



Systemic treatment for Ovarian Cancer

David Jackson
Consultant Medical Oncologist

Spire Leeds Hospital
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Systemic treatment

- Primary treatment
 - Advanced disease
 - First-line
 - Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy
 - Chemotherapy scheduling
 - Bevacizumab
 - Early stage disease
- Relapsed disease

Pathology

- Subtypes

- Epithelial (90%) → Grading

- Serous
 - Endometrioid
 - Mucinous
 - Clear cell

- Borderline

- Grade 1

- well differentiated

- Grade 2

- moderately differentiated

- Grade 3

- poorly differentiated

- Germ cell tumours
(10%)

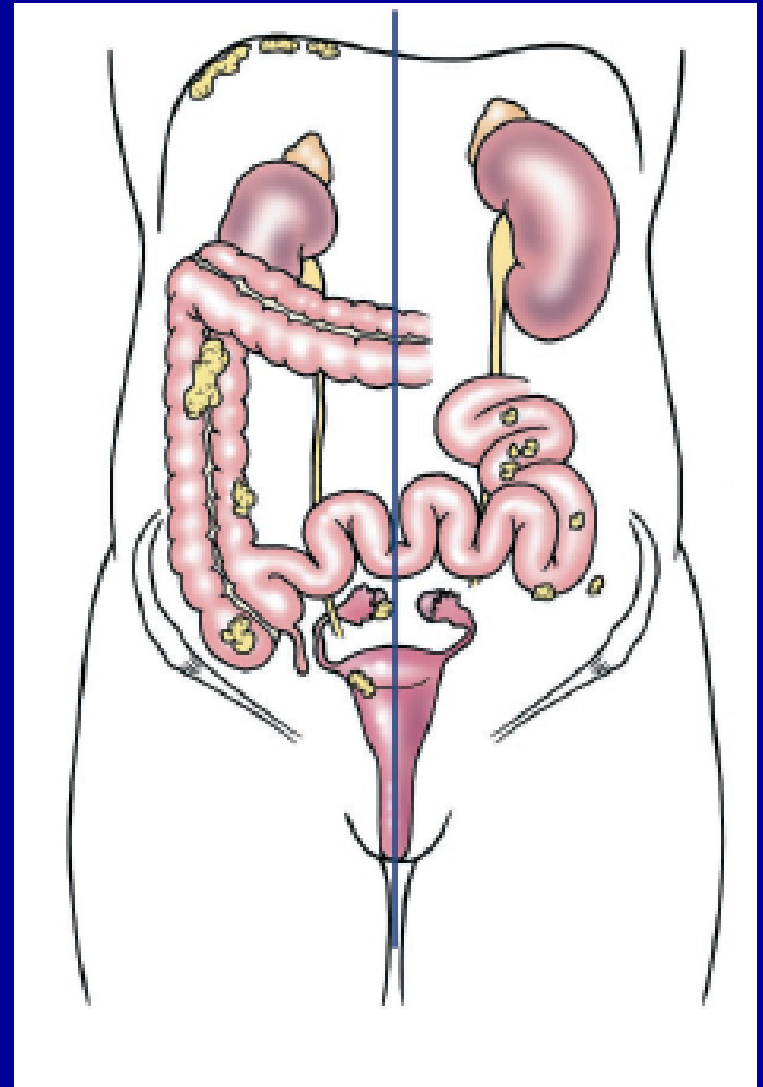
- Sex-cord stromal cell
tumours (rare)

Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

Including:

Primary peritoneal cancer

Fallopian tube cancer



What is the aim of systemic therapy?

- Primary treatment
 - Usually in combination with surgery
- Depends on the stage of the disease
 - Advanced disease
 - Early stage disease

Importance of staging

- FIGO - staging system

Stage		5 yr survival	
I	confined to ovary	90%	} 20% of patients
II	confined to pelvis	65%	
III	abdominal extension or lymph nodes	35%	} 80% of patients
IV	distant metastases	10%	

Primary treatment

Advanced disease

Chemotherapy

- Stage III & IV disease

- Control cancer
- Prolong life
- Improve symptoms

} Palliative

- First line

- Highly effective
- 70-80% response rate

- Median Progression Free Survival 1-2 years
- Median Overall Survival 3 years
- 30% 5 year survival
- Some long term survivors

Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

- Advanced disease
 - Platinum based chemotherapy
 - 1960s – alkylating agents
 - 1970s – discovery of cisplatin
 - AOCTG 1991- Meta-analysis
 - 45 trials; 8139 patients
 - Not conclusive, but suggested:
 - » Advantage of platinum based chemotherapy
 - » Platinum combination better than single agent
 - » Cisplatin and carboplatin equivalent
 - ICON 2 1998 **Carboplatin** vs CAP
 - No difference

Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

- Advanced disease
 - **Paclitaxel**

Study	No.	Agents	PFS (months)			OS (months)		
			Control	Pac	p	Control	Pac	p
GOG 111 McGuire 1996	386	Cisplatin/Paclitaxel vs Cisplatin/Cyclo	13	18	<0.001	24	38	<0.001
OV10 Piccart 2000	680	Cisplatin/Paclitaxel vs Cisplatin/Cyclo	12	16	<0.001	25	35	<0.001
GOG 132 Muggia 2000	424	Cisplatin/Paclitaxel vs Cisplatin	16.4	14.1	n.s.	30.2	26.0	n.s.
ICON 3 ICON 2002	2074	Carbo/Paclitaxel vs Carbo or CAP	16.1	17.3	n.s.	35.4	36.1	n.s.

Epithelial Ovarian Cancer

- First-line chemotherapy
 - Carboplatin
 - 6 cycles - 3-weekly
 - Carboplatin & Paclitaxel
 - 6 cycles - 3-weekly
 - Carboplatin & Paclitaxel
 - 18 weeks - weekly (low dose)
- Dependent on:
 - Performance status
 - Comorbidity
 - Patient choice

Chemotherapy

- Stage III & IV
 - Primary surgery (optimal debulking)
 - followed by chemotherapy
 - or
 - Primary (Neoadjuvant) chemotherapy
 - Interval Debulking Surgery (IDS)
 - Not amenable to optimal debulking
 - Patient fitness
 - Effusions / Ascites
 - Palliative chemotherapy
 - Not fit for surgery

Primary treatment

Advanced disease

Neoadjuvant chemotherapy

Neoadjuvant chemotherapy

- Theoretical reasons for benefit
 - High response rates (70-80%)
 - Early exposure to systemic therapy
 - Assess chemosensitivity
 - Predictor of outcome
 - Avoid surgery if progressive disease
 - Medical cytoreduction
 - Increases resectability
 - Avoid aggressive surgery (stoma formation)
 - Improved fitness for surgery (metabolic effects of disease)
- Examples in other solid tumours
 - Established
 - » Breast; Gastric; Oesophageal
 - Investigation
 - » Lung; Colon

EORTC 55971

- Compare primary debulking surgery (PDS) followed by 6 courses platin-based chemotherapy (CT) (Arm A) with 3 courses neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NACT), interval debulking surgery (IDS) and another 3 courses of CT (Arm B) in Stage IIIc-IV OVCA.
- 718 patients - median follow-up was 4.8 years

	Primary Debulking Surgery	Primary chemotherapy
Optimal debulking (< 1cm)	48%	83%
Post-op mortality (\leq 28 days)	2.7%	0.6%
sepsis	8%	2%
Hameorrhage (G3/4)	7%	4%
OS (ITT)	29 mos	30 mos
PFS (ITT)	11 mos	11 mos

Primary treatment

Advanced disease

Chemotherapy scheduling

Chemotherapy scheduling

Dose-dense chemotherapy
Katsumata 2009

Conventional

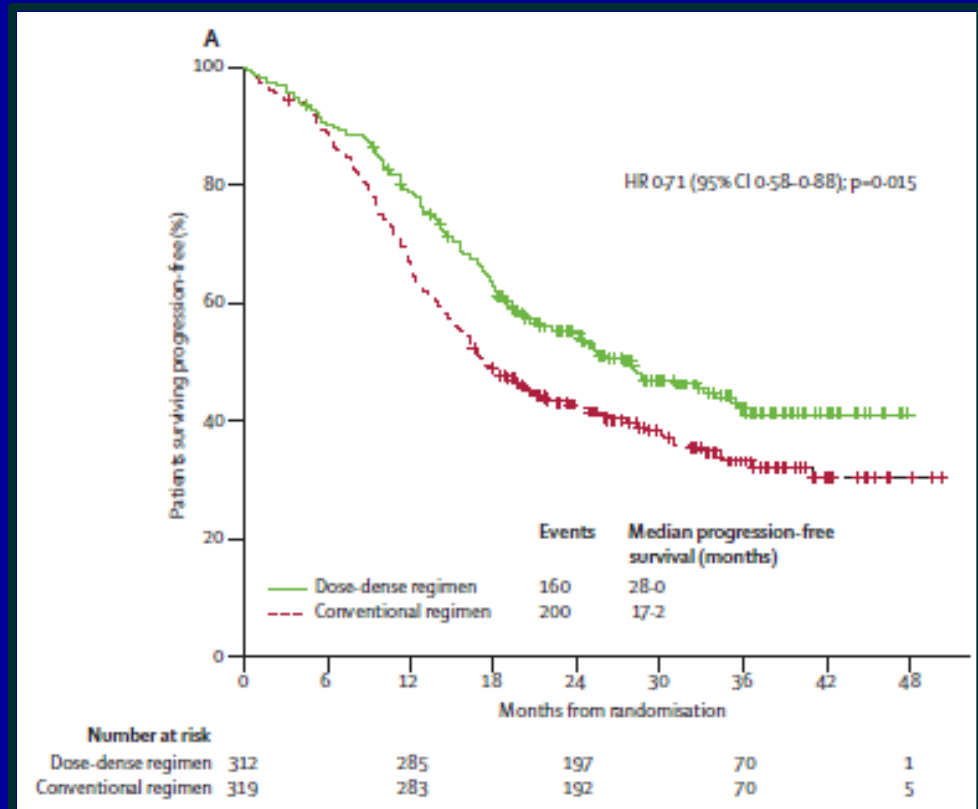
3-weekly

- Carboplatin AUC6
- Paclitaxel 180mg/m²

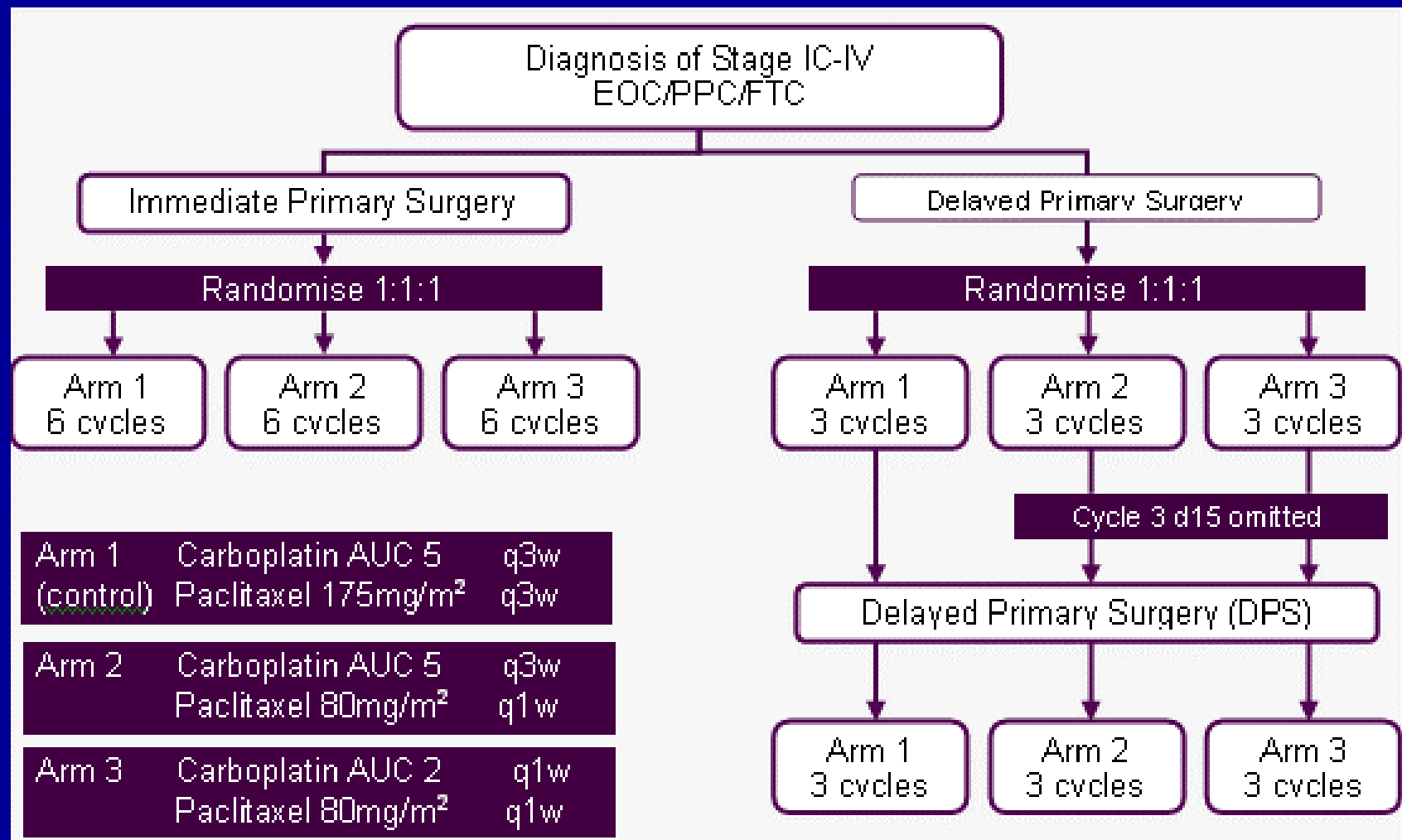
Dose-dense

3-weekly

- Carboplatin AUC6
weekly
- Paclitaxel 80mg/m²



ICON 8



Primary treatment

Advanced disease

Bevacizumab

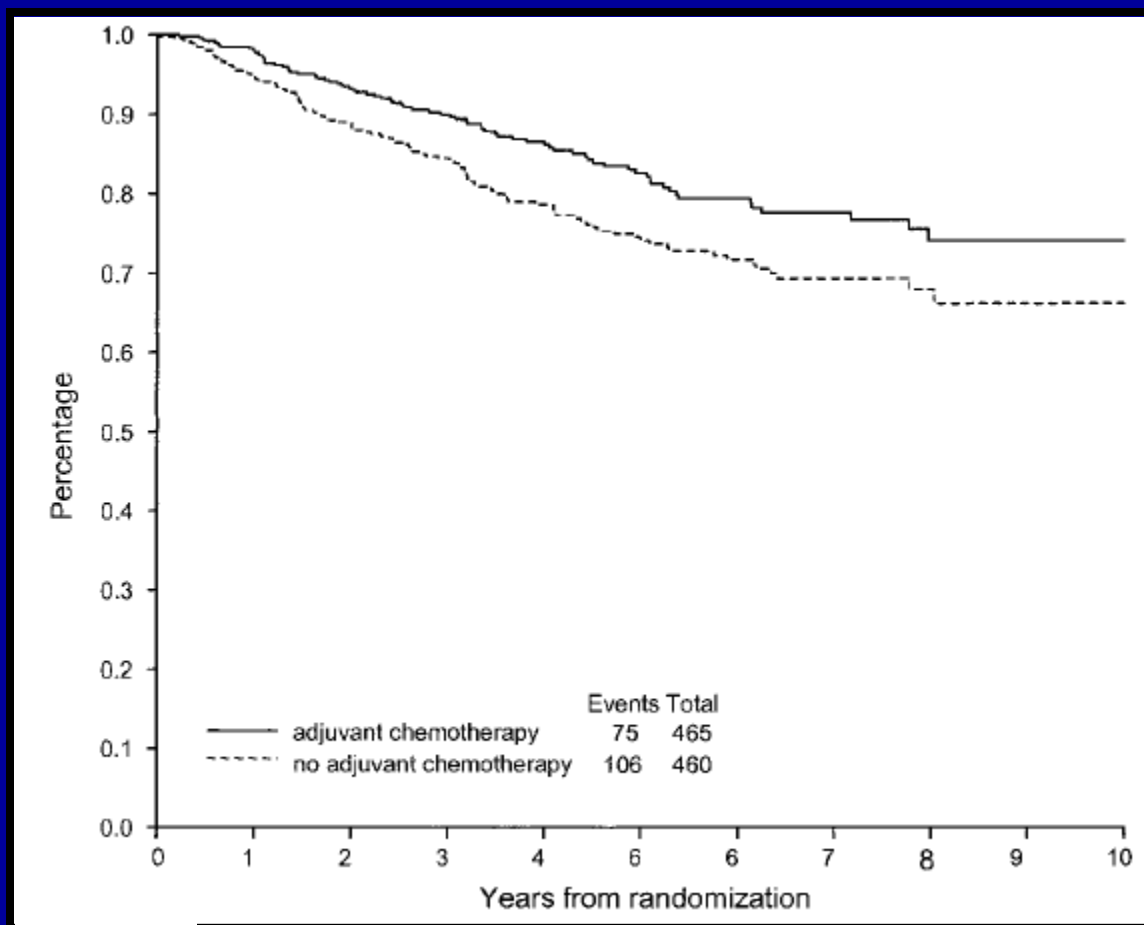
Primary treatment

Early stage disease

Adjuvant chemotherapy

Early stage disease

- Stage I & II
 - Adjuvant Chemotherapy - Increase chance of cure



5 yr OS
- 74 v 82%

Early stage disease

- Current practice
 - Likely benefit
 - Stage 1c or higher
 - Grade 3
 - Clear cell histology
 - Uncertainty
 - Peri-operative rupture (surgical 1c)
 - Inadequate staging
 - Chemotherapy vs repeat staging procedure

Relapsed disease

What is the aim of chemotherapy?

- Relapsed disease

- Control cancer
- Prolong life
- Improve symptoms



Palliative

- Ascites
- Bowel dysfunction / obstruction

Relapsed disease

- Chemotherapy

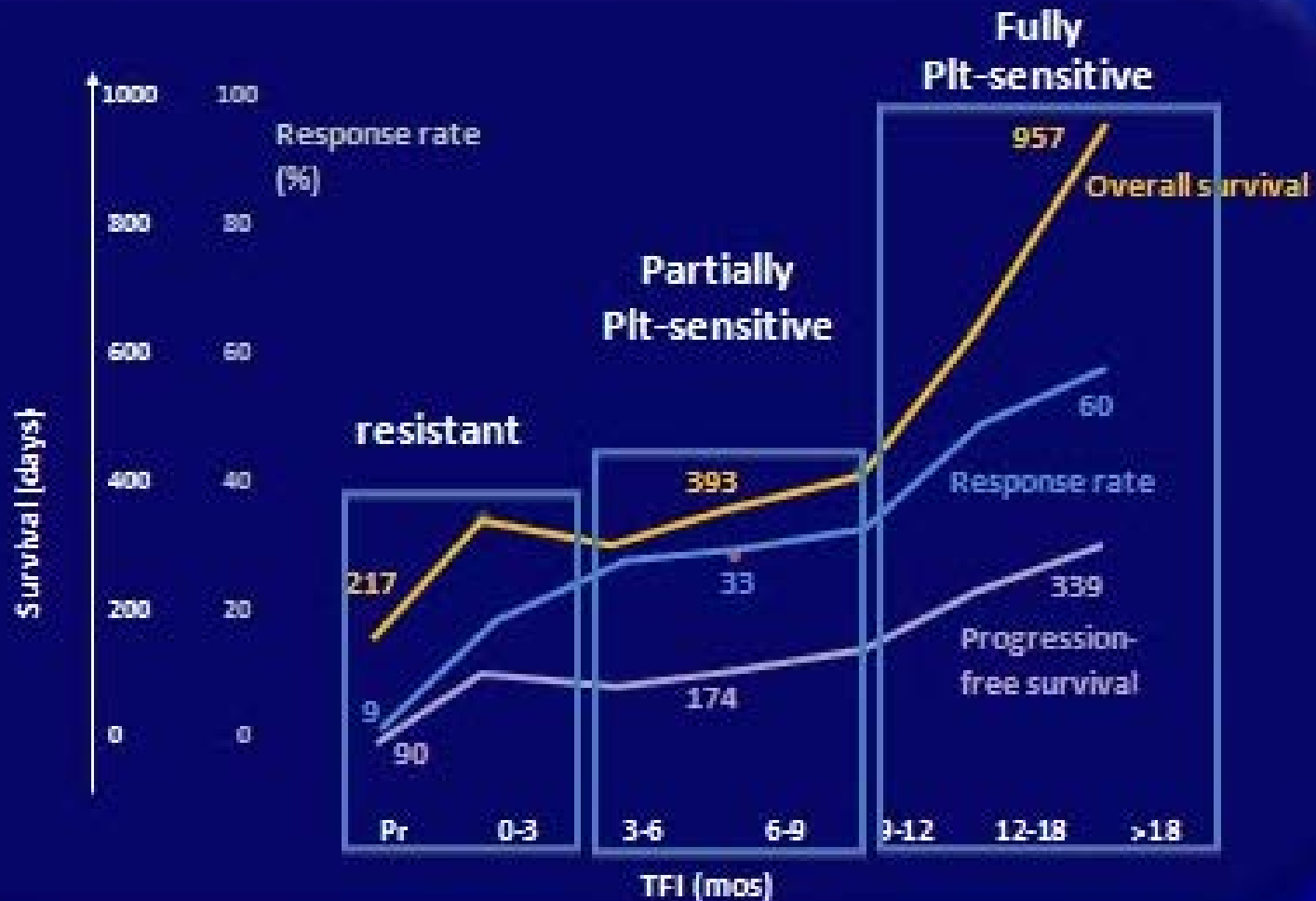
- Carboplatin
- Paclitaxel (Taxol)
- Liposomal doxorubicin (Caelyx)
- Topotecan

- Single agent
- Combination
- 3-weekly
- Weekly

- Choice of drugs

- Depending on
 - performance status; comorbidity
 - response to previous treatment; duration of response
 - time since previous exposure
 - allergy; previous toxicity - **patient choice**

Outcome of Recurrent Ovarian Cancer Patient by Treatment-Free Interval (TFI)



Relapsed disease

Platinum resistant

- Liposomal doxorubicin
- Topotecan

Table 4. Treatment Response for the Intent-to-Treat Population

	Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin (n = 239)		Topotecan (n = 235)	
	No.	%	No.	%
Intent-to-treat population				
Overall response ($P = .390$)				
Total	47	19.7	40	17.0
Complete	9	3.8	11	4.7
Partial	38	15.9	29	12.3
Stable disease	77	32.2	95	40.4
Median PFS, weeks ($P = .095$)	16.1		17.0	
Median survival, weeks ($P = .341$)	60		56.7	
Intent-to-treat population—platinum-sensitive tumors	109	45.6	111	47.2
Overall response ($P = .964$)				
Total	31	28.4	32	28.8
Complete	8	7.3	10	9.0
Partial	23	21.1	22	19.8
Stable disease	41	37.6	42	37.8
Median PFS, weeks ($P = .037$)	28.9		23.3	
Median survival, weeks ($P = .008$)	108.0		71.1	
<u>Intent-to-treat population—platinum-resistant tumors</u>	130	54.4	124	52.8
Overall response ($P = 0.118$)				
Total	16	12.3	8	6.5
Complete	1	0.8	1	0.8
Partial	15	11.5	7	5.6
Stable disease	36	27.7	53	42.7
Median PFS, weeks ($P = .733$)	9.1		13.6	
Median survival, weeks ($P = .455$)	35.6		41.3	

Relapsed disease

- Dose-dense weekly chemotherapy
 - Platinum resistant disease

Table 4. Response, PFS, and overall survival of the patients treated with weekly paclitaxel/carboplatin according to platinum sensitivity

PFI after platinum therapy	N	Response RR/CR (%)	PFS	Overall survival
Platinum refractory, PFI <6 months	23	61/3	11 (1-15)	15 (1-40 ⁺)
Platinum intermediate sensitive, PFI 6-12 months	19	84/42	11 (3-17)	NR (3-35 ⁺)
Platinum sensitive, PFI >12 months	20	80/20	11 (2-39 ⁺)	NR (3-44 ⁺)

RR, response rate; CR, complete response; NR, not reached.

Relapsed disease

- Repeated courses of chemotherapy
 - Reducing response rate
 - Reducing duration of response
 - Chemotherapy resistance
 - Symptomatic care

Relapsed disease

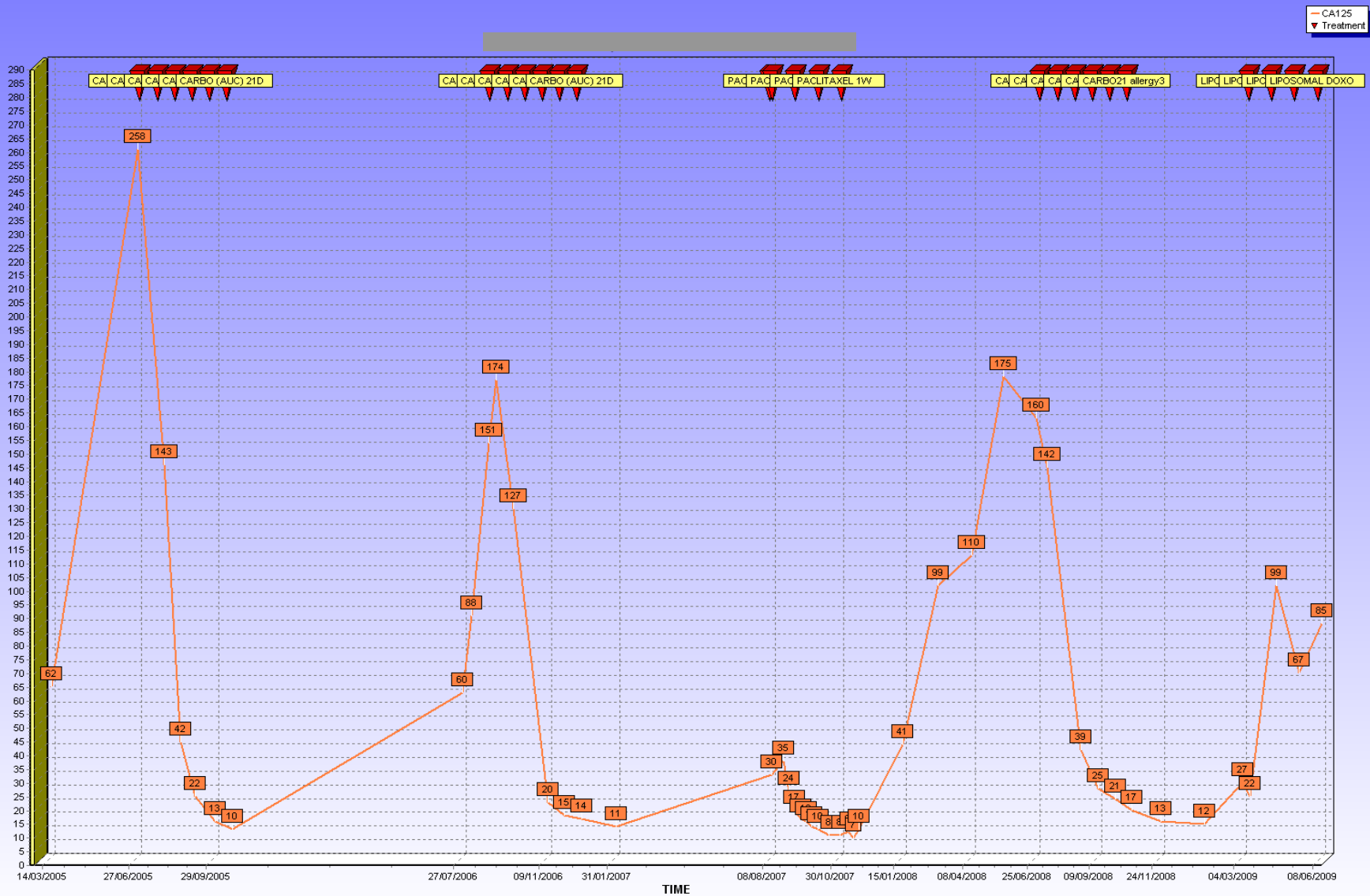
Diagnosis:

1. Stage 3 ovarian carcinoma with peritoneal involvement, diagnosed 2003.

Treatment history:

1. Jun to Oct 03: Primary **Carboplatin** x 6 IDS (TAH, BSO) to no residual disease. Complete Ca125 and CT response
2. Jun 05: Relapsed disease - **Carboplatin** x 6. Complete radiological response
3. Aug 06: Recurrent disease - **Carboplatin** x 6. Complete radiological response
4. Aug 07: Recurrent disease (pleural effusion) - Weekly **paclitaxel** x 10 weeks. CT no measurable disease
5. Jun 08: Recurrent disease - **Carboplatin** x 6. Good CT response
6. Mar 09: Progressive disease, recurrent left pleural effusions. Commenced **Liposomal Doxorubicin** x 6

Relapsed disease



Side effects

Chemotherapy

- Side effects
 - Fatigue
 - Nausea & vomiting
 - Myelosuppression
 - Anaemia, risk of infection
 - Hair loss
 - Neuropathy
 - Mucositis
 - Skin & nail changes
 - Allergic reactions



Side effects

- Neutropenia
 - Febrile neutropenia / neutropenic sepsis
 - Potentially life-threatening, within hours
 - Requires urgent treatment
 - Patient education
 - 24 hour telephone advice line
 - Urgent FBC
 - Urgent broad spectrum antibiotics

Side effects

- Intent of chemotherapy
 - Adjuvant
 - ↓ risk of recurrence / ↑ chance of cure
 - Palliative
 - Improve/maintain quality of life

Acceptability of toxicity



Symptom Control

- Ascites
 - Chemotherapy
 - Repeated drainage
 - PleurX drain
- Bowel dysfunction/obstruction
 - Chemotherapy
 - Surgical defunctioning
 - Palliative care

Summary

- Systemic therapy for ovarian cancer
 - Early stage disease
 - Increase chance of cure
 - Advanced & Relapsed disease
 - Control disease, prolong life, improve symptoms
 - Effective over several years
 - Balance benefits vs side effects
 - Quality of Life

Good palliative & supportive care