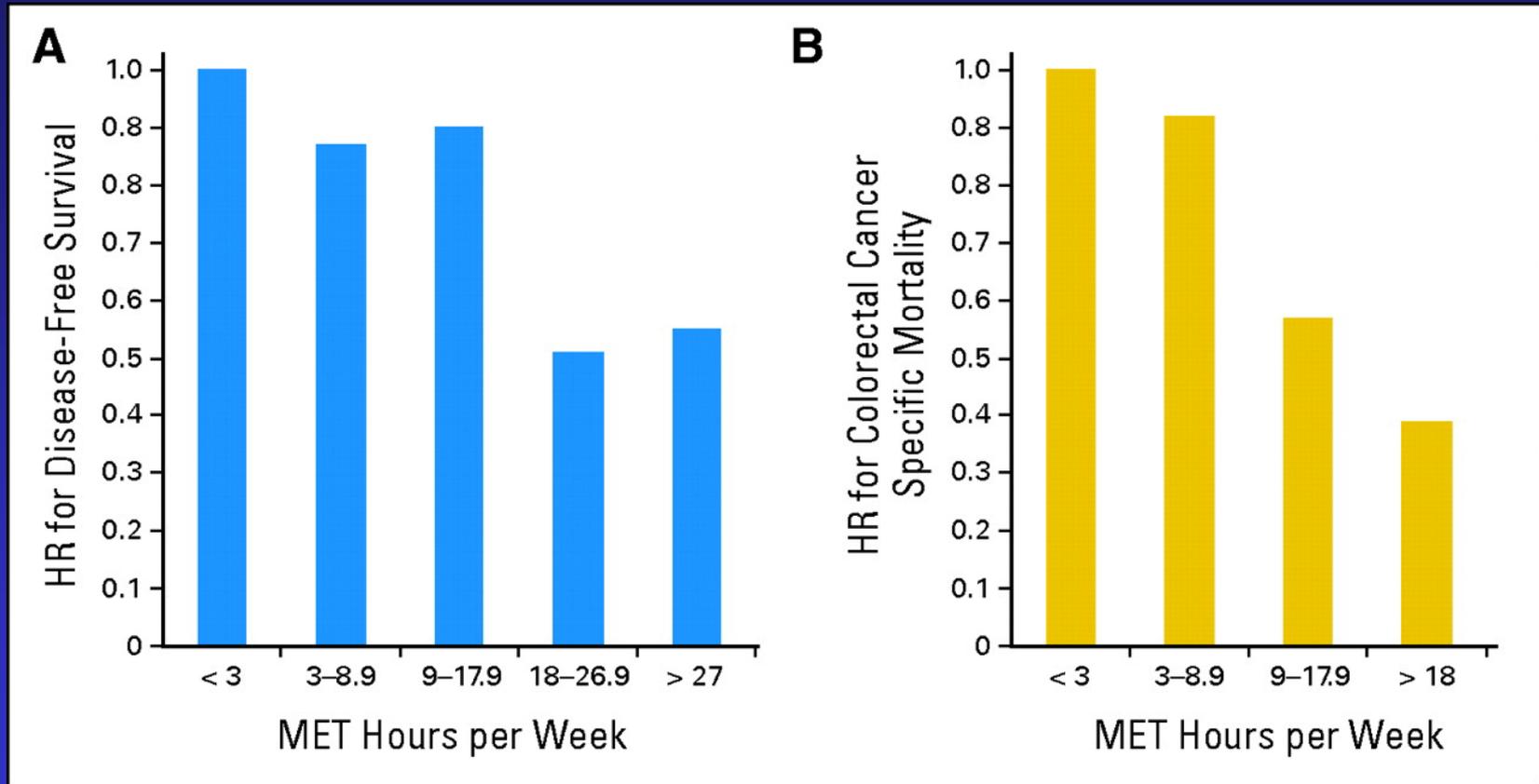
- NCI-sponsored adjuvant therapy trial for stage III colon cancer
- Patients randomized to Roswell Park 5-FU/LV or IFL (bolus 5-FU/LV/Irinotecan)
- 1264 enrolled between 1999 and 2001



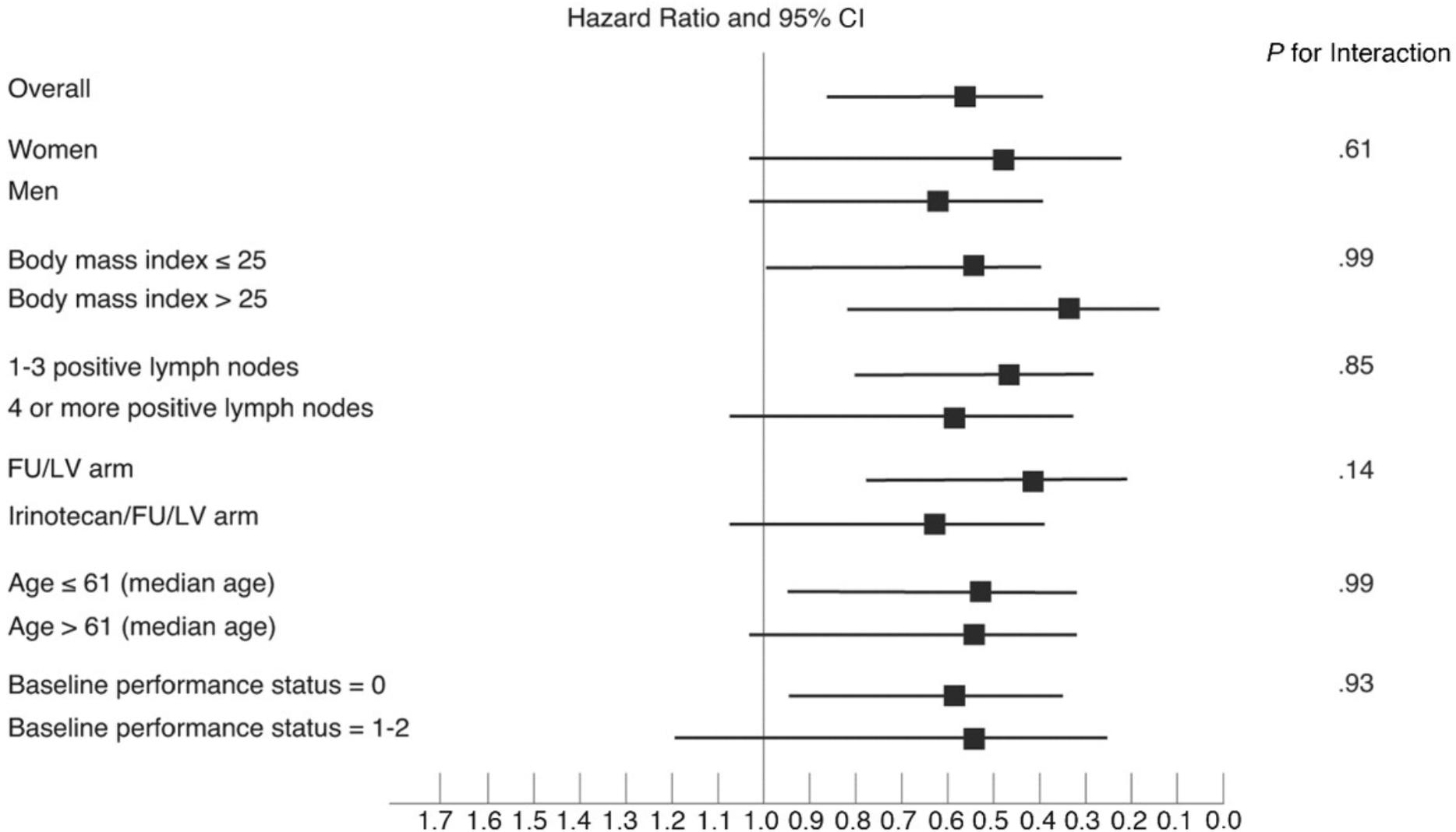
# Statistical Considerations

- Reverse causality
  - Is the exposure changing outcomes or the outcome changing exposure
  - Restrict to events at least 90 days from exposure
  - Sensitivity analyses to extend restriction to 6 months and 12 months
- Recall bias
  - The clock starts at time of questionnaire completion – all events are prospective beyond the exposure data
  - Limits generalizability – data speak to those that get to point of questionnaire

# Physical activity after Diagnosis in Colorectal Cancer Survivors

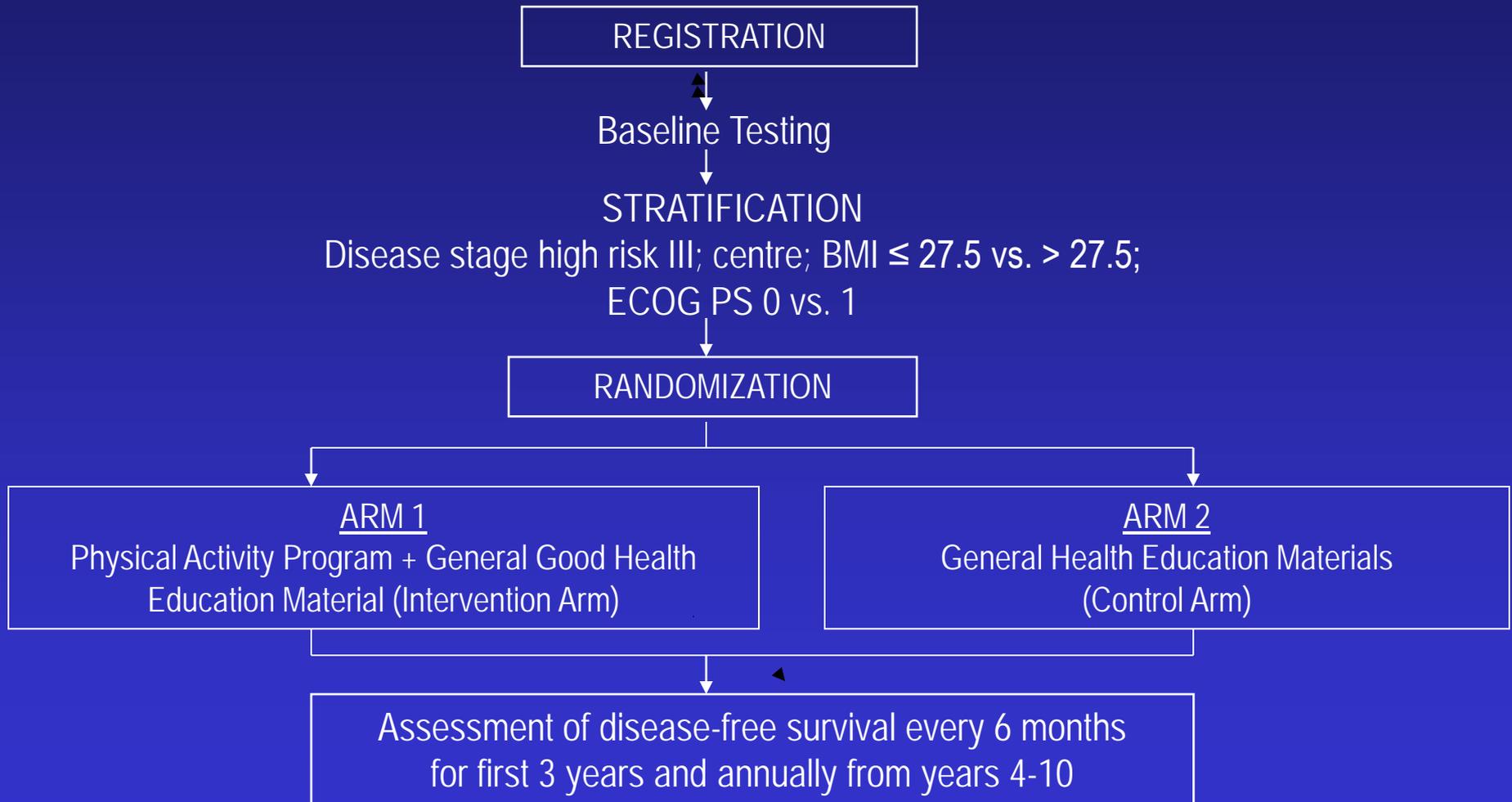


# 89803 and Exercise: Stratification

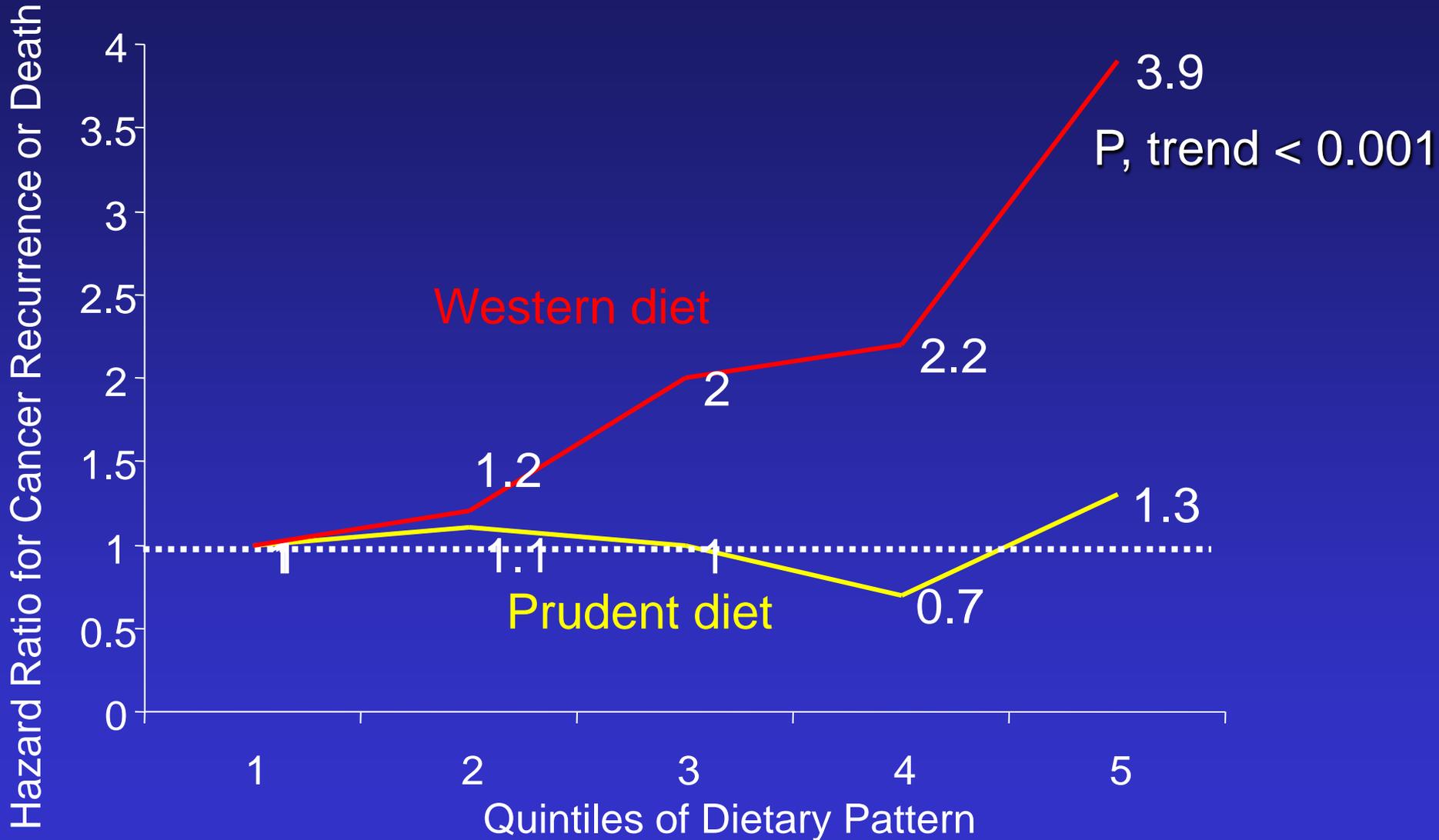


# CHALLENGE: Colon Health and Life-Long Exercise Change trial

High risk Stage II or stage III colon cancer - completed adjuvant chemotherapy within 2-6 months



# CALGB 89803: DFS By Dietary Pattern



# CALGB 89803: Dietary Pattern

	Mean (SD) Intake by Quintile				
	1 (n = 201)	2 (n = 202)	3 (n = 202)	4 (n = 202)	5 (n = 202)
Red meat, servings/wk	2.3 (1.5)	3.1 (1.8)	3.7 (2.1)	4.7 (2.5)	6.1 (3.0)
Processed meats, servings/wk	1.8 (1.7)	2.3 (1.8)	3.0 (2.6)	4.2 (2.9)	5.6 (4.1)
Refined grains, servings/d	2.0 (1.3)	2.8 (1.6)	3.5 (1.8)	4.2 (2.2)	5.8 (2.7)
Dessert, servings/d	0.7 (0.6)	1.1 (0.8)	1.3 (0.9)	1.6 (1.0)	2.5 (1.6)
Total fat, g/d	69 (15)	72 (18)	73 (13)	77 (15)	80 (13)

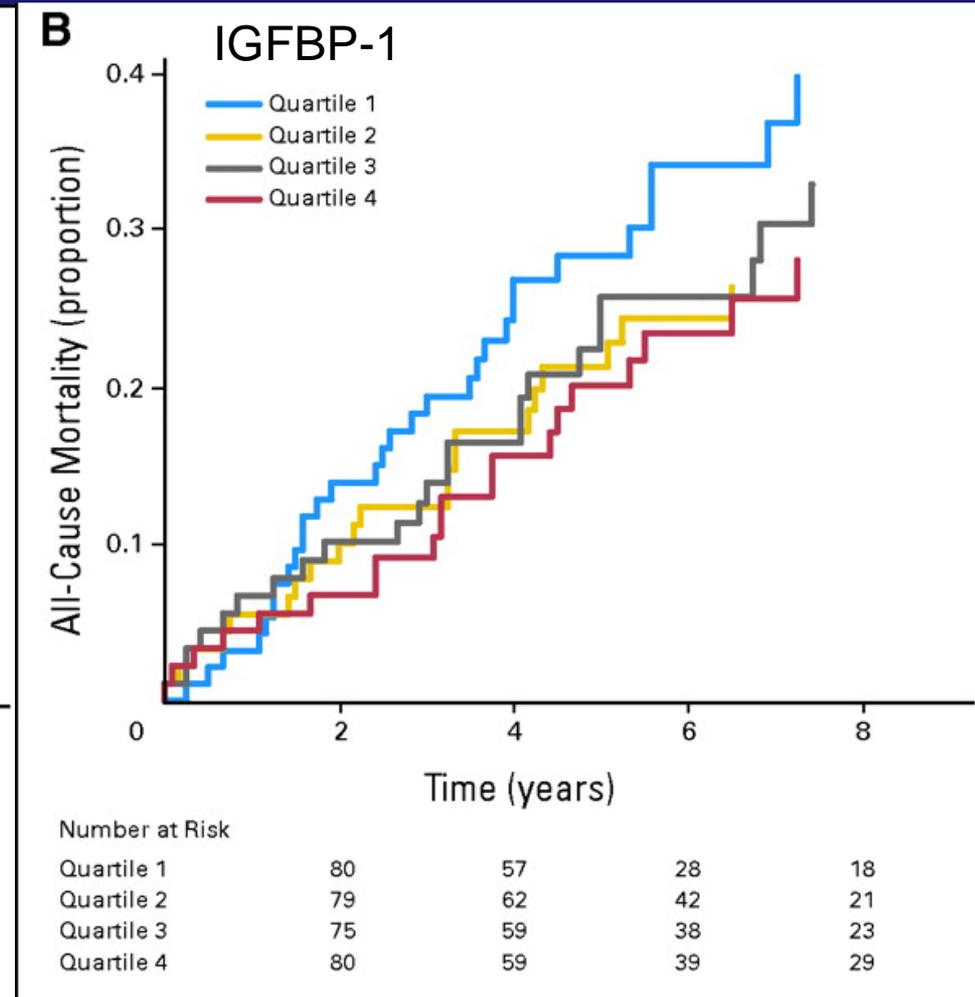
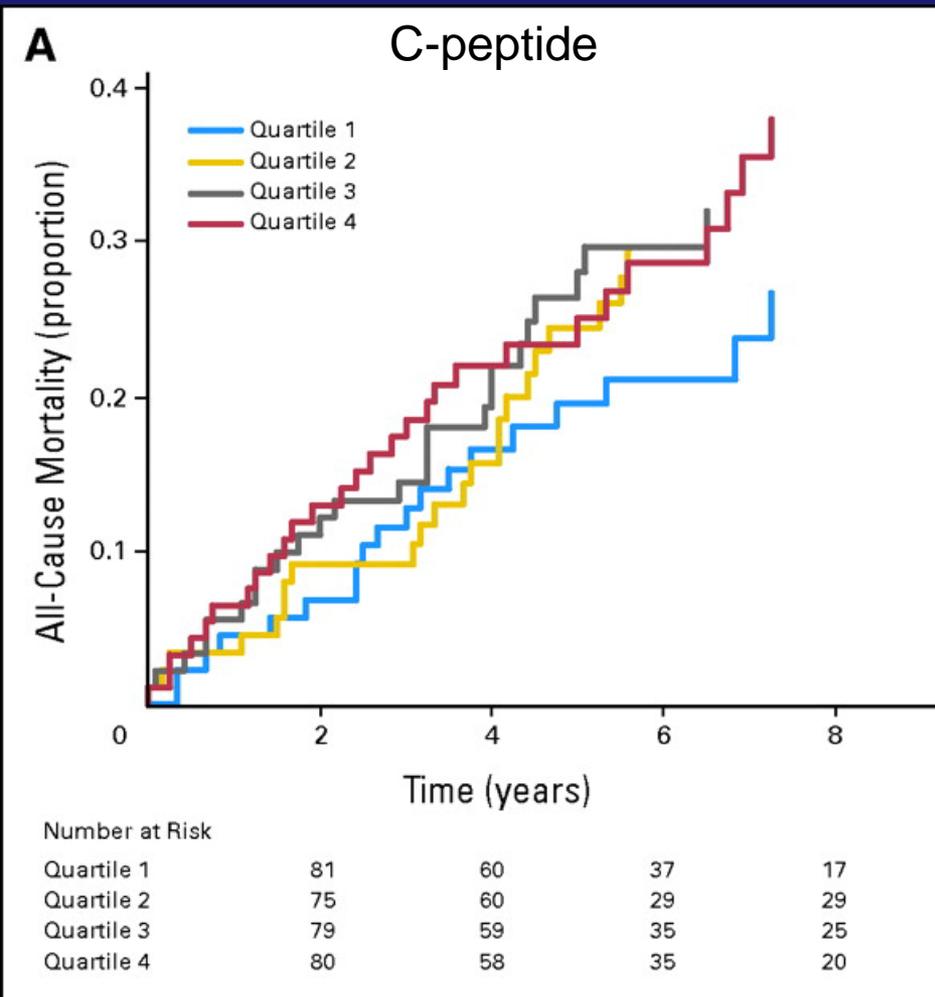
<sup>a</sup>Values are rounded to nearest 0.5. The median total servings of poultry and fish were similar across each quintile (approximately 2 servings per week of poultry and 1.5 servings per week of fish).

# Molecular Markers of Hyperinsulinemia and Colorectal Cancer Outcomes

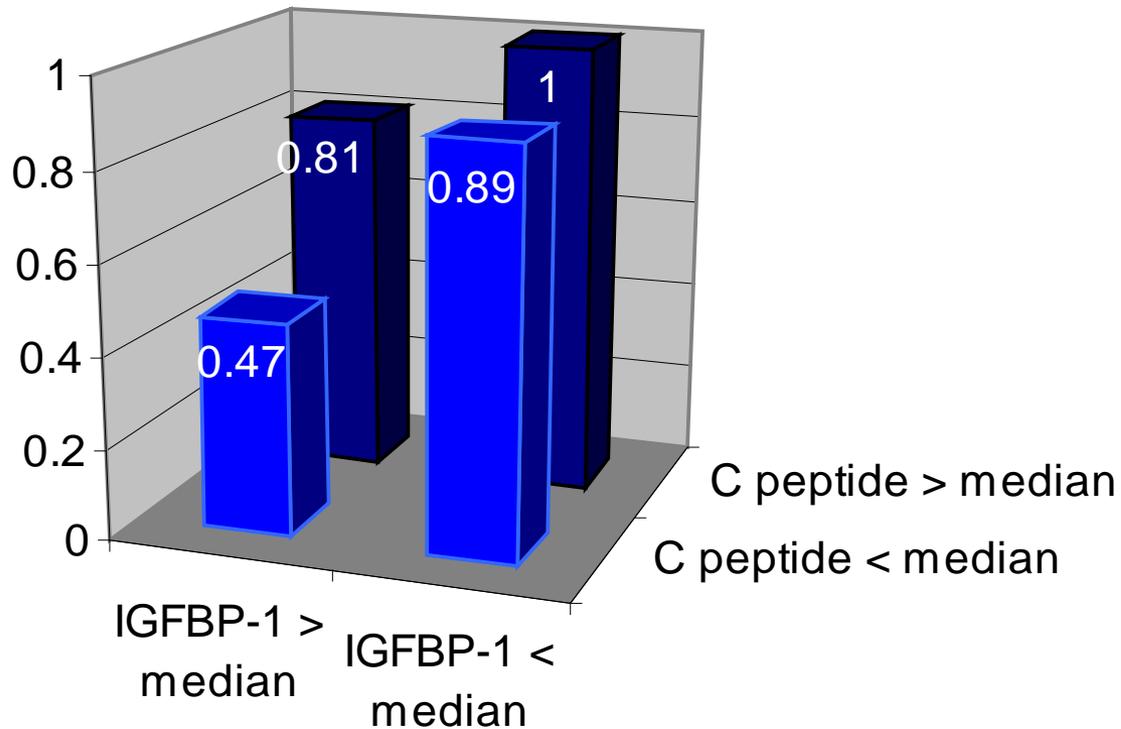
# Insulin-related Growth Factors and Outcomes

- Nested case-control of 373 patients nonmetastatic colorectal cancer 1991-2004
- Prediagnosis circulating C-peptide, insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I), IGFBP-1, and IGFBP-3
- Colorectal cancer-specific mortality and overall mortality

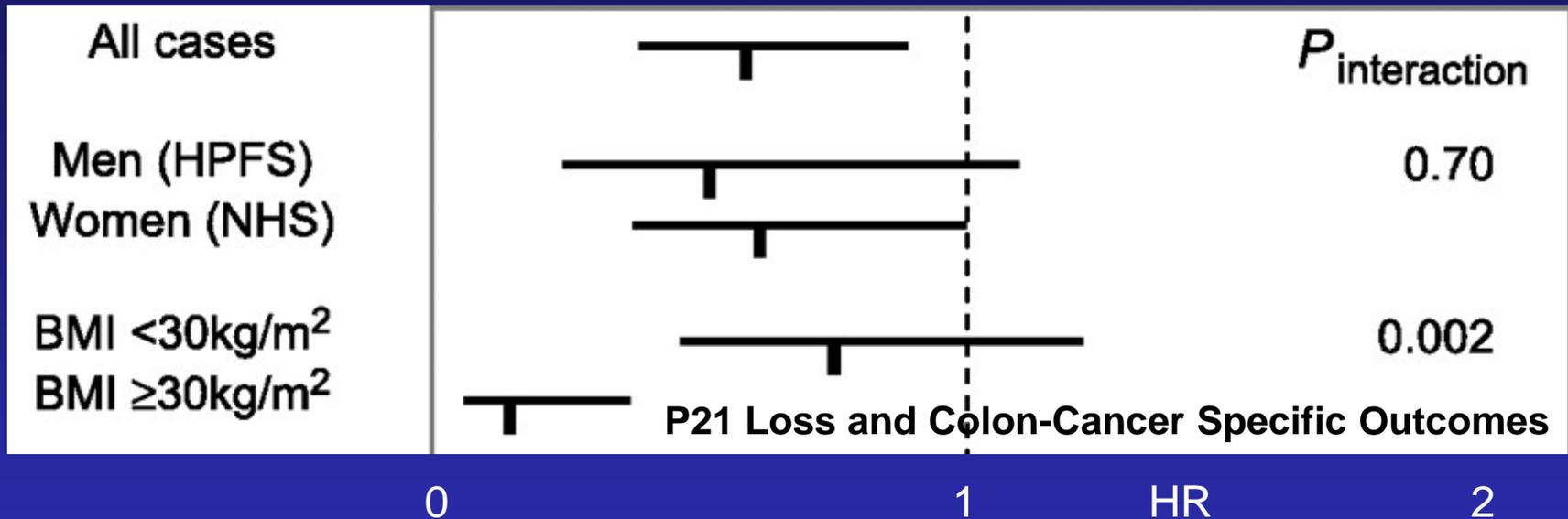
# Insulin-related Growth Factors and Outcomes



# Insulin-related Growth Factors and Outcomes



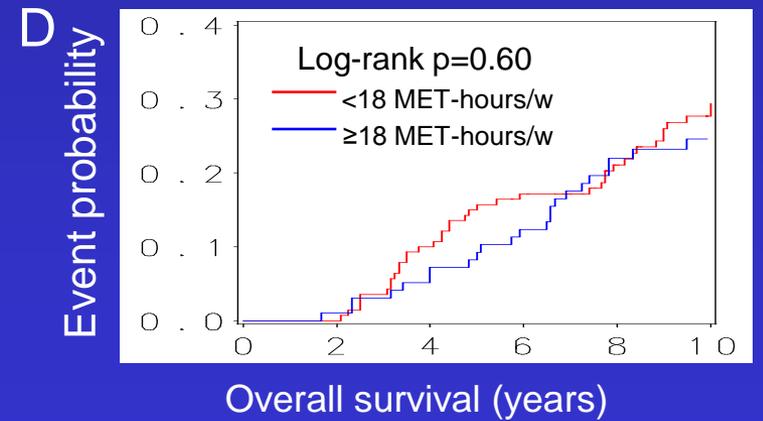
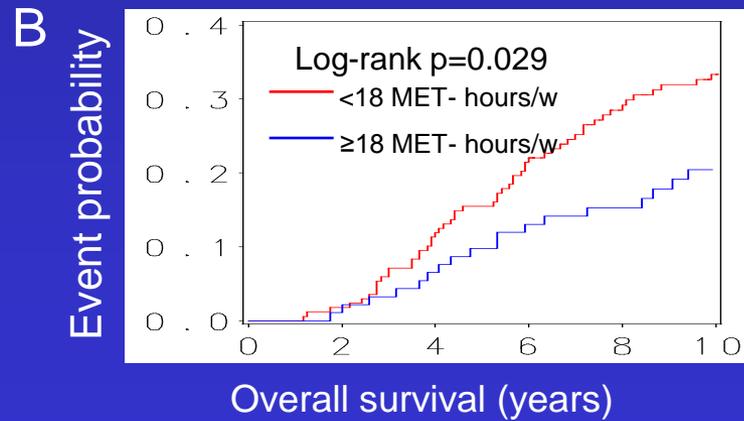
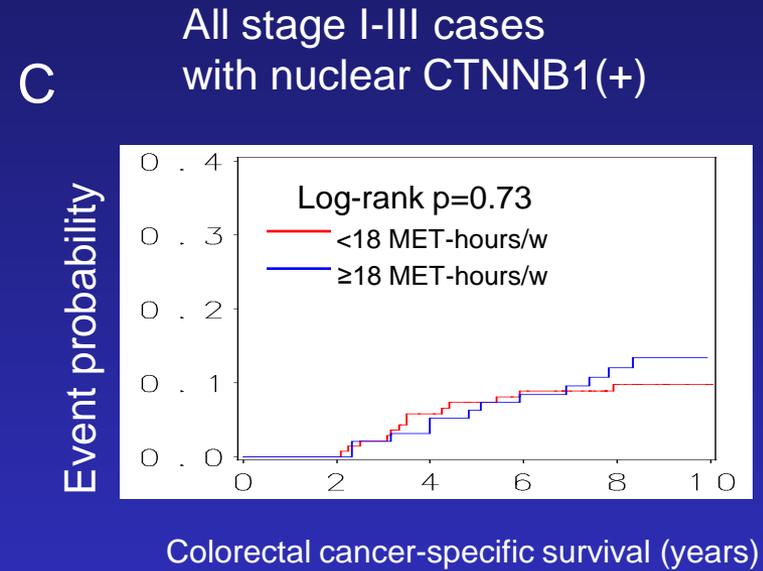
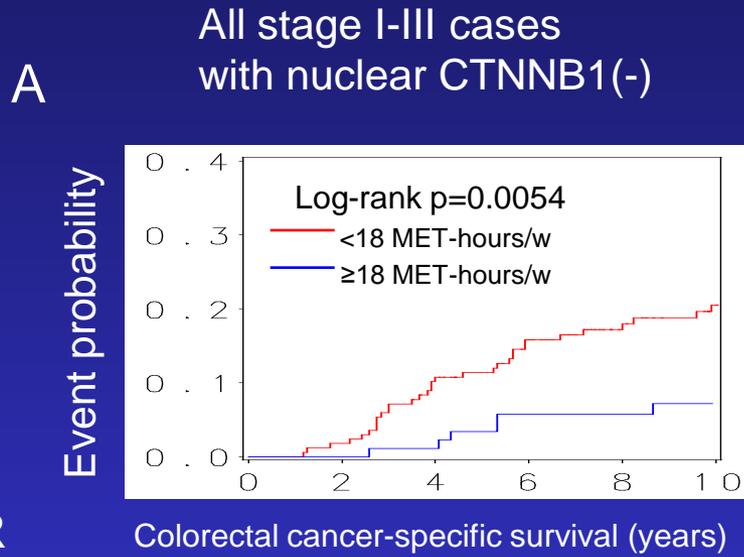
# P21 Expression/Loss Influencing Association Between BMI and Outcomes



	Colon cancer-specific mortality		
	No. of deaths/cases	Stage-matched HR (95% CI)	Multivariate HR (95% CI)
<i>p21-Expressing cases</i>			
{ BMI < 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	28/113	1 (reference)	1 (reference)
{ BMI ≥ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	8/20	7.24 (3.09-17.0)	5.85 (2.28-15.0)
<i>p21-Lost cases</i>			
{ BMI < 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	99/400	1 (reference)	1 (reference)
{ BMI ≥ 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	18/89	1.08 (0.64-1.80)	1.05 (0.60-1.83)
<i>P for interaction (p21 and BMI)</i>		0.0002	0.002

# Cumulative Incidence Curves of Colorectal Cancer and Overall Mortality for Level of Physical Activity by CTNNB1 (b catenin) Status

Main Effect  
Positive  
Nuclear  
CTNNB1  
Adjusted HR  
**0.24**  
(0.12-0.49)



# Where Do We Go From Here – Energy Balance Factors and Tertiary Prevention / Survivorship

- Are observational data enough?
- What if we do a randomized trial of better diet or increased physical activity and result is negative – what's the message?
- Survivorship raises issues of addressing other diseases down the road
- Better biomarkers to study effects – decrease sample size?
- Single exposure v multiple exposure intervention