



CNS Targeted Therapy: Life Beyond the Alkylators

*Alyssa Ströhbusch, PharmD, MS, BCOP, CPh
October 21, 2023*



Objectives

1. Understand the biological basis for targeting *IDH* mutations in glioma diagnoses
2. Describe the unique mechanism of action for vorasidenib
3. Determine vorasidenib place in therapy as studied within the INDIGO Trial



Rosetta Stone

	Shorthand
central nervous system	CNS
glioblastoma	GBM
isocitrate dehydrogenase	IDH
investigating vorasidenib in glioma	INDIGO
Karnofsky performance scale	KPS
low grade glioma	LGG
mutant isocitrate dehydrogenase	mut/ <i>IDH</i>
procarbazine, lomustine, vincristine	PCV
response assessment in neuro-oncology	RANO
radiation therapy oncology group	RTOG
standard of care	SOC
wildtype	WT



Incidence, Survival, and Mortality

Malignant CNS tumors account for ~1% of all invasive cancer cases in the United States

- Most commonly diagnosed solid tumor in children
- Leading cause of cancer death
 - Males < 40 years
 - Females < 20 years

Gliomas are the most common malignant primary brain tumor

- World Health Organization categorization
 - Histology
 - Molecular features

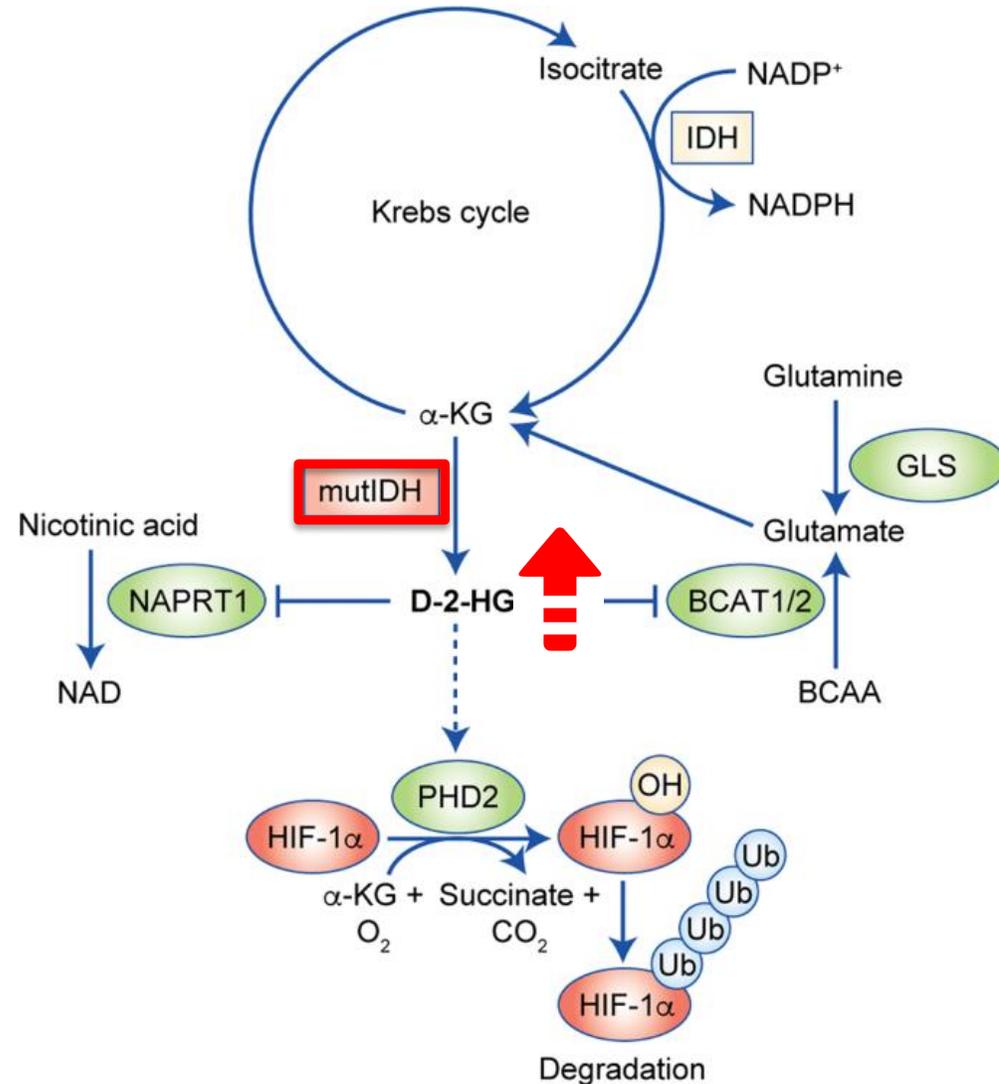


Glioma Molecular Testing

BIOMARKERS			
IDH1	CDKN2B	FUBP1	POT1
IDH2	CIC	H3F3A	PTEN
MSI	EGFR	HIST1H3B	TERT promoter
NTRK1/2/3	EGFRvIII	NF1	TP53
Tumor Mutational Burden	FGFR1	NOTCH1	TSC1
ATRX	FGFR2	PDGFRA	TSC2
BRAF	FGFR3	PIK3CA	TSC3



Metabolic Reprogramming in mutIDH Glioma





Molecular Characterization

***IDH1* and *IDH2* mutation**

Guideline recommendation:

- Testing *required* for the workup of all gliomas

Diagnostic value:

- Distinguishes lower-grade gliomas from GBM

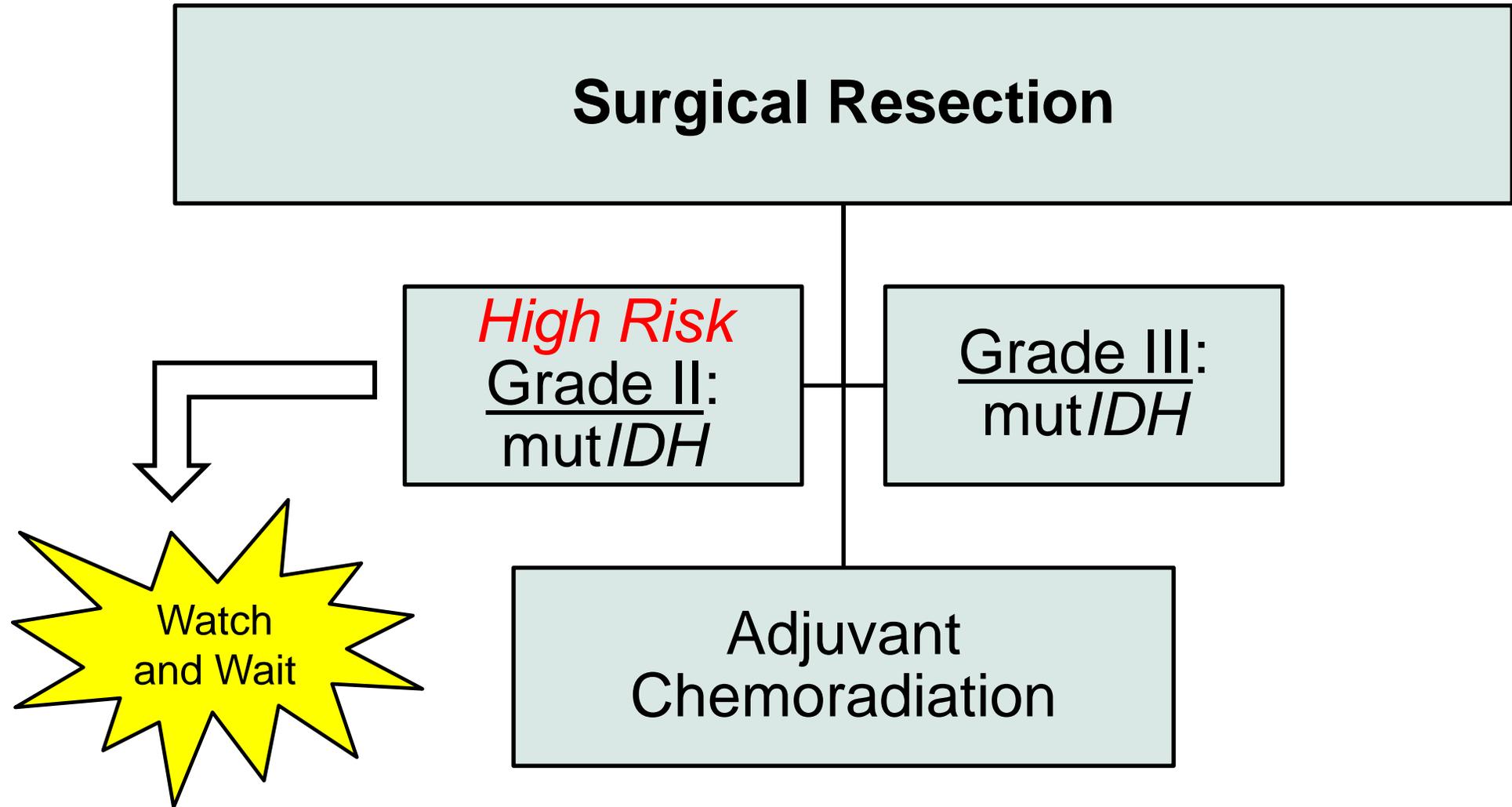
Prognostic value:

- Associated with favorable prognosis in grade II/III glioma
- Survival benefit for patients treated with radiation or alkylating systemic therapy

Incidence	
Grade II	50 - 81%
Grade III	42 - 54%
Grade IV	15 - 20%



Guideline Recommended Standard of Care





Vorasidenib (AG-881)

Mechanism of action

- Dual inhibitor of mutant *IDH1* and *IDH2* enzymes

Developed for penetration across the blood brain barrier

- Brain-to-plasma ratio ($C_b:C_p$): 1.33
- Tumor-to-plasma ratio ($C_t:C_p$): 1.25

Pre-clinical study data

- Inhibition of 2-HG production in mut*IDH* glioma tissue by >97%



INDIGO Trial: Methods

Design

- Phase III, international, double-blind, randomized
 - Vorasidenib 40 mg, oral, daily, continuous 28 day cycles
 - Matching placebo

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Patients \geq 12 years of age	Previous receipt of anti-cancer therapy
Residual or recurrent grade II oligodendroglioma or astrocytoma	<u>High-risk features:</u> Brainstem involvement Neurocognitive deficits Uncontrolled seizures
Confirmed <i>IDH1/2</i> mutant status	
KPS \geq 80	
Asymptomatic (<i>no steroid requirement</i>)	





INDIGO Trial: Endpoints

Primary end point

- Progression-free survival
 - Time from randomization to progressive disease or death from any cause
 - Assessed on imaging according to RANO-LGG criteria

Secondary end points

- Time to next intervention
- Safety



INDIGO Trial: Patient Characteristics

January 2020 through February 2022

– 331 patients enrolled at 77 centers in 10 countries

Key Characteristics	Vorasidenib (N = 168)	Placebo (N = 163)
Age, median (range) - yr	40.5 (21-71)	39 (16-65)
Time from initial diagnosis to randomization, mean - yr	3.3 ± 2.4	3.1 ± 2.5
Time from last surgery to randomization, median (range) - yr	2.5 (0.2-5.2)	2.2 (0.9-5.0)
Histologic subtype – no. (%)		
Oligodendroglioma	88 (52.4)	84 (51.5)
Astrocytoma	80 (47.6)	79 (48.5)
<i>IDH</i> mutation status – no. (%)		
<i>IDH1</i> positive	163 (97.0)	152 (93.3)
<i>IDH2</i> positive	5 (3.0)	11 (6.7)
Largest diameter of tumor – no. (%)		
≥ 2 cm	139 (82.7)	137 (84.0)



INDIGO Trial: Results

- Vorasidenib
- Placebo

Overall incidence of progression: 135/331 (40.7%)

– 47/168 (28%) vs 88/163 (54%)

Progression-free survival

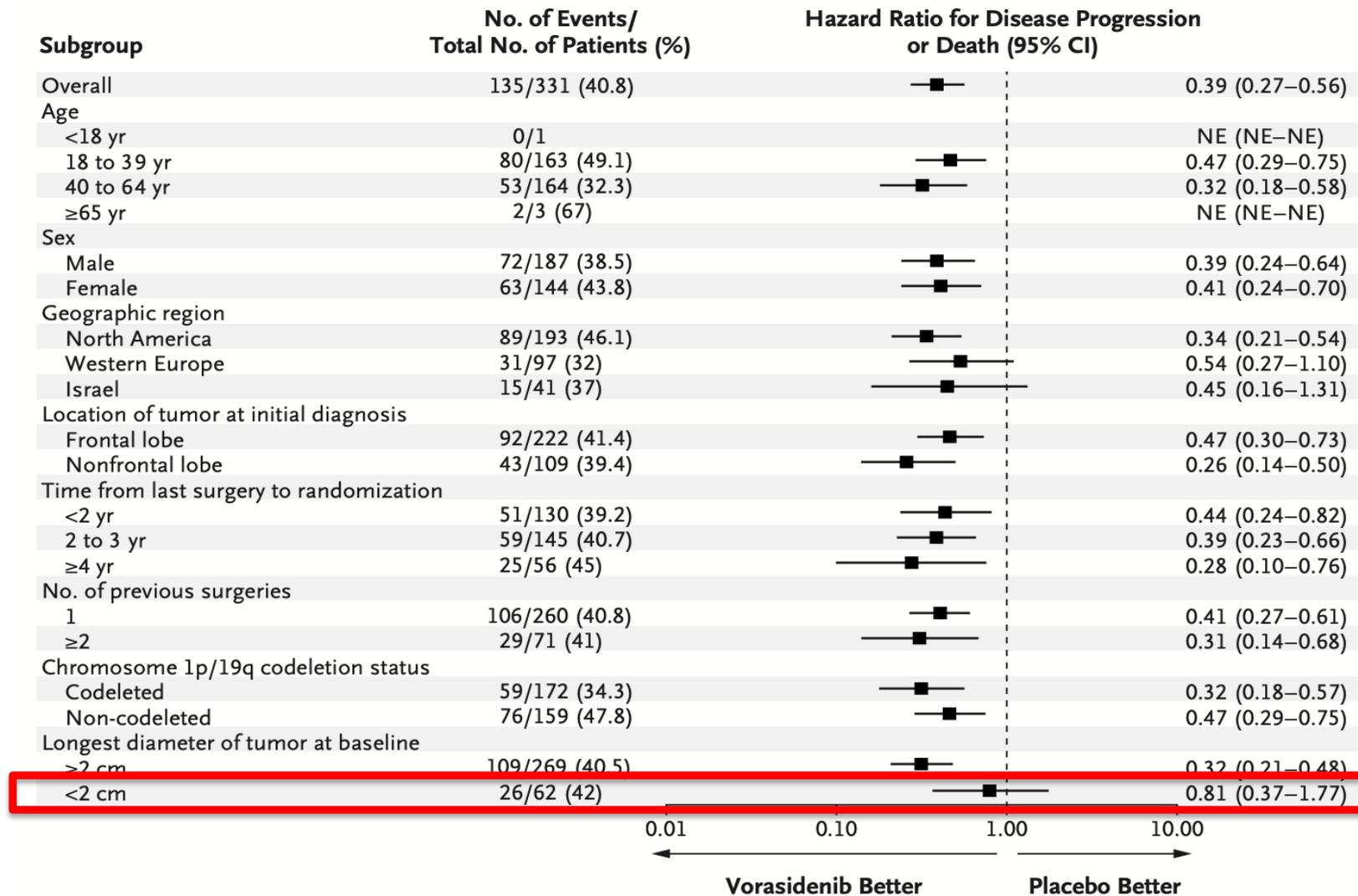
– 27.7 mo (95% CI, 17.0 - ongoing) vs 11.1 mo (95% CI, 11.0 - 13.7)

– HR: 0.39 (95% CI, 0.27 - 0.56; P<0.001)



INDIGO Trial: Results

A Progression-free Survival





INDIGO Trial: Results

- Vorasidenib
- Placebo

Overall incidence of progression: 135/331 (40.7%)

– 47/168 (28%) vs 88/163 (54%)

Progression-free survival

– 27.7 mo (95% CI, 17.0 - ongoing) vs 11.1 mo (95% CI, 11.0 - 13.7)

– HR: 0.39 (95% CI, 0.27 - 0.56; P<0.001)

Time to next intervention

– HR: 0.26 (95% CI, 0.15 - 0.43; P<0.001)

– Alive without next intervention at 18 mo: 85.6% vs 47.4%

– Alive without next intervention at 24 mo: 83.4% vs 27.0%



INDIGO Trial: Safety

Adverse events of grade ≥ 3

– 38/168 (22.8%) vs 22/163 (13.5%)

Treatment interruption

– 50/168 (29.9%) vs 37/163 (22.7%)

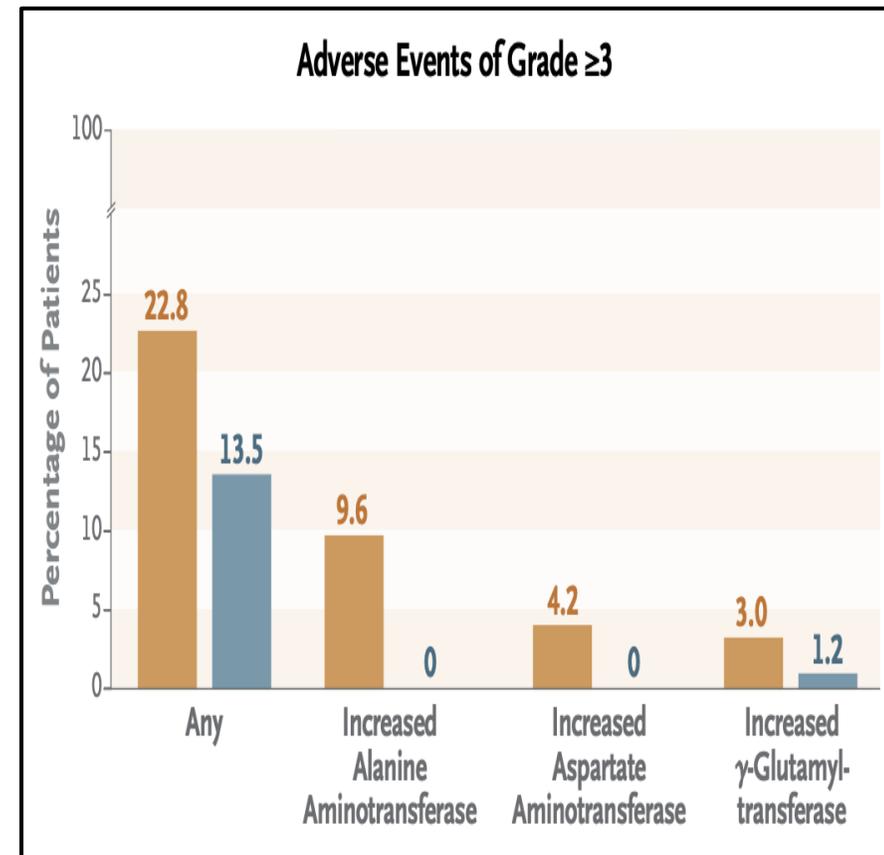
Dose reductions

– 18/168 (10.8%) vs 5/163 (3.1%)

Treatment discontinuation

– 6/168 (3.6%) vs 2/163 (1.2%)

■ Vorasidenib
■ Placebo





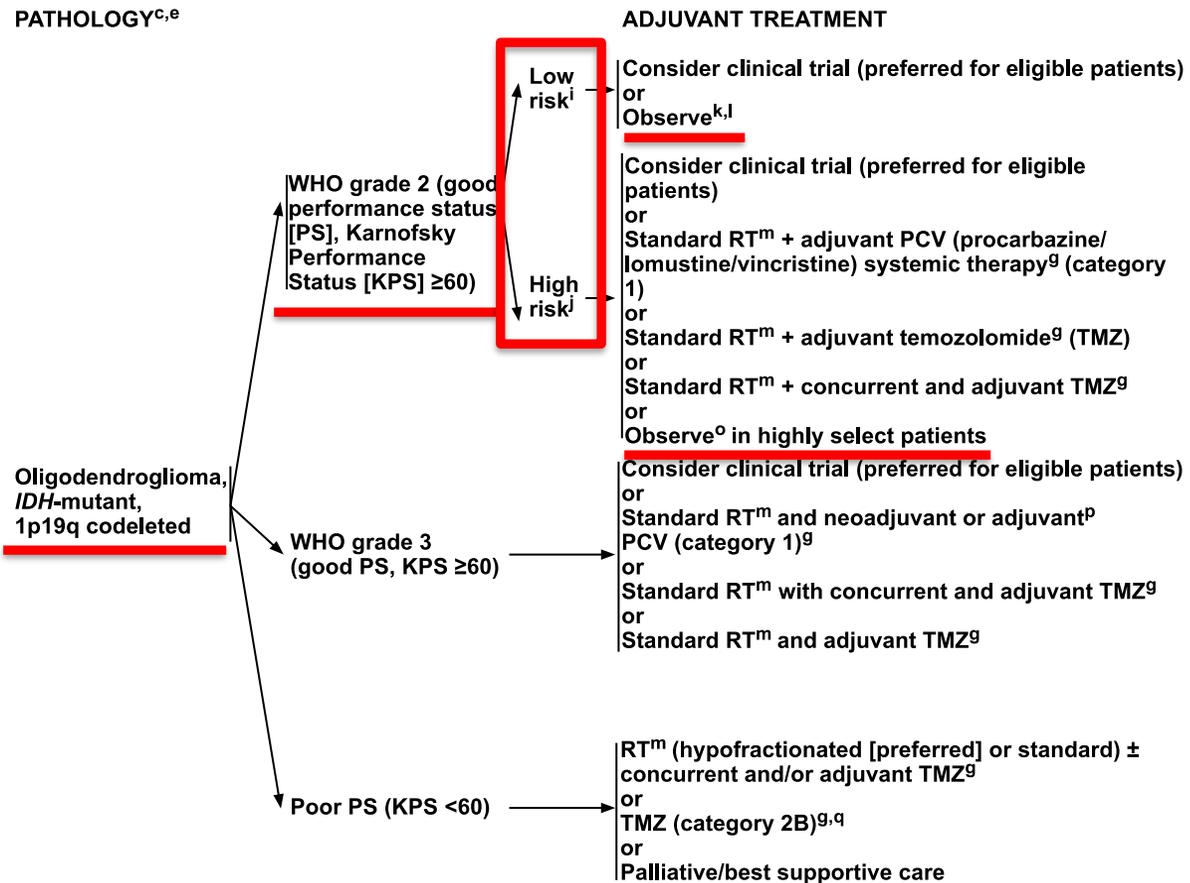
Things That Make You Go Hmmmm...



1. How do we dichotomize risk?
 - Inconsistencies between NCCN Guidelines and study definitions

2. Place in therapy?
 - Low risk patients?
 - High risk patients who would otherwise self-elect observation?

Adult Glioma: Oligodendroglioma (IDH-mutant, 1p19q codeleted)



ⁱ **Low-risk features:** ≤ 40 years and gross total resection

^j **High-risk features:** > 40 years or subtotal resection or open stereotactic biopsy. Other high-risk factors that are sometimes taken into consideration are tumor size and neurologic deficits.

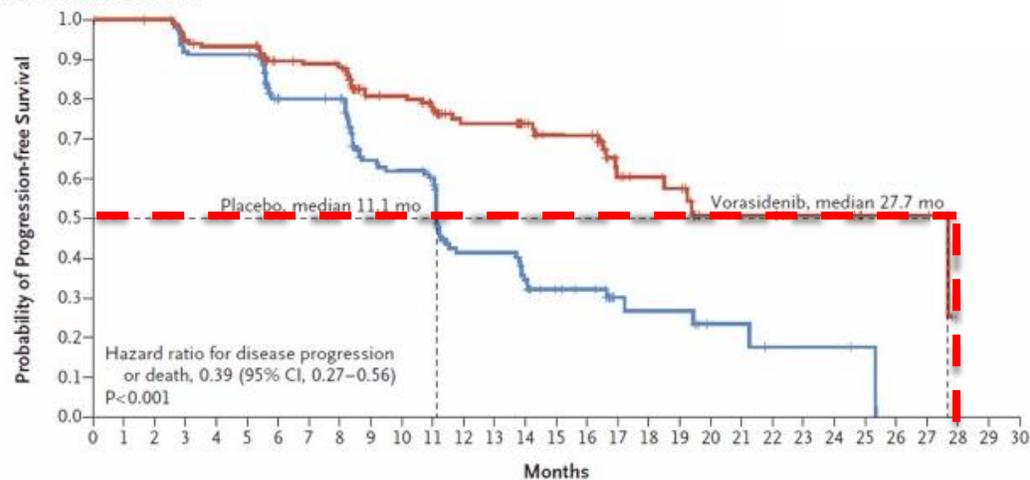
^o **Results of RTOG 9802:** showed that there was a significant improvement in median overall survival in high-risk low-grade glioma patients treated with RT followed by PCV x 6 cycles compared with RT alone after a tissue diagnosis was made. However, this important study did not address whether all of these patients should be treated right away. Observation after diagnosis may be a reasonable option for a high-risk low-grade glioma patient who is neurologically asymptomatic or stable.



Progression Free Survival

INDIGO

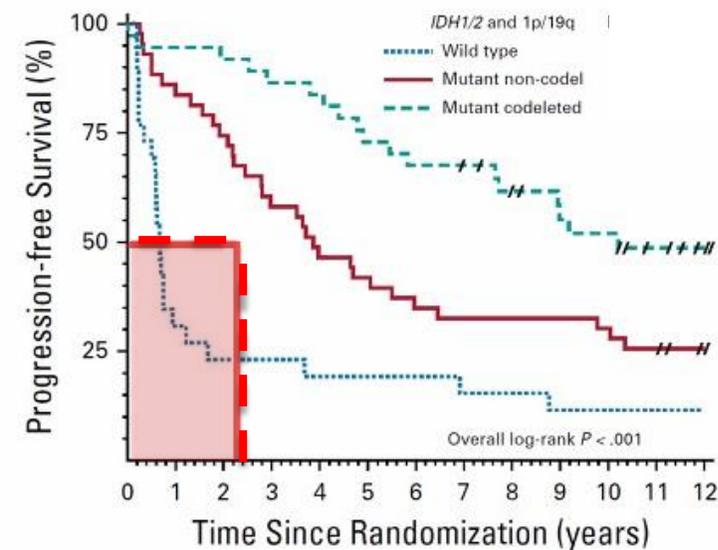
A Progression-free Survival



No. at Risk

Vorasidenib	168	166	166	157	154	154	133	131	129	93	91	81	63	63	52	45	45	25	22	20	11	11	11	7	7	4	4	4	0		
Placebo	163	162	161	146	145	145	117	116	114	73	70	65	38	38	29	21	19	9	8	8	4	4	2	2	2	1	0				

RTOG 9802



No. at risk:

Wild type	26	6	5	5	4	3	3
Mutant non-codel	43	32	20	15	14	13	7
Mutant codeleted	37	34	31	25	20	16	7



Things That Make You Go Hmmmm...



1. How do we dichotomize risk?
 - Inconsistencies between NCCN Guidelines and study definitions
2. Place in therapy?
 - Low risk patients?
 - High risk patients who would otherwise self-elect observation?
3. Remain to be seen
 - Combinatorial effect with SOC? Sequencing?
 - Implications on subsequent chemotherapy \pm RT? 2^o resistance?
 - Overall survival, neurocognition, and health-related quality of life



The Takeaways

Vorasidenib demonstrated significant improvement in PFS compared with *placebo* in grade II mut/*IDH* glioma

- *First new viable treatment option in over two decades
- *First molecularly targeted therapy amongst this population

Most adverse events with vorasidenib were mild

- Not associated with myelosuppression or fatigue

[NCT05484622](#)

*Ongoing phase I study in combination with pembrolizumab for recurrent/persistent grade II & III mut/*IDH1* astrocytoma*



CNS Targeted Therapy: Life Beyond the Alkylators

Alyssa Ströhbusch, PharmD, MS, BCOP, CPh

AlyssaStr@baptisthealth.net