

# DeFianCe Trial: A randomized phase 2 trial of sirexatamab (DKN-01) plus bevacizumab and chemotherapy versus bevacizumab and chemotherapy as second-line therapy in advanced microsatellite stable (MSS) colorectal cancer (CRC)

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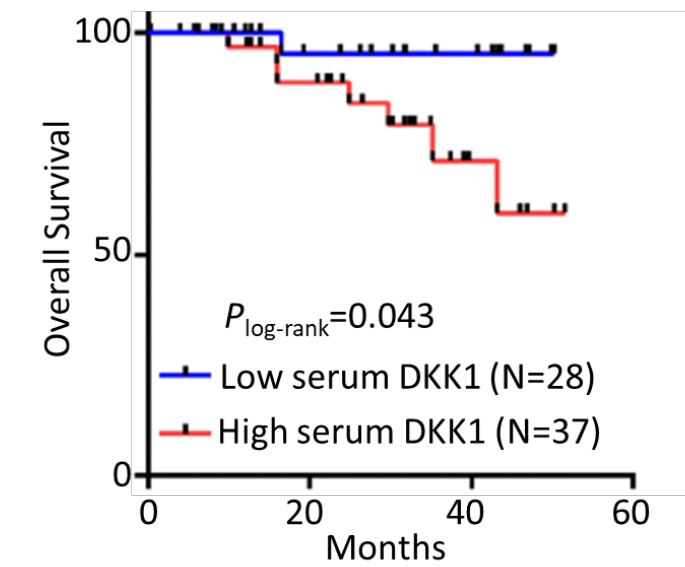
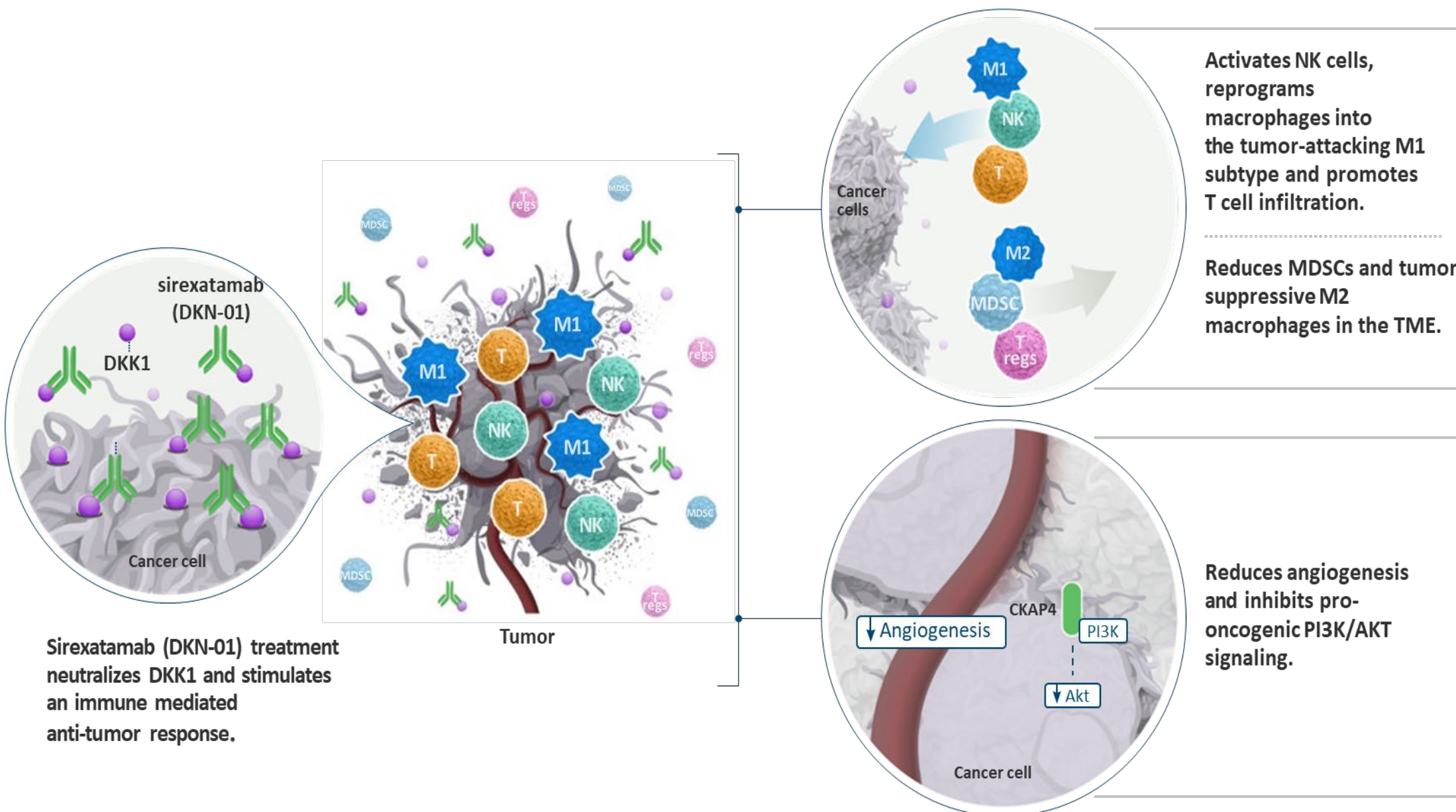
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# DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

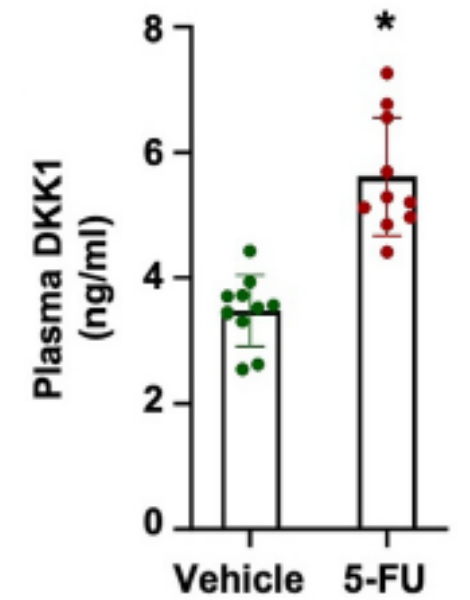
- **Consulting:** Alligator Therapeutics, Amgen, AstraZeneca, Arcus, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol Myers Squibb, Daiichi Sankyo Company, Eli Lilly and Company, EMD Serono, Roche AG, Genentech, Ipsen, Johnson & Johnson, Merus N.V., Merck, Novartis, Novocure, Pfizer, Servier, Verastem

# Sirexatamab inhibits DKK1, a poor prognostic factor and key driver of CRC

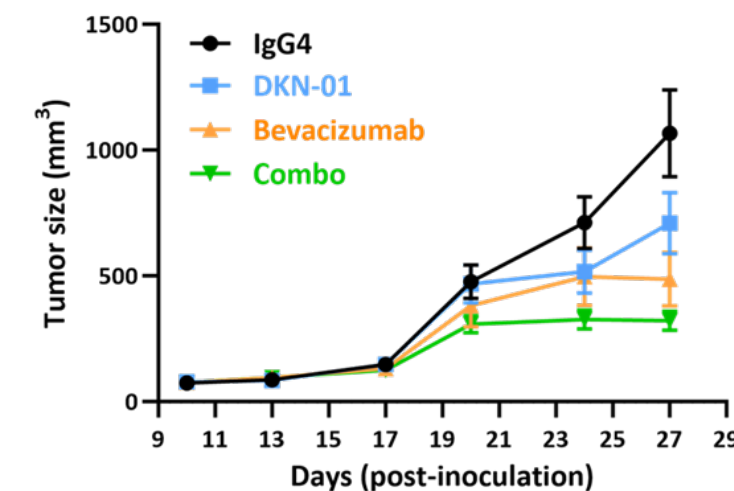
- Metastatic CRC is highly associated with alterations in the wnt signaling pathway.
- DKK1 is a key regulator of wnt signaling and implicated in disease progression, metastasis and angiogenesis.
- Circulating levels of DKK1 are higher in CRC patients than healthy volunteers and are associated with shorter survival.
- Sirexatamab is an IgG4 monoclonal antibody which potently inhibits DKK1.
- In preclinical models of CRC, sirexatamab synergizes with anti-angiogenesis agents, overcomes resistance to chemotherapies and inhibits metastasis.



Sui et al; 2019 BMC Cancer

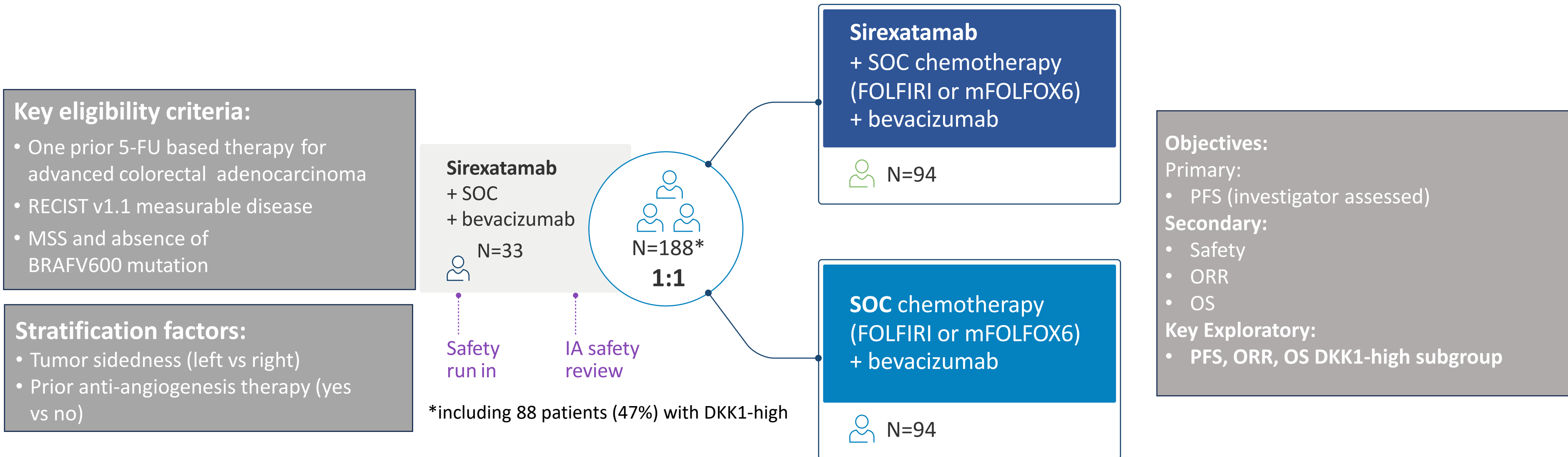


Yin et al; 2025 Cancer Letters



# DeFianCe study design

A randomized, open label, global phase 2 trial of sirexatamab plus bevacizumab and chemotherapy versus bevacizumab and chemotherapy as second-line therapy in mCRC



Median study duration: 11.1 months at database lock on 17 Jul 2025

Clinicaltrials.gov number: NCT05480306, Right-sided mCRC capped at 45, DKK1-high was defined as upper median and performed on SomaScan platform (SomaLogic, Boulder CO).

Zev Wainberg, M.D.

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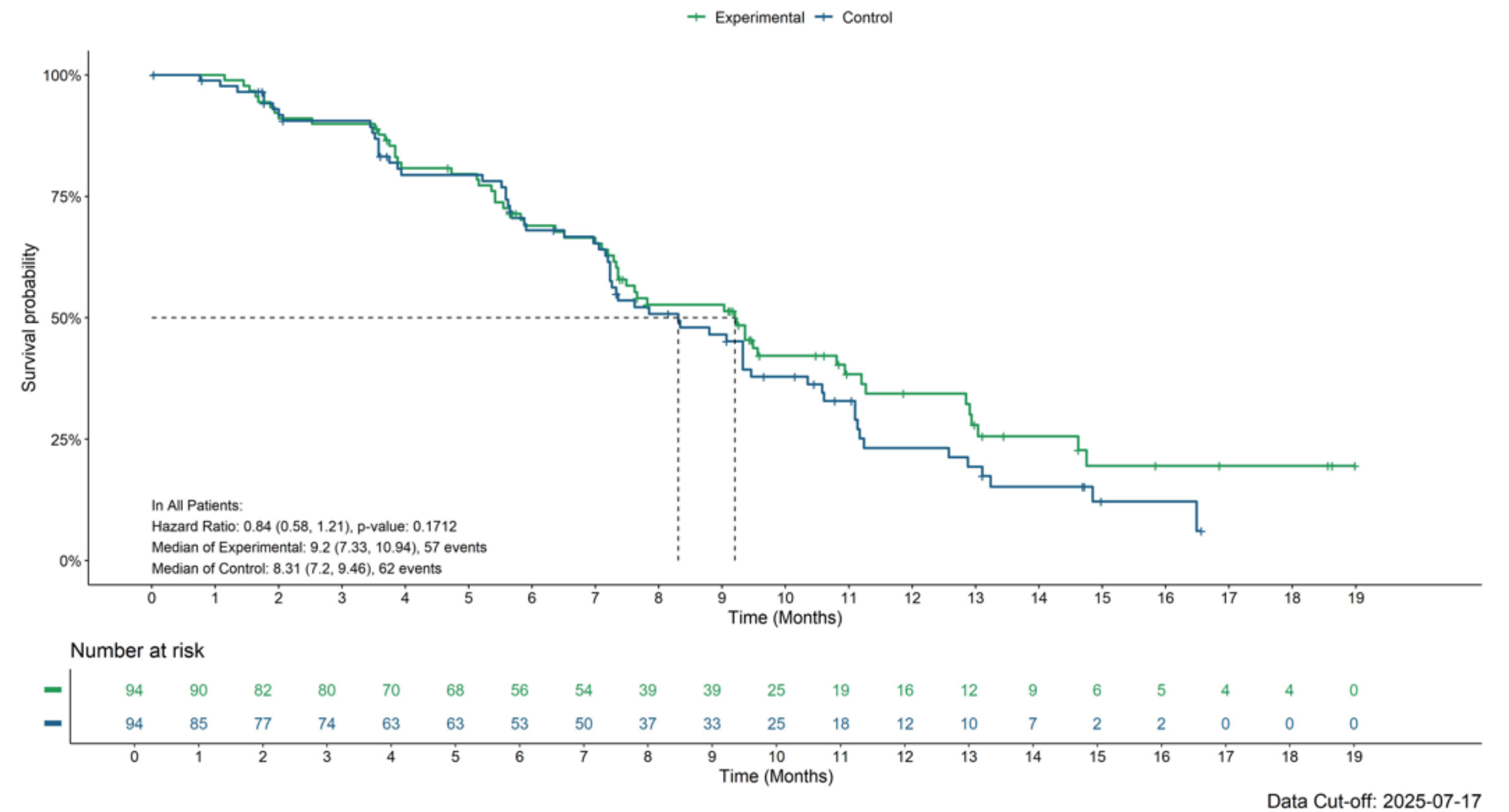
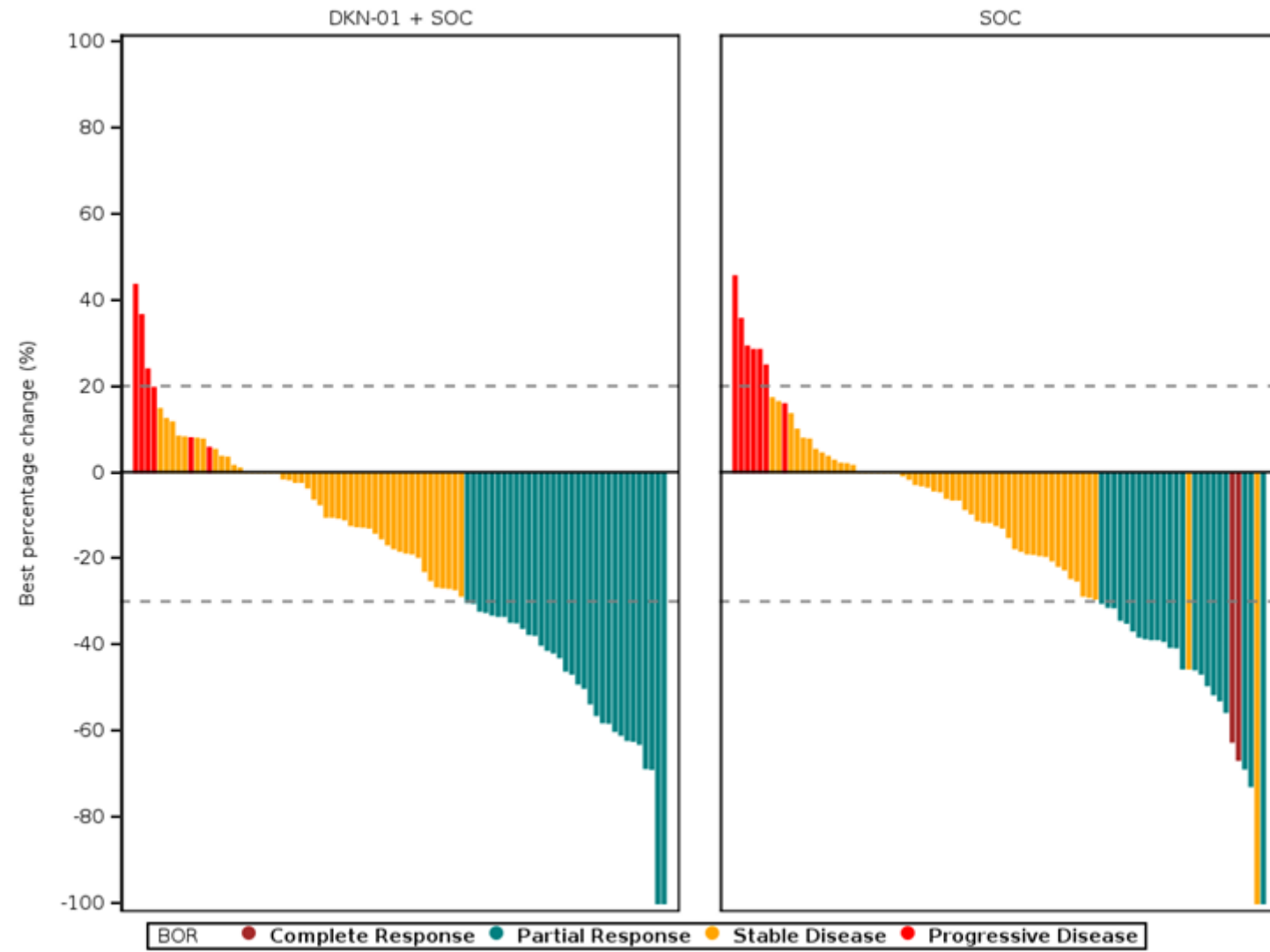
# Baseline Demographics of DeFianCe Trial

N=188	Experimental Arm N=94 n (%)	Control Arm N=94 n (%)
Male	64 (68)	52 (55)
Age, mean (min, max)	59.6 (33, 84)	58.7 (29, 84)
Region		
United States	41 (44)	40 (43)
South Korea	50 (53)	45 (48)
Germany	3 (3)	9 (10)
Tumor Sidedness		
Right	24 (25)	23 (25)
Left	70 (75)	71 (75)
ECOG PS		
0	41 (44)	44 (47)
1	53 (56)	50 (53)
Liver metastasis		
Yes	72 (77)	67 (71)
RAS Mutated		
Yes	44 (47)	54 (57)
Prior Systemic Therapy- 5FU based		
Oxaliplatin based	76 (81)	84 (89)
Irinotecan based	19 (20)	13 (14)
Anti- VEGF	45 (48)	48 (51)
Anti- EGFR	29 (31)	23 (24)

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# Progression-free Survival and Overall Response Rate

Intent-to-Treat (ITT) population – Investigator Assessment



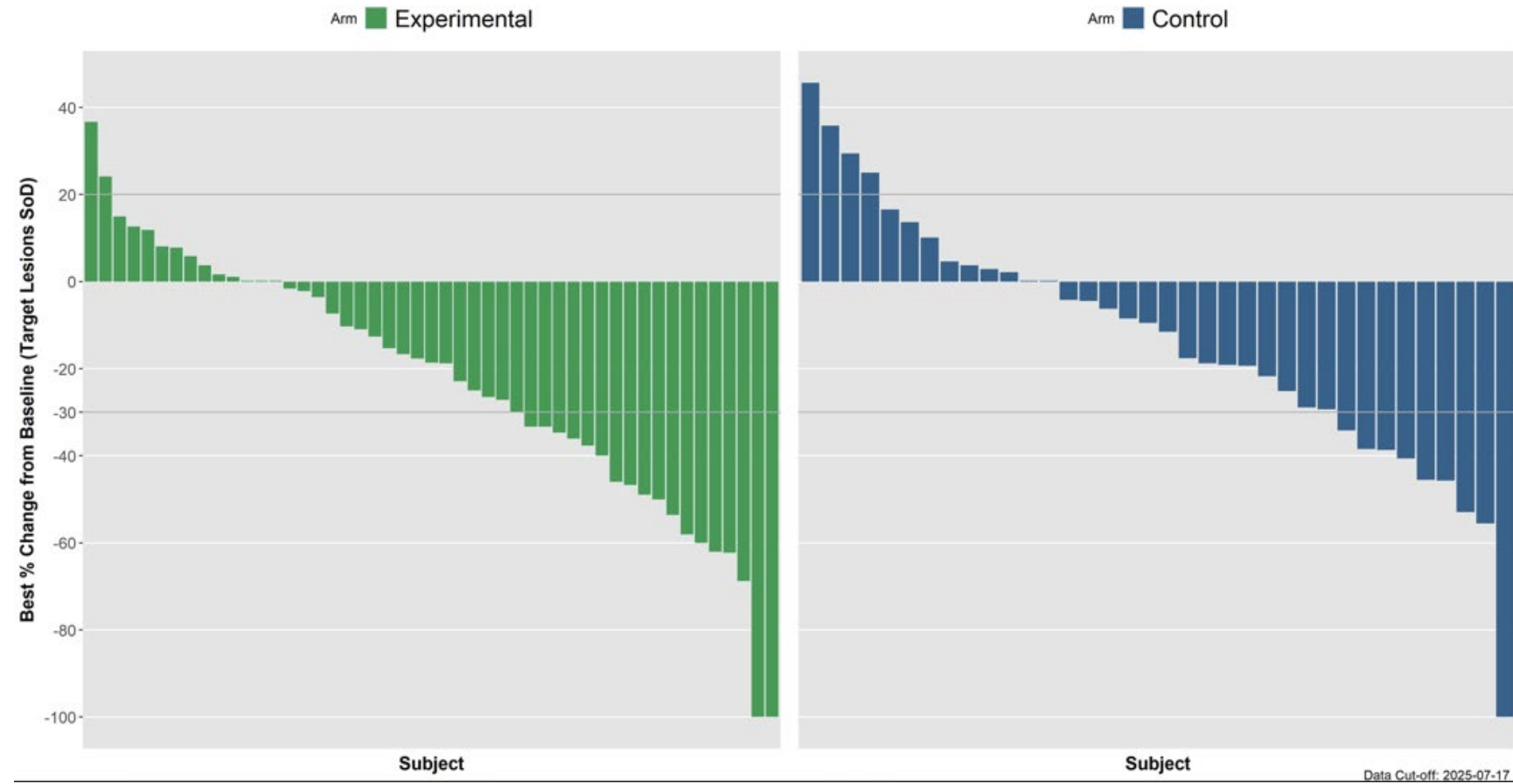
	Sirexatamab Experimental N=94	Control N=94
<b>Response</b>	<b>n (%)</b>	<b>n (%)</b>
CR	0 (0)	2 (2)
PR	33 (35)	23 (25)
<b>ORR</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>26.6%</b>
<b>95% CI</b>	<b>(25.5, 45.6)</b>	<b>(18.0, 36.7)</b>
SD	48 (51)	54 (57)
<b>DCR</b>	<b>86.2%</b>	<b>84.0%</b>
PD	6 (6)	7 (7)
No assessment	7 (7)	8 (9)

• Response rates were increased; p = 0.1009

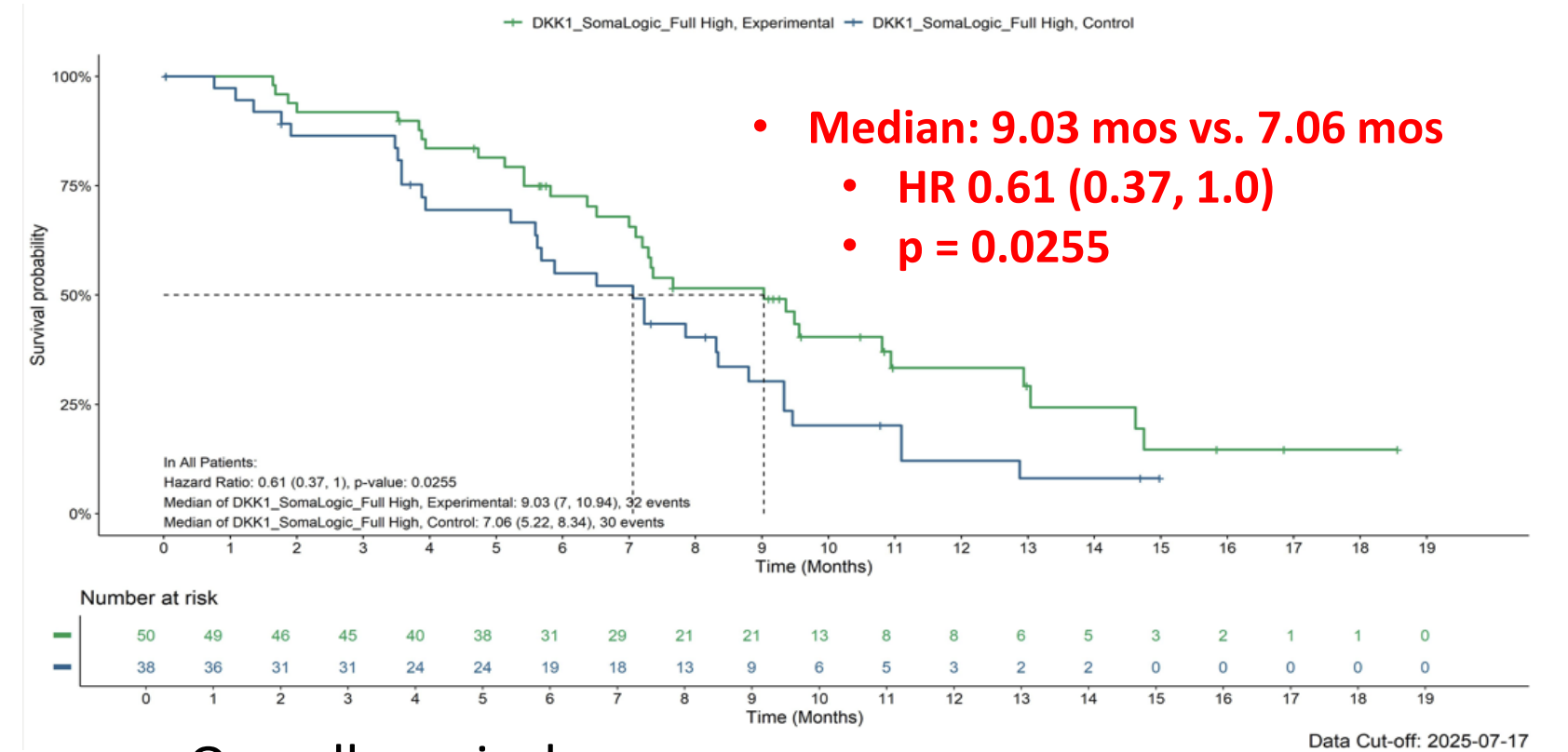
- Median: 9.2 months sirexatamab vs. 8.3 months control arm
- HR 0.84
- p = 0.1712 (pre-defined SAP primary endpoint p = 0.10)
- Event-free rate favors sirexatamab arm beginning at month 9 (53 vs 47%) and further separation at month 12 (34 vs 23%)

# Sirexatamab significantly improves PFS and OS in DKK1-high patients

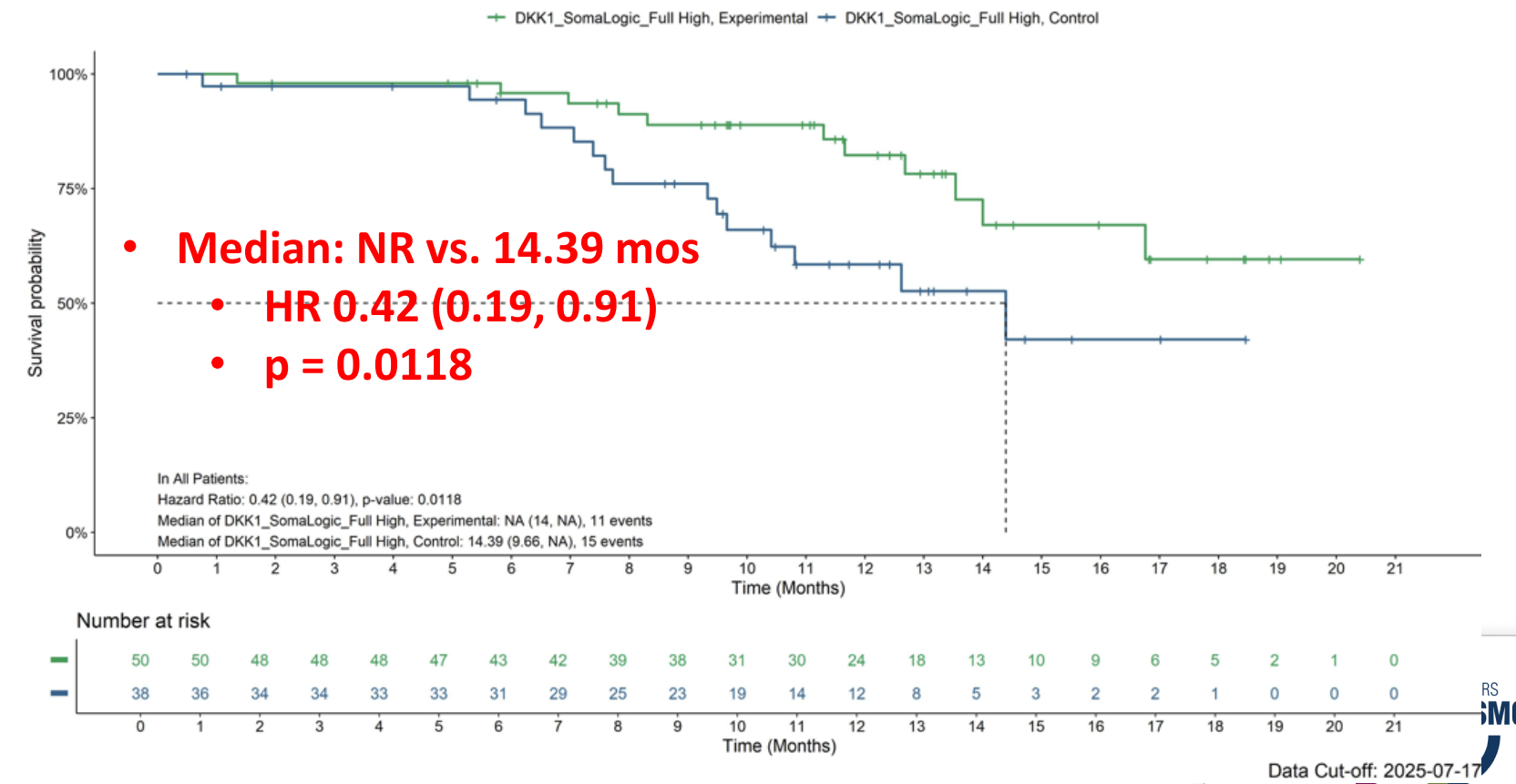
DKK1-high subgroup – Upper Median – Investigator Assessment



## Progression free survival



## Overall survival



Response	Sirexatamab Experimental N=50 n (%)	Control N=38 n (%)
CR	0 (0)	0 (0)
PR	19 (38)	9 (24)
<b>ORR</b>	<b>38.0%</b> <b>(24.7, 52.8)</b>	<b>23.7%</b> <b>(11.4, 40.2)</b>
P value	<b>p=0.0706</b>	
SD	26 (52)	23 (61)
<b>DCR</b>	<b>90.0%</b>	<b>84.2%</b>
PD	4 (8)	4 (11)
No assessment	1 (2)	2 (5)

# Safety of sirexatamab

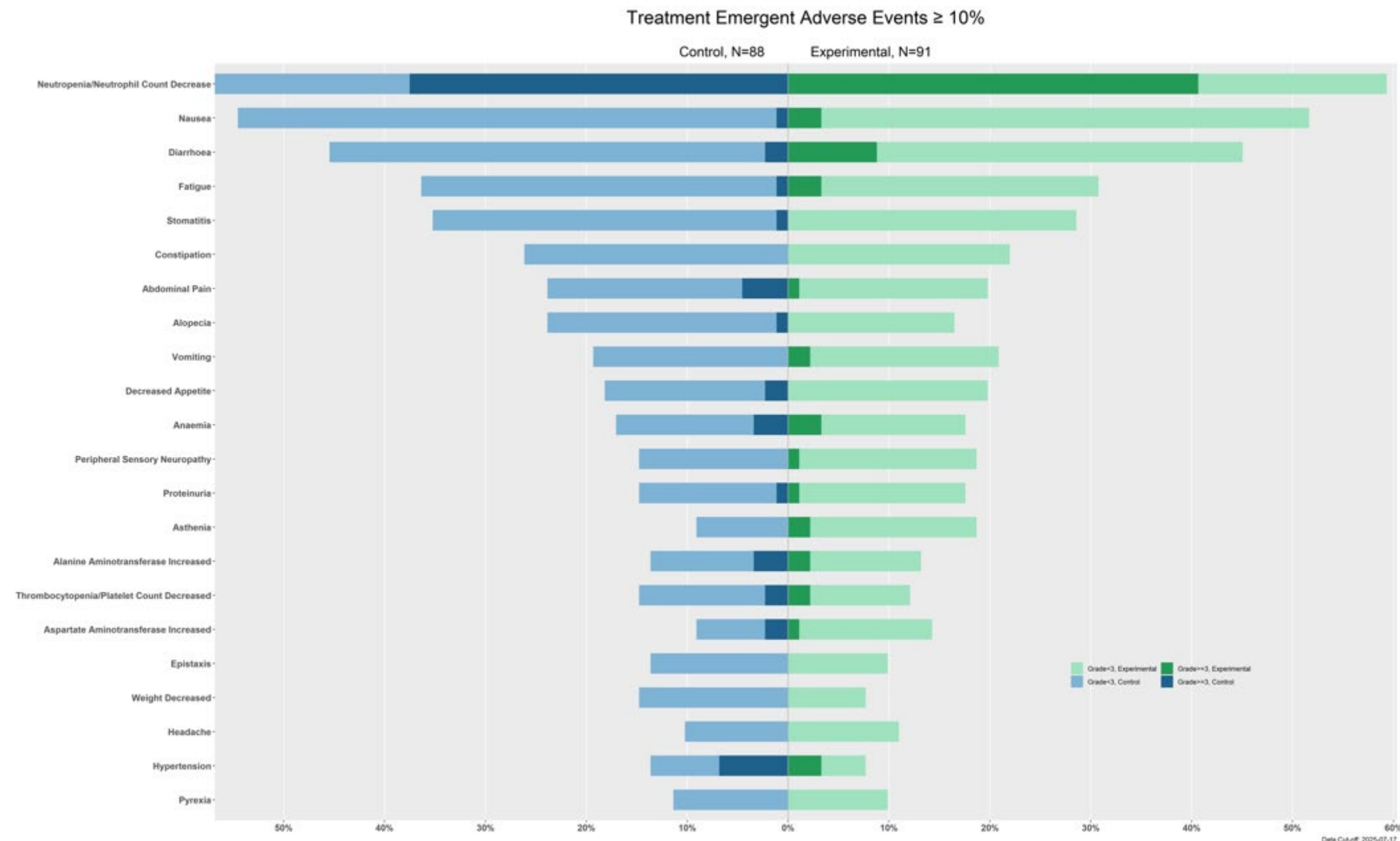
Overall TEAE profile is similar between the two arms suggesting the addition of sirexatamab does not adversely impact the safety profile of the combinatorial agents.

N=179	Experimental arm (n=91) n (%)	Control Arm (n=88) n (%)
Any TEAE	91 (100)	88 (100)
Regimen-related TEAE	90 (99)	86 (98)
≥ Grade 3 TEAE	54 (59)	59 (67)
Regimen-related ≥ Grade 3 TEAE <sup>#</sup>	50 (55)	50 (57)
Any SAE	18 (20)	17 (19)
Regimen-related SAEs <sup>*</sup>	12 (13)	4 (5)
AEs leading to death <sup>+</sup>	1 (1)	0 (0)
AEs leading to discontinuation of any regimen	14 (15)	17 (19)
AEs leading to discontinuation of DKN-01	4 (4)	N/A
AEs leading to dose reduction of any regimen	34 (37)	38 (43)
AEs leading to dose interruption of any regimen	66 (73)	62 (71)

<sup>#</sup> Only regimen related ≥ Grade 3 occurring in >10% in either arm was neutrophil count decreased

<sup>\*</sup> SAEs assessed as related to DKN-01 occurred in 5 subjects and include diarrhea (n=2), vomiting (n=1), anal fistula (n=1), enterovesical fistula (n=1), infusion related reaction (n=1), and confusional state (n=1)

<sup>+</sup> Unrelated to DKN-01, cardiac arrest



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# Conclusions

- Circulating DKK1 is a negative prognostic factor in CRC and is elevated in patients with advanced mCRC; Sirexatamab, a first in class antibody neutralizes DKK1.
- Sirexatamab was safe and well tolerated in combination with chemotherapy and bevacizumab.
- Positive trend in the overall population favoring the sirexatamab arm
- Statistically significant improvement in PFS and OS in the prospectively identified DKK1-high population.
- Increasing DKK1 above upper median further improved PFS, OS and ORR for the sirexatamab arm.
- These data support continued development of sirexatamab in DKK1-high previously treated patients with mCRC.

# Acknowledgements

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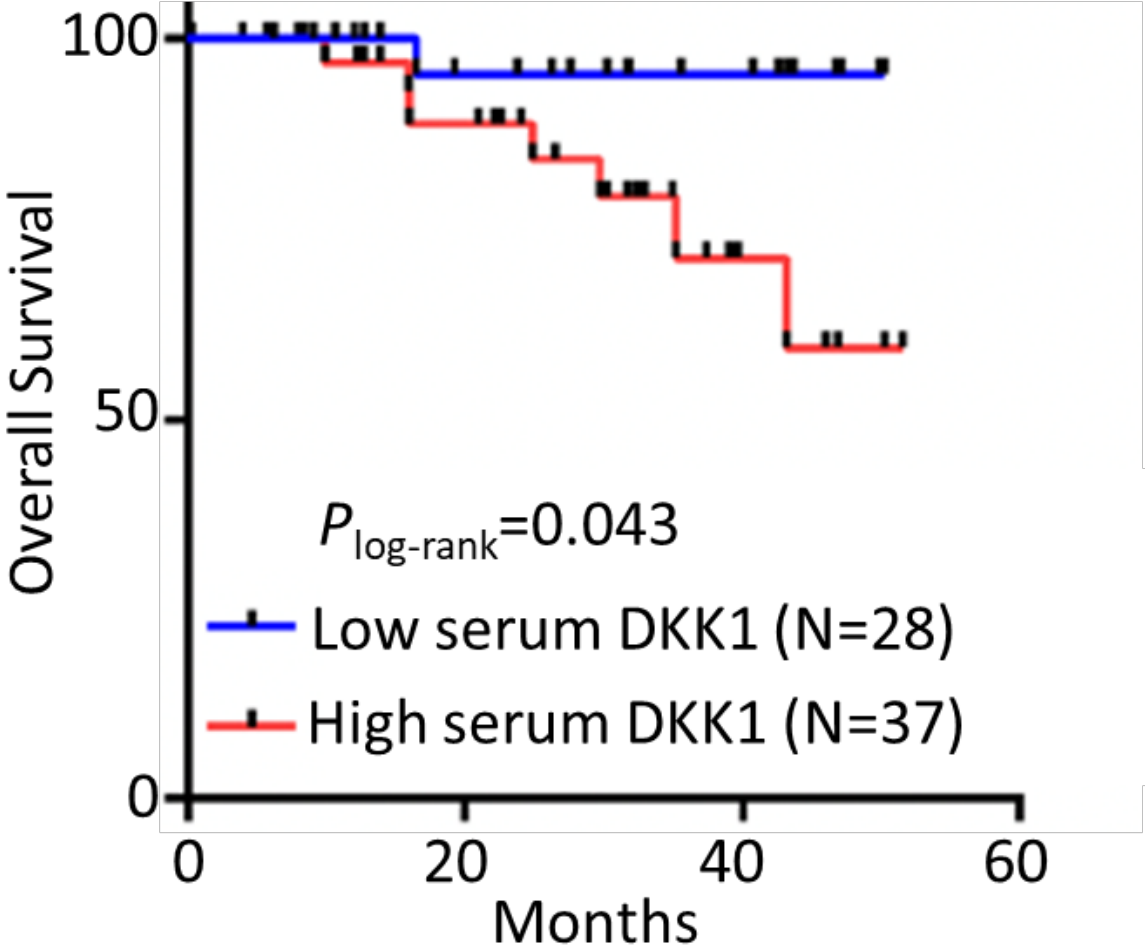
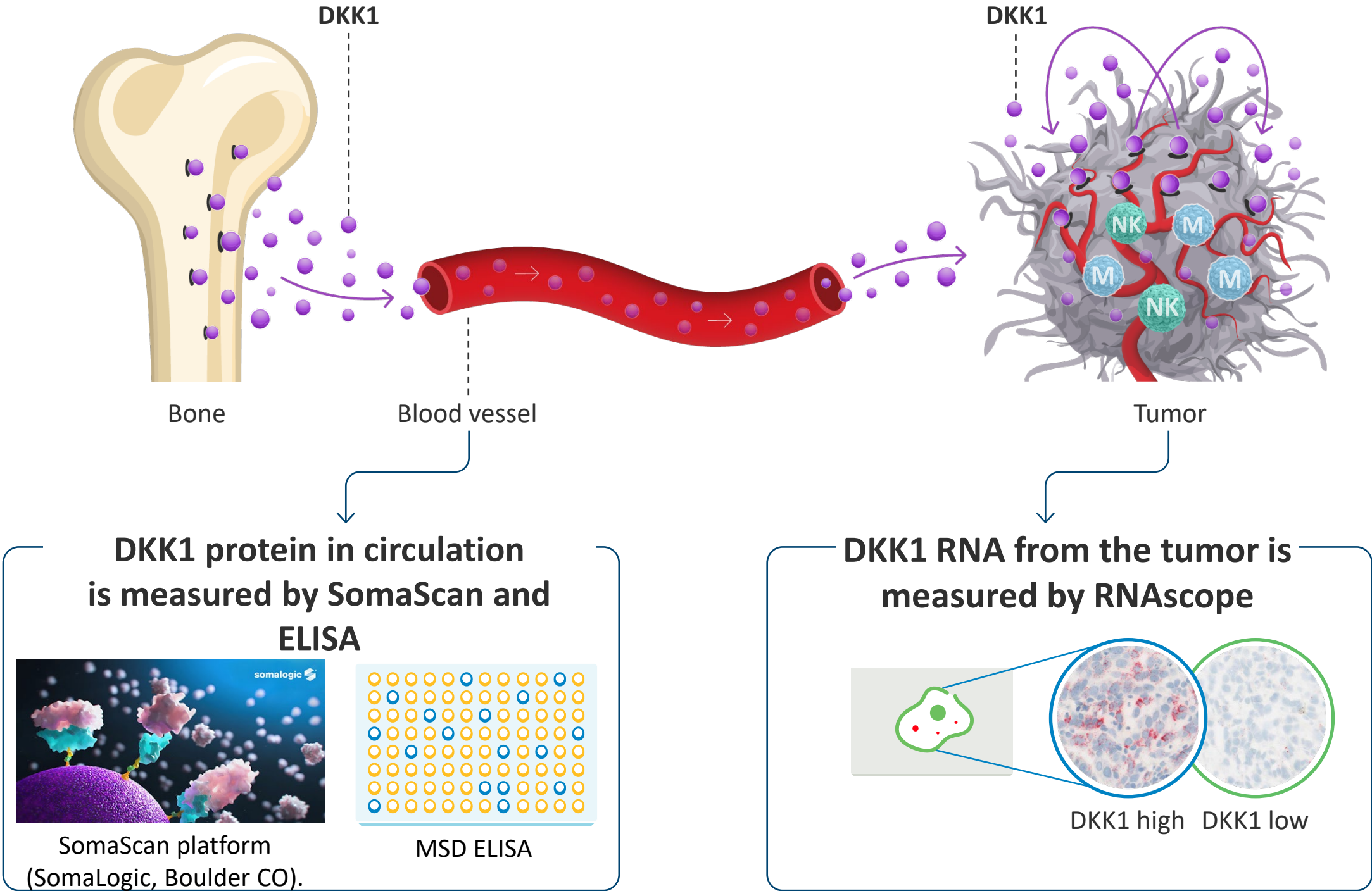
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# Backup

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# DKK1 production from multiple sources can drive tumor growth and is associated with poor prognosis in colorectal cancer



# Sirexatamab activity is enhanced with increasing thresholds of baseline DKK1

	All Patients		DKK1-High (upper median)		DKK1-High (upper quartile)	
Endpoint	Sirexatamab Experimental n=94	Control n=94	Sirexatamab Experimental n=50	Control n=38	Sirexatamab Experimental n=25	Control n=19
ORR	35.1%	26.6%	38.0%	23.7%	44.0%	15.8%
	ORR difference: 8.34% p-value: 0.1009		ORR difference: 14.32% p-value: 0.0706		ORR difference: 28.21% p-value: 0.0149	
PFS	9.2 months	8.3 months	9.03 months	7.06 months	9.36 months	5.88 months
	HR: 0.84 (0.58, 1.21) p-value: 0.1712		HR: 0.61 (0.37, 1) p-value: 0.0255		HR: 0.46 (0.22, 0.96) p-value: 0.0168	
OS	NA (15.08, NA)	NA (14.75, NA)	NA (14.0, NA)	14.39 months (9.66, NA)	NA (13.54, NA)	9.49 months (7.06, 12.62)
	HR: 0.83 (0.46, 1.48) p-value: 0.2632		HR: 0.42 (0.19, 0.91) p-value: 0.0118		HR: 0.17 (0.05, 0.53) p-value <0.001	