
Cost and Value of Chemotherapy and Biologic Cancer Treatments:

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Obstacles and Solutions to Maximizing Value of Oncology Drugs

- **The Goal: Use biologics/chemotherapy to:**
 - Save, Extend and Improve Lives
 - Cut costs
 - Drive Innovation
 - Maximize Value
- **What strategies should we pursue to help control the costs of chemotherapy and biologics?**
- **How?**
 - Ongoing investment in better evidence base/research
 - More communication, education, teamwork, coordination
 - Better align incentives—value based benefit design
 - Insurance reform

Cancer Drugs FDA Approved: 2012

Drug	Indication	Effect
Axitinib	Met Kidney CA	Median OS=2m>Sorafenib (6.7 vs. 4.7m)
Pertuzumab	Met BrCA	Median PFS=6m> placebo (18.5 vs. 12.4)
Ziv-Aflibercept	Met CRC	Median OS=1m> placebo (13 vs. 12)
Vismodegib	Basal Cell CA	Objective RR% in 104 patients In single arm trial (30%)
Carfilzomib	Refractory M. Myeloma	22% RR
Enzalutamide	Met Prostate	Median OS =6m>placebo (18.4 vs. 13.6)
Bosotinib	Refractory PH+ CML	33% cytogenetic RR
Regorafenib	Met CRC	Median OS=1.4m>placebo (6.4 vs. 5)

Cancer Drugs FDA Approved: 2012

Drug	Indication	Effect	Approximate Cost 1 month of Rx
Axitinib	Met Kidney CA	Median OS=2m> Sorafenib (6.7 vs. 4.7m)	\$9800
Pertuzumab	Met BrCA	Median PFS=6m> placebo (18.5 vs. 12.4)	\$5900
Ziv-Aflibercept	Met CRC	Median OS=1m> placebo (13 vs. 12)	~\$11,000
Vismodegib	Basal Cell CA	Objective RR% in 104 patients In single arm trial (30%)	\$7500
Carfilzomib	Refractory M. Myeloma	22% RR	\$9,950
Enzalutamide	Met Prostate	Median OS =6m>placebo (18.4 vs. 13.6)	\$7,450
Bosotinib	Refractory PH+ CML	33% cytogenetic RR	N/A
Regorafenib	Met CRC	Median OS>1.4m>placebo (6.4 vs. 5)	\$~10,000

Onyx Stock Price and Regorafenib Development Time Line



Sellers Set and Maintain Drug Prices

- Limited # of products for any single indication
- Patent protection
- Cross subsidization –global market
- Biggest payer (CMS) can't negotiate
- Oncology drugs are in a protected “Special class”—can't not cover them

A More Competitive Marketplace is Emerging

- **7 drugs have been FDA approved for kidney cancer since 2005**
 - **Sorafenib: 2005**
 - **Sunitinib: 2006**
 - **Temsirolimus: 2007**
 - **Everolimus: 2009**
 - **Bevacicumab: 2009**
 - **Pazopanib: 2009**
 - **Axitinib: 2012**

Clinical Trials Remain the Linchpin

- We must do better at accrual
- Design studies with meaningful endpoints/effect sizes
- Embed molecular correlatives to specify mechanisms
- Distinguish little benefit for many vs. big benefit for few
 - crizotinib for alk mutated lung cancer
- Invest in publicly funded clinical trial system
 - “Can we do less?” not just “Can we do more?”
- Align CMS/FDA/CDC/AHRQ and NCI

Align Incentives to Maximize Value

- **Pharma-MDs-Patients vs. Payors/Taxpayers**
 - Strange bedfellows and conflicts....
- **Oncologists still paid at ASP+6%**
- **Oncologists still earn a lot**
- **Moral hazard of health insurance**
 - Vast majority of patients have “no skin in the game”
 - Generous policies, Medigap, Medicaid, caps
 - Limited role of patient assistance plans
 - Cost passed on to employers/taxpayers

States Seek Curb on Patient Bills for Costly Drugs

The New York Times By ANDREW POLLACK April 12, 2012

- The hemophilia drug that saves 7-year-old William Addison from uncontrolled bleeding costs \$100,000 a year. His family's insurance pays virtually all of it. A collection of empty bottles from William's medicine, which costs \$100,000 a year at his home in Falmouth, Me. (picture of 100s of vials)
- But his mother, Victoria Kuhn, says she is terrified that the insurance company may start requiring patients to pay as much as a third of the cost of the drug.
- Spurred by patients and patient advocates like Ms. Kuhn, lawmakers in at least 20 states, from Maine to Hawaii, have introduced bills that would limit out-of-pocket payments by consumers for expensive drugs used to treat diseases like cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis and inherited disorders.
- **Pharmaceutical companies would also benefit from such legislation because high co-payments discourage patients from taking their medicines.** The pharmaceutical giant Pfizer has been helping the legislative drive behind the scenes, even drafting some of the bills, according to legislators and patient advocates.

Align Incentives to Promote Teamwork and Coordination

- **If you give chemotherapy, you need a plan to minimize ED/hospitalization use afterwards**
- **Value based design: reward good behavior**
- **Incentivize accessibility outside routine hours**
- **Incentivize communication strategies**
 - **Patient to Clinician**
 - **Clinician to Clinician/Hospital/Home Care/Pcare**
 - **Waiting room/group education**
 - **Across systems**

Fostering Accountability: Value Based Design

- What is each oncologist were profiled based on panel of all health care service utilization within 30 days of chemotherapy treatment?
- How to make this win/win for pt/MD?
Benefit/Design
- How to avoid ED visits/hospitalizations
 - Don't treat people who shouldn't be treated
 - Communicate honestly about risk/benefits
 - Don't postpone difficult discussions
 - Be available off hours/remote communication
 - Communicate, educate, reinforce
 - Partner with home care

Existing Strategies to Limit Costs of Oncology Drugs

- More choices within therapeutic class
- Shift from Medical to Pharmacy Benefit
- Tiered formularies
- Step edits
- Prior authorization
- Quantity limits
- Cost transparency

Treatment Pathways/Guidelines

- Work best when there is menu of choices
- If similar efficacy choose least \$\$ option
- Resource intensive to develop and curate
- Challenging to keep free from commercialism
- Chemo order entry systems are helping
- Need tracking systems for molecular profiling
- Need interoperable IT systems
- Proprietary vs. open access

Comparative Effectiveness Research

One Strategy, but not a Solution

- **Leverage day to day experience and abundant unused data, system capacity**
- **Better Health IT facilitates CER**
- **Standard setting/linked/de-identified data sets**
- **Examine patients left out of trials**
- **Examine gap between how:**
 - **Rx can work**
 - **Rx does work**
- **Better data sets and methods**
- **Actively engage patients**
- **Conflict management**

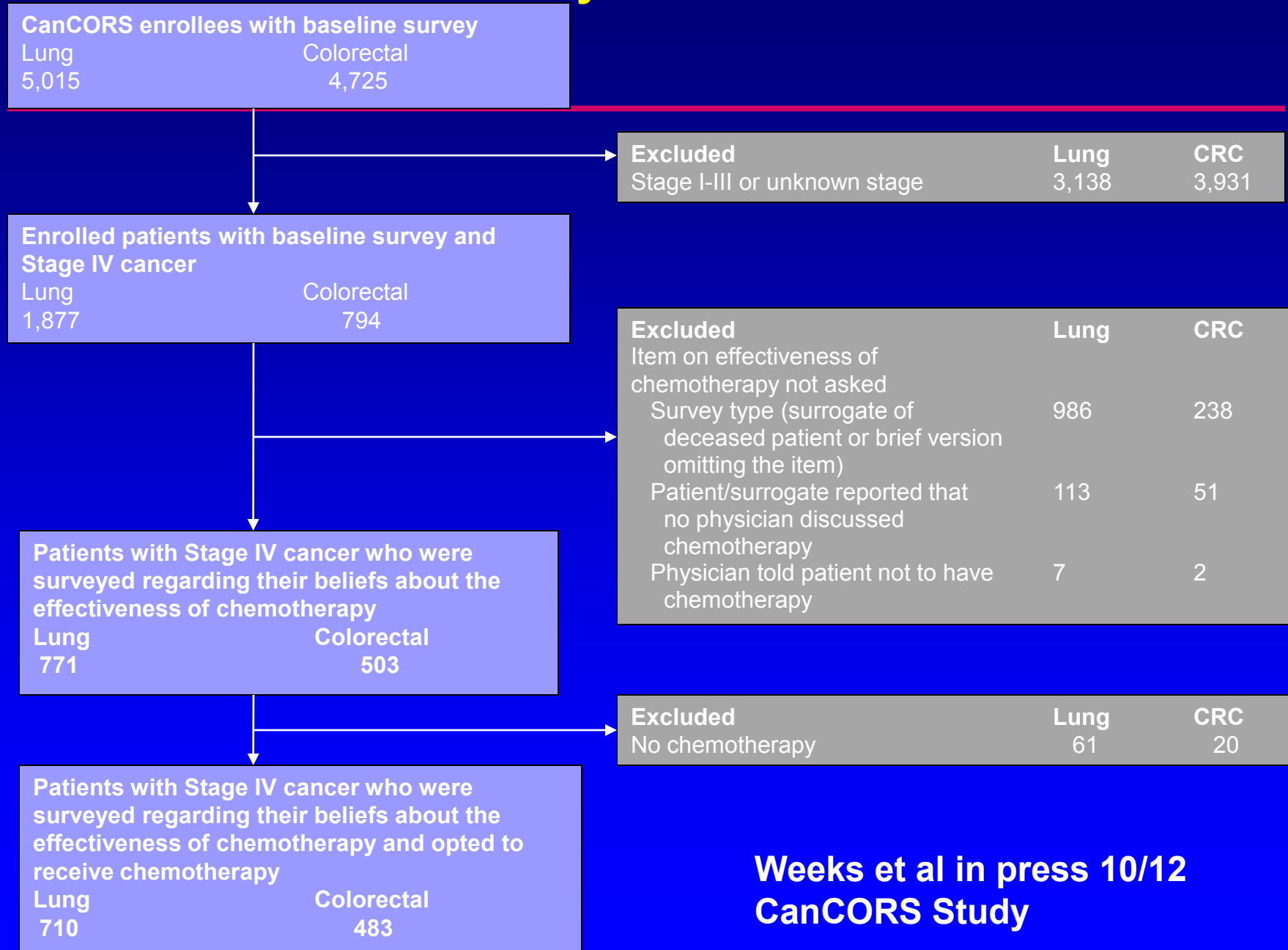
Challenges of Informed Decision Making About Advanced CA Rx

- **Life threatening**
- **Framing matters**
- **Information about Rx benefits difficult to obtain**
- **Customizing info is challenging**
 - **How do these results apply to me?**
- **Doctors want to provide comfort, be humane, be liked, therapeutic rapport**

What Do Patients Expect from Chemotherapy?

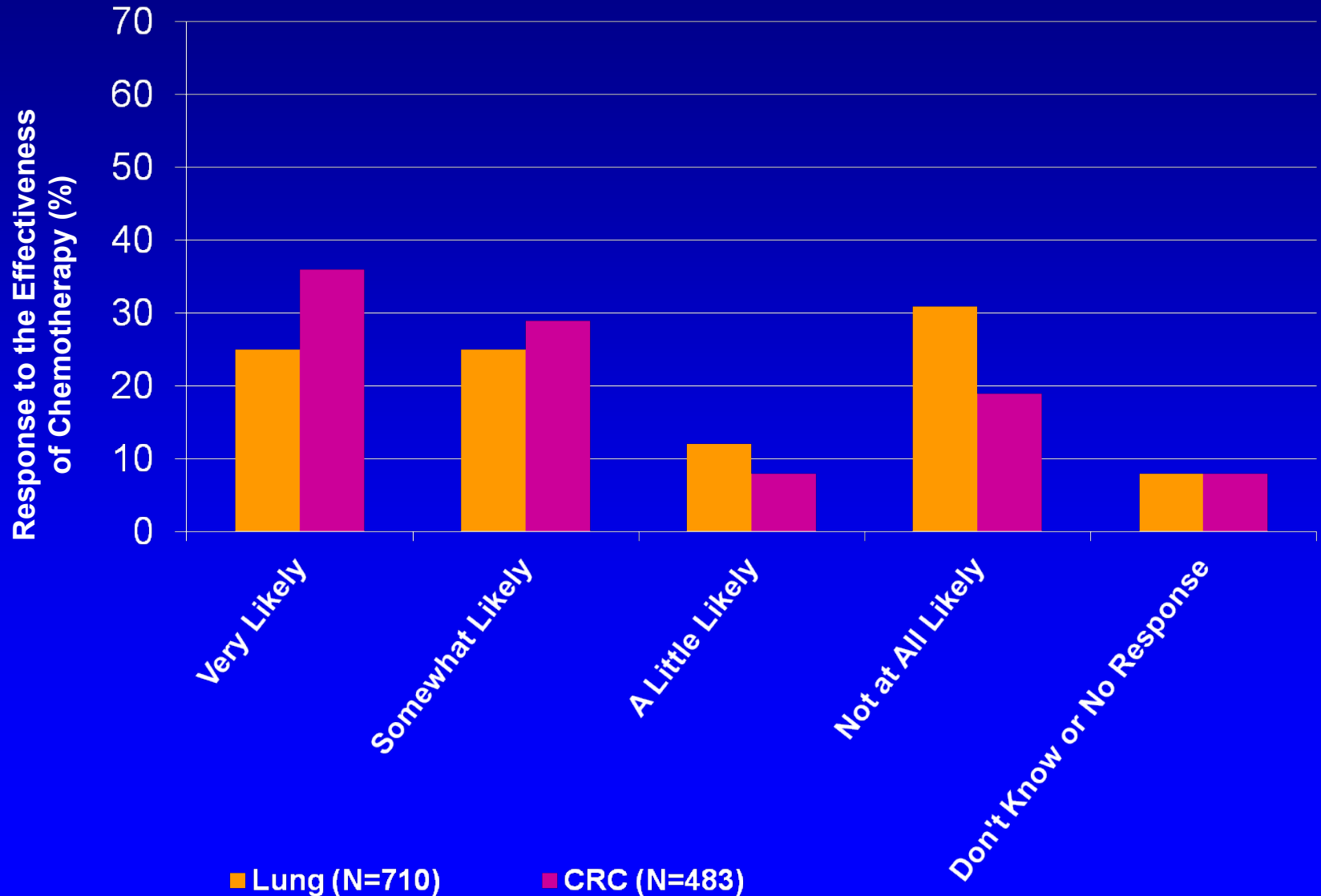
- **CANCORS multisite population based study across US**
- **Comprehensive survey/record abstraction 2005-2011**
- **Telephone interviews ~4 months from diagnosis**
- **What do patients with metastatic cancer expect from chemotherapy?**
- **Are expectations in line with reality?**
- **What factors are associated with realistic expectations?**

Cohort Selection for Survey about Chemo Effectiveness

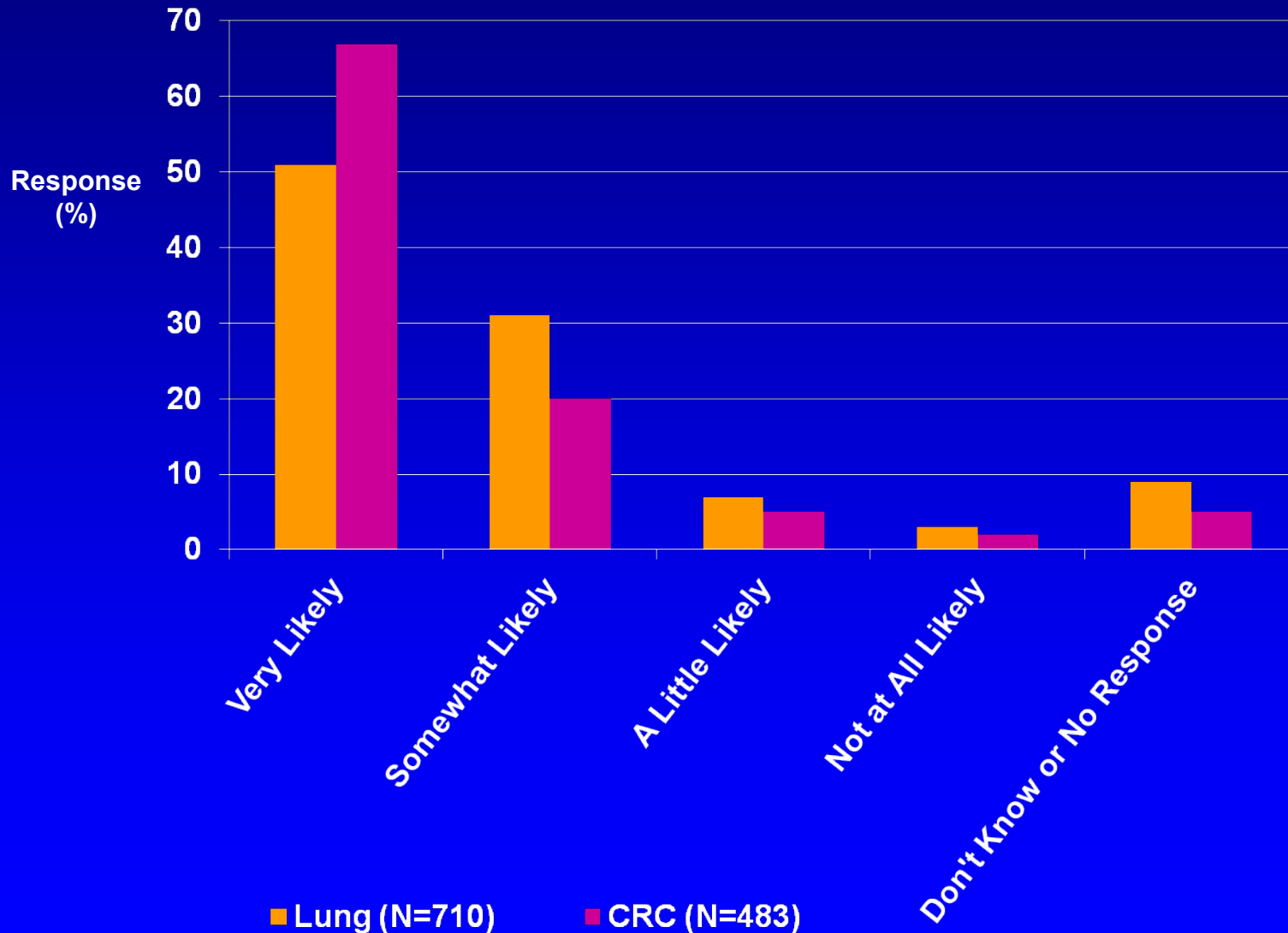


**Weeks et al in press 10/12
CanCORS Study**

Patients' Expectations of Likelihood that Chemotherapy will Cure Cancer: CanCORS Study



Expectations about Likelihood that Chemotherapy will Extend Life: CanCORS Study



Factors Associated with Inaccurate Response to Question about the Likelihood of Cure from Chemotherapy

		Odds Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
Cancer type			<0.001
	Lung	Reference	
	Colorectal	1.75 (1.29, 2.37)	
Age			0.06
	21 to 54	Reference	
	55 to 69	1.10 (0.77, 1.57)	
	70 to 79	1.68 (1.10, 2.57)	
	80+	1.47 (0.77, 2.80)	
Race			<0.001
	White	Reference	
	Hispanic/Latino	2.82 (1.51, 5.27)	
	African-American	2.93 (1.80, 4.78)	
	Asian/Pacific Islander	4.32 (2.19, 8.49)	
	Other	3.07 (1.50, 6.27)	
Integrated health care network			0.02
	No	Reference	
	Yes	0.70 (0.52, 0.94)	
Physician communication rating			0.002
	0 to 79	Reference	
	80 to 99	1.37 (0.93, 2.02)	
	100 (perfect score)	1.90 (1.33, 2.72)	

Odds ratios > 1 represent greater likelihood of an inaccurate belief about effects of chemotherapy
Factors with p<0.10 in univariate analyses retained in multivariable model

Factors NOT Associated with Inaccurate Response to Question about the Likelihood of Cure from Chemotherapy

		Odds Ratio (95% CI)	P Value
Gender	Male	Reference	0.29
	Female	0.85 (0.63, 1.15)	
Marital status	Married/living as married	Reference	0.68
	Non-married	1.07 (0.77, 1.49)	
Education	Less than high school	Reference	0.32
	High school/some college	0.86 (0.57, 1.29)	
	College degree or higher	0.68 (0.41, 1.14)	
Household income (\$)	< 20,000	Reference	0.39
	20,000-39,999	1.12 (0.76, 1.66)	
	40,000-59,999	1.51 (0.94, 2.41)	
	≥ 60,000	1.18 (0.73, 1.91)	
Good physical function (EQ5D based)	No	Reference	0.18
	Yes	1.22 (0.91, 1.64)	
Patient-physician role in decision making	Patient controlled	Reference	0.31
	Shared control	1.07 (0.79, 1.45)	
	Physician controlled	1.45 (0.90, 2.35)	
Patient-family role in decision making	Patient controlled	Reference	0.86
	Shared control	1.04 (0.77, 1.39)	
	Family controlled	0.80 (0.30, 2.12)	

Odds ratios > 1 represent greater likelihood of an inaccurate belief about effects of chemotherapy

Factors with p<0.10 in univariate analyses retained in multivariable model

What Is Missing from ChemoRx Labels and Consent Forms

- Clear simple statement of magnitude of benefit
- Not RR, HR, 95% CI.
- Clear, simple, transparent
- Median survival
- Better still:
 - % alive at 1 year with treatment XYZ
 - % alive at 2 years with treatment XYZ

Personal View: Low Yield Strategies

- Incorporate costs into discussions about advanced cancer treatment
- Eliminate patient accountability for cost sharing
- Individual provider profiling
- Invest scarce NCI \$\$ in prognostic models that don't get used
- Cost-effectiveness analyses/NICE-UK approach

Potential Leverage Points to Maximize Value in Oncology Therapeutics

- **Get Federal/state agencies to row together**
- **Curate/modernize/sustain cancer registries**
- **Invest in NCI sponsored clinical trials**
- **Require pharma to conduct follow on trials**
- **Coverage with evidence development**
- **Engage patients. Really Really. PCOR/CER**
- **Incentivize clinicians to build evidence base**
- **Simplify research/data collection enterprise**

Potential Leverage Points for Maximizing Value in Oncology Rx

- **Transparency in communicating benefits**
- **Standard interpretable labels**
- **Two weeks of oral chemo at a time**
- **Build/curate better pathways/guidelines**
- **Strategic value-based benefit design to incent patients/providers to choose wisely**
- **Recognize that hospitalization remains the biggest cost driver of oncology care—need to foster accountability for downstream consequences of chemorx**
- **Incentivize (\$\$\$) good performance**

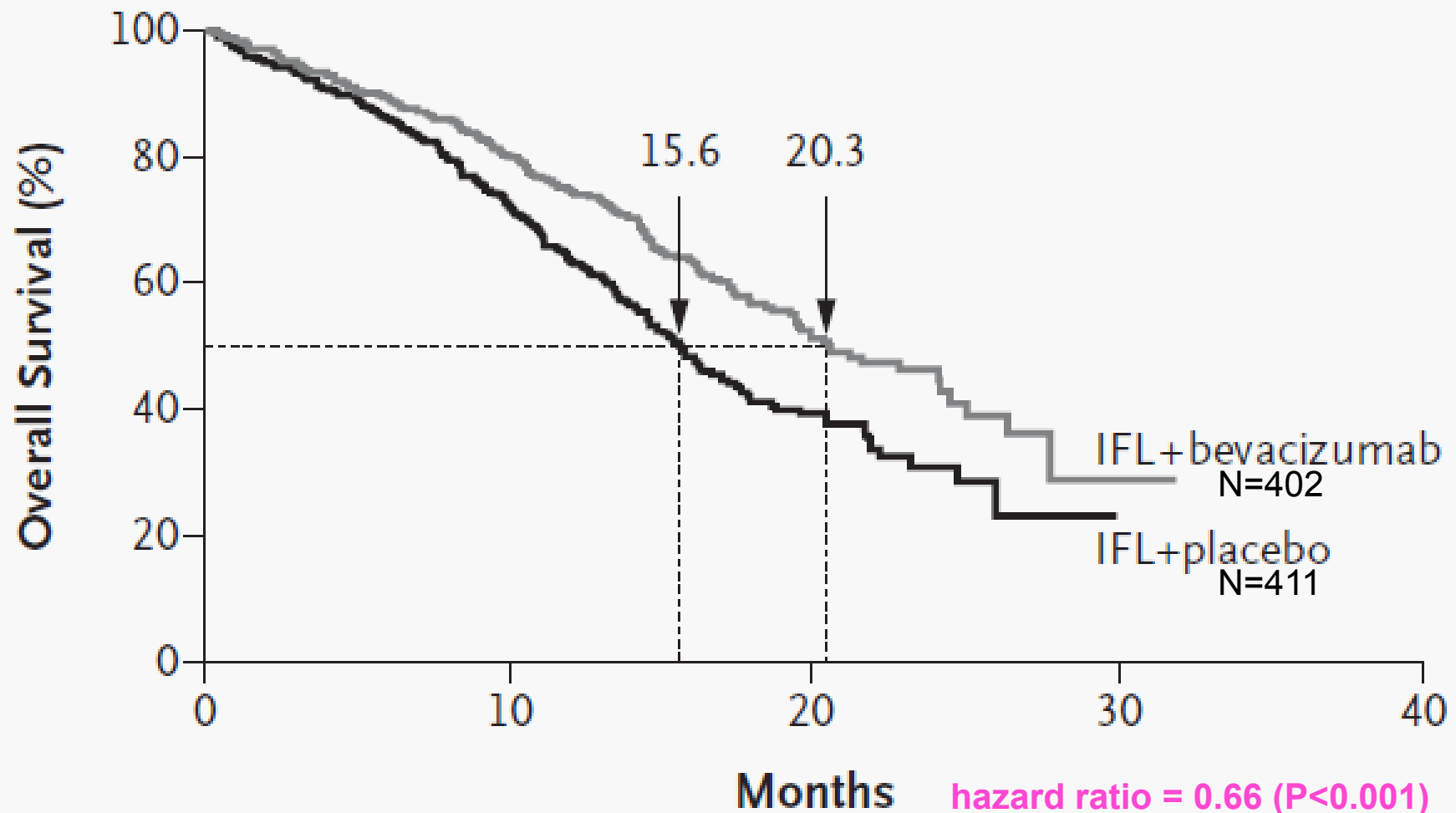
Shared Accountability and Responsibility

- **Pharma/Biotech**
- **Government**
- **Physicians/Providers**
- **Health Insurers**
- **Employers**
- **Patients**
- **Taxpayers**

THANK YOU!

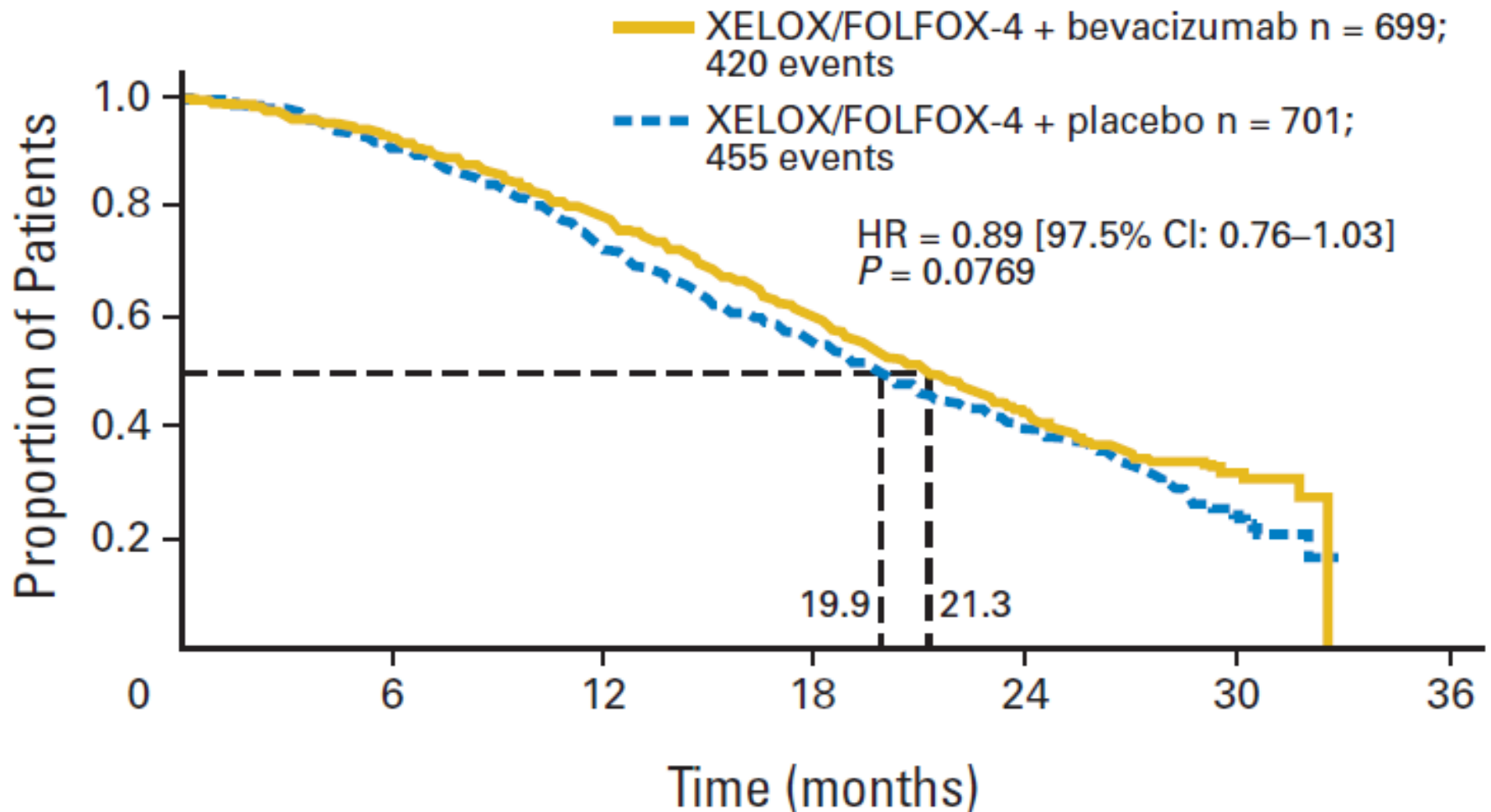
The Efficacy Study

Randomized Controlled Trial: IFL +/- BEV



Does Bev Work with FOLFOX?

First line treatment of MCRC



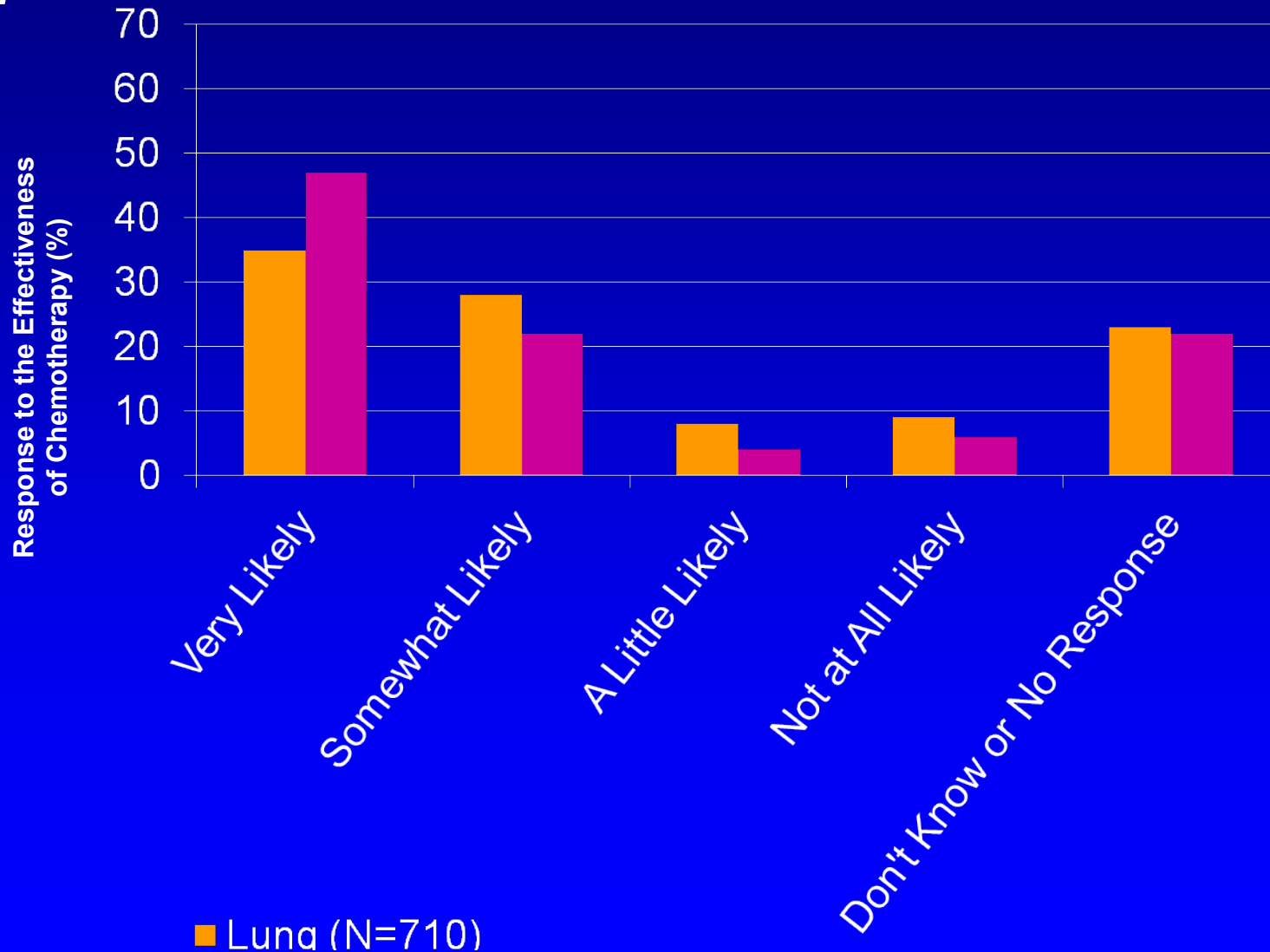
Patient characteristics by cancer type

Characteristic		Lung N = 710 %	Colorectal N = 482 %
Age	21 to 54	18	34
	55 to 69	47	43
	70 to 79	29	17
	80+	6	6
Gender	Male	62	60
	Female	38	40
Race and ethnicity	White	69	59
	Hispanic/Latino	6	12
	African-American	12	17
	Asian/Pacific Islander	7	8
	Other	6	4
Marital status	Married/living as married	63	64
	Non-married	37	36
Education			
	Less than high school	20	17
	High school/some college	60	57
	College degree or higher	20	25
Household income (\$)			
	< 20,000	28	27
	20,000-39,999	27	24
	40,000-59,999	13	14
	≥ 60,000	19	23
	Missing	14	12
Integrated health care network			
	No	63	66
	Yes	37	34

Patient Characteristics by Cancer Type

Characteristic	Lung N = 710 %	Colorectal N = 482 %
Baseline interview type		
Full	76	84
Brief	5	4
Surrogate for ill patient	19	12
Physical function (EQ5D based)		
Bad	38	27
Good	38	56
Missing	25	17
Physician communication rating		
0 to 79	20	16
80 to 99	25	28
100 (perfect score)	48	50
Missing	7	6
Patient-physician role in chemotherapy decision making		
Patient controlled	36	38
Shared control	47	45
Physician controlled	12	13
Missing	4	3
Patient-family role in treatment decision making		
Patient controlled	46	43
Shared control	46	50
Family controlled	1	3
Missing	7	4
Survey after end of first-line chemotherapy		
No	41	61
Yes	59	39

Figure 1C. Shown are the responses of patients with advanced lung cancer or colorectal cancer to questions regarding whether chemotherapy will *provide relief of symptoms*



% Responding that Chemotherapy Might Be Curative

		Lung Cancer (N = 710)	Colorectal Cancer (N = 483)
Overall		69	81
Age			
	21 to 54	69	79
	55 to 69	66	80
	70 to 79	76	83
	80+	66	89
Gender			
	Male	71	80
	Female	67	82
Race			
	White	63	74
	Hispanic/Latino	79	91
	African-American	82	91
	Asian/Pacific Islander	88	88
	Other	81	90
Marital status			
	Married/living as married	71	78
	Non-married	67	84
Education			
	Less than high school	75	86
	High school/some college	68	82
	College degree or higher	68	75
Household income (\$)			
	< 20,000	66	82
	20,000-39,999	67	81
	40,000-59,999	73	81
	≥ 60,000	66	78
Integrated health care network			
	No	70	85
	Yes	69	72

% Responding that Chemotherapy Might Be Curative

	Lung Cancer (N = 710)	Colorectal Cancer (N = 483)
Overall	69	81
Baseline interview type		
Full	70	80
Brief	76	88
Surrogate for ill patient	66	85
Good physical function (EQ5D based)		
No	68	74
Yes	71	82
Physician communication rating		
0 to 79	61	72
80 to 99	69	77
100 (perfect score)	74	85
Patient-physician role in decision making		
Patient controlled	67	80
Shared control	70	79
Physician controlled	72	86
Patient-family role in decision making		
Patient controlled	67	79
Shared control	71	81
Family controlled	56	80
Survey done after end of 1st line chemotherapy⁺		
No	71	84
Yes	65	74

+ Restricted to the 885 patients for whom data on the timing of chemotherapy were available