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## *Breast Cancer*

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Nancy E. Davidson, MD  
Johns Hopkins University

- Module 5—breast and prostate cancer
  - Most prominent human cancers
  - Led by Drs. Nancy Davidson and Terry Brown

- 213,000 new cases
- 40,000 deaths
- Lead cancer diagnosis in women
- Second leading cause of cancer death in women

# *Potential Applications for Breast Cancer: Biology*

- Predict risk of cancer development
- Estimate prognosis for established cancer
- Predict response to therapy
- Identify therapeutic targets



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## *Section A*

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Risk of Cancer

# Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Demographics

- Gender
  - Male: female
    - ▶ 1:100
- Age
  - 1 in 50 by age 50
  - 1 in 8 over lifetime

# *Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Reproductive*

- Early menarche
- Late menopause
- Nulliparity or late first pregnancy
- ? Lactation



# *Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Environmental*

- Radiation—yes
- Pesticides—no
- Electromagnetic fields—no

# *Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Lifestyle*

- Diet
- Alcohol
- Physical activity
- Tobacco

# *Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Endogenous Hormones*

- ? High hormone levels
- Post menopausal obesity
- Increased bone density

# *Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Exogenous Hormones*

- Hormone replacement therapy—yes
- Estrogen replacement therapy—no?
- Oral contraceptives—no

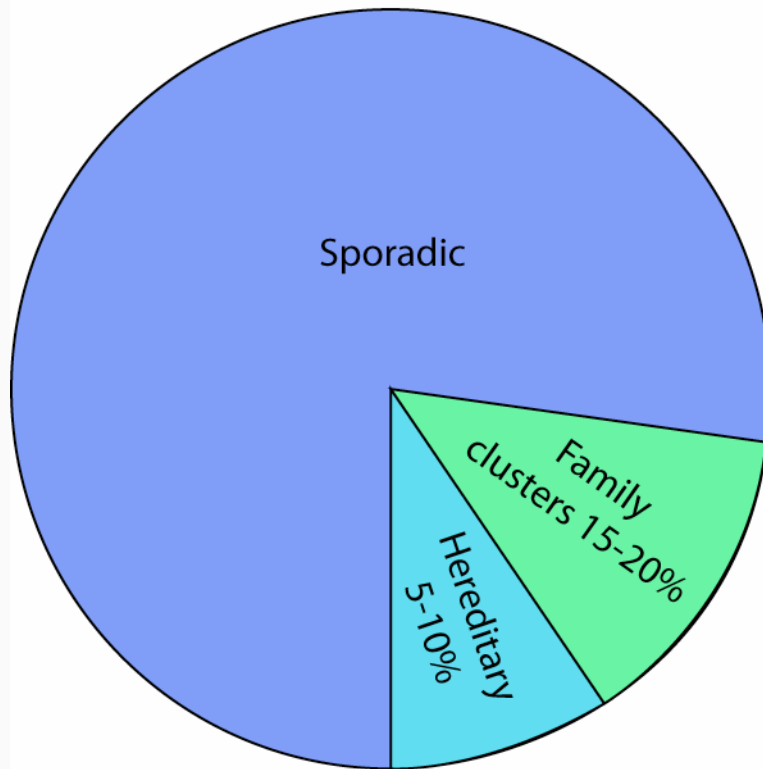
- Atypical ductal or lobular hyperplasia
- Lobular carcinoma in situ

# *Breast Cancer Risk Factors: Inherited Susceptibility*

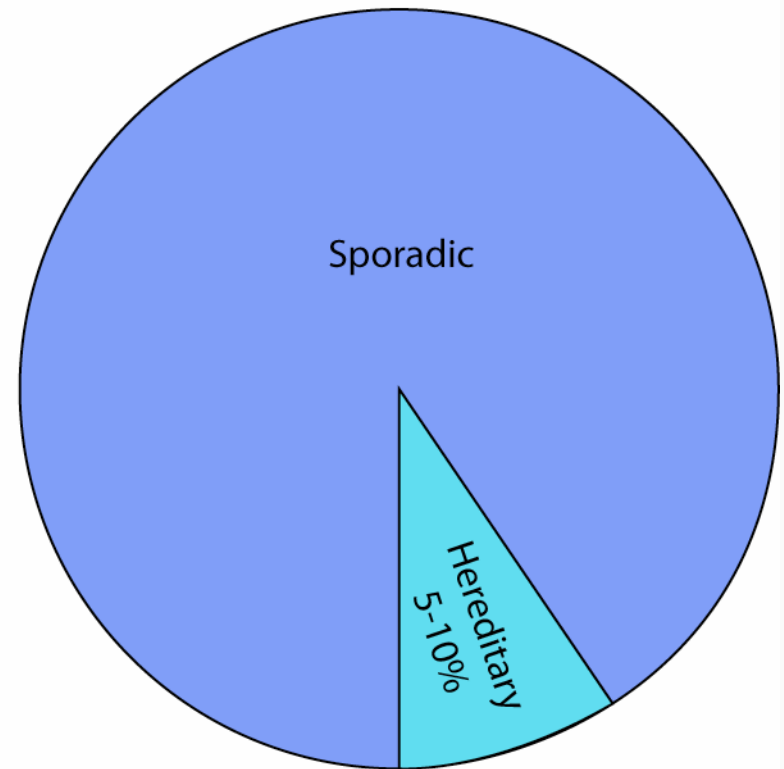
- Family history
- Major inherited susceptibility
- DNA repair defects

# How Much Breast and Ovarian Cancer Is Hereditary?

Breast Cancer



Ovarian Cancer



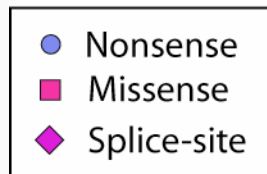
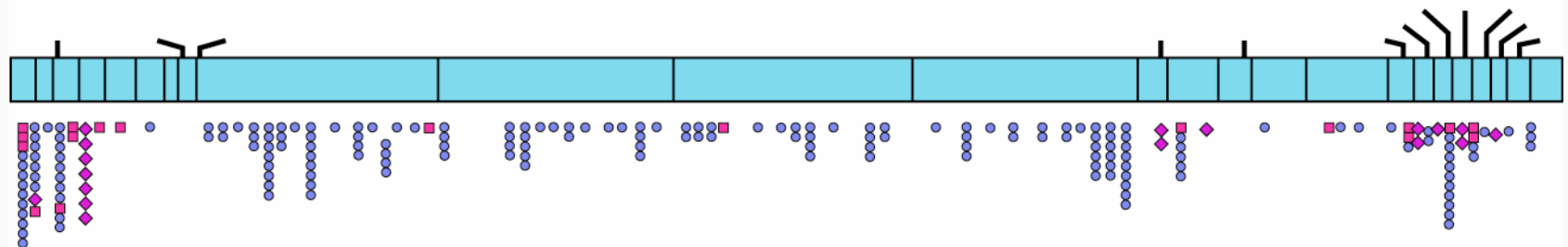
# Causes of Hereditary Susceptibility to Breast Cancer

Gene	Contribution to Hereditary Breast Cancer
BRCA1	20–40%
BRCA2	10–30%
TP53	<1%
PTEN	<1%
Undiscovered genes	30–70%



- Tumor suppressor gene on chromosome 17
- Autosomal dominant transmission
- Protein has role in genomic stability
- ~500 different mutations reported

Breast Cancer Information Core

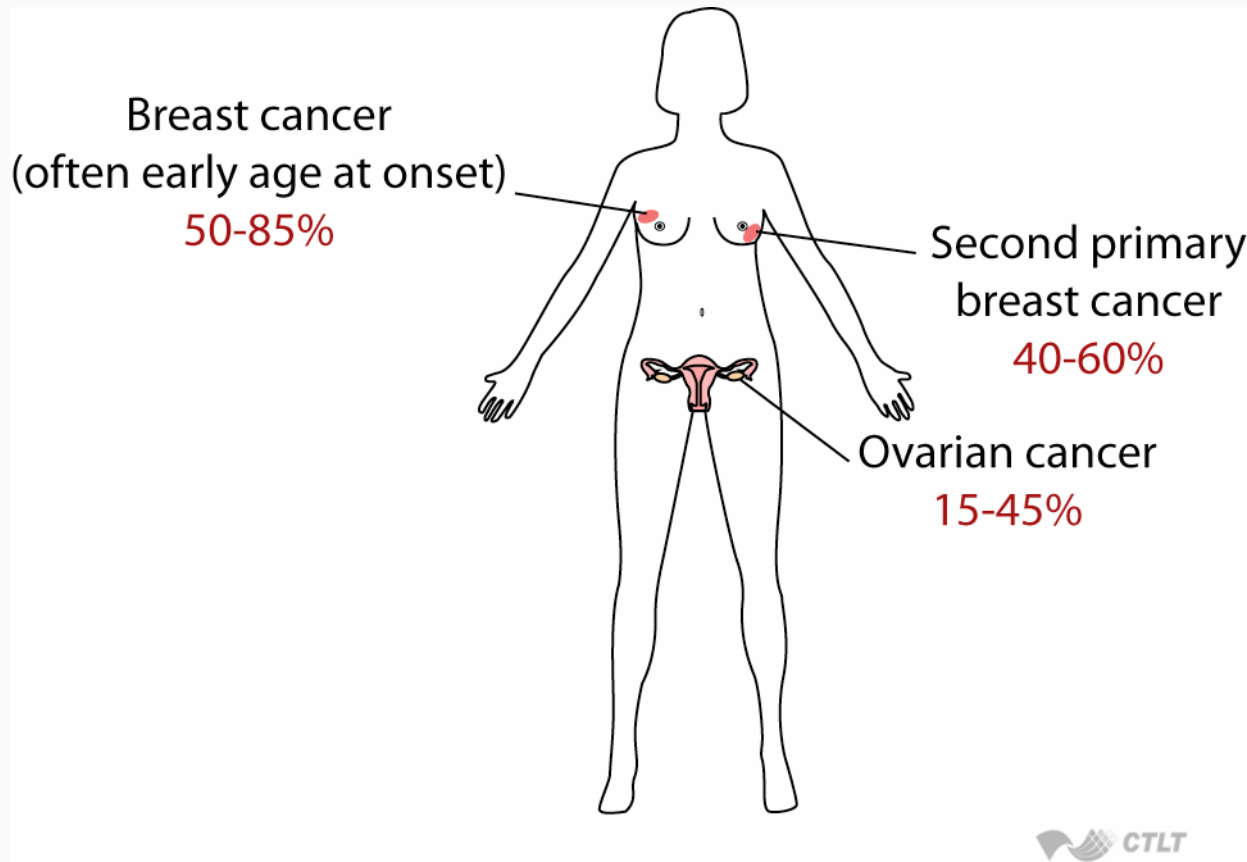


## *Increased Likelihood of BRCA Mutations*

- Features that indicate increased likelihood of having BRCA mutations
  - Multiple cases of early onset breast cancer
  - Ovarian cancer (with family history of breast or ovarian cancer)
  - Breast and ovarian cancer in the same woman
  - Bilateral breast cancer
  - Ashkenazi Jewish heritage
  - Male breast cancer

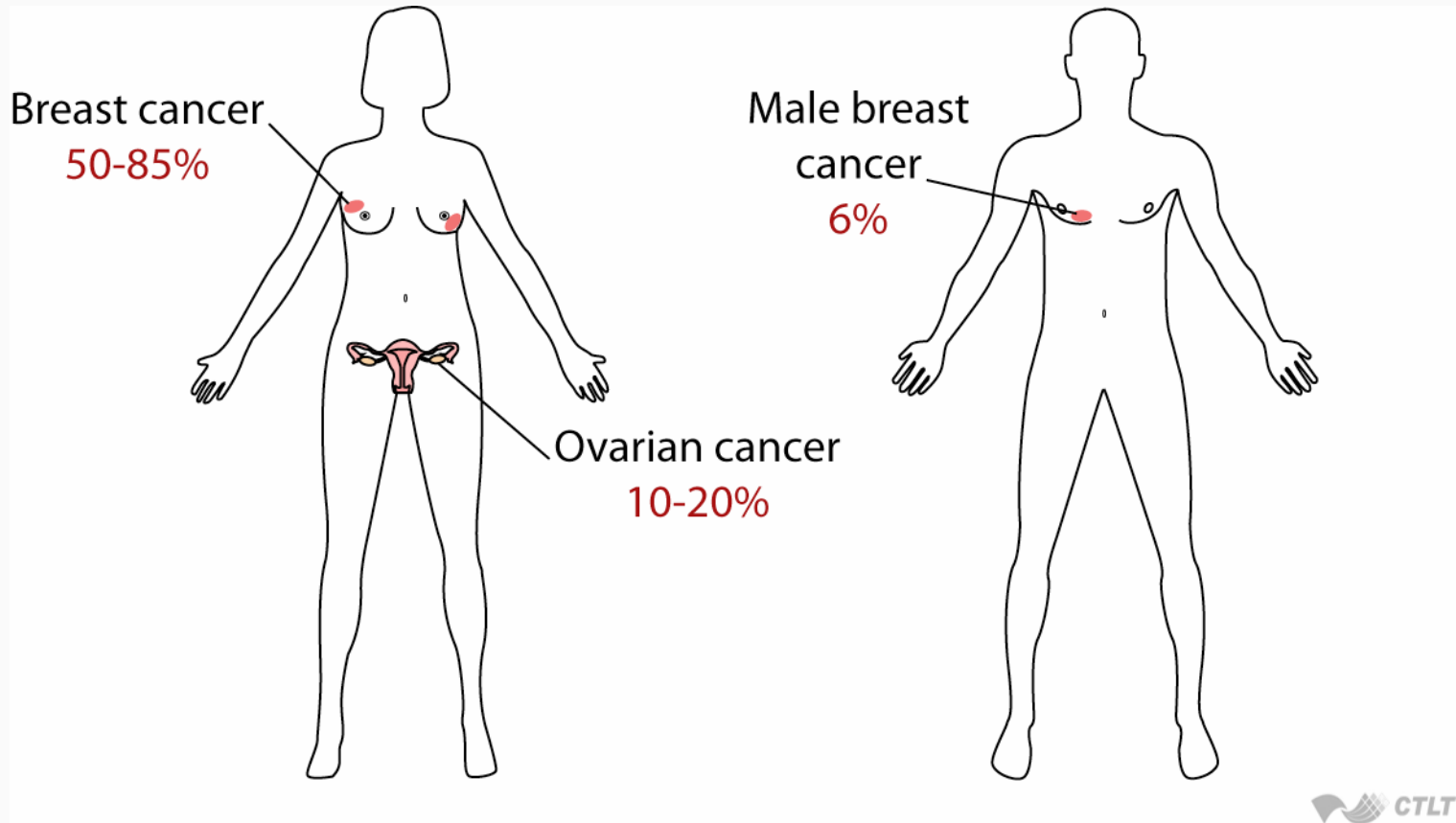
# BRCA1-Associated Cancers: Lifetime Risk

- Possible increased risk of other cancers (e.g., prostate, colon)

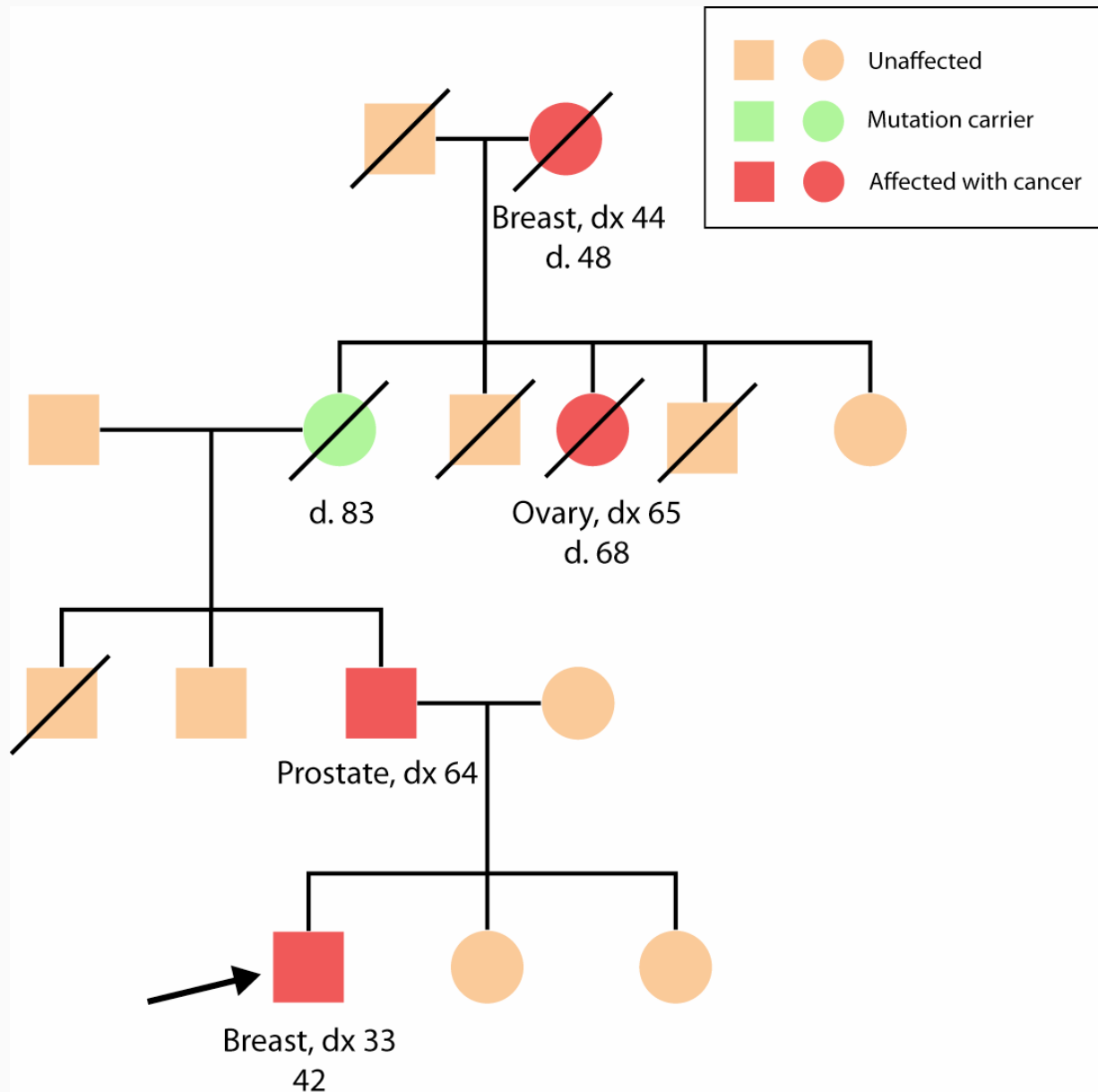


# BRCA2-Associated Cancers: Lifetime Risk

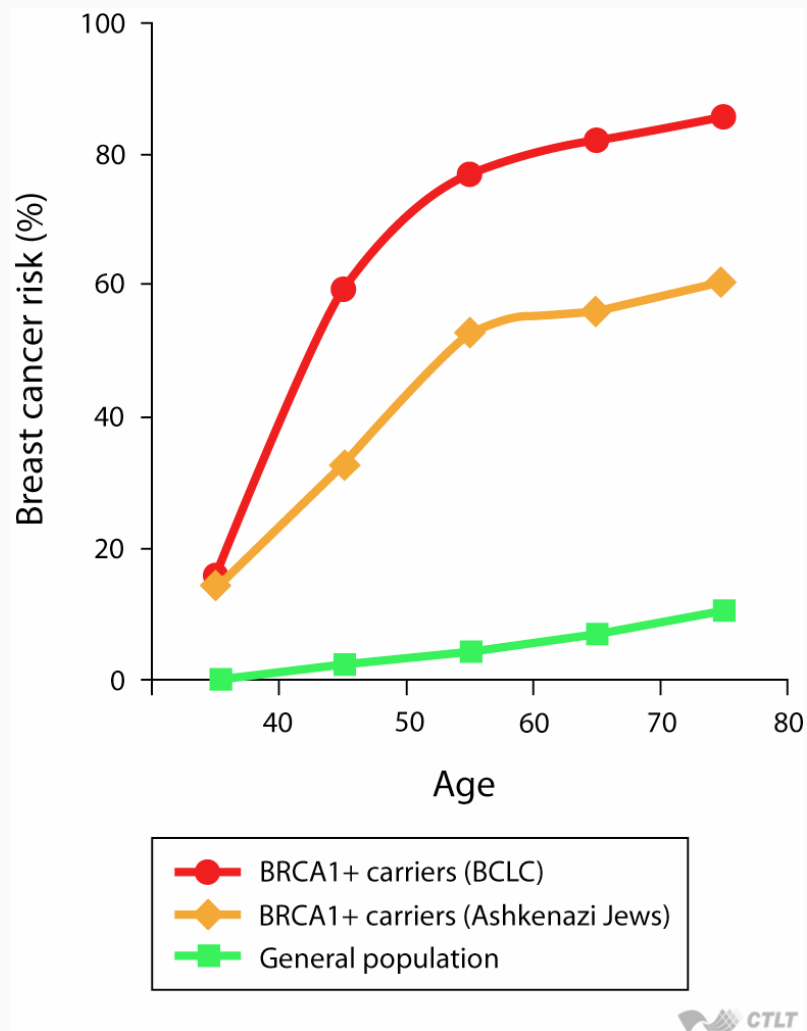
- Increased risk of prostate, laryngeal, and pancreatic cancers (magnitude unknown)



# BRCA2-Linked Hereditary Breast Cancer



# Breast Cancer Risk Estimates in BRCA Mutation Carriers



CTLT

Adapted by CTLT from: Source: Adapted by Easton, D.F., Ford, D., Bishop, D.T. (1995). Breast and ovarian cancer incidence in BRCA1-mutation carriers. Breast Cancer Linkage Consortium. *Am J Hum Genet*; 56:265–71. Struwing, J.P., Hartge, P., Wacholder, S. (1997), et al. The risk of cancer associated with specific mutations of BRCA1 and BRCA2 among Ashkenazi Jews. *N Engl J Med*; 336:1401–8. ASCO.org. See ASCO Curriculum

# *Options for Carriers of BRCA-1 or BRCA-2 Mutations*

- Surveillance
- Chemoprevention
- Prophylactic surgery



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## *Section B*

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Prognosis for Established Cancer  
and Response to Therapy



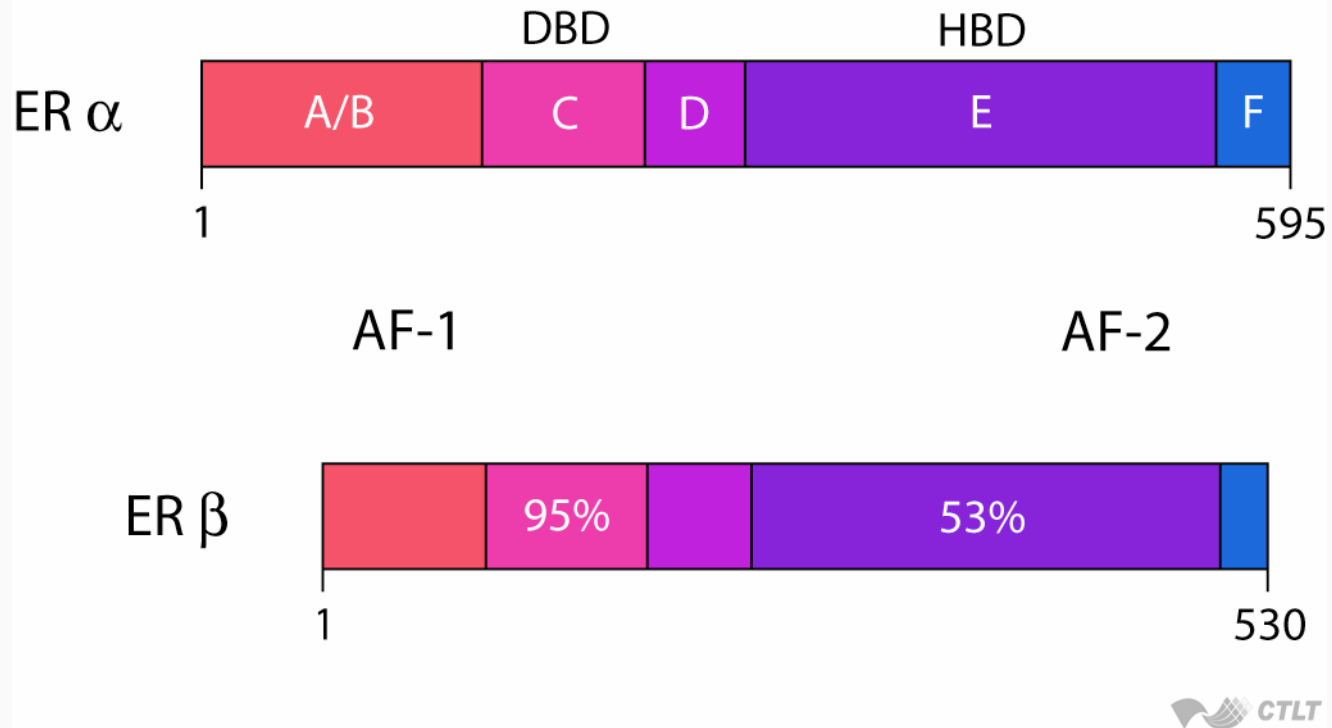
- Established at the NIH Consensus Conference 2003
  - Axillary lymph nodes
  - Tumor size
  - Histological grade
  - Histological tumor type
  - Steroid receptor states
  - Age

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# *Potential Applications for Breast Cancer Biology*

- Predict risk of cancer development
- Estimate prognosis for established cancer
- Predict response to therapy
- Identify therapeutic targets

## Structure and Functional Domains of ER $\alpha$ and ER $\beta$



Source: Adapted by Osborne, C.K., Zhao, H., Fuqua, S.A. (2000).

Selective estrogen receptor modulators: structure, function, and clinical use. *J Clin Oncol*; 18:3172–86.

# Steroid Receptors in Breast Cancer

Steroid Receptors in Breast Cancer		
Tumor phenotype	Phenotype frequency	Response to hormonal therapy
ER+/PR+	41%	75–80%
ER+/PR-	30%	20–30%
ER-/PR+	2%	40–45%
ER-/PR-	27%	<10%

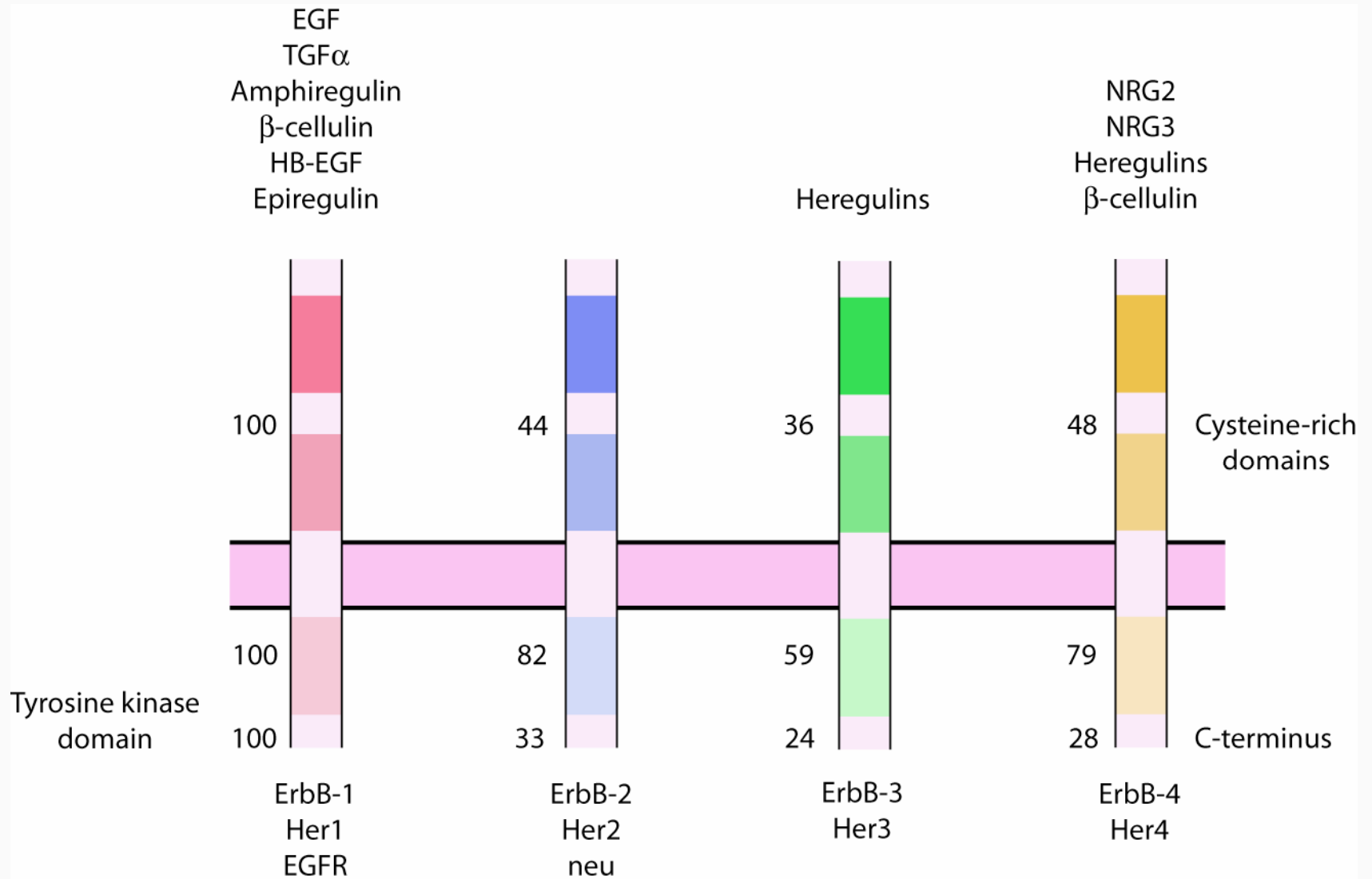
# *Endocrine Therapy for Breast Cancer*

- Ovarian ablation—surgery, radiation, LHRH agonists
- SERMs—tamoxifen, toremifene, fulvestrant
- Aromatase inhibitors—anastrozole, letrozole, exemestane
- Additive—progestins, estrogens, androgens

# *Some Possible Mechanisms of Hormone Resistance*

- Loss of ER expression
  - Mutation or deletion
  - Promoter methylation
  - Altered transcriptional factors
- Altered coactivators or corepressors
- Alternative growth factor pathways
- Drug delivery

# The EGFR (ErbB) Family and Ligands





# HER 2 As a Predictive Marker for Trastuzumab

HER 2 as a Predictive Marker for Trastuzumab	
HER 2 Status	Response Rate
IHC 3+	35%
IHC 2+	0
FISH positive	34%
FISH negative	7%

- ? Resistance to tamoxifen
- ? Response to anthracycline



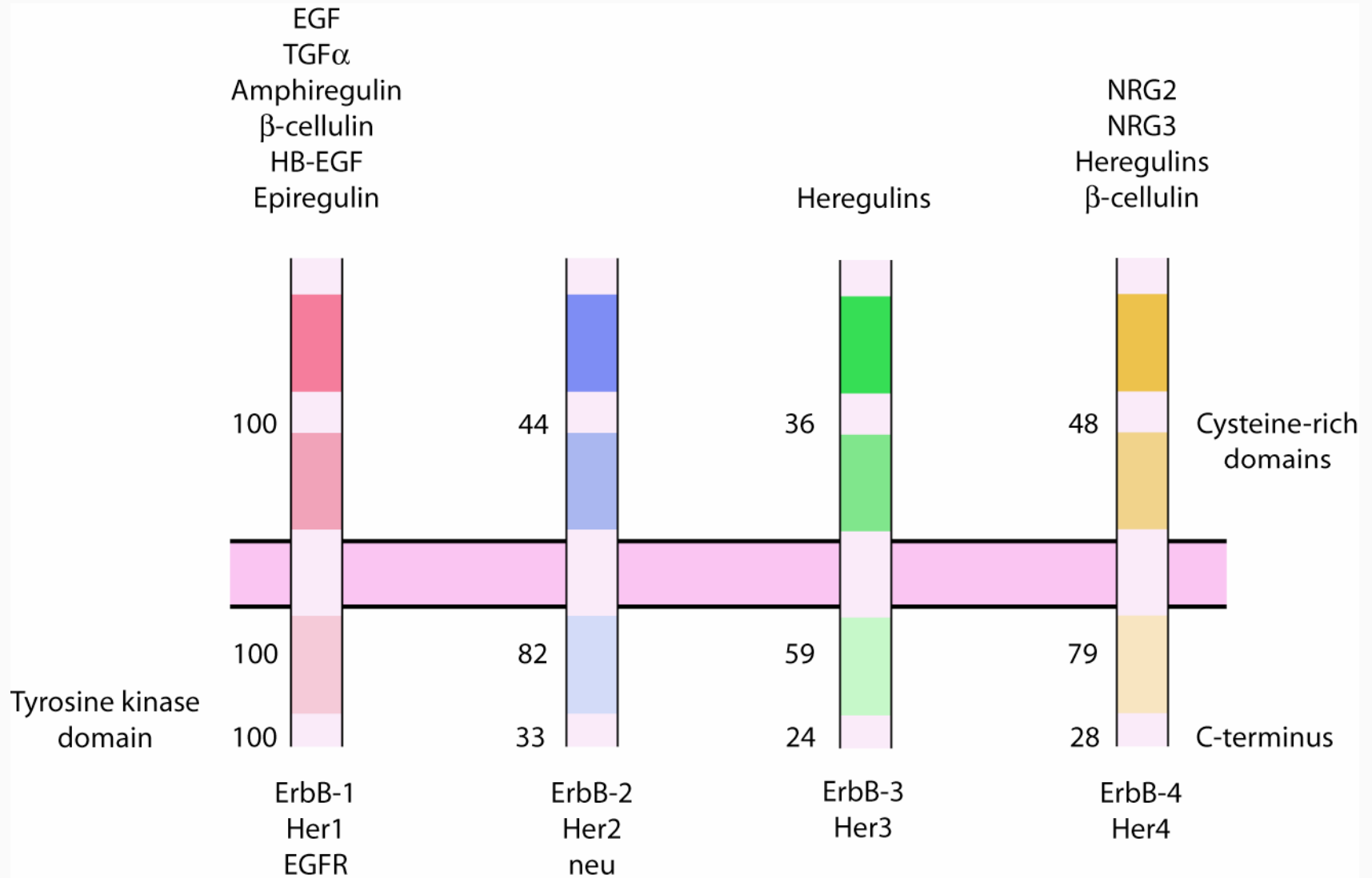
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## *Section C*

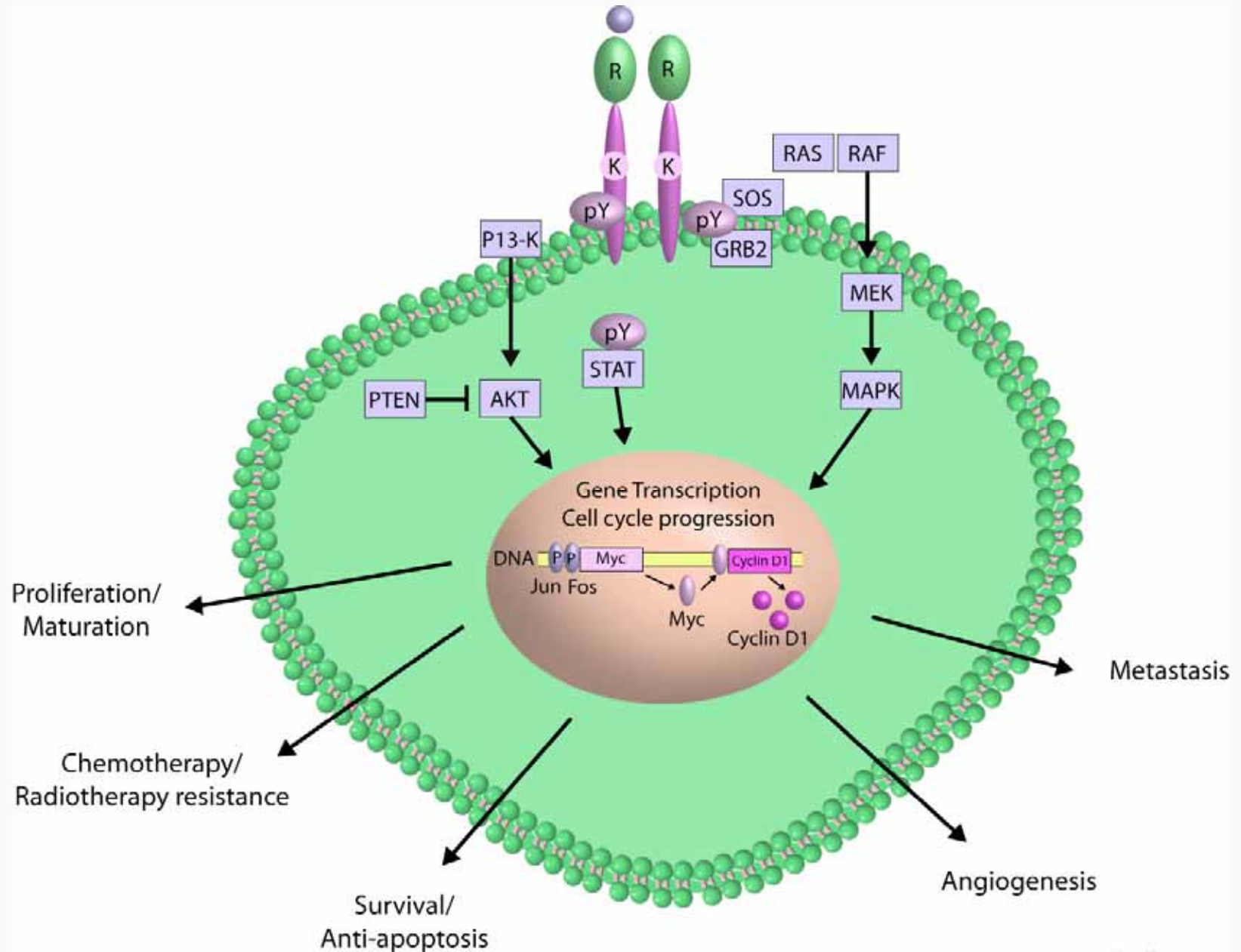
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New Therapeutic Targets for Breast Cancer

# The EGFR (ErbB) Family and Ligands



# EGFR Signal Transduction in Tumor Cells

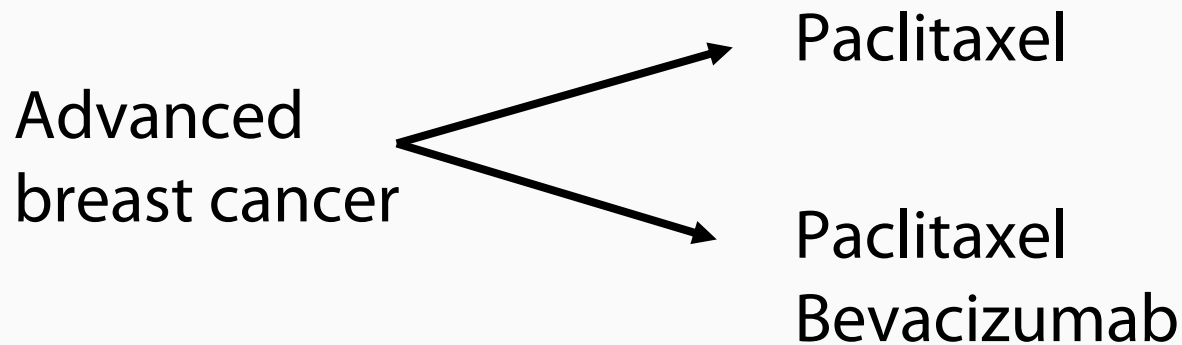


# *Available Forms of Anti-EGFR Therapy*

- Antibody-based
  - Cetuximab
- Small molecule TKI
  - Gefitinib
  - OSI774

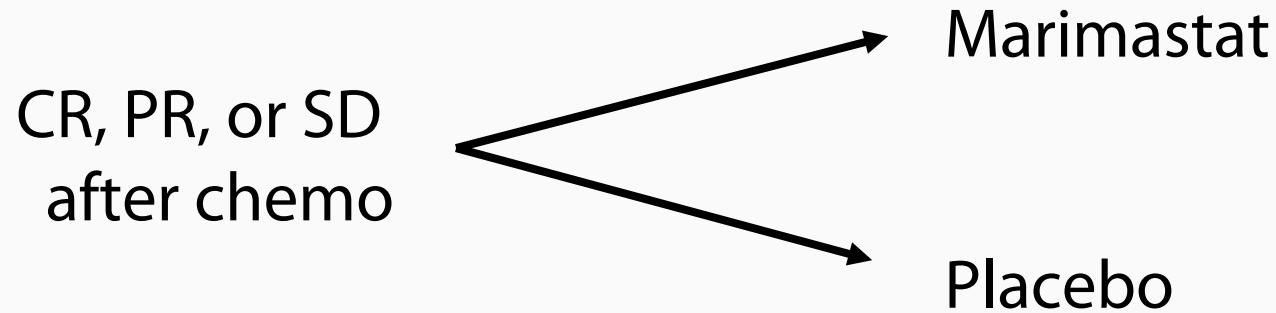
- Anti-angiogenic
  - anti-VEGF
    - ▶ bevacizumab
- Matrix metalloproteinase inhibitors
- Bisphosphonates

- Twenty percent clinical benefit in advanced breast cancer





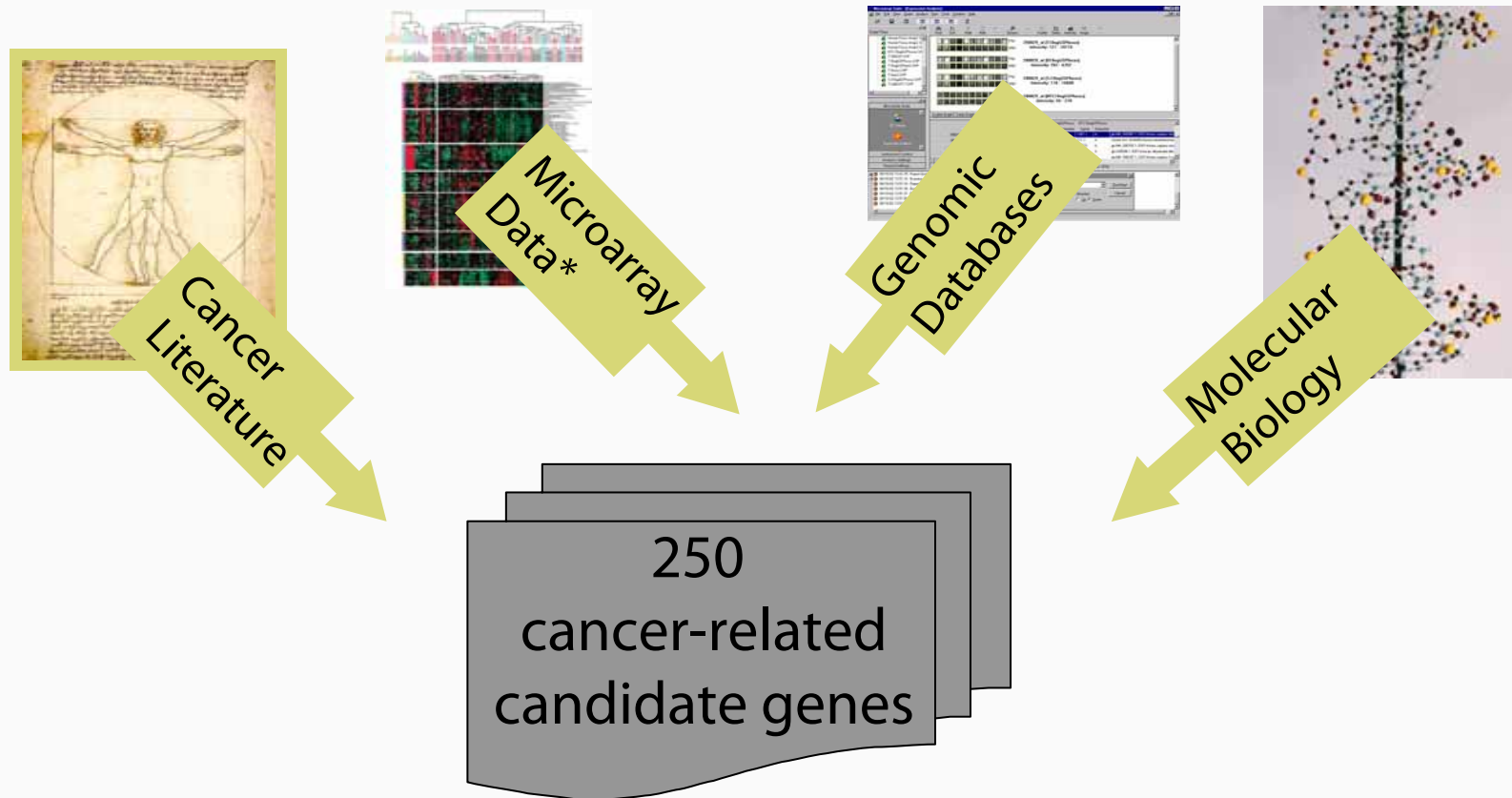
- No effect on time to progression



- Different profile of sporadic versus hereditary breast cancer
  - Heldenfalk et al. (2001), NEJM
- Identify subset of young women with poor prognosis early breast cancer
  - van't Veer et al. (2002), Nature
- Lack of profile for response to doxorubicin
  - Perou et al. (2000), Nature

- Now available—\$3400
- Should we use it?
- For whom?
- How?

- Candidate gene selection from ~40,000 genes



*Example Papers: Van 't Veer et al. (2002). Nature; 415:530;  
Sorlie, et al. (2001). Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.; 98:10869;  
Ramaswamy, et al. (2003). Nature Genetics; 33:4;  
Gruvberger et al. (2001). Cancer Res; 61:5979*

# Three Breast Cancer Studies Used to Select

## Sixteen Cancer and Five Reference Genes

PROLIFERATION	INVASION	HER2	ESTROGEN	REFERENCE
Ki-67 STK15 Survivin Cyclin B1 MYBL2	Stromelysin 3 Cathepsin L2  Best RT-PCR performance and most robust predictors	GRB7 HER2  GSTM1  CD68  BAG1	ER PGR Bcl2 SCUBE2	Beta-actin GAPDH RPLPO GUS TFRC

# Three Studies Develop Recurrence Score (RS) Algorithm

Three Breast Cancer Studies Used to Develop Recurrence Score (RS) Algorithm	
RS =	+0.47 x HER2 Group Score
	-0.34 x ER Group Score
	+1.04 x Proliferation Group Score
	+0.10 x Invasion Group Score
	+0.05 x CD68
	-0.08 x GSTM1
	-0.07 x BAG1

# Three Studies Develop Recurrence Score (RS) Algorithm

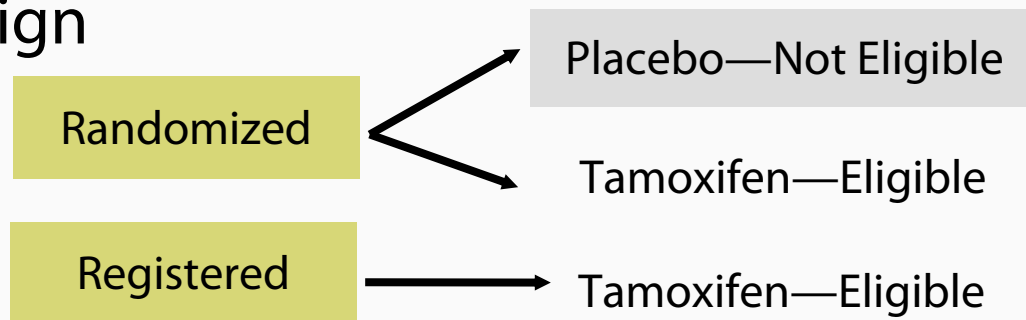
Recurrence Category	RS (0–100)
Low risk	<18
Intermediate risk	18–30
High risk	• 31

## Prospective Clinical Validation Study

- Objective

- Validate Recurrence Score as predictor of distant recurrence in N-, ER+, tamoxifen-treated patients

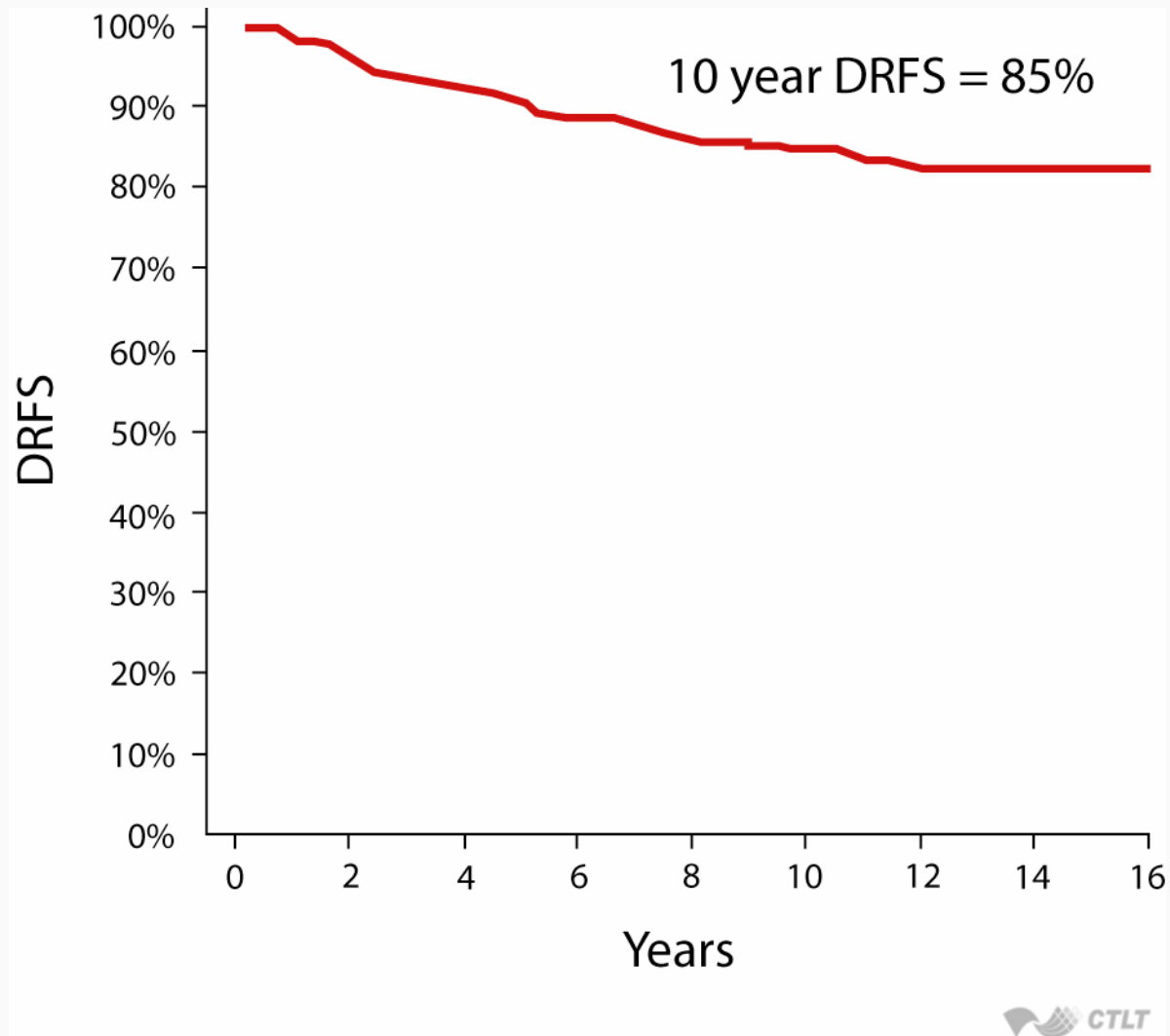
- Design



- Pre-specified 21 gene assay, algorithm, endpoints, analysis plan
- Blinded laboratory analysis of three 10  $\mu$  sections



## ■ DRFS—All 668 Patients



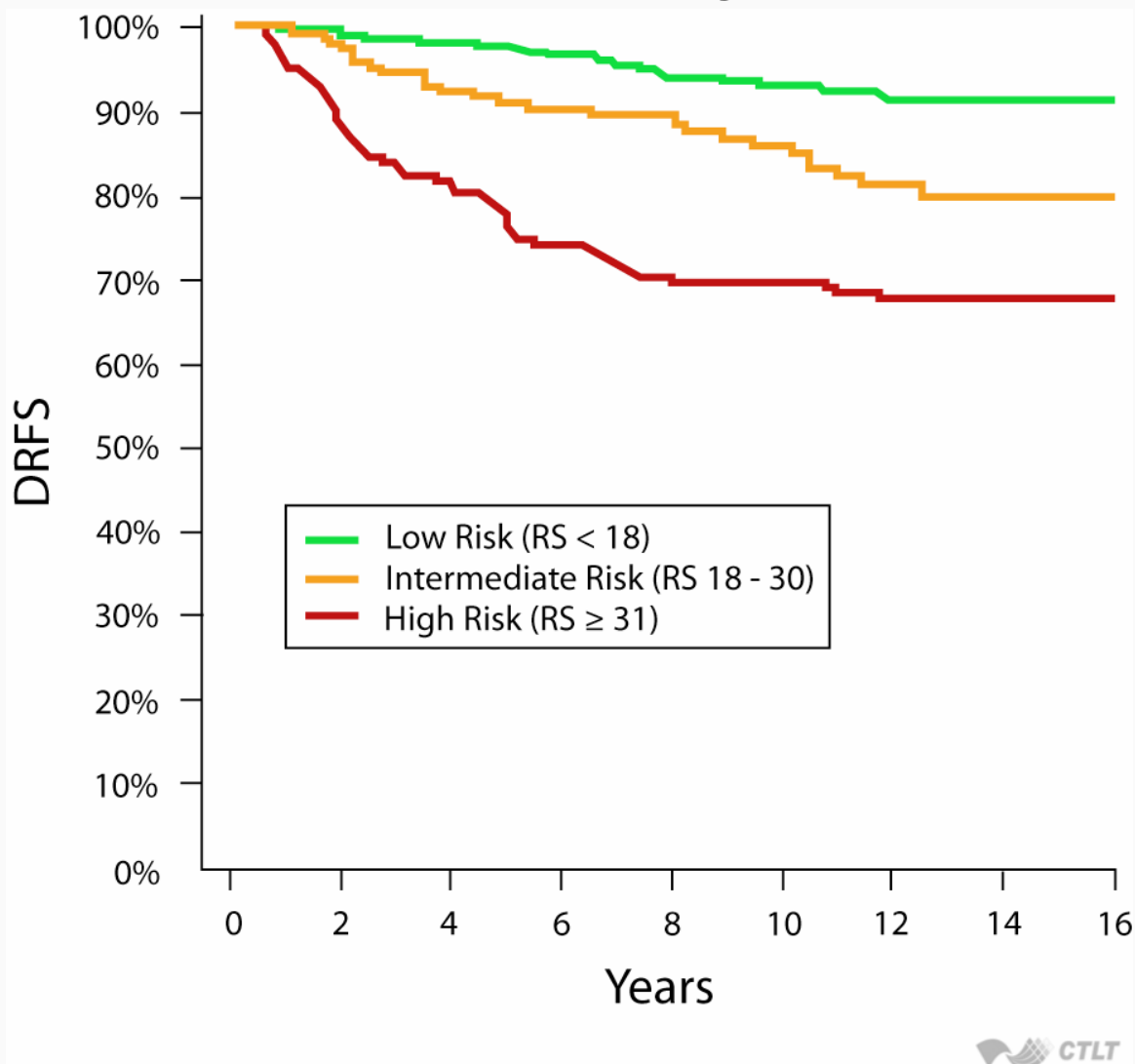
- B-14 Results
  - First Primary Objective
    - ▶ Validate that 10 year DRFS in the low-risk group ( $RS < 18$ ) is significantly higher than 10 year DRFS in the high risk group ( $RS \geq 31$ )
    - ▶ Assuming: binomial test for differences in proportions = 0;  $\alpha = 0.05$ ; 600 evaluable patients—240 low-risk patients with DRFS 0.90 and 150 high-risk patients with DRFS 0.70; then power  $>95\%$

## DRFS—Low-, Intermediate-, and High-RS Groups

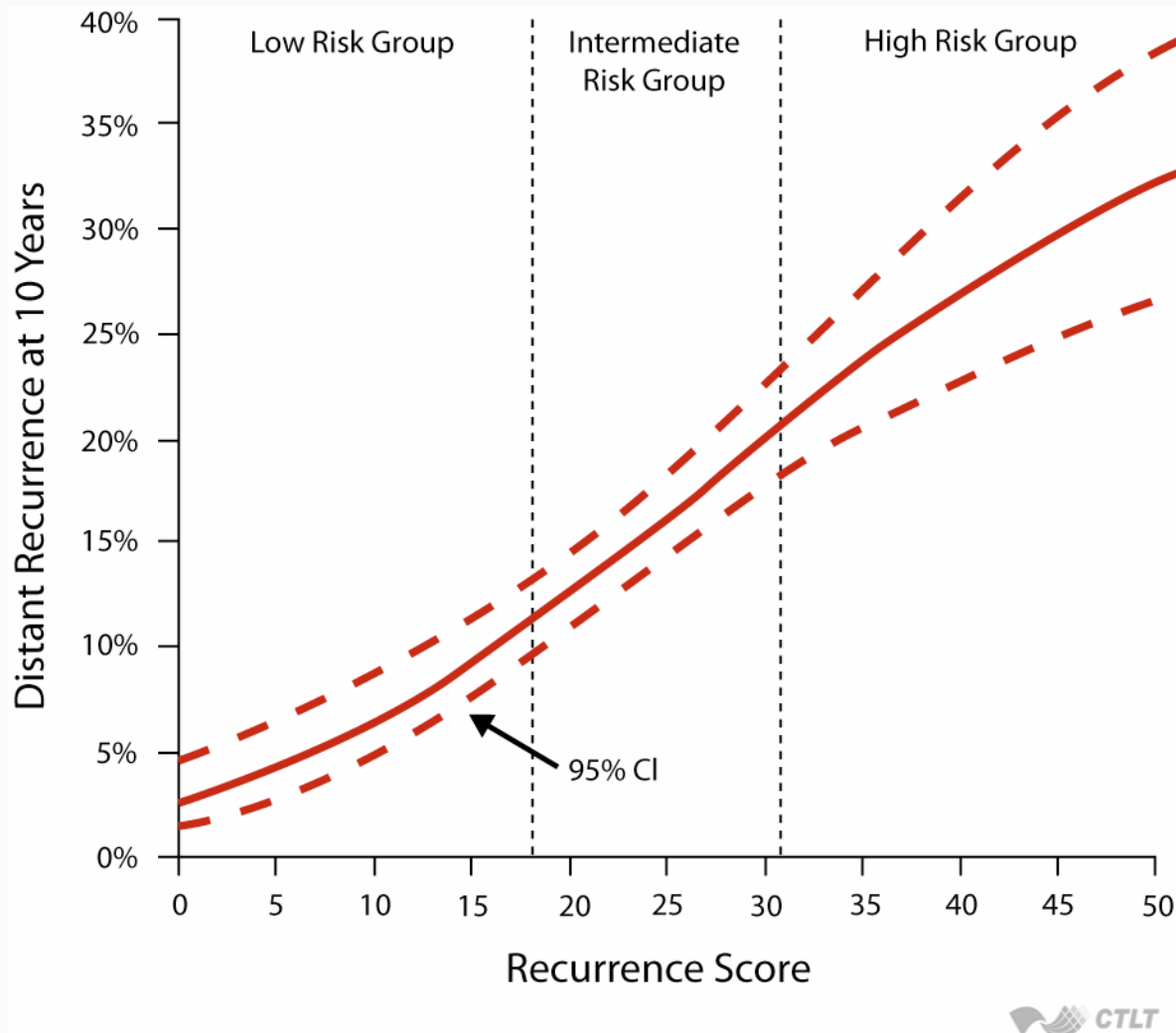
<b>Risk Group</b>	<b>Percentage of Patients</b>	<b>10-year Rate Recurrence</b>	<b>95% CI</b>
Low (RS < 18)	51%	6.8%	4.0%, 9.6%
Intermediate (RS 18–30)	22%	14.3%	8.3%, 20.3%
High (RS • 31)	27%	30.5%	23.6%, 37.4%

*Test for the 10-year DRFS comparison between the low- and high-risk groups:  $p < 0.0001$*

## ■ DRFS—Low-, Intermediate-, High-RS Groups



# Recurrence Score As a Continuous Predictor



# *Potential Applications for Breast Cancer Biology*

- Predict risk of cancer development
- Estimate prognosis for established cancer
- Predict response to therapy
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