

**Beyond HIV
Takin HIV to another level
CLUSTER 2.0
Beyond Comorbidities**

The New Phenomenology of Cancer in Persons Living with HIV

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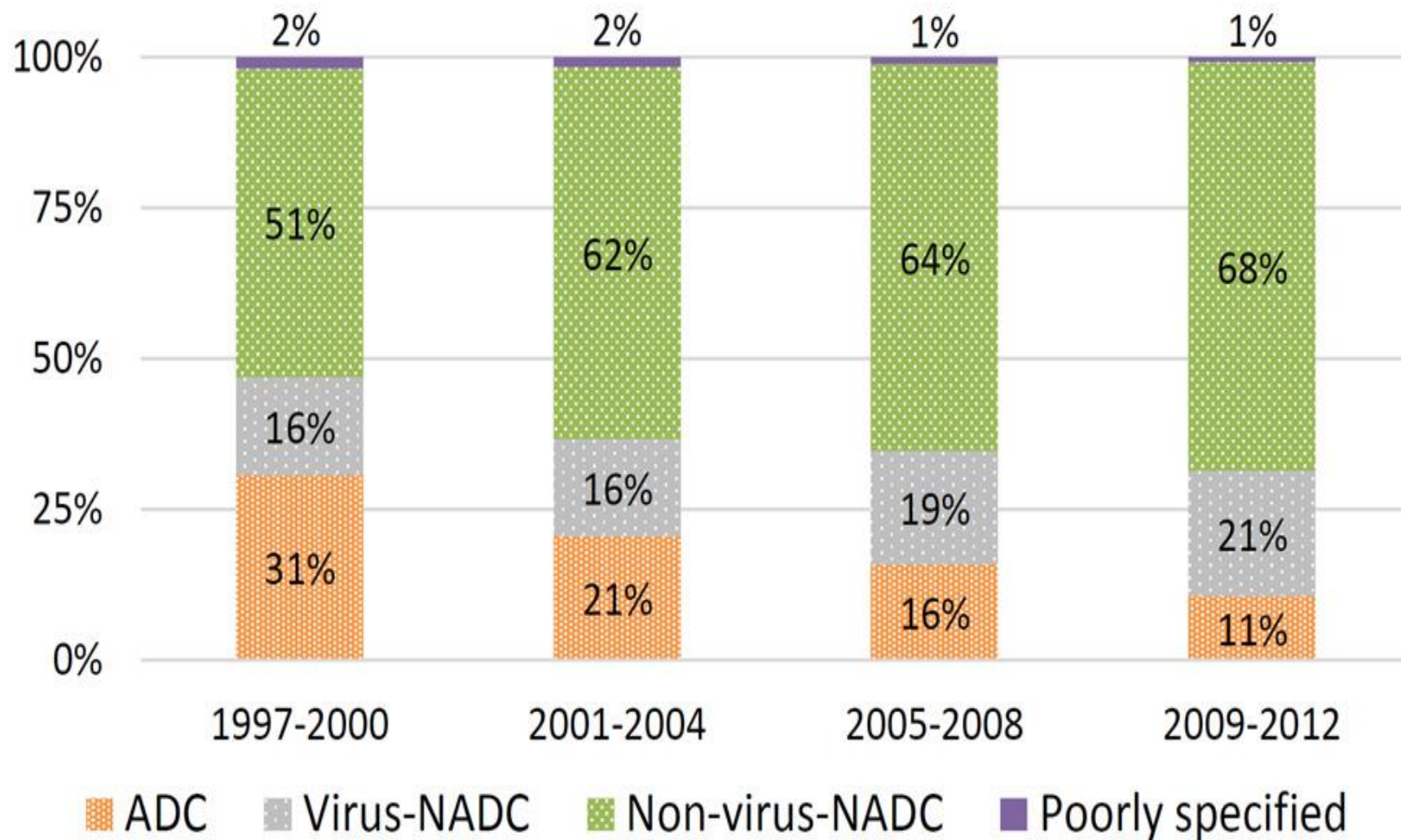
Padova 2024

HIV-related Cancers

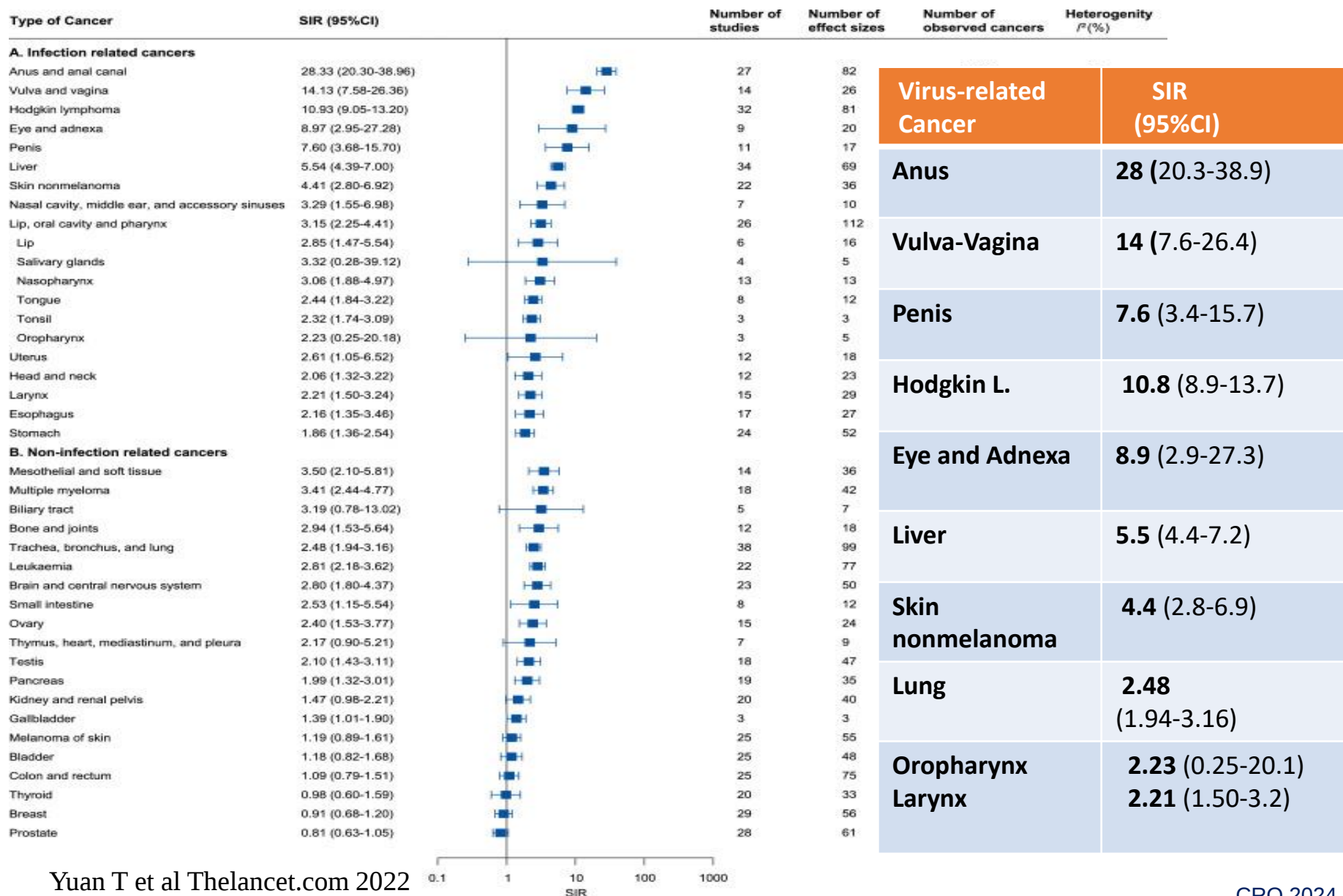
Background

- The epidemiology of HIV disease has evolved in the cART era
- The incidence and morbidity of AIDS-defining cancers has decreased, whereas morbidity and mortality of NADCs has increased
- People living with HIV (PLWH) have a markedly increased risk of anal, liver, lung cancer and of other HPV-associated malignancies including Head-Neck cancers
- Understanding the changing patterns of HIV-related malignancies will direct screening and treatment strategies to ensure optimal outcomes for PLWH

Proportion of Cancer Cases among HIV-infected Patients by Cancer Group in each Calendar Period (VA System 1997-2012)



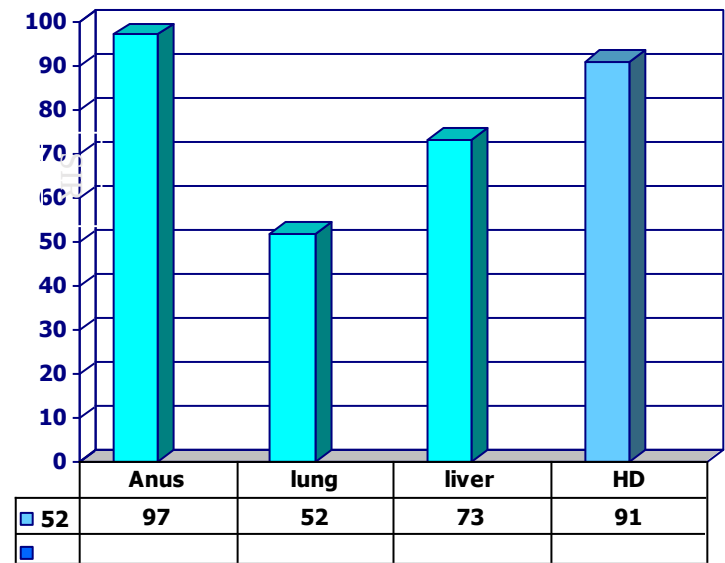
Meta-analysis of Standardized Incidence Ratio (SIR) for non-AIDS-defining Cancers among People Living with HIV(PLWH) (1992-2022)



Excess Cancers Among 859,522 people living with HIV in the United States (2010)

NADCs

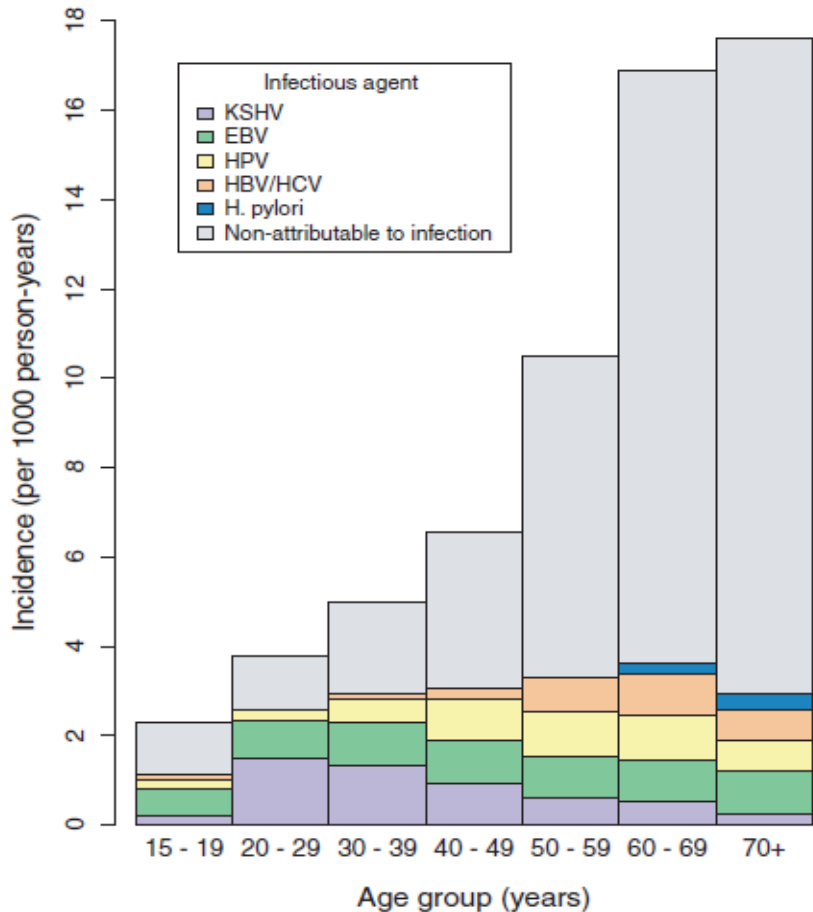
Excess of Non-AIDS-Defining Cancers %



NADCs	DEFICIT %	(95% CI)
Breast	- 42	(-42 to -14)
Prostate	- 41	(-53 to -26)

Robbins H. Br J Nat Cancer Inst 2015

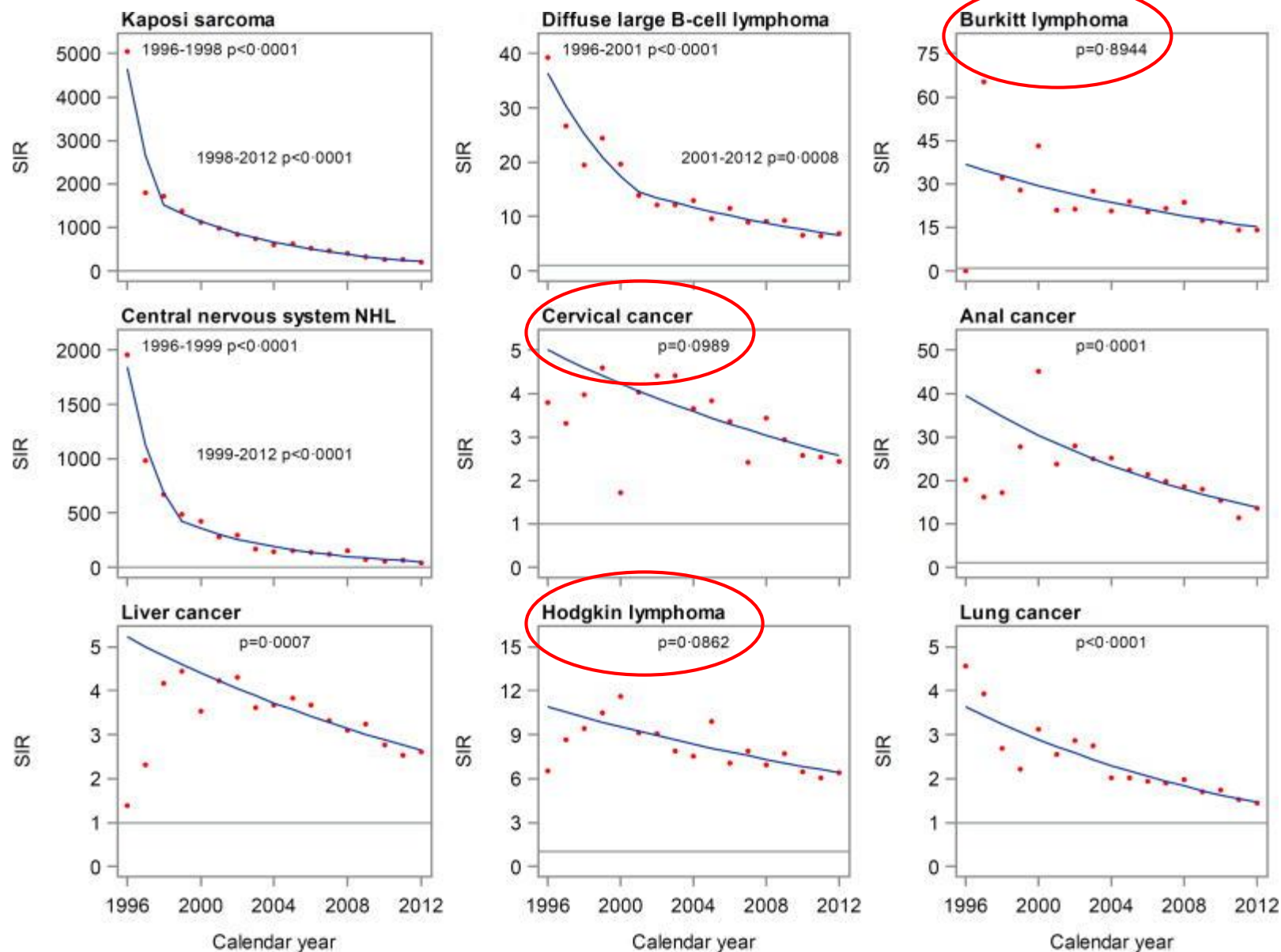
Cancers attributable and non-attributable to infections among adults with HIV in the United States (2008)



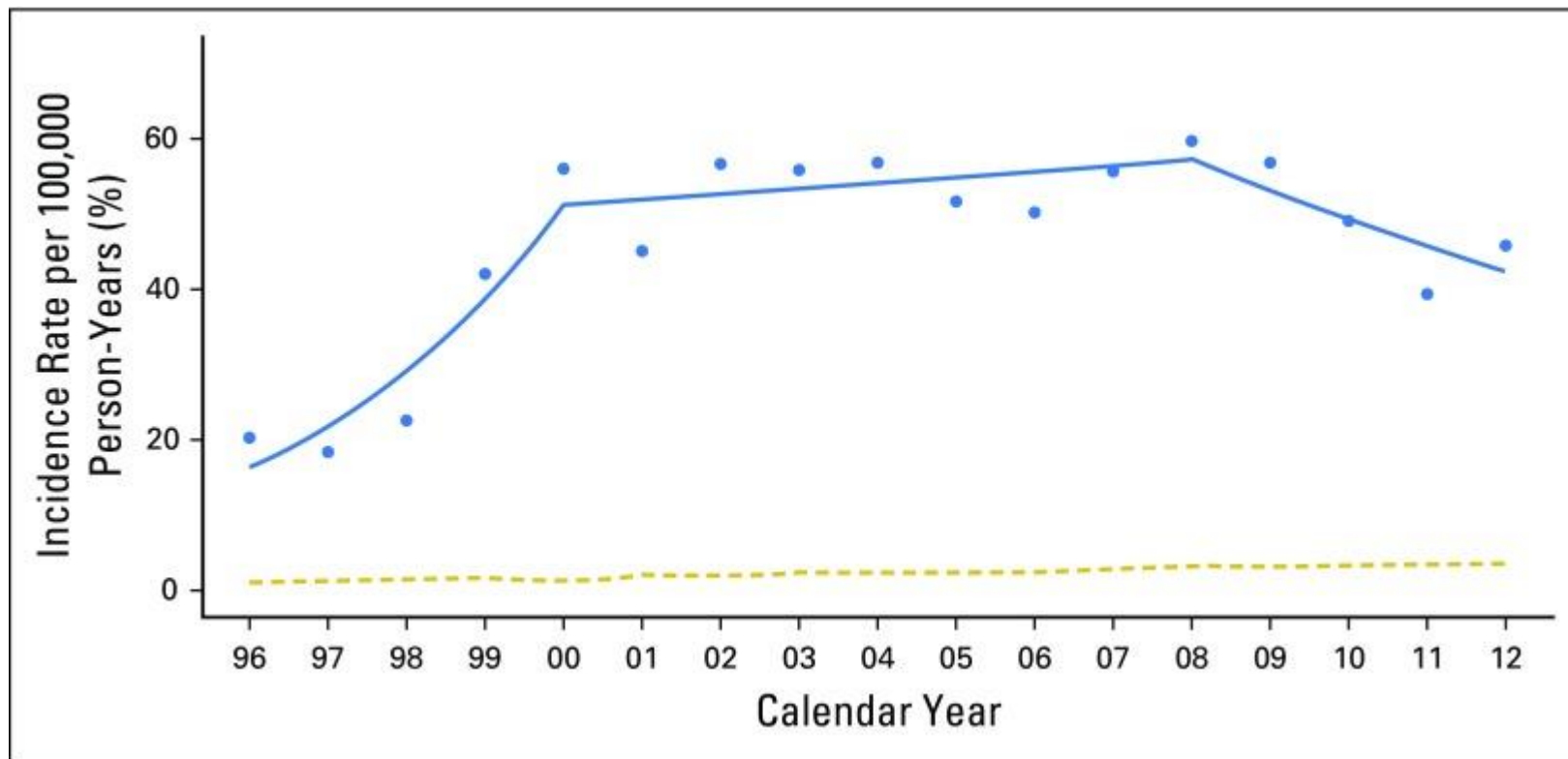
The incidence rate of cancer non-attributable to infection, including breast and prostate cancers steeply increased with age,.

de Martel C et al AIDS 2015

Calendar Trends in Standardized Incidence Ratios (SIRs) for selected cancers in HIV-infected people in the USA during the modern cART era (1996-2012)

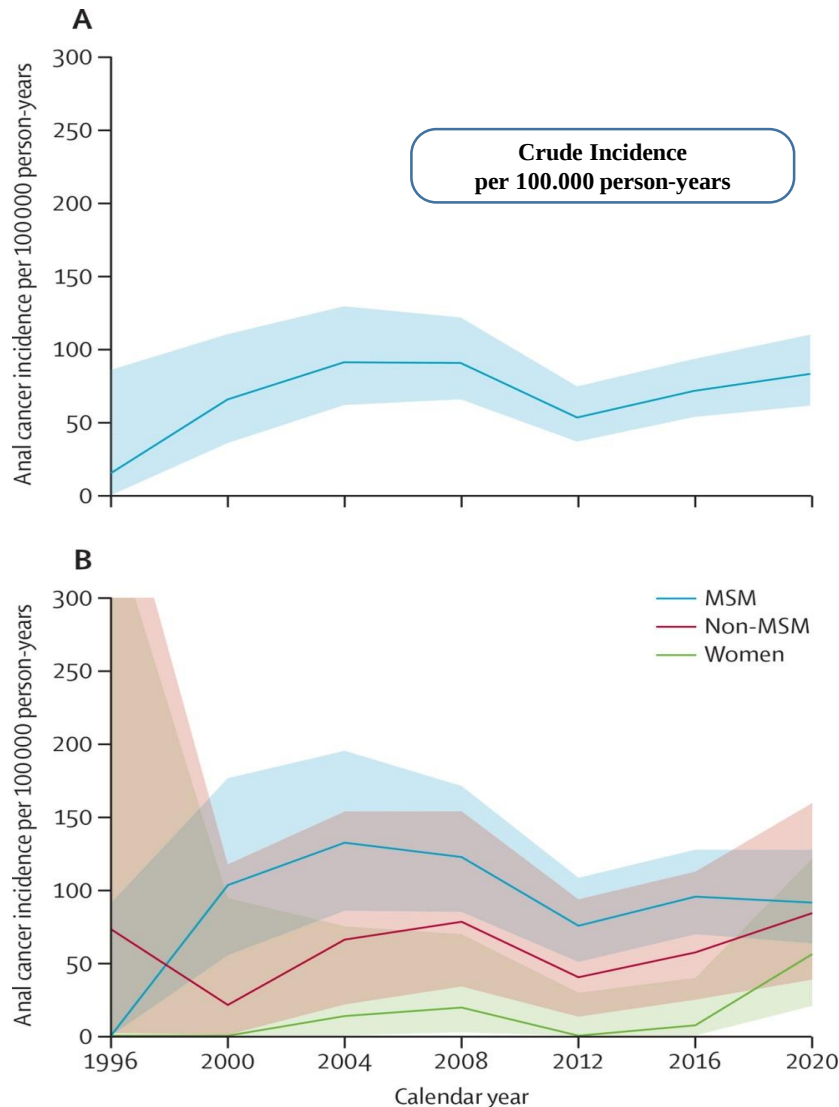


Anal Cancer Risk among 447,953 People with HIV Infection in the USA (1996-2012)



Anal cancer incidence increased steeply during 1996 to 2000 (annual percentage change +33%), reached a plateau during 2001-2008 and declined during 2008-2012 (annual percentage change -7%). Groups at high risk (i.e MSM) may benefit from screening.

Anal Cancer Incidence among 28.175 Persons Living with HIV in the Netherlands (Athena Cohort-1996-2020)

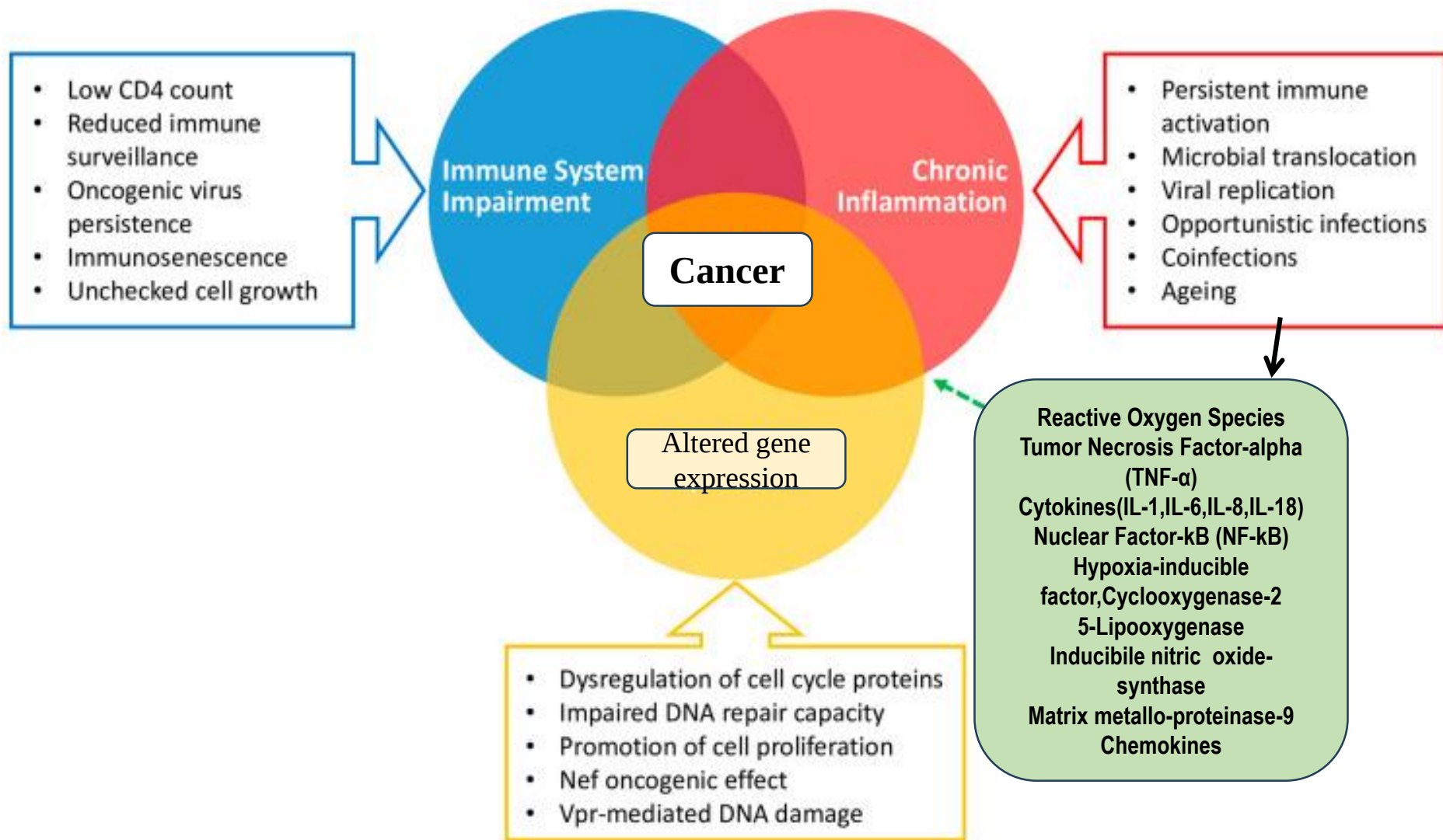


Age-adjusted Incidence Rate Ratios (RR) (95% CI) over time

	MSM	Men non-MSM	Women
1996-2005	1 (ref)	1 (ref)	1(ref)
2006-2012	0.75 (0.49-1.14)	0.98 (0.38-2.55)	1.03 (0.09-11.53)
2013-2020	0.62 (0.41-0.92)	1.03 (0.42-2.55)	1.94 (0.22-16.98)

As anal cancer incidence is slowly declining in MSM but not in non-MSM and women, health-care professionals should not focus only on MSM for anal cancer prevention

Major Features of Cancer Pathogenesis in PLWH

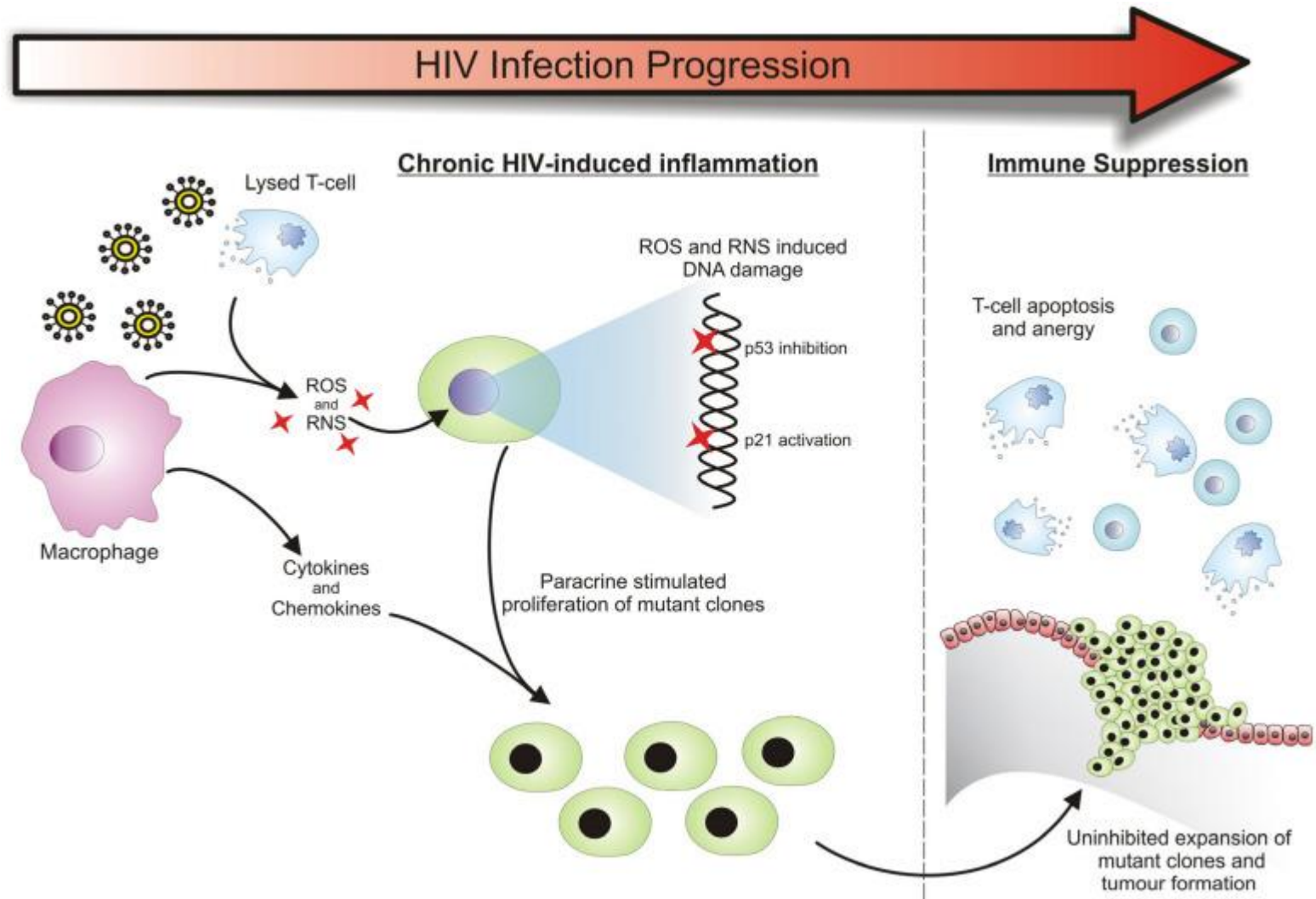


Chronic Inflammation and Cancer

There is a strong link between chronic inflammation and cancer.

- An inflammatory microenvironment, either conferred by an underlying overt or smoldering inflammatory condition constitutes a prerequisite and fuel to essentially all cancer.
- Chronic inflammation predisposes to the development of cancer and promotes all stages of tumorigenesis.
- In the general population, around 15-20% of all cancer cases are preceded by infection, chronic inflammation, or autoimmunity at the same tissue or organ site.
- Moreover, cancers previously defined as “non-inflammatory” recruit immune cells and increase expression of inflammatory mediators to support tumour growth and re-shape tumour microenvironment to their benefit

HIV-related Chronic Inflammation in the Development of Cancer



Chronic inflammaging leads to the depletion of the naïve T-cell population and the accumulation of differentiated and anergic T-cells.

Large amounts of reactive oxygen and nitrogen species (ROS and RNS) can initiate the carcinogenic process by damage to cellular genomic DNA and genetic instability. In addition, cytokines, chemokines and growth factors can support the growth and proliferation of the transformed cells.

HIV-related Kaposi Sarcoma

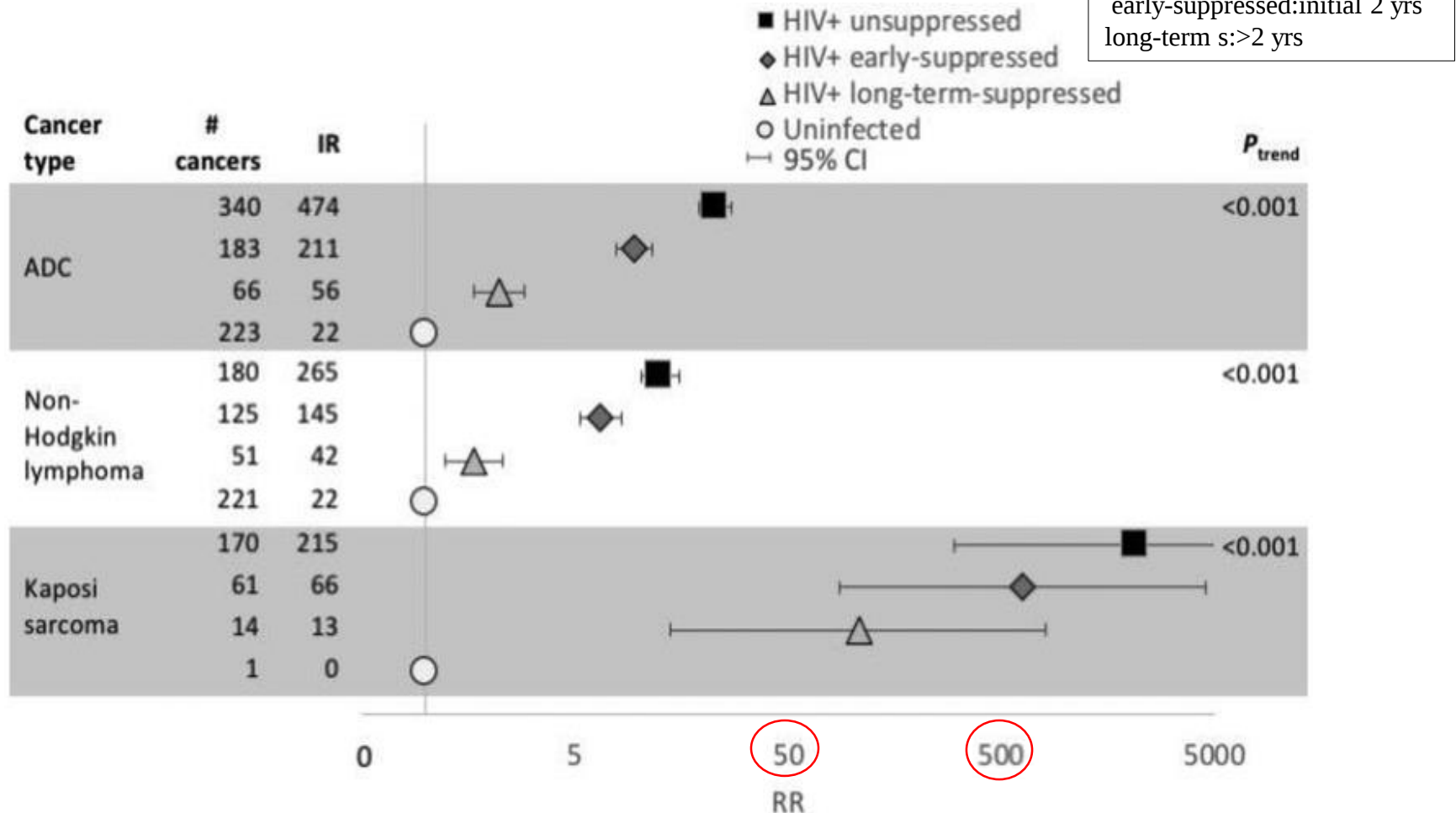
Major Features

Clinically, Ks most commonly involves adults with a male predilection, and lesions evolve from early macules (patch stage) to plaques (plaque stage) and larger nodules (tumour stage). They typically involve mucocutaneous sites but may also involve visceral locations (gastrointestinal tract >50%, lung 20%). All organs may be affected by KS

Heterogeneous clinical course ranging from an indolent state to a severe, progressive disease leading to significant morbidity and mortality

Viral Suppression is Associated with Decreased Cancer Incidence in the Veteran Prospective Cohort (1999-2015)

Park LS et al Annals Intern Med 2018



The risk of Kaposi Sarcoma as compared to HIV-uninfected patients was still more than 50-fold in PLWH despite long-term viral suppression and more than 500-fold in those with early-suppression.

Deleterious effects of HIV infection persist in the presence of long-term cART, such as chronic immune activation/inflammation or immune-senescence.

Standardized Incidence Ratio (SIR) for AIDS-Defining Cancers in PLWH on cART with CD4 $\geq$ 500/ μ L and Persistent ($\geq$ 2yrs) Controlled HIV Viremia

Results from the FHDH-ANRS CO4 Cohort (France 1992-2009)

Cancer Type	N° of PY o HIV Patients	IR in HIV-pos.Pts (95%CI) per 100.000 PY	IR in HIV-neg Pts (95%CI) per 100.000 PY	SIR (95 % CI)
Kaposi Sarcoma	55.633	21.6 (11.2-37.7)	0.6 (5-6)	35.4 (18.3-61.9)
NHL	56.493	15.9 (7.3-30.2)	13.8 (13.5-14.1)	1 (0.4-11.8)
Cervical cancer	14.825	20.2 (4.2-59.1)	12.9 (12.5-13.4)	

PY:person-year; IR: Incidence Rate;

In PLWH with restored immunity and persistent controlled HIV viremia, the risk remained significantly elevated for Kaposi Sarcoma and was similar to that of the general population for NHL

Hleyhel M et al CID 2013

CD4/CD8 Ratio and the Risk of Kaposi Sarcoma in 56.708 HIV-Suppressed PLWH. 20 European Cohort Studies (2000-2014)

Caby F et al CID 2021

	Whole population (221 incident KS)	PLWH with CD4>500 at baseline (65 incident KS)
Immune-Virological Factors	Adjusted °Hazard Ratio (95% CI)	Adjusted° Hazard Ratio (95% CI)
CD4/CD8 Ratio from baseline*:		
CD4/CD8:1	1	1
CD4/CD8: 0.8	1.18 (0.98-1.42)	1.38 (1.00-1.91)
CD4/CD8: 0.5	1.64 (1.10-2.45)	2.35 (1.33-4.14)
CD4/CD8: 0.3	2.02 (1.23-3.31)	3.27 (1.60-6.56)
CD4 count/µL from baseline*		
350	1.57 (1.09-2.25)	
500	1	1
800	0.68 (0.39-1.20)	0.49 (0.22-1.09)
1000	0.74 (0.38-1.45)	0.33 (0.11-0.97)
Virological Failure from baseline	2.77 (1.90-4.06)	2.69 (1.31-5.29)

°adjusted for age,sex,risk group,calendar period of cART and virological failure; *within 6 monthsfollowing virological control

HIV-related immune activation, reflected by CD4/CD8 ratio,may contribute to Kaposi Sarcoma development in PLWH on efficient cART

Evolving Spectrum of Kaposi Sarcoma (KS) in the cART era

Major features:

- High prevalence of systemic symptoms
- High HHV8 viral load
- Rapidly progressive KS
- High mortality
- Treatment: chemotherapy and/or immunotherapy +cART

Major features:

- Skin and visceral involvement
- Aggressive course
- Good prognosis in the cART era

Major features:

- *KS progression or unmasking KS
- *Prevalence:10-40%
- *Aggressive clinical course
- *High mortality
- *Treatment: immediate chemotherapy +cART

Major features:

- *Prevalence 19-20%
- *Chemotherapy refractory /relapsing disease

**KS+KICS
KS+MCD
KS+PEL**

**Low CD4 count
and/or high
HIV viremia**

IRIS-KS

**KS with high CD4
count and
undetectable HIV-
RNA**

Immunodeficiency

Chronic Immunoactivation

Kaposi Sarcoma in Virally Suppressed People Living with HIV and with High CD4 count

The proportion of KS cases occurring in virally suppressed PLWH and with high CD4 count is rising in the cART era

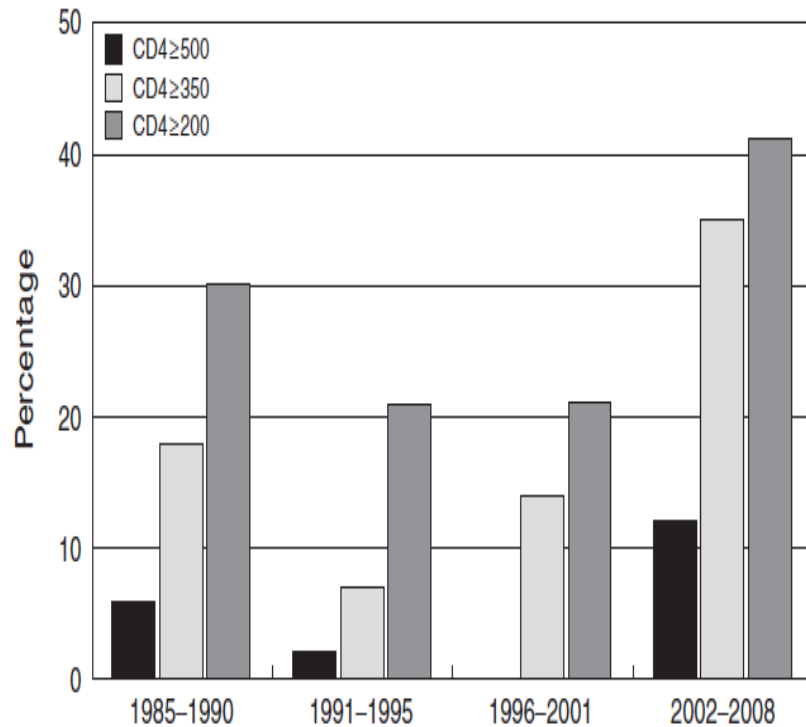


Fig. 1. CD4 cell count at diagnosis of Kaposi's sarcoma during the course of the HIV epidemic (1985-2008).

CD4 cells	Cluster KS % (N°19)	HIV+ Controls % (n°47)	P value°
CD57+	41.5	27.7	0.005
CD28-	60.5	51.3	0.04
CD27+CD28+ CD45RA*	11.3	20.7	0.02
CCR5	43.1	28.3	<0.001

Increased frequency of T cells with Immunosenescence phenotype and lower naive T cells* are associated with Kaposi's Sarcoma among effectively treated patients

Kaposi Sarcoma in Virally Suppressed PLWH with High CD4 Count Major Case Series-I

	Mani D (2009)	Palich R (2020)	Severin D (2021)
Total n°	20	21	12
Sex: M/F n°	19/1	17/4	12/12
Age ,yrs, median	42 (25-69)	54 (35-61)	54 (38-60)
CD4 Count/μL (range)	483 (300-625)	449 (211-625)	723 (520-881)
CD4 /μL nadir, median	216 (4-431)	196 (81.329)	NA
cART Duration, median	5 yrs (1-12)	≥12 months	NA
Site of Disease n° (%)			
Skin	12 (60)	21 (100)	12 (100)
Lymph nodes	0	6 (27)	1 (8)
Visceral involvement	8 (40)	11 (52)	1 (8)

Mani DJ et al Int Assoc Physicians AIDS Care 2009; Palich R et al CID 2020; Severin D et al AIDS 2021

Kaposi Sarcoma in Virally Suppressed PLWH with High CD4 Count Major Case Series-II

	Mani D (2009)	Palich R (2020)	Severin D (2021)
Total n°	20	21	12
Treatment: n° (%)			
Chemotherapy	14 (70)	21 (100)	2 (17)
Local Therapy	4 (20)	1 (5)	4 (33)
Response: n° (%)			
CR	13 (65)	6/16 (37)	NA
SD	4 (20)	6/16 (37)	
NR	3 (15)	4 (25)	
Followup Duration Media,mos	39 (6-120)	17 (9-20)	NA
Recurrences n° (%)	NA	13 (65)	NA

KS in virally suppressed HIV patients represents a clinical and biological entity that is still poorly understood. These clinical forms are a therapeutic challenge without short-term improvement of anti-HHV8 immunity and no active replication of HIV to control.

A Comparative Study of Classical and HIV-Viremic and Aviremic KS (France 2000-2007)

N° of Patients: Classical KS:n° 62 ; Viremic KS:68; Aviremic KS: 12

Major Results

There were no significant differences between aviremic AIDS-KS and Classical KS (CKS) groups in terms of clinical presentation, except for the age at diagnosis (54 vs 71 yrs , $P < 0.0001$) .

Both groups predominantly had a localized indolent disease, but 17% of aviremic AIDS-KS and 12% of CKS had disseminated disease (stage III and IV Kriegel). The distribution of skin lesions was similar in both groups, in lower limbs for 75% in aviremic AIDS-KS and 84% in CKS. Most persons presented less than five skin lesions (67% in aviremic AIDS-KS and 54% in CKS)

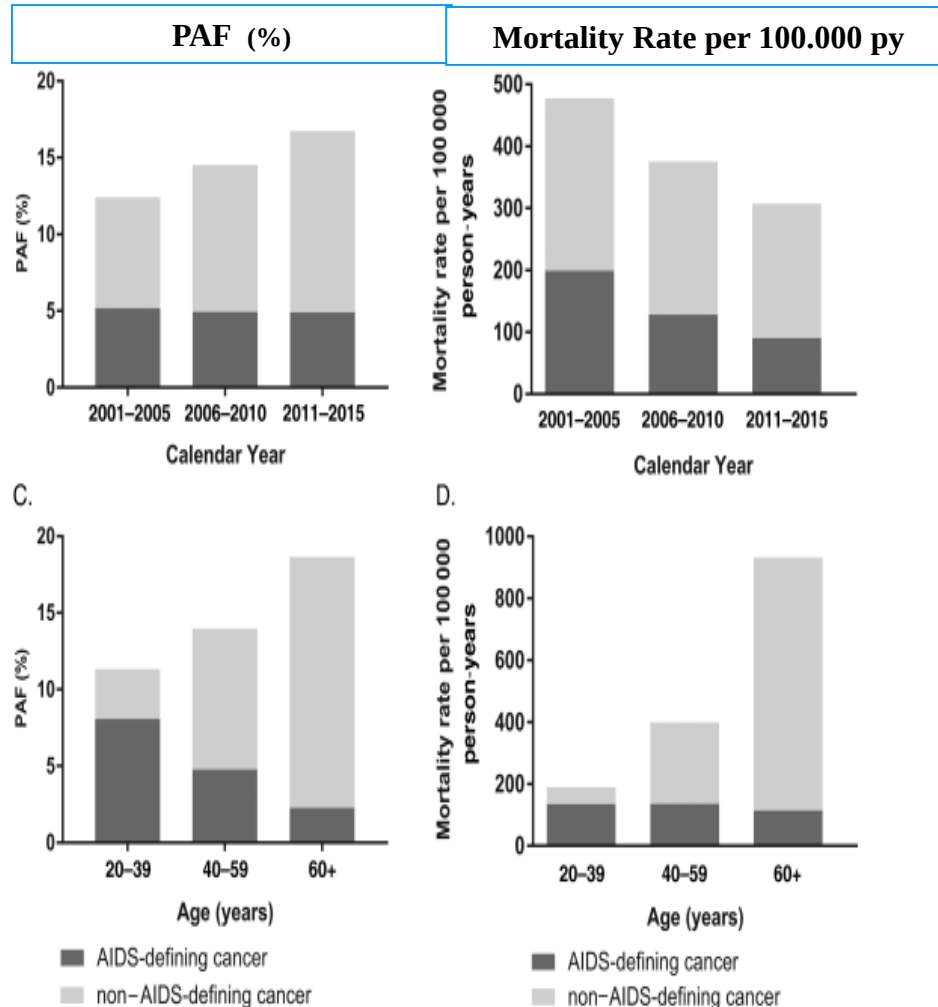
There was a tendency for viremic AIDS-KS PLHIV to have more aggressive presentation in comparison with aviremic AIDS-KS, as 14 PLHIV (22%) had a Kriegel score of 4 versus 1 PLHIV (8%) for aviremic AIDS-KS

Survival of major HIV-Cancer

What is the natural history of cancers in HIV-suppressed PLWH on cART?

Deaths Attributable to Cancer in the US HIV Population (2001-2015)

31.614 cancers /521.623 Persons Living with HIV- Median followup: 6.8 yrs

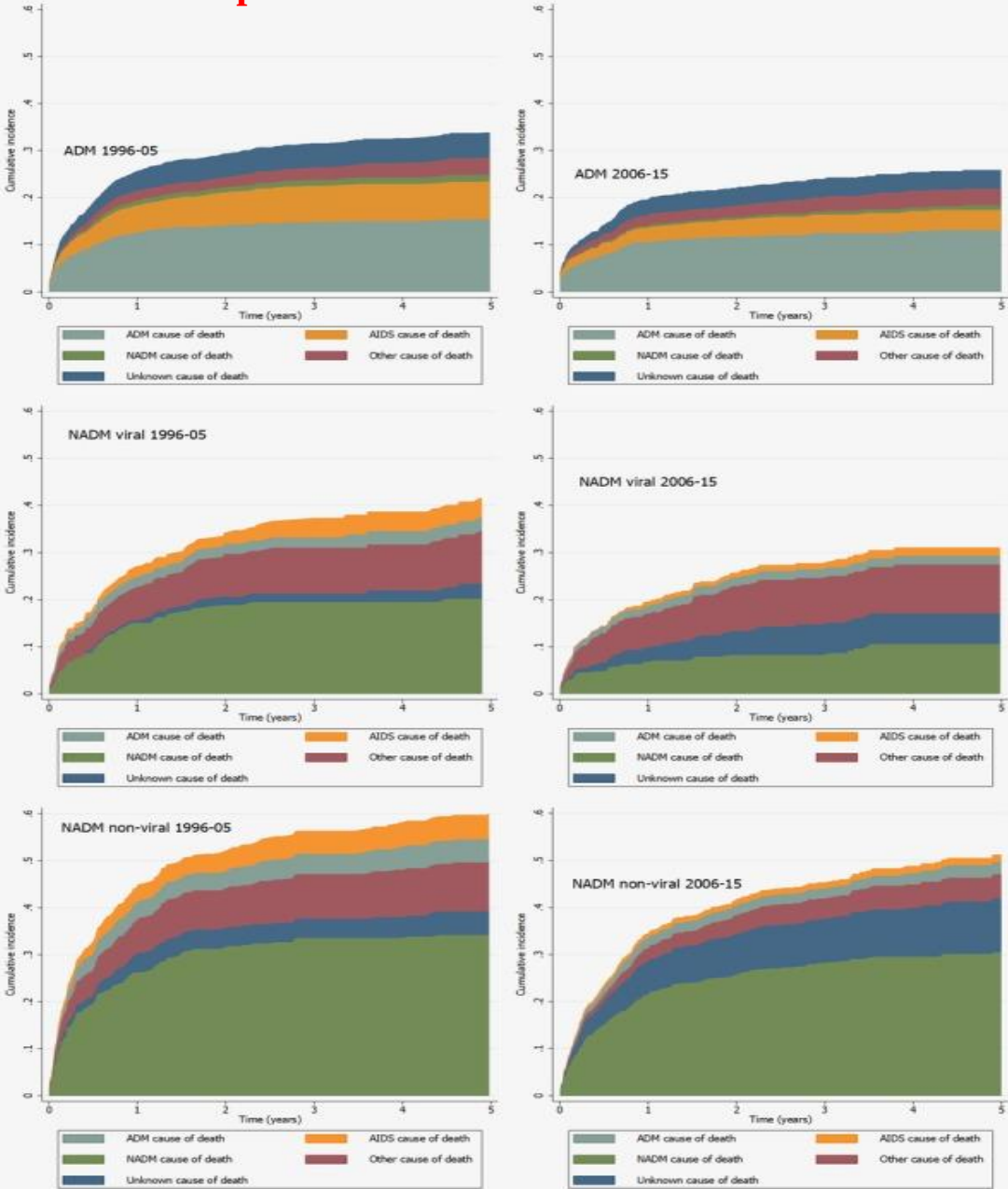


Cancers	PAF (%) (95% CI)
All cancers	14.5 (13.6-15.4)
AIDS-Defining Cancers	5 (4.4-5.6)
Non-AIDS Def Cancers	9.2 (8.5-9.9)
Cancer Site	
NHL	3.5 (3.0-3.9)
Lung	2.4 (2.0-2.7)
Cervix	2.0 (1.0-4.0)
Kaposi Sarcoma	1.3 (8.5-9.9)
Liver	1,1 (0.9-1.6)

Population-Attributable Fractions (PAF):proportional contributions of cancer to mortality

Although cancer mortality is declined over time, it remains high and represents a growing fraction of deaths in the US HIV population. NHL is a leading cause of cancer-attributable deaths

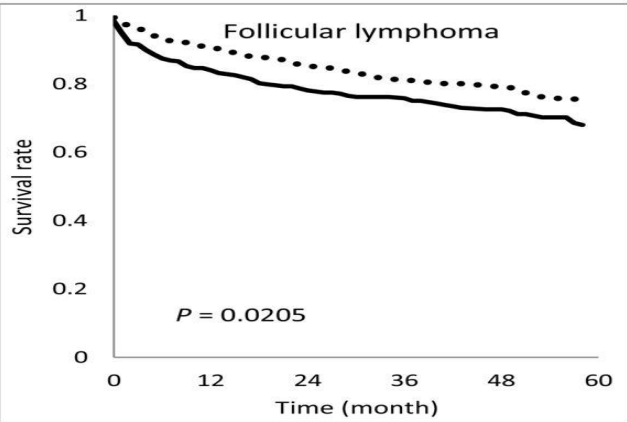
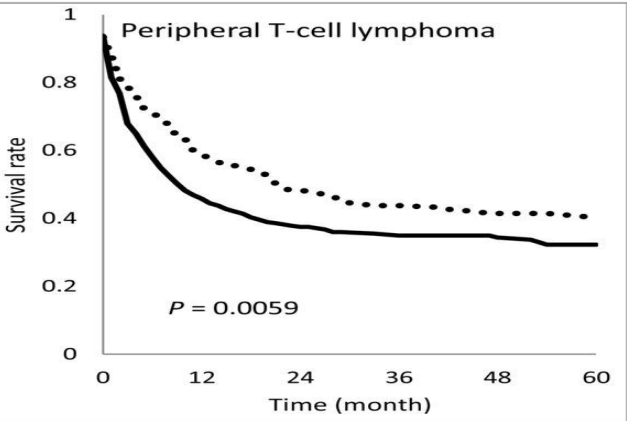
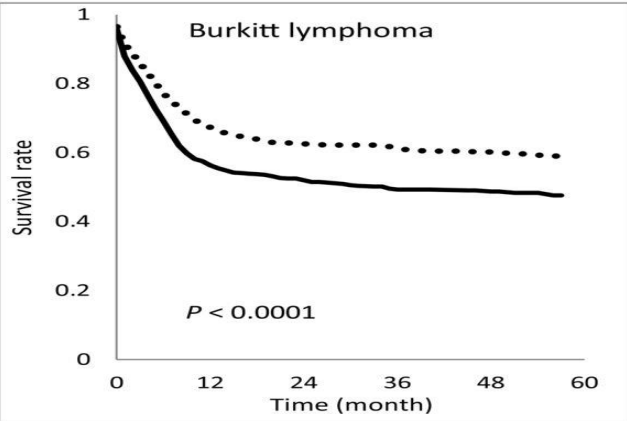
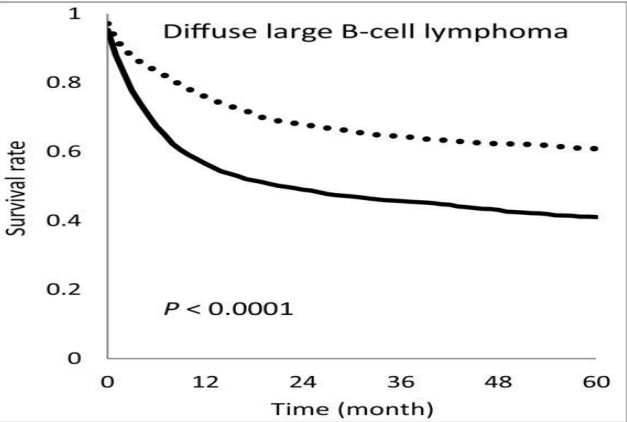
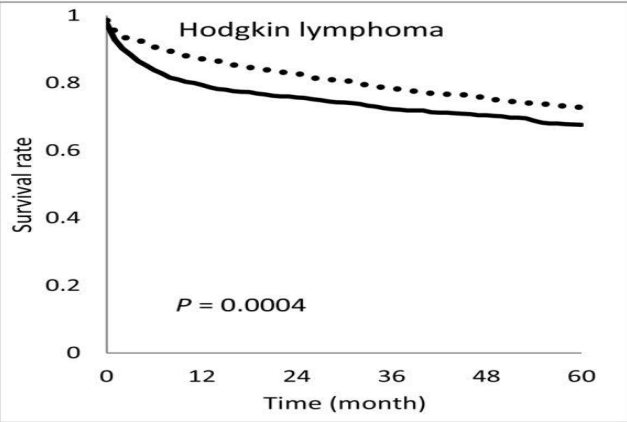
Cause-specific Mortality after Diagnosis of Cancer among 83,585 HIV-positive Patients: 10 Cohort Studies from Europe and North America: 4.436 incident cancers (Mortality Rate Ratio, MRR)



2006-2015 vs 1996-2005	
Cancer	Adjusted MRR (95% CI)
ADM	0.77 (0.61-0.86)
Viral NADCs	0.76 (0.54-1.07)
Nonviral-NADCs	0.84 (0.70-1.00)

adjusted for sex, risk group,age,CD4 count,HIV viral load at cancer diagnosis

Overall Survival by HIV status among 179.520 Patients with Lymphoma - (USA-National Cancer Database 2004-2011)

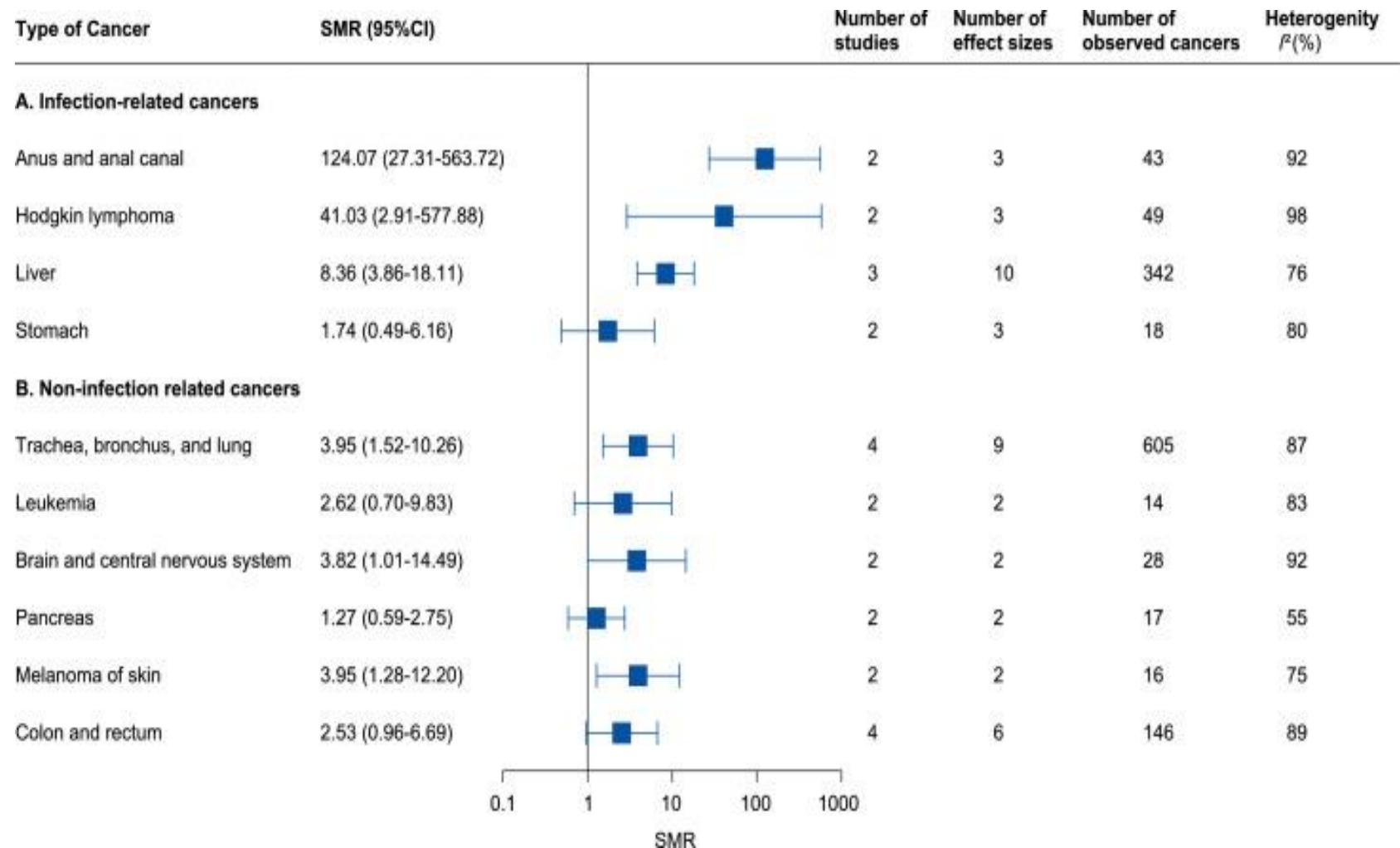


..... Non-HIV infection
—— HIV Infection

	HIV-pos Pts	HIV-neg Pts
No Therapy %	16*	8
CT use %	82*	87

* $p < 0.0001$

Meta-analysis of Standardized Mortality Ratio (SMR) for non-AIDS-defining Cancers among People Living with HIV (1992-2022)



Outcomes after Cancer Diagnosis for HIV-Infected Patients compared to the General Population (1996-2010)

Coghill A et al J clin Oncol 2015

Cancer	Overall Death HR (95%CI	Cancer Specific Death HR (95%CI
Lung	1.85 (1.73-1.97)	1.28 (1.17-1.39)
Prostate	2.59 (2.14-3.14)	1.57 (1.02-2.41)
Breast	4.62 (3.92-5.45)	2.61 (2.06-3.31)
Colorectal	2.26 (1.95-2.61)	1.49 (1.21-1.84)
Liver	1.50 (1.32-1.70)	1.17 (0.99-1.39)
Anal	1.86 (1.60-2.16)	0.97 (0.75-1.25)
Head Neck	2.46 (2.09-2.88)	1.31 (0.94-1.83)
Hodgkin L.	4.19 (3.65 -491)	0.86 (0.61.21)1
DLBCL	3.55 (3.31-3.81)	0.88 (0.76-1.01)

HIV was associated with increased cancer-specific mortality for lung, prostate,breast and colorectal cancer cancer.

Treatment Guidelines for HIV-related Cancers

Treatment Strategies

The treatment strategy for cancers in patients receiving effective cART should not be influenced by HIV status

All PLWH with cancer must receive cART during antineoplastic treatment

PLWH with cancer should not be excluded from cancer clinical trials of the general population.

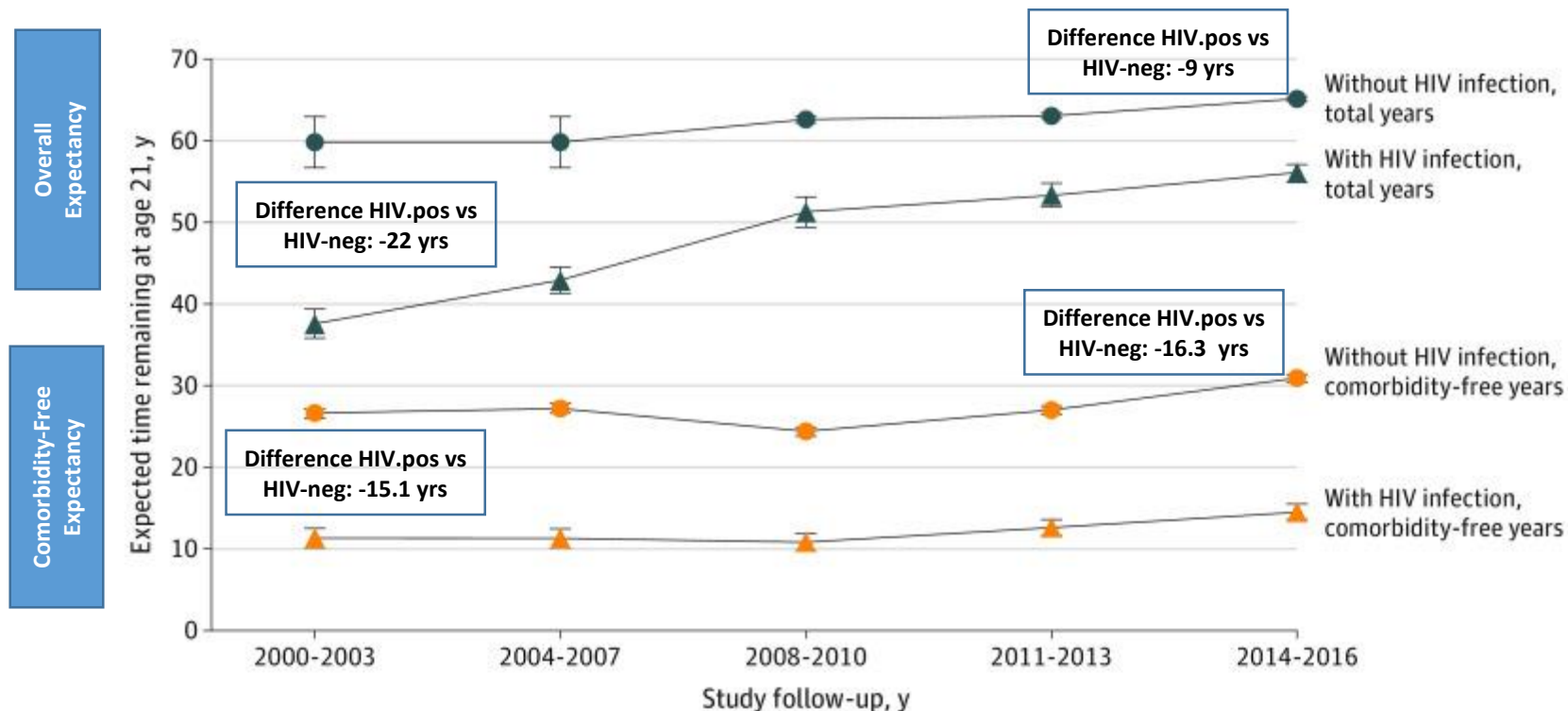
HIV-Specific Issues

Potential pharmacokinetic interactions between cART and anticancer or supportive care drugs

The need to maximize supportive care, particularly prophylaxis against opportunistic infections and support with hematopoietic growth factor, in high risk patients

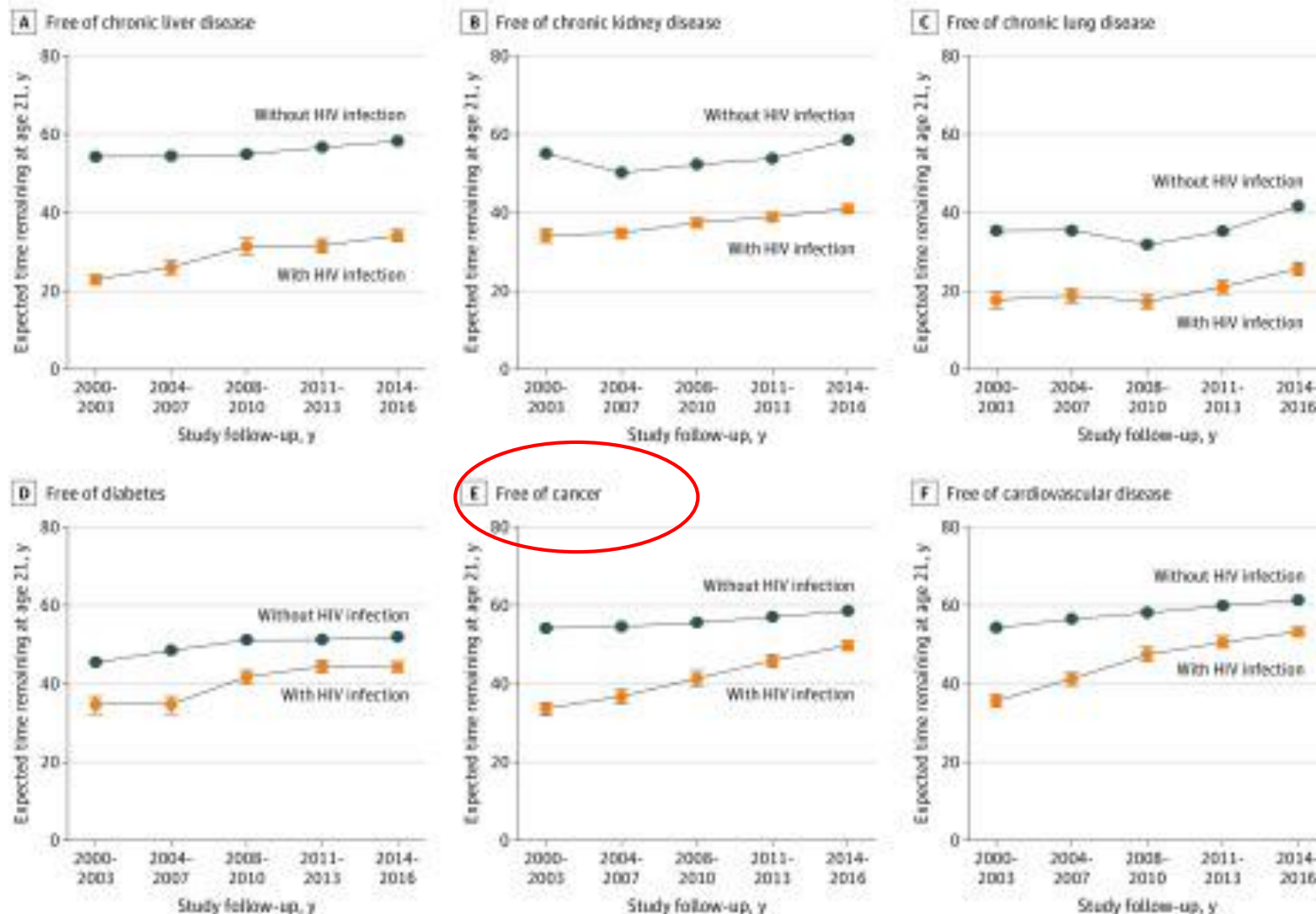
The management of comorbidity in aging PLWH
(Alert: higher comorbidity rate in PLWH compared to general population)

Overall and Comorbidity-Free Life Expectancy at Age 21 years for Persons with and without HIV Infection (Kaiser Permanente Cohort: 39,000 PLWH and 387,785 uninfected Persons) (2000-2016)



Life expectancy of adults with HIV infection may be near that of life expectancy of individuals without HIV infection, but greater attention is needed to prevention of comorbidities among Persons Living with HIV (PLWH)

Overall and Comorbidity-Free Life Expectancy at Age 21 years for Persons with and without HIV Infection (Kaiser Permanente Chort: 39.000 PLWH and 387.785 uninfected Persons) (2000-2016)



Differences in Comorbidity-Free Expectancy by HIV status persisted over time, although the gap narrowed over time for several comorbidities, most notably diabetes, cancers and cardiovascular disease. The positive changes may be associated with frequent health care visits, which can facilitate access to preventive care, including cancer screening.

HIV-related Solid Tumours

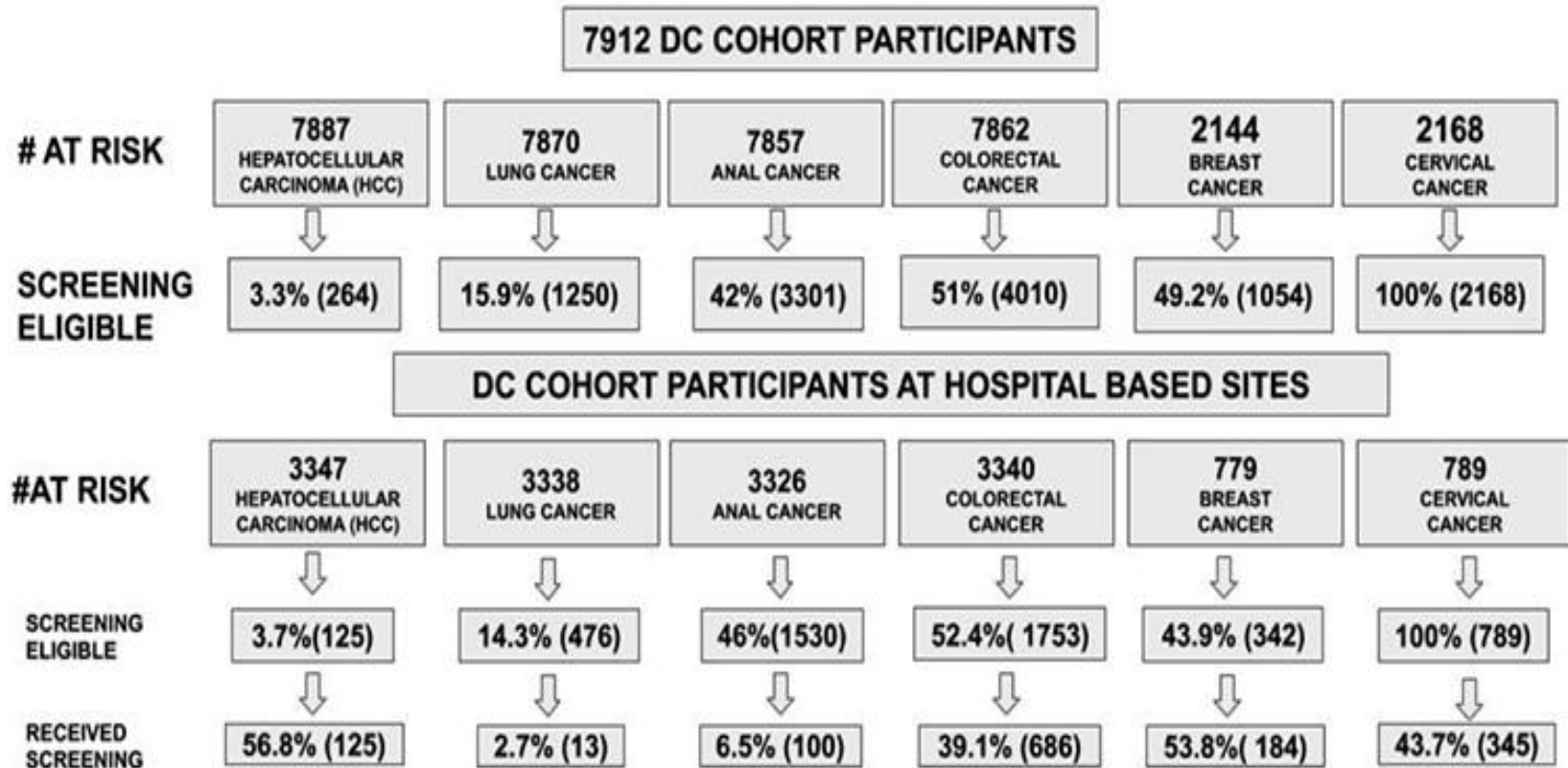
focus on Screening Programs and Preventive Strategies

Major Features:

- Few trials for cancer prevention have been done to provide guidance on HIV-specific surveillance programs for patients with solid tumours.
- European and US guidelines recommend cancer screening that is appropriate for age and risk factors
- New target population: Long-term survivor patients with prior malignancies

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Cancer Screening Practice among a Cohort of Persons Receiving HIV Care in Washington,DC (2011-2017)



*Participants were considered at risk for HCC screening if they did not have a prior history of HCC; lung cancer if they did not have a prior history of lung cancer, anal cancer if they did not have a prior history of anal cancer, colorectal cancer if they did not have a prior history of colorectal cancer, breast cancer if they were female and did not have a history of breast cancer, and cervical cancer if they were female

**Screening eligibility was determined based on published guidelines as outlined in the methods and TABLE 1.

Despite a large eligible population there were low rates of screening. Implementation of cancer screening is an important component of care among Persons Living with HIV.

Anal Screening Programs

Controversial Issues

	*Sensitivity %	*Specificity %	Level of Evidence
Anal Pap test	84	32-60	BII
hrHPV test	94	35	BII
Cotesting ^o	92	32	BII

*for HGAIN in MSM; ^oPap test+HPV test

Primary screening test with hrHPV test:

- The efficiency is limited in population with high HPV prevalence (e.g. MSM HIV+). This strategy could be considered in setting with no cytology infrastructure, or to reduce HRA (for patients testing hrHPV negative).
- HPV16 genotype shows high specificity (92%), but low sensitivity (44%)

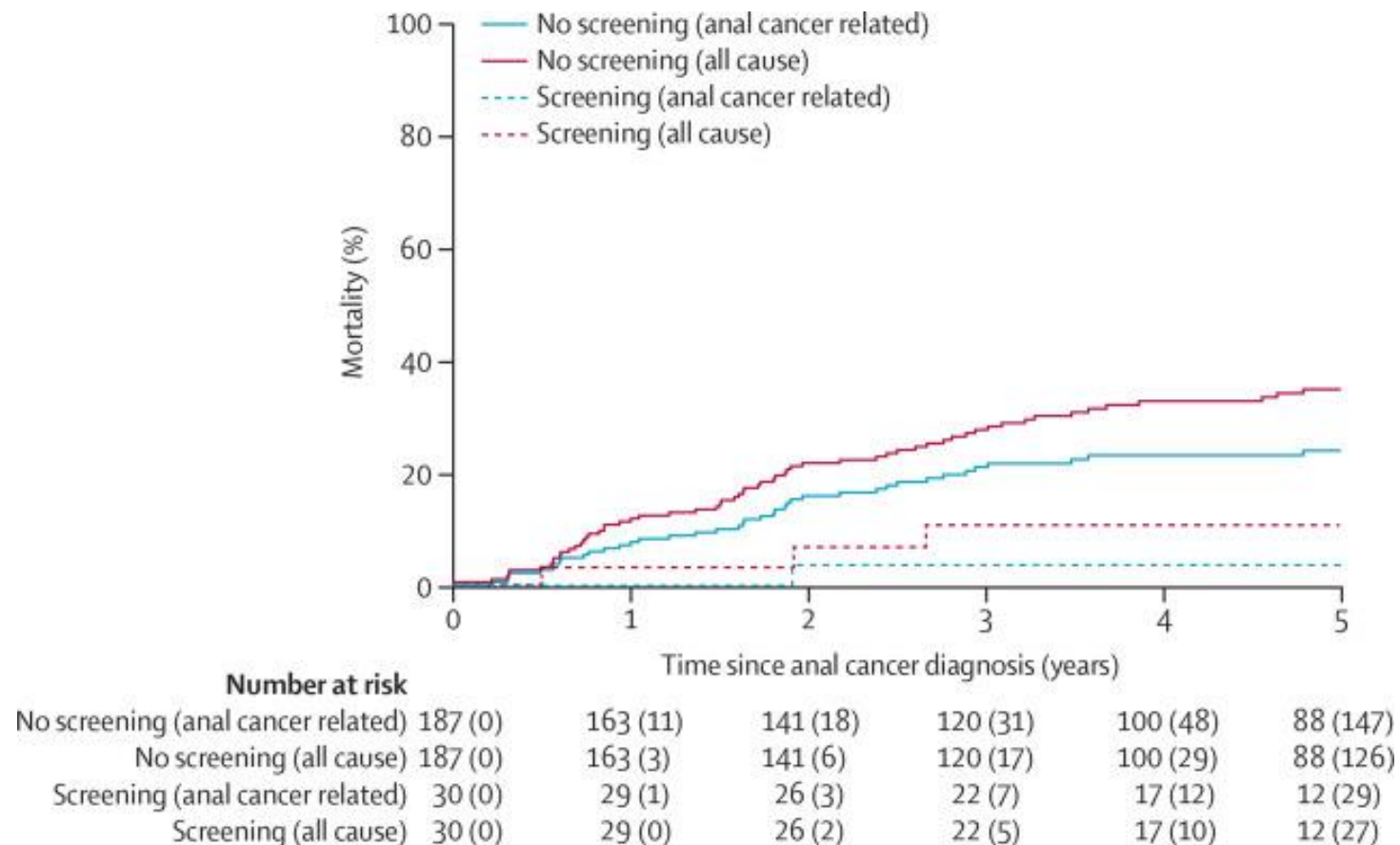
- High Resolution Anoscopy is the gold standard test for anal cancer screening

- Limited n° of clinicians with necessary expertise /limited equipment availability

- Paucity of cost-effectiveness data on anal screening approaches

There are no formalized anal screening programs

Effect of the Introduction of Anal Screening in Persons Living with HIV: a Nationwide Cohort Study

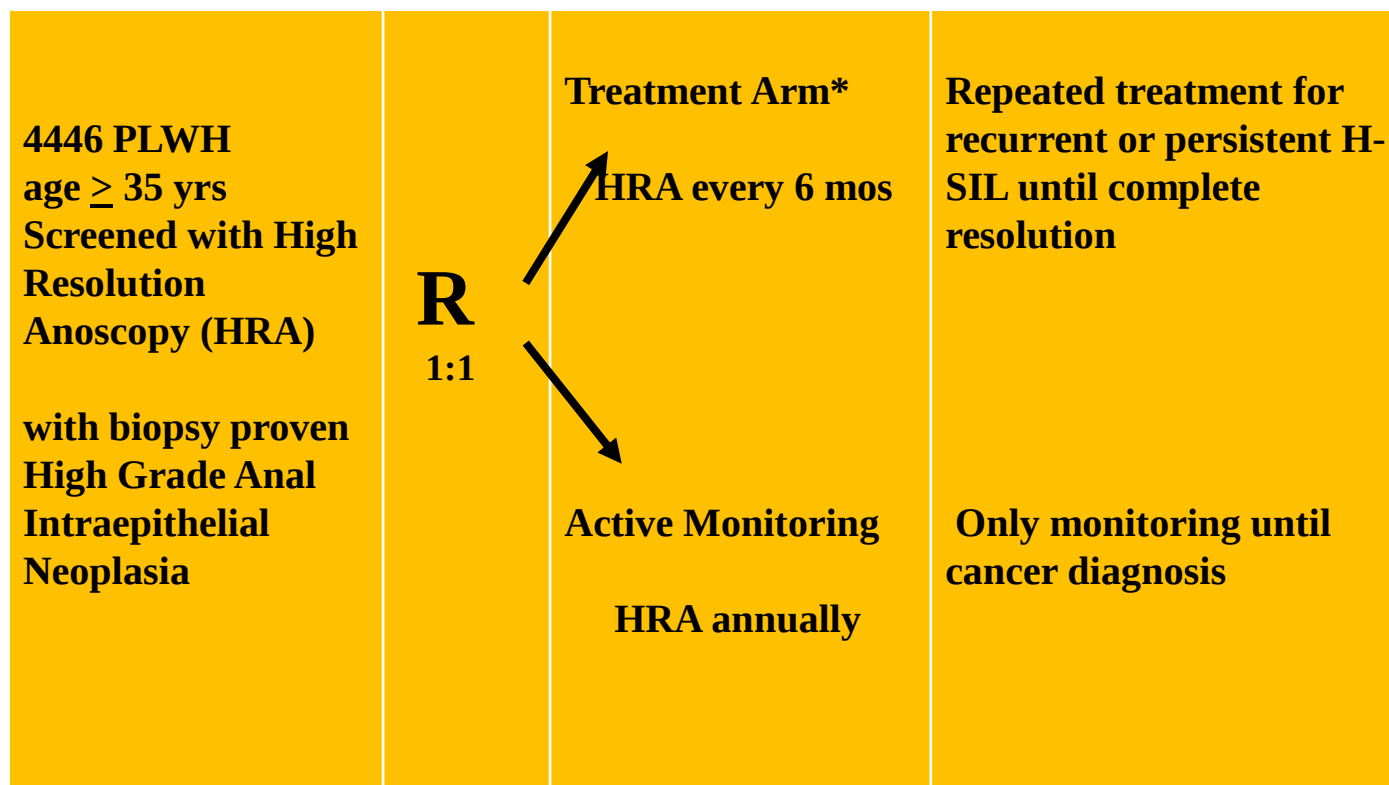


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Van der Zee RP et al Lancet 2023

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Anal Cancer/H-SIL Outcomes Research (ANCHOR) Study in Persons Living With HIV (PLWH) (USA 2014-2021)



* electrocautery in most cases

Anal Cancer/H-SIL Outcomes Research (ANCHOR) Study in Persons Living With HIV (PLWH) (USA 2014-2021)

Median Followup: 26 months

	Treatment Arm n°2227	Active Monitoring Arm n°2219
Anal cancer n° cases	9	21
Incidence/100.000 PY	173	402
REDUCTION 57% (95% CI 6-80%) p 0.03		
Adverse Events n° (%)	683	635

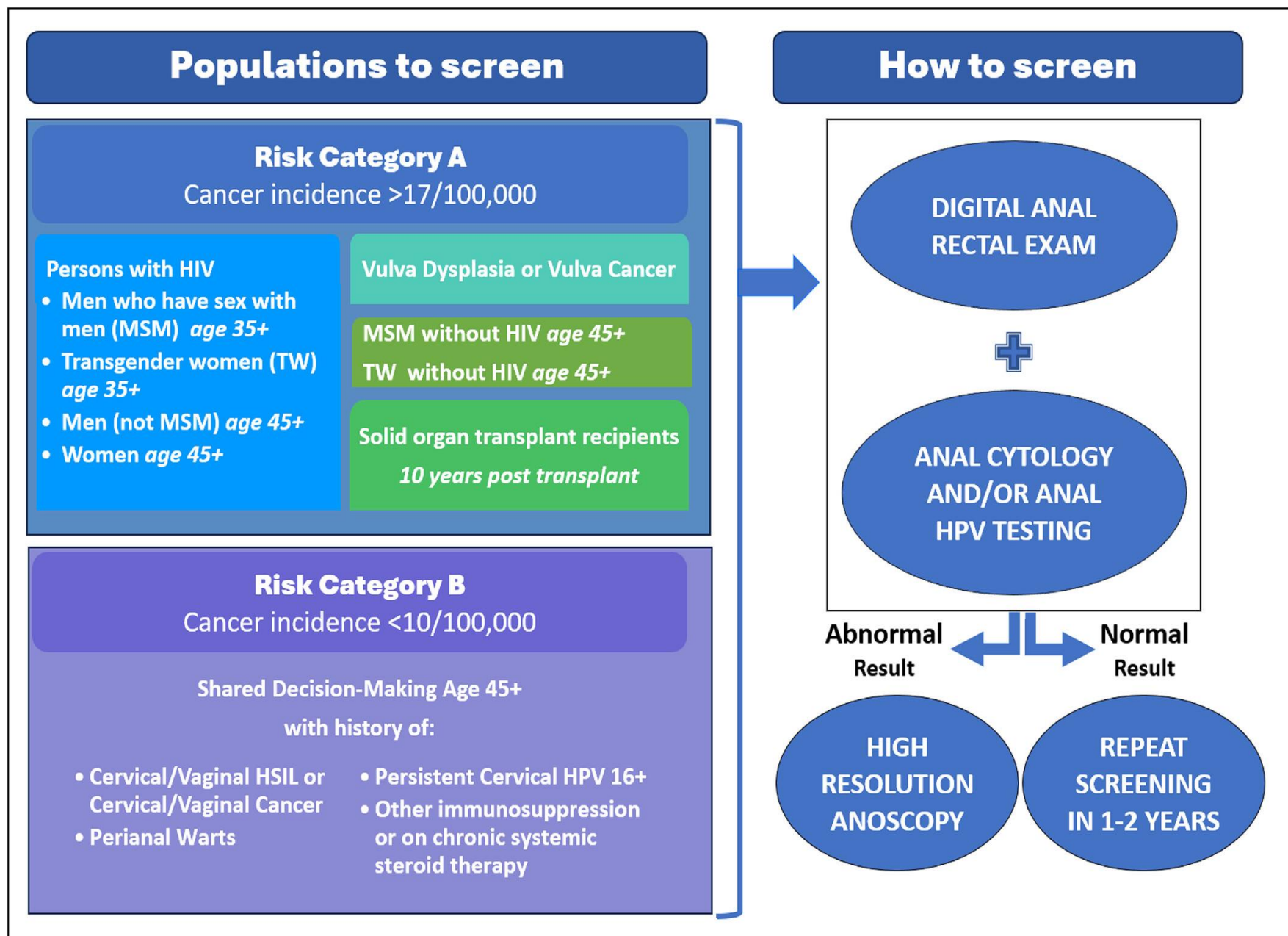
International Anal Neoplasia Society's Consensus Guidelines for Anal Cancer Screening Populations for Screening

Risk Category A (incidence ≥ 10 fold compared to the general population)

Populations	When	Anal Cancer Incidence per 100.000 person-year
MSM and Transgender Women IW) with HIV	Age 35	>70/100.000 age 30-44 >100/100-000 age 45+
Women with HIV	Age 45	>25/100.000 age 45+
MSW with HIV	Age 45	> 40/100.000 age 45+
MSW and TW not with HIV	Age 45	> 18/100.000 age 45-59 > 34/100.000 age 60+
History of vulvar HSII or cancer	Within 1 yr of diagnosis	> 40/100.000
Solid Organ Transplant Recipients	10 yrs post-transplant	> 25/100.000

MSM: Men with sex with men: MSW: Men with sex with women

International Anal Neoplasia Society's Consensus Guidelines for Anal Cancer Screening



International Anal Neoplasia Society’s Consensus Guidelines for Anal Cancer Screening:Management

Primary Screening Test	Triage Test	Results	Management	Modification for low HRA capacity
Cytology	None	Negative	Repeat 12 mos	Repeat 12-24 mos
		ASC-US or worse	HRA	-ASC-US/LSIL repeat 12 mos -HSIL ,ASC-H: HRA
Cytology	hrHPV testing of ASC-US or worse	ASC-US/LSIL and hrHPV neg	Repeat 12 mos	Repeat 12 mos
		ASC-US/LSIL and hrHPV positive	HRA	If HPV non 16:repeat 12 mos If HPV16pos: HRA
		ASC-H/HSIL (reregardless of HPV)	HRA	HRA
hrHPV testing (HPV16 genotype)	None	Negative	Repeat 12-24 mos	Repeat 24 mos
		Positive	HRA	If HPV non 16:repeat 12 mos; If HPV16pos: HRA
hrHPV testing (HPV16 genotype)	Cytology of hrHPV positive	Neg/ HPV non 16 pos	HRA or Repeat 12 mos	Repeat 12 mos
		ASC-US or worse /hrHPV positive	HRA	ASC-US/LSIL and HPV non 16 pos:repeat 12 mos
		If HPV16 pos	HRA	HRA i other cases
Co-testing	None	-Both negative -ASC-US/hrHPV neg -Neg/hrHPV pos (non16) -LSIL/HPVneg -ASC-US/LSIL/hrHPVpos	Repeat 12 -24 mos Repeat 12 mos HRA or repeat 12 mos HRA or repeat 12 mos HRA	Repeat 24 mos Repeat 24 mos Repeat 12 mos Repeat 12-24 mos ASC-US/LSIL ,HPV non 16 pos:repeat 12 mos -HRA
		HSIL,ASC-H or HPV16 pos	HRA	

Evolving Features of HIV-Malignancies

Conclusions

- 1. Treatment of HIV-malignancies has evolved over time, in line with better control of HIV replication and recovery of immune function by cART. The overall survival for these patients has dramatically improved in the modern cART era.
- 2. However, data from large population-based studies have shown that HIV infection remains associated with higher risk of death in patients with all malignancies compared to general population
Disparities in practice pattern based on HIV status may influence outcomes in this population that is still excluded from prospective clinical trials of the general population.
- 3. Dissemination of effective management strategies is mandatory to improve patient outcome.
- 4. HIV infection alone should no longer be an exclusion criterion in any clinical trial.